



The Downey Patriot

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Friday, March 25, 2005

Vol. 3, No. 48

11525 DOWNEY AVE., SUITE A, DOWNEY, CA 90241

Governor taken to task for 'broken promises'

By Linda Pak

DOWNEY—Centering on the theme, "Promises Made, Promises Broken," Assemblyman Hector De La Torre (D-South Gate), education leaders from the 50th Assembly District, and local parent groups at a press conference March 18 criticized Governor Schwarzenegger's education budget and called on him to honor the promises he made to California students last year. The gathering took place in front of Old River Elementary School in Downey.

Last year, to help balance the budget, public schools agreed to forego \$2 billion with the Governor's promise that the Proposition 98 funding would be fully restored in this year's budget. Local figures in education attacked the Governor's January budget proposal, stating that it short-changes public schools an expected \$1.4 billion. They expressed fears that the Governor's budget reform measure may permanently reduce school funding by nearly \$4 billion.

De La Torre, also a parent at Old River Elementary, in admitting that the Governor's proposal increases funding for education since last year, nevertheless pointed out that "In absolute dollars this may be true, but per pupil spending is down."

He referred to a recently released study from the RAND Corporation, which reveals the steady descent of California's K-12 per-pupil spending (adjusted for inflation and proposed retirement cuts) since 2001 to about \$7,000 in the 2004-2005 fiscal year. This puts California far below the national average on per-pupil spending to 44th in the nation, just above Louisiana and Mississippi. Coupled with this is more discouraging data that shows California to have the largest class sizes in the country, as well as the second-highest student-teacher ratio.

The Governor's budget proposal is said to have significant effects in the Downey Unified School District (DUSD). According to Barbara Samperi, President of the DUSD Board of Education, the shift of almost half a billion dollars for the cost of teachers' pensions from the state to school districts would cost the DUSD over \$2 million that would come out of local schools' pockets.

See GOVERNOR, page 7

City applies for tree program grant

By John Adams

DOWNEY—The City Council has approved a resolution allowing the filing of an application for Proposition 12 Grant funds from the Urban Forestry Grant Program.

The action was without comment as a part of 5-0 blanket approval of the consent agenda at Tuesday's regular Council meeting.

Bond Act of 2000

The State Department of Forestry and Fire Protection is currently accepting applications for grants to purchase and plant trees in communities. Proposition 12 Grant funds are generated by the Watershed, Wildlife and Parks Improvement Bond of 2000. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis and require applicants to provide at least a 25 percent match with real in kind dollars. The maximum grant is \$50,000.

Funding is available for planting of trees that will grow to a mature height of at least 40 feet, are tolerant of local conditions, have a low nuisance potential, are long-lived and have low maintenance. A portion of the fund can be used for education and encourage stewardship and additional tree planting efforts.

The maximum grant

Downey is requesting the maximum grant of \$50,000 to purchase 667 trees to be planted in parkways, medians and parks. Total cost of planting 667 trees is \$105,384 of which \$50,000 would be paid for by the grant. Net cost to the City would be \$55,384.

Federal grants workshop here in Downey April 8

By Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard,
(D-34th, Los Angeles and Downey)

WASHINGTON, D.C.—During the month of April, communities across the country will celebrate "Community Spirit Days" to recognize the enormous contributions of the men and women who work and volunteer for our local nonprofits and charities. By providing greatly needed services to members of our community they help to make us all stronger, healthier and safer. These devoted public servants give us hope for a better tomorrow and a deeper appreciation for what it means to be part of a community.

To help the nonprofits in our congressional district succeed in their mission, it has been my privilege to provide them with important information about federal grants and sponsor an annual workshop on how they can successfully apply for federal funding. This year's workshop is in Downey on April 8. I encourage all nonprofits in the 34th district to attend. It's free of charge and participants are given the opportunity to learn directly from the federal officials who review grant applications. They will explain what they are looking for and provide technical assistance on grant writing.

Now in our 10th year, I'm pleased that thousands of constituents from local organizations throughout the district have attended my workshops. Darrell Jackson, founder of the 10-20 Club, Inc. based in Downey, said his



MUSIC SUNDAY EVENINGS AT THE FOX—Robert Syphax brings his guitar and vocal artistry to the Nordic Fox Restaurant in Downey Sunday evenings from 6 to 9:30 p.m. There is no cover but reservations are suggested as seating is limited. The restaurant is located at Paramount Boulevard and Third Street in Downey. Call 869-1414 for information.

Apology for failure to include ALF in plan

By John Adams

City Councilmen Kirk Cartozian, Meredith Perkins and City Manager Gerald Caton all agreed at Tuesday's regular City Council Meeting that they favor the addition of a member of the Aerospace Legacy Foundation to the recently formed five-member Foundation Committee whose goal is to raise funding for the construction of the new Columbia Aerospace Museum and Learning Center.

Caton in particular said he was sorry the formation of the Museum and Learning Center without the inclusion of a member of the ALF had been taken by some as a snub. He said none was intended.

Recent mail thefts

In public comments to the City Council, a woman said she was one of the victims in a sudden rash of thefts of checks stolen from public mail boxes. Her case is just one of a series of recent robberies of the U.S. Mails here.

She was referred by Councilman Meredith Perkins to the Chief of Police who spoke to her after the meeting Tuesday.

In other comments, Councilman Rick Trejo said real progress was achieved during a recent meeting of the City/Downey Unified School District Joint Committee, and that he wished to thank Dr. Wendy Doty, Superintendent for the DUSD for her cooperative efforts. Trejo said he sees real progress being made through this improvement in school and City relations.

Brady recognized in audience

Councilman David Gafin recognized Chamber of Commerce

See APOLOGY, page 7

5 firms to help with plan checks

Council acts to speed process

By John Adams

DOWNEY—The City Council has authorized the Mayor to execute contracts with five firms for building plan check and inspection services.

The action was by a unanimous 5-0 vote of the Council at Tuesday's regular meeting, and will allow the City to respond to the ups and downs of building activity more economically. As activity varies from month to month, it is more efficient to use outside firms to provide overflow plan check services. These contract services involve the plan review and/or inspection of all types of structures including single family homes, multiple family dwelling units, commercial and industrial buildings. The review covers compliance with all adopted codes, local ordinances and state and federal law.

The City has used two of the five firms before for plan check help. These were Esgil and VCA. The action Tuesday will add Melad and Associates, Scott Fazekas, and Linhart Peterson Powers Associates.

Zucker Study suggestion

The staff report noted that this was one of the suggestions that came out of the Zucker Study on how to improve City Hall.

There will be no financial impact as the cost will be funded by the builder.

Cartozian stresses importance

Councilman Kirk Cartozian removed the item from the Consent Agenda in order to stress the importance of the plan check process. He asked staff how the five contractors will be paid, and was told that they will get a percentage of the fees charged by the City to the builder. Term of the contract with the five firms is for five years.

In other action the City Council:

*Presented the Mayor's Award for Service to the City to Fire Captain Robert Hohn.

*Presented Certificates of Appreciation to members of the Downey Girls Water Polo Team who recently won the CIF Southern Section Division VI Championship.

*Proclaimed National Library Week for April 10-16.

*Declared April National Child Abuse Prevention Month, and recognized the good work of the Exchange Club of Downey in combating child abuse.

*At the request of the city staff, pulled an item on the purchase of property from Citigroup for a right-of-way at the southwest corner of Firestone Boulevard and Lakewood Boulevard.

*Appropriated \$115,000 in State Traffic Safety Grant Funds to support a local Traffic Safety Program.

*Appropriated \$19,000 from the Gas Tax Fund for an Enhanced Vapor Recovery System to upgrade the underground storage tank at the City Maintenance Yard at 12324 Bellflower Blvd.

*Set a public hearing date of April 26 for a proposed amendment to sections 9110 and 9112 of the Downey Municipal Code relating to bulk and mass of Single Family Detached Buildings in Residential Zones.

*Adopted a resolution appointing Susan Bouris to the Library Advisory Board from Council District 1.

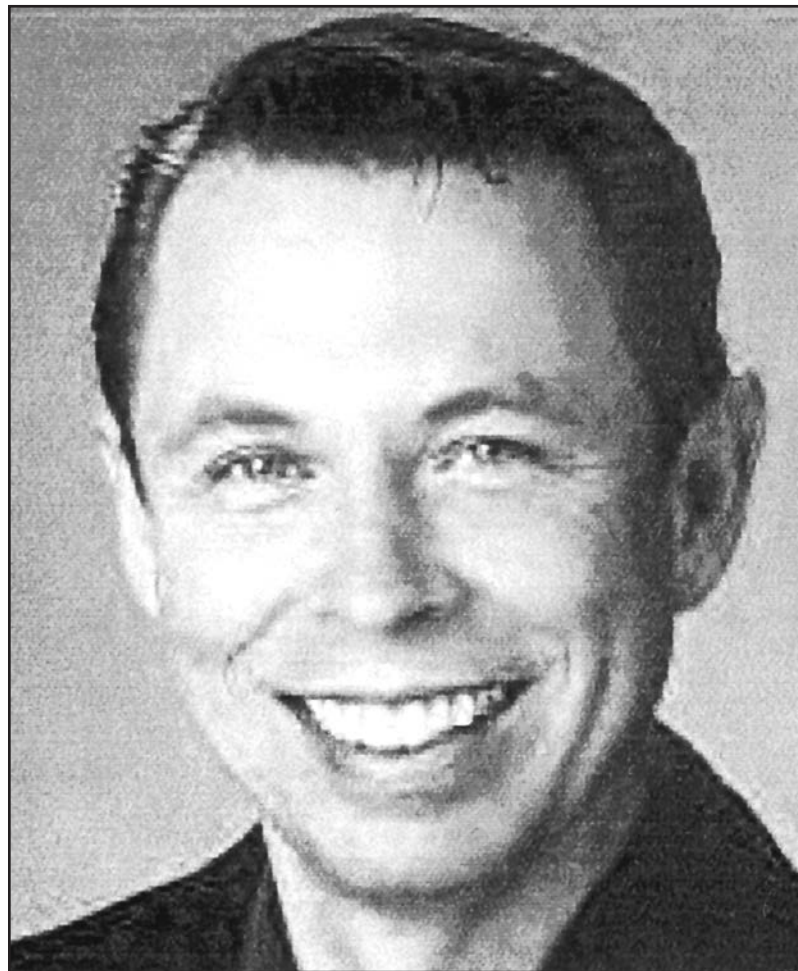
*Approved a Resolution approving the filing of an application for Proposition 12 Grant funds from the Urban Forestry Grant Program, and authorized the Public Works Director to execute any necessary agreements and requests for payment.

*Approved a resolution for the submittal of a Hazard Elimination Safety Project application for federal fiscal 2005-06 for Signal Improvements at specified intersections.

The next public meeting of the City Council will be Tuesday, April 12 at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave., Downey.



DOWNEY MAYOR ANNE BAYER – Traveled to Washington, D.C. recently where she met with Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard to discuss the Downey Landing Project and the Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center. The congresswoman was the lead sponsor of legislation to name the learning center in honor of the seven Space Shuttle Columbia astronauts who died February 1, 2003.



JON ENGSTROM—Brings his remarkable dance talent to the Downey Symphony April 2, for an evening that features classical tap.

Rare combination of classical and tap

By Joyce Sherwin

DOWNEY—To complete its 47th year of performances for the City of Downey, our Symphony Orchestra, under Artistic Director and Conductor Thomas Osborn, will play its third regular concert of the season on Saturday evening, April 2 in the Downey Theater. And it promises to be a doozy.

The spring program always opens light-heartedly with a march conducted by the winner of the previous year's Baton Auction. At this concert, Jasmin Jackson will have the time of her life leading the orchestra in W.C. Handy's St. Louis Blues.

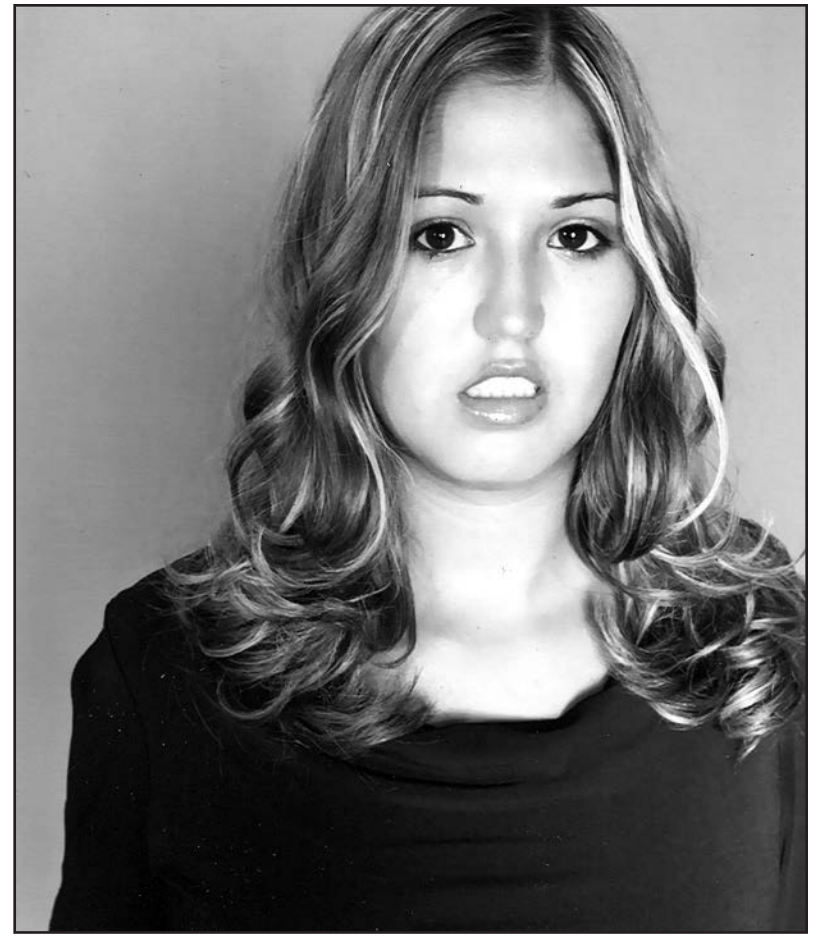
Then it's on to Johannes Brahms with the glorious, sunny Symphony No. 2. Brahms did most of his composing during summer months in the Austrian countryside, and this work is as sweet and fresh as the woodlands and lakeshore he so enjoyed.

Featured selection

Another treat follows when the dazzling Jon Engstrom appears as soloist in the Concerto for Tap Dancer and Orchestra by American composer Morton Gould. Never heard an orchestra and tap shoes collaborating? For this event, it comes naturally. As director, dancer and choreographer, Engstrom's impressive stage credits stretch from Europe to Broadway to California, where he and Tom Osborn worked together at Pepperdine University on five great productions: Guys and Dolls, Into the Woods, Evita, West Side Story and 42nd Street. Does that set your toes tapping, or what?

The concert concludes with a gem from Johann Strauss Jr., Tales from the Vienna Woods. And then the audience and orchestra musicians are invited to the theater's patio area for complimentary fruit punch and home-baked cookies, a mellow conclusion to a refreshing evening of music.

Dr. Osborn's preview discussion of the works to be heard starts at 7:15, concert time is 8 p.m. Reserved tickets priced from \$10 to \$25 are available at the theater box office on Wednesday, March 30, from noon to 4 p.m., or on the evening of the performance. Or you may phone (562) 403-2944. The theater is at 8435 Firestone Blvd, with ample free parking.



CARLA VERDUZCO—Is the third student from Downey selected to compete for scholarships, prizes and specialty gifts valued at over \$20,000 in the upcoming Nationals' 2005 Miss Teen Los Angeles pageant competition Sunday, April 3. If declared the winner, she will represent Los Angeles and the surrounding communities later at the Cities of America National Competition that takes place in Orlando, Florida. For support/sponsorship information, contact her pageant coordinator, Patty Neidert, at 1-800-569-2487.

Expert to deliver keynote address

DOWNEY—Deanne Tilton Durfee, renowned expert in the field of child abuse and neglect, will be the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony for the Child Abuse Memorial Healing Field on Wednesday, March 30 at 3 p.m. The event, which takes place on the North Field of East Middle School, at the corner of Florence and Woodruff Avenues, will memorialize child abuse fatalities.

Durfee is the executive director of the Los Angeles County Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN), the largest child abuse council in the nation. The past chairperson of the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect, she is president emerita of Prevent Child Abuse-California, a statewide network of child abuse organizations. Durfee served on the California Attorney General's Commission on the Enforcement of Child Abuse Laws, as well as the U.S. Attorney General's Commission on Pornography. She is currently a member of both the California Children's Justice Act Advisory Board and the California Office of Child Abuse Prevention Advisory Committee.

Spring Break fun at Downey parks

DOWNEY — "Spring Break Fun at the Parks - Spring Spectacular," a free Spring Break program for children presented by the City of Downey Community Services Department, will be offered March 28 - April 1.

Apollo, Dennis the Menace, Crawford, Furman, Golden and Rio San Gabriel Parks will host the program from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with activities scheduled from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The program will also be offered at Brookshire Park from 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Children ages 6-12 can enjoy arts/crafts, chalk art, a "Spring Fling Party," and lunch and games with the camp leaders (bring your own lunch). Children may arrive and leave at any time.

Registration is required and can be completed at the park sites until the program concludes. Flyers regarding the program are available at City Hall. Call 904-7238 for more information.

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9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Camp and Summer Child Care Sign Up

Events include: bike-a-thon, obstacle course, arts and crafts, face painting, class demonstrations, kids finger printing, free food and much more.

Downey Family YMCA
11531 Downey Ave.
Downey, CA 90241
(562) 862-4201

We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities



JOE COMMODORE—(Left), and **Mario Guerra** enjoy a hearty laugh after exchanging pies in the face following the conclusion of this year's YMCA fundraising effort, which netted over \$225,000. The pair headed a group of 186 community volunteers who secured contributions from over 1,000 donors.

YMCA surpasses fundraising goal

DOWNEY—Joe Commodore, chairman of the community gifts portion of the 2005 Downey Family YMCA Annual Support Campaign, and Mario Guerra, Chairman's Round Table chairman, announced that this year's fundraising effort netted over \$225,000.

Commodore and Guerra headed a group of 186 community volunteers who secured contributions from over 1,000 donors. Distinguished volunteers assisting Commodore and Guerra included: Bob Winningham, Bob Earl, Ron Kolar, Tod Corrin, Raul Lopez, Dorothy Pemberton, Larry Lewis, Jim Derry, Willie Gutierrez, Bob Miller, Betsy Brundin and Pat Vallefuoco.

The two leaders exchanged celebratory pies in the face at a dinner concluding this year's YMCA fundraising effort. The pie in the face is usually reserved for the loser of a friendly wager over which section achieves the highest percentage of goal. Since both sections surpassed their goals, Commodore and Guerra decided that there were no losers, and each accepted a pie in the face in celebration of the campaign's success.

"Our thanks go out to our volunteers and donors alike," said Steve Roberson, general campaign chairman. "Their caring will enable the YMCA to continue to provide high-quality programs to all the youth of our community."

"The Fashion Guy" shopping contest

DOWNEY – Stonewood, along with Los Cerritos and Lakewood Centers, is offering the opportunity to win a \$1,500 shopping spree and day of luxury and relaxation with "The Fashion Guy," Lawrence Zarian, a celebrity fashion expert who appears regularly on "Live with Regis and Kelly," EXTRA and the KTLA Morning News. Shoppers can enter the contest now through April 5 by submitting their entry forms at the malls' Guest Services.

The winner will be selected in a random drawing held on April 7, with the shopping spree scheduled for April 16.

"The Fashion Guy" will provide fashion advice to the contest winner while they shop, providing his expert guidance in selecting the hottest and coolest styles in clothing, shoes and accessories.

Zarian can be seen regularly on both local and national television and at in-store appearances across the country. From "Live with Regis and Kelly" with his "Dream Team Ambush Makeover" segments to his KTLA Morning News on-air fashion shows and his red carpet fashion analysis for "Live at the Academy Awards," Zarian has found his niche within the television industry.

The winner of "The Fashion Guy" experience will receive \$1,500 worth of gift cards to carry out the shopping spree at either Los Cerritos, Lakewood or Stonewood Centers, all owned and operated by Meceerich of Santa Monica. The prize package also includes a manicure, pedicure, makeup session, haircut and styling, lunch and limousine service for the winner.

Entrants must be legal residents of the United States and 18 years of age or older as of March 19, 2005. Complete contest rules are available at Guest Services. Stonewood Center is located at 251 Stonewood St. off Firestone Blvd.



RITA ARIAS – Second from right with her family, was honored by the Rio Hondo Elementary PTA at their Honorary Service Awards Ceremony held on March 8. Arias was recognized as a "Very Special Person" by PTA members and colleagues alike because of her many years of service to the students. As a Bilingual Instructional Assistant she works to foster the growth of kindergarten students and, as a Noon Duty Supervisor, she helps manage hungry fifth graders while keeping the playground safe. Arias is also co-owner of Gourmet Cafe, located at 8250 Firestone Blvd.

"Connections" meets Thursdays

DOWNEY – Connections, a local business networking group, meets every Thursday at 7:30 a.m. for breakfast at Nordic Fox Restaurant, 10924 Paramount Blvd. For information call Nick Smith, president of the group, at 861-5222.

Hume scholarship awards for music

DOWNEY—The John Hume Performing Arts Foundation has presented five scholarship awards of \$50 each to five young musicians who performed at the Downey Symphony Guild's Young People's Invitational Musicales Saturday, March 19 at the Moravian Church of Downey.

The John Hume Performing Arts Foundation, Inc., is a non-profit organization formed to honor the legacy of John Hume. Mr. Hume founded the Downey Children's Theater, the Downey Civic Light Opera, designed the Downey Theater, to name just a few of the opportunities he brought to the Downey community. For further information on how you may become involved, call Pauline Hume at (562) 869-0422.

DRMC blood drive March 31

DOWNEY – In response to the region's severely low blood supply, Downey Regional Medical Center is sponsoring a blood drive at the hospital on Thursday, March 31 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"The American Red Cross Southern California Blood Services Region has issued a red alert advising the public that the blood supply is in extremely critical condition," said DRMC Laboratory Manager Brick Bunch. "We are encouraging staff, their families and friends, and other members of the community to take a half an hour to give blood to assure there is enough blood for the sick and injured."

According to the Red Cross, in Southern California, only three percent of the population donates blood. To give blood, one must be age 17 or older, weight at least 100 pounds, be in good health, and not at risk for HIV/AIDS.

The American Association of Blood Banks said that a seven-day stock of blood is optimal to ensure a stable blood supply. The Red Cross is now using units of rare, frozen blood to meet urgent patient needs.

American Red Cross Southern California Blood Services Region is unable to stock hospitals fully and is distributing blood to meet immediate critical needs. Southern California hospitals have been asked to cooperate in the transfer of blood according to greatest need.

To make an appointment to donate blood, call the DRMC Volunteer Office at 904-5321.

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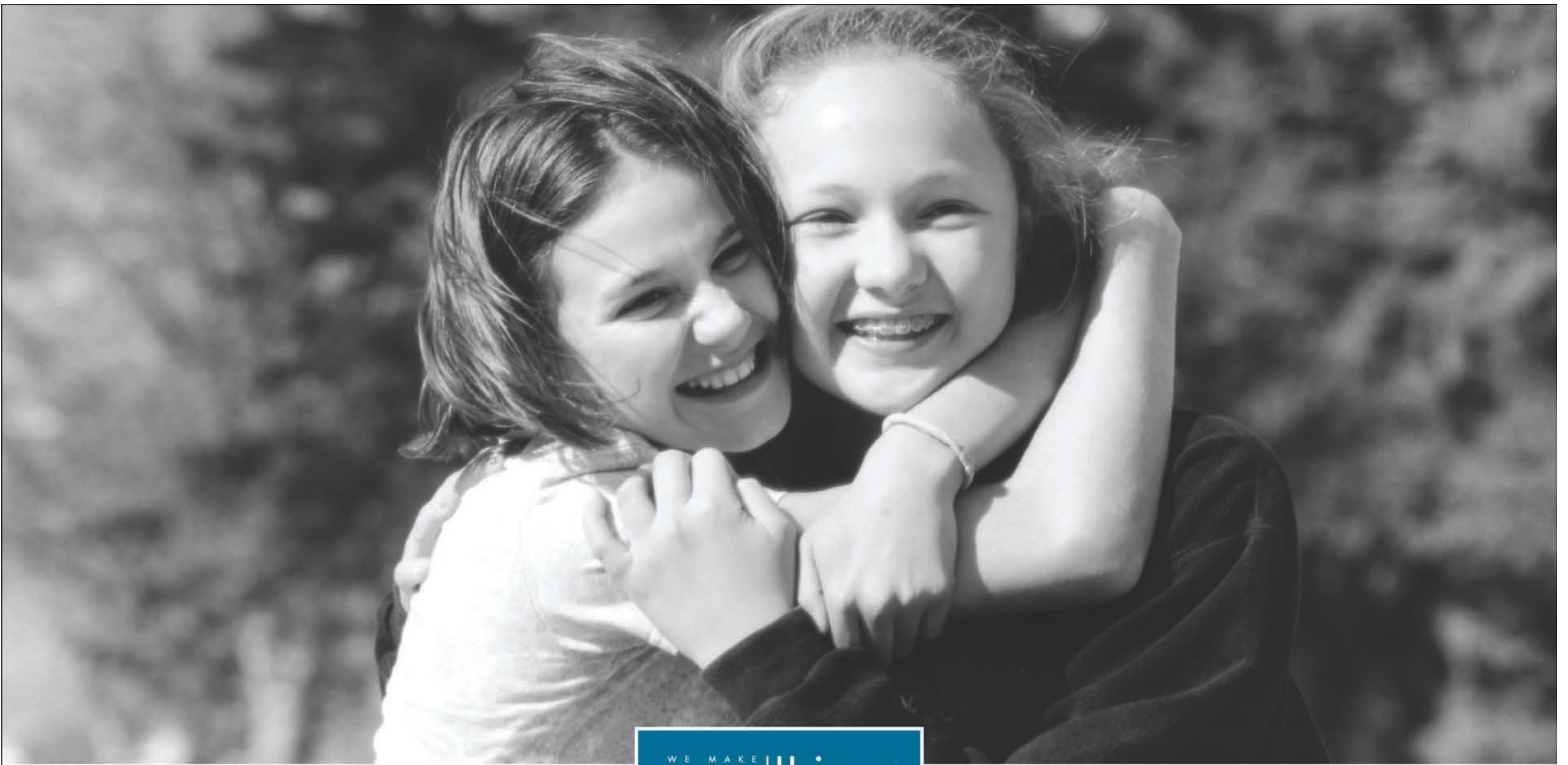
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Sat. & Sun., March 26 & 27

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STONEWOOD CENTER'S CONTRIBUTIONS

Stonewood Center is proud to bring many good things to the community of Downey. Our commitment is far reaching.

Over \$73,000 raised for local charities:

- Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County
- Pathways Volunteer Hospice
- Regis Clip for the Cure
- Su Casa Family Crisis Center
- Neighbors Helping Neighbors
- Toys for Tots Foundation

Over \$21,000 donated to community causes:

- City of Downey Kids Day
- Operation School Bell
- Buckner International
- Make-a-Wish Foundation
- Pathways Volunteer Hospice
- The Big Red Bucket Food Drive

Stonewood Management Employees Volunteered over 125 hours at Habitat for Humanity and Assistance League of Southern California through Macerich Volunteer Program.



\$10,000 Macerich/Stonewood Center college scholarship awarded annually to local high school graduates.

Over \$16,000 awarded to local schools through School Cents program.

Toys valued at \$6,000 collected for Toys for Tots Foundation

Host to a variety of community programs:



- Gypsy Johnson Storytime Festival
- Cinco De Mayo Fiesta Dancers
- Flag Day Celebration
- Holiday Photos
- Holiday Community Entertainment
- School Cents
- Kid's Night Out
- Mall Walker Program

Created 2,000 jobs and generates over 2.4 million in sales tax.

2004 MACERICH CONTRIBUTIONS

The Macerich Company has ownership interests in 84 regional malls in 24 states across the United States. Dedicated to making "Good Things Happen" in every community we serve, the reach of these efforts by our individual properties goes far beyond the boundaries of the cities where our customers, merchants and employees live and work. It is through this dedication and purpose that The Macerich Company was able to raise over \$13 million for charitable causes in 2004.

Throughout The Macerich Company portfolio, our associates donated over 11,000 volunteer hours to charitable organizations.

\$4.5 Million was raised for hospitals and health related causes such as bone marrow and blood drives, Make-A-Wish Foundation, Ronald McDonald House and March of Dimes, to name a few.



\$4.4 Million raised to support much needed funding for educational and arts programs across the country, such as PTA's, Adopt-A-School, literacy programs and our School Cents partnerships.

\$1 Million to the Salvation Army and Toys for Tots during the 2004 holiday season.

\$607,000 raised through corporate programs benefiting such organizations as Shoes for Orphan Souls, Operation School Bell, veteran programs and our Big Red Bucket Food Drive which provided a holiday meal to over 3,600 families.

\$1.2 Million for youth programs from soccer to scouting and safety to mentoring.

\$379,000 toward clothing and blanket programs for the less fortunate across the country.

\$345,100 to food banks. Year-round collections helped provide for those in need.

\$660,000 for the Fresh Start Women's Foundation in Phoenix, Arizona.

82 Grants were awarded to nonprofit organizations in our communities across the United States to recognize volunteer efforts of Macerich employees at these organizations.

STONEWOOD CENTER

Schuh republished

By John Adams

Dr. Mary Stauffer dropped by the Downey Patriot office this week to deliver a gift, for which we are most grateful. It was a copy of a book by the Rev. L.H. Schuh, Ph.D., entitled "The Complete Life."

Originally published in 1927, Schuh, who was Stauffer's grandfather, based his book on his Sunday sermons. It is subtitled, "Getting Out of Life All There is to Get." Stauffer said when she reread the book she was impressed with its relevance today. "People have changed the environment and called it modernization but people have the same enduring emotions and basic desires," says Stauffer in her foreword to a limited republished edition.

We just completed reading it and must agree, for the most part. It stresses four key aspects of life: Work, Play, Love and Worship.

Stauffer, who is one of the Downey community's most beloved philanthropists, retired after a lifetime in medicine. As a practicing physician she said she saw the book's concept called psychosomatic medicine in the 1940s. Later it was rediscovered and called holistic. Today it is termed "healthy lifestyle."

This republished tribute to her grandfather is well worth reading. You might ask if you could buy or perhaps borrow a copy.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Help stop shutdown of area Mail Centers

Dear Editor:

By April 15, all mail with zip codes beginning with 900, 901, 902, 903, and 904 will be processed and distributed from one facility. I am not talking about retail post offices, but the processing and distribution facility from which all the mail for over 171 zip codes must pass through before our local mail carriers can sort and deliver the mail. These zip codes cover all communities from Malibu to Palos Verdes to Downey to Eagle Rock. What would happen to the city of Los Angeles if this downtown LA Processing and Distribution Center was to be shut down as a result of fire, earthquake, or even worse, an anthrax or terrorist attack?

In the March 16 edition of the LA Times, page A27, they report that 3 mail facilities in Washington, D.C. were shut down for 2 days because of an anthrax scare. And the Hamilton, New Jersey Post Office that handled anthrax-laced letters in 2001 was shut down for more than 3-1/2 years.

And the US Postal Service is planning to consolidate the Long Beach Processing Center into the City of Industry Processing Center, which reduces any possible back-up facility.

We can stop the closing of the Marina Processing and Distribution Center. Write or phone the following:

USPS Office of Inspector General
Attn: Hotline
1735 N. Lynn Street
Arlington, VA 22909-2020
(Fax - 866-756-6741; Tel. 888-877-7776)

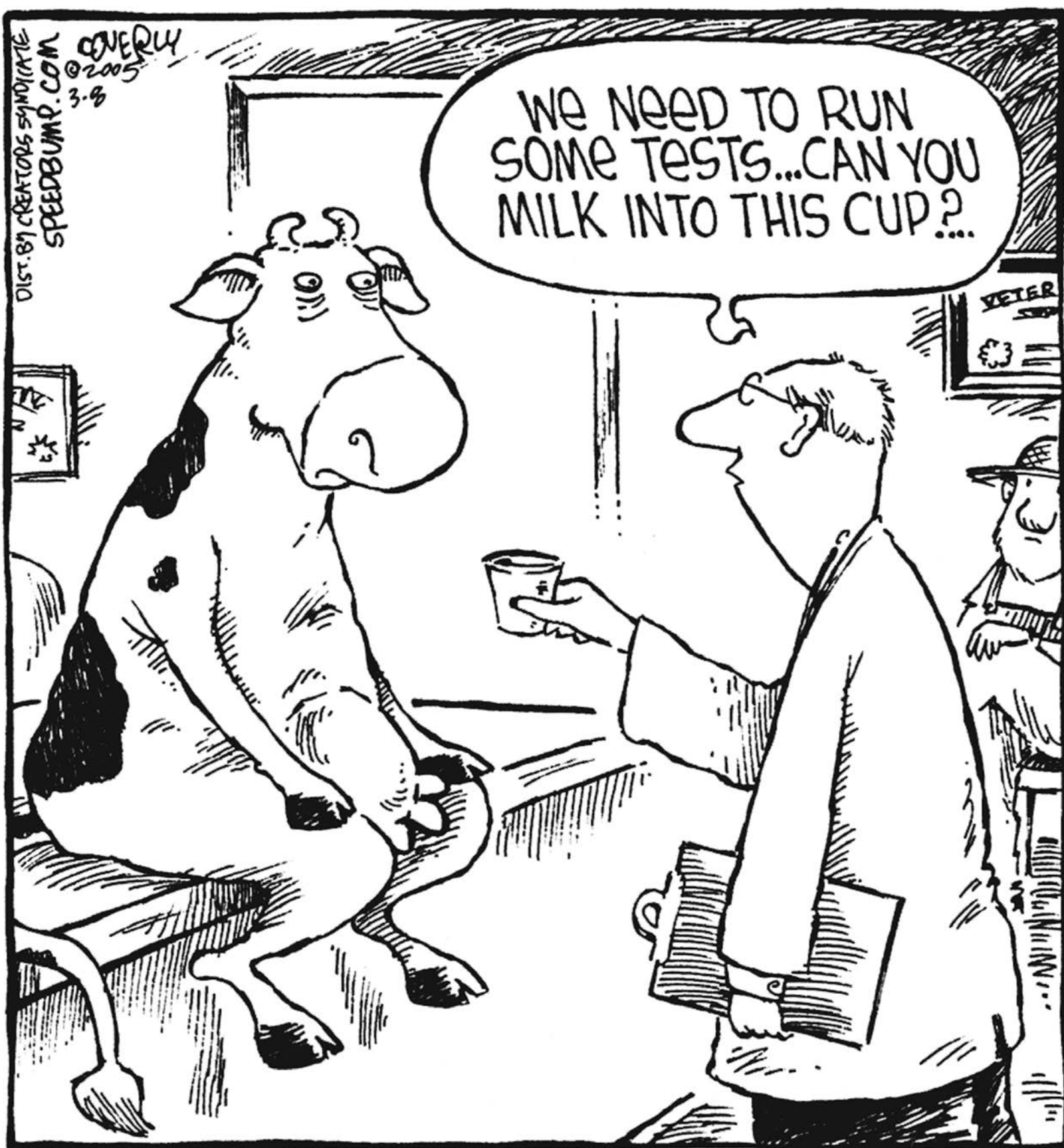
Postmaster General John Potter
United States Postal Service
475 L'Enfant Plaza, SW
Washington, D.C. 20260-0010
(Fax - 202-268-5211)

Mayor James Hahn
200 North Spring Street, Room 303
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(Fax - 213-978-0656; Tel. 213-978-0600)

Sen. Barbara Boxer
312 N. Spring Street, Ste. 1748
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(Fax - 213-894-5042; Tel. 213-894-5000)

Congresswoman Jane Harman
2321 E. Rosecrans Blvd., Ste. 3270
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(Fax - 310-643-6445; Tel. 310-643-3636)

Thank you for being a concerned citizen.
—Jan Book,
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

Appreciates Sherwin's article

Dear Editor:

I want to thank Joyce Sherwin for her wonderful article showcasing the Downey Symphonic Society's activities in the community. They give Downeyites, old and young, the opportunity to hear great music. They add so much to the cultural assets of Downey. Thanks to them.

She also paid tribute to Mary Dagani, a teacher at Rio San Gabriel School. This teacher donates her time and talent to instruct about 90 eager students in guitar and drums. These eager students come in voluntarily four days a week and experience hands-on music. It is an opportunity for appreciation as well as possibly performing. My Foundation is very happy to supply a few instruments for this great teacher and her inspired students. It is the teacher that counts.

—Dr. Mary F. Stauffer,
Downey

Tax filing simplified for seniors

SACRAMENTO—California's simplest state income tax form is available for more taxpayers this year, including senior citizens, according to the Franchise Tax Board (FTB).

Certain taxpayers, including seniors who can claim the Seniors Exemption Credit, can now use the 540 2EZ and report dividends, pension income, and taxable interest as income sources.

"We're easing the tax-filing burden on seniors by simplifying their returns and saving them the headache of filling out complex forms," said State Controller and FTB Chair Steve Westly.

Changes made to the 540 2EZ now allow taxpayers with greater income amounts to use the form. The 540 2EZ has gained popularity for its simplicity in reducing the required lines of tax information needed and eliminating several math calculations. It is available to single or head of household taxpayers earning up to \$100,000 and married taxpayers earning up to \$200,000 who do not itemize deductions and have three or fewer dependents.

An additional 340,000 taxpayers would be eligible to use the 540 2EZ, which can also be filed electronically through FTB's CalFile service. Find CalFile and all other e-file services, or download tax forms, at www.ftb.ca.gov.

Museum bill clears Assembly

SACRAMENTO—Assembly Bill 42, which was recently passed by the State Assembly by a 69-0 vote, enables a new successor board to oversee the revitalization of the Golden State Museum and allows it to integrate a component on women's history into the facility.

Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez (D-Los Angeles), who co-authored the bill with Assembly Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy, Senate President pro tem Don Perata and Senate Minority Leader Dick Ackerman, said: "AB 42 clears the way for a reinvigorated museum dedicated to California's rich cultural, political, and social history as well as the important contributions of California's women."

First Lady Maria Shriver also had this to say: "History museums are not simply showcases for the past. They honor those who blazed trails and opened doors, as well as inspired new generations to dream their own dreams. This museum will present California's rich and diverse history, beautifully display our state's extraordinary archives, and present the many stories of California's remarkable women who serve on the front lines of humanity and are great architects of change."

Halbmaier wins statewide honors

DOWNEY—Kent Halbmaier, Director of Special Education for the Downey Unified School District, has been named the State Special Education Administrator of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators.

Dr. Wendy Doty, DUSD Superintendent, announced the new honors for Halbmaier at the March 15 regular School Board meeting.

Halbmaier will be presented his award in November at the ACSA's Annual Conference in Sacramento. "Administrator of the Year" is the highest honor given to an administrator by the Association. Halbmaier had earlier been selected for local recognition and his application forwarded to the state level for consideration.

Dr. Sara Cairns, Director of Secondary Education for the DUSD, and currently serving as the Region 14 ACSA President, presented Halbmaier his regional honors and award at a February Board meeting. At that time she stated that "Halbmaier has a strong commitment to the Downey community, having been a graduate of Downey High School, serving as a middle school Special Education Teacher, Vice Principal, and Principal of Rancho Los Amigos Hospital School and Pace Elementary. Halbmaier has taken an active role in the Downey Administrators Association, having served as Charter President and as the chair of the Scholarship Committee for over five years." According to Cairns, "In spite of all the committees, organizations, and leadership roles that Kent Halbmaier has been involved with, he remains a champion of children. He looks into the heart of every child and sees great potential and works with families and staff to provide the most nourishing and positive educational environment possible."

On Wednesday, March 16, Cairns presented the ACSA's regional awards to Halbmaier and to Phil Davis, Principal of West Middle School, at the "Leadership Matters" Awards Recognition Dinner at the Reef on the Water Restaurant in Long Beach. Davis was recognized by Region 14 as the Middle School Administrator of the Year.

FTC discontinues 'TeleFile' program

SACRAMENTO—The state's file-by-phone program known as TeleFile which debuted in 1996 has been discontinued, according to the Franchise Tax Board (FTB). Due to decreased usage, the FTB determined it was no longer cost-beneficial to maintain the program. TeleFile's usage peaked in 1998 with 299,000 taxpayers phoning in their taxes. Last year the number of TeleFile callers dropped to 74,000.


The FTB says that displaced TeleFile callers can still use technology to file their returns and still enjoy free filing, quick refunds, and reduced errors by using the state's CalFile service or one of many free e-file services offered by participating companies.

CalFile is the FTB's no fee, direct-to-government e-file program. It is available to more than 6 million taxpayers who file the 540 2EZ, 540A, and to a limited degree the 540 long form. CalFile accepts income of nearly \$280,000, itemized deductions, and some tax credits.


Many commercial e-file companies offer free e-file services to certain customers. The benefits of using e-file are quick refunds within 7 days, accurate return preparation that is paperless, and acknowledgement that the FTB received the return.

Taxpayers can visit the FTB's website at www.ftb.ca.gov to find CalFile. Also on hand is information on this year's taxes, answers to frequently asked questions, and all other e-services. Taxpayers also have the ability to check the status of payments, balances due, refunds, and use electronic methods to pay their taxes.

The Downey Patriot

	<p>John Adams..... Editor and Publisher</p> <p>Jerry Brady..... Advertising Director</p> <p>Jennifer DeKay..... Business Manager</p> <p>Eric Pierce..... Editorial, Production</p> <p>Henry Veneracion..... Editorial</p> <p>Robert Tolentino..... Display Advertising</p> <p>Lisa Lavadores..... Display Advertising</p> <p>Linda Larson..... Classified Advertising</p> <p>Jonathan Fox..... Production</p> <p>Christopher Pinto..... Production</p>
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11525 Downey Ave., Suite A, Downey, CA 90241
Phone (562) 904-3668 * Fax (562) 904-3124
Hours Monday-Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.



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GOVERNOR

Due to lack of funding, schools in the city of Bellflower reportedly had to cut major instructional programs, including reading specialists within the district, physical education programs, preparation time for teachers, and mentors for new teachers. Rick Kemppainen, the Superintendent of the Bellflower Unified School District (BUSD), projected that the Governor's proposals may cost the district over \$3 million out of the general fund money that goes directly to the instruction of students.

Several local teachers attested to the direct effects the budget cuts would have in the classrooms. Dan Vaughn, currently a teacher at West Middle School and a part of the California Teachers Association Board of Directors, said the money is badly needed to keep smaller class sizes, save important programs, improve teacher training, and buy up-to-date textbooks and supplies. Further, he indicated that the Governor's pension plan would have unfavorable effects, saying, "At a time when we need to attract and retain quality teachers at our schools, his proposals will only discourage people from becoming teachers at all."

According to De La Torre, opposition to the Governor's proposal is almost unanimous, "with 90 percent of Californians, including 80 percent of Republicans in the state, wanting to maintain or increase funding for education." He added, "A majority of Californians give him a failing grade when it comes to protecting our schools. Assembly Democrats will not break our promise to focus on improving public education."

APOLOGY

President Jerry Brady in the audience, and said regular attendance by members of the Chamber Board and President Brady were positive signs of increased cooperation and understanding between the City and the Downey Chamber of Commerce as well.

Trejo added he attended the recent Arc Walk for Independence at the Stonewood Center and that he saw Meredith Perkins there. Trejo also said he has been out to test the new turf at the high school football fields and described it as "fantastic!"

Water polo champs!

And all the Councilmembers and staff expressed delight over the victory of the Downey High School Girls Water Polo Team which recently won the CIF Southern Section Division VI Championship.

City Library book auction tomorrow

DOWNEY—The Downey City Library will collect bids on the currently displayed, handpicked, collectible special interest books and videos for its monthly auction tomorrow, March 26, at noon. Winners will be contacted by phone and can pick up their items in the Friends of the Library bookstore.

In addition to the auction, the Friends have March specials, including books on tape, a variety of books in German, and jigsaw puzzles.

The auction books for March are: Aesop's Fables, minimum bid \$8; Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs—VHS and Read Aloud Story Book, \$12; Walt Disney's Bambi: The Story and the Film, \$5; Paul McCartney: Paintings, \$9; The Most Beautiful Flowers: By Pierre Joseph Rodeouta, \$10; The Sculpture of Henri Matisse, \$8; Box Office Champs, \$7; A History of Architecture: Settings and Rituals, 2nd Edition, \$6; Planet Earth, \$6; and The Railroad Encyclopedia, \$5.

Proceeds from the auction will go toward purchasing new books for the library, as well as many of the library's special needs. The library is located at 11121 Brookshire Avenue. For information, call 904-7360 or visit the web at www.downeylibrary.org.

Park Service holds public meeting here

DOWNEY—Community meetings have been scheduled by the National Park Service (NPS) in Downey and surrounding areas as part of the public start-up or "scoping" stage of a "special resource study" aimed at determining whether an area is eligible to be designated as a unit of the national park system. During these meetings, the NPS will introduce the study, explain the process, answer the public's questions, and listen to the public's ideas and concerns. These studies are completed by the NPS when directed by Congress.

The San Gabriel River Watershed Study Act (P.L. 108-042 - July 2003) directed the NPS to conduct a Special Resource Study of 1) the San Gabriel River and its tributaries north of and including the city of Santa Fe Springs, and 2) the San Gabriel Mountains within the territory of the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC). The Act also directs the NPS to consult with the RMC and other appropriate federal, state and local government entities, and to consider regional flood control and drainage needs and publicly-owned infrastructure such as wastewater treatment facilities.

The study covers more than 1,000 square miles of the San Gabriel Mountains and watershed. Approximately two-thirds of the area is within the Los Angeles National Forest; the remaining one third is a mix of urban and foothills residential, commercial, industrial and open space land.



RECEIVING CITATION—From Downey Unified School District is grounds supervisor James Garcia for environmental awareness at recent DUSD board meeting. That's Maintenance, Operations and Transportation chief Buck Weinfurter at extreme left with Board President Barbara Samperi by his side, and DUSD Superintendent Wendy L. Doty at extreme right.



JIM TALLO—(Second from right) is recognized at recent DUSD board meeting for his contributions toward improving the facilities in the District. From left, Buck Weinfurter, Director of Maintenance, Operations and Transportation; Board President Barbara Samperi; and DUSD Superintendent Wendy L. Doty.

The poets' corner

antidote for a dull day

one frowsy black crow
a ruff of unkempt feathers
draped behind his ear

refusing to sit in the scullery
chooses instead to perch
on a yellow-petaled tree

yesterday in a fretful rain
three more of his ramshackle kind
landed on a pink-flowering almond

Amazing to see
how drab birds
choose gaudy branches

—Lorine Parks,
Downey

Smothers Brothers comedy tour April 17

DOWNEY—The Downey Adult School Creative Learning Tours is offering a tour of the Smothers Brothers Comedy Performance on Sunday, April 17 at 2 p.m. at the Haugh Performing Arts Center at Citrus College.

The Smothers Brothers mark over 45 years in show business and are legends for lengthy careers that have surpassed all other comedy teams. After the show, there will be a delightful meal at the nearby Citrus Grill Restaurant. The tour includes transportation, reserved tickets for the performance, and dinner.

Tour registration coupons are available in the Downey Adult School main office or mailed upon request. For information, call 940-6213.



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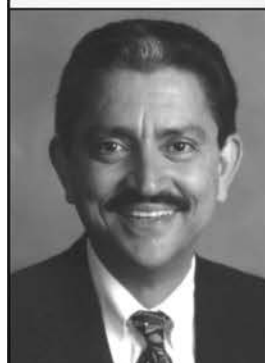
Alan Frischer, M.D.
President, Medical Staff
(Board certified,
Internal Medicine)



Brian Brown, M.D.
President-elect
(Board certified,
Ophthalmology)



Gil Bender, M.D.
Secretary/Treasurer
(Board certified,
Obstetrics/Gynecology)



Pramod Multani, M.D.
Immediate Past President
(Board certified,
Cardiology)

DRMC

At Downey Regional Medical Center,
Doctors are a big part
of who we are.

These physicians are 2005 Medical Staff officers representing the 435 physicians affiliated with Downey Regional Medical Center. They dedicate their skill and talents to caring for the sick, promoting good health and advancing medical knowledge. They are your advocates, neighbors, civic leaders, friends and valued members of the DRMC family.

On Doctor's Day, March 30, 2005, we are proud to honor all of our doctors for all the good they do.

For a referral to one of our fine physicians, please call (562) 904-4444, or visit www.drnci.org and click on "FastHealth."

CENTURY 21 MY REAL ESTATE COMPANY PAYS TRIBUTE



The wheels on the bus, go round and round, as Downey's Senior Citizens and the Disabled Community have the opportunity to take advantage of the outstanding Dial A Ride Transportation Program of Downey. At 25 cents a ride and the friendly drivers this service is a win/win for everyone. The Drivers often make friends with the repeat clients and welcome them aboard with a smile. A smooth and dependable ride for these clients is a welcome relief when needing to get from here to there. For further information call 562-904-7215. Pictured L to R-Primo Figueroa, Ruth Doherty, Robert Clapoth, D.J. Boni, Donna Davis, Amelia Jennings, Stephanie McCoy, Maurice Khourt, John Cardoza, Maggie Carvello, Felicia Hinas, Patty Thompson. Not Pictured: Matalie Evans and Mammie Monger

DOWNEY'S BEHIND THE SCENE SUPERSTARS

 Downey Regional
Medical Center
11500 Brookshire Ave. Downey, CA 90241



DOWNEY'S BRENDA PULIDO—Won distinction for her presentation, "Why Discriminate Against Yourself?," at the recent 5th annual Honors Transfer Council of California Research Conference for Community College Students held at UC-Irvine. Her poster on friction between the Mexican-American community and recent Mexican immigrants was identified as the best research submitted in the Social Sciences category. She is shown here with Cerritos College Scholars' Honors Program advisor Dr. John Madden. She plans to transfer to UCLA in the fall.

Women's Golf Club seeking members

DOWNEY—The Los Amigos Women's Golf Club is looking for more women golfers to join their club. Tee time for the group is 8 a.m. every Friday at Los Amigos Golf Course, 7295 Quill Dr. For more information on joining the club, call 634-2816.

Downey Retirement Center
We offer a Continuum of Care...

Bathing and Dressing Assistance	Private/Semi-Private Rooms
24 hour Dementia Care	Housekeeping and Laundry Services
Memory/Sensory Stimulation Activities	Medication Administration
Individualized Care Program	Complete Dietary Services/Special Diets

To See What We Have To Offer In Care Stop By For Lunch And A Tour.
11500 Dolan Ave., Downey, CA 90241 (562) 869-2416 FAX (562) 869-4986

Names added to Chamber's big event

DOWNEY—Additional names have joined "Friends of the Faire," benefiting the Downey Chamber of Commerce 2005 Street Faire to be held on Brookshire Ave. on Saturday, May 7.

All of the following have donated \$100 each to help with costs of this huge community event:

All American Home Center, Assistance League of Downey, Atlantic Lock and Key, Jerry Brady, Downey Patriot, California Well Being Insurance Agency, Century 21 My Real Estate Co., City of Downey Federal Credit Union, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Don Dixon & Associates, Downey Party Rentals, Downey Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning, Downey Select IPA Medical Group, Downey Used Cars, Downey Wireless, Edy's Pampered Paws, Efficient Lighting & Electric, Elite Concrete Restoration & Waterproofing, Inc., Escrow Results, Freedom Vacations Inc., Laurie's Personal Pet Sitting, Los Amigos County Club, Inc., Mitchell Personnel, Pacific Western Bank, Paramount Iceland Inc., Park Water Company, Marian Perumean, Re/Max Online, So. Cal. Alcohol & Drug Programs, Southland Credit Union and TNT Fireworks.

To become a "Friend of the Faire," or for further information on the Street Faire, call 923-2191.

'Healthy Heart' nutrition classes

DOWNEY—A Healthy Heart Nutrition Class, for people who have high cholesterol and/or triglycerides or high blood pressure, is taught from 4-5 p.m. at Downey Regional Medical Center, 11500 Brookshire Ave., on the second Wednesday of every month.

The free lecture teaches that diet changes can reduce the risk of heart disease. Registration is required by calling the DRMC Department of Education. (562) 904-5580.



"BAGS FOR GALS"—Shadia Nabulsi, working on her Gold Achievement Award, the highest honor awarded by the Girl Scouts, is sewing bags and filling them with body lotion, shampoo and other personal items for distribution to underprivileged teenagers in Downey, by way of PTA HELPS. To contribute with a donation, visit PTA HELPS at 7830 Quill St., Suite S, Wednesdays and Fridays between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. or call 861-9833.

Stauffer guest speaker at meeting

DOWNEY—Dr. Mary Stauffer will be the guest speaker at the Downey Coordinating Council meeting Wednesday, April 6 at 11 a.m., at the Barbara J. Riley Community Center. She will trace the history of the Assistance League, their activities, and their service to the community.

The public is invited. Bring a sack lunch; drink and dessert will be furnished. For information, call Lois Buchanan 927-9790.

OLPH wine tasting fundraiser April 9

DOWNEY—A festive evening with Italian wines and food will be presented by Our Lady of Perpetual Help School when it presents its 5th Annual Wine Tasting fundraiser on April 9. Tickets are \$30 each or \$50 for a couple.

Call OLPH School at 869-9969 or the Rectory at 923-3246 for tickets or information on how to contribute to the fundraiser.

EASTER WORSHIP DIRECTORY

YOU ARE MOST CORDIALLY WELCOMED TO THESE DOWNEY AREA CHURCHES TO CELEBRATE THIS SUNDAY-OUR RISEN LORD AND SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST!



10711 Paramount Blvd. Downey (562) 923-1215
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PLEASE JOIN OUR FAMILY FOR
EASTER WORSHIP SERVICES

FRI. MAR. 25 - 7:30 P.M. - GOOD FRIDAY OBSERVANCE
SUN. MAR. 27
8:00 A.M. AND 11:00 A.M. - EASTER WORSHIP
9:30 A.M. - SERVICE IN SPANISH
REV. NORM STOPPENHAGEN, PASTOR

ST. RAYMOND PARISH
A Roman Catholic faith community
All are welcome!

Good Friday March 25
12 noon Seven Last Words (Spanish)
3 & 6 pm Liturgy of the Passion (English)
7:00 pm Outdoor Stations of the Cross (Spanish)
7:30 pm Liturgy of the Passion (Spanish)

Holy Saturday March 26
8 am Morning Prayer
Sunset (6:30pm) Easter Vigil (starts in gathering space)

Easter Sunday Masses, March 27
English: 6:30, 8:00, 9:30, 11:00 am
Spanish: 12:30

12348 S. Paramount Blvd.: (562) 923-4509

St. Mark's Episcopal Church
Sunday Mornings:
8:00 a.m. and 10 a.m. Eucharist/Holy Communion
9:00 a.m. Child Care Begins • 10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday Mornings:
10:00 a.m. Eucharist/Holy Communion
Rev. Elizabeth Habecker Rector
10354 Downey Avenue, Downey • (562) 862-3268

Moravian Church of Downey
10337 Old River School Road, Downey
(562) 927-6718 - www.DowneyMoravian.org
Good Friday Vigil 7:30pm
Easter Sunrise Services 5:15am
(followed by breakfast at 7:00am)
Divine Worship 10:30am
"Sharing the Love of Christ"

DOWNEY MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH
8441 East Florence Avenue, Downey * 562-869-7291
Charles Schepel, Interim Minister
March 20 Palm Sunday 10:30 a.m.
March 24 Maundy Thursday 7:30 p.m.
March 27 Easter Sunday 10:30 a.m.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF NORWALK
13820 South Studebaker Road, Norwalk * 562-863-3485
Dennis Gartung, Minister
March 27 Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 a.m.

YOUR'RE INVITED TO SPEND HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SUNDAY WITH US AT

CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
7707 FLORENCE AVE., DOWNEY (562) 927-4421
March 25th - Good Friday - 7:00 p.m.
March 26th - Blessing of the Animals 11:00 a.m.
March 27th - Easter Sunday Service - 10:00 a.m.
Easter Continental Breakfast - 8:30 a.m.
10:00 a.m. Traditional Service 1st & 3rd Sunday
10:00 a.m. Praise Service 2nd & 4th Sunday
Sunday School 8:45 a.m.

Violent Grace Good Friday, March 25 6:30 p.m.
Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ"
"The Story of Jesus for Children"
8:35 p.m. Communion

Easter Sunday, March 27
Music, Drama, Dance & Celebration Messages
Services in English (8 a.m. & 11 a.m.) & Bi-lingual (11 a.m.)

First Baptist Church of Downey
(located behind Embassy Suites, Firestone)
All events are FREE to the public • Nursery provided for each event
Info @ fbcdowney.org • 562.923.1261 • 8348 E. Third Street - Downey, CA 90241

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church & School
13200 Clark Avenue, Downey

Sunrise Service 7:00 AM
Easter Breakfast 8-9:30 AM
Festival Service 10:00 AM
Easter Egg Hunt between the services
Information: (562) 803-4459

Come Join Us This Easter Sunday!
Sunday, March 27th @ 10:30 am

Please join us for exciting, contemporary worship and relevant messages which meet your life's needs

Easter Egg Hunt for our Children and Preschoolers

Small groups available for Adults and Youth

Student Workshop every Sunday @ 10:30 am
Student Small Groups, Wednesdays @ 7pm

Trinity Baptist Church
8219 Florence Ave.
Downey, CA 90240
562-927-1473
562-659-5866

Mike Cleland, Senior Pastor
Greg Thompson, Associate Pastor of Worship
Chris Lambert, Director of Student Ministries

easter message
How Much Does God Really Love Me?
after-easter message series
Survivor (learning to survive the stress of life)

downey first christian church
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We also provide outstanding ministries for younger family members!
Extreme Kids (for children from birth through 5th grade)
The Burn (for students from 6th through 12th grade)

celebrate easter with us on March 27th

Easter Services Sunday, March 27th
9:30am & 10:45am english language
12:00pm spanish language

www.newstreetchurch.com - www.iglesia-cristiana.com

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church
10727 Downey Avenue
(562) 923-3246

Good Friday, March 25th
8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
12:10 p.m. Traditional Stations of the Cross
Good Friday Liturgy:
1:30 p.m. English & 5:30 p.m. Spanish
(Includes Reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, and Holy Communion)

Holy Saturday, March 26th
8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer
7:00 p.m. Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday Masses, March 27th
English: 6:30, 8:00, 9:30, 11:30 a.m.
Spanish: 1:30 & 7:00 p.m.
There will be no 5:00 p.m. Mass on Easter Sunday



CONCERT COMING SOON – Sebastian Sidi returns to the Downey Theatre in concert on Saturday, April 16 for a live performance.

French farce on Long Beach Mainstage

LONG BEACH—“Don’t Dress for Dinner,” Robin Hawdon’s adaptation of Marc Camoletti’s boulevard comedy *Pyjamas pour Six* which played to SRO audiences in Paris for two years, will be presented by Long Beach Playhouse Mainstage Theatre, 5021 East Anaheim St. in Long Beach April 15-May 28.

Its storyline: Bernard is hoping to entertain his chic, Parisian mistress, Suzy, for the weekend. He has arranged for a cordon bleu cook to furnish gourmet delights, is in the process of packing his wife, Jacqueline, off to her mother, and has even invited along his best friend Robert as a suitable alibi. It’s foolproof, what could possibly go wrong? Just about everything!, and in the great tradition of French farce, the play hurtles along at the speed of light and is “a near faultless piece of theatrical invention.”

Regular Friday and Saturday evening performance are at 8 p.m.; Sunday matinees are April 24, May 1, 8, 15 and 22 at 2 p.m. Ticket prices are \$20, and \$18 for seniors; student ticket prices are \$18 Friday and Saturday with valid student ID. For information, call (562) 494-1014 (choose option 1).

Faculty Artist Series concert April 1

LONG BEACH—CSU-Long Beach will hold a Faculty Artist Series concert on Friday, April 1 at 8 p.m. at the Gerald Daniel Recital Hall, located in the CSULB Music Complex just off Atherton St. behind the Carpenter Performing Arts Center.

Featured faculty artists will be Amel Ignacio, clarinet, with Anders Swanson, double bass, and Dr. Shun-Lin Chou, piano. The program will include: “Benny’s Gig” (8 Duos for Clarinet and Double Bass) by Morton Gould; “Fantasia da Concerto” by Luigi Bassi; “Seven Preludes for Clarinet and Piano” by Scriabin; and “Preludes for Piano” (adapted for solo B Flat clarinet and piano accompaniment) by George Gershwin.

General admission is \$10, and \$7 for seniors and students with valid ID. For tickets, call 985-7000.

‘Eggstravaganza’ egg hunt March 26

DOWNEY – The City of Downey’s annual ‘Eggstravaganza’ egg hunt will be held March 26 at various parks throughout the city.

Crafts and games will be enjoyed from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with the egg hunts, divided into three age groups for children 12 years old and under, beginning shortly afterwards.

The Easter Bunny will be available for pictures for \$1.50 and members of the Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey Courts will be on hand also. Apollo, Dennis the Menace, Furman and Golden Parks are each hosting the hunts.

Call the Downey Community Services Department at 904-7238 for more information.

Tickets on sale for Sebastian Sidi concert

DOWNEY – Sebastian Sidi, homegrown composer, arranger and instrumentalist, returns to the Downey Theatre where he will be joined by special guests for a live performance April 16.

Tickets are only available through Johnny & Co. Hair Salon, which is sponsoring the event.

Joining Sidi on stage will be Javier Lima (guitar), Mike Roper (bass) and Tonya Hoodye and Georgia Waggenor (vocals) singing “Time to Say Goodbye” by Sarah Brightman and Andrea Bocelli and newly arranged by Sidi himself.

Influenced by the sounds of rock, classical, jazz and Latin, Sidi has combined them all to create an electrifying genre of its very own.

General admission tickets are priced at \$15 and may be purchased by calling Johnny & Co. at 862-2111 or in person at 10921 S. Downey Ave. Log on to www.sebastiansidi.com for more information or call (562) 544-7774.

Rancho’s Amistad 2005 gala April 23

DOWNEY—Rancho Los Amigos’ “Amistad 2005 Gala,” set for Saturday, April 23 at the Westin Long Beach Hotel, will honor James C. Hankla, L.A. Care Health Plan, and Meg Mitani Moss, OTR/L. The event benefits the patients of Rancho through the work of the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation.

Bianchi THEATRES	
7770 Rosecrans Ave. @ Paramount Blvd.	
Phone: (562) 630-SHOW (7469)	
GUESS WHO PG13	(11:00 1:40 4:20) 7:00 9:40
GUESS WHO PG13	(12:00 2:40) 5:20 8:00 10:40
MISS CONGENIALITY 2 PG13	(10:45 1:35 4:25) 7:15 10:05
THE RING 2 PG13	(10:30 1:15 4:00) 6:45 9:30
THE RING 2 PG13	(11:30 2:15) 5:00 7:45 10:30
ICE PRINCESS G	(11:45 2:10 4:35) 7:00 9:25
ROBOTS PG	(10:15 12:40 3:05) 5:30 7:55 10:20
ROBOTS PG	(11:15 1:40 4:05) 6:30 8:55
HOSTAGE R	(11:45 2:20 4:55) 7:30 10:05
BE COOL PG13	(10:40 1:30 4:20) 7:10 10:00
THE PACIFIER PG	(11:45 2:15 4:45) 7:15 9:45

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www.kptmovies.com	
Downey Cinema 10	
8200 3rd Street	
562.622.3999 ALL STADIUM SEATING	
* GUESS WHO PG13	(11:25, 2:00, 4:40), 7:20, 10:00
MISS CONGENIALITY 2 PG13	(11:30, 2:10, 4:50), 7:30, 10:10
ICE PRINCESS G	(11:10, 1:45, 4:15), 7:05, 9:50
* THE RING TWO PG13	(11:00, 11:45, 1:45, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15), 7:10, 8:05, 9:55, 10:50
ROBOTS PG	(11:20, 12:05, 1:40, 2:30, 4:10, 5:10), 6:50, 7:40, 9:25, 10:05
BE COOL PG13	(11:15, 2:15, 5:05), 8:00, 10:45
THE PACIFIER PG	(11:45, 2:25, 4:45), 7:15, 9:45
HITCH PG13	(11:05, 2:05, 5:00), 7:50, 10:30
Times for Friday-Thursday, March 25-31, 2005	
Bargain Matinee ()	Advance ticket sales
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Confirmed Schedule:

March	April	May	June
3/5	4/2	5/7	6/4
3/12	4/9	5/14	6/11
3/19	4/16	5/21	6/18
3/26	4/30	5/28	6/25

Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday Buffet at Gregory's
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Baked Ham • Roast Loin of Pork
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Double bill offered at East West Players

LOS ANGELES—The 18 Mighty Mountain Warriors, otherwise known as “The World’s Most Psychotic Asian American Comedy Troupe,” is presenting a double bill, “A People’s History of Sukiprata” and “Hatest Grits,” today-tomorrow, March 25-26, and April 1-2, at East West Players, 120 N. Judge John Aiso St.

“A People’s History of Sukiprata” purports to offer the definitive and final telling of the mythical Asian nation. Sukiprata is presented as a place “where everything gets turned on its head, nothing is as it seems, and in many ways reflects the state of Asian America.”

While “Sukiprata” will be shown at 8 p.m., “Hatest Grits,” featuring such crowd pleasers as “A John Woo Family Dinner” and “The Chinese Women Swim Team,” is aimed at the late night crowd and will be shown at 10 p.m.

The 18 Mighty Mountain Warriors, a pan-Asian American sketch comedy group, uses a fast-paced cinematic approach to live theater in order to entertain and to provoke thought about the issues that affect Asian Pacific Islander Americans and all people of color.

Prices are \$20 for “Sukiprata,” \$10 for “Hatest Grits,” and \$28 for both. For reservations/info, call (213) 599-4990.

Free reading of “The Quality of Light”

LONG BEACH – A staged reading of the full-length play “The Quality of Light” by Richard Martin Hirsch will be performed at the Long Beach Playhouse, 5021 E. Anaheim St., on March 26 at 2 p.m. The reading is open to the public, admission-free.

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Memorial service for Fred Webster March 28

DOWNEY—There will be a memorial service for Fred Augustus Webster Monday, March 28 at 11 a.m. at the Miller-Mies Mortuary, 11015 Downey Ave.

Born on Jan. 12, 1912 in Idaho to Herbert and Grace Webster, family and friends called him "Bud." He was an engineer for Soule Steel for 31 years, starting in Portland, Oregon. In 1972, he and wife Elizabeth ("Betty") transferred to Southern California, bought their home in Downey, and lived here until his death.

As a younger man, he had a great interest in falcons (he owned, trained and cared for several), hawks and eagles. He also had a fondness for Japanese culture, food and landscaping. Both he and Betty took professional interest in flowers and gardening, including raising, importing and exporting a variety of orchids with Hawaii and other states. At the same time, he specialized in Bonsai, the Japanese art of shaping and dwarfing trees and shrubs. He brought all his orchids and Bonsai from Portland, and was involved with the Audubon and Bonsai Societies in California.

Webster's survivors include many nieces and nephews.

Troop 2 Boy Scouts pancake breakfast

DOWNEY - The community is invited to the Troop 2 Boy Scouts Annual Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser this Sunday, March 27, from 7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Downey United Methodist Church, 10801 Downey Ave. Call 861-9777 with questions.



BERNICE PAULIN - Known as "Bee" to family and friends, died March 22. Paulin was a volunteer with the Human Services Association and a longtime parishioner at Downey Presbyterian Church, where she was also active in Presbyterian Women's Club. She is survived by her husband, Don, daughter Judy Mathews, son Jere' Burrington and grandson Jason Burrington. Services will be held at Downey Presbyterian Church, at 7th and Downey Ave., on Tuesday, March 29 at 1 p.m. Viewing will be at Miller Mies Mortuary Monday, March 28 from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m.

'Skin cancer and you' seminar today

DOWNEY—The City of Downey Community Services Department, in conjunction with the American Cancer Society, is offering an educational workshop, "What you need to know about skin cancer" today, March 25 from 10-11 a.m. at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, 7810 Quill Drive. Call 904-7223 for information.

March 17 services for Stanley Wollam

DOWNEY—Services were held at the Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside on March 17 for Stanley Leonardo Wollam, who was born Oct. 7, 1936 in Los Angeles and died at Downey Regional Medical Center on March 14. He was 68.

He previously resided in Houston, Texas before moving to Downey just 4 months ago. He was retired from Metro in Houston and a member of the Pentecostal Church in Texas. He saw service in the U.S. Army from 1955-1959.

Wollam is survived by wife Raquel; children Ruth Dietzel of Hudson, Ohio, Mary Forney of Copperas Cove, Texas, Paula Skorupa of Newark, Delaware, and Stanley Corwin of West Pillsbury, Pennsylvania; 9 grandchildren; 4 great grandchildren; sisters Juanita Barrera, Rachel Scott and Ruth Hoyt; and brothers Paul and Harold Wollam.

Arrangements were handled by Miller-Mies Mortuary. Pastor Charles G. Schepel officiated at the services.

Celebration of life for Woodrow Thurlow

DOWNEY—Woodrow Eaton Thurlow, called "Woody" and a Downey resident for the past 48 years, has passed away at the age of 78. The only child of Edward and Alice Thurlow, he was born on Oct. 1, 1926 in Anchorage, Alaska.

He served in the Navy during WWII and the Korean Conflict. He worked as an engineer for the City of Lomita and the county of Los Angeles for nearly 50 years.

He is survived by his wife, Zetta; daughters Linda, Patti, and Lori; and grandchildren Holly and Ryan. He leaves behind many friends.

A celebration of life along with military honors was held in his memory on Tuesday, March 22 at the Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary. Officiating was Pastor Frank Campos from the Family Christian Fellowship Church. Interment was at the Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside.

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\$1,000 DONATION TO GOOD—Gangs Out of Downey (GOOD) president and Downey Councilman Dave Gafin, center, accepts \$1,000 donation from Financial Partners Credit Union in support of GOOD's anti-gang efforts in Downey. Gafin is flanked by new FPCU CEO Nadev Maghaddam, left, and FPCU senior vice-president Orlandus Waters. The much-anticipated GOOD luncheon takes place at 11:30 a.m. at the Rio Hondo Country Club Wednesday, April 13.

Honors mount for water polo players

DOWNEY – The accolades for Downey High School's championship girls water polo team continued this week, as six players were named All CIF-Southern Section, Sofia Patnoas was proclaimed Division VI Player of the Year and Sean Steward took co-coach of the year honors.

The distinctions pay tribute to a remarkable season for the Vikings, one in which they won the Southern Section Championship for the first time in school history.

Making CIF-Southern Section First Team from Downey were seniors Kristin Swart and Constance Daniels and sophomore Stephanie Roser. Senior Janine Boutte was named to the Second Team.

Junior Lauren Badalamenti and sophomore Amy Mendez represent Downey on the Third Team.

Steward shares Coach of the Year with Joel Manley of Centennial Corona, whom Downey defeated 10-5 March 1.

Awards Banquet

Next stop for the girls will be the Seventh Annual CIF Southern Section Girls Water Polo Awards Banquet, scheduled for April 24 at the Knott's Berry Farm Hotel and Resort, in Buena Park. Guest speakers from United States Water Polo, including National Team coaches and players, will introduce and present certificates to players selected to CIF Team.

All runner-up and division winners will also be recognized.

A highlight of the night will be a special screening of the CIF Championship game, professionally filmed and produced. National Team autographed polo balls will be available, as will commemorative T-shirts.

Financial Partners fighting cancer

DOWNEY – Financial Partners Credit Union employees and members are searching for sponsors as they plan to participate in the Revlon Run/Walk for Women on May 7, a fundraising event to help treat and prevent women's cancer. Financial Partners became involved in memory of Janice Larson, a former executive assistant who died of cancer.

A team of more than 50 employees and members plan to walk and run the event at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, bringing in excess of \$5,000 in sponsorship money. The team's theme is "RememberSupportCelebrate".

"Let's remember loved ones we've lost to cancer, support those that may be going through it right now, and celebrate those who have fought and won the battle," said Astrid Rives, Financial Partners marketing and communications manager.

Employees who donate \$5 will receive a Live Long pink wristband. A fundraising group, called the Partners in Action team, will also hold monthly continental breakfasts as fundraisers.

Diabetes management sessions offered

DOWNEY—Downey Regional Medical Center, 11500 Brookshire Ave., offers a four-session, 12-hour program Thursdays on the Management of Diabetes starting April 7, and continuing on the 14th, 21st and the 28th. The course will benefit individuals who have had diabetes for years as well as those recently diagnosed with the malady. Participants may bring a friend.

Through the DRMC Diabetes Institute, persons struck by diabetes have the resources enabling them to manage their diabetes, improve their quality of life and delay or prevent complications. Diabetes Educator Elsa Saucedo, RN, MSN, teaches patients self-care—how to eat right, take medications correctly, exercise appropriately, identify signs and symptoms, perform foot care and use a meter.

The free diabetes classes are held at the DRMC conference rooms. Preregistration is required since space is limited, and there is a \$10 materials fee for the series. Call (562) 904-5580 to register.

Yard sale permits available at City Hall

DOWNEY – Two-day permits for garage/yard sales are available for \$10 by visiting the Cashier's window at City Hall.

Permits are issued only to the person who resides at the address of the sale. For more information, call 904-7331.

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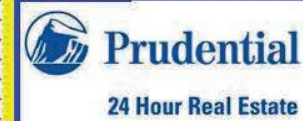


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This great 2 bedroom, 1 bathroom home features central air, hardwood floors and a 2 car garage. Close to everything!
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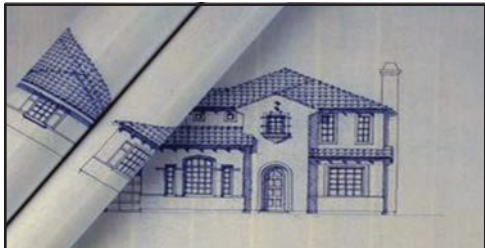
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This 2 bedroom, 2 bath Downey home features a large living room with 1,236 sq. ft. of living space on a 7,600 sq. ft. lot. Close to schools and freeways! Priced to sell at \$535,000
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This 2 story home features 6 bedrooms plus an office, 3 baths, tile roof, tile floor, and a fireplace in the living room. 3,500 sq. ft. of living space. Principles Only!
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A-1 Neighborhood!

This 4 bedroom, 4 bath home in Charloma Estates is located in a cul-de-sac and features a 3-car garage & large lot. This traditional split-level floor plan has an elegant living room with fireplace, formal dining room, and large family room with wet bar. The kitchen has built-in appliances and a large eating area. The master suite has a walk-in closet, retreat area, and large balcony. This 3,381 sq ft home on a 9,970 sq ft lot is priced to sell at \$985,000.

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New Construction (2005) In Orange Estates!

5 bedrooms + bonus room, 4 bath with a very modern floor plan. Features beautiful kitchen with granite countertops, large master suite with Jacuzzi, sep shower, & walk-in closet, formal dining room & living room, family room with fireplaces, new plumbing/electrical, new roof & stucco, new central air & heat, & much much more! Price: \$1,095,000.

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Northeast Downey Pool Home!

3 Bedrooms plus office, 3 bath home with extra large living room & family room with fireplace, large bedrooms, spacious kitchen, 2 car attached garage, circular driveway, & covered patio. Many areas in home have view of pool. Price: \$1.1 million

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