



The Downey Patriot

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

Dale Lostetter will retire after 32 years

By John Adams

DOWNEY—All good things must come to an end, and Dale Lostetter has announced he is retiring from the Downey Unified School District after 32 years of dedicated service to the district and its children.

Lostetter, one of the district's most loyal employees, grew up in Downey and was educated in the Downey school system. He graduated from North Junior High School (known today as Griffiths), and went on to be a member of the sixth graduating class from Warren High School.

His interest in helping youngsters was evident early by his work in after school programs through the Downey Park and Recreation Program.

After attending Long Beach State, he was drafted into the army and spent a tour in Vietnam.

On returning home he attended CSU-Los Angeles where he graduated in 1974 with a B.A. degree.

He worked at West Middle School teaching physical education and science and then at East Middle School, where he was loved and respected by the students.

Always striving to be the best, and determined to carry out his love for youngsters and education, he studied at Pepperdine University where he earned a Masters Degree. During his years with the district he worked as vice principal of South Middle School in 1978; assistant principal at Downey High School in 1983; and assistant principal of Columbus High School in 1985, then returned to South in 1987 as principal.

In later years, he responded to a need and a job where he could definitely make a mark as the Director of Alternative Education in 1994. Throughout his many years of dedicated service to the district, none showed his courage and stamina more than when he was coordinator of the Carnival of Champions. Early in April 2002, the morning of the event, Dale stopped at an all-night market to buy additional items for the students, when a man stepped out of the shadows and demanded money.

Dale was shot in the struggle that followed, but was at the event on time.

Just like his hero, John Wayne, nothing keeps him down. "You might be bigger but you'll never be tougher."

He intends to find time for golf after his retirement.

Haugen to step down after 21 years at DUSD

DOWNEY—Earl Haugen will retire after 21 years of dedicated service with the Downey Unified School District.

He was born in San Luis Obispo, and served in the military from 1966-69. If you get him talking about those days he tells interesting stories about guarding the President of the United States.

Communications specialist

He had this unique opportunity because he was a communications specialist in support of the Secret Service. Following the military, Earl graduated from Linfield College in Oregon. He majored in physical education and English.

Earl began his teaching career in the Covina Valley Unified School District where he was a football and basketball coach for nine and a half years, and athletic director, a yearbook advisor, an English and social studies teacher, and a dean of students.

After 10 years in Covina, Earl came to Downey USD as a vice principal at Warren High School to partner with Becky Saffell. That job was a revolving door for a few years, with several getting their training under Saffell in how to be a stern disciplinarian. After a year Earl went to Downey High as assistant principal and then on to West Middle School as principal.

Family man

Earl became the director of support services. He has a wonderful wife of 25 years, Jackie, and three wonderful children, Carrie, David and Sara. Earl went to Warren High School as principal and served there 10 years. In his first year of retirement he will be the president of the Southern Section of the CIF. For the last two years he has been the director of pupil services. He is much loved by faculty, administrators and students.

Mansionization moratorium asked

By John Adams

DOWNEY—Two well-known members of the Downey community, George Redfox and Harold Tseklenis, used the time set aside for public comment at Tuesday's Council meeting to urge a moratorium on the construction of "mansionized" homes here which often do not reflect well on their neighborhoods.

The matter is considered complex and will take time to study, according to staff, but a moratorium would control the sudden rise of these multi-story goliaths until codes can be modified to handle them. Analisa Hungerford also spoke out against the giant structures.

The moratorium was suggested for consideration at the next regular Council meeting June 28.

Council comments included a question from Rick Trejo on when the Lakewood Boulevard Improvement Project will be completed. Desi

See MORATORIUM, Page 5



DALE LOSTETTER—Will retire after a long and successful career with the Downey Unified School District.



EARL HAUGEN—Retiring after 21 years with the Downey Unified School District.

Chamber to install Hoffman on June 24

DOWNEY—The Downey Chamber of Commerce will install attorney Steven J. Hoffman as its new president in a gala luncheon and installation ceremony Friday, June 24 at 11:45 a.m. at the Rio Hondo Events Center.

Hoffman has been a member of the Downey Chamber since 1994, served on the Board of Directors since 1999, and has served as president-elect during the present 2004-05 term.

Statement

When elected president, Hoffman said, "It is an honor to be selected the 102nd president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce. I hope to carry on the traditions of our past leaders in encouraging Downey businesses to continue to be a part of this great community. I will continue to work with the City to maintain the cooperative relationship the Chamber has had."

Hoffman has served on the Street Fair Committee of the Chamber since 1997. He has been that committee's chair since 2001, and has served in many other capacities through 2005. He will continue to serve on the Street Fair body through the coming year.

32 years here

Hoffman has managed his private practice here for more than 32 years. He is also active in the American Cancer Society and holds a seat on the Downey/Rio Hondo unit's Board of Directors since 1998. He served as president of the board for 2002-2004. He served as chairman of the Advocacy Committee from 1998 to the present and as vice president in charge of public issues from 1999 to 2001. He currently is a member of Los Angeles Regional Council of the American Cancer Society and is chair of the Los Angeles Region's Legislators Constituent Team for 2004-05 term.

To be installed with Hoffman are president elect Steve Allen of Cedars Bank; vice president Orlandus Waters of Financial Partners Credit Union; treasurer Joe Keays of Downey Plumbing and Air Conditioning; and past president Jerry Brady of the Downey Patriot.

Executive Director Joan Warner-Plettink serves as secretary of the corporation.

Directors

Also to be installed are 2005-08 directors Joe Becker of Nordic Fox;

See CHAMBER, Page 5

Mothers protest over sex offender

DOWNEY—An estimated 30 mothers and friends, outraged over the discovery a convicted sex offender has been living across the street from West Middle School, took their protest to the Downey City Council meeting Tuesday.

They also protested the firing of a school crossing guard who had helped bring the matter to light by passing out flyers.

Flyers passed out by protestors outside City Hall Tuesday read: "Voice Your Concerns," "This is to address: Why we were not educated about sex offenders near our schools!"

About 15 spoke at the meeting inside. Police Chief John Finch responded to their complaints. He said there are 97 known sex offenders living in Downey today. Sex offenders are listed in three categories. Of these 96 are considered type 3 or the least likely to be involved in a recurrence. One is a type 2. None are type 1 or "predators."

The Chief said he would prefer all of them live somewhere else, but by law if they file their status and remain legal there is nothing the police can do.

The protestors then challenged why it is difficult to get the names and addresses of local offenders. Finch said the names are available through the Norwalk Sheriff's office under "Megan's Law."

Doctor pleads for office space

By John Adams

DOWNEY—The head of a medical group has asked in a hand-written letter to the Mayor for permission to occupy the new medical office building at suite 308 in the Downey Regional Medical Plaza.

The letter further claims the writer is being evicted from office quarters at a building on Paramount Boulevard.

The writer is Surandra V. Jain, M.D. of the Gastro-Digestive Medical Group.

No action

The City Council considered and filed the letter, but took no formal action at Tuesday's regular meeting. The City Attorney advised the Council that to allow a special case such as this one to occupy the building before requirements and standards, which include a street light be operational, would create a legally unsound position.

Bob Goldstein, speaking from the audience, noted it is not a good thing to drive out doctors, and that this one seems to want to stay here.

Councilman Rick Trejo did not speak nor vote on the matter since he is employed by the hospital building the medical offices, Downey Regional Medical Center.

DRMC also appealed the delay in occupying the building at a Council meeting three weeks ago.

Council applauds young art winners

By John Adams

DOWNEY—The Downey City Council recognized the Downey High School participants in the 12th annual, 34th Congressional District Student Art Competition, and applauded David Chao, who won a Comcast Award for his work "Dream Seekers" in the competition.

The art competition is sponsored by Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard. Some 90 entries were submitted from Downey High School, competing with entries from other schools in the 34th. Mayor Anne Bayer congratulated the local artists.

The action was at Tuesday's regular Council meeting.

In other action the Council:

*Held a public hearing and then adopted a resolution setting street lighting and landscaping assessments for fiscal year 2005-06 for Lighting and Landscaping District A.D. 121.

No action

*Considered, then took no action, on a letter from Surandra Jain requesting the doctor be allowed to occupy a suite at the new Downey Regional Medical Plaza at 11480 Brookshire Ave.

*Approved a cash contract and accepted improvements and maintenance responsibility for the underground storage tank removal, remediation and fuel station replacement.

*Approved a contract with Vantage Technology Consulting group for City Council Chamber sound system service.

*Approved the appropriation of \$44,787 for fiscal year 2005-06 from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.

Consultant

*Approved an agreement renewal with Edington, Peel & Associates for consulting services.

*Approved an agreement renewal with Smith, Esposito & Lyrly for consulting services.

*Approved a contract renewal with Stephen Wright for building inspection management services for Downey Landing Development.

See COUNCIL, Page 5



MORE THAN \$1,300 -- Was raised for Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles by the San Antonio Guild (SAG) at their second annual rummage sale. The Guild sent thanks to Sav-On stores, for use of their parking lots, and the general public. Seated is Guild President Janet Molinaro. Left to right are Lois Brabant, Debbie Bell, Reggie Donahue and Dorothy Pemberton. SAG, with approximately 39 members, was incepted in 1949 and operates out of Downey.

Heart health discussed at hospital

DOWNEY—"Healthier Hearts for a Better Life" presentations will be given at Downey Regional Medical Center Saturday, June 18 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m., by cardiologist/electrophysiologist Anantjit Singh, M.D., and endocrinologist David Berger, M.D. They will cover new and practical wellness information on topics including: Heart Attack: Who is at Risk?; Diabetes and Heart Disease; Women and Heart Disease; Cardiovascular-friendly Diet; Pharmacology for Heart Disease; Device Therapies for Heart Failure; and Arrhythmia Management

A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided. There is no charge for this event; however, registration is required. The program is made possible through an educational grant from Medtronic.

To register, contact Susan Van Loon at (818) 598-5535 or susan.vanloon@medtronic.com.

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Old Sam's Club store finds new tenant

DOWNEY – The vacant warehouse formerly home to a Sam's Club store before it relocated to Long Beach nearly six years ago has finally found a new tenant.

World of Décor, a furniture and home accessories retailer, will lease the building at 11111 Florence Avenue from Wal-Mart, the parent company of Sam's Club, company officials announced this week.

A spokesman gave no timetable for an opening, other than saying it would be "soon."

"It's important to Wal-Mart and Sam's Club to find quality tenants for our former locations, not only from a business perspective but also in terms of benefiting the community," said Tony Fuller, vice president of real estate for Wal-Mart Store, Inc. "By growing our business in Downey and returning this property to productive use, we can continue to be a catalyst for economic activity in our area."

Sam's Club originally moved into the Florence Ave. location in 1994, taking over operations from Pace Warehouse.

The business remained until 1999, when the store moved to its present location at the Long Beach Towne Center.

Wal-Mart officials said they currently have 130 vacant store properties throughout the United States but are working to fill them. In past instances, former Wal-Mart and Sam's Club stores have been transformed into industrial facilities, churches, schools and even courtrooms, officials said.

World of Décor expects to use the entire 110,822 square-foot building and estimates it will create 20-30 jobs.

Summer reading program for children

DOWNEY—"Super Readers, Super Heroes" is the theme for the upcoming Downey City Library's summer reading program for children ages preschool through 8th grade. Registration begins Monday, June 20.

From June 20 through Aug. 6, children may check out books and read them at home to earn prizes. Kids who read 20 books or 1,000 pages receive a reading certificate and free book during the program. Sponsored by the Friends of the Downey City Library and community donations, the program also features "Super Wednesday" special events at 2 p.m. for kids ages 5-12. Middle school students may register for a cartoon workshop on June 27, and "Monday Movie Madness" on July 11, 18 and 25.

"Children in a summer reading program make more reading gains during the school year," said Children's Librarian Gina Orelio. For more information, contact Children's Services at 904-7360, Ext. 4. The Downey City Library is located at 11121 Brookshire Ave.

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OLPH ORGANIZERS – Thank the community for making the 20th annual Our Lady of Perpetual Help Carnival a success. The carnival, held on the weekend of May 20, featured rides, games, food, raffles and live entertainment. OLPH staff and parents, with the support of local businesses and community groups, organize the event each year.

Downey Fire captain caught in hazmat sting

By Henry Veneracion

DOWNEY—A sting operation recently conducted by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control and the Orange County district attorney's office is said to have resulted in the arrest of Downey Fire Captain Edward Lewis Haupt, 44, and nine other suspects who were caught as they tried to haul hazardous waste illegally.

Downey Fire officials declined to comment on the case. Illegal disposal of hazardous waste and chemicals is a problem all over the state, authorities said.

Reports quote O.C. District Attorney Tony Rackauckas as saying such "hazardous waste as oil, acid, paint, harsh solvents, petroleum products and other toxic chemicals are being hauled and disposed of improperly. The waste containers are being left in various different places, including the sides of freeways and in alleys in residential areas. This poses serious problems to the environment and becomes dangerous to people."

Rackauckas said the suspects face misdemeanor charges which could mean jail time of 6 months and \$2,500 in fines if convicted. Those arrested include an Orange County Animal Control officer. They range in age from 21 to 52 years.

The suspects responded to Penny Saver ads which undercover agents placed asking if someone could haul hazardous waste. The agents then handed the unsuspecting responders hazardous wastes that were 'low-level' toxic. They then arrested the suspects after they drove off a short distance.

The suspects reportedly charged fees of \$400-\$600. None were found to have the proper certificates or training to handle the materials.

DHS student mall scholarship winner

DOWNEY – Nancy Rojas-Hill of Downey High School was one of three scholarship recipients courtesy of Macerich Company, owner and operator of three local malls, including Stonewood Center.

Rojas-Hill, who plans to attend Scripps College, was selected to receive \$10,000 based on academic achievement and community involvement. The annual scholarship program, which names one winner from each of the three shopping centers, has awarded a total of \$150,000 in scholarships since the program launched in 2001.

To be eligible for the scholarship, students must have been incoming freshmen for fall 2005 at an Independent College of Southern California member school in a standard four-year academic program.

The winners will receive \$2,500 per year for four years to use for undergraduate college expenses, including tuition, fees and housing.

Johnny & Co. grand re-opening June 22

DOWNEY—The new owners of Johnny & Company, Ruth Ortiz and Irene Magana, along with the Downey Chamber of Commerce, are hosting its Re-Grand Opening/Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at 4 p.m. Wednesday, June 22. The beauty salon, located at 10921 Downey Ave., has been operating since 1976.

The celebration will include music, food and refreshments between 4 and 8 p.m.

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ASSEMBLYMAN – Hector De La Torre toured Downey Adult School classrooms on a recent visit to the campus.

Assemblyman pays visit to Adult School

By Eric Pierce

DOWNEY – Assemblyman Hector De La Torre, who serves the constituents of the 50th Assembly District in the California State Legislature, visited the campus of Downey Adult School earlier this week, dropping in on classrooms while pledging his help with proposed bills and budget issues.

The assemblyman took the tour on an invitation made by Adult School Principal Roger Brossmer.

De La Torre, accompanied by Field Representative Mike Hollon, met with Brossmer, Adult School staff and Downey Unified School District Assistant Superintendent Stan Hanstad, where they discussed a recent bill authored by the assemblyman that extends high school exit exam testing to weekends.

The bill, which De La Torre said was now awaiting approval in the Senate, was welcome news to the adult school, who noted that large numbers of students attending night classes were forced to take time off work to take the daytime exit exams.

“We’ll do this date thing first and then come back next year to see what else we can do,” said De La Torre, whose own wife has taken Spanish classes at Downey Adult School.

The assemblyman was also given a briefing on the school’s nursing program and their affiliation with local hospitals.

De La Torre also mentioned the pressing need for more railroad repairmen, many of which are baby boomers now beginning to retire.

“You already have people who are K-12 experts,” said De La Torre, a South Gate resident. “Adult education is something we need to focus on. It’s something for people who are already out there working and want to upgrade themselves.”

DRMC promotes from within for CFO

DOWNEY – Bruce Bowne, Downey Regional Medical Center’s interim Chief Financial Officer since mid-April, has accepted the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for DMRC, effective immediately.

In his new role, Bowne will work with all personnel on the financial analysis of operations, guide information technology improvements, and lead development of a financial plan and budget for the coming fiscal year.

“Bruce was selected from an excellent slate of candidates, and brings in-depth experience in both hospital and medical group fiscal management,” said DRMC President and CEO Allen Korneff. “Bruce is held in high esteem by his former associated employees and physicians, and we are fortunate to gain his expertise. He has impressed our administrative and financial staff with his insights and collaborative approaches on financial stability to assure continuity of care.”

Previously, Bowne has served as a CFO of St. Jude Heritage Foundation, Fullerton Internal Medicine Center and Corona Community Hospital. He earned a B.S. degree in Business Administration from USC, a law degree from Western State University College of Law, and is a Certified Public Accountant and member of the State Bar of California.

Rise ‘N Shine networkers meet June 28

DOWNEY—Cecilia Tapia of American Red Cross-Rio Hondo will be the guest speaker at the next 7:30 a.m. meeting of the Rise ‘N Shine Networking Group at Nordic Fox, 10924 Paramount Blvd. She will talk on “Emergency Preparedness.” To RSVP, call 923-2191.

CareMore’s popular ‘Nifty After Fifty’

DOWNEY—“Nifty After Fifty,” a strength training center dedicated exclusively to seniors developed by CareMore Medical Group chairman Sheldon S. Zinberg, M.D., and colleagues, have had 400 participants since it opened a few months ago, according to the doctor. Most of the seniors working out have some sort of chronic illness, such as heart disease, osteoporosis, lung disease, diabetes, cancer and other serious ailments.

Dr. Jason Austin, a CareMore physician who spends most of his days supervising the patients, says: “We want to demonstrate that even though you may have a disease, that doesn’t mean you have to sit on the couch and waste away. The common denominator is weak muscles. If we can improve your strength, you can improve your state of overall health.”

The results of the program have been heartening, Zinberg said. “The overall health improvement scores were expected, but the data for improved emotional health, a decrease in falls and other improvements were surprising. From the data, we realized the significance of how lives can be transformed, no matter what age or health status.”

The 2,500-sq.-ft. fitness center, featuring the latest in modern strength training and fitness equipment, is located in a shopping center on the northeast corner of Lakewood Blvd. and Florence Ave.

CERT fundraiser at Frantone’s

DOWNEY – The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) invites the community to a fundraising night at Frantone’s June 23 from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m., when all proceeds from sales and drinks will go towards the CERT program.

The next CERT training program is scheduled for Sept. 10. The 24-hour course covers the basics of emergency preparedness, fire suppression, disaster medical operations, search and rescue and team organization. For more information on the CERT program, call the Downey Fire Department at 904-7349. Frantone’s is at 9148 Telegraph Road.

Federal workers invited to potluck

DOWNEY – The National Association of Active & Retired Federal Employees (Southeast Chapter) will hold its monthly meeting at Furman Park – West Building, 10419 S. Rives in Downey, at noon on June 22.

The Chapter will be having its annual potluck luncheon. Sandwiches from the local deli are available at \$3.00 each. Retired or active federal workers and survivors are invited.

Contact Chapter President Bob Knerr at (562) 943-5513 for details.

Masons hosting Father’s Day breakfast

DOWNEY—Downey United Masonic Lodge #220 and Downey Chapter #160 are hosting their third annual Father’s Day Charity Breakfast Sunday, June 19 from 8 a.m.-12 noon at the Temple, 8244 Third St.

Proceeds will benefit the Masonic Children’s Home at Covina and the Eastern Star Senior Living Community at Yorba Linda.

Breakfast information may be obtained by calling Dan Paul at 927-8166 or Worshipful Master Scott Morrissy at 425-4676.



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DOWNEY YMCA – Receives a \$2,500 contribution from Raul Lopez and Henry Ayala of Lopez Insurance. Ayala, left, and Lopez flank George Saikali, executive director of the Y.

DHS surpasses blood drive goal of 200 pints

DOWNEY – Downey High School's Associated Student Body (ASB) held its annual Spring Blood Drive May 19, collecting a total of 210 pints of blood. Each pint saves three lives, so those who participated were able to provide blood to over 630 people in need—a school record. The goal was 200 pints of blood.

Downey High School also collected an estimated \$15,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Fundraiser. Although ASB fell short of their goal, they still managed to place among the top schools in the nation through the school fundraiser, "Weekend Walks Across Downey," and a new event called "The Next Best Thing," in which teachers and students lip-synched for an audience.

Temple to celebrate 'Shabbat Shelach'

DOWNEY—Temple Ner Tamid of Downey, 10629 Lakewood Blvd., will be celebrating Shabbat Shelach at 7:30 p.m. Friday, June 24. The community is welcome. Officiating at the service will be Cantor Kenneth Jaffe.

There will be the usual Oneg following services, sponsored by the Temple's Sisterhood; pastries and beverages will be served. Information: Temple office, 861-9276.



CHARLENE DROBECK – President of the Italian Catholic Federation of St. Raymond's parish, presented Father John a papal flag and a check for \$2000 for the church. A separate check for \$750 was presented for St. Raymond's School. The Italian Catholic Federation is a non-profit organization, with members sharing different cultural, heritage and religious beliefs.

Father's Day even superheroes need a day off

Remind dad how cool he is with a special Father's Day dinner at Acapulco Restaurant or Olive Garden. And don't forget to pick up something he'll love at any one of these great Stonewood stores:

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A stroke of good luck

DOWNEY – Don Schmidt, a retired Downey resident and husband of Downey Regional Medical Center (DRMC) Hospital board chair Mary Lou Schmidt, can count himself lucky. He had always considered himself in good health, maintaining a low-fat diet and walking every day. His blood pressure readings were fine. But in January, he was shocked to find out about a grave threat to his life.

Schmidt had come to DRMC for a free community seminar and screening on strokes. He wasn't there for his own benefit, but rather in support of the hospital and friends from the Roxanna Todd Hodges Foundation, sponsors of the new, ongoing program. Although he hadn't planned to receive a stroke screening, when a slot opened in the schedule he was invited to have the evaluation, which takes less than five minutes. He lay down on the screening table, a hospital technician applied gel to his neck and moved an instrument called a transducer over his neck area to obtain images on a computer screen of his carotid arteries, measuring the blood flow through the vessels.

Dr. Jack Kennis, who was volunteering at the screening, read Schmidt's computer print-out. It showed that his carotid artery was 80 to 99 percent blocked. Simply stated, Schmidt was a walking time bomb for a stroke. Dr. Kennis explained to the Schmidts what the test showed, and what steps needed to be taken next. Don was scheduled for further testing, which confirmed the blockage. About two weeks later, he was in surgery.

When DRMC chief of surgery Dr. Mark Minkes emerged from the operating table, Mary Lou recalled: "He actually showed us this long string of plaque he had removed." Now that his blood flow has been restored, Don claims to be less tired and have more energy. And since their experience, the Schmidts have told everyone they know to be screened, either through DRMC's monthly programs or by their doctor.

"You never know if it could happen to you, and if you have a chance to be screened, get it done," advises Mary Lou. "Stroke screening is truly a life-saving screening. Even if you survive a stroke, your life is most likely altered forever. Not everyone wants to know if they have a problem, but by finding out, it can be remedied."

The next stroke screening and a seminar entitled "Life After Stroke" will be held at Downey Regional Medical Center on Saturday, July 16, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Physical, occupational and speech therapists will present information and answer questions on post-stroke rehabilitation. The event is free, but registration is required. Blood pressures and heart rates will be checked, and stroke screenings will be available for early sign-ups.

For information, call 904-5162.



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CHAMBER

Darrell Dixon of Dixon & Son Associates Insurance; Dr. Dan K. Fox, Chiropractor; Dr. John McAllister, D.D.S.; and Orlandus Waters of Financial Partners Credit Union.

Returning directors in addition to Hoffman, Brady, Allen and Keays are Gwynn Gustafson of Co-op Cache Consulting; Jaime Garcia of Kaiser Permanente; Kathy Gorman of Downey Adult School; Matt Knox of Storm Force Marketing; Rick Rodriguez of Rodbat Management; and Jan Scott of Pacific Western Bank.

Councilman Dave Gafin will serve as emcee for the luncheon and installing officer will be Meredith Perkins of the City Council.

Cost is \$35. Make reservations by calling (562) 923-2191.

MORATORIUM

Alvarez, Public Works Director, responded "In September."

Kirk Cartozian said he particularly enjoyed the recent Greek Festival in Downey. David Gafin pointed out that an unfortunate exchange between a fellow councilman and a member of the audience could have been avoided if the councilman had merely chosen to remain silent, as council rules allow.

Mayor Anne Bayer said she enjoyed Flag Day celebrations, both in the park and at Stonewood Center. And members of the council noted recent awards presented Bonnie Kehoe by the School District.

City Manager Gerald Caton noted a budget study session is set for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 21.

COUNCIL

*Approved a contract renewal with Rio Hondo Community College for use of their weapons firing range.

*Set a public hearing for July 12 for the appeal of denial of zone variance on a request for an oversized driveway at 12142 Dunrobin Ave.

Art Museum

*Approved a lease agreement renewal for five years for the Downey Museum of Art.

*Appropriated \$4,800 in federal grant funds for emergency fire equipment.

*Approved the dedication of a roadway easement for Congressman Steve Horn Way.

*Adopted a resolution approving submittal of the Old River School Road Pedestrian Improvements

*Application for Safe Routes for School funding.

Final map

*Approved a resolution for final subdivision map for property at 8604 Baysinger St., approving an agreement with the subdivider and accepted an improvement bond as surety.

*Approved a sideletter agreement dealing with agency shop to the Memorandum Of Understanding with the Downey City Employees Association Maintenance Unit.

*Adopted an ordinance amending section 3712 of the Municipal Code pertaining to police alarm permits.

The next public meeting of the City Council will be a budget study session June 21 at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

The next regular meeting of the Council will be at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, June 28 at City Hall.

Council agendas available online

DOWNEY - Complete City Council agendas and minutes can be accessed on the City of Downey website at www.downeyca.org.

Council and commission meetings are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of every month at 7:15 p.m. at Downey City Hall.

Property tax assessment seminars set

LOS ANGELES—The County of Los Angeles is sponsoring a series of free seminars to assist property owners who feel their taxes should be lowered due to a decline in the value of their property.

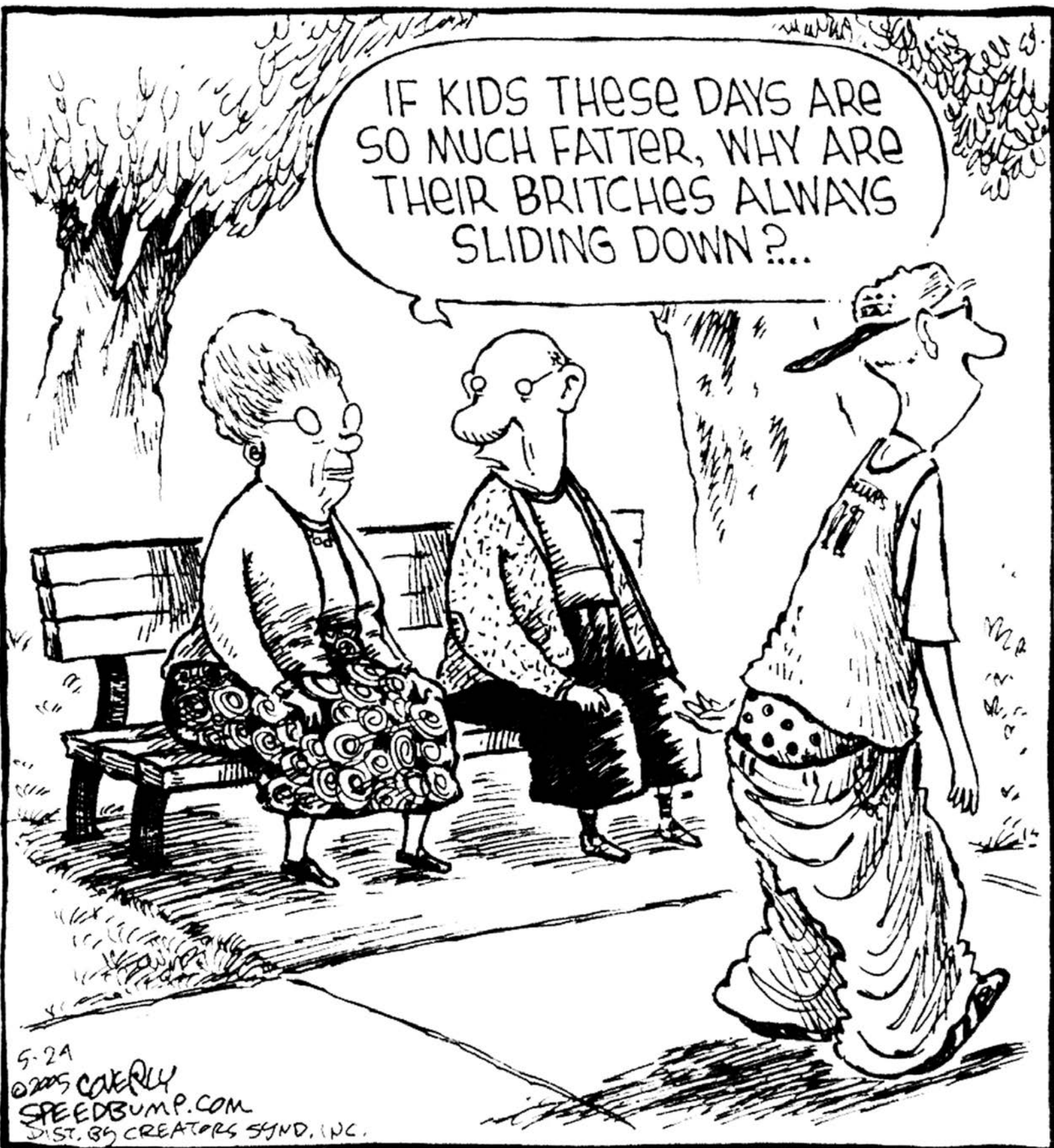
With the improvement in the real estate market, some homeowners who recently have received a "Notice of Assessed Value Change" will have questions regarding their appeal rights.

The meetings are intended to help taxpayers better understand the assessment appeals process, which many find confusing. The seminar will be of value to homeowners who are interested in learning about the assessment appeals process and to those who have already filed an appeal. The seminar will cover taxpayers appeal rights and when to file an application for reduction in assessment. The seminar will also cover how to prepare for a hearing, what qualifies as admissible evidence, what will happen at the hearing and what to expect after the hearing.

The 90-minute seminars will be offered during July through September at four locations: one time at Cerritos, Culver, El Monte, and two times at the Glendale location. Additional meetings will be scheduled throughout the county on a year-round basis.

The dates, times and locations of the sessions are: **Cerritos** - Cerritos Park East Community Center - Monday, Aug. 15, 10 a.m., 13234 E. 166th St. Newport Room B - Cerritos (free parking is available); **El Monte** - Jack Crippen Senior Center - Thursday, Aug. 11, 10 a.m. at the Crafts Room, 3120 N. Tyler Ave., in El Monte (free parking available). The session at **Culver City** is scheduled at the Public Library for Monday, Sept. 12, 10 a.m., 4975 Overland Ave. (free parking available). The two sessions in **Glendale** will be at the Public Library Monday, July and Thursday, Sept. 15, both at 10 a.m., at 222 E. Harvard St. (The library will validate three hours parking at the corner of Maryland and Harvard).

For additional information, call (213) 974-4240.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR:

A city of mini-malls?

Dear Editor:

I read a letter written by Kathy Perez regarding another mini-mall in Downey, and the removal of another city landmark. To those of us who have grown up here and are raising our families here, I must agree with her to the bitter end.

Downey is fast becoming known as a city of mini-malls and car dealer shops, with no place for a family to get together, or continue [to enjoy] what may have been our own best childhood memory hangouts that can perhaps provide the same experience for our children. In a world that boasts about the welfare of our children and the sanctuary of family, what are we doing here?

When I drove by Foxy's the other day I was appalled at the sign, "For Lease." Then I took a look at what was a beautiful house on that same street to find that there is going to be another shopping mall. How long before the beautiful historic mansion across the street is taken down for another mini-mall or make way for townhouses or apartments? Look at Firestone Boulevard between Garfield Avenue all the way to the 605 Freeway and what do you see? Mini-malls that are more than empty and run down, or car lots. How many does one city need? And it's not just this area.

Who are the people who plan this? For example, whose idea was it to put a mattress shop next to a Starbucks? A bookstore, like Barnes & Noble or Border's, would have been a better idea. Poor planning and ideals. Don't forget that there is also another "mall" going in at Stewart & Gray and Lakewood. And what will happen to Stonewood? Wait, given time they may make that into an auto mall and then what will happen to all these other car lots?

Downey's future will not be known for its historic values, pride, community, involvement and hometown feel, as it has been if this continues. It will be a ghost town filled with empty mini-malls and empty car lots. As it is now most people go to other cities after church, or for breakfasts or dinners or to just be together.

So please do what you can to help keep this from becoming a reality and save what is left of Downey's history.

—Kathi Bode,
Downey

Honor the flag

Dear Editor:

June 14 each year is listed on our calendar as Flag Day. It is not celebrated with any great fanfare, and passes with little attention from most Americans, most of whom take the flag for granted, except in times of war. Yes, many government meetings and patriotic gatherings are opened with the Pledge of Allegiance. Pledges are said as fast as possible, sometimes including God and sometimes without his mention, and often without much pride or meaning just to get it over as quickly as possible.

Our military personnel all over the world seem to have more pride when they recite the pledge. They seem more aware, appreciative and cognizant of what our flag means, particularly if they are in a theater of war operations.

The country is changing with many foreigners wanting to supplant their flag in our land, dividing America for themselves. Where else but in our land of the free? Keeping uppermost what they had left behind to come here seeking as better life in America. Gratitude? I think not.

All I request is that we say the Pledge a little slower, enunciating each word more clearly and with pride and meaning. After all, some brave men and women gave their lives so that the pledge would be here for us. Can't we honor their sacrifice by meaningful tribute to our flag. Try it—you'll like it!

—Joe Svetko,
Bellflower

Council approves lighting assessment

DOWNEY—After a public hearing the City Council has confirmed the 2005-06 fiscal lighting and landscaping assessment for A.D. 121.

The action was at Tuesday's regular Council meeting.

Public Works Director Desi Alvarez noted in a staff report that there are about 5,605 street lights in the City of Downey providing lighting for traffic and pedestrian safety. Of these 858 street lights are owned by the City, 57 are owned by the State, 33 are shared with other cities and the rest are owned by Southern California Edison. Their cost is paid from a combination of assessments on individual parcels under the Lighting and Landscaping Act of 1972, as well as general property tax revenue.

On-street landscaping is also paid from direct assessments under the Act of 1972, and include tree trimming, tree removal and other landscape maintenance along parkways and medians.

Seven zones

The District is divided into seven zones. The SCE street lighting rates will increase slightly during fiscal 2005-06 compared to 2004-05. Traffic lighting rates are a combination of SCE rates and Department of Water Resources charges, and a revised traffic control rate took affect April 14, 2005.

The estimated cost of operating and maintaining street lighting and landscaping in all seven zones for fiscal 2005-06 is \$1,412,845, which is \$29,333 higher than the projected cost of this year which is \$1,383,312. The Lakewood Boulevard Improvement Project will add over 200 lights that will have to be factored in to electrical costs for zone II. Other zones remain essentially the same as 2004-05.

Thus rates in Zones I, III, IV, V and VI can be maintained at their current levels.

For zone I the rates can remain at zero while projecting a fund balance adequate for existing street lights plus additional lights included in development plans.

For zone II rates are adjusted upward to maintain an adequate fund reserve. However, the rates are still less than those in fiscal 2002-03 and less than 40 percent of the maximum allowable increase.

For zone L, tree trimming and removal and installation will continue from year to year. As of June 30, a negative balance of \$23,161 is anticipated. Both residential and commercial properties are currently being assessed at the maximum rate. Therefore, to restore reserves in the future the maximum rate will have to be increased.

To pay for fiscal 2005-06 costs, the district will use \$422,270 in general property tax funds designated specifically for street light maintenance, \$35,000 in interest earned from reserves in the street lighting fund, and \$1,030,579 from direct assessments.

The Downey Patriot



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'The Tender Trap' plays on the game of life

By Eric Pierce

Life is not easy for a 20-something bachelor. Between the obligatory weekend getaways to the casinos, weekday happy hours at the pub and the everyday charming of truly delectable women, it's hard for a fellow to find some time to relax. The suave young bachelor learns to play life like a complicated game of chess, orchestrating one deft move after another, lining his pawns into perfect strategic positions until just the right time to strike. The facets of life are hanging from a string and he, through harsh trial and error lessons, learns to become the ultimate puppet master. Such was life for Charlie Reader (Patrick Rafferty), who proves that, even in the olden days of the 1950s, boys will still be boys. Rafferty stars in the current Long Beach Playhouse production of 'The Tender Trap,' a cute comedy by Max Schulman and Robert Paul Smith that runs through July 9. Darlene Chaffee directs. Rafferty is engaging in his colorful role of Charlie, a young, single man seemingly juggling a different woman for every day of the week. Charlie has the role of sleaze ball down to a science, but when a married friend (Joe McCall) drops by for a visit, he discovers that, like a row of neatly placed Dominoes, the slightest mistake can bring your whole world crashing down.

As slimy as he may be, I found it difficult not to root for Charlie, who displayed a certain innocence as he tried to keep the different branches of his love life separate. When confronted with the inevitable ultimatum ("marry me or I'm leaving!"), Charlie is forced to choose between his swinging bachelor ways or the steady love of a good woman. Watching Charlie struggle as he debates those options leaves the audience tickled. A strong cast of supporting characters helps make 'The Tender Trap' an honest, albeit a bit predictable, show. But its honest take on love and life and the emotional tangles between the two make it a production worth watching. ('The Tender Trap' is now playing at the Long Beach Playhouse. For tickets, call (562) 494-1014 or visit www.lbph.com.)

Acting, music and dance workshop

LONG BEACH – The Long Beach Playhouse offers its 21st annual Summer Youth Workshop in acting, music, and dance for youth ages 7-16 June 20 through July 15. Call (562) 494-1014 for information.

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7770 Rosecrans Ave. @ Paramount Blvd.
Phone: (562) 630-SHOW (7469)

BATMAN BEGINS PG13	(10:00 1:10 4:20) 7:30 10:40
BATMAN BEGINS PG13	(11:00 2:10) 5:20 8:30
MR & MRS SMITH PG13	(10:50 1:40 4:30) 7:20 10:10
SHARK BOY & LAVA GIRL PG	(11:40 2:10 4:40) 7:10 9:40
HIGH TENSION R	(11:00 1:20 3:40) 6:00 8:20 10:40
THE HONEYMOONERS PG	(10:25 12:50 3:15) 5:40 8:05 10:30
CINDERELLA MAN PG13	(12:30 3:50) 7:10 10:30
SISTERHOOD, TRAV. PANTS PG	(10:45 1:40 4:35) 7:30
THE LONGEST YARD PG13	(11:30 2:20) 5:10 8:00 10:50
MADAGASCAR PG	(11:00 1:20 3:40) 6:00 8:20 10:40
STAR WARS: EPISODE III PG13	(10:15 1:25 4:35) 7:45 10:55

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* **BATMAN BEGINS** (10:00, 12:15, 1:15, 3:30, 4:30), 7:00, 7:45, 10:15, 11:00 (ON 2 SCREENS)
* **THE ADVENTURES OF SHARKBOY AND LAVAGIRL IN 3-D** (11:10, 1:50, 4:10, 6:50, 9:20)
* **THE HONEYMOONERS** (11:20, 1:40, 4:25, 7:05, 9:35, Sun: (11:20, 4:25), 7:05, 9:35, Mon & Tue: (11:20, 1:40, 4:25), 7:05, 9:35)
* **MR. & MRS. SMITH** (10:35, 1:35, 4:35), 7:30, 10:15
* **CINDERELLA MAN** (12:45, 3:55), 7:20, 10:25
* **THE LONGEST YARD** (11:00, 1:55, 4:40), 7:50, 10:35
* **MADAGASCAR** (10:45, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:15, 4:20, 5:30), 6:40, 7:45, 10:00, Mon: (10:45, 1:00, 3:15, 4:20, 5:30), 6:40, 7:45, 10:00, Tue: (10:45, 11:30, 1:00, 2:00, 3:15, 4:20, 5:30), 6:40, 7:45, 10:00 (ON 2 SCREENS)
* **STAR WARS: EPISODE III** (12:45, 4:00), 7:15, 9:15, 10:30 (ON 2 SCREENS)
* **SCOOBY-DOO 2: MONSTERS UNLEASHED** (12:30 PM), 10:00 PM

Times for Friday-Tuesday, June 17-21, 2005
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BONSAI SHOW – Club member Ellen Keneshea of the Descanso Bonsai Society holds her 20-year-old *Juiperus Prostrata* in preparation for this weekend's 35th annual Bonsai Show at Descanso Gardens.

Descanso bonsai show set for this weekend

FLINTRIDGE – The Descanso Bonsai Society will present its 35th Annual Bonsai Exhibit today, June 17 through Sun., June 19 at Descanso Gardens, 1418 Descanso Drive, La Canada Flintridge.

Located in Van De Kamp Hall and an adjoining classroom, this exhibit is one of the largest indoor bonsai shows in Southern California. Trees from bonsai novice to master exhibitors will be on display.

Show hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Daily bonsai demonstrations will be featured Saturday and Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Finished bonsai, bonsai material, supplies and plants will be on sale.

Information will be available on various aspects of bonsai including bonsai care, instructors, nurseries, tools and pots.

A large benefit drawing will close the show at 3 p.m. on Sunday. Bonsai, pronounced "bone-sigh", literally means plant in pot. It is the ancient Japanese art and science of cultivation of miniature trees through a traditional process of using horticultural and aesthetic principles. The desired styling is accomplished by a combination of pruning the foliage, wiring the branches and confining the roots in a container.

All events are free with admission to the gardens.

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We are looking for girls ages 6–11 who are interested in joining our Cheer and Dance Squad Camp at the Downey YMCA main branch. The group will perform during one of our Jr. Lakers summer Basketball games.

- First Meeting—Monday, June 20th
- Second Meeting—Monday, June 27th
- Third Meeting—Monday, July 11th
- Fourth Meeting—Monday, July 18th
- Fifth Meeting—Monday, July 25th
- Sixth Meeting—Monday, Aug 1st

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Downey student chosen to world forum

DOWNEY—Downey High School student Eleni Christidis, who was one of more than 120 young leaders representing Los Angeles County high schools who attended the Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership Seminar June 3-5 at Mt. St. Mary's College in Brentwood, was chosen to represent HOBY-LA at the HOBY World Leadership Conference this summer in Washington, D.C.

HOBY Leadership Seminars bring together a select group of high school sophomores to interact with groups of distinguished leaders in business, government, education and the professions to discuss present and future issues. The goal is to provide the youths a stimulating forum for learning about the free market and democratic process while broadening their understanding of their leadership potential and quest for self-development. HOBY leaders are also challenged to return to their communities to perform at least 100 hours of community service within 12 months following the seminar.

HOBY was established in 1958 by the popular actor Hugh O'Brian following a visit to Africa where he was inspired by a meeting with the legendary Dr. Albert Schweitzer.

Further information about HOBY seminars, activities and sponsorship opportunities in Los Angeles is available by calling Robert Santos, (213) 430-2620, or visiting www.hobyla.com.

New CERT classes start Sept. 10

DOWNEY—New Downey Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) classes begin Sept. 10 at the Downey Woman's Club, located at the southwest corner of Paramount and Lubeck.

CERT, which is designed for citizen responders who in the event of a major emergency would help neighborhoods and local government, shared information about the program at their booth when the annual Kidsday Fair took place at Furman Park May 14.

Monthly meetings are held from 6-7:30 p.m. every second Thursday. New members are welcome.

A CERT fundraiser is planned for June 23 at Frantone's.



MARGERY LEWIS—Active in many local service organizations, was installed as the 2005-06 president of the Assistance League of Downey.

Margery Lewis installed as new league president

DOWNEY—Forty-one year Downey resident Margery Lewis was installed as president of the Assistance League of Downey for the 2005-06 year at its installation luncheon held May 26 at the Rio Hondo Events Center.

She succeeds Chloe Mocciano, who will serve with the new board as Education Chairman.

Other officers installed were Adele Alexander, 1st VP, Membership; Martha Sodetani, 2nd VP, Philanthropy; Shirley Gibson, 3rd VP, Resources; Yvonne Swain, Recording Secretary; Mary Lou Schmidt, Corresponding Secretary; and Jo Wilbur, Treasurer.

Lewis grew up in Montebello and attended Sacred Heart of Mary High School and East Los Angeles College. She received a degree in History and Elementary Education from the Immaculate Heart College in Hollywood and went on to a teaching career in Montebello and Rosemead. She and her husband of 41 years, Larry, have five children.

In addition to her work with the Assistance League, Lewis is also active with the Bellflower Civic Chorus, Downey Symphony Guild, P.T.A. HELPS, and Catholic Women's Guild.

The poets' corner

Kid Next Door

Kid obsessed with cars and girls,
neighborhood nuisance..
pain in the butt...you play your
music too loud and I hate it!

You'll never break this system kid
So get out of here and get a life!

...and kid...please take me with you.

--Richard Thormodsen,
Downey

Coordinating Council installs new officers

DOWNEY—The Downey Coordinating Council installed their new officers for the year at their annual dinner and volunteer awards program held May 12 at the Rio Hondo Events Center.

New officers are:

- Carol Rowland – President
- Kathy Gorman – Vice President
- Karol Morrison – Second Vice President
- Martha Sodetani – Secretary
- Lois Buchanan – Treasurer
- Sam Mathis – Auditor

The group also handed out their Volunteer Service Awards. Those recognized were: Velma Ploessel (AAUW), Marilyn Madru (Aerospace Legacy Foundation), Patricia Heineke (ARC), Beverly J. Mathis (Assistance League), Fay Campbell (Chamber of Commerce), Patty Zemke (Downey Library), Darlene Lewis (Coordinating Council), June Ferguson (Emblem Club), Mary Kresonja (Newcomers Club), Helen Gregorio (DRMC), Gary DeRemer (Rose Float), Patti McMullen (Symphonic Society), Katie Hare (Symphony Guild), Arlene Fackrell (Friends of Library), Adele Burger (Keep Downey Beautiful), Martha Sodetani (Lakewood Health), Ruth White (League of Women Voters), Barbara Bass (Living Help Center), Georgianna Higson (OLPH), Lori Fiori (PTA HELPS), Jean Brazelton (Soroptimist), Judy Jacobson (Temple Ner Tamid), Richard Daggett (Together for Hope), Josephine Kallasy (Woman's Club) and Al Jacques (YMCA).

For information on joining Downey Coordinating Council, call Lois Buchanan at 927-9790.

Wedding expo presented at OLPH

DOWNEY—Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church will present their first ever wedding expo June 25 in the OLPH Hall, 10441 Downey Ave.

The expo will run from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and feature vendors from the wedding and *quinceanera* industry.

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Report graffiti or persons performing the act to this number.

Lila Mae Schlittenhart survived by large family

DOWNEY - Lila Mae Schlittenhart, a resident of the local area for the past 50 years, died at a Downey nursing home May 29. She was 93.

She was born June 4, 1911 in the Wisconsin township of Glenmore. Funeral services were held on her birthday at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Tucson, Arizona. She was buried next to her husband in Evergreen Cemetery.

Schlittenhart is survived by sons Russell, Dennis, Leland, Tom, Mark, Dan, Loren, Cliff and Kim; daughters Pat Olsen, Deanna Sieloff, Virginia Brown and Gayla Schlittenhart; four brothers, one sister, 30 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren and seven great-great grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Bernard, and two sons, Bernard Jr. and John.

Alvin Elwood Tuohino served in U.S. Navy

DOWNEY—Memorial services were held at Christ Lutheran Church in Downey for Alvin Elwood Tuohino of Downey, who was born March 13, 1909 on a farm in the Cleveland Township near Lake Norden, SD, and died on June 6. He was 96.

He was a CPA and a retired professor of accounting from CSU-Los Angeles. He and his family were residents of Downey for 53 years. He earned an MS in business and commerce from the University of Denver. His undergraduate degree he obtained from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, SD.

Service in the U.S. Navy included taking part in the Asiatic-Pacific and American theaters, where he saw action in Guam, Saipan, Palua and Eniwetok Islands, and "island-hopped" Leyte and Lingayen Gulfs, New Guinea, New Zealand and Okinawa.

Following discharge from the Navy, he took refresher courses at UC-Berkeley, then joined the School of Business faculty at the University of Kansas at Lawrence, KS, where he remained until 1949. After marriage to graduate student Jean Chenoweth, they moved to Southern California where he worked with CPA firms Frazier and Torbett, and Peat Marwick Mitchell.

Later joining the School of Business at LA State College, which was to become CSU-Los Angeles, he taught accounting and income tax. He retired in 1974 as full professor. He maintained a small CPA practice in Downey until physical problems necessitated complete retirement.


He was the last survivor of the 10 children born to Jacob and Amelia Tuohino. He is survived by wife Jean; children Barbara Funk, Lawrence Tuohino, Nancy Chapman and Kent Tuohino, and their spouses Russ, Swantje, and Valerie; grandchildren Daniel, Mary and Jacob Chapman of Olathe, KS, and Christopher and Joanna Tuohino of Flagstaff, AZ; and many nieces and nephews and their families. He was preceded in death by grandson Kyle.


Interment was at Rose Hills Cemetery, with the Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary entrusted with services.

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LILA MAE SCHLITTENHART



KATHRYN 'PAT' BURGER

Kathryn 'Pat' Burger services on Monday

DOWNEY - Graveside services will be held at 1 p.m. Monday, June 20 at the Inglewood Park Cemetery in Inglewood for Downey resident and homemaker Kathryn Patricia "Pat" Burger. Visitation is from 9-11 a.m. at Miller-Mies Mortuary, 11015 Downey Ave. in Downey, prior to the service.

She was born in Los Angeles to Mary Hollis McCoy Robbins and Ora L. Robbins and died June 14 in her home in Downey at the age of 84. She had spent the past 28 years in Downey, and in Huntington Park before that for over 50 years. She was a member of First Methodist Church of Huntington Park.

She is survived by husband Thomas C. Burger; daughters Kathleen (Robert) Brockie, Mary (Mike) Moode, and Peggy McMann; son Dan (Debbie) Burger; nine grandchildren; and eight great grandchildren.

Arrangements are by Miller-Mies Mortuary.

Services held for Lenor Garza, 79

DOWNEY—Services were held June 13 at the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Downey for 79-year-old Lenor Garza, one of 13 children of Julio and Maria DeLeon. She was born in Kern City, Texas April 18, 1926 and died on June 8.

She is survived by son Joe and his spouse, Debbie; daughter Leonor; grandchildren Roberto (Ian), Richard, Kristin and Jeannette; great grandchildren Alexandra, Destinee, and Mario; brothers Julio, Christopher and Chencho; sisters Esther, Bernice, Josie, Jerrie and Alice; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews. Many friends also mourn her.

Services were entrusted to the Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary.

Fall Craft Fair set Oct. 8 at Downey High

DOWNEY—The Downey Unified School District and board members of the True Lasting Connection (TLC) Parent Resource Center are planning a Fall Craft Fair for Saturday, Oct. 8th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Downey High School Gym, 11040 Brookshire Ave.

In addition to a wide array of handcrafted items, there will be coffee, snacks, raffles and door prizes. All proceeds go to the support of the TLC Center, which provides free-vision, dental and health care for children of low income families who otherwise could not afford it.


The TLC also has school tutoring programs, crisis intervention, parent education, counseling, enrollment in Medi-Cal, and many other free services for families.

Persons wishing to rent table space should request it as soon as possible by calling Rose Boland at (562) 469-6890. Or write her in care of the Downey Unified School District, 11627 Brookshire Ave., Downey, CA 90241.

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Library reading program for teens

DOWNEY – Young adults, ages 13-19, are invited to join the Downey City Library's Teen Summer Reading Program, which began June 13 and runs thru July 22. Theme of the program is "Unleash Your Power: Read," which encourages teens to read for pleasure or get a head start on books for the next school year. Program events include attending a William Shakespeare Book Club and film series, as well as a trip to the Huntington Library. Participants who read 700 minutes will win a free book and are eligible to attend a pizza party celebration on Friday, July 29 at 1 p.m.

"The library is a cool place to be this summer," says Young Adult Librarian Julie Davis. "We have some great new books to help teens develop the reading habit." The program is supported by the Friends of the Downey City Library and community sponsors.

For information, call the Adult desk at (562) 904-7360 ext. 3. The Downey City Library is located at 11121 Brookshire Ave.



CRISTEA FAMILY – Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34th) visited with the Cristea family of Downey during the family's recent trip to Washington D.C. The family met with the congresswoman before taking a tour of the U.S. Capitol Building. Pictured are, left to right, front row: children David, Emily, and Matthew Cristea; (back row) parents Persida and Dan Cristea; Congresswoman Roybal-Allard; and Claudia and Alin Munteanu. When planning a trip to Washington D.C., constituents of the 34th District are encouraged to contact the congresswoman's office to schedule a free staff-led tour of the U.S. Capitol Building, by calling (202) 225-1766.

Results of big middle school track meet

DOWNEY—The Downey Unified School District has released the results of its annual Middle School Track and Field meet held June 4 at Downey High School.

The annual event brings together young athletes from the district's four middle schools. About 400 boys and girls compete in sixth, seventh and eighth grades.

The following is the official order of finish and total points by grade level.

6th grade boys—1st Sussman Middle School 63; East 53; West 22; Griffiths 16.

7th grade boys—1st East 69; Sussman 65; West 13; Griffiths 7.

8th grade boys—1st Sussman 58; East 46; West 29; Griffiths 21.

6th grade girls—1st East 50; Sussman 41; Griffiths 35; West 28.

7th grade girls—1st Griffiths 56; East 52; Sussman 37; West 9.

8th grade girls—1st East 66; Sussman 38; West 30; Griffiths 20.

Services June 21 for Emmett Williams, 68

DOWNEY – Emmett Williams, a retired Downey school teacher with deep ties to many local community organizations, died June 11 at Downey Community Hospital. He was 68.

A memorial service is scheduled for Tuesday, June 21 at 3 p.m. at the Long Beach Playhouse, 5021 E. Anaheim St., Long Beach, where he served as House Manager.

Williams was born to Emmitt and Eunice Williams on August 24, 1936 in Emory, Texas. He graduated from the Alba Public Schools and earned a bachelor of science and masters of education from North Texas State College.

He began his teaching career in 1957 with the Dallas Independent School District. He moved to California in 1958 and began teaching at Spencer Williams Elementary, Downey Elementary and later at South Middle School. He retired in 1996.

Williams was a faculty representative, committee chair, and six-time president of the Downey Education Association. He was past president of the California Teachers Association Southeastern Regional Resource Center and served on their board of directors.

He also put in work with the National Education Association and served as a representative to numerous international conferences.

The PTA honored Williams with their Honorary Service, Continuing Service and Golden Oak Awards. Other honors include the Award of Distinction from the Teacher Education Department at Tyler Junior College, Representative Teacher Citation from Downey Masonic Temple and Teacher of the Year from Downey Women's Club, among others.

After retiring from education, Williams became active with community and theater groups. He sat on the board of directors for the Long Beach Playhouse and volunteered with the Long Beach Civic Light Opera and South Coast Repertoire Theater.

He was an honorary life member of Downey Kiwanis Club, belonged to Downey Democratic and Hubert Humphrey Democratic Clubs, was a charter member of the Downey Historical Association and chair of the Student Exchange Program and the Downey-Guadalajara Sister City Program.

Williams is survived by his son, Juan (Socorro) Alcala; sister Audrey; brother Calvin; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. His parents and two brothers, Robert and Roy, preceded him in death.



'LOYALTY PERSONIFIED' – Is how the Downey YMCA described Al Jacques, a 35-year volunteer, when it honored him recently with an "Outstanding Community Service Award." Jacques, who originally became involved when his son, Jon, joined Indian Guides, continually helps with the Y's financial campaigns, the annual Christmas tree lot and other projects.

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HEADED TO ANAHEIM—Two lucky winners of Century 21 My Real Estate's 2005 annual Home Run Derby Contest, Mr. Elkhaeb and Ms. Hernandez, have not only been awarded four California Angels tickets and \$100 apiece but their names will be entered into a final drawing to be held in July at the National Home Run Derby. Century 21 My Real Estate, along with local Century 21 offices, invited the community to enter the drawing, which included a chance to win a \$250,000 mortgage. The two are clients of Patricia Loya, Miriam Villanueva and Maria Zuloaga.

Gospelfest competition starts tomorrow

LOS ANGELES—McDonald's Gospelfest kicks off its 21st annual amateur gospel competition tomorrow, June 18 with a Director's Meeting at New Life Christian Center. Invited to attend are choir directors, ministers of music and other interested parties. Participation in McDonald's Gospelfest is open to Youth and Young Adult Choirs with 15 or more members ages 21 and younger; Adult Choirs with 15 or more members; and Groups with 4 to 8 members. Choirs must be based in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino or Ventura counties.

McDonald's Gospelfest will consist of two preliminary sing-offs held in Los Angeles. Following the sing-offs, a select number of adult choirs, youth and young adult choirs and groups will be invited to participate in the semi-final competition. At the conclusion of the semi-final, five adult choirs, two youth and young adult choirs and one winning group will be chosen to compete for top honors during the 21st annual McDonald's Gospelfest gala concert on Saturday, Oct. 29 at the Shrine Civic Auditorium.

For more information, call Eniko Bolivar at (312) 444-7000 or ebolivar@porternovelli.com.

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Granata's annual GOOD golf tournament June 29

DOWNEY—Granata's 2nd annual Golf Tournament for GOOD with a Scramble format is scheduled for Wednesday, June 29 at Rio Hondo Country Club, 10627 Old River School Rd. in Downey. Registration is at 10:30 a.m. and the shotgun start is at 12 noon.

Entry fee, which includes green fees, golf cart, lunch and post-tournament banquet with 1 free cocktail, is \$150 per person. Tee sign sponsorships are available for \$100. Donations start at \$15. Funds will benefit Gangs Out of Downey (GOOD), which strives to involve the entire community in the prevention of youth gang activity.

Golf Committee members this year include: Paul Granata, Kent Kalbmaier, Robert Jagielski and Rick Molinaro.

One-day turnaround to Pechanga

DOWNEY—The Downey Emblem Club #309 will be traveling to the Pechanga Resort & Casino Wednesday, July 20 for a summer fundraiser. A bus will be leaving from the Downey Elks Lodge parking lot at 8:30 a.m. and returning around 5:30 p.m. Bingo will be played on the bus to and from the resort.

Cost is \$6 for members and \$11 for non-members. A \$5 voucher will be issued to use as you choose. All are welcome to participate.

For more information, contact Mary Guzman at 622-1003.



CAROL PEARCE—Was installed as the 81st president of the Rotary Club of Downey at a gala dinner held last week at the Embassy Suites in Downey. "Rotary Club of Downey has a long history of serving the community and we look forward to a very productive year," said Pearce. For Rotary membership information, call Pearce at (562) 622-1425.



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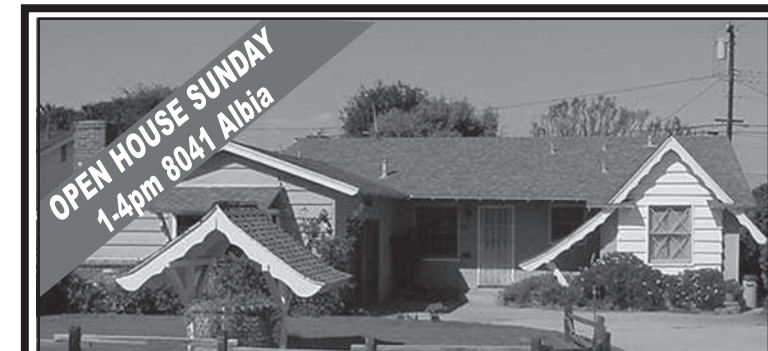
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 GREAT FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS! Property features 3 bedroom, 1 bath on a huge lot. Perfect for the first time buyer. Call today for more information and details. Cesar Badillo (562) 572-1615	 PERFECT FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS Turn key property offers 3 bedrooms w/ 2 baths, hardwood floors, fireplace and attached garage. 1,548 sq.ft. of living space on 7,000 sq.ft. lot. Priced at \$575,000. Call for more information. Vance Richards (562) 236-9382	 HOME WITH A POOL Beautiful 3 bd & 3 ba home in Huntington Park features a large backyard w/ a gorgeous swimming pool surrounded by fruit trees. Hardwood floors throughout, a bonus room (w/ permit) & a nice patio/ B.B.Q. area. Call for a private showing. Jose Barrios (323) 365-6188	 GREAT FOR INVESTOR 2 + 1 units on same lot. Property features 2 units with 1 bedroom and 1 bath, totally remodeled. GREAT INCOME PROPERTY. Call Cesar for more details or visit www.cesarbadillo.com Cesar Badillo (562) 572-1615
 DELIGHTFUL PASADENA HOME 3 Bd, 2 Ba craftsman style home offers a nice flowing open floor plan. Remodeled inside & out. Brand new hardwood floors plus much more to see. Luther Sanchez (562) 755-9387	 NEW LISTING-LONG BEACH Beautiful spacious home in prime residential neighborhood features 3 bedrooms w/ 1 bath, living room/dining room and a breakfast nook. For more details call today before its too late. Monica & Marcy (562) 231-1270 or 1269	 COZY CONDO-BELL GARDENS Excellent price for top unit w/ 2 bedroom and 1 bath. Attached 2 car garage. Call today for an appointment. Se habla espanol. Luther Sanchez (562) 755-9387	 BEAUTIFUL SPANISH HOUSE Fruit Trees, spacious and super clean, 3 bedrooms, 1 bath some new windows Call now for a private showing. Monica & Marcy (562) 231-1270 or 1269

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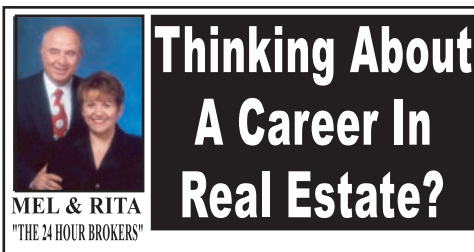
Gorgeous 3 bedroom, 1.5 bath home with a fireplace and hardwood floors. Inside laundry, covered patio and beautiful backyard.

For more information or the price, please call Frank Moreno @ 562-949-8139 or visit www.FrankMoreno.com



CHARMING DOWNEY HOME!!!

Beautiful North Downey home located on cul-de-sac street. This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home features a den which can be converted to formal dining room, a large remodeled kitchen (17X17), one year new roof and a very private back yard. 1,395 sq. ft. of living space on a 5,650 sq. ft. lot. For more information or for price, please call Carmelo Mauro @ 215-718-1741



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CUSTOM BUILT BEAUTY!

Beautiful custom built home features 5 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms and over 3,800 sq. ft. of living space. Perfect for entertaining! Priced at \$1,249,900

For more information, please call Jose Garcia-Yanez @ 562-519-4010



SPLISH SPLASH!

Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath home features new kitchen cabinets, tile floors, ceiling fans, R.V. hookup, sparkling L-shaped pool in great condition, central a/c and heat and alarm system on beautiful tree lined street. Priced at \$560,000.

For more information, please call Jimmy Spathos @ 562-400-2148



CUTE AND COZY!

Nice 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with over 1,100 sq. ft. of living space on a 5,900 sq. ft. lot with an enclosed patio with patio (not included in sq. ft.), located on a very quiet street. Priced at \$545,000

For more information, please call Jimmy Spathos @ (562) 400-2148



PRIME NORTHEAST DOWNEY

Beautiful northeast Downey home features 4 bedrooms with master suite, 4 bathrooms, formal living and dining room, marble flooring, 2 car garage, and sparkling pool with Cabana & bath. Approx. 3,400 sq. ft. of living space on a 14,000 sq. ft. lot. Priced at \$1,250,000

For more information, please call Jimmy Spathos @ (562) 400-2148



NEW LISTING

Three bedroom, two bathroom home in South Downey features 1,408 sq. ft. of living space on a 5,900 sq. ft. lot! Very nice!

Call Mario Persico @ 562-533-7433 more information and availability or visit him on the web @ www.MarioPersico.com.



LOCATION! LOCATION!

Nine Units- 8 1 bedroom houses plus a 2 bedroom owner's unit with large kitchen, entry and fireplace, 10 garages plus additional parking. Built on 30,000+ lot. \$ 1,700,000

Probate sale. Accepted offer. Court date 7/12/05- Norwalk Courthouse. For more information, call Mary Jane Lee @ 562-618-0390



Prestigious Orange Estates!!

Beautiful and spacious custom built home with refurbished oak hardwood floors throughout. Private & secluded, master bedroom suite with spa-like bathroom retreat. This is a must see!

\$899,950
Call Carrie for info!



Contractor's Dream

North Downey house with 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom. House is 1,074 sq. ft. and lot is 7,496 sq. ft. Zoning is R3.

\$499,900
Call Carrie!
(562) 382-1252



13658 Earnshaw

Downey home features 3 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, large living room, hardwood floor in dining room, lovely yard and patio with fruit trees.

Priced @ \$425,000
Call Carrie
(562) 382-1252



Probate Sale

Features 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, living room, formal dining room, hardwood floors and a laundry room. 1,009 sq. ft. of living space on a 6,350 sq. ft. lot.

\$525,000
Subject to overbids

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