



The Downey Patriot



Tackling issue of jury reform
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Author, poet at Downey Theatre
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Mark Galvan's watch: neighborhood preservation

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

When Mark Joseph Galvan hired in 2000 as Neighborhood Preservation Coordinator for the city of Downey, four neighborhoods had already been identified as neighborhood preservation areas—areas, as he put it, “characterized by crime, property deterioration, and other factors contributing to an overall decline in quality of life.” These areas were: the Golden Park area (portions of Barlin, Downey, Golden, Rosecrans Avenues, etc.); the Crawford Park area (Rio Hondo Dr., Dinwiddie St., Ryerson Ave., Pellet St.); the Elm Vista/Washburn/Dubrobin area, southeast of Stewart & Gray and Bellflower; and the Neo/Adco area, including Haro Ave., a small stretch of Old River School Rd.—all consisting of apartment buildings and townhouses.



Mark Galvan

Since his arrival, three other areas were added to the list: the Fontana area (portions of Lakewood Blvd., Stewart & Gray, Deming Ave., Marbel Ave.); the Rose area (Rose Ave., Clark Aves., James St.), and the neighborhood northeast of Paramount and Gardendale (Downey Ave., Adoree).

The problems that had been plaguing the areas ran the gamut from serious crime to drugs to domestic violence to blight to tenant-property owner problems. Today these problems have for the most part been neutralized, says Galvan. Thus, in the areas mentioned, there have been no significant incidences/reports of criminal activity, vandalism, graffiti, and such.

Of course, these problems raise their ugly heads once in a while, he says. But more regular inspections by a neighborhood preservation detail led by Sgt. Dwayne Cooper, prompt graffiti removal, heightened police patrols—taking advantage of all available resources provided by a multi-agency task force including Code Enforcement, Housing, Health Department, Public Works, and especially the Police and Fire departments, reinforced by increased community participation and vigilance—have led to a noticeable, even, measurable, diminution of what were once considered acute crime-driven problems.

Neighborhood Preservation, headed by Lt. Greg Griffin, is currently in the process of pinpointing other neighborhood preservation areas

Galvan's education and work experience uniquely qualify him for the job. In fact, it is as if his prior employments for the city of Paramount, where he worked from 1987 to 1995 in, first, neighborhood improvement programs, then community development planning, and topped off by a stint as a code enforcement officer for the city of Tustin (another eight years), where he, working closely with the Tustin Police Department, coordinated several code enforcement sweeps with Police, Redevelopment, Health, Fire, Building and Planning, staffs—directly pointed to his present assignment.

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Jazzin' things up with B's Dance Place

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

I knew after the 15-minute warm-up I was in for an intense workout. Stretching exercises were expected, but the over 200 abdominal crunches weren't.

I have to admit, I took more breaks during the abdominal workout than the other five girls, who ranged in age from 13 to 19 years old, did combined.

The class, Intermediate Jazz Technique at B's Dance Place, was my first encounter with jazz dance, and only my second encounter with dance altogether. Beyond high school routines, the only experience I have is one semester of modern dance at Cal State Long Beach. And if you know anything about modern dance, it's on a whole different playing field than jazz.

Nonetheless, jazz is just as difficult as modern, in my opinion. It requires balance, agility and flexibility. It was beautiful to watch the instructor, 24-year-old Dan Aries, and the girls glide across the studio floor while leaping and twirling about.

And then there was me. Even though I displayed more than one reason to point and laugh, the girls didn't. In fact, they gave me helpful tips and told me not to be embarrassed because they were all there at one point.

I intended to participate in as many of the exercises as possible, using photo opportunities as an excuse to take a breather. The class was only 55 minutes long, but it didn't take much to leave me short of breath and ready to soak in a hot bath. (No wonder people tend to lose weight through dance classes.)

Still, I walked away marveling at the determination and dedication it takes to be a dancer. I'm as guilty as anyone else for believing that dancing is easy, when in reality, it's an art of movement that involves precision and passion. Therefore, I am grateful for the opportunity I was given to experience up-close and personal the dynamics of dance.

My visit to B's Dance Place, known to many as “The Dance Studio of Downey,” couldn't have come at a better time, as the studio this week celebrated their one-year anniversary since re-opening.

Belinda Lands, 50, founded the studio in 1980, with its first location on Paramount Boulevard, south of Imperial Highway. After 15 years, Belinda moved B's to Firestone Boulevard, where Chipotle, Panda Express and The UPS Store currently reside.

She sold the studio in 2000, the same year she entered retirement. But seven years later, in 2007, Belinda decided to open the studio again – this time, on Bellflower Boulevard near Independence Park.

“This time around, I'm doing it for fun and to keep the kids off the streets,” said Lands, a Downey resident for 27 years. “Times have changed

See DANCE, page 8

Measure G a hotbed of debate

■ Campaigns trying to sway voters over controversial term limit measure.

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY—This week's sudden turnabout by California governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, who flip-flopped on his previous stance and now supports loosening term limit restrictions for state legislators, could not have come at a better time for local proponents of Measure G, the controversial proposition that would allow Downey city council members to serve more time in office.

Schwarzenegger, in an opinion piece published in Tuesday's *Los Angeles Times*, wrote, “Under the current [term limit] system, our elected officials are not given the time they need to reach their full potential as public servants. Just as they get seasoned in one house, they know their time is beginning to run out, and they must start positioning themselves to run for a new office.”

Schwarzenegger, of course, was not referring to Downey, but rather members of the California Legislature. Still, local officials jumped on the governor's comments as affirmation that term limit reform would benefit Downey citizens.

Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra, who initiated the drive for local term limit reform early last year,



Lawn signs went up this week as campaigns from both sides of Measure G intensified their efforts to capture votes in advance of the Feb. 5 election. The signs above are located at Downey Avenue and 6th Street.

expelled the benefits of Measure G to a packed hall at The Lord's Grace of Downey church Tuesday night. The session was part of Unity in the Community's regular town hall meeting.

“The governor backs term limit reform,” said Guerra, who heads the campaign committee Citizens for Term Limits Reform. “He was for term limits but realized that the original law went too far.”

Guerra also dispelled some of the arguments put forth by Measure G opposition. At last week's regular city council meeting, one speaker cited popular political figure Beverly O'Neill, who won a suc-

cessful campaign as a write-in candidate for mayor of Long Beach.

O'Neill would have been blocked from conducting such a campaign in Downey because of this city's term limits.

“It would have been illegal to do that in Downey,” said Guerra.

Guerra conceded that Measure G could potentially allow a council member to serve 24 or 36 years in office, but pointed out that in the 40 years before term limits existed in Downey, no person ever ran for a fourth term.

He also said the idea of a council person serving in office so long was “not practical” and a scare tac-

tic being used by measure opposition.

Other details Guerra pointed out:

- At one point, three women served on the Downey city council at the same time: Diane Boggs, Barbara Riley and Joyce Lawrence. This, Guerra said, dismissed the argument of the city council being a “boys club”;

- Four council members have run unopposed in Downey's last four elections;

- The Board of the Downey Unified School District does not

See MEASURE G, page 3

Gafin sharpens his city agenda for new year

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—Billed as a “State of the City” address, Mayor David Gafin's talk before the Kiwanis Club of Downey Thursday proved to be a more detailed, and richer, presentation of his agenda as mayor that he propounded in last Dec. 5's Mayoral Transition ceremony.

It will be recalled that when he took the oath of office at year-end last, Gafin outlined his three-pronged approach to grow and prosper the city, by way of: completing the city's ongoing programs, a re-emphasis on some long-term projects, and the undertaking of new city projects

His planned programs and projections, he said, are based on the city's newly-found “sound financial footing.” He admitted that because of dampened retail sales, the revenue stream provided by sales taxes took a little dip. Property taxes, however, he said, despite real estate woes, stayed level. All in all, the mayor is optimistic that the redevelopment of the Downey Studios area will provide a significant economic boost.

Ongoing projects due for completion during Gafin's term include: Phase II of the Lakewood Blvd. improvement project, which will see a Telegraph to Gardendale (a “border-to-border”) boulevard upgrade, the construction of the two baseball diamonds and other park amenities constituting the Discovery Sports Complex, the installation of the Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center, and the hiring of three additional police officers to raise the police force's complement from 122 to



David Gafin

125 carefully-selected sworn officers (“Let's put boots back on the ground”).

Already, he said, as a result of increased emphasis on neighborhood safety, police in the city are “driving by more often now.”

A few immediate benefits resulting from the planned yard consolidation project, he says, would be the elimination of wasteful duplication of resources, more open space, and advantageous property re-use. Along the same lines, talks with Los Angeles County about re-use issues of the Rancho Los Amigos site have been ongoing, while a Neighborhood/Business Watch program is taking shape, with the city ready to provide safety education and training to partnering neighborhood groups (“Report all suspicious persons or activities”). A Public Information Officer, in the person of CSU-Fullerton graduate Juddy Cenicerros, has been hired to coordinate the program and undertake other relevant citywide projects.

Among the major new city projects envisioned are: the upgrading of Imperial Highway and traffic safety improvements especially from Bellflower Blvd. to its eastern border, a serious review of residential parking configurations, a Traffic Calming Program (speed humps and other speed-reducing measures particularly in school and residential areas), and the establishment of a Police Cadet program, in hopes of developing “homegrown” police officers in view of the difficulty in finding the right career candidates (DUSD, through its ROP program, is a collaborative partner in this). “We will want to attract the proverbial best and the brightest in this regard,” he said.

Takano, BTSA staff honored by DUSD board

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—The Downey Unified School District Board of Directors Tuesday heard a presentation by Superintendent Wendy Doty honoring Denise Takano, Director of Elementary Education and Teacher Support Programs for K-12, with the Vision Award, as well as the entire staff of the BTSA Induction Program in the area of Personnel.

Everybody, past and present, who's had a hand in the program's development that started 14 years ago, was invited to the front to share in the evening's plaudits. Linda Kennedy, who retired as head of curriculum instruction and hailed as the “grandmother of the BTSA Induction Program,” shared in the presentation, as did Lillian Bracket. Teacher and program specialists Dalyn Miller-Geiser and Yusem (Judy Glaister was not present) beamed as they were introduced, as well as stalwart clerical support staffers Ana Thorne and Maria Salcedo.

Support providers and members of the BTSA Induction Advisory Group, including the likes of Warren High science department chief Jeff Orlinsky, DUSD director of pupil services Robert Jagielski, and other teachers and administrators, trooped to the front to be acknowledged and group-photographed.



DUSD's Denise Takano and the staff of the BTSA Induction Program were honored by the school board this week.

See DUSD, page 4

Hidden churches of Paris explored

DOWNEY – The OLPH Women’s Guild will host a sandwich and salad luncheon this Wednesday at 10 a.m., headlined by a presentation by the well-traveled Sharon McNeil.

McNeil has done extensive travel and research of the churches of Paris, France. On Wednesday, she will lead the Guild on a tour of the hidden churches in Paris using picture boards. The focus will be on 13th – 17th century basilicas, abbeys and chapels such as the Chapel of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal.

McNeil will also include information about Notre Dame Cathedral and St. Denis Basilica where all the kings of France are buried.

Dessert will follow lunch and a \$5 donation is requested to cover costs. The community is invited to attend the luncheon, which will be held at the Parish Center at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Rise ‘N Shine discusses discrimination

DOWNEY – The Rise ‘N Shine Networking Group will have their next meeting on Jan. 22 at Nordic Fox restaurant at 7:30 a.m.

The meeting will feature Jonathan Goldstein of Goldstein & Goldstein, who will be discussing, “Discrimination in the Workforce.”

Cost is an order from the menu.

For information, or to RSVP, call (562) 923-2191.

Nominations open for Hall of Fame

DOWNEY – Downey High School is searching for distinguished alumni who wish to be considered for induction into the school’s Hall of Fame.

Alumni will be considered in the following categories: Arts, Athletics, Business, Civic/Community/Government, Education and Professional.

Past inductees include Dr. Robert Ballard, the discoverer of the Titanic; entertainers Richard and Karen Carpenter; musician George Pajon, Jr., guitarist for the Black Eyed Peas; and international skating figures JoJo Starbuck and Ken Shelley.

The Downey High School Hall of Fame was created in 1999 and currently has 57 members. To nominate a person, call Assistant Principal John Baker at (562) 869-7301, ext 5524, for an application.

Miss Downey deadline extended

DOWNEY – It’s not too late to turn in an application for this year’s Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey pageant competition.

Applications, available online at www.downeyrose.org, can be turned in at a rehearsal this Monday at 8 p.m. at OnStage Dance Center or on Jan. 28 at the Barbara J. Riley Community Center (inside the Dance Room) at 7 p.m.

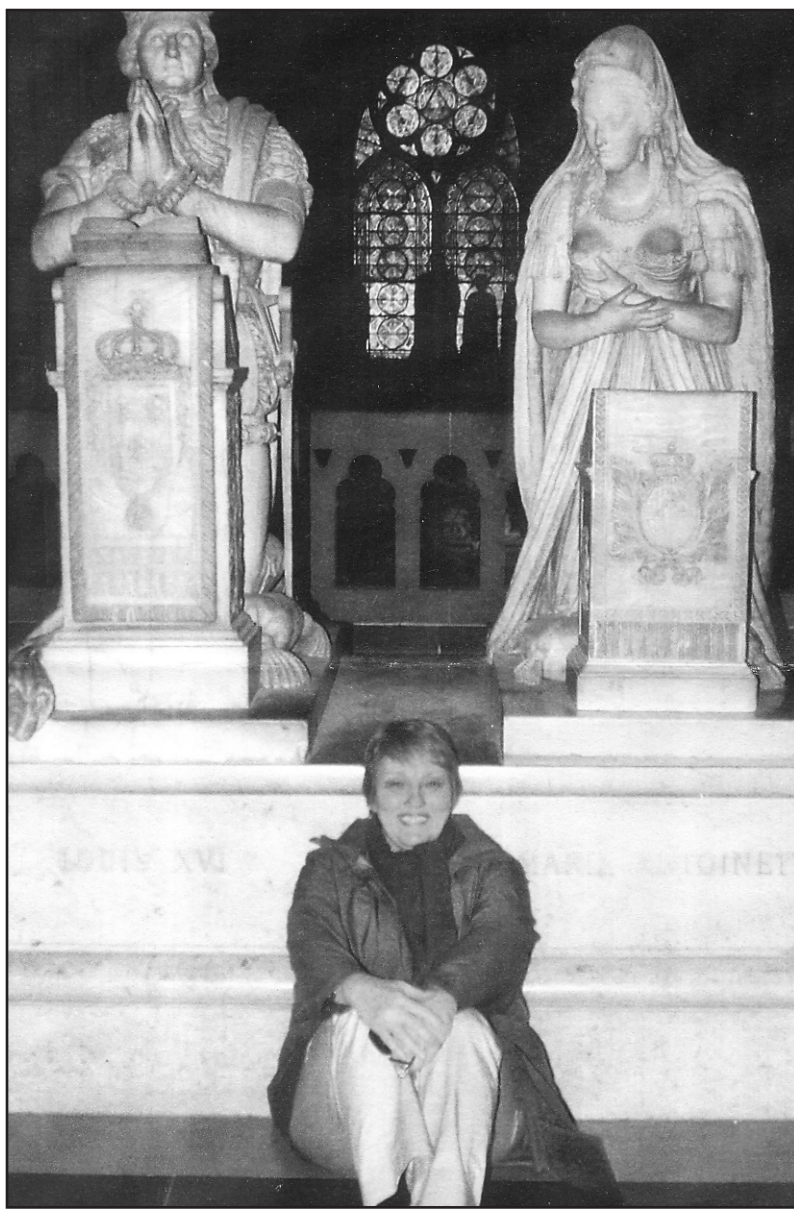
Applications can also be turned in by calling Pageant Director Susan Domen at (562) 824-7172.

Christian club celebrating Valentine’s

DOWNEY – The Downey Christian Women’s Club invites the community, including men, to its Feb. 13 meeting at the Los Amigos Country Club. The day’s program is titled “Be My Valentine.”

The meeting’s special feature will be a discussion of the Telephone Access Program and Ed Usray will be the guest speaker. Neomi Hall will provide music.

The buffet luncheon starts at 11:45 a.m. and the cost is \$12. Reservations are requested by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Delores at (562) 868-7135.



Sharon McNeil, pictured sitting at the crypt of St. Denis, will use picture boards to present her audience with a guided tour of various churches in Paris, France at a luncheon this Wednesday at the Parish Center at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church.

Library seeks out World War II veterans

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library is looking for World War II veterans within Downey to share their favorite or most meaningful photo from WWII on Photo Day, Feb. 2, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The veterans will be interviewed and asked to share the story behind the photo. The photos will also be scanned and returned to the veteran.

The photos and stories will be assembled into a visual exhibit, which will be on display in the library during the month of March.

The library is also in need of volunteers that can help with the event. Volunteer opportunities include being a greeter, working at the registration desk, conducting interviews, assisting with the scanning of the photos, and keeping the refreshment table stocked.

Volunteers will receive an orientation on Jan. 30 at 7 p.m.

Appointments to participate are recommended and can be made by calling Nancy Munoz at (562) 904-7360, ext. 16. Sign-ups are also being taken at the Adult Information Desk. Those interested in volunteering should also contact Munoz.

Conor Robles’ death determined ‘accidental’

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – A longtime Downey resident was pronounced dead on Jan. 8 after a passerby discovered a naked man floating face down in the ocean near Granada Avenue in Long Beach, authorities said.

Conor Robles, 28, was found at 8:09 a.m. by a jogger near Lifeguard Station 6, officials said. An autopsy revealed the cause of death to be accidental drowning, said Capt. Ed Winters of the Los Angeles County Coroner’s Office.

No foul play is suspected as there were no signs of trauma to the body, Winters said.

A toxicology screening is underway to determine if any illegal drugs or alcohol were in Robles’ body at the time of his death. While living at a Brookshire Avenue home in Downey, police responded to four incidents involving narcotics between 1998 and 2001.

Results of the toxicology report will not be available for six to eight weeks.

Robles was a Santa Ana resident at the time of his death.

Office building finds 10-year tenant

DOWNEY – Voit Commercial Brokerage has announced it has closed five lease transactions totaling \$10.3 million in the Los Angeles area, including one deal in Downey.

Cummins Cal Pacific has signed a 10-year lease on 31,270 square feet of office space for \$3.8 million, Voit announced. The property is located at 9520 Stewart and Gray Rd. in Downey.

Peter Castleton of Voit’s Anaheim office represented the lessor, Hager Pacific. Representing Cummins Cal Pacific were Laird Perkins and Rick McGeagh of CBRE.

Other deals announced by Voit: a five-year lease on a 62,452 sq. ft. office building for \$2 million in La Mirada; a five-year lease on a 49,680 sq. ft. office building for \$1.8 million, also in La Mirada; a five-year lease on a 39,009 sq. ft. office building for \$1.5 million in Cerritos; and a three-year lease on a 41,493 sq. ft. office building for \$1.1 million in Santa Fe Springs.

Folk music jam at Community Center

DOWNEY – Musicians, singers and music lovers in general are invited to a “Downey Folk Music Jam” this Tuesday at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

At a folk music jam, participants sit in a circle formation with their acoustic instruments. A facilitator ensures that the “lead” participant has their opportunity lead the tune, pass, or request the group play a tune with someone else leading the music.

The facilitator also ensures a continuum of activity throughout the jam, and that the leader position rotates smoothly around the circle.

Guests and other non-musician visitors may sit outside the circle and listen to the music or sing along if appropriate. The round-robin format continues throughout the session and musicians may join or leave at will.

The community is invited to the free jam. For more information, call Bea or Jim at (562) 861-7049.

Tire center donates to soccer program

DOWNEY – Downey AYSO Region 24 is receiving a donation of more than \$1,650 in funds and equipment from Discount Tire Centers and Uniroyal Tire as part of a longstanding program designed by Uniroyal to support youth soccer across the nation.

Now in its eighth year as a major sponsor of youth soccer, Uniroyal and its dealers have provided 735,500 free soccer balls to soccer families across America and have donated a total of \$10 million in money and equipment.

“The Uniroyal Soccer Program has been a perfect way for us to show our appreciation to the community,” said Ivan Norona of Discount Tire Centers. “It’s been an honor to meet the families connected with Downey AYSO Region 24, and we really enjoy the children’s smiles when they receive their free soccer ball.”

Uniroyal Tire Brand Marketing Director Kaz Holley said, “Every year we have exceptional dealers such as Discount Tire Centers participating in our soccer initiative, which helps organizations like Downey AYSO Region 24 provide very worthwhile programs for local children.”

Jewish worship, life discussed in class


DOWNEY – Beginning this Sunday, Temple Ner Tamid of Downey will be offering a series of three “Taste of Judaism” classes, designed as friendly discussions about Jewish worship and Jewish life.


Rabbi Len Muroff and Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill will conduct the classes, which will cover the origins of the faith, core beliefs, various practices, customs, symbols and holidays.

Students do not need to be Jewish to attend and the classes are not dependent upon previous knowledge of Judaism; the series is open to anyone seeking a better understanding of the basics of Jewish religion and culture. Classes are conducted in an informal atmosphere to encourage open discussion.

Although there is no enrollment fee, space is limited and registration is required. For more information, call the Temple office at (562) 861-9276. Classes will be held on consecutive Sundays, beginning this weekend, at 10 a.m.

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MEASURE G

Continued from page 1

have term limits, and test scores in Downey schools have been among the highest in the state.

Guerra also denied suggestions that he consulted with Councilman Kirk Cartozian about amending term limits prior to his election to the council in 2006. Cartozian is scheduled to be termed out of office this year, along with Councilman Rick Trejo.

"Many of us believe that term limits are good, but that it went too far," Cartozian told *The Downey Patriot*. "The same is being said at the state level and that is why we are reconsidering term limits for the California State Legislature. Proposition 93 proposes to allow for 12 years in office. Similarly, Measure G proposes to allow for 12 years in office here in the City of Downey."

Cartozian continued: "And Measure G does not get rid of term limits. It merely allows for individuals to serve three consecutive terms in office, as opposed to the current two terms. Being re-elected after four years and then being term-limited from office for life doesn't make much sense."

Not lost in Tuesday's discussion was the \$85,000 the city was paying to put Measure G on next month's ballot.

"It's a lot of money, it really is," conceded Guerra, who said he would raise the term limit issue again in another 10 years if Measure G is defeated next month. "But our city is financially, fiscally sound... Do you know we spent \$10,000 last week to put lights up next to the trees at the golf course? I'm the one who pulled it off the Consent Calendar so the council could look at it."

Guerra said the city last year spent less money than originally budgeted, creating a surplus in funds. Downey is also subsidizing oil companies at the tune of \$1 million per year, Guerra said, an issue he raised at five straight city council meetings before dropping the subject because of lack of support.

Still, Downey citizen Mike Prokop, who also spoke at Tuesday's discussion, criticized the expenditure of \$85,000 on a special election done at the bequest of the city council. The measure would have only cost the city approximately \$10,000 if had been put off until November's general election, according to City Clerk Kathleen Middstoke.

"I'm pleased to hear Downey is doing so well financially," said Prokop, who heads Citizens Against Senseless Reform. "But this could have waited until November. Why the big rush? Because two councilmen are about to be termed out. I think it's obvious."

The election was originally scheduled for last November, but moved to Feb. 5 after the DUSD elections were canceled.

"Being consolidated with the county election actually saves us money," said Cartozian. "And with more contests on the ballot, as Feb. 5 has, the cost is less. [We also wanted] to have the greatest number of Downey residents getting to decide on this measure. Because of the hotly contested primary races, and because of the state term limits measure, we felt it best to occur now. A reduced price at a different time was never raised by any member of the city council, nor any member of the public, when we originally considered the matter."

Arguing one of Guerra's points, Prokop questioned why Measure G was so immediately necessary if only three council members ever ran for a fourth term before term limits.

"If it ain't broke, don't fix it," said Prokop, who also emphasized the need to infuse "new blood" into city government. "Or at least try to fix it in the proper manner. Check with the public first and don't try to shove it down our throats."

Audience members Tuesday offered some of their own opinions. Lennie Whittington, a familiar face at city council meetings, denounced a city government similar to that of the Board of the Downey Unified School District.

"Some people practically die there, on the DUSD," said Whittington. "They need to clean house."

Planning Commissioner Terry Lambrose voiced her displeasure at the high cost of the special election, as did Downey residents Ed Hare, Elsa Van Leuven and others.

Some also blasted Guerra and Cartozian, who was in the audience, for their vote to record city council meetings for online viewing. That decision, audience members alleged, was "a waste of money" and another example of the council not listening to their constituents.

Prokop ended the session by circulating a sign-up sheet for residents wishing to campaign against Measure G.

"I may not be as smooth and glib as my opponent, but what I say comes from the heart," said Prokop.

Federal employees meeting Jan. 23

DOWNEY – The National Association of Active & Retired Federal Employees Southeast Chapter will hold its next meeting on Jan. 23 at noon at Furman Park.

The guest speaker, from Behavioral Health Services, will discuss, "Talking to Your Doctor," from 1 to 2 p.m.

The community is invited and refreshments will be served. For information, contact Bob Knerr, president, at (562) 943-5513.

Songfest scheduled for March 15

DOWNEY – The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints extends an invitation to choirs and other musical groups to participate in this year's Sixteenth Annual Interfaith, Multi-Cultural Songfest on March 15.

Available spots are limited. If interested in participating, contact Lois Buchanan, community relations director for the Downey Stake, at (562) 927-9790.

Moravian Church selling enchiladas

DOWNEY – The women of the Moravian Church of Downey will be hosting their annual enchilada sale on Jan. 26 from noon to 5 p.m.

The enchiladas come two to a pan and are suitable for freezing. Meat and cheese combination enchiladas are \$4.75 a pan, and cheese enchiladas are \$5 a pan.

The Moravian Church of Downey is located at 10337 Old River School Rd. in Downey. To place an order, call (562) 927-0718.



A pro-Measure G campaign sign sits, ironically, outside the offices of Downey lawyer Joseph Lumsdaine on Paramount Boulevard. The sign was placed with the permission of property owner Don Jervis, committee members said. Lumsdaine has been an outspoken critic of Measure G, calling it "self-serving."

'Worlds of Maya' explores classical history

By KEVIN O'CONNOR, DOWNEY THEATRE

DOWNEY – The Downey Theatre will present the sixth film of its 2007-08 "Armchair Adventure" Travelogue Series, "Worlds of the Maya," filmed and narrated by Sandy Mortimer, this Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Before most Western Europeans knew about the North American continent, the ancient Maya civilization occupied the eastern third of Mesoamerica. Similar to the Greeks, they were religiously and artistically a nation, but politically sovereign states – as many as 20 states existed on the Yucatan peninsula. Excelling in mathematics, astrology, massive building techniques and agriculture, their wealth of scientific and artistic accomplishments continue to amaze modern scientists.

"Worlds of the Maya" explores Belize and Guatemala, two of the countries that hold the stories and sites of the great classical Maya past. They also are home to much of the Maya culture of today – a little-known culture that has struggled through decades of formidable challenges – and that faces enormous challenges in the future.

Join Mortimer on a journey to ancient cities, temples and caves, many not seen by outsiders, as well as today's isolated villages, with their age-old rituals and ceremonies. Explore the life of the past,

and the lives of the present. Enter the "Worlds of the Maya."

Mortimer is currently the president of the International Motion Picture and Lecturers Association. She spends over eight months each year on tour, speaking at travel/adventure film series throughout the United States and Canada. She has performed in hundreds of cities, including the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh, Pa., and the National Geographic Society in Washington D.C. In 1993, she was recognized for her work and received the Rising Star Award from the Professional Travelogue Sponsor Association. In 1997, she received the Hall of Fame Award from that same organization.

"Worlds of the Maya" is the sixth "Armchair Adventure" of a 10-film series. The series features full-color, feature-length travelogues with live, in-person narration by the travel adventure producer. All films are shown on Sundays at 2:30 p.m. at the Downey Theatre, 8435 Firestone Blvd.

Tickets for individual films may be purchased on the day of performance only, beginning at 1:30 p.m., at the theatre box office. General admission is \$7 and seniors and students can purchase tickets for \$6.

For information, call the theater box office, Monday through Friday, from noon to 4 p.m., at (562) 861-8211.

Vote YES on Measure G

"G" is for Good

Measure G is simple...It makes elections count...
Don't let the scare tactics fool you...
In a democracy, we should be making the choices..

Term limits reform would **limit** city council to only 3 terms. In 40 years before term limits in Downey, only 3 ever ran for a 3rd term, **nobody ever ran** for a 4th.

With current term limits, Downey has had 4 unopposed council races in the last 4 elections.

We need real reform in Downey in order that the citizens have a government that is responsive to the community needs and held accountable for its long term effects. Let's have our **citizens vote to make these decisions.**

That's what should happen in a democracy!

Dr. Mary Stauffer
Kirk Cartozian, Downey Councilman (Former Mayor of Downey)
Dn. Mario A. Guerra, Mayor Pro Tem of Downey
Rick Trejo, Downey Councilman (Former Mayor of Downey)
Willie Gutierrez, DUSD School Board President
Meredith Perkins, Former Mayor of Downey
Bobbie Samperi, DUSD School Board Member
Dr. Gary McCaughan, Former Mayor of Downey
Martha Sodetani, DUSD School Board Member
Darrell Jackson, Gangs Out Of Downey President
Margo Hoffer, Past DUSD School Board President
Bob Wittingham, Former Mayor of Downey
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DUSD

Continued from page 1

In handing the award to Takano, Doty said the award recognizes the priority placed in the "delivery of quality education to each and every student while providing our beginning teachers with excellent support, training, and professional development."

Also, in support of the program, which has since earned for itself Professional Clear Credential Preparation Program status, and whose structure is completely aligned with the California Standards for the Teaching Profession (CSTP), she lauded every member of the BTSA Induction Staff for their "dedication and going 'above and beyond' the normal call of duty—in the process becoming role models of the 'professional teacher', and for clearly understanding his/her role and responsibilities and consistently demonstrating the initiative and skills necessary to deliver the highest quality of performance."

As a result of all the above, Doty and Takano both stated the theme that everybody concerned was all "doing a great job" and that, indeed, "we probably have the best, and among the best-paid, teachers in the state."

In other action, the Board:

- Received the Audit Report on all District funds and accounts for the 2006-07 fiscal year, as prepared by Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP, Certified Public Accountants, whose representatives praised the wonderful job performed by the Business Services Department headed by Asst. Superintendent Kevin Condon in producing accurate and timely data for its FY2006-07 annual financial report.

Relative to this, Board Member Donald LaPlante, to use his word, ranted against the state's "inane" and "imbecile" tinkering of the budget, saying "We cannot attain world-class educational standards with a poverty-level budget. The state has some hard decisions to make."

DUSD Board chairman Tod Corrin spoke for all when he commended Condon for "a fantastic report";

- Accepted with gratitude donations in cash and in kind from several donors, including \$2,000 for the ASB Renaissance program at Griffiths Middle School, from the Griffiths Middle School PTA, as well as a donation of scrapbooking materials, valued at \$7,250, to be used by the West Middle School Scrapbooking Club from NYE Enterprises; along with a donation of office furniture and supplies, valued at \$1,000, from Staples, a cash donation of \$75 to be used for balloons for the TLC luncheon from

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Jennifer Robbins, and a donation of \$500 from Downey Association of Realtors, Inc., as well as \$40 from E.N. St. George DDS, in favor of TLC Family Resource Center;

- Authorized the payment of expenses for convention and conference attendance;
 - Ratified purchase orders by the Purchasing Department;
 - Ratified payments for hourly, overtime, and Civic Center work performed by classified personnel, Adult School, and Food Services for the month of November, and as covered by payroll orders;
 - Ratified B warrants for payment of authorized purchase obligations incurred by law or district policy for December, 2007;
 - Ratified the agreement with the California Teachers Association to release Dan Vaughn from his duties as a certificated employee of DUSD;
 - Ratified the Student Teaching Agreement with National University effective Jan. 9, 2008 through June 30, 2008;
 - Ratified the agreement between Downey Adult School Career and Education Center and Pioneer Medical Group to furnish practical experience to students enrolled in the Nursing Assistance program;
 - Ratified the contract for WorkAbility Program/Regional Occupational Program (ROP) with the Los Angeles County Office of Education, effective Jan. 9, 2008 through June 30, 2008;
 - Accepted the Quarterly Uniform Complaint Report Summary;
 - Authorized the purchase and implementation of a Student Information System, to be charged to the General Fund;
 - Approved the change orders, representing increased amounts, for the Warren High School new library, classroom building and modernization, as well as for the Downey High School new classroom building (Bldg. 'B'), both to be charged to Bond Funds;
 - Accepted as complete concrete, electrical, roofing, and paving projects performed by various vendors;
 - Approved the adjustments of the 2007-08 Adult School and General Fund restricted and unrestricted budgets, respectively, to reflect an increase in one, and a decrease to the fund balance in the other;
 - Approved the purchase of equipment, as listed, in accordance with established purchasing policies and regulations;
 - Approved the destruction of Class 2 and 3 disposable district records, and appointed Katrina Juarez-Lorenzetti, clerical assistant, as document destruction coordinator;
 - Acknowledged the receipt of a claim submitted by Teresa Diaz, on behalf of Monique Diaz, a minor, and denied said claim, in compliance with Government Code Section 911-15 and 945;
 - Approved routine Personnel items until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;
 - Ratified the establishment of new limited-term positions with duties corresponding to similar current job classifications;
 - Approved the Memorandum of Understanding between the C.S.E.A. and DUSD changing specific confidential employee designations; and
 - Endorsed the actions taken by the Superintendent on student cases.
- The next meeting of the Board of Education will be at 5 p.m. on Feb. 12 at the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave.

Sponsors sought for Street Faire

DOWNEY – Sponsorship opportunities are available for the 15th annual Downey Street Faire, scheduled this year for May 3.

A platinum sponsor (\$2,500) receives three booth spaces, a banner on the performance stage, and a plaque presented at the Downey Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors luncheon in June.

A diamond sponsor (\$2,000) receives three booth spaces, a banner on a fence facing Firestone Boulevard, and a plaque; a gold sponsor (\$1,500) receives the same benefits of a diamond, but only two booth spaces; a silver sponsor (\$1,000) receives one booth space and a banner along Firestone Boulevard; and a bronze sponsor (\$500) receives only a banner facing Firestone.

All sponsors will be featured in advertisements, posters and flyers distributed to 10,000 elementary school students, as well as publicity in *Downey Business*, the Chamber's newsletter, and local newspapers.

For more information on becoming a sponsor, call the Downey Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

Watercolor artist featured at meeting

PARAMOUNT – The Downey Art League and Traditional Artist's Guild of Paramount, in a joint meeting, will welcome popular watercolor artist Lea Myles for a guest demonstration on Jan. 27.

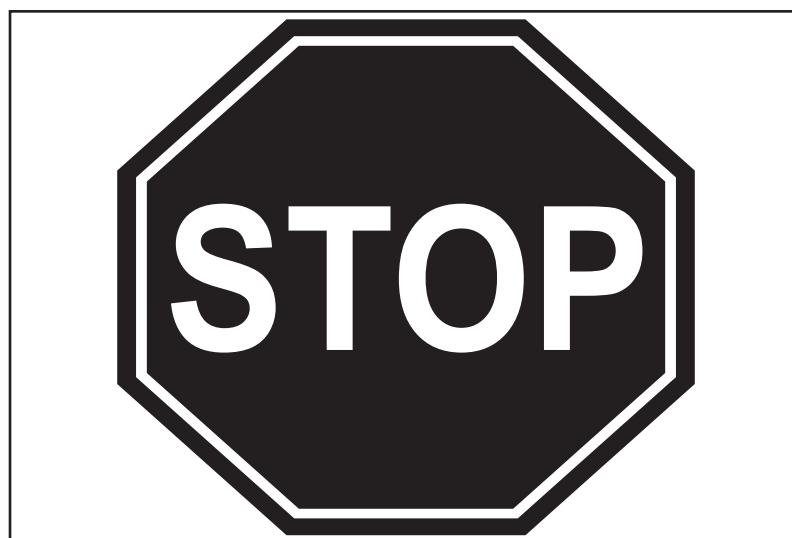
The meeting will be held at Progress Park, 15530 Downey Ave., in Paramount, starting at 2 p.m.

Myles was founder, vice president and master instructor at Magic Art Schools, Inc. for 14 years before selling the company in 1988. She has also written and appeared on the TV show "The Magic Method of Oil Painting" featuring William Alexander.

The meeting is open to the public and refreshments will be served.

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Term Limits "Reform" in Downey
 Measure G Allows Career Politicians on City Council for 36 Years!
 Eight Years is Enough for U.S. President and Should be for City Councilman
 Vote NO on Measure G on Tuesday, Feb. 5th
 Citizen Paid Advertisement

The Poets' Corner

Priceless

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You are the greatest
 Every mother's characteristics you have it
 Blessed with so much wisdom
 I am blessed God chose me to be your son
 You have accomplished so much in your life
 I pray that God has a woman like you for my wife
 I do believe miracles happen cause you always seem to pull a rabbit out your hat with your creative creations
 You have given me so much knowledge
 You are my teacher and I am your student
 Although I hate the lectures I appreciate your lessons
 This year 2007
 Although you didn't create the year
 You helped me get through it
 Santa has given me the best present
 Having a mother like you for Christmas
 P.S. I couldn't have done anything without you
 Thanks for the walking shoes
 Mama now I'm running.
 --George Ortiz,
 Downey

Measurements

How simple is Assignment
 When seen in retrospect
 As shorter is a journey
 Upon the Homeward Trek

As teens from Childhood's glance
 Seem distances away
 But viewed from Age's stance
 Appear but yesterday

So space extends or shrinks
 No Time Piece we employ
 Can gauge the Length of Pain
 The brevity of Joy

Duration's quite unstable
 Not given to precision
 A breath of bliss, long weeks of woe
 Supply an apt equation

The distance that extends
 Between the Earth and Sky
 Upon the heart depends
 And not upon the eye
 --Audrey Stafford,
 Downey

Taxpayers warned of error on tax form

An error on a printed California tax form may lead some California taxpayers who file paper returns to understand their home mortgage interest deductions, the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) announced recently. The error is on early versions of Schedule CA (540), *California Adjustments*, which is used to make adjustments to federal adjusted gross income and claim federal itemized deductions.

Line 38 of the *Schedule CA* form incorrectly state: "Enter the total amount of itemized deductions from your federal form 1040, Schedule A, lines 4, 9, 13, 19, 20, 27, and 28." It should have listed the line number 15 instead of 13. This error could lead taxpayers to miss claiming their home mortgage interest, points, qualified mortgage insurance premiums, and investment interest.

The FTB in December mailed 1.1 million *California 540 & 540A* booklets to taxpayers, and another 1.3 million were sent to public distribution sites including libraries, post offices, and FTB district offices. However, the instructions in the *California 540 & 540A* tax booklet are correct.

Taxpayers who want a corrected form may download it from the FTB's Web site at www.ftb.ca.gov, call the FTB at (800) 852-5711 to request one, or later this month the corrected forms will be available at public distribution sites. Taxpayers may also use CalFile, or any of the approved electronic filing products listed on the FTB's Web site.

The FTB encourages taxpayers who already have filed a paper tax return and followed the incorrect line numbers to call (800) 852-5711 to have their returns corrected.

The FTB will correct any overstated tax liability that results from the error and will notify affected taxpayers. The FTB updated its online forms and notified tax software developers when the error was discovered in December. But tax booklets were already in the distribution process and could not be recalled or corrected.

Visit the FTB's Web site at www.ftb.ca.gov to find tax forms, answers to frequently asked questions, e-file, CalFile, and other information.

IRS *Schedule A - Itemized Deductions* and other federal tax information can be found on the IRS Web site at www.irs.gov.

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Letters to the Editor:

Talking about Measure G

Dear Editor:

Luxury car maker Acura just closed its new, state-of-the-art dealership on Firestone after only a year in business in the city of Downey. Last year the Lincoln-Mercury dealership on Lakewood closed after a generation at that location. The Ford dealership across the street may also close. The only major dealer remaining in the city is Toyota, located across the street from Stonewood Center.

Firestone and Lakewood Boulevards in Downey were once the nexus of a thriving new car business. The city lost these new car dealerships and the revenue they generate, while a majority of the council (Kirk Cartozian, Mario Guerra and Rick Trejo) is distracted by their efforts to end term limits and extend their political careers and infinitum with Measure G.

These politicians are no longer interested in what's best for the local economy or the citizens of Downey. They are concentrated only on duping the voters into believing that passing Measure G is "good" for the city. With term limits, two of these councilmen will automatically leave office this year after eight years. Councilman Guerra has served his first year in office working to stay in as long as he can by introducing Measure G at the apparent behest of his buddies, Trejo and Cartozian, who would most benefit from its passage.

To the "distracted drivers" of Measure G on our city council, it is time for all of you to leave office. Maybe you could hitch a ride out of town in a new car...If we have any dealerships left to buy one. Vote no on Measure G.

— **Brian Heyman,**
Downey

Dear Editor:

Measure G seems to be creating quite a controversy in our city and I must honestly say that I do not understand how, or why, the city voted for term limits in the first place. It is almost like saying that we, the citizens of Downey, are not intelligent enough to realize when someone is not doing well in their elected office. Therefore we have to set a limit of how often they can serve in the city and after two terms they can never, ever be reelected no matter how well they did.

Rules like these always exist out of fear that someone will take advantage of us, they are never there because we are aware of our freedom and our right to choose who represents us in the city, in the state or the federal government.

It is very interesting that Governor Schwarzenegger is trying to eliminate term limits just like ours in the state government and for the same, completely correct reasons.

I, for one, strongly recommend that we consider voting in favor of Measure G and that we pay attention to how well our representatives work for the good of our city and its citizens and if we are not happy we have the freedom to elect someone else in their place. However, if they are doing well we have the right to elect them again and again.

— **Irma Landesfeind,**
Downey

Dear Editor:

No one, including a Downey council member, is irreplaceable. That is my conclusion after observing life and Downey's governance for over 50 years. I chaired the Charter Committee that drafted Downey's original charter in the early 60's. The term limit provision was a voter initiated amendment added in the mid 90's. It hasn't hampered the operation of a well run government.

Downey has a city manager form of government. The key to having this form of government function well is retaining a very competent city manager and hiring competent department heads (generally selected by the city manager). Fortunately, with the city council providing broad guidelines, Downey has done this.

I am opposed to Proposition G on the February 5th ballot that would change the current charter provision which limits council persons to two four-year terms. I register this opposition with one very important caveat. I believe that Downey still has some very wise and competent citizens. When a council seat opens, I urge some bright, educated persons to run for it. It is not a money-making job, but extremely important.

Critical issues likely will be addressed during the next term, possibly including the redevelopment of about 60 acres underlying the Downey Studios and development of large, vacant acreage owned by the county at Rancho Los Amigos. Many potential council candidates will plead they are too busy. However, remember the adage: "If you need a job done, give it to a busy person to do!"

— **Bob Brazelton,**
Former Downey mayor

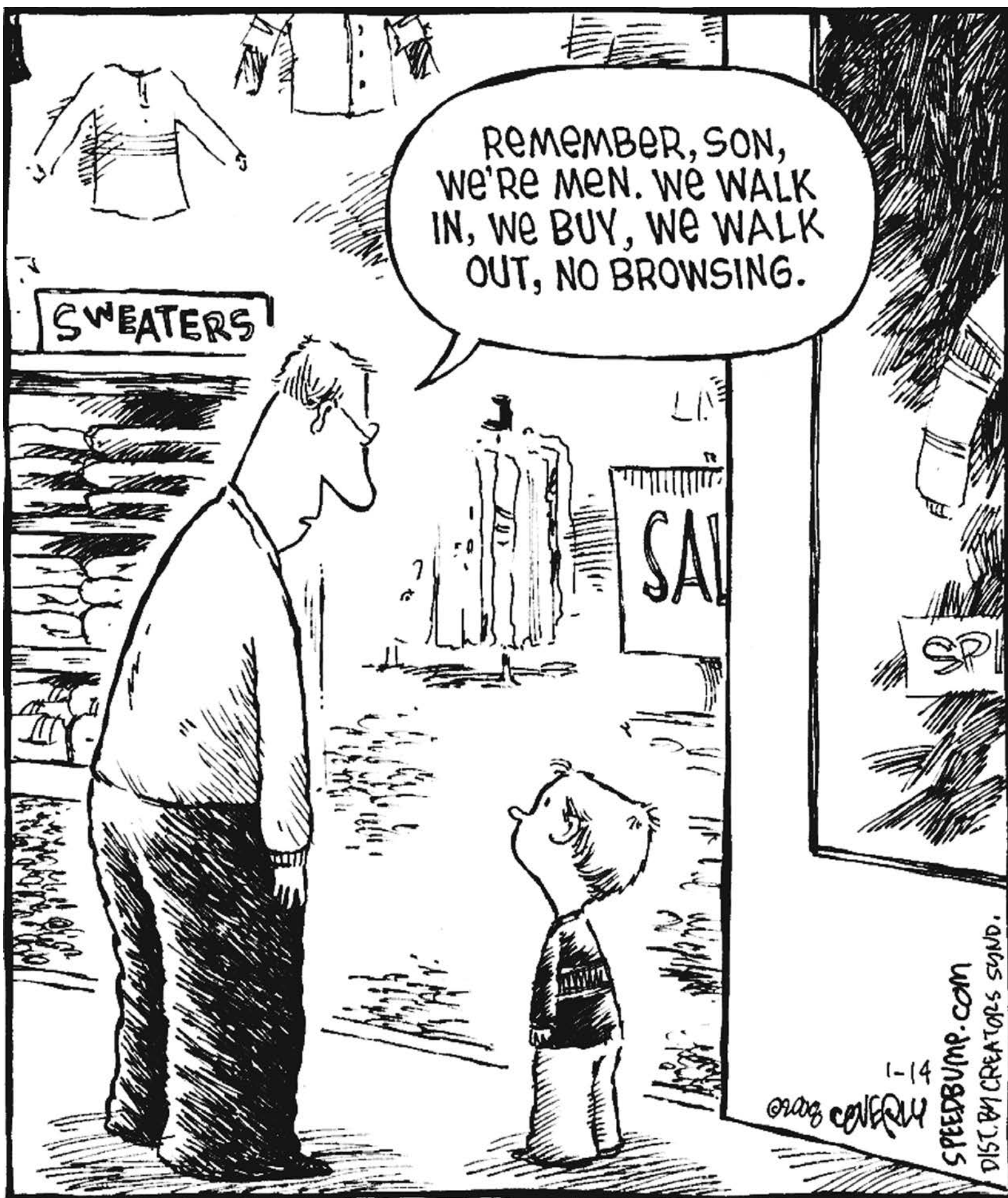
Dear Editor:

It is with profound disappointment that over the years I have been noticing the deterioration in appearance and condition of businesses along the Firestone and Florence corridors. It would seem to me that the city council would want to spend their time exploring ways to improve our city rather than expending their time and our money foolishly attempting to build their own empires.

If they would be willing to actually look, they would see Johnie's Broiler still looking like a bomb zone, empty boarded-up buildings between Paramount Boulevard and Downey Avenue, and buildings painted like you would find in South Central L.A., especially at Paramount and Florence and Firestone and Pangborn, among others.

Our city, that I have been proud to live in for the past 40-plus years, is beginning to look like a ghetto. It looks to me as if those recently elected officials to our city council are definitely riding the carousel of non-committed leaders.

— **Linda Wieting,**
Downey



Letters to the Editor:

Dear Editor:

I wonder if the people that are considering voting for ending term limits really realize the ramifications of their actions.

Do we really want a King Cartozian, Emperor for Life Guerra, or Caesar Trejo? Think of Chicago and the Daly regime and how it affected that city. Not having term limits only spawns corruption and power mongering. I, for one, will vote no on Measure G.

— **Jim Richards,**
Downey

Dear Editor:

Here's the deal, when the current Downey city council members were elected, each knew they would serve only two terms and then move on. Now some of the members of the city council want to change the rules in midstream as it effects them directly now.

The proposed change, removing term limits, for election to office should only effect those wishing to run in the future. According to the February 5 ballot provision, a current member of the Downey City Council can serve out two terms, wait two years and run for election.

However, let's look at the math involved. If current members of the Downey City Council serve out their terms, they will actually have to wait four years if they seek office in same district from which they were first elected. If a district which is up for election two years after the council member leaves office, he or she could only run for office by establishing legal residence in the "new" district.

The city-wide 5th District, interestingly, could involve a situation in which at least two members serving out their terms would run for office against each other. Just an opinion.

— **Donn C. Irving,**
Downey

Dear Editor:

Measure G could have been placed on the general election ballot in November for an approximate cost of \$10,000 instead of the estimated \$85,000 the citizens of Downey have to pay. Measure G was put on the ballot with a 3-2 vote of the council. This was a self-serving decision because two of the three voting would have been termed out.

Mario Guerra stated that term limits have stopped likely candidates from running because he says they wait until they think they have a chance to win. If anyone runs only when he/she think they can win, then we don't need this kind of candidate who is afraid of competition or losing. Mr. Guerra has stated that the first year in office is like a learning period for a new council person. Give me a break! Anyone seeking a seat on the council should at least have knowledge of how city government is run. This is not an on-the-job training position.

With term limits, and without career politicians, Downey has done quite well. The NASA property was purchased (and we won awards for the redevelopment); the historic McDonald's was saved; we got a new skate park; we revitalized Downtown Downey; and so much more, and currently we are in excellent financial condition, and all this with term limits.

Here are some of the former mayors we have to thank for the Downey Landing going all the way back to Diane Boggs, Joyce Lawrence and Barbara Riley. The dream started way back, and these three ladies serving on the council together knew how to get the job done (without all the bickering and grandstanding we now have). Yes, other council members saw it to the end, and we thank you for a job well done. But all this was done with term limits.

I urge you to do what is in the best interest of our community, and Measure G is not. I urge the citizens to vote no on Measure G.

— **Maria Larkin,**
Downey

A great generation, indeed

Dear Editor:

Thanks to the Downey City Library for choosing "The Greatest Generation" as its flagship title. It's a great book. For this writer action began October 1929 with the crash of the stock market. After that it was all downhill for us.

With the Great Depression underway, food became scarce, millions of us were homeless - we couldn't make the mortgage payments. It was like a gigantic earthquake that cracked across America. The Crash was unimaginable and unimaginable. With each passing year it became worse, banks closed their doors and we were never able to access what little money we had.

My father and mother sold or gave away all our possessions as they had decided to leave Chicago and head for the warmer climate of California. We packed the car, loaded the top, and tied things along the sides then headed west on historic Highway 66. It was 2,400 miles of narrow two lanes with many miles of rough and sometimes unpaved stretches. Each night thousands of us camped out; cooking our meals over an open fire then at dawn we headed west. It has been estimated millions of us migrated west in this fashion.

After 10 years of the Great Depression, conditions began to improve then we had over a year of peace and tranquility until Dec. 7, 1941 when Japan launched a surprise attack against us at Pearl Harbor. World War II began and it lasted over four years with millions of us serving in uniform. Now, 60 years later, we WWII veterans are passing away at the alarming rate of over 1,000 per day.

The New York Times Book Review described the book as "full of wonderful, wrenching tales of a generation of heroes." After all we went through, perhaps that is why Tom Brokaw titled it "The Greatest Generation."

— **Bryon Dillon,**
Downey

IHOP response

Dear Editor:

In response to Hugh Hoskins' comment on the IHOP sign ("No Sign of Consistent Regulations," 1/11/08), the sign is at the back of the IHOP building, which, I assume, meets the Downey sign code. Approximately 500 feet away are two very large advertisement signs on the railroad right of way that overwhelm the IHOP sign, which, I also assume, that the city of Downey has no jurisdiction over.

— **Frank Myers,**
Downey

Dear Editor:

Mr. Hoskins, you should know by now our city council does as it darn well pleases. On Florence Avenue, just north of Lakewood, Rina Villeda has had her real estate ad on top of the building for well over a year. Since she brings in money, she gets left alone I guess.

Didn't the city council put a hold on new McMansion construction permits early last year? Did that happen or did I just dream it?

You can bet I will vote against changing the term limits. I want them out as soon as possible.

— **Doris Hannon,**
Downey

The Downey Patriot

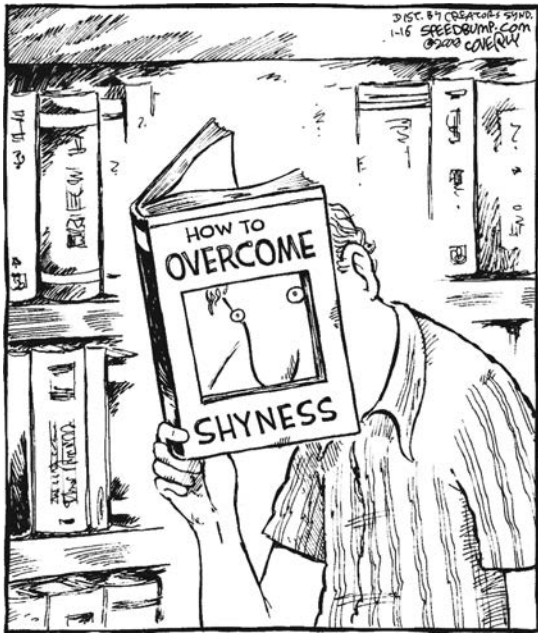


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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For January

Mon. Jan. 21: Peter Small impersonates Harry S. Truman, Downey Adult School, 3 p.m.
Tues. Jan. 22: "Downey Folk Music Jam." Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, 6:30 p.m.
Wed. Jan. 23: NARFE discusses "Talking to Your Doctor." Furman Park, Noon

City Meetings

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

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

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

Tuesdays

9 a.m.: Downey Bocce Club, at Apollo Park, for information call Vince Zoida at (714) 761-4439.
9:30 a.m.: Downey Seniors Club, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.
9:30 a.m.: Adventure with the Bible, at the First Baptist Church call 928-4153.
12 p.m.: Rotary Club, at Rio Hondo, for information call Darren Dunaway at 806-5400.
12 p.m.: Exchange Club of Downey, at Sizzler, for information call Don Hollister at 927-5871.
6:00 p.m.: Toastmasters Club 587, at First Baptist Church, for info call 862-2658.
7 p.m.: Boy Scout Troop 2, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
7 p.m.: Boy Scout Troop 441, at Apollo Park Activities Room, for information call 923-3659.
7:30 p.m.: Southland Harmony Chorus of Sweet Adelines, at Downey's Woman's Club, for information call 947-6802.
2nd and 4th Tues., 7:30 a.m.: Chamber "Rise&Shine" Networkers, at Nordic Fox, for info. call (562) 923-2191.
2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: Sertoma Club, at Bakers Square, for information call (562) 927-6438.
2nd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Fly Fishers, at Apollo Park, for information call 943-3904.
3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: Writer's Workshop West, at at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106.
Last Tues., 11:00 a.m.: Los Companeros Service Club, at Los Amigos Country Club, for info call 863-1549.

Wednesdays

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

Thursdays

7:30 a.m.: Soroptimist Int'l of Downey, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.
7:30 a.m.: Connections Networking, at Nordic Fox 10924 Paramount, for information call 869-1414.
12 p.m.: Kiwanis Club of Downey, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
12 p.m.: Downey Christian Businessmen's Committee, for information call 928-4153.
12 p.m.: Optimist Club of Downey, at Sambi's, for information call Steve Allen at 622-7655.
12:30 p.m.: Take off Pounds Sensibly, at First Christian Church, call (800) 932-8677.
6:30 p.m.: Downey United Masonic Lodge # 220, 8244 3rd St., Call 862-4176.
7 p.m.: Troop 351, Boy Scouts of America, at First Baptist Church, for information call 776-3388.
4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: Downey Historical Society programs, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.
2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.

Fridays

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

On This Day...

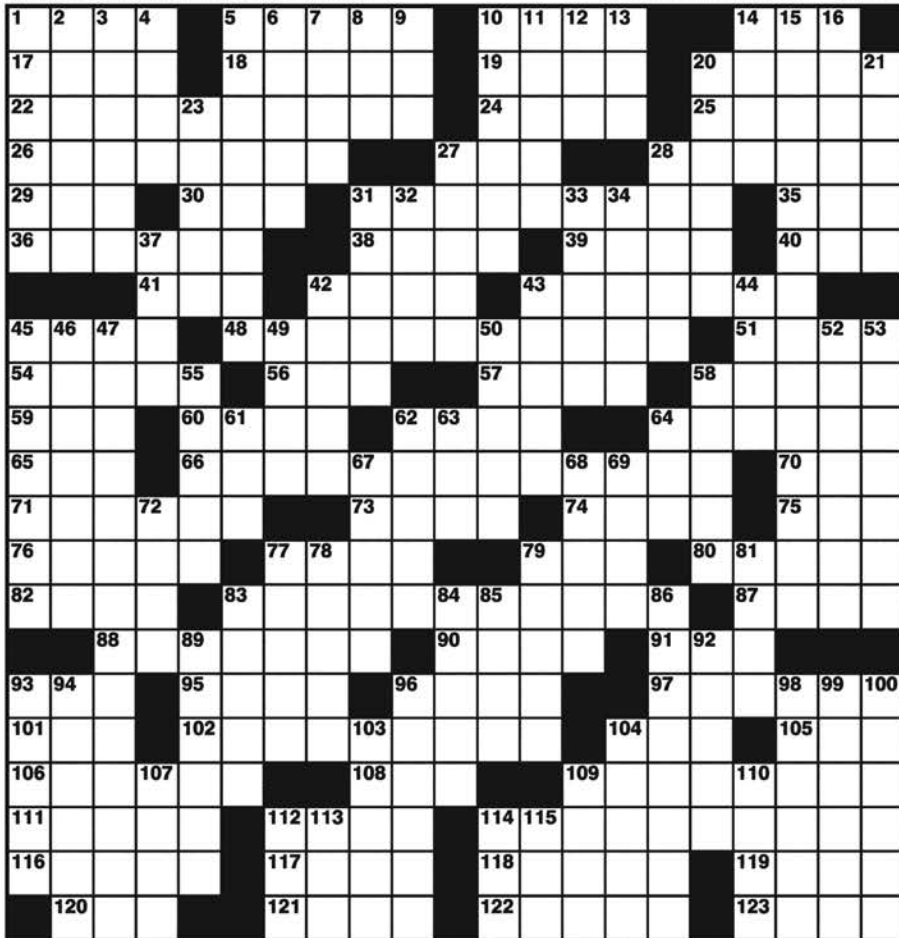
Jan. 18, 1778: Captain James Cook becomes the first European to discover the Hawaiian Islands. He named them the "Sandwich Islands."
1912: Explorer Robert Falcon Scott arrives at the South Pole only to find that Roald Amundsen had beaten him to it.
1969: United Airlines Flight 266 crashes into the Santa Monica Bay, killing all 38 on board.
1990: Washington, D.C. mayor Marion Barry is arrested for drug possession in an FBI sting.
1993: The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday is observed in all 50 states for the first time ever.
1995: Cave paintings estimated at being over 17,000 years old are discovered in southern France.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

NAME THAT TON: **Celebrity voice work**
by Fred Piscop

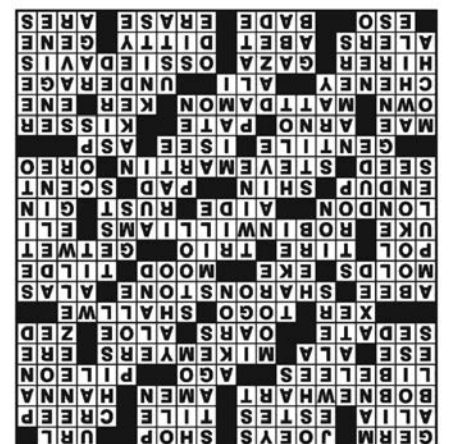
CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2008 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 1/13/08



- ACROSS**
- 1 Microbe
 - 5 Kangaroo kids
 - 10 Hit the mall
 - 14 WWW address
 - 17 Inter (among others)
 - 18 Park, CO
 - 19 Mah-jongg piece
 - 20 Move furtively
 - 22 Bernard the mouse in *The Rescuers*
 - 24 "You said it!"
 - 25 Barbara's cartoon colleague
 - 26 Some civil defendants
 - 27 Gone by
 - 28 Add to the heap
 - 29 Language suffix
 - 30 Taking after
 - 31 Title character in *Shrek*
 - 35 Bard's palindrome
 - 36 Unruffled
 - 38 Rowing gear
 - 39 Natural soother
 - 40 Brit's alphabet ender
 - 41 Gen-
 - 42 How some pizza is ordered
 - 43 "Let's!" preceder
 - 45 Busy as
 - 48 Princess Bala in *Antz*
 - 51 Regretful word
 - 54 Chocolatiers' devices
 - 56 Supplement, with "out"
 - 57 Frame of mind
 - 58 Mark in "piñata"
 - 59 DC figure
 - 60 Lose energy
 - 62 Threesome
 - 64 Become drenched
 - 65 Hawaiian strings
 - 66 The genie in *Aladdin*
 - 70 Gridder Manning
 - 71 *White Fang* author
 - 73 White House worker
 - 74 Sign of disuse
 - 75 Card-table shout
 - 76 Become, at last
 - 77 Kicker's target
 - 79 Sketch-artist's need
 - 80 Potpourri quality
 - 82 Kernel
 - 83 Hotep in *The Prince of Egypt*
 - 87 Sandwich snack
 - 88 Not Mormon, to Mormons
 - 90 Fortune-teller phrase
 - 91 Venomous snake
 - 93 Ginnie
 - 95 Florence's river
 - 96 Canapé spread
 - 97 Mouth, so to speak
 - 101 Have in hand
 - 102 Title character in *Spirit: Stallion of the Cimarron*
 - 104 Plop or flop starter
 - 105 Chemical suffix
 - 106 Gore successor
 - 108 Boxer Laila
 - 109 Deficiency
 - 111 Offer tenderer
 - 112 Mideast metropolis
 - 114 Yar the lemur in *Dinosaur*
 - 116 Red Sox and White Sox
 - 117 Help to do wrong
 - 118 Simple tune
 - 119 Inheritance unit
 - 120 That: Sp.
 - 121 Commanded
 - 122 Rub out
 - 123 Olympus inhabitant
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- 1 Roof features
 - 2 Kay Thompson character
 - 3 Made fun of
 - 4 Leonine locks
 - 5 Diamond judges
 - 6 Actor Milo
 - 7 Sked stats.
 - 8 "So's old man!"
 - 9 Retired speedster
 - 10 Oater vehicles
 - 11 Athlete's on-air greeting
 - 12 Flamenco cry
 - 13 Endorser's need
 - 14 Caspian Sea feeder
 - 15 Vanessa the florist in *Bee Movie*
 - 16 "The Raven" maiden
 - 20 Sculptor's tool
 - 21 Sectioned, as windows
 - 23 Lift up
 - 27 City south of Cleveland
 - 28 Worker, informally
 - 31 *Roger and Me* director
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 - 33 Google rival
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 - 37 Hewn
 - 42 Sulu portrayer
 - 43 Pug's seat
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 - 45 Vaccine vials
 - 46 Trilogist starter
 - 47 Dory the fish in *Finding Nemo*
 - 49 Parsley, for one
 - 50 Beam
 - 52 Barbershop-quartet song subject
 - 53 Embedded
 - 55 Razor sharpener
 - 58 Checks out
 - 61 Charged particle
 - 62 Package surrounder
 - 63 Free (of)
 - 64 NHL execs
 - 67 Born yesterday
 - 68 Really steamed
 - 69 BMW alternative
 - 72 Ranch visitor
 - 77 Be parsimonious
 - 78 Spartan serf
 - 79 Get gussied up
 - 81 Rights readers
 - 83 Alley cat, perhaps
 - 84 Biscayne Bay city
 - 85 Regarding
 - 86 Unaided sight
 - 89 Finger pointers
 - 92 Fathered
 - 93 Coffeehouse order
 - 94 For some time
 - 96 Sense of taste
 - 98 Mets Hall of Famer
 - 99 Firefighter's vehicle
 - 100 Hershey brand
 - 103 In a fog
 - 104 Some sweaters
 - 107 Sleuth Wolfe
 - 109 Court org.
 - 110 Sitarist's tune
 - 112 Shoot the breeze
 - 113 Court org.
 - 114 Horatian work
 - 115 Round Table title

You can contact puzzle editor Stanley Newman at his e-mail address: StanXwords@aol.com. Or write him at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, Please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you'd like a reply.

Laila Ali (108 Across), daughter of Muhammad Ali, is world super-middleweight champion and undefeated through her first 24 professional fights. Tom Seaver (98 Down) is the only New York Met player to have his uniform number retired by the team. H.B. Reese (100 Down), a former shipping foreman for Hershey's, created REESE'S Peanut Butter Cups in the late 1920s.



Bank employee finally decides to call it quits

DOWNEY – Delores Risso of Downey has retired after working over 53 years for Bank of America.



Delores Risso

Risso's career with Bank of America began in January of 1952 as a merchant teller in San Francisco. She then moved to Southern California, being transferred to the South Gate branch, where she continued as a merchant teller. She was later relocated to the personnel department for the bank. Risso was also chairman of the Woman Committee, and held other various administrative positions, including working in World Banking, until her retirement in 1985.

Risso remained retired for three years, and after traveling, decided to return to Bank of America, getting re-hired at the Firestone/Woodruff branch. She remained at the Downey branch from April of 1988, to December of 2007.

Finally, at the age of 82, Risso felt it was time to retire once again.

Author Gary Soto appearing in Downey

DOWNEY – Award-winning author and poet Gary Soto will speak and sign books on Feb. 5 at the Downey Theatre, a free event sponsored by the Downey City Library.



Gary Soto

Soto is the author of 32 books, including novels, poetry, short stories, children's books, plays and essays.

Born in Fresno and raised in the San Joaquin Valley, Soto's father was killed when Gary was 5 years old and his mother struggled to raise three children despite the poverty of their Mexican-American childhood. Working to earn money to support his family, Soto kept his focus on education, eventually earning a B.A. degree in English from California State University, Fresno and a Master's in Fine Arts from the University of California, Irvine.

Soto says he was inspired to write to express himself and to give the world his perspective on growing up in a Chicano community.

"Gary Soto writes something for everyone," said library Literacy Coordinator Claudia Dailey. "Don't miss this chance to meet Gary and hear his inspiring story."

Copies of Soto's books will be available for purchase and signing at the event, which runs from 7 to 8 p.m. For information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 32, or visit the library at 1121 Brookshire Ave.

Historical impressionist at OASIS

DOWNEY – Peter Small, a historical impressionist, will be presenting, "Harry S. Truman: 'The Buck Stops Here,'" at this Monday's OASIS program at Downey Adult School.

"Truman" will share how he met the challenges of presidency, from dropping the atomic bomb, to the dismissal of General MacArthur.

Enrollment starts at 3 p.m.; the program will begin at 3:45.

An optional full-course dinner, available for \$3.50, will be served following the show. Dinner tickets may be purchased at the time of enrollment.

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

Chamber celebrates 105th anniversary

DOWNEY – The Downey Chamber of Commerce will be celebrating their 105th anniversary with an anniversary luncheon on Jan. 25 at the Embassy Suites at 11:45 a.m.

Cost to attend the luncheon is \$25 per person. Paid reservations are due Jan. 22. Checks can be made payable and mailed to Downey Chamber of Commerce, 11131 Brookshire Ave., Downey, CA, 90241. Visa or MasterCard payments are accepted and can be made by calling the Chamber. To contact the Chamber, call (562) 923-2191.

GALVAN

Continued from page 1

And, with a relative loosening of the city's pursestrings because of an improved fiscal picture, Galvan can look forward to a more conducive rather than a tepid response when it comes to budget considerations, in the pursuit of his formulated goals. This positions him better in making a really significant impact in Downey's revived efforts at creating a more creative, productive, and safer, city.

After getting an A.A. degree in philosophy from Cypress Junior College (1981) and a bachelor's in philosophy and religious studies (Buddhism, Hinduism, etc.) from CSU-Fullerton (1985), he obtained his master's in public administration from CSU-Long Beach (1996).

He credits his dad for his intellectual (and practical) bent. He says his dad, who rose from mechanic to department head at Caltrans, always had books on his desk, and he was always reading and studying, always taking classes in everything—mathematics, history, accounting, etc. His mom, he says, provided the moral compass: it was she who would say reminders like, "Behave, be a good person, don't get in trouble now," etc. His grandparents came from France and Ireland.

Out of pure curiosity, Galvan took a trip to Central and South America once "to see what was going on." He says he saw Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega, at the height of the Iran-Contra episode, in full view behind the wheel of his car as he drove down a Managua downtown street. Galvan, who has six siblings (one a minister, another a ConEd supervisor, a third a teacher, etc.), deems himself a pragmatic, Christian existentialist, and fancies the works of the linguist, Naom Chomsky, as he keeps abreast of current events. Meanwhile his health administrator wife, Stella, has altruistic plans of her own—she's in the midst of organizing a medical team and establishing a facility in the Peruvian Amazon to help alleviate the natives' plight.

The couple has two children: Marina, 15, and Marcus, 11.

Before formally identifying a particular socio-geographic tract as a neighborhood preservation area candidate, Galvan says it has to pass a litmus test: is the perceived problem multi-faceted; deeply entrenched, pervasive? If after a preliminary study and observation it soon becomes obvious that the so-called problems are the result of the destructive behavior of only one or two individuals rather than arising from any or all of the measures listed above, the candidate is dropped from the list.

Working within the Police Department, the job's demands require Galvan to coordinate closely, as previously mentioned, with various departments and County services. He works, often side by side, with Sgt. Cooper. As pointed out, this arrangement poses no particular problems, as he's been there, done that—a definite bonus for the city.

A telltale sign of a Downey surge to move ahead in several key areas is the revival of the city's Neighborhood Watch program that was in hiatus for a decade. It's under the supervision of the Asst. to the City Manager, Scott Pomrehn. Its function: "to take greater control of one's neighborhood, with the end in view of a reduction in crime." Newly-hired Public Information Officer Juddy Cenicerros says a communication campaign has been initiated, inviting neighborhood groups, even with as few as 5-6 households, to form neighborhood watches. A "village meeting" is scheduled perhaps as early as next month. Although in its initial stages, the program has drawn the unqualified blessing and support of, among others, Police Chief Roy Campos. And well it should.

With these and other dynamic programs in place, the city gives the impression that all its cylinders are humming. As the city embarks on its next 50 years, the future indeed looks bright—and unlimited.



Former first lady of California Sharon Davis spoke to Soroptimist International of Downey Thursday morning. Davis, left, is pictured with Downey Soroptimist President Dorothy Pemberton.

Former first lady exudes passion for those in need

BY BROOKE KARL, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Former first lady of California Sharon Davis spoke at yesterday's Soroptimist International of Downey meeting, sharing her involvement with the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and its impact throughout the world.

During husband Gray Davis' office as California governor, Davis focused much of her attention towards issues affecting children and their health, safety, and overall well-being. She became active in establishing and promoting various programs, as well as raising over \$750,000 in library grants and donating over 35,000 book to school libraries throughout the state of California.

She also worked on national legislation to promote and support mentoring for fostering youth, and assembled the first California Child Nutrition Task Force to reduce child hunger, amongst many other accomplishments.

Although she says she's retired, because "it sounds better than 'kept woman,'" Davis said she is working harder than ever in aiding UNICEF in their mission to provide lifesaving nutrition, early childhood health care, clean water, education, protection, and emergency response, to countries around the world.

"I believe when you help children, you are helping our country, or whichever country you are helping the children in," said Davis.

UNICEF has been the world's leading international children's organization for more than 60 years, assembled by the United Nations following World War II. Currently, UNICEF operates in over 150 countries – including Iraq – working constantly to protect children's rights, meeting their basic needs and expanding their opportunities while ensuring protection for the most disadvantaged children.

One of UNICEF's main focuses is on women and children, promoting the equal rights of women and girls and supporting their full participation in the political, social, and economic development of their communities.

"In many countries, girls are prohibited from attending school," said Davis. "In fact, if they see a girl in school, they burn it down and punish her parents, which is why many girls are having to be educated in secret."

When asked what motivated her to be involved with UNICEF, Davis replied, "Doing things for other people was always an obligation instilled within my home. My parents always gave back to our community and church, so my passion to make a difference is homegrown.

"And in the end, we all sleep a little better when we know we've lifted the burden for someone else."

For more information on UNICEF, visit www.unicef.org.

Symphony prepares for much-anticipated concert

■ Downey Symphony presenting first concert of 2008 on Feb. 5, with new conductor Sharon Lavery.

DOWNEY – A high point in the year-long celebration of the Downey Symphony's 50th anniversary is coming soon, when Sharon Lavery presents her first concert on the podium as the orchestra's new Music Director.

The date is Saturday evening, Feb. 2, in the Civic Theatre, and Lavery has chosen an exceptional program, which she titles "Dancing with the Masters." It opens with Bartok's Romanian Folk Dances, followed by Haydn's C Major Cello Concerto with soloist Alexander Suleiman, and concludes with Beethoven's dazzling Symphony No. 7.

The search for a permanent conductor was meticulous and lengthy, spanning 16 months, following the sudden death of our symphony's long-time director, Thomas Osborn. From an initial field of 95 applicants, the search committee pared prospective candidates to 17, then to nine, then to four, then to one.

When, at last, the appointment was announced in the Patriot's issue of December 7, the front page banner headline read, "Welcome Home, Ms. Lavery." Those words expressed the delight and relief of everyone in the community who had participated in the selection process: orchestra personnel, Symphonic Society, Symphony Guild, and members of the audience. "Welcome Home" also acknowledged the feeling of family and camaraderie long held among Downey Symphony Orchestra members and their listeners.

Lavery will give a discussion of the music to be performed at 7:15 p.m., preceding the 8:00 concert, and following the program, audience and instrumentalists are invited to an informal reception welcoming Sharon Lavery to the family.

Tickets to this concert are \$25 and \$20, students \$10. They may be purchased by phoning the symphony office, (562) 403-2944, or you can stop by the theater box office on Wednesday, Jan. 30, between noon and 4 p.m., or from 6:30 the night of the concert. Downey's Civic Theatre is located at 8435 Firestone Blvd., with ample free parking.

Church discussing financial planning

DOWNEY – The community is invited to attend a course on financial planning on Tuesday evenings from March 4 to May 6 at Downey First Christian Church from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

The course objective is to offer a general understanding of some important financial concepts, discuss issues and encourage people to pursue their own opportunities.

The class will highlight and discuss many of the common financial questions that many people, at some point, must answer. Topics to be discussed include, elements of a family financial plan; financial properties and some bumps to avoid; real estate for home and investments; insurance and how you know what you need; taxation on various types of income; retirement income – social security, IRAs, and more; market returns and what you can count on; asset allocation, diversification and re-balancing; estate planning issues; and New York stock market investment options.

Cost of the class is \$20 to cover materials. Childcare can be arranged if requested.

Downey First Christian Church is located at 10909 New St. in Downey. For information, call (562) 862-2438.

Adult school offers Vista, Office courses

DOWNEY – The Downey Adult School Career and Education Center invites the community to attend courses introducing Windows Vista and Microsoft Office 2007.

The new mini-series is designed for students to get more information in less time than a traditional semester by breaking up one lesson into eight specific topics:

- Introduction to Windows Vista (Jan. 22)
 - What's Different Between Windows XP & Vista and MS Office 2003 & 2007 (Jan. 29)
 - Creating Documents that Get Attention (Feb. 5 & 12)
 - Creating Tables Using Word 2007 (Feb. 19 & 26)
 - Tools You Need to Build User Friendly Forms (March 4)
 - Creative Mail Merge Using Word 2007 (March 11 & 18)
 - Explore Styles & Templates (April 1 & 8)
 - Organize Reports and Manuals with Outline View (April 15 & 22)
- Classes are held on Tuesdays from 6 to 9:15 p.m. Cost is \$45 per class, or \$195 for all eight.

For more information, call (562) 940-6200, or visit www.das.edu.

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New & noteworthy titles at the Downey City Library

Fiction

• **"Becky: the Life and Loves of Becky Thatcher"** by Lenore Hart. In this historical novel, Hart captures the fiery spirit and passionate journey of Becky Thatcher and Tom Sawyer.

• **"The Executor: a Comedy of Letters"** by Michael Kruger. After the sudden death of a famous writer, his best friend travels to Turin to settle the estate, only to find a mountain of manuscripts, unusual house pets and the trio of women he left behind.

• **"Honor Thyself"** by Danielle Steel. In Paris, a world-renowned actress becomes the victim of a terrible explosion and begins a journey of survival and self-discovery.

• **"The Scribe"** by Francine Rivers. The fifth book in the "Sons of Encouragement" series, this historical fiction presents the life of Silas, the man who recorded many of the New Testament scriptures.

• **"The Skeleton Man"** by Jim Kelly. The isolated English hamlet of Jude's Ferry has never recorded a single crime - until its spotless reputation is literally blown apart.

Non-Fiction

• **"Becoming Jane Austen: a Life"** by Jon Spence. The basis for a recent motion picture, this biography shows how the people who influenced Austen's life were reflected in her books.

• **"The Brain Diet: the Connection Between Nutrition, Mental Health and Intelligence"** by Alan C. Logan. The author shows how an unbalanced diet can negatively impact your family's health and success.

• **"Don't Bet Against Me: Beating the Odds Against Breast Cancer and in Life"** by Deanna Favre. Noe cancer free, the wife of a Green Bay Packers quarterback shares her struggles and the role that faith plays in her life.

• **"The Real All Americans: the Team that Changed a Game, a People, a Nation"** by Sally Jenkins. An inspirational book of sports history about a Native American football team that ruled the college gridiron in 1912.

• **"A Year with the Queen"** by Robert Hardman. What is life really like in the 650 rooms behind the gates of Buckingham Palace? Based on an upcoming television series, this lavishly illustrated book takes you into the world of Elizabeth II.

Visit the library at 11121 Brookshire Avenue, log on to www.downeylibrary.org or call (562) 904-7360 ext. 3 to check out or reserve these new titles.

Children's author a hit with students

BY BROOKE KARLI,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY - Hundreds of middle-school students crammed into the West Middle School library throughout the day last Friday in celebration of the school's first Author Day, featuring L. Rifkin, author of "The Nine Lives of Romeo Crumb."

The series, geared towards students in grades fourth through seventh, chronicles the nine lives of Romeo Crumb, a stray cat who finds himself in the midst of two completely different worlds: that of being a domestic pet, and that of being an alley cat. The domestic cats, The Sticks, teach Romeo how to defend himself against The Alleys, a gang of vicious street cats. Each book details each life of Romeo Crumb, with book nine ending the series, and the life of the famed feline.

When asked what inspired her to write such a series, Rifkin answered, "While I was teaching a fifth grade class, I noticed my students were interested in the secret communication between animals. I have four cats myself, and thought it would be a good idea to write about the nine lives of one particular cat."

Her students thought it was a great idea too. Upon completion of book one, Rifkin read the story to her class, who loved it so much, they began skipping recess to hear more. Since then, Rifkin has introduced Romeo to the literary world and completed four books, with book five near completion.

Julia Desalernos, West Middle School librarian, met Rifkin and husband, Kurt Hartman - who is also the series' illustrator - at the California School Library Association con-



West Middle School hosted their first Author Day last Friday, welcoming Kurt Hartman (left), illustrator, and Lauren Rifkin, author, of "The Nine Lives of Romeo Crumb."

vention last year. Desalernos knew right away that she wanted the couple to visit the school, beginning to brainstorm ways of raising the funds to do so.

Desalernos decided to host a Christmas boutique, where students could purchase gifts for friends and family for no more than \$5. The boutique was successful in that it raised the funds needed to get Rifkin and Hartman to visit.

The all-day event was kicked-off with performances by some of the school's guitar club students, who rocked in front of an excited audience. Throughout the day, English classes filtered into the library, attentively listening to what the author and illustrator had to say. Many students asked questions, wanting to know the

inspiration behind the series, as well as any other works completed by Rifkin.

Rifkin explained that although she has written numerous stories and writes on average two hours a day, being an author is not her only job. She is a part-time kindergarten teacher, while Hartman is a full-time illustrator. The couple also has two children, which is a job within itself, she said.

She also went on to explain that a book typically takes six weeks to finish and that editing takes longer than the actual writing. "When I start a book, I write out an outline, just as I did when I was in seventh grade," said Rifkin, a Los Angeles resident. "I never thought growing up that I

would see a book of mine in a bookstore. But because of the teachers I've had and the things I've experienced in life, I figured out that if others can do it, so can I."

After Rifkin talked about the series and Hartman shared illustrations, they made themselves available for pictures and autographs. The students were able to purchase books for \$5 (paperback) and \$10 (hardcover), both before and during the event.

The duo was also treated to a luncheon, where West staff members could enjoy lunch, as well as conversation, with Rifkin and Hartman.

To purchase "The Nine Lives of Romeo Crumb," or for additional information, visit www.romeocrumb.com.

DANCE

Continued from page 1

and we want to provide a fun and social activity that is offered to everyone."

A variety of students have taken classes at B's Dance Place, including students with disabilities and special needs; Miss Downey, Miss Teen Downey and Mr. Downey contestants; and those that are currently teaching classes at B's.

"It's rewarding to see these kids come and go and grow up to do great things," said Lands. "Some of them have become superintendents, principals, and teachers, including dance teachers and choreographers, and some have worked for the Lakers and Clippers organizations, as well as Disneyland."

The studio offers year-long classes in tap, jazz, ballet, hip-hop, creative, lyrical and combination dance. Students are continually evaluated by their instructors and advanced to the next level with the approval of Lands.

Right now, every student is working towards their annual recital, which this year will be taking place July 12 at the Downey Theatre.

Some of the students - those chosen to participate in performing groups - will be competing in a dance competition next month in Long Beach.

Competing is familiar to Lands, as some of her students, the "Too Cute for You" dance team, were the 1992 Star Search Junior Dance Champions. The team traveled throughout the country and performed at half-time shows for the NBA.

Monthly tuition to dance at B's ranges from \$48 to \$185, depending on how many classes a student takes each week. The studio also sells B's Dance Wear, which includes leotards, tights, shoes, dance bags, and more.

For more information on B's Dance Place, call (562) 803-3520, or visit www.bdanceplace.com.



Belinda Lands, founder and director of B's Dance Place, celebrated the studio's one-year anniversary since re-opening, with staff, parents and students. Below, a group of ballerinas wait for class to begin. Photos courtesy B's Dance Place



School Employees! Join OCTFCU for a Kickoff Celebration

And Enter to win a 42" LCD HDTV

Orange County Teachers Federal Credit Union, the nation's largest educational credit union, is now open in Downey, and we're inviting school employees to help us kick off our week-long grand opening.

Game plan includes:

- **Special ribbon-cutting ceremony and tailgate lunch**
Monday, Jan 28, 12 - 2 p.m.
- **Valuable Grand Opening Sweepstakes* prizes:**
- Grand prize: 42" LCD HDTV
- **Music, free refreshments and much more!**

OCTFCU's Downey location is a full-service branch offering an on-site ATM, saving accounts, investments⁽¹⁾, retirement accounts, new Memberships, loans (consumer, auto, mortgage) and more. For more information on Membership** visit www.octfcu.org or call 800/462-8328.



This credit union is federally insured by the National Credit Union Administration.

Mark Your Calendar!

Downey Grand Opening Celebration
9125 Imperial Highway, Ste. A
Jan 28 - Feb 1 ■ 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

*Downey Grand Opening Sweepstakes offered Jan 28 - Feb 1, 2008. Must be a Member to participate. NO PURCHASE NECESSARY. Entries and official rules available at the branch.

** Subject to eligibility requirements. A \$15 one-time Family Membership Fee may apply.

¹ Representatives are registered, securities are sold, and investment advisory services offered through CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. (CBSI), member FINRA/SIPC, a registered broker/dealer and investment advisor, 2000 Heritage Way, Waverly, Iowa 50677, toll-free (866) 512-6109. Nondeposit investment and insurance products are not federally insured, involve investment risk, may lose value and are not obligations of or guaranteed by OCTFCU. CBSI is under contract with OCTFCU through the financial services program to make securities available to Members.

Children's choir performing here

DOWNEY – As part of its 2007-08 U.S. tour, Children of the World, a choir comprised of orphaned and disadvantaged children from several different countries, will perform at Downey First Christian Church on Sunday at 7 p.m.

The program will feature several songs, in both English and native dialects, as well as personal testimonies from the children. The choir has performed in such venues as the Crystal Cathedral, Disney World and the Brooklyn Tabernacle.

Children of the World also helps spread awareness of the AIDS pandemic in Africa. A special video presentation will take viewers into the heart of the crisis and show how to help.

The concert is free and open to the community.

Temple hosts 'An Evening of Song'

DOWNEY – Temple Ner Tamid of Downey will be hosting "An Evening of Song" tomorrow at 7 p.m.

The evening will feature ritual, stage and hit parade music, starring Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill, with special guests Hazzan Jay Harwitt and Soprano Leah Ellias.

General admission is \$18 and reserved seats are \$36.

Temple Ner Tamid is located at 10629 Lakewood Blvd. in Downey.

For information, call (562) 861-9276.

Plays pokes fun at impending parenthood

LONG BEACH – Tickets are now on sale for the Long Beach Playhouse's "Little Footsteps," a comedic "examination of the promises – and perils – of impending parenthood."

Gregory Cohen directs the production that features Cort Huckabone, Erinn Kock, Diana Mann and Andrew Vonderschmitt.

"Little Footsteps" will be presented Jan. 25 – March 1 at the Long Beach Playhouse Studio Theatre, 5021 E. Anaheim St. in Long Beach. Ticket information is available by calling (562) 494-1014.



Patients from Shriners Hospitals for Children, and volunteers from the Art of Elysium, surround the recently painted rolling canvas in front of the hospital.

Shriners patients paint a rolling canvas

CONTRIBUTED BY SHRINERS HOSPITALS FOR CHILDREN

LOS ANGELES – Shriners Hospitals for Children, Los Angeles has partnered with the Art of Elysium, an organization that encourages actors, artists and musicians to dedicate their time and talent to children who are battling serious medical conditions, to provide a rare treat for patients of the hospital.

In honor of their 10-year anniversary, the Art of Elysium arranged for Ford Motor Company to donate a new Ford Escape Hybrid to the organization. The vehicle was then brought to the hospital where patients and celebrity volunteers transformed it into a rolling canvas by using brightly colored paints and markers. The newly painted Escape is scheduled to be auctioned at the upcoming Art of Elysium 10th anniversary event on Jan. 12 in Los Angeles.

Helping the Shriners Hospitals patients with the artwork were celebrities Jason Bateman, Alicia Witt, Amy Smart and Anthony Kiedis from the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

Allison Beck, national program director for the Art of Elysium said, "The goal of our work with Shriners Hospitals is to inspire the children creatively and give them a break from the day-to-day reality of being in a hospital receiving medical treatment. This has been a fantastic experience not only for the children, but for everyone involved as well."

Anna Pereira, manager of the hospital's child life and recreation therapy department continued, "The kids loved exploring painting with their hands and arms. Since they are rarely encouraged to get their hands 'dirty' while receiving treatment, this event was a big treat."

Shriners Hospitals for Children is proud of our association with the Art of Elysium and looks forward to working together throughout 2008 in providing medical and social support for the children that we serve.



"Twelve Angry Men" will be playing at the Orange County Performing Artscenter February 26 through March 9. Considered the greatest courtroom drama of all time, "Twelve Angry Men" was written by Reginald Rose and directed by Scott Ellis. A series of Q&A panel discussions with legal professionals and select members of the cast will take place after each performance Feb. 26 – 28. Tickets for the show cost \$15 - \$65 and are now available.

'Black Mexico' exhibit in Long Beach

LONG BEACH – The Long Beach Central Area Association and the 2nd City Council Gallery and Performance Space will present Ron Wilkins' "Journey to Black Mexico: A Photographic Discourse," an exhibit featuring portraits of Mexicans with African ancestry, from Jan. 26 – Feb. 28.

Wilkins, a professor of African Studies at Cal State Dominguez Hills, will discuss the exhibit and offer a lecture on Feb. 9 from 2 to 4 p.m.

The exhibit and lecture are free to the public. The 2nd City Council Gallery and Performance Space is located at 435 Alamitos Ave. in Long Beach. For information, call (562) 901-0997.

'The Crusaders' to perform tomorrow

COSTA MESA – The Crusaders, with guest vocalist Randy Crawford, will be performing at the Orange County Performing Artscenter on tomorrow.

Known as the original superstars of jazz-funk, The Crusaders' brand of hard swing is a rich blend of Art Blakey's Jazz Messengers and Count Basie.

Tickets range from \$25 to \$79 and can be purchased at the box office located at 600 Town Center Dr. in Costa Mesa, or by calling (714) 556-2787 or visiting www.OCPAC.org.

New Entertainment this week

<h3>CD Releases</h3> <p>Cat Power - Juke Box: Deluxe Edition</p> <p>Drive-By Truckers - Brighter Than Creation's Dark</p> <p>The Backyardigans - Born to Play</p> <p>Natasha Bedingfield - Pocketful of Sunshine</p> <p>Black Mountain - In the Future</p> <p>Julie Andrews - The Lass with Delicate Air</p> <p>Layzie Bone - Mo Thug Soldiers</p> <p>Public Enemy - It Takes a Nation of Millions to Hold Us Back</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>Source: Amazon.com</small></p> <h3>DVD Releases</h3> <p>MOVIES</p> <p>"The Game Plan"</p> <p>"The Hunting Party"</p> <p>"Save IV"</p> <p>"Sydney White"</p> <p>TV/MISC.</p> <p>"Hawaii Five-O" - Season 3</p> <p>"Barney Miller" - Season 2</p> <p>"The Girls Next Door" - Season 2</p> <p>"ER" - Season 8</p> <p>"The Simple Life" - Season 5</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>Source: Amazon.com</small></p> <h3>Book Releases</h3> <p>"Duma Key" by Stephen King</p> <p>"The Great Awakening: Reviving Faith and Politics in a Post-Religious Right America" by Jim Wallis</p> <p>"Standard of Honor" by Jack Whyte</p> <p>"Sword Song" by Bernard Cornwell</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>Source: barnesandnoble.com</small></p>	<h3>Concerts</h3> <p>FRIDAY, JAN. 18</p> <p>Chromo - El Rey Theatre</p> <p>Mechanics - Galaxy Concert Theatre</p> <p>Tower of Power - Coach House</p> <p>SATURDAY</p> <p>moe. - Grove of Anaheim</p> <p>Yamaha's Grove All Stars - Cerritos Performing Arts Center</p> <p>MONDAY</p> <p>Pat Green - HOB Anaheim</p> <p>MONDAY</p> <p>Ryan Adams - Arlington Theatre Santa Barbara</p> <p>THURSDAY</p> <p>Pepper - Coach House</p> <p>Peter Bjorn and John - Samuelli Theatre at OC Performing Artscenter</p> <p>Talib Kweli - Grove of Anaheim</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>Source: Casenet</small></p> <h3>Video Game Releases</h3> <p>Burnout: Paradise - X360, PS3</p> <p>Endless Ocean - Wii</p> <p>Kawasaki Jet Ski - Wii</p> <p>No More Heroes - Wii</p> <p>One Piece Unlimited Adventure - Wii</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>Source: ebgames.com</small></p> <h3>Book Releases</h3> <p>"Mars and Venus Collide" by John Gray</p> <p>"My Revolutions" by Hari Kunzru</p> <p>"Riding Toward Everywhere" by William T. Vollmann</p> <p>"The Secret Between Us" by Barbara Delinsky</p> <p>"The Commoner" by John Burnham Schwartz</p>
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www.thedowneypatriot.net

Association of Realtors offers scholarships

DOWNEY – The Downey Association of Realtors will be awarding several \$500 scholarships to students from Columbus, Downey, Downey Adult and Warren High Schools in May.

Applications can be downloaded at www.daor.com, or by visiting either one of the schools' guidance/scholarship counselor. Application deadline is April 1.

For more information, call (562) 861-0915.

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MAD MONEY PG-13 (11:15, 1:50, 4:25), 7:10, 9:50

THE BUCKET LIST PG-13 (11:40, 2:10, 4:45), 7:20, 9:45

FIRST SUNDAY PG-13 (11:45, 2:15, 4:50), 7:25, 9:55

THE ORPHANAGE R (11:50, 2:25, 5:00), 7:40, 10:20

ONE MISSED CALL PG-13 (12:20, 2:40, 5:15), 7:55, 10:15

JUNO PG-13 (11:55, 2:30, 4:55), 7:35, 10:00

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS PG (11:10, 2:05, 4:30), 7:05, 9:30

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CLOVERFIELD PG13	(11:40 2:00 4:20) 6:40 9:00
27 DRESSES PG13	(11:15 2:00 4:45) 7:30 10:15
MAD MONEY PG13	(11:15 1:55 4:35) 7:15 9:55
FIRST SUNDAY PG13	(11:00 1:35 4:10) 6:45 9:20
FIRST SUNDAY PG13	(12:00 2:35) 5:10 7:45 10:20
THE BUCKET LIST PG13	(10:45 1:20 3:55) 6:30 9:05
VEGGIE TALES G	(10:10 12:35 3:00) 5:25 7:50 10:15
IN THE NAME OF THE KING PG13	(11:00 1:40 4:20) 7:00 9:40
ONE MISSED CALL PG13	(10:20 12:45 3:10) 5:35 8:00 10:25
ALVIN & THE CHIPMUNKS PG	(10:30 1:20 4:10) 7:00 9:50

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Businesses can protect customers' privacy

CONTRIBUTED BY NEWS AND EXPERTS

Privacy – it's getting tougher to maintain, especially with identity theft on the rise. With this in mind, growing numbers of Americans are making demands on corporate America to treat their personal information with secrecy. According to a Harris Poll sponsored by Microsoft, 60 percent of Americans said they've decided not to support a store because of doubts about that store's privacy protections. What is surprising is that it isn't just marketers that are trying to access personal information. The government has drafted private industry for "data collection duty" in the war on terror.

So how can businesses keep customers' personal information under wraps when the U.S. Patriot Act allows the government to collect copious amounts of this sort of information? Jacqueline Klosek, an attorney and author of the new book, "The War on Privacy," advises clients on issues related to data privacy and security. As a Certified Information Privacy Professional, Klosek believes private industry faces a precarious balance, trying to simultaneously maintain consumer privacy while also complying with governmental demands for information.

"This issue is not going to just disappear," said Klosek. "The war on terror has reduced privacy rights in the United States and around the world. The bottom line is whether the feds are leaning on your company for records or you've suffered a security breach by hackers, your reputation is at stake and you've lost your customers' trust."

Klosek routinely advises businesses to follow all privacy measures required by law. In addition to these measures, she offers her clients the following additional tips:

- **Conduct an Internal Audit.** Before you can inform your consumers about your privacy policies and practices, you must first understand what they are. Businesses should conduct an internal audit to understand (1) what data they are collecting, (2) how they are using the data, (3) with whom they are sharing that data, and (4) how that data is being protected.

- **Develop a Privacy Policy.** Once the company's policies and plans for collecting and using customer information are clarified, these policies should be communicated to customers and clients through a Privacy Policy. Your Company Privacy Policy needs to clearly state how your company can be contacted in regards to information and the types of third parties that will have access to such information. Also, be sure to follow all laws and legal requirements in this regard.

- **Be Broad.** When drafting your Consumer Privacy Policy it is smart to be as broad as possible. This will give your company greater latitude if you are forced by the government to hand over data or are faced with other potentially unanticipated events.

- **Plan Ahead and Be Prepared for the Inevitable.** Anticipate the fact that your company could face a government subpoena demanding your client's personal information records. By understanding that this can happen, you can suitably prepare your policies in order to set your clients' and customers' expectations regarding the privacy of their personal information. This may help you to avoid making a strong privacy promise to consumers that governmental demands will not allow you to keep.

- **Seek Prior Consent.** It's a smart idea to obtain prior consent from your consumers/clients about potential personal data transfers that could be subpoenaed by the government. The same holds true for other types of transfers, including transfers to business partners and service providers.

- **Conduct Due Diligence When Outsourcing.** Examine the third-party service provider's experience with privacy and data security. Investigate any privacy complaints the service provider has faced and make sure you're complying with all U.S. and foreign laws when outsourcing.

- **Protect Your Website.** It's good practice to implement a web monitoring program that automatically runs privacy scans to ensure that the site hasn't been compromised and that privacy measures remain intact.

Protecting customers' privacy is becoming a more cumbersome task with the advances in technology and the war on terror.

Jacqueline Klosek is a Senior Counsel in Business Law Department of Goodwin Procter LLP, where she practices in the Intellectual Property Practice Area. For more information, visit www.jacquelineklosek.com.



Richere L'Herault was active with Downey Regional Medical Center. She died Jan. 5 at the age of 48.

Richere L'Herault was a DRMC director

DOWNEY – Richere L'Herault, a director of development at Downey Regional Medical Center, passed away on Jan. 5. She was 48.

L'Herault was born on June 20, 1959 and grew up in Downey, graduating from Downey High School.

She is survived by daughter, Chantal L'Herault; son, Eugene L'Herault; parents, Eugene and Genette Laporte; and sister, Eugenie Laporte.

Private services were held with interment at Olive Memorial Park in La Mirada.

Service were under the direction of Risher Mortuary and Cremation Services.

Conor Patrick Robles volunteered at L.A. Zoo

DOWNEY – Conor Patrick Robles, a longtime Downey resident, passed away on Jan. 8. He was 28.

Robles was born on Sept. 25, 1979 in Hollywood and attended schools in the Downey Unified School District.

Robles loved the outdoors and all types of animals, volunteering his time at the Los Angeles County Zoo.

He is survived by parents, Wilfredo and Maureen Robles; brother, Brian Robles; sister, Megan Robles; and many other family members, as well as friends.

Services were held on Sunday at Downey Zrelak Family Mortuary.

The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in his name to the Los Angeles County Zoo, Pit Bull Rescue, or the Orange County Animal Shelter.



The Seventh-day Adventist Church broke ground for the new Adventist Church in Downey on Nov. 12, 1956. Pictured are R.R. Bietz, president of Southern California Conference of Seventh-day Adventists; Dr. Gideon Hagstotz, Downey Adventist pastor; Rev. Rodney V. Cogwell, First Presbyterian Church of Downey pastor; and Robert O'Leary, president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce.

Robert Leon Bergquist services tomorrow

DOWNEY – Robert Leon Bergquist, Downey resident for 47 years, passed away on Jan. 15. He was 82.

Bergquist was born on Sept. 18, 1925 in Marinette, Wis. He served in the United States Army during World War II and the Korean War.

Bergquist was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Norwalk and also participated in the Nordic Lodge Swedish Vasa Choir. For the past 17 years, Bergquist worked as the co-owner of Bergson, Inc.

He is survived by wife of 56 years, Carol; daughters, Vivian (Raymond) Durkee, Carlyn (David) Pheil, and Laura (David) Bachle; grandchildren, Matt and Alison Durkee, Christiane Pheil, and Kari, Anika, Lauri, Kirstin, Emma, Seth, Halla, Caleb and Abby Bachle; and brother, Bertol Bergquist.

Services are tomorrow at 1 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Norwalk.

Adventist Church celebrates 50 years

DOWNEY – The Downey Seventh-day Adventist Church will be kicking off their "50 Years of Building Community" on Jan. 26 at 10:50 a.m. by recognizing the First Presbyterian Church of Downey, as well as Rev. Candie Blankman, for their help in getting the Adventist Church started in Downey.

In the early 1900's, a small group of Seventh-day Adventist believers met in a suburb of Los Angeles called Vernon. They had a small meeting area for worship and started a small school. Following World War I, the group decided to move to a larger building south of Huntington Park in the Florence area.

The "Florence Mission" grew in membership and provided an urgent need to move as the current building in Florence needed major repairs. Downey was selected as the best place to relocate. The Florence property sold sooner than expected – in April of 1954 – and the move to Downey needed to happen quickly. The First Presbyterian Church, led by Rev. Rodney Cogwell, opened their church and classrooms to the Downey newcomers.

For four years, from 1954 to 1958, the First Presbyterian Church hosted the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

Since its presence in Downey, the Adventist Church has been home to such community icons as Harvey and Minni Orner, founders of Harvey's Broiler, and Dr. Robert McLennon, an instrumental individual within Downey Community Hospital, as well as many others.

The Downey Seventh-day Adventist Church is located at 9820 Lakewood Blvd.

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The Downey Patriot



Eleanor E. Davey authored or co-authored 14 science books and was a longtime contributor to scientific journals and magazines. She died on Dec. 29 at the age of 97.

Eleanor E. Davey was a longtime educator

DOWNEY – Eleanor E. Davey, resident of Phoenix, Ariz. and mother of retired DUSD School Board member Betty N. Ferraro, passed away on Dec. 29. She was 97.

Davey was born on Aug. 28, 1910 in Colorado Springs, Colo. to Stanley and Elizabeth Britton. She attended Palmer High School, formerly known as Colorado Springs High School, where she was honored as woman athlete of the year her senior year. Intermingled with her high school education was her participation as team forward on the Colorado State Women's traveling basketball team.

In 1932, she married Herbert Merritt Davey, a pharmacist. She then received a degree in education at University of Northern Colorado (then known as Colorado State Teacher's College). From 1940 to 1946, the couple adopted two sons and a daughter. Davey became involved in PTA's, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and put in over 500 hours of volunteer service at Good Samaritan Hospital.

In 1957, Davey enrolled at Arizona State University for graduate studies in science and re-entered the teaching profession. At Xavier High School, she taught physical education, English, biology, and earth and space science. She served as chairperson of the math and science department at Xavier for 20 years. She was also the author/co-author of 14 science books and a contributor to scientific journals and magazines.

Davey was selected as Arizona's Environmental Conservation Teacher of the Year (1973-74) and Outstanding Biology Teacher of the Year (1975). Palmer High School later inducted her into its Alumni Hall of Fame in 1987.

Other honors and accomplishments include Arizona Mother of the Year (1969), Arizona Outstanding Science Teacher (1965), and Phoenix Woman of the Year (1973-74).

She was preceded in death by her four siblings and husband, Herbert. She is survived by children Theodore (Ted) H. Davey, Ronald Britton Davey, and Betty N. (Kenneth) Ferraro; 10 grandchildren; and 19 great-grandchildren.

Services were held on Jan. 5 at Greenwood Memorial Lawn in Phoenix, Ariz.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to Xavier High School: Eleanor Davey Scholarship Fund c/o Xavier College Prep, 4710 N. 5th St., Phoenix, AZ, 85012; the Eleanor E. Davey Scholarship Fund – Arizona Science Teacher's Association c/o C. Dunham, 620 N. Reseda, Mesa, AZ, 85205; or Hospice of the Valley, 1510 E. Flower St., Phoenix, AZ, 85014.

Georgia Tummons Moore passes away

DOWNEY – Georgia Tummons Moore, Downey resident since 1946, passed away on Jan. 11. She was 98.

Moore was born in Missouri in 1909. After graduating from high school, Moore attended Business College and Bolivar Baptist College.

In 1940, she married her husband, James, and later moved to Downey in 1946. Moore served as a charter member of the 1st Southern Baptist Church of Downey.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James, and son, Gary. She is survived by grandchildren, Carole and James; great-grandsons, Brian and Justin; and sister, Marty George.

Services were held yesterday at the 1st Southern Baptist Church of Downey, followed by burial at Rose Hills Memorial Park. Arrangements were by Miller-Mies Mortuary.

David Peterson was little league president

DOWNEY – Longtime Downey resident David Peterson passed away on Dec. 9.

Peterson was born March 20, 1952 and lived in Downey for over 50 years.

He was a past president of Northwest Downey Little League and coached many different teams throughout the years.

Peterson is survived by his wife, five sons and five grandchildren.

Simon T. Powell was WWII veteran

DOWNEY – Simon T. Powell, Downey resident since 1969, passed away on Dec. 22. He was 91.

Powell was born on Aug. 28, 1916 in Fish Hook, Ill. He was the youngest son in a family of seven children. After living in a farming area in Colorado, the Powell family moved to Compton, where much of family resided for over 70 years.

Powell served in the U.S. Army during World War II, ended his military career after 27 years of service. While in the Army, he received his Wings as one of the first groups of Paratroopers, training for the Normandy invasion. However, Powell ended up spending the latter part of the war in the Pacific campaign.

Following WWII, Powell was stationed in Europe with the 54th Engineers for 17 years, helping with the reconstruction of Germany. Also having trained in European cooking classes, he became passionate about baking and food preparation.

Powell met his wife of 48 years, Jennie, in 1955 when he was on leave and visiting New England. Upon retirement in 1965, Powell moved his family to Compton, and then to Downey in 1969. While in Downey, he enjoyed eating breakfast at Bakers Square, buying baked goods at Super A Foods, and eating dinner Friday nights at Granata's.

Powell is preceded in death by wife, Jennie, who passed away in 2003. He is survived by sister, Margaret Hope; sons Jimmie, Mark, David and Winfred; and daughters Anne Bagleman and Toccoa Powell. Services were held on Dec. 27 at Rose Hills Memorial Park.



Simon T. Powell was a paratrooper in the U.S. Army during World War II before moving to Downey in 1969. He died Dec. 22.

Women invited to heart seminar in Whittier

WHITTIER – Presbyterian Intercommunity Hospital's (PIH) Heart and Lung Center will host a one-day seminar on Feb. 2 that will advise women of all ages on ways to take care of themselves and their hearts.

The "Women and Heart Disease Symposium" will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Flo and Frank L. Scott Conference Center at the hospital, 12401 Washington Blvd., in Whittier.

At 9 a.m., James Merrill will discuss "Exercise is Energy, Get Your Share!"; at 10 a.m. author Joe Piscatella will present "Living Healthy in a Doubleburger.com World – Successful Strategies to Manage Everyday Stress"; and finally, at 11:30 a.m., Dr. Sudhaker Nayak will speak on the topic "Heart Healthy Facts Every Woman Should Know."

In addition, a master chef will provide a heart healthy cooking

demonstration.

The symposium will also feature a variety of screenings, including blood pressure, cholesterol, height and weight, body mass index, blood sugar, carotid artery (limited to the first 50 interested visitors aged 60 and above), and heart risk assessment.

Information will be available on other PIH services, including cardiac rehabilitation, senior health, Reiki therapy, nutrition, education classes, the Heart and Lung Center, diabetes education, and the American Heart Association.

A complimentary continental breakfast will be served and each guest will receive a free gift.

Seating is limited to the event. Reservations are requested by calling (562) 698-0811, ext. 4147.

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Warren, Downey prepare for crucial league showdown tonight

SCOTT COBOS, CONTRIBUTOR

DOWNEY – Wow, Warren and Downey are very unlucky this year. Coming into the basketball season, how are you supposed to know you are possibly playing in one of the toughest if not the toughest league in Southern California?

In fact, both coaches agree when they say this league is rough. They both have already witnessed their teams bumped around, bruised up and straight out beaten by a few of the elite teams in the area. It just so happens those teams are in the same division.

Because of these, for lack of a better word, losses, they both find themselves in an extremely difficult situation with their bottom-of-the-baseball league records hanging on to a thread with their teeth for a wildcard berth. Let's say 11 overall wins is the magic number to get into the playoffs. Warren is one win off while Downey is three off the pace.

One thing crucially comes into play with that in mind. They absolutely have to beat their rivals. Downey will most likely have to sweep the series while Warren can win one and leave their fates up to a seeding committee if they don't win another.

But when all is said and done the only important thing is tonight. As the old sports cliché goes, one night at a time. This night though is more crucial than one may think.

Downey

Head Coach Larry Shelton had very few encouraging words after their loss on Wednesday against Lynwood. He wouldn't go as far as saying the current team is the worst he had but I'm willing to bet that he doesn't think his team belongs in the top of the San Gabriel Valley League standings.

He called his team inexperienced and "not the strongest team." One thing remains true and that is his pride in his team. He understands that the odds are against him and his team in this year's league, but in his players he will build character and the will to come and play hard each and every night.

Offense

Shelton also went on to say that his team isn't going to score a lot of points (49 points per game) which makes it hard to say Downey has a specific offensive threat. They will most likely have to rely on their guard play like so many other high school (and college) team's do.

Two names that jump out at you are Guillermo Botello and Matt Taylor. The two together average 23 points per game and lead their team in free throw attempts. It's probably safe to say if the offense is going to come from somewhere, Taylor and Botello will be in the mix.

Defense

For a team that doesn't score many points, defense has to be a huge part of their game plan. The good news is when Downey is playing their defense the way they know they can, they can stop teams. For example, Lynwood who is a run-and-gun offensive team looked straight up stupefied in the third quarter after Shelton told his team to pack the key with bodies. But here's the bad news: Downey averages 49 points per game while the opposing team averages 52 points per game.

Good defense isn't always going to win a game. Offense does need to come once in a while. Downey is going to have to tighten a loose screw here or seal a crack there because their offense won't be enough. Good defense will keep them in the game. Great defense will bring home a win.

David or Goliath?

Downey in a sense has to be looked at as Goliath because of their size. They are bigger and stronger than Warren. The problem is they're a little slower than most teams. They don't get up and down the court that well which leads you to the reason why a fast break offense works against this team but a half-court set doesn't.

The pace of the game has to be a grind or they'll be run out of the gym. In games that Downey have won, they slowed the pace down so much that teams are only scoring 37 points per game; 15 points lower than what they allow per game this season.

Downey at Warren Tonight, 7 p.m.

Warren

It's so hard to get a read on this team year in and year out because there seems to be a revolving door to the head coaches' office. One year it's Kevin Hobbs, the next year it's Josh Buell, then the next year it's Hobbs again now this year it's Brent Willis.

There hasn't been any on-the-record comment about how he might feel if he's in this year then out next year then in the following year and so on. He has made one thing clear though. He has seen what the best of the best looks like and he's not afraid of it. Previously coaching in a division that had two-time state champion Artesia, he knows what's ahead of him in what has proven to be another very tough league.

My point to all of this rambling is although consistency has not been a strong point for the Bears in previous years, this coach expects certain things from his team even though the team probably doesn't have a complete feel for what he wants. For goodness sake we're in the middle of his first season as coach of a team that had no knowledge of who he was.

I feel like I've written this column before but I'll say it anyway: With a new coach comes growing pains and changes that a team is not familiar with. After all, if a change at the head is to happen, you can assume philosophies and techniques will change also.

Offense

I'm about to propose something that will sound rather ridiculous at first but will make sense after a few statistics. Warren is fast and athletic but will not run you off the court. You would think that they would use speed as a weapon and try and run with the best right? No sir, they actually get themselves in trouble when they do that.

Warren wins in a half-court set (which ironically plays into the hands of Downey). When the Bears win, they average 46 points per contest (this is not including the one anomaly where they beat Firebaugh High School in the Cardinal Classic 102-24). But when the Bears lose, they average 52 points per game.

I'm going to go out on a limb here and say if they slow the game down and play within themselves they give their team a better chance to win.

Like Downey though, they aren't the highest scoring team in the league and look to their defense to help keep them in the game. Also, they have two primary scorers in Chris Maheras (13 points per game) and Brandon Chavers (11 points per game).

Defense

Warren doesn't have the size but do have the speed defensively. They get inside passing lanes and steal the ball and they slap away a lot of possessions from other teams. You see this play out when you look at their leading rebounder Chavers. He only averages a shade over six rebounds a game.

If no one is rebounding the ball, someone has to be stealing it otherwise every game is a blow out.

The Bears' defense can be hit or miss sometimes. There will be games where they allow totals in the 70 point range, and then there will be games where it's in the 50 point range. We're talking about wins and losses here.

David or Goliath?

They're David. Definitely, David. They're small, they're quick and they're feisty. Will that be enough to beat Downey? Possibly. They are going to have to score more fast break points and beat Downey down the court if they want to win.

And if you haven't figured it out yet, David and Goliath are used in size terms only. Their epic battle is not to reflect the outcome of this game.

Prediction

Downey 62, Warren 55

Downey will want it more, they'll be ready assuming Shelton follows through with his guarantee and they need it more. It's funny how teams will react when they're desperate. In a battle between a cornered fox like Downey and a hungry bear like Warren (ha, get it? Warren Bear?) I'll take the cornered fox.

Vikings overmatched against fast Lynwood

BY SCOTT COBOS, CONTRIBUTOR

DOWNEY – Struggling with the full court press, the Downey Vikings (8-11, 0-3) had opportunities but were overmatched in their 63-47 loss against the Lynwood Knights (17-3, 2-1) Wednesday night.

The Vikings never led in a game that found itself at too fast a pace to keep up with. Lynwood ran all over the court in the first two quarters piling up a comfortable lead at the half.

"I thought our first half we played really poorly," said Downey Head Coach Larry Shelton. "Most nights we come to play really hard and compete and I question whether or not we did that in the first half or not."

The beginning of the second half had a different feel to it when Lynwood's offense stalled after a defensive adjustment by Downey allowing the Vikings to trim the lead to six points for a brief period of time.

"We changed up and backed our zone back and basically dared them to shoot the ball from the outside," said Shelton. "It slowed the game down and that's what we needed. The game was way too fast for us."

The change of pace forced the Knights into uncharacteristic mistakes and forced them to attempt 3-point shots all third quarter. The strategy worked as Downey found themselves in the same position as they were in the early moments of the game.

But the Vikings were unable to keep up the pressure and tired which allowed Lynwood's D'Angelo Scott for a couple opportunities to make the local news' highlight reel dunking one ball and throwing the ball off the backboard to himself to dunk another.

Scott led his team with 17 points and eight rebounds and continues to stand out on a Lynwood team that is now 13 games over .500. His teammates Ellis Barfield and Allen Jiles also chipped in with 12 points and 14 points respectively.

Shelton said his team just ran out of gas in fourth quarter which caused the swing of momentum back toward the Knights.

"We're only playing six kids or seven kids," he said. "We fatigued and I really think fatigued enter in the thing."

There was a bright spot in what proved to be a pitch black night for the Vikings in Matt Black. The junior guard recorded a double-double with 10 points and 10 rebounds and looked rather composed throughout the tough night.

His teammate Guillermo Botello also made the best of a rough game leading all scorers with 18 points.

With time running out in the season the Vikings need a couple more wins to possibly be granted a wildcard berth in this year's playoffs. That path continues with Warren tonight.

"We expect to show up and play hard," Shelton said. "But I do think, in fact for Downey Warren, I'll guarantee we'll show up, defend and play hard."

Game one of two season match-ups between these two teams is tonight at Warren. Game time is 7 p.m.

Nationwide contest looking for cutest pet

The California State Chapter of the Dog & Cat Lovers of America, in partnership with the International Pet Owners Club, will be hosting the 2008 Spring Cutest Pet Photo Contest.

The contest is open to everyone and entry is free. The photo may contain one pet or several and may include different pet types in the same photo.

The preferred method of entry is to enter directly online at www.cutestpetcontest.com. Entries may also be submitted via postal mail to CA 2008 Spring Cutest Pet Photo Contest, P.O. Box 4470, Olathe, KS, 66063. All entries must include the photographer's name and address on the back and must be postmarked by Feb. 15.

Shabbat services every Friday at Temple

DOWNEY – Temple Ner Tamid invites the community to attend Shabbat services every Friday evening at 7:30 p.m.

The first Friday service of the month is a learning/teaching service; the second Friday is a traditional service; the third Friday is a family and celebrations service; and the fourth Friday is a music service.

Services are conducted by Rabbi Len Muroff and Cantor Ellen Jaffe-Gill, with Norberto Guinaldo at the organ.

Following the services, Kiddush is held (wine and challah are included). Oneg Shabbat follows in the Fellowship Hall, with refreshments provided by the Temple's Sisterhood.

Temple Ner Tamid is located at 10629 Lakewood Blvd. in Downey. For information, call the Temple office at (562) 861-9276.

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Come to One or All of Our CSW Celebration Events...and Bring the Whole Family
We'd like to invite you to join us this week, to discover more about the special role our schools play in the positive growth of our children.

Saturday, January 26	5pm Mass Open House & Book Fair will follow mass
Sunday, January 27	Student Speakers at the 9:30 am, 11:30 and 1 pm masses
Wednesday, January 30	Student Appreciation BBQ Lunch
Thursday, January 31	Family Day Lunch 12 noon - 1 pm
Friday, February 1	8:30 am Mass Teacher Appreciation

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Judge Mautino talks about jury reform

CONTRIBUTED BY GWYNN GUSTAFSON, KIWANIS CLUB OF DOWNEY

DOWNEY – When Judge Mautino last spoke at Kiwanis Club of Downey, he shared the success and on-going needs of the Operation Read program at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall. The children, ages 10 to 17, find reading a challenge and many do not surpass the fourth grade reading level.

Mautino said this program is still in dire need of new and used books, magazines, videos and board games. (Please call Grace Guerrero, Program Services Coordinator, at (562) 940-8772 for information on how to make donations.)

Mautino then jumped right into another subject for which he has great passion – jury reform. Many years ago, he presented to the Legislature that there should be jury reform to protect the rights of the jurors as stringently as the law protects the rights of the accused. His ideas were rejected.

The problem of jury reform is centuries old because the courts have historically been run for the convenience of the judges and attorneys and that is the main reason your jury duty used to last 10 days just sitting around the jury room waiting to be called. That system also let you get off service with so many “excuses” that the jury pool ended up being retired citizens or government workers. Not exactly of jury of your peers!

Recent legislation has eliminated all exemptions to be excused except a doctor-signed medical excuse. To prevent abuse of this exemption, your doctor must sign “under penalty of perjury.” Another change is “one-day/one trial” that also provides a call-in system so you learn if you are to report the next day for Jury Service. The major downfall to this new system is that the courts must now call 10,000 people every day in order to get the required number of jurists to report each day.

Should you not be able to do jury service on the date assigned, you can call and have your jury service postponed or even moved to a court closer to you. But you must make the call. “Once you are called and miss”, Mautino cautions, “you can be summoned, jailed and fined.”

Even as some jury reforms were being mandated, protecting jurors’ identifications was not. Mautino first efforts met strong resistance from attorneys. While a judge cannot donate or endorse a political candidate, attorneys can. The strength of those dollars killed legislation to implement reform.

He argued that the Supreme Court allowed an anonymous jury in mafia cases and they should also be used in the Courts. By having jurors selected by number and not by name, these citizens will not be threatened by participants in the case.

He believes the sitting judge has the right to control his courtroom in order to obtain a fair trial. Sitting on a “gang” case and hearing jurors personal details divulged in court – such as where do you live, bank and work – was setting the jurist up for retribution. Mautino states, “It is the judge’s



job to make sure there’s justice in his court.” So as lead judge in the 23 Municipal Courts of Los Angeles, he became the first to protect the identification of jurors in the Bellflower Court System.

“Jurors should be called judges.” They have to debate among themselves all the details of the case and since it takes a majority of jurors to convict they actually sit as judge. If the jurors know that everyone in the courtroom is aware of all the personal details of their lives, it can cause indecision and hamper the outcome of the case. Under the new system of identity by number, the attorneys do get a list of names but cannot tell anyone in the case except the defendant.

Mautino’s “experiment” extended into hundreds of courtrooms as the story of jury reform went national. The Los Angeles Superior Court system, the largest in the world, waited for legislation to pass and when that didn’t happen they instituted the new policy on their own.

If you would like information on joining Kiwanis Club of Downey, visit www.downeykiwanis.org or call any member for details, or join us Thursday noon at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

Cloudy ‘08

By John Adams

The local business picture for 2008 is clouded by factors such as the lengthy movie and TV writer strike which may have negative effects on that entire industry, the depressing spiral in the price off crude oil to over \$100 a barrel, and the slip in housing starts and the mortgage market.

Also mentioned as a depressing factor was the inability to reach an understanding with the Chinese over lead-laced products. The recent reaction to China’s lead-laced toys has raised doubts on the imports handled through the local ports. Shipments from China are by far the largest handled by L.A. and Long Beach ports. Jack Kyser recently eyed his crystal ball toward the future. He is Senior Vice President and Economist for the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corp., and has often spoken before the Downey Chamber.

He pointed out how difficult a prediction for 2008 is at present. He said trade can be expected to rebound some, but expect small gains to be offset by other factors.

The astonishing growth of broadband in electronics has caused the prediction of a decline in the number of TVs in U.S. homes, a first in the history of TV.

Paul Bond, business editor of the *Hollywood Reporter*, predicts that Blu-ray will win the DVD-TV wars. “People don’t want commercials.” He sees broadband as filling the void.

While the experts see limited gains in 2008 they see enough light ahead to avoid any collapse. And that’s some good news.

‘Tintypes’ visits the turn of the century

DOWNEY – The Downey Civic Light Opera will be presenting “Tintypes” Feb. 21 through March 9.

Similar to “Ragtime,” “Tintypes” takes the audience back to the turn of the century, when America consisted of slower-paced days of ice cream socials and hoop skirts, also giving way to the bustling world of automobiles, electricity and the telephone.

The production features popular songs from 1890 to 1917, including “Yankee Doodle Dandy,” “Meet Me in St. Louis,” “Bill Bailey,” “Toyland,” “Shortnin’ Bread,” and “The Ragtime Dance.”

Marsha Moode will be in the director’s chair and Eddy Clement will return as musical director. Making his DCLO debut as choreographer is Casey Garritano.

For information, or to purchase tickets, call (562) 923-1714.

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Dale Jervis has become a staple in the Downey community—plain and simple. His family has called this beautiful area home for generations and nothing makes him prouder than to do his part to make a difference—from his volunteer efforts with the local animal shelter to his generous contributions to the local school systems to his work helping people achieve their real estate dreams.

The truth is, you're not likely to find a real estate professional who knows the intricacies of the local market like Dale. When you're looking not only for the right home, but the right neighborhood to fit your needs, Dale has the knowledge to make it happen. When you add the fact that he's been in the business since 1983, it seems only fitting that he's considered the local expert. Put simply, when it comes to your next move, there's no better professional to turn to than Dale. Give him a call today. You'll be glad you did!

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Tax Board launches new taxpayer services

CONTRIBUTED BY FRANCHISE TAX BOARD

SACRAMENTO – State Controller and Franchise Tax Board (FTB) Chair John Chiang recently kicked off the tax season by announcing new tax filing services to help taxpayers file their 2007 state tax returns.

“The FTB has expanded customer service and created options to make tax filing easier on California taxpayers,” Chiang said. “The FTB can help taxpayers complete and file their tax returns, manage their tax information, and get the assistance they need for available credits and quick refunds.

Technology Changes

Nearly one million individuals will be able to use *ReadyReturn*, a program that provides the taxpayer a completed tax return and requires no additional information or paperwork.

“*ReadyReturn* makes filing taxes as easy as it gets. The state does the work for taxpayers by using information it already has to simply generate the tax return,” Chiang said. “Taxpayers have complete control to file the return, change it, or use any other filing method.”

With *ReadyReturn*, single taxpayers that earn wages from only one employer, take the standard deduction, and have no dependents, can opt-in to the program to have the FTB provide a completed tax return to file.

CalFile, the state’s electronic filing program, is being offered in both English and Spanish this year. *CalFile* is available to more than six million taxpayers who file forms 540 2EZ, 540A, and, to a limited degree, the 540. *CalFile* accepts income of up to \$310,837, itemized deductions, and some tax credits. Many commercial e-file companies offer free services to certain customers.

Those who used the service last year will notice the *View Payments and Balance Due* application was renamed to *My FTB Account*. This application now allows taxpayers the ability not only to view their payments and balance due, but also view FTB-issued 1099-Gs, 1099-INTs, and California wage and withholding information. *My FTB Account* should be used to verify estimated tax payments since the top taxpayer error is claiming the wrong amount of estimated tax payments. Errors may delay refunds or cause taxpayers to get tax bills after they file. FTB no longer requires the Customer Service Number (CSN) for the following Web applications: *CalFile*, *Web Pay*, and *Individual Electronic Installation Agreement*. Taxpayers can now access these applications by matching their Social Security Number and name. CSNs are required for *ReadyReturn* and *My FTB Account*.

FTB’s online Form 540 2EZ now does the math. Taxpayers can fill in their information on this calculating tax form to print and mail to FTB.

Law Changes

For the 2007 tax year, new state law requires registered domestic partners to file their state tax returns using either the married filing jointly or

married filing separately status. Under prior state law, they used the single or head of household filing status. The new state law will not impact the filing status of federal tax returns.

The standard deduction for single or married filing separately increases from \$3,410 to \$3,516. For joint, surviving spouse, or head of household filers, it increases from \$6,820 to \$7,032.

The personal exemption amount for single, married filing separately, and head of household filers jumps from \$91 to \$94. For joint of surviving spouse, the personal exemption credit will increase from \$182 to \$188. The dependent exemption credit will increase from \$285 to \$294 per dependent claimed.

Assistance

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs have trained hundreds of volunteers to help California taxpayers complete their tax returns. They also help residents take advantage of money saving tax credits like the federal *Earned Income Tax Credit* and the *Child and Development Care Expenses Credit*, which can reduce taxes and provide savings for working families.

Tax Tips

Who should file: Individuals do not have to file if they are single or head of household and their total income was less than \$14,138, or if they are married and their total income was less than \$28,276. Filing requirements for those being claimed as a dependent are tied to the standard deduction.

Pay taxes online: *Web Pay* allows taxpayers to make payments from their bank account to satisfy their return balance due or extension payment. Taxpayers can also pay estimated tax or make any bill payments online. For a small fee, taxpayers can pay with their Discover/NOVUS, MasterCard, American Express, or Visa cards. FTB also accepts payments sent through Western Union.

Almost 10 million taxpayers – nearly two-thirds of those who filed taxes last year – received a state tax refund averaging more than \$800. Taxpayers can request to have their refunds electronically deposited between two accounts. The account choices include: checking, savings, IRA, or money market accounts.

Franchise Tax Board Tax Season Tips

• **Looking for free tax help?** VITA and TCE programs staff more than 1,000 centers statewide. They help low-income, senior, non-English speaking, and disabled individuals complete their tax forms for free.

• **Federal EITC:** The earned Income Tax Credit reduces your federal tax obligation, or allows a refund if no federal tax is due. You qualify if a child lived with you and you earned less than \$37,783 (\$39,783 if married filing jointly), or you have no qualifying children and you earned less than \$12,590 (\$14,590 if married filing jointly). California has no comparable

state credit.

• **Voluntary contributions:** The State tax forms list 11 charitable funds taxpayers can contribute directly to from their return. Contributions made to these funds will reduce your refund or increase taxes owed. Taxpayers who contribute to any of these funds can take a charitable contribution deduction on next year’s return if they itemize their deductions.

• **If you can’t pay your taxes:** Taxpayers can request a payment plan online. You will generally qualify if you owe less than \$25,000 and can repay it within five years.

• **Don’t want to owe taxes?** Go to the California taxes homepage at www.taxes.ca.gov and use the DE 4 Calculator, Employee’s Withholding Allowance Certificate, to compute your suggested payroll withholding to closely approximate your tax liability.

• **Do you owe use taxes?** California residents are required to pay state use tax on certain purchases made from out-of-state sellers, such as by telephone, over the Internet, by mail, or in person, if the seller does not collect sales or use tax, and if you use, give away, store, or consume the item in California.

• **Information in other languages:** FTB continues to provide more state tax information in Spanish, Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese. FTB also has a Speakers’ bureau, where technical subject matter experts are available to speak at a variety of public forums statewide to educate the public on topical tax subjects.

• **Phone service:** FTB provides 24-hour toll-free automated phone service at (800) 338-0505. To speak with a customer service representative, FTB staffs its general toll-free phone line, (800) 852-5711, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., weekdays except State holidays.

• **Walk-in service:** FTB has six regional field offices that provide walk-in service in Los Angeles, Oakland, Sacramento, San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Ana.

For more information, visit www.ftb.ca.gov.

Little League in search of former players

DOWNEY – The West Downey Little League is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2008 and is asking former players to submit photographs and stories for inclusion in a 50th Anniversary celebration.

Photos and stories can be submitted to WDLL, 11985 Old River School Rd., Downey, 90242, or by calling (562) 928-2837, emailing westdowney@yahoo.com, or visiting www.eteamz.com/westdowneylittleleague.

Downey class of ’78 celebrating reunion

DOWNEY – Downey High School’s class of 1978 will celebrate their 30-year reunion on Sept. 20. For information, call Mike Schroeder at (909) 597-9300 or e-mail Marlene Masone at mymyl@msn.com.

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