



The Downey Patriot



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Friday, March 21, 2008

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'It's a tremendous loss'

■ Paul Yokota, known as much for his volunteer work with local organizations than his harrowing tales of time served in a Japanese internment camp during World War II, dies at age 86.

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR
DOWNEY – Paul Yokota, the patriotic Downey resident who was forced to a swampy Japanese internment camp after the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, has died.

Yokota died in his sleep early Monday morning, family members said. He was 86.

A longtime resident, Yokota was born May 19, 1921 in Yuba City, Calif. His mother was eight months pregnant with Yokota when she boarded a ship from Japan bound for the United States. According to family members, it was her lone wish for her son to be born a U.S. citizen.

Yokota and his family moved to Downey in 1940 where they operated a chicken ranch on Stewart & Gray Road, not far from Rockview Farms. The family sold the ranch in the 1960's.

With a nose for news and a penchant for writing, Yokota attended the University of Southern California and graduated with a

bachelor's degree in journalism. "He enjoyed documenting events, taking pictures and then writing captions," said his daughter, Marilyn Yokota. "He did newsletters for groups, and then would send everyone a copy. He loved doing that."

But Yokota never had the opportunity to properly pursue a career in journalism. On Dec. 7, 1941, Japanese warplanes launched a surprise attack on the United States' naval base at Pearl Harbor, killing more than 2,300 service members.

In response to the attack, President Franklin D. Roosevelt authorized the military to detain all residents of Japanese ancestry – citizens or not – for transfer to various internment camps throughout the country.

Yokota and his family had no choice but to go. He was engaged at the time to his future wife, Miyo, whom he had met as a child at a

Los Angeles church. The couple arranged to be sent away together – first to a makeshift internment camp at nearby Santa Anita Park and then to the Jerome Concentration Camp in Arkansas.

In an interview with *The Downey Patriot* several years ago, Yokota recalled the camp being surrounded by squalid swampland that was inhabited by four species of venomous snakes.

"We heard about the camps, what it was like at camp," said Marilyn. "We would hear the stories growing up. He told us how cold it was in Arkansas. There were many people in one room, and communal toilets."

Yokota passed the time by editing the camp's newspaper. He and Miyo married in 1943.

Jerome Concentration Camp closed on June 30, 1944. Yokota and his new wife lived for a time in
See YOKOTA, page 7



Paul Yokota was a fixture at Downey Adult School, where he tutored and mentored ESL students struggling to acclimate themselves to the United States.



Carli Ciatti, left, a 15-year-old Warren High School student, was crowned Miss Teen Downey in a pageant last week at the Downey Theatre. Sara Lopez, a graduate of Warren and a student at Cypress College, was named Miss Downey. Photo courtesy Susan Domen

Skippy Blair's dance method finds wide favor

■ Even at 84, resident Skippy Blair maintains a rigorous schedule of dance workshops across the United States, from Hawaii to Miami, with no signs of slowing down.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER
L onetime Downey resident Skippy Blair, known in dancing circles as the "First Lady of Swing," showed her curious and intrepid sides early.

Born in Pleasantville, NJ, she grew up in nearby Ventnor City, which was on the same island as Atlantic City but which was on the other end. Then they had moved to Northfield, still in New Jersey. While visiting her grandmother back in Ventnor City, auditions were called for a chance to sing and dance on the "Daddy Dave's Kiddies Review." The auditions were to be held at the Steel Pier in Atlantic City.

Here, in her own words, is the episode (she was only 8 at the

time) that would hugely define her life: "I don't know how I learned about the auditions, but I asked if I could go and the whole family said no. At that time (this was in the early '30s), children rode free on the trolley cars as long as they were with an adult. I walked down to the main street and waited until a lady got on with some children. I got on with them. The end of the trolley line was the Steel Pier. I don't even remember how I got onto the pier because I don't remember having any money with me.

"I made the audition, and they wanted to talk to my mother. They finally figured out that I was there alone and somehow got her phone number from me. They called mother and she came down. She was furious, but Daddy Dave and

his manager talked her into letting me do the show.. I did the show for several summers."

It was at about this time also that she began to watch closely on the silver screen the dance moves of the likes of Shirley Temple, Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, and Bill "Bojangles" Robinson—among the great masters of dance. She would "chart the dance sequences," repair to the ladies' room to try the steps on her own, return to the movie to watch some more, then retire again to the restroom to practice the steps. She would repeat the process over and over until she got the dance routines down cold (this was when you were still allowed to watch a movie over and over all day if you cared to)—all the while wondering and trying to nail down the essence of what she saw.

She was imbibing the elements of music and dance.

At age 13 Skippy taught her first tap dancing class—in the basement of their Northfield house (her dad, a race car driver, used to tap dance, one of his favorite hobbies). She had 12 students, some of whom later comprised her chorus line for her numerous high school productions. She notes that years later three of the girls formed a traveling act that toured the country for a number of years until she lost track of them.

Later, after marriage and four children, she and her husband, USC grad and law student Robert Armstrong, moved to Downey in

1952. Skippy taught for Arthur Murray Studios (Long Beach branch) for four years. It was, she says, her first formal training in ballroom social dance.

1958 was a busy year, which included the opening in Downey of the Skippy Blair Studios with one store front (in three years, this would expand to four buildings), and her founding of the Downey Dance Association, which held dances at the local Elks Club and at what is now Café 'n' Stuff.

"I taught swimming classes at my home from 9 a.m. to noon, conducted ballet and jazz classes at the studio from 1 to 5 p.m., and taught social dance from 7 to 10 p.m.," she says.

Her development of the patented Universal Unit System, which uses symbols of dots and slashes to indicate dance rhythms, would be the crowning achievement of the year. This is her unique calling card in the world of dance.

Later significant events were, among others, her production of the Miss Downey Pageant; her involvement with the Miss California (Santa Cruz) Pageant for the Miss America title; the founding of other organizations that bear her stamp to this day, such as the Golden State Dance Teachers Association, through which she expanded her training programs for teachers, competitors and students using her Universal Unit System,
See SKIPPY, page 2



Skippy Blair, left, is shown performing the Cha Cha with Barry Dunn in the 1962 musical comedy, "The Big Show." Blair's 24 karat gold dress was insured for \$10,000. Photo courtesy Skippy Blair

Lopez, Ciatti take Miss Downey titles

■ Nearly three dozen young women vie for the title of Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey 2008.

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – In front of an audience of more than 700 people, 33 contestants strutted across the stage in sparkling gowns at the Downey Theatre last Saturday to claim the titles of Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey 2008.

By this time, the girls had already competed in the sportswear, business wear and audience choice question portions of the 2008 Miss Downey/Miss Teen Downey Pageant, themed "Under the Sea."

With Rick Porcaro at the podium as master of ceremonies, 15 girls, ages 13–15, competed for the Miss Teen Downey title and her respective court, and 18 young women, ages 16–23, competed for the Miss Downey title and her respective court. One by one the girls introduced themselves, providing the audience with their name, age, grade, school and contestant number. They wore jeans and T-shirts complete with fish and sea shells to complement the pageant's theme, which was evident in the set's painted backdrop and 'floating fish,' providing an underwater experience.

The contestants then let their creativity shine in the sportswear presentation. Miss Teen contestants varied widely in their choices, as some were surfers and dolphin trainers, while others were pie eating contest winners and race car drivers, even driving a mini-race car across the stage. Miss Downey contestants brought just as much creativity, with some girls being Wii gamers and potato sack competitors, and others being wind-up dolls and 'Vote for Pedro' dancers, known from the movie "Napoleon Dynamite."

The contestants transformed from silly to sophisticated in the business wear presentation, wearing the likes of satin blouses, pencil skirts, high heels and pearl necklaces. While in their business wear, the girls were asked questions in which the audience would judge them. One winner from each group of girls would be determined from the amount of votes received by the audience and would in turn receive \$125 each, an amount donated by Gary DeRemer, president of the Downey Rose Float
See MISS DOWNEY, page 3

Downey man convicted of first-degree murder

NORWALK – John Jesus Alcantara, a 52-year-old Downey resident, was convicted of the 1983 murder of Robert G. Bennett, a 52-year-old supervisor with the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County, and was sentenced to 25 years to life in state prison this week.

Deputy District Attorney John Lewin told the *Press-Telegram* that Bennett was last seen at the Whittier Narrows Sanitation Plant with Alcantara, who had been put on "improvement needed" status, which made him ineligible to apply for a promotion. Alcantara argued with Bennett the day before his disappearance and after another co-worker complained that he had been threatened by Alcantara, Bennett drove to the sanitation plant to meet with Alcantara. He had Alcantara get into his truck and was never seen again, Lewin said.

Authorities believe Alcantara, then 27 years old, shot Bennett and dismembered his body, with the remains likely dumped at the Puente Hills Landfill. Bennett's body has yet to be found.

The prosecutor also noted that conventional serology tests showed that a large amount of blood found in the brush at Whittier Narrows Sanitation Plant was consistent with Bennett's. The evidence, however, was accidentally destroyed in 1989 before further testing could be conducted.

The investigation was reopened years later, leading to Alcantara's arrest by Los Angeles County sheriff's investigators in November 2005, reported the *Press-Telegram*.

Alcantara was convicted of first-degree murder last Tuesday at Norwalk Superior Court.



The Downey Fire Department hosted a St. Baldrick's fundraiser Sunday, raising more than \$30,000 for the St. Baldrick's Foundation, a non-profit charity that helps raise money for childhood cancer research. More than 100 people shaved their heads at Fire Station 1. Photo courtesy city of Downey



Over 150 parents, teachers and students attended Health Night at Gaudin Elementary School earlier this month where visitors learned about proper fitness and nutrition. Two professional chefs were on hand serving healthy meat and bean dishes, while a registered dietician explained the USDA Food Pyramid and all its components. Children also enjoyed an appearance by "Power Panther," the official mascot of the California Nutrition Network. The night ended with a group exercise session. Photo courtesy Alex Gaytan



Several community and business leaders helped Downey schools celebrate "Read Across America Week" two weeks ago by reading to local schoolchildren. Price Elementary School hosted "Buddy Reading," where students from different classrooms paired up to read a book, and "Family Silly Story Night," where the principal, teachers and parents read to students while dressed in their pajamas. Some of the volunteers who read to Price students include Deputy Superintendent Jerilyn King-Brown, Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra, publisher Jennifer DeKay-Givens, and Miranda Cosgrove, star of the Nickelodeon comedy, "iCarly." Members of the Downey Fire Department and other community members participated as well.



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Daycare available during spring break

DOWNEY - The city of Downey Licensed Child Care Program will offer all-day daycare during spring break next week for children in grades K-8.

The cost is \$100 for the week of care and includes daily snack, mid-week excursion to the California Science Center - with admission to the Body World 3 exhibit - and viewing of an IMAX film.

To register, call (562) 776-9359 between 2 and 6 p.m.

Discounted senior lunches available

DOWNEY - The Human Services Association provides nutritious lunch for seniors over the age of 60 Monday through Friday starting at 11:30 a.m. at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

The cost of the congregate meal is \$2 per person. Bingo is played each Wednesday and Friday from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m. before lunch.

Lunch reservations are required by calling (562) 862-8800.

Register for 'Make-It-and-Take-It' class

DOWNEY - Registration is underway for the four-week Make-It-and-Take-It class scheduled for April 3 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center. The cost is \$10 and includes the cost of supplies. The class is designed for adults over the age of 50.

SKIPPY

Continued from page 1

producing dance shows and competitions, and the National Dance Dynamics Certification Board, while she started planning Teachers' Intensives (which involves "challenging" 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. three to four-day training sessions); the start of her OLPH training program that was to run for five years; and the publication of a series of dance textbooks, including "So You Want to Learn to Dance?" and the seminal "Disco To Tango & Back"—a comprehensive dance textbook that, according to her, has become "the standard for many independent dance teachers all over."

Skippy says underlying her method is an emphasis on coordination training, which addresses the need of both children and adults to achieve physical and mental balance in their lives. Most people are unaware, she says, that even a simple thing as being able to skip (as in "skip and jump") is of paramount importance in the overall development of a human being. In between the years while all this was going on, she performed on numerous TV shows (the "Bob Barker Varieties" among them) and a few sundry movies.

In 1988, Skippy was instrumental in getting "West Coast Swing," her dance specialty and up to that

time known as "Western Swing," officially designated by the State Assembly as California's State Social Dance (the state's official folk dance is square dancing).

It goes without saying that for all these accomplishments and services, she has been the recipient of many honors and accolades over the years. I mentioned the popular "Dancing with the Stars" program on TV. "I think it's great for the country," she said.

Skippy turned 84 on March 15 and, although she had major back surgery a few years back, still maintains a heavy schedule. From May 9 to 12, she conducts the four-day 5th annual Kona Intensive in Kona, Hawaii, immediately followed by another four-day Intensive at the Fresno Radisson Hotel from May 20-23.

She has another two-day Mini-Intensive engagement at the Hyatt Regency in Garden Grove, from June 12-13. July will see her in Phoenix, Ariz. for a four-hour workshop on July 3, while the venue for a seven-day Intensive, called Skippy's 18th annual Summer Dance Intensive, is scheduled at the Miami Hyatt Regency in Miami from July 13-18.

And on and on, with mostly mini-Intensives keeping her busy on a monthly basis through February of 2009.

"Not bad for an 84-year-old, huh?" she said.

No, I said, marveling at the extraordinary lady's resolve and drive. Not bad at all.

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MISS DOWNEY

Continued from page 1

Association (DRFA).

Miss Teen contestants were up first and were asked, "What do you want to do in life?" The audience determined Brittany Vasquez as the winner, who answered she wanted to someday play water polo in the U.S. Olympics.

Miss Downey contestants were next and challenged with the question, "Do you consider yourself to be a giver or a taker and why?" The audience favored Sarah Del Rio's answer, which stated that she was both, because "when you give, you also receive."

Settling into their seats following intermission, the audience got a glimpse of the contestants out and about around town. The video included bits and pieces of the girls' participation with the rose float clean-up, BJ's Pizza, cosmic bowling, press night, and more.

The curtain raised and wearing gowns fit for royalty, the Miss Teen contestants made their way across the stage one at a time. While each girl made her way around the stage, their pre-recorded answer to the question, "What food best describes yourself?" was played. Some girls said apples, pineapples and watermelons best described them, while others said hot fudge sundaes, chocolate-covered strawberries and animal-style french fries from In-N-Out best described them.

It was at this time that the audience – and the judges – noticed two of the Miss Teen contestants were wearing the same exact dress.

"The judges aren't scoring the dress necessarily," said Susan Domen, a pageant director and chaperone. "They are judging how the contestant wears the dress and whether or not she makes it her own."

Ironically, one of the girls wearing the dress ended up winning the award for evening gown and was crowned Miss Teen Downey 2008.

Decked out in glittering dresses and jewelry, the Miss Downey contestants flaunted their formal wear next. Their answers to, "If you had the chance to take someone around the community, where would you take them?" were also being played as they made their way around the stage. Some girls said they would take their visitor to Downey Studios, Downey Landing and the Rives Mansion, while others said they would take their visitor to the Downey Museum of Art, Downey City Library and some of the local parks and schools.

The final portion of the pageant consisted of onstage questions, which were judged by the competition's nine judges. One by one, Miss Teen contestants answered, "Why do you want to be Miss Teen Downey," and Miss Downey contestants answered, "What qualities do you believe Miss Downey should possess?"

While scores were being tallied, the audience was treated to a presentation of the outgoing Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey, Brianna Arceo and Ashley Campuzano, respectively. Taking their final bow, the crowd said goodbye to Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey 2007.

Prior to the announcement of winners, special awards were handed out, which included volunteer, athletic, academic, audience choice, photogenic, congeniality, most improved, essay, talent, entrepreneur, sportswear, business wear and evening gown.

The moment finally arrived – it was time to crown this year's Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey and their courts.

Sarah Lopez, who also received the award for evening gown and third place essay, was crowned Miss Downey 2008. Lopez is a 19-year-old student at Cypress College and graduate of Warren High School. She is currently pursuing a degree in clinical psychology.

Crowned as her court were Shola Olaoshebikan (20, Cal State Dominguez Hills), Tiffani Denis (17, Downey High School), Kristine Urzua (17, Downey High School), and Justine Akil (20, Cal State Long Beach).

"This was my first time competing in a pageant and it was just one of those things I wanted to try," said Denis, who currently works at Pina's Pizza. "I'm looking forward to being involved in the community and giving back to the very community I grew up in."

Carli Ciatti, who also received the award for volunteer, sportswear, business wear and evening gown, was crowned Miss Teen Downey 2008. Crowned as her court were Brittany Vasquez (15, Warren High School), Tarra Swoboda (15, Downey High School), and Natalie Bedran (15, Warren High School).

Ciatti is a 15-year-old student at Warren High School who was also a former Miss Teen Downey Princess in 2006 and Miss Teen Bellflower Princess in 2007. She is a member of Warren's Girls League and plays on the school's frosh/soph basketball team. She also volunteers every Sunday at Downey Regional Medical Center's pharmacy.

"I wasn't trying to impress the judges – I was just being myself," said Ciatti, who has lived in Downey her entire life. "And when they called my name as Miss Teen Downey, I was speechless. I was so ecstatic, I wanted to cry – I thought I was dreaming."

Ciatti hopes to compete in the Miss Teen California International Pageant next year and return to compete for Miss Downey the following year.

According to Domen, 44 girls applied for the pageant this year but a number of them dropped out due to illness. In order to apply, the contestants must be of appropriate age and either live, work or go to



Miss Downey, Miss Teen Downey, and their respective courts were crowned last Saturday at the Downey Theatre. Photo courtesy Susan Domen

school in Downey. Contestants can compete as many times as they wish, but once you are crowned Miss Downey or Miss Teen Downey, you cannot run for the same title again.

When asked what the judges are looking for in a Miss Downey and Miss Teen Downey, Domen replied, "Poise on stage – not their size, beauty or money spent on clothes, community service involvement, dedication and responsibility to events, and being able to speak well in front of crowds."

"These girls represent the city and the Rose Float Association at ribbon-cutting events, mixers, Concerts in the Park, and more, so they need to be able to speak well."

Domen said the contestants began rehearsing in mid-January, learning choreography, how to walk, and even how to do their hair and make-up.

"Rehearsals really give the girls the opportunity to bond with one another and grow as individuals," she said. "My biggest joy is watching the transformation of each girl throughout the whole process."

A week prior to the pageant, contestants participated in a talent show and essay contest, in which the scores were kept completely separate than those of the pageant.

"It's so hard to only pick a handful of girls sometimes," Domen said. "We get attached to all of them and they all deserve it in one way or another. But the Rose Float Association is very pleased to have Sarah and Carli as their queens. They both have great personalities and hearts to serve the community."

Law office is finalist for Chamber award

DOWNEY – Tredway, Lumsdaine & Doyle, with offices in Downey, Irvine and Long Beach, has been selected for the second year in a row as a finalist for the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year Award.

Tredway, Lumsdaine & Doyle

is one of seven finalists to be honored during America's Small Business Summit 2008, April 16-18 in Washington, D.C.

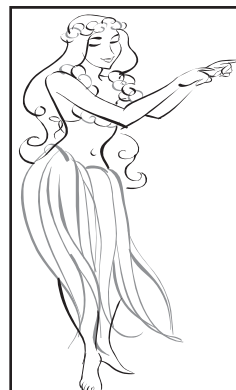
Each finalist was selected to represent one of seven regions across the country from among the winners of the U.S. Chamber Blue Ribbon Small Business Award. A

selection committee will review each finalist to determine the recipient of this year's Small Business of the Year Award, which will be announced at a ceremony April 17.

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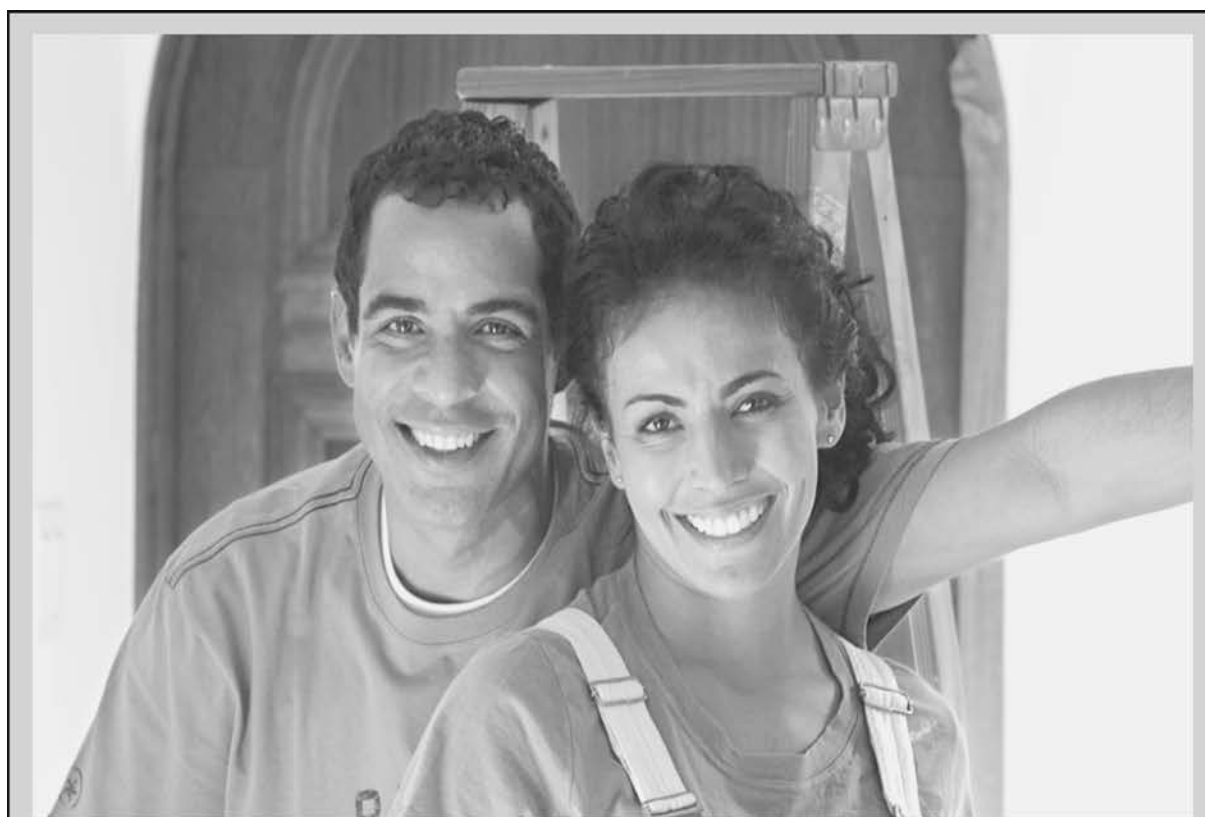
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Symphony concert to be 'picture-perfect'

By JOYCE SHERWIN, DOWNEY SYMPHONY

Picture this: an excellent theatre with cushy seating and great sight-lines (hint – it's local); a photogenic orchestra is on stage (also local and very fine); the splendid new conductor raises her baton, a terrific concert begins.

Does that seem like an inviting picture in your mind's eye? You can experience it live, in surround sound and comfort, by coming to our Civic Theatre the evening of April 5, to hear the Downey Symphony perform a program that is fittingly titled, "Picture-Perfect."

The music is stirring (Verdi's overture to Nabucco), melodious (Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto, and knock-your-socks-off (Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition").

This is the final evening performance of the orchestra's 50th Anniversary season, and will feature the Baton Auction as well as a complimentary reception in the patio for orchestra members and everyone in the audience.

Concert time is 8 p.m., preceded at 7:15 p.m. by Music Director Sharon Lavery's discussion of the evening's music.

Located at the corner of Firestone Boulevard and Brookshire Avenue, the theatre offers plenty of free parking.

Tickets, priced at \$25 and \$20, may be reserved by phoning (562) 403-2944, or at the theatre box office on April 2 from noon to 4 p.m. The box office will also be open the night of performance after 6:30 p.m.

The Downey Symphony is one of this community's artistic assets, and your support can help to assure the future of its concerts and Music in the Schools appearances. And that's a nice picture.

Festa Primavera gala fundraiser April 20

By ROSALIE SCIORTINO, DOWNEY SYMPHONY GUILD

Mama mia! It'll be like meeting in the village square in sunny Italy when the Downey Symphony Guild open the doors of the Downey Woman's Club on April 20 at 4 p.m. for their annual fundraising gala – Festa Primavera – Spring Festival.

A complete Italian spaghetti and meatball dinner will be prepared and served by the Guild board members.

Children are welcome at this Sunday gathering at a reduced charge of \$10 for those age 12 and under.

A silent and live auction will feature gifts from generous merchants of the area who will be recognized in the program. Decorations as well as live music by Roberto will enhance the Italianate theme.

Remember, please, that this social function in addition to their other events, enables the Guild to offer each year several thousand dollars to Music in the Schools and the Downey Symphony Orchestra.

The dinner is priced at \$65 per person of which more than half is tax deductible. Please send checks made out to Downey Symphony Guild to 9700 Garnish Dr., Downey, CA, 9020 by April 11 indicating number of people attending and their names and the Guild will say a heartfelt mille grazie [thank you very much].

Reptiles converging on library

DOWNEY – Reptile lovers ages 5 – 12 can celebrate spring break with a special program at the Downey City Library.

"Alligator Al" will bring his collection of reptiles to the library this Wednesday from 2 to 2:45 p.m. in the Cormack Room. Children can get up-close looks at snakes, lizards, frogs, toads and alligators in educational and hands-on event.

Passes to the program will be distributed 30 minutes before show time. For more information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 27.

Historical society watching war films

DOWNEY – The Downey Historical Society will examine World War II propaganda at their meeting this Thursday in a program entitled, "Sayings, Songs and Slogans – The Stuff that Won the War."

Program chair Jeff Vilencia has spliced 17 "shorts" into one film, which includes a "promotional short" on the atomic bomb at Los Alamos, and a film produced by the British Ministry of Information featuring a very young Edward R. Murrow.

The meeting will be held at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center starting at 7:30 p.m.



Violinist Danielle Nesmith will be a featured performer April 5 at the Downey Theatre. Tickets are still available.



City of Downey Recreation Supervisor Teri Arkoff, right, accepted a check for \$1,000 from Roy Beard, president of the Downey Los Amigos Kiwanis, for the city's annual "Eggstravaganza." The event will take place tomorrow at four park locations from 10:30 a.m. to noon and will include egg hunts, crafts and face painting.

The Poet's Corner

Soldiers

Standing tall and true,
The sentinels await their Master's hue,
As row upon row they standing are -
Silently without an alarm by far.
First stands Grey beholding their homes,
Steadfastly shoulder to shoulder with companion
Green, then Blue, heads held high, not looking around
Waiting for that rumbling sound
As Master Green scoops him up and dumps him surreptitiously
Without so much as a howdy do.
These guys are soldiers, without such things as beds.
They do their duty, with very little thanks instead.
They doff their hats as their contents are emptied.
Instead of being pummeled, they should be pitied.
For as another week goes by, they will be filled again.
For you see it is Monday as Trash Trucks
Storm their streets in chattering array,
Their odors wafting about will not go away.
- Michael Halliday,
Downey

Closing Down The House

They sifted through their parents' drawers
And sorted out the contents there
Life records of the rational -
The hidden madness everywhere

Creative flare was all around
And new ideas were all explored
Yet non connected, none maintained
Sad craziness they all abhorred

And so they sat
And so they sighed
And bit by bit
Connections died
'Till what had been
A magic place
Became a house
Without a trace

The children leave the nursing home
The couple sits alone in dread
She says "What about the house?"
And he says "Let's just go to bed."
- Frank Kearns,
Downey

Yes It's True

Yes, it's true my eyes are weak
I can feel them start to leak
I guess they didn't hold together
Maybe we should lock them better.

It may be true my lips are cold
Flesh is pale and ora gold
I can almost touch the light
See the sound and hear my sight
Take me away forever sky
So I can truly feel alive

No, I don't agree with you
I don't accept the things you do
Innocence we value here
Do not mistake my love for fear
Peace is what we're fighting for
Save our troops, stop the war
The earth is running out of time
And marijuana's not a crime.
-Jenerous,
Downey

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@ (562) 201-6886 - (562) 869-0804

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Wedding Planner

By Eric Pierce

Congratulations are in order for my older brother, Oscar, who finally decided to forever surrender himself to his longtime girlfriend, proposing to her recently on bended knee.

Oscar and Mona will be married August 30th in a traditional church wedding followed by a traditional Catholic reception (i.e. lots of booze and drunken uncles).

My brother appointed me best man, which means I'm in the midst of planning one heck of a bachelor party (i.e. more booze and drunken uncles). I don't have concrete plans for the party yet, which is just as well because details may not be entirely suitable for a family newspaper. (In fact, if it's a good party, it *definitely* won't be suitable for a family newspaper.)

Mona and her family are handling the bulk of the wedding planning responsibilities, calling me occasionally for my opinion (out of sheer obligation I sense), before turning around and doing the exact opposite. It's an odd form of teamwork, but the formula works.

My god, I never knew so many minute details and decisions went into a wedding. What colors should the bridesmaids wear? What bible verses shall the wedding party read? Do we want them reading at all? The bridesmaid wants to wear what?! Should we invite Uncle Sergio? We don't want him passing out on the dance floor.

Sometimes one issue will take on a life of its own, and everybody just has to get a word in.

Family Member #1: Uncle Sergio has diabetes and can't have sugar. Should we really invite him to the wedding? I mean, what is he going to do when we're all eating cake?

Family Member #2: Of course we're inviting Uncle Sergio, he's family. Maybe we can request the baker use Equal instead of sugar in the wedding cake. You won't even tell the difference.

Family Member #3: Oh no, I heard Equal causes cancer. They tested it on rats, you know.

Family Member #1: No, dear, you're thinking of Splenda. Splenda causes cancer. Equal causes impotence.

Family #3: Impotence? Ha, Sergio hasn't had to worry about that for years! (Laughter.)

This is about the time when I walk out of the room.

I respect my brother for making this gigantic leap of faith, testimony for his utter devotion towards Mona, whom I will be honored to call my sister-in-law.

I hope the happy couple is together forever, until death do them part, because I don't want to go through these wedding plans ever again.

Letters to the Editor:

Alternative resources for arthritis

Dear Editor:

Not to take anything away from the fine article by Brooke Karli ("Family Lobbies for Arthritis Awareness," 3/14/08), the Minnie family, the Arthritis Foundation, or mainstream traditional medicine, but many victims of some forms of this crippling disease could be well served by following the nutritional and non-traditional processes outlined in alternative disciplines which should not be ignored or dismissed out of hand.

The Downey City Library's catalog lists 70 books on the subject of "arthritis;" some folks might consider a few of them to be quack-ish, but others among them can help many sufferers to great relief, normal lives, less expense, and fewer visits.

—Hugh T. Hoskins,
Downey

Proud of the Patriot

Dear Editor:

I am a 15-year resident and I am an avid reader of *The Downey Patriot*.

I decided to write to you these lines because this week's edition of the paper (*The Downey Patriot*, 3/14/08) impacted me with almost all the articles presented. I read: "WWII Veterans Share Intimate Stories of Their Fight for Freedom," "Citing Low Profits, Taro's Tapas Out at Embassy," "Delinquency Prevention Juvenile Hall Battle Cry," "Sometimes All They Need is a Chance," "Family Lobbies for Arthritis Awareness," "Stauffer, Brabant Honored as 'Volunteers of the Year' by Downey School District," "7 Dirty Words to Never Link to Baby Boomers," "Who You Calling Fat," "Letters to the Editor," "Paging Dr. Alan Frischer," "LRMC Seminar Discusses Diabetic Eye Disease," "Top 10 Myths About Historic Preservation," and "The Ins-and-Outs of Living Trusts."

I want to stress the importance of the "Delinquency Prevention Juvenile Hall Battle Cry" article. What a magnificent article! It was simple and very easy to understand. I believe everyone should read it.

The "Letters to the Editor" were perfect - the residents of Downey could not have expressed their statements in a better way for this young man who believes disrespect is the same as freedom. By the way, do you think he knows what freedom means? And I agree with a letter that stated that his letter was very well written. Frankly, I believe somebody wrote it for him.

Thank you to the staff of *The Downey Patriot* for all the excellent work you do every week.

—Manuel Santamaria Lara,
Downey

Applauding the Downey Library

Dear Editor:

The Downey City Library should be commended by the entire city for its excellent commemoration of World War II history this month.

Librarian Nancy Messineo and staff, and the Friends of the Library, sponsored the Downey Veteran Oral History Project with an exhibition of photos and stories of Downey veterans; the "One Book, One Community" reading of "The Greatest Generation;" the viewing of four movies of how the war affected Downey and California; and the internment experience of Paul Yokota.

"Thank you" to all who participated in making this project an enriching and enlightening experience.

—Helen Skovseth,
Downey

Wake-up America

Dear Editor:

I was pleased to read the "Letters to the Editor" addressing the letter of Julian Gutierrez regarding his unwillingness to salute the American flag. What has happened in our society that causes one not to love the U.S.? Sad, indeed! I agree with the others that if a high school student feels no loyalty to the U.S., I'd be willing to help with a ticket to the country of his choice.

As Jeff Marifian noted, apparently he has had a good education. I was surprised to learn that Gutierrez was a high school student. I've read, and disagreed, with letters he has written before. He appears to be intelligent, however, there is a vast difference between intelligence and wisdom. I would hope this young man would seek wisdom as he seems lacking in this area.

His lack of support for the U.S. brings to mind a conversation I had with the lady who answers the phone in Sen. John Kerry's office in Washington, D.C. My purpose in calling Sen. Kerry's office was to tell him I disagreed with his health care plan. Then I asked why the U.S. is bringing 30,000 - 40,000 people from Iraq to the U.S. who are probably Muslims, knowing what havoc they have created in Europe (England, France, Germany, Holland, etc.). I also stated that I wasn't happy because he had done nothing to control our southern border. I was shocked when the lady replied "you need to know that you are now living in a multi-national country and if you don't like it, perhaps you'd better start to look for another country to move to." I was furious and asked her to run that by me again. She did! I then informed her that I pledge allegiance to the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, not to the multi-national country and to the socialist government for which it stands. She ended the conversation by repeating the same quote. The more I thought about it, I had to admit that this is where our elected leaders are taking us.

John Kerry is not some high school student who is confused in his thinking. He's one who wanted to be president of the "multi-national country." Rather than write letters answering Julian Gutierrez, we'd better be writing and calling the "leaders" of our country and let them know loudly and often that we love the U.S.

People, I beg of you, plead with you, please wake up. Call your senators - Diane Feinstein and Barbara Boxer. Then call every Senator that comes to mind. Also, call Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard to see if she would do something other than photo-ops. Her photo was in *The Downey Patriot* in three different places this past week. I hardly remember seeing Congressman Horn's photo in the paper and am tired of seeing hers. These lethargic "leaders?" will do something if we make them. Call Senator Feinstein's office for a toll-free number for anyone in Congress.

Perhaps America needs a wake-up call for a nation that has been in a long sleep, a citizenry that for too long has been guilty of what the 19th century social activist, William Boetcker called the Seven National Crimes - I don't think. I don't know. I don't care. I'm too busy. I leave well enough alone. I have no time to read and find out. I am not interested.

—Elsa Van Leuven,
Downey

Letters to the editor may be submitted by writing to The Downey Patriot, 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey CA 90240 or by e-mail to downeypatriot@yahoo.com. Letters may be edited for style and/or content. Letters must include a full name and address for verification.

Why are publishers not giving 100 percent?

By Josh P. McClary and Jessica Sanchez

For many Americans, the journey toward environmentally conscious living begins with recycling, a lifestyle change that is surprisingly simple to implement, yet amazingly effective in its positive impact on the environment. But as consumers embrace the need for immediate action, the U.S. publishing industry is making an alarmingly slow transition towards printing books on paper manufactured from 100 percent post-consumer waste pulp (PCW).

As evidence mounts over the need for immediate action, the Green Press Initiative, a non-profit group responsible for much of the progress already achieved in the paper industry, released an e-mail on Jan. 9, 2008, announcing that their Leadership Council had made the decision to lower their standards for signing their "Book Industry Treatise on Responsible Paper." Instead of pledging to print books on paper made from a minimum of 30 percent recycled, 30 percent PCW paper, publishers now only need to promise that the 30 percent recycled portion would consist of a "majority" post-consumer waste fiber. They also extended the time frame for reaching the goal from 2010 to 2012.

A policy shift meant, according to the e-mail sent out to their mailing list, to "make its goals more attainable." We find it troubling that an organization with the goal of promoting positive change in the industry would lower their already minimal standards at a time when more action is needed.

The typical argument most large publishers have against using 100 percent recycled, 100 percent PCW paper is that the cost would be higher than the cost of printing on non-recycled paper. To be absolutely sure this was the case we asked a major printer to quote 100,000 copies of a typical book. We asked for a quote for both traditional, non-recycled paper and 100 percent recycled, 100 percent PCW paper.

We expected the recycled content book to be slightly more expensive which would support the argument regularly used by the large publishers. The quote said something very different: printing 100,000 copies of this



Roybal-Allard highlights Metro Gold Line extension

BOYLE HEIGHTS - Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34) joined U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer to highlight the \$80 million they secured through the Fiscal Year 2008 federal appropriations process to continue construction of the Edward R. Roybal Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa; Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Gloria Molina, Yvonne B. Burke and Zev Yaroslavsky; and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) CEO Roger Snoble also took part in the event.

In her remarks, Roybal-Allard acknowledged that the project was ahead of schedule and congratulated the MTA staff and the employees working on the project for their more than 2.6 million work hours without an accident requiring an employee to take a single day off from work.

The light rail will extend six miles east from downtown's Union Station through Little Tokyo, the Arts District, Boyle Heights and East Los Angeles. The \$899 million project is scheduled for completion in late 2009.

The congresswoman worked with other key lawmakers to secure final approval of the Full Funding Grant Agreement that allowed construction of the project to get underway. The total federal government commitment for the project is approximately \$490 million.

Roybal-Allard acclaimed for tech work

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-34) has been named Legislator of the Year by Computer Using Educators (CUE) for her "sustained and extraordinary efforts to promote the educational use of technology to advance student achievement."

"Technology plays an absolutely critical role in preparing our children for the challenges of the 21st Century," said Roybal-Allard. "Regardless of whether students in my congressional district go on to college or whether they go straight to the workforce, technology will inevitably play a large role in their jobs and daily lives. We must provide them with the necessary skills to maintain a competitive edge in an environment that is increasingly dependent upon technology."

John Cradler, co-chair of the CUE Legislative Advocacy Committee, hailed Roybal-Allard for her support of the ATTAIN Act, legislation that would extend and expand grant programs as part of the reauthorization of the No Child Left Behind Act.

"Because of her support of ATTAIN, Congresswoman Lucille-Roybal-Allard has helped ensure that the critical role that educational technology plays in the education of our students is not lost."

particular 232-page book on traditional paper with no recycled content would cost slightly more. Clearly in this situation, environmental harmony was not only attainable, it was financially preferred.

This was not a scientific experiment meant to show that publishers can now run out and print all their titles on 100 percent recycled, 100 percent PCW paper at no extra cost. There are many factors that go into the cost of a print run, and paper prices fluctuate often. But it does cast serious doubt on the "attainability" argument. Clearly it is possible for publishers of large print runs to do the right thing without paying a dollar more - possibly even spending less - if they are willing to ask the questions and do a little research.

So why aren't we seeing a majority of U.S. publishers acting more responsibly? Besides just good old-fashioned indifference, apparently in their notion of attainability, many publishers haven't factored in the costs of their actions on the future of our world. If they wanted to get serious about responsible paper use, they need to take a very serious look at their business practices. Why are so many books printed in China when there are a plethora of printers and recycled paper manufacturers in the U.S. and Canada? Isn't it important to these companies to support the economies of North America? Manufacturing has been outsourced for far too long; it's time we start spending our dollars closer to home.

The most influential aspect in this process is the consumer - the reader. Readers need to start demanding books printed on recycled (or even non-paper) material. When you buy their books you are investing in their product and company; if you don't like what they are doing with your money then tell them!


Small strides in the right direction are only a start. This industry has the ability, the money, and the resources to make the right environmental choices, and still makes only slight improvements, if any. At Kedzie Press, we only print on 100 percent recycled, 100 percent PCW paper, and even that is not enough. In February 2008 we launched our "Kedzie Million Tree-a-Thon." In collaboration with Eco-Libris, we will plant one tree for each book we sell with the goal of planting 1 million trees by December 2009. We invite other publishers to follow our example, stop making excuses, and be part of the solution.

Josh P. McClary and Jessica Sanchez are cofounders of Kedzie Press, an independent "green" book publishing company based in Seattle. Visit them online at www.kedziepress.com.

The Downey Patriot

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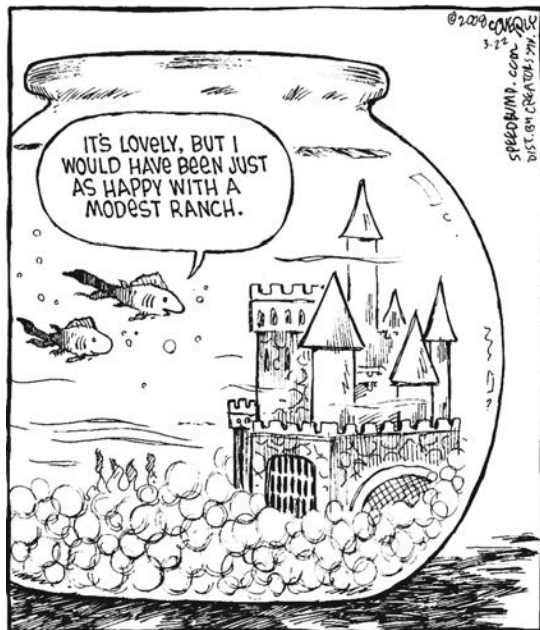
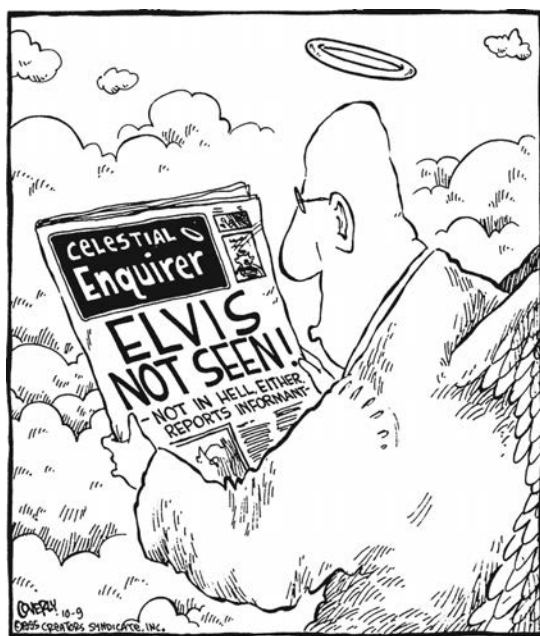
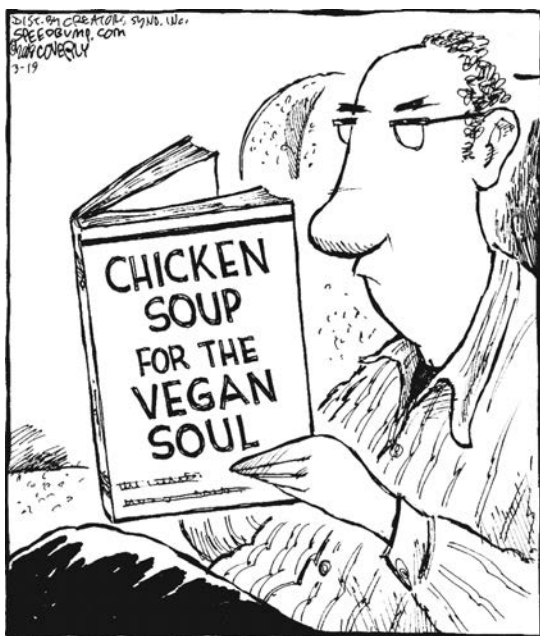
8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240
 Phone (562) 904-3668 * Fax (562) 904-3124
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For March

- Mon. March 24 - Fri. March 28: "Spring Break Fun." Downey Parks, 11 a.m.
- Tues. March 25: City Council meeting. City Hall, 7:30 p.m.
- Wed. March 26: "Alligator Al" visits the Downey City Library, 2 p.m.
- Thurs. March 27: "Savings, Songs and Slogans - The Stuff that Won the War." Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, 7:30 p.m.

City Meetings

- 1st Tuesdays, 6:15 p.m.: Redevelopment Project Area Committee, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library.
- 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.: Planning Commission, Council Chamber at City Hall.
- 1st Tuesday, 4:00 p.m.: Recreation and Community Services Commission, Council Chamber, City Hall.
- 1st Thursday, 9 a.m.: Traffic Committee, Training Room, Second Floor of City Hall.
- 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: City Council/Community Development Commission, Council Chamber.
- 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 928-2658.
- 7 p.m.: Boy Scout Troop 2, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
- 7 p.m.: Boy Scout Troop 441, at Apollo Park Activities Room, for information call 923-3659.
- 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 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.

Sundays

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

On This Day...

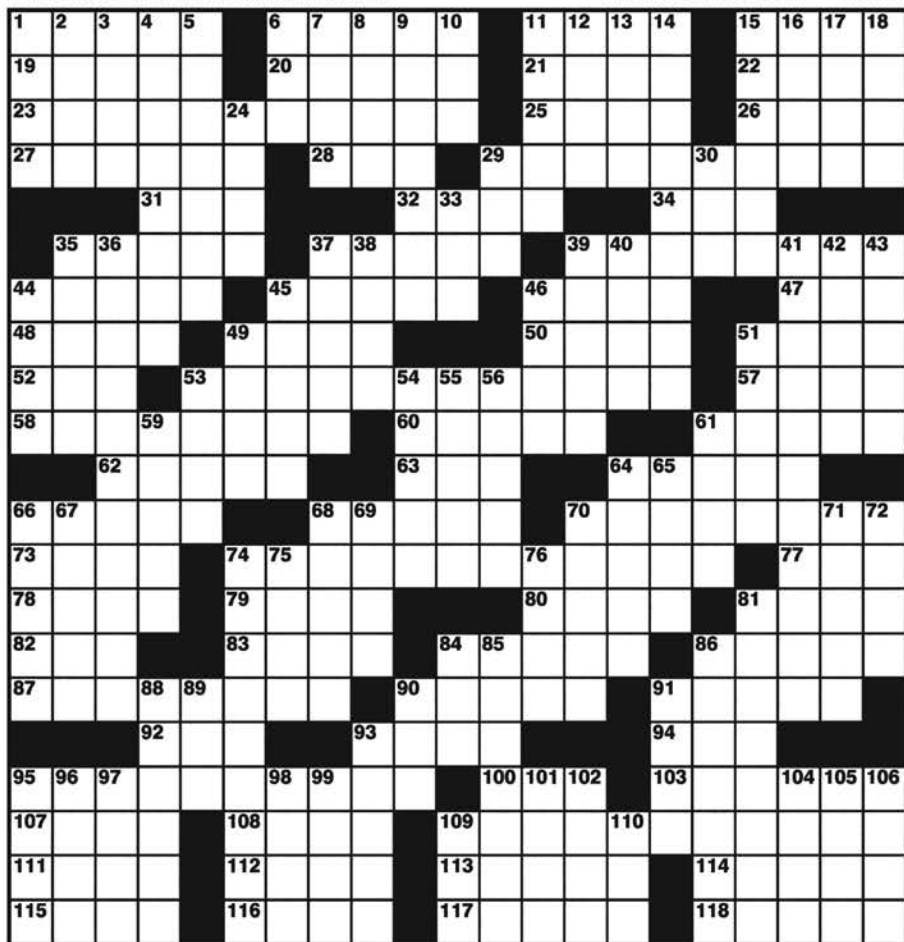
- March 21, 1790: Thomas Jefferson takes office to become this country's first secretary of state.
- 1928: Charles Lindbergh is presented the Medal of Honor for completing his first transatlantic flight.
- 1962: Talk show host and entertainer Rosie O'Donnell is born. Also born March 21: Eddie Money (58), Sabrina LeBeauf (49), Matthew Broderick (45) and Raulzinho (27).
- 1963: Alcatraz prison in San Francisco clears out its last remaining inmates.
- 1965: Martin Luther King Jr. leads more than 3,000 civil rights demonstrators on a march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala.
- 1989: "Sports Illustrated" publishes a report linking Pete Rose to baseball gambling.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

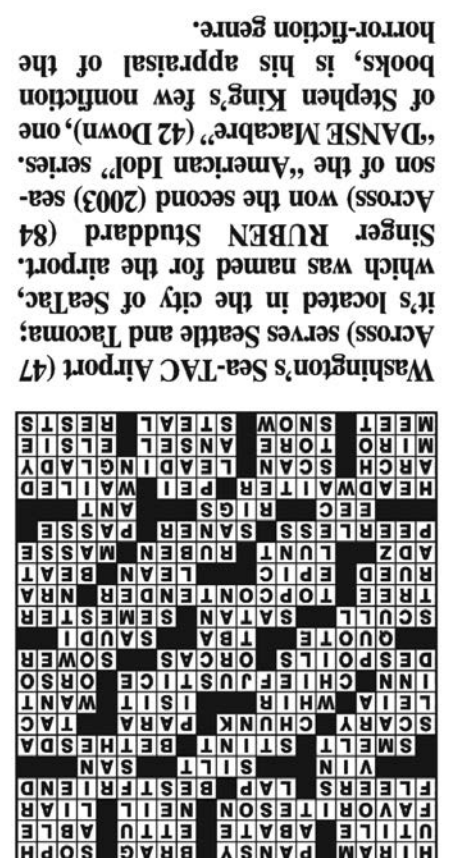
FIRST OF ALL: They're #1
by Fred Piscop

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2008 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 3/16/08



- ACROSS
 - 1 Distiller Walker
 - 6 Violet variety
 - 11 Blow one's own horn
 - 15 JV player, maybe
 - 19 Of service
 - 20 Peter out
 - 21 Words to Brutus
 - 22 Up to the task
 - 23 Home-state candidate
 - 25 Singer Sedaka
 - 26 Fact fudger
 - 27 They must be going
 - 28 Track circuit
 - 29 One to hang out with
 - 31 Auto registration datum
 - 32 Riverbed deposit
 - 34 Japanese honorific
 - 35 Refine
 - 37 Time on a job
 - 39 Naval hospital site
 - 44 Like a haunted house
 - 45 Thick piece
 - 46 Lawyer's aide, briefly
 - 47 Washington's Sea-__ Airport
 - 48 Star Wars princess
 - 49 Fan sound
 - 50 " __ any wonder?"
 - 51 Have a yen for
 - 52 Roadhouse
 - 53 John Roberts' title
 - 57 Guesstimate phrase
 - 58 Plunders
 - 60 Ocean predators
 - 61 Farmer, in spring
 - 62 State, as a price
 - 63 Sched. question mark
 - 64 Riyadh resident
 - 66 Rower's craft
 - 68 Paradise Lost character
 - 70 School period
 - 73 Mango or mahogany
 - 74 Title-shot hopeful
 - 77 Second Amendment supporter
 - 78 Felt remorse for
 - 79 Grand-scale
 - 80 In fighting trim
 - 81 Cop's route
 - 82 Wood shaper
 - 83 Fontanne's partner
 - 84 American Idol winner Studdard
 - 86 Tricky pool shot
 - 87 Without equal
 - 90 Less eccentric
 - 91 No longer in vogue
 - 92 Common Market inits.
 - 93 Fixes illegally
 - 94 Hill denizen
 - 95 Restaurant honcho
 - 100 Kennedy Library architect
 - 103 Sounded like a siren
 - 107 St. Louis landmark
 - 108 Read a bar code
 - 109 Sort of star
 - 111 Spanish surrealist
 - 112 Went like heck
 - 113 Photographer Adams
 - 114 Borden symbol
 - 115 Bump into
 - 116 Throw off the track
 - 117 Rip off
 - 118 Takes a siesta
 - DOWN
 - 1 Peeved mood
 - 2 Stanted type: Abbr.
 - 3 Bank of France
 - 4 Natural healer
 - 5 How "we roll along" character
 - 6 Soft touch
 - 7 Genesis brother
 - 8 Shuttle org.
 - 9 Visits briefly
 - 10 Kyoto cash
 - 11 "The Devil and Daniel Webster" author
 - 12 Numbered rds.
 - 13 Toiling away
 - 14 Bahrain or Kuwait
 - 15 Briny
 - 16 Village Voice award
 - 17 Map out
 - 18 Roundup group
 - 24 "Money __ everything"
 - 29 Diner sandwich
 - 30 Stadium cheer
 - 33 Sign, as a deal
 - 35 Act part
 - 36 Steady date
 - 37 Draws back
 - 38 Gang's land
 - 39 Foundation
 - 40 Rocker Clapton
 - 41 Trial VIP
 - 42 __ Macabre (Stephen King book)
 - 43 Part player
 - 44 Lost traction
 - 45 Argentina neighbor
 - 46 Gyro holder
 - 49 Tiny bit
 - 51 Forest
 - 53 Air-conditioned
 - 54 Word-guessing game
 - 55 Hardly rural
 - 56 Barely sufficient
 - 59 Whimpered
 - 61 Litigious type
 - 64 Roomy auto
 - 65 Hymn ender
 - 66 Backpack part
 - 67 Tanker filler
 - 68 Some board-game turns
 - 69 Bank statement no.
 - 70 Villain's look
 - 71 Wipe clean
 - 72 Hourly charge
 - 74 Puts on the air
 - 75 Major work
 - 76 Dresden's river
 - 81 __ Day (July 14)
 - 84 Cloth scrap
 - 85 Still in the bank
 - 86 One in charge
 - 88 Super-popular
 - 89 Fictional sleuth
 - Archer
 - 90 Knight's title
 - 91 Unwitting accomplice
 - 93 Extend, as a lease
 - 95 Soccer star Mia
 - 96 Toledo's lake
 - 97 Ranch unit
 - 98 Screen symbol
 - 99 Tahitian tuber
 - 101 Life of Riley
 - 102 Concept
 - 104 Highlands gal
 - 105 Cut and paste
 - 106 Batiking supplies
 - 109 __ Cruces, NM
 - 110 Out of sorts

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.



Antoinette Winifred Davis was a longtime hairdresser

DOWNEY – Antoinette “Toni” Winifred Davis, Downey resident for more than 50 years, passed away on March 14. She was 89.

Davis was born on Oct. 1, 1918 in Los Angeles. She attended Bell High School, where she met her husband, Harry “Bud” Davis. She was a hairdresser for more than 65 years and worked at Charlene’s Beauty Boutique. She was also a member of St. Raymond’s Catholic Church.

She is survived by her son, Frank “Buddy” (Maureen) Davis; daughter, Patti “Trisha” (David) Karls; grandchildren, Michael, Sheila, Jeff and Brad; great-grandchildren, Matthew, Paige, Nicholas and Grant; brother, Lee; sisters, Martha and Mollie.

Services were held on Wednesday at St. Raymond’s Catholic Church at 10 a.m., followed by interment at Rose Hills Memorial Park.



Maxine Katherine Bonnar was a licensed nurse

DOWNEY – Maxine Katherine (Lemm) Bonnar, Downey resident for 60 years, passed away on March 14. She was 82.

Bonnar was born on July 25, 1925 in Lakefield, Minn. She was employed as a licensed vocational nurse at Kaiser Permanente and was a member of St. Raymond’s Catholic Church.

She is survived by her sons, Michael, Donald, Gary, Steven and John; daughter-in-laws, Darlene and Debbie; 14 grandchildren; 17 great-grandchildren; and 22 foster children.

A funeral mass will be held on March 29 at St. Raymond’s at 10 a.m.

Companion Hospice in need of volunteers

SANTA FE SPRINGS – Companion Hospice Care is currently looking for volunteers for their upcoming training program.

Volunteers will have the opportunity to befriend those in their last days and can also relieve tired caregivers for short periods of time and help with errands and shopping. Volunteers will be assigned to their closest geographical area.

Training programs will be held on April 26, May 3, May 10 and May 17. Volunteers will receive a total of 16 hours of orientation and training.

Companion Hospice Care is located at 10330 Pioneer Blvd. in Santa Fe Springs. For more information, (562) 944-2711.

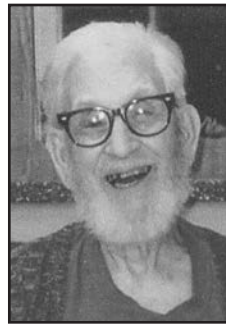
Woodrow W. Wheeler was a local minister

DOWNEY – Rev. Woodrow W. Wheeler, a Downey resident for 45 years, passed away on March 9. He was 95.

Wheeler was born in Decatur, Ill. He later resided in South Gate and Downey. He was the minister of Huntington Park and South Gate Foursquare Churches for more than 50 years. He also worked as a machinist for Firestone Tire & Rubber Company until retirement in 1971. Wheeler was a member of the Downey Lodge, Downey Chapter 160 Eastern Star, and the Firestone Retired Club of South Gate.

He is survived by his wife, Rev. Ruthmae Wheeler; daughters, Shirleyann Borger and Normajean McDonald; sister, Evelyn Morey; grandchildren, Michelle Rodriguez, Brett McDonald, Robin Logan and Sheri Borger; and two great-grandchildren.

Services were held at Miller-Mies Mortuary and Green Hills Memorial Park in Rancho Palos Verdes.



Julia ‘Judy’ Jensen was active in many groups

DOWNEY – Julia “Judy” Jensen, 40-year resident of Downey, passed away on March 8. She was 95.

Jensen was born on March 4, 1913 in New York City and spent her childhood and young adulthood in Ridgewood, N.J.; New York City, N.Y.; and Shippan Point, Conn. She attended Sweet Briar College in Sweet Briar, Va. and completed the Katherine Gibbs Secretarial School program in New York City to prepare herself for business. She worked for a number of businesses and organizations as a secretary, including the Council of Churches and Bonwit Teller, prior to her marriage to Sherman Jensen in 1941.

She met Sherman during World War II at Fort Monmouth, N.J., where he was stationed. Together, they traveled across the country to California and then back to the Midwest, where he served as an Army Captain at Camp Crowder, Mo. until the end of the war. They lived in Walnut Park for more than 20 years before moving to Downey.

Jensen was active in several Downey organizations, including the Downey Historical Society, Downey Symphony Guild, Downey Regional Medical Center Auxiliary, and Downey Republican Women’s Club. She was also a former deacon of her church, The First Congregational Church of Los Angeles, as well as a participating member of its Women’s Association and member of the Saint Andrew’s Society of Los Angeles.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Sherman. She is survived by her son, John Sherman Jensen; daughters, Janet Elizabeth Manz and Margaret Marie Jensen; grandson, Erik Manz; and great-grandchildren, Avalon Catherine Manz and Christian Johns-Manz.

A memorial service was held on Monday at Rose Hills Memorial Park, followed by interment, also at Rose Hills.



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March Fashion Tips



The following fashion tips are courtesy the "Teen Life of Style Crew" of Stonewood Center, Lakewood Center and Los Cerritos Center.

"Pretty Pastels" – Nichole: The colors "in" right now are definitely pastels and softer tones. They just blend with the season and are, not to mention, adorable! There are so many things available right now, that it was hard to choose just one – so I chose two! This tank top with yellow and white stripes was so comfortable and I loved it right when I saw it. The yellow bag matched perfectly and was big enough to hold all of my possessions. Both of these cute items can be found at Charlotte Russe in Los Cerritos Center, and both can be bought together for under \$25! They are both available in different colors as well.

"Hats, hats, hats!" – Priscilla: This month hats are definitely hot! Because the weather may not be as hot as we may like it to be, the chilly weather makes it hard for us girls to have great hair days. So a great way to look cute is with an adorable hat to top off any outfit. A simple hat like this one I purchased at Forever 21 at Lakewood Center will only cost you \$20! So enjoy the coolness of the day with a hot hat.

"Spring Fashion" – Kristine: As we all know, spring is rapidly coming and we can finally see all the pretty colors blossom before our eyes. Aside from this, the best in fashion lines come out. Personally, this is my favorite time of year because you can wear the cutest dresses in all the pastel colors that get you ready for the Easter holiday. You can get this really cute baby blue dress at Los Cerritos Center's Express for only \$50 and get the season started looking your best!

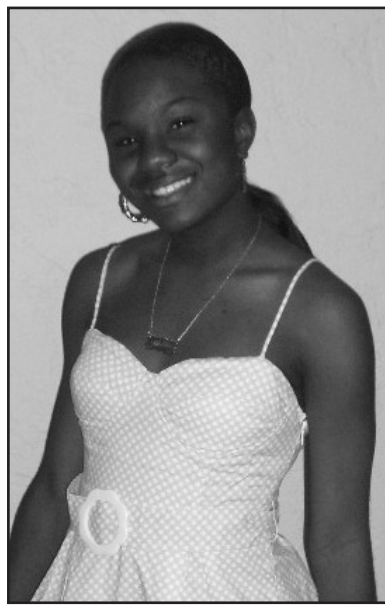
"Light and Breezy" – Brianna: Spring forward into fashion with a light breezy yellow dress. This dress is perfect for a Sunday brunch with family and friends. So start spring in a fashionable way. Dresses like this can be purchased at Charlotte Russe in Stonewood Center for under \$30.

"Step into Spring" – Carlee: Whether you're ready or not, Easter is here, and early too! This year, it is all about the pastels. This cotton, Free People dress is the perfect one to have as the weather starts to warm up. The green, blue, and yellow colors in this dress are sure to put a smile on everybody's face! This cute dress is available at Nordstrom in Los Cerritos Center for \$108. So make sure you step into spring the right way – in pastels!

"Easter Colors" – Chad: Well, we all know Easter's coming up so why not dress with those colors. The typical Easter colors are bright pastels so I knew exactly where to go! d.e.m.o. in Lakewood Center has a line of clothing called coogi. So I picked out this coogi zip-up tennis-style jacket that went for \$155! Yeah, it's a lot of money, but it fits all your Easter colors with yellow, pink, teal, beige, blue, orange and purple. And I hear that all d.e.m.o.'s are having clearance sales now. So if you're looking for something to keep warm or just looking for something casual, this jacket is what you're looking for!

"Super-Fresh" – Josh: I went to Stonewood Center to get some new shoes for spring. I stopped by Salvatory Shoes and saw some fresh white with pastel green and yellow Air Jordan 11 Retros. These "MJ's" looked even more attractive when I saw that they were on sale for only \$79. I couldn't pass up this deal. These will be perfect for springtime gatherings, and keep me looking super-fresh on Easter day.

"Springy Cargo" – Matt: The weather's changing and probably everything around you as well. Since it's spring, you don't want to fall back on those older styles from last winter. So, why not try out something bold yet comfortable? These Leucadia cargo shorts from Hollister Co. at Stonewood, Lakewood and Los Cerritos Centers make a simple, but tight statement. They say, "I'm still in check with my style because they're masculine pastel (colors that are big right now), but I'm also comfortable and still lookin' good." They run at \$44.50. And don't worry, plaid is still popular and fly as ever.



New at the Downey Library

- **"All Shots: a Dog Lover's Mystery"** by Susan Conant. A case of mistaken identity puts dog trainer Holly Winter on the wrong side of a murderer who's barking mad.
 - **"Lady Macbeth"** by Susan Fraser King. Fact and fiction blend in this historical tale set in 11th century Scotland.
 - **"A Pale Horse"** by Charles Todd. A body found in the ruins of an ancient abbey sends Scotland Yard Inspector Ian Rutledge after a brutal killer.
 - **"Metal Swarm"** by Kevin Anderson. In the aftermath of a devastating war, a forgotten terror awakens in this latest installment of "The Saga of the Seven Suns."
 - **"My Revolutions"** by Hari Kunzru. What turns a radical into a terrorist? That is the question posed in this novel of politics, idealism, violence and love.
 - **"Complaint Free World: Take the 21-Day Challenge"** by Will Bowen. Pastor Bowen tells readers that good things come to those who stop grumbling and start living.
 - **"A Crowd of One: the Future of Individual Identity"** by John Henry Clippinger. Humans have been predisposed to derive a sense of self through our interactions with others, says the author. He discusses how technology is changing our territorial and psychological boundaries.
 - **"How Your House Works"** by Charlie Wing. Basic instructions and diagrams for household plumbing, heating and wiring are included here.
 - **"Outdoor Kitchen Ideas That Work: Creative Design Solutions for Your Home"** by Lee Anne White. Included here are designs for a grilling island and full-scale kitchens for outdoor cooking and dining.
 - **"Puppy Parenting: an Expert Guide to What to Do and When to Do It"** by Dr. Scott Miller. A veterinarian shows you what to expect in each stage of a dog's development and how to deal with behavioral problems.
- Visit the library at 11121 Brookshire Ave. or www.downeylibrary.org or call (562) 904-7360 ext. 3 to check out or reserve these new titles.

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Fifth-graders treated to symphony concert

DOWNEY – The Downey Symphony Orchestra will perform for more than 1,700 Downey Unified School District fifth grade students at the Downey Theatre on April 2.

During the concert, conductor Sharon Lavery, as well as various members of the Downey Symphony Orchestra, will explain musical terms and concepts before playing pieces of music for the students. Band members from Downey and Warren High Schools will join the orchestra for one of the pieces.

The Kiwanis Club donated funds to the Downey Symphonic Society's Music in the Schools program to make the concert possible.

Hall of Fame ceremonies April 30

DOWNEY – Outstanding children in grades 1-12 will be honored at the Kids Day Hall of Fame program scheduled this year for April 30 at 7 p.m. at the Downey Theatre.

During the ceremony the top nominees, as determined by a neutral panel of community leaders, will be inducted into the Hall of Fame. All nominees and inductees will receive a "goody bag" and certificates of achievement.

For more information, call the city of Downey Community Services Department at (562) 904-7238.

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SHUTTER PG-13 (12:20, 2:40, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10)

TYLER PERRY'S MEET THE BROWNS PG-13 (11:20, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55)

DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO G (11:20, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55)

Fit to Run (10:20, 11:15, 11:45, 12:30, 1:35, 2:05, 2:50, 4:35, 5:10, 6:15, 6:45, 7:30, 8:35, 9:05, 9:50)

Man to Man (11:15, 11:45, 12:30, 1:35, 2:05, 2:50, 4:35, 5:10, 6:15, 6:45, 7:30, 8:35, 9:05, 9:50)

NEVER BACK DOWN PG-13 (11:10, 1:40, 4:45, 7:35, 10:20)

10,000 B.C. PG-13 (11:00, 1:40, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00)

THE BANK JOB R (3:45), 10:45

COLLEGE ROAD TRIP G (12:25, 2:45, 5:00), 7:10, 9:30

DOOMSDAY R (11:25, 2:15, 4:55), 7:45, 10:30 (35MM)

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SHUTTER PG13 (11:00, 1:20, 3:40, 6:00, 8:20, 10:40)

UNDER THE SAME MOON PG13 (11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00)

MEET THE BROWNS PG13 (11:10, 1:45, 4:20, 6:55, 9:30)

MEET THE BROWNS PG13 (12:10, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30)

HORTON HEARS A WHO G (10:15, 12:40, 3:05, 5:30, 7:55, 10:20)

HORTON HEARS A WHO G (11:15, 1:40, 4:05, 6:30, 8:55)

DOOMSDAY R (11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00)

NEVER BACK DOWN PG13 (11:15, 2:05, 4:55), 7:45, 10:35)

COLLEGE ROAD TRIP G (10:25, 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 9:40)

10,000 B.C. PG13 (10:40, 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:40)

Bingo

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9813 Paramount Boulevard

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TO THE EDITOR....**



The Downey Patriot

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Mother's Day is May 11!!!
Send a message in
The Downey Patriot!



Mother's Name
Line 2
Line 3
Line 4
Line 5

The Downey Patriot will publish a special section
dedicated to Mother's Day. For only \$25.00, you can
honor your mother, grandmother or that someone
special with a 1.986" by 3" announcement.
Deadlines for announcements is May 1 and will be
published on May 9, 2008.

Include the following information:

- ✓ Completed Information Card
- ✓ Photo
 - By Mail - photo must be 2" x 3"
 - By EMail - photo must be 300 dpi
(DowneyPatriot@yahoo.com)
- ✓ Check payable to The Downey Patriot

Send to:
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Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240

ACTUAL SIZE

The Downey Patriot
YOUR HOMETOWN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
8301 E. Florence Avenue, Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240
Line = approximately 20 to 23 characters including spaces and punctuation

Line 1 (Mother's Name) _____
Line 2 (Your message here) _____
Line 3 _____
Line 4 _____
Line 5 _____

Billing Information
Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____

Please call The Downey Patriot with any questions regarding your announcement. Phone (562)904-3668



Karlo H. Valencia, a 1998 graduate of Columbus High School, has graduated from basic training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Tex.

Valencia completes basic training

DOWNEY – Air Force Airman 1st Class Karlo H. Valencia has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Tex.

During Valencia's six weeks of training, he studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies. He also performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

Valencia graduated from Columbus High School in 1998 and received an associate's degree from Brooks College in Long Beach in 2002. He is the son of Patricia Valencia of Downey.

Faulkner graduates from basic training

DOWNEY – Air Force Airman Scott J. Faulkner has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Tex.

During Faulkner's six weeks of training, he studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies. He also performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

Faulkner is the grandson of Joseph Faulkner and son of Janet Faulkner of Downey.

McCarthy to discuss Boy Scouts

DOWNEY – Jim McCarthy, executive director of the frontier district of Boy Scouts of America, will be speaking at the Rise 'N Shine Networking Group this Tuesday at Nordic Fox restaurant at 7:30 a.m.

McCarthy will discuss, "What the Boy Scouts Can Do for You." Cost is an order from the menu. To RSVP, call (562) 923-2191.

Joseph Paul Shasha, Jr. was known as 'Papa Joe'

DOWNEY – Joseph Paul Shasha, Jr., a longtime Downey resident, passed away on Feb. 19 in Salt Lake City, Utah. He was 89.

Shasha, also known as "Papa Joe," was born on March 23, 1918. He married Josephine De Simone in 1939.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Josephine.

He is survived by his daughter, Victoria M. (David) Le Forestier; grandchildren, Evan and Simone Le Forestier; sister, Rose Neal; and many nieces and nephews.

Services were held on Feb. 25 at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church, followed by interment at Calvary Cemetery in Los Angeles.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be sent to Paralyzed Veterans of America, 7 Mill Brook Rd., Wilton, NH, 03089.

Seniors invited to join Rancho Owls

DOWNEY – In 1983, the Older Adult Health Services at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center in Downey began the Rancho Owls, a group for older individuals with the purpose of improving communication between healthcare providers and older adults.

The group meets every Tuesday at Rancho Los Amigos from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for peer support, education relating to aging, field trips, and other recreational activities. A light breakfast and full lunch are served.

Active persons between the ages of 65 and 100 are invited to attend. For more details, call Jan Brady and Sherlyn Marsh at (562) 401-7402.

Easter Worship Directory

"Come Celebrate Easter"
 With Desert Reign Assembly
 One Service only!
 Saturday, March 22, 2008
 6:30 P.M.
 We will meet at
 Crossroads Multinational Nazarene Church
 12229 Del Amo Blvd., Cerritos, CA
 (Located at the NE corner of Norwalk
 & Del Amo 1.5 miles east of the 605 Fwy.)
www.desertreign.org

Holy Week
Messiah Lutheran Church
 10711 Paramount Boulevard • Downey • CA
Good Friday Service 7 p.m., March 21
Easter Sunday Services 8 and 11 a.m., March 23
Easter Breakfast 9-11 a.m., March 23
Free will offering.
Come and join us.

Easter Sunday • March 23
 Three Churches - Four Services
 The Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
 7:00 am - Sunrise Service (combined worship)
 8:00 am - Breakfast: Community invited
 10:30 am - Downey Memorial Christian Church
 10:30 am - Familia de Fe Christiana (Spanish)
 5:30 pm - Iglesia Unida En Cristo (Spanish)
 8441 E. Florence Ave., Downey * (562) 869-7291
 Find us at www.downeymemorial.org

Holy Week
March 16-23, 2007

Palm Sunday - March 16
 Worship and Holy Communion
 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Mundy Thursday - March 20
 Soup Dinner - 6:00 p.m.
 Communion Service - 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday - March 21
 Tenebrae Service 7:00 p.m.
 Special Kids
 Good Friday Service

Easter Celebration - March 23
 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
 Breakfast Served in
 Between Services

Trinity Lutheran Church
 11507 Studebaker Road, Norwalk, 562.864.3713

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
 13200 Clark Ave., Downey CA
 (562) 803-4459

Easter Sunrise Service @7:00 am
Easter Breakfast @ 8:00 am
Easter Egg Hunt @8:45 am
Festival Service @10:00am

Downey Seventh-day Adventist Church
 Celebrate Easter with us
Saturday, Mar. 22 at 11:00AM
Celebration Sabbath
with Pastor Mitch
 9820 Lakewood Blvd. - 562.869.6013
www.downeychurch.org

ST. MARKS EPISCOPAL CHURCH
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Easter Service and
Celebration
Sunday March 23

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Christian Center
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 March 23, 2008
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encouraging message ~ uplifting music ~ outstanding childcare
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Easter Services
Sunday, March 23rd

9:30am & 10:45am
 English language

12:15pm
 Spanish language

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"Brian Holden did a great job for us. Brian was very attentive and polite. Everything was good". – Lorena Martinez

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PENDING
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 Gorgeous family residence, desirable area, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, private gate, fireplace, bright kitchen, central heat, A/C, open floor plan, patio, nice back yard.

Two Impressive Units
 2 bedrooms & 1 bath each, lots of upgrades, nice Downey location, priced for a fast sale.

PENDING
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SHORT SALE
A Short Subject
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SHORT SALE
Fresh On The Market
 An outstanding 3 bedroom, 2 bath, new central air/heat, pool, close to schools, park, freeway, nice Downey location

SHORT SALE
Price = \$200,000
 Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, large living room, ready to move in, bright kitchen with nice island.

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This One's Hot!
5 BD, 3 BA newly-constructed home with 3205 sq ft living space.
A great find @ \$824,950
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Too Many Upgrades to List
New Construction 2007- 5 bed, 4 bath, 3250 sq ft living space, many fine upgrades and touches.
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