



The Downey Patriot



One man's indelible 'vision'
See Page 4



Youth football's biggest supporter
See Page 8



Rodriguez will lead Chamber
See Page 2

Friday, July 4, 2008

Vol. 7 No. 11

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

Firefighters anticipate busy Fourth of July holiday weekend

Commentary

BY MARK SAUTER, FIRE CHIEF, DOWNEY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Thank you for granting me the opportunity to share a Fourth of July message. This 'freedom' to celebrate is a very important privilege for all Americans.

The Fourth of July holiday period is the busiest time of the year for the Downey Fire Department. As a result of the predictable increases in emergencies and calls for service, we increase our staffing.

This year, the on-duty firefighters will tour their districts at sunset on the Fourth of July with hopes of encouraging community members to celebrate the holiday responsibly. Some of our firefighters will also join members of our police department to form patrol teams. The objective of these teams is to enforce the Downey Municipal Code (fireworks regulations).

It is important to remember that besides all of the fireworks and celebration activities, the emergency needs of the community are not reduced. This means there will still be 911 calls from those who need assistance for their non-Fourth of July related emergency needs.

The fire department responds to 20-25 emergency incidents each day. On the Fourth of July, the emergency call load may likely double (or be even higher).

Please consider the following as you celebrate this holiday:

Keep a vigilant watch over your family and the activities at your home. Each year there are many preventable accidents with tragic consequences. There are



"Safe and sane" fireworks can be bought until 8 p.m. today. A total of 18 non-profit organizations are operating fireworks stands in Downey this year, mostly schools and youth sports groups, and police and fire officials will be operating joint patrols tonight.

numerous municipal codes that give guidance regarding the discharging of fireworks.

Following these codes may very well be the difference between a safe holiday and a regrettable one. Please remember, staying out of the street and out of the way of the 'in-district' police and fire crews will contribute to a safer community environment.

Be a good neighbor. Maintain a

'situational awareness' of your area. Every year we receive calls of concern and complaints about how uncomfortable residents are on the Fourth of July because of the fireworks, the noise and the celebrations. Many of our residents (and their pets) are not able to control their environments. For many, the neighborhood holiday celebrations turn into disturbing incidents (or worse).

For all of those community members who can, please keep an eye on your neighborhood. Check in with your neighbors and be sure they are safe and their properties are fire-free. Sadly, we have had more than one occurrence of a roof fire at homes "next to" or "across the street" from a Fourth of July party.

Be safe, be fair, buckle up...take care.

Crews begin cleaning Johnie's Broiler mess

■ Bob's Big Boy will build a new restaurant, with anticipated drive-thru service, at the site.

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY — As one classic carhop diner is swept away into car culture oblivion, another prepares to take its place.

Clean-up efforts at Johnie's Broiler got underway Monday afternoon, nearly 18 months after the famed carhop diner was illegally demolished and sparking the ire of historical preservationists in Southern California.

A Bob's Big Boy restaurant will be built on the site, and salvageable — but unidentified — pieces of the Johnie's Broiler architecture will be preserved, city officials said.

On Monday, a clean-up crew of about half a dozen workers from Thomas Landclearing of Long Beach used a Bobcat skid steer to clear out much of the debris at 7447 E. Firestone Blvd. as they searched for signs of asbestos. New fencing was also installed around the perimeter of the property.

Workers protected themselves by wearing protective plastic suits, and a portable decontamination shower was set up to help hose down employees. The degree of asbestos contamination at the site was unclear.

Johnie's Broiler was demolished on Jan. 7 of last year by then-tenant Ardas Yanik, who admitted to using a rented bulldozer and day laborers to level most of the iconic diner before police arrived. Yanik later issued a public apology through this newspaper.

Yanik pleaded no contest to a host of charges last year and was sentenced to three years probation and fined upwards of \$10,000.

Earlier this year, Bob's Big Boy agreed to build a new restaurant at the site that would preserve pieces of the Johnie's Broiler architecture.

Members of the Los Angeles Conservancy, a local historical preservation organization, had been trying for years to preserve Johnie's Broiler and its unique Google architecture, particularly the famous "Fat Boy" sign facing Firestone Boulevard.

The diner was declared eligible for the state's register of historical landmarks in 2002, but lacking the consent of property owner Cristos Smyrniotis, was never officially listed.

An application to turn Johnie's Broiler into a strip mall was denied by the city in 2006.



Clean-up crews hose down rubble at Johnie's Broiler this week. The Bob's Big Boy franchise recently reached a lease agreement to build a new restaurant at the site. Photo by Art Montoya

Warren High School mourns Cindy Vega

■ ASB advisor died Sunday of a suspected blood clot. She was 29.

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY — Warren High School's campus overflowed with students, faculty, counselors, and alumni Monday as the school came together to remember and honor Cindy Vega, Warren's ASB advisor who passed away Sunday at the age of 29.

The cause of death remains unclear, but doctors' initial prognosis is that a blood clot stopped blood and oxygen from entering her brain or heart.

According to friends, Vega was short of breath and feeling dizzy and nauseous on Sunday morning when her heart stopped beating and she passed out. Her boyfriend, Andy, called 911, but paramedics were unable to resuscitate her.

Vega was born on Jan. 26, 1979 and spent the majority of her life in Downey, participating in Girl Scouts and dancing at B's Dance Place as a child.

While a student at Warren, she was involved in pep squad, ran track and field her junior and senior years, and served as ASB president and cheer captain her senior year. She graduated in 1997.

Following high school, she received her bachelor's degree in public administration from San Diego State University and her teaching credential in fundamental math from Point Loma University.

She returned to Warren in 2003 as a full-time math teacher, also leading the pep squad from 2003 to 2005. At the beginning of the 2005-06 school year, Vega took over the reigns as ASB advisor.

"[Vega] had a huge impact on this campus," said Warren Principal John Harris. "The activities director affects the climate and culture of this school. Everything she did affected our faculty and students."

Vega also headed Warren's Link Crew, a transition program that pairs incoming freshman to upperclassman; was involved in the school's Algebra Restart program, which helps students improve their math skills; and started the Algebra Academy, a summer program for incoming freshmen.

"[Vega's] goal for Warren was to connect students to school with academic success in mind," Harris said. "With her, activities became an intervention as she encouraged students to get involved. Getting involved was her key to success for any student struggling academically or socially."

Ultimately, Harris said, Vega is irreplaceable.

"In 20 years, there will be a certain part of Warren High School that is what it is because of her. She has made a lasting impact on this campus."

See VEGA, page 3



Cindy Vega

DUSD budget avoids cuts to vital services

■ School district trims \$2.3 million from budget without having to lay off teachers.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY — The "meat and potatoes" of the approved 2008-09 DUSD \$250 million budget is its general fund of \$179 million, or 72 percent of total.

In early April, there was general nervousness all around when Sacramento announced a \$14 billion or more state budget shortfall, which pointed to \$4.4 billion cuts to K-12 education. After figuring out the effects of declining district enrollment and COLA (cost-of-living allowance) against ADA (average daily attendance) configurations, the district was staring at some \$8 million in budget cuts.

The impending cuts to district budgets have since been downgraded somewhat to over \$2 billion. The challenge to trim the district budget was still there. This time, with concentrated input from all concerned, including disheartened members of the community, the district expenditure cuts have been pared down to only \$2.3 million.

Assistant Superintendent for Business Services Kevin Condon said this was achieved mainly by drastically cutting capital outlays and departmental operating budgets, as well as by the indefinite freeze on 14 classified support positions (custodial, maintenance and operations, clerical/technical vacancies) which "we have kept frozen since hints of the impending budget crisis surfaced in January."

Overtime has been cut by \$120,000, travel and conference expenses by \$96,000, school supplies orders by \$52,000, and a projected savings of \$80,000 comes from a reduction alone of HVAC temperature settings.

What is highly significant, said Condon, in all this is that no teacher has been laid off, and that essential programs have been left basically untouched.

"The district has always taken a conservative stance in fiscal matters," said Condon.

The district, according to him, has tried to maintain, through sound financial planning and controls, more than adequate financial reserves in its accounts.

PAC airs concerns about parking, possible future of downtown district

BY SCOTT COBOS, CONTRIBUTOR

DOWNEY – About two hours passed and the main topic slid from the future of the Avenue Theater to potential parking problems and nighttime safety concerns around the Downtown Downey district during a Tuesday evening meeting inside the Cormack Room of the Downey City Library.

Concerned citizens and members of the Project Area Committee (PAC) gathered to continue discussions on what the recently city-acquired property should be redeveloped into. Citizens and the committee discussed various problems, including parking for residents, employees and patrons in the area, and safety issues.

The Avenue Theater and the recently attained Verizon building on Second Street were purchased partially with housing funds, mandating that some of the property be homes.

While in a letter to the city council, the PAC supports mixed-housing development in the downtown district, other surrounding businesses are more likely to reject the idea due to the parking issue.

Worries of where potential patrons will park were brought up among the business owners in the crowd. The main concern was whether or not the city will properly define where parking will be.

According to the PAC, a volunteer organization that serves as a link between City Hall and residents and business owners of Downtown Downey, parking solutions are still in the early planning stages. Ideas such as purchasing additional land for parking lots and possibly adding a structure or sub-



Members of the Project Area Committee are anxious about the future of Downtown Downey, where the city will be redeveloping the Avenue Theater and Verizon building on Second Street. Photo by Scott Cobos

terranean stalls have been discussed.

The idea of valet parking has also been discussed, but some are worried of potential liability issues between the city and business owners.

According to committee member Paul Granata, owner of Granata's Italian Villa on Downey Avenue, the idea of valet parking has been batted around the past eight years but has failed because of costs involved. Granata also said the downtown district lacks the traffic to make valet parking a practical idea.

Qualms of safety were also discussed at the meeting. Audience members complained about how "insecure" Downtown Downey is, especially at night, saying they rarely see any police presence in the sector.

Those same people also said vandalism and skateboarding has become a problem in the area.

While the majority of the time was used to discuss parking and safety, a few ideas were discussed about what the Avenue Theater could be.

Some ideas included turning the Downey landmark into an old-

time movie theater, playhouse or possibly another restaurant.

The PAC spoke about the possibility of a developer already being lined up, but Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra, who attended the meeting, stepped in to squash any rumors.

"There are absolutely zero plans for the theater," said Guerra, who also explained that the city purchased the land because of its historic value.

The PAC said they would have the City Council as their guests at their next meeting. The meeting date has yet to be confirmed.

Creative writers in demand

DOWNEY – InsideOUT Writers, an organization that offers creative writing classes to incarcerated youth in three Los Angeles County juvenile halls – including Los Padrinos in Downey – is seeking professional writers, teachers and others with experience working with "high-risk" youth.

The commitment is one class per week or, for substitute teachers, two classes per month. Classes can last up to two hours and are usually conducted Wednesday evenings or Saturday mornings.

Teachers must pass a fingerprint and background test. For more information, e-mail sheri@insideoutwriters.org.

Bingo luncheon July 13

DOWNEY – The Italian Catholic Federation of St. Raymond's Parish is hosting a bingo luncheon July 13 at 1 p.m. inside the Msgr. Robert Gipson Hall, 12348 Paramount Blvd.

The cost is \$10, which includes one Bingo card, door prizes and lunch. There will also be a raffle for a \$25 money tree and other prizes.

For tickets or information, call Aline Amatisto at (562) 693-9430 or Charlene Drobeck at (562) 928-1937.

'Mile-long yard sale' on Pangborn

DOWNEY – Residents of Pangborn Avenue, between Firestone Boulevard and Florence Avenue, will host their eighth annual "mile-long yard sale" on July 26.

Residents are invited to shop at the sale, which will be held from 7 a.m. to noon.

Football registration at fireworks booth

DOWNEY – Downey Youth Football will hold registration today at its fireworks stand located at 8626 Firestone Blvd., in the Ralph's supermarket parking lot.

The league is open to children ages 5-14; no tryouts are held. For more information, call Louis Morales at (562) 928-6081.

Velackas to be feted by Newcomers

DOWNEY – The Downey Newcomers Club will honor 11-year club member Jeanne Veleckas at their monthly meeting this Monday.

Velackas was selected in recognition and appreciation of her service to the club. She has served on various committees, including the telephone and welcoming committees.

The club selects one member each year who exemplifies the spirit of service to the community.

The luncheon will be held at 11 a.m. at Los Amigos Country Club. For reservations, call Paul Lou Roberts at (562) 861-2545.

Museum changes operating hours

DOWNEY – The Downey Museum of Art has changed its hours and will now be open six days a week.

Regular hours are now Monday through Saturday, 1 to 5 p.m. The museum will be open until 8 p.m. on Wednesdays through the duration of the summer concert series.

For more information, call (562) 861-0419. The Downey Museum of Art is located at Furman Park, 10419 Rives Ave.

Flag-raising ceremonies set today

DOWNEY – Flag-raising ceremonies will be held this morning, July 4, at each of the two Downey facilities of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Each will be followed by a pancake breakfast sponsored by troops representing the Boy Scouts of America.

Melvin Ready will address the audience at 8 a.m., following the flag-raising at the Downey Stake Center, 12425 Orizaba Ave., just north of Imperial Elementary. This will be followed by the pancake breakfast.

Jon Lang, a local contractor and former Downey Stake president, will speak at 8:30 a.m. at the church's facility at 10511 Paramount Blvd. Another scout troop will sponsor the breakfast.

"It's a great way to start off our July Fourth," said Jim Brown, director of public affairs for the Church.

The community is invited to either ceremony and breakfast.

Foreclosure workshop July 19

DOWNEY – The community is invited to a free foreclosure prevention workshop being hosted by Congresswomen Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-34) and Linda Sanchez (D-39) at West Middle School on July 19.

Presentations will be conducted on topics including: Understanding Your Mortgage Options; Fraud Prevention and Awareness; and Improving and Restoring Credit. Visitors are encouraged to bring their loan and other relevant financial documents to the workshop.

The workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call (213) 628-9230.

'Metamorphosis' gets teens to read

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library is encouraging teens to read this summer through a reading program titled "Metamorphosis."

Students ages 13 to 19 can join the program, win prizes and attend special events, including a July 12 excursion to the Griffith Observatory. Teens who read for 700 minutes will win a free book and be eligible for a pizza party on Aug. 1.

"This year's program encourages teens to get transformed through reading," said Young Adult Librarian Julia Butler. "We also offer some fun events such as a program on handwriting analysis and another on personalizing your CD collection."

For more information on "Metamorphosis," call (562) 904-7360, ext. 3.



Fionnuala Anderson, left, and Mayor David Gafin, right, helped install new Downey Chamber of Commerce president Rick Rodriguez. The installation reception carried a Hawaiian theme.

Rodriguez sworn in as Chamber president

DOWNEY – Rick Rodriguez of RMI International was installed as the 105th president of the Downey Chamber of Commerce at installation ceremonies held last week at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

Rodriguez replaces Jaime Garcia, formerly of Kaiser Permanente, who was forced to resign his position after taking another job.

Mayor David Gafin served as the event's installing officer, while Mayor Pro Tem Mario Guerra gave the invocation and Sgt. Daniel Rodriguez led everybody in the flag salute.

Past president Fionnuala Anderson served as master of ceremonies, and Johnny Croshaw provided entertainment.

In addition to Rodriguez, the 2008-09 Chambers officers include: president-elect Robert Zavala, Freedom Vacations; vice president Mike Murray, Downey Used Cars; and treasurer Joe Keays, Downey Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning.

Executive Director Sue Nordin will serve as secretary.

Incoming and returning Chamber directors are Joe Becker, Nordic Fox; Myra Benjamin, Budget Blinds; Bob Ciatti, Efficient Lighting and Electric; Mike Hemsath, StormForce; Steve Hoffman, Law Office of Steven J. Hoffman; Patricia Kotze, Diversified Risk Management; David Llamas, Mambo Grill; John McAllister, DDS; Jan Scott, Pacific Western Bank; Min Thai, Tredway, Lumsdaine and Doyle; and George Zouberakis, Trilogy Financial Services.



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FOR EXPECTANT PARENTS

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Wednesday, August 6
4 to 6 p.m. – DRMC Conference Room A

Childbirth Education Classes (Series of 4)
Mondays, July 21, 28, August 4, 11
7 to 10 p.m. – DRMC Conference Room A or B
\$75 per couple

(To register for this particular class, please contact instructor Roselyn Smith 714-319-4267 or prep4baby@sbcglobal.net)

Breastfeeding Workshop
Tuesday, July 14 – 7 to 9:30 p.m.
DRMC Conference Room C – \$10 per person

SUPPORT GROUPS

Grief and Loss Program:
First Saturday of each month, 2 to 4 p.m.
Contact: Jim at 562-949-3399

Overeaters Anonymous:
Every Monday, 6:30 to 8 p.m.
Contact: Alice at 562-927-0887

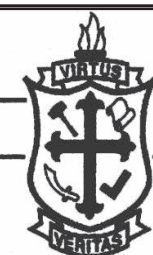
Sarcoidosis:
Last Saturday of each month, 1 to 3 p.m.
Contact: Sarcoidosis Network at 562-809-8500

Restless Legs Syndrome of Southern California:
3 meetings held each year on Sundays from
1:30 to 3:30 p.m. – Contact: Janis at 714-633-0123

OTHER CLASSES

Diabetes Management (Series of 4 Classes)
Thursdays, July 10, 17, 24, 31
9 to 11:30 a.m.
DRMC Conference Room A or B
\$10 materials fee

Healthy Heart Nutrition Class
Wednesday, July 9
3:30 to 4:30 p.m.
DRMC Conference Room A or B



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Vega: Services set for this Monday in Cypress.

Continued from page 1

One of Vega's longtime friends, Summer Parsley, said Vega spent all her life giving to others.

"She would do anything for anybody," said Parsley, who participated in Girl Scouts and performed at B's Dance Place with Vega before graduating together from Warren and Point Loma. "She was 110 percent dedicated to everything she did and everyone she loved. She found pleasure in making things happen and always wanted to make others happy."

One of Vega's best qualities, Parsley said, was her independence.

"She was just always a hard worker. If she wanted something, she worked hard to provide it for herself."

Parsley said Vega lived in La Mirada and although she wasn't married, she and her boyfriend had talked about it.

"I just always knew her to be someone that wanted kids," Parsley said. "If you knew [Vega], you knew how much she loved her niece, Bailey, and nephew, Blake. We all knew she would be a great mom someday."

Jay Waldron, a Spanish teacher at Warren, also had fond memories.

"I remember [Vega] as a part of my track and field program and thinking, 'This kid is destined to do great things,'" said Waldron, who coached cross country and track and field at Warren for more than 14 years. "She was Warren High School from the moment she stepped on this campus as a high school freshman."

Waldron knew Vega not only as a student, but also as a colleague. When she headed Link Crew, she asked him to be one of the program's seven advisors.

"I was honored when she asked me to be a part of Link," he said. "I was a big fan of hers because very few people have impressed me in the professional setting as much as she has."

"She was the epitome of being genuine and the embodiment of being selfless."

Belinda Lands, owner of B's

"She was the epitome of being genuine and the embodiment of being selfless."

—Jay Waldron, Warren High School teacher and colleague of Cindy Vega

Dance Place, has known the Vega family for more than 20 years and taught Vega from the time she was 5 until her graduation from high school.

"She was the sweetest and was very determined to accomplish anything that she set her mind to," said Lands. "When I found out that she was a teacher at Warren, I felt that she had accomplished and succeeded her goals."

Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County honored Vega at their annual installation and awards banquet Tuesday at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

She is survived by her parents, Jorge and Juanita Vega; brothers, George and Joe Vega; sister, Elizabeth (Glen) Vega-Gomez; niece, Bailey; and nephew, Blake.

A viewing will be held Sunday from 3 to 7 p.m. at First Baptist Church of Downey. A memorial service will take place Monday at SeaCoast Grace Church in Cypress at 2 p.m., with a reception to follow.

In lieu of flowers, the family requested donations to the Cindy Vega Scholarship Fund, made payable to Warren High School ASB, 8141 De Palma St., Downey, CA, 90241. Reference "Vega Scholarship Fund" on the memo line.

"Having a scholarship fund in her name is more than fitting," said Vicky Davis, one of Vega's closest friends. "She was all about education and valued the experience of being able to learn. So much so, she paid for the first year of junior college for some of her students that couldn't afford it because she was passionate about them continuing in their academic journey."

"That's just the type of person she was."

Touched by the realities of Alzheimer's, Melanie Weyers is poised to make a difference

■ Melanie, 12, started Beads 4 Brains charity foundation.

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY — Not only is Melanie Weyers an honor student at Griffiths Middle School, a volunteer at Downey First Christian Church, and a Kids Day Hall of Fame inductee, but she is also the founder of Beads 4 Brains, a charity that benefits the Alzheimer's Association.

And the best part is, she's only 12 years old.

Last November, Melanie lost her grandfather, Wilson "Bud" Livingston Edge to Alzheimer's disease and cancer. Wilson had Alzheimer's for eight years, and about four years ago had his bladder removed after doctors diagnosed him with bladder cancer.

As of last spring, there was no sign of the cancer returning. But when summer hit, Wilson seemed to be in tremendous pain and as the pain increased, his ability to communicate decreased. After conducting an MRI, doctors found that the cancer returned, except this time, it had spread to his liver.

Two and a half weeks after he was admitted to the hospital, Wilson passed away.

Following his death, Melanie's family took a trip to the Grand Canyon during spring break. While there, Melanie bought rope that would enable her to make necklaces and bracelets when she returned home. When she got back from their trip, she then took the Michaels gift cards she received for her birthday and purchased a variety of beads. Her intent was to make Mother's Day gifts for her mom, grandma and aunt, not knowing that her beaded necklaces and bracelets would soon turn into an opportunity to raise awareness and funds for the Alzheimer's Association.

"My mom and grandma and aunt really loved what I made for them and said I should make more and sell them," Melanie said. "I thought it was a good idea, but because I really didn't need the money, I decided to donate it all to the Alzheimer's Association."

Melanie then started making necklaces and bracelets as often as she could, selling them to friends



Melanie Weyers hopes to raise \$1,000 for the Alzheimer's Association. The idea to sell beaded jewelry developed after a trip to the Grand Canyon. Photo by Brooke Karli

and teachers at her school. Her mom, Mary, who is the principal at Williams Elementary School, and her aunt, Diane, who is a teacher at Unsworth Elementary School, have both taken Melanie's jewelry to their respective schools to sell. Her dad, Bob, who works as a manager for Heavy Transport, will be taking the items to sell at his work as well.

Last month, before school let out for summer break, Melanie's English class held an Author's Day, where students were asked to write stories in a commercial format. Melanie wrote about her grandfather and Beads 4 Brains and ended up selling more than \$100 worth of necklaces and bracelets to faculty and students.

Melanie charges \$10 for necklaces and \$5 for one-strand bracelets; \$10 for three-strand bracelets; and \$15 for five-strand bracelets.

A portion of her profits goes to purchasing more materials, but so far, Melanie has raised more than \$300 and plans on donating the money once she reaches \$500. Her ultimate goal is to raise \$1,000, which will earn her a plaque and recognition in the Alzheimer's Association's newsletter.

In deciding to name the charity Beads 4 Brains, Melanie explained that the beads represent memories that can so easily slip away. She said she wanted the beads to be a reminder of those who have lost their memories to Alzheimer's.

Melanie said she hopes to continue making necklaces and

bracelets, expanding her collection by custom-making pieces to match a customer's indicated attire, and by making themed pieces to go with the year's seasons and holidays.

If interested in purchasing a necklace or bracelet, or donating to Beads 4 Brains, e-mail Melanie at beads4brains@rocketmail.com.

Alzheimer's disease an emerging health crisis

BY LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD AND PETER BRAUN

Alzheimer's disease is now the sixth leading cause of death in the United States, according to a recent announcement from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention National Center for Health Statistics.

In addition to moving from the seventh leading cause of death to the sixth, the CDC also reported that while deaths from Alzheimer's disease are rising, mortality related to other chronic conditions like heart disease, stroke and cancer is declining. Today, as many as 5.2

million Americans are living with Alzheimer's — a fatal, degenerative disease that has no effective disease-modifying treatments that halt or delay its progression.

With an aging baby boomer population, this escalating epidemic will continue to touch more and more lives. According to the Alzheimer's Association's "2008 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures," 480,000 Californians age 65 and older will have Alzheimer's disease by 2010. Alzheimer's doesn't just impact the individual; it impacts entire families, including

See ALZHEIMER'S, page 5

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Kevin Condon honored with Vision Award for work with DUSD's mass finances

■ Also honored was maintenance supervisor Buck Weinfurter, who was presented the Beautification Award by Keep Downey Beautiful.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—The Board of Education in a special all-day "Board Retreat" session Tuesday heard a presentation by Superintendent Wendy Doty honoring Kevin Condon, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services, with the prestigious Vision Award in the area of budget and finance.

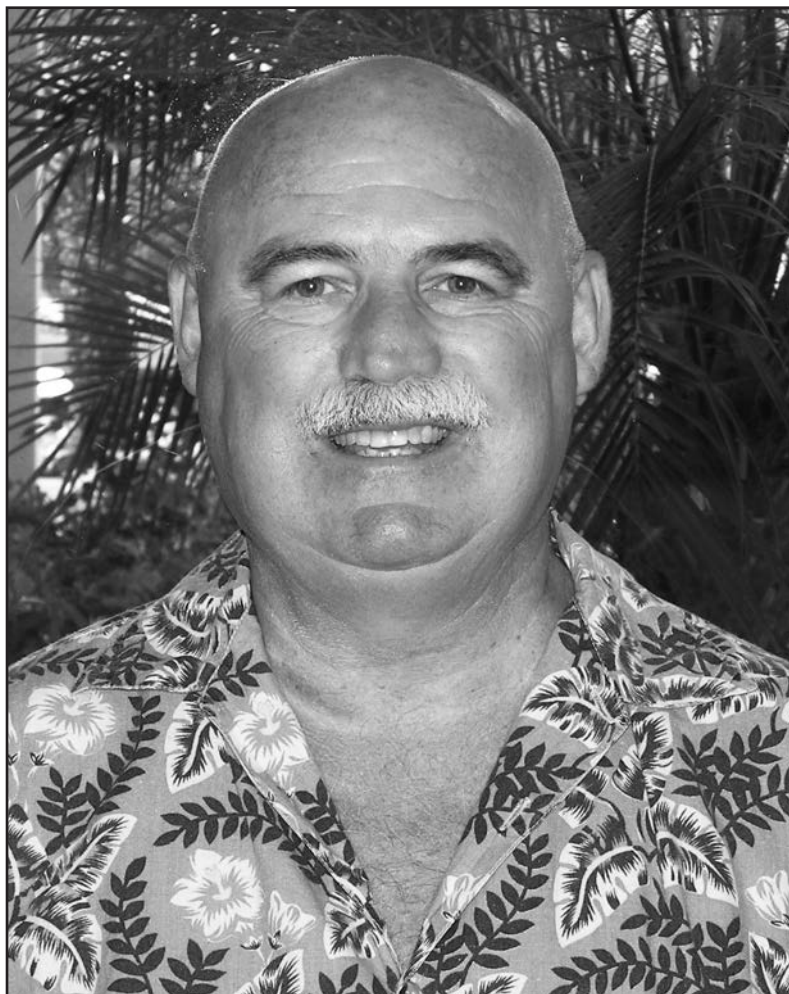
Doty, who had a hand in luring Condon to DUSD, praised her former associate at El Segundo Unified School District for his proven expertise and leadership in making sure the district's financial matters are in order. She cited the "magnificently-organized" and comprehensive district budget which he authored as reflective of his thorough grasp of the district's operations. This was echoed by members of the Board.

Condon's wife, Tina, witnessed the ceremony. A Bachelor of Arts graduate of Brown University and an ex-Navy man, Condon also has an MBA from Cal State Long Beach.

Meanwhile, Keep Downey Beautiful head Carol Rowland presented the Operations Division of Buck Weinfurter's Maintenance, Operations and Transportation Services Department with the city of Downey's Beautification Award, in recognition of his landscaping crew's outstanding efforts on behalf of the district.

In other action, the Board:

- After a public hearing that yielded no dissenting note, adopted the district budget for FY2008-09;
- Received a modernization update from Buck Weinfurter detailing the many construction/modernization projects going on in the district;
- Heard a presentation by Roger Brossmer on the whys and wherefores of a strategic plan for the Downey Adult School Career and Education Center;
- Likewise heard a presentation from Phil Davis, Director of Support Programs, and members of the Career-Technology Pathway (CTP) Committee, on the significant strides being made on several fronts by the different groups in Davis' division;
- Accepted with gratitude cash and in-kind donations from various donors, including \$1,000 from Spirit Life Church to be used to purchase school furniture at Gallatin Elementary School, and 104 Jamba Juice \$5 gift cards valued at \$520, to be used in support of Staff Appreciation Week at West Middle School, from Logical Freight, Inc.;
- Authorized the payment of expenses for convention and conference attendance;
- Ratified payments for Special Education services;
- Approved Part I of the consolidated application for funding categorical aid programs, and authorized submission of same to the State Department of Education;
- Authorized signatories for FY2008-09, to remain in effect until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;
- Approved the Payroll Department to withhold sums for FY2008-09, without charge, from pay warrants of both certificated and classified personnel when directed to do so by the employee on a revocable form provided for that purpose;
- Approved the monthly mileage allowances for 10-month, 11-month, and 12-month employees for 2008-09, at an estimated annual cost of \$60,545;
- 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 April;
- Ratified B warrants for payment of authorized purchase obligations incurred by law or district policy for May;
- Ratified the addendum to the agreement with LACOE for facilities, supplies and services under the Special Education programs to provide campus security services as needed for the Pace Emotionally Disturbed



Kevin Condon joined DUSD from the El Segundo Unified School District. Superintendent Wendy Doty, who honored Condon last week, helped in his recruitment. *Photo courtesy DUSD*

program,

- Ratified the agreements involving the Downey Adult Center (and Paramount Family Vision Center), Educational Consulting Services (for the Saturday School Attendance Recovery Program), and School Services of California, Inc. (for special services, fiscal and mandate information services);
- Approved the contract with LACOE for PeopleSoft Financial Systems for FY2008-09;
- Approved the contract with West Coast Protection L.L.D. dba Interquest Detection Canines, to provide substance awareness and detection services for the 2008-09 school year;
- Approved the purchase of excess workers' compensation insurance for FY2008-09, from Safety National Insurance Company, at a premium rate of \$0.1380 per \$100 of Payroll;
- Authorized the advertisements for bids on dry and refrigerated foods, bread products, frozen food and food service paper products, to be charged to the Food Services Fund;
- Awarded the request for a student information system, with C-Innovation of Claremont, in the amount of \$368,244, to be charged to Restricted Funds;
- Awarded bids to 3D Concrete of Downey (for concrete work), and for

See DUSD, page 11

The Poet's Corner

America, the Land of Beauty

America - a melting pot of epic proportions,
Undoubtedly a miracle meant to be
Free of assuming contortions.
It's meant to be beauty.

Eternally bonded and united
By their purpose, their intention,
The many people flock over
To the glorious land of invention.

With our hands over our hearts,
We salute without hesitation
To the Red. The White. The Blue.
Forever the colors of our nation.

Of course, grave obstacles are nothing new-
But we have persevered, persisted,
Through the mayhem and sacrifices,
Our doubts and fears we've always resisted

Undoubtedly, America, our country,
Has proven repeatedly that, in our duty,
Hard work and dedication gradually pay off
And flourish into splendor and beauty!
- Shaina Marie C. Sta. Cruz,
Downey

Freedom

Our freedom isn't free
Somebody had to fight
To keep our liberty
They fought with all their might.

Now, terrorists would take
Our freedom from this land.
So please, make no mistake--
We have to take a stand.

We'll fight on foreign soil
On land, in air, at sea
We'll do our best to foil
And stop our enemy.

If we withdraw, we'll find
The terrorists will be
Right here, there's none so blind
As he who will not see.

Consider when you vote --
Remember, vote, you must
Forget their campaign rote
It's only God we trust.

This Independence Day
Let's pray and make a vow
All our descendants may
Have freedom -- starting now!

Be thankful for the brave
Who fight for liberty
Long may Old Glory wave!
Long may our land be free!
- Bill Milburn,
Downey

Poems can be submitted to *The Downey Patriot* at
8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240
or downeypatriot@yahoo.com

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YOUR HOMETOWN
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER
The Downey Patriot

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ProNetworkers of Downey
Join us each Friday at 7:15am
Mimi's Cafe, Downey
8455 Firestone Blvd
www.ProNetworkers.com

Connections Networking
Join us Thursday at 7:30am
NORDIC FOX.
10924 Paramount Blvd.
Downey 90241

Downey Seventh-day Adventist Church

Honor our Soldiers with us
Saturday, July 5 at 11:00AM

with Army Chaplain
Lt. Col. James Milburn

9820 Lakewood Blvd. - 562.869.6013
www.downeychurch.org

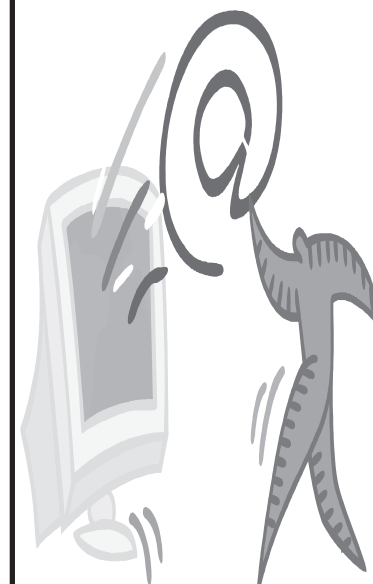
Charm Camp

What is Charm camp? Charm School mixed with Summer Camp
Who can attend? Girls ages 9-14
When is it going to be? July 7-11, 2008, 9:00am-1:00pm
**A Family Tea will be on Sat., July 12, 2008 at 1:00 pm
How much does it cost? \$25.00 for the week! (includes lunch)
Where? Downey Masonic Center, 8244 Third Street, Downey
How do I register? To register contact Nicole LaFromboise
at (562) 923-9511 or e-mail at CharmCampFun@yahoo.com
Registration deadline is Saturday, July 5, 2008
What will you be doing during this week? Baking, dancing, crafts,
make-up practice, table etiquette

Job's Daughters Bethel 244 Downey is hosting this event and
will provide everything needed for this week of fun!

Permission Slips will be required and handed out
the first day of Charm Camp.

**GOT ANY
STORY IDEAS?
LET US KNOW!**



E-mail us
at
**downeypatriot
@yahoo.com**

Safe and sane

By Eric Pierce

A reader called our office this week with a simple question: "Where can I watch a fireworks show in Downey?"

She sounded disappointed when told the answer: Nowhere. "No way," she said.

Way.

"Why not?"

We're not sure, but Councilman Rick Trejo brought up the great idea of hosting a fireworks show at the city's new park scheduled to open later this summer. Maybe that's something we can look forward to in the future.

"That would be nice," the girl said. "But nothing this year?"

Nothing, unless there's a show we're not aware of.

Until that fireworks show at Discovery Sports Complex becomes a reality (who knows when that will be -- a decent fireworks show can't be cheap and the city just slashed its budget), we'll just need to continue being extra safe using our "safe and sane" fireworks.

But a city-hosted fireworks show, properly organized with the blessing and assistance of the Downey Fire Department, does sound nice, doesn't it?

Fireworks in the sky and the beautiful Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center in the foreground...What a magnificent sight that would be.

Alzheimer's: Disease particularly afflicts Hispanic population.

Continued from page 3

1 million California caregivers who provide 952 million hours of unpaid care valued at \$10 billion.

While Alzheimer's affects all populations, the Latino population is one of the fastest growing populations with the disease. Today, 92,000 Latinos in California are living with Alzheimer's disease and experts predict this population will triple to 276,000 by 2030. The threat is so pervasive in the Latino community because advancing age is the single greatest risk factor for developing Alzheimer's disease and Latinos soon will have the greatest life expectancy of all ethnic groups in the United States -- increasing to age 87 by 2050.

Additionally, research shows that the Latino community has a high rate of diabetes, hypertension, and cardiovascular disease -- all factors that may increase the risk for Alzheimer's.

Growing evidence suggests that efforts to keep the heart healthy will also keep the brain healthy. Adopting a brain-healthy lifestyle and remaining mentally, socially and physically engaged are important steps to reducing the risk of Alzheimer's disease.

Unfortunately, Hispanics are less likely than non-Hispanic whites to regularly see a physician or community health professional to help monitor and control their health. This lack of regular access to care means poorer overall health, greater risk of developing Alzheimer's disease, and a decreased likelihood of early diagnosis. Early diagnosis could allow earlier treatments and interventions that could help to maintain a level of independence longer.

The need for education, information and supportive services in the Latino community is paramount. Fortunately, the Alzheimer's Association provides a wealth of resources to assist families.

A leader in developing culturally and linguistically appropriate materials about dementia, the Alzheimer's Association California Southland Chapter has created a Dementia Care Network Model that identifies, creates and sustains dementia specific programs tailored to Spanish-speaking audiences in communities where they are most needed or where existing services are not adequate. These services include a Spanish-language helpline, support groups for Spanish-speaking caregivers, care consultation services and workshops specifically developed for and by Latino families.

In addition to funding supportive programs that help families, increased funding for research is also imperative. Alzheimer's not only takes lives, it has the power to bankrupt Medicare and Medicaid. Despite the fact that researchers are close to finding effective disease-modifying treatments that may slow or halt the disease's progression, the National Institute of Health's (NIH) budget has been essentially flat for the last several years. Fortunately, this year, the U.S. House of Representatives is considering a bill that gives a \$1.15 billion increase to the NIH. While this increase is the largest in six years, it is just the first step if we are to bring these treatments to fruition and keep vital research efforts moving forward.

We must work diligently together to find a cure for future generations, while we work equally as hard to help those living with the disease now. *Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard serves on the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. Peter Braun has been the president and CEO of the Alzheimer's Association, California Southland Chapter.*

Letters to the Editor:

Age limits

Dear Editor:

I would like to refute Julian Gutierrez's "Letter to the Editor" ("Lower the Voting Age," 6/27/08). Mr. Gutierrez argues that lowering the voting age to 17 is a good idea for five reasons. I disagree with three of them, although all five of them are arguable.

1.) He says that opposing lowering the voting age lacks intellectual merit. Au contraire, the opposite is true. It is well known that the frontal part of the brain isn't finished developing until the early 20's. That's the part that uses logic and helps us foresee abstract consequences. It makes more sense to raise the voting age back up to 21.

2.) He claims that because youth pay taxes (if they work), they should have a say in deciding where the money is spent. Dream on. None of us get to make that decision, or we wouldn't be in the mess we're in now.

3.) His last argument is completely fallacious. He wrote, "I believe that the voting age violates my constitutional rights as a U.S. citizen under the Privileges or Immunities Clause of the 14th Amendment." Nothing could be farther from the truth. Section 2 states, "...when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors...is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such State, beings twenty-one years of age..." and then goes on to cite the consequence. The 19th Amendment gave women the right to vote. Amendment 26 lowered the voting age to "citizens who are 18 years of age or older."

The Constitution is clear on who does and does not have the "right" to vote, and 17-year-olds do not. Otherwise, Assemblyman Mullin's endeavor would be unnecessary from the get-go.

— **Doreen Lorand,**
Downey

A bit of clarification

Dear Editor:

A letter to the editor in your May 23 edition posed a question about Verizon Wireless' language preferences policies ("Foreign Affairs," 5/23/08).

I'd like to clear up the confusion -- English is the standard language of our bills and always has been. So if we send a first bill to a customer in Spanish, but the customer wanted it in English that would have been completely inadvertent.

We strive to deliver the best possible service, and work with customers to correct problems as quickly as possible. We have earned the highest customer loyalty in the wireless industry for the last 14 quarters and will continue to pursue customer satisfaction and loyalty.

— **John Palmer,**
Regional President, Southern California Verizon Wireless

'Trite' suggestions

Dear Editor:

I love reading your newspaper every week. It lets me know the week-end is here and serves as excellent accompaniment to my Friday morning coffee.

But I do have a few trite suggestions, not to be perceived as complaints. Here goes:

What happened to the weekly crime report? That was very informative to me as a Downey resident.

Am I the only one who doesn't "get" some of the poems in the Poets' Corner?

Can you do an update on [Congressman] Steve Horn? Does he live in Downey?

I always enjoy reading whatever Eric Pierce has to write about.

— **Gilbert Brewer,**
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.

Options for redeveloping Downtown Downey

CONTRIBUTED BY THE DOWNEY REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT AREA COMMITTEE (PAC)

Last week, the Downey Redevelopment Project Area Committee outlined some of the challenges that the city will face in redeveloping the Avenue Theatre and the Verizon building on Second Street, presenting alongside solutions and suggestions put forward by the community.

The PAC has been acting as a conduit to City Hall, distilling public comment from our meetings into recommendations endorsed by a diverse assembly of citizens from both within and outside the downtown area. This is done with the intention of keeping the city government and the public at large better informed as to the impact these developments will have on the population and the opportunities they bestow for the enhancement of Downey's civic experience. What follows now is a further accounting of the community consensus from these meetings, this time exploring the hopes and expectations for what these developments will accomplish.

Protection of Existing Property Owners. A guiding principle of any development should be the protection of other properties in the downtown area. It is crucial that any new development of the Avenue and Verizon properties bear no detrimental impact on its neighbors. For example, property owners neighboring the Avenue Theater previously had to sweep and clean the frontage of the theater regularly, removing routine litter and vegetation as well as waste and debris from the theater's crumbling facade and the squatters that inhabited it.

When the city took possession of the theater, it came as a welcome surprise to find the Avenue's entrance sealed, seemingly rectifying this situation. Neighboring businesses express boundless gratitude for this action, and the community hopes that Downey will continue to be a responsible landowner by handling these maintenance and policing issues itself and not foisting them upon its neighbors.

Though concerns about upkeep have been assuaged, a looming worry among downtown businesses is rear access to their properties. The Avenue and Verizon properties are both located behind other businesses that rely on rear access for deliveries. The city should remember this fact, and any renovation or construction by the city or a private developer should preserve this access and neither encroach nor obstruct it in any way. Relatedly as a spatial matter -- and also one of aesthetics, density, and in keeping with the character of downtown -- the community believes that any new development should be capped at three stories. This limit would allow some growth while preserving an open, intimate atmosphere in downtown and would minimize the burden any new development might place on its neighbors.

Some forms of protection for existing property owners are less obvi-



What we want is entertainment

Dear Editor:

I absolutely agree with Lucy Fernandez regarding the revitalization of Downtown Downey. ("Need More Life," 6/27/08) I am not a city planner or a business person, but I am a consumer and I know what I need and what I want.

I don't like driving to other cities for shopping and entertainment. I, like every other Downey resident I know, want a Trader Joe's. I don't like driving to Cerritos or Whittier. We should be spending our Downey dollars here.

Let's do something about it. Write this paper, the City Council, and the corporate leaders of Trader Joe's. Did you know that there used to be a Trader Joe's in Downey? Right on Downey Avenue where the Hi-Ho Market now stands. Let's bring it back. It's possible.

Lucy wrote about the bending of rules for Downey Dental. What scares me more than that is the possibility of losing the beautiful home that sits adjacent to the future site of the dental building. It has been there since 1906! Will it be bulldozed in the name of "progress"? That's what happened to another historic home that was located on the southwest corner of the same intersection.


The Avenue Theater now sits with its fate in our hands. It has survived a few remodels, but it has always remained a theater. It is the last one remaining of the three that once graced Downey Avenue. I hope that we can restore it to its former glory.

Downey definitely needs more entertainment. If you Google "family entertainment Downey CA" the only Downey location that comes up is Del Rio Lanes. The next listing is Golf 'N Stuff and that's in Norwalk. We need a fun and safe environment (like a GameWorks) for families, couples and teens that's within walking distance of the Krikorian and surrounding restaurants. What about the old Verizon building the city has purchased/ What about the vacant stores on Firestone Boulevard? There's a large two-story on the south side of Firestone between La Reina and Downey avenues; that would be perfect.

I don't think we need to tear down in order to build up. I believe that we should be part of the revitalization of our city because we know what we need and what we want.

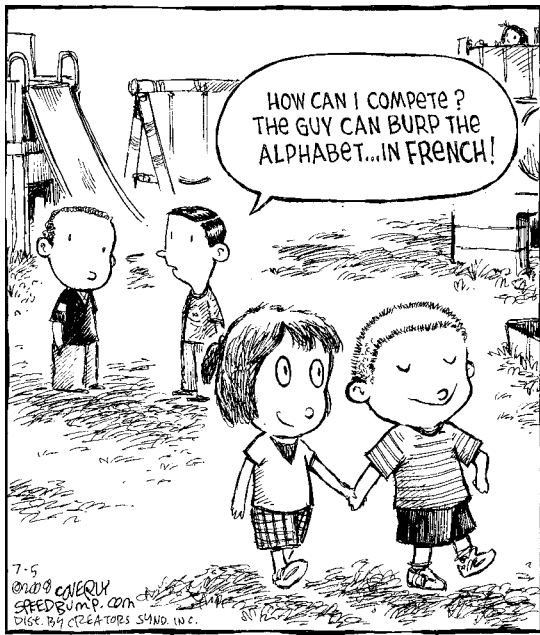
— **Kathy Perez,**
Downey

The Downey Patriot

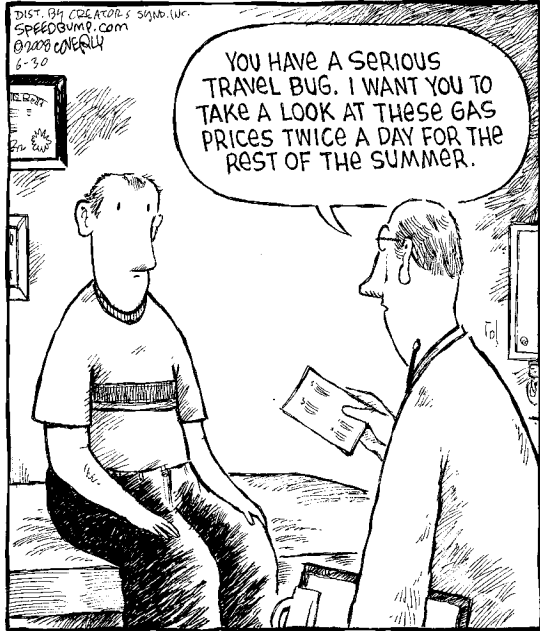
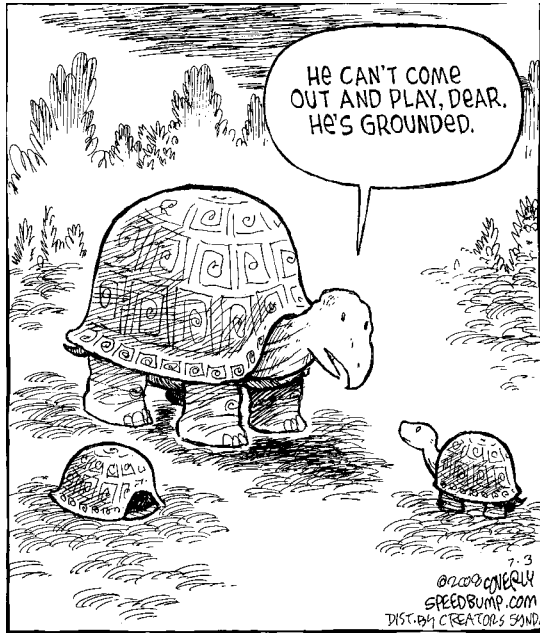
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For July

Mon. July 7: **Downey Newcomers meeting**, Los Amigos Country Club, 11 a.m.
 Tues. July 8: **City Council meeting**, City Hall, 7:30 p.m.
 Wed. July 9: **Mariachi Divas**, Furman Park Summer Concert Series, 7 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.
 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 Service Club**, at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106.
 Last Tues., 11:00 a.m.: **Los Companeros Service Club**, at Los Amigos Country Club, for info call 863-1549.

Wednesdays

7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
 1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, for information call 869-8782.
 1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Barbara Briley-Beard 869-7618.
 1st Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey Coordinating Council**, at Community Center, for information call 923-4357.
 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Stamp Club**, at Maude Price School cafeteria, for information call 928-3028.
 1st Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Emblem Club #309**, at Downey's Elks Lodge, for information call 868-4386.
 1st & 3rd Weds., 7:00 p.m.: **After-Care Post Cencer Therapy Group**, for information call 923-4800.
 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Sister Cities Ass'n**, at Maude Price School, Call 862-7197.
 2nd Weds., 11:45 a.m. - **Downey Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos CC, Call 927-8488.
 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:00 a.m. - **AARP**, at Barbara J. Riley CC, Call Lorene Frazier 861-6075.
 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park.
 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...

July 4, 1776: The Continental Congress adopts the Declaration of Independence, declaring the 13 colonies in North America as "free and independent" states.
1826: Former presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson pass away. Adams was 90 years old while Jefferson was 83.
1939: Baseball player Lou Gehrig bids farewell at Yankee Stadium, saying "Today, I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the Earth."
1959: A 49th star, representing Alaska, is added to the American flag.

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

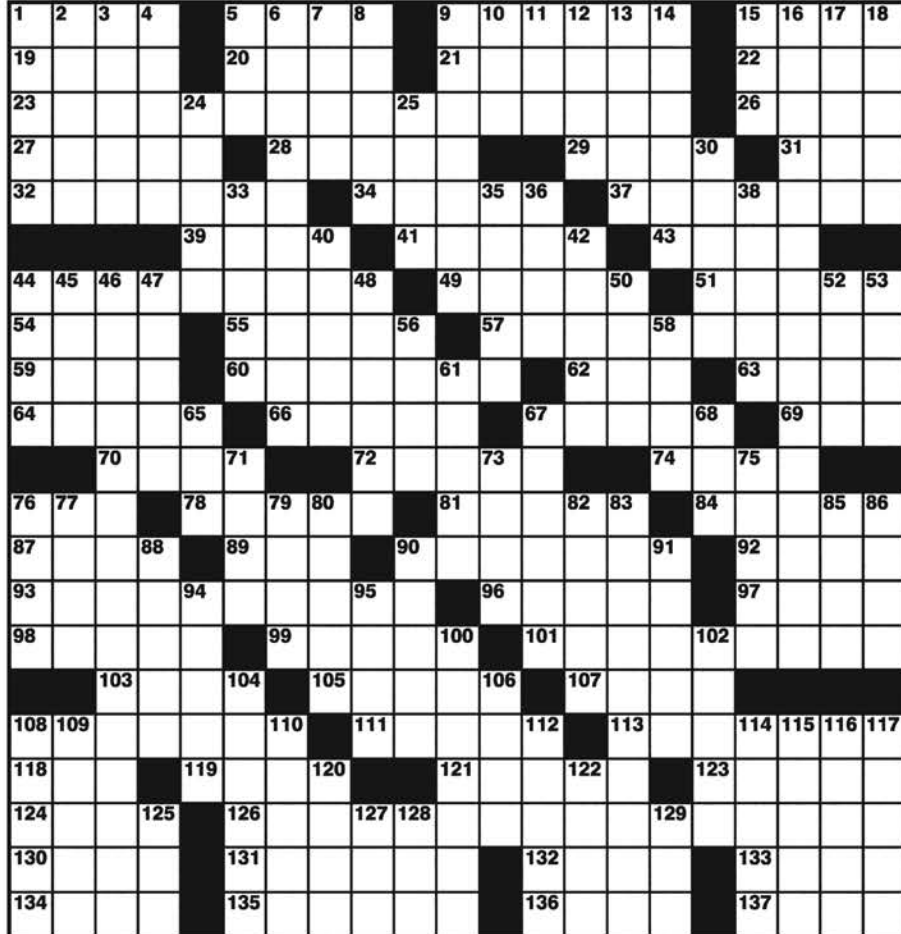
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

ALL-CONSUMING: Well, eight, anyway

by Shirley Soloway

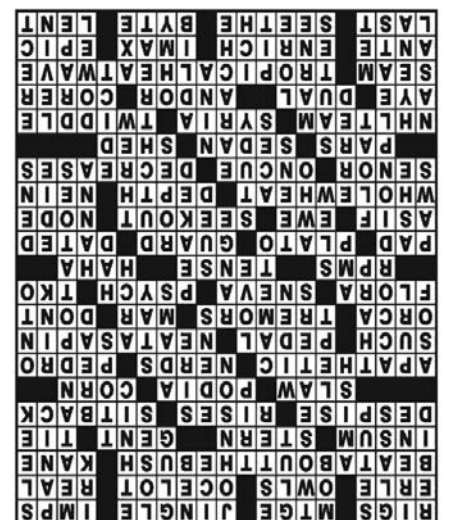
- ACROSS
- 1 Fixes, so to speak
 - 5 Homeowner's pymt.
 - 9 Advertising rhyme
 - 15 Mischief-makers
 - 19 Agatha's contemporary
 - 20 Impressive head-turners
 - 21 Mexican wildcat
 - 22 Bona fide
 - 23 Be evasive
 - 26 Rosebud owner
 - 27 Briefly
 - 28 Brooking no nonsense
 - 29 Chap
 - 31 OT cause
 - 32 Really not like
 - 34 Stands
 - 37 Relax comfortably
 - 39 Picnic side dish
 - 41 Orators' spots
 - 43 Schmaltz
 - 44 Beyond indifferent
 - 49 Geeks
 - 51 San ___ (L.A. community)
 - 54 The like
 - 55 Piano part
 - 57 Shipshape
 - 59 Ocean menace
 - 60 Seismic movements
 - 62 Damage
 - 63 "___ Be Cruel"
 - 64 Botanist's area
 - 66 Indy winner Tom
 - 67 College major, familiarly
 - 69 Bout ender, sometimes
 - 70 Turntable speeds
 - 72 Pluperfect, for one
 - 74 LOL, orally?
 - 76 Hippie's home
 - 78 Aristotle's teacher
 - 81 Protect
 - 84 Went with
 - 87 "Yeah, right!"
 - 89 Farm female
 - 90 Go looking for
 - 92 Focal point
 - 93 With 38 Down, rye alternative
 - 96 Swimming-pool marking
 - 97 "No, mein Herr!"
 - 98 Guadalajara guy
 - 99 Precisely when called for
 - 101 Falls off
 - 103 Duffers' goals
 - 105 Family car
 - 107 Drop, in a way
 - 108 Ducks or Penguins
 - 111 Neighbor of Turkey
 - 113 Tinker
 - 118 Word to the captain
 - 119 ___ airbags (car safety feature)
 - 121 Dual conjunction
 - 123 Apple-pie baker, early on
 - 124 Old stocking feature
 - 126 Words from an Irving Berlin song
 - 130 Pitch in
 - 131 Make more rewarding
 - 132 Big-screen name
 - 133 Cast-of-thousands film
 - 134 Endure
 - 135 Be agitated
 - 136 Memory unit
 - 137 Ignored Polonius' advice
 - DOWN
 - 1 Bridge players' term
 - 2 Peace goddess
 - 3 Tumbler
 - 4 Preparation
 - 5 Crowd around
 - 6 Most roadsters
 - 7 Overabundance
 - 8 Organic compound
 - 9 Crystal Cathedral architect
 - 10 Water cooler
 - 11 Cornhusker St.
 - 12 Gurgling sound
 - 13 Is deprived of
 - 14 Of a culture
 - 15 Annoy
 - 16 Not at all pretentious
 - 17 Lose one's cool
 - 18 Glossy
 - 24 Horse-and-buggy group
 - 25 Cruise, for example
 - 30 Sporty auto roofs
 - 33 "George Washington ___ here"
 - 35 Pristine spots
 - 36 Foal's father
 - 38 See 93 Down
 - 40 Improve, as a highway
 - 42 Yosemite photographer
 - 44 Starting
 - 45 Knitting term
 - 46 Features of some skirts
 - 47 Baryshnikov collaborator
 - 48 Awoke, in a way
 - 50 Collar accessory
 - 52 108 Across need
 - 53 Aware of
 - 56 Main squeeze
 - 58 Roguish
 - 61 Singer's span
 - 65 Roadie's load
 - 67 Reached its highest point
 - 68 Taken for a ride
 - 71 Whole lot
 - 73 Took to court
 - 75 Barbera's partner
 - 76 Ferret's feet
 - 77 '70s tennis star
 - 79 Horton Hears ___!
 - 80 Many new drivers
 - 82 Ring boundaries
 - 83 Pay-for-yourself phrase
 - 85 Desperate Housewives character
 - 86 Hotbeds
 - 88 Parade attraction
 - 90 Something to do at a library
 - 91 Hurled
 - 94 Made a false step
 - 95 Old pros
 - 100 What doctors call "otalgia"
 - 102 Royal order
 - 104 Uses a stovetop
 - 106 Columbus' favorite ship
 - 108 Twangy
 - 109 African scavenger
 - 110 River to the Seine
 - 112 Off-the-cuff quip
 - 114 Wooden pin
 - 115 Adjust, as a sari
 - 116 Rosemary's Baby author
 - 117 Not slouching
 - 120 Oral hand-me-downs
 - 122 "Gracious!"
 - 125 Convened
 - 127 Orchestra's place
 - 128 Start of a JFK declaration
 - 129 Firefighter's implement

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2008 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 6/22/08



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.

OWIS (20 Across) can turn their heads about 135 degrees in either direction. Tom SNEVA (66 Across) was a school principal before becoming a race-car driver. Phillip JOHNSON (9 Down) was the first recipient of the Pritzger Architecture Prize.



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Youth football adds spice to Morales' life

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

It's a source of great pride to Louis Morales, Jr. that this year he's leading Downey Youth Football (DYF), also known as Downey Pop Warner, as its president for the 10th consecutive time.

He believes this uninterrupted tenure is unprecedented in the DYF Razorbacks' 48-year history and unequalled among independent youth sports organizations here, which includes the likes of AYSO, West and Northwest Little Leagues. Along with such summer sports programs that are co-sponsored by the city as DJAA, Girls Ponytail, and its sundry sports camps and activities, these programs are meant as an alternative summer activity for the youth of Downey and environs.

Morales says he has the 25-strong DYF board members to thank for their trust and confidence, as well as the scores of other volunteers that make the program go. His involvement started when his son, Anthony, who was 9 years old in the summer of 1995, wanted to play Razorbacks football. Anthony also played baseball and basketball.

Formed in 1960, DYF offers tackle and flag football for boys and girls, organized according to age and weight. The youngest group is represented by the three flag teams, for ages 5, 6, and 7, their weight not exceeding 100 lbs. Two teams comprise the Mitey Mite teams, for kids ages 7, 8, and 9, and who are not over 95 lbs. Only one team each comprises the rest of the teams: Jr. Pee wee (8, 9, 10; maximum weight 105 lbs.); Pee wee (9, 10, 11; 120 lbs. max. wt.); Jr. Midget (10, 11, 12; 135 lbs. max. wt.), and Midget (11, 12, 13, 14; 160 lbs. max. wt.). There are of course opportunities for girls to cheerlead as well.

The program's popularity is such that all three flag teams are filled up, as well as the Pee wee division, with sign-ups for the remaining teams' rosters scheduled by the July Fourth weekend. As of last week, Morales estimated some six or seven spots were still open for each of the remaining teams.

Registration continues today at the DYF fireworks stand located at the Ralph's parking lot, and ends tomorrow. Morales anticipates all spots will be filled by then, if they haven't been already. He pegs the expected total number of DYF participants at 300; cheerleaders add 25 to the total.

An important criterion is for each student participant to have a minimum "C" average (2.0 GPA). No player or cheerleader is turned away due to cost.

A battalion of volunteer support personnel—staff, parents, coaches, others—undergird program logistics, practices at Rio San Gabriel Park (first day of practice is July 28), transportation to and from home games (all held at the



Could another run at City Council be in Louis Morales' future? Morales is contemplating the decision.

Downey High School stadium, (courtesy of DUSD) and opposing teams' sites (18 in all, including Buena Park, El Segundo, Gardena, Inglewood, Lakewood, Long Beach, Lynwood, Santa Monica, Torrance, etc.). Parents must sign a Code of Conduct.

Safety and security considerations are paramount (no parents are allowed on the field of play; everybody has to sport a badge at all times; etc.). Indeed, extensive background checks are required of all volunteers, including team photographers. A subsequent arrest file (for interim offenders) is maintained. Morales says this added security consciousness has been in effect since 2000.

As a further reinforcement of DYF's effectiveness as a wholesome alternative summer (and beyond) activity for youth, Morales says it allied itself early on with DUSD's Character Counts program, attending its quarterly Sports Coalition (conducted by Superintendent Wendy Doty) meetings, and "sending our coaches to CIF's 'Victory with Honor' sessions."

Games begin on Sept. 6. Playoffs start on the first Saturday of November. The eventual PCC (Pacific Coast Conference) champions will be pitted against their counterparts from Hawaii, Arizona, and San Diego, in South Carolina to determine the overall champion on Nov. 22.

Morales was born in 1964 in Los Angeles and has a B.S. in urban and regional planning from Cal Poly Pomona. He had previously taken courses in architecture for three years, as well as industrial technology (with emphasis on construction management), and has also taken graduate courses in public administration and public policy at Cal State Los Angeles. He's been married to wife Lisa for 23 years. The family attends OLPH.

Morales says his parents, who are both retired and reside in San Diego, preached and practiced strong family values and stressed the virtues of character, respect, and good manners. Anthony is 22 now and is a part-time student at Cerritos College, while the younger son, 11-year old Austin, cracked the honor roll list for the first time with perfect attendance at Rio Hondo Elementary; he goes to Griffiths Middle School in September. In addition to football, like his older brother, he's also into baseball, basketball, and even lacrosse.

"It's important to keep them active physically and academically, especially in the summer," says Morales, who has spent the last five years as a Senior Associate for Tierra West Advisors, a real estate and redevelopment consulting firm doing business out of Los Angeles.

Morales provides consulting services to cities throughout Southern California. Among the services he provides are economic development and redevelopment programming; sales tax and tax increment projections; commercial, retail and mixed-use project analysis; project negotiations; and ordinances and specific planning. He also dispenses fiscal policy guidelines, and CEQA, as well as HUD and CDBG, advice. He is currently actively consulting with the cities of Azusa, Commerce and El Segundo.

Prior to Tierra West, Morales progressed from city planner to planning manager to redevelopment manager to director of community development to redevelopment/economic development director for Huntington Park (three years) and Lynwood (17 years). He also at one time served as a deputy executive director of a redevelopment agency.

With his extensive work with city budgets, Morales says he has implemented a one-stop permit process system, reducing the approval time for projects and permits while improving communication between city departments "within the development and enti-

tlement process."

Morales has also simultaneously had his own consulting company, LEM and Associates, advising cities and government agencies on his expertise: fiscal policy, project management, redevelopment, and land use matters.

A resident of Downey for over 20 years, he ran in 2000 for a District 3 City Council seat, losing to eventual winner Rick Trejo. Morales says the experience was "an eye-opener, very informative."

With local elections coming up in November, and convinced that he has much to contribute with his experience and expertise, he has been toying with the idea of running again. He says the times, the state of the economy "definitely demands someone who understands economic development, someone who can make a difference in the community." He says his gut tells him to run because ultimately "I want to push myself and others to do more, create community awareness and pride, and present challenges to the youth."

He is a member of the Downey Rotary Club, Downey Elks Lodge 2020, the Downey Chamber of Commerce, and has served as vice-president of Gangs Out of Downey. Professional organization affiliations include: California Redevelopment Association (CRA), National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO), Contract Cities Association (CCA), League of California Cities, American Planning Association (APA), and National League of Cities.

In the midst of all his business and other commitments, Morales's thoughts gravitate towards the children who'll be in his and his co-volunteers' charge this summer and beyond, and makes this parting comment: "It's important that we provide our children with alternatives. We also integrated Character Counts into our program, and we hope we instill in them civic pride. We're dealing with future leaders here."



The Woman's Club of Downey is celebrating their 110th anniversary this year. The group was founded in 1898. Photo by Brooke Karli

Even after 100 years, Woman's Club of Downey is still thriving

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – More than 100 distinguished men and women occupied the auditorium of the Woman's Club of Downey last month, celebrating the club's 110th anniversary.

The club was founded in 1898 and was known as The Friday Afternoon Club, a small group of women who met in each other's homes to discuss the interests of the community. Now, 110 years later, the club continues to keep the community at heart and is one of the major donors to numerous charities throughout Downey, including Arc of Southeast Los Angeles County, Downey City Library, Gangs Out Of Downey, Downey Police Officers Association, Keep Downey Beautiful, Living Help Center, and PTA HELPS, to name a few.

The luncheon served as a celebration, as guests were treated to a catered lunch of chicken crepes, green beans and wild rice by King Events, and entertainment by Fernie "Elviz" Ramirez, who impersonated none other than the king himself. And the raffle prizes were just as extravagant as the table settings, offering guests necklaces of pearls and diamonds, and tickets to Dodger games and the Downey Civic Light Opera – not to mention the numerous Dinner for Two's at local restaurants.

Among those in attendance were Woman's Club past presidents Kay Nance (1963-65); Ione Van Petten (1973-74); Fran Smith (1981-82, 1990-91); Nancy Watson (1985-86); Ellie Harrington (1991-92); Jean Kiskadden (1992-94, 1996-98); and Barbara Briley-Beard (1994-96, 2001-02, 2006-07).

The inspirational, "A Tree Planted," written and read by longtime club member Cynthia Deake, not only reflected the club's rich history, but also its promising future:

"The moments of greatness begin in obscure thoughts that are never counted as being of any great worth at the time they are born.

Time takes care of things and pulls obscure thoughts into a mission that begins to stand on its own, passing from generation to generation like a river that feeds all that comes to its edge.

Not so long ago a few strong pioneer women came to a river and planted a small tree that became the cornerstone of a village that became a town that grew into something more than what they had ever envisioned.

Built with the hands of imperfect lives creating a beautiful tapestry that dots the landscape and touches every aspect of our existence in this place and time.

We can look at the faces of those in this room today and find a reflection of what has been and what will be that was started by those who went before us and planted the tree.

Only by the Lord's mighty hand that takes our dreams and obscure thoughts and spins them into something that is remarkable that spans time and eternity do we find ourselves in this place today, delighting ourselves in the joys of things we don't always comprehend.

But we know by the will and grace of him who is our Creator the river will keep flowing touching those who come to its side to take refuge in the shade of a tree planted long ago."

WAGS shares items of ancestry

WHITTIER – The next Whittier Area Genealogical Society (WAGS) meeting will be on July 19 at 1 p.m. at the Whittier Masonic Lodge, 7604 Greenleaf Ave.

The meeting will feature several members sharing items of genealogical interest, stories of an ancestor, or an experience they have had regarding their research.

For more information, call (562) 695-5431, or visit www.cagenweb.com/kr/wags.

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Olé! Mariachi Divas opening summer concerts this Wednesday

Free summer concerts open this Wednesday at Furman Park at 7 p.m.

DOWNEY – Get your lawn chairs ready: the Mariachi Divas, a popular all-female mariachi ensemble, will open the Twilight Summer Concert Series this Wednesday at Furman.

The concert is free and starts at 7 p.m.

Founded and directed by trumpet player Cindy Shea in 1999, the all-female Mariachi Divas is a multi-cultural ensemble. Throughout the years the group has been represented by women of Mexican, Cuban, Samoan, Argentinean, Columbian, Panamanian, Puerto Rican, Swiss, Japanese, Honduran, Peruvian, and Anglo decent.

“Music is a way of uniting our cultural backgrounds,” Shea said.

The Mariachi Divas have been featured at the Arrowhead Pond, Universal Amphitheatre, Staples Center, Greek Theater, and the Santa Barbara Bowl. They have also performed at the “Premio La Gente” live TV awards at the Forum in Inglewood, and at the L.A. Shrine for the 2006 Alma Awards.

The Mariachi Divas have also accompanied Grammy-winning artists on tour, including Joan Sebastian, Jenny Rivera, Marco Antonio Solis, Pablo Montero, Graciela Beltran and Paulina Rubio.

From 2001 until this year, the Divas showcased their sounds at the NAMM Show in Anaheim. They have performed at the Tucson International Mariachi Concert, Lac Cruces Mariachi Conference, and at the Fresno Radio Bilingue Mariachi Show.

In 2003 and 2004, the Divas were one of the main televised acts at the 14th and 15th Annual Fiesta Broadway, a large Cinco de Mayo celebration in Downtown



The always-popular Mariachi Divas return to Furman Park this Wednesday to usher in a new season of free concerts in the park. Performance starts at 7 p.m.

Los Angeles. And in 2003, the Divas began performing every week at Disney’s California Adventure theme park.

The Mariachi Divas have appeared at fairs throughout the United States, including the Los Angeles and Orange County fairs numerous times. They performed dozens of shows with the world-renowned Mariachi Vegas, and traveled the U.S. performing in Arizona, New Mexico, Nevada, Utah, Idaho and Wyoming. In 2004, the Divas performed in Tampico, Mexico.

The girls were featured in the mariachi documentary, “Viva El Mariachi,” and produced their own shows at the John Anson Ford Theater. The Divas also performed at the inaugurations of Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Since then, the Divas have per-

formed for several city and state events, including a lunchtime performance for Schwarzenegger and the visiting president of Mexico. The Divas also performed for Sen. Hillary Clinton during a campaign rally in Los Angeles; that performance was broadcast live on C-SPAN.

In 2007, the Divas performed “Las Mañanitas” for Grammy-winning Latin singer Luis Miguel on his birthday.

Not a stranger to TV, the Divas have made several television appearances, including the shows “Vista L.A.,” “Primer Impacto,” “Sabado Gigante,” “BBQ with Bobby Flay,” and more. The Divas recently took roles as actors when they participated in two independent films, “Dead Man’s Shoe,” and “La Dentista,” where music from their CD was used as the movie’s official soundtrack.

The Divas also recently announced the national release of their four CDs. The Divas are currently promoting their latest album, “Canciones de Amor.”

The Downey Museum of Art will be open before the concert and the Downey Rose Float Association will be selling food and drinks. Upcoming concerts include Captain Cardiac and the Coronaries (July 16), Wiseguys Big Band (July 23), Polynesian Paradise (July 30), Side Street Strutters (Aug. 6), Downey Symphony (Aug. 13), “Yesterday Once More” – A Musical Tribute to Richard and Karen Carpenter (Aug. 20), and the Marine Corps AGCC Band (Aug. 27).

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

Church invites kids on several tours

DOWNEY – First Presbyterian Church of Downey is offering a week-long summer tour, KidzKonnection Summer Tour, the week of July 14 – 18 for kids in grades 2 – 6. Tours will begin each day at 8 a.m. and conclude at 2 p.m.

The kids will tour four locations in the greater Los Angeles area, including the Los Angeles County Arboretum; the Glendale Community College Planetarium Theatre; the William O. Douglas Outdoor Education Center; and the Marin Mammal Rescue Center in San Pedro.

Cost is \$50 for the first child, \$35 for the second, or \$100 for all the children in an immediate family. Fee includes lunch each day, a T-shirt, and transportation. For more information, call (562) 861-6752.

New & noteworthy titles at the Downey City Library

Romance Titles

• **“Darkest Kiss”** by Keri Arthur. Riley knows she’s got the skill and cunning to catch two serial killers at once -- until one of them strikes inside her own tight-knit clan, and another reenters her life to aid in the hunt.

• **“A Lady’s Secret”** by Jo Veberley. In danger after the death of her mother, Contessina Petra Maria d’Averio dons a nun’s habit while on her way to England in search of her natural father, when her swearing catches the attention of Robin Fitzvityr, the Earl of Huntersdown.

• **“Duke Most Wanted”** by Celeste Bradley. Sophie Blake’s grandfather willed his fortune to the first of his granddaughters to marry a duke. Since her cousin, Deirdre, will seal the deal any day now, the quiet, bookish Sophie can sit back and enjoy her time with Graham, the only man she truly adores.

• **“A Kiss in Winter”** by Susan Crandall. After tragedy struck her family, Caroline Rogers had to put her life on hold to raise her younger siblings. Now that they’re entering adulthood and her long-delayed photography career is taking off, she can almost taste the freedom until she meets Dr. Mick Larsen.

• **“Bet Me”** by Jennifer Crusie. Agreeing not to pursue a relationship after one date, unlikely lovers Min and Cal are thrown together again by a jealous ex-boyfriend, a determined psychologist, and a strangely intelligent cat.

• **“Killer Dreams”** by Iris Johansen. When Sophie Dunston, a sleep therapist who specializes in night terrors, and her 10-year-old son are threatened by a shadowy figure, mother and son are pitted against a killer who is the stuff of nightmares.

• **“Sugar Daddy”** by Lisa Kleypas. Left behind by an ambitious man who considers her off limits, Texas girl Liberty Jones struggles to raise her younger sister and eventually makes her way to the big city, where she falls under the spell of a billionaire tycoon.

• **“Sealed with a Kiss”** by Carly Phillips. When his ex-lover Molly Gifford arrives begging for his help, lawyer Daniel Hunter, against his better judgement, agrees to help her father, who has been accused of murder.

• **“Lover Enshrined”** by J.R. Ward. As Praline of the Chosen, the fiercely loyal Phury has sacrificed himself for the good of his race. But his first mate, the Chosen Cornia, wants not only his body but his heart for herself.

• **“Snowfall at Willow Lake”** by Susan Wiggs. After surviving a hostage situation, lawyer Sophie Bellamy returns home to the peaceful Catskills village of Avalon where she falls in love with the local veterinarian.

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.

Theater hosting dance competition

BELLFLOWER – The Youth Cultural Arts Foundation (YCAF) of SoCal, in cooperation with the city of Bellflower, will host their first dance competition on July 19 at 7:30 p.m.

Dancers ages 6 to 18 are encouraged to audition as YCAF will be looking for dance crews, solo, duo and trio acts. They will also be looking for different dance genres, including hip-hop, ballet, jazz, crumping, musical theatre, and contemporary. Judges will choose a winner in each age category, 6 to 11 and 12 to 18. Winners will receive cash awards.

Auditions for the competition are July 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bellflower Civic Center/Bristol Auditorium, located at 16600 Civic Center Dr. in the city of Bellflower.

For more information, call (562) 867-3524, or visit www.bellflowertheater.org.

Gospel/jazz concert coming to Bellflower

BELLFLOWER – A gospel/jazz concert featuring musician Jason Brown will be presented at the William Bristol Civic Auditorium in Bellflower on Aug. 17 at 4 p.m. Admission is \$20.

For tickets, call (562) 412-2221 or visit www.tamilyn.net.

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★ **HANCOCK** PG-13 *Fri & Sat* (10:05, 11:00, 11:45, 12:30, 1:25, 2:10, 2:55, 3:50, 4:35, 5:20), 6:15, 7:00, 7:45, 8:40, 9:25, 10:10, 11:05, *Sun* (10:05, 11:00, 11:45, 12:30, 1:25, 2:10, 2:55, 3:50, 4:35, 5:20), 6:15, 7:00, 7:45, 8:40, 9:25, 10:10, *Mon* (10:05, 11:00, 11:45, 12:30, 1:25, 2:10, 2:55, 3:50, 4:35, 5:20), 6:15, 7:00, 7:45, 8:40, 9:25, 10:10, *Tue to Thu* (10:05, 11:00, 11:45, 12:30, 1:25, 2:10, 2:55, 3:50, 4:35, 5:20), 6:15, 7:00, 7:45, 8:40, 9:25, 10:10

★ **WALL-E** G (11:00, 11:45, 1:40, 2:25, 4:15, 5:00), 6:50, 7:35, 9:25, 10:15

★ **WANTED** R (10:25, 1:30, 4:30), 7:20, 10:30

★ **GET SMART** PG-13 (11:15, 2:00, 4:45), 7:30, 10:20

★ **THE LOVE GURU** PG-13 *Fri to Sun* (10:10, 12:35, 3:00, 5:20), 7:50, 10:25, *Mon* (3:00, 5:20), 7:50, 10:25, *Tue to Thu* (10:10, 12:35, 3:00, 5:20), 7:50, 10:25

★ **THE INCREDIBLE HULK** PG-13 (11:05, 1:50, 4:40), 7:25, 10:15

★ **KUNG FU PANDA** PG *Fri to Sun* (10:00, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15), 7:45, 10:10, *Mon* (2:45, 5:15), 7:45, 10:10, *Tue to Thu* (10:00, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15), 7:45, 10:10

★ **TMNT** PG *Mon* (10:00 AM, 12:30 PM)

Times for Friday-Thursday, July 4-10, 2008

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HANCOCK PG-13 (10:30 12:30 2:00 4:30) 5:30 7:00 8:30 10:30

HANCOCK PG-13 (11:30 1:00 3:30) 6:00 8:00 9:30

WALL-E G (10:45 1:20 3:55) 6:30 9:05

WALL-E G (11:45 2:20 4:55) 7:30 10:05

WANTED R (11:30 2:20) 5:10 8:00 10:50

GET SMART PG-13 (11:15 2:00 4:45) 7:30 10:15

THE LOVE GURU PG-13 (10:35 1:00 3:25) 5:50 8:15 10:40

THE INCREDIBLE HULK PG-13 (10:30 1:20 4:10) 7:00 9:50

THE HAPPENING R (10:45 1:10 3:35) 6:00 8:20 10:50

KUNG FU PANDA PG (11:20 1:45 4:10) 6:35 9:00

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From The Downey Patriot Staff



MEET ONE LOCAL PROFESSIONAL WHO IS A Friend to the Community



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Downey Business Review
ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

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Ana Esparza, Real Estate Executive
Ana Esparza has been servicing the City of Downey since 1991. She is involved in many organizations and currently serves as President of the Downey Association of Realtors. Ana believes that purchasing Downey Real Estate is a great investment whether you are purchasing your first home, second home, or commercial property. Ana believes when you are buying or selling in today's real estate market, it is important to have confidence in your Real Estate Professional. Ana is committed to provide specialized service that her clients deserve. If you are considering buying or selling a home, or commercial property, or would like to have additional information about real estate in your area. Please contact Ana Esparza at (562)756-8870

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DUSD: Routine agenda approved by board.

Continued from page 4

Warren High School modernization; approved bid renewals by FC & Sons Roofing, Inc. of Bell Gardens (for roof repairs, replacement and asbestos abatement), by Ontario Winnelson of Rancho Cucamonga and Smarden Supply Company of South El Monte (for pipe and plumbing supplies, as needed), by a number of suppliers (for maintenance equipment rental), by John Deere Landscapes of Irvine (for irrigation supplies and equipment), by National Ready Mix of Los Angeles (for concrete products), and by Terra Pave of Whittier (for asphalt and concrete repairs), while renewing the annual contract with McCullah Fence of Bell Gardens for fencing work;

- Approved the change orders with various vendors, involving functional behavior assessment consultation, food items, 16-inch pizzas, classroom building modernization (concrete, rebar, site work), Warren High modernization (electrical work), and the Downey High new classroom buildings;

- Accepted as complete concrete, electrical, and fencing work performed by various vendors;

- Approved the adjustments to the 2007-08 General Fund unrestricted and restricted budgets, ditto to those of the Adult School and the Cafeteria Funds, as well as to the unrestricted budgets of the Self Insurance Fund, the Self Insurance Workers Compensation Fund, and the Self Insurance Health and Welfare Fund;

- Authorized LACOE to make the appropriate transfers necessary at the close of the school year 2007-08, to remit payment of obligations of the district incurred during the year;

- Approved the destruction of Class 2 and 3 disposable district records,

and appointed Katrina Juarez Lorenzetti, clerical assistant, document destruction coordinator;

- Ratified routine Personnel items until subsequent action is taken by the Board of Education;

- Authorized the service of the speech and language pathologists;

- Approved the abolishment of one 4-hour intermediate clerical assistant position in the Food Services Department;

- Ratified the establishment of one new position with duties corresponding to the current classification of Senior Instructional Assistant-Behaviorally Challenged, assigned to Griffiths Middle School;

- Ratified the establishment of two new limited-term positions with duties corresponding to the current classification of Lead Custodian;

- Approved the changes to the duties of Instructional Assistant-Computer Applications; and

- Endorsed the actions taken by the Superintendent on student cases.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be held at 5 p.m. on July 15 at the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627 Brookshire Ave.

America celebrated by Christian Club

DOWNEY – “America the Beautiful” is the theme of the Downey Christian Women’s Club lunch meeting this Wednesday at the Los Amigos Country Club.

Led by Aaron Chartier, the club will discuss “Personal Emergency Reporting System.” Judy Kertes will provide the meeting’s music and Yrena Friedman will be the guest speaker. Her topic is “Rx for Peace.”

Men are invited to the 11:45 a.m. meeting. Price is \$12 and includes a buffet lunch. Reservations are requested by calling Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Delores at (562) 868-7135.

Students can eat for free at schools

DOWNEY – The Downey Unified School District will be offering free meals to students at various schools and parks throughout the summer.

All children ages 3 to 18 are eligible for the meals, which is part of the district’s Seamless and Simplified Summer Food Service Program. Meal service is provided Mondays through Thursdays. For more information, call the Department of Nutrition Services at (562) 469-6672.

The following is a list of locations and times where meals will be provided:

Golden Park	12:30 - 1:15 p.m.
Imperial Elementary	9:40 – 9:55 a.m.
Lewis Elementary	9:45 – 10 a.m.
Rio Hondo Elementary	9:30 – 9:45 a.m.
Unsworth Elementary	9:30 – 9:45 a.m.
East Middle School	10:15 – 10:45 a.m.
West Middle School	10:15 – 10:45 a.m.
Sussman Middle School	10:15 – 10:40 a.m.
Downey High School	10:30 – 11 a.m.
Warren High School	10:30 – 11 a.m.

Rancho golf tourney set for August 11

WHITTIER – The Rancho Los Amigos Foundation’s 18th Annual Golf Classic will take place on Aug. 11 at the Friendly Hills Country Club in Whittier.

The event is in need of corporate sponsors, foursomes, individual players, tee sponsors and auction/door prize sponsors.

For more information, call the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation Office at (562) 401-7053.

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<p>CALL JASON TODAY!!!</p>		
 <p>PRICED FOR A QUICK SALE! 3 BD, 2 BA N. Downey Home! Priced at \$474,900 Call Carrie @ 562-382-1252</p>	 <p>SPACIOUS POOL HOME! 3 BD, 2 BA, 2,285 Sq. Ft. Living PRICED AT \$724,950 Call Jason @ 562 619-2979</p>	<p>Mario Did It AGAIN... Mario Persico: Born in Downey * Educated in Downey * Lives in Downey * Worships in Downey * Sells Downey!!</p> <p>7320 Nada ~ Downey ~ ... and Again!!! SOLD!</p> <p>10324 Chaney ~ Downey ~ ... and Again!!! SOLD!</p> <p>12615 Brock ~ Downey ~ ... and Again!!! SOLD!</p> <p>9651 Gainford ~ Downey ~ ... and Again!!! SOLD!</p> <p>In the process of doing it AGAIN...</p> <p>7814 Dacosta ~ Downey ~ ... In Escrow!!!</p> <p>7824 5th St. ~ Downey ~ ... In Escrow!!!</p> <p>11455 Pruess ~ Downey ~ ... In Escrow!!!</p> <p>21221 Haston ~ Lakewood ~ ... In Escrow!!!</p> <p>12709 Gneiss ~ Downey ~ Mario Can Do It For You Too!!! www.MarioPersico.com</p>
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 <p>Warm and Friendly! 3 BD, 2 BA home with large living room, family room with fireplace, formal dining room, and master bedroom! Price: \$499,950.00 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>	 <p>Fun in the Sun! 4 BD, 3.5 BA North Downey home, remodeled in 2004 with newer pool and spa! Remodeled kitchen with granite counter tops and much more! Price: \$599,950 Virtual tour at www.MichaelBerdelis.com</p>	 <p>Bank Repo New Construction 2007- 5 bed, 4 bath, 3,250 sq. ft. living space, many fine upgrades and touches. Price: \$999,900 Call Michael Berdelis at (562) 818-6111</p>
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