



The Downey Patriot



**Taking stance
against crime**
See Page 3



**Library busy
with kids**
See Page 9



**Folk music jam
at senior center**
See Page 4

Friday, July 18, 2008

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



IndyMac bank customers waited hours to withdraw assets at the Downey Landing branch this week. The troubled institution was seized by the federal government last week. Photo by Scott Cobos

Customers take no chances with bank

■ IndyMac bank account holders flock to Downey Landing branch to withdraw assets.

BY SCOTT COBOS, CONTRIBUTOR

DOWNEY – Worried IndyMac bank customers at the Downey Landing location sat in line for hours this week, withdrawing funds after the financial institution was taken over by the FDIC.

Downey police sat in a squad car and watched over upset customers sitting all day in folding chairs provided by the bank.

The bank's clientele continued to fire questions that, according to one customer, continued to go unanswered.

"We're all frustrated," said one man who wished to remain anonymous. "We can't get any straight answers and we can't access our money."

The sentiment was echoed by other bank customers.

"I feel very frustrated and especially since I was in here last week making a deposit," said bank customer Margaret Martin. "I talked to the head honcho and he denied they were in trouble. I said 'Hey, in the paper it says you're laying off 3,800 people.'"

Martin said she was told layoffs were only occurring in the mortgage department and that her money was safe.

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC) insures accounts up to \$100,000, or \$200,000 for married couples. Still, that helped ease few fears.

"It's kind of scary," said Audrey Freeman, who said she waited close to five hours to be helped. "But we've been hearing that the federal government took over the bank and that our money is safe. I'm thinking of leaving it here."

While there may be peace of mind, the IndyMac bank fiasco has become an inconvenience for customers. The demand for withdrawing money from accounts became so great that the bank started issuing numbers to customers in line.

Some customers were not helped by the end of the business day and were told to come back the following morning, assured they would be top priority before anyone else.

With the overflow of customers needing to be helped the following day, people were camped out ready to wait in the summer heat in order to take out their assets.

"It's enough [money] to wait all day for," said Matt Poland, who was part of the crowd that had arrived early in the morning to get in line.

The government seized IndyMac last Friday in what is being called the second-largest bank failure in U.S. history by federal regulators.

The stock of the company had plummeted to under \$1 in value, and IndyMac's future, in light of the seizure, remains unclear.

Downey students embark on practical path to success

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

Ideally, every kid that goes through the U.S. educational system ends up with a college degree, a sure sign that he/she has acquired basic reading, writing, arithmetic, and reasoning skills to make his/her way in life and the world of work and make positive, even enduring, contributions to it.

Sadly, though, the reality is different. Evidence of academic failure at every level is everywhere. Here are a few:

•The National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES): "In the year 2000, 3.8 million young adults were not enrolled in a high school program and had not completed high school, while the National Commission on the High School Senior Year (NCHSSY) reported numbers as high as 40

See **EDUCATION**, page 8

Destined for Stardom: Miranda Cosgrove

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Since she was 3 years old, actress and singer Miranda Cosgrove has been destined for stardom.

Born and raised in Downey, Miranda began her career after an agent saw her dancing and singing in a Los Angeles restaurant, encouraging Miranda's mom to get her involved in acting and modeling. Soon after, Miranda filmed a number of commercials and was featured in a variety of print advertisements.

Miranda's big break, however, came in 2001 at the age of 8, when she auditioned – and landed – a part as Megan Parker, a deceptively sweet, scamming sister on Nickelodeon's "Drake & Josh."

In 2007, Miranda was nominated for Best Performance in a TV Series (Comedy or Drama) by a Supporting Young Actress for the her role as Megan Parker at the 2007 Young Artist Awards.

Shortly after filming the pilot for "Drake & Josh," and while waiting for the show to be picked up, Miranda nabbed a role as the over-achieving preppy band manager Summer Hathaway in "School of Rock," a movie about substitute teacher Dewey Finn (Jack Black) who transforms a fifth-grade class of geniuses into rock and roll superstars.

"It was a lot of fun filming 'School of Rock,'" says Miranda, who is now 15. "It was so great meeting Jack Black and being able to film in Manhattan."

As "Drake & Josh" got underway, Miranda continued to appear in various movies, including "Yours, Mine and Ours," starring Dennis Quaid and Rene Russo, in 2005, and "Keeping up with the Steins," starring Daryl Hannah and Jeremy Piven, in 2006.

"I really enjoy doing television because I get to work on a project longer and I am able to get to know the cast better," Miranda says. "But I also really enjoy filming movies because I get to travel and film at different locations."

After more than three years on air, "Drake & Josh" ceased production, as the individual actors and actresses pursued solo careers, including Miranda, who got her own show, "iCarly," in 2007. In the show, she plays Carly Shay, who lives with her 20-something brother/guardian Spencer (Jerry Trainor) and produces her own Web casts from a makeshift loft studio.

"[Dan Schneider], the creator of 'Drake & Josh' and 'iCarly,' has known me a long time and asked me to review some ideas for my own show," Miranda says. "He and I both loved the idea for 'iCarly' and began filming right away."

When filming began, Miranda was asked to record a track to use as the show's theme song, not really expecting it to be used.

"I have always really liked singing and took singing lessons when I was younger," she says. "But I never thought I would be singing the theme song to my own show."

Miranda not only sang the theme song, but also three additional tracks for "iCarly – Music from and Inspired by the Hit TV Show," an album that hit the stores – and charts – last month. The album features songs inspired by "iCarly" from top artists such as Avril Lavigne, Natasha Bedingfield,

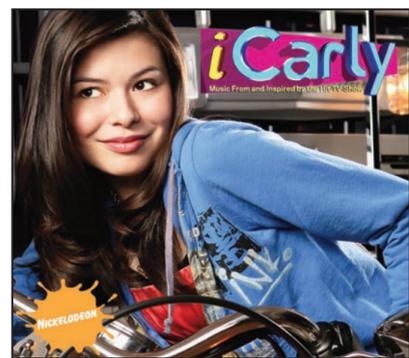
Closer Look

Name: Miranda Cosgrove

Age: 15

How you know her: Had a recurring role on popular Nickelodeon sitcom, "Drake & Josh," and now star of her own show, "iCarly."

Local roots: Raised in Downey, and attended Maude Price Elementary.



Miranda Cosgrove put down vocals on her 'iCarly' soundtrack, which also features special appearances by Avril Lavigne, Good Charlotte and Sean Kingston.

The record is now available in stores nationwide.

Good Charlotte, Sean Kingston, and Boys Like Girls.

The album debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard Top Kid Audio album chart and No. 1 on the SoundScan Top Children's Current album sales chart. It also entered the Billboard and SoundScan Top Soundtrack album charts at No. 2, second only to the "Sex & the City" soundtrack.

Currently, Miranda is preparing to film "Merry Christmas Drake & Josh," a TV movie set to air on Nickelodeon this December.

"It's a lot of fun working with [Drake Bell and Josh Peck]," Miranda says. "I'm an only child so they are truly like my brothers and I can't wait to start filming with them again."

See **MIRANDA**, page 9

Big band sound returns to summer concerts

DOWNEY – The Wiseguys Big Band, an 18-piece ensemble dedicated to "keeping great music alive," will be the featured performers Wednesday at the Furman Park Twilight Summer Concert Series.

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

The Wiseguys Big Band features a screaming horn line, two vocalists, and a roaring rhythm section. Their repertoire includes the swinging vocal tunes of Frank Sinatra, Bobby Darrin and Peggy Lee, plus the big band favorites of Glenn Miller, Perez Prado and Buddy Rich.

The Wiseguys say they enjoy keeping audiences on their feet and dancing with classic mambos and *cumbias* (classic Latin American music originally from Colombia).

Veterans of Downey's annual summer concerts, the Wiseguys have many new numbers in their arrangement this year, all highlighted with distinctive vocals and big band sound that gave the band its name.

The Wiseguys have been featured on local television shows, including "LATV Live" and "Vista L.A.," in addition to numerous live appearances, private parties and corporate events. Also serving Montebello as the official city band, the Wiseguys have performed frequently for civic events, and is a recent recipient of the Los Angeles County Volunteer of the Year Award.

The Downey Museum of Art will be open before the performance and the Downey Rose Float Association will be selling food and drinks. Upcoming concerts include: Polynesian Paradise, July 30; the Side Street Strutters, Aug. 6; the Downey Symphony, Aug. 13; "Yesterday Once More" – A Tribute to Richard and Karen Carpenter, Aug. 20; and the Marine Corps AGCC Band, Aug. 27.

The Downey Patriot is the official media sponsor of the concert series.

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



The Wiseguys Big Band will perform Wednesday at Furman Park. The concert is free.



United States Navy Rear Adm. Mike Shatynski told the graduating class of OLPH School "you can each be whatever you want to be. You just need to decide what that is and go on to work hard at it."

Admiral addresses OLPH graduating class

DOWNEY — United States Navy Rear Adm. Mike Shatynski served as the guest speaker at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School's recent graduation ceremonies.

Shatynski graduated from OLPH School in 1971 and was named Distinguished Graduate of the Year during Catholic Schools Week in January.

The Rear Admiral shared his sixth grade report card with the 34 graduating students and the large audience of parents, friends and relatives. The report card contained mainly B's and C's.

"Not exactly the grades you would expect from a future Admiral in the United States Navy," Shatynski admitted.

He explained that once he decided to be a good student, he worked hard. He attended Loyola High School and graduated in the top third of his

Naval Academy Class.

"I am sure that you can each be whatever you want to be," Shatynski told the graduates. "You just need to decide what that is and go on to work hard at it."

Valedictorians Jenna Wilson and Steven Carlos spoke about the importance of staying connected with each other by talking more and "texting" less. They thanked their parents and teachers for the support and belief in their success.

Thirty-three of the 34 students will be attending Catholic high schools and one will attend Downey High School in the fall.

The class of 2008 is the 57th group of students to graduate from Our Lady of Perpetual Help School.

New DUSD goals to 'move district forward'

■ Goals adopted by DUSD adhere closely to state and federal guidelines.

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—The Board of Education of the Downey Unified School District has a new set of major goals for the 2008-09 school year.

As usual, the goals adhere closely to federal and state guidelines. The goals were hammered out in a synergistic collaboration among members of the Board, the whole administrative staff, and school principals.

And as usual, the shared end in view is "to ensure that all students master the knowledge and skills they need to succeed in higher education and/or in life."

The article groups the coming school year's goals into four focus areas: instruction, technological upgrades, construction/modernization, and administrative/teacher training. By its specificity and tone, the articulation of each goal gives an indication of the category it should fall under.

Here are the goals, 13 in all:

- Begin the acquisition and implementation of the new Student Information System (SIS) for September 2009 roll out, including all requisite upgrades to the supporting technology infrastructure.

According to Superintendent Wendy Doty, SIS will identify each stu-

dent with a number, and will keep track of attendance, test scores, grades, etc.—"anything relevant to the student's performance"—that will be accessible to those concerned (parents, teachers, etc.);

- Fifty percent of Grade 10 English Learners will pass each section of the California High School Exit Exam (CAHSEE).

Director of Secondary Education Sara Cairns pointed out that, being a first-time experience for the Grade 10 student, CAHSEE has traditionally been a source of anxiety. Add the fact that there's a constant in-and-out flow of "transitory" students, target success rates tend to be depressed;

- Upgrade the entire network infrastructure at 10 school sites (Lewis, Sussman, Ward, West, Williams, Carpenter, Old River, Rio Hondo, Imperial, and Alameda), to include installing new network routers, switches, and cores;

- Schools will meet their state Academic Performance Index (API) growth targets. In addition, schools will meet their federal Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) targets for numerically significant subgroups.

An indication of the district's success in these important academic/improvement measures is the commendation given the district by 50th District Assemblyman Hector De La Torre in his Letter to the Editor published in this newspaper last week.

- Complete the Warren High kitchen/cafeteria remodel by November 2008, and begin the Downey High kitchen/cafeteria remodel in May 2009; complete construction and occupy the two-story classroom buildings at Downey and Warren High Schools; continue modernization projects on Warren High buildings O/P/Q/R/S; modernize Downey High School buildings J/K/H; begin the demolition and reconstruction of Downey High administration and classroom buildings A/G/I/M/O/Q (A story on this appeared in last week's issue of the *Patriot*);

See GOALS, page 8

School board approves routine summer agenda

BY HENRY VENERACION, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY—With most of the kids away on their summer break, and teachers and staff taking turns trekking to their various vacation destinations, the Board of Education Tuesday, with more dispatch than usual but without a loss of serious focus:

- Accepted with gratitude both great and small amounts of cash donations from various donors, including \$7,500 from Gypsy Johnson Auxiliary, \$1,000 from an anonymous donor, and \$61.25 from Gaudin Elementary School, to be used in support of the TLC Family Resource Center; a cash donation of \$500 from Phillip and Kathleen Verstegen, in support of the fitness club at Gaudin; and \$100 from Jim Mogan, as well as \$50 from Lorraine Neal, to purchase books for the Evelyn Morris Memorial Bookshelf at Sussman Middle School;

- Also accepted with gratitude \$4,000 worth of office supplies from Washington Mutual Bank, to be used by the teachers and other staff members at Downey High School; a donation from Automation Taft Printing of printing equipment for instructional use at Warren High School; and one Leica DME video microscope valued at \$1,549 from Sun Young Lee, for instructional purposes at Warren;

- Authorized the payment of expenses for convention and conference attendance;

- Ratified the general agreements for FY2007-08 with The Sycamores (effective July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008) as well as with Clarion Speech and Language Services (effective Jan. 16, 2008 through June 30, 2008) for them to provide special education and/or related services to individuals with exceptional needs;

- Ratified payments for Special Education services;

- Ratified a settlement agreement involving Student #588470, and approved the payment accordingly of \$5,000;

- Approved the amended monthly mileage allowances for 10-month, 11-month, and 12-month employees for 2008-09, at an estimated annual cost of \$60,845;

- 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 May;

- Ratified B warrants for payment of authorized purchase obligations incurred by law or district policy for June;

- Ratified the agreement with Family Service of Long Beach to provide a free counseling program to children and families referred from the district's True Lasting Connections, effective June 30 through July 31;

- Approved the Student Teaching Agreement (for Preliminary Level 1 Teaching credentialing purposes) with Whittier College for the 2008-09 school year;

- Accepted the Quarterly Uniform Complaint Report Summary;

- Accepted the 2007-08 Annual Report for the Supplemental Counseling Program for middle schools and high schools pursuant to Assembly Bill 1802;

- Approved the School Accountability Report Card (SARC) template and format through the 2010-11 school year;

- Extended the bid for the purchase of electrical equipment and supplies as needed, with AAA Electrical Supply, Inc., of Montebello, and with B&K Electric Wholesale of Downey, through Sept. 30; this will allow restructuring of the existing bid;

- Awarded the bid for the purchase of bread products as a lot to Cajoleben, Inc., dba Galassos Bakery of Mira Loma (on the basis of best overall pricing for the items offered, consistent with quality and service), in the annual estimated amount of \$126,581.30, to be charged to the Food Services fund;

- Awarded the bid for the purchase of frozen foods for the Food Services Department as a lot to ASR Food Distributors, Inc., of Commerce, to be charged to the Cafeteria Fund;

- Approved the change order for a mediated services agreement on behalf of a special education student for the Special Education Department, as well as the change orders for certain aspects of both Warren High School and Downey High School ongoing construction/modernization projects;

- Accepted as complete concrete, electrical, roofing, fencing, and

See AGENDA, page 8

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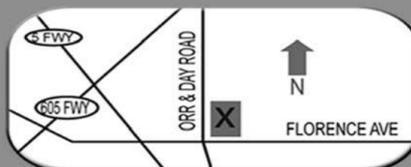
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Apollo space capsule finds new home in Downey

DOWNEY – City officials announced this week that BP-19 – a test version of the Apollo space capsule that went to the moon – was successfully transported from Lancaster to the Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center.

BP-19 was constructed in Downey by North American Aviation in 1963 and was used in many parachute drop tests.

“I am especially pleased that BP-19 will be returning to its birthplace where it was designed and built – Downey, California,” said Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Curator Allan A. Needell. “And that BP-19 will be part of an interactive exhibit designed to inform and motivate the public about the rich aerospace history in California, including the manufacture and testing of Apollo command modules and capsules.”

The exhibit featuring the Apollo BP-19 will have graphic panels and touch-screen computers providing engaging information on the Apollo missions, the structure and function of command modules, and the testing involved in making capsules safe for astronauts.

Designed to inspire the public’s interest in space exploration, the command module exhibit is one of many interactive exhibits at the new center, which will include rocket launchers, drop tests, space shuttle simulator, robotics lab, computer lab, and Challenger learning center for guided mission simulations.

“The city of Downey is deeply committed to this project and has contributed over \$10 million to make a center a reality,” said Mayor David Gafin. “Our new Columbia Memorial Space Center will inspire young people to consider careers in aerospace.”

The city of Downey, NASA, and the National Air & Space Museum all supported the move of the historic Apollo test capsule. The physical move itself was executed with support from the Aerospace Legacy Foundation, Industrial Realty Group, Downey Studios, Dunkel Bros. Machinery Moving Inc., and the Los Angeles County Department of Parks & Recreation.

“Many people don’t know that thousands of aircraft and 20 real space-ships were designed and built in Downey over a 70-year period,” said Jon Bethhauser, Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center’s executive director. “We will change that, while providing all kinds of ways to learn about what’s happening in space exploration right now and in the future.”

Named the official national memorial to the space shuttle Columbia by a joint resolution of the Senate and House of Representatives, the city of Downey and the Columbia Memorial Space Science Learning Center will honor the crew of the STS-107 lost on Feb. 1, 2003: Commander Rick Husband; Pilot Willie McCool; Mission Specialists Kalpana Chawla, Laurel Clark and David Brown; Payload Commander Michael Anderson; and Payload Specialist Ilan Ramon.

Bidding open for library books

DOWNEY – The Friends of the Downey City Library has released its list of titles available for bidding through silent auction.

The list includes: “*Container Gardening through the Year*,” “*1001 Do-It Yourself Hints & Tips*,” and “*The Grilling Bible*.”

Bids can be placed inside the Friends Book Store at the library. Bidding closes at noon on July 26.

The Friends Book Store is open the same hours as the library and all proceeds are returned to the library.

Church plans inaugural golf tournament

DOWNEY – Light and Life Christian Fellowship in Downey will host their inaugural golf tournament fundraiser Aug. 4 at the Rio Hondo Golf Club.

Cost to participate in the 18-hole, four-player best ball scramble is \$95 per person. Sponsorship opportunities are also available, ranging from \$250 to \$2,000.

The event will include putting, closest to the pin, longest drive and hole-in-one contests.

Registration and lunch starts at 11 a.m., followed by golfing at noon and a barbecue dinner, auction, raffle and awards ceremony at 6 p.m.

For more information, call (562) 862-0910, or visit www.lightandlifedowney.org.

Proceeds from the event will be used for the church’s community outreach efforts and facility improvements at the church campus, located at 9245 Florence Ave.



In cooperation with the Downey Chamber of Commerce and Police Department, the city of Downey is launching a Business Watch Program, an effort to educate local businesses on ways to stay safe. Photo by Eric Pierce

Downey businesses joining together in stance against local crime

BY BROOKE KARLI, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – When George Guzman’s Mexican restaurant on Imperial Highway was vandalized last month, all he knew to do was call Downey Police Department and close his doors for as long as it took to clean up and repair the damage.

Guzman’s restaurant, La Fonda de Carnitas Michoacan, was vandalized by way of one-gallon glass jugs filled with paint thrust through the windows of the restaurant, ruining the windows and fluorescent lighting instantly, as well as destroying the floor, walls and drapes.

“Sometimes business owners are afraid to report certain crimes in fear of retaliation,” said Guzman, who has owned the restaurant since November. “I have no way of figuring out how to handle situations involving crime.”

In hopes of eliminating that fear and decreasing crime, the city of Downey, in partnership with the Downey Chamber of Commerce and Downey Police, will once again implement the Business Watch Program, similar to that of the Neighborhood Watch Program.

“Just as the Neighborhood Watch Program teaches residents to keep an eye out for their neighbors, the Business Watch Program is geared to do the same but with business owners,” said Mayor David Gafin, who pushed to initiate both programs in an effort to cut back crime. “Citizens and business owners want to take care of themselves and be forewarned of crime happening in their residential and business neighborhoods. We want to make sure that business owners throughout Downey are trained and prepared to recognize crime and react in an appropriate manner.”

Downey’s Business Watch Program was originally installed in the early 1990’s, but fell to the wayside as there was a lack of interest from business owners.

“Human nature is to rally around the flag when a crisis occurs,” Gafin said. “But we want to rally before that happens in order to be prepared and decrease crime activity.”

The program’s first meeting will take place Thursday and will cover such topics as burglary, theft, forgery, shoplifting, armed robbery, graffiti removal, personal security, criminal description, bomb threats, kidnapping, emergency preparedness, and identity theft/fraud, which will be taught and discussed by members of Downey Police.

“We are looking to cover the basic things a business owner doesn’t

think about until a gun is to their head,” said Robert Zavala, Business Watch Program chairman for the Chamber. “We don’t want to be reactive, but rather proactive.”

The program is free to all who own a business, manage a business, and/or work for a business.

“We want everyone who is involved in running a business to participate, including school officials, church officials, and anyone who’s ‘business’ has been affected by crime,” Zavala said. “Crime is nothing to be complacent about.”

According to Juddy Cenicerros, the program’s chairman on behalf of the city, the program’s committee will review and rewrite the Business Watch Crime Prevention Handbook that was originally used when the program was introduced in the early 1990’s.

“So much has changed since the program was last implemented,” said Zavala, who has owned Freedom Vacations for 16 years. “We’re not having to reinvent the wheel, but rather make some changes to it and implement it.”

Zavala said the program will select block captains that will be responsible for holding weekly or monthly meetings to keep everyone on the block informed of criminal activity. Businesses that are a part of the program will also receive stickers to put in their window or door.

As major crimes such as murder and rape are falling in numbers throughout Downey, minor crimes such as theft, vandalism, and forgery are rising, Gafin said.

“Crime always tends to happen in spurts, or in trends,” said Gafin. “One year, it will be jewelry stores. Another year it’s hair salons. And then banks. Although there isn’t a particular trend happening at the moment, we want to utilize this time to prepare ourselves to stop future trends from occurring.”

As far as business owners are concerned, Guzman thinks the program will prove to be helpful for business owners like himself who have been affected by criminal activity.

Guzman reported last month’s incident to Downey Police, but no arrests have been made.

Downey’s Business Watch Program will meet on a quarterly basis, with its first meeting this Thursday at noon in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Those interested in attending should call (562) 904-1895 or (562) 923-2191.

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The Downey Folk Music Jammers meet every fourth Tuesday at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

Community invited to folk jam

DOWNEY – The Downey Folk Jammers will have their next Downey Folk Music Jam this Tuesday at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center from 6 to 8:45 p.m.

The program, which meets every fourth Tuesday, is sponsored by the city of Downey Parks and Recreation Service and does not require sign-ups or a fee.

For more information, call Bea and Jim Romano at (562) 861-7049, or visit www.folkjam.org.

'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.

Corporate strategist giving talk

DOWNEY – Paris Abboud, a corporate strategist with Anthony Robbins Co., will speak at Tuesday's Rise 'N Shine Networking meeting at Nordic Fox restaurant.

Abboud's topic will be "Turning Knowledge into Action."

The meeting will start at 7:30 a.m. and cost to attend is an order from the menu. RSVPs are requested by calling the Downey Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

Chamber to honor exceptional businesses

DOWNEY – The Downey Chamber of Commerce will host "Downey Idol" on July 25, a recognition ceremony honoring this city's businesses of the year.

The Chamber will also recognize their "Outstanding Committee Persons of the Year," "Director of the Year," and "Volunteer of the Year."

The ceremony will be held at the Rio Hondo Event Center at noon. Cost is \$25 and reservations are required. For more information, call the Chamber at (562) 923-2191.

Downey High Class of 1988 reunion

DOWNEY – The Downey High School Class of 1988 will celebrate their 20-year reunion on Aug. 2 from 6:30 p.m. to midnight.

The reunion will be hosted at the Hilton Hotel located at 3050 Bristol St. in Costa Mesa.

To RSVP, call Creative Reunions at (800) 700-6607, or visit www.lvreunions.com. For room reservations, call (714) 540-7000.



The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints celebrated Independence Day with a flag-raising ceremony courtesy Boy Scout Troop 406.

America honored at flag-raising ceremony

DOWNEY – More than 60 people attended flag-raising ceremonies at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on July 4, celebrating our country's independence.

Boy Scout Troop 406 posted the colors while Scoutmaster Scott Knox served as master of ceremonies, also recognizing the dozen or so veterans in attendance.

The morning's featured speaker was Mort Dorris, who flew a B-24 bomber on raids over the Philippines and other islands of the Pacific during the late days of WWII.

A second ceremony also took place and included the retirement of a flag. The Boy Scout troop first separated the flag into parts and made it a "non-flag." Parts of the flag were then burned, which is the only legal way to burn a flag.

Jewelry discussed at Christian meeting

DOWNEY – The Downey Christian Women's Club invites the community (including men) to their Aug. 13 lunch meeting at Los Amigos Country Club.

Melinda Green of Cross My Heart Jewelry will be the event's special feature, while Pattie Reinhart will speak on "Taking Charge in a Chaotic Life."

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

DRMC preps for disaster drill July 30

DOWNEY – As part of Downey Regional Medical Center's Emergency Management Program, the hospital will be conducting a disaster drill on July 30 between 8 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The scenario will consist of a mock bomb explosion near the hospital, with a secondary pretend hostage situation within the hospital.

The drill will be conducted in conjunction with Downey Fire and Police Departments. The community is to not be alarmed by the increased police and fire presence in and around the hospital.

For more information, contact Stephen Cuthbertson, DRMC's director of safety, at (562) 904-5064.

The Poet's Corner

To Norma

May 16, 1931 - July 31, 2007

We walked by seas of feelings,
on shores of shapes, paths of sights.
Tortoise shells and snake skins,
artichokes and oleaders.
Past the jewelry and bones,
utensils and the prizes of life.
Then baby cries, like the stab of klaxons,
steered us to pavement and responsibility
where we flourished.

When it grew cold we held hands
When you grew tired we rested in a field
of poppies where you said goodbye.
I continued on seeking my place
where all this wonder can be forgotten.

– Richard Thormodsen,
Downey

Reflections on Leone's Eyes

Just a hint of blue where the flame meets the candle wax
the color of a bend of Lake Louise,
liquid, glowing, glacial deep as Leone's eyes.
Sapphire, azure - name it what you will -
painters label every hue of it.
Above the blue it shows the grey of a moth's wing
as if wanting to slip into the shadows of the room
leaving only its memory
like that faint aroma on Sundays at Our Lady.

– Rosalie Sciortino,
Downey

Crow Baby Down

Plopped on the ground,
That's where you were found,
Part feathers, part down,
Too young to fly,
Just learning to walk,
Demanding food with an open-beaked squawk.
At night perched in a box,
Safe from 'possum, feline or fox.
Your family clamored,
"Danger, danger!"
"Don't trust that stranger!"
When you scanned the sky,
The look of an eagle was in your eye.
Surely soon you would fly,
From the flower pot
To the top of the wall,
You found your wings.
After many a risky try,
You flew way up high.
You heeded your family's urgent call.
Your voice is heard up in the tree.
Please, little blackbird, come back to visit me!

– Arlene Scott,
Downey

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

Audrae E. Costa

April 10, 1909
To
July 10, 1998

My happy heart
went with you
when you were
called away, and
now I'm sad and
lonely. I live from
day to day.

My life is cold and
empty. The skies
are never blue,
my aching heart is
throbbing with
memories of you.

Each day is with
out purpose, the
nights are filled
with tears. I'm
living without
reason in doubts
and fears.

I should not spend
life grieving, but
this is how I feel, I
am in a web of
sorrow, grief
cannot conceal.

Time may heal
my heartache,
but no happiness
I'll see 'til the
LORD brings us
together just as it
used to be.

I miss you so
much, Sweetheart.
Wally

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The Downey Patriot
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In fact, many of our customers have

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If you are replacing a cooling and heating system I'm so sure you will save at least twenty-five percent on your energy bills that I will pay you the difference if you don't.

There is no way you can lose. Your lower utility and repair bills will probably make your payment. And I will even pay your the difference for the 1st year if you save less than twenty-five percent.

You must act before 7-31-08. So give **DOCKSTADERS** a call now at (562) 698-0201 and set an appointment for your no obligation survey. I'm Doug and I thank you for your time.

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Letters to the Editor:

Finding a cure

Dear Editor:
I would like to thank the community for their support and participation in the Downey Relay for Life that was held June 7 and 8 on the Downey Adult School campus.

With your help we raised over \$106,000 and with the economy the way it is, that's amazing! There are so many people to thank for stepping up and making the relay a huge success – please do not take it personally if I do not mention your name. You are all equally important and all played a vital role in this event.

A special thank you goes out to the Downey Unified School District for giving us the venue and for the schools and staff for putting together teams, raising money, and chairing committees. The survivor's breakfast would not have happened this year without the men of Calvary Chapel coming through to cook breakfast for over 150 cancer survivors the morning of the relay, while the women of Calvary gave away prizes and served the breakfast.

Flowers were donated by Saywell, Eva's, Downey Chapel Florist, Downey Adult School and Dianne Lumsdaine. Many local restaurants came through with food and, like always, Café 'N Stuff was right there when we asked for help.

First-time participants, the Campbell family, came through and raised over \$10,000. What a family!

This was the first time we were able to offer child care during the event and this was because the Downey Police Explorers, Miss Downey Court, and the Downey Adult School child care assistants volunteered their time to run a safe environment for the children while their parents walked the track.

I have another special person to thank and that is Roger Brossmer, principal of Downey Adult School. He stepped up when my husband had heart surgery and I needed help with the relay. He not only helped out but essentially took over – thank you! Committee chairs – thank you! Team captains – thank you! Survivors – thank you! Sponsors – thank you!

Like I said, there were volunteers that gave endless hours of their time putting this together starting in January and working through June to make the relay a success – too many to name them all and they all have a special place in my heart. And the reason they do it and I do it is to find a cure!

Do you want to be a part of this great event next year? Contact: Lawrence.sandoval@cancer.org.

Thank you.
— **Lee Ann Sears,**
Event Chair, Downey Relay for Life

18 months too late

Dear Editor:
I'm glad to see that demolition of Johnnie's Broiler was finally completed, no matter how it happened. ("Johnnie's Broiler Fully Demolished," 7/11/08) Too bad the City Council didn't have the guts to order the demolition of this eyesore 18 months ago.

— **Brian Heyman,**
Downey

CHER Clinic seeks support

Dear Editor:
The CHER Foundation is seeking support from the community so that the CHER Clinic can obtain, and offer to the public, the latest in pain relief and healing equipment, the K-Laser Therapy. The K-Laser Therapy is the first Class IV Therapy Laser to lead the way in pain management and tissue repair with safe and fast treatment times.

The CHER Clinic, for 30 years, has brought chiropractic and therapeutic care to the community through its many programs -- especially bringing care and relief to the uninsured and underinsured "blue collar" working class that often go to overcrowded emergency rooms for help.

The CHER Clinic responds to the needs of all children who have been hurt, whether the accident is on school grounds or in your backyard. And we simply cannot allow our senior citizens, who continue to suffer from the arthritic and structural pain that comes from age and old injuries, to sit in the waiting areas of emergency rooms and hope someone will come to their aid.

The K-Laser Therapy will bring affordable healing to many who have suffered for years. There are documented reports of chronic-pain sufferers (arthritis, tendonitis, stenosis) who have benefited from the K-Laser Therapy. Many have experienced such positive results that they have even cancelled potentially dangerous and life-altering surgeries.

Too often these new therapies are too expensive for those without insurance or who simply cannot afford the cost of such treatment. We desperately need to reach out and help others who are less fortunate and are suffering from chronic conditions that might be remedied with the K-Laser Therapy. The challenge facing the CHER Clinic, as a non-profit, is funding the latest technology in treatment.

Please, help us help others and call the CHER Clinic today, (562) 776-1727, to become a sponsor. We have an urgent desire to see that this beneficial treatment is made available to everyone and we cannot do this without your support. Ask how you can participate in this sponsor program and perhaps even benefit from K-Laser Therapy.

— **CHER Clinic,**
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.

Meals on Wheels

Dear Editor:
Have you noticed vehicles pulling into driveways delivering food to residents? This happens every day, Monday through Friday, between 11 a.m. and noon. It's done by volunteers who use their vehicles and time to donate towards those needy in our community. A hot lunch and dinner are delivered on a daily basis to each person participating in the program.

One very observant neighbor paid tribute to Downey Meals on Wheels recently. He noticed that volunteers were showing up each day to deliver the meals at his neighbor's home. Being the kind-hearted person that he is, he waited one day for the volunteer to show up and handed her an envelope. When she opened the envelope, there was a check written to Meals on Wheels and a very sincere "Thank You" note.

He went on to tell the volunteer to use the money to purchase gas for her vehicle in order to continue the program. The donor wanted to remain anonymous.

Downey Meals on Wheels would like to thank this Downey resident for his generosity and kindness. This goes to show that there are still a lot of caring people in our community.

Downey Meals on Wheels is a non-profit organization operating in our city since 1974. A small fee is charged for the meals, however, without volunteers to deliver the meals on a daily basis, we would not have a viable program.

If you know a neighbor, friend or relative in need of this kind of help, please don't hesitate to call the Downey Meals on Wheels office at (562) 818-7645.

We are in need of funds to keep our program running efficiently. If you would like to donate to a worthy cause, please send donations to: Downey Meals on Wheels, 7749 Florence Ave., Downey, CA 90240.

If you are interested in delivering meals to residents or need further information, please call Mary at (562) 806-1815.

— **Devi Kokaram,**
Downey

Age is merely a number

Dear Editor:
I believe that some aspects of Ms. Doreen Lorand's proposal to raise the voting age merit further examination ("Age Limits," 7/4/08). I respectfully disagree with several of the criticisms she made of my support of lowering (and eventually abolishing) voting age requirements.

1. Ms. Lorand first claims that the brain does not complete its development until a person's early 20's. I dispute this claim. I believe that this is a pseudoscientific theory developed by the intellectual establishment and the larger anti-youth culture (the pundits, politicians, and PhD's) in order to discredit and defame youth in America. Disenfranchised and disliked minority groups have incessantly been subject to junk science that argued that they were mentally inferior, as was the case with the discarded junk science theory of phrenology and its application to women and blacks.

2. The letter claims that none of us decide where our taxes go, and thus giving youth the vote is meaningless. The revolutionary colonists, of course, saw it rather differently, and pursued action rather than apathy. If we acknowledge that we hold very little control over the tax system, this is hardly a rationale for withholding that control even further by denying youth the vote.

3. The letter then claims that my Constitutional argument is logically fallacious, but I respectfully disagree. The 26th Amendment does not explicitly prohibit youths under the age of 18 from voting; it merely states that the voting age cannot be set higher than 18. And simply because the 14th Amendment has not received the benefits of a proper interpretation yet does not mean that it won't.

Now I admit that the voting age is unlikely to be found unconstitutional, as the court system has traditionally given a negative interpretation of the Privileges or Immunities Clause's security of the right to vote. But my main goal is to raise public awareness of this important and pressing issue.

I hope that I have cleared up these issues somewhat, and am glad that we of this community are able to engage in civilized discourse.

— **Julian Gutierrez,**
Downey



Take advantage of stimulus payments

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Nearly 2.5 million Social Security and Veterans Administration beneficiaries may be eligible to receive economic stimulus payments, but have not yet filed a tax return that is needed to claim the rebate. Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34) is urging these individuals, many of whom do not normally file a tax return, to do so by Oct. 15 in order to receive a payment this year.

For people who have no tax liability or no tax filing requirement, there is a minimum rebate payment of \$300 (\$600 for married couples) plus \$300 for each qualifying child. To be eligible for the minimum payment, individuals must have at least \$3,000 in qualifying income. Qualifying income includes any combination of earned income, nontaxable combat pay and certain benefit payments from Social Security, Veterans Affairs and Railroad Retirement.

The types of Social Security benefits that are considered qualifying income include retirement, disability, and survivor payments. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is not qualifying income. The types of Veterans Affairs benefits that are considered qualifying income include disability compensation, disability pension, and survivor payments. Qualifying Railroad Retirement payments include the social security equivalent portion of Tier 1 benefits.

Individuals who are not otherwise required to file an income tax return should file Form 1040A with basic information to ensure they receive the economic stimulus payment. This information includes name, address, dependents, amount of qualifying income (which must be \$3,000 or more), direct deposit information, and more.

Eligible individuals, including their qualifying children, must have valid Social Security numbers.

Also, people cannot be claimed or be eligible to be claimed as a dependent on someone else's tax return. People with Individual Taxpayer Identification Numbers, except for the spouses and qualifying children of military personnel, are not eligible.

For more information, call the IRS Rebate Hotline at (866) 234-2942, or visit www.irs.gov.

Looking global warming in the eye

CONTRIBUTED BY ROSS GELSPAN, BLUE RIDGE PRESS

When I first reported on global warming in the 1990s, events unfolded relatively slow. Now they occur in such a blur that they barely have time to register on the media eye. Here's a sampling from only the last 30 days:

The Associated Press reported that the current world food crisis will intensify due to climate change, with more drought and other extreme weather. The U.S. Climate Change Science Program concurred, saying that as carbon emissions rise, America will experience more droughts and excessive heat in some regions even as intense downpours and hurricanes pound others.

As if to validate these projections, the public's attention was riveted on Mississippi Valley floods that drowned huge swaths of farmland (the second such deluge in 15 years); while in Texas the U.S. cotton crop was savaged by heat, wind and blowing sand. The evening news featured images of Iowa under water and northern California on fire.

Elsewhere, scientists worried that North Pole ice may completely vanish this summer, while a new study suggested that Arctic ice loss could cause tundra permafrost to melt far more quickly, releasing vast stores of carbon, triggering runaway global warming.

Just four weeks ago, respected NASA climate researcher James Hansen told Congress that, "We have used up all slack in the schedule for actions needed to defuse the global warming time bomb... The next president and Congress must define a course next year in which the United States exerts leadership commensurate with our responsibility for the present dangerous situation."

Hansen joins Rajendra Pachauri, head of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and renowned British ecologist James Lovelock – who have said that humanity is about to pass or already has passed a "tipping point" in terms of global warming. The IPCC, which reflects the findings of more than 2,000 scientists from over 100 countries, recently stated that it is "very unlikely" that we will avoid the coming era of "dangerous climate change."

Still, the environmental establishment, the leading presidential candidates, and the G8 nations continue to peddle the notion that we can solve the climate problem. We can't.

We have failed to meet nature's deadline. In the next few years, our world will experience progressively more ominous and destabilizing changes. These will happen either incrementally – or in sudden, abrupt jumps.

Under either scenario, it seems inevitable that we will soon be confronted by water shortages, crop failures, increasing damages from extreme weather events, collapsing infrastructures, and potentially, breakdowns in the democratic process itself.

Even assuming the wildest possible success of our current climate ini-

tiatives – say that humanity decided tomorrow to replace all fossil fuels with non-carbon sources – it would still be too late to avert major climate disruptions.

The unprecedented planet-wide unraveling of our climate system demands an unprecedented response. The only antidote to a potentially cataclysmic future is a revitalization of government – an elevation of public mission above private interest and an end to the free market fundamentalism that has blinded much of the American public with an unfounded belief in boundless profit and the divine power of markets.

In short, our response requires a revival of participatory democracy that reflects our collective values far more accurately than the corporate state into which we have slid.

We need to think of ourselves now as citizens of a profoundly distressed planet. As nature washes away our resources, overwhelms our infrastructures, and threatens to splinter our political institutions, our survival will depend increasingly on our willingness to join together as a global community.

As the former Argentine climate negotiator, Raul Estrada-Oyuela, said, "We are all adrift in the same boat – and there's no way half the boat is going to sink." To keep afloat, we need to change the economic and political structures that determine how we behave.

To survive the catastrophe of global warming, with civilization intact, we need to elevate the ethic of cooperation and peace over the ingrained reflex of competition and war. We need to elevate our human similarities over our geographical differences. We need to recognize our social structures to reflect our most humane collective aspirations.

We need to share our money, food, technology, know-how, even our land, as the world's coasts begin to disappear beneath incessantly rising seas, and warming-driven crop failures leave millions hungry.

There is no body of expertise – no authoritative answers – for the unfolding crisis. We are crossing a threshold into uncharted territory. And our only position of strength lies in crossing that threshold as a global community, joining together in a common global project to rewire the world with clean energy.

Since there is no precedent to guide us, we are left with only our own hearts to consult, whatever courage we can muster, out instinctive dedication to a human future – and the intellectual integrity to look reality in the eye.

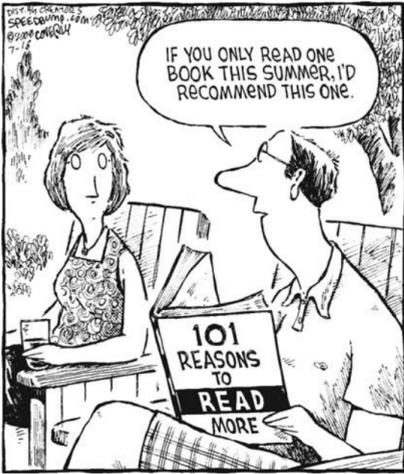
Ross Gelspan was a reporter and editor at the *Philadelphia Bulletin*, *Washington Post*, and *Boston Globe* (where his work won a Pulitzer Prize). He has authored two books on global warming, "The Heat is On," and "Boiling Point." His Web site, www.heatisonline.org, outlines plans for a rapid shift to alternative energy sources. © Blue Ridge Press

The Downey Patriot

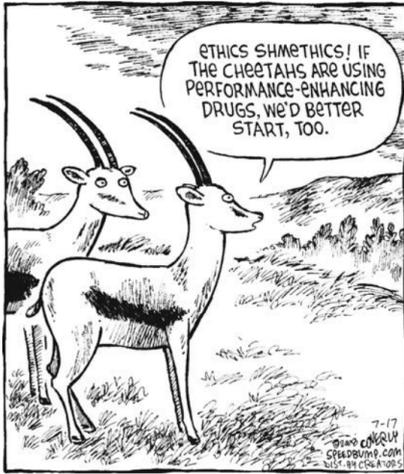
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For July

- Fri. July 18: **Family Fun Night**, Downey High School Pool, 7 p.m.
- Sat. July 19: **Foreclosure Workshop**, West Middle School, 9 a.m.
- Tues. July 22: **Downey Folk Music Jam**, Community Center, 6 p.m.
- Wed. July 23: **Wiseguys Big Band**, Furman Park, 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 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.
- 1st & 3rd Weds., 7:00 p.m.: **AfterCare 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 Samb'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 18, 1918: Former South African president Nelson Mandela is born. Also born July 18: John Glenn (87), Joe Torre (68), James Brolin (68), Ricky Skaggs (54), Vin Diesel (41), Kristen Bell (28) and Ryan Cabrera (26).

1936: Gen. Francisco Franco leads an uprising of troops in North Africa.

1940: Franklin D. Roosevelt is nominated for an unprecedented third term in office.

1989: Actress Rebecca Schaeffer is shot and killed at her home by an obsessed fan.

2003: Kobe Bryant is charged with sexually assaulting a 19-year-old Colorado woman.

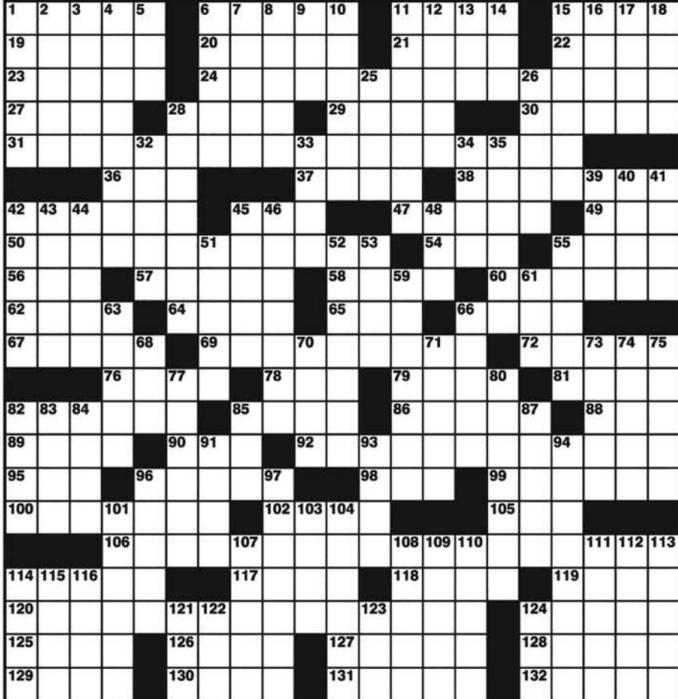
THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

IDENTITY CRISIS: A clever quip from a radio star

by Shirley Soloway

CREATORS SYNDICATE © 2008 STANLEY NEWMAN WWW.STANXWORDS.COM 7/13/08



- | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ACROSS | 82 Brokeback Mountain | 11 Italian marble city |
| 1 Go from first to second, perhaps | 85 Key West, for one | 12 Disney's Little Mermaid |
| 6 Hits with an open hand | 86 White heron | 13 Drill component |
| 11 Metered wheels | 88 Calendar abbreviation | 14 For example |
| 15 Alexei Karenin's wife | 89 Honeycomb part | 15 Help |
| 19 Artist Toulouse-Lautrec | 90 Dog-show letters | 16 1200 hours |
| 20 Hawk's claw | 92 Part 5 of quote | 17 Supreme Court complement |
| 21 La Scala number | 95 Excessively | 18 Pub potatoes |
| 22 Dirt | 96 Had a taste of | 25 Wait |
| 23 11 Across postings | 98 Nonsense | 26 Wall climbers |
| 24 Start of a quote | 99 Slender, graceful women | 28 Your or me |
| 27 To be, in Paris | 100 Calling the shots | 32 Leaves out |
| 28 Get ready, briefly | 102 Web auction site | 33 "Self" starter |
| 29 Where Cork is | 105 Percent finisher | 34 Bolshevik Trotsky |
| 30 Tarzan conveyances | 106 Part 6 of quote | 35 Prayer book |
| 31 Part 2 of quote | 114 See 55 Across | 39 Governess of fiction |
| 36 Latin 101 word | 117 Sicilian volcano | 40 Meets with |
| 37 Tech-support recipient | 118 Ugandan dictator | 41 Little bits |
| 38 Snellen-chart procedure | 119 Rubik of cubes | 42 Rags-to-riches author |
| 42 Second man on the moon | 120 End of the quote | 43 Belgian city |
| 45 Summer hrs. | 124 Not suitable | 44 C sharp equivalent |
| 47 Molecule makeup | 125 Engine parts | 45 Farm-equipment name |
| 49 Vote for | 126 Munro's pen name | 46 Curved heads of violins |
| 50 Part 3 of quote | 127 Sanctuaries | 48 Argentine aunt |
| 54 Vacation destination | 128 All in | 51 Steeps |
| 55 With 114 Across, author of the quote | 129 Sole coverer | 52 Erstwhile dairy deliverers |
| 56 Toothpaste type | 130 Walked | 53 Pizzaz |
| 57 More reliable | 131 Snail feature | 55 Aperture setting |
| 58 Rick Blaine's old flame | 132 Great ___ Mountains | 59 Stated unequivocally |
| 60 Evaluate | | 61 The sun |
| 62 "Heavens to Betsy!" | DOWN | 63 Wry |
| 64 Pianist Peter | 1 Mouselike mammal | 66 Nighttime noise |
| 65 Something on the books | 2 '70s British leader | 68 Vein material |
| 66 Place on the schedule | 3 Emcee's words | 70 Tra ___ |
| 67 Back in style | 4 Programs that cost nothing | 71 Spot in the English Channel |
| 69 Part 4 of quote | 5 Frank McCourt memoir | 73 Straight from the keg |
| 72 Bath accessory | 6 Not at all glamorized | 74 Rural youth organization |
| 76 Spheres | 7 Football feature | |
| 78 Quick escape | 8 Hebrew letter | |
| 79 Laughfest | 9 Officeholder | |
| 81 Penh | 10 Curled-lip expressions | |

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|---|
| 75 Make ___ of (botch) | 96 Plucked-string sound | 112 How contracts are signed |
| 77 Weight carrier | 97 Shoulder muscle | 113 Eccentric |
| 80 Dramatic device | 101 City in Denmark | 114 Basic stuff |
| 82 Play beginning | 103 Explosive sound | 115 Wife of Jacob |
| 83 D-I-N-E-R material | 104 Yoga postures | 116 VIP's wheels |
| 84 Messy stuff | 107 Little lizard | 121 Alphabetic trio |
| 85 Glacial material | 108 Early gangsta rapper | 122 Ossicles' site |
| 87 Choreographer Tharp | 109 Detect, in a way | 123 Relative of -like |
| 91 Star Trek captain | 110 Periodically rising and falling | 124 Aircraft-carrier designation |
| 93 Prohibitionists | 111 Gluck opera hero | |

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.

Dutch ophthalmologist Herman Snellen (38 Across) introduced his EYE TESTS in 1862. Budapest-born ERNO RUBIK (119 Across) was employed as an architect when he invented his cube toy in 1974. Former British prime minister Edward HEATH (2 Down) had a strong interest in music, and served as guest conductor of the London Symphony.





The West Downey 2008 Major All-Stars advanced through the third round of play at a recent tournament. The team includes (top row) Andrew Vallez, Rene Vega, Manager Rich Pacheco, Jason Volpe, Daniel Roman, Coach Anselmo Soto, Eric Campos and Gabriel Soto. Bottom row: Jimmy Medina, Gilbert Alatorre Jr., Michael Vasquez, Anthony Sanchez, Bryan Volpe and Adreil Gomez.

Longoria gets key hit in All Star debut

By SCOTT COBOS, CONTRIBUTOR

DOWNEY – Downey Little League baseball player turned professional Evan Longoria participated in Monday's Major League Baseball Homerun Derby and played a key role in the American League's 4-3 win in the annual All-Star game.

Longoria, who was selected by fans to fill the final roster spot of the AL, hit only three homeruns in his first appearance in the power hitting exhibition Monday night at Yankee Stadium.

On Tuesday, Longoria came up in the bottom of the eighth inning and hit New York Mets closer Billy Wagner's two-strike slider down the left field line scoring Indians' centerfielder Grady Sizemore and tying the game at three runs apiece.

His double turned out to be the tying RBI that would send the game to extra innings where the AL would eventually win in the 15th frame.

The first-time All Star and Rookie of the Year candidate currently leads his team with 16 homeruns and 53 RBIs.

A native of Downey, Longoria graduated from St. John Bosco High School.

Hollweg traded north to Maple Leafs

By SCOTT COBOS, CONTRIBUTOR

DOWNEY – Homegrown Downey hockey product Ryan Hollweg was traded Monday from the New York Rangers to the Toronto Maple Leafs in exchange for a 2009 fifth-round draft pick.

"(Hollweg) takes the body and makes things happen, and that's something we needed upgrading in," Leafs' general manager Cliff Fletcher told reporters. "At 25, he hasn't reached his prime yet, and he likes to play a contact game so to go along with (Jamal) Mayers, we will have much more of a physical presence."

Hollweg was drafted in the eighth round of the 2001 National Hockey League draft. He has five goals, seven assists and 12 points in his career.

Bring your picnic to Temple

DOWNEY – Temple Ner Tamid of Downey is hosting a "Shabbat Under the Stars" tonight.

The congregation will host a picnic dinner at 6 p.m. (bring your own picnic) before the services. For more information, call (562) 861-9276.

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Goals: Meant to move DUSD forward.

Continued from page 2

- Develop common assessments in core subjects (science, social science, English, and mathematics) and use them to identify and place at-risk students into appropriate interventions.

Doty said assessments in these core subjects have not followed a common format, and it's time to standardize them;

- Pilot the Saturday School Attendance Recovery Program at Warren and Downey High Schools, through Educational Consulting Services.

Doty emphasized that this program deals with academics purely, and excludes the disciplinary aspect normally associated with Saturday activities;

- Implement the online completion of the standards-aligned report cards in Grades K, 1, and 2. This has already been done for grades 3 - 5;
- Review and update all certificated seniority and credential lists and notify employees of their official status.

This will rationalize the district's attrition policy (should it materialize) based on seniority, job valuation, union contract, etc.);

- Continue to develop, implement, and expand the Career-Technical Education programs in the secondary schools;

- Implement the Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Intervention Agreement as an expulsion alternative throughout the district.

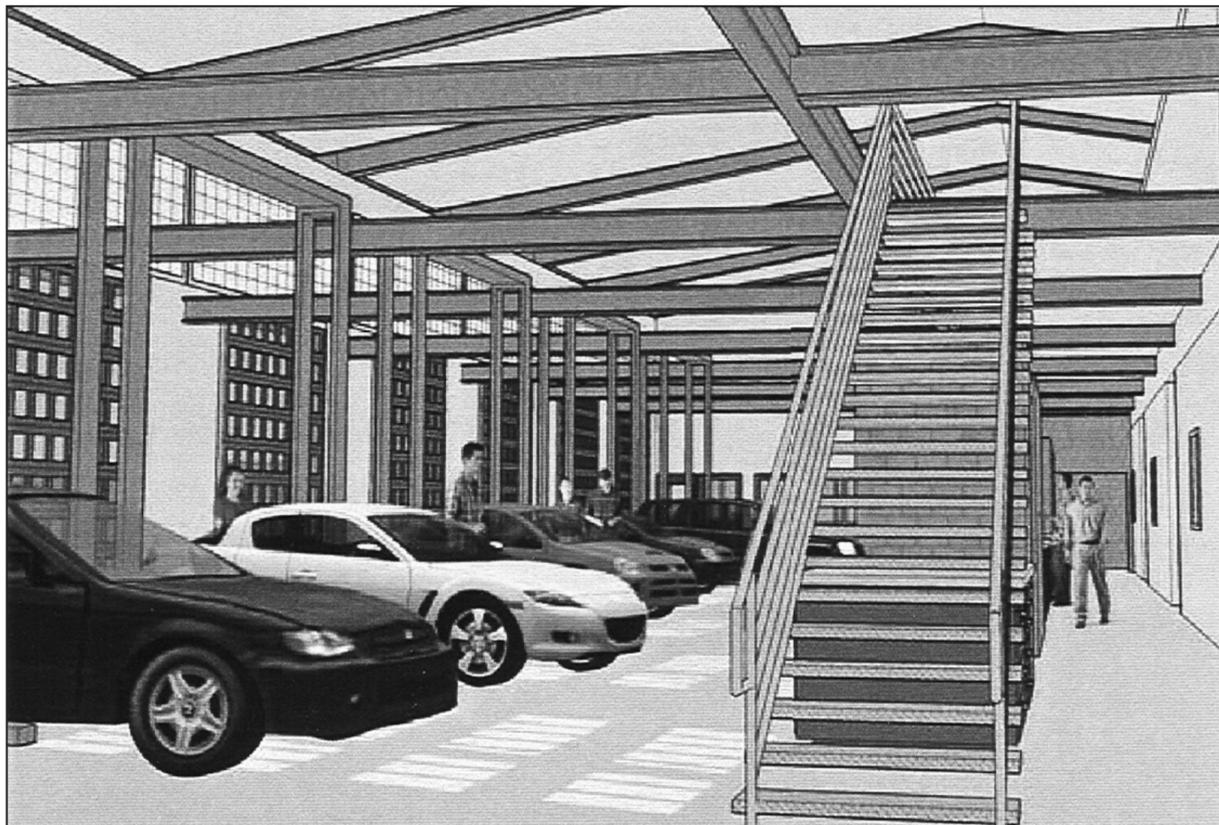
For example, a distinction is made between the "provider" and the mere "user" of a substance—the provider bears the brunt of punishment, while the user will be allowed to continue to attend classes, with mutual benefit to him/her and (economic benefit) to the district;

- Provide Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) training for teachers and administrators to improve instruction for English learners. In addition, provide training in guided reading to K-8 teachers to improve reading instruction; and

- Develop GATE certification program that is specific to the needs of high school teachers.

This will address the needs of teachers who don't conduct honors or AP classes.

"Most of these are ambitious goals," said Doty. "They are meant to move the district forward and to improve student instruction."



DUSD officials are looking at grant opportunities to build a new automotive technology department at Downey High School. The rendering above is a concept version currently being considered by DUSD.

Education: CTE program prepares students for specific industries.

Continued from page 1

percent in some American cities." Added comment: "Drop out rates remain high especially among poor and minority students."

- Again, a 2005 NCHSSY report: "Only 43 percent of high school seniors reported themselves to be in demanding academic programs. Fewer than two-thirds believed that their schools had done a good job of challenging them academically or preparing them for college. About the same number of students said their senior year would have been more meaningful if they could have taken more courses related to the jobs they wanted or if some of their courses could have been counted towards college credit."

- The NCHSSY again: "Since 1998 the percentage of students who enter post secondary education immediately following high school is around 64 (somewhat lower for minority students). Given the importance of post secondary education in today's job market, that number is far too low."

- The NCHSSY again: "Remediation takes place in all community colleges, in four out of five public four-year universities, and in more than six out of 10 private four-year institutions. Fully one-quarter of all students require remediation in one or more core subjects; 24 percent are required to take mathematics courses, while 13 percent, and 17 percent, respectively, are required to enroll in reading and writing courses. The cost of remediation has been estimated to be between \$260 million and \$1 billion annually."

The indictment issued in this regard by the National Association of Manufacturers as a result of a

2004 study it conducted among its membership is typical: "Manufacturers see a serious problem with the availability of future workers, with 78 percent of the responders firm in their belief that schools were failing to prepare students for the workplace."

I must confess I haven't made an in-depth study of the success rates of DUSD students, or how they stack up against the above percentages, but based on bits and pieces of fact and hearsay, plus glimpsed test scores, I get a sense that they are on the whole doing OK, with some exceptional performers in the mix.

Whatever the level of success the district enjoys with regards to its students doesn't happen by accident. That all the district's resources are purposefully utilized to help each student succeed in his/her schoolwork should be beyond dispute.

There are some kids, though, that due to a variety of circumstances need a little "assist." This is where DUSD's CTE (Career and Technology Education) program comes in.

Phil Davis, DUSD director of support programs, says its vision and mission is to "prepare students for technical careers or college level classes with both technical and academic skills that will help them to adapt as industry needs and their fields change." He further elaborates: "The purpose of DUSD's CTE program is to decrease student failure while increasing student success through offering paths that are rigorous as well as relevant. All of the paths are articulated core classes that are taught in a manner that contextualizes the curriculum. It is our goal

that all students have access to industry standard certifications, career opportunities, and post secondary educational opportunities."

Mark each word in the above statements of vision and goal; they seethe with import. They will make more sense when the list of CTE's (so far) 12 offerings (and where classes are held) is laid out: Alternative Energy/Commercial and Residential (Warren High School); Animation/Graphic Arts/Audio Engineering (Warren); Architectural Technology (Downey High School); Automotive Vehicle Maintenance and Repair (Downey); Careers in Education (Downey); Construction Technology (Warren); Culinary Arts/Food Service/Hospitality (Warren); Film and Television Production (Warren); Health Occupations (Downey); Landscaping Occupations (Downey); Law Enforcement (Downey); and Sports Therapy (Downey).

Proof that the program is gaining in popularity and importance in many students' lives is the number of students (some 800 at present) taking advantage of the benefits it confers (the program insists, for example, that the study of algebra is essential and "relevant" in today's global economy; CBS-TV aired a segment on its 2 p.m. June 13 show featuring students of its Film and TV Production class; it is believed that some of its former students have started to make good money because of their Final Cut Pro status upon completing the program; etc.).

In short, as Davis says, "Voc Ed is dead," and CTE is the wave of the future.

"The spirited cooperation I get

especially from Warren High School principal John Harris, Downey High School principal Tom Houts, and Downey Adult School principal Roger Brossmer, and their contributions in terms of ideas, use of facilities, and their energy, is overwhelming," Davis says. "And this is not all. We get tremendous input from our CTE Pathway Committee comprised of the three principals just mentioned, two high school assistant principals, three high school counselors, one middle school principal, a Cerritos College program administrator, a Los Angeles County Office of Education Regional Occupations program coordinator, and four CTE classroom instructors."

Moreover, Davis says the Board and DUSD administration totally approve of the program's value and direction.

Looks like a winner to me.

Foreclosure help available tomorrow

DOWNEY - The community is invited to a free foreclosure prevention workshop tomorrow at West Middle School from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Credit counselors and lenders will be available for on-site assistance, one-on-one counseling, and to offer information on viable options for your mortgage.

Visitors should bring their loan and other relevant financial documents to the workshop.

The workshop is being hosted by Congresswomen Lucille Roybal-Allard and Linda Sanchez. For more information, call (213) 628-9230.

Agenda: Next meeting Aug. 19.

Continued from page 2

paving and repair work performed by various vendors;

- Approved the transfer of the maximum allowable amount of block grant monies into other eligible categorical programs for FY2008-09;

- Approved the purchase of three pieces of equipment, each costing more than \$5,000, therefore requiring the approval of the Board, in keeping with established purchasing policies and regulations;

- Acknowledged the receipt of a claim dated June 18, 2008 and received on June 20, 2008, submitted by the law offices of Hall and Lim, on behalf of Aly Douangphachanh, and denied said claim, in compliance with Government Code Section 911-15 and 945;

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

- Authorized the service of the speech and language pathologist, as submitted, assigned on a waiver for Education Code Section 44268, for the 2008-09 school year;

- Approved the abolishment of three child care assistant positions—two at Rio Hondo and one at West Middle School—due to lack of funds, effective Aug. 29, 2008;

- Approved the abolishment of one facilities operations lead worker position, and the establishment of one custodial supervisor position (with the appropriate job description), effective Oct. 1, 2008, along with the establishment of one secretary position (to handle the voluminous paperwork, etc.); effective July 15, 2008;

- Approved the changes to the duties of P.E. and athletic equipment attendant per submitted described duty statement, effective July 15;

- Approved the demolition of specified aging buildings at Downey High School and their replacement/construction of a new administration/classrooms building (instead of just strictly modernizing the same, per original plan), as presented at the June 26, 2008 Board meeting;

- Approved the restated employment contracts for the superintendent, assistant superintendent of business services, assistant superintendent of instructional services, and assistant superintendent of personnel services, beginning July 1, 2008 and ending June 30, 2012;

- Approved the waivers for a number of Special Education student petitions; 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 Tuesday, Aug. 19, 2008 at the Gallegos Administration Center, 11627



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Karaoke nights at Nordic Fox

DOWNEY – Accomplished karaoke artist and longtime Downey resident Robin Deming will be performing Wednesday nights at the Nordic Fox restaurant from 6 to 10 p.m.

Deming, who has been performing karaoke the past 17 years, attended Downey High School and is a former Miss Downey. Her catalog of songs stands at over 35,000, including oldies, country, rock, pop, hip-hop, Spanish, gospel and Disney.

Shows are intended for the entire family and children are welcome. The Nordic Fox is located at 10924 Paramount Blvd.

Deming also plays at Granata's Italian Villa on Downey Avenue on Thursday nights, starting at 8:30 p.m.

Word processing class at library

DOWNEY – The Downey City Library is offering "Beginning Microsoft Word," a free word processing class for adults, on Aug. 13 from 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. in the computer lab.

Students will learn how to create, select and modify text, as well as how to edit and save documents.

"This class is ideal for the beginning user," said instructor Claudia Dailey. "Our computer classes offer students time to practice and ask questions as they learn."

For more information, call the adult desk at (562) 904-7360, ext. 3.

Students chop off hair for charity

DOWNEY – Thirty-eight students from Old River Elementary School, as well as their teachers and family members, donated more than 475 inches of hair to the Locks of Love Foundation on June 2.

Volunteer hair stylists from Los Angeles and Orange Counties donated their time by cutting ponytails and styling the participant's hair.

"We are being caring by giving other kids something they need but don't have," said fourth-grader Mary Emma Guier on building character through the event.

For more information on Locks of Love, visit www.locksoflove.org.

Family swim tonight at Aquatic Center

DOWNEY – The city of Downey Community Services Department will be hosting a Family Fun Night tonight at the Downey Aquatic Center at Downey High School from 7 to 9 p.m.

The evening will include swimming, games, and a variety of snacks and beverages that will be available for purchase.

Cost for the event is \$2 per person, and the community is asked to wear proper swim attire.

For more information, call the Community Services Department at (562) 904-7238 or the Downey Aquatic Center (562) 869-2300.

Miranda: Still makes time to visit Downey.

Continued from page 1

Aside from her movie appearances, Miranda has also made television appearances on "Grounded for Life," "Smallville," and "What's New, Scooby-Doo?," to name a few, and has been featured on "Live with Regis and Kelly," "Today," "The View," "Good Morning America," "Dr. Phil," and more.

Although Miranda has been busy filming and recording, she makes sure to set aside time to visit her hometown.

"I went back to Maude Price [Elementary School] a few months ago to read to my fifth grade teacher's class," says Miranda. "It was so much fun going back to my old school and reading Dr. Seuss to the class."

While a student at Maude Price, Miranda participated in school plays and productions. After fifth grade, she joined a home-schooling program that better fit her work schedule.

"In many ways, I'm just like any other teenager," Miranda says. "I get to spend time with my friends and family just as much, if not more, than anybody else. I think the only major difference is that my friends get to meet famous people."

Miranda says that although she doesn't really get star struck, meeting Shia LeBeouf, who starred in "Transformers" and "Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull," left her speechless.

"I have the hugest crush on him and when I got to meet him at the

Kids' Choice Awards, I didn't know what to say!"

Although Miranda looks forward to meeting and working with numerous actors and actresses, she hopes to someday work with Rachel McAdams, one of the many actresses Miranda draws inspiration from.

"Rachel was wonderful in 'The Notebook' and 'Mean Girls,'" Miranda says. "I have had the chance to meet her but I hope to get the opportunity to work with her someday."

Above all, Miranda says, she has her fans to thank for her success and hopes that they continue to love her as much as she loves them.

For more information on Miranda, visit www.iCarly.com.



As part of the Downey City Library's Children's Summer Reading program, young readers and insect lovers got a chance to "catch the reading bug" when several butterflies hatched from their cocoons at the library. The kids above, Ivan Soto, Jillian Wilson, Charlotte Wilson and Tera Wilson, each viewed the insects up close during a story-time on July 8. Nearly 2,000 children have signed up for the free reading program, which runs through August 2. For information, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 4, or visit the library at 11121 Brookshire Ave.

New & noteworthy titles at the Downey City Library

Fiction

• **"Fractured"** by Karin Slaughter. Inside a mansion in one of Atlanta's best neighborhoods, a teenage girl is savagely murdered -- and her mother kills her daughter's attacker with her own bare hands.

• **"The James Boys: a Novel Account of Four Desperate Brothers"** by Richard Liebman-Smith. This original novel may change your point of view about four icons: William, Henry, Frank and Jesse James.

• **"The Last Patriot"** by Brad Thor. Navy SEAL-turned-covert Homeland Security operative Scot Harvath is called into action once again in this new political thriller.

• **"The Secret's in the Sauce"** by Linda Evans Shepherd. The women of The Potluck Club have launched a catering business that's a lot like them: saucy, spicy and well-seasoned.

• **"Tales from Cuba"** by Rachael Kushner. An imaginative and intelligent first novel about the American community in Cuba during the years leading to Castro's revolution.

Non-Fiction

• **"American Son"** by Oscar de la Hoya. The celebrated boxer portrays his struggle to achieve the American Dream, his rise to the top and his Hispanic American identity.

• **"Breakfast and Brunch: Recipes, Menus and Ideas for Delicious Morning Meals"** by Chuck Williams. With great photographs, this cookbook also includes party ideas and table settings.

• **"Cry from the Heart: the Biography of Edith Piaf"** by Margaret Crosland. The subject of the film, "La Vie en Rose," Piaf's turbulent life and remarkable career are explored in this new biography.

• **"Moving Forward: Taking the Lead in Your Life"** by David Pelzer. The author of "A Child Called It" shows readers how to let go of the past and overcome negative experiences to face the future.

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.

Flea market Sunday in Long Beach

LONG BEACH – Over 800 antique dealers are expected at Long Beach Veterans Stadium Sunday for a 20-acre flea market.

Price to get in is \$5 for adults between 6:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Early bird shoppers (between 5:30 and 6:30 a.m.) can get in for \$10. Children under 12 are free any time.

For more information, call Donald Moger at (323) 655-5703.

Annual Golf Classic 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 Rancho at (562) 401-7053.

Bocce Club looking for new members

DOWNEY – The Downey Bocce Club invites the community to join their group t at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center.

Men meet on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at 10 a.m. and women meet on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. For more information, call Pat Rooney at (562) 923-5352.

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★ **MAMA MIA!** PG-13 (10:40, 1:25, 4:15), 7:10, 9:55

★ **HELLBOY II: THE GOLDEN ARMY** PG-13 (10:20, 11:00, 1:15, 2:00, 4:10, 5:00), 7:05, 7:50, 10:00, 10:45

★ **JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF THE EARTH (DIGITAL 3DX)** PG (10:00, 12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:15)

★ **MEET DAVE** PG (10:00 AM, 12:10 PM)

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HELLBOY II PG-13	(11:00 1:55 4:50) 7:45 10:40
HELLBOY II PG-13	(12:00 2:55) 5:50 8:45
MEET DAVE PG	(10:30 3:25) 8:20
HANCOCK PG-13	(11:30 2:00 4:30) 7:00 9:30
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Downey in Action: Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center

BY ERIC PIERCE, CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – The only thing missing was a tall frosty glass of Budweiser. Or Ensure?

Dozens of senior citizens crowded the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center Wednesday as they took part in the center's first annual billiards tournament, a friendly – but spirited – competition to crown the best pool player over age 50 in Downey.

The late-morning event was just one of many activities the center has continually offered Downey's thriving senior population which, as of the 2000 census, constituted 18.5 percent of the population.

And Downey's seniors are particularly active, says Arlene Salazar, social services manager at the center. Most planned trips and excursions fill up quickly – minimizing the need for extensive advertising – and the center's fitness and computer rooms are kept humming with constant use.

"You won't see anybody here sitting in wheelchairs, moping around," said Salazar. "These seniors definitely like to do things and be active."

The list of activities available to seniors is long and growing. Yesterday, the center hosted a summer beach party featuring Orange County surf band, The Breakaways, and this Tuesday, Bea and Jim Romano will present a "community folk music jam."

Local musicians – regardless of age – are invited to bring their instrument and join in on the fun, or just sit and listen from the sidelines. The music starts at 7 p.m.

The senior and community center itself is a twisting structure of rooms and offices located on the northern grounds of Apollo Park.

Most of its rooms are named after notable Downey figures: the Crawford Room (ostensibly named after the pioneering Crawford family after which Crawford Park is also named) houses a large TV for movie nights ("Grandma/Grandpa & Me") Wednesday and Thursday evenings, when seniors are encouraged to bring their grandchildren and watch a family-friendly film.

Next week's selection is "Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium."

The Dianne Boggs Auditorium, an expandable multi-purpose room with elevated stage, draws scores of dedicated Bingo players during the week, said Salazar. Players compete for bragging rights and nothing else.

An adjoining full-kitchen with industrial-sized, stainless steel appliances makes the auditorium a popular reception hall for weddings and private parties, so much so a waiting list has been established for its use. The auditorium is also utilized for corporate training seminars, said Salazar.

The Downey City Library keeps another room stocked with books, rotating titles to maintain a fresh selection. Computers allow seniors to navigate the Internet and communicate with friends electronically. Seniors not familiar with computers are encouraged to attend free training classes at the library.

Kaiser Permanente donated funds for a fitness room equipped well-enough to resemble a YMCA. Treadmills and elliptical machines are pointed towards a large window facing the parking lot, and a brand-new Bowflex weight-lifting machine donated by a generous senior sits in the rear. Satellite radio plays overhead.

Senior center employees offer instructions on how to use the exercise machines, but are not authorized to give personal training advice. But a strength training and conditioning class sponsored by Cerritos College every Tuesday and Friday is open to all seniors. Led by instructor Jorge Lozano, the class uses resistance bands to improve strength and conditioning. Set to the music of the '50s and '60s, each class concludes with relaxation techniques and cool-downs.

But most popular with seniors, according to Salazar, are field trips to regional destinations, usually by charter bus. Throughout the summer months the senior center organizes trips to the Hollywood Bowl for symphony concerts under the stars. With tickets priced at only \$10 each, buses tend to fill fast, even if the arrival time isn't until 11 p.m.



The range of activities coordinated by the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center runs the gamut, from billiard tournaments, pictured above, to trips to local mariachi festivals. Photo by Eric Pierce

"People say that seniors don't like to go out at night, but that's not true," said Salazar. "Seniors will go out at night. They'll even drive, if they can."

For seniors who can't or won't drive, Downey Dial-a-Ride offers regular shuttle service to the senior center. Buses depart from the center for grocery stores, shopping centers and the like at regular intervals.

Other activities sponsored by the senior center: "Family Night Entertainment," Monday night entertainment featuring animals, magicians, puppet shows, and more; blood pressure screenings the first Friday of each month; "Craft Corner," next meeting Aug. 7; ongoing chess and checkers tournaments; balance and mobility classes, especially designed to help prevent falls; bowling leagues; free tax and legal assistance; and more.

The center is sponsoring trips to the Barnum & Bailey Circus at the Honda Center in Anaheim on Aug. 1, and a "senior ditch day" to the L.A. County Fair on Sept. 17.

A homeowners and renters assistance program will be offered until Oct. 15, a drivers safety course is scheduled for this Tuesday and Wednesday, and a caseworker from Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard's office is available to answer questions the second Tuesday of every month.

This is not including the scheduled activities of the Downey Senior Citizens Recreation Club, Senior Californians of Downey, AARP-Downey Chapter, Downey Shuffleboard Club, Downey Bocce Ball Club, and Women's Bocce Ball Club, each of whom use the senior center as their home base.

It's an active life for Downey seniors, indeed.

For more information on activities and services at the Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center, call (562) 904-7223.

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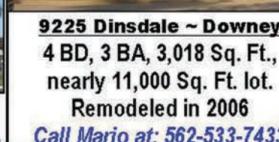
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Robert Zavala of Freedom Vacations, David Llamas of Mambo Grill, and Democratic National Convention delegate Ernie Garcia posed with their family, friends and the June 6 edition of *The Downey Patriot* while aboard Royal Caribbean's "Monarch of the Seas" cruise ship. The group went on a three-day trip to Ensenada, Mexico June 6 - 9.



The Education Minister of South Korea sent a delegation of 30 educators to meet with DUSD Superintendent Wendy Doty and other district administrators on July 10. The purpose of the visit was to learn how U.S. students are educated and strengthen the relationship between both countries. After the informational meeting, the delegation toured Warren High School's summer program.



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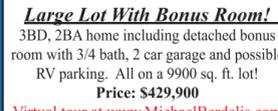
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 2 units: 2 BD, 1 BA front unit (permitted as 1BD, 1 BA) and a 3BD, 1 BA back unit. 1615 sq ft total living space, all on a 10,854 sq ft lot.
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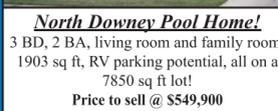
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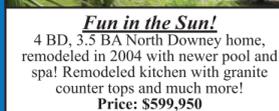
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The La Habra Depot Theatre's production of "Willy Wonka Jr.," Roald Dahl's timeless story of the world famous candy man and his quest to find a heir, opens July 25. Performances are held Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m., with Sunday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$15 for children, seniors and students. Reservations are available online at www.lhdepottheatre.org or by calling (562) 905-9625.

Residents can apply for traffic relief

DOWNEY - The city of Downey reminds residents July 31 is the deadline to submit applications for inclusion in the pilot program to calm traffic on residential streets.

Residents concerned about the speed or volume of traffic on their street are encouraged to submit a one-page application detailing their concern, location, and other pertinent information.

Streets eligible for the program must be defined as "local" by state law and have a posted speed limit of 25 mph.

Streets will be ranked on severity of speeding and/or volume

of traffic. Based on these rankings, the top eight to 12 streets will be selected for inclusion in the pilot program.

If selected, applicants will be required to obtain signatures from residents living in the proposed project area indicating neighborhood support for the program.

"I initiated and strongly support the program, which formalizes a way to expand the current options available to residents to solve traffic issues on local neighborhood streets," said Mayor David Gafin.

"The number one concern expressed at my town hall meetings held last year was the need to

slow traffic on local streets."

In response to the concern raised by residents, Gafin directed the city manager to investigate options available to slow traffic on neighborhood streets. The Traffic Calming Program was adopted, with direction for a pilot phase, by the City Council in May.

Applications are available by calling the city of Downey at (562) 904-7286, or emailing the request to spomrehn@downeyca.org. Forms are also available at www.downeyca.org.

Applications received after July 31 will be held for inclusion in subsequent phases.