

The Downey Patriot



Wilcox honored for service
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Athlete brings home the gold
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Downey grad in Air Force
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Friday, July 17, 2009

Vol. 8 No. 13

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

Mexican delegation leaves impressed

■ Fresnillo, Zacatecas, Mexico expected to become Downey's next sister city.

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – In an unmitigated show of support for the work of the Downey Sister Cities Association (DSCA), the city of Downey Monday welcomed an official delegation from Fresnillo, Zacatecas, Mexico, which is expected as early as next week to become Downey's fifth sister city, joining Guadalajara, Jalisco, Alajuela, Costa Rica and Ensenada.

Accompanying the delegation were a few administrators and members of organizations based here in the Los Angeles area but which have maintained close ties with their native city and state.

The delegation and a much larger number representing the Zacatecas Southern California Diaspora totaling about 150 (from such places as La Puente, Culver City, Oxnard, and Santa Clarita), were the day before guests at a picnic at Furman Park hosted by chief organizers Councilman Luis Marquez (who, it turns out, is a Fresnillo native) and Downey Fire's Armando Juarez, who also boasts familial ties with Zacatecas.

The Fresnillo delegation was here officially to personally thank the Downey Fire Department which, as a goodwill gesture and on its own initiative, conducted a

well-received five-day firemen and civil protection training program in Fresnillo in May. But it was clear there was another reason for the visit. Downey and Fresnillo have been engaged in negotiations for some time now for the latter to join DSCA. The Downey visit would be a first-hand look at the city.

Fresnillo, alike in Downey in population (about 115,000), is the largest city in Zacatecas state in north central Mexico and sits atop one of the world's richest silver mines, known as the Mina Proano or Fresnillo Mine.

Fresnillo's mayor himself, president (yes, they call their mayor president) David Monreal Avila, was slated to be at the head of the delegation but he was turned back at the last minute at the border because of a family member's missing document.

Substituting for him was Robert Jason Barker Mestas, Fresnillo's director of economic development. The other delegates: Gustavo Sanchez Bonilla, regidor (councilman) de Fresnillo; Omar Luevano Torres, director of security for Fresnillo; and Antonio Monreal Moreno, coordinator for the municipality of Fresnillo.

Accompanying them on this trip were heads of various Fresnillo economic and community groups, including Marie G. Adebache, Club Real de Minas de Fresnillo; Miguel Gonzalez Valdez, president, Union Ganadera Zacatecas; and Moises Miranda, Club Familia Unidas

See ZACATECAS, page 2



The all-female Mariachi Divas will return to Furman Park this Wednesday at 7 p.m. Admission is free.

Mariachi Divas return to Furman

DOWNEY – The Mariachi Divas, an annual favorite at Downey's Concerts in the Park, return to Furman Park this Wednesday with a 7 p.m. performance.

Founded and directed by trumpet player Cindy Shea in 1999, the all-female Mariachi Divas are making big waves on the national scene, as reflected by their 2009 Grammy Award for Regional Mexican Album of the Year for their latest CD, "Canciones De Amor."

The group is represented by a multi-cultural blend of women with Mexican, Cuban, Samoan, Argentinean, Columbian,

Panamanian, Puerto Rican, Swiss, Japanese, Honduran, Peruvian, Tongan and Anglo descent.

The Divas have appeared at several Southern California venues, including appearances at the Staples Center, Honda Center, Universal Amphitheater, Greek Theater and the House of Blues.

They have also appeared at numerous festivals, fairs and city concert series. The group has made several television appearances and has taken roles as actors in two independent films, and even had their songs featured on Hallmark Christmas cards.

The Divas have performed for various elected officials, including

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, and the president of Mexico and South Korea.

The Mariachi Divas are currently working on their next CD, titled "10th Aniversario," to be released later this year. Four of the Divas' CDs have been distributed nationwide through Shea Records and East Side Records.

Wednesday's concert begins at 7 p.m. at Furman Park. The concert is free and residents are encouraged to bring lawn chairs and blankets.

The Downey Rose Float Association will be selling food and drinks.

West Nile virus found in dead bird

BY ERIC PIERCE,
CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – A dead bird collected in Downey has tested positive for the West Nile virus, county vector officials announced Tuesday.

Officials did not say where the bird was found, other than it came from the 90241 zip code.

A total of 21 birds with West Nile virus has been confirmed in Los Angeles County.

"This data indicates that Los Angeles County is, again, the center of virus activity for Southern California," the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District said in a statement. "With another busy season, the District is on high alert and anticipates elevated virus activity throughout the rest of this summer."

Officials advised residents to guard against the virus by "taking an active role in mosquito prevention."

Residents should eliminate standing water in rain gutters, buckets and swimming pools; change the water in pet dishes often; wear long-sleeve shirts and pants when outdoors at dusk or dawn; keep tight-fitting screens on doors and windows to prevent mosquitoes; and wear mosquito repellents that contain DEET, picaridin, or oil of lemon eucalyptus.

Residents can also request free mosquito-eating fish from the Vector Control District for out-of-order swimming pools and spas. Mosquito activity at vacant or foreclosed homes and swimming pools should also be reported.

For more information on mosquito prevention, or to report a dead bird in your neighborhood, call the state Department of Public Health at (877) WNV-BIRD or go online to www.westnile.ca.gov.

Gallatin plaza wins right for new sign

BY ERIC PIERCE,
CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – The owners of a local shopping plaza received greater leeway this week in their plans to install new signage on Lakewood Boulevard.

Officials with Gallatin Plaza, located at Gallatin Road and Lakewood Boulevard, appeared before the City Council on Tuesday to appeal an April 15 decision by the Planning Commission that permitted a 20-foot, street-facing sign but with various conditions.

One of the conditions was a maximum of four tenants on the sign.

Ralph's grocery store anchors the shopping center. Ralph's would occupy two of the four slots and McDonald's another, leaving only one slot available for 14 remaining tenants, said Milton Solomon, an architectural design specialist who spoke Tuesday on behalf of the shopping center.

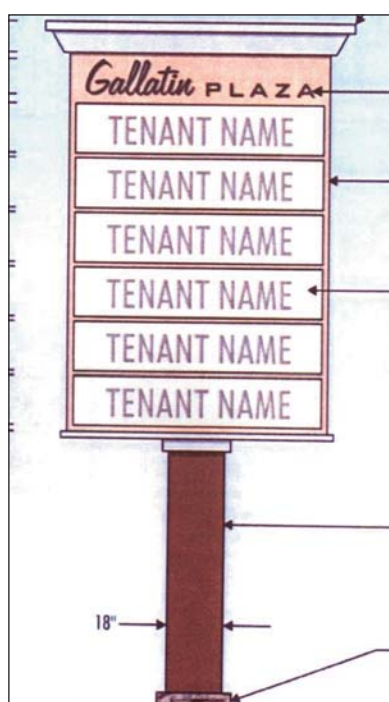
Solomon was asking for six slots.

"It's an ugly center, something needs to be done," said Solomon.

The City Council agreed and unanimously approved his appeal.

"I don't see a difference between four and six," said Mayor Mario Guerra. "I would have voted for eight."

Current city codes limit the size of shopping center marquees but not the number of slots that can be



made available for tenants.

The number of panels is arbitrary and at the discretion of the Planning Commission. And "that's a problem," according to Councilman Roger Brossmer, a former planning commissioner.

"I can't believe we just pick a number," Brossmer said.

Councilmen David Gafin and Luis Marquez echoed similar sentiments.

Councilwoman Anne Bayer, meanwhile, was noncommittal on the issue.

"I'm going to pass on this one," Bayer said. "I don't care either way."



NFL Hall of Famer Jim Brown is founder of the Amer-I-Can program. Brown was the keynote speaker at April's Gangs Out of Downey fundraiser luncheon. Photo by Eric Pierce

Amer-I-Can focuses on self-determination

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

When football great Jim Brown spoke at the annual Gangs Out of Downey luncheon last April 22, he announced that a branch of the Amer-I-Can Program had just recently opened at Stonewood Center. The announcement met with polite applause. It was the first time most of the large luncheon crowd, including this reporter, had heard of the program.

In fact, the program has been in

existence for more than 20 years. It was founded in 1988 by Brown himself after he gave up his movie career.

Its stated mission: to assist one acquire the skills and tools needed to lead a more successful, productive, and fulfilling life." The whole program is built around the equation: "I Can" + "Responsibility" = "Self-Determination."

The program maintains that it's applicable to all people, transcending race, age, gender, religion, and socio-economic status, and that it has proven a success in jails, prisons, juvenile probation camps, high schools, colleges, universities,

businesses and communities.

Curious, I went last weekend to a summer class being conducted at Warren High School supervised by American History teacher and the session's supervising teacher, Anthony Zegarra.

The 60-hour session is an elective class, and meets at 1:45 p.m. Monday-Thursday. The class has an enrollment of 25 students, composed mostly of keenly interested and bright-looking sophomores and juniors who are attending the class for credit. Zegarra said the

See AMER-I-CAN, page 9

Municipal code to be amended

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – After an open discussion of the merits of the amendments to the Downey Municipal Code proposed by staff, the Council agreed to introduce an ordinance adopting code amendment which amends various sections of Article IX of the Downey Municipal Code (relating to such sundry matters as signage, vehicle parking, estate sales, domestic animals, various permit fees, and updates of residential, commercial, and industrial guidelines, etc.)—but without the portion devoted to dance studios (regarding parking requirements mostly).

Staff was instructed to look into this further, while allowing the members of the Council more time to study the full ramifications of the proposed amendments. These matters will be taken up at the next Council meeting.

See COUNCIL, page 4

Zacateca: Coalition of Downey firefighters traveled to Fresnillo in May.

Continued from page 1

Santa Rosa. The local Los Angeles-based Zacatecas that accompanied the delegation included: Alfredo Mireles, president, Burbank-based Club La Noria; and Angel Luna, Ricardo Bernal, and Victor M. Torres (of North Hollywood), all representing Club El Dominguejo. The visitors Monday were initially given a ground tour of City Hall and the police department, then lunch at the Rio Hondo Event Center, followed by a bus tour with lengthy instructive stops at Downey Studios and Downey Fire Station No. 1 (where Mestas scaled the 100-ft. fire truck ladder which was extended for the visitors' benefit), concluding with a drive through selected Downey streets and avenues as the crowded schedule allowed, including the north Downey area and downtown Downey Avenue.

The group was officially welcomed in the early morning by Mayor Mario Guerra who rejoined the group for the mid-day lunch at Rio Hondo, during which time he gave a briefing on Downey, in Spanish. Guide duties on the bus tour, sans Guerra, then fell on Marquez who has extensive dealings with the Fresnillo/Zacatecas Diaspora in Southern California. No doubt the Fire Department's Fresnillo training program in May had a role in the sister affiliation process. Instructors included Raul Ochoa, Carlos Mata, Sergio Zavala, Ryan Schleiger, Jose Garcia, Steve Lund, Juan Antonio Tovar, Armando Juarez, Moises Miranda, Scott Wilcox, and Capt.



Fresnillo, Zacatecas, Mexico is on the cusp of becoming Downey's fifth official sister city. Downey firefighters traveled to Fresnillo in May to train their local fire personnel. Photo courtesy Downey Fire Department

Jay Ibey. The training benefited some 150 firemen and civil protection staffs representing Fresnillo, Zacatecas counties Ojo Caliente, Trancoso, Guadalupe, Tepetongo, Jerez, Rio Grande, and Valparaiso, as well as those from the neighboring states of Jalisco and Aguascalientes.

According to Juarez, the program was structured around the main themes of safety, rescue, and supply considerations and covered the following topics: ICS (incident command system) and defensive

driving (fire truck operation and maintenance), CPR and first aid, auto extraction and victim removal, and fire behavior.

At the same time, said Juarez, the instructional staff tried to tailor their presentations to the unique needs of the area, namely, frequent incidences of street accidents and fire truck operation (the city has acquired a fire truck from Seattle; it sits at Downey Fire Station No.1 awaiting shipment to Fresnillo).

With the delegation gone, the last stage in the DCSA affiliation

process is an official letter from the mayor of Fresnillo formally requesting membership.

DCSA officials that co-hosted Monday's tour included Leonard Zuniga, newly elected DCSA president; Maria Guerrero; and Paula Mejia, treasurer, who has been designated liaison officer for Zacatecas.

For information about individual membership in the Downey Sister Cities Association, call Paula Mejia at (562) 884-9657.



Firefighters made quick work of a blaze Tuesday caused by a downed power line. Residents and businesses experienced a temporary power outage but no one was hurt. Photo by Art Montoya

Power line causes small fire

DOWNEY – A downed power line ignited a small fire Tuesday morning, causing a temporary power outage but no injuries.

Firefighters responded to a "wires down call" at about 10:26 a.m. near Florence and Smallwood avenues. Firefighters found a small grass fire burning inside an open lot at 7774 Dinsdale St., fire officials said.

Firefighters requested a "full-structure response" based on the hot, dry conditions and the threat to nearby homes. The flames were knocked down quickly and only about 200 square feet of weeds and natural vegetation burned, officials said.

Southern California Edison shut off electricity in the area as firefighters battled the blaze.

No injuries were reported.

Haberbush to speak July 28

DOWNEY – David Haberbush of Haberbush & Associates, LLP will be the guest speaker at the July 28 meeting of Rise 'N Shine Networking at Downey Brewing Company.

Haberbush will speak on "ABC: Assignment for the Benefit of Creditors."

The meeting begins at 7:30 a.m. and cost is an order from the menu. RSVP by calling the Downey Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

History of flower market told at library

DOWNEY – Author Peggi Ridgway will give a history of the Los Angeles Flower Market when she presents a slideshow presentation Wednesday at the Downey City Library.

Ridgway, author of "Sending Flowers to America," will give her presentation in the Cormack Room

from 7-8:30 p.m.

With more than 350 photos, the book records the contributions made by European immigrants to California's agricultural history. Their stories and anecdotes of years gone by are told in this book, along with photos.

The book showcases the role

they played in supplying flowers to florists and consumers nationally during the years before imports, when fresh flowers could only be obtained domestically and California was the state that supplied them throughout the year.

Ridgway has served as editor of The Bloomin' News, the bi-month-

ly newsmagazine of the Los Angeles Flower Market, since 1999 and is an award-winning freelance writer of more than 500 feature articles.

For reservations to the discussion, call the Adult Information desk at (562) 904-7360, ext. 1320

Kritters the Clown to visit Temple

DOWNEY – Kelley Delung, also known as Kritters the Clown, will entertain the audience when he performs Tuesday from 10 a.m. to noon at Temple Ner Tamid of Downey, 10629 Lakewood Blvd.

The performance is part of the regular meeting of the Ezra Center for Mature Adults.

Delung has been performing professionally in Southern California for more than 20 years.

A kosher lunch will be served after the program. Cost of the lunch is \$6 for Ezra members, \$7 for non-members.

For more information, call Miriam Brookfield at (562) 943-3170.



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Raul Naves, a 2007 graduate of Downey High School, has completed basic military training in San Antonio.

Naves finishes basic training

DOWNEY – Air Force Airman Raul Naves has completed basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Tex.

Naves completed an eight-week program that included training in military discipline and studies, Air Force core values, physical fitness, and basic warfare principles and skills.

By completing the program, Naves also earned four credits toward an associate in applied science degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Naves is the son of Raul Naves of Downey. He graduated from Downey High School in 2007.

Mile-long yard sale July 25

DOWNEY – The mile-long yard sale held each year along Pangborn Avenue will take place this year on July 25.

The sale, now in its ninth year, is held on Pangborn between Florence Avenue and Firestone Boulevard. More than 30 homes typically participate.

The sale begins at 7 a.m. and ends at noon.

Learn more about OASIS

DOWNEY – Karina Madariaga will give a presentation about Downey Adult School's OASIS program when she speaks to the Downey Christian Women's Club on Aug. 12 at Rio Hondo Event Center.

Also scheduled to speak is Linda Olson, whose topic is "Being Made for Something More."

The buffet lunch meeting begins at 11:45 a.m. and costs \$13. Both men and women are invited.

For reservations, call Sonja at (562) 862-4347 or Jean at (562) 861-1114.

Money advice just for children

DOWNEY – Downey Federal Credit Union is sponsoring a free workshop for parents entitled "Raising a Money Smart Child."

Parents will be able to teach children basic financial skills and money management that can help prevent them from making poor financial decisions that can hurt them later in life.

Parents can help their children understand how to set up a savings account, save for short- and long-term goals, and set up a budget.

The workshop will be held July 28 from 4-6 p.m. at Downey Regional Medical Center, inside Room C. A representative from Springboard, a nonprofit consumer credit management organization, will lead the workshop.

Downey Federal Credit Union will offer other workshops this year, including "Surviving the Holidays" and "How Am I Going to Pay My Bills?"

"Offering financial education to our members and to the community is an essential part of Downey Federal Credit Union's primary initiative of 'People Helping People,'" said Barbara Lamberth, president and CEO of the credit union. "We encourage members and potential members to learn how to better manage their finances."

To reserve a spot at the workshop, call Kari Johnson at (562) 862-8141, ext. 246. More information is also available online at www.downeyfcu.org.

Auction items now on display

DOWNEY – The Friends of the Downey City Library is now displaying items to be featured in their July silent auction.

Auction items include "The Entertainers of WWII," a 4-CD box set of original recordings of artists and songs of the era; "The New World Atlas of Golf" by Pat Ward Thomas, featuring great golf courses and how they are played; "Mexico – One Plate at a Time," by Rick Bayless, featuring classic Mexican cuisine; and "Life Smiles Back" by Life Magazine, containing more than 200 classic photos from the famous back page.

Items are now on display inside the library's foyer. Bids can be placed inside the Friend's Store until July 25.

\$10K sweepstakes up for grabs

DOWNEY – Stonewood Center is sponsoring a \$10,000 fashion sweepstakes with entries being accepted until Aug. 3.

The "Inspire Your Style Sweepstakes" includes an interactive website, www.inspireyourstyle.com, that includes style quizzes, polls, trend alerts, Q&As, and more.

People who enter the sweepstakes online and tell a friend about it will automatically be entered into another \$1,000 drawing.

Full contest rules are available online or at Guest Services.

Chamber honoring businesses

DOWNEY – The Downey Chamber of Commerce will honor outstanding volunteers and businesses at a luncheon July 31 at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

The Chamber will recognize its small and large businesses of the year, outstanding committee persons of the year, director of the year, and volunteer of the year.

Cost for the lunch is \$25. RSVPs are due by July 24 by calling (562) 923-2191.

Blood drive at Temple

DOWNEY – A blood drive to benefit the American Red Cross will be held July 23 at Temple Ner Tamid of Downey, 10629 Lakewood Blvd., from 2-8 p.m.

All participants will receive a coupon from Chili's restaurant. To schedule an appointment, call Cheryl Brownstein at (562) 861-9276 or log onto www.givelife.org and use sponsor code "nertamid".



Angel Enriquez, 9, participated in the Special Olympics this year and came home with two gold medals and one silver medal in swimming. Angel, who will attend Carpenter Elementary this fall, was born with Down syndrome and Hirschsprung's (intestinal) disease. Doctors initially warned his parents that Angel might not walk until he was 4 years old, but he proved the doctors wrong and began walking at 14 months. Angel's parents, Arturo and Sandra Enriquez, said their son "has succeeded in all the endeavors he has faced up to now. He's popular at school and enjoys playing with friends and doing the 'normal' things kids do." Angel is also a member of the Dodgers Challenger team for West Downey Little League.

Kohl's honors Downey girl

DOWNEY – A Downey girl was one of nearly 200 kids honored by Kohl's Department Stores last week for their extensive community service.

Mikayla Minnig, 10, was chosen from approximately 18,000 nominees. Mikayla has suffered from arthritis since age 4 and has raised more than \$7,000 for the Arthritis Foundation.

Mikayla received a \$1,000 scholarship for post-secondary education. She also qualifies for a national scholarship worth \$5,000.

In addition, Kohl's will donate \$1,000 to the non-profit organization of Mikayla's choice.

"These young volunteers truly stand out and deserve to be recognized for making their communities a better place and exemplifying the spirit of volunteerism," said Julie Gardner, executive vice president and chief marketing officer for Kohl's.

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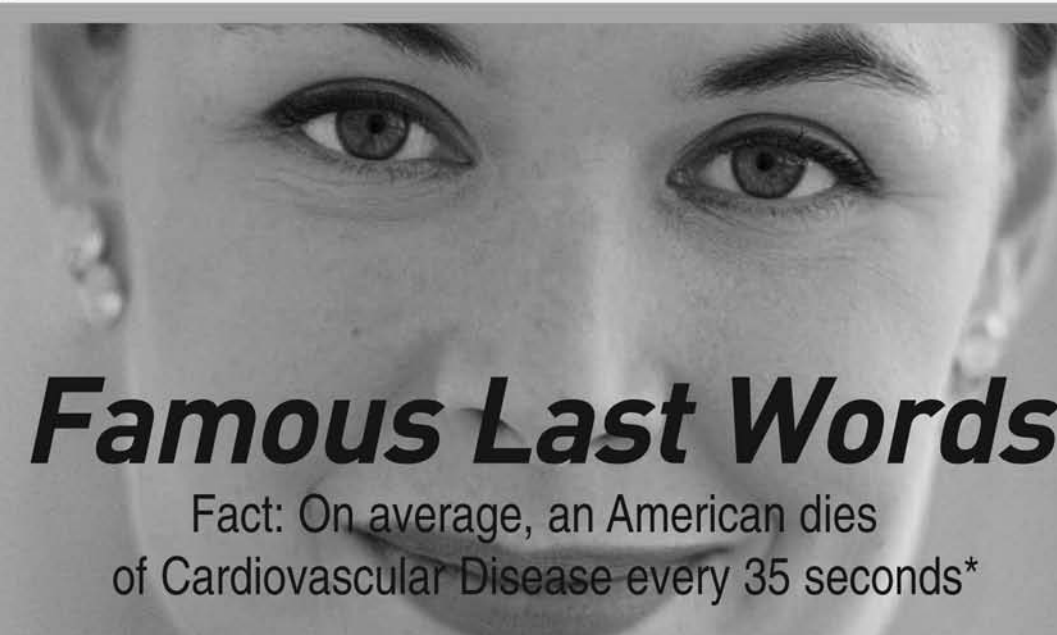
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Council: City may develop commission to study parking issues.

Continued from page 1

Since the consensus was that Vehicle Parking District No. 1 has served its purpose (it was formed in 1962) and that it has in recent years met only sporadically, the Council passed an ordinance, on staff's recommendation, to dissolve same.

The district had been authorized to operate public parking operations on acquired land and also issue 19-year term bonds to finance operations, maintenance and capital improvements within the district. The bonds were fully paid and retired in January 1984.

The dissolution of the district would also for all intents and purposes mean the disbandment of its complementary arm, the Parking Place Commission, but Guerra wondered aloud if the pertinent functions of the two bodies can't somehow be later combined.

In other action, the Council:

- Endorsed the Planning Commission's resolution adjusting their meeting start time from 7:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.; the commission's scheduled meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month remain unchanged;

- Accepted the improvements and the maintenance responsibility in connection with the construction of the Columbia Memorial Space Center under Cash Contract No. 665 performed by Tower General Contractors, Inc.; and despite all the change orders reflecting additional constructions in critical areas, the city still realized a net surplus of \$340,338.25, drawing congratulations especially from Councilman David Gafin and Mayor Mario Guerra;

- Upon staff's recommendation, set a public hearing for Aug. 11 to consider city fees related to solar panel permits;

- Adopted a resolution adopting

modified salary ranges and class specifications for the positions of budget analyst and fire prevention technician, as well as an upward adjustment of the salary range for the position of Finance Director anticipating additional responsibilities which will be precipitated when the assistant city manager retires later this year;

- Adopted a resolution establishing a 20-minute parking restriction on the north side of Dinwiddie St., west of Old River School Road;

- Adopted a resolution approving appointments/reappointment to boards, commissions and committees for Council District 5; thus, the following will serve in their respective appointments till their term expires in December 2012: Mario Trujillo, Art in Public Places Advisory Committee; Nick Adams, Traffic Committee; Ernest Garcia, Water Board; and Jack Horvath, Personnel Advisory Board; Charles Hutchinson's reappointment term with the Downey City Hospital Commission will expire on January 1, 2011;

- Introduced an ordinance amending Section 3155.2 of the Downey Municipal Code relating to the designation of angled parking on Clark Ave. between James Street and Lakewood Blvd.; and adopted a resolution establishing stop controls at the intersections of the Discovery Sports Complex and Columbia Memorial Space Center parking lot at Clark Ave. and Cong. Steve Horn Way/ Ardis Ave., all this resulting from exhaustive studies made of traffic safety/parking configurations in the area; also, the idea of supplanting the above-named stretch of Clark Ave. with the designation "Columbia Way" was again brought up, with staff instructed to frame the appropriate resolution by October;

- Adopted an ordinance amend-



Dr. Wayne Wilcox, left, received the mayor's Diakonia Award on Tuesday. Photo by Eric Pierce

Wilcox honored for humanitarian work

DOWNEY – Dr. Wayne Wilcox was presented with the mayor's Diakonia Award on Tuesday in recognition of his extensive community service.

Wilcox has served as a church bishop for six years and currently serves as a Cub Scout Cubmaster. He is a past president of Downey Rotary, is a current YMCA board member, and is chair of the Y's camping committee.

Wilcox attended Northwestern Dental School in Chicago and serves on the Downey Dental Academy, which conducts dental screenings for the Downey Unified School District. Wilcox also travels to Mexico twice a year to provide his services at a free clinic.

"The service that Dr. Wilcox provides goes above and beyond. He is a good person, a good man, and I am happy to call him a friend," Mayor Mario Guerra said in a statement. "I am very proud to honor him with the Diakonia Award."

To nominate someone for the Diakonia (Servant) Award, call the City Council office at (562) 904-7274.

ing Section 3186 of the Downey Municipal Code relating to the speed limit for Imperial Highway, based on the requisite Engineering and Traffic (E&T) survey in accordance with California Vehicle Code requirements; the speed limit established for "those portions within the city of Downey between

the west city limit and east city limit" shall be forty (40) miles per hour"; and

The next regular public City Council meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 28 at City Hall, 11111 Brookshire Ave.

POET'S CORNER

To Someone

Silver bells
strung gently through your hair
afloat like angel dust
on some sea of time

My chapter
lost
yet remembered as a dream

Space music sung
like Homer by some elder of the past
chant thunder
chant symphonies.

—John Quincy Adams

Little Guy

you and I were pirates
and sailed across the sea
we chased the dog
and fought through fog
just you and me

You and I flew rockets
across the sky in the yard
to the moon and back
always easy, never hard
just you and me

You and I collected leaves
of red, yellow and gold
a gift from autumn trees
standing tall and old
just you and me

You and I ate ice cream
to celebrate anything we chose
sometimes it melted
on our cheeks and on our clothes
just you and me

You and I would swim
in water blue and clear
slashing, kicking, laughing
protecting you, keeping near
just you and me

You and I would read
in the early evening hours
stories that made us wonder
sea creatures and life on Mars
just you and me

You and me are apart right now
but I am keeping you so near
in the center of my heart
so forget about the tears
just you and me

—Christina Anderson,
Downey

Berniece Kjenstad passes away at 95

DOWNEY – Berniece Augusta Kjenstad died during the early morning hours of July 6. She was 95.



She was born in Andover, Iowa on Oct. 16, 1913. Shortly after her birth, her family moved to Wimbledon, N.D. where she spent her formative years.

After graduating from high school she attended business school at North Dakota College of Science and Industry.

In 1938 she moved to California to live with her brother, Clarence Frahm, and to work for the Patton Blinn Corporation.

She also met her husband to be, Victor Kjenstad, in 1938. They were married in 1940 and moved to Downey in 1945.

The mother of three children, Kjenstad worked as a tailor for JC Penney for 18 years.

She is survived by her husband, Victor Kjenstad; son, Richard Dean Kjenstad of Downey; daughters, Judith Stafford of Lake Oswego, Ore. and Diane McClure of Coto de Caza, Calif.; grandchildren, Scott and Christopher Stafford, Sundi Kjenstad and Summer Miller; and great-grandchildren,

Michael and Annabelle Stafford, Ariella Stafford, and Alexis and Lucas Miller.

A visitation was held July 9 at Miller-Mies Mortuary. Funeral services took place July 10 at Holy Redeemer Lutheran Church in Bellflower, with interment at Green Hills Memorial Park in Palos Verdes.

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Someone loan Lamar Odom a calculator

By Eric Pierce

The following is a column on NBA player Lamar Odom that I wrote for an online basketball website. I share it here because I'm passionate about sports and it's an easy way to get out of writing another column this week. It has nothing to do with Downey, so I apologize.

Who do you think you are, Lamar Joseph Odom?

Wait, let me answer that for you. You're a talented basketball player, yes, but you're also a role player. You come off the bench. Andrew Bynum, all of 21 years of age, stole your spot in the starting lineup.

You do the dirty work, the grunt work — stuff that generally goes unappreciated but helps teams win championships. You're the "glue guy."

But you know what? You're also a magician because you disappear so often. (I hear the Mirage in Vegas is looking for new talent.) When it comes to performing in the clutch, Hugh Hefner does a better job. I cringe when you shoot a 3-pointer. You were supposed to be the Scottie to Kobe's Jordan, but instead you became Horace Grant 2.0.

People forget about 3-4 years ago, before Pau Gasol arrived, and the enormous pressure bestowed upon you. You were supposed to help Los Angeles win another championship.

You failed.

But hey, it's OK. Your affable personality and insatiable appetite for candy grew on us. You became a free agent this year and the Lakers still offered you \$9 million per year over 4 years (\$36 million) or \$10 million a year for 3 years (\$30 million), as reported by the Los Angeles Times. The choice was yours.

You messed up, Lamar. You pulled a Trevor Ariza and overestimated your own worth. Inexplicably, you balked at the offers. You shopped yourself and let Miami Heat president Pat Riley and Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban whisper in your ear.

But here's the thing: both those teams are over the salary cap. The most they could offer you is \$6.3 million over 3 years (\$19 million.)

Apparently you couldn't decide, so the Lakers decided for you.

This week, the Lakers pulled their offer.

What now, Lamar?

Now you'll have to toil in Miami or Dallas for far less money. And both teams will expect great things from you, much like the Lakers did when they traded for you five years ago, and we all know how that went.

Take a lesson from Ron Artest and Shannon Brown: both players accepted less money than they could have received from other non-contending teams and signed their Laker contracts on July 1 — at midnight.

Artest, who signed for \$33 million, said it best at his introductory news conference:

"If you can't live on \$33 million, you just can't live."

Apparently Lamar, you couldn't live on \$36 million. God help you, because now you'll have to settle for \$19 million.

North Korea's actions raise the stakes

By David K. Rehbein

A young girl picking daisies opens one of the most infamous political ads ever devised. It is suggested her life is about to end violently and quickly as a nuclear mushroom cloud appears. President Lyndon Johnson intones, "These are the stakes! To make a world in which all of God's children can live, or go into the dark. We must either love each other, or we must die."

While no one in Washington has the power to mandate love, our leaders can protect us by adequately funding and deploying a national missile defense. Mocked by critics in the 1980's as a Star Wars fantasy, nobody seems to be laughing as North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il has been test-firing missiles like a kid launching fireworks on the fourth of July. Defense Secretary Robert Gates takes the threat seriously enough to have positioned a military ground-based missile defense system to protect Hawaii from missile attack.

While the American Legion applauds this decision, the nation's largest veterans service organization is concerned that the United States is not doing enough to protect us from, well, nuclear annihilation.

In 2008 delegates at the American Legion National Convention in Phoenix unanimously passed Resolution 94. It urges the U.S. government to develop and continue to deploy a national missile defense system which is in the national interest of the United States and the American people and an essential ingredient of our homeland security.

In recent months, North Korea has repeatedly tested its nuclear weapons and long-range ballistic missile capabilities. Moreover, the Iranian President Ahmadinejad has given no indication that he plans to retract his public promises to make his country a nuclear power. While some may naively believe that these leaders are of stable mind and would be deterred by America's military might and nuclear capabilities, often overlooked is the history these rogue regimes have of proliferating weapons to terrorists.

Referring to the possibility of capturing Pakistan's nuclear weapons, a top al Qaeda commander said, "God willing, the nuclear weapons will not fall into the hands of the Americans and the Mujahideen would take them and use them against the Americans."

Despite all of this, the Obama administration has called for a \$1.62 billion reduction in missile defense for 2010. The 2010 Defense Authorization Bill reduces the number of Ground-Based Midcourse Defense Interceptors from 44 to 30. These cuts are hardly signs that Washington is committed to providing an impenetrable national missile defense.

As Gates recently said about protecting Hawaii with a ground-based system, "We are in a good position, should it become necessary, to protect Americans and American territory." But is "good" really good enough?

David K. Rehbein is national commander of the 2.6 million-member American Legion, the nation's largest wartime veterans organization.

Letters to the Editor:

Negative government

Dear Editor:

I'm delighted that Dan Cristea chose to refer to my Patriot letter of June 19, or at least part of it, but I'm somewhat pained by the tortured logic of his view of government. ("Keep Investment Private," 7/10/09) If I ask, "Isn't the purpose of government to serve the needs of the people?" and he replies, in effect, "No, it's to serve the Life, Liberty and Pursuit of Happiness in the individual," what's the difference, if you take the word 'people' to be an aggregate of individuals?

I don't understand how he equates people with collectivism (his word), unless he's lumping it in with the totalitarian rhetoric of places like Communist China, the former Soviet Union, North Korea and Myanmar. But nobody's suggested that.

What's more baffling is his notion of negative government. If representative government, that is, democracy, refers to the process where you and I elect someone to protect our rights and interests and advance our needs for Life, Liberty, etc. — because we can't all bundle off to Washington or Sacramento — how is that process served by a negative presence? Should our representatives not go? Should government at any level not convene to adjudicate differences, or pass and enforce laws designed to help us all live together more safely and equitably?

And after reading the pioneering Rachel Carson, Upton Sinclair, Theodore Roosevelt, and the thousands of other authors and public-minded citizens who've called attention to the various practices of poisoning our food, destroying our natural environment, fouling the air, exploiting our work, stealing our money, refusing us medical care if we can't pay through the nose, trashing our minds with junk advertising and duping us with false claims — in a word, killing us for profit — who else has the power to curb these practices besides government in its regulatory capacity? Should we shoot it away, or drown it in a bathtub, as the reptilian Grover Norquist and his band of closet oligarchs have suggested?

Actually, one could argue that the negative government Mr. Cristea calls for is already here. It's been gathering force since the era of Reaganomics, when businessmen moved into government to cut it down to size and make megabuck profit a cultural imperative — at public expense. The most dramatic example of that credo's result came that September Friday in 2008, when then-Treasury Secretary Henry Paulsen and Paul Bernanke hastily met with a small group of Congressional leaders and said, "We need \$750 billion by Monday to save the economy."

"Impossible," the Congressmen said. "You don't understand how government works."

"Nevertheless," Paulsen said. "If we don't have it by Monday, there won't be an economy."

That means that your checking and savings accounts will probably have been frozen in your failed bank, your pension would have been wiped out (which has already happened with alarming regularity), and your boss would not have made payroll, as just a few of the rolling catastrophes to befall us — including, for a great many, the loss of your home. All this a result of Wall Street greedheads, who are still operating.

I'm all for private investment, which is a way of putting our money where our mouths are. But we can only get by with a little help from our friends, the officials we choose to serve us. When they convene, that's governance.

— Lawrence Christon,
Downey

Roybal-Allard opposes boycott

On July 2, Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard, Xavier Becerra, Rep. Grace Napolitano and Rep. Linda Sánchez issued the following statement in response to calls from the Mexican American Political Association urging immigrants to boycott the 2010 Census:

"As Members of Congress from California, we have been working for years to ensure that the Census 2010 provides a fair and equal count of all our communities. Without an accurate portrait of our state, we cannot address the needs of our diverse population. A boycott would be a significant step backward in the progress we have made to make sure Latinos, and indeed, all minorities, are treated equally. To not be counted would disenfranchise our communities and jeopardize vital resources, including federal funding for schools, health care, job training and infrastructure, all of which are critical to the growing Latino population in California.

"While immigration reform is a very important issue that we support and must be addressed, the long-term consequences of not being counted would have an impact in the lives of our families throughout the next decade. President Obama has put his weight behind comprehensive immigration reform, and we must continue working together to accomplish this goal. In the meantime, we encourage every community to be counted in the 2010 Census."

Congress needs to embrace transparency

By Lee Hamilton

The word "transparency" has been much in vogue on Capitol Hill lately. The stimulus package contained unprecedented requirements for tracking where and how federal dollars are spent. Some members of Congress have openly been pushing the National Security Agency to account for its surveillance of U.S. citizens' e-mails. President Obama's plans for revamping financial regulation have brought renewed calls for greater openness on the part of the Federal Reserve, one of the most habitually opaque institutions in Washington.

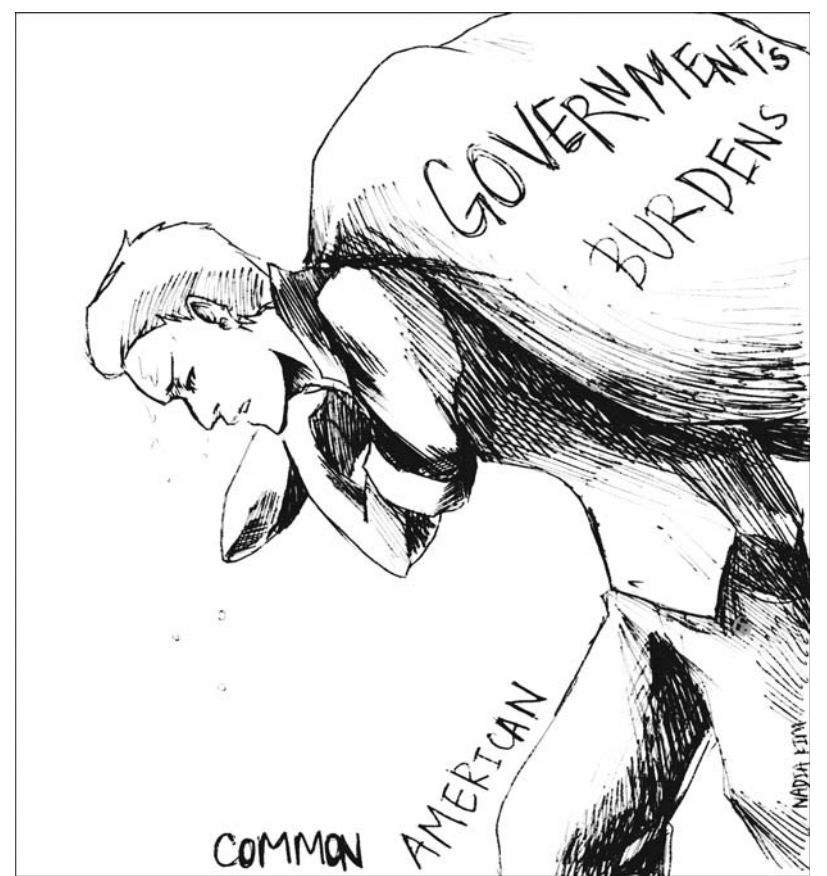
These are refreshing developments. A big part of Congress' role in our democracy is to ensure that the executive branch carries out its responsibilities to the American people in plain sight — or, at least, as openly as the demands of national security permit.

The presumption in a free society is that government will operate in the light of day, allowing its actions to be gauged and assessed, and its decision-makers to be held accountable to the American people. There are limits, of course, especially when it comes to national security, but secrecy is too often used as an excuse to cloak positions that politicians don't want to reveal, or mistakes that bureaucrats would rather cover up, or simply to avoid accountability for actions that wouldn't stand up to public scrutiny. I don't mean to suggest that transparency is always called for, but the institutions of our government function better when they do so visibly, rather than in the shadows.

This goes especially for Congress. On the whole, it has a better record of openness than the executive branch, but it's "the people's branch" — it ought to do better. Over the last few decades it has made some significant strides on this score: putting television cameras in the House and Senate chambers and in committee hearings; requiring recorded votes both on the floor and in committee; opening up conference committees; moving — at least in the House of Representatives — to make campaign filings more easily available, and requiring more information from lobbyists.

All of this makes legislators more accountable to the people who elect them and more accessible to the various stakeholders who will be affected by legislation.

Yet openness in Congress is a work in progress, not a done deal. Increasingly, for instance, important legislation is being put together by



Prefers ownership housing downtown

Dear Editor:

Some months ago, we were called on to congratulate our city officials for acquiring the former Verizon building on Downey Avenue and 2nd Street and the old Avenue Theatre property on Downey Avenue, thus "rescuing" these prime sites in the core of our downtown from developers over whom we would not have any control on what they may put on these sites.

Now we read that a subcommittee of our City Council is seriously considering and have in fact given the go-ahead to negotiations to turn these properties over to a developer who would build high-density "affordable" rental housing on these sites. ("Officials Mull Housing Options Downtown," 7/10/09)

The funds used to purchase these properties obligate the city to turn these properties into "affordable housing". Alternately, housing units which do not meet the criteria of "affordable housing" (low rents), would need to be subsidized with city funds.

The issue is not whether Downey needs affordable housing, perhaps it does. Nor is there concern over the architectural appearance of what is now under consideration. The buildings will meet the architectural aesthetic of the ultimate approving authority. But is the core of the city's downtown, the area in which the city has been spending money for more than 10 years to revitalize and attract upscale businesses and restaurants, the place to put high density affordable housing?

The answer could be yes, if the area were already revitalized, vibrant with high value activities and there were no other areas to accommodate the proposed affordable rental housing. But the idea of putting "affordable rental housing" as the primer to jump start the upscale revitalizing of the core of the downtown area does not appear sensible. This is especially puzzling since the city has been discouraging "rental" development while encouraging upscale owner-occupied housing developments in any part of the city, as does the City General Plan.

Perhaps the city will find its way out of this predicament and find the way to put high value owner-occupied mixed-use projects to standards which would attract further high value development in the core of the downtown area. That would make more sense. High value, owner-occupied housing would tend to attract occupants with the economic strength and permanence to support high value activities and development in the immediate area, and would tend to advance the goal of revitalizing Downey's downtown area, the expressed goal of the many City Councils which has eluded us up to now.

Let's hope the residents of the city get to have their say before we start down the path of creating a ghetto downtown by design. The City Council should think about scheduling some well publicized hearings to give the opportunity to the residents — they are the stakeholders — to have input in an important public policy issue which the development of the downtown is. And do so before agreements are entered into with National Core from which it would be difficult to disengage.

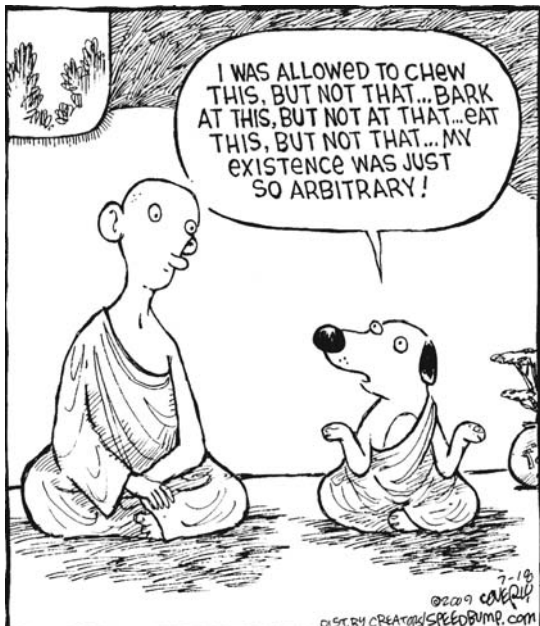
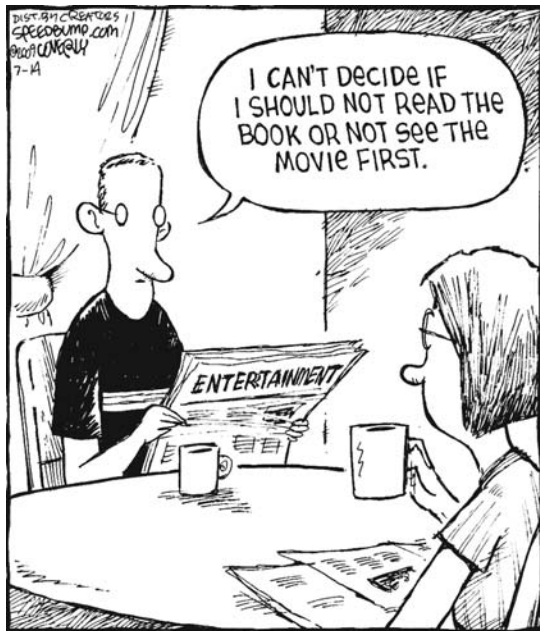
— Harold Tsklenis,
Downey

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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For July

- Tues. July 21: **Kritters the Clown**, Temple Ner Tamid, 10 a.m.
- Wed. July 22: **Author discussion**, Downey City Library, 7 p.m.
- Wed. July 22: **Mariachi Divas**, Furman Park, 7 p.m.
- Thurs. July 23: **Blood drive**, Temple Ner Tamid, 2 p.m.

City Meetings

- 1st Tuesdays, 6:30 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.
- 3rd Thursday, 3:30 p.m.: **Parking Place Commission**, Second Floor Training Room at City Hall

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

- 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.
- 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 Pat Rooney at 923-5352.
- 9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.
- 12 p.m.: **Rotary Club**, at Rio Hondo, for information call Brian Saylor at 927-2000.
- 6:00 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call John McAllister 869-0928.
- 7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
- 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Cafe 'N Stuff, for information call (562) 927-6438.
- 2nd Tues., 6 p.m.: **Downey Fly Fishers**, at Apollo Park, for information call 425-7936.
- 3rd Tues., 6:30 p.m.: **Community Emergency Response Team meeting**, Fire station 1, 12222 Paramount.
- 3rd Tues., 7:30 p.m.: **Writer's Workshop West**, at at Downey High School library, for info call 862-3106.

Wednesdays

- 7 a.m.: **Kiwanis Club**, at Rio Hondo Events Center. Call Steve Roberson at 927-2626.
- 1 p.m.: **Women's Bocce Club**, at Apollo Park.
- 7 p.m.: **Out Post 132 Royal Rangers**, at Desert Reign Church, for info call 928-8000.
- 1st Weds., 10 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Barbara Briley-Bear 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.
- 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
- 2nd & 4th Weds., 11:30 a.m.: **Downey AARP**, at Barbara J. Riley Senior Center, for info. call Lorene Frazier 861-6075.
- 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club** Apollo Park, for info. call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
- 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.
- 4th Weds., 6:00 p.m.: **Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting**, Fire station 1, 12222 Paramount.
- Wed. & Fri., 10:15 a.m.: **Senior Bingo**, at Apollo Park, for information call 904-7223.

Thursdays

- 7:30 a.m.: **Connections Networking**, at Cafe N Stuff, for information, call Sandy Esslinger, (310) 491-8989.
- 7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Pat Heineke, 904-3534.
- 12 p.m.: **Kiwanis Club of Downey**, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
- 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.

Saturdays

- 9 a.m.: **Farmers Market**, Second Street at New Avenue, for information call (562) 904-7246.

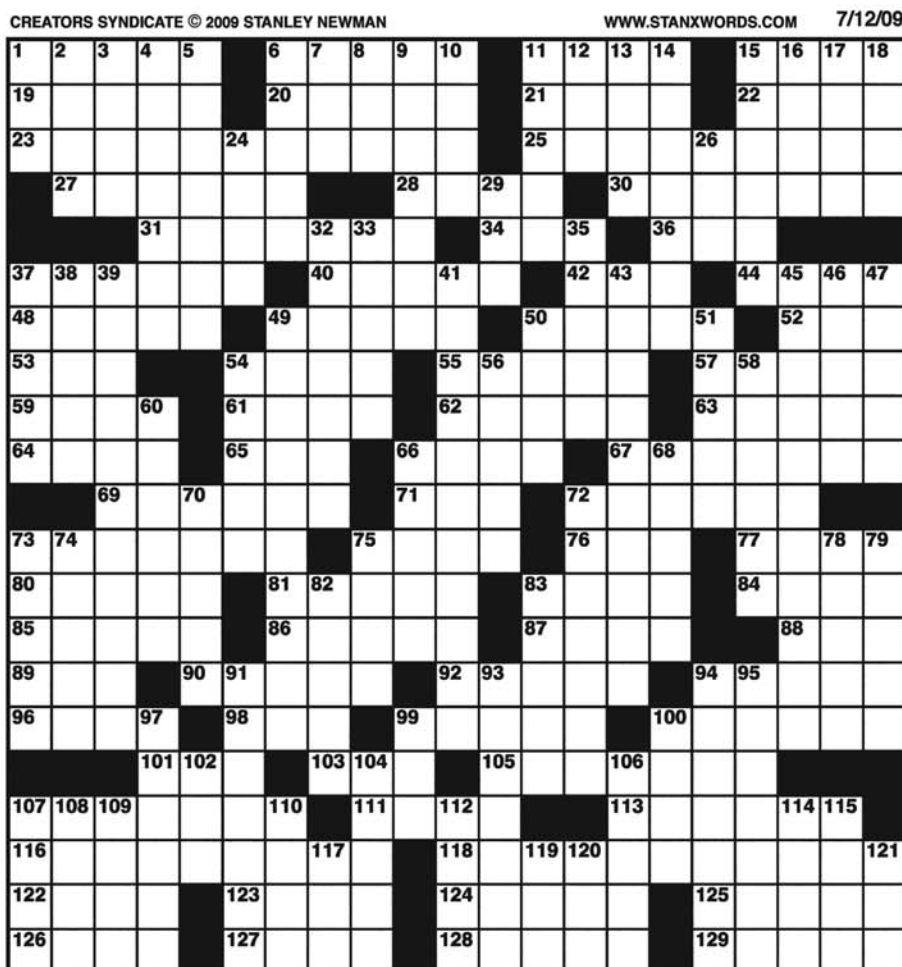
On This Day...

- July 17, 1762:** Catherine II becomes the tsar of Russia after the murder of Peter III.
- 1815:** Napoleon surrenders in France to British forces ending the Napoleonic Wars.
- 1955:** Disneyland televises its grand opening in Anaheim, California.
- 1976:** During the opening of the Summer Olympics in Montreal 25 African teams boycott the New Zealand team.
- 1979:** The Nicaraguan president General Anastasio Somoza Debayle resigns and flees to Miami, Florida.
- 1989:** First flight of the B-2 Spirit Stealth Bomber.
- Birthdays:** Hockey player Ryan Miller (29), actor Mike Vogel (30), football player Eric Moulds (36).

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
JUST FOR LAUGHS: As seen in nine clues
 by Fred Piscop

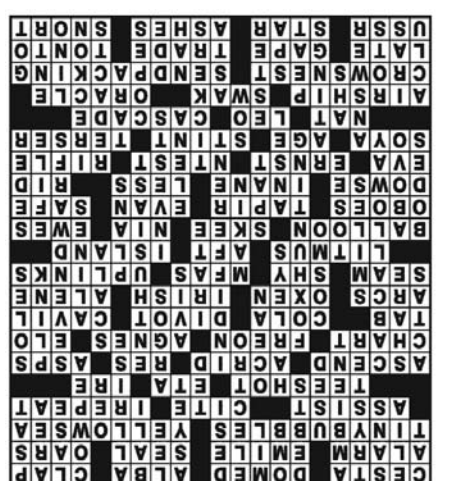
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| 1 Jal alai basket | 73 Party decoration | 5 Environmental |
| 6 Like many stadiums | 75 ___Ball (arcade game) | 6 "Outstanding" things |
| 11 Jessica of <i>Fantastic Four</i> | 76 Long or Peeples | 7 Govt. fiscal agcy. |
| 15 Show appreciation | 77 Female grazers | 8 A thousand thou |
| 19 Frighten | 80 Part of the reed section | 9 Foe of Spider-Man |
| 20 Novelist Zola | 81 Rhino relative | 10 <i>I Love Lucy</i> name |
| 21 Close tightly | 83 ___Picone (fashion label) | 11 To this point |
| 22 Dinghy pair | 84 Home free | 12 Washington and ___ University |
| 23 Don Ho tune | 85 Seek water, in a way | 13 Island near Java |
| 25 Hwang Ho River's terminus | 86 Ridiculous | 14 Court order |
| 27 Lend a hand | 87 Reduced by | 15 Black-eyed legume |
| 28 Use as a reference | 88 Free (of) | 16 Emit coherent light |
| 30 "Once more..." | 89 Stowe girl | 17 Field of expertise |
| 31 Initial driver | 90 Surrealist Max | 18 Jr.'s test |
| 34 Iota preceder | 92 SALT concern | 24 Played for a sap |
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| 63 Coeur d'___, Idaho | 125 Kemo Sabe's pal | 54 <i>Seinfeld</i> character |
| 64 Coal layer | 126 UN member until 1991 | 56 Really steamed |
| 65 Timid | 127 Grade schooler's reward | 58 Flared dresses |
| 66 Curators' degs. | 128 Hibachi residue | 59 Shows approval |
| 67 Earth-to-satellite transmissions | 129 Sound of disdain | 66 "___ Whoopee!" |
| 69 It turns red in acid | | 79 Passover feast |
| 71 Toward the rear | | 82 Photographer Adams |
| | | 83 Tennis pro Dementieva |



- | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 70 Plain ___ (obvious) | 91 Sweeps Week concern | 107 Scopes Trial org. |
| 72 Opens 108 Down, perhaps | 93 Hearts, slangily | 108 Some nest eggs |
| 73 Foretells | 94 Edits | 109 Goes to seed |
| 74 From day one | 95 "Perhaps so" | 110 Mulching material |
| 75 Minor quarrel | 97 Test-paper fill-in | 112 Whodunit pooch |
| 78 Submit returns via the Net | 99 Female badger | 114 Prefix for type |
| 79 Passover feast | 100 Scarlett's home | 115 ___acte |
| 82 Photographer Adams | 102 Satisfied sounds | 117 Massage offerer |
| 83 Tennis pro Dementieva | 104 Perfumery compound | 119 "I don't think so" |
| | 106 Manages somehow | 120 HST successor |
| | | 121 Understood |

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.

The Huang Ho (25 Across), or river in China, after the Yangtze. The EVAN in the fashion label Evan-Picone (83 Across) was Charles Evans, brother of Holly-wood producer Robert Evans. The biathlon (94 Across) involves RIFLE shooting while cross-country skiing.



Beach's Market retains popularity within film industry

BY STEPHANIE COBAU,
DOWNEY PATRIOT INTERN

DOWNEY – Due to its recent appearance in a new Trident gum commercial, Beach's Market has once again become a popular venue for filming within the Downey community.

Located at 7900 Imperial Hwy, the market has been the site for many productions over the years, including "Christmas with the Kranks" and the upcoming Adam Sandler movie, "Born to be a Star." The market has also appeared previously in a Mountain Dew commercial and filming for a Dunkin' Donuts commercial took place on July 9.

Beach's staff believes that the market, built in 1967, may be experiencing increased popularity as a filming site because of its 70's

aura. Ron Beach, the store manager, comments, "Our store is popular because of its retro look and the fact that we are easy to work with."

Beach also explains that Beach's Market is unique because it is not a typical high volume store that would be prohibitively expensive to close for a day of filming.

Beach's employee Lizette Izaquarre believes that there are other reasons for the store's popularity, stating, "The large parking lot allows large groups to come film and move around easily."

Beach elaborated when he comments, "The film 'Christmas with the Kranks,' which was filmed for the most part in the Downey Studios, called for a relatively close location to the filming site. I feel that our market appeared to be the logical location under the circumstances."

Although the market's close proximity to Downey Studios and other L.A. filming locations makes it popular, it falls within the "30-mile zone", which marks a range of land in which staff and labor is relatively inexpensive.

"In filming everything comes down to money and time," said Carson Turner, a Southern California scout manager and 2007 manager of the year. "The Beach's Market, which falls within the 30-mile zone, has been able to accommodate our needs and is not the typical corporation that requires excessive paper work in order to film."

As Turner puts it, Beach's Market creates a "film friendly" environment where roughly 60-70 crewmembers can go out for a day and film without issue. Turner explains that the Beach's Market

employees help the film crew rearrange the store to their satisfaction without any complaints. Having used the venue numerous times in the past, he plans to continue using the site because of its prime location and courteous staff. When asked about how the ongoing media attention has affected the store, Beach explains, "The Beach's Market's continuous success can be attributed to the name recognition and the community's interest in seeing the location where a movie or commercial was filmed." Beach points out that the current Trident commercial, which depicts a rocket ship launch outside the store, features the store's name in the clip.

The new Trident commercial can be viewed on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=PUQ5JIRJEVs.

New Titles at the Downey City Library

Fiction

- **"The Dark Horse"** by Craig Johnson. Wyoming sheriff Walt Longmire has his doubts about Mary Barsad's guilt when she confesses to shooting her husband, Wade, after he allegedly burned down their barn with all Mary's horses inside.
- **"Far North"** by Marcel Theroux. On the far northern border of a failed state, Makepeace—sheriff and perhaps the last citizen—patrols the city ruins, salvaging books but keeping the guns in good repair.
- **"The Neighbor"** by Lisa Gardner. A young mother disappears without a trace from her South Boston home, leaving behind her four year old daughter as the only witness and her handsome, secretive husband as the prime suspect.
- **"Sacred Hearts"** by Sara Dunant. In 1570, those expecting serenity and contemplation are in for a surprise at the Benedictine convent of Saint Caterina with the arrival of 16 year old Serafina.
- **"The Story Sisters"** by Alice Hoffman. Ely, Claire and Meg are the Story sisters and each has a fate she must face alone: one on a country road, one in the streets of Paris and one in the corridors of her own imagination.

Non-Fiction

- **"Cooperstown Confidential: Heroes, Rogues and the Inside Story of the Baseball Hall of Fame"** by Zev Chavets. With a passion for baseball and the eye of a social critic, the author explores the history, politics and players inducted into the Hall of Fame.
- **"Promises I Made My Mother"** by Sam Haskell. Even in the shark-infested waters of Hollywood, a Beverly Hills talent agent tells how he has lived life true to his mother's values of character, faith and honor.
- **"Singing Was the Easy Part"** by Vic Damone. The singer looks back at his life and career, including a Depression-era Brooklyn boyhood, his climb up the pop charts and his days with the Rat Pack.
- **"Stop the Investing Rip-off: How to Avoid Being a Victim and Make More Money"** by David Loeper. The author shows how to avoid needless risk and ask important questions when dealing with the financial services industry.
- **"You Want Fries with That?: A White-Collar Burnout Experiences Life at Minimum Wage"** by Prioleau Alexander. An advertizing executive quits his lucrative career but finds the grass is not always greener when he spends a year doing jobs such as pizza delivery man, ice cream scooper, construction worker, ER technician and cowboy.

Visit www.downeylibrary.org and click on "New and Notable Books" to browse more titles

Seafood mislabeling: fishy business

BY JUDE ISABELLA

When you order red snapper in a restaurant, how do you know you're eating red snapper? You don't. In fact, about three-quarters of all "red snappers" sold in the United States are mislabeled – it's probably the most mislabeled fish in the country. And mislabeling fish, any fish, is bad for two reasons – your wallet and the ocean environment.

Let's first talk about the hit to your wallet. In one 2008 study on market substitution in North American seafood, scientists decoded the DNA of nine red snappers (*Lutjanus campechanus*) bought in New York City, and they found that just two of the samples were labeled correctly. The seven mislabeled fish were five different marine species. Two were "Acadian redfish" (*Sebastes fasciatus*). At the time of the study, the Acadian redfish went for \$0.72 per pound, while red snapper sold for \$2.93 per pound. Ouch.

Google "mislabeled fish" and you'll come up with scores of similar examples. If you eat fish, chances are you're getting dinged. And, in terms of the future of fish stocks, your kids and grandkids are getting dinged.

As recently as a month ago, the *Toronto Star* newspaper in Ontario, Canada collected sushi samples from city restaurants and genetically tested them. Ten of 12 samples labeled red snapper were actually tilapia. Red snapper is five times the price of tilapia. The two species are unrelated.

Tilapia is a common actor in the fish substitution game because it is plentiful and currently easy to come by – 73 percent of the tilapia consumed by humans is farmed. In fact, it's an old aquaculture standard; the Egyptians cultured it

more than 3,000 years ago. Tilapia is so versatile, it's poised to take over from Alaskan pollock, the preferred fish in fish sticks and other fast food.

What's wrong with that? We're creating an illusion of fish abundance.

For example, Alaskan pollock populations – generally a well-managed fishery – have declined recently (although that could be a cyclical event). Still, no one wants pollock to go the way of the Atlantic cod, once the most popular fish in the Western world and a fishery that has collapsed from decades of over fishing. While substituting tilapia for Alaskan pollock might give pollock some breathing space, the problem with mislabeling – not calling a tilapia a tilapia, a pollock a pollock – is that it paints the wrong picture of what's happening to the oceans, and gives people a false sense of security about how many fish are left for us to catch and eat.

Mislabeled masks the magnitude of the decline of ocean fisheries. Red snapper, for example, is so overfished, we could be the last generation to eat it. But there is no way you or I could know that – or act to save the species – if we regularly see red snapper on the menu.

Mislabeled fish means you're getting ripped off and that we're ripping off future generations. To protect your wallet and the diet of our children every government needs the same kind of ambitious plan unveiled in the Netherlands in 2006.

By 2011, all wild-caught fish and seafood at every food retail chain in the Netherlands will come

from sustainable fisheries, and be certified by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC), a British-based organization that tracks fish from boat to table. That means 4,500 outlets in the Netherlands will offer their 16 million consumers the possibility of an ethical and informed choice.

Yes, both the United States and Canada have programs like Seafood Watch to raise consumer awareness about how our culinary choices can impact fisheries. The programs, however, depend on consumers voluntarily making the right decision. And who can make the right decision when seafood providers are playing a fishy shell game?

There is just no way to know whether the fish we are eating is what we think we are eating, unless every fishery is certified in a regulated MSC-like process. Anything can be mislabeled on purpose and there's no indication this will stop. When the Toronto restaurateurs were confronted with the genetic findings, their reply? "Everyone does it."

And of course, everyone will continue to do it, until the public becomes better informed about, and outraged by, the fishy sleight of hand going on in the seafood industry.

Jude Isabella is a science writer and managing editor of YES Mag, the Science Magazine for Adventurous Minds. She lives in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. © 2009 Blue Ridge Press

Commerce Casino opens racebook

COMMERCE – Commerce Casino will unveil its new racebook this Wednesday, just in time for a new season of horseracing at Del Mar.

Commerce will become the first card casino in the Southern California region to offer off-track wagering as a mini-satellite facility.

The casino's new racebook will feature eight self-serve kiosk machines equipped to sell and cash tickets. A pari-mutuel clerk will also be present.

The racebook, located in the southern part of the casino near the buffet, has 15 television screens showing races from around the nation.

The Legislature authorized 45 additional mini-satellite wagering sites statewide in 2007. Commerce Casino applied for a license and its application was approved in May.

Commerce Casino is located at 6131 E. Telegraph Rd., off the 5 Freeway at the Washington Blvd. exit.

The racing season at Del Mar continues until Sept. 9.

The future of Hollywood Park is less clear as the Inglewood City Council recently approved a plan seeking to replace the track with a mixed-use development.

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★ **BRUNO** R: Fri to Mon (10:10, 12:30, 2:55, 5:15), 7:40, 10:05; Tue (10:10, 2:55, 5:15), 7:40, 10:05; **Wed & Thu.** (10:10, 12:30, 2:55, 5:15), 7:40, 10:05
★ **ICE AGE: DAWN OF THE DINOSAURS** 3D PG: (9:55, 11:00, 12:10, 1:25, 2:25, 4:00), 6:30, 9:00
PUBLIC ENEMIES R (10:00, 1:00, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30)
TRANSFORMERS: REVENGE OF THE FALLEN PG-13: Fri to Mon (12:20, 3:40), 7:00, 10:20; Tue (3:40), 7:00, 10:20; **Wed & Thu.** (12:20, 3:40), 7:00, 10:20
THE PROPOSAL PG-13: (10:50, 1:35, 4:15), 7:05, 9:50
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The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 has made significant changes to the energy efficiency tax credits and gives homeowners greater credits on energy efficient home improvements. For a limited time only, the Federal Government is offering up to a \$1,500.00 Tax Credit and your local utility companies are offering up to **\$200.00 in CASH REBATES** when you invest in a new energy saving air conditioning system or furnace. Now, including rebates, discounts, tax credits etc., your total savings can be as much as **\$3,000.00!**

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NOTICE OF HEARING ON VERIFIED PETITION TO ESTABLISH A NEWSPAPER AS A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION

(California Government Code §§ 6000, 6020)
Case No. VS019238
Superior Court of the State of California,
County of Los Angeles

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF JENNIFER DEKAY-GIVENS TO HAVE THE STANDING OF THE DOWNEY PATRIOT AS A NEWSPAPER OF GENERAL CIRCULATION ASCERTAINED AND ESTABLISHED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that on July 29, 2009 at 8:30 a.m., or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard in Department C of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, located at 12720 Norwalk Boulevard, California 90650, Petitioner intends to apply for an order, pursuant to California Government Code § 6000 declaring The Downey Patriot to be a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles, California.

The Petitioner sets forth the following:

Petitioner Jennifer DeKay-Givens respectfully alleges and verifies that:

1. She is the Publisher of The Downey Patriot, a newspaper whose principal office of publication is located at 8301 E. Florence Avenue, Suite 100, Downey, California 90240. The newspaper was established under the name "The Downey Patriot" on May 3, 2002, and has been printed and published under that name on a weekly basis since then. The Downey Patriot currently is published each Friday morning in the County of Los Angeles, State of California.

2. The Downey Patriot is published for the dissemination of local and telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. The Downey Patriot covers news stories and other items of interest to the local community. For example, The Downey Patriot's regularly featured content includes, among other things: News, Dining & Entertainment, Health & Wellness, Sports, Opinion, Letters to the Editor, Obituaries, and Events. In addition to these regular features, The Downey Patriot also provides in-depth cover and feature articles. This local and/or telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character consistently has comprised well over 25% of The Downey Patriot's total inches during the one year period preceding the date of this Petition.

3. The Downey Patriot has a bona fide list of 185 paying subscribers. That is, The Downey Patriot has a real, actual, genuine subscription list containing only the names of those 185 persons and entities that are in good faith paying regularly for subscriptions. The Downey Patriot enjoys a diverse subscriber base. In addition to individual subscribers, several local businesses have purchased annual subscriptions. The Downey Patriot's annual subscription fee for home delivery is \$20.00, and its annual subscription for mail delivery is \$72.00.

4. For at least one year preceding the filing of this Petition, the mechanical work of producing The Downey Patriot, that is, the work of typesetting and impressing type on paper, has been performed in the County of Los Angeles, State of California. Specifically, since August 10, 2007, copies of The Downey Patriot have been printed by Southwest Offset Printing Company ("Southwest"), located at 13630 Gramercy Place, Gardena, California 90249. The Downey Patriot currently is distributed to the public from Southwest's office. The Downey Patriot, therefore, has been issued from the same County and State where it is printed and published, has been both printed and published in the same County and State, and has been published weekly since August 10, 2007.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner now prays for a judgment ascertaining and establishing The Downey Patriot as a newspaper of general circulation in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, pursuant to California Government Code §§ 6000 and 6020.

Dated: June 26, 2009
Karen A. Henry, Esq.
Davis Wright Tremaine LLP
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Amer-I-Can: Students learn life skills.

Continued from page 1

class is the second pilot Amer-I-Can class at Warren held in the spring. He also said a similar spring class was held at Columbus High.

On this particular afternoon there were 13 girls and six boys in attendance, seated in a circle with intense Julian Mendoza, the 18-year Amer-I-Can facilitator working out of Stonewood, and Zegarra at what would normally be the top of the circle, which was close to the blackboard. The circular arrangement presumably promotes a less formal, more free-wheeling atmosphere than the usual classroom seating arrangement.

The text used is a professional-looking 15-chapter plastic-bound manual referred to as Amer-I-Can's "Life Management Skills/Self-Improvement Training Program," with chapters addressing nine "critical" areas: motivation, habits, and attitudes; goal-setting; effective communication; problem-solving, decision-making; emotional control; family relationships; job search/retention; financial stability; drug & alcohol abuse. I only had so much time perusing the manual because I wanted to catch the "conversation" going on between the students and the discourse leaders. But the above topic structure can be easily surmised as similar to other programs offered by a number of professional (and thriving) 'success' gurus.

The topics subjected to discussion in this particular segment, at least the ones I remember, included: "The self-fulfilling prophecy," "Courage and determination," "Success fills our entire life," and

"Having a dream/having a goal."

Every single participant would read a paragraph, and facilitator Mendoza would invite a comment or related question from the floor. Or he would ask if everybody understood what a particular word or phrase or sentence meant. The "let-your-hair-down" proceedings provided some interesting responses and reactions.

At any rate, if the intent of the program is to encourage inhibition-free outpourings of participants' thoughts and feelings, and I suspect it is, then the class cannot miss: the participants are on their way to learning concepts, values, and practical steps towards self-determination through honest, realizable self-analysis and the formation of attainable goals. The kids are picking up valuable life lessons towards self-esteem and self-actualization. All this—while earning class credit, and spending the summer in a worthwhile pursuit.

The program is in stark contrast to a 10-20 class, for instance, or a juvenile delinquency or truancy program—where crime prevention or crime intervention or suppression is directly addressed. The Amer-I-Can Program addresses the development of the whole person—similar to the Character Counts program, or any of the many success-themed programs around, differing only in target audiences and other such details.

We are all for this, though—never mind the repetitions, the overlappings of themes and messages, and so on: we encourage programs such as Amer-I-Can. The themes and messages they promulgate bear repeating, anyway.

Free golf clinic offered

DOWNEY – John Marshall, a two-time super senior national long-drive champion, will give a free clinic Aug. 8 at Los Amigos Country Club.

Golfers looking to increase their distance off the tee can benefit from the clinic.

Marshall will explain the fundamentals of power golf and demonstrate them as well.

Marshall was a finalist at the Re/Max World Long Drive Championship from 2004-07. He

won the American Long Drivers Association national championship in both 2005 and 2006.

After the clinic, Marshall will be joined by Bob Cisco and Dr. Alfred Garbutt for an "Effortless Power Workshop" from noon to 3 p.m. The cost of the workshop is \$197.

The long drive clinic is free and begins at 11 a.m. For more information on the workshop, call (323) 255-3935 or visit www.allaboutgolf.us.

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SEAACA on alert for pets left in cars

DOWNEY – Officials from the Southeast Area Animal Control Authority (SEAACA) are asking local residents to consider the risks when traveling with pets this summer.

Last summer, SEAACA emergency dispatchers received an average of 14 calls each month for distressed animals locked inside hot vehicles, officials said.

An adult rottweiler died in Norwalk last summer when its owner forgot to take her out of the car, said Capt. Aaron Reyes, director of operations for SEAACA. When the owner finally returned to the car an hour later, the dog was in shock. The rottweiler died of heat stroke.

"The owners were remorseful and loved their dog – it was so sad to see the pain they felt, but also the pain they caused their Rottie, who had been a part of their family for 10 years," Reyes said.

Another family left their Yorkshire terrier in the car while they ate breakfast at a Montebello restaurant. When SEAACA officials arrived the temperature inside the car was measured at 110 degrees.

The dog was panting heavily and the family ran outside when they saw animal control officers preparing to enter the vehicle.

"They, too, clearly loved their dog, but did not see the danger in leaving the dog in the car while

they ate breakfast," Reyes said.

The terrier survived, and was returned to its owners after a "stern warning" and cursory examination. Also last summer, a Northern California family left their terrier inside the car as they visited Knott's Berry Farm. Passer-bys noticed the dog panting and called SEAACA officers, who arrived in 10 minutes.

As officers surveyed the situation, the family's teenage son returned to the car to check on the dog. The parents were called and the terrier was saved.

The dog was slightly overheated and was "clearly beginning to panic inside the vehicle," Reyes said. The family was offered

"humane education" before given possession of their pet. The vacationing family was warned not to leave the dog inside the vehicle as they left for their next stop, a San Diego theme park.

"Laws are in place to protect the animals from our negligence as pet owners," Reyes said.

Reyes said SEAACA officers will impound animals left in hot vehicles. Arrests will be made if the animal shows sign of distress, he added.

Negligent pet owners could face fines and jail time, Reyes warned.

Anyone who spots an animal left inside a vehicle is asked to call SEAACA at (562) 803-3301 or 911 in urgent cases.

Group will attempt to break jump rope record

By SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

Next year, the California Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance in conjunction with the American Heart Association and California Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports will attempt to break a Guinness Book of World Records milestone by getting 80,000 people to simultaneously jump rope in California.

The campaign is titled "Jumping Over the Record from Down Under" because the record is currently held

by Australia which had 59,000 people set the current record.

According to CAHPERD President-Elect Dan Latham, a coach at Warren High School, they plan on breaking the record next year on Feb. 1 by having representatives from the Guinness Book of World Records witness the activity.

Latham also said they are planning on having webcams throughout the locations through California to broadcast the event live on the Internet.

Currently, CAHPERD is targeting all public schools and private schools in the state, universities, and

anyone who hears about the event that is interested in being part of a world record.

Local celebrities and high profile personalities are currently being asked to join in on the event, according to Latham.

While jumping rope to break a world record is one goal, another is the annual "Jump Rope for Heart" campaign that is done annually by the American Heart Association (AHA) to provide volunteers with the curriculum, training, and tools to engage children and adults in jumping rope for fitness.

CAHPERD is currently asking all

of those who are interested in participating to donate \$1. The money goes to the AHA to raise funds for heart health and research. You can visit CAHPERD's website at www.cahperd.org and register yourself for the attempt at breaking the record.

The mass event will be held in various locations throughout California including schools, colleges, the California State Capitol grounds, and other areas. In order to verify this to be a world record breaking event, the AHA and California Governor's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports will be verifying the attempt.

RV owners warned of sewage effects

RV owners enjoying the great outdoors this summer are being reminded by county officials to properly dispose of sewage waste at permitted sewage disposal facilities.

Sewage waste is harmful to the environment when it enters local waterways, officials said, and it is illegal to dump sewage into a street gutter.

Dumping sewage on the ground may also contaminate groundwater supply, officials from the county's public works department said.

Officials recommended that RV owners call designated sewage disposal sites and get information on fees and disposal times.

Public works officials also offered the following tips to prevent

stormwater pollution:

- Do not put anything in street gutters and catch basins but rainwater.

- Put trash in its place. Recycle bottles and cans and never drop cigarette butts or other litter on the ground. Street gutters filled with trash and green waste increase neighborhood pollution and clog storm drains, causing street flooding, as well as health and safety issues for residents.

- Pick up after your pet. Pet waste left on the ground can wash into storm drains and contaminates beaches and other bodies of water. Proper disposal of pet waste also helps protect pets and humans from disease. Improper pet waste disposal is against the law and pet owners


who disregard the county ordinance may be fined.

- Use a car litter bag. Keep a car litter bag in your car to collect trash.


Throw the litter bag in a trash can to help keep litter off the streets.

- Be smart when you apply pesticides or fertilizers. Do not apply pesticides or fertilizers before it rains and do not over-water after application. Always read the label and apply only the amount recommended.

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City Council scores with AYSO

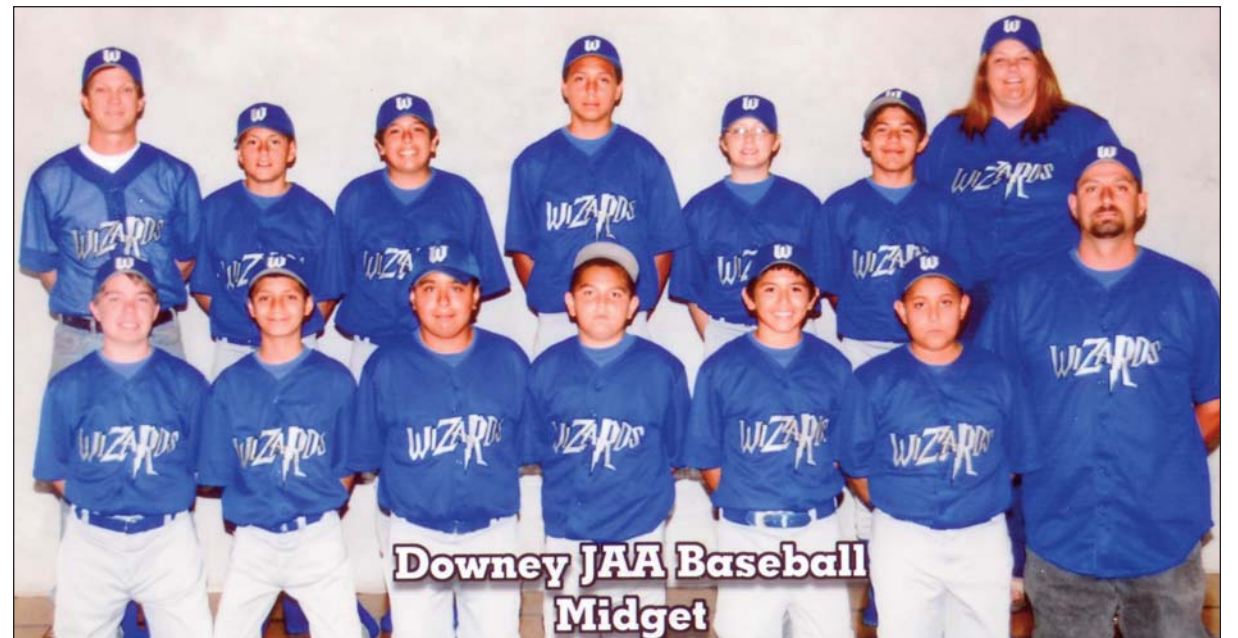
DOWNEY – Downey City Council members were seen scoring a goal with the Downey AYSO Region 24 last weekend.

Every council member had the chance to take a penalty kick into a goal with the young soccer players, and AYSO teams got to participate in some scrimmages during the day.


The fall season for Downey AYSO will start on Aug. 29. The Under 19 and Under 16 boys and girls will begin play on Aug. 15. – *Scott Cobos, Staff Writer*



The Downey Ponytail 10U Gold team placed seventh out of 32 teams in the ASA "B" State Tournament held in Lancaster last weekend. The team qualified for the ASA "B" Nationals to be held in Salem, Ore. beginning July 26. Bottom row, from left: Samantha Rocha, Sarah Brasher, Celeste Hernandez, Chelsea Lopez, Jocelyn Hernandez and Sierra Rodriguez. Middle row: Ana Collier, Erika Esprio, Karen Roman, Andrea Gonzalez, Joeline Garcia and Nicole Gutierrez. Top row: Head Coach Chris Hernandez, Assistant Coach Alfredo Rocha, Manager Kim Gutierrez and Assistant Coach Ruben Gutierrez.



After a successful season the Wizards have been named 2009 DJAA champions in the Midget Division. Back row, left to right: Coach Jim Barger, Angel Gonzalez, Mathew Gamboa, Angel Medina, Dean New, Johnathan Williford and Michelle New. Front row: Nick Barger, Nacho Acevedo, Ruben Romero, Isaac Perez, Gabriel Garcia, Ernie Ruiz and Coach Tony Gonzalez.



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