

The Downey Patriot



Food critic to speak here
See Page 2



Inspiring women honored
See Page 9



Lacrosse holds its own
See Page 8

Friday, March 19, 2010

Vol. 8 No. 48

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



Vasquez sets sight on Council

BY ERIC PIERCE,
CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – Fernando Vasquez, a Downey planning commissioner who contemplated a run at City Council last year before eventually deciding against it, has announced his candidacy for the council's District 4 (northeast) seat.

Mayor Anne Bayer will be termed out of office in November.

"I am proud to call Downey home and I love the benefits of a big city with the values of a small-town feel," Vasquez said in a news release. "As a homeowner, I want to ensure Downey continues to be a great place to live and raise a family."

Vasquez took out papers for the District 5 (city-wide) seat last year but never filed them. Luis Marquez went on to win the election.

Marquez appointed Vasquez to the city's Planning Commission two months later.

"I was very serious about my run in 2008, but work obligations and irregular working hours precluded me from doing so at that time. Fortunately, that is not the case today and I am in this race 100%," said Vasquez, a community development manager with non-profit developer National Core.

"My vision for Downey is to preserve the best of Downey's past and lead it into a brighter future," he added.

Attorney Alex Saab has also announced intentions to run for the City Council District 4 seat. Candidates can begin pulling paperwork July 12.

Vasquez said his priorities for Downey will be public safety, promoting quality economic development, investment in our youth and neighborhood preservation.

"We must continue to support our families, children and seniors by having clean and safe parks that provide recreational programs," he said.

Vasquez graduated from UC Riverside with a bachelor's degree and earned his master's degree in City Planning from San Diego State University.

Both Vasquez and Saab are fluent in English and Spanish.

Vasquez is a board member for Downey Kiwanis and is advisor to Downey High School's Key Club.

Several community leaders have registered their support for Vasquez, including three City Council members (Marquez, Mario Guerra and Roger Brossmer), former council members Kirk Cartozian and Meredith Perkins, school board members Barbara Samperi, Martha Soretani and Nancy Swenson, and Chamber of Commerce officials Mike Murray and Rick Rodriguez.

"I'm proud and honored to announce my candidacy for Downey City Council and I look forward to serving our community in a greater capacity," Vasquez said.

To reach the Vasquez campaign, call (562) 261-7601 or e-mail vasquez4downeycc@gmail.com.

Tesla Motors seeks 51 acres

■ Planning Commission OKs request to subdivide land. Studios likely to close.

BY ERIC PIERCE,
CITY EDITOR

DOWNEY – If Tesla Motors can reach agreement on a lease deal, the electric vehicle manufacturer plans to lease 51 acres at the former NASA property, "more than likely" spelling the end of Downey Studios, according to a city of Downey staff report.

The Planning Commission on Wednesday unanimously approved an application submitted by Industrial Realty Group seeking to subdivide the land in order to accommodate Tesla's much-publicized manufacturing and assembly plant.

IRG owns about 57 acres of the 77-acre property. The city of Downey owns the remaining 20 acres and leases it to IRG.

Tesla would use 51 acres (or about 2.2 million square feet), including 46.45 acres on IRG-controlled land, according to a staff report. It will occupy Buildings 1, 6 and 290, which were used by NASA until Boeing closed the site in 1998.

The buildings were placed on the National Register for Historic Places in 2001 and any alterations to the structures must adhere to an agreement previously reached between the city and NASA "designed to mitigate impacts on historic resources at the site."

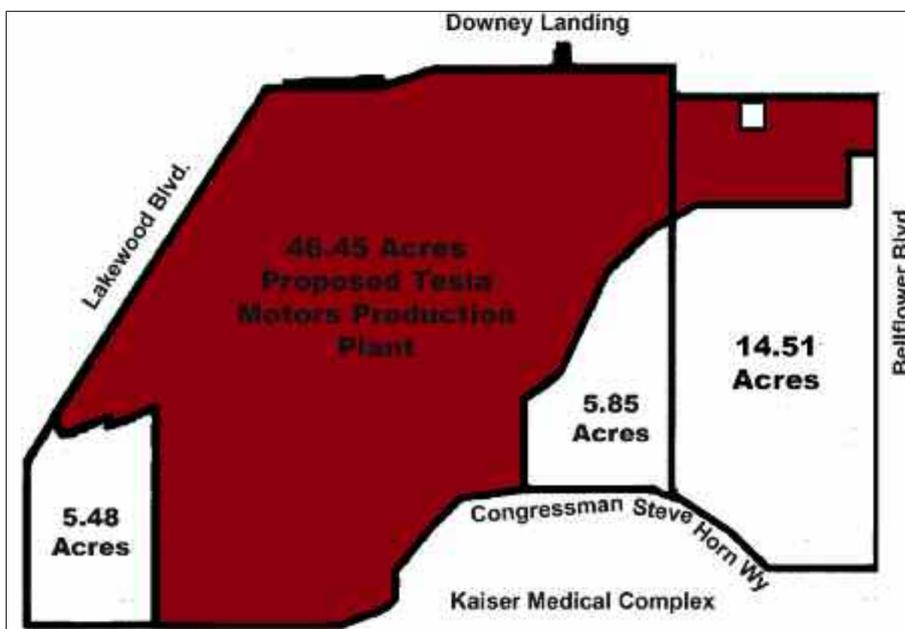


IMAGE BY CITY OF DOWNEY/JONATHAN FOX

Tesla Motors is in negotiations to open a 51-acre electric vehicle production facility at what is now Downey Studios.

Thomas Messmer, a vice president with IRG, told the Planning Commission on Wednesday that negotiations on a lease with Tesla "are ongoing."

"We're putting this in your hands now," commission member Terry Lambrose told Messmer after the 4-0 vote. "You have a big job."

If Tesla and IRG agree on a lease, Downey Studios would probably close, city officials said.

"[With] Tesla Motors leasing

the lion's share of the studio site, Downey Studios will more than likely shutter their operations," Brian Saeki, community development director for the city, wrote in a report. "Closing the studios will in turn open up Parcel 3 [approximately 14 1/2 acres] for redevelopment."

The Downey Landing Specific Plan calls for a "commerce center" on those 14 1/2 acres.

"Moreover, the specific plan

envisioned the Commerce Center as a business park developed in a 'garden office' setting with small groups of buildings clustered around open spaces, rather than a series of isolated structures," Saeki wrote. "The plan also indicated that each building will house some combination of light manufacturing and/or office use."

Tesla officials have not publicly announced their intentions to open a manufacturing plant in Downey.

Deal to sell DRMC falls apart

■ Potential acquisition called 'economically unfeasible.'

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – After a brief period of negotiations, the Daughters of Charity Health System has officially ended talks with Downey Regional Medical Center calling a potential acquisition of the hospital economically unfeasible.

Downey Regional received word last Friday from Daughters of Charity Health System President and CEO Robert Issai, who expressed regret for the decision, calling Downey Regional Medical Center a "diamond-in-the-rough."

In a released statement, Issai wished Downey Regional, which filed for bankruptcy last September, "success in finding a partner who will ensure its viability in this increasingly complex health care market."

Rob Fuller, executive vice president and chief operating officer for Downey Regional, echoed Issai's statements, while remaining hopeful for the future.

"We are disappointed that Daughters of Charity Health System chose not to move forward," said Fuller. "But we understand their priorities are with their existing system hospitals. We are fortunate to have several other interested parties, and we have already reached out to them to initiate affiliation discussions."

Downey Regional would not reveal which interested parties it has approached, but Fuller is confident that the 90-year-old hospital will affiliate with a system, gain support for its creditors and emerge from bankruptcy in the early summer.

The Daughters of Charity Health System, a regional health care organization based in Los Altos Hills, began exclusive negotiations with Downey Regional in February after the hospital's boards of directors voted unanimously to execute a letter of intent for affiliation with the medical group.

According to Patricia Smith, public relations manager for Daughters of Charity, the timing was not good for the health system.

"We went through very vigorous and complete negotiations with Downey Regional Medical Center, but our board of directors felt it was not financially feasible at this time," said Smith. "It's a tough, tough economy, especially for health care – we just hope they pull through and that community has the service it deserves."

Despite bankruptcy, the 199-bed hospital has continued to operate at normal capacity, providing its full range of services, something Downey Regional's president and CEO Kenneth Stropole guarantees.

"I want to reassure our patients, our employees, the physicians, and the community that Downey Regional Medical Center and its services will continue to be fully open as we continue through the reorganization process," said Stropole.

Looking back on... DISMUKES HOUSE

BY CHRISTIAN BROWN,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – The city of Downey is fortunate to have many of its historic structures still intact.

While many historic church buildings, ranch homes and restaurants did not make it into the 21st century, several, including the Rives Mansion, the Parley Johnson residence and Gallatin Elementary School, still stand.

Today, both the Rives Mansion and the Parley Johnson estate reflect the lifestyles of Downey's most wealthy and prominent residents who lived in luxurious homes, surrounded by rich, ample orange groves and dairy farms.

However, not every Downey citizen lived in a large ranch home in the late 1800s and early 1900s. For many local pioneers, small box houses were the norm as the early settlers developed vibrant communities and started new families.

Built in 1887, the Dismukes house, located near the corner of Rives Avenue, and Imperial Highway, tells the story of the average Downey farming family and their long journey to start a new life in California.

In 1865, after the Civil War had come to a destructive end, thousands of families living in southeastern states with shattered hopes and communities began to travel west. Along with a rush to find gold, these displaced families were also in search of a place to put

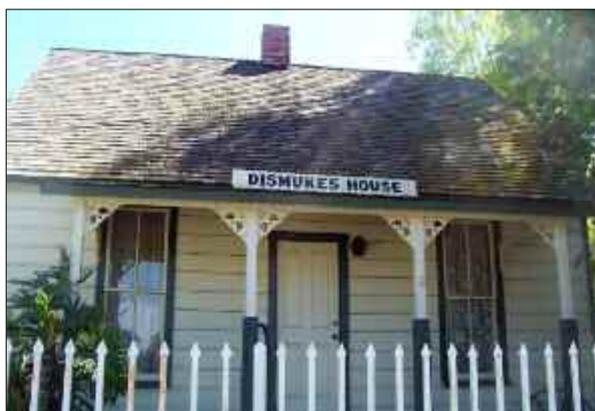


PHOTO BY CHRISTIAN BROWN

down new roots.

Many towns and cities sprang up along the thousands of miles of trails to the west. Downey was founded at trail's end. Among these displaced families from the south was the Dismukes family.

After settling in Downey, Edwin Price Dismukes built a 20-by-25 foot farmhouse in 1887 for his wife, Maude Adams Dismukes. Like many Downey residents of the time, Edwin was a prosperous rancher and nurseryman with a growing family.

Using mostly redwood and pine, Dismukes built a "plank house," a common construction in the late 19th century. The house is made by framing a mudsill with nine-foot, 1-by-12 inch planks on end and nailing a surrounding 2-by-6 board horizontally to the

planks as to make a box. The planks support the ceiling and roof while the walls are held up by tongue and groove siding.

Inside, the home features an open living room space where chairs, tables and other furniture would have been placed. Three large, rectangular windows provide much sunlight for the room, which still sports its original redwood floors. To the left are two doors, one leading to the sole bedroom and the other opens up to a small kitchen.

When first constructed, the original white-washed home, which featured a classic white picket fence, faced Colledge

See DISMUKES, page 4

No rush to hire new fire chief

■ City will wait until summer to begin search.

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Jeff Turner formally retired as of the end of 2009 as Downey fire chief after logging some 35 years altogether in the fire service, but he was prevailed upon to stay another year.

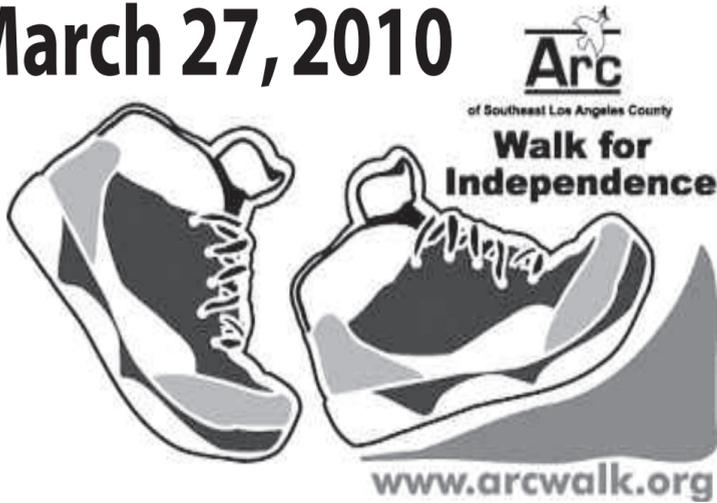
City Manager Gerald Caton said the additional one-year, part-time agreement with the chief, sanctioned by the City Council, has enabled the fire department to 1) benefit from his rich fund of knowledge and experience, as well as his leadership, and 2) equally important, enabled the city to realize savings of \$7,410 per month, which is very welcome at a time when the city is "operating at a deficit."

"The good thing about having good personnel running the different departments is you're able to basically leave them alone to do their job," Caton said, "and freeing you to focus on other things. Chief Turner is such a man." These "other things" would include, among other concerns, the negotiations with Tesla Motors, etc.

At any rate, the timetable for hiring a new fire chief, which will be conducted on a "full recruitment

See FIRE, page 4

March 27, 2010



Get Your Walking Team Together!
A one or three mile Walk to raise funds for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities.

Stonewood Center – Downey

Acapulco Restaurant
(Corner of Firestone and Lakewood)

On-site registration opens

7:00 a.m.

Opening Ceremonies

8:00 a.m.

Walk Starts at

8:30 a.m.

➤ **Registration Fee \$10.00**

Free Breakfast Courtesy of Acapulco Restaurant - for paid participants



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Don Knabe

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The Laker Girls

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performed by Johnny Croshaw

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For Registration Info. – Call 562-803-4606 ext. 230, or register on-line at: www.arcwalk.org

Teachers invited to tour Space Center

DOWNEY – Space is still available for local school teachers who wish to take a free tour of the Columbia Memorial Space Center.

Teachers can learn about the Space Center's interactive exhibits, programs, labs, field trips and tour Los Angeles' only Challenger Learning Center for simulated space missions.

Admission is free and giveaways will be provided to all teachers with a current school ID.

Open house dates are March 25 (4-8 p.m.), March 27 (1-5 p.m.), April 22 (4-8 p.m.) and April 24 (1-5 p.m.).

Interested teachers should contact Christie Pearce at (562) 231-1200 or cpearce@downeyca.org.

Free mulch for planting

DOWNEY – CalMet Services is giving away free mulch to Downey residents for springtime planting.

Residents can take up to 32 gallons of mulch using their own containers.

The giveaway will take place March 27 from 9 a.m. to noon in the City Hall west parking lot.

For more information, call (562) 259-1239.

Kindergarten sign-ups underway

DOWNEY – The Downey Unified School District is now accepting registration for new kindergarten students.

To be eligible for kindergarten, children must be at least 5 years old on or before Dec. 2, 2010. Proof of age must be presented at time of registration.

Parents must show evidence their child has received a physical examination after March 1, 2010. The district's Report of Health Examination for School form should be taken to the child's private doctor or county health departments can also perform school-entry physicals.

Parents must also bring their child's immunization record and provide proof of an oral health assessment, which must be completed by a licensed dentist or dental health professional.

For specific information and registration times, call (562) 469-6500 and ask for your child's school. If you do not know which school your child will attend, call (562) 469-6553.

Street Faire is May 1

DOWNEY – The Downey Street Faire will take place May 1 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. along Brookshire Avenue north of Firestone Boulevard.

The fair is produced by the Downey Chamber of Commerce.

More than 200 vendors will have booths at the fair. There will be live entertainment all day, a Kids Zone, food court and car show.

Admission to the fair is free. For more information, call (562) 923-2191.

Downey High taking e-waste

DOWNEY – Old and unwanted electronic devices can be disposed of at Downey High School this weekend.

The school will collect TVs, computers, monitors, laptops, wiring, cables, power cords, telephones and more.

The roundup will take place Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information, call (800) 981-9019.

Sertoma recruiting new members

DOWNEY – The Downey Sertoma Club is inviting potential members to join them as a guest for a buffet dinner at Café N Stuff on March 23 or April 27.

Sertoma was founded in Kansas City, Mo., in 1912 with its main emphasis towards speech and hearing disorders.

The Downey Sertoma Club supports the YMCA, PTA HELPS, Arc, Bell Gardens Manor for the mentally challenged, and fantasy baseball camp for disabled kids.

The club also helps the needy with hearing aids, gives scholarships to college students who wish to pursue advanced degrees in Hearing and Speech Sciences, and sponsors a heritage essay contest for fifth graders.

For more information, or to reserve for the dinner, call Britt Rivers at (562) 862-9629.

Fashion show at Rio Hondo

DOWNEY – The Downey Newcomers will host their annual fashion show May 10 at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

Cost is \$25 and includes lunch, fashion show and prizes.

For tickets or information, call Melba at (562) 862-2799.



Russ Parsons

Food editor to speak at library

DOWNEY – Russ Parsons, food editor and columnist for the Los Angeles Times, will speak and sign books at the Downey City Library on April 21 at 7 p.m.

Parsons will take part in a live interview and discuss his books, "How to Pick a Peach: The Search for Flavor from Farm to Table" and "How to Read a French Fry: and other Stories of Intriguing Kitchen Science."

In 2008, he was inducted into the James Beard Foundation's Who's Who of Food and Beverage. He has won many food journalism awards, including those from the International Association of Culinary Professionals, the Association of Food Journalists and the University of Missouri Lifestyle Journalism Award.

"How to Pick a Peach," which was published in 2007, was named one of the best 100 books of the year by both Publisher's Weekly and Amazon.

His articles in "The California Cook" give readers an inside look at food and dining in Los Angeles.

"Russ is a respected journalist who combines his love of food and writing," said Jan Palen, senior librarian at the Downey City Library. "He shares great stories about his friendship with Julia Child, as well as his views on organic food, farmers markets and the latest trend in food trucks."

"His books are a fascinating blend of food science, produce buying guide and great recipes," Palen continued. "You will get some practical tips on food processes and workable cooking techniques."

The public is invited to e-mail questions to be used in the interview to jpalen@downeyca.org.

Copies of Parsons' books will be available for purchase and signing at the event, which is part of a celebration of National Library Week, April 19-25. To register, call (562) 904-7360, ext. 132.

DOWNEY PARTY RENTALS

New Sunday Hours
12:00 - 3:00 PM

10900 Paramount Blvd.
Downey CA 90241
(562) 861-1616

Open Late Thursdays
Till 7:00 PM

Desert Reign Assembly of God

11610 Lakewood Blvd., Downey, CA 90241

FREE Easter Baskets
for needy children!
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Call 562-861-6011, ext. 207
to sign up!

(Include name, address, & phone number.)

Pick-up time is Easter Sunday, April 4, 8-10 a.m.
(Delivery available if needed.)

Happy 95th Birthday, Alice!

Alice was born 3/20/15. She has been married to Robert H. Turner for 66 years, and together have two daughters, Lynda Thorn and Pamela Jones.

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Crime Report

Friday, March 5

At 8 p.m. a home invasion robbery occurred in the 8100 block of Gardendale Street. Seven suspects entered the residence demanding money and drugs. The suspects eventually took some electronic items from the home and fled. No one was injured.

Saturday, March 6

Just after 11:30 a.m. a custodian at Warren High observed a suspect tagging doors and a vending machine. The suspect fled the location on foot and was later found by officers. The 17 year-old Downey resident was arrested, and a records check found he was also wanted on a vandalism charge in South Gate. The juvenile was transported to Los Padrinos pending his court appearance.

Sunday, March 7

About 10:50 a.m. a female Whittier resident was parking her vehicle in a parking lot in the 9400 block of Telegraph Road, when she accidentally stepped on the gas peddle and drove through the front of a business and the wall of the adjoining business. One customer was treated for minor injuries and the driver was uninjured.

Shortly after 8 p.m. an officer patrolling the downtown parking structure saw two suspicious subjects in a vehicle with a third sitting in adjacent car. When the subjects saw the officer, they immediately fled on foot. The officer detained the suspect who was sitting in the car, while responding officers located one of the suspects who fled on foot, and took him into custody. The third suspect eluded capture. A 17 year-old and 26 year-old, both Los Angeles residents, were arrested for burglary after officers found that the vehicle had been burglarized.

Monday, March 8

At 2:45 p.m., officers responded to the 7100 block of Nada regarding a residential burglary. During a search of the residence, officers located two 14 year-old male suspects hiding inside the location. Both suspects were from the city of Lynwood and each was charged with residential burglary.

At 8:00 p.m., an 18 year-old Downey resident was entering the west side of Furman Park, while the suspect was exiting the park. The suspect brandished a gun and demanded the victim's cell phone and money. The victim complied and the suspect fled the location on foot. The victim recognized the suspect from a party they both attended a year ago.

A short time later, the suspect called a mutual friend and asked to meet him at Furman Park, in order to return the victim's property. Downey officers responded to the park and arrested the suspect, an 18 year-old Downey resident. The suspect was charged with armed robbery and transported to the Los Angeles County Jail.

Tuesday, March 9

At 9 p.m., officers responded to the 8000 block of Cole Street regarding an armed robbery. As the 27 year old-male victim was pulling into his driveway, he was confronted by a suspect pointing a gun at him and demanding his money. The victim gave the suspect his wallet and the suspect fled the location on foot. The victim was not injured during this incident. The suspect is described as a male Hispanic, standing five feet, six inches tall and weighing approximately 130 pounds. He was wearing all dark clothing. This case is being investigated by Downey Detectives.

Courtesy Downey Police Department

Earthquake causes no major damage

■ Freeway damage may have existed prior to quake, Caltrans says.

BY MARK SAUTER

DOWNEY – Downey residents were abruptly awakened early Tuesday morning by an earthquake centered in Pico Rivera in the area of the intersection of the San Gabriel River and Whittier Boulevard. This area is approximately three miles north of Downey.

Fortunately, emergency responders did not find any major damage. As expected, the Emergency Communications Centers for both the Police and Fire Departments received a number of calls immediately after the quake.

There were reports of some damage to the I-5 freeway pavement in the area of Lakewood Blvd. Several news helicopters covered the incident scene. However, Caltrans officials later reported the pavement problem may have already existed.

Tuesday's quake and the recent disasters in Haiti and Chili serve as serious reminders of the importance of emergency preparedness for all of us. We need to have emergency supplies at home, at work and in our vehicles. We also need to have plans in place to replace (or live without) those things we take for granted. Electrical power, telephone service, immediate shelter, communications with family members and sanitary services are a few of the issues that require some planning. We also need to be aware of the predictable, potential problems we can face in our community.

We certainly know our area is prone to earthquakes. We also know there are actions we can take to lessen the impact of an earthquake.

Besides the actions mentioned above, for example, we can secure

our water heaters with metal strapping (or replace them with tankless models). We can anchor the larger furniture and entertainment units we have in our homes that could topple over on us during an earthquake. We can also learn how to shut down our water, natural gas and electrical supply if any of the three utilities give us problems after the shaking stops. We can also choose to sleep 'away' from wall-mounted items and overhead shelves with items that can fall on us during an earthquake.

Another issue to consider is what is the best action to take while the actual shaking is occurring? Most authorities recommend the practice of 'duck, cover and hold'. This action consists of a person getting to the ground, crawling under a sturdy desk or table and then holding on to the object. Many times there isn't something to 'duck under' but there is something to 'crouch against'.

The key in both situations is to get to a spot below the surrounding objects. This action will result in the taller, more substantial objects absorbing the force of any falling items. Experts do not recommend crouching next to exterior walls with windows as the glass may break and fall on the well intentioned victim.

There have been other strategies mentioned to protect you during an earthquake. Some of these alternative strategies recommend fleeing the building immediately or getting as close to the exterior of the building as possible. As noted earlier, often times, breaking glass, exterior utility problems, physical trip hazards and falling debris create serious dangers as the shaking

persists. The rationale for immediately fleeing from a building during an earthquake is frequently that the building may collapse. While this could happen, it rarely does.

Generally, building codes in the United States have stringent engineering standards. These standards have made our structures much safer than those in other countries.

In general, when considering what to do when the ground begins to shake, think about protecting yourself from falling objects, avoiding harm and hunkering down until the shaking stops. Once the shaking stops immediately evaluate the area around you and

decide if it is safe to move away from the area. Once you are safe, and able to move, you can begin the process of evaluating the conditions of the people and structures around you.

There will be follow-up articles on more emergency preparedness activities and actions. If you have a question regarding this article or Downey emergency preparedness in general, you can e-mail it to ready@downeyca.org.

Mark Sauter is deputy city manager in charge of emergency preparedness for the city of Downey.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

You're On Your Own!

City of Downey Public Education Office 562-940-7345

An Introduction to the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Did you know...

- There is a very good chance that your neighborhood will be on its own during the early stages following a catastrophic disaster.
- After a catastrophic disaster, citizens will volunteer to help. Without proper training, these people can expose themselves and others to potential injury and even death!
- Experience has shown that basic training in disaster survival and rescue skills improves the ability of citizens to survive until responders or other assistance arrive.

The City of Downey Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program

The City of Downey has become part of a national network of CERT communities. The Fire Department has developed a program that is designed to help neighborhoods prepare for and respond after a catastrophic disaster such as earthquakes, floods and other major catastrophes.

Individuals completing CERT training will be able to:

- Increase their neighborhood's disaster readiness
- Assess damage after a disaster
- Extinguish small fires and teach fire safety
- Perform light search and rescue operations
- Perform triage and provide medical services to the injured
- Organize procurement of supplies

What is a CERT Member?
A CERT member is a person who is trained to prepare for and respond after a disaster in their neighborhood.

Who can join CERT?
Anyone 18 years of age or older who is interested in helping his or her neighborhood in preparing for a disaster and provide assistance afterwards.

What type of training do CERT members receive?
CERT members learn how to take care of themselves, their families and neighborhoods through training in the following areas:

- Disaster Preparedness
- Fire Suppression
- Medical Operations
- Damage Assessment
- Light Search & Rescue
- Team Organization
- Disaster Psychology
- Disaster Simulation

Join the Team!
The next Class: April 10, 17, 24, 2010
8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
R.S.V.P to (562) 904-7345

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You'll also learn how to market yourself as a makeup professional, how to "work your magic" behind the scenes, and how much to charge for different projects.

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Don't delay. Orientations: March 30 at 5:00 pm and March 27 at 1:00 pm
 Need more assistance? Please call 562-940-6200.

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CAREER AND EDUCATION CENTER



PHOTO COURTESY DOWNEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Edwin Price Dismukes stands by his car, the first sedan in Downey, in 1907. Dismukes' oldest daughter Meekie is sitting in the driver's seat.)

Dismukes: House was saved in 1986.

Continued from page 1

Avenue, now Paramount Blvd., near the intersection of Paramount and Firestone Boulevard.

When Firestone was extended west of Paramount in the early 1930s, the house was turned to face the new boulevard. The Dismukes house would remain at this original location until owner Bob Kiskadden donated the cottage to the Downey Historical Society in 1986.

Before the Historical Society took possession of the house, it was set to be demolished to make way for a parking lot, but on July 8,

1986, the City Council voted unanimously to move the house to Apollo Park for restoration.

While the Historical Society paid more than \$5000 to restore the Dismukes home to its original condition, the city paid for its moving costs with a \$5,000 Community Development Block Grant.

In a 1986 interview with the *Los Angeles Times*, Public Works Commissioner Laura Nash reflected on the historic move.

"This is the first time the city has helped move a historic house and we are really excited about it,"

she said. "This house is really representative of the pioneers that made Downey what it is."

After its move to Apollo Park, the Downey Historical Society spent nearly six years reconstructing the Dismukes house, which is today opened occasionally for tour groups who desire to remember Downey's provincial past.

The Dismukes pioneers are no longer here to tell their story, but their small farmhouse still speaks, sharing a unique American story of an average family hoping to start a new life in the western frontier.

Fire: New chief by December.

Continued from page 1

approach' basis, goes something like this: an announcement about the available position "sometime in the summer"; applications evaluations by September; interviews of likely candidates (from within and without the department) by October; and final determination before the end of December.

One of Turner's last official functions is to effect a smooth transition from him to the new fire chief.

Caton said the city will be looking for an experienced fireman with the depth of knowledge and expertise such as the city's past fire chiefs have demonstrated. Other important qualities include leadership and people skills and thus the ability to act as a team player, as the fire chief has to interact with the City Council, other departments such as police, public works, etc., employees and staff, as well as members of the public.

"A candidate may look good on paper," he said, "but a good assessment process, including in depth interviews, should give us what we want."

"No matter who our final choice is, I'd say he's very lucky because as it is, the fire department is an extremely well-run department," Caton said. "Just to give an example, our paramedics' response time is fantastic, it's under five minutes."

The compensation package is "competitive," with the salary range set at \$75/hr.-\$92/hr. (or \$156,000-\$191,000 per year).

POET'S CORNER Three Little Laker Losses

I don't know why, I just don't know,
Why our team lost three games in a row.
I witnessed three defeats with my own eyes.
Three shocking endings caught me by surprise.

From the East Coast to the West Coast,
Three games were viewed across the nation.
Fans had their chance to brag and to boast
Of high scores to win each situation.

And, even though our one-point losses
Depended on just three wayward tosses,
I'll support, cheer and advise our team's guys
To, "Go out there and show'em who's their bosses!"

-Norma Landa Flores,
Downey

Friendly Hearts

Reflect the glow,
the warmth of love
like mistletoe or
or starshine
on new fallen snow.
-Terese Akins,
Downey



COURTESY PHOTO

Carli Ciatti, a junior at Warren High, spent three days in Sacramento meeting with local representatives.

Student gets taste of Sacramento politics

DOWNEY - Warren High School junior Carli Ciatti recently represented Downey in Sacramento Safari, a PTA program that encourages advocacy among high school students.

Ciatti was chosen based on her academic and community achievements, and was the only student to represent Downey in the 33rd PTA district.

Ciatti was in Sacramento from March 9-11 and met various members of the legislature, learning about the political process. Among the topics discussed were the budget, healthcare and education.

She also took advantage of meetings with Assembly members Charles Calderon and Roger Niello and Sen. Allen Lowenthal to explain the effects of proposed budget cuts and its impact on the local level.

On one occasion, Ciatti reminded one legislator how the Smoot-Hawley Tariff Act of 1930 raised taxes to the highest point in history and actually worsened the Great Depression.

"You have to understand history to know what works and doesn't work," said Ciatti, whose days began at 7:30 a.m. and continued until 9:30 p.m.

During her visit, Ciatti also visited the State Treasury vault (which actually has no money in it).

AP History teacher Kevin Hobbs nominated Ciatti for the trip.

Ciatti was the recipient of the Violet Richardson Award presented by Soroptimist International of Downey and was recently nominated for the Susan B. Anthony Award given by Rochester University.

She maintains a 4.3 GPA.

Ciatti is also an accomplished athlete, having broken the school record for pole vaulting and advancing to the CIF finals last year. In January, she qualified and competed in the Pole Vaulting Nationals in Reno, Nev.

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Churches - Kids Section - Lost/Found Pets -
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Site Contact Bev Baumann @ 562-244-3241

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Do you qualify for a tax credit?

By Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (CA-34)

Each year, thousands of hardworking families in the 34th Congressional District and throughout the Los Angeles area lose money they're entitled to because they fail to take advantage of two important tax credits – the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and the Child Tax Credit (CTC). Could you be one of them?

As the April 15 deadline approaches for filing your taxes, I encourage you to find out whether you qualify for one or both of these credits. During these challenging economic times, the answer could mean more money in your pocket, even if you don't owe taxes.

If your family earned less than \$48,279 in 2009, you may be eligible for the EITC. Eligibility for the credit depends on factors such as your total income and family size. For some families, the Earned Income Tax Credit is worth up to \$5,657. The EITC is first used to cover any federal taxes owed by an eligible worker. After any tax liability is paid off, tax filers receive all of their remaining Earned Income Tax Credit in the form of a check from the IRS.

The Child Tax Credit allows families to claim a credit worth up to \$1,000 for each qualifying child under 17. Similar to the Earned Income Tax Credit, the Child Tax Credit is first used to reduce or pay off any taxes owed by the family. After that, depending upon a family's income, some filers may also qualify to receive a refund of all or part of any leftover Child Tax Credit funds.

By taking advantage of the Child Tax Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit, eligible families can keep more of their hard earned dollars. Additional eligibility information about both tax credits appears below. Your questions can also be answered by calling the IRS at 1-800-829-1040 or by visiting the federal agency's web site at www.irs.gov.

Free tax preparation services from trained community volunteers are also available through the "Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA)" program. To find out if you qualify or for the Los Angeles locations nearest you, please visit www.eitc-la.com or call the 2-1-1 information hotline in Los Angeles County. Seniors can also locate free AARP tax-aid counseling sites in their area by calling 1-888-227-7669.

Here are the highlights of the 2009 EITC eligibility requirements:

- A taxpayer must provide valid Social Security numbers for everyone listed on the tax return. Social Security numbers issued to non-citizens who have permission to work legally in the United States are also accepted.

- Families with one qualifying child in their home who earn less than \$40,463 in 2009 (or less than \$35,463 for a single parent) are eligible for a federal EITC of up to \$3,043.

- Families raising two qualifying children in their home who earn less than \$45,295 in 2009 (or less than \$40,295 for a single parent) are eligible for a federal EITC of up to \$5,028.

- Families raising 3 or more qualifying children in their home who earn less than \$48,279 in 2009 (or less than \$43,279 for a single parent) are eligible for a federal EITC of up to \$5,657.

- Married workers who were not raising children in their home, were between 25 and 64 on December 31, 2009, and who earn less than \$18,440 in 2009 (or less than \$13,440 if single) are eligible for a federal EITC of up to \$457.

- Eligible EITC taxpayers who failed to file previously can file amended tax returns for the past three years to collect overdue refunds.

The 2009 Child Tax Credit eligibility requirements are as follows:

- The taxpayer must have either a Social Security number or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number issued by the IRS.

- The taxpayer must have a qualifying child under the age of 17 who lived with the tax filer for more than half the year in the United States. The child (whether a citizen or non-citizen) must have either a valid Social Security number or an Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN).

- The taxpayer must have earned more than \$3,000 in 2009 to receive a CTC "refund."

- The CTC is available to married couples filing jointly with incomes up to \$110,000, \$75,000 for those filing as single, head of household or as a qualifying widow(er) and \$55,000 for married couples filing separately. At incomes above these amounts, the benefit of the CTC is reduced.

- Eligible CTC taxpayers who failed to file previously can file amended returns for the past three years to collect overdue refunds.

Employees group to meet

DOWNEY – The National Association of Active and Retired Federal Employees will meet Wednesday at noon at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center.

Peggy Jones will raffle a stained glass figurine as a chapter fundraiser. Coffee and cake will be served.

For more information, call Robert Knerr at (562) 943-5513.

Celebration for U.S. Marines

PASADENA – A welcome home celebration for the U.S. Marines will be held at the Pasadena Rose Bowl tomorrow from 1-4 p.m.

Parking and admission are free but guests should bring their own water and snacks.

More than 22,000 people attended last year's celebration.

For more information, call Don Drowty at (530) 321-3833.

Letters to the Editor:

Interest in art

Dear Editor:

Shortly after reading "Water Fountains Approved as Art" (*The Downey Patriot*, 3/12/10), I took a drive along Firestone Boulevard to check out the progress made in the five years since the Art in Public Places Ordinance was adopted. It wasn't easy, but I finally found the one piece actually installed during this intervening period.

It is a nice work of artwork for sure, but it's located in a not-pedestrian friendly section of the boulevard. While I give a lot of credit to the developer for its commitment to the program, I'm fairly certain the current ordinance limited what could actually be placed there. For example, the car wash where the artwork is located might have been a perfect location for an artistic display that made use of reclaimed water.

Other developers no doubt consider the ordinance as it currently stands too restrictive, which is probably why many of them choose to simply pay the one percent fee rather than identify artwork to commission. There continues to be plenty of local interest in public art, however, as evidenced by the incredible Downey Art Vibe exhibition recently held at the Downey Theatre.

It's my hope the ordinance is revised without further delay, in order to allow more artists the opportunity to display their works within the city. According to the article, more than \$350,000 in additional funds has been collected thus far as part of this arts program. Perhaps those funds can be used for art in the Downtown area, so that the various works can be enjoyed by future generations when they take in a terrific DCLO show, enjoy a nice dinner and finish the evening listening to a jazz trio at a revitalized Avenue Theatre.

— **Mark Ehmalian,**
Long Beach

Military banners

Dear Editor:

I want to thank the city of Downey for supporting our sons and daughters who are serving in all branches of the U.S. military.

The banners send such a positive message.

You have done us proud!

— **Ed and Patty Aparicio,**
Parents of David Aparicio who serves in the Navy,
Downey

Middle school sports

Dear Editor:

I played speed-a-way with the GAA (Girls Athletic Association) at East Junior High 43 years ago. At our high school reunion last summer we gushed over GAA memories. We could still name names, teams and games.

GAA was the highlight of junior high for me, even though, I think, it was only once a week. But don't worry, when you eliminate it, there will still be boys, drugs, Macs and a whole lot of other stuff to keep the girls occupied. ("Parents Plead for Middle School Sports," 3/12/10)

By the way, I never voted for monetary initiatives for school districts after being a teacher. I saw way too much waste, profit-making suckers and dum-dums in charge. All I need was chalk, a good pay check and discipline.

Nice going, Downey.

— **Eli Coker,**
Downey

Successful luncheon

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Women's Guild of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church here in Downey, I want to acknowledge and thank several local businesses who generously donated door prizes to our fundraising St. Patrick's Day luncheon on March 13 honoring our past presidents.

Their kindness helped make our luncheon a huge success. Our guests told us that this event was one of the best that they have ever attended.

I realize that the economy has made things more difficult for business, but this group did not hesitate to lend a helping hand to the Women's Guild for our fundraiser. With their help, we, in turn, are able to give back to the Downey community. We applaud their community spirit!

— **Paula Mayfield,**
Corresponding Secretary,
OLPH Women's Guild

Government greed

Dear Editor:

Is there a Moses to lead the U.S. out of the sea of red ink? If not, I fear the U.S. is doomed!

Our "leadership" is sick. Our Congress just raised the debt ceiling another \$2.3 trillion. Do I think it's stupidity? No. It's greed, self-serving and a Socialistic (Progressive) agenda that is killing America. To use President Obama's descriptive phrase, they're "acting stupidly."

What frightens me is that I'm afraid it's not an act. When I called Sen. Feinstein's office to complain about Queen Pelosi spending \$2 million on air travel and \$100,000 on food for her junkets, I guess I was supposed to be soothed by the aide's reply: "Oh, that came out of the Defense budget." There was silence when I asked who paid for the Defense budget and what did her excessive abuse of travel have to do with the defense of the U.S.

Then Obama and Eric Holder decided to spend hundreds of millions of dollars to try the Gitmo prisoners in New York. After much objection, I think they have seen the light. Obama now wants to bring nine attorneys who defended Gitmo prisoners to D.C. and put them in the U.S. Justice Department. One has to wonder which side the president is on.

Why does this administration want to put us in so much debt? Is it to take us down to a third world country so we can be put under UN control? That is where this obscene debt is taking us.

It's not only the debt that makes me angry. It's the blatant lies and deceit we're supposed to accept. Can any nation be built on leadership that has no honor, truth or honesty? Almost daily we hear that another elected official has resigned or won't run again because of infidelity in their marriage or hasn't paid taxes or has been accused of some kind of sexual harassment. Are we indeed building on sand?

— **Elsa Van Leuven,**
Downey

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



Letters to the Editor:

Defends police

Dear Editor:

I'm not a police officer, but everything Mr. Oltersdorf mentioned in his letter last week sounded to be perfectly acceptable behavior by our police department. ("Not Happy with Police," 3/12/10)

As Mr. Oltersdorf stated himself, someone reported hearing gunshots and six police officers responded. Great! As a Downey resident, I am delighted to know that our police department is committed to keeping residents safe and treated the matter with the proper attention it deserved.

I have never written a letter to the editor until today, but I wanted the Downey Police Department to know that we support and appreciate what they do for the community.

— **Vince Kauble,**
Downey

Laws ignored

Dear Editor:

Until I read Bill Spetnagel's letter to the editor, I was not aware that Downey is now a sanctuary city. (Letters to the Editor, 3/12/10) I guess it's not too surprising, as the federal government, the state government and now our city government choose not to enforce the laws of our nation. Just stand by – the federal government will soon try to pass a law that will make millions of illegals legal citizens (or as they say "put them on the path to citizenship").

Just think, if our governments would declare that theft, breaking and entering, murder or any of our laws were declared inoperative or ignored, we wouldn't need a police force or jails. We are getting exceedingly weary of elected officials at all levels of government ignoring the laws that they themselves make and then break or won't enforce.

Sometime ago, a lady at a City Council meeting made me and the Council aware of Article 3, Section 6 of the Constitution of the state of California which states that English is the official language of California and that the legislature may be sued if it isn't enforced. It's completely ignored.

I would like the City Council to explain why they have taken this action or why they have chosen to ignore the law. I guess it's just easier to do so.

— **Betty Logan,**
Downey

Tips for the out-of-work taxpayer

Job hunting costs are deductible. If you accumulated expenses greater than two percent of your adjusted gross income, it may be worth the time to itemize your eligible deductions. Costs for long-distance calls, agency fees, unreimbursed travel - including mileage, lodging or other transportation for out-of-town trips - and resume printing and mailing costs, qualify as deductions. However, these deductions are not available to people looking for their first job out of college or just a different line of work.

Unemployment over a certain amount is taxable, so are payments from former employers. Taxes do not have to be paid on unemployment compensation up to \$2,400 per recipient, but amounts over \$2,400 are still taxable. If a husband and wife both received unemployment compensation in 2009, they can each exclude \$2,400. Looking ahead to next year, you can request withholding on your benefits payments if you expect to owe tax on benefits by the end of the year. Severance pay is also taxable as are any additional payments you might have received from a former employer for unused sick or vacation days.

It pays to check out available credits. This year there are more credits available, so don't just skim over tax forms and fill them in as you have in the past. Do your homework at www.irs.gov and take advantage of education credits like the improved American Opportunity Tax Credit and Lifetime Learning Credit and others designed for those in a lower income bracket such as the Earned Income Tax Credit.

Cancellation of Debt may add to taxable income; Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief may exclude income. If you have settled a debt for less than the amount owed, you may be subject to taxes on the forgiven amount. A taxpayer will receive a 1099-C form from a federal agency, credit union or financial institution if they have forgiven more than \$600 of debt. For taxpayers in a foreclosure situation, the Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act allows them to exclude income from the relief of debt on their principal residence or mortgage restructuring. You may also be able to exclude all or part of debt income that occurs in a Title 11 Bankruptcy case if you are considered insolvent. In these more complicated circumstances it might be a good idea to consult a tax professional, such as a CPA, or check what low or no-cost assistance is available in your community.

The Downey Patriot

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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



On This Day...

- March 19, 1891:** Earl Warren, the 14th chief justice of the United States and Warren High School's namesake, was born in Los Angeles.
- 1918:** Congress approved daylight-savings time.
- 1931:** Nevada legalized gambling.
- 1945:** About 800 people were killed when Japanese kamikaze planes attacked the U.S.S. Franklin.
- 1953:** The Academy Awards were televised for the first time.
- 1995:** Michael Jordan returned to the NBA's Chicago Bulls after a brief attempt at playing baseball.
- Birthdays:** Actress Glenn Close (63), actor Bruce Willis (55), football coach Andy Reid (52), model Vida Guerra (36) and basketball player Andre Miller (34).

Downey Community Calendar

Events For March

- Sat. March 20: **E-waste roundup**, Downey High School, 9 a.m.
- Sat. March 20: **Miss Downey Pageant**, Downey Theatre, 6 p.m.
- Sat. March 20: **Songfest concert**, Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints south facility, 7 p.m.
- Sun. March 21: **St. Joseph's Table**, St. Raymond's Catholic Church, 9 a.m.
- Wed. March 24: **NARFE meeting**, Community Center, 12 p.m.
- Thurs. March 25: **Wrestling fundraiser**, Downey High School, 6 p.m.

City Meetings

- 1st Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.: **Redevelopment Project Area Committee**, Cormack Meeting Room at Downey Library.
- 1st & 3rd Wednesday, 6:30 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 Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.: **Library Advisory Board**, at Downey City Library.
- 3rd Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.: **Water Board**, at City Hall.
- 4th Wednesday, 6:30 p.m.: **Emergency Preparedness Committee**, at Fire Station No. 1.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

- 8:00 a.m.: **Job Club**, at The First Presbyterian Church, for info. call 861-6752.
- 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

- 9:30 a.m.: **Downey Seniors Club**, at Apollo Park, for information call Nadine Morris at 923-9422.
- 10 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at 7850 Quill Drive, for information call John Fiorenza at 652-4399.
- 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.
- 1st Tues., 7:30 a.m.: **Gangs Out of Downey**, at City Hall training room.
- 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.
- Tues., Thurs. & Sat., 10 a.m.: **Downey Bocce Club**, at 7850 Quill Drive, for info. call John Fiorenza 652-4399.

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 7850 Quill Drive, for information call Marie Puch at 869-4366.
- 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-Bead 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 p.m.: **Downey Sister City Assoc.**, at Maude Price School, for information call 884-9657.
- 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 Pearl Koday 633-4355.
- 2nd & 4th Weds., 5:30 9.m.: **Lions Club**, at Cafe & Stuff, for information call 803-4048.
- 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 Barbara J Riley Center, call 943-5513.
- 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.
- 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.
- 4th Thurs., 10 a.m.: **Assistance League**, at Casa De Parley Johnson, for information call 869-0232.
- 4th Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Historical Society programs**, at Community Center. Call 862-2777.

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.
- 2nd Sat., 12:30 p.m.: **AAUW**, Los Amigos Country Club.

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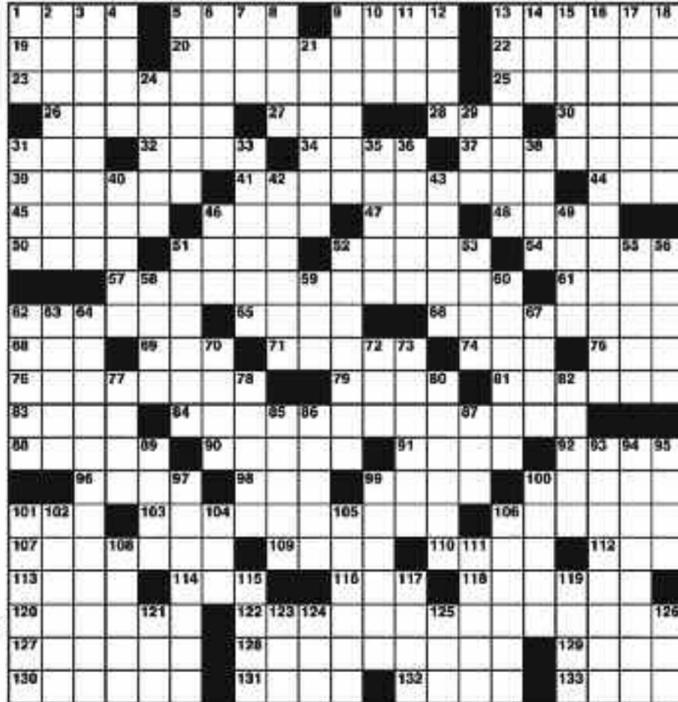
Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)

FLIPPERS: Where turnabout is in play

by Doug Peterson

- ACROSS**
- 1 Quick kiss
 - 5 Hit the mall
 - 9 '30s actress Pitts
 - 13 Microscope specimens
 - 19 Lend of tennis
 - 20 Obvious course of action
 - 22 Son of William the Conqueror
 - 23 Squealers on cop shows?
 - 25 Think highly of
 - 26 Towel off again
 - 27 Consumer protection agcy.
 - 28 High bond rating
 - 30 Scandinavian capital
 - 31 Writer Rand
 - 32 Wine-list options
 - 34 Sounds of amazement
 - 37 Attracts
 - 39 Some Russian imports
 - 41 Young socialite at the beach?
 - 44 They're checked at LAX
 - 45 On the whole
 - 46 Mad setting
 - 47 Author Santha Rama
 - 48 Actor Bruce
 - 50 LPGA star Pak
 - 51 Fancy pitcher
 - 52 Jeopardy
 - 54 Set of doctrines
 - 57 Puny punishment?
 - 61 Neighbor of Yemen
 - 62 One in the red
 - 65 Silent performer
 - 68 Expels in disgrace
 - 69 Paleozoic, for one
 - 69 Mannerism
 - 71 Lost Horizon director
 - 74 Indigo, for one
 - 75 Come- (Inducements)
 - 76 Fiesta musician
 - 79 Mystique
 - 81 Desktop item
 - 83 Publishing abbr.
 - 84 "I prefer hot dogs," perhaps?
 - 88 Gear projections
 - 90 Oil-bearing rock
 - 91 Math course
 - 92 Mountain in Thessaly
 - 96 Travi toss-in
 - 98 Follower's suffix
 - 99 Scow or skiff
 - 100 Peevish states
 - 101 Sigma follower
 - 103 Dracula's bar bill?
 - 106 Spotted cat
 - 107 Egg entrees
 - 109 Volcanic product
 - 110 Bushy coil
 - 112 Garden-pond fish
 - 113 Role for Lorre
 - 114 "Where did _ wrong?"
 - 116 Meditation syllables
 - 118 Parsphrase
 - 120 Melodic passage
 - 122 Dribbling Disney character?
 - 127 Makes an easy putt
 - 128 Extremely clever
 - 129 Border on
 - 130 Mary-Kate and Ashley
 - 131 Tolkien tree beings
 - 132 Was chauffeured
 - 133 Permits
- DOWN**
- 1 Indy 500 area
 - 2 The whole crowd
 - 3 Legislative schedule
 - 4 Was certain of
 - 5 Blade star Wesley
 - 6 Cheated, slangily
 - 7 Samura's sash
 - 8 Faculty VIP
 - 9 Diamond substitute
 - 10 Ortiz of Ugly Betty
 - 11 Studio structure
 - 12 Word in two constellation names
 - 13 Cut off, as wool
 - 14 Bandleader Brown
 - 15 Being pulled along
 - 16 Helping Othello into his uniform?
 - 17 Cornea coverer
 - 18 St. _ Island, GA
 - 21 Julius Caesar role
 - 24 Like some modern marketing
 - 29 Go on to say
 - 31 Budget alternative
 - 33 Trout's home
 - 35 New staff member
 - 36 Wolf down
 - 38 Under the covers
 - 40 Painter Gustav
 - 42 Heart-valve adjective
 - 43 Trade organization
 - 46 Prefix for light
 - 49 Aussie leapers
 - 51 Add nutrients to
 - 52 Make ready
 - 53 Byron's title
 - 55 _ Loa
 - 56 Likely to fidget
 - 58 Smidgen
 - 59 Thurman of The Producers
 - 60 Supporting with a rope
 - 62 Resign
 - 63 Answering-machine button
 - 64 Advice from a pro grill?
 - 67 Array of options
 - 70 Cartoonist Addams
 - 72 Floor covering
 - 73 Musical Franklin
 - 77 A fan of
 - 78 Reply to "You dig?"
 - 80 Spanish cheer
 - 82 Porterhouse alternative
 - 85 Pesto herb
 - 86 Part of UHF
 - 87 Small swallow
 - 89 Center of activity
 - 93 Luxurious after-bath attire
 - 94 Attracted attention
 - 95 Noted wine region
 - 97 Olympics competitors
 - 99 Pollen source
 - 100 Grimace
 - 101 Salsa ingredient
 - 102 Lacking scruples
 - 104 Food-additive letters
 - 105 Brings to mind
 - 106 Unpopular alternative
 - 108 Off the leash
 - 111 Impostor
 - 115 Tony's cousin
 - 117 Start to awaken
 - 119 Porous gem
 - 121 Do wrong
 - 123 Raggedy redhead
 - 124 USMC rank
 - 125 Scare word
 - 126 Elevs.

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- 67 Array of options
- 70 Cartoonist Addams
- 72 Floor covering
- 73 Musical Franklin
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- 78 Reply to "You dig?"
- 80 Spanish cheer
- 82 Porterhouse alternative
- 85 Pesto herb
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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 unusual first name of actress ELZA and Susan, HENRY I (22 from two relatives of hers named ZASU Pitts (9 Across) was derived from two relatives of hers named ELZA and Susan, HENRY I (22 Across) succeeded his brother William II as King of England in 1100. ISBN (83 Across), short for International Standard Book Number, is the 13-digit code that uniquely identifies a published book.





Students plan for Spring State

Not your old, boring fundraiser

BY DEBORAH WON,
INTERN

DOWNEY – Defying the laws of boring fundraisers, Girls League Association of Warren is shaking things up with Casino Royale, to be held on Friday, March 19, in the Warren library from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Never before held as a school function, Casino Royale is taking students back to the 1920s for a night of great food, casino tables, an art show auction, raffles, and more.

“Although Casino Royale is a fundraiser, the primary goal is for students to get together and enjoy a night of delicious food and games,” said Sara Nielsen, the senior advisor of Girls League. “We will measure our success in the amount of fun had by our attendees.”

Everything will be 1920s-themed, and students are encouraged to dress up in the fashion of this era. Many attendees are planning on wearing flapper dresses and outfits.

Although doors open at 6 p.m., the start of the night begins at 6:30 p.m. with dinner and socializing. While purchasing the \$15 tickets, students were asked to pick which table they would prefer for the dinner, to ensure that friends will be able to sit next to each other.

After an hour of dinner, the casino tables will open for the next two hours, where students can play various card games like black jack and poker. As a substitute for real money, however, attendees will receive tokens upon entrance that



PHOTO COURTESY WARREN GIRLS LEAGUE ASSOCIATION

will act as their payment to play at the casino tables.

In addition to receiving dinner and game tokens, the students will also be receiving raffle tickets for the raffle-off of several prizes at the end of the night. Students can choose which of the prizes is most appealing, and can opt to win the one of his or her choice.

For those who don't find the casino tables amusing, they can make their way out to the area cleared off for music and dancing. Students are also encouraged to bring extra money for the art show that will be hosted during the night. The art pieces are those of other students who have donated their

artwork for the Girls League cause.

The night will come to a close with the final crowning of the King and Queen of Games. Throughout the night, there will be a projected screen that will keep track of who is winning the most games at the casino tables. Thus, by 10 p.m., the highest-scoring winner will be crowned as Casino Royale royalty, sash included.

“The committees started preparing since December, and we have been preparing for about 3 months,” said Girls League secretary Neveen Youssef. “Especially because it's the first time we are doing this, we want to make sure this event will be memorable.

We're putting a lot into this, we want to kick off this event with a bang.”

Preparations for this event have been immense, with various different factions cooperating to make this a great event. Girls League Association is a service club on campus, and presently in its ninth year boasts a membership of nearly 350 members. The funds raised through this fundraiser will contribute to the Girls League Service Bear College Scholarship Fund, the Warren High School Library, and to the Girls League Association itself.

AP exams just got pricier

BY JOANNA QUINTANA,
INTERN

DOWNEY – State budget cuts have affected Downey High School in one more way: funding for Advanced Placement exams will no longer be offered to students belonging to the Gifted and Talented Education, or GATE, program.

Each AP exam costs \$86 at DHS for the average student and a total of 14 exams are made available for the 2009-2010 school year. Though it was precedent for GATE students to be offered money to help cover the costs of their AP tests, GATE funds will instead be used for the general fund.

“What is happening is the burden of education is being shifted from taxpayers to the families,” writes DHS GATE Coordinator Bernie Glasser in an email. “This is basically a hidden tax. We are directly charging parents for services that used to be included in a general education. So in many ways the government is raising taxes without having to say they are raising taxes.”

Funding this year has not been offered to GATE students for AP testing mainly due to the fact that districts are allowed by the state to use categorical funds for the general fund in order to help balance the budget for school districts. Though this does affect GATE students, AP tests will continue to be taken, only not as much as they would have been had there been funds. One example of a student forced to make a decision due to the GATE funding cuts is a DHS senior and GATE member, Marisol Montano, who had initially planned on taking six AP tests, but has chosen to narrow it down to four after learning there will be no help.

“I had a \$70 dollar voucher last year and it helped cover one test,” said Montano. “This year, though, I'm taking more AP classes and I don't have the voucher so I have to pay everything and there's no help so now I have to pick and choose what I would like to take, even though I would like to have taken everything. I've worked hard and I'm a little bit disappointed by it, but I would rather they cut this than cut other programs.”

Though funds for GATE students in particular have been eliminated, financial aid is still offered to students who qualify, generally the students who have applied and qualify for the School Lunch Program at Downey.

“The California Department of Education is supplementing the cost of exams for students from low income households,” writes AP Coordinator Tina Carlson in an email. “Students who qualify are able to purchase exams for \$5.00.”

The AP test that is now \$86 for the high-achieving student can be cut down to \$5 if the student qualifies; however, GATE students for the 2009-2010 school year are now placed in the large pool of other students and will not have their own separate funding apart from the general fund.

“Generally, I think the state should be funding the GATE program specifically and education in general,” writes Glasser. “I think the school district is making a difficult decision in shifting funds to the greatest number of students. These are tough choices that are a result of a downturn in the California economy as well as Californians and legislature not providing enough funding for education.”

Teachers protest against state budget cuts

BY HENRY VENERACION,
STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – The sight of teachers waving placards and slogans, or simply congregating, on school district campuses, and animated scores more seen on TV in the early morning of March 4, a Thursday, proved disconcerting to not a few concerned parents already worried about middle school sports programs being dropped or irritated at the prospect of seeing their children sharing their classes with God-knows-how-many-other kids in an increased class size program aimed of course

at coping with frighteningly real district budget cuts, directly due in turn to state-slashed education budgets.

After all the excitement had died down, however, and the emotional weight of the moment had been lifted, when it was explained that the Downey teachers were not protesting against the district itself but were merely participating in a statewide ‘day of action’ staged by the California Teachers Association, other education organizations, higher education groups and labor unions in protest against further budget cuts to public education and other essential

services, nerves calmed and a level of reason was restored.

According to Downey Education Association president Jeff Orlinsky, the Downey teachers’ half-an-hour before school district-wide show of support was part of an ‘informational flyer distribution’ program called ‘Start the Day for Students.’

In a prepared statement, he said the March 4 day of action was to “heighten the awareness of the havoc \$17 billion in cuts over two years is wreaking on students and schools. ‘Start the Day for Students’ was about quality public schools building strong communi-

ties, and we joined together to say our students deserve better.”

Orlinsky emphasized: “Investing in public education is the best investment we can make in [our students’] future.”

In a related development Tuesday at the Rotary Club luncheon meeting, Orlinsky presided over an art contest among George Redfox’s art/photography students at Warren High, with cash prizes going to the first-to-third prize winners. Looking directly at fellow Rotarian Wendy Doty, who is also DUSD superintendent, Orlinsky said: “Thanks to the district, we still have our arts program.”

Nintendo to release new Dsi XL

■ Portable gaming system will be 93 percent larger than DS Lite system.

From bank balances to IQ scores, there are many things people would love to see increase by 93 percent. Nintendo, for its part, is determined to significantly boost the social fun of portable gaming.

Launching March 28, the new, extra-large Nintendo DSi XL handheld system makes it easier for everyone to gather around and have

a good time. It features 4.2-inch screens that are 93 percent larger than those on the Nintendo DS Lite system. The improved wider viewing angle of the Nintendo DSi XL screens also provides a new way for people to enjoy games with friends and family, making it easier than ever to watch and join in the fun.

Nintendo DSi XL will be available at a suggested retail price of \$189.99, and that includes three titles that have been pre-installed on the system. These include the brain-training games Brain Age Express: Math and Brain Age Express: Arts & Letters, as well as Photo Clock, which lets users customize the pictures on the background of their clock.

Nintendo DSi XL launches in both Burgundy and Bronze, with a glossy top and a matte-finish bottom for a better grip.

“For some people, good things come in big packages,” said Cammie Dunaway, Nintendo of America’s executive vice president of Sales & Marketing. “Our Nintendo DS family of systems has been going strong since 2004, and this new portable system really lets players enjoy the fun together.”

Nintendo DSi XL is launching at the same time as two portable games that demonstrate the social nature of the new hardware. America’s Test Kitchen: Let’s Get

Cooking uses the larger screens to help multiple chefs chip in to prepare delicious recipes. In WarioWare: D.I.Y., the larger screens help players see all the details as they create and share their own microgames.

Beyond the social experience, the larger Nintendo DSi XL screens draw players in and make games feel more engaging. Eye-popping graphics are beautifully rendered. Even people who have been playing Nintendo DS games for years will see them take on a new life with Nintendo DSi XL. As always, playing is believing. To truly understand the difference Nintendo DSi XL makes, you have to experience it for yourself.

Nintendo DSi XL includes all the same features as the Nintendo DSi system, including two cameras and photo-and sound-manipulation tools. With a broadband Internet connection, you can also upload photos directly to Facebook to share with friends or access downloadable Nintendo DSiWare games via the Nintendo DSi Shop.

To help celebrate the launch of Nintendo DSi XL, Nintendo is asking the public to choose things in their lives that they would like to see 93 percent bigger. The poll lists fun, humorous options, including sound speakers, swimming pools and furniture. The poll is a great

way for people to get social as they show off their responses to their friends.

Students can get free prom dresses

DOWNEY – High school girls who are unable to purchase a gown for prom are encouraged to contact the Assistance League of Downey for help.

The organization has several prom dresses in different sizes and colors, along with purses, jewelry and gift cards to purchase shoes.

The service is free and confidential.

Girls should schedule an appointment by speaking to their guidance counselor or call the Assistance League of Downey at (562) 869-0232.

BY GABRIELA COYA,
INTERN

DOWNEY – This April 14-16, politically active students from the Junior State of America club at Downey High School and around Southern California will attend Spring State, the club’s most attended event of the year.

JSA, the largest, nonprofit, student-run organization in the nation, is organized at the school level and holds conventions such as Spring State — this year being held at the Hilton near LAX — where hundreds of students from dozens of schools all over Southern California can come together and share their passion for politics.

According to Tracy Pointdexter, the Southern California Program Director for JSA, there is an expected attendance of more than 1300 students at this year’s Spring State.

“Each year, students from Santa Barbara to San Diego to the Coachella Valley convene for three days to debate the issues pressing their individual communities, the state of California, and the nation,” said Pointdexter.

At this year’s Spring State with the theme “Life and Liberty: Re-imagining the American Dream,” students can expect to discuss a variety of debate topics concerning issues affecting America today. Besides going to debates, students will also have the opportunity to elect officials their age to lead the Los Angeles, Southern Empire, and Channel Island regions in Southern California JSA next year.

New additions to this year’s Spring State will include a debate composed of past JSA alumni teaming up with current candidates of the highest elected positions and the first ever “California Youth Summit,” where JSA has joined Youth and Government in deciding our youth’s most pressing issue and how to organize a plan for community outreach.

Downey’s JSA chapter president Christopher Espinosa has many hopes for school members attending the event.

“I hope that students will speak up and voice their opinions, and most importantly, become more politically aware of themselves, learn to respect others and the numerous opinions in the world, and create friendships that last a lifetime,” said Espinosa.

Leading up to Spring State was the Angeles Region (AR) One Day, held this year at The Buckley School on March 26. An approximated 22 members from Downey High went to this event attended by over 120 students from 26 schools. The AR One Day, like Spring State, allows students to discuss modern issues, this time inspired by the best-selling book “Freakonomics” by Stephen Dubner and Steven Levitt.

For more information on JSA, visit www.jsa.org or <http://social.jsa.org/>

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Pitching is iffy as Downey opens league

■ **BASEBALL:** Downey travels to Gahr for afternoon game today.

BY SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Downey finished up their non-conference play this week with a 2-1 win over El Dorado in their final game of the Loara Tournament, and split a double-header on Tuesday with Poly, losing the first game 10-9, then winning the second game 7-4.

In the El Dorado game, Downey's Jared Gibson threw seven innings of 2-hit ball to help the Vikings bring home the victory.

But the dramatics were supplied by Downey's Ray Llamas who came off the bench in the bottom half of the seventh inning to stroke a 2-run, game winning single that scored Jeremy Ruiz and Josh Collazo.

In the first game at Blair Field in Long Beach against the Long Beach Poly Jackrabbits, Downey struggled with their pitching giving up early runs that led to a deficit they could not overcome.

The pitching shaped up though in the second of the two games at Blair Field with Downey only allowing 4 runs in their 7-4 win.

The Vikings will open up their San Gabriel Valley League defense today on the road at Gahr. Game time is 3:15 p.m.

Prolonged budget woes may hurt high school athletics

■ With middle school sports eliminated, high school coaches learn to cope.

BY SCOTT COBOS, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – With the middle school sports programs soon to be completely erased from memory until further notice and the Carnival of Champions all but a distant dream from long ago at the elementary schools, Downey and Warren are not worrying according to their respective athletic directors.

Even though all of the after-school sports have been completely cut from the upcoming budget for middle schools and elementary schools in the Downey Unified School District, both DUSD high schools in the city are seeing only small changes if any at all.

"As far as our programs go, we will not be losing anything at the high schools this year," said Warren's athletic director Steve Hill. "That doesn't mean they won't cut next year so who knows...Our monies from the district for the athletic program have been reduced and there has been no raise in the coaching stipends in two years. We have lost a custodian in the stadium that was very helpful and kept the place in better shape.

"We really can't complain, however, considering the state of [California] right now. Our district is very good about working with what they have and we are all lucky things haven't been a lot worse."

While Hill's programs haven't really seen much of a change, Downey co-athletic director Mark Rand is sharing the same sentiment when it comes to all sports at Downey.

"At the moment we are not being affected but our athletic budget is minimal to begin with," Rand said. "The sports are mostly self sufficient. The one thing that would affect us drastically is if the district cuts transportation. I have not heard that mentioned though. So, no big changes."

And for most, that's great news to hear, but there are worries about how the budget cuts, while not directly affecting the high schools, will possibly affect the talent levels that enter the high schools.

It may be possible that while Downey and Warren has recently been enjoying the success of their football, basketball, baseball, softball, cross-country, and other sports, that run may either become more difficult or completely come to an end, especially at the frosh-soph levels.

"These cuts hopefully will not be permanent and they will be able to resume sports at [middle school] levels when the state budget gets healthy, but for now it will certainly have somewhat of an affect on our lower level programs," Hill said.

"Probably not the first year so much, but as the kids go through middle school and have no competitive sports program, after a while that will definitely have an affect on our lower levels."

But even though there may be an influence on those lower levels according to Hill, Rand believes that there's still hope for the high levels of development that come in to the frosh/soph levels.

"The talent level will be the same hopefully," Rand said. "These kids will in theory still participate in the Downey youth leagues. Continuity could be in jeopardy though. When Sussman and East

[middle schools] athletes are competing together for their schools, they will get to know each other athletically and this contributes to success at the freshman level in high school.

"As far as development, we will have to wait and see how the first couple years go."

Downey softball manager Micah Karzen agrees with Rand when he said that in theory these players would still be playing in youth leagues, or in other cases, travel ball.

"For me with softball it should not really affect the level of play because so many of my players play travel ball year round," he said. "I think it is sad we have to take something so valuable away from kids but at the same time I understand the economic circumstances we are living with and the hard choices school districts are facing."

Warren assistant manager Rob English echoes Karzen saying that taking away options from middle school students can only hurt them in the long run.

"The real tragedy is that for hundreds of young kids, sports will no longer be an option for them," he said. "Sports for some students is their only connection to school, and every study shows that when students are connected to school they become better students and better learners."

"By removing this option the district has unwittingly disconnected students from the learning process and therefore lessened the quality of education offered by the DUSD."

There still has been no word on whether or not the cuts will be permanent to the sports programs at the middle schools.



PHOTO BY CARLOS ONTIVEROS

A Downey lacrosse player looks for a shot during the Vikings' 12-1 victory over Chadwick last week.

Downey shows grit in 12-1 victory

■ **LACROSSE:** Game turns physical as Vikings pull away for impressive win.

BY ALYSSA WYNNE, SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – Downey continues their roll with their latest win over Chadwick, 12-1, even though things started to get a little chippy between the two teams.

Downey's top scorers in this game were midday Leo Marquez, with 3 goals, midday Marquis Mustin, with 3 goals, and attacker Joseph Silva, with 2.

"They were just getting penalties because that was all they could do," said midday and face-off specialist George Martinez. "They didn't have much of a strategy, they just got mad."

Referees that were monitoring the game were often throwing yellow flags left and right because of Chadwick's aggressive play. Some players were seen swearing at Downey and during face-offs, the Chadwick player, instead of clamping just went straight into hitting

Martinez.

The first half ended with Downey in the lead and Chadwick facing, a very deep deficit. Downey's defense locked up like a fortress and made sure to keep their opponent away from the goal. Downey goalkeeper, Guillermo Benitez, is a third string goalie that just started two weeks ago but is already showing that he has talent by only allowing 2 scores.

"When you're playing a team that wants to sit back in the zone, they tend to get a little bit selfish. It's easy to get out of an offensive mix when you see openings and there are a lot of shots available," said Downey boys' lacrosse head coach Scott Witkin. "Chadwick was one of those that we call bunkering in. So they gave us a lot of opportunities to go around, and the guys were sort of being a little more selfish than they should have. I guess with a better team those opportunities wouldn't be there but the guys are seeing stats and goals for themselves as opposed to seeing team ball."

Swimmers split the difference

■ **SWIMMING:** Vikings struggle in early season.

BY JOSEPH APODACA, SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – The Vikings are off to a good start this swim season, with both the boys and girls teams taking home overall victories against Santa Fe High but losing to St. Joseph's and St. John Bosco.

Throughout swim season, it is common for teams to encounter losses but at the same time garner individual success for the team's top swimmers. The male Vikings took home several individual first places in last week's Santa Fe meet. Colin O'Connor, Derek Klotzer, Serro Park and Derek Dodson took first billing in the 200-meter medley relay. O'Connor also scored first place in the 100-meter backstroke. Klotzer additionally took home first places in the 200 and 500-meter freestyle events. Park succeeded in sprinting to first place in the 100-meter freestyle and later helped Brandon Velasco, Derek Dodson, and Juan Rivas take home first place in the 200-meter freestyle relay.

The girls were just as successful as the boys. Lindsay Gonzalez won the 100-meter butterfly stroke by a four-second difference from her St. Joseph's opponents, already

giving her a CIF consideration time. Gonzalez went on further to improve her butterfly time in the Santa Fe meet. Team Captain Sarah Aguayo was able to win the 500-meter freestyle event, giving her a CIF consideration time as well. Freshman Meghan Nevarez also took top honors in the 200-meter IM and the 50-meter freestyle events.

With one loss and one win under both the boys and girls' suits, their season record stands at 1-1.

Improvement is a major factor in being on the swim team, with many of the members being first-time swimmers. While they have spent many weeks practicing in preparation for competition, it's the meets that are the true test of their abilities.

"The first meet is always a learning meet to see where every swimmer fits best, in individual and relay events," said Downey boys' swim coach Shaun Delhousey.

The lady Vikings' head coach Sal Castro feels the same.

"The new swimmers are improving each week. The win against Santa Fe should help their confidence," said Castro.

From here on out, there is no rest for the Viking swim team. With at least one meet each week, they are well on their way to becoming stronger in the water.

Warren stays perfect

■ **SWIMMING:** Coach impressed with young team.

BY JOSEPH APODACA, SPORTS INTERN

DOWNEY – The Warren Bears are making for a good start to their swim season, with the boys taking home two victories against Santa Fe Springs and Whitney and the girls winning versus Rancho Alamitos but losing to Whitney.

The varsity boys' teams started their season off undefeated, taking first in their tri-meet against Whitney and Santa Fe Springs. Varsity dominated against their opponents, winning 128 to 105 and 69 in the respective meets. Alex Rivera, Luis Rivera, and Captain Dustin Yi were among the Bears to

take first places in their individual events. Only the beginning of the season, the varsity boys are already 3-0 for the season.

Coach O'Dowd is extremely impressed with her group of boys this season. Taking a year off to have a baby while trying to build strong swimmers has not been easy for the team, but with the results they are getting already, they are well on their way to success.

"This team is unbelievably inexperienced this year but they're extremely talented and holding their own. Most of our kids struggled transitioning into swimming from other sports, just because it's such a different endurance but they're adjusting great," said O'Dowd.

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Wrestling fundraiser Thursday

DOWNEY – Tom Houts, principal of Downey High School, will slip into a singlet and grapple with sophomore heavyweight Robert Chism at a campus fundraiser Thursday.

Faculty and staff composed of teachers, coaches, administrators and campus security guards will go toe-to-toe with the Division V CIF champions.

Proceeds from the event will help the team purchase championship rings, in addition to helping the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Relay for Life and senior class of 2010.

Tickets are \$5 pre-sale or \$7 at the door. The event begins at 6 p.m. in the gymnasium.

Bus trip to Pechanga Casino

DOWNEY – The Woman's Club of Downey is sponsoring a bus trip to the Pechanga Resort and Casino on April 5.

Funds raised by the trip will go to the club's scholarship fund.

The bus will leave the Woman's Club at 8 a.m. and return by 6 p.m. Cost is \$6 for Woman's Club members and \$11 for non-members, and include a \$10 voucher for casino play.

Guests must be at least 21 years old.

For reservations, call Doris Patterson at (562) 869-0377 or Jeanine Keys at (562) 923-6620.

Library auction items on preview

DOWNEY – Silent auction items to benefit the Downey City Library are now available for preview in the library's foyer.

Items include "Anne of Green Gables" by L.M. Montgomery, the story of an 11-year-old freckled, red-haired and highly-opinionated orphan; "The Land of Ireland" by Brian de Breffny contains quotations from ancient sagas, travel journals and poems both ancient and modern taking you to the emerald isle; and "The Home Planet" conceived and edited by Kevin W. Kelley, through photographs Earth as seen from space along with stars and other planets in relation to Earth.

Bids can be placed inside the Friends Book Store located inside the library until March 27.

Songfest is tomorrow

DOWNEY – The 18th annual Interfaith Multicultural Songfest sponsored by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will take place tomorrow at 7 p.m.

Choirs and musicians scheduled to participate include the Bellflower Civic Chorus, LDS Spanish Choir of Bell Gardens and more.

Admission and parking are free. The event will be held at the church's south facility at 12425 Orizaba Ave.

For more information, call (562) 927-9790.

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Soroptimists honor distinguished women

■ Soroptimist of Downey pays tribute to area women.

By **HENRY VENERACION**, STAFF WRITER

DOWNEY – Their mission is making a difference in women's and children's lives "one service project, one fundraiser, one meeting, and one member at a time."

Last week, Soroptimist International of Downey honored five women and a teenager for making a difference in the community and distinguishing themselves in the process, even as the club celebrated International Women's Day. (Founded in 1911 and observed on March 8, IWD will celebrate its global centenary next year).

The four accorded Women of Distinction awards for 2010 were: former city clerk Judy McDonnell, True Lasting Connections (TLC) coordinator Luz Perez, Downey Unified School District board president Barbara Samperi, and musical artist Jannel Rap.

Receiving the Soroptimist's Ruby Award was Dr. Yaga Szlachic, chair of the department of medicine and chief of cardiology at Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center.

The Violet Richardson Award, given to a girl between ages 14 and 17 "whose volunteerism demonstrates an effort to help others," was conferred on Warren High School's Christina Carrera.

The ruby, noted Women of Distinction committee chair and presenter Dianne Lumsdaire, is a "deep red gemstone associated with wisdom, importance, strength, vitality, power and love, traits you will find in our Ruby Award winner today, Dr. Yaga." Renowned for her work on behalf of women with spinal cord injuries, Dr. Szlachic has also created a Lipid Clinic at Rancho Los Amigos to further her work in the area. She also serves as an associate professor of clinical medicine at USC where she lectures medical students, interns, residents, and fellows on hypertension, heart failure, and myocardial ischemia.

The Ruby Award is named after



COURTESY PHOTO

the first federation president, Ruby Lee Minar.

Retired since 2001 but remaining active with the club and devoting her time to pursuing her favorite projects (helping raise funds for scholarships, the Women's Opportunity Awards, etc.), McDonnell has received multiple honors from various organizations in her 20 years with Soroptimist, but never expected to receive one from the club. She said she was privileged to serve the city at one stretch when the city council majority was women (3-2).

Perez's 10 years of service at TLC includes "responsibility for the welfare of students referred to TLC by district principals and others. This can range from providing medical exams to psychological counseling to hearing exams; TLC also provides assistance to parents who need to enroll their children in health insurance." Indeed, the work that Perez does, said Lumsdaire, along with her staff, is "lifesaving to some, and needed by many." Amidst all this, in the meantime, she earned her bachelor's in social work.

Rap, whose musical accomplishments include five solo CD's so far (she's currently working on her sixth), is also a woman with a mission to find her sister Gina who disappeared in 2000. Her GINA for Missing Persons Foundation was instrumental in her being listed as one of the experts on call for missing persons cases on such national TV shows as Nancy Grace, etc. She has shared the stage with John Waite, Sophie B. Hawkins, Stevie Wonder, Eddie Money, etc.

The Violet Richardson Award given to Carrera is named after Violet Richardson Ward, who was the first president of the first Soroptimist Club. Hailed as an inspiration throughout the years, she was described as someone "committed to creating opportunities for girls and young women through her affiliations with Soroptimist, the Girl Scout Council and the American Association of University Women."

Carrera has volunteered at Downey Regional Medical Center, at a retirement center with the Key Club, belonged to the Linkcrew, and volunteered to help students in track and field and special ed. She was the founder of the "Lunch Bunch," who mentor and spend time with autistic students at Warren High.

Speaker Michele Memmott, governor-elect of Soroptimist's Camino Real Region (to which Soroptimist of Downey belongs) noted the many advances women have made over the years and said, "Women now have more choices [than ever before]."

Club president Patty Kotze, who is president and managing partner at Diversified Risk Management, Inc., at the same time enjoined everybody: "Let's make every day International Women's Day."

Eat at Chili's, help a local school

DOWNEY – Chili's restaurant at Downey Landing will host a two-day fundraiser April 21-22 to benefit the technology department at Our Lady of Perpetual Help School.

Fifteen percent of proceeds will be donated to the school. Guests should mention the fundraiser to their waiter.

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DIARY OF A WIMPY KID PG 11:20, 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50
REPO MEN 14 11:40, 2:00, 3:00, 7:40, 10:20
* GREEN ZONE 16 11:10, 1:55, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10
OUR FAMILY WEDDING PG-13 11:20, 2:00, 5:20, 7:50, 10:25
REMEMBER ME PG-13 11:35, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:15
SHE'S OUT OF MY LEAGUE 16 12:00, 2:20, 5:00, 7:45, 10:20
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The local chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International presented 56 sets of story books and children's pajamas to the TLC Family Resource Center to give to families when they visit the center. The chapter chose to make the contribution as part of the society's LIFE (Learning is for Everyone) international project. Pictured from left to right are Margo McClain, Theresa Petit, Janice Hobson, Lucy Perez, Robert Jagielski and chapter president Denise Taylor.

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The Downey Patriot, a newspaper of general circulation for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. VS019238

LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number 20100200234
 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS:
 (1) The Tire Champs, 4037 Rosemead Blvd, Pico Rivera, CA 90660, County of Los Angeles
 Name of registrant(s): Marscello Sanchez, 8404 Cherokee Dr, Downey, CA 90241
 Virginia Cervantes-Sanchez, 8404 Cherokee Dr, Downey, CA 90241
 This business is conducted by Husband and Wife
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) S/Marscello Sanchez, Owner
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on February 12, 2010. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A New Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration.
 The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (see Section 14411 et. seq., Business Professions Code).

Published in:
The Downey Patriot #VS019238
2/26/10, 3/5/10, 3/12/10, 3/19/10

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number 20100271099
 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS:
 (1) Gidget's Pets Etc., 40718 178th St E, Lancaster, CA 93535, County of Los Angeles
 Name of registrant(s): Lenelle Marie Ochsner, 40718 178th St E, Lancaster, CA 93535
 Susan Therese Ochsner, 40718 178th St E, Lancaster, CA 93535
 This business is conducted by a Limited Partnership
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) S/Lenelle Ochsner, Partner
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on March 1, 2010. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A New Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration.
 The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (see Section 14411 et. seq., Business Professions Code).

Published in:
The Downey Patriot #VS019238
3/5/10, 3/12/10, 3/19/10, 3/26/10

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number 20100285186
 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS:
 (1) Code 3 Handyman Service, 11333 Buell St, Downey, CA 90241, County of Los Angeles
 Name of registrant(s): Erubiel Herrera, 11333 Buell St., Downey, CA 90241
 Maria Herrera, 11333 Buell St., Downey, CA 90241

This business is conducted by a Husband and Wife
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) S/Erubiel Herrera, Owner
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on March 3, 2010. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A New Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration.
 The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (see Section 14411 et. seq., Business Professions Code).

Published in:
The Downey Patriot #VS019238
3/5/10, 3/12/10, 3/19/10, 3/26/10

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number 20100303134
 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS:
 (1) D Tech Truck Auto, 12036 Carson St., Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716, County of Los Angeles
 Name of registrant(s): Robert Castro, 5552 Orange Ave, #A, Cypress, CA 90630
 This business is conducted by an Individual
 Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name(s) listed above. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime.) S/Robert Castro, Owner
 This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on March 5, 2010. NOTICE-In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A New Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration.
 The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State, or common law (see Section 14411 et. seq., Business Professions Code).

Published in:
The Downey Patriot #VS019238
3/12/10, 3/19/10, 3/26/10, 4/2/10

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Swap meet at Woman's Club

DOWNEY – The Woman's Club of Downey will host a rummage and swap meet March 27 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For table information, call Debbie at (562) 619-0269.

State of the City March 26

DOWNEY – Mayor Anne Bayer will deliver the annual state of the city address during a noon lunch event March 26 at the Rio Hondo Event Center.

Tickets are \$25 and include lunch.

Credit card reservations are available by calling the Downey Chamber of Commerce at (562) 923-2191.

Fundraiser for baseball team

DOWNEY – A fundraising trip to Stateline to benefit the Downey Express travel baseball organization will be held April 17.

To reserve a seat, or submit a donation, call Betty Mora at (562) 412-9113 or Dianne Pacheco at (562) 889-3816.

Temple has tickets to Pirates show

DOWNEY – Temple Ner Tamid's Brotherhood has reserved a block of seats for a community outing to Pirate's Dinner Adventure in Buena Park on May 15.

Tickets are \$59 and includes show, dinner, tax and tip. Reservations are due by May 1.

The menu includes appetizer, salad, chicken or beef, mixed vegetables, rice or roasted potatoes and dessert with beverages.

Pirate's Dinner Adventure is an interactive show where audience members may be conscripted.

For reservations, call the temple at (562) 861-9276.

Carpooling is encouraged and the temple is able to assist with rides.

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Library accessible even to the homebound

DOWNEY – Assistance League of Downey and the Downey City Library recently marked the 25th anniversary of their partnership with Books on Wheels, a delivery service that provides library materials to homebound residents.

The service is open to residents who are elderly, handicapped, chronically ill or temporarily ill or injured with confinement expected to last two months or more.

Martha Sodetani, chairman of Books on Wheels, interviews patrons as to their reading preferences and any special needs they may have. Volunteers deliver and then pick up the books.

Some of the Assistance League volunteers include Jean Barrera, Adele Burger, Kathy McCaughan, Willie McFarland, Eleda Powell, Joanna Shull and Yvonne Swain.

Josephine de la Dingco, access services supervisor at the library, is the liaison to the Books on Wheels program. She registers patrons and coordinates with librarian Susan



Martha Sodetani, left, and Josephine de la Dingco prepare library materials for the Books on Wheels program, a service for homebound citizens offered by the Assistance League of Downey.

Lance to select appropriate library material.

"The library is committed to continue to provide library materials through this program to homebound individuals who otherwise

would not have access to the library," de la Dingco said.

Applications for the free program are available at the Downey City Library and the Second Tyme Around Thrift Shop.

St. Joseph's Table at church

DOWNEY – The Italian Catholic Federation, branch 362, of St. Raymond's Catholic Church will sponsor its 27th annual St. Joseph's Table on March 21 in Msgr. Bob Gipson Hall, 12348 Paramount Blvd.

The celebration schedule

includes a viewing of the table from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., liturgy celebration and procession at 11 a.m., blessing of the table at 12 p.m., and pasta dinner from 12:30 to 5 p.m.

For more information, call Charlene Drobeck at (562) 928-

1937 or Marguerite Ferraro at (562) 869-7024.



Matthew Kendall, grandson of Downey residents Mike and Joyce Prokop, has completed Army Infantry basic training. The proud grandparents attended Kendall's graduation ceremony at the Army Infantry Training Center at Fort Benning, Ga. "It was an awesome feeling and a proud moment when Matthew requested that I attach the Blue Infantry Cord on his shoulder," Mike Prokop said, referring to the ritual designating that the young soldier has completed 14 weeks of infantry training. Kendall will deploy to Iraq today.

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Calvary Chapel Christian School in Downey recently celebrated the dedication of its new mural, painted by Abner Rivera of Dreams and Visions Art Company. The mural was a gift left by the departing class of 2010.

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