

The Downey Patriot



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Thursday, February 7, 2013 Vol. 11 No. 43 8301 E. Florence Ave., Suite 100, Downey, CA 90240

Major stroke prevention effort gets underway

• Free stroke prevention seminar scheduled for Feb. 27 at Rio Hondo Event Center.

By Greg Waskul
Rancho Los Amigos Foundation

DOWNEY—Sarah didn't know what hit her. Suddenly she couldn't speak, and then she realized that she couldn't move her right arm or her right leg. After she was rushed to the hospital, she and her husband learned she had suffered a major stroke. And yet, she could have avoided the stroke if she would have understood the risk factors and warning signs and made a few changes to her lifestyle.

"Eighty percent of strokes are preventable," said RTH Stroke Foundation President Deborah Masaglia. "That's why we have teamed with the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation, *The Downey Patriot* and the Rio Hondo Event Center to launch a major Stroke Prevention Program to help the residents of the Downey area avoid having a first stroke. We are very excited about this powerful community partnership, and we look forward to working together to reduce the incidence of stroke in this great city."

The first Stroke Prevention Seminar in the new program will be held Wednesday, Feb. 27 from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Rio Hondo Event Center, located at 10627 Old River School Rd Downey, CA 90241 in Downey. The event will feature free Carotid Artery Screenings as well as stroke education materials.

"This seminar can help put you on the road to better health in just 90 minutes," said RTH Stroke Foundation Executive Director Guy Navarro. "It's one of the best things you can do to improve your life, and it dovetails perfectly with the City of Downey's 'Healthy Downey' initiative."

"This program provides the opportunity for people in the Downey area to change their behaviors before they experience a stroke or other disabling injury," said Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center physician Amytis Towfighi, MD, who is one of the world's top stroke physicians and researchers. "At Rancho, we see three times as many stroke patients as any other diagnosis as the number of strokes continue to outpace other disabling illnesses and injuries," she said.

"We hope our friends in the community will attend this special free seminar so that they can find out how they can prevent a stroke in their own lives and the lives of their loved ones," Dr. Towfighi said. "One wonderful aspect of adopting a lifestyle that will help prevent strokes is that the same behaviors will also help someone avoid heart attacks, diabetes, and many other major illnesses."

To register for the seminar, please call (888) 794-9466 to RSVP. "Seating is limited, so we suggest that those who wish to attend this community education event regis-

ter as soon as possible," Guy said. The Carotid Artery screenings that will be provided free at this seminar would normally cost between \$200 and \$500 at a doctor's office. "Of course, if it helps diagnose a serious health issue, the value of this test would be priceless," he added.

The RTH Stroke Foundation was founded by Roxanna Todd Hodges. She suffered three major strokes. Her first was in 1993 and the last one was in 2005. She passed away at her home in Santa Monica in 2011.

"Roxanna's wish was to inform the public on stroke awareness," Deborah said. "If she would have known the warning signs and the risk factors, things may have been very different for her. Her last spoken words were 'Strike Out Stroke,' and at the RTH Stroke Foundation, we are working every day to make those words come true."

"We are committed to healing, training, education and support so that the causes of strokes can be prevented, and so that the often devastating after-effects of a stroke can be mitigated," she said. "We have seen so many stroke patients who didn't have to have a stroke but just didn't know the warning signs. So we are working with the Rancho Los Amigos Foundation, *The Downey Patriot* and Rio Hondo Event Center to help people live healthier lives."

The warning signs of stroke always come suddenly. They include:

- Sudden numbness, weakness of the face, arm or leg on one side of the body.
- Sudden loss of speech, or trouble talking or understanding speech
- Sudden dizziness, unsteadiness or sudden falls
- Sudden severe headache with no apparent cause, often described as "the worst headache I have ever had."

"If you experience some or all of these warning signs, don't wait... call 9-1-1 immediately," Dr. Towfighi said. "It literally could be a matter of life and death. The sooner you get to the hospital after a stroke, the better your chance of recovery."

"To put stroke into perspective, 795,000 Americans each year have a new or recurrent stroke," Deborah said. "On average, this is one stroke every 40 seconds. Each year, more than a million Americans die from stroke every year, making it one of the leading causes of death in our country."

"Another thing most people don't realize is that stroke is not just a disease of old age," Deborah said. "Today, 25 percent of strokes occur in people under age 65. And more women than men are having strokes."

"The good news is that in the last 15 years, we have been able to reduce stroke death rates in both men and women by more than 30 percent," Dr. Towfighi said.

"We encourage the community to take advantage of this free seminar," Deborah said. "It just might save your life, or the life of someone you love."



Councilman Alex Saab, Kimberly Barnette and Mayor Mario Guerra survey a homeless veteran living along the 105 Freeway. Photo by Martin Trejo

Vulnerable homeless residents discovered in Downey

• 19 homeless Downey residents at risk of premature death if they don't get proper housing, group says.

By Christian Brown
Staff Writer

DOWNEY— Nearly 40 men, women, and youth are currently street homeless in Downey according to a recent survey conducted by Downey Counts, a community-driven, street-to-home initiative spearheaded by the Moravian Church of Downey, Our Place Housing Solutions, and Kingdom Causes Bellflower.

In fact, 19 of the homeless respondents surveyed during the course of the three-day campaign are considered vulnerable and at risk of premature death if they continue living without proper housing.

"Homelessness isn't deadly, but health issues are dangerous," said Marina Flores of One Place Housing Solutions. "This is an issue the entire county struggles with. The survey

tells us who is the most sick, in jeopardy, and the most expensive to stay on the streets."

The by-name registry was collected between Jan. 29-31 during the nighttime as nearly 60 community volunteers, including some city councilmen, canvassed the streets and riverbeds of Downey surveying individuals using the Common Solutions' Vulnerability Index, a 41-item questionnaire.

Mayor Mario Guerra, who walked the streets with volunteers, called the experience "eye opening" and "humbling."

"I was very anxious to go out there," he said. "We all know there's a problem, but there's not just one solution. I don't have all the answers, but this is a start. These are our neighbors — we can get this done through compassion, dedication, and commitment."

According to the Homeless Count survey 12 individuals reported being homeless five years or more. Five of the respondents were 60 years of age or older and are in need of immediate housing. The youngest respondent

was 21-years-old.

Thirty-one percent of the people surveyed reported having mental health issues while 90% reported a history of substance abuse. Ninety percent also reported having had at least one inpatient hospitalization in the past 12 months and 59% of those living on the streets of Downey said they had visited the emergency room in just the last 3 months.

Four of those surveyed were military veterans, one was honorably discharged.

"It's a sad thing that a veteran who was honorably discharged is now living on the streets," said Rev. Christie Melby-Gibbons of the Moravian Church of Downey who co-ordinated the Homeless Count effort.

Downey was just one of 100 communities nationwide participating in the 100,000 Homes Campaign, a national movement to help identify and house 100,000 of the most vulnerable homeless people in the country by July 2014.

Downey Counts is hoping to provide housing for 10 of the most chronic homeless in the city by Feb-

ruary 2014. Councilman Alex Saab also assisted in the effort, which he called a community responsibility.

"We had some apprehension and some fear, but there was nothing to fear. We have an obligation to help them," said Saab who along with Guerra personally donated \$500 towards the project. "One homeless person is too many."

Melby-Gibbons is now encouraging residents to support the organization's efforts by volunteering for future outreach projects, attending upcoming trainings, and donating quality furniture, toiletries, and kitchenware.

"Or commit to give \$1,000 to move someone from the streets into their home," she said. "We want to provide housing for 10 of the most vulnerable — and it's totally feasible."

To learn more information or donate to Downey Counts, please contact Melby-Gibbons at (562) 927-0718 or Christie@downeymoravian.org.

Downey forwards more petition complaints to DA

DOWNEY— The city of Downey has forwarded three additional complaints to the Los Angeles District Attorney in an attempt to persuade the DA to investigate accusations of voter fraud among petitioners working on behalf of the Downey Firefighters Association.

The fire union is attempting to amend the city charter, which requires two-thirds voter approval before Downey can contract out fire and police protection services. Union officials say Downey is already violating the charter by hiring outside EMTs and jailers.

City clerk Adria Jimenez initially contacted the DA last week after the city received complaints that signature gatherers were lying to residents in order to get them to sign a petition. Jimenez included a letter from retired

city clerk Joyce Doyle, who claimed to have heard a petitioner tell a resident she would save \$1,000 by signing the petition.

On Monday, Jimenez sent the DA four additional complaints received by the city.

In one complaint, a Downey couple claim a petitioner knocked on their door and said, "In the case of a natural disaster, the city does not have any joint response with other city, state and local agencies to assist us and if you sign this petition, this will give Downey that assistance."

Another resident, Scott Knox, claimed a petitioner "was very aggressively in the face of the patron as they argued about the petition" outside the Downey City Library.

"I witnessed only about 20-30 seconds of the incident and then it

was over," Knox wrote. "The patron entered the library and was upset enough to comment to me about the petitioner's behavior as she walked in. I saw no physical contact between them."

"Since I live and work in Downey, please accept this as a complaint from a Downey resident."

Resident Erna Tersi lodged a complaint after a petitioner "misrepresented the issue to her son who was about to sign the petition prior to her intervening." Tersi said she "ran them off the property."

The fire union said they take such complaints seriously.

"We ask the signature gatherers to be honest and when we hear otherwise I am in continual contact with the [petition] company to have them rectify the problem," Steve Davis,

president of the Downey Firemen's Association, said last week.

Meanwhile, city officials also prepared a letter addressed to "Downey business owners" suggesting they contact police if petitioners refuse to leave their property.

"The City of Downey wants to ensure an enjoyable, distraction-free shopping experience for customers of businesses throughout the City," reads the letter signed by assistant city manager John Oskoui. "To that end, we ask that if signature gatherers refuse to leave your business after being asked to do so, that you contact the Downey Police Department so that officers can investigate the situation and take the appropriate action, including removal of the signature gatherers from your business."
—Eric Pierce, editor

Sweet Deals *for* Valentine's Day

Valentine by my Side

By Yolanda Adele, Contributor

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At 19 years of age my husband, Victor, eagerly volunteered to serve our country as a Marine in the Vietnam Crisis. We had been married for almost a year. We wrote Valentine/ love letters to each other; keeping the embers of our love lit for eighteen months while we were apart. We got to know each other by the stream of consciousness that comes from writing.

When my sweetheart came back to the Untied States he continued to be my Valentine. His love and strength has sustained me through currents of painful loses, and disappointments, and he has loved me through the many seasons of my life.

I read of beautiful celebrities that have many lovers and /or husbands, but can't seem to find just one man to give them the love and devotion I get on a daily bases. I feel fortunate to be so blessed. I attribute our on going love affair to the many love letters that left an indelible mark on our young and tender hearts.

My sweetheart doesn't seem to remember my faults; I know because I have pointed them out to him, and he looks surprised. This

may also make him a very wise man.

He is my Valentine in the day-to-day living, of going to work everyday, and in the many roles he plays:

- "Honey the facet is leaking."
- "Dad will you hang my shelves?"
- "Papa my rocking horse won't rock."
- "Hey neighbor will you lend me a hand?"
- "Son the tree needs trimming."

He answers everyone's needs with a resounding, "Sure!", or "You got it."

He doesn't wear a cape (with the letter "V" for Valentine) or carry a saber. However, he is armed with a tool belt, band-aids, strong arms, and a gentle sweet heart. He is not able to leap tall buildings at a single bound, but he rescues, protects, and nurtures his family in ways that he is not even aware of; as he enriches our lives.

In the movies the hero always gets the girl. This much is true of him also. For I have been "his girl" for fifty years now. That is why when his role and mine on the stage of life are over; I will gladly ride into the sunset with my Valentine at my side.

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DOWNEY 9148 Telegraph Rd. (562) 923-7248 FAX: 923-4983



Valentine's Day Dinner Menu
Served Thursday, Friday & Saturday
February 14, 15 & 16, 2013, from 4pm-to 10pm

Three Course Dinner Prepared by our Executive Chef

1st Course
Sliced Mango, Cranberries, Caramelized Walnuts and Gorgonzola Cheese on a bed of Mixed Greens with Raspberry Vinaigrette

2nd Course
Choice of:
Atlantic Salmon with Toasted Macadamia Nuts topped with Béarnaise Sauce
or
Angus Filet Mignon with Grilled Lobster Tail topped with Garlic Butter
or
Chicken Cordon Bleu with Beurre Blanc Sauce topped with Sautéed Mushrooms

3rd Course
Red Velvet Cake a la mode

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DOWNEY ARTS COALITION



Downey Civic Theatre

Movie Club: Oscars Celebration

Sunday, February 17th | 2pm

@ The Epic Lounge - 8239 2nd St.

Dangerous Liaisons, starring Glenn Close and John Malkovich is this month's film. It will be a special celebration of the Oscars Movie Club edition. Win free movie tickets, movie, and an Oscar and special Oscar basket going to best movie star look alike. Free.

Hair Club for Poets / Reading with Scissors

Saturday, February 23rd | 7:30pm

@ Number 34 - 9029 E. Florence Ave.

Two featured poets and an open mic for ten poets, plus a musical guest. Salon afterward at Casa La Reina. Curated by John Brantingham and Roy Anthony Shabla. Free.

Workshop with Roy Anthony Shabla

Tuesday, February 26th | 7pm

@ Rio San Gabriel Park - Meeting Room

See the painting techniques of artist Roy Anthony Shabla. Free.

J. Arthur Morris Photo Exhibit: First Glance

Friday, February 8th | 6pm-10pm

Experience the life of a man that lived with his camera as his third eye as he traveled the world while always keeping his community a top priority. Live Jazz, Cocktails & Hors d'Oeuvres provided. Arrive in Cocktail attire. Event is free, suggested donation at door.

Chinese New Year Celebration

Sunday, February 10th | 10pm-2pm

Come celebrate the traditions of Chinese New Years! Create your own Wealth Vase, learn about Chinese New Years, enjoy free horoscope readings & more!

Downey Football Alumnight

Thursday, February 21st | 6pm-9pm

Come support the 2012 Downey High School football team as Stay Gallery helps them fundraise for their CIF Championship rings. Former DHS alumni & community members are welcome. Event is free, suggested donation at door.

Downey Civic Light Opera: The World Goes 'Round

Thursday, February 14th | 2:30pm & 8pm

A compilation of songs drawn from Kander and Ebb musicals such as Cabaret, Chicago, Funny Lady, Kiss of the Spider Woman, and New York, New York. \$35 per person.
8pm Performances: February 14, 15, 16, 22, & 23
2:30pm Performances: February 17 & 24

Los Lonely Boys

Wednesday, February 27th | 8pm

After proving themselves one of the most stunning and wonderful musical success stories of the last decade, Los Lonely Boys are now carving out their legend with their fourth studio album Rockpango. Their debut single "Heaven" was a number one hit on the Billboard adult contemporary chart and reached the Top 40 on the Billboard Hot 100. \$30-\$40 per person.

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2013 LIST A LOOK AT DOWNEY'S LEADING DOCTORS

MEET SOME OF DOWNEY'S FINEST NEIGHBORHOOD PHYSICIANS

More than 16 years ago AppleCare Medical Group was formed right here in Downey. At the time it was known as Downey IPA and most of its physicians worked in Downey and had privileges at Downey Regional Medical Center.

Over the years AppleCare has worked hard to improve the way that it delivers care to its members. It has expanded its network of specialists, embraced the latest technology like Electronic Medical Records (EMR) and has increased its ability to provide options for its members by contracting with most of the commercial and Medicare health plans in the area. Most recently AppleCare became a Medicare approved Accountable Care Organization (ACO).

But the one thing that hasn't changed is the commitment AppleCare physicians have to their community. Many of their more than 800 primary care and specialist private-practice, independent physicians still practice medicine right here in Downey and the surrounding cities. They are dedicated to providing you and your family members with the highest level of health care possible. And they hold on to one simple philosophy: "The patient's needs come first."

Here we have listed some of the physicians in the Downey Area. If you are looking for a new doctor or are trying to find a way to get back to one of these doctors, please contact AppleCare Medical Group and they can guide you on how to do that. AppleCare is composed of independent physicians who run his or her own practices.

Please call (800) 460-5051 for more information on our network of physicians or visit AppleCareMedical.com

Physicians marked with an apple next to their name can only be accessed through AppleCare Medical Group.



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(562) 923-8333



DOMINGO BARRIENTOS, MD
Internal Medicine

10800 Paramount Blvd., Ste 203, Downey
(562) 869-1322



MARTHA RODRIGUEZ, MD
Family Practice

7340 Florence Ave., Ste 109, Downey
(562) 928-4642



PRAMOD MULTANI, MD
Internal Medicine

8333 Iowa St., Ste 200, Downey
(562) 923-1211



RICHARD AGUILAR, MD
Internal Medicine

8327 Davis St., Ste 202, Downey
(562) 923-8055



KYI SAN, MD
Internal Medicine

9701 Lakewood Blvd., Ste A, Downey
(562) 861-8999



DAVID KELLY, MD 
Pediatrics

8337 Telegraph Rd., Ste 119, Pico Rivera
(562) 776-3444



GEORGE SAADE, MD 
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8337 Telegraph Rd., Ste 119, Pico Rivera
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SPOTLIGHT ON DIVERSITY



AppleCare doctors reflect the communities they serve. They speak different languages, come from different ethnic backgrounds and have a variety of different interests.

They do their best to accommodate their patients' needs, such as providing extended office hours, accepting walk-ins and often make the time to see patients in settings outside of their offices. To find out who those doctors are that may help you and your specific needs, contact AppleCare today.






From left: Carol Kearns, Yolanda Adele and Margaret Hehman-Smith.

Writing contest winners announced

DOWNEY – Writers' Workshop West's recent fiction competition was unique in that all three winning stories were about young women. Yolanda Adele's "My Unique Party" won first prize. It was a comic treatment of a woman rescued from feelings of dejection and self-pity by her friends, Faith and Hope. Second place winner was Carol Kearns for "Space Shuttle Karma," a comic/drama about a young woman's life-changing event precipitated by the historic last flight of the space shuttle Endeavour over Downey. The third place story, "Echoes of the Brill" written by Margaret Hehman-Smith, tells of a girl's search for stardom in New York only to realize that her life's purpose lay in a faraway land. Writers' Workshop West invites new members and visitors to their meetings the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. For information, call (562) 862-3106.

In Memory of
Keith V. Baker
January 28, 1941 to January 23, 2013



Keith V. Baker was born on January 28, 1941 in Colorado and passed away on January 23, 2013 at his home in Downey, California. Keith had a stroke in May 2009 - that kept him from doing what he liked so well - Electronics & Woodworking. He was a very intelligent man - he could fix anything - or even make the part if it wasn't available. He lived his whole life on Cavel Street. Went to Alameda, South and Downey High School. He worked at North Am Automatics, Bowman Auto - Net Electronics. He was self employed - his card said "specializing in the unusual". He helped everyone on Cavel Street, always ready to lend a hand when asked. Last year Downey Rotary club for their "Community Service" painted Keith's house on the exterior. He was very grateful - this is what it's about, giving back. Keith's wish was cremation, no services. He was a great person and friend. He will be missed.

Dorothy Tuttle passes away at 89

DOWNEY – Downey resident Dorothy "Anita" Tuttle passed away at her home Jan. 30 with her husband, Julius, by her side. She was 89. She was born Sept. 22, 1923 in Seneca, Kans. She moved with her parents to Downey after high school graduation. She met Julius in the spring of 1946 and they were married on Aug. 24, 1947 at First Presbyterian Church of Downey. She started working at Vultee Aircraft Manufacturing and went on to work for AT&T. She retired after 41 years as a telephone operator. Along with working and raising a family, Anita volunteered her time and was an active member of First Presbyterian Church of Downey, White Shrine, Eastern Star, Rainbow Girls, Boy Scouts of America, American Legion Auxiliary, Diamond Tread Model-A Club, Daughters of the American Revolution and AT&T Pioneer's Club. She is survived by her husband, Julius; sons Thomas and Richard; five granddaughters; one great-grandson; and two great-granddaughters.

Soroptimist looks to honor extraordinary women

DOWNEY – Soroptimist International of Downey is accepting applications for its Soroptimist Ruby Award, which honors women who – through their professional or personal activities – make extraordinary efforts on behalf of women and girls. Women can nominate themselves or another woman in the community. Applications are available online at soroptimistdowney.org or by calling Giovanna Saab at (562) 746-5904. Applications are due by Feb. 15.

Inspirational speaker to appear in Downey

DOWNEY – Renee Bondi, a quadriplegic who defied all odds to become a recording artist and inspirational speaker that travels the country, will speak at the OLPH School auditorium Feb. 20 at 10 a.m. Bondi regularly speaks at churches, conferences and corporate events. The event is open to the public. A \$10 donation is asked for lunch. Reservations are due by Feb. 15. To reserve a seat, call Armida Lugo at (562) 861-5821.

Free babysitting on Valentine's Day

DOWNEY – Downey Memorial Christian Church is offering free babysitting services on Valentine's Day from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The service is offered by the church's youth group, Seeker's Youth, its youth leader Berenice Villanueva and associate pastor Annica Terrones. For more information or to sign up, call Pastor Terrones at (626) 329-7664 or e-mail pastorannica@gmail.com.

5K run/walk at Griffiths

DOWNEY – The first annual Help 2 Heal a Heart 5K run/walk and wellness fair will take place Feb. 23 at 8 a.m. at Griffiths Middle School. The event is jointly hosted by Aztlan Athletics Events and the Always a Mom Foundation, founded by Kim Jones. Jones started the foundation after the death of her son, Jamari Marqui Mintz, who died Dec. 25, 2010 after a five-month battle with cancer. He was only 13. The Always a Mom Foundation provides support services to bereaved moms. For more information, or to register for the walk, go online to alwaysamom.org or help2healheart.com.

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Letters to the Editor:

In support of Deacon Mario

Dear Editor:

I have been a Downey resident since 1946 and a parishioner of St. Raymond, and, having read the article about Mayor Guerra's removal as deacon from St. Raymond, I find it hard to believe that anyone would say that Deacon Mario was taking his personal viewpoints to the pulpit. ("Downey Mayor Removed as Deacon at St. Raymond's," 1/31/13)

In all of my years at St. Raymond, I have never heard Deacon Mario express his personal political views from the pulpit.

If that information came from the firemen's union, then shame on them. I back Deacon Mario 100 percent in his belief that the Fire Department should stay local and not go to L. A. County.

Robert J. Buckley
Downey

Dear Editor:

As a life-long resident of Downey, I am very proud of my city, its residents, elected officials, and the things that separate us from our neighboring cities such as having our own school district, our own police department, and our own fire department.

In my opinion, the men and women who serve and protect our residents are the finest and like most of our residents, I want to keep them ours.

Over the past few weeks, the negative chatter regarding Mayor Guerra is unwarranted and disturbing. Mayor Guerra is a man who is nothing short of passionate about this city; his loyalty is to the residents, and he is devoted to his parish and religion.

However, now he finds himself being blasted and criticized for standing up to the bullying antics of the fire union. I for one applaud, and stand with, him. I am in no way saying that Mayor Guerra is an angel. I am sure he has rattled some feathers with his candid, big personality, but regarding this issue I wholeheartedly agree with him: let's keep our fire department here in Downey.

Again, the Mayor has said some things in the past that I have not agreed with, and perhaps his approach regarding this matter should have been different. But for the most part, I think everything he does is in the best interests of our city and its residents—he bleeds Downey and this is the type of official you want representing you and our city.

Quite frankly, our firemen are paid very well and given great benefits. In addition, they are loved and supported by our city and its residents. With that said, no one is forcing anyone to stay here and I am sure for every job within the department that becomes available there will be hundreds fighting for that job. The bottom line is, if I don't like where I work or whom I work for, I leave and our firemen are free to do the same.

As for former fire chaplain Fr. Higgins, I find it unbelievable and disturbing how this man has forgotten whom he truly serves: he is supposed to serve the Lord, his parish and his parishioners, not the fire union. Can someone please remind Fr. Higgins that his business and concern should remain with and at St. Raymond, and not with city issues. Issues affecting our city should be handled by the men and women we appoint to represent us, and by us the residents by means of our vote. Hiding behind the church and Archdiocese doesn't impress me, Fr. Higgins. In fact, quite the opposite.

As a devoted Catholic I am appalled by the Archdiocese and St. Raymond relocating a man who has devoted over two decades to not only this parish but also the parishioners who love him, a man who has done no wrong. Shame on you!

Because I want to keep our fire department in Downey I would welcome a study or survey which would indicate whether or not going county would truly be in the best interests of our residents. At that point we the residents can make the right and responsible decision for the betterment of our city. I challenge the residents of Downey to stand up and fight for what is yours, don't allow the fire union to bully you into thinking going county would suit you better, I say let them prove it! Enough with the lies and deception. Give us the facts! Let's keep what belongs to Downey in Downey!

Jeff Jones
Downey

Dear Editor:

Mayor Deacon Mario Guerra has been reassigned to be deacon at the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angeles in downtown Los Angeles. The fire union said Guerra took his personal viewpoints to the pulpit. The pulpit is where personal viewpoints are expressed. Professing your faith if very personal.

The fire union lodged a complaint with the Archdiocese. The Archdiocese said "Deacon Mario remains in full and good standing as a deacon of the Archdiocese." Steve Davis, president of the Downey firefighters union, said "In order to be removed as a deacon in the city, you must have done something wrong." Who is lying?

Davis said, "Mario called me a flat-out liar at his town hall meeting. He has called me a bully and a union thug." Saying Mayor Guerra must have done something wrong and lodging a complaint before he is transferred sounds to me like Steve Davis is a liar, bully and a union thug. This suspicion is supported by the resignation of St. Raymond's pastor, Fr. John Higgins, as chaplain of the Downey Fire Department last Monday.

Cheer up, Mayor Guerra. Maybe the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angeles needs a whistleblower.

El Bee
Downey

Dear Editor:

I've lived in Downey 47 years and patronized the library for that long. I was grossly offended today to see a person at a table, in front of the library door, with a petition to go directly against the previously stated will of the majority of Downey citizens. Regardless of the direction our federal government is leaning, we are still a republic. We vote for representatives at each level of government and they are supposed to represent us, not some special interest group. (Wow, am I too naïve?)

I grew up with county services years ago, and don't want them again. And now that the county is mostly bankrupt, people who do not represent Downey are lying to its citizens so Downey will give up its own excellent fire and police services to help pay for county services instead. Who does this benefit? It may help keep the county system afloat so the broke cities around us can have their county services. Who else does it benefit? Is it a union that wants more influence, a politician who wants union backing? All I know, it is not the people of Downey. If something the city is doing needs improvement, taking it to the people is fine—but letting three council members decide for all of us is not fine. It's bad enough to be rudely accosted in front of Ralph's or Walmart, but now I can't go to a place which has always been a source of relaxation for me—a place to learn, to be entertained, to escape from stress, to get at the truth, where I pick up my favorite newspaper, the *Downey Patriot*.

It may be legal to circulate a petition, but not in front of the library, a place people should be able to enter without harassment. And it is not legal to lie about the purpose of a petition to ignorant and naïve voters who have not lived in Downey long enough to even understand what is at stake. Who are these people in Downey who want to turn our city into another "third-world" city? If you don't like Downey, why don't you move somewhere you like—oh, yea, it's because Downey has its own police and fire and it's safer to live here!

I wrote this letter, then read the Patriot the next day. I couldn't believe my eyes: a citizen has a right to express his opinion on health and safety issues, whether he is a Deacon or not. To drive someone out of their church for this when unions constantly tell their members for whom to vote! I'm not against unions—my husband belonged to several and was a steward. By the way, his worst opponents when he fought for blue collar workers were his liberal-leaning supervisors. They did not care about anything but power. It's bad enough that the unions run California and have gotten us in a mess, but now they want to take over Downey and bypass the citizens.

Glory Derryberry
Downey

Don't be fooled by fire union

Dear Editor:

The services about which the Downey fire union is complaining have been in existence far longer than their sudden attempt to change the city charter. This move by the fire union only surfaced after cuts to employee benefits and management cost-cutting measures. These cuts included removing one fire engine from service.

Is this about legitimate concerns for potential lawsuits for perceived violations of the city charter? Frankly, members of the fire union likely stand to make more money as county employees. Is the charter petition by the fire union about a legitimate public safety concern, lawsuits or a contractual dispute?

Let us consider a few things. Initially the fire union raised concerns about cuts affecting public safety. The city stated the cuts were temporary. The city has secured grant funding to hire firefighters and put the one fire engine back into service. According to the "public safety" concerns raised by the fire union, this should alleviate the issue.

In the eyes of the fire union, the city violated the charter by staffing city ambulances with non-union employees and jail staff. The fire union's solution to these alleged violations is the extraordinary step of changing the charter. Currently, the charter requires decisions to contract for police and fire must be voted on directly by the residents. What changes does the fire union propose? That YOU (the residents) give up this right and allow the five council members to vote on the issue for you.

Should the union's measure be successful, any future decision to replace police officers or firefighters with contracted services (e.g. county, CAL-Fire, Santa Fe Springs, etc.) would no longer be up to you. Who does the fire union believe is responsible enough to make this decision? The city council is the union's solution. Remember folks, this would be the same council that approved non-union workers as ambulance drivers. The same council the union states placed the city at risk with the decision. Does this make sense to anyone else?

In my opinion, this seems less about public safety and lawsuits and more about a conflict between a bargaining unit (the fire union) and the city. The fire union's actions speak clearly to this.

As for fire union president Steve Davis' suggestion it is your responsibility to read and understand the petition, I agree. It is your responsibility as a voter to read the petition. However, I would suggest to Steve Davis that the fire union leadership is responsible for having those gathering petitions on their behalf to also read and clearly understand the petition. It is the fire union's responsibility to ensure petitioners acting on their behalf provide accurate information. It is a matter of public trust in our government employees.

We have professional firefighters in our community but the fire union leadership's actions on this issue jeopardize the credibility of their bargaining unit and their members at large. Don't be fooled by the fire union or the petitioners in front of your local businesses.

Neal Mongan
Downey

Helping special needs students

Dear Editor:

The article in the Jan. 24 issue of The Patriot dealing with the special needs students from Downey and Warren high schools was beautifully done ("Ready and Willing to Work," 1/24/13). All of us need to be aware of the situation and to offer a helping hand to these special students.

In this connection, the Assistance League of Downey has partnered with both Downey and Warren high schools for over 15 years. The students work at our thrift shop, The Second Tyme Around Shoppe, on Monday and Tuesday each week. Additionally, we have Easter Seal young people assist on Friday mornings. In the past, we also worked with Arc helping provide a work environment for their students as well. Gracie Roussett works with the teaching staff directing them on needed work for the time they are there.

It is very rewarding to observe these young people as they work through the process of hanging a shirt, skirt or shorts. Just learning the proper hanger is new for them.

Charlene Roche
Downey

Growing stronger together

Dear Editor:

As a nonprofit, the Y relies on the support of its volunteers and donors to give back to the community in order to deliver on its promise to strengthen the foundations of community through youth development, healthy living, and social responsibility. Your willingness to help our cause by making a monetary gift to our Annual Support Campaign allows us to keep our programs accessible to youth and families who need us most.

Funds raised go directly to those in need in our communities. The Downey Family YMCA provides scholarships and financial assistance for all Y programs, including summer day and resident camps, after school programs, Easter Caravan and youth sports, just to name a few. Your gift allows a child to experience one fun-filled week of exciting activities and character development at camp or offers a pre-teen a week of exciting adventure and personal enrichment on our Easter Caravan.

The Y could not do the work it does for the Downey community without the help from volunteers, particularly those leaders who are dedicating their time to sharing the Y story and helping to fundraise. We would like to thank all of our volunteer campaigners for giving their time, talent and treasure, with special thanks to our 2013 Campaign Chairs, Russell and Nicki Shersick and Lonnie Croom -- thank you all for giving back to the community through the Downey Family YMCA.

To make a gift to the YMCA or to learn more about volunteer opportunities, please visit ymcala.org/give and designate your gift to the Downey Family YMCA or call executive director Anne Ullstrom at (562) 862-4201-ext 7465.

Downey Family YMCA

Remembering the Carpenters

Dear Editor:

It's good to know there are others in this push-button world who are still sentimental about the artist and music of the times gone by. Another era when music was about the melody and flow of music notes that set a mood, to sink your thoughts and feelings into.

Thank you, Joel Samberg, for your views on the Carpenters' era. For awakening memories.

G. Suhay
Downey

Renaming Tierra Luna

Dear Editor:

I want to visit astronaut James M. Kelly at our Downey space museum this last Friday.

After his 30-minute speech, he had asked the audience for any questions so I asked him if he could help the Downey citizens to name our new shopping center Columbia Landing instead of Tierra Luna Marketplace.

Mr. Kelly smiled and stated that he was grateful that Downey changed the street name to Columbia Way and that naming the new shopping center Columbia Landing sounds pretty good to him.

Mike Sandoval
Downey

Vandalized grave markers

Dear Editor:

While doing some family genealogy, I have been referring lately to some cemetery records and to internet web sites which specialize in pictures of tombstones, e.g., FindAGrave.com.

In the process, I was reminded of the occasional vandalism occurring at the Downey Cemetery and that many families will be denied the future opportunity to visit the marked graves of their loved ones. As I understand the situation, cemeteries are traditionally not responsible to replace any such markers and rather leave it up to the families to do it themselves—many of whom are never aware of the situation.

Any local service organization interested in such matters would be helping in the preservation of such links to future generations if they were to research and identify the vandalized markers, attempt to notify the families, and possibly raise funds for modest replacements—especially applicable to members of the military.

Hugh T. Hoskins
Downey

An intractable problem

Dear Editor:

Re neighborhood riff raff (Letters to the Editor, 1/31/13), we've been dealing with the exact same filth (add some graffiti) for 16 years now since we bought our house north of Stonewood. We call the police and they're great. They do the best they can, and our arrest score is about seven now.

As far as other people's children are concerned, they're like untrained puppies, but the low-life adults are like stray dogs. They all act incredulous when you tell them to stop fouling your neighborhood and leave. It's your property, and you have every right to keep it safe.

Keep calling the police—you never know which one of them is casing your house for a break-in.

Richard McAllister
Downey

Science deniers

Dear Editor:

Lars Clutterman (The Downey Patriot, 1/31/13) says, "No substantive science was ever in question...." yet skips over the demonstrated fact that Phil Jones, and Michael Mann, lied about their research, and sources, that are the basis for the UN's IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change), plus he ignores all of the science that demonstrates that there has been no global warming in over ten years.

Just who are the "science deniers" here?

Drew Kelley
Downey

MORE LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PAGE 8

The Downey Patriot

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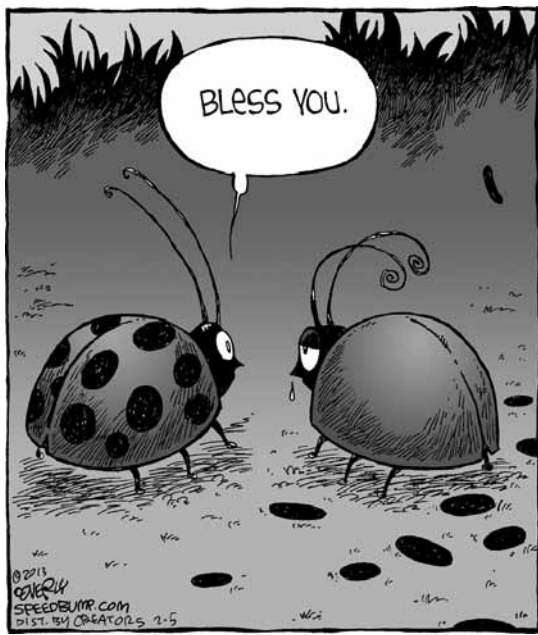
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SPEED BUMP



DAVE COVERLY



Downey Community Calendar

Events For February

Fri. Feb. 8: **J. Arthur Morris exhibit**, Stay Gallery, 6 p.m.
 Sat. Feb. 9: **Parks master plan meeting**, Furman Park, 9:30 a.m.

City Meetings

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 Tuesday, 6:00 p.m.: **Emergency Preparedness Committee**, at Fire Station No. 1, 12222 Paramount Blvd.
 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.: **City Council**, Council Chamber.
 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.: **Library Advisory Board**, at Downey City Library.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

Mondays

7 p.m.: **Boy Scout Troop 2**, at Downey United Methodist Church, for information call 869-6478.
 2nd Mon., 11 a.m.: **American Legion Auxiliary #270**, at United Methodist Church.
 3rd Mon., 7 p.m.: **American Legion Post #270**, at Rio Hondo Event Center, for more info. call 806-2100.
 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 e-mail Diane Davis at ddavis87@me.com.
 6 p.m.: **Toastmasters Club 587**, at First Baptist Church, for info call Raul Castillo 400-2561.
 6:15 p.m.: **Downey Knights of Columbus Bingo**, at 11231 Rives, for info call 923-1932.
 1st Tues., 7:30 a.m.: **Gangs Out of Downey**, at City Hall training room.
 2nd Tues., 3 p.m.: **Keep Downey Beautiful**, at City Hall, for more information call 904-7117.
 2nd and 4th Tues., 6 p.m.: **Sertoma Club**, at Cafe 'N Stuff, for information call 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., 11 a.m.: **Woman's Club of Downey**, for information call Cheryl Olson 833-8954.
 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., 11:30 a.m.: **Christian Women's Club**, at Los Amigos Country Club, call Anita 861-3414.
 2nd Weds., 7:30 p.m.: **Downey Model A Club**, at Gallatin School Cafeteria, for information call 928-4132.
 2nd & 4th Weds., 5:30 p.m.: **Lions Club**, at Sunrise Realty, for information call 577-1104.
 3rd Weds., - **Downey Dog Obedience Club**, at Apollo Park, for info. call Gina 869-5213 or Valerie 420-2972.
 3rd Weds., 10 a.m.: **Los Angeles County Quilters Guild**, at Women's Club, for information call 426-2418.
 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 Bob's Big Boy, for info., call Nick Smith, 861-5222.
 7:30 a.m.: **Soroptimist Int'l of Downey**, for information, call Mia Vasquez, 806-3217.
 9:30 a.m.: **Take off Pounds Sensibly**, at Barbara Riley Senior Center, call (800) 932-8677.
 12 p.m.: **Kiwanis Club of Downey**, at Rio Hondo Events Center, call Roy Jimenez 923-0971.
 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.
 1st Thurs., 12:00 noon: **Downey Christian & Professional Luncheon**, at Sizzler's Restaurant, call James Vanlengan 310-1335.
 2nd Thurs., 7:30 p.m.: **Beaming Rebel Foxes Collectors Club**, for more information call Carl D. Jones at 923-2400.
 3rd Thurs., 4 p.m.: **Public Works Committee**, at City Hall Training Room.
 3rd Thurs., 6 p.m.: **Downey CIPAC**, at Sizzler's Restaurant, for information call Rich Tuttle 413-6045.
 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. 622-3785.

Saturdays

9 a.m.: **Farmers Market**, Downey Avenue at 3rd Street, for information call 904-7246.
 2nd Sat., 12:30 p.m.: **AAUW**, Los Amigos Country Club.

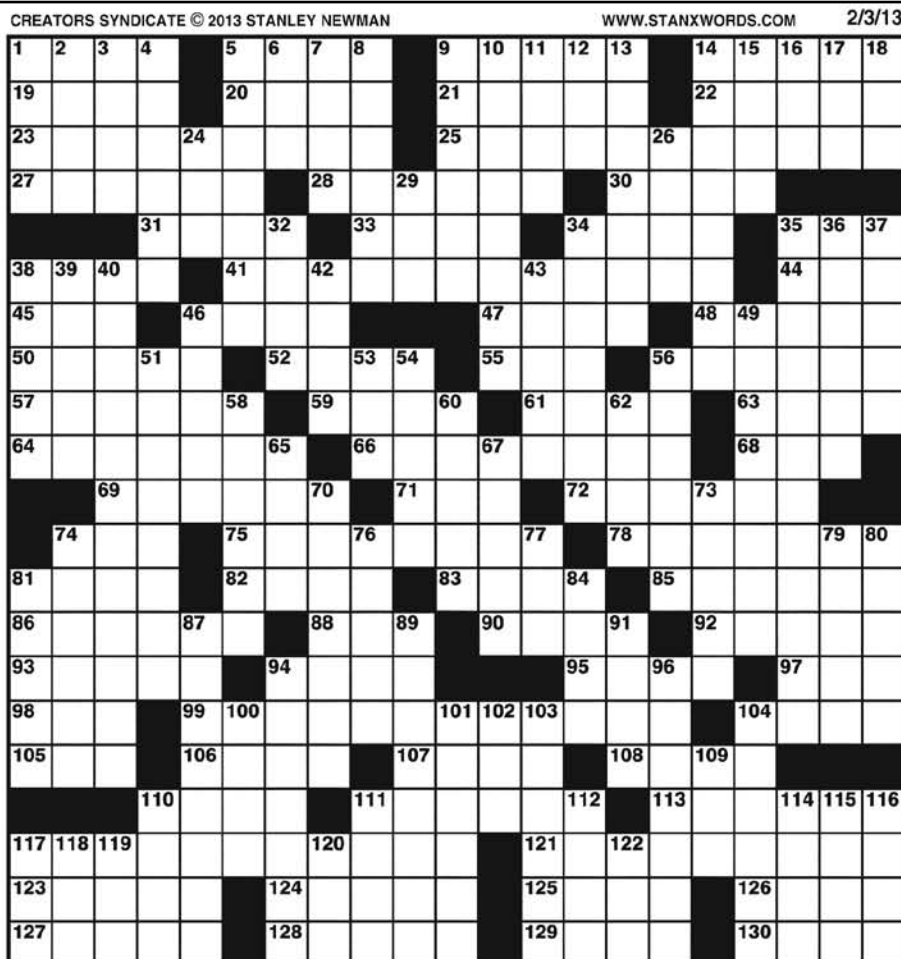
On This Day...

Feb. 7, 1962: President John F. Kennedy imposed a full trade embargo on Cuba.
1984: Space shuttle astronauts Bruce McCandless II and Robert L. Stewart went on the first untethered space walk.
2011: AOL Inc. announced the \$315 million purchase of The Huffington Post website.
2012: A federal appeals court ruled California's ban on same-sex marriage unconstitutional.
Birthdays: Actor James Spader (53), country singer Garth Brooks (51), actor Eddie Izzard (51), actor Chris Rock (48), Lakers point guard Steve Nash (39) and actor Ashton Kutcher (35).

THE NEWSDAY CROSSWORD

Edited by Stanley Newman (www.StanXwords.com)
WILD KINGDOM: Featuring beastly wordplay
 by Gail Grabowski

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Reach Stan Newman at P.O. Box 69, Massapequa Park, NY 11762, or at www.StanXwords.com

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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.



Smart gardening workshop at Wilderness

DOWNEY – Residents can get an early start on their summer gardens by attending a smart gardening workshop Feb. 16 at 9:30 a.m. at Wilderness Park.

The workshop will be held inside the park building and no pre-registration is necessary.

Participants will receive instruction on backyard composting, worm composting, grass recycling, and water-wise and fire-wise gardening techniques.

Residents can also purchase compost bins for \$40 and worm bins for \$65 (cash or check only).

The workshop is free but parking is \$2 after 9 a.m.

Knabe launches 30-minute TV talk show

DOWNEY – L.A. County Supervisor Don Knabe launched a 30-minute TV talk show last week that airs on Charter Cable.

"Dialed In with Don Knabe" will air Monday through Friday at 10:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m., and at 8:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays on the California Channel 101.

The first episode aired Jan. 28 with guests Dan Schnur, director of the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics at USC, and Bill Fujioka, L.A. County CEO.

The show is also available for viewing online at knabe.com and youtube.com/dknabe.

"As I get out and talk to people across my district, I have found that a lot of people don't know what the county does," Knabe said. "Through interviews with guests from the political world, arts, academia and sports, I hope to create an interesting and entertaining forum for residents to learn more about Los Angeles County and how all levels of government impact their daily lives. In my time in office, I've spent a lot of time on the other side of the interview table. I'm excited to now be the one in the chair asking the questions."

Downey poet to read from first book

DOWNEY – Third Thursday Poetry's next meeting will be held on Feb. 28 at Downey Art Vibe's Stay Gallery, 11140 Downey Avenue just north of Firestone Blvd. in Downey, featuring poet Frank Kearns as he launches a first book, "Circling Venice," described as "a private life revealed in quick snapshots that mirror adolescent America's mythic migration westward in the '70s."

The gathering of poets and poetry aficionados, curated by Lorine Parks, is being presented by the Downey Arts Coalition. Doors open at 7 p.m., and open mike, during which poets are invited to read a poem or two, follows at 7:30 p.m.

There is free parking, and the facility is handicap-accessible.

Kearns, who now lives and writes in Downey, was raised in New England and is said to have been "transformed into a Southern Californian by time in Venice, years at the Bethlehem Steel mill in Vernon, and a long career in the aerospace industry."

For information, email lorineparks@verizon.net.

Students urged to finish GED

DOWNEY – Local residents who have taken the GED any time since 2002 and passed only a portion of it are encouraged to finish the test and earn their GED.

Effective Jan. 1, 2014, a new test will be administered and all existing test scores will no longer be valid.

Downey Adult School has the practice tests and prep courses to prepare students for the test.

For details, call (562) 940-6232.

Old film to be screened

DOWNEY – "Flight Nurse," a 1953 film starring Joan Leslie and Forrest Tucker, will be screened at the Barbara J. Riley Community and Senior Center on Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m. as part of the Downey Historical Society's regular meeting.

The black and white film is 90 minutes long.

The screening is free and open to the public.

Storytime Festival at library

DOWNEY – The Gypsy Johnson Auxiliary of the Assistance League of Downey will hold its Storytime Festival from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Feb. 23 at the Downey City Library.

Informal book readings to children in the pre-school through fifth grade, face painting, and a puppet show by the Assistance League's "Kids on the Block" are all part of the festivities.

Every child who attends the event will receive a free book as part of the League's commitment to help promote childhood literacy.

Library group holding membership drive

DOWNEY – The Friends of the Downey City Library are holding their annual Valentine's Week Membership Drive from Feb. 11-16 (Monday thru Saturday) inside the Downey City Library.

Volunteers will staff a sign-up table to recruit new members and accept current member renewals.

Friends proceeds fund library programs, purchase books and supplies, and provide staff enrichment.

Parks & Rec meetings wrapping up

DOWNEY – The city is hosting its final two Parks and Recreation master plan community meetings this month, where residents are encouraged to offer input on the future of the Parks Department.

A meeting is scheduled for this Saturday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Furman Park. The final meeting takes place Feb. 23, also from 9:30-11:30 a.m., at Wilderness Park.

Meetings include light refreshments and children are welcome.

For more information, call (562) 904-7238 or visit downeyca.org.

Residents unable to attend can still offer input by e-mailing park-sandrec@downeyca.org.

Child immunizations Feb. 20

DOWNEY – Children ages 4-18 can receive free immunizations Feb. 20 from 3-6:30 p.m. at Price Elementary.

St. Francis Medical Center will administer vaccinations for chicken pox, hepatitis A and B, DTP, tdap, MMR, polio, meningococcal and HPV.

All immunizations are free and no appointment is necessary. A parent or guardian must accompany children.

Parents should bring their child's immunization card with past immunization history.

Library selling jigsaw puzzles

DOWNEY – The Friends Book Store inside the Downey City Library is selling jigsaw puzzles for only \$1 while supplies last.

All proceeds benefit the library.

Trip to Harrah's Casino

DOWNEY – The OLPH Women's Guild is sponsoring a trip to Harrah's Casino on Feb. 26.

Cost is \$10. The bus departs at 7:15 a.m. and returns at about 5 p.m.

To reserve a seat, call Anna at (562) 923-2988.

Cardiologist to talk heart failure

CERRITOS – Cardiologist Dr. Randall Harada will lead a discussion on how to maintain a healthy heart Feb. 27 at 1 p.m. at the Cerritos Senior Center.

Heart failure is a condition in which the heart is not strong enough to pump enough blood to meet your body's needs.

Harada will discuss how to prevent heart failure and current treatment options.

The meeting is free and open to adults ages 50 and older.



Gangs Out of Downey president Dr. Dan Fox presents Darrell Jackson, president and founder of the 10-20 Club, with a check to bolster the club's work in the community. The 10-20 Club is a juvenile intervention organization that tends to the needs of children and young adults considered "at-risk" or delinquent. The organization offers a crisis hotline, drug testing, drug and alcohol education and treatment, a family support group, anger management classes, individual counseling and more.



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Letters to the Editor:

Immigration policy

Dear Editor:
According to what I am hearing on the news, 11 million people that are here illegally will be given the opportunity to become citizens of the country assuming they meet the criteria as announced on the news.

My question is what if they don't comply? What happens in 10 years when another few million are here, do we repeat this same process again? Reagan tried it in 1985 and it didn't work, so why do elected officials think it will work now?

How are additional illegals going to be prevented from coming into this country illegally in the future? So far, the government is unable to stop all the illegal trafficking of drugs, money and /or illegals so why would anyone think the government is going to stop future illegal aliens from coming to this country?

A condition of this new program is the illegal must pay a fine. I was under the impression from everything I have heard or read that the majority of these people come to this county because they are poor and seek a better life. Where are they going to get the money to pay these fines and what are the fines based upon?

All illegals must also pay past federal taxes. That will be interesting. Does anyone really think a lot of these folks are going to admit to owing an amount of money for taxes? Yeah right. I do like the part that says each applicant must learn English. Wouldn't this be a great time to include in this bill, "English" shall be the recognized and official language of the United States of America?

I would also like to see the provisions and / or penalties included in this bill for those that do not comply with these regulations in their entirety. Finally, what do you tell all the folks that have waited in lines for years to enter this country legally?

David Abney
Downey

Dear Editor:

I could not help but smile after reading Ms. Rosa Velarde's letter ("California DREAMers," 1/31/13).

I wonder where she could have found the information that Hispanics spend more money than any other immigrant group since many of them have lower wage jobs.

I also don't recall any articles written in the Patriot or any other paper that preceded the Patriot to be racist or demeaning.

If a person is born in the United States, they are an American with a Spanish surname, not a Mexican-American, Latino, Latina or Hispanic. There is no such

thing as the Hispanic race. The individuals that colonized what is now Mexico were Spanish. People from Spain are Caucasian.

When I go to Stonewood or Downey Landing to shop or eat the predominate language spoken is Spanish, not English. Why is that? America is being divided because of political correctness and the failure of many immigrant people not wanting to assimilate. If the remittances that immigrants send back to Mexico stopped tomorrow, Mexico would be bankrupt since they are the second largest source of money to the Mexican economy behind oil.

When immigrants flocked to this country in the latter part of the 19th century and early 20th century, they left all their worldly possessions behind never to return and came to this country to be Americans.

Let's not be divisive. Let's work together for a better America.

George J. Hofstetter
Downey

Dear Editor:

Re the three editorial letters under "California DREAMers", I disagree specifically with Alec Dominguez' assertion that the stories about Melissa Nunez, Claudia Retamoza, and other DREAMers were 'refreshingly needed' for me to hear. In fact, to my ear, these stories are like fingernails on a chalkboard.

In his letter, Mr. Dominguez states, "Too many people ignore the fact that this country was founded on the ideals and sacrifices of immigrants." While I couldn't even begin to quantify 'too many' with respect to this statement, I think I understand his point. I agree that the founders of this country made huge sacrifices. The original settlers (both immigrants and their descendants) have indeed made their share of sacrifices, presumably in the hope of improving their lives and the lives of their offspring. I would propose, however, that using the word 'choices' instead of 'sacrifices' is a much clearer, less emotional way to look at it.

Here's what I mean: The parents/guardians of the young people in question made a choice to illegally enter the United States. Whatever their reasons, whatever their hopes and dreams, whatever they gave up to come to America, and from wherever in the world they came, these parents made a choice. They made that choice, knowing (1) they were breaking the law, and (2) there was no guarantee that they or their children would be allowed to stay here indefinitely. They were probably hopeful that something, someday would work out for them in that regard—another amnesty program, maybe? They chose to risk whether that would ever come to pass and they were willing to live in fear of being found out in the meantime.

But, in the meantime, their kids were afforded the advantages of growing up here: access to public education, first-world healthcare, information, technology, transportation, etc. Mr. Dominguez admits, "We cannot have an open border." Agreed. However, I completely disagree with his assertion that "We as a country need to extend citizenship to those who have been here long enough to know

and love no other country." That is utterly faulty logic. Would that mean any law-breaker should be extended a reward (and I think everyone would agree that U.S. citizenship is a HUGE reward) simply because they've been otherwise well-behaved, long enough, while not getting caught doing something illegal, and it's the only life they've known and loved?

While it's regrettable that the so-called DREAMers find themselves in such a predicament, it's time to admit they're in this situation as a direct result of their parents' choices (well-intentioned as those choices may have been). This problem is not a result of flawed immigration law (although, perhaps, flaws in enforcing the laws), nor is it the responsibility of the U.S. government to rescue them at further taxpayer expense. I would encourage these young people to use the advantages they've been blessed with by growing up here to figure out how to legally find their own way. They have my sympathy as to their predicament. They do not, however, have my political support in the form of the DREAM Act or other legislation that would grant them special favors. This does not make me hateful, a racist, ignorant, or intolerant. I'm just saying perhaps it's the DREAMers' turn to make some tough choices just as every generation has before them.

Judy Wyhowanec
Downey

Mail theft rampant

Dear Editor:

A recent incident has several of us thinking that perhaps the free-standing blue postal mail boxes should fade away in the same manner that the old, ubiquitous corner telephone booth has gone. That telephone booth was a magnet for crime—used to make drug deals and buys.

The mail box has also apparently become a magnet for crime. Recently, one of the members of our local community nonprofit group dropped an envelope containing a check into the mailbox in front of the Downey Post Office. Only because an astute bank teller at the Pico Rivera branch of our bank became suspicious were we saved from having \$800 stolen from our group's bank account. With what could only be sophisticated equipment, the thief "erased" the name we had written on the "Pay to the order of" line and written in a woman's name. Then they "erased" the dollar amount we had originally written and changed that to \$800. When the bank teller balked at cashing the check that this woman had endorsed, the thief ran from the bank.

Several weeks ago, the mailboxes in front of the Post Office were rendered out of commission due to tampering, vandalism, and theft. They were crisscrossed with yellow tape to prevent the public from using them. Then, about two weeks ago, they were replaced with a more tamper-proof model. This tamper-proof mailbox is the same box that we dropped our check into. Apparently this (federal) crime is quite common and has been going on for years, not just in Downey but in many cities.

My advice to anyone who must mail anything is, DO NOT use an outside mailbox. Go INSIDE to drop off your mail—preferably during office hours. Coincidentally, the Netflix movie that our member dropped in the mailbox at the same time she dropped in the check, never arrived at Netflix headquarters. I have to wonder what other mail in that box never reached its intended destination.

Paula Mayfield
Downey

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Warren, Downey girls basketball tied in standings

DOWNEY – The Warren High School girls' basketball team currently has an overall record of 11-13 and a league record of 5-4.

The Lady Bears lost to cross-town rival Downey at Warren 37-32 on Jan. 25, defeated Dominguez at Dominguez 55-9 on Jan. 30, lost to Lynwood at Warren 58-20 on Feb. 1 and defeated Paramount at Warren 65-34 on Tuesday.

The Lady Bears closed out their league schedule at Gahr yesterday (score unavailable at press time.)

The Lady Bears (5-4) are currently tied for third place with cross-town rival Downey (5-4) in the San Gabriel Valley League standings. Lynwood is in first place at 9-0, Gahr is in second place at 7-2 and Paramount and Dominguez are

at the bottom of the S.G.V.L. standings.

Coach Palmer and her team have played a difficult preseason schedule and are waiting to see where they will play once the post-season brackets are announced.

The Warren High School boys' basketball team currently has an overall record of 20-5 and a league record of 7-2. The Bears defeated cross-town rival Downey at Warren 66-62 on Jan. 25, lost to Dominguez 50-48 at Dominguez on January 30th, defeated Lynwood at Warren 62-61 on Feb. 1 and defeated Paramount at Warren 44-41 on Tuesday. The Bears closed out their league schedule yesterday at Gahr (score unavailable at press time). A Bear win against Gahr would clinch the

S.G.V.L. title outright.

Warren is on top of the San Gabriel Valley League standings with their 7-2 record. Downey is in second place at 6-3, Lynwood and Gahr are tied for third place at 5-4, Dominguez is in fifth place at 3-6 and Paramount is at the bottom of the S.G.V.L. standings at 1-8. With a win against Gahr in their season finale, Warren will get the top league seed and host a first round game against another league's number three team or wildcard winner. Coach Hart and his team are looking forward to making a run in the C.I.F. Division I-AA playoffs.

–Mark Fetter, contributor

6 wrestlers named league champs

DOWNEY – The Warren High School wrestling team hosted the San Gabriel Valley League wrestling finals last Saturday and had three wrestlers walk away as individual league champions.

Cross-town rival Downey also had three league champions and upstart Paramount came away with eight individual champions.

Warren's Adrian Duarte won his league title at 113 pounds, Zac Brito won at 132 pounds and Chris Angeles won at 138 pounds. All three wrestlers qualified as the San Gabriel Valley League's top wrestler at their respective weight class. Downey's Mark Lopez was a league champion at 106 pounds, Daniel Martinez won his weight class at 126 pounds and Juan Soto was a

league champion at 152 pounds. All three Downey wrestlers qualified as the San Gabriel Valley League's top wrestler at their individual weight class.

As Warren and Downey won six individual wrestling league championships between them, Paramount came away with eight. Paramount's Steven DeLeon won at 120 pounds, Jose Estrada won at 145 pounds, Alfonso Robles won at 160 pounds, Jaycob Martinez won at 171 pounds, Kevin Uriarte won at 182 pounds, Michael Alvarenga won at 195 pounds, Noe Sandoval won at 220 pounds and Cal football commit Chris Borrayo won at 285 pounds.

It was an impressive showing for Paramount, individually. This

was also the first time Paramount had won the outright San Gabriel Valley League wrestling title since 1988. Downey and Warren have owned wrestling in the San Gabriel Valley League since 1988. Paramount, Downey and Warren will now compete at the C.I.F. Dual Meet Championships tomorrow. C.I.F. Individual competition will resume next Saturday at pre-determined high school sites and will produce Master's meet qualifiers. The Master's meet placers will then qualify for the State meet to be held the following weekend. February is always a busy month in high school wrestling.

–Mark Fetter, contributor

Basketball teams wait for seedings

DOWNEY – The Downey High School boys' basketball team currently has an overall record of 15-11 and a league record of 6-3.

The Vikings are 4-2 in their last six league games and wrapped up their regular season yesterday against Lynwood at Downey (score unavailable at press time). Downey lost to cross-town rival Warren at Warren on Jan. 25, 66-62. The Vikings defeated Gahr at Gahr on Jan. 30, 49-47. The Vikings then defeated Paramount at Downey 50-36 on Feb. 1 and defeated Dominguez at Dominguez on Feb. 5, 58-57.

As their league season draws to a close, Downey will now wait for their draw in the C.I.F. Division I-AA playoffs. The Vikings have improved steadily throughout the season and

have played very close games in league play. Downey's largest margin of defeat in San Gabriel Valley League play was by only four points and that happened in each of their three losses. Downey lost to Warren twice, 49-45 and 66-62 and their only other league loss was to Dominguez 64-60, respectively. Things are certainly heating up in the San Gabriel Valley League as the playoffs approach.

The Downey High School girls' basketball team currently has an overall record of 17-8 and a league record of 5-4. The Lady Vikings are 4-2 in their last six league games and wrapped up their regular season yesterday against Lynwood at Downey (score unavailable at press time). Downey defeated cross-town rival

Warren at Warren on Jan. 25, 37-32. The Lady Vikings then lost to Gahr at Gahr on Jan. 30, 59-29. The Lady Vikings then defeated Paramount at Downey 36-29 on Feb. 1 and defeated Dominguez at Dominguez 59-28 on Feb. 5.

As the league season winds down, the Lady Vikings will now wait for their draw in the C.I.F. Division I-AA playoffs. The Lady Vikings have improved steadily throughout the season and will now turn their attention towards post-season play. Coach Harris and his team are looking forward to making a nice run in the playoffs and knocking off some ranked teams in the process.

–Mark Fetter, contributor

Downey boys soccer falls to 5th place

DOWNEY – The Downey High School boys' soccer team currently has an overall record of 10-6-5 and a league record of 2-4-3.

Downey lost to cross-town rival Warren at Warren 3-0 on Jan. 25 but rebounded by defeating Gahr 2-1 on Jan. 29. They then lost to defending C.I.F. Division III champion Paramount at Downey 2-1 on Feb. 1.

The Vikings lost to Dominguez at Dominguez 4-1 on Monday. Downey wrapped up league play on Wednesday at Downey against Lynwood (score unavailable at press time).

Downey is currently in fifth place (2-4-3) in the San Gabriel Valley League standings. Paramount is in first place at 7-0-1, Lynwood is in

second place at 5-3-1, Dominguez is in third place at 4-2-4, Warren is in fourth place at 3-2-3, and Gahr is at the bottom of the S.G.V.L. standings at 0-9. The Vikings have struggled a bit of late and have lost three of their last four league games. Downey looked to finish their league season on a strong note by defeating Lynwood.

The Downey High School girls' soccer team currently has an overall record of 16-3-2 and a league record of 9-0. The Lady Vikings defeated cross-town rival Warren at Downey 4-1 on January 25th, defeated Gahr at Downey 2-0 on Jan. 29, defeated Paramount at Paramount 1-0 on Feb. 1 and defeated Dominguez at Downey 6-0 on Monday. The Lady Vikings fin-

ished their last league game Wednesday against Lynwood at Downey but the final score was unavailable at press time.

The Lady Vikings are currently in first place in the San Gabriel Valley League standings at 9-0. Warren is in second place at 5-3, followed by Lynwood in third place, Paramount in fourth place, Dominguez in fifth place and Gahr is at the bottom of the league standings in sixth place. The Lady Vikings are certainly playing well as their league season winds down and the playoffs approach. Coach Godfrey is certainly getting her team ready for another run at a C.I.F. title.

–Mark Fetter, contributor

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Lorraine Neal enjoying roles as teacher and union president

By Henry Veneracion
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – Lorraine Neal's parents, who have been residents of Downey since 1980 and are both retired, always stressed to her the importance of a good education, that family comes first, and that she should always be a good person. Her dad, who originally came from Tennessee, was a certified grocer and a member of the Teamsters Union, while her mom worked as a nutritionist and cafeteria manager at Bell Gardens High, part of the Montebello Unified School District.

Because one of Lorraine's grandfathers worked for North American-Rockwell, while another worked for Bethlehem Steel, she said: "I come from a family of proud union workers."

Lorraine has a younger brother who is an Adult School teacher in Whittier. Because Lorraine has taught for 23 years all told since obtaining her BA ('89) in history from Cal State Long Beach, it looks like teaching has also been grafted on the family tree.

She obtained all her teaching credentials at Cal State Dominguez Hills: Single Subject (Social Science) in 1992, Special Education (Learning Handicapped) in 1994, and Resource Specialist also in 1994. She had previously attended Cerritos College, earning Associate Arts

degrees in history and humanities (1986).

She began her career in education in 1990, first serving as a long-term substitute teacher at Montebello Unified for two years (1990-92). This was followed by another two-year stint (1992-94) as a special education teacher at Los Angeles USD.

She began her association with Sussman Middle School in 1994, as a resource specialist until 2000. From 2001-present, she has taught 6th and 7th grade history, with focus on ancient and medieval history. "We have a wonderful school," she asserts. "And I enjoy volunteering at my school. I have been the Builders Club advisor, ASB advisor, scholarship advisor, and currently co-sponsor of our Glee Club and our Sussman Talent Show."

In her own words, she tells the story of how all this has come to pass: "I've always wanted to be a teacher since I was three years old. My mother bought me my first standing chalk board when I was three. I set up a school in our garage and taught every stuffed animal I owned. As I got older I would make my brother and the neighborhood kids play school all the time. I would help them with their homework and give them assignments. I also had a tendency to even give my family instructions on how to do things properly. I guess you can say I was destined to be a teacher and a leader."

Indeed, Lorraine last year be-

came president of Downey Education Association (DEA), DUSD's union representing 1,006 certificated personnel—all the teachers, nurses, counselors, speech pathologists, etc.—at the district. She has been serving on its board for the last 15 years.

"I make it a point to go around the schools and see how the district works. I talk to the (union) representatives to see what's going on," she says. "We talk about the budget, things like that. Besides, I enjoy helping people. I let them know there's someone they can talk to. The best part of my route is watching how many teachers we have who inspire the kids [to learn]. I myself am inspired by all the incredible things our teachers do to help our students be successful."

"I fly a lot as part of my union work," she goes on. "There are conferences up north in San Francisco, say, or a trip last year to Washington, D.C. for the National Education Association (NEA) annual convention where I was the state representative. The week of July 4 this year, we are going to Atlanta for the NEA convention."

"I like to travel, anyway, especially to places of historical interest, to Philadelphia, for example. I liked my trip last year to Washington, D.C., with the Library of Congress and its other attractions. In a couple of years I'll be fifty. I am saving up to travel to Europe for that."

A great perk of the DEA presidency, she says, is she gets to go ev-

ery year to UCLA to attend classes on leadership, along with other union leaders.

As DEA union president, she says she seeks to uphold the union's cherished goal of enjoying good working conditions. This means having proper materials, among other things. This means making sure that our teachers can do what they do best, and that's teach."

"It's good DUSD is very fiscally solvent," she says. "We're in a good place right now. We're very lucky we didn't have to suffer cuts like the other districts."

On the soon-to-depart Superintendent Wendy Doty, Lorraine says, "She has always been an advocate for our students and our teachers. She's always been supportive of us. She's a great leader. We'll definitely miss her."

She also notes, "We have an excellent working relationship with the district administration and with the school board."

A member of the Norwalk-La Mirada school board as well from 2007 to 2011, she served as its president last year (2010-2011). "My years on the board have enriched my experience and background. It has given me perspective. It has enabled me to look at all sides of a situation."

Talking about sports in general, she says, "I was always involved with student council activities and did not have much time for sports. But now I love to watch basketball and football. It doesn't matter who is



playing, I enjoy a great game. I am a UCLA fan."

To relax, she adds, "I like to read sci-fi books and go see sci-fi movies like Star Trek, Star Wars, Lord of the Rings—this sort of thing." Current reading: The Game of Thrones series by George R. R. Martin. Of course, she says she's meanwhile getting deeper and deeper into ancient and medieval history.

"In addition to going to the movies and reading a good book, I like cooking for and spending time with my family and friends," she says.

Oh, yes. There's her involvement in community service, too: president of the Downey Junior Chamber of Commerce (1995-96); Delta Kappa Gamma Downey Chapter, DEA (since 1995); John F. Kennedy Democratic Club (2007-president); Norwalk Chamber of Commerce (2007-present); La Mirada Kiwanis

(2007-present; and Downey Rotary Club (2011-present).

About Rotary, she says, "I am also enjoying my position on the Downey Rotary board. I have the opportunity to work with the Warren Interact and Downey Interact clubs. We have some incredible students who understand the importance of community service."

She has of course received many work/community awards. To mention a few: Sussman's Christa McAuliffe Teacher of the Year Award (1999); PTA Honorary Service Award (2003); WHO Award: Outstanding Leadership Union Award, DEACTA (2003); PTA Continued Service Award (2009); and JFK Democratic Club Public Service Award (2011).

She also received a proclamation for her years of service to the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District (2011).

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Gas Company installing smart meters

DOWNEY – Southern California Gas Co. is upgrading its natural gas metering system by installing advanced meters throughout its service territory, including Downey and Paramount.

The communications device will transmit hourly gas usage data from a customer's home or business, and the Gas Co. will make the usage information available online for the customer the next business day.

The advanced meter device enables the Gas Co. to "more efficiently serve its customers and empower them with more information about their gas usage so they can make more informed decisions and better control their energy bills," officials said.

The data is expected to help customers better understand and manage gas use and costs, identify sudden usage spikes, obtain information on energy usage online, and have more privacy and security.

With an advanced meter, gas usage will be measured just as it is today by a current meter and bills will continue to be based on a monthly read of natural gas usage.

A soft voice of sanity

By Charlene Slocum

Dear Karen,

As I write this, I hear a soft rain falling. Midnight approaches and I think of your hit recording "Rainy Days and Mondays." The lyrics said, "...rainy days and Mondays always get me down." I wonder if you felt that way, as many people do, or if (like me) you treasured the soft sound of rain. You were valued, I think, because you dared to present a soft sound in the midst of a chaotic world. A world represented, for the most part, by chaotic music. Music that had no melody, that screamed its repetitious and banal lyrics to

frenzied, hypnotized masses.

Your lyrics were for thinking and feeling: your melodies soft and moving. There will always be a need for people like you. People who offer a soft voice of sanity to help tip the scales toward meaning in an often meaningless world.

Screaming in competition with an incessant, pounding beat, was not your style of expression. Did you perhaps know, intuitively, that though there was a place for hard rock, and it provided catharsis for some, it could not fill a void? So you gave us songs by which we could get in touch with ourselves

and each other, rather than noise that numbed us and kept us apart.

That is no small thing to accomplish in 32 years. You gave us what we needed at a time we most needed. Well done, my friend. Rest in peace.

Charlene Slocum, a member of Writers' Workshop West, wrote this tribute to Karen Carpenter three weeks after her death in 1983. It originally appeared in the Southeast News.

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BULLET TO THE HEAD R (12:05, 2:35, 5:05), 7:35, 10:05

WARM BODIES PG-13 (11:50, 2:20, 4:50), 7:20, 9:50

HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS R (12:15, 2:40), 7:25

HANSEL & GRETEL: WITCH HUNTERS 3D R (5:05), 9:50

MAMA PG-13 (12:15, 2:45, 5:00), 7:45, 10:25

GANGSTER SQUAD R (10:55, 1:40, 4:25), 7:10, 9:55

ZERO DARK THIRTY R (12:00, 3:30), 7:00, 10:30

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Hospital extends urgent care hours, sets up triage

WHITTIER – PIH Health in Whittier has expanded its urgent care hours in light of a severe flu season.

The urgent care facility at 15725 E. Whittier Blvd. is open from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends.

PIH Health also obtained a 90-day permit to operate an “alternative care site” (tents) outside the hospital’s emergency room.

Patients with illnesses such as sore throats, rash, minor sprains, minor abrasions and flu-like symptoms will be triaged and then cared for in the tents. The tents were necessary due to the influx of patients who have arrived at the emergency room with flu-like symptoms.

The tents are staffed daily from noon to midnight.

Hospital officials also recommended residents receive a flu shot, especially those with chronic health conditions.

Residents are also encouraged to get plenty of sleep, exercise, manage stress, drink plenty of fluids, eat nutritious food and practice the good hygiene tips listed below:

If you get sick, stay home from work and seek medical care. Also limit contact with others.

Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand sanitizers are also effective.

Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it. Then wash your hands. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread that way.

Avoid contact with sick people.

Former Downey resident completes his first book

• Robert D. Kintigh’s self-help book is titled “The Lies We Tell Ourselves.”

By Henry Veneracion
Staff Writer

DOWNEY – Born and raised in Downey and now living in Cool (pop. 2,520), which is in El Dorado County near Sacramento and lies 50 miles from Lake Tahoe, Robert D. Kintigh has authored a first book titled “The Lies We Tell Ourselves.” It’s about his life experiences and the lessons he has learned from them. The 247-page book has been variously categorized as either a self-help book, a personal development book, or a book about celebrating life.

Its multiple sub-title--“Eliminate the lies,” “Discover your truths,” and “Design your success”—encapsulates the essence of the book.

Kintigh can be brutally honest. “I grew up lower middle class, from a broken home, alcoholism in my family and not a clue as to what was going to be my future,” he writes. The ‘broken home’ part of the story features his dad’s darkly erratic behavior when Kintigh was five: due perhaps to a head injury he suffered earlier, his dad cheated on his wife (Kintigh’s mom), committed grand theft auto, and, finally, murder, landing him in jail.

For years, Kintigh had to deal with this reality. Doubt, fear, anger gnawed at his insides. He blamed others and everything else for his problems. He credits his mom, Elizabeth, for steadying him: “She was my rock and hero in life.”

He also thought, asked questions, and read such books as Viktor Frankl’s “Man’s Search for Meaning,” trying to make sense of it all.

A product of Rio San Gabriel, East Middle School, and Downey High (’90), Kintigh went to Butte College/Chico State, then to Crowder College and South East Missouri State. He got degrees in Administration of Justice, A.S. and BA (2009) in Business and Marketing.

He has had several careers since high school: as an entrepreneur, and in the corporate world. He says he experienced success because of his ability to write and his ability to market. Writing sales copy for the property management industry marked

the start of his career.

Later, starting his own home maintenance company and using his writing skills to further advantage, Kintigh would create a variety of programs that were sought by other companies within the industry.

Much later on, he says he worked for a few organizations writing training programs to “help teach employees everything from sales and customer service to health and safety.”

Kintigh would, of course, eventually settle with his conscience. Out of all this turmoil and hard-won self-discovery, he would write his book.

These are some of the advice as well as things one can expect from reading the book, he says: “When you discover your lies and you design new truths in your life, an incredible experience will take place—your life will never be the same again”; “In this book, I am going to share with you some personal stories of tragedy and triumph along with the journey that I have taken to discover my victories and greatest potential. I am going to share with you some very important techniques that will help you in your daily life...You have every right to prevail and have victory in your life”; “I want to help you discover that life has more to offer no matter what is going on in your life at this moment. Your happiness depends on your discovering who you are and who you want to become, and if you never completely figure it out, then you may never live your happiest or most productive life”; “I will share with you the 10 essential steps to success and how you can use them in your daily life. The 10-step success process is going to be the best guide on changing your life. I am going to teach you new habits and help you redesign anything that you desire in your life. I will offer you the way to move away from your past and to focus on the future ahead of you. There is no such thing as taking each day as it comes... Design your life or die by it, so get active in your life”; and “Learn what you want in your life, do your work and become the best that is possible... All you have to do is eliminate the lies, discover your truths and design your success.”

Summing up his career thus far, Kintigh says, “I have been an entrepreneur for 22-plus years and as part of what I offer as an author I am also

[today] a motivational speaker, corporate trainer and consultant.”

In an e-mail for this story, Kintigh provides a more descriptive assessment of “The Lies We Tell Ourselves”: “This book is an autobiography of sorts as well as a personal development book, self-help, instruction manual on life, business book and so much more... My life has not always been a fairy tale (although it has been pretty good for the most part) but I want to share with as many people as possible how strong we can really be. I want to remind people that second and third chances are possible and that anything you want to attack and make better is achievable.”

He adds: “The value of this book is that it is a constant reminder of what you really want and how to get it. It teaches sound principles I have used over 20 years and no matter where you might be right now, everything is possible that you desire. Take the journey and see where The Lies We Tell Ourselves book can take you.”

Kintigh is married to wife Sallie and they have three children: Dawson in 6th grade, Autumn in 9th grade, and Darin is a senior in high school.

As to why the choice to live in Cool, he writes, “Sallie grew up in Cool and their family had moved away 23 years ago and then recently moved back to Cool about a year and a half ago. Sallie and I decided to move here to be closer with family and to deeply pursue my writing career as Cool is located in the mountains (between Sacramento and Lake Tahoe) and is a very peaceful and serene place. I gain a lot of inspiration from living here.”

As to travel, always relevant to a writer’s experience, Kintigh says: “I travel around the U.S. quite a bit doing seminars and speaking as well as casual travel. The last place I visited was Reno. Some of my favorite places are Hawaii and the Bahamas (for the tropical and paradise destinations), South Dakota (for its history and adventure), Seattle, Washington (as I love the city and all that it has to offer but also for the gorgeous scenery), and many places in California (love all the history my state has to show).

He has written four other books since “The Lies...” and another one, on Employee Behavior Modification, is due for publication this April. He can be reached through sallie@scwebteam.com.

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Leslie Tinnaro will make her Downey Civic Light Opera debut in “The World Goes Round,” opening Feb. 14 and playing through March 3 at the Downey Theatre. Tinnaro has appeared on Broadway, at the Shubert Theatre in Los Angeles and in many theaters throughout California. For tickets and information, call (562) 923-1714. Group discounts are available.

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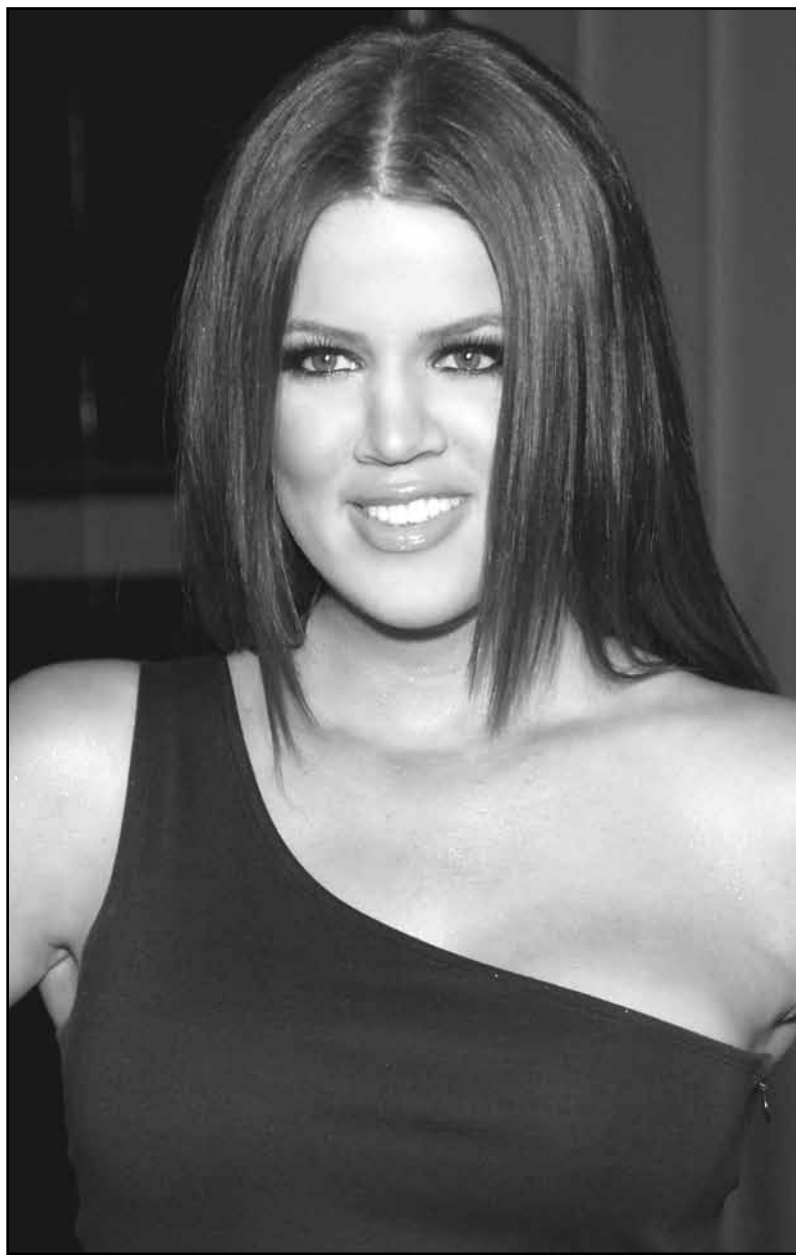
EL MONTE – A physician accused of fraudulently billing Medicare in 2003 and 2004 was ordered last week to pay California more than a half-million dollars in back taxes as part of a probationary sentence.

Deputy District Attorney Amy Suehiro said Norwalk Superior Court Judge Patrick T. Meyers also placed Thomas Evans Mitchell Jr., 65, on five years of formal probation and ordered him to perform 350 hours of community service.

A Norwalk jury convicted Mitchell in November of two counts of state tax evasion and deadlocked 11 to 1 for guilt on a third. The third count was dismissed.

The prosecutor said the case involved what she told the jury was a “cut and paste clinic” – Clinica Medica in El Monte – that would cut and paste Mitchell’s letterhead to another bill from another clinic. The bill would be sent to Medicare for services never performed, she said, including expensive diagnostic tests.

During the trial, Suehiro presented evidence that Mitchell received \$1.8 million for a three-month period in which the alleged Medicare fraud occurred. She said the doctor and his wife purchased a \$1.29 million home in North Hollywood during the same time period.



Khloe Kardashian will be at the Sears at Stonewood Center this Friday, Feb. 8, from 6-8 p.m., signing autographs and taking pictures for the first 200 fans to buy her \$35 fragrance.

Number of fireworks stands to drop in Norwalk

NORWALK – Norwalk non-profits may have a tougher time securing a permit to sell fireworks this summer but those who do get approved will be able to sell for one additional day.

Starting this year, Norwalk will issue only 20 permits to sell “safe and sane” fireworks, down from 25.

However, permit-holders can now sell fireworks beginning July 1. In years past, fireworks could not be legally sold in Norwalk until July 2.

City officials said they recommended the changes to help non-profits increase their revenue by reducing competition.

Before offering their recommendation, Norwalk officials said they surveyed six surrounding cities and found that Norwalk authorized the highest number of stands at 25, which equates to one stand per 4,222 residents.

“The proposed changes would increase the number of residents per stand to 5,285 and, hopefully, also help [non-profits] generate more revenues to fund their programs and activities,” finance director Jana Stuard wrote in a staff report.

Council members Mike Mendez and Leonard Shryock voted against the proposal, which passed 3-2. Shryock said he had “public safety concerns” and Mendez objected to decreasing the number of fireworks

stands, which organizations typically rely on as a major source of fundraising.

Councilman Luigi Vernola said he would be willing to revisit the issue next year if the new system doesn’t work.

A random drawing decides which non-profit groups can sell fireworks. Starting this year, a representative from each group will be required to attend an orientation meeting in March, where they will hear presentations on rules, regulations and proper safety procedures.

The city also removed a \$50 refundable deposit that was forfeited by non-profits if they did not clean up

their stand location. The \$50 didn’t cover the city’s cost and removing the fee gives Norwalk “more flexibility” in recovering their costs going forward, officials said.

Finally, the city increased the required liability insurance from \$1 million to \$2 million, paid for by the fireworks wholesalers: TNT Fireworks and Phantom Fireworks.

Fireworks can be sold from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and all fireworks stands must be cleared by noon on July 11.

Stand operators are also required to submit financial statements to the city showing how much money was raised and how the money was spent.

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SAT 8:30AM - 2PM
Household items, tools, BBQ
10254 Newville

or visit the Internet Web site www.auction.com, using the Trustee Sale No. shown above. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. A-4350562 01/24/2013, 01/31/2013, 02/07/2013

The Downey Patriot 1/24/13, 1/31/13, 2/7/13

Trustee Sale No. 12-519136 SLE Title Order No. 7167120 APN 8073-026-017 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 08/01/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 02/13/13 at 9:00 am, Aztec Foreclosure Corporation as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to the power of sale contained in that certain Deed of Trust executed by Jose Berumen, a Married Man, as Trustor(s), in favor of Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., solely as Nominee for GreenPoint Mortgage Funding, Inc., a New York Corporation, as Beneficiary, Recorded on 08/08/07 in Instrument No 20071865023 of official records in the Office of the recorder of LOS ANGELES County, California; Castle Peak 2012-1 Loan Trust Mortgage Backed Notes, Series 1021-1, by U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee, as the current Beneficiary, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH (payable at the time of sale in lawful money of the United States, by cash, cashier's check drawn by a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state), Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza, 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona CA, all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County, California described as: 14627 DELVIN AVENUE, NORWALK, CA 90650 The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to-wit: \$450,147.43 (Estimated) Accrued interest and additional advances, if any, will increase this figure prior to sale. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". DATE: 1-16-13 Robbie Weaver Assistant Secretary & Assistant Vice President Aztec Foreclosure Corporation c/o 4865 MacArthur Court, Suite 250 Newport Beach, CA 92660 Phone: (866) 260-9285 or (602) 222-5711 Fax: (847)627-8803 www.aztecrestee.com NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call or visit the Internet Web site, using the file number assigned to this case 12-519136. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. In compliance with California Civil Code 2923.5(c), the mortgagee, trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent declares: that it has contacted the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure; or that it has made efforts to contact the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure by one or more of the following methods: by telephone, by United States mail; either 1st class or certified; by overnight delivery; by personal delivery; by e-mail; by face to face meeting or the borrower has surrendered the property to the mortgagee, trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent and that the compliance with Civil Code Section 2923.5 was made at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of this Notice of Sale. Dated: 1/25/2013 REGIONAL SERVICE CORPORATION, Trustee By: MARILEE HAKKINEN, AUTHORIZED AGENT Agent for Trustee: AGENCY SALES AND POSTING 3210 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 200 IRVINE, CA 92602 Telephone Number: (800) 542-2550 Sale Information: (714) 730-2727 or <http://www.trustee.com> A-4355374 01/31/2013, 02/07/2013, 02/14/2013

The Downey Patriot 1/24/13, 1/31/13, 2/7/13

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee's Sale No. 05-FWA-123051 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 9/27/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On February 21, 2013, at 11:00 AM, BY THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED AT 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, in the City of POMONA, County of LOS ANGELES, State of CALIFORNIA, REGIONAL SERVICE CORPORATION, a California corporation, as duly appointed Trustee under that certain Deed of Trust executed by JOSE L ALVARADO, AN UNMARRIED MAN, as Trustors, recorded on 10/4/2006, as Instrument No. 06 2209833, of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, State of CALIFORNIA, under the power of sale therein contained, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, for cash, or cashier's check (payable at the time of sale in lawful money of the United States) without warranty express or implied as to title, use, possession or encumbrances, all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it as such Trustee, in and to the following described property situated in the aforesaid County and State, to-wit: TAX PARCEL NO. 6281 -006-032 From information which the Trustee deems reliable, but for which Trustee makes no representation or warranty, the street address or other common designation of the above described property is purported to be 9732 PRISCILLA STREET, DOWNEY, CA 90242. Said property is being sold for the purpose of paying the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust, including fees and expenses of sale. The total amount of the unpaid principal balance, interest thereon, together with reasonably estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Trustee's Sale is \$453,789.86. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 800-542-2550 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site www.trustee.com, using the file number assigned to this case. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. In compliance with California Civil Code 2923.5(c), the mortgagee, trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent declares: that it has contacted the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure; or that it has made efforts to contact the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure by one or more of the following methods: by telephone, by United States mail; either 1st class or certified; by overnight delivery; by personal delivery; by e-mail; by face to face meeting or the borrower has surrendered the property to the mortgagee, trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent and that the compliance with Civil Code Section 2923.5 was made at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of this Notice of Sale. Dated: 1/25/2013 REGIONAL SERVICE CORPORATION, Trustee By: MARILEE HAKKINEN, AUTHORIZED AGENT Agent for Trustee: AGENCY SALES AND POSTING 3210 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 200 IRVINE, CA 92602 Telephone Number: (800) 542-2550 Sale Information: (714) 730-2727 or <http://www.trustee.com> A-4355374 01/31/2013, 02/07/2013, 02/14/2013

The Downey Patriot 1/31/13, 2/7/13, 2/14/13

in that certain Deed of Trust Recorded on 10/26/2005 as Instrument No. 05-2576423 of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, executed by TIMOTHY J. VOG AND ANITA D. VOG, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS, as Trustor(s), in favor of INDYMAC BANK, F.S.B., A FEDERALLY CHARTERED SAVINGS BANK as Lender and MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC. as nominee for Lender, its successors and/or assigns, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, that certain property situated in said County, California describing the land therein as: As more fully described in said Deed of Trust The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 13913 GRAYSTONE AVENUE, NORWALK, CA 90650. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the Note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said Note(s), advances if any, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligations secured by the property to be sold and the total indebtedness due, in addition to cash, advances at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee's Sale is estimated to be \$352,677.14 (Estimated), provided, however, prepayment premiums, accrued interest and advances will increase this figure prior to sale. Beneficiary's bid at said sale may include all or part of said amount. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept a cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the California Financial Code and authorized to do business in California, or other such funds as may be acceptable to the Trustee. In the event tender other than cash is accepted, the Trustee may withhold the issuance of the Trustee's Deed Upon Sale until funds become available to the payee or endorsee as a matter of right. The property offered for sale excludes all funds held on account by the property receiver, if applicable. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. Notice to Potential Bidders if you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a Trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a Trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same Lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. Notice to Property Owner: The sale date shown on this Notice of Sale may be postponed one or more times by the Mortgagee, Beneficiary, Trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about Trustee Sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call Auction.com at 800.280.2832 for information regarding the Trustee's Sale or visit the Internet Web site address on the previous page for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, CA05001594-12-1. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. In compliance with California Civil Code 2923.5(c), the mortgagee, trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent declares: that it has contacted the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure; or that it has made efforts to contact the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure by one or more of the following methods: by telephone, by United States mail; either 1st class or certified; by overnight delivery; by personal delivery; by e-mail; by face to face meeting or the borrower has surrendered the property to the mortgagee, trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent and that the compliance with Civil Code Section 2923.5 was made at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of this Notice of Sale. Dated: 1/23/2013 TRUSTEE CORPS TS No. CA05001594-12-1 17100 Gillette Ave, Irvine, CA 92614 949-252-8300 Tina Goddy, Authorized Signatory SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ON LINE AT www.Auction.com AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL AUCTION.COM AT 800.280.2832 TRUSTEE CORPS MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. P1017068 1/31, 2/7, 02/14/2013

The Downey Patriot 1/31/13, 2/7/13, 2/14/13

MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. Notice is hereby given that RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A., as duly appointed trustee pursuant to the Deed of Trust executed by MARIA MARTINEZ, A MARRIED WOMAN AS HER SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY, dated 02/08/2007 and recorded 2/16/2007, as Instrument No. 20070336590, in Book , Page , of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of California, will sell on 02/19/2013 at 11:00AM. By the fountain located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766 at public auction, to the highest bidder for cash or check as described below, payable in full at time of sale, all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust, in the property situated in said County and State and as more fully described in the above referenced Deed of Trust. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 14609 WHEATSTONE AVENUE, NORWALK, CA, 90650. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The total amount of the unpaid balance with interest thereon of the obligation secured by the property to be sold plus reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$348,391.07. It is possible that at the time of sale the opening bid may be less than the total indebtedness due. In addition to cash, the Trustee will accept cashier's checks drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Said sale will be made, in an "AS IS" condition, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession or encumbrances, to satisfy the indebtedness secured by said Deed of Trust, advances thereunder, with interest as provided, and the unpaid principal of the Note secured by said Deed of Trust with interest thereon as provided in said Note, plus fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. If required by the provisions of section 2923.5 of the California Civil Code, the declaration from the mortgagee, beneficiary or authorized agent is attached to the Notice of Trustee's Sale duly recorded with the appropriate County Recorder's Office. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on a property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same Lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. Notice to Property Owner: The sale date shown on this Notice of Sale may be postponed one or more times by the Mortgagee, Beneficiary, Trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about Trustee Sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call Auction.com at 800.280.2832 for information regarding the Trustee's Sale or visit the Internet Web site address on the previous page for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case, CA05001594-12-1. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. In compliance with California Civil Code 2923.5(c), the mortgagee, trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent declares: that it has contacted the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure; or that it has made efforts to contact the borrower(s) to assess their financial situation and to explore options to avoid foreclosure by one or more of the following methods: by telephone, by United States mail; either 1st class or certified; by overnight delivery; by personal delivery; by e-mail; by face to face meeting or the borrower has surrendered the property to the mortgagee, trustee, beneficiary, or authorized agent and that the compliance with Civil Code Section 2923.5 was made at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of this Notice of Sale. Dated: 1/23/2013 TRUSTEE CORPS TS No. CA05001594-12-1 17100 Gillette Ave, Irvine, CA 92614 949-252-8300 Tina Goddy, Authorized Signatory SALE INFORMATION CAN BE OBTAINED ON LINE AT www.Auction.com AUTOMATED SALES INFORMATION PLEASE CALL AUCTION.COM AT 800.280.2832 TRUSTEE CORPS MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. P1017068 1/31, 2/7, 02/14/2013

charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 1-800-281-8219 or visit this Internet Web site www.recontrustco.com, using the file number assigned to this case TS No. 11-0079191. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. 1800 Tapo Canyon Rd., CA6-914-01-94 SIMI VALLEY, CA 93063 Phone: (800) 281-8219, Sale Information: (626) 927-4399 By: Trustee: Sale Officer RECONTRUST COMPANY, N.A. is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. A-4351878 01/24/2013, 01/31/2013, 02/07/2013

The Downey Patriot 1/24/13, 1/31/13, 2/7/13

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee Sale No. : 20120015003442 Title Order No.: 120343424 FHA/VA/PMI No.: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST: DATED 04/13/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. NDEX WEST, LLC, as duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded on 04/19/2006 as Instrument No. 06 0853021 of official records in the office of the County Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, State of CALIFORNIA, EXECUTED BY: MARIA G HERNANDEZ, WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK/CASH EQUIVALENT or other form of payment authorized by 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale in lawful money of the United States). DATE OF SALE: 02/20/2013 TIME OF SALE: 11:00 AM PLACE OF SALE: BY THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED AT 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, POMONA, CA 91766. STREET ADDRESS and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 8451 MULLER ST., DOWNEY, CALIFORNIA 90241 APN#: 6253-010-041 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust, with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said

Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is \$435,226.94. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 714-730-2727 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this Internet Web site www.ipsasap.com for information regarding the sale of this property, using the file number assigned to this case 20120015003442. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. FOR TRUSTEE SALE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL: AGENCY SALES AND POSTING 2 3210 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 200 IRVINE, CA 92602 714-730-2727 www.ipsasap.com NDEX West, L.L.C. MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED WILL BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. NDEX West, L.L.C. as Trustee Dated: 01/21/2013 NDEX West, L.L.C. 15000 Surveyor Boulevard, Suite 500 Addison, Texas 75001-9013 Telephone: (866) 795-1852 Telecopier: (972) 661-7800 A-4352791 01/31/2013, 02/07/2013, 02/14/2013

The Downey Patriot 1/31/13, 2/7/13, 2/14/13

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Caltrans announces bridge, road closures

NORWALK – Caltrans has announced the reconstruction and elongation of the Shoemaker, Rosecrans and Bloomfield bridges and the overcrossing at Silverbow Avenue to accommodate a wider freeway.

To be closed are the Shoemaker Avenue Bridge (between Rosecrans Avenue and Excelsior Drive) and north Firestone Boulevard (between just north of the northbound I-5 on-ramp at Carmentia Road to the northbound I-5 off-ramp at Rosecrans Avenue) beginning Feb. 19 as part of Caltrans' overall I-5 South Corridor Improvement Projects, which will eventually widen the I-5 along a 14-mile stretch from the Los Angeles/Orange County line to the San Gabriel River Freeway (I-605) to lower traffic congestion while improving safety.

The massive Caltrans construction project will construct one carpool and one general purpose lane in each direction, realign and upgrade adjacent frontage roads and reconstruct bridges along the way.

The closure of the Shoemaker Avenue Bridge will last through early 2014; its demolition, which starts also on Feb. 19, will continue on weeknights for up to six weeks.

Environmental perspectives from Hawaii

• Hawaii's challenges a litmus test for other communities, including Downey.

By Lars Clutterham Contributor

DOWNEY – This column will be coming to you from Hawaii over the next couple of weeks, where my wife and I are combining vacation with a work conference. The island state of Hawaii has a plethora of environmental complexities to deal with, and the airline passenger is reminded of this as, prior to landing, you're asked to fill out the Hawaii Department of Agriculture "Plants and Animals Declaration Form":

"ALOHA and Welcome to Hawai'i. Many plants and animals from elsewhere in the world can be harmful to our unique environment, agriculture, and communities. Please help to protect Hawai'i by not bringing harmful pests into our state."

More on this in a moment, but by now you're possibly asking "how, Lars, can you call yourself an environmentalist and justify traveling on a jet plane that guzzles fossil fuel like there's no tomorrow?" The simple answer is that I'm not ready to give up the joys and pleasures of visiting such a beautiful environment.

But I've also run the numbers: according to a 2009 report from the U.S. Government Accountability Office, the most recent figure for average fuel consumption per airline

seat is about 58 mpg. At that rate my portion of the 2,500 mile trip from LA to Maui will consume about 86 gallons of fuel, round trip. As I've mentioned previously, my bike commute to work in Culver City is 35 miles round trip. So it will take about 60 trips, or 12 weeks commuting to work on my bike, to compensate for my Toyota Camry's 25 mpg consumption of the equivalent 86 gallons of gas from LA to Maui and back, if I were to drive to work.

We could call that my carbon offset for the luxury of flying to Maui. And I assure you I'll start pedaling as soon as I get home.

From another perspective, that 86 gallons creates about 1720 pounds of CO2. I could also count that against the 18+ tons--yes, tons--of CO2 my whole house solar electric has saved since it was installed in 2009.

Forgive me for flaunting these two luxuries. That said, I would describe the solar as not a luxury, but a commitment--a commitment to transition into a future with new options for energy and for sustainable living.

And this is where the relationship between Hawaii's environmental challenges and those of the City of Downey meet. Because the whole planet is in transition, and the challenges of a small, relatively isolated island like Maui demonstrate in relief the challenges that Downey either already faces to some degree, or will soon face, albeit on a less intrusive scale.

For example, returning to the

state's mandatory plant and animal declaration for incoming travelers, Hawaiian visitors have been importing non-native plants and animals since before recorded history, including not only pigs--ironic, considering the main dish at a lu'au--but numerous types of invasive plants and other animals. Mosquitoes arrived in the early 19th century, brought in as revenge, according to an old myth, by a jilted non-Hawaiian sailor. Those mosquitoes are now responsible for the near extinction of Hawaiian bird species due to the transmission of avian malaria.

Banyan trees, a type of ficus, were also imported to Hawaii. In Lahaina, close to where we're staying, there's a banyan tree that takes up most of a city block. Similarly, ficus trees, once a prime choice for tree planting in Downey, are now viewed as invasive by the City of Downey Public Works division responsible for trees, partly because they grow so fast as to disrupt sidewalks and street paving.

By the same token, both California and Hawaii have only one native

palm tree each--a fact whose irony, given all the luscious palm tree artwork for both states, is underlined every day I look across the street at my neighbor's house, which is almost completely landscaped in palm trees.

The broad principle at work here is that native plants, native animals, and native insects all interactively benefit the native environment. Non-native flora and fauna, on the other hand, almost universally disrupt it.

Comparing Maui and Downey is also true on other levels that impact the environment. For example, the Hawaiian islands of both Kauai and Maui have recently banned plastic shopping bags, although plastic produce bags are still permitted. With this year's expiration of California's current law regarding plastic shop-

ping bags, and the potentially imminent passage of a plastic bag ban by the City of L.A., Downey may also be looking at changes in plastic bag laws in the very near future.

Another comparison is obvious. Hawaii is running out of landfill space, such that several of the Hawaiian islands have already begun to export their trash. Likewise, the Puente Hills Landfill will close this November, and communities throughout the Los Angeles area, including Downey, will have to address the challenges of where to dispose of their trash, including the possibility of export to the Mesquite Regional Landfill in Imperial County.

So, in a nutshell, Hawaii's challenges represent a litmus test for other modern communities in a transitional global environment. And Downey is certainly one of them.

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 A Must See! This is a beautiful tri-level home. It features wood 3 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms with each of the bedrooms having their own full bath. Also, this home has a patio, wood floors and a 2 car garage. If that's not enough, it also features a fireplace in the living room, beautiful wood shutters and a balcony off the kitchen. Call today for more information on this great opportunity!	 Turnkey Welcome to this beautifully updated 2 bedroom, 2 bathroom home. It features refinished wood floors, an updated kitchen with quartz counter tops and newer cabinets. Both of the bathrooms have been remodeled as well as the 2 car garage. This is a must see! Call for more information today!	 IN ESCROW We Don't Just List Your Home, We Get It Sold! This beautifully remodeled condo is spectacular. The kitchen features custom white shaker-style cabinets with Corian marble counter tops, new stainless-steel appliances, a breakfast nook and brand new stackable washer dryer in their own discreet closet space. The incredibly large master suite includes an oversized walk-in closet, master bath with a double sink vanity, designer shower and finishes, and a double door entry. Call today for more information.	 My Real Estate School DRE APPROVED LIVE REAL ESTATE SCHOOL \$299 Reimbursed Call Darlene - ext. 119 (562) 927-2626



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