



La Nueva Voz

The New Voice, a Bilingual (English/Spanish) Publication
Pomona's only community newspaper!

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Library task force members seek contributions, urge 'yes' vote on tax plan to keep library open

Two Pomona city councilmembers and a Pomona Unified School District board member have joined forces with the city's Board of Library Trustees, Pomona Friends of the Library and community members on a task force working to keep the city's library open despite the city's current budget crunch – and even increase hours of operation and purchase needed upgrades in technology – at a time the city has discussed further reducing hours and even closing the library altogether.

The group held a news conference last month on the steps of the library to call on the public for support. A week later, the Pomona City



'SAVE OUR LIBRARY' -- Pomona Councilmember Cristina Carrizosa calls on the public to support the Pomona Public Library during a news conference last month on the library steps. Pictured with library supporters are, from left, Pomona Unified School District board member and vice president Dr. Roberta Perlman; Carrizosa; and City Councilmember Paula Lantz.

Council voted to place a library tax measure – now known as the "Save our Pomona Public Library" measure – on the Nov. 6 ballot.

Prior to the news conference, city staff was able to find an additional \$400,000 in revenue that would keep the library open on a limited

basis to avoid a complete shutdown. City staff had proposed shutting down the library for a year as a cost savings measure.

But the tax measure – a \$38 annual parcel tax that would cost property owners about \$3 a month – was designed to provide more permanent funding for the library.

City Councilmember Paula Lantz, who is chairing the task force, explained the \$400,000 would keep

Library supporters held a "Save our Library" rally in front of the library last week on Aug. 15, the day the library was expected to close to reorganize its floor plan. See photos page 2.

the library open through the end of June 2013.

"And that's a great advance since prior to the formation of the task force we were actually going to be closing the library the 15th of August," she said.

Councilmember Cristina Carrizosa explained that now the library **Save our Library... pg. 2**

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Citizens group files lawsuit to halt waste transfer station

Representatives of a group calling itself United Voices of Pomona for Environmental Justice and their attorney announced the filing of a lawsuit last week attempting to reverse the Pomona City Council's recent approval of a Valley Vista Services waste transfer station in Pomona by halting the project on environmental grounds.

The group, joined by Claremont attorney James Sanbrano, said the lawsuit was filed Aug. 14 in Los Angeles Superior Court against the City of Pomona, the Pomona City Council and Valley Vista Services.

About 20 members of United Voices of Pomona chanted anti-



CITIZENS GROUP ANNOUNCES LAWSUIT TO STOP WASTE TRANSFER -- Claremont attorney James Sanbrano, on the steps of Pomona City Hall with members of the citizens group United Voices of Pomona last week, explains a lawsuit he filed in Los Angeles Superior Court in an attempt to halt Valley Vista Services' waste transfer station in Pomona on environmental grounds.

transfer station slogans and displayed placards calling for "kids health over corporate wealth" and "our community deserves justice" during the news conference on the

steps of city hall. The group is claiming that 10,000 people have registered "strong opposition" to the transfer station that **Lawsuit... pg. 11**

Dr. Jamie Garcia, champion of health care for the poor, loses battle with cancer

Dr. Jamie Lynn Garcia, MD, known throughout Pomona and beyond as a devoted champion of health care for the poor and founder of the Pomona Community Health Center in downtown Pomona, died last month of ovarian cancer – only 18 days after her new, \$1.4 million free clinic opened in The Village at Indian Hill. She was 52.

Garcia died following a 22-month battle with cancer.

It was during her family medicine residency at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center in 2000 that Garcia was moved by what she saw as an enormous need for an alternative to emergency room care for low-income patients with chronic conditions such as heart disease, diabetes and asthma. She partnered with the Los An-



Dr. Jaime Garcia

Champion of health ... pg. 6

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Save our library... from pg.1

will close for three weeks beginning this month and re-open in September with limited 20 hours a week of operation and after making several design and floor plan changes to enable running the library with fewer staff members required.

“What we are doing now is calling on the community to come and support this library that has served not only the citizens of Pomona but also the residents of the valley for generation after generation and now is calling for help,” she said. “We need the general public to understand that we need the help and that every little or big donation would be greatly, greatly appreciated.”

She also called on property owners in the community to “step up to the plate” and approve the library tax measure on the ballot in November.

Lantz said the measure is expected to generate about \$1.5 million a year and will enable the city to sustain the library at its current level of operation.

With the additional \$400,000, Lantz said the task force hopes to see an actual increase in services.

“The \$38 a parcel actually adds up to about \$3.17 a month,” she added. “That’s less than a Starbucks and I would encourage everybody to



FOLKLORICO DANCERS SUPPORTING THE LIBRARY -- A folklorico dance team from a La Puente parks and recreation dance program danced in support of the Pomona Library at last week's "Save our Library" rally in front of the Pomona Public Library.

be willing to dedicate a Starbucks cup of coffee to their library.”

She encouraged residents to call her at (909) 620-3757 to let her know if they are interested in supporting the tax plan.

Pomona Unified School Board member and vice president Dr. Roberta Perlman said students in the community utilize the library “tremendously.”

“Many of our students do not have facilities at home such as computers and they don’t have those



GAREY HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS -- Cheerleaders from Pomona's Garey High School led the cheers at last week's "Save our Library" rally in front of the Pomona Public Library in the Pomona civic center. The cheerleaders and the Garey High School marching band opened the rally which included everything from speakers to the sale of fundraising "Save Our Pomona Library" t-shirts.

types of things that in some other communities the children may have,” Perlman added. “So the children need to use the computers here and they do utilize them.”

She called on the community to support “this tremendous effort.”

Lantz pointed out that last year’s budget with 26 hours of operation a week and 25 employees was \$1.5 million.

“So we really want to generate more than that because 26 hours is not an adequate amount for our community,” she said.

Asked what the worst case scenario would be if voters reject the library tax measure in November, Carrizosa said the library would continue to operate “with the ridiculous hours” on a limited basis.

The tax measure requires a two-thirds vote for passage.

Lantz said the city already has made cuts in other areas and today has 25 percent fewer police officers than it had four years ago, has retired or laid off more than 250 city employees, and has been “downsizing, right-sizing, responding to the economy for many, many years.”

Contributions to the library can be made on line at www.friendspomonalibrary.org or checks can be made payable to Friends of the Pomona Public Library and mailed to P.O. Box 2271, Pomona, CA 91769.



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Pomona Mayor Rothman tells downtown business owners their work is making 'a big difference' in the city

Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman told members of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association (DPOA) last month that the work of the downtown area businesses and the DPOA has "made a big difference in our city."

"Our tax rate is up from it, the amount of people that show up, that are parking, that are availing themselves of all of the fun entertainment venues and services that are here have really made a big difference in our bottom line and hopefully to yours, because your job is to make money for yourselves and do good. We want you to prosper," Rothman told the group at its 2012 annual meeting at the historic Fox Theater in the heart of downtown.

"And that's why the city has an approach that is a little more hands off maybe than other cities because we figure the business people of this community know what they are doing and the only thing they need us to do is help them out when they

need it and stay out of the way so you can make money and prosper," he added.

"Because the better you do, the more people come and the better it is for all of us," Rothman said. "And that's the kind of businesses we want is the ones that you do here in the city."

"So congratulations on behalf of the entire city of Pomona on all your



DPOA President Carolyn Hemming

hard work and effort because it definitely shows," he said.

The DPOA's accomplishments were presented in a video highlighting three major projects currently under way in the downtown area – the Hanover Pacific Project, a \$40 million student housing development; the Monterey Station Project, a \$50 million apartment development, and the restoration and remodel of the Mayfair Hotel.

"These projects are here due to the efforts of the city, downtown stakeholders and, in part, work done by the DPOA," according to the presentation.

The program pointed out that more than one million visitors a year come to the downtown area.

"They return again and again, some investing in businesses, some taking up residency, and many more contributing to our economy by supporting our professional, retail, cultural arts and entertainment venues," the program continued. "Retail and residential vacancies are at an all time low and property values are at a near all time high."

According to the report, DPOA has invested more than \$1.5 million toward marketing downtown Pomona.

"Our print advertising campaigns

reach an audience of approximately 6.5 million people a year," the report said.

Special events sponsored by the DPOA include 2nd Saturday Art Walk, Pomona Night Out, the Collector's Street Fair, Farmers Markets, car shows and music fests, as well as the Pomona Christmas Parade and the Miss Pomona Pageant.

The DPOA has invested more than \$2.1 million in downtown security, and has invested more than \$1 million on maintenance programs and projects in the area including working seven days a week to clean sidewalks and remove graffiti.



Mayor Elliott Rothman

And, with as many as 3,000 to 6,000 visitors downtown on a typical Friday or Saturday night, DPOA has formed an entertainment committee to review hospitality issues and regularly attends city council meetings, vehicle parking district meetings and other city commission meetings to remain on top of issues involving the downtown area.

The group's anticipated 2012-2013 budget with projected income of \$917,000 will allocate roughly 12 percent to administration, 29 percent to maintenance, 20 percent to marketing and 31 percent to security.

The evening's activities included a casino night event with professional "gambling" tables and complimentary cigars and brandy on the patio in what DPOA President Carolyn Hemming called the tradition of the '60s.

Officers of the 13-member volunteer DPOA Board remained unchanged for another year with Hemming, owner of Antique Gallery, as president; downtown property owner Cathy Tessier as vice president; Rick Hoffman, vice president of business development and legislative affairs, Credit Union of Southern California, treasurer; and Neil Franklin, owner of Characters Sports Bar, secretary.

La Asociación de Comerciantes del Centro de Pomona recibe halagos del alcalde

Elliott Rothman, alcalde de Pomona, felicitó a los miembros de la Asociación de Comerciantes del Centro de Pomona (DPOA, por sus siglas en inglés) por su gran labor y por hacer la diferencia.

"Nuestra ciudad desea ayudarles para que prosperen y tengan éxito, pues el propósito es de que más gente llegue a consumir los servicios que ustedes ofrecen," dijo Rothman. "Esos son los tipos de negocios que nosotros queremos en nuestra ciudad. Felicidades a nombre de la Ciudad de Pomona por su arduo trabajo y esfuerzo."

Los logros y éxitos de esta organización fueron presentados en un video que destacó tres grandes proyectos actualmente en desarrollo en el área del centro de Pomona – el Hanover Pacific Project, un proyecto valorado en \$40 millones que ofrecerá alojamiento para estudiantes; el Monterey Station Project, unos apartamentos valorados en \$50 millones; y la restauración y remodelación del Hotel Mayfair. "Estos proyectos se están llevando a cabo gracias a los esfuerzos de la ciudad de Pomona," dijo el presentador del video.

También se mencionó que un millón de visitantes llegan al centro de Pomona cada año.

"Ellos regresan una y otra vez, algunos invirtiendo en los negocios, otros fijando su residencia, y muchos otros contribuyendo a nuestra economía apoyando a comercios profesionales, artes culturales y entretenimiento."

De acuerdo al reporte, DPOA ha invertido más de \$1.5 millones hacia el mercadeo del centro de Pomona.

"Nuestras campañas a través de anuncios impresos alcanzan una audiencia de aproximadamente 6.5 millones de personas por año," dijo el reporte.

Eventos especiales patrocinados por DPOA incluyen la Caminata de Arte, Pomona Night Out, the Collector's Street Fair, Farmers Market, exhibiciones de autos y festivales musicales, el Desfile Navideño y el Concurso de Señorita Pomona.

DPOA ha invertido más de \$2.1 millón en servicios de seguridad y más de \$1 millón en mantenimiento para mantener limpios los peatonales y remover el grafiti.

El presupuesto anticipado para el 2012-2013 es un ingreso proyectado en \$917,000 y se asignará estimadamente el 12 por ciento en administración, el 29 por ciento en mantenimiento, el 20 por ciento en mercadeo, y el 31 por ciento en servicios de seguridad.

Los dirección de la organización está compuesta por 13 voluntarios, y como presidente funge Carolyn Hemming, dueña de la gallería de Antigüedades, como vice presidente funge Cathy Tessier, dueña de propiedades del centro de Pomona, y como secretario funge Neil Franklin, dueño de Characters Sports Bar. Rick Hoffman funge como vice presidente de desarrollo de negocios y asuntos legislativos,

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Se pide a la comunidad el apoyo necesario para mantener abierta la Biblioteca de Pomona

Dos miembros del Concilio de la Ciudad de Pomona y un miembro de la Mesa Directiva del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona han unido fuerzas con la Mesa Directiva de Síndicos de la Biblioteca, Amigos de la Biblioteca de Pomona, y miembros de la comunidad para mantener abierta la biblioteca a pesar de la crisis económica que se sufre actualmente.

El grupo llevó a cabo una conferencia de prensa el mes pasado para pedir el apoyo del público. Una semana después, el Concilio de la Ciudad de Pomona votó por colocar una medida conocida como "Salvar nuestra Biblioteca Pública de Pomona" en la boleta de votación

Antes de la conferencia de prensa, el personal de la ciudad descubrió \$400,000 en ingresos que ayudará a mantener la biblioteca en funcionamiento limitado para evitar un cierre completo.

Pero la medida – un impuesto de propiedad de \$38 por año – fue diseñado para proveer un fondo permanente para la biblioteca.

La consejal Paula Lantz, quien también preside el grupo, explicó que los \$400,000 mantendrá la biblioteca abierta hasta finales de Junio del 2013.

"Y eso es una gran ventaja pues si no fuera por estos ingresos, la biblioteca se hubiese cerrado el 15 de Agosto," dijo Lantz.

La consejal Cristina Carrizosa

explicó que ahora la biblioteca se cerrará por tres semanas en este mes de Agosto para renovar el diseño y hacer mejoras. Se volverá a abrir en Septiembre por solamente 20 horas a la semana y con menos personal.

"Lo que ahora pedimos es que la comunidad apoye a esta biblioteca que ha servido de generación a generación no solamente a los ciudadanos de Pomona, sino también a residentes de todo el valle entero," dijo Carrizosa. "Deseamos que el público en general entienda que necesitamos la ayuda de todos y que cualquier donación grande o pequeña será grandemente agradecida."

Carrizosa también pidió que los propietarios de viviendas en la co-

munidad aprueben la medida de impuesto que aparecerá en la balota para votación en Noviembre.

Lantz dijo que se espera que la medida genere aproximadamente \$1.5 por año. Esta cantidad ayudará a la ciudad a mantener a la biblioteca en operación.

"Los \$38 por parcela se suma en \$3.17 por mes," dijo Lantz. "Eso es menos que hacer una compra en Starbucks. Yo exhorto a todos que se dispongan a contribuir a la biblioteca."

Ella le pide a los residentes que le llamen por teléfono al 909-620-3757 y le den a saber si están interesados en apoyar este plan de impuestos.

La Dr. Roberta Perlman, vice presidente y miembro de la Mesa Directiva del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona dijo que los estudiantes de la comunidad utilizan la biblioteca excesivamente.

"Muchos de nuestros estudiantes no tienen los recursos necesarios, tales como computadores, en casa," dijo Perlman. "Espero que la comu-

nidad apoye este grande esfuerzo."

Lantz mencionó que el presupuesto del año pasado fue de \$1.5 millones, lo cual alcanzó para cubrir el costo de tener la biblioteca en operación por 26 horas a la semana y pagar el salario de 25 empleados.

"Entonces verdaderamente queremos generar más que eso porque 26 horas de operación no es suficiente para nuestra comunidad," dijo Lantz.

La medida de impuestos requiere dos tercios del voto para ser aprobada.

Lantz dijo que la ciudad ya ha hecho muchos recortes para ahorrar dinero. Se redució el servicio de policías por 25 por ciento y se han despedido a más de 250 empleados.

Si usted desea apoyar a la Biblioteca de Pomona, puede hacer una contribución monetaria por Internet visitando la página www.friendspomonalibrary.org o pueden girar un cheque a nombre de Friends of the Pomona Public Library y enviarlo a la dirección: P.O. Box 2271, Pomona, CA 91767.



SCE SPONSORS FORUM ON 'HELPING COMMUNITIES SUCCEED' -- Some 200 representatives of non-profit and community based organizations from throughout Pomona and surrounding communities participated in a Southern California Edison-sponsored community forum at the conference center at the Village at Indian Hill in Pomona last week on the theme "Helping our communities succeed and strengthening our nonprofit sector." The day-long conference covered topics ranging from applying for SCE grants, sponsorships and computer donations to SCE's supplier diversity contracting opportunities, economic assistance programs, and more. Pictured at the morning workshop on capacity building for nonprofits are, from left, Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez, a board member of the Pomona Community Foundation, moderator; Suzanne Foster, of the Pomona Economic Opportunity Center; Pastor I.R.F. Brown, of Brown Memorial Temple in Pomona; Huu Vo, M.D., of the Vietnamese Community Organization; Wytke G. Visser, of Inland Valley Hope Partners; Angie Castro, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina; and Dr. Gilbert Cadena, of Cal Poly Pomona's Center for Community Engagement. Panelists touched on topics including jobs, education, health care and the work churches are doing in the community in areas like drug abuse and prostitution. Donna Lee, Pomona's SCE regional manager of local public affairs, was one of the organizers of the event.

GETTING READY FOR THE FAIR!

-- The 90th anniversary run of the Los Angeles County Fair at Pomona's Fairplex was the topic at this month's Pomona Chamber of Commerce networking luncheon. Fairplex community relations coordinator Shanell Fuquay, at right, told Chamber members this year's fair will include everything from touching the animals to stingrays to musical events and horse racing and even a zip line for the first time. Fairplex account executive Troy Lagasca looks on. Fuquay said last year's fair attracted some 1.4 million visitors. This year's fair runs from Aug. 31 through Sept. 30, Wednesday through Sunday.



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LIGHTS, ACTION, CAMERA! -- The refurbished historic Mayfair Hotel in downtown Pomona was scheduled to receive its "certificate of occupancy" from the City of Pomona in only two days when Hollywood came to town and used the building to film a Dodge Ram truck commercial. Producers rented the building at Garey Avenue and Third Street, marking the first time it was actually "used" since remodeling construction began last June. The dresses and mannequins in the window displays were borrowed from a dress shop across the street for the two-day shoot. Developer David Speidel said the Spanish language commercial starred Latin Grammy Awards winner and singing sensation Juanes, who can be seen in the new Dodge truck. Speidel said producers selected the Pomona location because the building offers "L.A. style without all the hassle of L.A." Meanwhile, the new studio, one-bedroom and two-bedroom apartments are now available for rent, Speidel said. For information, contact broker Daryl Beans at (909) 236-5401.

HOSPITAL STAFF PRACTICING 'HANDS ONLY' CPR -- Marion Callahan, R.N., a nurse educator at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center in Pomona, at left, practices her "hands only" CPR at the hospital last month as Ernest Cervantes, an emergency room technician, looks on. The two were part of a CPR "Hands Only Challenge" to help all hospital employees, physicians and volunteers learn the new method of this life-saving technique. According to the American Heart Association, "hands only" is as effective as conventional CPR in helping save lives and it helps reduce barriers to bystander action in an emergency. Callahan is working on a new \$3,000 Zoll automated external defibrillator that both defibrillates and assists with CPR by showing rate and depth of compressions and monitoring and displaying pulse rate, blood pressure, temperature and other vital signs. The hospital maintains a similar unit for every eight to 10 beds in addition to another six in the emergency room. Zoll is also introducing a new \$14,000 automated compression device that incorporates an automated band that tightens around the patient's chest and actually performs the compressions, leaving emergency medical technicians free to perform other tasks. The hospital currently has one of the new units in the emergency room.



'Bike-in Movie' set for Saturday at Palomares Park

Six bicycle advocacy groups will sponsor what is being billed as a "Bike-in Movie," screening the film "To Live and Ride in LA," this weekend in Pomona.

The event is scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday at Palomares Park.

Cyclists are encouraged to "leave the cars at home" and either walk or bike to Palomares Park for a family-friendly evening of bike movies, bike re-

pair, snacks and refreshments.

Parking is near the tennis courts in the back of the park.

Sponsors include the Pomona Valley Bike Coalition, which spearheaded the event, along with Pomona PONY Baseball and ASA Softball League, Ontario Wheelhouse, One More Move, Bike SGV, and the Puente Hills Bicycle Coalition.

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También voy a entrar al sitio de Internet www.SCE.com/spanish para averiguar cómo ser más eficiente, y aprovechar el **Asesor Energético para Negocios**, una herramienta virtual gratuita y fácil de usar que ofrece un análisis detallado del consumo eléctrico de mi establecimiento y en qué áreas estoy gastando mi dinero. Como mi medidor Edison SmartConnect fue activado, **Mi Cuenta** me ayuda a tomar decisiones eléctricas más inteligentes al monitorear y controlar mi consumo eléctrico desde Internet.

Este verano, me he comprometido a tomar decisiones más inteligentes a la hora de conservar electricidad que pueden ayudar no sólo a mi comunidad sino además a mi rentabilidad.



Para más consejos y recursos, visite www.sce.com/SummerSave. Aquí también encontrará enlaces al centro de apagones e información sobre los reembolsos e incentivos disponibles.

Champion of health... from pg. 1

geles County Department of Public Health to operate the original Pomona Community Health Center, at 750 S. Park Ave., Pomona, as a two-room free clinic serving the homeless, uninsured and underinsured in eastern Los Angeles County.

Recognizing that the needs of the community were much greater than her tiny clinic could serve, she began the long process in 2002 of planning, funding and building a greatly expanded clinic.

She assembled a board and staff, sketched out each exam room, and calculated the cost of materials, planned budgets for doctors, created partnerships to secure a location and raised more than \$1.4 million by April 1, 2010.

Five months later, Garcia was diagnosed with an aggressive form of ovarian cancer but was determined to complete the new, expanded clinic and live to see it open.

She oversaw the groundbreaking ceremony in May 2011 for the new clinic's building on Holt Avenue in Pomona in The Village at Indian Hill, a former shopping mall that today houses, among other things, a variety of social services for low income residents.

Garcia worked through her

months of chemotherapy, carrying her laptop with her into treatment rooms and hospital beds, and was looking forward to meeting her first patient.

The new 12-room clinic opened its doors last month on July 9 and is expected to serve 24,000 uninsured, homeless and underinsured residents in the Pomona area this year, providing primary medical care in a clinical setting rather than in an overcrowded emergency room at Pomona Valley Hospital.

While Garcia lived to see her dream realized, she was not able to greet any of the visitors to the clinic she worked so hard to build. On July 6, only three days before the clinic opened, she was admitted to the hospital with extreme abdominal pain.

And on the same day that the first patient entered her clinic, Garcia learned that she had a large, inoperable tumor in her colon and was advised to prepare herself for hospice care.

Dr. Richard Sugerman, Ph.D., who chairs the new clinic's board of directors, called her the "founder and driving force for the Pomona Community Health Center."

"I was surprised when I heard she had been hospitalized and shocked

that she died so soon after she came home," he said.

Garcia was on staff at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center in addition to serving as director of the Pomona Community Health Center.

"Dr. Jamie Garcia was an inspiration to Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, to the underserved patients she served and also to the Pomona Valley community," said hospital President and CEO Richard E. Yochum.

"She was passionate, even zealous, in her drive and creative ideas and abilities to help conceive, develop and serve individuals who often lacked a voice in making their healthcare needs known," Yochum added. "We have all lost a great medical and business leader. We can best honor Dr. Garcia by emulating her efforts to help the less fortunate."

According to her colleagues, Garcia was known for challenging the system when she thought the consequences of the status quo needed to be addressed.

While in medical school at the University of Washington in Seattle, following a brief stint as a professional musician, she wrote a paper about why the practice of keeping residents overly tired was one that

should be changed.

She was known for taking medical supplies to the streets to treat the homeless.

During her last year in residency, she heard of a homeless man living under a nearby freeway bridge who was in dire need of medical care. She reportedly crawled under the bridge herself to treat him and convinced him to come with her back to the hospital.

As the story goes, she eventually enrolled him in a treatment program for alcoholics, after which he remained sober.

According to her colleagues, she believed that taking time with patients – and patients taking time for themselves – is the key to well being.

When she was selected as one of the top doctors in the region in 2011 by Inland Empire magazine and was asked how she would improve the health care system, she said there should be a limit on the number of patients a doctor is allowed to take on and appointments of a half hour should be the norm.

Garcia received many accolades for her work to improve the lives of others, including 2010 Woman of the Year by the California State Assembly and Hospital Hero in 2010

by the National Health Foundation.

Her clinic has been recognized by the California State Assembly, National Project Homeless Connect, and the House of Ruth domestic violence shelter.

The evening before she died, several doctors from her clinic gathered at her home and agreed to hang her numerous recognitions on an otherwise blank wall of the new clinic.

Garcia is survived by her mother Verna, brother John, her life partner of 15 years Sue Verrault, and their two dogs and two cats.

Donations in Garcia's memory can be made to the Pomona Community Health Center, 1450 E. Holt Ave., Pomona, CA 91767 (include "memorial fund" in the "memo" on the check).

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- Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, 1420 S. Garey Ave. Pomona
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AARRR!!! -- This month's mixer attended by seven area chambers of commerce at the Fairplex Conference Center turned to the high seas and a "Jolly Roger" as the Fairplex creative department gave participants a sneak preview of things to come at this year's Los Angeles County Fair. The "mini exhibit" introduced "Pets Ahoy," a new attraction scheduled for the fair this year in Bark Park, near the floral exhibits. Pictured, from left, are First Mate Peggy, "pirate in training" Joseph Estrella, 6, of La Verne, and Captain Dog. This year's 90th annual Los Angeles County Fair runs from Aug. 31 through Sept. 30, Wednesday through Sunday. Participating chambers at the mixer, presented by Fairplex and the Los Angeles County Fair, included Chino Valley, Claremont, Glendora, La Verne, Pomona, San Dimas, Upland, and the San Gabriel Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce.

REMEMBERING THE '60S --

Pomona's Garey High School remembered its beginnings last month with an "All '60s Reunion" for students graduating from 1964 to 1969. The school's first graduating class was the Class of 1964. Highlights of the reunion included a tour of the school and a banquet attended by 300 at the Radisson Hotel in Ontario. Pictured are, from left, front row, Gary Ponto '67, Vickie Thrannr '67, David Garcia '68, Diana Payne '69, Barbara Rhoads '69; second row, Cindy King Garcia '67, Lynne Day Henry '68, Gary Barton '66, Wendy Templin '67, Pati Stevenson '66, Theresa Snedden '66 (holding yearbook),



Lynda Moore '67, Susan Jones '67, Donna Winder (spouse Carl Winder '64), Patty Trujillo Gonzales '69, Carol Pruitt Schultz '64, Edie Nielson Bugnbacek '64, Alice Rodriguez Gomez '66, Cora Belknap Hilton '69, Roy Applewhite '65, Daved Keller '65; back row, Ken Cowan '67, Gary Barton '66, Henry Falkenstein (spouse Wendy Templin '67), Jerry Carlson '66, Rin Colvin '65, Carl Winder '64, Ann Wagenaar '67, Jaqui Nelson '66, Rudy Schultz (spouse Carol Pruitt '64), William C. Duffy '64, Raymon Hilton (spouse Cora Belknap Hilton '69).



AIR CONDITIONING PUMPS HEADING FOR LAX -- Dawson Co. President and CEO Ric Serafin, at right, shows La Nueva Voz Publisher Jeff Schenkel a total of 52 Bell & Gossett centrifugal pumps for air conditioning systems during a tour last week of his 33,400 square foot facility in Pomona. The pumps, ranging in size from 100 to 200 horsepower, will become part of a new air conditioning system for the central utility plant at Los Angeles International Airport. Dawson Co. also is working on a thermal energy storage system at Loma Linda University and Medical Center. Dawson Co., which has 30 employees in Pomona, four in San Diego and one in a satellite office in San Luis Obispo, was named the Pomona Chamber of Commerce "Employer of the Year" at the Pomona Chamber awards banquet in June. The company moved to Pomona three years ago but has been in business since 1948. It serves as manufacturers' representatives and distributors of residential, commercial and industrial plumbing, heating and cooling equipment.



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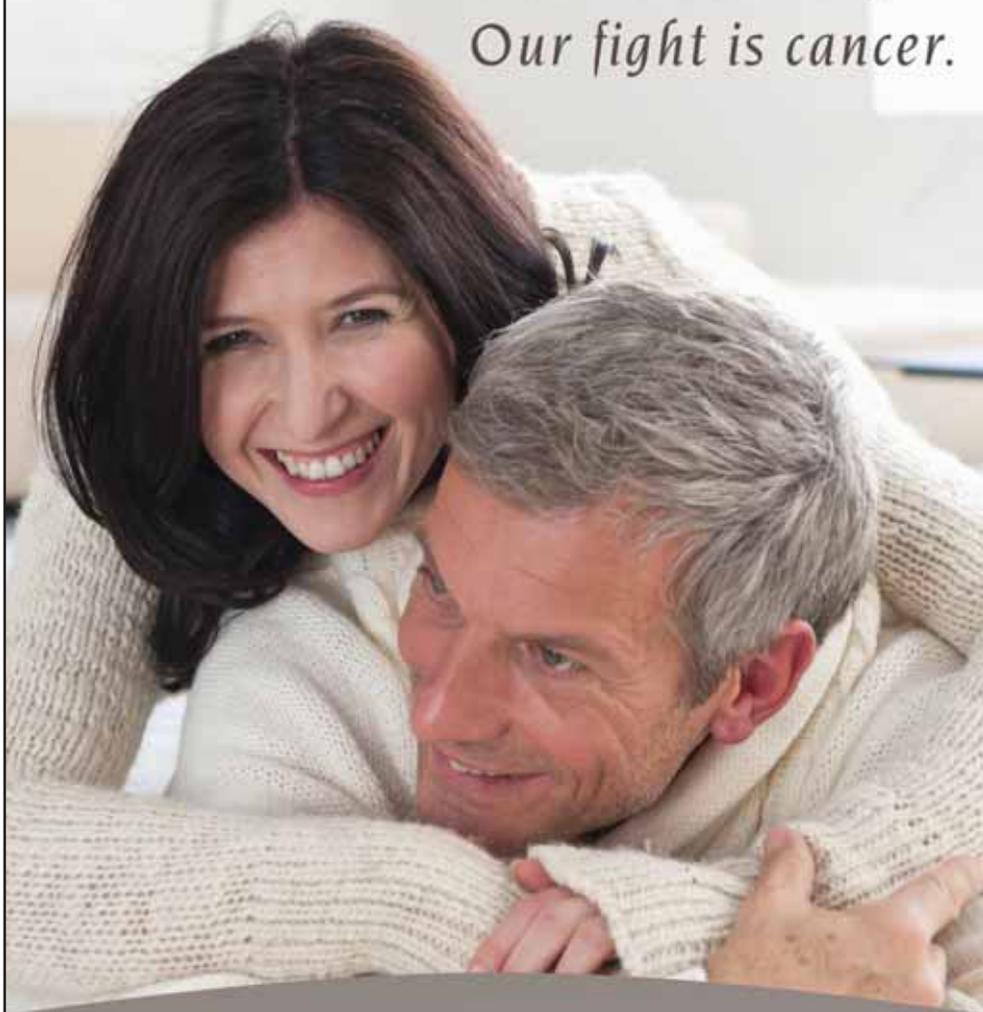
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A CLOSE LOOK AT THE INSTRUMENTS -- Children had an opportunity to try out various instruments last month at a "Musical Instrument Petting Zoo" offered by the Claremont Symphony Orchestra before a performance of the Pomona Concert Band in Ganesha Park. Guest conductor James Christensen, who produced music with Walt Disney Productions for 37 years, brought to life the music of Disney. Pictured, at left, is Suzanne Edwards, co-director of the Claremont Youth Symphony, and Dr. Gina Shaw, associate conductor of the Claremont Symphony.



WELCOMING FALLAS TO POMONA -- Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and Pomona City Councilmember Paula Lantz help Fallas Discount Stores manager Yvonne Olvera, center, cut the ribbon this month in front of many of the store's 100 employees to officially open the new Fallas store in Pomona. Rothman welcomed the new store to Pomona. Fallas District Manager Jeff Trice said the company is "proud to be a part of this community," adding that many of their new associates live in Pomona. The new store, located at 601 E. Holt Ave., is part of National Stores Inc., a family-owned and family-oriented company that was established in 1962 and grew from a single store in downtown Los Angeles to more than 200 locations in California, Texas, Arizona, New Mexico and Nevada. The store offers quality brand name and private label clothes for the entire family, along with lingerie, shoes and home décor. Pictured, far left rear, are Susan Wempe, senior vice president of stores, and Helene Wagner, who works with uniforms and non-profits, both of the corporate headquarters in Gardena. Pictured in the front row, from left, are District Manager Jeff Trice; Area Manager Louise Simoni; Lantz, Olvera and Rothman, and Frank Garcia, executive director of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce. The new 30,000 square foot, two-story store features energy efficient air conditioning and store lighting and a low water landscaping irrigation system for plants selected that require little water.

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Pomona Eagles announce date for cancer fundraiser chili and menudo cookoff, call for contestants

The Pomona Eagles (Aerie No. 2215) are looking for chili cookoff and menudo cookoff contestants – along with vendors, sponsors and more – for their sixth annual “Fight Against

Cancer” fundraiser scheduled for October.

President Frank Howe said the day of family fun will include everything from “peoples choice tastings” (taste all

menudos at 11:30 a.m. for \$5 or taste all chilis at 3 p.m. for \$5, or both for \$8), a kids corner with games and crafts, live music from 1 to 6 p.m., folklorico dancers, food and beverages and more.

The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 13, at the Pomona Eagles, 954 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona. An opening ceremony will be held at 10:30 a.m.

Proceeds from this event and similar Eagles events nationwide will go to the Art Ehrmann Cancer Fund which provides funding for research with stipulations that the money can not be used for administration costs or continuing education.

The Pomona Eagles will also be making a donation locally to the Kimmah Seray Inflammatory Breast Cancer Foundation.

Menudo must be made off site and judging will be held at 1:30 p.m. Chili must be made 100 percent on site and winners will be announced after judging at 5 p.m.

“We invite everyone to come out and meet us, have great chili and menudo and help raise funds for cancer,” Howe said. “Cancer does not discriminate and we all know someone that has suffered.”

For more information, vendors can call Janet at (909) 762-3032 and cook-off contestants can call Frank at (909) 657-7786.

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Lawsuit... from pg. 1

will be built next to a residential area with a high population of low-income Latinos and within a one-mile radius of 10 schools.

Sanbrano said the lawsuit was based largely on flaws in the approved environmental impact report, adding that the lawsuit was not requesting monetary damages but only requesting that the city do what it should have done in its review of the project proposal.

"The project is being challenged because (among other things) it is a project that results in significant impacts on the environment that have not been adequately assessed or mitigated in accordance with CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act)," the lawsuit said.

It alleged that the city "failed to identify substantial evidence" of significant and irreversible impacts that could result from development of the project by failing to disclose problems of water contamination by toxic substances in the soil that migrated into the water supply.

The lawsuit references an unrelated lawsuit filed by the City of Pomona against a fertilizer company that allegedly allowed toxic perchlorates to enter the city's underground drinking water supply.

Last week's action filed by the citizens group seeks a temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction to halt construction of the project pending the court's judgment.

It alleges violation of the California Environmental Quality Act and violation of conflict of interest provisions of the City of Pomona charter which prohibit councilmembers voting on a matter relating to a person or business that has contributed more than \$250 to the councilmembers' election campaigns.

The lawsuit alleges that Councilmembers Steve Atchley, Danielle Soto, Paula Lantz and Freddie Rodriguez, along with Mayor Elliott Rothman, received more than that amount of contributions, although Rothman recused himself from the vote.

The city and Valley Vista have 30 days to respond to the lawsuit, which is actually a petition seeking a writ of mandate that would set aside the city's decision to certify the environmental impact report, the conditional use permit and the tentative parcel map.

The proposed transfer station, billed as a \$14 million "state of the art" fully enclosed facility, was first proposed in 2008 to be located on a 10.5 acre site on East Ninth Street in Pomona. The project, proposed by

Valley Vista Services and its Grand Central Recycling & Transfer Station company, received final approval by the Pomona City Council last month.

It was expected to provide 50 new jobs and boost revenue by generating \$1 million each year that Pomona could use to provide essential city services.

The transfer station was expected to result in the eventual closure of an older style transfer station on Pomona's First Street and was expected to enable the city to be in position to more efficiently handle its own waste disposal process when the Puente Hills Landfill closes next year.

The project was approved last month by the City Council on a 4 to 2 vote with Councilmembers Cristina Carrizosa and Freddie Rodriguez opposing. Mayor Elliott Rothman recused himself from the vote because he was "conflicted out" because of the amount of campaign contributions he had received from the applicant.

Sanbrano said he is handling the matter on a pro bono basis (without charge) although the group is working to obtain funding for legal expenses from several non-profit organizations that fund environmen-

tal justice issues.

The lawsuit also seeks "reasonable attorneys' fees" and any other relief the court decides is "just and proper."

"We are saying no more back room deals, no more corruption," said United Voices of Pomona spokesperson Linda Hinojos, who added that an organization known as OneLA has nothing to do with the current legal effort.

Hinojos said in the view of her organization, OneLA agreed to concessions in negotiations with Valley Vista that enabled approval of the project. "They left the people behind," she said.

OneLA is a Los Angeles-based group that attempted to organize area residents and churches into a movement opposing the transfer station facility.

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WHITE COAT CEREMONIES -- Some 1,200 new students at Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences following this month's convocation donned their white coats for the first time to signify their entry into the health professions. Each of Western's nine colleges held an individual ceremony in Pomona's Fairplex Conference Center. Pictured getting ready for the College of Optometry ceremony for a total of 88 students are, from left, Edwin Endo, a second year optometry student, and Elizabeth Suh, a third year student.

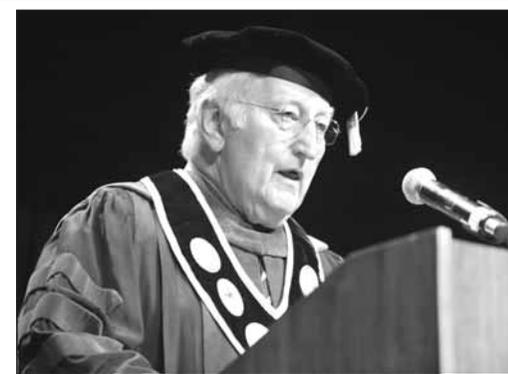


Photo by Eric Reed, Western University

WESTERN UNIVERSITY WELCOMES 1,200 NEW STUDENTS -- Dr. Philip Pumerantz, President and Founder of Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, tells 1,200 new students and their families this month that "every one of these students is going to become someone's healer." He told the entering students that after completing their education and training at Western University they will "go forth with skilled hands and compassionate hearts to help the world become a better place." Diana Dooley, California's Secretary of Health and Human Services, was keynote speaker for the annual convocation event which filled Building 4 at Pomona's Fairplex. She said Western's philosophy provides an ideal template for national health care as the Affordable Care Act develops in coming years, adding that the history of Western University is "steeped in the balance between science and humanity."

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BUON GIORNO! -- It was a little taste of Italy last week at the City of Pomona senior lunch program at Emerson Village (open to both residents and non-residents of Emerson Village) as site manager Marca DeMonaco presented both the ambience and the menu on an Italian theme. A spaghetti and meat sauce entrée was served on white tablecloths adorned with candlelight and red grapes. Pictured is DeMonaco serving wine glasses filled with cranberry grape juice (instead of chianti) to Grace Yeo, on left, and Myong Sook Hong, both residents of Emerson Village and regulars at the lunch program. The catered event was designed to create a comfortable café atmosphere (Café DeMonaco) that would "take our seniors to Italy," DeMonaco said.



AN EVENING OF JAZZ -- It was an evening of jazz and plenty of soul food to go along with it last month on the plaza outside Cassie's Soul Food Kitchen in downtown Pomona. Pictured is the group "Sounds of Music." The free "jazz and social night" performances are offered from 6 to 9 p.m. the last Saturday of the month. Cassie's Soul Food, which features "the best Southern cooking outside of Mississippi," is located at 200 E. 1st St., Pomona, (909) 620-5601. All major credit cards and ATM cards are accepted.

Local award-winning poet to conduct poetry writing workshops

John Brantingham, an award-winning poet and professor of English and creative writing at Mt. SAC, will conduct poetry writing workshops in Claremont next month with proceeds going to the San Gabriel Valley Literary Festival to be held next year in West Covina.

Brantingham's work has appeared in Writer's Almanac and numerous magazines. His poetry collections include "East of Los Angeles," "Putting in a Window" and others.

The three workshops – scheduled for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Sept. 8, 15 and 22, will be held at the Budhahouse Emporium, 134 Yale Ave., Claremont and will cover poetry writing skills, getting work pub-

lished, and using "form to create written works of art."

Cost is \$50 per session. "This is an amazing opportunity to learn from a talented and professionally published poet and writer," said Carole Avila, another local award-winning writer.

The San Gabriel Valley Literary Festival will provide writers and readers an exciting venue that brings the literary world to the San Gabriel Valley. Included will be workshops, speakers, book signings and more.

For more information on the workshops, e-mail johnmbrantingham@aol.com. For information on the Literary Festival, visit the web site at www.sgvlitfest.com.

'CHRISTMAS IN JULY' FOOD DRIVE

More than 10,000 pounds of donated food was loaded into trucks on its way to help restock local food pantries last month in a program spearheaded by Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. A total of nine area food banks and shelters each received at least 1,000 pounds of food, according to hospital officials. Cash donations of more than \$2,200 were received and helped purchase part of the food. The effort nearly doubled last year's initial drive that collected 5,300 pounds of food distributed to four area non-profits. Pictured loading part of 1,500 pounds of food into a truck outside the hospital, from left, are food drive coordinator Linda Flathers of the hospital's marketing department; John Le, a volunteer with Claremont Blessings Church; Dave Peevler, of the hospital's general services department; and Howard Ulm, a hospital volunteer. Claremont Toyota and its employees partnered with the hospital on the project and provided much of the food.



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Pomona adult school offers 'soft skills' training, career paths for jobs in demand, and open enrollment – students can start any time!

Pomona Unified School District's Adult and Career Education program – which last year was the first program ever to receive a Worldwide Interactive Network (WIN) scholar-

Part of the formula, he added, is his staff works with established resources in the community like the Los Angeles County Office of Education's GAIN program, WorkSource at the Los Angeles Urban League, and the California Employment Development Department to help find jobs for the students.

In addition, he said, most of his teachers come from the industry and have contacts of their own "because the teachers are well connected with the industry" who actually approach them regularly looking for new and qualified employees.

Several of his most popular career paths include cosmetology and barbering, welding, manufacturing, medical careers training and office technology. And in today's market, he said the top three in terms of potential employment are manufacturing, office technology and medical.

But in all cases, it is the "soft skills" that can make a difference in career readiness and success in the field – skills like listening, observation, locating information, teamwork, and work habits, Medina said.

He added that Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez was instrumental in helping them get the \$50,000 WIN grant. The program is designed to help close the Latino achievement gap and to help students build career pathways, either directly to the

workforce or following post-secondary education.

This year's winner of the second annual WIN scholarship was Sweetwater Union High School District in Chula Vista south of San Diego.

"We're working with Sweetwater because they like (our) design to help (students) be ready to be marketable with soft skills to be able to

work with the demand," Medina said.

Medina's approach seems to be working. The adult school web site, for example, is receiving 170,000 hits a year.

"We are very conscious of our information being on line as soon as possible because of high demand for information on the web site," he said.

And while the adult school at one time served as many as 22,000 students a year, budget cuts required the school to change the way it does business, relying largely on a fee-based system of operation for career technical education classes.

Even so, Medina's projections show the school will serve between 3,000 and 4,000 students during the current fiscal year.

And demand is increasing with more people going back to school because there is greater demand on the work site, and some students are unemployed and are changing or upgrading their skills.

"We provide the mechanism for the student to transition careers as early as nine weeks or up to a year

and a half into their training," Medina said. "There is also the probability to go from unemployed to trained to working in a relatively quick turnaround time."

He said this transition could occur between six months and a year and a half.

And to make it even more attractive, there are several forms of student financial aid available to help with the programs.

The adult school programs offer open enrollment – students can begin their training at any time – and the school is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and the Council on Occupational Education.

For more information, contact the adult school at (909) 469-2333 or visit the web site at www.pusd.org/ace.



WELDING STUDENT DEMONSTRATES HIS SKILLS -- Student Roy Chavez of Pomona, at right, a student at Pomona's adult school for the past eight months, works with a MIG welding gun to practice his light gauge welding as instructor Rene Contreras looks on. Chavez is almost ready for testing for his American Welding Society Certification.



COMPUTER NUMERICAL CONTROL MILL -- Emanuel Gomez of Pomona, in his second year as a machinist student at the Pomona adult school, works on the Computer Numerical Control (CNC) mill. Students learn that today's work environment for machinists is a clean shop where jobs may pay from \$30,000 to \$60,000 up. Classes include shop as well as classroom training in math and vocabulary.



GETTING USED TO THE KEYBOARD -- Joel Penalzoza of Pomona, a student since January, becomes familiar with the keyboard used for programming on a Computer Numerical Control (CNC) lathe.



LEARNING THE BASICS OF MANUFACTURING -- Joseph Castro, a second year machinist student, works on a manual lathe at the adult school. Instructor Joe Martinez said students work on projects made out of metal, plastic and wax. He has 150 industry contacts of his own who call him regularly for new employees.

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Inter Valley Health Plan employees donate 204 hours in fourth annual 'Helping Hands Week'

Employees of Pomona's Inter Valley Health Plan donated a combined 204 hours of community service to local non-profits in conjunction with the fourth annual "Helping Hands Week" last month.

A total of 52 employees worked on the project at local non-profits in the area including Inland Valley

Hope Partners, the Inland Valley Care and Rehab Center, and animal control and senior living organizations.

Employees also crafted hats, scarves and blankets for various local charities that support children and seniors in need.

Also as a part of the week-long

effort, employees conducted a shoe drive for "Shoes that Fit" and collected shoes for students in need nationwide.

Helping Hands Week began in 2009 to recognize Inter Valley Health Plan's 30th anniversary and, because of its success, was continued as an annual program. Since its

inception, the program has donated more than 700 hours to local communities and organizations, according to a news release.

Inter Valley Health Plan, a non-profit federally qualified Medicare Advantage health plan providing

senior health coverage, supports more than 40 charities and non-profits each year through volunteering and contributions.

For more information, call (909) 623-6333 or visit the web site at www.ivhp.com.

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NINETY EIGHT YEARS YOUNG! -- Elvia Garin, born in Honduras on Aug. 3, 1914, was recognized by Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman this month on her 98th birthday at Pomona Community Base Adult Services, formerly Pomona Adult Day Health Care Center. Now a U.S. citizen and a resident of Pomona, Garin studied to become an elementary school teacher, married Hector Jose Garin (deceased) at the age of 24, and had six children. Today, she has 16 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.

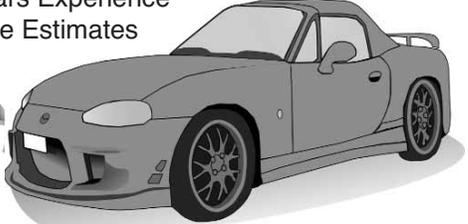
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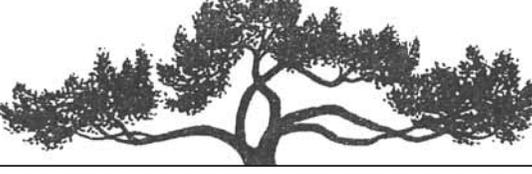
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ANNUAL BACKPACK GIVE-AWAY AT BROWN MEMORIAL TEMPLE -- Backpacks were the main attraction this month at the annual backpack and back-to-school supplies give-away at Pomona's Brown Memorial Temple as several hundred kids and their parents lined up for free backpacks, shoes, medical screenings, entertainment and more. Pictured, at left, is Veronica Brissette, a church volunteer, hard at work passing out the donated backpacks -- and she even offered a choice of colors!

HEALTH SCREENINGS AT BROWN MEMORIAL TEMPLE -- Dayman Adams, manager of Pomona's Walgreens at Towne and Holt Avenues, checks in on the Walgreens free blood pressure screening table in Brown Memorial Temple during this month's free backpack give-away at the church. Pictured, from left, are "patient" Nancy Sindar of Pomona; Walgreens pharmacy manager Pauline Nguyen; and Adams. Other tests available at the event included rapid HIV screening by Charles Drew University; mammogram, prostate and breast cancer information; information on diabetes, weight and smoking; and glucose and blood sugar screening by church volunteer Victoria Smith.



BACK-TO-SCHOOL SHOES -- Donated back-to-school shoes were another big hit at this month's backpack give-away at Pomona's Brown Memorial Temple. Other highlights of the day were popcorn, snow cones and hot dogs. Brown Memorial Temple, at 985 W. Holt Ave., Pomona, and its companion non-profit organization Project: Caring and Sharing provide services to the community throughout the year working with families, youth "empowerment" programs, academic mentoring, re-entry empowerment programs, and more. For more information, contact the church at (909) 975-9825 or Project: Caring and Sharing at (909) 438-1045.

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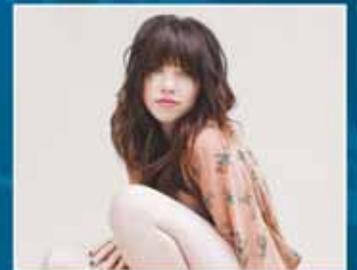
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Pomona Police Department, State Farm invite students to compete for scholarships in teen driving program

High school students in Pomona are eligible to compete for scholarships in a "Teen Driver Challenge" sponsored by the Pomona Police Department in conjunction with State Farm Insurance in which students will develop their own video commercials portraying teen driving safety issues.

Students can begin creating their entries immediately and all submissions are due by Oct. 1.

Participants are encouraged to develop a 30-second video that focuses on drunk driving, cell phone use, distractions from teen passengers, speeding and related topics.

All entries will be judged by a panel of student and civic leaders based on both creativity and content.

First place winner will receive a \$1,000 scholarship, second place will receive \$750 and third place

will receive \$500.

Claremont State Farm agent Nona Tirre, a Pomona Chamber of Commerce Board member, was instrumental in receiving a grant for the program from State Farm.

"I am extremely excited to be a part of this program and I am proud to have the opportunity to support this community through the efforts

and relationships built through the Pomona Police Department supporting the students of Pomona," Tirre said.

She added that Pomona police devoted a lot of time and effort to developing the program.

"The uniqueness of this contest is that it is based on creativity and students teaching students," she said.

Winners will be announced on Oct. 8 and recognized at an awards luncheon on Oct. 18 during National Teen Driver Safety Week.

For entry forms, contest rules and tips, visit the City of Pomona web site at www.ci.pomona.ca.us or for more information contact PomonaTeenChallenge@gmail.com.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT IN POMONA -- Pomona Police Chief Dave Keetle receives a brochure from community volunteer Anne Henderson at the P3 drug free communities coalition booth at Pomona's "National Night Out" in the Pomona Civic Center this month as Sgt. Vince Terrell, at left, of the police department's crime prevention unit looks on. Terrell coordinated this year's National Night Out event as part of a 29th annual crime and drug prevention event involving more than 15,000 communities in all 50 states.



CRAFTS TABLE AT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT -- Kids participating in this year's "National Night Out" in Pomona this month go to work on their creations at the crafts table while others played games, bounced in an inflated jumper and participated in a pie eating contest. The event, part of a nationwide effort, was "a night for all of America to stand together to promote awareness, safety and neighborhood unity," according to a police department news release.

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Evelyn Tahiru
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