



La Nueva Voz

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

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www.lanuevavoz.net



CONGRATULATIONS, CHIEF CAPRARO!

Paul Capraro sworn in as Pomona's new police chief

Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro, sworn into office this month by Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, told an overflowing audience in the Pomona City Council Chambers that his first order of business as chief will be to "engage the community."

Capraro, who has served in the Pomona Police Department since 1988, said Chief Dave Keetle, who retired last month after serving five years as chief, "did what I feel is a great job of preparing me."

"We 'team chiefed,'" Capraro said, and "he really helped me get here."

Mayor Rothman said it was "a very proud moment for the City of Pomona."

"I can't say enough about Paul," Rothman said. "I've known him for a long time and one thing I will say is he has the confidence of the entire community behind him."

"I feel that (with) the support from the Council, from City Manager Linda Lowry, I see that everybody has come together and I believe that together we truly can make a difference in the City of Pomona," Capraro said.

"There is an energy in the community and I think as a group of employees and residents, elected officials, I think we can come together and feed off the energy that was started at our last summit meeting," he added.

"I plan to engage the community but I have repeatedly said it's not

just me that is going to be out there engaging the community," Capraro said. "My first order of business



MAYOR ADMINISTERS OATH OF OFFICE – Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at left, administers the oath of office to Pomona's new Police Chief Paul Capraro this month during swearing in ceremonies as members of the Pomona City Council look on. Pictured, at rear, from left, are Councilmember Adriana Robledo, Vice Mayor Ginna Escobar, and Councilmembers Cristina Carrizosa, John Nolte, Paula Lantz and Debra Martin.



INTRODUCING THE NEW CHIEF – Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro addresses the audience moments after taking the oath of office.

dressing the community and addressing the needs of the community, figuring out what those actually are."

And, he said, his definition of community involves everybody who lives, works and plays in Pomona.

"It is not my intent to exclude anyone," he said.

Capraro said Keetle led the department through "some very tough financial times."

"I'm not saying we're completely out of the woods, but I think it's time for us to move into the community and to re-engage in the best way we can," he said.

Pomona Police Capt. Mike Olivieri, who served as master of ceremonies during the

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Pomona Valley Hospital opens doors to newly remodeled lobby entrance and gift shop

Officials at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center opened the doors to their newly remodeled lobby entrance and gift shop area this month – closed for construction for approximately a year – in ceremonies that unveiled a completely updated and modern look to the hospital entrance.

Representatives of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce were on hand to provide an official ribbon-cutting ceremony for the project – still the same size and the same footprint – that represented the lobby's first upgrade since 1960.

Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin called the hospital "one of our jewels in our city" that has saved so many lives and, in her

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NEW LOBBY ENTRANCE FOR HOSPITAL – Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center cuts the ribbon this month to officially open its new lobby entrance and gift shop – the first remodeling of the lobby since 1960. Pictured, from left, are hospital volunteer Henry Nakamoto; hospital President/CEO Rich Yochum; Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin; hospital Board Chair Jane Goodfellow; Pomona Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Frank Garcia; Dr. Hellen Rodriguez, a physician in the hospital's perinatology department and chairman of the hospital foundation board; Sonja Stump, president of the hospital auxiliary; Pomona Vice Mayor Ginna Escobar; and volunteer Sheila Kryger, a member of the auxiliary board of directors.

Paul Capraro es nombrado el nuevo jefe de policías de Pomona

Paul Capraro, quien fue nombrado el nuevo jefe de policías de Pomona por el Alcalde de Pomona Elliott Rothman, le dijo al público reunido en la Cámara del Concilio de Pomona que su prioridad será involucrar y comprometer a la comunidad.

Capraro, quien ha desempeñado funciones para el Departamento de Policías de Pomona desde el 1988, dijo que Dave Keetle, quien se jubiló el mes pasado después de cinco años como jefe de policías, "hizo un buen trabajo en prepararme."

"Trabajamos como equipo," dijo Capraro. "En verdad él me ayudó a llegar a este punto."

Rothman dijo que era un momento de mucho orgullo para la Ciudad de Pomona.

"Me faltan palabras para hablar sobre Paul," dijo Rothman. "Lo he conocido por muchísimo tiempo y una cosa que si puedo decir es que él lleva la confianza de toda una comunidad entera."

"Yo siento que con el apoyo de el Concilio, de la administradora de la

Nuevo jefe de policías... pág. 2



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Nuevo jefe de policías... de la pág. 1

ciudad Linda Lowry, veo que todos nos hemos unido, yo creo que juntos podremos verdaderamente hacer la diferencia en la Ciudad de Pomona," dijo Capraro.

"Existe una energía en la comunidad y pienso que siendo un gran grupo de comerciantes, residentes, y oficiales elegidos, unidos podemos aprovechar de esa energía," dijo Capraro.

"Tengo planes de comprometer a la ciudad pero siempre he dicho que no lo haré seré solo," dijo Capraro. "Mi prioridad es sentarme con los comandantes, los tenientes y encontrar una manera de involucrarnos con la comunidad y abordar las necesidades de la comunidad."

Y, también dijo Capraro, la definición de comunidad involucra a todos quienes viven, trabajan, y se divierten en Pomona.

"Mi intención es no excluir a nadie," dijo Capraro.

Capraro y Keetle dirigieron el departamento de policías por tiempos

financieros muy difíciles.

"No estoy diciendo que ya se acabaron esos tiempos difíciles, pero pienso que es momento de movernos entre la comunidad y reintegrarnos de la mejor manera posible," concluyó Capraro.

Mike Olivieri, capitán de policías de Pomona, quien fungió como maestro de ceremonias, dijo que él ha trabajado junto con Capraro por 24 años.

"Un tema recurrente que hace de

Paul una persona especial son sus cualidades como líder," dijo Olivieri, agregando que esto significa un buen moral y cuidado excelente en la comunidad.

En el evento estuvieron presentes familiares, empleados de la ciudad, todos los miembros del Concilio de Pomona y del Departamento de Policías de Pomona y también jefes de policías de las ciudades de La Verne, Monterrey Park, West Covina, Glendora y Claremont.

New chief... from pg 1

swearing-in, said he has worked with Capraro for 24 years.

"A recurring theme that makes Paul so special is his leadership qualities," Olivieri said, adding that this translates to good morale and excellent customer care in the community.

In addition to family, friends, city employees, all of the members of the Pomona City Council and most of the Pomona Police Department, the police chiefs from La Verne, Monterey Park, West Covina, Glendora and Claremont were on hand for the event.

AFTER PINNING ON THE CHIEF'S BADGE – Judi Capraro, Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro's wife, watches as her husband addresses the audience just after she pinned on his new badge as police chief.



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Pomona Valley... from pg 1

case, delivered four of her children. And Pomona's Vice Mayor Ginna Escobar said the project is another example of how the hospital "gives back to the community."

"Many of us have grown up around here," said hospital President and Chief Executive Officer Richard Yochum. "I am amazed how much larger this appears."

"Our major theme is building for our future but remembering our past," Yochum added, explaining that the remodeling project involved opening up a section of the hospital that was connected to the original 1913 structure – a building that initially represented about a third of the size of today's medical facility.

He also pointed out that the history of the hospital was preserved on a "history wall" inside the new lobby area.

And he said the upgraded gift shop in the lobby is a major fundraiser for the hospital auxiliary, adding that the hospital gift shop first opened some 65 years ago (although the auxiliary was formed in 1937).

Richard Kuyper, the hospital's project manager, told La Nueva Voz after the ceremony that the lobby upgrade project – involving an area of just under 4,000 square feet – was designed to "bring us up to today's standards... (incorporating) concepts and designs of today."

He said the project included installation of energy efficient lighting and "opened up" the lobby with full glass walls making the area brighter and more efficient.

Yochum pointed out that the lobby remodeling was part of a \$70 million construction project at the

hospital which began with a new parking lot and is continuing with the construction of a new Robert and Beverly Lewis Outpatient Pavilion, a 55,000 square foot facility which is expected to be completed in January.

And a planned expansion of the hospital emergency room is expected to increase capacity by 50 percent, he said.

A "topping out" ceremony was held at the outpatient pavilion construction site earlier this month as the final steel beam was installed.

That facility will include five outpatient surgery suites, 20 prep and recovery beds, physical therapy and rehabilitation services, and pre-admission testing.

"The outpatient pavilion will afford a whole new patient experience – one where the tenets of patient and family centered care can be realized," Yochum said in an earlier news release.

Some 660 construction and contracting jobs will be created during the construction phase.

Hospital officials announced late last year that Mrs. Beverly Lewis had made a "naming" gift for the new outpatient pavilion. She and her late husband, Robert, have been long-time supporters of the hospital.

Other major donors to the project include Mrs. Jo Fulton and her late husband, Jack, and the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Auxiliary.



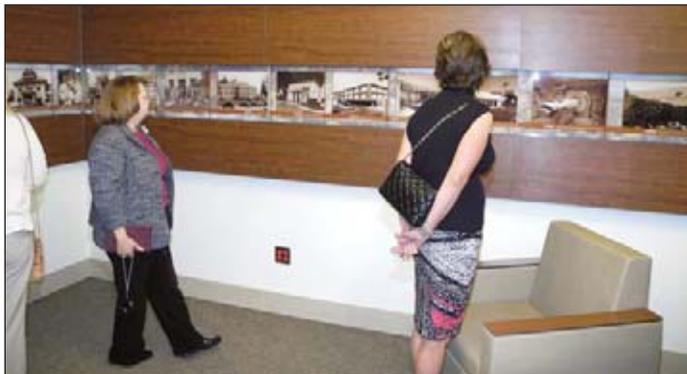
PRESENTATION FROM THE CITY – Pomona city councilmembers present a certificate of recognition to the hospital during opening ceremonies for the hospital's new lobby entrance and gift shop this month. The hospital entrance – closed for the past year due to the construction – was remodeled for the first time since 1960. Pictured, from left, are hospital President/CEO Rich Yochum, Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin, Pomona Vice Mayor Ginna Escobar and Sonja Stump, president of the hospital auxiliary.



A NEW GIFT SHOP – Hospital visitors take a tour of the newly remodeled gift shop following this month's re-opening of a newly remodeled hospital entrance, lobby and gift shop at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center.



NEW BABY GRAND PIANO – A new piano is now a permanent addition to the newly remodeled lobby at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. Playing for guests at this month's re-opening is Lou Styles, owner of Pomona's Styles Music. The piano also has the ability to play programmed music.



HISTORY OF HOSPITAL – A hospital "history wall" is now a part of the newly remodeled lobby at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center.

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Thank you to our sponsors:

Kyle Webb, Chief Financial Officer of Webb Family Enterprises, elected to Board of Bright Prospect in Pomona

Kyle Webb, Chief Financial Officer of Webb Family Enterprises, which operates McDonald's franchises and Webb Family Investments, has been elected to the Board of Bright Prospect in Pomona, a non-profit organization that empowers low-income students from Pomona, Montclair and Ontario to succeed in college.

"Kyle brings a tremendous amount of business expertise and understanding of the community to the table and we are very pleased to have him join our Board," said Bright Prospect Executive Director Stephanie Campbell.

Webb's company operates McDonald's franchises in 16 Inland Empire communities.

"I am delighted to serve on the Board of Bright Prospect and I look forward to applying both my business skills and my awareness of the tremendous need in this area in my work with the other Board members," Webb said. "Bright Prospect has been doing a tremendous job over the past 12 years and their work helps us all showcase the many

young 'shining stars' coming out of our schools and heading on to college."

"In addition, at Webb Family Enterprises, one of our key interests is in helping young people build a positive future in the various communities we serve," he added. "The good work Bright Prospect is doing goes a long way toward enabling us to move closer to that goal."

Webb said his company's mission is to ensure that "each community benefits from our operation just as the company benefits from our customers' patronage."

A graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta where he received a degree in business administration-finance, Webb began his career working in finance for the Disney-ABC TV Group before joining the family business.

The Claremont resident is the youngest of the three children of Webb Family Enterprises founders Reggie and Rene' Webb.

He serves on the University of La Verne College of Business and Public Management Advisory Board, the Loma Linda Ronald McDonald House Advisory Council, and is a member of the National Black McDonald's Owner Association.

In addition, he serves on the McDonald's of Southern California People

Team and Health Care Reform Task Force.

He will serve a three-year term. The 10-member Board meets quarterly.

Bright Prospect is a non-profit organization that empowers low-income students from Pomona, Montclair and Ontario to gain admission, succeed and graduate from colleges and universities.

The organization works with students throughout high school and continues to offer support through college, basing its work on

five "guiding principles of success" – gaining commitment to college graduation, developing life skills and positive attitudes, creating a stable and supportive environment, fostering student leadership and peer support, and educating students' parents.

One hundred percent of students participating in the Bright Prospect program go on to college and 91 percent graduate with a bachelor's degree, including students who have graduated from 13 of the 15 highest-ranked universities in the nation.

The 12-year-old Bright Prospect has grown from 12 students at its inception to 1,500 students today.

For more information, contact Bright Prospect, 281 S. Thomas St., Suite 302, Pomona 91766 at (909) 623-9007 or visit the web site at www.brightprospect.org.



Kyle Webb



POMONA VALLEY BLACK CHAMBER COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS – Participants in last month's inaugural Pomona Valley Black Chamber of Commerce Community Service Awards arrive for the evening's festivities which included a performance by singer Ja'Sonique Scott, a student at Pomona Unified School District's Lorbeer Middle School in Diamond Bar. Scott, a soloist in the choir at Pomona's Shield of Faith Christian Center, recently produced her first album of gospel music. She is 14 years old. Pictured, from left, are honoree Glenn Todd, Ja'Sonique Scott, Black Chamber President Benita Sager Tillman, and honorees Cassie Edwards, Ethel Gardner, Pastor Rick DeBruyne, and Dr. Lorenzo Almada.

Center; Pamela Lynn of Angels that Care; Mary Madkin of New Creation Women's Center; Sharon Shuff of the Ritz Hair Salon; Jeff and Ulondra McCarty of California Jewelry and African Imports; Khalif and Vicky Rasshan of the African American Museum; Helen Smith of Accessories and Things; Glenn Todd of Glenn Todd Construction; and Reggie Webb of Webb Family Enterprises.

Actor Bill Cobbs, who starred in "Night at the Museum" and "New Jack City," made a special appear-

ance at the event which was attended by about 100 people.

Pomona's Black Chamber was formed 10 years ago but was reactivated in December after a period of inactivity.

It focuses on small business and financial education workshops, fundraising for scholarships and other activities.

For more information, contact the Pomona Valley Black Chamber of Commerce at (888) 466-7408, ext. 104, or visit the web site at www.blackchamberofcommerce.org.

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STUDENTS OF THE MONTH – Two San Antonio Elementary School students were recognized this month as Students of the Month at a Youth Appreciation Meeting of the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club. The students, pictured front row, from left, are Gisselle Garcia and McKenzie McMillan. Back row, from left, are Breakfast Optimist Club President M. Joyce Bakersmith, San Antonio Elementary Principal Selene Amencio, and Fernando Meza of the Pomona Unified School District.

Annual PVW Fun Run/Walk set for April at Fairplex

The Sandi Spetnagel Annual Fun Run/Walk for the non-profit PVW will be held next month at Fairplex to raise funds to help power up programs at PVW to assist adults with disabilities in reaching their potential in vocational and socialization skills.

The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 19, at Fairplex (enter at Gate 17 – parking is free). Registration is scheduled for 7 a.m., the 1K run/walk is set for 8 a.m. and the 5K for all participants kicks off at 8:45 a.m.

A pancake breakfast will be held from 7 to 11 a.m. Cost is \$5.

Registration fees (register on line at www.pvwonline.org) are \$15 for kids 12 and under, \$25 for age 13 and over, and \$20 per team participant on teams with eight members or more.

All participants will receive a commemorative T-shirt, a goodie bag and a participation medal.

For more information, contact Sharon Armagost, director of marketing, at (909) 624-3555, ext. 239 or by e-mail at Sharon@pvwonline.org.

New educational foundation launches fundraising effort to benefit Pomona schools

There's a new educational foundation in town – and it has been here for the last 10 months – that is starting to bang the pans together to draw a little attention to itself so it can continue its fundraising to add programs to the curriculum in the Pomona Unified School District.

Volunteer CEO Sam Tharpe, a retired principal who served for 30 years in the school district, is heading up the new organization – Pomona Unified Partners in Learning, Inc., or PUPIL.

He told La Nueva Voz during a fundraising kick-off reception this month at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Hotel that PUSD is still attempting to recover from 18 percent across-the-board budget cuts due to reduced state revenue.

Tharpe, who spent the last 16 years of his career as principal at Yorba Elementary School, said that due to these cuts the district "just can't afford all the programs."

"We want these programs so we can compete with our neighboring school districts" and with the rest of California, said Tharpe, who has been with the foundation for the past three months.

He said PUPIL hopes to help restore programs in areas of comput-



POMONA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION KICKS OFF FUNDRAISING DRIVE – Members of the Pomona Unified Partners in Learning (PUPIL) foundation, who organized only 10 months ago to help restore programs to the curriculum that were eliminated due to budget cuts, have launched a major fundraising campaign to enlist the support of the community. The organization also hopes to receive grants to help with the task. Pictured at a kick-off reception at McKinley's Grille at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel this month are, from left, foundation Board member Chuck Bader; Alex Parslow of HMC Architects, an advisor to the foundation and a former student of PUPIL CEO Sam Tharpe; Pomona Unified School District Board members Frank Guzman and Dr. Roberta Perlman; Pomona Unified Supt. Richard Martinez; PUPIL CEO Sam Tharpe; foundation Board member Carole Pelton, a Pomona resident and member of the Board of Library Trustees; and Jim Dale, Vice President of Development at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and treasurer of the foundation Board.

ers, art, gardening and nutrition and even in the basic STEAM classes (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts/Agriculture and Math).

How will PUPIL accomplish all of this? Through fundraisers and grants, Tharpe said, adding that the foundation will be reaching out to business and the community.

But the concept is simple – the school district lost money in these

areas.

"Those areas we want to bring back," Tharpe said, adding that the foundation hopes to bring auto shop back to the high schools "to grab some of that ADA (average daily attendance funding from the state) that we're losing."

PUPIL's "vision" statement is that the organization "seeks to forge partnerships that support student success as well as college and career readiness so that every Pomona Unified School District student is prepared, and can acquire the skills they need, to be successful in their educational and career aspirations."

For more information, contact the foundation at P.O. Box 602, Pomona, CA 91769, by calling (909) 397-4800, ext. 23067, by e-mail at info@pupilfoundation.org or by visiting the web site at www.pupilfoundation.org.

exhibition.

Volunteers are needed year-round for the ArtReach exhibition for high school students, the Upland Lemon Festival, spring and fall college fairs, neighborhood parties and guest services to greet guests, provide directions and assist with guest comments.

For more information, call (909) 865-4208 or visit Fairplex on line at www.fairplex.com/volunteer.



Photo by Jim Popovich

POMONA REPUBLICAN CAUCUS MEETS AT O'DONOVAN'S – Members of the Pomona Republican Caucus meet last month at Pomona's O'Donovan's Restaurant and Pub in Downtown Pomona for a candidates forum. Pictured are participating candidates with Caucus Chairman Cesar Hurtado. From left are Paul Hannosh, Congressional District 8; Dorothy Pineda, Assembly District 52; Lydia Gutierrez, State Supt. of Schools; Cesar Hurtado, Caucus Chairman; Deborah Behounek, Assembly District 41; Arturo Alas, Congressional District 32; and El Monte Mayor Pro Tem Juventino "Jay" Gomez, a candidate for Los Angeles County Supervisor. Not pictured were participants Pomona Vice Mayor Ginna Escobar and John Morris, candidate for Los Angeles County Tax Assessor.



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Hope & Hurdles

By Evy Schuman



EDITOR'S NOTE: "Hope & Hurdles," an on-going feature appearing in La Nueva Voz, was created by artist Evy Schuman as an attempt to "poke fun" at the little things that trouble us all from time to time. Evy, who is also a published writer on the subject, created the cartoon series to show her work at a creative writing class she co-facilitates at Pomona's Tri-City Wellness Center.

Two April events planned at Pomona's Kennedy Austin Foundation

Two events – a "Unity Breakfast" and "White Ribbon Day" are planned next month at Pomona's Kennedy Austin Foundation.

The Unity Breakfast will be held from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Saturday, April 12, featuring guest speakers Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman. Admission is \$10.

White Ribbon Day will be held

from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 19, "in tribute to the loved ones we have lost" and "in honor of those who serve our communities, our country and in building and celebrating our community."

Both events will be held at the Kennedy Austin Foundation, 2501 N. Garey Ave., Pomona.

For more information, call (909) 480-3357 or visit the web site at www.kennedyaustinfoundation.org.



LET'S HEAR IT FOR THE COOKS! – Some of Pomona's finest volunteer cooks and Kiwanis Club members turned out to make the pancake breakfast happen on opening day at Ted Greene Little League in Pomona. Pictured at the grill, from left, are Maribel Alvarez, Carolyn Hemming, Cedric Elias, Richelle Baptista and Steve Shirley.



PANCAKE BREAKFAST ON OPENING DAY – It was opening day for Ted Greene Little League at Ted Greene Park in Pomona this month and the Kiwanis Club of Pomona provided everything needed for a pancake breakfast. Pictured at the front of the line is Damian Lopez, a little league board member, grabbing a couple of plates from Kiwanis President Mark Warren and his son and volunteer, Alex Warren.



WORKING THE RAFFLE – Brenda Quintana, board president of Pomona's Ted Greene Little League, at left, and Jacqui Perez, special events coordinator for the league, show off some of the raffle prizes as they call the winning numbers on opening day at Ted Greene Park this month. The league is still signing up players which include both boys and girls ages 4 to 18. Home games are played at Ted Greene Park, 2105 N. Orange Grove Ave., Pomona. For information on Little League sign-ups, visit the web site at www.tedgreenell.com, the Facebook site at Ted Greene Little League or call (909) 865-0884.

Sowing Seeds, Habitat for Humanity to hold joint 'Wine Extravaganza' fundraiser

Sowing Seeds for Life, a La Verne-based food pantry program, and Pomona Valley Habitat for Humanity will hold a joint "Wine Extravaganza" fundraiser next month in Claremont.

The event, scheduled for 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday, April 13, at Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, 555 W. Foothill Blvd., Claremont, will benefit both organizations and feature samples from great local restaurants and caterers and some of the best vineyards pouring an assortment of wines.

Tickets are \$65 in advance or \$75 at the door.

For tickets or more information, contact Fran Robertson, (909) 392-5777, ext. 232, or by e-mail at frobertson@sowingseedsforlife.org.

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Enroll now in St. Joseph Elementary!

Enrollment is now open for Transitional Kindergarten through Eighth Grade students attending St. Joseph Elementary in Pomona for the Spring semester.

Operating since 1898, St. Joseph Elementary today is a 14-room school which includes nine classrooms, a library, a new computer lab, a music room, a conference room and an after school care room.

Re-Registration and registration for new students now through June 30th.

"New Student Testing:" 1:30 p.m. April 10th.

- Curriculum follows the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and includes instruction in core subjects of religion, math, science, social studies, English, reading/ literature and spelling.
- Supplemental subjects include handwriting for grades one through four, computer class, art class, music and physical education.
- The school is fully accredited. Religious activities include Mass every Thursday, prayer "buddies" and sacraments. Academic activities include science and math fairs and academic "bees." Social activities include Christmas and Spring plays, cultural awareness and parents/grandparents open house.
- A full sports program is offered.
- Services include before and after school care, tutoring, WiFi Internet in all classrooms and hot lunch.



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'Clean Air Pomona' working toward smoke-free parks in Pomona

Representatives of the organization "Clean Air Pomona" (CAP) were scheduled to appear before the Pomona Parks and Recreation Commission this month to encourage commissioners to join 42 cities in Los Angeles County that have already adopted smoke-free parks ordinances.

The organization, a coalition of concerned community members, launched its initiative in Pomona nearly a year ago and has been growing ever since, according to spokesperson Adriana Pinedo.

Pinedo is a prevention policy coordinator for Day One, a Pasadena-based non-profit that is facilitating Clean Air

Pomona in conjunction with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

She said the goal is to improve quality of life for Pomona residents by maintaining a healthy environment, particularly in public spaces.

"In November of 2012, our Pomona City Council proclaimed Pomona a HEAL (Healthy Eating, Active Living) city," Pinedo said. "As we move forward with this initiative, many community partners and residents are looking for ways to accomplish this goal."

She added that Clean Air Pomona was born out of a community assessment conducted in late 2012, in part-

nership with the County Department of Public Health, to see what issues Pomona residents felt were most pressing in their community.

"After analyzing the data, Pomona respondents showed high concern for drug and tobacco use in our city and when asked what places they would like to see made smoke-free, public parks were at the top of the list," Pinedo added.

According to a new brochure developed by Clean Air Pomona, 135 cities statewide have already implemented smoke-free policies and 42 cities have smoke-free parks, 16 of which are located in the San Gabriel Valley including Claremont, San Dimas, La Verne and Chino Hills.

For more information on Clean Air Pomona or to request a copy of the brochure, contact Pinedo at (626) 229-9750 or visit the web site at www.cleanairpomona.com.

Day One is a community-based non-profit organization with a 25-year history of providing effective, high quality and culturally-sensitive public health education, intervention, and policy development. The organization builds vibrant, healthy cities by advancing public health, empowering youth and igniting change.

For more information on Day One, visit the web site at www.godayone.org.

Pomona Pastors invite public to pray for city

"Pomona Pastors in Prayer" will present a gathering of representatives from throughout Pomona this month to "bless our community" and "pray for the revival that will turn things around in Pomona."

Bishop Henry Alexander, of

Shield of Faith in Pomona, will officiate at the event, scheduled for 6 p.m. Sunday, March 30, in the main sanctuary at First Baptist Church, 586 N. Main St., Pomona.

For more information, contact Pomona Pastors in Prayer, at (909) 629-6294.



POMONA OPTIMIST 'STUDENTS OF THE MONTH' – Three students from Pomona's San Antonio Elementary School were recognized last month as "students of the month" at the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club's youth appreciation meeting. Students selected each month are selected by teachers as "outstanding examples for other students to emulate." Last month's students are, front row, from left, Jasmine Hernandez, Gabrillo Perreya and Jacquelynn Nguyen. Not pictured was William Baez. At rear, from left, are Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez, Breakfast Optimist Club President M. Joyce Bakersmith and Angie Castro, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina's office. Also attending but not pictured was Pomona City Councilmember Adriana Robledo.

Project Sister to hold third annual 'Denim Day' event next month in Pomona Civic Center

Project Sister Family Services will host its third annual "Denim Day and Anti-Violence Community Fair" next month in the Pomona Civic Center Plaza.

The Denim Day campaign works to raise awareness and educate the public about rape and sexual assault.

The event will be held from 3 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 23, in the Pomona Civic Center.

Denim Day arose from the outrage that followed an Italian Supreme Court decision in 1998 to

overturn a rape conviction because the victim wore tight jeans.

Included will be food, raffles, information tables, vendors, games and music provided by DJ Oreo.

Project Sister Family Services is a community-based organization founded in 1972 as a response to a series of violent assaults against women in the Claremont and Pomona areas. Today, it serves more than 45,000 women, children and men survivors each year.

For more information, visit the web site at www.projectsister.org.

22nd Annual Ohlone "Big Time" Gathering & Pow Wow

2014

Friday April 25th 6:00 P.M. -10:00 P.M.
Saturday April 26th 11:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M.
Sunday April 27th 10:00 A.M. to Dusk

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Robert Piper Jr.
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Mashantucket Pequot Tascorosa

Headboy Dancer

Michael "Spiritbear" Toro
Shoshone/Blackfoot

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For Pow Wow info call the tribal office at (909)623-7889

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AUTHENTIC IRISH KILT – Mason Curl of Long Beach, wearing an authentic Irish kilt similar to the Irish plaid design worn by his ancestors for centuries, samples another pint of Guinness with the help of bartender Dorothy Daross of West Covina. Daross also included Irish coffee, Bailey's coffee, Irish car bomb and shots of whiskey among her offerings.

IRISH FOLK DANCE – Children and their mothers visiting IrishFest at Fairplex learn an Irish folk dance as taught by a vendor at the three-day Irish celebration this month bringing a wee bit o' the Emerald Isle to Pomona's Fairplex.



KISS ME I'M IRISH – Raymond Cota of Pomona models the Irish green hats and t-shirts he has for sale at IrishFest at Fairplex.



A LITTLE MUSIC FROM THE OLD SOD – Members of the Irish band "Staggering Jack" perform on the Dublin Stage at Fairplex during this year's "IrishFest at Fairplex." Billed as the region's biggest pre-St. Patrick's Day celebration, the event included everything from an Irish village and pubs to Irish bands, traditional Celtic music and even classic rock n' roll, along with games, vendors, food, a medieval kid's castle and more.

Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe to hold 22nd annual 'Big Time' Gathering and Pow Wow next month in Pomona

The Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe of Native Americans, based in Pomona, will hold its 22nd annual Ohlone "Big Time" Gathering and Pow Wow next month at Tony Cerda Park in Pomona.

The annual event, the tribe's largest fundraiser, will include booths, exhibits, food, Native American wear and Native American drummers, the Costanoan Rumsen Humaya Singers and Dancers as well as traditional ceremonies and presentations.

All drums and dancers are wel-

come. The Pow Wow is scheduled for 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. Friday, April 25, 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, April 26, and 10 a.m. to dusk on Sunday, April 27.

It will be held in Tony Cerda Park, 400 W. Grand Ave., Pomona, at Grand and Park Avenues.

For exhibitors information, contact Pete Whitehorse, (760) 953-7010. For Pow Wow information, contact the tribal office at (909) 623-7889, by e-mail at rumsen@aol.com or visit the web site at www.costanoanrumsen.org.



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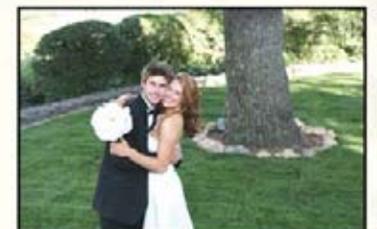


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Assemblymember Rodriguez names Carolyn Hemming ‘Woman of the Year’

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez has named Downtown Pomona Owners Association President Carolyn Hemming as Woman of the Year from the 52nd Assembly District.

Hemming, a business owner and life-long resident of Pomona, has operated Antique Gallery in Downtown Pomona for the past 27 years.

“I am proud to recognize Carolyn Hemming as Woman of the Year,” Rodriguez said. “The impact she has had in our community has been tremendous. She has devoted her time to making Pomona



Carolyn Hemming

a better place to live and she cares deeply about the quality of life for all who reside in Pomona.”

Hemming is a founding member of the Central Business District of Pomona and the Business Improvement District, which is managed by the Downtown Pomona Owners Association, and eventually became president of both organizations.

Along with serving on numerous boards and advisory committees, Hemming has been a driving force behind organizing community events and bringing the Pomona Christmas Parade back to Downtown Pomona.

Her lifetime of dedicated service has earned her the affectionate nickname the “Pomona Queen,” Rodriguez said in a news release.

“Today, cities have limited financial resources so it is more important than ever that groups, residents, and business people step up to assist at the local level to improve their communities,” Hemming said. “As a (Pomona) Councilman, Freddie Rodriguez always took note of those in his community striving to do so and assisted them.”

“It is an honor to be recognized by Assemblyman Freddie Rodriguez for my time spent working on behalf of Downtown Pomona and the other non-profits I am associated with, and I look forward to continuing to work with him on the local level.”

Since 1987, the California Legislative Women’s Caucus has set aside a day in March during Women’s History Month to honor exemplary women throughout the state. Honorees travel to Sacramento and are recognized during a ceremony on the floor of the Assembly.

The 52nd Assembly District includes Pomona, Ontario, Montclair and Chino and portions of the surrounding communities.

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MAMMA MIA! THAT'S GOOD PIZZA! – Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, representatives of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce and others turned out to cut the ribbon to welcome Pomona's Mamma Mia Pizza into the chamber. New owner Pedro Landa, who took over the business last year, celebrated his grand re-opening as the newest member of the Pomona Chamber last month. Pictured, from left, are Chamber Past President Victor Caceres of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, Chamber President Jill Reiff of Valley Vista Services, Mayor Rothman, Pomona State Farm agent Jason Cortez, Mamma Mia owner Pedro Landa, Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin, Pomona Chamber Executive Director Frank Garcia, Robert Torres representing Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, and Chamber President-Elect Jill Dolan of Mt. San Antonio College. Not pictured was David McElwain of GAIN. Mamma Mia Pizza is located at 1637 N. Garey Ave., Pomona, north of the San Bernardino Freeway and across from Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. Mamma Mia provides catering, delivery and take out service. For information or orders, call (909) 623-4149.

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GANESHA PULLS OUT ALL THE STOPS – Pomona’s Ganesha High School pulled out all the stops this month for “Read Across America” week as the cheerleaders and members of the Ganesha High School Marching Band welcomed 900 kids from area elementary schools. The pro-literacy program involved the entire community in reading to elementary school kids. Sponsored by the National Education Association (NEA), the celebration takes place each year around March 2, the birthday of children’s book author Dr. Seuss.



KIDS FROM KELLOGG ARRIVE AT GANESHA – Busloads of kids from Pomona’s Kellogg Polytechnic Elementary School are greeted upon their arrival at Pomona’s Ganesha High School for a little reading from Dr. Seuss as part of “Read Across America.” Principal Jennifer Francev said Ganesha hosted kids from Arroyo, Roosevelt and Kellogg Elementary Schools. “It’s a way for our students to give back,” she said.



CAT IN THE HAT? – Ruby Ponce, a senior at Pomona’s Ganesha High School and captain of the cheerleaders squad, led the cheers as visiting elementary school students arrived at Ganesha during “Read Across America” activities this month. Ruby even added cat whiskers for the event to get the full effect.



WELCOMING COMMITTEE – Members of the welcoming committee pose for La Nueva Voz as students from Kellogg Polytechnic Elementary School arrive for a “Read Across America” observance.



POMONA HIGH SCHOOL GETS IN ON THE ACT FOR ‘READ ACROSS AMERICA’ WEEK – Students at Pomona High School got involved in “Read Across America” this month with the help of Bobby Wagner, a linebacker with the Seattle Seahawks, who stopped by to read a little Dr. Seuss to kids from San Jose, Barfield and Harrison Elementary Schools and La Verne Charter Elementary School. The program is designed to help promote literacy among the District’s students. Wagner, 23, whose hometown is nearby Ontario and who formerly played for Utah State University, is six feet tall and weighs 241 pounds. He logged 120 tackles, five sacks and two interceptions in the 2013 season. Pictured, from left, are Pomona High Principal Roger Fasting, Pomona Unified Board Member Dr. Roberta Perlman, Bobby Wagner, Pomona High senior Tai-Jah Washington, and Pomona High Assistant Principal Daniele Moatakef.



SOCIAL MEDIA COMPANY OPENS IN POMONA – Lawson Social Media, a new company in Pomona providing social media for business and non-profits, and the newest member of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce, officially opened its doors for business last week following a Pomona Chamber ribbon cutting in its offices. Owner Gary Lawson, an adjunct business, marketing and entrepreneurship professor at Cal State University San Bernardino, Cal State University Long Beach and the University of Redlands, said the offices were remodeled from the ground up over the past seven months to incorporate the newest technology, the newest equipment and studios that were built up from scratch. Pictured, from left, are Kathy Froton, Candace Ostler and Christina Lawson, all of Lawson Social Media; Jeff Keating of Western University, past president of the Pomona Chamber; Chamber Executive Director Frank Garcia; Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley Executive Director Victor Caceres, also a past president of the Pomona Chamber; and Gary Lawson. The offices are located at 748 E. Bonita Ave., Suite 204, in Pomona. For more information, call (800) 771-3325.

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Photo courtesy of School of Arts and Enterprise Yearbook Committee

CELEBRATING THE BIRTHDAY OF DR. SEUSS – La Nueva Voz Publisher Jeff Schenkel and Director of Advertising and Public Relations Renee Barbee, front row center, pose for a yearbook committee photographer at Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise with students in the eighth grade filmmaking class at the School of Arts and Enterprise Middle School after speaking to the class this month. Schenkel spoke on the history of La Nueva Voz and its role in the Pomona community today. Barbee read to the students from "The Cat in the Hat" by Dr. Seuss to celebrate the birthday of the children's book author as a part of "Read Across America" activities. Also pictured, front row, from left, are digital media teacher Joey Flores and Assistant Director Ken Bencomo. Pictured front row, at right in red t-shirts are Director Germaine Nesbitt, at left, and school counselor Lorraine Canales. Standing, at right rear, are Tricia Manzo, admissions coordinator, and digital arts teacher Danny Flores.

READING DR. SEUSS – Renee Barbee, Director of Advertising for La Nueva Voz, reads "The Cat in the Hat" by Dr. Seuss to a class of eighth graders at Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise in the school's middle school campus in the Downtown Center on Second Street during "Read Across America" activities. Students were also treated to magic acts, crazy hair day and other lunchtime activities as the school honored the legacy of the many books of Dr. Seuss.

Torres bill to reimburse counties for special elections clears committee

A bill introduced by State Sen. Norma Torres requiring the state to reimburse counties for the cost of administering special elections was unanimously approved this month by the Senate Elections and Constitutional Amendments Committee.

The measure would apply to all elections proclaimed by the governor on or after Jan. 1 of last year to fill a vacancy in the legislature, the U.S. Senate or the U.S. House of Representatives.

"Local governments should not have to bear the burden of funding recent or future special elections for state and federal offices," Torres said in a news release.

She added that usually these unscheduled elections cannot be anticipated far enough in advance to factor costs in budget planning and often contribute to over-expanded budgets which could jeopardize other essential county funded programs.

According to the news release, since 2013, there have been 13 special elections. Two more potentially could be held by the end of the year. The cost for those elections is estimated to be \$14.5 million.



METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT WORKING ON WATER RESOURCES – Luis Cetina, a regional affairs representative for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and a Board member for Cucamonga Valley Water District in Rancho Cucamonga, told members at this month's Pomona Chamber of Commerce networking luncheon that while Southern California is in better shape with its water supply than residents in Northern California, Southern California still depends on a reliable baseline supply of water flowing through the Bay Delta. He said a bond issue may be required to fund an estimated \$24.5 billion in continued improvements – and operation over the next 50 years – in the Bay Delta Conservation Plan for both water conveyance and ecosystem restoration. The plan will result in \$5 billion in net benefits, create 177,000 jobs and create \$84 billion in statewide business activity over the next 50 years. It will also avoid water shortages that could cost one million jobs. He said MWD's Diamond Valley Lake reservoir near Hemet is expected to prevent local agencies implementing mandatory water conservation measures. Diamond Valley, a \$1.9 billion construction project, began in 1995 and was filled with water from the Colorado River Aqueduct from 1999 to 2003. It holds enough water to meet the area's emergency and drought needs for six months.

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FREE TAX PREPARATION – Students at Pomona’s Ganesha High School are pitching in to provide income tax preparation to area residents at no charge. The volunteer students, who are juniors and seniors – and even two sophomores – are in accounting teacher Jackie Jones’ class in the business/technology department. They have been certified by the U.S. Internal Revenue Service to provide assistance at basic tax preparation levels. And they even get college credit for their work since they are dually enrolled at Mt. SAC. Hours of the program are 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday at Ganesha. Pictured, from left, are volunteer Roberto Borquez, 16, a junior, of Pomona, and “client” Jacob Cyrus, also of Pomona.



SYMPOSIUM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AT GANESHA – Students at Ganesha High School participated in a “Symposium for Young People – Partners for Progress: Working Together to Build Bridges for Youth” – the first conference of its kind – this month in an event sponsored nationwide by chapters of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc., and locally by the Pomona Alumnae Chapter. Speakers included representatives of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, a speaker on financial literacy, and even a hip-hop performance art presentation. Pictured is Adrian Pinedo, representing Day One, a Pasadena-based non-profit organization with a 25-year history of providing effective and culturally-sensitive public health education, intervention and policy development to empower youth and ignite change. “It is absolutely vital that people in this community tell the good stories,” Pinedo told the students. “All of us have the opportunity to make our voice heard,” she added, encouraging them to reach out to their elected officials and others. “We can’t just let life happen,” she said, adding that “you are never too strong to ask for help and you have resources.” She touched on topics ranging from smoke-free parks to access to nutritional food.

Annual ‘Spring Fling’ fundraiser carnival set for April at St. Joseph Church

St. Joseph Catholic Church will hold its annual “Spring Fling” fundraiser next month featuring family entertainment and everything from carnival rides and raffles to live entertainment.

Food booths will include samplings of everything from Mexican, Arabic, Filipino, American and more.

The event is scheduled for 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Friday, April 25; noon to 11 p.m. on Saturday, April 26; and noon to 11 p.m. on Sunday, April 27, all at the church, located at 1150 W. Holt Ave., Pomona.



VOLUNTEERS READY TO PREPARE TAXES – Volunteers standing by to prepare income taxes for residents at no cost, pictured with accounting teacher Jackie Jones, are, front row, from left, at rear, Jones; left front, Ubaldo Bravo, a junior; Jose Barrios, a senior; at rear, Cesar Perez, a senior; seated, Jonathan Tostado, a junior; Ganesha Principal Jennifer Francev; and Victor Chavira, a senior.

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Photo courtesy of Greg Shapton, Editor of Pomona Kiwanis "Orange Peel" LA NUEVA VOZ SPEAKS AT POMONA KIWANIS MEETING – La Nueva Voz Publisher Jeff Schenkel, at left, and Director of Advertising and Public Relations Renee Barbee respond to questions following their appearance at last week's Pomona Kiwanis meeting in Ganesh Park as Kiwanis President Mark Warren looks on. The two provided a look back at the history of La Nueva Voz, Pomona's only community newspaper, and the original La Voz which was published for 28 years before La Nueva Voz began publishing nearly five years ago.



CONGRESSWOMAN NAMES 'WOMAN OF THE YEAR' AWARDEES – Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod recognized the top women in her district by naming the "Woman of the Year" in seven communities in her 35th Congressional District in celebration of Women's History Month. "Each woman honored today has worked tirelessly to make this community a better place," McLeod said. "They serve as model citizens for all of us." Pictured, from left, are Cynthia Prendiz of Ontario, Melba Buenafe Rey of Fontana, Mary Helen Cox of Bloomington, Congresswoman McLeod, Debbie Sommers of Chino, Tenice Johnson of Montclair, M. Joyce Bakersmith of Pomona and Linda Chapman of Rialto.



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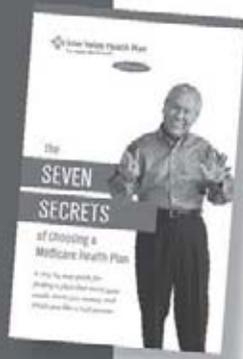


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BRAKE JOB COMPETITION – First place winners in an early-morning competition this month to see who can change out disc brake pads in the best time pull the right front tire to start the clock. Pictured, from left, are Walter Herrarte, 18, a senior, and Daniel Cuevas, 17, also a senior. They took the tire off, changed the pads, got the lug nuts back on and snugged them up in a minute and 29 seconds.

AND THE WINNERS ARE – First and second place winning teams in the brakes competition pose for the La Nueva Voz camera at the end of class. Pictured, from left, standing, are Dr. Enrique Medina, Pomona Unified School District's Director of Adult and Career Education; first place winners Walter Herrarte and Daniel Cuevas, ROP auto shop class instructor Jessie Mendez, and Marie Dennis, ROP teacher specialist. Kneeling, from left, are second place winners Manuel Aseves, 17, William Orellana, 16, and Michael Vargas, 17, all juniors. Winning team members received a free lunch and bragging rights on campus.



ROP AUTO SHOP AT POMONA HIGH SCHOOL RECOGNIZED – An auto shop classroom and auto bays at Pomona High School since 1995 – but not in use for at least the last 12 years due to budget cuts – not only is back in use by Pomona High students in the San Antonio Regional Occupational Program but the program has been designated a model site in the entire country by WIN Learning, which produces web-based career and college-preparatory programs. Pictured outside the auto shop this month with some of the 185 students enrolled in the class are, at left, Tony McGuiness, WIN's director of regional partnerships, Marie Dennis, ROP teacher specialist, and auto shop teacher Jessie Mendez. Pictured, at right, are Dr. Enrique Medina, Jr., Pomona Unified School District's Director of Adult and Career Education, and John Costilla, vice president of marketing and business development for WIN. The San Antonio ROP serves students of Bonita and Pomona Unified School Districts.



SHOWING THE GUYS HOW IT'S DONE – Linda Victoria Reyes, on the floor, shows the guys how a brake job should be done during brake changing competition at ROP auto shop class this month at Pomona High School. Standing, from left, are Daniel Magana and Daniel Vasquez.



CHECKING OUT THE COMPUTERS – Marie Dennis, ROP teacher specialist, looks over the shoulder of Gerardo Ramirez, a senior at Pomona High, as he checks out a computer in the classroom area of the auto shop ROP class. Dennis said the program is expanding to evenings and Saturdays. Other ROP offerings include hospitality, child care, multi-media, small business, engineering and medical.

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ADJUSTING THE BRAKES – Jose Trejo, Jr., 16, works on the front left brakes during the competition. Pomona High Principal Roger Fasting stopped by to see part of the competition and said the kids were great, and that he has even had his own car in their shop a couple of times for tire rotation and an oil change.



POMONA AREA HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS LEARN ABOUT CAREERS AT 'HER WORLD' – More than 200 girls from Pomona area high schools learned about careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) this month at the Village Conference Center at Indian Hill as part of HerWorld, a national initiative of DeVry University. The program introduces high school girls to successful role models who show them that STEM careers are challenging, rewarding and realizable. Topics at the event ranged from "Dress for Success" to "Courage: The Most Important Virtue in Achieving Success." Pictured is Doreen Spicer Dannelly, speaking on "Courage," who is a writer, producer and director originally from New York who set her sights on Hollywood to offer a multi-cultural perspective. "Girls can be courageous and not be afraid," she told the group, despite the fact that 99 percent of Hollywood is controlled by white males. "I cheer all the women who have a desire to be someone and make a difference in the world," she said. "If you don't like something, change it." She told the group she has dealt with everything from "why are you here" to sexual harassment.



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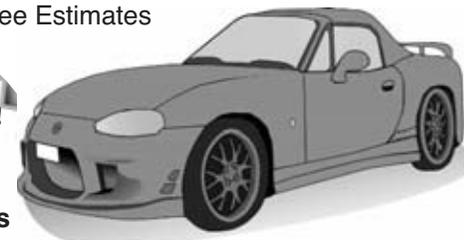
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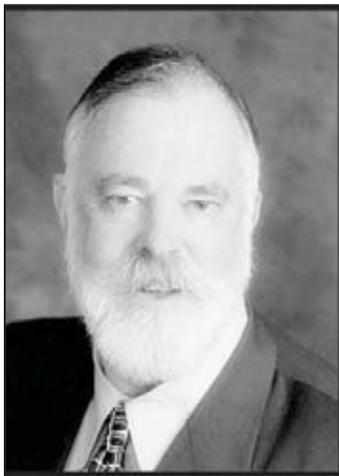
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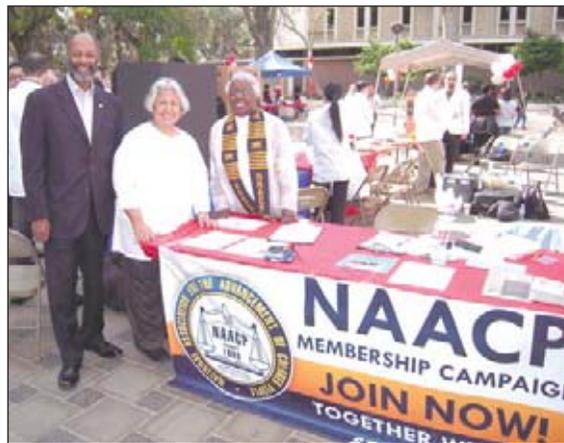
SIGNING UP FOR HEALTH INSURANCE

– Visitors to last month's 35th annual Black Cultural Festival in the Pomona Civic Center were able to sign up for medical insurance under "Covered California." Pictured is Linda Wright-Lee, President of the non-profit Wright On Time Youth and Family Services, signing up Anthony Castro of Upland. Pomona's Black Cultural Festival is sponsored each year by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Pomona Valley alumnae chapter, a community service organization, in cooperation with the Pomona Public Library. For more information on Covered California, contact Wright-Lee at (909) 223-8535.



CONGRESSWOMAN NEGRETE-MCLEOD STOPS BY POMONA NAACP

– Congresswoman Gloria Negrete-McLeod stopped by the Pomona NAACP booth at last month's 35th annual Black Cultural Festival. The NAACP signed up its 110th member at the event. The group recently passed the 100 member mark, which was needed to reactivate its charter here for the first time in nearly 25 years. Pictured, from left, are Pomona author and community volunteer Farrell Chiles, Congresswoman Negrete-McLeod, and NAACP President Jeanette Ellis-Royston. For more information, contact Royston at (909) 629-2420.



LADIES AUXILIARY STATE MADAM PRESIDENT VISITS EAGLES CHILD ABUSE FUNDRAISER – Lois Cook, Eagles Ladies Auxiliary State Madam President, visited Pomona's Eagles last month during a bunco fundraiser to benefit Pomona's Children's Advocacy Center, a children's advocacy center for child abuse assessment and treatment. "We need to know our surroundings and where our children are at all times" in the quest to end child abuse, Cook told the group. An Eagles spokesman said child abuse is Cook's favorite cause. Pictured, from left, are Janet Homonnay, event co-chair and vice president of the local ladies auxiliary; John Pomroy, executive director of Pomona's Children's Advocacy Center; Lois Cook; Pomona Eagles President Ernie Verdugo; and Janice Etnyre, event co-chair and treasurer of the local ladies auxiliary. For more information on the Children's Advocacy Center, visit the web site at www.cacpomona.org or call (909) 629-6300.

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WARMING UP – Pomona businessman David Speidel shows off his form warming up with a bucket of balls on the driving range before the shotgun start of this month's first annual JP Group Charity Golf Tournament.



FIRING ONE DOWN THE FAIRWAY – Pomona State Farm agent John Forbing fires one down the fairway off the first tee at Mountain Meadows Golf Course this month during the first annual JP Group Charity Golf Tournament. Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman kicked off the tournament by thanking Pena for organizing the event and for "giving back to the community." "And we applaud him for that," Rothman said.



GOLF TOURNAMENT BENEFITS HOUSE OF RUTH, BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF POMONA VALLEY – Pomona businessman John Pena organized the first annual JP Group Charity Golf Tournament held this month at Pomona's Mountain Meadows Golf Course to benefit the House of Ruth, which assists families victimized by domestic violence, and the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley. Pena, who said the tournament filled up the course with a sell-out of 144 golfers, said he wanted to help the community and that "both of those non-profits mean a lot to me." He added that he moved to the United States from Columbia at the age of 8 and had a step-dad but was the man of the house at age 19. He said from his own experience he understands the importance of the work of the Boys and Girls Clubs because "the youth is the future." And he said in the case of House of Ruth, "single mothers need support." Pictured, from left, are Pena, Pat Bell, director of development at House of Ruth, and Victor Caceres, executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley.

Edison gives \$100,000 to Cal Poly 'Women in Engineering' program

Representatives of Southern California Edison presented a check this month for \$100,000 to the Cal Poly University Pomona College of Engineering's "Women in Engineering Program."

The program provides the resources and support to help aspiring female engineers succeed, according to a news release.

It is part of an on-going investment that Edison is making to diver-

sify and strengthen the engineering profession and, by extension, its own work force.

According to an Edison spokesperson, the program was introduced in 2011 and is already paying dividends – at that time, women made up 14.7 percent of enrolled freshmen majoring in engineering, while today, only two years later, the number has grown to 21.5 percent – an increase of nearly 50 percent.



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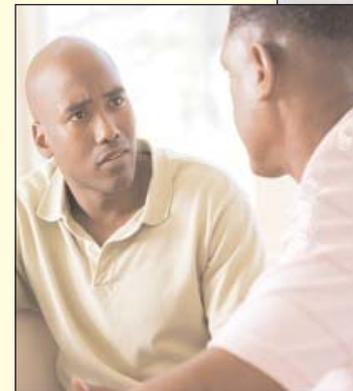
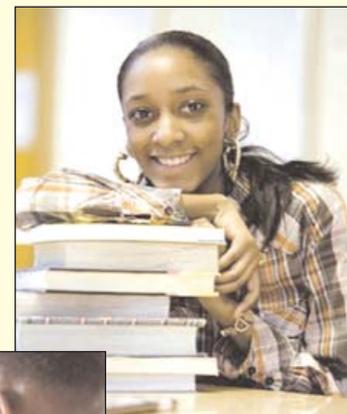
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