



# La Nueva Voz

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

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GRATIS**

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www.lanuevavoz.net



## Garey High School Principal Stacey Wilkins among honorees at annual Latino/Latina Roundtable Cesar Chavez breakfast

Stacey Wilkins, principal at Pomona's Garey High School, one of four honorees recognized at last month's Latino and Latina Roundtable 10th annual Cesar Chavez breakfast, told more than 200 attendees it is important to take the time to identify students who may be the next great leader.

Wilkins, speaking at the event at The Avalon at Pomona's Fairplex, was introduced by Roundtable Board member Melissa Ayala as "inspirational" and "a great leader to the community."

She said Wilkins has inspired students to go to college and to come back and serve the community.

Ayala added that Wilkins, who himself graduated from Garey High School, is a "great example of what a leader is in our community," and that he has gone out of his way to work with members of the Roundtable.

Wilkins said it was "humbling" to be honored by the group, and told of an experience when he was seven years old living in Compton and someone told a joke his father, who was in the audience last month, thought was inappropriate.

"I remember the love he had for the community," Wilkins said of his father who worked in a factory where most of the employees were



Stacey Wilkins...  
... honored by Latino/Latina Roundtable

Hispanic. "That kind of stuck with me."

He said as principal, he sees his job as one of representing the parents.

"One of the first things I said to the parents was that we cannot, we will not be successful unless you are here and on board and that we're working together," Wilkins said. "I know that the success we have had... (was in) large part because of our parents' leadership, their commitment to the



community, our students' commitment to the community."

"I love being the principal here, I think being a principal is an honor," he said. "We are here to serve the students and serve the parents, that's our job."

"What we try to do is to not just transform Garey

Honorees... pg. 4

## Pomona Beautification Day marks 'one of biggest years ever'

More than 2,000 volunteers spent the morning cleaning up Pomona this month – and more than 1,200 converged on Pomona's Fairplex afterwards for lunch, music and fun – as the city came together for its eighth annual Pomona Beautification Day.

Projects included everything from cleaning up weeds in the library parking lot to painting the railings at City Hall and to cleaning up classrooms, an alley in the Lincoln Park area, and the Center Street Community Garden.

Event co-chairs Nancy Matarrita and Rick DeBruyne told La Nueva Voz it was one of the biggest years ever in terms of participation.

Matarrita said that it was the biggest **Pomona Beautification Day... pg. 13**



**WORKING ON PARKING LOT PLANTERS AT POMONA PUBLIC LIBRARY** – Volunteers during Pomona Beautification Day this month learn how to use a rake and a shovel as they clear the weeds in planters in the library parking lot in the Pomona Civic Center. Pictured, from left, are resident Kevin Maloney, Pomona Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Frank Garcia, resident Jo Fulton, Ethel Gardner of the Kennedy Austin Foundation, Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and Pomona Planning Commission Chairman Denny Mosier.

Union organizer Jerry Ryan, center, receives honor from Latino/Latina Roundtable Board member Melissa Ayala, at left, and Roundtable President Jose Calderon.



**POMONA PASTORS IN PRAYER** – An estimated 1,000 residents, clergymen, business and civic leaders and elected officials filled Pomona First Baptist Church last month for "Pomona Pastors in Prayer," but it was the collection of church choirs that helped raise the volume level to communicate the message. Pictured is the Pomona First Baptist Purpose Church Choir and Orchestra performing "Unto the Lamb." Pomona Pastors in Prayer is a cooperative spiritual movement in Pomona that evolved in response to requests from city leaders that churches pray for the well-being of Pomona. A National Day of Prayer event is scheduled for May 1 at Pomona City Hall and the second annual Pomona Day of Prayer is set for July 13 at the Ganesha High School stadium. (See additional photos on page 3.)



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## Congresswoman McLeod calls for equal pay for women on 'Equal Pay Day'

Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod called for equal pay for women on "Equal Pay Day" this month, citing a continuing wage gap that still exists between men and women.

She called for passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act on Equal Pay Day on April 8, a day that symbolizes when, more than three months into the year, women's wages finally catch up to what men were paid in the previous year.

"With women making up about half the workforce in the United States, it is wrong that on average they are still being paid less than men," McLeod said. "A woman deserves equal pay for equal work because when women succeed, America succeeds."

She cited a report from the American Association of University Women that shows women in her 35th Congressional District still earn only 82 cents for every dollar earned by men.

The Paycheck Fairness Act would close loopholes and strengthen the 50-year-old Equal Pay Act, including providing effective remedies to women who are not being paid equal wages for doing equal work.



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**GATHERING FOR POMONA** – Members of the Shield of Faith Church Choir sing in prayer for Pomona at the Pomona Pastors in Prayer event last month at Pomona First Baptist Church. About 1,000 residents, civic leaders and others filled the church for the event.

**SHIELD OF FAITH TAKES IT UP A NOTCH** – Apostle Henry Alexander, of Pomona's Shield of Faith Church, takes the volume up a notch as he delivers the message at last month's Pomona Pastors in Prayer event, speaking of "disrupting the status quo" and adding that "some things... need to be shaken up." "There is a spiritual misalignment going on," he said. "There is a new ingredient that has been injected into this community... (a) unity of believers in the City of Pomona," he added. He credited Mayor Elliott Rothman for last August calling on the churches to become engaged and help the city. "We're going to walk the streets of this city," Alexander said. "We'll be orderly but we're going to assert ourselves because what this city needs is the gospel of Jesus Christ." The event was part of an on-going series of gatherings to address concerns that Pomona has "suffered financially and academically with more than its share of criminal activity," according to a Pastors in Prayer statement.



**PRAISE DANCE** – Members of the Christ Citadel International Church dance team perform their "Praise Dance" at the community worship service "Pomona Pastors in Prayer" last month.



**MAYOR PRAYS FOR POMONA** – Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at left, introduced by Pastor Adam Donner of Pomona's First Presbyterian Church, welcomes participants to the Pomona Pastors in Prayer event and thanks them on behalf of Pomona for coming out in prayer. "Thank you all for helping get the blessings of the Lord to the City of Pomona. We need all the help we can get," Rothman said.

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## Honorees... from pg. 1

High School... but to transform South Pomona through setting the proper conditions to have the next Cesar Chavez, to have the next Dolores Huerta (who co-founded the National Farm Workers Association with Chavez), to have the next Martin Luther King."

"I truly cherish this award, I've never been honored before," Wilkins said. "As a black man and being awarded a recognition from the Latino Roundtable is very special to me, I don't take it lightly at all."

Other honorees were United Farm Workers organizer Jerry Ryan, State Sen. Kevin DeLeon and the Inland Empire Immigrant Youth Coalition.

### Jerry Ryan

Ryan dropped out of Kansas State College in 1971 to join the United Farm Workers Union where he spent the next seven years organizing boycotts in Denver and union organizing drives in the fields of the Coachella Valley. He became a letter carrier for the U.S. Postal Service and served for 18 years as President of Branch 411 of the National Association of Letter Carriers.

Roundtable President Jose Calderon introduced Ryan as someone who worked in the fields himself and was a "jailbird" with Calderon and who "continues to be an example of someone who every minute, every hour, every month, every year of his life has used his service in the empowerment of our community."

Ryan told the group that the enemies are not the immigrants but the problem is the people who exploit, abuse and repress the immigrants.

"The Latino/Latina Roundtable is recognized not just locally, not just regionally but (in) the entire country for the work they do," he said.

He said while there are other groups that are simply "think tanks," the Roundtable does this as well.

"(But) they go to the streets, they go to the offices, they go to the stores, wherever is necessary, (they) go there," he said.

Ryan said during the '70's in his work with Chavez and the United Farm Workers, "we were criticized, cursed at, spit on, attacked, beaten, arrested, jailed, and we were the lucky ones," explaining that five of them were killed – and there were no convictions.

"Before Cesar Chavez organized in the fields the wages were so low people did not qualify for welfare," he said. "They were below poverty

-- \$2,700 a year for a family of four."

"The working conditions were so dangerous, so hard, that the average life expectancy was 49 years old," he said. "Children (were) working in the fields at the age not even old enough to shave working full time."

He said conditions were so bad that the union banned DDT (insecticide) before the federal government did.

Ryan said the union fought against a lack of restrooms in the fields, and against the use of the short-handled hoe which later was outlawed after Chavez went to the Supreme Court of California.

He added that Chavez was working for decent wages and decent working conditions yet himself received only \$5 a week plus room and board.

Ryan said Chavez never made it past the eighth grade and made striker's wages his entire life yet he received a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

"He made history... (trying to) make life just a little bit better for the farmworkers who pick the food that we eat," he said.

### Inland Empire Immigrant Youth Coalition

Members of the Inland Empire Immigrant Youth Coalition were honored for their work as an undocumented youth-led grassroots organization.

The group, founded in 2010, participated in 2012 in civil disobediences highlighting the injustices students faced while attending college.

And during President Obama's reelection campaign in 2012, the group participated in a hunger strike demanding that the President stop deporting youth who came to this country as children.

In June of that year, the President announced he would grant youth a work permit and protection from being deported for two years. Since that announcement, the coalition has assisted more than 1,500 people with their applications at no charge.

### State Sen. Kevin DeLeon

Also honored was State Sen. Kevin DeLeon who, in 2013, became the first Latino to chair the Senate Appropriations Committee in the past 100 years. His district includes parts of Los Angeles, Alhambra, San Marino, South Pasadena, Vernon and Maywood.

Elected to the Senate in 2006, according to his introduction, he has earned the reputation of a common sense policy maker unafraid to take on complex issues such as corporate tax reform.

His efforts inspired Proposition

39, according to his introduction, which will help create more than 40,000 California jobs and generate billions of dollars for education and energy efficiency projects.

He is also an environmental advocate and his Senate Bill 1234, the California Secure Choice Retirement Savings Trust Act of 2012, will help the 6.3 million lower and middle-income workers who have no retirement plan at work to set up a plan to serve as a modest supplement to Social Security.

He also played a key role in passing state legislation that would allow undocumented residents to obtain a state driver's license through Assembly Bill 60.

Field Deputy Adrian Vazquez, who represented DeLeon at the event, said the senator also co-authored last year's Domestic Workers Bill of Rights in support of those who perform "hard work for little pay."

He said the measure provides domestic workers with the same pro-

tections most employees already have.

The Roundtable and the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, San Gabriel Valley/Inland Empire Chapter, co-sponsor the annual Cesar Chavez breakfast to highlight leaders in the community whose work demonstrates and embodies the values and examples of civil rights and labor leader Cesar Chavez.



Members of Inland Empire Immigrant Youth Coalition receive recognition.



Adrian Vazquez... representing State Sen. Kevin DeLeon



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Registración para clases de otoño empieza el lunes, 16 de junio.

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### Daughters of Pomona Kumon Center director begin producing new low-cost robotics kit as educational tool

A small start-up company founded by two daughters of the director of a Kumon Math and Reading Center in Pomona is going into full production this month building robotics drive controllers that power those little computer-controlled vehicles used for robotics competitions between school teams everywhere.

Melissa and Lavanya Jawaharlal founded STEM Center USA two years ago to produce the Pi-Bot, a robot kit that can be used by upper middle school students through college students and hobbyists to learn about robotics.

“This isn’t just for engineers,” Melissa said. “This is an educational tool.”

Her mother, Rita Jawaharlal, knows a little something about education – she operates a Kumon Math and Reading Center at 1964 N. Indian Hill Blvd., Pomona. But Melissa has also been working in outreach with kids from kindergarten through 12th grade for the past five years.

The two sisters engineered Pi-Bot from the ground up to produce a product that was competitive – it sells for about \$75 compared to most similar units that sell in the \$200 range.

They were able to generate part of the funding for the project through a campaign on the Kickstarter web site, which helps fund creative projects by connecting backers with the creators.

Melissa said she sees robotics as an excellent learning tool for all of the STEM fields of education – science, technology, engineering and math, although there was a “huge gap” in getting robotics into the hands of younger students.

She said she and her sister set out to create a product that was simple enough to help students who were not aware what robotics was all about, complicated enough to be “real life applicable,” and affordable.

For more information, visit the web site at [www.stemcenterusa.com](http://www.stemcenterusa.com).



**PARTNERING TO REMODEL CHURCH FACILITY FOR BOXING CLUB** – Claremont Toyota General Manager Steven Hogan partnered with the Gangs to Grace Boxing Club last month to help support a remodeling project at the club’s new boxing facilities at the Southern California Dream Center. The project will involve taking down a wall to make room for the 50 kids who have signed up for the new program, according to a club spokesperson. Pictured in the gym, from left, are Bishop Eddie Banales, Sr., pastor of the Dream Center church; boxing club manager Ernesto Mercado; Steven Hogan; Rigo Mendoza, Claremont Toyota’s used car manager who grew up in Pomona and attended the Dream Center; and Linda Lockwood, a supporter of the boxing club.



**TAKING A LOOK AT THE BLUEPRINTS** – Sean Sauers of Sauers Lopez Construction in Mission Viejo takes a look at church blueprints with Bishop Eddie Banales, Sr. before launching a remodeling project at the Southern California Dream Center. Hayden Caldwell of Hayden’s Services, Inc., an electrical and plumbing contractor, will work with Sauers on the project. The Gangs to Grace Boxing Club opened at the church in February as a grass roots effort to help teach the values of athletics and to help keep kids in the community out of gangs and off drugs.

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- Certificación Americana del Corazón 8 horas
- Automóvil 75 horas



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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.

## Hospital Foundation annual wine tasting set for May 9

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation and John Solomon, noted wine expert and owner of Liquorama Fine Wines and Spirits in Upland, will host a 10th annual Wine Tasting event next month in Pomona.

The event, presented this year by Claremont Toyota, will be held Friday, May 9, at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel and Conference Center in Pomona.

Proceeds from the event will be

used to purchase state-of-the-art equipment for the hospital's neonatal intensive care and pediatric units.

More than 230 wines will be available for sampling, along with food, music and silent and live auctions.

Tickets are \$100 per person or \$125 at the door.

To RSVP and for more information, contact Glenda Ferguson at (909) 865-9139 or by e-mail at [Glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org](mailto:Glenda.ferguson@pvhmc.org).

## David & Margaret to hold first annual 'Superheroes Walk' next month

David & Margaret Youth and Family Services will hold its first annual Superheroes Walk next month with participants wearing superhero costumes walking to raise funds for the David & Margaret Foster Family Agency.

The event will be held from 8 to 10 a.m. Saturday, May 17, on the grounds at David & Margaret, 1350 Third St., La Verne.

While the event is free, participants are encouraged to obtain sponsors to raise funds. Awards will be given for top fund raisers

and best costume. Superhero-level sponsored or self-sponsored walkers will receive a t-shirt and free breakfast will be available for all sponsored walkers, foster parents and foster youth.

"We chose superheroes as our theme because our foster parents are our heroes," said Foster Family Agency recruiter/trainer Meghan Anderson. "They have so much to do to take care of foster children."

David & Margaret Youth and Family Services serves more than 1,000 clients annually through a

comprehensive range of services, including a residentially-based program for adolescent girls, shelter care for adolescent girls and boys, a foster family agency, adoption assistance, mental health services, treatment for learning disabilities, a transitional living program, school- and community-based education and mentoring programs.

To sign up for the walk or for more information, call (909) 593-0089 or e-mail [foster@davidandmargaret.org](mailto:foster@davidandmargaret.org).



**UNITY BREAKFAST AT KENNEDY AUSTIN FOUNDATION** – The Kennedy Austin Foundation sponsored a Unity Breakfast this month as a collaborative effort with community leaders to bring unity for the people, according to Ethel Gardner, executive director of the foundation. "People will know we are serious," she said, referring to racial tension in Pomona. Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman were guest speakers at the event. Pictured, from left, are Linda Jones Edwards, a foundation director; Harold Edwards; community volunteer Anne Henderson; Sam Tharpe, volunteer CEO of the new Pomona Unified Partners in Learning (PUPIL) foundation; Ethel Gardner; Natasha Jones, Kennedy Austin chief financial officer; and Roscoe Owens, community outreach for Kennedy Austin through a new young men's mentorship program. For more information, visit the web site at [www.kennedyaustinfoundation.org](http://www.kennedyaustinfoundation.org).

## La Nueva Voz

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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.

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



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**VOLUNTEERS WITH POMONA SCHOOLS** – Some of the many parent volunteers with schools in Pomona participated in this month's college and career fair at the Village at Indian Hill. Pictured, from left, are Nayar Brera, of Pomona, active in PTA and on the school site council at Lorbeer Middle School, a Pomona Unified School District school in Diamond Bar; Stacey Brera, "almost" three; Naay Brera, a seventh grader at Lobeer; school district staffer Diana Reymundo; volunteer Gilda Pinedo; Regional Occupational Program staffer Marie Dennis; volunteers Estela Hernandez, Irene Arzate, Alicia Castillo, and Rosa Pina; Pomona Unified School Board President Frank Guzman; and school district staffer Maria Garcia. Also pictured, at left, is volunteer Sylvia Rafael.



**CAREER EXPO AT THE VILLAGE** – It was "College Night and Career Fair" at the Village at Indian Hill this month with college and career representatives lining the halls of the mall from end to end. The event was sponsored by the Pomona Unified School District's Adult and Career Education and San Antonio Regional Occupational Program. Pictured at a Pomona Unified School District Adult School booth for medical billing and coding classes are, from left, students Elizabeth Lopez and Gabriela Lames, both of Pomona; student Tara Fryxell, of Ontario; instructor Hilda Barnett; and Dr. Enrique Medina, director of the adult school.

## Looking for a different kind of wedding? How about 'The Farm' at the L.A. County Fair?

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How about a wedding at the Los Angeles County Fair, the world's largest county fair, in front of thousands, courtesy of the Fair?

For the first time, the Los Angeles County Fair is offering four weddings – each on a Sunday – to lucky winners who will get hitched overlooking a Ferris wheel and a cow

with the scent of BBQ and funnel cake wafting through the ceremony.

Four engaged couples will have their dreams come true with their own one-of-a-kind "Fair-y Tale" wedding as part of the annual end-of-summer L.A. County Fair.

Couples can register on line at [www.lacountyfair.com](http://www.lacountyfair.com) and can choose from four dates – Sept. 7, 14,

21 and 27.

They can also choose from five settings – Luminasia, The Farm, Sheraton Fairplex Hotel, Hall of Heroes or Picnic Hill.

This year's L.A. County Fair runs Aug. 29 through Sept. 28.

For more information, visit the web site at [www.lacountyfair.com](http://www.lacountyfair.com).



**LOOKING FOR A CAREER AS A TRUCK DRIVER?** – Rush Truck Centers participated in this month's career fair at the Village at Indian Hill, offering information on a career on the road driving the big rigs. The company operates nine truck centers in Southern California including local centers in Whittier, Fontana and Pico Rivera. Pictured, from left, are Maria Garcia, assistant administrator for Pomona Unified's Pupil and Community Services office; Diana Reymundo, coordinator of employee, pupil and community relations; Marie Dennis, Regional Occupational Program teacher specialist; Karl Grambergs, regional recruiter and trainer for Rush Truck Centers; and student Araceli Gonzalez, 17, of Pomona, a senior at Pomona High School.



**SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER ADDRESSES NAACP MEETING** – Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman, at left, is introduced by Jeanette Royston, President of the NAACP Pomona Valley Branch, before speaking at the group's monthly meeting on the "Common Core" state standards, in the works for several years and voluntarily adopted by 44 states, that establish clear, consistent guidelines for what every student should know and be able to do in math and English language arts from kindergarten through 12th grade. "What we were teaching was regurgitative," Perlman said. "We were not teaching children how to think. All we wanted them to do was take the test." The Common Core approach focuses on "interpretation and evaluation," she said. "We are finally turning the school district around," she said. "We are doing some very good things." She said graduation rates have improved, drop out rates have improved and 70 percent of expulsions have been eliminated.

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## Brown Memorial wins temporary certificate of occupancy on new church facility to enable building out after moving in

About two dozen supporters of Brown Memorial Temple in Pomona turned out at last month's Pomona Planning Commission meeting where commissioners unanimously granted the church a temporary six months certificate of occupancy for a new home for the church.

Pastor Ivory Brown appeared before commissioners seeking a conditional use permit for the new facility, located at 1761 W. Holt Ave., Pomona, only several blocks west of the current church facility at 985 W. Holt Ave., Pomona.

The new facility is an existing 9,688 square foot building on a commercial industrial zone. Planning staff members recommended approval subject to a list of conditions.

However, some of the conditions were viewed by the church as cumbersome and costly, prompting Brown to ask for leniency along

with the temporary certificate of occupancy so the church can continue to meet the conditions over the course of the next six months.

Only Commissioner Edward Starr was absent for the otherwise unanimous vote.

Brown told commissioners that the church, which was founded by his late father, has been in Pomona for more than 50 years. The younger Brown was a product of Pomona, went to school in Pomona, left for 12 years and came back.

He said when the church changed leadership consideration was given to leaving the city for another location "but we felt led to stay here in the city."

Brown added he lives in the city and more than 90 percent of his congregation lives in Pomona. "And so we are committed to the city," he said.

Brown explained the move to the new facility – roughly three times the size of the existing 3,200 square foot church – is not because of church growth but because of an increase in activity in "social ministry" at the church, which provides a wide variety of services to at-risk families in areas ranging from children and youth to parents and husband and wife.

He said the new home will allow the church to build out the sanctuary and build out the fellowship hall, although an existing 3,000 square foot area is already built out and ready to go.

"We believe in helping individuals, we believe in helping our community, we believe in helping our city," he said. "We're committed to this city, we're committed to this community, and we want to continue to be a part of it."

He added that the church partners regularly with the City of Pomona, the Los Angeles County Department of Child and Family Services, Tri City Mental Health, Western University of Health Sciences and others.

In addition, Project Caring and Sharing, the social ministry at the church, was founded by his mother 21 years ago working primarily in three areas – children and youth ministries, empowerment programs for children who are academically challenged, and family support with classes ranging from anger management to parenting.

Both the new facility and the existing church are located along a difficult stretch of Holt Avenue where motels, drug abuse and prostitution are not uncommon.

"We've had prostitutes come in

off the streets . . . tears running down their eyes, tired of the life, they go into the church, they have a prayer," Brown said, referring to the church as an oasis.

The church also hands out nearly 1,700 backpacks with school supplies each year and more than 1,200 toys to the children at holiday time.

Jeanette Royston, President of the Pomona NAACP, said the move will be "bigger and better" for Holt Avenue and that Brown is "living the legacy in the City of Pomona," adding that he is reaching out to the community.

She said that remaining on Holt Avenue "takes courage."

La Nueva Voz newspaper publisher Jeff Schenkel, speaking as an individual, told commissioners Brown Memorial Temple "is one of Pomona's smallest churches but it makes one of the biggest noises in Pomona."

He said the church works with those who have been incarcerated and are transitioning back into the community and is involved in a number of health-related programs which are provided to the community.

Arturo Jimenez, a former Pomona planning commissioner and operator of Laguna Technical College in Pomona, said Brown's program is "so special," adding that he has supported programs at the church.

He questioned whether it was necessary to require the church to push a fence back from the sidewalk "to give more space to the prostitutes on the street."

He added that locating the church at the new site would benefit the business community in the area as the church works to "dig into that negative issue that's in that area."

And Bishop Christopher Milton of Pasadena, who oversees some 28 churches in the Church of God in Christ in Southern California, told commissioners that "this man is doing all that he can to support his community."

"He loves Pomona, he is Pomona driven, he practices what he

preaches," Milton said. "I trust that you will do all you can to minimize his expenses, open the door that he can mobilize the community in a positive and effective way."

Brown a year and a half ago was appointed to the number two position serving under Milton.

And Dr. Roberta Perlman, a member of the Pomona Unified School District Board but speaking as an individual, said Brown has served the community faithfully for years.

She said she has "had the honor" of participating in programs at the

church and "witnessing first hand the appreciation and delight on the faces of these young recipients" of backpacks or Christmas toys.

"Pastor Ivory and Cynthia Brown serve our community with fidelity and dedication and never turn away someone who reaches out for help," she said. "I urge you to approve the conditional use permit . . . in order to provide these caring community leaders the ability to carry on this important and much needed service."

School Board President Frank Guzman, also speaking as an individual, reminded commissioners there were many in the audience supporting Brown who chose not to speak.

He said the church is working in "the hardest places of our town," adding "I wholeheartedly support them in their efforts and I hope that you will approve their move preferably without all those restrictions because all they want to do is bet-

ter our community."

Planning Commission Chairman Denton Mosier called Brown back to the podium to review which conditions would be viewed as troublesome.

Brown indicated the biggest concern would be moving into the new facility right away to avoid paying on two sets of notes.

Mosier moved approval of the conditional use permit with the understanding that staff would work with the applicant.



Pastor Ivory Brown  
Brown Memorial Temple



**UPPER GRADES ORATORICAL CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED** – The Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club has announced winners in the annual upper grades oratorical contest held this month at Pomona Unified School District headquarters. Pictured, from left, are Susan Lucas, 15, a junior at Pomona High School, third place; contest chair Vernon Price; Bridny Villasenor, 11, a seventh grader at Emerson Middle School; Maia Wu, 14, a student at Monterey Highlands Middle School in Monterey Park; Jayden Young, 12, also student at Monterey Highlands Middle School; Frank Gaspar, 16, a junior at Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise; Caleb Agron, 18, a senior at the School of Arts and Enterprise; and M. Joyce Bakersmith, club president.

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Denton Mosier  
Planning Commission Chairman

## Covered California sending voter registration cards to health care enrollees

Covered California is sending voter registration cards to nearly four million California residents who enrolled in health care through the statewide program.

By this fall, Covered California

will incorporate voter registration services into every way the consumer engages with Covered California, including on line, in person, by mail and in telephone transactions.

The move is in keeping with the National Voter Registration Act which requires states to make voter registration opportunities available at offices that provide public services in an attempt to make it easier for all Americans to vote and to

maintain their registration.

According to the office of the California Secretary of State, there are more than 6.4 million unregistered eligible voters in California, most of whom are Latinos and young people. Currently, Latinos

make up 62 percent of unregistered voters, according to a report by the Public Policy Institute of California.

All California residents who are U.S. citizens and at least 18 years of age may register to vote.



**A NEW SHERIFF IN TOWN?** – Former Mayor of Covina Chris Lancaster, at right, introduces Long Beach Police Chief Jim McDonnell, a candidate for Los Angeles County Sheriff, to guests in Lancaster's La Verne home last week. McDonnell, originally from Boston, served for 29 years in the Los Angeles Police Department, rising through the ranks to the position of assistant chief before becoming chief in Long Beach four years ago. He said there has been a "failure in leadership" in the Sheriff's Department in which 20 deputies who were indicted were really "good people" who "came in the door to do good." He said this shows a need to change the "culture" of the department by "doing what you say you're going to do" and "find things that aren't going right and fix them" before somebody comes in from the outside to make changes. McDonnell said he wouldn't have run for the office if he did not believe he was a good fit for the job. Lancaster told 40 guests that every election is about trust and added that "Jim will have the public's trust." And Covina Police Chief Kim Raney, past president of the California Police Chiefs Association, which has endorsed McDonnell, called the candidate "the real deal" and said he is the "right guy at the right time." Seven candidates are running for the office in the June 3 primary election.



**PARTNERING WITH POMONA AGAINST CHILD ABUSE** – Representatives of Crittenton Services for Children and Families based in Fullerton officially partnered with the City of Pomona at a City Council meeting this month in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month during the month of April. Pictured with a children's memorial flag presented to the city are, from left, Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin, Pomona Vice Mayor Ginna Escobar and Cesar Salgado, the agency's vice president of wraparound services. Crittenton also partnered with Compton and Fullerton to acknowledge children whose lives are being shattered by child abuse. The agency is calling on the community for continued support in stopping violence against children and youth. The organization's "wraparound services" team is stationed in Pomona. For more information, visit the web site at [www.crittentonsocal.org](http://www.crittentonsocal.org).

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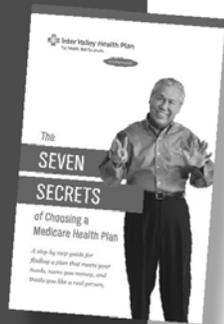
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## Wells Fargo donates \$1 million to help fund building program of organization working with disabled

Wells Fargo has announced a \$1 million grant during Autism Awareness Month in April to Villa Esperanza Services to help with the organization's \$18 million capital campaign to build a new school and purchase and renovate a new home for the adult day program.

The non-profit organization is

dedicated to the care and education of children, adults and seniors with developmental, intellectual and other disabilities including autism.

It is based in Pasadena and Thousand Oaks.

"Autism is one of the fastest growing childhood epidemics of our time," said Dr. Ricki Robinson,

a Villa Esperanza board member. "Soon these autistic children will be adults, and it is more important than ever for professionals and parents to increase their knowledge about successful treatment models."

The organization was founded in 1961 by a group of mothers work-

ing to help their children with disabilities.

"Due to the urgent need in our community, and as a result of the passion and confidence we have in the mission of Villa Esperanza Services, Wells Fargo is proud to support the organization during this critical time," said Joe Defur, Wells Fargo Private Bank senior managing director for California and a board member at Villa Esperanza.

Wells Fargo executives have served on the organization's board for the past 21 years "to help bring hope to families in Southern California," Defur said.

Wells Fargo last year was named top corporate philanthropist locally and nationally, donating \$275 million to nonprofit and community organizations across the country, with \$29 million donated in Los Angeles and Orange Counties.

## Sixth annual Million Mothers March set for next month

It's time to dust off your walking shoes and join members of the Kennedy Austin Foundation and others in the sixth annual Million Mothers March to "take back our children."

This year's march is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 17, beginning at Ganesha Park, 1575 N. White Ave., Pomona. The march begins at Ganesha Park and continues two miles to the Pomona Civic Center.

Vendors and food booths will be in the park.

The annual event is dedicated to mothers who have lost children and close family members and want their voice to be heard.

"March into positive new beginnings as we cry out for the lives, well-being and strength of our families," the organization said in its announcement.

For more information, contact the Kennedy Austin Foundation at (909) 480-3357 or (714) 471-2300 or visit the web site at [www.kennedyaustinfoundation.org](http://www.kennedyaustinfoundation.org).

## Locally produced gospel stage play scheduled for Pomona's Fox Theater following nationwide tour

The life changing gospel stage play "Midnight Cry" this weekend will become the first gospel stage play to ever perform at Pomona's Fox Theater in Downtown Pomona.

The locally created play was written and directed by Pastor Danny Wooten of Pomona's New Covenant Christian Fellowship Church and produced by his Quiet Fire Productions gospel production company. It focuses on everything from pride, rebellion, discord, abortion, infidelity and the unforgiving heart delivering a gospel message to "get your house in

order."

Soul-stirring music is an important part of the play, which has traveled across the country from Los Angeles to New York, where it played at Harlem's historic Apollo Theater.

Show time is 7 p.m. Saturday, April 26 (doors open at 6 p.m.) at Pomona's Fox Theater. Tickets are \$30 for orchestra seating, and \$20 for the balcony. Youth ages 10 and under are \$10.

For more information, call (877) 816-5757 or visit the web site at [www.quietfirepro.com](http://www.quietfirepro.com).

## Summer art camp scheduled for Fairplex

Students looking for something creative to do this summer can sign up for Summer Art Camp, offered by The Learning Centers at Fairplex.

The two-week camp, open to students ages 7 to 13, offers hands-on art discovery programs in full-day classes led by experienced and credentialed instructors to help students appreciate and experience the world of art.

Classes are held from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday in the newly-remodeled Millard Sheets Art Center at Fairplex.

Sessions are scheduled for June 16-28, June 30 - July 11 (closed July 4), July 14-25 and July 28 - Aug. 8.

Subjects include ceramics, painting and drawing.

Tuition is \$300 per session, with a discount for families enrolling two or more children. Snacks will be provided but students must bring their own lunch.

Register on-line at [www.fairplex.com/ctec](http://www.fairplex.com/ctec).

For more information, contact Sarah Davila, CTEC education coordinator, at (909) 865-4161.



Photo courtesy of Mike Robinson

**DIAMOND RANCH GIRLS BASKETBALL TOP IN ACADEMICS** – The Diamond Ranch Girls Varsity Basketball team has been awarded the CIF Southern Section's "Team Academic Award" given to the team with the highest grade point average in its category (schools with more than 1,500 students enrolled). The Diamond Ranch team, part of the Pomona Unified School District, finished first against 278 other regional high schools. "This achievement is the pinnacle of what we strive for at Pomona Unified, athletic prowess as well as academic excellence," said Pomona Unified Supt. Richard Martinez. The team will be honored before the Angels game against the Cleveland Indians on Tuesday, April 29. To be considered for the honor, teams need a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. Pictured, front row, from left, are Kristen Sheriff, Lauren Graves, Tianna Eaton, Cayla Freeman and Sarah Krestchmar. Back row, from left, are assistant coach Lisa Cheney, Emilee Dy, Kiana Wright, Brenna Collins, Catrina Freeman, Nicole Nishimura, Paulena Luk and head coach Mike Power.

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[www.lanuevavoz.net](http://www.lanuevavoz.net).



**LOCAL STATE FARM INSURANCE AGENTS SUPPORT SAFE DRIVING PROGRAM AT GANESHA HIGH SCHOOL** – Students at Pomona’s Ganesha High School receive a check for \$5,000 from State Farm to cover expenses associated with this year’s “Every 15 Minutes” program at Ganesha in which students, police, fire and ambulance personnel create an accident scene in the street, complete with damaged vehicles and student “victims” in bandages and make-up, to impress on student drivers what happens when people mix drinking and driving. The event was held this month at the school. Pictured at the check presentation, also this month, at a breakfast event in Chino are participating students and representatives of the Pomona Police Department. Pictured, at right, counterclockwise from top, are State Farm Agents John Forbing and Jason Cortez of Pomona, and Nona Tirre, of Claremont, along with Pomona Police Capt. Mike Olivieri.



**STUDENTS LEARN DANGERS OF DRINKING AND DRIVING** – Pomona’s Ganesha High School students, in bleachers at left, watch first responders handle a mock fatal drunk driving accident scene in the street in front of the school this month. The program, “Every 15 Minutes,” is presented each year at various area high schools to remind student drivers to drive safely.

**County Fire Department sponsors Fire Service Day**

The Los Angeles County Fire Department will sponsor “Fire Service Day” next month at Fire Station 118 in the City of Industry to introduce the public to the work of the department.

Included will be displays of fire engines, tips on pool safety, a “jaws of life” demonstration and equipment displays.

The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at 17056 Gale Ave., City of Industry.

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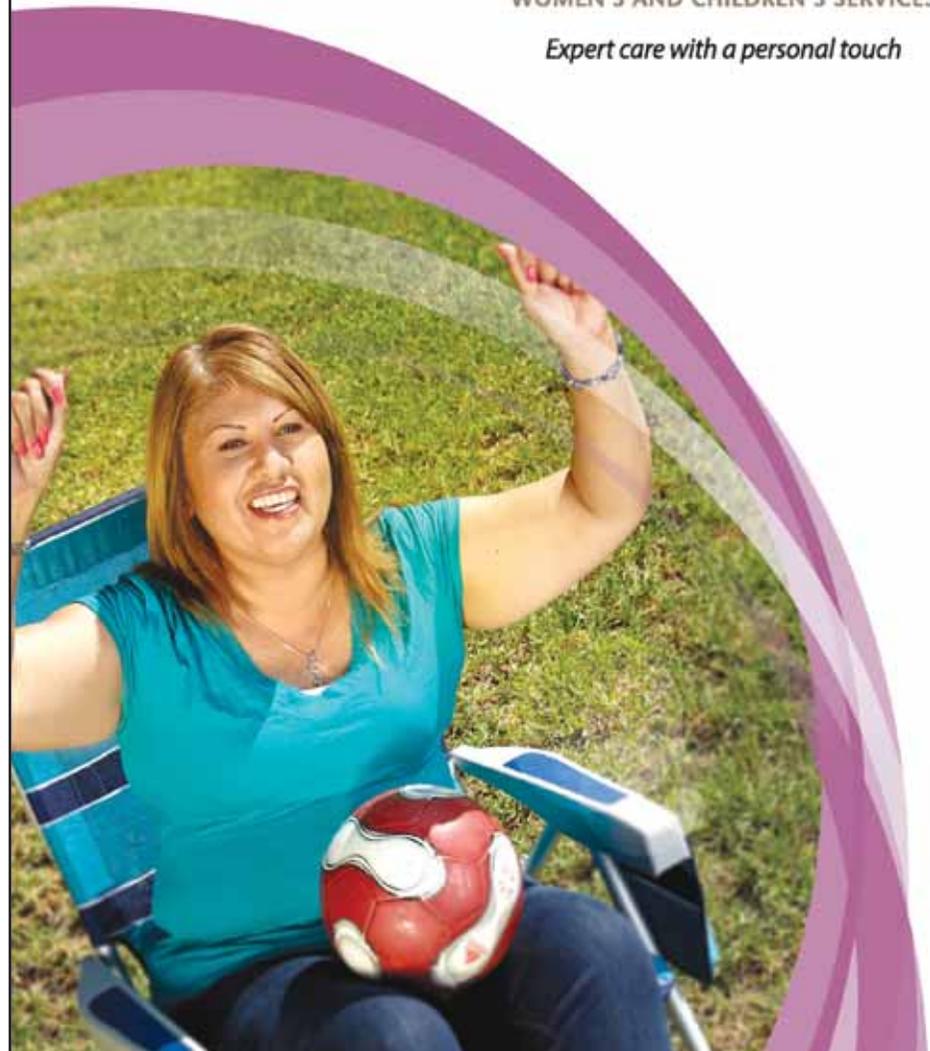
Nothing stops Tonie Cisneros from attending her kids' soccer games. In fact, she's never missed one. So when her endometriosis worsened, her doctor suggested robotic gynecological surgery. She learned that the tiny incisions, minimal discomfort and accelerated healing offer many advantages over an "old-fashioned" hysterectomy.

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## Pomona Beautification... from pg. 1

“team” year ever, adding that public works “came through” and was on hand at each of the 40 project sites throughout Pomona.

She called it the “epitome of community organizing together.”

DeBruyne agreed, adding that the annual event shows what is possible when the entire community comes out and pitches in.

Matarrita and DeBruyne have co-chaired the event for the past five years (DeBruyne has been on board since its inception) but noted that they are looking for volunteers to take over their duties next year.

This year’s Beautification Day kicked off with a message from Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman at 7 a.m. and the clean-up effort itself continued from 8 a.m. to noon.

The “celebration” after the event, sponsored by Fairplex, included lunch for the participants – hot dogs, burgers and more – and live entertainment, door prizes, an art show and booths with displays.

The event was launched by the Pomona Chamber of Commerce a decade ago and revived under the Pomona Youth and Family Master Plan to stand for “all that is great in our city, from individuals to organizations, within our schools and our churches, and from big universities to small business,” the organizers said in their annual message.

For more information, contact Matarrita at Pomona First Baptist Church, (909) 629-5277, or DeBruyne at Lincoln Avenue Community Church, (909) 624-1281.



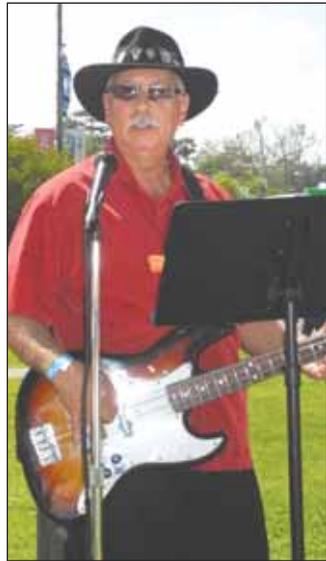
**HERE'S HOW IT'S DONE!** – Michael Driebe, a member of the Fair Association since 2005, shows how it is done as he grills burgers for the celebration at Fairplex after a morning of work during Pomona Beautification Day.



**DAY ONE HELPS OUT WITH BEAUTIFICATION DAY** – Day One members helped out with Pomona Beautification Day this year and staffed their booth at the celebration at Fairplex after their work was done. Pictured with Day One members is Pomona Unified School District Board President Frank Guzman, back row at right.



**LOOKING FOR NEW CHAIRPERSONS FOR NEXT YEAR** – Nancy Matarrita and Pastor Rick DeBruyne pose for the La Nueva Voz camera as volunteer workers check in at the celebration at Fairplex after a morning of cleaning up the city. The two have essentially chaired the annual event for the past eight years and are looking for new chairpersons to take over the reins next year.



**ON THE BASS** – Band of Eagles bass player Freddie Pacheco sings one as the band performs at the celebration.



**POMONA BASEBALL 'PITCHES' IN** – Pomona High School Red Devils baseball players pitched in for Pomona Beautification Day and stopped by the celebration at Fairplex. They were introduced to La Nueva Voz by Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and happened to mention that they were 9 – 1 at the time. Pictured, from left, are Ivan Acosta, Ruben Miranda, Christopher Villalobos, Alex Rivas and German Perez.



**PAINTING THE BANDSHELL AT GANESHA PARK** – Volunteers give the bandshell at Ganesha Park its annual paint job during Pomona Beautification Day this month. Pictured, from left, are Pomona’s School of Arts and Enterprise students Alejandra Olivares, a junior, of Pomona, and Jamie Belville, also a junior, of La Tuna Canyon, along with Jose Becerra, of the City of Pomona graffiti removal department.



**CASA GRANDE COMMUNITY CENTER STOPS FOR LUNCH** – Roberto Reyes, at right, receives all the fixings for his hamburger in the chow line as hundreds line up for lunch at the celebration at Fairplex after working in Pomona Beautification Day this month. Reyes said 20 volunteers in green t-shirts volunteered from the community center.

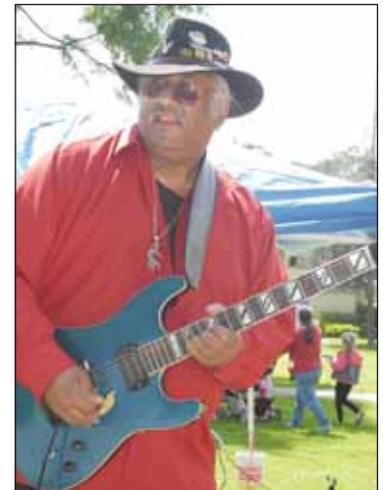


**CITY HALL CLEANUP** – Volunteers re-paint the railings in front of Pomona City Hall as part of the annual citywide cleanup effort.

**CLEANING UP GANESHA PARK** – Volunteers during Pomona Beautification Day this month take a break from their morning clean-up duties cleaning up Ganesha Park to pose for the La Nueva Voz camera. The effort included everything from picking up trash on the hillside to painting the bandshell to replanting several areas under the trees in the parking lot. Volunteers pictured include a Pomona Rotary delegation (John Forbing and Past President Carol Wilt at far left) and a delegation from Pomona’s School of Arts and Enterprise (including counselor Lorraine Canales, front row standing at right). Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin reportedly was still on the hill picking up trash at the time of this photo.



**Pomona’s ‘Band of Eagles’** from the Eagles lodge in Pomona performs on stage at the Pomona Beautification Day celebration at Fairplex.



**SHOTGUN ON THE RUN** – Band of Eagles lead guitar player Shotgun on the Run plays one of his magical lead guitar riffs as he performs with the Band of Eagles for Pomona Beautification Day. Shotgun also plays lead guitar with La Nueva Voz Publisher Jeff Schenkel’s Sunnyside Up Band, appearing from 8 to 11 p.m. every third Saturday of the month at O’Donovan’s Restaurant and Pub in Pomona.



**Two exhibits on display at Pomona Public Library by Farrell Chiles**

Two exhibits are currently on display at Pomona Public Library by cultural collector and exhibitor Farrell J. Chiles.

The first, the “Congressional Gold Medals Collection,” consists of several bronze replicas of Congressional Gold Medals bestowed by the U.S. Congress including awards presented to Colin Powell, Rosa Parks, Nelson Mandela, the Tuskegee airmen and the Little Rock Nine.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest civilian award in the U.S. And the “Jackie Robinson Collection” includes photographs, books, coins, baseball cards, a replica of the Congressional Gold Medal and other memorabilia about Jackie Robinson, the first African American baseball player to play in the major leagues in the modern era.

Both exhibits will remain on display through May 31.

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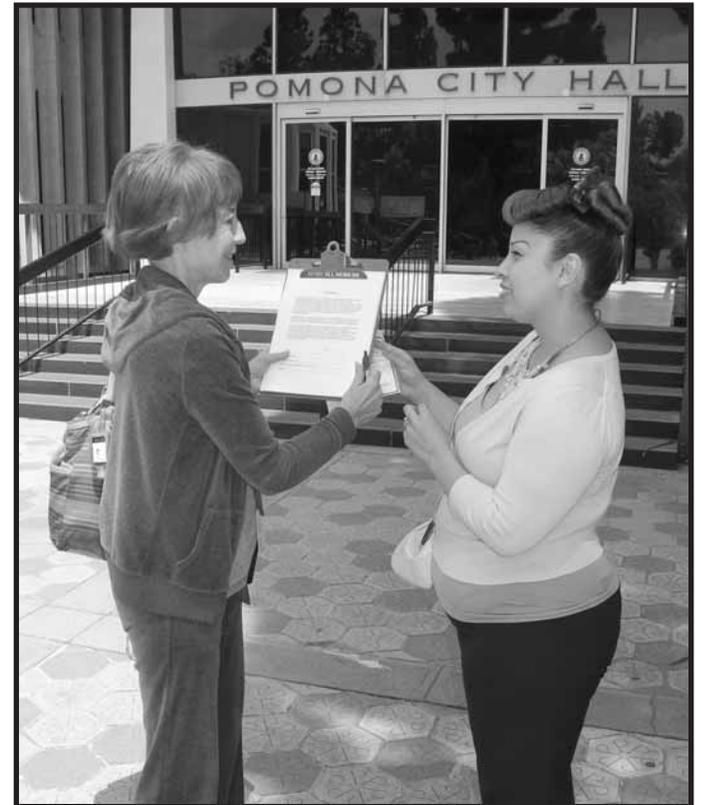
Get \$10 million for our City of Pomona without increasing taxes!

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Circulators are now working throughout the City of Pomona to collect signatures on petitions that will allow Pomona residents to vote on amending a City ordinance to require new billboards to pay \$1,000,000 each to the City.

Signing the petition will allow this measure to be voted on in November. Currently, billboard owners pay almost nothing to the City but they charge advertisers tens of thousands of dollars a month. This petition will limit the locations where signs can be built and it will require all new signs to pay the City a monthly share of the revenue.

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**‘Hagamos que las adineradas compañías de carteleros compartan sus ingresos con Pomona.’**

Circuladores ahora están trabajando a través de la Ciudad de Pomona para recaudar firmas que permitirá que los residentes de Pomona voten para enmendar una ordenanza que exija que cada anuncio cartelero pague \$1,000,000 a nuestra Ciudad.

Firmando la petición permitirá que esta medida aparezca en las votaciones de Noviembre. Actualmente, los dueños de los carteleros pagan una cantidad mínima a la Ciudad. Sin embargo, ellos cobran decenas de miles de dólares a los anunciantes. Esta petición limitará los lugares donde pueden ser edificados los carteleros y a la vez exigirá que estas compañías paguen una cuota mensual de sus ingresos a la Ciudad.

Estos ingresos sostendrán los servicios de policias y bomberos y ayudará a mantener abierta nuestra biblioteca.

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## Pomona Valley Hospital designated 'Baby-Friendly' birth facility

Baby-Friendly USA has named Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center as a Baby-Friendly Designated birth facility, making the Pomona hospital the largest hospital in California to receive this recognition.

Based on the Ten Steps to Successful Breastfeeding, this international award identifies birth facilities that offer breastfeeding mothers information, confidence and skills needed to successfully initiate and continue breastfeeding their babies.

"We're honored to be recognized for providing mothers and babies the best start possible," said Susan Miller, R.N., Women's Center nurse manager and champion of the hospital's "baby-friendly" initiative. "Breastfeeding is one of the most

important things a mother can do for her baby and herself. Breast milk provides the baby with nutrients and antibodies."

In addition, mothers who breastfeed their babies fit back into their pre-pregnancy clothes sooner, their uterus returns to pre-pregnant state faster, they restore needed minerals resulting in stronger bones, and they reduce risk of ovarian and breast cancer.

Currently, there are 175 active Baby-Friendly hospitals and birth centers in the United States and 6.9 percent of births occur in Baby-Friendly designated facilities.

Baby-Friendly USA, Inc., is the U.S. authority for the implementation of the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, a global program sponsored by the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund.



**O'DONOVAN'S LAUNCHES PROGRAM TO SUPPORT BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS** – Mark Drury, at left, owner of O'Donovan's Restaurant and Pub in Downtown Pomona, and Victor Caceres, executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, met with the entire O'Donovan's staff in the restaurant's main dining room this month to kick off a new program in which O'Donovan's customers will have an opportunity to leave an "extra" tip (or simply round up to the nearest dollar) to support the Boys and Girls Clubs when paying with a debit or credit card. In addition, waiters will be able to describe the many services the Boys and Girls Clubs offer the community. Drury said Caceres approached him with the idea which he thought was a good opportunity to support the community. He said several of his employees have children who are members of the Boys and Girls Clubs. Caceres told the employees that the club offers activities, athletics, mentoring, help with homework and a swimming pool, but it also provides guidance for its kids. O'Donovan's is located at 101 E. 3rd St. in Downtown Pomona.



**A LITTLE SHOPPING MUSIC?** – Members of "The Happy Neighbor Club" perform for the shoppers at the Pomona Certified Farmers' Market next to Pomona First Baptist Church. The market, one of the longest-running farmers' markets in Los Angeles County, is sponsored by Inland Valley Hope Partners. It is open from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. every Saturday.

**HEIRLOOM TOMATO PLANTS AT POMONA FARMERS' MARKET** – It was "tomatomania!" at the Pomona Certified Farmers' Market (Garey Avenue and Pearl Street) this month featuring hundreds of tomato plants, mostly heirloom, from local family farms. Pictured is Dawn Van Allen with one of her Ananas Noire (French for "black pineapple") tomato plants, grown in a community garden just several hundred yards north of the market.

The Ananas Noire offers dark purple fruit (yes, the tomato is a fruit because the seeds are inside) with green shoulders and an interior color mix of pink, red, green and yellow. She said the heirloom plants are from seeds that go back 100 years. Want one of your own? She's there every week!

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**STUDENTS OF THE MONTH** – Pictured are this month's Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club students of the month from San Antonio Elementary School. From left are Club President M. Joyce Bakersmith; Pomona Unified Schools Supt. Richard Martinez; Gabriel Rodriguez; Gabriel's transitional kindergarten teacher at San Antonio Deborah Scott; Samantha Galvan; Samantha's kindergarten teacher Carmen Rosales; and San Antonio Principal Selene Amancio.

## Se rinde reconocimientos en evento anual de Mesa Redonda Latino/Latina Cesar Chavez

Stacey Wilkins, director de la escuela secundaria Garey, quien fue uno de cuatro personas que fueron homenajeados en el décimo evento anual Mesa Redonda Latino/Latina Cesar Chavez, le dijo a los más de 200 personas presentes que es importante identificar a aquellos estudiantes quienes podrían ser los próximos grandes líderes.

Wilkins fue presentado como una persona "inspiradora" y "un gran líder de la comunidad."

Melissa Ayala, miembro de la Mesa Redonda Latino/Latina Cesar Chavez, dijo que Wilkins inspira a estudiantes que continúen con sus estudios universitarios y que después regresen a rendir servicio en su comunidad.

Ayala agregó que Wilkins, quien él mismo es graduante de la escuela Garey, es un "gran ejemplo de lo que significa ser un líder en nuestra comunidad," y que se esfuerza por trabajar con miembros de la Mesa Redonda.

Wilkins dijo que se sentía conmovido por el reconocimiento.

"Como director de una escuela, una de las primeras cosas que les digo a los padres es que debemos trabajar juntos," dijo Wilkins. "Los éxitos que hemos logrado es en

gran parte gracias al liderazgo de los padres, de su compromiso a la comunidad, y del compromiso de nuestros estudiantes."

"Me encanta ser el director de esta escuela y es un honor para mí," dijo Wilkins. "Estamos aquí para servir a los estudiantes y para servir a los padres, pues esa es nuestra labor."

"Lo que intentamos hacer no es solamente transformar la escuela Garey... pero también transformar todo el sur de Pomona, en fijar propósitos, para que surja el próximo Cesar Chavez, para que surja la próxima Dolores Huerta (quien también fundó la Asociación Nacional de Trabajadores Agrícolas con Chavez), para que surja el próximo Martín Luther King."

"Verdaderamente aprecio este reconocimiento, pues nunca he recibido semejante honor," dijo Wilkins. "Como hombre afroamericano, recibir un reconocimiento de parte de la Mesa Redonda Latina, pues es algo muy especial para mí, no lo hecho de menos."

Otros reconocimientos le fueron otorgados a Jerry Ryan, organizador de Unión de Obreros, Kevin DeLeon, senador estatal, y a la Coalición Juvenil de Emigrantes Inland Empire.

### Jerry Ryan

Ryan abandonó sus estudios universitarios en 1971 para unirse a la Unión de Obreros donde pasó 7 años organizando boicots en Denver y organizando movilización en los campos del Valle de Coachella. Ryan fue cartero para el Servicio Postal de los Estados Unidos y sirvió como Presidente del Sucursal 411 de la Asociación Nacional de Carteros por 18 años.

José Calderón, presidente de la Mesa Redonda, presentó a Ryan como alguien que fue "presidiario" como él mismo y quien "continúa siendo un ejemplo de alguien que cada minuto, cada hora, cada mes, cada año de su vida ha ocupado su servicio para empoderar a nuestra comunidad."

Ryan le dijo al grupo que los enemigos no son los emigrantes, sino que el problema son la gente que explotan, abusan, y reprimen a los emigrantes.

Ryan dijo que "durante los años 70 cuando yo trabajaba juntamente con Chavez fuimos golpeados, atacados, detenidos, encarcelados, pero aun así, fuimos los afortunados, pues algunos fueron asesinados."

Las condiciones eran tan malas que la unión prohibió el uso del in-

secticida DDT antes que el mismo gobierno lo hiciera.

Ryan agregó que Chavez no continuó sus estudios después del octavo grado y que en su vida entera recibió salario de huelguista. Pero aun así, Chavez llegó a recibir la Medalla Presidencial de la Libertad.

"Chavez hizo historia... intentando lograr una vida mejor para el campesino quien pizca la comida que ahora comemos nosotros," dijo Ryan.

### Coalición Juvenil de Emigrantes de Inland Empire

Miembros de la Coalición Juvenil de Emigrantes Inland Empire fueron honrados por su trabajo como jóvenes líderes indocumentados.

El grupo, fundado en el 2010, participaron en el 2012 en las marchas de desobediencia civil que se enfocaron en las injusticias que los estudiantes enfrentaban mientras asistían al colegio.

Y durante la campaña de reelección del Presidente Obama en el 2012, el grupo participó en una huelga de hambre demandando al Presidente que pusiera un alto a la deportación de jóvenes que llegaron a este país de pequeños.

En Junio de ese año, el Presi-

dente anunció que permitiría un permiso de trabajo a los jóvenes y la protección contra la deportación por dos años. Desde de ese tiempo, la coalición ha asistido a más de 1,500 personas gratuitamente con sus aplicaciones.

### Senador Estatal Kevin DeLeon

También se rindió homenaje a el Senador Estatal Kevin DeLeon, quien en el 2013 se convirtió en el primer Latino en presidir el Comité de Asignaciones del Senado en los últimos 100 años. Su distrito incluye partes de Los Angeles, Alhambra, San Marino, el Sur de Pasadena, Vernon y Maywood.

"El grupo Mesa Redonda Latino/Latina es reconocido

De acuerdo a su introducción, la labor y el esfuerzo de DeLeon inspiraron la Proposición 39 la cual va a crear más de 40,000 trabajos y va a generar billones de dólares para proyectos de eficiencia de educación y energía.

DeLeon también es defensor del medio ambiente y su proyecto de ley del senado 1234, la ley Elección Segura de Retiros y Ahorros de California de 2012, ayudará a los 6.3 millones de trabajadores de medio o bajos ingresos quienes no

Reconocimientos... pág. 2

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**FREE DYNAJET DYNO TESTING** – Bob Fowler of Whittier poses for La Nueva Voz in front of his 1969 Chevy Nova SuperSport just before the MCE Racing at Thunderhill crew out of Willows, California, fired the car up for a dynamometer test at no charge during last month’s “America’s Car Show” at Pomona’s Fairplex. Fowler has owned the car since 1975. The test results showed he was running a little lean at 3,000 rpm but still delivered 322.64 horsepower and as much as 356.46 foot pounds of torque to the rear wheel. (Note: A 1969 Chevy Nova 350 two-barrel was the first car of La Nueva Voz Publisher Jeff Schenkel.)



**PROUD CHEVY OWNER IN THE ‘CRUISE LANE’** – The proud owner of a vintage Chevy (Come on, guys, is it a ‘56 or a ‘57? E-mail us and we’ll publish the results) takes a slow-speed spin with his buddies around the Fairgrounds at Pomona’s Fairplex last month during the first Street Machine and Muscle Car Nationals held on the West Coast.



**MEMORIES ON FOUR WHEELS** – Several of the vehicles on display are open for a good, close look next to the grandstands at Pomona’s Fairplex last month.



**RUNNING THE CONES** – A participant in last month’s Street Machine and Muscle Car Nationals at Pomona’s Fairplex races against the clock as he runs the cones on the autocross course.



**1956 NASH METRO-NATOR** – Here’s a look under the hood (or in this case, more like sticking out of the hood) at the 1956 Nash Metro-Nator displayed at the Street Machine and Muscle Car Nationals at Pomona’s Fairplex last month.



**PAUSING FOR PHOTOS** – A 1956 Nash Metro-Nator, owned by Bryan Thatcher of Corona, pauses to pop the hood for the crowd at last month’s two-day Street Machine and Muscle Car Nationals, “America’s Car Show,” at Pomona’s Fairplex. It was the first time the collection of high performance muscle cars, pro-touring cars and street machines came to the West Coast. Included was everything from burnout contests and a pro builders pavilion to an autocross course. Car owners were encouraged to become participants by registering to display their own vehicles and cruise the show in the Cruise Lanes winding through the event and even take a spin on the autocross course.

## La Nueva Voz hiring news intern for the summer

Looking for a summer internship position? Interested in the communications field? La Nueva Voz is looking for the "perfect" intern to help produce Pomona's only community newspaper during the summer months.

The unpaid position begins in late June and continues through the end of August.

Bi-lingual (English and Spanish)

applicants attending high school or college in or around Pomona are preferred. Applicants must have their own transportation and own a camera capable of producing high resolution photos (minimum 300 dpi).

Applicants will be covering events and submitting information with photos by e-mail to the newspaper's Director of Advertising and Public Relations. Applicants must

have their own cell phone so they can be reached by telephone or text when needed.

Interns receive advertising sales commissions on advertising opportunities referred to the Director of Advertising.

For more information or to apply, contact Renee Barbee, Director of Advertising, (909) 762-1446 or by e-mail at reneebarbee7@gmail.com.



**VARNISHING A NEW PLANTER BOX** – Victor Caceres, executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley in Pomona, takes a shot at varnishing a new planter box built during last month's Cesar Chavez Community Service Week activities in Pomona, sponsored by Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina and the Los Angeles County Conservation Corps. About 30 members of Molina's staff and 20 members of the Los Angeles County Conservation Corps worked on the project.



**CLEANUP PROJECT AT BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF POMONA VALLEY** – Martha Jimenez, senior counsel in the Office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina, swings a pretty good pick for an attorney during cleanup activities last month at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley. The effort, sponsored by Molina's office, was funded through Proposition A funds which provided parks money. The staff has been working in all areas of the first supervisorial district over the past two years in an effort to give back. The work was done during Cesar Chavez week and County Service Week, which was originated by Molina 12 years ago. Some 4,800 trees have been planted throughout the county over the past year. "Following Cesar Chavez' example of service to others, we established the county's annual Cesar Chavez Community Service Week in 2002 to celebrate the legacy of this American hero for his lifelong commitment to democracy, justice and community," Molina said, adding that her staff spent the entire day getting their hands dirty by planting flowers, trees and various other drought-resistant greenery.

## Pomona Christian education group schedules fundraiser in May

Pomona Released Time Christian Education will hold a fundraiser "Jesus take the wheel" luncheon next month at The Salvation Army in Pomona.

The organization provides parent permission Bible classes on buses near schools for children in Pomona and Diamond Bar at lunch time once a week. The classes are free to the children.

The luncheon, a taco bar with all

the trimmings, will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 17, at The Salvation Army, 490 E. La Verne Ave., Pomona.

Cost is \$10 each or a table of eight for \$75. Checks must be received by May 9.

Make checks payable to Pomona Released Time and mail them to P.O. Box 1304, Pomona, CA 91769.

For more information, call (909) 593-0373.



**ORATORICAL CONTEST WINNERS** – The Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club has announced winners of its annual "Kids Speak Out Oratorical" competition, held this month in the Pomona Unified School District Board room. Elementary school winners, pictured in front, from left, are Roberto Sanchez, a fifth grader at Washington Elementary School, second place; Justin Bautista, a fifth grader at Ranch Hills Elementary School, first place; and Faith Henderson, a fifth grader at Ranch Hills Elementary School, third place. Back row, from left, are Vernon Price, contest chairman, and M. Joyce Bakersmith, Optimist Club president. Topic this year was "How my passions impact the world." Thirty-five elementary school students participated.

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THE WEEKEND GARDENER by Leif Green

## The Dirt on Pomona Soils

*Despite the gardener's best intentions, Nature will improvise – Michael P. Garafalo.*

Gardening in Pomona can be quite a challenge. As with any gardening project, the first consideration is the soil. Various soil surveys have characterized as many as 17 different types of soil in the Pomona area. You'll therefore have to make your own assessment of the soil in your garden before deciding what soil amendments (plant food) need to be added to improve soil quality.

Soil grades are listed by a combination of descriptive words and may include the location of where that soil was first characterized. For example, one soil type is an Oxnard Sandy Loam. Loam is a dark, organic, nutrient rich soil. A sandy loam is not as good since the sand is not organic and doesn't contain appreciable quantities of nutrients. In the example, the soil was first characterized in Oxnard, hence the name, Oxnard Sandy

Loam.

Of the 17 soils characterized in Pomona, nine contained the word sand or sandy. This isn't surprising considering that Pomona is on the edge of a desert region. The remaining soil characterizations contained words like clay, gravel, adobe, river-wash and silt. These are clearly not words associated with nutrient rich soils. Only two of the soils characterized in the Pomona area did not contain any of those words. Unfortunately, those two soils represent less than six percent of the acreage surveyed.

This means that it is likely that the soil in your garden is less than optimal and will need supplements.

There are several ways to improve the quality of your soil. One way is to add commercial mulch, peat moss or potting soil. Although these will increase the organic con-

tent of the soil, you will still need to add nutrients. The most common nutrients added to the soil are the macronutrients nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus. Some excellent plant food formulations that contain these nutrients come from such companies as Vigro, Kellogg, Scotts, etc. Many soils in Pomona are poor and you will have to add micronutrients too. Micronutrients are as important for healthy plant growth as the macronutrients, but are required in smaller quantities. Examples of micronutrients are iron, magnesium and sulfur. A good source of these elements is from the micronutrient product by Garden Choice.

Once your soil has been prepared, you need to decide what to plant. That will be the subject of a future column.

**GARDEN TIP:** April is a good time to plant vegetables and annuals (marigolds, petunias, etc.). The threat of frost has passed and they will have time to grow and produce before the summer heat arrives.

*Editor's Note: Leif Green, the author's pen name, grew up in Pomona and graduated from Cal Poly University Pomona with a master's degree in biology. Gardening has always been his hobby and his column is presented as a public service.*



Leif Green



**WINCO FOODS NAMED 'PATRIOTIC EMPLOYER'** – WinCo Foods in Pomona was named a patriotic employer last week for its policies in making time available for employees to serve their country in the National Guard and military reserves. The recognition was for "contributing to national security and protecting liberty and freedom by supporting employee participation in America's National Guard and Reserve Force." The honor was signed by Paul Mock, national chair of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), and by Ronald Young, ESGR executive director. It was presented by Farrell Chiles of Pomona, who has been active in ESGR for the past 13 years. "They are citizen warriors," Farrell said, adding that this recognition is a way to show appreciation for their taking time away from their work and families. Pictured, from left, are WinCo personnel clerk Cyndie Bolz; her son, Gene Summers, also a WinCo employee, who joined the National Guard in Rancho Cucamonga when he was in high school; WinCo non-food department manager Jesus Sevilla; WinCo Manager Eli Ezeani; and Farrell Chiles. WinCo is located at 90 Rio Rancho Road in Pomona.

## Judicial candidates forum set for Hacienda Heights

Twenty-four judicial candidates for contested offices in the Los Angeles Superior Court have been invited to a judicial candidates' forum next month in Hacienda Heights.

The Honorable Robert Bonner, former U.S. District Judge and former Chair of the California Commission for Judicial Performance, will moderate the event, scheduled

for 10 a.m. Saturday, May 3, in the Steinmetz Park Community Center, 1545 S. Stimson Ave., Hacienda Heights.

Candidates for offices No. 22, 48, 61, 76, 87, 97, 107, 113, 117, 138 and 157 have been invited.

For more information, contact Charles House at charleshouse35@gmail.com.

## ART'S

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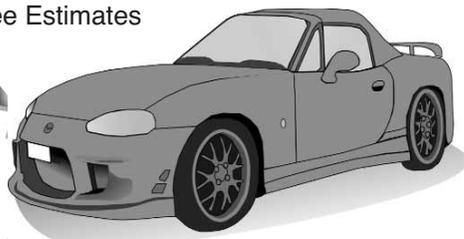
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**AFTER THE TEST DRIVE** – Lone Hill Middle School (San Dimas) parent Scott Viney climbs out of a 300 Chrysler with a sticker price of \$31,825 after his fundraising test drive last month provided by Glendora Chrysler Jeep Dodge. "Nice test drive," Viney said. At the end of this year's national "Test Drive for the Kids" program, Chrysler will donate an additional \$5,000 to the school with the highest number of test drives in each of five regions of the country. Since the program began in 1993, Chrysler has contributed more than \$5 million directly to local schools for student needs.

**REGISTERING FOR A TEST DRIVE TO HELP THE SCHOOL** – Shannon Tubbs, of San Dimas, second from left, hands her registration information to Andy Batcheller, representing Chrysler's corporate offices, during last month's "Test Drive for the Kids" at Lone Hill Middle School in San Dimas. The event, held during open house at Lone Hill, enabled parents to earn a \$10 donation to the school from Chrysler for each test drive they took. Four cars were on hand from Glendora Chrysler Jeep Dodge to enable shuttling the test drives. A total of 109 test drives were completed, resulting in a donation of \$1,090 from Chrysler to the school.



## Reconocimiento... de la pág. 17

tienen un plan de retiro en sus empleos para crear un suplemento a su Seguro Social.

DeLeon también fungió un papel importante en pasar la legislación estatal que permitiría a residentes indocumentados para obtener su licencia de conducir a través de el Proyecto de Ley 60.

El diputado Adrian Vazquez, quien representó a DeLeon en el evento, dijo que el senador también fue co-autor el año pasado de la Carta de Derechos de Trabajadores Domésticos para apoyar a aquellos que trabajan arduamente con poco salario.

Vazquez dijo que la medida provee a trabajadores domésticos con las mismas protecciones que muchos trabajadores ya tienen.

La Mesa Redonda y el Consejo Laboral para el Avance Latinoamericano, la Cámara de San Gabriel Valley/Inland Empire, patrocinan el desayuno anual de Cesar Chavez para enfocarse en los líderes de la comunidad que a través de su trabajo demuestran valores y son un ejemplo de los derechos humanos del líder laboral Cesar Chavez.



Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at right, presents a certificate from the city to East Valley CEO Alicia Mardini.



East Valley Board Chair Thomas Allison

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## A new La Nueva Voz publishes each month on the fourth Thursday of the month.

Pick up your free copy of La Nueva Voz at these locations and dozens more:



- Pomona City Hall lobby
- Pomona library
- Claremont library
- Claremont City Hall lobby
- La Verne City Hall lobby
- La Verne Senior Citizens Center
- La Verne library
- Pomona Chamber of Commerce, 101 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona
- Downtown Pomona Owners Association, 119 W. 2nd St. Pomona
- Pomona Unified School District administration building lobby
- Western University of Health Sciences Administration Building and Patient Care Center
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, 1420 S. Garey Ave. Pomona
- Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center main lobby, maternity lobby
- Gold Strike Market Carniceria, 412 N. Park Ave., Pomona
- Jicamex Tacos Y Carniceria, 604 E. Mission Blvd., Pomona
- Central Market, Towne Avenue and Phillips Boulevard, Pomona
- Fairplex Chevron, Fairplex Drive and San Bernardino Freeway, Pomona
- Discount Market, Philadelphia Street and Towne Avenue, Pomona
- LaundryLand Coin Op Laundry, 744 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
- American Legion Post #30, 239 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
- Pomona Eagles, 954 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona



### RIBBON-CUTTING AT NEW HOME FOR EAST VALLEY COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

It was only a move from Fairplex Avenue to Garey Avenue into a completely remodeled building on the other side of Pomona that once housed a Stater Bros. market. But for East Valley Community Health Center, it made the difference not only of doubling the size of the facility from 10,000 to 25,000 square feet but dramatically bringing the quality of medical care delivery up to state-of-the-art standards. Pomona City Councilmembers, elected officials from Sacramento and Washington and representatives of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce made it all official last week with a ribbon-cutting in the front parking lot following comments and presentations. Pictured, from left, are Assemblyman Freddie Rodriguez; Pomona City Councilmembers Cristina Carrizosa and Adriana Robledo; State Sen. Norma Torres; Pomona Chamber Executive Director Frank Garcia; Pomona City Councilmember Paula Lantz; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; East Valley CEO Alicia Mardini; East Valley Board Chair Thomas Allison; Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod; East Valley Board Member Doran Barnes; Pomona Vice Mayor Ginna Escobar; East Valley Board Members Theresa Valesco and Al Frank; and East Valley Director of Advancement and Communications Clara Potes-Fellow.



**GANESHA HIGH SCHOOL CHOIR PERFORMS** – Members of the Ganesha High School Choir, under the direction of Rafael Duran, perform at the grand opening of the new home of East Valley Community Health Center. The facility provides quality medical care services to area residents regardless of their ability to pay. CEO Alicia Mardini said the new facility adds dental and mental health and enables the facility to double the number of patients served at the original facility. East Valley is also an enrollment-assistance center for consumers purchasing Covered California health plans. The new facility is located at 1555 S. Garey Ave., Pomona, at Phillips Boulevard. Patients can make appointments over the telephone or can walk in without an appointment if needed. A large portion of the \$4.2 million project was funded through a federal grant provided under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. For more information, call (909) 620-8088.

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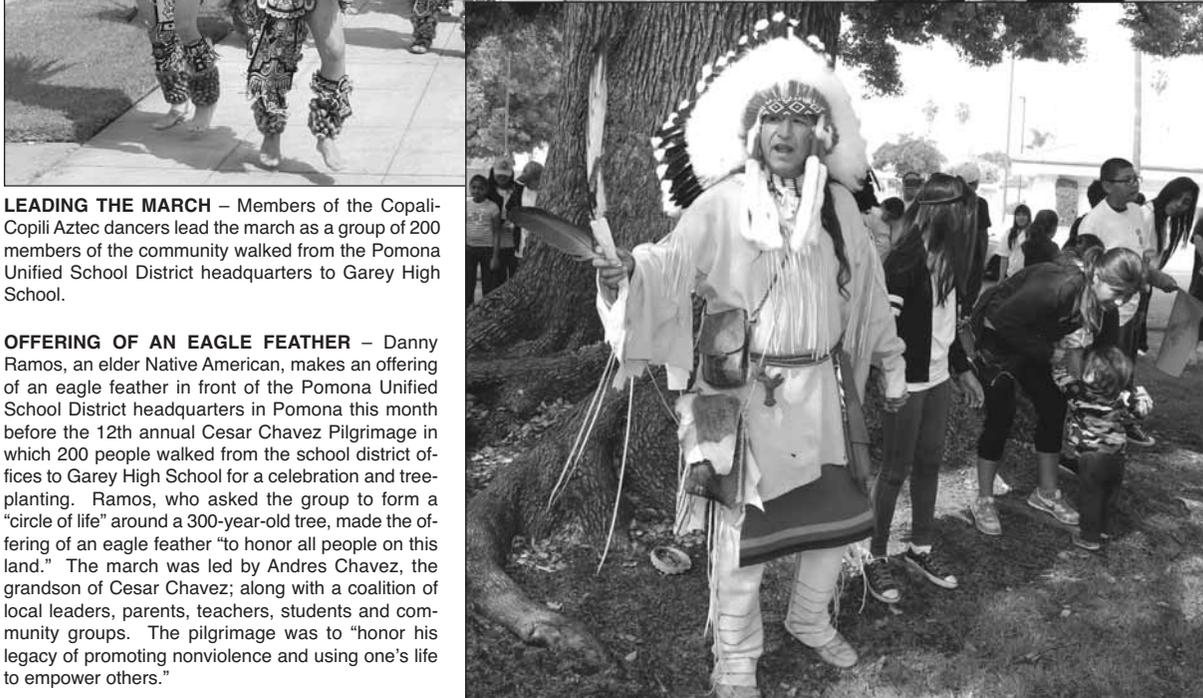


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**LEADING THE MARCH** – Members of the Copali-Copili Aztec dancers lead the march as a group of 200 members of the community walked from the Pomona Unified School District headquarters to Garey High School.

**OFFERING OF AN EAGLE FEATHER** – Danny Ramos, an elder Native American, makes an offering of an eagle feather in front of the Pomona Unified School District headquarters in Pomona this month before the 12th annual Cesar Chavez Pilgrimage in which 200 people walked from the school district offices to Garey High School for a celebration and tree-planting. Ramos, who asked the group to form a “circle of life” around a 300-year-old tree, made the offering of an eagle feather “to honor all people on this land.” The march was led by Andres Chavez, the grandson of Cesar Chavez; along with a coalition of local leaders, parents, teachers, students and community groups. The pilgrimage was to “honor his legacy of promoting nonviolence and using one’s life to empower others.”

**Sponsors needed for Pomona Rotary ‘Hot August Night’ event**

Members of Pomona Rotary are looking for sponsors for their third annual “Hot August Night” celebration, scheduled for August, with proceeds going to benefit youth and educational programs in Pomona.

Sixty percent of the proceeds will go to Pomona Unified Partners In Learning (PUPIL), Pomona’s new educational foundation, and the remaining 40 percent will go to youth programs in memory of Dr. Shane Todd.

More than 200 guests are expected to attend the event, scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 16, at the NHRA Museum at the Pomona Fairplex.

Tickets are \$75.

Included will be a car show, access to the museum, a silent auction, live music and more.

For more information, contact Rotary Past President Carol Wilt at (909) 573-4634.

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## Cal Poly Farm Store to hold eighth annual Tractor and Car Show, Strawberry Festival

Live music and a variety of foods from vendors will be on hand at the Cal Poly Pomona Farm Store's eighth annual Tractor and Car Show/Strawberry Festival next month.

Guests will celebrate the peak of strawberry season by picking sun-ripened berries, purchasing baskets

of pre-picked strawberries and sipping on a strawberry snow cone.

The festival runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 10. Strawberry picking begins at 11 a.m.

A petting farm, bug exhibit, face painting, horse rides, tractor rides and more will be available for visitors.

The tractor and car show will feature custom, antique, classic, muscle, street rod, special interest cars, motorcycles and tractors. Trophies will be awarded at 3 p.m. Registration is due April 27. Forms can be downloaded at [www.cppfarm-store.com](http://www.cppfarm-store.com).

Admission is free. Parking is \$3.

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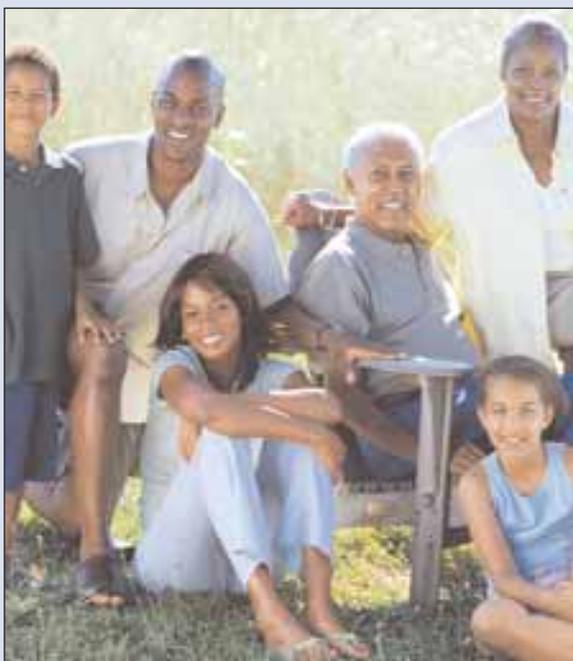
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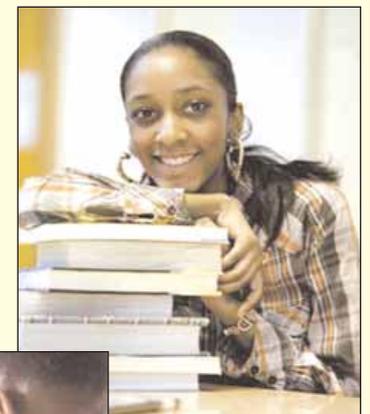
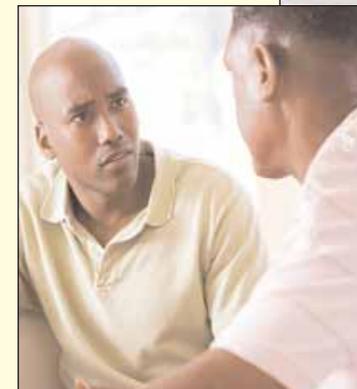
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