



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



Pomona Relay for Life cancer fundraiser hosts first-ever wedding of couple battling cancer but hoping to return next year with their own team

A number of "firsts" at this year's sixth annual Pomona Relay for Life cancer walk and fundraiser last month included an on-site wedding of a Pomona couple struggling with cancer – a couple that hopes to be back at next year's cancer walk with their family's own team.

Juan Franco, 41, and Alma Fragoso, 31, were married in a first-ever ceremony before hundreds of participants in the event – along with wedding guests from throughout the San Gabriel Valley and beyond – at Pomona's Fairplex.

Alma, who is continuing to battle stage four colon cancer after surviving a bout with cervical cancer, told La Nueva Voz that it all started when Lisa Lopez Lozano of Walgreen's in Baldwin Park (formerly of Pomona's Walgreen's) learned Alma was a cancer patient.

Lozano, also a cancer survivor and a long-time supporter of Pomona's Relay for Life... pg. 12



Photo courtesy of Eric Jung, Lifetime Memories Photography
CUTTING THE CAKE – Juan and Alma Franco cut their wedding cake during last month's Pomona Relay for Life at Fairplex – the first-ever wedding at the annual event. Alma has been diagnosed with stage four colon cancer.

Local breast cancer survivors dance in video to support breast cancer prevention



Boom lift (cherry picker) provided for La Nueva Voz photos courtesy of Williams Sign Co. in Pomona (operated by installer Marc Wyatt)
BREAST CANCER SURVIVORS DANCE TO SUPPORT CANCER PREVENTION – Some 40 breast cancer survivors and staff members from Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center dance around the fountain at the hospital's Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center as part of a video which will be entered in competition to win funds for a breast cancer charity. One of the video cameras is mounted on the boom at top left.

An energetic group of 40 breast cancer survivors and staff members from Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center became dancers this month outside the Robert and Beverly Lewis

Family Cancer Care Center to videotape a unique video to support breast cancer prevention.

And producers of

Video... pg. 3

Kids get away for annual 'Great Camp Out' at Fairplex

About 300 kids and dozens of Pomona police officers, service club members and other volunteers turned out this month for Pomona's 2014 "Great Camp Out," a free overnighter at Pomona's Fairplex filled with fun for young people in the community.

The camp out under the stars for kids ages 9 to 12 included games, food, exhibits and generally a chance to have fun.

Included was face painting, hair "make-overs," raffle prize drawings featuring everything from event tickets to skateboards,



LEARNING A NEW CHEER – The Garey High School cheerleaders – with the help of the dance team from Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise, behind them on the stage – teach nearly 300 kids a new cheer at this year's "Great Camp Out" this month at Fairplex.

scooters and bicycles, and more.

Students and teachers from Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise were on hand to teach the

Great Camp Out... pg. 4

Nearly 1,000 gather in Fairplex Grandstand for Pomona Day of Prayer

Nearly 1,000 Pomona residents turned out for last week's Pomona Day of Prayer in the Grandstand at Pomona Fairplex as Dr. Marty Alexander of Shield of Faith Christian Center in Pomona in her opening prayer said "you are bringing change to this city."

"This is the Lord's doing," said Alexander, an ordained pastor at Shield of Faith where her husband, Apostle Henry Alexander, is pastor and founder.

And senior pastor Glenn Pomona Day of Prayer... pg. 13



NEW HOPE COVENANT – Members of Pomona's New Hope Covenant Church choir perform at the beginning of the Pomona Day of Prayer.



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Sowing Seeds for Life seeking hosts for school supply drive

Sowing Seeds for Life is looking for companies, congregations or service clubs to host a school supply drive to help give kids the supplies they need to head back to school.

Supplies will be distributed through the Sowing Seeds for Life Food Pantry, located at 1350 Arrow Highway, La Verne. The drive con-

tinues through August.

All school supplies are welcome. Sowing Seeds for Life provides food and essential supplies to more than 6,000 individuals each month. Nearly 50 percent of the clients are children.

For more information, contact Fran Robertson at (909) 392-5777, ext. 232.



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RETIREMENT PARTY FOR POMONA CHAMBER'S FRANK GARCIA – Nearly 100 supporters turned out for a retirement party last week for Frank Garcia, who retired as executive director last month after serving the Pomona Chamber of Commerce for 11 years. Garcia, who served as a teacher and administrator with the Pomona Unified School District for 32 years before that, told his friends that he has “always believed in Pomona.” “I’ve always loved this community and I love the people I’ve worked with,” he said. “Everybody’s trying to help the city.” He added that he’s not going away. Pictured at the Hawaiian-themed event with Garcia, center, are Jeff Schenkel and Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, presenting Garcia with a canvas-mounted reproduction of a photo that appeared in this newspaper in December 2011 in which Garcia stepped into the ring for a two-minute round with Pomona boxing champion Sugar Shane Mosley (wearing oversized gloves) during a ribbon-cutting for Diamond’s Love Foundation. Schenkel described the event as a highlight of Garcia’s career. Foundation operations manager Shante Hall said Mosley will autograph the photo when he returns to town. Others speaking at the event at McKinley’s Grille at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel were State Sen. Norma Torres, Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin, Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, and Rufino Bautista, representing Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod.

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Video... from pg. 1

the winning video will receive a donation of \$15,000 to the breast cancer charity of their choice.

In all, hundreds of hospital employees, volunteers and even firemen from the La Verne station of the Los Angeles County Fire Department were involved in the production – part of the fourth annual Medline Pink Glove Dance video competition.

As part of the competition, the hospital and the fire station planned to raise at least \$2,000 for the Susan G. Komen charity, according to a hospital spokesperson.

Dancers in the segment videotaped in front of the cancer center carried placards proclaiming such traits as “hope,” “wisdom,” “courage” and “compassion,” and wore pink gloves.

Part of the purpose behind the video is to let those battling breast cancer know they are not alone, the spokesperson said.

The competition begins Sept. 9 when all videos are posted on pinkglovedance.com and members of the public will have an opportunity to vote on line for their favorite video.

The winners will be announced Oct. 2 with the winning team receiving the \$15,000 donation in their name to the breast cancer charity of



RAISING FUNDS FOR CANCER – Breast cancer survivors are videotaped by the photographer, at left, for a production that will compete for funds for a breast cancer charity.

their choice.

The second place winner will receive a \$5,000 donation.

Medline Industries, Inc., in 2009 turned “every day” exam gloves from green to pink and launched an aggressive breast cancer education campaign to take the “scary” out of detection exams and remind nurses about the importance of creating a comfortable, friendly and open dialogue with their patients.

The annual Pink Glove Dance video competition brings together nearly 200,000 healthcare profes-



IN A WORD – One of the placards carried by an unidentified dancer tells it all – “hope” as 40 breast cancer survivors dance in a video production in competition to raise funds for a breast cancer charity.



PLACARDS TELL THE STORY – Placards carried by breast cancer survivors seen dancing in a video being produced to compete for breast cancer charity funding tell the story of the survivors -- “compassion,” “hope” and “courage.”



CHANGING OF THE GUARD AT ROTARY – This year’s changing of the guard at Pomona Rotary involved passing the gavel from one cemetery to another – outgoing President Daniel Thomas, Advance Planning Manager at Forest Lawn Covina Hills, handed off the top spot to Janet Roy, General Manager of Pomona Valley Memorial Park. Incoming President Janet Roy told Rotary members that Pomona Rotary’s work is a good fit with this year’s Rotary International theme of “Light Up Rotary.” “This is what we do,” she said. “We feed the homeless, put shoes on our school children, fill bags of groceries for our pantry and collect coats for those in need. We lift people up in Pomona.” In keeping with the international theme, Roy said her “president’s theme” for Pomona Rotary this year will be “Light Up Rotary, Lift Up Pomona.” Pictured at Thomas’ “debunking” at a Rotary meeting at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel last month are, from left, Thomas and Roy, and members Victor Caceres and Beth Brooks. Caceres, on the cajon drum, and Brooks, playing a classical guitar, accompanied the entire club in singing Peter, Paul and Mary’s “Puff the Magic Dragon” which, La Nueva Voz was told, is Thomas’ favorite song.

Foothill AIDS Project announces annual fall event as ‘pride under the stars’

The Claremont-based Foothill AIDS Project has scheduled its annual autumn event “Inland Rainbow Mix” for October 11 featuring a variety of musical performances at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden.

Entertainment will include a quartet from Vox Femina, the all-female “a cappella” chorus of Los An-

geles, joined by a quartet from the San Diego Gay Men’s Chorus, in addition to piano and classical guitar soloists.

For more information, contact the Foothill AIDS Project at (909) 482-2066 or by e-mail at art@fapinfo.org, or visit the web site at www.fapinfo.org.

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Great Camp Out... from pg. 1

kids new dance steps, led by Christin Rickman, a special guest dance teacher at the school who choreographed the Arts and Enterprise dance team's winning performance that placed second in USA national competition this year in Irvine.

Rickman, who just graduated from Claremont High School, will attend Cal State University San Bernardino in the fall.

And Garey High School cheerleaders stopped by to teach the kids the basics of cheer.

Was it worth it? Just ask Nyeima Belin, 9, a student at Kellogg Polytechnic Elementary School in Pomona.

She has camped out before with her family, but she enjoyed having fun and playing games and would definitely recommend the experience to her friends.

"They could have fun and enjoy a good time," Nyeima said, who enjoyed having several of her friends there with her.

What is the best part?

"Being here," she said.

The event is sponsored each year by the Pomona Police Department, the department's Crime Prevention office, the City of Pomona, Community Engagement and Fairplex.

Community volunteers included Virginia Madrigal and Carrie Baker,



COMPLETE HAIR MAKEOVER – Brittany Cuba, a stylist with Funky Hair of Corona, puts the finishing touches on a hair makeover as a raffle prize for Hailee Ramos, 11, a student at Lorbeer Middle School.



RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS – A dozen raffle prize winners were called up on stage to claim their raffle prizes ranging from tickets to a Quakes game to skateboards, scooters and bicycles. Dozens of prizes were raffled off during the "Great Camp Out."

POLICE CHIEF HANGS OUT AT 'GREAT CAMP OUT' – Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro and his wife, Judi, spend a little quality time with the kids the morning after this year's "Great Camp Out" at Fairplex.

who have volunteered for the event for the last six years, and Ralph Gonzales, of Pomona's Knights of Columbus.

And City Councilmember Debra Martin and other Kiwanis Club members were on hand to begin cooking pancakes and sausage beginning at 5 a.m. on Saturday morning.

Even Quakes baseball mascot "Aftershock" was on hand to pose for photos with the kids and participate in the activities.

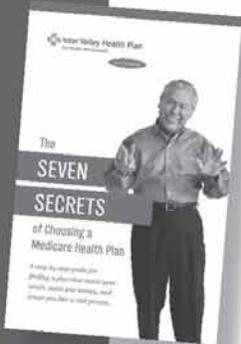


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JUST A PLACE TO HAVE A GOOD TIME – Nyeima Belin, 9, a student at Kellogg Polytechnic Elementary School, pauses for a photo at the camp “store” after chatting with La Nueva Voz. She said she liked the games, liked hanging out with her friends and just “being here” as some of the highlights of the “Great Camp Out.”



POMONA CITY COUNCILMEMBER ‘THE MORNING AFTER’ – Pomona City Councilmember Ginna Escobar prepares to start the day the morning after the “Great Camp Out” at Fairplex this year as she chats with Pomona Police Department Sgt. Vince Terrell, head of the department’s crime prevention office. Pictured with Escobar are, from left, Aylene Rios, 12, a student at Cortez Elementary School, and Mia Gutierrez, 10, a student at Decker Elementary School, both students at Escobar’s G-Diva Productions dance studio in Downtown Pomona. The two are among the dance studio’s 21 kids on a two-time national champion competition team.



DONATING GOODIES FOR THE KID’S STORE – Renee Barbee, Director of Advertising and Public Relations for La Nueva Voz, donates a cart-load of goodies for the kid’s camp store at the “Great Camp Out” this month. Pictured, from left, are Barbee, Officer Sonia Carrigan, of the Pomona Police Department’s crime prevention office, and Sgt. Vince Terrell, head of the department’s crime prevention office.



WAKING UP WITH A NEW DANCE ROUTINE – The nearly 300 kids at this year’s “Great Camp Out” at Fairplex warm up with a few stretching exercises and learn a new dance routine, courtesy of Christin Rickman, a dance teacher at Pomona’s School of Arts and Enterprise. Pictured with Christin, at left, is Marco Fonseca Argote, a staff member of and graduate from the School of Arts and Enterprise.



GETTING THE HANG OF IT – Only eight o’clock in the morning and they are still getting the hang of a few new dance steps after waking up at the “Great Camp Out.”



GETTING A SLOW START ON THE MORNING – Well, EVERYBODY didn’t jump up for exercises and a dance routine the morning after the “Great Camp Out” at Fairplex.

Half million dollars in United Way grants go to 37 groups including ‘The Learning Centers at Fairplex’

Inland Empire United Way has announced more than \$500,000 in commitments to local nonprofit organizations providing a variety of local programs helping individuals and families in need.

The funding was provided through its Community Impact Grant process in which grants of up to \$25,000 will be provided to 37 local nonprofit organizations over the next 12 months.

Each organization was selected based on strong program outcomes in the areas of education, health and financial stability.

Recipients included homeless shelters, after school programs, tutoring organizations and health programs.

Included was support for The Learning Centers at Fairplex for its Career and Technical Education Center, which works to prepare underprivileged youth for future employment.

Ranging from early childhood education to vocational training, The Learning Centers effectively address United Way’s goal of moving individuals from poverty to self-sufficiency, according to a United Way news release.

“Inland Empire United Way is a valued partner with The Learning Centers at Fairplex, but especially of our efforts to prepare students for ca-

reer paths through our Career Technical Education Center,” said Michelle DeMott, vice president of branding and knowledge management at Fairplex.

She said the funding will enable The Learning Centers to expand offerings in the computer training center.

“We couldn’t provide the service we do to the more than 1,000 students and community members each year without partners like United Way,” DeMott added.

Other local organizations receiving “program grant” support included Bright Prospect, Foothill Family Shelter, Inc., Fresh Start Ministries & Community Services, Inc., House of Ruth, Inc., Inland Valley Hope Partners, Project Sister Family Services, and Western University of Health Sciences (for InSight, a children’s vision care program).

“Safety net grants” for basic needs went to local groups including David and Margaret Youth and Family Services and Sowing Seeds for Life.

And a “Volunteer Income Tax Assistance” provider grant went to both Cal Poly University Pomona and Cal State University San Bernardino.

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

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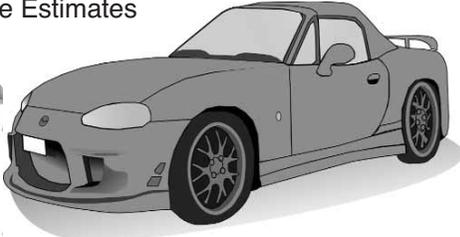
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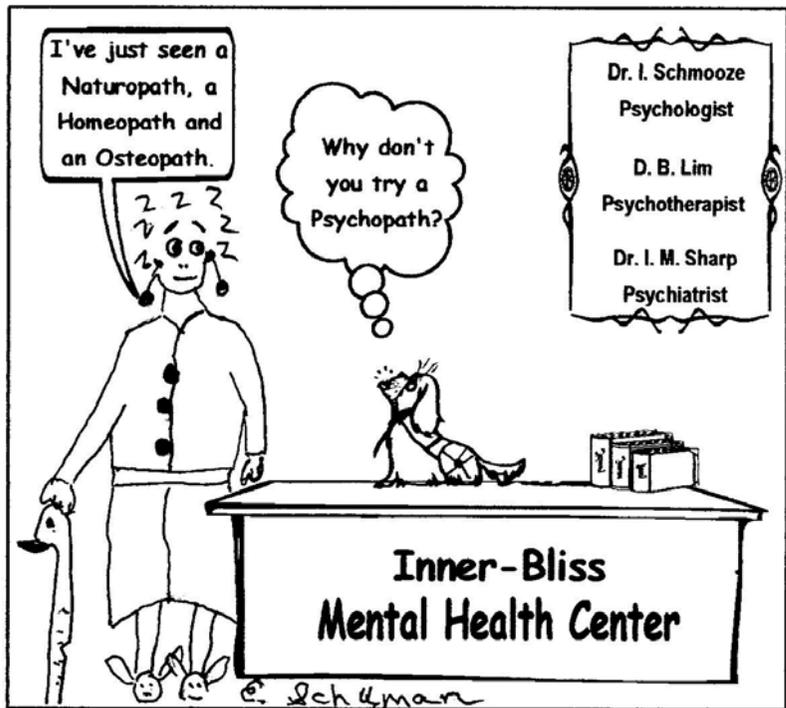
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Hope & Hurdles

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.



STOP THE VIOLENCE PRAYER MARCH – Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at left, joins organizers of a "Stop the Violence: Prayer March" that walked from the Renacimiento Community Center in South Pomona to the Pomona Civic Center this month as pastors and churches of all denominations prepared for the Pomona Day of Prayer the following day.

San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps to hold 10-year anniversary fundraiser celebration

The San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps will celebrate its 10-year anniversary at a fundraiser celebration this weekend.

The event will be held from 3:30 to 7 p.m. Saturday, July 26, at Earthworks Farm, 1210 Lerma Road, South El Monte. Tickets are

\$40.

The non-profit organization provides workforce training and education in the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys.

It serves hundreds of disadvantaged young adults each year who

are looking for job skills and a second chance to earn a high school diploma while providing valuable services to improve their communities and the natural environment.

For more information, contact (626) 579-2484.

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Sharonda White named Board president at Inland Valley Hope Partners

Sharonda White, a member of Inland Valley Hope Partners' leadership board since 2010, has been named president of the organization's board of directors.

White, an alumna of Cornell University and Claremont Graduate University, where she earned a master's degree in human resources design, currently serves as manager of payroll operations for the western region of Insperty, a human resources outsourcing company.

In addition to her volunteer leadership with Inland Valley Hope Partners, White also serves as a board member of the Professionals in Human Resources Association.

She succeeds Michael Light as Board president of Inland Valley Hope Partners. Light, a long-time manager with Albertsons, served as president for three years and will continue his work on the board in the position of immediate past chair.

Rotating off the board are Ted Powl, former president and CEO of the San Dimas Chamber of Commerce, concluding seven years on the board; William Cunitz, president and CEO of Pilgrim Place in Claremont, after six years on the board; and Rev. Dr. Jeanne Favreau-Sorvillo, senior pastor and teacher at



Sharonda White
New President
Inland Valley Hope Partners

Diamond Bar United Church of Christ, after serving three years on the board.

Inland Valley Hope Partners' major fundraiser each year is its Walk for the Hungry. The 41st annual walk will be held this year on Sunday, Oct. 19.

The organization has been providing food and emergency shelter to the community's hungry and homeless since 1968. It operates four area food pantries.

For more information, visit www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.



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Rodriguez' health care jobs bill signed into law by governor

A bill introduced by Assembly-member Freddie Rodriguez to create health care jobs received final approval from the Assembly this month and was signed into law by the governor this week.

The governor had until today to act or the measure would have become law without his signature.

Assembly Bill 1797 identifies opportunities for "earn-and-learn" job training programs in the health care field that meet the workforce demand and are high-demand, high wage jobs.

They include apprenticeships and internships that allow workers to earn a paycheck while learning skills necessary to turn short-term jobs into careers.

"California's employers are struggling to find workers who are adequately prepared for jobs that must be filled now," Rodriguez said. "Earn and learn training programs

are win-win for both the job seeker who needs to make a living as well as the employer who needs an adequately trained workforce."

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projected last December that of the 20 industries gaining the most jobs between 2008 and 2018, five of those industries relate to health care.

With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, the demand for healthcare and preventative services will increase. Workforce shortages could undermine the ability of these newly insured to access services and obtain quality, affordable care, Rodriguez said in a news release.

"Currently, health care providers face a range of employment and workforce issues and with the record number of Californians now having access to health insurance, those issues will continue to grow," he added.

Inland Valley Hope Partners looking for hosts for school supply drives to provide items for local at-risk children

Inland Valley Hope Partners is looking for individuals and groups interested in hosting a school supply drive to help gather necessary items for the at-risk children served by the organization to make sure they have everything they need to start a new school year.

Events can be organized by individuals, businesses, churches and other organizations.

Common back-to-school necessities include pens and pencils, spiral notebooks, pocket folders,

three-ring binders, planners, calculators, crayons, highlighters, backpacks, notebook paper, index cards and more.

For more information or for assistance in getting a drive started, contact Kami Newman, director of development and communication, at (909) 622-3806, ext. 105, or by e-mail at kamin@inlandvalley-hopepartners.org.

Inland Valley Hope Partners has been providing food and emergency shelter to the community's hungry and homeless since 1968.

Congresswoman McLeod asks Congress to find permanent solution to funding Highway Trust Fund

Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod (D-Chino) called on Congress this month to work toward a permanent solution to funding the Highway Trust Fund after the House Ways and Means Committee passed a temporary "patch" to fund the program until early next year.

"I urge Congress take permanent action to ensure long term solvency of the Highway Trust Fund," McLeod said. "Investing in transportation and infrastructure is essential in ensuring America remains competitive in a globalizing market."

The U.S. Department of Transportation recently announced that

projections show the shortfall will reach a critical point in the Trust Fund's highway account in just a few weeks.

Beginning next month, the administration will dramatically revamp and cut back the formula it uses to send transportation funds to the states unless Congress replenishes the fund.

If Congress fails to act, California will see a cut of 28 percent in reimbursement for projects already approved and under construction. This would lead to projects being delayed, reduced or terminated, resulting in layoffs in construction and manufacturing, McLeod said in a news release.

"The Highway Trust Fund provides \$3.2 billion of funding necessary for building and maintaining California's transportation systems which support the eighth largest economy in the world," she added. "It is in California's and the nation's best interest to work towards a long term solution and I call on Congress to consider a multi-year plan to funding the nation's highway infrastructure."

The fund was established in 1956 to finance the nation's interstate highway system along with other roads and bridges. It was expanded in 1982 to include mass transit projects.

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Pomona Relay for Life nets \$30,000 and counting; organizers say event helped involve others for coming years

Fundraising was down slightly from last year at this year's Pomona Relay for Life this month at Pomona's Fairplex, but organizers said the event was successful in getting the word out to help increase participation next year.

Committee Chairman Rick Elias said nearly 500 people – in-

cluding 100 cancer survivors – walked through the registration booth, many of them members of one of 19 teams this year. There were 30 last year, he said.

Fundraising reached \$30,000 at the event, according to a spokesperson for the American Cancer Society. That figure was down several thousand dollars from last year, although money is continuing to come in, Elias added.

The event has been held in Pomona for the last six years – the last four at Fairplex – as an effort to raise money to fight cancer and to honor those who are battling the disease, along

with those who are gone.

Elias said committee members received many positive comments, many from people who came as guests and found the event to be very informative.

"People said they want to get involved next year," he added. "We actually did what we wanted to do which was (increase) awareness to the community."

According to Elias, that is even more important than raising funds.

"I think in the next few years we'll get more people," he said.

A list of "firsts" at this year's event included the first-ever wedding at Pomona's Relay for Life, a Pomona City Council proclamation of June 28 and 29 as Relay for Life Day in Pomona, and the use of the city's mobile "stage," a \$1,500 value donated by the city.

The city also donated tables, chairs and canopies, Elias said.

He added that the event manager at Fairplex was very supportive.



FUELING UP FOR WALKING – Jacquelyne Berry of Pomona, a walker in last month's Pomona Relay for Life at the Pomona Fairplex, grabs a hot dog before getting back in the fundraiser walk from Pomona Kiwanis Club volunteers. Pictured, from left, are Cedric and Diane Elias and Berry.

MEMBERS OF 'ROCK N ROLLERS' TEAM – Members of the Rock 'N' Rollers Pomona Relay for Life team, with a mission to "Rock Out Cancer" and "Roll in a Cure," walk laps at Pomona Fairplex around the campground area of the annual event to raise funds for and awareness of cancer. Pictured, from left, are Irene Augusto, of Duarte, and Anita S. Elias, of Chino. Augusto's sister, Elizabeth Munoz, of Upland, died of cancer of the appendix two years ago.



Cancer statistics (Source: American Cancer Society)

- There will be 1,665,540 new cancer cases and 585,720 cancer deaths in the United States in 2014.
- An estimated 155,920 Californians will be diagnosed with cancer this year and 56,230 will die of cancer.
- More than 1,375,000 Californians are living with cancer.
- In Los Angeles County, 37,895 new cancer diagnoses and 13,900 cancer deaths are anticipated in 2014.
- During the most recent five years for which there are data (2006 – 2010), cancer death rates decreased by 1.8 percent per year in men and by 1.4 percent per year in women.
- The combined cancer death rate has been continuously declining for two decades by 20 percent.
- Declines in incidence rates for the major cancers reflect improvements in cancer control (smoking laws, tobacco tax, etc.) and prevention (screening, etc.).
- The steady decline in cancer death rates is a result of advances in prevention, early detection and treatment.
- Cancer remains the second leading cause of death in the United States and the leading cause of death for those between the ages of 40 – 79.



SUNNYSIDE UP BAND PERFORMS AT POMONA'S RELAY FOR LIFE – La Nueva Voz Publisher Jeff Schenkel's "Sunnyside Up Band" performs on stage last month at Pomona's Relay for Life at Fairplex. It was the second consecutive year the band performed at the event. Pictured, from left, are Freddie Pacheco on bass guitar, "Shotgun" on lead guitar, Jeff Schenkel on rhythm guitar and vocals, and Jack McCoy on percussion. Pacheco and "Shotgun" also play with the Band of Eagles, based at Pomona's Eagles lodge.

LEAD SINGER JEFF SCHENKEL AT THE MICROPHONE – Lead singer Jeff Schenkel of the Sunnyside Up Band sings and accompanies himself on the guitar as the band performs at Pomona's Relay for Life.



Band photos courtesy of Eric Jung, Lifetime Memories Photography

"I think the Fairplex does a wonderful job," he said.

Elias said the top fundraising team was the "STOP" team, headed by community volunteer Virginia Madrigal. The team raised more than \$5,000.

Madrigal served as chairman of the Relay for Life event for the past two years.

Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman was on hand for opening ceremonies. Other local officials participating included Pomona Councilmembers Debra Martin and Adriana Robledo, Pomona Planning Commission Chairman Denny Mosier, Pomona Public Library Board member Helen Mosier, and representatives of State Sen. Norma Torres and Assemblyman Freddie Rodriguez.

The Pomona Relay for Life committee coordinated the event



PLAYING THE HIGH NOTES – "Shotgun" hammers out a lead riff with the Sunnyside Up Band at last month's Pomona Relay for Life at Fairplex.

with support from the American Cancer Society of Greater Los Angeles and Pasadena.

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Pomona, 2014 | Mario J. Jayagoda

JOSE CALDERON HONORED AT EVENT — Jose Calderon, professor emeritus of sociology and Chicano studies at Claremont's Pitzer College, is honored last month by the Pomona Economic Opportunity Center at an annual awards fundraiser. Calderon has been involved in social movements since the 1960s when he left his native Colorado to join Cesar Chavez' United Farm Workers in California.



POSING FOR A GROUP PHOTO — Guests at an annual Pomona Economic Opportunity Center (PEOC) fundraiser awards event in Pomona last month pause for a group photo. "Pomona is unique, and the PEOC is a unique part of Pomona, and the entire region," said Pomona Vice Mayor John Nolte. "In no other organization do you see this degree of unity between the leaders of the Latino community and those who struggle on a daily basis to put food on the table." Others on hand at the event included Pomona City Councilmembers Debra Martin, Adriana Robledo and Cristina Carrizosa, Pomona Unified School Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman, and Angie Castro, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina.

CONNIE LEYVA RECEIVES HONOR — Labor leader Connie Leyva is honored by the non-profit Pomona Economic Opportunity Center last month at a second annual awards fundraiser to honor leaders in the immigrant and worker-justice community. More than 100 guests attended the event, held for the second time at the Pomona home of Arturo Jimenez.



Pictured, from left, are Suzanne Foster, executive director of the Pomona Economic Opportunity Center; Arturo Jimenez; Pomona Vice Mayor John Nolte; and Connie Leyva. Leyva, the first woman president of both the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW) Local 1428 and the California Labor Federation, is currently in a runoff in the November election for California's 20th Senate District. The group raised more than \$11,000 at the event.



EMILIO AMAYA RECOGNIZED BY POMONA ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY CENTER — Emilio Amaya, executive director of the San Bernardino Community Services Center, which provides deportation defense and other services to immigrants in the Inland Empire region, is honored last month by the Pomona Economic Opportunity Center. A former agriculture worker, day laborer and food service worker, he has also served as a union representative. He is also a musician and his band, which plays traditional folk music of his home state of Veracruz, performed at the event. Pictured, from left, are Economic Opportunity Center Executive Director Suzanne Foster, Amaya and Miguel Becerra, a member of Amaya's band.

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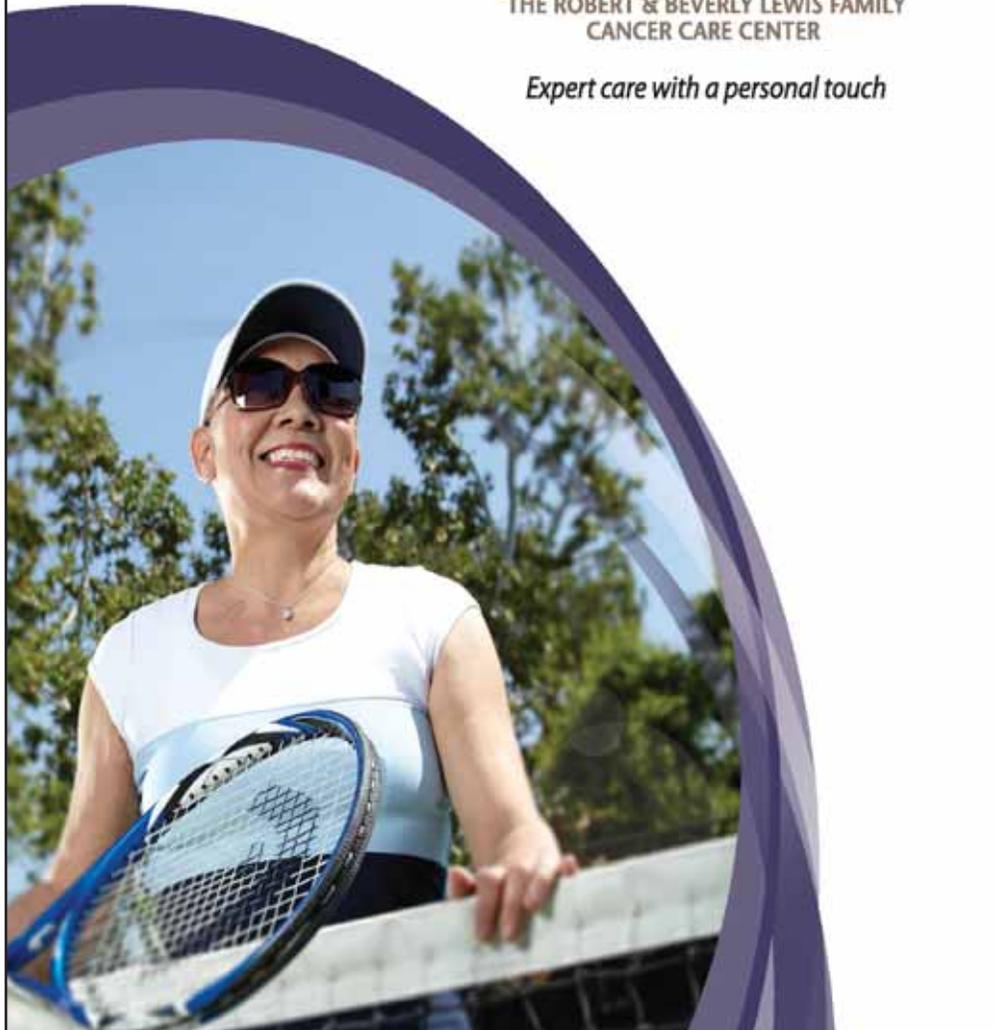
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‘Save Our Pomona Public Library’ sets ‘Partying Porches’ fundraiser

Save Our Pomona Public Library (SOPPL) will hold its next fundraising event – “Partying Porches and Patios of Old Pomona” – next month.

The event, which will include appetizers, wine and other beverages served at each of four locations, will

begin at 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 10. Tickets are \$20 per person.

The four stops will be Casa Primera, a historic adobe built in 1837 and the oldest home in the Pomona Valley; Cyndi Guerra’s Craftsman bungalow with a wrap-around porch, hitching post and

barn; Roxie and Woody Douglas’ grove home complete with citrus and avocado trees; and Mickey and Jim Gallivan’s “secret garden” patio.

For more information, contact Marian Higgins at (909) 622-7911 or by e-mail at marian@soppl.org.



LOCAL STUDENTS CREATE ‘PANEL’ MURAL TO DEPICT HARMONY IN THE COMMUNITY – Seven students from schools in the Pomona area are putting the finishing touches on a mural consisting of six movable panels that will be on display in schools and other locations in Pomona depicting the anti-violence theme “Peace begins with me.” A section covered in chalkboard paint will enable viewers at each location to personalize the mural with their own messages. Student artist Liselotte Marin, a Pomona Catholic graduate who will attend Cal State University San Bernardino in the fall majoring in art history, says art is the “most important way to communicate there is.” “You can communicate more with art than words,” she added. And artist Christian Ornelas, a senior at Pomona’s School of Arts and Enterprise, said art makes it possible to “send a message in a positive way.” The project was an outgrowth of “YouthBuild” Charter School, operated by the San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps, said Conservation Corps spokesperson Andrew Quinones, who is helping with the project. Also sponsoring the project is East/West Action, a violence intervention program working with youth and gang violence in Pomona. Additional sponsors of the project are Pomona’s dA Center and Tri-City Mental Health. Pictured, from left, are Bill Martinez, of East/West Action; Andrew Quinones, of the San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps, and students Liselotte Marin and Christian Ornelas.



POMONA CHAMBER RIBBON CUTTING – Members of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce turned out last month to cut the ribbon and officially open the doors of new member Ortiz and Associates, a full-service family-owned tax and insurance services company in Downtown Pomona. Owner Roberto Ortiz said the company opened for business in 2008, moved to Pomona in 2009 and has been at the present location for the past two years. The business is located at 322 S. Garey Ave., Pomona. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Chamber Ambassador Gustavo Arias of Pomona’s Inter Valley Health Plan; Pomona Chamber Vice President of Networking Nona Tirre, of State Farm Claremont; Pomona City Councilmembers Debra Martin and Paula Lantz; Pomona Chamber President-Elect Cyndie O’Brien, of Inter Valley Health Plan; Alicia and Roberto Ortiz, owners of Ortiz Associates; and Johnny Pineda, representing Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod. Not pictured are Minerva Hernandez of Minerva’s Flowers, President of the Hispanic Chamber of Pomona; Carolyn Hemming, President of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association; and Larry Egan, Executive Director of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association. For more information, contact (909) 623-5050.

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DAVID NAIL & EASTON CORBIN	Monday, Sept. 1	GEORGE BENSON & CHAKA KHAN	Thursday, Sept. 18
WITH SPECIAL GUEST JAMIE LYNN SPEARS		TBA	Friday, Sept. 19
NEON TREES	Thursday, Sept. 4	TBA	Saturday, Sept. 20
WAR	Friday, Sept. 5	TBA	Sunday, Sept. 21
PENTATONIX	Saturday, Sept. 6	JASON DERULO	Wednesday, Sept. 24
ROBERTO TAPIA & IRENE DAVI	Sunday, Sept. 7	TBA	Thursday, Sept. 25
THIRD DAY & MERCYME	Wednesday, Sept. 10	HEART	Friday, Sept. 26
BOYZ II MEN WITH KENNY "BABYFACE" EDMONDS	Thursday, Sept. 11	LL COOL J FEATURING DJ Z-TRIP	Saturday, Sept. 27
TBA	Friday, Sept. 12	WITH SPECIAL GUEST SALT-N-PEPA	
R5	Saturday, Sept. 13	EARTH, WIND & FIRE	Sunday, Sept. 28

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**Acts & Attractions begin at 7:30 p.m. and are subject to change without notice.*

Relay for Life wedding... from pg. 1

Life, introduced Alma to the group's organizers and work began to make the couple's dream come true.

Everything from the wedding dress to the cake, the champagne and the decorations was donated by Pomona Relay for Life teams and committee members, according to Rick Elias, chairman of this year's Relay for Life Committee.

Alma explained she and Juan met where they once worked at DPI Lab

in La Verne.

"In the beginning, he was a guy that got on my nerves," she said. However, the friendship blossomed and they had a son, now 2 years old, together.

Alma also has a 10-year-old daughter and Juan, a widower, has three children. Last month's wedding was Alma's first marriage.

She said the two were engaged for a year but she wanted to beat her

cancer before getting married. However, the offer from Pomona Relay for Life was too good to pass up.

Things took another turn a week and a half before the wedding when doctors halted Alma's treatment – her body simply was unable to take it any longer.

How did she feel about Pomona Relay for Life?

"They are amazing," Alma said. "I am so appreciative of them because at the beginning they were making me feel (as though) my wedding dream (would) come true."

She added as she began to tell others the story, she learned a lot of people were unaware of Relay for Life.

"People started getting motivated," she said. "I realized that was my purpose in life (to tell the story)."

And that's what she has continued to do – through the story of her wed-



POSING FOR THE CAMERA – Juan and Alma Franco pose for the camera after their wedding ceremony at Pomona's Fairplex during Pomona Relay for Life.

'YOU MAY KISS THE BRIDE' – Juan Franco kisses his new bride Alma at the end of their wedding ceremony at last month's Pomona Relay for Life.



Photos courtesy of Eric Jung, Lifetime Memories Photography

ourselves."

"Get yourself checked to see if you have cancer," she added.

"In the Hispanic community, we're so close minded," she said. "It is better to find out you have something sooner than to be super-late and not be able to do anything for your family."

Alma hopes to come back to Pomona's Relay

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Pomona Day of Prayer... from pg. 1

Gunderson, Jr., of Pomona First Baptist Church, part of “prayer block number one,” led the gathering in prayer for the City of Pomona and its churches “that you will give us wisdom” as Pomona continues “serving each other, serving the poor and those in need.”

Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman thanked the pastors “for putting this together to make Pomona a better place to live.”

He said without the people of faith behind you, “nothing’s going to get done.”

And Pomona City Councilmember Paula Lantz received an enthusiastic response from the crowd, saying “It’s a pleasure to be here in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

The event, held Sunday afternoon as the thermometer reached 96 degrees, was organized by Pomona Pastors in Prayer, a coalition which now has grown to include 89 churches as supporters in the city’s faith-based community.

Included was everything from church rock bands and church choirs to four-page color programs with envelopes inside for “My Gift to God.”

“We are gathered here to thank God and to invoke His greater presence in our city,” the program message said.

“We are thankful that Pomona has experienced a remarkable drop in violence and crime as the churches have begun to pray and worship in greater unity,” the message continued. “God is honoring His Word. The Pomona Police Department has done a remarkable job and the churches of our city have also stepped into our rightful place of spiritual intercession and prayer for the city.”

A Pomona Pastors in Prayer event at Pomona First Baptist Church last March attracted 1,000 participants filling the sanctuary.

And the first Pomona Day of Prayer last November at Ganesha High School stadium – held as the homicide rate in Pomona was dramatically increasing – also attracted about 1,000 participants.

The mission of Pomona Pastors in Prayer is “to bring believers and churches in our area together in



CITY LEADERS APPEAR AT POMONA DAY OF PRAYER – Pomona’s leaders participated in last week’s Pomona Day of Prayer at the Fairplex Grandstand. Pictured, from left, are Apostle Henry Alexander, of Pomona’s Shield of Faith Christian Center; Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro; Pomona City Councilmember Paula Lantz; and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman.



Members of the Fountain of Love Christian Church choir.



COLOR GUARD – Members of Pomona’s Boy Scout Troop 101 served as color guard for last week’s Pomona Day of Prayer.

prayer” and “to pray for the peace and prosperity of our region.”

For more information, visit the web site at www.pomonapastorsinprayer.com.



Pastor Glenn Gunderson
Pomona’s First Baptist Church



MUSICAL WORSHIP IN THE GRANDSTAND – The crowd reacts to the music at the Pomona Day of Prayer at Fairplex.



‘BRINGING CHANGE TO THIS CITY’ – Pomona’s Shield of Faith Christian Center Apostle Henry Alexander and his wife, Dr. Marty Alexander, welcome participants to last week’s Pomona Day of Prayer in the Grandstand at Fairplex.



MUSICAL WORSHIP FOR POMONA DAY OF PRAYER – Members of the band from Praise Chapel in Pomona provide musical worship at last week’s Pomona Day of Prayer in the Fairplex Grandstand.



FILLING THE GRANDSTAND WITH SONG – Choir members of the Shield of Faith Christian Center in Pomona fill the Fairplex Grandstand with song before the Pomona Day of Prayer gets under way last week.

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Pomona city manager says ability to ‘court’ developers is another casualty of state’s dissolution of redevelopment agencies, but recaps city’s many success stories

Another casualty of California’s dissolution in 2011 of more than 400 redevelopment agencies in the state – at least in Pomona – is that the city no longer has the resources for staff to “court” prospective developers looking for business locations in Pomona and surrounding communities.

Pomona City Manager Linda Lowry, speaking to the Pomona Chamber of Commerce monthly networking luncheon this month, said a reshuffling of staff in city hall – combined with a barebones budget and streamlined tasks for staff to handle – has resulted in a city-owned van sitting idle much of the time with no one available to drive investors around town to see properties first hand.

In addition, without a redevelopment agency, the city has little to offer in incentives since the tax advantages of redevelopment are no longer available.

Her comments came in response to a question from La Nueva Voz asking how the newspaper, the chamber and the city could partner to “court” major regional and national franchises and chains that have announced an interest in expanding operations in California or, more specifically, in Southern California.

Besides, Lowry said, on a personal level, she’s “not a fan” of shopping for franchises to show them the city.

“I believe in the marketplace,” Lowry said, explaining that the city is “trying to stay within what our job is.”

She explained that Deputy City Manager Raymond Fong, who formerly headed the city’s redevelopment agency, currently is spending his time focusing on making sure there is adequate long-term parking in Downtown Pomona.

Chamber member Beth Brooks, a property owner in Pomona and

owner of Brooks Property Management of La Verne, went the other way in the question and answer session.

Brooks said Fairplex Friends and Pomona Rotary several years ago sponsored an economic summit featuring input from four successful developers.

“Their advice was the City of Monrovia was down in the dumps and the city as a whole decided what businesses they wanted and they fought for them until they got them and now they are very successful economically,” Brooks said. “So those are successful developers saying just the opposite, saying the city needs to decide what businesses they want and they need to go court them.”

She added that new housing is being completed in Downtown Pomona but there are no convenience stores, suggesting that the city should “go out and find a convenience store.”

Sandra Vaughan-Acton, Director of Real Estate Development for the Cal Poly Pomona Foundation, agreed with Lowry, adding that the chamber has, in fact, conducted several tours of its own for potential developers.

She said as a real estate professional, she looks to the city for planning and public relations to help show developers what the city is doing right, as opposed to what “the media” says about Pomona.

And she agreed it is up to the real estate industry, the market place, the brokerage community, and the development community to promote the city – “what we have, what we’re doing, what we’ve done, what works, what doesn’t work and collectively work to make things better.”

“We can’t look to you to do that,” she told Lowry. “We need you to set policy.”

Lowry added that she plans to

convene a recurring meeting with the real estate industry “to share what we know about the development activity, what’s coming across the counter.”

She said that would allow developers, property managers and real estate brokers to use that information in their work with their own clients and their own properties.

“That I think is the proper role for us and that’s the next step we’re looking at implementing,” Lowry said.

In her presentation highlighting the city’s recent accomplishments, Lowry said the city’s services really boil down to public safety, planning, public works, parks and recreation and public relations/public information.

City accomplishments include adopting a general plan

She said recent highlights include the city’s adoption of a general plan, which is a guideline or long-term vision the city sets for land use 20 or 30 years into the future. The previous general plan, she said, was more than 30 years old.

The city also created a specific plan for its main commercial corridors – Mission Boulevard, Garey and Holt Avenues and part of Foothill Boulevard. This plan sets standards for what development needs to meet on those corridors, Lowry explained.

These are “specific standards so that the development process will be easier for someone to come and make an investment in placing new buildings and businesses on the corridors,” Lowry added.

She said a zoning ordinance that will accompany the city’s new general plan should be completed in the next year.

In addition, the city has new software in the works that will enable applying for building permits online, along with on-line access to where the information is.

In the area of public safety, she said the homicide rate is down.

“We were able to take steps with the combined efforts of the police department and our law enforcement partners,” she said.

Lowry also focused on the Downtown Pomona area which, she said, is considered a symbol of the city.

“It’s a little bit of a bellwether as to how we are doing in our eco-



Linda Lowry
Pomona City Manager

omic recovery,” she said.

Some 950 new housing units opening in Downtown Pomona

Lowry said 300 new student housing units have just been completed on the campus of Western University of Health Sciences in the downtown area, and another 349 units are nearly completed at Monterey Station, a development at Garey and Monterey Avenues.

In addition, she said the Charles Co. is in the development approval process for another 300 mixed use (live-work) units at Second and Main Streets, bringing the total of new housing units in the downtown area to 950.

“One of the first things you need to have rebirth of your downtown is to have housing,” Lowry said. “So we’re getting it. It’s coming.”

She added that other key ingredients are healthcare, higher education, entertainment, good food, and expanded mass transportation.

“We have ingredients but we just need to grow and our downtown will eventually become what we envision it to be, and it’s very exciting,” Lowry said.

She also pointed to 15 new single family homes which are all selling at market prices at Lexington and Towne Avenues in south Pomona, phase one of the new Target shopping center with phase two in the works, a “super store” expansion in the environmental impact report process at Walmart and some 80,000 square feet of office space in new buildings behind the Walmart shopping center.

Two new hotels may open in Pomona

She said two new hotels may eventually be built – one behind Walmart and another in the phase two portion of the Target shopping center across Highway 71.

In addition, she said Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is expanding, a Starbucks “drive through” is in the works on Garey Avenue across from Stater Brothers, and another development is expected on the entire block where the landmark Mission Family Restaurant was located.

Lowry also said development has been “very successful” along the west end of Mission Boulevard at Highway 71 where industrial, manufacturing and distribution facilities are continuing to be built.

“It’s still good investment to show that Pomona has high values in investment opportunity,” she said.

“There’s a lot of stuff happening in Pomona,” Lowry said, adding that the city is continuing to lobby for the widening of Highway 71.

Efforts continuing to widen Highway 71

“We are working very hard on getting the 71 widening finished and getting the (new Mission overpass) bridge out of the way was one obstacle,” she said.

She said an interim measure that is being considered is closing the “cross-overs” at the traffic lights to help prevent traffic congestion and to prevent people from avoiding the route altogether.

“We can at least stop the stopping and just allow the right hand turns in and out,” she said. “That would be a great solution.”

She also mentioned the summit on gang violence earlier this year and said five initiatives are being formulated by all of the city partners through a process known as collective impact “to create higher values out of the efforts that we’re currently making.”

The five initiatives are public safety, education, economic development, community engagement/communication, and health.

“There are so many opportunities for this to become a new way for us to work together,” Lowry said. “It opens the door for a new approach to collaboration and to getting successful outcomes.”

Annual backpack give-away set next month at Pomona’s Brown Memorial Temple

The annual “Back-to-School Celebration” backpack give-away will be held next month at Pomona’s Brown Memorial Temple.

The event, scheduled for 8 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 9, at the church, provides free school supplies each year to Pomona’s kids to get them off to a good start in the new year of school.

In addition to school supplies, registration will be open for tutoring through Project: Caring & Shar-

ing, a non-profit organization associated with the church, and information on a variety of community service organizations will be available.

The free backpacks will be filled with pens, pencils, scissors, notebooks, binders and more and will be distributed on a first come, first served basis.

The celebration will be held at the new home of Brown Memorial Temple, located at 1761 West Holt Ave., Pomona.

Parents of missing 14-year-old girl fear she is victim of human trafficking operation

The parents of a missing 14-year-old girl from Rialto with Pomona connections believes their daughter may have become the victim of a human trafficking operation and are spreading the word wherever possible – including through web sites like the Polly Klaas Foundation – to try to find her.

San Bernardino Police Department detectives handling the case have been following up on all leads but still have no indication of any foul play.

“It’s obviously suspicious but there’s nothing that indicates foul play at this point,” said Detective Sherry Vasilis.

The girl, Melody Black, has been missing since May 22. She is a resident of Rialto and attends Rialto High School where she is a straight-A student and has a perfect attendance record.

She is described as having black hair, brown eyes, five feet three inches tall and 110 pounds.

She attends church in Rialto, according to friends in Pomona, but reportedly may have been spotted in Long Beach or Los Angeles.

Melody is scheduled to begin her sophomore year in the fall.

Her father, Jemale Black, said a reward has been posted in the case.

He believes she was abducted by a



Melody Black

young man in his 20s she met on the internet.

While she reportedly has been seen in photos with the man, detectives have been unable to confirm Melody was seen leaving with him and he is not a person of interest at this time.

Vasilis said police would be interested in talking with him, however, if they can identify and locate him.

“We’re just doing things to get her back,” Black said about his daughter. “We’re trying to fight to get our baby back. This is her life that’s on the line.”

Anyone with information regarding this case is urged to contact Melody’s mother, Tameshia Hunter, at (323) 809-3263 or San Bernardino police detectives at (909) 384-5615.

Ahmanson Foundation, other donors fund new SmartBoards at Pomona Catholic

SmartBoards, those computerized interactive whiteboard systems, are being installed in every high school and middle school classroom at Pomona Catholic this summer using funding provided by the Ahmanson Foundation, other private donations and proceeds of the school’s annual fall raffle fundraiser.

Installation of the high-tech whiteboards began early this month in the 12 high school and middle school classrooms without the

SmartBoards. Three boards had previously been installed.

Professional development and training on using the new equipment will be provided to faculty members next month.

“With advances in technology, our students have information at their fingertips instantly,” said Vice Principal Rebecca Arteaga. “When they step into a classroom, having SmartBoards will enhance learning by allowing students to see, touch

and apply information as it is being presented.”

She said because of the new tools, students are no longer simply the audience to a lecture but are “transformed into active participants in their journey through courses.”

Pomona Catholic has provided 115 years of Catholic education to area students. For more information, visit the web site at www.pomonacatholic.org.



RICKY ORTIZ INSTALLED AS PRESIDENT OF POMONA HOST LIONS – Ricky Ortiz was installed as president of the Pomona Host Lions Club at its 94th annual installation and awards ceremony last month. Ortiz told members his theme for the year will be “Connecting with People,” and he emphasized the importance of working as a team to accomplish the club’s goals of developing people and of serving the community. Pictured, from left, are Director Barbara Smith, “Tail Twisters” Kris Georgeson and Steve Storbakken, Director Anne Henderson, District 4-L4 Governor-Elect Gil Smith, 2014-2015 President Ricky Ortiz, First Vice President Denny Mosier, member Helen Mosier, Second Vice President Jo Fulton, Treasurer Steve King, Financial Secretary Jack Lightfoot, 2013-2014 President Richard Sugerman and Director Beverly Sugerman.

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

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- Pomona Unified School District administration building lobby
- Western University of Health Sciences Administration Building and Patient Care Center
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- Gold Strike Market Carniceria, 412 N. Park Ave., Pomona
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- Central Market, Towne Avenue and Phillips Boulevard, Pomona
- Fairplex Chevron, Fairplex Drive and San Bernardino Freeway, Pomona
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- Discount Market, Philadelphia Street and Towne Avenue, Pomona
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- American Legion Post #30, 239 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
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Local business leaders form new Microenterprise Collaborative to support new and growing small businesses

Regional business leaders in the Inland Empire have announced the formation of the Microenterprise Collaborative of Inland Southern California to help better connect the small business communities with valuable resources to start and grow their businesses.

The new group will provide the necessary support to the region's growing small business and microenterprise community in the region expected to be the fastest growing part of Southern California through 2025.

According to a news release, microenterprise development is the

process of providing capital, training and technical assistance to small businesses so they can be successful, create jobs and contribute to the vitality of the local economy.

The collaborative is led by a steering committee administered by the United Way of the Inland Valleys and was created with the guidance of regional business leaders.

"The Microenterprise Collaborative will connect small business service providers, creating collective impact as they share resources and best practices, network and promote opportunities for small business," said Al Arguello, Inland Empire

Market President of Bank of America.

Bank of America provided an initial investment into the project of \$25,000.

For more information or to provide input to support small business development, contact Catherine Marshall, program manager, at c.m.marshall@sbcglobal.net or contact Caasi Algazi at United Way, (951) 697-4702.

THE WEEKEND GARDENER by Leif Green

It's not too late to start a summer garden

No life is without difficulties; no garden is without weeds. Author Unknown.

Many gardeners planted their gardens last spring. For those who did I'm sure they enjoyed their harvest of strawberries or other cool weather crops and are now looking forward to fresh tomatoes and other summer vegetables. If you're one of those people who kept putting off planting a vegetable garden and now realize August is upon us, it's still not too late.

The key is to choose fast growing vegetables that mature rapidly. Since they mature quickly, they can be enjoyed almost all year round. If you start the vegetables from seeds, do not plant the entire package at once. If you do, the vegetables will all ripen or mature at the same time. (Been there, done that.) Instead, stagger the planting time. Plant a three to four foot row every other week for eight weeks. That way the vegetables will mature at different times giving you a continuous supply of fresh greens.

There are several vegetables that grow quickly and mature rapidly. Radishes are about the easiest to

The National Honey Board is providing a variety of light snacking and dining recipes that can provide energy for summer activities using nature's golden fuel – honey.

The recipes include options like a summer salad with honey-lime dressing and light honey-ginger chicken.

The "golden nutrient" works to complement the unique flavors of each dish, adding just enough sweet-

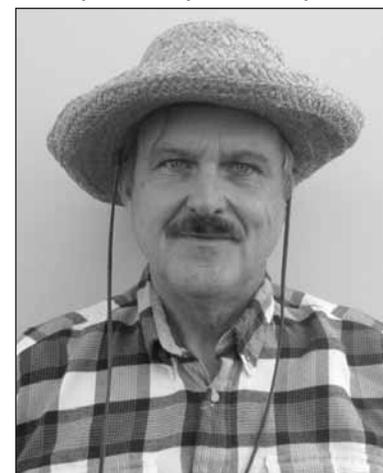
ness to balance out the spice in the habanero and pairing harmoniously with the ginger in the chicken recipe.

For recipes and more tips, visit Miel Pura on Facebook and give the page a "like."

The National Honey Board is an industry-funded agriculture promotion group that works to education consumers about the benefits of and uses for honey and honey products.



WILLIE WHITE PARK FOCUS GROUP PRESENTS PORTRAYAL OF FAMED CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST – Jeanette Ellis-Royston of the Pomona Valley Section of the National Council of Negro Women portrays Mary McLeod Bethune at last month's meeting of the Willie White Park Focus Group. The presentation, part of the group's observance of "Juneteenth," honored the life of the educator and civil rights activist who served as president of the National Association of Colored Women. The child of former slaves, Bethune grew up in poverty but went on to graduate from the Scotia Seminary for Girls in 1893. In 1904, she founded the Daytona Normal and Industrial Institute, which later became Bethune-Cookman College.



Leif Green

grow. They sprout in as little as three to four days and will be table ready in about 30 days. The seeds are big enough where they are easily spaced a couple inches apart. Carrots are also easy to grow but the seeds are very small. Thinning usually has to be done two to three weeks after they sprout. Other examples of fast growing vegetables are lettuce, spinach and turnips.

Zucchini and other squash plants also grow quickly and produce a bountiful crop. The yellow flowers also add color to your garden. Be sure to give the zucchini plant a lot of room as they can quickly overrun other plants in your garden.

Chili peppers and herbs also yield good results quickly. I purchased a three inch chili pepper seedling 90

days ago. It is now more than a foot tall and is bearing more than a dozen chilies. Herbs are also easy to grow and if you don't like summer heat,

they can be grown indoors. One of my favorites is dill. Put some fresh dill on a pedestrian tuna sandwich and it turns into a bistro headliner.

So if you haven't planted your summer garden, there's still time. With the right mix of fast growing vegeta-

bles, you can be enjoying that fresh garden salad in no time.

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.

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- Partnership for a Positive Pomona (P3)
- Pomona Chamber of Commerce
- Downtown Pomona Owners Association
- Parent Teacher Associations
- Parent Teacher Organizations
- Family Support and Resource Center
- Parent Leads Community Engagement Group
- Family Support and Resource Center
- Parent Leads Community Engagement Group
- Kennedy Austin Foundation
- The Network (formerly AOD – Alcohol and Other Drugs)
- Day One

Foster Care:

- Pomona Valley Children & Family Collaborative
- Los Angeles County Department of Children & Family Services
- Children, Youth and Family Collaborative

Faith Based Coalitions:

- Inland Valley Council of Churches
- Superintendent's Faith-Based Roundtable

Service Organizations:

- American Legion
- Rotary Club
- Kiwanis Club
- Pomona Host Lions Club
- Eagles
- Elks Club
- Optimist Club

Gang Prevention/Intervention:

- San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps
- Rock of Faith
- Set Free Ministries

Domestic Violence:

- House of Ruth
- Project Sister

Mental Health:

- Tri-City
- Nami
- Faith-Based Mental Health Collaborative

If you would like to have your club or organization listed above, please contact: Renee Barbee at 909-762-1446 or by email at reneebarbee7@gmail.com

SCE bills going up this summer but 'on-line' tools available to help reduce energy use

Average electricity bills for residential customers will climb about 8 percent this summer due to increased cost to Southern California Edison in purchasing electricity.

And a new rate reform plan being considered by the California Public Utilities Commission – which would change SCE billing from a four-tiered rate structure to a two-tiered plan that keeps protections for low-income customers – is expected to be decided by the PUC next spring.

That plan for years has enabled high-usage customers to subsidize low-usage customers. The pending change will spread costs more evenly among customers, according to SCE officials.

The proposal before the PUC would also include a fixed charge that would cover about one-third of SCE's fixed costs.

The developments were outlined by SCE officials during a news briefing last month in Ontario.

If the PUC approves SCE's full pending rate increase, customer bills would increase an average of 1.5 percent in 2015, 2.2 percent in 2016 and 2.4 percent in 2017.

"We believe our customers have a right to know what caused these (rate increases) and what tools are available to help people manage their electric bill," said Russ Worden, a director in the SCE Regulatory Operations (rates) group.

Costs to SCE higher than forecast

The summer rate increase resulted from costs to SCE higher than original forecasts, making it necessary for the utility to recover the difference.

Cost increases Worden cited included an increase in the cost of natural gas used to fuel SCE power plants, along with an increase in the cost of electricity SCE buys on the wholesale market. Worden said SCE buys about half of its electricity from outside its system and passes the cost of that along with no markup. The other half is generated in its own power plants.

He said some of the increase in natural gas resulted from bad weather in the Midwest.

Worden said discounts on electric bills are available to households with an income of \$31,000 a year or below, and the base income increases with more residents in the household.

"We want people to sign up for this rate if they are eligible," he added.

One program is the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program, and another is the Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA)

program.

Eligible families can apply on line at www.sce.com/careandfera or apply over the phone 24 hours a day at (800) 798-5723. Applications also are mailed out with electric bills.

Average 8 percent increases this summer

Worden said the average 8 percent increases this summer will translate to \$10 per month for non-CARE customers and \$5 per month for CARE customers, depending on usage. Currently, he said, CARE customers use only three of the four billing "tiers."

"The more you use the more of the cost recovery is assigned to that consumption," he said.

And in the case of older homes or mobile homes, customers can consume more electricity simply because they have little or no insulation.

"You're not doing anything wrong," he said.

Other factors contributing to the rate increase have been infrastructure investments in which SCE has been updating the power grid to deliver safer and more dependable electricity.

Another 1.5 percent rate increase is pending before the PUC, Worden said, for that portion of the electric bill that pays for labor costs of employees in the SCE call center, repair crews and the like.

(As of last month, SCE had 3,940 International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) employees and 152 Utility Workers Union of America AFL-CIO (UWUA) employees. Employees of both unions in their last contract agreement negotiated a general wage increase of 2.75 percent per year, according to an SCE spokesperson.)

SCE has a total of 13,687 employees with about a third represented by labor unions. Worden pointed out that a staff of 2,100 employees at the San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant has been reduced to 400 due to that facility going off line. Most of those remaining are security personnel, he said.

On-line tools available to reduce electric bill

Worden said customers interested in reducing their electric bill can use a variety of applications and tools on line, some made possible by SCE's new "smart" electric meters transmitting data directly to SCE, including "The Budget Assistant," in which customers can set a goal for their monthly bill and receive texts or e-mails telling them how they are doing.

About 316,000 SCE customers

are currently participating in this program, according to an SCE spokesperson.

Other applications include an energy audit self-test, information on available energy rebates and even one that updates customers on where electrical outages are located and how long they are expected to continue.

Customers also can save money on their electric bill through the "Summer Discount Plan" by allowing SCE to install a small device capable of shutting down a residential air conditioning system for 15 minutes out of an hour (for up to six hours a day during energy "events") in a "demand response" program.

About 311,000 SCE customers – 300,000 of them residential customers – currently are enrolled in this program, the spokesperson said.

"The (power) grid is getting smarter," Worden said, thanks to SCE's new digital equipment.

In the case of power outages, he pointed out, in the old days SCE would not have information on where an outage was located or how long it would take to repair it until a crew actually went out, located the problem and began work. Today, he said, the information is available in-

stantly and most power outages last only seconds.

Tiers

Energy usage is based upon a tiered structure, according to SCE,

every dollar on the electric bill goes to generation of electricity, with another 28 cents going to distribution and grid maintenance. Six cents goes to transmission for such things as investment in operation and maintenance of high-voltage transmission lines, five cents goes to nuclear decommissioning (shutting down the San Onofre plant), three cents goes to paying off long-term contracts from the energy crisis and two cents goes to programs such as energy efficiency and protections for low-income customers.

SCE serves nearly 5 million customers (more than 14 million people) in Central and Southern California, of whom about 4.2 million are residential. Its service area covers 50,000 square miles.

For more information, visit on.sce.com/ratechange or call (800) 798-7723.



Russ Worden
SCE Regulatory Operations

with the amount customers pay per kilowatt hour increasing as they use more energy. Average costs per kilowatt hour are 13 cents for Tier 1, 16 cents for Tier 2, 31 cents for Tier 3 and 34 cents for Tier 4.

SCE officials said 56 cents out of

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Pomona Valley Hospital one of first in area to implant new miniature heart monitoring device

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center has become one of the first hospitals in Los Angeles County and the Inland Empire to implant the smallest implantable cardiac monitoring device available in a patient.

The device, the Medtronic Reveal LINQ Insertable Cardiac Monitor System, is about a third the size of a AAA battery, making it more than 80 percent smaller than similar devices.

It is part of a powerful system that allows physicians to continuously and wirelessly monitor a patient's heart for up to three years, with 20 percent more data memory than its larger predecessor.

Dr. Neil Doherty III explained the device comes with an easy to use insertion kit.

"I did two procedures at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and they were each under five minutes," he said. "They were a snap to put in."

He said many patients will take longer to watch a video explaining the device than it takes to insert.



NEW MINIATURE CARDIAC MONITOR IN USE AT POMONA VALLEY HOSPITAL – Dr. Neil Doherty, III inserts a miniature cardiac monitor in one of the first patients to receive the device at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center.

"Cardiologists will be better able to detect atrial fibrillation in patients with stroke and other

rhythm problems," he added.

The device is placed just beneath the skin and even allows re-

mote monitoring through the Carelink Network, according to a news release.

Pomona Valley NAACP joins national effort to support Marissa Alexander in domestic violence case

Members of the NAACP Pomona Valley Branch have joined the NAACP national organization in support of domestic violence victim Marissa Alexander, an African-American woman who is facing a 20-year sentence in Jacksonville, Florida, for fighting for her life in 2010 in her own home against an attacker – her husband.

The incident occurred only nine days after her premature baby girl was born.

Her crime, according to police and court records, was allegedly firing a warning shot into the ceiling using a gun for which she reportedly had a permit.

The mother of three children was convicted on three counts of aggravated assault with a deadly weapon with no intent to harm.

She had also been charged with child abuse for firing into the ceiling.

Alexander had no criminal record before this incident.

Florida's First District Court of Appeals issued an opinion last September reversing Alexander's conviction and ordering a new trial. The appellate court determined that the six-member jury received erroneous instructions shifting the burden of proof on self-defense to the defendant.

For more information, contact Pomona Valley NAACP Domestic Violence Committee Chairperson Norma Rozier at nrozier@verizon.net.



SUMMER SCHOOL AT ST. JOSEPH ELEMENTARY – Summer school was in full swing at St. Joseph Elementary School this month giving the kids a chance to get their school work in just before construction was set to begin on a four-week remodeling project. The upgrade will include new flooring, new landscaping, new LCD computer projectors in each classroom and more. The project was funded by the Shea Foundation through the Los Angeles Archdiocese. Pictured in a summer school classroom are, from left, teacher Rozanne Alonzo, of Chino Hills, a teacher at the school for 17 years, and school principal Dr. Claudia Godlewski. In the background is Viven Arredondo of Pomona, an instructional aide. Students were working on their reading and practicing their motor skills. Students in the foreground will be entering the first grade this fall, those in the second row will be entering kindergarten, and those in the back will be going into transitional kindergarten. Summer school continued from June 23 to Aug. 1. For more information, contact the school at (909) 622-3365.

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Pomona Rotary's 'Hot August Night' fundraiser changes location of event to Fairplex Conference Center

Pomona Rotary's third annual Hot August Night fundraiser, originally scheduled at the NHRA Museum at the Fairplex in Pomona, outgrew the facility this year and has changed the location of the event. It will be held from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, August 16, in the Fairplex Conference Center.

For more information, contact Beth Brooks, (909) 229-5921, or Carol Wilt, (909) 573-4634.

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VIEWING THE NEW PROJECT – Western University of Health Sciences faculty members and visitors view the new four-story project “The Daumier,” a housing, recreational and administrative facility on the Western University campus. The \$45 million project opened its doors with a ribbon cutting last month.

NEW HOUSING PROJECT OPENS AT WESTERN UNIVERSITY – Officials cut the ribbon last month to open a new \$45 million housing project with a total of 202 units on the Western University of Health Sciences campus. The four-story project, “The Daumier at Western University of Health Sciences,” will provide housing and recreation for a total of 305 students. The 173,000 square foot mixed use project is on a 3.6 acre site at Third and Linden Streets in Downtown Pomona. It includes 10,000 square feet of administrative space to be occupied by the university. Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman said the project will bring people into Pomona. “Whenever Western University does something big, they do it grand like this,” Rothman said. “It has a spillover for our economy. The people who live here are going to buy things in Pomona.” Pictured, from left, are Robert Kim, executive managing director of Hanover Pacific, developer of the project; Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin; Western University President and founder Philip Pumerantz; Steve Hicks, President and CEO of Provident Resources Group, owners and operators of the project; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; Pomona City Councilmember Adriana Robledo; and Provident Resources Executive Vice President and CFO Debra Lockwood.



Fairplex Friends invites community to annual ‘Pomona Day Picnic’

Fairplex Friends is inviting the entire community to the fifth annual Pomona Day Picnic on Friday, Sept. 5, on Picnic Hill at the Los Angeles County Fair.

Dinner will be catered by the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel and will be served at 6:15 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and do not include admission to the fair or parking.

“This is a wonderful way to continue the Pomona Day celebration,” said

Beth Brooks, chairman of Fairplex Friends.

Checks should be made payable to Fairplex Friends and mailed to 168 W. Willow St., Suite 122, Pomona, CA 91768. Include a telephone number so reservations can be confirmed.

Paid reservations are due by Tuesday, Sept. 2.

For more information, contact (909) 510-5606.

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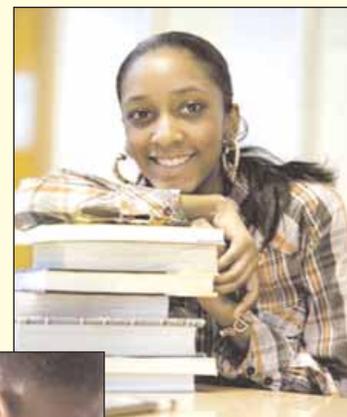
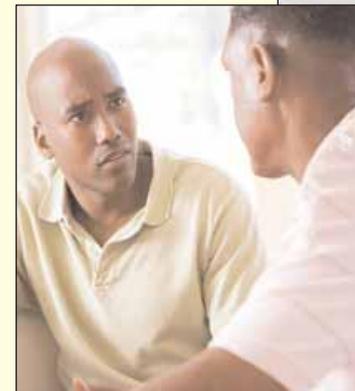
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*Quando la gente habla,
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A lo largo de su larga y triunfal carrera, Celia Cruz y Tito Puente actuaron juntos muchas veces por todo el mundo, ganándose el título de "Rey" y "Reina" de la salsa. Juntos produjeron grabaciones de gran éxito que personificaron la época dorada de la música latina. Esta constante colaboración es también la base de nuestra relación con nuestros clientes en Wells Fargo.

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