



La Nueva Voz

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L.A. County Supervisor Solis credits legacy of Cesar Chavez with impacting leadership at local, state, national levels

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, appearing at last month's 11th annual Cesar Chavez Day breakfast in Pomona, told an audience of more than 400 – the largest ever – that the legacy of Chavez has impacted leadership at the local, state and national level.

"This is truly a phenomenal occasion for all of us here in Pomona and the San Gabriel Valley to see now a reflection of our leadership in some of the highest offices in the legislature, in the state, in Congress that reflect us, that look like us, that look like this room, that have our values and take to heart what our needs are," Solis said.

She added that she credited the legacy of Chavez "and all of those that suffered for us... because I don't stand on just what I've done, I stand on the shoulders of so many other people that made so many sacrifices."

(Traducción en Español pág. 18)

Solis addressed the group at the annual breakfast sponsored by the Latino and Latina Roundtable of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley and the Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, San Gabriel Valley/Inland Cesar Chavez legacy... pg. 4



Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez speaks as members of the Parent Pilgrimage Committee, behind him, are honored at last month's Cesar Chavez day breakfast.

State controller tells Pomona Chamber legislative luncheon California's budget is stable

State Controller Betty Yee, elected to office last November after serving two terms on the state Board of Equalization, told more than 200 guests at the Pomona Chamber of Commerce Legislative Luncheon that she would give California's budget picture an "A."

"It has been a long time coming

in terms of California getting its fiscal house in order," Yee said. "Today there is not only budget stability... but we are paying down our wall of debt."

However, she said California still has a need to create high paying jobs in all areas of the state.

"We know that there is job

growth," she said, although they are typically low wage positions that are temporary or part time in nature. "What we are really looking for are those high paying, permanent sustaining jobs" to create a stable business climate.

Yee added that hearing about cur-

Legislative luncheon... pg. 17



POMONA CHAMBER LEGISLATIVE LUNCHEON -- Officials from Sacramento, Washington and Los Angeles were optimistic about everything from the state budget to the economic recovery, transportation and health care at a Pomona Chamber of Commerce legislative luncheon last week at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel. Pictured, from left, are moderator Bob Cruz of the Gas Company; Congresswoman Norma Torres; State Controller Betty Yee; State Sen. Connie Leyva; Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez; and Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis.



POMONA RECEIVES SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES FLAG AS 'HOST TOWN' -- The City of Pomona -- partnering with Fairplex and Cal Poly University Pomona -- has been chosen to be a "host town" for the Special Olympics World Games to be held this summer in Los Angeles. The World Games will be the largest sporting event to come to Southern California since the 1984 Olympics. Pictured, from left, are Cecilia Munoz, Pomona's "host town" coordinator; Rachel Barbosa, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Bill Shumard, President and CEO of Special Olympics Southern California; Special Olympics athlete Terra Clendening, of Chino Hills, the "global messenger" for the World Games; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; Dr. Megan Stang, Executive Director of University Housing Services at Cal Poly; Michelle DeMott, Vice President of Branding for the Los Angeles County Fair Association; and Dr. Mike Ortiz, Board Chairman of the Los Angeles County Fair Association. (See story on pg. 3)



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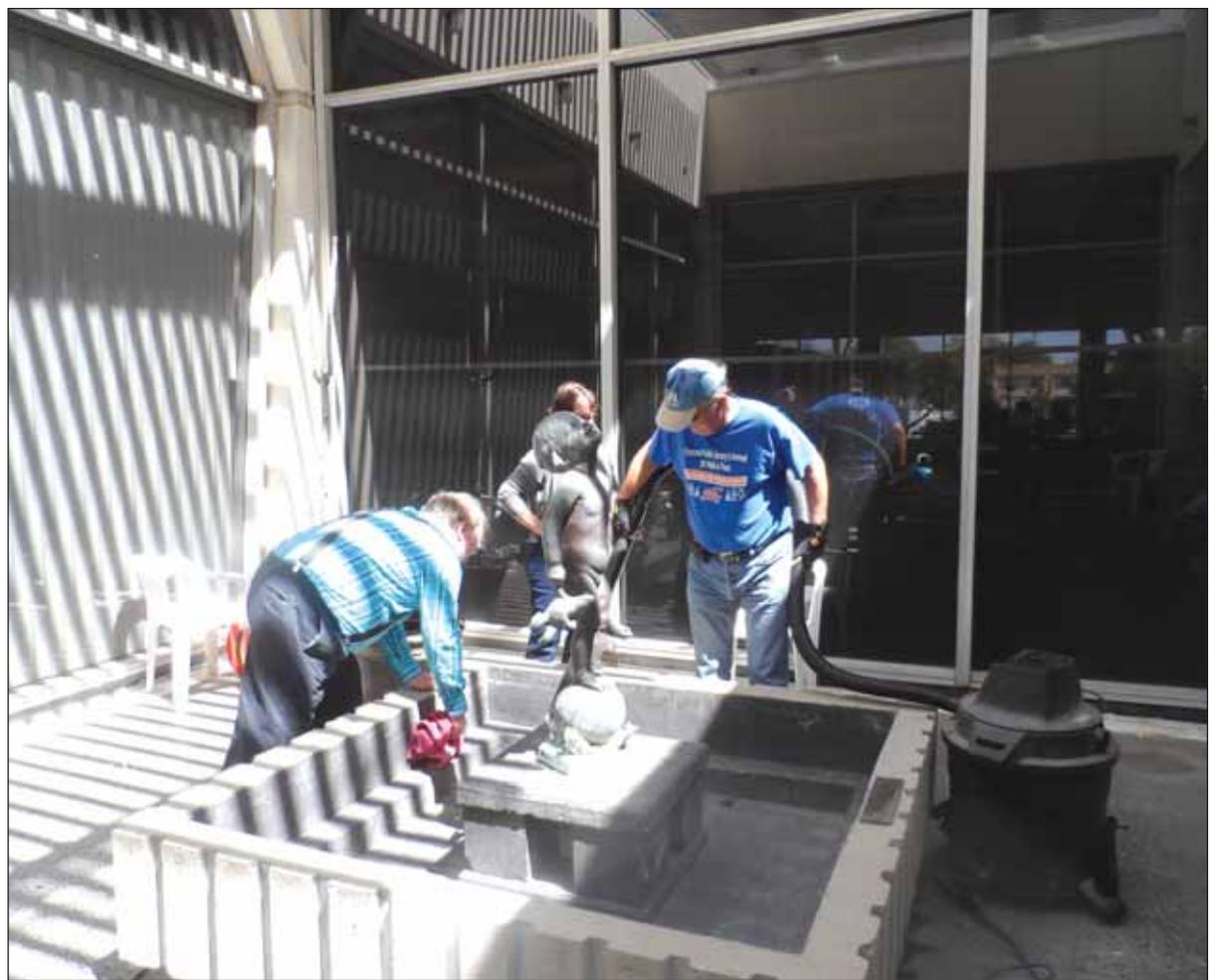


Photo courtesy of Marian Higgins

CLEANING THE FOUNTAIN -- Members of Save Our Pomona Public Library (SOPPL) put on their work clothes this month and spent a day cleaning up the atriums in and around the library. Projects ranged from cleaning the windows, trimming the plants, dusting and sweeping and cleaning the fountain. Pictured hard at work, from left, are Pomona Library Foundation President John Clifford, former library commissioner Helen Mosier, and Pomona Planning Commission Chairman Denny Mosier, all SOPPL members. Other volunteers included Kathy Adkins, Marian Higgins, Jeanette Royston, Duane Smith, Jim Gallivan and Alice and Jess Gomez.

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City of Pomona selected as 'host town' for Special Olympics World Games this summer

The City of Pomona, Fairplex and Cal Poly University Pomona announced last week they have been selected to participate as a "host town" for the Special Olympics World Games Los Angeles 2015.

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is also joining the effort as the designated medical team for the effort in Pomona.

Representatives of all of the participating entities – in an "announcement event" in front of the Venetian Carousel at Fairplex – explained that the role of a "host town" will be to host roughly 100 competitors this summer – out of an expected 7,000 attending the games – for the three days before the games begin in Los Angeles, providing everything from room and board to facilities for the athletes with intel-

lectual disabilities to train in their various sports.



Bill Shumard...
... President and CEO of Special Olympics Southern California

lectual disabilities to train in their various sports.

In the case of Pomona, the guests will include athletes from the Isle of Man (between the islands of Great Britain and Ireland) and Libya (in North Africa and bordered by the Mediterranean Sea).

The games will continue from July 25 through Aug. 2. The athletes will be hosted in Pomona from July 21 – 24. Athletes will stay at Cal Poly and practice at Fairplex.

Special Olympics started in Eunice Kennedy Shriver's back yard

Bill Shumard, President and CEO of Special Olympics Southern California, told the group there are approximately 200 million people in the world with intellectual disabilities.

"And not quite five decades ago the late Eunice Kennedy Shriver (sister of President John F. Kennedy) had a wonderful vision that their lives could be changed through the simple power of sports," Shumard

said. "She started Special Olympics in her backyard for her sister Rosemary (Kennedy) and a few of Rosemary's friends."

He added the competition has grown to become a worldwide movement which has reached 177 countries and features 81,000 events each year.

And, he said, the "signature event" is the Special Olympics World Summer Games.

"For the first time in this century, it's come back to the United States," Shumard said, adding that it will be the largest sporting event to come to Southern California since the 1984 Olympics.

Shumard said the games will include 7,000 athletes from around the world joined by 3,000 coaches and 30,000 volunteers competing in 25

sports starting with opening ceremonies July 25 in the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum.

"One of the great unique features of the World Games is the host town program," Shumard said. "For three nights prior to the opening ceremony, all of these 7,000 athletes that are going to converge on Southern California will be shipped out into 75 cities within our footprint... that goes from San Luis Obispo to San Diego and, of course, Pomona is now one of those cities."

The entire experience, he said, will enable Pomona to showcase its hospitality and experience cultural diversity and, at the same time, learn a

lot more about the Special Olympics movement.

And, he added, while the games will be gone in the next few months, the event will be a "legacy event" for Special Olympics Southern California.

"So we're looking for more athletes, first, to change more lives, we're looking for more volunteers, more support, more interest, more engagement so we can take this magical movement to a whole new level," Shumard said.

Chino Hills 'Special Olympian' is global messenger for the World Games

Also on hand for the event was Terra Clendening, who is "global messenger" for the Special Olympics World Games.

"I love Pomona," Clendening said. "I have been a member of Pomona Valley's Special Olympics for four years."

Clendening, 24, a resident of Chino Hills, said she is actually missing part of her brain and "some



Terra Clendening...
... World Games 'global messenger'

things are very hard for me."

But "Special Olympics has changed my life and helps me feel good about myself," she added, pointing out that she has competed in sports including track and field hockey and plans to try basketball next.

"Your lives will change as you get to know us," she said.

Dr. Mike Ortiz, Board Chairman of the Los Angeles County Fair As-

sociation, who recently retired as President of Cal Poly University Pomona, expressed the "delight" of his board to join the community partners for the World Games "and really kick off the Special Olympics here in our region."

"Special Olympics is really an extraordinary event and it is an extraordinary event for me personally because not many people know that my background and my Ph.D. is in special education," Ortiz said. "And I actually got involved in special education because the director of the Special Olympics in New Mexico convinced me to take a course in special education."

He said it "changed my life" and "holds a warm place in my heart because of what it has meant to me long term."

World Games bring world together but also bring community together

"This event... brings the world together but one thing it also does is it brings the community together," Ortiz said. "It's always great to be recognized for the good things that

we do and this is one of those good things."

"We here at the Fairplex are particularly looking forward to welcoming the athletes that will come here to train and have fun in July," he added.

"The City of Pomona is very pleased that we're able to be a host city for the international Special Olympics," said Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman. "For over 50 years Special Olympics has been part of the City of Pomona."

He explained the Southern California games have been sponsored at the former Lanterman Developmental Center in Pomona as well as at Cal Poly, and for more than 20 years the Pomona Eagles, of which he is a member, have supported Special Olympics.

"Now it's our turn to host the Special Olympics World Games," Rothman said. "We're very excited."

Jim Henwood, President and CEO of the Los Angeles County Fair Association, said his organization is "based on a community development structure from our history dating back to 1922 with the onset of the Los Angeles County Fair."

World Games... pg. 19

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Cesar Chavez legacy... from pg. 1

Empire Chapter, at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel.

The former U.S. Secretary of Labor, sworn in as Los Angeles County Supervisor last year, told the group she is thankful for the ability to work with her colleagues on the board in a bipartisan manner.

Recapping major topics she sees on the table, Solis said the Affordable Care Act is in place “but it doesn’t go far enough in terms of reaching everyone.”

And she said it was 15 years ago that a discussion was under way as to why there is no San Gabriel Valley trauma center hospital in the area, with trauma patients instead being transported to County USC Medical Center by helicopter – a nearly 30-minute trip from Pomona.

“The county board has asked for a study so that we can begin the process again,” Solis said. “And I am glad to report that that study has come back and we are looking right here in the City of Pomona.”

She said the facility should also become a teaching facility for medical students.

Solis said she is also working on inequity in terms of wages, discrimination, home ownership and homelessness.

She added that she remembers growing up in nearby La Puente where there were “many young people who did not have opportunities to go to college or get quality, good, sustainable jobs.”

“Even today, as we think we are seeing progress, it hasn’t affected all of our communities,” she said.

State Sen. Connie Leyva

State Sen. Connie Leyva, also commenting on wages, said she is co-sponsoring with Sen. Mark Leno (D – San Francisco) a bill that would raise California’s minimum wage to \$11 next year, \$13 the following year and, beginning in 2019, would index the minimum wage with the rate of inflation.

But more important, Leyva added, she wants to see California keep the minimum wage in place but “return to days when our minimum wage workers were high school kids, when it wasn’t people who were trying to support a family.”

“Career technical education is incredibly important to me and to all the communities that I represent,” she said. “So we want to make sure people start at a minimum wage job when they are either in high school or they are in college but then they have the opportunity to go on to a job that will pay a liv-



THE DE LA CRUZ FAMILY -- Members of the De La Cruz family were honored for the family’s three generations of activism in labor at last month’s Cesar Chavez Day breakfast in Pomona. Pictured, from left, are Arnulfo de la Cruz, Jose Calderon, President of the Latino and Latina Roundtable, and Arnulfo’s father Roberto de la Cruz.

able wage for them and their family.”

Four honorees – two individuals, a group and a family – were recognized by the Roundtable at this year’s breakfast. This year’s honorees represented the grass roots, according to Dr. Jose Calderon, President of the Roundtable.

Parent Pilgrimage Committee

A group of parents of Pomona students formed the Parent Pilgrimage Committee in 2011 to question problems faced in the schools. The group works with schools and ad-



Suzanne Foster

ministrators throughout the Pomona Unified School District, and has formed coalitions to improve schools and provide resources.

Members also volunteer to help with the annual Cesar Chavez Pilgrimage to the Chavez gravesite in La Paz, along with an annual cele-

all these years of voluntary work, professional activist, people like you have been with me,” Escalante said.

He cited others who are sacrificing their youth in order to accomplish justice, and he said he has long-time friends who are now legislators “making laws to protect people.”

“I am glad that somehow I’ve been part of that... and even though justice might come, I don’t know when, but I know in my heart that justice will come... because we are working in order to make it happen,” he added.

Suzanne Foster

Also honored by the Roundtable

was Suzanne Foster who, for the last eight years, has served as Executive Director of the Pomona Economic Opportunity Center, the only organization serving and organizing day laborers in the Pomona Valley and Inland Empire.

She began working at the center as a volunteer in 1999 while studying so-



AWARD RECIPIENT -- Luis Moises Escalante is one of four recipients honored at last month’s 11th annual Cesar Chavez Day breakfast in Pomona. Angela Sanbrano, Vice President of the Latino and Latina Roundtable of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley, co-sponsor of the event, looks on.

ciology under Calderon at Pitzer College in Claremont.

After receiving a master’s degree from UCLA and working in South Los Angeles to organize day laborers around health and justice issues, she came to the Pomona facility in 2007 as its director and led its expansion into work with day laborers in the Inland Empire, the defense of day laborer rights in the face of border patrol raids, and the development of a financially stable immigrant rights organization.

“When I think of Cesar Chavez, I think of service to my community, to workers, to our world to make it a better place,” Foster said.

She added that Calderon taught her service when he brought her to the center in 1999, where she started teaching English to the day laborers.

“Their dignity, their search for work, their search to be able to take care of their families really impacted me,” she said. “All these things I learned in the model of Jose Calderon who to me is my Cesar Chavez.”

“I have been blessed because in

“And I know he is that to many

of you as well,” she added.

But she said she did not accomplish everything by herself and, because of that, is not accepting the recognition for herself but for the center.

“It’s really their work, fighting for their rights, not only here in Pomona but in the entire Inland Empire, fighting for the dignity of the migrant, of the worker, of the Latino immigrant searching for justice,” she said.

De La Cruz family

The Roundtable honored the entire De La Cruz family, representing three generations of activism in labor.

Honored were the late Jessie De La Cruz, her son Robert and her grandson Arnulfo.

Jessie, a native of California, worked throughout her childhood in the fields as a farm laborer. With a third-grade education, she committed her life to farmworkers and women’s rights and was one of the first female organizers of the United Farm Workers Union founded by Cesar Chavez.

She served as a delegate to the Democratic National Convention in 1972, was appointed to the Fresno County Economic Opportunity Commission, and also appointed to the California State Commission on the Status of Women, among other positions.

Her son, Robert, worked in the fields beginning at the age of six and, after serving in the Navy, worked with the United Farm Workers for more than 22 years as an organizer, negotiator and union representative. He later joined the Service Employees International Union and successfully organized drives in industrial, health care and public sectors throughout the country.

“My mom left us a legacy of conscience for generations to come,” he said. “She sacrificed her courage and she loved... helping people.”

He added that she was selected in 1994 to be a farm worker representative when the pope visited Iowa. She received Communion from him.

And grandson Arnulfo, former state director of Mi Familia Vota, a national organization working to unite the Latino community, has worked for more than 10 years in the labor movement in California and Texas.

Currently, he is national director of SEIU’s Immigrant Justice Campaign.

Arnulfo told the group that he was sure his grandmother, who hosted some of the early meetings of the United Farm Workers Union at

Cesar Chavez legacy... from pg. 4

her ranch in Fresno, was looking down on them.

At first, he said, she was not involved in the decision-making of the then-new union and began preparing meals, although she ended up "leading thousands in marching."

Scholarship recipients

Winners of this year's "Justice Scholarship" awards were Angelica Orozco, a student at Cal Poly University Pomona; Ariana Mendez, a senior at Pomona High School; Christopher Gutierrez, a student at Mt. SAC; Joseph Orosco, a senior at Ganesha High School; and Mitze Perez, a student at Mt. SAC.

Winners of the "Pilgrimage Scholarship" awards were Ariana Mendez, a senior at Pomona High School; Ivonne Anzures, a senior at Garey High School; Jennifer Monteon, a senior at Pomona's Fremont Academy of Engineering and Design; and Joseph Orosco, a senior at Ganesha High School.

The Roundtable breakfast is held each year to highlight leaders in the community whose work demonstrates and embodies the values and examples of civil rights and labor leader Cesar Chavez.



State Sen. Connie Leyva



L.A. County Supervisor Hilda Solis



RELAY FOR LIFE KICKOFF PARTY -- Members of this year's Pomona Relay for Life committee turned out in force this month for the annual kickoff party at Pomona's Eagles Lodge. Dinner was pot luck and included raffle prizes. Music was generously provided by the world famous "Band of Eagles," a rock and country band that grew out of the Pomona Eagles and plays there regularly. Pictured, from left, are committee members Cecilia Arambula, Theresa Soto, Margarita Silva, Pomona High School Key Club member Noe Reyes, Lisa Lopez, Audrey Delgado, Sara Navarro, Scott Baldwin, co-chairs Diane and Gino Elias, Grace Pugh, Maria Howard, Donna Bryant and Stella Acosta. The annual cancer fundraiser and cancer awareness event, this year on the theme "Come one, cure all carnival," is a 24-hour walk that begins at 10 a.m. Saturday, June 27, at Pomona's Fairplex. It is always considered an opportunity for those who have been touched by cancer to "remember, celebrate and fight back." Teams are already being formed. Sign up for free at relayforlife.org/pomonaca. For more information, contact (909) 997-4529 or (909) 997-4530.

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Fairplex motorhome convention turns Fairgrounds into a small city, brings together travelers who share love of the open road

According to David Althoff, there just aren't as many motorhomes on the road these days – something he attributes to the economy.

But that hasn't slowed him down – he and his wife Vicky have made it a lifestyle.

The two were among the operators of some 2,000 rigs camping out at Pomona's Fairplex last month when the Family Motor Coach Association turned the Fairgrounds into a miniature city for a four-day 91st Family Reunion and Motorhome Showcase.

Even that, Althoff said, is a sign of the times – the last time he was here – and the last time the association stopped in at Pomona – was in 2008 when he said there were about 5,000 rigs.

Althoff is originally from Miles City, Montana, although today he has "a place" in Florida. But his roots are pretty close to where his motorhome was parked – his grandfather's house on his mother's side (the Berringer family) was where the intersection of White Avenue and the San Bernardino Freeway is

today. The house was leveled when the freeway came through. He said he played on the hill as a child when he came to visit.

His wife is originally from California's Imperial Valley.

Today, his home is a 15-year-old 42-foot Monaco – just Althoff, his wife and two dogs – and they are happy to be on the highway traveling between California and Florida.

And while he enjoys the camaraderie of the motor coach association, sometimes he travels in a caravan and sometimes he travels alone.

Formerly a mechanic for heavy earth moving equipment, Althoff is quick to point out his Michelin energy saving tires which he says save energy by offering less rolling resistance. In fact, he said he gains five miles per hour at the same RPM's as his last set of tires.

And, while his rig is a six-cylinder 450 horsepower Cummins diesel, he's not loyal to diesel over gasoline or even over compressed natural gas. He simply says the best power plant is the one that will get

you from point "a" to point "b" without mechanical problems because nobody wants to get stuck on the road for repairs.

But he added that he could convert to compressed natural gas one day if the price was right.

"There's no limit to what you can spend," he said. "It's like a boat."

He pointed out there were some new models on display at the show, with some models around the million dollar price point, and some had diesel engines "as big as any truck on the road."

Althoff said he likes the Fairplex meet and said it was his third time here – and he has the pins in his cap to prove it, along with a cap full of others ranging



SHARING THEIR LOVE OF THE OPEN ROAD -- David and Vicky Althoff, members of the Family Motor Coach Association, pose for La Nueva Voz outside their motor home as a four-day association convention comes to a close last month.

he was going to stop Monday night after pulling up stakes that morning at the show, Althoff said he didn't know, although it might be Phoenix.

"I haven't made up my mind," he said.

The March gathering at Fairplex was the organization's seventh visit here. And it was one of two motorhome conventions the association is hosting this year – the second is set for Madison, Wisconsin, in late July.

The Family Motor Coach Association is an international organization for families who own and enjoy the use of self-contained, motorized recreational vehicles known as

motorhomes. Its national headquarters is in Cincinnati and the group currently has nearly 75,000 active member families.

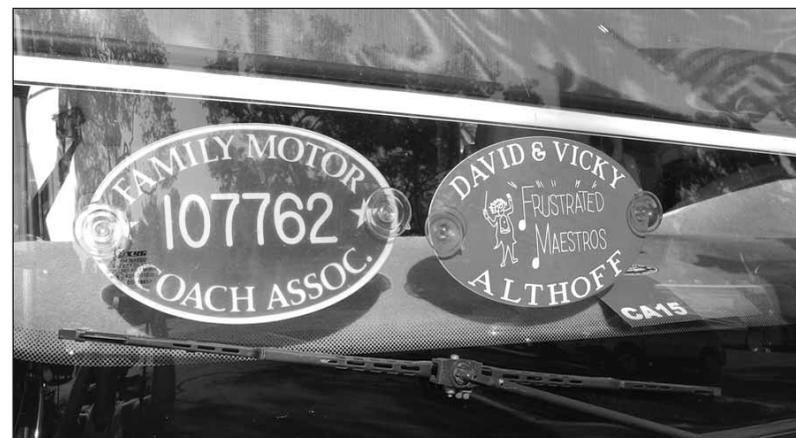
Then is it the open road that is the attraction or the freedom?

La Nueva Voz couldn't pin him down but when we asked him where

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CONVENTION WINDS DOWN -- Several of the last remaining rigs at last month's Family Motor Coach Association convention at Pomona's Fairplex start thinking about pulling up stakes the next morning after seeing old friends, meeting new ones and learning more about their motorhomes and the road. The Fairplex grandstands appear in the background.



FLYING THE COLORS -- The Althoffs "fly the colors" of the Family Motor Coach Association right up front on the windshield of their 42-foot rig.

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Publisher: Jeff Schenkel

Tel: (909) 224-0244 • jeffschenkel@verizon.net

Director of Advertising and Public Relations: Renee Barbee

(909) 762-1446 • reneebarbee7@gmail.com

Layout and Design/Translations: Dora Cruz

dcruz549@yahoo.com

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State's top Mason presents check for 'Public Schools Month' at Pomona's Fremont Academy

California's Grand Master of Masons Russell Charvonia kicked off the Masons' "Public Schools Month" at Pomona's Fremont Academy of Engineering and Design this month by presenting a check for \$80,000 to area schools and students and assuring Fremont's 76 graduating seniors that he has "complete confidence" in them.

"I am absolutely convinced that your generation is one that when the keys to the world are handed off to you you will indeed take very very

raised more than \$1.25 million for the statewide program which will have an impact on more than 50,000 families throughout California.

Program elements include a book give-away effort; an educational program to help keep students "fire safe" and take home lessons on fire safety to their families; and an anti-bullying effort.

The scholarship program is made possible by the California Masonic Foundation, the Masons' charitable entity, which for the past several

School District, told students that only 20 years ago he was also wondering what he was going to do and what college was going to look like.

He said it was the guidance of people he met such as Masons "that have helped me overcome many of the obstacles."

"Look at yourself now, look at the support that you have, organizations, your parents, it is everyone on your side for you to be successful," he said. "And the greatest thing in the world, and the saddest thing in the

world for me, was I got the master's degree and that my parents don't quite understand what that is."

He added he is a director of student services and "they don't quite understand what I do," even though they know he is happy.

"And that's one of the things that I ask of you is to do something positive, something that's going to make you happy, and at the end of the day

getting paid for it, wow, what a wonderful situation that is," Casarrubias said.

Fremont Academy focuses on engineering and design career paths providing experience-based learning, connections to industry and business, and partnerships with post-secondary institutions to ensure that all students are ready for both college and career.



Russell Charvonia...
... Masons California Grand Master



Cesar Casarrubias

Dave Moss, at left, conducts the Fremont Academy Student Orchestra during this month's check presentation ceremonies at Fremont.



CHECK PRESENTATION AT POMONA'S FREMONT ACADEMY -- Pictured receiving an \$80,000 check this month from the California Masons at Pomona's Fremont Academy as the Masons kicked off their annual "Public Schools Month" are, from left, Russell Charvonia, Grand Master of Masons in California; Cesar Casarrubias, director of pupil resources for the Pomona Unified School District; Monica Principe, Pomona Unified's director of secondary education; Vicente Lamas, Fremont's 2015 class president; Michael Sekera, interim chair of the Masons' Inland Empire Public Schools Advisory Council; Irlanda Mora, the current Miss Pomona, Associated Student Body President at Fremont; Fremont Principal Elizabeth Harper; Kathy Tran, representing the Fremont Femineers, a group of 10th and 11th grade girls who believe STEM careers (science, technology, engineering and math) are for both boys and girls; and Destinee Hunter, a student at Fremont, who sang "America the Beautiful" at the program.

good care of it," Charvonia said. "We have complete confidence in you."

The \$80,000 check – to Inland Empire public schools and students – will pay for 10 \$7,000 scholarships with the remaining \$10,000 covering the cost of a firefighters and safety education program for area kids.

Fremont was selected for the kick-off event because two students there received scholarships last year.

The application and competition process is already under way for the latest round of scholarships, according to a school spokesperson.

"This month all across the state we're coming together with schools and communities to celebrate our shared commitment for public schools," Charvonia said, adding that the effort will involve 55,000 Masons in California and two million "across the continent."

He told the students Masons have

years has been focused on "investments in success."

The scholarships, Charvonia said, go to students who may not otherwise be able to go to college – and not the usual 4.0 grade point average students but the 3.0 variety.

"These are often students who are the first ones in their families to be able to go to college," he said. "These are often students who are working to help their mom and/or dad to be able to keep a roof over your head, put food on the table. These are students who are working hard."

"This year, Masons of California are proud to award 90 new students more than \$600,000 in multi-year commitments," Charvonia said. "We now have more than 325 scholars in our program throughout the state."

Cesar Casarrubias, director of pupil resources for Pomona Unified



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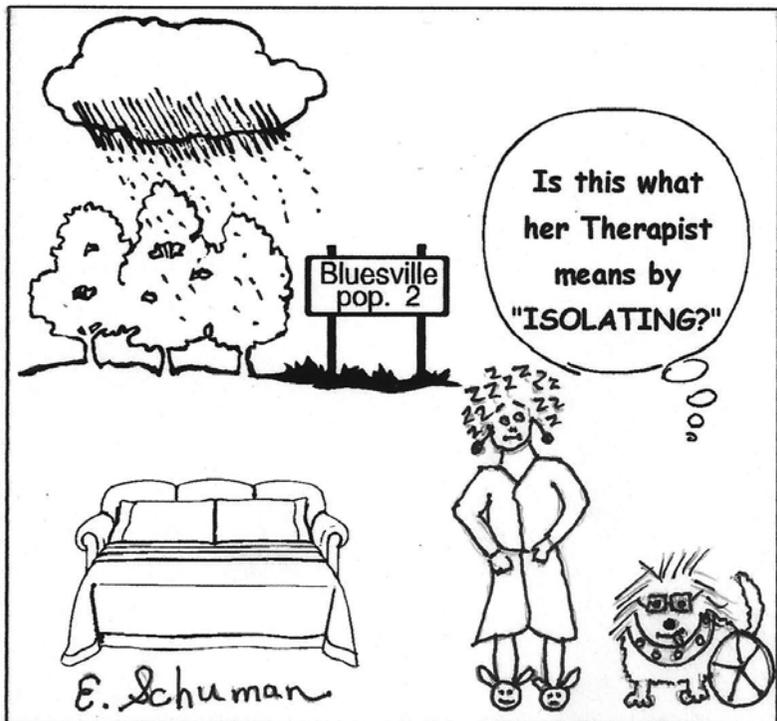
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Hope & Hurdles

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.

'Balls O'Fire' Celebrity Bowling Tournament to benefit Foothill AIDS Project

The Balls O'Fire Celebrity Bowling Tournament, a fundraiser benefiting the HIV care services of Foothill AIDS Project, will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sunday, April 26, in Rancho Cucamonga.

The annual "bowl-a-thon" event, which raises \$25,000 each year, will be held at Deer Creek Lanes, 7930 Haven Ave. (at Town Center), Rancho Cucamonga.

Co-hosts are actress and producer

Patrika Darbo, of "Desperate Housewives," and actress and comedian Luenell, of "The Rock."

Foothill Aids Project delivers care, compassion and support services to more than 800 men, women and families living with HIV/AIDS across the San Gabriel Valley and the Inland Empire.

For more information, contact Art McDermott at (909) 482-2066, ext. 313, or by e-mail at art@fapinfo.org.

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The following clubs and organizations meet on a weekly or monthly basis in Pomona:

- Pomona Youth and Family Master Plan
- 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
- Kennedy Austin Foundation
- The Network (formerly AOD – Alcohol and Other Drugs)
- Day One
- Assistance League of Pomona Valley
- NAACP Pomona Valley Branch
- Assistance League of Pomona Valley

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

New Spanish-language mobile banking app available at Wells Fargo

Wells Fargo & Company has introduced a new update to its mobile banking phone application that provides customers with the option of selecting Spanish as their preferred language.

With nearly three in four Latinos owning smartphones (according to a Nielsen study), or nearly 10 percent higher than the national average, the new feature provides Spanish-speaking customers with an easier, more convenient way to view account balances, transfer funds between accounts, deposit

checks and access other key banking functions, according to a news release.

The upgraded app is available for Apple iPhone, Android and Windows phones.

In addition to benefiting from the convenience and ease of mobile banking, Wells Fargo is inviting customers to help contribute to the Hispanic Scholarship Fund (HSF). During the month of April, for every customer who sets up or changes language preference to Spanish and maintains that preference through

the end of the month, Wells Fargo will donate \$1 in support of Latino scholarships, up to \$50,000.

Since 2003, Wells Fargo has provided \$12.7 million to HSF to help Latino families successfully complete higher education.

Customers can select Spanish by downloading the app from their app store or updating to the new version if they have a previously downloaded version. Once installed, simply sign on, go to mobile settings, then to language preference and select Espanol.

Casa Colina's 20th annual 'Land meets sea sports camp' set for August

The Casa Colina "Outdoor Adventures" program will present its 20th "Land Meets Sea Sports Camp" Aug. 5-7 in the Long Beach Marine Stadium and surrounding areas.

The program has provided therapeutic outdoor experiences to thousands of people with disabilities and special needs and introduces adaptive water, land, recreation and competitive sports.

People with varying abilities will have the opportunity to participate in numerous sports activities including hand cycling, jet skiing, water skiing, outrigger canoeing and sailing.

Wheelchair sports include quad

rugby, hockey, basketball and tennis. First time campers can try new sports while those returning can participate in activities that they have enjoyed for many years.

The Outdoor Adventures staff is comprised of certified therapeutic recreational specialists along with trained volunteers ensuring the highest level of safety for all participants.

Participants range in age from children to adults.

Last year's event attracted 75 participants with the support of more than 50 volunteers.

The fee for the three-day camp is \$300. For more information about attending, sponsorship opportunities or volunteering, contact (909) 596-7733, ext. 4131.

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Channel 7 meteorologist Bri Winkler, a stroke survivor, offers hope to stroke victims at annual 'Power of Red' dinner

Los Angeles television station KABC7 meteorologist and reporter Bri Winkler, special guest at this month's eighth annual "Power of Red" dinner in Pomona, told nearly 100 guests that she is "a walking miracle" after surviving a stroke suffered at the age of 24 almost three years ago.

The annual event, this year held at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel and sponsored by the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation, focuses on the reality, prevention and treatment of cardiovascular disease in women.

This year's program was structured along the lines of "The View" television show.

She said she had been living alone in Los Angeles for a year when she woke up on a Friday with a blinding headache as she started getting ready for work.

Winkler called a co-worker who took her to a local hospital, where she was given a CAT scan but doctors thought she had a viral infection.

She saw a chiropractor on the following Monday because of neck pain and on Wednesday morning, while getting ready for her spinning class, lost the hearing in her right ear and soon lost feeling in her right arm

and leg and the right side of her face.

"And the next thing I knew I couldn't walk so I crawled over to my bed using my left side," Winkler said, where she called her sister who lives on the East Coast.

On hearing the symptoms, her sister thought she had low blood sugar so she tried eating something before calling a family friend to take her to Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena. Instead, he decided it was a stroke and he immediately called 911.

She was in the emergency room two hours after the pain began.

"They gave me a CAT scan and they saw that I had a blood clot in my brain stem," Winkler said.

Doctors injected a "clot busting" medication and "within seconds I could feel my face again, and then my arm and leg."

She remained in the intensive care unit for one night and in the stroke unit for two days. Her arteries healed within a month and there were no residual effects in her brain.

Winkler said she continues to share her story "to let people know that stroke can strike at any age."

She added that if she knew about the time sensitive nature of the clot busting medication, "perhaps I would have called 911 instead of my



'POWER OF RED' PANEL FOCUSES ON CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE IN WOMEN -- KABC7's Bri Winkler, second from left, recounts her experience with stroke at this year's "Power of Red" dinner in Pomona, presented by the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation to focus on prevention and treatment of strokes in women. Pictured, from left, are Debbie Keasler, RN, Director of the Stead Heart and Vascular Center; Winkler; Dr. Nazli Janjua, an interventional radiologist, Mariam Fulton, RN, a cardiac surgery nurse practitioner; and Dr. Heather Davis-Kingston, medical director of the hospital's "hospitalist" program.

sister."

Panelist Dr. Nazli Janjua, an interventional radiologist, told Winkler the clot busting medicine is designed to target a clot that is forming and filling up inside a blood vessel to keep blood from going where it needs to go.

"So in the case of the brain that means a part of the brain is not getting blood supply and in your case it was the part of the brain that controls right sided movement and feeling," she added. "You are definitely a testament to recovery and coming back and people should know that it is certainly possible to recover after a stroke and a lot of that has to do with what happens in the hospital."

"A lot of our focus after somebody has had a stroke is to really engage physical therapy and other services to start to help them redeem function in whatever area is affected, so that's very key (to) the whole recovery process and sticking with that recovery process afterwards,"

Assemblymember Rodriguez encourages local students to apply for new scholarships

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez is encouraging local students to apply for scholarships under the inaugural "California Latino Legislative Caucus Foundation Scholarship Program."

The application period opened this month and continues through June 1.

The foundation is awarding thousands of dollars in scholarship funds to eligible students accepted

Janjua said.

She added that, while Winkler's story was "a little bit unique," the most common reasons for strokes are usually other conditions such as diabetes and diet, and so long term part of that recovery process is trying to educate people about diet control and controlling diabetes which really does affect the brain vessels and makes them shrink up."

The group learned that 80 percent of strokes are preventable, and that time is very important since there is a limited time physicians can use the

clot busting medication.

Janjua added that without blood to the brain is the equivalent of aging three years in one minute.

Proceeds from the event each year benefit the hospital's Stead Heart and Vascular Center's "Stead Heart for Women" program, which offers information on risk factors, lifestyle modification, diet and exercise and more.

The annual event is held in conjunction with the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" campaign.

community to apply," he said.

Eligible students can submit applications for financial assistance to meet educational expenses by going to the web site at www.cllcf.org for an application form and program details.

A total of 25 \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded to students in the program's first year.

Winners will be determined by the end of June.



Bri Winkler



Dr. Nazli Janjua



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Pomona Kiwanis recognized as 'Distinguished Club' by Kiwanis International

Immediate Past Kiwanis Lt. Gov. Steve Roberts visited the Pomona Kiwanis last month to present the 2013-2014 Kiwanis Distinguished Club Award from Kiwanis International.

The recognition was "for your untiring efforts and continuing support

as we serve the children of the world," according to the award certificate.

Club President Mark Warren and Secretary Greg Shapton each received a "Distinguished Club" pin and the club received a "Distinguished Club" banner patch.



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NEW READING ROOM AT ALLISON ELEMENTARY -- Allison Elementary School in Pomona held a ribbon cutting and grand opening last month for a new Ben Carson Reading Room for the kids made possible by a \$10,000 grant from the Carson Scholars Fund, a non-profit founded by neurosurgeon Benjamin S. Carson. The reading room, connected to the school's library, features more than 1,200 non-fiction books, new furniture and a mural all to inspire children to "Think Big!" Pictured outside the room, from left, are Pomona Unified School District's Deputy Supt. of Educational Services Stephanie Baker; school board members Dr. Roberta Perlman and Frank Guzman; Pomona Unified School Supt. Richard Martinez; school board Vice President Adrienne Konigar-Macklin; and Dr. Carson.



TRYING OUT THE NEW DIGS -- Students at Allison Elementary School trying out their new reading room are, from left, Idania Perez and Jacqueline Madrigal-Rodriguez. The reading room was made possible by a grant from the Ben Carson Reading Project, which has created more than 120 school reading rooms across the country. This is the first of its kind in the Pomona school district. It will be dedicated to the memory of Dean T. Wickstrom, whose family provided \$10,000 to the organization for the project.



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Tractor and car show, strawberry festival return to Cal Poly Farm Store

It's time for "everything strawberry" once again at the ninth annual "Tractor/Car Show & Strawberry Festival" on Saturday, May 16, at the Farm Store at Cal Poly University Pomona.

Locally grown strawberries will be on sale, along with strawberry jam, lemonade and shortcake.

Visitors will also be able to pick other vegetables right out of the ground.

The accompanying tractor and car show will feature custom, antique, classic, muscle, street rod, special interest vehicles and motorcycles.

Trophies will be awarded at 3 p.m. To enter the show, visit the web site at www.cppfarmstore.com and register by May 1.

The event will also feature an insect fair, petting zoo, face painting, and horse and tractor rides for children.

Hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Farm Store, at 4102 S. University Drive.

Admission is free and parking is \$3. For more information, visit the web site at www.cppfarmstore.com or contact Brenda Orozco at brorozco@cpp.edu.

Los Angeles County approves Pomona Unified’s shift to five voting area election system for board members

The Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization this month approved the Pomona Unified School District’s shift to a trustee-area voting system, adopting a map that divides the district into five voting areas each responsible for electing a single board member.

The shift mirrors efforts to drop at-large election systems in other California communities as a way of ensuring racial and ethnic minorities possess a voice in local government, as required under the 2001 California Voting Rights Act.

“We are extraordinarily pleased with the county committee’s decision,” said Pomona Unified Supt. Richard Martinez. “Pomona Unified has a rich tradition of representing our diverse community. These trustee voting areas will ensure the voices of our entire community continue to play a role in governing our district.”

The county committee decision comes on the heels of a series of public meetings in which residents were able to share their perspectives about the switch. The county held a public hearing in Pomona in March. Pomona Unified held five outreach meetings and a student meeting be-

fore taking action last month.

“It was critical that we hear as much as possible from the community as we approached this change,” Pomona Unified Board President Andrew Wong said. “We were heartened to hear from so many residents who praised how well our board represents Pomona. We believe these new trustee areas will ensure the best possible future for our students and our community.”

Those community comments helped shape four draft voting maps drawn by professional demographer Doug Johnson and submitted by Pomona Unified to the county for consideration.

The county committee chose Draft Plan 1, which splits the community into five areas of about 33,000 residents each. Citizen voting age populations range from 30 to 62 percent Latinos and 8 to 28 percent Asian Americans. The areas also range in size based on population density, with the smallest lying in east-central Pomona and the largest encompassing parts of southwest Pomona and Diamond Bar.

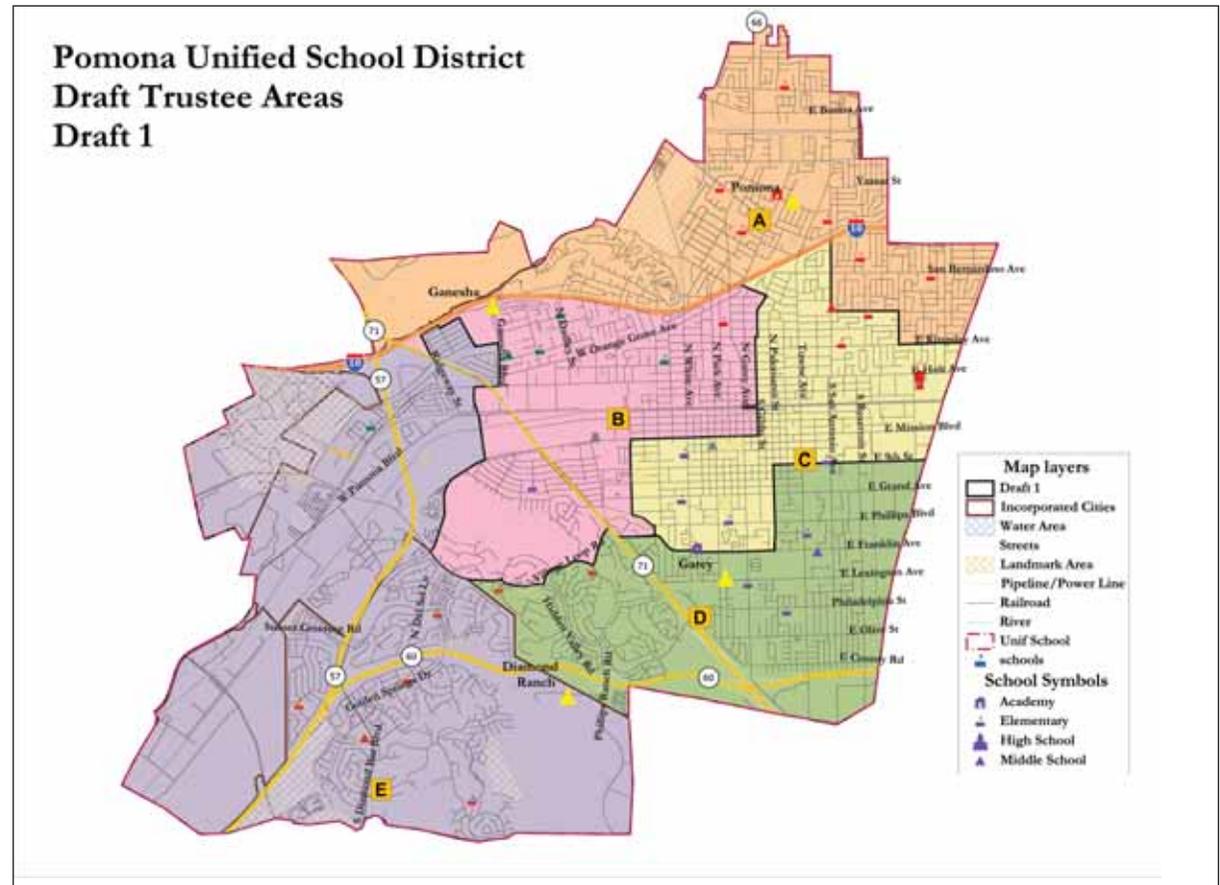
The final map will be delivered to the Los Angeles County Registrar’s Office by the beginning of May for

full implementation.

Meanwhile, the District is seeking permission from the California Department of Education to hold its first

trustee-area election in November – when it would have held its next at-large election. The state is expected to make its decision next month.

Two trustee area seats will likely be on the ballot at that time, and the remaining seats will come before voters in November 2017.



VOTING MAP -- The Los Angeles County Committee on School District Organization last month adopted Pomona Unified School District’s Draft Plan 1, which divides the district into five voting areas each with roughly 33,000 residents. The voting areas, shown in this map, each will be responsible for electing a single member of the board. Areas range in size based on population density.

Deadline next week for exhibitors at McCracken Learning Expo

Registration deadline is Wednesday, April 30, for exhibitors planning to have a booth at the eighth annual Nancy McCracken Learning Expo next month at Pomona’s Fairplex, sponsored by the Pomona Youth and Family Master Plan Promoting Academic Achievement Task Force.

Thousands of students and parents have attended the program through the years to learn about science, tech-

nology, engineering, art, reading, writing, community service and math.

This year’s expo is set for noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 3, at Fairplex with set-up from 9 a.m. to noon.

Admission and parking are free.

For more information, contact Anne Marie Gariador at anne.gariador@yahoo.com or at (909) 210-4256 by April 26.

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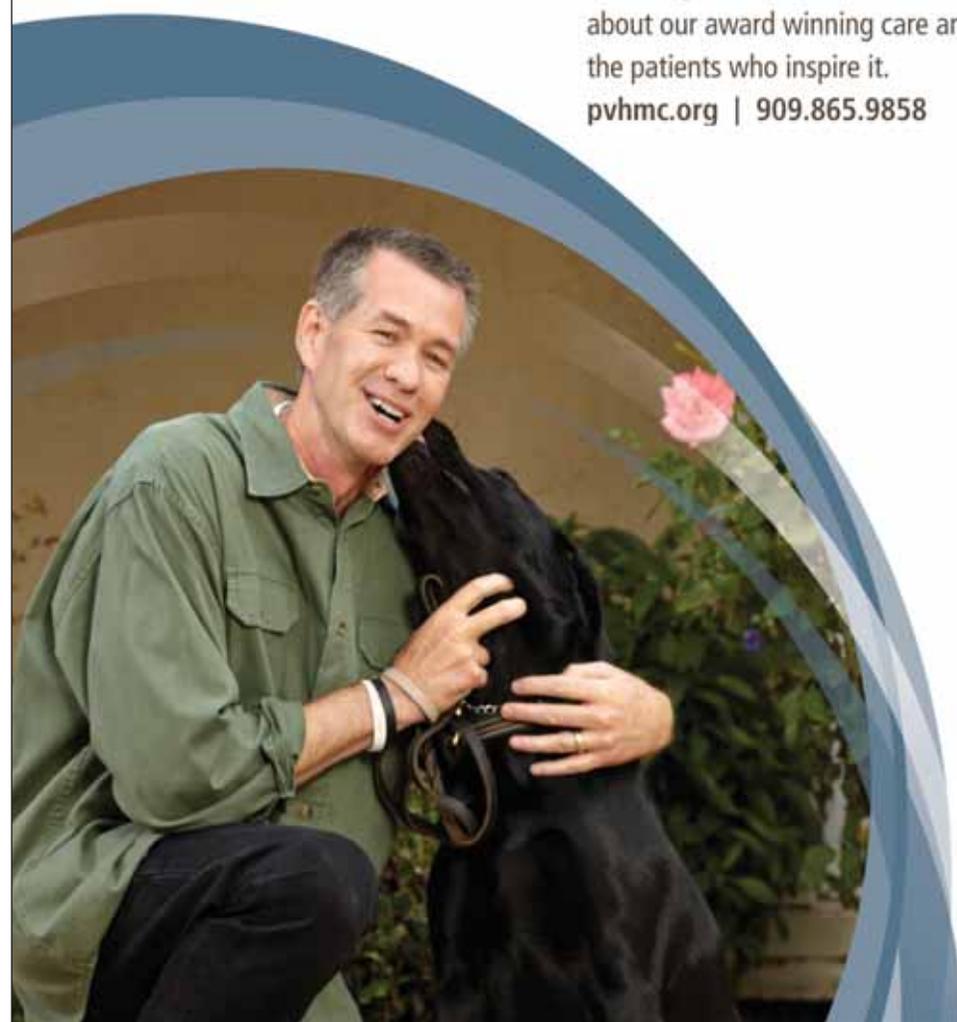
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¡Usted está invitado! Acompañenos en la próxima jornada de reuniones comunitarias en formato de puertas abiertas "open house," para conocer la información más reciente sobre el diseño y el arte de las estaciones, la financiación del proyecto, y mucho más. Los artistas de las estaciones sólo asistirán a la reunión pública en sus respectivas ciudades; sin embargo, la información sobre las seis estaciones y los artistas de las estaciones estará disponible en todas las reuniones comunitarias.

Horarios/lugares de las reuniones comunitarias

No habrá ninguna presentación formal.
Llegue a cualquier hora, entre las 6 y 8 PM.

Jueves, 16 de abril (6-8 PM)

La Verne Community Center
3680 "D" Street
La Verne, CA 91750

Martes, 21 de abril (6-8 PM)

Montclair Senior Center
5111 Benito Street
Montclair, CA 91763

Jueves, 23 de abril (6-8 PM)

Glendora Public Library,
Bidwell Forum
140 S. Glendora Avenue
Glendora, CA 91741

Miércoles, 29 de abril (6-8 PM)

Alexander Hughes Community
Center - Padua Room
1700 Danbury Road
Claremont, CA 91711

Jueves, 30 de abril (6-8 PM)

San Dimas Senior Center
201 E. Bonita Avenue
San Dimas, CA 91773

Jueves, 7 de mayo (6-8 PM)

Palomares Park
Community Center
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Si necesita información del proyecto o interpretación en Español, por favor llame a Sylvia Beltran al (626) 305-7012.

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Phil Pumerantz to step down as president of Western University

Dr. Phillip Pumerantz, the founder and president of Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences, has announced he will retire from the presidency effective Sept. 8 after a 38-year run.

Pumerantz founded the school in 1977 at the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific.

"The time has come for me to move to a new role, and in the process allow for an orderly transition and wise leadership succession for the university," Pumerantz said in a letter to Western University's Board Chair Dr. Richard Bond, who was the school's first graduate in 1982.

The board plans to establish a committee and a process for selecting a successor.

According to a news release, the school's first class of 36 students was enrolled in the fall of 1978, roughly a year after Pumerantz and his first employee, his secretary, opened the doors to a small office on Second Street in Pomona that was part of the largely abandoned Pomona Mall.

Thirty-one members of that first

class graduated four years later as doctors of osteopathy.

Over the years, class sizes became larger, mall buildings were acquired and renovated, and new buildings were erected. The facility today covers 22 acres in Downtown Pomona and employs more than 1,200 staff and faculty.



Dr. Philip Pumerantz

It is the fourth largest employer in the Pomona Valley, behind Cal Poly University Pomona, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and the Pomona Unified

School District.

The college became Western University of Health Sciences in 1996 and today includes nine colleges – from a college of pharmacy and a college of graduate nursing to a college of veterinary medicine and a college of optometry, among others.

More than 3,900 students currently are enrolled and the school has more than 11,000 alumni.

The university also operates the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific in Lebanon, Oregon, which welcomed its first students in 2011.

California is in a serious drought. How can YOU help?

- Check your sprinklers - make sure they are watering your lawn, NOT the sidewalk.
- Irrigate no more than two (2) days a week.
- Do NOT hose down sidewalks or driveways.
- Do not wash your car. If you MUST wash it, take it to a professional car wash - they recycle much of their water.

There are a number of rebates available to help you save water. To learn more about rebates in your area, visit:

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Cal Poly President Coley tells young women at leadership summit to refuse to ‘give up’

Cal Poly University Pomona President Dr. Soraya M. Coley told 150 young women in high school and college last month that each of them is a “woman of wonder” and that it is up to them each day to “deal with messages of discouragement.”

Coley, presenting the keynote address at the first “Young Women’s Leadership Summit,” sponsored in Chino by State Sen. Connie Leyva, said “each day you get to make a choice about how you will think, act and achieve.”

“You must decide each day how you will choose to deal with messages of discouragement, of feeling you are not good enough, of fear of disappointment, of rejection, of feeling like a failure, of not having the confidence to move forward,” Coley said.

And she encouraged them to choose to believe they can accomplish something even when it would appear that it is impossible.

“It is refusing to give up,” she said. “You do it in spite of the naysayers who think because of your age, your race, your ethnicity, your gender, your physical make-up, your family circumstances, your income level or whatever may be seen as a barrier that you cannot be that young woman of wonder.”

“Your circumstances today do not have to dictate your outcome for tomorrow,” Coley said.

“You make the choice to study or not, you make the choice to believe that you can achieve or not, you make the choice to embrace being smart and talented,” she said. “And let me just say, young women, it’s OK to be smart and talented.”

Coley cited examples including one of a girl who grew up in a Chicago housing project with seven brothers and sisters, was a mediocre student, got married at 18, got pregnant, had two children, was divorced by her mid-20s and found work as a clerk.

“She had to go on welfare to support herself and her two kids,” Coley said, adding that she was not “contented.”

“She had a desire to accomplish something and knew that to get out of her rut she had to get an education,” Coley said.

The young lady enrolled in a local community college to work on a nursing degree and briefly thought she could become a medical doctor, although “that thought quickly faded because she felt that was out of her reach.”

She shared her vision with a counselor who told her if she worked hard, she might just achieve

it.

She earned a bachelor’s degree in biology and applied to 10 medical schools but was rejected by all 10.

Next, she went on to receive a master’s degree in biology and worked in research in a local hospital for several years.

“She never gave up on that bold vision for her life,” Coley said, adding that she applied to 10 medical schools again and was accepted at seven.



Dr. Soraya M. Coley...
... President, Cal Poly Pomona

Today she is a practicing obstetrician and gynecologist.

“But equally significant is that her daughter, who grew up in poverty in a welfare household, graduated from UCLA Medical School and is also a doctor,” Coley said.

She “took a detour” by getting another degree and then re-applied.

“Too often when we go first out of the gate at our first rejection we give up,” Coley said. “But she detoured, she said I can’t go straight, but I’m going to go around because I’m not going to give up.”

“We need to connect with people who are uplifting and believe in you,” she added. “I did not know that one day I would be a university president but I did know that I would be helping others to achieve their dreams and potential and what better way than at a university.”

“I had mentors and a husband who kept encouraging me even in the face of closed doors,” she said. “So it is important to understand that we don’t always have a straight line to what appears to be success.”

“Everyone has detours, obstacles, challenges – the difference is how do you deal with that,” she said.

She also told the students they needed discipline and preparation for the journey, character, or doing the right thing, and a sense of responsibility and maintaining a posi-

Leadership summit... pg. 19

Kennedy Austin Foundation’s Ethel Gardner named Sen. Leyva’s ‘Woman of the Year’

Pomona’s Ethel Gardner, founder and executive director of the Kennedy Austin Foundation, a Pomona-based non-profit organization she founded in 1993, was named “2015 Woman of the Year” for the 20th Senate District by State Sen. Connie Leyva during the senator’s young woman’s leadership summit last month in Chino.

Gardner, who founded her organization following the tragic death of her only son, provides community outreach and sponsors free weekly support meetings for grieving parents who have also lost a child.

She also offers meetings for survivors of domestic violence and organizes the “Million Mothers’ March” each May as a time for families who have lost family members and friends to come together to honor and celebrate the lives of their loved ones.

“Sometimes it is out of tragedy that we do good in this world and that really defines Ethel,” Leyva said, adding that as a parent herself “there is no greater tragedy” than losing a child.

Leyva added that Gardner provides services through the foundation with only minimal support.

“This is a woman who knows no boundaries,” she said. “I couldn’t think of anyone more deserving than Ethel Gardner to receive this award and I’m honored that you get to be my first recipient.”

“I thank you, we all thank you for what you do for Pomona and the surrounding communities,” Leyva said. “You are an amazing woman.”

Gardner told the group that she was humbled and grateful to receive the recognition.

She said she educated herself “and I’m going to try to help other women to empower themselves.”

“There can be life after death and that is my mission and my passion,” Gardner said, adding after the event that “we can will ourselves to live and reach out to others to give us purpose in helping others.”



‘WOMAN OF THE YEAR’ -- State Sen. Connie Leyva, at left, names Pomona’s Ethel Gardner her 2015 “Woman of the Year” for the 20th Senate District at a recent event in Chino. Gardner is founder and executive director of the non-profit Kennedy Austin Foundation that provides support to grieving parents who have lost a child.



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CONCERNED OVER WALMART LIQUOR LICENSE -- Members of the Partnership for a Positive Pomona, a drug free communities coalition, met last month to map a strategy to oppose liquor sales at a new Walmart neighborhood market at Towne Avenue and Arrow Highway. The group is concerned because the store is located close to Pomona High School, across the street from a substance abuse treatment and recovery center, and near two other schools, three parks and four churches. In addition, according to the group, there are already two other alcohol retailers in the immediate vicinity. The Pomona Planning Commission granted the necessary permit and an appeal hearing was on the Pomona City Council agenda this month, but was continued to the May 4 council meeting. Pictured, at right, chairing the coalition meeting last month at Pomona's Garfield Neighborhood Center is Sara Cooley, project coordinator. While the group agreed the store offers "nice" groceries, fruits and vegetables, Alice Gomez said "the one item that is disturbing to us" would be the sale of liquor. "The problem is alcohol and availability, not Walmart," said Adriana Pinedo of Day One. Cooley said the organization does not want to become a group that fights every liquor license but is concerned here because the store is so close to the high school.



Alice Gomez



Adriana Pinedo...
... Day One



Sara Cooley...
... Partnership for a Positive Pomona

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BE AWARE WHEN BUYING A USED CAR!

CONSIDER THIS: With prices slated to fall for used cars and trucks in 2015, consumers should determine how much they can afford to pay based on the total cost of the vehicle, advises Diana Dykstra, President and CEO of the California Credit Union League.

"They should take into account not only the interest rates, but sales taxes, monthly payments, insurance, the length of the loan, and maintenance," she added.

Here are tips to consider:

- **Research.** Read consumer reports, reviews, and peer reviews. Consider side-by-side comparisons and safety data.
- **Test drive.** Try out various makes and models before making a final decision.
- **Get the report.** Protect yourself by getting a CarFax or AutoCheck report. These reports will tell you if the car has been in a major accident, had multiple owners, been branded as a lemon, etc.
- **Consult your financial institution.** Credit unions, for example, have traditionally offered lower interest rates on car loans. Many also offer educational workshops.

For more information, contact Credit Union of Southern California at 866.287.6225, or stop by its Pomona branch at 435 W. Mission Blvd., Suite 100. Spanish speakers are available to assist.

Volunteers needed for clean-up project at Palomares Park

Interested in pitching in and helping to revitalize Pomona's Palomares Park?

Join Pomona City Councilmember John Nolte and others in a "Community Helping Hands" service project from 8 a.m. to noon Saturday (April 25) at the park, located at Arrow Highway and Orange Grove Avenue.

All ages are invited to help with everything from painting the senior

center to landscaping, yard work, painting the skate park fence, repairing the baseball bleachers and more.

Volunteers are encouraged to bring work clothes, rakes, work gloves, gardening tools, wheelbarrows, shovels and more.

Light breakfast and water will be provided and tools will be available.

For more information, contact Nolte at (909) 938-9991 or by e-mail at jgnolte@gmail.com.

City of Pomona offers free CPR class

The City of Pomona is offering a free CPR class Saturday at the Pomona Public Library.

Training is certified by the National Safety Council.

Students must be 10 years of age

or older and accompanied by an adult.

Hours of the class are 12:30 to 4 p.m.

For more information, contact john_schmidt@ci.pomona.ca.us or call (909) 620-3741.

Opera performances scheduled for June

Pomona's Repertory Opera Company will present Rossini's comic masterpiece "Il Barbiere de Siviglia" in June.

Show times are 2 p.m. Sunday, June 14; 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 17, and 2 p.m. Saturdays June 20 and

June 27 at 2 p.m.

All appearances are at First Christian Church of Pomona, 1751 N. Park Ave., Pomona.

For more information, visit the web site at www.repoperao.org or call (909) 230-4949.



OPTIMISTS RECOGNIZE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH -- Members of the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club last month recognized two students from Pomona's San Jose Elementary School as students of the month at their monthly awards dinner. The club each year selects an elementary school in the Pomona Unified School District to honor students. Pictured, from left, are Pomona City Councilmember and club member Debra Martin; honoree Rocio Ayala; San Jose Principal and club member Jorge Amancio; Pomona City Councilmember and club member Adriana Robledo; honoree D'Ana Jackson; and club president Margarita Silva.



POMONA OPTIMISTS ANNOUNCE ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS -- Members of the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club last month announced winners of its annual essay contest in which local high school students were asked to write a composition on the topic "Optimism should be a priority." All three winners are seniors at Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise. Pictured, from left, are Lynda Quinn, judge and author; Pomona City Councilmember and club member Adriana Robledo; School of Arts and Enterprise counselor Lorraine Canales, also a club member; first place winner Frank Gasper; contest chairperson Vernon Price; second place winner Elizabeth Ramirez; third place winner Savannah Jimenez; Pomona City Councilmember and club member Debra Martin; and club president Margarita Silva.

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rent developments in Pomona and the region “is really emblematic of where the state is headed right now.”

“So we are seeing for the first time unemployment dip below seven percent in the State of California,” she said. “And that’s a very, very good sign.”

On the other hand, “our economy is not that stable, even though we are seeing recovery in many areas of the state.”

While she said there has been a lot of development, “how we sustain that will continue to be a challenge.”

The chamber’s legislative luncheon, held last week at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel, represented a return of the legislative forum which was last held in 2008.

Supervisor Hilda Solis

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, who served as Secretary of Labor under President Obama as the first Latina in the U.S. Cabinet, was asked what tactics she learned in her experience in Washington she could draw on to help boost the local economy.

Her immediate response was to look to public-private partnerships, “looking at how people can come together.”

“We are back on the road to recovery,” Solis said. “We are not all quite there but yes, we are back.”

She said clearly better training and tools are needed to enable employees to climb career ladders.

Then, “businesses, entrepreneurs and individuals . . . would want to come and locate here because they would have a stellar workforce.”

So a good training, certification and licensing program “is the quickest way to get people back to work.”

In addition, the county can use incentives in contracting opportunities and “instead of sole sourcing, break them up” so small businesses and minority business owners can apply.

“We need to have skilled people... the first (supervisorial) district has I would say a higher proportion of funds that is coming out this way so we need to be ready at the table to make sure that we have all of our partners who are here today to be a part of that discussion,” Solis said, adding that opportunities can be in any area from manufacturing to health care to adults from the incarceration system getting back on their feet.

“That’s where I see the future for us,” she added. “We have to think regionally and partnerships.”

She said Los Angeles County is looking at a \$26 billion budget and has already decided to hire more than 500 social workers to bring down the caseload to mitigate back-

logs.

In addition, the county is adding about 300 nurses.

“So you’re going to see, I think, a more robust healthcare and mental health industry around the county,” Solis said. “We hope to also break away and see if we can open up a trauma center here in the Pomona



Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez

Valley” to prevent victims from waiting 33 minutes to be transported by helicopter to Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center for emergency treatment.

“We’re talking about saving lives,” she said.

She also said a proposal will be on the ballot next year to work with cities to open up more park space, community centers and libraries.

“We can do a lot together and we can do it in partnership,” Solis said.

“I will be opening up for the first time in several months a district office here in Pomona,” she added.

Congresswoman Norma Torres

Congresswoman Norma Torres said she remembers when she was first elected to public office and area state representatives included names like Jim Brulte, Dick Mountjoy and Bob Margett.

“Look how much the area has changed,” she said.

Torres, responding to a question, outlined her findings from a recent Inland Empire job listing tour in which she said she had seven tour dates with more than 200 business owners – from large to small – in the community.

“The common thread... was that they need an educated work force,” Torres said.

And they need a funding mechanism for their employees to continue to learn and continue to improve on

their skills.

In many instances, she added, employers have difficulty recruiting from within the community “because they don’t have a readily available work force.”

Another issue was related to transportation infrastructure in the Inland Empire which in the last three years has seen a quarter of a million Los Angeles County residents move to the area because “they were priced out of the housing market in Los Angeles County.”

Torres said it is important to ensure there is funding for Foothill Transit and for the Gold Line to eventually get to Ontario International Airport.

“These commuters are inching their way to work every morning and inching their way home every night and the truckers that are bringing in... loads from the port are having to compete with them on the freeway system,” Torres said.

State Sen. Connie Leyva

State Sen. Connie Leyva, who served as President of the California Labor Federation before her election to office last year, was asked to outline her vision for improving the public workforce system and delivery of services to job seekers, workers and employers.



Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis

She said one of the driving factors of her running for office was that “if we have good jobs in our communities it fixes a lot of what ails us in our communities and I thought maybe being at the state level I would have more of an opportunity to work on good jobs.”

Leyva said part of the solution is readily available career technical education.

“Four year degrees are great and going to college is great... but there



CHAMBER PRESIDENT WELCOMES PANELISTS -- Pomona Chamber of Commerce Board President Jill Dolan, at left, welcomes panelists to last week’s Chamber Legislative Luncheon. Pictured, from left, are Dolan, State Controller Betty Yee, Congresswoman Norma Torres, State Sen. Connie Leyva and moderator Bob Cruz of the Gas Company.

is a very large pocket of not only students and young people but also our veterans or people who are laid off during the recession that need a job,” she said, “because we all know that a nine dollar an hour minimum wage job isn’t going to help any of the communities that we live and work in.”

“So career technical education is about making sure people get good skills for... jobs,” she added.

“We need doctors, we need dentists, we need optometrists but we need the technical people, too,” she said. “We need the x-ray technicians, we need the back office people, and those can be very good paying jobs.”

“I am truly heartened about the people that I’ve met in Sacramento,”

Leyva said. “We hear so much negativity about politics and about Sacramento but the people I’ve met up there, there are so many... people who really do want to do what is right for the areas they represent and for the whole State of California.”

Leyva, who serves as Chair of the Democratic Caucus in the state senate, said she also serves on committees for rules, appropriations, joint legislative audit, education, transportation and housing, and energy and utilities.

She said she told her staff she was new and still learning and thought she’d probably introduce about two bills in her first legislative session.

“So we ended up with 15 because there were so many issues, and it is

Legislative luncheon... pg. 19

ANTIQUEROW

Collector's Street Faire

SATURDAY
MAY 30TH
FROM 8AM - 3PM



The Antique Row regularly plays host to the Collector's Street Faire. Treasure hunters from near and far pack the streets to explore three blocks of antique vendors. Part flea market, part festival. The largest array of antique dealers west of the Mississippi. This is a fun and FREE event. Located on E. 2nd St. in Downtown Pomona. For more information you can visit our website at downtownpomona.org or call the Street Collector's Faire at 909-620-7430.

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Hilda Solis, Supervisora del Condado de Los Angeles, atribuye el legado de Cesar Chavez a el impacto del liderazgo a nivel local, estatal y nacional

Hilda Solis, Supervisora del Condado de Los Angeles, se presentó en el undécimo desayuno Día de Cesar Chavez en Pomona y le dijo a la audiencia de más de 400 personas que el legado de Chavez ha impactado el liderazgo a nivel local, estatal y nacional.

“Esta es una ocasión verdaderamente extraordinaria que nos permite a todos nosotros en Pomona y el Valle de San Gabriel ver ahora el reflejo de nuestro liderazgo en altos puestos de la legislatura, en el estado, en el Congreso, que se parecen a nosotros, que poseen nuestros valores y toman en serio nuestras necesidades,” dijo Solis.

Solis agregó que atribuye su éxito a el legado de Chavez “y a todos ellos que sufrieron por nosotros... porque no solo estoy de pie por mis propios hechos, sino que me sostengo en los hombros de muchos otros que hicieron grandes sacrificios.”

Solis se dirigió al grupo presente en el evento anual el cual se llevó a cabo en Hotel Sheraton Fairplex y fue patrocinado por la Mesa Redonda Latina del Valle de San Gabriel y Pomona y el Consejo Laboral para el Avance Latinoamericano, División Valle de San Gabriel/Inland Empire.

Solis, quien anteriormente fue Secretaria de Trabajo de los EE.UU., y el año pasado nombrada como Supervisora del Condado de Los Angeles, le dijo al grupo que estaba agradecida por la oportunidad de trabajar con sus colegas de manera bipartidista.

Haciendo resumen de temas mayores, Solis mencionó que la Ley del Cuidado de Salud a Bajo Precio ya esta establecida, pero “aun falta mucho para alcanzar a todos.”

Y también mencionó que fue hace 15 años que se habló sobre el porque no existe un centro de trauma en el Valle de San Gabriel, pues pacientes de trauma deben ser transportados por helicóptero al Centro Médico del Condado USC – un viaje de casi 30 minutos de retirado de Pomona.

“La mesa directiva del condado ha pedido un estudio para volver a empezar el proceso,” dijo Solis. “Estoy contenta de que ese reporte se volverá a revisar y que la mira esta aquí en la Ciudad de Pomona.”

Ella dijo que el centro de trauma deberá también ser un centro de en-

señanza para estudiantes de medicina.

Solis también dijo que esta trabajando en la desigualdad de salario, la discriminación, propiedad de vivienda y por los desamparados.

Ella recordaba su crianza en la cercana ciudad de La Puente donde se encontraban “muchos jóvenes que no tenían la oportunidad de asistir al colegio o de obtener trabajos sostenibles y de calidad.”

“En la actualidad, aunque pensamos que vemos progreso, aun falta mucho para tener un efecto positivo en todas nuestras comunidades,” dijo Solis.

Senadora Estatal Connie Leyva

La Senadora Estatal Connie Leyva también comentó sobre salarios, diciendo que ella copatrocinó junto con el Senador Mark Leno (Demócrata-San Francisco) un proyecto de ley que aumentaría el salario mínimo de California a \$11 para el año que entra, a \$13 el año siguiente y, empezando en el 2019, poner en índice el salario mínimo con la tasa de inflación.

Pero aun más importante, Leyva agregó que desea ver que el salario mínimo de California “regresará a los tiempos cuando un trabajador de salario mínimo era un joven de high school y no alguien con una familia por mantener.”

“La educación en carreras técnicas es muy importante para mi y para toda la comunidad que yo represento,” dijo Leyva. “Así que queremos asegurarnos que las personas empiezan en un trabajo de salario mínimo cuando están en la high school o en el colegio pero después tener la oportunidad de entrar a un trabajo de salario digno para mantener a su familia.”

Se otorgó cuatro reconocimientos – a dos individuos, a un grupo y a una familia – los cuales representan el servicio y el apoyo a la comunidad, dijo el Dr. José Calderon, Presidente de la Mesa Redonda.

Comité de

Peregrinación de Padres

Un grupo de padres de estudiantes de Pomona formaron el Comité de Peregrinación de Padres en el 2011 para cuestionar los problemas que se enfrentan en las escuelas. El grupo trabaja con escuelas y administradores a través del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona y ha

formado coaliciones para mejorar las escuelas y proveer recursos.

Los miembros también ayudan voluntariamente con la Peregrinación Cesar Chavez la cual hace camino a la tumba de Chavez en La Paz, así como la celebración anual y sembrando árboles en la escuela Garey.

Se les reconoció por ayudar a crear un ambiente más seguro y un espíritu de comunidad en el entorno escolar.

Richard Martinez, superintendente de el Distrito Escolar de Pomona le dio las gracias a la Mesa Redonda por “dar a nuestros padres la oportunidad de usar su voz... para expresar lo que necesitan, lo que ven como un interés, lo que ven como una inquietud.”

Luis Moises Escalante

Luis Escalante, nativo de San Salvador, El Salvador, ha vivido en el área de Los Angeles desde 1973 donde ha participado en una variedad de movimientos sociales.

Desde 1990, él ha trabajado con diferentes organizaciones como organizador y educador comunitario enfocándose en derechos laborales y del inmigrante. Actualmente trabaja para el Movimiento Interreligioso para la Integridad Humana y también es un miembro de los directivos de la Mesa Redonda.

“He sido bendecido porque en todos estos años de trabajo voluntario y activísimo profesional, es gente como ustedes que me han acompañado,” dijo Escalante.

Escalante mencionó a otros que sacrifican su juventud con el fin de lograr la justicia y dijo que tiene amigos de mucho tiempo que ahora son legisladores “creando leyes para proteger a la gente.”

“Estoy contento que de alguna manera he podido formar parte de esto... y aunque la justicia se lleve a cabo, no se cuando, pero se en mi corazón que la justicia sí llegará... porque estamos trabajando para hacerlo posible,” agrego Escalante.

Suzanne Foster

También homenajeada en la Mesa Redonda fue Suzanne Foster, por ocho años directora ejecutiva de el Centro de Oportunidad Económica de Pomona, la única organización que sirve y organiza a los jornaleros en el Valle de Pomona y Inland Empire.

Ella empezó trabajando en el cen-

tro como voluntaria en 1999 mientras estudiaba sociología bajo Calderon en el Colegio Pitzer en Claremont.

Después de recibir su maestría de UCLA y trabajar en Sur Los Angeles organizando a los jornaleros en cuestiones de salud y justicia, ella llegó a las instalaciones de Pomona en 2007 como directora y condujo la expansión de trabajo para jornaleros en el Inland Empire, la defensa de los derechos de los jornaleros ante las redadas de patrulla fronteriza, y el desarrollo de una organización de derechos del inmigrante monetariamente estable.

“Cuando yo pienso en Cesar Chavez, pienso en servicio a mi comunidad, servicio para los obreros y servicio para un mundo mejor,” dijo Foster.

Ella compartió que Calderon le enseñó la importancia de rendir servicio cuando él la trajo al centro en 1999, donde ella empezó con enseñar el idioma Inglés a los jornaleros.

“Su dignidad, su búsqueda de trabajo, su búsqueda por proveer para sus familias me impacto profundamente,” dijo Foster. “Todas estas cosas las aprendí de mi modelo que es Jose Calderon quien para mí es mi Cesar Chavez. Y se que también para muchos de ustedes también lo es.”

Pero Foster dijo que no alcanzó sus logros por ella sola, y por esta razón no aceptó el reconocimiento para ella misma sino a nombre del centro.

“Verdaderamente es el trabajo de ellos, las luchas por sus derechos, no solamente aquí en Pomona sino en todo el área, luchando por la dignidad del emigrante, del trabajador, del inmigrante Latino en busca de la justicia,” dijo Foster.

Familia De La Cruz

La Mesa Redonda le rindió homenaje a toda la familia De La Cruz, la cual representa tres generaciones de activísimo de el trabajo.

Honrado fue la difunta Jessie De La Cruz, su hijo Robert y su nieto Arnulfo.

Jessie nativa de California, trabajó a través de su niñez en los campos como trabajadora agrícola. Con una educación de tercer grado solamente, ella entregó su vida a los derechos de la mujer y del trabajador agrícola y fue una de las primeras organizadoras femeninas de la Sindicato de Trabajadores Agrícolas Unidos fundado por Cear Chavez.

Ella sirvió como delegado en la Convención Nacional Democrática en 1972, y fue nombrada a la Comisión Económica del Condado de Fresno, y también a la Comisión del Estado de California sobre el Estado de la Mujer, entre otras posi-

ciones.

Su hijo, Robert, trabajó en los campos desde la edad de seis años, y después de servir en la Marina, trabajó con el Sindicato de Trabajadores Agrícolas Unidos por más de 22 años como organizador, negociador y representante. Robert después se unió a la Unión Internacional de Servicio al Empleado y exitosamente organizó colectas en el sector de la industria, del cuidado médico y en el sector público a través de toda la nación.

“Mi madre nos dejó un legado de conciencia para las generaciones venideras,” dijo Robert. “Ella sacrificó su valor y ella amaba... ayudar a la gente.”

El agregó que su madre fue seleccionada en 1994 para ser una representante de los trabajadores agrícolas cuando el Papa visitó el estado de Iowa. Ella recibió la Comunión de él.

Y el nieto Arnulfo, anteriormente director estatal de Mi Familia Vota, una organización nacional trabajando en unir la comunidad Latina, ha trabajado por más de 10 años en el movimiento obrero en California y Tejas.

Actualmente, él es director nacional de la Campaña de Justicia para Inmigrantes de SEIU.

Arnulfo le dijo a la audiencia que estaba seguro que su abuela, quien organizó las primeras reuniones del Sindicato de Trabajadores Agrícolas Unidos en su rancho en Fresno, estaba presente en espíritu.

Al principio, ella no estaba involucrada en tomar decisiones para el aquel entonces nuevo sindicato, sino que sus comienzos fueron preparar los alimentos. Pero ella terminó “como líder de miles en las marchas.”

Ganadores de Becas

Los ganadores de las “Becas de Justicia” fueron Angélica Orozco, una estudiante de la Universidad de Cal Poly Pomona; Ariana Mendez, estudiante de Pomona High School; Christopher Gutierrez, un estudiante de Mt. SAC; Joseph Orozco, estudiante de Ganesha High School; y Mitzie Perez, estudiante en Mt. SAC.

Los ganadores de la “Beca del Peregrinaje” fueron Ariana Mendez, estudiante de Pomona High School; Ivonne Anzures, estudiante en Garey High School; Jennifer Monteon, estudiante en Fremont Academy; y Joseph Orozco, estudiante de Ganesha High School.

El desayuno Mesa Redonda se lleva a cabo cada año para destacar a líderes en la comunidad quienes demuestran e incorporan los valores y ejemplos de los derechos civiles y del líder laboral Cesar Chavez.

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Pomona's GAIN to sponsor 'Employment Expo and Hiring Spree' at Ganesha Park

Employers and job-seekers are invited to participate in next month's Pomona Employment Expo and Hiring Spree, presented by Pomona's GAIN Division for the first time in a new location outdoors under shaded areas at Pomona's Ganesha Park.

The event is scheduled for 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday, May 12, at the park, located at 1575 N. White Ave.

Job-seekers will have the opportunity to meet face to face with top local employers and are encouraged to bring resumes and "dress to impress."

The hiring spree is a free ticketed event with registration on line (preferred but not required) at

www.hiringspreeLA.com.

Employer representatives are asked to arrive for set-up no later than 8:30 a.m.

A video of last fall's expo is available on YouTube at www.youtube.com/watch?v=2BJ1yOjvAA.

The GAIN Pomona office, a part of the Los Angeles County Office of Education, serves more than 100 low-income job-seekers each month and offers an intensive four-week job search skills training program with a mission of "Building Self-Sufficiency through Employment."

For more information, call (909) 392-8070.

World Games... from pg. 3

First Olympic event ever connected with Fairplex

"Today, I'm very proud to say that this is the first United States Olympic event that the Los Angeles County Fair Association has been able to connect with and associate with and I'm very proud of the work of the organizations that are involved and I'm very proud of the work of our team members in making this happen," Henwood said.

Dr. Megan Stang, Executive Director of University Housing Services at Cal Poly, said Cal Poly is "excited to be a part of the journey."

"At Cal Poly Pomona, we believe that education takes place both within and outside the classroom and that students need to tackle real world challenges," Stang said. "And in my opinion I'm not sure there's a better representation than the Special Olympics and what this program has to offer their athletes."

Michelle DeMott, Vice President of Branding for the Los Angeles County Fair Association, said Fairplex' involvement with the Special Olympics World Games is "tied to our mission and Vision 2030, our living guides to our future and our

roadmaps to making our campus important to building stronger communities."

"One of the themes... (is) about being inclusive and being community partners," she said.

The "host town" program has been part of the Special Olympics World Games since 1995 and the experience has left a lasting impression on local communities in Ireland, Japan, China, Greece, South Korea and the United States, all of which have previously organized host town efforts.

The Los Angeles games this summer will be the largest sports and humanitarian event anywhere in the world in 2015. Opening ceremonies at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum – the site of the 1932 and 1984 Olympic Games – are expected to attract a crowd of 80,000 spectators.

And the games are expected to attract a total of 500,000 spectators. ESPN has announced a global programming deal to bring coverage of the World Games to millions of fans around the world.

For more information on the World Games, visit the web site at www.LA2015.org.

Leadership summit... from pg. 15

tive attitude.

Leyva, who pointed out that Coley was the first woman president of Cal Poly, told the students to be confident in who they are.

"We're all here for a purpose and you're all going to do something special with your life," she said. "Be confident in who you are. It's not where you start in life, it's where you finish."

The summit was intended to "empower, educate and promote leadership among young women from the Inland Empire" and was held in partnership with Chaffey College.

It included a resource fair, informational panels and motivational speakers.

The event was held in March as a part of National Women's History Month.

Claremont Symphony's fifth concert of season set for Sunday, May 3

"Three S's," the fifth concert of the 62nd season of the Claremont Symphony Orchestra, will traverse from the wintry background of a Finnish tone poem to a celebration of spring when Music Director Robert Sage raises his baton next month.

Featured will be En Saga, by Finnish composer Jean Sibelius, portraying the frostiness of the far North and the warmth of the Finnish people.

Also included will be Louis Spohr's Concertante for Violin and Harp in G Major and Robert Schumann's Symphony No. 1 in B flat, Op. 38 "Spring."

The concert is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Sunday, May 3, in Bridges Hall of Music at Pomona College, 150 E. 4th St., Claremont. Doors open at 3 p.m.

Admission is free but donations are appreciated to help cover expenses.

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

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Legislative luncheon... from pg. 17

exciting to be in a position where you can try to make a difference," she said.

Assemblymember

Freddie Rodriguez

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez told guests Pomona has always been home to him – he was born and raised here, raised his family here and his grandkids were born here.

He has worked in emergency services for more than 30 years.

Rodriguez said he is working on bills including two public safety measures – a bill requiring body cameras for every police officer and another that would create a reporting data base for law enforcement officers to use to see developing trends.

Asked about the importance of youth sports as a deterrent to street gangs, Rodriguez said his entire political career began with his efforts to help improve Ralph Welch Park near his home.

He said he got involved with the park issue because the facility was being neglected and the city didn't have the money to finish a renovation project that was under way.

Rodriguez agreed that parks keep kids occupied and off the track to drugs and gangs.

"I'm going to continue that and work with parks... (and) see what we can do to build more parks," he said.

But he added that there is another component in community centers in the parks and their ability to provide after school programs with features

such as computer labs for the kids.

He said it is important to "continue having that momentum," because "we sometimes forget about the parks and how much importance they provide to our community," particularly when coupled with partnerships with various organizations and support groups.

Volunteers

The Gas Company's Bob Cruz, who serves as the Chamber's Legislative Affairs Committee chairman, was moderator for the event. He asked the panelists to "continue the dialogue."

Organizers of the event which was in the planning stages for the past two months included Chamber Board President Jill Dolan of Mt. SAC and Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto, working with the chamber's team of volunteer ambassadors.

Ambassadors volunteering for event arrangements – working under the direction of Chamber Vice President of Membership Stephanie Benjamin, of OPARC in Montclair, included Gus Arias, of Pomona's Inter Valley Health Plan; Renee Barbee, of La Nueva Voz newspaper of Pomona; Susie Calderon, representing Westpac Wealth Partners of Diamond Bar; Frank and Vita Gonzales, of U.S.A. Fit Force Taekwondo, Inc. of Pomona; Teresa James, of 777 Place Apartments in Pomona; Monique Perez, of Sam's Club in Chino; and Cassidy Conlee, of Western University of Health Sciences.

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:

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- Claremont library
- Claremont City Hall lobby
- La Verne City Hall lobby
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- 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 maternity lobby, outpatient services, emergency room
- 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
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- 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
- CVS Pharmacy, 150 W. Willow St., Pomona



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Local author Farrell Chiles to appear at library book signing



Farrell Chiles

The Pomona Public Library will host an afternoon presentation and book signing event next week for local author Farrell Chiles whose new book focuses on the history of African American warrant officers in and out of the military.

The event, scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 2, will introduce Chiles' latest book, "African American Warrant Officers: A History of the Military."

Officers . . . In Service to Our Country," a compilation of articles, facts, charts, biographies, profiles and photos describing the achievements and contributions of African American warrant officers from World War II to the present.

Chiles, a Vietnam veteran and a supporter of the library, donated a copy of his first book, "As BIG As It Gets," to

the library in 2010 and has each year donated a book to the library from the library's wish list.

He also has displayed items from his various collections, including displays of the Tuskegee Airmen, Jackie Robinson, Light Houses and Eagles, as well as his U.S. Mint Congressional Gold Medal bronze replicas.

Chiles is a retired Army Chief Warrant Officer with 38 years of military service.

For more information, contact the library at (909) 620-2043.

THE WEEKEND GARDENER By Leif Green

If they're so hot, why are they called 'chilies'?

"I'm not really a career person. I'm a gardener, basically." - George Harrison

Chili peppers are one of the easiest plants to grow. They thrive in the warm climate and local sandy soils. Most varieties of chilies will produce fruit throughout the year. During a visit to my local gardening center, I was amazed at



Leif Green

the selection of pepper plants that are now commonly available. In addition to the wonderful flavor they impart to food, they also provide a wide range of "heat."

The heat from the chili pepper is from a chemical called capsaicin. This chemical is an irritant and creates discomfort, or "heat," whenever it comes in contact with sensitive tissue. Anyone who has touched their eyes or nose after handling chilies is aware of this

characteristic.

Capsaicin is commonly measured in Scoville units. Devised in 1912 by Wilbur Scoville, the test involves dissolving a fixed amount of dried pepper in alcohol and then diluting that in a sugar solution. Trained tasters then determine at which dilution they can detect "heat."

Based on the dilution, the number of Scoville units then may be calculated. Since the testing is subjective, the results can vary as much as plus or minus 50 percent. Although more accurate methods of measuring cap-

saicin levels now exist, the Scoville test is still the standard.

For the past several years, the Habanero chili has been crowned the king of chilies. Recently, however, the Habanero chili has been dethroned. The new king is the Carolina Reaper coming in at a whopping 1,600,000 Scoville units. Using modern analytical techniques, about 15 Scoville units equates to one part per million. This means that the Carolina Reaper, on a dry basis, is almost 11 per cent capsaicin. According to the literature, plant breeders have grown even hotter chilies although I haven't seen any in the markets yet.

Whatever kind of chili you like, they're easy to grow. Happy gardening!

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.

For a general comparison, below are the Scoville units for some of the more common chilies:

Bell Pepper	0
Jalapeno and Anaheim peppers	1,000 – 4,000
Serrano pepper	10,000 – 23,000
Cayenne pepper	30,000 – 50,000
Habanero chili	100,000 – 350,000
Police Pepper Spray	500,000 – 5,000,000



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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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Haynes Family of Programs Golf Classic set for June

The 18th annual Haynes Family of Programs Golf Classic, scheduled for Monday, June 8, one of the area's most popular fundraiser golf tournaments, still has opportunities available for advance registration, purchase of dinner-only tickets, sponsorships at a variety of levels, donating raffle prizes and more.

The annual golf tournament – which tees off at noon – is the agency's only major fundraising event held this year to support programs for the children at Haynes Family of Programs in La Verne. The tournament will be held again this year at the Glendora Country Club in Glendora with its newly renovated course and clubhouse.

Proceeds benefit children living at the Haynes Family of Programs in La Verne and attending the special education school

on campus.

The tournament includes continental breakfast, lunch and commemorative photos before a shotgun start with dinner, awards and auction to follow the round.

Also included will be on-course games, cigars, snacks, silent auction, NFL celebrities and more.

Cost for individual players is \$375 and a "Haynes Foursome Package" is \$1,500 (game tickets not included).

Each player again will receive a \$100 gift certificate for the on-site Titleist store.

Non-golfers are invited to attend the dinner banquet at 5:30 p.m. for only \$60 per person.

For more information, contact the Haynes Family of Programs at (909) 593-2581 or visit the web site at www.leroy-haynes.org.

Collegiate Players Tour, summer college golf tourney presented by State Farm, to begin in June

Men and women golfers ages 17 to 24 are invited to play in the Servicemaster Restore Collegiate Players Tour, a three-day summer college golf tournament event, scheduled for June 29 through July 1 at Hidden Valley Golf Course in Norco.

Pomona State Farm agent John Forb-ing said any youngster interested in competing must go to www.collegiateplayerstour.com and register to be a CPT member. Then they can sign up for any CPT tournament they want. The tournament is presented

by State Farm.

Membership registration is \$50 and tournament entry fee is \$100.

The event includes 72 holes of golf (54 holes of competition), a dinner, two lunches, range balls, and a cart for all 72 holes.

It is limited to a full field of 96 players.

The tournament is sanctioned by the U.S.G.A., NCAA Men and Women Golf Coaches Associations, and Southern California PGA Section.



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MAYOR OFFICIATES AT SACK RACE -- Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at right, was the official starter this month for the sack race (ages 14 to 18) at the fourth annual Family Day event at the Pomona PONY Baseball and Softball League in Pomona's Palomares Park. Community groups were on hand with informational booths and each team sponsored a booth to help raise funds to support the league.



SCHOOL OF ARTS AND ENTERPRISE PROVIDED THE FACE PAINTING -- Face painting was an important part of getting into the spirit of things this month at the fourth annual Family Day event at the Pomona PONY Baseball and Softball League. Pictured, at left, is Skylar Cooper, a sophomore from Temple City attending Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise, putting on the finishing touches for a very patient Riley Cruz, 4, of the Pomona Tigers team.



CHECK PRESENTATION TO THE TIGERS -- Members of the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club were on hand at Pomona PONY League Family Day this month to present a check for \$250 to the Tigers, their adopted team. The club also presented a check for \$100 to the Ganesha High School junior varsity baseball team. Pictured, from left, are Barry Dolgivin, league vice president; Stephanie Gallentine, league secretary; Rebecca Bryne, Optimist Club member; the "bunny," mascot for the Optimists, with Destinee Arenas inside (on a very hot day); Margarita Silva, Optimist Club president; Joaquin Rodriguez, also an Optimist Club member; Moises Silva, league president and head coach of the Tigers; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; M. Joyce Bakersmith, past president of the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club; and Dayanara Perez.



LIFE IS LIKE A GAME OF MUSICAL CHAIRS -- So the kids may as well learn now, right? Well, they were doing a pretty good job of it this month at the fourth annual Family Day event at the Pomona PONY Baseball and Softball League. Pictured near the end of an important early round are kids in the five and under age group. The league includes 110 players on nine teams this year.



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Kennedy Austin Foundation

7th Annual Million Mother March

Saturday May 16th 2015 from 8 am to 3 pm at Ganesha Park 1575 N. White Ave Pomona Ca 91767.

This will be a 2 mile march that starts at Pomona Civic Center and ends at Ganesha Park.

This March is dedicated to Mothers & Families who have lost children and or any close family member. Our Theme is "Each One Reach One"

All are welcome to come and participate in the joyous event as we Educate, Equip, Empower and Encourage those overcoming the pain of grief and loss.

There will be a balloon send off, music, food and vendors and much more.

Ms. Ethel Gardner is looking for sponsors, supporters and vendors to help assist and promote families that have lost love ones. Will you be the one who lends a helping hand to those in great need? If that is you please feel free to contract the **Kennedy Austin Foundation at 909-480-3357** to see what you can do to help. Thank you for caring, and every donation is appreciated.

More details will follow closer to the event date.

Kennedy Austin Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charity. Our foundation provides support for families in crises and women surviving domestic violence

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WORKING ON THE THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY GARDENING PROJECT -- Dawn and Fred Van Allen, who live next door to Pomona's therapeutic community gardening project, pose for La Nueva Voz as they coordinate a Pomona Beautification Day project on the grounds with the help of City of Pomona volunteers. Dawn, who is working on her Horticultural Therapy Institute certificate, teaches gardening at the location although the gathering spot under a 100-year-old walnut tree turned out to be a problem for a participant with an allergy to nuts so volunteers were clearing a space near Garey Avenue (just north of the Pomona First Baptist Church campus) to relocate the circle of chairs.



PUTTING WHAT THEY LEARN TO USE -- The "raised garden" area received a general clean-up on Beautification Day. Dawn Van Allen explained those old bathtubs filled with soil that are visible from Garey Avenue make it possible for those with difficulty bending down to practice their gardening skills.



CLEARING THE GROUNDS -- Pitching in to help clear the grounds at the Adobe de Palomares is an unidentified Cal Poly University Pomona student. The volunteers were part of Pomona's annual Beautification Day. Committee co-chairs again this year were Nancy Matarrita of Pomona First Baptist Church and Pastor Rick DeBryne of Lincoln Avenue Community Church.



BEAUTIFICATION DAY AT ADOBE DE PALOMARES -- A team of about 30 volunteers, most of them students at Cal Poly University Pomona, got into the act this month for Pomona Beautification Day at Pomona's Adobe de Palomares, a historical landmark, at Palomares Park. The effort was coordinated by Britney Gallivan and the Historical Society of Pomona Valley. Pictured raking the grounds is Ciera Harris, a sophomore, of Oakland, who was representing the Center for Community Engagement at Cal Poly. Dozens of volunteers worked throughout the morning in the annual citywide clean-up effort at some 50 locations before heading to Downtown Pomona's Thomas Plaza for lunch and entertainment.

Eagles to host first annual 'Cancer Awareness' dance

The first annual "Cancer Awareness Fundraiser Dance" will be held next month, hosted by Pomona's Eagles lodge.

Entertainment will feature Louie Parra and The Mad Latins.

The event is scheduled for 8 p.m. to midnight Saturday, May 23, at the Eagles lodge, 954 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona.

Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$18 at the door.

For tickets and information, contact event chair Dicey Garcia at (909) 753-4857 or the Eagles at (909) 622-9160.

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WALNUT TREE POSED ALLERGY PROBLEM -- Dawn Van Allen poses with the aging walnut tree next to the circle of chairs at Pomona's therapeutic community gardening project on Pomona Beautification Day. The tree caused an allergic reaction due to the nuts and prompted the move to the front of the therapeutic community gardening project. Dawn pointed out that the group uses what she calls "stealth therapy." "We trick people into getting therapy without even knowing it," she said, citing as an example one man who has trouble standing but when he comes over for gardening is walking around.



Photo courtesy of Sally Egan

CHANGING IT UP A LITTLE -- Charles Dollison, on the left, on the keyboard, and Jeff Schenkel, Publisher of La Nueva Voz, on the guitar, performed a set of classic country and classic rock on stage at Downtown Pomona's Thomas Plaza this month as Pomona Beautification Day clean-up volunteers came in for lunch (provided by the Pomona Kiwanis) and entertainment. The two are part of The Sunnyside Up Band which performs in and around Pomona (www.thesunnysideupband.com). Also performing were the Pomona Youth Orchestra, Pomona's Repertory Opera Company, students from Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise, the Hip Hop School of Arts, and Prophecy.

Pomona Lawn Bowling Club open house set for May 9

The Pomona Lawn Bowling Club will hold its annual open house from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 9, at the club facilities in Pomona's Palomares Park.

Visitors are invited to stop by to observe, see demonstrations and learn how the game of lawn bowling is played. The sport's history goes back to the 13th century in old England, and the Pomona club has a history of its own that goes back more than 76 years.

Members – both men and women – come from surrounding cities in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties. It is one of 30 active clubs in Southern California.

Club facilities are located at 451 E. Arrow Highway, Pomona.

For more information, visit the web site at pomonalawnbowlingclub.com.



104TH ANNIVERSARY RUMMAGE SALE -- If it looks like they know what they are doing at Pomona's Pilgrim Congregational Church rummage sale, they ought to -- they've been doing it for 104 years! The sale -- held every six months at the church -- takes up rooms throughout the building, both upstairs and down. The volunteers have it all down to a science -- items are arranged by category, snacks are provided and there is always plenty of parking. And if you missed it last weekend, you can come back in October! Pictured in the gym taking a look at the "throws," from left, are the event co-chairs (for the past four years) Janet Manildi, of Chino, and Judy Sanders, of Chino Hills.

LUNCH LINE FOR VOLUNTEERS -- Beth Brooks of Brooks Property Management in La Verne, at left, offers a beverage to her fellow volunteer Grace Tucker, also of La Verne, during lunch break for the workers at last weekend's rummage sale at Pomona's Pilgrim Congregational Church. Grace kept herself busy during the morning selling donuts at the event.



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