



Happy Holidays

La Nueva Voz

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

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GRATIS



Issue No. 77

Thursday, December 24, 2015

www.lanuevavoz.net



Pomona Christmas Parade – first time at night in 48 years – a big hit with parade-goers of all ages!

The Pomona Christmas Parade in Downtown Pomona – Pomona's first night time parade since 1967 – was an overwhelming success this month with some 3,000 participants and an estimated 8,000 spectators lining the streets to watch and listen to seven school bands, view 12 floats and interact with a total of 108 entries representing literally all of Pomona as well as several surrounding communities.

While the parade was cold and dark (with the exception of streetlights and occasional police department lights atop generators), there wasn't a drop of rain on the crowds who continue to call it the best parade ever produced by the Downtown Pomona Owners Association and its parade organizing committee.

Valley Vista Services won the "Best Float" competition this year with a Valley Vista truck fully decked out with its lighted "Season's Greetings" message – fitting in well with the parade theme "Twas The Lights Before Christmas" – as members of the Boys and Girls Club of Pomona Valley rode atop the float in the huge "sleigh."

Valley Vista has sponsored the

annual La Nueva Voz special parade "pull-out" section – that appears again in the center of this month's issue – every year for six years beginning in

December 2010.

In the high school band competition, the Diamond Ranch High School Panther Brigade was the winner. And the Garey High School Marching Band won the "Sweepstakes" high school band award.

From the viewing point of the La Nueva Voz camera, which was on Second Street at Shaun Diamond Plaza, not only was the parade production a huge success, it also went off without a hitch. (Well, almost without a hitch – we heard of two vintage cars that had problems – one just before the pa-



BEST FLOAT – Valley Vista Services won the award for "Best Float" in the 2015 Pomona Christmas Parade.

rade and one during the parade – but we're not saying which two.)

And, as usual, photographic coverage of the parade by La Nueva Voz – the only newspaper providing compre-

hensive coverage of the parade – was on the ground.

La Nueva Voz parade video coverage

In addition, for the first time this year, La Nueva Voz is providing video coverage of the parade by La Nueva Voz Director of Advertising Renee Barbee, from her position atop "The Farm at Fairplex" float. Barbee, a Pomona Chamber of Commerce Ambassador, represented the Pomona Chamber on the float along with Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto, her husband Jon Aguado and their son, Kaiden

Aguado, age 2. To view the 22-minute parade

video coverage featuring hundreds of spectators along the route, visit the La Nueva Voz Facebook site, or see it on YouTube and on other social media sites. And thanks to Fairplex for lending their float to the Chamber!

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, State Sen. Connie Leyva and Congresswoman Norma Torres rode in the two-hour-long parade as usual, along with Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and all of the members of the City Council.

There was also an assortment of city commissioners, school board members and even a water board member represented in the parade.

We'll leave it up to our readers to decide which city councilmember stole the show, but it might come down to a toss-up between Ginna Escobar, her mom and her dog standing up through the sunroof of a huge stretch limousine, or Paula Lantz riding in a three-wheeled whatever that was (you'll have to

Parade... pg. 12



PHOTOS WITH SANTA -- Chris Johnston, owner of Queen Mary Photography, sets up the perfect pose with Santa (played by Gordon Norman of Glendora Rotary) at this month's annual lighting of the holiday lights event at the Haynes Family of Programs in La Verne. Pictured with Santa are, from left, Jasmine Dominguez, 4, Andrea Dominguez, 9, and Javier Dominguez, 7, all of San Bernardino.



HOLIDAY AT THE PLAZA -- Santa was on hand for photos with the kids in Shaun Diamond Plaza before the start of the Pomona Christmas Parade this month as "Holiday at the Plaza" offered everything from vendors, food booths, the Pomona Youth Orchestra and carolers from Pomona's Repertory Opera Company.



MAN IN RED ARRIVES AT HOSPITAL -- Santa Claus arrives at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center this month in an electric hospital cart just in time to help light the lights on the Christmas tree high atop the hospital itself. This year's tree-lighting was back on the north side of the campus in front of the new Robert & Beverly Lewis Outpatient Pavilion. It was held on the south side of the hospital grounds for the past two years during construction. Santa once again this year was played by Hospital Auxiliary volunteer Keith Dobbins of Chino Hills.



SANTA STOPS AT ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL -- Santa Claus made a stop for photos and wish lists at Pomona's St. Joseph Elementary School during the annual Breakfast with Santa activities this month. Pictured with Santa is Isabella Gonzalez, 7, of Pomona, a second grader at St. Joseph. Santa was played by Lee Green of Pomona. The successful event filled the main school parking lot and overflowed into the lot behind the church.



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Haynes Family of Programs awarded three-year CARF accreditation

Haynes Family of Programs in La Verne has been nationally accredited for a period of three years by CARF for the outstanding group home care the non-profit provides to children and adolescents in need.

The accreditation reflects Haynes Family of Programs' long history of excellence and accordance with the highest levels of quality standards, as well as the

agency's sound organizational infrastructure.

CARF International is an independent non-profit human service accrediting organization founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities. It partners with human service agencies worldwide to improve service delivery outcomes by developing, applying and promoting accreditation standards.

Haynes President and CEO Dan Maydeck said completing the accreditation process "was a major milestone for our organization and an acknowledgement of our dedicated and committed high quality staff."

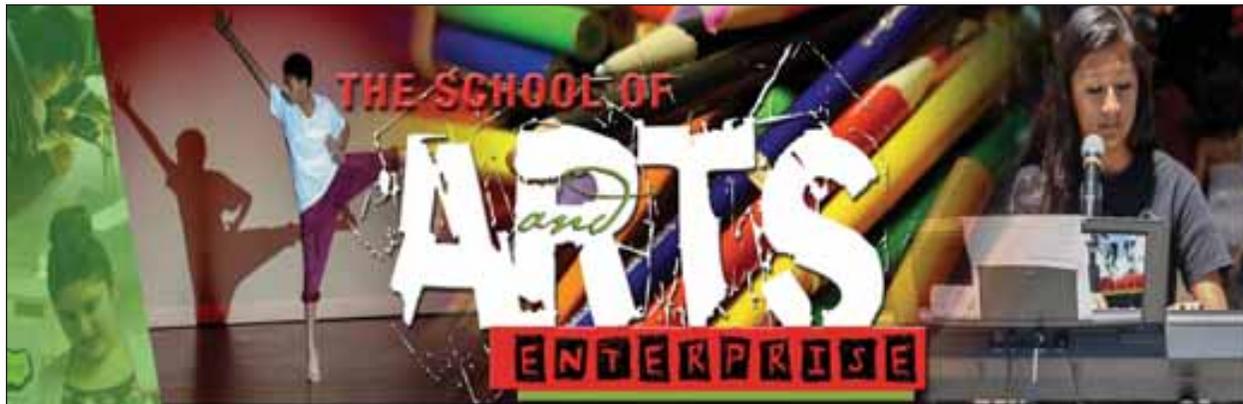
The accreditation was based in part on a rigorous peer review process by trained and experienced volunteers who conduct site visits and assess programs and services.



WINTER WONDERLAND -- Downtown Pomona's Shaun Diamond Plaza became a winter wonderland during "Holiday at the Plaza" activities before the Pomona Christmas Parade. And it was almost cold enough for the snow to be real!



MONUMENT SIGN MAKES IT OFFICIAL -- The permanent monument sign naming Shaun Diamond Plaza on Downtown Pomona's Second Street at Thomas Street completes the re-naming of Thomas Plaza in memory of Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond who was fatally shot last year in the line of duty. The monument was appropriately decorated for the holidays.



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TURNING OUT FOR THE KIDS -- Pomona turned out for the kids again this year at the annual Santa Cop Toy Drive give-away this month in City Hall. An estimated 150 families representing more than 450 kids, all selected by the Pomona Unified School District based on need, participated this year. Parents each year bring in their kids who have an opportunity to select from batches of "age appropriate" gifts. And, according to Sonia Carrigan, of the Pomona Police Department's Crime Prevention office, for the first time this year, at least one member of the family had a chance to select a gift for someone else in the family, usually the mom or dad. The entire program is coordinated by Crime Prevention but toys are donated through a variety of sources including businesses, fundraisers, gift "drop off boxes" and more. Pictured, from left, are School Resources Officer Tomas Ramirez, Officer Sean Gonzalez, Crime Prevention Officer Manny Ramos, Pomona City Councilmember Paula Lantz, Crime Prevention's Sonia Carrigan, mom Brenda Olivas, Amarisa Hernandez, Crime Prevention's Nohemi Gonzalez and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman.

A NEW BICYCLE! -- Amarisa Hernandez, 6, a student at Pomona Unified School District's Golden Springs Elementary School in Diamond Bar, tries out her brand new bicycle in the lobby of Pomona City Hall this month at "gifts time" for the annual Santa Cop Toy Drive, sponsored by the Pomona Police Department and the City of Pomona. Her mom, Brenda Olivas, who works as a substitute teacher in Pomona and Claremont, and in a "lab" school at UCLA, told La Nueva Voz her car broke down, she has several other bills, and her daughter is on the autism spectrum, so the act of kindness could not have come at a better time. The bike was one of two two-wheelers donated by Springleaf Financial Services in Pomona.



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LIGHTING THE TREE -- Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at left, and Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center President and CEO Rich Yochum help Santa light the lights on the hospital Christmas tree this year. Yochum wished members of the community and hospital staff happy holidays on a chilly evening he said finally "is starting to look like winter." Yochum wished everyone a safe and joyous holiday season in which everyone is "thankful for all we have in our country and in this community."



LANDMARK IN POMONA -- And after counting down Santa's reindeer by name, the lights were lit on the 65-foot tree Christmas tree atop Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center where it always serves as a landmark in the community.



PHOTOS WITH SANTA -- Lauren and Daniel Gonzalez of Rialto and their three kids pose for photos with Santa before this month's 17th annual Christmas tree lighting at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. The kids, from left, are Daniel, Adriana and Illana. Daniel (Senior) is a manager in the hospital's food and nutrition department. Festivities included cookies, candy canes and fun for kids to commemorate the holiday season.

Cal Poly students in Renaissance Scholars program gather to give thanks

Ushering in the spirit of the holiday season, the Cal Poly University Pomona Renaissance Scholars program brought together alumni and their families along with current students last month at a Thanksgiving celebration on campus to reminisce and offer thanks for giving former foster youth

By his own account, Montiel lived in 24 foster homes throughout Southern California and attended five elementary schools, two middle schools and two high schools.

But he said his older brother, Enrique, now a supervisor at a foster-care agency, helped him find his way. Enrique Montiel



Photo courtesy of Tom Zasadzinski, Cal Poly Pomona
CAL POLY RENAISSANCE SCHOLAR ENJOYS THANKSGIVING WITH CAL POLY PRESIDENT COLEY – Cal Poly University Pomona student Veonte Barnes contemplates a question from Cal Poly President Soraya Coley and her husband, Ron, at the Renaissance Scholars Thanksgiving celebration last month at AGRScapes on the Cal Poly campus. The Renaissance Scholars program provides academic support and financial assistance to former foster youth.

the opportunity to attain a higher education. Cal Poly President Soraya Coley joined more than 100 people at the festivities along with her husband, Ron, to have a chance to chat with the kids.

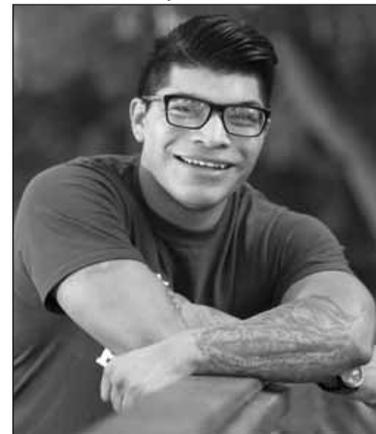
The Renaissance Scholars program at Cal Poly offers financial and academic support for former foster youth who are among the most vulnerable students because they lack the "safety net" of a family, according to a Cal Poly spokesperson.

The program encourages the academic and personal pursuits of Renaissance Scholars, and provides financial assistance, tutoring, and academic and personal advising.

One Renaissance Scholar, Ramiro Montiel, made his way to Cal Poly after being shuffled through the Los Angeles foster-care system from the time he was three months old. His three brothers and a sister also were dispersed to foster families.

also was a Renaissance Scholar at Cal Poly. "He told me 'If I did it, you can do it. I can see it in you,'" Montiel said.

"When I went into the Renaissance Scholars, I was very selfish," he added. "I felt like the world owed me something. Being a Renaissance Scholar showed me to be benevolent and to care, to help others in need."



RAMIRO MONTIEL...
... Renaissance Scholar

"Family is a huge thing for me," he said. "Renaissance Scholars is my family."

Through Renaissance Scholars, Montiel has been able to thrive as a marketing student and mature as a person, according to a news release.

His fifth and latest internship put him on the path to a career in entertainment marketing.

The Renaissance Scholars program was established in 2002. Last month's Thanksgiving celebration marked the 10th anniversary of that event.

Local artists invited to evening of art and dining at Fairplex

Both novice and professional artists are invited to The Millard Sheets Art Center at Pomona's Fairplex next month for a fine dining and wine event highlighting the work of Viennese artist Gustav Klimt.

The event, "Palates & Palettes," will be held at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 9, at Millard Sheets. The program highlights a famous artist from a different geographic location each month and guests, guided by an experienced art teacher, either recreate

one of his famous works or use the art as inspiration.

Cuisine and wines from the artist's homeland are served.

Twisted Sage of San Dimas will cater the event, and wines will be provided by the Los Angeles International Wine Competition, saluting Klimt's native Austria.

Cost is \$75 per person and includes painting supplies. For reservations, contact (909) 865-4161.

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KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS TURKEY GIVEAWAY -- Members of Knights of Columbus Council 11612 (Our Lady Queen of the Foothills, Bill Young, Grand Knight) and other volunteers sponsored a turkey giveaway for Thanksgiving last month at the Pomona Unified School District's Child Development Center at the Village at Indian Hill. Spokesman Al Villanueva, Chairperson of the group's Arbol Verde Preservation Committee, said the distribution program included everything from pumpkin pies to turkeys and more. Pictured are the volunteers with two of the grocery baskets used to load the items into trucks.

**Susie and Angel Perales
celebrate 51st wedding anniversary**



Susie and Angel Perales

La Nueva Voz friends Susie and Angel Perales celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary last week – an important milestone in a romance that began when they met at a community dance and decided to get married after a year of dating.

The two grew up in East Los Angeles but moved to Pomona in 1973, where Susie became a contributing writer and typesetter for the old La Voz, the predecessor of this news-

paper. Today, Susie is a contributing writer to La Nueva Voz as she helps to continue the tradition.

Both Susie and Angel worked for the Pomona Unified School District – for a combined 56 years.

They raised three children – Danny, David and Ann Marie – and have seven grandchildren and a great granddaughter.

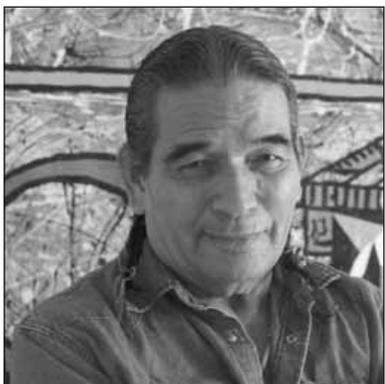
So, to Susie and Angel, congratulations on your 51st anniversary from your friends and familia!

Art exhibit by Pomona native Samee Ochoa opens at dA

“Open Journey, Real Offerings,” a collection by Pomona native Samee Ochoa, opened with a “meet the artist” reception this month and will continue through Jan. 30 at Pomona’s dA Center for the Arts in Downtown Pomona.

“I don’t want my art to be considered Indian art, I want it to be human art,” Ochoa said.

A dA news release described his work as having a “very singular and passionate voice” that “illuminates the mundane world, that captures life’s un-



Samee Ochoa

seen forms, that calls for protest and reckoning, a voice that speaks to the human experience.”

“Art is a way of meditation and discovery,” Ochoa said. “Through art we show who we are, what we are and what we are capable of.”

At the opening reception he expressed his appreciation for his upbringing and education in Pomona by gifting works of art to the Pomona Unified School District, the Pomona Public Library and the City of Pomona.

Ochoa, a Native American artist who descends from the Navajo and Chacato tribes, is a graduate of Pomona High School. He was one of 15 children raised in railroad boxcars in Pomona by a father who was a preacher and a mother who insisted he shed his Native American ways to avoid bigotry in the community.

He has completed more than 300 pieces over the past 24 years.

The dA Center is located at 252 D.S. Main St, Pomona.

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SEASON’S GREETINGS!

Wishing you a happy holiday season!



“It is both an honor and privilege to be your Los Angeles County Supervisor. I have just completed my first year in office and I am also Chair of the Board of Supervisors for the next year. We have made significant progress this year in bringing more resources to the region. I am proud that the County has designated Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center as the new site for the East San Gabriel Valley Trauma Center. This is a major first step in our journey toward the establishment of a needed trauma center that will provide quality care for residents of this community and surrounding areas.”

HILDA L. SOLIS
Chair, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Happy Holidays!

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iFelices Fiestas!



RIBBON CUTTING FOR POMONA'S OLD STUMP BREWING -- An official Pomona Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting was held this month for Pomona's Old Stump Brewing Company, which opened for business in September serving handcrafted beer in a tasting room, catering events, hosting private parties in the tasting room and supplying restaurants and bars everywhere. La Nueva Voz taste-tested four "blonde" beers and can tell you that all are good (our personal favorite was the Habanero Blonde). Pictured with the brewery equipment in the background, from left, are Pomona Chamber Ambassador Rosanna Manzano, of New York Life Insurance Co.; Benny Ayala representing State Sen. Connie Leyva; Robert Torres, representing Assemblyman Freddie Rodriguez; Pomona Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erica Frausto; Pomona Chamber Ambassador Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz; Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin; Pomona Chamber Board member Jill Reiff, of Valley Vista Services; Pomona Chamber Board President Cyndie O'Brien of Inter Valley Health Plan; Pomona Chamber Ambassador Susana Calderon, of Forest Lawn; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; Pomona Chamber Ambassador Teresa James, owner of Longdog Vintage in Pomona; Old Stump Brewing Co. co-owner Harald Gallob; Pomona Chamber Board member Jeff Keating, of Western University; Old Stump co-owners Barbara Gallob and Mike Conway; Pomona City Councilmember Paula Lantz; Old Stump co-owner Elizabeth Conway; Downtown Pomona Owners Association President Carolyn Hemming; Marisol Guerra, representing Congresswoman Norma Torres; and Pomona Chamber Board member Stephanie Benjamin. Old Stump Brewing is located at 2896 Metropolitan Place, Pomona. For more information, visit the web site at www.oldstumpbrewery.com.

Muffin Top ^{4.6% ABV} \$6	Blonde Conniption ^{4.5% ABV} \$6
Bee Sting Blonde ^{5.2% ABV} \$6	Hugh Hef-weizen ^{5.2% ABV} \$6
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Devil's Addiction IPA ^{6.3% ABV} \$7	Milk Stout ^{6.9% ABV} \$6
Santa's Sin ^{6.2% ABV} \$6	Nut Job Brown Ale ^{6.0% ABV} \$6
H2O *1 SODA *1	

DECISIONS, DECISIONS -- A partial menu is on the wall in the tasting room of Pomona's Old Stump Brewing Co. Co-owner Harald Gallob said he started nine years ago as a craft beer hobbyist in his garage before teaming up with Mike Conway to create the new business. Before that, he spent 20 years in the financial industry. Conway, who built most of the facility, has a background as a fabricator and his wife has a background in keeping the books. Gallob's wife Barbara handles marketing and social media for the business.



LIGHTS ARE ON AT HAYNES FAMILY OF PROGRAMS! -- Holiday lights are on now through the end of the holiday season at the Haynes Family of Programs in La Verne following this month's annual community event at the Haynes campus. More than 40,000 lights decorate the campus and "dance" in synchronization to holiday music available at 90.5 FM on car radios. The lights were turned on during a festive open house that included everything from photos with Santa, eggnog shakes, Christmas carols, crafts for the kids and more. Pictured enjoying the lights are, from left, Allison Munoz, 5, Derek Munoz, 7, Sarai Rivas, 9, Mariela Gonzales, 9, and, at rear, Yolanda Vilafuerte, all of Pomona. Visitors are invited to drive by, enjoy the lights and tune into the music on their car radio.

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DONATIONS FOR WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY -- Members of the Kiwanis Club of Pomona conducted a holiday drive this year to support Pomona's Washington Elementary School where, to date, they have donated more than 40 pairs of shoes, 100 pairs of socks, 25 jackets and 15 pounds of food. "I am really proud of the generosity of our club members," said Club President Jason Brooks, a fourth-generation member of the club. He said Kiwanis adopted the school several years ago and Principal Alan Pantanini joined the club and became an active member. Pictured is a sampling of some of what the club has donated to the school so far. The club meets at noon Wednesdays at the Salvation Army in Pomona.

Assemblymember Rodriguez holds annual 'Turkey Drive'

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez held his annual Thanksgiving Turkey Drive by donating 140 turkeys to families in need.

"The holidays are about giving back to those in need," Rodriguez said. "I started this turkey drive when I was a member of the Pomona City

Council and I have made it a priority to continue it every year."

Turkeys, canned vegetables and other "fixings" were donated by Fontana Water Co., Food 4 Less, Ralphs, Stater Bros. and other non-profits for a variety of organizations serving those in need.



CHRISTMAS TOYS FOR POMONA KIDS -- Pomona's American Legion Post 30 teamed up with area members of the Mongols Motorcycle Club this month to provide several hundred toys to under-served kids in Pomona. American Legion Second Vice Commander Bob Radcliff, long a motorcyclist himself, said four long tables were filled with toys donated by the Mongols. Some were handed over to the local Los Angeles County Fire Department for their own distribution program. Pictured in a photo taken from atop American Legion headquarters is the parking lot filled with motorcycles.



BACK FOR ANOTHER YEAR -- Group organizer Priscilla Rondomanski, of San Dimas, second from left, gift wraps a football at her table of six volunteers (two more didn't make it this year and one more was still on the way at photo time) at the annual holiday gift wrapping party last week at Haynes Family of Programs in La Verne. The group has volunteered at the annual event each year for the past five years after reading about the kids in a local newspaper. She said her entire family has always been very philanthropic and considers this a "friends and family" project -- one friend even flew in from Arizona to help. "We started to adopt the boys," said Rondomanski, who also volunteers at the City of Hope, and now the group adopted an entire cottage and provides gifts for all 12 of the boys living there. "We feel we're so fortunate," she said, adding that some of her friends send in checks for as much as \$500 each year to help pay for the gifts. Pictured, from left, are Rondomanski's friend of 62 years Pat Cole, of Gilbert, Arizona; Rondomanski; her granddaughter Brianna Rondomanski; Maria Rondomanski, of Phillips Ranch (Priscilla's daughter-in-law); and grandchildren Jill and Brian Rondomanski.



GIFT WRAPPING PARTY AT HAYNES FAMILY OF PROGRAMS -- It was a full house and an overflowing room last week at the annual holiday gift wrapping party at Haynes Family of Programs in La Verne. Volunteers get together each year to help wrap gifts for each of the kids at Haynes and enjoy some fellowship and refreshments at the same time. The gifts, provided by some of the "wrappers" and others who picked up "wish lists," will bring holiday cheer on Christmas morning to the 72 boys and teens in residence, 180 boys, girls and teens with autism, developmental and learning disabilities attending school on the La Verne campus, and nine young men who have "aged out" of foster care. Volunteer "teams" were from SCE, Foothill Christian School, Chaffey College and more. The Haynes Family of Programs serves 350 to 400 children annually through its four basic programs -- therapeutic residential treatment, transitional housing, Haynes Education Center and mental health. For more information, visit the web site at www.leroyhaynes.org.

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MEDICARE STEP BY STEP MEETINGS: **Thurs, Jan 14 @ 10 am** (in English)

Tues, Jan 26 @ 4 pm (in Spanish) **Fri, Jan 29 @ 1 pm** (in English)

INTER VALLEY ENROLLMENT MEETINGS:

Wed, Jan 6 @ 10 am & 2 pm (in English) **Wed, Jan 20 @ 10 am & 2 pm** (in Spanish)

RIVERSIDE: Lincoln Plaza 2995 Van Buren Blvd (at Lincoln) Ste A-13

MEDICARE STEP BY STEP MEETINGS: **Thurs, Jan 14 @ 1 pm** (in English)

Tues, Jan 19 @ 5 pm (in Spanish) **Thurs, Jan 21 @ 10 am** (in English)

INTER VALLEY ENROLLMENT MEETINGS: **Wed, Jan 27 @ 5:30 pm** (in Spanish)

Inter Valley Health Plan is a not-for-profit HMO with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Inter Valley Health Plan depends on contract renewal. Anyone entitled to Part A and enrolled in Part B may apply, including those under the age of 65 entitled to Medicare on the basis of Social Security disability benefits. Members must continue to pay Medicare Part B premium. **The benefit information provided is a brief summary, not a complete description of benefits. For more information contact the Plan. Limitations, copayments, and restrictions may apply. Benefits, formulary, pharmacy network, premium and/or co-payments/co-insurance may change on Jan 1 of each year. For accommodation of persons with special needs at meetings, call the number above. A licensed sales representative will be present with marketing information and applications. This is an advertisement. *No obligation to enroll.

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SUPERVISOR SOLIS AND THE TEAMSTERS -- Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, at podium, speaks to nearly 400 children and parents in Sunshine Park in Valinda this month as representatives of Teamsters Chapter 42 and Santa look on. Not pictured is Industry Sheriff's Station Capt. Tim Murakami. Solis told her guests that she asked the Teamsters to consider doing something for the kids of the San Gabriel Valley after she became aware of the Teamsters' very successful program over the last two years in East Los Angeles. The toys were donated by the Teamsters and others and transported to the park in a Teamsters semi-tractor trailer truck. Solis told guests her mom still lives in the same house in nearby La Puente where she was raised with her six siblings. She thanked "my friends with the Teamsters" for all they did for the kids.



L.A. COUNTY SUPERVISOR SOLIS AND TEAMSTERS BRING GIFTS TO VALINDA CHILDREN -- Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Hilda Solis joined Teamsters Horsemen Chapter 42 this month for a toy give-away, music and a visit from Santa in Sunshine Park in the unincorporated county area of Valinda. Pictured with some of the toys are, from left, Hacienda La Puente Unified School District board member Anthony Duarte; John Wicker, Chief Deputy Director, L.A. County Department of Parks and Recreation; Supervisor Solis; La Puente Mayor Dan Holloway; and La Puente City Councilmember Charlie Klinakis.



FACE PAINTING AT VALINDA GIFT GIVE-AWAY -- Vivian Acuna, 6, shows off her face painting with her big sister Jasmine Acuna, 12, of Rowland Heights, at the holiday gift give-away made possible by L.A. County Supervisor Hilda Solis and the Teamsters.



SHERIFF'S EXPLORERS HELP KIDS FIND GIFTS -- Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy Explorer James Chang helps a group of Valinda kids select just the right gifts during a gift give-away made possible by L.A. County Supervisor Hilda Solis and the Teamsters.

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY REPORT



Photo by Victor Velazquez Ramirez, community news reporter
NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH IN LA PUENTE -- The local "Neighborhood Watch" program is active in east La Puente, thanks to a concerned community, the support of the La Puente City Council and Sheriff's Deputies in the Industry Sheriff's Station. Sheriff's Deputy Viviana Marez said it is far more effective to fight crime before it starts, and even more so when residents participate in the effort. Deputy Marez, center, at rear, is pictured with participants in the La Puente program. For more information, contact (626) 330-3322 or (626) 934-3303.

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- Express Employment Professionals, Inc.
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- Pomona USD Cosmetology & Barbering Schools
- Pomona Unified School District Food Services
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- San Antonio Regional Occupational Program
- Sheth, Dr. Leena
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- Union Station Homeless Services
- U.S.A. Fit Force Taekwondo, Inc.
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'CASH MOB' FOCUSES ON POMONA BUSINESS -- Members of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce, trying out a concept borrowed from other chambers around the country, last month staged a one-day "Chamber Cash Mob," similar to a "Flash Mob" (an impromptu dance in a public space) to call attention to Pomona Locksmith, a small business located in a former photo-developing booth in the parking lot at 1672 Indian Hill Blvd. Owner Chuck Pumpruck, who said he has operated the business there for the past 28 years, often provides services to the American Red Cross and other non-profits to try to give back to the community. He operates the business with his wife, Mimi, and nephews Danny Tang and Knott Haema in a business that handles a high volume of emergency calls. What is the secret to his success? "If you do good people talk," Pumpruck said. The Cash Mob concept was brought to the chamber by Pomona Chamber Board Member David McElwain in an attempt to convey the message that it is important to support a local business owner and "spend your money in Pomona!" Participants were encouraged to have a spare key made and to post pictures and reviews on social media. Pictured is Lizbeth Lucca, of Pomona's Repertory Opera Company and a chamber member, picking out just the right key from Pumpruck on Cash Mob day at Pomona Locksmith.

Supervisor Solis named Chair of L.A. County Board of Supervisors

Former U.S. Secretary of Labor and current First District Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis took over the gavel this month as she was named Chair of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for the coming year.

"This past year, I have had the privilege of going out into so many different communities to meet people and talk to them about their lives and challenges," Solis said. "We are all proud of our county's diversity. But, sometimes our diversity makes it easy for us to think about what makes us different than what makes us the same."

"The priority I would like to set for this year is to reaffirm our commitment to our diverse county family – to make this family, our family, inclusive for everybody, no matter their background, no matter where they come from, no matter how far down the scale they have



NEW BOARD CHAIR IN DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES – L.A. County Supervisor Hilda Solis, whose First District includes Pomona, presides over the five-member Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors meeting in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration in the Los Angeles Civic Center this month on her first day as Board Chair.

been," Solis added.

"We are all a part of this family and this family does not leave anyone behind," Solis said.

Supervisor Mike Antonovich

served as Board Chair last year. Each year, the Board rotates the position among the five supervisors who represent the 10 million residents of Los Angeles County.

RUNNING LIKE YOU HAVE WINGS?

Elizabeth Muramoto, human resources at Worthington Industries, participated in a 5K Monster Fun Run fundraiser for the YMCA of Pomona Valley recently, sponsored by the YMCA and Worthington Industries of Pomona, a diversified metal processing company and a regular supporter of the YMCA. YMCA CEO Matthew Henry said it was the YMCA's first 5K run and it raised about \$5,000 for the YMCA, with a side benefit of spreading the message of "get out and get fit." We're not sure if the wings made it easier for Elizabeth to run. About 130 people participated in the run, with about 100 of those from Worthington where Henry said running is part of the company's wellness program.



LIGHTING THE LIGHTS -- Dancers from G-Diva Productions pose for the cameras with members of the Pomona City Council after the tree-lighting ceremony this month at Pomona City Hall. Pictured during their break from the City Council meeting, at rear, from left, are Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and City Councilmembers Cristina Carrizosa, Adriana Robledo, Debra Martin and John Nolte.



DANCING IN THE HOLIDAYS -- Dancers from Pomona's G-Diva Productions Dance Studios, owned by Pomona City Councilmember Ginna Escobar, dance in the holidays with their "Holiday Jubilee" routine, the same dance they performed in the Pomona Christmas Parade, during annual tree-lighting ceremonies this month on the steps of Pomona City Hall. The dancers performed to a medley of tunes including "Jingle Bells," "Happy" and "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year."

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

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

Foster Care:

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

Mental Health:

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

Faith Based Coalitions:

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

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



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'CHIPS FOR KIDS' TOY DRIVE -- Some 300 classic cars, drivers, volunteers, racers and other supporters turned out this month for the annual CHiPs for Kids toy drive as the California Highway Patrol teamed up with Prolong Twilight Cruise Night and Pomona's NHRA Motorsports Museum to collect Christmas gifts for hundreds of local kids throughout the San Gabriel Valley and Inland Empire. Pictured with some of the gifts in front of the museum are, from left, Larry Fisher, museum director; Rose Dickinson, marketing director; CHP Public Information Officer Rodrigo Jimenez, of the CHP's Baldwin Park office; stock eliminator drag racer Gary Nicholson; CHP volunteer Richard Mendez; and CHP Officer Chad Guin. Pomona-based Prolong Super Lubricants, sponsor of the event and a manufacturer of a variety of chemicals and car care products, kicks off the drive each year with its own donation of toys. The NHRA museum, which offered free admission in exchange for toys during the toy drive, is located on the grounds at Pomona's Fairplex. For more information, contact (909) 622-2133.

Deadline is Jan. 31 for Covered California open enrollment

Deadline for open enrollment in Covered California is Jan. 31 for California residents to register for insurance and avoid tax penalties.

"Once again, Covered California is seeing an incredible surge of interest, and thousands of people are enrolling at storefronts, insurance agent offices and community centers across the state every day," said Covered California Executive Director Peter Lee. "Everyone who needs health insurance, or

knows someone who does, should know they can get financial help to pay for top-brand health insurance coverage."

Covered California estimates there are about 750,000 uninsured Californians eligible for subsidies, and it forecasts that between 295,000 and 450,000 consumers will newly enroll in coverage during open enrollment.

An additional 1.4 million people statewide are

believed to qualify for low-cost or no-cost Medi-Cal.

"Our research shows that one-third of those eligible to get financial help to buy insurance don't know it's available," Lee said.

To find an enrollment location, visit www.coveredca.com/get-help/local and search by zip code.

Agents are available in a variety of languages. Consumers also can call Covered California directly at (800) 300-1506 to enroll over the telephone.

Covered California is an independent part of the state government whose job it is to make the new market work for California's consumers. It is overseen by a five-member board appointed by the governor and the legislature.

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A La Nueva Voz special "pull out" section:
The 2015 Pomona Christmas Parade
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Houston Astros pitcher Vincent Velasquez, a 2010 graduate from Pomona's Garey High School, was Grand Marshal of this year's Pomona Christmas Parade.



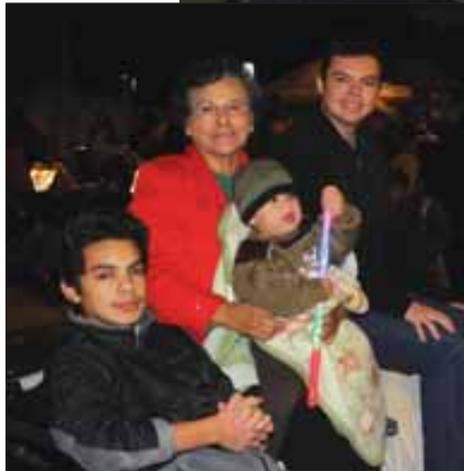
SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM VALLEY VISTA – Valley Vista Services won "best float" in this year's Pomona Christmas Parade with a "Season's Greetings" message on the float and the kids from the Boys and Girls Club of Pomona Valley on top. On the back of the float was a special tribute message – "A Life Well Lived" – in memory of Manuel Perez, owner and founder of Valley Vista, who died in April at the age of 80.



Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman



Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez



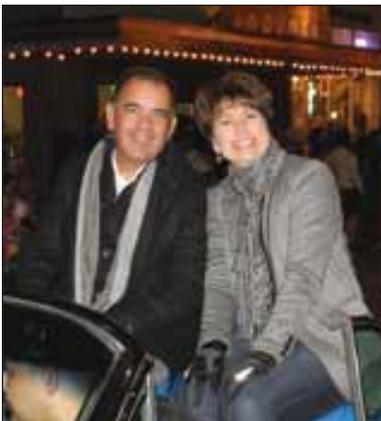
City Councilmember Cristina Carrizosa



City Councilmember Paula Lantz



City Councilmember Debra Martin



State Sen. Connie Leyva and her husband, Al Leyva



City Councilmember Ginna Escobar



Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro and his wife Judi



City Councilmember Adriana Robledo



Congresswoman Norma Torres



City Councilmember John Nolte

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Special Valley Vista Services “pull out” section -- The 2015 Pomona Christmas Parade



Pomona Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, at left, rides the Chamber float (on loan from Fairplex) in the Pomona Christmas Parade with Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto, her husband, Jon Aguado, and their son, Kaiden Aguado, age 2.



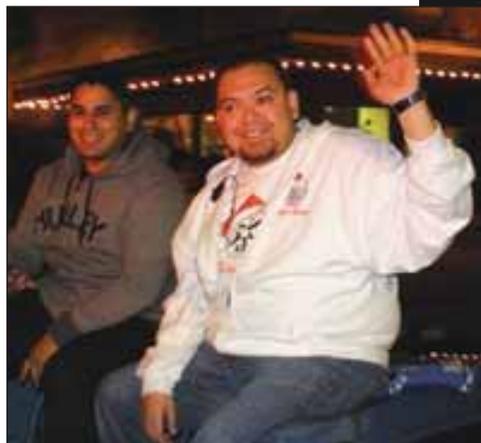
Members of Pomona's Ganesha High School Marching Band



Pomona Catholic's Homecoming Queen and her Court



Former Pomona City Councilmember Danielle Soto, a member of the city's Community Life Commission



Pomona Planning Commissioner Ismael Arias



Pomona Unified School District Board Vice President Jason Rothman



Pomona Unified School District Board member Frank Guzman

Carlos Goytia, representing South Pomona as a Board Member at Three Valleys Municipal Water District



Members of the Garey High School Marching Band, winners of the "Sweepstakes" award in the band competition

Pomona Christmas Parade... from pg. 1

see the photo in the special section).

Pomona turns out for parade

Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro and his wife Judi walked the entire parade route handing out candy canes to the kids, and the Pomona City Hall Drill Team provided another amazing dance performance by Pomona's best City Hall employees, led by everyone's favorite Andrea Rico (hey, after all, she is a "Superstar," at least ever since her performance at the YMCA fundraiser in October at the Fox Theater where she won "best performance" as the fictional character Mary Katherine Gallagher on Saturday Night Live).

Politics slipped into the parade a

little more than usual this year with an election coming up (Congresswoman Norma Torres always calls it "silly season") with what looked like two or three "candidates to be" getting their names and faces out there ahead of the race for Mayor of Pomona. Hey, one candidate even had t-shirts made up for the parade, even though the election won't be held until next November – some 11 months from now.

Pomona Police Lt. Ronald McDonald, a friend of La Nueva Voz, rode in the parade as a community hero as the police department is recognizing his 50 years of service to the department.

Special parade guest was GERAL-

dine Marks, the Pomona Christmas Parade's Centenarian Special Guest, who celebrated her 100th birthday on the same day as the parade. She still prepares her own meals, participates twice a week in a senior exercise class and attends church regularly.

Grand Marshal for the parade was Houston Astros pitcher Vincent Velasquez, a 2010 graduate from Pomona's Garey High School, who participates in a variety of organizations by "paying it forward." We also understand he is a regular golfer at Palm Lake Golf Course in Pomona. Stop by to play a round and say hello to course operator Pedro Gonzalez and you might just

run into him.

The parade also included Miss Pomona and her court, Pomona Catholic's Homecoming Queen and her court, and even an impressive contingent from Tri-City Mental Health promoting the Tri-City Mental Wellness Campaign – and just in time for the holidays – on the theme "Room for Everyone."

And the Manzanares Perez family rode a vintage car in the parade, representing 13 generations of Pomona Valley residents.

"Play by play" announcer for the parade again this year was Nancy Matarrita who brought the parade to life over the public address system along Second Street.



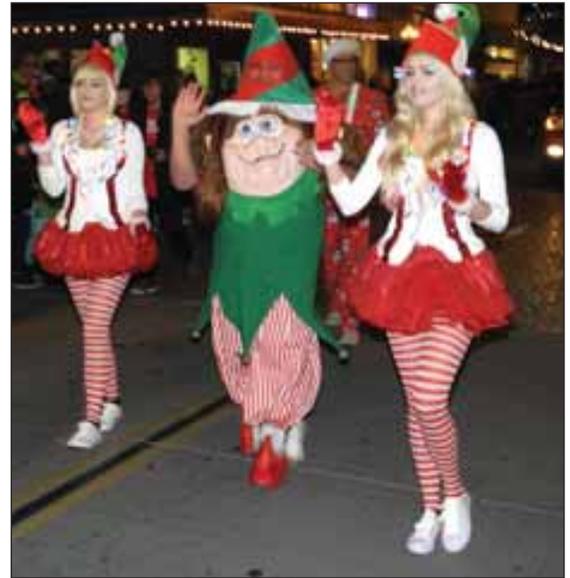
Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman actually was marching elsewhere in the parade at the time this photo was taken but standing in for her are, at left, Pomona Unified Supt. Richard Martinez and, carrying her sign, Perlman's husband, Dr. Ronald Hensen.



The world-famous Pomona City Hall Drill Team



Students showcase their school clubs and selected costumes from Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise



The color guard from Pomona's American Legion Post 30 led this year's parade.



The Manzanares Perez family, representing 13 generations of Pomona Valley residents



Representatives of Day One (that's La Nueva Voz friend Adriana Pinedo on the left) marched in the parade with their message of public health education, intervention and policy development.

The Diamond Ranch High School Panther Brigade, winners of the high school band competition

Dawn Taccone, Manager of the Farm Store at Cal Poly University Pomona and a lecturer in the Collins College of Hospitality Management at Cal Poly, waves to the La Nueva Voz camera along with her staff, a few farm animals and a few staff members of the future. The Farm Store Pomona Christmas Parade every year.



Those Christmas lights on her dress were a big hit as members of the Pomona Premier Youth Soccer League walked by in the parade.



The Rotary float in the Pomona Christmas Parade included (clockwise from Santa) John Forbing trying to relax; Beth Brooks; Carol Wilt and David Speidel.



Youth boxers in G2G Pomona Boxing showed off a few moves – and lugged a couple of awards – in the Pomona Christmas Parade.



Parade "VIP" Geraldine Marks, foreground in the back seat, who celebrated her 100th birthday on parade day.



Players in the Pomona Southwest Little League looked like they were all ready for Christmas.



Miss Pomona 2015 Irlanda Gabriela Mora and her court, Lauren Alissa Marinero and Kasandra Martinez



TWO MAYORS IN THIS PARADE? – Tri-City Mental Health’s Mark Bellegia insisted he was the real deal. Just don’t tell Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman! And Gilbert Saldade, at right, also of Tri-City, and Gamaliel Polanco, Manager of Tri-City’s Wellness Center, second from left, pause in the parade to pose for La Nueva Voz. Meanwhile, that’s Tri-City’s Executive Director Toni Navarro with the Grinch making sure parade-goers help eliminate the mental health stigma instead of being a Grinch. They were promoting Tri-City’s Mental Wellness Campaign on the theme “Room for Everyone.”



It was the 'official' Pomona Relay for Life VW bus in this year's Christmas parade with Gino Elias driving and his wife, Diane, carrying the banner out front.

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'Community Hero' Pomona Police Lt. Ronald McDonald, who is celebrating 50 years with the Pomona Police Department this year



The Red Devils in the Pomona High School Marching Band



Supporters of the Pomona Public Library turned out – all of them – the trustees, Friends of the Library, the Foundation and “Save Our Pomona Public Library.” That’s SOPPL’s Marian Higgins carrying the banner and Library Trustee Mike Suarez right behind her waving to the La Nueva Voz camera. And that’s Arturo Jimenez leading the way in his 1940 Mercury.



(See additional Parade photos pg. 16, 17)

Valley Vista Services and Pomona Valley Transfer Station Wish all of the Residents and Businesses of the City of Pomona a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!





WORK IN PROGRESS -- Tony Grzeszczak of Pomona poses in front of his house in Mountain Meadows after turning on the lights of his annual creation using characters ranging from Santa Claus to Mickey Mouse. He carves out the pieces individually in his garage using a jig saw and patterns and adds to the display each year. And he powers the moving parts using automobile windshield wiper motors and power transformers. He's been putting it all together for five years and, while he said the number driving by to see it increases each year, it remains limited because he lives in a gated community. "I do this because I enjoy the impact it has on people's lives," he said. "I am blessed to be given such talents to create and share it with my community."

FINISHING TOUCHES -- Tony Grzeszczak makes a final adjustment to a display in his front yard Christmas lights display. He comes by all of this naturally -- he is a finished carpenter and cabinetmaker and has been building things since he was a child. He has thousands of hours in this project and literally works on it all year around. Want to stop by and see the display? You'll have to catch the gate when it is open but the address is 1919 Paseo La Paz.



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Members of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley rode in the Pomona Christmas Parade. That's Board President Mickey Gallivan driving the truck.



Members of Pomona's Kennedy Austin Wellness Foundation with founder Ethel Gardner, not pictured, in rear.

El Desfile Navideño de Pomona por la noche fue todo un éxito

El Desfile Navideño de Pomona por primera vez desde 1967 se presentó en la noche y fue un éxito abrumador con alrededor de 3,000 participantes y se calcula alrededor de 8,000 espectadores para disfrutar de siete bandas escolares, 12 carrozas y interactuar con un total de 108 desfilantes representando a la ciudad de Pomona y las comunidades a sus alrededores.

La noche era oscura y fría pero ni una gota de lluvia cayó sobre las multitudes quienes expresaron que fue el mejor desfile producido por la Asociación de Comerciantes del Centro de Pomona y su comité de organización.

Los Servicios de Valley Vista ganó la competencia de "Mejor Carroza" con su carroza llena de lucecitas y el mensaje de "Felices Fiestas" – coordinando con el tema del desfile "'Twas the night before Christmas" – mientras que miembros de los Niños y Niñas del Valle de Pomona paseaban arriba del "trineo."

Valley Vista ha patrocinado la sección especial del desfile de La Nueva Voz cada año iniciando en Diciembre del 2010.

En la competencia de bandas de high school, la Brigada de Panteras de Diamond Ranch High School se ganó el primer lugar. Y la banda de Garey High School se ganó el premio "Sweepstakes."

Desde el punto de vista de la cámara fotográfica de La Nueva Voz, la cual estaba situada en la calle Segunda en la Plaza Shaun Diamond, la producción del desfile fue todo un éxito. (Bueno, casi todo un éxito, pues dos coches antiguos tuvieron algunos problemas – uno antes del desfile y otro durante el desfile – pero no diremos cuales dos.) Y, como siempre, La Nueva Voz es el único periódico que produce cobertura completa del desfile.

Además, por primera vez este

año, La Nueva Voz esta proporcionando cobertura por video tomado por Renee Barbee, directora de publicidad de La Nueva Voz, desde su posición arriba de la carroza "La Granja de Fairplex." Barbee, una Embajadora de la Cámara de Comercio de Pomona, representó a la Cámara de Comercio en una carroza junto con Erica Frausto, Directora Ejecutiva de la Cámara, su esposo Jon Aguado y su hijo Kaiden Aguado, de 2 años.

Para ver la cobertura del desfile por video presentando a cientos de espectadores a través de la ruta, visite La Nueva Voz Facebook o en YouTube y otros medios sociales del internet. Y gracias a Fairplex por prestar su carroza a la Cámara!

Freddie Rodriguez, miembro de la Asamblea, Connie Leyva, senadora estatal, miembros de la mesa directiva de el distrito escolar y un miembro de mesa directiva del municipio del agua estuvieron presentes en el desfile.

Le daremos la oportunidad a nuestros lectores para decidir quien de los miembros del concilio desfiló mejor, pero podría ser Ginna Escobar, su mamá y su perrito quienes paseaban en limusina saludando al público o Paula Lantz quien venia sobre algo con tres ruedas que no se puede describir! (Vea la foto en la página 11.)

El Jefe de Policías de Pomona Paul Capraro y su esposa Judi caminaron la ruta entera del desfile entregando dulces de navidad a los niños, y el Equipo de Porristas del Concilio de Pomona presentó un espectáculo de danza increíble por los mejores empleados de el Municipio de Pomona, dirigido por la favorita de todos Andrea Rico.

La política se unió al desfile más de lo normal en este año pues algunos dos o tres "futuros candidatos" se dieron a conocer al público antes de la campaña lo cual se llevara a cabo el proximo mes de

Noviembre 2016.

El Teniente de Policías de Pomona Ronald McDonald, un amigo de La Nueva Voz, desfiló como héroe comunitario pues el departamento de policías le reconoce por sus 50 años de servicio al departamento.

La invitada especial del desfile fue Geraldine Marks, nombrada la Invitada Especial Centenario, quien celebró su cumpleaños número 100 el mismo día del desfile. Marks todavía prepara sus propios alimentos, participa dos veces a la semana en una clase de ejercicios para ancianos y asiste a la iglesia regularmente.

El gran mariscal fue Vincent Velásquez, un alumno de Garey High School quien se graduó en el 2010 y ahora es lanzador para el equipo Houston Astros. Velasquez participa en una variedad de organizaciones que se dedican a hacer buenas obras tales como "pay it forward." También nos enteramos que le gusta jugar regularmente en el campo de golf Palm Lake en Pomona. Le invitamos a que visite Palm Lake y salude al operador Pedro Gonzalez y quizás se pueda topar con Velasquez.

El desfile también incluyó a la Señorita Pomona y su corte, a la reina de la Escuela Católica de Pomona y su corte, y una impresionante contingente de la Salud Mental Tri-City promoviendo la Campaña del Bienestar de la Salud Mental con el tema "Espacio para Todos."

Y la familia Manzanares Perez se paseo en un carro antiguo en el desfile, representando 13 generaciones de residentes del Valle de Pomona.

La maestra de ceremonias una vez más fue Nancy Matarrita quien narró los acontecimientos del desfile a través de un sistema de portavoz a lo largo de la Calle Segunda.



"Head Man" Tony Cerda of Pomona's own Costanoan Rumsen Native American Tribe (at rear) walks the parade route with members of the tribe and friends with a holiday message and to remind everyone to come out the last weekend in April for the annual Pow Wow in Pomona's Tony Cerda Park.

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.



Police Officer Walt Barkley (retired) and his wife, Sylvia, a Pomona Police Reserve Lieutenant.



Pictured are members and staff of the YMCA of Pomona Valley. And yes, President and CEO Matthew Henry is back in the back there somewhere!



A "parade sized" bus from Foothill Transit rides in the Pomona Christmas Parade again this year.



A float filled with kids was brought to you by the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club. That's Past President M. Joyce Bakersmith at far right.



Dancers from Pomona's Cultural Cabanas Dance Studio



Members of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 12034 of La Verne



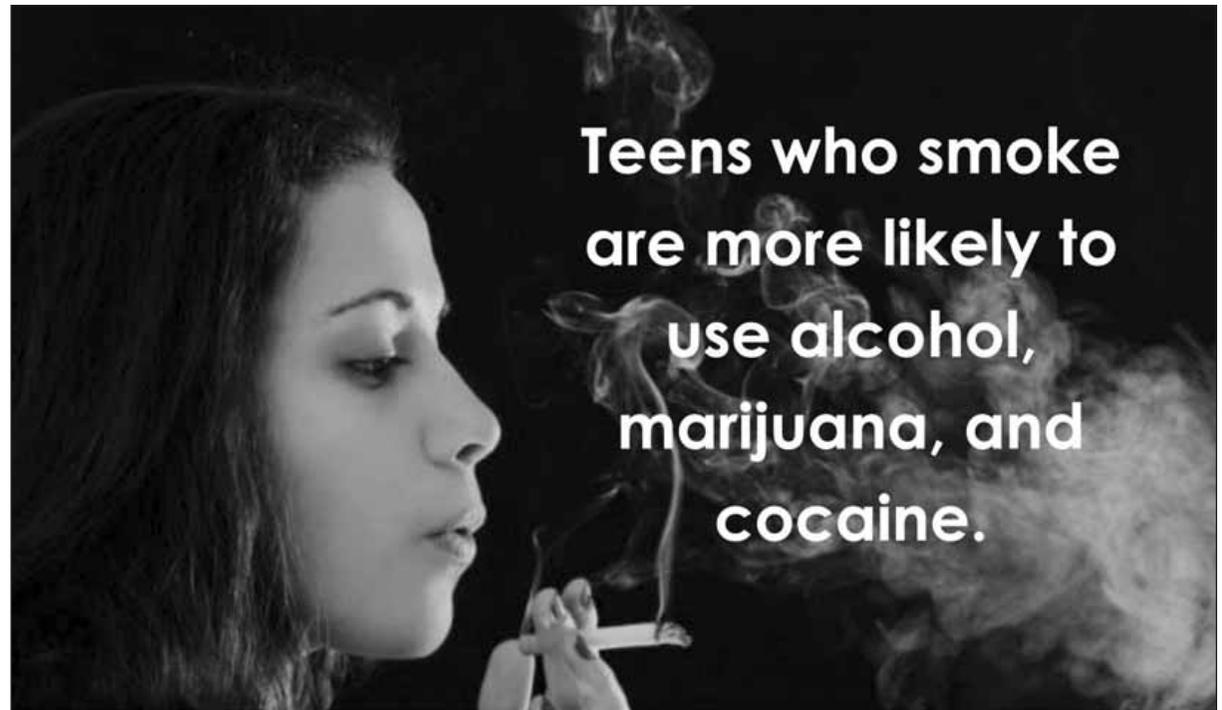
San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps Founder and Executive Director Daniel Oaxaca, riding shotgun, and Andy Quinones, driving in the parade.



Members of the Pomona Valley Branch of the NAACP with President Jeanette Ellis-Royson, center



Members of the Boys and Girls Club of Pomona Valley



Teens who smoke are more likely to use alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine.

1 in 5 stores in Pomona were willing to sell tobacco to minors. HALF of those retailers were within walking distance of a school.

Help us prevent youth access to tobacco in Pomona!

For more information and to get involved please contact:
Alisha Lopez at (626) 229-9750 or alisha@goDayOne.org

Pomona woman diagnosed with breast cancer and given a 5 percent chance to live gets second opinion at City of Hope, 10 years later is cancer free

A 29-year-old Pomona woman was told she had advanced, triple-negative inflammatory breast cancer, had a 5 percent chance to live and would never have children -- all before she decided to get a second opinion at City of Hope in Duarte.

Today, 10 years later, Kommah McDowell is cancer free, and has given birth to a healthy son.

"City of Hope treated me as a person," McDowell said. "I wasn't just a patient, a chart. I mattered. My team cared for me all through the journey."

City of Hope, a nonprofit research and comprehensive cancer care cen-

searchers to quickly turn breakthrough discoveries into life-saving therapies.

"We created a campaign that reflects our mission, celebrates survivorship and supports our aspiration

to help more patients," said Lisa Stockmon, chief marketing and communications officer at the City of Hope.

Founded in 1913, City of Hope is a pioneer in the fields of bone marrow

transplantation and genetics.

It is considered a national leader in the research of islet cell transplantation for Type I diabetes, immunotherapy for blood cancers and solid tumors, and cancer genetics, popula-

tion science and robotic surgery.

According to a news release, it is estimated that nearly 40 percent of men and women in the U.S. will be diagnosed with cancer sometime during their lifetime.



Kommah McDowell

ter, is rolling out a new initiative that builds on its legacy of discovery to let people know that the facility is not only caring for patients but is pursuing research that will change the future of medicine.

"It is with the merging of both science and soul that we are able to provide the outstanding care for which we are known," said Alexandria Levine, M.D., chief medical officer at City of Hope.

"Called "The Miracle of Science with Soul," the new campaign is the first-ever broad communications program by City of Hope, which pioneered the technology behind cancer treatment game-changers trastuzumab, bevacizumab and rituximab, as well as synthetic human insulin for the treatment of diabetes.

The campaign is centered around the real stories of six patients who showcase how City of Hope fuses science and research innovation with compassionate care in order to save lives.

Inspired in part by hearing patients with incurable conditions say they need a "miracle," City of Hope's quest for medical miracles begins with a highly collaborative "bench to bedside" approach that allows re-



**Pomona Unified School District
ADULT AND CAREER EDUCATION**

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SESIÓN de Primavera 4 de Enero - 1 de Junio, 2016

LAS CLASES SERÁN OFRECIDAS BASADO EN EL PRESUPUESTO DE FONDOS Y MATRICULACIÓN.

VISIÓN

La Escuela de Adultos y Carreras ofrecerá oportunidades educativas a todos los estudiantes para participar y tener éxito en una sociedad que cambia rápidamente.

MISIÓN

Ofrecemos formación continúa que se ajusta a las necesidades de los individuos, familias, lugares de empleo, y la comunidad.

MATRICULACIÓN:

Se dará prioridad a personas mayores de 18 años de edad que son residentes del Distrito Escolar de Pomona. Estudiantes que todavía van a preparatoria deberán obtener autorización del consejero de sus escuelas antes de matricularse en clases para adultos.

REGISTRACIÓN:

Registración solamente en persona. Llamen a (909) 469-2333 para más información.

AYUDA FINANCIERA:

Llamen a (909) 469-2333 ext. 24325 para más información. Solicitudes para ayuda financiera disponibles para clases de Carreras Técnicas de 600 horas o más.

CALENDARIO de PRIMAVERA 2016

Sesion de Primavera	4 de enero a 1 de junio
Trimestres terminan	11 de marzo y 1 de junio
Dia de Martin Luther King, Jr.....	18 de enero
Dia de Presidente Lincoln's	8 de febrero
Dia de Presdent Washington's	15 de febrero
Receso de Primavera	28 de marzo a 1 de abril
Dia Conmemorativo	30 de mayo
Ultimo dia de clases.....	1 de junio
Ceremonia de Graduacion	1 de junio

MISIÓN de CARRERAS TECNICAS

El Programa de Educacion para Carreras Tecnicas ofrecera oportunidades rigurosas y relevantes de aprendizaje que prepara a adultos para el empleo, cambios de carrera, o la promoción profesional para el Siglo 21.

Llamen a (909) 469-2333 para fechas, horarios, ubicación de clases y pagos. Algunas clases se requieren pagos de registración, libros, uniformes, examen fisico, etc.



Foothill Transit Bus tiene dos rutas enfrente de la escuela - #286 & #480.

Visiten la página www.pusd.org/ace para más información sobre las clases. Todas las clases seran ofrecidas basado en el presupuesto de fondos y matricualción

ALFABETIZACIÓN / PREPARATORIA

- Clases de Preparatoria
- Clases para el Certificado Equivalente de Preparatoria (GED)
- Registracion para Examen de GED - \$140
Registrese en la pagina de internet:
www.gedtestingservices.com
(Examen en inglés o español)
- Educación Básica para Adultos

INGLÉS COMO SEGUNDO IDIOMA Y CIUDADANÍA

- Inglés Como Segundo Idioma
- Aprenda Inglés En La Casa
- Preparación Para el Examen de Ciudadanía

CARRERAS TÉCNICAS

- Cosmetología (1600 horas)
- Sistema de Maquinaria / Ajustador / CNC (800 horas)
- Facturación Médica, Seguro y Codificación (600 horas)
- Oficinista / Computación:
Recepcionista General (300 horas)
Asistente de Oficina/Mecanógrafo (360 horas)
Auxiliar de Contabilidad (720 horas)
Secretario(a)/Asistente Ejecutivo(a) (690 horas)
- Cursos de Oficinista / Computación (60, 90 and 120 horas)
- Costura Basica y Diseno de patron



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No Christmas for Pops – By Susie Perales

Cuentito for tonight: My viejito turned the fire pit on for me today. We were listening to all the old, classic Christmas songs out in the patio.

There was one song in particular that made me think of my dad. It made

me a bit misty eyed, because he would bring us Christmas music in booklets that had the lyrics. My dad loved those Christmas songs.

They gave those booklets to my dad for free every year at the gas station.

My sister and I would sing all night to them. I asked my honey what Joy to the World reminded him of. He said it made him think of a time when he was little. He said it brought back memories of him and his brother, Alfred, run-

ning up and down the street looking at all the neighbors' trees the day after Christmas.

They found one and together they dragged that tree down the street. They brought back the best tree they could

find. They found the perfect tree sitting on the curb waiting for the trash truck to take it away.

They ran home with their new found treasure to decorate it with the only thing they had. My viejo said they were as poor as two ratones in Tijuana. He said they went home filled with excitement. The first thing they did was yank off their socks and they gleefully threw them on the tree for ornaments. Next they pulled the shoe laces off their battered, old shoes. They quickly tossed the laces onto the tree and used them for tinsel. They were pretty creative, que no!

At first I thought he was joking, because he was laughing so hard when he told me. He made me laugh until my stomach hurt. We've been married for five decades, but he never told me that story before. It was actually pretty sad. But he made it so funny, in spite of how sad it was.

I played a Christmas song for him, because his story reminded me of the song "When Christmas Comes to Town." Well then we both started crying like two kids living on the poor side of town. God has been so good to both of us. Now we both love Christmas more than you could ever imagine. We look forward to all our family gathering at Nana and Pops' house for that one great and joyous day.

Free community forum 'Marijuana – What's Up?' set for next month

A community forum on the topic "Marijuana – what's up?" will be held next month at the Village at Indian Hill, sponsored by a coalition of community groups focusing on the effects of the use of marijuana on the brain and body.

The forum will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 6, in the conference center at the Village at Indian Hill, 1460 E. Holt Ave., Pomona.

Speakers will include Kevin Sabet, Ph.D., Director of the Drug Policy Institute at the University of Florida College of Medicine.

The event is partially funded by Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Substance Abuse Prevention and Control.

Child activities and translation will be provided. The event is free and open to the public.

To RSVP, contact marijuanawhat-sup@eventbrite.com.

Sponsors include Partnership for a Positive Pomona, the National Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependence of the East San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys, the Pomona Police Department, Pomona Unified School District and Reducing Access to Marijuana.

For more information, contact Partnership for a Positive Pomona at (909) 620-7243.



Pomona Unified School District ADULT AND CAREER EDUCATION

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SPRING SESSION JANUARY 4- JUNE 1, 2016



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VISION STATEMENT

Adult and Career Education will offer opportunities for all students to participate in a world-class education for success in a rapidly changing society.

MISSION STATEMENT

We provide lifelong learning that is aligned to the needs of individuals, families, the workplace, and the community.

ENROLLMENT: Priority is given to adults, 18+ years of age, who are residents of the Pomona Unified School District. Concurrent high school students must see their high school counselor before enrolling in the Adult School.

REGISTRATION: Register in person only. Call (909) 469-2333 for more information.

FINANCIAL AID: Call (909) 469-2333 ext. 24325 for information. Financial Aid applications available for Career Technical Education classes that 600 hours or more.

SPRING 2016 CALENDAR

January 4, 2016Registration & First day
March 11 & June 1 Quarter Ends
January 18 (no school)Martin Luther King Jr.'s Day
February 8 (no school).....President Lincoln's Day
February 15 (no school)..... President Washington's Day
March 28-April 1 (no school) Spring Break
May 30 (no school).....Memorial Day
June 1 Last Day of Classes
June 1 Graduation Ceremony

CTE MISSION STATEMENT

The Career Technical Education Program provides rigorous and relevant workforce learning opportunities that prepare adults for employment, career changes, or career advancement for the 21st. Century.

Call (909) 469-2333 for more information on class dates, times, locations and fees.

Foothill Transit Bus Lines has two routes that stop in front of the school - #286 & #480.



Visit our website at www.pusd.org/ace for our complete schedule of classes.
The schedule of classes is subject to change.

ADULT LITERACY / HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

- High School Diploma
- General Educational Development (GED) Test Preparation
- GED Test - Every 2 & 4th Tuesday of the month. Register online and pay at: www.ged.com(English and Spanish)
- Adult Basic Education

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE & CITIZENSHIP

- English as a Second Language (ESL)
- ESL Through Distance Learning/Home Study
- Citizenship Preparation

CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION

- Cosmetologist (1600 hours)
- Machinist/CNC (800 Hours)
- MasterCAM Training (800 hours)
- Medical Insurance Billing and Coding(600 Hours)
- Office Occupations Programs:
 - General Office Receptionist (300 Hours)
 - Office Assistant/Clerk Typist (360 Hours)
 - Word Processing/Typist (690 Hours)
 - Accounting Clerk (720 Hours)
 - Secretary /Executive Assistant (690 Hours)
- Individual office skills courses (60, 90 and 120 hours)
- Apparel Design & Costruction (Basic Sewing)



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THE WEEKEND GARDENER By Leif Green

Plants to never grow in your garden

"I don't know whether nice people tend to grow roses or growing roses makes people nice." - Roland A. Beowne

What people grow in their garden is, of course, a personal choice. However, while some plants may be attractive when they are young, they may grow too fast, require a lot of maintenance or otherwise create problems for your home and garden. Some of the plants I avoid are:

Bamboo. While a few stalks may

accent a portion of the garden, it grows fast and can quickly become overgrown and messy. Its root density makes it very difficult to dig out and it frequently grows back. If you plant bamboo, prepare for battle.

Willow Trees. These trees are easily recognizable with their long narrow branches cascading downward. Al-

though it is a beautiful tree, it also has a very aggressive, water thirsty root system. Willow trees are notorious for wreaking havoc on sewer systems and irrigation supply lines. The wood is weak and has a tendency to crack which increases maintenance costs. Further, these trees only survive for about 30 years which is relatively short for a tree.

English Ivy. As an import from England, this plant is commonly used as an easy to grow ground cover. Unfortunately, if not maintained regularly, it will cover more than the ground growing over buildings and choking out other trees. Once it becomes established, it is very difficult to get rid of. The low dense foliage makes an excellent hiding place for mice and other rodents.

Jacaranda Trees. These trees are known for their numerous blue/purple flowers. When they bloom in the spring, even a single tree puts on an attractive display. The problem with Jacaranda trees is that they are very messy, dropping a lot of their flowers every day. The flowers also contain strong pigments which can leave stains on car paint. The best way to enjoy the beauty of Jacaranda trees is to admire the one in your neighbor's yard.

Ginkgo (Ginkgo Biloba) Trees. The Ginkgo tree is one of the oldest species of trees alive. Some of the advantages of Ginkgo trees are the unusual fan shaped leaves and tolerating a wide variety of climates and growing conditions. The problem with Ginkgo trees is that the female trees produce a fruit that gives off an odor that has been described as a combination of vomit and dog droppings. The fruit is difficult to rake up and the odor permeates shoes and clothing. It is not pleasant.

I hope these suggestions are helpful. I wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season.

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.



Enroll now in St. Joseph Elementary!

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

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

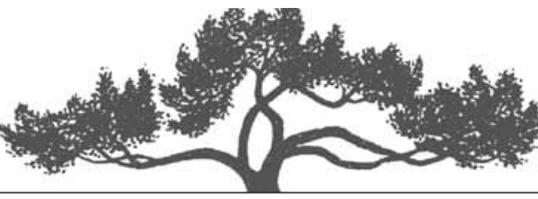
- Curriculum follows the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and includes instruction in core subjects of religion, math, science, social studies, English, reading/literature and spelling.
- Supplemental subjects include handwriting for grades one through four, computer class, art class, music and physical education.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



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909.622.3365 • Dr. Claudia Godlewski, Principal

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Janet Roy
General Manager



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Pomona Valley Memorial Park es un cementerio sin fines de lucro establecido en 1876... un cementerio que ofrece belleza y tranquilidad a precios accesibles.

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TOY GIVE-AWAY

-- About 45 kids in the Angels in Action after school tutoring program and their parents stop by a toy and food give-away this month sponsored by Angels in Action at White Avenue Baptist Church in Pomona. The after school program takes place at the church on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, contact Pamela Lynn at (951) 212-2031.



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

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

- Pomona City Hall lobby
- Pomona library
- Claremont library
- Claremont City Hall lobby
- La Verne City Hall lobby
- La Verne Senior Citizens Center
- 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
- Fairplex Chevron, Fairplex Drive and San Bernardino Freeway, Pomona
- Discount Market, Philadelphia Street and Towne Avenue, Pomona
- LaundryLand Coin Op Laundry, 744 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
- American Legion Post #30, 239 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
- Pomona Eagles, 954 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona





CONGRESSWOMAN TORRES MEETS WITH SYRIAN REFUGEE FAMILIES -- Congresswoman Norma Torres, center, a member of the House Committee on Homeland security, met with two families of Syrian refugees at the Islamic Center of Claremont (in Pomona) last month to hear first-hand their experiences with the refugee screening process and their resettlement in California. "As an immigrant myself, I know that we can't turn our backs on those in greatest need," Torres said. She was joined by representatives of the Islamic Center, the Claremont Interfaith Working Group for Middle East Peace, the Claremont Interfaith Council and the Claremont Interfaith Sustainability Committee. "Refugees fleeing war-torn Syria affirm the plight of the first pilgrims who sought religious freedom when they fled their home country of England," said Joseph Salas of the Islamic Center. Torres said what she heard reinforced what is already known of the vetting process -- that it is long, robust and continually strengthened as circumstances change. She said she is committed to working "to strengthen the current process and continuously reevaluate it to ensure Americans are protected and our values are preserved."

Sen. Leyva hosts first annual 'Operation Gobble' turkey giveaway

State Sen. Connie Leyva, in partnership with the Fontana Water Co. and Stater Bros. Markets, hosted her first annual "Operation Gobble" for Thanksgiving last month by providing turkeys and meals to more than 175 families in need.

The event took place at two locations – headquarters of the Fontana Water Company in Fontana and Leyva's district office in Chino.

She also provided turkeys to two local nonprofits – Isaiah's rock in Chino and Time for Change

Foundation in Rialto/San Bernardino – that provide meals throughout the year.

**Cook Wanted
For
Korean Restaurant**
Cook or helper wanted.
Korean restaurant
in Chino Hills.
**Please call:
909-285-5872**
Ask for Tony.

The following public service ads are courtesy of La Nueva Voz:

Project Sister Family Services
Sexual Assault and
Child Abuse Services
909-626-4357
or 626-966-4155
www.projectsister.org

**Feeding the Hungry,
Sheltering the Homeless**

Grocery Distribution
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Pomona



Volunteering: 909-622-3806
www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

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24-hour hotline:
**(909) 988-5559 or toll
free at (877) 988-5559**

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Mon., Tues., Wed. Thurs.:
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Sat.:
Noon to 5 p.m.
Fri., Sun.:
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Newborns can be safely given up at the emergency room of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center -- or at any Los Angeles County hospital emergency room or fire station - under the California Safely Surrendered Baby Law. The law allows the safe surrender of an unwanted infant within three days of birth with no fear of arrest or prosecution for abandonment as long as the baby has not been abused or neglected.

The baby will be placed in a pre-adoptive home while the adoption process gets under way.

More than 100 infants have been surrendered in Los Angeles County and have had a second chance at life since the program began in 2001.





This message sponsored by La Nueva Voz.
To help sponsor this message, contact Renee Barbee at (909) 762-1446.



MANNING THE COFFEE TABLE -- Three Valleys Municipal Water District Board member Carlos Goytia, his wife and their son took charge of the coffee table this month at Breakfast with Santa at St. Joseph Elementary School in Pomona. The breakfast, a favorite of La Nueva Voz each year, included everything from bacon and eggs to potatoes and pancakes. Pictured, from left, are Maria Robles of Pomona, Chris Tafoya, 12, a seventh grader at Pomona Catholic, and Cathy and Carlos Goytia.



POMONA CHAMBER HOLIDAY FOR HEROES -- The Pomona Chamber of Commerce honored public safety officers at its annual holiday luncheon last week at the Pomona Fairplex Avalon with special awards "in recognition of outstanding service" presented to two police officers and two firemen. The chamber took the opportunity to "show our gratitude and appreciation to the men and women who selflessly give their time, effort and commitment to serve the community." Presenters included Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez and State Sen. Connie Leyva. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto; Pomona Police Officers Joe Dolgovin and Angela Torres; Firefighter Paramedic Steven Chavez (Fire Station 183) and Inspector Gregory Davis (East Region Pomona Fire Prevention) of the Los Angeles County Fire Department; Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez; and Pomona Chamber Board President Cyndie O'Brien.



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Torres bill to fund law enforcement training approved

The U.S. House of Representatives has passed by a vote of 420 to 2 a measure introduced by Congresswoman Norma Torres (D-

Pomona) and Congressman Buddy Carter (R-Georgia) making improvements to and permanently establishing the Federal Law

Enforcement Training Center.

The center provides quality, cost-effective training to more than 70,000 law enforcement officers across a variety of agencies each year at seven locations around the country.

H.R. 3842 would make the center, established in 1975, a permanent entity. Part of the organization's work includes a partnership with the Port of Los Angeles, where it helps ensure local law enforcement gets the training they need to protect America's critical ports and waterways.

According to a news release, the Port of Los Angeles accounts for more than 40 percent of the goods that enter the United States.

"The urgency to pass this bill has only grown in the last week," Torres said. "(The) shooting just outside of my district in San Bernardino affirmed that local law enforcement is the first line of defense in the fight against terror, and it showed us just how important coordination between all levels of law enforcement is when responding to a crisis."





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La Nueva Voz reaches 50% more readers in Pomona each month than the local suburban daily newspaper.

School board member Frank Guzman attends STEM conference

Pomona Unified School District board member Frank Guzman attended a conference in San Antonio last month to discuss and develop strategic approaches to addressing the challenges and opportunities around STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) training and workforce

issues.

The event was sponsored by the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials and included as participants some 50 Latino policymakers interested in enhancing their leadership roles in promoting the STEM culture in education.

Two heads are better than one.



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Upcoming Events

High School Open House
January 10, 2016 9am-noon

Open to all families interested in learning more about Pomona Catholic. Join us for Mass at 9am, followed by a pancake breakfast and our Open House presentation!

Pacer Shadow Day
January 15 & February 17, 2016 9am-1pm

Open to incoming 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys and girls interested in learning more about the Pomona Catholic Experience in Middle School or High School.

High School Placement Test
January 23, 2016 8am-noon
Open to 8th grade students.

To RSVP contact Director of Admissions and Outreach Lucinda Meave at (909) 623-5297 ext. 22 or at lmeave@pomonacatholic.org
533 West Holt Avenue Pomona, CA 91768



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JANUARY 16, 2016

8:30AM - 11:30AM

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CLAREMONT, CA 91711

Three Valleys MWD
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