



First coronavirus death in Pomona – also the first in Los Angeles County – brings worldwide pandemic close to home

The worldwide coronavirus pandemic came to Pomona this month with Los Angeles County's first illness-related death at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center.

On top of that, officials announced last week that Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Hotel will become the county's first hotel-based coronavirus quarantine facility with all 244 rooms dedicated to the virus, possibly through the end of June.

County health officials reported a second COVID-19-related fatality in Los Angeles County just days before La Nueva Voz went to press

– a Glendora resident in his 30s with underlying health conditions who died in a hospital in Pasadena.

And even closer to press time, six additional deaths were reported by public health officials in the county – from Glendale to Culver City to Long Beach.

Pomona residents were learning to adapt to major lifestyle changes with events canceled everywhere – the City of Pomona's "State of the City" address was postponed, schools, universities and government buildings have been closed, judges at the courthouse have

cleared their calendars, and malls are closed.

In the Pomona fatality, the unidentified patient, an elderly non-resident woman visiting friends in Walnut, was transported to the Pomona hospital by Los Angeles County Fire Department paramedics from Walnut in what a hospital press release said was full cardiac arrest.

Staff immediately provided life-saving care to stabilize her condition.

"Upon arrival of the patient's family member, who disclosed the

Fairplex packs in students from throughout

L.A. County for second annual 'STEAM Fair' learning expo

If you wanted to find the veins in the back of your hand, or if you wanted to learn how to draw, or if you wanted to see a model of JPL's Mars Rover, or even learn how to go about decorating the Cal Poly float for next year's Tournament of Roses parade, it was all there in building after building this month at the second annual STEAM Fair at Fairplex.

Some 15,000 students – 10,085 on a Friday and 5,155 on Saturday – at the free two-day event in kindergarten through 12th grade – from schools and school districts literally all over Los Angeles

STEAM Fair... pg. 10



BUILDING A COMPUTER -- Students had a chance to build a computer or take one apart at an exhibit of Pomona's Ganesh High School's CISCO Academy, which helps guide students toward careers in technology, at this month's STEAM Fair learning expo at Fairplex.



Work crews Monday were preparing the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel for use as a coronavirus quarantine facility. (See story p. 2.)

patient's travel status, and evaluation of the patient's symptoms, staff followed all infection control protocols," the statement said.

The patient was immediately placed in isolation and samples tested by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health later were confirmed as positive for coronavirus (COVID-19).

A Los Angeles County Department of Public Health news release indicated the patient had traveled extensively over the past month

including a long layover in South Korea.

She died shortly after admission due to complications from her illness.

"Our highly-trained staff followed all appropriate infection control protocols and took every precaution in caring for this patient," said Dr. Daniel Gluckstein, medical director of infectious disease at the hospital.

"We extend our deepest con-
Pandemic close to home... pg. 2

PAID ADVERTORIAL

How to protect your mental health during the coronavirus outbreak... A message from Tri-City Mental Health

The coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has dominated each of our lives for the last few weeks and can cause anyone to feel anxious or distressed. Here are ways you and your loved ones can manage your stress and mental wellbeing while taking care of your physical health.

- **Stay informed with trusted sources and limit your media exposure.** Concern about risk and prevention is understandable, but watching or listening to too much news coverage can increase worry and anxiety. Instead, take breaks from the media and follow credible sources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or L.A. County Department of Public Health.
- **Stay virtually connected with others.** Reaching out to people you trust is one of the best ways to reduce anxiety, depression, loneliness and boredom during this period of social distancing, isolation and quarantine. Keep in touch with friends and family over phone, text, video chat, social media and online gaming.
- **Create a daily routine and maintain a healthy lifestyle.** Following a daily routine can help both children and adults maintain a sense of order and normalcy. Eat well, get enough sleep, exercise and turn to creative ways to enjoy your favorite pastimes, such as streaming online concerts or gym classes.
- **Focus on self-care and make time to relax.** Draw on skills that you have used in the past during difficult times to manage your emotions during this outbreak. Take deep breaths, meditate or pray, and engage in hobbies you enjoy.

Know you are not alone and there is help. Tri-City Mental Health is here to support individuals in Pomona, La Verne and Claremont impacted at this time:

- Call our Navigator team at (888) 436-3246 for resources
- If you are experiencing serious emotional distress and are not a Tri-City client, call our Supplemental Crisis line at (909) 623-6131 for 24/7 phone support
- If you need someone to talk to, call (909) 623-6131 during business hours and ask for Chris Anzalone to be connected to support



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lences to the patient and family,” he added. “At this time, our top priority remains protecting public health and ensuring the safety of our patients, visitors, associates, physicians, volunteers and community.”

According to the statement, the hospital has identified all staff who came into contact with the patient while providing care and is following all Los Angeles County Department of Public Health guidelines regarding health-care worker exposure.

“We want to reassure our patients and their families that the risk of exposure from this case is low,” Gluckstein said. “We are working closely with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to stay apprised of new developments and continue to implement recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.”

A media advisory from the Los Angeles County Fire Department said their first responders exposed to the patient have been isolated from work and are undergoing active monitoring at home.

“Our personnel are currently symptom free and are being reviewed regularly for any developing symptoms,” according to the

Sheraton Fairplex Hotel to be L.A. County’s first hotel ‘quarantine’ facility for COVID-19

Pomona’s Sheraton Fairplex Hotel will be the first hotel in Los Angeles County to be made available as temporary housing for quarantining coronavirus patients under the terms of a new agreement between the county and Fairplex that was announced last week at a news conference in downtown Los Angeles.

The hotel was closed this week to other guests during an emergency arrangement which will continue through the end of May and

news release.

“I am concerned, as is everyone in our community, at news of a coronavirus case in Pomona,” said Congresswoman Norma Torres. “The woman who sadly passed away ... was not a local resident, but the fact that she sought help at

our local trauma center means others in the vicinity may have been exposed.”

“This news is not a reason to panic – the professionals at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center are more than capable of handling the situation,” she

added. “It is reason to make sure you and your loved ones are prepared and know how best to keep yourselves safe.”

She urged anyone feeling the onset of symptoms to call their medical provider for guidance.

“Nobody should hesitate to get the help they need from Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center or any other medical facility,” she said.

possibly longer through June.

Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval and Fairplex President and CEO Miguel Santana joined Los Angeles County Supervisors Chair Pro Tem Hilda Solis and Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger in an hour-long “virtual” online Hall of Administration news conference to unveil the plan.

Solis, who said county officials have been working around the clock” to identify solutions during

Quarantine facility... pg. 4



Dr. Daniel Gluckstein
Medical Director of Infectious Disease
Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center



In case you haven't been out lately, things just don't look the same at the market these days as a little panic buying continues (but it seems to be settling down a little). Here's what the toilet paper aisle looked like Wednesday afternoon last week at Stater Bros. Market in Pomona.

City, county buildings close, other closures and changes noted

All City of Pomona facilities – including City Hall, community centers and the Pomona Public Library – will be closed to the public until further notice in an effort to protect the health and safety of employees and the public during the current coronavirus pandemic.

The city’s announcement came in the form of a news release following an emergency closed session of the city council held by teleconference earlier this month in accordance with an executive order issued by Gov. Newsom.

Members of the city council voted unanimously to authorize City Manager James Makshanoff to take immediate action on the closures.

The city also postponed Mayor Tim Sandoval’s annual “State of the City” address which had been scheduled for this month.

“The safety of our community is my top priority and given the threats posed by the COVID-19 virus, it is prudent to postpone this event which would have brought hundreds of community members together to celebrate our accomplishments of the past year,” Sandoval said.

He added the event would be rescheduled “once it is deemed safe to do so by local health experts.”

Los Angeles County also has closed all of its buildings to the

public as a precautionary measure to help slow the spread of COVID-19, according to a rare Sunday county news release quoting Board of Supervisors Chair Kathryn Barger.

The release said the announcement came as Gov. Newsom directed closure of California’s bars, brewpubs and wineries, and called on people over 65 and others at higher risk of serious complications from exposure to the virus to stay home.

“We need to do all we can to protect the public and our employees in the midst of this expanding public health crisis,” Barger said. “Our departments will continue to provide essential services to our residents, but it is prudent to limit public access to our facilities at this time. We will continue to monitor the situation and urge the public to follow the guidance of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.”

“Our goal is to slow the transmission of COVID-19, but we can’t do it alone,” said Barbara Ferrer, director of public health for the county. “Each and every one of us, both businesses and residents, must do our part by practicing social distancing and taking common sense infection control precautions.”

She said it is important to “flat-

ten the curve” of COVID-19 to help keep hospitals and emergency rooms from becoming overwhelmed with patients.

County hospitals and clinics will remain open, essential services from first-responders will continue and many departments will continue to operate with modified services to minimize in-person contacts.

According to the news release, county libraries and museums are closed, along with every school district in the county.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis acknowledged these are “uncertain times for Los Angeles County residents.”

“But I want to reassure the public that county first responders and public health officials are focused on slowing the spread of the coronavirus,” she said. “In that vein, the county will adhere to the new state guidance to cancel or postpone gatherings of over 250 people.”

(Her comment came before Gov. Newsom’s statewide “stay at home” order.)

Other closures and modifications

-- The Pomona Police Department has closed its front lobby at police headquarters until further notice but it is responding to com-

Closures... pg. 4

Services held for Pomona pastor, leader and long-time resident Hal Jackson

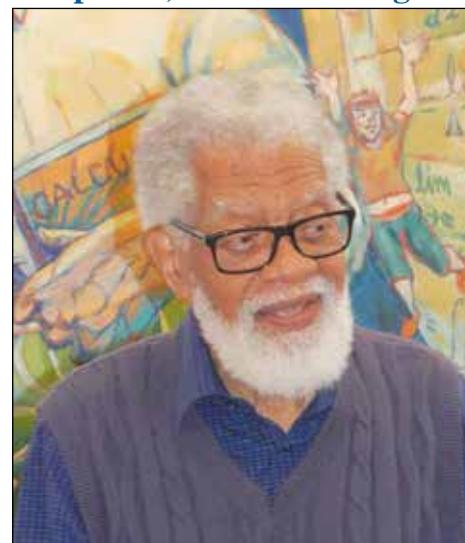
Private funeral services were held last week at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier for Rev. Harold A. Jackson, Jr., who died recently at his Ganesha Hills Home in Pomona. He was 89.

Considered to be an icon in Pomona and surrounding cities, he served for 20 years as chaplain for the California Youth Authority in Chino, he was pastor at Mentone Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, in Mentone (San Bernardino County), and he was a founding charter member of the NAACP Pomona Valley Branch.

At the NAACP, he served as second vice president, chairperson for the NAACP branch prison ministry at the Chino men’s prison, and NAACP historian.

He was known as a mentor and a spiritual leader for many people in the community.

Jackson was a member and past



Hal Jackson
1931 - 2020

board member of the Pomona Kiwanis Club and, according to past president Carolyn Hemming, was still active and had attended a meeting a month prior to his death.

“He was one of the kindest, selfless men I have had the privilege to know,” Hemming said. “He spoke at our annual prayer break-

fast a few years ago and it was the best one by far.”

Jeanette Royston, president of the NAACP Pomona Valley Branch, told La Nueva Voz said that just last June she asked Jackson to deliver a history of the NAACP at a poor people’s campaign march in Pomona that attracted 200 participants.

“He was so concise in doing that and did all of that (from 1909 to 2019) in less than 12 minutes,” said Royston, who added she first met Jackson and his wife in 1983.

“I have never heard Hal raise his voice – he was always a mild-mannered person,” Royston said. “He was a mentor to me. I was able to call Hal at any given time and ask him any question regarding any subject or issue and he never hesitated to respond.”

She placed him in a category **Services for Hal Jackson... pg. 13**

I Count
You Count
wecountpomona.org
Everyone Counts Census 2020



CENSUS DAY: APRIL 1st 2020

Your participation is important to the future of our state.

Every 10 years, the U.S. Census counts everyone living in the United States.

Make sure you are counted. It ensures Pomona will receive its fair share of federal dollars for vital community programs - public safety, health care, education and transportation - that affect you and your family.

The census also determines the number of representatives each state has in Congress, which makes a difference when it comes to issues important to Pomona.

Your household will answer just 10 questions online, by phone, or by filling out a paper form regarding the people who live in your household as of April 1, 2020.

You will not be asked if you are a citizen of the United States. The information you provide is confidential. It will not be shared with anyone under penalty of law.

Be counted. Your community is counting on you.



You will receive an invitation in the mail

Every household will have the option of responding online, by mail or by phone. Online and phone questionnaires are available in English and 12 non-English languages.

On or between:	You'll receive in your home mail box:
March 12-20	An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census. (Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)
March 16-24	A reminder letter.
If you haven't responded yet:	
March 26-April 3	A reminder postcard.
April 1	Census Day
April 8-16	A reminder letter and a paper questionnaire.
April 20-27	A final reminder postcard before the U.S. Census Bureau follows up in person.

www.wecountpomona.org



Quarantine facility...

from pg. 2

the COVID-19 crisis, said the Pomona solution is the first of many solutions to provide safe housing for coronavirus patients.

“During this time, we need to provide safe and secure housing for those that need to self-isolate,” Solis said, adding that the measure also keeps the county safer by mitigating exposure.

All 244 rooms at the hotel will be made available for occupancy with one patient per room, Solis added.

And everything will be provided – from food and medical care to lodging services and more, she said.

In addition, security personnel will be on site to ensure the health and safety of everyone involved.

She pointed out that the project will infuse the local economy of Pomona and the East San Gabriel Valley and will help keep employees of Fairplex employed during the crisis.

Also, the Fairplex child development center will open its doors to the children of first responders working in the area, and Fairplex will host a drive-through food pantry on its campus coordinated by Sowing Seeds for Life of La Verne beginning April 1.

“This is a time for compassion,” she said, “taking a preventative measure to help flatten the curve” of the spread of the virus.

Solis thanked Sandoval, Congresswoman Norma Torres, the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and many others for their support of this effort.

(Torres later said she had no opportunity to provide input to the plan “and therefore cannot in good conscience endorse it.”)

Santana said the project began when Solis called him to ask what Fairplex could do to be responsive to the crisis.

“We are here to help and do our part and we encourage others to do the same,” Santana said.

“Today we are living through extraordinary times,” Sandoval said. “The Pomona community is proud to step up. Pomona has always been a community that serves more than itself.”

He called the hotel a “safe and secure facility to house those who have been plagued by the virus.”

“We will emerge out of this crisis

Quarantine facility... pg. 12

plaints and receiving information by telephone. The police department also has suspended parking enforcement related to street sweeping until further notice but will continue to enforce health, safety and emergency access – including colored curbs, peak-hour restrictions and the like. Metered parking spaces also will be enforced.

-- Visitors to Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center will not be allowed in some inpatient areas, children are not allowed to visit, and members of the public will not be permitted in the hospital’s cafeteria, among other restrictions. Exceptions to the policy may be made for patients receiving end-of-life care. Visitors exhibiting signs and symptoms of illness may not visit hospitalized patients.

-- All Pomona Unified School District schools are closed and district offices are closed to the public. Schools are tentatively scheduled to reopen in late May but all proms have been canceled, according to Supt. Richard Martinez. He said supplemental academic resources are being made available to students. Free “grab and go” meal distributions were available to all children under 18 at five schools located throughout Pomona and Diamond Bar. Martinez said graduation ceremonies remain scheduled for June.

-- Foothill Gold Line canceled its last of four “community open house” events which had been scheduled in San Dimas. A spokesman said it would be rescheduled. The Pomona event was held as scheduled and news coverage is included in this issue of La Nueva Voz. The series of events was designed to allow stakeholders to learn the latest about the light rail project currently being extended from Glendora to Montclair.

-- Pomona’s Western University of Health Sciences transitioned to online only classes and lectures and directed students not to come to campus until further notice. President Daniel Wilson directed most of the university’s 1,200 faculty and staff to begin working from home or from other non-campus locations to reduce risk of exposure to coronavirus through concerted social distancing.

-- The Latino and Latina Roundtable of San Gabriel and Pomona Valley’s 16th annual Cesar Chavez

breakfast tomorrow (Friday, March 27) has been canceled and is now tentatively scheduled for Friday, Sept. 25.

-- Pomona Play Day, a day of fun and learning for the whole family presented by the Pomona Rotary Club and Pomona’s Promise, was canceled and will be rescheduled.

-- The Claremont Symphony Orchestra canceled the rest of its 2019-2020 season after Pomona College in Claremont, where concerts and rehearsals are held, was shutting down for the rest of the academic year. Programs for the March, April and June concerts of the 67-year-old community orchestra will be performed in next year’s season beginning in October.

-- State Sen. Connie Leyva’s annual “State of the District” address, which had been scheduled to be held this month in Fontana, was postponed with a future date to be announced.

-- The Tri-City Mental Health Commission annual public hearing set for next month and covering the status of programs funded by the Mental Health Services Act will be rescheduled.

-- The California Power Sports Expo and California Outdoor Adventure Expo, which had been scheduled for April at Pomona’s Fairplex, has been rescheduled for Nov. 7 – 8.

-- The Downtown Pomona Collectors Street Faire scheduled for Saturday, March 28, has been canceled.

-- Cal Poly University Pomona announced they were “temporarily pausing” all in-person classes for a week before switching to a “virtual mode of instruction” where possible (some laboratory activity, studio, performing arts and physical education classes were expected to continue). The change was expected to continue into spring break (March 28 through April 3) with a decision on what happens next expected to be announced by April 2. Campus offices, buildings and essential student services will remain open, including student housing and dining facilities, President Soroya Coley said in a prepared statement.

-- Pomona’s Fairplex announced the Pinners Conference, International Gem & Jewelry Show, Organic, Holistic & Meta-

physical Expo, Print Pomona Art Book Fair, Ultimate Head 2 Toe Women’s Expo and Flow Expo all will be rescheduled. And staff members reported about half the staff has been furloughed until the end of April, some will be working from home and others will be working with reduced hours.

-- The Pomona Concert Band canceled its winter concert which had been scheduled for this month but announced its spring concert “A Typical Sousa Concert,” set 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 8, at the Palomares Community Center, 499 E. Arrow Highway, Pomona.

-- Partnership for a Positive Pomona (P3), a coalition of residents and community leaders working to prevent substance abuse and underage drinking, has canceled community workshops and promotional events leading up to “The Community Quinceanera,” an alcohol free event, although the event itself for now is still scheduled for June. Deadline to apply is still 5 p.m. April 3.

-- The Pomona Host Lions Club’s popular “Quarter Mania” fundraiser, which had been scheduled for April 18, has been postponed to an as yet unspecified new date.

-- “Local Authors Day” at the Pomona Public Library has been canceled.

-- The annual Pomona Chamber of Commerce Legislative Luncheon, originally scheduled for May 1, has been rescheduled until

this fall.

-- Tony’s French Dips (986 E. Second St., Pomona) is now providing curb side pick up on request and customers can order ahead of arrival by calling (909) 623-4695.

-- The semi-annual “Huge Rummage Sale” at Pomona’s Pilgrim Congregational Church, which would have been held next month and has been a popular and regular event in Pomona for years, has been postponed to a date to be scheduled at a later time.

-- The Newcomers Access Center’s gala “Helping Immigrant Families Thrive” scheduled for next month has been canceled and will be rescheduled.

-- Walmart has ramped up cleaning efforts to a daily schedule using sanitizing solutions in high-touch, high-traffic areas. Associates also are cleaning key areas throughout the day, and additional supplies are being used at registers and on shopping carts. The store also is attempting to keep stores stocked and prices fair.

-- And the Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control pointed out that dogs and cats have their own coronavirus that is not the same virus as COVID-19. Officials said in a news release there is no current evidence humans can get the virus from their family pet. They reminded pet owners to include pets in their emergency preparedness planning, including maintaining a two-week supply of food and medications.

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La Nueva Voz

The Inland Empire's Leading Bilingual Newspaper

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(909) 629-2292 • www.lanuevavoz.net

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All major credit cards accepted!



Printed on recycled newsprint (25 percent recycled content) using soy-based inks.

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Gold Line officials say new trains may get to Pomona ‘sooner rather than later’

Pomona residents may be able to hop on the Gold Line at a brand-new North Pomona train station earlier than the originally scheduled January 2025 start date.

Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority officials came to Pomona this month to update the community on how they are doing and what will be involved as they continue to build a new extension of the light rail tracks from where it currently ends in Glendora to the North Pomona train station.

And CEO Habib Balian, when asked by La Nueva Voz if the project was on track for Pomona, confirmed that it was on time and might even end up being completed ahead of schedule.

“We’ve awarded the contract back in October to get the project built all the way to Pomona and it’s fully funded,” Balian said. “And the city’s very excited about the project and wanted to get the project built sooner rather than later.”

“So we’ve got a great contractor on board, they are well into the design at this point, they are doing a lot of the preliminary work dealing with subsurface conditions, soil analysis as well as utilities, and they’ll be ready to start construction in August of this year.”

“The contractor is very aggressive – they want to build this project,” he added. “Right now, we’re scheduled to have it completed in January of ’25 and they think that they can get it built even sooner than that, so the sooner the better.”

The open house at Pomona’s Palomares Park Community Center was the third of four similar presentations scheduled at cities along the route. The first two were in Glendora and La Verne. The fourth, originally scheduled for San Dimas, was canceled due to coronavirus concerns.

La Nueva Voz asked Balian for his view on two separate moves by California legislators – one in the Assembly and another in the Senate – to take over final extension of the Gold Line once it reaches Montclair at the county line and complete construction to Ontario International Airport.

The project on that side of the county line currently is in the hands of the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority board.

“I think they are looking to have that project built by an author-

ity very similar to what we were in our fledgling days, a separate stand-alone agency,” Balian said. “The project got carved out of Metro and I think they are looking to do the same thing.”

Will that approach work?

“That’s how we were formulated, that’s what (Congressman) Adam Schiff did and the City of Pasadena, South Pasadena got behind this proposal and all of the cities in the San Gabriel Valley, that if the project was going to get built, it would best be built by a separate authority that was dedicated to get the project built,” he said.

Balian called Schiff the “father of this project.”

He explained Metro experienced what he called “lots of starts and stops” in construction which ultimately led to a legislative fix to create the Gold Line authority some 20 years ago.

La Nueva Voz asked Balian to describe the response to the project he is seeing in Pomona.

“You can see that the public is very excited about this project,” he said. “They are looking forward to the future development opportunities, to having an alternative to get to Pasadena and to Downtown L.A. on a regular basis that is clean and efficient, that is environmentally friendly.”

“I think they’re just looking for all the good things that will come from this project and make a better connection between Pomona and the rest of the San Gabriel Valley,” he said.

La Nueva Voz pointed out that some of that development is already under way in Pomona.

“You’re going to see a lot of development,” he said. “There’s billions of dollars’ worth of development along this line, there’s a lot of opportunities.”

“It’s a long corridor that over 100 years has really gone by before there has been significant development around this corridor, so it’s a great opportunity,” he said.

Staff members on the project were on hand at the open house to discuss details with Pomona residents like what road closures could be expected during construction and the like.

Gold Line looking for local artists

In addition, representatives were on hand of an entire art program that is devoted to creating public

art representing the community and its history at the new Pomona station that will be built for the trains.

And, as a special message to Pomona’s art community, the Gold Line is attempting to make as many connections with local artists as possible for input and support in deciding exactly what type of local art should be included and how best it should be incorporated into the design project.

Officials also are asking all Pomona residents for photos of people in Pomona who made a difference along with a story describing why they were important. These will be used for a “hall of gratitude” using ceramic tiles with messages at the station.

“This project is designed to connect us to our past and our future, generating a renewable source of people power for positive change,” the Gold Line said in its promotional materials describing the

project.

Interested in helping out or having your work featured in the future station artwork? Contact Lesley Elwood, public art program manager, at (310) 489-7321 or lelwood@foothillgoldline.org.

Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, who also serves as this year’s chair of the Foothill Gold Line board,

presided over an official contract signing on the extension project on the steps of Pomona City Hall in October.

Once the \$806 million 9.1-mile project is completed, the construction authority will be required under state law to turn it over to Metro for its operation.

Gold Line... pg. 13



VIEWING A MODEL OF PLANNED NORTH POMONA STATION -- Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, also board chair of the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority, describes some of the fine points of the proposed Gold Line station to be built at the North Pomona train station during an open house at Pomona’s Palomares Park Community Center. Pictured, from left, are Bob Carder of La Verne, Sandoval, Gold Line Construction Authority CEO Habib Balian, and La Verne City Councilmember Robin Carder, the construction authority’s board vice chair.

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Survivors of traumatic injuries who have gone on to help others – and an Army doc who treated veterans with severe brain injury – honored at Casa Colina’s annual ‘Tribute to Courage’ Gala

Cory Rensburg, who was seriously wounded by an improvised explosive device while serving with the 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment in 2009 in Afghanistan and then spent three months in a coma and undergoing multiple surgeries for traumatic brain injury, told La Nueva Voz this month that Pomona’s Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare was the “top of the pier” and that the facility sets the standard.

Then-Sgt. First Class Cory Rensburg, serving with the prestigious unit at the age of 26, said he was humbled to be honored as one of four award recipients at Casa Colina’s annual black-tie Tribute to Courage Gala at Pomona’s Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center.

The annual fundraiser celebrates the courageous patients recovering from traumatic injury or illness, as well as the caregivers who help them to maximize their recovery potential.

Rensburg, now 37, spent a total of 15 months at Casa Colina following treatment at the Walter Reed National Military Medical

Center (Bethesda Naval Hospital) followed by two years at a veteran’s hospital in Tampa.

“He fought to come back – they brought him back to life,” said his mom, Annie Rensburg, adding that they found him face down in water in a canal.

His dad, Craig Rensburg, agreed with his son’s assessment of Casa Colina.

“We’ve spent a lot of time over here with him,” he said. “It’s quite amazing.”

A decade later, he’s still continuing to make tremendous progress.

A highly decorated veteran of the wars in both Iraq and Afghanistan, Rensburg works today with numerous veteran charity groups and travels nationally with his parents to share his recovery story with other wounded warriors, inspiring them to persevere through

insurmountable odds.

Both his dad and his mom were with him at the event.

Also honored at the event were Hal Hargrave, Jr., David Kiley, and

Col. (Ret.) Rocco Armonda, M.D.

Hal Hargrave

Hal Hargrave was injured in an automobile accident in 2007 just weeks after high school gradua-

tion. He was in the intensive care unit for eight days and was left a quadriplegic.

“I had the great pleasure to come back to my hometown and receive what I believe is the best care that I could have got anywhere in the world at Casa Colina,” he told La Nueva Voz before the evening’s activities.

While he lives in Claremont, he said his dad’s business, Apex Imaging Services, a commercial remodeling company, is right around the corner from Casa Colina in Pomona. He was working for his dad at the time driving handicapped accessible bathroom door equipment to a Home Depot in Las Vegas – they were remodeling their bathrooms to be handicapped accessible.

He called Casa Colina a “foundational stepping stone to a great recovery” and he called President and CEO Felice Loverso someone who obviously has been in the industry for many years.

“But more importantly, it’s his servant leadership that he has that has instilled a mantra amongst his

Tribute to Courage... pg. 12



HONOREES AT THIS MONTH'S 'TRIBUTE TO COURAGE' GALA -- Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare President and CEO Felice Loverso poses with the four honorees at this month's annual "Tribute to Courage" Gala at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center. Pictured, from left, are Dr. Rocco Armonda (at rear), Cory Rensburg, Hal Hargrave, David Kiley, and Loverso.

Para Compradores por Primera Vez

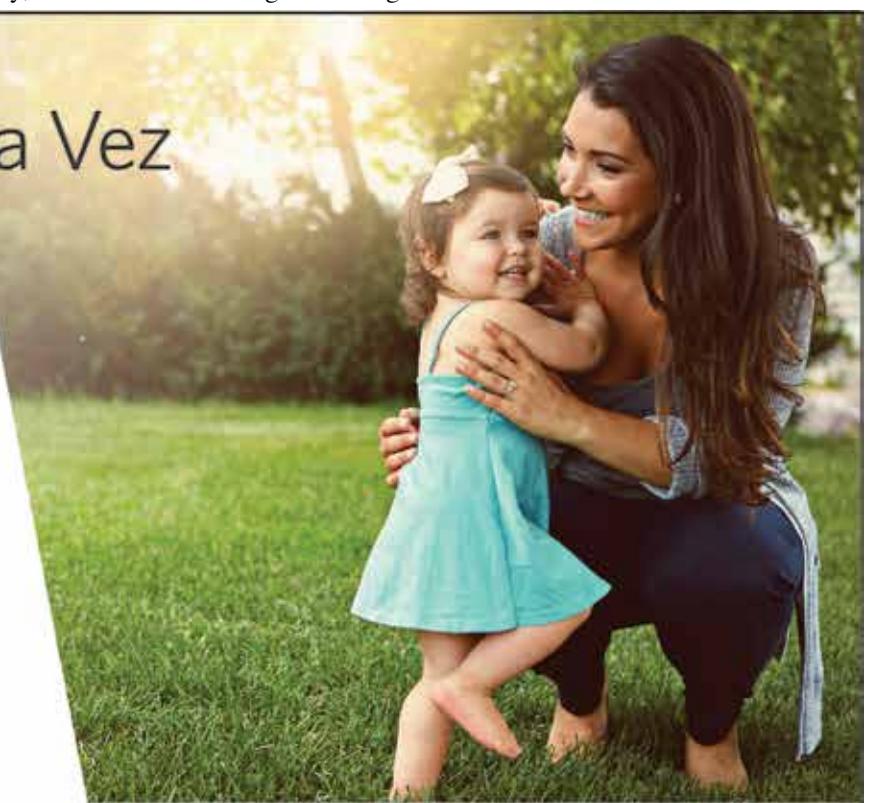
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HOSPITAL BENEFACTORS HONORED -- Carole and Bill Stead are honored with a plaque by Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center President and CEO Rich Yochum, at right, to celebrate their legacy improving heart and stroke care with the Stead Heart and Vascular Center at the hospital. The two were recognized at last month's 26th annual Heartbeat Gala at the DoubleTree Hotel in Ontario, presented by the hospital foundation on the theme "Leaping into the '20s." For more than 30 years, the Stead Heart and Vascular Center has offered one of the most complete lines of cardiovascular and stroke services in Los Angeles and San Bernardino Counties.



HEARTBEAT GALA CHAIRMAN -- Don Kendrick, chair of this year's Heartbeat Gala again this year and a member of the hospital foundation board, poses at the event with his wife, Gaynel Kendrick.



HOSPITAL BOARD MEMBER CURT MORRIS -- Curt Morris, a member of the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center board as well as the hospital foundation board, poses with his wife Glenda Morris at the event last month at the DoubleTree Hotel in Ontario.



BLACK HISTORY CELEBRATION -- Organizers of last month's Black History Month celebration at Pomona's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Park pose for the La Nueva Voz camera with Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, whose City Council District 2 includes the park at Lexington and White Avenues. Pictured, from left, are Preciado and organizers Fabian Pavon, a Pomona parks and recreation commissioner, and Tamela Hutchinson, a Pomona community life commissioner. The event included African dance, keynote speakers, music and more.



MARTIN LUTHER KING PARK EVENT HAD IT ALL -- Last month's Black History Month celebration at Pomona's Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Park had it all from Kobe Bryant t-shirts (pictured at one booth just before Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz bought it) to jewelry, knitted hats and more.

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Pomona chamber members do the ‘learning’ at ‘Principal for a Day’

A total of 34 Pomona Chamber of Commerce members and friends of the Pomona chamber showed up last month at Pomona Unified School District schools in Pomona and Diamond Bar to spend a half day learning what really goes into the job of school principal these days – and while they were at it, learning about what it’s like to be a student at the same time.

And it was all part of the chamber’s annual “Principal for a Day” program, in which members of the business community spend the morning shadowing “real life” principals at their schools to get a first-hand look at the world of education.

Looking for a creative outlet during COVID-19? The SAE invites students to showcase their work online!

Schools are out everywhere but Pomona’s School of Arts and Enterprise doesn’t want lifestyle changes caused by the coronavirus pandemic to keep students everywhere – regardless of their “home” school – from creating, so the school has launched a new weekly virtual art exhibition accepting student contributions called “Draw. Draw. Draw.”

“What we are currently facing is unprecedented – I have heard from so many young people over the last week, looking for a creative outlet,” said Phil Miller, artistic director at The SAE. “All of us at the School of Arts and Enterprise hope every young artist continues to create safely during the COVID-19 precautions.”

He said “Draw. Draw. Draw.” will let these creations reach a national audience each week and allow students the opportunity to inspire and be inspired by showcasing their work.

Miller said the school will “continue to be a national model for artistic excellence” by helping ensure there are creative outlets available to all students.

“If you are looking for a simple



Participants in this year’s Pomona Chamber of Commerce “Principal for a Day” program pose for the traditional group photo at the end of the day’s activities.

Then, once the final bell for the morning rang, the principals for the day and the real principals all

gathered at the Village at Indian Hill for lunch and a chance to talk about what they saw.

“For me, it’s been a great experience,” said chamber Board member Nef Cortez, of Re/Max Universal Realty in Diamond Bar who selected Lorbeer Middle School in Diamond Bar for his “principal” assignment, a school with 650 students. It was his fifth year participating in the annual program.

“I started with my grandson attending Pantera Elementary and so that’s how I became connected,” Cortez said. “That was a fun experience for me. And then also getting to know what the schools, the teachers, the principals, the whole educational system and how much work is actually put in, it’s amazing how much preparation and then the actual work that’s put in to help students learn.”

The “Principal for a Day” pro-



PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY -- Pomona Chamber of Commerce members and friends of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce participated last month in the Chamber’s annual “Principal for a Day” program in which members of the business community spend the morning with a “real” principal to learn more about what goes into the job of a school principal. Pictured at Lorbeer Middle School in Diamond Bar, from left, are principal Krista Fairley, Pomona Chamber Board member Nef Cortez of Re/Max Universal Realty in Diamond Bar, and Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee of Pomona’s La Nueva Voz.

gram has a side benefit – it encourages participants to remain involved during the year. In the case of Cortez, he has done just that – he has become one of nine community members of the Districtwide PTA Council which both keeps him involved in the school district and automatically makes him a member of all PTAs in Pomona Unified.

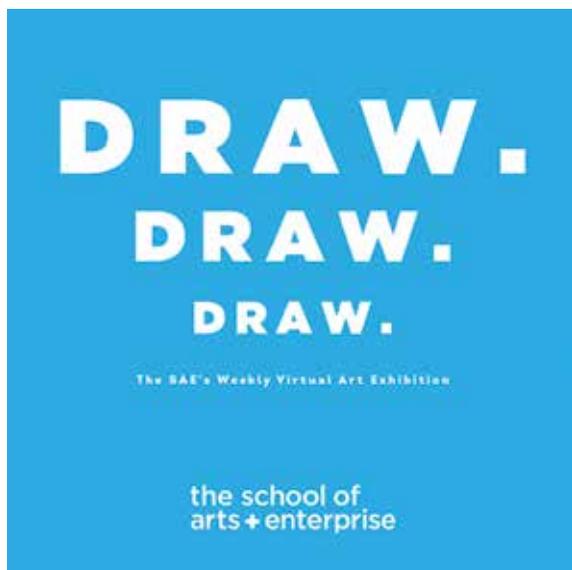
He told La Nueva Voz that

group is open to anyone in the business community – or any resident – interested in joining.

Lorbeer principal Krista Fairley sounded pretty excited about the program as well.

“I think our job and our work is unique and sometimes misunderstood and so I think that having people come and having business professionals from the

Principal for a Day... pg. 14



standard, for our new weekly virtual art exhibition,” Miller said.

Each Saturday, all work submitted will be shared exclusively on the school’s Instagram TV. Artists are invited to e-mail their creations in any form to art@thesae.org to submit them for each exhibition. Artists are asked to save their original creations.

When classes resume, “The Gallery” at The SAE’s Downtown Center will re-open with a “pop-up” exhibition featuring the artists’ original work live in public.

“The School of Arts and Enterprise wants all young artists to find freedom and happiness in creating,” he said.

For more information, visit the website at thesae.org.

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STEAM Fair... from pg. 1

County – attended this year’s event, spread out in several exhibition halls on the Fairplex campus – expo halls 4, 6 and 10, “The Big Red Barn,” and more – both inside and outside the buildings.

And you could tell by the faces the kids were excited about what they were seeing – all of it.

The vein finder was part of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center’s exhibit. And that learn to draw class was taught by three students at Pomona’s School of Arts and Enterprise who rotated the duty throughout the day.

And the idea was to interest kids in pursuing career paths in STEAM areas – science, technology, engineering, arts and agriculture and math.

“STEAM education is so important for students,” said Fairplex President and CEO Miguel Santana. “STEM jobs are expected to grow by 16 percent in the U.S. and they are some of the higher-earning careers. The key is to grab children’s attention when they are young and steer them toward STEAM.”

He added that education is part of the mission of Fairplex, and the STEAM event is the only one of its kind in the Inland Empire, eastern San Gabriel Valley and northern Orange County.

Students could walk around – most of them staying together as a class – and learn about everything from 3-D printing, seed germination and zoology to interactive robotics, trying out a keyboard and a xylophone, and more.

The event began as a “learning expo” years ago and later became known as the Sarah Ross Learning Expo.

Signage around the event continues to keep the name of the late Pomona Unified School District teacher connected with the event, making it possible for the STEAM Fair to continue in her memory.

The original expo was created under Pomona’s Youth and



Lauren Echevarria, of La Verne, at the easel, a 12th grader at Pomona’s School of Arts and Enterprise, teaches visitors to the STEAM Fair how to draw in a brief class. Several students from The SAE rotated duty during the two-day event at Fairplex.



It was smaller than Cal Poly University’s Rose Parade float and you’ll never see this one rolling down Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena but for students visiting the STEAM Fair at Fairplex, it looked pretty good to them as they decorated their own float using pipe cleaners instead of roses.



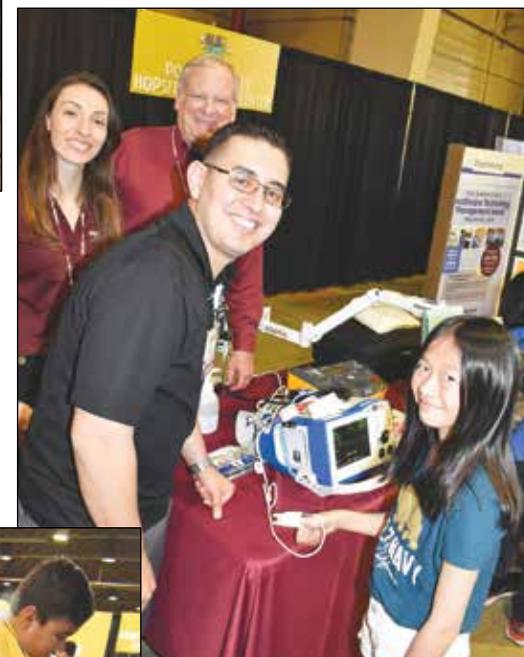
Students experiment with an electronic keyboard at the Inland Conservatory for the Performing Arts exhibit and it sounded pretty good, although one student, at left, might be a future newspaper music critic, what do you think?

Family Master Plan by the Promoting Academic Achievement Task Force, essentially only for students from Pomona. But it continued to grow in size and, since it was already being staged at Fairplex, officials there agreed to take it over and simply expand attendance countywide. Cal Poly University Pomona partnered with Fairplex on the event this year.

The theme this year was “Extreme STEAM, extreme fun.”



Exhibitors from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena brought a model of the Mars Rover with them (pictured at rear), along with a full size replica of one of its rubber tires (in the foreground on the table) and other cool stuff.



These kids at the STEAM Fair were both inquisitive and smart. When La Nueva Voz was their age, we were looking for the hot dog vendor. Here’s one student who was particularly interested in Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center’s exhibit where they were doing simulation on an automatic external defibrillator to convert abnormal heart rhythms to normal by shocking them. (Hey, isn’t that what everybody wants to do when they get out of the office for a walk around the block?) The sensor on her finger is checking her oxygen level. Pictured with the student is hospital biomedical technician Luis Caranza. Pictured at rear are Amber Brenneisen, the hospital’s public relations and community outreach manager, and Jim Dale, the hospital’s vice president of development.



Students stopping by Pomona Unified School District’s Fremont Academy of Engineering and Design exhibit had an opportunity to make these little plastic toy parts in a 3D printer AND check out a few robotics vehicles at the same time.

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LIBRARY HONORS RAY BRADBURY -- John Clifford, president of the Pomona Public Library Foundation board, unveils a tile honoring the legacy of author Ray Bradbury last month in a ceremony in the central atrium of the library. The tile called Bradbury "A true friend of Pomona Library and libraries all over the world." Clifford told guests at the unveiling that Bradbury appeared before groups in Pomona, talking about his love for libraries. He also consulted with the Pomona City Council years ago on his ideas for making Pomona a more livable city through architecture and urban planning. "He was very important to our community so we decided to honor Ray" and his legacy, Clifford said.



READ ACROSS AMERICA -- Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval chats with Ms. January Abell's second grade class at Washington Elementary School before he reads a little Dr. Seuss to the kids on Read Across America Day 2020. He appeared before several classes at the school. The national event, which was designed to promote reading for children, is held annually on a school day closest to March 2 each year -- the date of the birthday of popular children's author Dr. Seuss.

Torres leads effort to suspend 'public charge' rule in coronavirus cases

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services officials have announced they will not enforce its "public charge" rule in cases involving coronavirus testing and treatment.

The action came after Congresswoman Norma Torres led 42 of her congressional colleagues in urging the administration to make the change in the interest of public

health amid concerns the rule would accelerate the spread of the disease.

"As a result, more people will be tested, more patients will receive medical treatment, and more lives will be saved," Torres said. "This proves that the Trump administration understands this rule stands in the way of healthy communities."

The public charge rule allows immigration officers to assess whether

immigrants seeking lawful permanent residency are a public charge based on whether they have used government benefits, like government health insurance.

The rule deterred immigrants experiencing symptoms from seeking testing or treatment for fear of losing their green card or even being deported, Torres said in a news release.



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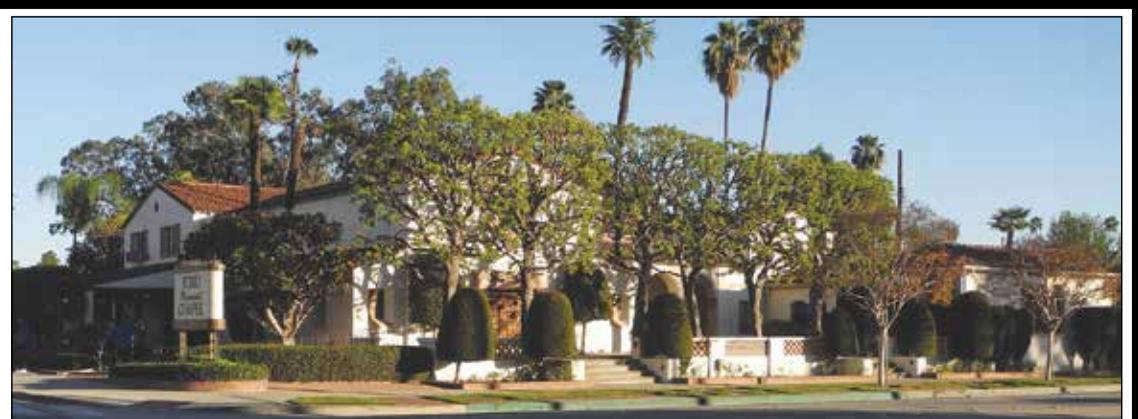
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Tribute to Courage... from pg. 6

staff that you serve first and that very kind of eloquently describes ... what the theme is tonight 'From Survival to Service.'"

"He really is somebody in the midst of his own everyday battles of just living, he finds a way to always have service at the front of his heart and he's really set a foundational culture over at Casa Colina," Hargrave said. "And it resonates with the staff, the therapists, everybody that sets hands on any patient."

Hargrave went on to college at the University of La Verne where he earned a bachelor's and master's degree over a 10-year period. Today, he serves as founder and executive director of the Be Perfect Foundation, a source of hope for thousands recovering from spinal cord injury.

He also owns and operates The Perfect Step, an outpatient center for individuals with paralysis.

David Kiley

David Kiley, a former employee who worked at Casa Colina for 17 years in the 1970s and 1980s, built their wheelchair support program.

Despite a devastating spinal

cord injury, he went on to become one of the most respected wheelchair basketball players and coaches of the past 40 years.

He was the first wheelchair athlete to be featured in "Sports Illustrated" and has inspired thousands.

"I credit Casa with being a launching pad for my success in Paralympic endeavors and helping people," he told La Nueva Voz.

He competed internationally earning 13 Paralympic medals – nine gold, two silver and two bronze – across three sports – basketball, track and Alpine skiing.

Rocco Armonda

Armonda, who served in the U.S. Army for 31 years, is a professor of neurosurgery at Georgetown University and serves as the director of neuro-endovascular surgery for MedStar Washington Hospital Center and Georgetown University Hospital.

He served for two years in Iraq as commander of the 207th Neuro Team and, on his return to Walter Reed, from 2004 to 2013 directed care for patients with severe traumatic brain injury.

Felice Loverso

Loverso told La Nueva Voz the evening's activities were a real tribute to this year's honorees.

"These are people that have overcome the unthinkable and have led such productive lives but more importantly have influenced so many other people behind them to achieve things that I believe that they never thought they could after an injury," he said.

"It really is so exciting to have these people here," he added.

He pointed to one as an example.

"David Kiley ... worked at Casa Colina for many, many years prior to my arrival there and he is just a tremendous, tremendous role model for all people in chairs," he said.

Proceeds from the event support the hospital's free and subsidized care fund which helps patients receive the specialized care they need, regardless of their ability to pay.

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OPINION

A word from La Nueva Voz...

From time to time in the course of publishing a newspaper, readers see something in the paper and may jump to conclusions, take a position, complain about it or just wonder exactly what is going on.

We like that. It shows us people are reading the paper.

That actually happened last month when a bit of a brouhaha (there's a word you won't often see in these pages) erupted over an article we ran on Pomona resident Mike Cargile who was running against Congresswoman Norma Torres in the primary election this month (and as the only challenger will be back on the ballot in the

Quarantine Facility... from pg. 4

as a better community," he added.

Barger said the county has seen an "outflowing of support to protect the public health," and that the hotel quarantine concept is a "good example of working together to keep our communities safe and healthy."

"We will get this done," she said of efforts to slow down the spread of the virus.

runoff in November).

We were approached by Cargile and agreed to do a little story. After all, one challenger to an incumbent candidate, both are Pomona residents, we thought it had all the ingredients necessary to make an interesting news item.

Cargile is a Republican – we get that. And, as Three Valleys Municipal Water Board member Carlos Goytia mentioned to La Nueva Voz at a recent event, Pomona is not exactly a hotbed of Republican support.

Even so, the guy was on the ballot and we thought our readers would be interested in knowing a little something about him.

That brouhaha we were talking about was actually in social media posts – things like La Nueva Voz is a community newspaper and is supposed to reflect the community, the "word on the street" was that La Nueva Voz was endorsing a Republican, and, well, you get the idea.

We've run stories on candidates before – and candidates from different political parties. We ran one a few months ago on a candidate

A word... pg. 13



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Gold Line... from pg. 5

Unknowns surrounding the project are associated with a lack of funding for a second leg “option” to build the line into Claremont and Montclair, along with those rumblings at the San Bernardino County Transportation Authority where officials are having second thoughts and reviewing whether Metrolink trains may be a more viable option on that side of the county line based on what they see as cost comparisons and ridership trends.

But on the Los Angeles County side, city officials throughout the San Gabriel Valley and all the way west to Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, vice chair of the Metro board, have expressed their support of building the Gold Line all the way to Ontario International Airport.

Meanwhile, if additional funding becomes available within the next two years, the contract option would make it possible to extend the Glendora to Pomona segment

another 3.2 miles to Montclair, making cost of construction of the entire 12.3-mile extension a total of \$1.2 billion.

And once construction is completed and the project is turned over to Metro for operation, the cost of adding actual trains and paying for administration and construction of parking structures and the like will bring the entire project cost to \$2.1 billion.

It is estimated that during construction alone, the project will create as many as 16,000 jobs and up to \$2.6 billion in economic output for the region, as well as up to \$1 billion in labor income and potentially \$40 million in tax revenue.

Once completed, the line is estimated to add more than 18,300 riders to the Metro system every day.

The Gold Line’s first segment – from Union Station in Los Angeles to Pasadena – was completed in 2003, and the Pasadena to Azusa segment was completed in 2015.

A word... from pg. 12

for Los Angeles County district attorney who used to live in Pomona, used to work in the district attorney’s Pomona office, etc. He approached us at the Pomona Valley Democratic Club’s civil rights legacy awards event and introduced himself and it went from there. He would have been the first Hispanic district attorney in Los Angeles County, but he dropped out when endorsements – and funding – went elsewhere.

Even more on point, we ran side by side stories on the front page 10 years ago – following interviews with both – when Republican Ray Moors of Chino was challenging then-Assemblymember Norma Torres for her seat in Sacramento.

La Nueva Voz has had a standing offer for years – any candidate interested in an article on their candidacy in any election for any position is welcome to a no-cost story. They just have to submit their information and a photo. Anything after that has to be a paid political ad.

Some candidates have taken us up on the offer and some have not.

In the case of Torres vs Cargile, Congresswoman Torres is aware of our policy since she took us up on our offer when she was in Sacramento.

And as far as that whole endorse-

ment business is concerned, we didn’t endorse anybody in this race and we never have in any other race – it is just something we decided a long time ago not to do here in the local community.

But it’s all good – again, it shows people are reading us. We like a comment Torres has made on several occasions – she calls election time “silly season” since that’s when all the claims and charges and statements come out of the woodwork, whether they pass fact checking or not.

This time, the silliness was all over social media with information that was just plain wrong.

And, while we’re at it, on that part about how we’re supposed to reflect the community, we’ve been doing this in Pomona for nearly 11 years and we think most of the community believes we’re doing a pretty good job.

So we just think that like other newspapers everywhere, we’ll continue to decide how La Nueva Voz reflects the community and we’ll continue to decide what goes in the paper and what doesn’t rather than an unsuccessful Pomona City Council candidate from another election (who we won’t name) who may have meant well but, we believe, was off base this time around.

Thanks for reading!

Services for Hal Jackson... from pg. 2

of only a handful of people in Pomona she calls for advice and direction because of her respect for those individuals.

“His reputation is extremely high,” Royston said, adding that he would not hesitate to tell her if he thought she should go another way.

“I will definitely miss Hal,” she said.

He also served as chair of the social concerns committee of the Pomona-Inland Valley Council of Churches.

Jackson earned a bachelor’s degree in psychology at Pepperdine University and a master’s degree in ministry at the Claremont School of Theology.

In a sample of his writing, this sample from 20 years ago at the turn of the century, Jackson wrote in a New Year’s message of a then-topical police shooting in Claremont in which, before the matter was resolved and questions surrounding the shooting were answered, the two officers involved were awarded \$1,000 each by their fellow employees as “municipal employees of the year” followed by plaques from the Claremont

Police Department as the most outstanding members of the force.

Referring to the holiday period before the new year and its references to “peace and goodwill,” Jackson said “there will be no peace until all the facts are brought to light. There will be no goodwill until people of good will are willing to walk in the light.”

“Peace does not come to everyone, only those who are people of goodwill,” Jackson wrote.

“May the new millennium bring a happy new year to all who are aware that upon them a light has

shined,” he wrote. “May the award be peace.”

Jackson is survived by his wife, Agnes Moreland Jackson, who currently is in hospice care in Pomona. A native of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, she is a retired English teacher who received a doctorate from Columbia University and taught English everywhere from Spelman College in Atlanta to Cal State University Los Angeles, Pitzer College in Claremont and the University of Redlands, where she received her undergraduate degree.

Pomona Valley Hospital offers annual \$50 mammogram ‘deal’

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center’s annual “Spring Fling” \$50 mammography screening deal is being offered throughout the month of April only.

No physician order is needed, and patients will have access to the hospital’s new, more comfortable mammogram technology known as SmartCurve.

Patients must be a woman over 40 without breast implants, with no history of breast cancer in the last five years and have no breast

problems.

Participating locations are the Breast Health Center at the Robert & Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center, 1910 Royalty Drive, Pomona; Pomona Valley Imaging Center, 2140 Grand Ave., Suite 115, Chino Hills; Pomona Valley Health Center, 1601 Monte Vista Ave., Suite 107, Claremont; and Pomona Valley Health Center, 2333 Foothill Blvd., La Verne.

To take advantage of this opportunity, call (909) 469-9395.



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Principal for a Day... from pg. 9

community come and you kind of learn a little bit about education, these things are important," she told La Nueva Voz.

"I think the kids like seeing somebody from the outside coming in, and I think it's nice to kind of show off for the community the work that we do," she added.

Fairley said she was at Kingsley Elementary School for three years before switching to Lorbeer this year.

How did that transition work out for her?

It turns out her own daughter went into seventh grade in Clare-

mont at the same time she was assigned to a middle school. She said they were both a little nervous about moving to the middle school level.

She had served as an elementary school principal for nine years before moving to Lorbeer.

"People have misperceptions of elementary and secondary, I believe" Fairley said. "All principals work hard. But elementary principals don't have the level of support that secondary principals do. I have two counselors. At elementary, I had a counselor one day a week."

Then how does she like middle

school now?

"I love it, they're still kids – they might have some moustaches, they might have boyfriends and girlfriends, but they're still kids," she said. "They just want to be loved, they want to be acknowledged."

"What a great school, the teachers are excellent, the kids are great, it's the most diverse school I've ever been at," she said, both economically and ethnically.

"I love that because it makes it all better," she said.

And parent participation at Lorbeer is good, as well – she said 150 parents came to an awards assembly she created.

"Nobody was getting awards during the day," she said.



The Lorbeer Middle School singers show what they can do in a "command performance" for their "real" principal and their principal for a day.



Dr. Enrique Medina, Board chair of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce and head of Pomona Unified School District's adult school, opens up the conversation at Principal for a Day as this year's principals for a day and their "real" principal counterparts meet after their morning experience to have lunch at the Village at Indian Hill.

"We're trying to prepare them – you've got to have fun in school," she said. "It's just a completely different world."

Earlier that morning, Fairley had been explaining to Cortez that Decker Elementary School and Lorbeer are two of 14 schools in

California engaged in a pilot program at UCLA that will eventually be part of a case study on

implementing "multi-kid" systems of support.

She said they are implementing new programs like a study skills elective and will be part of the case study that helps determine what is successful in improving student grades.

Fairley said early indications are students may be lacking in social skills and lacking in how to ask for help on assignments or how to get organized.

And, she added, it is not a punishment but really an effort to make learning fun.

"We're just pulling out all the stops," she said.



"Principal for a Day" Nef Cortez chats briefly with student Karen Munoz, a seventh grader at Lorbeer Middle School, as she explains what she is working on in her honors language arts class.



POSING FOR THE ARTS -- Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz was asked by Pomona's dA Center for the Arts to spend a few hours posing for her portrait -- which actually turned out to be three portraits by three different professional artists. She showed up, sat in a chair, and was told not to move (OK, she got a five minute break every 20 minutes). The three artists have been doing this "special people project" for seven years at the dA, and they did it at another location in Covina before that.



THE ARTISTS AT WORK -- The three artists each had their own approach and, although all three used oils, the two ladies preferred Gessel board, a wood-like painting panel, while their gentleman counterpart preferred stretched canvas. Pictured from left to right, with model Renee Barbee in the background, are Afton Crawford, of Rancho Cucamonga; Jacki Knell, of Claremont; and Chuck Fogg, of San Bernardino. The three paint portraits at the dA every week and their work goes on sale at the dA.



Artist Chuck Fogg's work is coming right along as he captures his subject on canvas.



And here's Chuck's finished product! Think he nailed it? E-mail us your thoughts and we'll pass them along.

Pomona Valley Hospital sets up safe site to donate supplies

Based on an outpouring of support from the community during the COVID-19 pandemic, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center has established a safe process to donate supplies.

Masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, bleach and towels are supplies a hos-

pital spokesperson said would be most useful at this time.

The donation site is located at 360 Vinton Ave., Pomona. Supplies may be dropped off between 8 a.m. and noon Monday through Friday.

Shoshana – with mix of old and new – brings house down at the Fox

By Jeff Schenkel

“I wanna be ‘round to pick up the pieces when somebody breaks your heart.”

Tony Bennett sang it, Frank Sinatra sang it, everybody sang it – and they still do.

But when Shoshana Bean sang it at Pomona’s Fox Theater this month, there actually could have been pieces to pick up – she brought the house down and took everybody back in time – all at once.

First of all, she had them at “hello” – she was playing to a packed house at the Fox with a near-capacity 1,134 ticket-holders all the way up into the balcony at what was billed as a “sold out” event.

The special one-night engagement was a production of Po-

Lonely Hearts Club Band album, 1967). OK, not really new but it still seems new to La Nueva Voz.

She opened with “Remember the Day,” an original piece that is worth listening to on “YouTube.”

Above all, she is an amazing singer with amazing presence and a dynamic voice. But her nine-piece band (she called it a band but it could almost be called an orches-



Singing sensation Shoshana Bean hits a high note at Pomona’s Fox Theater.



Shoshana Bean’s trumpet player is featured in a solo at the Fox Theater. The five-piece brass section (three saxophones, a trumpet and a trombone) gave the nine-piece band a “big band” sound throughout the night.



Shoshana introduces singers Logan Dawson, at left, and Alexa Yamila Ocana who performed a cover of “Stiches” by Canadian singer Shawn Mendes. Shoshana herself selected the two musicians, both 10th graders at Pomona’s School of Arts and Enterprise, for the student performance at the Fox Theater after reviewing five videos submitted by the school.

mona’s School of Arts and Enterprise in association with the Fox Theater and was the first in a new series “The School of Arts and Enterprise Presents at The Fox Theater,” so there were a lot of students in the audience from The SAE.

The kids got it and loved it – she was their kind of performer and she reached out to them several times in her comments between songs, things like understanding how hard it is to be in high school (even though she admitted they didn’t have cell phones and social media when she was there).

But the rest of the audience loved her as well – her performance was everything from old school like “Pick up the pieces” to something new like “What would you think if I sang out of tune” (“With a little help from my friends,” the Beatles, Sgt. Pepper’s

tra) with a five-piece horn section is what gives it the big band sound making it possible for Shoshana to make everything work – from Sinatra to more recent show tunes.

Show of hands – when was the last time you saw a nine-piece band with everybody wearing a shirt and tie?

(She worked with an 18-piece band on “Spectrum,” her fourth album, and once said she wrote “Remember the Day” only days before recording the album.)

Her own press materials say she has been inspired by Aretha Franklin, Frank Sinatra and Barbara Streisand. We think there might even be a little Janis Joplin in there.

She moved quickly through her set list – from a tune by Rihanna to “I feel good” by James Brown to “How deep is the ocean, how high is the sky” by Billie Holiday

ment for Elphaba in “Wicked.” She has also sold out solo concerts around the globe.)

But back to her band – there are bands and there are bands. This one was professionally conducted (by the bass player) and noticeably kept everything in perfect balance – you could actually hear each instrument AND still hear the lyrics.

This is important – so many garage bands – and a lot that make it out of the garage and into the clubs – kind of get into a little competition between the drummer and the

singer.

Not so in Shoshana’s band.

She even played an MP3 dub of an old wax record made of her grandmother, also a singer, who she said inspired her.

Shoshana said her grandmother never performed professionally but would pick up a microphone and sing along with the band at venues in her small hometown.

A highlight of the evening was when Shoshana brought out two students from the School of Arts and Enterprise – Logan Dawson and Alexa Yamila Ocana, both 15 and both 10th graders, to perform a cover of “Stiches” (a top 10 single on the Billboard Hot 100) by Canadian singer Shawn Mendes. The song was nominated for Choice Music Single: Male Artist at the 2015 Teen Choice Awards (and obviously was a big hit with

lead guitar and the keyboard guy with each one boosting his volume a little at a time and finally the band is out of control and you can’t hear the

the School of Arts and Enterprise kids in the crowd – that along with the fact that the two performers knew half of the people in the audience).

The two were selected for the gig by Shoshana herself from five videos students sent her ahead of the performance.

Logan is a resident of Fontana and Alexa is from Ontario. (You saw Alexa in La Nueva Voz last month in our review of “The Miracle Worker” – she played Helen Keller.)

They were accompanied by Shoshana’s lead guitar player Kyle Bolden at the Fox. And they did a good job.

La Nueva Voz was totally impressed with Shoshana – and she left us hanging a little bit waiting to find out what the School of Arts and Enterprise’s artistic director Phil Miller has up his sleeve for the second in the new series at the Fox.

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WHO WE ARE

For more than 17 years The School of Arts + Enterprise has built and supported a proven platform from which to unlock and nurture the passions and dreams of students through a foundation of knowledge, creativity and a lifelong love of learning.

As a non-profit, state-authorized, public charter school, our 6th-12th grade students are fully immersed in a college preparatory environment built on creative and academic excellence. With 99% of our graduates being accepted into Universities and Colleges nationwide their stories speak volumes to the success of our project-based learning programs and the transformational power of art. **Our tuition-free and no-audition-required** standard allows each and every student the opportunity to receive a world-class 21st century education without barrier to empower passionate world-citizens with the confidence of knowledge, the power of creative thinking, and **the tools needed to succeed.**

Our three campuses are unified in providing an extraordinarily inclusive environment to ensure students and families are confident in their student's social, physical, and emotional wellbeing.

Our 8th, 10th, and 12th grade portfolios provide a framework for developing well-rounded citizens with a focus in transferable skills so to be fully prepared to be successful in a rapidly evolving professional world. To support this, The SAE produces one of the largest Visual and Performing Arts seasons of its kind in the country - engaging our student artists in exciting and challenging pre-professional performance and exhibition work.

Extracurricular opportunities build upon art and academic proficiency via clubs, tutoring, school dances, field trips, internships and The School of Arts + Enterprise's nationally recognized literary magazine Electric. Further, The SAE Academic Culmination and Community Arts Festival capstones expand beyond the school walls and transcend traditional learning models.

HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ 100% fully credentialed academic and arts faculty
- ◆ 99% graduation rate
- ◆ 60% student body from local community
- ◆ 40% student body from surrounding communities
- ◆ 2019-2024 Arts School Network National Exemplary School Award

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