

### Ion Puschila, Arturo Jimenez, others take top honors at Roundtable 'Cesar Chavez Breakfast'

Garey High School teacher Ion that brought me Puschila, winner of this year's "Community Star" award at the 19th annual Latino and Latina Roundtable "Cesar Chavez Breakfast" last month, accepted the honor with the warning that "there's a lot of work still to be done because we have a lot of fascists and neo-fascists running around rampant in our country today."

Puschila, a long-time Roundtable member who serves on the Social Justice Scholarship Committee and the Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta Pilgrimage Committee, told more than 500 supporters attending the event that it was a "long and winding road migrant," he said. "I am very

here." He said his mom, Elena Purice who was in the audience, immigrated from

Romania which was communist and brought both of her children first to Germany and then to California in 1981 when he was 14.

"I was very, "Cesar Chavez Breakfast." very lucky to have

found Pomona because people of Pomona accepted me as an im-

lucky to have met such wonderful, amazing people."

"Life I find is just a bunch of

### **Representatives bring millions of dollars to Pomona**, get work started on affordable housing in region

State Sen. Susan Rubio

U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla told members of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce this month he has secured \$4 million for new zero-emission buses at Foothill Transit, and State Sen. Susan Rubio said she created a housing trust four years ago that today is building 650 affordable housing units.

Meanwhile, Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez told the Pomona Chamber's annual "Legislative Luncheon" at Pomona's Derby Room that in general he has brought nearly \$20 million to Po-

Millions of dollars to Pomona... pg. 5



U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla

Pomona's Ion Puschila accepts the Latino/Latina Roundtable President Jose Calderon, at left, pres-Community Star" award at last month's ents award to Pomona Unified School District Board member Arturo Jimenez at "Cesar Chavez Breakfast."

> coincidences that you have no control over," he said, adding that he would not have guessed 10 years ago he would have been standing before the group.

> And he said his career path led him to Garey High School.

"I related to those kids because I grew up poor and I grew up kind of crazy," he said. "I decided to stick with that because it kind of fit me."

He thanked his mom for her guidance, along with his girlfriend Jennifer Williams, formerly of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley and now a resident of Burlington, Kentucky. And he announced the two plan to be married in September.

Roundtable President Jose Calderon presented Puschila with the award "for your efforts in building the Latino/Latina Roundtable, for your long-time commitment to our youth and community, to education, leadership building, advocacy and organizing."

### Arturo Jimenez

Other awardees honored at the event included Pomona Unified School District Board member Arturo Jimenez, who is also president of the Pomona Democratic Club

In his introductory comments, Calderon said Jimenez worked to expose discriminatory practices years ago in Pomona Police Department "DUI" checkpoints at a time when it was learned that 97 percent of the arrests were not DUIs but undocumented immigrants whose cars were impounded and later sold.

He said Jimenez' efforts resulted in changes in discriminatory practices not only in Pomona but throughout California with legislative changes making it possible as of today to issue driver's licenses to some 1.5 million undocumented immigrants.

"It is an honor to stand here today," Jimenez said, referring to

Cesar Chavez Breakfast ... pg. 6



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### MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Our mental health deserves the same attention as our physical health but is far too often overlooked or ignored. The stigma associated with mental illness affects millions of people every day, leaving many of them to struggle with their mental health issues for years without support. Every May, Mental Health Awareness Month offers the possibility for individuals, friends, families and communities to collaborate in bringing awareness to mental health issues and supporting the people we care about. Cultivating empathy is essential for assisting individuals who are seeking the mental health support they need.

Join Tri-City Mental Health in celebrating California's new statewide movement, Take Action for Mental Health, and promoting mental health in Pomona, Claremont and La Verne. This year's theme is Share for Mental Health. Join people across California and share how you practice self-care; how you get support for your mental health; how you overcame stigma; and share your journey towards wellness and inspire others to Take Action. All of us should feel comfortable reaching out for and connecting with support.

Scan the QR Code to make a pledge to Take Action for Mental Health and learn more about Tri-City's events and activities happening throughout May to celebrate Mental Health Awareness Month!

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RESERVOIR UNDERPASS TURNS INTO, WELL, A RESERVOIR! -- The underpass at Reservoir Street in Pomona became flooded and unpassable again last month due to rain but city crews were on it with a pump truck and hose (visible at right rear). Public works officials told La Nueva Voz in January that there are three built-in pumps at that lo cation but they have been out for repairs due to maintenance and supply chain issues. The problem has been further compounded by debris tossed in by occupants of a homeless encampment (at right) that clogs the pumps. Bottom line? When you see the water and the blockade, don't try to drive through -- you might not make it.

### Latino Legislative Caucus taking applications for scholarships

2023 scholarship program in which selected journeys." students will receive \$5,000.

is June 1.

"Our commitment to education and empowering the next generation of leaders and innovators remains steadfast," said Assemblymember Sabrina Cervantes (D-Riverside), chair of the caucus. "The ... scholarship program will help deserving students overcome financial barriers and achieve their goals. We look forward to receiving

The California Latino Legislative Caucus applications from promising students and Foundation is accepting applications for its helping them succeed in their educational

Applicants must be enrolled as a full-time Deadline to submit an application online student in an accredited college or university or be a graduating high school senior with written proof of acceptance to an accredited institution of higher learning.

In addition, applicants must have a minimum grade point average of 2.5.

Recipients will be announced on June 30. For more information and applications,

visit the foundation web site at www.cllcf. org

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### Pomona's own astronaut Victor Glover picked as pilot for next year's space flight to the Moon

Pomona native Victor J. Glover, a National Aeronautics and Space Administration astronaut of the class of 2013 and a pilot on the first operational flight of the SpaceX Crew Dragon to the International Space Station, will be one of four astronauts who will venture around the Moon on Artemis II.

The space flight will be the first crewed mission on NASA's path to establishing a long-term presence at the Moon for science and exploration.

The four astronauts selected for the job were announced this month by officials at NASA and the Canadian Space Agency at an event near NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

"The Artemis II crew represents thousands of people working tirelessly to bring us to the stars. This is their crew, this is our crew, this is humanity's crew," said NASA Administrator Bill Nelson. "Together, we are ushering in a new era of exploration for a new generation of star sailors and dreamers."

Glover will serve as pilot on

the 10-day flight test mission, currently scheduled for November 2024, which NASA officials said is paving the way for future longterm human exploration missions to the Moon and eventually Mars.

It represents the first time in more than 50 years humans will fly to the vicinity of the Moon.

The mission will be Glover's second space flight. He last landed in May 2021 after 168 days in space including time on the space station.

While aboard the space station in March 2021 some 254 miles above the earth orbiting at more than 17,000 miles per hour, Glover – along with his flight engineer Dr. Shannon Walker – spoke to students in the Inland Empire in a live appearance from space (visit www.



**POMONA'S ASTRONAUT VICTOR GLOVER PICKED TO PILOT SPACE FLIGHT TO THE MOON** -- Pomona's favorite astronaut, Pomona native Victor Glover, will be taking another little spin through outer space next year, this time as pilot of a space craft that will be going around the moon. Glover is pictured in the center at rear. Astronauts traveling with him are, from left, NASA astronauts Christina Hammock Koch and Reid Wiseman, and Canadian Space Agency astronaut Jeremy Hansen.

lanuevavoz.net, click on past issues and scroll down to story on page three).

And in December that same year, he visited Pomona in a special appearance on Second Street as grand marshal of the Pomona Christmas Parade (see December 2021 La Nueva Voz, page 1).

In a live interview in the street at the reviewing stand, La Nueva Voz asked Glover what message he had for the kids who may be considering becoming an astronaut.

He said his answer was for kids everywhere but "especially here in Pomona."

"I think they need to understand these three things, no matter what they want to do in life," he said, explaining they need to be resilient, they need to be lifelong learners, and they need to be a good teammate.

Glover, who will become 47 next week, was born in Pomona and graduated from Ontario High School in 1994. He was named "athlete of the year" the same year. He was a graduate of Cal Poly University San Luis Obispo.



Photo courtesy of Pomona Chamber of Commerce

NEW POMONA CHAMBER MEMBER -- Members of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce held an official ribbon cutting for new Pomona Chamber member Claremont Care Center, a 99-bed skilled nursing facility serving a variety of age groups, located at 219 E. Foothill Blvd., Pomona. The facility, in the community for more than 30 years, recently was completely renovated, prompting the grand reopening. Pictured, from left, are Anthony Moreno, representing State Sen. Susan Rubio; Chamber President and CEO Monique Robles; Jenny Macias, representing Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez; Claremont Care Center Administrator Carla Arellano; Director of Nursing Erin Seman; Director of Business Development Veronica Cardenas; Pomona Chamber Board member Jeff Johannsen of Pomona Hope; and Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz.



Photo by Renee Barbee

**ROCKY THE RECYCLING RACCOON!** -- Officials from Athens Services -- along with Rocky the Recycling Raccoon and a miniature trash collection truck -- visited the Pomona Civic Center this month for an informational session on solid waste, recycling and organic waste collection services. Athens will take over all trash collection services in Pomona -- including residential, multi-family and commercial -- on July 1. Pomona City Councilmembers awarded Athens a 10-year contract estimated to be worth \$29.3 million a year last December. It will be the first time in 100 years that the city decided to take its own trash trucks out of the equation.

### Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is site of 'largest U.S. majority Latino hospitalized' COVID-19 outcome study

A study with 4,881 patients during of the first 14 months of COVID-19 at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center found obesity was not a major risk factor; multi-infected families did better than expected; and hospital treatment with convalescent plasma, remdesivir, or tocilizumab were tied to improved outcomes. Researchers from Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, working closely with other investigators, recently published the results of their multi-year research study which was the largest of a U.S. community hospital with a majority Latino population on the outcome risks of COVID-19 in hospitalized patients.

In a hospital newsletter article

published this month, officials reported that Latino and lower income populations were among the hardest hit during the pandemic due to their lack of access to health care. The study began in March of 2020 and found that treatment with convalescent plasma, remdesivir, or tocilizumab were tied to improved outcomes. The study examining COV-ID-19 risk factors was published in January 2023 in "Open Forum Infectious Disease," a journal of the Infectious Disease Society of America, and Oxford University Press.

"This was the largest U.S. COVID-19 study focused on a community-based hospital with a majority Latino population," said Daniel Gluckstein, M.D., study investigator and former medical director of infectious disease at the hospital. "The information was gathered and compiled with the help of our researchers and staff during a volatile health crisis that disproportionately affected Latinos in Los Angeles." Of the 4.881 patients studied,

Largest majority... pg. 15

### 'Youth development strategy' makes all the difference for kids at The Club

At the Youth and Family Club of Pomona Valley, Executive Director Victor Caceres believes the success of their kids is a direct result of their use of a "youth development strategy."

"We're taking that part of the program as our core, as the most important part of what we do with



Victor Caceres

kids," Caceres said in an interview with La Nueva Voz.

That strategy is printed on the back of every kid's shirt at The Club – competence, leadership, usefulness and belonging.

But it can be as simple as a little conversation with a kid to build him up.

He saw it work firsthand some 50 years ago when he was about 9 years old and a member of the Hollywood Boys Club where he learned how to swim.

One day an instructor told him he had the best flutter kick in the club and asked him to grab a kick board and demonstrate it for the class.

That one comment had an impact on Caceres then and, really, continued for the rest of his life. Today he continues to spend a lot of time in the water either swimming or surfing.

"That's what I want our kids in The Club to experience daily – something that makes a spark in their heart," he said.

And Caceres and his team areapplying that principle to generally 150 to 180 kids a day at the club house at 1420 S. Garey Ave., Pomona. But wait, there's more – when you factor in their work on Pomona Unified School District elementary school campuses, The Club is really serving a total of 2,000 kids a day. The way that works is recreational leaders from The Club work at seven school sites at a time, spending six weeks at each school. By the time the end of the school year rolls around, they've hit all 26 elementary schools in the district – and they've even gone back a second time to schools that really need a little extra support.

And that youth development strategy? First of all, Caceres said it is really a human development strategy, because it applies to adults as well.

But second, the strategy is working. Caceres has had principals ask him what his people are doing out on the playground to make a difference.

In one case, a principal told him his school had an average of 12 to 13 behavior referrals a day (to the principal's office) before The Club arrived on the scene. On the first day, a Monday, he told Caceres that number dropped to zero.

Caceres believes it is all about the conversation.

In fact, he said it is so important it became the slogan at The Club: "Building lives one conversation at a time." Caceres said the on-campus program rotates through five "periods" and the lunch period of the school day.

The key to its success is simple – he said it is all about "getting kids to feel awesome."

And it is catching on. Caceres now is speaking to staff members at other clubs – Boys and Girls Clubs around Southern California and the like – explaining his formula which, really, he said has been on the books at clubs for years but may not be emphasized as much as it should.

But for Caceres, he said it all goes back to that one experience he had in Hollywood as a child.

"For us now, it's really about having an experience for kids very similar to the experience that I had – it helped me build who I am today," he said in a recent Pomona's Promise podcast interview on the subject with Pomona's Andy Quinones. "As an adult, and looking back at that, I have made a point for our kids that come to The Club to have that experience."

"When you have kids feeling awesome about something that

they do, it just builds them," he said. "They are celebrated for everything that they do well, and they are encouraged when they are not doing well."

"It's simple, it's very impactful, it's outcomes are tied to feelings," he told Quinones, explaining that it builds self-esteem and gives them a better chance at life.

And that is something that is too important to let something like a COVID-19 pandemic stand in the way. For example, soon after the shutdown, The Club opened back up with "virtual" online programs as early as a week into the closure. The exercise and art programs were that important to the kids and their families.

But that wasn't enough for the Board at The Club – local State Farm insurance agent John Forbing, a member of the Board for 40 years and Board President at the time, said they needed to open back up "live."

Only two other agencies had opened up in the area and each was handling 30 kids each, all children of first responders.

The Club took a month to come

Development strategy... pg. 12

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ADVANCE AUTO PARTS COMES TO POMONA! -- Pomona's first Advance Auto Parts held an official Pomona Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremony this month at 340 E. Holt Ave. (formerly Pep Boys). The fullservice auto parts store is part of a national chain that is taking over all former Pep Boys locations across the country. The Pomona store opened for business in February. Pomona manager Larry Zamora told La Nueva Voz the Advance company actually grew out of Pep Boys about 90 years ago. Most of the employees here were formerly Pep Boys employees in Pomona or surrounding communities. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee, of La Nueva Voz; manager of the Advance store in Upland Luis Romero; Pomona Manager Larry Zamora; Assistant Manager (Pomona store) Allysen Kealy; the store's night manager Jesse Perez; Chamber President and CEO Monique Robles; and Chamber Ambassador John Petrie, of Uniko Media Group.

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### Millions of dollars to Pomona... from pg. 1

mona in the last couple of years.

Padilla, speaking in a specially recorded video for the event, told nearly 200 chamber members the past two years have not been easy due to navigating the pandemic and economic uncertainty "or just trying to grow a business in the face of supply chain issues."

"But through it all, it is local businesses that have provided sta-

Padilla, the first Latino elected to represent California in the U.S. Senate, "and it is the Pomona Chamber of Commerce that has given them the resources and guidance to make it through."

"So, thank you for all that you have done to keep California moving and for helping more Californians achieve the American

> dream," said Padilla, who previously served as a Los Angeles City Councilmember, California State Senator, and California Secretary of State. He is a resident of the Fernando San Valley.

He said he has worked hard in Congress to give communities the resources need to continue to grow "by at this year's Pomona Chamber of Commerce Legislative Lunpassing historic cheon. Pictured, from left, are Bob Radcliff, President of Post investments in 30's Legion Riders; Post First Vice Commander Sam Cafiero; our nation's in-

"And here in Pomona, I've been proud to fight for projects that will strengthen the economic environthey ment for businesses to thrive," he said. "That includes securing \$4

frastructure, facilitating high tech

manufacturing, combating the

climate crisis with good paying

green jobs and more."

million to help Foothill Transit purchase new zero-emission buses to ease congestion and improve

air quality in the Pomona and San Gabriel Valleys."

He said he also fought to increase funding for an educational partnership agreement between the U.S. Air Force and Cal Poly University Pomona "to help invest in system security integration projects for aerospace engineering and to help develop a workforce pipeline."

'Because if we truly want to in-

vest in the future of our economy, we have to invest in the future of our workforce, and we're just getting started," he said.

#### State Sen. Susan Rubio

Rubio, appearing live at the event, told chamber members she refers to herself as a "businessfriendly democrat," prides herself in "collaborating with my local communities," and hopes to "build Millions of dollars to Pomona... pg. 17







and Aleiandro Escobedo, post finance officer.

### Cesar Chavez Breakfast... from pg. 1

the many dedicated and passionate members of the community in the room.

"Community service is the cornerstone of the Latino-Latina community, and it is something that I'm proud to have been a part of throughout my life," he said. "We have always been the people who put the needs of others first."

He said it is because of that he is stressing the importance of supporting the construction of a new performing arts center in Pomona as a joint venture between the city and the school district using funding made possible by Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez.

"The arts have the power to bring people together and uplift our spirits" and to celebrate the richness of the culture and the community, he said.

"I want to thank each and every one of you for your dedication to our community – whether you are a student activist, a community leader, or simply someone who cares deeply about the wellbeing of others," Jimenez added. "Together we can continue the legacy of service left by Cesar Chavez

We're working on a project about the music and legacy of Juan Gabriel and we're hoping to connect with folks who can talk about his time in Elsinore, CA in the mid-1960's. You may have known him as Alberto Aguilera, his legal name. He stayed with an African American family and visited a local African American church so we're trying to find both. We're wondering if any locals happen to know about this story and have any contacts you could share with us? If anyone has any information contacts, or leads please email Nicole at studios@ futuromediagroup.org. Thank you!

and Dolores Huerta and build a brighter future for all." Lopez Urban Farm

Also honored as an award recipient was Pomona's Lopez Urban Farm, with Executive Director Stephen Yorba and Lopez Elementary School Principal Dr. Juan Arretche accepting on behalf of the farm.

"To all of you who are gathered today who fight to help others to be seen, really that's the heart of our work," Yorba said. "And so I want to thank you on behalf of Lopez Urban Farm for doing that work every single day working to help people be seen because everybody deserves the right and the dignity to be seen."

He added this also was at the heart of the work of Cesar Chavez.

And he recognized the farm's "namesake," Ignacio Lopez, who was from Pomona, educated in Pomona and came back to Pomona to establish the newspaper "El Spectador" in the 1930s and 1940s, through which he "fought for the rights of everyone to be



Estamos trabajando en un proyecto sobre la música y legado de Juan Gabriel. Esperamos conectar con quienes pueden hablar sobre el tiempo que él pasó en Elsinore, CA en los 1960's. Tal vez lo conocían como Alberto Aguilera, su nombre legal. Él vivió con una familia Afroamericana y visitó una iglesia local Afroamericana. ¿Algún residente local conoce esta historia y tiene algún contacto que pueda compartir con nosotros? O cualquier información o pistas, envíe un correo electrónico a Nicole a studios@futuromediagroup.org. ¡Gracias!



Fairplex Vice President Cielo Castro

I hree Valleys Municipal Water District Representative Carlo traditional "De Colores" at the "Cesar Chavez Breakfast."



Participating in the song "De Colores" are, from left, Pomona Unified School Board member Patty Tye, PUSD Acting Supt. Darren Knowles, Pomona volunteer Rachel Barbosa, Norma Quinones of the San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps, PUSD Board member Lisa Nashua, and Pomona Police Lt. Manny Ramos.

seen, especially those at the time who were not seen, who were invisible and were treated as such."

El Spectador (The Viewer), Pomona's community newspaper, was the forerunner of the old La Voz, the predecessor of La Nueva Voz.

Yorba also thanked Pomona Unified School District "for believing in this partnership and helping us to educate the next generation of eco-conscious human beings." He introduced Arretche who, he said, has "championed the farm effort from the very beginning."

"The urban farm has really brought hope to our school, to our community, through the efforts of farmer Stephen, Pomona Unified, Western University, Cal Poly," Arretche said, explaining that students at the school next door to the farm have the opportunity to visit the farm on Thursdays and **Cesar Chavez Breakfast... pg. 8** 



Representing the National TPS Alliance and receiving an award are, from left, Lizbeth Zepeda and her parents, Orlando and Lorena Zepeda.

### Dr. Martha Garcia named new president of Mt. San Antonio College

Martha Garcia has been selected as the new president of Mt. San Antonio College. She will assume her new position July 1.

The Mt. SAC Board of Trustees appointed Garcia during its regu-



Dr. Martha Garcia

lar meeting on April 12.

"It is with great pleasure that we welcome Dr. Garcia to Mt. SAC as its 10th president, its first female president in 50 years, and its first president of color," said Gary Chow, Mt. SAC board president. "Dr. Garcia has demonstrated she is committed to the transformative power of higher education, and the board is confident she will provide excellent, inclusive, and student-focused leadership at Mt. SAC."

As president, Dr. Garcia will serve as the chief executive officer for the largest single-district college in the state.

"I am ecstatic at the opportunity to lead Mt. SAC and I am grateful the board has entrusted me to serve as the next president," Dr. Garcia said. "I am looking forward to working with the college's teams

Pomona

of Possibilities."

and especially to serving students. That's why I do what I do."

Dr. Garcia is currently president/superintendent of College of the Desert in Palm Desert, a post she has held since August 2021.

> Prior to joining College of the Desert, she served as superintendent/president of Imperial Valley College in Imperial, California. In her 21 years at Imperial Valley College, Dr. Garcia also served as vice president of student services, acting vice president of academic services, and special projects coordinator overseeing career education programs.

Dr. Garcia's academic credentials include a doctorate in educational leadership from San Diego State University, a master's degree in educational counseling from National University, a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration from San Diego State University, and an associate degree from Imperial Valley College.

Dr. Garcia currently serves, or has served, on several boards and task forces of numerous organizations, including the California Association of Latino Community College Trustees and Administrators, Community College League of California Affordability, Food & Housing Access Taskforce, and the California Community Colleges Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility Implementation Workgroup.

Her selection follows input and feedback from Mt. SAC students, faculty, staff and the community. She will replace Dr. Bill Scroggins, who is retiring in June after 12 years

See free on-line Pomona Police **Department arrest logs!** 

A new feature available on the La Nueva Voz web site is a free arrest log listing of every arrest made by Pomona police officers - wherever the arrest is made, as long as the suspect is booked into the Pomona jail.

Listings are updated weekly as information is provided by the Pomona Police Department.

Just visit our web site at www. lanuevavoz.net and click on "Arrest Logs" on the feature bar on the home page.



Photo by Renee Barbee

CLEAN-UP DAY AT GANESHA HIGH SCHOOL -- Caltrans and the City of Pomona hosted a series of clean-up days around five high schools in Pomona last month as part of Gov. Newsom's \$1.1 billion "Clean California" initiative. Participants included Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, Pomona Unified School District officials, members of Pomona Beautiful and the San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps. Workers removed trash and other debris from the school grounds and surrounding areas. Pictured in front of Pomona's Ganesha High School hard at work are, from left, Hammer Sui, Caltrans District 7 Clean California Program Coordinator; Angel Arellano of Pomona Beautiful; Roselyn Herrera, a student at Ganesha; Pomona Unified School District Interim Supt. Darren Knowles; Luis Lano of Pomona Beautiful; and Andres Hernandez, a teacher at Ganesha High School. Since 2021, the statewide effort has removed 1.4 million cubic yards of trash, created 3,500 jobs and awarded \$300 million in local grants.



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volunteer Ethel Gardner will hold a free book signing next month for her latest book, "The Power of Pause," from 3 to 7 p.m. Sunday,



learn about plant horticulture, Pomona history and advocacy.

The entire experience, he added, makes the students "beneficiaries of all the positive things that occur in that wonderful and inspiring space."

### Pitzer College Workers and Student Alliance

Also recipients of the Roundtable award were the Pitzer College workers and a student alliance that has worked in solidarity with the employees through a series of anti-union campaigns, making it possible for workers in maintenance, custodial, grounds and dining departments in their recent election to win union representation in what Calderon called a "mighty and courageous struggle."

Pitzer groundskeeper Tony Hoang said, "we are here because we fought for each other, it's that simple."

"When you find out there is an injustice, what do you do? You stand up for each other," he said. "The people on the bottom are the people that make this school exist."

"If it wasn't for the students, if it wasn't for the workers, there is no Pitzer College," said Hoang, who grew up in Pomona.

The unionization effort and the negotiations that followed resulted in better pay, more accessible health insurance and seniority rights.

### National TPS Alliance

The TPS Alliance is a group of organized TPS ("Temporary Protected Status" granted by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to individuals

from a country enduring conditions that prevent the person from returning safely) recipients and supporters who advocate through the courts and elected officials.

Because of their work, TPS holders have been given an 18-month extension of protected status. They have fought to maintain TPS and gain permanent residence status for more than six years.

Roundtable Vice President Angela Sanbrano called the group "the strongest and most organized national immigrant rights

alliance in the United States."

She said it is through the group's struggle they were able to avoid deportation for thousands.

Accepting the award on behalf of the organization were Orlando and Lorena Zepeda and their daughter Lizbeth. The three are involved in the Ramos vs Nielsen TPS case.

The ACLU Foundation of Southern California, with the National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON) and the law firm of Sidley Austin LLP, filed a lawsuit in federal court on behalf of nine people with Temporary Protected Status and five U.S. citizen children of TPS holders against the Department of Homeland Security to stop the unlawful termination of TPS for more



Cesar Chavez Breakfast... from pg. 6

U.S. and to protect the tens of

thousands of U.S. citizen children

whose parents would be forced to

leave under the administration's

struggle, it is an honor to receive

this award," Lorena Zepeda said

through an interpreter. "My fam-

ily is very happy and we are very

proud to be plaintiffs in the Ra-

"I know it's very hard just us

kids having to grow up in this en-

vironment . . . having politicians

... and face everybody showing

that don't support us," said Liz-

beth Zepeda. "We were just born

into this life and all we want is to

be with our families, all we want

is to support our families."

"Brothers and sisters in our

Lina Mira Roundtable Executive Director

policy.

mos case.'

Fomona's Benny Ayala of Fairplex and Mayor Tim Sandoval keep up with the song "De Colores.

than 300,000 people living in the



Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez Social justice scholarship recipients For the 11th year, Roundtable



Elena Purice, Ion Puschila's mom, attended the "Cesar Chavez Breakfast" to see her son honored with the "Community Star" award.

members selected students for social justice scholarships in an Cesar Chavez Breakfast... pg. 22





Singers include, from left, PUSD Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman, Pomona Public Library Board of Trustees member Mike Suarez, PUSD Board member Arturo Jimenez and former Pomona City Councilmember Cristina Carrizosa.



From left are Pomona Planning Commission Chairman Alfredo Camacho, City Councilmembers Victor Preciado and Nora Garcia, and Chara Swodeck, of Pomona's African American Advisory Alliance.



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10 · Thursday, April 27, 2023 · La Nueva Voz



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Editor's Note: This page is the seventh in a series of nine special "Stop-the-Hate" features made possible by a La Nueva Voz grant awarded by the Latino Media Collaborative, a non-profit news media organization, and funded by the California State Library. The "Stop-the-Hate" program itself is administered by the California Department of Social Services as a statewide effort to increase public consciousness about hate incidents and hate crimes, their harmful impacts on individuals and communities, their prevention, and support and resources available for healing.

### 'Stop-the-Hate' --A special La Nueva Voz feature series

## Ending hate through education, intervention, and reporting

### By Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis

Whether you follow the news via the internet, on TV or radio, or in newsprint, people across race and ethit's easy to witness alarming incidents of stunning racist comments, verbal assaults, and even violent personal attacks motivated by prejudice. And you've another. That's important if probably heard only bad news about the upward trend in hate crime reports in our communities. The L.A. County Commission on Human Relations has been tracking and reporting yearly on the hate crimes reported in our vast county, revealing that continual increases for nearly a decade have reached 786 in 2021 the highest since 2002. It's no wonder that many feel discouraged about whether we're going backward in the decades of work to end hate.

I am a child of immigrants, and growing up, I experienced firsthand discrimination and hate. But I don't feel despair as I once did. As the elected representative of nearly two million people, many of whom belong to the groups most targeted for hate crimes, I've led a new and innovative approach to change in the struggle against hate and bigotry. LA vs Hate is the program I helped to create through L.A. County's Human Relations Commission that has begun to change the way we work to end hate.

The big jumps in hate over the past few years reflect not only the continuing battle we have against openly racist, sexist, anti-immigrant, and generally bigoted attitudes towards a whole host of minorities (African Americans, Latinos, Jews, Asians, Muslims, LGBTQ+, people with disabilities, etc.) but also what was unleashed starting in 2016.

The rise in reported hate is also a reason for optimism. Here's why: more people are reporting hate that previously went unreported, thanks to the new and easier option victims of hate now have to report to a community nonprofit by dialing 211. Nearly 50 more hate crimes in L.A. County were reported in 2021 through LA vs Hate/211, showing that more hate crime victims will report if they have an alternative to calling the police, which is something that studies on underreporting of hate crimes have made clear.

The encouraging winds of change are also visible in the growing multi-racial activism within the broader community in response to George Floyd's murder and the rise in anti-Asian hostility fueled by the pandemic and continuing U.S.-China conflicts.

It will take the big strategies developed by LA vs Hate if we are to erase toxic racial divisions, reject narratives that scapegoat any group, and advance racial justice and equity while making sure all people are safe.

First, we must invest in community-based safety programs and anti-hate initiatives. We must expand education that includes the rich and complex role of communities of color and all overlooked minorities in the American story, and strengthen multi-cultural collaboration.

Second, we must ensure there are community safety programs such as bystander/upstander training as a first line of intervention. It turns out people of diverse backgrounds are eager to get involved in safe, smart ways. L.A. County has trained thousands of its employees, and LA vs Hate and its partner Asian Americans Advancing Justice SoCal have trained more than 60,000 people during the COVID-19 pandemic and are expanding their training offerings to L.A. Metro so buses and trains can be safer. Research has shown that bystander training not only helps to defuse potentially violent confrontations but also cultivates shared responsibility for community safety. They encourage and empower

nicity to step forward for one we hope to finally reject narratives that scapegoat any group or pit us against one another.

Third, survivors and targets of hate need a straightforward way to report incidents, including harassment that may not be a crime, and to get culturally and linguistically sensitive help. LA vs Hate is an innovative departure from the overreliance on standard, law-enforcementbased mechanisms. LA vs Hate established a system that victims can use to report an act of hate 24/7 in over 40 languages, with total confidentiality. And what's more,



Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis

it offers free services that link victims to a large network of local trusted agencies that can offer access to victim compensation, mental and emotional health services, civil rights and legal guidance, and other support and resources. For example, one woman who was assaulted while waiting to get emergency food during the early days of the pandemic was linked to a county program that delivered free meals to her home instead of forcing her to wait in lines at agencies where she had been attacked.

Crucially, LA vs Hate goes beyond helping individuals. It tracks and analyzes acts of prejudice-motivated hostility and violence, identifies gaps in services, and promotes healing from hate.

Before LA vs Hate, there was no system for reporting and responding to vicious acts unless they were crimes. By expanding the 211 social services helpline and creating a website at www.LAvsHate.org to respond to hate incidents in their many forms, the L.A. County government is cultivating a robust community-government partnership to build a multi-cultural movement to stop the normalization of hate against anyone.

So, we need to develop sustained solidarity, reject narratives about "good" and "bad" minorities that are designed to pull us apart and work together to advance equity, justice, and dignity for all. We must not allow fear and anguish to isolate us. Instead, this moment can propel us to connect our struggles with all those who bear the scars of anti-immigrant and racist hatred, oppression, and violence.

Our fight to end structural racism, gender discrimination, xenophobia, and inequities in all their forms, and defend democracy, can only come when we change the ways we've been doing things, and resist the normalization of hate in our world.

### Development strategy... from pg. 4

up with a plan, opened up serving 150 kids a day, and didn't have a COVID exposure in 10 months.

The Club is open to kids ages 6 to 17 for only \$50 a year. If a family can't afford the \$50, parents can provide in-kind services to The Club.

And Pomona Unified School District kids grades five and under qualify for one month free during the summer program including their annual membership, their weekly day camp program, swimming lessons for two weeks, karate lessons for a month, and field trips – a nearly \$450 value.

Offerings include everything from homework assistance and sports to the arts, technology and health and life skills.

"The point is for them to participate, the point is to have access," Caceres said.

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ANNUAL CIVIC CENTER EGG HUNT -- Several hundred kids and their parents and grandparents descended on the lawn in the Pomona Civic Center this month for the Pomona Public Library's annual "Spring Egg-stravaganza." Pictured are the little kids (ages 0 to 5) off and running right out of the gate. The City of Pomona Neighborhood Services Department also sponsored egg hunts at Washington, Ralph Welch, Jaycee and John F. Kennedy parks.





Photo by Renee Barbee

Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval poses with the Easter Bunny at the Pomona Public Library this month (that's the mayor on the left). But stealing the hearts of a handful of photographers was little Arlo Contreras, age 7 months, who the mayor "borrowed" for the shot at the request of La Nueva Voz. Zeltzin Contreras, Arlo's mom, said the baby was born in San Dimas but the family recently moved to Pomona. Kids were lined up before the egg hunt to have their photos taken with the Easter Bunny.

#### Photo by Renee Barbee

As would be expected, the big kids, ages 5 to 12, pretty much have this down to a science at this point so the best thing library officials were able to do was pretty much just stay out of the way!

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CAL POLY POMONA SATELLITE LAUNCHED INTO SPACE -- Cal Poly University Pomona's fourth satellite -- a small communications satellite "Yearling-2" -- was successfully launched into space this month aboard a SpaceX Falcon-9 rocket to low-Earth orbit from Vandenberg Space Force Base. The satellite initially was scheduled to launch on April 13 but was delayed at the last minute until the following day. Pictured are members of the Cal Poly team that designed and built both the satellite and a ground station capable of communicating with "Yearling-2" and other satellites in orbit. Future versions of the satellite can be open sourced and built for about \$1,000 making it possible for students at other universities and even high schools to be involved in space programs of their own.



Pictured is the view from the SpaceX launch vehicle for the "Yearling-2" satellite just after separation.

Pictured is Cal Poly University Pomona's "Yearling-2" satellite which is now circling the globe after a successful launch this month. The size of the satellite is a 10 centimeter (3.94 inches) cube. The Cal Poly space program is entirely run by students.



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### **Free Community Seminars**

## **Stroke Prevention** and Rehabilitation

### Tuesday, May 9 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

### PRESENTED BY



Edward Anton, MD Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Specialist



Marie Yeseta, PT, DPT, NCS Physical Therapist

### Topics of discussion will include:

- What is a stroke and how does it happen?
- What are the signs and symptoms of a stroke?
- Can we prevent or minimize the risk of a stroke?
- What are treatment options following a stroke?
- · Update on the latest rehabilitation services and technologies to treat a stroke · Fitness and recreation programs to promote independence after a stroke
- · Question and answer session

### Choosing the Right Shoes for Better Foot and Ankle Health

### Tuesday, May 16 from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

### PRESENTED BY



Benjamin Kamel, DPM, FACFAS Foot & Ankle Surgeon, Garey Orthopedics

### Topics of discussion will include:

- The importance of proper footwear for your lifestyle
  Treating bunions and hammertoes
- Complications and injuries associated with wearing the wrong footwear
- · Ankle/Achilles tendon conditions
- · Question and answer session

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### Event for young children: 'Playing Is Learning' on May 7

A new event is coming to Pomona: "Playing Is Learning." Organized by Pomona's Promise, it will feature more than a dozen fun activities that parents of very young children ages 0 to 5 can replicate at home, to stimulate their children's learning, at little or no expense.

There will be activities related to science (gardening, fun with magnets, exploring with magnifying glasses), moving and dancing to music, arts and crafts, storytelling and puppet-making, and more. Children will be able to take home some of the activities' materials and a free book. There will also be tables offering information about resources of interest to parents of small children.

"Playing Is Learning" will take place on Sunday, May 7, from noon to 4 p.m. at Washington Park.

"Playing Is Learning" is part of

### Evento para niños pequeños: '¡Juguemos y aprendamos!' el 7 de mayo

Se acerca un nuevo evento a Pomona: "Juguemos y aprendamos." Organizado por Pomona's Promise, contará con más de una docena de actividades divertidas que los padres de niños de 0 a 5 años pueden replicar en casa para estimular el aprendizaje de sus hijos, a un costo mínimo o gratuito.

Habrá actividades relacionadas con la ciencia (jardinería, diversión con imanes, exploración con lupas), movimiento y baile al ritmo de la música, artes y manualidades, narración de cuentos y fabricación de títeres. Los niños podrán llevarse a casa parte del

material de las actividades y un libro gratuito. También habrá mesas que ofrecerán información sobre recursos de interés para los padres de niños pequeños.

"Juguemos y aprendamos" se llevará a cabo el domingo 7 de mayo desde el mediodía hasta las 4:00 en Washington Park.

"Juguemos y aprendamos" es uno de los muchos esfuerzos en Pomona que se enfocan en fomentar condiciones en la comunidad que promuevan el bienestar de los niños desde una edad muy temprana, cuando se lleva a cabo el 90 porciento del desarrollo del cerebro. El cuidado y la eduthe many efforts in Pomona that focus on fostering conditions in the community that promote the well-being of children starting at a very young age, when 90 percent of brain development takes place. Early care and education can launch children on a trajectory that will lead to success in most measurements of education, health and quality of life – benefiting not only those individuals but also the whole community.

cación tempranos pueden lanzar a los niños en una trayectoria que los llevará al éxito en la mayoría de las medidas de educación, salud y calidad de vida, beneficiando no sólo a esos individuos sino también a toda la comunidad.



**POMONA CITY COUNCIL CELEBRATES LIBRARY MONTH** -- Representatives of the Pomona Public Library were honored by city councilmembers last week with a proclamation recognizing National Library Week. The library's Pat Lambert accepted the proclamation in celebration of her nearly 30 years of service with the Pomona library. She plans to retire in June. Pictured, from left, are Anthony Moreno, representing State Sen. Susan Rubio; City Councilmember Robert Torres; Deputy Director of Library Servies Anita Torres; Councilmembers Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, John Nolte, Nora Garcia and Steve Lustro; Pat Lambert; Councilmember Victor Preciado; and Mayor Tim Sandoval.

### **Pomona Concert Band announces spring concert**

The Pomona Concert Band will present its annual spring concert titled "Fanfare and Flourishes" next month at the Palomares Park Community Center in Pomona.

The concert, sponsored by the City of Pomona, is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 12, at 499 Featured will be a wide range of music including Rimsky Korsa-

E. Arrow Highway.

of music including Rimsky Korsakov's "Procession of the Nobles," "Fanfare and Flourishes" by James Curnow, and "Embraceable You" by George and Ira Gershwin. Pomona Concert Band members come from Pomona and more than 20 surrounding communities. The band was founded by former Pomona Mayor G. Stanton Selby in 1947.

For more information, visit the web site at www.pomonaconcert-band.org.

### **Playing Is Learning!**

### You are your child's first teacher!

A day of **fun activities** to promote your child's development and prepare them for school

• Opportunities to connect with community services, childcare providers and local schools

• Free resources and children's books

Organized by Pomona's Promise Early Childhood Committee

### ¡Juguemos y aprendamos!

### ¡Ustedes son los primeros maestros de sus hijos!

Un día de **actividades divertidas** que promuevan el desarrollo de su hijo y lo prepara para la escuela.

 Oportunidades para conectarse con recursos en la comunidad, proveedores de cuidado infantil, y escuelas en su vecindad

• Libros para niños y recursos gratis

Un evento para niños jóvenes y sus familias, organizado por el Comité de Infancia de Pomona's Promise

Sunday/domingo May 7, 12:00 - 4:00 pm Washington Park: 865 E. Grand Ave., Pomona



### La Nueva Voz · Thursday, April 27, 2023 · 15

### Largest majority... from pg. 3

441 patients died from COV-ID-19. The local study, like other national studies, found mortalities were linked to patients whose age was at least 65 years, male gender, or pre-existing conditions like heart, kidney, and neurologic disease.

In contrast with most published COVID-19 studies, the local research found Latino ethnicity, non-white race, diabetes, or obesity were not associated with worse outcomes. Also, patients with multiple household members infected by COVID-19 did better and recovered quicker. The best treatment results were linked to convalescent plasma, remdesivir, or tocilizumab. Steroids or the drug hydroxychloroquine were not associated with

improved outcomes in the study.

The information was gathered through electronic health records retrospectively. Study results showed the hospital provided the appropriate intervention for patients, who mostly were of Hispanic heritage.

"I'm proud of the care PVHMC provided for the patients coming Largest majority... pg. 18



LIVE IN THE AREA? GAREY IS OPEN AGAIN! -- Of course, if you live in the area, you already know the Garey Avenue crossing at the tracks is open again and, as you can see in the photo, it is actually better than before. A full closure of all lanes both north and south on one of the busiest streets in the city went into effect Feb. 1 for what originally was expected to be 45-days because of construction requirements of the Foothill Gold Line line through Pomona to Claremont. The crossing -- and Garey -- was all back in service and open to traffic once again on March 27, or about 10 days late. The Gold Line originates at Union Station in Los Angeles and is expected to bring service to Pomona by 2025.



## STAY HEALTHY FOR YOUR LOVED ONES!

East Valley offers pediatric services to meet the needs of every child. Schedule your **well-child exam**, today!

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\*CELEBRATING A VISION' HOLDS FIRST FUNDRAISER -- The non-profit "Celebrating a Vision," with president and founder Sonya Adams, recently held its first health and wellness benefit fundraiser in San Bernardino to help raise funds for its programs providing "amazing experiences for cancer survivors" -- from concert tickets to helicopter rides and hotel stays, all at no cost. The organization has been delivering acts of kindness since 2013 and has worked with the Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center to provide comfort packages to cancer patients. Pictured at the event are, from left, herbalist L. Abdull Bowman, who studied under his father, Dr. Sebi (known for "healing" Michael Jackson and Magic Johnson); Sonya Adams, and Wallace Allen of KCAA talk radio station's "The Empire Talks Back."

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### Have your kids heard about the 'Compassion Kids' and their animal friends?

By Diana Chavez Ketterman, Ph.D., NCSP, LEP **CEO**, Character Champions

### Member, Compassionate Pomona and Compassionate California

The "Compassion Kids" are part of Compassionate Pomona's latest efforts to show that Compassion Counts in Pomona for children of all ages. This interactive bilingual wellbeing program teaches children socialemotional learning skills using storytelling, art, music, and dance to make learning fun and playful. Centered around eight compassion values/principles, children learn that they are born valuable, lovable, and capable Character Champions. They are introduced to eight "Compassion Kids" who each represent a different compassion value/ principle.

There is Temple and Purple Elephant who teach what compassion is all about, and how to use it by managing emotions and awareness of self and others. Amin and Gold Bear teach children the value of taking responsibility and using the golden rule to treat others the way they want to be treated. Albert and Green Owl introduce children to



Temple

the value of having a growth mindset so that we have an open mindset rather than a fixed mindset and can learn from our mistakes. They help us remember the importance of I have not learned this Yet. Finally, there CompassionateCalifornia.org and www.CharacterChampions. org for you to share with children. You can also hear the music that goes with the program at Compassion Counts Lyrics Video and VLC (Valuable, Lovsion Kids throughout Pomona in the home, in school, and the community at large. Let's help the city continue to blossom as a truly compassionate city - working together for the wellbeing and success of everyone.

Martin



Blue Dolphin encourage children to share kindness to help them get along with others and solve conflicts. Martin and Red Lion emphasize the importance of giving respect to self and others so that we treat each other with justice, fairness, and mutual respect. Cali and Growth Mindset Hummingbird teach



is Kai and Rainbow MetaHawk who bring it all together with the power of synergy which means that life works best when we work together with harmony and compassion.

The Compassion Kids are available for download at www.

**Special Olympics competition set for May 6 in Chino Hills** Special Olympics Southern California athletes from Pomona Valley and surrounding areas will compete in bocce and track and field athletics next month at the Boys Republic in Chino Hills.

Opening ceremony for the event, part of the 2023 Pomona Valley Area Games, is at 8:30 a.m. Saturday, May 6, and competition will continue from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

As many as 200 athletes are expected to participate. Boys Republic is located at 1907 Boys Republic Drive in Chino Hills.

For more information, contact Russell Evans at aucados2@yahoo.com or (909) 319-7693.



### **Come Join Us! VETERAN'S MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM** Monday, May 29, 2023

Guest Speaker: Staff Sergeant Jarod Behee

**Pomona Valley Memorial Park** 502 East Franklin Ave., Pomona (between Towne and Garey)

Gates open at 8:30 am · Program starts at 9:00 am Pomona Concert Band, Linda Taylor, Conducting

**Celebrating Pomona Valley Memorial Park's** 146th year of honoring our veterans!

National Anthem, Pomona Concert Band Master of Ceremonies: Roberto Arnold, **Commander, American Legion Post 30** 

Memorial 21-gun salute by members of the Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps, Lutheran High School of La Verne

able, Capable) Karaoke Video. Please share this program with children so that they can learn just how valuable, lovable, and capable they were born to be. Let us join together as Character Champions to use and spread compassion like the Compas-

Kids can come meet the Compassion Kids and their animal friends very soon! They'll be at the Playing is Learning event -Sunday, May 7, noon to 4 p.m. in Washington Park, 865 E. Grand Ave., Pomona, sponsored by Compassion Kids... pg. 18

### Police raid and shut down six alleged illegal casinos in Pomona

Members of the Pomona Police Department's Major Crimes Task Force last week executed a multi-agency search warrant at six alleged illegal gambling casinos in Pomona, resulting in nine arrests and the seizure and removal of more than 55 alleged gambling machines, according to police.

An undisclosed amount of money and narcotics were recovered. The alleged gambling machines were destroyed and disposed of by the City of Pomona Public Works Department.

> Locations targeted in the raids included 877 E. Phillips Blvd., 1090 S. Garey Ave., 1649 E. Mission Blvd Suite B, 1528 W. Mission Blvd., 540 E. Foothill Blvd., and 570 W. Holt Ave.

> Assisting in the operation were members of the El Monte Police Department SWAT team, Huntington Park Police Department SERT team, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Major Crimes Unit, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office Bureau of Investigations, the California Highway Patrol Investigative Services Unit, Los Angeles County Probation Department, and the Foothill Special Enforcement Team.

> Anyone with information regarding illegal gambling casinos is urged to contact the Pomona Police Department at (909) 622-1241.

### Millions of dollars to Pomona... from pg. 5

on all of the wonderful things that (State) Sen. Connie Leyva did."

She told the story of how when she was elected to office in 2018 she "wanted to create something that really would have an effect regionally."

"I wanted to create housing, I wanted to create jobs, I wanted to create economic opportunity so everyone wins," she said.

So she created a regional housing



Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez

trust in 2019 with the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments which is now building those 650 affordable housing units.

She added that housing production impacts the regional local economy as more goods and services are being purchased.

Rubio has turned the project over

to the council of governments and it has funded 13 projects with another 440 units in the pipeline "ready to go."

She has also funded three interim sites for those who are unhoused or who were unhoused and has provided 105 homes "to those that were in the streets."

"Our goal is to make it transitional, that means provide an opportunity for them to be self-

> sustainable," Rubio said. "I also gave them \$5 million so they can create a program for workforce development."

She said \$4 million went to the Southern California Association of Governments but the remaining \$1 million went directly to the local subregional council of governments here so they can focus on those who were in housing without a job.

"I always believe that without the business community, there are no jobs," Rubio said. "I'm really a strong advocate of small businesses because you provide the jobs that we need."

"I know you had a difficult time during the pandemic and I was at the forefront of pushing for funding to help you stay

afloat to help you subsidize some of the losses that you were experiencing, and I continue to do that," she added.

"I am here to support you and I'm here to advocate," Rubio said. Assemblymember

### **Freddie Rodriguez**

Rodriguez told chamber members that gasoline prices, natural gas prices and housing costs have created hardships throughout the

EX L.A. County Assesso

Jeff Prang

community.

At the same time, he said it has been difficult for the legislature because the state is looking at a deficit.

Even so, he said Gov. Newsom is looking at a proposed budget to pay down some of the unemploy-



GRAND OPENING AT FUEGO -- A Pomona Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting and grand opening made everything official at Downtown Pomona favorite "Fuego," which has re-opened under new ownership serving restaurant fare, drinks and entertainment. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, Chamber President and CEO Monique Robles, Chamber Ambassador Sal Avala of Uniko Media Group, owners Enrique Gonzalo Aviles, Daniela Franco, and Daniel Batz, and Pomona's American Legion Post 30 Commander Roberto Arnold, also a Chamber Ambassador. The restaurant, which is available for events, is located at 205 E Second St., Pomona. Contact: (909) 539-1234.

ment insurance trusts that businesses are paying.

Plus, he said, there should be more than \$250 million in grants looking to help small businesses coming out of COVID.

And, while he said a lot of this is preliminary because the budget is still in the working phase, the "May revise" hopefully will include additional funding opportunities for cities and businesses.

> Rodriguez also said he has introduced AB 616 to focus on some of the health care "disparities" in the medical groups "to see what is really increasing the cost of health care."

Then, he said, officials will be able to look back to see what can be done to make health care more affordable "and really more accessible to everybody across the state."

Moderator and Chamber Executive Board

member Josh Landis of Foothill Transit, reading a question from the audience, pointed out that Chino Valley Chamber of Commerce recently received \$2.1 million in state funding through Rodriguez' efforts, and asked what Pomona can do to take advantage of similar funding opportunities.

"Just reach out to me," Rodriguez said, adding that there is some money there "to bring money to the district."

### Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang

Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang returned to Pomona for the event again this year and described new programs in his office like e-notifications for recorded deeds to prevent fraud (owners have always received letters but. as Prang pointed out, 30 days in the mail may be too long in the event of fraud) and like tax programs available to non-profits.

For example, he said, cities can enter into contracts with the owners for restoration projects of historical buildings under the Mills Act, a property tax incentive act in California to encourage rehabilitation and restoration of historical properties.

Once the contract is signed and the assessor records it, the property immediately receives a property tax savings.

He also said his office has been working on developing new and creative ways to create affordable housing.

For example, he says owners can create a joint powers authority and purchase apartment buildings to make them available for moderate income tenants.

Some of the property tax becomes exempt and that savings can be passed on to the tenants.

On the other hand, if a private entity uses government property for private use, vendors are required to pay both the rent and the property tax - like stores at the airport or boat slips at Marina Del Rey.

There are also 19 housing projects on county property - including a couple in Pomona, Prang said, adding that he's been working for two years to figure something out with the state legislature that will work without assessing a tenant living in an affordable housing project.

The assessor's office also oversees business personal property tax which is for machinery and business equipment valued at \$5,000 or more.

He said an annual business property tax statement was required to be filed by this month.

"I am working with one of my fellow assessors on a piece of legislation that will allow us to raise the threshold at which small businesses are required to pay business personal property tax," he said.

The problem is at \$5,000, an assessment will generate \$50 in property tax revenue, but it costs his office more than that just to process the paperwork.

He hopes to end up raising it high enough that small businesses wouldn't have to pay tax at all perhaps to at least \$50,000 - leaving his staff to work on larger assessments generating higher taxes.

Prang's office is responsible for establishing the value of 2.5 million parcels of property in Los Angeles County which generates close to \$20 billion in property taxes that is allocated to cities, schools, county services and special districts.

Total assessed value for all property in Los Angeles County is about \$1.9 trillion.

### The most significant woman in my life

**By Annmarie Perales Thompson** 

There are a lot of significant women in this world, but only one woman has been significant to me. This woman is my mother, Susie Perales. She is a very important part of my life. She is important to me because she has helped me through all of my difficult times. She has always been there for me, no matter what trouble came across my path. She has never failed to guide me.

My mother has a special insight. She always knows just what to say or do to make me feel special. She is the kind of person you can really sit down with and carry on a good conversation. She can make a major crisis in my life seem like a humorous situation. She is lively, young at heart and courageous. Above all, she is caring.

Most people would think three children are enough, but not my mom. My mother is the type of woman who sees a stray child and cannot shut that needy child out. My mother has taken in many abandoned children. When she sees that a teenager has no place to stay and needs to turn this life in the right direction, she is there

this very stressful time," added Dr. Gluckstein. "We now better

understand the healthcare needs

of our community and are more

prepared to meet their needs now

and in the future, should events

My mom is the kind of lady that bends over backwards for her children, even if it is a sacrifice on her part. She is not the kind of mother who makes her children struggle. She always gives them the best that she can give.

with open arms.

My mother believes respect and education are the best values that her children should have. My mother teaches us how to respect all that is around us. Never in her life would she let one of her children drop out or mess up in school. However, she understands if we are having trouble with our grades or studies, but she does not get terribly upset with us.

She sits with us and discusses things that are troubling us in school.

She always helps us the best way she can.

Although my mom has accomplished a great deal in her life, she made a grave mistake when she was young. She dropped out of high school, but she corrected that and returned to school. She not only got her high school diploma but went on to college. At college she received her A.A. degree. Her



DELTA KAPPA GAMMA CITIZENSHIP AWARDS -- Six Pomona Unified School District students were honored last week at Trinity United Methodist Church with citizenship awards from the Beta Mu Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma, which is a group of educators who are impacting education worldwide. From left are Daisy Betzaida Garcia-Munoz, Village Academy High School; Carmen Ayala, Pomona High School; Mariah Vega, Diamond Ranch High School; Maria Franco, Ganesha High School; Diego Guillermo, Fremont Academy of Engineering and Design; and Samantha Boizo-Jimenez, Garey High School. The local chapter for more than 25 years has recognized students in the Claremont, Bonita and Pomona Unified school districts

### Largest majority... from pg. 15

such as this resurface."

to the study include Lisa Diaz, RN, MSN, Nurse Manager and Clinical Researcher; Ace Ibarrola, RN, Clinical Nurse IV, Telemetry; and Mamta Desai, MPH, MBA, ICP, Director of Infection Prevention.

goals are to be a great teacher, writer, and journalist. However, I think she is already very talented in all these areas.

My mother was an instructional aide at Garey High School for 10 years. She also has written for La Voz newspaper, which makes me very proud of her. My mother now works at the Pomona Unified School District office. These accomplishments are only a few of the things she has done. She often tells me her life isn't over yet, so she is not finished with her goals.

She does so much for her friends and family it's hard to imagine life without her.

These are some of the reasons why Susie Perales, my mother, was chosen as the most significant woman to me. There is no one more important to me than my mother.

Editor's Note: This "testament to mom" by Annmarie was written when she was a student at Pomona's Park West High School where she was valedictorian of her graduating class. And the original copy turned up recently when her dad, Angel Perales, of Pomona, was cleaning out the garage. Today, Annmarie lives in Mukilteo, Washington, is married and has two children of her own, both graduates of Pomona Unified School District schools. And her mom still writes an occasional piece for La Nueva Voz. Susie and Angel shared this with La Nueva Voz to publish in honor of Susie's 76th next month. But you know what, Mother's Day is also coming up and we thought this could apply to a lot of moms out there. So Happy Mother's *Day, everybody!* 

### Compassion Kids... from pg. 16

Pomona's Promise Early Childhood Committee for young children and their families. There will be free art activities and a Compassion Kids coloring book available. So come join us and teach your children about compassion in fun, playful ways.

Editor's Note: Dr. Diana Chavez Ketterman, a licensed educational psychologist, describes herself as a "success coach" with Character Champions, a non-profit organization based in Pomona. The company's mission is supporting individuals, families, organizations and communities in learning how to use compassionate actions to achieve desired goals.

y mother.	Day, everyboay!		
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to the hospital for COVID-19 treatment and the research col-Hospital staff who contributed laboration we developed during

her program director.

tice Residency where Crone was

"I got to see not only the medi-

cal side of things but also her

enormous leadership skills," she

## To diet or not to diet: Healthy food choices start with you By Usha Mantha, M.D.

### **Casa Colina Medical Weight Loss and Wellness Program**

Was it your New Year's resolution to lose weight? Lower your cholesterol? Perhaps it was to build lean body mass or slow down mental aging? Whatever your dietary goal, if you're still struggling to accomplish it, here are three simple, inexpensive, and effective diets that are currently popular and will actually bring you results.

**Planned intermittent fasting** Planned intermittent fasting has been practiced for centuries for both religious purposes and for its dietary health benefits. The practice recently regained popularity due to its ease, affordability, and effectiveness in achieving weight loss.

Intermittent fasting has been endorsed by the Obesity Medicine Association and can be incorporated successfully to achieve medical weight loss, reverse pre-diabetes, and even treat type II diabetes. Though easy to practice, intermittent fasting should nevertheless be done under the advice of a medical weight loss specialist, particularly if you are taking medication for a medical disorder.

#### Mediterranean diet

Championed by award-winning cardiologist Dr. Michael Ozner, the Mediterranean diet is the most studied and proven dietary method for preventing heart disease and strokes. While it is valuable in controlling high cholesterol, blood pressure, and blood sugar levels, it is also a very effective tool for weight loss.



Usha Mantha, M.D

This mostly plant-based diet incorporates whole grains, nuts, poultry, fish, fruits, and vegetables, while discouraging consumption of trans fats, butter, and lard. As with many other diets, your total caloric intake is not pre-determined on the Mediterranean diet and should always be calculated according to your level of physical activity.

#### Keto diet

Currently, most of the buzz you're hearing is probably around

the Keto diet, which revolves around moderate, balanced consumption of carbohydrate, fats, and protein. Overall, fewer calories are consumed, and the body burns its own fat stores to produce ketone bodies which are then utilized by the body as fuel.

This diet can produce substantial weight loss. However, cholesterol levels can go up for those with previously existing high cholesterol. You should consult a medical weight loss specialist before starting a Keto diet. Your specialist can request a detailed laboratory workup to measure cholesterol levels and kidney and liver functions.

Whether you're dieting or not, always be mindful of what you consume. General healthy food choices should be practiced whenever reasonably possible. Casa Colina's Medical Weight Loss and Wellness Program can help you lose weight and improve health. For more information, call (909) 596-7733, ext. 3800.

Editor's Note: Dr. Usha Mantha, of the Casa Colina Medical Weight Loss and Wellness Program at Pomona's Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare, is Board Certified in Family Medicine and is a Diplomate of the Obesity Medicine Association.

### Western University Provost Dr. Paula Crone receives lifetime achievement award

said.

Western University of Health Sciences Provost Paula M. Crone, D.O., last month was presented the J. Scott Heatherington D.O. Lifetime Achievement Award at a special online gathering of the Northwest Osteo-

pathic Medical Foundation.

The award is presented to an osteopathic physician from the Northwest who has made a lifetime of contributions to the profession as well as to the community.

Foundation

President Lisa Watts, D.O., said she completed a clinical rotation with Dr. Crone as a medical student and all of Dr. Crone's patients told her to become just like Dr. Crone.

"And they were right – she became my mentor," Watts said. "She was somebody who I really looked up to. Her way with patients was empathetic, she listened well, she was extremely knowledgeable, and I knew I wanted to be just like her."

Watts added she later joined the Eastmoreland Family Prac-



an osteopathic physician," Crone said. "I feel incredibly blessed to have had the opportunities that I've had in my life because of that education and because of the opportunity to work with each and every one of

you in all those different stages of my life."

"Her initiative, her loyalty, and her commitment and dedication to the ethos of the university, to our campuses, to the Pacific Northwest and to our trajectory for the university is unparalleled and unmatched," said Western University President Dr. Robin Farias-Eisner.

As provost, Crone divides her time between Western University campuses in Pomona and Lebanon, Oregon.

Achievement award... pg. 22



Photo by Renee Barbee

BONELLI PARK PACKED FOR EASTER -- Bonelli Park in San Dimas was bursting at the seams for Easter this month with every available parking space filled and sheriff's deputies turning away cars at the San Dimas Avenue entrance. But plenty of creative residents parked outside across the 57 freeway at an office park and walked in carrying lawn chairs, coolers and more



### Solamente una página

Nota del editor: La Nueva Voz está agregando está página con contenido en Español a petición e interés de los lectores. Un lector frecuente del Centro Comunitario del Parque Washington preguntó si este periódico pudiese incluir al menos "solamente una página" en Español. Entonces, buen amigo, aquí lo tienes. Esperamos que nuestros lectores nos den a saber lo que piensan.

### Ion Puschila, Arturo Jiménez y otros obtienen los máximos honores en la Mesa Redonda 'Cesar Chavez Breakfast'

El maestro de Garey High School, Ion Puschila, ganador del premio "Estrella de la comunidad" de este año en la 19.ª mesa redonda anual de latinos y latinas "Cesar Chavez Breakfast" el mes pasado, aceptó el honor con la advertencia de que "aún queda mucho trabajo por hacer porque tenemos muchos fascistas y neofascistas corriendo desenfrenados en nuestro país hoy".

Puschila, miembro de la Mesa Redonda desde hace mucho tiempo que forma parte del Comité de Becas de Justicia Social y del Comité de Peregrinación de César Chávez y Dolores Huerta, dijo a más de 500 simpatizantes que asistieron al evento que fue un "camino largo y sinuoso el que me trajo aquí".

Dijo que su madre, Elena Purice, que estaba en la audiencia, emigró de Rumania, que era comunista, y trajo a sus dos hijos primero a Alemania y luego a California en 1981 cuando él tenía 14 años.

"Tuve mucha, mucha suerte de haber encontrado a Pomona porque la gente de Pomona me aceptó como inmigrante", dijo. "Tengo mucha suerte de haber conocido a personas tan maravillosas e increíbles".

"La vida que encuentro es solo un montón de coincidencias sobre las que no tienes control", dijo, y agregó que no hubiera imaginado hace 10 años que estaría de pie frente al grupo.

Y dijo que su trayectoria profesional lo llevó a Garey High School.

"Me relacioné con esos niños porque crecí pobre y un poco loco", dijo. "Decidí quedarme con eso porque me queda bien".

Agradeció a su madre por su orientación, junto con su novia Jennifer Williams, ex integrante de la Sociedad Histórica de Pomona Valley y ahora residente de Burlington, Kentucky. Y anunció que los dos planean casarse en septiembre.

El presidente de la Mesa Redonda, José Calderón, entregó a Puschila el premio "por sus esfuerzos en la construcción de la Mesa Redonda Latina/Latina, por su compromiso a largo plazo con nuestra juventud y nuestra comunidad, con la educación, la creación de liderazgo, la promoción y la organización".

### Arturo Jiménez

Otros galardonados en el evento incluyeron al miembro de la Junta del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona, Arturo Jiménez, quien también es presidente del Club Democrático de Pomona.

En sus comentarios introductorios, Calderón dijo que Jiménez trabajó para exponer prácticas discriminatorias hace años en los puntos de control de "DUI" del Departamento de Policía de Pomona en un momento en que se supo que el 97 por ciento de los arrestos no eran DUI sino inmigrantes indocumentados cuyos autos fueron incautados y luego vendidos.

Dijo que los esfuerzos de Jiménez dieron como resultado cambios en las prácticas discriminatorias no solo en Pomona sino en todo California con cambios legislativos que hacen posible a partir de hoy otorgar licencias de conducir a alrededor de 1.5 millones de inmigrantes indocumentados.

"Es un honor estar aquí hoy", dijo Jiménez, refiriéndose a los muchos miembros dedicados y apasionados de la comunidad en la sala.

"El servicio comunitario es la piedra angular de la comunidad latina-latina, y es algo de lo que estoy orgulloso de haber sido parte a lo largo de mi vida", dijo. "Siempre hemos sido las personas que anteponen las necesidades de los demás".

Dijo que es por eso que está enfatizando la importancia de apoyar la construcción de un nuevo centro de artes escénicas en Pomona como una empresa conjunta entre la ciudad y el distrito escolar utilizando los fondos que hizo posible el asambleísta Freddie Rodríguez.

"Las artes tienen el poder de unir a las personas y elevar nuestro espíritu" y de celebrar la riqueza de la cultura y la comunidad, dijo.

"Quiero agradecer a todos y cada uno de ustedes por su dedicación a nuestra comunidad, ya sean estudiantes activistas, líderes comunitarios o simplemente alguien que se preocupa profundamente por el bienestar de los demás", agregó Jiménez. "Juntos podemos continuar el legado de servicio dejado por César Chávez y Dolores Huerta y construir un futuro mejor para todos".

#### Finca Urbana López

También fue honrado como ganador del premio Lopez Urban Farm de Pomona, con el director ejecutivo Stephen Yorba y el director de la escuela primaria Lopez, el Dr. Juan Arretche, aceptando en nombre de la granja.

"A todos los que están reunidos hoy que luchan para ayudar a otros a ser vistos, realmente ese es el corazón de nuestro trabajo", dijo Yorba. "Y quiero agradecerles en nombre de Lopez Urban Farm por hacer ese trabajo todos los días trabajando para ayudar a que las personas sean vistas porque todos merecen el derecho y la dignidad de ser vistos".

Agregó que esto también estaba en el corazón del trabajo de César Chávez.

Y reconoció al "homónimo" de la finca, Ignacio López, quien era de Pomona, se educó en Pomona y regresó a Pomona para establecer el periódico "El Espectador" en las décadas de 1930 y 1940, a través del cual "luchó por los derechos de todos a vivir". ser vistos, especialmente aquellos que en ese momento no se veían, que eran invisibles y eran tratados como tales".

El Spectador (The Viewer), el periódico comunitario de Pomona, fue el precursor de la antigua La Voz, el antecesor de La Nueva Voz.

Yorba también agradeció al Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona "por creer en esta asociación y ayudarnos a educar a la próxima generación de seres humanos con conciencia ecológica".

Presentó a Arretche quien, dijo, "ha defendido el esfuerzo agrícola desde el principio".

"La granja urbana realmente ha traído esperanza a nuestra escuela, a nuestra comunidad, a través de los esfuerzos del agricultor Stephen, Pomona Unified, Western University, Cal Poly", dijo Arretche, explicando que los estudiantes de la escuela contigua a la granja tienen la oportunidad para visitar la granja los jueves y aprender sobre la horticultura de plantas, la historia y la defensa de Pomona.

Toda la experiencia, agregó, convierte a los estudiantes en "beneficiarios de todo lo positivo que ocurre en ese espacio maravilloso e inspirador".

### Alianza de Estudiantes y Trabajadores Universitarios de Pitzer

También recibieron el premio de la Mesa Redonda los trabajadores de Pitzer College y una alianza estudiantil que ha trabajado en solidaridad con los empleados a través de una serie de campañas antisindicales, haciendo posible que los trabajadores de los departamentos de mantenimiento, custodia, jardines y comedor en su reciente elección para ganar la representación sindical en lo que Calderón llamó una "lucha poderosa y valiente".

El jardinero de Pitzer, Tony Hoang, dijo: "estamos aquí porque luchamos el uno por el otro, es así de simple".

"Cuando te enteras de que hay una injusticia, ¿qué haces? Se defienden unos a otros", dijo. "La gente de abajo es la gente que hace que esta escuela exista".

"Si no fuera por los estudiantes, si no fuera por los trabajadores, no habría Pitzer College", dijo Hoang, quien creció en Pomona.

El esfuerzo de sindicalización y las negociaciones que siguieron dieron como resultado mejores salarios, un seguro de salud más accesible y derechos de antigüedad.

### Alianza Nacional TPS

La Alianza TPS es un grupo de beneficiarios y simpatizantes organizados de TPS ("Estado de Protección Temporal" otorgado por el Departamento de Seguridad Nacional de los EE.

Debido a su trabajo, a los titulares de TPS se les ha otorgado una extensión de 18 meses del estado de protección. Han luchado para mantener el TPS y obtener el estatus de residencia permanente durante más de seis años. La vicepresidenta de la Mesa Redonda, Angela Sanbrano, llamó al grupo "la alianza nacional por los derechos de los inmigrantes más fuerte y organizada en los Estados Unidos".

Ella dijo que es a través de la lucha del grupo para evitar la deportación de miles.

En representación de la organización, aceptaron el premio Orlando y Lorena Zepeda y su hija Lizbeth. Los tres están involucrados en el caso Ramos vs Nielsen TPS.

La Fundación ACLU del Sur de California, con la Red Nacional de Organización de Jornaleros (NDLON) y el bufete de abogados de Sidley Austin LLP, presentaron una demanda en un tribunal federal en nombre de nueve personas con Estatus de Protección Temporal y cinco ciudadanos estadounidenses hijos de titulares de TPS contra al Departamento de Seguridad Nacional para detener la terminación ilegal del TPS para más de 300,000 personas que viven en los EE. UU. y para proteger a las decenas de miles de niños ciudadanos estadounidenses cuyos padres se verían obligados a irse bajo la política de la administración.

"Hermanos y hermanas en nuestra lucha, es un honor recibir este premio", dijo Lorena Zepeda a través de un intérprete. "Mi familia está muy feliz y estamos muy orgullosos de ser querellantes en el caso Ramos".

"Sé que es muy difícil que solo nosotros, los niños, tengamos que crecer en este entorno. . . tener políticos. . . y encarar a todos los que demuestren que no nos apoyan", dijo Lizbeth Zepeda. "Acabamos de nacer en esta vida y todo lo que queremos es estar con nuestras familias, todo lo que queremos es apoyar a nuestras familias".

### Beneficiarios de becas de justicia social

Por undécimo año, los miembros de la Mesa Redonda seleccionaron estudiantes para becas de justicia social en un esfuerzo por apoyar a la próxima generación y la edu-

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CONGRESSWOMAN TORRES VIEWS FIRE TRAINING EQUIPMENT -- Congresswoman Norma Torres, on a tour last month of six cities in her 35th Congressional District to see 15 projects that received federal funding, visits with Dr. Saman Kashani, assistant medical director of the Los Angeles County Fire Department's EMS Bureau during a stop at Fire Station 182 in Pomona. Kashani is demonstrating the LUCAS device. The fire department received \$202,000 in federal community project funding to purchase updated CPR and defibrillator equipment for use in Pomona to provide improved levels of care for those suffering from cardiac arrest.



**POMONA HEALTH CAREER LADDER GRANT** -- Congresswoman Norma Torres presents a \$100,000 check to officials at Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences last month during her tour of her district. The funding will be used to provide support, mentorship and hands-on learning opportunities to inspire and prepare students pursuing health professional degrees and careers

as health care professionals. Pictured, from left are Pomona City Councilmember Bobert Torres; Western University's manager of pipeline programming and strategic alliances Maria Moreno; Western's Center for Academic Community Engagement Operations associate Alejandra Cervantes-Ramirez; Western's director of educational partnerships and organizational outreach Helen Musharbash: Congresswoman Torres: Serena Gobbi, legislative director for Torres; and Western University President Robin Farias-Eisner. The Pomona Health Career Ladder, providing learning opportunities for students in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade, started in 2008 with only 50 students in the sixth grade. Today, the university welcomes 200 to 300 students to campus each month to learn about the health professions, according to Farias-Eisner

## Free flowers for mom!

Moms visiting "The Crafters Market" on Mother's Day will receive a free bouquet of flowers from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 175 W. Pearl St., Pomona.

## Would you like to learn how to knit or crochet?

Come to Pilgrim Congregational Church, 600 N. Garey Avenue, Pomona on Saturday, June 10th at 10:00 a.m. to learn the basics.

For the \$5.00 registration your yarn, needles and crochet hooks will be provided.



Call the church office at (909) 622-1373 to make your reservation by June 3rd.



THREE VALLEYS RECEIVES FEDERAL FUNDING -- Congresswoman Norma Torres presents a check for \$1.6 million to officials at Three Valleys Municipal Water District in Claremont during her recent tour of her district. The federal funding is for a groundwater treatment facility at 1790 First St. in Pomona that serves disadvantaged communities and will help provide water that meets or exceeds state and federal water quality standards to some 154,000 residents. Pictured, from left, are South Pomona Representative Carlos Goytia, board secretary for Three Valleys; Steve Paz, City of Pomona; Congresswoman Torres; Three Valleys General Manager Matthew Litchfield; Three Valleys Chief Water Resources Officer Sylvie Lee; and Three Valleys Board President Jody Roberto.



POMONA RECEIVES TEEN CENTER FUNDING -- Congresswoman Norma Torres presents a check for \$4 million to City of Pomona officials during her tour here last month to fund restoration and expansion of La Casita Community Center, a teen center located at 499 E. Arrow Highway in Pomona. The teen center was one of Torres' projects when she was a member of the Pomona City Council. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Neighborhood Services Director Benita DeFrank, City Manager James Makshanoff, Community Services Manager Mike Osoff, Public Works Director Rene Guerrero, Pomona City Councilmember John Nolte, Mayor Tim Sandoval, Congresswoman Torres, Councilmembers Robert Torres and Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, representatives of Just Us 4 Youth and others.

### Cesar Chavez Breakfast... from pg. 8

effort to support the next generation and higher education for youth. Winners were selected for devoting their talent and work to the service of others and the community following the legacy of Cesar Chavez.

Five students selected from 26 applicants from throughout the San Gabriel Valley and beyond

were Maria Miramontes, a student at UC San Diego; Zitlaly Hernandez, a student at Mt. San Antonio College; Gloria Rodriguez, who plans to attend either UCLA or UC Davis; Alejandro Magin, a student at Cal State University Fullerton; and Sophia Ferrel, who plans to attend either Georgetown University in Washington, D.C., or UC Berkeley.

Winners received certificates and a \$1,000 check.

#### **Mayor Tim Sandoval**

Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, in his welcoming comments, quoted civil rights activist A. Philip Randolph, who said "Freedom is never given, it is won" as he thanked the Roundtable for its



left, and "Farmer" Stephen Yorba of Lopez Urban Farm.

work.

And Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, in a specially prepared video, also thanked the Roundtable for its work "leveraging your expertise in organizing and advocacy for the wellbeing of our community."

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez spoke of his work with the Latino Caucus in the assembly to ask President Biden to declare a disaster area in Watsonville where farmworkers have been devastated by flooding.

The declaration was signed last month

Fairplex Vice President Cielo Castro welcomed the group to the Fairplex campus.



Scholarship recipients at this year's "Cesar Chavez Breakfast" were, from left, Maria Miramontes, Alejandro Magin and Sophia Ferrel. Not pictured were Zitlaly Hernandez and Gloria Rodriguez.



Pictured is Pitzer College groundskeeper Tony Hoang with members of the Pitzer College Workers and Student Alliance.



Latino/Latina Roundtable President Jose Calderon, at podium, leads the crowd circling the entire room in the singing of "De Colores" with musical accompaniment by Son Real.

### Achievement award... from pg. 19

She actually helped launch Western University's College of Osteopathic Med- Crone served as a partner in a private famicine of the Pacific Northwest, the first ily practice and as program director of the new medical school in Oregon in more than a century. She served as dean of both the Pomona and Lebanon campus of the college from 2013 to 2022.

Prior to joining Western University, family practice residency program at Eastmoreland Hospital in Portland.

She is a graduate of the COMP class of 1992

### students for service project to help veterans

National non-profit group seeks

profit organization founded to continue and expand the annual wreath-laying ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery, has launched its annual "Youth Service Project" to encourage young people of all ages to develop and execute a community service project to improve the lives of veterans or others in their local community.

This year's project will tie into the organization's 2023 theme "Serve and Succeed."

Participants will receive certificates of community service awards and commemorative bracelets from the organization.

In addition, each participant will be entered into a random drawing for the opportunity to visit the organization's national museum, the Gold Star History and Hospitality House and monuments where replica dog tags from thousands of service men and women are hung in remembrance.

### Lions Clubs to hold free vision screenings in Pomona

Members of the Pomona Host Lions and Chino Valley Lions Clubs will host a free vision screening and distribution of free recycled eyeglasses next month in Pomona.

The event is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at the Village Con-

The service project must be completed by Veterans Day, Nov. 11, 2023.

Throughout the year, the organization's educational program provides opportunities for people nationwide to engage with veterans in their communities.

The goal of the program is to pass on stories of service, sacrifice and valor to future generations while building good character and self-worth through service to others.

"Teaching younger generations the value of freedom and the importance of honoring those who sacrificed is a core part of our mission, but we want our young people to know you do not have to be in the military to serve," said curriculum developer and Gold Star Mother Cindy Tatum.

She said no act of service is too small and the organization looks forward to the "impactful projects students will submit."

For more information, visit the web site at www.wreathsacrossamerica.org/teach.

ference Center, Entrance 1, 1460 E. Holt Blvd., Pomona.

All ages are welcome and there are no qualifications.

For information, contact ahenderson13@ ca.rr.com.

## "Wreaths Across America," a non-



'Tea for the Soul." Emery, a member of Pomona Valley chapter of the National Council of Negro Women and other organizations, gave

a copy of her book to each girl honored at the event. She told La Nueva Voz excerpts include thoughts on where they are, where they are going and how they can go about doing it. "For the girls, they will get something out of it because it is a spiritual journey and they talk about how to overcome certain things," she said. Want a copy for only \$15 plus shipping (or you can pick it up for free)? E-mail Barbara at bjprays@aol.com





OFF TO COLLEGE -- Young ladies in Pomona who are graduating seniors and off to college were honored last month at "Tea for the Soul" by members of the Pomona Optimist Club at the Ebell Club House -- and they were served by and catered to by Pomona leaders all to show them how they should expect to be treated by gentlemen. Pictured at a photo booth at the event are, standing, from left, Yamilet Olvera, Citlali Villanueva and Maliyah Sok and, seated, Araceli Rizo, all seniors at Pomona's Ganesha High School



### Máximos honores... de la pág. 20

cación superior para los jóvenes. Los ganadores fueron seleccionados por dedicar su talento y trabajo al servicio de los demás y de la comunidad siguiendo el legado de César Chávez.

Cinco estudiantes seleccionados entre 26 solicitantes de todo el Valle de San Gabriel y más allá fueron María Miramontes, estudiante de UC San Diego; Zitlaly Hernández, estudiante de Mt. San Antonio College; Gloria Rodríguez, quien planea asistir a UCLA o UC Davis; Alejandro Magin, estudiante de Cal State University Fullerton; y Sophia Ferrel, quien planea asistir a la Universidad de Georgetown en Washington, D.C., o a la UC Berkeley.

Los ganadores recibieron certificados y un cheque de \$1,000.



Pomona Unified School District Interim Supt. Darren Knowles definitely looks like he's done this before as he serves sandwiches to Beverly Johnson of the City of Pomona Neighborhood Services Department, a volunteer mentor at the event.



Pomona Optimist Club President Lorraine Canales serves as master of ceremonies at last month's "Tea for the Soul" at Pomona's Ebell Club House



Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval serves the ladies cucumber sandwiches with, of course, the crust trimmed



Two "always" volunteers at "Tea for the Soul" are Pomona Optimist members M. Joyce Bakersmith (past president and past southeast district governor) and Ruby Jung.



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## Pomona Day at the Fair 🗶 Thursday, May 11

Special \$1 admission just for Pomona Residents Online, in Advance:

Online, Day-of:

# At the Gate, Day-of:

### To claim your \$1 admission, follow these steps:

- Visit LACountyFair.com/pomonaday and select up to TWO tickets
- Enter password code POMONA
- Click Add Tickets and complete the check-out process

Password is case sensitive. Limit of two tickets per customer. Transaction fees apply. Billing zip code must reside in City of Pomona. \$1 admission must be purchased online only before May 10, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. \$8 admission must be purchased online only the day-of, May 11, 2023. Offer valid for up to two admissions. No refunds or exchanges. Offers and attractions subject to change.

Visit LACountyFair.com to learn more!