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Supervisor Solis credits Latino Roundtable with helping bring about diversity among local elected officials

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Hilda Solis, recipient of one of the top honors at this month's 12th annual Cesar Chavez breakfast in Pomona, credited the Latino and Latina Roundtable of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley, sponsor of the event, with helping to bring about diversity among elected officials in the political process.

Solis, one of five leaders honored for demonstrating a commitment to service and values, thanked Roundtable President Jose Calderon and his board "for the continued tenacity in spite of fast. all the hurdles and barriers that you have had to face in keeping this organization together."

She congratulated all of the honorees and told the more than 300 guests that "without your help... your input... and your efforts to get more Latinos involved in the political action in our communities we wouldn't be here today."

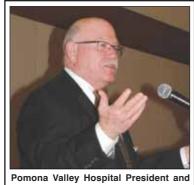
"And that means a lot, I think, for the future growth of our community," Solis added.

Solis, the first Latina to serve in the U.S. Cabinet when she became President Obama's Secretary of Labor, said she remembers when she was a student at Cal Poly University Pomona and only "a handful of people" formed the Roundtable.



Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Chair Hilda Solis is recognized by the Latino/Latina Roundtable at 12th annual Cesar Chavez break-

"But now to see the cultural diversity here represented and the collage of people that represent different walks of life, it's really a Roundtable... pg. 10 tribute to



CEO Rich Yochum tells Bright Prospect students opportunities for health care ca reers are increasing. (See story, additional photos page 4.)

Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare in Pomona held an official ribbon-cutting celebration this month to open its new 38,220 square foot medical surgical wing, a state-of-

employ an additional 160 staff members. "For more than 75 years, Casa Colina has been highly regarded for its rehabilitation services," said Felice Loverso, Ph.D., President and CEO of Casa Colina. "With the new medical surgical wing addition, Casa Colina will further meet its goals of providing the highest level

the-art facility that will ac-

of patient-centered medical and surgical care available anywhere in the region."

"The City of Pomona is very proud of all the hard work and effort that went into this," said Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, who said he has been a patient at the facility. "They work miracles here. They don't just treat the patient, it's like they treat your entire family."

Congresswoman Grace Napolitano thanked the donors and the

Pomona's Casa Colina opens new state-of-the-art medical surgical wing to serve an additional 2,300 patients each year



A NEW HOSPITAL BECOMES OFFICIAL! -- Officials cut the ribbon at the grand opening for a new 38,220 square foot medical surgical wing this month at Pomona's Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare Pictured cutting the ribbon, with the east end of the new building in the background, are, from left, Casa Colina's Board Chairman Steve Norin, Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, Casa Colina's President and CEO Dr. Felice Loverso, former Board Chairman Sam Crowe, and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman

doctors and "all the people that make Casa Colina."

"They bring people back to living a normal life or a semi-normal life," she said, adding it is always good to see "the great work that's going on."

Board Chairman Steve Norin thanked the employees, adding that "you make our job as board very easy."

"You guys come to work here every day with smiles on your faces and give world class treatment to the

patients we serve."

"Finally, I'd like to thank the man whose vision it was 17 years ago when he came to Casa Colina from Boston and had the vision to build not only an acute care rehabilitation facility but the beautiful new medical surgical facility you see behind you," Norin added, referring to Loverso.

"Without him, none of this would have been done," he said.

Casa Colina... pg. 6



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'Stroke Awareness Day' to be held next month at Pomona Valley Hospital

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's "Stroke Awareness Day" will be held next month offering stroke survivors, their families, caregivers and the community a day of celebration, education and awareness.

The event, presented each year by the hospital's Stead Heart & Vascular Center, will be held from 9 a.m. to noon in the hospital's Pitzer Auditorium.

Speakers will include neurologist Dr. Adeel Popalzai and neuro psychologist Dr. Angela Yi.

Blood pressure screenings, stroke risk assessments and information on signs and symptoms of stroke also will be available.

To RSVP (by May 7), contact (909) 865-9858.



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BRIGHT PROSPECT KEYNOTE SPEAKER Pomona Valley Hospital's Rich Yochum tells students opportunities for health care careers increasing

Students today have plenty of opportunities to seek health care careers because of increasing demand for health care students, according to Rich Yochum, President and CEO of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center.

Delivering a keynote address to more than 200 at an annual fundraising gala sponsored by Pomona's Bright Prospect, Yochum cited U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics figures that indicate employment in health care occupations has been projected to grow 20 percent from 2014 to 2024, a rate much faster than the average of all occupations.

He said this growth would add about 2.3 million jobs to the nation's work force.

"Health care occupations will add more jobs than any of the other groups of occupations totaled together," Yochum said, adding that the primary reason for the demand is due to an aging population.

"It is called the age wave," he explained, coupled with the passage of the Affordable Care Act, or Obamacare, which has increased the number of individuals who have access to health care.

"Our hospital has profoundly seen this growth in demand in our hospital, particularly in the emergency room and in our outpatient services," Yochum said.

He cited a recent report from the Kaiser Family Foundation that showed as of the third open enrollment under the Affordable Care Act, some 12.7 million people today have health insurance that did not have health insurance in 2014.

"I think that's incredibly impressive," Yochum said.

And, while he said the issue of the Affordable Care Act is controversial, he said he believes it will remain in place regardless of the future administration.

"It may be changed, it probably will be improved, but I think health care for everyone hopefully will be here to stay," he said.

Yochum said the result is more access to health care – both primary health care and in the emergency room.

And, since the theme of the Bright Prospect gala was honoring their 20 alumni who are working in the medical field, he said this is "obviously a major emphasis of what Bright Prospect is about, what I think Pomona Valley Hospital is about, and the challenge to our community is that there are plenty of opportunities."

His message to students was that health care truly is a career that

makes it possible to make a differ-

"I cannot think of any other more rewarding profession than in health care," Yochum said. "If you want it to be said on your tombstone that you made a difference, then a career in health care is for you."

He said it might even make people live longer, and he quoted the American Society of Gerontology that claims "the greatest predictor of long life is if you like your job."

Yochum himself has served in the health care field for 50 years. He



... Bright Prospect's first medical doctor

said he was studying to become a dentist but ended up serving as a medic corpsman in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. When he returned, he earned a graduate degree in business and health care management at Cornell University.

"The passion is making a difference... and I think all of you here tonight are here to make a difference," Yochum said.

"Health care is not a field that you



... master of ceremonies



Bright Prospect Founder and President Eric Garen

go into to have a job, you go into it because you have a passion, I think you have a passion for caring and helping people, and making a difference in people's lives," he added.

Bright Prospect's first medical doctor

Julia Hoang, a 2003 graduate of Pomona High School and Bright Prospect's first medical doctor, also was a member of Bright Prospect's first class – a class of only 12 students some 14 years ago.

She said she was born and said he was studying to become a dentist but ended up serving as a medic corpsman in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War.

"Growing up I always knew I wanted to go to a big college and pursue a career in medicine," she said. "Bright Prospect provided me the resources and exposed me to different college options.

She graduated from high school with a 4.3 grade point average after serving as student body vice president, captain of the tennis team and even prom queen.

> Hoang majored in biological sciences at UC Irvine and, with the help of a letter of recommendation from Bright Prospect, was accepted to Ross University School of Medicine where she spent her first 15 months on the Caribbean island of Dominica.

> And when she was unable to find a residency position through a computer match, she learned of four positions at the UC Riverside School of Medicine.

> "I e-mailed Stephanie (Bright Prospect Executive Director Stephanie Campbell) and she wrote a two-page letter of rec

ommendation within a day," Hoang said. "I am now a second year psychiatry resident at the University of California at Riverside School of Medicine."

She said she learned later there were more than 600 applicants for those four spots.

Bright Prospect's first Ph.D.

Dr. Lorenzo Ramirez, who graduated from Ontario High School in 2006 and went to Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania, majored in biology and graduated in 2010.

He went on to the University of Pennsylvania and now has the distinction of being Bright Prospect's first alumnus to earn a Ph.D. degree.

His degree was in cellular and molecular biology with a specialization in vaccines and gene therapy.

"Growing up I knew that the only chance that my parents had to give both their children any opportunity in America was for them to leave their home in Mexico," he said, so they immigrated to California. "They knew that despite not having even completed elementary school that they hoped that their other skills



Dr. Lorenzo Ramirez... ... Bright Prospect's first Ph.D.

would suffice."

His dad became a dairy farmer in the United States just as he had been in Mexico, and his mom raised his sister and him.

Ramirez said growing up around cows was the beginning of his love for animals.

He credited his honors teachers for helping him and believing in him, adding that it was his honors teachers who introduced him to the Bright Prospect program during his junior year.

He received his Ph.D. in 2014 and today is continuing with postdoctoral work – training and learning how to better use dogs and their keen sense of smell to develop early diagnostic tests to diagnose diseases like ovarian cancer.

Ramirez thanked Bright Prospect for their inspiration and letting students know "that we can be represented in the medical fields."

Transforming students' lives

Master of Ceremonies Steve Morgan, a Bright Prospect Board member, said "it is the transformation in our students' lives that is really impressive."

"Students who thought they may never go to college or who never considered college as an option ended up going to some of the finest schools in the country," he said. "They are encouraged to create dreams about their future and then they are prepared to pursue those dreams during their college and university careers."

"Higher education helps level the playing field and prepares students for all walks of life," he added.

A 'helping hand' to transform a community out of poverty

Bright Prospect founder and board president Eric Garen said the organization started with a couple of dozen students and has grown to a couple of thousand, adding that 100 Bright Prospect students will graduate from college this spring.

He said 91 percent of Bright Prospect students graduate from college.

Garen said Pell Institute statistics show only one out of nine (11 percent) low income students nationwide who start college graduate within six years.

"My goal is to help a community lift itself out of poverty by building a large number of college graduates who come back in the community and grow the economy," he said, adding that it is not just good for the individuals "but it will transform a community out of poverty back to the middle class."

And, he said, statistics show about half of the kids come back to Pomona or adjacent communities to give back.

"The average college graduate earns over the course of (a) lifetime one million dollars more than a high school graduate," he said, adding that with 2,000 students in the program so far and 2,000 times a million is \$2 billion, the contribution to the local community quickly adds up – all by offering a "helping hand."

Pomona-based Bright Prospect is a nonprofit organization that empowers low-income students from Pomona, Montclair and Ontario to succeed in college.

Village Academy students heading to national competition among only 20 schools nationwide creating their own cell phone apps

In the category of "Are they on their way to becoming the next Bill Gates," four students at Pomona's Village Academy High School have won a local competition for developing their own cell phone apps and are on their way to the next round in national competition.

The competition was made possible through a grant partnership between the National Academy Foundation and Lenovo, a technology manufacturer.

Students used "App Inventor for Android," an open-source web application originally provided by Google and now maintained by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, according to Village Academy technology and programming instructor Victor Calagna.

The software allows newcomers to computer programming to create software applications for the Android operating system.

The two winning teams - selected out of 14 teams - were Salvador Chavez and Lay Ear Hak, who developed an application called "Workout Wiki," and Timmy Quoc Tran and Marcelo Garcia, Jr., who created an app called "Perplexed."

"Workout Wiki" assists students with workout routines based on the results they are looking for, and "Perplexed" is a critical thinking puzzle game for high school students



Salvador Chavez, at left, and Lay Ear Hak, team members at Village Academy High School in Pomona, one of two teams from Village Academy heading to national competition, show off the app they created -- "Workout Wiki." Village Academy was one of only 20 schools nationwide chosen to compete

Village Academy was one of 20 schools nationwide selected to compete, according to Calagna. The grant provided resources including computers, tablets and teacher training on helping students develop their own applications.

"I think the experience was great," Hak said. "It was something new really. Coding was really hard in the beginning but the sense of achieving after making the app felt great."

Ag and nutrition fair for students set for Fairplex next month

The Schools' Agriculture and Nutrition Fair of the 48th District Agricultural Association, this year on the theme "Let it Grow," will be held next month at Fairplex in Pomona offering thousands of competitive exhibits and informational displays from more than 100 schools throughout the greater Los Angeles area.

The annual event attracts school field trips, families, educators and community members celebrating the achievements of local students from pre-kindergarten through high school - all to educate attendees about the importance of agriculture in California.

This year's fair will be held from May 17 through 21 in building 10 at Fairplex. Admission and parking is free (enter through Gate 1).

Exhibits will include school gardens, scarecrows, paintings and drawings, creative writing, photography, graphic design and more.

The Dairy Council of California's mobile dairy classroom will be on hand along with an "all about animals" petting zoo.

Ag Day LA will be held for third and fourth graders in the Big Red Barn at Fairplex on May 18 and 19 during the fair.

For more information, contact (909) 274-2433.

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Chavez said that overall the en-

tire process was a good experience. "Now that I look back at it, I've learned so many things that I would not have learned on my own - for example, building apps, which is pretty cool."

Pomona students take top honors at L.A. County Science Fair

Three Pomona Unified School District students won top honors at the 66th annual Los Angeles County Science and Engineering Fair last month in Pasadena and now will go on to compete at the California State Science Fair in May.

Giselle Camarena, Jonathan Sanchez and Jose De Anda, all sophomores at Pomona's Garey High School, received first place awards in the senior division for animal biology for their collaborative work on "Galleria Mellonella Immune System Response to an Insecticide."

Xitlali Dominguez, a seventh grader at Pomona's Palomares Academy of Health Sciences, received an honorable

mention in the junior division for animal biology for her work on "The Effect of Temperature on Chirping Crickets."

Some 26 student scientists represented 10 schools in the Pomona Unified School District in the countywide competition after qualifying in February at the sixth annual Sarah Ross Science Fair in Pomona.

Students exhibited their scientific findings and were interviewed by experts in their respective fields as part of the competition.

An estimated 1,000 participants from 400 schools statewide are expected to compete for awards totaling \$50,000 in next month's statewide competition.

Inland Valley Hope Partners sets 20th annual golf classic for next month

Inland Valley Hope Partners will hold its 20th annual golf classic next month in Fontana.

The golf tournament is scheduled for Thursday, May 12, at Sierra Lakes Golf Club.

Registration is at 11 a.m., the In-N-Out Burger Truck will provide lunch and the tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.

The awards dinner is at 6 p.m. All proceeds will help Inland Valley Hope Partners provide food, shelter and supportive services to local children and their families.

Sponsorships are available at every level.

For more information, visit the web site at www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org or contact Kami Newman at (909) 622-3806, ext. 105, or by e-mail at kamin@inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.



*Programs funded through the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

Casa Colina... from pg. 1

Loverso told more than 100 invited guests at the grand opening that the medical surgical wing had only been open for a week and a half and was already filled to capacity for the amount of nursing available.

He added that with the other facilities on the Pomona campus, combined with facilities in Apple Valley and the Lucerne Valley, Modern Healthcare magazine has named Casa Colina the 13th largest provider of rehabilitation in the United States.

the board of directors "who define a continuum of care not seen anywhere else in the Western United States."

"This is not where it ends, this is where it begins," Loverso said. "We are on to bigger and better things."

He added he expects to operate at 100 percent occupancy this year and see more than 17,000 new patients, and more than 80,000 patients and outpatients combined.

But he said that the 94 to 95 percent patient satisfaction rate year surgical facility for physicians who specialize in a wide range of procedures - from orthopedic and neurosurgery to gastroenterology, urology and more.

The facility features three surgical suites, a six-bed intensive care unit, 25 private medical/surgical beds with patient lift systems and private bathrooms, a procedure room and more.

The surgical suites themselves include the latest robotic arm-assisted minimally invasive surgical systems

> orthopedics for and total joint replacements, with all surgical equipment available on ceiling-mounted booms. Wallmounted screens allow the operating room team to display vital signs, radiological images, lab values, pertinent patient data and images projected through endoscopic cameras.

Casa Colina was founded in 1936 in Chino to provide rehabilitative care to children with polio. In

the early 1950s, when polio was at epidemic proportions, a plan was developed to build a new hospital in Pomona. In 1959, the hospital was completed and the facility expanded its medical and physical rehabilitation services to concentrate on treating people of all ages and disabilities resulting from neurological and orthopedic conditions.



GRAND RE-OPENING AT FINISH LINE AT POMONA'S FAIRPLEX -- Pomona's Finish Line Sports Bar & Grill held a grand re-opening this month following a six-month renovation at a cost of about \$1.9 million, according to John Gilbert, Fairplex Vice President for Business Management. The project brings to Fairplex "a new level of quality service and it will be right here in Pomona," Gilbert said, adding that the all new club lounge alone "is the finest off-track wagering facility in Southern California." He said it offers an exclusive environment with three levels of membership with varying levels of benefits for wagering's most dedicated clientele. The project features new inter-track wagering carrels and state-of-the-art televisions and sound system, providing an enhanced experience for wagering or just stopping by for a sandwich and a beverage. Pictured cutting the ribbon to the new club lounge, clockwise from front left, are Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin, members of the Board of Directors of the Los Angeles County Fair Association Cid Pinedo, Tina Loza and Heidi Hanson, Fairplex Vice President John Gilbert and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman. Finish Line is located at 2201 N. White Ave., Pomona.

'LA on Tap' craft beer festival returns to Fairplex next month

"LA on Tap" will return to Fairplex next month, offering craft beer fans throughout the Southland dozens of beers to enjoy featuring the award-winners of the Los Angeles International Beer Competition.

The event is set for Saturday, May 7, in the Plaza of the States at Fairplex with more than 65 of the finest breweries in Southern California expected to participate.

General admission tickets are

available on line for \$50 or at the door for \$60 and include admission and tastings of more than 150 beers, a commemorative tasting glass, food from barbecue tri-tip to maple bacon waffles, and live music by the Chase Walker Band.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the educational programs of The Learning Centers at Fairplex.

For more information, visit www.fairplex.com.



ALL THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY -- One of the three surgical suites in the new medical surgical wing at Casa Colina Hospital is pictured, showcasing much of the technology and ceiling-mounted equipment available to doctors using the new

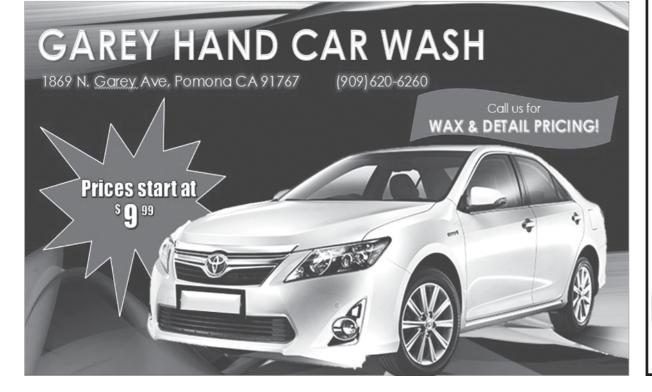
Loverso said Casa Colina began "moving the vision" about eight years ago, building an imaging center and a surgery center as a joint venture with local physicians.

Next on the list is a dialysis center and a vascular lab.

He said none of this would have been possible without the "unwavering leadership and support" of after year really is all possible because of the nurses, the housekeepers and "the people sitting knee to knee with patients every day that perform the miracles."

The new medical surgical wing is located next to the existing acute rehabilitation wing on the facility's 20-acre campus.

It was designed as a preferred





Community comes together to present a car to children whose mom was burned to death on Christmas day

The entire Pomona community came together this month to present the keys to a completely refurbished car to Nigel Hensley whose 41-year-old mother Dawn Hensley died after she allegedly was doused with gasoline and lit on fire on Christmas day.

And really just because that's the way Nigel is, he said the car will mainly be for his siblings as he goes through a life of court dates and other errands to try to get his family back together.

As an added bonus, the presentation ceremony for the car - a 2008 Nissan Altima -



Nigel Hensley, standing at rear, and his sister, Corin Hensley, second from left, pose for photographers in front of their new car with their two younger brothers, at right, Corin's children and other family members.

came on Nigel's 20th birthday at a local body shop.

Nigel, his sister Corin Hensley, 24, their two minor brothers (Ezekiel, 16, and Abijah, 12) and Corin's two children, ages 5 and 2, are still putting their life back in order after the ordeal as they hope to get everybody back under the same roof working through the courts and the

Los Angeles County foster care system.

"We're very pleased that we were able in some way to help out with the family," said Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman. "You all are part of a bigger family now – it's the entire city of Pomona and we're all here to help you out."

Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin thanked everyone involved in the project - from city staff to Pomona's Kennedy Austin Foundation to the owner of the car who donated it and to Pomona's Caliber Collision and upgrades of the car's inte-

rior and exterior – all part of the National Auto Body Council's "Recycled Rides" program of donating vehicles once a year to those in need.

Vendors of the auto body shop donated all of the materials and parts and even the first six months of auto insurance was donated by Nona Tirre State Farm in Claremont with the help of Kiwanis Club of Pomona members Debra Martin, Greg Shapton, Mark Warren, Hal and Agnes Jackson, and auto body shop employee Andrea Whipple.

And Nigel thanked everybody involved in the process.

"This means so much to me, this opens so many opportunities, opportunities to just try to make my mom proud, opportunities to try to further my education, opportunities most of all to be here for my family," he said.

Andrea Rico, who serves as the city's liaison to a variety of community efforts, helped bring the community together following last year's

domestic violence incident that resulted in the separation and uprooting of the entire Hensley family.

"We knew we would need the help of the entire community to wrap around this family," Rico said. "With an overwhelming response from so many, the Pomona community has come together and worked tirelessly to take care of one of its own."

She said every time Nigel is asked what he needs, he always mentions his brothers' needs or his family's needs.

"This is a true testament to the type of gentleman and caring soul Dawn Hensley raised," Rico said.

The family received assistance in securing permanent housing, health services and donations for basic necessities.

According to Pomona Police Department reports, Dawn Hensley died at a local hospital following a domestic violence incident which occurred in front of the apartment building in which the family lived in the 1500 block of Cordova Street in Pomona, near Indian Hill



TURNING THE KEY FOR THE FIRST TIME -- Nigel Hensley, whose mom was killed in a Christmas day domestic violence incident in Pomona, starts his new car presented to him on his 21st birthday through the efforts of the entire Pomona comthat provided the body work munity. Nigel said the car will be used mainly to help his family

Boulevard and San Bernardino Avenue.

Police said the suspect in the case, Clarence Dear, who Corin said was presumed to be their father, was arrested in Pasadena two days later. He was booked on suspicion of murder with the special circumstances of torture in the case. Bail was set at \$1 million and the case is pending

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RIVERSIDE: Lincoln Plaza 2995 Van Buren Blvd (at Lincoln) Ste A-13 MEDICARE STEP BY STEP MEETINGS (Educational): Thurs, May 12 @ 4 pm Fri, May 27 @ 10 am (English) / Fri, May 27 @ 1 pm (Spanish)

INTER VALLEY ENROLLMENT MEETINGS: Wed, May 4 @ 2 pm Fri, May 6 @ 10 am / Tues, May 10 @ 10 am / Thurs, May 12 @ 2 pm Tues, May 24 @ 10 am / (English) Wed, May 25 @ 5:30 pm (Spanish) Thurs, May 26 @ 5:30 pm (English)

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

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IT WAS THE REAL DEAL EVEN IF UNDER AN EASY-UP AND IN THE RAIN! -- Professional executive chefs from Chase's in La Verne, Twisted Sage Cafe in San Dimas and Pappas Artisanal in La Verne are hard at work on the hors d'oeuvres at the Farm2Table dinner event this month at Cal Poly. Pictured is Travis Flood of Pappas. The annual dining event -- featuring Cal Poly student-grown meat and produce -- benefits the Children's Garden at AGRIscapes. Each course -- served in a country setting on the Cal Poly campus -- was paired with wine from local wineries.

La Nueva Voz receives 'community service award' from Pomona Unified

La Nueva Voz, Pomona's only community newspaper, was the recipient of a community service award for "service and support of our students and educational programs" at this month's annual Pomona Unified School District Board of Education recognition ceremony and reception held at The Village at Indian Hill Conference Center Honorees included businesses,

universities, individuals and organ-

izations throughout Pomona recognized for their "contributions, time and talents in support of the education of our students," according to the school district.

"We are very honored and proud to receive this recognition from Pomona Unified School District," said Renee Barbee, Director of Advertising and Public Relations for La Nueva Voz and a Pomona Chamber of Commerce Ambassador. "It truly makes us feel like a part of the

school district family."

Jeff Schenkel, publisher and owner of La Nueva Voz, congratulated all of the community service award recipients.

"The entire school district team and those 25,000 amazing students are doing a tremendous job every day," Schenkel added. "It is really their work that makes the headlines and we're doing everything we can as a newspaper to continue to tell the story of their tremendous progress."

"We've interviewed so many of these tremendous kids over the past seven years for one story or another and we have always been impressed," Schenkel said. "We are confident that the future of Pomona is in good hands."

BLE -- Alex Duffield on the saxophone, Michael Webb on the keyboard and the rest of the Cal Poly Jazz Ensemble performed for guests this month at the second annual Farm2Table dinner event at AGRIscapes at Cal Poly Pomona AMAZING SUNFLOWER SEED FRITTERS! -- Aaron Kim. a student at the Collins College of Hospitality Management at Cal Poly University Pomona, offers La Nueva Voz a sunflower seed fritter as an hors d'oeuvre at this month's second annual Farm2Table dining event at month's

THE CAL POLY JAZZ ENSEM-

AGRIscapes at Cal Poly, spon-

sored by the College of Agriculture and Dean Mary Holz-Clause.

And those fritters -- made fresh on

the back patio at AGRIscapes by

a team of local professional chefs



were made from ingredients found in the Cal Poly gardens on campus. (La Nueva Voz gave them an official taste test and they were, in fact, amazing.)

Assistance League sets golf tournament

The Assistance League of Pomona Valley will hold its 17th annual "Smile with a Child" Golf Tournament next month at Red Hill Country Club in Rancho Cucamonga.

day, May 9, followed by contests, brunch and a shotgun start at 11 a.m.

Included will be a helicopter ball drop and other on-course contests.

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

Registration is at 8:30 a.m. Mon-

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- Claremont library
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- Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center maternity lobby, outpatient services, emergency room
- Gold Strike Market Carniceria, 412 N. Park Ave., Pomona
- Jicamex Tacos Y Carniceria, 604 E. Mission Blvd., Pomona
- Central Market, Towne Avenue and Phillips Boulevard, Pomona

- La Verne City Hall lobby · La Verne Senior Citizens Center Pomona Chamber of Commerce, 101 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona Downtown Pomona Owners Association, 119 W. 2nd St., Pomona Pomona Unified School District administration building lobby

 - Western University of Health Sciences Patient Care Center
 - Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, 1420 S. Garey Ave., Pomona

- Fairplex Chevron, Fairplex Drive and San Bernardino Freeway, Pomona
- Discount Market, Philadelphia Street and Towne Avenue, Pomona
- LaunderLand Coin Op Laundry, 744 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
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Pomona residents to vote on 'Measure Y' to approve 10 freeway message centers, generate \$10 million in fees to city

Pomona residents will vote in June on a ballot initiative known as "Measure Y" that will result in a developer of up to 10 freeway "message centers" in Pomona paying the city \$1 million per sign over the next 40 years.

These message centers will be designed to create landmarks for travelers to know they are passing through Pomona and to help local businesses.

"They will not be normal-looking billboards, but we are working with the community to design aesthetic landmark message centers that incorporate inspirational architecture," said the developer, Mark Kudler, President of Bulletin Displays, LLC, of Long Beach.

The message centers are only allowed in nine locations along freeway corridors and the signs must meet rigid design standards.

The measure is already receiving endorsements from a wide variety of supporters including the Pomona Police Officers' Association.

Approval of the proposed measure on the June 7 ballot would allow up to 10 new outdoor message centers along the 10, 57, 71 and 60 freeways.

City revenue generated by the measure – up to \$10 million over the next 40 years – would be available to fund essential city services, including police and fire protection, street and park maintenance, library and recreation services and other vital city programs, according to the ballot title and summary, an objective opinion by the Pomona city attorney.

Nine specific locations for the message centers have been identified and the initiative itself imposes restrictions upon the location, height and size of the signs. The signs also will be prohibited within 90 feet of a school, church or other place of worship, and the distance between the signs will be restricted.

Those nine locations specifically do not include residential areas or open space but are in commercial areas next to freeways. Most of the signs are expected to be digital, making the signs and the messages more visually appealing and easier to read, according to supporters. Kudler added that the digitals used are the best in the industry and have computer-controlled illumination that reads the ambient light and will automatically dim if clouds cover the sun or at night. In addition, he said they are regulated by strict light standards.

Pomona residents Jim Popovich and Vernon Price, proponents of the measure, formed a group known as Pomona Partnership for Better City Services to gather more than 8,500 petition signatures two years ago to get the measure on the ballot. Popovich said Measure Y will not increase taxes, but instead will make the sign company pay the city a fair share of its advertising revenue to benefit city residents.

Message centers to provide needed city funds for better city services

The measure requires owners of the signs to pay the city \$25,000 per sign per year, up to \$250,000 per year including all 10 signs, in a development agreement that continues for the next 40 years.

"The City of Pomona's budget needs more money," Popovich said. "A 'Yes' vote will bring new revenue to the Pomona city budget and will improve city services."

"Everyone knows how our city employees and the residents have suffered cutbacks during the recession," he added. "This extra \$250,000 per year for 40 years is not part of the city budget, but extra money provided by a private developer."

Price added that this "extra money" from Measure Y will help restore the cuts made to police, fire and library services.

Kudler said his company also wants to work with the police and fire departments in Pomona to make sure that they have access to these digital signs to post important public service messages and emergency notices.

"We can raise taxes on our residents or we can be smart and ask our businesses to help pay their share," Popovich said.

"This developer stood up and we must support their effort in order to encourage other developers in other

'Health4All' health for kids program set for May

An informational health forum focusing on health for kids up to 19 years of age will be held next week in the Pomona Unified School District Boardroom.

The event, "Health4All," will cover topics including what you need to know about emergency MediCal, Covered California and My Health LA.

Also included will be information on what documents are needed to enroll in health care coverage, what programs accept members regardless of immigration status and more.

The event will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 4, at the school district offices, 800 S. Garey Ave., Pomona.

It is presented by the school district's Parent Involvement Program, the Latino/Latina Roundtable, East Valley Community Health Center and California Partnership. industries to do the same," Price added.

Message centers will provide free ad 'flips' to Pomona non-profits

"In addition, local Pomona nonprofits, Downtown Pomona and the city itself will be offered free advertising on these digital signs to promote local events and make public service announcements," Popovich said. "Many other cities do the same thing."

He pointed out that the digital message centers offer eight advertisements that rotate every eight seconds. Each one of the eight spots is known as a "flip."

Kudler said there is an industry average of a 30 percent vacancy, which means there will be a lot of space for non-profits and, because it is computer generated, it can be "up" in a minute.

"This is not a false promise since this is how they are being operated in other cities," Price said.

Popovich pointed out that printing and posting on conventional billboards can cost thousands of dollars. He said typical non-profits cannot afford these posting fees, even if they are given free advertising time.

But the new message centers have no posting costs, since the non-profit's advertisement is simply sent in a computer file to a computer modem in the message center.

Offers tough sign controls, substantial revenue to the city

"A 'Yes on Y' vote will give Pomona the toughest freeway sign controls in the region and substantial revenue to support our city services," Price said. "Not only does the sign developer have to comply with all federal, state and local laws, but Measure Y allows the city to ask the developer to remove any offensive advertisement or the developer will risk losing his sign permits."

And, he added, residents will have input into the design of the sign structures themselves which have become more decorative, offer backlighting and can include features like "Welcome to Pomona" messages on top.

"There's just a lot of things you can do now to make them look less like a billboard and more like a message center and an on-site sign," Price said.

Price added that the freeway message center project will be the first major new business to come to Pomona in many years without receiving redevelopment funds and incentives.

And, Price said, the cost of the measure to date – about \$200,000 not counting legal fees – has been paid for by the sponsors. That means, he ex-

plained, that costs for drafting the measure, collecting the signatures, verifying the signatures and the cost of the election itself have been paid for – "the city and the taxpayers are not paying for a thing."

The measure initially missed a November 2014 ballot deadline due to a "snap tally" in which only 500 random signatures were counted and verified, according to Price.

Proponents of the measure eventually agreed to pay to have the signatures verified, county elections officials determined the petitions contained more than enough and the Pomona City Council voted last March to place the measure on the June ballot.

"Yes on Y" is supported by Bulletin Displays, LLC, a Pomona Chamber of Commerce member and a sponsor of Pomona Partnership for Better City Services. The company is also a member of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Pomona.

"This is a good measure that is also good for the City of Pomona," Kudler said. "We look forward to continuing to support this measure and, upon its passage, to working with the city to create a network of quality and aesthetically pleasing displays that will benefit the community for years to come."



this organization," Solis said.

She said while she never met Cesar Chavez personally, she "strived for his goals, his principles, his equality, social justice, and the fact that he was sacrificing in a peaceful manner without violence" throughout her political life.

"I guess I can say this, I've been to the mountain, and the mountain sometimes is lonely," Solis said, loosely quoting Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. "Even in the highest pillars of our government, nobody is there to help you in some occasions to make those really hard decisions, and you have to live by those deci-

Solis said her father, who worked for years in a battery recycling plant, taught her the importance of fortitude, leadership and respect. And her mother, who she said came here from Nicaragua as a refugee from Central America, met her father in a citizenship class in Los Angeles.

"They struggled to get here through all kinds of circumstances," she said, "waiting to come to this country because it promised so much.'

She said those same principles that drove her parents continue to drive her today.

All of these things contributed to

DIO

who she is, Solis said. "And I know how great the need is for our community today," she added. "Even though we have made a lot of progress, we still have more to do." "You represent every

walk of life, every ethnicity, every socio-economic and academically categorized group in our country, and that's what makes us great," Solis said. "My message to you, let's vote, let's make sure that we don't let people somehow believe that they're going to suppress our voices and allow us not to take

sions and then carry through." on (a) leadership role."

Latino/Latina Roundtable President Jose Calderon, at right,

presents award to immigrant rights advocate Jose Yanez.

"And oftentimes when I'm in

those situations, and even today, I

think about why I'm here and who

"I didn't get here on my own,"

she said, adding that she got here on

the strength of people like Cesar

Chavez, his widow Helen, also a

has helped me get here," she said.

Helen Chavez

Also honored at the event at Pomona's Fairplex Conference Center was Helen Chavez, widow of Cesar Chavez. Accepting the award on her behalf was her grandson, Andres Chavez, who grew up in La Paz, Mexico and currently is majoring in public policy and administration at Cal State University

bly "the biggest unsung hero of the

Roundtable... from pg. 1

farmworker movement."

"When my grandfather quit his job in 1962 . . . it was my grandmother who went back to the fields to work to support my grandfather's dream of starting a farmworkers union," he said.

And, he added, it was his grandmother who managed a credit union that eventually distributed more than \$10 million to farmworkers in California's Central Valley - all while caring for her own eight children and serving as the mother of the farmworker movement.

Chavez said he visited with his grandmother recently and she asked him to "thank everybody."

"But tell them two things," he quoted her as saying, "tell important year to vote - remind everybody to vote and most importantly tell them not to vote for Donald Trump."

Other honorees

Also honored were the Pomona Unified School District's Maria Garcia, Pomona Habla leader Jose Yanez, and community organizer Rubio Gonzalez.

Garcia, the school district's staff assistant to Pupil Services and Parent Involvement, said she will share the award - one week at a time at each home - with the parents of the school district for their hard work and commitment "to continue all the work behind the scenes that you do for Pomona Unified."

She said she works with 400 parents who help make the district "a great success."

Garcia said she remembers her "stay at home" mother telling her "if you want a change in your community, you have to get involved, you have to voice your opinion, you have to get engaged."

"Those words echo in my mind every day that I work with parents of Pomona Unified to remind them to engage with their students, to engage in the community and be active," she said.

Yanez, an immigrant rights advocate who worked for legislation that went into effect last year granting driver's licenses to undocumented immigrants, said the community has continued to grow and organize.

Yanez said the community still needs help and support in a variety of areas.

"It is up to the individuals who can make a difference to find solutions for these problems," he said, adding that "today we recognize the values that Cesar Chavez represents,



ROUNDTABLE SOCIAL JUSTICE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS -- This year's Latino/Latina Roundtable scholarship recipients receive their awards. Pictured, from left, are Karen Barhena, a student at Mt. SAC Carlos Yanez, a student at the University of La Verne; Susan Lucas, a student at Pomona High School; Aleiandro Xipecoatl Juarez, a student at Mt. SAC: Roundtable President Jose Calderon: Fabian Pavon, a student at Mt. SAC; Roundtable Board member Claudia Bedolla; and presenter Laila Alvarez, a student at Pitzer College in Claremont, a Roundtable member on the scholarship committee and a former scholarship them that this year's a very recipient. Funds raised at the breakfast each year support young activists and leaders in their efforts to obtain a higher education.

which is sacrifice, faithful, struggle, perseverance and a commitment to the community."

And Gonzalez, whose work organizing in the community over the past 20 years also has extended to historic preservation, took a slightly different approach in accepting his award.

"To be honest with you, I was never much of a proponent of the



Community organizer Rubio Gonzalez is recognized by the Latino/Latina Round-

non-violent approach exemplified by Cesar Chavez and Dr. King," he said.

"I was always more of a Malcolm X kind of guy," he added, referring to the human rights activist in the 1960s who indicted white America in harsh terms for its crimes against black Americans.

Gonzalez described his upbringing in what he called a matriarch family of migrant farmworkers turned factory workers in the 1980s.

"Those of us who grew up in Pomona during the 1980s consider

ourselves survivors," he said, adding that he surpassed his mother in education by the time he was in middle school.

"Time is too precious to waste so I have no patience for progress," Gonzalez said, adding that he does have patience for children and that most of what he does in life benefits them - his own children, his students and all of Pomona's youth.

"For me, it's all about making this world a safer place for them with a higher expectation for the quality of life that they deserve," he added.

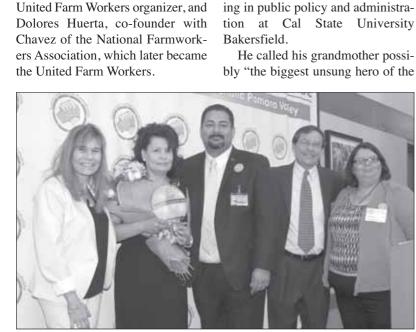
He said he regrets he never met Cesar Chavez since he was living out of the area when Chavez visited



Andres Chavez, grandson of Cesar Chavez, accepts award on behalf of his grandmother, Helen Chavez, organizer and widow of Cesar Chavez.

Pomona in 1992 for the grand opening of the Cesar Chavez Center for Higher Education at Cal Poly University

Among his current projects, he said he is working to develop a Chicano museum "to share the proud Roundtable... pg. 19



HONORED AT CESAR CHAVEZ BREAKFAST -- Maria Garcia of the Pomona Unified School District is honored by the Latino/Latina Roundtable at this month's Cesar Chavez Breakfast. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman, Maria Garcia, Pomona Unified Board member Frank Guzman, Roundtable President Dr. Jose Calderon and Claudia Bedolla. Roundtable board member

Pomona Boys and Girls Club 'Youth of Year' comes up short in L.A. County competition but makes good showing

By Jessie Gomez

The Los Angeles County Alliance for Boys and Girls Clubs announced two new co-Youths of the Year last month in Hollywood and, while it wasn't the "fairy tale" ending Pomona had hoped for with its own member in the final six, the local contestant made a good showing and represented Pomona well.

After all, just getting there - to the annual countywide "Youth of the Year" awards celebration at the El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood was pretty impressive. The final six had been chosen from a total of 26 candidates - one from each of the 26 Boys and Girls Clubs throughout Los Angeles County.

Jannyda Sre, 18, Youth of the Year at the Boys and Girls Club of Pomona Valley, has been a member of the club for more than four years and maintains a 4.7 grade point average in her senior year at Pomona's Garey High School.

She has already been accepted to 12 universities including UCLA and UC Santa Barbara.

"At first I didn't know I was going to be here as Youth of the Year. I thought it was going to be a different person," Sre told La Nueva Voz at the event in Holly-

wood. "Mv club was like no, we know vou can make it far and we believe in you."

Although she did not advance to the next round of statewide competition, Sre said she felt excited, happy and accomplished.

During the awards celebration, Sre shared how her family and up-

bringing has made her a determined person. She also emphasized her commitment to giving back in the community and the hard work she puts towards achieving her goals.

"No matter what you've gone through in the past it doesn't matter because the club will always be by your side," Sre said.

Caleb Gomes of the Boys and Girls Club of Malibu and Mark Perez of the Boys & Girls Club of Whittier were named Los Angeles County Alliance co-winners. They



LOS ANGELES COUNTY 'YOUTH OF YEAR' WINNERS -- Winners of the Los Angeles County Alliance for Boys and Girls Clubs annual "Youth of the Year" competition are announced at the El Capitan Theatre in Hollywood last month. Pictured, from left, are Elex Michaelson of ABC7 News, master of ceremonies at the event; co-winner Caleb Gomes, Youth of the Year from the Malibu Boys and Girls Club; Phil Guerini, vice president of music strategy for Disney Channels Worldwide, a program sponsor; co-winner Mark Perez, Youth of the Year from the Whittier club, and, of course. Mickey Mouse.

and fitness.

museum.

based on academic achievement,

community service, character,

overcoming of obstacles and health

held at the Madame Tussaud's Wax

Museum, where attendees were

treated to a buffet, a candy "bar"

and a chance to view the dozens of

wax celebrities on display at the

\$2,250 scholarships to assist in

their education. Time Warner

Cable provided an additional \$750

to each winner. All 26 local

"Youths of the Year" were awarded

a \$1,000 scholarship. Additionally,

each of the nominees received bi-

cycles from Walmart, a family four-

pack to Disneyland and backpacks

of love and support for them," He-

witt said, adding that the two win-

ners "are living proof that Boys and

Girls Clubs are impactful in help-

ing their members become model

"We love (the kids), there's a lot

filled with various items.

The two winners each received

An exclusive "after-party" was

both were expected to advance to the statewide competition this month.

"(The event) was phenomenal and it's all about the kids and inspiring other kids," said Mary Hewitt, Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Alliance for Boys and Girls Clubs. "We want to instill, inspire and inform others

about these opportunities.' ABC7 Eyewitness News reporter Elex Michaelson served as master of ceremonies for the event. Additionally, Disney Channel celebrities such as Miranda May and Skai Jackson made guest appearances.

and judges during the competition.

food trucks has returned to Fair-

plex for Food Truck Thursdays

with the attraction continuing

The event is open to the public

at no cost with free parking from

5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays in the

through the summer.

A rotating line-up of gourmet parking lot at Gate 1, at 1101 W. McKinley Drive, Pomona.

honor any member can receive.

The festival-like setting includes everything from butterpoached lobster grilled cheese sandwiches to freshly baked crepes with blue cheese and raspberries.

Pomona author/illustrator Gary Lett's new children's book raising funds for publishing costs

Pomona author/illustrator Gary V. Lett has turned his talents to the creation of a colorful children's picture book addressing the issue of children becoming more self-centered rather than team players – and he is turning to the public for help in getting the book published so it can do some good.

"Gary & a Box of Salt" is an autobiographical narrative of an event based on a young boy, with a loving heart, who gave a box of salt to help feed the poor within his community.

As a direct result, according to Lett, his family also benefited.

The book brings to life the subject of altruism coupled with compassion.

Lett, who is also an ordained minister, said he waits on "divine inspiration" while pondering his projects

"Within this book, children will find various life scenarios showing them realistic and attainable outcomes from positive goal setting," Lett said. "Adults will appreciate it as a transitional ice-breaking tool, making it easier to engage youngsters in constructive dialog about the benefits of making good life choices based on topics found within it."

Lett, a graduate of Pomona's Garey High School, attended Pepperdine University, becoming the first in his family to go to college.

Lett said it was a Pepperdine pro-

fessor who noticed a heavily threedimensional quality of his drawings and suggested he work with ceramics, a new medium for him.

He moved to San Antonio in 2001, where he mentored the "Artists in the Making" project for elementary school students and was an exhibiting artist in shows at the San Antonio Museum of Art.

Since his return to Pomona with his family, Lett has expanded his art to include spiritual subjects and themes. Lett's wife, Lisha Lett, is secretary of the Pomona Valley Branch of the NAACP.

Today, he is a working ceramic artist and sculpture, teaching at Pomona's American Museum of Ceramic Art (AMOCA).

His goal is to raise \$10,000 to produce 2,500 copies of the 36-page hardcover book, including printing and sales promotion expenses.

A total of 10 backers have contributed \$470 to date in the last two months.

To contribute to the cost of publishing this book using Indiegogo, Inc., visit http://igg.me/at/garyandaboxofsalt.

Lett said for every book sold \$1 will go to each of two organizations - the Justin Carr Wants World Peace Memorial Fund and The Friends of Pomona Public Library.

For more information, e-mail the author at letts_do_art@yahoo.com.



'FRIEND OF BUSINESS' BRIAN MCNERNEY STEPS DOWN AT LA VERNE CHAMBER -- More than 200 guests attended a retirement party last week at Hillcrest in La Verne complete with a good natured, old-fashioned roast -- for Brian McNerney, President and CEO of the La Verne Chamber of Commerce, who is stepping down after serving for the past 10 years. McNerney, a native of New York and a resident of San Dimas, was honored for his service to the business community. Pictured, at left, is La Verne Mayor Don Kendrick presenting McNerney with a special recognition from the city at the event.



Jannyda Sre, Youth of the Year at the Boys and

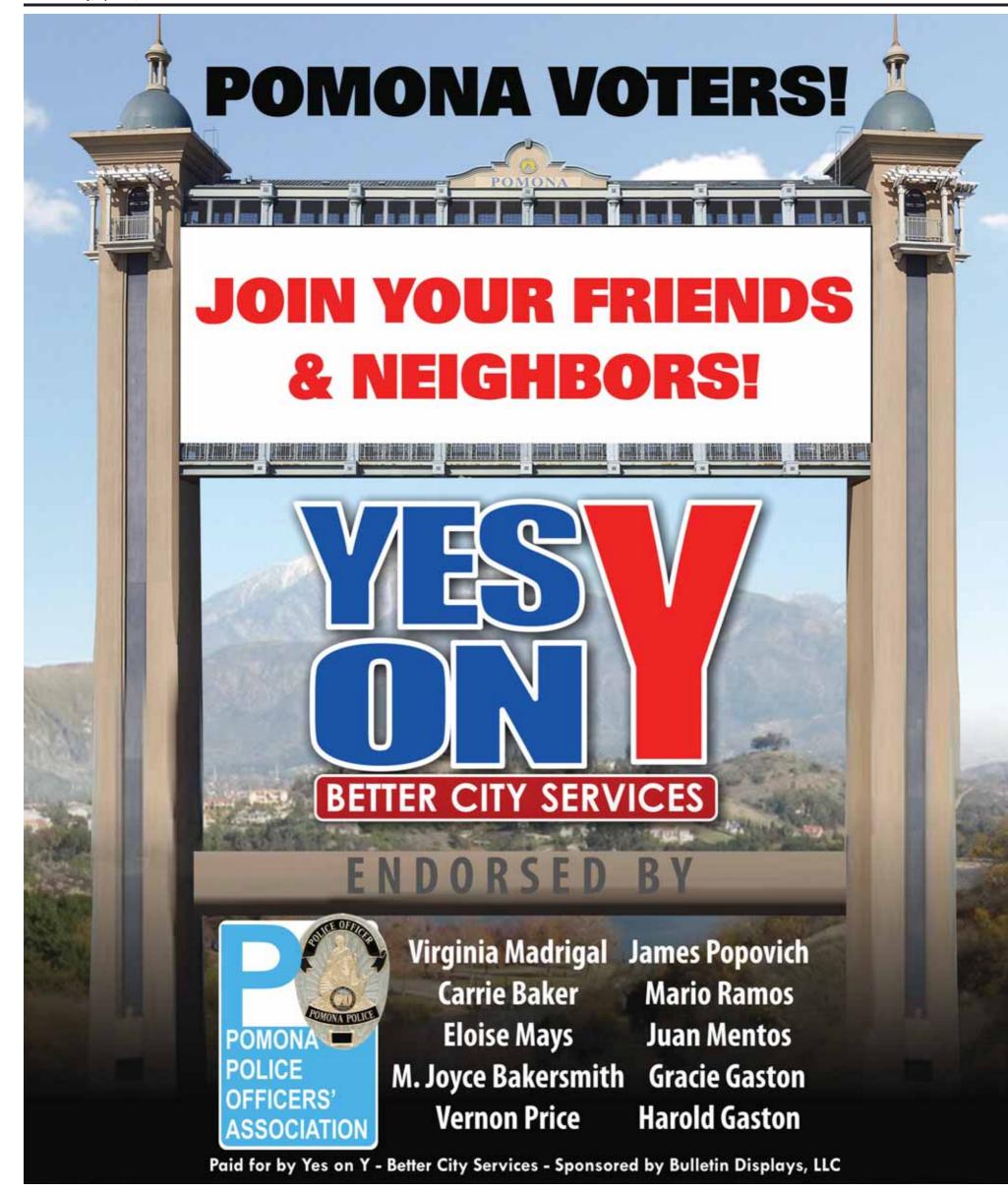
Girls Club of Pomona Valley, is pictured in the Los Angeles County competition in Hollywood last month. She was in the final six countywide and made an excellent showing

Each of the six citizens in their community." finalists The Youth of the Year program, shared their the Boys and Girls Clubs premier stories of hope recognition program, was created in 1947, providing the highest

and perseverance with the audience All six finalists were judged

Food Truck Thursdays return to Fairplex

12 · Thursday, April 28, 2016 · La Nueva Voz



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The Ohlone traditional dancers and singers perform at last weekend's three-day 24th an nual Ohlone "Big Time" Gathering and Pow Wow in Pomona's Tony Cerda Park, pre-sented by the Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe of Native Americans, based in Pomona.



David & Margaret Youth and Family Services in La Verne has been named winner of a 2016 IKEA Life Improvement Challenge grant from the company's Covina store to provide a makeover of David & Margaret's Tarr Cottage, pictured, which houses up to 10 girls ages 16 through 18 in foster care and preparing to emancipate. The cottage, built in the 1960s, was recently partially remodeled and the makeover will complete its transformation by updating its furnishings and design. David & Margaret serves more than 1,000 clients annually through a variety of services including residential, shelter care, foster family agency, adop tion assistance, mental health services and treatment for learning disabilities.

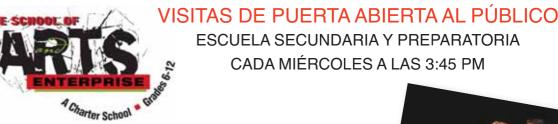


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Le concedimos a los doctores todo lo que nos pidieron en nuestra nueva Sala Médica-Quirúrgica.



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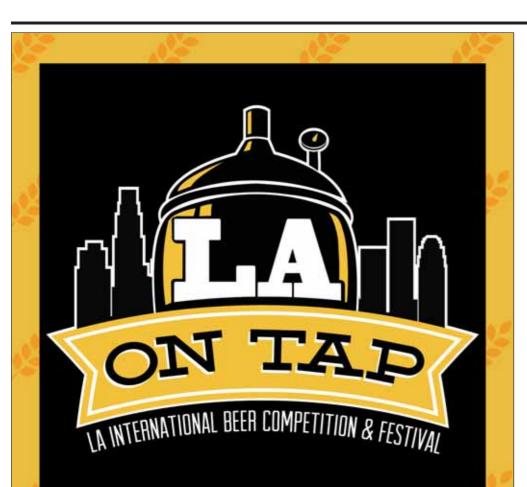
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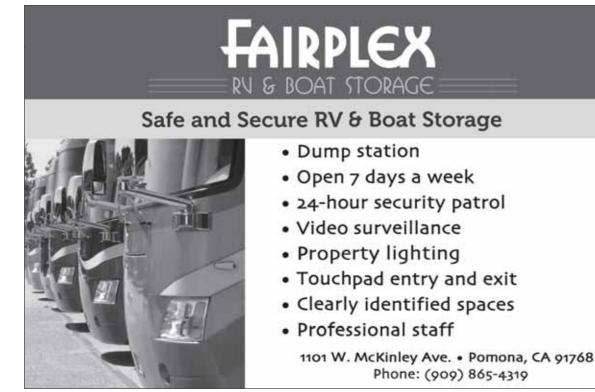
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Kiwanis President Jason Brooks, at left, next to his sister, Mary Brooks, get their chips down at the blackjack table as Pomona's Ethel Gardner, at right, shows off her sweatshirt at the "favorite sports team" themed event.



The gang gets ready to get their bets down on the roulette table at last month's Pomona Ki-wanis scholarship dinner. But watch out -- it looks like Pomona's Andrea Rico looks like she might know something the others don't!





YMCA of Pomona Valley CEO Matthew Henry, at left, who recently stepped down to take a position with another "Y" in Northern California, discusses craft beer, micro-breweries and the general state of football in America with Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Executive Director Victor Caceres and Wendy Johnson during last month's Pomona Kiwanis scholarship din-



KIWANIS FIRST ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP DINNER -- Pomona Kiwanis President Jason Brooks makes opening comments at the Pomona Kiwanis first annual scholarship dinner, held last month at Old Stump Brewing Co. in Pomona. "We're taking on scholarships this year for Pomona Unified School District students, our students in Pomona," Brooks said. "We're very excited, the more money we earn, the more money we can give back to the kids." The event featured raffle prizes, a silent auction and an evening at the casino surrounded by locally handcrafted beer. More than 100 people attended the fundraiser

State Farm offers driving habits to avoid

Drivers may slip into some bad driving habits when they are comfortable with the road, but there are five tips to be aware of that could result in a crash or a traffic violation, according to Claremont State Farm agent Nona Tirre.

Tirre suggests avoiding these bad driving habits to help keep the road safe:

• Failing to signal. It's important

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to let other drivers and pedestrians know your next move so they can slow down and accommodate. Signal at least 100 feet in advance.

• Rolling through stop signs. Even if you think the streets are clear, come to a complete stop before turning or proceeding into the intersection. If you don't and the intersection is not an all-way stop, you may cause a crash.

• Slowing down to look at crashes or construction. "Rubbernecking" is not only dangerous, but can also contribute to a chain reaction of slowed traffic. Keep your eyes on the road ahead so you can stay alert to closed lanes or police offers directing traffic after a crash.

• Running yellow or red lights. It can increase your chance of a crash. If the light turns yellow before you reach the intersection, it's best not to risk it.

• Disregarding the speed limit. Though posted speed limits vary by state, use the following ranges as a general guide if you don't see a posted limit:

 $\sqrt{\text{Residential area: 15 to 30 mph}}$ $\sqrt{\text{Undivided road (rural): 40 to}}$ 55 mph

 $\sqrt{\text{Divided road (rural): 55 to 70}}$ mph

 $\sqrt{\text{Freeway:}}$ 55 to 65 mph

For more information, contact Nona Tirre State Farm at (909) 620-2662

Hope & Hurdles by Evy Schuman

The Presidential Race I can watch has become a sleazy forever with reality tv show... some buttery popcorn .Schuman EDITOR'S NOTE: "Hope & Hurdles," an on-going feature appearing in La Nueva Voz, was created by artist Evy Schuman as an attempt to "poke fun" at the little things that trouble us all from time

to time. Evy, who is also a published writer on the subject, created the cartoon series to show her work at a creative writing class she co-facilitates at Pomona's Tri-City Wellness Center.

Jim Henwood steps down at Fairplex; Mike Ortiz named interim CEO

The Board of Directors for the Los Angeles County Fair Association (LACFA) announced last month that Board Chair Mike Ortiz will serve as interim CEO following CEO Jim Henwood's decision to step down.

Ortiz will continue in the position until a permanent CEO is selected. He also will remain as Board Chair as allowed under the fair association's by-laws.

Henwood told the Board a year ago he would step down at the end of 2016 when his contract expired. He had been working with the Board on a transition plan, and a search for his successor was launched last fall.

He recently informed the Board of his preference to step down early to allow for an interim leader to assume the position.

"I am very proud of my 20-year tenure at LACFA and have seen this organization through great growth and innovation," Henwood said.

However, he referred to recent news events causing him to "become a distraction from the great work that LACFA does."

"I love this organization too much to let that happen," Henwood said. "Accelerating a change in leadership will allow LACFA to refocus on its important role in the community."

Ortiz, an LACFA Board member since 2003 and Board Chairman since 2014, served as President of Cal Poly University Pomona from 2003 to 2014.

In 2005, he was listed as one of the top 100 most influential Hispanics in "Hispanic Business" magazine. In 2008, "Latino" magazine named him as one of the Top 25 Latinos in Education.

"I am honored to step into the role of interim CEO during this time of transition," Ortiz said. "With Board support, I want to help the organization maximize our current programs and resources."

The Board hired Henwood in

Roundtable...from pg. 10

local heritage with our youth." "Pomona has been good to me

and I want to reciprocate," he said. Scholarship winners

This year's Roundtable Social Justice Scholarships went to students who were honored for using their lives in service to others.

Winners were Susan Lucas of Pomona High School, Carlos Yanez of the University of La Verne, and three students from Mt. San Antonio College – Alejandro Xipecoatl Juarez, Karen Barhena and Fabian Pavon. 1995 to grow the L.A. County Fair and the organization, improving its services to the Southern California region and local communities.

"Fairplex was poised to launch into year-round activities then," said long-time Board member Steve Morgan. "The grounds and surrounding area needed significant capital improvements to operate year-round."

Morgan said the fair association had unused land and, except for the weeks the fair was running, was not doing as much with the local community or helping the local economy as it does today.

"As an expert in hospitality and guest experience, Jim Henwood brought the knowledge we needed to move into the future and enhance the Fair event for an evolving, diverse Southern California market," Morgan added.

Henwood's focus on guest experience and his philosophy on the importance of brand improved the guest experience at the L.A. County Fair event and dimensionally repositioned Fairplex as a significant destination in Southern California, according to a Fairplex news release.

During his tenure, Henwood built the Fairplex Conference Center, renovated the hotel, built a five-acre urban farm, strengthened relationships with surrounding communities and grew a year-round event business.

He also launched The Learning Centers which today serve more than 150,000 students each year in areas ranging from agricultural awareness to hospitality industry training and more.



HEART-HEALTHY COOKING! -- A demonstration of a heart-healthy version of fried rice was included as part of the program at this year's ninth annual "Power of Red" dinner hosted by the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation in support of the Stead Heart for Women Program and celebrating the Chinese New Year. Pictured, from left, are Dr. Guangqiang Gao, a cardio-thoracic surgeon at the hospital's Stead Heart & Vascular Center; Chef Henry Gonzalez, of Spaggi's Restaurant in Upland; and Dr. Sarika Jain, also a cardio-thoracic surgeon and director of the Stead Heart & Vascular Center. The two surgeons served as "sous chefs" or assistant chefs for the evening's activities this month at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Hotel. The event helps raise awareness about heart disease in women and support for the Stead Heart for Women Program, all in support of the American Heart Association's "Go Red for Women" campaign.

Strawberry Festival returns to Cal Poly

Strawberries, tractors and classic cars will fill the fields near the Farm Store at Cal Poly University Pomona once again next month for the 10th annual Strawberry Festival and Tractor & Car Show.

The festival and show will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 7.

Visitors of all ages will be able to pick fresh strawberries and vegetables straight from the fields at the AGRIscapes Center near the Farm Store.

New features this year are historical displays and exhibits of the region's rich agricultural past in an era when citrus was king and the entire Cal Poly campus was an Arabian horse ranch owned by cereal magnate W.K. Kellogg.

A petting zoo and face painting will be available for the kids, along with vendors and live musical performances.

"It's a great activity for the whole family," said AGRIscapes Director Craig Walters. "We invite the community to come out and enjoy a fun time together."

Admission to the event, presented by Cal Poly's College of Agriculture, is free but parking is \$4 and is available in nearby university parking lots.

For information on registering a ve-

hicle for the tractor and car show, visit www.greenleafevents.net. For more information on the festival, visit www.strawberryfestival.cpp.edu.

The Farm Store is located at 4102 S. University Drive (near Temple Avenue), Pomona.

Pomona Unified wins \$1.14 million state grant for career training

Pomona Unified School District has won a preliminary \$1.14 million grant from the California Board of Education for the development of its Regional Occupational Program (ROP) and the Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, bolstering opportunities for students to explore such careers as social services, law and public policy, and

business management. The state board last month approved \$245 million for the Career Technical Education Incentive Grants to 265 applicants that integrate academics with career technical and professional training, connect employers with schools, and prepare students for jobs in high-demand fields. kind in the nation.

According to a news release, Pomona Unified operates in partnership with San Antonio ROP, which offers courses in business and marketing, health science, hospitality, education, public services, energy and utilities and the arts.

Courses primarily serve high school students ages 16 and older, as well as non-students ages 16 through 22 and adults.

Students in the program can earn credit toward graduation requirements, as well as college credit or advanced placement from local community colleges.

The grand funding will be used to enhance existing programs and develop additional pathways.

It is the largest grant program of its

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ST. LUKE UNIVERSITY TO HOST ON-SITE EVALUATION TEAM VISIT

St. Luke University will host a Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS) on-site Evaluation Team on **May 2-5, 2016** for the purpose of evaluating the institution for **Candidacy** status.

Third party comments are invited and may be addressed to: TRACS, 15935 Forest Road, Forest, VA 24551.

TRACS is approved by the U.S. Department of Education as a nationally recognized institutional accrediting agency and appears on the DOE Secretary's List of Approved Accrediting Agencies, which is provided in the Higher Education Directory. TRACS is also recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).



Innovation Brew Works at Cal Poly celebrates first anniversary, looks ahead to the future

Innovation Brew Works at Cal Poly University Pomona celebrated its one-year anniversary this month with an event that attracted about 800 people and spilled out onto the sidewalk and into the parking lot – and the award-winning "learn by doing" laboratory is already looking ahead to trying different types of beers and even growing its distribution.

Aaron Neilson, dining services director for the Cal Poly Pomona Foundation, who headed the effort to build the brewery, looked back on its first year of operation.

"It's fantastic just to get this far but there are so many plans to continue to do cool stuff in partnership with the (Cal Poly) College of Agriculture," Neilson said. "We're going to grow hops."

He said the College of Agriculture is going to grow a special hop for the brewery "so that we have a Cal Poly specific hop for our beer," along with Cal Poly-grown barley.

In addition, plans call for creating a Cal Poly yeast so that all three ingredients will be created by students at the university.

And, of course, the spent grain goes back to feed the Cal Poly cows. "We've got it dialed now, we're

really getting in the rhythm of

changing out our beers, and trying different things," he said. "We're looking at growing our distribution."

Today, the brewery distributes to the Cal Poly Farm Store and the Collins College of Hospitality Management, and the brewery is one of four craft brews on tap at Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario.

The beer is also in several smaller restaurants locally including Finish Line at Pomona's Fairplex.

"We really want to get into bottled distribution where they just bring a truck here, they load it up with beer and off it goes," Neilson said.

And the various beers themselves are creative in name, appearance and taste – from "Bronco Brown" (named after the Cal Poly Broncos) to Ortiz Orange Witbier (named after former Cal Poly President Mike Ortiz) and to Storey's Stout (named after Cal Poly Foundation Executive Director Paul Storey).

The anniversary observance – which featured everything from live music to raffles to craft beers and more – also happened to come on a "brew day" in which students were "giving birth" to their beer in tippy dumps before setting it aside for a week or two of brewing and fermenting.

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THE STAFF AT INNOVATION BREW WORKS -- Team members pause for a La Nueva Voz photo during this month's one-year anniversary of Innovation Brew Works at Cal Poly University Pomona, an award-winning "learn by doing" laboratory on campus in Cal Poly's Innovation Village. Pictured, from left, are Jim Bulgatz, Jessica Ibarra, Anthony Monsaivais, Manager Rosa Morales, Assistant Director of Dining Services Sandy Cain of the Cal Poly Pomona Foundation, Nicole Klepach, Dining Services Director Aaron Neilson of the Cal Poly Pomona Foundation, who headed up the construction of the brewery, and Trey Miller.

The four 15-gallon tippy dumps provide the laboratory for up to 16 students, while the larger 100 gallon versions – "the real brew house" – are where the commercial beer is brewed.

And the actual classroom is just across a glass window from the brewery.

The brewery has won numerous prestigious awards nationwide and has been featured in more than 300 national and international news media sources.

It is the first genuine educational brewery-restaurant on a college campus that is open to the public.

A full menu includes a wide variety of custom-made pizzas and sandwiches.

Innovation Brew Works is located in Innovation Village on the Cal Poly campus at 3650 W. Temple Ave., Pomona. For more information, call (909) 979-6197.

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



'GIVING BIRTH TO THE BEER' -- Yes, we know. Finally, a story that gets your attention. As it should. Pictured (front right) is instructor Aaron Johnson helping students "give birth to the beer" at Cal Poly University Pomona's Innovation Brew Works, pouring it out of a "tippy dump" so it can brew and ferment for a couple of weeks. Pictured with Johnson are students Leonard Diaz of El Monte, at left, and Abel Cano of Los Angeles, at right rear. Johnson said the beer came out "better than expected."

Beethovan's Fifth to be performed by Claremont Symphony

Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, one of the best known compositions in classical music and one of the most frequently played symphonies, and Beethoven's Fifth Piano Concerto will be presented by the Claremont Symphony Orchestra on Sunday, May 1, at Bridges Hall of Music on the Pomona College campus in Claremont.

The free concert is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Sunday at "Little Bridges," located at 150 E. 4th St., Claremont. While admission is free, donations

of \$5 or more are appreciated.

Seating is open with no reservations.

For more information, visit the web site at www.claremontso.org or call (909) 596-5979.

10th annual Pomona Beautification Day attracts nearly 2,000 volunteers!



PLANTING TIME IN GANESHA PARK -- Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin, center, places a potted plant in the Ganesha Park cleanup project during this year's 10th annual Pomona Beautification Day. About 150 volunteers worked at Ganesha Park alone taking care of planting, painting, clearing trash from the trails, painting the bandshell and painting the fence at the swimming pool.



PAINTING THE FENCE -- About 25 students from Pomona's Village Academy High School and another 40 volunteers from Cal Poly University Pomona painted the fence around Pomona's Ganesha Park Pool on Beautification Day this month.



YOU'RE NEVER TOO YOUNG IN POMONA! -- New La Nueva Voz friend Sofia Pizano, 3, of La Verne, takes care of a little touch-up with the paint roller at the Ganesha Park bandshell on Pomona Beautification Day. Her mom, Guadalupe Pizano, said she grew up in Pomona and lives just a few blocks outside the city.



BEAUTIFYING THE BANDSHELL -- A group of hard-working volunteers take a break from their annual painting of the bandshell at Pomona's Ganesha Park during this month's 10th annual Pomona Beautification Day. Organizers of the citywide cleanup project said nearly 2,000 volunteers participated in this year's activities at some 55 clean-up project locations throughout the city. Pictured among the volunteers are La Nueva Voz friends Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin, back row, center, and Pomona Catholic Principal Sam Torres, front row, at right.



ORGANIZING COMMITTEE MEMBERS THANK THE VOLUNTEERS -- Pastor Rick DeBruyne of Pomona's Lincoln Avenue Community Church, at left, and Nancy Matarrita, of Pomona's Purpose Church, at far right, cochairs of the Pomona Beautification Day committee, wrap it all up in Shaun Diamond Plaza in Downtown Pomona during a lunch and celebration -- and even a 10th anniversary Beautification Day cake -- at the end of the morning's volunteer clean-up. Not pictured is Shanell Fuquay, of Fairplex, also co-chair this year, who was working on the other side of the plaza when this photo was taken.



an House Ruth In the Ruth

Volunteers in the House of Ruth remodeling project pose for La Nueva Voz in the front yard after completing most of the work. The gazebo, at rear, was one of the new additions. Pictured, at rear, center, is Sue Aebischer, executive director of House of Ruth, and, at far right, Pat Bell, Director of Development for House of Ruth. House of Ruth is dedicated to increasing the safety and well-being of women and children victimized by domestic violence.

House of Ruth Executive Director Sue Aebischer is pictured in the lobby of House of Ruth next to a new plexiglass wall mural created by volunteers in a recent makeover conveying the message of the domestic violence agency to its clients. "This has been an awesome project and process," Aebischer said, adding that all of the volunteers were very dedicated and professional. She said the project transformed the agency into a "warm and welcoming environment for our clients."



FINISHING TOUCHES AT HOUSE OF RUTH -- Volunteers from Home Depot stores in Pomona, Chino and Rancho Cucamonga install new cabinets this month in the kitchen at Pomona's House of Ruth. About 40 volunteers -- 10 from House of Ruth and the rest from Home Depot -- spent a full week working on a facelift valued at nearly \$40,000 including painting, laying flagstone, installing new blinds and installing the kitchen cabinets. Actual supplies were made possible through a Home Depot Foundation grant. Pictured, from left, are Adrian Reynoso, George Estrada and Craig Timentel, all of the Rancho Cucamonga Home Depot store.

Kellogg West Conference Center completes upgrade of hotel guest rooms, marking end of four-year makeover

parking lot.

Kellogg West Conference Center & Hotel on top of the hill on the Cal Poly University Pomona campus has completed a \$1.6 million renovation of all 85 guest rooms in a project that took nearly six months to complete.

The improvements made it possible for the hotel to provide on- and off-campus guests with modernized features and a higher level of comfort at an affordable rate, according to hotel officials.

Conference center director Cameron Edmonds, who joined the Kellogg West team 10 years ago as assistant director and has served as

director for the past seven years, said he came from a background with Westin and Hilton hotel properties.

"One of the things that has amazed me is the level of service that we give to our guests from our employees," Edmonds said. "The quality and level of guest services they get is as good as any Hilton or any Westin out there."

And, he said, his employees are about 70 percent students and for many of them working at the hotel is their first job, some from the Collins College of Hospitality Management at Cal Poly, located just across the That makes those jobs a good fit for Cal Poly's "learn by doing" philosophy.

"We have friendliness and efficiency," Edmonds said. "They start in these jobs and they just blossom."

He added that when he took the reins seven years ago, he started working on profitability in a number of areas including cutting down on staff to the basics in a "lean and mean" approach.

Even so, he said the level of guest services remained "just as good if not better" – "guest services never ever suffered, sales never

suffered."

After two years, he said, profitability began to increase and has continued to increase a little more each year.

A comprehensive makeover got under way four years ago. Three years ago, the interior of the conference center itself was renovated.

"It was time to remodel and upgrade," Edmonds said. "The new rooms are modern, clean and very



Pictured is one of the remodeled guest rooms at Cal Poly's Kellogg West after the recent completion of a \$1.6 million renovation project.



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A NEWLY RENOVATED KELLOGG WEST CONFERENCE CENTER & HOTEL -- Cameron Edmonds, director of the Kellogg West Conference Center & Hotel at the top of the Cal Poly University Pomona campus, checks in on the hotel's front desk team following a recert \$1.6 million renovation of all 85 guest rooms in the hotel. Pictured, from left, are front desk supervisor Kristal Garcia, a junior in Cal Poly's Collins College of Hospitality Management, Jeanette Paredez, accounting specialist, and Edmonds.

comfortable with warm colors and great lighting."

Included in the project was updated furniture, artwork, carpet, headboards, bedding and linens, lighting, mirrors and curtains.

And new iHome clock radios and USB ports and iPad and iPhone charging docks were installed next to the beds.

The bathrooms were updated with new countertops, flooring and fix-tures.

Today, after investing a total of \$3.2 million over the past four years, Edmonds said guests are noticing the difference.

"We're where we want to be," he said. "We're better off than we've been in a long time."

And that is important, Edmonds said, because "if you don't keep up, you're going to get left behind" in areas of product, service and technology.

The conference center is operated by Cal Poly Pomona Foundation, Inc., which operates several entities on campus.

And while funds for the renovation came out of the foundation budget, the profits go right back to the foundation. "It all goes back to the students," Edmonds said.

Then how is business after all of these upgrades?

Edmonds said the hotel was sold out the weekend before the interview for this story because of the Mt. SAC Relays right down the street.

"We're sold out for next year already, the same weekend," he added.

And while bookings in the restaurant and banquet facility are increasing as well, it is important to see an upward trend in guest room bookings, he said.

"The money is in the rooms," he said. "Anybody who is a hotelier will tell you the profit margin is in the rooms."

"Even with all the new competition in the area and all the remodeling and the well known brand names and everything else, our lodging has stayed at the same level as it ever was before and it gradually increases every year," Edmonds said.

Ready to book a room for a relaxing weekend for the family or for out of town guests? Or ready for some numbers on booking your organization's next gala? Contact the conference center at (909) 869-2263 or visit the web site at www.kelloggwest.org.

Pomona Valley Hospital Foundation to host 12th annual wine tasting

The Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation and Liquorama Fine Wines & Spirits will hold the 12th annual wine tasting event next month with all proceeds to support the hospital's neonatal intensive care and pediatrics unit.

The wine tasting, billed as the premier wine tasting in the region, will be held from 6 to 11 p.m. Friday, May 6, at Pomona's Fairplex Conference Center.

Guests will enjoy an evening of

wine tasting, hors d'oeuvres, silent and live auctions and music by "Them Kool Kats."

John Solomon, wine expert and owner of Liquorama, has selected more than 230 fine wines and food pairings for the event.

Tickets are \$125, dress is business casual and complimentary valet parking is available.

To register, visit www.pvhmc.org/#Event_Registrations.

Pomona Chamber 'Legislative Luncheon' speakers cover everything from changes in elections to assurances of strong cash position in Sacramento - with no new recession!

California Secretary of State Alex Padilla told 240 business owners and community members at last week's annual Pomona Chamber of Commerce Legislative Luncheon that he believes Senate Bill 450, which he sponsored, will help increase voter turnout in California elections by getting ballots in the hands of everybody ahead of the election – whether they request them or not.

The measure would provide ballots 30 days before Election Day, provide 10 days of in-person early voting, and provide same-day voter registration at vote centers around the state.

He said it is a follow-up to last year's major policy proposal which would institute, beginning next year, automatic voter registration in California through the state Department of Motor Vehicles.

The idea is to make voting more convenient and easier.

"Because if the turnout in November of 2014 is any indicator, we have a lot of work to do," he said. "Only 42 percent of registered voters turned out to vote that year."

He said the concept is already in effect in other states such as Colorado, where the cost of elections has gone down and voter turnout has increased.

State controller says California is in good fiscal shape with no new recession expected

State Controller Betty Yee returned to the chamber's legislative event for the second consecutive year to report that California "fiscally speaking is actually in very good shape."

"Our cash position is strong," she added. "We have really a lot to thank the governor and our legislature for really extending a lot of fiscal discipline in these last years."

"We've... been able to deal with some of our debts that we've been holding on the books for several years and I'm just pleased to say that for the first time since 2007 as your CFO I do not have to do any external borrowing to pay all of the bills for the State of California," Yee said.

In addition, she said California is seeing some slowing in some sectors of the economy.

"We are well beyond the five-year average period of time after a downturn with respect to seeing a slowing of the economy," Yee said. "We're six and a half years into the recovery so we expect a downturn, we do not expect another recession."

She added that a lot of that "has to do with the work that each and every one of you are doing here in this room ... just getting out ahead of some of the needs and demands of this region."

This work, she said, can help assure that the region plans for future opportunities and, while understanding there will be another downturn at some point, "that the risks are going to be frankly managed and we're going to do it well."

She also said the Inland Empire region has been the subject of many of the audits of her office into what has been happening to public tax dollars. She said since she took office in January 2015, her audit team has uncovered \$2.5 billion in public funds that have been going toward uses that are not allowed under the law.

"We need to shore up our financial managers and leadership both at the state and local government to be sure

that we can handle those public dollars well," she said. Congresswoman

Torres on her 'Jobs Act'

Congresswoman Norma Torres responded to a question about her "JOBS (Job Opportunities between Our Shores) Act," H.R. 2601, that, she said, came out of an idea in the Inland Empire at a steel mill in Fontana

The problem, she said, was finding qualified employees to

work in the mill after investing \$120 million on a new plant.

The company worked with local colleges to create a job training program that would begin to fill the jobs pipeline.

She said the bill making this possible on a national scale that would benefit dislocated workers by promoting advanced manufacturing in growing industries and providing training and skills to move into new jobs has already moved out of the U.S. House of Representatives and is being considered in the Senate in Washington, D.C.

"We are very hopeful that we'll get that to our President's desk and get that bill signed," Torres said.

State Sen. Leyva on safety standards for indoor workers

State Sen. Connie Leyva, asked about Senate Bill 1167 which she introduced, said the measure would pro-



SETTING THE STAGE -- Moderator Bob Cruz of Southern California Gas Co. sets the stage for last week's annual Pomona Chamber of Commerce Legislative Luncheon. Pictured, from left, are Cruz, Conresswoman Norma Torres. California Secretary of State Alex Padilla. State Controller Betty Yee, State Sen. Connie Leyva and Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez. Some 240 guests attended the sold-out event at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel.

> tect indoor workers in the same way as outdoor workers already covered by high heat standards - employees including agricultural workers and landscaping workers.

She said when she ran for office, her big issue was jobs.

"A good job fixes a lot of what ails us in society," Leyva said, adding that SB 1167 is actually one of three bills she has introduced this year that will help workers in some of the jobs already out there.

"Part of my vision is not only creating jobs but it's fixing some of the jobs that we have here," Leyva said.

She explained she was shocked to learn work sites like warehouses, which are located throughout the Inland Empire, are not subject to indoor standards as outdoor work sites are.

"(The warehouses) get incredibly warm in the summers here in the Inland



Chair Cyndie O'Brien of Pomona's Inter Vallev Health Plan wraps it all up after last ek's annual Legislative Luncheon.

Empire and many of them don't have proper ventilation," she said.

Her bill would create a standard that would also be helpful to business since many employers are trying to do the right thing and would prefer avoiding hospitalizations from heat exhaustion or even lawsuits.

"If you're an employer, you need your workforce to be healthy and able to work or your business doesn't thrive," she said.

Assemblymember Rodriguez on identity theft protections

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez was asked about a bill he introduced that would help protect consumers from identity theft by prohibiting the consumer credit card reporting agencies from charging a fee to place a security freeze on credit accounts.

Rodriguez said the idea for the bill was brought to him by a resident in the City of Chino who brought the issue up at a community forum.

"There is an issue with this," Rodriguez said, adding that he is continuing to work on it.

He said there are some privacy issues that are holding the measure up in committee but he is trying to work those out

"Hopefully, I can resolve those issues and can move them forward," he said. "It is an issue here in this community and the fact that it came from a resident here in the district who felt it was needed," Rodriguez said.



THEIR FA-VORITE BOOK --Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, reading to the children at Ranch Hills Elementary School. asked Lily Ms. Ly's kindergarten and first grade class what their favorite Dr. Seuss book was and they told her -- "Thidwick, the Big-Hearted Moose "



(Who knew? That's always been a favorite of La Nueva Voz, as well! In fact, we're pretty sure we have it on a Kindle somewhere.) So, always one to play to the crowd, she read them the book originally published in 1948 -- all 41 pages!

 Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman reads "Green Eggs and Ham" by Dr. Seuss to the fourth grade class of teacher Martinez Ranch Hills Elementary School as part of "Read Across America." And true to form, the Mayo aot into the role exhibiting a little animation and going for audience participation But that should be expected he said it was his favorite Dr. Seuss book

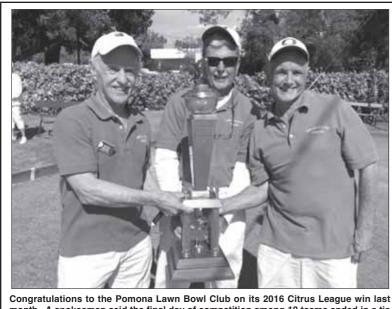
ROTHMAN



Ranch got into the reading act last month as part of the National Education Association's "Read Across America," an annual reading motivation and awareness program that calls for every child in every community to celebrate reading on March 2, the birthday of children's author Dr. Seuss Pictured with the Mayor, the school principal, the PTA President and others are members of the school's student council gathered in the school library. (Those student council folks were very helpful, by the way, getting "outsiders" from one place to another inside the school.) That's PTA President Lt. Alicia Malone, of the Lakewood Sheriff's Station, at left rear, standing next to Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, wearing the "Cat in the Hat" hat. School principal Robin Schary is pictured back row, second from right



Members of seventh and eighth graders, get cranked up to perform at Pomona Pony Baseball's family day in Palomares Park. La Nueva Voz learned the name of the band was based on the name of one of their members who, apparently, is often late. (Sorry, Justin!)



month. A spokesman said the final day of competition among 10 teams ended in a tie with Redlands and Pomona's win was determined in a play-off. Pictured with their trophy are, from left, Mitch Woods, Don Russell and Kelly Warren. Pomona now can enter two teams in the Waterbury All-League Championship competition which will be held at Laguna Woods Lawn Bowl Club in October. An open house celebrating the victory will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 30, at the club , located at 451 E. Arrow Highway, Pomona, in the Palomares Park complex. Visitors and those interested in learning more about the sport are encouraged to attend.



popular activities at this year's Pomona Pony Baseball's family day in Palomares



Baseball's family day in Palomares Park last month.



THE WEEKEND GARDENER By Leif Green **Rogue Seeds.** Fascinating!

"A life is like a garden. Perfect moments can be had, but not preserved, except in memory. LLAP." (Live Long and Prosper) – Leonard Nimoy (1935 – 2015), his last words to his fans in the form of a tweet.

So I'm a Star Trek fan and I write a garden column; what more could women want?

Spring is here which means if you haven't already planted your garden, it's time to get started. Occasionally when planting a garden, a seed will accidentally fall in another row or fall outside the garden bounds. In the past when such a

rogue seed germinates, I pulled it out to maintain a neat and orderly appearance.

Last year a carrot seed and a basil seed fell outside the bounds of my garden. Instead of pulling them out, I let them grow through their natural cy-

cles. Of course they went to seed, but the results have been quite surprising. About a month ago, carrots and basil began coming up in cultivated and uncultivated parts of the garden. Although they are coming up in a scattered pattern and not the typical parallel rows found in a garden, there was no effort in getting these plants established. In addition, they are also coming up in previously unused areas.

This may change my entire approach to gardening. Before lifting a finger, the carrots and basil are already established. This year I'm planting a couple varieties of onions, bell peppers and dill. While

the new vegetables introduced to the garden will be planted using traditional protocols, a few of the seeds will be intentionally planted outside the established boundaries. They will be fed and irrigated as with the traditional garden, but

will not receive any additional special care. At the end of the growing season, one or two of these plants will be allowed to continue their cycle through the rest of the year and not be cleared out as had been past gardening practice.

The benefits here should be ap-

parent. Difficult work such as soil preparation can be greatly reduced or avoided altogether. Neat rows and organization will disappear in exchange for much easier care and maintenance. Those portions of the garden where this process has been started already look more natural and have a certain beauty of their own. Next year it's possible a full garden with a variety of vegetables could come up on its own; one can only hope. It's going to be an interesting year in the garden to see how this develops.

By the way, I am also a fan of Star Trek, TNG (The Next Generation) and ladies, I've already instructed this paper to keep my contact information confidential.

Editor's Note: Leif Green, the author's pen name, grew up in Pomona and graduated from Cal Poly University Pomona with a master's degree in biology. Gardening has always been his hobby and his column is presented as a public service.

Lorraine Canales, of Pomona's Village Academy High School, at left, poses with Joaquin Rodriguez, organizer of Pomona Pony Baseball and the Easter Bunny (played by Bella Lopez, an 11th grader at Pomona's Village Academy) at this year's league family day in Palomares Park. Face painting at the event was provided by students from Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise



The Collins College of Hospitality Management at Cal Poly University Pomona traveled back in time to 1950s Havana, Cuba, for the theme of its recent annual gala fundraiser "Hospitality Uncorked," which raised more than \$490,000 to support the California's premier hospitality management program. The event attracted more than 600 guests to the JW Marriott Los Angeles LA Live

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Leif Green

Memorial services set for James Bell, first African American dean at Cal Poly Pomona

Memorial services will be held Saturday for James Bell, who arrived at Cal Poly University Pomona in 1968 and became the first African American to hold a dean's and vice president's position in the Cal State University system. Bell died last month at the age of 90.

Bell, who in 1971 also was the first African American elected to the board of the Pomona Unified School District, served as Cal Poly's dean of the School of Arts (now the College of Letters, Arts & Social Sciences) and as vice president for administration and student affairs. He retired in 1989.

A celebration of Bell's life is scheduled for 1 to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 30, at the Kellogg West Conference Center, 3801 W. Temple Ave., parking in Lot L, on the Cal Poly campus. It is open to the public.

"He was very kind, very sweet, thoughtful, meticulous in detail, really fair-minded," said his daughter, Elena Bell, who was a student on campus during her father's tenure. "All the students loved him. He was

there to help. He served as the bridge between the students and the upper faculty."

In teaching positions at historically black colleges during the late 1950s and 1960s in the South, Bell faced his share of segregation and racism in the middle of the fight for civil rights.

But at Cal Poly and in the Cal State University system, he championed diversity and sought to shatter racial divides.

His outreach initiatives were instrumental in boosting the enrollment of African American students and, in more recent years, Cal Poly consistently has been lauded as one of the most diverse campuses in the country.

"Diversity was huge for him," his daughter said.

"There was outreach, but he also wanted to make sure that there were supportive programs."

"Getting African American students there was one thing," she added. "Keeping them there was another thing. He made sure they had supportive services on campus."

Bell and George Jenkins, a social sciences professor, were the only black faculty members when they started on campus in the late 1960s, according to Jenkins daughter, Lorraine Jenkins Jones, who has been a staff member at the university since 1975.

A native of New Jersey, Bell graduated from high school during World War II and, along with his brothers, joined the military. Bell served in the U.S. Marine Corps in the Pacific Theater and was honorably discharged with the rank of ser-

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James Bell

geant in 1946.

He married Edna Greene in September 1948 and attended Lincoln University on the G.I. Bill, graduating in 1952.

He earned his master's degree and a doctorate in health, physical education and recreation at Columbia University. Bell received a President's Scholarship and was a Danforth Fellow while at Columbia.

He began his teaching career in the South at colleges and universities in South Carolina, Louisiana and Virginia until he was recruited to come to Cal Poly.

Bell's career at Cal Poly started in 1968 as a professor in health, physical education and recreation. He also served as director of black studies and as special assistant to the vice president for academic affairs.

In 1987, Bell was named acting president during the six-month sabbatical of then-President Hugh O. La Bounty.

"His acceptance of people was his best quality, his inclusiveness," said Sonia Blackman, a psychology professor emeritus who retired in 1999. "When he was acting president, he invited people who would never otherwise be invited to the president's lunch room. If you were a custodian, he knew your name."

The James Bell Internship in Student Affairs, which allowed students to learn about the inner workings of the Division of Student Affairs, was established at Cal Poly in his honor in 1994.

And in 2003, Bell received the Diversity Leadership Award, an acknowledgement of his contributions to the university.

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Are you tired of being sent to short term assignments? Are you seeking a long term assignment with stability? Do you enjoy working in a fast-paced environment? Are you able to work weekends, overtime and holidays?

Our client has openings for 2 Distribution Centers which are located in Chino/Fontana.

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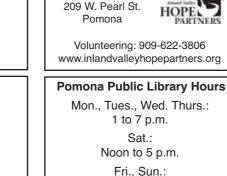
Organizers of this year's car show at Pomona Catholic prepare the trophies for the awards presentation

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



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- **Incorporating & Corporate**
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Foothill AIDS Project launches HIV education and prevention campaign on Twitter

Foothill AIDS Project has

with tweets offering facts about launched a new HIV education and AIDS, important HIV prevention prevention campaign on Twitter, tips, links to news and videos and

Pomona police schedule open house

The Pomona Police Depart-Mission Blvd., Pomona.

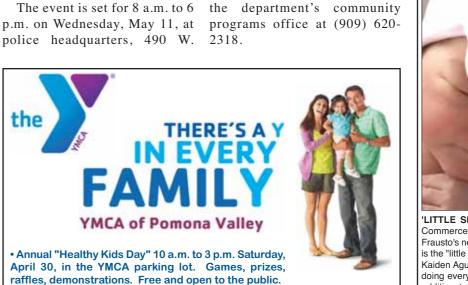
ment will hold its annual open house next month during National Police Week offering station tours, K-9 demonstrations, police vehicles, equipment, the police helicopter and more.

police headquarters, 490 W.

the

This year's open house will honor fallen Pomona Police Officer Daniel T. Fraembs, whose "end of watch" was May 11, 1996

For more information, contact



• Halloween Run for Everyone -- 5k Monster Run and 1k Kids Fun Run. 7 a.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, Citizens Business Bank Arena, Ontario. Run in costumes. Registrations donated to the YMCA of Pomona Valley. Costume contests, prizes, vendors. Registration at active.com.

• Come in for a Visit! Bring in this ad for a Free Swim Pass (valid for two).

Now located at The Village @ Indian Hill 1460 E. Holt Ave, Suite 196, Pomona, CA 91767

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The Foothill AIDS Project serves people with HIV/AIDS living throughout the San Gabriel Valley, San Bernardino County and portions of western Riverside County.



'LITTLE SISTER' -- Pomona Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erica Frausto's new baby's hat tells the story -- she is the "little sister" and we're sure big brother Kaiden Aguado, 2, and dad Jon Aguado are doing everything they can to make the new addition to the family feel welcome. Ava Valentina was born last month. She weighed in at 6 pounds 10 ounces and was 17.9 inches long. Mom and baby are doing just fine! Congratulations to the entire family.

Lemon Festival returns to Upland

The annual Upland Lemon Festival will be held this weekend in downtown Upland featuring "everything lemony" - from food to contests to entertainment and a look into the past at the city's citrus history.

Included in the three-day event from Friday, April 29 to Sunday, May 1 will be lemon pie-eating contests, attractions, entertainment, arts and crafts vendors, a carnival and a "Lemon Idol" singing competition, in which juniors and teens compete on Friday and adults on Saturday.

The Citrus Blues Festival is set for 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday.

The event is produced by The Learning Centers at Fairplex and proceeds will benefit designated non-profit organizations in Upland through The Learning Centers.

Admission is free and the event is perfect for all ages.

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





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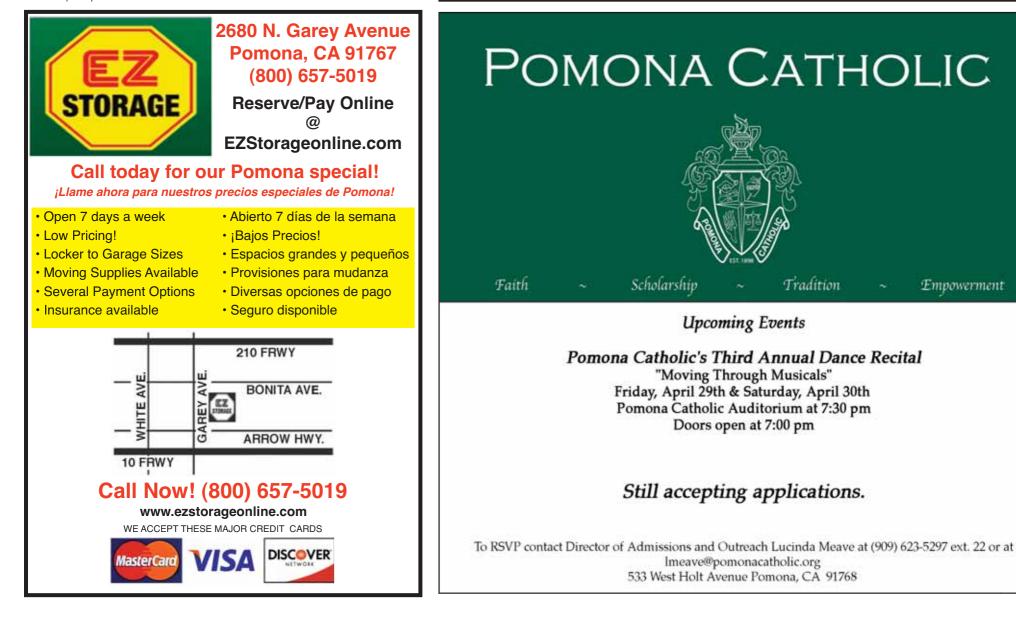
La Nueva Voz - Thursday, April 28, 2016 · 27



San Gabriel Paramedic Coordinator Antonio Negrete gives IPoly students a first hand look at an ambulance while discussing emergency medical technician and paramedic careers at the high school's sixth annual career day this month. Featured were professionals representing more than 20 industries including government, engineering, medical, technology, business and the arts. IPoly, located on the campus of Cal Poly University Pomona, is a specialized college preparatory public high school with a curriculum centering on projectbased learning. Concurrent college enrollment is encouraged. It is operated by the Los An-geles County Office of Education in partnership with Cal Poly.



POMONA BREAKFAST OPTIMIST CLUB WINNERS -- Pictured are winners of this month's Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club oratorical contest for all students up to age 18 who have not graduated from high school. At left is the "boys" winner, Erique Jenkins, a student at Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise. At right is the "girls" winner, Soraya Shafer, a student from Highland Park. The competition was held at Pomona's Village Academy High School. Congratulations to all who participated!



Soccer Tryouts for Girls Born in 2003!

¡Ensayos de Fútbol para Niñas que nacieron en el 2003!

- Tuesday, April 26
- Thursday, April 28
- Tuesday, May 3
- Thursday, May 5
- Martes, Mayo 3
 - Jueves, Mayo 5

Empowerment

• Martes, Abril 26

• Jueves, Abril 28

4:45 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Pioneer Junior High School, 245 W. 18th St., Upland

- We have four spots on a talented 03 Celtic team for dedicated soccer players.
- No uniform or registration fees!
- Monthly dues \$50 per month (Sponsors are available to help based on need.)
- Team offers a field trainer, a goalie trainer and a physical fitness trainer
- Players should come in full soccer gear with water
- This team has already won its league championship, quarterfinals in the State Cup and currently is in first place in its Spring League. The team anticipates playing at the Gold Level in the fall.
- Tenemos cuatro espacios disponibles en un equipo Céltico 03 para jugadores dedicados al deporte
- No hay costos de registro ni de uniforme!
- Cuotas mensuales solamente \$50 (patrocinadores disponibles para ayudar basado en la necesidad.)
- El equipo ofrece un entrenador de campo, un entrenador portero y entrenador de aptitud física
- Los jugadores deben llegar con todo su equipo de fútbol y su agua
- Este equipo ha ganado su campeonato de liga, los cuartos de finales en la Copa Estatal y actualmente anticipa competir a Nivel de oro en el otoño.

Contact with any questions/*Llame para preguntas:* Bill - 909-641-1307 • Samer - 626-833-8931 • Derek - 626-290-2774

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