



Happy Thanksgiving!

# La Nueva Voz

The New Voice, a Bilingual (English/Spanish) Publication



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www.lanuevavoz.net

## Pomona voters clean house!

Pomona voters went to the polls this month and, apparently in keeping with a national trend to tend to government a little differently, decided to start with a clean slate at the local level.

The result was a new mayor, two new city councilmembers defeating incumbent office-holders, and a third new city councilmember filling a city council seat that is being vacated.

Tim Sandoval, program director at Pomona's Bright Prospect, a non-profit college preparatory organization, defeated Pomona's incumbent Mayor Elliott Rothman with 61.52 percent of the vote – 15,936 to 9,967 votes.

Rothman has served as Pomona's mayor for the past eight years and served as a member of the city council for 12 years before that.

"I was excited by the results and thankful to the residents of Pomona for having the confidence in me to lead the city," Sandoval said in an e-mail in response to a request for comment from La Nueva Voz. "I am eager and ready to get started."

"As laid out in my 'First 100 Days Plan,' I will start by sitting down with our political, business, civic, and community leaders to discuss a range



Tim Sandoval  
Pomona Mayor-Elect

a graduate of Ganesha High School, received an undergraduate degree from Cal Poly University Pomona and a master's degree at Cal State University Fullerton.

He serves on nine different community boards and has worked in volunteer service for the past 19 years.

Gonzalez has taught students in the Pomona Unified School District and at Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise for the past 16 years.

Two other races were too close to call as La Nueva Voz went to press as the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder's office continued counting more than a million late absentee and provisional ballots.

As of press time, however, Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole came out on top – by a margin of only 20 votes over long-time councilmember Paula Lantz – in council district four. Cole had 38.19 percent of the vote, Lantz had 37.69 percent and Remington Allen Cordova had 24.12 percent.

The totals were Cole, 1,526; Lantz, 1,506; and Cordova, 964.

Cole, also a native of Pomona and a graduate of Garey High School, has served as a nurse for the Pomona Unified School District for 21 years.

Lantz has served on the council since 1991.

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## Ontario takes back airport from Los Angeles – after half a century

"Come fly with me, let's fly, let's fly away..."

And if your plans call for flying away, as the lyrics of Frank Sinatra say, out of Ontario, you'll now be flying away out of a locally owned airport – for the first time in a half a century.

The City of Los Angeles turned over the keys to Ontario this month in a ceremony in Terminal 4 at what now is called Ontario International Airport following six years of talks – and legal battles – between the two cities over efforts to



**SIGNING CEREMONY** -- Officials pose for the cameras during a signing ceremony at Ontario International Airport in which the City of Los Angeles officially turned over ownership of the local airport to the Ontario International Airport Authority. The City of Los Angeles has operated Ontario International for the past 50 years. Pictured, from left, are Ontario Mayor Paul Leon, holding the official "key" to the airport; Ontario International Airport Authority Board President Alan Wapner, also an Ontario City Councilmember; and U.S. Federal Aviation Administration Administrator Michael Huerta, with Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, at rear, looking over his shoulder.

Ontario airport... pg. 6

of pressing issues, including homelessness, and work to identify viable solutions," he said. "This will be the focus of my time and energy before being sworn in some time in December."

In a race to fill three seats on the city council, Rubio Ramiro Gonzalez came out on top in the first city council district with 56.90 percent of the vote. Ismael "Ish" Arias placed second with 24.04 percent and Hector "Tony" Quevedo came in third with 19.06 percent.

Gonzalez, a native of Pomona and



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**RIBBON CUTTING AT MELIA HOMES IN POMONA** -- Officials gathered last month to officially cut the ribbon at the grand opening of Melia Homes in Pomona, a development of 33 units at La Verne and Garey Avenues in Pomona. The development, known as "The Avenue by Melia Homes," includes 24 detached single-family residences and nine attached townhomes. Pictured in front of one of the model homes, from left, are Pomona Chamber of Commerce Board members Jim Dale, of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, and Nef Cortez, of Nationwide Cost Recovery Services; Pomona Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto; Melia Homes Executive Vice President Tim McSunas; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; Chamber Board member David McElwain, of the Los Angeles County Office of Education GAIN Division; Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin; Chamber Board member Renee Barbee, of La Nueva Voz; and Chamber Ambassadors Frank and Vita Gonzales of USA Fit Force Taekwondo.

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## Pomona Unified School District

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### Greetings PUSD Family and Community,

The recent election cycle brought about many changes. I heard from many of you over the past week and I know that the presidential election has been a lot to process. I want to reassure every single one of you that Pomona Unified School District will remain committed to all families in very much the same way we did prior to the election. I also want to let you know that the national political rhetoric will not affect the quality of service that we provide to our community. Despite the leadership changes, we remain steadfast in executing our strategic plan, aptly titled PUSD's "Promise of Excellence."

I want to state clearly that the recent presidential election does not threaten the immediate educational resources we provide here in our District. As an educational system, PUSD is in an even stronger position to meet the ever-growing needs of our great community. As a nation, we are all bound by a Constitution which guards against radical thoughts and actions among certain groups.

Our State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Torlakson put it best when he said, "In California, diversity is strength. Our students come from all kinds of backgrounds, cultures, languages, and religions, and they all come together to learn on their way to success in 21st century careers and college. California already has, and will always maintain, strong legal and state Constitutional protections against any and all kinds of discrimination, regardless of a student's race, ethnicity, faith, sexual orientation, or gender identity."

Keeping our students safe from discrimination or bullying remains a top priority here in PUSD. Our administrators, teachers and students are united in ensuring that our campuses are safe and that our respective communities express a shared value for diversity of thought, culture, faith, gender and race.

As we move ahead, I urge us to focus our attention on the bright spots. With your support, we have successfully passed Measure P, a \$300 million general obligation bond. Through Measure P, we aim to continue the great work we began years ago. We will continue enhancing facilities and increasing technological capabilities for the children within PUSD's service areas of Pomona, Phillips Ranch and a portion of Diamond Bar. As well, voters passed Prop 51, which will usher in additional dollars for facilities. Additionally, Prop 55 will maintain support provided under former legislation.

We have so much more to be thankful for, and our tangible benefits outweigh any looming doubts and concerns. I urge us all to look ahead to embrace change with confidence. We must work with our new leaders in a productive manner if they are to best represent our existing priorities. Our District will maintain its standard of excellence that has been established among our families, within our schools, and throughout our community.

I ask that you consistently remind your children, your students and your neighbors that we are the hope for which we have been searching. The answer to tomorrow's problem, to tomorrow's sophisticated job-demands, and the ability to heal tomorrow's looming apathy is already within us. Share your light and communicate this understanding to any and all during these uncertain times.

So while we are witnessing a change of the guard with a new president, a new mayor and new council members, you can trust that PUSD's team is still here and our focus remains solely on the success of children of our community. Take solace in knowing that our commitment has been tried and proven effective in past times of turbulence and uncertainty. The ultimate bright spot is that -- with your support -- we have remained focused on ensuring that we consistently meet and exceed the ever-present need to provide the children of Pomona Unified School District a competitive and rewarding education.

Join us in esteeming **#ProudToBePUSD** on all of your social media handles.

Sincerely,

Superintendent Richard Martinez



## Pomona voters clean house... from pg. 1

And in council district six, challenger Robert Torres came out on top – by only 79 votes – over one-term incumbent Debra Martin. Torres received 43.48 percent of the vote compared to Martin with 42.06 percent. A third challenger, George Okekenweje, received 14.46 percent of the vote.

The totals were 2,409 for Torres, 2,330 for Martin and 801 for Okekenweje.

Torres, a 30-year resident of Pomona and a product of Pomona schools, graduated from Cal Poly University Pomona with a degree in business administration. He serves as district director for Assemblymember

Freddie Rodriguez.

Pomona Unified School District's Measure P, enhancing facilities and increasing technological capabilities for students throughout the District, passed 76.62 percent to 23.38 percent.

In the race for one of Pomona's two representatives on Three Valleys Municipal Water District board (the other seat is up in another two years), challenger John Mendoza defeated incumbent Fred Lantz, who represents north Pomona on the water board. Mendoza received 51.51 percent of the vote while Lantz received 48.49 percent. Mendoza received a total of 7,280 votes, only 426 votes more than incumbent Lantz who had



**NO WAITING AT THE POLLS** -- Lines didn't seem to be that bad in Pomona on election day, at least right after lunch at this polling place in the Strategic Planning Room of Pomona Unified School District headquarters. Precinct workers told La Nueva Voz the longest line was when they opened the door at 7 a.m. and even then it was not out the door. They were ready, however, for an expected rush after 5 p.m. as voters got off work for the day.



Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole



Rubio Gonzalez

6,854.

And Measure M, a controversial half cent sales tax increase to fund transportation projects in Los Angeles County, was approved with 69.85 percent of the vote in favor. "No" votes were 30.15 percent of the total.

The measure, which is expected to extend the Foothill Gold Line from Azusa to Claremont over the next five to six years, required a two-thirds

vote, or 66.7 percent, to pass since it could begin as early as next year.

It will include a stop at a train station in North Pomona along the way.



Jose Calderon, president of the Latina/Latino Roundtable of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley, at right, introduces Pomona City Councilmember-elect Rubio Gonzalez during an election night celebration with supporters of Gonzalez and unsuccessful candidate Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin (pending final vote count and certification), at Pomona's Fairplex Finish Line Sports Grill. Gonzalez thanked his supporters, telling them "without you guys, we're nothing." Calderon, speaking moments after the polls closed in California, said he was still hopeful "everything turns out in the federal election. But we do know that regardless of what happens that the individuals we've supported here have always given to the community, their hearts are there, the community knows them, the kind of development, the kind of love for our young people in terms of the future, and that's really a vision for Pomona that doesn't want to leave it in the same place."



Robert Torres



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**OPEN HOUSE AT AMERICA'S JOB CENTER** -- State Sen. Connie Leyva was the guest speaker last month at an open house at Pomona's America's Job Center of California and Goodwill of Southern California. Leyva, who thanked administrators for "all the amazing work that they do in the community," gave an update of her year in Sacramento in which nine of the 10 bills "Team Leyva" sent to the governor were signed into law. America's Job Center, located at 264 E. Monterey Ave., Pomona, offers no-cost programs to help people find jobs -- along with education, training and support services -- from youth to veterans and even seniors, all through the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

## Open enrollment under way, continues through Jan. 31 for Covered California

Covered California launched its open enrollment for health coverage this month, offering changes to insurance products with reduced costs, 300 new storefronts making it easier for consumers to shop for coverage, and a primary care doctor for enrollees to ease access to care.

According to a Covered California news release, more than 92 percent of Californians who need health insurance will have three or more health plans to choose from and none will have fewer than two.

"California has built a robust marketplace where insurers are competing for consumers and where there is financial help to buy top-quality insurance," said Peter Lee, executive director of Covered California. "All consumers can choose from a variety of affordable health care options, with coverage that gives them the protection they need for whatever health issues come their way."

He said in 2017, most consumers will see a lower co-pay for their primary care visits, and urgent care costs in every plan will be the same as the primary care visit, helping consumers save up to \$55 per visit.

In addition, consumers in silver,

gold and platinum plans will pay a flat co-pay for emergency room visits in 2017 without having to satisfy a deductible, which could help them save thousands of dollars.

"We know health care is expensive, so we took steps to make sure consumers who do buy coverage get the care they need without having to first meet their full deductible," Lee said.

Consumers shopping for health coverage can get a wide variety of free support to learn about their options on line, by phone, at community events and at more than 800 Covered California storefronts statewide.

"Health care reform isn't just about making insurance available, it's about doing things to make it easier for consumers to get the right care at the right time," Lee said.

As many as 400,000 individuals are expected to enroll this year.

Since the exchange opened its doors in 2014, more than 2.8 million Californians have purchased health insurance through Covered California and the rate of the uninsured in the state has been cut in half.

Open enrollment continues through Jan. 31.

For more information about coverage options, visit coveredca.com or call (800) 300-1506.

Covered California, an independent part of the state government, is the state's marketplace for the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. In partnership with the California Department of Health Care Services, it helps individuals determine whether they are eligible for premium assistance that is available on a sliding-scale basis to reduce insurance costs or whether they are eligible for low-cost or no-cost Medi-Cal.

Small businesses also can purchase competitively priced health insurance plans and offer their employees the ability to choose from an array of plans in a program that may qualify for federal tax credits.

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## Ontario Airport... from pg. 1

make the transition.

Officials on hand for the ceremony included Michael Huerta, administrator of the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, who grew up in what is now the City of Jurupa Valley, along with U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti.

Even baseball legend Tommy Lasorda, who appeared in television ads supporting the transfer, was on hand. He thanked both mayors and said he'll be flying out of Ontario.

A host of issues were at stake, including a lack of flights in and out of Ontario, a perception that flights in and out of Ontario were more costly, and a perception that Los Angeles World Airports, operator of Los Angeles International Airport, just wasn't marketing the Ontario facility adequately – both to travelers and to prospective new airlines.

The City of Ontario handed off the airport to Los Angeles 50 years ago when, as officials pointed out this month, it was a different time and the economics of the Inland Empire were different.

Transferring the airport back, however, seems to work for both cities. The new operator of the airport, known as the Ontario International Airport Authority, can go to work on building up the airport to increase traffic and usefulness in the region.

And the City of Los Angeles will benefit from reduced traffic on freeways and at the airport as Inland Empire travelers begin shifting to the Ontario facility.

Under the new plan, the Ontario airport more accurately becomes a regional airport as the airport authority, created in August 2012 as a joint powers agreement, includes representatives from Riverside, San Bernardino and Orange counties as

well as the City of Ontario.

Ontario City Councilmembers directed their city manager to regain local control of the airport in December 2010.

The transfer process began in August 2015 with the announcement that Ontario and Los Angeles had agreed to settle litigation over the management of the Ontario airport.

Final approvals were obtained this year from the Los Angeles Board of Airport Commissioners, the Los Angeles City Council, the Ontario City Council, the Ontario International Airport Authority and the Federal Aviation Administration.

This month's action clears the way for litigation between the two cities to be dismissed in Riverside County Superior Court.

"And they said it wouldn't happen," said Ontario City Councilmember Alan Wapner, Board President of the airport authority in his opening remarks as master of ceremonies, adding that the facility is "your airport, our airport, Ontario International Airport."



Baseball Legend Tommy Lasorda



U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein



Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, at left, presents the key to the airport to Ontario City Councilmember Alan Wapner, Board President of the Ontario International Airport Authority.

### Started as a regional effort

"We started this out as a regional effort and boy did we get the help we needed, and we're going to continue to recognize the region," Wapner said.

Feinstein, who facilitated one of the first meetings between mayors of the two cities on the transfer, said she saw something happening at the transfer ceremony this month – "Los Angeles International Airport and Ontario coming together in a joint effort to see this airport prosper."

"And it is a very big deal, ladies and gentlemen," she added. "I think what is significant about this room are the number of people in public office who want to see this airport succeed."

"In a sense, it's a new beginning," she said, adding that the airport today includes 700 developable acres.

"I think all of us should put our shoulders to the wheel, sell this airport, bring other airlines in and show what Ontario, California, can do," Feinstein said.

Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti said leaders tend to forget that "power is sometimes what we are willing to give up."

"I hope the lesson that we all learn from today is first and foremost what a great thing it is when a region like the Inland Empire comes together, but also when an entire region like Southern California shows that we all have a mutual stake in our future, that those who live in Westchester around LAX

want to see less traffic at LAX and want to see Ontario succeed," Garcetti said.

He added that residents of Riverside, San Bernardino, Orange and Los Angeles counties want to come to the Ontario airport because it is quicker.

### Mayor Garcetti presents ceremonial key to airport

Garcetti presented a ceremonial key to the airport to Wapner, adding that "this is your airport – we intend to all use it together in a common future and a common destiny."

Huerta, who was on hand for the ceremonial signing of a resolution

between the Federal Aviation Administration and the Ontario International Airport Authority, told the audience that aviation represents about five percent of the nation's gross domestic product and accounts for about 12 million American jobs.

And in the Inland Empire, he said  
**Ontario airport... pg. 7**



Kelly Fredericks, CEO  
Ontario International Airport Authority



Michael Huerta, Administrator  
U.S. Federal Aviation Administration

## La Nueva Voz

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## Free orientation set next month for Pomona Chamber trip to China

The Pomona Chamber of Commerce will present a free orientation next month providing information on a nine-day "Discover China" trip the chamber is offering next year.

The trip, which is open to both chamber members and non-members, is scheduled for Oct. 12-20, 2017, and will include a fully escorted tour of Beijing, Suzhou, Hangzhou and Shanghai.

Cost is \$2,099 per person, based on two-person shared accommodation. Single occupancy is available for an additional charge of \$500.

The Pomona Chamber is partnering with Citilinc International Inc. for the trip, which will provide an introduction to the people, history, culture, commerce and daily life of China.

Highlights will include visits to the Forbidden City, Great Wall, Temple of Heaven, Palace Museum, Ming Tombs and more.

Opportunities also will be available to make business contacts in China.

The trip includes roundtrip international airfare, four- and five-star hotel accommodations, three meals a day, all tour fees, deluxe in-country transportation, experienced English-speaking tour guides and all taxes and airport fees.

The orientation will be held from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 7, at the chamber office, 101 W. Mission Blvd., Suite 222, Pomona.

For more information, contact the Pomona Chamber at (909) 622-1256.

## Ontario airport... from pg. 6

an airport is a "vital economic engine for a region."

"We've been through a few of these at the FAA and we know that this (transfer) is a process that can be

to maintain an airport that is publicly available to all users who want to use this airport."

He said the airport authority also would be required to comply with all



Baseball great Tommy Lasorda poses for a photo with Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz. (Hey, Tommy, she's half Italian!)

derailed at any point in the process," Huerta said, adding that the fact that it was not "speaks to the determination, drive and the commitment of everyone in this room."

"Ontario, you are now the dog that caught the car," he said. "As of today, the public record shows that the Ontario International Airport Authority owns and operates Ontario International Airport."

After a round of enthusiastic applause from the room, he added that "from this day on you have an important responsibility."

"Your job isn't just to grow the airport, your job is to maintain an airport that is safe, safe for the traveling public," he said. "Your job is

commercial airport regulations and to be "good stewards of this important asset for the region."

"And you have the opportunity to do something very special - to define the future of this region," he added.

Huerta said the region has had impressive economic growth adding 200,000 new jobs over the past five years with another 50,000 new jobs expected this year.

He said much of this growth reflects the region's traditional strengths and logistics but also represents growth in healthcare, manufacturing and other businesses.

"This is important because a strong business base that you have here in this region translates to strong business demand for air transportation services," Huerta said, adding that "economic growth for the region means that people want to go on vacation and that's more demand for leisure travelers as well."

The audience of several hundred at the transfer ceremony included representatives of airlines, area city councilmembers, assemblymembers, state senators, members of Congress and others.



POMONA OPTIMIST CLUB NAMES 'STUDENT OF THE MONTH' -- Kenadi Williams, a 6th grader and president of the student council at Pomona's La Verne Science and Technology Charter School, was named student of the month for November this month during the club's student of the month dinner meeting at Mr. D's Diner in Pomona. Pictured, from left, are teacher Mrs. Claudette Pantney, Kenadi's teacher last year; her sixth grade teacher Joy Bryson; Principal Dolores Lobaina; Kenadi; Optimist President Mark Drury of O'Donovan's Restaurant and Pub in Pomona; Vice President Lorraine Canales of Pomona's Village Academy High School; and Past President M. Joyce Bakersmith.

## Cal Poly's College of Agriculture launches 'Poly Pack' to provide produce packs to community

"Poly Pack," a new community-supported agriculture program launched by the College of Agriculture at Cal Poly University Pomona and open to the public, is providing fresh Cal Poly-grown fruits and vegetables to shoppers.

Under the program, shoppers can sign up to receive a full or half pack of produce straight from the Cal Poly farm every two weeks.

Depending on the season and supply, produce will include avocados, peppers, oranges, grapefruits, butter lettuce, corn, watermelon, squash, tomatoes, flowers and herbs.

Full packs are \$25 each and half

packs are \$15 each. Pickup is every two weeks on the University Quad, although arrangements can also be made to pick up packs at AGRIScapes next to the Farm Store at Cal Poly.

Shoppers can pay with cash, check or credit card.

Proceeds will help support Cal Poly's farm operations as well as the

College of Agriculture's agriculture education and outreach program.

For more information or to order on line, visit the web site at [www.cpp.edu/polypack](http://www.cpp.edu/polypack).

Cal Poly's Don B. Huntley College of Agriculture has been cultivating more than 500 varieties of fruit, vegetables and other agriculture crops since 1938.

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## DPOA President Carolyn Hemming honored by Boys and Girls Club with annual 'Golden Hands Achievement Award'

Carolyn Hemming, introduced as a "take charge" woman who volunteers more than 40 hours a week to make Pomona better, was awarded this year's Golden Hands Achievement Award by the Boys and Girls Club of Pomona Valley.

More than 200 supporters of the Boys and Girls Club attended the annual achievement awards gala this month at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Hotel.

Hemming, long-time board president of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association, was introduced by Larry Egan, executive director of the DPOA, who spoke of Hemming's "love for the City of Pomona and her selfless and personal commitment to make a difference, a positive difference."

He said Hemming has worked as a businesswoman on Second Street in Downtown Pomona for the past 32 years.

"She has worked very, very hard to make it (Downtown Pomona) better," he added. "She understands that the city needs a vibrant and strong downtown."

Adding up the hours, Egan said Hemming volunteers more than 20 hours a week just to DPOA alone. She is also president of Pomona Valley YMCA, President of Pomona Kiwanis, community advisor to the city's Cultural Arts



**ACCEPTING BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB HONOR** -- Downtown Pomona Owners Association President Carolyn Hemming, at right, accepts the Boys and Girls Club of Pomona Valley's highest honor, the Golden Hands Achievement Award, at an annual gala this month in Pomona as Pomona City Councilmember Ginna Escobar, master of ceremonies again this year, looks on.

added.

"Because of these three families, I've met a lot of great people who are also seated in this room and I want to thank everyone, and just go Pomona!" she said.

In addition to the traditional bouquet of flowers, Hemming was presented with a



**Photo by Sally Egan**

**FAMILY PORTRAIT** -- Carolyn Hemming, honored this month by the Boys and Girls Club of Pomona Valley with the club's Golden Hands Achievement Award, its highest honor, poses with her family for a family portrait following the event at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Hotel. Pictured, from left, are Victoria and Jonathan Hemming, both 17; Ryan Hemming, 19; Carolyn Hemming; and Emily Hemming, 15. Carolyn's husband, Robert Hemming, is seated in front.

Commission and chair of the Pomona Planning Commission.

Egan said she has also given large sums of money to various non-profit organizations to help in their efforts and is an "accomplished woman" in many other ways.

Hemming, who thanked the Boys and Girls Club for the honor, introduced her family, including husband Robert and children Emily, 15, Victoria and John, both 17, and Ryan, 19.

She also acknowledged her DPOA family "and without them I don't know what I'd do."

"And I have my Kiwanis family," she

crown.

She explained that was because her personalized license plate says "Pomona Queen" and that, while she didn't name herself that, somehow she got the name.

The Golden Hands Achievement Award is the highest honor given by the Boys and Girls Club.

Hemming, born and raised in Pomona, began volunteering in the 1970s by teaching art in the local elementary schools in a program launched by the Pomona Valley Art As-



# Creator of 'Little Free Library' program tells Pomona 'stewards' the system is world's biggest library exchange

Todd Bol, who founded the "Little Free Library" movement in 2009 in his hometown of Hudson, Wisconsin, told library "stewards" in Pomona this month that the "little" system is the biggest library network exchange in the world.

Bol, in Southern California to dedicate the 50,000th Little Free Library in Santa Ana, said that at only two books a day, the system is circulating 100,000 books a day or 36 million books a year.

"The next biggest system to us is

the New York Library system at 27 million exchanges a year," he said.

Bol appeared before about two dozen "stewards," or people who have placed the little libraries in front of their homes or businesses, at the Pomona office of the Los Angeles County Office of Education GAIN division.

David McElwain, who heads that office, also has served as Pomona's resident promoter of the Little Free Library system for the past two and a half years.



**FOUNDER OF 'LITTLE FREE LIBRARY' PROGRAM APPEARS IN POMONA** -- David McElwain, at right, head of the "Little Free Library" program in Pomona, introduces Todd Bol, founder of the movement that has now become the largest library system in the country with 36 million books exchanged a year, more than the New York Library system.

Bol asked the stewards how many books their libraries exchanged a day and heard responses ranging from five to 12, making his estimate of two books a day a conservative estimate.

He said 2,000 more are being built every month, adding that the Milwaukee Police Department delivers the small libraries to fast food restaurants located in inner-city neighborhoods and the Los Angeles Police Department has 31 of them in their



**WINNER OF A FREE 'LITTLE FREE LIBRARY'** -- Parent volunteer Irene Braham, who helps out at two Pomona schools, receives her "Little Free Library" donated by Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Unified School Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman, Braham, "Little Free Library" founder Todd Bol and Martinez.

precincts where they use them as outreach tools.

"What we're trying to do is put a Little Free Library in every precinct in every police station across the country," Bol said.

He said they've even been placed

on the back of bicycles and in motor homes where they are placed outside wherever the motor homes happen to set up camp.

Because of the libraries, he added, neighborhoods are "talking again," making stewards around the

globe "a million local heroes that fix neighborhoods."

"And that's why stewards . . . are change makers that are changing things throughout the world," he said.

**Little Free Library... pg. 16**



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**10TH ANNUAL CHALK ART FESTIVAL IN SHAUN DIAMOND PLAZA** -- Students from Pomona's Village Academy High School turned out this month to participate in the 10th annual Chalk Art Festival, sponsored by the City of Pomona's Cultural Arts Commission. This year's theme was "My Favorite Book." Working on their "The Little Prince" creation are, clockwise from bottom, Celestina Martinez, Nathan Vergara, Kenny Ayala and Adali Valdivia, all seniors and all of Pomona. It was their second year in the competition.

### Eagles to hold 'Christmas Tree Lane' spaghetti dinner

The Pomona Eagles will hold their "Christmas Tree Lane" spaghetti dinner next month at the Eagles Aerie in Pomona.

Doors open at 3:30 p.m. and dinner will be served from 5 to 7:30 p.m. on

Saturday, Dec. 3.

A drawing for Christmas trees will be held after dinner at approximately 8 p.m.

Cost is \$5 for adults and children under 12 \$3.

The Pomona Eagles Aerie is located at 954 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona.

For more information, contact chairpersons Russell Evans at (909) 319-7693 or Liz Evans at (909) 319-7572.



**REMEMBERING BAMBI** -- Four seniors from Pomona's Village Academy High School picked "Bambi" as their favorite book for this month's 10th annual Chalk Art Festival in Downtown Pomona. Pictured putting on the finishing touches are, from left, Saul Ruiz, Yazmin Torres, John Villalta and Claudia Cardenas, all of Pomona. Sponsors of this year's event were the dA Center for the Arts, Downtown Pomona Owners Association and Pomona's Cultural Arts Commission.

### Free post-Thanksgiving concert scheduled by Claremont Symphony Orchestra

Claremont Symphony Orchestra's traditional post-Thanksgiving concert will be held in Claremont on Sunday, featuring Roger Lebow performing Antonin Dvorak's cello concerto in B minor.

The orchestra also will perform Beethoven's Symphony No. 6, the Pastoral Symphony, featuring five

movements that describe the composer's fascination with nature.

The free concert is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 27, in the Bridges Hall of Music on the Pomona College Campus, 150 E. 4th St., Claremont.

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

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## Development of Fiscal Year 2017 - 2018 Annual Action Plan and Assessment of Fair Housing **GET INVOLVED!**

### We need your input!

The City is conducting two important surveys. The first is a community needs survey that will assist in the development of the 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan, which provides a 1-year roadmap for spending Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds on housing, human services, public infrastructure and community development activities for low-to-moderate income persons. The second is an Assessment to Fair housing, which explores your experiences with housing discrimination and difficulties finding housing. Your participation is important to help us understand the community's needs and identify potential solutions for reducing housing discrimination.

The City is hosting a series of community workshops to provide several opportunities for public input. Join us at one of the following workshops to learn more and share your experiences.

### Pomona City Council Chambers

505 S. Garey Ave., Pomona, CA 91769

Tuesday, December 6, 2016 @ 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 18, 2017 @ 6:30 p.m.

**Responses are due by:  
Tuesday, January 31, 2017**

Please take a moment to complete the surveys found on the City's Website at:

**[www.ci.pomona.ca.us](http://www.ci.pomona.ca.us)**

(Links are under two separate posts) Community Needs Survey and Housing Discrimination Survey.

"Hardcopies are available at all community centers"

**Please call (909) 620-3772 if you need more information**

**City of Pomona Neighborhood Services Department**

## ¡INVOLUCRASE!

### ¡Necesitamos su opinión!

La Ciudad está llevando a cabo dos encuestas importantes. La primera es una encuesta de necesidades de la comunidad que ayudará en el desarrollo del Plan de Acción Anual 2017-2018, que provee una hoja de ruta de un año para gastar fondos de Desarrollo Comunitario como en vivienda, servicios humanos e infraestructura pública para personas de ingresos bajos a moderados. La segunda es una evaluación de la vivienda justa, que explora sus experiencias con la discriminación de vivienda y dificultades para encontrar vivienda. Su participación es importante para ayudarnos a entender las necesidades de la comunidad e identificar posibles soluciones para reducir la discriminación en la vivienda.

La Ciudad está organizando una serie de talleres comunitarios para brindar varias oportunidades para el aporte del público. Únase a nosotros en uno de los siguientes talleres para aprender más y compartir sus experiencias.

### Pomona City Council Chambers

505 S. Garey Ave., Pomona, CA 91769

Martes, 6 de diciembre de 2016 a las 6:30 p.m.

Miércoles, 18 de enero de 2017 a las 6:30 p.m.

**El plazo para entregar  
sus sugerencias es el:  
Martes, 31 de Enero de 2017**

Por favor, tome un momento para completar las encuestas que se encuentran en el sitio web de la Ciudad en:

**[www.ci.pomona.ca.us](http://www.ci.pomona.ca.us)**

(Los enlaces están bajo dos puestos separados) Encuesta de Necesidades Comunitarias y Encuesta de Discriminación de Viviendas  
"Copias impresas están disponibles en todos los Centros Comunitarios"

**Por favor de hablar al teléfono (909) 620-3772 para más información**

**Ciudad de Pomona Departamento de Servicios Vecindarios**



## Memorials held on second anniversary of death of Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond

Two memorials were held last month for fallen Pomona SWAT Officer Shaun Diamond on the second anniversary of his death – a section of the San Bernardino Freeway through Pomona was named in his honor and a memorial monument was unveiled in Downtown Pomona's Shaun Diamond Plaza.

Assembly Concurrent Resolution 104 by Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez authorized a

section of the freeway from the 57 Freeway interchange to Towne Avenue to be designated as the Pomona Officer Shaun Diamond Memorial Highway.

“As we recognize the tremendous sacrifice Officer Diamond and his family made, we have also come to appreciate the work that law enforcement does every day to protect and serve our community,” Rodriguez told an audience includ-

ing police officers, police chiefs – and even Capt. Steve Urrea of the Baldwin Park Area of the California Highway Patrol – from Pomona and surrounding communities, firefighters and paramedics, along with members of Diamond's family.

He said as a 32-year emergency responder himself, and as the father of a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy, “I hear firsthand the chal-

lenges and difficulties our police officers face today in this world and in the mainstream media.”

“But rest assured that I will always be there to show my support and appreciation for the safety you provide us for the state and this nation,” Rodriguez added.

He called Diamond a dedicated individual who always did his best for the police department and the city and its people.

Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro said it was “truly hard for me to believe that it was two short years ago today that we lost Shaun to a senseless act committed by a coward.”

“The pain does still grow as we relive Shaun's death each and every time a law enforcement officer is killed in the line of duty,” Capraro said.

“I want to acknowledge the di-



**A MOTHER AND HER SON** -- Joy Diamond, fallen Pomona SWAT Officer Shaun Diamond's mom, attaches a rose to the easel displaying a portrait of her son before the beginning of a ceremony last month naming part of the San Bernardino Freeway in her son's honor. She told La Nueva Voz she lives in Rosemead "in the house Shaun grew up in."



**HONORING A FRIEND** -- Pomona police officials and Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez pose for cameras following a dedication of a section of the San Bernardino Freeway through Pomona in honor of slain Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Police Capt. Mike Ellis, Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro, Corporal Brad Paulson, President of the Pomona Police Officers Association, and Rodriguez. Rodriguez introduced the assembly resolution making the designation possible. Good job, Freddie.



**POMONA'S HOME DEPOT GIVES AMERICAN LEGION POST 30 A MAKE-OVER** -- Employees from Pomona's Home Depot pose for several cameras just before knocking off for the day at the end of day one of a two-day make-over project at Pomona's American Legion Post 30. A total of 17 employees -- including the store manager and department managers -- turned out for the event as part of Home Depot's "Team Depot" veterans' service project. Store manager Brad Bushem, at right, told La Nueva Voz the make-over included painting lattice-work and that storage shed, at right, on the patio, along with other smaller projects. Volunteers were expected to go to work painting the concrete floor of the patio area on day two. Bushem said he already has a Phase II in mind which will include working on the building entrance and retrofitting windows. He explained the company pays for the supplies and employees donate their time. He estimated the value of the two-day project, including labor, was about \$7,000. Home Depot volunteers worked for a week on a facelift at Pomona's House of Ruth last April.

verse and wonderful community of Pomona for their support of its police department and for the love they show us day after day,” he added. “In some strange way I believe that Shaun has brought us all closer together.”

“One promise we all made to Shaun is that we would never forget him or his sacrifice,” Capraro said. “With the renaming of this small stretch of freeway and the installation of the beautiful sign, Shaun will truly live on forever.”

He cited figures from a recent poll that shows community support

for police has increased over the last three years to a high not reached since 1967.

“The Pomona police employees feel that support from the community, from our local elected officials, from our fellow city employees and from people in Sacramento like you, Freddie,” Capraro said. “We thank you for your support and we want you to know we will continue to do our best to serve you.”

The ceremony was held in the eastern portion of Pomona's Gane-  
**Officer Shaun Diamond... pg. 13**



**OUT OF RESPECT FOR A FELLOW OFFICER** -- Members of the Pomona Police Department gather behind a monument that was unveiled last month on the second anniversary of the death of fallen Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond. The monument, a joint project of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association and Western University of Health Sciences, renamed the former Thomas Plaza to Shaun Diamond Plaza.

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**RED RIBBON WEEK POSTER CONTEST WINNERS** -- The 15th annual "Red Ribbon Week" activities for elementary school kids in Pomona Unified School District schools were held last month at Pomona's Garey High School. Pictured are the winners of this year's poster contest. From left are Thejana Jayathilake, third grade, Pantera Elementary School; Yasiru Jayathilake, first grade, Pantera Elementary School; Yuriah Gieng, second grade, Ranch Hills Elementary School; Amir Scott, second grade, Ranch Hills Elementary School; Kyra McMullen, third grade, Ranch Hills Elementary School; L'Mio Edwards, fifth grade, Pantera Elementary School; Jadon Benedito, fifth grade, Decker Elementary School; Rowen Lin, fifth grade, Armstrong Elementary School; Leilani Aguilera Duong, second grade, Armstrong Elementary School; Silus Sykes, sixth grade, Armstrong Elementary School; and Michelle Hernandez, sixth grade, Philadelphia Elementary School. From left, at rear, are Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman, Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman. Red Ribbon Week is a national drug prevention campaign that takes place in October each year during National Substance Abuse Prevention month. It is presented in Pomona each year by the City of Pomona, Pomona Unified School District and the Pomona Police Department as a reminder to kids to stay off drugs, alcohol and tobacco.

## Officer Shaun Diamond... from pg. 12

sha Park close to the freeway.

### Downtown Pomona Owners Association monument unveiled

That evening, representatives of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association (DPOA) held brief ceremonies formally unveiling a monument officially naming the former Thomas Plaza in honor of Diamond.

DPOA Executive Director Larry Egan said sponsorship of the monument project was divided between DPOA and Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences.

Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and City Councilmember Adriana Robledo presented a certificate of

dedication to the DPOA reading, in part, that "our dear friend Shaun Diamond will forever be missed."

"He dedicated his life to serving the citizens of Pomona and the downtown business district," Robledo added. "We will never forget his sacrifice to our city."

Diamond, 45, the father of two adult children and an eight year veteran of the Pomona Police De-



**UNVEILING THE MONUMENT** -- Downtown Pomona Police Officers Martin Enriquez, at left, and Adam Shaffer unveil the monument honoring fallen Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond, as Downtown Pomona Owners Association Executive Director Larry Egan, at far right, looks on. The two officers are assigned to the same Downtown Pomona beat Diamond was assigned to at the time of his death.

partment and a 19-year law enforcement veteran, was shot in the line of duty on Oct. 28, 2014, while taking part in a multi-agency operation serving a search warrant assisting the Montebello Police Department in targeting the Mongols motorcycle gang. He died the following day.

He was only the second Pomona police officer killed in the line of

duty in the city's 128-year history.

David Martinez, now 38, a suspected Mongols motorcycle gang member and the suspect arrested in the case, was charged with capital murder by the Los Angeles District Attorney's office. His preliminary hearing was held in July 2015 and pre-trial proceedings are continuing in Los Angeles Superior Court. He remains in custody.



**POLICE OFFICERS FROM POMONA AND BEYOND** -- Police officers from Pomona and cities in the East San Gabriel Valley, Inland Empire and beyond stand in formation behind guests seated last month at a dedication of a section of the San Bernardino Freeway through Pomona in honor of fallen Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond.



**PRESENTING CHECK TO CASA COLINA** -- Members of Pomona Rotary presented a check for \$9,500 last week to Dr. Felice Loverso, CEO of Pomona's Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare. The check represented the proceeds of this summer's Hot August Night Rotary fundraiser. Pictured is this year's Rotary President Beth Brooks, of Pomona's Brooks Property Management, helping Dr. Loverso hold up the check for the photo.

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**REGISTRACIÓN:** Solamente en persona. Llamen a (909) 469-2333 para más información.

**AYUDA FINANCIERA:** Llamen a (909) 469-2333 ext. 24325 para más información. Las solicitudes de ayuda financiera están disponibles para clases de Carreras Técnicas de 600 horas o más.

### CALENDARIO PARA LA PRIMAVERA 2017

Inicio de Clases..... 3 de enero  
 Dia de Martin Luther King, Jr..... 16 de enero  
 Dia del Presidente Lincoln..... 13 de febrero, 2017  
 Dia del Presidente Washington .....20 de febrero  
 Receso de Primavera ..... 3-7 de abril  
 Dia Conmemorativo ..... 29 de mayo  
 Final del Trimestres ..... 10 de marzo & 1 de junio  
 Ultimo dia de clases.....1 de junio

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## Little Free Library... from pg. 9

Pomona Unified School Supt. Richard Martinez, who appeared at the presentation, said he purchased two of the Little Free Libraries to give away to parents in the local school district. The first recipient, Irene Braham, a parent volunteer at Pomona's Cortez Math and Science Magnet School, where her child attends, and at Fremont Academy, a school of engineering and design, won the first Little Free Library in a raffle and was on hand to accept it.

"Literacy for us in Pomona is something we've been really focused on," Martinez said, "because we want to be considered the liter-

ate community – and it is through these types of strategies that we are putting in place."

Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman said she has one in her front yard at her home in Phillips Ranch, adding that "it brings me incredible joy."

"And you are absolutely right, it brings the neighborhood together," she added.

McElwain said the project has received support from throughout the community, adding that Pomona Rotary has placed libraries at Pomona Valley Memorial Park and at the Boys and Girls Club of

Pomona Valley, and Pomona Host Lions Club has placed them at Washington Park, Palomares Park, Garfield Neighborhood Center and at a local laundromat.

Little Free Libraries are based on the "take a book, leave a book" concept.

Bol built a model of a one-room schoolhouse as a tribute to his mother who loved to read. He filled it with books and placed it on a post in his front yard, eventually building several more and giving them away.

He teamed up on the project with Rick Brooks of the University of

Wisconsin – Madison, a youth and community development educator with a background in social marketing.

They created Little Free Library as a non-profit organization. Bol now serves as its executive director.

Today, they are still roughly the same small size and often are mistaken for mailboxes or even bird-

houses.

The libraries are located in all 50 states and more than 70 countries. They have facilitated the exchange of 36 million free books annually.

Materials needed for a library are now in kit form at C&E Lumber in Pomona for only \$40 plus tax.

For more information, contact McElwain at (909) 392-8070.

## Cal Poly's plant sciences nursery selling poinsettia plants for the holidays

The plant sciences nursery at Cal Poly University Pomona is selling poinsettia plants grown on campus to the public for the first time in 13 years.

Grown for the holiday season, the festive red and green plants are available for \$10 each (including tax) at the AGRIScapes greenhouses.

"We have about 3,000 poinsettia, and we'll sell them until we run out," said nursery manager Monica Salembier.

The nursery last sold poinsettia in 2003 when it had greenhouses on campus where the College of Business Administration is located today.

New greenhouses were built adjacent to the Farm Store at AGRIScapes in 2009, but the farm store did not have space to sell all the plants they could grow.

To solve that problem, Salembier and her students reconfigured one of the greenhouses to sell the plants. It is the first time the greenhouses are open to the public.

Hours are noon to 5:30 p.m. seven days a week except for Thanksgiving in the greenhouses, just east of the Farm

Store. Parking is in a gravel lot just west of the greenhouses with curbside pickup at the greenhouse entrance.

Customers can also purchase the plants as part of gift baskets and centerpieces, along with the Farm Store's line of holiday jams, preserves and salsas.

Families also can take their holiday pictures with a special photo prop at the greenhouse, and Santa will visit from noon to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 10.

And a "Make Your Own Mistletoe Decoration" activity will be held from noon to 5 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 18, in the greenhouse. A \$3 donation to the plant sciences student scholarship fund is requested.

Hot beverages including mulled apple cider are available Monday through Thursday, spiced cranberry punch on Friday, and more.

Want to see how the crop was grown? Find the Poinsettia Album on the Cal Poly Pomona Nursery at Kellogg Ranch Facebook page.

All proceeds will support the Department of Plant Sciences and its students.

## Golden Hands award... from pg. 8

sociation.

She opened a small antique space in an antique shop in Downtown Pomona 32 years ago. The space soon grew into her own store, Antique Gallery, on Second Street.

She became involved with the Central Business District in the early 1990s, which cultivated her interest in the city's Vehicle Parking District and the city's Planning Department.

In 2004, when the downtown stakeholders formed a Property Owners Improvement District,

Hemming was chosen to be on the formation committee. It was that district that became the DPOA.

She was named Woman of the Year in 2014 by Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez.

The Boys and Girls Club of Pomona Valley was founded in 1964 to provide a safe, positive place for Pomona's youth and to have significant impact on their lives.

It serves 2,000 kids each year ages 6 through 17 from the communities of Pomona, Chino, Montclair, Diamond Bar, Chino Hills, Walnut,


Claremont, Upland and San Dimas.

The main clubhouse is located at 1420 S. Garey Ave., Pomona.


Title sponsors for the event were Valley Vista Services, State Farm agent John Forbing, Pomona's Inter Valley Health Plan and Western University of Health Sciences.

Gold sponsors were Pomona's Fairplex and Cal Poly University Pomona.

Silver sponsors this year were Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, DPOA, Wells Fargo and Walmart.



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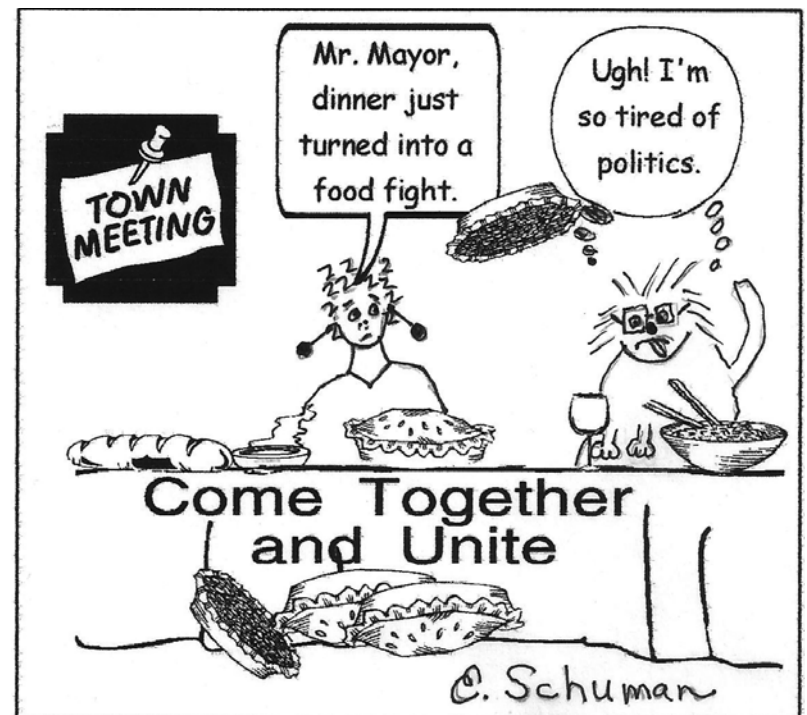
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## Hope & Hurdles

By Evy Schuman



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** "Hope & Hurdles," an on-going feature appearing in La Nueva Voz, was created by artist Evy Schuman as an attempt to "poke fun" at the little things that trouble us all from time to time. Evy, who is also a published writer on the subject, created the cartoon series to show her work at a creative writing class she co-facilitates at Pomona's Tri-City Wellness Center.



**THE WEEKEND GARDENER** by Leif Green

**Chemistry of colors**

*“Gardening is how I relax. It's another form of creating and playing with colors.” - Oscar de la Renta*

Pomona doesn't get the spectacular change of colors in the trees like they do in New England. But there are some local trees, such as the blue gum and, to a lesser extent, the sycamore, that do change colors in the fall. The leaves change from green to yellow or orange and sometimes to red. So how does this change of colors come about?



Leif Green

The process starts with phytochrome, a protein that is found in most plants. Phytochrome detects light in the far red portion of the visible spectrum. As the days get shorter and less phytochrome is produced, a layer of cells (called an abscission layer) begins to grow between the tree and the leaf stalk. The layer of cells grows into two layers – one layer forms a cap on the tree branch and the other grows over the leaf stalk. This layer of cells blocks the flow of water and nutrients into and out of the leaf, effectively starving the leaf. As the production of the green pigment chlorophyll begins to break down, other pigments in the leaf become apparent. These other pigments are carotenoids which give the leaf yellow and orange colors.

Here's where the process gets interesting. Some plants have the ability to produce another pigment called anthocyanin. Unlike phytochrome and carotenoids which are

present in most tissues of the plant all year around, anthocyanin is not produced in the leaves until the process which breaks down the chlorophyll begins. Since anthocyanin absorbs light in the blue-green portion of the visible spectrum, it reflects light at the other end of the spectrum. This property gives some flowers and fruits their brilliant red color which is thought to attract pollinators and animals that can be used to disperse seeds. Some of the foods anthocyanin can be found in are raspberries, blood oranges, purple corn and eggplant. Anthocyanin also absorbs ultraviolet light, so it also acts as a sunscreen for sensitive portions of the plant.

Of course, the chemistry behind these changes are more complex than the space in this column allows. Still, it is interesting to know a little about what is going on inside the plant during the changing of colors. The variety of colors also adds an interesting dynamic to your garden or landscape. I hope we can remember how we enjoyed the colorful leaves while we are raking them up.

*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.*



**REMEMBERING THOSE WHO SERVED**

Pomona's American Legion Post 30 First Vice Commander Michael Moore, at left, assisted by Navy Junior ROTC cadets from La Verne's Lutheran High School, retires flags that have outlived their usefulness in a ceremony commemorating the service of veterans of all wars this month at Post 30 headquarters.




**SOLEMN CEREMONY TO HONORABLY RETIRE FLAGS**

Post Commander Richard Haro, of Pomona's American Legion Post 30, conducts the annual Veterans Day ceremony to honorably retire flags that have outlived their usefulness "with the respect they deserve." Volunteer cadets from the Lutheran High School in La Verne Navy Junior ROTC, who assisted in the ceremony, stand in formation at rear. Post 30 this year revived the ritual of inviting members and guests to retire a flag in the memory of a deceased friend or relative who served in the military.

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

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Sat.: Noon to 5 p.m.  
Fri., Sun.: Closed

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

**Pomona's African American Museum seeking donors on #GivingTuesday**

Pomona's African American Museum of Beginnings has joined #GivingTuesday, a global day of giving that harnesses the collective power of individuals, communities and organizations to encourage philanthropy and to celebrate generosity worldwide.

Occurring this year on Nov. 29, the observance is held annually on the Tuesday after Thanksgiving in the United States – and after the “Black Friday” and “Cyber Monday” shopping events – to kick off the holiday giving season and inspire people to give back in impactful ways to the charities and causes they support.

The African American Museum plans to use donations to sustain current exhibits and programs, ranging from display cases and supplies to books, health items and films for the museum's Soul Cinema community engagement program.

To make a donation, visit the web site at [aambgivingculture.mydagsite.com/home](http://aambgivingculture.mydagsite.com/home) and click on “contribute now.”

The museum is a virtually self-funded community museum that inspires and educates people on the history, culture and arts of Africans and African Americans through exhibits and programs to create a world of cultural understanding.

It is located at 1460 E. Holt Ave., Building 3, Suite 188, Pomona, in the Village at Indian Hill.

For more information, call (909) 620-2841.



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**AND AFTER YOU SEE ALL THE EXHIBITS?**  
 -- The only thing left to do is take a selfie in front of the sunflowers at "Fall in the Farm," a program that this year grew to include some 40 exhibits. The Farm at Fairplex is a five-acre farm designed to build awareness of healthy food possibilities, educate visitors in areas of farm-related culinary and agriculture disciplines, and even provide incubator programs for the agriculture and food service industries.



**HERE'S HOW IT'S DONE** -- Two girls didn't have any trouble at all getting the hang of it when it came to making their own rag dolls at "Fall in the Farm" at Pomona's Fairplex.



Bales of hay and hidden passages made the maze interesting at this month's "Fall in the Farm." Two girls in the foreground were holding hands as they made their way through -- just to be on the safe side.



**GIANT PUMPKIN** -- The giant pumpkin was a popular attraction this month at "Fall in the Farm," a "learn, grow and sustain" day at the Farm at Fairplex featuring everything from hay baling to corn grinding. But sticking to the basics sitting atop that giant pumpkin we were talking about are, from left, Brannon Burcham, 6, of Mira Loma; Kelsie Blankenship, 9, and her brother Lance Blankenship, 7, both of Riverside. The Fairplex-sponsored event was designed to teach kids about agri-business through a hands-on experience.



Face painting is always popular with the kids and was one of the attractions at "Fall in the Farm."

## Annual Christmas Marketplace to be held at Pilgrim Congregational

Pomona's Pilgrim Congregational Church will hold its annual Christmas Marketplace next month featuring jewelry, crafts, decorating items and more for the holidays.

The Christmas shopping event will be held after church from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 11, at the church, located at 600 N. Garey Ave., Pomona.

Participants will include Tupperware, Mary Kay, Avon, and Origami Owl.

Snacks will be available.

The church fundraiser is organized each year by volunteers at Pilgrim Congregational.

To reserve a table or for more information, contact Susan Newton at (909) 593-1906 or sa.newton@verizon.net.

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## Pomona Eagles 'turn around' to Harrah's Rincon Casino set for January

The Pomona Eagles Auxiliary #2215 will sponsor a "turn around" fundraiser going to Harrah's Rincon Casino in January.

The bus will board at 8:45 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21, at the Pomona Eagles Lodge, 954 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona, for the 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. trip.

Cost is \$15 in cash or check payable to Pomona Eagles Auxiliary #2215, and riders must be 21 years of age with a valid form of identification.

Riders must call to reserve a seat before Friday, Jan. 13.

Parking is in the rear part of the Eagles parking lot.

For more information and for reservations, contact Virginia Madrigal at (909) 627-4450 or (909) 935-9676.





**SHOWING WHAT THEY'VE GOT** -- Participants run their dogs through their paces this month at an American Kennel Club-sanctioned agility competition presented by Lynda Tjarks Agility Productions at Pomona's Fairplex. The three-day event consisted of a total of 1,393 individual runs and 615 participating dogs. The competition travels throughout California and into Las Vegas.



Photo courtesy of Uyen Bui Photography

**SCHOOL OF ARTS AND ENTERPRISE PRESENTS 'THE MIRACLE WORKER'** -- Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise Department of Theatre Arts presented the classic and powerful story of Helen Keller and her teacher, Annie Sullivan, in "The Miracle Worker," by William Gibson. Three evening performances and a matinee were presented this month in The Studio Theatre at the school's Downtown Center. The play tells the story of Helen Keller, a young girl who was both blind and deaf, and Annie Sullivan, the extraordinary teacher who finds a way for Helen to learn. Pictured is the cast with Annie Sullivan (played by Haley Kurz) and Helen Keller (played by Jena Franco) in the foreground.

**Pomona's American Legion Auxiliary schedules two events for December**

Two events – a three-day garage sale and the annual Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation fundraiser – have been scheduled by members of the ladies auxiliary of American Legion Post 30 in Pomona.

The garage sale is scheduled for 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. (all three days) Friday through Sunday, Dec. 2 through Dec.

4, at 1430 Claremont Place, Pomona. Included will be clothes, Christmas decorations and items, household items, plants and more.

Proceeds go to the auxiliary, according to Cheryl Scholl, President.

The annual Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation fundraiser is scheduled from noon to 4 p.m. Saturday,

Dec. 10, in the basement at Post 30, at 239 E. Holt Ave., Pomona.

Included will be music, a "tribute" performer in the style of Dean Martin and Tony Bennett, raffles, baked potatoes with fillings for \$5 and soups.

For more information, contact Post 30 at (909) 620-0943.

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