



La Nueva Voz

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Pomona's only community newspaper!



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Martin Luther King keynoter Farrell Chiles says racial inequality continues, urges community members to step out of their 'comfort zone' and make a positive difference

Racial inequality continues in this country "in almost every aspect of our daily lives" in areas that include unemployment, keynote speaker Farrell Chiles, a Pomona author and historian, told an audience of several hundred at this year's 35th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration and Youth Social Justice Awards program in Pomona.

"Unemployment for African American men is almost twice that of white Americans," Chiles said at the event at Pomona's Pilgrim Con-

gregational Church, sponsored each year by the Pomona Inland Valley Martin Luther King Jr. Project.

He said the unemployment rate for black men over 20 years of age was 7.6 percent last August, while for white men of the same age it was only 4.1 percent.

And the jobless rate for African American women over 20 years of age was 7.1 percent, while for white women was only 3.9 percent during the same period.

"Equal employment opportunities

for African Americans are still not a reality," Chiles said. "Not until these enormous gaps are eliminated. There is still much more for us to do."

He said he is still awed by the words of King's famous "I have a Dream" speech delivered in August 1963 in Washington, D.C., in which King said "we refuse to believe that the bank of justice is bankrupt, we refuse to believe that there are insufficient funds in the great vaults of opportunity of this nation, and so



Farrell Chiles . . .
. . . keynote speaker

ter," Chiles said.

He added that he had completed his freshman year in high school that year - Detroit Southwestern High School.

"The school closed in 2012, due to a decreasing student population and bad economic times in Detroit," he said.

And when King was assassinated on April 4, 1968, Chiles said he was a student at Western Michigan University.

"The black students took over the student union the next morning, using chains and locks at all the entrances and manning the doors to ensure that no one else

we've come to cash this check, a check that will give us upon demand the riches of freedom and the security of justice."

"Dr. King went on to say 'I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia the sons of former slaves and of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood... I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their charac-

could enter," he said. "We submitted a list of demands to the university officials, among them more African American professors at the university."

He said the university also sent two students to King's funeral.

Chiles covered some of the history of King's accomplishments including leading the Montgomery Bus Boycott that, after continuing for a year and 15 days ending in December 1956, led to the United

Making a positive difference... pg. 5

Cal Poly Rose Parade float takes home this year's Founder's Trophy

Cal Poly University's float in this month's 128th Rose Parade - as always created in two pieces by students at the Pomona and San Luis Obispo campuses and then combined on arrival on the Pomona campus - was the Founder's Trophy winner, bringing the total of float entry awards for the university to 57.

The float, on the theme "A New Leaf," was the school's 69th entry in the traditional parade in Pasadena.

And it was the 10th Founder's Trophy award winner for the university.

The Founder's Trophy honors the most beautiful float built and

Rose Parade... pg. 2



Photo by Tom Zasadzinski/Cal Poly Pomona

ANOTHER AWARD-WINNING FLOAT FOR CAL POLY -- Cal Poly University's float in this month's 128th Rose Parade won the Founder's Trophy with the creation by both Cal Poly campuses on the theme "A New Leaf." It was the 10th Founder's Trophy award for the university and the 57th award for Cal Poly overall. The Founder's Trophy honors the most beautiful float built and decorated by volunteers from a community or organization.



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Rose Parade... from pg. 1

decorated by volunteers from a community or organization. The Cal Poly entry is the only one that is built entirely by students.

Covered in more than 60,000 fresh flowers, the 52-foot-long float featured three giant chameleons exploring their tropical world, paying homage to the value of family in creating individual success.

To give the huge chameleons their bumpy texture, the team used 20,000 button mums, a variety of citrus and red onion. To achieve the detail on the eyes, the team used a mixture of dried materials. For the purple chameleon, it included blue corn, yellow split pea, cranberry seed, mung beans, red and white millet, Bougainvillea petals and ground statice.

The 27-foot-long yellow chameleon was nicknamed Heidi for her color-changing stripes.

The tiered base held more than 10,000 roses intermingled with more than 8,000 gerbera daisies. Other flowers included carnations, snapdragons, tulips, marigolds and orchids.

The float rose to a height of 27 feet, towering over the parade route. All of the lizards – from 12 to 27 feet in length – had moving eyes. They were accompanied by a large dragonfly and vibrant butterflies flapping their wings. Chomper was the happy purple chameleon exploring the world and learning by doing (the learning slogan at Cal Poly) on the back of the float.

Students on both campuses work all year to create the float.

The two halves of the float are joined together in October at the Cal Poly Pomona Rose Float Lab where construction is completed. The finished piece then is towed to the Brook-



Photo by Cynthia Peters/ Cal Poly Pomona

'LEARNING BY DOING' AT CAL POLY -- Cal Poly University's theme of "learning by doing" made its way into the Rose Parade this year as a family of chameleons on the university's float was depicted exploring the world and, of course, learning by doing.

side tent in Pasadena for floral decoration by hundreds of volunteers during "Decorations Week."

Thousands of flowers are glued to the float while thousands more that are more fragile are individually placed in vials of water and added to the float.

Approximately 94 percent of the flowers in the float are California grown.

In 2014, the team won the Crown City Innovation Award for Best Use of Imagination and Innovation to Advance Float Design for its "Bedtime Buccaneers" entry.

And last year, the "Sweet Shenanigans" entry with gummy bears and giant lollipops received the Lathrop K. Leishman Award for Most Beautiful Non-Commercial Float.



Photo by Tom Zasadzinski/Cal Poly Pomona

GETTING THE FLOAT READY FOR THE PARADE -- Student volunteers on the decorations team are hard at work placing the flowers on the float during "decorations week" the week before the parade.

We've had some rain. Good news!

Water conservation must remain a way of life in California, especially Southern California, where much of our water is imported from many miles away.



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Student 'Innovation Idea Lab' completes first year at Cal Poly, hopes to partner with business community

The Innovation Idea Lab at Cal Poly University Pomona – which has been open for the past year – is providing support to student entrepreneurs with good ideas and is also available to area businesses interested in either partnering or benefiting from the effort.

Ericka Olguin represented the new lab this month in a presentation to the Pomona Chamber of Commerce at its monthly networking luncheon, this month at Mariscos La Cabaña in Pomona.

"Everyone has ideas," she said, adding that students can work with the idea lab even if they don't have an idea but want to get started on something.

And, she said, they don't even have to be business students – they can be sociology students, hospitality students, just anybody with an idea,

whether food, drink, something for pets, pretty much anything.

The lab is open to all students of the university and was part of the legacy of Dr. Mike Ortiz, past president of Cal Poly Pomona, who wanted to leave something behind for the students to expand in the area of exploration.

Olguin, who lives in Pomona, said before he stepped down, he left a little bit of money and a directive to hire a director and an analyst so the university could open the lab and hire two administrators.

"That's what we did," she said. "We just started with four walls there."

The office is located in the university's administration building and includes a lounge, a computer lab, equipment, computer programs and more.



Ericka Olguin
Cal Poly's Innovation Idea Lab

Students can stop in to "get interested" and "maybe want to do something, something you didn't even think you were capable of."

The program also offers mentors,

workshops, resources on how to deal with the law and how to patent products and ideas.

It also has an accelerator program with student start-up teams where participants receive money to support them over the summer so they don't have to work but can spend their time focusing on their business.

And the lab just opened an "incubator" to help get those new businesses going.

The program is also reaching out into Pomona and has met with Pomona city and school district officials and will be collaborating with Pomona's Ganesha High School so lab staff can "mesh with the students there to get them excited about college and to open that pathway."

The lab just opened the door to its Ganesha annex this month and is in the processing of setting it up with furniture and equipment.

Olguin said students on the business track in high school are expected to be able to stop in and talk with Cal Poly students so that by the beginning of the next school year they can have a class together as a team.

They will be able to compete at Cal Poly and "just be so interested and excited about college" – all as a way to help keep students in Pomona going to Cal Poly.

She said the program is always looking for speakers and judges for the various competitions from the business community and is also looking for opportunities for the kids in the business community where businesses can act as partners or mentors.

For more information, visit the idea lab's web site at www.cppilab.org.

Inland Valley

Hope Partners sets golf tourney for May

Inland Valley Hope Partners is looking for sponsors and registration is open for its 21st annual fundraising golf classic in May at Sierra Lakes Golf Course in Fontana.

Check-in starts at 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 11, with a putting contest and access to the driving range. A complimentary In-N-Out lunch will follow before the scramble tournament's shotgun start at 1 p.m.

Title sponsor is Pacific Western Bank.

Included will be an awards dinner with a door prize, auction and raffle prizes.

Entry fees are \$225 for an individual or \$800 for a foursome. "Dinner only" is \$35.

Inland Valley Hope Partners has served homeless and low-income families in the Inland Valley since 1968 through local food pantries, homeless housing programs and supportive services for families and individuals in crisis.

The programs serve more than 75,000 men, women and children each year.

For more information, contact Kami Grosvenor at (909) 622-3806, ext. 105, or at kamin@inlandvalley-hopepartners.org.

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Making a positive difference... from pg. 1

States Supreme Court's decision to declare the Alabama and Montgomery laws pertaining to segregation of buses unconstitutional.

"The boycott also vaulted Dr. King into national prominence," Chiles said.

And in April 1963, King's organization, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, and the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights coordinated a series of marches and sit-ins against racism and segregation in Birmingham.

A judge issued an injunction against marching, resulting in the arrest of King and others. While in jail, King wrote his famous "Letter from Birmingham" responding to eight white clergymen who felt that the civil rights battle should be fought in the courts and not in the streets.

Chiles read from the letter which said "let us all hope that the dark clouds of human and racial prejudice will soon pass away and the deep fog of misunderstanding will be lifted from our fear drenched communities, and in some not too distant tomorrow the radiant stars of love and brotherhood will shine over our great nation with all their scintillating beauty."

The Memphis sanitation strike started in February 1968 and King first visited the striking workers in March. On April 3, he delivered his famous "I've been to the mountain top" speech, Chiles said, in which King said "Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. But I'm not concerned about that now... (God has) allowed me to go to the mountain top. And I've looked over. And I've seen the Promised Land."

Chiles quoted King's famous line that "I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land."

It was King's last speech, Chiles said, and he was assassinated the next day.

Four days later, a silent march was held with King's widow, Coretta Scott King, as one of the participants.

Historical Society sets 101st annual meeting

Tickets are on sale for the 101st annual meeting of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley, scheduled for next month at Pomona's Ebell Museum of History.

The event, featuring "treasures of the past" from the museum collections, and an opportunity to dance the Fox Trot, "invented" by Pomona's own Harry Fox, star of the Ziegfeld Follies, will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11 at the museum, at 585 E. Holt Ave., Pomona.

An antique appraiser will be on hand (for "carryables only").

Tickets are \$27 for adults and \$20 for children 10 and under.

For reservations and information, call (909) 263-2198 or (909) 261-9655.

The strike ended on April 16 with a settlement that included union recognition and increased wages.

Chiles told the audience that after King's death, in 1977, he was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Carter, Martin Luther King Jr. Day was established as a national holiday in 1986, King was posthumously awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2004 and in 2011 the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Monument opened in Washington, D.C.

And linking his comments to this year's theme of equality, Chiles quoted King who said "make a career of humanity and you will make a greater person of yourself, a greater nation of your country and a



FORMER AWARD WINNER, DAUGHTER PERFORMANCE -- Diamond Smalley, at left, who was a Ganesha High School student in 2005 when she received the Youth Social Justice Award from the Pomona Inland Valley Martin Luther King Jr. Project, performs a dance selection with her daughter Trinity at this month's 35th annual Martin Luther King Jr. celebration at Pomona's Pilgrim Congregational Church.

finer world to live in."

And, on leadership, Chiles quoted King who said "may I stress the need for courageous, intelligent and dedicated leadership . . . leaders of sound integrity, leaders not in love with publicity but in love with justice, leaders not in love with money but in love with humanity."



YOUTH SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARDS -- Pomona Unified School District Board member Frank Guzman, at left, presented this year's Youth Social Justice Awards to two area students at last week's Pomona Inland Valley Martin Luther King Jr. Project celebration. Guzman himself received the award in 1997 when he was a student at Pomona's Garey High School. Pictured, from left, are Guzman; Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval; Pomona City Councilmember Rubio Gonzalez; youth award winner Brenda Gomez, a student at Pomona High School; Yolanda Fuquey, representing the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Sherie Rodgers, Vice President of the Pomona Inland Valley Martin Luther King Jr. Project committee; youth award winner Dylan LaRue Dillard, a student at San Dimas High School; Pomona City Councilmembers Ginna Escobar and Cristina Carrizosa; Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman; and Maria Arias, representing the office of State Sen. Connie Leyva.

On equality, he quoted King who said "equality means dignity – and dignity demands a job and a paycheck that lasts through the week.



Gayle Claiborne, Board President Pomona Inland Valley Martin Luther King Jr. Project

For we know that it isn't enough to integrate lunch counters. What does it profit a man to be able to eat at an integrated lunch counter if he doesn't have enough money to buy a burger and a cup of coffee."

Chiles left the audience with three challenges – to step out of their comfort zone and make a positive difference in their community, to fight for equality for everyone, and to care for others.

"I leave you with a paraphrased quote from a poem by Robert Frost – 'We have humanity to meet, and equality to reach, and miles to go before we sleep, and miles to go before we sleep.'"

This year's theme was "Continuing to Strive for Humanity and Equality: Then and Now."

Award winners

Maggie Green, a member of the

Martin Luther King Jr. Project committee, presented this year's Zennie Cummings Award to members of the Pomona Valley Section of the National Council of Negro Women.

The award honors the life of Dr. Martin Luther King and commemorates his work against social injustice.

This year's "Social Justice Award" winners were Brenda Gomez, a student at Pomona High School, and Dylan LaRue Dillard, a student at San Dimas High School.

Gomez said in her application her goal is to empower her peers and emphasize the fact that "even though we are young we can change our community."

She holds leadership positions as historian-editor of Key Club, secretary of the school's animal care club,

Making a positive difference... pg. 12

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Work of NAACP even more valuable as racism becomes 'the new norm'

Rev. Jan Chase of Pomona's Unity Church, who officially installed this year's new officers of the Pomona Valley Branch of the NAACP last month in Pomona, cited the importance of the organization's work "in a time when racism is considered the new norm by many."



New officers of the Pomona Valley Branch NAACP are, from left, President Jeanette Royston, Second Vice President Hal Jackson, Secretary Lisha Lett, Assistant Secretary Helen Young, Treasurer Myron Hester, and, serving on the Executive Committees, Health Committee Chairman Paulette Young, Website Committee Chairman Duane Smith, Human Trafficking Committee Chairman Ona Tate, Labor and Industry Committee Chairman Audrey Yarbrough (standing in for Yarbrough, who is not pictured, is member Gerry Cox), Law Enforcement Committee Chairman Kathryn Kirui, and Veterans Affairs Chairman Wayne Carlton.



POMONA MAYOR PRESENTS WELCOMING COMMENTS -- Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval greets Mistress of Ceremonies Dr. Dorothy Shepherd at last month's installation of officers of the Pomona Valley Branch NAACP.

Because of this phenomenon, she said, "many minority groups are partnering with the NAACP in more important ways than ever to build stronger bridges for justice for all."

"This institution, with its long history of inclusion and its far reach of membership, continues to serve to unite our community and our nation in this effort," she added.

Founding President Jeanette Royston, who revived the local branch when membership passed the required 100-member mark in February 2014, was again elected President of the organization.

The installation of officers and year-end banquet, this year on the theme "Moving Forward with Strength and Courage," was held

last month at Pomona's dA Center for the Arts in Downtown Pomona, where artist and sculptor James Ellison unveiled his latest work, a high-fired stoneware bust of President Obama, that Ellison said he named "The Orator" as he presented it to the NAACP branch.

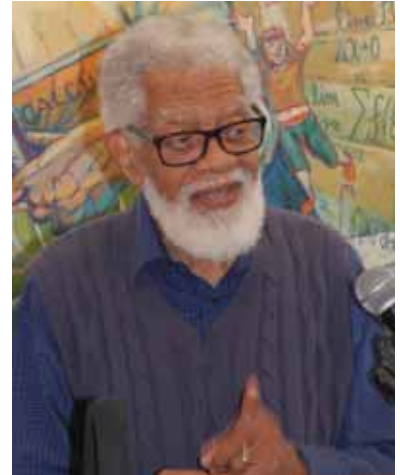
It was the first major donation to the group.

"I named the sculpture 'The Orator' because I saw in him a true orator, one who through the power of speech can bring hope and from that hope will spring the courage to do what the naysayers say is impossible," said Ellison, a

former art instructor at Nogales High School in La Puente.

"He has brought hope to the American people and the world but now as the tides have turned we need his clear, stable voice even more than when he was in office," he added.

Mistress of Ceremonies at the event was Dr. Dorothy Shepherd, Ph.D., an author and retired educator who hosts the weekly radio program "Shepherd's Inspirational Time" on radio station KPRO AM 1570. She is also a member of the NAACP Pomona Valley Branch.



HISTORY OF THE NAACP -- Pomona Valley Branch NAACP Second Vice President Hal Jackson presented a brief history of the NAACP during last month's annual installation of officers in Pomona.

NAACP... pg. 8

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Expert care with a personal touch

NAACP... from pg. 7

Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval congratulated the new officers and thanked them for their service.

Keynote speaker at the event was State Sen. Connie Leyva.

The local branch, originally founded in 1968, had been inactive for nearly 25 years.

It includes members who live or work in Pomona, Upland, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Claremont, Diamond Bar, Chino, Chino Hills, San Dimas, Montclair and La Verne.

For more information, contact (909) 764-7833, e-mail jrellisroyston@aol.com or visit the web site at www.naacp-pomona-valley.org.



Pomona Valley Branch NAACP President Jeanette Royston helps artist James Ellison unveil his bust of President Obama at last month's annual NAACP meeting. Ellison said he named the work "The Orator."



A bust of President Obama by artist James Ellison was presented to the Pomona Valley Branch NAACP at its annual meeting last month.



CHRISTMAS IN POMONA'S MOBILE HOME PARKS -- Christmas came on Christmas Eve day this year for kids and their parents in the mobile home parks of Pomona, all courtesy of former Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin and Benny Ayala (of the office of State Sen. Connie Leyva) and his family. The group started at Foothill Mobile Park in North Pomona and planned to visit other mobile home parks in the city as long as the gifts for kids lasted, Ayala said. Hundreds of toys were collected and the group held a wrapping party with the help of student volunteers from Cal Poly University Pomona, members of Associated Students, Inc., at Cal Poly, even Cal Poly President Dr. Soraya Coley, Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church in Pomona and others. Ayala and his family have coordinated the program for the past eight years. About 100 gifts were donated by Sen. Leyva, with others donated by Santa Claus, Inc., and Toys for Tots in Upland. Pictured with some of the kids with their gifts and their parents are members of the Ayala family and others. At back left is Ayala and Catalina Valera, of Pomona, back row, center, is Debra Martin, at back right is Cal Poly Associated Students Vice President Gabriel Smith, front row, left of center, is Ayala's mom, Maura Ayala, and front row, center, kneeling, is Rolando Lumbsden, of Bethel Church.

EARLY CHRISTMAS PRESENT -- Pictured with her early Christmas present from the Ayala family and friends is Zoe Garcia, 3, and her dad, Julio Garcia. In the background is former Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin standing next to a carload of groceries including turkeys and other holiday items. Some of the food donations were provided by the Bethel Church food bank.



PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN DAY ONE AND POMONA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT RESULTS IN NEW REFILLABLE WATER STATIONS AT TWO HIGH SCHOOLS --

Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, at right, speaks at a "grand opening" of a refillable water station this month at Pomona High School with Pomona Unified School District Board member Frank Guzman, at left, and Benny Ayala, of State Sen. Connie Leyva's office, looking on. The water stations are set up for refilling personal water bottles and were installed at Pomona and Ganesha High School by the school district after Day One



students surveyed more than 500 students at the two schools and learned that 88 percent were not consuming the recommended amount of water a day. In addition, 79 percent of the students said they consume two or more sugary drinks a day, and 96 percent said they would drink more water if it was readily available. The non-profit Day One works with students to reduce youth access to tobacco, improve parks, combat obesity, improve exercise habits and focus on the foods and drinks that are consumed. Day One is funded through the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to provide culturally-sensitive public health education in the field of nutrition to residents of Pomona.

A student at Pomona High School tries out the new refillable water station by filling up her own water bottle with water. Students surveyed said they would drink more water instead of soda if a water supply was readily available.



NHRA MUSEUM, CHP PARTNER FOR THIRD YEAR -- Pomona's NHRA Motorsports Museum partnered with the California Highway Patrol for the third year last month in the "CHiPs for Kids" Christmas toy drive to collect toys for children in the local community. CHP Baldwin Park Area Public Information Officer Rodrigo Jimenez told La Nueva Voz that partners in the program collected more than 400 toys at last month's Twilight Cruise Night car show outside the museum on the grounds at Pomona's Fairplex. In all, more than 6,000 toys -- 2,000 more than last year -- were donated to organizations, churches, hospitals and less fortunate children in the East San Gabriel Valley cities served by the CHP Baldwin Park Area office. Pictured at the car show with a sampling of the toys and gifts are, from left, museum marketing director Rose Dickinson; CHP Officers William Bury and Rodrigo Jimenez; museum director Larry Fisher; Twilight Cruise coordinator John Duran; Sumeer Thapar, manager of Walgreens at 1131 S. Glendora Ave., West Covina; and Walgreens assistant manager Doug Evans. Walgreens partners with the CHP every year by both collecting toys from employees and customers and providing toys to car club members at the event who wish to donate.

Chamber to host welcome reception for newly elected city officials

The Pomona Chamber of Commerce will host a welcome reception for the city's new Mayor and new members of the Pomona City Council next month at Mountain Meadows Golf Course in

Pomona.

The event is scheduled for 5 to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 22, at the golf course, located at 1875 Fairplex Drive, Pomona.

Tickets are \$20 for members

and \$30 for non-members. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

For more information, contact the chamber at (909) 622-1256 or info@pomonachamber.org.

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Dr. Airani Sathananthan or Dr. Cesar Ochoa

Phone: 909-469-8412

Email: diabetesresearch@westernu.edu

Address: 795 East Second Street, Second Floor, Suite 5, Pomona, CA 91766-2007

Inter Valley Health Plan announces schedule of free classes for February

Inter Valley Health Plan has announced its February list of classes designed for the over 55 community.

“Medicare Step by Step” is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, Feb. 4, or at

5:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16, for those turning 65 in the next six months. Online RSVP’s for this class only are required at ivhp.com/step-by-step.

“Tips and Tricks to Sell Your Home”

is scheduled for 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, featuring a speaker from Wheeler Steffen Sotheby’s.

“How Diet Affects Your Heart” is scheduled for 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, featuring a Cal Poly University Pomona dietitian graduate student who will reveal the latest information on what foods are best for those diagnosed with heart failure or for those who want to know how to eat to keep your heart

healthy.

“Hands Only CPR” is scheduled for 10 a.m. Wednesday, Feb. 15, featuring a registered nurse from the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Stead Heart & Vascular Center demonstrating this life-saving method and discussing signs and symptoms of a heart attack.

“Towel Creations” is scheduled for 1 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 23, for a first-hand

look at how those towel creations on cruise ships are made.

All classes are free and will be held at the Inter Valley Health Plan Medicare Information and Vitality Center, in the Pomona Valley Health Center Building, 1601 Monte Vista Ave., Suite 275, Claremont.

RSVP’s are required by calling (800) 251-8191 or going on line at forhealthandliving.com/ivhpevents.

Pomona motorcycle officer, critically injured while responding to traffic fatality, continues to improve

Pomona Police Motorcycle Officer Trevor Stevenson, critically injured this month when his motorcycle was struck by a vehicle while he was responding to a report of a nearby fatal hit and run accident, is continuing to improve in his recovery in the intensive care unit of an area hospital.

Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro told La Nueva Voz Stevenson had a major and very successful surgery last week to repair broken bones.

“We’re continuing to ask for prayers,” Capraro said in a telephone interview, adding that it is still unclear when he will be moved or what the future holds for the officer – whether an interim hospital or a rehabilitation facility.

Capraro said he has continued to maintain contact with the officer’s family, doctors and the hospital and has been assured the officer is responsive.

La Nueva Voz has learned that members of the community have rallied in support of Stevenson in an effort to raise funds for the family.

Stevenson, 32, a nine-year veteran of the Pomona Police Department,



Officer Trevor Stevenson

was injured when his motorcycle collided with the “pillar” of an oncoming vehicle where the windshield and driver’s door meet. He was ejected from the motorcycle.

The officer has served in law enforcement for a total of 12 years.

At the request of the Pomona Police Department,

California Highway Patrol officers are continuing to investigate both ac-

Pomona officer... pg. 15

Two heads are better than one.



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NEW FAMILY SEAFOOD RESTAURANT OPENS IN POMONA -- Mariscos La Cabaña, El Mejor Restaurante Familiar (the best family restaurant), has opened its doors in Pomona serving Mexican food with an emphasis on seafood. And, after trying it out at this month's Pomona Chamber of Commerce networking luncheon, La Nueva Voz found the servings to be muy grande and muy bueno. Owners Abel Mendoza and Josie Roa have done a great job with the place and they still have a few surprises to come. Pictured, from left, are owners Josie Roa and Abel Mendoza, Pomona Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto, Pomona City Councilmembers Robert Torres, representing Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, and Rubio Gonzalez, Pomona Chamber President Jill Dolan of Mt. San Antonio College, Pomona Chamber Board members Gloria Mitchell of Gloria Mitchell Bail Bonds of Pomona and Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, and Pomona Chamber Ambassadors Vita and Frank Gonzales of USA Fit Force Taekwondo of Pomona. The restaurant is located at 1604 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona. For more information, call (909) 251-8097.



Ethel Gardner, founder and executive director of Pomona's Kennedy Austin Foundation, pictured at rear, right of center, poses with foundation volunteers and supporters -- and some of the kids with their gifts -- at last month's fifth annual holiday toy drive at foundation headquarters, featuring music, food and toys for the kids. Gardner said 1,000 families -- lined up and down the block from 8 a.m. on -- participated in this year's event. Many families participating in the event were selected by officials at Pomona Unified School District. Members of the Black Knights motorcycle club donated some of the toys.

Muhammad Ali's daughter Laila Ali to speak at annual Casa Colina gala

Laila Ali, a boxing champion, fitness and wellness expert and the daughter of the late Muhammad Ali, will be guest speaker next month at the annual Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare Tribute to Courage Gala at the Sheraton Fair-

plex Conference Center in Pomona.

The black tie optional event is scheduled to begin with a reception at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 4.

Past and present courageous patients are honored each year at the event.

Following in the footsteps of her father, Ali is a four-time undefeated boxing world champion, whose record includes 24 wins, 21 of which were knockouts, and zero losses.

She is heralded as the most successful female in the history of

women's boxing.

Proceeds from the event benefit Casa Colina's free and uncompensated care fund, which helps provide care for under-resourced patients and, in some cases, temporary housing for patients' families so they

may be near their loved ones during the often-lengthy rehabilitation process.

For more information, tickets and sponsorships, visit the web site at www.casacolina.org or call (909) 596-7733, ext. 2223.

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THE WEEKEND GARDENER by Leif Green

Trump: Love'm or hate'm!

"Flowers are restful to look at. They have neither emotions nor conflicts." - Sigmund Freud

This is not a political column. Opinions of Donald Trump run the entire spectrum and I'm not jumping into that morass. But with the antics of the candidates and the circus of the recent election, there is one item I'm sure most of us can agree upon: Over the next four years, we're going to need a lot of popcorn!



Leif Green

Popcorn is really a very versatile food. Let's start with some basic preparation. Most brands are pretty much alike. There is no need to purchase the premium priced brands; intermediate priced brands work just fine. Popping the corn in different oils imparts different flavors. I prefer palm oil. Of all the vegetable oils, palm oil is probably the most disgusting in appearance. Most vegetable oils are clear

and yellow to gold in color. In contrast, palm oil is orange, semi-solid and flows like ketchup, but it is sooo tasty! It also helps additions, like salt, stick to the popcorn. Once the corn is popped, melt half a stick of butter in a sauce pan. Heat it until it just starts to turn brown.

Here is where you can get creative. Into the butter, try adding one or two tablespoons of finely chopped herbs from your garden. Dill is one of my favorites, but fresh basil or rosemary also are delicious. Thyme, parsley and other fresh herbs also can be used. They also can be mixed in varying combinations. Use your imagination. For those of you with citrus trees, try adding some lemon or orange zest. To add some heat, add some thinly sliced jalapenos,

seeds removed of course. Frying the jalapenos first adds another layer of flavor. It doesn't have to be jalapenos. Use your favorite pepper(s). Sprinkle or mix in some fresh cilantro for a hint of salsa flavor. For another variation, try dividing the popcorn into several bowls before adding any herbs or other flavorings. Several varieties then can be made at once. These can be used for entertaining friends or for doing a side by side taste comparison.

A variety of flavors can be added to popcorn limited only by what is growing in your garden. Be adventurous and try different combinations. The palm oil and butter do add a lot of fat and calories, but they also add a lot of flavor. By mixing fresh herbs from your garden into the popcorn you also can pretend it's healthy!

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.



MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY OF SERVICE -- Members of the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority pose this month for the camera during their sixth annual Martin Luther King, Jr., Day of Service Sunday Supper. The event, at Pomona's Primm AME Tabernacle Church, was hosted by the sorority's Epsilon Eta Omega and Sigma Rho chapters. In all, 40 members reflected on the legacy of Dr. King while sharing a meal and discussing issues that impact society. In addition, the group hosted a breakfast and clothing drive the following Monday at the Pomona Valley Christian Center. This event was held in partnership with Webb Family Enterprises and the Farm Store at Cal Poly University Pomona. The group served breakfast to 100 men and women in transition from the Pomona Winter Shelter. This year marked the 10th year the sorority sponsored "A Day On, Not a Day Off" community service event.

Making a positive difference... from pg. 5

and crew leader for Bright Prospect, a Pomona-based non-profit organization that helps students become accepted to and graduate from colleges and universities.

She believes education is not only about academics but also about life and growth. She said promoting social justice has impacted her life by making her realize her capabilities.

Dillard said in his application that as a way of giving back to the community "I have taken the time to educate and share the knowledge I have learned through being an Explorer with the teens of my church, school and with the entire church family my concerns and ways to subside the distrust."

He serves the community by

checking on elderly seniors in his community and helping them with chores after school.

As vice president of Teens in Progress of Second Baptist Church in Monrovia, he led an effort to help heal tension in the community by taking food, water and greetings from the church to the Monrovia Police Department to show the police they are appreciated.

He said one of the biggest lessons King taught him is non-discrimination.

The awards are given to young people ages 15 to 19 who have made a difference in the communities through their commitment to social justice.

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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.

House of Ruth calls on community for support in anticipation of possible federal funding cuts

Officials at the Claremont-based House of Ruth, which also has a presence in Pomona, have called on members of the community to contact their representatives in Congress in support of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) following reports that the Trump administration intends to end funding of the critical grants program.

"The Violence Against Women Act is a vital bridge between our nation's good intentions and the resources victims actually need to be safe," said Sue Aebischer, executive director of House of Ruth, adding that the elimination of federal funding will deny victims and

their children the safety and justice they deserve.

"VAWA prepares police officers to respond to domestic violence calls (and) finances affordable housing so women don't have to choose between homelessness and safety," she added. "It enables agencies like House of Ruth to guide victims through the process of obtaining a restraining order or securing custody of their children."

She said without funding, the act "becomes a set of platitudes."

In addition to contacting members of Congress and the U.S. Senate, she urged members of the community to

encourage friends to call or write as well.

"If you are a survivor of domestic violence, share your story and let your community know why these resources were important to you," Aebischer added.

House of Ruth is a nonprofit agency providing shelter, counseling and other services to victims of domestic violence.

Founded in 1977, it runs a 24-hour hotline, a residential shelter with emergency and transitional housing, and a counseling and community services program.

It provides services to 5,000 community members each year and educates an additional 10,000 through a prevention program.



'OLD-NEW' REUNION AT BRIGHT PROSPECT -- One of the greatest benefits for students of being in Bright Prospect is getting support and advice from the older students in the program -- those who are just ahead of them in their path to and through college. And the annual "Old-New" Reunion is one of the best examples of this ethic of giving back and helping younger students succeed in their goals, according to Bright Prospect Executive Director Stephanie Campbell. Pictured at last month's reunion are Lexi Rodriguez, at left, and Taylor Olson, both 17 and both of Ontario High School. A total of 131 college students affiliated with Bright Prospect visited with 204 current Bright Prospect high school seniors at the reunion, held at the conference center at the Village at Indian Hill in Pomona. The high school seniors had just completed their college application process. The non-profit Pomona-based Bright Prospect empowers high-potential, low-income high school students to gain admission, succeed and graduate from four-year colleges and universities.

Today's cuentito By Susie Perales

Gift card blues

Going Christmas shopping one day last month was a big challenge. Everything was going so wrong I thought it was Friday the 13th!

We gave the cashier two gift cards, but she couldn't figure out how to give us credit for the second one. She kept trying like 3, 4, 5 times to figure it out.

Finally, she decided to call the math whiz in charge to come rescue her from this dilemma. It took this lady 25 minutes to finally show up! I looked at the happy campers behind us and there were maybe 50 people in line!

I thought to myself, "I didn't know you needed calculus to get this straightened out."

The manager confidently tried to correct the error. She told the cashier, "you're adding to the balance, you need to deduct it."

I thought, "no kidding, Pancho Villa."

Guess what! She couldn't figure it out either. She tried it so many times that she locked the register! By this time I was starting to get a ginormous migraine and I was trying to be patient.

She went to the register on the other side and tried fixing it over there. Nope, that didn't work either.

Then, Ms. Einstein came back to the cashier and said, "do you have a calcu-

lator," sounding all embarrassed. I thought, "whatever happened to brains, are they no longer in fashion?"

So she did some magic with her calculator and said that she took care of it and for me not to worry. Okay, red flag right there. She was actually not going to give me the receipt so I wouldn't be able to see exactly what she did.

I noticed that it wasn't right. She charged us twice for tax! I was boiling and getting ready to pound someone, in between saying some serious Hail Marys.


I took a look at the line behind me again and I could've sworn those people were all holding bats in their hands. So I gave up the fight and under my breath I thanked her for the migraine.

I kept my cool, because I usually make sure that every item they scan is not overcharging us. But I threw in the towel and I don't do that unless it's in the hamper! I gave it to the Lord and to the huge line of glaring, angry customers who were texting their buddies about wanting to clobber us in the parking lot!!!

Editor's Note: Susie Perales, an occasional contributor to La Nueva Voz, wrote for the old La Voz, the predecessor of this newspaper. She and her husband Angel live in Pomona.

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COUNTING DOWN TO LIGHT THE TREE -- As one of his last official acts last month, Pomona's former Mayor Elliott Rothman, at left, once again joined Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center President and CEO Rich Yochum and, of course, Santa himself in the 18th annual countdown to signal the lighting of the Christmas tree high atop the hospital and visible for miles.

FLIPPING THE SWITCH -- And with a flip of the switch, the lights on the 65-foot-tall tree atop a six-story tower were turned on to shine over Pomona throughout the holiday season. The Garey High School String Ensemble, under the direction of Stefan Lawe, provided holiday music again this year, along with "Karousel Kids," a local theater group, providing entertainment for the kids.



Daughter of Pomona mom burned to death on Christmas Day identified as one of two victims gunned down in Pomona

Tragedy struck the same family a year later for the second time this month when unknown assailants gunned down the daughter of a 41-year-old Pomona mother who was allegedly doused with gasoline and lit on fire by her boyfriend on Christmas Day 2015 in north Pomona.

Corin Hensley, 25, was identified by a City of Pomona spokesperson as one of two victims discovered in a vehicle that had crashed and come to rest in the front yard of a residence following the attack in the 2200 block of Larchmont Street in Pomona.

The second victim was a male black adult between the age of 25 and 30 years old.

Pomona police responding to a call of a shooting found the two victims suffering from gunshot wounds. Los Angeles County Fire Department personnel attempted life saving measures but both victims were pronounced



Corin Hensley, at left, and her brother Nigel Hensley at a news briefing last January at the Kennedy Austin Foundation in Pomona.

dead at the scene, according to a police department "Nixle" notification.

Police were continuing to look for a suspect or suspects in the murder investigation.

"Pomona Cares," a response team that engages with families following

the loss of life due to violence or death of a child, was activated to assist the family, according to Andrea Rico, governmental and community affairs manager for the City of Pomona.

The team – in partnership with the Pomona Police Department and Ethel Gardner of Pomona's Kennedy Austin Foundation – has been working with the family since January 2016.

The family is facing new challenges following this month's incident as Hensley

left behind three small children of her own and three younger brothers, Rico said.

The Kennedy Austin Foundation is accepting donations based on needs identified in a recent meeting with the family.

Items may include gift cards for food, gas cards, diapers for a seven-month-old, warm baby clothes (girl's size 9 to 12 months), and assistance with relocation expenses.

The team is also working with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office victim services representative to assist with burial expenses.

Dawn Hensley died at a local hospital on Christmas Day 2015 following an apparent argument with her boyfriend who allegedly chased her outside, doused her with gasoline and set her on fire in front of the apartment building in which she lived in the 1500 block of Cordova Street in Pomona, near Indian Hill Boulevard and San Bernardino Avenue.

Her boyfriend, Clarence Dear, was arrested in Pasadena two days following the incident. He was booked on suspicion of murder with the special circumstances of torture in the case. Bail was set at \$1 million. He was arraigned last November.

A pre-preliminary hearing in that case is scheduled for Dear at 8:30 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 2 in Pomona Superior Courthouse South.

Hensley and her brother, Nigel, now 20, had been working with support groups in Pomona over the past year to get their family back together. Their younger brothers initially were placed in the Los Angeles County foster care system.

For more information on donations, contact Rico at (909) 620-3683 or the Kennedy Austin Foundation at (909) 480-3357.

Anyone with information regarding the shooting itself is encouraged to contact the Pomona Police Department at (909) 620-2085 or, to remain anonymous, call "LA County Crime Stoppers" at (800) 222-TIPS (8477).

Sadie 2001 - 2017



-- A loyal dog loved by all.

Sadie, abandoned in Pasadena as a pup and adopted by the Schenkel family at the Pasadena Humane Society, grew up in San Dimas and lived with Ashley Schenkel for the past 10 years in Capistrano Beach (Dana Point). And yes, Sadie loved the beach. Jeff Schenkel, Ashley's dad, is the publisher of La Nueva Voz.

From "Old Shep" (1941):

"Now old Sheppie is gone where the good doggies go
And no more with old Shep will I roam
But if dogs have a heaven, there's one thing I know
Old Shep has a wonderful home."

Words and music by Clyde (Red) Foley (of the Grand Ole Opry) and Arthur Willis

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Pomona Officer... from pg. 10

idents although no arrests have been made, according to the CHP.

“Trevor is a young, energetic police officer who is always eager to serve the community of Pomona,” Capraro said. “During his time of need I ask that the community continues to pray for his rapid recuperation.”

The original Pomona Police Department “Nixle” (nixle.com) notification, released by Pomona Police Watch Commander Lt. Eddie Vazquez, consisted of an advisory to the public at 7:59 a.m. Jan. 10 to avoid the 2200 block of North Garey Avenue and the 1400 block of North Garey Avenue due to an officer-involved traffic collision.

The Nixle message said the motor officer was responding to a fatal hit and run traffic collision at 6:35 a.m. at 2200 North Garey Avenue when he was involved in a separate collision in the 1400 block of North Garey Avenue. He was critically injured and transported to a hospital for treatment.

That same notification added that the suspect in the original traffic collision returned to the scene.

California Highway Patrol Officer Rodrigo Jimenez, public information officer for the CHP’s Baldwin Park Area office, told La Nueva Voz in an e-mail last week that no arrests have been made to date in connection with either accident.

The CHP collision report described weather conditions as “cool and cloudy” when Stevenson’s 2013 BMW motorcycle collided with a 2000 Ford Explorer driven by Pearce Bruyn, 22, of Pomona.

Stevenson was traveling northbound on Garey Avenue approaching Garfield Avenue in Pomona when Bruyn, traveling southbound on Garey, allegedly began to make a left turn “directly in the path of Officer Stevenson’s motorcycle,” according to the CHP report.

Bruyn, who was not injured, remained on the scene until he was transported to the Pomona Police Department for questioning.

The original accident occurred at 6:20 a.m. on Garey Avenue in Pomona north of Freda Avenue when a 2012 Toyota Corolla traveling southbound and driven by Gregorio Barrios, 21, of Pomona, allegedly struck a pedestrian, a 60-year-old Pomona man, identified by the CHP as a transient, whose name has been withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The driver of the car was not injured.

According to the CHP, the victim stepped off of the sidewalk on the west side of the street in front of the vehicle and the driver was unable to

avoid striking him.

The driver allegedly continued driving from the scene without stopping, according to the CHP collision report, but returned at approximately 8.55 a.m. and contacted officers investigating the incident, allegedly identifying himself as the driver.

According to the CHP, alcohol or drugs were not suspected to be a factor in the collision.

Anyone with information regarding either collision is encouraged to contact the CHP at (626) 338-1164.

A fundraiser with proceeds to go directly to Stevenson’s family will be held at 6 p.m. Friday, Jan. 27, at Old Stump Brewery in Pomona featuring spaghetti dinners from Vince’s for \$10.

In addition, a “gofundme” account has been created at www.gofundme.com/37zmet4.

And a t-shirt fundraiser is under way with proceeds going for medical bills and financial support for the family. To purchase a t-shirt, go to www.booster.com/stevenson-strong.



FIESTA NAVIDEÑA -- It was time for the annual Christmas party last month at the Pomona Economic Opportunity Center with gifts, a holiday meal and, of course, Santa himself for Pomona’s day laborers and their families. Pictured with the party in the background are, from left, Economic Opportunity Center Board members Javier Hernandez, Yesenia Gonzalez and Junko Ihrke (with her dog, Nancy, a Pug), Board President; San Gabriel and Pomona Valley Latina/Latino Roundtable President Jose Calderon; and Pancho Claus (a day laborer himself). In front, from left, are Jesus Hernandez, 8, and Ruben Rodriguez, 6.



DCFS MOMS HOLD WINTER EVENT -- Members of Padres en Compañerismo (Parents in Partnership), a program that consists of parents with former cases in the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services (representing most DCFS offices throughout the county), held their winter event and holiday dinner last month at Calvary Grace Church in Monrovia. Members include moms who have been homeless, on drugs, working as prostitutes and more. All had children detained by DCFS. Today, they contribute to the system by serving in DCFS offices helping to educate parents on how to follow their case plan and advocate for themselves and their family. They provide support groups for the new moms with DCFS cases and help them find low-to no-cost resources, all calling on their own experience. The group invites the new moms to the holiday party each year for dinner and to receive toys, clothing and other essentials. Organizers pictured after the event having a little fun of their own are, from left, at rear, Adrianna Ortiz, Kimberly Manzanares, Rachel Chavez, Kristy Barton, and Laura De Luna. In front, from left, are Lisa Dolatre and the group’s countywide lead Jennifer Olague. Gifts for the moms including toys and gift cards were provided by the California Highway Patrol, the Pomona Police Department’s Operation Santa Cop, Cardenas Markets, Olive Garden, Pomona Valley Girl Scout Council and others.

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