



La Nueva Voz

The New Voice, a Bilingual (English/Spanish) Publication
Pomona's only community newspaper!



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Pomona joins cities nationwide in observing 'National Night Out' – and the show goes on, even in the rain!

The entire City of Pomona joined more than 15,000 communities nationwide this month in an annual observance of "National Night Out" – but this year in Pomona, the community outreach event was observed the hard way – in the rain!

Even so, the rain didn't appear to dampen either spirits or attendance – the Civic Center Plaza was filled and the fearless Kiwanis cooks carried on cooking dozens of hot dogs and hamburgers for visitors.

The rain surprised everybody and started with just a drizzle right



RAINDROPS BEGINNING TO FALL -- The rain couldn't wash away smiles at Pomona's National Night Out this month as the entire community came together to support the police department and help in the on-going crime prevention effort. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Police Department Capt. Hector Rodriguez, Miss Pomona Princess Melanie Alva, Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro, Miss Pomona Princess Marleni Munguia, Miss Pomona Yazmin Torres, and Pomona City Councilmember Adriana Robledo, who served as a Miss Pomona Princess in 2001 and who participated in reviving and improving the Miss Pomona Scholarship Program.

around the time the presentations were scheduled to begin. In fact, event organizer Cpl. James Gibson, who heads up the Pomona Police Department's Community Programs Unit, started the ceremonies early to try to beat the rain but, almost as an introduction, the winds picked up and a whirlwind started stirring up leaves right in front of the stage.

Gibson told the crowd of more than 200 it was "interesting" weather.

Heavy rain didn't start falling until after the presentations, but

even that didn't seem to slow things down. (La Nueva Voz learned later that several surrounding cities canceled due to the rain altogether.)

Even Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, wearing a rain-soaked National Night Out polo shirt, smiled when he told La Nueva Voz it was only a "cleansing" process.

During the opening ceremonies, Sandoval presented the police department with a proclamation declaring "National Night Out in the City of Pomona" as

National Night Out... pg. 4



POMONA'S NATIONAL NIGHT OUT A SUCCESS -- IN THE RAIN! -- Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval presented the Pomona Police Department a proclamation declaring "National Night Out" in Pomona this month -- just moments before a little rainy weather moved in to the Civic Center Plaza. Pictured during the ceremonies before turning over the stage to members of "The Impulseband" are, from left, Sandoval; Cpl. James Gibson of the Pomona Police Department's Community Programs Unit; and Pomona City Councilmembers Adriana Robledo, Cristina Carrizosa and Rubio Gonzalez. Also present was Pomona City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole.

Pomona Unified's backpack giveaway signals start of school year

It was backpack giveaway time this month in the Pomona Unified School District – something that each year means two things: a lot of backpacks are going to be handed to kids across the table and the first day of school is right around the corner.

And, just in case you haven't no-
Backpack giveaway... pg. 5

NEVER TOO YOUNG -- OR TOO SMALL! -- If it is all about getting off on the right foot in your education, this little guy came to the right place to get his first back-to-school backpack, courtesy of the Pomona Unified School District's annual backpack giveaway. Some 3,500 backpacks were given away in the day-long event this month at the conference center at the Village at Indian Hill in Pomona. Oh, and good choice on that color -- matches the outfit.




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Pomona Unified School District GOLDEN BELL AWARD WINNER

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RIBBON CUTTING AT FOOHILL FAMILY'S NEW POMONA LOCATION -- Elected officials and the Pomona Chamber of Commerce joined Foothill Family for a ribbon cutting last week to officially open their new Pomona office. The organization provides mental health services, early childhood development services, school-based behavioral health services and youth and family services including child abuse and domestic violence treatment and prevention and more. Foothill Family CEO Steve Allen told business leaders and members of the community the 91-year-old organization offers an array of mental health and social services but also provides mental health services in 172 schools in 16 school districts. He said the Pomona office was Foothill's eighth location. "We live in some troubling times right now in this country but even before that children need us and mental health is so important," said State Sen. Connie Leyva. Representatives were also on hand to present certificates from the office of Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis and the City of Pomona. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Chamber ambassador Monique Manzanares, of Social Vocational Services; Chamber Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz; Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto; State Sen. Connie Leyva; Foothill Family CEO Steve Allen; Foothill Board member Mike Beckman; Chamber ambassadors Frank and Vita Gonzales of Pomona's U.S.A. Fit Force Taekwondo; Laura Soltero-Line, a family support specialist at Foothill; and Erin Copeland, Foothill's program manager. The Pomona office is located at 436 W. 4th St., Suite 222, Pomona. For more information, call (626) 993-3000.



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Photo courtesy of the Office of State Sen. Connie Leyva

SENATOR LEYVA CONVENES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ROUNDTABLE -- State Sen. Connie Leyva conducted a Chamber of Commerce Roundtable last week in San Bernardino to bring together chamber leaders from throughout her district and hear their "unique perspective" on how to collaborate to strengthen the economic vitality of the Inland Empire. "It was my pleasure to host a successful 20th State Senate District Chamber of Commerce roundtable discussion," Leyva said. "I very much appreciated the great dialogue with these local business leaders and look forward to continue working together to move our Inland Empire economy forward." Leyva added that she hopes the effort will result in expanded career tech training opportunities that help workers and industry alike. Pictured with Leyva, from left, are regional chamber leaders Leslie Jimenez, Inland Empire Region Director, California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Minerva Hernandez and Cecilia Vasquez, of the Pomona Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Pomona Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erica Frausto; Frank Montes, Board Chairman, California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Juanita Ruiz, Inland Empire Vice President, National Latina Business Women Association; Leyva; Peggi Hazlett, President and CEO, Ontario Chamber of Commerce; Gloria Martinez, Executive Director, Fontana Chamber of Commerce; and Miguel Contreras, Inland Empire Region Director, California Hispanic Chamber of Commerce.

National Night Out... from pg. 1

part of the nation's 34th annual observance of the event which is an opportunity for Pomona to join "thousands of communities across the country in this crime prevention effort."

In addition to Sandoval, participating officials included Pomona

City Councilmembers Adriana Robledo, Rubio Gonzalez, Cristina Carrizosa and Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, along with representatives of Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, State Sen. Connie Leyva and Congresswoman Norma Torres.

National Night Out is held each year to improve communication between the community and the police department and to help prevent crime and drug use in the community.

It is presented by the police de-

partment's crime prevention unit to promote awareness, safety and neighborhood unity.

Each year, more than 37.1 million people throughout the country and in U.S. territories and military bases around the world participate in the event known as "America's Night Out Against Crime."

Included each year are demonstrations, police and fire equipment, information booths, games, raffle prizes, entertainment, crafts and more.

Tim Constantine named new Board Chair at Inland Valley Hope Partners

Tim Constantine, who has served on the Board of Inland Valley Hope Partners since 2014, has been named the new Board Chair succeeding Sharonda White of Inesperity

efforts with Amy's Farm in Ontario, again to help support Hope Partners.

According to a spokesperson, this effort combines Constantine's love of gardening with his belief that in America, no one should go hungry.

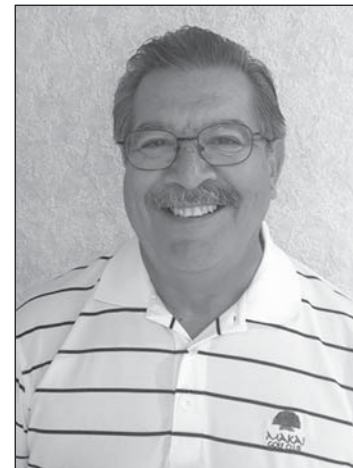
Constantine has been associated with Hope Partners since 2009, when he and his mother volunteered at the San Dimas Pantry where he still works.

He founded the Constantine Family Garden and Orchard in 2012, where hundreds of pounds of fruit and vegetables have been produced that have been donated to Hope Partners' five food pantries located throughout the Inland Empire.

That garden has combined

with his wife, Peggy. Inland Valley Hope Partners has been providing food and emergency shelter to the community's hungry and homeless since 1968.

For more information, visit the web site at www.inland-valleyhopepartners.org.



Tim Constantine

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Backpack giveaway... from. pg. 1

ticed the school buses and the school crossing guards on your way to work, that first day of school came as always this month, signaling the end of summer vacation and back to work for a total enrollment districtwide of 22,381.

This year's teaching, non-teaching and administrative staff totals 4,313, according to a district spokesperson.

The day long backpack giveaway was held again this year in the conference center at the Vil-

lage at Indian Hill in Pomona, coordinated by the district's family support services team.

Kids had to be in transitional kindergarten through 12th grade, enrolled in Pomona Unified and had to show up with a parent or guardian to be eligible. And all were welcome.

The doors opened at 8 a.m. and, according to district officials, an estimated 2,000 parents and kids had been lined up since 6 a.m. all the way out to Holt Avenue.

from free pencils and bottles of water from Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis to free toothbrushes to information on free dental screenings and more.

(Did you know the experts now say it is important for kids to have their first dental check-up by age one?)

And the backpacks themselves, a total of 3,500 of them this year available in a choice of colors, were loaded with folders, binders, notebook paper, pencils and more.

Free age-appropriate books

quite a few different people but the biggest partnership was with the Child Support Services Department of Los Angeles County (Pomona office)," said Patti Azevedo, program administrator for school mental health services based at the district's Family Support Resource Center.



ORGANIZERS OF BACKPACK GIVEAWAY -- Pomona Unified School District Assistant Supt. of Pupil and Community Services Fernando Meza, at left, and Patti Azevedo, program administrator for school mental health services, are all smiles as the district's annual backpack giveaway goes smoothly this month -- with some 3,500 donated backpacks distributed to students in the district.

FAIRPLEX ART CONTEST AT THE BACKPACK GIVEAWAY -- The last stop before heading on out to go home was a chance to stop by the coloring table and knock out an entry in this year's Fairplex coloring contest. Entries are still being accepted through Aug. 29 at Fairplex and winners will have a chance to win four tickets to the L.A. County Fair on Pomona Day and participate in the Pomona Day Parade, plus the artwork will be displayed during the Fair. Pomona Day at the Fair this year is on opening day, Friday, Sept. 1.

At noon, they were still lining up although the crowds slowed down a bit during the afternoon.

It was really "one stop shopping" for school with everything you need in one place --



BACKPACKS FOR THE BIG KIDS -- There were backpacks on hand for the big kids as well as the younger students at this month's annual Pomona Unified School District backpack giveaway. These were a little bigger and were also filled with all the basic school supplies for that first day at school.

were available again this year, but they were gone before noon, a district spokesperson said.

The district's backpack giveaway actually grows each year, each time adding something new to the offerings, and staff from throughout the district and volunteers get better each year at the distribution process.

"This year we partnered with

"They did an awesome job," she said, adding that they brought in volunteers and more.

Even firemen from the local Los Angeles County fire stations came in to help out for a while, and even brought in some backpacks of their own to add to the mix.

"The volunteers have been great -- the women and the men that they brought are very pumped

THREE GENERATIONS -- Not only were three sisters lining up at the "free toothbrush" table at this year's Pomona Unified School District backpack giveaway, there were three generations on hand to meet three of Pomona's elected officials stopping by to say hello. Pictured, from left, are Pomona City Councilmembers Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole and Rubio Gonzalez, along with Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval.

and very excited and really just jumped right in," Azevedo added.

In all, she estimated there were about 35 volunteers from throughout the district in addition to volunteers from the American Marketing Association and several sororities at Cal Poly University Pomona and even different school principals and students from around Pomona Unified.

Most of the backpacks and supplies -- or the money to purchase them -- were donated by various churches and other businesses and organizations.

Azevedo called it a true team effort.

Tammy Roush of Fairplex joins Pomona Chamber Board

Fairplex Director of Engagement Tammy Roush will be officially appointed to the Board of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce next week to replace long-time Fairplex employee Mike Seder who resigned his Fairplex position of Vice President and Chief Financial Officer -- and his position on the Board of the Pomona Chamber -- last month to take a new position in San Francisco.

Seder served on the Chamber Board for the past two years.

Roush, who joined Fairplex in 2015, received a bachelor's degree in communication stud-

ies with a minor in marketing from Cal State University San Bernardino.

She worked in the pharmaceuticals industry with Novartis Pharmaceuticals and served as a district manager for assets protection and later as a store manager with Target before joining Fairplex two years ago as community advancement manager.

She lives in Upland with her husband, Kevin, and their daughter,



Tammy Roush of Fairplex ... joins Chamber Board

ter, Demi.

The Pomona Chamber of Commerce promotes economic opportunity through business and community leadership and enhances the social and civic environment of the City of Pomona.

This year's Board Chair is Sandra Vaughan-Acton, Director of Real Estate Development for the Cal Poly Pomona Foundation.



AND STILL CHAMPION! -- Pomona's own Tito Mercado is still number one in the nation after capturing another Golden Gloves Junior National Championship in Mesquite, Nevada, last month, according to a spokesperson for Gangs 2 Grace Youth Foundation in Pomona where he trains. Tito's brother, Daniel Mercado, and two more "stablemates" from Gangs 2 Grace will compete for the National PAL Tournament in Oxnard next month. The boxing club is located at 1024 E. Phillips Blvd., Pomona, and is current enrolling boxers ages 8 to young adults. Interested boxers and sponsors can visit the web site at g2gyouth.org or call (909) 417-9504.



The first Air Force One, a specially built Boeing 707-120 on exhibit at the Seattle Museum of Flight, was known as Special Air Missions 970. It was delivered in 1959 to replace President Eisenhower's "Super-Constellation," and carried Presidents Kennedy, Johnson and Nixon. It was replaced by a newer aircraft in 1962 but remained in service in the presidential fleet until 1996. It is on loan in Seattle from the National Museum of the United States Air Force.

POMONA DETAILER DOES A VOLUNTEER GIG . . . ON AIR FORCE ONE! -- Polishing cars is one thing. Polishing Air Force One is, well, something else. But that's exactly what Pomona detailer Richard Ambroze likes to do in his spare time. Ambroze, owner of Guns & Hoses Detailing in Pomona and a San Gabriel Valley paramedic, who happens to specialize in the upkeep of public safety and emergency services vehicles, traveled to Seattle last month when he was selected for his second year as a member of the prestigious Air Force One Detailing Team at the Museum of Flight. Ambroze and the other team members continued their role as caretakers to the first presidential jet Air Force One on exhibit at the museum, along with 16 other historic aircraft. The 2017 team -- with more than 50 volunteers representing the finest detailers from around the country -- was the largest ever. A spokesperson said the aircraft -- which was stored for more than a decade on an open tarmac exposed to all weather conditions -- now is on exhibit in a covered hangar but still requires an annual cleaning and polishing. The volunteers worked on the project for a week. For more information, contact Ambroze at (626) 926-8936, e-mail him at ambroze97@gmail.com or gunsnhosesdetailing@gmail.com, or visit the web site at www.gunsnhosesdetailing.com. (You won't need a U.S. Secret Service clearance to make the call -- at least we don't think you will -- but your e-mail might be picked up on the "chatter.")



OFF AND RUNNING FOR A YEAR -- "We Run Pomona," a group encouraging both community participation and fitness through regular weekly Tuesday night runs through the city, held its one-year anniversary this month with a reception, audio-visual presentation highlighting events from the past year and comments before, what else, taking off for a run. Executive Director and founder Elmer Vidaña, who said the group had seven runners a year ago, estimated there were more than 60 at the first year anniversary with more coming in -- and it had been a rainy day. "It's definitely a great experience just to motivate my community to get active and moving and in general just to network and get to hang out with each other," he said. Pictured with Vidaña, at left rear, are the route leaders going over the route. The group's vice president Victor Preciado is pictured at center. The group is currently working with the City of Pomona on the city's first ever 5K walk/run in Downtown Pomona, scheduled for 8 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 21. To register, visit the web site at events.com/r/en_US/registration/werunpomona-5k-runwalk-pomona-october-292810. Vidaña is a supply chain management specialist for Accord Transportation in Pomona. For more information, visit the web site at werunpomona.wixsite.com/mysite or call (909) 634-0360.



SUPERVISOR SOLIS SPONSORS MUSIC IN SHAUN DIAMOND PLAZA -- Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis visited Downtown Pomona this month to introduce the band "Floyd and the Flyboys" and "Rhthym Krewe" who provided three sets of classic rock and roll music during Second Saturday activities. Solis and the Los Angeles County Arts Commission sponsored the evening's entertainment. The band has toured and/or recorded with many greats including Ray Charles, The Eagles, Little Richard and others, and has written and recorded music for numerous television and motion picture projects. Pictured is Solis presenting the band with a certificate of recognition.



Photo by Alex Le

TAKING IT ALL IN AT DOWNTOWN POMONA'S ART WALK -- Shayda Kafai, at left, and Javier Gomez enjoy their afternoon at their booth during last month's Art Walk on "Second Saturday" at Pomona's Shaun Diamond Plaza, where food vendors, local artists, and blues music filled Downtown Pomona. The intersection of 2nd and Thomas Streets brought locals from all over the Inland Valley area. "The Art Walk gives us an opportunity to connect," said Kafai, who is an Ethnic Woman Studies professor at Cal Poly University Pomona. Her table was filled with handcrafted feminist cards and multicultural jewelry. Other vendors carried everything from vintage clothing to magic tricks to empanadas. As attendee Mona Navarrete was leaving, she commented on the great food and joked, "You eat; you walk it off."



PHOTO OP AT FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY -- There were plenty of photo opportunities at the first year anniversary celebration at "We Run Pomona," held this month at Day One's offices in Pomona Unified School District's Adult and Career Education Center next to Tony Cerda Park. Pictured, from left, are Alfredo Camacho of Day One, Pomona City Councilmember (and runner) Adriana Robledo, and Adriana Pinedo, also of Day One. The run this month after the first anniversary activities was a three-mile route looping from Tony Cerda Park up through Downtown Pomona by the Pomona Police Department and back down to the park. Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval joined the group on the run.

Pomona YMCA changes hands again, this time for recovery residential and office uses

Pomona's historic YMCA building has been sold – again – this time for \$2.65 million with plans calling for a comprehensive \$7.5 million restoration and renovation project to turn the facility into a home for men recovering from alcohol and drug addictions as well as office uses.

The property was purchased by Ray Adamyk, founder and CEO of Spectra Company, a restoration and preservation firm based in Pomona since 2000.

Financing was provided by Bank of the West in the purchase of the building located at 350 N. Garey Ave., Pomona. The seller

was Sheng Ma, LLC.

Spectra Company will handle the restoration and renovation of the property.

Adamyk is also executive director of Homes of Promise, a non-profit currently based in La Verne, which has transformed homes in both La Verne and Ontario into faith-based recovery residential facilities.

Sheng Ma, of the East-West Culture & Arts Foundation, had purchased the old YMCA building in 2013 and planned to transform it into an art university – all at a cost of \$4 to \$5 million over a two-year period.

The 59,000 square foot three-story building on a two-acre site, built in 1922, has been vacant since the YMCA moved out in June 2012 after determining costs of performing necessary upgrades and bringing the building into compliance with federal Americans with Disabilities Act requirements were prohibitive.

Both Spectra and Homes of Promise plan to relocate their operations to the YMCA building

following the renovation which will convert the facility into creative office and affordable residential units.

The gyms and sports courts will be restored to host special events, and the southwest corner will feature a new café and coffee bar.

“We look forward to restoring the YMCA to its original grandeur,” said Adamyk, who lives in Pomona with his wife.

A groundbreaking ceremony on

the project is expected to be scheduled in coming weeks, and a grand opening of the newly upgraded building is tentatively planned for early 2019.

Spectra, a company with more than 150 employees, has preserved historic buildings including the Hearst Castle in San Simeon, the Biltmore Hotel and the Bradbury Building in Los Angeles, and the Catalina Casino in Avalon, among others.

David and Margaret sets date for gala

David and Margaret Youth and Family Services in La Verne has scheduled its 10th annual gala “A Bridge to the Future” to benefit youth at the facility transitioning out of foster care.

The event will be held at 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 14, at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Hotel.

David and Margaret is best known for its residential program for adolescent girls in foster care. The facility, established in 1910, serves more than 1,000 clients annually through its various programs.

For more information, contact events@davidandmargaret.org or call (909) 596-5921, ext. 3180.

NOW LANDING ON TOP OF HOSPITAL PARKING STRUCTURE --

Emergency helicopters are now landing at a heliport on top of the new parking structure at the rear of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center -- at least for training purposes. According to a hospital spokesperson, the helipad received approval from the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration last month and trainings got under way involving helicopters from Mercy Air, the Los Angeles County Fire Department and the Pomona Police Department. The parking structure itself has not opened to the public and is awaiting an occupancy permit from Pomona City Hall. The helipad is the latest component of the hospital's recent expansion of its emergency room capabilities. The hospital was officially designated an Adult Level II Trauma Center in February when it began accepting trauma patients that otherwise would have been transported 25 miles and up to 30 minutes away by ambulance and helicopter to receive treatment. No actual trauma cases have arrived by helicopter to date, the spokesperson said. Pictured are Mercy Air crew members and hospital staff members on the helipad. Mercy Air will be flying in both adult trauma patients and maternal-fetal transports once trainings are completed.



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Diamond Ranch student helps produce pilot for television series

It was lights, camera and action last week in El Segundo and Lawndale as a crew of teens – including a student from Pomona's own Diamond Ranch High School – produced a pilot program that could become television's next hit show.

Pablo Zuniga, 17, in his senior year this year and a resident of Pomona, was among the teen filmmakers selected from throughout California and beyond to work on Fresh Films' free summer program, made possible by AT&T.

The final pilot – produced over an eight-day period – will be reviewed by major network executives and, just like in Hollywood, if it gets picked up it just might make it into production.

Director Estlin Feigley of Fresh Films, based on the campus of Augustana College in Rock Island, Illinois, told La Nueva Voz in a telephone interview that Pablo was "one of these kids that discovers that they can accomplish stuff."

"He kind of gravitated toward the producing side of things," Feigley said, but he also had a chance to shoot – which was something he didn't have the confidence to do when he came in.

"He was great," Feigley said, pointing out that that's the whole concept – exposing the kids to the craft of movie making which, of course, is magic but "is still a blue collar job" in a lot of respects.

"They gain the tools to understand that this is something they can do," he added. "That journey is what it's all about."

In the case of Pablo, he started as part of the production crew but before it was all over he picked up experience in camera, producing, operating the "slate," and even helping out in casting – everything that goes into film production.

"That show was pretty fun making it," Pablo said. "I was in camera and behind it so I was able to experience both sides and have a point of view on both sides."

He told La Nueva Voz that before this project he was on the fence trying to decide what he wanted to do for a career, going back and forth between marine biology and film.

And after the summer program?

"I plan on probably going into film," he said.

The actual pilot, "Gwen's World of Weird," could become a half-hour series that is appropriate for all ages.

The story is about a teen reporter who keeps her camera trained on her teen psychic friend



PRODUCING A TV PILOT -- Diamond Ranch High School student Pablo Zuniga (center, in the button-down collar shirt under the boom microphone), participating in a summer program to create an "all kids" production television pilot, takes a break from his production duties to stand in as an "extra," playing the part of an on-screen camera crew member who is one of the characters in the plot. The pilot, produced over an eight-day period ending last week, will be reviewed by a panel of major network executives and might just be picked up for a series.

waiting for something revolutionary to be predicted. But it's the small stuff that adds up to really crack the case.

The open casting call alone was a significant part of the project – the team brought in some 250 teens, "tweens" (pre-teenagers) and even a few adults to fill about 10 kids in the main part of the case along with a lot of extras.

The finished product will be reviewed by a panel of industry representatives from companies like Disney Channel, Warner Brothers, Amazon and DIRECTV.

Feigley said while this is their first round of pilots, Fresh Films has had a good track record over the past 17 years – one six-episode series on PBS, a kids' science fiction show, was nominated for an Emmy. The show, "Detectives Club," is now being broadcast in Chicago.

Auditions were held at an AT&T facility in El Segundo and the pilot was produced at the Academy of Media Arts at Lawndale High School in Lawndale.

Fresh Films provides students an opportunity to gain hands-on experience in television careers working behind the camera with industry veterans. In addition to production, Fresh Films also offers school tours, teacher grants, filmmaking workshops and more.

It is the non-profit arm of Dreaming Tree Films.

All proceeds of Fresh Films projects benefit youth charities and programs.



SUPERVISOR SOLIS' POMONA FIELD OFFICE CELEBRATES FIRST ANNIVERSARY -- Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis was on hand to personally cut the cake last month as she and her staff -- and dozens of constituents -- came out to celebrate the one-year anniversary of her East San Gabriel Valley district office in Pomona. Actually, the office is in Pomona but the celebration was in Valleydale Park in Azusa in an effort, according to staff, to reach more of the residents of the district. (The opening of the Pomona office, of course, was held at the Pomona office last year and was a huge event covered by La Nueva Voz.) Included last month was a community resource fair along with jumpers, face painting, shaved ice and, pictured, cotton candy and balloons for the kids. Pictured with Solis are four area residents who volunteered to be first in line for the cake.

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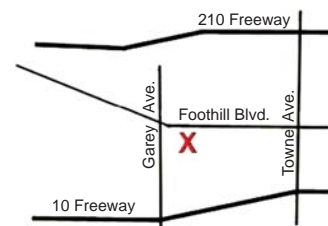
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Photo by Alex Le

CHESS ACADEMY AT POMONA'S AFRICAN-AMERICAN MUSEUM OF BEGINNINGS -- African-American Museum of Beginnings co-founder Khalief Rasshan, at right, and volunteer Aaron Gaulding, at rear, guide students in finding strategies to defeat their opponents on the checkered battlefield. The African-American Museum of Beginnings hosted its weekly chess academy where kids gathered to learn strategies in chess. The museum has been collaborating with the American Alliance of Museums as part of an initiative to plan the expansion of the museum's services. The museum was selected for an assessment by the national organization and Matthew White, Ph.D., of the Smithsonian Postal Museum in Washington, D.C., recently visited the Pomona museum for two days as a peer reviewer on behalf of the American Alliance to help the museum work toward becoming a 21st century museum. "We heard people from the (Pomona Unified School District) school board, Latino/Latina Roundtable, and business owners," said nonprofit consultant Tamela Hutchinson, who is excited about increasing community engagement as part of a one-year self assessment. The museum hosts several other events such as breast cancer awareness, Kwanzaa in December, and a monthly "Soul Cinema" movie social. Co-founder Vikki Rasshan hopes to increase engagement with schools. "We want to develop lifelong learners and children who have a love and passion for reading," Rasshan said. The museum's chess academy continues weekly. Dana Placide, who has been coming to chess academy for a year, now loves the game. "Checkmate is my favorite part about chess ... it really teaches us strategy and skill," Placide said. The museum is located at 1460 E. Holt Ave., Entrance 3, Suite 188 in Pomona's Village at Indian Hill. Hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. For information, call (909) 620-2841.

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Congresswoman Torres tours manufacturers in region, sees local growth rates ahead of national trends

The manufacturing industry is alive and well in the Inland Empire and is growing at a rate far ahead of national trends as it climbs out of the recession – all in an effort to boost not only “Made in the U.S.A.” products but to boost

“Made in the 35th Congressional District,” according to Congresswoman Norma Torres.

Torres, in her district during the summer break, over a five-day period this month toured a total of 15 manufacturers

representing some 2,268 employees in six cities, including three companies in Pomona.

Included were informational meetings, events, and actual tours and site visits in which Torres “suited up” in cities from Fontana and Rialto to Chino and Pomona.

“My ‘Made in the 35th’ tour highlighted the incredible array of products that are made right here in our backyard, from packaged cookies to military equipment, from hotel furniture to parts for the Mars rover,” Torres said. “It was inspiring to see the pride these companies take in their products and their employees and how many are family owned with employees who have worked at their facilities for decades.”

“Our region’s manufacturing sector is often overlooked in the national political discussions on American manufacturing, but it employs thousands of American workers creating goods that are used around the world,” she added.

“Any policy changes impacting this sector must take our region and our residents into account.”

Torres pointed out that while manufacturing during the post-recession years of

2009 to 2016 has grown only 3.4 percent nationwide, manufacturing in the Inland Empire is far ahead of national trends with a growth of 13.3 percent in San Bernardino County

Local growth rates... pg. 16



ROC-AIRE CORP. -- Congresswoman Norma Torres visits Pomona’s ROC-Aire Corporation during her five-day tour of area manufacturers this month. The company provides services and products used in precision aircraft machining. It operates primarily in the machine shop, jobbing and repair industry within the industrial and commercial machinery and computer equipment sector. It has been in business for about 35 years. Pictured with Torres is Justin Collins, facility security officer.



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Cal Poly 'Pumpkin Festival' marks 25 years at this year's event set for Oct. 7-8

Cal Poly University Pomona will celebrate a milestone – the 25th anniversary of the Pumpkin Festival – scheduled for Oct. 7 and 8 at the AGRIscares Center on the Cal Poly campus.

The event will feature the traditional activities of picking pumpkins out of a field, trying to solve a corn maze, petting farm animals and riding horses.

New features this year include hay rides and demonstrations of cow milking, blacksmithing, soap making and bee keeping.

And the Cal Poly Insect Fair will be a part of the festival for the second year.

“The pumpkin festival is a great way to have fun with the family but, along the way, you’ll also get the opportunity to learn something about farming and where your food comes from,” said Craig Walters, the festival’s director. “Los Angeles County was the agricultural center of North America until the 1950s, and agriculture continues to be a major industry in California that offers science- and technology-related careers for our students.”

He added that the pumpkin

festival’s roots date back to a small event in the early 1990s where pumpkins grown in a field on campus were sold to the public. Today, the festival draws about 50,000 people to the campus on a weekend.

The Huntley College of Agriculture at Cal Poly grows some 70,000 pumpkins for the event. Some are still grown at AGRIscares while others are grown on Chino farmland and trucked in.

Festival goers can play games at student-run booths, taste fresh-squeezed orange juice from the Cal Poly Farm Store, or compete in pumpkin pie-eating or seed-spitting contests.

A farmer’s market will feature student-grown fruits and vegetables, and visitors will be able to taste a variety of foods from vendors all while listening to live music.

And children will be able to visit the children’s garden, get their faces painted, compete in a costume contest, crawl through squash tunnels or pick small pumpkins at the kid’s patch.

Admission is \$4 for adults and \$3 for children ages 2 to 12.



Photo by Tom Zasadzinski, Cal Poly University Pomona

PUMPKIN FESTIVAL DRAWS CROWDS EVERY YEAR -- Parents and children of all ages search the pumpkin patch field up and down a hillside on the Cal Poly University Pomona campus to find just the right pumpkin (or pumpkins!) for the holidays.

Children under 2 are free. Parking is included with admission.

Hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. both days.

Tickets are available on line, at the AGRIscares office near the Farm Store or at the gate on festival weekend. For group tickets or to purchase pumpkins in bulk, visit the web site at agriscapesinfo@cpp.edu.

Cal Poly Pomona students can buy tickets for \$3 with a student ID either at the AGRIscares office or at the gate on festival weekend.

Don’t like the crowds at the festival and just want to buy a pumpkin? The patch will be open from Tuesday through Sunday Oct. 10 through Oct. 31. Admission to the patch is free.

Pumpkins from the main patch are \$5 any size. Pumpkins from the kid’s patch are \$4.

All proceeds help support the Huntley College of Agriculture’s farm operations, student clubs and educational activities.

For more information, visit the web site at www.pumpkin-festival.cpp.edu or call (909) 869-2215.



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MONTHLY DELIVERY BY GOD'S PANTRY -- A truckload carrying eight pallets of first quality food donated by retailers including Sam's Club and Costco and brought to Pomona by volunteers working with God's Pantry is unloaded this month at Pomona's non-profit Kennedy Austin Foundation, an organization that works with families following the loss of a loved one. Kennedy Austin founder and executive director Ethel Gardner told La Nueva Voz her organization opens its food drive to the community the second Tuesday of each month for anybody who wants to come. "We normally have toiletries for women, toiletries for men, shoes and today we just so happen to have backpacks because of back to school," she said, adding that she expected at least 110 neighborhood kids to come in to pick up a donated backpack. About 20 volunteers help out each month. Pictured behind the volunteers, at rear, are Pastor Robert Young, of God's Pantry and New Direction Church of God and Christ in Pomona, and Gardner.



SORTING IT ALL OUT -- Volunteers at the tables sort things out as other volunteers working with a pallet jack unload eight pallets of donated food from the truck to the tables. Pictured, at center, is Kennedy Austin Foundation founder and executive director Ethel Gardner.

Cuentito para hoy: Los tesoros simples de la vida

Por Susie Perales

Pasé otro día bendito con mi amorcito. Lo llevé a ver al oculista para sus ojos hoy. Tomaron fotos de los nervios detrás de sus ojos. Le dijeron que su vista se está poniendo peor.

Tardamos una hora en terminar los exámenes médicos.

Cuando salimos mi viejito me dijo que iba a extrañar mucho hacer su trabajo de arte y verme si pierde la vista. Comencé a llorar.

Estábamos cansados y hambrientos. Sólo tuve cuatro horas de dormir anoche y estaba lista para una siesta. Pero no quería desperdiciar un hermoso día roncando. Hacía demasiado calor para hacer algo fuera de la casa, así que decidimos ir a ver a nuestros amigos en nuestro restaurante favorito. Era viernes así que esta noche era el día de costillas prime en Corky's. Hicimos un viaje rápido allí antes de que todas las multitudes llegarán amontonarse y hacer una gran cola. Nos tocó ser la primera pareja allí.

Las costillas que nos sirvieron estaban riquísimas y el servicio muy ejemplar. Hacen las mejores costillas prime y caldito de almejas. Yum. Nos encanta ir allí. La mayoría del personal nos conocen por nombre. Siempre nos hacen sentir como que estamos en nuestra propia casita.

Cuando llegamos a la casa nos cambiamos rápidamente a nuestra ropa de nadar y nos metimos en la piscina para quemar algunas de esas calorías. Hice un poco de ejercicio por un rato a nuestras canciones favoritas de los musicales de Broadway y las canciones de dibujos animados de Disney que amamos tanto. "Los colores del viento" es una de mis favoritas canciones. Mi amor adora "Adiós viejita"

de los malditos Yankees musical de Broadway. Pero la música de Westside Story es la mejor de todas.

Somos tan bendecidos que me dieron ganas de llorar. El Señor nos ha dado tanto y los dos admitimos que sus tesoros son más de lo que merecíamos. La música era tan hermosa, así que empezamos a tener una conversación muy profunda y filosófica sobre lo que sentíamos acerca de ciertas cosas de nuestros últimos 53 años juntos y sobre la vida, la muerte y la familia. Luego empezamos a platicar de cosas que amamos o nos hace sentir profundamente movidos. Le dije a mi viejito que estoy muy emocionada por el agua, sobre todo por una cascada majestuosa. Le dije que si creía en volver a otra vida me gustaría ser una cascada.

Bueno, prepárense para la respuesta de mi viejito. Él dijo, "¡tu sabes que mi cosa favorita en la vida es dormir, así que si vuelvo, quiero volver como una almohada y una cobija!" Ya sabes, como la almohada de mypillow.com. Vaya. Me reí con él durante 10 minutos. Creo que nuestros abdominales dieron un buen ejercicio de tanto que nos reíamos. Creo que el vecino pensó que estábamos teniendo una fiesta en la piscina.

Me encanta la filosofía de este hombre. Bueno, ahora es la hora de ir a ver una película. Vamos a ver Fiddler en el tejado o malditos Yankees. Tengan un fin de semana bendecido y seguro – mi familia y amigos – los quiero a todos.

Nota del editor: Susie Perales, columnista de La Nueva Voz, y su amorcito Angel son residentes de Pomona. Susie escribía para La Voz, el antecesor de este periódico.




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ROTARY PRESIDENT VICTOR CACERES -- Victor Caceres, this year's President of Pomona Rotary, kicks off this month's "Hot August Night" festivities at Pomona's Fairplex. He told guests that Pomona Rotary was founded in 1921 and helped start the L.A. County Fair in 1922. "We go way back," he said. "The partnership between this property, Fairplex and Rotary has a long history." He said the local Rotary has worked locally with children and the homeless but Pomona Rotarians also "have traveled the world and helped others in other countries," including working on water projects in Africa and building clinics and homes in third world nations. Proceeds from the event will go to Pomona Rotary projects in the community.

Mt. SAC Board President Rosanne Bader and Pomona State Farm agent John Forbing dance to the music of the Beach Boys at this month's Pomona Rotary "Hot August Night" at Pomona's Fairplex.



SURF'S UP AT POMONA ROTARY'S 'HOT AUGUST NIGHT' -- The Beach Boys tribute band "Surf's Up" was the featured attraction at this month's sixth annual "Hot August Night" at the Avalon at Pomona's Fairplex as Pomona Rotary filled the room with 200 guests at its annual fundraiser event. And there were surfboards and palm trees everywhere.



LADIES WARM UP THE DANCE FLOOR -- As is often the case, it took a move by the ladies to warm up the dance floor when the Beach Boys music started at this month's Hot August Night. Pictured, clockwise from foreground, are Tami Farley of Pomona Travel Agency; Carol Wilt, Realtor; Mt. SAC Board President Rosanne Bader; Janet Roy, General Manager of Pomona Valley Memorial Park; and Stephanie Campbell, Executive Director of Pomona's Bright Prospect.



Ron and Susan Vander Molen have the beat all figured out and are in pretty good shape on the dance floor as long as they watch out for those beach balls. La Nueva Voz friends in the background include former Assemblymember and Pomona Mayor Chuck Bader, at right, and Julie Mestas of Newton Realty, at left.

Do you "Dare to Fair?"

Well, we hope so, because that's the theme of this year's L.A. County Fair, kicking off its 2017 run again this year with Pomona Day at the Fair and the Pomona Day Parade scheduled for opening day Sept. 1.

Pomona Day heroes this year, to be honored at the Fair and to ride in the Pomona Day Parade around the fairgrounds, are Maura Ayala, M. Joyce Baker-Smith, Edwin Martinez and the Pomona Police Explorers.

The heroes, selected as Pomona's "finest" each year, are honored for everything they do to make the community a better place.

They are selected by members of the Pomona Community Committee, chaired again this year by Dr. Jeff Vaniman.

And you can see them close up in the parade which gets underway at 5 p.m. on opening day along Redwood Street.

The parade takes a long route around the fairgrounds and comes complete with entertainers, marching high school bands and floats.

Time again for the L.A. County Fair opening with Pomona Day Sept. 1

This year's Fair, the 95th anniversary of the L.A. County Fair, runs from Sept. 1 to Sept. 24.

Highlights include the Farm at Fairplex, animated prehistoric creatures on Jurassic Planet are back this year, and Mojo's Wild and Crazy Lagoon featuring

Mojo the monkey, her feathered and scaly friends and Stanley, the world's friendliest giraffe.

In addition, The Igloo is back including a Polar Ice Rink, plus there are rides in the Carnival at the Fair, and the Magical World of Dragons, Wizards and Beasts in a castle that takes you to a

realm of fantasy and imagination.

Don't miss "The Taylor Swift Experience" where you'll get an in-depth look at the 10-time Grammy-winning artist as a singer, songwriter, musician and producer – from personal photographs and home videos to handwritten lyrics and iconic performance outfits.

And, of course, an important part of the challenge "Dare to Fair" is "Dare to indulge!"

Everything in the food department will be on hand from deep-fried, on-a-stick, barbeque, dipped in chocolate and more – more than 300 choices in all.

Plus tickets are still on sale for the End of Summer Concert Series at the Fair.

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Local growth rates... from pg. 11

during that same period.

She added that a total of 34,500 people are employed in manufacturing in her congressional district with the average wage for manufacturing employees in California nearly double the average wage for all sectors in her district – \$83,000 compared to \$47,000.

During her tour of the region Torres visited five military/defense suppliers, 11 companies that have been in the district for more than 25 years, one company that has been here for less than one year and three female-owned businesses.

“Despite what is portrayed in the media, manufacturing in the Inland Empire is thriving,” Torres said in a news release. “However, there is definitely more that can be done to support these businesses and spur economic growth in the manufacturing sector.”



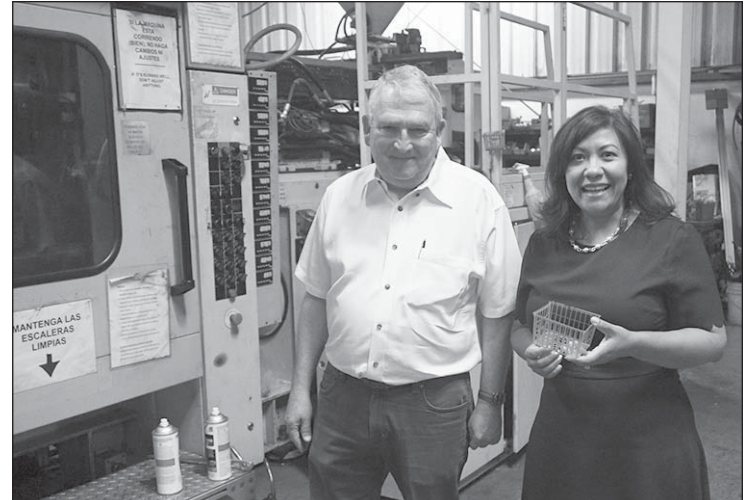
AMERICAN FURNITURE MANUFACTURE, INC. -- With more than 15 years of experience, Pomona's American Furniture Manufacture, Inc. produces quality contract furniture for the hospitality industry. The company specializes in manufacturing contract quality furniture for any range of commercial properties, with all work custom designed or built based on specifications provided by the customer. Core production capabilities are fabricating seating items, case goods, lighting fixtures, stone tops, outdoor furniture, banquet chair seating and task chairs. The company has a 40,000 square foot facility on a three-acre site suitable for domestic production including in-house upholstery, wood work / carpentry, and finishing. Congresswoman Norma Torres visited the company during her tour this month of local manufacturers. Pictured with Torres is CEO Harry Chou.

“I had the opportunity to hear straight from business owners about the challenges they face and how Washington can help,” she added. “From improving contracting practices to changing regulatory requirements, there is still a lot

more work to be done to help American business succeed in an ever-more competitive global economy.”

“Revitalizing American manufacturing and creating more good paying manufacturing jobs is a priority for me, and our region will benefit when Congress turns its attention toward supporting manu-

facturing and manufacturers,” Torres said. “Our region is home to a robust manufacturing sector that employs thousands of Americans and is filled with potential given our strategic location and logistics hub, and changes to policies impacting U.S. manufacturing must take our region into account.”



F-D-S MANUFACTURING CO. -- As a part of her tour of regional manufacturers this month, Congresswoman Norma Torres stopped by F-D-S Manufacturing Co. in Pomona. The family-owned company was founded in 1950 and has grown into a major West Coast manufacturer of industrial and agricultural packaging for fruits and vegetables, including those little green containers like the one Torres is holding. The company maintains a 240,000 square foot manufacturing and warehousing facility and produces high quality and eco-friendly standard and custom packaging. It completed a co-generation project in 2009 to produce its own power, conserve energy, clean emissions and use 80 percent of that system to run its machinery. The company has saved 1,377 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions from being emitted into the atmosphere. Pictured with Torres is owner Robert Stevenson.

Applications being accepted for free car give-away

Do you know a deserving family in Pomona in need of a free car – and a life-changing opportunity – courtesy of a local auto body shop?

Ben Clymer's 'The Body Shop' is accepting applications and recommendations through Friday, Sept. 1 for its 27th car give-away.

A special presentation for the give-away itself is scheduled for 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 14, at the Pomona location, 2607 N. Towne Ave., Pomona.

The car comes complete with one year of insurance, a trunk full of groceries and more.

To be eligible, the recipient must be a resident of the City of Pomona, eligible to be insured, must have a valid driver's license with a clean California DMV record and, most of all, be truly in need of a car.

The final selection will be made based on the applicant whose family most demonstrates the need and life change that a car would make possible.

Applicants can be submitted by potential recipients, by a friend or family member or by an agency representative.

The presentation ceremony

is open to the public.

For more information and for an application, e-mail Marie Davis at mdavis@connectriverside.org.

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

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Sexual Assault and
Child Abuse Services
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**Cal Poly celebrates its 25th annual
Pumpkin Festival Oct. 7th and 8th!**
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For information, visit the web site at www.pumpkinfestival.cpp.edu.

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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.

Flea circus is highlight of Historical Society's re-opening of kindergarten

By Alexander Le

Children were captivated and out of their seats as ringmaster, Britney Gallivan, guided a flea from one high swing to another. Many of them had never seen a flea before Professor Gallivan's Flea Circus, and this experience would be one of the many things they learned at the Barbara Greenwood Kindergarten.

The Historical Society of Pomona Valley held an old-

fashioned ice cream social and celebrated the grand re-opening of the Barbara Greenwood Kindergarten, Pomona's first kindergarten, last month where 40 people gathered to enjoy hot dogs, ice cream, and Professor Gallivan's Flea Circus.

The kindergarten, now located next to Pomona's La Casa Primera (built in 1837 and the oldest house in the Pomona Val-

ley), was founded by the educational pioneer, Barbara Greenwood, who according to Historical Society Co-President Mickey Gallivan "believed firmly in early childhood education and parental involvement."

"She was fighting for children," said Pomona City Councilmember Rubio Gonzalez, who is also a member of the Historical Society. "The building itself is child oriented."

The building was designed especially for young children and still contains many of the original items from its history, such as old journals, documents, toys, and books which, according to the Historical Society's Jim Gallivan, were produced "well over 100 years ago."

Then how was that flea circus?

"These fleas are not from the



Photo by Alex Le

ICE CREAM AND HOT DOGS -- DOESN'T GET MUCH BETTER! -- Guests enjoy ice cream and hot dogs at last month's ice cream social at the historic Barbara Greenwood Kindergarten in Pomona.



Photo by Alex Le

'PROF. GALLIVAN' POSES FOR A PHOTO -- "Professor" Britney Gallivan poses for La Nueva Voz with her flea circus and, of course, with her magnifying glass in hand at last month's old-fashioned ice cream social sponsored by the Historical Society of Pomona Valley.

flea market and I like to think of them as my own flesh and blood," joked Britney Gallivan. She led the fleas through various acts, including one in which a flea crossed a tightrope holding an umbrella. Another featured a flea named "Evel Fleanieval," who was launched out of a miniature cannon into the crowd, and Britney "found"

it in a little girl's hair.

The Barbara Greenwood Kindergarten, built in 1908 and originally located at Holt and Park Avenues, is open to the public for those who wish to learn the heritage and legacy of Barbara Greenwood and early education. Hours are 2 to 5 p.m. Sundays at 1569 N. Park Ave., Pomona.

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Fri, Sept 8 @ 1 pm (English)

Fri, Sept 8 @ 3 pm (Spanish)

Sat, Sept 9 @ 1:30 pm (English)

Thurs, Sept 21 @ 11 am (English)

INTER VALLEY HEALTH PLAN ENROLMENT MEETINGS

Tues, Sept 5 @ 10 am & 3 pm (English)

Tues, Sept 19 @ 10 am & 3 pm (Spanish)

Inter Valley Health Plan is a not-for-profit HMO with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in Inter Valley Health Plan depends on contract renewal. Anyone entitled to Part A and enrolled in Part B may apply, including those under the age of 65 entitled to Medicare on the basis of Social Security disability benefits. Members must continue to pay Medicare Part B premium. This information is not a complete description of benefits. Contact the Plan for more information. Limitations, copayments, and restrictions may apply. Benefits, formulary, pharmacy network, premium and/or co-payments/co-insurance may change on January 1, of each year. A licensed sales person will be present with information and applications. For accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call the number above. *No obligation to join. This is an advertisement. Inter Valley Health Plan complies with applicable Federal civil rights laws and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex. Inter Valley Health Plan cumple con las leyes federales de derechos civiles aplicables y no discrimina por motivos de raza, color, nacionalidad, edad, discapacidad o sexo. Inter Valley Health Plan 遵守適用的聯邦民權法律規定, 不因種族、膚色、民族血統、年齡、殘障或性別而歧視任何人。ATTENTION: This information and language assistance services are available to you free of charge. Call 1-800-251-8191 (TTY: 711). ATENCIÓN: si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al 1-800-251-8191 (TTY: 711). 注意: 如果您使用繁體中文, 您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 1-800-251-8191 (TTY 711)。

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MEXICO CITY TOURING ENSEMBLE VISITS POMONA CHURCH – Prince of Peace Church in Pomona welcomed the Aquiles Mireles Perales ensemble from Mexico City last month during the group’s Southern California tour. Under the direction of Gabriel Mireles, the group performed songs of praise and worship. “Our school of music offers young and old the opportunity to use their musical talent to honor and glorify God while receiving instruction on the importance of interpreting and preserving Christian music,” said Mireles. Prince of Peace Church is located at 895 E. 7th St., Pomona, CA 91766.



OFFICIAL POMONA CHAMBER RIBBON-CUTTING AT TITLEMAX -- City of Pomona and Pomona Chamber officials cut the official ribbon this month for a new TitleMax Title Loans office in Pomona. The company, in business since 1998 and one of the nation’s largest title lending companies, offers loans with competitive rates on car and motorcycle titles and has 1,100 locations -- and 4,000 employees -- in 16 states. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Chamber ambassadors Gus Arias of Pomona’s Inter Valley Health Plan and Rosanna Manzano of New York Life Insurance in San Dimas; Pomona Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto; TitleMax Pomona store general manager Ivan Zavala; TitleMax regional director Allan Cieniuch; Pomona City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole; Chamber ambassador Luz Mason of Primerica; Paola Avendano, field representative for Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez; Benny Ayala, representing State Sen. Connie Leyva; Chamber ambassador Monique Manzanares, of Social Vocational Services; Chamber Board members David McElwain, of the Los Angeles County Office of Education GAIN job services and Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz; and Chamber ambassadors Vita and Frank Gonzales of Pomona’s Fit Force U.S.A. Taekwondo. The office is located at 390 E. Holt Ave., Pomona. For more information, call (909) 802-7056.



Photo by Tom Zasadzinski, Cal Poly University Pomona
ANNUAL TEACHERS SUMMIT AT CAL POLY -- Teachers went back to school again last month at the third annual half day “Better Together: Teachers Summit,” hosted by Cal Poly University Pomona and the Cal State University system in the Bronco Student Center at Cal Poly. Keynote speaker was Dr. Jill Biden, lifelong educator and wife of former Vice President Joe Biden, streamed from St. Mary’s College of California to those CSU campuses participating in the program systemwide -- as well as some private colleges and universities -- 35 campuses altogether. Topics ranged from bullying and helping students thrive in the digital era to teaching students to be open-minded, critical thinkers. Participants also reviewed opportunities for educators to share ideas and build networks. Pictured are teachers at one of the breakout sessions held during the event for pre-kindergarten through grade 12 teachers, teacher candidates and school administrators from throughout the Pomona area.

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WHEN 'LITTLE' IS NOT BIG ENOUGH

-- The word is out in Pomona that David McElwain's "Little Free Library" program is catching on, but here's an example of what happens when "little" just doesn't do it. Residents at 414 McKinley Avenue in Pomona (between White and Garey Avenues) already have a Little Free Library (donated by the Pomona Host Lions Club) up and running in the front yard but are ready to go "big time." They've got signs in the front yard directing supporters to a "gofundme.com" site where they explain they want to build a new "Little Free Library" for the neighborhood -- with the neighborhood's support -- with a waterproof roof, larger size and larger shelves. They apparently have outgrown their existing library and want to be able to hold more books and taller and wider books, according to the web site, created by Maria Velasquez. They have a goal of \$700 for the project. Plans call for adjustable shelves, a solar light inside and a sturdy base. The site didn't say anything about air conditioning. To contribute, go to www.gofundme.com/bigger-and-better-free-library.



Photos by Renee Barbee



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For questions, please contact Three Valleys Municipal Water District at (909) 621-5568.



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SEPT 1-24, 2017

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*Nominal admission fee for ages 6 and older.

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