



Officials ink contract to build Gold Line to Pomona by 2025

Flanked by members of the Pomona City Council and calling the event a continuation “of a tradition of Pomona being a city that serves more than itself,” Mayor Tim Sandoval presided over official ceremonies on the steps of Pomona City Hall this month to signal the beginning of work to bring the Foothill Gold Line light rail tracks from Glendora to the North Pomona train station – a

project that should be completed by 2025.

“While we still have work to do to ensure the line extends past Pomona into Claremont and Montclair . . . we are committed to doing all we can to make that vision a reality,” said Sandoval, this year’s chair of the Foothill Gold Line board, as he looked out over an audience of 200 elected officials and Gold Line supporters.

The event was the official contract signing for construction of an \$806 million 9.1-mile project with officials from the two contractors on the job and the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority.

The construction authority is charged under state law with building the project and then turning it over to Metro for its operation once completed.

Unknowns surrounding the



CONTRACT BRINGING GOLD LINE TO POMONA -- Elected representatives of communities along the new Gold Line extension from Glendora to Pomona stand behind officials signing the contract to make it all possible. Signing the contract, from left, are Terry Robinson, senior vice president and district manager of Kiewit Infrastructure West Co., Habib Balian, CEO of the Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority, and Mark Fialkowski, executive vice president for mobility solutions of Parsons Corp. Kiewit and Parsons also have partnered for the two earlier segments of the Gold Line. At rear, from left, are Gold Line Board Vice Chair La Verne City Councilmember Robin Carder, Metro Board member Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Metro Board First Vice Chair Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, Metro Board Second Vice Chair Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, Congresswoman Norma Torres, Pomona City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, Gold Line Board Chair Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval and Three Valleys Municipal Water District Board member Carlos Goytia.

project are associated with a lack of funding for a second leg “option” to build the line into Claremont and Montclair, along with recent rumblings by San Bernardino County transportation officials who are having second thoughts and reviewing whether Metrolink trains may be a more viable mass transit option based on what they see as cost comparisons and rider-ship trends.

In Pomona, however, official after official was on board in support of the original Gold Line plan – to build the line not only to Montclair but all the way to Ontario International Airport.

Supporters included Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti, vice chair of the Metro board, who pointed out that the Los Angeles metropolitan area is now the third

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Elected officials help open new LGBTQ Pomona Pride Center

Congresswoman Norma Torres, speaking at the opening this month of Pomona’s new Pomona Pride Center, said there’s always been a big LGBTQ community in the city – it was just never celebrated “until these folks grew up and became leaders within our community.”

“So, thank you so much to all of you for ensuring that there is a bully-free, safe place for the LGBT community of Pomona Valley,” Torres said. “I hope that it is not just Pomona, but you would include other areas.”

Her comments were directed to members of the board of the new non-profit, which opened its doors to the sound of the Garey High School Band percussionists,

Pomona Pride Center... pg. 8



RIBBON CUTTING SIGNALS OPENING OF POMONA PRIDE CENTER -- Pomona Unified School District Board President Frank Guzman, also Board Chair of the new Pomona Pride Center, accompanied by Pomona City Councilmember Rubio Gonzalez, also a Board member of the new center, cuts the ribbon to officially open the doors of a facility to serve the LGBTQ community, their families and more. Pictured, from left, are Rev. Canon Mark Hallahan of St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Pomona where the center is located; Pomona Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Jo Ann Camelat of Kaleo Real Estate in La Verne; Pomona Police Corporal Kristian Gutierrez, vice president of the Pomona Police Officers’ Association; Edgar Castelan representing State Sen. Connie Leyva; Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado; Congresswoman Norma Torres; Gamaliel Polanco, manager of the Tri-City Mental Health Wellness Center; Pomona City Councilmember Nora Garcia; Pomona Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Monique Manzanares; Pomona City Councilmembers Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole and Rubio Gonzalez; Pomona Unified School Board President and Pride Center Board Chair Frank Guzman; Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval; and Pomona Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz. Members of the center’s Board line the stairs at right. Corporal Gutierrez spearheaded a “pride pin wearing” project for the Pomona Police Department with sales of the pins going to the new Pride Center.

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Walking towards mental wellness . . . A message from Tri-City Mental Health



One in five Americans experiences a diagnosable mental health condition in any given year. Multiple studies have shown individuals with severe and persistent mental health conditions are especially vulnerable to being victimized, and many often face shame, stigma and discrimination for their condition. As a result, individuals and families are often afraid to seek help and treatment.

Tri-City Mental Health Services is a proud partner of NAMI Pomona Valley, the local affiliate for the National Alliance on Mental Illness. NAMI is the nation’s largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental illness and their loved ones. Tri-City has a long history of providing treatment to individuals with severe mental health conditions and their families, and remains steadfast in supporting NAMI’s community-wide efforts to improve the quality of life for those affected by mental health conditions.

For over 10 years, Tri-City has fundraised and supported NAMI Pomona Valley campaigns, events and activities to fight stigma and encourage public understanding. Since 2010, Tri-City’s Wellness Center has provided strategic support to the annual NAMIWalk in Downtown Los Angeles, Southern California’s largest mental health awareness and fundraising event. Forty-five volunteers – made up of Tri-City staff, interns, participants and family members – served as crossing guards at this year’s 5k event on Oct. 5.

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Gold Line... from pg. 1

largest economy in the world with a \$1.05 trillion economy. And, since it places only 22nd in population, he said it is also the most productive economy per person in the world today.

He said residents of Los Angeles work in Pomona and other inland cities and residents of Pomona ride to Los Angeles to go to work.

“This is one town,” he said. “We know that this is our Southern California.”

“When we think about ourselves as one team, we can produce as one team and I have no doubt that whatever hurdle we face to get this all the way to Montclair, into Ontario, we will overcome that because we are Los Angeles, we are the city of angels, we are a group that says ‘yes,’” he said.

“Here we don’t worry about the party affiliation or ethnicity or age – we just worry about getting great things done,” Garcetti said. “And that makes me so proud to be a small part of it.”

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, second vice chair of the Metro board who helped get the project to Pomona as officials continued to seek funding to build to the Los Angeles County line, called the effort to get the Gold



Members of the Pomona City Council join Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval kicking off contract signing ceremonies to bring the Foothill Gold Line to Pomona.

Line to Pomona another milestone but one that wouldn’t have happened without the support of the San Gabriel Valley cities.

“It takes all of us coming together to make this happen,” she said. “In realizing all these dreams, it’s all of us coming in and putting in, as they say, some skin in the fight and making sure we complete this.”

And Congresswoman Norma Torres said she “might be the lone member of Congress here today but I am not alone in supporting this project.”



Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti



Congresswoman Norma Torres

cheerleaders of the Gold Line – not just to Pomona or Montclair but to the Ontario airport.”

Torres also commended the elected officials in the cities the Gold Line will go through who, she said, “didn’t just support it but demanded it, they want it.”

“And why is that? My constituents which are also your

Gold Line segment, we are one step closer to improving mobility and the quality of life for hundreds of thousands of residents, workers, students and others as they travel to and from the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys,” Sandoval said.

He added that the Glendora to Pomona project gives the region the distinction of becoming the fourth in the country to have a “major construction” rail project under way.

“Today marks the beginning of major construction for a project



Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis

constituents drive 40, 50, 60 miles one way to work in the furthest areas of L.A. County, Orange County and North San Diego County,” Torres said, adding that she sees county lines or city lines “as invisible lines when it comes to public transportation.”

“If we want our environment to get better, if we want better air quality, then we have to work toward that better air quality and it starts by getting these commuters to get on light rail and go to work,” Torres said.

“But it has to be affordable and it has to be reliable, and guess what, the Gold Line is all of that.”

“Today, as we sign the contract that kicks off major construction for the next

that will truly change the fabric of this area and the way we travel for generations to come,” Sandoval said. “It will start by creating tens of thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in economic activity.”

“That economic return will only multiply in future years as the developments are planned around the future stations . . . providing much needed housing and jobs within a half mile of the Metro system,” he said. “I can tell you that is happening in the City of Pomona.”

Sandoval pointed out that getting the Gold Line to Pomona was “critical” because if it had stopped in La Verne, people would not have had the ability to take the Metrolink “and get right onto the Gold Line” where the two lines ultimately will come within a few feet of each other at the North Pomona station.

“This train’s corridor is the fastest growing area of the San Gabriel Valley and we will be able to accommodate that growth because of the train and our ability to prepare some smart and sustainable planning,” he said. “This project has proven to be a true economic catalyst and **Gold Line... pg. 4**

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Pomona native working on Navy's newest, most advanced helicopter

Pomona native and 2012 Los Osos High School graduate Petty Officer 3rd Class Daniel Garcia is serving with a U.S. Navy helicopter squadron that flies the Navy's newest and most technologically advanced helicopter.

According to a Navy news release, Garcia credits much of his success to lessons he learned growing up in Pomona.

"I learned about hard work from having to get a job at a young age," Garcia said. "It helps keep my work ethic strong."

Garcia is an aviation electrician with the "Spartans" of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 70, a Jacksonville, Florida, based squadron that operates the Navy's next



Petty Officer 3rd Class Daniel Garcia

generation submarine hunter and anti-surface warfare helicopter, the MH-60R Seahawk.

Each helicopter is nearly 65 feet long, may weigh up to 23,500

Navy... pg. 4



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Light Rail is coming to Pomona!

Foothill Gold Line
www.foothillgoldline.org

The Foothill Gold Line from Glendora to Montclair will extend the Metro Gold Line to Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont and Montclair, and may be completed in phases. The project is mostly funded by LA County's Measure M and state funds (including SB1). Major construction to Pomona will start in 2020.
 Sign up for construction updates: www.foothillgoldline.org

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Gold Line... from pg. 2

changemaker for the communities to connect and that trend is sure to continue as we continue to build the line further east.”

“Our communities are ready and eager to welcome the Gold Line and its benefits that support the overall growth of our region for the future,” Sandoval said.

According to the Gold Line Construction Authority, if additional funding becomes available within the next two years, the contract option would make it possible to extend the 9.1-mile Glendora to Pomona Gold Line segment another 3.2 miles to Montclair, making cost of construction of the entire 12.3-mile extension a total of \$1.2 billion.

Then, once construction is out of the way and the project is turned over to Metro for operation, cost of adding actual trains and paying for administration and construction of parking structures and the like will bring the entire project cost to \$2.1 billion, a construction authority spokesman said.

The contract and an accompanying “notice to proceed” were signed this month at the Pomona

ceremonies by Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority CEO Habib Balian and representatives of Kiewit-Parsons, a joint venture.

Kiewit Infrastructure West Co. and Parsons Corporation have partnered to build the two earlier segments of the Gold Line bringing the light rail project from Union Station in Downtown Los Angeles to Azusa.

Gold Line Construction Authority officials said the team was top ranked in all technical categories by evaluation committees and provided the lowest overall bid price.

The Glendora to Montclair project is named as one of Metro’s 28 priority projects to be completed before the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

It is estimated that during construction alone, the project will create as many as 16,000 jobs and up to \$2.6 billion in economic output for the region, as well as up to \$1 billion in labor income and potentially \$40 million in tax revenue. Once completed, the line is estimated to add more than 18,300 riders to the Metro system every day.

City builds his alley after 24 years – and he throws a party to celebrate!

Juan Rodriguez knows who his friends are. And in this case, his friend is former Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin who he credits with getting his back alley repaved after 24 years.

He was so appreciative he and his wife Viola threw a party in his back yard to celebrate and invited Martin over to the house to thank her for her efforts – along with a few family members and friends.

Rodriguez, an 88-year-old veteran, told La Nueva Voz he worked to get the city to repave the alley behind his house on Willow Street (between White and Garey Avenues) for years.

When Martin was elected to the council, he was one of the first residents to reach out to her for help.

And it worked – after four years of Martin’s efforts, the project was approved. But still no alley.

This month, three years after Martin stepped down from the council, the project was completed.

According to Rodriguez, the alley project still wouldn’t have happened if Martin hadn’t talked to Mayor Tim Sandoval.

Rodriguez was not a stranger around Pomona City Hall – without naming names, his efforts went back through several generations of city councilmembers.

He also knows a little bit about

the history of the neighborhood. For example, did you know those houses were built around 1956? And did you know they used to raise turkeys up there?

In fact, the local members of Future Farmers of America kept cows and goats along with their turkeys when that entire area was filled with farms.

The area started building up around 1948, he said, and the homes on his street were built – originally with a dirt alley. The city paved it with an inch of asphalt in the late 1960s.

And that was the last time it was paved – Rodriguez joked that the city paves the alley once in a lifetime.

But now it has a concrete gutter in the middle with asphalt on the sides.



Pomona’s Juan Rodriguez -- who has been working on getting his back alley repaved for the first time in 24 years -- celebrates with a party in his back yard after the city completed what he called “a beautiful job.” And he said he did it with the help of former Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin. Pictured, in the new alley, are, from left, Rodriguez’ wife Viola Rodriguez, Martin and Rodriguez.

“They did a beautiful job,” Rodriguez said.

Then what is the moral of the story?

First, it pays to have friends in high places. And second, a note to public works – if you have any other projects pending – if you build it, they might just throw you a party to show their appreciation.

Jorge Valles

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pounds and can travel more than 120 miles per hour for nearly 320 miles on a tank of gas.

An aviation electrician, Garcia is responsible for working on the electrical components on the aircraft to ensure it can fly.

Navy officials said the MH-60R is the most capable multi-mission helicopter available in the world

Windsong Chorale to kick off 25th season Sunday in La Verne

The Windsong Southland Chorale, under its founder and director Dr. Janet Harms, will open its Silver Jubilee 25th Season with “Autumn Inspiration, Voices, Bells and Brass” on Sunday, Oct. 27, in La Verne.

The concert is set for 4 p.m. at La Verne Heights Presbyterian Church, 1040 Baseline Ave., La Verne.

Included will be the hymns sung by the chorale the previous day, participating with 1,000 singers at the Christ Cathedral in Gar-

den Grove. Many of the hymns are by Mark Wilberg, conductor of the Mormon Tabernacle Choir. Members of the chorale will celebrate the conclusion of their 25th season next June by touring Italy and performing in Rome, including a concert in the Sistine Chapel in Vatican City.

“My father was in the Marine Corps,” Garcia said. “My dad’s service definitely inspired me to

today. It is used for a variety of missions, including hunting and tracking enemy submarines, attacking enemy ships, search and rescue, drug interdiction, delivering supplies and supporting the Navy’s special operations forces.

“My father was in the Marine Corps,” Garcia said. “My dad’s service definitely inspired me to

join the military. I am proud to keep the family tradition going.”

Nearly 300 Navy men and women are assigned to keeping all parts of the squadron running smoothly including everything from maintaining helicopter airframes and engines to processing paperwork, handling weapons and flying the aircraft.

join the military. I am proud to keep the family tradition going.”

Nearly 300 Navy men and women are assigned to keeping all parts of the squadron running smoothly including everything from maintaining helicopter airframes and engines to processing paperwork, handling weapons and flying the aircraft.

den church choir director.

It has traveled by invitation to sing four times in Carnegie Hall and, internationally, to Greece, St. Petersburg, Australia, Ireland and Austria.

Windsong is a multigenerational community choir ranging in age from college students to seniors. New singers are always welcome.

Rehearsals are from 6:30 to 9 p.m. Monday nights at the church.

For more information or to set up an audition, call (909) 983-9879.

Planning your career? U.S. Department of Defense is hiring!

Considering your career plan for the future? Here's something to think about – 61 percent of the U.S. Department of Defense work force is over the age of 45 and the department is actively looking for the “best and brightest” so the United States can “maintain a global and technological edge in dominating the world.”

Clarence Johnson, director of the Office of Diversity Management and Equal Opportunity at the Department of Defense, told students at Cal Poly University Pomona this month that especially applies when it comes to “STEM” (science, technology, engineering and math) related jobs.

“About two-thirds of our jobs are STEM type jobs and our STEM work force is also diminishing,” Johnson said. “DOD in the year 2030 will need some 22,000 more stem professionals... on the civil side.”

Johnson, who is based at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., was the keynote speaker at a day-long federal government jobs stu-



Clarence Johnson
U.S. Department of Defense

dent symposium and career event “America’s work force: Employing and empowering our community” in the Bronco Student Center at Cal Poly.

He told an audience of about 100 students and employers (about 15 were present or past employees of the Department of Defense) that his department is the largest employer in the United States.

“And no other organization offers the range of dynamic jobs and countless career fields and opportunities to travel for training (and



Students at this month’s federal government jobs symposium at Cal Poly University Pomona had a chance to talk with representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, among many others.

for continuing education that DOD provides,” Johnson said.

“If you are interested in being on the cutting edge of technological advancement, interested in making a difference, interested in being a leader in a team that makes a difference every single day, you might consider a job in the federal sector, particularly in the Department of Defense,” Johnson added. “We try to pull together all of the defense agencies toward one mission and that is ensuring that DOD remains a diverse and inclusive work force.”

He said the Department of Defense military force today is “the most effective, the most lethal, the most envied fighting force on the globe and I will submit to you that’s because a high quality force has made us strong – but I further submit that a high quality diverse force has made us stronger.”

Johnson told the students that force includes 1.3 million men and women in uniform and 800,000 men and women in the reserve component, as well as another 800,000 men and women in service in a civil capacity, representing some 250 occupations in various fields.

Some 15 years ago, when Johnson first started working on diver-

sity outreach in the department, he said he reviewed National Education Association data that showed only 24 percent of the nation’s undergraduates were aware of civil service.

“I would just surmise that . . . minorities are probably worse than that,” he said.



“And one of the key things you need to be aware of . . . is the importance of the STEM fields because these jobs are vital to DOD from health care to rocket science,” Johnson said. “STEM learning is necessary, of course, for success in the economy of the future and the Department of De-

fense is no exception.” He said some 80 percent of all positions within the department over the next 10 years will require STEM knowledge.

“And as a way of helping you help us, DOD funds STEM scholarships, STEM internships, STEM


Poly... pg. 8

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- Pomona Unified School District administration building lobby
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Pomona kids doing well on first day of kindergarten, need some help in language and cognitive skills

Children in Pomona are doing just about as well as kids nationwide in communication skills and social competence when they step into a kindergarten classroom on the first day of school, although they appear to be about 2 percent “more vulnerable” in language and cognitive development.

In addition, 28 percent are “not ready” for school in their motor skills like proficiency holding a pen or crayons, 12 percent are lacking in physical independence skills such as independent in the bathroom or sucking a thumb, and 6 percent just aren’t physically ready for the school day – they might be under-dressed or over-dressed, too tired or sick, late or hungry.

Pomona’s kids also are relatively close to the national averages in physical health and well-being, emotional maturity, and general knowledge.

These statistics were based on a 2018 EDI (early development instrument) study of Pomona students conducted by the UCLA Center for Healthier Children,

Families and Communities.

“The early development instrument . . . will allow everyone in Pomona to view the health and vitality of our community through a unique lens, the well-being of our youngest children,” said Stephanie Campbell, an organizer of this month’s Second Pomona Community Summit on Early Childhood Well Being, presented by Pomona’s Promise and held at the Village at Indian Hill Conference Center.

The concept, she said, is that “if our children and families thrive, our communities as a whole will thrive.”

And the new EDI information now provides data to Pomona that can help leaders measure the health and vitality of the community and that can assist in guiding their decisions and prioritizing their actions.

But the real value goes beyond serving as a measure of how Pomona Unified School District is doing with the children – it looks at the families and the community in which they are embedded and the opportunities and



Pomona cultural arts commissioner and artist Andy Quinones, at right rear, Alfredo Camacho of Day One at far right, and Joshua Swodeck, also a cultural arts commissioner, at left, work on sorting out their answers to four questions at this month’s Summit on Early Childhood Well Being.

resources available.

“By looking at the health of our community through the lens of the well-being of our youngest children, we are regarding our children as the indicators of the health of the community as a whole,” she said.

Silvia San Martin, Pomona Unified’s director of elementary curriculum and instruction, told the audience of about 100 community representatives and teachers that one of the first things she has learned about Pomona over the last couple of years is how

active the community is.

“And when the EDI first landed in our laps, when we first heard about it . . . it was really what we’re doing, it’s a community-based effort,” she said. “Most communities don’t have a Po-

Pomona kids doing well... pg. 13

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Pomona Pride Center... from pg. 1

located inside St. Paul's Episcopal Church, at 242 E. Alvarado St., Pomona.

And Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, also appearing at the opening, thanked the organizers for their work in "putting this together."

"What a special day, the Pomona Pride Center," Sandoval said.

"Now that they know that they have a center that they can go to, that's a huge development in this community," he added.

Frank Guzman, the center's board president and president of the Pomona Unified School District board, sees the new resource as "an amazing thing for Pomona."

"I really do feel that as an elected official in this city that it's my responsibility to be my authentic self so people know they can do the same thing," Guzman said. "Because for many years I had the



Drummers from the Garey High School band help open Pomona's new Pomona Pride Center inside St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

mentality that my personal life is my personal life, but serving in my position we're telling kids you can do anything you want to do, you can be who you want to

be."

He said he thought it was an important project for him.

"Having this center to me shows the community is pro-

gressing," Guzman said. "Now I will say that Pomona has already been a pretty progressive community, but this just puts icing on the cake, so to speak."

He added that the center offers a variety of services to everyone, people of all ages and all walks of life, even though it is a "pride" center.

"I don't want that to be misconstrued that it's only for the gays and lesbians and all that," Guzman said. "It's for their families, it's for

their friends who have to deal with their child being maybe trans or maybe gay . . . it's for everyone – it's for allies and supporters."

Included will be everything from health and wellness programs to support classes and social events.

Then what has the response been from the community?

"It's been an amazing response," Guzman said. "I haven't had any negativity whatsoever, no backlash, no one saying why this or why that, it's been very well received by the community."

Pomona City Councilmember Rubio Gonzalez, also an organizer and board member of the new center, agreed.

"You've got to be supportive," Gonzalez said. "You can't just dice people up and say, ok, you

folks take care of your issues and we'll take care of ours. You can't do that. You have to be supportive. You've got to be an embracing, welcoming community like we are in Pomona."

He also said he believes it is important to help with anything progressive.

"And this is as progressive as it gets when it comes to this particular community," Gonzalez added.

While other services have been offered in the past, Guzman said this is the first full-service organization of its type in Pomona. It will include peer support groups, movie nights, game nights for families, youth groups, and an entire array of activities.

The center has already made plans for a Pomona Pride Parade and Festival scheduled for Saturday, June 27.

In addition, the center is inviting residents of all ages to participate in a logo art contest with a winner and two finalists to be selected by the center's board of directors. Deadline for entries is Friday, Nov. 15. For requirements and other information, contact the center at (909) 326-0482.

With a mission and purpose of supporting LGBTQ+ people to thrive as healthy, equal and complete individuals while creating a safe and inclusive community, it appears the new group is well on its way.

For more information, visit the web site at www.pomonapride-center.org.



Photo by Renee Barbee

VETERANS HONORED -- Two U.S. veterans from Pomona were recognized for their service by members of the Pomona City Council at a meeting this month. "As a veteran you are a cherished member of our community," Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval read from the certificates. Pictured with Sandoval is Bob Radcliff, a U.S. Army veteran who as an enlisted staff sergeant fought in Vietnam from 1967 to 1969. He is also second vice commander of Pomona's Post 30 American Legion. And pictured with members of the City Council is Arthur Ortega, Jr., a U.S. Navy veteran who served as a gunner's mate petty officer 3rd class. He served two tours in Vietnam from 1968 to 1971.



Photo by Mark Gluba

Please visit our web site at www.lanuevavoz.net to see the latest issue of La Nueva Voz, past issues and more!



Poly... from pg. 5

competitions," he said.

"Whatever your interests and career goals are, just remember that it takes creativity, it takes hard work, it takes dedication and more importantly, it takes awareness – awareness of the importance of good grades, awareness of the importance of making good life choices, awareness of the rewards that come with hard work," he said.

Johnson, who received a bachelor's degree in biology from Tuskegee Institute in Alabama and a master's degree in human

resource management from Webster University in Missouri, served for 29 years in the U.S. Air Force at 17 locations where he accumulated about 3,000 flying hours.

He has worked in civil service for the past 16 years.

Participants at the symposium and job fair included representatives of everything from the U.S. Coast Guard and the FBI to the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of Justice.

For more information, students can visit the web site at www.dod-stem.us.

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State Sen. Connie Leyva heads list of Democratic Club's annual civil rights award recipients

State Sen. Connie Leyva and social justice leader Arturo Jimenez were presented this year's annual "Ambassador Nathaniel and Elizabeth Davis Civil Rights Legacy Awards by the Pomona Valley Democratic Club at last month's awards dinner at the Pomona Ebell Museum of History.

Also honored were Fairplex President and CEO Miguel Santana, Teamsters Local 1932 Secretary-Treasurer Randy Korgan, and community leader Jeff Sanchez, Jr.

Club President Debra Martin told La Nueva Voz before the awards ceremony that Leyva, receiving the "political leader" award, "cares



LEGACY AWARDS HONOREES -- Recipients of this year's Pomona Valley Democratic Club Ambassador Nathaniel and Elizabeth Davis Civil Rights Legacy Awards are, from left, Teamsters Local 1932 executive Randy Korgan; Fairplex President and CEO Miguel Santana; State Sen. Connie Leyva; Democratic Club President Debra Martin; Elizabeth Davis, widow of the late Ambassador Nathaniel Davis; community leader Jeff Sanchez, Jr.; and social justice leader and Democratic Club past president Arturo Jimenez. Davis and her husband were original founding members of the Pomona Valley Democratic Club -- she has been a member since 1990.



'ON THE SPOT SCHOLARSHIP' -- Mikeyana Farrow, a senior at Pomona's Garey High School, shows off her 300-word essay on "The Importance of Voluntary Work." She received a \$100 "on the spot scholarship" last month for her work on the one-year anniversary of PEARLS of Service, Inc., a non-profit organization created as the charitable arm of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Epsilon Eta Omega Chapter, to promote education and reassure loyal services. Pictured, from left, are Director Endy Farrow, Mikeyana Farrow (no relation), and Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez. The event was held at McKinley's Grille at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Hotel.

about the whole community" and "wants to bring the whole community together," something the community has wanted for years.

"We are so thankful for Sen. Leyva's passion, commitment and relationships to all of us in Pomona," Martin said.

Leyva, former President of the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1428, is serving her

second term in the state Senate.

She called Santana, receiving the "non-profit leader" award, a "pivotal example of change in our community to bring all people together to support the Fairplex, LA County Fair and everything else that the Fairplex supports."

Santana joined Fairplex three years ago after serving as city administrative officer for the City of

Los Angeles.

Describing Jimenez, winner of the "social justice leader" award, she called him "the most incredible past president of the Democratic Club."

"He has grown our club so much since he was the president," she added. "We believe that Arturo is the glue to our community to bring

Civil rights award recipients... pg. 17

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Cal Poly's 27th annual Pumpkin Festival a success, remaining open through Halloween!

Cal Poly University Pomona President Dr. Soraya Coley officially opened the 27th annual Pumpkin Festival on campus this month, calling it the largest festival in the country that Interim Dean of the Don B. Huntley College Agriculture Lisa Kessler said was expected to attract 50,000 people over the weekend.

Coley told several hundred visitors, students and elected officials that festival organizers add something different every year.

"We want to make sure that the community understands that we are your university and this is just one way that we make sure that we provide opportunities for you to come and see the great things that are happening here in Cal Poly Pomona," Coley said.

She said the festival brings together people, vendors and representatives of the agricultural industry.

Coley said it never quite feels like school has really started until it is time for the pumpkin festival.

"So now we are official," she said.

Kessler told the crowd that the festival celebrates California ag-



Crowds were just starting to tap into the supply of pumpkins at Cal Poly's 27th annual Pumpkin Festival as officials cut the ribbon to kick off a weekend of activities.



Interim Dean of Agriculture Lisa Kessler



Cal Poly President Dr. Soraya Coley



Cal Poly cows always attract kids of all ages and sizes.

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Pumpkin Festival... from pg. 10

riculture and the state's farming heritage, as the college is training the next generation of agriculture leaders.

She also said the event helps support the students and is part of the "learn by doing" philosophy of Cal Poly.

Included were two corn mazes, a hayride, pony rides, cow-milking, soap-making, blacksmithing demonstrations, a bee-keeping exhibit, rag doll making and more.

And opening day was busy – there was a costume contest at noon,

a seed spitting contest at 1 p.m. and a pie eating contest at 2:30 p.m.

Craig Walters, festival director, said the pumpkin patch and some of the special activities will remain open through Halloween (except Mondays).

Hours are noon to 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday, noon to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Admission to the

patch is free for the rest of the month but some activities will have a small fee and free parking will be limited.

An \$11 wristband will give guests unlimited access to a petting farm, hay rides and duck races (pony rides are extra). All these ac-

tivities will close at dusk.

Most pumpkins still will be \$5 with larger pumpkins priced at \$6 and "gigantic" pumpkins even higher.

Proceeds help support the Col-

lege of Agriculture's farm operations, student clubs and outreach activities.

The patch is located near the Farm Store at Cal Poly, 4102 S. University Drive, Pomona.



Pumpkin Festival director Craig Walters, at left, and Dr. Soraya Coley's husband, Ron Coley, at right, chat with staff members at the festival's opening day about some important details regarding the pumpkin seed spitting contest.



Cal Poly President Dr. Soraya Coley chats with senior Eileen Trout and gets to know her animal friend "Salt" at the same time while Cal Poly photographer Tom Zasadzinski, at left, gets down to goat level to compose his shot.



OFFICIALLY OPENING THE CAL POLY PUMPKIN FESTIVAL -- Cal Poly University Pomona Pumpkin Festival director Craig Walters, at left, does a little extra duty holding the ribbon during the ribbon cutting to officially open the two-day event, followed by a month of shopping in the field for just the right pumpkins. Pictured, from left, are Walters, Cal Poly senior Eileen Trout of Temecula and her goat, "Salt," Interim Dean of Agriculture Lisa Kessler, Edgar Castelan representing State Sen. Connie Leyva, Jeanette Royston representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, and Cal Poly President Dr. Soraya Coley.



Members of Cal Poly's Bronco Pep Band play in the background with a little professional baton twirling up front on opening day of the Pumpkin Festival.



Animals are always an important attraction at the Pumpkin Festival but these two are looking at the customers a little sheepishly.



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Officials observe Indigenous Peoples Day with certificates of recognition

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis presented a special 91st birthday certificate to U.S. Army World War II veteran Stephen Manzanares and Pomona City Councilmember Robert Torres presented a certificate of recognition to labor organizer Dolores Huerta at this month's second annual Indigenous Peoples Day at the Kizh Village of Toibingna in Pomona's Ganessa Park.

Accepting Huerta's certificate was her daughter, Maria Elena Chavez, of Whittier, who is also the niece of farm worker labor leader Cesar Chavez.

Huerta and Chavez co-founded what is now the United Farm Workers Union. The certificate was "applauding your historic efforts, which still continue today, toward justice for all people and your continuous support of indigenous culture."

Solis told the audience in the Ganessa Park amphitheater that she carried the motion before the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors last year to establish "Indigenous People's Day" in Los Angeles County.

"We don't call it Christopher Columbus Day anymore, it's Indigenous People's Day in the County of Los Angeles," Solis said.

And Congresswoman Norma Torres, also appearing at the event, said she is currently working on a bill in Congress trying to deal with the issues of missing and murdered indigenous women.

"We know that there is no real information sharing that is happening at the federal level with federal officials, local officials and tribal members," Torres said. "That injustice needs to stop."

She said she is also working on a bill to change the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day at the federal level.

Torres said it is important to remember the leadership and work that Italian Americans have contributed in this country.

"However, we also need to ensure that indigenous people of America, our first people, are recognized and that their history, and that their stories, and that their cultural **Indigenous Peoples Day...** pg. 15



HONORING DOLORES HUERTA -- Maria Elena Chavez of Whittier, at left, the daughter of labor organizer Dolores Huerta and the niece of labor leader Cesar Chavez, receives a certificate of recognition from the City of Pomona from Pomona City Councilmember Robert Torres at this month's second annual Indigenous Peoples Day at Pomona's Ganessa Park. Pictured, from left, are Chavez, event organizer Dee Dee Ybarra, and Torres.



Congresswoman Norma Torres, appearing at this month's Indigenous Peoples Day at Ganessa Park, said she is working on changing the name of Columbus Day to Indigenous Peoples Day at the federal level.



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Pomona kids doing well... from pg. 7

mona's Promise structure – they use the EDI to create the structure, and that's always part of the struggle.”

“What was very unique for us as a district was Pomona's Promise was already active, it was like a match made in heaven,” she said.

The first community summit, held last May, resulted in three things on a “wish list” – universal pre-school, facilities for pre-schools and professional development for teachers.

A total of 27 schools in Pomona – all of the elementary schools – were included in developing Pomona's EDI using data that was provided by teachers after four to six months of observations.

Included were 75 classrooms with a total of 1,588 students, of whom 44 percent were English Language Learners and 6 percent were children who have an Individualized Education Program for children with disabilities.

The ethnicity breakdown was 3 percent African-American, 2 percent Asian, 48 percent Hispanic, 3 percent white and 45 percent other.

Participants of this month's summit broke into small groups to consider four questions:

- Does anything about this data surprise you?
- Which factors and conditions

Governor signs Sen. Leyva's 'medication abortion on campus' bill

California Gov. Gavin Newsom this month signed into law legislation authored by State Sen. Connie Leyva that will ensure access to medication abortion services on California public university campuses for students who seek to end their pregnancy.

“With Gov. Newsom's signature of SB 24, students at University of California and California State University campuses will finally be able to get medication abortion services at on-campus student health centers,” Leyva said. “After three years of working to expand access to medication abortion at our public universities, I am thrilled that Gov. Newsom rejected the misguided paths that other states have taken in limiting access to abortion care.”

“Abortion is a protected right, and it is important that everyone – including college students – have access to that right, if they so choose,” she said. “I thank the governor and my legislative colleagues for upholding the

might be driving these results?

• What assets are in place in Pomona to support young children in this area of development?

• What can we do before kindergarten to address the vulnerabilities of the young children in our



Silvia San Martin, at left, Pomona Unified School District's director of elementary curriculum and instruction, speaks at this month's Community Summit on Early Childhood Well Being, presented by Pomona's Promise. Stephanie Campbell, of Pomona's Promise and a speaker at the event, is pictured at right.



Summit organizer Stephanie Campbell, at left, holds down the duty at a Spanish language break-out table at the event.

community?

The five areas of Pomona's Promise – which were developed through a communitywide collective impact process – are

education and career readiness, health (both medical and emotional), economic development, community safety and community engagement.

right to choose and affirming the right of college students to access medication abortion on campuses here in California.”

Also known as the “College Student Right to Access Act,” Senate Bill 24 will require that public universities with on-campus student health centers provide medication abortion on campus by Jan. 1, 2023.

Under the newly signed legislation, medication abortion services would be administered to students by trained medical professionals at on-campus student health centers, similar to the way that other health care services already are provided on campus.

Since women usually do not find out that they are pregnant until they are several weeks along, it is critical that this care can be accessed promptly on campus where students already spend the majority of their daily lives, according to Leyva's news release.

By providing medication abortion services on campus by trained health

providers, students will not be forced to delay medical care, travel long distances or even miss class or work responsibilities.

The lack of access to comprehensive and accessible reproductive care can hinder the well-being and academic success of college students, disproportionately impacting students of color and low-income students.

Commonly called “the abortion pill,” medication abortion is a non-invasive, non-surgical process for ending a pregnancy by taking prescription medication that blocks hormones needed for a pregnancy to continue. Research shows that it is safe and effective and has a success rate of over 95 percent with serious adverse events occurring in only 0.3 percent of instances.

Polling shows making medication abortion available on college campuses has widespread support among Californians, including 72 percent of women.



Pomona Lions Club President Denny Mosier narrates a slide show on the life of his late wife Helen Weinberg Mosier during a “celebration of life” this month at Pomona Valley Mining Company attended by a banquet room filled with friends and family members. She died on July 30 at the age of 70 of complications related to early onset Alzheimer's disease. She was well known for her work as a City of Pomona Library Trustee and for her support of the library, as well as her work in the campaigns of several local candidates for political office. She was also active in the Pomona Host Lions Club.

Sen. Connie Leyva to hold

‘Dia de los Muertos’ legislative update

State Sen. Connie Leyva will hold a “Dia de los Muertos” legislative update next week at her Pomona office.

The event is scheduled for 4 to 6 p.m. Friday, Nov. 1, at 101 W. Mission Blvd., Suite 111, Pomona.


Visitors are welcome to bring photos of loved ones to be added

to the community altar before the event between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call (909) 469-1110 or by e-mail at rana.abbasi@sen.ca.gov.


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Noise pollution

Citizen and governmental focus with the environment historically and presently involve soil, water, and air pollution, and the corresponding environmental management, engineering, recycling, reduction, and remediation controls thereof. Quite often noise exposure and related concerns are associated with the workplace – noise exposure, measurement/monitoring and prevention.

Generally, we do not consider the effects of noise away from the workplace, in our ambient environment. Even though, we experience excessive levels of noise in our lives resulting from traffic, industry, hobbies, loud music, technology/electronic devices, appliances, our love of cars, and noise.

Occupational

noise is measured with sound level meters and dosimeters (noise measuring devices) and regulated by OSHA and state plan (OSHA) regulatory agencies. Environmental noise has EPA oversight but at present, no defined regulations that are effectively managed. Most control is left to local government.

The National Institute for Oc-

cupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in 1972 developed an 85 A-weighted decibel recommended exposure level to minimize the risk of hearing loss from occupational noise exposure. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration - OSHA adopted this as a legal standard for workplace hearing protection (Daniel J. Fink,

MD, American Journal of Public Health, January 2017).

The Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Office of Noise Abatement and Control (ONAC) in 1974 adjusted the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health recommendation (cited above for workplace exposure) for additional, far more realistic exposure timeframes: 24 instead of 8 hours daily and 365 instead of 240 days annually. The EPA calculated the safe noise level for the public to prevent hearing loss to be a 70-decibel time-weighted average for a 24-hour period (Leq (24) = 70). The EPA did not adjust for lifetime noise exposure, now almost 80 years versus 40 work-years, so the real average safe noise level to prevent hearing loss is probably lower. In simpler terms, noise exposure is a 24/7, and not just at work. Noise exposure is an on-going, lifetime experience due to our noise

profuse environment. In 1979, ONAC ran into the waste management industry by proposing regulations requiring longer trash truck compactor cycles to reduce noise. ONAC was defunded due to lobbying efforts, with the support of a president – Ronald Reagan – and an EPA administrator who did not believe in regulation (American Journal of Public Health, January 2017).

Most noise-induced hearing loss is a result of accumulated damage from repeated exposures to loud noise. In addition, the risk of noise damage depends on several factors: how loud the noise is, how long you listen to it, how much rest your ears get between exposures, and your individual susceptibility to noise. Hearing loss is irreversible and will increase with extended exposure.

According to the World Health Organization Guidelines for Community Noise, the effects of sound don't stop with the ears. Nonauditory effects of noise exposure are those effects that don't cause hearing loss but still can be measured, such as elevated blood pressure, loss of sleep, increased heart rate,

Noise pollution... pg. 16

COMMON NOISE SOURCES		
Outdoor Noise Sources	Noise Level (Decibels)	Indoor Noise Sources
	110	Rock Band
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Diesel Truck at 50 Feet	90	Food Blender at 3 Feet
Noisy Urban Daytime	80	Garbage Disposal at 3 Feet, Shouting at 3 Feet
Gas Lawn Mower at 100 Feet	70	Vacuum Cleaner at 10 Feet
Commercial Area		Normal Speech at 3 Feet
	60	
		Large Business Office
Quiet Urban Daytime	50	Dishwasher, Next Room
Quiet Urban Nighttime	40	Small Theater, Large Conference Room (Background)
Quiet Suburban Nighttime		Library
	30	
Quiet Rural Nighttime		Bedroom at Night, Concert Hall (Background)
	20	
		Broadcast and Recording Studio
	10	Threshold of hearing
	0	

Adapted from Guide on Evaluation and Attenuation of Traffic Noise. AASHTO (American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials). 1974.

The Mexican Diaspora, What Is It?

La Diaspora Mexicana, Que Era?

A suggestion from me for students: Surprise your Professors and/or Teachers. Believe me! They know NADA about how and when and why Mexicans abandoned (1913-1930) Mexico and settled in the Pomona Valley. They especially do not know that President Nixon grew up among the survivors and as president assured opportunities for them in the American Dream!!!

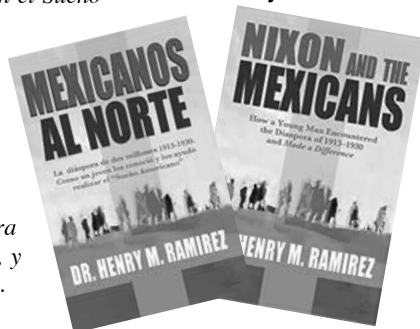
Una sugerencia mia para los estudiantes: Hagale una gran sorpresa a su Profesor y/o a su Maestro. Creamelo! Ellos no saben nada de como y cuando y el porque dos millones de Mexicanos mestizos abandonaron (1913-1930) a Mexico y que miles de ellos establecieron barrios en el Valle de Pomona. Por cierto, estos educadores no saben que el Presidente Nixon vivio, cuando jovencito, entre los barrios, Murphy y Leffingwell de Whittier, California y que cuando llego a ser presidente de los Estados Unidos nos aseguro oportunidades en el Sueño Americano.

In order to learn and to know in detail what the Mexican Diaspora was about and why they left Mexico so suddenly and, finally, how did Nixon open the American Dream for the betterment of our lives.

Hay que aprender y saber detalladamente lo que fue y era la Diaspora Mexicana, y que era el porque se fueron de Mexico tan de repente, y finalmente, que es lo que Nixon hizo para mejorar la vida de nosotros.



Dr. Henry Ramirez



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Escriba a Dr. Henry M. Ramirez, 20237 Sweet Meadow Lane, Laytonsville, Maryland, 20882 con su cheque

Editor's Note: Dr. Ramirez, who grew up a block away from Pomona's Sacred Heart Church and picked oranges for a living at the age of 15, was appointed by President Nixon to serve as his Cabinet Committee Chairman on Opportunities for Spanish-Speaking People. Today he lives in a small rural village in Maryland on a "ranchito" not far from Washington, D.C., with his wife Ester.

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 has co-facilitated at Pomona's Tri-City Wellness Center.

Indigenous Peoples Day... from pg. 12

awareness is passed on to future generations because we are losing all of that," she said.

Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval told the audience the City of Pomona changed the name of Columbus Day three years ago.

He stressed the importance of "remaining unified and coming together because we've come way too far to be divided."

Manzanares, a lifelong resident of Pomona and patriarch of a family well-represented at the event, served in World War II, is a member of the 82nd Airborne Division Association Honor Guard, and worked at Pomona's Fairplex for 44 years as a labor supervisor.

His daughter, Dee Dee Ybarra, was an organizer of the Pomona Indigenous People's Day event. She is tribal chairwoman of the Rumsen Am:A Tur:Ataj Ohlone and a resident of Hesperia.

Also present at the event and offering the opening prayer was Chief Ernest Perez Teutimez Salas, of the Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians, whose great-grandfather Nicholas Joseph led the revolt in 1785 at the San Gabriel Mission.

Salas' son, tribal chairman Andy Salas, who said his father lived with U.S. Army General George Patton, said his tribal history is a unique history that has not been told in the schools.

"We're here to share that history," he said. "We're the living proof."

Ganesha Park itself is considered



AN OFFICIAL BIRTHDAY WISH FOR STEPHEN MANZANARES -- Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, at left, presents an official Los Angeles County 91st birthday wish to World War II veteran Stephen Manzanares of Pomona. Pictured at right is Dee Dee Ybarra, Manzanares' daughter and an organizer of this month's Indigenous Peoples Day at Ganesha Park.

a sacred site and was once the location of the actual Gabrieleno Village of Toibingna, according to organizers.

The event included indigenous songs and dances, storytelling, exhibits, food and craft vendors and more.



Native American songs sung by children dressed in full authentic regalia and Aztec dancers complete with shell rattles on their ankles all were part of the excitement at this month's Indigenous Peoples Day activities at Ganesha Park.

Cal Poly President Coley becomes new 'presidential sponsor' of state network for women in education

Cal Poly University Pomona President Dr. Soraya Coley has been named new presidential sponsor of the American Council on Education's Women's Network of California, a network which supports the advancement of women in leadership in higher education.

She also appeared as the keynote speaker earlier this month at her first event as sponsor.

"While we've seen progress since the network started, we understand there is so much more to do," Coley said in a news release. "We envision this organization as a space where we continue to better understand the needs of women in higher education, to build networks and to support you in your professional goals."

According to the release, the National Center for Education started tracking faculty gender in 1987 at a time that women accounted for 33 percent of all faculty in the country. By 2017, that figure had grown to 50 percent of faculty, but only 33 percent of full professors.

The latest data from the American Council on Education shows women make up only 27 percent of the deans of academic colleges, and less than one third of university presidents are women.

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Noise Pollution... from pg. 14

cardiovascular constriction, labored breathing, and changes in brain chemistry. Also, there is on-going research indicating serious newborn and fetal effects.

One can argue that doctors, the public health community, and the general public should make themselves heard regarding the health risk of noise. Laws should be enacted, and regulations enforced to reduce noise from stationary and mobile sources, public venues, cities, streets, highways, vehicles, aircraft, appliances, machines, and devices that can be designed, engineered and manufactured to be quieter. The resulting quiet will prevent hearing loss and related health conditions. Another corresponding development and great benefit: millions will be assisted who have hearing loss and have difficulty with hearing speech in

loud environments with or without hearing aids, including those with tinnitus (a subjective sensation of ringing, buzzing, and other sounds) and hyperacusis (reduced tolerance and increased sensitivity to certain sound frequencies).

Editor's Note: Jose Bermudez, a safety professional for nearly 40 years, has worked as a consultant and a regional safety and health manager for colleges, hospitals and an environmental engineering consulting firm, working for companies such as General Electric, Waste Management, Inc. and Quaker Oats. He received the designation of Certified Safety Professional from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. His column is presented as a public service. He can be contacted at jsbrmdz8@gmail.com.

Cuentito for Today

We had a super, nice time at my amiga's daughter Monse's birthday party on Saturday. It was a party theme right out of Mexico!

Norma led us into the back yard, and I couldn't believe my eyes! It was decorated so beautifully and with lots of love. I felt like I had stepped into a scene from the movie "Coco." There was food spread out on a long table that looked —llena de plato's exquisitos —mouthwatering and exquisite dishes.

My friend, Norma is an amazing cook. She made chicken mole, arroz, frijoles with ham de la olla, refried beans, carne de puerco en mole, guacamole, ensalada de uña, a chicharrón dish, discada—a mixed grilled meat delight and homemade gorditas de maíz! The tortillera was busily cooking them on the comal.

I loved the horchata drink they were serving along with all the other tasty drinks.

However, what I didn't tell you, yet, was that this cuentito evolved into a nightmare as we left the party. It was getting dark and I told my friend, Norma, that we had to

The Big Fiesta Fall

By Susie Perales

leave. Because I can't handle the cool nights and my Viejito can't see where he's going. We make a great pair, don't we!

We were walking out through the driveway and he was holding on to me for dear life. I walked him right up to the car door and helped him into the car. I turned around and started to go around to my side of the car when I heard him moan. I thought for a second, "hmm, what's going on?!" I went back to check on my honey and I found him between the car and the curb on his back! He fell out of the car and sprained his ankle and hurt his leg!! I could barely get him to climb back in. It was a miracle that I did it —It was with God's strength, because I have none.

When I got us back home, I grabbed the walker to get him into the house. That was so difficult for both of us, too. He decided to climb out of the walker, because I couldn't push him. He got on his knees and crawled all the way to bed. For the life of me I couldn't get him into bed. But we did it after a long struggle. I put ice on his ankle and then heat. I rubbed his ankle with my pain potion, and he fell asleep. I put some on myself, too!!

When he woke up for his meds, I prayed over him with our special olive oil. I prayed for a miracle to happen in the morning.

Yep, that's one rough night we had. But we ended it with our usual laughing attack. When I took off my honey's shoes to ice his ankle, I saw that he had two different shoes on. One was a high top and one was a regular tennis shoe. He said, "they probably all noticed it when I was hobbling down the steps in my shorts!" I told him, "ay, viejito, no biggie, maybe they thought it was a blind guy's disabled shoe!" He laughed and said, "luckily, we didn't go out to the dance floor with my shorts and funny shoes!"

I apologized for laughing so hard, but I told him if I didn't laugh about it, I'd just bawl my eyes out over what happened to him. He started laughing just as hard with me. He was sound asleep in minutes.

Pobrecito my Viejito. He was in excruciating pain. He was howling like an old, wounded Aztec warrior!

Note: it turned out that he broke his fibula!!

His special shoes & Fiesta pics. No wonder he lost his footing!

La vejez no es para los débiles.

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INFLUENCING YOUNG LEADERS -- Pomona non-profit Just Us 4 Youth a year ago launched "Influence," a leadership initiative in which young urban leaders are invited on a bi-monthly basis to develop their leadership capacity alongside seasoned leaders from a variety of backgrounds in their communities -- all to begin to "spark" communitywide revitalization. Pictured last month in the group's Downtown Pomona office at an "Influence" event is Michael Thomas, of Pomona Valley America's Job Center of California and a Pomona Chamber of Commerce Board member, talking with two up and coming youth leaders. Other participants included Ray and Michelle Adamyk of Spectra, Pomona City Councilmember Nora Garcia, Mario Rodriguez of South Bay Business and Career Centers, Artie Delgado of Brink Films and Victor Lee of Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise.

Pomona Valley Hospital now offers new mammogram technology with more comfortable equipment

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is now offering its patients the SmartCurve breast stabilization system which is clinically proven to deliver a more comfortable mammogram.

Acquiring this latest innovation is part of the hospital's on-going commitment to su-

perior breast cancer detection, said Dr. Paul Reisch, medical director of the hospital's breast health center.

"It has the potential to increase screening compliance for the countless women who have reported avoiding regular mammograms due in large part to the fear of discomfort associ-

Civil rights award recipients... from pg. 9

relationships from the undocumented to the immigrants to our residents that have been here for 30 years together and be as one."

Jimenez, a 41-year resident of Pomona, is founder and owner of Laguna Technical College in Downtown Pomona. He and his wife Monica, a Pomona Unified School District elementary school teacher, have four children.

Martin called Sanchez, winner of the "community leader" award, "the most incredible city employee" and resident of Pomona who also volunteers for Pomona and "has cleaned up our streets of graffiti for many, many years."

Born and raised in Pomona, Sanchez has worked for the City of Pomona in the parks department

as well as in graffiti abatement. He is a third generation Teamster and currently serves as a Pomona Parks and Recreation commissioner.

And on Korgan, winner of the "labor leader" award, she called him "an incredible leader" for Teamsters Local 1932 who has "helped the employees of the City of Pomona get their contracts."

Korgan, a 29-year Teamster who became involved in the labor movement as a volunteer at the age of 21, has been advocating for working people helping thousands organize ever since.

In addition to serving as Secretary-Treasurer for Teamsters Local 1932, he is a business representative of Teamsters Local 63.

United Way golf tournament nets record \$36,000 to help children's programs

More than 80 golfers at Rancho Cucamonga's Red Hill Country Club helped raise a record breaking \$36,000 for local children in need in the fourth annual Inland Empire United Way 'United for Kids Golf Classic' last month.

Proceeds will help fund United Way's "Kids Pack Program" which supplies children with ingredients to help ease food insecurity, a "Launch Point" program that helps prepare youth in the community for a bright future, and school supplies teachers pick out themselves at the organization's "School Tools Teacher Resource Center."

"The generosity of our participants was extraordinary and will be so appreciated by the children of the Inland Empire helped through our efforts," said Wayne Guzman, committee co-chair of "Benefits that Benefit Children."

Sponsors included UPS, California Steel Industries, Audi of America, Sun Country Marine Group, CarNow and others.

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



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Through the Stained Glass Window
The beauty is seen from the inside.

A woman in Galveston, Texas, was cleaning her bird cage with the vacuum cleaner. The telephone rang and as she turned to answer the phone, she sucked her parakeet into the vacuum. She recovered the bird and after a great deal of effort she got him clean. He was returned to his perch. After several weeks she remarked, "He's not the same. He doesn't sing anymore. He only sits there and stares out into space." There should be joy and happiness in our lives. We should sing songs and dance dances. But it seems we have been sucked up by some terrible force. The result is we do not sing but we sit there and stare off in space.

The Psalmist says, "Sing a new song, unto the Lord." It may be a pitiful song at first but when we are willing to try, the Lord more than meets us. His spirit soon begins to fill our lives and we find we are able to sing once more. It is the presence of the Lord, through Jesus Christ, that gives us the ability to sing a new song.

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Rev. Dr. Lowell W. Linden

Some 600 runners turn out for third annual Downtown Pomona 5k, 10k

Efrain Carrillo, 17, a student at Pomona's Ganesha High School, placed first in this month's Pomona 5k run with a time of 17 minutes and 17 seconds, and Blake Zufall, 24, a student at Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences, came in first in the 10k run with a time of 30 minutes and 24 seconds.

A total of about 600 runners and an impressive group of 70 volunteers took to the streets of Downtown Pomona for the third annual run, this year featuring the addition of a 10k for the first time.

About 530 ran in the 5k and another 70 ran in the 10k.

Also added this year was a "toddler trot," a quick jaunt down a couple of blocks and back, with 15 kids up to the age of 5 participating. One jumped out of the blocks early – twice – but was successfully held back by his dad until the official beginning of the "trot."

The run was presented by a



Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval -- with a style of his own in both politics and running -- hits the street to check out that 5k route around Downtown Pomona.

partnership between Pomona Valley Runners and Day One, a non-profit whose mission is to build vibrant, healthy cities by advancing public health, empowering youth and igniting change.

Alfredo Camacho of Day One, a member of both Pomona Valley Runners and the 5k organizing committee, told La Nueva Voz



Members of the Pomona 5k and 10k committee pose for the La Nueva Voz camera (and about six or eight other cameras) before the runners left the starting blocks this month.



Fairplex President and CEO Miguel Santana, presenting sponsor of the Pomona 5k, welcomes runners to the event. And yes, La Nueva Voz can confirm it -- Miguel was out there with the rest of the gang looking good in the 5k.

the first two years were produced by professional run organizing companies. This was the first year the Pomona groups handled everything on their own.

"It turned out amazing," Camacho said, adding that organizers went away from the event believing it was well organized, turnout was great and the response from the community also was good.

Part of the success, he said, was that the run held the cost low for kids under 17 – only a \$15 registration fee.

This resulted in the run attracting a lot of first-time teenage runners. In addition, La Nueva Voz observed numerous adults on the street who have been out each of the three years – from Pomona's Mayor Tim Sandoval, City Manager Linda Lowry and Director of Public Works Rene Guerrero to Pomona Unified School District's Deputy Supt.



Now here's a group photo of the REAL winners of Pomona's own running event -- the kids age 5 and under who banged out the first run of the day, the "toddler trot," a new feature this year in the third annual Pomona 5k. Looking good out there, kids!



Runners in the Pomona 5k -- who come in all ages, shapes and sizes -- get off to an exciting start to get the day's signature run under way.

Darren Knowles and even Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, attorney James Sanbrano and Latina/Latino Roundtable President Jose Calderon, among others.

Even so, participation was down a bit from the first two years – year one attracted about 800 runners and year two was

about 140 down from that. But with organizers taking over production of the event, it appears numbers can only continue to climb back up in coming years.

Presenting sponsor for the run was Pomona's Fairplex.

"This is a true Pomona story
Downtown Pomona run... pg. 19

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Officials at IPoly's annual open house boast 99 percent of graduates go on to college, many with some of their freshmen year classes completed while in high school

Despite a slight decline in enrollment this year, Pomona's International Polytechnic High School (IPoly) is looking for continuing growth at a school where 99 percent of the graduates go on to college and many get to college with part of their freshman year class load already taken care of after completing college courses while still in high school.

IPoly Principal Ginger Paul told La Nueva Voz at last week's annual open house and advance registration event that recruitment and outreach has resulted in students on campus from 40 different cities and all four Southern California counties.

"We just want to make sure the students that choose to come to IPoly (that) it's a great fit for them," she said.

And, according to the school's Dean of College Admissions Bryan West, the biggest selling point for that "great fit" is college prep.

"Ninth and 10th graders, while they aren't taking college courses yet,

they're aspiring to and we're preparing them for it not only academically but in terms of extra curriculars and the exposure they get to those intrinsic opportunities, whether it is in clubs on campus or opportunities off campus," he said.

For example, West said the school, located on the Cal Poly University Pomona campus, is beginning to reach out to community partners and recently has been in touch with Downtown Pomona's Café con Libros, a small bookstore that promotes a variety of programs, talking about setting up an open mike night as an outlet for IPoly student creativity coming out of their clubs and organizations.

"We're really trying to get out into the community as well," Paul said, adding that the school is working on producing its own Relay for Life cancer fundraiser on the Cal Poly track in March. "We want it to be a community event."

West said some 88 percent of I-

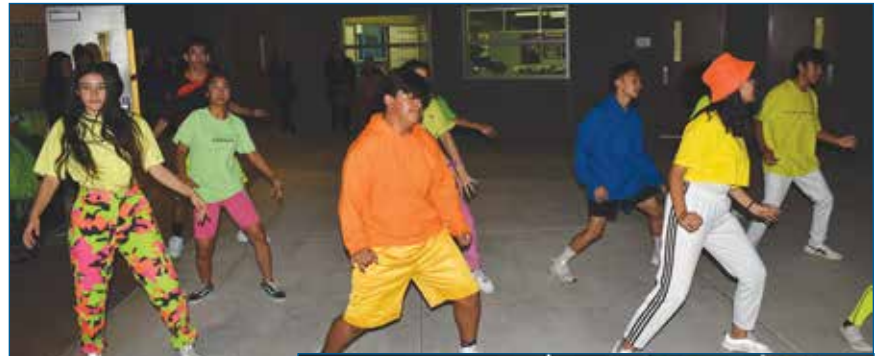
Poly's seniors graduate after taking a college course while in high school to prepare them for going to college. The school is partnering with both Mt. SAC and Cal Poly.

A "Young Scholar" program at Cal Poly allows high school students to take courses for \$10 a semester. And a "dual enrollment" program with Mt. SAC, currently in its third year, offers classes to IPoly students that are all Cal State and University of California approved and cost nothing – tuition, books and materials all are free.

"And it plays into our student population – we have a significant number who are on free or reduced cost lunch, first generation students probably about 45 percent, so it really services them," he said.

In addition, another program allows IPoly students to take classes at any community college if they prefer taking outside classes closer to their home after school.

West said students in these pro-



The amazing IPoly dancers perform a special dance routine to officially open last week's annual open house at IPoly.



IPOLY ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE -- Officials at IPoly's annual house last week chat with student ambassadors. Pictured, from left, are Dean of College Admissions Bryan West, Principal Ginger Paul, and ambassadors Maia Stahl and Kian Jahankabakhsh, both ninth graders, and Catherine Paul, the principal's daughter and a sophomore at IPoly.

grams generally graduate with three to five college courses – or even their entire first semester of their freshman year – completed ahead of time for nominal or no fee.

IPoly is a specialized public college prep high school with an award-winning program that centers around in-

novative project-based learning. Run by the Los Angeles County Office of Education, the school has been open since 1993.

Downtown Pomona run... from pg. 18



– what started off as a movement to take back the street, it has now become a Pomona tradition," said Fairplex President and CEO Miguel Santana who also ran in the 5k as runners left the starting line to the music of Chuck Berry's "Run Run Rudolph."

Photo by Renee Barbee Pomona Unified School District Deputy Supt. Darren Knowles and his four-legged running companion Kona are ready to hit the street in the Pomona 5k.



Participants in the Pomona 10k head out from under the start/finish banner.



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Applications open for \$1.2 million SCE scholarship program

Edison International, the parent company of Southern California Edison, is offering high school seniors interested in “making a difference” through the study of science, technology, engineering or math (STEM) some \$1.2 million in scholarships through the Edison Scholars Program.

Each year Edison awards \$40,000 scholarships, paid over four years, to 30 high school students who plan to major in designated STEM fields at a four-year accredited U.S. college or university.

Scholarship applications are being accepted through Dec. 16. To apply and obtain additional eligibility information, visit the web site at edisonscholars.com.

Applicants must live in SCE’s service area and plan to be a full-time undergraduate student majoring in a STEM field. Eligible students also must be a high school senior, have at least a cumulative 3.0 grade point average, and demonstrate financial need.

Students from underserved

communities and ethnic minorities are encouraged to apply.

Dependents of Edison employees and retirees are not eligible for the scholarship program.

“These future leaders have the opportunity to change lives, communities and perhaps even the world,” said Pedro Pizarro, president and CEO of Edison International. “We are proud to help talented students realize their academic dreams and support these important STEM programs.”

Scholarship recipients will be announced next spring. They also may be eligible for summer internships at SCE after completing their second year of college.

Since 2006, Edison International has awarded an estimated \$9.9 million in scholarships to 640 students through the program.

The company’s support of charitable causes including the scholars program is funded entirely by shareholders. Customer utility bill payments do not fund company donations.



POMONA OPTIMISTS STUDENTS OF THE MONTH -- School’s back in session and it is time again for the Pomona Optimist Club students of the month, this time for the months of August and September and going to students from Pomona’s Cortez Math and Science Magnet School. Pictured at Mr. D’s Diner in Pomona at a recent Optimist Club meeting, from left, are Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado; Optimist Club President Lorraine Canales; Logann Ibarra, a fourth grader; Eric Ortega, a kindergarten student; Alondra Martinez and Emily Morales-Segura, both third graders; and Pomona City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole. Eric and Alondra were honored for August and Emily and Logann were honored for September.

Do you have a news story?

We want to hear from you or your organization.

Send your news tips to: reneebarbee7@gmail.com

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