



La Nueva Voz

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Pomona's *only* community newspaper!



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Supervisor Solis, Supt. Martinez receive top honors at Library Foundation's 'in person' Mayor's Gala

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis and retiring Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez were the top award recipients at this month's Pomona Public Library Foundation Mayor's Gala where 150 library supporters gathered at the Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center for the first "in person" gala fundraiser since 2019.

And as an added attraction, this year's keynote speaker was California State Librarian Greg Lucas who told the audience that California has 1,130 local libraries, the most of any state in the country, but that to his knowledge

"no one has an event like we're at tonight celebrating the value of libraries generally and this city's library in particular."

The award for Solis, presented to a staff member at the event, was a belated presentation for the 2020 gala which was canceled due to the pandemic, and Martinez was this year's "Mayor's Award" recipient.

"Miss Lois" Robbins, children's librarian at Pomona Public Library from 1990 to 2013, received the 2022 Pomona Public Library Foundation Award.

Preliminary estimates showed



Duane Smith, President
Pomona Public Library Foundation

the event grossed more than \$70,000 this year. The theme for the fundraiser was "Adventures in



Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval

Reading."

"A public library is an amazing institution," said foundation board president Duane Smith. "There is probably no institution in the world that is more equalitarian than a library. At the same time in a library will be a homeless person and a lawyer - maybe working on different projects but working."

He added that Pomona Police Chief Mike Ellis told him recently that he filled out his application for his first job at Pomona at a typewriter in a public library.

"Those are the kind of things that make me want to continue to be part of the support team for the library," Smith said.

And Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval echoed the sentiment.

"I believe that the greatest investment that any city can make is in its children," Sandoval said. "Oftentimes cities spend more money on the back end rather than investing on the front end. And we have to change that."

"The City of Pomona has to continue to increase the amount of dollars it contributes to our library and to the investment in our children by spending more so that we see the full human development of our children," he added.

Sandoval acknowledged the new entrance to the Pomona library which was remodeled using state funding obtained by State Sen. Connie Leyva with planning and guidance provided by the foundation.

He explained he selected Solis for the Mayor's Award in 2020 since the award can be based on service to the city, not just the library.

At the height of the pandemic, Sandoval said, Solis was always there for Pomona - turning the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel into a quarantine site, helping establish a vaccination site and a testing site at Pomona's Fairplex, and even turning a large portion of the Fairplex campus into a temporary home for unaccompanied children

Mayor's Gala... pg. 2

Last graduating class members at Palomares Academy receive diplomas

Some 33 seniors walked across the stage and received diplomas in graduation ceremonies for Pomona's Palomares Academy of Health Sciences last month, marking the end of an era as the last graduating class before the school is consolidated into other schools as Pomona Unified School District continues to grapple with years of declining enrollment.

Dr. Camille Ramos-Beal, who has served as principal since 2014, noted the change in her comments.

"From 2014 to 2022, Palomares has supported young adults as they ventured forward toward their dreams," she said. "Tonight, as we conclude our school consolidation, after over 50 years of serving Palomares Academy... pg. 3



Pomona Unified School Board member Andrew Wong, at left, and Palomares Academy Assistant Principal Troy Littlejohn present a Palomares Academy high school diploma to Jennifer Esmeralda Garcia-Moreno, a "patient care pathway" student.

PAID ADVERTORIAL

Volunteers offer mental health support to community members through Peer Mentor program

Support from friends and family is important, but sometimes talking to someone who has gone through similar life experiences can be the most significant way to improve well-being.

The Peer Mentor program at Tri-City Mental Health trains volunteers ages 18 and older who want to learn how to provide emotional support to community members in Pomona, Claremont and La Verne. Comprised of a culturally diverse team of individuals, peer mentors are trained on a wide range of skills to enhance their ability to connect and appropriately support peers and help them feel that they are not alone. Through their own lived experiences, peer mentors are uniquely qualified to offer encouragement, guidance and hope to their peers. For every individual they meet with, the role of peer mentors is to listen, help identify strengths and areas of need, identify supports and suggest resources to help address an individual's concerns.

"The program offers individuals the opportunity to give back to their community," said Michelle Robinson, MHSA Program Coordinator for the Peer Mentor program. "Peer mentors are able to gain hands-on experience in the mental health field, build connections with other mentors and learn new skills through various trainings." The Peer Mentor program is accepting new mentor applicants for the 2022-2023 program year which begins in September 2022.

Do you or someone you know need peer support? This free supportive service is offered to community members ages 16 and older in a variety of languages and includes confidential one-on-one mentoring. Individuals who can benefit from support are paired up with mentors who share similar interests or life experiences. You can talk to someone about stressful life events, coping skills, relationships, work and school issues, family challenges and any other areas you want to address for your well-being.

For more information about the application process or how to receive peer mentor support, please contact Michelle Robinson at (909) 242-7657 or p2p@tricitymhs.org. Visit bit.ly/TCMHpeermentor or scan the QR code to learn more.



Mayor's Gala... from pg. 1

seeking refuge in the U.S.

Andrea Moreno, deputy district director for Solis, accepted the 2020 award on behalf of the supervisor.

Martinez, who is retiring next week, was unable to attend the gala because of his daughter's wedding out of the area. But he prepared a video with Sandoval instead in which the mayor called Martinez "a champion for our children."

He said this year's award honors him "for the contributions he's made," and because he has "helped so many young people in this community, he has helped our city improve, and he's made a difference in the lives of our residents."

Speaking in the video, Martinez thanked the city for supporting students in the school district and thanked the foundation and the mayor for the award.

"I couldn't have done this without you," he said. "All the work



Pomona City Councilmember Nora Garcia, at right, presents the "Foundation Award" to former Pomona children's librarian Miss Lois Robbins.

that the library does for our children, what has been done through the foundation, has been so incredibly supportive, especially during COVID."

He said he was receiving the award on behalf of Pomona Unified School District families.

"We all want to thank you and

we encourage you to continue doing the great work," Martinez said.

Foundation Award presented to 'Miss Lois'

Pomona City Councilmember Nora Garcia introduced foundation award winner "Miss Lois" by telling



Andrea Moreno
Office of Supervisor Hilda Solis



David "Judah 1" Oliver
Pomona's poet laureate

a story of a little girl who was sent to preschool without knowing "a lick of English," and who on her first day of school was given directions she could not understand.

Garcia said when the little girl's mother came to pick her up, she found her daughter sitting in a corner in tears. A teacher's assistant told the mother to take her daughter to the library, where she received her library card and within six months was very fluent in English.

"The little girl never forgot that day and neither did her mother," Garcia said, choking back tears. "I am that little girl, and the librar-

Mayor's Gala... pg. 4



Photo by Renee Barbee

Members of the Garey High School Jazz Band, under the direction of Anthony Bonner (on the drums), performed at the Pomona Public Library Foundation Mayor's Gala. And they were amazing (special shout out to the bass player and the lead guitar player).

Construction is 50% Complete

The Foothill Gold Line light rail project will extend the Metro Gold Line (L Line) to the cities of Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont and Montclair - and will be built in phases. The project segment from Glendora to Pomona is fully funded by LA County's Measure M and state funds (including SB1), and major construction is now halfway complete. Funding is being sought to complete the project to Claremont and Montclair.

Construction Questions: Call/text (626) 513-5788
 Stay ahead of construction, sign up for alerts: foothillgoldline.org

State librarian tells Pomona library supporters importance of libraries and literacy

California State Librarian Greg Lucas, keynote speaker at this month's 2022 Mayor's Gala fundraiser for the Pomona Public Library Foundation, told nearly 200 library supporters that "there's nothing but good that comes from investing in libraries and literacy."

"What I see in libraries makes me optimistic about the future," he added as he told the audience he has personally visited about 265 of California's 1,130 local libraries.

Formerly a news reporter who covered the State Capitol for the San Francisco Chronicle for 20 years, Lucas said if kids are not reading at third grade level in the third grade, a "big stack of stud-



Greg Lucas
California State Librarian

ies says that their life trajectory is likely to angle sharply downward, particularly if they're kids of color or live in what is euphemistically

Libraries and literacy... pg. 4

Palomares Academy... from pg. 1

the community, most as a six to eight (grade) middle school prior to becoming a seven-twelve academy, we celebrate the last graduating class of Palomares Academy of Health Sciences.”

“And what an outstanding group of individuals we celebrate today,” she said, speaking in both English and Spanish.

Turning her attention to the parents, families and mentors of the graduates, “their success is your success, too,” she said.

“It is with pride that I announce despite the pandemic, this class is ready to face the world,” Ramos-

Beal continued. “You maintained a 100 percent graduation rate, and the majority of our students received biomedical scholar status (scholarships from a variety of colleges and universities, sometimes focusing on students from underrepresented backgrounds).”

Yet she said it is not only their achievements that have prepared the graduates.

“It is their maturity, their sense of responsibility, their resiliency and integrity that each has shown for themselves and for others,” she said.

And while their school is still con-



Graduates officially change their tassels from right to left after receiving their diplomas -- a tradition marking the completion of graduation ceremonies.

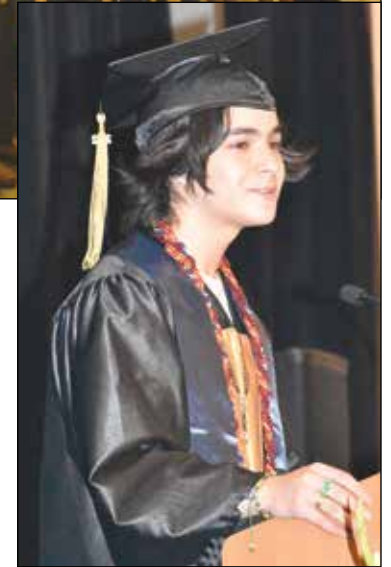
sidered by U.S. News and World Report to be one of America’s best high schools, the students have experienced tragedies but still have learned “an appreciation of what we have and what we continue to be blessed with.”

She said they have endured social justice inequities, a global pandemic, financial hardship, the passing of a staff member and of

a student, a decision by the school board to consolidate their school, a half century old tree falling over onto their school building, a war in Ukraine and, most recently, a massacre of innocent children and two educators protecting their students.

“But in difficult times, hope must be our anchor and our guiding light,” she said. “The graduates be-

Palomares Academy... pg. 14



Nathan Venegas
Valedictorian



Dr. Camille Ramos-Beal
Principal



Lilian Zamora
ASB President

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Mayor's Gala... from pg. 2

ian was Lois Robbins.”

Garcia told the audience there were several lessons to be learned from that first day of school.

“But one of the strongest for me is the crucial part that the library played in my education,” she said, adding that by the time she was in third grade she was helping other English learning kids to read and by the sixth grade she was reading the adventure novel “The Count of Monte Cristo.”

“The Pomona Public Library isn't just a place where books are stored... the library is a two-story repository of literacy, history, knowledge, and community,” Garcia said, recounting her surprise when she came home from college in 2012 and found the city was considering closing the library.

“To this day it boggles my mind how anyone who wants a better, safer, more educated Pomona could ever think of closing the doors of our Pomona Public Library,” she said. “A strong, educated population creates a strong prosperous community.”

And she added that she believes all of this because she is a product of the library.

Garcia presented the award to “Miss Lois” because of all the generations of readers and lives she impacted.

Referring to Garcia's story, “Miss Lois” said, “that young person had the exact same amount of self confidence as you see here today.”

Tri-City Mental Health veteran staffer Rimmi Hundal appointed executive director of agency serving Pomona, Claremont and La Verne

Rimmi Hundal, Director of MHSA (administering the California Mental Health Services Act) and Director of Ethnic Services at Tri-City Mental Health, has been selected to serve as the agency's new executive director, replacing Toni Navarro who resigned in December after serving for 13 years to become Director of Behavioral Wellness in Santa Barbara County.

Following a nationwide recruitment process and action by Tri-City board members last month, Hundal's appointment was approved and became effective at the end of May.

The board action came during both Mental Health Awareness Month and Asian-American Pacific Islander Month. Hundal becomes

“When she came bouncing into the room, Nora made an entrance and she owned the room,” she said, adding that when she outgrew the children's room, she continued to make the “teen” room and adult sections of the library a part of her life.

She said it was an “absolute honor” to watch the children of Pomona grow.

After her brief comments, “Miss Lois” – always the librarian – took the moment to read to what she called her captive audience “The twisted mouth family,” a folk tale from New England, perhaps making her point as only a children's librarian can.

Library's Anita Torres describes work of the foundation

Library manager Anita Torres, out of the country with her new husband on a preplanned honeymoon, also had produced a video for the event, explaining that in June 2020 members of the foundation board met with her to see what her plans were.

She explained that it appeared that they wanted “to make sure that the building and this organization was in the hands of someone who cared about it as much as they did.”

Torres said she is “inspired daily” by the staff, the community, and the foundation,” adding that in addition to the renovations to the lobby, the foundation in the last few years has funded improvements in the public confer-

ence room, purchased an outdoor auto return bin, self-checkout equipment and a modernized security system.

She said the foundation also supports an on-going archiving project of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley along with a homework club which, working in partnership with the school district, brings in college and community volunteers to help kids in grades kindergarten through eight each weekday afternoon.

Recently, Torres added, the dA Center for the Arts partnered with the homework club to add art projects to the after-school program.

“Not until I came to the City of Pomona and met the members of the Pomona Public Library Foundation have I worked with a group that is so engaged, so genuinely interested and invested in the success of their community library than this group,” Torres said.

Pomona's poet laureate David “Judah 1” Oliver, the city's inaugural poet laureate, made a special appearance reading his poem “Pomona is Poetry.”

Oliver was selected for the position by the library's board of trustees in 2019 and the poet laureate program is funded by the foundation.

The foundation's first Mayor's Gala was held in 2018.

Smith said that over the last two years the foundation has spent more than \$300,000 on the library, with \$280,000 of that coming from the state grant.



Rimmi Hundal

the first Asian-American executive director at Tri-City.

“I am honored that I was given this opportunity to serve the com-

munity, and I will work hard with my full dedication to serve our clients and our community,” Hundal said. “I look forward to taking Tri-City to the next level.”

She pointed out that she initially was hired by her mentor and former executive director Jesse Duff nearly 14 years ago.

Duff returned in February to serve as interim executive director following Navarro's departure. He will remain on staff on a limited basis for the next two months to help during the transition.

Board members unanimously approved Hundal's selection following interviews of top candidates in what was considered a highly competitive process.

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Libraries and literacy... from pg. 2

called underserved communities.” He said studies have shown that for every dollar invested in libraries, the return is \$5 or more.

Lucas told the group that California has 1,130 local libraries, more than any other state in the country.

“It says something about who we are as Californians,” he said. “And all of those libraries are as diverse and unique as Californians and the communities which they call home.”

He said the work the Pomona foundation is doing “is part of the state library's job, too, reminding Californians how libraries change lives and helping reduce the number of adult Californians who can't read a story to their

kids, take a written test, or, more troubling, understand the label on a bottle of medication.”

Lucas said nationally, according to the U.S. Department of Education, there are 32 million functionally illiterate Americans, including about 4 million in California.

“The absolute most cost-effective way to spend a taxpayer dollar is to use it to teach someone to become a stronger reader,” he said. “If you teach me to read, I'm going to go out and get a better paying job, which means I'm going to be better able to support my family, and the government is going to have to spend less dough supporting me and my family.”

Libraries and literacy... pg. 6

INTRODUCING NEW INTERN

-- La Nueva Voz has a new summer intern, and we'd like to introduce with a big welcome to the neighborhood Alex Santiago. You may already have seen Alex out there taking photos and jotting down notes, and she's doing a good job! She's a junior at Walnut High School, she has been her class president since 2019, she has an amazing grade point average and she wants to major in journalism and English in college. She even attended a Harvard International Socioeconomics Laboratory last summer and placed in the top 15 percent of her class. So if you see her around town, be sure to say hello and tell her you saw her picture in La Nueva Voz.



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Caltrans, Pomona officials celebrate \$5 million 'Clean California' grant

California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) District 7 Director Tony Tavares, just last week appointed by Gov. Newsom to serve as statewide director of Caltrans, joined Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval and others at Pomona's Garfield Park last month to celebrate the award of a nearly \$5 million "Clean California" grant during the city's weekly "Pomona Beautiful" volunteer clean-up effort.

The grant will help transform the city's well-traveled Holt Avenue corridor and was part of Gov. Newsom's Clean California initiative, a sweeping \$1.1 billion multi-year clean-up effort led by Caltrans to remove trash, revitalize neighborhoods, create thousands of jobs and engage communities to "transform public spaces," according to a Caltrans news release.

The \$4.9 million project will enhance safety and walkability along an approximately 2.3-mile stretch of Holt and Garey Avenues with improvements including planting 50 drought-tolerant trees, repairing sidewalks, upgrading bus stops with new solar-lit and shaded shelters, installing 30 trash cans, and painting a mural with anti-graffiti coating on the walls of the Garey Avenue underpass in

Downtown Pomona.

Also included will be a quarter-mile walking trail and six exercise stations to be installed in Garfield Park, located at 801 E. Holt Ave. The project's design phase was expected to begin this month.

"Pomona is thankful and excited to receive (this grant) to continue the work of cleaning and beautifying our city," Sandoval said. "The effort to clean and beautify Pomona has largely been a volunteer effort with the help of organizations like Pomona Beautiful and other community-based organizations."

"But this grant will allow us to support individuals to be present and proactive in an area of the city that has long suffered blight – the east Holt Avenue corridor," he added. "I believe this collaborative effort of city government, residents and businesses will result in positive change in our city."

According to Pomona City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, the Caltrans grant was made possible by an application submitted by city public works officials.

The project is among 105 Clean California projects statewide funded through nearly \$300 million in Clean



POMONA RECEIVES \$5 MILLION 'CLEAN CALIFORNIA' GRANT -- Caltrans District 7 Director Tony Tavares, at the podium, addresses Pomona city officials and residents last month in Pomona's Garfield Park to celebrate a \$5 million grant to Pomona to help "transform public spaces." Participating at the event were Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, Pomona City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole and, second from left, City Councilmember Nora Garcia, along with other members of Pomona Beautiful.

California local grants that Caltrans awarded in March to address beautification issues in underserved communities.

In February, in a related action, Newsom announced 126 beautification projects worth \$312 million designed to transform communities and create connectivity along the state

highway system.

Collectively, these projects are expected to generate 7,200 jobs. Newsom's "California Blueprint" proposes an additional \$100 million to fund a second round of Clean California local grant projects.

Since launching Clean California last July, Caltrans has removed nearly

650,000 cubic yards of litter from state highways, or the equivalent of more than 10,800 tons or enough to fill 197 Olympic-sized swimming pools.

The agency also has hired 708 new team members as part of Clean California, including 546 maintenance workers who collect litter and remove graffiti.

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Local elections bring surprises, disappointments

In case you missed it, the June 7 primary election has come and gone, and your television advertising has, well, gone back to normal without those catchy political ads.

And, as would be expected, the unofficial results include several surprises and several disappointments but mostly results that were anticipated all along.

One thing that was expected was a low turnout – according to the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder's office, a total of 822,545 ballots were processed and counted, which translates to only 14.45 percent of the registered voters in Los Angeles County casting ballots.

As of deadline week for this issue of La Nueva Voz, Pomona's Mike Cargile, making his second run for U.S. House of Representatives, came in second place against Congresswoman Norma Torres and will go head-to-head in a runoff with the incumbent in the Nov. 8 general election.

Torres received 33,830 votes or 53.7 percent of the vote, while Cargile had 16,094 votes, or 25.6 percent. In the Los Angeles

County portion of the Congressional district, Torres had 5,915 votes compared to Cargile's 1,778 votes.

State Sen. Susan Rubio received 50,942 votes (58.3 percent) over Vincent Tsai (23,992 votes or 27.5 percent) and Kimo Mateo (12,407 or 14.2 percent). For Rubio, 34,784 of her votes came from the Los Angeles County portion of the district. Again, the top two vote getters will appear on the ballot again in November.

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez received 23,814 votes (59.6 percent) against Toni Holle who had 16,175 votes, or 40.4 percent. Rodriguez' total included 6,569 votes in the Los Angeles County portion of the district. And again, under the "Top Two Candidates Open Primary Act," which took effect on Jan. 1, 2011, both candidates – even though there were only two on the ballot – will do it all over again in November.

The "Top Two Act" does not apply to local offices.

In the Los Angeles County races, Los Angeles County Su-

pervisor Hilda Solis pretty much nailed it with 74.81 percent of the vote. Challengers David Argudo had 7.53 percent, Kevin Dalton had 7.50 percent, Brian Smith had 6.85 percent and Tammy Solis had 3.30 percent.

Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang did well with 49.48 percent of the countywide vote with second place going to Sandy Sun at 22.67 percent, followed by Mike Campbell at 16.27 percent and Anthony Lopez at 11.57 percent.

Interested in the race for Los Angeles County Sheriff? For those trying to unseat the incumbent, Sheriff Alex Villanueva, here's your chance, sports fans – he'll be up against Robert Luna in November.

Villanueva had only 31.86 percent of the vote, over Luna with a close 25.98 percent.

Eric Strong had 14.20 percent, Cecil Rhambo had 7.72 percent, Karla Yesenia Carranza had 5.03 percent, Britta Steinbrenner had 4.58 percent, Eli Vera had 4.36 percent, Matt Rodriguez had 4.13 percent and April Saucedo Hood

had 2.14 percent.

And with all of those minor candidates out of the way in November, that's a lot of votes that could go either way.

On a sad note, State Sen. Connie Leyva, always considered a good friend of Pomona for the past eight years, lost her bid for Fourth District San Bernardino County Supervisor to incumbent Supervisor Curt Hagman.

Hagman had 57.06 percent of the vote, winning a majority of the votes in what is considered a local race, avoiding the need for a runoff in November. Leyva had 36.07 percent and Larry Wu had 6.86 percent.

Leyva opted out of the state Senate race after redistricting

changed things around, giving areas of Pomona, Chino and Ontario to a new district that apparently now will be represented by State Sen. Susan Rubio.

In the race for San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors District 2, however, former Pomona Chamber of Commerce Board member Luis Cetina was the top vote getter and apparently will head into the November runoff against Jesse Armendarez.

Cetina received 33.10 percent of the vote compared to Armendarez with only 30.46 percent.

Dejonae Shaw received 21.22 percent of the vote in that race, Eric Eugene Coker received 7.99 percent and Nadia Maria Renner received 7.23 percent.

Libraries and literacy... from pg. 4

And, he said, it means he'll pay more in taxes which enables the government to teach more people "how to read and succeed and thrive in California."

"There is no other government expenditure that can ever pay as huge a dividend than human potential – none," he said. "Nothing

even comes close."

Lucas was appointed California's 25th State Librarian by Gov. Jerry Brown in 2014. The state library invests \$10 million annually in local libraries.

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Historical Society honors Mickey Gallivan with a bloomin' garden!

Three dozen friends and supporters turned out last month for a special ceremony outside the Pomona Ebell Museum of History to dedicate "Mickey's Place," a newly-created rose garden setting, named in honor of Mickey Gallivan, who served as president of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley for 18 years.

"This rose garden is meant to say thank you for those long years just being president from 1999 to 2017," said current president Deborah Clifford. "She is the 21st century for the Historical Society. But she was involved from the '70s on. We owe you a great debt, it's not even a question."

Clifford pointed out that when Gallivan became president, the organization had no building to use for meetings and instead met in members' houses. Soon, the group acquired offices at the Village at Indian Hill, where members began to place various pieces on display.

"There was the luckiness of getting the Ebell," Clifford said, in 2004, "and finally having a home and that was hers. But she's also responsible for the remodeling and the work on the Phillips (mansion)."

She called Gallivan "tireless."

Jennifer Williams, who started volunteering with the Historical Society in 2013, remembered stopping in one day when Gallivan asked her to fill out the required paperwork.

"I realized pretty early on that I had no choice in the matter any more and that this was where I was going to be," Williams said. "Mickey Gallivan is taking me under her wing and that's where I was going to stay."

"She always had me on my toes – I would have to chase her through the building because she was always going and going and going," she added. "I think if



Deborah Clifford

there's a single experience that we can all relate to with Mickey is having to try to keep up."

And on the garden, she called it "a place where we can feel relaxed and at home."

"The Gallivans have been like family to me since I started here – Jim (Mickey's husband) and Mickey make you part of the family," she said.

Carson Bennett, who said he met her five years ago on the Halloween tour when she was his tour guide, said he was "just blown away" by the information she provided – so much so that her inspiration prompted him to come in as a volunteer a week later.

He has served as a board member for the past three years.

"Mickey is one of those people that just inspires you, she's one of those people that just is a pleasure to be around," he said.

Gallivan thanked everyone for coming and acknowledged among others Susie and Jeff Wagner who drove in from Las Vegas. She explained that it was Susie's great great grandfather John Osgoodby who donated the old bell years ago to what is now Purpose Church.

Susie Wagner later told La Nueva Voz that while it was a struggle to get the bell out of storage at Pur-



Mickey Gallivan

pose Church, the Gallivans were able to follow through and move the bell to its current safe spot at the Phillips Mansion.

Wagner added that her brother, Don Russell, is a resident of Claremont and Betheen Becklund, "the other great granddaughter," lives in Bellingham, Washington.

"People say I'm a slavedriver," Gallivan said, but she added that she hopes that the volunteers feel like they've never worked so hard but also never had so much fun or accomplished so much.

"People just come and they do things and it's just amazing how many people are willing to give to the community, to the city, to us," she said. "I think we just have a beautiful city, we have so many beautiful, potential historically significant things, and we have such a diverse and a wonderful history and we just need to continue to work to make



Carson Bennett

sure that city staff know and they appreciate that."

"We see this building (Ebell) being pristine, we see the Phillips Mansion being pristine, we see the adobes looking absolutely beautiful, we see the YMCA restored, we see the homes in the historic district . . . we see downtown being vibrant and energetic," Gallivan said. "That's what we see, and we have to make sure that (city) staff share that vision."

"Last, I want to thank you for entrusting me with 19 years in



Jennifer Williams

leadership, and I want to thank you for the rose garden," she said. "I want to thank you for all of your love, your support, your encouragement, your hard earned money that you contribute, and your blood, sweat and tears you probably have given for the society."

And the rose garden? It consists of one Cramisi Superieur (1832), two climbing Cherokee white roses (1759), an Autumn Damask (pre-1819), a Kronprinzessin Victoria (1887), a French Lavender and a New Orleans climber.

Money Magazine ranks Cal Poly Pomona one of 'Best Colleges in America'

Cal Poly University Pomona has been recognized by Money Magazine as one of the "Best Colleges in America, Ranked by Value 2022," ranking 28th nationally based on quality, affordability, and alumni outcomes.

More than 600 private and public institutions were analyzed for this year's rankings. Cal Poly Pomona also was listed 15th

among "Best Colleges in the West" and 24th among "Best Public Colleges."

According to a Cal Poly news release, magazine officials noted the university's "learn by doing" approach and "unexpected opportunities" along with "a graduation rate . . . higher than expected based on schools with comparable student demographics and higher than expected early career salaries."

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Photo by Alex Santiago, La Nueva Voz

NEW CATERER IN TOWN -- There's a new caterer in town, and he could be seen setting up shop for his grand opening this month at the "909 Open Market." (Did you even know there WAS a 909 Open Market? It sets up in the parking lot from 5 to 9:30 p.m. first and third Saturdays at 2282 N. Garey Ave., Pomona, and from 6 to 10 p.m. fourth Saturdays on Second Street in Downtown Pomona.) Pictured is George Valencia, owner of "To the Pig BBQ" and a resident of Pomona for more than 30 years, making one of his sandwiches that definitely looks like it would be worthy of chomping into. Valencia's specialties are both burgers and barbecue. Want to know more? You can reach Valencia on Instagram at @tothepig_bbq.



MILLION MOTHERS MARCH -- Ethel Gardner, founder of Pomona's Kennedy Austin Foundation, coordinates the balloons before a ceremonial balloon release at last month's 16th annual Million Mothers March at Ganesha Park in Pomona. The day each year is a day of celebration and remembrance by those who have lost a child and includes a march, speeches, music, vendors and more, with each balloon released representing a lost child. The foundation offers grief and loss, domestic violence and anger management workshops serving families in a tri-city area. Pictured, from left, are Gardner; William Baez, a sophomore at Pomona's Village Academy High School; Eshal Jan, of Upland High School; and Angelina Martinez, a senior at Village Academy.



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Gold Line officials celebrate completing 50 percent of construction from Glendora to Pomona

Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority officials – along with state, local and federal elected officials – gathered in San Dimas last week to hold a news conference in the shadow of a Gold Line bridge over Bonita Avenue to mark the 50 percent construction completion of the light rail segment from Glendora to Pomona.

This segment of the project got under way in December 2017 when Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti broke ground for the construction in a parking lot at Citrus College (see December 2017 issue of La Nueva Voz in “past issues” at www.lanuevavoz.net).

The 9.1-mile extension of the Foothill Gold Line (now referred to as the L Line) is expected to reach a new Pomona station in 2025 at a cost of \$1.5 billion. Major construction on the project got under way in July 2020.

When completed, it will be turned over to LA Metro for training and pre-revenue service. Metro will determine when passenger service begins, according to construction authority officials.

The Foothill Gold Line was the first Measure M-funded light rail project to break ground and is named one of Metro’s 28 priority projects to be completed before the 2028 Olympic Games in Los Angeles.

The construction authority currently is seeking additional funding to complete the project to Claremont and Montclair.

“This project would not get to Pomona . . . without all of you,” construction authority member and former chair Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval told elected officials in the audience. “At the core, it’s about serving the residents of Los Angeles County so that they have a rail and bus system that they can all be incredibly proud of.”

Sandoval also serves on the LA Metro board.

“The work that we collectively do by creating more opportunities to get people out of their cars into a

Assemblymember Rodriguez bills tighten gun laws

Two bills authored by Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez that would promote gun safety passed out of the State Senate Public Safety Committee last month.

Assembly Bill 228 would require the California Department



A San Dimas news conference last week, only several feet from a Gold Line bridge over Bonita Avenue, marked the 50 percent construction completion of the Foothill Gold line project from Glendora to Pomona. The Gold Line is expected to reach Pomona in 2025.



Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger



Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis



Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez



Congresswoman Grace Napolitano

light rail and bus system is helping to improve the lives and the environment for people throughout Los Angeles County,” he said.

“I can’t tell you and express to you how important to you it is to get this line to the residents of Pomona,” Sandoval added.

“What an amazing milestone this is,” said Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, who serves as chair of the LA Metro board. “The project in my opinion will truly transform the San Gabriel Valley and give us our due respect.”

“Hard work just paid off,” she said, and the project was made possible through a “real partnership” between the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments with

of Justice to inspect firearm dealers at least every three years to ensure compliance with firearms law.

And Assembly Bill 1842 would limit the return-related fees a firearm dealer may charge if the

subregional funds to help complete the project and both Metro and the Gold Line Construction Authority.

Officials, she said, were able to “work with one another and share our goals.”

“A \$1.5 billion project is a signal of our unity and our desire to improve the quality of life for all of our residents,” she said, adding that it will eventually serve the two million people who will be added to the San Gabriel Valley in the next two decades.

Solis said it will get people out of their cars and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

“It’s about working with a cause, working with one voice . . . one thing that we’re good at now is talking with one voice . . . we don’t compete with each other, we work together,” said Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger.

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, introduced as the chair of the legislative caucus for the San Gabriel Valley, has made it a priority to obtain an additional \$748 million in funding and complete the line all the way to Montclair

and on to Ontario International Airport.

“Pomona’s not just the destination, it’s the start of the next phase from Pomona into Montclair,” he said. “Ultimately this will get to the airport one day.”

Also appearing at the event was Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, introduced as having served in Congress for more than three decades and the longest-serving elected official at the event.

She is the senior California member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

“The Gold Line is the most important transportation project in our community,” she said. “It takes thousands of cars off the road, and it gets our San Gabriel Valley Commuters an affordable, safe and convenient option to get to work (and) to their destination.”

“We’ve made a lot of progress in the valley . . . I always fight for funding to be able to recognize that not only do they do the project on time but under budget,” she added.

According to construction au-



Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval

thority officials, project design to Pomona is 100 percent complete, relocation of freight track within shared corridor to make room for light rail tracks is 98 percent, and reconstruction of 21 “at-grade” crossings is 91 percent complete.

In addition, construction of 19 new or renovated bridges is 39 percent complete, installation of new light rail tracks is 43 percent complete, and construction of the light rail electric power system is 23 percent complete.

Construction of four new light rail stations is 13 percent complete.



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Navy Chief Petty Officer Berman speaks of military commitment to country

“I am a United States sailor. I will support and defend the constitution of the United States of America and I will obey the orders of those appointed over me. I represent the fighting spirit of the Navy and those who have gone before me to defend freedom and democracy around the world. I proudly serve my country’s Navy combat team with honor, courage, and commitment. I am committed to excellence and the fair treatment of all.”

And with the powerful words of the sailor’s creed, crisply and confidently delivered, Chief Petty Officer Josh Berman began his comments last month at Pomona Valley Memorial Park’s 145th year of honoring veterans on Memorial Day.

“Every branch of the military has their own creed,” Berman said. “What this is is our commitment to this country, to the people of this country, to do whatever we have to do to keep them safe.”

He explained the day originally was known as Decoration Day with wreaths and flags adorning the graves “of those who gave their lives in the service of this country.”

“It has roots back to May 30, 1868, to honor Civil War soldiers,” he said. “After



Chief Petty Officer Josh Berman
Guest Speaker

he said. “So let us appreciate them, let us thank them, and let us take this day to honor them.”

State Sen. Connie Leyva said she is the “proud granddaughter” of two World War II veterans and the daughter of a father who is a Vietnam veteran.

“But I’m lucky because all three of them came home and I got to have a relationship with all three of them,” she said. “We’re here today to recognize the memory of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice . . . freedom is not free, we get to live the lives that we choose to live because people sacrifice for us.”

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez called the annual observance a day “of reflection and remembrance of those who died while serving our country.”

“Our patriots made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our great nation and will be remembered forever as true heroes,” he said. “When our country called, they answered.”

He added he has three relatives buried in Pomona Cemetery.

“The best way to commemorate this day is to honor the fallen and care for their wounded brothers and sisters and to safeguard their families,” he said.

Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval said, “we honor and remember those that lost their lives so that we can have freedom.”

He added that the nation has lost more

Commitment to country... pg.13



Members of the Lutheran High School of La Verne Navy Junior ROTC color guard post the colors at Memorial Day ceremonies.

World War I, it became an opportunity to honor those who died in all American wars. In the military, it is a common phrase to hear all gave some, but some gave all.”

“Today is a day to honor them, thank them, show our appreciation to them because without them, our country would not be the great nation that it is,” he said. “While we take one day to recognize these brave men and women who sacrificed, don’t let it be just this one day to show appreciation.”

“Every generation over the last 100 plus years has had their own conflict . . . American men and women have stood up to the challenge with courage and honor willing to put their lives on the line for us,”

Upcoming Events at FAIRPLEX



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NHRA Museum’s Twilight Cruise Night
Wednesday, July 6



Exotic Bird Mart
Sunday, July 10

Gold & Treasure Show
Saturday & Sunday, July 23-24



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Pomona Concert Band announces 75th annual summer concert schedule

The Pomona Concert Band, sponsored by the City of Pomona, has announced its 75th annual summer concert series to consist of eight Thursday evening concerts plus one “bonus”

concert.

All performances are free and open to the public and scheduled at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, beginning July 7, in the G. Stanton Selby Bandshell in Pomona’s

Ganesha Park, 1575 N. White Ave., Pomona.

Conductor and Musical Director is Linda W. Taylor and assistant directors are Dr. Jorge Garcia and Kerry Kline. Band members come from Pomona and more than 20 surrounding communities.

The band was founded by former Pomona Mayor G. Stanton Selby in 1947 as part of a Pomona American Legion Post 30 program.

Over the years, the band has represented Pomona in countless events and performances including tours of Europe and Japan in

1985 and 1988.

The opening concert on July 7 is “Symphonic Celebration,” and the bonus concert – hosting the Golden State British Brass Band – will be presented at 5 p.m. Aug. 28 in the band shell.

For more information, visit www.pomonaconcertband.org.



Photo by Alex Santiago, La Nueva Voz

SHOW OPENS AT LATINO ART MUSEUM -- An unforgettable art and music experience by four Latino artists from Southern California and beyond opened this month at Pomona’s Latino Art Museum, 281 S. Thomas St., Suite 104/105. Pictured, from left, are Olga Deleon, Juan Carlos Boxler, Camilo Alfaro and Rigo Riveras, accompanied by museum director Matias Nardi, at far right. The show continues through Saturday.



STATUS UPDATE AT POMONA’S YMCA BUILDING -- Ray Adamyk, at left, whose Spectra Company is refurbishing Pomona’s old YMCA building, speaks to Pomona Chamber of Commerce members at this month’s networking luncheon in the classic gymnasium before leading a tour of the facility. He told members he now expects the project to be completed in two years following delays resulting from the pandemic. He also said the project has received final construction financing including funding from Pomona’s Self-Help Federal Credit Union. Adamyk purchased the 100-year-old building in 2017 for \$2.65 million and held an official ground-breaking in February 2017. The project originally was expected to take two years to complete.

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ON THE WAY DOWN -- Demolition -- a piece at a time -- is well under way in a summer project for Cal Poly University Pomona’s iconic CLA tower (Classroom-Laboratory-Administration tower). The building opened in 1993, instantly became a landmark on the sprawling campus, and has appeared in both movies and television commercials. However, it turned out it was structurally flawed, had mechanical system problems and was situated on an earthquake fault, all making retrofitting cost prohibitive. The building was closed in 2018. Scaffolding can be seen in the photo at left and an exterior construction elevator is pictured at right.

Commitment to country... from pg.11

than a million soldiers to war.

“And it’s not only the soldiers who have suffered but it’s also the families,” he said.

Pomona City Councilmember Nora Garcia, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis at the event, said it was a day to “remember the over one million American lives lost of all origins, races, religions and creeds in order to uphold and defend our democratic ideals.”

“We also honor the veterans,

families and colleagues who have served alongside them,” she said. “Your dedication and service to our country will never be forgotten and it will always be appreciated.”

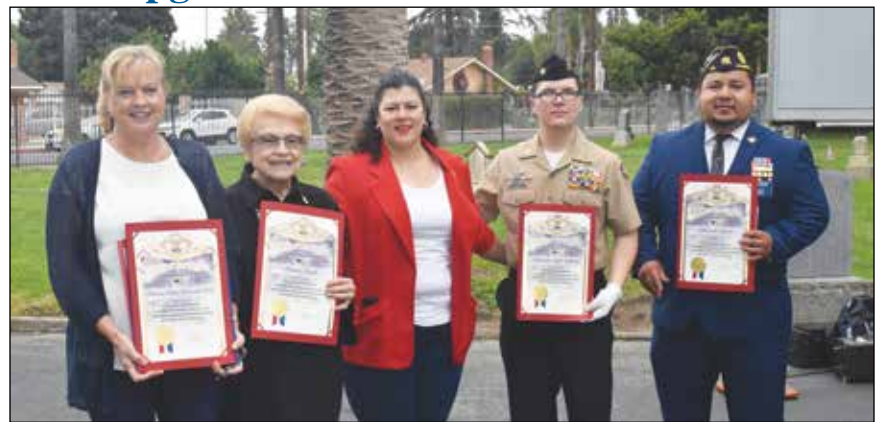
City Councilmember Robert Torres, representing his mother Congresswoman Norma Torres, explained she had to leave early to participate in another Memorial Day event in her district.

“Every year on this important day, we remember the true reason

for the holiday,” he said, reading from her comments. “We come together to thank and to remember the servicemen and women who have sacrificed their lives for our nation.”

“There is no higher or more noble honor than to dedicate your life to the country that you love,” he said. “No act is more deserving of our respect and gratitude. And on this day, we also remember the families for their sacrifice.”

“We are forever in debt to these



Pomona City Councilmember Nora Garcia presented certificates from Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis at Memorial Day ceremonies at Pomona Cemetery. Pictured, from left, are Janet Roy, cemetery general manager; Linda Taylor, Pomona Concert Band conductor; Nora Garcia; Cadet Lt. Jason P. Thompson, executive officer of Lutheran High School’s NJROTC; and Pomona’s American Legion Post 30 Commander Roberto Arnold.



Pomona Eagles Worthy Vice President Gus Paredes and Eagles Auxiliary President Janine Hernandez place their memorial wreath during Memorial Day ceremonies.



Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval

brave Americans,” he said. “I am working to honor the sacrifices of our servicemen not only with words but in practice. To truly honor the fallen, we must uphold our duty to never leave our veterans or their families behind.”

“For all the veterans here and for all who have come before, we salute you and offer our most heartfelt thanks,” he said.

Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado said it is “truly a blessing for us to be here to be able to remember because we know we will never forget.”

“For those that have served or who continue to be here with us, we know that you never stop serving,” he said.

And City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole said she had uncles in every branch of the armed forces, including Jess Ontiveros who was killed in action at the age of 18 and is buried in the Pomona cemetery.

“You all don’t have to be here today,” she said. “But you come today to honor those that you may have known including high school

Commitment to country... pg.18

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Palomares Academy... from pg. 3

fore you today . . . show . . . love to each other each and every day and it is an honor to have been part of this journey and to see it in action.”

“I’m amazed by the sense of responsibility knowing that our kids are not only taking care of themselves, their academic responsibilities, their health responsibilities, they’re taking care of their families, helping support family financial responsibilities,” she said. “That is the grit of this class.”

“So my speech today is not about imparting knowledge or giving a word of advice . . . my speech today is about acknowledging the love in this group that they have and that they give, it’s about saying thank you to our students for doing what they do and setting a perfect example of how we should live,” she added.

“Class of 2022, you each have shown every day that though life can be challenging, your love of self and others lift you up and continue to move you forward,” she said. “Panthers, you have worked hard, overcoming obstacles no other students encountered in the

history of the world, every step of the way rising up, doing so with excellence and integrity.”

“May all your roads lead to happy and fulfilling destinations,” she said. “The world needs you, you are super heroes and you are ready.”

Sandra Garcia, Pomona Unified’s chief business officer, told the graduates that whatever they choose to do in life, “make your career one that you love and brings you joy. I know that each of you will make a difference.”

Pomona Unified Board member Andrew Wong, presiding at the ceremonies with his colleague Board member Lorena Gonzalez, told the graduates that graduation is the best day of the year for all board members.

He said they were all there to witness the graduation “because of all of you and all that you have done.”

“We want to thank all of you for really giving us hope and excitement, you are our future and because you are our future we know it is in good hands,” he said.

Class Salutatorian Kimberly Serrano-Gonzalez called the celebration “the end of our high school career and the end of an era.”

“A new journey begins as we start leaving for college, start working or pursuing individual goals,” she said. “Many friends will be lost as well as made, many valuable life experiences and lessons will be learned. One is

that life is and will be difficult at times.”

“Our successes will not be handed to us on a silver platter,” she said. “We will have to work hard in order to achieve our goals and dreams. And I am sure we all have what it takes to make that happen.”

And on COVID, she said “it was definitely an interesting experience for both teachers and students . . . (although) we were able to live it out.”

Valedictorian Nathan Venegas called his comments more of a “giant thank you note” than a speech.

He thanked all of the parents, he thanked the teachers for being flexible with the students and “very aware” of how to help the students, and he thanked his classmates “because you guys made these last couple of years great and I’m sure that we’ll all do great in our future chapters.”

Associated student body president Lilian Zamora told her classmates that “to be standing here in front of you all is an honor.”

She added that they now have grown into adults “and are currently on the brink of joining a society of our own people.”

She thanked her friends, the teachers and her classmates “because had it not been for each and every one of you . . . you guys

shape the way we hit the world.”

Seventh and eighth graders from Palomares in the fall will be merged into Emerson Middle School and the Harrison and San Jose Elementary School population, and ninth through twelfth graders will be merged into Village Academy High School.

The Palomares campus will become the new home of the district’s adult education campus and the adult transition program in what will be known as the Adult Education and Adult Transition Program.

A total of 1,675 students graduated this year in Pomona Unified School District schools in Pomona

recently launched by Mark Cuban based on an online pharmacy, the Mark Cuban Cost Plus Drug Company, which is expected to deliver generic medications at cost plus a 15 percent fee.

“That will make some medications available at lower prices than patients can get through their insurance plans,” she added.

and Diamond Bar (1,706 including adult education), based on preliminary figures expected to increase after summer school has been completed, according to a district spokesperson.

“Congress can get the win for consumers and families across the country by following his playbook,” she said.

Founded in 1974, MANA has chapters, individual members and affiliates across the country representing the interests of Latina women, youth and families on issues that impact local communities.



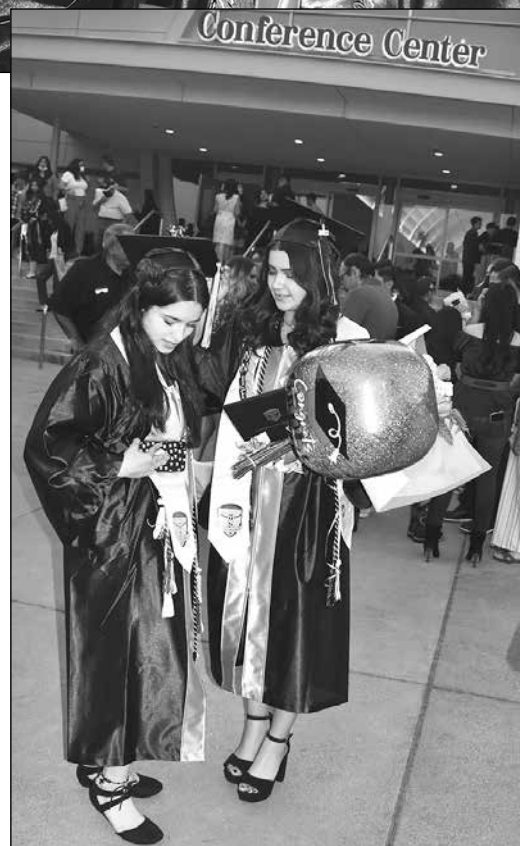
Sandra Garcia
Pomona Unified School District



‘POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE’ PROCESSIONAL -- Valedictorian Nathan Venegas, at right, and Salutatorian Kimberly Serrano-Gonzalez lead the processional in graduation ceremonies for Pomona’s Palomares Academy of Health Sciences.



Mom, at right, grabs a photo after graduation ceremonies at the Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center.



TAKING A MOMENT AFTER GRADUATION -- Two Palomares Academy graduates pause after graduation and after making a few new memories before heading off to the parking lot and a new life.

Head of nation’s oldest and largest Latina organization calls for fixes to prescription drug system

Amy Hinojosa, president and CEO of MANA, the nation’s oldest and largest Latina organization, is calling on Congress to follow the lead of an entrepreneur to make generic medications available to all on a “cost plus” basis.

“Hispanic Americans are the least insured racial or ethnic group in the U.S.,” Hinojosa said. “Roughly 20

percent don’t have health coverage. That’s compared to just six percent of the non-Hispanic white population.”

Prescription drug delivery systems should be at the top of the list for major overhaul – focusing on greater transparency to pricing, insurance practices and middlemen entities such as “pharmacy benefits managers,” she said.

“Simple access to a prescribed medication regimen is a serious health problem, resulting in as many as 125,000 deaths each year and at least one in 10 hospitalizations,” she said. “For Black and Hispanic populations, they are 7.5 percentage points lower in their ability to maintain a consistent medication regimen.”

Hinojosa pointed to a venture

Hundal... from pg. 4

“Hiring an executive director is the most important responsibility of the Tri-City Mental Health Governing Board,” said Board Chair Jed Leano, Mayor of Claremont. “Rimmi not only brings institutional knowledge from having worked at the agency for 14 years, she also is a leader statewide in the ever-changing landscape of new funding sources, legislation, and mental health services programming.”

“Rimmi also brings a decisive focus on leading a culturally competent agency, capable of being of service to people no matter their

language, ethnicity or culture,” Leano said. “I am proud that she is our first AAPI executive director, and no better time than May, as Mental Health Awareness Month and AAPI Heritage Month, to announce her taking over.”

Leano became Tri-City’s first Filipino American board member when he was appointed to the board in 2018 and is the agency’s first Filipino American



Jed Leano



Robin Carder

board chair.

Board Vice Chair Robin Carder,

a La Verne City Councilmember, said Hundal both knows the agency and has the personality for the job.

“Jesse (Duff) set the format and the platform for what Tri-City should be,” she said, adding that with Hundal and Navarro, “it has blossomed, more and more people know about Tri-City, and that’s our goal, that everybody knows what Tri-City is and what they offer.”

Carder said she was pleased with the results of the selection process.

“Rimmi stood out as a very strong candidate,” she said.

And she added Hundal’s goal is to be out in the public more as a director, along with members of her staff.

Duff said Hundal has been a “loyal and dedicated employee of Tri-City for the last 13 years.”

“She’s been instrumental in developing Tri-City’s system of care, and I think she is the right person to lead Tri-City into the future,” he

Hundal... pg. 16

Dr. Alveda King to lead march in Pomona’s July 4 inaugural ‘Unity Walk’

Dr. Alveda King, niece of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is scheduled to appear in Pomona on July 4 to lead an inaugural “Unity Walk” – a half-mile walk for racial unity and community reconciliation – before an unveiling in Pomona’s Lincoln Park of a statue of Harriet Tubman, celebrated “conductor” of the Underground Railroad which aided slaves in their escape to the North in the 1800s, according to organizers of the event.

According to a spokesperson for the event, the walk will include

all ethnicities, police, elected officials from throughout Southern California and members of the community walking together under the theme “There is a time to protest – There is a time to unite.”

Following the walk, activities will get under way on the grounds of Pomona’s Fairplex at a first annual “Unity Day Celebration,” featuring everything from live entertainment to celebrity boxing.

The entire event was the vision of Ray Adamyk, founder and CEO of Pomona’s Spectra Company, to help raise funds for the restoration

of the Salem Chapel and Museum and the last stop on the Underground Railroad in St. Catharines, Ontario, Canada.

Tubman worshipped in the 1850s at the chapel which is one of the oldest Black churches in Canada.

“Everything we are doing with the Unity Walk and Unity Day LA is in honor of Harriet Tubman and what she represented,” Adamyk said. “I want to use Unity Day LA’s connection to Harriet and the Salem Chapel to remind people that freedom belongs to

all, and we can unite around reconciliation, repentance, forgiveness, and building a future where we can live together in harmony.”

King is an evangelist, a former Georgia state legislator, a college professor and a 2021 recipient of the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award.

Following the unveiling of the statue, Unity Day LA is scheduled to begin at 2:30 p.m. at Fairplex, concluding with the annual Ka-boom fireworks spectacular starting at 9:15 p.m.

All proceeds from Unity Day

LA will be contributed toward the restoration of Salem Chapel, which continues as a religious institution and a museum to this day.

To donate, visit www.gofundme.com/f/Salem-Chapel, and for Unity Day LA tickets, visit www.unitydayla.com.

Your ad here!
(909) 629-2292



POMONA’S DEBORAH CLIFFORD NAMED ONE OF SEN. LEYVA’S ‘TERRIFIC 20’ -- State Sen. Connie Leyva selected Pomona’s Deborah Clifford, at right, as one of her Senate district’s fifth annual “Terrific 20,” a group consisting of 20 outstanding residents who are recognized for their commitment in fields ranging from education and business to health care and community service. Clifford, a resident of Pomona for 38 years, taught English at Diamond Bar High School and retired in 2016. She and her husband John have long supported historic preservation and the Pomona Public Library. She was on the Pomona Heritage Board from 2005 to 2009 where she served as the home tour chair for three years and president for two years. She joined the Historical Society of Pomona Valley Board in 2009 and served as its secretary until 2017 when she became the president of the organization. She is particularly proud that the Historical Society now can host all Pomona Unified School District fourth graders for tours of the Palomares Adobe. The awards were presented this month at the Montclair Senior Center in Montclair.



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Services held for Al Sanbrano, Pomona High ‘Class of 1948’ grad of USC football fame

Funeral services were held last month for Pomona High School “Class of 1948” graduate Albert Sanbrano, who was named All-CIF blocking back in 1947 and who went on to continue his football career at USC. He died of natural causes surrounded by his family on April 21 at his home in Huntington Beach at the age of 92.

Sanbrano’s entire family was proud of a personal letter he received from USC head football coach Jess Hill in 1951 urging him to train over the summer break to be ready for a tough Trojan football season in the fall.

That letter – along with a photo of Sanbrano in his uniform – hangs on the wall at Tony’s Famous French Dips in Pomona where his sister Angie Campos has worked since 1971.

Sanbrano, who was born in Pomona to parents June and Isaac Sanbrano, attended Roosevelt Elementary School and Fremont Junior High School, where he played on the football and baseball teams.

At Pomona High School, he excelled in academic studies as well as in football, and was awarded a trophy for “Red Devil of the Year” in 1947. He was also named “Outstanding Athlete of the Year” while at Pomona High.

Following graduation, he attended USC on a scholarship, lettered in football and received the Peter Kay Thomas trophy award for outstanding offensive lineman in 1951 before receiving a bachelor’s degree in business.

But it was that fall 1951 opening schedule that had the Trojans a little worried with a season opener scheduled against Washington State and rival Notre Dame set for Dec. 1.

“With this in mind I should like to suggest that you do everything within your power to report for football practice in the best possible physical condition,” Hill told Sanbrano before outlining a specific training regimen for the summer months.

The Trojans defeated Washington State 31 to 21 but lost to Notre Dame (12 to 19). They finished the season 7-3.

Upon graduation from USC in 1952, Sanbrano was drafted into the Army Corps and served for two years in the Korean War before returning home to Pomona.

He worked as a budget and cost analyst for McDonnell Douglas for several years before shifting to Northrop Corp., where he worked until his retirement.

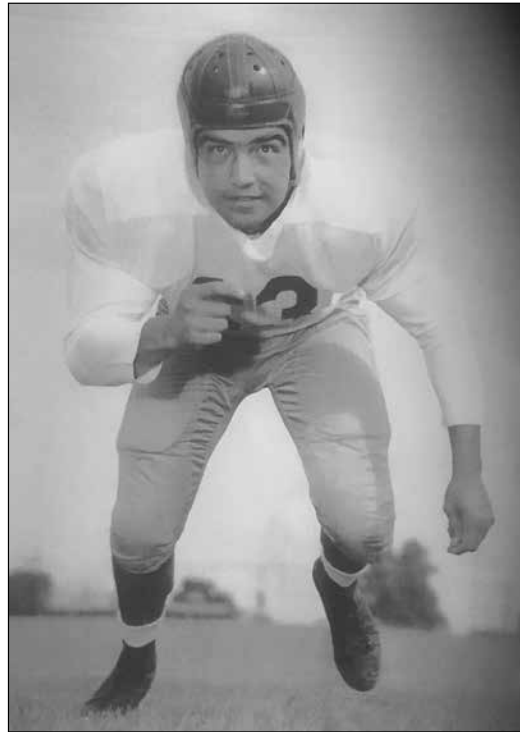
Sanbrano met the “love of his life” Louise Cavilla in 1957 at a social event and the two were married in 1958. They made their home in Culver City and later moved to Huntington Beach where they raised their four children.

In 1969, Sanbrano attended a tribute for 22 Pomona athletes

sponsored by the Pomona Boys and Girls Club and hosted by Cal Poly University Pomona. More than 500 guests were on hand to honor the athletes as Sanbrano was honored as an “All-Coastline Backer” for the Trojans. Each athlete was presented with a “Goddess of Pomona” statue. Guest speaker was USC football coach John McKay.

Sanbrano retired in 1992 and moved to Tehachapi until the death of his wife of 44 years in 2002, when he moved back to his family home in Huntington Beach.

In addition to his wife, Sanbrano



Al Sanbrano

was predeceased by his oldest sister, Anita Sanbrano Lucero, who died in 2017.

He is survived by three daughters – Marcella, Cecilia and Regina – and one son, Armando, Armando’s wife Laura, grandchildren Alexander and Alaina Sanbrano, sisters Angie Sanbrano Campos and Dolly Sanbrano Riehn, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services were held last month with full military honors at Riverside National Cemetery. The American flag used to drape the casket was presented to Sanbrano’s son, Armando.



Photo by Renee Barbee

BUFFALO SOLDIERS HONORED ON JUNETEENTH -- A traveling exhibit honoring the Buffalo Soldiers, the first all-Black regiments of the U.S. Army, was placed on display last week at Pomona’s African American Museum of New Beginnings. Pomona’s Community Life Commission Chair Donna Jackson-Houston organized the tribute in January after discovering that her grandfather, Lucius Franklin Monroe Jackson, was a Buffalo Soldier in the 25th Infantry. She first placed the exhibit, which she told La Nueva Voz has now been upgraded, on display in Nogales, Arizona, earlier this year near where her grandfather served at Camp Little, Arizona. Pictured, from left, are Victoria and Khalif Rasshan, of the museum; Houston; Andrea Moreno, deputy district director for Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, presenting a certificate from the county; Alva Moore Stevenson, daughter of Lydia Thornton, a member of the women’s all-Black battalion 6888 from World War II; and Forescee Hogan Rowles, President and CEO of RISE Financial Pathways, who learned she had two Buffalo Soldiers in her family while working with Houston on the Nogales project. The exhibit will be on display throughout the summer. Juneteenth is a national holiday commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans.



NEW ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OFFICERS -- This year’s officers and board members for the Assistance League of Pomona Valley were sworn in a meeting at Mountain Meadows Golf Course in Pomona this month. The Assistance League provides new clothing and dental services to school-aged children and their families. Pictured, front row from left, are Phyllis Veldman-Fine, first vice president-membership; Jane Hubbard, president; Lisa Frazier, recording secretary; and Kellie Clafin, newsletter editor. At rear, from left, are Stephanie Roberts and Cathy Harden, of the group’s Operation School Bell program; Nitzi Barker, strategic planning; Donna Spencer, second vice president-philanthropic programs; Debi Fuller, hospitality chair; Roger Krechmery, treasurer; Barry Fine, public relations; and Brenda Sanford, community engagement committee chair.

Hundal... from pg. 15

said.

About Tri-City Mental Health

Since 1960, Tri-City Mental Health has been the public mental health authority and primary provider of outpatient services for the residents of Claremont, La Verne, and Pomona. Tri-City remains a steadfast community partner, supporting and sustaining an integrated system of care for individuals experiencing mental health symptoms and their families.

Strengthening the community’s capacity for wellbeing, recovery and mental health are the foundation of Tri-City programming. Available services include, but are not limited to, prevention and early intervention services, psychotherapy, crisis support, clinical case management, medication support, peer support, linkage and referral, vocational training and support, socialization activities, and community outreach and training.

The following public service ads are courtesy of La Nueva Voz

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www.projectsister.org

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Pomona Public Library Hours
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Info on student group programs at AGRIsCapes:
www.agriscapes.cpp.edu
4102 S. University Drive, Pomona (next to the Farm Store)

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OPINION

Wireless industry proposes ‘separate but equal’ digital segregation

By Larry Ortega

For the first time, and maybe the last time, in our generation, money to upgrade our local telecommunication infrastructure is here – billions and billions of dollars dedicated to do what the telecommunication corporations said they would do, but never did. This conspiracy-like transaction, committed over, over and over again in a 25-year window, created what is now known as the digital divide: that is all the people across the country who are precluded from accessing key resources over the Internet due to lack of a fiber optic connection to their home, or the price of said connection being too expensive.

On May 13, the President’s National Telecommunications and Information Agency (an agency within the Commerce Department) released its “Notice of Funding Opportunity” (NOFO) for grants to all 50 states.

Right on cue, the wireless industry has ridden in on their white horse to save the day, offering to help close the digital divide – that they themselves created. 1984’s George Orwell could not have written it better...this double-speak of the digital kind.

The first greatest irony of the century is the telecom industry crying foul: “how dare these poor communities not have wireless connectivity to the Internet,” saying, “we must close the digital divide swiftly and cost effectively,” code for an ask of further extreme deference, i.e. permission to skirt laws designed to keep people safe from harm.

The capstone of this first great irony of the century is Verizon’s West Region Vice President and Associate General Counsel Rudy Reyes’ testimony during a California state Senate hearing in 2021, exclaiming: “municipalities are exacerbating the digital divide” by way of enforcing codes and laws meant to keep the public safe from harm.

Pure genius. Of all the harm the pandemic caused, it allowed the curtain to be pulled back on the decades of lies the telecommunication industry had been feeding our legislators, their regulators and the general public; and now in the greatest irony (heist) of the century they claim they can fix this.

The California Public Utilities

Commission’s (CPUC’s) California Advanced Services Fund is the designated administrator of these billions and billions of dollars. A key industry insert in the vernacular for project funding through the CPUC is “Technology Neutral.”

Protocols for technology neutrality erroneously classify wireless and fiber-optics as being the same. They are not. Wireless is the canoe and fiber-optics is the gigantic cruise ship, wherein the cruise ship is the type and class of infrastructure that is standard around the world for 27 other countries that are currently “whipping the pants off” of the U.S. in fiber deployment. Technology neutral is code for “we still got to be allowed to give low-income families the breadcrumb service.”

Many of us who attend important statewide meetings in California have to painfully endure other participants’ use of a narrative that aligns closely to the first greatest irony of the century, stating, “to address the digital divide swiftly and sustainably (we must) deploy community wireless networks.”

Knowing what we now know about wireless vs. fiber deployment, we must recapture the narrative, and make it about people, and the quality of service people should have in order to access key on-line resources, such as jobs, training, attendance to K-12 school, telehealth and telemedicine.

The County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors has approved a \$40 million solicitation for the build-out of a wireless-only infrastructure in seven low-income regions in Los Angeles County. These regions are the result of the decades-long digital red-lining of the telecommunications industry executed on these neighborhoods. The reason: these neighborhoods will never afford the rigged price scheme of fiber to the home.

At first glance, most of us will concur with the intent of the \$40 million proposal. I mean, why shouldn’t these neighborhoods harmed by an industry practice get free Internet from a wireless network? But, upon closer inspection, said wireless network will leave these communities at the bottom rung of the technology ladder for the next decade. In other words, Internet speeds offered by the wireless network and the equipment

used to connect to the wireless network will be obsolete in two to three years, which begs the burning question: would not the \$40 million be better placed in subsidizing the current rich resources already in existence through our schools and libraries while the fiber-to-the-home network is built-out?

And should not part of the \$40 million be used to begin the process of looking at fair pricing? When vetted against global markets, Internet pricing is double for U.S. consumers compared to what Europeans pay for the exact same thing. The number one barrier to people accessing the Internet is affordability.

If, at this moment, we are saying we must build wireless infrastructure because “these people” will

never be able to afford fiber, then we have created a permanent ‘separate, but equal’ digital segregation regime, which we know from what history has taught us – separate yes, but never equal.

We need to clean up the narrative, and stop the creation of the second greatest irony of the century, wherein we claim we must expeditiously rush the completion of telecommunication infrastructure, through wireless-only networks, using proposals that claim to “swiftly” and cost efficiently connect the digital divide to on-line resources, when said rush will in fact leave this very community designated to benefit at the bottom rung of the technology ladder – with Internet speeds of today – for the next decade.

What is ‘Trigger Finger’ and what can you do about it?

By Mariem Metry, MS, OTR/L, CHT, Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare

The famed educator Maria Montessori once said, “the human hand allows the mind to reveal itself.”

It’s true! Our hands do so much for us, allowing us to touch, grasp, manipulate objects, and so much more. Unfortunately, with all of the use our hands get over time, there are also many conditions that can adversely affect hand function – and therefore our ability to engage in daily activities. One of the more common hand disorders is known as “trigger finger.”

Trigger finger is a condition in which a finger gets stuck in a bent position and snaps straight like a trigger being pulled and released. It happens when inflammation occurs in the tendon, resulting in a narrowing of the space between the tendon and the protective sheath around it.

Risk factors

Trigger finger is more common in women and people who have diabetes. It is also common with people whose work requires repetitive gripping. The most-often affected fingers are the thumb and ring finger. However, more than one finger can be affected, and both hands can experience the condition simultaneously.

Symptoms

Depending on the severity of the condition, symptoms can vary from simple finger stiffness (espe-



Mariem Metry

cially in the morning), a locking sensation when trying to bend the affected finger, tenderness, or a bump in the palm at the base of the affected finger.

When should you seek medical help?

If you are experiencing symptoms of trigger finger, start by calling your primary care physician and requesting a physical examination. Diagnosis of trigger finger is usually based on medical history and symptoms. It can be performed at your physician’s office and should not require laboratory work. Your physician may consider referring you to a certified hand therapist.

Treatment

There are several therapeutic options effective at treating trigger finger. One of these is a splint.

The second greatest irony of the century is this race to obsolescence, resulting in double the cost of what a fiber-optic build-out costs and 10 times the energy consumption compared to fiber.

Look, it took us 25 years to get here. We are not going to solve it in two years. Building out an end-to-end fiber network, for all households, will take at least a decade. But we must ask ourselves, where do we want to be in 10 years – all (majority of) households connected via fiber-optics, or not? This education and wrestling the narrative back into the interest of the people is paramount and must be part of our everyday conversations relating to the economy and delivery of key services that all Americans use.

A certified hand therapist can provide a custom-made finger splint to keep the affected finger in an extended position, which will help to rest the inflamed tendon and decrease pain.

You may also be advised to try activity modification. This means avoiding activities that require repetitive grasping or the prolonged use of hand-held objects, such as driving, gardening, or typing. Despite the need to decrease certain activities, your therapist also may suggest gentle strengthening exercises to maintain mobility of the affected finger.

Finally, if your symptoms do not improve with therapy, your physician might consider a steroid injection or a percutaneous release surgery. This will likely be considered only if therapeutic options are unsuccessful.

Don’t let trigger finger symptoms go unchecked – call your doctor today if you are experiencing discomfort! If a hand ailment is affecting your quality of life, Casa Colina’s “Hand Therapy Program” offers specialized services to restore hand and upper extremity function. For more information, call (909) 596-7733, ext. 3500.

Editor’s Note: Mariem Metry is clinical coordinator for the hand therapy program at Pomona’s Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare.

Commitment to country... from pg. 13

friends who have not and will not come back. But I thank you all.”

Commander Roberto Arnold of Pomona’s American Legion Post 30 served as master of ceremonies for the event.

“As we leave today, let us remember why we congregated today to honor and give respect to those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice,” he said. “Let us not forget that throughout the year, and remember the reason why we have our freedoms.”



Pomona City Councilmember
Victor Preciado



Pomona City Councilmember
Nora Garcia



Pomona City Councilmember
Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole



State Sen. Connie Leyva



Assemblymember
Freddie Rodriguez



Pomona City Councilmember
Robert Torres



Roberto Arnold
Commander, Post 30



Lutheran High School of La Verne Navy Junior ROTC cadets execute a memorial firing squad salute.



American Legion Post 30 Chaplain
Jay Jauregui offers the invocation.



American Legion Post 30
Second Vice Commander
Bob Radcliff, in an annual
solemn remembrance, lowers
the American flag and raises
it to half staff on Memorial
Day.



Pomona’s American Legion Post 30 Auxiliary past president
Cheryl Scholl places a memorial wreath at Pomona Cemetery
services.



Allan Small of Glendora, of
the Pomona Concert Band,
stepped down from the stage
to play “Taps” at the conclu-
sion of last month’s Memorial Day obser-
vance at Pomona Cemetery.

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Siemens Foundation announced as national sponsor of ‘¡Vive Tu Vida! Get up! Get moving!’

The National Alliance for Hispanic Health and the Healthy Americas Foundation this month announced the Siemens Foundation as the national sponsor of the 2022 ¡Vive Tu Vida! Get Up! Get Moving! Health and Wellness event series.

The mission of the program, now in its 16th year, is to provide important health services to Hispanic communities and support individuals to lead healthier lifestyles. It includes free

health screenings, cooking demonstrations, health and wellness activities for the whole family, and referrals to community health services.

To find a local event, visit www.healthamericas.org/get-up-get-moving.

The Siemens Foundation has invested more than \$138 million in the U.S. to advance workforce development and health equity initiatives.

Siemens operates a 53,000 square foot manufacturing plant in Pomona.



SOROPTIMISTS INSTALL NEW OFFICERS -- The Pomona/Claremont chapter of Soroptimist International installed new officers for 2022-2023 this month in a meeting at the home of Elizabeth Andrews in Upland. Pictured, from left, are Ana Levano, treasurer; Elizabeth Andrews, secretary; Kathy Olson, installing officer and member; Lucille Lyons, president; and Gayle Claiborne, vice president. Also at the meeting, members presented the club's "Live Your Dream" award -- a check for \$1,000 -- to Pomona resident Kimberly Yerena, a student at Mt. SAC. The award helps women further their education and reach their full potential.



SOLEMN FLAG CEREMONIES AT POST 30 -- Veteran Sean Liske, sergeant at arms for Pomona's American Legion Post 30, salutes an American Flag before placing it in an incinerator. Legion members and guests repeated the ceremony numerous times last week, providing a proper honorable retirement for American flags that have outlived their usefulness. This month's ceremonies, with participants including veterans, members of Boy Scout Troop 319 of Ontario, members of the Royal Rangers based at the Southern California Dream Center in Pomona and others, were held at Post 30 headquarters on Flag Day. Pictured, at rear, is Post 30's Second Vice Commander Bob Radcliff.



Photos by Renee Barbee

Last week's summer reading program at the Pomona Public Library brought out a lot of everybody -- kids and critters alike. Pictured is Jake Wells, an educational presenter with The Reptile Zoo's Jurassic Parties in Fountain Valley, and a couple of his friends -- a speckled kingsnake and an African spur thigh tortoise. Things should calm down a little for future programs with such things as a magician, Jack and the Beanstalk puppets, and the Franklin Haynes Marionettes on the lineup. All summer reading program events are at 5 p.m. on Wednesdays through the end of next month at the library.

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GAYLE CLAIBORNE WINS FIRST PLACE FOR JELLY -- La Nueva Voz ran a photo last month of several jelly prize winners including one from Pomona (actually fig jam). But we missed Pomona's Gayle Claiborne, who won her first-ever first place award for her pomegranate jelly. Gayle mentioned she's won second and third place ribbons in the past but never a first, and the winning entry this year, pictured in her photo above, was the only one she entered. (In the interest of full disclosure, La Nueva Voz has done a little taste test of its own on Gayle's jelly, and we'd have to agree with the judges. It really is that good.) This year's LA County Fair, in addition to the 100th anniversary celebration, also was the first time the Fair was held in May -- a shift to try to hold the Fair when it is just not so hot. Then did the word get out? Maybe so -- according to Fair officials, paid guest attendance for the 17 days of the Fair this year was 635,421, compared to 583,922 for a comparable 17 days in 2019 before the pandemic closure. The Fair actually was two days longer in 2019 and attendance for the full 19 days was 731,817.

Gun laws... from pg. 9

buyer cancels the purchase within the 10-day cooling-off period.

Firearm dealers have a critical role in ensuring firearms do not end up in the hands of dangerous people or those prohibited by law from owning or possessing a firearm, Rodriguez said in a news release.

Unfortunately, nearly a third of licensed firearm dealers inspected last year violated federal, state or local laws, the release said. And these violations represent a firearm diverted into the illegal market, which puts everyone at risk.

"I am proud to advance legislation that will tighten the protocols for purchasing firearms and increase gun safety in California," Rodriguez said. "Following the tragic events in Uvalde, Texas . . . it is vital that our country ensures these firearms stop ending up in the hands of criminals."

In California, existing law restricts a licensed firearm dealer from delivering a firearm within 10 days of the application to purchase. This cooling-off period allows time for the Department of Justice to conduct a background check. If a buyer reconsiders a purchase during this period and decides to cancel the purchase, a return fee is charged. AB 1842 would avoid penalizing a buyer who never possessed the firearm.



GIRL SCOUTS 'TAKE OVER' LA COUNTY FAIR IN RECORD NUMBERS -- More than 1,000 Girl Scouts from throughout Southern California -- after an inaugural "Girl Takeover" in 2019 -- attended the LA County Fair in record numbers last month to take part in activities throughout the fairgrounds including everything from camp songs and cookie box towers to vintage decorated "photo ops." They even ended with an impromptu "mini-parade" of Girl Scouts to the largest friendship circle the LA County Fair has ever seen, according to Chara Swodeck, Pomona Girl Scouts Service Unit Manager and a nine-year troop leader. The 100th anniversary of the LA County Fair coincided with the 100th year of Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles so it was "only fitting to celebrate the time-honored traditions of Girl Scouts," Swodeck said. For information, e-mail pomonagirlscouts@gmail.com or call (213) 213-0123.



example, that little white truck, pictured above in the display case in the administration building lobby, is from the personal collection of Steve Manzanares, who told La Nueva Voz it once was on display in the outdoor model train display in the early 1950s. And those antique-looking fire extinguishers go way back, as well. Manzanares said the red one is the heavier of the two -- it was in Building 4 near a big electrical generator used for emergency backup power before a fire heavily damaged the building in 1941. The suitcase was added to the display by the Fairplex creative department. Manzanares, 93, who is a long-time resident of Pomona, worked for the LA County Fair from 1941 until he retired in the 1990s, except for taking off to go into the service -- with the 82nd Airborne Division -- from 1946 to 1949. He worked on the underpass under White Avenue, the Sky Ride, the fire station, a remodeling of the grandstand and many other projects, using Model T and Model A dump trucks. And his dad, Joe Manzanares, worked there before him from 1922 to 1948. In fact, he said, when he took the job, there was no White Avenue at all -- just Red Car streetcar tracks that stopped where the tunnel crosses under the street today. Needless to say, Manzanares has quite a few additional collectibles from the old days at the Fair over at the house in Pomona.



Photos by Renee Barbee
A LITTLE MORE WRAPPING UP ON THE LA COUNTY FAIR -- La Nueva Voz covered the 100th anniversary of the LA County Fair beginning on the front page of last month's issue, but we're still catching up on a few loose ends. For