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La Nueva Voz

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



Pomona Chamber of Commerce



Member

Issue No. 157

Thursday, August 25, 2022

Pomona City Council adopts rent control, caps increases at 4 percent

Members of the Pomona City Council, voting following a marathon public hearing, this month approved a rent control plan for the city limiting rent increases for covered residential units to 4 percent above the monthly rent in effect on Aug. 1 of this year.

The vote was 5-2 with only City Councilmembers Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole and Robert Torres opposing. Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval cast the final and deciding vote in favor since, as he clarified first with the city clerk, five votes were needed to pass the urgency ordinance.

The "urgency" status of the measure made it possible for the ordi-

nance to take effect immediately upon passage.

The public hearing on the item attracted more than two dozen speakers and continued for an hour and 15 minutes. Council discussion took another hour and five minutes.

Exempted from the new ordinance, under the California Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act of 1995, is residential real property with a certificate of occupancy issued after Feb. 1, 1995.

The city's rent control limits, also under the state law, also would not apply to single-family dwellings and condominiums.

And they will not apply to mobile

homes, which are covered by other regulations with limitations of 5 percent increases.

California's statewide rent cap currently is at 10 percent for apartment complexes built before 2007 and not otherwise subject to local rent control rules.

Pomona's new ordinance also limits rent increases imposed on a tenant household to only one in any 12-month period.

And no increase at all may be imposed on a tenant if the landlord's failure to maintain or repair the covered rental unit has caused the unit to be out of compliance with the implied warranty of habitability or

untenantable pursuant to the California Civil Code, according to the ordinance language.

In addition, the ordinance includes protections for tenants prohibiting evictions under a variety of circumstances. For example, a landlord may not recover possession of a rental unit if a tenant has continuously resided in the unit for at least 10 years and is either 62 years of age or older, disabled, or terminally ill.

Under the new "urgency ordinance" period, city staff is directed to conduct a rent control study to further analyze whether a permanent rent control program is war-

ranted and to explore the city's needs in areas of program administration, tenant legal assistance and staffing and costs.

Sandoval also called for a 60-day period to invite "community engagement" by both residents and landlords.

The fundamental basis for the new measure, as defined by the ordinance, is that "increasing housing rent burden and poverty faced by many residents in the city threatens the health, safety and welfare of its residents by forcing them to choose between paying rent and providing food, clothing and medical care for themselves and their families."

The ordinance also cited a 2017 report by the California Housing Partnership Corp. that shows median rent in Los Angeles County has increased 32 percent since 2000, while median rental household income has decreased 3 percent when

Rent control... pg. 6

Pomona's first National Night Out in three years a huge success!

Wow!

La Nueva Voz doesn't use that word to describe an event very often, but this month's National Night Out in the Pomona Civic Center deserved it.

Not only was it the first National Night Out since 2019 (it was suspended due to the pandemic) but there were more community booths than ever before (representing both profit and non-profit organizations).

And then there was that crowd.

By Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval's own estimate, some 1,000

National Night Out... pg.17



Pomona Police Chief Mike Ellis welcomes an estimated 1,000 people to this month's National Night Out observance in the Pomona Civic Center. Pictured, from left, are Pomona City Councilmember Nora Garcia, Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, Three Valleys Municipal Water District Board member Carlos Goytia, Jenny Macias, representing Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, Pomona City Councilmembers Victor Preciado, John Nolte, Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole and Steve Lustro, and Chief Ellis.

See the first ever
La Nueva Voz
Hispanic Heritage Month
pull-out special section
beginning on page 9,
presented by
Metro Honda
of Montclair!

FREE SUBSCRIPTION

to wellness app is available for residents
of Pomona, Claremont and La Verne

Participate in Tri-City Mental Health's launch of myStrength, a web and mobile app full of personalized tools to improve your mood and health and help manage life's ups and downs. Participants may be eligible to earn a **FREE** gift card.



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y La Verne

Participe en el lanzamiento de myStrength de Tri-City Mental Health, una aplicación web y móvil llena de herramientas personalizadas para mejorar su estado de ánimo, salud y ayudarlo a manejar los altibajos de la vida. Los participantes pueden ser elegibles para ganar una tarjeta de regalo **GRATIS**



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TRI-CITY
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Upcoming Events at FAIRPLEX



NHRA Museum's Twilight Cruise Night
September 7

RailGiants Train Museum
September 10-11

Fairplex Garden Railroad
September 11

SoCal Anime
September 16-18

Bubble Run 5K
September 17

**Le Creuset Cookware
Factory to Table Sales Event**
September 23-25

**Fasig-Tipton California
Fall Yearlings Sale**
September 27

Events subject to change.

See all events at Fairplex.com

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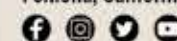
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Pomona, California





NEW POMONA CHAMBER MEMBER -- Members of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce and friends turned out last week for a ribbon-cutting ceremony to welcome new Pomona Chamber member Lisa Donati, an agent with Excellence RE Real Estate, based in Pomona. Pictured with Donati's team members, from left, at the event in Stellars Art Gallery at the Pomona Packing Company, are Pomona Chamber Board members Daniel Thomas of Forest Lawn, Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, and Jeff Johannsen of Pomona Hope. At far right are Pomona Chamber President and CEO Monique Manzanares, Chamber Ambassador Roberto Arnold and, at rear, Chamber Board member Joe Perez of Credit Union of Southern California. Donati is at right center (with the small scissors). For more information, contact Donati at (909) 696-5578 or lisadonati.homes4sale@gmail.com.

Repertory Opera Company announces schedule for 'Season 19'

Season 19 of Pomona's Repertory Opera Company is off and running with a list of performances offering something for everyone. "Viva Diva" is scheduled for 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 24; "Opera Boo" will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22; and "Serenades of Love" is set for 2 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 11. Tickets are \$25. All performances are at First Christian Church, 1751 N. Park Ave., Pomona. Tickets are on sale at www.repopera.com or mail checks to Repertory Opera Company, 152 E. Kingsley Ave., Pomona, CA 91767.



Join *Just Us 4 Youth's*

Community Town Hall

Wednesday September 7, 9:30 – 11 am or 6:30 – 8 pm

Take Part in Pomona's

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Highlighting our Violence Prevention Initiative Partnership with LA County, D1 *Includes Safe Passages to School*



Also featuring these programs:

- 1) **Restorative Justice & Care Program** with tools for listening & dialogue, accountability & healing.
- 2) **PAC'D Program** impulse control, recovery and self-management.

We need your feedback & ideas at Table

Discussions on these topics!

PUSD Village Conference Center, Entrance 1

1444 E. Holt Ave., Pomona 91767



Refreshments & Raffles for all!

Spanish Translation

RSVP Info@JU4Y.org

Zoom Meeting ID: 863 7832 0837 Passcode: 338184

Co-Sponsors:



Elect Larry Ortega, Pomona City Council District 3 to improve quality of life for all!



My family, the Ortega family, has been in this community for over 118 years. I have lived in Pomona's District 3 nearly my entire life. I have volunteered thousands of hours for the betterment of our community. Pomona truly is a wonderful place to live.

- Hundreds of millions of dollars are currently available for high-tech jobs and internet build-out (infrastructure). My 30 years in the field of technology will help Pomona (us) ensure our fair share.
- The City of Pomona has purchasing power, as do our hospitals, schools and colleges. We need to encourage these huge entities to prioritize their spending with Pomona-based businesses.
- We need to continue to take a hard look at crime. We have a beautiful, caring and compassionate community and a police department ready to continue to make a difference. We need to embrace the opportunity for greater engagement between community and police.
- As a city, we have room for improvement. Together we can improve the quality of life for all.

Please visit VoteOrtega.com for more information.

Mi familia, la familia Ortega, ha vivido en esta comunidad por más de 118 años. Yo he vivido en el Distrito 3 de Pomona por casi mi vida entera. He ofrecido miles de horas de servicio voluntario para el mejoramiento de esta comunidad. Pomona es verdaderamente un lugar maravilloso para vivir.

- Actualmente hay cientos de millones de dólares disponibles para trabajos de alta tecnología e expansión de internet (infraestructura). Mis 30 años en el sector tecnológico ayudará a Pomona (nosotros) para asegurar nuestra parte justa.
- La Ciudad de Pomona tiene el poder adquisitivo, al igual que nuestros hospitales, escuelas y colegios. Debemos fomentar a estas grandes entidades que den prioridad en su consumo a negocios establecidos en Pomona.
- Debemos continuar examinando cuidadosamente el crimen. Tenemos una comunidad hermosa, cariñosa y compasiva y un departamento de policía listo para continuar haciendo la diferencia. Debemos acoger la oportunidad para mayor compromiso entre la comunidad y la policía.
- Como una ciudad, tenemos espacio para mejorar. Unidos podemos mejorar la calidad de vida para todos.

**Favor de visitar VoteOrtega.com para más información.
Call Larry at (909) 629-9212 E-mail: la@laortega.com**

PAID FOR BY COMMITTEE TO ELECT LARRY ORTEGA I.D. Number Pending





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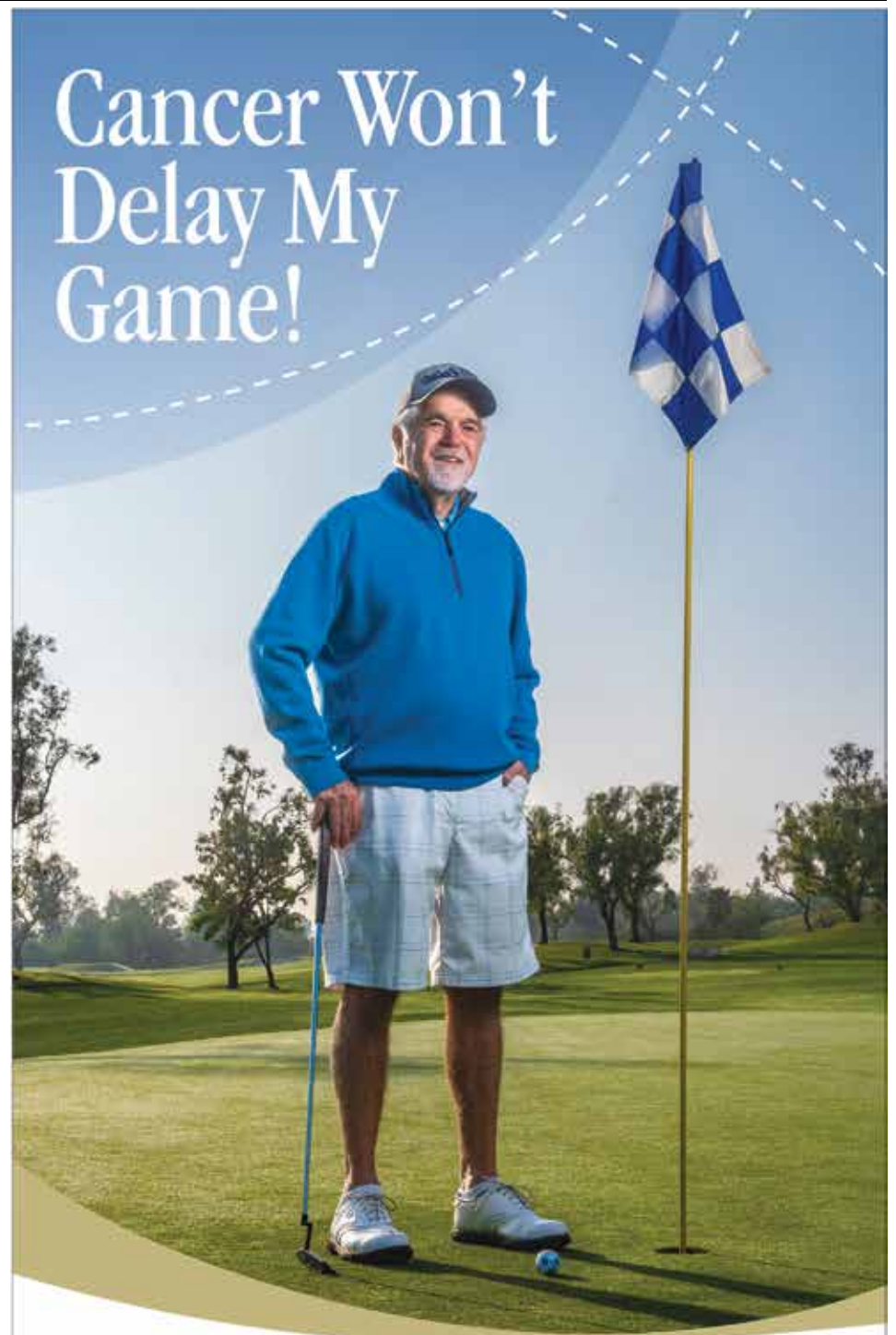
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Richard has always led an active lifestyle. You can regularly find him on the local golf course playing 18 holes with his friends. So when he began feeling unwell, he went to the doctor for a routine physical, including a screen for Prostate Cancer. A cancer diagnosis was the last thing he expected.

Thankfully, Richard was in good hands at The Robert & Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. Our experts take a team approach to provide patients with an individualized care plan and the most advanced, innovative cancer treatment options available.

Now cancer free, Richard is back on the golf course, where his golf game is his challenge, not cancer.

Don't delay your care. Talk to your doctor about a routine prostate cancer screening. For cancer screening opportunities and information, please call The Robert & Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center at 909.865.9555.

POMONA VALLEY HOSPITAL
MEDICAL CENTER

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Sábado, Septiembre 17, 2022

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Let's celebrate
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Bienvenidos!**
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Acompaña al equipo de inventores del
2018 Garey High School InvenTeam®

a recibir la certificación de su invención diseñada para que los que sufren de diabetes puedan observar la salud de los pies por si mismos.

Habrà presentación de reconocimientos para los estudiantes y maestros, demostración de invenciones hechas por estudiantes, tour del maker space y mucho más!

Invitados de honor de MIT, Microsoft, y la Oficina de Patentes y Marcas Registradas de los Estados Unidos estaràn presente para celebrar a los inventores!

Please join the

2018 Garey High School InvenTeam®

for the presentation of their US Patent Award for their invention of a device allowing individuals with diabetes to self-monitor foot health.

There will be award presentations to Garey High students and teachers, a showcase of student inventions, tours of maker space, and more!

Guests from MIT, Microsoft, and the United States Patent and Trademark Office will congratulate the inventors during the celebration.

Cuando/When: **Sábado, Septiembre 17, 2022/Saturday, September 17, 2022**

Que/What:	Ceremonia/Ceremony:	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
	Demostración de la invenciones:	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
	Student invention showcase:	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
	Tours:	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
	Almuerzo Gratuito/Complimentary Lunch:	12:00 PM - 1:30pm

Donde/Where: Garey High School, 321 W Lexington Ave, Pomona, CA



CORRECTION

Submissions welcome for print anthology

A photo caption in last month's La Nueva Voz reporting on a poetry reading and workshop at Barnes & Noble in Montclair incorrectly identified one of the speakers based on information provided at the time.

Robert Villanueva of Venice, pictured at front right, seated, actually provided a brief historical foundation of the Chicano student movement, according to Luis Antonio Pichardo, founder and executive director of DSTL Arts, organizer of the event.

Pichardo also was pictured standing behind Villanueva in the photo.

The theme of the event was "The Impact of the Civil Rights Era on Art and Culture Today," and featured readings from "I Am Joaquin," the poetry of activist Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales, who was credited with starting the Chicano student movement in the 1960s.

The program was presented under a "Community Bridges - I Am" grant.

According to Pichardo, addi-

tional workshops in the seven-part series were planned in a "Creative Impact" program by his non-profit arts and mentorship organization based in Los Angeles.

Funding for the series has been provided, in part, through grants from the California Arts Council and the Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture, among others, he said.

The workshops are conducted by teaching artist interns who are hired from the group's poet/artist development program for emerging poet/artists.

The series wraps up this month and a call for submissions of community-generated artwork inspired by the civil rights era closes on Aug. 31. Submissions will be considered for inclusion in a "Community Bridges" print anthology expected in late October.

Submissions may include poetry, short stories or illustrations.

For more information, visit the web site at DSTLArts.org/creativeimpact.

Rent control... from pg. 1

adjusted for inflation.

In addition, in a 2021 study, the same group said 78 percent of extremely low-income households in Los Angeles County are paying more than half of their income on housing costs compared to just 2 percent of moderate-income households.

And, the study continued, renters in Los Angeles County need to earn \$38.23 per hour, or 2.5 times the City of Los Angeles minimum wage, to afford the average monthly asking rent of \$1,988.

The City of Pomona's 2013-2021 "Housing Element" states almost 17,000 Pomona households, or 43.7 percent, have incomes that are less than 80 percent of the "area median income," which is the low-income threshold as defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Also, an August 2020 study by the Southern California Association of Governments for Pomona shows of the city's 18,648 renter households, 61.7 percent spend 30 percent or more of gross income on housing cost, compared to 55.3 percent in the association's total service area.

And 31.8 percent spend 50 percent or more of gross income on

housing cost, compared to 28.9 percent in the total service area.

The City of Pomona has never previously regulated the setting and increasing of rents for residential real property, according to language in the ordinance.

"However, given the concerns discussed herein, the City Council desires to evaluate rent stabilization policies protecting residents from unreasonable rent increases, while ensuring that the owners of residential real property may earn a fair and reasonable return on their property," the ordinance continued.

"Absent the adoption of this ordinance, as a result of the economic conditions and recognized housing shortage in Southern California, significant rent increases will impact a substantial number of residents in Pomona and constitute a threat to public health, safety and welfare, and a particular hardship for senior citizens, persons living on fixed incomes and other vulnerable persons living in Pomona," it said.

The draft ordinance had come before the Pomona City Council twice before this month's meeting. The ordinance was modeled after a similar measure enacted in Culver City.

City Manager James Makshanoff, in his report to the council on

the item, recommended adoption of the urgency ordinance.

"The Mayor and City Council have previously heard public comment from those expressing support for bringing forward . . . an ordinance creating a regulatory framework and other protections for residents facing housing instability," his report said.

Makshanoff added that the city attorney was asked to draft the ordinance based on recommendations from the council housing committee and comment provided during a special study session.

He said the fiscal impact – including establishing rent restrictions and just cause eviction regulations with enforcement mechanisms such as a rent review board or individual independent reviewer could cost "several million dollars considering the necessary staff and legal support."

"As with other programs of this nature, the city may recover some or all of these costs through rent registration fees which would need to be studied," he said.

He pointed out that council action in 2020 and 2021 to protect tenants using emergency powers and authorizations based on the impacts of the COVID pandemic for the most part have now expired.

Compassionate Pomona: A collaboration of community

By Dr. Roberta Perlman

fourth are the abuse of alcohol and drugs, respectively. This is a sad and unfortunately predictive commentary.

The programs sponsored by Compassionate Pomona have a primary focus of supporting groups that work within our community to break this stress-induced cycle of violence and abuse, thereby promoting calm and peace. The Sky Breathwork and Wellness program and the JU4Y (Just Us For Youth) Re-

storative Justice and Care (youth diversion programs) and PAC'D (anger management and drug and alcohol classes) both work to promote wellness and connectedness within our community.

Compassionate Pomona is currently also working with JU4Y to ensure that our children feel protected and safe walking to and from school. Our caring community can collaborate to create safe routes to school. This is an

Compassionate Pomona... pg. 19



Photos by Renee Barbee

Pomona Unified School District Assistant to the Superintendent for Facilities, Maintenance and Operations Fernando Meza, at left, was a speaker and Andrea Rico, Youth and Family Services Manager for the City of Pomona, at right, was the master of ceremonies this month at a "Mayor's Youth Service Providers Summit" focusing on youth programs, places and policies. Hosted by Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval at The Village at Indian Hill Conference Center, the event was designed to bring together service providers and partners who serve youth in the city for an asset mapping and gaps analysis interactive exercise, including data sharing and information regarding policies for using city and Pomona Unified School District facilities. Information gathered from the summit will be used to connect youth to services and assist in decision making for future efforts to serve Pomona youth. Nearly 200 participants attended the event.

La Nueva Voz

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dcruz1549@gmail.com

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Applications open for annual Music Center scholarship competition

Applications are open for “The Music Center’s Spotlight,” a free annual competition that provides more than \$100,000 in performing arts scholarships and artistic development through auditions, feedback and mastery classes.

The classes are taught by professional artists and arts administrators and performance opportunities at the West Coast’s leading performing arts destination.

All Southern California high school students of all skill levels interested in the performing arts are eligible to apply.

Deadline is Oct. 17.

The program is part of the Los Angeles Music Center’s commitment to helping all students gain outstanding arts learning experience in their schools and in the community. It is designed to help students explore their professional goals

and increase their confidence through the audition process.

Some of the program’s alumni are performing with the world’s best dance companies, top orchestras and leading jazz clubs, singing in the leading opera houses and starring on Broadway.

They also are major executives working behind the scenes in art schools, non-profit institutions and businesses.

Applicants must submit a video audition online and may apply to multiple categories which include acting, ballet, classical instrumental, classical voice, dance, jazz instrumental and non-classical voice.

Preliminary rounds and semifinals will be followed by a grand finale live evening performance.

To apply, visit the web site at musiccenter.org/spotlight.

Pomona Hope annual gala set for Oct. 22

Pomona Hope’s annual fundraising and awareness gala has been scheduled for Oct. 22 at Kellogg West on the Cal Poly University Pomona campus.

Registration begins at 5:30 p.m. for the event, this year on the theme “All Aboard!”

Pomona Hope, currently in its 19th year, is a community-driven, faith-based non-profit working with both youth and their families toward personal and community transformation.

Pomona Chamber of Commerce Board member Jeff Johannsen is Executive Director.

Pomona Hope’s community center is located in Pomona’s First Presbyterian Church, at 401 N. Gibbs St., Pomona, and includes a gymnasium, a stage, three kitchens, five large group rooms and more than two dozen small classrooms.

Programs range from after school and summer enrichment programs to the arts, young adult scholars, a parenting support group, a community garden and internships.

For more information, visit www.pomona-hope.org/gala.

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HAZTE LA PRUEBA DEL COVID-19



- Si has estado expuesto
- Si te sientes enfermo
- Antes y después de viajar
- Antes y después de reuniones



SWEARING IN A NEW COMMISSIONER -- Pomona City Clerk Rosalia Butler, at right, this month swears in Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz as the city's newest member of the Vehicle Parking District Commission. She was appointed to the commission by Pomona City Councilmember Nora Garcia. The commission meets monthly. Barbee previously served as a member of the Pomona Public Library Board of Trustees as the appointee of Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole.

Gold Line construction 'full closures' expected at Fulton Road, Garey Avenue

A "full closure" of Fulton Road for up to 45 days at the railroad tracks in Pomona and La Verne is scheduled to begin next month, according to officials at the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority.

The closure is needed as crews return to complete the railroad crossing reconstruction as part of the on-going

construction of the Foothill Gold Line light rail project through Pomona.

Expected to be the final full closure at Fulton Road, traffic will be rerouted from Tuesday, Sept. 6 through Friday, Oct. 21.

In addition, a month-long full closure at the Garey Avenue crossing is expected in mid- to late-October.



Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, at right, pulled on a "Delicious Freedom USA" t-shirt this month, went behind the counter and started serving ice cream to the crowd on a very hot August day to celebrate the second anniversary of Pomona's favorite ice cream store, located at 310 S. Thomas St. in Downtown Pomona. And what a celebration it was! Included was everything from a mechanical bull, a clown, face painting and even mariachis. Sandoval was overheard telling his son Roy that "Daddy has a new job." Pictured at left is store owner Virginia Villasenor.

It's election time in Pomona – fasten your seatbelts!

Congresswoman Norma Torres calls election time "silly season."

Her reference is based on what happens during campaign time – comments from candidates, charges, allegations, claims, campaign ad messaging.

And very often she is right. That whole campaign ad messaging is particularly interesting. Four years ago in a Pomona City Council race, La Nueva Voz met with a representative of an ad agency and ended up – for the first time ever – declining to run the candidate's full-page ads after determining they were in the category of "hit pieces" and contained allegations La Nueva Voz was unable to confirm.

Those messages ended up appearing on billboards around town.

Well, it is election time again, candidate filings have closed, and this time, again, we're holding on to our hats for the ride.

Here's what the playing field looks like.

Pomona City Council


Three seats are up in the Pomona City Council race this time. Each incumbent is seeking reelection, and each has one challenger, according to official filing results from Pomona City Clerk Rosalia Butler.

District 2 Councilmember Victor Preciado will be running against Jacky Elizalde, who will be listed on the ballot as a city commissioner/mother. She also has been visible in the community as the representative at events of Congresswoman Norma Torres.

District 3 Councilmember Nora Garcia, who will identify herself on the ballot as a teacher/D3 councilmember, will be running against Larry Ortega, who will identify himself on the ballot as a high-speed internet consultant. Ortega has been an occasional columnist in La Nueva Voz on the issue of bringing low-cost fiber optic internet connections to all residents of Pomona to eliminate what has become known as the digital divide (costs pricing some markets out of state-of-the-art internet connections).

And District 5 Councilmember Steve

Election time... pg. 20



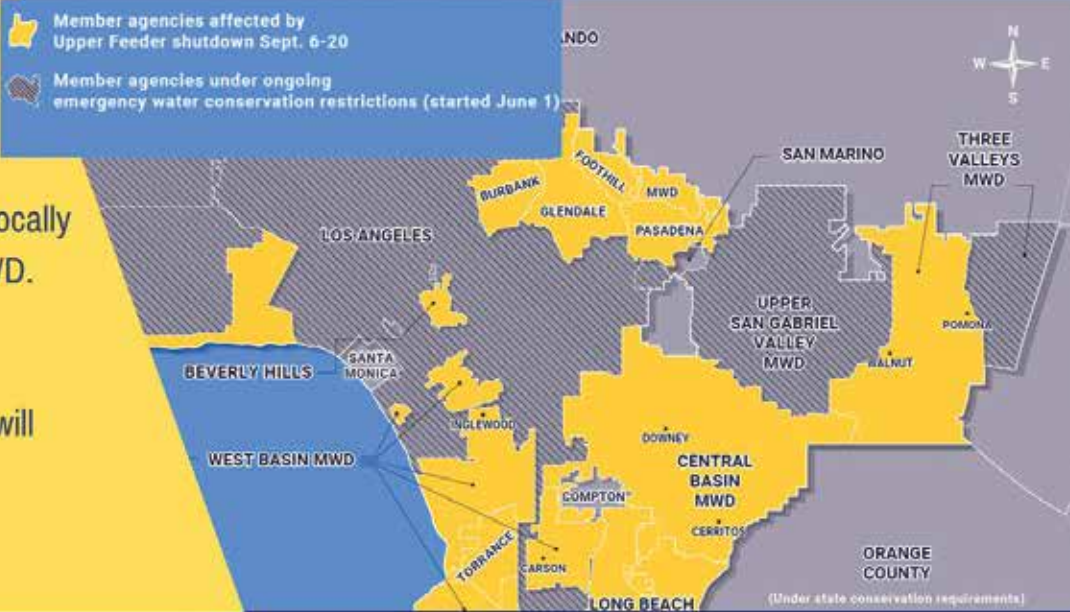
EMERGENCY PIPELINE REPAIR


SEP 6 - 20, 2022

URGENT CALL


NO OUTDOOR IRRIGATION

The emergency shutdown for repairs will locally impact areas served by Three Valleys MWD. Residents are called to suspend outdoor irrigation from September 6 - 20, 2022. Communities of Claremont and La Verne will continue with current one-day per week watering restrictions.







TURN SPRINKLERS OFF ON LABOR DAY [9/5]




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La Nueva Voz

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‘Hispanic Heritage Month’

September 15 - October 15

Respecting our region's history!



A La Nueva Voz special pull-out section brought to you by Metro Honda of Montclair.



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METRO HONDA . . .

. . . celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month.

**SEPTEMBER 15
TO
OCTOBER 15, 2022**

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The historical significance of Sept. 15 and 16

By Jose Zapata Calderon

Emeritus Professor of Sociology and Chicano/a and Latino/a Studies
President, Latino and Latina Roundtable

It is important for us to know that, on these days in September and October, we celebrate a number of Independence Days in Latin American countries.

On Sept. 15, the peoples of Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua celebrated their independence. On Sept. 16, Mexico celebrates its independence. And now, these celebrations also include the independence of Chile on Sept. 18, and Día de la Raza (Columbus Day) on Oct. 12.

Let's look at the origins of these independence movements:

When the independence movement began at the beginning of the 19th century, Latin America contained two large colonial empires, the Spanish and the Portuguese. Spain's colonies stretched from what is now the western United States and Mexico to Argentina, while Portugal's empire was in Brazil. Under the system of colonialism, these territories were controlled by Spain and Portugal.

The independence movement in these colonies of Spain came to include people of color, slaves, Mestizos, Native Americans, and Spanish-origin Criollos. Independence was supported in relation to the economic and racial interests of these diverse groups. The Criollos, who represented a powerful faction in the Spanish empire, wanted an expansion of the free trade that benefited their plantation economy. They were afraid of revolution because they did not want to lose the power that they had. The Mestizos, Native Americans, and African slaves wanted more inclusion in a society that excluded them.

In South America, the struggle for independence was marked by two major military campaigns, led by two key figures. In the north, Simón Bolívar led efforts to free what is now Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, and Bolivia. In the south, José de San Martín fought for independence in his native land.

The independence movement in Mexico took a very different course from the campaigns in South America. Concerned about the crisis in Spain, a small group of peninsulares (those born in Spain), rather than Creoles (born in the colonies), carried out a coup in 1808.

Two years after this coup, a widespread rebellion erupted. The rebellion was sparked by a priest Miguel Hidalgo y Costilla on Sept. 16, 1810. Ringing the bell of his parish church in the village of Dolores, and under the banner of the Virgen of Guadalupe, he brought together 80,000 indigenous and mestizo people. In his famous Grito de Dolores, Hidalgo called for independence and reforms to benefit the oppressed.

It is important to bring forth the importance of Miguel Hidalgo as an example of one who brought a diverse coalition of oppressed peoples together to challenge the power of a much more militarily equipped force and, with the spirit of a people motivated for justice and equality, laid the foundation for the further organizing of a movement of mestizos, indios, mulattoes, former Black slaves, and alienated Criollos who

eventually created an independent nation, the nation of Mexico, independent of Spain.

By the middle of the 1820s almost all of the Latin American colonies had achieved independence. The new nations, with a combined population of about 16 million, and Brazil grew out of movements also that brought together Native Americans, mestizos, people of color, and many women in fighting for their freedom. They also fought to abolish Black slavery.

However, it is important to point out that this independence did not mean an end to inequality, poverty, and social injustice.

The new nations faced many economic problems. The years of warfare had destroyed much of the productive capacity of many of the new nations, including their agriculture and mining. Many of the new nations had incurred large government debt to pay for the war effort, which limited their capacity to support economic development.

On Feb. 2, 1848, approximately 75,000 Mexicans already living in what is now the Southwest U.S. woke up to learn they now resided in the U. S. rather than Mexico. The Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo ceded almost half of Mexico's territory to the U. S. Although the treaty assured citizenship rights to the Mexican people and the protection of customs, languages, law, and culture, the treaty was later broken. Instead, they were faced with discrimination in all spheres of life, including loss of land and democratic rights, resulting in high drop-out rates, high numbers in the prisons, and high unemployment rates.

As Mexicans lost their land, they had another commonality with indigenous communities, African Americans, and other oppressed groups. As the Mexican laborers lost their land, they too became workers in ranching and agriculture. **They worked in the fields, in the mines, in the meatpacking plants, producing millions of dollars in production but seeing little of the profits come back to them.**

We did see the rise of social movements in our communities resulting in more Latinos in elected positions, more of our students going to college and graduating, but still facing problems in the educational system.

At the same time, we also found many of our Latino people treated as conditional friends: welcomed when there was a labor shortage and deported when it was economically and politically advantageous.

We have the legacies of Sept. 15 and 16 right here in our backyard where we have workers from Mexico, El Salvador, Guatemala, and other places in Latin America still seeking the meaning of equality and justice.

All too often, some individuals and groups in our own communities fail to see what is consistent in these legacies and instead judge the other through the lens of their own historical experience. On the one hand, there are those who propose that Latinos have benefited from the legacy

of nondiscrimination laws created through the civil rights movement and blame Latino immigrants for the loss of jobs. In general, they don't understand colonialism and the role that it has played historically in disrupting overseas economies and in stimulating migration.

At the same time, there are those who defend Latino immigrants as hard workers who contribute immensely to the society and take the jobs that no one else wants.

Some nativist groups have used the U.S. Constitution to claim that all undocumented immigrants are "criminals" and need to be deported since they are not legal citizens. Here, they use the legal definition of citizenship as a means of attacking immigrants.

Today, the experience of many indigenous, African American, mestizo, and people of color in general have the commonality where legal citizenship does not insulate a group from social and economic exploitation. In the case of Mexican-origin people, although they were considered citizens of the U. S. after 1848, this did not insulate them from the use of laws to take their land. In the case of African Americans, although supposedly freed from slavery, the reality is that they continued to be used for their cheap labor without full rights.

If legal citizenship is going to be more than an empty victory, we need to offer a vision of full citizenship that is both legal and social in nature. True citizenship goes beyond narrow legal definitions to include equality in all spheres. It is in this struggle to achieve full citizenship where African Americans, mestizo, indigenous, Latino, people of color, and working-class people in general share a common ground. It is this commonality that I offer as a historical and contemporary reason to celebrate the concept of independence – a concept that is still somewhat abstract – because the pursuit of justice and equality – for the Latino and indigenous people – is still something that is ongoing and still needs to be achieved.

Let us build on the meaning of Sept. 15 and 16 to build the type of coalitions that Miguel Hidalgo built to change our institutions so that they are inclusive. Let us work for a society that can ensure quality health care, jobs, and education for all.

Editor's Note: The above background helps to put Hispanic Heritage Month into perspective. The "month" actually began as Hispanic Heritage Week, when it was introduced in June 1968 by California Congressman George E. Brown, who represented East Los Angeles during a push to recognize the contributions of the Latinx community which had gained momentum throughout the 1960s at the peak of the civil rights movement. In 1989, President George H.W. Bush became the first president to declare the 31-day period from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 as National Hispanic Heritage Month. It is observed each year as a time to recognize and celebrate the many contributions, diverse cultures, and extensive histories of the American Latino community.

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National Night Out... from pg. 1

people – residents, employees, visitors – attended the four-hour event.

Add it all up and that means it just might have been the biggest and best ever. In fact, looking out over the crowd from the steps of the Pomona Public Library, La Nueva Voz thought it was reminiscent of the midway at the LA County Fair on a Saturday.

Jacqueline Elizalde, representing Congresswoman Norma Torres, perhaps said it best in reading the certificate she presented to the city, recognizing Aug. 2 as National Night Out as a “national coming together of Americans all over the nation to unite and promote public safety.”

The annual celebration, observed for the first time in 1984 as a day to cultivate a better relationship between residents and law enforcement, originally included 400 communities across the country, according to Pomona Police Corporal Chris Lewis.

He said this year, nearly 20,000

communities in all 50 states registered to participate.

Booths and “easy up” tent covers were everywhere throughout the Civic Center – from the library to the courthouse and even in the grass.

And included was everything from children sitting atop a Pomona Police motorcycle to free haircuts to free blood sugar level testing for diabetes screening.

Sound good so far? Well, just to top it all off was “The Impulse Band,” back for a return appearance to provide live music from the city’s mobile stage by the fountain in front of the courthouse.

Getting hungry just thinking about it? No problem! Hard-working members of Pomona Kiwanis were on hand to grill hot dogs and hamburgers throughout the event.

So here’s a “shout out” to the police department’s crime prevention department for a good job of putting it all together as always.



COPS AND KIDS -- There’s something about cops and kids, as Pomona Police Chief Mike Ellis, at left, and Rev. Jan Chase, Chair of Compassionate Pomona, noted at this month’s National Night Out.



Leo Arredondo, of Uppercuts Inc. barber shop in Pomona, and a Board member of Pomona Chamber of Commerce, gives a free haircut to Vincent Martinez, 5, as his dad, Luis Martinez, just out of the shot, looks on.



Karina Alamo, 4, gets to see what it’s like to sit on a Pomona Police Department motorcycle at National Night Out as her dad, Javi Garcia, at right, looks on. And Officer Gary Davis, at left, keeps a hand out there just to be safe.



Representatives of Pomona’s Vietnamese community participated in National Night Out in the Pomona Civic Center this month including, at center from left, Thich (Reverend) Chon Tri, of the Phap Van Buddhist Temple and Dr. Huu Vo, President of the Vietnamese Community of Pomona Valley, joined for the “photo op” by Pomona Police Department Deputy Chief Christian Hsu.



Pomona Police supporter Virginia Madrigal and Pomona Police Lt. Brian Hagerty pose for the La Nueva Voz camera on the Civic Center Plaza during this year’s National Night Out. Hagerty, now District 1 Area Commander, headed up the department’s crime prevention program when La Nueva Voz took over for the old La Voz 13 years ago.



Pomona Unified School District Interim Supt. Darren Knowles, at left, speaks at Pomona’s National Night Out. From left are Knowles; Pomona Unified Board President Dr. Roberta Perlman; State Sen. Susan Rubio; and Pomona Unified Board member Arturo Jimenez.



State Sen. Susan Rubio presents a special National Night Out certificate to Pomona Police Chief Mike Ellis.

National Night Out... pg. 18

Garey High ‘InvenTeam’ members from 2018 granted U.S. patent for their invention

Pomona’s Garey High School “InvenTeam” – those talented kids who in 2018 invented a piece of equipment allowing people with diabetes to self-monitor foot health – were granted an official “utility patent” last month by the U.S. Pat-

ent and Trademark Office.

The students had support all along the way from the Lemelson-MIT Program and Microsoft’s “Make-WhatsNext” Patent Program, according to a news release.

“Finding a real-world problem

that directly impacted our community inspired my team to learn how to become inventors,” said team member Katia Avila Pindeo. “Our interest towards invention has sparked curiosity in others within our school

Garey High invention... pg. 19



ICE CREAM TRUCK AT NATIONAL NIGHT OUT! -- Barney’s Ice Cream, a family-owned business owned by the Estevez family for the past 30 years, was invited to participate in this year’s National Night Out. The Pomona Police Department paid for the first 200 people to choose any item. Barney’s serves more than 30 cities and caters to special events of all kinds. Need more information? Contact (909) 758-6408 or barneysicecream@gmail.com.

Treating lymphedema (or swelling)

By Kathy San Martino, PT, CLT-LANA

Swelling issues of the limbs or other body parts can cause significant medical, functional and cosmetic problems. Lymphedema and edema are often used interchangeably as a diagnosis, although they are different in terms of the underlying cause of the swelling.

“Lymphedema” occurs when lymph nodes and lymphatic vessels are removed or damaged in the treatment for cancers. This creates a blockade in the lymphatic system. (Occasionally, we will see patients who have lymphedema because they were born with an insufficient/underdeveloped lymphatic system.)

“Edema” occurs when there is congestion or a blockade in the venous system. Edema can be caused by a number of factors including inactivity, prolonged standing, medications, and obesity. When there is a congestion in the vessels (lymphatic or venous), this pressure causes the vessels to leak fluid and protein into the tissue surrounding the vessels causing visible swelling.

If left untreated, the swelling can continue to progress, thereby increasing the weight of the limb, decreasing the mobility of the limb, and adversely affecting the health of the limb. Swelling can cause

wounds to develop on the limb. The individual is also at risk for recurring cellulitis infections.

An essential part of our treatment is applying compression to the swollen limb. This changes the pressure gradient in the limb. When compression is applied, the tissue surrounding the vessels has more pressure than the vessels, driving the fluid, protein, etc., back into the vessels. It is essential that an evaluation is performed to determine if compression bandaging or a Velcro® adjustable compression garment is required prior to using compression stockings. Too often, individuals are placed in compression stockings too soon with resulting discomfort, skin breakdown and general failure of the treatment.

Treatment may also consist of a light massage known as manual lymph drainage, exercise and skin care. This treatment approach is known as complete or complex de-



Kathy San Martino

congestive therapy and should be provided by a certified lymphedema therapist.

Just like hypertension, diabetes, and other physiological disorders of the body, we are not fixing the cause of the lymphedema. Through the above outlined

treatment, however, we can attain an excellent degree of control over the problem. Some people require 23-hour compression on their limb to maintain ideal control. Other people may attain sufficient control with compression just applied during the day. Lymphedema treatment requires a great deal of commitment on the part of the patient but the results are highly rewarding.

To learn more, please call Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare in Pomona at (909) 596-7733, ext. 3500.

Editor's Note: Kathy San Martino is an outpatient clinical coordinator at Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare.



Photos courtesy of Pomona Unified School District
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL -- Pomona Unified School District Board member Arturo Jimenez, second from right, chats with students on the first day of school this month (Aug. 11) at Marshall Middle School in Pomona. According to Interim Supt. Darren Knowles, the schools had a “great turnout.” A total of 20,034 students were enrolled, compared to 20,909 last year, and attendance was at 92 percent by the middle of the month. Pictured, from left, are Marshall Principal Eva Robles, Pomona Unified School District Interim Supt. Darren Knowles, Pomona Unified Board member Lorena Gonzalez, Pomona Unified Interim Assistant Supt. for Human Resources Silvia San Martin, Jimenez, and Marshall physical education teacher Victor Garcia. Go Mustangs and have a great year!



THE FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL CAN BE JUST A LITTLE SCARY -- But sitting on a bale of hay having a picture taken in front of a “Welcome Back” sign helps a lot, right? This student in her new school clothes and her new backpack by her side is all ready for the new school year at Ranch Hills Elementary School in Phillips Ranch.

National Night Out... from pg. 17



Joe Perez, business development manager for Credit Union of Southern California and a Board member of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce, spins the wheel for kids of all ages at the credit union's booth at this year's National Night Out.



Pomona's Smiles & Tears Children and Family Services foster care agency was represented at this year's National Night Out. Pictured, from left, are recruiters Francisco Ochoa and Hilberto Camacho and CEO Jose Islas.



Hanging out at this year's National Night Out are, from left, Pomona Unified School District Assistant to the Superintendent for Facilities, Maintenance and Operations Fernando Meza; Three Valleys Municipal Water District Board member Carlos Goytia; and Nena Hernandez of Fairplex.

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Garey High invention... from pg. 17

and city, but most importantly we have shown them that invention is possible for students who are passionate about making a difference.”

Other team members included Brianna Berdin, Sushil Bohara, Jia Bragado, Evelyn Casas, Melody Sanchez, Anh Tran and Diana Valencia, along with their teachers Antonio Gamboa and Alex Ruper.

La Nueva Voz covered stories on the InvenTeam at Garey from start to finish. The kids represented one of only 15 schools in the country receiving a Lemelson grant that year. Everything was essentially covered by the grant except travel expenses back to MIT in Cambridge for a “EurekaFest” showcasing of inventions by all of the teams.

Compassionate Pomona... from pg. 6

approach that promotes student safety and health by encouraging walking and bicycling to school using safe and secure routes with neighborhood adults coordinating the efforts. This initiative gives communities the opportunity to increase physical activity and make streets safer for everyone – particularly our youth.

A community meeting is scheduled to discuss some of these programs and initiatives that promise to have a positive impact on our neighborhoods and community.

Services held for Pastor David Turner

Services were held this month for Pastor David Turner, Jr., who served at churches in both Ontario and Pomona from 1992 to 2008. He was 94.

Turner, who died on July 13, organized his ministry in 2000 at the Pomona House of Prayer Mission. He also served as chaplain for the NAACP Pomona Valley Branch beginning in 2013.

Services were held at Bethel Missionary Church in Los Angeles and burial was at Riverside National Cemetery.

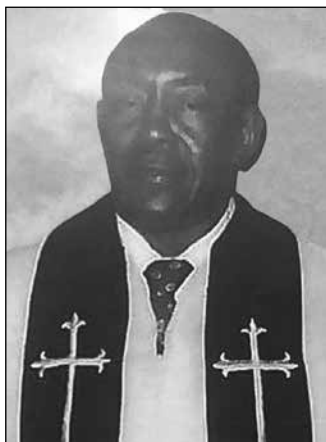
Turner grew up in Louisiana and started working in the cotton fields of a plantation in St. Joseph at the age of 9. At age 19, he moved to New Orleans to work

La Nueva Voz even produced a “Musical Extravaganza” fundraiser at the Ebell Museum of History to encourage members of the community to come together and raise money for transportation. In all, a total of \$5,600 was raised, surpassing the goal.

The Lemelson-MIT program for the past 19 years has enabled nearly 300 teams around the country to experience inventing. It is funded by the Lemelson Foundation and administered by the School of Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which has a strong ongoing commitment to creating meaningful opportunities for K-14 STEM (science, technology engineering and math) education.

Compassionate Pomona and JU4Y will host the meeting twice on Wednesday, Sept. 7, from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at the Pomona Unified School District’s Village at Indian Hill Conference Center, Entrance 1, 1444 E. Holt Ave., Pomona. Join us for refreshments, raffles, and lively community discussion on these relevant issues!

Editor’s note: Dr. Roberta Perlman, a member of Compassionate Pomona, is Board President of Pomona Unified School District.



Pastor David Turner, Jr.

supporting a sibling.

One of 12 children, he received his early elementary education in the Tensas Parish school system.

He served in the U.S. Army and was honorably discharged before moving to the Southern California area in

1964, where he worked for Lucky Stores supermarket chain as a warehouse trainer for 28 years.

Turner was predeceased by his parents, David Turner, Sr., and Roberta Florida Singleton Turner.

He is survived by his wife of 39 years, Lillie Turner; two brothers, a sister, a brother-in-law, four sisters-in-law, four children, six stepchildren, six grandchildren, seven step-grandchildren, and numerous great-grandchildren.

Thank you for your work in covering Pomona’s positive impacts!

Editor:

My family has been in this community for over 118 years. My grandmother, Mama Chita, went to elementary school at what was formerly known as Hamilton Elementary School in Pomona in 1903. My father was born, raised, lived and worked in Pomona for Pomona Unified School District until he retired in 1991. My mother was an elementary school teacher for Alcott Elementary for 24 years.

In my early days of advocacy, I often wondered: How do we get positive stories in the newspaper? A majority of the time (99 percent), for all periodicals - the stories were about how bad and evil people were in our community. The only time we’d get on the front page is if it were centered around negativity.

The founders of the original La Voz newspaper were personal friends of my father. In fact, Al Castro once toured me around Pomona, on my dad’s recommendation, looking for a house to buy in my early 20s; of course, as you know, that was Al’s full-time gig. Cande (Candelario Mendo-

za) gave us our first ink when I founded Community Union, Inc., a non-profit organization focused on getting children and their parents access and training to the Internet and all its resources. So, when I share what I am about to share, it is coming from a wide breadth of love and appreciation – not just me, or the thousands of families we have served; or my family now scattered throughout Pomona in the hundreds, but from decades and generations longing to read about the positive contributions our communities/cultures were/are making in Pomona.

No one entity has captured that better than you and your team at La Nueva Voz. I am most impressed with your July 2022 edition where you run the entire gambit of positivity from the schools receiving millions of dollars to do performing arts, to the service clubs logging in their 100th year in Pomona and much, much more. I wish everyone in Pomona could know what you share (write) about our beautiful Pomona. It is amazing, and so important to our community and those who love our community

like I do. I recommend everyone pick up a copy of La Nueva Voz and read about the good happening in Pomona. Thanks again, and continued success!

Larry A. Ortega

Editor’s Note: The late Al Castro, co-founder with Cande Mendoza of the old La Voz, said essentially the same thing as Mr. Ortega in an interview with La Nueva Voz in April 2012.

“One of the reasons that we (Castro and Mendoza) came together (to form the old La Voz)... is that we wanted to create a positive image of the Latino community because the mainstream paper . . . every time a Latino surname would come up, it would be in the negative form,” Castro said.

La Nueva Voz, of course, has attempted to continue the tradition of the old La Voz over the past 13 years. We appreciate Mr. Ortega’s kind comments.

For the complete Al Castro story, visit www.lanuevavoz.net, click on “past issues,” April 2012, and see the story beginning on page one.



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Election time... from pg. 8

Lustro will be challenged by De'Andre Valencia, who will be identified on the ballot as a non-profit executive/father. Valencia told La Nueva Voz he is the Senior Vice President and Legal Policy Officer of the Building Industry Association of Southern California and runs the Los Angeles/Ventura County Chapter. He has served on Pomona's Planning, Vehicle Parking District and Charter Review commissions and has been a Pomona Public Library trustee.

Pomona Unified School District Board

The big news over at Pomona Unified School District is two long-time school board members are not seeking reelection this time – Adrienne Konigar-Macklin, who has served on the board since 2009 and whose law practice keeps her busy working for the San Diego County Office of Education, and Andrew Wong, also an attorney. He has served on the Pomona Unified school board since 2005.

Here's the way the candidates line up.

Konigar-Macklin's Governing Board Member Trustee Area No. 1 attracted three candidates by the time filings closed last week (filings first closed on Aug. 12, but were extended to last Wednesday because the incumbent did not return nomination papers).

The candidates are Damon Brown, parent/education attorney, of Pomona; John Mendoza, an on-again off-again Three Valleys

Municipal Water District Board member and a self-described campaign assistant for Congresswoman Norma Torres, of Pomona; and Lisa Nashua, educator/college administrator, also of Pomona.

Over in Trustee Area No. 4,

long-time school board member Dr. Roberta Perlman, an optometrist and currently Board President, will be up against John Kissinger, elementary school teacher, and Sandra Bible, parent/financial pro-

Election time... pg. 22

Second annual Compassionate Pomona 'Kindness Carnival' set for Oct. 8

Members of the community group Compassionate Pomona have announced their second annual "Kindness Carnival" will be held on Saturday, Oct. 8, in Downtown Pomona's Antique Row on Second Street during the monthly Second Saturday Artwalk.

The family-friendly event from 5 to 9 p.m. will feature food, games, vendors, art activities, live music, inspiring speakers, pet blessings, raffle prizes and "swag" giveaways.

"Kindness is key in our diverse community," said Andy Qui-

nonnes, volunteer event coordinator for Compassionate Pomona. "Second annual Kindness Carnival 2022 will enable compassionatepomona.org to share the good news and good work of our community members/service provider network."

"It's time to get back to the community," said Rev. Jan Chase, chair of Compassionate Pomona. "Our world needs love and kindness more than ever!"

Founded in 2015, Compassionate Pomona is a community group of pomonaspromise.net and is the heart of a citywide movement to-

ward kindness, compassionate action and the Golden Rule.

The organization offers community members, community-based organizations and agencies a way to get positively involved in transforming the community.

For more information on the carnival and becoming a vendor or sponsor, and for a vendor application, visit the web site at www.compassionatepomona.org or contact Quinones at (909) 973-6713 or aquinones.scsc@gmail.com or Fatima Fazal at (909) 469-1121 or fatima@downtownpomona.org.



Photo courtesy of City of Pomona

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT RECIPIENTS -- Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, at left, poses this month on the steps of the Pomona City Council chambers with most of the recipients of a total of more than \$600,000 in funding awarded to some 31 community-based organizations in Pomona from Sandoval's Health and Wellness Fund. The funding was made possible by the American Rescue Plan Act, which provided temporary relief to address the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals and businesses.

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Patrocinadores:



The SAE's five-year plan adapts to 'changed environment,' calls for first fundraising campaign

Pomona's own School of Arts and Enterprise (The SAE), founded 19 years ago and since proving itself time and again with countless awards and commendations, now is reaching for the stars (or in



Phil Miller

this case, perhaps the stage lights) in a just unveiled "strategic plan" that includes everything from preparing students for success in a changed environment to creating the school's first comprehensive fundraising campaign.

The plan, really a complete update of the school's original mission statement, was presented this month to the school's stakeholders, city officials and members of

the community during a reception at Pomona's Fox Theatre.

It is designed to become a "living document" that will lead the school into its "dynamic next chapter of success."

Phil Miller, the school's artistic director and co-chair of the strategic planning process, said school staff, faculty and board members worked on the plan with a consulting team from the DeVos Institute of Arts Management at the University of Maryland over the past 14 months.

DeVos President Brett Egan, lead consultant on the project, focused on the specifics, explaining



Brett Egan

that the concept was to continue the "brave and bold vision" of the school but to build on the original mission statement.

He said the five-year plan is designed, for example, to continue the practice of project-based learning in a changing world that requires practical application as employers are looking for those skills.

"So, the original vision holds," he said, but is placed in the context of changing times since some things have changed since the founding of the school.

"And that was the scope of this process," he said, adding that the group looked at other schools in the region and around the country to see what is unique here and what has changed and is no longer unique.

An environmental and internal analysis was conducted to determine what direction they want to go in for strategic direction.

The strategy itself was built around four key areas – what the school is offering young people; how the school is telling the story of "what is special here" and how it is communicating the value of



Ralph Opacic

an education; how the school is going to reach out to people who want to help, volunteer, or become a board member or a donor; and how the school feels about the future and how it is going to develop the resources "to supply this ambition."

The SAE's updated mission statement includes things like unlocking and nurturing "the full potential of each and every student," supporting this foundation with the "transformational power of art, entrepreneurship and 21st century scholarship," and enhancing the school's "culture of be-

longing."

It was the "changed environment" realization, the emphasis on school culture and a new emphasis on a culture of belonging that made up the three shifts from the school's original mission statement.

In the "techspeak" of planners, that translates to focusing on how to ensure that the school is as responsive as possible to the goals and activities of ensuring inclusion – not only for internal practices but also to students and faculty and the relation between the school and the community "to make sure practices are equitable, make sure they are as inclusive and accessible as possible and are as culturally responsive as possible," Egan said.

Looking at the value of practical experience and preparing students for success in a 21st century creative economy, he had that covered, as well.

"This conflict between art and enterprise is not incidental, it's strategic that the skills that are taught in art education are many of the same skills that are required

SAE's strategic plan... pg. 22



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SAE's strategic plan... from pg. 21

in order to create value in an information and creative economy," he said.

Ralph Opacic, senior consultant on the project and founder of Orange County School of the Arts, called the members of the planning committee "a group of stakeholders so passionately committed to making the school as an

organization so successful."

And he looked at the changes in the environment in the last 19 years, turning first to the period from 2005 to 2018 in which the population of children in the Pomona Unified School District shrank by almost 10 percent while the total population of the area has remained static.

At the same time, the number of households with children dropped from 54 percent to 43 percent, and 29.7 percent of children in Pomona are living below the poverty line. And 11 percent are living below 50 percent of that poverty line.

From 2000 to 2018, the share of Hispanic population in Pomona

increased from 64.5 percent to 70.6 percent.

And 62 percent of youth in Pomona are living with foreign-born parents.

"Those are staggering statistics," Opacic said.

"As we developed this plan, it was essential that we looked at the strategic plan through the lens of diversity, equity and inclusion," Opacic said. "(The 21-member planning committee) looked at how do we make sure that every student feels safe, that every student feels part of the culture, and that every student is successful."

After all, he pointed out, there are 375 other charter schools in Los Angeles County, one that is part of Pomona Unified School District and is only three miles away. Four are within 30 miles of The SAE, he said, all schools that are competing for the same students.

"So the big question was . . . how does SAE become the dominant provider to these students in the charter school community and in the art school community," Opacic added. "How does SAE set itself apart?"

The answer came – after looking at some of the great schools across the country – in schools finding niche specialty areas, sometimes areas that are representative of the population.

He cited his own school, Orange County School of the Arts, in a 75 percent Hispanic / Latinx community, that accomplished that by developing, among other things, one of the only Ballet Folklórico dance programs in the country.

And he also mentioned California School of the Arts San Gabriel Valley that is located three miles from Citrus College in Glendora. The arts school has created a dual enrollment with Citrus, making it possible for students to graduate from high school with an associ-



Jon Gundry

ate of arts degree in their pocket.

He also emphasized the importance of marketing.

"You can be providing the greatest opportunity and experience but if the community doesn't know, it really doesn't matter," he said.

Included, he added, are two types of marketing – institutional marketing talking about the great things the school is doing and the successes of its students, and programmatic marketing, including notices of performances, open houses and events.

"Most public schools and most public educators aren't trained in that," he said.

And then there was the element of fundraising.

"How can we implement fundraising strategies and plans to support SAE's strategic plan... pg. 23




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Gold Line Construction Underway in Pomona



Pomona Gold Line Station



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 more than halfway complete. Funding is being sought to complete the project to Claremont and Montclair.

Construction Questions: Call/text (626) 513-5788
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Election time... from pg. 20

fessional. All three are residents of Pomona.

And in Trustee Area No. 5, currently Wong's seat on the board, Patricia "Patty" Tye, a retired teacher administrator, will be up against Chidi Benjamin Udengwu, a small business owner. Both are residents of Diamond Bar.

Three Valleys Municipal Water District

Up the hill in Claremont at Three Valleys Municipal Water District, one of Pomona's two seats is up for election this year – Division 1, the seat representing South Pomona and currently occupied by Board member Carlos Goytia, senior grounds lead for Pomona Unified School District,

who has served on the Three Valleys Board since 2010.

He'll be running against former Pomona Unified School District Board member Frank Guzman, who will be described on the ballot as a non-profit executive director. Guzman lost his school board seat two years ago to Arturo Jimenez by only 200 votes.

Guzman also ran unsuccessfully for California Assembly in the 2018 primary against incumbent Freddie Rodriguez, receiving 13.9 percent of the vote.

Interestingly, former Pomona City Councilmember Ginna Escobar pulled nomination papers for this seat back in July but did not return them before deadline for filings.

SAE's strategic plan... from pg. 22

plement what we are getting from the state because, as we all know, the money we are getting from the state isn't enough," he said.

Part of that may involve opening a storefront setting in Downtown Pomona to offer student work for sale, Egan said.

Plus "how can we make sure we are standing at (the) cutting edge" as it continues to evolve, perhaps

partnering in areas of major entertainment media outlets in Los Angeles and Hollywood or with major universities in the region.

Enrollment also will be reviewed more closely since the school's capacity of 800 students "falls short of that pretty consistently by about 10 percent every year."

He said SAE should have a waiting list moving forward because "the more students we have, the more resources we have."

SAE Chief Executive Officer Jon Gundry, a veteran of 44 years in education, acknowledged the school could do more and sees the strategic plan as a blueprint for the next five years.

Even so, he said there is still much work to be done, cautioning that "people often mistake planning for action."

And Alexandra Oliva, SAE's senior director and strategic plan co-chair, said the school spent a year working on goals and purpose before bringing in the consultants who have been providing even more direction.

The future of SAE will include things like programming that is "aspirational" and "not-to-miss," programming that will retain interest, and programming that can supplement these efforts with responsive, agile programming designed to remain relevant

and timely in a changing environment.

"We've done a lot of talk about the preparation that it took to get us to this point," Oliva said. "And now it's time to put the plan into action."

The SAE is a premier 6th through 12th grade arts school, providing exemplary training in the performing, visual and creative arts and a strong basis in enterprise as a methodology to achieve college and career success.

It is a tuition-free, audition-free, state accredited and locally authorized public charter school in the heart of the Downtown Pomona Arts Colony.

The school is an Arts School Network National Exemplary School, a California Department of Education Exemplary Arts Program, an Arts, Media and Entertainment Career Technical Education Model Site, and Best School Award Recipient (U.S. News and World Report).

It is Downtown Pomona's second largest employer.



Alexandria Oliva



HONORED FOR HIS SERVICE -- Some 70 years after his service in the Korean War, Pomona's U.S. Army veteran Juan Rodriguez, now 91, was one of four Southern Californians honored on Veterans Day last Nov. 11 at the dedication of a new Orange County Korean War Memorial in Fullerton. Some 300 guests attended the ceremony at Hillcrest Park, 1360 N. Brea Blvd. The honorees were presented with memorial towels, along with (pictured above) wall hangings and an official ceremonial Kimono by local members of the Korean American community. Recognized, along with Rodriguez (pictured), was Ramon Morales of West Covina and two veterans from Orange County. Also pictured is Rodriguez' collection of medals and commendations he received during his service. "The people in Fullerton appreciate us," Rodriguez said. "We are their heroes, which is pretty nice." Rodriguez, also a member of Pomona's American Legion Post 30, served in Korea in the U.S. Army infantry from 1952 to 1953.

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- The SAE is a **non-profit, public charter school**, serving students in grades **6th-12th**.
- Our **college preparatory** curriculum nurtures a creative and academic culture of excellence.
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- Locally known for providing an extraordinarily **inclusive environment**, SAE students and families can be confident in their student's **social, physical, and emotional wellbeing**.
- Fully **credentialed academic and artistic faculty** empower passionate world-citizens with the confidence of knowledge, the power of creative thinking and the tools needed to succeed.

The School of Arts + Enterprise is committed to establishing and sustaining an equitable community that achieves its equity mission to ending the predictive value of race and ensuring each individual student's and staff's success.



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