



Happy Thanksgiving

La Nueva Voz

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



Pomona Chamber of Commerce



Member

Issue No. 172
Thursday, November 23, 2023

FREE
GRATIS

www.lanuevavoz.net

Pomona creates new 'Office of Violence Prevention' under \$5 million state grant

The City of Pomona is putting its money where its mouth is again, and this time it's to the tune of a \$5 million grant – all to help end gun violence.

The city is already staffing up a new Office of Violence Prevention and Neighborhood Wellbeing, based in the city manager's office, with a manager already on board to be followed by a new analyst position to be added in the near future.

Heading up the office is Pedro Payne, Ph.D., who will spearhead efforts to incorporate evidence-based programs and resources into the city's crime mitigation initiatives, with special focus on

neighborhoods in the community with the most pressing needs, according to a city news release.

Major funding assistance for the new office came from the Board of State and Community Corrections California Violence Intervention and Prevention grant program created in 2017 to replace the California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention grant program that began in 2007.

The statewide pro-



Pedro Payne

gram normally is allocated about \$9 million each year but in 2021 received a one-time "augmentation" of \$200 million to cover three fiscal years.

"I am excited about the establishment of the Office of Violence Prevention and Neighborhood Wellbeing and welcome Dr. Payne to Pomona," Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval said in the news release. "Pomona cannot actualize its full potential as a vibrant, safe and beautiful community until the systemic challenges of gun violence are addressed."

"I trust that Dr. Payne is the right individual to coordinate the continued work of Pomona's community-based organizations, law enforcement and other stakeholders to produce measurable and observable reductions to gun violence incidents within our community."

The mission of the new office will be to foster collaboration with the Pomona Police Department and forge partnerships with

diverse community agencies, resulting in the formation of the Pomona Partnership for Violence Prevention.

The new office is expected to play a pivotal role in harmonizing activities within the partnership, actively engaging with individuals, and contributing to the overarching objective of reducing violence across the City of Pomona.

Payne told La Nueva Voz in an e-mail he expects to be able to expand the scope of the start-up office in the future.

He has accumulated more than two decades of experience in social justice, working in both the public and private sectors. His career reflects a commitment to initiatives aimed at addressing community violence and social disparities.

Payne also is the author of a book on youth violence prevention, and also has written multiple peer-reviewed publications on subjects related to social inequality, violence prevention, and community development, reflecting his dedication to advancing what he calls "equitable outcomes for diverse communities."

He has a doctorate in sociology. **Violence Prevention... pg. 5**

OPINION

Is DPOA the best model for another Pomona business improvement district?

By Jeff Schenkel, Publisher

We don't want to rain on DPOA's parade, scheduled for next month, but we also have an obligation to our readers to shed a little light on several issues that have come to our attention regarding operations at the Downtown Pomona Owners Association – especially at a time that the City of Pomona is in the final stages of creating a second similar "busi-

ness improvement district" along Holt Avenue.

As Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval told members of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce in August (reported in the Aug. 24 issue of La Nueva Voz, available on-line at www.lanuevavoz.net), the city is in the process of working with the Pomona Chamber to create a special district along Holt to handle marketing, security, upkeep and other tasks.

And those are some of the major functions of DPOA – officially the "Downtown Pomona Property and Business Improvement District" created under a 1994 state law providing for the operation of such districts.

Pomona's DPOA, created in 2004, is a non-profit organization contracting with the City of Pomona – and operating with a board of directors of its own – to provide

The best model?... pg. 6

PAID ADVERTORIAL

Supporting mental wellness in Indigenous communities during National Native American Heritage Month

National Native American Heritage Month (NNAHM) is observed every November in the United States to celebrate the rich and diverse Tribal cultures, traditions, and histories of Native American and Indigenous people. Tri-City Mental Health (TCMH) honors the history, culture, and legacy of Tribal nations and Indigenous communities, and we humbly recognize it operates on Tongva land, the original caretakers of the cities we call Pomona, Claremont, and La Verne. We honor the Tongva people and all of their ancestors, elders and descendants, past, present, and emerging. We are committed to identifying ways to serve the Tongva people, supporting the preservation of their language and cultural heritage, and partnering to advocate for Indigenous wellness.

This month serves as a reminder of the resilience and strength of Indigenous people. TCMH channels this spirit into advocacy efforts aimed at improving services that impact the holistic health and wellness of Native and Indigenous people and are driven by and in collaboration with Native communities. When individuals and families are provided with culturally respectful mental and behavioral health care, they are empowered to create healthier outcomes for themselves and their community as a whole. As part of this endeavor, we invite individuals, cultural groups and organizations to join our Wellness Collaboratives. These community-led partnerships consist of community members, advocates, clients, family members, local service providers and TCMH staff. Meetings are open to the public and empower members to provide feedback, share resources, build community connections, and champion policies that prioritize the unique mental health needs of its community members.

All people should have the opportunity to live their healthiest lives. Through community involvement and advocacy, we can collectively contribute to ensure that the mental health needs of individuals and families are acknowledged and met. For more information about TCMH Wellness Collaboratives and to help support this vital work, visit tricitymhs.org/about-us/dei.



FAIRPLEX

LAUGH



LEARN



PLAY



POMONA OPTIMISTS 'STUDENTS OF THE MONTH' -- Members of the Pomona Optimist Club handed out their first "Students of the Month Awards" for the new school year at a meeting last month at the Marbella Ballroom in Downtown Pomona. The award recipients, all from Pomona's Barfield Elementary School, are, from left, August awardees Elisa Rubio, a fourth grader, and Eli Lopez, a sixth grader, and September awardees Annabelle Tew, a fifth grader; and Cash Rodriguez, a fourth grader. At rear, from left, are Pomona Unified School District Assistant Supt. Fernando Meza and Pomona Unified School Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman, both members of Pomona Optimists. Students are selected for the awards by their school teachers based on academic achievements, leadership abilities, attendance and relationship with staff and peers.



RIBBON-CUTTING AT LA QUINTA -- It was time for an official Pomona Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting ceremony this month at La Quinta Inn and Suites by Wyndham in Pomona. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Chamber President and CEO Monique Robles, Pomona Chamber Ambassador Blanca Angel, an independent California notary public and life insurance agent, Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval and his son, Roy, La Quinta Asset Manager Mark Sun, Director of Sales Sue Segreti, Aimbridge Hospitality Regional Director of Sales Alyssa Wilson, General Manager Miriam Espinosa, Pomona Chamber Board Chair Nef Cortez of Re/Max Galaxy, Housekeeping Manager Liliana Bares, Senior Asset Manager Li Chen, Assistant General Manager Catalina Garcia, Pomona Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, Chamber Board member Jill Dolan of Mt. San Antonio College, and Anthony Moreno representing State Sen. Susan Rubio. The hotel is located at 3200 W. Temple Ave.



**RE/MAX
GALAXY**

Nef Cortez
Broker Associate
DRE# 00560181



1411 S Diamond Bar Blvd
Diamond Bar, CA 91765
Office: (909) 610-6303
Cell: (909) 762-8135
Fax: (909) 752-3163
NefCortez@gmail.com
www.nefcortez.com



Each office independently owned and operated.



DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAM

EXPRESS YOUR INTEREST NOW FOR THE UPCOMING 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR!

- ✓ **BILITERACY & BILINGUALISM**
 - ✓ **IMPROVE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**
 - ✓ **MULTICULTURAL KNOWLEDGE**
 - ✓ **AWARD PATHWAYS TO SEAL OF BILITERACY**
- www.proudtobe.pusd.org/DLI

POMONA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT OFFERS DUAL LANGUAGE IMMERSION PROGRAMS IN SPANISH & MANDARIN.

SPANISH PROGRAM HOSTED AT **ALLISON & WESTMONT ELEMENTARY**
Kindergarten through 6th grade.

MANDARIN PROGRAM HOSTED AT **PANTERA ELEMENTARY**
Kindergarten through 6th grade.



ENROLLMENT HAS BEGUN FOR THE 2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR



PEP RALLY AT METRO HONDA / ACURA -- The Claremont High School marching band and two dozen cheerleaders stopped by Metro Honda and Acura in Montclair last week for a pep rally and employee appreciation event. And when the band director said "strike up the band," employees poured out of the showroom and offices to see, well, exactly what was going on. By the way, Claremont has a top-notch band and cheer team. They played briefly in front of Metro Honda's main entrance and marched around the building just to make sure they didn't miss anybody. To cap it off, employees were invited to line up for free burgers and fries from "The Habit" prepared on site in "The Habit's" own food truck, compliments of Metro Motors. Pictured, at left, is Metro Acura/Honda General Manager John Lee with a sample of the offerings.

Garey High School 'InvenTeam' helps bring home 'Golden Bell Award'

Those talented Garey High School graduates who conceived, designed and produced an invention that eventually received a patent last year from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office will be recognized again next week with the presentation of a "Golden Bell Award," California's leading educational honor, to representatives of Pomona Unified School District from the California School Boards Association.

PUSD was selected as one of 60 recipients statewide of this

year's "Golden Bell" award. The awards are scheduled to be presented in ceremonies at the California School Boards Association's three-day annual education conference and trade show at the Hilton San Francisco Union Square – the largest education leadership conference in the state.

A judging panel composed of experts from school districts and county offices of education across the state reviewed written entries and assessed the programs in action. **Golden Bell Award... pg. 11**



GUTIERREZ LAW FIRM

- Civil Rights *Derechos Civiles*
- Worker's Compensation *Compensacion al Trabajador*
- Criminal Law *Casos Criminales*
- Family Law *Casos de Familia*
- Accidents *Accidentes*
- Bankruptcy *Bancarrota*
- Conservatorships *Tutela*



James (Jaime) Gutierrez, Esq.
Hablamos Español

301 W Mission Blvd. Suite 8
Pomona, CA 91766
Across from the Pomona Courthouse
M - F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Email: jpsglaw@gmail.com
Website: gutierrezlaw.info

(909) 791-1313

LAGUNA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Offering training for professional preschool teachers
"Working to Make Pomona Better!"

Celebrating 20 Years of Service!



**Arturo Jimenez,
President**

Address:
**260 S. Garey Ave.
Pomona, CA 91766**

Telephone:
(909) 623-6800

Email:
info@LagunaTechCollege.com







Pomona Hope, started with help of a yard sale, marks 20 years of making a difference

Supporters of Pomona Hope learned at last month's 20th anniversary gala that the organization that was created after a conversation and a yard sale has grown into a non-profit that already has been able to make a difference in the lives of young people for generations.

Executive Director Jeff Johannsen told about 100 supporters and guests at the annual fundraiser last month at Cal Poly's Kellogg West Conference Center that the City of Pomona has many positive assets such as "parents and teachers committed to educating the next generation, a vibrant art scene and dedicated community leaders."

"However, we also recognize that there are numerous challenges facing youth growing up in this city," he said. "Pomona Hope addresses these challenges head on, providing children and youth a safe environment, a loving community, a place to play, to learn, to grow."

And he said the organization recognizes "what a critical turning point the teenage years are."

"The decisions and experiences that occur during adolescence can affect a young person for years to come, perhaps a lifetime," he said. "Your support helps us be there for these future leaders during one of the most crucial periods of development in their lives."

The conversation that involved a group of Pomona residents 20 years ago, Johannsen said, focused on challenges in the community like poverty, gang violence and drug abuse.

"Eventually, the conversation



Photo by Regina Wang
Erick Rojas

turned to what are we going to do about it, and this was the beginning of Pomona Hope," he said.

"These community members decided to start a non-profit to engage the neighborhood," he added, explaining that the yard sale included items found on the third floor of the education building of First Presbyterian Church of Pomona such as old clothes, a crib and an automotive tire.

He said the organizers talked to residents in the neighborhood to see what sort of issues they could tackle together.

"They worked alongside neighbors, they successfully petitioned the city for streetlights to be installed in neighborhoods that previously had none and that felt unsafe at night," he added. "They coordinated with the police department to break up a local prostitution ring as well as a smoke shop in the area that was selling drug paraphernalia."

"But the number one concern they heard from parents was 'I just want a safe place for my kids to go after school,'" since many parents were working multiple jobs and were concerned about their children being unsupervised in the streets in the afternoon.

Based on that, the group decided to focus its efforts on an after-school program – something that launched with 10 elementary school students along with volunteers who would spend time with them each afternoon helping out with their

homework.

"Over the years, as students continued to age out of the program and we would lose contact with them, the decision was made to add junior high and eventually high school programming," Johannsen said.

Pomona Hope also has grown to include "holistic enrichment programming."

"While recognizing the vast importance of a child's academic career, we also acknowledge the importance of their character development, their health and their spiritual growth," he said.

And Pomona Hope has formed partnerships with churches, universities and other local organizations making it possible to offer classes in the arts, STEM (science, technology, engineering and math), leadership and college success.

"At Center Street Community Garden, students are learning how

delicious vegetables can be when you grow and tend to them yourself," he said.

The organization has grown from that first class of 10 after-school students 20 years ago to last year's class of 89 K-12 students from 57 families participating in after-school or summer enrichment programs for a total of 528 hours over 159 days of no-cost programs including daily homework time and extracurricular workshops.

Plus the formula seems to be working – according to the group's statistics, the majority of elementary-aged students meet or exceed grade level standards in reading, writing and math, and 73 percent of junior high and high school students reported a "B" average or higher.

And while the organization has seen significant growth over the past 20 years, "we are not done growing yet."

This year's "Jonah's Superheroism Scholarship Award" was presented to Erick Rojas who has been a part of Pomona Hope since he was 5 – first as a model student in the after-school program and the summer program and this summer taking on the role of leading the STEM workshop for K-8 students.

Today, he is a sophomore at Pomona's Diamond Ranch High School and he continues to serve at Pomona

Hope as an exemplary volunteer.

The annual award is presented in memory of 8-year-old Jonah Hwang, who was killed in 2017 in Pomona in a drive-by shooting in which shots were fired into a house while his family and friends were having dinner.

The story attracted the attention of every major news outlet in the Los Angeles area along with international coverage.

Guests at his memorial services were encouraged to attend dressed as "super heroes" and to bring super hero action figures to the services in honor of Jonah's love for the adventure charac-

ters and their movies. Many children were in costumes at the services.

Johannsen joined the staff of Pomona Hope in 2012 and has served as executive director since 2018. He also serves as an executive board member of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce and is chair of the Pomona Engagement board.

Pomona Hope is a community-driven, faith-based non-profit whose local partnerships and holistic programs cultivate meaningful relationships and empower people of all backgrounds, particularly at-risk youth and their families, to work together toward personal and community transformation.

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



Photo by Renee Barbee
Jeff Johannsen



Photo by Renee Barbee

FIGHTING BREAST CANCER -- Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert Luna presented a \$12,000 check last month to the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation's Breast Health Fund to help the hospital's Robert & Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center give breast cancer patients access to nurse navigators, support groups, a wig program, exercise classes and more. Funding for the check came from the "Pink Patch Project," a collaboration involving more than 500 public safety agencies across the country that sell commemorative pink uniform patches and other merchandise. Proceeds go to breast cancer education, research and treatments. October was National Breast Cancer Awareness Month and, according to the American Cancer Society, one in eight women in the U.S. will develop breast cancer. Pictured at the hospital, at left, is Luna. Receiving the check, at center, is Pomona Valley Hospital President and CEO Rich Yochum.

Violence prevention... from pg. 1

ogy from UC Riverside and has a strong academic foundation in social justice, criminological theory, and community mobilization, offering valuable insights into systemic challenges and potential solutions.

And he is proficient in both English and Spanish.

He has served as executive director of the Human Relations Commission and the Community Police Review Commission in Riverside, was a founding member of Loma Linda University Health's Diversity Council, and has long been an advocate for people with diverse disabilities.

He has extensive experience leading community programs focused on reducing violence and

promoting safer communities, and in 2004 he implemented a community-based youth violence prevention initiative in Riverside bringing together a diverse coalition of more than 20 city, county and private-sector organizations working to create a safer environment for youth.

According to his background, he is proficient in qualitative and quantitative research and provides evidence-based insights that inform public policy decisions and advocate for equitable solutions.

Originally from New York City, he lives in Moreno Valley with his wife, Iskelvi Payne.

Payne can be reached at (909) 620-2054 or by e-mail at pedro.payne@pomona.gov.

The best model?... from pg. 1

services in Downtown Pomona and provide an annual report to the city it serves on its activities in a special district centered in the downtown area and including 277 individual parcels.

DPOA in the current fiscal year assesses just over \$1 million for the year from all assessed property owners in its service area and has an annual budget of \$1.2 million, with a portion of its funding derived from programs and contract services with other entities. For example, it provides parking lot sweeping and landscaping services to Pomona's Vehicle Parking District.

But those issues we mentioned, in our view, need to be out in the open – and we've heard of more issues recently than we have in the just over 14 years we've been here.

At the top of the list is people leaving – both staff and volunteers – with one key office staff member (there are only two assistants to the executive director) resigning and taking another similar position in Santa Monica just before last year's Christmas parade, and another giving notice just weeks before this year's parade.

And, while we understand you can't hold people back in their careers, we find it curious that there's so much turnover, always considered an indication of an organization's work culture and overall employee management. In fact, in our telephone interview with DPOA's Lorena Parker, who joined DPOA as executive direc-

tor in May of 2020, we asked if her salary schedules have remained competitive as one possible explanation.

Her response was that she has "no idea" if DPOA salaries are comparable to others around town, and that she does what is necessary, but that staff is always welcome to come and speak to her about it.

Then there's a similar issue regarding the DPOA's parade committee, which essentially is made up of volunteers, many of them serving there for years.

But La Nueva Voz has learned a couple of long-timers have quit, a couple of others are expected to resign in the near future, and apparently others are simply not attending meetings as often as in the past.

One of the things that the committee has been talking about is extra funding beyond the DPOA budget for the parade.

"It (the parade) is our major event for the entire year," Parker said.

In fact, according to an e-mail from city staff and minutes from the actual City Council meeting, Parker appeared at a City Council meeting July 17 – four months ago – asking for additional funding for the parade.

City staff acknowledged to La Nueva Voz that the city's participation always includes support

from both public works crews and the Pomona Police Department.

But that same e-mail from the city pointed out that DPOA was required to submit written documentation to the city spelling out what the funding would be used for and how it would help in a "finding of public benefit" – something that city staff said has



Lorena Parker

not been submitted.

While the city's e-mail pointed out that the DPOA request had not been rejected, the request likely would not be acted on without that documentation.

Asked about all of that, Parker told La Nueva Voz earlier this month that, based on her "different dialogues," she was not going to ask for "public benefit" if councilmembers were not receptive to her request.

Even so, she said this month that she has an e-mail on that in her in-box she needs to respond to

in order to move forward.

Looking at these issues one at a time, the obvious question is why is all of this happening.

On the office staff turnover, both Parker and her Board President Cary Lowenstein, also interviewed in a telephone conversation by La Nueva Voz, said the moves were simply for better positions – one for higher pay and the other for the DPOA's creative director to "stretch his wings" in his career, as Lowenstein put it.

(Lowenstein has served on the board since 2020 and was elected board president earlier this year when Jeff Keating left Western University of Health Sciences and resigned as DPOA president. Her term ends in July 2024 under newly-revised by-laws limiting

terms of board officers – president, vice president, secretary and treasurer – to two years. She has lived in Pomona since 2004 and has never owned a business but has worked in Vancouver as a television associate producer and at Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena as a graphic artist.)

And we don't have anything "on the record" to contradict any of these reasons for staff changes.

Heidi Ortega moved over from the Pomona Chamber of Commerce nearly a year ago to take over as operations manager and Parker already has hired a new creative director, a resident of Second Street, to handle social media filling the latest vacancy.

But on the parade commit-

The best model?... pg. 8

La Nueva Voz

The Inland Empire's Leading Bilingual Newspaper

A division of South Coast Media Services

Providing media relations services since 1983

(909) 629-2292 • www.lanuevavoz.net

P.O. Box 1117 • Pomona, CA 91769

Member:

California News Publishers Association

Member:

Latino Media Collaborative

Complete and searchable La Nueva Voz archives on Pomona Public Library web site.
Temporary link during construction:
<https://cdm17464.contentdm.oclc.org/>
and go to page 2 for La Nueva Voz.

Publisher: Jeff Schenkel

Tel: (909) 224-0244 • jeffschenkel@verizon.net

V.P. of Marketing & Operations: Renee Barbee
Cell: (909) 762-1446 • reneebarbee7@gmail.com

Layout & Design: Dora Cruz
dcruz1549@gmail.com

Subscriptions by mail \$49 per year.
Call (909) 629-2292.

All major credit cards accepted!



Printed using soy-based inks.

Copyright © 2023 South Coast Media Services

All rights reserved.
Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited.



P • Probate

P • Prevention

C • Corporation

We are not attorneys, we are LDA's, Legal Document Assistants, who provide services in Legal Document Preparation.

Our Estate Plans include the following:

- Revocable Living Trusts
- Pour-Over Will
- Powers of Attorney
 - General
 - Durable
 - Limited
- Property & Financial Affairs
- Guardianship Trusts
 - Minor children
 - Adults with special needs
 - Pets

LIVING TRUSTS / FIDEICOMISO

Sergio Moran - LDA

Legal Document Assistant

Office: (877) 232-5771

Registration #: 2022210593

Exp: 09/23/2024 • Bond #: 100686221

No somos Abogados, sino Asistentes de Documentos Legales ofreciendo servicios en la Preparación de Documentos Legales.

Nuestros Planes de Patrimonio incluyen lo siguientes:

- Fideicomiso Revocable en Vida
- Testamento Complementario
- Poder Legal
 - General
 - Duradero
 - Limitado
- Asuntos de Inmobiliarios y Financieros
- Fideicomiso de Tutela
 - Niños menores de edad
 - Adultos con necesidades especiales
 - Mascotas

Editor's Note: This page is the sixth in a series of six in a second phase of our "Stop-the-Hate" series. The "phase two" series, like the original series, is made possible by a second La Nueva Voz grant awarded by the Latino Media Collaborative (www.latinomedia.org), a non-profit news media organization that creates and fosters transformative media as well as everyday news for the Latino community. The grant is funded by the California State Library. The "Stop-the-Hate" program itself is administered by the California Department of Social Services as a statewide effort to increase public consciousness about hate incidents and hate crimes, their harmful impacts on individuals and communities, their prevention, and support and resources available for healing. In both phase one and phase two, La Nueva Voz was one of only about 10 publications selected in California to receive the grants.

'Stop-the-Hate' Phase two – A follow-up La Nueva Voz feature series 'Taking a closer look'

'The new dawn blooms . . . for there is always light'

By Joshua Swodeck

As we come to an end of this series, I continue to be perplexed and frustrated at the continuing need to keep this discussion going. Why must we, in 2023, still need to address hate? Is it part of our humanity to dislike, oppress, and segregate from those who we don't understand? Is not love, compassion, empathy, community also part of our humanity?

I am reminded of the words of Amanda Gorman, who at the age of 19, while studying at Harvard University, became the first person to be named National Poet Laureate. While standing on the steps of the Capitol during President Biden's Inauguration, she boldly asked within her poem, "When day comes, we ask ourselves, where can we find light in this never-ending shade?" She ended her words by stating, "The new dawn blooms as we free it, for there is always light. If only we're brave enough to see it. If only we're brave enough to be it."

I remember years ago, when we lived in Downtown Pomona, noticing a young mother with two children being pulled over by an officer. She was asked to exit the vehicle and as she waited, a tow truck arrived and impounded her vehicle. She sat there on the curb, alongside her two young children, neither with shoes and one in only a diaper. The officer left and the mom did her best to walk down First Street towards Hamilton with her barefoot children. From the window, I mentioned the incident to my wife, Chara, and she quickly jumped in our car and gave the family a ride home. I bring this up not to debate whether she was in the wrong with possible expired tags or a suspended license (I don't actually know), but more so, to note how easy it can be to miss the darkness within situations like this. How easy it can be to not do the right thing even when doing the so-called right thing.

Hatred and darkness aren't always as obvious as the day in 2011, when a group of Neo-Nazis paraded down Mission Boulevard in front of our City Hall shouting derogatory comments about our undocumented neighbors (See www.lanuevavoz.net, past issues, November 2011, page one). I was there that day. The community shouted back. Though the event ended peacefully, counter-protestors immediately rushed across police lines and began hurling parking cones, water bottles, and other items at the neo-Nazis. Those who were there felt the darkness. Some reacted to it, some were silent.

Every day, within our city, there are children, mothers, fathers, students, blue-collar workers, small business owners, unhoused families, laborers, and more who are victimized by darkness; by a hatred that hides within the subtlety of the shadows. It's rarely recognized, rarely protested, and rarely addressed.

Race is a difficult conversation for many Americans. According to the survey discussed in my last article (October 2023 La Nueva Voz), Latinos are no exception. Among California Latinos, 47 percent report feeling "very comfortable" talking about race and prejudice. However, 45 percent report only being comfortable on these topics among close friends and family. It was implied how important it is finding trusted neighbors or communities to discuss what we are seeing and feeling in regard to discrimination and levels of hatred or darkness. While it's important to have safe spaces to share, it is equally important to be brave within those spaces to find solutions and learn to speak up.

In one of his most famous sermons, "Loving Your Enemies," Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. preached, "Returning hate for hate multiplies hate, adding deeper darkness to a night already devoid of stars. Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that." I have stated the importance of love throughout this series, but we must figure out what that means for each of us.

When we first moved to Pomona, over 20 years ago, I didn't know most of our neighbors. I would wave and give a nice head nod, but I wasn't yet part of the community. Not until a neighbor was going through a divorce and we helped walk her daughter around one Halloween did we begin our journey to really connect. Love is something that takes your time. It can be inconvenient. It can also be rewarding. I wrote many years ago, "Loving your neighbors

requires first knowing your neighbors. Knowing your neighbors breeds empathy. Empathy removes fear and thus provokes the truest of love. This love is not the goal . . . it is the prerequisite to a life worth living."

I am grateful to have spent so many years within this beautiful city engaged in stories, journeys, challenges, and wins of so many of our neighbors. People often ask why we love Pomona. I always answer, it's the people. From the moms helping within our schools, to the urban farmers who sow food for our bodies and our souls. From the poets and lyricists speaking from the pain of our streets and shadows, to the artists who strive to tell stories of the ancestors and bring light through imagery. From the elder with his cane who slowly walks each day down my street getting stronger, to the lady selling sodas and chips at the park to raise money for a beloved's hospital bills. My neighborhood is beautiful and I am grateful I choose to actively participate in loving them and being loved by them.

Chara Swodeck worked on gathering data throughout this series and attempted to gather responses from a diverse grouping of community members. Overall, roughly 150 surveys have been completed. The survey also allowed for comments and one that stood out to me simply stated, "It's everyone's responsibility to work together to create a non-racist compassionate community." The three strong action words in this sentiment are responsibility, together, and create.

We each have a responsibility to be a light, to show love, to show empathy, to work together and create a community of love. Nelson Mandela once stated, "The truth is that we are not yet free; we have merely achieved the freedom to be free, the right not to be oppressed. We have not taken the final step of our journey, but the first step on a longer and even more difficult road. For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others. The true test of our devotion to freedom is just beginning."

The choice is really up to you. We need to speak up about the darkness we may see, we may hear about, and many may even feel. However, we can't stop there. In the words of Koolhaas and the Gang, "It's time to come together." Whether you join the Latino and Latina Roundtable, African American Advisory Alliance, Compassionate Pomona, Gente Organizada, PTA, or simply find ways to serve your community through God's Pantry, Lopez Urban Farm, the dA Center for the Arts, or one of the many beautiful organizations doing the work to create a "compassionate community." Your commitment to be a light and join with others who are committed to doing the same is imperative to seeing real change.

I spoke with Jackson, my 9-year-old son, a few days ago about light, and reminded him by turning the lights off in the room, and then by turning just a little light on, how the darkness was dispelled. The more lights we turned on, the less darkness remained in the room.

Editor's Note: Interested in contributing your thoughts through the on-going La Nueva Voz "Stop-the-Hate" survey? Just go to bit.ly/stopthethepomona. And to see the results of the La Nueva Voz survey to date, visit www.lanuevavoz.net and click on "survey responses" on the home page.



Joshua Swodeck

Three keys to heart health, according to a cardiologist

By Hammad Khan, MD, FACC
Casa Colina Cardiology Clinic
Casa Colina Hospital
and Centers for Healthcare

We all understand the importance of maintaining heart health. Yet, many don't know the best questions to ask their doctor to make sure they are taking every possible precaution. Below are three essential questions to ask your physician, and together you can gain a more accurate picture of your heart health.

What is my blood pressure?

Start with the basics: blood pressure. A normal blood pressure should be below 120/80. If it is consistently higher, ask about steps you can take to lower it. Sometimes, lifestyle adjustments such as a low-sodium diet and regular exercise can get blood pressure back under control. You may require medication if it is consistently higher than 130/80. Your doctor will know the best next steps.

Many patients receive blood pressure readings exclusively at the doctor's office, which can be misleading. Sometimes, patients are anxious, which can produce falsely

high results. I recommend patients get a blood pressure machine for home use, so that they can test themselves regularly to see whether their levels are consistently high. This will help your physician determine whether medication is truly necessary.

What are my cholesterol levels?

In general, you want low LDL and high HDL cholesterol levels. LDL cholesterol in particular needs to be controlled so that you can avoid plaque buildup in your blood vessels, which blocks blood flow to your heart muscle. This can lead to adverse outcomes such as heart attack.

Ask your doctor to check your total cholesterol, LDL and HDL cholesterol, and triglyceride levels. Depending on the number of risk factors you already have – such as diabetes, coronary artery disease or others – they can

help you set goals to get your cholesterol under control.

Do I have “silent plaque” in my arteries?

Some patients don't have symptoms but may still be experiencing what we call “silent plaque” in their heart. Doing a simple CT calcium scoring test, also known as a coronary calcium scan, can help determine if this is the case. Ask your primary doctor if this is a suitable test for your situation.

Heart health starts with you

Being proactive is key. By working together with your doctor and asking the right questions, you'll arrive at a plan that works to help prevent heart disease and prolong healthy living.

Editor's Note: The Casa Colina Cardiology Clinic provides high-quality medical care for your heart, circulation, and cardiovascular needs. Its services can help reduce the chances of heart disease or slow its progression. For more information, call 909/596-7733, ext. 3800.



Hammad Khan, MD

The best model?... from pg. 6

tee, we heard grumbings from a source who preferred not to be identified that DPOA management is moving its focus too much inward and is so “Downtown specific” that the organization is “losing the impact” it once had on the greater part of the city.

Lowenstein called it a “hard road to walk” because “everybody wants their piece of the pie.” In other words, the Christmas parade is a communitywide event, but the DPOA's legal responsibility is to the Downtown area.

And, while she said you “can't please all the people all the time,” she added that “by focusing on Downtown we're bringing people into the Downtown.”

She said the parade has become more of a city event than a DPOA event as it has grown in size.

Parker went a step further and cited the “Property and Business Improvement District Law of 1994,” explaining DPOA is required under law to manage and promote the Downtown Pomona area in order to provide special benefit to the property owners who pay taxes that end up going to DPOA.

She explained that's why, for example, a business outside of the DPOA district wouldn't be allowed to sell art – or anything – in the Downtown area simply because they are not based Downtown in a building on a parcel that is paying taxes.

And she added that by bringing people to Downtown for the parade, as an example, they may not buy anything Downtown that particular night but they may see a shop they like and come back another day.

“Indirectly, by us promoting the businesses we are in turn providing benefit to the entire 277 parcels in our district,” she said. “That is our core mission.”

Even so, any business or non-profit can participate in the parade – whether they are Downtown-related or not. Parker said non-profits pay an application fee of \$25 and “for profits” pay \$60.

Lowenstein herself has come up as an occasional topic of controversy in Downtown conversation because she doesn't own or work for a large business or own a large building in the area. Her “property owner” status making her eligible to serve as a board member is sim-

ply based on her homeowner status – she lives in a condominium in the Mission Promenade complex (above Starbucks) at Mission Boulevard and Garey Avenue just inside the DPOA boundary that runs along Mission.

As such, Lowenstein said she considers herself a representative of and an advocate for other similar residents. And Parker said Lowenstein knows Downtown and its issues well since she is active Downtown and regularly walks through the area enabling her to keep up on what's going on.

Neither Parker or Lowenstein could pinpoint exactly how many owner-occupied residential units are located within the DPOA area, but it is likely only a handful.

In fairness, in City Manager James Makshanoff's report to the Pomona City Council in July urging approval of DPOA's annual report and levying the 2023-2024 fiscal year assessments, he said “the property owners and merchants in the Downtown have benefited from many programs that have proven to be successful for property owners, merchants, residents and customers visiting to the Downtown.”

“Aggressive marketing in previous years has resulted in well over 1 million visitors to the Downtown each year,” the report continued, adding that this year's marketing budget is \$216,620.

Projects have included the Christmas parade, farmers market, art walk and the Antique Street Collector's Faire.

Then is the DPOA board generally happy with the way things are going?

“I think in general everybody is happy with what (Parker) has been doing,” Lowenstein said. “There's always room for improvement on anything.”

La Nueva Voz asked both Parker and Lowenstein to invite other board members to provide their own comments on this opinion piece but as of press time no one had responded.

Property and Business Improvement Districts in California are non-profit organizations and are not government agencies but are subject to the same “open meeting” rules in California's “Brown Act,” which applies to public notice of meetings, executive session

The best model?... pg. 19

¿BUSCA PIEZAS
DE SEGUNDA
MANO PARA SU
COCHE?



¿DESEA
VENDER SU
COCHE?

AQUÍ EN AA IMPORTS AUTO WRECKING INC.
SOMOS EXPERTOS EN
DESMONTAJE DE VEHICULOS Y VENTA DE PIEZAS.
LE PROPORCIONAMOS ¡SERVICIO AL CLIENTE DE CALIDAD Y
PRECIOS COMPETITIVOS!
PASE POR NUESTRA OFICINA O ¡LLÁMENOS PARA UNA
COTIZACIÓN HOY!

HERE AT AA IMPORTS AUTO WRECKING INC.

WE ARE EXPERTS AT

DISMANTLING VEHICLES AND SELLING PARTS.

WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH

QUALITY CUSTOMER SERVICE AND COMPETITIVE PRICING!

STOP BY OUR FRONT OFFICE OR CALL US FOR A QUOTE TODAY!

(909) 465 - 6484 || 4205 MISSION BLVD. MONTCLAIR, CA 91763



INDIGENOUS PEOPLE'S DAY -- Members of the Pomona Unified School District Board voted last month to proclaim the second Monday in October to be "Indigenous People's Day" on the heels of similar actions by the United Nations, Canada, Brazil, the U.S. and the State of California in an effort to recognize the many cultural contributions made throughout the world by the Indigenous People's labor, history, philosophy, arts, science, and technology. The proclamation added that the school board "seeks to promote equity, diversity, and inclusion among Indigenous People and all other segments of our district." Donna Manzanares Otero, tribal secretary of Rumsen Am: a Tur:ataj Ohlone, accepted an official copy of the proclamation. Pictured, front row, from left, are School Board student representative Isis Jackson, a 12th grade student at Fremont Academy, Otero, and Pomona Unified School Board members Dr. Roberta Perlman and Patricia Tye. Back row, from left, are Board Vice President Arturo Jimenez, Board member Lisa Nashua, Board President Lorena Gonzalez, and Supt. Darren Knowles.



NATIONAL VETERANS AWARENESS WEEK -- Pomona Unified School District Board members last month voted to proclaim the week of Nov. 6 through Nov. 11 as National Veterans Awareness Week to recognize and honor the continued contributions and sacrifices of the armed forces veterans, especially those serving as teachers, classified professionals and school employees. The proclamation also encouraged schools in the district to develop a program utilizing armed forces veterans on staff to educate students about the sacrifices and contributions of armed forces veterans. Congress declared the second week of November as National Veterans Awareness Week every year since 2000. Pictured, front row from left, are PUSD Army Junior ROTC instructors Staff Sgt. Jerry Washington of Ganeshia High School and Sgt. Major Luis Paredes of Garey High School. At rear, from left, are PUSD Board Vice President Arturo Jimenez, Board member Patricia Tye, Supt. Darren Knowles, Board President Lorena Gonzalez, Board members Lisa Nashua and Dr. Roberta Perlman, and School Board student representative Isis Jackson, a 12th grade student at Fremont Academy.

Eastside Arts Initiative to award \$150,000 in grants for artists and arts organizations

Artists and arts organizations in Eastern Los Angeles County are invited to apply for grants totaling up to \$150,000 through the Eastside Arts Initiative, a grantmaking program aimed at furthering the visual and performing arts.

Deadline is Dec. 20 for individual grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$25,000. Applicants

are required to attend a virtual orientation meeting at 7 p.m. Dec. 5. To register for the meeting, visit www.eastsideartsinitiative.org.

The initiative was established in 2015 in partnership for LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes and has awarded more than \$1.7 million to eastern Los Angeles County recipients.

AMPUTATIONS • ARTHRITIS • BALANCE DISORDERS & DIZZINESS • BRAIN INJURIES • BURNS • CONCUSSIONS • EAR, NOSE & THROAT CONDITIONS • EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROMES • FIBROMYALGIA • FOOT & ANKLE CONDITIONS • GOUT • HEAD INJURIES • JOINT LOSS • INCONTINENCE • KIDNEY DISEASES • LOW VISION • LYMPHEDEMA • MOVEMENT DISORDERS • MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS • NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS • PARKINSON'S DISEASE • PULMONARY CONDITIONS • SPASTICITY • SPINAL CORD INJURIES • SPINE PAIN • SPORTS INJURIES • STROKES • WOUNDS • AMPUTATIONS • ARTHRITIS • BALANCE DISORDERS & DIZZINESS • BRAIN INJURIES • BURNS • CONCUSSIONS • EAR, NOSE & THROAT CONDITIONS • EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROMES • FIBROMYALGIA • FOOT & ANKLE CONDITIONS • GOUT • HEAD INJURIES • JOINT LOSS • INCONTINENCE • KIDNEY DISEASES • LOW VISION • LYMPHEDEMA • MOVEMENT DISORDERS • MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS • NEUROLOGICAL DISORDERS • PARKINSON'S DISEASE • PULMONARY CONDITIONS • SPASTICITY • SPINAL CORD INJURIES • SPINE PAIN • SPORTS INJURIES • STROKES • WOUNDS

Care that reaches for the stars.

OUTSTANDING PATIENT EXPERIENCE AWARD
2020-2022

healthgrades

AMERICA'S 100 Best SPINE SURGERY
2021-2023

healthgrades

OVERALL HOSPITAL QUALITY

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

2023

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

BACK AND NECK SURGERY FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT
2021-2022

healthgrades

SPINAL FUSION SURGERY FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT
2021-2023

healthgrades

SPINE SURGERY EXCELLENCE AWARD
2022-2023

healthgrades

TOTAL HIP REPLACEMENT FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT
2021-2023

healthgrades






JOINT REPLACEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD
2020-2023

healthgrades


TOTAL KNEE REPLACEMENT FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT
2019-2023


healthgrades

Casa Colina Hospital is honored to earn Five Stars for Overall Hospital Quality from the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) for 2023 – the highest rating available – placing us among just 12% of hospitals surveyed nationally. Our award-winning, state-of-the-art medical, surgical, and rehabilitative services put the patient and their recovery first, each and every time. All care at Casa Colina is provided by physician-led teams of licensed therapists, nurses, and other dedicated clinicians, who all work together to help you regain strength and independence after an injury or illness. Discover *Where Better Begins*.


Happy Holidays
from Our House to Yours.





CASA COLINA
Hospital and Centers for Healthcare
Where Better Begins

255 East Bonita Avenue, Pomona, CA
909/596-7733 • www.casacolina.org
For employment opportunities, visit www.casacolina.org/jobs





We want YOUR Vehicle!
We need YOUR Vehicle!
\$750 BONUS*
 Trade Assistance
Vehicle BUY-BACK Program
at Metro Honda!

CONTACT US NOW

0.9%
 APR FOR UP TO
 48 MONTHS

ON ALL NEW
 2024 Honda Models



2024 Honda
CIVIC SEDAN SPORT CVT

\$269 + tax per month
 for 36 months

LEASE OFFER

DOWN PAYMENT: \$1995



2024 Honda
ACCORD LX 1.5T CVT

\$269 + tax per month
 for 36 months

LEASE OFFER

DOWN PAYMENT: \$1995



2024 Honda
CR-V EX 2WD CVT

\$319 + tax per month
 for 36 months

LEASE OFFER

DOWN PAYMENT: \$1995



\$500 Lease Loyalty

on 2024 Accord Hybrid, Civic Sedan, CR-V, HR-V, Odyssey, Passport & Pilot



9399 Autoplex Drive, Montclair, CA 91763 • (909) 625-5000 metrohonda.com

Terms available on approved credit. Expires 1/1/24.
 See Metro Honda for Complete Details. Subject to vehicle availability.
 Los términos de acuerdo a crédito aprobado. Efectivo hasta 1/1/24.
 Visite Metro Honda para detalles completos. Sujeto a disponibilidad de vehículos.

Nationally recognized care you can trust

BEST REGIONAL HOSPITALS
 & WORLD REPORT
U.S. News
 LOS ANGELES METRO
 RECOGNIZED IN 8 TYPES OF CARE
 2022-23



- HIGH PERFORMING HOSPITALS
 U.S. News 2022-23
 HEART BYPASS SURGERY
- HIGH PERFORMING HOSPITALS
 U.S. News 2022-23
 COPD
- HIGH PERFORMING HOSPITALS
 U.S. News 2022-23
 DIABETES
- HIGH PERFORMING HOSPITALS
 U.S. News 2022-23
 HEART ATTACK
- HIGH PERFORMING HOSPITALS
 U.S. News 2022-23
 HEART FAILURE
- HIGH PERFORMING HOSPITALS
 U.S. News 2022-23
 KIDNEY FAILURE
- HIGH PERFORMING HOSPITALS
 U.S. News 2022-23
 UROLOGY
- HIGH PERFORMING HOSPITALS
 U.S. News 2022-23
 STROKE

POMONA VALLEY HOSPITAL
 MEDICAL CENTER

1798 N. Garey Ave., Pomona, CA 91767
 909.865.9500 • www.pvhmc.org



Golden Bell... from pg. 4

This year's winners demonstrated that they are addressing student needs through areas such as equity and access, school climate and safety, technology and wellness, according to a news release.

"It's important to highlight school districts and county offices of education that are demonstrating promising practices for closing opportunity and achievement gaps and supporting student wellness," said CSBA CEO and Executive Director Vernon Billy. "This year's Golden Bell winners have developed remarkable programs that can serve as an example for schools across the state."

Two representatives of Pomona Unified

were expected to attend the conference to receive the award based on the "InvenTeam at Garey High School" program.

Kathi Vidal, Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, personally visited Pomona's Garey High School for a special presentation in the high school gym in September 2022 where she delivered individual copies of the patent to the eight members of a team of young inventors.

The students, who have all graduated from high school, in 2017 when they were sophomores and juniors produced a prototype of a medical device.

The students were members of an "In-

Golden Bell... pg. 14



Photos by Renee Barbee

HALLOWEEN AT POMONA PUBLIC LIBRARY -- Kids were getting into the spirit a week before Halloween at the Pomona Public Library last month with more than 500 youngsters and their families lining up for treats and fun things to do. Pictured is the balloon guy making animals for the kids while others lined up to have, well, a kind of strange photo taken at a photo booth provided by the Pomona Police Department.



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



Vicente Vince Carpio

Hablo Español

License
#0H39651

Need Help With Medicare?
¿Necesitas Ayuda Con Medicare?

I will help you enroll into these Medicare Health Plans:

**AARP UNITED HEALTHCARE
SECURE HORIZONS
SCAN MEDICARE**

By calling this number, you will be directed to
a licensed insurance agent:

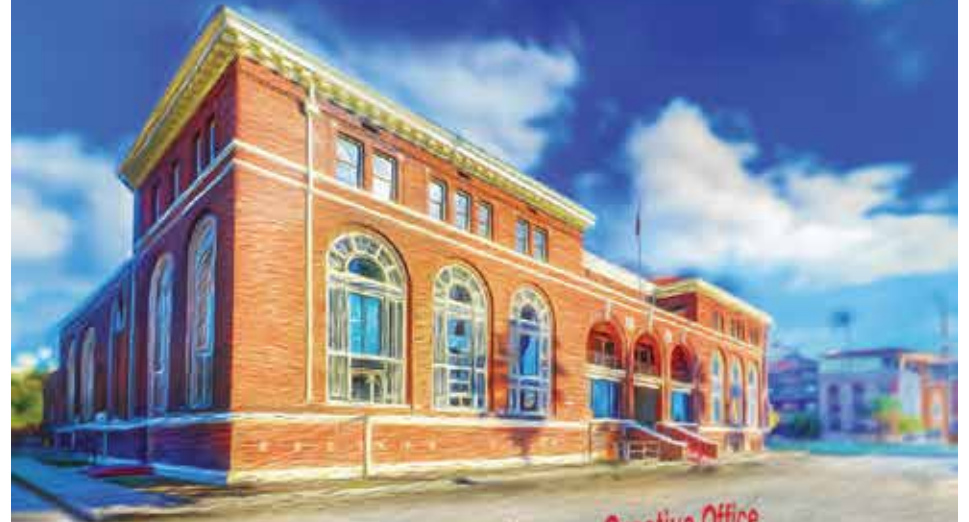
(562) 618-5290

Team M&M
MEDICARE & MORE

NOW LEASING

THE UNION

Old Pomona YMCA



Café Shop • Event Venue • Creative Office
Artist Space • Boutique Retail • Non-Profit Hub

Schedule a tour
and help grow
the community

LEASING INFO



ALQUILER AHORA

Café, Eventos, Oficinas, Espacio Artístico,
Boutique, Centro No Lucrativo.

Llamanos para programar una visita y
ayudar a desarrollar la comunidad.

350 N. GAREY AVE. POMONA CA 91767

Mind, body & spirit restored in this historical
space. Growing our community closer with
urban planning driven by the community.

909.762.6910 • THEUNIONONGAREY.COM



9399 Autoplex Drive Montclair, CA 91763

► NOW HIRING! ◀

Two of Inland Empire's leading Auto Dealerships currently have immediate openings for:

**Receptionist • Sales • Service Advisors • Service Technicians
Parts Department • Drivers • Business Office**



Great location in Montclair across the freeway from Montclair Place - work close to home!

JOIN OUR WINNING TEAMS!

We offer competitive pay!
advancement opportunities • flexible hours
holiday pay • benefits including health, dental & vision



Fun Work Environment!

Scan the QR Code and Apply online today!
We have Full & Part-time positions available!

 **Metro Acura**



9377 Autoplex Drive Montclair, CA 91763



IMAGINARIUM HOLIDAY LIGHT SPECTACULAR AT FAIRPLEX -- La Nueva Voz had a "sneak peek" last week at a "VIP" special opening at Pomona's Fairplex of Imaginarium, billed as Southern California's largest holiday light spectacular. The "one of a kind" holiday light extravaganza for all ages includes music, elves, a shimmering LED Christmas tree, 35,000 LED roses and, of course, a dazzling world of lights, holiday wonderment and immersive interactive experiences -- made up of more than five million lights. You'll even see "live" dragons and a high wire act just to top things off. And you'll even see motorcycles racing in circles in a huge globe-shaped cage, and a car that transforms into a 15-foot-tall action robot. Appearing for the first time in Pomona and guaranteed to be "something that you've never experienced before," the event promises to be fun for everyone. "Imaginarium is a dream come true for everybody, no matter your age," said CEO Lulu Hwang. "How important it is for families to come together, friends, children, to sort of stir their curiosity, stir their imagination," said Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval.



CUTTING THE RIBBON FOR IMAGINARIUM -- Officials held a ribbon-cutting ceremony on preview day for Imaginarium, a one of a kind light extravaganza now open at Pomona's Fairplex. Pictured, from left, are Mike Savettiere of Wicked Creative; Claremont City Councilmembers Corey Calaycay and Jennifer Stark; Fairplex President and CEO Walter Marquez; Imaginarium CEO Lulu Hwang and Operations Manager Warren Petties; Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval; and Dave Wong of Wicked Creative. The event continues from 5 to 10 p.m. daily through Jan. 7. Tickets and information are available at imaginarium360.com.

DAVID OLIVER AARIYAH OLIVER

THE LIFE & RHYMES OF JUDAH 1

COMMUNITY PREMIER

A DOCUMENTARY OF A POET AND A FATHER

THE LIFE AND RHYMES OF JUDAH 1

A Film by Matt Leder

City of Pomona Poet Laureate

SHOWTIMES	PRICE
7:30 pm	\$12.00
8:50 pm	\$15.00

Q&A SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING FILM SHOWING - BOOK SIGNING - MERCH

CROSSROADS ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

3070 CHINO AVE
CHINO HILLS

13 DECEMBER 2023

Always a call or click away

Call me for a quote today

Llameme para un presupuesto ahora

State Farm

John Forbing
Agent

154 West SAN JOSE AVE
CLAREMONT, CA 91711

Bus: 909-623-8571
Fax: 909-620-5869
www.johnforbing.com
Insurance License #0502558



State Farm
Bloomington, IL

**Golden Bell...
from pg. 11**

venTeam," part of a program sponsored by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and The Lemelson Foundation which celebrates outstanding inventors and inspires young people to pursue creative careers through invention.

Gary was one of only 15 schools in the country at that time to receive a \$10,000 grant to cover costs associated with a "real world" invention, in this case a previously unavailable home medical device.

It was the first time Gary was selected to participate in the program.

"I am excited for your innovation, I am excited for your patent and I am excited that you exemplify the American dream," Vidal told the students during the patent presentation. "You stand for all the youth, the immigrants, the first generation Americans, the women and the diverse people who need access to our innova-



HAUNTED HOUSE AND 'TRUNK-OR-TREAT' AT PALOMARES -- The City of Pomona's Neighborhood Services Department outdid themselves last month at its annual Haunted House and Trunk-or-Treat at Palomares Park. Everything was there from games (can you see we caught that softball in mid-air on its way to knocking down the milk bottles?), trunk-or-treats for the kids, a bounce house, costume judging (pictured are kids in the 6-year-old to 9-year-old category), dancing with the DJ, Lorraine Canales and the Pomona Optimists providing face painting, and costumes, costumes, costumes. The two-night event attracted an estimated 1,000 people each night.



Students, alumni and friends gathered for a mass and reception in the courtyard of Pomona Catholic High School recently to celebrate the school's 125th anniversary of Catholic education at the corner of Holt and White Avenues in Pomona. Los Angeles Archbishop Jose Gomez and area pastors concelebrated the mass, which was led by the students.

Pomona Catholic High School Principal Rebecca Arteaga celebrates receiving a special anniversary certificate of recognition during a 125th anniversary celebration from Los Angeles Archbishop Jose Gomez. Father Michael Sezzi is at her right. At rear is the image of Blessed Mary Angela Truskowska, the foundress of the Felician Sisters, the Order that has ministered at the school since 1948.

The Downtown Pomona Owners Association Presents:

HOMERUN Holiday

SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE
APPLICATION CLOSING
NOVEMBER 22ND

\$25 Community Group
\$60 For-Profit Business
\$60 School Bands, Drill, JROTC, etc.

Downtown Pomona Christmas Parade

9 DECEMBER

Rain or Shine | 5pm - 9pm

PARADE ROUTE

	2ND ST.	2ND ST.	START	
PARADE ROUTE	MISSION BLVD.	3RD ST.	4TH ST.	MISSION BLVD.

119 W. 2ND ST. POMONA CA 91766

APPLICATION OPENS OCTOBER 6TH

FLOATS • CHEER • BANDS • SCHOOLS • COMMUNITY GROUPS • LOCAL BUSINESSES

For more information call 909.469.1121

@downtownpomona

Golden Bell... from pg. 14

tion ecosystem.”

La Nueva Voz covered every major step of the Garey InvenT-eam’s work on the project from start to finish. And, when La Nueva Voz learned through Dr.

Leigh Estabrooks, invention education officer for Lemelson, that the \$10,000 grant included everything except air fair and hotel expenses at a “EurekaFest” presentation of inventions from around

the country at MIT in Cambridge, La Nueva Voz’ Renee Barbee organized a musical fundraiser at Pomona Ebell Museum of History featuring Garey musicians to help fund the trip.

Estabrooks worked with the Garey team throughout the project.

The invention itself, called “Heart and Sole,” a shoeboxed diagnostic device, allows

individuals with diabetes to self-monitor foot health using four sensors measuring oxygen saturation, blood flow, magnetoencephalography (imaging) and

Golden Bell... pg. 17



Photo by Renee Barbee

The “Character Champions” puppeteers were at it again this month in a special presentation in the children’s room at the Pomona Public Library. The puppet show teaches children the importance of kindness, compassion and respect.



RIBBON-CUTTING AT METRO SPORTS & RESTOBAR -- Members of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce and guests help cut the ribbon welcoming new chamber member The Metro Sports & Restobar in what was billed as a “grand re-opening ceremony.” Monday through Friday Happy Hour offerings at the “new and improved establishment” include “Lil’ burger and fries,” onion rings, Metro nachos, fish and chips and more. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Chamber President and CEO Monique Robles, Chamber Ambassador Tracy Evanson-Norwood, founder and director of Healed Women Heal, The Metro owner Abraham Kobi, Pomona Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, Chamber Ambassador Essence Guss, of Healed Women Heal, and Pomona Planning Commission Vice Chair Yesenia Miranda Meza. Not pictured is owner Krishna Baderia. Kobi told La Nueva Voz he has been working on remodeling the entire restaurant for nearly a year and joined the Pomona Chamber in March. The Metro is located at 197 E. 2nd St. in Downtown Pomona.

Su historia es nuestra historia.

East West Bank abrió sus puertas en 1973 con el objetivo de brindar servicio a las personas que alguna vez fueron ignoradas por los grandes bancos. A pesar de que hemos crecido, nos hemos mantenido fieles a nuestras raíces, ayudando a las minorías y las poblaciones marginadas a conectarse con nuevas oportunidades.

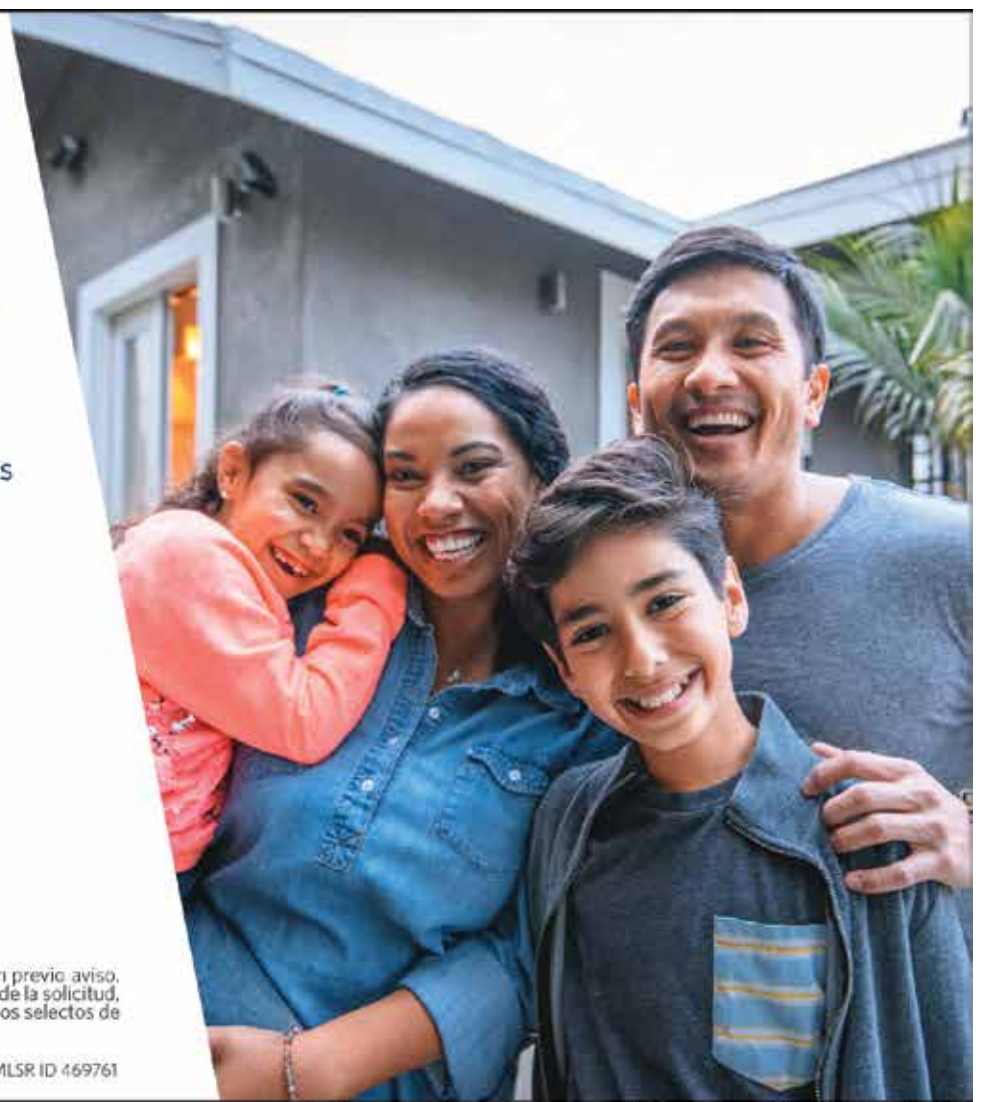
Sus metas son nuestra motivación. Su éxito es nuestra misión. Cuando esté listo para comprar su primera casa, nosotros le ayudaremos a alcanzar más lejos.

Visite eastwestbank.com/hogar o llame al 888.726.8885.



Todas las tasas, cargos, productos y pautas del programa están sujetos a cambios o terminación sin previo aviso. Pueden aplicarse otras limitaciones y restricciones. Todos los préstamos están sujetos a la evaluación de la solicitud, tasación, y aprobación de crédito por parte de East West Bank. El programa está disponible en condados selectos de California, Georgia, Massachusetts, Nevada, Nueva York, Texas y Washington.

Equal Housing Lender Member FDIC NMLSR ID 469761



A promise to you

By Thomas Allison

Life has not been easy for me
 My fear is, it won't be easy for you either
 I think that's how it's supposed to be
 I promise to you to be a safe zone
 Providing a safe space, a safe place, a safe house, and a safe home
 A shoulder to lean on when you feel hurt or alone
 I witnessed things as a child that I do not wish to pass on—so I promise you better
 I have never seen a happy home
 Violence was used to get compliance, I couldn't wait to be grown
 "No one would do this to a man" I would whisper to myself as I thought thoughts of retaliation
 Never again will anybody put hands on my mom
 I Promise never to put my hands on your mom—except to show her the love and affection a queen like her deserves
 I've never seen this type of love play out, but I promise to show you what this type of love is all about
 I promise you better
 I promise to teach you that in relationships there is give and take
 That you should never confuse the love of your mate with hate, because love doesn't leave bruises—to the body or soul
 Love builds you up when the world tears you down
 Love provides refuge when no safe space can be found
 Love grants you the decency of dignity and never denies you the privilege of your humanity
 Through love all things can be conquered, and everything can be achieved including obedience, submission, and maturity
 I promise to model love
 I promise to model love with no footnotes or exceptions
 No confusion, abuse, contusions, because love doesn't hurt, it uplifts
 I promise to uplift you when I disagree, when I'm tired and frustrated, and when I feel exhausted and berated
 My emotional imbalance and immaturity is not a burden for you to bear
 I promise to do my best to never ask you to carry such a load
 The real irony in life is that I'm raising you while I am still growing
 I'm helping you find yourself with my own identity unknown
 Strangely enough, as parent and child, we do this life together
 I cannot fix the trauma of past generations, but I promise to give you better
 I will stop the cycle, I promise

Editor's Note: See related photo, caption at right.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL AT HOUSE OF RUTH

-- "Healing generations: Lighting the way to peace" -- was the theme of last month's 23rd annual candlelight vigil at Pomona's House of Ruth, which assists families victimized by domestic violence. Pictured, at left, is Chief Executive Officer Pat Bell, who said she is a child survivor of domestic violence, introducing House of Ruth Board member Thomas Allison, a family attorney and professor of law at the University of La Verne. He is also founder of the non-profit Social Justice Advocacy Project. Allison read a poem at the vigil (at left) titled "A Promise to you," which was dedicated to his children and included his memories of growing up in a home with violence. In the poem, he promised that his children won't have those same fears and will grow up in a home that is violence free. The event is held each year during Domestic Violence Awareness Month to remember and honor those who have been lost to domestic violence. For more information, visit the web site at www.houseofruthinc.org, call (909) 623-4364 or e-mail development@houseofruth.org.



Photo by Renee Barbee

Golden Bell... from pg. 16

nerve conduction velocity.

The idea for the concept was inspired by the grandfather of one of the InvenTeam members who was a diabetic. The thinking was that an instrument could be developed that could monitor his foot to help prevent the need for amputation and other medical problems resulting from neuropathy or nerve damage.

Also honored at the patent presentation ceremony were Garey teachers Antonio Gamboa (advanced placement biology and chemistry) and Alexander Ruper (advanced placement physics), who worked with the InvenTeam students on the project.

Members of the team represented six countries – the United States, Guatemala, Mexico, Vietnam, Nepal and the Philippines. In addition, 60 percent of the team members

were immigrants, seven out of the eight are female, and all eight became first-generation college students.

The CSBA Golden Bell Awards® promote excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs and governance practices of school boards

in school districts and county offices of education throughout California. Golden Bell Awards reflect the depth and breadth of education programs and governance decisions supporting these programs that are necessary to address students' changing needs.

The awards program is in its 44th year.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

Solamente una página

Nota del editor: La Nueva Voz está agregando esta página con contenido en Español a petición e interés de los lectores. Un lector frecuente del Centro Comunitario del Parque Washington preguntó si este periódico pudiese incluir al menos "solamente una página" en Español. Entonces, buen amigo, aquí lo tienes. Esperamos que nuestros lectores nos den a saber lo que piensan.

Pomona crea una nueva 'Oficina de Prevención de la Violencia' con una subvención estatal de \$5 millones

La ciudad de Pomona está volviendo a poner su dinero en lo que dice, y esta vez es una subvención de \$5 millones, todo para ayudar a poner fin a la violencia armada.

La ciudad ya está dotando de personal a una nueva Oficina de Prevención de la Violencia y Bienestar Vecinal, con sede en la oficina del administrador de la ciudad, con un gerente ya incorporado al que le seguirá un nuevo puesto de analista que se agregará en un futuro próximo.

Al frente de la oficina está Pedro Payne, Ph.D., quien encabezará los esfuerzos para incorporar programas y recursos basados en evidencia en las iniciativas de mitigación del crimen de la ciudad, con especial enfoque en los vecindarios de la comunidad con las necesidades

más urgentes, según un informe de la ciudad. comunicado de prensa.

La principal asistencia financiera para la nueva oficina provino del programa de subvenciones de Prevención, Intervención y Violencia de California de la Junta Correccional Estatal y Comunitaria creado en 2017 para reemplazar el programa de subvenciones de Prevención, Intervención y Reducción de Pandillas de California que comenzó en 2007.

Al programa estatal normalmente se le asignan alrededor de \$9 millones cada año, pero en 2021 recibió un "aumento" único de \$200 millones para cubrir tres años fiscales.

"Estoy entusiasmado con el establecimiento de la Oficina de Prevención de la Violencia y Bienestar

Vecinal y le doy la bienvenida al Dr. Payne a Pomona", dijo el alcalde de Pomona, Tim Sandoval, en el comunicado de prensa. "Pomona no puede desarrollar todo su potencial como comunidad vibrante, segura y hermosa hasta que se aborden los desafíos sistémicos de la violencia armada".

"Confío en que el Dr. Payne es la persona adecuada para coordinar el trabajo continuo de las organizaciones comunitarias, las autoridades policiales y otras partes interesadas de Pomona para producir reducciones mensurables y observables de los incidentes de violencia armada dentro de nuestra comunidad".

La misión de la nueva oficina será fomentar la colaboración con el Departamento de Policía de

Pomona y forjar asociaciones con diversas agencias comunitarias, lo que resultará en la formación de la Asociación de Pomona para la Prevención de la Violencia.

Se espera que la nueva oficina desempeñe un papel fundamental en la armonización de las actividades dentro de la asociación, interactuando activamente con las personas y contribuyendo al objetivo general de reducir la violencia en toda la ciudad de Pomona.

Payne le dijo a La Nueva Voz en un correo electrónico que espera poder ampliar el alcance de la oficina de inicio en el futuro.

Ha acumulado más de dos décadas de experiencia en justicia social, trabajando tanto en el sector público como en el privado. Su carrera refleja un compromiso con

iniciativas destinadas a abordar la violencia comunitaria y las disparidades sociales.

Payne también es autor de un libro sobre prevención de la violencia juvenil y ha escrito múltiples publicaciones revisadas por pares sobre temas relacionados con la desigualdad social, la prevención de la violencia y el desarrollo comunitario, lo que refleja su dedicación a promover lo que él llama "resultados equitativos para comunidades diversas". . ."

Tiene un doctorado en sociología de UC Riverside y una sólida base académica en justicia social, teoría criminológica y movilización comunitaria, lo que ofrece conocimientos valiosos sobre los desafíos sistémicos y las posibles soluciones.

Y domina tanto el inglés como el español.

Se ha desempeñado como director ejecutivo de la Comisión de Relaciones Humanas y de la Comisión de Revisión de la Policía Comunitaria en Riverside, fue miembro fundador del Consejo de Diversidad de Salud de la Universidad de Loma Linda y durante mucho tiempo ha sido un defensor de las personas con diversas discapacidades. Tiene amplia experiencia liderando programas comunitarios enfocados en reducir la violencia y promover comunidades más seguras, y en 2004 implementó una iniciativa comunitaria de prevención de la violencia juvenil en Riverside que reunió a una coalición diversa de más de 20 organizaciones de ciudades, condados y del sector privado que trabajan para crear un entorno más seguro para los jóvenes.

Según sus antecedentes, es competente en investigación cualitativa y cuantitativa y proporciona conocimientos basados en evidencia que informan las decisiones de políticas públicas y abogan por soluciones equitativas.

Originario de la ciudad de Nueva York, vive en Moreno Valley con su esposa, Iskelvi Payne.

Puede comunicarse con Payne al (909) 620-2054 o por correo electrónico a pedro.payne@pomonaca.gov.

¿Es DPOA el mejor modelo para otro distrito de mejora empresarial de Pomona?

Por Jeff Schenkel, editor

No queremos arruinar el desfile de DPOA, programado para el próximo mes, pero también tenemos la obligación con nuestros lectores de arrojar un poco de luz sobre varios temas que nos han llamado la atención con respecto a las operaciones en la Asociación de Propietarios del Centro de Pomona, especialmente en un momento en que la ciudad de Pomona se encuentra en las etapas finales de la creación de un segundo "distrito de mejora comercial" similar a lo largo de Holt Avenue.

Como dijo el alcalde de Pomona, Tim Sandoval, a los miembros de la Cámara de Comercio de Pomona en agosto (informado en la edición del 24 de agosto de La Nueva Voz, disponible en línea en www.lanuevavoz.net), la ciudad está en el proceso de trabajar con la La Cámara de Pomona crear un distrito especial a lo largo de Holt para encargarse del marketing, la seguridad, el mantenimiento y otras tareas.

Y esas son algunas de las funciones principales de DPOA, oficialmente el "Distrito de Mejoramiento de Propiedades y Negocios del Centro de Pomona", creado bajo una ley estatal de 1994 que prevé el funcionamiento de dichos distritos.

El DPOA de Pomona, creado en 2004, es una organización sin fines

de lucro que tiene un contrato con la ciudad de Pomona (y opera con una junta directiva propia) para brindar servicios en el centro de Pomona y proporcionar un informe anual a la ciudad a la que sirve sobre sus actividades. en un distrito especial centrado en el centro de la ciudad y que incluye 277 parcelas individuales.

En el año fiscal actual, DPOA evalúa poco más de \$1 millón para el año de todos los propietarios evaluados en su área de servicio y tiene un presupuesto anual de \$1.2 millones, con una parte de su financiamiento derivado de programas y servicios por contrato con otras entidades. Por ejemplo, proporciona servicios de paisajismo y barrido de estacionamientos al Distrito de Estacionamiento de Vehículos de Pomona.

Pero, en nuestra opinión, esas cuestiones que mencionamos deben salir a la luz pública, y últimamente hemos oído hablar de más cuestiones que en los poco más de 14 años que llevamos aquí.

En la parte superior de la lista están las personas que se van (tanto personal como voluntarios), con un miembro clave del personal de la oficina (sólo hay dos asistentes del director ejecutivo) que renunció y asumió otro puesto similar en Santa Mónica justo antes del desfile

de Navidad del año pasado, y otro dando aviso apenas unas semanas antes del desfile de este año.

Y, si bien entendemos que no se puede frenar a las personas en sus carreras, nos parece curioso que haya tanta rotación, lo que siempre se considera una indicación de la cultura laboral de una organización y de la gestión general de los empleados. De hecho, en nuestra entrevista telefónica con Lorena Parker de DPOA, quien se unió a DPOA como directora ejecutiva en mayo de 2020, le preguntamos si sus esquemas salariales seguían siendo competitivos como una posible explicación.

Su respuesta fue que "no tiene idea" si los salarios de DPOA son comparables a los de otros en la ciudad, y que ella hace lo que es necesario, pero que el personal siempre es bienvenido a venir y hablar con ella al respecto.

Luego hay una cuestión similar con respecto al comité del desfile del DPOA, que esencialmente está formado por voluntarios, muchos de ellos sirviendo allí durante años.

Pero La Nueva Voz se enteró de que un par de empleados veteranos renunciaron, se espera que un par más renuncien en el futuro cercano y aparentemente otros simplemente no asisten a las reuniones con tanta frecuencia como en el pasado.

Una de las cosas de las que ha estado hablando el comité es de financiación adicional más allá del presupuesto del DPOA para el desfile.

"Éste (el desfile) es nuestro evento más importante durante todo el año", dijo Parker.

De hecho, según un correo electrónico del personal de la ciudad y las minutas de la reunión del Concejo Municipal, Parker apareció en una reunión del Concejo Municipal el 17 de julio (hace cuatro meses) pidiendo fondos adicionales para el desfile.

El personal de la ciudad reconoció a La Nueva Voz que la participación de la ciudad siempre incluye el apoyo tanto de los equipos de obras públicas como del Departamento de Policía de Pomona.

Pero ese mismo correo electrónico de la ciudad señaló que se requería que DPOA presentara documentación escrita a la ciudad explicando para qué se utilizarían los fondos y cómo ayudaría en una "determinación de beneficio público", algo que dijo el personal de la ciudad. no ha sido presentado.

Si bien el correo electrónico de la ciudad señalaba que la solicitud DPOA no había sido rechazada, es probable que no se tomara acción sin esa documentación.

Si analizamos estos temas no

¿Mejor modelo?... pág 20

Services with military honors to be held for retired Pomona Police Officer Barry Dolgovin

Funeral services with full military honors will be held next month in Riverside for retired Pomona Police Officer Barry Lewis Dolgovin who died this month of surgical complications at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center. He was 77.

Dolgovin, a Vietnam veteran, served two years in the U.S. Army and was awarded the Purple Heart “with clusters” (previously wounded and had already received a Purple Heart) and was named “Soldier of the Month.”

He was born in Bell, California, graduated from Bell High School, and earned an associate degree in administration of justice.

Dolgovin went on to serve as a police officer for 40 years – 10 years at Maywood Police Department and 30 years in Pomona, where he retired in July 2009.

He served as a patrol officer and was a member of the Neighborhood Improvement by Code Enforcement team, as well as the graffiti task force.

Dolgovin was a long-time member of the Pomona Optimist Club, served as both Lieutenant Governor and Governor for the Pacific Southwest section of Optimists, and was a former member of the Pomona Unified School District’s School Attendance Review Board.

His passions included the Los Angeles Dodgers, bowling and the NRA.

Dolgovin is survived by his wife of nearly 23 years Roberta E. Lahr-Dolgovin, children Sharon Cowley, Sara Sorenson, Pomona Police Detective Joseph Dolgovin, Philip Dolgovin and Amy Laity, stepchildren Samuel Porter and Pomona Police Corporal Megan Gonzalez, 13 grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Services will be held at 11 a.m. Monday, Dec. 4, at Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside.



Barry Dolgovin

Funeral mass celebrated for Emily Cerda

Funeral mass was celebrated this month for Emily (Millie) Mascarenas Cerda, who died last month at home in Pomona surrounded by her family. She was 83.

Born to Onesimo and Ramona Mascarenas in Del Norte, Colorado, Millie was one of five daughters.

She was a devout Catholic and parishioner of Sacred Heart Church in Pomona. And she was devoted to her husband of 68 years, Tony A. Cerda, Sr., and her family.

Millie organized and participated in the Costanoan Rumsen Carmel tribal events, along with her husband, for more than 30 years. And she volunteered her time in the kitchen making Indian “fry bread” and other goodies for



Emily Cerda

these events.

She also volunteered along with her husband at the Pomona Athletic League Boxing Club for 35 years organizing fundraisers and working in the kitchen.

Millie loved the holidays and

looked forward to family gatherings and making Christmas cookies with her grandchildren.

She loved shopping and will always be remembered by family and friends as the “Classy Glam Queen.”

Visitation was held at Todd’s Memorial Chapel in Pomona and a funeral mass was celebrated at Our Lady of Guadalupe in Chino.

She was preceded in death by her son, Johnny Cerda; daughter, Veronica Ippoliti; grandson, Johnny Cerda Jr.; and sisters Estrella, Anne and Carla.

She is survived by her husband, Tony Cerda, Sr., her son, Tony M. Cerda, Jr., and daughters Brenda Munoz and Deborah Rodriguez.

Millie had 17 grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

The best model?... from pg. 8

or “closed” meeting regulations, and are subject to California’s “Public Records Act,” which covers public access to documents.

Of course, what’s good for Downtown Pomona is good for the rest of the City of Pomona and its residents and businesses.

“We come to work every day and we work really hard – and we try to do good for all segments of all of our tasks that we need to do,” Parker said. “From maintenance to security to the office staff to our new social media gal, we’re working every day to try to do the

best that we can.”

And she said a side benefit of her job is having people come to Downtown and enjoy themselves.

“Everything we do can improve their quality of life – they can enjoy their friends, their family and the ambience we create for them,” she said. “I think there’s a lot of value to that.”

According to Pomona’s Deputy City Manager Kirk Pelsler, the city has allocated funds to kick off the “Property Owner Based Improvement District” formation exploration process for Holt Avenue and is about to enter into a contract with a consultant who will manage the formation process and take it to a vote of the property owners.

He said the process is expected to take roughly 12 to 14 months.

But we’re just saying that the DPOA board, possibly even with a little city oversight intervention, needs to take a hard look at the current business model and how things are being done at DPOA in the interest of maintaining good management, especially before jumping off further into the creation of a new business improvement district on Holt.

In fact, the more we think about it, perhaps that new consultant the city is getting ready to hire would be just the right expert to make as a first order of business a thorough review of DPOA coming up with recommendations on addressing some of these issues and more – before forging ahead with the

creation of a new organization on Holt and possibly having some of the same “issues” along the way.

It just seems the city is the best place to start taking a look – just like it would in keeping tabs on any of the many other contracts it has in a file cabinet in City Hall. And the DPOA contract is a pretty good-sized piece of business.

After all, it is important to Downtown Pomona, the City of Pomona and the entire region to ensure that DPOA maintains and increases the momentum it has managed to build up over the past 20 years.

And the Downtown Pomona Christmas Parade, for those interested, which moved back to Second Street from Holt Avenue in December 2009 for the first time in more than 40 years, is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 9, in Downtown Pomona, rain or shine. This year’s theme is “Holiday Homerun.”

La Nueva Voz will include coverage of the parade in its December issue – just as it has every year since 2009 – even when it rained!

Thoughts on Pomona becoming a ‘compassionate city’

By Andrew Quiñones, Member Compassionate Pomona

As a Chicano man born in the late ’70s in the San Gabriel Valley, and a father of two young boys, I’ve had the privilege of witnessing Pomona’s transformation into a city that values kindness, respect, and compassion. Now, as the Executive Director of the SoCal Service Corps, I’ve seen firsthand how compassion has become an integral part of our city’s identity.

Our community has been buzzing with compassionate initiatives and projects that truly embody the spirit



Andy Quinones

of service. One such initiative is the annual “Kindness Carnival.” Now in its third year, this event is more than just a celebration – it’s a platform for local nonprofits and community-based organizations to share valuable information with parents and families. From poets and speakers sharing their art in front of our library, to children performing music and dance, to our very own Jeff Schenkel singing his heart out for the crowd, the carnival is a testament to the spirit of our community. The Pomona Police Department’s photo booth and service dog, as well as the dA Center for

the Arts and Character Champions puppet show, were a hit with the kids, further strengthening the bond between our community and those who serve it.

Another project that has had a significant impact is the “Art of Compassion.” This community-wide art project has brought together people from all walks of life, from the youngest at 3 to the well-seasoned at 97. Together, we have painted hundreds of 7” by 7” hexagonal art pieces that will one day form a magnificent public mural. This project has not only fostered understanding but has also bridged gaps within our community.

While individuals like Rev. Jan Chase have been instrumental in Pomona’s compassionate journey, it’s important to acknowledge the collective efforts of our com-

Compassionate city... pg. 20

La Nueva Voz...

Follow us on
Facebook
and
Instagram!

¿Mejor modelo?... de la pág 18

por uno, la pregunta obvia es por qué sucede todo esto.

Sobre la rotación de personal de la oficina, tanto Parker como el presidente de su junta directiva, Cary Lowenstein, también entrevistado en una conversación telefónica por La Nueva Voz, dijeron que los movimientos eran simplemente para mejores puestos: uno para un salario más alto y el otro para que el director creativo de DPOA “estire su potencial”. sus alas” en su carrera, como dijo Lowenstein.

(Lowenstein ha formado parte de la junta desde 2020 y fue elegida presidenta de la junta a principios de este año cuando Jeff Keating dejó la Western University of Health Sciences y renunció como presidente de la DPOA. Su mandato finaliza en julio de 2024 según los estatutos recientemente revisados que limitan los mandatos de los funcionarios de la junta -- presidenta, vicepresidenta, secretaria y tesorera -- a dos años. Ha vivido en Pomona desde 2004 y nunca ha sido propietaria de un negocio, pero ha trabajado en Vancouver como productora asociada de televisión y en Jet Propulsion Laboratory en Pasadena como artista gráfica).

En el comité del desfile, escuchamos quejas de una fuente que prefirió no ser identificada de que la administración de DPOA está moviendo su enfoque demasiado hacia adentro y es tan “específica del centro” que la organización está “perdiendo el impacto” que alguna vez tuvo en el resto del mundo. parte de la ciudad.

Lowenstein lo llamó un “camino difícil de recorrer” porque “todos quieren su pedazo del pastel”. En otras palabras, el desfile de Navidad es un evento comunitario, pero la responsabilidad legal del DPOA es con el área del Centro.

La propia Lowenstein ha surgido como un tema ocasional de controversia en las conversaciones del centro porque no es propietaria ni trabaja para una gran empresa ni es propietaria de un gran edificio en el área. Su condición de “dueña de propiedad” que la hace elegible para servir como miembro de la junta se basa simplemente en su condición de propietaria de vivienda: vive en un condominio en el complejo Mission Promenade (arriba de Starbucks) en Mission Boulevard y Garey Avenue, justo dentro del límite de DPOA que corre. a lo largo de Misión.

Para ser justos, en el informe del administrador municipal James Makshanoff al Concejo Municipal de Pomona en julio instando a la aprobación del informe anual del DPOA y a la imposición de las evaluaciones del año fiscal 2023-2024, dijo que “los propietarios y comerciantes en el centro de la ciudad se han beneficiado de muchos programas que han demostrado ser exitoso para propietarios, comerciantes, residentes y clientes que visitan el centro”.

“El marketing agresivo de años anteriores ha resultado en más de 1 millón de visitantes al centro cada año”, continúa el informe, y agrega que el presupuesto de marketing de este año es de \$216,620.

“Venimos a trabajar todos los días y trabajamos muy duro, y tratamos de hacer el bien en todos los segmentos de todas nuestras tareas que tenemos que hacer”, dijo Parker. “Desde el mantenimiento hasta la seguridad, pasando por el personal de la oficina y nuestra nueva chica de redes sociales, trabajamos todos los días para intentar hacer lo mejor que podemos”.

Según el administrador adjunto de la ciudad de Pomona, Kirk Pelsner, la ciudad ha asignado fondos para iniciar el proceso de exploración de la formación del “Distrito de mejora basado en propietarios” para Holt Avenue y está a punto de celebrar un contrato con un consultor que gestionará el proceso de formación y tomará a votación de los propietarios.

Pero solo estamos diciendo que la junta de DPOA, posiblemente incluso con una pequeña intervención de supervisión de la ciudad, necesita analizar detenidamente el modelo de negocios actual y cómo se están haciendo las cosas en DPOA con el fin de mantener una buena gestión, especialmente antes de saltar. Continuamos con la creación de un nuevo distrito de mejora empresarial en Holt.

De hecho, cuanto más lo pensamos, tal vez el nuevo consultor que la ciudad se está preparando para contratar sería el experto adecuado para hacer, como primera orden del día, una revisión exhaustiva del DPOA y generar recomendaciones para abordar algunas de estas cuestiones. y más, antes de seguir adelante con la creación de una nueva organización en Holt y posiblemente tener algunos de los mismos “problemas” en el camino.

munity. Julie Wheeler from the University of La Verne (emerita), with that university’s Restorative Practices Collaborative, has led the effort with Restorative Practices which involves community listening circles. Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz has been a bridge through dialogue and community conversations with our local police department. Richard Bunce has spearheaded communitywide efforts such as “Prosperity in the Pomona Valley: Paving the Path to a Wellbeing Economy,” envisioning an economy that enhances social equity and environmental sustainability.

Compassionate Pomona, a community service and engagement organization, has been at the forefront of these collaborative efforts. As a “Community of Compassion,” we recognize com-

Compassionate city... from pg. 19

passion as a valuable asset in problem-solving. Our partners, such as the Pomona’s Promise community network, come from various sectors including arts, business, education, environment, healthcare, peace, restorative justice, science and research, social/racial justice, social services, and spirituality. Together, we strive to express compassion through service, contributing to the overall well-being and unity of Pomona.

Looking ahead, we acknowledge the challenges that lie before us – homelessness, poverty, substance abuse, human trafficking, addiction, lost teens in need of guidance, and families struggling with financial burdens. As a group that meets bimonthly, Compassionate Pomona is committed to listening, learning, and acting. We envision a future where our com-

passionate initiatives continue to grow, inspire positive change, and overcome these challenges. I see a Pomona where my boys and all children can grow up in a city that values and promotes respect, kindness, compassion, and unity, a city that continues to inspire other communities through its commitment to service and compassion.

FOR RENT

Two and three bedroom homes in Pomona, central heating and air conditioning, laundry hookups, private back yards (descriptions may vary).

\$2,100 to \$2,300/month.
\$2,500 security deposit.

Information:
(909) 896-1463

ANNOUNCEMENT

CANCEL YOUR TIMESHARE. Call Attorney Sid Connor, your nationally trusted consumer protection attorney. 40+ years experience, 1,000+ clients represented, 99% success rate. L. Sidney Connor IV, Esq. 1500 U.S. Highway 17 North, Suite 209, Surfside Beach, SC 29575. <https://www.timeoutco.com>. info@timeoutco.com. Ph: 1-843-846-3688. Bar No. 001363

NEW AUTHORS WANTED! Page Publishing will help you self-publish your own book. FREE author submission kit! Limited offer! Why wait? Call now: 1-855-667-0380

Switch and save up to \$250/year on your talk, text and data. No contract and no hidden fees. Unlimited talk and text with flexible data plans. Premium nationwide coverage. 100% U.S. based customer service. Limited time offer get \$50 off on any new account. Use code GIFT50. For more information, call 1-844-908-0605

AUTOS WANTED

WANTED!
OLD PORSCHE.

356/911/912 for Restoration Hobbyist. 1948-1998 only. Any Condition. Top \$ Paid. PLEASE LEAVE MESSAGE 1-707-339-5994 or email Porscherestoration@yahoo.com

DONATE YOUR UNWANTED CAR, TRUCK, RV OR BOAT TO HELP HOMELESS PETS. Pets Alive, a California Qualified 501-C-3 Nonprofit. We are Tax Deduction and Paperwork Experts and Provide Guaranteed Tax Deductions. For Quotes and Quick Pickup, Call us Today! 1-833-772-2632, LAPETSALIVE.ORG

DONATE YOUR CAR TO KIDS Fast Free Pickup – Running or Not - 24 Hour Response - Maximum Tax Donation – Help Find Missing Kids! Call 1-888-491-1453.

CABLE / INTERNET/ SATELLITE TV

FREE high speed internet for those that qualify. Government program for recipients of select programs incl. Medicaid, SNAP, Housing Assistance, WIC, Veterans Pension, Survivor Benefits, Lifeline, Tribal. 15 GB

internet service. Bonus offer: Android tablet FREE with one-time \$20 copay. Free shipping & handling. Call Maxsip Telecom today! 1-855-480-0769

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Over \$10K in Debt? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 1-888-231-4274.

HOME REMODEL

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom, bath or shower in as little as one day. For limited time, we’re waiving all installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 12/31/23). Call 1-833-985-4766

INSURANCE

SAVE BIG on HOME INSURANCE! Compare 20 A-rated insurances companies. Get a quote within minutes. Average savings of \$444/year! Call 1-844-410-9609! (M-F 8am-8pm Central)

MEDICAL HEALTH

STROKE and CARDIOVASCULAR disease are leading causes of death according to the

American Heart Association. Screenings can provide early detection! Contact Life Line Screening to schedule your screening. Special offer - 5 screenings for \$149. Call 1-888-892-5598

SAFE STEP North America’s #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now featuring our FREE Shower package and \$1,600 off for a limited time. Financing available. Call 1-888-989-5749

REAL ESTATE/ LOANS

RETIRED COUPLE \$1 MIL for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company www.viploan.com Call 1-818-248-0000 Broker-principal DRE 01041073. No Consumer Loans.

The difference in winning and losing market share is how you spend your ad dollars. CNPA’s power to connect nearly 10 million consumers and an engaged audience, makes our services an indispensable marketing solution. For more info cecilia@cnpa.com

This Space Can Be Yours! Call 1-916-288-6011



Walt Barkley, Pomona's favorite cop, gets his camera out of the old-time police cruiser to make sure he gets just the right photo of the youngest member of the U.S. Navy's elite "Top Gun" squadron. Pictured with Barkley are Ryan and Mary Prendergast and their son, Luke, 3.



Posing with, um, some scarecrow guy holding onto a pumpkin at the Pomona Police Department's "Spooktacular Celebration" are Pomona Police Community Service Officer Anica Stripling, at left, and Corporal Angela Torres (underneath all of that), who heads up the police department's community services office.



Photos by Renee Barbee

POMONA POLICE DEPARTMENT'S 'SPOOKTACULAR CELEBRATION' -- It was time to get in the spirit of Halloween last month at the Pomona Police Department where kids found everything from "photo ops" to free treats and even pony rides (with two ponies!) and a Halloween costume contest.



La Nueva Voz...
Follow us on
Facebook and Instagram!



Corvette Association contributes to Assistance League, other groups

The Pomona Valley Corvette Association, a Southern California car club founded in 1962, this year has changed direction in its philanthropic giving and has contributed to eight local organizations.

A check for \$1,500, reportedly the highest of the eight contributions, was presented to Assistance League Pomona Valley at a meeting last month, according to a news release.

Other organizations receiving contributions were Shoes That Fit, The Painted Turtle, American Cancer Society, Hope through Housing, Easter Seals Camp, Foothill Family Shelter and Chino Boxing Club.

The Assistance League provides services to low-income children and adults living in Chino Hills, Claremont, Diamond Bar, La Verne, Pomona and San Dimas.

RETIRED COUPLE
HAS \$1MIL TO LEND ON CA. REAL ESTATE*

V.I.P. TRUST DEED COMPANY
Buys T.D.s and Buys/Lends on Partial Interests

OVER 40 YEARS OF FAST FUNDING

Principal (818) 248-0000 Broker

WWW.VIPLAN.COM *Sufficient equity required - no consumer loans

Real Estate License #01041073 CA Department of Real Estate, NMLS #339217

Private Party loans generally have higher interest rates, points & fees than conventional discount loans

Statewide water levels
are in better shape than in
recent years....for now.

Less snow and rain in
just one year can lead to
shortages in local supply.

Imported water is costly.

We must continue to use
water efficiently.

Every day
is a chance to
save water



bewaterwise.com

To find great ways to save
water, visit:

www.bewaterwise.com.

You will find information on
how to save water and
receive rebates for water
conservation devices and
projects!



Three Valleys Municipal Water District's Areas Served:

Azusa, Boy Scouts of America-Firestone Reservation, California State Polytechnic University-Pomona, City of Industry, Claremont, Covina, Covina Irrigating Co., Diamond Bar, Glendora, Golden State Water Co., Hacienda Heights, La Puente, La Verne, Mount San Antonio College, Pomona, Pomona-Walnut-Rowland Joint Water Line Commission, Rowland Heights, Rowland Water District, San Dimas, Suburban Water Systems, Valencia Heights Water Co., Walnut, Walnut Valley Water District and West Covina



Pictured is the Dia de los Muertos altar just inside the Claremont Public Library.

Pictured, at left, is the Dia de los Muertos altar at Tri City Mental Health's main Pomona location at 2008 N. Garey Ave.



Photo by Renee Barbee

An impressive Dia de los Muertos altar is pictured at Pomona's Lopez Urban Farm this month -- as mariachis play, at right, during an annual Latino & Latina Roundtable celebration. "Today we remember, we honor but we also continue to live the values of the people we respect," said Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval at the event. "This is an honoring that our ancestors are still here with us . . . our mothers and fathers, our grandparents and family members and friends are still with us and they still live through us."



DIA DE LOS MUERTOS IN DOWNTOWN POMONA -- The Downtown Pomona Owners Association hosted its annual Dia de los Muertos event on Second Street in Downtown Pomona this month with everything from arts and crafts with kids painting those Dia de los Muertos skulls to, well, just a lot of really cute little children all dressed up in Dia de los Muertos costumes. There were food vendors, live bands, Aztec dancers and more.

Photo by Renee Barbee



LA County Fair theme for 2024 'Stars, Stripes and Fun' celebrates community

The 102nd anniversary LA County Fair will celebrate the medley of communities that comprise Los Angeles County with its 2024 theme "Stars, Stripes and Fun" for its month-long party with food, entertainment and fun set for May 3 through May 27.

Next year's Fair will be the third year in its permanent shift to the spring season.

"County fairs are a community celebration, and county and state fairs across the nation reflect the unique characteristics of all their communities," said Fairplex President and CEO Walter Marquez. "Fairs celebrate people in all our wonderful and intriguing variety. We are excited to embrace Southern California's cultural mosaic with 'Stars, Stripes and Fun.'"

Want to try for a Blue Ribbon? Entries for livestock, landscaping and home arts competitions open next month and culinary arts competitions open in January.

Follow the Fair on social media @lacountyfair for announcements on season passes, daily admission and concert tickets sales dates.

WE NEED YOUR VOICE!

POMONA SCAN HERE 

TAKE THE CITYWIDE SURVEY TODAY!

PARKS AND Green Spaces Community Gardens

Survey Link: <https://arcs.is/XKur90>

 All Children Thrive
© 2022. California Department of Public Health. Funded under contract # 21-10471

 **POMONA'S PROMISE**
Supporting our community with strong families & healthy quality of life

San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps named 'Nonprofit of the Year'



RIBBON-CUTTING AT LG LOYALTY -- La Nueva Voz ran a photo of a Pomona Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting for new chamber member LG Loyalty Staffing and Payroll Services in the September 2023 issue. Just to clarify the description published in the caption accompanying that photo, the event was a ribbon-cutting, not a grand re-opening, according to the owner. Pictured, from left, are Ashley Delgado, senior recruiter; Maggie Martinez, owner; and Georgina Espinoza, payroll services. Martinez, who has worked in the industry for more than 23 years, has operated LG Loyalty for the past two years. LG Loyalty is located at 637 Indian Hill Blvd., Pomona. Contact: (909) 326-1126.



NONPROFIT OF THE YEAR AWARD -- San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps Executive Director Norma Quinones shows off her "Nonprofit of the Year Award" presented this month by members of the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership. Pictured, from left, are San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps Board members Mario Rodriguez, Joe Fod and Marco Robles, Quinones, State Senator Bob Archuleta, and Board members Brenda Shultz, Diana Cherrington-Ordaz and Veronica Larios.

The San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps – and Executive Director Norma Quinones – received the “Nonprofit of the Year” award this month from the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership at the organization’s annual gala fundraiser at Pasadena City College.

The Conservation Corps, which maintains an office in Pomona, serves as a bridge to a better life for young adults ages 18 to 25 by providing paid job

training, support services and a second chance to earn a high school diploma – all while offering a variety of professional services to the San Gabriel Valley community.

Other honorees included Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger (“Public Service Award”), the community of Monterey Park (“Heroes Among Us Award” in the wake of this year’s tragedy), Robert Stone, City of Hope (“CEO of the Year

Award”), and Mt. San Antonio College (“Business/Employer of the Year”).

The partnership recognizes individuals and organizations each year for their extraordinary achievements in the San Gabriel Valley. Attendees were business and civic leaders and guests including civic volunteers, small business owners and others.

Theme of this year’s event was “A Night in Old Time Hollywood.”



Tickets

Ticket: \$150.00 each
(INCLUDES PARKING, GIFT, DINNER, OPEN BAR, & 1 RAFFLE ENTRY)

Table: \$1250.00 each
(INCLUDES 1 RESERVED TABLE, PARKING, GIFT, DINNER, OPEN BAR & 1 RAFFLE ENTRY FOR UP TO 10 GUESTS)

Can't attend but still want to support?
Consider donating today.
Thank you!



For information and tickets visit: healedwomenheal.org

Healed Women Heal

cordially requests your presence.

6:00 PM

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023

DOUBLE TREE HOTEL -3101 W TEMPLE AVE, POMONA, CA 91768

10TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

Season's Healings!

Sponsorship opportunities are available from \$1,000 to \$25,000.

Our mission is to actively encourage healthy relationships by nurturing self-esteem and independence in youth, women, and their families to prevent and respond to intimate partner violence and domestic violence.


We provide educational and transformational workshops to develop personally and create successful relationships. Our approach is holistic, and our methods include growing and strengthening self-awareness, self-confidence, and self-development.

Contact us today for your transformational experience.
909.284.2682

NO COST TO
**HIGH
SCHOOL
STUDENTS**



 JOIN@BRIGHTPROSPECT.ORG

 (909) 623-9007

 1460 E HOLT AVE #74,
POMONA, CA 91767

 <http://BRIGHTPROSPECT.ORG>



SCAN FOR APPLICATION

JOIN
**BRIGHT
PROSPECT**



Enrollments still being accepted from all
Pomona Unified School District students from 9th to 12th grade!

Why join us?

- Opportunities for scholarships
- *Oportunidades de becas*
- Connect and make new friends
- *Hacer nuevas conexiones e amigos*
- Exposure to careers and majors
- *Exposición a especialidades y carreras*
- Financial aid and college application assistance
- *Ayuda financiera y asistencia para solicitudes universitarias*
- Come along with us on field trips
- *Ven con nosotros a paseos*

**EMPOWERING STUDENTS TO
AND THROUGH COLLEGE**

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM
@BRIGHT_PROSPECT

