



FREE  
GRATIS

www.lanuevavoz.net

# La Nueva Voz

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



Pomona Chamber of Commerce



Member

Issue No. 178

Thursday, May 23, 2024

## Pomona Unified Supt. Darren Knowles -- in 'State of the District' -- says PUSD working to give students 'first-class education'

Pomona Unified School District Supt. Darren Knowles this month acknowledged there's still "a lot more to do," and he called on district employees and the community to "work together and give our students access to a first-class education," but from the sound of his 48-minute "State of the District Address" presentation, things already are on the right track.

As only one example, Knowles said the district's graduation rate recently increased from 82 percent to 90 percent.

The presentation itself got under way following an almost Hollywood-style series of opening acts -- from the Garey High School band greeting visitors outside the building to on-stage performances by the always-impressive "All District Choir," the Diamond Ranch Dance Company and Ballet Folklorico de Pomona High.

"We have some amazing talent

at PUSD," Pomona Unified Board President Arturo Jimenez told nearly 200 parents, community members and district employees in his introductory comments in the district administration building's auditorium.

And, speaking to the student performers, "right next to your parents, the board of education is your biggest fan," Jimenez said. "You made your parents proud tonight. Keep up the hard work."

"PUSD is a home for all our students to find a place where they belong, for them to learn and for them to grow into a future," Jimenez added. "We are dedicated to creating

opportunity so they can choose the best life for themselves."

"Everything we do in Pomona Unified School District is for our students, the staff and the commu-

nity," said Knowles who served as interim superintendent last year and superintendent this year following the retirement of his predecessor, Richard Martinez. "We truly believe that student success is our success."

Knowles said the district is working on a new strategic plan which includes a new mission, vision, core values and a "portrait of a PUSD student" that will roll out in the 2024-25 school year.

"We are still committed to high-quality learning, continuous improvement, community

engagement, our professional development, safe and supportive environments for our students and our staff, inclusive environments for all of our students, and also focusing on literacy, math and the many other course offerings and pathways that we have for our students," he said, adding that their work always begins with "strong leadership" at the board level.

Knowles said the district currently includes 20,974 students and more than 4,300 employees, many of them receiving recognitions and honors at a variety of levels.

And he cited several examples:

- Deputy Supt. Lilia Fuentes was recognized this year by Los Angeles County as Cabinet Member of the Year for Educational Services.

- Assistant Supt. Fernando Meza was honored by the Latino and Latina Roundtable at its annual Cesar Chavez breakfast.

- Cesar Casarrubias, Director of Pupil Services, was named California Association of School Counselors Administrator of the Year.

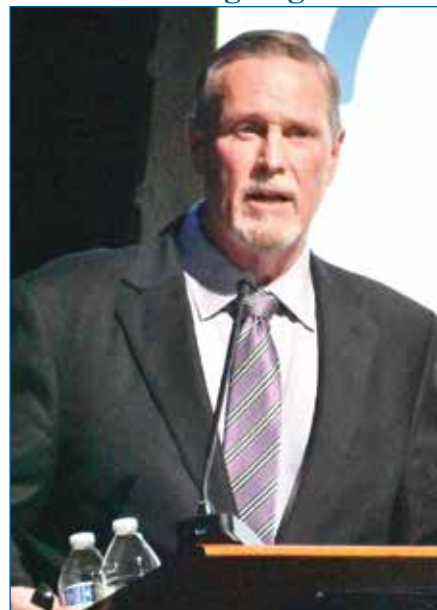
- Hector Rosales, Pomona High School teacher, was named a teacher of the year by Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez.

- Dr. Michael Fegert, Vejar Elementary School teacher, was awarded the Fulbright Teachers for

State of the District... pg. 2



Arturo Jimenez  
School Board President



Darren Knowles  
Superintendent

### OPINION

## Pomona Councilmember Victor Preciado picks up the ball on

### Pomona transit store closure, Congresswoman Torres has no comment

Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, the city's representative on Foothill Transit's joint powers authority board, stuck to his guns in an exclusive interview with La Nueva Voz this month and committed to working something

out that will restore services lost to Pomona residents with the surprise closure last December of Foothill's local transit store.

The now-closed Pomona transit store, which was located in the Downtown Pomona Transit Center,

provided bus passes and route-planning services to 22,000 customers last year until it was closed on short notice Dec. 29 after being located there for the past 25 years.

Foothill Transit staff members  
Pomona transit... pg. 8

An inspiring career begins here

# WE'RE HIRING

Tri-City Mental Health is a public agency serving the diverse cities of Pomona, Claremont and La Verne. As a comprehensive mental health service provider, we are dedicated to helping families and individuals of all ages heal and thrive.




- \$2,500 Sign-On Bonus
- 80% Employer-Paid Health Insurance (Medical, Dental, Vision)
- CalPERS Pension
- Flexible Scheduling & Intermittent Telework
- Longevity Pay, Public Loan Service Forgiveness and more!

Apply Online Today

[www.calopps.org/tri-city-mental-health-authority](http://www.calopps.org/tri-city-mental-health-authority)

2008 N Garey Ave, Pomona, CA 91767 | [www.tricitymhs.org](http://www.tricitymhs.org) | (866) 623-9500



## State of the District... from pg. 1

Global Classrooms scholarship.

• Donovan Macleod, Village Academy High School teacher, was named teacher of the year for 2023.

• John Lopez, Arroyo Elementary School teacher, was honored by the Los Angeles Times.

• Joseph Shim, Pantera Elementary School teacher, was named teacher of the year for 2024.

Knowles also pointed out that negotiations at the bargaining table for employees are working out, as well -- the school board has approved a tentative agreement for an 8 percent pay increase for all employees including administrators.

Stressing the importance of ongoing professional development in the district, Knowles said current priorities include focusing on a literacy initiative, embracing artificial intelligence and learning how to leverage it for the future, culturally responsive positive interventions and support and more.

Illustrating his comments with a PowerPoint presentation, Knowles described the district's demographics as including Hispanics as the majority of its students (17,405 students), and the majority of its students categorized as socioeconomically disadvantaged (18,238 students).

The district serves 5,589 English learners, 186 foster youth, 3,114 unhoused students and 2,788 students with disability, all with a general fund budget of \$424.6 million (\$159.2 million of that for teaching salaries and \$63.9 million for non-teaching salaries).

All that works out to about

\$14,000 per student in the district's teaching program, Knowles said.

"Everything we do is with transparency -- we get input from our parents, and ultimately we make recommendations to our board of education who has been very, very supportive," he added.

Those parents become engaged in the activities of the school district, as well.

"Our parent lead program recently received the Magna Award," Knowles said -- something that last year was awarded to only one school district in the nation.

The district added 25 transitional kinder classrooms across the district last year.

"It's the end of the year and they are reading already," he said.

In addition, the district added literacy coaches at every elementary school and added 10 counselors districtwide this year.

He said the eight-member "InvenTeam" at Garey High School received a U.S. patent for its invention developed under a grant from the Lemelson Foundation at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

And he added that the district's learning enrichment program has been a huge success this year.

"Our kids need access and that's what we're giving them," he said, whether it is through chess programs, Hip Hop dancing, or music and cooking classes.

And speaking of the district's music program, he said an additional 1,500 band instruments were placed in circulation for students



Members of the Pomona Unified School District "All District Choir" perform at this month's State of the District Address. The Garey High School band greeted visitors on their way into the event in the school district's administration building auditorium.

this year in the elementary school band program.

Addressing another type of issue, Knowles said based on input from parents, the district launched its "Culturally Responsive Anti-Racism Equitable" system in response to reports of hate speech following surveys, parent meetings and student focus groups, all to mobilize African American parent and student voices.

"We still have a lot of work to do but that's a huge accomplishment, making sure that kids go to school and they have to feel like they belong there," Knowles said. "And that's not just for African American students, that's for all of our students."

He said the program includes keeping a close eye on bullying, hate "and on making sure we are supporting our LGBTQ+ students."



The Diamond Ranch Dance Company



Ballet Folklórico de Pomona High

"This year we successfully had our math field day, our robotics field day, a spelling bee, science fair and tons of field trips," Knowles said. "Our students went on to county

and competed and many of them placed at the county level. We're so proud of them."

He also gave a shout out to the State of the District... pg. 7

# HELP WANTED

## FOR IN-HOME FOSTER CARE

Help us help others!

Se habla Español

EVERYONE WELCOME



### REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be 21 Years Old
- Proof of Income
- Own Transportation
- Pass a Biometric Check
- Space Available

### AGENCY PROVIDES:

- Free Training
- Tax Free Reimbursement
- 24/7 Social Worker Support
- Medical for Children
- Activities For All Families



**SMILES AND TEARS**  
CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES  
FOSTER FAMILY AGENCY

Call Now To Schedule a Free Orientation:  
**909-469-9580**

925 N. Garey Ave., Pomona, CA 91767

e-mail: [admin@smilesandtears.org](mailto:admin@smilesandtears.org) • [www.smilesandtears.org](http://www.smilesandtears.org)



CDSS License  
#197806568



# CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2024!

YOUR JOURNEY HAS JUST BEGUN.  
HERE'S TO ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES  
AND A FUTURE FILLED WITH  
SUCCESS. GO MAKE YOUR MARK!





## City of Pomona sewing classes, created from within the community, still popular after 20 years!

“I shouldn’t tell sewing jokes -- I’m always running out of new material.” (Comedian unknown)

But fortunately, you won’t be running out of anything if you want to learn more about sewing and sign up for City of Pomona sewing classes at either Ralph Welch Park or Philadelphia Park.

The classes have been offered for 20 years and have benefited countless Pomona residents, said former Pomona City Councilmember Cristina Carrizosa, who added the sewing program originally was offered to help families near the Angela Chanslor Apartments save money or supplement their income.

Carrizosa said the city was able to purchase 10 sewing machines for a total of \$1,000 in District Three discretionary funds with City Council approval. And, she said, those machines are still in use today.

She added that the instructor for



Photo by Renee Barbee  
**Maria Guzman**

the classes, Mrs. Maria Guzman, has been with the program since its inception when she started as a volunteer.

Philadelphia School allowed the city to use an old portable

classroom for the classes. The classes later moved into the Philadelphia Park Community Center.

Today, the program has expanded to include additional classes in Ralph Welch Park.

And Mrs. Guzman eventually was employed by the city’s Recreation Programs and Services Department.

“Mrs. Guzman gave her talent, patience and time for free for many years,” Carrizosa said.

La Nueva Voz sat down this month with Mrs. Guzman at Philadelphia Park to get a first-hand look at how the program works.

She said more than 30 students total are currently enrolled in the program at the two locations.

Students learn embroidery and crochet -- originally at Philadelphia Park until residents on the other side of town started asking for sewing classes at Ralph Welch. She said Carrizosa helped make that possible.

Mrs. Guzman discussed it with her supervisor at the city and they agreed to expand into Ralph Welch “because the neighborhood over there, the seniors . . . around Ralph Welch Park . . . we need something in the community center,” she said. “That’s why they liked to go over there.”

Mrs. Guzman added that it was really Carrizosa who started the club at the Philadelphia Park Community Center.

Then how does it all work?

“They just start -- when they start coming, they didn’t know how to use the sewing machine,” Mrs. Guzman explained. “They started sewing paper on (the) lines. Now they can make dresses, they can make pillows, whatever they need.”

And she is teaching the students herself -- including many seniors even up to the age of 90 or 95 and younger students as young as 18.

“They sew everything they need at home . . . starting from the babies to the oldest at home,” she added.

Classes are open to everyone and are held from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Tuesdays at Philadelphia and Thursdays at Ralph Welch. And they continue throughout the year, with new students joining at any time (Philadelphia currently is full and has a waiting list).

Best of all, the classes are free. For more information, call the Palomares Park Community Center at (909) 620-2324 or visit the city’s web site at <https://recreation.ci.pomona.ca.us/wbwsc/webtrac.wsc/splash.html> (click on adult and senior programs).

And thanks to former Pomona City Councilmember Cristina Carrizosa who made us aware of Guzman’s excellent work in the community.

*Editor’s note: Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz interviewed Guzman for this story.*

**For ads, call  
(909) 629-2292**



# GUTIERREZ LAW FIRM

- Civil Rights
- Worker's Compensation
- Criminal Law
- Family Law
- Accidents
- Bankruptcy
- Conservatorships

- Derechos Civiles*
- Compensacion al Trabajador*
- Casos Criminales*
- Casos de Familia*
- Accidentes*
- Bancarrota*
- 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](mailto:jpsglaw@gmail.com)  
Website: [gutierrezlaw.info](http://gutierrezlaw.info)

## (909) 791-1313

## LAGUNA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

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

### Celebrating 20 Years of Service!



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

**Telephone:**  
(909) 623-6800

**Email:**  
[info@LagunaTechCollege.com](mailto:info@LagunaTechCollege.com)





**Arturo Jimenez,  
President**



**Supervisor Solis lauds President Biden's proclaiming expansion of San Gabriel Mountains National Monument, calling land a 'Los Angeles County treasure'**

Elected officials went up in the San Gabriel Mountains this month to officially celebrate an expansion of the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument adding another 105,919 acres of U.S. Forest Service lands to the current 346,177 acres given "monument" status 10 years ago by President Obama.

The expansion, made possible by President Biden's signature on a proclamation, was intended to protect "distinctive flora and fauna, unique geology, and evidence of centuries of occupation and use by Tribal Nations and Indigenous peoples, Spanish missionaries and colonists, Mexican rancheros, and Euro-American settlers and prospectors," the document said.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, in a prepared statement released earlier this month when Biden signed the proclamation, called the land "a Los Angeles County treasure for both Tribal Nations and many local communities that lack access to green and open spaces."

"I was proud to be the leading advocate during my tenure in Congress for preserving the

San Gabriel Mountains and ensuring a designated stream of funding that would protect the area's sacred significance and enhance conservation efforts for future generations," Solis said. "That dream became a reality in 2014 when former President Barack Obama declared the San Gabriel Mountains a national monument."

She said Biden's expansion move helps "increase access to ancestral spaces, expand recreational opportunities, and improve public health."

"I applaud President Biden for this historic action to conserve, protect and restore these important lands," Solis added.

Boundaries of the original Obama "monument" area 10

years ago extended roughly from an area north of Ontario to an area north of San Fernando.

The Biden expansion added a foothill section of acreage

roughly from just north of San Fernando to an area north of Pasadena.

Joining Solis at last week's event in the mountains were U.S.



**OFFICIALS MARK PRESIDENT BIDEN'S EXPANSION OF SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS PROTECTED STATUS** -- Officials gathered for photos this month in the foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains to acknowledge President Biden's signature on a proclamation expanding the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument status. Pictured at the Lario Staging Area in Irwindale, from left, are Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, Pacific Southwest Regional Forester Jen Eberlien, U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla, Brian Gonzalez of Nature for All Leadership Academy, Congresswoman Judy Chu, Kizh tribal member Michael Lemos, and Congresswoman Grace Napolitano.

Sen. Alex Padilla, Congresswomen Judy Chu and Grace Napolitano and others.

Management of the areas protected under Obama's original Proclamation 9194 10 years ago will remain the same.

Since their first day in office, Biden and Vice President Harris have delivered on the most ambitious climate and conservation agenda in history. This includes Biden's "America the Beautiful Initiative," which is supporting locally led conservation efforts across the country with a goal to protect, conserve and restore at least 30 percent of U.S. lands and waters by 2030.

The Biden-Harris administration already has conserved more than 41 million acres of lands and waters, putting Biden on track to conserve more lands and waters than any U.S. president in history.

**Pomona's Only Community Newspaper!**  
**Advertising with us is easy!**  
[www.lanuevavoz.net](http://www.lanuevavoz.net)



**Photo by Renee Barbee**

**POMONA OPTIMIST STUDENTS OF THE MONTH** -- Members of the Pomona Optimist Club announced their students of the month last month at Pomona's Metro Event Center for February and March. All four students this time were from Pomona's Roosevelt Elementary School. Pictured, from left, are Optimist Vice President Sonia Molina, February winners Robert Najera and Ameris Jasso, both fifth graders, Anthony Moreno representing State Sen. Susan Rubio, sixth grader Allen Brown (March winner), Optimist President Lorraine Canales, and sixth grader Guadalupe Rojas (March winner).

**Do you have a news story?**  
**We want to hear from you or your organization.**  
**Send your news tips to:**  
**[reneebarbee7@gmail.com](mailto:reneebarbee7@gmail.com)**

# Ánimo.

**Eso es lo que necesito para enfrentar el Alzheimer.**

No es fácil aceptar que los problemas de memoria puedan ser un signo de la enfermedad de Alzheimer y no solo una parte normal del envejecimiento.

Pero puedo reducir mi riesgo, controlando mi presión arterial y mi diabetes tipo 2.

Porque yo tengo la valentía para **enfrentar el Alzheimer.**

Obtén más información en [EnfrentaALZ.com](http://EnfrentaALZ.com)

**ENFRENTA ALZ**

**Editor's Note:** This page is the second in a series of a Phase Three statewide program with three focus areas -- "Anti-Hate," "Socioeconomic Justice and Equity" and "Health." The program is supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the California State Library in partnership with the California Department of Social Services and the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs as part of the "Stop the Hate" program. To report a hate incident or hate crime and get support, go to <https://www.cavshate.org/>.

## Hate, Justice, Equity and Health – Phase Three of an on-going series as La Nueva Voz participates in a statewide program as newspapers attempt to help make a difference

### Pomona working on 'socioeconomic justice and equity,' but issues go back decades, expected to take more work

By Jeff Schenkel, Publisher

Just using the term "socioeconomic justice and equity" in a sentence pretty much is a tip-off that the story is going to be about some complex issues.

Here in Pomona, it can be a bit of a challenge to try to address what the community believes should be done in this area, and it can be even more difficult to try to assess what is actually being accomplished here locally by elected officials on the Pomona City Council.

Dr. Patrick Horn, senior minister at Pomona's Pilgrim Congregational Church for nearly five years, helped sort it all out this month in a telephone interview at the request of La Nueva Voz.

"There are a lot of really good people in Pomona, good hearted people, people who want to build a good community in which people are treated fairly and a community that we can be proud of," he said.



Dr. Patrick Horn

In other words, he explained, Pomona is a community that really does a good job of taking care of one another.

"So I guess what I would say is that the results are mixed, but I don't think it is necessarily because people don't have their hearts in the right place . . . these issues are deep, they run deep, they go back decades, inequities, the complexities of bureaucracy, these things make fairness and equality very challenging to try to fix or make better," he said.

"The first thing that I want to say is that I'm not an expert in policy issues," Horn told La Nueva Voz. "However, I am familiar with the policy issues."

He said he is "probably most influenced" by the book "The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How our Government Segregated America" by Richard Rothstein.

The book, he said, provides a technical look at the practices of the Federal Housing Administration, real estate associations and banks and how they helped to create structural racism.

"Just again from a non-expert perspective, it seems fairly obvious that the United States has a deep history of structured racism, and this book makes about as good a case as any I've ever read," Horn said. "It just gives specific examples of where real estate associations and the FHA and local governments sort of colluded together to create unfair practices."

Historically, as La Nueva Voz pointed out in the interview, some of that was reported in mid-century Pomona when people of color were denied access to housing north of Holt Avenue, and Hispanics were prohibited from swimming in city-owned swimming pools on all but one day of the week.

And again, he pointed out, as a church, Pilgrim does not work on policy issues.

"We're not taking up these issues," he said. "I might use some examples from this book every now and then for sermon material but we don't have committees that work on policy issues."

Then what is the position of the church?

"As a church, we believe that the highest forms of justice, that is of equality and goodness and fairness, that the highest standards for us rest in God, and so our worship and prayers and our service to God are oriented to these highest standards," he

explained.

"So, a big part of what we're doing as a community is to try to get people to commit themselves at a higher and higher level to these values of goodness and love and justice," he said.

And, he added, this obviously would include fairness and equity in political policies.

"So when I say our church doesn't work on policies, I mean that we don't do the detailed work of local governments and committees on these issues, but we do believe that the highest moral values that we appeal to as a community, we do feel that we have an influence there," he said.

"And certainly as a Christian community, we would appeal to many of the statements of Jesus concerning those who are on the margins or live outside of the structures of society, and the way that Jesus ministered to these people really called into question those structures and the way these people were marginalized," he added.

"So we recognize that governmental policies and institutional policies and banks and realtors associations and things of this sort do have moral elements and important moral elements that shape the kind of community that we are," Horn said.

He moved to Claremont in 1993 as a student at Claremont Graduate University, so he has had an opportunity to watch the community grow and change.

"Social moral issues, that is moral issues that have a great bearing on society and community and the way things go, these practices and habits run very, very deep," he said. "Number one, they don't generally change quickly. And then number two, they've been practiced for a long time before there were changes -- there are still lots of people who probably remember the 'good old days.'"

That means there are often lots of emotions associated with all of those stories, he added.

"Moral change in a society does not change quickly typically -- and this is where a church can help, when a church comes in," he said.

"We're constantly (at Pilgrim) challenging one another to moral reflection, we're constantly asking each other to think on these issues, to reflect on them . . . our own morality, how do we treat people, are we fair, are we just," Horn said.

And he said the role of the church in the community is to do just this -- "to constantly reflect on the good, the just, the loving."

He said as a church community, Pilgrim can participate in the coming of the Kingdom of God, "which simply is the arrival of just practices and loving practices and goodness."

"We are participating in that by constantly reflecting on what it means to be good in the community in which you live," he said.

Then how does the church come into play in the equity issue as it relates to workers of color who represent more than three out of every four low-income workers in California -- and who face distinct barriers to economic inclusion and advancement rooted in that structural racism?

Horn's response began with another caveat -- that neither he nor Pilgrim purports to hold any sort of expertise in these specific areas.

"Now having said that, we are a community that does include some low-wage workers and does include in some cases people who are not able to work at all," he said. "And then as a community, of course, in this particular area . . . we have daily interactions with people who live on the streets, many of whom we've encountered have clearly mental health difficulties and challenges (and) have obviously suffered from some of the inequities of our structures and institutions."

He said the response at Pilgrim to this is on a case-by-case basis.

"We're doing our best to **Working on 'socioeconomic justice and equity'... pg. 19**



## State of the District... from pg. 2

school board for taking a stand on another type of problem.

“The district is participating in a class action lawsuit against Juul (electronic cigarette company), and so that’s the vaping -- vaping is really a problem in this country and it’s a problem with our students, too,” he said. “I’m very excited that our board took a stand and we were part of many districts in the state that were part of that class action, and right now we just got a couple of checks that are a little bit over \$400,000.”

The funds, he said, will go toward preventive education and devices in restrooms that detect vaping.

Knowles reported that 700 students went on field trips this year focusing on trade union programs -- plumbers, electricians, brick layers, tile setters and others.

“They make a lot of money and we want our kids to take advantage of that,” he said, adding that the school district is working with the local unions on apprenticeship programs.

“We have 17 different career technical education pathways in our schools currently,” he said, including video game design, graphic design, law careers, business marketing, cosmetology and barbering, film and broadcasting and more.

And he said the district offers a manufacturing class that has resulted in several PUSD students working at SpaceX, the American spacecraft manufacturer and launch service provider founded by Elon Musk and headquartered in Hawthorne.

The district also now maintains wellness centers at all of the com-

prehensive high schools to provide support in a partnership with Pacific Clinics (behavioral health care and social services).

“We’ve increased our counselors -- our counselor ratio used to be like one in 600, and now our counselor ratio is one in 300,” Knowles said.

And in athletics, he said the girls

soccer team at Diamond Ranch High School won their league and won the state regional.

“All of our sports programs are doing phenomenal,” he said, citing as an example Garey High School where they play 17 different sports and won league in 15 of them.

The district includes 37 schools --

four comprehensive high schools, two secondary academies, two alternative schools, four middle schools, five K-8 schools, two charters, and 18 elementary schools.

And 425 students currently are enrolled in the district’s home school program.



**JOINT CHAMBER RIBBON CUTTING FOR CARNITAS AL ESTILO MICHOCACAN** -- Members of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Pomona held a joint ribbon-cutting last week to officially open Carnitas Al Estilo Michoacan (Michoacan Style Carnitas) at a new restaurant in Downtown Pomona. It is the third location for the restaurant which also serves the communities of Ontario and Moreno Valley. The Pomona location is at 280 N. Main St. (at Monterey Avenue). Offerings include everything from tacos and burritos to family specials and catering packages beginning at \$104.99. Pictured at left is Pomona Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee, at center (rear) are Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado and Pomona Chamber President and CEO Monique Robles, owners Rey and Teresa Sandoval, their daughter Victoria and, at right, Hispanic Chamber President Minerva Hernandez. For information, call (909) 622-0022 or visit the web site at [carnitasalestilomichoacan.com](http://carnitasalestilomichoacan.com).

### 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](http://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.  
<https://pomonaca.gov/ppl-digital-collections> and go to page 2 for La Nueva Voz.

Publisher: Jeff Schenkel

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

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

Layout & Design: Dora Cruz  
[dcruz1549@gmail.com](mailto:dcruz1549@gmail.com)

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

All major credit cards accepted!



Printed using soy-based inks.  
Copyright © 2024 South Coast Media Services

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

#### Aviso para los dueños de propiedades no reclamadas

**El contralor estatal de California está salvaguardando dinero en efectivo, valores y objetos de valor de millones de personas y empresas.**  
**¿Podría pertenecerle alguna de ellas?**



Por ley, las empresas y las instituciones deben entregar bienes como cuentas bancarias, cheques sin cobrar, beneficios de seguros, acciones, bonos de ahorro y los contenidos de las cajas de seguridad cuando, por lo general, no ha habido actividad en la cuenta ni contacto con el dueño durante tres años. La Oficina del Contralor Estatal tiene propiedades no reclamadas de más de 76 millones de personas y organizaciones.



Busque [claimit.ca.gov](http://claimit.ca.gov) o llame al 1-800-992-4647



Muchas de las reclamaciones de propiedades se pueden presentar de manera electrónica. No existe una fecha límite para reclamar su propiedad. Comuníquese con la Oficina del Contralor Estatal para obtener información sobre el monto o la descripción de la propiedad que le pertenece a usted.



State Controller's Office, Unclaimed Property Division  
P.O. Box 942850, Sacramento, CA 94250-5873

Servicio de retransmisión (teléfono) de California para personas sordas o con problemas de audición desde teléfonos  
TDD: 1-800-735-2929 y pregunte por 1-800-992-4647

## Pomona transit... from pg. 1

continue to state that the closure is permanent, and customers now seeking service are forced to travel some 11.8 miles to the West Covina transit store located in Foothill's headquarters office building. The annual savings resulting from the closure, according to Foothill's documents, was only \$40,000 out of an annual budget of \$230 million.

Federal Transit Administration officials in Washington, D.C., already are investigating the closure – in response to questions from La Nueva Voz regarding possible legal, administrative or punitive penalties or fines – based on alleged non-compliance with federal regulations.

La Nueva Voz even asked federal officials if they could require from their end that Foothill reopen the facility in Pomona, but their response is still pending.

Foothill Transit was investigated by the FTA in 2016 for non-compliance with implementation requirements for its Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program, part of "49 Code of Federal Regulations Part 21, nondiscrimination in federally assisted programs of the Department of Transportation – effectuation of Title VI of the

Civil Rights Act of 1964" by FTA grant recipients and subrecipients, according to a letter (discovered by La Nueva Voz in an online search) to Foothill Transit from John Day, FTA's program manager for policy and technical assistance.

In that instance, Foothill was determined to have "substantive deficiencies" in its DBE program plan due to rule changes, and was ordered to "re-evaluate its DBE goal" to determine if its adjustment to a goal of 3.5 percent from a base figure of 20.6 percent was "justifiable."

The bus company also was ordered to implement procedures to ensure required DBE contract provisions are included in all FTA-assisted contracts and subcontracts.

The DBE regulations are required to ensure non-discrimination in the award and administration of Department of Transportation-assisted contracts in its transit financial assistance programs.

Foothill Transit's own current Title VI analysis conceded the bus company was in non-compliance when it abruptly closed the Pomona Transit Store.

Federal law required the Title VI review – because federal funds are

involved – to ensure the service cut in Pomona did not place a burden on low-income riders and those who identify as Black, Indigenous or people of color (BIPOC).

The bus company tossed in a work-around as a mitigation measure, claiming that adding eight Saturday operating hours a month at the West Covina store would take care of the problem.

Meanwhile, Preciado told La Nueva Voz in February (see page 7, Feb. 22, 2024 issue of La Nueva Voz at [www.lanuevavoz.net](http://www.lanuevavoz.net)) that "hopefully" the Pomona store will reopen after remodeling which is just now getting under way.

La Nueva Voz tried to pin him down a bit more in an interview on the LA County Fair midway this month following an opening day ribbon-cutting.

"I do want to bring it back," Preciado said.

La Nueva Voz asked if he would commit to getting it on an agenda and bringing in a motion to make certain it will return after the remodel.

"I don't know what the scope is going to look like," he said. "I will bring back a version that will be

sufficient for them (transit customers) whether we have to provide our own station there where the location is, whether we have those services with the people who give the Get About (transportation services for seniors) in City Hall . . . a version of it will come back."

"As soon as we get the services back, I'll let you know," Preciado said. "As soon as I know we'll be getting the services back, I'll let you know."

La Nueva Voz took it a step further and asked Preciado what his reaction would be if the on-going investigation of the closure at the Federal Transit Administration resulted in punitive measures or financial penalties for non-compliance.

"If the FTA gives the joint powers authority a punishment, then there will be repercussions to those that moved forward on this, right?" Preciado said, referring to Foothill staff members involved. The entire store closure matter was handled as a staff decision without action by either the joint powers authority or Foothill's executive board, although Foothill staff has maintained board members were kept apprised of the action and its impact.

Preciado promised to keep La Nueva Voz updated on any developments on this aspect of the matter, as well.

In the middle of all of this, La Nueva Voz reached out to local staff members of Congresswoman Norma Torres to see if Torres would be able to give the FTA a little push to get the Foothill review matter a higher priority for expedited investigation.

Torres is a senior member of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development.

Her Ontario office forwarded a La Nueva Voz e-mail to the Washington office and the response was surprising – Torres was not willing to step up to the plate on the matter, despite the fact that it involves 22,000 people in her district and part of her work in Congress involves transportation matters.

"The Congresswoman has no comment, as this is not a matter of federal jurisdiction," said Julia Rudy, who identified herself as Torres' press assistant and digital manager.

She referred La Nueva Voz back to the governing board of Foothill Transit.

La Nueva Voz responded to clarify that Congress controls the federal agencies and the FTA is a federal agency, and offered her an opportunity to revise her position before publication of this story, but no further response has been received.

La Nueva Voz also gave Torres' district office in Ontario an opportunity to take another shot at a response, but we haven't heard back.

To clarify, the FTA is part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, which is headed by Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, a member of the President's cabinet.

Back in Pomona, La Nueva Voz reached out to City Hall on the status of the remodeling of the interior of the Pomona Transit Center building.

Public Works Director Rene Guerrero responded that the building in question is owned by the city and that design is under way for "Americans with Disabilities Act" improvements to the two restrooms.

"At this time, we do not have a start date or a cost estimate," Guerrero said, so it was not clear when the facility will be able to reopen.

Foothill officials have continued to argue that many of their services are available online. However, many of its riders – and many of those 22,000 people using the now-closed Pomona facility each year – do not have access to computers, cell phones or the internet.

For those who are interested in the statistics, the West Covina office logged only 9,161 "walk-in" customers last year compared to the 22,000 in Pomona.

And it is low-income riders and others that the bus company was created to serve.

In fact, La Nueva Voz first heard of the closure from a reader who is a Foothill rider and depends solely on the bus company for his transportation. We have heard from others since.

Even with all the still-unanswered questions, it was refreshing this month to see Preciado's willingness to pick up the ball on this one. And yes, we'll continue to track the issue as it develops.

*Editor's Note: This "opinion" article is the fourth in a series on the Pomona transit store closure issue. The first three appeared in the January, February and March issues of La Nueva Voz and can be found under "past issues" at [www.lanuevavoz.net](http://www.lanuevavoz.net).*



# Specialty Medical

♥ Custom Care



Doug Sullivan  
Owner/Sales

- **Motopatines, sillas que se elevan, camas, servicio, reparación, instalaciones**
- **La mayoría de seguros son aceptados**

**specialtymed.com**



CELL 626-688-5326 BUSINESS/FAX 800-619-6826  
2680 Pomona Blvd. Suite B Pomona, Ca 91768



Mobility- Standard/Rehab, Scooters, Recreational Vehicles, Batteries, Vehicle Lifts,  
Lift Chairs, Beds, Portable Oxygen, Service, Repair, Installs  
Medicare, LA Care, IEHP, Blue Cross, HealthNet - Compliance Team Accreditation





# GetCareNow!

Reserve your ER arrival time for non-life threatening emergencies.



## Faster treatment so they'll get back to being rock stars!

With **GetCareNow**, you have the power to schedule your arrival time, minimizing wait times and ensuring prompt attention from our dedicated medical team. Scan the QR code to reserve your ER arrival time.

CHINO:  
[cvmc.com/  
getcarenow](http://cvmc.com/getcarenow)



**Chino Valley Medical Center**  
Emergency Room  
5451 Walnut Avenue  
909-464-8600

MONTCLAIR:  
[montclair-hospital.org/  
getcarenow](http://montclair-hospital.org/getcarenow)



**Montclair Hospital Medical Center**  
Emergency Room  
5000 San Bernardino Street  
909-625-5411

SAN DIMAS:  
[sandimashospital.com/  
getcarenow](http://sandimashospital.com/getcarenow)



**San Dimas Community Hospital**  
Emergency Room  
1350 Covina Boulevard  
909-599-6811

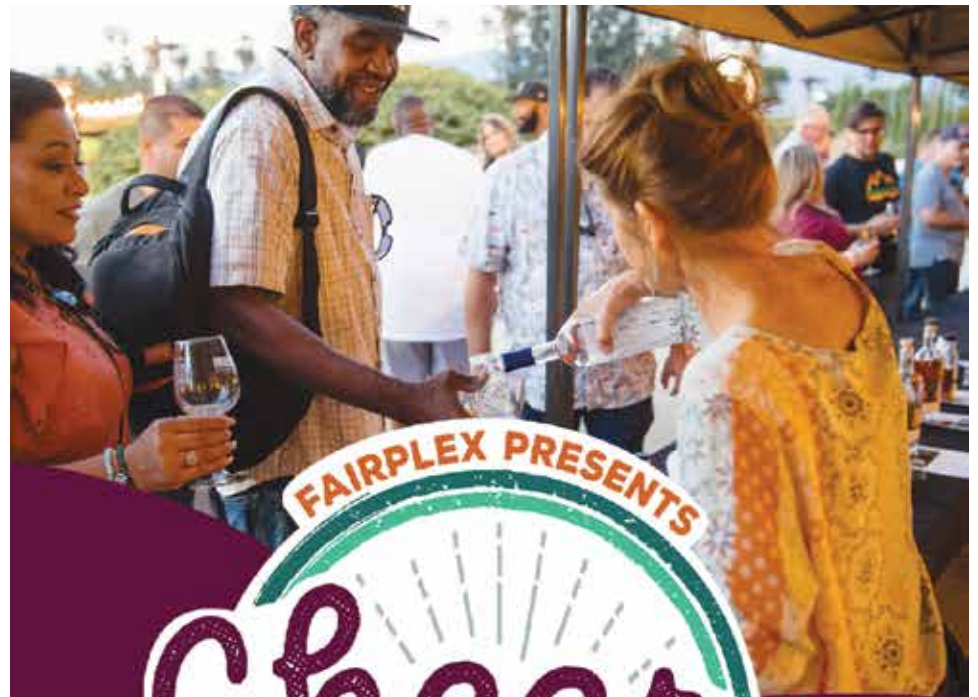


Chino Valley Medical Center  
Montclair Hospital Medical Center  
San Dimas Community Hospital

Members of Prime Healthcare | Inland Empire Region

TRUVEN HEALTH ANALYTICS

**15 TOP  
HEALTH SYSTEMS**



**WINE, SPIRITS, BEER  
& OLIVE OIL FESTIVAL  
AT THE FARM AT FAIRPLEX**



**SATURDAY,  
JUNE 22  
7-10 P.M.**



**TICKETS ON  
SALE NOW**  
[Fairplex.com/Cheers](http://Fairplex.com/Cheers)



Proceeds benefit the educational programs of  
The Learning Centers at Fairplex







**Certified DREAM DEAL** - Sales Event -

**1.99% APR** financing

for well-qualified buyers on select HondaTrue Certified and HondaTrue Certified 2019-2024 Civic, Accord, HR-V, CR-V, and Pilot vehicles.

Now through July 1, 2024.

**“Get Pre-Approved without running your credit!”**

[www.metrohonda.com/free-credit-score](http://www.metrohonda.com/free-credit-score)

**Honda Service Pass**

**Complimentary Maintenance\*** for 2 Years/24,000 Miles

**0.9% APR** FOR UP TO 36 MONTHS

ON ALL NEW 2024 Honda Models

Happy Memorial Day

**COLLEGE GRADUATE OFFER**

**\$500**

**MILITARY APPRECIATION OFFER**

**\$500**

9399 Autoplex Drive, Montclair, CA 91763 • (909) 625-5000 [metrohonda.com](http://metrohonda.com)

Terms available on approved credit. Expires 7/1/24. See Metro Honda for Complete Details. Subject to vehicle availability.  
 Los términos de acuerdo a crédito aprobado. Efectivo hasta 7/1/24. Visite Metro Honda para detalles completos. Sujeto a disponibilidad de vehículos.



# Leading the Way in Patient Safety



*The Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade is an elite designation from The Leapfrog Group, a national, independent watchdog that sets the highest standards for patient safety in the United States.*

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVHMC) has earned the nation's top distinction for patient safety with an "A" from the Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade for the second consecutive time. The "A" recognizes our high standards in patient safety. This honor belongs to every one of our 3,700 Associates and 700 Physicians, who work every day to provide exceptional health care for our patients.



*Expert care with a personal touch*

1798 N. Garey Ave., Pomona, CA 91767 • 909.865.9500

[www.pvhmc.org](http://www.pvhmc.org)



## Garey High School band hits it out of park with Disney theme spring concert!

Everybody knows the award-winning Garey High School band is amazing -- but after hearing their second night of a two-night run of their Disney themed spring concert last week in the high school gym, it just seemed like they get better every time.

The "Music Extravaganza 2024: A Disney Celebration!" included video clips from the movies -- "Mary Poppins," "Pirates of the Caribbean," "The Lion King" and other classics.

Special effects included a professional fog machine, enough microphones for the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and a disco-style mirror ball that, combined with the spotlights, helped transform the high school gymnasium into something truly Disney.

It really made the audience feel like they were in the middle of the entire production -- and they didn't know whether to look up at the screen or down at the musicians.

Part of the credit goes to Anthony Bonner who conducted most of the show and is now heading up secondary music instruction for Pomona Unified School District. And part of the credit goes to Jorge Zuniga, his long-time assistant, on the drums who was really holding the orchestra (sorry, can't keep calling these amazing students a band any longer) together from the back.

Bonner, by the way, is a Garey graduate himself.

But it was the talent of the students themselves who pulled it off once again -- with the audience and La Nueva Voz continuing to follow the action from the violins on the left



Photos by Renee Barbee  
Garey High School band hits it out of park with Disney theme spring concert!

to the flutes (and even one piccolo) on the right.

And then there was an amazing first violin player (take your pick -- first chair or concertmaster), Diego Urena, a junior, always one step down from the conductor, who stayed on top of the music and the tempo throughout the show.

The other violins, of course, were following his lead -- bows moving up and down in synch on

the strings -- but it was clear to see why Bonner picked him for the job just from the way he handled his instrument.

He even stepped down for one tune to walk to the back and play electric guitar standing next to Zuniga.

But make no mistake about it -- there were no slow parts or weak spots, and the audience loved every moment. And many audience members left with the impression



Anthony Bonner presents a Legacy Award to Audrey Goveya.



Anthony Bonner presents a Legacy Award to Julia Cortez.

that they were as good as or better than many community or city bands and orchestras.

This year's three "Legacy Awards" were presented to three Garey High School alumni for their "unwavering support and significant contributions to the arts within our community and Garey High School."

The winners were Pomona Unified's Community Schools Coordinator Julia Cortez, who is retiring, Victor Lopez of Vic's Bike Shop, and Audrey Goveya, who is now steering Garey's Associated Student Body, according to program notes.

Cortez, who is retiring this year after 40 years of service, graduated from Garey with the Class of 1981. She has been active with the school's drill team, has worked closely with families in their "greatest hours of need," and during the pandemic often volunteered delivering food and reassuring quarantined students and their families.

She has also been a long-time supporter of the Garey music department.

Lopez, a talented trumpet player and Garey High graduate of the Class of 2003, has been a long-time supporter of the Garey music program and never hesitates to assist when asked for a sponsorship.



Garey's Anthony Bonner, at left, presents a Legacy Award to Victor Lopez.



Garey Principal Roddy Layton

He also actively collaborates with the City of Pomona bike program and is a familiar face in the cycling community.

And Goveya is a proud graduate of Garey and a descendant of Garey Vikings and Pomona Unified alumni. Her leadership has been instrumental in the daily operations of student body activities and her "spirit and commitment to excellence" make her not just a leader but a true Viking at heart. She was honored for her "unwavering service and dedication to the Garey High School community."



Garey's flag team performs at "A Disney Celebration."



# The 2024 LA County Fair through the lens of a camera!

## There's still time to see the 2024 LA County Fair -- and all that goes with it!

The 2024 LA County Fair, on the theme this year "Stars, Stripes & Fun," was designed to celebrate the medley of communities that comprise Los Angeles County -- and it did all that and more!

And La Nueva Voz readers still have a few days to see it all for themselves -- the 102nd anniversary Fair will be open through the entire Memorial Day weekend.

Don't miss this chance to experience everything the Fair always has to offer plus, this year, you can experience a real roller skating rink fashioned after rinks from back in the day, and you can walk from the rink to the other end of Building 9 and see if you still have what it takes to rack up a few million points on a pinball machine.

Need more reasons? Walk up the midway to The Big Red Barn on your left to see the animals, and on the right Plaza de las Americas complete with live entertainment. Wind picking up late in the day? You can pick up a jacket or a serape while you are there with prices starting at \$65.

On the way down the slope to the flower and garden building where this year's theme is "We are L.A.," be sure to stop by Pink's hot dogs for a turkey dog.

And if you like the rides, this year's Fair has two kinds of "bumper" cars -- the "old school" type on the metal floor and a floating boat-style car in about 18 inches of water.

Don't like Pink's? The Fair's got turkey legs, corn dogs, funnel cake, tacos and more.

And, of course, the Fair is for all ages but especially for children. On Pomona Day at the Fair, Fairplex President and CEO Walter Marquez told Pomona elected officials, commissioners and

residents that kids had been bused in from schools throughout Southern California.

"We have thousands of kids roaming the grounds right now, thinking they are having fun but really what they are doing is education," Marquez said. "We disguise it as fun. They're getting informed about the animals."

And he said the kids were also "roaming around" at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art exhibit, in a partnership with the Millard Sheets Gallery at the Fair for a special Cinco de Mayo exhibit.

And he reminded the Pomona Day guests that the relationship between the Fair and Pomona goes all the way back to the Fair's beginnings.

"It was about 103 years ago that Pomona merchants looked across a barley field and said 'we think this is where the county fair should be,'" Marquez said. "And sure enough, here we are still on the same grounds that were there 102 years ago."

"It is something that this city should be proud of because the impact that we have on community, the impact that this has to the county, not only L.A. County in which we are located but San Bernardino County, Riverside County, Orange County, we get guests from all over Southern California coming here to the City of Pomona to celebrate what is the county fair," he said.

And the LA County Fair has continued to make history throughout the years.

"This was the home where the Frisbee was introduced to the nation," Marquez said. "This is the home where washers and dryers got to be tested for the first time and introduced to California. The impact of entrepreneurship exists here on our grounds."

Fairplex Board Vice Chair Mike Driebe welcomed



Fairplex President and CEO  
Walter Marquez



LA County Fair mascots Thummer, at left, and Lilly



Fairplex Board Vice Chair Mike Driebe



Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval

the group to the Fair, and introduced Fair mascots Thummer and Lilly.

"This fair is integral to who we are as a city -- it is the Pomona Fair to a lot of people still," Driebe said. "And we try to continue to be in concert with the changing demographics of the community that we serve."

Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval welcomed guests to the Fair and encouraged them to have a "wonderful, wonderful time at the Fair."

The flower and garden building at the Fair this year is decked out on the theme "We Are L.A."



Interested in home arts? They have everything as always -- from hand-made dresses and an American flag to a cake that looks like a chess set and the Titanic.







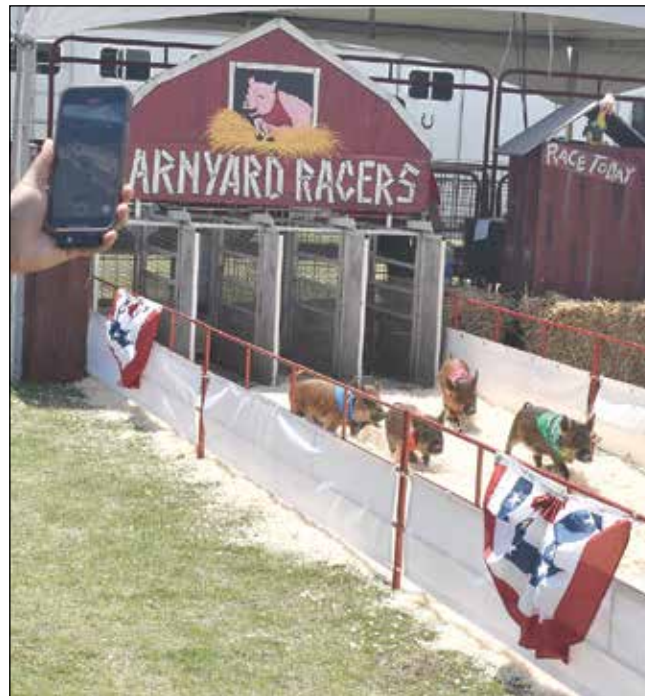
Fair favorite Chicken Charlie, at left, told La Nueva Voz at a Fair media preview day that his new item this year is a hot honey funnel cake chicken sandwich, based on a fried chicken breast “nestled” inside two funnel cake buns and topped off with a hot honey he makes in house. “It’ll make your hair stand up,” Charlie said, adding that items from past years are back like bacon wrapped pickles and a Maui chicken and naked shrimp dish that is “to die for.” And a first timer at this year’s Fair was the Spam stand with “BobaKing Bubble Tea,” top photo, offered by Sean Rocha of Rock’s Concessions out of Arizona.



Roller skating in a blast from the past skating rink in Building 9 at the Fair? Now you're talking. Even Fairplex President and CEO Walter Marquez told guests at Pomona Day at the Fair he had a chance to try out the rink while waiting for a television crew at 4 a.m. -- and he did it all without a spill.



Fairplex officials, area city councilmembers, school district officials, State Sen. Susan Rubio, Fairplex Board members and others cut the ribbon on opening day to kick off the 2024 LA County Fair. Pictured with the scissors, fourth from left, is new Fairplex Board Chair John Landherr, who has served on the Board since 2015. Landherr is President and CEO of A-Z Bus Sales, Inc., which serves education, government, public sector, commercial and private fleet markets.



Those popular pig races -- with other barnyard animals as well -- got started early on preview day at the Fair.




Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz got in some practice time to make sure her pinball skills were still up to par -- and they were (although she said the next day her arms were a little sore from operating the flippers).





AMPUTATIONS • ARTHRITIS • BALANCE DISORDERS & DIZZINESS • BRAIN INJURIES • BURNS • CONCUSSIONS • EAR, NOSE & THROAT CONDITIONS • EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROMES • FIBROMYALGIA • FOOT & ANKLE CONDITIONS • HAND INJURIES • HEADACHES • HEARING LOSS • INCONTINENCE • INDUSTRIAL INJURIES • INFECTIOUS DISEASES • JOINT REPLACEMENT • LYMPHEDEMA • MOVEMENT • ORTHOPEDIC SURGICAL DISORDERS • ORTHOPEDIC INJURIES • OSTEOPOROSIS • PARKINSON'S DISEASE • PLAIN • SPINAL CORD INJURIES • SPRAINS • STRAINS • WOUNDS • AMPUTATIONS • ARTHRITIS • BALANCE DISORDERS & DIZZINESS • BRAIN INJURIES • BURNS • CONCUSSIONS • EAR, NOSE & THROAT CONDITIONS • EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROMES • FIBROMYALGIA • FOOT & ANKLE CONDITIONS • HAND INJURIES • HEADACHES • HEARING LOSS

# Care that reaches for the stars.



**OVERALL HOSPITAL QUALITY**  
★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
**2023**  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services

OUTSTANDING PATIENT EXPERIENCE AWARD™  
2020-2024  
healthgrades

AMERICA'S 100 Best SPINE SURGERY™  
2021-2024  
healthgrades

BACK AND NECK SURGERY FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT™  
2021-2023  
healthgrades

JOINT REPLACEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD™  
2020-2023  
healthgrades






SPINAL FUSION SURGERY FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT™  
2021-2024  
healthgrades


SPINE SURGERY EXCELLENCE AWARD™  
2022-2024  
healthgrades

TOTAL HIP REPLACEMENT FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT™  
2021-2023  
healthgrades

TOTAL KNEE REPLACEMENT FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT™  
2019-2024  
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*.



255 East Bonita Avenue, Pomona, CA  
909/596-7733 • [www.casacolina.org](http://www.casacolina.org)  
For employment opportunities, visit [www.casacolina.org/jobs](http://www.casacolina.org/jobs)

[f](#) [@](#) [X](#) [v](#)

## Pomona's 'Kindness Carnival' accepting applications for event in October

By Renee Barbee, Member, Compassionate Pomona, Lead Organizer and Committee Chair

The fourth annual Pomona Kindness Carnival, created and produced each year by the organization known as Compassionate Pomona, is accepting applications for Resource Organizations for this year's event scheduled for Oct. 5 at Washington Park.

A Resource Organization is a non-profit. Our committee chose to use the wording "Resource Organization" instead of vendors as vendors sell items. The cost to be a Resource Organization is \$40 which includes a free tee shirt.

The Resource Organizations who participate in the Kindness Carnival, which began four years ago, are a way to give out resources, such as brochures, flyers, pamphlets, and anything else which will help families in need.

Last year we had 55 Resource Organizations sign up for our third annual Kindness Carnival, which was held at the Pomona Civic Center for the first time. More

than 1,000 people attended during a Second Saturday in October.

This year, our fourth annual Kindness Carnival will take place at Washington Park at Grand and Towne Avenues.

"Resource Organizations" are to arrive by noon to set up and be ready by 1:45 p.m., and the Kindness Carnival will begin at 2 p.m. and end at 5 p.m.

This event is FREE for the public to attend.

There will be food trucks, entertainment, popcorn and snow cone machines and fun for the entire family.

Please contact Renee Barbee by e-mail at [reneebarbee7@gmail.com](mailto:reneebarbee7@gmail.com) or by phone at (909) 762-1446 for information and/or to register to be a Resource Organization.

Or visit the web site at [www.compassionatepomona.org](http://www.compassionatepomona.org).

Deadline for applications is Friday, Aug. 30.

Thank you on behalf of our committee!



Renee Barbee



Photo by Renee Barbee

**TEA FOR THE SOUL** -- One of the most well-attended and, while we're at it, dressiest events held each year at Pomona's Ebell Club House was held recently -- the annual Pomona Optimist Club's "Tea for the Soul," in which a couple of dozen tables -- each with an adult mentor -- were filled with young ladies in Pomona who were being honored -- and really treated like royalty -- before graduating from high school and heading off to college. The ladies were served by and catered to by Pomona leaders, all to show how they should expect to be treated by gentlemen. And yes, there's one of those gentlemen now on the right in the photo, just bringing in a fresh pot of tea. Everyone wore their finest hats and dresses for what is always a memorable event for all. Pomona Optimist Club President Lorraine Canales served as master of ceremonies and State Sen. Susan Rubio was the keynote speaker.





**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](mailto:NefCortez@gmail.com)  
[www.nefcortez.com](http://www.nefcortez.com)



Each office independently owned and operated.



## History buffs: Now you can visit 10 local adobes in one place!

The Historical Society of Pomona Valley will participate in this year's annual Adobe Days at the Dominguez Rancho Adobe next month in Rancho Dominguez (between Carson, Long Beach and Compton).

The free event is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 22, at the Dominguez Rancho Adobe Museum, 18127 S. Alameda St., Rancho Dominguez.

Included will be performances, speakers, a taco truck, activities and more.

Representatives and exhibits will be on hand from 10 local adobes including Adobe de Palomares in Pomona.

For information, visit the web site at [www.dominguezrancho.org](http://www.dominguezrancho.org) or call (310) 603-0088.



Pomona's favorite volunteer Lorraine Canales, in photo at left, goes to work on her latest blank canvas, a young guest at a "Celebrate Kids' Day" event at Delicious Freedom in Downtown Pomona. Canales teamed up with ice cream store owner Virginia Villasenor this month for an afternoon of free ice cream, face painting and crafts. Pictured at right is the finished product in a photo by Renee Barbee. More than 50 face paintings were completed, 120 ice creams were distributed, and more than 55 floral pots were decorated by the children for the moms at the event. Delicious Freedom is at 310 S. Thomas St., Pomona. For information, call (909) 461-6512.



Pictured at the "Celebrate Kids' Day" event this month at Pomona's Delicious Freedom is owner Virginia Villasenor with her daughter, Brianda Meewis, at left and her one-year-old granddaughter, Sophia Meewis, wondering exactly what that camera is doing in front of her.

(909) 629-2292

[www.lanuevavoz.net](http://www.lanuevavoz.net)

## Do you have a news story?

We want to hear from you or your organization.

Send your news tips to:  
[reneebarbee7@gmail.com](mailto:reneebarbee7@gmail.com)

## Welcome Home Diego!



Marine E-5 Diego Arias, Class of 2020 graduate from Garey High School where he played tuba in the music band, is returning home this month after serving four years in Okinawa, Japan.

His proud parents Rafael Arias and Adriana Carrasco -- and brothers Everado, Sebastian and Ismael Arias -- welcome him back home and wish him the best!

**Congratulations, Diego, and thank you for your service!**

THE BOARD OF THE POMONA  
PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION  
CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO OUR

## 2024 Mayor's Gala

THURSDAY, THE SIXTH OF JUNE  
HALF PAST 5 UNTIL 10 O'CLOCK  
IN THE EVENING

## All Jazzed Up

SHERATON FAIRPLEX CONFERENCE CENTER  
601 WEST MCKINLEY AVENUE  
POMONA, CALIFORNIA

[www.pomonalibraryfoundation.org/gala-2024](http://www.pomonalibraryfoundation.org/gala-2024)



POMONA PUBLIC  
LIBRARY FOUNDATION





**Your ad here!**

**(909)  
629-2292**

Have you ever been a victim of a hate crime or incident? Or do you know someone who has?

According to St. John's Community Health Legal Services program in Los Angeles and San Bernardino, this may include assault, bullying, derogatory name calling and the like based on your actual

## Help available for hate crime victims

or perceived gender, race or ethnicity or sexual orientation, religion or even disability.

The mission of St. John's is to prevent the further escalation of hate bias and to provide a proactive response to hate bias. The organization also provides holistic legal services to ensure stability, edu-

cate victims on their rights and to provide reassurance to survivors in their day to day lives. It also assists survivors with pursuing justice through the justice system.

Assistance may be provided to help with filing civil harassment restraining orders, victims advocacy, assistance with reporting, immigra-

tion relief based on qualifying survivors or other support on a case by case basis.

Legal services are free to qualifying residents of Los Angeles County with the support of the California Department of Social Services.

For more information, call (323) 541-1411.



Photo by Renee Barbee

It was Cinco de Mayo this month (OK, it was a week late but the Downtown Pomona Owners Association had to wait until Second Saturday) as one dance group, musical group and mariachi group after another showed a packed Shaun Diamond Plaza how to enjoy the Saturday night show.



Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz poses in front of a sign just inside the yellow gate at the LA County Fair highlighting the history of the Fair that dates to 1922.

## MAY IS WATER AWARENESS MONTH

Take this time to....



**Ditch the plastic waste!**  
Invest in a reusable water bottle.

**Conserve Water.** Turn off the tap when you can, it will help the environment.

**Install a water filter in your home.** It will save you money and can encourage you to stay hydrated.

**Get educated!** Request to tour your local retail water agency and learn more about your water supply system.

**Plant water-efficient California friendly native plants.** You'll save water and help provide homes for local ecosystems.

**Reuse Gray Water.** Use rain and shower water runoff for your plants. Your garden will thank you.

[www.threevalleys.com](http://www.threevalleys.com)





Pomona City Councilmember John Nolte, at right, this month presents a proclamation recognizing April 20 as "Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta Community Day" in the City of Pomona to members of the Latino and Latina Roundtable. Pictured, from left, are Roundtable members Mike Suarez (holding a student-designed tee-shirt), Rose Calderon and Roundtable President Jose Calderon.



Members of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley are honored by members of the Pomona City Council this month with a proclamation recognizing May 2024 as "Historic Preservation Month" in the City of Pomona. Pictured at right, next to Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, is Historical Society President Deborah Clifford.



Officials from Pomona's Tri City Mental Health accept a proclamation this month from Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, at right, recognizing May 2024 as Mental Health Awareness Month in Pomona. Pictured, from left, are Tri City Executive Director Rimmi Hundal, Tri City's Dana Barford, Director of Mental Health Services Act and Ethnic Services, and Sandoval. Tri City provides mental health services to residents of Pomona, Claremont and La Verne.

## Pain With Running? We Can Help

By Michele Rebozzi, PT, DPT, OCS; Faith Rea, PT, DPT, OCS; Steven Bast, MD  
The Coliseum Sports Medicine and Orthopedics at Casa Colina

Running offers numerous benefits. Understanding your running mechanics is crucial for maximizing running potential and reducing injury risk. The Coliseum Sports Medicine and Orthopedics at Casa Colina offers a biomechanical running analysis to assess what's right -- and wrong -- with your running. The running analysis provides insights into joint angles, foot strike pattern, flexibility, and strength. By identifying biomechanical issues such as muscle imbalances or improper form, our analysis helps runners mitigate their risk and avoid or improve overuse injuries like shin splints, tendonitis, and stress

Pain?... pg. 18

## City of Pomona to participate in White House convening of National Offices of Violence Prevention Network

Staff members from the Pomona Office of Violence Prevention and Neighborhood Wellbeing were in Washington, D.C., this week joining other members of the National Offices of Violence Prevention Network at an event hosted by the White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention.

The gathering was expected to focus on community violence intervention and collaborative work to build an ecosystem of local offices to help keep communities safe.

Offices of Violence Prevention are premised on the notion that community safety should not be the exclusive province of policing and the criminal justice system, according to a City of Pomona news release.

Charged with addressing public safety through the lens of public help, they typically focus on the application of community-based strategies to intervene in or prevent violence for those at highest risk of engaging in or being the victim of gun violence.

Numerous local and state gov-

ernments recently have established these offices in response to nationwide surges in violence during the COVID pandemic. And last September, President Biden established the first-ever White House Office of Gun Violence Prevention to reduce gun violence and implement and expand upon key executive and legislative action which has been taken to save lives.

Representatives of more than 40 jurisdictions were expected to attend what the news release called "an exciting next step in President Biden's commitment to ending

gun violence in our country."

"Ensuring Pomona's presence at the table for national discussions on violence prevention is pivotal as it underscores our commitment to proactive engagement in national dialogues shaping safer communities for all," said Pomona City Manager Anita Gutierrez.

"The (organization's) team is excited to have network members from across the country join us at the White House in this first of its kind discussion in our nation's history," said Shantay Jackson, network director.

## Third annual art fest set for this weekend at Pomona's Lopez Urban Farm

The third annual Lopez Urban Art Fest, scheduled for Saturday at Pomona's Lopez Urban Farm, is being billed as "a celebration where creativity meets sustainability."

The free family-friendly event will be held from noon to 6 p.m. and will include art demonstrations, art vendors, art workshops, live mural painting, food vendors,

farm tours and live music.

Lopez Urban Farm, a space provided to the non-profit farm by Pomona Unified School District, is located at 1034 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona.

**Your ad here!  
(909) 629-2292**



Photo by Renee Barbee

**SOFT OPENING OF THE UNION** -- Ray Adamyk, owner of The Union on Garey (Pomona's old YMCA) and operator of Pomona's Spectra Company, a historic preservation firm, at left, receives a "Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition" from Armando Rodriguez, field representative for Congresswoman Norma Torres, at the "soft opening" of the remodeled building which was constructed in 1922. Adamyk is leasing spaces in the building and is moving his own company offices into the basement.



## Hundreds turn out for Regional Center's first vendor job fair

Several hundred job-seekers participated this month in the first-ever of its type job fair with jobs offered by vendors of the San Gabriel / Pomona Regional Center at its headquarters offices in Pomona.

Companies looking for employees at the five-hour event were all independent service providers supporting individuals with developmental disabilities in the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys.

Job seekers included both Regional Center clients and those simply looking for a new position.

"We have to be the common ground here, we have to be the hub," said Yvonne Gratianne, Regional Center's communications and public engagement officer, who pointed out that it is difficult for all employers to fill vacancies today, adding that she was pleased with the response.

"Right now recruitment challenge is a universal problem for people to keep qualified staff," she said. "(This group of vendors is) dealing with people's lives here."

And, while she said they are competing for new employees against fast food restaurants in the area, "the responsibility is so much more here."

She said the Regional Center is supporting its own vendors "so they can hire quality staff to be a support to other individuals we commonly serve."

Participants were recruiting everything from day care workers and in-home help for children to



**SAN GABRIEL / POMONA REGIONAL CENTER STAFF** -- Members of the San Gabriel / Pomona Regional Center staff pose for the La Nueva Voz camera at their first-ever vendor job fair this month at their offices in Pomona. Pictured, from left, are Public Information Specialist Noah Daniel, Controller Rosa Ham, Chief Financial Officer Dara Mikesell, Communications and Public Engagement Officer Yvonne Gratianne, and Public Information Specialist Genesis Gallardo.



**Former San Gabriel / Pomona Regional Center Board Chair Sally Milano**, at left, chats with Cherissa Surio, Human Resource Director for Behavioral Autism Therapies, at this month's vendor job fair at the Regional Center offices in Pomona. Milano told La Nueva Voz her 57-year-old son has been a client of the Regional Center since 1979 when he was 7.

after school support for families and independent or supported living services for adults and seniors.

California's Department of Developmental Services oversees the coordination and delivery of services for Californians with developmental disabilities through a statewide network of 21 community based non-profit regional centers that provide assessments, determine eligibility for services, and offer case management services working with each client's "Individual Program Plan."

The San Gabriel / Pomona Regional Center, serving some 14,000 clients, is located at 75 Rancho Camino Drive, Pomona. For more information, call (909) 620-7722 or visit the web site at [www.sgprc.org](http://www.sgprc.org).



**Thomas Buckley**, at left, Executive Director of The Roland Center in La Puente, which works with adults with developmental disabilities, chats with a job-seeker at this month's San Gabriel / Pomona Regional Center vendor job fair.



**A job-seeker** picks up an employment application from Program Manager Annamarie Jackson of Partners for Potential at this month's San Gabriel / Pomona Regional Center vendor job fair. Partners for Potential, with offices in Van Nuys and Newhall, works to enrich the lives of adults with developmental disabilities by expanding possibilities to live, work and play more independently within their community.

**Please visit our website at [www.lanuevavoz.net](http://www.lanuevavoz.net) to see the latest issue of La Nueva Voz, past issues and more!**

**BG Insurance Solutions**  
Auto • Home • Commercial • Life • Health



**Business owners don't let unexpected events hurt their business, and neither should you!**

We provide General Liability, Workers Comp, Business Owner Policy, Commercial Auto, Commercial Property, and more.

**We find solutions that meet your needs and your budget!**

Bahram Golshan  
CADOI # 0k54197  
[bg4insurance@gmail.com](mailto:bg4insurance@gmail.com)  
(626) 991-5216

fractures. The Coliseum is the only sports rehabilitation program in the region that uses the KinTread Pressure Treadmill. This specialized technology uses more than 4,500 sensors to analyze your precise force and pressure distribution during standing, walking, and running, giving us a clear picture of your gait mechanics.

Your personalized Running Analysis will include a one-on-one, two-hour session with a Doctor of Physical Therapy who will provide:

- Detailed 2-D video analysis with angle tracking
- Foot pressure mapping during loading
- Strength testing and mobility assessment
- EMG assessment, if necessary

## Pain?... from pg. 17



**PAIN WITH RUNNING** -- The sports medicine team with Coliseum Sports Medicine and Orthopedics at Pomona's Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare are, from left, physical therapists Michele Rebozzi Faith Rea and Dr. Steven Bast.

- Complete report with shareable results and personalized recommendations based on your assessment

After your analysis, the Coli-

seum team will help you develop a personalized training program addressing the strengths and weaknesses identified at your

**Pain?... pg. 20**



## Working on ‘socioeconomic justice and equity’... from pg. 6

try to interact with an individual . . . and what it is we can do that might be most helpful to them, how do we address the particular need . . . and is there anything we can do,” he said.

Again, he said Pilgrim does not address the policy issues of low-wage workers in Pomona but instead is “trying to help individuals develop a strong sense of moral righteousness and goodness and do believe that would have a tremendous bearing on whether low-wage workers are being treated fairly and offered wages that are fair and just.”

La Nueva Voz asked if this level of help applied to individuals both inside and outside of the church and, interestingly, Horn said it was both.

As an example, during the past year, he said an individual began interacting with the church who had been living “a good part of a year” at Pomona’s Hope for Home homeless services center. He “officially” joined the church last year and now serves as an usher, Horn said.

And a family with two young daughters was found living in a motel on a month-to-month basis trying to figure out how they could stay off the streets.

Horn said Pilgrim was able to help them find a home and today the family is active in the church.

“So, we certainly have those among our membership people that we would identify as being on the margins of society,” he added.

Almost by definition, Horn said he suspects people “living on the margins” are unable to play a significant role in influencing decisions at the policy-making level.

Horn said the church has “legacy” families whose grandparents were members of Pil-

grim so the roots of the church run very deep in Pomona “for better and for worse.”

“We are very much a part of the community of Pomona,” he said.

And while the church does not become involved in policy, it works with and even provides financial support to a variety of organizations chipping away at the equity issue.

Pilgrim also has become active, Horn said, in a relatively new group of local ministers convened last year by Ray Adamyk, owner of The Union on Garey (the old YMCA) that is looking at some of these same issues.

Pilgrim, one of Pomona’s oldest and largest churches, was founded in 1887 and, while perhaps not the oldest church in Pomona, it is believed to have the oldest building.

“It is clear there are a lot of things that are better,” Horn said, “(there are) a lot of practices that are unfair, but I do think we have a long way to go.”

“There’s a lot of work to help bring people into a better life, to enjoy more freedom, more opportunity, so there’s plenty of work left for us to do here,” he added.

And, since he’s in the business, to put it in Christian terms, he suggested that part of the solution would be “to bring in the Kingdom of God.”

“So (there’s) lots of work left,” he said.

Even so, “the people I have met seem to be in leadership positions in Pomona, seem to want to make improvements, but it’s very hard, it’s very challenging to do so” Horn said. “Some of the issues we are faced with are just very difficult issues and it’s going to take a lot more work to improve upon them.”

## Gov. Newsom orders crackdown on existing laws for sales of illegal mislabeled hemp products to keep them from reaching young people

Gov. Newsom last month directed the California Department of Public Health and the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to issue notices addressing the sale and distribution of illegal hemp products in an effort to ensure compliance with existing law to protect Californians, particularly youth, from mislabeled and potentially harmful hemp-infused products.

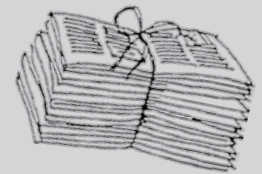
“Mislabeled and misleading products do not belong in the marketplace -- especially when they put our kids’ health and safety at risk,” Newsom said. “Today, the state is taking action . . . as we work to further close loopholes and increase enforcement to prevent children from accessing hemp and cannabis products.”

The move came after a number of highly intoxicating hemp beverages were discovered in retail settings across the state which could lead to them dangerously winding up in the hands of young people.

Hemp products, which are separately regulated from the legal cannabis market, are required to comply with a number of consumer safety laws, including strict labeling requirements.

Distributing or selling products that do not meet these requirements is a crime and can result in the loss of an applicable license.

**La Nueva Voz...  
Follow us on  
Facebook and Linked In**



PAID ADVERTISEMENT

**POMONA'S PROMISE  
PODCAST**

JOIN US  
MONTHLY  
AS WE SHARE  
GOOD NEWS &  
GOOD STORIES

**LISTEN NOW**

SCAN ME

PRIVACY.FLOWCODE.COM

**Eastern Los Angeles Regional  
Center and AbilityFirst Presents:**

**BUILDING  
BRIDGES**

Connecting Employers with Job Seekers  
Looking to hire dependable and quality employees? Come and learn how partnering with ELARC and AbilityFirst can help your business. Please RSVP by 05/21/24 to let us know if you will be joining in-person or on Zoom. Lunch will be provided.

**REGISTER HERE**

**Eastern Los Angeles  
REGIONAL CENTER**

**AbilityFirst  
Employment Services**

**TUESDAY, 06/04/2024  
10:00 AM- 1:30 PM**

**ZOOM OR ELARC BOARDROOM  
1000 S. FREMONT AVE  
ALHAMBRA CA 91803**

FOR QUESTIONS,  
PLEASE CONTACT  
KIMBERLY SAAVEDRA,  
FROM ELARC:  
ksaavedra@elarc.org





Native American jewelry was attracting interest at last month's 30th annual Pow-Wow at Tony Cerda Park.



A volunteer is stationed at the entrance to the circle at last month's 30th annual Pow-Wow to bless, cleanse and protect all those coming in.



A Native American ceremonial dancer brings generations of tradition to the three-day 30th annual Ohlone "Big Time" Gathering and Pow-Wow, presented in Tony Cerda Park by Pomona's own Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe always in the last weekend in April.

## Pain? ... from pg. 18

visit.

Don't let pain or injury keep you from your favorite activity! Whether a novice seeking form improvement or a seasoned athlete striving for peak performance, integrating running analysis into one's training regimen can be transformative, elevating your running experience to new heights of efficiency and safety.

*Editor's Note: To schedule a running analysis, please contact The Coliseum Sports Medicine and Orthopedics at Casa Colina: coliseum@casacolina.org*

or 909/596-7733, ext. 3505. This service is cash-pay and not covered by insurance.

### FOR RENT


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

\$2,500 to \$2,900/month plus security deposit.

**Information:**  
**(909) 896-1463**

The following public service ads are courtesy of La Nueva Voz

**Project Sister Family Services**  
Sexual Assault and  
Child Abuse Services  
909-626-4357  
or 626-966-4155  
www.projectsister.org

**Feeding the Hungry,  
Sheltering the Homeless**  
Grocery Distribution at  
209 W. Pearl St.  
Pomona  
  
Volunteering: 909-622-3806  
www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org

**HOUSE OF RUTH**  
Abused by your partner  
and need help?  
24-hour hotline:  
**(909) 988-5559 or toll  
free at (877) 988-5559**

**Pomona Public Library Hours**  
Monday through Thursday  
Noon to 7 p.m.  
Saturday  
11 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Friday and Sunday  
Closed

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

**Sign up for Pomona Unified School District's**  
Free 'Early Learning Literacy' App!  
It's a fun way to improve reading skills.  
Register at [www.myf2b.com/register/pomona](http://www.myf2b.com/register/pomona)  
footsteps2brilliance  
La Nueva Voz is a proud member of PUSD's Literacy Collaborative.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

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. For more information, call 1-844-908-0605

California Commercial Agriculture Auction! 19.5 Acres, 222,000sf, Nursery Facility, buy650buenavistadrive.com. Blackwell Auction & Realty. Visit website for terms and conditions. 10% Buyers Premium. Bond #10803858

### AUTOS WANTED

**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.

**GOT AN UNWANTED CAR???** Your car donation to Patriotic Hearts helps veterans find work or start their own business. Fast free pick. Running or not!  
Call 24/7:  
1-877-529-0495.

Get your deduction ahead of the year-end! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind

and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous year-end tax credit. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-491-2884 today

### SUPPORT LOCAL CABLE/INTERNET/TV

**DIRECTV**- All your entertainment. Nothing on your roof! Sign up for Direct and get your first free months of Max, Paramount+, Showtime, Starz, MGM+ and Cinemax included. Choice package \$84.99/mo. Some restrictions apply. Call DIRECTV 1-888-641-5762

### 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 IMPROVEMENT

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 5-Year warranty with qualifying purchase. Call 1-844-439-5645 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Eliminate gutter cleaning forever! LeafFilter, the most advanced

debris-blocking gutter protection. Schedule a FREE LeafFilter estimate today. 20% off Entire Purchase. 10% Senior & Military Discounts. Call 1-855-424-7581

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, we're waiving all installation costs in half and offering a FREE safety upgrade! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. Offer ends 3/31/24 Call 1-833-985-4766

Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Now featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today!  
Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-888-989-5749

### HEALTH/MEDICAL

**DENTAL INSURANCE** from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-844-203-2677 [www.dental50plus.com/](http://www.dental50plus.com/) calnews #6258

### LOANS

**RETIRED COUPLE** \$\$\$\$ for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company [www.viploan.com](http://www.viploan.com) Call 1-818-248-0000. Broker-principal DRE 01041073. No consumer loans.

### TIME SHARE

Wesley Financial Group, LLC Timeshare Cancellation Experts. Over \$50,000,000 in timeshare debt and fees cancelled in 2019. Get free informational package and learn how to get rid of your timeshare! Free consultations. Over 450 positive reviews. Call 866-675-2404

### TRAVEL

Alaska, Europe, Hawaii plus dozens of other popular trips! Starting at \$1649 per person (double occupancy required.) YMT Vacations plans everything, leaving you to relax and enjoy. Call 1-844-301-9235 for more details. Use promo code YMT2024 for \$250 off. Limited time only.

### MISCELLANEOUS

Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. call 916-288-6011 or email [cecelia@cnpa.com](mailto:cecelia@cnpa.com)



## Western University dental college expands simulation center

Western University of Health Sciences College of Dental Medicine in Pomona celebrated the expansion of its dental simulation center with a ribbon cutting ceremony last month to officially add more than 2,000 square feet to the facility.



The expansion also allowed the creation of a pre-clinical dispensary and storage space for dental equipment and supplies.

The Sim Center 2 provides new work stations, each equipped with an A-dec simulator, a Kilgore manikin head, overhead light, bench top workspace, additional modern swing light for desk area, and a doctor's stool.

Expansion of the facility was needed because the International Dentist Program at the college increased the number of students per unit from five to 20. The phase in from concept to implementation

Photo by Jeff Malet, WesternU  
EXPANSION OF DENTAL SIMULATION CENTER AT WESTERN UNIVERSITY DENTAL COLLEGE -- Pictured are banks of new work stations with A-dec simulators and Kilgore manikin heads in an upgraded and expanded simulation center at Pomona's Western University College of Dental Medicine.

developed over the past year.

"We didn't want it to impact the current students," said college Dean Elizabeth Andrews. "We wanted something that gave students their space while also allowing for other students to utilize this expansion."

The repurposed support lab will now serve as a multipurpose space with simulation capability. Instructors now are shifting some training and competency assessment to simulation rather than live patient assessment.

## Pomona Valley Hospital awarded 'A' safety grade from The Leapfrog Group

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center earned an "A" hospital safety grade from The Leapfrog Group, a national nonprofit watchdog that monitors patient safety.

Leapfrog assigns grades to hospitals across the country based on more than 30 measures of errors, accidents, injuries and infractions as well as the systems hospitals have in place to prevent them.

It was the second consecutive "A" rating the hospital has received.

"At Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, we are committed

to providing exceptionally high quality and safe patient- and family-centered care," said hospital President and CEO Rich Yochum. "This second consecutive 'A' safety rating is a direct reflection of the culture of safety embraced by our associates and physicians at every level of care."

"Everyone who works at (the hospital) should be proud of this," said Leah Binder, President and CEO of The Leapfrog Group. "It takes complete dedication at every level, and an ironclad commitment to putting patients first."



Photo by Renee Barbee  
Former City Councilmembers Paula Lantz and Cristina Carrizosa were honored by members of the Pomona Public Library Foundation last week for their years of contributions to and support of the Pomona Public Library. Ceramic tiles with their name and photo were unveiled on a wall of honor in a library atrium. The foundation adds to the wall each spring. Pictured, at center, are Lantz and Carrizosa with library supporters whose names are listed on a replica of an oversized library card catalog on the wall. Library Foundation President Bree Devones Hsieh is pictured at far left.

## Poll says Hispanics consumer confidence stronger

The Hispanic Consumer Sentiment Index increased to 76.3 in fourth quarter 2023, up from 74.7 in the third quarter of last year, with a poll also demonstrating that more Hispanics believe they are better off financially now than a year ago (48 percent in the fourth quarter up from 44 in the third quarter).

The index remained lower in the fourth quarter than in the

first quarter of 2023, when it was 80.2.

According to a news release, the poll shows Hispanics are feeling more optimistic about their financial situations despite facing a year of rising costs.

And 49 percent of Hispanics continue to believe the country will experience good business conditions in the year ahead.

Even so, and most likely due to the cost of financing, the majority of Hispanics polled do not think it's a good time to buy a big-ticket item such as a house or car with only 38 percent believing it is a good time, down from 52 percent in third quarter 2023.

The poll results were released by the Florida Atlantic University Business and Economic Polling Initiative.



Photo by Tom Zasadzinski, Cal Poly Pomona  
Engineering students at Cal Poly Pomona celebrate at graduation time on campus. More than 6,900 students received their bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees in ceremonies May 17 through 20 in the University Quad. Included were students who completed their requirements in summer and fall of 2023 and spring of 2024. An estimated 62,000 family members and friends were on hand to cheer graduates.

**Need to advertise in La Nueva Voz?**

Call Renee Barbee, V.P. of Marketing and Operations

**(909) 629-2292**

Executive Board Member,  
Pomona Chamber of Commerce

**www.lanuevavoz.net**



## 'Dia del Niño' celebration packs Martin Luther King Park

It was a "Dia del Niño" celebration last month at Pomona's Martin Luther King, Jr., Park where representatives of the community came together to celebrate the rights of their children -- including, from the looks of it, the right to have fun in the park!

And the two-hour event was sponsored by pretty much everybody in town -- Latina and Latino Roundtable, Fairplex, Athens, God's Pantry, Galan Cultural Center, Just Us 4 Youth, Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, Gutierrez Law Firm and others.

"It's the community coming together to put on this event," said Roundtable Executive Director Lina Mira. "The idea is that children have rights and this is a celebration.

The concept is not new, she added -- it has been a cultural event in Mexico and El Salvador for years.

"They grew up with this celebration," she said. "And so we're trying to just bring it back and to help people understand that children have rights."

Those rights include the right to equality, the right to a special protection to grow physically, mentally and socially, the right to a name and nationality, the right to nutrition, housing and health



**'DIA DEL NIÑO' AT MARTIN LUTHER KING PARK** -- It was "Dia Del Niño" last month at Pomona's Martin Luther King, Jr., Park as a true community event came together for the second time to celebrate the rights of children. There was fingerpainting, "regular" painting, hot dogs courtesy of God's Pantry, posing for "professional" photos and more. La Nueva Voz "borrowed" a photo set-up for a family shot with Pomona resident Aline Gonzalez, of FFA Financial Group, dressed in her full Aztec dancer regalia. Also pictured, from left, are organizers Goretty Ornelas of the Galan Cultural Center, Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, and Lina Mira, executive director of the Latino and Latina Roundtable. And in another photo are Roundtable President Jose Calderon, at left, and Pomona attorney Jaime Gutierrez, an exhibitor at the event.

care, and the right to an education and special education if disabled, among others.

The event planning commit-

tee first produced Dia del Niño in 2022, skipped last year and brought it back last month. Organizers hope to continue on an

annual basis, Mira said.

"It is a celebration of childhood," she added, explaining it is open to kids of all ages from throughout south Pomona.

"So it's an opportunity to play, to enjoy, to be out in Pomona, ac-

tivate the park," she said.

Included were food, games, community resource materials, music and give-aways.

For more information, contact [info@latinolatinaroundtable.org](mailto:info@latinolatinaroundtable.org) or call (909) 480-6267.



Photo by Renee Barbee

Remember the neighborhood in North Pomona that brings the city "Christmas on Columbia" every year, arguably the best holiday lights display in town with everybody on the block (and last year adding four more streets)? Well, organizer Kimberly Johnson, also a neighborhood watch captain, took on a new challenge this month -- now Columbia is in a new business -- the Christmas on Columbia Block Yard Sale. The day-long sale this month offered everything -- from Christmas decor and household goods to children's toys. Pictured, from left, are Veronica, Alex, Claudia, Valerie, Albert, Alberto, Max, Anthony, Tommy, Kim Johnson, and Russell. (Max, Anthony and Tommy were volunteers at the event and are from New York Life.) Good job, gang, and see you next year!



**MORE CESAR CHAVEZ AND DOLORES HUERTA PILGRIMAGE PHOTOS** -- La Nueva Voz was there to provide live coverage of this year's 20th annual Cesar Chavez and Dolores Huerta Pilgrimage, organized by the Latino and Latina Roundtable last month (see photos in our April issue at [lanuevavoz.net](http://lanuevavoz.net) under "past issues") but additional photos, above, were provided by organizers. Pictured at left are marchers in the street on their way from Pomona City Hall to Tony Cerda Park with mounted riders on horseback bringing up the rear. And, once in the park, Tony Cerda, Pomona's Native American tribal chief and community leader, beats the drum as he leads a ceremonial chant.





It was a solemn moment last month as members of the former South Vietnamese military saluted during ceremonies in Pomona's Hoa Binh Plaza commemorating the 49th anniversary of the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, an observance held each year by members of the Vietnamese Community of Pomona Valley. Dr. Huu Dinh Vo, president of the Vietnamese Community of Pomona Valley, told the audience there are still to this day human rights and religious freedom violations in Vietnam. "I'm very happy and honored to have all the Vietnamese vets with us today," he said, adding that hopefully one day everyone will be able to return to Vietnam. He said it was the first year U.S. Vietnam War veterans were able to join in the observance.



Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, asked to speak at the event, said, "We honor Dr. Huu Dinh Vo and the Fall of Saigon and all those that we lost." She said she was honored to participate in the memorial and added that she appreciated the Vietnamese War veterans for attending. From left are Eva Thiel-Maiz representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Pomona's Thich Chon Tri; Dr. Huu Dinh Vo; Renee Barbee; and Pomona City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole.



Vietnamese dancers wearing traditional garb perform on stage at last month's Fall of Saigon ceremonies in Pomona.

Pomona's Alice Gomez, California President of the Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America, invited to speak at this year's Fall of Saigon ceremonies in Pomona, told the audience it was "an honor to be here when we remember the fallen, those who fought, those who had to leave their country to come here." Her husband, Jess Gomez, also at the ceremony, is a veteran of the Vietnam War and is a director of Inland Empire Chapter 17 of the Vietnam Veterans of America. Pictured, from left, are Thich (Reverend) Chon Tri, of the Phap Van Buddhist Temple in Pomona; Dr. Huu Dinh Vo, President of the Vietnamese Community of Pomona Valley; Alice Gomez; and Pomona City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole.



Long-time leader of Pomona's American Legion Post 30 Bob Radcliff, a veteran of the Vietnam War and now head and founder of Post 30's "Legion Riders" motorcycle team, told the audience he was able to go and visit the "beautiful country of Vietnam," spend several years there and return. He recognized his "riders" brothers in the audience, said he appreciates what the Vietnamese community members are doing, and offered to help support them in any way possible. Pictured, from left, are Eva Thiel-Maiz, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Pomona's Thich Chon Tri; Dr. Huu Dinh Vo; Bob Radcliff; and Pomona City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole.



## A Heavenly Dream Just Come True

A poem by Susie Perales

Music is a wondrous gift from the heavens. It is a passion that burns through the soul. It is a song just completed on the keys of a heavenly realm. It is a note finally found in a sea rich with music that expresses the joy and the sadness that we feel deep inside.

It is the hope that we find at the end of a beautiful song. It is a sweet melody that will linger forever in the hearts of all men. It is a heavenly dream just come

true.

(Chorus) It is the hope that we find at the end of a beautiful song. It is a heavenly dream just come true for you, for you.

Music is a wondrous gift from the heavens. It is a passion that burns through the soul. It is a song just completed on the keys of a heavenly realm. It is a note finally found in a sea rich with music that expresses the joy and the sadness that we feel deep inside.

Music is a passion that burns through the soul. It is a song just completed on the keys of a heavenly realm. It is a note finally found in a sea rich with music that expresses the joy and the sadness that we feel deep inside.

(Chorus) It is the hope that we find at the end of a beautiful song. It is a heavenly dream just come true for you.

© 2007 Susie Perales Parchment Quenched

# Always a call or click away

Call me for a quote today

Llameme para un presupuesto ahora



**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

La Nueva Voz...

Follow us on  
Facebook  
and  
Instagram!

**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.VIPLoan.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



# ¿ERES PADRE DE LA CIUDAD DE POMONA?



CITY OF POMONA  
Powered by FORWARD



**¡LOS PADRES Y TUTORES LEGALES  
MAYORES DE 18 AÑOS CON UN NIÑO  
MENOR DE 4 AÑOS PUEDEN SER ELEGIBLES  
PARA UN ESTIPENDIO MENSUAL DE \$500  
POR HASTA 18 MESES!**

Visite: [gofwd.link/FamiliasdePomona](https://gofwd.link/FamiliasdePomona) o llame al: 1(855)582-3973

Escanea el Código QR  
para más información.



Aplicaciones abiertas:  
17 de junio al 8 de julio de 2024