



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. 182

Thursday, September 26, 2024

## Pomona school board candidate Alfredo Camacho linked by official documents to alleged check fraud scheme in defunct Pomona scholarship foundation

By Jeff Schenkel, Publisher

A tip from a confidential source to La Nueva Voz last month, a public records request to Pomona Unified School District and a Pomona Police Department police report all resulted in the surfacing of seven-year-old check fraud allegations involving Pomona Planning Commission Chairman Alfredo Camacho, currently a candidate for school board in the November election.

Camacho, according to information released by the school district, at the time was a member of the now-

defunct PUPIL (Pomona Unified Partners In Learning) Foundation which, among other things, provided scholarships to Pomona students.

A July 12, 2017, e-mail released by the school district this month at the request of La Nueva Voz, from PUPIL CEO Jeanelle Jimenez to members of the PUPIL executive board, said the alleged fraud was discovered in her routine review of financial information prior to the June meeting.

“Upon reviewing all checks



Alfredo Camacho

deposited for the month I noticed that two of the PUPIL scholarship checks issued to students were changed and written out to Alfredo Camacho,” she said in the e-mail. Jimenez confirmed the accuracy of the e-mail in a return telephone call to La Nueva Voz this month.

According to the e-mail, the checks were for \$500 and \$750. Both were deposited – the \$500 check on May 31 and the \$750 check on June 14.

Jimenez said in the e-mail she called Camacho that night, he “eventually acknowledged his wrongdoing,” and she told him she’d get back to him with a plan of action.

Also in the e-mail, Jimenez said she contacted PUPIL treasurer Renee Graves, who suggested discussing the matter with Ernie Cooper, a fraud expert and former FBI special agent at the time working for her accounting firm, then known as Vicenti Lloyd and Stutzman in Glendora, who offered to volunteer his time to help in the resolution.

Jimenez, Cooper and Camacho met on June 29, she said, and Camacho agreed to repay the entire \$1,250 by the following day, the end of PUPIL’s fiscal year.

“I also informed him to bring his

resignation letter with payment,” she said in the e-mail.

She added Camacho repaid \$1,240 but paid an additional \$25 before her July 12 e-mail.

Cooper suggested filing a police report in order to have formal documentation, even though PUPIL did not plan on pressing charges.

La Nueva Voz this month filed another public records request, this one with the Pomona Police Department, and learned that a police report was filed on July 12 against an individual identified as the suspect regarding two “stolen” checks, indicating that “complainant (was) reporting a forged and cashed two checks that were supposed to be given to listed scholarship recipients.”

While police and city officials explained names of suspects are not released in police reports provided through public records requests, Jimenez confirmed she filed the report against Camacho.

Jimenez sent her e-mail to the PUPIL executive board at 9:53 a.m. on July 12 and, at 3:08 p.m. the same day, forwarded the same e-mail to then-Supt. Richard Martinez and Jim Moore, the district’s legal counsel.

Camacho’s signed letter of apology, dated June 29 and also provided to

**Alleged check fraud scheme... pg. 8**

## PUSD’s ‘English Learner Program’ racking up huge success stories in collaborative effort

Pomona Unified School District’s “English Learner Program” hit another one out of the park this year -- seven of the school district’s eight valedictorians were once identified as English learners.

Need more convincing the program is working? Going back to include the last two years, 12 out of the last 15 valedictorians in the district similarly once were officially considered English learners in PUSD schools.

The way it works is students can become involved in the English Learner Program as early as



Juan Ortiz

elementary school. And teachers along the way are becoming more consistent in their approach, which is having a significant impact on the success of the program, according to Juan Ortiz, PUSD’s Director of English Learner/Multilingual Student Programs.

Then for the icing on the cake, students demonstrating that they meet all the requirements are reclassified as being English fluent proficient.

And those numbers are pretty impressive, as well.

**Huge success stories... pg. 4**



Notice of Mental Health Commission

## PUBLIC HEARING

Aviso de Audiencia Pública de la Comisión de Salud Mental



### Make Your Voice Heard!

Help us improve the health and wellness of Claremont, La Verne and Pomona.

Voice your opinion, get information, and ask questions about programs funded through the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). Share your input on Phase Two of the MHSA Innovation project, “Multi-County Collaborative Psychiatric Advance Directives.” **This forum is open to all.**

### ¡Su opinión cuenta!

Ayúdenos a mejorar la salud y el bienestar de Claremont, La Verne y Pomona.

Expresé su opinión, obtenga información, y haga preguntas sobre los programas financiados por la Ley de Servicios de Salud Mental (MHSA). Comparta su opinión sobre la fase dos del proyecto de Innovación de MHSA, “Colaboración entre Condados: Directivas Anticipadas Psiquiátricas.” **Este foro está abierto a todos.**

Join us in person or via Zoom | ¡Acompañenos en persona o por Zoom!

Tri-City Wellness Center  
1403 N Garey Ave, Pomona, CA

October/Octubre 8, 2024  
3:30 PM - 5 PM

Spanish and ASL interpretation  
available upon request

Get involved at | Participe en  
[tricitymhs.org/mhsa](http://tricitymhs.org/mhsa)



## Pomona residents celebrate first anniversary of 're-do' of 50-year-old Hamilton Park

A group of Pomona residents who worked in 1973 advocating for what became a much-needed Hamilton Park in their neighborhood – and then again went to Pomona City Hall decades later to convince city leaders to upgrade a park in the middle of one of the city's oldest barrios that had fallen into disrepair – last month returned to the park again to celebrate the one-year anniversary of the upgrade and the 50-year anniversary of the park.

Community organizer Martin Perez told guests that they just “wanted to create a safe place for the kids”



Hamilton Park organizer Martin Perez, at right, speaks to guests at the first-year anniversary celebration of the reconstruction of the park. At left is Rudy Carrasco, co-chairman of the event which also celebrated the park's 50th anniversary.



There was a little bit of everything last month at the 50 year anniversary celebration of Pomona's Hamilton Park -- balloons at the registration booth -- and on top of the heads of kids -- plus kids of all sizes enjoying the playground equipment -- both sliding down the slide and walking across the ropes high in the sky.

that exists is not for us adults . . . it's the children that matter," Gonzalez said. "How are we going to get them to be successful, get them to school."

He urged parents to participate in the education of their children so they can go on to college and stay out of poverty.

"I am advocating hope, hope for our children . . . and the people who live nearby in the community to take charge of the park, to not accept no for an answer," he added.

"We as parents need to take charge of our children," said Gonzalez, who said he went from Mt. SAC to Harvard University and added that all of



his children are college graduates.

The celebration included everything from live music to a backpack give-away, family resources and more. There was even a wedding in the park later in the day.

Funding for last year's upgrade of the park came from the state, Los Angeles County and the county's Safe Clean Water funds (Measure W).

Hamilton Park is located at 825 W. Monterey Ave., Pomona.



Pictured at right is Kobe Carrillo, age 11, who clearly attended the Hamilton Park anniversary celebration to have a good time and is a guy who really knows how to pose for a La Nueva Voz photo. His dad, Frank Carrillo, of "On Time Photo Booth Rentals" and a Pomona Chamber of Commerce Ambassador, looks on at left.

with a park that was revitalized for a new generation.

"The kids that you see around here are now 50 years later," he said. "Now we're back. So, our parents got together, went to the city hall, let them know that they needed a place to play, a safe place where they could rest, get in the shade, and interact and build leadership."

"Everybody here is a role model – you guys are all the best role models we could have," Perez said. "All of you people here and all the people around are success stories. That's what we want to say to the kids."

"So, we need to stay on top of it, show a lot of love for the park, show a lot of love for the kids, and let them know that there is love out there to help," he said.

Perez explained the group came together in 2015 after witnessing the deterioration of the park, originally known as Cherrieville Park, located in a 100-year-old neigh-

borhood that a century ago included only 300 residents.

"We went back to the city and let them know . . . (and) they were granted \$2.5 million," he said, funds that were used for playground equipment, landscaping and other features like a horseshoe pit, soccer field, rest rooms, a pinata pole, foam padding under the playground equipment, fencing, lighting, and sidewalks "where there was dirt for 50 years."

Perez said the park now even has a crosswalk for the first time, and everything meets Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.

Henry Gonzalez, who worked with Perez on the project, speaking in both English and Spanish, said the park in 1972 was the number one spot for murders in the U.S.

"More people got shot and killed in this park that year than any other year in the history of this state (and) nation," he said. "Now that changed over time. But this park was such a mess nobody cared."

"There's hope in the air – the hope

# HELP WANTED Help us help others!

## FOR IN-HOME FOSTER CARE

EVERYONE WELCOME

Se habla Español



- 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



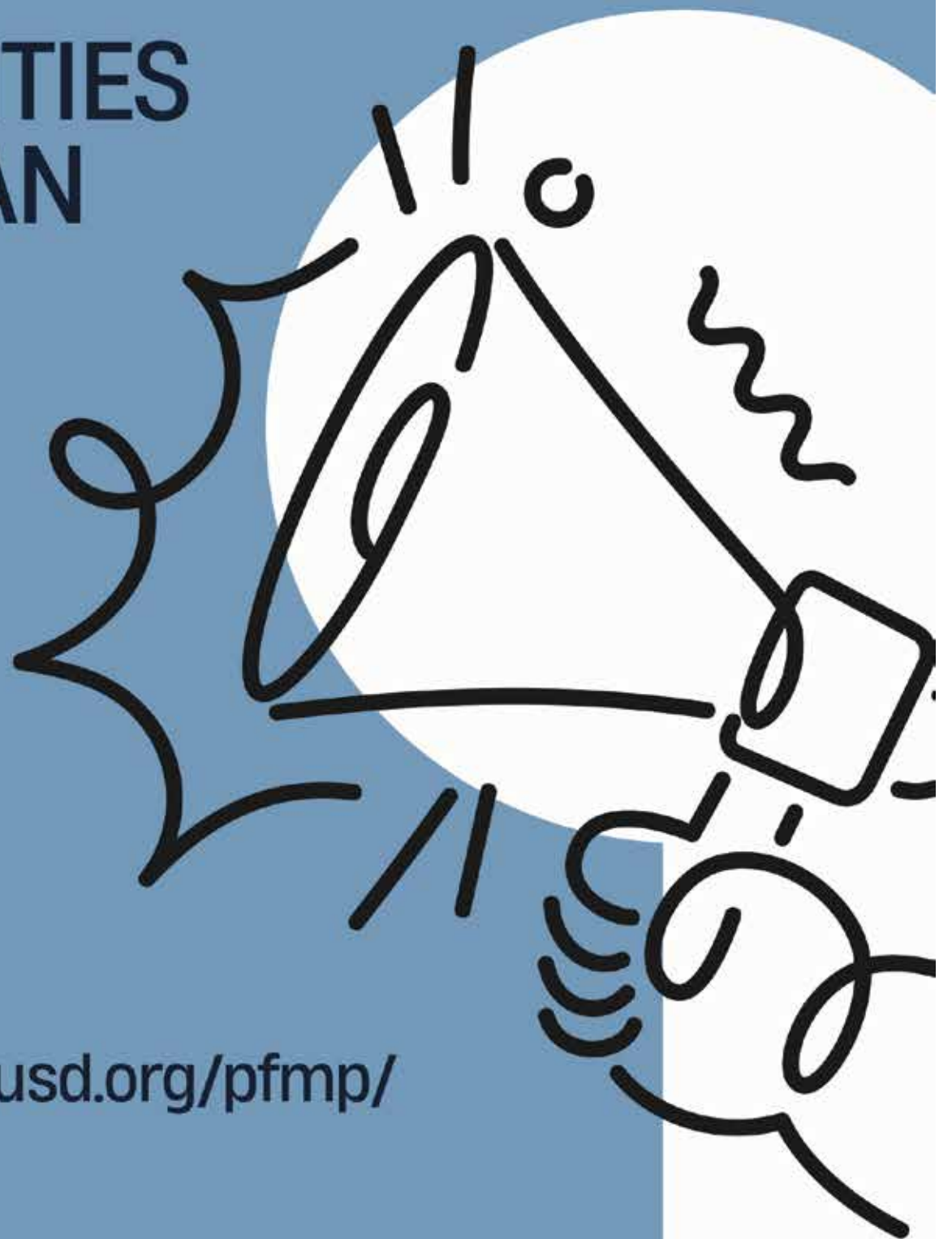
# HEAR YE! HEAR YE!

## PUSD FACILITIES MASTER PLAN

**AVAILABLE  
NOW ONLINE**



<https://proudtobe.pusd.org/pfmp/>





Huge success stories... from pg. 1



# GUTIERREZ LAW FIRM

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



James (Jaime) Gutierrez, Esq.  
**Hablamos Español**

301 W Mission Blvd. Suite 8  
Pomona, CA 91766

Across from the Pomona Courthouse  
M - F 8:30 am - 5:00 pm  
Email: [jpsglaw@gmail.com](mailto:jpsglaw@gmail.com)  
Website: [gutierrezlaw.info](http://gutierrezlaw.info)

## (909) 791-1313



**ENGLISH LEARNER ADVISORY COMMITTEE** -- A Pomona Unified School District English Learner Advisory Committee helped PUSD update its English Learner / Multilingual Student Master Plan. Pictured (with some of the teachers and parents working on the project), seated, at center, is Juan Ortiz, PUSD's director of the English Learner / Multilingual Student Programs, at left, with Dr. Juan Arretche, program administrator in the district's English Learner department. At left rear, standing, is Fremont Academy Principal Roger Fasting, Cynthia Sanchez, PUSD's director of educational technology, sixth from right, and, at far right, Renee Roy-Buckley, Principal of Madison Elementary School.

The school district's reclassification rate has increased from 3.6 percent in the 2020-2021 school year to 15.9 percent in 2023-2024. At Pomona's Emerson Middle School, as an example, the rate was 25 percent last year on track for 30 percent this year, an indication the program is

showing strong results in grades six through eight.

Last school year the school district reclassified a total of 843 students out of the 5,275 students enrolled in the English Learner Program (about 25 percent of the district's total student body), according to Ortiz, who has been with the district for the past

24 years. He taught English language development in the classroom for seven years, then became an administrator and has directed the English Learner Program now consisting of nine team members since the 2019-2020 school year.

The English Learner Program  
**Huge success stories... pg. 17**

# POMONA JOBS PROJECT

Get job ready with PJP!

A FREE 4-WEEK PROGRAM TO PREPARE YOU FOR HIGH-ROAD POSITION WITH LOCAL EMPLOYERS.

**Program Details:**

- ✓ One-on-one mentor sessions
- ✓ Professional resumes that get noticed
- ✓ Tips and mock interviews to boost your confidence
- ✓ Personalized job recommendations

JOIN OUR NEXT COHORT!

More Information / Más información:

**Latino & Latina Roundtable**  
of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley

**PVWP**  
Pomona Valley Wellbeing Project

**INSTITUTE FOR ECOLOGICAL CIVILIZATION**

Heidi Carranza \*Habla español  
[hcarranza@latinolatinaroundtable.org](mailto:hcarranza@latinolatinaroundtable.org)  
909-542-5080



¡ÚNETE A NUESTRA PRÓXIMA COHORTE!

¡PJP te prepara para el empleo!

UN PROGRAMA GRATUITO DE 4 SEMANAS PARA PREPARARTE PARA OCUPAR PUESTOS DE ALTO NIVEL CON EMPLEADORES LOCALES.

**Detalles del Programa:**

- ✓ Sesiones individuales con mentores
- ✓ Currículums profesionales que llaman la atención
- ✓ Consejos y simulacros de entrevistas para aumentar la confianza
- ✓ Recomendaciones laborales personalizadas







**DESCENDANTS OF THE EARLY SETTLERS** -- A total of 23 area residents who are descendants of Ygnacio Palomares and Ricardo Vejar, early settlers in the area, posed for Historical Society of Pomona Valley Board member Alice Gomez at last month's annual barbecue at Pomona's Palomares adobe in Palomares Park with nearly 100 people in attendance. There was even a descendant of Jose Antonio Perez, a foreman for Louis Phillips at Phillips Ranch. From left are Donna Manzanares-Otero, Ginger Garcia, Frankie Dominguez, Gerald Garcia, Sr., Vanessa Dominguez, Nadine Garcia, Linka Garcia, Mark Ruelas, Christa Garcia, Patricia Lowell, Leslie Lowell, Joe Garcia, Lauren Garcia, Paul Ruelas, Rose Garcia, Randy Garcia, Leonard Garcia, Gerald Garcia, Jr., Edward Bargh, Judy Low, Robert Mora, and Sharon Iolmo. Vejar and Palomares in 1837 were granted about 15,000 acres in what is now Pomona and surrounding areas by Mexican Governor Bautista Alvarado.

## L.A. County Supervisors proclaim Hispanic Heritage Month

Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously this month to approve a motion to proclaim Sept. 15 through Oct. 15 as Hispanic Heritage Month in Los Angeles County.

The motion was authored by Supervisor Hilda Solis and co-au-

thored by Supervisor Janice Hahn.

"Hispanic Heritage Month is a time to celebrate and honor the rich history, culture, and contributions of Hispanic and Latino communities," Solis said in a news release. "In Los Angeles County, we recognize the profound impact that these communities have had on our vibrant city and our nation."

"From the arts and sciences to business and public service, the achievements of Hispanic and Latino individuals have been instrumental in shaping the fabric of our society," she added. "As we come together to commemorate this month, let us reflect on the strength and resilience of these communities, and continue to support and uplift the diverse voices that contribute to our collective success."

According to the 2020 U.S. Census, the Hispanic/Latino population in the U.S. is approximately 62.1 million, making this the second largest racial or ethnic group in the country and nearly 19 percent of the American population.

In Los Angeles County, the Hispanic/Latino community makes up approximately 49.5 percent of the total population, according to the release.

The proclamation also directed the county's chief executive officer to work with the director of personnel and other departments to identify \$100,000 in ongoing funding of existing resources for the East Los Angeles Mexican Independence Day Parade in 2025 so that a county exhibition showcasing career opportunities and social services can be presented.



Photo by Renee Barbee

**LIBRARY FOUNDATION HONORED BY SCHOOL BOARD** -- Members of the Pomona Unified School District Board recognized the Pomona Public Library Foundation at a board meeting this month for their years of work with students in the PUSD schools. Assistant Supt. Fernando Meza told board members the foundation has had a "great partnership" with PUSD for years "providing many needed resources for our students." He said included has been their help funding the district's "Homework Club" in which students receive tutoring from college students or at the Pomona Public Library to help them get their homework done and pass their exams. The foundation also has helped with PUSD's summer cultural excursion project for field trips, in which school board members including Board President Arturo Jimenez and Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman and others have been involved through the years. Pictured after the presentation are honorees, from left, foundation board member Duane Smith; Bree Devones Hsieh, foundation board president; and Mary Kate Francesco, foundation board member. Also recognized was Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, a member of the Pomona Public Library Board of Trustees. Perlman pointed out that the foundation's support is always through private funding and never involves public funds for these projects.

## City of Pomona participates in Claremont Lincoln University 'leadership skills' program

The City of Pomona has been selected to partner with Claremont Lincoln University and the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy as a participant in the inaugural Lincoln Vibrant Communities Teams Program, an innovative initiative to empower U.S. cities and non-profit organizations with specialized leadership skills needed to address critical challenges and help build thriving communities.

The program will focus on areas including housing, climate, land, water, finance and infrastructure, according to a news release.

Officials from Pomona joined with representatives of Rancho Cucamonga, Downey, Glendora and Tri-City Mental Health at an all-day kick-off event last month at Claremont Lincoln University.

Events ranged from evaluating Leadership skills... pg. 17

## Grants available to non-profits!

Are you working or volunteering for an area non-profit group in Los Angeles County with a mission of improving the community?

Grants of up to \$1.5 million are now available from Los Angeles County's new Justice, Care and Opportunities Department to help you accomplish your goals in the area of community investment.

For complete information, see the story on page 7 of this issue of La Nueva Voz.

Pomona's Only Community Newspaper!

Advertising with us is easy!

www.lanuevavoz.net

**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  
(626) 991-5216



## Huge Rummage Sale

Gran Venta de Artículos Usados

**Saturday, Oct. 19**  
from 8 am to 1 pm  
Sábado, 19 de Oct.  
de 8 am a 1 pm

**Pilgrim Congregational Church**  
600 N. Garey Ave.  
Pomona

The church has been holding this sale for more than a century!  
**Information: (909) 622-1373**

Housewares • Furniture • Small Appliances • Linens • Toys • Tools  
Clothing (men's, women's and children) • Costumes • Jewelry  
Nuts & Bolts • Decorations • Treasure Chest Items • & More!

Artículos para el Hogar • Muebles • Electrodomésticos  
Herramienta • Juguetes • Ropa para hombres, mujeres y niños  
Trajes y Disfraces • Tuercas y Tornillos • Adornos  
Cofre de Tesoros • y Mucho Más!

**Snack Bar Open All Day • Plenty of Parking**  
Puesto de refrigerios todo el día • Amplio estacionamiento

## OPINION

**Attention Councilmember Preciado: Foothill 'transit store' closure approaches one-year anniversary, needs your attention!**

Our regular readers already know that La Nueva Voz has been bearing down pretty hard on the closure last Dec. 29 of the "transit store" operated by Foothill Transit in the Downtown Transit Center. We've had a story every month with the exception of only two months.

That cut in service for Pomona residents, brought to our attention by a regular Foothill customer and La Nueva Voz reader with no other means of transportation, required Pomona residents and riders to travel 11.8 miles to a similar transit store in West Covina to receive information, bus route support and buy bus passes.

Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado represents Pomona as a member of the Foothill Transit Joint Powers Authority board.

He told La Nueva Voz in a conversation at the LA County Fair following an opening day ribbon-cutting at the beginning of May that he supported a reopening of the transit store, although he said it may not look exactly the same as before.

For one thing, the city-owned building is undergoing major renovation, which is why Preciado said an option would be to bring the service into city hall and have city staff perform essentially the same functions at the counter during construction.

**Healed Women Heal gala set for next month**

Healed Women Heal, an organization that supports people who have been impacted by domestic violence, will hold its sixth annual gala next month at the Double Tree in Pomona.

The event, on the theme "Rise and Shine," will highlight the journey of empowerment and self-improvement for women who have made great strides and is set

A couple of months ago, Preciado told La Nueva Voz he was attempting to schedule a meeting with Foothill Transit CEO Doran Barnes to try to work something out. He even said he'd take along Pomona's Public Works Director Rene Guerrero to sit in on the meeting. That meeting has not happened.

For a little background, that transit store operated for the past 25 years, making it easy for the people riding the bus to have the service they need right there, across the driveway from the buses.

And its closure, according to Foothill's own records and the company's own admission in a routine Title VI (federal compliance) review, failed to comply with federal regulations pertaining to placing an undue burden on low-income riders and those who identify as Black, Indigenous or People of Color (BIPOC).

After all, those are the people who are supposed to use the bus and that's why the federal funding is provided in the first place. Title VI is part of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Foothill applied a creative workaround to "mitigate" the closure's impact on the 22,000 people who used the facility every year – they said they'd add a few extra hours on two Saturdays each month at the West Covina store some 11.8

miles away.

A Foothill spokesperson this month did not provide updated numbers for the year to date on how many customers were using the West Covina store compared to last year, so we can't say one way or the other whether anybody from Pomona is going to West Covina. But we don't believe many are.

That same Foothill spokesperson told La Nueva Voz that "when the city presents a proposal for providing transit resources to their residents, we will of course consider it." But she continues to insist there are no plans to reopen the transit store at its original location.

The Federal Transit Administration, part of the U.S. Department of Transportation, is already taking a look at all of this in terms of possible non-compliance based on inquiries and related information from La Nueva Voz.

According to Foothill's reports available on their web site, the Pomona closure saved Foothill only \$40,000 out of its \$230 million annual budget.

But at this point, our focus is really on Councilmember Preciado.

Mr. Councilmember, we know those pull-ups you help organize are important, as is the home food delivery program where you serve as a volunteer. We're not sure if you're still volunteering on Fri-

for 6 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 11.

Tickets are \$150.

To RSVP, please visit the web site at [healedwomenheal.org](http://healedwomenheal.org).

The mission of the organization is to educate and empower those

with developmental disabilities impacted by domestic violence ensuring that every individual feels heard, valued and supported.

For more information, contact Tracy Evanson at (909) 927-5389.

**A new La Nueva Voz publishes each month on the fourth Thursday of the month.**

**Pick up your free copy of La Nueva Voz at these locations and dozens more:**

- Pomona City Hall lobby
- Pomona library
- Claremont library
- Claremont City Hall lobby
- La Verne City Hall lobby
- La Verne Senior Citizens Center
- Pomona Post Office (rack on sidewalk)
- Walgreens, 495 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
- Downtown Pomona Owners Association, 119 W. 2nd St., Pomona
- CVS, 150 W. Willow St., Pomona
- Western University of Health Sciences Patient Care Center
- Gold Strike Market Carniceria, 412 N. Park Ave., Pomona
- Fairplex Chevron, Fairplex Drive and San Bernardino Freeway, Pomona
- Discount Market, Philadelphia Street and Towne Avenue, Pomona
- LaundryLand Coin Op Laundry, 744 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
- Pomona Eagles, 854 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona



days at Café Libros. You make the time for all of these projects.

But this transit issue is important, too, Mr. Councilmember. After all, Foothill's own figures showed those 22,000 people visited the transit store last year – people who in many cases don't have computers or even cell phones and have no means of transportation other than the bus.

As Pomona's representative on Foothill's Joint Powers Authority, where your Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests reporting shows you are earning between \$1,001 and \$10,000 a year (and according to a Foothill spokesperson you receive \$150 per meeting), it is up to you to represent those people, sit down with Doran Barnes as you said you would and

work out that interim solution that you yourself came up with – opening a special counter window in Pomona City Hall to provide route information and bus passes.

We even offered in a text to you – that you did not reply to – to draft a little something at no charge for the city to use as a starting point for that proposal Foothill was suggesting.

We've tried to "play nice" all year, as we told you. But it shouldn't take two months to set up a meeting and certainly not nine months to get this conversation to where it is today. If you can't or won't find the time to work this out, perhaps it is time for Mayor Tim Sandoval to appoint another councilmember to the Joint Powers Authority job who will.

**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.

**La Nueva Voz...**

**Follow us on  
Facebook,  
Instagram,  
Linked In  
and Yelp!**



**Editor's Note:** This page is the sixth 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

### New county department brings 'justice and equity' to just-released inmates and others

"Socioeconomic justice and equity" has a lot of meanings and a lot of applications.

One of them applies to those "justice-involved" individuals returning to the community and into society as they work to avoid returning into the "system."

Leading the charge to provide services to these individuals in Los Angeles County – more services than there is room in this entire newspaper – is Songhai Armstead, a Los Angeles native and a Los Angeles County Superior Court judge who retired after nearly six years. She said she decided there needed to be more to the justice system than her three options of jail, prison or release.

"I thought we needed a larger array of opportunities for folks," she told newspaper publishers, reporters and other members of the Latino Media Collaborative last month in Los Angeles. "One of the things that I realized was that everyone who needed help, if they wanted help, we don't have enough to go around," she said.

It was that thinking that two years ago resulted in the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, at her urging, creating the county's newest department, known as the Justice, Care and Opportunities Department with "Judge" Armstead serving as director heading up a staff of about 125 employees.

And those services she's providing? She's able to provide a lot of services – directly to those leaving the system or to non-profit organizations providing services to the public in Los Angeles County – based on an annual budget of \$300 million set aside for grants funding alternatives to incarceration and community investment.

Anyone reading this working for or supporting one of those non-profits? The Justice, Care and Opportunities Department, because it is still a relatively new agency in the county, is actively looking for qualified non-profits to apply for and receive grants under that \$300 million budget, so without having to read any further, give them a call at their call center at (833) LAC-JCOD or (833) 522-5263, reach them on Instagram using the handle @lacjcod or visit the web site at [justiceconnect.org](http://justiceconnect.org).

Their focus is on organizations in the community – in all parts of Los Angeles County -- in need of grant funding of \$1.5 million or less and currently, looking ahead at year three, they have 153 groups receiving grants valued at \$175 million spread over a three-year period.

Armstead believes it is important to plan on a three-year basis since most grants tend to be for a year with agencies spend that long just figuring out how to spend the money and end up losing some of the funding before they can accomplish their goals.

Then what is this two-year-old county department doing to help?

For one thing, employees are stationed daily in courthouses and even at the Los Angeles County Jail, right there where people in need of services are walking past them on their way out, asking them what they can do to help.

They even have small rolling laptop carts in courthouse halls to enable providing services on the spot.

"If you're getting released from jail or prison, we want to make sure that people have access to folks being able to help connect to the services at the moment that they leave," Armstead said. "It doesn't mean you have gone to prison -- you could just have had contact with law enforcement and you're looking for help."

She got the idea by going to the jails and talking to inmates, asking what she could do to help.

"When I leave here, I don't have anywhere to go but where I've been" was a typical response she received, she said.

So, her new county department works to help keep people from getting back into the same cycle.

For example, somebody may call their call center seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. to say they've just been released and they don't have anywhere to go.

"We will send a car and come pick you up and we'll take you to emergency housing, we'll connect you with a care manager," Armstead said, adding that she prefers "care manager" to

"case manager."

"And that person will help you with job training, getting your i.d., getting you the right treatment" including mental health services and even partnering with the public defender for expungement assistance if needed.

The "care manager" will continue to "walk with that person along their journey to help them get back on their feet," Armstead said.

Plus, there's no cost for any of their services, they don't ask for identification or citizenship documents of any type, and it is strictly "do you need help, we'll help you."

"I do believe that if a person wants help we should provide it but if you don't want help, then we need to know you don't want help," Armstead said, adding she's trying to eliminate every obstacle from a person changing their life if they want to change their life.

She said during her work on the bench, she noticed a lot of people didn't make it to court, didn't go to probation, and didn't go to see their parole officer, all of which can result in additional jail time.

"We will pick you up, we will take you to court, we will take you to probation, we will take you to parole," she said. "I don't believe that everybody belongs in community . . . but if you're ready for community, and you're ready for help, we want to make sure you have every opportunity to support you."

How do those in need of the services learn about it? There are cards and posters in the courts, every law enforcement agency knows about it, her department sends out teletypes and more.

"It's actually word of mouth," she said, adding that they are even working on radio ads – and everything is in both English and Spanish.

Last month's Latino Media Collaborative roundtable with representatives of "BIPOC" (Black, Indigenous and People of Color) newspapers was another effort to get the word out, particularly in communities impacted by the criminal justice system.

And they are working with a translation service so they can receive calls in virtually any language.

"We have lots of challenges . . . one of the challenges is letting people know that we exist," Armstead said, and another philosophical challenge is determining "when is the right time for people to change their lives."

"We're the non-government govern-



Songhai Armstead

## Alleged check fraud scheme... from pg. 1

La Nueva Voz by the school district as part of the public records disclosure, asked members of the PUPIL board to accept his resignation from the board “effective immediately.”

“I wholeheartedly apologize for everything that has transpired because of my bad decisions,” he said in the letter. “I can assure you that I have taken the necessary steps to fix my wrongdoing, and I wish you the best in your future endeavours. (sic)”

However, La Nueva Voz reached out to Camacho by e-mail for his comments and things became complicated.

Camacho told La Nueva Voz the same controversy came up during his first school board election campaign in 2020, although La Nueva Voz has noted it was without the background

He said he paid the money back in full less than two days later and resigned “because I believed that me staying on the board would compromise the trust that funders and folks who donate have for the PUPIL Foundation.”

“My only mistake was taking the blame not knowing that it would be used against me later on,” he added. “In 2017, I was working full-time and making a stable income – I was teaching financial literacy.”

“I did not need to steal or defraud, and I was well aware how checks work – in no universe would Alfredo Camacho think he would get away with doing this,” he said. “It was a crime by someone in my family who was desperate and on mind-altering substances. This issue was

ing that all remaining funds would be transferred to the Pomona Community Foundation “with an MOU to be drafted stipulating its restricted purposes.”

The Pomona Community Foundation, according to its articles of incorporation provided to La Nueva Voz in the package of public records released, is a “nonprofit public benefit corporation . . . organized under the nonprofit public benefit corporation law for charitable purposes.”

It was organized in January 2008 with Jim Henwood, formerly president and CEO of Fairplex, as its initial director.

A Feb. 5, 2019, e-mail from Renee Graves to Jim Moore and Jeanelle Jimenez indicated the balance the previous month expected to go to the Pomona Community Foundation was \$80,461, of which \$35,316 was “temporarily restricted by external donors.”

Then what does it all mean?

At this point, that is still unclear. On one hand, as one observer close to the development put it, the “stolen” checks incident, as the police report described the alleged matter, even though the funds were returned, impacted the kids for whom the scholarships were intended – and, because of the apparently resulting dissolution of the PUPIL foundation, impacted all the students who would have continued to receive scholarships had the foundation continued its work.

And on the other hand, the incident impacted the teachers themselves who, according to this source, regularly contributed their own funds to PUPIL for the benefit of the children.

In an even broader sense, he said, the incident impacted the entire Pomona community based on lost opportunities never realized in terms of the resulting positive growth that could have been achieved through supporting outstanding students, clearly a benefit that is impossible to quantify.

Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, one of a half dozen endorsements Camacho lists on his campaign web site, was the only one to respond to La Nueva Voz questioning whether he would withdraw his support based on the alleged check fraud revelations.

Preciado appointed Camacho to the Pomona Planning Commission on Dec. 12, 2018, long after the June 29, 2017, letter of apology from Camacho when the events occurred, making it clear that Preciado knew or

could have known of the checks matter when he made the appointment.

He told La Nueva Voz before a ribbon cutting this month he would not change his position this time around and he did not change his position four years ago when he became aware of the allegations during Camacho’s first run for school board. Camacho lost to Lorena Gonzalez four years ago in a 53 to 46 percent vote.

The race was for a vacant seat when Jason Rothman opted not to seek re-election.

Gonzalez decided against running this year, leaving the seat open once again. Camacho currently is running against Tamara Gonzalez.

Wei Tsu Loh, president of Associated Pomona Teachers, the PUSD teachers’ union, responded in a telephone call to La Nueva Voz e-mail and telephone messages seeking comment for this story.

While her original comment was that she would have no comment, La Nueva Voz continued asking questions and she acknowledged that the teachers’ union was aware of the checks allegations at the time the decision was made to endorse Camacho in the November election.

She declined to comment beyond that, explaining that she did not feel comfortable in the conversation.

Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, also endorsing Camacho in the current campaign, did not respond to a La Nueva Voz e-mail asking if these revelations would cause him to withdraw his endorsement.

La Nueva Voz also reached out to Pomona’s John Clifford, a member of the city’s new Ethics Commission, asking what if anything all of this would mean to Camacho’s Planning Commission connection.

“We can impose fines, we can’t impose any other kinds of sanctions,” Clifford said in an e-mail. “We also can’t run investigations as all our work has to be done in open meetings.”

He added the commission has held only three meetings and is working on trying to convince members of the Pomona City Council “to give some teeth to the commission and have a real commission to do this, obviously, needed work.”

Pomona City Clerk Rosalia Butler, responding by e-mail to a La Nueva Voz request for clarification, said there are “currently no regulations that exist regarding appointed positions holding multiple offices.”

In other words, in theory, if Cama-

cho is elected to the school board, he could continue to serve in his current capacity on the Pomona Planning Commission.

La Nueva Voz also reached out to Pomona City Manager Anita Gutierrez, but she responded by e-mail that she would not be commenting on this matter.

Then there’s yet another part of this story that, unfortunately, makes it appear that PUPIL preferred that the entire matter never see the light of day.

For one thing, it appears no press release, public announcement or other public notification from PUPIL or, for that matter, the school district -- under a different school board and a different superintendent -- ever became a matter of public record -- until the rumor mill reached La Nueva Voz and the official documents were obtained.

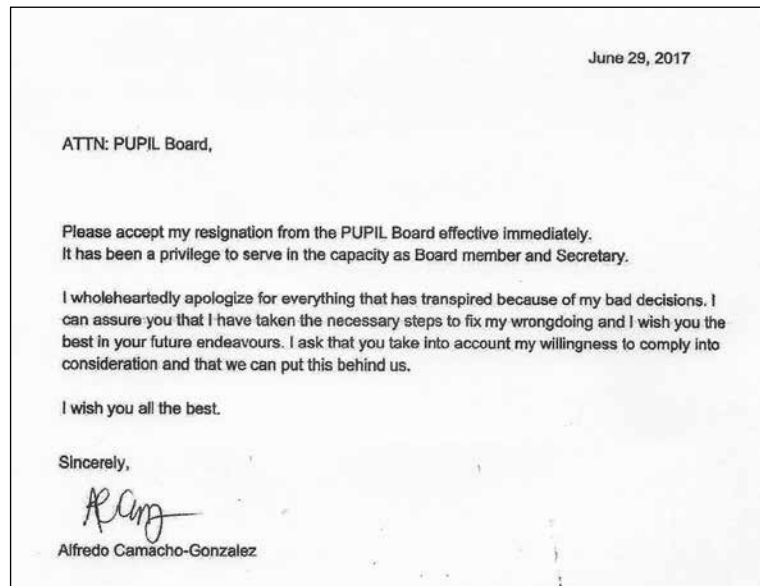
Secondly, and perhaps more disturbing, an annual “Registration Renewal Fee Report to Attorney General of California” was filed by PUPIL on June 27, 2018, roughly a year after the entire checks matter occurred. It was stamped “received” by the attorney general’s office on July 3, 2018.

Question two, Part B (statements regarding organization during the period of this report, which was July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, the day after Camacho’s letter of apology) asked if “during the reporting period, was there any theft, embezzlement, diversion or misuse of the organization’s charitable property or funds?”

The box was marked with an “x” for “No.” And the official form was signed – “under penalty of perjury that . . . it is true, correct and complete,” as the form stated above the signature line -- by Renee S. Graves, treasurer.

La Nueva Voz, through this account of what happened, is not attempting to come to any conclusion but is simply trying to present the facts on all sides. While it is clear the checks were changed, it is up to the reader to decide whether all of this was a case of “the dog ate my homework” in an elaborate explanation, or whether it really was Camacho’s brother and the real issue was carelessness in leaving the checks in an unsecured location.

And on Camacho’s current campaign for a seat on the PUSD school board? If he is elected, he would be one of five board members overseeing the district’s \$424.6 million budget and the education of 21,000 students.



Pictured is Alfredo Camacho's letter to PUPIL. La Nueva Voz modified the illustration only to remove extra space above the signature. The content was not changed.

documents. The authenticated e-mails and documentation did not surface until this month’s public records requests from La Nueva Voz.

Camacho explained in an e-mail that when he served on the PUPIL Foundation board, he was “in charge of distributing scholarship checks and distributed a majority of them.”

“A few of them from students who did not respond stayed in my car while I was at a work conference,” he said. “During this time, my brother gained access to them without my knowledge and cashed them. Upon returning, I was made aware of what happened.”

“This was shocking to me, and I should have asked the board to inquire more and press charges, but knowing that it was done by my brother who kept my car to take my mom to and from work, I asked the board how I could remedy the issue,” Camacho said in his e-mail.

not brought up for years until I ran for office and became a political threat.”

He called the allegations “desperate mudslinging by political opponents.”

He said he posted a similar explanation on his Facebook page in 2020.


La Nueva Voz sent follow-up e-mails to Camacho asking him to identify his brother, but no response was received before press time for this issue.

Interestingly, the PUPIL foundation essentially was dissolved nine weeks after Camacho’s letter of resignation when a letter from PUSD terminating the memorandum of understanding between PUSD and PUPIL informed Jimenez her board could no longer solicit funds on behalf of the district’s schools.


And a letter from Jimenez to Martinez and members of the school board acknowledged the termination of the memorandum of understanding, add-



**FAIRPLEX PRESENTS**  
**LIGHTS OUT**




**GET YOUR BOOS AND BREWS IN ONE LOCATION**



**FAIRPLEX PRESENTS**  
**Oktoberfest**

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 SURGERY • LYME DISEASE • MEDICAL MOVEMENTS • MUSCULAR DISORDERS • ORTHOPEDIC INJURIES • OSTEOPOROSIS • PARKINSON'S DISEASE • PULMONARY CONDITIONS • SPINAL CORD INJURIES • SPORTS INJURIES • SURGICAL 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

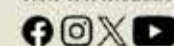
- OUTSTANDING PATIENT EXPERIENCE AWARD™ 2020-2024
- AMERICA'S 100 Best SPINE SURGERY™ 2021-2024
- BACK AND NECK SURGERY FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT 2021-2023
- JOINT REPLACEMENT EXCELLENCE AWARD™ 2020-2023
- SPINAL FUSION SURGERY FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT 2021-2024
- SPINE SURGERY EXCELLENCE AWARD™ 2022-2024
- TOTAL HIP REPLACEMENT FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT 2021-2023
- TOTAL KNEE REPLACEMENT FIVE-STAR RECIPIENT 2019-2024

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*.



**CASA COLINA**  
 Hospital and Centers for Healthcare  
*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)







2024  
**PROLOGUE**  
EX2WD

**\$199** + tax per month  
for 24 months

DOWN PAYMENT \$999



**0.9%** APR FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS

ON 2024 Prologue



2024 **PROLOGUE**

DON'T LET THE SUN SET ON THESE BIG SAVINGS!

- \$1,000 Lease Loyalty/Conquest Bonus\*
- \$1,000 California State Lease Bonus\*
- \$2,000 End of Summer Lease Bonus\*
- \$6,000 Dealer Lease Launch Bonus\*
- \$7,500 U.S. EV Tax Credit\*

CLAIM OFFER 



2024 **ZDX**  
A-SPEC RWD I-SPD AT

**\$309** /mo. for 27 months  
+ tax

\$4,999 due at signing

LEASE LOYALTY SPECIAL



**0.9% APR** On NEW 2024 ZDX  
for up to 72 months



**ALL-ELECTRIC 2024 ZDX**

DON'T LET THE SUN SET ON THESE SAVINGS!

- \$6,300 Dealer Lease Launch Bonus\*
- \$4,000 Lease Conquest Bonus\*
- \$2,500 Dealer Savings Bonus\*
- \$1,650 Launch Lease Bonus\*
- \$7,500 U.S. EV Tax Credit\*

CLAIM OFFER 



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

Terms available on approved credit. Expires 11/1/24.  
See Metro Honda for Complete Details. Subject to vehicle availability.  
Los términos de acuerdo a crédito aprobado. Efectivo hasta 11/1/24.  
Visite Metro Honda para detalles completos. Sujeto a disponibilidad de vehículos.



**WINSUPPLY OPENS IN POMONA** -- Winsupply of Pomona, offering plumbing, pipes, valves and fittings, and industrial supplies to the trades and to the public, opened the company's Pomona location in a 2,700 square foot office and warehouse with an official Pomona Chamber of Commerce ribbon cutting last month. Pictured, cutting the ribbon, is owner Ray Zamorano, with a little help from his wife, Liza Zamorano, and their daughter, Jemma. Pictured at far left is Pomona Chamber Ambassador Essence Guss; and, from center, are Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, Kimberly Masse of Los Angeles County Assessor Jeff Prang's office, Jenny Macias of Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez' office, Frank and Domenica Carrillo of Pomona's "On Time Photo Booth Rentals," Tracy Evanson of Healed Women Heal, Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, and Chamber President and CEO Monique Robles. The company is located at 651 New York Drive, Pomona. For information, call (909) 310-0239.



**RIMMI HUNDAL STEPS DOWN AT TRI-CITY** -- Members of the Pomona City Council honored Tri City Mental Health Executive Director Rimmi Hundal this month, recognizing her 16 years of service to the agency that serves Pomona, Claremont and La Verne. Hundal took the position of Chief Deputy Director for the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. Tri City's current Chief Financial Officer Diana Acosta was appointed by Tri City's governing board to serve as Interim Executive Director until a permanent successor is selected. Pictured is Hundal with members of the Pomona City Council accepting the recognition.

### Two Diamond Ranch High School seniors named National Merit Scholarship semifinalists

Two seniors at Pomona's Diamond Ranch High School have been selected as semifinalists in this year's 2025 70th annual National Merit Scholarship program. Ryan N. LeFevre-Dhore and Shakari J. Sykes were among 16,000 academically talented students who, as semifinalists, will have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 6,870 National Merit Scholarships worth nearly \$26 million.

The scholarships will be offered next spring when the students are graduating

from high school. Students were in their third year of high school when they took the PSAT/NMSQT testing last October to enter the National Merit Scholarship program. More than 1.3 million juniors in about 21,000 high schools entered the program by taking the test, which serves as an initial screening of program entrants.

About 95 percent of the semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing, and about half of the finalists will win National Merit Scholarship... pg. 14



## Plans unveiled for 'destination event' annual Pomona Mural Festival

Fox Community Culture Fund Board member Andrea Galván unveiled a new annual Pomona Mural Festival concept last month that, when it gets off the ground in a couple of years, is expected to add jobs, boost the local economy and create a destination event in Downtown Pomona with all the benefits to the city and the region that go along with it.

Galván presented the new plan at the annual meeting of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association at Pomona's Maxximo Italian Restaurant and Banquet Hall.

It was the DPOA's first time selecting business winners representing the Downtown Pomona area. O'Donovan's Pub received the "Business of the Year" award.

Galván told the group the Pomona Mural Festival currently is in the early stages of fundraising, getting the community involved and working with City Hall to see if some of the city's "Art in Public Places" fund can be made available to the project.

In a telephone interview with La Nueva Voz this month, she said she expects to spend her first year on fundraising and getting the artists together. She added that most of the actual murals will be in Pomona, although the goal is to bring more art to the entire region while creating a new signature event in Pomona.

The concept already has worked well in other communities including, as an example, the Wynwood area of Miami where an art project created 5,000 new jobs related to the arts economy in Miami and Wynwood and resulted in 20 percent of all of Miami's parking transactions being logged just in

Destination event... pg. 18



Downtown Pomona Owners Association COO Heidi Ortega, at left, and DPOA President Cathy Tessier, of Arteco Management, kick off last month's DPOA annual meeting.



Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, at left, poses with representatives of Pomona's Conceptual Art Therapy, winners of this year's DPOA "Outstanding Achievement" award.



The DPOA "Excellence in Service" award went to Joey Negrete of the DPOA maintenance team. From left are Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, Negrete, Anthony Moreno of State Sen. Susan Rubio's office, DPOA President Cathy Tessier, and DPOA COO Heidi Ortega.



The DPOA's "Visionary Award" went to Arteco Management. Accepting the award, at right, is Victor Tessier, with Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado looking on at left.



## Leading with Gold Standards

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is proud to be recognized by the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association with the Get With The Guidelines® Stroke Gold Plus and Heart Failure Gold Plus Quality Achievement Awards.

Our dedicated team of physicians, nurses and specialists provide comprehensive, patient-centered care for cardiovascular diseases, including heart failure and stroke, all while following the latest evidence-based guidelines.

How significant are these awards? Ask the patients whose lives we've saved.



**POMONA VALLEY HOSPITAL**

MEDICAL CENTER  
STEAD HEART & VASCULAR CENTER

Expert care with a personal touch

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

www.pvhmc.org   





**FIRE DEPARTMENT RECOGNITION** -- Fire Capt. Jeremy Frye, Battalion 15, Fire Station 186, was recognized last month by the Pomona Optimists at their "Public Safety Award Honorees" dinner for his work last year with the department's Fire Ground Survival Training program in which 2,500 personnel were trained in life saving fire fighter survival skills and how to properly deploy as a Rapid Intervention Crew, all to help save lives and better prepare members of the department. Pictured from left are Battalion Chief Matt Briones, Frye, Acting Asst. Fire Chief Dustin Robertson, and Deputy Fire Chief Eleni Pappas. Frye has served with the Los Angeles County Fire Department since January 2008.



**POMONA OPTIMISTS PUBLIC SAFETY AWARD HONOREES** -- The Pomona Optimist Club held its annual 2023-2024 "Public Safety Award Honorees" recognition awards dinner last month at Fuego Cocina and Cantina in Downtown Pomona. Pomona Police Department Motor Officer Michael Varnum was the club's honoree for police and Fire Capt. Jeremy Frye was the honoree for fire. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Police Chief Mike Ellis, Varnum, Deputy Chief Christian Hsu, and Optimist Club President Lorraine Canales. Varnum, a member of the Traffic Services Bureau as a Motor Officer since 2016, was recognized for his leadership in the development of the department's Major Accident Investigation Team and for his traffic collision investigation skills.



Photo by Renee Barbee

**CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES!** -- It was a day for a kid to be a kid last week in the Pomona Civic Center when the fifth annual Pomona Children's Festival had everything from a Pomona Police Department bike rodeo to a giant bubble party, free food and gifts for the kids and more. Pictured are some of the kids -- of all sizes -- dressed as their favorite superhero since that was the dress code for the day. More than 1,000 kids and their parents turned out for the event.

**CPR TRAINING**  
Get trained. Save a life. You'll be glad you did.



**PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

Pilgrim Congregational Church presents  
**CPR Certification Class**  
**Saturday, November 9th at 10am**  
**600 N. Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA. 91767**  
**Registration: \$65**  
Light refreshments included

If you are renewing your card or learning CPR for the 1st time, this class is for you! If you took this class at Pilgrim the last time we had it, your card will be expiring soon. (December 3rd.) Get it renewed before then.

Sign up today to reserve your spot.  
Call: 909-622-1373, M-F (9am to 4pm)

Email:

MembershipBoard@pilgrimchurchpomona.com

Scan the QR Code



**FARMERS MARKET AT MT. SAC**  
EST. 2005

**LOCALLY FARMED FOODS**  
**FRESH SEAFOOD**  
**ASIAN PRODUCE**  
**VETERAN OWNED BUSINESSES**  
**LOCALLY MADE GOODS**

**SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL FARMERS MARKET!**  
**EVERY SATURDAY 8AM - 1PM**  
**MT. SAN ANTONIO COLLEGE**  
**1100 N GRAND AVE, LOT B**  
**WALNUT, CA 91789**

**California Certified FARMERS MARKET EST. 2005**

**REGIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY**  
[WWW.REGIONALCHAMBERSGV.COM](http://WWW.REGIONALCHAMBERSGV.COM)



## Cal Poly 'Innovation Hub' opens in Downtown Pomona

Cal Poly Pomona officials and Congresswoman Norma Torres cut the ribbon last month for a new Cal Poly Pomona Community Innovation Hub so that the university, in the words of President Soraya Coley, "can once again have a footprint in Downtown Pomona."

The new facility is located in Pomona's Mission Promenade in the offices once occupied by former State Sen. Connie Leyva.

"It's always been the intent to be connected more physically with the community," Coley told guests. And, referring to Torres, who provided funding for the project, Coley said she "captures our university and our region in instrumental and transformative ways."

"This Innovation Hub is just one more example of her commitment to this region, to our entrepreneurs, to our innovators and especially to our small businesses," Coley added.

"This call for innovation and entrepreneurship and career growth will be a new beacon of opportunity for creative minded individuals of all backgrounds,"

she said.

The Innovation Hub is designed to encourage the launching of new pursuits and building capacity for new careers while providing support to build skills in science, engineering, technology, math, education, art and agriculture.

Classes and events will be held there for everything from financial planning to 3D printing workshops. It is managed by Cal Poly's Office of Academic Innovation.

"Our goal is to create a dynamic environment where creativity meets opportunity, ensuring that Pomona's workforce is at the forefront of progress and ready to tackle the challenges of tomorrow," said Olukemi Sawyerr, associate vice president for the Office of Academic Innovation.

"We are actually investing in the future of our community," Coley said.

"Cal Poly has been in the trenches in our city for a long, long time," Torres said. "We are so proud to have been able to deliver this money and we're going to keep the doors here open even if we have to write another grant."



**CAL POLY RETURNS TO DOWNTOWN POMONA** -- Officials cut the ribbon for a new Cal Poly Pomona Community Innovation Hub in Downtown Pomona last month. Pictured, from left, are Cal Poly Provost Terri Gomez, Cal Poly President Soraya Coley, Congresswoman Norma Torres, Olukemi Sawyerr, associate vice president for the Office of Academic Innovation, and Cal Poly Vice President for University Advancement Frances Teves.

Torres was able to provide funding for the project through a \$1 million community project funding request. Once funding runs out, if additional federal funding does not become available, Cal Poly has a revenue generating plan in place that will enable the project to continue, according to Sawyerr.

The cost of running the facility is \$225,000 per year and includes a full time staff and two part-time student assistants, she told La Nueva Voz.

A Cal Poly Pomona Downtown Center was open from 2000 to 2009 and hosted educational and cultural programs for both youth and adults. It was part of an ef-

fort to support the revitalization of Downtown Pomona and offer programs that would benefit the community, according to a spokesperson for Cal Poly.

The Community Information Hub is located at 101 W. Mission Blvd., Suite 111, Pomona. For more information, call (909) 869-5228.

TAKE \$10 OFF  
USE THE CODE:  
**LANUEVAVOZ**

**8TH ANNUAL  
POMONA 5K/10K  
& TODDLER TROT**

OCTOBER 19, 2024

REGISTER NOW

POMONA5K.COM



# 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



**POMONA CHAMBER'S FIRST VIRTUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT** -- More than 40 golfers participated last week in the first ever Pomona Chamber of Commerce "Virtual Golf Tournament" at Glen Oaks Driving Range in Glendora. Golfers virtually played Pebble Beach Golf Links -- all from their driving range trees with the help of computer monitors showing both the course and the path and distance of their shots. Participants in the inaugural "Birdie Bash Golf Fundraiser" included, from left, Pomona School Board President Arturo Jimenez, Jeff Schenkel and Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, Pomona Chamber Board Chair Nef Cortez of Galaxy Re/Max Realty in Diamond Bar, and returning Chamber Board member Dr. Enrique Medina of Medina Consulting.

### National Merit Scholarship... from pg. 10

a National Merit Scholarship, earning the "Merit Scholar" title.

The nationwide pool of semifinalists represents less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors and includes the highest scoring entrants in each state.

The number of semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

A semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay and earn SAT or ACT scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

Every finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit Scholarships of \$2,500. In addition, about 770 corporate-sponsored scholarship awards will be provided by about 130 corporations and businesses, and about 150 colleges and universities are expected to finance another 3,600 college-sponsored scholarship awards for finalists who will attend those colleges.

The National Merit Scholarship Corp., a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, is based in Evanston, Ill. It was established in 1955.

The organization underwrites the scholarships with its own funds and by approximately 280 business organizations, higher education institutions and individual donors to honor the nation's scholastic champions and encourage the pursuit of academic excellence.

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



**RE/MAX**  
GALAXY

**Nef Cortez**  
Broker Associate  
DRE# 00560181



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



Each office independently owned and operated.





**GRAND OPENING FOR POMONA'S 11TH STARBUCKS** -- A Pomona Chamber of Commerce ribbon-cutting and more than 30 Garey High School cheerleaders -- and members of the Garey High School Band -- all helped make it official at the grand opening last week of Pomona's newest Starbucks. Manager Roxanne Rodrigo, who was manager of the former Starbucks at Mission Boulevard and Garey Avenue, said several staff members moved down from the previous location while others came from other stores. And she added that half of the staff came from Garey High School. The store opened for business earlier this month. Both Rodrigo and District Manager Ruben Castorena grew up in Pomona. Cutting the ribbon is Rodrigo (with the scissors) with the help of Pomona City Councilmember Nora Garcia as Castorena, behind Garcia, looks on. Pictured from left are Pomona Chamber President and CEO Monique Robles, Chamber Ambassador Domenica Carrillo of Pomona's "On Time Photo Booth Rentals," Ambassador Essence Guss of Healed Women Heal, Chamber Board members Marco Argote and Heidi Ortega of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association, Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, Chamber Board member Frank Guzman of Pomona Pride Center, Ambassador Tracy Evanson of Healed Women Heal, and, at far right, Chamber Board member Victor Caceres of Pomona's Youth and Family Club. The new Starbucks -- featuring both indoor seating and drive-through service -- is located at 1908 S. Garey Ave., Pomona.



**GRAND RE-OPENING CEREMONIES** -- It was a grand re-opening ceremony this month conducted by both the Pomona Chamber of Commerce and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Pomona after a little refurbishing because of a fire at Mariscos El Ostion, at 995 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona. Pictured cutting the ribbon are owners Efen and Blanca Gonzalez. The restaurant was located on Holt Avenue in Pomona for three years and moved to the Mission Boulevard location in 2010, according to Efen Gonzalez who told La Nueva Voz everything now is better than ever. Pictured at left is Pomona Chamber Ambassador Blanca Angel, a California notary public, and Chamber Executive Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, and at far right, Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, Hispanic Chamber President Minerva Hernandez, and Pomona Chamber President and CEO Monique Robles.

## Kindness Carnival set for Oct. 5 at Pomona's Washington Park

Mark your calendars and make sure you attend and bring the entire family to the fourth annual Kindness Carnival, scheduled for 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 5, this year in Pomona's Washington Park.

The event, this year on the theme "Kindness is my Superpower," is free and open to the public, and offers free popcorn, cotton candy, snow cones and palatas from Downtown Pomona's Delicious Freedom.

There will also be bracelet-making crafts for kids of all sizes, live musical entertainment, drumming,

poetry, Aztec dancers, and more.

Children are encouraged to wear their favorite "Superhero" costumes.

Raffle tickets will be handed out free to everyone at the registration booth and winners of the drawing

will win a flat screen television, a bicycle or gift cards.

"On behalf of myself and our committee, we look forward to seeing you," said Renee Barbee, lead organizer and committee chair.

## 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)

## Free 'wellness fair' set for next month at Western University

"Healthy in Pomona" and Western University of Health Sciences will hold a free "Health and Wellness Fair" next month on Western University's Pomona campus.

The event is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26, in Western University's main corridor west of Towne Avenue and Second Street and the Patient Care Center.

It will offer access to resources including free medical exams, dental and vision screenings, mental health resources, immuniza-

tions and vaccinations, resources for youth, families and seniors, and workshops and fun activities for all ages.

Participants will include students, faculty and staff from Western University, Tri-City Mental Health, East Valley Community Health Center, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and others.

Register in advance or at the event. For more information, e-mail [healthyinpomona@gmail.com](mailto:healthyinpomona@gmail.com).

## Volunteers needed by Historical Society to give students tours of Palomares Adobe

The Historical Society of Pomona Valley is looking for volunteers during the month of October to lead school tours of Pomona's Palomares Adobe with area fourth graders on their local history field trips.

Included will be teaching kids about plants, how the blacksmith shop operated, demonstrating how to make bricks, trying to lasso a wooden horse and more.

The tours are conducted in small groups and volunteers will be given notes and light training.

Volunteers are needed on site from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and can volunteer for one day or more, with tours scheduled every Tuesday and Thursday from Oct. 3 through Oct. 17.

For more information or to volunteer, call (909) 623-2198.



# Michelle

# RODRIGUEZ

## FOR STATE ASSEMBLY

### JOIN FIREFIGHTERS POLICE OFFICERS & LOCAL LEADERS



**JOIN US  
NOVEMBER 5!**



**Pomona Police  
Officers' Association**



**Los Angeles County Fire  
Fighters Local 1014**

## Democrat Michelle Rodriguez for Assembly *Fighting for safer, healthier neighborhoods.*

MICHELLE RODRIGUEZ IS PROUD TO BE A WORKING-CLASS MOM, GUIDED BY THE VALUES SHE LEARNED GROWING UP IN THE INLAND EMPIRE. SHE WAS BORN AND RAISED IN ONTARIO, CA, AND IS A LIFELONG RESIDENT OF THE 53RD DISTRICT.

MICHELLE HAS COMMITTED HER LIFE TO ADVOCATING FOR SAFER AND HEALTHIER NEIGHBORHOODS AND SCHOOLS. SHE IS A SURVIVOR OF GUN VIOLENCE HERSELF, AND HAS ALWAYS STRIVED TO MAKE SURE WE ARE ALL SAFE.

MICHELLE IS COMMITTED TO ADDRESSING THE ROOT CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS — INCLUDING EXPANDED MENTAL HEALTH CARE AND DRUG TREATMENT, AND INCREASING THE SUPPLY OF HOMES THAT WORKING FAMILIES CAN AFFORD. BUT SHE ALSO UNDERSTANDS THAT WE NEED TO MAKE SURE LAW ENFORCEMENT CAN DO THEIR JOB TO KEEP EVERYONE SAFE.

AS YOUR ASSEMBLYWOMAN, MICHELLE WILL FIGHT TO MAKE LIFE MORE AFFORDABLE FOR WORKING CLASS FAMILIES LIKE HERS. AND SHE'LL BE A LEADING VOICE FOR WORKING CLASS WOMEN AND FAMILIES AT THE STATE CAPITOL.

VISIT [WWW.MICHELLEFORASSEMBLY.COM](http://WWW.MICHELLEFORASSEMBLY.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION

Paid for by Michelle Rodriguez for Assembly 2024 FPPC ID # 1456740





## How does diagnostic imaging factor into breast cancer screening?

By Gary Jensen, MD

Casa Colina Diagnostic Imaging Center

Although breast cancer remains a significant cause of death in women, mortality from breast cancer has been decreasing slightly over the past decade. There may be many reasons, including recognition of the relationship between oral estrogen and breast cancer, as well as improved medical treatment of cancer patients. There is also a deepening understanding of breast cancer genetics and of the types of disease and treatments. In addition, the guidelines for screening continue to evolve, including recommended imaging procedures.

The United States Preventive Services Task Force recommends optional screening every two years for women aged 40 to 74, though some organizations (including the American Cancer Society) recommend screening yearly. Women with a family history of breast cancer should start screening earlier and possibly yearly rather than biennially. Women with dense breasts may have elevated risk of breast cancer, but they are not considered to be in the high-risk category. Although certain factors may increase risk, it is important to note that 85 percent of women diagnosed have no family history.

Physical examination and mammography remain the mainstays of breast cancer diagnosis, though other diagnostic imaging procedures may be used. Ultrasound is a wonderful guiding tool to aid in the biopsy of breast nodules, using sound waves to evaluate palpable masses or lesions seen with mammography. However, on its own it is not recommended as a screening modality. Younger women with a palpable

mass should first be evaluated with ultrasound, since a simple cyst is benign and needs no further imaging. For women over 35, mammography and ultrasound are appropriate for evaluating a palpable mass.

The utility of magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) in breast imaging is still being evaluated. It is recommended for breast lesions that are difficult to categorize by mammography or ultrasound. MRI also can be used to determine the extent of disease in women with biopsy-proven breast cancer prior to surgical therapy. It also provides another means of imaging very dense breasts or breasts with implants and is recommended as an additional screening modality for women who have high-risk cancer genes.

Different diagnostic imaging techniques may be helpful in finding a diagnosis, and your doctor will make that determination. As the patient, your job is to get to know your breasts so that you can identify any unusual changes. Find a physician that you trust and follow their advice.

The Casa Colina Diagnostic Imaging Center makes the testing process faster and easier for patients while providing optimal diagnostic images. The Center offers board-certified radiologists, highly trained and credentialed professionals, same-day/next-day appointments, and Spanish-speaking staff. Most insurance plans are accepted.

To learn more or to schedule an appointment, call the Casa Colina Diagnostic Imaging Center at (909) 450-0395.

*Editor's Note: Dr. Jensen is board-certified with the American Board of Radiology.*



Gary Jensen, MD

## Pomona Hope annual gala set for next month at Kellogg West

Pomona Hope will celebrate its 21st year of serving the youth and families of Pomona at its annual fundraising gala on Saturday, Oct. 19, at Kellogg West on the Cal Poly Pomona campus.

Tickets are \$100 for the event that gets under way at 5:30 p.m.

The organization is a community-driven, faith-based non-profit whose local partnerships and holistic programs cultivate meaningful relationships and empower people of all backgrounds, particularly at-risk youth

and their families, to work together toward personal and community transformation.

Offerings include everything from after school programs to a community garden.

To purchase tickets, visit the web site at [www.pomonahope.org/gala](http://www.pomonahope.org/gala). Sponsorship opportunities are available and raffle prizes and silent auction items are requested before Oct. 4.

For information, contact Executive Director Jeff Johannsen at (909) 921-3618, ext. 3, or by e-mail at [jeff@pomonahope.org](mailto:jeff@pomonahope.org).

## Huge success stories... from pg. 4

itself has been around for the past 10 years, replacing the former English as a Second Language Program when new California Department of Education requirements changed the focus to integrated language development and designated language development.

Ortiz told La Nueva Voz that modeling and instruction changed, as well, and for the first time school districts were required to identify student candidates for the English Learner Program through a home language survey. If parents respond that the primary language in the home is something other than English, students are given an exam to determine if they need language support.

School districts also now are required to produce an English Learner / Multilingual Student Master Plan, something PUSD worked on with the help of a District English Learner Advisory Committee, which includes a parent and faculty member from each school in the district. PUSD has been in the process of updating and revising that master plan over the past three years, and the final version included a total of seven chapters, from guiding principles and family partnerships to progress monitoring program evaluation. It was just approved by the school board in June.

Also participating in the plan development process was a team from the Center for Equity for English Learners from Loyola Marymount University.

The staff report to the school board said the plan “aligns with the requirements from the California Department of Education . . . and signifies that PUSD will ensure English Learner/Multilingual students receive rigorous, researched based, and equitable instruction via a comprehensive language acquisition program.”

“The (plan) ensures continuous academic and social emotional supports from initial enrollment through reclassification and beyond,” the staff report continued.

Then what is it that is causing these kids to end up at the top of their class, some even

becoming valedictorians?

Part of the answer, Ortiz said, is because some of the updated approaches included in the master plan revision have been implemented along the way over the past four years.

“We are implementing systems that are becoming more consistent throughout our district, from school to school and grade level,” he explained. “And we’ve invested in our teachers and professional development.”

At the high school level, he said, now every teacher is involved in the program.

Ortiz also credited Deputy Supt. for Educational Services Lilia Fuentes with obtaining funding to provide for the first time a resource teacher at every school site.

And he said his team members are working with the parents, meeting with students individually at school, and just emphasizing to the students what a huge accomplishment it is to reclassify.

It all hits home with PUSD secondary students more than anybody and they take the process seriously, Ortiz said, which is pretty much beating the odds since typically students in high school don’t reclassify very often.

Just at Pomona’s Garey High School, as an example, he said 109 students reclassified last year compared to 77 the year before.

And at Garey three years ago a total of 570 students identified as English learners, compared to 322 this year. Since Garey’s student population has not declined that much, it is because the students have reclassified by the time they get to high school.

Citing one more innovation, Ortiz said the district now offers a path for students with a disability to reclassify. He said prior to last year, there was no equitable approach for special education students.

“I’m incredibly proud of my team and my district,” he said, adding that many people have underestimated their children.

Interestingly, Ortiz himself may be one of

**Huge success stories... pg. 20**

## Leadership skills... from pg. 5

successful master plans and the processes to create them to scenario planning.

“This program is part of the city’s ongoing efforts to support leadership development opportunities and encourage innovation and creative thinking to address the most intractable problems,” said Pomona City Manager Anita Gutierrez. “I look forward to seeing what ideas emerge from this program.”

The Pomona team includes George Montano of the city’s housing department, Crystal Orosco representing Pomona Public Library, Florycell Valenzuela of community services, Denise Hernandez of Pomona Police Department community services, and Vanessa Moreno, of the city’s Office of

Violence Prevention.

“The Lincoln Vibrant Community Teams Program is a catalyst for transformative impact,” said Claremont Lincoln University President and CEO Dr. Lynn Priddy. “This Team program is not just about building skills, it’s about igniting a movement that will shape the future of our cities and towns.”

Claremont Lincoln University, an accredited, private non-profit university, was founded in 2011 out of the John C. Lincoln family’s passion for ethical leadership, collaboration and respect across differences and for developing leaders who can engage their communities in addressing social, economic and environmental challenges.



## Destination event... from pg. 11

Wynwood.

And the Wynwood area formerly was, as Galván put it, predominantly empty warehouses in a bad neighborhood.

She said the goal in Pomona will be to give people a “blank slate” to say this is what Pomona is now and “this is a place I want to return to.”

An added plus in Pomona, she said, is the city already is known for its art district.

“We just need to reaffirm our place on the global art stage,” she said.

Wynwood now is a year-round district which is a goal for Downtown Pomona as well, she said, where she envisions Pomona helping create “an art superhighway” that reaches from art communities in Los Angeles to Palm Springs.

As another comparison, Galván

pointed out that Wynwood is roughly 30 minutes from Miami Beach, and Pomona is about a half an hour from Downtown Los Angeles.

“People will travel for the right thing,” she said. “We envision working with local artists and local businesses in the community (over the next two years) to begin building a future for Pomona that diversifies the economy, supports artists and benefits the entire city and region.”

And, she added, all of that will benefit everything from Ontario International Airport to tourism

throughout the entire region.

Galván, who is a senior project manager at the UCLA Health Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center at UCLA in Westwood, previously worked for Arteco Management in Pomona, also as a project manager, and already was working on the mural festival project. She was able to hold on to it as her “personal passion project” when she left.



Team members from Carnitas Al Estilo Michoacan accept the DPOA's "New Business of the Year" award.



Because of a tie vote, there were two winners of the DPOA “Community Champion” award. Pictured, from left, are winners Chara Swodeck and Kyoni Cummings, of Pomona’s African American Advisory Alliance, and Virginia Villasenor and her daughter, Geraldine Villasenor, of Pomona’s Delicious Freedom USA, along with Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado and Anthony Moreno, representing State Sen. Susan Rubio.

She also holds a master’s degree from Queen’s University in Belfast, Northern Ireland in violence, terrorism and security and has worked in disaster response and recovery.

“I’ve seen where communities

can go wrong,” she said. “We’re not doing enough (in the Inland Empire) to bring good jobs to build out the economy.”

“Art is a great way to improve people’s perception in the commu-

Destination event... pg. 20

## Justice and equity... from pg. 7

ment department,” Armstead said, adding that “you only come in (to work for the department) if you’re very passionate about the work.”

And it is all funded by Los Angeles County, although they now are receiving some state and federal grants.

But the focus is always the same – providing services for economic opportunity, sustainability, treatment, health services, housing, employment opportunities, and youth programs, generally with an emphasis on communities with the most need and the least amount of services available.

Also included is assistance with diversion programs and care management services, meeting with them once or twice a week to help them accomplish things so they can do things on their own like have a job and obtain housing.

And they call, e-mail or send a card to remind people about court appearances and, if needed, drive them to court and take them back home – all to eliminate the possibility they will forget something.

Armstead cited an example of an unhoused individual appearing in her courtroom who had to go to a probation office in Venice, drug treatment on “Skid Row” in Los Angeles, and mental health services in Long Beach.

“He had no transportation,” and every time he appeared before her, he was in violation,” she said. “Who could do that? You can’t set

a person up for an environment that they can’t move in – you become helpless and then you commit more and more crimes.”

“Those are the things we’re trying to prevent,” Armstead said.

Today, she said she’s working to get people an entire support network in the community they are familiar with or provide them with other support instead of sending them to locations throughout Southern California.

When Armstead was serving as a judge, she had trouble finding resources for people appearing before her without having to make numerous telephone calls.

Now, in addition to everything else, her department oversees the Rapid Diversion Program which, as of January, reports that 93 percent of its graduates did not have another criminal case filed in Los Angeles County after completing the program.

Another program helps pay their rent on a phasing out basis as long as individuals get and maintain a job.

This only county department of its type in the country not only seems to be catching on – others already are taking a look, and Armstead is already working with Arizona where they are trying to duplicate what her department is doing here.

Armstead herself is a pretty good model – just based on what she’s seen as a judge working in a court-

room in the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center, the largest criminal courthouse in the country.

For example, just this month, Justice Care and Opportunities in partnership with the non-profit Holiday’s Helping Hands opened a new interim housing site for justice-impacted women and families in Long Beach.

And as part of the planning process, her team had to ask all of the tough questions like is the site for the new facility “gang neutral,” just to make sure her own department wouldn’t be placing individuals back in an environment that could get them back in old habits on the street.

On her philosophy of placing services where they are needed, her department just purchased a building right across from County Jail on Bauchet Street that she said she’s going to “knock down” and build a building there to provide care management. And while waiting for that to happen, she’s talking to the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department about putting

an office trailer at the jail.

She’s even planning on launching a 28-bed transitional housing facility across from Los Angeles General Medical Center, expected to open in a matter of weeks.

“I supported the creation of the Justice, Care and Opportunities Department because it would streamline our Care First, Jails Last initiatives and strategies,” Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis said last year when Armstead was sworn in as director of the new depart-

ment.

“I trust that Songhai Armstead will be the leader we need to follow through on the board’s vision to improve community investment, public safety, and justice,” Solis added.

Bottom line? This innovative, new Los Angeles County program is working as an already essential tool in lowering the county’s reliance on incarceration by reducing both recidivism and homelessness, all while making communities safer.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

POMONA'S PROMISE PODCAST

JOIN US MONTHLY AS WE SHARE GOOD NEWS & GOOD STORIES

LISTEN NOW

SCAN ME

PRIVACY.FLOWCODE.COM



## Services pending for Pomona historian and philanthropist Jeff Hodge

Services are pending for Jeff Hodge, a long-time Pomona collector, philanthropist and Pomona American Legion Post 30 leader, who died this month at his home. He was 78.

Born and raised in the Rialto and San Bernardino area, he moved to Pomona when he attended and graduated from Cal Poly Pomona. He received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering and went to work for the U.S. Navy shipyard in Long Beach.

When the nation's draft lottery went into effect during the Vietnam War, Hodge chose instead to enlist in the U.S. Army.

Although he was asked to go to Officer Candidate School, he chose instead to serve as an E4 Specialist with the 1st Special Forces unit in Vietnam.

Upon his return to the U.S. following his deployment, he worked for Wayne's Sweeper in Pomona (the company name and ownership changed several times through the years), a manufacturer of street sweepers with an impressive history in the industry that was a source of pride to Hodge. He continued telling the story of the company throughout his adult life.

Hodge also teamed up with three people to build a "funny car" drag racer after getting out of the service, a plan that was never able to pan out although he enjoyed the experience, nonetheless.

And he always looked forward to attending events and meeting the drivers when the NHRA came to town.

He was a respected member of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley for more than 20 years and a dedicated self-described lifelong history buff, as well.

And in February 2020, he received the first-ever Jacobus Award "for helping to preserve the rich history of the Pomona Valley" from the Historical Society for the donation to the group of his entire estate, much of which was expected to go on display at Pomona's Ebell Museum.

Included in his donation were multiple automobiles, his house,



Jeff Hodge

and even several Salsbury motor scooters – in the class of Vespas and Cushman's – that were manufactured in Pomona after World War II from 1947 to 1950.

Hodge told La Nueva Voz at the time his attorney was so impressed with his gifting gesture that he prepared the paperwork at no charge.

Hodge added the Historical Society would be able to retain some of the items on display for their historical value and sell others to support the organization as members see fit.

Historical Society President Deborah Clifford told La Nueva Voz at the time Hodge had "an incredible Pomona archive."

The award was named in honor of Sarah M. Jacobus, an early librarian in Pomona, who was instrumental in creating the Historical Society in 1916. She served as the city's third librarian from 1906 to 1940.

He collected vintage plumb automotive tools, can and bottle openers, Coca-Cola collectible vehicles, Pomona memorabilia and his amazing Pomona business card collection that is estimated to contain approximately 10,000 cards. He organized the collection in three-inch ringed binders by area of the city.

Hodge was a member of the Pomona Eagles for the past 14 years, where he always had a joke ready on hand.

At American Legion Post 30, Hodge served as Pomona Historian for the past four years but had been a member for more than 30 years where he worked diligently

Jeff Hodge... pg. 20

**Specialty Medical**  
♥ Custom Care

- 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



## Destination event... from pg. 18

nity," she said, adding that studies have shown that simply placing public art in landscaping near crosswalks can reduce pedestrian fatalities by up to 93 percent.

Individuals and groups interested in getting involved in the project, helping identify art and artists in the future, and in donating to the effort can visit the web site at [www.foxcommunity.org](http://www.foxcommunity.org) or e-mail [info@foxcommunity.org](mailto:info@foxcommunity.org).

The Fox Community Culture Fund works to promote projects in Pomona where aspiring and seasoned artists can freely explore their talents.

In addition to O'Donovan's, other categories receiving awards at the event included Conceptual Art Therapy for the "Outstanding Achievement" award, Pomona's African American Advisory Alliance and Delicious Freedom both



The DPOA "Dedication Award" went to John Pena of JP Group. From left are Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, Pena, and Anthony Moreno of State Sen. Susan Rubio's office.

won "Community Champion" in a tie, and Joey Negrete of the DPOA maintenance team won "Excellence in Service."

John Pena of JP Group, owner

of the new Maxximo, won the "Dedication Award," Arteco Management won "Visionary Award" and Carnitas Al Estilo Michoacan won "New Business of the Year."

## Jeff Hodge... from pg. 19

to organize and help label items and photos.

He remained active at the post attending meetings and volunteering on beautification days.

He was honored for his military service by Pomona Mayor Tim

Sandoval and members of the Pomona City Council in 2019.

Hodge was preceded in death by his father, Robert Earl Hodge; his mother, Mary Louise (Savage) Hodge; and his brother, Robert Earl Hodge, Jr.

The following public service ads are courtesy of La Nueva Voz

ARRESTED? RELEASED?

WONDERING WHAT'S NEXT?

JCOD can connect you to transportation, court reminders, housing, employment and more.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**JUSTICE CARE AND OPPORTUNITIES**  
DEPARTMENT

6 A.M. TO 11 P.M. DAILY

833-LAC-JCOD

(833-522-5263)

JusticeConnect.org

*Project Sister Family Services*

*Sexual Assault and Child Abuse Services*

909-626-4357  
or 626-966-4155

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

Feeding the Hungry,  
Sheltering the Homeless

Grocery Distribution at  
209 W. Pearl St.  
Pomona

Volunteering: 909-622-3806

[www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org](http://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

Interested in who has been arrested by Pomona Police in Pomona?  
Please check our weekly listing at <http://www.lanuevavoz.net>  
and click on "Arrest Logs" on our home page.

## Huge Success stories... from pg. 17

the best examples for the students – he didn't speak English until kindergarten and he graduated from the University of Notre Dame. And he still remembers that one special kindergarten teacher, Miss Suzuki, who spent part of her lunch hour reading to him and giving him a little extra attention.

"I feel very happy for our students that their ability has been shown," Ortiz said, adding that for the students "being able to be biliterate and authentically bilingual is a huge advantage wherever they go, college or career."

"It opens up the world to them, especially in California," he said, and not only simple language, as the students are becoming academically fluent in English – something he said is a "game changer" for the kids.

"Our school board is really ex-

cited, their feedback on the plan (was) it was very clear and accessible to a wide variety of audiences . . . very deep and thorough and at the same time acceptable to everyone," Ortiz said.

And he's excited for the teachers since, he said, the real work begins making sure this document lives throughout the district and impacts the lives of the students.

Ortiz said he was lucky he had Miss Suzuki in kindergarten in Baldwin Park. But he said today, it shouldn't be a matter of luck that a student gets the right teacher – regardless of where a child enters the district, that student should receive the same level of support.

He said so many people come to this country for a better life.

"Every English learner is someone's American dream," Ortiz said. "We're in charge of that."

<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">ANNOUNCEMENT</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">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</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">FINANCIAL SERVICES</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">Struggling with debt? If you have over \$10,000 in debt we help you be debt free in as little as 24-48 months. Pay nothing to enroll. Call Now: 1-877-435-4860.</p>	<p style="font-size: 10px;">\$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-888-989-5749</p>	<p style="font-size: 10px;">JACK Flea/Tick, Mane Dandruff, and Allergy control. AT TRACTOR SUPPLY (<a href="http://www.happyjackinc.com">www.happyjackinc.com</a>)</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">AUTOS WANTED</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">DONATE YOUR VEHICLE to fund the SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILDREN. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required! Call 24/7: 1-877-434-6852.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">HOME IMPROVEMENT</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">BATH &amp; SHOWER UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Affordable prices - No payments for 18 mos. Lifetime warranty &amp; professional installs. Senior &amp; Military discount. 1-877-252-9868</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">HEALTH/MEDICAL</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">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 <a href="http://www.dental50plus.com/">www.dental50plus.com/</a> calnews #6258</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">SERVICES</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">GoGo. Live and age your way. Get help with rides, groceries, meals, and more. Memberships start as low as \$1 per day. Available 24/7 nationwide. BBB Rated A+ Business. Call GoGo to get started. 1-855-476-0033</p>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">GOT AN UNWANTED CAR???</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. All 50 States. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-855-408-6546.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">LOANS</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 8/25/24.) Call 1-855-419-8241</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">RETIRED COUPLE</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">\$\$\$\$ for business purpose Real Estate loans. Credit unimportant. V.I.P. Trust Deed Company <a href="http://www.viploan.com">www.viploan.com</a> Call 1-818-248-0000. Broker-principal DRE 01041073.</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">MISCELLANEOUS</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">DID YOU KNOW Newspaper-generated content is so valuable it's taken and repeated, condensed, broadcast, tweeted, discussed, posted, copied, edited, and emailed countless times throughout the day by others? Discover the Power of Newspaper Advertising. For MORE INFORMATION call 916-288-6011 or email <a href="mailto:cecelia@cnpa.com">cecelia@cnpa.com</a></p>
<p style="font-size: 10px;">Get a break on your taxes! Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-491-2884 today!</p>	<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; font-size: 12px;">PETS</p> <p style="font-size: 10px;">Safe Step. North America's #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Now featuring our FREE shower package and</p>	<p style="font-size: 10px;">When veterinary care is unavailable or unaffordable, Ask for HAPPY</p>	



## Pomona's 'horse and buggy days' gone but not forgotten, due to new replica of original Pomona City Stable

An official ribbon-cutting ceremony was held this month to open a replica of the original Pomona City Stable, a historic building completed in 1909, which once housed horses essential for transportation and public works before the advent of motor vehicles.

Ave. – that was not being used at the time – collapsed in 2017 and steel poles were installed to support and preserve the remaining portions of the structure due to its historical value. The poles remained in place until 2022 when the original building was

cording to the ribbon-cutting program notes. Also in 2022, a groundbreaking was held for construction of the 4,343 square foot replica, which is located at 725 W. Commercial St., Pomona, two-tenths of a mile



**OFFICIAL RIBBON-CUTTING** -- Officials cut the ribbon this month to mark the opening of a new replica of the original Pomona City Stable building which has been demolished. Construction of the replica took two years to complete. Pictured, from left, are Historical Society of Pomona Valley President Deborah Clifford, Pomona Historic Preservation Commissioner Chara Swodeck, Pomona City Manager Anita Gutierrez, Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, Pomona City Councilmember Steve Lustro, Three Valleys Municipal Water District Director Carlos Goytia, Historical Society Past President Mickey Gallivan, Pomona Water Resources engineer Nichole Horton, and Historic Preservation Commissioner Debra Martin.



A 'replica' Pomona City Stable -- a recreation of the city's building literally from horse and buggy days that was built in 1909 -- is now open for business two-tenths of a mile from the original facility which had deteriorated and has been demolished.

The new City Stable was part of a roughly \$32 million city upgrade project that included a Water Resources Department administration building, a warehouse, demolition of the original stable and site improvements in addition to the new City Stable, according to Pomona Water Resources Director Chris Diggs.

The roof and walls of the original building at 636 W. Monterey

demolished after the decision was made "to honor the building's historic significance by replicating its design, preserving its legacy as a marker of the city's transition from a horse-powered era to modern urbanization," ac-

### Optimist Club BINGO set for tonight

The Pomona Optimist Club will hold an evening of BINGO on Thursday, Sept. 26, at the Eagles Lodge in Pomona.

Hours are 6 to 10 p.m. and a \$45 donation includes two BINGO cards for 10 BINGO games. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Dinner catered by Ruben's BBQ is included in the cost of admission, with a menu that offers sliced beef brisket, chicken breast and more.

The Pomona Eagles Lodge is located at 954 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona. For information, call Sonia Molina at (626) 526-1831.

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

# Debra Martin

Paid by Debra Martin for Pomona City Council  
844 HILLCREST DR., POMONA, CA 91768 #1466085

para el Ayuntamiento de Pomona

"Como madre y abuela quiero garantizar la seguridad de nuestra comunidad, esa es mi máxima prioridad."

"Todos los residentes merecen sentirse seguros en su casa, en sus calles y en su vida cotidiana."

- Mayor rapidez de respuesta de la policia y los bomberos
- Ampliar los programas de vigilancia vecinal
- Instalar señales de Stop con luces intermitentes
- Mejorar la seguridad de los peatones y vecindarios
- Aumentar la vigilancia comunitaria

"Debra Martin está trabajando con la Comunidad para ayudar a mejorar la seguridad y la calidad de vida de todos."

"La mejor opción para las familias de Pomona"

"Orgullosamente respaldado por Maestros, Familias, Trabajadores y Socorristas"

debramartinforcouncil.com

escanear para más información





Photo by Renee Barbee

**'I HAVE A DREAM' VIEWING** -- Members of the NAACP Pomona Valley Branch held their 10th annual viewing of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s "I have a dream" speech last month at their "Solidarity Center" in the Village at Indian Hill. Panelists included Ryan Houston, Louilyn Hargett and Gary Lett. Guest speaker Cal Poly Pomona President Dr. Soraya Coley is pictured third from left. Pomona Valley Branch President Jeanette Royston is pictured seated in front.

## KINDNESS CARNIVAL SET FOR SATURDAY, OCT. 5, WASHINGTON PARK



**SEE AD AND STORY PAGE 15!**



### Elect Lorraine Canales for City Council District 6!

Endorsed by the Estel Family -- Greg, Laura, Gregory and Matt Estel



**Lorraine Canales**  
Effective Leadership for Pomona

**Working to:**

- increase revenue
- tackle violence and crime
- address the unhoused
- repair streets and alleys
- address illegal dumping

**Promoting:**

- good jobs and fair wages
- educational opportunities
- sports and recreational programs

*“Working for clean, safe neighborhoods and a better quality of life!”*

[www.Lorraine4D6.com](http://www.Lorraine4D6.com)

Ad paid for by Greg Estel and the Estel family.

Not authorized by a candidate or a committee controlled by a candidate.

La Iglesia Príncipe de Paz en Pomona te invita a esta gran reunión. El Presbiterio de California de la Iglesia Cristiana Interdenominacional desea conocerte, darle gracias a Dios por tú vida, y orar por tú necesidad. ¡Prepárate!



¡Dios te ama y tiene un propósito para ti!

**¡ACOMPÁÑANOS A ÉSTA CAMPAÑA EVANGELÍSTICA!**

- 📅 4, 5 y 6 de Octubre
- 🕒 VIERNES | SÁBADO | DOMINGO  
6:00 p.m. | 5:00 p.m. | 3:00 p.m.
- 📍 Harvey Auditorium  
1241 G St, Bakersfield, CA 93304

ENTRADA GRATUITA

Para más información:  
(323) 385 9586  
@Diosesamoriciusa

Para más información, llámanos al 909-750-0331 o visítanos en: 895 E. 7th St., Pomona, CA 91766  
Domingos: 10 am y 2 pm • Martes, Jueves y Viernes: 7:30 pm





Photo by Devyn Stein

**SERVICE CLUBS MONTH IN POMONA** -- Members of the Pomona City Council approved a proclamation this month proclaiming September as "Service Clubs Month" in the City of Pomona. The recognition pointed out that service clubs engage in community service, charitable work and fundraising and, in some cases, have been doing just that in the community for more than 100 years. The proclamation said the recognition was "in appreciation of all the significant contributions these organizations make to our community." Pictured with members of the Pomona City Council are some of the members of the Lions, Optimists, Rotary and Kiwanis.

**KINDNESS IS MY SUPERPOWER!**

**OCT. 5 FROM 2 TO 5 PM**

**WASHINGTON PARK**

**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](http://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

**TRUNK OR TREAT**



**PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

**Join us for Free Fun, Food, Games & Candy!**

Saturday, October 26th, 4pm to 7pm  
600 N. Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA. 91767

Come on down to Pilgrim Congregational Church for a family friendly Halloween experience.  
Free Candy, Free Games, Free Hot Dog, Chips & Water!!!

Questions?

Call: 909-622-1373, M-F, 9am to 4pm

Or email [EducationBoard@pilgrimchurchpomona.com](mailto:EducationBoard@pilgrimchurchpomona.com)

Community Organizations are invited to participate.

If interested, email: [membershipboard@pilgrimchurchpomona.com](mailto:membershipboard@pilgrimchurchpomona.com)



**Always a call or click away**

Call me for a quote today

Llameme para un presupuesto ahora



**John Forbing**  
Agent

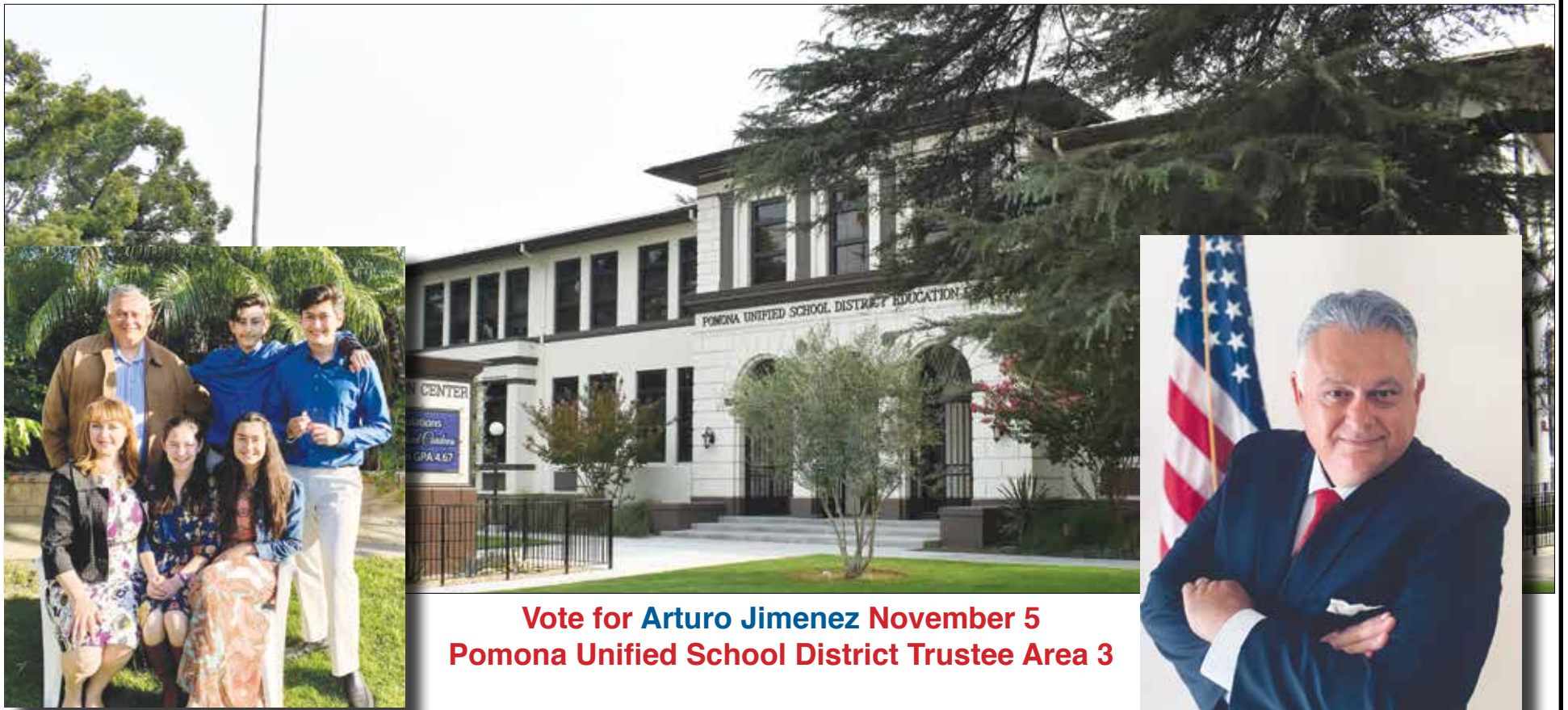
154 West SAN JOSE AVE  
CLAREMONT, CA 91711

Bus: 909-623-8571  
Fax: 909-620-5869  
[www.johnforbing.com](http://www.johnforbing.com)  
Insurance License #0502558



State Farm  
Bloomington, IL





**Vote for Arturo Jimenez November 5**  
**Pomona Unified School District Trustee Area 3**

## **Re-elect School Board President Arturo Jimenez** **to the Pomona Unified School District Board**

### **Following are some of my accomplishments over the past four years:**

- Supported the School Board effort that resulted in \$13.9 million in state funds for Pomona Unified School District to expand workforce development and career exploration for students
- Supported the School Board effort to create an Aviation and Aeronautics instructional program for Pomona Unified School District
- Supported the School Board effort to create Lopez Urban Farm as an educational and community resource for both children and adults
- Ensured fiscal accountability, improved academic achievement and decreased dropout rates
- Continued drug and gang interventions, increased funding for art and music, upgraded school facilities and increased staff training for safer schools
- Helped institute anti-bullying programs, provided access to mental health services, improved communication with parents and families, and increased computer and internet accessibility

### **Algunos de mis logros durante los ultimos 4 años:**

- Respalde la iniciativa del consejo escolar que resultó en \$13.9 millones en fondos estatales para el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona para expandir el desarrollo de la fuerza laboral y la exploración de carreras para estudiantes.
- Respalde la iniciativa del consejo escolar para crear un programa educativo de Aviación y Aeronáutica para el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona
- Respalde la iniciativa del consejo escolar para crear la Granja Urbana López como un recurso educativo y comunitario para niños y adultos
- Aseguré la responsabilidad fiscal, mejoré el éxito académico y reduje el índice de abandono escolar
- Continué la intervención de drogas y pandillas, incrementé la financiación para el arte y la música, modernicé las instalaciones escolares, e incrementé las capacitaciones de los empleados para mejorar la seguridad en las escuelas
- Ayudé a establecer programas contra el acoso, proporcioné acceso a servicios de salud mental, mejoré la comunicación con los padres y familias, e incrementé el acceso a computadoras e internet

### **Arturo Jimenez has been endorsed by:**

California State Supt. of Public Instruction Tony Thurmond, Labor Leader and Civil Rights Activist Dolores Huerta, Retired State Sen. Connie Leyva, Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, Mt. San Antonio College Board Member Laura Santos, UFCW Local 1428 President Mark Ramos, Former Pomona City Councilmember Cristina Carrizosa, and Former Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin.

**For more information or to become involved, contact Arturo Jimenez for Pomona School Board 2024 by e-mail at [arturo@votearturo.com](mailto:arturo@votearturo.com) or visit the web site at [www.votearturo.com](http://www.votearturo.com).**