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Mayor cites new projects, recent accomplishments in 'State of City' address as city makes its economic recovery

Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman said the city of Pomona is on a roll – with anticipated new projects ranging from a Target shopping center in the old Pomona auto mall to new housing developments and even a new retail development already under construction along East Holt Avenue.

Speaking this month at Pomona's "State of the City" address at the new Fairplex Conference Center, Rothman said, "Pomona remains a

great place to live, work and play."

"Today's venue, the Fairplex trade and conference center, is a testimony to the power of partnerships," he added. "I truly believe that Pomona's greatest assets are its grit, determination, partnership and wonderful people."

"Together we're actively working toward securing Pomona's future and the city's economic recovery," Rothman said.

He illustrated his point using a Fairplex video on the construction of the new conference center, in which the narrator pointed out that Fair-



STATE OF CITY ADDRESS – Mayor Elliott Rothman pauses during his "State of the City" address this month to pose for the La Nueva Voz camera.

plex and the city of Pomona have been "steadfast community partners" for 90 years.

And, with the addition of the conference center, the video added that Fairplex is "taking our place as a regional destination for the 21st century" as Fairplex has "stepped up its game and its commitment to invest in the region," resulting in both a unique, new facility for meetings and conferences and a job generator for the city of Pomona.

Rothman himself, quoted in the video, said "whenever it is good for the fair, when the conference center and the fair is doing well, then we do well."

Following the video, Rothman said the city looks forward to what the facility has to offer Pomona and congratulates the Fairplex on its huge success.

In other areas, the mayor said in collaboration with the state and federal government, "we built the largest capital improvement project

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Pomona real estate broker Al Castro, co-publisher of the original La Voz, credits his long-time friend, the late Cande Mendoza, for success of newspaper

Pomona real estate broker Al Castro and his long-time friend, the late Candelario "Cande" Mendoza – creators and co-publishers of the old "La Voz" newspaper, the predecessor of La Nueva Voz – stamped their names on the fabric of Pomona forever when they created Pomona's only community newspaper.

La Nueva Voz, now approaching its third anniversary in Pomona following the original paper's successful 28-year run, is attempting to continue to carry the torch of a publication launched in 1981 by these two visionaries.

But when La Nueva Voz caught up with Castro for the first time this month, a modest Castro repeatedly said he wanted to give the credit – either for the concept or for the day to day workings of the newspaper itself – to his friend Cande.

Mendoza, a long-time member of the Pomona Unified School District Board and a past president of the school board, died in 2008 – while serving on the board – at the age of 89.

He was also Pomona's first Mexican-American teacher and first Mexican-American principal. A 1942 gradu-

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ORIGINAL LA VOZ CO-PUBLISHER AL CASTRO – Al Castro, co-founder and co-publisher of the original La Voz newspaper in Pomona, stands next to the old "La Voz Publications" sign in front of his building at 699 West Mission Blvd. which for years was the home of La Voz. Castro, who with his friend and co-publisher Candelario Mendoza created a newspaper that instantly became an important part of Pomona, today continues to operate his real estate company out of the building. Despite his years in the newspaper business, he told La Nueva Voz this was the first time his photograph has appeared in the paper.



Candelario Mendoza...
founder and co-publisher
of the original La Voz



POMONA CHAMBER PRESIDENT – Pomona Chamber of Commerce President Jeff Keating, of Western University of Health Sciences, at this month's Pomona State of the City address, said "the level of excitement that you are experiencing in the room . . . gives you an idea of the sort of excitement that we have working at the Chamber of Commerce this year." Pictured, at left, is Keating with Frank Garcia, Executive Director of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce.

Nuevos proyectos y establecimiento económico, dice el alcalde de Pomona

El alcalde de Pomona Elliott Rothman habló sobre prometedoros proyectos y la construcción de nuevas viviendas en su discurso sobre el "Estado de la Ciudad." Rothman dijo que Pomona continúa siendo un buen lugar para vivir, trabajar y para entretener.

"El centro de convenciones Fair-

plex es testimonio del poder de la asociación," dijo Rothman. "Verdaderamente pienso que los recursos más grandes son firmeza en carácter, la determinación, la asociación y la gente maravillosa."

"Juntos estamos trabajando activamente para asegurar el futuro de

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Western University optometry student completes 'clerkship' working with patients at Pomona's All Eyes Optometry

An optometry student at Western University of Health Sciences has just completed an eight-week "clerkship" experience at All Eyes Optometry in Pomona in what turned out to be a "win-win" project for everyone concerned.

Sharis Gharabeki, 23, a first-year student at Western University's College of Optometry and a resident of Sunland, completed her undergraduate studies at the University of Toronto where she majored in molecular biology.

She said 80 students each from the first, second and third year classes participated in the program working four hours a week for eight weeks beginning in the first week of January. Fourth year students, she said, work in an "externship" program for the entire year.

She added that students used a lottery system to pick their clerkship locations, which were from Beverly Hills to Panorama City.

And, while she was only 67 out of 83 students, she was able to select a location right here in Pomona.

"I picked this site and I was very happy with it," she said, adding that students did vision screening at various schools in Pomona in the fall.

From the sound of it, Gharabeki received a comprehensive look at what



WESTERN UNIVERSITY OPTOMETRY STUDENT PRACTICES ON STAFF – Sharis Gharabeki, a first-year student at Western University of Health Sciences in the College of Optometry, demonstrates what she is learning in school during a visit to All Eyes Optometry in Pomona where she completed an eight-week "clerkship" experience. Pictured, from left, are All Eyes Optometrist Dr. Michele Atiz; Mayra Ramos, an eye care professional at All Eyes Optometry; and Gharabeki.

happens every day in the world of optometry – she was involved in everything from pre-testing and visual field testing to using an auto-refractor which provides the doctor with a rough estimate of the patient's prescription.

"And then we take them inside and I do their visual acuity test to see with their glasses and without their glasses how their vision is," she said.

The next step, she said, is she calls Dr. Michele Atiz in to see the patient.

"Usually I sit down and then if she sees something interesting she'll call me over," Gharabeki said.

She has had an opportunity to use a retinoscope (shining a light in the patient's eye to help determine the prescription) and an ophthalmoscope (to view the optic nerve and blood vessels).

"Everything I learned she will allow me to try it," she said. "I can stay with a patient and kind of do a whole eye

exam with them" except, of course, basic refraction and prescribing glasses.

"Basic refraction, giving glasses, seeing their optic nerve... we learned most of that so it is pretty fast paced," said Gharabeki, who only started school in August and plans to remain in the area after graduating to practice here.

She said an optometrist can do "way more down here than in Toronto."

How was her experience working with Atiz?

"She's amazing," she said. "She's really good with the patient and with her profession. She's like somebody like I would want to be just like her in a few years."

"She treats you more like a colleague rather than like a student," Gharabeki added.

Atiz said Gharabeki, who is continuing to come back into the office from time to time to try new things she learns, is doing very well.

"She is putting her skills to work here," Atiz said, in her first "real world" application outside of the clinic "taking the classroom into the real world."

How does Atiz believe Gharabeki will work out as an optometrist?

"I think very good," she said. "The thing that they can't teach is the personality. You can teach all that me-

chanical stuff in school but you can't teach personality. So I think the unique thing about optometrists, they have clinical skills but they also have really good bedside manner."

She's excellent – she'll be a really good optometrist when she gets out because that's half of it," Atiz added, "because the patients don't know what you are doing in there. They could care less what you know technically about the machines and all of that. They want to relate to you and be able to talk to you and trust you with their eyes."

Atiz said she is a believer in the clerkship program.

"This is great because we never did this when I was in school," Atiz said. "We touched patients in our third year, so they are already starting in their first year."

She also said the program helps her become more familiar with the doctors at Western University "which will help me because they have other things (such as diagnostic tests) that I could refer patients to."

Atiz said she also works on her continuing education at Western University.

The College of Optometry at Western University is three years old and will see its first graduating class from the four-year program next year. The college was "pre-accredited" and was going through the final accreditation process this month.

All Eyes Optometry is located at 1035 S. Garey Ave., Pomona. For more information, call (909) 623-6766.

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CLAREMONT'S CASA DE SALSA – Claremont's Casa de Salsa stole the show at this year's Taste of the Pomona Valley by rolling out virtually the entire restaurant – from the food to the restaurant's famous Mariachis to bartender Ramon Aguirre's own margaritas. Pictured, from left, are Robert Cruz, public affairs manager for the Southern California Gas Co., Casa de Salsa owners Roberto and Judy Flores; and Aguirre. Roberto and Judy Flores chaired the Taste of Pomona event this year for the third consecutive year.



'TASTE-TESTING' THE TACOS – Frank Garcia, marketing manager for Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, is ready to taste-test a taco prepared by Rincon Azteca in Claremont, at this month's eighth annual "Taste of the Pomona Valley," sponsored by the Pomona Chamber of Commerce immediately following the State of the City address at the Fairplex Conference Center. Pictured, from left, are Juan Carlos and Yolanda Aguilar, owners, and Garcia. The restaurant is located at 586 E. Baseline Road in Claremont.



NEW IRISH PUB AND RESTAURANT – Mark Drury, owner of O'Donovan's, a new Irish pub and restaurant opening soon in the historic Mayfair Hotel in downtown Pomona, serves up a sample of his Irish stew at Taste of the Pomona Valley. Drury formerly was manager of McKinley's Grille at the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel in Pomona. Pictured, from left, are office manager Miriam Ramos and optometrist Michele Atiz, of All Eyes Optometry; Jeff Mann, Drury and Alexandria Oddo.



DRAWING FOR RAFFLE PRIZES – Pomona State Farm agent Nona Tirre shows off a raffle prize as Amir Mertaban, group sales manager at Pomona's Fairplex, announces the winner at the Taste of the Pomona Valley.

Pomona Unified's Armstrong Elementary named California Distinguished School

The California Department of Education has named Armstrong Elementary School in the Pomona Unified School District a 2012 California Distinguished School, making it one of only 387 public elementary schools receiving the honor.

School officials said the honor recognizes the state's most exemplary and innovative public schools that encourage students to learn and help close the achievement gap.

"I am extremely proud of our school for being acknowledged as a California Distinguished School," said Cynthia Sanchez, principal of the Diamond Bar campus. "Our faculty, staff and families have worked very hard to ensure that students are given the best education possible and this award very well reflects our efforts."

Schools receiving the award go through an entire process including an extensive site visit and validation process.

"This recognition is a true testament to the high expectations, focused approach and commitment to academic excellence by Armstrong's school community," said Pomona Unified Supt. Richard Martinez.

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in the city's history – the Mission / 71 overpass.”

“The new Mission / 71 overpass is key to decreasing traffic throughout the region and drawing increased interest to the area,” he said. “Not only does this improve circulation but decreases pollution from stop and go traffic and further supports the city's dedication to the environment.”

“The city's all new fleet of natural gas trash trucks will soon be serving our neighborhoods and will mark the end of the use of diesel fuel,” he added. “Pomona is also home to the region's first heavy duty electric bus route thanks to our partnership with Foothill Transit.”

He said the new Ecoliners are buses that can drive 30 miles on one charge and quickly recharge at the city's transit center in downtown Pomona.

The first three electric buses were billed as the world's first zero emissions electric buses when they were placed into service as part of a \$6.5 million project fully funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

“If you would like to see one in action, take a ride on the Foothill Line 291 and experience it first hand,” he said.

“Even our streetlights are more efficient,” Rothman said, “with our new lighting project earning us the Energy Savings Impact Award of 2011.”

The award was presented by the San Gabriel Valley Energy Wise Partnership (SGVEWP), an alliance between the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments and Southern California Edison.

He said the city – in conjunction

with Edison – also was awarded the San Gabriel Valley Green Leadership Award by the Partnership, and added that Edison also is providing “much needed” jobs in Pomona at its two new buildings that employ 600 people at Cal Poly Pomona's Innovation Village.

The mayor cited new housing developments under construction in Pomona, such as The Arbours on Bonita Avenue between Garey and Towne Avenues where two thirds of the houses have already been sold and the project is still not completed.

“Projects like these continue to make Pomona a great place to live,” he said.

He added that over the last several years, the downtown area has become a “must visit” destination with a thriving renovated Fox Theater, a variety of entertainment venues, and the Art Walk.

“We are looking forward to the re-opening of the historic Mayfair Hotel,” he said.

He said the city is “thrilled” that the Pomona Christmas Parade is back.

“A special thanks to the DPOA (Downtown Pomona Owners Association) for all their hard work,” he said. “People are visiting and enjoying downtown Pomona and I welcome them.”

“What's next for Pomona? We are on track for a new bank, another Big 5 Sporting Goods and a new grocery store on Foothill Boulevard,” he said. “A new grocery store and restaurant are scheduled to open at the Phillips Ranch Plaza soon. At the corner of Holt (Avenue) and Caswell (Street), we have a 20,000 square foot retail building under construction to include an apparel store

and additional shopping.”

And, he said, the Pomona Unified School District plans to construct new stadiums at Garey, Pomona, and Diamond Ranch High Schools.

Pomona y el restablecimiento económico de la ciudad,” dijo Rothman.

Rothman ilustró su punto de vista con un video sobre la construcción del nuevo centro de conferencias, en donde el narrador habla sobre la manera en que Fairplex y la ciudad de Pomona han sido “socios comunitarios firmes y constantes por más de 90 años.

El video demuestra que Fairplex esta tomando su lugar como el destino regional del siglo 21, pues esta comprometido en invertir en la región lo cual ha resultado en un establecimiento singular para juntas, reuniones y conferencias y ha generado trabajos para los ciudadanos de Pomona.

Rothman también mencionó la colaboración con el gobierno estatal y federal con el proyecto más grande en la historia de la ciudad: la construcción del puente Mission/71.

“El nuevo puente Mission/71 ha sido la clave para disminuir el tráfico y ha incrementado el interés en el área,” dijo Rothman. “Ha mejorado la circulación del tráfico y disminuye la contaminación del medio ambiente.”

La ciudad de Pomona, junto con Edison, fue premiada con el Reconocimiento de Gran Liderazgo del Valle de San Gabriel. Edison ha proveído trabajos en Pomona con sus nuevos establecimientos ubicados en Innovación Village de Cal

He added that the city is working with Lewis Retail Centers on “an enormous project” that would bring a Target-anchored shopping center to the Rio Rancho auto mall area.

“One of the most remarkable things about Pomona is the many caring, involved people who make Pomona a great city, and that's all of you here today,” he said.

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Poly.

El alcalde también mencionó la construcción de nuevas viviendas en Pomona, tales como The Arbours sobre la Avenida Bonita entre las Avenida Towne y Garey.

“Pomona continúa siendo una gran ciudad para vivir,” dijo Rothman agregando que el área del centro de Pomona se ha convertido en el destino que todos deben visitar con el recién renovado Teatro Fox y el Camino de las Artes, entre varios otros establecimientos de espectáculos y diversión.

“Esperamos ansiosamente la gran reapertura del histórico Hotel Mayfair y estamos contentísimos que después de una pausa, el Desfile Navideño de Pomona ha regresado,” dijo Rothman.

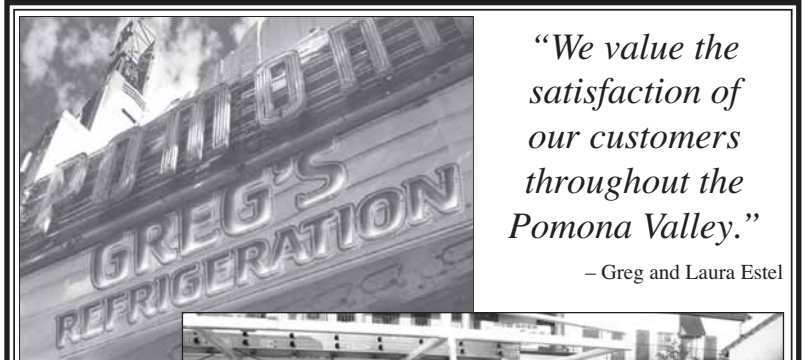
“Un agradecimiento especial a la Asociación de Propietarios del Centro de Pomona por su arduo labor,” dijo Rothman. “Todos están visitando y disfrutando el centro de Pomona y yo les doy la bien-

venida.”

“¿Qué sigue para Pomona? Vamos por buen camino – un banco nuevo, una nueva tienda de deportes Big 5 y una nueva tienda de abarrotes sobre el bulevar Foothill,” dijo Rothman. “Una tienda y un restaurante están próximos por abrirse en la Plaza Phillips Ranch. Y en la esquina de la avenida Holt y la calle Caswell, tenemos un edificio bajo construcción de 20,000 pies cuadrados que incluirá una tienda de ropa y demás.”

Y, dijo Rothman, el Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona tiene planes de construir nuevos estadios deportivos en las escuelas Garey, Pomona y Diamond Ranch.

“Una de las cosas más notables de Pomona son las muchas personas que se preocupan y se involucran para hacer de Pomona una gran ciudad, y son todos ustedes que se encuentran en esta noche aquí y que están haciendo la diferencia,” concluyó Rothman.



“We value the satisfaction of our customers throughout the Pomona Valley.”

– Greg and Laura Estel

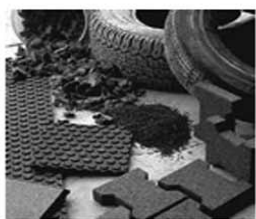
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Arbor Day observed in Pomona

Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman presented a proclamation to the Pomona/Claremont chapter of Soroptimist International this month proclaiming Arbor Day in Pomona.

“The celebration of Arbor Day encourages the planting of trees in urban forests and wild land areas to encourage appreciation, protection and renewal, as well as a healthy ecosystem,” Rothman said.

He added that trees and shrubs improve the quality of urban environments by preventing erosion, controlling the wind, reducing noise and air pollution and enhancing the aesthetic quality of life.

Pomona has been named a “Tree City USA” for many years through its tree-planting efforts.

Rothman presented the proclamation at the city’s “Soroptimist Redwood Grove,” a 7.5 acre site on McKinley Avenue across from the main entrance to Pomona’s Fairplex.

The grove, created by Soroptimists in cooperation with the City of Pomona in 1971, has grown to include more than 300 trees.

The club has celebrated Arbor Day on the site every day for the past 40 years.

The tree project was one of seven projects of Soroptimist International



ARBOR DAY ART CONTEST WINNERS – Winners of an Arbor Day art contest sponsored by the Pomona/Claremont chapter of Soroptimist International this month show off their winning art work and their awards. The theme of the competition – which included producing the artwork and writing a paragraph – was “What a tree means to me.” Pictured, front row from left, are winner Valerie Plascencia, an eighth grader, and winner Araceli Soto, a fifth grader, both students at Harrison Elementary School; winner Savannah Diaz, a pre-schooler at Fairplex Child Development Center; and “honorable mentions” Anthony Castro and Jacob Silva, both fifth grade students at Harrison Elementary School. Back row, from left, are art contest coordinator and Soroptimist member Marti Gutierrez, a San Dimas artist; Claremont/Pomona Soroptimist president Penny Ellis; Pomona Unified School Board President Jason Rothman; and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman.

commemorating the 50th anniversary of the founding of the club in 1971.

For more information or to purchase a \$65 commemorative in-

scribed brick at the redwood grove to help support maintenance, contact Marti Gutierrez at (909) 599-6375 or by e-mail at martigutierrez@verizon.net.



PREPPING THE BATTER’S BOX – Parent Tony Chapa, who has two of his three kids playing in Pomona Pony Baseball, prep’s the batter’s box between games at this month’s first annual family day event at Palomares Park in Pomona. For more information on the new league or to become a sponsor, contact www.leaguelineup.com/pomonapony.

YOUR CHECK WALLET LIGHT IS ON AGAIN

With gas prices going through the roof once more, it’s officially time to panic. Unless, of course, you ride Foothill Transit, with affordable, environmentally friendly buses connecting 22 cities throughout the San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys. Learn how much money you’re wasting – and how to start saving – with our **Trip Cost Calculator** at foothilltransit.org/calculator.

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GOING GOOD PLACES

Area businesses learn how to save money and 'green up' using natural gas and Gas Company incentives

More than 300 representatives of Southern California businesses and Southern California Gas Company employees attended the Gas Company's Business Expo in Pomona last month to witness the signing of a new environmental pact, hear how \$30 million in rebates and incentives can help their business and receive energy efficiency awards from the Gas Company.

"Natural gas is there every day . . . and it is very reliable," said Hal Snyder, the Gas Company's vice president for customer solutions. He added that gas prices are actually 30 percent less expensive than they were five years ago while other energy resources have skyrocketed in price.

Snyder, speaking at the event held in the new Fairplex Conference Center, said the discovery of additional supplies of natural gas in the last 10 years have helped bring down the cost.

"It's American," he said. "That's a resource we need to use and use more of."

Even so, he added, "it's not just about gas, it's about the efficient use of gas."

Snyder said the E3 program, which was launched by a charter signing at the expo, highlights "economy, energy and the environment" and includes comprehensive elements including energy efficiency, financial assistance, workforce development, business development and more – all to help the manufacturing community move forward to a goal of sustainability.

Matt Bogoshian, senior policy counsel with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's office of chemical safety and pollution prevention, said the E3 initiative "is not a program, it is a framework" for a "bottom up effort around the country."

"We cannot continue to outsource,"



NEW CLEAN FUEL VEHICLE – Victor Ordaz, a facilities specialist with the Gas Company, poses with a new Gas Company work truck that is part of the company's "clean powered" fleet.



ENERGY EFFICIENCY AWARD – Gas Company Vice President Hal Snyder, at left, presents an "Energy Efficiency Excellence" award to Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge.

he said. "We need to make things in this country. Manufacturers in this room can today get started on an E3 tune-up" so they can begin to eliminate waste in their factories.

Snyder honored Riverside Mayor Ron Loveridge, a member of the city council since 1979 and mayor since 1994, with the energy-efficiency excellence award for his years of efforts to improve the environment in Riverside



Matt Bogoshian



SIGNING E3 CHARTER – Participants at last month's Gas Company Business Expo in Pomona signed the new E3 initiative, officially making them part of a new effort to encourage efficiency, eliminate waste and work toward sustainability. Pictured, from left, are Matt Bogoshian (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency), Jim Watson (California Manufacturing Extension Partnership), Christine Terry (North Orange County Community College District), Sayarah (Sara) Amir (California Department of Toxic Substances and Control), Michelle King (Small Business Development Center- Santa Monica College), Hal Snyder (Southern California Gas Company), Romel Pascual (Deputy Mayor for Environment and Sustainability, City of Los Angeles), and John Parsons (South Bay Workforce Investment Board).

and throughout Southern California.

Snyder said Riverside long has used "best practices" and advanced technology in its development.

"This city owes some of its successes to energy efficiency," he added.

Loveridge said Riverside is a "green city," boasts of having the "greenest McDonald's," and is a leader in Southern California in compressed natural gas vehicles.

"Sustainability in my judgment is the over-arching goal of the 21st century," Loveridge said.

The expo included workshops throughout the day on topics ranging from "Greening your operation" to "Underestimated uses of natural gas," "Cash for your business," and "Exporting: Easier than you think."

The Gas Company is making more than \$30 million in rebates and incentives available this year to business customers for qualifying energy-efficiency projects.

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POMONA VALLEY SPECIAL OLYMPICS RECEIVE CHECK FROM POMONA EAGLES – Members of the Pomona Eagles presented a \$15,000 check this month to the Pomona Valley Special Olympics representing funds raised in last year’s golf tournament. Eagles President Frank Howe said the presentation represented the 27th year the organization has supported the local Special Olympics. Nearly 100 athletes, parents and volunteers attended this month’s recognition dinner at the Eagles lodge in Pomona. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Valley Special Olympics Area Director Russ Evans, Eagles California State President Vic DeVries, Pomona Eagles President Frank Howe, Eagle Richard Marquez, Eagles Peggy and Al Evanson, and Eagle Chaplain Janet Homonnay.



POMONA EAGLES PRESENT CHECK TO INLAND VALLEY HOPE PARTNERS -- Members of the Pomona Eagles Aerie #2215 presented a \$6,400 check to Inland Valley Hope Partners (IVHP) this month at its annual Special Olympic presentation and birthday dinner. IVHP provides food, shelter and supportive services to those in need. Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, an Eagles member, presented a proclamation to the organization in recognition of its 76th anniversary in Pomona. Nationally, the Eagles are credited with founding Mother’s Day, serving as the driving force in the founding of the Social Security program, helping end job discrimination based on age and more. Pictured, from left, are Eagle Peggy Evanson; Eagle Chaplain Janet Homonnay; Wytiske Visser, Executive Director of IVHP; Eagle Al Evanson; Frank Howe, Pomona Eagles president; Mayor Rothman; Eagle Terry Hoover; Eagle Bobby Estrada and Eagle Fred Metz.

Students at Pomona Catholic support the troops

Students at Pomona Catholic on the “Fidelian” yearbook staff, inspired by the school’s original motto “Always faithful,” decided recently to do something about it – they assembled and shipped care packages to the troops deployed overseas.

The same motto – “Semper fidelis” or “Semper fi” in Latin – is also the motto of the United States Marine Corps.

With the help of Sgt. Pedro A. Jaurequi, USMC/US Army, the girls also sent coffee, something that is considered a luxury for the troops.

Jaurequi, who operates a program called “Christians for Troops, helped the students assemble 10 packages with hygiene items, magazines, hand written cards from the students and several Pomona Catholic t-shirts.

The students also participated in the “Cup of Joe for a Joe” program, in which student contributions were matched doubling the amount of coffee they could donate.

“We wanted to extend our gratitude to those currently serving in our armed forces and what better way than through care packages and the Cup of Joe program,” said Christine Perez, yearbook advisor.

“A good cup of coffee goes a long way here and, more importantly, knowing that we have the support of those back home makes it easier to endure the separation from our friends and families,” said Lt. Col. Ray Jensen, U.S. Army, Bagram, Afghanistan, in one of the responses they received.

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Newspaper... from pg. 8

ate of what was then La Verne College, he was the only person of Mexican ancestry in a class of 68.

He began his career in education after serving with Gen. George Patton's 3rd Army in World War II.

"One of the reasons that we came together . . . is that we wanted to create a positive image of the Latino community because the mainstream paper . . . every time a Latino surname would come up, it would be in the negative form," Castro said.

He recounted how he told Mendoza that the community included a lot of people who have progressed.

"They are leaders in the community, so let's focus on this type of thing," Castro said. "A lot of us are getting married but we never see our picture in the newspaper."

He said he believes they accomplished that goal.

Castro said he viewed the newspaper as another venture. Working in the real estate business, he said he had several including a nightclub in Pomona in an area now occupied by Western University of Health Sciences.

"But mainly, Cande was the one that was instrumental in putting this paper together," he said, while Castro took the photographs and sold some of the advertisements.

He said the old La Voz would feature one particular business in each issue.

Castro said he bought out Mendoza and eventually sold the paper to a school district foundation, where the publication operated for five years before going out of business in 2009 – six months before La Nueva Voz began publication in September 2009. It has published on the fourth Thursday of each month since.

Castro's real estate company, American Realtors, continues to operate in the old La Voz Publications building he has owned since 1967 at 699 West Mission Blvd., Pomona – a building that was home to La Voz for years.

How does Castro see the Pomona of today?

"A lot of change," he said, adding that the change has been positive.

"Of course, like everything else, we go up and down – it's just the business cycle," he said, adding that this is particularly true in real estate. "This is the worst I've seen it as far as real estate is concerned."

He said nine out of 10 houses for sale in Pomona are bank-owned.

Despite the current condition of the economy, is he optimistic about the future?

"We have to be," he said. "In fact, I'm thinking, well at this age, why don't I go out and prove it to myself that I can bring the business back."

Castro, now 78, said he operates with a team of four salesmen.

"And they're in the same predicament, but things are happening," he said, citing an anticipated new Target shopping center slated for the old Rio Rancho auto center mall. "Hopefully it will gel."

"You can see downtown Pomona," he added. "If it wasn't for Western University, I can just imagine what it would be."

He added that there was an element opposed to Western University in the beginning, claiming the city needed housing there instead.

What advice would he give La Nueva Voz in today's world?

"From what I see, I think you guys are doing fantastic," he said. "It looks really good, Dora's (Dora Cruz has served as layout artist and translator for both the old La Voz and La Nueva Voz) working hard, and I see all those big ads."

Castro, who has held a real estate license since 1964 and a broker's license since 1969, said he's finally ready to take down the old "La Voz Publications" sign in front of his of-

fice and replace it with the name of his real estate company.

For more information, contact Castro at American Realtors, by calling (909) 623-8410.

Al Castro, co-fundador de La Voz, le da el crédito a su amigo Cande Mendoza por el éxito del periódico

Al Castro, agente de bienes y raíces en Pomona, y su amigo de mucho tiempo, el difunto Candelario "Cande" Mendoza – creadores y co-editores del periódico "La Voz," antecesor de La Nueva Voz – estamparon sus nombres en el tejido de Pomona para siempre cuando crearon el único periódico comunitario de Pomona.

La Nueva Voz, aproximando su tercer aniversario en Pomona siguiendo el exitoso recorrido de 28 años del periódico original, intenta llevar la antorcha del periódico La Voz que se fundó en 1981 por estos dos visionarios que fueron Castro y Mendoza.

Cuando La Nueva Voz se encontró con Castro por primera vez, el modesto Castro repetidas veces dijo que le daba todo el crédito a su amigo Cande, ya sea por el concepto del periódico o por el diario labor del mismo periódico.

Mendoza, miembro por mucho tiempo de la mesa directiva del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona falleció en el 2008 a la edad de 89 años.

Mendoza fue el primer educador y el primer director de escuela mexicano-americano. Se graduó del Colegio La Verne en 1942 siendo la única persona de ascendencia mexicana entre 68 estudiantes.

Cande empezó su carrera en educación después de haber servido en las fuerzas armadas bajo el General George Patton en la Segunda Guerra Mundial.

"Una de las razones por las que nos unimos para crear el periódico fue porque deseábamos crear un imagen positiva de la comunidad Latina pues siempre se publicaban historias o artículos de forma negativa cuando aparecían apellidos hispanos," dijo Castro.

Castro le mencionó a Mendoza que en la comunidad existían muchos hispanos de progreso y éxito.

"Eran líderes de la comunidad y queríamos enfocarnos en esas historias positivas," dijo Castro y él cree que lograron su meta.

Castro consideró el periódico como otra aventura más pues aparte de trabajar en bienes y raíces, por un tiempo también fue dueño de un club nocturno en Pomona en el área que ahora es habitado por la Universidad Western de Ciencias de Salud.

"Cande fue el que jugó el papel instrumental en traer a cabo este periódico," dijo Castro, mientras que él

Editor's Note: The entire La Nueva Voz "family" congratulates Al Castro and his good friend, the late Cande Mendoza, on a job well done.

fungia como fotógrafo y como vendedor de anuncios.

Unos años después Mendoza le vendió su parte del periódico a Castro y finalmente Castro vendió la publicación a una fundación del distrito escolar, donde se operó el periódico por cinco años antes de cesar la publicación en 2009. Seis meses después, en Septiembre del 2009, resurgió la publicación, ahora llamada La Nueva Voz. Se publica el cuarto Jueves de cada mes.

Castro continúa operando su negocio de bienes y raíces, American Realtors, en el edificio ubicado en el 699 W. Mission Blvd, Pomona del cual él es dueño desde 1967 y es el mismo edificio donde se producía el periódico La Voz por muchos años.

Y ¿qué piensa Castro del Pomona del presente?

"Mucho ha cambiado, pero de manera positiva," dijo Castro. "De hecho, como todo, tenemos altos y bajos, pues así es el ciclo del comercio."

¿A pesar de la condición actual de la economía, es usted optimista sobre el futuro?

"Tenemos que ser optimistas. De hecho, pienso que a mi edad debo de comprobarlo a mi mismo," dijo Castro ahora de 78 años de edad, quien aún opera su negocio junto con 4 agentes de ventas. "También ellos se encuentran con los mismos apuros, pero ya pasarán estos tiempos adversos."

Y ¿qué consejos le daría usted a La Nueva Voz?

"Por lo que veo, su trabajo de ustedes es fantástico," dijo Castro. "Se ve muy bien. Dora trabaja arduamente. (Dora Cruz trabajó por 18 años con el diseño y las traducciones de La Voz y sigue su labor con La Nueva Voz). Y con todos los anuncios que se publican en La Nueva Voz, pues eso demuestra que van por buen camino."

Castro, quien ha mantenido su licencia de bienes y raíces desde 1964, dice que finalmente bajará el anuncio de La Voz frente a su oficina y la reemplazará con el nombre de su compañía American Realtors.

Para más información, llame a Castro en American Realtors al (909) 623-8410.

Nota del Editor: La "familia" de La Nueva Voz felicita a Al Castro y a su buen amigo, el difunto Cande Mendoza por su buena obra.

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Free Head Start preschool program taking applications for fall classes

A free, quality preschool program for families with limited incomes is now taking applications to fill a select number of student enrollment slots in Los Angeles County – including locations in Pomona – for fall 2012.

The Los Angeles County Office of Education Head Start preschool program accepts applications for children from infancy to age four, including those with disabilities. Applications are also being accepted from pregnant women.

At no cost to families, Head Start is designed to help nurture and prepare children for success in school by providing services including early childhood education, health and dental assessments and referrals, healthy meals, mental health counseling and parent training.

Half day programs range from four to five days a week. Full day school programs are available in some areas.

For more information, contact the Los Angeles County Office of Education Head Start program toll free at (877) 773-5543.

For information on locations in Pomona, contact the Pomona Unified School District Head Start program at (909) 397-4740, ext. 5631.

Pomona resident named Dodgers 'Veteran of the Game'

Farrell J. Chiles, a resident of Pomona, was named "Veteran of the Game" for his service to the country by the Los Angeles Dodgers last week during pre-game ceremonies at the annual Jackie Robinson Day celebration.

Chiles, a retired Army warrant officer who served 38 years in the military on active duty and in the Army reserve, served two terms in Vietnam after being drafted into the Army in 1970. He was also mobilized in 2004 for a year in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He retired in 2008 as a Chief Warrant Officer Four.

Chiles, a long-time admirer of Jackie Robinson, has an extensive collection of Jackie Robinson memorabilia, portions of which are displayed at the African American Museum of Beginnings in Pomona.

Chiles serves on the Board of Directors of the Tuskegee Airmen Scholarship Foundation and as its Vice President for Resource Development.

Jackie Robinson broke into the majors with the Brooklyn Dodgers on April 15, 1947, becoming the first African American to play in the major leagues in the modern era. Each year on April 15, all major league players wear number 42 in honor of Jackie Robinson.



Farrell Chiles...
... Named Dodger
'Veteran of the Game'



GRAND RE-OPENING AT 135 EAST – A ribbon-cutting was held this month at an official grand re-opening at 135 East, formerly Angelo's Restaurant and Sports Bar, at 135 East 2nd St. in Pomona. The restaurant has been completely remodeled, offers a new menu, live entertainment, a full bar and features 135 varieties of martinis. Pictured at the ribbon cutting are owner Michael West, at left, and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman. Looking on, at rear from left, are servers Dana Avila and Evan Snyder; bartender Dina Martinez; and Vanessa Wiarco (behind Rothman), representing Cong. Joe Baca.

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HISTORY OF POMONA VALLEY MURAL – Volunteers put the finishing touches on a history of Pomona Valley mural on a wall at Kingsley Elementary School in Pomona this month as part of an Inland Empire United Way school revitalization event. Some 350 community and corporate leaders participated at the event at Kingsley. The mural included everything from Pomona native and boxer Sugar Shane Mosley to the Ferris wheel at the Los Angeles County Fair, the Fox Theater, an Arabian horse representing the horses at Cal Poly Pomona and the goddess of Pomona. Volunteer artist Phyllis Russell, at right, who created the outline for the mural, gives some last-minute pointers to the volunteers. Pictured, from left, are Pennie McGowen of Wrightwood, Erik Figueroa of Ontario and Jaime Gonzalez of Rialto, all part of a group of 35 volunteers from the Anheuser Busch sales office in Pomona working on the Kingsley project, and Russell.



GO LIONS! – Volunteers work up a mural on the side of a portable classroom building at Kingsley Elementary School in Pomona this month as part of the Inland Empire United Way school revitalization event. The mural depicts a lion, the Kingsley mascot, visiting the school library to emphasize the importance of reading. Kingsley is the oldest elementary school in Pomona. Pictured, from left, are volunteers Cherry Perez, of Redlands, part of the Chase Bank volunteer team, and volunteer Hector Gutierrez, of Rancho Cucamonga. The program is part of the Inland Empire United Way's commitment to helping disadvantaged youth to succeed in school. The massive event served as the local kickoff for National Volunteer Week. The United Way event also included revitalizing a school in Redlands, hosting a food drive at an Ontario grocery store, and assembling boxes of toys and books in Upland for seriously ill or injured patients at local hospitals. City Councilmembers Danielle Soto and Cristina Carrizosa and Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez participated in the day's activities.



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Western University scholarship golf tourney set for June

The annual Western University of Health Sciences "Town & Gown Golf Classic" has been scheduled for June as an annual effort to raise funds to benefit scholarships for students at the university.

The tournament will be held on Monday, June 18, at Glendora Country Club in Glendora.

Registration and lunch will be at 11 a.m. A shotgun start is scheduled for noon.

Individual registration is \$175.

For more information on sponsorships, advertising or registration before the June 11 deadline, contact Susan Terrazas at (909) 706-3476 or by e-mail at sterrazas@westernu.edu.



SECOND JOB FAIR AT GAIN – A total of 309 job seekers – including 139 from Pomona – participated last month in the second job fair sponsored by the Los Angeles County Office of Education's GAIN job services program, according to GAIN organizer David McElwain. Pictured above is Pomona Unified School District's adult school representative Maria Padilla reviewing training opportunities with Rashid Manzoor of Rowland Heights. Below, Derek Rojas, sales and marketing manager for Valley Vista Services, discusses job openings with Fred Flores of Pomona, who was looking for warehouse or customer service work.

Primerica offices open in Pomona to help customers save money on insurance and build their own business without major investment

New York Stock Exchange member Primerica has opened offices in Pomona to help families who want to benefit from saving money on their insurance or building a full- or part-time business without any major investment.

Mary Rilloraza, senior vice president of the Pomona office, said the company can help customers save money on auto, homeowners, life and long term care insurance.

"The powerful tool of replacing families' existing programs impacts their lives in a very big way," Rilloraza said. "During the last 12 months this office has had four death claims of life insurance policies."

"We replaced these policies from their other insurance company's cash value life insurance policies for a lot more insurance coverage and less premiums," she added. "We helped them invest their savings into their retirement accounts. In other words, we take care of them when they retire and we take care of them if premature death occurs."

"Our mission is to help families become properly protected, debt free and financially independent," Rilloraza said.

A veteran of the financial services industry with more than 20 years of experience, Rilloraza's goal within the next five years is to help six to 10 families become Primerica

business owners who make \$100,000 plus per year income.

For more information, contact Rilloraza at (909) 594-4920.

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PVW to sponsor first annual fun run/walk at Fairplex next month

PVW, formerly the Pomona Valley Workshop, will sponsor its first annual Fun Run/Walk on Saturday, May 5 at Fairplex to support their efforts to serve adults with disabilities.

In addition to walkers, help is needed in gathering sponsors for the participants and volunteers are needed for the event itself.

Registration begins at 7 a.m., a 1K for kids begins at 8 a.m., a 1K for dis-

abled participants begins at 8:15 a.m. and a 5K run/walk begins at 9 a.m.

Participants should enter Fairplex at Gate 1.

Prizes will be awarded for the top three fundraisers in each category.

For more information, contact Sharon Armagost, director of marketing, at (909) 624-3555, ext. 239, or by e-mail at Sharon@pvwonline.org.



SPRING FLING AT ST. JOSEPH CHURCH – Hundreds of kids, parents, grandparents and more attended last weekend's three-day "spring fling" annual festival at Pomona's St. Joseph Church. Included were food booths, games, live entertainment, carnival rides and more. Pictured enjoying the merry-go-round is Jazlynn Sanchez, 4, of Chino.



POMONA CHAMBER MIXER AT DEVRY – Scott Sand, PhD., President, Los Angeles Metro for DeVry University, at right in top photo, welcomes members of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce to DeVry's Pomona campus for a chamber mixer this month. He told the group the recent large scale renovation of the Pomona campus has been completed. Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman said DeVry students and faculty shop in Pomona and the school helps the tax base. "There's no downside to having DeVry in Pomona," he said. Councilmember Steve Atchley called DeVry a "unique school" that showcases technology in a most unusual way, adding that it also accommodates a lot of high school students. Also pictured, from left, are Ken Chan, director of community relations for DeVry's Pomona campus; Pomona Chamber Executive Director Frank Garcia; Pomona City Councilmember Steve Atchley; Rothman; and Jill Reiff, of Valley Vista Services, president-elect and membership vice president of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce. At left, Atchley performs a card trick as one of several magic tricks he performed at the event while Chan, at left, also a magician, looks on. Kristy Amos, DeVry's associate director of career services, takes a card.

State Farm Ribbon Cutting

Thursday, 5/17/2012

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100 YEARS OF GIRL SCOUTS – Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at left, presented a proclamation from the city to the Girl Scouts at a city council meeting last month proclaiming Girl Scouts Week in Pomona and recognizing the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. on their 100th Monumental Anniversary. Pictured, from left, are Rothman; Linda Vahrson, a mission delivery manager for membership; and Mercedes Garcia, a mission delivery specialist for membership. The two are based in the Girl Scouts Spanish Trails office in Montclair.



OPTIMISTS NAME STUDENTS OF THE MONTH – The Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club recognized two sixth graders at Alcott Elementary School as this month's students of the month. Selected students demonstrate progress in all academic areas, attend school on a daily basis, have no tardiness during the month and have no behavior referrals during the month. Pictured, from left, are Alcott Principal Shirley Martinez; student of the month Andrea Noguez; and Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club President M. Joyce Bakersmith. Not pictured is Leslie Molina, the other student of the month. For information on becoming an Optimist Club member, contact Vernon Price, (909) 336-8007.

Kennedy Austin Foundation announces White Ribbon Day, calls for participation in Million Mothers March

Representatives of the Kennedy Austin Foundation have announced that White Ribbon Day will be held Saturday, April 28, as a day to bring the community together to tie white ribbons around city allocated trees and poles from City Hall to Ganesha Park – the route of the sixth annual Million Mothers March scheduled for May 19.

The march itself is designed as a tribute to loved ones who have been lost and to honor those who serve their communities, according

to Ethel Gardner, founder and board chairman of the foundation.

During the march, volunteers will remove the ribbons signifying the commencement of a day of remembrance, honor and celebration to be held at the end of the march in Ganesha Park.

White Ribbon Day is scheduled for 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday.

For more information, times and locations, visit the web site at www.kennedyaustinfoundation.org or contact the foundation at (909) 480-3357.

Edison reminds customers to call 811 before starting a digging project

Southern California Edison officials – during national "Safe Digging Month" – reminded customers and the public to call 811 before starting any construction, home improvement or gardening projects that involve digging because of the dangers involved in striking an underground electric line.

"SCE wants people to be safe, especially around electric wires," said William Messner, SCE director of corporate health and safety. "Digging without knowing the location of underground utility lines can cause serious injuries and result in electric service disruptions and repair costs."

Customers are encouraged to call

811 for the free service at least two working days before any excavating or building projects such as installing pools, decks, digging trenches, or even planting trees or shrubs.

A technician will be sent out to locate and mark where all underground public utility lines are buried at a work site or home.

Depths of underground lines vary and there may be several lines buried in one area, officials added.

Professionals or "do it yourself" property owners can use the free service to obtain the information needed.

For more information, visit the web site at www.sce.com/safety.

Western University dean to publish Alzheimer's research – including a possible treatment for the disease itself – in key medical journal

Michel Baudry, PhD, dean of the Graduate College of Biomedical Sciences at Western University of Health Sciences, will publish his research next month in a major medical journal on the critical role of oxidative stress in Alzheimer's disease – and a potential treatment for the disease itself.

The article, co-authored by College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific Associate Professor Xiaoning Bi, MD, PhD, will be published in the May 2012 issue of the Journal of Alzheimer's Disease.

Oxygen free radicals are ubiquitous because they are a consequence of the way we live – in an oxygenated environment, Baudry said. We take in oxygen to burn food in order to produce energy, which is used by cells. But in the process we leak oxygen free radicals. Cells have developed a strong defense mechanism to prevent the accumulation of these reactive oxygen species because they produce a chain reaction. If the radicals are not eliminated, they damage proteins, lipids and DNA, further increasing their production by damaging mitochondria.

The brain is very susceptible to excessive formation of reactive oxygen species. Alzheimer's disease may create a vicious cycle with the amyloid beta peptide, a peptide presumably involved in the disease, impairing mitochondrial function, resulting in the creation of these re-

active oxygen species, which then results in further cell damage.

Baudry, in collaboration with Dr. Bernard Malfroy, now CEO of MindSet Rx, Inc., discovered a series of manganese complexes, EUK_n, that act like enzymes to fight reactive oxygen species. EUK_n cannot be swallowed in pill form because they get destroyed in the stomach, so they must be injected.

The goal of the study was to examine whether reactive oxygen species are critically involved in Alzheimer's disease and to test the effectiveness of one of the EUK_n, EUK-207, in protecting against symptoms of the disease and progression of these symptoms.

Mice modeling human Alzheimer's disease (AD) were

treated with EUK-207 for five months starting at four months before the appearance of AD symptoms. The non-treated mice had increased oxidative stress (lipid, protein and DNA oxidation) and AD symptoms (impaired cognition and brain pathology). The treated mice had none of these markers of oxidative stress, and were protected from most of the pathology associated with Alzheimer's disease, Baudry said.

"This suggests the increased formation of reactive oxygen species is causally related to the disease," he said. "If you block oxidative stress, you block the appearance of the disease."

The study was supported by the Alzheimer's Association.

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TACOS TO BENEFIT PONY LEAGUE – Juan Carlos Candelario, at right, serves a plate of tacos to Miguel Gonzalez, of Pomona, at the Pomona Pony Baseball “family day” this month. Gonzalez said he has three daughters playing in the new league. Candelario and his father, Sergio Candelario, owner of Candelario’s Market at Towne and La Verne Avenues in Pomona, said all profits from the day would be donated to the league.

WARMING UP – Left fielder Jazmine Valadez, 14, of Pomona, who plays for the Pomona Lady Rockets softball team in Pomona Pony Baseball, warms up at Pomona’s Palomares Park for the big game this month against the Upland Swag Babies. Their match was one of several games at the league’s first annual “family day” event featuring booths offering everything from baseball gear to tacos. Pomona Pony Baseball was created last year as a league that would represent the entire city of Pomona. Membership has grown 50 percent in the second year. For more information, visit the web site at www.leaguelineup.com/pomonapony.



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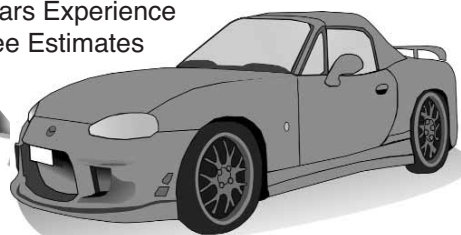
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Strawberry Festival set for Farm Store at Cal Poly Pomona

Live music, food booths, vendors and more will highlight the sixth annual Tractor/Car Show and Strawberry Festival celebrating the peak of strawberry season on Saturday, May 12, at the Farm Store at Cal Poly Pomona.

The festival, which also includes a petting zoo, face painting, horse rides and tractor rides, runs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Admission is free but parking costs \$3 in parking lots B and C.

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KICK-OFF PARTY FOR 'RELAY FOR LIFE' – More than 50 volunteers attended a kick-off party last week at the Pomona Eagles Lodge for this year's American Cancer Society "Relay for Life" cancer fundraiser, set for 10 a.m. Saturday, June 23, to 10 a.m. Sunday, June 24. More than 70 volunteers have signed up for this year's event, with 13 "teams" already signed up. Chairperson Virginia Madrigal said the goal this year is 20 teams. Madrigal urged participants to "celebrate, remember, fight back!" "We have all been touched by cancer in one way or another," she added. There were three teams in last year's event. Pictured above, from left, are Madrigal and Melody Ramquist, of the American Cancer Society. Relay co-chair Rick Elias, at left, told the group he sees the event "growing and looking more positive than anyone can imagine." The event is billed as the world's largest grass roots fundraising movement. For more information, contact Madrigal at (909) 627-4450.

Pomona Eagles seeking sponsors for annual golf tourney to benefit Pomona Valley Special Olympics

The Pomona Eagles are signing up sponsors and golfers for their 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic set for next month to raise funds for the Pomona Valley Special Olympics.

The group has helped raise more than \$200,000 for the Special Olympics athletes over the past 20 years.

"Our goal has been to exceed the \$15,000 raised last year and finding the major sponsors has been tougher this year," said Pomona Eagles President Frank

Howe. "The athletes and families of Pomona Valley Special Olympics have become part of our Eagle family and we don't want to let them down."

The tournament – a four-person scramble – will begin at 12:30 p.m. Friday, May 18, with a shotgun start at Los Serranos Country Club's south course. Registration begins at 10 a.m. Price is \$125 per player.

For more information, contact Howe at (909) 657-7786 or Pegi Evenson at (909) 618-3164.

California Conservation Corps offers training positions for wildland firefighting

The California Conservation Corps, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, is inviting veterans ages 18 to 25 – both men and women – to apply for work in wildland firefighting and forestry and wildfire education projects.

Successful candidates will be enrolled in the CCC Veterans Program full-time and receive U.S. Forest Service training in wildland firefighting, chainsaw, tool use, safety and crew organization.

Participants who complete this

program may be eligible for the U.S. Forest Service Wildland Firefighter Apprenticeship Program which may lead to full-time positions with the U.S. Forest Service.

Pay and benefits include a living stipend, basic health insurance and more. Uniforms, safety gear and tools are provided.

For more information, contact Cathy Gonzales, (909) 708-8485 or by e-mail at Cathy.Gonzales@ccc.ca.gov.

Personal

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The new Child Abuse Treatment Program at House of Ruth provides free services and therapy for children who have been exposed to violence or who have suffered any type of abuse. Abuse may not be related to domestic violence.

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El nuevo Programa para el Tratamiento de Abuso de Niños de House of Ruth provee servicios y terapia gratuita para niños que han sido expuestos a la violencia o que han sufrido cualquier tipo de abuso. El abuso no tiene que estar relacionado a la violencia doméstica.

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- The UPS Store, 168 W. Willow St., Pomona
- Pomona Chamber of Commerce, 101 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona
- Downtown Pomona Owners Association, 119 W. 2nd St., Pomona
- Pomona Unified School District administration building lobby
- Western University of Health Sciences Administration Building and Patient Care Center
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, 1420 S. Garey Ave., Pomona
- Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center main lobby, maternity lobby
- Gold Strike Market Carniceria, 412 N. Park Ave., Pomona
- My Bakery Group, Inc. Panaderia, 782 E. Arrow Highway, Pomona
- Jicamex Tacos Y Carniceria, 604 E. Mission Blvd., Pomona
- Central Market, Towne Avenue and Phillips Boulevard, Pomona
- Fairplex Chevron, Fairplex Drive and San Bernardino Freeway, Pomona
- Discount Market, Philadelphia Street and Towne Avenue, Pomona
- American Legion Post #30, 239 E. Holt Ave., Pomona



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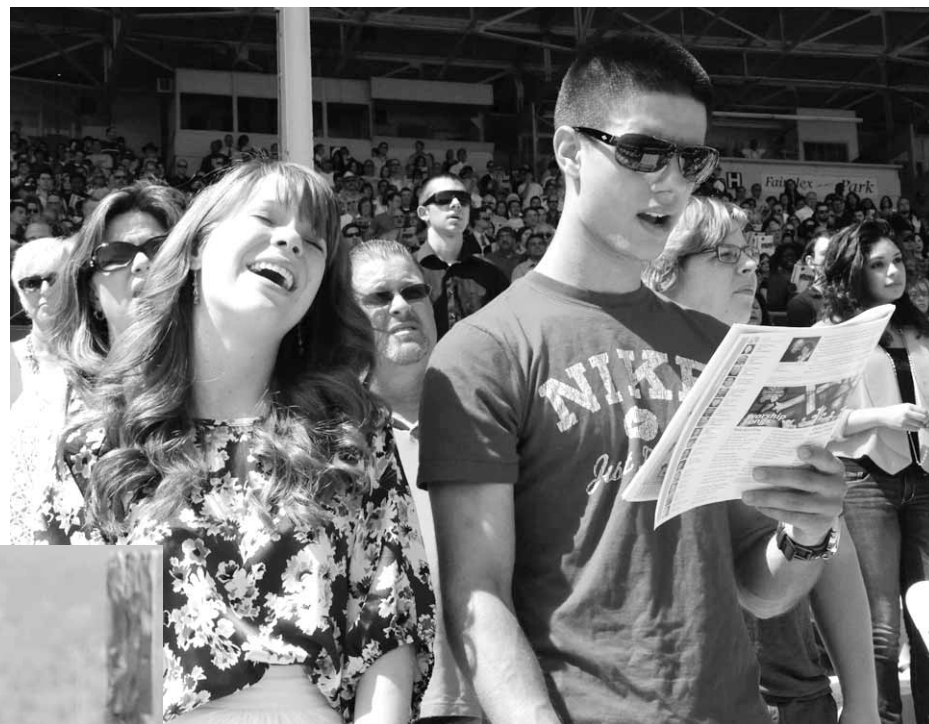
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JOINING IN SONG – Jarret LeMaster and Amy Baergen of Pomona First Baptist Church, above, perform at Easter services at Fairplex.



EASTER AT FAIRPLEX – Easter at Fairplex, presented by Pomona First Baptist Church, filled the grandstand as hundreds gathered for services on Easter Sunday. Pictured above are Aubrey Netherton and Jeremy Surmi.



PASTOR GLENN GUNDERSON – Pastor Glenn Gunderson of Pomona First Baptist Church, at right, delivers an Easter Sunday message at Easter at Fairplex.

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GRAND RE-OPENING AT POMONA WALMART – Pomona officials, Walmart representatives and the Garey High School marching band were on hand to cut the ribbon last week at a grand “re-opening” at the Pomona Walmart at 80 Rio Rancho Road in Pomona. The highlight of the remodeling of the store is the addition of a full scale grocery department featuring fully stocked refrigerated and frozen food cases, according to store manager Sivo Aisabonghi. “The store looks great, our customers are going to love what we’re doing with the store,” he said. Larry Ezell, market manager for Walmart stores from Glendora to Lake Elsinore, said the re-model added a lot of new items for customers to come in and experience. Pictured at the ribbon-cutting are, from left, Frank Garcia, executive director of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce; Aisabonghi; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; Pomona Councilmember Steve Atchley; and Ezell.



VETERINARY MEDICINE OPEN HOUSE AT WESTERN UNIVERSITY – Pomona’s Western University of Health Sciences held its seventh annual College of Veterinary Medicine open house last weekend with more than 1,000 boy scouts and girl scouts and hundreds more children and their parents from all over Southern California converging on the Western University campus. Students and clubs hosted booths on pet care and provided tours of the college and the pet hospital, a training facility for the university. This year’s theme was “The Animal Kingdom,” and students from Pomona Unified School District elementary schools participated in a coloring contest on that theme. Pictured, from left, at the college “store” where t-shirts, Frisbees and more were available, are, back row, volunteer Lisa Lua, director of operations for the College of Veterinary Medicine; Jazzmine Ximenez, 9, with her face painted in leopard make-up; and Anthony Waring of Ontario. In front are Haylee Waring, 4, and Jason Waring, 8, a cub scout, and their dogs, Marley, at left, and Sky.

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- Our Academic Mentoring Program typically ask the mentor for a commitment of at least one semester for the school year; and
- Our Academic Mentoring Program requires mentor screening and ongoing support and supervision.

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P3 HOLDS TOWN HALL MEETING ON UNDERAGE DRINKING – P3 (Partnership for a Positive Pomona) – holding its first town hall meeting this month – addressed the topic of underage drinking. Organizer Sara Cooley, pictured at right, said underage drinking is the number one problem for teens in Pomona. She added that those who start drinking before the age of 15 are 6.6 times more likely than those who start at 21 to develop serious alcohol problems. In addition, they are also much more likely to use other drugs. While illegal alcohol use by those under age 21 has declined steadily since 2002, more than one out of every four young people reported drinking in 2010. An audience of parents, business owners and concerned adults participated in the program at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley. P3 is a community coalition established to prevent destructive behavior in Pomona's youth by making Pomona a drug-free community. Pictured, from left, above, are program panelists Precious Ozaeta, a Pomona police Explorer; Jamie Holes, of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence; Corporal Brian Hagerty of the Pomona Police Department; Charles Porter, of the United Coalition East; and Dr. Joycelyn Whiten, of the Los Angeles County Department of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control.



Fifth annual Nancy McCracken Learning Expo set for next month at Fairplex

The fifth annual Nancy McCracken Learning Expo will be held next month at Pomona's Fairplex, showcasing outstanding students in academic achievement and booths from businesses and organizations to enable students to expand their horizons.

The Expo is scheduled from 1 to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 6. Admission is free.

Organized by the Promoting Academic Achievement Task Force, part of the Pomona Youth and Family Master Plan, the event has involved thousands of Pomona students and their families in the past.

For more information, contact facilitator Sarah Ross by calling (949) 525-1415 or by e-mail at sarahross-apt@aim.com.

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