



# La Nueva Voz

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## Pomona Mayor's race boils down to accomplishments vs. potential

Unless you've been out of town for a while, you've noticed those political signs dotting the landscape throughout Pomona – a sure tip-off that there's an election coming up next month.



Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman

Even if you haven't noticed the signs, it would be hard to avoid those stacks of mailers filling up your mailbox.

It all boils down to this – in the top local race, challenger Tim Sandoval is running against Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman on the Nov. 8 ballot.

And in the city council race, Councilmember John Nolte decided not to seek reelection, leaving the seat open for three candidates to battle it out.

City Councilmembers Paula

Lantz and Debra Martin each have two challengers on the ballot.

The campaign for mayor is a contest between the incumbent, who is highlighting the city's accomplishments in everything from improved



Challenger Tim Sandoval

roads to increased development as the city climbs out of the recession, and the challenger, who says voters

**(Editor's Note: See City Council candidate's forum story page 18.)**

have concerns about homelessness, crime, safety in city parks and the elderly.

Sandoval, speaking at a candidates' forum late last month in the Pomona City Council Chambers, said voters "are looking for a mayor who when you are faced with chal-

Pomona Mayor's race... pg. 4

## Tough questions, tough answers for tax increase measure to extend Gold Line to Montclair

The tough questions had tougher answers this month at a Foothill Gold Line "State of the Project 2016" transportation forum in Claremont – if voters want light rail built from Azusa to Montclair – and cutting a path through Pomona where plans call for a new Gold Line Station – they will have to approve the Measure M half-cent sales tax on next month's ballot, and there is no "B" plan to extend the Gold Line beyond Azusa if the measure fails.

In fact, according to the experts, if the measure fails, it would set the project back another 30 years if the

said the latest polling by Metro – conducted in late May and early June – showed more than 70 percent of the voters at the time were in favor of Measure M – only three percentage points above the two-thirds majority required for tax measures.

A similar measure failed in 2012 after receiving 66.1 percent of the vote. It needed the same 66.7 percent and lost by only 14,000 votes in this huge region.

The original Measure R passed in 2008 with nearly 68 percent – not enough to be considered a mandate –



Metro Board Chair John Fasana



**RALLYING SUPPORT FOR GOLD LINE EXTENSION** – Pictured at a "State of the Project 2016" look at the Foothill Gold Line this month, from left, are Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority CEO Habib Balian; Chris Burner, chief project officer for the Foothill Gold Line; and Metro's Deputy Chief Executive Officer Stephanie Wiggins.

agencies involved were forced to rely on federal dollars alone.

In addition, in response to a question from La Nueva Voz, officials

approving the tax for transportation funding with a whopping 1.3 percent to spare.

Even when it is boosting law en-

forcement that's on the ballot, getting a tax measure approved by the voters is not easy. Former Los An-

Gold Line... pg. 10



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## A Note from Councilmember Debra Martin ★ Una nota de Concejal Debra Martin ★

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I am honored to serve as your City Council representative for the City of Pomona. To receive updates on community meetings and events, please join my email list by sending your contact information to [debra\\_martin@ci.pomona.ca.us](mailto:debra_martin@ci.pomona.ca.us) or call 909-706-5445. Thank you for all your support, and please feel free to let me know how I can help in your neighborhood! Sincerely, Debra Martin

Estimados amigos y vecinos,

Tengo el honor de servir como su representante en el Ayuntamiento de la Ciudad de Pomona. Para recibir información actualizada sobre las reuniones y eventos de la comunidad, por favor envíeme sus datos a mi correo electrónico a [debra\\_martin@ci.pomona.ca.us](mailto:debra_martin@ci.pomona.ca.us) o llame al 909-706-5445. Gracias por su apoyo, y por favor no dude en darme a saber como le puedo ayudar en su vecindario! Cordialmente, Debra Martin

Paid for by Debra Martin for Pomona City Council 2016 ID #1346953



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- ✓ Increased public safety, working with our Police and Firefighters  
*Aumentó la seguridad pública al trabajar juntamente con nuestros policías y bomberos*
- ✓ Improved streets and sidewalks, and added more street lighting  
*Mejóro las carreteras y las aceras y agregó más alumbrado público*
- ✓ Helped replace abandoned lots with new businesses that serve our community  
*Ayudó a substituir terrenos baldíos con edificios y negocios nuevos que sirven a nuestra comunidad*
- ✓ Continued building community through Neighbor Next Door & Neighborhood Watch  
*Continúa su labor en el desarrollo comunitario a través de El Vecino de al Lado y Vigilancia en el Vecindario*

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**Nov. 8**

**Questions?/Preguntas?**  
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# Re-elect Elliott Rothman for Mayor of Pomona

## *Vote por re-eligir a Elliott Rothman para Alcalde de Pomona*

It is my honor to represent you as the Mayor of Pomona. Under my leadership public safety has increased, new businesses have arrived, thousands of jobs have been created, and the city's infrastructure and civic pride continues to improve. As Mayor, I will always be accessible, and I will continue representing your interests in the beautiful City of Pomona.

During my tenure as Mayor and Councilman, I have been involved in bettering our community in some of the following ways:

- Supported programs that reduce crime and strive to eliminate human trafficking.
- Brought in the new businesses, restaurants and jobs to the Rio Rancho Towne Center.
- Created thousands of new jobs by attracting new industries and developments.
- Revitalized the city by supporting beautiful new housing projects.
- Fought to keep our City's Senior Centers open and fully staffed.
- Enacted policies and programs that have reduced homelessness.
- Enacted policies that helped the City reduce clean water usage.
- Supported numerous youth and community organizations, including AYSO, Little League, Scouts, JROTC, PTAs, Pomona Hope Partners, Special Olympics, and after school programs.
- Engaged our Colleges and Universities to provide programs and mentorship for our youth.
- Represented you on regional boards so that you have a voice in and around our city.



Ha sido un honor para mí representarles como Alcalde de Pomona. Bajo mi liderazgo, la seguridad pública ha incrementando, miles de trabajos se han creado, y la infraestructura de nuestra ciudad y el orgullo comunitario continúa aumentado. Como Alcalde, siempre seré accesible y continuaré representando sus intereses en la bella Ciudad de Pomona.

Durante mí tenencia como Alcalde y Miembro del Concilio, yo me he involucrado en mejorar nuestra comunidad de las siguientes maneras:

- Apoyar programas para reducir el crimen y luchar por eliminar el tráfico humano.
- Generar nuevos negocios, restaurantes y trabajos en Rio Rancho Towne Center.
- Crear miles de nuevos trabajos al atraer nuevas industrias y proyectos.
- Revitalizar la ciudad al apoyar hermosos proyectos de nuevas viviendas.
- Luchar por mantener nuestros Centros Para Ancianos abiertos y completamente atendidos.
- Establecer medidas y programas que han reducido el asunto de personas sin hogar.
- Establecer medidas que ayudaron a la Ciudad a reducir el consumo de agua.
- Apoyar numerosas organizaciones para la juventud y la comunidad, incluyendo AYSO, Ligas Menores, Exploradores, JROTC, PTAs, Pomona Hope Partnership, Olimpiadas Especiales, y programas después de escuela.
- Hacer participes a los Colegios y Universidades para proveer programas y tutoría para nuestros jóvenes.
- Representarlos en las mesas directivas regionales para que usted tenga una voz dentro y alrededor de nuestra ciudad.

**I feel that my experience and dedication to our city has provided me with the knowledge and expertise to continue representing you as the Mayor of Pomona.**

**Creo que mí experiencia y mí dedicación a nuestra ciudad me ha dado la sabiduría y la experiencia para continuar representándolos como Alcalde de Pomona.**

**Please vote to re-elect Elliott Rothman for Mayor.**

**Por favor vote para re-elegir a Elliott Rothman para Alcalde.**

**Please visit my website at [www.RothmanForPomona.com](http://www.RothmanForPomona.com)**

**Favor de visitar el sitio web [www.RothmanForPomona.com](http://www.RothmanForPomona.com)**

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In accordance with PUSD's Promise of Excellence Strategic Plan, the District is offering a comprehensive and cutting-edge bilingual literacy program that will support all early learners, from birth to 2nd grade. Families that live within Pomona and Diamond Bar's school district boundaries - whether they are enrolled in Pomona Unified School District schools or not - have free access to the award-winning Footsteps2Brilliance® Early Learning Literacy App.



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## Pomona Mayor's race... from pg. 1

lenges gets out in front of those challenges and owns them and communicates with the residents of Pomona.”

Rothman took a different approach, focusing instead on the city's accomplishments that have occurred during his two terms as mayor.

“Under my leadership, safety has increased, new businesses have arrived, thousands of jobs have been created and the city's infrastructure and civic pride continues to improve,” he said.

“As mayor, I will always be accessible and I will continue representing your interests in the beautiful city of Pomona,” he added.

Their debate seemed to get a little more fired up in a second forum this month at Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences (one night for city council candidates and the following night for mayoral candidates).

Sandoval, who serves as program director at Pomona's Bright Prospect, a non-profit college preparatory organization, spoke of former Bright Prospect students graduating from college and coming back to Pomona to give back to the city.

Meanwhile, Rothman said he understands the city's youth represent

the city's future and cited the opening of two parks, enhancing the city's relationship with Pomona Unified School District, Pomona Catholic and the School of Arts and Enterprise, along with the city's ongoing work with young people through the city's Youth and Family Master Plan.

Asked what the candidates would propose in addition to city code enforcement to encourage property owners to improve the city's appearance, Sandoval proposed making the annual volunteer Pomona Beautification Day a monthly event using young people to pitch in and help.

Rothman said city employees actually are doing their job in this area, even though it sometimes takes time when the courts become involved.

Turning to law enforcement, Sandoval claimed that since his opponent took office the city has lost 50 police officers which, he said, results in longer response times.

He said the city needs to increase sales tax revenues with more people shopping in Pomona – and apply for more grants “because they do exist” – to make it possible to hire more officers.

“We're not 50 officers short,” Rothman countered, explaining that the city had just promoted 10 officers

into supervisory positions, opening the door to hire more officers to replace them resulting in more police on the street.

Moderator Bob Cruz of the Southern California Gas Company asked the two what plans they have for attracting new businesses to Pomona and retaining those that are here.

Rothman responded by saying the city has been “doing great,” adding that under his leadership the city council has brought in new businesses, new and revitalized hotels and just recently sold a parcel near Phillips Ranch that will become the site of a major hotel.

“I believe my opponent is out of touch,” Sandoval countered, claiming Pomona lags behind other cities in economic growth.

On the issue of homelessness, Rothman said city staff works “very diligently” to clean up after them and the city is working to provide more services for them.

But Sandoval said this is a “leadership issue” and that he would propose transitional housing and work at the regional, state and federal levels “for the dollars we need” in this area.

Rothman said a question on how to change the city's perception as an “unfriendly city for business” was an

unfair assumption since he is aware of businesses that “rave about how Pomona is to work with.”

Sandoval, however, disagreed.

“I hear the opposite when I'm out and talk to businesses,” he said, pointing to complaints from business owners or developers about homeless encampments behind businesses.

“We need to have a one-stop shop that makes it clear” what is needed to open a business in Pomona, he said. “I think we can do a lot better job.”

Asked about plans to complete efforts to turn the 71 Freeway into a true freeway, Rothman cited his efforts and the city's efforts to obtain \$23 million in federal funding for the Mission Boulevard overpass.

He said work is already under way to finish the job on the remaining segment through Westmont and alongside Phillips Ranch.

But Sandoval said residents of those areas have asked him about this project and have “no idea what the city is doing on this.”

He said residents need to know the status, adding he will work to make it a reality.

“We have to be committed” to making citizens involved in the decision-making process.

Rothman said the city has been climbing out of the recession and today has \$16 to \$20 million in reserves.

“And that is an accomplishment we haven't seen in many years,” he added, one that will result in a return of services.

Sandoval, however, said Pomona's job growth is at only 1 percent, coupled with a decline of more than 40 percent in high paying

jobs.

And on encouraging positive relationships with the Pomona Police Department, Sandoval said he is a “huge proponent” of community based policing.

“We need to make sure we have the appropriate staffing... and then move toward working on relationships,” he said.

Rothman said relationships with Pomona police have been improving over the years, and cited a recent NAACP forum (see story on page 7) focusing on this issue.

He said community based policing is paying off in Pomona and officers are already using body cameras.

On working with other city council members, Sandoval said “We have to have vision, we have to have goals,” and he's committed to putting that in place.

Rothman said “We work quite well together,” adding “I enjoy working with all my colleagues,” despite an occasional difference of opinion.

Asked about plans to bring new business to the main traffic corridors, Rothman said the city is improving streets with drought-resistant medians.

“The Foothill corridor has taken off” on a Route 66 theme with cooperation between the cities of La Verne, Pomona and Claremont, he said.

Sandoval countered that “I don't believe Pomona has found its true economic engine” which, he said, is most likely rooted in developing the type of jobs given the type of talent surrounding the city.

Last month's forum in the City  
**Pomona Mayor's race... pg. 10**



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### The following clubs and organizations meet on a weekly or monthly basis in Pomona:

- Pomona Youth and Family Master Plan
- Partnership for a Positive Pomona (P3)
- Pomona Chamber of Commerce
- Downtown Pomona Owners Association
- Parent Teacher Associations
- Parent Teacher Organizations
- Family Support and Resource Center
- Parent Leads Community Engagement Group
- Family Support and Resource Center
- Kennedy Austin Foundation
- The Network (formerly AOD – Alcohol and Other Drugs)
- Day One
- Assistance League of Pomona Valley
- NAACP Pomona Valley Branch

#### **Foster Care:**

- Pomona Valley Children & Family Collaborative
- Los Angeles County Department of Children & Family Services
- Children, Youth and Family Collaborative

#### **Faith Based Coalitions:**

- Inland Valley Council of Churches
- Superintendent's Faith-Based Roundtable

#### **Service Organizations:**

- American Legion
- Rotary Club
- Kiwanis Club
- Pomona Host Lions Club
- Eagles
- Elks Club
- Optimist Club

#### **Gang Prevention/Intervention:**

- San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps
- Rock of Faith
- Set Free Ministries

#### **Domestic Violence:**

- House of Ruth
- Project Sister

#### **Mental Health:**

- Tri-City
- Nami
- Faith-Based Mental Health Collaborative

**If you would like to have your club or organization listed above, please contact: Renee Barbee at 909-762-1446 or by email at reneebarbee7@gmail.com**



**COMMUNITY LEADERS RECOGNIZED** -- Three community leaders were recognized last week for their service during the annual Ambassador Nathaniel and Elizabeth Davis Civil Rights Legacy Awards, presented by the Pomona Valley Democratic Club at Pomona's Ebell Museum of History. Honored were Roberto de la Cruz, former United Farm Worker organizer and Service Employees International Union representative, who worked in the fields when he was six as his family helped organize migrant farmworkers while Cesar Chavez began to build the United Farm Workers union; NAACP Pomona Valley Branch President Jeanette Ellis-Royston, who was instrumental in reviving the local NAACP chapter three years ago and has remained active in the National Council of Negro Women and numerous other local and regional civil rights causes; and Bertha Calderon, a resident of Pomona, of the El Super supermarket workers campaign, where she has been a leader in the Covina store where she works in organizing her co-workers. Her store is one of seven unionized El Super stores (48 stores are non-union) but employees have been locked in a contract fight there for nearly three years. Because of this, an active boycott has continued at all El Super stores for the past two and a half years, according to Mark Ramos, President of the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union. Pictured, from left, are de la Cruz, Royston, Calderon, State Sen. Connie Leyva and Pomona Valley Democratic Club President Luis Juarez.

### dA Center to hold Community Celebration de los Muertos y los Vivos

The Latino/Latina Roundtable and Pomona's dA Center for the Arts will hold a "Hear Our Voices" community concert next month to bring attention to and support for victims of domestic abuse, homelessness and the work of the Kennedy Austin Foundation, founded by Ethel Gardner.

The Community Celebration de los Muertos y los Vivos will include an interactive altar, crafts for the whole family, music, story shar-

ing and food.

Visitors are asked to bring a picture or a recuerdo (an item symbolizing someone) of a loved one to add to the altar (all items will be returned).

The concert is scheduled for 5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 20, at dA Center for the Arts, 252 Main St., Pomona.

Suggested donation is \$3 (18 and under free).

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**Supervisor Hilda Solis dedicates historic Whittier Narrows playground equipment after complete refurbishment**

Looking for a fun place to take the kids?

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis this month dedicated the historic Benjamin Dominguez play structures in the county's Whittier Narrows Recreation Park following a recent complete refurbishment.

The play structures were hand crafted in 1960 by renowned Mexican artist Benjamin Dominguez and include beautiful, brightly colored pieces such as the "Mother Dragon," "Octopus," the "Two-headed Dragon," and a semi-abstract piece called the "Tripod."

Funding for the work came from Proposition A, the Safe Neighborhood Parks Act from 1996. That measure authorized an annual assessment on all parcels of real property in Los Angeles County.

Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation Director John Wicker and others joined Solis at the event.

Interested in checking it out? Use the park entrance at 555 N. Durfee Ave. in South El Monte.

**Healthcare workers picket Pomona Valley Hospital as National Labor Relations Board continues to review 'challenged' ballots from January election**

Several hundred healthcare workers picketed and four area elected officials spoke in their support last week in front of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center as a labor dispute currently in the hands of the National Labor Relations Board heats up.

At issue are the results of an election last January by hospital service and technical associates attempting to form a union and become part of Service Employees International Union-United Healthcare Workers West.

According to a hospital statement, the outcome of the election was undetermined because 531 voted in favor, 458 voted against and there were 214 challenged ballots – enough to affect the outcome of the election.

Those challenged ballots currently are being reviewed by the National Labor Relations Board. Only 62 of the challenged ballots have been reviewed and counted to date and the hospital is waiting for a decision on its request to consider the remaining 152 ballots.

Pomona Valley Hospital phlebotomist Jeanette Castillo, speaking from a flatbed truck parked on the street in front of the hospital's maternity ward, told the crowd caregivers are "understaffed and overworked, which puts our patients and us at risk."

Joining Castillo at the microphone in support of the hospital employees were speakers including Congresswoman Norma Torres, State Sen. Connie Leyva, Assemblymember Freddie Ro-

driguez, Pomona City Council member Debra Martin and Jose Calderon, of the Latina / Latino Roundtable of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley, along with Stan Lyles, Vice President of SEIU-United Healthcare Workers West.

According to a prepared union statement, 1,100 hospital workers – including licensed vocational nurses, pharmacy technicians, physical therapy aides, radiology technologists, food service workers and others – are being impacted by what the statement called delaying tactics that are preventing the two sides from sitting down at the bargaining table to negotiate a contract.

In a prepared statement to the community, hospital President and CEO Rich Yochum said hospital associates have helped the hospital achieve a number of national recognitions this year.

He said it is the employees who allow the hospital to provide high-quality health care services to its patients and to the community.

Yochum added that the hospital is "committed to providing a re-



Some of the several hundred healthcare workers picketing Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center last week fill the sidewalk in front of the hospital's maternity entrance before the beginning of a rally.



Jeanette Castillo ... Pomona Valley Hospital phlebotomist

warding work environment that allows our associates to accomplish this."

"With the pending decision by the (National Labor Relations Board)... SEIU-UHW is trying to pressure the hospital into giving up its right to utilize the procedures of the NLRB by spreading information intended to make consumers question the quality of care at our hospital," Yochum said.

He added that actions by the union "will not deter us from letting the appropriate government agency... determine which associates' votes should be properly

counted in the election." "Providing safe, high quality patient care will always be our top priority," he said.

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Union Station Homeless Services  
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## Area law enforcement officials meet with Pomona leaders on police/community relations

Jeanette Royston, President of the Pomona Valley Branch NAACP, told representatives of eight area police departments that recent events across the country have made it clear that police officers have a very difficult job.

“We all know that in our nation we are facing racial type of unrest,” Royston said, adding that “everybody wants to go home at night.”

“The reason why we’re here is to try to find a better way to work together, to collaborate and to partner,” Royston added.

Her comments came at the opening of “Truth and Reconciliation,” a program sponsored last month by the

principle is to use only as much force as is necessary to apprehend the suspect or stop the assault.

Deadly force, he said, is only justified when the officer’s life or someone else’s life is in danger.

Pomona Deputy Police Chief Mike Olivieri said that from reading news media accounts, it would appear that “people are being killed every day by cops.”

“But again, I don’t recognize that as a reality in this community,” he said.

He read from a list of statistics he had prepared that said his department has 163 police officers and last year received 99,733 emergency calls.

force has resulted in death three (times) in seven years – none this year, none last year, none in 2014, unfortunately two in 2013, none in 2012, one in 2011 and zero in 2010,” Olivieri said – figures that represent 0.00035 percent of the department’s interaction with the public.

“So the reality in our community is that we’re not killing people every day,” he said. “But I do understand what takes place in other departments and other areas of the community so that’s a frustration at times for us because we bear the brunt of the public sentiment based on the news media coverage.”

His comments received a round of applause from an audience of more than 150 including residents, elected officials and area students.

In addition to Pomona and the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Depart-



Members of the Pomona Valley Branch NAACP join President Jeanette Royston as Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman presents the organization with a certificate of recognition for hosting last month’s “Truth and Reconciliation” program. Pictured, at right, are Thomas and Brittany Allison, organizers of the event.



Gary Lett

ment, police departments from La Verne, Claremont, Azusa, Covina, West Covina and Glendora were included in the program.

The Pomona Unified School District and the NAACP were co-sponsors of the event.

Organizers were Thomas and Brittany Allison, founders of the Social Justice Advocacy Project, Inc., a non-profit organization that “provides empowerment tools to disenfranchised individuals for better

self-determination.” It provides resources for individuals to heal and elevate the community.



NAACP President Jeanette Royston

Social Justice Advocacy Project, Inc., at Pomona’s Village at Indian Hill Conference Center.

Royston kicked off questions by asking the panel how people should best conduct themselves during a traffic stop.

Responses from the panel included complying with directions to avoid becoming confrontational since the motorist may not be aware of why the officer stopped him – it could have been related to a broadcast regarding a crime.

La Verne Police Chief Scott Pickwith said one of the most dangerous things police officers do is walk up on a car.

“It is one of the deadliest things we do,” he said. “Treat him (the officer) the way you want to be treated.”

Pomona artist Gary Lett, who told the panel he grew up in Pomona, asked if they have a policy on rules for fatally shooting a suspect rather than debilitating him.

San Dimas Sheriff’s Station Acting Capt. Andrew Berg said that from a legal standpoint, the guiding



Pomona Deputy Police Chief Mike Olivieri

In addition, Pomona officers interacted with the public through traffic stops, self-initiated contacts or calls for service 125,785 times last year, wrote 26,945 police reports and made 7,551 arrests.

He said the city has 1,600 known gang members, and arrested 674 gang members last year.

Police recovered 300 guns, made 300 arrests for prostitution, and the city has 2,000 people on probation and 225 on parole. There are 308 sex offenders in Pomona.

He said with all of this activity, the department received only 53 citizen complaints, representing 0.04 percent.

“The fact of the matter is the Pomona Police Department’s use of

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## Any budding scientists out there? 'Seminar' class at Cal Poly focuses on proper care of lab animals

Ever hear of the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966, signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson?

Did you know scientists are required to reduce the use of animals and refine the process of using animals in their experimentation?

Or how about this – did you know organizations – like Cal Poly University Pomona, for example – are required to keep people on staff to make sure all of this is being done, by the book, on a regular basis?

There's an entire class on this

subject at Cal Poly, with the fall quarter class filled almost entirely with upperclassmen and entirely with animal science majors.

Class "coordinator" Bruce Kennedy, teaching the class for only the fifth time, calls it a seminar rather than a class – "AVS 463 – Seminar in Animal Research," featuring presentations on various uses of animals in research science.

La Nueva Voz met Kennedy in a local restaurant, thought the class sounded interesting and asked to do a story on the subject. Fast for-

ward through a few e-mails and La Nueva Voz publisher Jeff Schenkel ended up agreeing to talk to the class as one of the quarter's many visiting "experts," and then turn the end of the class into interviews with students for this story.

Schenkel and La Nueva Voz Director of Advertising and Public Relations Renee Barbee were pleasantly surprised to arrive on the first day of class last month to find literally an overflowing, standing room only audience.

(OK, it is a required class for animal science majors – they had to be there – and in fairness, the first order of business was to put in a request for a larger room for next time.)

Schenkel's presentation, at Kennedy's request, was to talk about the importance of writing – not only in newspapers but in science and technical applications – and the reality that a college education can lead in many directions, not only the specific direction of the academic "major" itself.

His daughter, Stacy Schenkel, a 2000 animal science graduate of Cal Poly, he told the class, is an example of that since her career has led her through a path from a veterinary diagnostic lab to Orange County's public health laboratory



Bruce Kennedy ...  
... seminar in animal research

to working in the office of the Orange County Agricultural Commissioner.

In fact, he told students, his other daughter, Ashley Schenkel, has had a similar experience in her own career, graduating in psychology from UC Riverside, completing requirements for a master's degree in counseling at Cal State University Fullerton, and going into a career path that led her from couples and family therapy in private practice to her present work with alcohol and drug dependency patients at an Orange County hospital.

Barbee gave the class a brief overview of how La Nueva Voz operates in Pomona and surrounding communities.

Based on e-mails after the event, the students seemed to appreciate hearing their college training could lead them in different directions – and even sounded interested in the workings of a community newspaper (and specifically that their class was making the news).

Then why were they taking the class?

"Aside from it being required, I heard that Kennedy was a really good professor and he teaches this class very differently," said Alejandra Robles, a senior animal science major from Anaheim. "I specifically chose this class because I heard good things."

"It's important to recognize that we respect animals the same way we respect other humans," she added. "In the past, we didn't treat animals the same way and so I think it's important to learn about animals and treating them correctly."

Sean Rodriguez, also a senior animal science major from Fontana, said the class was a requirement but it was "very inform-

ative just on the first day."

"I have thought about doing research," he said. "The more he spoke, the more I was interested in doing it."

Rodriguez, who works in an animal clinic, said his family raised him to respect pets.

Kennedy told the class he considers the subject to be a career opportunity, although he said much of the course involves writing and using scientific language.

He told the students many of them will become veterinarians or vet techs, and some will go into basic animal research, pre-clinical studies with animals and more, some working in laboratories located all over the world.

"There is an initiative at Cal Poly from the provost supported by the president that everyone needs to have some research exposure," he said. "It has been my observation, because I am in the business of doing research on campus, I'm the compliance guy for rules and regulations, especially with animals and humans, that there are a variety of flavors of research."

"My main plan is to teach more about research right here," he said, and the class was on its way.

He told students his own career has moved around to some degree – he has managed animal facilities in both California and Maryland.

"We need to understand what research is about," Kennedy said, "and the use of lab animals to find cures for disease."

He explained that use is regulated by a combination of ethics, concern for the welfare of the animal and legal rules and regulations "that we impose on ourselves."

"We need to think about these things (so) that we understand that

Lab animals... pg. 10



Sean Rodriguez



Alejandra Robles



**UNITED WAY 'MAKES A DIFFERENCE'** -- Inland Empire United Way leaders, volunteers, employees representing local businesses, teachers and others turned out last Saturday for a beautification project at Pomona's Philadelphia Elementary School as part of "National Make a Difference Day." The project is based on United Way's commitment to helping disadvantaged youth to succeed in school and in life by creating a bright and inspirational campus for its 738 students. "This cannot happen without a strong partnership," said Greg Bradbard, President & CEO of Inland Empire United Way. The project, some three months in the making, all boiled down to two days -- a day of preparation and a day of the actual work. A total of 11 murals were sketched by professional artists on a Dr. Seuss theme and the 250 volunteers were on hand to fill in the outlines. Pictured in front of a mural with local UPS volunteers putting on the finishing touches are, from left, Principal Alicia Castaneda; Bradbard; and Meezy Perez, a tattoo artist based in Downtown Riverside, who has designed art work for United Way projects in eight schools over the past six years.



## Western University broadens scope of eye care clinic to ‘Eye Care Institute’

The eye care folks in the College of Optometry at Pomona’s Western University of Health Sciences are changing their focus and broadening their vision as they see their new role in the future.

The school changed the name of its eye care clinic last month from the Eye Care Center to the Eye Care Institute in keeping with today’s broader scope of the facility, located in Western University’s Patient Care Center.

“The repurposing, renaming as the Eye Care Institute, warrants a reflection on how the university has grown into being the most comprehensive health sciences university educational system in the country

sional manner.”

“We hope to amaze you with our technology but we hope that you remember us for our humanistic touch,” she added.

Hoppe acknowledged Tim Weber, state vice president of the Fraternal Order of Eagles, based in Barstow, who participated in the ceremony and donated a supply of lighted magnifying glasses for young patients who need them to read – in all about \$6,700 in optical aids for children who do not otherwise have the means to pay for them.

The facility partners with the California School for the Blind to provide low-vision rehabilitation exams for students being served by a



**CUTTING THE RIBBON** -- Officials cut the ribbon last month at the re-opening and "re-purposing" of the Eye Care Institute at Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences. Pictured, from left, are Rachel Barbosa, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Pomona Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erica Frausto; Western's College of Optometry founding dean Dr. Elizabeth Hoppe; Dr. Andrew Pumerantz, founder and executive director of Western University's Western Diabetes Institute; Dr. Raymond Maeda, assistant dean of clinical affairs and associate professor in the College of Optometry; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; Robert Torres, representing Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez; Benny Ayala, representing State Sen. Connie Leyva; Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman, an optometrist practicing in Chino; and Jill Dolan, of Mt. San Antonio College, Board President of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce.



**ACCEPTING GIFT FROM EAGLES** -- Dr. Linda Pang, at left, chief of low vision rehabilitation services and assistant professor in the Western University College of Optometry, accepts a gift of magnifying reading aids for children from Eagles State Vice President Tim Weber at re-opening of Western's Eye Care Institute.



**Western University President Daniel Wilson**

right here in Pomona,” said Western University President Daniel Wilson.

He said because of this academic-based practice, educational service and research facility, Western University will become better known locally, regionally and across the country.

Wilson said his “hat’s off” to Dr. Elizabeth Hoppe, founding dean of the college, and her team.

Wilson has been on board as Western University’s president for the past three months, succeeding retired founding President Phil Pumerantz.

Hoppe called the ribbon-cutting and re-opening of the facility a celebration of “where we’ve been, where we are today and the future of eye care.”

“Here at Western University of Health Sciences, we pride ourselves on an inter-professional approach,” she said. “We love to take care of members of the community in a comprehensive and inter-profes-

college is producing optometrists who are serving Pomona, surrounding communities and beyond.

He added that once students receive a degree from Western University, “you’re going to have a career for life and that the patients are going to benefit from everything you’ve

learned here.”

The facility originally opened its doors when the Patient Care Center opened in 2010, offering 20 examination lanes and services including primary eye care, contact lenses, diagnosis, treatment and management of ocular diseases, vision therapy and

rehabilitation, and neuro-optometric rehabilitation.

The name change was intended to better reflect the comprehensive nature of the facility’s work as an eye care training operation.

It is located at 795 E. Second St., Pomona.

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## Gold Line... from pg. 1

geles County Sheriff Lee Baca and other law enforcement officials went for it in 2004 in a \$560 million a year half-cent sales tax increase attempt that would have put 5,000 additional officers on the streets.

That measure was close but failed with only 64 percent of the vote.

At the Claremont event, held in the Smith Campus Center at Pomona College, Duarte City Councilmember John Fasana, Board Chair of Metro and moderator of the event, grilled Foothill Gold Line Construction Authority CEO Habib Balian following an hour of introductory comments.

Fasana asked about Balian's opinion of how good a "B" plan was if the measure fails and was told "not very good."

### Measure M passage a must to extend Gold Line to Montclair

"From our perspective, this measure is the only practical way this project is going to be built," Balian said.

Metro's Deputy Chief Executive Officer Stephanie Wiggins agreed and Fasana concluded that federal dollars will only be helpful in leveraging the project but not primarily funding it.

At stake is building another 12.3 miles of light rail track from Glendora to Montclair, which was termed the "interim" finish line building the line out to a total of 38 miles from Downtown Los Angeles. (The ideal scenario would continue the line to Ontario International Airport but that conversation would require more than this newspaper has space for.)

If financing becomes available through passage of Measure M, the construction authority would engineer, design and build the system – just as it did the original 13.0-mile line from Downtown Los Angeles to Pasadena, which opened in 2003, and then, since its opening last March, on to Azusa with another 11.5-mile segment.

Once the new segment is completed and tested, it will be turned

over to Metro for operation.

The new link out to Montclair will include more parking than earlier phases – a combination of parking lots and parking structures – since officials have learned the farther east the line goes, the more commuters are driving in and leaving their cars to get off the freeway, translating to existing parking facilities filling up.

Balian said the next phase will include about four times as much parking as earlier phases.

Now planners are working with cities along the route to come up with ways to "shuttle" commuters to the stations.

"We can't keep building parking lots – there's far better use for this land than just building parking," Balian said.

### Stations planned in Pomona, La Verne, Claremont

Stations along the new segment will be located in Glendora, San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona, Claremont and Montclair, according to Chris Burner, chief project officer for the Foothill Gold Line.

In La Verne, the station will be located just to the east of E Street and North of Arrow Highway.

Pomona's station will be just to the west of Garey Avenue and north of Santa Fe Street and will be the first station that interfaces with a Metrolink station (Pomona's Metrolink North station is just to the south and slightly to the west of where the Gold Line station will be located).

Included here will be an existing parking lot and a new parking structure to be used by both stations.

Claremont's station also will interface with a Metrolink station but will be a little more complicated – the existing Metrolink station will have to be relocated to the east side of College Avenue and a 1,200-space parking structure will be built on the site of an existing parking lot.

"This is a challenging project – it's much more challenging than the

Pasadena to Azusa segment," Burner said. "The first challenge is we still need funding for the construction of it."

And that funding, of course, would come primarily from Measure M.

"We require a little over \$1.15 billion to build the Los Angeles (County) portion of the project and approximately \$63 million to build the San Bernardino (County) portion of it," he added.

Another technical difficulty this time around is the existing track is located in the center of the right of way without room on either side for the light rail track.

"So we have to essentially reconstruct the entire existing track to one side or the other of our right of way to make room for our light rail track," Burner said.

He said this factor alone would require what he called "extended construction," although a Teamsters union representative suggested later in the meeting using two shifts during construction to reduce that time and to provide additional jobs at the same time.

### If approved in November, construction could begin next year

If approved in November, funding from Measure M would kick in beginning in July 2017. The project would be ready to break ground next year and take five to six years to complete. And the good news – for transportation proponents – is that Measure M has no "sunset" provision, or no specific time that it "times out."

Instead, it would increase to a full one-cent sales tax in 2039 when the existing Measure R, already providing funding, expires. And it would continue until voters decide to repeal it.

Metro's Wiggins explained Measure M would fund all sorts of things focused on improving mobility throughout the county – from alternative travel choices like light rail,

rapid transit bus, freeway improvements, city municipal bus operators and even fixing potholes.

"We're really looking at providing all types of choices for folks so they know that they don't just have to resort to traveling alone in their vehicles," she said.

She added that Los Angeles County residents lose on average 80 hours a year just being stuck in traffic.

So what does that half-cent increase mean to everybody?

According to Wiggins, the impact of the measure would translate to about five cents on a \$10 purchase, or an estimated \$24 per person on an average year based on individual spending.

It is expected to generate about \$30 billion in its first 40 years.

And it is expected to create half a million jobs – including direct and indirect – during the process, generating nearly \$80 billion in economic output.

A new independent taxpayer oversight committee – with a membership expanded from the existing three to seven members – will build a "watchdog" team into the package.

Fasana, speaking to a room filled with some 200 area city councilmembers and representatives of other elected officials, most of whom appeared to be on board with the project, said the bottom line is that "from a political standpoint is Measure M is essential."

He urged them to "talk to your friends, talk to your enemies, talk to your casual acquaintances if they live in Los Angeles County and tell them to read the ballot and be ready to vote on Nov. 8. That's the key step I think from a financial standpoint."

Ridership on the Metro Gold Line has reached record levels with more than 50,000 daily boardings each weekday last month. It is anticipated to grow significantly once the future six stations are completed between Glendora and Montclair.

## Pomona native Pablo Paredes serving aboard Navy's new warship

Airman Pablo Paredes, a Pomona native and a 2004 graduate of Rowland High School, is serving aboard the USS America, based in San Diego.

Paredes is playing a key role in supporting the newest and largest amphibious warship in the Navy – and the fourth warship to be named for the United States, according to a U.S. Navy news release.

As an aviation ordnanceman, Paredes is responsible for the accurate inventory of all explosive ordnance aboard the ship.

"Being able to work with people is what I like most about my job," Paredes said. "The relationships that are built with a diverse group of people is truly special."

America is equipped with a fuel-efficient hybrid electric propulsion system, which is an energy initiative designed to increase range, endurance and longer deployments enhancing the ship's combat capability.

It is 844 feet long and 106 feet wide, weighs nearly 45,000 tons and has two gas turbine engines that push the ship through the water at more than 22 knots.

Her mission is to support a wide spectrum of military operations and missions, including putting Marines ashore for combat operations, launching air strikes, keeping sea lanes free and open for the movement of global commerce, and delivering humanitarian aid following disasters.

### Pomona Mayor's race... from pg. 4

Council chambers was sponsored by the League of Women Voters, the NAACP of Pomona Valley, the Pomona Economic Opportunity Center and the Latino and Latina Roundtable.

This month's forum was sponsored by the Pomona Chamber of Commerce.

## Lab animals... from pg. 8

research is a privilege to do," he added, explaining that today's general thinking is that "if you don't have to use an animal, don't."

Other considerations include the process of dealing with the animal, its pain and stress, and reduction of use, or how many animals are really needed to reach a conclusion.

And there are federal guidelines requiring the elimination of pain as much as possible, ensuring researchers are trained, ensuring there is a veterinarian on board and that there are anesthetic agents

available.

"In other words, consider the appropriate use of animals in doing animal research," Kennedy said.

He shared a 50-year-old copy of Life magazine with the class showing photos of puppy mills and dogs that were used in research.

"When this hit the coffee table of John Q Public's family at home, it caused more letters written to Congress about the processes," he said, resulting in the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act and legal requirements for humane care and

treatment for certain warm blooded animals in the use of biomedical research, including everything from housing, handling, nutrition, sanitation, water and veterinary care.

Other speakers scheduled for the class include biological sciences experts speaking on topics ranging from mice in research to invertebrates and sheep, a look at the funding of research with grants, research with humans – almost enough to make you want to go back to college!

## Water-saving tips from Metropolitan Water District

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is urging residents to take a variety of approaches to saving water during these water-conscious times.

Water reducing tips include using a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways, checking

and repairing sprinkler systems for leaks and oversprays, and watering plants in the evening or early morning hours to reduce evaporation.

For additional water conservation tips, visit Metropolitan's conservation web site at [bewaterwise.com](http://bewaterwise.com).

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## Frontier Communications opens one of first two Southern California retail stores in Pomona

Frontier Communications Corp., which acquired the operating assets of Verizon on April 1 in California, Texas and Florida, opened one of its first two Southern California Frontier Premier retail stores in Pomona this month, offering customers a combination of face-to-face service and providing the company the opportunity to become involved in the community.

A similar retail store opened one day earlier in Norwalk. The company plans to open two to three stores in the Southern California area each quarter.

Participating in the Pomona opening were Frontier executives from throughout Southern California and from as far east as Fort Wayne, Indiana.

“The goal is to have and enable a customer experience from the minute that our prospective customer or (existing) customer walks in the door,” said Brian Wesolowski, Vice President for Consumer Alternate Channel Distribution for Frontier.

His team is responsible for the company’s consumer retail organization nationwide – from stores like the new Pomona facility to “big box” like Walmart and even door-to-door in single- and multi-family units.

They manage about \$450 million in revenue a year, he said.

Wesolowski said the idea is to be able to show the customer where Frontier can be of service – whether it is video service, voice, high speed internet service or Frontier “secure service,” which provides

personal identity protection, device protection and equipment protection.

Featured will be interactive demo stations, HD flat-screen TVs, and staff members to answer questions about high-tech communications and entertainment products and services for home, office and business – including Frontier’s “Nest” products, a series of smart home tools that aid in the automation of household areas such as climate control, smoke detection and security.

“Conceptually, though, and this is from a theme that Frontier holds near and dear to our heart, it’s being close to and being able to touch and be part of the community,” Wesolowski said.

“That’s what the store concept is about – being able to be in a downtown setting like Pomona and being able to offer our solutions and a hand to the community when and where available,” he added. “You’ll see us engaged in the community quite often.”

Frontier has about 7,000 employees in Southern California and about 29,000 nationwide. Wesolowski said most of the work force lives in the local community.

Pomona Vice Mayor Adriana



Pomona Vice Mayor Adriana Robledo, at left, speaks at opening of one of Southern California’s first two Frontier Communications retail stores in Pomona this month as Brian Wesolowski, Vice President for Consumer Alternate Channel Distribution for Frontier, looks on.

**FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS OPENS IN POMONA** -- Pomona’s new Frontier Communications team, at left, joins with the Pomona business community to cut the ribbon and open a new Frontier Communications retail store in Downtown Pomona. Pictured, from left, beginning at the scissors, are Brian Wesolowski, Frontier’s Vice President for Consumer Alternate Channel Distribution; Pomona Chamber of Commerce President Jill Dolan of Mt. San Antonio College; Pomona Vice Mayor Adriana Robledo; Pomona Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto; Kim Cochran, Frontier Communications marketing in Pomona; and Pomona Chamber Board members David McElwain, of the Los Angeles County Office of Education GAIN Division; Renee Barbee, of Pomona’s La Nueva Voz; Jill Reiff, of Valley Vista Services; and Jeff Keating, of Pomona’s Western University of Health Sciences.

Verizon building at 280 S. Locust St. on the ground floor of the Frontier Business Center -- has been dark for about two and a half years.

“I think it brightens the corner up,” she said.

“The community is here to welcome you, that energy that’s going to bring that culture to our city that we want, we want to see

that positivity grow.”

Store hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday.

The store has a no-cash-transaction policy and will not offer set-top box drop-off, exchanges or bill-paying services.

Frontier Communications, a Fortune 500 company, provides communications services to urban, suburban and rural communities in 29 states.

Robledo, whose city council district includes the new Frontier facility, said the corner – located in the old

to welcome you, that energy that’s going to bring that culture to our city that we want, we want to see



Photo by Denis Thorp

**FAMOUS CHICANO ARTISTS HONORED** -- The East Los StreetScapers, famous Chicano Art muralists David Bottello and Wayne Healy, were honored this month by the dA Center of the Arts as this year’s Aztlán 2016. The two, who have worked together since they were “crayon buddies” in 1952, are the premier muralists who created many of the murals in the East Los Angeles area and throughout Southern California since the early 1970s. Their exhibit will remain on display at Pomona’s dA Center until Nov. 19. Curated by former Pomona Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Frank Garcia, the Aztlán exhibit is now in its 13th year. Garcia, also a former administrator with the Pomona Unified School District, said he saw a need to bring strong cultural programming that reflects the community during National Hispanic Cultural Month each year. From left are Botello, dA Center President Chris Toovey, artist Margaret Garcia, Frank Garcia, Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, Healy and Cathy Garcia. Gallery hours are noon to 4 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday (or by appointment) and the exhibit is free and open to the public. Group tours also are available. For information, call (909) 397-9716 or e-mail daartcenter@gmail.com.



**L.A. COUNTY FAIR SUPPORTS AMERICAN RED CROSS** -- Representatives of the L.A. County Fair presented a check for \$12,625 to the American Red Cross, San Gabriel Pomona Valley Chapter, this month representing the proceeds of the 2016 Fair’s “Week for Heroes,” which honored military and law enforcement with special admission. A portion of each admission for that week went to the American Red Cross for general relief services. The Red Cross also partnered with the Fair for blood drives throughout the Fair last month. A total of 1,765 pints were collected during Fair-sponsored drives. Pictured at the check presentation at Pomona’s Fairplex with an oversized check and a “thank you” plaque from the Red Cross are, from left, Thomas Malo, account manager for the Red Cross; Mike Seder, Fairplex CFO and vice president of finance; Tammy Roush, Fairplex community relations manager; Elizabeth Fioux, Red Cross San Gabriel Pomona Valley Chapter Director of Development, and Michelle DeMott, Fairplex vice president of branding and knowledge management.



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**BOWLING TOURNAMENT BENEFITS HIV AND AIDS SERVICES** -- The 14th annual "Balls O' Fire" Celebrity Bowling Tournament raised \$35,000 this month to support HIV and AIDS services provided by the Foothill AIDS Project, making the event the "biggest and best" ever, according to organizers. Pictured, from left, are event organizer and Foothill AIDS Project board member Mike Lewis, celebrity chair and "Days of our Lives" actress Patrika Darbo, who has served as master of ceremonies for the past 10 years, and Foothill AIDS Project board president John Henderson. Included were 45 actors, musicians and sports personalities and 200 bowlers filling all 40 lanes. Corporate sponsors included everything from auto dealerships to medical facilities. The event was held at Brunswick Deer Creek Lanes in Rancho Cucamonga. The Foothill AIDS Project provides services to more than 1,000 area residents living with HIV and AIDS.



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# FAIRPLEX

## Take a Look at Fairplex

Recent articles and forums in recent months have referenced Fairplex, our business structure, finances and practices. Here are the facts:

### Serving Our Community:

- Educates nearly 1,000 high school students annually with competitive vocational skills through The Learning Centers – at no cost to the students. Many of the students are from low-income families.
- Nurtures and provides early childhood education to 250 children from ages 8 weeks to 6 years and from all socio-economic backgrounds at the Child Development Center.
- Provides support in the forms of: education, free access to events, in-kind giving and cash donations totaling approximately \$3.5 million annually.
- FairKids Field Trips welcomes more than 170,000 students and teachers to the LA County Fair free of charge, approximately 20,000 from Pomona schools.
- Annually donates half of the proceeds from LA County Fair's Week for Heroes to various non-profits. In 2016, over \$12,000 was given to American Red Cross.
- Hosts free community-building events: Ag Day, Halloween Party, Holiday Cookie Decorating, Community Days.
- Holds food, school supply and blood drives during the LA County Fair providing much needed resources throughout the region.

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- Unlike other county fairs, Fairplex is a not-for-profit, mutual benefit organization. Our facilities are developed and maintained with dollars generated through the successful business we conduct. Fairplex is **NOT** financially supported by the City of Pomona, the County of Los Angeles or the State of California for day-to-day operations.
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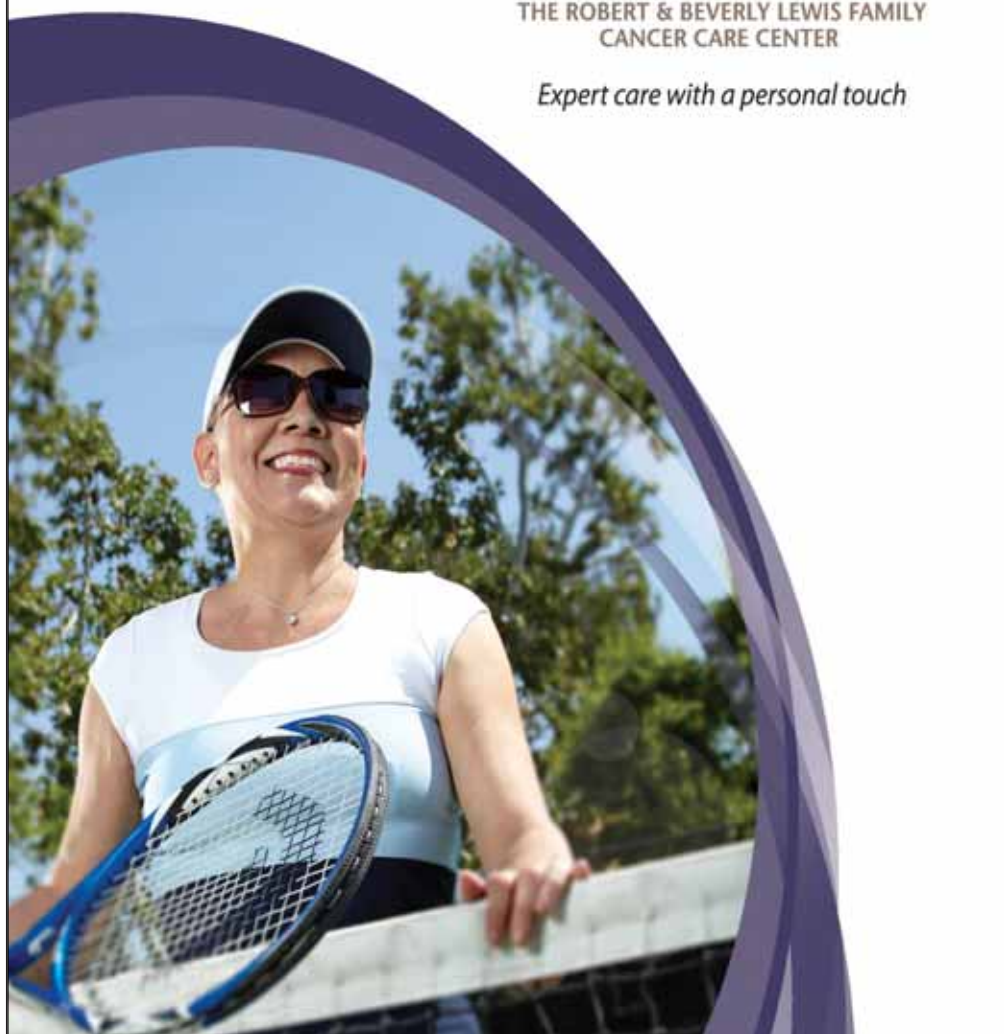
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**WRITER'S WORKSHOP AT KENNEDY AUSTIN** -- A four-week writer's workshop series "Write the Wrong" got under this month at Pomona's Kennedy Austin Foundation. Ethel Gardner, founder of Kennedy Austin, said the program was made possible under a grant from Tri-City Mental Health to use writing as a way of healing. Works created in the workshop will be published by Orchid Press Publishing Co. Pictured, from left, are Jeanie Neal of Moreno Valley, Ethel Gardner, and Regina Jordan and Linda Edwards, both of Pomona. Neal said she came for "the support that you receive," while Jordan said she has "a burning desire to write but I've never finished what I've started." The Kennedy Austin Foundation is a non-profit wellness and crisis intervention center that educates, equips and empowers individuals and families to overcome the effects of major loss.

¡Buenas Noticias! Hemos tenido un poco de lluvia. Pero esta área todavía está debajo de los niveles normales de lluvia.

Nosotros no sabemos lo que este invierno traerá, por eso recuerde, que la conservación del agua debe ser una forma de vida en California.



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**SUCCESSFUL 'HIRING SPREE'** -- Some 240 job seekers participated in this month's "Fall Employment Expo & Hiring Spree" at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center. Pictured is Eduardo Uceda of Pomona, at right, chatting with Fairplex Human Relations Manager Geneva Moody about job openings at Fairplex which, of course, are always available on the Fairplex web site. The event was sponsored by the Los Angeles County Office of Education GAIN Division, Supervisor Hilda Solis, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services, Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center, the Pomona Unified School District, General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW) and the Pomona Chamber of Commerce.

### Congresswoman Torres, hosting roundtable on Zika virus in Pomona, hears of 335 confirmed cases in Southern California

Congresswoman Norma Torres, hosting a gathering of area organizations in Pomona this month to focus on the Zika crisis in Southern California, learned there have been 335 confirmed cases of Zika in Southern California but all have been travel-related.

The roundtable of experts, held at Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences, focused on opportunities in the region to coordinate efforts to prevent the spread of the disease.

"The Zika virus continues to wreak havoc throughout Central and South America and the Caribbean, and Zika-carrying mosquitoes have even made their way to U.S. soil," Torres said. "Now is the time to make sure our local agencies, health providers and community organizations are doing everything they can to educate residents and combat the spread of the virus in Southern California."

Participants pointed out that much remains unknown about the virus, including its long-term effects, the amount of time it can remain in the body and methods of transmission.

"Zika has no cure, and the effects can be absolutely devastating," Torres said. "The participants recognized how difficult it is to convince individuals to take the kinds of precautions necessary to prevent the spread of Zika, including heeding travel warnings, using mosquito repellent in Zika areas, and clearing standing water."

"However, I was encouraged to learn about steps that organizations like the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control and Planned Parenthood have taken to begin to educate residents, as well as the eagerness of all of the participants to work together to learn from each other and maximize efforts to stop the spread of the virus," Torres added.

Other groups participating included the City of Pomona, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, Western University and, by telephone connection, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta.

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## City Council candidates voice views on improving Pomona

Pomona beautification, working on the homeless issue, improving streets and alleys and reaching out to state and federal officials to help resolve local issues were key topics in two candidates' forums for the Pomona City Council race.

A total of nine candidates – including two incumbents – are chasing after three seats on the city council in next month's election.

### District 1

In City Council District 1, Hector "Tony" Quevedo, who said he was educated in Pomona and has been part of the community for 27 years, sees himself as an example of a positive impact that a community can have on an individual's life.

He said his interest is in improving the city's infrastructure and addressing the city's financial situation.

"In order to make these visions possible, we must improve our local economy, we must increase our revenue," he said, adding that he would launch a campaign designed to attract start-up companies to Pomona.

Ismael "Ish" Arias, also seeking the District 1 seat, is a life-long resident of Pomona and a product of the Pomona Unified School District.

For the past six years, he has participated in all community events, has worked on the Pomona Christmas Parade, and is a board member of Pomona's Fist of Gold, a youth organization that focuses on keeping kids off the street.

He is the incoming vice president of Pomona Kiwanis and is vice chair of the Pomona Planning Commission.

And rounding out the ballot for District 1, Rubio Gonzalez said he is a Ganesha High School graduate who grew up in Pomona in the 1980s before graduating from Cal Poly University Pomona and earning his masters at Cal State University Fullerton.

He serves on nine different community boards and has worked in volunteer service for the past 19 years.

### District 4

In District 4, Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole was born and raised in Pomona and graduated from Garey High School.

"I have seen the glorious state of Pomona" when it was labeled the "jewel of Southern California," she said.

Other cities wanted to imitate the city's beauty and attract businesses like those flourishing throughout the city.

"But over the years, the condition of Pomona deteriorated, the businesses began to disappear, creating another vacant building for us to

use," she said. And, she added, homelessness began to become a problem.

"And the unimproved streets, dirty alleyways and neglected neighborhoods were very apparent," she said. "The campaign agenda that I have is the citizens' campaign agenda."

She said she favors community engagement so that residents "will have a clear concept" of where the city is heading.

"My mission for Pomona is to be comparable to our surrounding cities such as Chino, Diamond Bar, Claremont and La Verne," she added.

Also running in District 4 is Remington Cordova, who said he is running for city council to represent the city not only in Pomona but in the region and the state.

He said as a child growing up in Pomona, he asked his parents why they choose to stay in a city with all its problems.

"And they said 'what would Pomona be if all the good caring people left,'" he said, adding that this philosophy is the strategy of his campaign.

He is a recent graduate of the University of La Verne and has lived in Pomona all his life. His family has lived here for more than half a century.

Cordova said the "common thread that unites us all" is that the perception is that there is a lack of representation on the city council, and that all voices are not being heard.

"We feel that we're on our own," he said.

Incumbent City Councilmember Paula Lantz, another life-long resident of Pomona and a graduate of Pomona High School, holds a master's degree in teaching from Claremont Graduate School and continues to work very closely with the schools.

"I also recognize the importance of regional cooperation in order to address issues that are not unique to Pomona," she said, adding that she sits on the board of Foothill Transit, Tri-City Mental Health and other regional organizations.

"Since change is the watchword of elections, you need to know about some great changes that I've been a part of over the last few years," Lantz said, listing projects like streets being repaved, Ameri-



City Council and Mayoral candidates make their opening statements at the first candidates' forum of three, this one held in the Pomona City Council Chambers. From left are Mayoral candidate Tim Sandoval and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and City Council candidates Hector Tony Quevedo, Ismael Arias, Rubio Gonzalez, Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, Remington Cordova, City Councilmember Paula Lantz, George Okekenweje, Robert Torres (speaking), and City Councilmember Debra Martin.

cans with Disabilities Act (ADA) ramps being added and bicycle lanes being included.

In addition, she said several abandoned car dealerships have been replaced by a shopping center at Rio Rancho and the 71 Freeway, bringing in major retailers, shops and restaurants.

And tree-damaged sidewalks have been replaced, making it safe for families to walk to the grocery store or to school.

And median street trees and landscaping has been added in many intersections.

She also served on the library task force that she created when the library was ready to close and worked with business owners and residents to keep that from happening.

She has also been working on solving Pomona's problem with homelessness by focusing on efforts to get them off the street and into housing.

### District 6

In District 6, candidate George Okekenweje said he has been in Pomona for seven years and has noticed that Pomona has proportionately more rehabilitation centers than cities like Claremont and La Verne that may have only one or two.

"All these rehab centers are in residential areas," he said. "How can you have a rehab in the midst of this city? Why should this be happening? Why should the City of Pomona allow all those rehabs?"

He added that cities also need to be taking care of their military veterans.

Also in District 6, candidate Robert Torres, a 30-year resident of Pomona and a product of Pomona schools, graduated from Cal Poly University Pomona with a degree in business administration and today

serves as district director for Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez.

"I'm running for city council because we need a leader who will listen and stand up for our community," Torres said. "That's what I'm going to do, just like I did as a planning commissioner, as a vehicle parking commissioner and as a local neighborhood watch leader."

"But actually my greatest attributes and assets are a strong relationship with federal and state officials who I plan to bring in and work with to help solve the many issues that are facing the City of Pomona," he said.

"As your next city councilmember, I'll be accountable to you," he said. "City Hall doesn't work for us anymore. But it works just fine for the high-paid CEO's, big developers and the people who donate hundreds of dollars of campaign contributions . . . to our current councilmember to lobby for her vote."

"None of these issues will be solved by Pomona by itself," he added. "We'll need to work together to help address these issues."

Incumbent City Councilmember Debra Martin, a Pomona resident for more than 31 years, served for 14 years on the city's Cultural Arts Commission, Vehicle Parking Commission and Charter Review Commission.

"It has been an honor to serve our city as your current councilmember," she said, adding that "all of you are working for our community" through volunteer efforts and "all of you have given for our City of Pomona."

She said in the past three and a half years the city has brought in 1,700 new jobs and a half a billion dollars worth of new development.

"I think that says a lot" that business is making that kind of commit-

ment in Pomona to help make it a destination location as a place to live, work and play.

Martin said she continues her own volunteer work today in a variety of areas including working with volunteers to clean up the parks.

### Question and answer session

During a question and answer session at the second candidates' forum held earlier this month, Arias and Cole spoke of a need to clean up their districts while Cordova cited a need for small business development.

Lantz spoke of the city's advantage of being located near four major freeways and how the major traffic corridors running through her district are of crucial importance to the entire city.

Martin spoke of the importance of two world-class hospitals located in her district – Casa Colina and Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center – and pointed out that Foothill Boulevard with its Route 66 theme is becoming a destination location of its own.

Torres spoke of the need to eliminate red tape in City Hall like neighboring cities do.

But Martin said she is "proud to say" Pomona has worked on eliminating that red tape for the past 25 years making it possible for businesses to move into Pomona in six to nine months rather than three years as in some cities.

Lantz said the biggest obstacle to business in Pomona is the perception that Pomona is similar to other cities.

"We have made dramatic changes," she said.

However, Cordova said he has heard of businesses that have had problems getting a business license and Cole said Pomona is not "business friendly."

## Annual 'Cultural Festival' at Willie White Park hits another home run!



Pomona's own Heart & Soul line dancers (classes available at the Palomares Park Senior Center) stole the show last weekend at the Willie White Park annual "cultural festival."



Members of Pomona's Heart & Soul line dance group, on stage, got the audience up on its feet at the Willie White Park annual "cultural festival" and taught everybody how to do a little line dancing of their own in the Pomona Slide, a dance the group created specifically for the festival. Pictured learning the basic steps of this traditional western dance style are three of our favorite cowboys and cowgirls, from left, Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin, Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman and Vernon Price, an organizer of the event. And yes, those are L.A. County Fair mascots Thummer and Daisy the Cow in the background doing a little fancy footwork of their own.

Traditional folklorico dancers from No Te Rajes Jalisco dance school in Pomona came in all sizes last weekend at Pomona's Willie White Park as the Willie White Park Focus Group and Neighborhood Watch pulled out all the stops to get the community involved. And everything was there -- a classic car show, Japanese drummers from Cal Poly University Pomona, representatives of the Pomona Police Department providing demonstrations, food booths, face painting and more.



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## Pumpkin Festival at Cal Poly kicks off school year and fall season

If there is any question whether the seasons are changing, all you have to do is drive down Temple Avenue through the Cal Poly University Pomona campus and see the annual pumpkin patch backing up to the Farm Store at Cal Poly.

There were 70,000 pumpkins during the 24th annual Pumpkin Festival earlier this month and, if you missed that, you can still stop by and select your own pumpkin – so take your kids and take your wagon to carry everything back to the car – whether for your Jack o’lantern, a pumpkin pie or even pumpkin bread.

“We really see the Pumpkin Festival as a kind of a marker for the start of the academic year because we know we will be having 40,000 to 50,000 people coming across this land of ours over the course of the two days,” said Cal Poly President Soraya Coley, speaking at the opening ceremony and ribbon-cutting for the event.

She acknowledged Pomona Unified School District students who participated in an essay contest for the occasion, and extended a special thank you to Pomona Unified Supt. Richard Martinez for “partnering with Cal Poly Pomona in the establishment of an innovation lab at Ganesha High School.”

Coley said the Pumpkin Festival started in the 1980s when agricultural students grew a couple of acres of pumpkins as a club project.

“Years later, we invited kids from the YMCA to harvest the

pumpkins and so over the years we have welcomed hundreds of school groups throughout the region,” she said. “Throughout the years, our goal has remained the same, which is to connect our community with agriculture. We want our children to know how fruits and vegetables are grown, how animals are raised, we have sheep and goats here as part of our program, where our food comes from and what’s in the fabric of our clothes.”

“And we want to show the importance of farmers and ranchers in our society,” Coley added. “But agriculture is more than farming. Our graduates go on to be scientists, business people, fashion designers, teachers, veterinarians and even more.”

Cal Poly College of Agriculture Dean Mary Holz-Clause, who told a crowd of visitors and elected of-

Pumpkin Festival... pg. 22



Cal Poly University Pomona President Soraya Coley cuts a yellow Cal Poly ribbon to officially open the 24th annual Pumpkin Festival. Pictured, from left, are mascot "Elvis" the goat; event director Craig Walters; Pomona City Councilmember Ginna Escobar; Eva Thielmaiz, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Dr. Soraya Coley; College of Agriculture Dean Mary Holz-Clause; Justin Chao, representing Congressman Ed Royce; Pomona City Councilmember Cristina Carrizosa; State Sen. Connie Leyva; Pomona Chamber of Commerce Board Member Stephanie Benjamin, of OPARC; Pomona Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto; and Pomona Chamber of Commerce Board Member Renee Barbee, of La Nueva Voz. The entire Cal Poly Bronco Pep Band, which performed during the event, is pictured at rear.



There's still time to hitch your wagon to a pumpkin (sorry, Ralph Waldo Emerson) and support student groups at Cal Poly at the same time by stopping by the pumpkin patch which is open every day through Oct. 30.



Inez Cortez, 6, a first grader at Pomona's Kellogg Elementary School, with the help of College of Agriculture Dean Mary Holz-Clause, reads a "Poem to Eating Healthy" as part of the poem and essay competition at this year's Pumpkin Festival at Cal Poly.



Christy Sims, an animal health science junior from Tucson, and C.P. Abercrombey, a 12-year-old Arabian, pose for the La Nueva Voz camera at this month's Pumpkin Festival opening ceremony at Cal Poly University Pomona. Christy is dressed in traditional Arabian style, as is Abercrombey, for that matter.



The Pomona delegation was on hand to help officially open this year's Pumpkin Festival at Cal Poly. Pictured, from left, are Pomona City Councilmembers Ginna Escobar and Cristina Carrizosa and College of Agriculture Dean Mary Holz-Clause.

## Students give adults an insight into access to drugs, alcohol

Parents, students and members of the community participating in an underage drinking town hall in Pomona this month were told by young “experts” that peer pressure to drink is still there but, while there is not as much access to alcohol and drugs in high school as most would expect, at college there is “more of everything.”

The event, sponsored by Day One, a non-profit organization providing culturally sensitive public health education, intervention and policy development, was held at Pomona’s Village at Indian Hill conference center.

Similar events were held in El Monte and Pasadena.

Focus of the event was on access to alcohol which, in many instances, apparently, is in the home.

Students from throughout Pomona Unified School District

participated in the event by presenting a skit, followed by several individual comments and a break-out into small group discussions.

“I’ve been approached very easily, whether it is weed, cocaine or any type of drugs,” Lucy told the group. “It’s really easy to get even at parties.”

She added that she has been to parties where there is peer pressure but she tries to be careful.

“Some kids do fall in within

that peer pressure,” she said. “We should be more precautious where our kids go because it is really easy to fall to peer pressure and to make that mistake.”

Javier said his experience at parties varies.

“In high school, access is there, it is simply not as prevalent as most would probably expect,” he said. “There is alcohol, there is drugs.”

But at UCLA, he added, there is “more of everything.”

And, he said, kids with “helicopter” parents who have been closely watching over their children “are the worst because they don’t have that at college.”

He said in his dormitory, four people have had to have their stomachs pumped in a hospital emergency room in one night.

“You can easily die without this kind of supervision or without people knowing their limits at parties,” he said.



The “bar” at a party in the home of one of the students includes a little of everything in a role-playing skit at this month’s underage drinking town hall in Pomona.



Adriana Pinedo of Day One kicks off an underage drinking town hall at Pomona’s Village at Indian Hill conference center this month.



“Javier”



“Lucy”



Students present a role-playing skit to show how parties can provide access to alcohol and drugs.

### Supt. Martinez to receive ‘Summer Matters Superhero’ award

Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez has been honored by State Schools Supt. Tom Torlakson with the “Summer Matters Superhero Award” in recognition of his commitment to summer learning programs that help prevent “summer learning loss.”

Torlakson said Martinez has reached beyond Pomona to showcase his work and help other school leaders understand the importance of summer learning.

Martinez is scheduled to receive the award Dec. 1 during a conference of the California School Boards Association in San Francisco.



**DANCING TO THE MUSIC OF THE MUSICAL ‘GREASE’** -- Students in the dance club at the annual recruitment open house at iPoly High School at Cal Poly University Pomona wowed an audience of parents, teachers, students and prospective students last week with a dance routine to the music of the classic 1950s high school movie musical “Grease.” Applications for the 2017-2018 school year were released at the open house. The school offers a college prep curriculum, project-based learning, small class size and is a tuition-free school open to students from any school district. For information, contact (909) 839-2331.



**THINKING ABOUT COMING TO THE INTERNATIONAL POLYTECHNIC HIGH SCHOOL ON THE CAL POLY CAMPUS** -- Did you know smallpox had the biggest death toll of all global pandemics? Or that the mosquito that causes Zika also causes dengue and yellow fever? Ethan Shih of Hacienda Heights was checking all that out at a display in the environmental biology classroom at last week’s annual recruitment open house at iPoly High School on the Cal Poly campus. He said he’s planning on going to school at iPoly as a ninth grader next year. Teacher Denise Cancino told La Nueva Voz the hands-on ninth grade science class is UC approved for transferring credits anywhere into the University of California system.

**La Nueva Voz...**

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Kohl's Cares Associates in Action, based in Kohl's in Walnut, presented a check for \$1,500 to Pomona Catholic last week as part of a program in which five employees volunteer for three hours to a nonprofit of their choice. The \$1,500 represented tripling the \$500 raised by student volunteers who conducted a series of fundraisers for the school, according to parent volunteer Sally Ybarra, whose eighth grade daughter is a student at the school. The work project for the Kohl's volunteers was helping the kids set up for a high school "Spooktacular" Halloween fundraiser dance. Pictured, back row, left to right, representing Kohl's in the City of Industry, are Chris Villagomez, Natalie Figueroa, Nubia Lopez, store manager, Melissa Salinas, and Matthew Huynh. Front row, from left, are Pomona Catholic activities director Megan Castro; and students Amanda Munoz, Taylor Merthan and Erin Tomkins, all seniors.

### Pumpkin Festival... from pg. 20

ficials that agriculture was the first college on campus, said some 2,100 students are enrolled today studying in a variety of agricultural-related fields.

Many of them, she said, were tending the booths at the Pumpkin Festival with more than 25 clubs represented at the event, all on

land given to Cal Poly by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

She said many of the horses on campus are descendents of the original Kellogg breed, and many are shown in a horse show open to the public at 2 p.m. the first Sunday of each month featuring Cal Poly equestrian students.

She welcomed guests to Cal Poly and thanked them "for experiencing Southern California agriculture."

Students from Pomona's Kellogg Elementary and Westmont Elementary schools read their poems and essays at the event as "Elvis," the mascot goat of the Pumpkin

### City Council candidates... from pg. 18

On homelessness, Cordova suggested moving services out of residential areas into more appropriate areas like industrial centers.

And Lantz pointed out that this is not only citywide but a statewide and national issue that will require permanent emergency shelters that are open all year round away from residents "so they are not on our sidewalks or around City Hall."

Torres said it will be important to meet legislators in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C., half way – and that it will be important to be in compliance first – instead of just being there with our hand out for funding to solve these problems.

Okekenweje, responding to a question on ways to clean up the main traffic corridors of Holt and Mission, said the issue is a "lack of management."

"I haven't seen any results," he said, and he suggested creating a small business committee to invite them in to work toward solutions.

Martin said she would encourage staff to write grants to obtain funding to revitalize those corridors.

She also suggested creating a business improvement district like the Downtown Pomona Owners Association making it possible for those areas to have their own funding.

And Lantz questioned if the city has the power to require improvements on private property beyond compliance with health and safety requirements.

Cordova said increasing code enforcement is an obvious answer, but he understands the city doesn't have the funds.

Cole called for an audit to find out where the money is going "so we can get more code enforcement officers."


On the issue of communicating with other councilmembers and with Sacramento and Washington to obtain more funding, Okekenweje said communication is not there.

And on the issue of hiring more minorities in positions of authority, Lantz said Pomona is a minority community.


"This is a community that is inclusive," she said.

Cole said her issue is with leadership since citizens are tired of not knowing what is going on in the city.

And Okekenweje said he has plans for the city and programs for school kids, the homeless and efforts to increase the city's tax base.



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Festival, looked on approvingly.

While the festivities of the two-day event have concluded, the pumpkin patch itself is remaining open every day through Oct. 30 for visitors to stop in and select their pumpkins from the field.

Admission is free, but free parking is limited.

Pumpkins are \$5 and proceeds help support College of Agriculture farm operations, student clubs and activities.

A total of 90,000 visitors were expected throughout the month-long activity.

For more information, contact (909) 869-2215 or [pumpkinfestival@cpp.edu](mailto:pumpkinfestival@cpp.edu).

### 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 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 Patient Care Center
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, 1420 S. Garey Ave., Pomona
- Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center maternity lobby, outpatient services, emergency room
- Gold Strike Market Carniceria, 412 N. Park Ave., 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
- LaunderLand Coin Op Laundry, 744 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
- American Legion Post #30, 239 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
- Pomona Eagles, 954 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona



## Pomona Valley Hospital cancer patient survivors put their talents to work on the fashion runway



**MODERATORS AT 13TH ANNUAL 'SURVIVORS' FASHION SHOW** – Rosanne Bader, at left, a Board member of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, and Jennetta Harris, at right, who has served on the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation, were moderators at this month's 13th annual "Celebrating Our Survivors" Fashion Show and Luncheon at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center, presented by the hospital foundation. The event raises funds for The Robert and Beverly Lewis Family Cancer Care Center Endowment Fund which continues to grow in size with 85 percent transferred to the hospital annually to offset expenses for the Cancer Care Center's educational, psychological and wellness programs offered at no cost to anyone touched by cancer. Fashions for the show were provided by XERXES for Gentlemen and Susa Boutique, both located in the Claremont Village.



Eva Gutierrez, a breast and thyroid cancer survivor, models her outfit on the runway complete with lights, music and cameras.



Model Ronnie Cobarrubias, a prostate cancer survivor, gets into the rhythm of the music on the runway during the hospital foundation's fashion show.



Model Adetra Jones, a colon cancer survivor, walks the runway with her dog Sammy, her "journey dog," at this month's "Celebrating Our Survivors" Fashion Show.



Model Wayne Fletcher, a prostate cancer survivor, actually looks like he's done this before as he shows off his outfit on the runway at the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation's annual "survivors" fashion show.



Mercedes Larrea, a breast cancer survivor, knows a few modeling moves of her own as she walks the runway at this month's Hospital Foundation "survivors" fashion show.

### Free 'family day' next month at Pomona's AMOCA

A free "family day" is scheduled next month at Pomona's American Museum of Ceramic Art (AMOCA), featuring free admission and a docent led tour.

Family day hours will be from noon to 5 p.m. and the tour begins at 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19, at the museum, located at 399 N.

Garey Ave., Pomona.

Featured will be hands-on clay experience for families as well as viewing of the exhibitions in the museum and studio galleries.

Registration is required for the free clay experience. To register, call (909) 865-3146.

### 'Mexican-American Boxing' author's reception and book signing set for Pomona library next month

A "meet the author" reception for Gene Aguilera, author of "Mexican-American Boxing in Los Angeles," will be held next month at the Pomona Public Library.

The event is scheduled for 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 19.

The book is part of the "Images of America" series that has previously covered minor league baseball and books on local history.

It includes stories and photographs of famous Los Angeles-based fighters including the original Golden

Boy Art Aragon and the hard-punching Danny "Lil Red" Lopez.

Visitors will be able to purchase a copy of the book and have it autographed by the author as well as Hall of Famer boxer Albert Davila, who will discuss his career.

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**CATCHING UP ON THE LATEST** -- Chatting at last month's Taste of Pomona Valley presented by the Pomona Chamber of Commerce are, from left, Chuck Bader, Mt. San Antonio College Board Vice President Rosanne Bader, Pomona Chamber President Jill Dolan, also of Mt. SAC, and Pomona Chamber Board member Renee Barbee, of Pomona's La Nueva Voz.



**WATCHING CIGARS BEING MADE** -- Raul Reyner, CEO of Pomona's Mi Havana Cigars, drew a crowd all night long at the Pomona Chamber's Taste of Pomona Valley demonstrating how his hand-made cigars are formed. Pictured taking a look (for informational and educational purposes only, of course) are Reyner, at left, Pomona Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erica Frausto, Pomona Unified School District Board member Frank Guzman and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman. Mi Havana Cigars is located at 106 S. Locust St., Pomona. For more information, or to purchase cigars for giveaways at your next event, visit the web site at [mihavanacigars.com](http://mihavanacigars.com).



**SHOWING OFF THEIR TALENTS** -- Students from Pomona's San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps show off their skills at last month's Taste of Pomona Valley. Memo to Pomona: The Corps is looking for sponsors so they can start a new cooking class. Pictured, left to right, are Destiny Ramirez and Tiffany Mosqueda, both students working on their high school diploma. The Corps offers a YouthBuild Charter School which provides corps members with an alternative to traditional academic environments. Students who have dropped out, aged out or have been otherwise failed by the traditional school system can find an education that allows them to succeed while gaining the skills necessary to realize their personal and professional goals. For more information, contact the Pomona campus at 1540 W. Second St., Pomona, (909) 397-9955.



**DECISIONS, DECISIONS** -- Ernesto Aguirre of Aguirre Imports in San Dimas was back again this year for his tequila tasting at last month's Taste of Pomona Valley at Pomona's Mountain Meadows Golf Course, presented by the Pomona Chamber of Commerce. As usual, he had all the flavors of ultra premium tequila and mezcal. And, as usual, as La Nueva Voz can attest, the biggest problem was deciding which one to taste. Obvious solution? Try them all! See him on Facebook at Aguirre Tequila Imports. This year's Taste of Pomona Valley included 34 vendors and some 160 guests.

**MOCK ELECTION** -- Students at Pomona's iPoly High School held a mock election this month casting their ballots for President and U.S. Senator along with seven propositions on next month's election ballot. The mock election was part of a statewide mock election, promoted by California Secretary of State Alex Padilla and State Schools Supt. Tom Torlakson encouraging high school and middle school students and teachers to become active voters once they are old enough to cast a ballot. Pictured are some of the iPoly students voting in the school's multipurpose room in an exercise conducted with the help of the school's Parent-Teacher-Student Association. Oh, and in case you are interested in the outcome, 53 percent of the students at iPoly voted for Hillary Clinton for President and 18 percent voted for Donald Trump. Statewide, 58.47 percent of the students voted for Clinton and 58.55 percent voted for Loretta Sanchez for U.S. Senator. Students at iPoly as well as students in the statewide student results approved propositions 51, 54, 55, 56, 58, 59 and 67.



## Hope & Hurdles

by Evy Schuman



**EDITOR'S NOTE:** "Hope & Hurdles," an on-going feature appearing in La Nueva Voz, was created by artist Evy Schuman as an attempt to "poke fun" at the little things that trouble us all from time to time. Evy, who is also a published writer on the subject, created the cartoon series to show her work at a creative writing class she co-facilitates at Pomona's Tri-City Wellness Center.

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THE WEEKEND GARDENER By Leif Green

## Garden gods

“Some people feel the rain; others just get wet.” – Bob Dylan

Remember the Greek myths and stories told in school? Some of the names of the nymphs and gods have been preserved in the names of some common plants. Due to space limitations, we can only look at a few of them.

HYACINTH was very handsome and fell in love with Apollo. They were throwing the discus back and forth just having a good time. Suddenly, Zephyrus, god of the west wind, caused the discus to swerve. The discus hit Hyacinth in the chest and killed him. Although Apollo was also the god of medicine, he could not save Hyacinth. To preserve the memory of Hyacinth, Apollo turned his blood into a flower.

Another favorite is NARCISSUS, who was the young man who fell in love with his reflection and died. It all started when the nymph Echo fell in love with him



Leif Green

but she was rejected. To get revenge, Echo prayed to Aphrodite who caused him to fall in love with his own image. When he saw his reflection in a pool, he could not tear himself away. As a result, he withered away and died. When Echo went to look for him, all she found was the pale yellow flower with the distinctive center that now bears his name.

HELIOTROPE is the scientific name for the sunflower. The sun god, Helios, fell in love with and seduced the young maiden Leucothoe. His former lover,

Clytie, became angry and told Orchamus, the father of Leucothoe. Orchamus was not pleased and had Leucothoe buried alive. Not wanting her to die, Helios transformed her into the frankincense tree. Clytie was still greatly in love with Helios which caused her to follow his every motion across the sky. She wasted away and turned into the heliotrope, which still follows the motion of the sun.

Hades, the god of the underworld, fell in love with the nymph MENTHA. His wife, Persephone, found out about this, she became extremely jealous and turned

the nymph into the mint plant.

The ANDROMEDA bush got its name from the daughter of a North African king. Andromeda was being sacrificed to a sea monster. Perseus saved her by showing the sea monster the head of Medusa, whom Perseus had just slain. The sea monster

turned to stone and Andromeda was saved.

Well, I'm about out of space, but there are many more myths and legends on the internet that are connected to the names of other common plants. Enjoy.

*Editor's Note: Leif Green, the author's pen name, grew up in Pomona and graduated from Cal Poly University Pomona with a master's degree in biology. Gardening has always been his hobby and his column is presented as a public service.*



**ENTERTAINMENT AT ASSISTANCE LEAGUE EVENT IN CLAREMONT** -- Dale Boatman and the CalJAS All-Stars perform at last month's "Create a Smile" Gala, sponsored by the Assistance League of Pomona Valley and attended by 150 guests. The "Create a Smile" theme is based on the group's work -- members clothe about 1,400 children every school year and also operate a dental center in Pomona to "create a smile." Proceeds from the event will be used to provide clothing, dental care and books to children from low-income families in the Pomona Valley communities.

**ASSISTANCE LEAGUE MARKS 70 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH FIRST ANNUAL 'CREATE A SMILE' GALA** -- Cathy Harden, at left, President of the Assistance League of Pomona Valley, and Sharon Goodrich, event chairman and Past President, show off the "mystery wine" bottles at last month's first annual "Create a Smile Gala" at the Padua Hills Theatre in Claremont. The group also sponsors a golf tournament fundraiser for the men each year and a tea for the women but organized the gala to include everyone. The two called the event a success. And those mystery wine bottles? You buy six tickets and pick one without knowing what's inside -- value of the wine could range from \$10 to \$140.



## NAACP branch election of officers set for next month

The annual election of officers and "at-large" members of the executive committee of the Pomona Valley Branch NAACP will be held next month in Pomona.

Polls will be open from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19, at Macedonia Community Center, 737 S. Hamilton Ave., Pomona.

In order to participate in a branch election, voters must have been a

member in good standing of the branch 30 days prior to the election. A form of identification is required.

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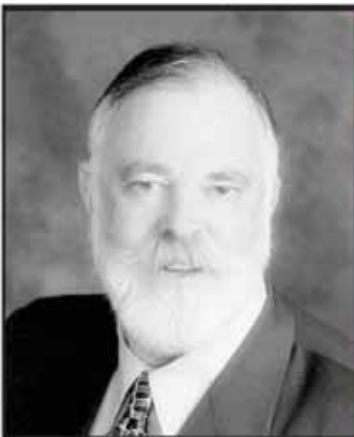
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**Cal Poly Pomona gets high national rankings in awarding undergraduate degrees to minorities**

Cal Poly University Pomona ranks in the top five nationally in awarding undergraduate degrees to minorities in three disciplines, according to research compiled by “Diverse: Issues in Higher Education” magazine.

The analysis of 2,927 colleges and

universities across the country found that Cal Poly ranks third in architecture and related services, fourth in hospitality administration and management, and fifth in engineering.

It is also the highest ranked university in the Cal State system in engineering and in hospitality

management, according to a Cal Poly news release.

“Cal Poly Pomona is a comprehensive public university that is widely recognized for its excellent programs, its inclusive and diverse student body, and its learn-by-doing philosophy,” said S. Terri Gomez, interim associate vice president for student success. “These rankings speak to our longstanding commitment to enhancing access to high-quality education for our nation’s increasingly diverse student body by cultivating a strong and diverse pipeline of talent.”

Cal Poly also places sixth in agriculture, agriculture operations and related sciences, and seventh in business administration, management and operations.

When all disciplines are taken into account, Cal Poly Pomona ranks 31st in the country in awarding bachelor’s degrees to minorities.

The magazine analyzed data collected by the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics from 2014 to 2015. Nearly 2.9 million bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees were awarded, and of that total 857,000 degrees were conferred to minorities.

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**DIA DE LOS MUERTOS** -- Posing for the camera at the Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) exhibit in the Pomona Public Library as part of Pomona Reads 2016 are, from left, Breeanna Gomez, granddaughter of Pomona Reads committee member Alice Gomez, 8, of Adelanto, and Samarra Richie, 8, of Fontana, Gomez' grand niece. The exhibit honors Alice Gomez' parents, Mariano and Vera Rodriguez, her cousin Ralph Mendoza and her uncle Cande Mendoza, the founder of the original La Voz, the predecessor of this newspaper.



**ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL 'CELEBRATION OF BOOKS'** -- Pomona Reads 2016 committee members John Clifford and Alice Gomez pose for the La Nueva Voz camera at the committee's booth on the Pomona Civic Center Plaza this month as more than 200 residents attended the annual event. Included were books, panel discussions, children's crafts, lectures and more, all designed to involve the community in literature. Formerly the Big Read, Together We Read and now, for the second year, Pomona Reads, the event is sponsored by the Pomona Public Library and its community partners.



**ARTIST IN THE MAKING?** -- Karina Moore, of Pomona, an eighth grader at Pomona's Cortez Magnet School, puts brush to canvas with acrylics at the Pomona Reads booth of the Palomares Art Group, which was encouraging kids to get involved in painting. Moore, a member of Pomona's Girl Scout Troop 3594, said she was really just experimenting with the use of colors.



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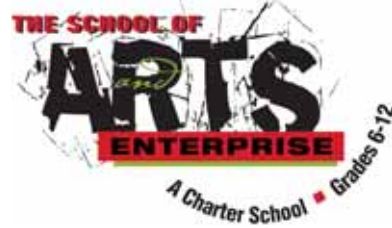
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- Special recognition in the Gala Event Program
- Prominent mention in Press Releases for the Gala
- Company logo link on Club Website Home Page
- Sponsorship recognition plaque for your company to display
- Special mention in Boys & Girls Club Annual Report
- Club advocacy of your company in the community

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