



La Nueva Voz

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

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Thursday, March 22, 2012

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Pomona's Fairplex, Sheraton Fairplex Hotel celebrate grand opening of new \$28 million conference center

Pomona's Fairplex and the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel proved once again last week at a grand opening for the new \$28 million conference center that they know how to throw a party.

Actually, this time it was two parties – a mid-day event for business and government leaders who participated in the huge public / private partnership to build the state-of-the-art facility, and an evening event – with everything from a professional piano player to a bar made of ice – in which several hundred dignitaries from throughout the community were invited to see first-hand all the



Jim Henwood



Art Ludwick



TRICKS OF THE TRADE – David Teig, at left, executive chef for Sheraton Fairplex Hotel and the new conference center, gives a few pointers to Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman on the art of carving strip loin of beef during last week's grand opening event at the \$28 million conference center at Pomona Fairplex.

much-needed resource, a world-class venue, and it represents an economic boost to the area offering job opportunities to a community in need of support.

“Without the joint financial commitment of federal, county and local government, we would not be here today,” he said.

“President Henwood, your Board of Directors salutes you and all who work for you for a job well done,” Ludwick said. “The team made this dream come true.”

Henwood said the project will provide an economic boost for the entire region.

“What's good for Pomona is good for all of Southern California,” he said, calling the facility the “newest and most glittering jewel in the Fairplex Grand opening... pg 2

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million center that is sure to . . . exceed any other in the region.”

He said the facility was envisioned as a center that would “provide the perfect link” between the Sheraton Fairplex Hotel “and our expansive, diverse campus – one that transforms both facilities into something more than it was on its own.”

Ludwick, retired CFO and senior vice president of Rain Bird Sprinkler Corp., added that the conference center is a “game changer for our community” – it celebrates a collaboration among individuals from across the region, it provides a

new center has to offer.

Construction on the project began with a groundbreaking two years ago, although the idea was conceived some 15 years ago in 1997, according to Art Ludwick, chairman of the Los Angeles County Fair Association's Board of Directors.

“It started as a very basic plan,” Ludwick said, adding that Fair Association President and CEO Jim Henwood and his team saw more. “Their vision is what brought us here today, with a state-of-the-art \$28

Hotel Sheraton, Fairplex celebra gran apertura de un nuevo centro de conferencias

Pomona Fairplex y el Hotel Sheraton Fairplex celebraron la gran apertura del nuevo centro de conferencia compuesto de 85,000 pies cuadrados y valorado en \$28 millones.

La construcción del innovador proyecto empezó hace dos años, aunque la idea surgió hace 15 años en 1997, de acuerdo a Art Ludwick, presidente de la mesa directiva de la Asociación de Ferias del Condado de Los Angeles.

“Empezó con un plan muy básico,” dijo Ludwick, agregando que Jim Henwood el presidente y director ejecutivo de la Asociación de Ferias y su equipo fijaron sus metas muy en alto. “Su visión es lo que nos trajo ahora aquí con un centro de alta tecnología que supera a cualquier otro en la región.”

Henwood dijo que el proyecto proveerá un impulso económico para toda la zona entera. **Gran apertura... pág 8**

Child Development Center at Pomona's Fairplex watching possible state budget cuts that could eliminate parent subsidies

It's one of Pomona's best kept secrets – many people don't know it is open to the public or that it offers high-quality early education for children – but today the Child Development Center at Fairplex is keeping a close eye on the state budget process due to possible cuts that could result in local staffing reductions.

The state-of-the-art early childhood development center, which partners with the University of La Verne, prides itself on offering the highest quality early education experience for children.

Director Holly Reynolds said roughly half the children at her facility from the local community qualify for a state Department of Education sliding



READING TIME AT FAIRPLEX CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER – Teacher Bertha Flores reads “New Shoes for Silvia” to her pre-kindergarten class of 4-year-olds at the Child Development Center at Pomona's Fairplex. The center, one of Pomona's best kept secrets, is open to the public, offers high-quality early education for children and has fees with a sliding scale subsidy based on income.

Budget cuts... pg 4

Retired Chief Romero remembered for love of family, community, passion for Pomona police department



POMONA POLICE DEPARTMENT HONOR GUARD – An honor guard from the Pomona Police Department carried the casket of retired Pomona Police Chief Joe Romero from First Baptist Church in Pomona after his “remembrance service” this month. Burial followed at Forest Lawn-Covina Hills.

A “remembrance service” for retired Pomona Police Chief Joe Romero before more than 500 people at Pomona's First Baptist Church this month remembered Romero as a man who loved both his family and his community.

Romero died last month at the age of 56 of complications associated with kidney failure and related medical issues.

The Pomona native graduated from Ganesha High School and received a bachelor's degree from the University of La Verne. He also held a master's degree from Boston University.

He served his entire career in **Romero... pg 6**

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Grand opening... from pg. 1



NEW \$28 MILLION CONFERENCE CENTER AT FAIRPLEX – The entrance to the new conference center at Pomona’s Fairplex, a public / private partnership built over the last two years, is pictured at dusk.

crown, our 85,000 square foot . . . conference center.”

“This conference center doesn’t just have something for everybody – it’s got the best of all possible service combinations for customers of every type of need,” he said. “We love to say you can do anything here.”

Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman thanked Fairplex and the partners on the project “for the vision they had to bring this to the beautiful city of Pomona.”

Funding for the project was raised in conjunction with the Economic Development Ad-

ministration, Small Business Administration, County of Los Angeles and the City of Pomona, and resulted in more than \$155.6 million in economic impact during construction.

The facility, designed for everything from small meetings and conferences to trade shows, teleconferences and conventions, includes everything from interactive white boards, video-conferencing and high-speed Wi-Fi to breakout rooms and a ballroom with dining capacity for 1,000.

For more information, visit the web site at [SheratonFairplex.com/Conference Center](http://SheratonFairplex.com/ConferenceCenter).



CHAMBER MIXER AT POMONA CATHOLIC – Pomona Catholic Principal Sam Torres hosted a Pomona Chamber of Commerce mixer this month at the historic 114-year-old campus which currently has an enrollment that has grown to 310 students, now including 70 co-educational middle school students along with 240 high school students. Torres told Chamber members his message to the community is the school is accessible both physically and financially. The school is also hosting a mainly Spanish “meet and greet” for new parents and students at 1 p.m. Sunday, March 25, at the school. Pictured at the mixer, back row, from left, are Pomona City Councilmember Steve Atchley; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; Principal Torres; and Pomona City Councilmember Ginna Escobar, a graduate of Pomona Catholic and a former ambassador there. Three of the Pomona Catholic “ambassadors” in front, from left, are Yazmin Ramos, a senior, of Pomona; Alexis Ramirez, a junior, from Rancho Cucamonga; and Gabriella Palencia, a senior, of Montclair. Not pictured were Pomona City Councilmember Paula Lantz, Pomona Chamber President Jeff Keating, of Western University of Health Sciences; and Pomona Chamber Executive Director Frank Garcia. For more information, contact the school at 533 W. Holt Ave., Pomona, (909) 623-5297, ext. 13, or visit the web site at www.pomonacatholic.org.

Cal Poly President Mike Ortiz honored by Hispanics in Higher Education

Cal Poly University Pomona President Dr. J. Michael Ortiz received the Alfredo G. de los Santos Jr. "Distinguished Leadership in Higher Education Award" this month from the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education (AAHHE).

The award was presented at the group's seventh annual conference in Costa Mesa.

Ortiz was selected by a panel of experts in higher education using a criteria that focused on sustained contributions and efforts, and excellence in the profession.

"In the leadership circles of higher education, President J. Michael Ortiz is well recognized by his colleagues as an exemplary leader," said Dr. Loui Olivas, AAHHE president. "He serves as a role model and champion for higher educational transformations which positively impact students."

"I am humbled and honored to be recognized by the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education," Ortiz said. "I hope I can continue to advance the values of the man who inspired this unique award."

AAHHE is a national educational non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of higher education. It is primarily focused on the need to develop Latino/a faculty and senior administrators as well as serving as a leading research and advocacy group for Hispanic higher education issues.



Michael Ortiz



'PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY' AT PARK WEST HIGH SCHOOL – Rebecca Appell, Executive Director of Pomona's Carrington College, served as "Principal for a Day" last month at Park West High School, a continuation high school in Pomona. Neville Brown, principal at Park West, pictured at left, told students during an assembly that the school had the highest gain in API (Academic Performance Index) test scores for state-mandated testing last year in the Pomona Unified School District. Appell told the students that Carrington offers a faster pace for career training than local community colleges, with programs that can be completed in between 10 and 22 months. Programs offered include dental assisting, medical assisting, pharmacy technology, licensed vocational nurse, veterinary technology and medical billing and coding. The annual Principal for a Day program, sponsored by the Pomona Chamber of Commerce, provides members of Pomona's business community with a first-hand perspective of what is happening in schools today. For more information on Carrington, visit the web site at www.carrington.edu.



DIAMOND POINT ELEMENTARY 'PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY' – Ginna Escobar, seated, whose daughter Ginna Escobar serves as a Pomona City Councilmember, reads to kindergarten students while she served as "Principal for a Day" last month at the Pomona Unified School District's Diamond Point Elementary School in Diamond Bar. Escobar, who manages G-Diva Productions, LLC, a dance studio in Phillips Ranch, is also a licensed marriage and family therapist. Also pictured (standing at left) is principal Dolores Lobaina. For more information on G-Diva Productions, visit the web site at www.gdivaproductions.com.

P³ Partnership for a Positive Pomona

our drug free communities coalition

APRIL IS ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH!

Alcohol is the drug of choice among children and adolescents. Those who start drinking before the age of 15 are 6.6 times more likely than those who start at 21 to develop serious alcohol problems. They also have a much higher likelihood of trying other drugs. This year, Pomona is joining hundreds of organizations across the nation in hosting Town Hall Meetings to mobilize communities around underage drinking prevention to SAVE LIVES.

Join us in

Setting Clear Standards in Our Community on Underage Drinking
Tuesday, 17 April, 2012

5.30 pm: Resource Fair • 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm: Panel Presentation
Boys and Girls Club, 1420 S. Garey, Pomona
Tacos will be available for \$1. Raffle prizes too!

¡Abril es el Mes de Concientización Sobre el Alcohol!

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Martes, el 17 de abril, 2012

5.30 pm: FERIA de Recursos • 6:00 pm a 8:00 pm: Presentación de Expertas
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Tacos por \$1. ¡Rifa y premios también!

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FRIENDS OF THE Pomona FOX THEATER PRESENT

THE Bill Elliott SWING ORCHESTRA

FREE DANCE LESSON BY INSTRUCTOR RUSTY FRANK!

Saturday, April 21, at the Pomona Fox Theater. Friends of the Pomona Fox will present a Swing Dance featuring the Bill Elliott 19-piece swing orchestra. The fundraiser will begin at 6:00 pm with a no-host cocktail hour, dinner at 7:00 pm, followed by a special swing dance lesson by Rusty Frank, and dancing until 11:30 pm. Prices range from \$60 per person for dance floor level seating and dinner, to a special \$20 price that includes balcony seating, and dancing only.

The BILL ELLIOTT SWING ORCHESTRA, fifteen musicians and four singers strong, plays exciting swing music in the styles of the '30s, '40s, and '50s. The band also features Bill's Lucky Stars, a vocal quartet who sing in the close-harmony style of the Pied Pipers and the Modernaires, and glamorous lead singer Cassie Miller in featured solos as well.

A special Dance lesson by renowned swing dance instructor Rusty Frank is included.

Funds raised will go toward the restoration of the vintage 1931 drinking fountains and ongoing programs of Friends of the Pomona Fox a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation.



Saturday, April 21

Dinner / Dancing \$60 / \$55 / \$45 • Dancing / Listening \$20

Tickets available at DPOA Office in downtown Pomona or online at www.pomonafox.org

Budget cuts... from pg. 1

scale subsidy based on income, although very few pay nothing at all. This translates to about 75 families who bring 80 children to the center.

Her total enrollment is about 200 children (current capacity is 225) with about half paying their own tuition.

And at a cost of about \$200 a week per child, children receive everything from healthy breakfast and lunch to a comprehensive "research based curriculum" educational program taught by expert teachers with bachelor's or master's degrees in child development.

Professional teachers on staff – and teacher assistants who are students from the University of La Verne's child development program – work on discipline issues to help children learn to manage emotions; programs that boost language, thinking and social skills; phonics skills to help learn the foundation of reading; and fundamentals of writing.

Reynolds, who also holds a master's degree in child development, said the governor's budget proposal – as it now stands – could eliminate state funding for child care through the state Department of Education – something that would impact some 64,000 children statewide.

A shift to the California Health and Human Services Agency would result in an end to early education programs for "at risk" children, who would also be ineligible to receive the new non-education based day care.

Locally, she added, parents of children at the center receiving subsidies generally could handle the expense of the current program for about a week before they would have to make alternate arrangements, and very likely could simply



OFF TO THE RACES! – A class of 3-year-olds at the Fairplex Child Development Center try out their homemade race cars. Part of their emergent curriculum, the students built the cars after they learned about the recent 52nd annual Winternationals event at the Auto Club Raceway on the opposite side of the Fairplex campus. And the students built the cars at home with the help of their parents, adding parent participation to the project. Pictured, at left holding the stop sign, is teacher Salina Avalos and her three teacher assistants.

leave their jobs so they can stay home with their kids.

Most of her parents, she added, are single parents who don't have options.

The biggest issue with the governor's budget, she said, is the assumption that the cut would save the state money is wrong.

"These same families are going to lose their job and go on cash assistance or unemployment," she said, "both of which are more costly than what they are paying for their child care."

Representatives of the child care industry already have met with the state superintendent of schools on this, Reynolds said.

But the bottom line clearly is she

could not lose 40 percent of her population without making cuts.

"This is going to have a negative impact on the economy," she said. "We know it is wrong."

Friends of the Fox to hold 'swing orchestra' fundraiser

Friends of the Pomona Fox will feature the 15-piece Bill Elliott Swing Orchestra at a special fundraising dinner dance next month at the Fox Theater in Pomona.

A no-host cocktail hour at the April 21 event is scheduled for 6 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m., followed by a swing dance lesson and dancing

until 11:30 p.m.

Elliott, who toured with Bonnie Raitt, Stevie Nicks and others, wrote and arranged songs for the 1989 film "Dick Tracy."

Tickets for dance floor level seating and dinner are \$45, \$55 and \$60. A special \$20 ticket includes balcony seating and dancing only.

In addition to the immediate economics, Reynolds said these same children – who literally need every advantage they can get – will miss out on the educational head start they receive at the center.

Children, she said, are "seven times more likely to grow up to be successful, productive citizens" after completing a high quality pre-school program.

The center includes an infant room for no more than nine children, up to the age of 18 months, with a one to three staff ratio.

The toddler room goes up to age 2 or 3, followed by pre-school. The center operates six infant and toddler classrooms and six pre-school classrooms with a one to eight ratio in a class of up to 24 kids.

Most of her kids come from homes within a five-mile radius of Fairplex, although some come from as far away as Upland, West Covina, Chino Hills and Glendora.

The center, a program of The Learning Centers at Fairplex, located just outside Gate 1 near the Fairplex administration building, has operated at Fairplex since 1980. It has partnered with the University of La Verne since 1991. Reynolds came on board 11 years ago.

For more information on the center or for applications, call (909) 623-3899 or visit the web site at www.fairplex.org/cdc.

Proceeds will go toward the restoration of the original rose-colored drinking fountains which were in the theater's lobby.

For more information on tickets or sponsorships, contact Friends of the Fox at (909) 753-7903 or visit the web site at www.pomonafox.org.

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VISION SCREENINGS – Alan Chu, of Cerritos, a first year optometry student at Western University of Health Sciences, performs a vision screening for Edwin Figuerres of Pomona, as optometry student Bernice Wong, of Riverside, looks on. The screenings were part of this month's free community health fair at New Direction Community Church in Pomona.



RAFFLING OFF A TOYOTA – Lee Gardner, project manager at Diamond's Love Foundation, poses at a health fair at New Direction Community Church in Pomona with a new 2012 Toyota Corolla donated by Claremont Toyota that will be raffled off on June 1. Proceeds go to the foundation. For more information or to purchase raffle tickets, call Diamond's Love Foundation at (909) 622-9092.

Free health screenings offered Fridays at Western University's Patient Care Center

Free health screenings are now available to the public every Friday at the Patient Care Center pharmacy at Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. No appointments are necessary.

Included are screenings for diabetes, blood pressure, osteoporosis and healthy weight.

The Patient Care Center pharmacy is located at 795 E. 2nd St., Suite 1, Pomona.

For more information, call (909) 706-3730.



MUSCLE THERAPY AT WESTERN UNIVERSITY HEALTH FAIR – May-Lynn Chu, a second year student from Portland, Oregon, in the College of Osteopathic Medicine at Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences, administers back and leg muscle treatment to Anwar Farooqi of Chino at this month's free community health fair at New Direction Community Church in Pomona. The event was held in conjunction with the Diamond's Love Foundation and Sugar Shane Mosley.

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Romero... from pg. 1

law enforcement after first serving as a police explorer.

Romero's younger brother Michael Romero, who retired from a career in law enforcement to enter the ministry, officiated at the services.

Carolyn Romero, Romero's widow, said her late husband was "a man of great strength, courage and bravery – strength for his family, courage for his community and bravery in the street."

"Joe was the love of my life, my soul mate and my best friend," she said. "He was my protector. He was my eternal optimist. Joe was a good man, a man of great conviction, honor and pride."

She said he will "always be in my heart and in the life of my child." Romero's widow is expecting the couple's first child next month.

Brother Michael Romero said Romero "worked his way up in life and he never stopped until his death."

"He cleared the path for a lot of us," he said. "He created a path of greatness."

Current Pomona Police Chief Dave Keetle said Romero "will be remembered most for his dedication to our most valued resource, our children."

Keetle said that during his career, Romero headed all three divisions of the police department – patrol, administrative and detective bureau. "No one had more passion for the



SERVICES FOR THE CHIEF – Michael Romero, pictured officiating, conducted funeral services for his brother, retired Pomona Police Chief Joe Romero this month at Pomona's First Baptist Church. The chief's brother also retired from a career in law enforcement and entered the ministry.

job than Joe," he said, quoting a current police sergeant.

U.S. Department of Education Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education Thelma Melendez de Santa Ana, also former Pomona Unified School District superintendent, said there is nothing better in life than a good friend "and the chief was a good one to me."

She said it was their mutual love of children that made them bond.

"I'm so glad that the community will remember him for his goodness," said State Sen. Gloria Ne-

grete McLeod.

"He was an incredibly important role model for our youth," said former Pomona City Councilmember George Hunter, a volunteer civilian

"Chief Joe was passionate about everything he did and everything he touched," Martinez said. "He understood the challenges of each and every kid."

Rosanne Bader, former Optimists resident, said "it was the youth of Pomona that were always closest to his heart. He knew the triumph of high achievement."

Vernon Price, vice president of the Willie White Focus Group, said "the molds that Joe created have been thrown away and there will never be another Joe."

"Chief, thank you for being a friend," he said.

Victor Caceres, executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, said Romero was slated to be president of his board.

Community Engagement Group President Virginia Madrigal said Romero was president and founder of that group which was formed after the shooting of a California Highway Patrol officer in Pomona.

"He was always brainstorming, he was a mentor, he taught me how to learn to ask . . . for the youth of our community," she said. "He is our hero and we will always love him."

patrolman. "You can rest now in peace with the knowledge that you served Pomona well and protected it faithfully."

Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez thanked the family for sharing Romero with the community.

M. Joyce Bakersmith, president of the Pomona Breakfast Optimists, said Romero was "dedicated to bringing out the best in kids."

She said she knew Romero as a fellow optimist and as a friend "and that was what Chief Romero was all about."

Romero es recordado por su amor a la familia y hacia la comunidad y por su pasión por el departamento de policías de Pomona

Un servicio para conmemorar al jefe de policías de Pomona Joe Romero se llevó a cabo en la Primera Iglesia Bautista de Pomona ante más de 500 personas para recordar a Romero como un hombre que amaba tanto a su familia como a su comunidad.

Romero murió el mes pasado a la edad de 56 años de complicaciones asociadas con el riñón y otros problemas médicos.

Nativo de Pomona, Romero se graduó de Ganesha High School y recibió su bachillerato de la Universidad de La Verne y su licenciatura de la Universidad de Boston.

Su carrera entera la dedicó al cumplimiento de la ley.

Carolyn Romero dijo de su difunto esposo que él era un hombre de gran fuerza, valor y valentía – fuerza para su familia, valor para su comunidad y valentía en las calles.

"Joe era el amor de mi vida, mi alma gemela y mi mejor amigo," dijo Carolyn. "Él era mi protector. Él era mi optimista eterno. Joe era un buen hombre, un hombre con convicciones, honor y orgullo."

"Él siempre permanecerá en mi corazón y en la vida de mi hijo," dijo Carolyn ya que ella se encuentra embarazada y espera dar a luz el próximo mes.

Michael Romero, hermano del difunto dijo que Romero se abrió camino y nunca dejó de esforzarse.

"Él abrió el camino para muchos de nosotros," dijo Romero. "Él creó un camino de grandeza."

Dave Keetle, actual jefe de policía de Pomona dijo que Romero será recordado más por su dedicación hacia el recurso más valioso, nuestros hijos.

Keetle dijo que durante su carrera, Romero estuvo al frente de tres divisiones del departamento de policía – los departamentos de patrulla, administración y detectives.

"Nadie tenía más pasión para su labor que Joe," dijo Keetle citando a otro sargento.

Thelma Melendez de Santa Ana, secretaria asistente del Departamento de Educación de Primaria y Secundaria de los EE.UU, y también ex superintendente del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona, dijo que no hay nada mejor en la vida que un buen amigo y que el jefe de policía Joe Romero era un buen amigo para ella. "El amor mutuo que ambos tenemos para los niños es lo que nos unía."

"Estoy muy contenta que la comunidad lo recordará por su bondad," dijo la senadora estatal Gloria Negrete McLeod.

"Él era un modelo increíblemente importante para nuestros jóvenes," dijo George Hunter ex miembro del concilio de la Ciudad de Pomona y voluntario patrullero civil. "Puedes descansar en paz sabiendo que serviste y protegiste a Pomona fielmente."

Richard Martinez, superintendente del Distrito Escolar Unificado de Pomona le dio las gracias a la familia por compartir a Romero con la comunidad.

"El jefe Joe tenía pasión por todo lo que hacía y todo lo que tocaba," dijo Martinez. "Él entendía los desafíos y retos de cada niño."

M. Joyce Bakersmith, presidente del grupo de Optimistas de Pomona, dijo que Romero estaba dedicado y comprometido en hacer resaltar lo mejor de los niños. Ella conocía a Romero como compañero optimista y como un amigo y eso era lo que lo definía.

Rosanne Bader, ex presidente del grupo de Optimistas, dijo que eran los adolescentes de Pomona quienes tendrían una cercanía en el corazón de Romero.

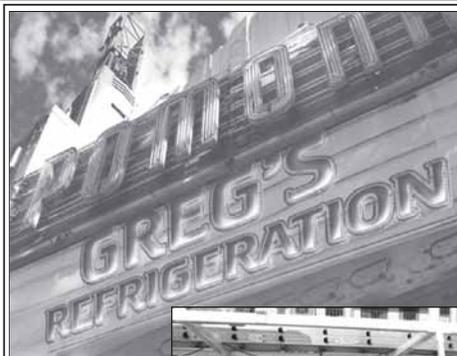
Vernon Price, vice presidente del Grupo de Enfoque Willie White, dijo que los moldes que creo Joe han sido desechados y nunca habrá otro como Joe.

"Jefe, gracias por ser un gran amigo," dijo Price.

Victor Caceres, director ejecutivo de los Clubs de Niños y Niñas del Valle de Pomona dijo que Romero estaba programado para ser presidente de la mesa directiva.

Virginia Madrigal, presidente del Grupo de Compromiso para la Comunidad dijo que Romero fue presidente y fundador del grupo que fue formado después de un disparo contra un policía de la Patrulla de Caminos de California en Pomona.

"Siempre estaba creando ideas, él era un mentor para la juventud de nuestra comunidad," dijo Madrigal. "Él era nuestro héroe y siempre lo amaremos."



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POMONA HOST LIONS CLUB ANNOUNCES STUDENT SPEAKERS WINNERS – Winners of the Pomona Host Lions Club’s 75th Annual Student Speakers Contest were announced last month at Pomona Valley Mining Company in Pomona. High school students who live in the Lions’ Multiple District Four are eligible to compete for scholarship winnings. More than \$2 million has been awarded during the history of the contest. The winner of the local contest has an opportunity to compete in the regional competition. Pictured, from left, are Pomona’s Garey High School Principal Stacey Wilkins; event moderator and Lion Fernando Meza, who serves as Pomona Unified School District’s administrative director for pupil and community services; student Audrey Govea, of Garey High School; contest winner Danielle Clendening, a student at Diamond Ranch High School; Abel Cervantes, a student at Ganesha High School; and Pomona’s Ganesha High School Principal Jennifer Francev. The topic this year was “What could the America of yesterday teach the America of tomorrow.”



MAKING THE RIGHT FOOD CHOICES – Participants in last month’s seminar on “Diabetes and Nutrition” at the Pomona Public Library learned everything they wanted to know about making the right food choices for people with diabetes and how to find quality health information from reliable sources on the internet. Pictured is lead presenter Courtney Smith, a Masters of Science in Health Sciences candidate at Western University of Health Sciences, who said the key is “taking charge of your own health.” “In a nutshell, you are what you eat,” she said as she explained the role of the digestive system in diabetes. She said the digestive system really is simply a “big filtration system.” The seminar reviewed “health and eating right,” “diabetes review and how the food we eat runs the body,” “living a healthy life with diabetes” and “taking charge of your health.” The event was sponsored by Western University and the Pomona Public Library.

Donations still needed for ‘Spring Fling’ at St. Joseph Church

Donations of supplies for food booths and monetary donations are still needed for this year’s “Spring Fling” at Pomona’s St. Joseph Catholic Church, an annual three-day fun-filled weekend festival with food, games, live entertainment, carnival rides and more.

A royal festival court also will be selected. This year’s event is scheduled for April 20 through 22 at the church, 1150 W. Holt Ave., Pomona.

Tickets for a \$1,500 first prize will be sold at the festival, with the drawing on Sunday evening. Pre-sale discount carnival ride and

food tickets will be available until the start of the festival at 6 p.m. Friday, April 20.

All donations are tax deductible and donors will be recognized in the church bulletin.

Hours are 6 to 11 p.m. Friday, 1 to 11 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 11 p.m. Sunday.

Proceeds from the festival will help defray some of the cost of the renovation of the “La Casita San Jose,” located on the grounds of the church, and the unexpected major repair to the main sewage line at the church.

For more information, contact the church rectory at (909) 629-4101.

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**Mental Health Services Act
2012-2013 Annual Update**

**Acta de Servicios de Salud Mental
Actualización Anual 2012-2013**

Community Services and Supports Plan:

- *Community Navigators*
- *Field Capable Services for Older Adults*
- *Supplemental Crisis Services*
- *The Wellness Center*
- *Full Service Partnerships*

Prevention and Early Intervention:

- *Community Capacity Building*
- *Older Adult Wellbeing*
- *Transition-aged Young Adult Wellbeing*
- *Family Wellbeing*
- *Student Wellbeing*

Servicios Comunitarios y Programas de Apoyo:

- *Navegantes Comunitarios*
- *Servicios de Capacidad para Adultos Mayores*
- *Servicios Suplementarios Sobre la Crisis*
- *Centro del Bienestar*
- *Asociaciones de Servicios Completos*

Prevención e Intervención Temprana:

- *Fortaleciendo Capacidades Comunitarias*
- *Bienestar de Adultos Mayores*
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- ✓ Planes Innovadores
- ✓ Plan de Capacitación y Educación de Fuerza Laboral (WET, por sus siglas en Inglés)

Wednesday, April 18th, 2012
5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Taylor Hall
1775 N. Indian Hill Blvd.
Claremont, CA 91711

Miércoles, 18 de Abril, 2012 de 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm
Taylor Hall
1775 N. Indian Hill Blvd., Claremont, CA 91711

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's Richard Yochum honored at National Health Foundation tribute dinner

The National Health Foundation (NHF), in association with the Hospital Association of Southern California (HASC), honored Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center President and CEO Richard E. Yochum this month at a tribute dinner "A Celebration of Leadership, Vision and Commitment" at Castle Green in Pasadena.

"What an honor it is to be recognized by NHF and HASC with this award," Yochum said. "I am humbled to have been selected for this distinction."

He added that health care is a field of collaboration, cooperation and team work.

"I would not have been chosen for this honor were it not for the dedication of more than 4,500 associates, physicians and volunteers at Pomona Valley Hospital," Yochum said.

NHF hosts the annual tribute dinner to raise funds in support of



Richard E. Yochum

underserved children and families.

Yochum has served in his present position since 1993 and has been employed there since 1978. Prior to that, he served as an assistant administrator at City of Hope National Medical Center in Duarte. He served with the U.S. Navy Hospital Services Corps and completed an in-country Vietnam tour with the Riverine Forces who fought in the rivers and canals of the Mekong Delta from 1967 to 1972 to counter growing communist strength in that difficult region.

He is the immediate past board chairman of HASC and is a board member of the California Hospital Association.

He was listed on the Los Angeles Business Journal's Health Care Who's Who in 1994 and the Los Angeles Times list of Most Influential People in 2000, among other recognitions.

its mission to improve and enhance the health of the underserved by developing and supporting innovative programs.

The organization focuses its efforts on chronic disease prevention and management and helping un-

WIC Program uses education web site to make it easier to receive services

The Public Health Foundation Enterprises (PHFE) WIC Program is using the internet to make it easier than ever for participating families to access all the benefits WIC offers, ranging from healthy foods and valuable nutrition information to, in some cases, receiving WIC checks for three months at a time without leaving home.

WIC, formerly known as the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, is now offering on-line nutrition education courses to help expedite delivery of WIC services.

Participants can log on and take courses on-line at their convenience rather than schedule time to visit a local WIC center.

For more information on the on-line program, visit the web site at www.WIConlineeducation.org.

WIC is a U.S. Department of Agriculture-funded food and nutrition education non-profit agency for pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, as well as infants and children under the age of five, who are low income and at nutritional risk.

The agency oversees 61 locations in Los Angeles, San Bernardino and Orange counties out of its Irwindale office, including offices in Pomona, Chino and Ontario.

To find a center near you or to determine eligibility, visit www.phfewic.org or call 888-942-2229.

Gran Apertura... de la pág. 1

"Lo que es bueno para Pomona es bueno para todo el sur de California," dijo Henwood, describiendo al centro de conferencia como "la joya más brillante en la corona de Fairplex. Este centro rendirá los mejores servicios a las necesidades del cliente."

El alcalde de Pomona Elliott Rothman le dio las gracias a Fairplex y a los colegas por la visión que ellos tuvieron para traer el proyecto a la hermosa ciudad de Pomona

El financiamiento para el proyecto se recaudó en conjunto con la Administración del Desarrollo Económico, la Administración de Pequeños Negocios, el Condado de Los Angeles y la Ciudad de Pomona, y resultó en más de \$155.6 millones de impulso económico durante su construcción.

El establecimiento, diseñado tanto para como pequeñas reuniones y conferencias hasta ferias, teleconferencias y convenciones, incluye proyectores interactivos, videoconferencias e internet inalámbrico de alta velocidad y un salón de baile con capacidad para 1,000 personas.

Para más información, visite el sitio web en SheratonFairplex.com/Conferencecenter.



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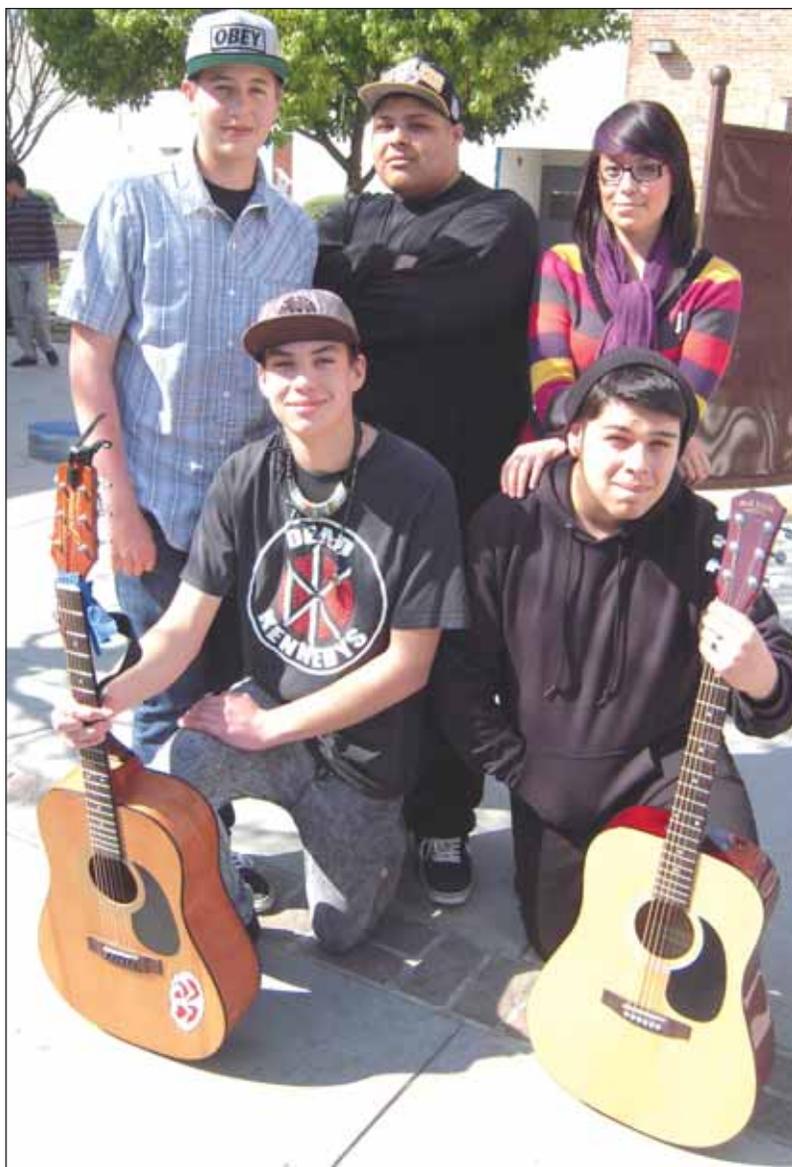
Tina Becerra
Especialista en
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Para más información, llámanos al 800.540.2479.

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OPEN HOUSE AT SCHOOL OF ARTS AND ENTERPRISE

Students at Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise pose for the camera during a last-minute rehearsal before their musical performance at last week's open house for prospective new students and their parents. They sang "Stand Tall" by the Dirty Heads. Jonah Allen, a freshman from Pomona who has attended the school for only three days, said "they're cool" and added he has made friends easily. He sings and writes poetry and learned of the school through a cousin. "The teachers care about us," said Jasmine Medina, a senior originally from Fresno but now a resident of Pomona. "If it wasn't for this school I don't know where I'd be right now," said Richard Vergara, a sophomore, of Pomona. Tenth grade English, journalism and social media marketing teacher Kha Nguyen said his students write "really strong research-based articles" and often focus on social issues. Nguyen, who is in his fourth year at the school, said the students' API (Academic Performance Index) test scores for state-mandated testing went up 54 points last year, higher than some of the conventional schools in the area. The school is tuition-free and has a 96 percent college acceptance rate. Pictured, back row from left, are Jonah Allen, Richard Vergara and Jasmine Medina. Front row, from left, are Lucas Martinez, a freshman, of Covina, and Joshua Franco-Zavala, a freshman, of West Covina. The school is holding weekly open houses at 3 p.m. on Wednesdays during open enrollment for students who will be beginning the ninth grade in the fall. Incoming freshmen also may enroll for summer school this summer. For more information, contact Rita Romero at (909) 622-0699.



Planning forum set for veterans, families

The Veterans' Wellness Collaborative of La Verne, Claremont and Pomona will host a "critical strategic action planning forum" next month in Pomona for veterans and their families who served in Desert Storm/Shield, Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The forum, designed to implement action plans to better serve veterans and their families during their critical transitional time,

will be held at 5 p.m. Thursday, April 26, at the Tri-City Wellness Center, 1403 N. Garey Ave., Pomona.

The Veterans' Wellness Collaborative is a group of volunteer veterans, family members and veteran resource providers who meet monthly in connection with Tri-City Mental Health.

For more information, contact Bernardo Rosa Jr. at (909) 242-0062.

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POMONA'S ONLY CUPCAKE SHOP – An overflow crowd turned out last week for the grand opening and ribbon-cutting at The Cupcake Shack, Pomona's only cupcake shop, located at 370 S. Thomas St. in downtown Pomona. Pomona Chamber of Commerce President Jeff Keating told the crowd that "cupcakes are not just for breakfast any more" as he welcomed the new store as a new Chamber member and as a new business in the downtown area. Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman welcomed the new business to the area. "We're going to see a lot more business," he said, adding that the shop nearly fills one block on Thomas Street. City Councilmember Freddie Rodriguez thanked The Cupcake Shack for selecting downtown Pomona and welcomed the new business to the city. Pictured cutting the ribbon are owner Khai Jackson, at left, and his mother, Ada B. Jackson, of Costa Mesa. Also pictured, back row from left, are Rodriguez, Pomona Chamber Executive Director Frank Garcia, Keating, and Rothman. Larry Egan, executive director of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association, is pictured at far right.



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20th annual Ohlone 'Pow Wow' set for next month

The Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe will hold its 20th annual Ohlone "Big Time" Gathering and Pow Wow next month – featuring vendors, foods, authentic Native American dancers, drums and more – at Tony Cerda Park in Pomona.

Hours are 6 to 10 p.m. on Friday, April 27; 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday,

April 28; and 10 a.m. to dusk on Sunday, April 29 at the park, located at 400 W. Grand Ave. (Grand and Park Avenues) in Pomona.

Exhibitors can contact Pete Whitehorse at (760) 953-7010. For more Pow Wow information, contact the tribal office at (909) 623-7889 or visit the web site at www.costanoanrumsen.org.

The Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that provides a variety of services and activities for both members and non-members. Included are wellness programs, gang prevention programs, food distribution, cultural classes, drum circle, "Pipeline to College" program and more.

Kick-off party set for annual 'Relay for Life' cancer fundraiser

Pomona's annual American Cancer Society Relay for Life will hold a relay kick-off party next month as the annual event working for a cancer-free world begins to pull volunteers and team members together for the June fundraiser.

The kick-off party is open to the public, according to this year's relay chairperson Virginia Madrigal.

"Help us celebrate, remember and fight back so we can be a cancer-free world," Madrigal said.

The kick-off party will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 17, at the Pomona Eagles Lodge, at 954 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona.

Madrigal is working on the event for the fourth year and her co-chair, Rick Elias, is working on it for his

fifth year.

The event is billed as the world's largest grass roots fundraising movement. Pomona's relay will be held from 10 a.m. Saturday, June 23, to 10 a.m. Sunday, June 24, at the Pomona Fairplex.

Events are held nationwide and in 20 other countries, all sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

Participants celebrate survivors who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and provide participants with an opportunity to fight back against the disease.

For more information, or to become a sponsor or supporter, contact Madrigal at (909) 627-4450 or visit the web site at www.relayforlife.org.

St. Joseph Church Annual Festival

Spring Fling

April 20, 21, 22, 2012



Join us for a fun-filled Spring weekend abundant with delicious food, games, live entertainment, carnival rides and the selection of a royal festival court!

Tickets for the \$1500 first prize will be sold at the festival. Drawing will be on Sunday evening.

Pre-sale discount Carnival ride and food tickets will be available until the start of the festival on Friday, April 20 at 6:00 p.m.

Friday, April 20, 2012 6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
 Saturday, April 21, 2012 1:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
 Sunday, April 22, 2012 12:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.



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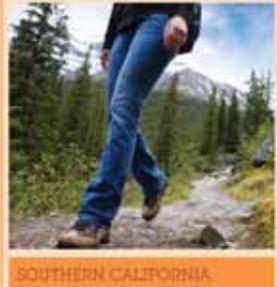
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Strawberry Festival, tractor and car show to be held at Cal Poly Farm Store

Live music, food booths, strawberry pie and picking strawberries right out of the patch will be among the highlights at the sixth annual Tractor/Car Show and Strawberry Festival scheduled for May 12 at the Farm Store at Cal Poly Pomona.

Scheduled each year to celebrate the peak of strawberry season, the event also includes a farm animal petting zoo, face painting, horse rides and tractor rides.

The festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The tractor and car show will feature custom, antique, classic, muscle, street rod, special interest cars, motorcycles and tractors. Trophies will be awarded at 2 p.m. Registration is due April 30 with forms available on-line at <http://www.csupomona.edu/~farm-store/tractor-car-show.shtml>.

Admission is free. Parking in Lot K costs \$3.

For more information, contact Farm Store manager Dawn Taccone at dmtaccone@cuspomona.edu.

Claremont Symphony to present 'Music of Spain' free concerts in April

The Claremont Symphony Orchestra will present "Music of Spain," an afternoon of free music next month in Claremont.

Included will be "Espana" Rhapsody, Concierto de Aran-juez, "The Bullfighter's Prayer" and "Carmen" Suite No. 2.

The concert is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. Sunday, April 29, at Bridges Hall of Music, Pomona College Campus, 150 E. 4th St. (at College Avenue), Claremont.

RSVP's are requested at claremont.symphony.orchestra@gmail.com by Wednesday, April 24.

Following the concert, a "Fiesta Fundraiser" for the symphony will be held at Casa de Salsa in Claremont. Guests can mention the symphony fundraiser to their waiter or waitress at any time during the day and have 20 percent of their order go to the symphony.

Casa de Salsa is located at Foothill and Indian Hill Boulevards in Claremont.



'PRO' CATEGORY – The professional category riders wrapped up both day two and day three of the three day bike race in San Dimas, La Verne, Pomona and Glendora last weekend. Pictured on Puddingstone Drive along Brackett Field Airport in La Verne are pro racers riding in the rain in the day of road racing on Saturday (day two) around Puddingstone Lake and the airport. On day three, Sunday, racers in a series of categories competed in their own races in a loop through downtown San Dimas known as "crit" racing or criterium racing. Pictured at the end of the day are riders in the pro category turning the corner (on a mostly dry surface on Sunday) from Walnut Avenue onto Bonita Avenue before making their way down the straightaway to the finish line and judges booth. Day one last Friday consisted of individual "time trials" up Glendora Mountain Road in Glendora. The three day race, known as the San Dimas Stage Race, wrapped up its 13th year this year as a kick-off to the summer bicycle racing season and attracting racers from throughout the country. The event is sponsored by Southern California Velo.





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La marca Kleenex insta nuevamente a los niños Hispánicos a que combatan los catarros ‘atrapando el estornudo’

Por segundo año consecutivo, la marca Kleenex está instando a los niños hispanos a unirse a la lucha contra el catarro certificándose como Atrapa Estornudos.

Esta vez, sin embargo, la marca también busca que mamá se una a la causa. Como estímulo, la marca Kleenex le está ofreciendo una oportunidad de ganarse una tarjeta premiada valorada en cientos de dólares, así como un año de pañuelos faciales marca Kleenex, mediante un sorteo nacional en www.atrapaestornudos.com.

“Estamos entusiasmados de continuar este programa, el cual ha demostrado ser muy exitoso,” dijo Ken Champa, gerente de marca asociado de la marca Kleenex. “Al involucrar a sus

hijos el primer año pudimos convertir a un número grande de madres hispanas en usuarias del pañuelo facial Kleenex. Ya que está más consciente de las ventajas de la marca Kleenex, queremos hablarle más directamente, en una voz más adulta, acerca de cómo la tecnología Sneeze Shield ayuda a mantener las manos limpias a la vez que le ofrece una suavidad sin par.”

Con ese fin, la marca realizará un sin número de eventos en tiendas alrededor del país diseñados a permitirle a las consumidoras Latinas a experimentar el producto y ver por sí mismas por qué los pañuelos faciales marca Kleenex se consideran los más suaves de los Estados Unidos. Una nueva página digital en el

sitio web de los Atrapa Estornudos también estará dedicada totalmente a las mamás, ayudando a explicarles cómo funciona la tecnología Sneeze Shield. Una línea telefónica gratuita también ayudará a mamá a conocer mejor el programa.

Sneeze Shield es una capa protectora propiedad de los pañuelos faciales Kleenex que retiene la humedad más tiempo. De todos los pañuelos faciales en el mercado, solamente la marca Kleenex ofrece Sneeze Shield en todos sus pañuelos.

La campaña nacional incluirá una vez más una masiva estrategia de televisión, radio, relaciones públicas, marketing de base y digital dirigida a alistar a los niños hispanos a que se certi-

fiquen como Atrapa Estornudos. Además de recibir un kit gratis con juegos y actividades didácticas acerca de la higiene apropiada a emplear cuando se tiene catarro, los niños que se certifiquen este año antes del 30 de Abril también tendrán la oportunidad de recibir premios adicionales incluyendo una bolsa de la marca Kleenex, playeras para niño y mamá y una tarjeta que lo identifique como Atrapa Estornudo Oficial de la Marca Kleenex.

La expansión del programa se anuncia a raíz del lanzamiento importante de un nuevo producto revolucionario que se realizó en

el 2011 – el pañuelo Cool Touch de Kleenex – que refresca al hacer contacto con la piel y provee una manera mejor de aliviar. El pañuelo, enriquecido con una fórmula exclusiva que contiene humectantes refrescantes, provoca una sensación fresca que ayuda a aliviar la irritación que causa el constante soplar de la nariz.

Para más información acerca de cómo certificar a sus hijos como Atrapa Estornudos y de cómo participar en el sorteo, las madres pueden ir a www.atrapaestornudos.com o llamar sin costo alguno al teléfono 1-888-718-5569.

Pomona’s Western University of Health Sciences ‘Austin Lectureship’ focuses on child vision care

There is a public health emergency with respect to child vision care. Millions of children are not receiving essential eye care services that can prevent eye disease, developmental delays, school achievement and other social problems.

And the country needs to provide all children with comprehensive vision care to ensure optimal health outcomes.

That was the message from Deborah Klein Walker, EdD, the keynote speaker at Western University of Health Sciences’ third annual Dr. Robert L. Austin Endowed Lectureship in Pediatric Medicine and Pediatric Health Policy this month.

Walker is a vice president, senior fellow and the practice leader for public health and epidemiology in the Health Division of Abt Associates, Inc. She has more than 40 years of experience in developing and implementing programs, policies and system change, research and evaluation on a broad range of health policy issues. She examined child vision care from a public health perspective at the Austin Lecture.

Child vision care in this country is abominable, she said. Undetected and untreated eye disorders such as amblyopia, strabismus and uncorrected refractive errors are major child health problems that are associated with poor reading and poor school outcomes.

“Shame on us because many of these can be prevented,” she said.

Twenty-five percent of school-age children suffer from vision

problems that could have been eliminated or addressed with appropriate screening and referral in place, Walker said.

Early detection and treatment is essential for addressing child vision problems, but one challenge is the U.S. does not have uniform regulations. Professional optometry and ophthalmology associations support screening and examinations but the recommendations are not consistent. State requirements for vision screenings for preschool and above are not consistent across the country.

In 2007, 16 states had no vision requirement for children entering school or throughout the school years. Most states require some vision screening in public school settings but do not set standards for screenings or follow up, Walker said.

Those people with the biggest unmet need gaps are those in racial and ethnic minority groups, lower-income households, and households with no insurance. Twenty-three percent of kids without health insurance for more than a year had unmet vision care needs as compared with 5 percent of children who were insured for a year or more, Walker said.

The country needs to act to ensure all children get comprehensive services, she said. To this end, Walker recommends a uniform standard of care for all children from birth through adolescence. This requires public health experts and clinicians to work together.

“Public health is the catalyst, the convener,” she said. “Public health can do nothing without really outstanding clinicians, but clinicians need to work with public health and vice versa and all be part of one team.”

To build a comprehensive child vision care system, Walker recommends:

- Including child vision health in key pieces of legislation at the federal and state levels.

- Ensuring adequate comprehensive coverage of child vision care services by all public and private insurers and payers.

- Ensuring a “point of accountability” in the U.S. public health system through the establishment of a child vision health categorical program linked to the Title V Maternal and Child Health Block Grant.

- That each state hire a child vision care coordinator.

- Developing a national set of children’s vision guidelines for screening and examinations and ensure that these guidelines are adopted by all states in school health codes and mandates.

- Implementing and funding a national clearinghouse or center for child vision health.

- Enhancing and fully funding an ongoing national campaign to make people aware of childhood vision problems.

- Developing and facilitating a broad coalition of child-oriented stakeholder groups to work towards the establishment and maintenance of a comprehensive child vision system across the country.

‘Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day’ prayer brunch set next week at Lincoln Avenue Church in Pomona

The Veterans’ Wellness Collaborative of La Verne, Claremont and Pomona will host a local Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day Prayer Brunch next week at Lincoln Avenue Community Church in Pomona.

The event, which includes a 12-gun salute, flag folding, color presentation, music from the Vietnam War times and more, is designed to help continue the journey for healing among the Vietnam Veteran community and to remember those who lost their lives in service during the Vietnam War.

Time of the event is 10 a.m. Thursday, March 29, at the church, located at 1511 Lincoln Ave. (at In-

dian Hill Blvd.).

The commemoration is part of a national day of recognition that has continued since 1998, according to local facilitator Bernardo Rosa Jr.

The Veterans’ Wellness Collaborative is a group of volunteer veterans, family members and veteran resource providers who meet monthly in connection with Tri-City Mental Health.

For more information or for information on the traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall at March Field Air Museum in Riverside (from March 27 through April 1), or to volunteer for security at the memorial wall, contact Bernardo Rosa Jr. at (909) 242-0062.

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





GRADUATING CLASS OF CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS – A class of 21 new certified nursing assistants completed their 12-week course and received their certificates this month at the Pomona Unified School District Adult and Career Education campus at 1515 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona. All 21 are now certified by the State of California to become employable in the health industry. Pictured with the new graduates, at left, are Dr. Enrique Medina, Jr., Director of Adult and Career Education, and nursing teacher Teresa Nilo, RN. Pictured, at right, are Dr. Paul Urena, teacher specialist for career and technical education; Dr. Mary Ellen Storm, coordinator of career and technical education; and nursing teacher Carmen Rivera, LVN, at far right.

Project Sister to hold Pomona’s first ‘Denim Day’ event to raise awareness about rape and sexual assault

Project Sister Family Services will hold its first annual Denim Day and Anti-Violence Community Event next month in the Pomona Civic Center plaza to raise awareness about rape and sexual assault.

The event is scheduled for 3 to 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 25, and will feature food, music, entertainment, raffles and more.

Theme of the event is “Just because I put it on doesn’t mean you can take it off.”

Denim Day is a national movement that began in the 1990s following a 1998 Italian Supreme Court ruling in which a sexual assault case involving a 16-year-old female was overturned because the victim wore tight jeans.

The court ruled that because the jeans were tight the victim must have had to help her perpetrator remove them, and therefore consented,

even though a minor is not legally able to consent.

More than 20 states in the U.S. observe Denim Day to show survivors they are not alone, it was not their fault, and others are here to help.

Project Sister is asking agencies to show their support by becoming a vendor at the event. While there is no cost, vendors are asked to donate a raffle gift.

For more information, contact Project Sister at (909) 623-1619 or visit the web site at www.projectsister.org.

Project Sister is dedicated to providing services to the women, children, and men survivors of sexual assault and abuse and their families in the East San Gabriel Valley and Inland Empire – a region with a population of more than 2.3 million persons.



DEMONSTRATING SKILLS FOR CHECKING BLOOD PRESSURE – The 21 new graduates of the certified nursing assistant program at Pomona Unified’s Adult and Career Education campus received their certificates and are ready to go to work. Pictured, at right, is Juanita Dean of Pomona checking blood pressure of fellow student Spring Berryman of Covina.



NEW GRADUATES READY TO GO TO WORK – Oscar Ramirez, 23, of Pomona, demonstrates how to position a patient using one of the mannequins in the class. Ramirez was one of 21 new certified nursing assistants graduating this month at Pomona Unified’s Adult and Career Education campus. Adult and Career Education Director Dr. Enrique Medina, Jr., said the nursing class, welding, barbering, cosmetology, machine shop and office occupations are among the most popular class offerings.

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Divonna Stoval of School of Arts and Enterprise wins first place in annual Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club essay contest

Divonna Stoval, a student at Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise, was first place winner in this year's annual essay contest sponsored by the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club.

nalism and communications at either Stanford University or the University of California, Berkeley.

Vernon Price was chairperson for the essay contest which asked

them."

Winning essays will be sent to the district contest for competition. College scholarships of \$2,500 each are given to the winner at the district level.



OPTIMIST CLUB ANNOUNCES ESSAY CONTEST WINNERS – Pictured above, from left to right, are Bronze Medal winner Julian Marengo, Silver Medal winner Jessi Tighe's mother, Rachal Mason, and Gold Medal winner Dianna Stovall. Pictured, at right, is Silver Medal winner Jessi Tighe.

Stovall, 17, wants to attend nursing school upon graduation.

Second place went to Jessi Tighe and third place went to Julian Marengo.

Tighe is a senior at Los Osos High School in Rancho Cucamonga.

Marengo, 18, also is a student at the School of Arts and Enterprise. He hopes to major in jour-

local high school students to write a composition on the topic "How my positive outlook benefits my community."

"The things that our young people do are really encouraging," Price said. "The future will be in good hands. And, as Optimists, it is our goal to encourage students and do what we can to bring out the best in each of



OPINION

Pomona needs waste transfer station to avoid future infrastructure problems

By Steve Lambert

From transportation to trash, sewer lines to power grids, Southern California's infrastructure is at a breaking point, avoidable only if the will exists to invest now in a future that's already here.

It begins, of course, where all good solutions do – with an acknowledgment that a problem exists. The challenge is that infrastructure is rarely sexy and too often taken for granted.

When experts warn, for example, that closure of the Puente Hills Landfill in the fall of 2013 will drastically and permanently change our world when it comes to trash hauling, it's easy to dismiss that as someone else's problem. Even when the solutions turn out to be more complicated than we thought – delays with the waste-by-rail program, for example – garbage isn't something we're inclined to invest in, no matter how much of it we create.

Pomona has a rare opportunity to do something about that, by approving a state-of-the-art waste transfer station that isn't just environmentally clean, doesn't just create 50 well-paying "green" jobs or provide the city with at least \$1 million a year in transfer fees. This plant gives the city control of its waste-management future, which at the end of the day saves everyone money and keeps the community from being at the mercy of someone else.

Make no mistake, that's a very real risk. Closure of the landfill creates a huge disadvantage for cities that don't have the vision or wherewithal to take matters into their own hands.

And again, it comes down to acknowledging that challenges exist and understanding that our infrastructure has been taken for granted far too long.

We've got aging, inadequate water and sewer lines across Southern California – some a century old, most requiring a serious investment at a time when money seemingly has never been tighter.

Then there's transportation, and being able to simply meet the needs of our existing population, much less the four million additional people who will call our region home in the next 25 years.

In each of these areas, aggressive, thoughtful and realistic planning is necessary.

So, too, are money and technology.

The Pomona Valley Transfer Station not only pays for itself – it will provide the city with at least \$1 million a year in revenues, at a time when the demise of redevelopment agencies is driving communities throughout the state into bankruptcy. More importantly, no taxpayer money will be used to build the facility. The city gets the benefit of additional revenue with none of the costs – the best possible kind of public-private partnership.

The arguments against have focused on environmental concerns. In fact, the facility has received Gold LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Certification for environmental friendly construction. It will be an enclosed state-of-the-art facility, eventually replacing an existing open-air facility located near an elementary school.

These facts cannot be ignored any more. We have enough infrastructure problems to contend with.

It's time to act on this one.

Editor's Note: Steve Lambert, former editor of the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin, is a partner in Gallagher 20/20, a Southern California-based communications firm.

Looking for great pizza for a fundraiser? Try Pizza House in San Bernardino!

If you think you have to travel to Los Angeles or New York to get great pizza, think again! You can find great pizza right here in the Inland Empire at Pizza House in San Bernardino.

The taste is anything but ordinary and beats chain store pizzas hands down, according to master pizza chef Luigi Alberti who likes to sample pizzas in independent pizzerias.

Pizza House also offers chicken wings, subs, cheese sticks, salads, beer, wine, soft drinks and ice

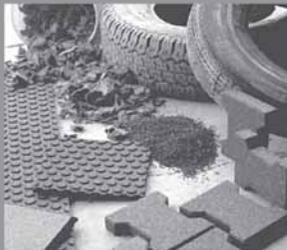
cream.

The restaurant has been in business for 11 years and has been active in the community in support of schools, youth teams and more.

Organizations receive coupons redeemable at the restaurant to help non-profit groups defray the cost of parties at the restaurant.

Groups planning birthday parties, family parties, team, social or business parties can call (909) 886-8989 for details. The restaurant is located at 2433 N. Sierra Way, San Bernardino.

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Dr. David Connett, of Pomona's Western University, named physician of the year

Western University of Health Sciences alumnus and faculty member David Connett, DO '84, was selected 2012 Physician of the Year by the Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons of California (OPSC) during OPSC's 51st Annual Convention in San Diego last month.

Connett is Associate Dean of Clinical Services for Western University's College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific (COMP) in Pomona, and Medical Director of the Western University Clinic Systems, which includes Western University's Patient Care Center in Pomona and the Rancho Cucamonga Patient Care Center. He also serves as a practicing family physician at both sites.

According to OPSC, the awards committee annually selects an individ-

ual who best represents the qualities and traits of an outstanding osteopathic physician and surgeon as the recipient of the Physician of the Year Award. Dedication and devotion to the profession, activity in the osteopathic community, and activity in the community in which the individual lives and works are all considered.

"This is an incredible honor," Connett said. "Western University has given me opportunities to have a perfect job, in my eyes, allowing me to practice as a family physician, yet be able to develop residencies for post-graduate training."

During the awards banquet, sitting next to COMP Dean Clinton Adams, DO, Connett said he was impressed with the background of the person - whose name had not been announced -

- being described as the award winner. He said he needed to fill some job openings, and that he thought this physician would work out nicely.

Seconds later, he was shocked when he realized they were talking about him, he said.

He said it is a great recognition of the hard work put into developing residencies, and also because of the significant expansion of the Rancho Cucamonga Patient Care Center.

Connett joined the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific clinic operations five years ago, when three physicians and two physician assistants saw about 400 patients per month. Today, more than 30 providers see more than 1,800 patients each month.

"While many physicians express frustration about the dearth of available

residency programs for graduating osteopathic medical students, Dr. Connett has aggressively taken action to address the problem," OPSC Executive Director Kathleen S. Creason, MBA, said. "He utilized his extensive business skills with the creation of a robust residency development tool that he generously shares for the benefit of the entire osteopathic profession."

Dr. Connett was also inducted as OPSC's Vice President during the meeting.

Another graduate of COMP,

William W. Henning, DO '86, was inducted as President of OPSC during the meeting. Henning is currently the Chief Medical Officer for Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP).

As President of OPSC, Dr. Henning plans to further broaden advocacy efforts, involving the osteopathic profession in the changing health care environment.

OPSC is a professional society representing the more than 6,000 osteopathic physicians licensed by the State of California.



MCDONALD'S IN DOWNEY AND POMONA - Pictured is the oldest surviving McDonald's - actually the third McDonald's built - in Downey, along with its classic 60-foot sign with "Speedee" on top, at 10207 Lakewood Blvd. (at Florence Avenue). It was listed on the National Trust for Historic Preservation's 1994 list of the 11 most endangered historic places and was only the second restaurant franchised by Richard and Maurice McDonald, prior to the involvement of Ray Kroc in the company. The restaurant, built in 1953, was closed after the 1994 Northridge earthquake damaged the building but it was restored and reopened. A gift shop and museum is located next to the original restaurant. In Pomona, much of the original restaurant can still be seen - including the trademark red and white tile - at 1057 E. Mission Blvd., which was E. 5th Street when the building was built in 1954. The tops of the golden arches have been removed and what is left is now red at the donut shop now occupying the building. A search of city hall records showed the building permit was pulled on June 15, 1954. The permit cost \$44 and the estimated construction cost was \$25,000. The contractor on the project was W.J. Ritchea of Ontario.



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WESTERN UNIVERSITY DENTIST STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF GOOD DENTAL CARE

Dr. Cindy Kudlik, assistant professor in the College of Dental Medicine at Western University of Health Sciences, focused this month on the importance of caring for teeth at the Pomona Chamber of Commerce networking luncheon at Coco Palm restaurant in Pomona. She also said area residents can obtain professional dental care from dental students working under the supervision of faculty at about half to a third of what they would pay in a private dental practice. For more information, contact the Patient Care Center at Western University, 795 E. 2nd St., Pomona, at (909) 706-3910.



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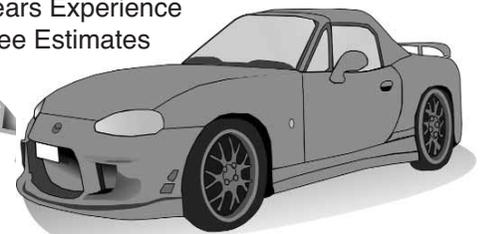
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Applications available for participants in anti-drinking and driving program to be held at Garey High School

Applications are available for juniors and seniors at Garey High School in Pomona to participate in an anti-drinking and driving event "Every 15 Minutes" to be presented by the Pomona Police Department's

crime prevention unit.

Only the first 35 applications will be accepted for what police say is a once in a lifetime experience using a simulated traffic accident to illustrate the drinking and driving message.

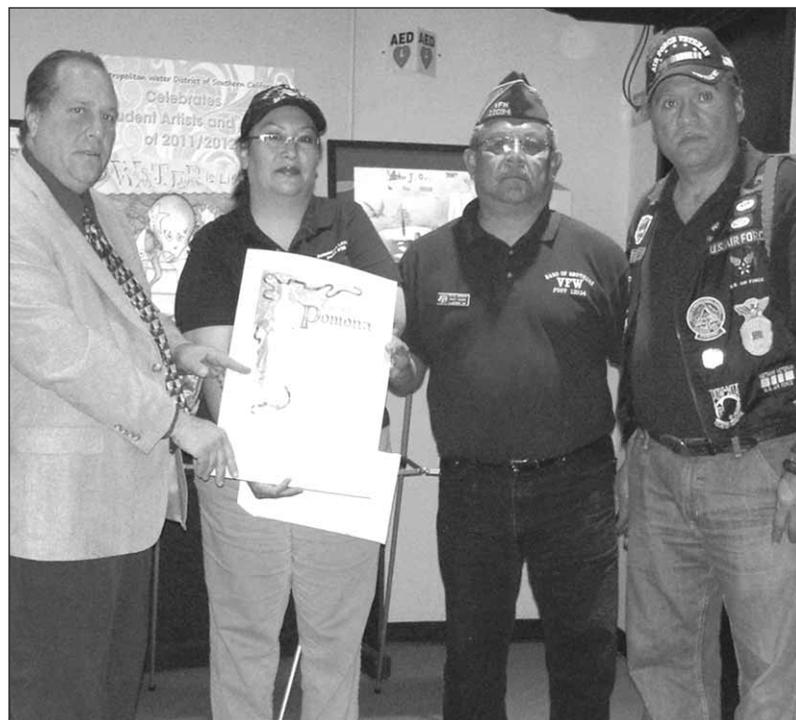
The event will be held at the school on May 2 and 3.

Applications are available in the school office.

For more information, contact Sonia or Monika at (909) 620-2318.



FIRST FOAL OF THE YEAR – The first foal of the year appeared last month at the W.K. Kellogg Arabian Horse Center at Cal Poly Pomona, pictured at the age of eight days with Mom standing close by on the look-out. The center expects to have a total of 12 foals during the calendar year.



WELCOME HOME VIETNAM VETERANS DAY – Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at left, presented a proclamation from the city council at its meeting Monday night proclaiming March 29 "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" in the city of Pomona. Receiving the proclamation were representatives of the more than 2,000 Vietnam veterans Rothman said are living in the city. Activities are planned in Pomona on March 29 that will be part of a national day of recognition that has continued since 1998 under the leadership of Vietnam veteran Jose G. Ramos, according to local facilitator Bernardo Rosa Jr., a U.S. Air Force Vietnam veteran. Following the presentation, Rothman welcomed the veterans home – from a war that officially has been over since 1973. Pictured, from left, are Rothman; Naomi Chavez, first vice commander of Pomona's American Legion Post 30; Pete Garcia, senior vice commander of the La Verne Veterans of Foreign Wars post which also serves Pomona and San Dimas; and Rosa. "This relieves my burden," Garcia said, adding that he has been back from Vietnam for 40 years. Unlike other wars in the history of the U.S., veterans of the Vietnam War often were unpopular and even discriminated against as they returned home without recognition amid the turmoil of continuing anti-war demonstrations. For more information, contact Rosa at (909) 242-0062.

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ANNUAL BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL TURNS UP THE VOLUME – The 33rd annual Black Culture Festival last month, sponsored each year in the Pomona Civic Center by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (Pomona Valley alumnae chapter), turned up the volume this year for a performance by “Glorious,” the Praise Team from Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Ontario. Delta Sigma Theta, a community service organization, produces the event each year in cooperation with the Pomona Public Library.

FAMILY SUPPORT CLASSES

Project: Caring & Sharing provides various support services to local churches, school-age children, ex-offenders, DCFS, DPSS and Probation Department clients.

Our mission is to provide high quality services to individuals (youth & adults) and families in a safe nurturing, family oriented, multi-cultural, multi-age learning environment that will promote academic excellence, promote positive self-image and educational enthusiasm resulting in responsible productive citizens. In short, our goal is to **SAVE LIVES AND REUNITE FAMILIES**. We believe the Family is the most important institution in our society. We have accepted the challenge to strengthen two of the most vital educating institutions — the **FAMILY** and the **SCHOOL**.

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- **PARENTING:** A 16-week class that was developed to assist parents and expecting parents. The curriculum was developed with the intentions of empowering the participants with information and helps the parent understand the importance of working as a team to support, educate, nurture and discipline children. The classes are facilitated by certified counselors.
- **MOTHERHOOD:** A 26-week class that supports and prepares mothers looking for ways to help their children cope with the fears and uncertainties that are a natural part of our world and its many crisis situations. The curriculum was developed with the intentions of empowering the participants with information and helping the mother support, educate, nurture and discipline children. The methods work well with children ages 12 and under. The groups are taught under two different categories: married and single mothers. The classes are facilitated by certified counselors.
- **FATHERHOOD:** A 26-week class where fathers can deal with and heal unresolved issues that disrupt their relationships with their children and others. The Fatherhood Curriculum is designed to help fathers engage and support their children and simply be better fathers. The curriculum can and will endorse decision making, unselfish discussion, communication, and real relationship building. There are far too many children raised with little or no involvement from their biological fathers. There are far too many of these young men and women becoming parents without knowing how to raise a child because they were never fathered by a responsible male.
- **STRENGTHENING FAMILIES:** The Strengthening Families Program is a 14-session, science-based parenting skills, children's life skills, and family life skills training program specifically designed for high-risk families. Parents and children participate in SFP, both separately and together. Group Leader Manuals contain a complete lesson for every session. Parents' and children's Handbooks/ Handouts are also provided for every session.
- **ANGER MANAGEMENT:** A 26- to 52-week class, depending upon the needs of the individual. The groups are taught under two different categories: children and adults. The class will define anger, the difference between anger and aggression, positive ways to deal with anger and more. The classes are facilitated by certified counselors.
- **THE TRUTH ABOUT DRUGS:** An 18-week class for youth, ages 12 years to 18 years old, that gives an up-front approach to presenting facts about the most commonly used drugs, how to get help and guide the individual to a healthier lifestyle. The curriculum was designed to help students gain a thorough understanding of the short-term and long-term health impact of the most commonly abused substances. Our hope is that this information will help the individual make the decision to create a healthier life by joining the growing number of individuals abstaining from drug abuse. The classes are facilitated by certified counselors.

FEE SCHEDULE: Fees are based on a sliding scale.

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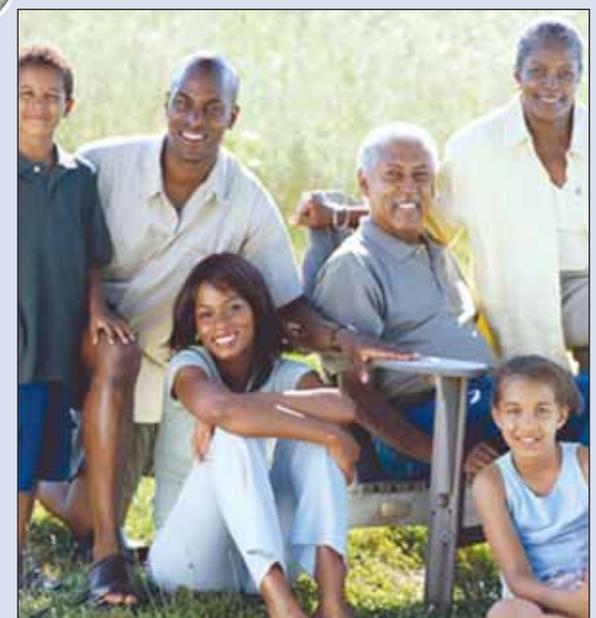
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- Tuesday:** Morning Manna 9:30 a.m.
- Wednesday:** Single & Parenting 6 p.m. / Strengthening Families 6 p.m.
- Thursday:** Prayer 6:30 p.m. / Family Ministry 7 p.m.
- Friday:** Friday Night Live 7 p.m.

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Car show to benefit kids of Pomona set for June

The “Doin’ It for the Kids” annual benefit community car and bike show is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 2 in downtown Pomona.

The event, which features everything from show, lowrider

and customs to originals, motorcycles and hot rods, will be held at Thomas Plaza at Garey Avenue and 1st Street, Pomona. It is free and open to the public.

Included will be music, vendors and more.

For vendor information, contact (714) 231-7642. For general information, contact (909) 232-5904.

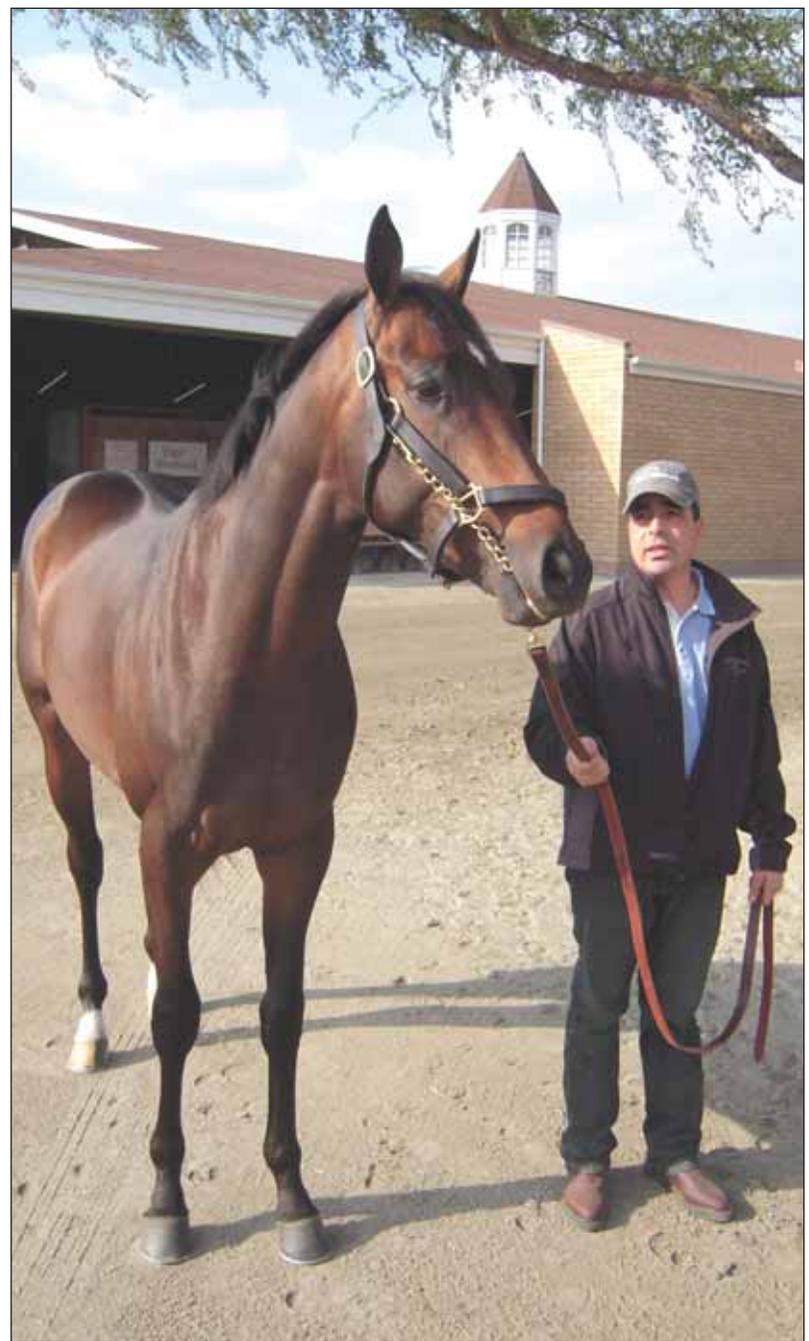
One hundred percent of the “door” goes to the kids of Pomona.

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GETTING READY FOR AUCTION – “Hip number” 21, a dark bay or brown colt foaled on April 14, 2010, gets ready for the Barretts March Sale of selected “two-year-olds in training” with only five days to go to auction. The horse, by Bluegrass Cat (2003) and Tea Cozzy (1995), was withdrawn from sale before the auction held this month at the Hinds Pavilion at Pomona’s Fairplex. Pictured exercising the horse is handler Ramon Rangel, of Lexington, KY.

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‘DO I HEAR \$50,000?’—Auctioneers work through a list that started with 149 “two-year-olds in training” for sale at this month’s auction at Pomona’s Fairplex. Pictured is “Hip number” 17, a dark bay or brown filly, by “Tale of the Cat” (1994) and “Sweeping Glance” (2004). The horse sold for \$45,000. As a possible sign the economy is improving, a total of 77 horses out of the original field of 149 were sold for a total of \$8.4 million, with an average sale of \$109,429. Last year, 55 horses were sold for only \$5.5 million, for an average of \$100,709. Forty-four horses were not sold and 27 were withdrawn. The highest sale this year was \$435,000.