



La Nueva Voz

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Pomona's only community newspaper!

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Arrest next month for suspect charged in shooting of Pomona Police Officer Diamond

Arrest has been postponed until Dec. 3 for David Martinez, 36, who has been charged by the Los Angeles County District Attorney's office with capital murder for allegedly fatally shooting Pomona Police Officer Shaun Richard Diamond.



Officer Shaun Diamond

Diamond, 45, a 19-year law enforcement veteran, was shot in the pre-dawn hours on Oct. 28 in San Gabriel – by coincidence the city of his birth – while taking part in a multi-agency operation targeting the Mongols motorcycle gang.

He was only the second Pomona police officer killed in the line of duty in the city's 126-year history.

The SWAT officer was serving a search warrant at the time of the incident as Pomona SWAT team mem-

bers assisted the Montebello Police Department. He died the following day.

The incident literally rocked the entire Pomona community which responded with numerous expressions of grief and sympathy through two prayer vigils in Pomona attended by



PALLBEARERS LEAVING CITIZENS BUSINESS BANK ARENA – Pallbearers carry the casket of slain Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond following funeral services this month at the Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario attended by thousands.

hundreds – one hosted by Pomona Pastors in Prayer, an interfaith coalition, and the other by the Pomona Police Officers Association – and a funeral service with full military

honors at the Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario attended by thousands of law enforcement officers, community members, family and friends.

Speakers at the funeral service this month included Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey, California Attorney General Ka-

mala Harris, Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman and Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro. California Gov. Jerry Brown attended the service but did not speak.

A motorcade consisting of hundreds of law enforcement agency vehicles formed a procession from Ontario to Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Covina for burial after leaving briefly a freeway that was closed to traffic to drive south on Garey Avenue and west on Second Street in Downtown Pomona.

The procession – which took a full 34 minutes to make its way down Second Street – attracted several hundred residents and business owners in the downtown area. And Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise south campus on Second Street closed so all 800 students could take time away from their classes to pay their respect.

Law enforcement representatives from throughout California participated – from Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, Inyo and Orange Counties, U.S. Customs, Victorville, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, San Diego Harbor Police, State Park Police and many more – all driving police cruisers, unmarked vehicles, heavy-

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FUNERAL PROCESSION MOVES ALONG SECOND STREET IN DOWNTOWN POMONA – An unidentified by-stander salutes a procession of hundreds of law enforcement vehicles following the hearse of Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond on its way to Forest Lawn Covina Hills. Blue ribbons honoring the fallen officer are visible in background.

Inter Valley Health Plan's Ron Bolding, Claremont attorney Paul Mahoney honored at Boys and Girls Clubs awards gala

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley honored two recipients – one representing the past and one representing the future – at its annual Golden Hands Achievement Awards Gala last week, and both emphasized the importance of supporting young people.

This year's honorees – recognized at the 46th annual awards gala which celebrated the 50th anniversary of the club – were Ron Bolding, President and CEO of Pomona's Inter Valley Health Plan, and Claremont attorney Paul Mahoney.

Boys and Girls Clubs Executive Director Victor Caceres said Ma-

Awards gala... pg. 3



ATTORNEY PAUL MAHONEY HONORED – Claremont attorney Paul Mahoney, at left, Boys and Girls Clubs Board President from 1973 to 1976, receives his Golden Hands Achievement Award from club supporter and volunteer Mary Brooks, whose grandfather, Clyde Warren, was one of the founders of the club some 50 years ago.



RON BOLDING RECEIVES GOLDEN HANDS ACHIEVEMENT AWARD – Ron Bolding, at left, President and CEO of Inter Valley Health Plan in Pomona, is presented a Golden Hands Achievement Award by Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley Executive Director Victor Caceres.

Pomona City Councilmembers returned to office; measure to fund Pomona Library rejected

Voters in Pomona this month returned all three incumbents to the City Council but rejected for the second time a measure that would help provide funding for the Pomona Public Library.

City Councilmember Adriana Robledo, appointed to the City Council a year ago when Freddie Rodriguez was elected to the Cali-

fornia Assembly, received 768 votes, or 56.60 percent, to hold on to her second district seat. Challenger Tomas Ursua received 589 votes, or 43.40 percent of the vote.

In the third district, Councilmember Cristina Carrizosa received 648 votes or 48.54 percent of the vote to defeat challengers Nancy Matarrita

Pomona... pg. 6



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Christmas concert set

The Pomona Concert Band will present "A Christmas Festival" next month at Palomares Park.

The annual Christmas concert, which is free and open to the public, is set for 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 12, at the Palomares Park Community Center, 499 E. Arrow Highway, Pomona.

Eleven Garey, Diamond Ranch High School students to march in Rose Parade

Eleven marching band and color guard members from Pomona Unified School District have been selected to march in the Tournament of Roses Honor Band in the 126th Tournament of Roses Parade on New Year's Day in Pasadena.

The Honor Band has marched in every Tournament of Roses Parade since 1930.

Seven students were selected

from Garey High School and four from Diamond Ranch High School, according to a school district news release.

Representing Garey High School in the parade will be Miguel Saldana, Armando Santana, Angelica Arechiga, Christopher Chavez, Isabel Ibarra, Mireya Mungula and

Jose "JJ" Cachu.

Students from Diamond Ranch are Ismael Rodriguez, Alissa Rodriguez, Nicole Hernandez and Jasmine Villatoro.

Only 232 students were selected for the Honor Band following auditions last month at Pasadena City College.

"It is a great honor and privilege for these immensely gifted students to be given the opportunity to perform in the Tournament of Roses Parade, where they will showcase their talents to millions of viewers from around the globe," said Pomona Unified school board member Dr. Roberta Perlman.

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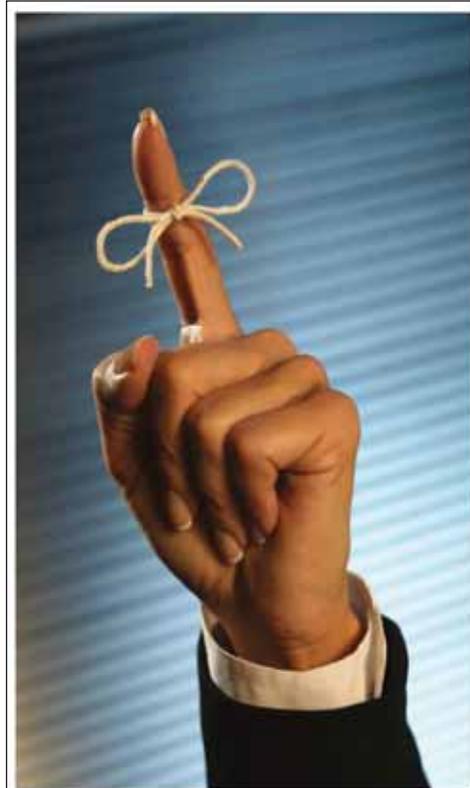
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U.S. ARMY TURNS OUT AT HISPANIC HERITAGE FOUNDATION WORKSHOP IN POMONA – Maj. Hany Nouredine, assistant professor of military science at Claremont McKenna College, discusses the importance of leadership with 135 high school students during the U.S. Army and Hispanic Heritage Foundation's "Latinos on the Fast Track" seminar last month at Pomona's Fairplex Conference Center. The national initiative promotes education, leadership and career opportunities within science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) related fields. Army representatives provided information about its free educational tools and resources, as well as STEM-related career opportunities available in the military.



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Awards gala... from pg. 1

honey, who served as the club's board president from 1973 to 1976, represents the early years of the organization while Bolding represents "the next 50 years of serving kids."

Bolding spoke of his memories of things that occurred in his youth including names he acquired in middle school such as "focus" and "four eyes" because of his eyeglasses.

"Bullies are always ready to make someone feel small so they can feel large," he said. "But I was fortunate. I had a loving family at home."

And, he said he had a great sup-

port, that's what makes it thrive, that's what enables our young people to do well," Bolding said.

Mahoney said he came to the Pomona Valley in 1968 after graduating from UCLA School of Law and has lived his entire life in the area.

He said the old Pomona mall was here and was really one of the first outdoor malls. He worked in the old Home Savings building on Garey Avenue and it was at this time he became involved in the Boys and Girls Clubs.

insurance company with its West Coast operation in Pomona at the time that was the major insurer for credit unions nationwide.

"It wouldn't be this now despite all of that if it wasn't for the efforts of so many other people," Mahoney said. "We got here today because of the efforts and the generosity of people before you."

"And I personally... I don't think there is a better charity you can sup-

port," he concluded.

The Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to long-time Board member and retired educator Harriet Pumerantz.

Board President Mike Schaub, President of Social Model Recovery Systems, Inc., took the opportunity at the 50th anniversary observance to comment on problems with kids and abuse of drugs and alcohol.

"Those challenges don't happen

so much with the kids at the Boys and Girls Club because they're busy after school," he said. "They've got something to do."

Some 300 guests attended this year's gala – the most ever, according to a spokesperson.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley serves between 300 and 400 kids daily compared to 50 years ago when about 50 kids participated in club activities.

Foster child turned junior class president at School of Arts and Enterprise receives 'Inspiration Award'

Jesus Alejandro Robles-Leon, junior class president at Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise, was one of two Los Angeles County recipients last month of the "Inspiration Award" presented by the Association of Community Human Services Agencies (ACHSA).

The award, presented at the ACHSA annual luncheon at the Millennium Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, recognized his "remarkable courage, character and achievement in the face of adversity."

Member human services agencies – which focus on child welfare, mental health and juvenile justice – each year nominate their clients for the award.

Robles-Leon, 17, a former foster youth, found a permanent home in Pomona after living in six foster placements since the age of eight.

Due to a learning disability, he was unable to learn to read until the fifth grade and was in special education classes through middle school.

After facing academic and social setbacks in middle school, he moved to Pomona and – only three and a half years later – is no longer placed in special education classes, is pres-

ident of his junior class, is president of the campus Christian Youth Club, is a member of Junior Optimist Octagon International, and is director and co-manager of "Live at the SAE," an on-line bi-monthly video newsletter at the School of Arts and Enterprise.

Robles-Leon credits his successes to those throughout his education who did not give up on him – his adoptive parents, teachers, therapists, counselors, social workers and Hollygrove, an EMQ FamiliesFirst agency and the largest children's services provider in the western United States.

Representatives of Hollygrove were responsible for his nomination for the Inspiration Award.

"Ms. (Lorraine) Canales, the school's (School of Arts and Enterprise) counselor, has given me unbelievable support and guidance and my teachers are thorough in their subjects and consistently available for academic sup-

port," Robles-Leon said.

He said he plans to go on to college after graduation, adding he is interested in the fields of business and engineering.



FAST MOVING AUCTION FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS – Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley President Mike Schaub, at left, helps out as Beth Bingham and Ron Vander Molen auction off everything from lunch with Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro to an intimate farm to table dinner for eight "on the farm" at McKinley's Grille at Fairplex.

port system at school including teachers who understood that they needed to be engaged with their students and ask questions.

"They could then reinforce those things that were positive and that would make me successful," he said.

"What happens is those of us who have the ability to support young people if we're engaged, if we're interested, if we ask questions, then we can help them succeed," Bolding said. "That's what I see in the Boys and Girls Club."

He added that the club's own mission statement speaks of inspiring youngsters to reach their full potential and become productive citizens.

"That's when Inter Valley can get on board," he said. "That's what I can support."

"When I think about it I know that as a community, when I look at all of you here, that's what the community is supporting," he said. "That is what makes a community

"When I got involved we were broke," Mahoney said. "The roof was leaking and we had no money" and, he added, no gymnasium.

He said Lance Loud, one of the club's founders, paid off the mortgage for the land and the building and tried to buy the one remaining parcel in the center of the campus "that we've never to this day been able to buy."

Mahoney spoke of early fundraising efforts including the raffling off of a new Cadillac from the old Tate Cadillac dealership in Pomona (Mahoney bought the car from the winner and it was his first Cadillac), and even bingo games to raise funds for the club.

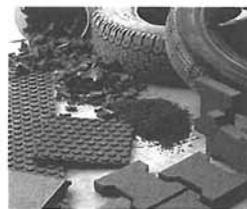
"The swimming pool was during my term as president from 1973 to 1976," Mahoney said. "That came from a \$5,000 grant from the Irvine Company."

He said the gym was built for \$800,000 under a grant from a large



SCHOOL OF ARTS AND ENTERPRISE JUNIOR CLASS PRESIDENT HONORED BY LOS ANGELES ASSOCIATION – Jesus Alejandro Robles-Leon, at left, poses with his "Inspiration Award" last month from the Association of Community Human Service Agencies. Pictured with Robles-Leon is Shawn Caracoza, executive director for the Los Angeles region of Hollygrove, the children's services agency that nominated him for the award.

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Arrest... from pg 1

duty SWAT vehicles, and dozens of police motorcycles riding in formation.

Even the first annual "Pomona Kite Festival" giving away hundreds of free kites to local children, held this week in Kennedy Park, included a special recognition in which Mayor Rothman was scheduled to fly an American flag kite in memory of Diamond.

Diamond was hired by the Los Angeles Police Department in 1995 and worked for the Montebello Police Department from 2002 to 2003 before joining the Pomona department in 2006. He became a member of the Pomona SWAT team in 2008 and was assigned to the Downtown Pomona Owners Association in 2012 in addition to his work as a SWAT officer.

Martinez has been charged with one count of murder with the special circumstance of murder of a police officer engaged in his duties. The District Attorney's complaint also

includes gun and gang allegations.

The shooting remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Prosecutors will decide later whether to seek the death penalty or life in prison if Martinez is convicted.

Martinez was being held without bail.

Diamond is survived by his two

Slain Pomona Officer Diamond named 'community hero' of Christmas Parade

Slain Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond has been named posthumously this year's "community hero" for the Pomona Christmas Parade, according to the Downtown Pomona Owners Association, organizer of the parade.

"By honoring Shaun... we wish to show his family and his extended law enforcement family our appreciation for all that he did," said DPOA Executive Director Larry Egan.

The 2014 parade is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, along Second Street in Downtown Pomona.

adult children, Margo Diamond, of Whittier, and Kelly Diamond, of Garden Grove, and his mother, Joy.

The only other Pomona police officer killed in the line of duty in the city's history was 37-year-old Daniel Fraembs, who was killed in 1996.

Daughter of Pomona Police Officer Diamond says he died 'doing what he loved'

The daughter of slain Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond told thousands of law enforcement officers and members of the community this month at her father's funeral in Ontario that she was comforted knowing her father died doing what he loved.

"He died doing his job," Margo Diamond said with her brother, Kelly, at her side. "How many people can say they lived their dream."

"My dad's two favorite things were us and his career," she said. "He loved being a cop."

Diamond was killed late last month after he was shot while serving a search warrant during a gang sweep in San Gabriel.

Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman told a nearly filled Citizens Business Bank Arena that "Shaun exemplifies the best and the bravest and he will always be remembered that way."

"We are thankful for the service that Officer Diamond gave to our community and we are grateful for the service that all law enforcement personnel makes every day to keep us safe," Rothman said. "The City of Pomona has lost one of its heroes and we all grieve with Shaun's family and the brave men and women of the Pomona Police Department."

And California Attorney General Kamala Harris told the family, "On behalf of the State of California law enforcement family, our prayers and deepest sympathies are with you," adding that "words cannot express your grief."

Harris noted that during the past six-day period California "suffered the violent and senseless loss of four of California's heroes," law enforcement officers who "made the ultimate sacrifice while upholding their sacred oath to keep us safe."

"Our law enforcement heroes will never be forgotten," she said.

Harris said Diamond dedicated 19

years of his life to "the most noble of professions, putting his life on the line to keep his community, to keep us safe."

"The State of California is forever grateful for his service," she said. "Our fallen heroes will never be forgotten."

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey offered condolences on behalf of more than 2,000 employees of her office.

"Shaun Diamond and other police officers regularly do, as the attorney general said, put their lives on the

"Law enforcement is a noble profession. No one exemplifies that more than Shaun."

"Margo and Kelly, you and your entire family will forever be a member of this family, and together we'll keep your father's memory alive," Capraro said.

Late last month at a candlelight vigil for Diamond with about 200 people in the Pomona Police Department parking lot, State Sen. Norma Torres said that "everyone in Pomona is grieving."

"His (Diamond's) life will never be forgotten," she said.

And Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez said, "He was always doing what was best for Pomona."

"Our hats are off to the men and women who are always there in our time of need," he added. Diamond "will always be in our heart and our memory and will never be forgotten."

The first vigil was hosted by Pomona Pastors in Prayer. Pastor Rick DeBruyne, of Lincoln Avenue Community Church, one representative of the group, told Pomona Police Chaplain Bob Keller that "we've got your back" in this difficult time of having to minister to people "and have no words to say."

"For each candle that's lit it's a bright spot in Pomona even in the middle of darkness," DeBruyne added.

Early this month, a second vigil was held at Downtown Pomona's Thomas Plaza with about 400 in attendance.

"We are going to greatly miss him and our hearts go out to all of his fellow officers," said Carolyn Hemming, President of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association.

"Thanks for sharing," Ink'd Chronicles owner Terry Dipple said to Diamond's family. "He's a hero who can never be replaced."

"He was an incredible gentleman," said Pomona City Councilmember Ginna Escobar. "We pray for the family and we pray for our officers."

Diamond's daughter Margo Diamond thanked those attending for coming.

"Thank you for continuing his memory and his legacy," she said.

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors adjourned the following Wednesday in memory of Diamond.

About 163 police officers and 100 civilian employees work for the Pomona Police Department.

(See additional photos p. 22)



JUMBOTRON AT ARENA — Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond's name borders a live closed circuit television shot of only a small part of the audience on the JumboTron during funeral services this month at the Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario.



California Attorney General Kamala Harris



Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey



POLICE CHIEF CAPRARO REMEMBERS OFFICER DIAMOND — Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro, at podium, remembers slain Officer Shaun Diamond at Diamond's funeral this month as two sentries stand watch over the officer's casket.



REMEMBERING DAD — Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond's daughter Margo Diamond speaks at her father's funeral with her brother, Kelly Diamond, by her side.

Registration is open for second season of Pony United Youth Baseball

On-line registration is open for Spring 2015 Pony United Youth Baseball League which will begin its second season next year at Pomona's J.F. Kennedy Park.

Registration is open to kids ages 3 to 14 in the Pomona, Walnut and Eastern San Gabriel Valley area.

League fees are \$85 for kids 3 to

6 and \$95 for kids 7 to 14. Sibling discounts are available. Fees include jersey, cap, insurance, pictures and trophy.

Registration is also being taken from 9 to 11 a.m. Saturdays at Kennedy Park.

Credit card payments are accepted.

Applicants must provide copies of birth certificates and two proofs of address, such as a copy of a driver's license and a current utility bill.

Opening day will be March 7.

For more information, visit the web site at www.ponyunited.com or call (909) 541-1118.

Stater Bros. brings back Salvation Army kettles, holiday food bank support program

A traditional Red Kettle from the Salvation Army will be stationed in front of Stater Bros. Supermarket in Pomona – and all other 166 Stater Bros. stores in Southern California – this holiday season just as they have every year for the past 20 years, according to a company spokesperson.

The kettles are available now through Dec. 23 collecting donations to help those who are most vulnerable in the community where the donations are made.

In addition, Stater Bros. Markets, in conjunction with its charitable arm Stater Bros. Charities, is conducting its "Harvesting Hope in Our Community" program during the months of November and December by pairing cash with product donations in the fight against hunger in the communities where its customers and employees live and work.

Stater Bros. Charities is presenting cash donations of more than \$450,000 to food banks and feeding programs in six Southern California counties, and food donation barrels are in place at all stores in the chain to collect nonperishable food items for those who are struggling.

To make donating easier for shoppers, specially produced grocery

bags containing critical food bank necessities are available for less than \$10.

Customers can make additional cash donations at the time of check out. Proceeds will be donated to local food banks next summer when their food reserves are traditionally low.

"Many of our hard working customers have exhausted their resources and are being forced to get extra help this holiday season," said Stater Bros. Chairman and CEO Jack Brown. "During these tough times... we will not let our customers stand alone."

Stater Bros., founded in 1936 in Yucaipa, is the largest privately owned supermarket chain in Southern California.



MINI-PARENT CONFERENCE PROVIDES TOOLS FOR EDUCATIONAL SUCCESS – Parents and their kids attended a third annual Readiness Conference, a "mini-parent conference," last month at Pomona's Harrison Elementary School to learn about Accelerated Reader, an initiative of the Pomona Unified School District, aimed at improving student reading skills and providing African American parents guidance on how to support the education of their children from birth to eighth grade. The program was sponsored by the Pomona Alliance of Black School Educators and the school district.

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Pomona... from pg. 1

(453 votes or 33.93 percent) and Diane Lawson (234 votes, or 17.53 percent).

Nineteen percent of the registered voters turned out in both the second and third district races.

And in district five, Councilmember Ginna Escobar held on to her seat with 846 votes, or 29.13 percent of the vote. Challengers Gabriel Rogers received 777 votes (26.76 percent), Alicia Malone received 688 votes (23.69 percent), Luis Jorge Grajeda received 481 votes (16.56 percent) and Joshua Heredia received 112 votes (3.86 percent).

Turnout in district five was 30 percent of the registered voters casting a ballot.

Ballot measure PPL, the measure placed on the ballot by Save Our Pomona Public Library, received just under half of the votes cast but required a two-thirds vote to pass because it would have required a tax.

If approved, the measure would

have assessed a \$42 annual parcel tax beginning next July 1 and expiring in 10 years. Revenues would have funded the Pomona Public Library to restore library hours to at least 38 hours a week and provide for professional staff.

A total of 6,353 "yes" votes were tallied (49.09 percent of the vote) compared to 6,588 "no" votes (50.91 percent of the vote).

A total of 24 percent of the registered voters cast ballots to decide this issue.

Other races

California Sen. Norma Torres, a Democrat, handily defeated Christina Gagnier, also a Democrat, in the race for U.S. House of Representatives District 35. Torres won by nearly a two to one margin receiving 38,134 votes or 63.3 percent. Gagnier received 22,112 votes, or 36.7 percent of the vote.

Democrat Connie



Cristina Carrizosa

Leyva won the seat in the California Senate being vacated by Torres with a total of 55,261 votes (62.3 percent) over Republican Matthew Munson, who received 33,496 votes, or 37.7 percent.

And Democrat Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez held on to his seat with 26,602 votes (58.5 percent) over Republican challenger Dorothy Pineda, who received 18,909 votes, or 41.5 percent of the vote.

Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod, long a friend of Pomona and a Democrat, did not seek reelection but opted instead to run for Supervisor Gary Ovitt's seat on the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, losing to Republican Assemblyman Curt Hagman in the non-partisan race. Ovitt did not seek reelection.

Negrete McLeod received 22,329 votes, or 47.81 percent, while Hagman received 24,377 votes, or 52.19 percent of the vote.



Ginna Escobar

Hospital Auxiliary to hold annual 'Holiday Homes Tour' and more

The Auxiliary of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center will host its 61st annual Holiday Homes Tour and Day of Discovery next month.

The tour will include three iconic homes in Claremont, each showcasing classic cars and holiday décor.

Guests also can stop by the Tea House at the Claremont Women's Club to enjoy tea, cookies and hol-

iday gift shopping.

New this year is the Day of Discovery and Hidden Treasures event which includes three culinary classes by experts in their field and three "hidden treasures" sites in Claremont.

Tickets for the Holiday Homes Tour are \$27 per person and tickets for the full Day of Discovery, Hidden Treasures and Home Tour are

\$40 per person.

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit the web site at www.2014dayofdiscovery.com or call (909) 865-9669.

Tickets also are on sale in the volunteer department at the hospital.

All proceeds benefit the Auxiliary's Sick Baby and Hospital Assistance Fund.



SWEARING IN AT THREE VALLEYS – Carlos Goytia, at left, representing south Pomona on the Board at Three Valleys Municipal Water District, was sworn in last week for another four-year term by Los Angeles County Supervisor-elect Hilda Solis at the water district Board meeting at its Claremont headquarters. All three Board members up for election this month were unopposed and were appointed "in lieu of election." Goytia told Solis he wants to work with her in Pomona after she takes her seat on the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors Dec. 1. "We know you are going to do great things, not just in the City of Pomona but also throughout the whole district and I'm looking forward... to helping you going forward." Solis said Goytia "has a tremendous background... in community leadership." "I just want to commend you for your work in improving the lives of young people, both in recreation and the arts, but more importantly helping us to protect the environment... (as you) deliberate on the water, the protection and safety and quality of our water," she added.



BOWCOCK, RUZICKA SWORN IN BY SUPERVISOR-ELECT SOLIS – Three Valleys Municipal Water District Board members Brian Bowcock, at left, representing Claremont and part of La Verne, and Joe Ruzicka, representing Diamond Bar, are sworn in for another four-year term by Los Angeles County Supervisor-elect Hilda Solis. The two – along with Board member Carlos Goytia, representing south Pomona – were unopposed in the November election and were appointed "in lieu of election."

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SCE, American Red Cross set record with ‘neighborly’ blood drive in Cal Poly’s Innovation Village

Two neighbors in Cal Poly University Pomona’s Innovation Village – the American Red Cross and Southern California Edison – teamed up recently for a blood drive that collected 129 pints and saved approximately 387 lives in the process, according to a Red Cross spokesman.

Dan D’Angelo, District Manager of Biomedical Services for American Red Cross, said the blood drive broke a record for units collected at all SCE locations in Southern California.

It was a team effort on both sides of Kellogg Drive.

“Like the American Red Cross,

Southern California Edison’s crews are first responders when disaster hits, so we have a deep connection to their mission,” said Robert Woods, Managing Director of SCE’s Transmission & Distribution, Asset Management and Operations Support group.

Woods also serves on the board of the Red Cross Southern California Blood Services Region.

He said the local blood drives for SCE are now in their fourth year.

SCE’s Innovation Village offices host blood drives for the American Red Cross three times each year.

SCE occupies two neighboring buildings in Innovation Village.

History of Mexican American segregated baseball in Pomona Valley to be recognized at Claremont event

Men and women who played in the Mexican American segregated baseball teams in the Pomona Valley – and who also served during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War – will be honored next month in Claremont at a special “Sitting in the Park” event to honor “those who sacrificed for our freedom.”

The event, sponsored by Claremont McKenna College and the Arbol Verde Preservation Committee, is scheduled for 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 6, in El Barrio Park in Claremont.

The book “Mexican American Baseball in the Pomona Valley,” the latest in a series authored by Cal Poly University Pomona Professor Richard Santillan, also will be commemorated at the event.

Covering the period in local baseball from 1920 through 1970, the book also honors those ballplayers that interrupted their athletic careers to serve their country in the military.

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez has been invited to attend to honor notable Mexican Amer-

icans from the Pomona Valley, including the late Candelario “Cande” Mendoza, a former member of the Pomona Unified School District school board and founder and original publisher of Pomona’s “La Voz” newspaper, the predecessor of La Nueva Voz.

Included at the event will be everything from a military color guard and the national anthem to a Native American blessing and dancing, folklórico dancing and live music by “Los Fabulocos.”

For more information, contact Al Villanueva at (909) 538-2485.



DEVRY STUDENTS SHARE THEIR ART WITH POMONA STUDENTS – Students at DeVry University kicked off their second annual art exhibit this month at Pomona’s School of Arts and Enterprise South Campus on Second Street to possibly help influence the creativity of the younger students and provide a mentoring opportunity. DeVry has long partnered with the School of Arts and Enterprise in a variety of areas including providing computers to the classrooms so the program was a natural outgrowth of that partnership, according to DeVry career advisor Xitlaly Gonzalez. Pictured is Mona Kavian of Irvine, an MBA student at DeVry who did her undergraduate work at Tehran University in Iran majoring in

architecture. She described her work as a “different style” in which a story is depicted that starts and stops at a blue element in the design.

HOPES TO HAVE HER ARTWORK ON A BOOK COVER – Cecilia Yanez, a senior at DeVry from La Puente working on her bachelor’s degree in multi-media development design, explained that the photo in the woods (pictured here) developed from her trip to Georgia. She combined several elements in the computer in an effort to illustrate that “the seeker seeks out the bad to keep the woods clean.” And the necklace is a magical element that helps her seek out the bad. Yanez’ dream goal is to have her work on a book cover. Admission to the exhibit is free. It continues through Dec. 30 showcasing the work of DeVry students and alumni from DeVry’s Pomona, Long Beach and Sherman Oaks campuses. All art pieces are for sale and a portion of the proceeds will go towards a scholarship fund for the School of Arts and Enterprise and Los Angeles DeVry University.



HARVEY MUDD STUDENTS BRING SKILLS TO POMONA – Students from Claremont’s Harvey Mudd College, UC Riverside, Pomona’s Western University of Health Sciences and Cal Poly University Pomona are sharing their talents with Pomona Unified School District students – mainly middle and high school students – working on their science fair projects “to help them do all they can with their project,” said Brian Gray, assistant director for community engagement at Harvey Mudd. The effort is part of “PUSD Does Science,” a free series of four workshops and mentoring to help the Pomona students. Gray is a member of Promoting Academic Achievement in Pomona which developed the program. The PUSD science fair will be held in February, and the county’s science fair will be held in March. Pictured at this month’s event at Pomona High School reviewing a project plan, from left, are Sabrina Myers, 11, a sixth grader at Philadelphia Elementary School in Pomona; her dad, Jerry Myers, a chemical and mechanical engineer with The Gas Co., and Max Hlavacek, a sophomore majoring in math at Harvey Mudd from Saginaw, MI. Myers’ project, “Comparison of Technologies for Crude Oil Spill Cleanup in the Ocean,” sounded like it would give the engineers at BP and Exxon Mobil a run for their money.

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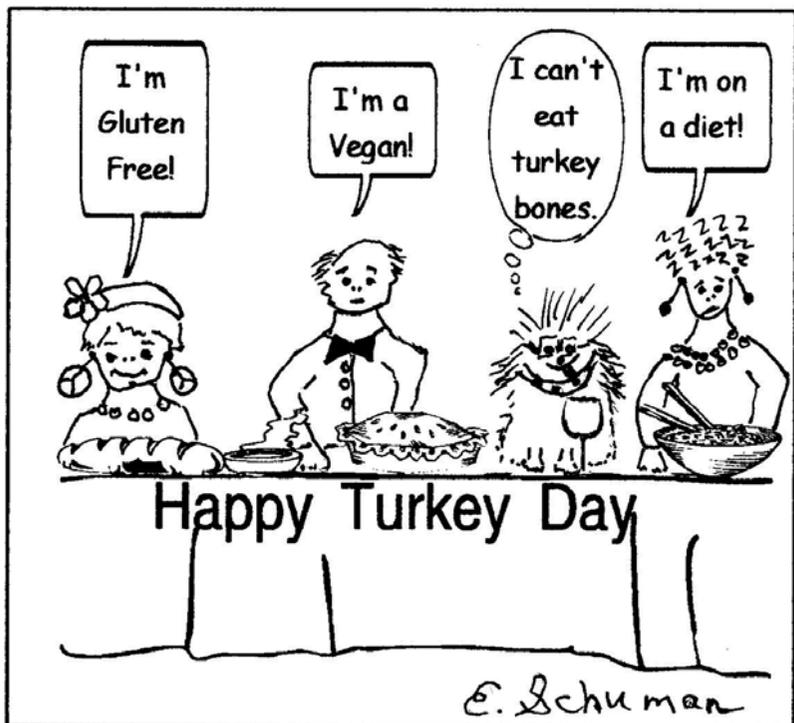
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Hope & Hurdles

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.

HUGE SELECTION TO CHOOSE FROM AT TASTE OF LA VERNE

The annual Taste of La Verne truly lived up to its name this month as a food and wine extravaganza. The always successful event filled the exhibit hall adjacent to the Fairplex Conference Center, and attracted guests from La Verne and well beyond. Included were samplings of restaurants, wine tasting booths, tequila tasting bars, live entertainment and even VIP seating in the center of the room with waiters serving guests at sit-down tables. Pictured is La Verne Chamber President and CEO Brian McNerney sampling one of the many varieties at the 3rd Street WineShop, located on Third Street in La Verne. Serving McNerney is Kristina Tomlin, marketing and communications coordinator for the store.



STAFF MEETING FOR CELEBRITY WAITERS – Matthew Henry, CEO of the YMCA of Pomona Valley, at left (yes, folks, that's our Matthew dressed up as the Cat in the Hat), holds an impromptu staff meeting in the hall at the Conference Center at Fairplex to explain rules and procedures to his volunteer waiters at last month's 13th annual YMCA of Pomona Valley Celebrity Waiter Gala. Henry's entire speech was actually a poem in the style of the Cat in the Hat. "And look at you, yes look at you! You think I'm silly, but you are too! We're all here to have some fun. So let's get to it before this night is done," Henry told the crowd. In all, about 16 waiters took charge for the evening event that attracted nearly 200 guests.



IN THE SPIRIT OF DR. SEUSS – Lily Jimenez, at left, and YMCA Board member Nona Tirre, both of State Farm in Claremont, show off their Dr. Seuss costumes at the YMCA Celebrity Waiter Gala.



CITY HALL STAFF TURNS OUT TO SUPPORT EVENT – Pomona City Hall turned out to support the YMCA's Celebrity Waiter Gala, accompanied by City Councilmember Debra Martin, at left, dressed as an Indian princess. And yes, folks, the KISS band member on the back row (second from right) is Pomona's own City Manager Linda Lowry who, when not wearing the make-up, serves on the YMCA Board of Directors.



JUST ANOTHER DAY AT THE OFFICE IN NEVERLAND – Guests show off a sampling of the costumes at the 13th annual YMCA of Pomona Valley Celebrity Waiter Gala. Pictured, from left, are Pomona police dispatcher Kati Rizzo as Princess Aurora from Sleeping Beauty; Downtown Pomona Owners Association President Carolyn Hemming, YMCA Board Vice Chair, as Maleficent from Sleeping Beauty; YMCA CEO Matthew Henry as the Cat in the Hat; and Maribel Alvarez of US Bank, YMCA Board Chair, as a weather reporter girl.

IEUW, Yoobi provide free school supplies to Lincoln Elementary students

Representatives of the Inland Empire United Way (IEUW) and school supplies manufacturer Yoobi visited Pomona's Lincoln Elementary School this month to distribute free Yoobi classroom packs filled with enough supplies for every child in the classroom to last the entire year, according to a United Way news release.

"Lincoln Elementary is a school in need," said Principal Alicia McMullin. "Over 95 percent of my students are on free and reduced lunch."

She said support such as this from the outside not only provides the materials to help them succeed but also shows them there are "people out there who believe in them and care

about them so much that they can achieve anything."

Students also experienced activities on the Yoobi bus.

Yoobi recently provided IEUW some 2,400 classroom packs – enough for every high need kindergarten through third grade classroom in IEUW's service area.

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- 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

Inland Valley Hope Partners, Urban Mission extend food distribution to South Pomona

Inland Valley Hope Partners, which has been feeding hungry families since 1968, has teamed up with Urban Mission to extend its outreach to South Pomona residents by conducting its first monthly food distribution at the church last month.

“We have wanted to return to South Pomona for a food distribution since we moved our Beta food pantry to the Pomona First Baptist campus a few years ago,” said Wytske Visser, Inland Valley Hope Partners’ President and CEO. “Partnering with Rev. Al Lopez and the team at Urban Mission was the perfect opportunity for us to do that.”

In only an hour and a half, volunteers from the church distributed a five-day supply of food to 61 families.

Distributions will continue at the church from 5 to 7 p.m. every fourth Thursday of the month.

The church is located at 810 S. White Ave.



OAK GLEN'S MRS. LAW STILL BUSY AT 97 – La Nueva Voz Publisher Jeff Schenkel and Director of Advertising Renee Barbee took a ride up to Oak Glen on the motorcycle this month for lunch (and some apple pie to go) at Law's Coffee Shop. And while the food was good as always, the best part of the trip was stumbling upon Mrs. Theresa Law herself (pictured with Schenkel) in the Apple Tree gift shop underneath the restaurant. And what a delight she was! She told the story of how she and her husband moved here from Maine in 1946 and opened the original restaurant in the building just to the left (downhill) of where it is today. Oak Glen, of course, has an elevation of about 4,700 feet up the hill from Yucaipa so this is apple picking country Southern California style, folks. And this is the harvest season, so there's still time to get up there and buy an apple or two – or an entire trunk load of apples. Mrs. Law said she and her husband opened the new restaurant in 1953. It was the first coffee shop on the hill. (And just for the record, Mrs. Law still has the accent from back home, although La Nueva Voz thought it was more like an accent from nearby Boston.) Mrs. Law still runs the gift shop and still makes all the aprons you'll see in there – she made five the Sunday La Nueva Voz stopped by. And, she made sure we knew, she's legally blind! And those letters on the outside of the restaurant were crafted from her own handwriting years ago. For those who want to know her secret to success, she'll be quick to tell you you'll need a quality product and good customer service – something that you can still find at Law's. So if you want to meet a true Southern California treasure, drive up for lunch and stop in and see if you can find Mrs. Law. You'll be glad you did. Just tell her La Nueva Voz sent you.

evation of about 4,700 feet up the hill from Yucaipa so this is apple picking country Southern California style, folks. And this is the harvest season, so there's still time to get up there and buy an apple or two – or an entire trunk load of apples. Mrs. Law said she and her husband opened the new restaurant in 1953. It was the first coffee shop on the hill. (And just for the record, Mrs. Law still has the accent from back home, although La Nueva Voz thought it was more like an accent from nearby Boston.) Mrs. Law still runs the gift shop and still makes all the aprons you'll see in there – she made five the Sunday La Nueva Voz stopped by. And, she made sure we knew, she's legally blind! And those letters on the outside of the restaurant were crafted from her own handwriting years ago. For those who want to know her secret to success, she'll be quick to tell you you'll need a quality product and good customer service – something that you can still find at Law's. So if you want to meet a true Southern California treasure, drive up for lunch and stop in and see if you can find Mrs. Law. You'll be glad you did. Just tell her La Nueva Voz sent you.

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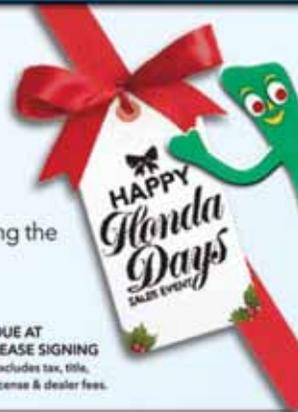
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DIAMOND RANCH HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ATTEND CONGRESS OF FUTURE MEDICAL LEADERS IN DC – Sebastian Rodriguez, Andrea Montecinos and Rebecca Arreguin (left to right), all ninth graders at Pomona's Diamond Ranch High School, spent three intensive days at the Congress of Future Medical Leaders Conference in Washington, D.C. earlier this month. Nobel Laureates, National Medal of Science winners, physicians and other medical professionals were on hand to share experiences, guidance and motivation with hundreds of students from across the nation who are interested in entering the medical field. "Listening to these medical and science professionals was very inspirational," Arreguin said. "We will have to fight for what we want in life and through hard work and dedication we will surely reach our dreams."

Friends of Pomona Library seeking research volunteers for program

Friends of Pomona Public Library is looking for 10 volunteers to research one subject area or more for the 48th "Laura Ingalls Wilder Gingerbread Sociable" scheduled for February. The free event focusing on novelist Laura Ingalls Wilder ("Little House on the Prairie," "Little House" series of children's novels) is scheduled for Feb. 15 at the library. Researchers may work at home or in the library. Work should be submitted before Dec. 10. For information and to sign up to volunteer, call (909) 802-9271 or e-mail fo_ppl@yahoo.com.

Holiday gift 'wish lists' available at Haynes Family of Programs

Children's "wish lists" for Christmas toys are available at Haynes Family of Programs in La Verne (formerly the LeRoy Haynes Center), providing holiday gift ideas to help make sure every child there has a gift to open on Christmas morning. The lists are available by e-mail or on handwritten Santa cards for the 72 boys and teens living there, 125 special needs boys and girls attending school on the campus, and nine young men who have "aged out" of foster care.

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Gifts typically average \$35 to \$45 in value and should be delivered to the Haynes Family of Programs by Friday, Dec. 12. Volunteers are also needed for a gift wrapping party scheduled for 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 16. For more information, contact (909) 593-2581, ext. 583.

Two innovative Pomona school district programs win Golden Bell Awards

Two Pomona Unified School District programs focusing on effective teaching, student achievement and innovation have been awarded the 2014 Golden Bell Award, the most prestigious honor for a California school district awarded by the California School Board Association, according to a school district news release.

The winning programs were Palomares Academy of Health Sciences, which provides students a dedicated pathway into health sci-

ence careers, and Child Development's "Tots, Teachers and Technology" program, which is revolutionizing learning through technology and interactive media for 3- and 4-year-old students.

Awards will be presented next month at the state school board association's annual education conference and trade show in San Francisco.

"Our students' success is a direct result of these groundbreaking programs," said Pomona Unified Board

President Frank Guzman.

The two were selected out of nearly 250 entries submitted in the competition.

The 35-year-old Golden Bell Awards program promotes excellence in education and school board governance by recognizing outstanding programs in 19 categories in school districts statewide.



PUMPKIN PATCHES TEACH NUTRITION TO KIDS – Pumpkin patches last month at Pomona's Allison and Lincoln Elementary Schools were put to good use this year to help promote healthy eating and nutrition. And, of course, students also were able to pick their own personal-sized pumpkin. The program was sponsored by the district's Food and Nutrition Services Division as a part of its nutritional outreach program, and students were provided take-home packets with nutritional information and recipes. More than 900 students participated in the two events. Pictured are some of the kids at Lincoln Elementary School.

Sowing Seeds for Life needs help collecting toys, hosting toy drives

The non-profit Sowing Seeds for Life in La Verne is looking for help collecting toys for children in need in the community.

Toy drives already are under way at locations such as DPI Labs in La Verne, the La Verne Chamber of Commerce and others.

Toys collected will be distributed to kids at the sixth annual Christmas in the Park from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 13 at Ganesha Park in Pomona.

To host a toy drive or to donate a toy, contact Fran Robertson at (909) 392-5777 or by e-mail at frobertson@sowingseedsforlife.org.



PARTNERSHIP FOR A POSITIVE POMONA KIDS SPONSOR RED RIBBON WEEK PHOTO BOOTH AT POMONA HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING – Members of the youth council of Partnership for a Positive Pomona set up a photo booth during Red Ribbon Week at the homecoming football game last month at Pomona High School, promoting the "I wear red" theme to remind kids to avoid drugs and alcohol. Red Ribbon Week is a national drug prevention campaign that takes place in October each year during National Substance Abuse Prevention month. Students were encouraged to wear red to school for "Wear it Wednesday." A 2012 survey commissioned by the Pomona Unified School District showed some 58 percent of students reported experimenting with alcohol at least once by the time they were juniors in high school.

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'PROFESSIONAL' CATEGORY – Steven McCracken, of Ontario, works on his entry in the professional category during this month's Chalk Art Festival in Downtown Pomona. Professionals were in the "open" category and could draw anything they wanted.



BIGGEST CHALK ART FESTIVAL YET – Artists of all ages were able to find a spot for their work – either in Downtown Pomona's Thomas Plaza or, this year, on a sidewalk expanding out of the Plaza area – in the eighth annual Chalk Art Festival, sponsored by the Pomona Cultural Arts Commission in partnership with the Downtown Pomona Owners Association, Pomona Unified School District, Kiwanis Club of Pomona and others. Vicki Tessier, one of the organizers of the annual event, said some 400 artists turned out this month, making it the biggest ever, and all by word of mouth. "People know it's a great day," she said, adding that it has grown every year despite less promotion and less recruiting. Five winning teams and one professional artist received \$100 cash prizes in this free event.

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SCHOOL OF ARTS AND ENTERPRISE DELEGATION – Pomona's School of Arts and Enterprise (SAE) students always turn out for the annual Chalk Art Festival. Here, SAE student Vett Bates, 17, of Upland, a senior at SAE, gets to work on his representation of the "before" and "after" of a woman leaving her country to come to America and assimilating into the American culture – all part of the theme of "Enrique's Journey," a national best seller by Sonia Nazario about a 17-year-old boy from Honduras who left his hometown for the United States to be reunited with his mother. The book is one of two books ("Into the Beautiful North" by Luis Alberto Urrea is the other) selected for Pomona's "Together We Read" program this year.

This public service ad is courtesy of La Nueva Voz.

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www.NoButts.org/Spanish/Medi-Cal



RED RIBBON WEEK – Fourth grader Genesis Moz, 9, at Pomona's Philadelphia Elementary School won the grand prize in this year's Red Ribbon Week poster contest. Her winning poster, pictured, included the message "Love Yourself. Be Drug Free." Pictured, from left, are Philly, the school mascot; Principal Alicia Castaneda; Pomona Unified School District's Director of Pupil and Community Services Fernando Meza; award winner Genesis Moz; Assistant Principal Samuel Padilla; and Pomona Police Department Community Programs Officer Sonia Carrigan. Red Ribbon Week is sponsored each year by the National Family Partnership to encourage kids to be drug and alcohol free.

\$40,000 scholarships available from Edison International

A total of 30 scholarships valued at \$40,000 each paid over four years are up for grabs through the annual Edison Scholars Program, with applications continuing through Feb. 1.

The \$1.2 million program is offered by Edison International, the parent company of Southern California Edison. Scholarships are available to Southern California high school seniors with a 2.8 grade point average or above who either live in or attend public or private high schools in SCE's service area and plan to pursue college studies in the science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

Students from underserved communities and ethnic minorities are especially encouraged to apply.

"As an energy company, we recognize the skills needed for our future workforce and to advance our country," said Tammy Tumbling, director of philanthropy and community investment for SCE in explaining the emphasis on STEM fields.

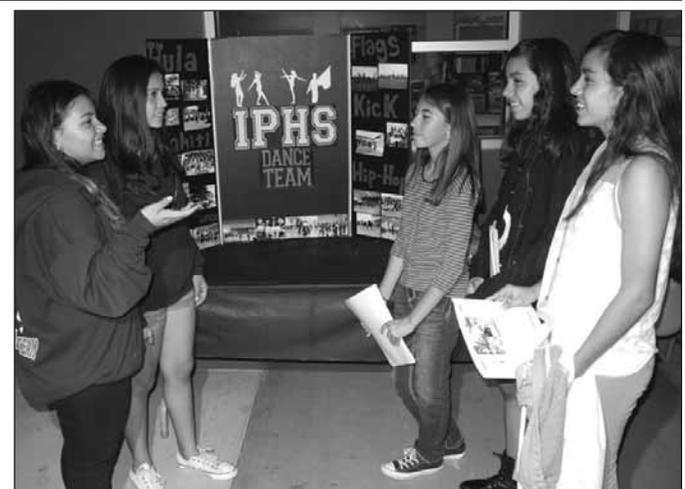
Since 2006, Edison International has awarded nearly \$4 million in scholarships to more than 400 students.

Recipients will be announced in April. They also may be eligible for summer internships at SCE after completing their second year of college.

For more information and to apply, visit the web site at www.scholarshipapply.org/edisonscholars/.



NEW PRINCIPAL AT IPOLY OPEN HOUSE – Jennifer Flores, the new principal at iPoly, was on hand last month at the school's open house to greet students (and their parents) who are considering attending iPoly in the fall. Actually, it is her second time around at iPoly – she was assistant principal for four years, left for seven and returned as principal last year. Flores said there has been a lot of change in the curriculum, some of it made possible by a \$200,000 student success grant from the Los Angeles County Office of Education for the STEM classes (science, technology, engineering and math). The grant helped fund state-of-the-art equipment for the science lab, mobile laptop computer carts for recharging, an upgraded Regional Occupational Program room for visual and performing arts courses, and equipment to connect those programs to the career technical education program at the school. She said all courses are University of California approved – students will be able to use iPoly credits to attend any college in the system where they are accepted. But students will need to move quickly – iPoly turned away 200 applicants this year. Pictured at the open house, from left, are Adriane Parale, ASB activities advisor, a senior from West Covina; Vanessa Contreras, a senior from Pomona, and Armando Michael Rivera II, a senior from West Covina, both of the school's Christian club; Jennifer Flores; and Manuel Arias, a sophomore of Montclair, a member of the school's improvisation club and a comedian. (Asked by La Nueva Voz to say something funny, he didn't miss a beat – "My mother wanted a girl.")



IPOLY DANCE TEAM – The dance team was signing up new recruits at iPoly's open house last month. Pictured, from left, are team members Savannah Flores, a freshman from Pomona, and Maylena Trujillo, a freshman from Chino, and visitors Samantha Gonzalez of Rancho Cucamonga, Ashley Alcaraz, of Fontana, and Chelsie Alcaraz, her twin sister, also of Fontana. All three are incoming freshmen.



ANNUAL CEREMONIES TO DESTROY RETIRED AMERICAN FLAGS – Annual Veterans Day ceremonies were held this month at Pomona's American Legion Post 30 to destroy American flags that have been properly retired because they have become faded or worn, and to recognize veterans who have served in the military. "On this day, Veterans Day, we are commemorating the services of veterans of all wars," said Post Commander John Grillot. "We remember how men and women set aside their civilian pursuits to serve their nation's cause, defending the freedom of mankind and preserving our precious American heritage." Pictured destroying the first American flag in the ceremony are Cliff Owens, of Chino, at left, and Michael Moore, of Pomona, at right.

OFFICIALS TURN OUT FOR VETERANS DAY FLAG CEREMONY – Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at left, and Los Angeles County Supervisor-elect Hilda Solis participated in this month's annual Veterans Day ceremonies at Pomona's American Legion Post 30 to destroy American flags that have been retired. Rothman told the group he was "thankful for the veterans and the contributions they have made on behalf of the United States and Pomona and for their service." Solis, who said she lived in Pomona while an undergraduate at Cal Poly University Pomona, recognized the contributions of veterans but said there are "homeless veterans who need our help." She said there are more homeless veterans in Los Angeles County than anywhere else, adding that there are 6,000 homeless individuals on the street on any given day. "We need to do anything we can... to make sure veterans get their services."



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CAPTAIN AMERICA AT CASA COLINA – It just seemed like Captain America was everywhere you looked at last month's annual Harvest Festival at Casa Colina Centers for Rehabilitation Children's Services in Pomona. Pictured in top left photo, from left, are Captain America Scot Cheben, whose wife is a therapist at Casa Colina, Renee Chan, of Chino, and her son, Jeremy Chan, 3, a "mini" Captain America.

READY TO GET ON WITH THE ACTIVITIES – Costumes were the order of the day at last month's annual Harvest Festival at Casa Colina Children's Services in Pomona. Pictured above, from left, are Ashley and Davis Trace, ages 6 and 9, of Ontario; mom Danielle Davis; and Wonder Woman, Mara Arredondo, a therapist and early interventionist at Casa Colina.

HERE'S HOW IT'S DONE – Dr. Felice Loverso, President and CEO of Casa Colina, shows the guys (at the request of the La Nueva Voz photographer) how to properly flip hot dogs on the grill at last month's Harvest Festival at Casa Colina in Pomona. The grill and REAL grill team were provided by International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 47, which also supports Casa Colina each year with an annual motorcycle Brotherhood Run with proceeds going to the hospital. The 11th annual run was held in September. Pictured in photo at left, from left, are Rick Garcia of Rancho Cucamonga, a business representative for Local 47; Loverso; and Patrick Lavin, business manager and financial secretary for IBEW 7th District.



Garey High School Coach Al Brown drives home message at domestic violence rally

Al Brown, head football coach for Pomona's Garey High School, helped make the point perhaps better than anyone else last month at a domestic violence rally for students on the football field – he brought his mom to school to help tell their personal story of abuse.

"Anyone can be a victim," Brown said, but "most victims are women."

the coach to speak.

But when Brown's voice began to break the bleachers grew silent.

"I broke the cycle," he told the students. "You can too if you choose to."

He introduced his mom to the crowd and led students in a pledge to end domestic violence.

The "Rally Out Against Domestic Violence" program, presented by House of Ruth and Garey High School to raise awareness against domestic violence, was billed as the first in what will become an annual event.

State Sen. Norma Torres told the students that nothing matters "if you don't care about yourself."

"Sometimes whether we are adults or not we are put in situations where we have to act like adults," she said, adding that she was aware of several girls where the abuse continued because no one believed them.

"You can choose to say I know who I am and I am worth something," she said, adding that House of Ruth "is a place you can go and seek shelter... to make that change."



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM AT GAREY HIGH SCHOOL – Pomona's Garey High School Coach Al Brown drives home the message at a domestic violence rally by introducing his mom, Donna Townsend, to tell their personal story of abuse.

And, he said, it follows from generation to generation, adding that he was a victim when his dad beat his mom.

There were good days and bad days, he said.

"It just depended on how my dad's day was going," he told more than 100 students and guests in the bleachers.

For example, his dad would use money Brown's mom gave him for the car payment for gambling and then beat her when the car was repossessed.

But Brown's mom, Donna Townsend, finally stood up to her husband, filed for divorce, left the home and remarried.

Brown thanked his mom "for not giving up on life . . . and for making me the man I am today."

"This was my life for six years," he said in an emotional presentation with students – and football team members – applauding and shouting "we love you coach" to fill those moments when it was difficult for

Pomona Police Chief Paul Capraro said police officers encounter domestic violence every day, adding that officers are thankful it does not exist in their own families – and they go home at night and talk to their children about it.

Principal Stacey Wilkins, referring to recent news reports of domestic violence inside the National Football League, said it was important that the event was held on the football field.

Wilkins told the students that there had been incidents of domestic violence in his own family and he has seen how it impacts the kids.

But "most men know the difference between violence on the (football) field and violence in the home," he said.

Wilkins told the students it is important for kids to speak out and let adults intervene. And he said it is important for women to make sure they are treated with respect.

The program got under way with the Garey High School marching band and cheerleaders, followed by the entire Garey football team bursting onto the field.

House of Ruth has served the community for 37 years assisting women and children affected by domestic violence.

Pomona Valley Hospital is only Southern California hospital achieving top Healthgrades rating for cardiac care

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center has been recognized by Healthgrades as one of America's 100 best hospitals for cardiac surgery, coronary interventions and overall cardiac care, according to a news release.

The local hospital was the only hospital in Southern California – and one of only four in the state – to achieve excellence awards in all three categories.

"It is truly an honor to be the only hospital in Southern California recognized by Healthgrades for excellence in coronary interventions, cardiac sur-

gery and overall heart care," said hospital President and CEO Richard Yochum. "This recognizes our commitment to providing the best cardiac care to patients throughout the region."

Healthgrades, the leading online resource helping consumers make informed decisions in order to find the right doctor, the right hospital and the right care, evaluated nearly 4,500 hospitals nationwide across 33 of the most common procedures and conditions and identified the top performing hospitals within each procedure.

The achievement was part of the

Healthgrades 2015 Report to the Nation released last month.

"As Americans take increasing responsibility when it comes to their health, it is more important than ever for consumers to access objective measures of quality when selecting a physician and hospital," said Evan Marks, Chief Strategy Officer for Healthgrades.

He said consumers selecting a physician associated with a hospital with a Healthgrades five-star performance can potentially improve their health outcomes and reduce costs.

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- Express Employment Professionals, Inc.
- Pomona Community Health Clinic
- Pomona Cosmetology and Barbering Schools
- Pomona Unified School District
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WALK RAISES FUNDS AND AWARENESS FOR LOCAL HUNGER – Nearly 500 walkers turned out for the 41st annual “Walk for the Hungry” in Claremont last month as a signature fundraising event for local hunger relief agency Inland Valley Hope Partners for more than four decades. The 5K walk began and ended at the Claremont University Consortium. “There are individuals here today who have participated in our Walk for the Hungry for 20, 30, even 40 years,” Sharonda White, Inland Valley Hope Partners’ Board Chair told the group. “Each year we are humbled by the enthusiasm and support of the many walkers in attendance.” Inland Valley Hope Partners, a faith-based non-profit agency, has been providing services to those living in poverty since its inception in 1968. Today it serves more than 80,000 men, women and children each year operating food pantries in Pomona, Ontario, San Dimas and Claremont.

Memorial service held for John Paulson, founder of Pomona’s ‘Band of Eagles’

More than 250 mourners filled Pomona’s First Christian Church to capacity at a memorial service last month for John Paulson who died Oct. 12 following complications resulting from treatment for leukemia. He was 66.

Paulson, who was known for his work with the Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts, Elks Lodge and the Eagles, also was known as the founder and lead singer of the Band of Eagles, an “oldies” and country band that performs at least weekly at the Pomona Eagles and in other venues throughout the area.

A native of Altadena and a graduate of Pomona High School, Paulson lived his entire life in Southern California except during his tour of duty as a Marine in Vietnam and a 10-year period during which he lived in Colorado.

Some glad morning when this life is over
I'll fly away
To a home on God's celestial shore
I'll fly away

I'll fly away, O Glory
I'll fly away
When I die, Hallelujah, bye and bye
I'll fly away.



He often said it was important to “make a joyful noise” – something he did in the Band of Eagles or with Boy Scout Troop 411 in La Verne, where he served as a leader and volunteer for nearly 25 years – long after his son grew up and left scouting as an Eagle Scout.

Paulson was known for taking his guitar and other instruments to scout meetings and campouts and just allowing all the kids to join in.

He began performing at the Eagles “Aerie” in Pomona as a solo act and other band members gradually joined in until the band reached a full complement, performing with four and five band members on a regular basis.

The band took the show “on the road” and began playing paid “gigs” but also regularly played at community events such as the city’s Pomona Beautification Day, when the band played at Fairplex.

Paulson always told the audience he liked to end his last set with the spiritual “I’ll fly away.” This was the closing song at the memorial service, and the Band of Eagles performed the song in Paulson’s memory at the reception.

He was a past Exalted Ruler for the former Elks Lodge 789 in Pomona.

Paulson is survived by his wife of 34 years, Donna, his son, Mathew Paulson, and daughter Michelle Murillo, both of Pomona, Michelle’s daughter and stepdaughter and a son on the way.

The family has requested that those wishing to make donations in Paulson’s name contribute to the charity of their choice.



LIONS PRESENT MINI-GRANTS TO TEACHERS – Members of the Pomona Host Lions Club presented \$5,000 in mini-grants to Pomona Unified School District classroom teachers at their recent 10th annual mini-grant presentation. Individual grants were \$250 and multiple-teacher grants were up to \$500. Pictured, front row, from left, are Rebecca Binch, Lobeer Middle School; Kathy Rogers, Roosevelt Elementary School; Christina Romero, Armstrong Elementary; Yesenia Brockett, La Verne Science and Technology Charter School; Corinne McIntire, Diamond Point Elementary; Roneice Parchment and Teresa Patel, Vejar Elementary. Back row, from left, are Lion Barbara Smith, Lion President Ricky Ortiz, Lion Jo Fulton, Lions District 4-L4 Gov. Gil Smith; Olga Zapata-Reynolds, Barfield Elementary; Amber Dahline and Melissa Hansen, San Jose Elementary; Monica Merrill and Elizabeth Gonzales, Westmont Elementary; Cesaria Pullman, Alcott Elementary; Jesus Monarrez, Harrison Elementary; Joanne Hathaway, Allison Elementary; and Lions Morgan Brown, Anne Henderson, Ralph Carlton and Steve King.



LONGEVITY AWARDS PRESENTED BY POMONA HOST LIONS – Pomona Host Lions who have been members for 10 years or more (in increments of five years) were recognized at a recent meeting. “It is especially meaningful to present these chevrons to members of my home club, whom I have admired for many years,” said Lions District 4-L4 Gov. Gil Smith. Pomona City Councilmember Ginna Escobar, also a Lion, also presented each recipient with a Pomona Certificate of Recognition. Pictured, from left, are First Vice District Gov. Ken Myers; Lion Don Cooper, 20 years of service; Lion Frank Alvarez, 45 years; District Gov. Gil Smith; Past Council Chair Phil Browne, 50 years; Past President Ben Mortagy, 10 years; and Past President Steve King, 15 years. Not present were Frank Bono, 60 years; Jim Fulton, 30 years; Diego Munoz, 30 years; John Todd, 30 years; Richard Rodriguez, 10 years.

SITTING IN THE PARK

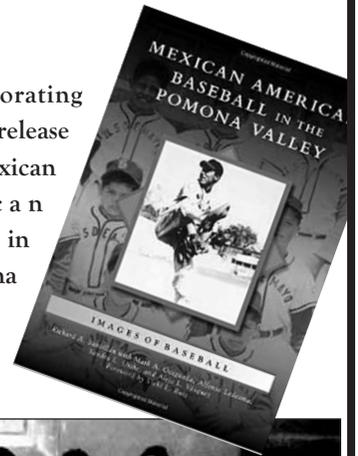
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1942 classic photo of the Guadalupanas from Ontario preparing a send-off dinner for their sons, many of them baseball players, to fight in World War II.

Sponsored by Claremont McKenna College and the Arbol Verde Preservation Committee



SANTA 'WORKING THE ROOM' AT SANTA COP PANCAKE BREAKFAST – Santa stopped to chat with Pomona Police Chaplain Bob Keller last week at the Pomona Police Department's annual "Santa Cop" pancake breakfast in the police department parking lot to help raise funds to purchase toys for kids in Pomona. Santa, played by John Schmidt, Pomona's emergency services coordinator and an emergency services chaplain, was checking to see if Chaplain Keller had been naughty or nice. Pancakes and sausage were provided by members of the Pomona Kiwanis Club.

FULL HOUSE FOR OPEN HOUSE – Parents and future students packed the auditorium at Pomona Catholic this month for an open house showcasing the school's academics, activities and more, with Principal Sam Torres serving as master of ceremonies for the evening. Representatives of the school's soccer and basketball teams pictured, from left, are Karla Pacheco of Ontario and Bethany Armendarez of Claremont, both of the soccer team, and Ashley Carranza and Mia Rodriguez, both of the basketball team. Basketball coach Rick Noriega is at far right.



WELCOME TO POMONA CATHOLIC – The Pomona Catholic Cheerleaders always know how to provide just the right kind of welcome to visitors to the school. Pictured at right on the front steps of the school are the cheerleaders welcoming guests to the school's open house this month.



More than 2,000 people receive free dental services at Fairplex

Dozens of volunteer dentists recruited by the California Dental Association provided free dental services to more than 2,000 people during a two-day "CDA Cares" event this month at Pomona's Fairplex.



Volunteer dentists provided services to more than 2,000 people at Pomona's Fairplex.

The program allows volunteer dentists, with the assistance of other dental professionals and community volunteers, to provide dental services to those who may not otherwise receive dental care.

The main goal of the clinic, held in Building 4 at Fairplex with 100 dental treatment chairs, was to re-

lieve pain and eliminate infection by providing cleanings, fillings, extractions and oral health education, according to an association news release.

Prior to the Pomona event, the California Dental Association Foundation and the CDA had

hosted five clinics statewide that have provided \$7.5 million in dental care to 10,040 patients. It was the first event in the series in Pomona.

The Pomona event was expected to provide services valued at an additional \$1.5 million.



Enroll now in St. Joseph Elementary!

Enrollment is now open for Transitional Kindergarten through Eighth Grade students attending St. Joseph Elementary in Pomona for the Spring semester.

Operating since 1898, St. Joseph Elementary today is a 14-room school which includes nine classrooms, a library, a new computer lab, a music room, a conference room and an after school care room.



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- The school is fully accredited. Religious activities include Mass every Thursday, prayer "buddies" and sacraments. Academic activities include science and math fairs and academic "bees." Social activities include Christmas and Spring plays, cultural awareness and parents/grandparents open house.
- A full sports program is offered.
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Pomona's Boys and Girls Club opens computer 'hotline' link for ObamaCare sign-ups to help walk residents through insurance maze

Residents of Pomona and surrounding communities – whether members of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley or not – are now able to stop by the club and sign up for insurance under the Affordable Care Act, or ObamaCare, using a free innovative computer and telephone link to qualified insurance representatives who are part of a special national call center designed to make insurance a quick and easy five minute process.

Open enrollment for year two of ObamaCare got under way this month and will continue through Feb. 15. The call center connection is expected to remain in place at the Boys and Girls Clubs at least through that time.

Victor Caceres, executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs, said the service was made possible working with two of his past Board members – Jorge Fernandez and Steve Gallion – and is being provided as a service to the community by Max Health Insurance Services, a company they formed as a Covered California-certified insurance agency.

Caceres stressed open enrollment is more important than ever this year – both to make it possible for

families still without health insurance to obtain coverage and to avoid penalties under the Affordable Care Act for remaining uninsured.

Officials with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have reported that more companies are providing coverage this year than last, lower costs are possible through financial assistance (about 85 percent of those signing up last year received assistance) and the process is easier this year.

Last year, applicants were required to go through 76 screens to sign up for insurance compared to only 16 this year in a new streamlined approach.

But Fernandez said the Max Health Insurance Services program is going to save people even more time and effort.

“What our services provide is the ability to review all the different programs that are provided by Covered California,” Fernandez said. “And then the other ability is that (with) our system, we can get you applied and entered in the system in five minutes.”

Fernandez explained the program uses a 450-person call center to take the basic pertinent information so

agents can complete the process for customers at a later time.

While open enrollment continues through Feb. 15, consumers enrolling for the first time or re-enrolling are encouraged to sign up before Dec. 15 in order to have coverage effective on Jan. 1.

Caceres said in Pomona, flyers are being distributed to 30,000 students in the Pomona Unified School District to make the students and their families aware of the local program.

He said the computer link to a web site and a “hotline” telephone at the Boys and Girls Clubs makes it easy on several levels – the hotline will make it possible for Spanish speakers to communicate by telephone in Spanish. In addition, the program provides a computer for those who may not have a computer in the home.

Either way, he said, the process will become a lot easier for people to sign up with someone on the other end of the telephone line there to walk applicants through the process, particularly because callers typically are put on hold when they call conventional government-sponsored call centers.

Caceres said additional computer

stations will be added based on need.

The call center available through the Boys and Girls Clubs location is part of a nationwide system of some 400 locations accessing the call center from shopping malls and other locations throughout the country.

“The Boys and Girls Club will be used as a ‘front office’ scenario,” Caceres said, in which the club will be “pointing people in the right direction.”

“What we’re trying to do is be a place that families get information and the community can come and have access to a web site,” Caceres said, adding that he sees this as “a little step forward.”

“The service is a step above what I’ve seen so far,” he added.

He said he wants to give the public “more information than they are getting anywhere else.”

“That’s pretty much my goal,” he said.

The service is available from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, at 1420 S. Garey Ave., Pomona. For more information, call Max Health Insurance Services at (800) 993-3902.

The following public service ads are courtesy of La Nueva Voz:

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or 626-966-4155
www.projectsister.org

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Mon., Tues., Wed. Thurs.:
1 to 7 p.m.
Sat.:
Noon to 5 p.m.
Fri., Sun.:
Closed



OPTIMISTS RECOGNIZE STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Two students from Pomona's San Jose Elementary School were honored as students of the month for October at the November awards dinner of the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club. Pictured, from left, front row, are the honorees, Bailey Espinoza and Shelby Gonzalez. Back row, from left, are Pomona City Councilmember Adriana Robledo; Pomona Unified School District Community Service Director Fernando Meza; Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin; Pomona Unified school board member Dr. Roberta Perlman; and Pomona Breakfast Optimist President Margarita Silva.



SIXTY YEARS OF OPTIMISTS – Members of the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club celebrated 60 years of service last month at the San Dimas Golf Course club house. Guests included Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, Pomona City Councilmembers Debra Martin and Ginna Escobar, Angie Castro, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina, and more than 100 local and out of state Optimist Club members and guests. Pictured during the installation of officers for 2014-2015 are, from left, Past Optimist International Vice President Bill Myers; Secretary Lorena Matarrita; Director Vernon Price, who served as master of ceremonies at the event; President Margarita Silva; Secretary Stephanie Gallentine; Treasurer Joaquin Rodriguez; Director Barry Dolgovin; Director Ruby Jung; and Director M. Joyce Bakersmith.



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Office
8 am until 4:30 pm
Monday - Friday



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PASTORS IN PRAYER TURN OUT FOR OFFICER DIAMOND – Representatives of Pomona Pastors in Prayer hosted a candlelight vigil in the parking lot of the Pomona Police Department in honor of Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond. Pictured, from left, are Ray Garcia of Praise Chapel Fellowship of Covina; Craig Chisolm of Crossing Jordan Community Services; Apostle Henry Alexander of Pomona's Shield of Faith Christian Center; and Pastor Rick DeBruyne of Pomona's Lincoln Avenue Community Church.



PRAYER VIGIL AT POMONA POLICE DEPARTMENT – About 200 people participated in a candlelight vigil in the parking lot of the Pomona Police Department for Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond.



ELECTED OFFICIALS HONOR OFFICER SHAUN DIAMOND – Speakers at the first prayer vigil for Officer Shaun Diamond included some of Pomona's elected officials. Pictured, from left, are Pastor Rick DeBruyne of Pomona's Lincoln Avenue Community Church; California Sen. Norma Torres; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; and California Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez.



OFFICER'S LAST TOUR OF DOWNTOWN POMONA – The hearse carrying the casket of slain Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond leads a procession of hundreds of police vehicles along Second Street in Downtown Pomona, followed by three limousines carrying family members to a burial at Forest Lawn Covina Hills.

RIBBONS IN HONOR OF OFFICER DIAMOND – One of hundreds of blue ribbons throughout Downtown Pomona, placed by the Downtown Pomona Owners Association, shows respect for slain Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond.



GOV. JERRY BROWN ATTENDS FUNERAL SERVICE FOR POMONA OFFICER DIAMOND – Governor Jerry Brown, at left, chats with Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman on the floor of the Citizens Business Bank Arena before the funeral for Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond this month.



PRAYER VIGIL IN THOMAS PLAZA – Some 400 people turned out for a second candlelight vigil in Downtown Pomona's Thomas Plaza in honor of Pomona Police Officer Shaun Diamond.

THE WEEKEND GARDENER By Leif Green

It's Fall, Which Means It's Time to Think About Spring

Life begins the day you start a garden. ~Chinese Proverb

As the days get short and the nights get colder, the growth of most plants in your garden greatly slows down. Aside from harvesting the last of your vegetables or cutting back your annuals, there isn't much work to do in the garden. This is an ideal time to plant some bulbs if you haven't already done so.

Bulbs are generally low maintenance and easy to plant. Once the bulbs are planted, the flowers will return every year. They don't require pruning and most are drought resistant. Of course, if the bulbs are given the proper amount of water, you will be rewarded with more flowers. Two of my favorites are daffodils and amaryllis. Daffodils are usually the first flowering plant in the garden to sprout. Coming up in late winter, they let you know spring is close behind. Amaryllis yields large white or red flowers that easily catch the eye.

If you don't already have some bulbs in your garden, here are some tips to help you get started:

1. Choose a place to plant the bulbs. For flowering bulbs, the more sun the better.

2. Pick bulbs that look healthy. They should not be spongy, moldy or

look wilted.

3. Plant the bulbs pointed ends up in holes three times the diameter of the bulb. This is also a good time to add some bone meal or general purpose fertilizer to the soil to help them get started.

4. Flowering bulbs look better in clusters so plant three to five bulbs close together.

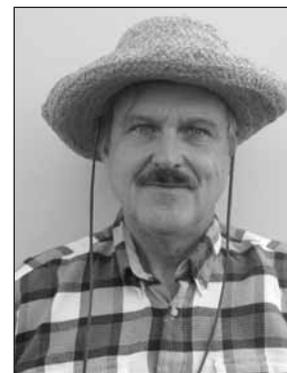
5. Mark the location where they are planted. If the locations aren't marked, you may accidentally dig them up in the spring when planting something else.

After the bulbs have been planted, I've experienced occasional problems with rodents digging them up. There are two somewhat effective means to reduce this problem.

The first is to mix some cayenne pepper in the top layer of soil. The second is to soak some paper towels in vinegar and leave them in a pie tin close to where the bulbs are planted. I've been told this makes the rodents think a predator just marked their ter-

ritory and is nearby.

In order for bulbs to sprout and grow properly in the spring, they must experience a period of cold where they go dormant. Some nurseries will try to sell you, "pre-chilled" bulbs which are usually more expensive. If that is an important feature for you but you want to save some money, just put the bulbs in your refrigerator (not freezer) for a couple of days. But refrigerating your bulbs is not required for two important reasons. First, with the cold air coming off of the mountains in the winter, this period of cold occurs naturally. Secondly, some spouses become very irate upon discovering garden bulbs next to the milk and butter.



Leif Green

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.

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:

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- 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 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
- Wally Parks NHRA Motorsports Museum, 1101 W. McKinley Ave., #3A, 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
- CVS Pharmacy, 150 W. Willow St., Pomona



POMONA ROTARY HOLDS 5TH ANNUAL 'GOOD FOR THE SOLE' EVENT – About 20 Pomona Rotarians showed up early on a Saturday morning this month to give out free shoes, oversee podiatric exams by students from Western University of Health Sciences, help out with a little basketball in the parking lot and more. In all, some 120 Pomona Unified School District students from 21 elementary schools selected by their schools based on need were invited to the fifth annual "Good for the Sole" event, which organizers said was the biggest ever. Students in Rotary's "Rotary Interact" program – from Palomares Academy and Pomona Catholic – volunteered to help with the event at a local retailer. This year's program was dedicated to Rotarian Leslie Lewis, founder of the program, who passed away this year. The shoes were purchased using "in lieu of flowers" contributions as well as a grant from the Rotary Foundation. "I'm honored to do this in memory of Leslie Lewis and we plan to continue this for years to come," said committee chair Tami Farley, who coordinated efforts with the school district through Supt. Richard Martinez, also a Rotarian. Pictured at rear watching their volunteers pass out shoes to the kids are, from left, Rotarian David Speidel; Pomona Rotary President Janet Roy; Farley; committee member Carol Wilt; Leslie Lewis' daughter, Yvette Valoff, of Pomona; and committee member James Morgan.



PREVIEW DAY AT WESTERN UNIVERSITY – Jennifer Parra (center), a student at Chino Valley Unified School District and an EXCEL Program participant, visited Western University of Health Sciences for Preview Day recently where she learned about the admissions process and what it takes to be a competitive applicant. She also had the opportunity to meet personally with Ivy Tuason, RN, MSN, FNP (at right), the director of the MSN-E program and Associate Professor at Western University. Chelsea Entzel, of Temple City, a master's nursing program student at Western University (at left) talked one on one with potential students about her experiences at the university. The EXCEL Program (Experiences in Career Education and Leadership) is a service provided by the City of Chino with support from CVUSD and Inland Empire United Way. Students work one on one with a case manager to create a comprehensive plan to help them plan their academic future and job training skills. "Although Western University is a graduate school, and the students who participate in EXCEL are juniors and seniors in high school, I believe it is never too early to make academic plans," said Edna Sajinovic, case manager for the City of Chino.



Pomona NAACP branch elects officers

Jeanette Ellis-Royston, who worked to revive the Pomona Valley Branch of the NAACP and served as acting president for the past year, was elected president during elections this month in Pomona.

Also elected were Linda Wright-Lee, first vice president; Iola Fountain, second vice president; Lisha Lett, secretary; and Myron Hester, treasurer.

Lett and Hester had been acting in their respective positions prior to the election.

The local branch meets at 7 p.m. the second Thursday each month at Laguna Technical College, 260 S. Garey Ave., Pomona.

The original Pomona branch was formed in 1968 and was revived last year after being inactive for nearly 25 years.

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Pomona Valley Hospital becomes third in state to become certified for end-of-life care

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's Palliative Care Program this month became the third medical center in California to be certified by The Joint Commission, an independent non-profit organization which has accredited hospitals nationwide for more than 60 years.

The certification recognizes the Pomona hospital for providing

patients with safe, high-quality care, treatment and services associated with an advanced terminal illness.

The hospital's board certified hospice and palliative care physicians, nurses, social workers and chaplains work as a team to address patients' physical, emotional, spiritual and social needs during end-of-life care.

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