



La Nueva Voz

The New Voice, a Bilingual (English/Spanish) Publication
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County Supervisor Solis, Pomona Valley Hospital officials sign \$4.4 million contract to prepare facility for 'trauma center' status

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis joined with Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center officials and nearly a dozen other elected officials outside the hospital this month for a celebratory signing of a \$4.4 million contract with the county to prepare the facility for designation as the East San Gabriel Valley Trauma Center.

"This is really a regional approach of how you deal with health care issues," Solis said. "And hopefully it will be a model for other parts of the country to view."

"This place is ready to go," she said, adding that she has worked closely with County Mayor Mike Antonovich and the other supervisors "to talk about how important this area is and what the high need was here that has existed for the last 20 years."

County supervisors also this month approved the \$4.4 million expenditure making it possible for work to continue on obtaining certification from the American College of Surgeons to open the regional trauma center.

"So that brings us one step closer to having Pomona Valley serve as our trauma center for the region," Solis said. "It doesn't matter what political lines you say you're from - it's about working together on the needs of our community, and that's what gives us strength."

Hospital President and CEO Rich Yochum called it a special event for the hospital to re-enter the trauma service, adding that the hospital was one of the original 22 trauma centers created in Los Angeles County years ago.

Hospital contract... pg. 2



CUTTING THE CEREMONIAL CAKE -- Officials cut the ceremonial cake this month at a news conference and signing of a \$4.4 million contract with the county to prepare Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center for re-opening its regional trauma center nearly 30 years after its closure. The cake - which featured a rendering of the hospital and the wording "Future Home of the East San Gabriel Valley Trauma Center" -- represented the beginning of about a year and a half process to upgrade the hospital and obtain the necessary approvals for full trauma center status. Pictured, from left, are Dr. James Kim, the hospital's director of emergency services; State Sen. Ed Hernandez; State Sen. Connie Leyva; Assemblymember Roger Hernandez; Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; and hospital President and CEO Rich Yochum.

Inter Valley Health Plan's Cyndie O'Brien installed as new Pomona Chamber President

Cyndie O'Brien, Vice President of Sales, Marketing and Member Service for Pomona's Inter Valley Health Plan, took over the reins of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce last month by calling on members to continue to support the chamber and to support the local businesses in Pomona.

"We know there are so many more small companies out there that can benefit from our services and my goal is to help us do just that," O'Brien said at the chamber's 127th annual awards and installation of officers dinner at Pomona's Mountain Meadows Golf Course.

"I'm very honored to take this position and I'm honored that the Executive Board had the confidence in me and nominated me to serve as this year's President," she said. "I have worked in Pomona for 22 years at Inter Valley Health Plan and the on-going development and down-



SWEARING IN THE NEW BOARD -- Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at left, administers the oath of office to the 2015-2016 Board of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce.

town in particular is very exciting."

"Pomona is authentic - I think it is rich in diversity and history and I feel very privileged to work in Pomona," she added.

O'Brien said she recently participated in a series of focus groups in which small businesses were invited

that had not been chamber members or had left the chamber.

"We wanted to find out what can we do to win you back and what can we do to serve you and I found that small business needs are similar to those of large companies, to help them grow and prosper, through pro-

motions and representing their business interests," O'Brien said.

She pointed out that small employers have fewer resources and the Chamber support becomes "that much more important."

"When you look around the room Chamber installation... pg 5



HANDING OVER THE GAVEL -- Outgoing Pomona Chamber of Commerce President Jill Dolan hands over the gavel to new Chamber President Cyndie O'Brien at last month's 127th annual awards and installation of officers dinner at Pomona's Mountain Meadows Golf Course.



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Hospital contract... from pg. 1

The hospital's trauma center was closed nearly 30 years ago, according to a spokesperson for Solis.

"It was disappointing for a while . . . that we left that service but we are excited today to be able to re-enter," Yochum said. "This is the beginning."

"And we really very much appreciate the support of the (Los Angeles County) supervisors, particularly Hilda Solis and Supervisor (Don) Knabe and Supervisor (Mike) Antonovich," he added.

Yochum said the supervisors spoke very favorably of the hospital, of the need for a trauma center in the Eastern San Gabriel Valley, and how much this would mean to the communities served by the hospital.

Helps to 'better serve' communities locally

"It really helps to better serve our community or the communities more locally that we serve," Yochum said. "Becoming a regional center helps to bring people and resources that we wouldn't have otherwise for our community residents and that's why this is so important."

He spoke of seeing helicopters landing in Pomona and taking trauma patients to other destinations "when we knew the level of care and the services the hospital has."

"This will be exciting for everybody that they will be able to return here," Yochum said.

And, he added, there will be another celebration in about 14 months "when we get the final designation from the American College of Surgeons."

Dr. James Kim, the hospital's director of emergency services, said it is "overwhelming" to be entrusted with what he called "the privilege of planning and providing the region's emergency and trauma care."

"We are truly humbled at the opportunity," he said.

"Timely and highly specialized trauma care in a designated trauma center has been clearly demonstrated to significantly improve and reduce morbidity and mortality in regards to traumatic injuries," Kim said. "And that's why we're so enthusiastic and so excited about the prospect of having the opportunity to become L.A. County's newest designated trauma center and have that opportunity to potentially save more lives."

"And that is a privilege that is not lost on us here at Pomona Valley," he said.

Hospital already working on preparations

Kim added that the hospital is already working on preparing for the

trauma center designation with expansion projects under way that will increase the capacity of the emergency department by more than 40 percent and expand the intensive care and critical care units by more than 35 percent.

In addition, the hospital is upgrading to cutting edge technologies to keep up with the requirements to provide the kind and level of specialized care that traumatic patients require.

The hospital's design-



SIGNING THE CONTRACT -- Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center President and CEO Rich Yochum and Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis sign a \$4.4 million contract to provide county funding for preliminary work to create a regional trauma center at the hospital.



DIRECTOR OF EMERGENCY SERVICES -- Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center's Dr. James Kim, director of emergency services, explains the need for regional trauma center status at the hospital as Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis looks on.

nation as a full trauma center is expected to take another 18 to 24 months. Once it receives its designation, it will provide needed services to individuals throughout the

Heights or Huntington Memorial Hospital in Pasadena, the two closest trauma centers.

During the pre-trauma center designation agreement period, the hos-

pital will work with the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services to ensure that the necessary pre-designation improvements are made, including such things as infrastructure improvements, construction of a permanent helipad, acquiring necessary staff and equipment, implementing data collection and a trauma specific performance improvement program and more.

The start-up cost is being funded by Measure B surplus funds from previous years and is separate from funding allocated to already designated trauma centers, according to the Board letter submitted to supervisors by the Department of Health Services.

There are currently 12 non-county and two county-operated trauma centers in Los Angeles County.

Two hospitals expressed interest in becoming the regional trauma center a year ago -- Citrus Valley



Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis

Medical Center's Queen of the Valley Campus in West Covina and Pomona Valley. Both submitted applications by the deadline last November.

Pomona Valley was top ranked by an evaluation committee that both reviewed documents and conducted site visits.

Pomona Valley is a 453-bed, acute care, nationally accredited, award-winning not-for-profit medical center serving eastern Los Angeles and western San Bernardino Counties.

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CITY COUNCIL RECOGNIZES NEW AMERICAN LEGION OFFICERS -- Members of the Pomona City Council recognized the newly installed officers of Pomona's American Legion Post 30 at a council meeting last month. The new officers were sworn in earlier last month in ceremonies at Post 30 headquarters. The certificates of recognition on behalf of the city were to "honor and thank you for your dedication and sacrifices to our country and community." Pictured, from left, are City Councilmembers Cristina Carrizosa, Paula Lantz and Debra Martin; American Legion First Vice Commander Michael Moore, Commander Richard Haro, Second Vice Commander Bob Radcliff, City Councilmember Ginna Escobar, and Mayor Elliott Rothman.

DAY-LONG ENTERTAINMENT AT JUNETEENTH IN POMONA

-- Jay Jackson and The Nulu Band of Los Angeles sings "You're My Everything" at last month's Juneteenth Family Gospel and Jazz Festival in Pomona and, as far as La Nueva Voz was concerned, sounded just like Barry White. (In fact, he made La Nueva Voz wish we had backup singers and a string section.) This year's event marked the 150th year of Juneteenth and Emancipation Day in the U.S. Although President Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation in 1862, it was not until 1865 -- 150 years ago -- when word reached Texas and the last slaves were freed. The event symbolizes freedom and serves as a reminder of the significant contributions of African Americans.



JUNETEENTH MARKS 25 YEARS IN POMONA -- Trudy Coleman, founder and CEO of the Juneteenth Education Technology Mobile Arts Center (J.E.T.M.A.C.), takes a moment during Juneteenth activities in Pomona's Ganessa Park with the Stan Selby Bandshell in the background. Coleman founded the event in Pomona with John Thompson 25 years ago this year. "I really consider it a success coming back from whence we came," she said. The annual event is sponsored by the City of Pomona and J.E.T.M.A.C.



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Former Cal Poly President Mike Ortiz calls college a 'life changing activity,' commends Bright Prospect for focusing on the community

Dr. Mike Ortiz, former President of Cal Poly University Pomona, told Bright Prospect's annual benefit graduation celebration last month at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center that "going to college and getting a degree is a life changing activity."

"It changes the way you look at the world and the way you approach the world," he said, adding that education is the only way to improve one generation over another.

And, as a Board member of Bright Prospect, he said that this is a group that encourages students to go to college, makes sure the students are in the right place, encourages them to reach for the stars and be willing to take a chance, all while seeing potential in the kids that they don't see in themselves.

"My (personal) experience could have been a model for Bright Prospect and I'm so proud to be affiliated with this organization that does all of that for the students that enter Bright Prospect and participate," said Ortiz, who also serves as Chairman of the Board of the Los Angeles County Fair Association.

"This is an organization that really is focused on what happens here in the community," he said.

Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez said he is excited that the school district has partnered with Bright Prospect to offer services across the District.

He congratulated the Bright Prospect kids who recently graduated from four-year colleges and universities – one was sitting at each table in a room filled with more than 200 guests – and he spoke of the

people who opened doors for him early in his career.

"I'm very thankful that for whatever reason they saw potential in this guy and they opened the door for me," Martinez said.

"And one of the things that I want to do as a superintendent of Pomona Unified, I've been here six years, is I want to be a door opener,

I want to be the one that keeps the door open, wide open, and bring as many students through that door so they can fulfill their dreams, so they can continue on through college or careers," he said.

He said he wants District graduates to be "job ready for you, the employer."

Martinez also urged members of the audience to be door openers.

"It is huge – you don't have to work for Bright Prospect to do the things that Bright Prospect does, and that is to train folks to become leaders, to become facilitators, to become contributors," he said.

One of the Bright Prospect student speakers was Andres Gonzalez, who recently graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and was valedictorian four years ago at Pomona High School.

He told the audience he couldn't have graduated from such a presti-



CONGRATULATING THE BRIGHT PROSPECT GRADUATES -- Eric Garen, founder and president of Bright Prospect, at the podium, congratulates all of the Bright Prospect College Graduating Class of 2015 at last month's annual benefit graduation celebration in Pomona.

gious school without the help of Bright Prospect.

He said at home, he had always shared a room with five other family members but at "Penn" had a dormitory room to himself for the first time.

Gonzalez said he had a number of support systems that helped make Penn his home, including other Bright Prospect students attending other East Coast schools who visited often.

He wrote for the university's comedy magazine for three years.

"Through satire, I was able to critique certain aspects of my university's culture through my own on-line column," he said, adding that the column ended up on social media and he learned that other students had the same complaints as he did, and he could serve as their voice in a creative way.

"Bright Prospect inspired me to give back, even in a community that was not my own," he said.

He also became an after-school mentor in West Philadelphia helping students with their homework.

And all of this led him to draft a



Andres Gonzalez . . .
... University of Pennsylvania grad

proposal for a project to address the issue of summer learning loss, a problem that is common in elementary school children in low income communities like Pomona.

Gonzalez said he plans on working before going back to school to see what he can do with his English degree. He is considering either going into law or entertainment writing.



Dr. Mike Ortiz

Bright Prospect, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, empowers high-potential, low-income high school students to gain admission, succeed and graduate from four-year colleges and universities.

Ninety-eight percent of Bright Prospect students go to college, 91 percent graduate and Bright Prospect students have attended 14 of the top 15 colleges and universities in the country.

Alumni work in such diverse fields as law, education, medicine, genetics, chemistry, graphic arts, finance, fashion and other cutting-edge fields.

Bader announces candidacy for re-election to Mt. SAC Board

Veteran Mt. San Antonio College Board member Rosanne Bader has announced she will be a candidate for re-election to another four-year term on the Nov. 3 ballot.

Bader's Area 1 includes La Verne, Glendora, part of San Dimas and north Pomona.

She has served on the Board since 2001 when she was appointed to fill a vacancy. She was elected to the position in 2003 and re-elected in 2007 and 2011.

Bader has been elected President of the Board twice.

She is a long-time Pomona resident and a former teacher and principal in the Pomona Unified School District.

Bader is a past president of Pomona Rotary Club and serves on the Board of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center.

"I believe that community colleges such as Mt. SAC provide support for all students to achieve their full educational potential," she said, adding that many come from very difficult backgrounds, achieve success and often transfer to four-year colleges and universities.

"I know education and I am ready to continue to provide leadership at Mt. SAC," Bader added.



Rosanne Bader

La Nueva Voz

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Chamber installation... from pg. 1

you see many of the large employers . . . but what we want to see is some of the smaller employers, and I'm happy to say that Kennedy Austin (Foundation), one of our focus group attendees, joined the Chamber," she said.

"We need small businesses to come back to the Chamber," she said, adding that she has "a special place in her heart for small business."

"My mom and dad had a small business, they owned a liquor store and a restaurant which they worked all of their lives," she said. "My dad died three weeks ago and when a few of his former employees came to the funeral, I was reminded of the value of a small independent business, that what they bring to the community and to the employees, and for this reason I can relate in some way to the challenges of small businesses."

She said she hopes to "energize

our efforts for companies both large and small."

Honorary Chamber Life Award recipient

Dr. Phil Pumerantz, founding President of Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, received the Chamber's first-ever Honorary Chamber Life Award.

Pumerantz, who has announced he is stepping down after founding the university 38 years ago, told his standing ovation to sit down – "you're making me nervous."

He said he has been "delighted" with his 38 years but "now it is my time to say I've had it, someone else can take over."

His award is reserved for those individuals who have made significant contributions to the Chamber and recognizes the individual's dedication to the Chamber's high ideals and an objective of providing exceptional service to the business community.

Community Service Award

Larry Egan, Executive Director of the Downtown Pomona Owners Association, was this year's recipient of the Chamber's Community Service Award, which is granted annually to an individual who has consistently played a vital leadership role in community service organizations and the business community.

Egan was credited for his work with the DPOA to make Downtown Pomona a safe, clean and vibrant place to live, work and play.

In accepting the award, Egan, a Chamber Board member, thanked the Chamber and said it was a "delight" to serve.

He said his daughter, Sally Egan, bought him a plaque for his desk that he said is really a motto that he tries to live by.

"Essentially, it says there is no end to what a man can do or how far he can go if he doesn't mind who gets the credit, and that's pretty much what I do," he said.

Installation of officers

Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman performed the official installation of new Board members.

"The Pomona Chamber of Commerce is quite a vibrant organization that has been very instrumental in the City of Pomona, and I am very proud to have all of these wonderful people serving on the Chamber," Rothman said.

Outgoing Board President Jill Dolan of Mt. SAC said it was a "great honor" to serve as President for the past year.

"While we have accomplished much, there is much yet to be accomplished," she said. "Thank you for your on-going support of the Chamber, and I encourage you to continue to be involved beyond tonight."

Other awards

Other awards presented at the event included the Chamber's "Image Award," presented to a business or individual that continually demonstrates pride in ownership. This year's recipient was East Valley Community Health Center.

The award for "Community Service Organization of the Year" went to Kiwanis Club of Pomona for demonstrating outstanding dedication to service and civic and community efforts.

And the "New Business of the Year" award went to Lewis Retail Centers for demonstrating an active role in providing a valuable service to the community and enhancing the work force in the community.

"Employer of the Year" award went to Cal Poly University



Pomona Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Erica Frausto, at left, and President Cyndie O'Brien present the Chamber's "Image Award" to East Valley Community Health Center, represented by Clara Potes-Fellow, at right.



Pomona Chamber of Commerce President Cyndie O'Brien, at left, and Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto present the Chamber's "Community Service Organization of the Year" award to Kiwanis Club of Pomona with Kiwanis President Linda Olin, at right, accepting the award.



David McElwain, of the Los Angeles County Office of Education's GAIN division, was awarded this year's "Member of the Year" award by the Pomona Chamber of Commerce. Pictured, from left, are McElwain, Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto, and Chamber President Cyndie O'Brien.



Pomona Chamber of Commerce President Cyndie O'Brien, at left, and Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto present the Chamber's "Employer of the Year" award to Cal Poly University Pomona's Innovation Village last month. Sandra Vaughan-Acton, director of real estate development and real estate for the Cal Poly Pomona Foundation and a Chamber Board member, at right, accepted the award on behalf of Cal Poly.



Pomona Chamber of Commerce President Cyndie O'Brien, at left, and Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto present the Chamber's "New Business of the Year" award to Lewis Retail Centers of Upland. Timothy Reeves, Vice President of Retail Project Development for the company, accepted the award. The company is developing the new Rio Rancho Towne Center project in south Pomona.



COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT -- Larry Egan, at left, received the prestigious "Community Service Award" from the Pomona Chamber of Commerce at last month's annual installation and awards dinner. Pictured, from left, are Egan, Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto, and Chamber President Cyndie O'Brien.

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.

Pomona to join 15,000 communities next month participating in 'National Night Out'

Pomona will join forces with thousands of communities nationwide next month as it participates in the annual "National Night Out," a crime and drug prevention event, scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 4 in the Pomona Civic Center.

The free celebration will include raffle prizes, entertainment, kid's games and crafts, vendor booths and

more from 5 to 8 p.m.

The annual event is an opportunity for all of America to stand together and promote awareness, safety and neighborhood unity, according to a spokesperson for the Pomona Police Department crime prevention unit.

Each year, more than 15,000 communities in all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and even military bases around the world – more than 37 million people in all – participate in the event.

For more information, contact Pomona crime prevention officers at (909) 620-2318.

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'Food Forward' fruit recovery non-profit expanding into Pomona to donate to food banks

North Hollywood-based Food Forward, a non-profit organization that recovers fruit that otherwise would go to waste and donates it to those in need, is reaching out to the Pomona area in an attempt to expand its presence here.

Food Forward's San Gabriel Valley representative Jack Heer told La Nueva Voz in a communication through this newspaper's web site that the organization "wanted to get the word out about what we do to raise our volunteer base and reach out to homeowners with fruit trees."

"There is so much potential in Pomona for fruit recovery," he said. "I have already been in contact with churches, community groups and schools around the Pomona area and am hoping to expand our presence there."

Heer said Food Forward has two main programs – a "farmer's market" recovery program collecting food that was not sold and donating it to local food banks, and "backyard harvests," in which volunteers pick fruit from homeowners' fruit trees that would otherwise go to waste and donate it to area

food banks, using community volunteers to help in the community.

The six-year-old organization is already working in areas of the San Fernando Valley and the West San Gabriel Valley. According to its web site, it has already recovered 10,704,816 pounds of produce to date and, through its diverse distribution partners, is providing food to more than 100,000 clients a month throughout Southern California.

For more information, visit the web site at www.foodforward.org or call (818) 764-1022.



U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Patrick Dionne
CLAREMONT LT. ALKONIS ABOARD GUIDED MISSILE DESTROYER USS FITZGERALD -- Lt. j.g. Ridge Alkonis, at right, of Claremont, gives Rear Admiral John Alexander, Battle Force 7th Fleet, a tour of the Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer USS Fitzgerald's combat information center during Talisman Sabre 2015. Talisman Sabre is a biennial exercise that provides nearly 30,000 U.S. and Australian defense forces an opportunity to conduct operations in a combined joint and interagency environment that will increase the ability of both countries to plan and execute a full range of operations from combat missions to humanitarian assistance efforts.

Chamber installation... from pg. 5

Pomona's Innovation Village for promoting employee growth and development and demonstrating leadership in the business sector while providing resources and support in the development of other local businesses.

And "Member of the Year" award went to David McElwain of Los Angeles County Office of Education's GAIN division, for providing valuable services to the Chamber through committee work and special volunteer assignments.

FIRST EVER 'HONORARY CHAMBER LIFE AWARD' RECIPIENT -- Dr. Phil Pumerantz, founding President of Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, received the first-ever "Honorary Chamber Life Award" from the Pomona Chamber of Commerce last month.



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SUMMER KICK-OFF PARTY -- Gus LaZear, program consultant with Outdoor Adventures, speaks to a packed house from the landing at Pappas Artisanal restaurant in La Verne during the Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare summer kick-off fundraiser party this month to celebrate Casa Colina's "Land Meets Sea" sports camp. The camp, produced by Outdoor Adventures, celebrates its 20th year this year by offering summer camp activities to people of all ages with disabilities -- from water skiing to paddle boarding and hand cycling and more. To help provide scholarships for campers, text "CASA" to 91999 and make a pledge. For more information, visit the web site at casacolina.org.

'Pomona Day at the Fair' set for opening day Sept. 4

"Pomona Day at the Fair" is set for this year's opening day of the 2015 Los Angeles County Fair, featuring everything from a Pomona Day Parade to recognition of this year's "Community Heroes" and more.

The Los Angeles County Fair opens this year at noon on Friday, Sept. 4, with a special \$5 admis-

sion for opening day with coupons (limit six admissions per coupon).

Either clip the \$5 coupon from the advertisement in this newspaper (see page 11) or visit the web site at lacf.com/Pomona to view and print the coupon.

Or, you can pre-purchase \$5 admission tickets by clicking

"buy tickets" and entering promo code Pomona along with the number of tickets you wish to purchase in the community day admission field.

The \$12 price will be discounted to \$5 when checking out.

This year's Los Angeles County Fair runs from Sept. 4 through Sept. 27.

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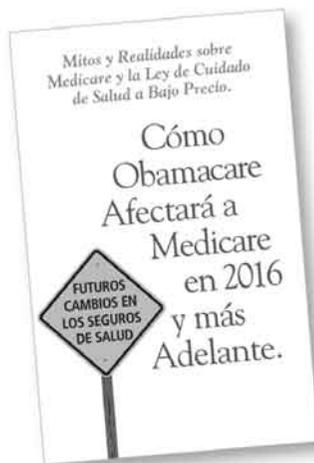
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- 6 mitos comunes sobre Obamacare (Ley de Cuidado de Salud a Bajo Precio). Aclaremos todas sus dudas a partir de la página 7.
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Churches in Chino partner to 'give back' to Chino area

Two Chino churches sharing the same pastoral team have partnered to help empower the Chino community where a 2013 American Community Survey revealed some 7,000 people are living under the poverty line.

"It is important for the church to not only be involved with the spiritual aspect of life, but life as a whole," said Jannet Guzman, executive pastor of both New Hope Christian Fellowship and Centro de Esperanza. "The Christian life is more than just a Sunday experience, it also implies a striving to improve people holistically."

The pastoral team has partnered with the Hope Family Resource Center, a new program created by



JOB FAIR IN CHINO -- Some 250 job seekers and 40 employers participated in a recent job fair in Chino as part of an "empowerment" program of New Hope Christian Fellowship and Centro de Esperanza in Chino reaching out to low income residents.

Chino Valley Unified School District, to help struggling families find homes.

The two churches also sponsored

a recent job fair in the community, attracting some 250 job seekers and some 40 employers.

And an appreciation dinner for

the Chino Police Department was held last month.

The churches also are supporting local food distribution ministries and

are planning additional service oriented events throughout the remainder of the year.

- Albizael Del Valle

Planning under way for 42nd annual Inland Valley Hope Partners 'Walk for the Hungry'

Inland Valley Hope Partners has announced its 42nd annual "Walk for the Hungry" has been scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 11, at the Claremont University Consortium with walk coordinator packets already available and planning meetings scheduled for next month in an effort to raise more than \$75,000 to benefit the hungry.

Walk coordinator meetings are

scheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 8, and 5 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 12, both at Hope Partners' administrative offices, 1753 N. Park Ave., Pomona.

Information packets and registration are also available on the web site.

For more information, contact (909) 622-3806 or visit the web site at www.inlandvalleyhopepartners.org.



RIBBON-CUTTING AT POMONA'S NEW DEL TACO -- Civic and business leaders turned out this month to cut the ribbon and officially open Pomona's new Del Taco restaurant in Pomona's new Rio Rancho Towne Center. According to a company spokesperson, Del Taco now has 554 stores from Las Vegas to Palm Springs to San Diego. More than half of them are company owned and operated stores, including both locations in Pomona. Pictured, from left, are store manager Felipe Becerra, Del Taco's area director Jimmy Baro, Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, Pomona City Councilmembers Debra Martin and Adriana Robledo, Pomona Chamber of Commerce Ambassador Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz (at rear), Pomona Chamber Past President Jill Reiff of Valley Vista Services, Pomona Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto, Benny Ayala, representing State Sen. Connie Leyva, and Robert Torres, representing Assemblyman Freddie Rodriguez.

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'Back to school' supply drive under way at Sowing Seeds for Life

Sowing Seeds for Life is calling on the community to help collect school supplies for distribution to kids in need.

A spokesperson for the non-profit said the group hopes to supply 300 children with everything from backpacks to markers, distributing the supplies through their food pantry.

Other items needed include pens, pencils, paper, binders, crayons, paper clips, post-it notes, tape, rulers, notebooks and calculators.

The supply drive continues through Aug. 1 with distribution at the pantry on Aug. 5.

To donate supplies or help host a supply drive, contact Fran Robertson, (909) 392-5777 for more information.

La Nueva Voz...

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FOLKLORICO DANCERS AT POMONA'S RELAY FOR LIFE -- Grupo Folklorico Tierra del Sol, a Folklorico group all the way from Stanton in Western Orange County, was the big hit at this year's Pomona Relay for Life American Cancer Society fundraiser last month at the Pomona Fairplex. Some four million people participated in more than 6,000 Relay for Life events last year worldwide to raise money for cancer research, education and prevention programs. The event also provides an opportunity to remember those lost to cancer and to fight back. This year's event in Pomona raised just over \$40,000, according to organizers.

POMONA OPTIMISTS SUPPORT RELAY FOR LIFE -- Pomona Optimists pose for La Nueva Voz at the "Optimist for Life" booth, the Optimists' team in the communitywide fundraising effort, at last month's Relay for Life at the Pomona Fairplex. (The booth for the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club was immediately to the left.) Pictured, from left, are Immediate Past President M. Joyce Bakermith; Sheina Martinez of Pomona, a senior at the School of Extended Educational Options, a charter school in Pomona; Optimist President Margarita Silva; and Joaquin Rodriguez, club treasurer. Martinez said she plans to join the club once she is 18. The Optimist team had raised nearly \$1,000 on the first day of the two-day weekend event by the time La Nueva Voz stopped by.

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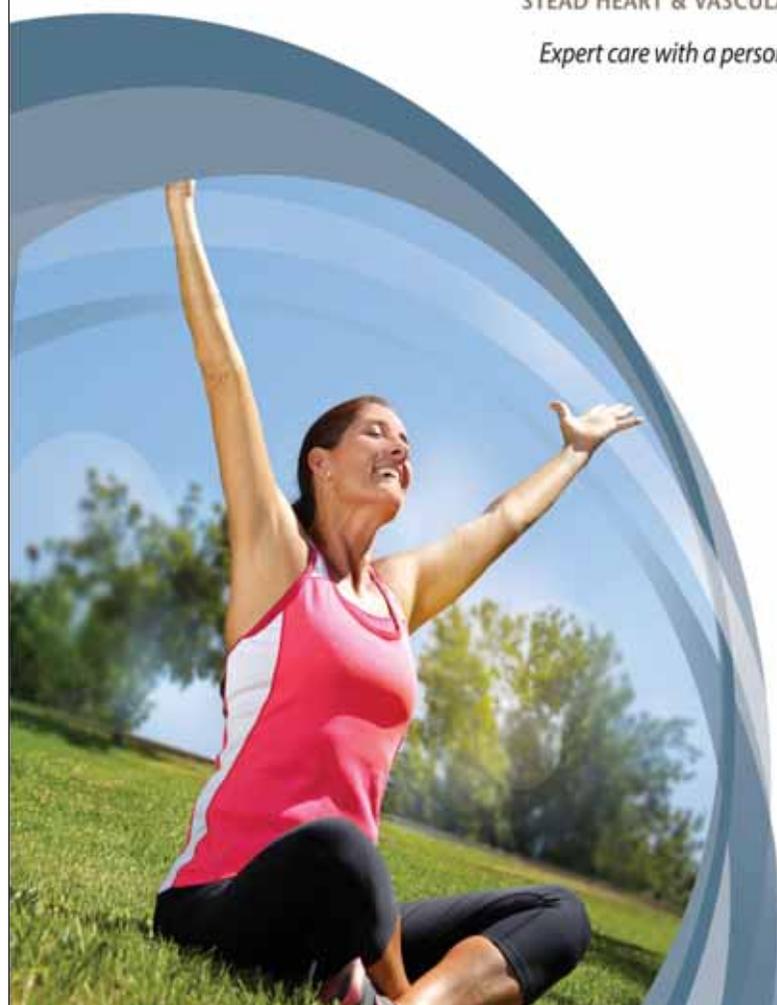
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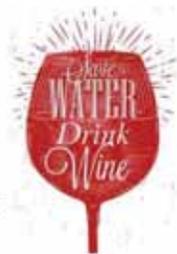
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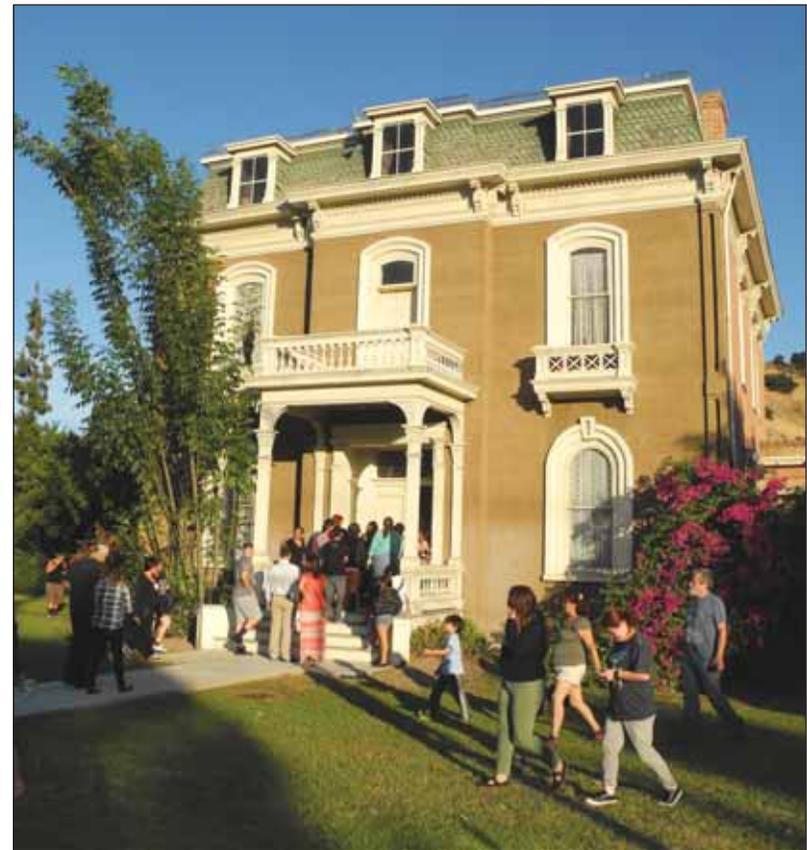
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WELCOMING GUESTS TO THE MANSION -- Mickey Gallivan, Board President of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley, welcomes a nearly sell-out crowd of visitors to Phillips Mansion as pianist Jay Munns takes a break from performing on the keyboard. Phillips Mansion, built in 1875, is the only "Second Empire" or "Classic Haunted Mansion" architectural style home in Southern California. The style typified the beginning of American and European style over the existing California lifestyle and was the first home in Pomona to be built with fired bricks. Construction cost was over \$20,000 for the eight-room house with all the modern conveniences including gas lighting -- the first in the valley to have it, according to the Historical Society. Rancher and wealthy landowner Louis Phillips lived in the home for 25 years until his death in 1900.

BARTENDER AT THE WINE AND CHEESE FUNDRAISER -- John Clifford, at left, Board member of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley, did an excellent job this month serving as bartender at the wine and cheese reception at Pomona's Phillips Mansion, hosted by the Historical Society. Pictured is Clifford, at left, chatting with visitor Arturo Jimenez, President of Pomona's Laguna Technical College and President of the Pomona Valley Democratic Club.



RARE LOOK INSIDE PHILLIPS MANSION -- Pomona's historic Phillips Mansion only opens to the public once a year and it was that time this month as the Historical Society of Pomona Valley hosted a wine and cheese reception under the avocado tree. Everything was included -- even live musical entertainment. Pictured are guests lining up for the only opportunity to tour the mansion this year.

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RIBBON-CUTTING AT NEW FLAME BROILER -- There's a new Flame Broiler in town, bringing the grand total for Pomona to three. Representatives of the city and the Pomona Chamber of Commerce got together this month to cut the ribbon and officially open the new store before sitting down for lunch ("The Works" bowls, of course!). Pictured, from left, are Pomona City Councilmembers Debra Martin and Paula Lantz, store manager Adan Figueroa, store owner Jennie Chang, Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, Pomona Chamber Executive Director Erica Frausto, and Pomona Chamber Ambassador Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz. The new store, an independently owned franchise, is located at 657 Indian Hill Blvd., Pomona, and is a new chamber member.

Applications available for free and reduced-price school meals

Applications are now available on line for free and reduced-price meals for Pomona Unified School District students.

To sign up for the National School Lunch Program, which continues

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Fundraiser dance set to help bring traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall to Chino

A fundraiser dance to help bring a traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall to Chino next year has been scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 1, at the American Legion Post in Chino.

Cost is \$10 at the door for the first 300 people at the event, set for 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the American Legion, 13759 Central Ave., Chino.

Music will be from the 50s, 60s and 70s.

The Vietnam Memorial Wall of the Antelope Valley, one of two mobile Vietnam War memorial walls that travel around the United States, will visit Chino's Ruben S. Ayala Park in time for next year's Independence Day activities.

For more information, contact Ed Denzin at (909) 973-3350.



ROADSTERS RETURN TO FAIRPLEX -- Members of the Los Angeles Roadsters car club returned to Pomona's Fairplex last month for their 51st year and shiny specimens were literally everywhere -- both indoors and out. The car club has also partnered with The Learning Centers at Fairplex for years through the Alex Xydias Center for Automotive Arts, a two-year automotive program that allows several hundred high school students each year to gain skills needed to enter the automotive industry. A new garage for the students of The Learning Centers made its debut at this year's show. The facility was made possible by a \$500,000 gift from the Margie and Robert E. Peterson Foundation. The show itself, known as "the greatest roadster show on earth," featured more than 800 pre-1936 roadsters, 1,500 pre-1972 specialty cars, a giant swap meet and a commercial vendor midway. Pictured, at top right, is club member and Commercial Exhibitor Chairman Lynn Houchin of Mission Viejo with the "Builder of the Year" display, showcasing a car built by Alan Johnson's Johnson Hot Rod Shop of Alabama. Houchin said 8,000 visitors were expected each day of the two-day event. The L.A. Roadsters car club was founded in 1957 and today with its 60 members continues its efforts to pass the skills needed for the roadsters hobby on to the next generation.

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State Employment Development Department launches bilingual online program for unemployment insurance claims

The California Employment Development Department (EDD) has launched a new and secure online program enabling residents to manage their unemployment insurance claims in either English or Spanish.

"UI Online" is available to California residents on computers, and the "UI Online Mobile" web site is available for use on smartphones and tablets, also in either English or Spanish.

Both systems operate around the clock so residents can use the program on their own schedule.

"Suffering a job loss is hard enough, and EDD's new UI Online service gives people ease and convenience at their time of need to manage their unemployment claims, said EDD Director Patrick Henning, Jr. "By providing individuals online access to their unemployment claims at all hours of the day, we are removing the need to pick up the phone or file paper forms."

The program replaces EDD's "eApply4UI" online application that has allowed residents to file unemployment claims using computers since 2002.

To help guide its customers, EDD has developed several resources including videos and frequently asked questions in English and Spanish, available at www.edd.ca.gov/unemployment/UI_Online.htm.

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Jeanette Royston installed as Pomona Valley Branch NAACP President

Pomona Valley Branch NAACP President Jeanette Ellis Royston, members of the executive board, and executive committee members were officially sworn into office last month at an installation of officers luncheon at Pomona's Macedonia Community Service Center.

Royston, who led the organization's reactivation efforts beginning in 2013, told a capacity crowd that it was "quite a journey."

"Together we are stronger," she said. "We must believe that. I could not have done this alone."

She added that "pigeon holing ourselves . . . only causes separatism," and said that approach did not work in the 1950s or 1960s.

Pomona Unified School District Board Vice President Adrienne Konigar-Macklin, also an adminis-

trative law judge, administered the oath of office and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman congratulated the officers and committee members on their service.

on behalf of the entire City of Pomona congratulations officers," he said. Keynote speaker for the event was Georgia Houston Webb of Oakland, retired associate director of the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at UC Berkeley, who told the audience she was working in the fields picking cotton in Alabama at the age of six.

"It's good to be in a room where I can look at others who are not African-Americans, look in your eyes, and say thank you for being here," she said. "This is something we have to do together. We have to all talk to each other. Where has hatred gotten us?"

"We're at a very interesting time," she said. "And we ask ourselves haven't we done this before?"



OATH OF OFFICE -- Pomona Unified School District Board Vice President Adrienne Konigar-Macklin, at left, also an administrative law judge, swears in Jeanette Ellis Royston as President of the Pomona Valley Branch NAACP.

trative law judge, administered the oath of office and Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman congratulated the officers and committee members on their service.

"The City of Pomona is very proud of all the hard work and effort that goes into putting together organizations like this but this one in particular, the work is what you can see as a very tangible thing," Rothman said. "It's not an idea committee . . . there's concrete results."

"And that's what sets the NAACP aside from a lot of very good intentioned organizations – it's seeing the physical results," he added.

"I'd like to thank Madam Royston for all the hard work and effort and

"Did I know when I was growing up in Alabama and witnessing the bombing in Birmingham, did I know that in 2015 my son would witness something just as horrific?" she said. "It's like history is repeating itself."

Webb recognized what she called "our new angels" from the recent South Carolina church shooting.

"Nobody is free until everybody is free," she said. "We will not be able to enjoy this beautiful world until everybody can enjoy it. You have the power to make the change."

NAACP Pomona Valley Branch 1085B passed the 100-member mark needed to reactivate the organization's local charter in February 2014 for the first time in nearly 25 years.

Winterball registration under way at Ted Greene Little League

Winterball registration begins Saturday for Pomona's Ted Greene Little League with sibling, T-ball and early-bird discounts available (early-bird discounts available only through July 31).

Registration hours for children ages 4 through 15 are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the next four Saturdays – July 25 and Aug. 1, 8 and 15 at

Ted Greene Park, 2147 N. Orange Grove Ave., Pomona.

Parents or guardians must have original birth certificates and three documents proving residency.

Cost (before any discounts) is \$65 per player.

For more information, visit the web site at www.tedgreenell.com.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS -- Adrienne Konigar-Macklin, at left, administers the oath of office to executive committee members of the Pomona Valley Branch NAACP. Pictured, from left, are Konigar-Macklin, Duane Smith, webmaster; Ona Tate, human trafficking chair; Kathryn Kirui, law enforcement chair; Pastor Ivory Brown, religious affairs chair; Audrey Yarbrough, labor and industry chair; and Paulette Young, health chair. Not pictured are Lilly Turner, mental health chair; Harold Jackson, prison chair; Wayne Carlton, veterans affairs chair and Josie Wilborn, foster care system chair.



EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS -- Adrienne Konigar-Macklin, at left, administers the oath of office to members of the executive board of the Pomona Valley Branch NAACP. Pictured, from left, are Konigar-Macklin, Bettie Martin, membership; Sandy Hester, assistant secretary; Gerry Cox, assistant treasurer; Myron Hester, treasurer; Lisha Lett, secretary; Linda Wright-Lee, first vice president; Lola Fountain, second vice president; and John Ammon, parliamentarian. Not pictured is Rev. David Turner, chaplain.



Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman, at right, congratulates new Pomona Valley Branch NAACP officers during installation ceremonies.



Georgia Houston Webb . . . keynote speaker

The branch includes members who live or work in Pomona, Up-land, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Claremont, Diamond Bar, Chino,

Chino Hills, San Dimas, Montclair and La Verne.

An earlier Pomona branch was founded in 1968 but deactivated in

the late 1980s.

For more information, contact (909) 629-2420, (909) 764-7833 or e-mail jrellisroyston@aol.com.



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.

- Curriculum follows the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and includes instruction in core subjects of religion, math, science, social studies, English, reading/ literature and spelling.
- Supplemental subjects include handwriting for grades one through four, computer class, art class, music and physical education.
- 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.
- Services include before and after school care, tutoring, WiFi Internet in all classrooms and hot lunch.

Educación Católica -- ¡Ahora registrando alumnos de kinder hasta el octavo grado!



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BOOK REVIEW**‘Dreaming Forward’ filled with motivational stories from Latino voices**

“Dreaming Forward, Latino Voices Enhance the Mosaic,” a new book by educator Martha Casazza, is a motivational collection that focuses on the challenges facing the Hispanic community in America through a patchwork of 19 individual stories and, while it is based in and around Chicago, it could just as easily have been written in Pomona.

The book provides a modern-day platform for people who have faced disappointment and fear in the desire to “dream forward” in the U.S. and who are committed to effecting change in their own community.

“We desperately need to engage in a national dialogue about how to best foster and sustain healthy urban communities, especially as our cities become home to a more diverse array of people than ever before,” Casazza said. By working inside the community and listening to their voices, I can see the roots of a healthy, sustainable Latino community here in the U.S. and in my own city of Chicago.”

The stories were gathered over a four-year period in a series of 40 interviews – conducted anywhere from living rooms in homes to an elementary school office.

Examples include Fabian, who grew tired of hearing negative things about the career academy where he

graduated high school and went on to work in the community to make the schools more responsive, supportive places for students.

Christine, a principal at an alternative school, recognized the need to encourage more parent involvement in the schools and provide parent workshops and awareness training.

Rafael, a police officer, saw a need to encourage community involvement as a gang suppression tactic.

“It means engaging, you know? Coming here to the community and really hearing, listening to the people in the community,” Rafael said.

Author Casazza, who says her passion is supporting traditionally underserved populations, was a Fulbright Senior Scholar to South Africa and an invited scholar to the Kazakhstan-British Technical University.

She is the co-author of three books and chairs the board of the Instituto Justice and Leadership Academy in the Pilsen community of Chicago as well as the Heartland Alliance International Board.

The book, published by iUniverse (ISBN number 978-1-4917-5212-8), is available in soft cover, hard cover and e-book on Amazon, Barnes & Noble and iUniverse.

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- Pomona library
- Claremont library
- Claremont City Hall lobby
- La Verne City Hall lobby
- La Verne Senior Citizens Center
- Pomona Chamber of Commerce, 101 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona
- Downtown Pomona Owners Association, 119 W. 2nd St., Pomona
- Pomona Unified School District administration building lobby
- Western University of Health Sciences 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
- Discount Market, Philadelphia Street and Towne Avenue, Pomona
- LaundryLand Coin Op Laundry, 744 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
- American Legion Post #30, 239 E. Holt Ave., Pomona
- Pomona Eagles, 954 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona



'STOP THE VIOLENCE' PRAYER MARCH -- Representatives of Pomona churches and other community leaders held another in a series of "Stop the Violence" prayer marches this month, walking from south Pomona with stops along the way and ending up in the Pomona Civic Center for a rally at noon. Pastor Victor Zesati, of Victory Outreach Pomona's Spanish-speaking congregation, told La Nueva Voz the group had grown to 60 by its first rest stop at his church, located at Philadelphia Street and San Antonio Avenue, and was expected to continue to grow along the way with an estimated 200 people gathering for the rally and prayer in the Civic Center. Pictured are marchers at the first rest stop at Victory Outreach and then heading back out on the sidewalk for the march up San Antonio Avenue.

THE WEEKEND GARDENER By Leif Green**Water conservation made easy**

"A garden is never so good as it will be next year."-- Thomas Cooper

We've all heard about the drought and the need to conserve water. Lawns and gardens can consume a lot of water especially now that we are coming into the summer months. It has been suggested that water conservation in the garden can be achieved by replacing plants in your garden with native or more drought tolerant species, greater use of ground cover and allowing your lawn to go brown. While these methods will save water, they are time consuming and can quickly become very expensive. So instead of these methods, here are some simple and inexpensive ideas to save water that you can implement starting today.

Flowers need water. Some plants will flower throughout the summer. If you have plants in your garden that are in full bloom, it is a sign that they are getting more water than they need to survive. However much water

they are getting now can be greatly reduced. There won't be as many flowers to enjoy, but at least when the drought ends, you'll still have flowers.

Trees and bushes also need a lot of water. The more leaves a tree or bush has gives the plants more surface area and therefore require more water. To reduce the need for water, prune them way back. This doesn't mean to trim or shape, it means to cut most branches and foliage back to the main trunk or stem. Although this isn't the time of year to do this type of pruning, it will reduce the water needed for your garden.

Lawns are notorious water hogs. Before restricting water to your lawn, give it a light feeding and one last good soaking. The lawn food will increase the health

of the grass and make the lawn more tolerant of water reductions. The lawn may be allowed to turn a pale green without killing it. Not only will this save water, but it has the added benefit of not needing to cut the grass as frequently. Whenever the grass is cut, be sure to use the clippings as ground cover. It keeps the weeds down, helps the soil retain water and best of all, it's free.



Leif Green

So there it is – easy ways to conserve water that you can start using today. Happy gardening!

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.



TUG OF WAR -- Pomona Police Sgt. Ian Miller helps get ready for the tug-o-war competition at the Great Campout this month at Fairplex. The annual event helps promote community involvement, unity among Pomona youth, and a safe environment for the kids to have fun.



COUNCILMEMBER MARTIN TAKES TIME TO PITCH IN -- Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin, at right, stayed late Friday night and came back early Saturday morning to serve breakfast and help out at this year's Great Campout at Fairplex. Pictured is Martin hanging out with the kids during the drawing for raffle prizes. "This is one of my favorite events," she told La Nueva Voz. The free event is for the first 300 Pomona kids ages 9 through 12 to sign up for a two day adventure including camping out under the stars in a new sleeping bag provided to each camper. Numerous community groups participate each year in the event with non-stop games, crafts, entertainment, events, police equipment demonstrations, snacks, meals and more.



ALL TUCKED IN FOR THE NIGHT -- Three young lady campers are all tucked in and ready for some real camping out under the stars in their brand new sleeping bags at this month's Great Campout at Pomona's Fairplex.



POLICE DOG DEMONSTRATION -- A "bad guy" (Pomona Police Officer Tim Dorn, wearing the protective suit) shows how a police dog works to subdue a suspect. Pictured, from left, are Dorn, "Sarge" the dog, and K9 handler Pomona Police Officer Joe Hernandez.



RAFFLE PRIZE WINNER -- Several dozen brand new bicycles were given away as raffle prizes again this year to kids participating in the Pomona Police Department's Great Campout, held each year in partnership with the Community Engagement Group, the City of Pomona and Fairplex. Pictured this month at Pomona's Fairplex with her new bicycle is Tamara Lopez, 10, of Pomona, a student at Kellogg Elementary School. She told La Nueva Voz she's had bikes before but this is her first "big" bike. From left are Lopez, Virginia Madrigal of Community Engagement, and Officer Manny Ramos of the police department's crime prevention unit. Other Community Engagement volunteers helping out this year were Carrie Baker, Anne Henderson, Tricia Manzo, Dolores Rodriguez, Frank Delgado and his daughter Audrey Delgado.

Inland Empire United Way announces this year's grants to local non-profits

Inland Empire United Way has committed to provide grants totaling more than \$600,000 to 44 local non-profit organizations that operate programs assisting individuals and families in need throughout the region.

The grants, up to \$25,000 each, will be provided over the coming 12 months. Each organization was selected based on strong program outcomes in areas of education, health and financial stability.

Included are homeless shelters, after school programs, college ac-

cess programs and health programs.

This year's "Impact Grants" will go to organizations including Boys and Girls Club of Fontana, Boys and Girls Club of Greater Redlands-Riverside, Bright Prospect, House of Ruth, The Learning Centers at Fairplex, and Project Sister Family Services.

"Safety Net Grants," providing basic needs, will go to Catholic Charities Los Angeles (Pomona Community Services Housing Assistance Program), David & Margaret Youth and Family Services,

and Sowing Seeds for Life, among others.

In addition to programs funded through the Community Impact Grant process, Inland Empire United Way raised an additional \$937,504 in the region that was distributed to a variety of non-profit organizations through donor designations.

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Repertory Opera to present annual 'Manly Men of Opera' fundraiser

Pomona's Repertory Opera Company will present its fifth annual "The Manly Men of Opera" next month featuring more than a dozen bass voices celebrating the unique sound and repertoire of the bass voice, along with a dinner featuring, of course, Italian food.

Included will be fathers, villains and clowns – with excerpts from "The Masked Ball" to "The Magic Flute." The concert ends with all

men singing together the "Song of the Boatmen" who pull barges up the Volga River.

Other popular favorites will include "They Call the Wind Maria" and "There Ain't Nothing Like a Dame."

Only one performance is scheduled for this annual fundraiser event, scheduled for 5 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 16, at First Christian Church, 1751 N. Park Ave., Pomona. Tickets are \$40 each or \$320 for a table of eight.

For tickets, visit the web site at www.repertoryoperacompany.org or call (909) 230-4949.

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PROUD POMONA GRANDPARENTS CELEBRATE TWO WEDDINGS A WEEK APART -- Pomona's Angel and Susie Perales welcomed two girls into the family and congratulated them on their new journey in their lives as husband and wife last month as two grandsons exchanged vows in ceremonies only a week apart last month. Zachary Perales and Sydney Rodriguez Perales (at left) were married on Saturday, June 20, at the Fleur de Lis Chapel in Upland. Joshua Perales and Kristi Magers Perales (at right) were married on Saturday, June 27, in an outdoor wedding at the McCoy Equestrian Center in Chino Hills. Congratulations to all!

Two heads are better than one.



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FIREWORKS ON THE FOURTH -- The annual "Kaboom!" fireworks show at Pomona's Fairplex, always a "sold out" event, fired off its usual very impressive display of fireworks again this year on the Fourth of July. Pictured is a spectacular shot captured by Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz from a back yard overlooking Fairplex from high in Ganesha Hills.

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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL – Prince of Peace Church in Pomona held its annual Vacation Bible School earlier this month. Children of all ages were invited to attend this fun and engaging event which featured Bible stories, music, crafts, and games. The children were provided with lunch every day and at the end of the course were rewarded with a pool party! Above, Sunday School teachers Patricia Luna of Upland, at left, and Karina Perez of Pomona had children participate in songs of worship while explaining the teachings of the Sermon on the Mount. At left, volunteer Jasmin Navarrette of Pomona helps Allen Espinoza, 3, of Upland, complete his project on the story of Joseph and his brothers in Egypt. This week-long event is held every summer to involve community children in fellowship and the church. Prince of Peace Church is located at 895 E. 7th St. in Pomona. Worship services are held every Sunday at 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. and on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

ESCUELA BIBLICA DE VACACIONES – Niños de todas las edades fueron invitados a la Escuela Bíblica de Vacaciones, un evento que se lleva a cabo cada año por la iglesia Príncipe de Paz en Pomona. Los niños aprenden historias de la Biblia y participan con cantos, manualidades y juegos. Al finalizar el curso, los niños disfrutaron de mucha comida, regalos y una fiesta en la piscina. En la foto arriba, las instructoras de escuela dominical Patricia Luna de Upland (izquierda) y Karina Perez de Pomona (derecha), instruyen a los niños sobre el Sermón del Monte mientras que participan en una alabanza. En la foto a la izquierda, Jasmin Navarrette de Pomona, ayuda a Allan Espinoza, 3, de Upland con su proyecto sobre José y sus hermanos en Egipto. Este evento de una semana de duración se lleva a cabo cada verano para que los niños de la comunidad socialicen y se involucren en actividades constructivas. La iglesia Príncipe de Paz esta ubicada en el 895 E. 7th Street en Pomona. Los horarios de servicio son Domingo a las 10 a.m. y 3 p.m. y Martes y Jueves a las 7:30 p.m.

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FINAL 'POMONA HOST TOWN' TEAM MEETING BEFORE SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES COME TO TOWN -- Cecilia Munoz, Chairperson of the Pomona Host Town Team and the City of Pomona's "host town" coordinator, shows off a "World Games" shirt for officials, to be worn only by members of organizers on the Pomona Host Town Team, a committee which has been working to bring Special Olympics athletes to town to prepare for the Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles from July 25 to Aug. 2. The group held its final meeting Monday in anticipation of nearly 300 athletes converging onto Cal Poly University Pomona on Tuesday. The athletes represent several "host town" cities, or cities that are hosting specific athletes. Pomona is hosting 23 athletes from Libya and 38 from the Isle of Man. All 300 athletes were expected to train at Cal Poly, where they are staying overnight, from 9 to 11 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. They had a jam-packed schedule of welcoming events, dinners and tours at Cal Poly and at Pomona's Fairplex before heading to the games in Los Angeles on Saturday. Pictured at the final team meeting are representatives of the City of Pomona, Pomona Police Department, Cal Poly, Fairplex and Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, the designated medical team for the athletes' stay in Pomona. Some 7,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities will participate in the Special Olympics World Games making this the largest sporting event to come to Southern California since the 1984 Olympics. The games are expected to attract an estimated 500,000 spectators. It will be the largest sporting event in the world this year. For more information on the World Games, visit the web site at www.LA2015.org.



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Our Valedictorian, Jennifer (center), will be attending USC in the fall where she will major in Civil Engineering. She is an Edison Scholar and has been awarded the Norman Topping Scholarship at USC. Additionally, she is a Gates Millennium Scholar and received a worldwide scholarship that will fund her education for the next ten years at any school of her choice. She is the second Gates Millennium Scholar from Pomona Catholic in two years.

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