



Pomona library foundation 'Mayor's Gala' nets \$70,000 on top of surprise state budget allocation of \$280,000 for the library

Pomona Public Library Foundation President John Clifford and his foundation team hit a home run this month when State Sen. Connie Leyva, top award recipient at the foundation's second annual "Mayor's Gala," announced at the event she was successful in getting \$280,000 in the new 2019-2020 state budget for Pomona library improvements this year.

Now it is all a little complicated, but Clifford told La Nueva Voz the \$280,000 probably goes to the city and not to the foundation.

However, the idea grew out of his talks with Leyva and her staff

requesting funds for the library earlier this year – something that Leyva said had nothing to do with her receiving the award.

And the numbers match up – Clifford requested \$282,000 for new books, furniture and equipment for the aging library (which was built in the early 1960s).

Plus, the excitement and applause for Leyva at the gala, held again this year at the Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center, was genuine.

"How about that news," Clifford said to La Nueva Voz after the event.



State Sen. Connie Leyva receives the Mayor's Award from Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval at this month's Mayor's Gala library foundation fundraiser.

Interestingly, the total net receipts at the almost full house event were only about \$70,000, Clifford said, down from last year's \$75,000. However, he said "more donations (will be) coming in from donors in the coming week or so."

But the big news was the \$280,000 budget allocation – and it all happened literally at the last minute.

The "back story" on this is that the day before the gala when La Nueva Voz asked Clifford what time Leyva was expected to speak, he admitted that he was not even sure she would be able to make it to the event because legislators were continuing to meet a June 15 constitutional deadline to adopt a budget.

His "B" plan was to present Leyva's award to her daughter with a video greeting from Leyva, run a video from actor and Pomona library supporter Joe Mantegna, and present the secondary award posthumously to author Ray Bradbury who once boasted he was "completely library educated" and never attended college.

(Bradbury, who died in 2012 at

the age of 91, last appeared in Pomona in 2010 at Western University of Health Sciences as part of the library's "Big Read.")

But when La Nueva Voz received an e-mailed news release the day of the gala from Assembly-member Freddie Rodriguez that the new \$214 billion state budget had been approved in the state Assembly and sent to Governor Newsom for his signature, bets went down that Leyva would make it after all.

(And she did, of course – she told La Nueva Voz at the event that she hopped on an airplane at 5 p.m. in Sacramento to be able to make it to the gala on time.)

Leyva, clearly the headliner at the gala with her news of the budget allocation, told the room she wanted to thank the members of the host committee who Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval joked were "tasked" with raising \$50,000 each (Clifford told La Nueva Voz after the event they were actually asked to "give or get" \$15,000 each).

"I wasn't even asked to be on the host committee, but I come with \$280,000 . . . for the Pomona library," Leyva said.

She was presented the foundation's "Mayor's Award" by Sandoval, who said "one of her most famous sayings is when we work

Pomona library surprise... pg. 13

Diamond Ranch High School seniors, PUSD's largest graduating class, told to plan their goals – just like they learned to do in high school

Editor's note: La Nueva Voz attempts to rotate its coverage at graduation time. This year, we selected Diamond Ranch High School to show our readers how graduation is done up the hill (and in the cold wind, for that matter!).

It was cold and it was windy on the football field at Pomona's Diamond Ranch High School during commencement exercises last month for the Class of 2019. And they came walking, they came on crutches, some were in wheelchairs and others were, well, kind of dancing their way up to get their diploma.

But when it was time to move their tassels from right to left and to begin the recession – off the field and into their new lives – there was clearly both excitement and a little uncertainty in the PUSD's largest graduating class... pg. 2



Three "co-valedictorians" addressed their classmates at this year's graduation ceremonies for Pomona's Diamond Ranch High School. Pictured, from left, are Venus Hagan, Matthew Bolbolian and Katelyn Su.

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PUSD's largest graduating class... from pg. 1

air for a good class of high achieving seniors.

Principal Suzanne Steinseifer-Ripley said it best.

Some 70 percent of the class was graduating after completing the University of California "A through G" requirements; 16 were "AP scholars" (students who received an award from the College Board for doing well on several advanced placement exams); two were National Merit Scholarship "commended students" (recognized for exceptional academic promise); 59 earned a "Seal of Biliteracy" (proficient in two or more languages); 108 earned the President's Award for Outstanding Academic Excellence (one of two awards given annually by the President of the United States and sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education to honor students with remarkable academic achievements); and 44 are Scholar Athletes (an organization that supports academic achievement through athletics).

She also told the graduates to plan their goals for the next four, five or six years, then reflect on them and adapt them – something

they've already learned to do at Diamond Ranch creating a four-year plan that helped them navigate college prep.

The Diamond Ranch High School graduating class was the largest in the Pomona Unified School District with some 364 members. A total of 1,611 students graduated this year district-wide.

"We have finally built the foundation upon which we can construct our lives," said co-valedictorian Matthew Bolbolian. "And so do not falter or fear failure. Take pride in your history of



Diamond Ranch High School Principal Suzanne Steinseifer-Ripley



Members of the Diamond Ranch High School Class of 2019 turn their tassels from right to left at the end of graduation ceremonies last month.

strength, wit, tenacity and trek on with confidence."

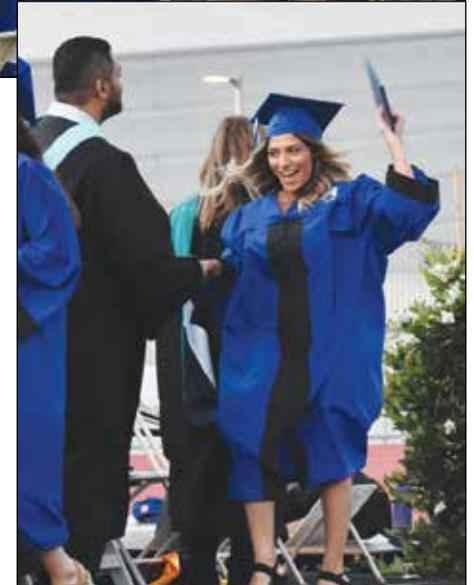
Venus Hagan, also one of the three co-valedictorians, told her fellow graduates "we gain the power to steer our future whichever way we choose."

And their high school diploma, she added, "permits each of us to hop into the driver's seat of our lives and take control of the wheel."

"Whether we take this brand new car and drive it to the next adventure of our lives or drive it into a ditch is completely up to us," she said.

"Whatever path you choose to take it will have its own bumps and bruises," Hagan said, adding that the friends they have made at Diamond Ranch will "always be in our passenger seat ready to provide guidance, company, encouragement and support throughout the journey to our success."

"Each of us has the capacity to change the world," said Katelyn Su, the third co-valedictorian. "Know that we, the class of 2019, will be conduits of an incredible future. Congratulations, fellow graduates – we did it."



Pomona Unified School District Board President Frank Guzman congratulates a graduate with her new diploma in hand.

Morgan Henderson, class representative for the last four years in the associated student body, told her fellow graduates there have been "more laughs, more jokes, more friends, more goals accomplished, and more dreams realized than we can count."

But she urged her fellow students to "live life, dream big and try to find yourself along the way." Pomona Unified Deputy Supt. Darren Knowles told students their graduation from high school is a "monumental achievement and I fully expect there will be many more achievements to come."

"As you move into another chapter of your lives, don't forget to utilize those soft skills that you've learned from your coaches, your teachers, your parents and your family," he said. "Those are skills like work ethics, teamwork, positive attitude, critical thinking, listening, time management and adaptability."

"We hope that you will come back and you become leaders in our community," he added, and that they would use those soft skills to acquire the hard skills

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Pomona Unified Deputy Supt. Darren Knowles



Pomona Unified School District Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman



VOLUNTEERING FOR VETERANS -- Nearly 100 area Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts, along with about three dozen parents, turned out again this year on the weekend before Memorial Day last month to place flags at the gravesites of military veterans who gave their lives for their country. Participating were members of Boy Scout Troop 214 of Chino Hills, Cub Scout Pack 818 (Pomona and Claremont), Boy Scout Troop 777 of Diamond Bar and Boy Scout Troop 309 of Ontario. Pictured are the scouts posing for a group shot before heading out for a couple of hours of work in the cemetery at Pomona Valley Memorial Park. (La Nueva Voz safety columnist Jose Bermudez' grandson Joaquin Bermudez, one of the volunteers, is pictured in tan shirt and glasses at rear, about 10th from right.)



ORGANIZING THE TROOPS -- Don Bloch, Assistant District Commissioner of the Boy Scouts of America, organizes the troops early on the Saturday morning before Memorial Day before sending them out to place flags at gravesites of military veterans at Pomona Cemetery. "Today we are to recognize basically folks who have given their time, their life essentially, served our country," Bloch told the scouts, adding that the cemetery includes graves of soldiers dating to World War I and even the American Revolution. Flags were provided by the cemetery and Pomona's American Legion Post 30.



Photo by Renee Barbee
Despite his handicapped arms and prosthetic legs, Cub Scout Zach Harrell, age 5, was perhaps the most enthusiastic volunteer of the day. He has already earned his "Lion" patch in Cub Scout Pack 818 (Pomona and Claremont).



Scouts head out with flags in hand looking for graves of veterans.



Scouts worked with brooms, shovels and screwdrivers to be able to properly place flags at gravesites of military veterans.



Photo by Eric Jung
POMONA OPTIMIST STUDENTS OF THE MONTH -- The Pomona Optimist Club recognized a new group of students of the month at a meeting last month at Mr. D's Diner in Pomona. Students of the month for April were Sarah Montano, at left, and Ariana Regalado, at right. Students for May, at center, were Jacob Garcia and Leilani Ibarra. All are students at San Antonio Elementary School. Pictured, at rear, from left, are Optimist members Ruby Jung, Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez, Renee Barbee, Debra Martin, President Lorraine Canales, M. Joyce Bakersmith and Pomona City Councilmember Steve Lustru. Not pictured is Marlin Abundez-Alvizo, a student at Village Academy High School, who was named 2019 Youth Appreciation Volunteer of the Year.



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Emotional 'tribute to service women' tells story of women in the military at annual Pomona Cemetery Memorial Day program

The annual veterans' Memorial Day program last month at Pomona Valley Memorial Park in Pomona featured a "tribute to service women" by a former U.S. Army Sergeant who managed a dining facility that served 1,200 soldiers daily, was the first Latina to win the joint culinary training exercise competition, was second place winner in the culinary arts "Olympics" in Stuttgart, Germany, and was even injured in a battle in which her unit lost eight of 13 soldiers.

"But most of all, my biggest accomplishment, I got to wear the flag and serve my country, said Mrs. Jethena Roca Luna, now a member of the American Legion Borinquen Post 508 in Baldwin Park where she makes her home.

Luna, who served six years active duty in the Army followed by another three years in the Army National Guard, told the story of how she wanted to follow all of her siblings in joining the military – and she wanted to do it at the age of 15.

"I marched right into the recruiter's office and demanded that they let me sign up," she said. But when she was asked her age, the recruiter told her to come back when she was 17 "with your mommy and daddy."

"I'm the baby of eight – I don't take 'no' very well," she told a near capacity crowd filling bleachers and chairs at the Pomona cemetery. So, she "stormed" out of the office determined to prepare herself for military service.

Then, in 2003, just before she turned 17, she received a letter from USC telling her she received a "full ride" scholarship for four years.

Even so, that following March, she signed up with the U.S. Army.

"I knew that if I didn't serve in the military like my siblings, by the time I'd be 40 I'd regret not being able to say I did it, I survived, and I did it for my country," Luna said.

She notified USC and they continued her scholarship while she was in the military so she could complete her requirements online. She received her first bachelor's degree by the age of 20.

Luna's military career started with boot camp at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, "where this little gullible, quiet yet determined girl from Baldwin Park, California,

turned into a strong, independent, fearless and respectful woman."

"I can't believe how much the military has taught me to be all of those qualities in a matter of a few months," she said.

She went on to "job school" at Fort Lee, Virginia, to learn how to be a cook, and at Fort Campbell, Kentucky, home of the 101st Airborne, she ended up jumping out of planes – and she qualified and passed.

"I am a combat Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran," she said with pride.

And she interned as a sous-chef and learned Japanese cuisine and traditions on a joint mission in Japan.

During her time served, she said she "learned many values – values that will live with me for such a long time, such as loyalty, duty, respect, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal courage."

But her comments became emotional and tearful when he recounted that battle in which more than half of her unit was lost.

"One of the soldiers who was the brother of a high school friend, come to find out months after my recovery, I went to visit his mom and dad just to find out they lost their only other son two weeks prior in a battle as he served in the Marines," she said. "I don't know why or how we made it out and others didn't. But on days like this, a day to remember them, I can't forget."

"I'm sure you've heard the saying 'I signed a blank check and made it payable to the United States of America for an amount up to and including my life,'" she said. "Well, it's no joke. Some have paid the ultimate sacrifice and they're not here today and their families are still in mourning. They're not here to enjoy the barbecue, the music or the parades at which we celebrate and honor them."

"But there is something worth honoring them even more for, and that is for setting the standard for us veterans and current soldiers," Luna said. "Their sacrifice aided us in the opportunity to accomplish more and more and they broke the



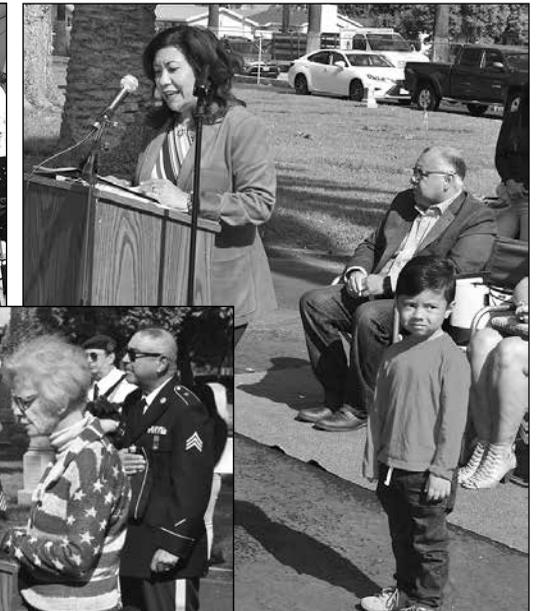
Members of the Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps of Lutheran High School in La Verne execute a memorial firing squad salute.



Pictured at Pomona's Memorial Day program, from left, are Pomona's Farrell Chiles, Pomona's American Legion Post 30 Commander Richard Haro, who served as master of ceremonies, and Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval.



Members of the Pomona Concert Band with Linda Taylor conducting.



Congresswoman Norma Torres and her grandson Julien.



Veterans advocate Dr. Katie Strong



Former U.S. Army Sgt. Jethena Roca Luna



Rev. Dr. Beth Bingham offers the invocation at Pomona's Memorial Day program.

barriers for us, especially the females, to be able to succeed in serving our country."

"The current soldiers continue to carry the flag forward so the citizens of the United States of America can continue living in a free country," Luna said. "That was from their sacrifice. For this and much more we will remember them on Memorial Day."

Elected officials take time to remember

"Today, Memorial Day, is a day to remember, to honor the men and women who lost their lives in battle, in war," said Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval as he recounted a visit he took with his wife the day before to San Clemente – a pleasant day of shopping



Pomona's Post 30 American Legion 2nd Vice Commander Robert Radcliff leads the Post 30 Color Guard in the ceremonial placing of a memorial wreath at the annual Veterans' Memorial Day program at Pomona Valley Memorial Park last month.

and visiting the community.

"That wouldn't be possible if it wasn't for the men and women who have sacrificed their lives so that we can enjoy freedom," he said.

Pomona veteran and author Far-



Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez, at left, presents a Memorial Day certificate to Janet Roy, general manager of Pomona Valley Memorial Park.

rell Chiles, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, said he wanted to honor the men and women who sacrificed their lives "so we can have the freedom that we have today."

"I'm a Vietnam veteran who was able to come home but many of my comrades were not able to and today we not only honor them, but we honor their families," Chiles said.

"There is no higher or more noble honor than to give your life for your country, the country that you

Denny Mosier takes the Pomona Host Lions President's gavel from Anne Henderson for coming year

Pomona Lion Denny Mosier was installed last week as president of Pomona Host Lions in ceremonies at the Pomona Valley Mining Company, telling his fellow members his theme for the coming year is "better your community."

Mosier previously served as president in 2016-2017.

"This is a great club, it's really changed my life for the better, and I think we're going to do a good job, we're doing a wonderful thing for the community," Mosier said.

"The reason why I picked 'better your community' is because, let's face it, Pomona has many issues they can deal with," he added. "It's a town that in most parts of the Pomona Unified School District . . . about 90 percent of them qualify for free lunches or breakfast. You can't teach somebody who's hungry."

Mosier said there are a lot of opportunities in Pomona and the group is "known as a club that actually does it," with recent projects including feeding the homeless, vision screenings, giving books to first graders and more.

"We do a lot of things, we get out there and roll up our sleeves, we do the job . . . and we're going to expand and continue to help Pomona's needy," he said.

Mosier was installed by Pomona Lion and former Lions District 4-L4 Governor Gil Smith. It was the club's 99th installation of officers.

Awards presentations

Also present at last week's meeting was the current incoming District Governor Mark Piva of Huntington Beach, who presented Smith with the District's Lifetime Achievement Award plaque and perpetual trophy, which was originally presented to Smith at the district's recent annual convention in Palm Springs where the Pomona club received two of the District's top awards.

Piva said Smith's award recognizes "achievement not just for this past year but for one entire life as a Lion."

"The District Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes the Lion who has most distinguished himself or herself as an active and contributing Lion in the District and/or at the local club level during their entire Lion career," Piva said as he awarded the honor to "our own past District Governor, your long-time member and a really incredible individual, Gil Smith."

Smith, a 23-year member of Pomona Host Lions, was honored at the convention for his distinguished Lions career of service and lasting achievements in the community, the District and the state.

He founded the California Lions Foundation three years ago as the charitable fundraising arm of the California Lions to raise money to assist local clubs in meeting community needs such as relief to victims of this year's wildfires.

As District Governor, he led the District to increased membership, expanded service to the communities and increased leadership training.

Piva also presented the District President of the Year Award to Pomona Lion Anne Henderson.

Henderson's award also was originally presented in Palm Springs.

"I read her resume and I read what she did, and I got tired," Piva said. "It is the most phenomenal list of achievements that

one can do in their community."

Henderson served as President of Pomona Host Lions for the past year.

She was honored at the convention for her outstanding achievements leading the club and guiding the club in its tremendous work of service to the community.

District 4-L4 includes all of Orange County and parts of Los Angeles and San Bernardino County.



Pomona Lion Denny Mosier, at left, is installed as new President of Pomona Host Lions by Pomona Lion and Past District Governor Gil Smith.



Outgoing Pomona Host Lions President Anne Henderson, at left, receives the District President of the Year Award from incoming District Governor Mark Piva.



Pomona Lion and Past District Governor Gil Smith, center, receives his District Lifetime Achievement Award from incoming District Governor Mark Piva, at right, and outgoing Pomona Host Lions President Anne Henderson.



Outgoing Pomona Host Lions President Anne Henderson, at left, presents the Melvin Jones Award to Pomona Lion Beverly Sugerman. The award, named after the founder of Lions International, is the international club foundation's highest honor. It recognizes dedicated humanitarian services.



CALIFORNIA LIONS FOUNDATION AWARD -- Pomona Host Lions member Jo Fulton, a founding member of the California Lions Foundation, receives the Kay K. Fukushima Fellow award at last week's Lions meeting. The award was for her "dedicated humanitarian services." Pictured from left, are Fulton, outgoing Pomona Host Lions President Anne Henderson, and Pomona Lion and Past District Governor Gil Smith.

Know your rights in an immigration emergency

The Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs and its Office of Immigrant Affairs is available to assist residents by answering questions and addressing concerns in the wake of federal plans to step up immigration enforcement action.

Southern California callers can be connected to local legal aid resources and county services and can learn more about

how their family should respond in the event of an immigration emergency.

Officials said if immigration agents come to your home or place of work or stop you on the street, you have a right to not open your door unless the agent has a warrant to enter that is signed by a judge.

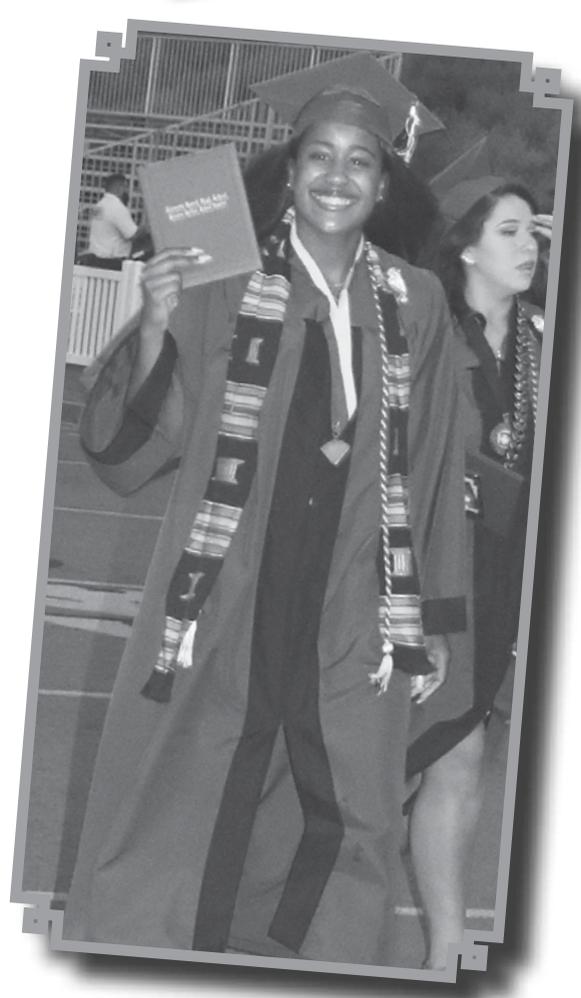
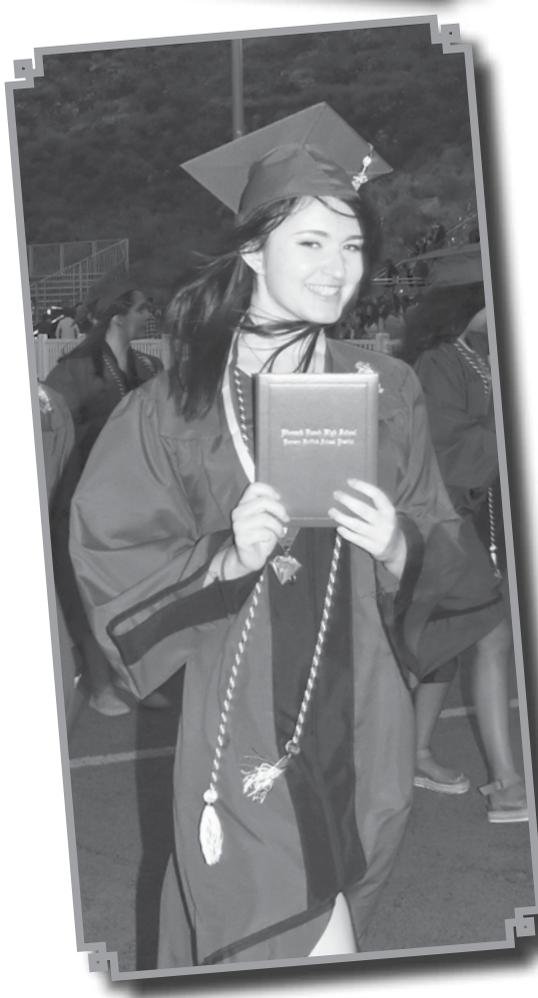
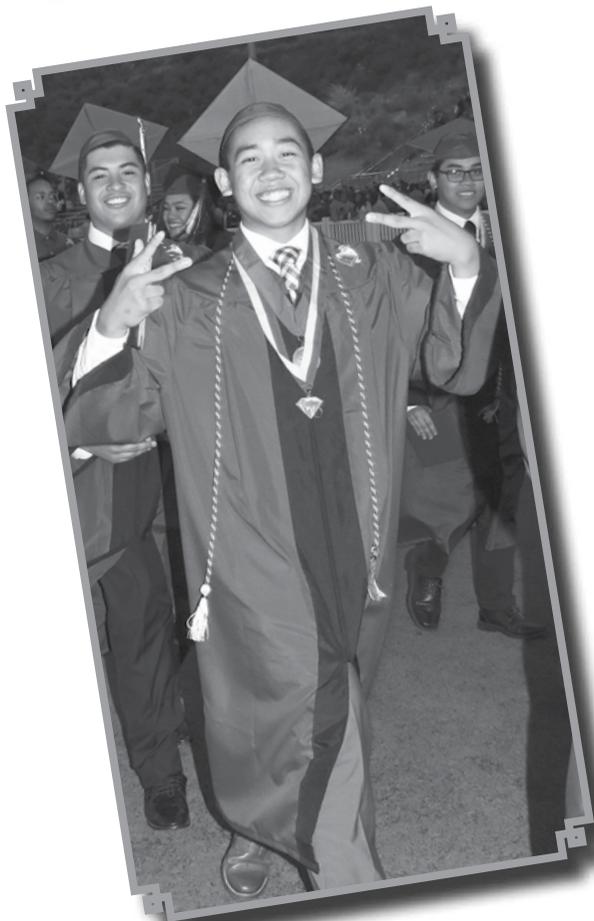
You also have a right to remain silent and not answer questions.

In addition, you have a right not to sign any papers without first talking to an attorney, and you have a right to talk to an attorney at your own expense.

If you are outside your home, ask if you are free to go and if so, leave peacefully. If they say no, ask to call your attorney.

For more information, contact the county at (800) 593-8222 between the hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

There was excitement in the air after diplomas were handed out at Diamond Ranch High School!





Pomona Unified School District's Adult and Career Education is applying for reaffirmation of accreditation with Commission of the Council on Occupational Education (COE). Persons wishing to make comments regarding Adult & Career Education will write to the address below and should include the name and mailing address of the person responding.

Executive Director of the Commission
Council on Occupational Education
7840 Roswell Road, Bldg. 300, Suite 325
Atlanta, Georgia 30350
(800) 917-2081



La Escuela de Adultos y Carreras del Distrito Escolar de Pomona está solicitando para reafirmar la acreditación ante la Comisión del Consejo de Educación Ocupacional. Las personas que deseen expresar sus opiniones sobre la Escuela de Adultos y Carreras pueden enviar sus comentarios por escrito a la siguiente dirección y deberán incluir el nombre y domicilio de la persona que mando la carta con los comentarios.

Director Ejecutivo de la Comisión
Council of Occupational Education
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Pomona Unified adult school director Dr. Enrique Medina named Pomona Chamber board chair

Dr. Enrique Medina, long a friend of business and job-seekers alike and a nearly 30-year veteran of the Pomona Unified School District, has been selected to serve as next year's Board Chair of the Pomona Chamber of Commerce.

Medina, who heads Pomona Unified's adult school as the district's Director of Career Readiness, was selected by the Chamber Board's Governance Committee. He will be installed next month at the Chamber's annual installation and awards reception to be held July 11 at the Pomona Valley Mining Company in Pomona.

He has served as a member of the Chamber's Executive Board since 2013 and has chaired the Chamber's College, Career and Workforce Development Task Force since 2011. He has served as director of the San Antonio Regional Occupational Program since 2015.

From 2016 to 2018, Medina served as the Region XV representative to the adult education state council of the Association of California School Administrators. And he has served as president of the Latino Family Institute Board of Directors since 2015. In Pomona Unified, during his career, he has served as assistant principal, principal, public relations officer, administrative director for pupil resources and student learning, and assistant to the superintendent for business services and educational options.

Medina earned his doctor's degree in edu-



Dr. Enrique Medina

ational leadership at Claremont Graduate University.

Always a supporter of the news media, Medina served on the advisory board of the original La Voz, the predecessor of this newspaper which published for 28 years.

His selection as Chamber Board Chair was announced by Pomona Chamber President and CEO Monique Manzanares at this month's Chamber networking luncheon in Downtown Pomona.

Claremont Graduate University, Western University form health care collaboration

Claremont Graduate University in Claremont and Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences announced this month they are joining forces to provide what they say is the broadest array of all-graduate health science programs in the country to better prepare students to enter the rapidly expanding health sector.

The new strategic alliance will offer students collaborative programming with a focus on health sciences, public health, and health systems management.

It also will make possible joint research initiatives between faculty and students addressing various complex community and global health industry challenges.

"This alliance is a natural extension of our mission (to provide unsurpassed graduate level education) and provides unique

opportunities for our students and faculty," said Dr. Len Jessup, president of Claremont Graduate University.

At Western University, the collaboration will enable the school to expand its programs beyond health sciences to include management and public health, said Dr. Daniel Wilson, president of Western.

"This is a new era for both universities," Wilson said, "especially our students and faculty, but one that can benefit all the Claremont Colleges as well as the entire region and beyond."

Together, the two universities serve 6,000 students and employ more than 1,000 people.

Students will have the opportunity to enroll in collaborative programming beginning this fall.

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CAL POLY MODEL U.N. TEAM WINS TOP NATIONAL PRIZE -- Cal Poly University Pomona's team recently at the National Model United Nations conference in New York brought home the "outstanding delegation" award -- the competition's top prize. In addition, the 20-member team (pictured) tied the university's 2015 squad for most decorated team since the program was launched in 1977. Four students on the team also won individual honors. The students -- from diverse majors -- competed against some 170 participating universities and colleges around the world. They started preparing in January to play the role of Argentina at the conference. The competition emulates the United Nations General Assembly with students playing the part of actual diplomats and taking the position on issues that the country they represent would take. National Model United Nations is a non-profit organization that advances understanding of the United Nations and contemporary international issues. The conference sessions have been held at U.N. headquarters in New York since 1952.

LA County Fair to partner with some of Los Angeles' finest institutions

Some of the biggest landmarks in Los Angeles will be partnering with the LA County Fair this year -- names like the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Autry Museum and the Pasadena Tournament of Roses -- to help carry out its "pop culture" theme throughout the fairgrounds.

Other big names participating this year include the Discovery Cube, the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum and La Brea Tar Pits, and LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes, according to a Fairplex news release.

For example, the county art museum will provide artwork from its collection, the Autry Museum will bring out its flavor of western history through original posters and speakers on a variety of topics, and the Tournament of Roses will offer a bit of floral brilliance.

"With these partnerships, we have raised the bar on what a county fair can be," said Fairplex President and CEO Miguel Santana. "We thoroughly embrace our nostalgic traditions -- with farm animals, food on

a stick and carnival rides -- but now we've incorporated elements of cultural components that contribute to the rich diversity of Los Angeles and Southern California."

"One of Fairplex's guiding principles is to celebrate that which is uniquely Southern California, so to partner with such exemplary organizations . . . is a no-brainer," Santana said.

Theme of the Fair this year is "LA County Fair goes Pop!" The Fair runs from Aug. 30 through Sept. 22.



Photos by Renee Barbee

NICU REUNION -- Some 200 families whose children spent the first months of their life in Pomona Valley Community Hospital's neonatal intensive care unit came back to the hospital's Pitzer Auditorium this month for a reunion where they had an opportunity to reunite with the associates who cared for their babies. The hospital has a state-of-the-art 53-bed Level III NICU facility for the treatment of sick or premature babies from all over Southern California. The hospital is also the second largest birthing hospital in California and logged more than 5,000 births last year. Pictured at the event, from left, are hospital Vice President of Development Jim Dale, Amber Brenneisen of the hospital's public relations department, and marketing intern Barbie Chiu, a senior at Cal Poly University Pomona.



There was something for everyone at Pomona Valley Community Hospital's NICU reunion this month -- from family photos in front of a professional backdrop for parents and their "grown up" NICU babies to games (and those tiger ears and face painting) for everyone!



LOS ANGELES LANDMARKS PARTNER WITH LA COUNTY FAIR -- Representatives of some of the biggest landmarks in Los Angeles, who are partnering with this year's LA County Fair to help develop this year's Fair theme of "LA County Fair goes Pop!," are pictured at a news conference last week in Los Angeles. Pictured, from left, are Tournament of Roses Executive Director/CEO David Eads, Los Angeles County Museum of Art Chief Operating Officer Diana Vesga, Self Help Graphics and Art Executive Director Betty Avila, Fairplex President and CEO Miguel Santana, Discovery Cube Board member Dr. Pedram Salimpour, La Plaza de Cultura y Artes Executive Director John Echeveste, and Autry Museum President and CEO W. Richard West, Jr.



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HELPING OUT CAPTAIN AMERICA -- Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, at right, does his best to help out comic book character Captain America, at center, and rid Pomona of war mongers and terrorist organizations. Pictured hanging out at Pomona's second annual Children's Festival last month in the Pomona Civic Center are, from left, festival organizer Chara Swodeck, Captain America (Matt Russo of Avast Entertainment, a "shield" sponsor for the event -- for character performers, visit Facebook.com/avast-entertainment) and Sandoval. This year's event also joined the Pomona Kite Festival in the Civic Center where kids were able to fly their handmade kites.



Kids at last month's Pomona Children's Festival -- all dressed in their superheroes costumes -- take the superheroes pledge of loyalty and honor.



Folklorico dancers from the Cielo Rojo dance company perform at last month's Pomona Children's Festival. The group meets at the dA Center for the Arts and includes kids age five and up.



Director Ana Maria del la Cruz leads singers in the dA Voices Youth Choir, a group that meets at the dA Center for the Arts in Pomona and includes kids ages five to 13. The group performed at the Children's Festival in Pomona last month.



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Iglesia Cristiana Interdenominacional hosts first statewide conference in three years for members, including representatives of Pomona church

More than 1,000 worshippers from Iglesia Cristiana Interdenominacional churches throughout California – including members from the Pomona congregation – convened over the Memorial Day weekend for a three-day reaffirmation of faith conference on the topic “Obeying and worshiping God for always” on the University of Redlands campus.

The religious denomination has churches throughout the United States and Latin America, including some 40 churches in California.

Last month’s conference – centered in the university’s Memorial Chapel auditorium in Redlands – was the first time in three years all the California churches – known as the Presbytery of California – convened for a statewide session.

The spiritual gathering had been envisioned by Isaias Lopez, principal pastor in California.

Topics included obedience to and adoration of God, and “Two churches are stronger than one.”

Break-out sessions in various conference rooms were held on topics for various age groups and ministries such as diligent pas-



Photo by Humberto Herrera
Organizers and leaders of a three-day statewide conference of the Iglesia Cristiana Interdenominacional pictured, from left, are Isaias Lopez, pastor and director of the California statewide church; Pastor Jorge Rivera; Pastor Gersain Garcia, who traveled from Mexico for the event; Pastor Valentin Nunez; Pastor Cornelio Montes; and, at the podium, Pastor Aaron Cortez, head director of the Interdenominational Christian Church throughout the United States and Latin America who traveled from Mexico City to participate in the event.

tors and ministers, administration and accounting within the church, evangelism as a style of living and puppet shows and fun activities based on Bible stories for children.



Photo by Jose Nuñez
Some of the 1,035 members of the Iglesia Cristiana Interdenominacional convene in the Memorial Chapel auditorium at the University of Redlands for the first statewide conference of the church in three years.

“Promotions” to “Licensed Pastor,” “Ordained Pastor” or “Minister” were celebrated for church members who have completed three years of study and two years of practice, with the hope they can form their own church groups or religious communities or perform missionary work.

“One of our aspirations is to have facilities and es-

tablishments of our own where we can hold these kinds of reunions and not have to rent facilities from others,” Pastor Lopez said. “We have called it the ‘Ezra Challenge’ project, the main focus being either to buy a 10- or 20-acre vacant lot where we can build a tabernacle or buy an abandoned warehouse or deserted building.”

Church congregations in California are located as far north as Napa and as far south as Chula Vista.

“Our goal is to have at least one church in all 58 counties in California,” Pastor Lopez added.

Iglesia Principe de Paz de la Iglesia Cristiana Interdenominacional in Pomona, is located at 895 E. 7th St.

For more information, contact the church by e-mail at iciusa.presbiteriocalifornia@yahoo.com or call the Pomona church at 909-235-2943.



Sammy Villafana, 9, at left, and Jose Gonzalez, 11, both of Pomona, enjoy the last of their French fries at lunch last month at the Iglesia Cristiana Interdenominacional statewide conference in Redlands.



Photo by Patricia Estevez
Instructor Yesenia Paredes teaches a class of kids ages 4 to 5 at the statewide conference at the University of Redlands – and they were paying attention!

ARTS COLONY
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AUGUST 10TH | 5 PM - 10 PM

Downtown Pomona is having a birthday party and you are invited! It's time to celebrate 25 years of art exhibitions, Second Saturday Art Walks, art classes, funky shops, nightlife, loft living, and concerts.

Come join us for a FREE, family-friendly celebration on August 10th from 5 PM to 10 PM. The festivities will take place on Second Street and feature more than a dozen live bands, lucha libre wrestlers, an outdoor art gallery, low-riders, food and craft vendors and much more. Don't miss out on this historic event!

FOR MORE INFO VISIT: WWW.DOWNTOWNPOMONA.ORG

Historical Society to host a night under the stars at Phillips

The Historical Society of Pomona Valley will host a “Phillips under the stars” reception Saturday, June 29, at the historic Phillips Mansion featuring tours, wine and cheese and a presentation by a local historian.

Tours get under way at 6 p.m. at the mansion, located at 2640 Pomona Blvd., Pomona. A presentation by Paul Spitzzeri, museum director at the Workman Temple Homestead Museum in the City of Industry, be-

gins at 8 p.m.

Spitzzeri is a former Historical Society board member and once served as the resident host at the Phillips Mansion.

Reservations and advance ticket sales are requested but not required by calling (909) 623-2198.

Tickets are \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members.

For more information, e-mail the Historical Society at pomonahistorical@verizon.net.

Pomona library surprise... from pg. 1

together, we win together.”

“We are so fortunate to have her as our state senator because I think she truly embodies the values of our community,” he added. “So on behalf of the Pomona Public Library Foundation we want to honor our senator, Sen. Connie Leyva.”

Leyva told the audience of nearly 300 library supporters that when she returns to the district she is “inspired and I’m encouraged and I’m so humbled by this award.”

“We should all be reminded about all the amazing things that are happening in the City of Pomona,” she said, speaking to members of the gala host committee. “Every city doesn’t have all those things going on in their city. You should be very proud.”

“I love libraries,” she said when she received the award. “I remember when I was a little girl I grew up in Chino and my very first memory of the Chino library is when I was in kindergarten and we were reading the book ‘Where the wild things are.’”

She said the class was asked to draw pictures based on the book and her picture was selected to hang in the Chino library.

“That was a really big deal,” she said. “That’s when I first fell in love with the library.”

Leyva added that libraries “provide so many resources for young people, for our not so young people, now you can go if you don’t have access to the internet . . . you can do resumes there and most importantly you can get a book.”

“I am the only person in our family who does not have a tablet to read on – I still like to hold a book and read a book,” she said.

Leyva said she was even talking

Pomona library surprise... pg. 20



Items on display at this year’s Pomona Public Library Foundation Mayor’s Gala included several old books, an antique counter service bell, and drawers from an old library card catalog – you know, those things with all the drawers with little cards in them, one for each book, that told you where the book could be found? (For our younger readers, that’s how we did it before computers.)



Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, at left, and Pomona Public Library Foundation President John Clifford share a few laughs at this month’s second annual Mayor’s Gala fundraiser for the library.



State Sen. Connie Leyva



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POMONA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT'S EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

-- Pomona Unified School District held its first-ever "educational leadership luncheon" last week at the Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center to give community leaders an opportunity to participate by providing input into the district's "Promise of Excellence" strategic plan that guides the work the school district does. A district spokesman said the panel discussion, in a question and answer format on the theme "Breaking down walls -- Equity through intentional and continual reinvention," was a modified attempt to communicate with the community. The district utilized a "state of the district" address approach for two years in 2016 and 2017. "I believe that one of the biggest things that we have been able to do . . . is allowing us to look at what we have been doing, our practices, and going out and really taking time to listen to our teachers, to our staff, and creating a collaboration model to think outside the box," said Assistant Supt. of Educational Services Lilia Fuentes, making it possible to bring out the best in developing a district learning model. Partnerships with the stakeholders also are very important to the district, she said. Supt. Richard Martinez said 1,200 people participated in the development of the district's strategic plan which focuses on areas of student success, partnership, talent development and culture of excellence. School Board President Frank Guzman said to the group of nearly 100 that they are "such dedicated individuals with just amazing hearts who care so deeply about our community, about our kids, about the future of Pomona." He said the event was designed to learn how the school district can better serve the needs of the community. Pictured, from left, are panelists Chelsea Kang-Smith, a consultant with the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence; Stacey Wilkins, the district's Administrative Director of Innovation and Improvement; Supt. Martinez; Assistant Supt. Fuentes; and Dr. Nazanin Zargarpour, a professor at Claremont Graduate University and a principle investigator at the Claremont Evaluation Center, a research and evaluation unit of the university.

PAID ADVERTORIAL

Renewable natural gas helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions

By Sharon Tomkins, Vice President of Strategy and Engagement - Southern California Gas Co.

For most Southern Californians the term renewable energy conjures up images of solar panels soaked in sunlight or massive windmills gently turning when driving out to the desert. But there is another type of renewable energy that gets less attention – renewable natural gas. Renewable Natural Gas takes the waste from our kitchens, farms and yards and converts it into energy. So, the banana peel you threw out today could help to heat your home or cook your food in the future.

Today, most renewable natural gas, also referred to as RNG, is used in the transportation sector. Chances are that the bus you see going down the street or on the freeway with a "CNG" sticker on it is being powered by renewable natural gas. Over the last five years, RNG use as a transportation fuel has increased 577 percent, helping displace over seven million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent (how greenhouse gas emissions are measured). That's equal to the total energy used by more than 868,000 homes for one year.

At SoCalGas, we are working to build on RNG's success in the transportation sector by making it available to fuel the homes of our 21 million

customers across Southern California. As part of our vision to be the cleanest natural gas utility in North America, our company has committed to replacing 20 percent of the natural gas in our system with renewable natural gas by 2030. As a first step, we recently asked the California Public Utilities Commission to allow customers to purchase RNG for their homes and businesses.

Using natural gas in homes can play an important role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Replacing just one-fifth of California's traditional natural gas supply with RNG would lower carbon emissions equal to converting all of our buildings to run on more expensive electric only energy and at significantly less cost.

Why am I making this comparison? There are some policy makers in California who want to eliminate any use of natural gas in the homes, and there is a proceeding at the California Public Utilities Commission that is considering doing just that. Chances are you are not aware of this discussion or this proceeding. But you should be. If this policy is adopted, it would require all home and building owners to convert their natural gas appliances to all-electric ones.

A costly endeavor to be certain. And something you may have no interest in doing. A recent poll shows that two-thirds of voters oppose eliminating the use of natural gas and 82 percent oppose eliminating the use of natural gas if consumers' monthly energy bills would significantly increase.

Using RNG to reduce emissions in buildings is also up to 3 times less expensive than any all-electric solution and it allows families to keep enjoying natural gas cooktops, fireplaces, barbecues and their other gas appliances, all while helping California meet its ambitious goals to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Our natural gas infrastructure can also be used to help store the excess solar and wind energy that is generated

to be used when the sun isn't shining or wind isn't blowing. Most people don't know that at times, California produces too much solar and wind power. When this happens, we have to stop the production of that power. And while batteries can help to store some of that power, they can't do it alone.

That is where the natural gas infrastructure can come into play, using a technology called Power-to-Gas -- a relatively new technology that is being adopted around the world to solve this problem. Power-to-Gas takes surplus solar and converts it into a gas, known as hydrogen, that can be stored in exist-

ing natural gas pipelines allowing the energy to be used when it is needed – even months after the solar and wind power was first produced. Or it can

be used to power things like fuel-cell cars and trucks, and it can also be combined with excess carbon dioxide to create methane – the chemical makeup of natural gas.

Power-to-Gas technology has already been deployed at the University of California, Irvine where hydrogen produced from solar panels is being blended directly into the campus' natural gas system, helping to reduce emissions. Large scale Power-to-Gas projects are also underway across Europe. And at SoCalGas, we are working to advance RNG and Power-to-Gas technologies to help California achieve its ambitious greenhouse gas reduction goals.

If you are interested in learning more about these exciting renewable technologies, you can visit our website, www.socalgas.com/vision to read more about our plan: California's Clean Energy Future: Imagine the Possibilities. And if you want to get involved, you can join organizations like Californians for Balanced Energy Solutions.

Editor's Note: Sharon Tomkins, based in Southern California Gas Co. headquarters in downtown Los Angeles, is a resident of Pomona.



Sharon Tomkins



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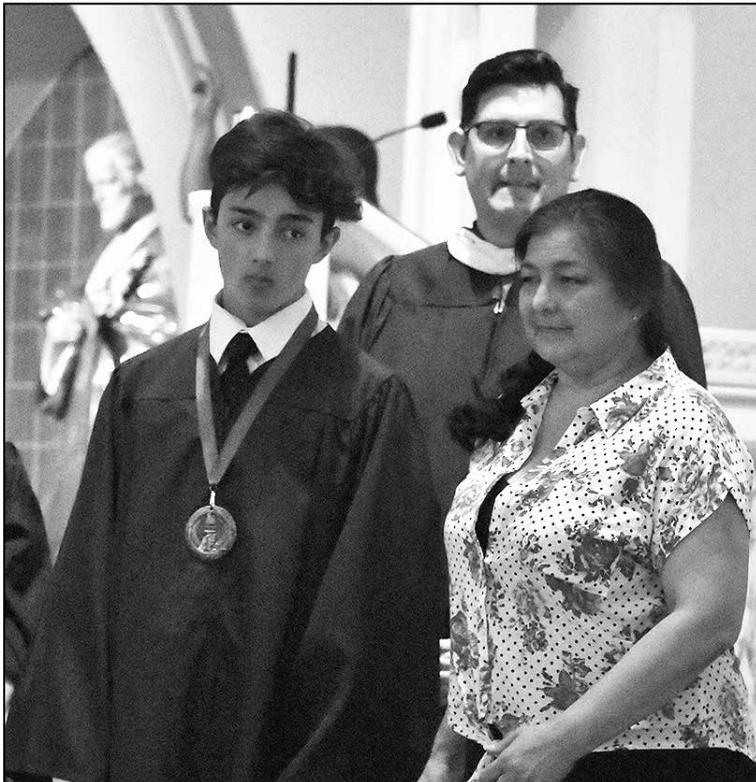
With Renewable Natural Gas California can meet its climate goals





END OF AN ERA -- AND BEGINNING OF A NEW ONE -- FOR BOB'S BIG BOY ON HOLT -- Demolition crews leveled the vacant former Bob's Big Boy on Holt Avenue at Main Street last month in Pomona as part of plans to move Fuller Seminary from Pasadena to Pomona. Deputy City Manager Kirk Pelser told La Nueva Voz Fuller purchased the site and turned it into a gravel lot to be used on an interim basis for parking and construction staging once they begin work on their new campus building at Garey and Holt Avenues. Work on that part of the project is not expected to begin for close to a year. Pelser said while Fuller is about to submit drawings prepared by an internationally known architect, the project still needs to go through the design review and planning process. And, since parking is not a permitted use in the city's Corridor Specific Plan, the Bob's site will be used for parking only on a short-term basis. Pelser said the site ultimately will probably be developed for campus residential use.

Pomona Catholic eighth grade graduating class holds commencement exercises at Pomona's St. Joseph Church



Graduate Gregory Robert Estel receives a "legacy award," one of the special awards at Pomona Catholic eighth grade graduation as his mom, Laura Estel, also a Pomona Catholic graduate, looks on.



Eighth grade valedictorian Adrian Marco Garcia



Pomona Catholic Director of Admissions Maggie Torres



Reverend Stephen Guitron, celebrating a special graduation Mass, connects with 44 students in the eighth grade graduating class this month for Pomona Catholic, held at Pomona's St. Joseph Catholic Church.

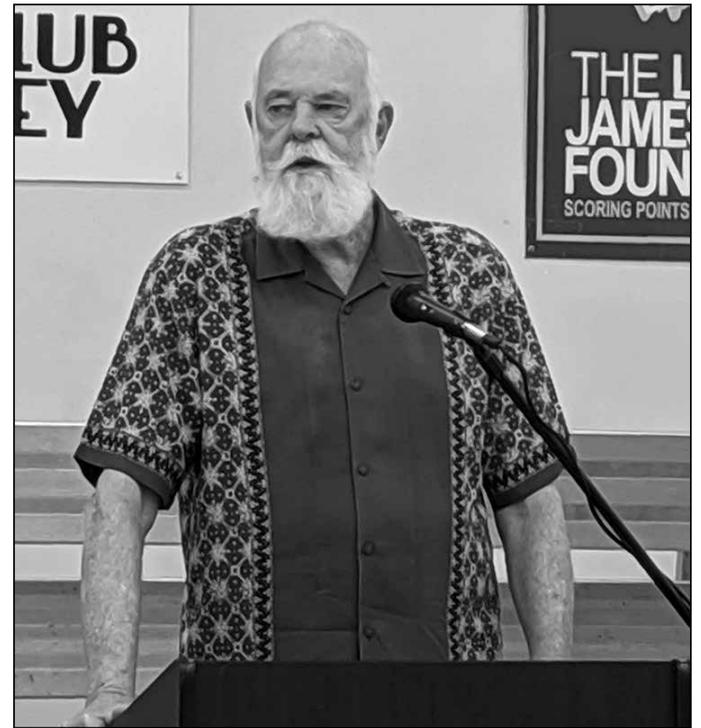


Photo by Renee Barbee

Youth and Family Club of Pomona Valley Board President John Forbing, a Pomona State Farm agent, kicks off the presentation at last week's annual "Friends Luncheon," a fundraiser designed to re-introduce business owners and residents to The Club, and have a chance to see the facility and the kids. Forbing said The Club serves youth and families in the community, "especially those who need us the most." Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, keynote speaker at the event, said there were many "positive" things happening in Pomona -- from work of The Club to the many murals being created in the city and even to a community newspaper (La Nueva Voz) that publishes news of the many positive activities in the community.

Remembering Alfredo Escoto Aguirre

Family members are remembering Alfredo Escoto Aguirre, a native of San Juan de Los Lagos in the state of Jalisco, Mexico, who passed away in December 2014 at Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center at the age of 70.

Aguirre came to this country at the age of 24 and married Guadalupe Moreno after attending school through the fourth grade in Mexico and going to work as a baker's assistant.

He was a resident of Pomona his entire adult life where he worked in the plastics industry.

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ART APPRECIATION AT GAREY -- Members of the community stopped in at Garey High School recently to view paintings produced by student artists, and it all looked amazing. The event was presented by the high school in partnership with the Gas Co. to promote student artwork and music. Dinner was catered through Metro Ale House in Pomona. Pictured, from left, are Garey Principal Marco Sanchez, Pomona City Councilmembers Victor Preciado and Rubio Gonzalez, Bob Cruz of the Gas Co., Pomona Unified School Board member Dr. Roberta Perlman, Pomona Unified Supt. Richard Martinez, Pomona City Councilmember Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, and Pomona Unified Board President Frank Guzman. And yes, that's Jimi Hendrix on the wall above Rubio.



SHOWCASING TALENT AT GAREY HIGH SCHOOL -- Band director Anthony Bonner conducts the Garey High School band recently at a "Special Evening of Music and Art," presented at Garey to members of the community to showcase talent in music, singing, dance and painting. The event was presented by the school in partnership with Southern California Gas Co.



THERE'S NO BUSINESS LIKE SHOW BUSINESS -- And it was all show business recently at Pomona's Garey High School as students showed off their singing and dancing for members of the community.

K-12 girls showcase engineering projects at Cal Poly 'Femineer Summit'

More than 600 kindergarten through 12th grade girls participated in last month's Cal Poly University Pomona "Femineer Summit" program which showcased the engineering and robotics projects the students have spent weeks building and coding.

Projects included a knight and dragon, a "girl" with a beating heart that pulsed with light, miniature spinning tea cup rides, wearable technology in the form of "light up" designs on hats, ties, backpacks and t-shirts, and more.

The program was founded in 2013 in Cal Poly's College of Engineering to inspire women and girls to pursue STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) courses in their education and career choices. It is active in 84 schools in four states.

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Tribute to service women... from pg. 4

love,” said Congresswoman Norma Torres. “On this day we also remember the families who have given up their loved ones, the Gold Star Families.”

“And we honor the more than 280,000 veterans who live in L.A. County and the 100,000 who live in San Bernardino County by ensuring that they have the support that they need here at home,” she added. “We are forever grateful for their great sacrifice.”

Assemblymember Freddie Rodriguez recognized the day “as one of reflection and remembrance of those who died while serving their country.”

And he also recognized those in the audience who have served or are serving, calling them all “true heroes.”

Veterans advocate Dr. Katie Strong

Dr. Katie Strong, representing State Sen. Connie Leyva at the event, told the story of a run across the country she began following last year’s Memorial Day activities at the Pomona cemetery.

She told how she ran 25 to 35 miles a day, talking to newspapers and community groups, all the way back to Arlington National Cemetery and on to the nation’s capital in Washington, D.C., planting 22 U.S. flags in the ground every day representing the 22 veterans dying by suicide due to post-traumatic stress disorder every day, or 7,300 each year.

“I ran inspired by veterans who have gone to war to serve our nation,” Strong said. “They never gave up, they never quit.”

“I did make it to Washington, D.C., but the fight is not over,” she said. “I’m fighting every day for our veterans so veterans will have S.B. 312 service dogs.”

Strong is working with Leyva on Leyva’s Senate Bill 312 that will provide service dog funding assistance for veterans so they will have help “on the road to recovery.”



U.S. Army veteran Jethena Roca Luna, whose emotional story of her military career captured the attention of the entire audience at Pomona’s annual Memorial Day program last month, is greeted at the end of the program by Army veteran Peter Gasparelli of Glendora who served as a buck sergeant in the 9th Infantry Division in Vietnam from 1968 to 1969. The division, an important unit of the U.S. Army in World War II and the Vietnam War, was inactivated in December 1991. In Vietnam, its units often served with the Mobile Riverine Force and other U.S. Navy units that made up the Brown Water Navy, operating in the rivers and canals of the Viet Cong-controlled Mekong Delta from 1967 to 1972. Its mission was to protect the area and its population against Communist insurgents and ensure the success of the South Vietnamese government’s pacification program. Faced with a difficult enemy and a rugged terrain, its strategies became a blueprint for combating guerilla warfare used by Army tacticians for decades to come. Thank you for your service, Sgt. Gasparelli and Sgt. Luna, and welcome home.



Carole Lyles of the non-profit Assistance League of Pomona Valley looks over the silent auction items with Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez at the Assistance League fundraiser golf tournament last month at Red Hill Country Club in Rancho Cucamonga. The 20th annual “Smile with a Child” golf tournament, sponsored by Oremor Automotive Group, raised funds for the Assistance League’s programs. Martinez spoke to players at the awards dinner about the impact and importance of the Assistance League’s philanthropic services. The group provides new clothing and books to children, along with free dental services through its dental center in Pomona. Tournament co-chairs were Rene Sippel and Laura Romero.

Tamia Brown receives scholarship from PEARLS of Service

Tamia Brown, a graduating senior at Pomona High School, received a scholarship last month from PEARLS of Service, Inc., the charitable entity of Epsilon Eta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

She graduated with a 3.2 grade point average and will be attending Cal State University San Bernardino where she plans to major in criminal justice.

Endy Farrow, PEARLS of Service director, presented the scholarship.

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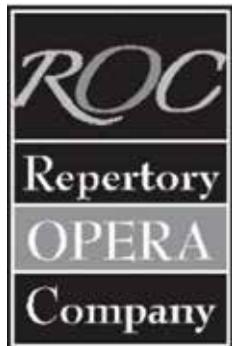
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The “No Concept” band of Pomona, one of several local groups performing at the dA Center for the Arts for Second Saturday this month, performs to a full house.

“Calypso Compromise,” a group that has been performing for the last 30 years, picked up the tempo in Shaun Diamond Plaza in Downtown Pomona for Second Saturday this month. And for those with a good eye, yes, that’s La Nueva Voz friend “Shotgun” (Richard Pena) of Pomona on the lead guitar in the foreground.

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Back in business... from pg. 7

opening.

"I just want to say we have to do better, we have to love harder, we have to be more patient because you never know," she said. "I had to make a decision to live when death was at the door."

And on helping other families whose lives have been shattered by tragedy, Gardner said, "sometimes people may not need your money but they will need your encouragement."

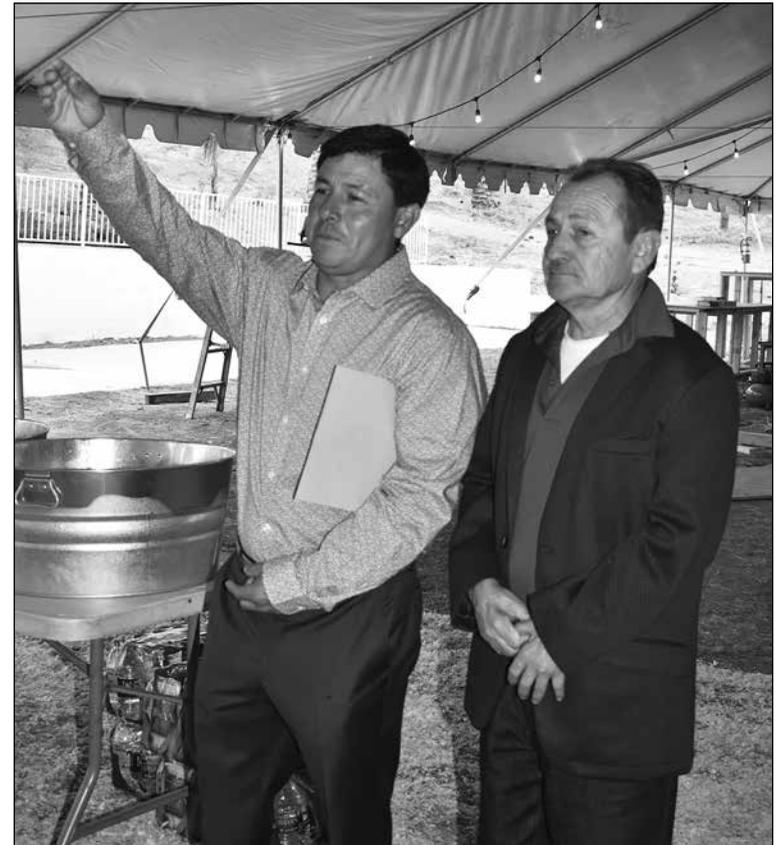
"They need you to know that they're going to make it, they're going to be OK," she said.

The foundation, which serves Pomona and surrounding cities, was established in 1993.

For more information, call (909) 480-3357 or visit the web site at www.kennedyaustinfoundation.org.

FIRST CITY COUNCIL COMMUNITY MEETING ON CITY'S CANNABIS PROGRAM

-- Pomona City Councilmember Nora Garcia speaks to a capacity crowd audience at Pomona's Washington Park Community Center last week during her first-ever city council-sponsored informational meeting on the city's cannabis program. Garcia told La Nueva Voz city staff has held eight informational sessions of their own on the subject. The city's marijuana business tax was passed by voters last November and the city council approved a cannabis permitting process in April. A zoning ordinance -- which will determine exactly where various uses can be located -- is expected to be reviewed by the city's planning commission this fall and by the city council through the end of the year, with applications being accepted after the first of the year. Categories include indoor cultivation, manufacturing, testing, distribution, retail/storefront and "microbusiness." Facilities will be required to locate at least 1,000 feet from "sensitive uses" including K-12 schools, day care centers, youth and recreation centers and other commercial cannabis storefront retailers. For information on the program, contact Anita Gutierrez, the city's development services director, at (909) 620-2421 or by e-mail at anita_gutierrez@ci.pomona.ca.us.



PALM LAKE GOLF COURSE SET TO REOPEN DRIVING RANGE IN 60 DAYS -- The developer of a renovation project at Pomona's Palm Lake Golf Course said the 60-year-old facility, closed since 2017, should be open for business on the driving range side within the next 60 days. Celso Palafox of Chino Development League was awarded a 20-year lease by the city (at the rate of \$1 a year -- see story in La Nueva Voz January 2019 issue, page 9, at www.lanuevavoz.net) in December 2017 to upgrade and operate the facility. Long-term plans -- with architectural renderings on display at last week's neighborhood informational meeting -- call for completing work on the golf course itself and refurbishing the club house and restaurant, all on a "retro" style concept utilizing the 1950s design of the original buildings. Pictured at last week's presentation, at left, is Palafox along with Danny Oaxaca, founder and director of the San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps, whose students are working on the clean-up at the golf course as part of a career pathway program for young adults ages 18 to 25. The facility, owned by the City of Pomona, is located at 1300 W. Phillips Blvd., Pomona.



CANNABIS PERMIT AREAS -- Proposed "Cannabis Permit Areas" in Pomona are commercial, industrial and mixed-use zones that remain after filtering out "sensitive uses" such as schools and day care centers, as well as single-family residential zones. The 12 "CPAs" identified by the city are indicated on the above map.

Back to school drive

Sowing Seeds for Life, a food pantry based in La Verne, is working on its sixth annual Back to School Supply Drive to help ensure children of families they serve have everything they will need when they head back to school in the fall.

To host a supply drive at a business, service group or neighborhood location, contact Fran Robertson at (909) 293-7735, ext. 232, or by e-mail at frobertson@sowingseedsforlife.org.

The drive runs through July 30.



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SAFETY FIRST By Jose Bermudez, Certified Safety Professional

Heat stress protection

We have experienced a great wet winter and a very temperate spring. We may be going into an extended hot summer. In recent years, farm workers have died due to heat exposure in California. As a result of these deaths, and the potential risk to many other outdoor workers, California OSHA (Cal-OSHA) has enacted a Heat Illness Prevention Standard for farm work, construction and other outdoor occupations. This year, Cal-OSHA is expected to issue an indoor heat regulation. Since heat exposure has no boundaries, we will cover it where it affects all of us – at home.

When we spend time outdoors doing yard work, cooking out, walking, hiking, jogging, or any other activity that keeps us busy for extended periods of time, we need to consider the ambient heat and its effect, more so in the summer. Since our bodies are mostly (about 60 percent) water, and we can't survive more than a few days without it, we really are what we drink. Cal-OSHA specifies one quart of water per employee per hour for the entire work shift. The National Academy of Medicine recommends that adult men drink about 15 cups (125 ounces) of fluid a day and women 11 cups (91 ounces), although experts advise that the ideal amount may vary significantly based on factors including a person's weight, health, physical fitness and level of activity.

Thirst is a body's warning sign that water is needed, although by the time thirst appears, you may have lost around one to two percent of your body's fluid. In older adults, this warning mechanism is not as effectively used, because they may not heed it as others would. No matter our age, when there is potential for dehydration, we must not wait until we experience thirst to drink water.

There are many other signs of dehydration. When urine is dark yellow, it indicates that it is more concentrated due to less fluid – water in the body. "It should look more like lemonade, less like apple juice," according to Luke Belval, director of research at the University of Connecticut's Korey Stringer Institute, a sports

safety center.

More severe signs of dehydration can include a dry mouth, headache, decreased urine output, increased pulse, lack of sweat, irritability, or feeling fatigued, nauseous, confused, lightheaded or dizzy. The most critical signs are fainting, stroke, and unconsciousness, which may result in death.

Young children left in cars are a very important group to consider when covering heat exposure. They are helpless when abandoned in a vehicle and their exposure to heat is magnified by an enclosed space, with glass windows, and without ventilation – fresh air – in addition to extreme hot temperatures. Even at 70 degrees Fahrenheit outdoor temperatures, a car can become a heat trap for children in a short period of time. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, "a locked car sitting in the summer sun quickly turns into an oven," and "temperatures can climb from 78 F to 100 F in just three minutes, to 125 F in 6-8 minutes." The National Safety Council (NSC) specifies that the three principle reasons resulting in children's deaths in hot cars are: 1) A caregiver forgetting a child in a vehicle, 2) The child gaining access on his own to the vehicle, and 3) Someone knowingly leaving a child in a vehicle.

NSC advises parents and caregivers to stick to a routine and avoid distractions to reduce the risk of forgetting a child. Place a purse, briefcase or even a left shoe in the back seat to force you to take one last look before walking away. Keep car doors locked so children cannot gain access and teach them that cars are not play areas. There is no safe time to leave a child in a vehicle, even if you are just running a quick errand.

Returning to all potentially affected people, prevention and mitigation of heat stress can happen by drinking water frequently, and not just when thirsty. Also important is avoiding alcohol, which is dehydrating, and being cautious with drinks that contain caffeine, a mild diuretic, which causes you to eliminate an increased amount of fluid from

your body. Frequent breaks in air-conditioned locations, or at least in shaded areas, is a good practice. As soon as you start feeling tired and short of breath, stop, rest and hydrate.

Prior to starting any outdoor activity that involves extended exposure to heat, acclimatization (becoming accustomed) to heat is a big preventive step. This is necessary when an individual enters an environment that he or she has not been exposed to due to change in ambient temperature 80 degrees Fahrenheit and above or when traveling away from where they live to another geographic area with hotter weather.

We are all susceptible to the effects of heat. The elderly and the very young are most at risk as we know. Being uninformed, ignorant and/or negligent are unacceptable reasons for illnesses and deaths from exposure to heat. CPR and first aid training from agencies that include American Heart Association, National Safety Council, and Red Cross can better prepare us for knowing the signs and responding to the effects of heat stress. Additionally, there are plenty of resources from National Safety Council, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and Mayo Clinic, among others, in their websites:

<https://www.nsc.org/home-safety/tools-resources/seasonal-safety/summer/heat>

<https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/heattips.html>

<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/heat-exhaustion/symptoms-causes/syc-20373250>

Enjoy the weather, have fun this summer, and be safe.

Editor's Note: Jose Bermudez, a safety professional for nearly 40 years, has worked as a consultant and a regional safety and health manager for colleges, hospitals and an environmental engineering consulting firm, working for companies such as General Electric, Waste Management, Inc. and Quaker Oats. He received the designation of Certified Safety Professional from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. His column is presented as a public service. He can be contacted at jsbrmdz8@gmail.com.

Pomona library surprise... from pg. 13

to Clifford last fall about moving her office from Chino to Pomona and locating it in the library, possibly renting space with the rent going to the library.

It turned out available space wouldn't work out for their needs and staff is awaiting completion of their new offices in Pomona's Mission Promenade at Mission Boulevard and Garey Avenue.

"I just feel like the real hub of my district, even though we go all the way out to San Bernardino, really is Pomona," she said.

Leyva thanked those in the audience who "work so hard" to support the library "because it really does help everyone in our community."

And she also attempted to dispel rumors she was planning a run for Congress – despite a round of applause when she mentioned it – saying she loves her job in the state Senate.

"I hope that I will get to be your state senator for the next eight years and do even more for the communities that you all live in and the communities that I represent," she

said.

Leyva was elected to the Senate in 2014.

Theme of this year's gala was "Discovering Pomona's Treasures."

On another note, just to make sure they get a mention in the story, that Garey High School Jazz Band – and the "Trio" just outside during the reception – both under the direction of Anthony Bonner – were amazing, as always.

Co-hosts for this year's gala were Pomona Mayor Tim Sandoval, Fairplex President and CEO Miguel Santana, Cal Poly University Pomona President Dr. Soraya Coley, Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez, Western University of Health Sciences President Dr. Daniel Wilson, Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center President and CEO Richard Yochum, and Casa Colina Hospital and Centers for Healthcare Dr. Felice Loverso.

Congratulations to the entire foundation for another job well done.

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 has co-facilitated at Pomona's Tri-City Wellness Center.

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Military veterans were well represented at this month's "For the Love of Cars" car show in Pomona, including these four who served in Vietnam. From left are U.S. Marine Eric Jung of Pomona (in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970); and U.S. Army veterans Jess Gomez of Pomona (in Vietnam from 1965 to 1966); Richard Reyes of Santa Clarita Valley (in Vietnam from 1970 to 1971); and Michael Gonzales of Rowland Heights (in Vietnam from 1968 to 1970). The group is posing in front of Gonzales' 1965 Chevelle Malibu.

Danny Oaxaca, founder and director of the San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps, poses for La Nueva Voz with his daughter and a couple of grandkids. And his 1969 Volkswagen kit car with its original engine is for sale. From left are his daughter Candice Hernandez, grandson Nate Hernandez, Oaxaca, and granddaughter Chloe Hernandez.



CAR SHOW COMMITTEE MEMBERS -- Members of the car show committee pose for La Nueva Voz during the second annual "For the Love of Cars" car show this month to benefit the Pomona Valley Historical Society, held again this year in the parking lot at the Village at Indian Hill. Historical Society President Deborah Clifford said the event netted \$6,000 but that additional contributions were continuing to come in. From left are Clifford, Pomona City Councilmembers Steve Lustro and Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, Historical Society Board Vice President Jennifer Williams, Alice Gomez, Lorraine Canales and Eric Jung. Organizers said the show attracted 50 entries plus a few motorcycles this year. The car show was presented by Ontiveros-Cole.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF DUANE SMITH
KIDS, COPS AND FIREMEN -- Pomona kids had an opportunity recently to dress up in their own superhero costumes and come down to the Pomona Public Library to meet some "real life" superheroes from the Pomona Police Department and local Los Angeles County Fire Department stations. They also had a chance to sit down at the tables to work on crafts with volunteers, and there was even a story time tossed in to the event for good measure. La Nueva Voz was not able to learn who posed in the costume, so we can only assume he's the real Batman.



Pomona's favorite photographer Eric Jung, at left, and Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, at right, chat with Doug Alvey of AJ's Super Pawn, a supporter of the car show and an exhibitor. They are standing in front of Ben Sistos' 1955 Chevy Pickup.



Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, at left, chats with fellow Assistance League of Pomona Valley members Stephanie Roberts, center, and Cathy Harden at the car show.

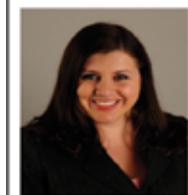
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Photos by Renee Barbee
Simons Middle School students receive their gold, silver and bronze medals during closing ceremonies of the Simons Olympics last month. A special thanks to Principal Roddy Layton and retired Principal Shirley Martinez for their help with this story.

Please visit our web site at www.lanuevavoz.net to see the latest issue of **La Nueva Voz**, past issues and more!

BRINGING THE OLYMPICS TO SIMONS MIDDLE SCHOOL -- Long-time Simons Middle School physical education teacher Donna Rivera was afraid her students might not have the opportunity to go to the Olympics so she decided to bring the Olympics to them -- and she did. Again this year, former Olympian Iris Cummings, a resident of Claremont, visited the kids to present the Olympic President's Speech during the closing day ceremony at Simons Olympics last month, an Olympics tradition at the school since 2004. Cummings, now 98, competed in the 200 meter swim in the 1936 Olympic Games in Berlin, Germany. She later became an aviator and served during World War II as a WASP (Women Air Force Service Pilots) and helped out during the attack on Pearl Harbor. She graduated from USC in 1941 with a degree in physics and math. Students at Simons choose their team members and pick a country they want to represent as they stage their own Olympics and compete over an eight-week period. Pictured is Cummings with Principal Roddy Layton.



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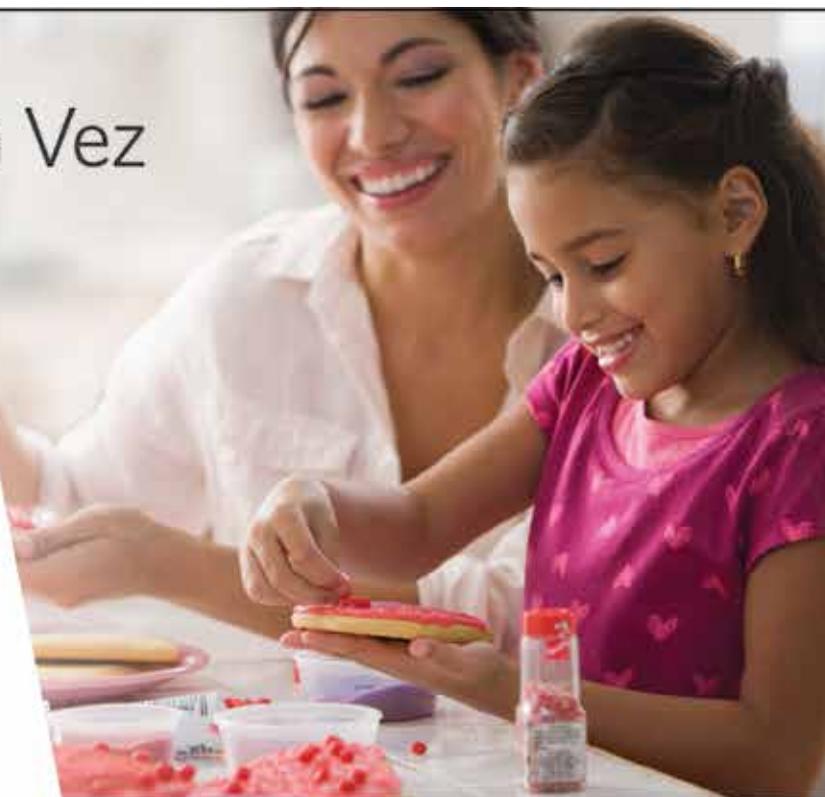
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Pomona Valley Hospital nets \$70,000 for neonatal intensive care at wine tasting

More than 400 attendees at the Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center Foundation's 15th annual wine tasting this month raised more than \$70,000 to benefit the hospital's neonatal intensive care and pediatric units and the Milestones Center for Child Develop-

ment.

The event, held at the Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center, offered guests a taste of some 200 featured wines from more than 30 vintners around the world.

Proceeds from wine purchases were donated back to the founda-

tion.

Since its inception, the annual wine tasting event has raised more than \$1 million for the hospital's "tiniest and most vulnerable patients," according to a press release, to ensure they continue to receive quality care in a

healing and supportive environment.

Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center is a nationally recognized and accredited 412-bed, not for profit community medical center and trauma center serving residents in eastern Los Angeles and western San Bernardino counties.

It is the only hospital in Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties to receive all three Healthgrades Women's Care Five Star Excellence Awards. It is also among the top 10 percent of all short-term acute care hospitals in the U.S. to receive the Healthgrades Patient Safety Excellence Award.



RIBBON-CUTTING FOR POMONA TISSUESCO OFFICE LOCATION -- Pomona Chamber of Commerce members joined with elected officials and others for the grand opening last month of a new office location for Prossav Tissuesco, the newest of some 30 umbrella locations in Southern California providing a wide variety of products and services. The company works with local businesses to help with promotion, marketing and consulting, help exporting products to China and help bringing financing from Chinese investors to Southern California companies -- far more than the original business of distributing recycled soft paper products. The company began as a sourcing company in 2015 and opened its first office in Chino. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Chamber Ambassador Milton Drake of Proactive Work Health Services in Pomona, Pomona City Councilmember Victor Preciado, Benny Ayala representing State Sen. Connie Leyva, Dorothy Cruz of the Pomona Chamber, Chamber Board members Michael Thomas of Pomona Valley America's Job Center and Michelle Lemoine of Chaffey Federal Credit Union, Thomas Chen of Marketister, Chamber Board member Renee Barbee of La Nueva Voz, Wendy Wang of Prossav Tissuesco Pomona, Pomona Chamber President and CEO Monique Manzanares, Chamber Ambassador JoAnn Calmelat of Kaleo Real Estate Co. in La Verne, Chamber Board member Jill Reiff of Valley Vista Services, Paula Lantz and Serena Wang, a partner with Exhivisit, a trade shows and events provider. The office is located at 2615 Pomona Blvd., Pomona.

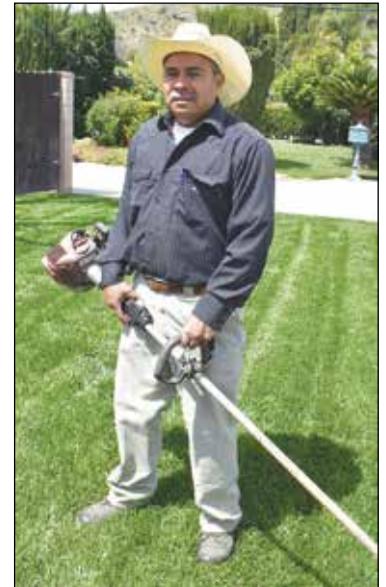
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PUSDs largest graduating class... from pg. 2

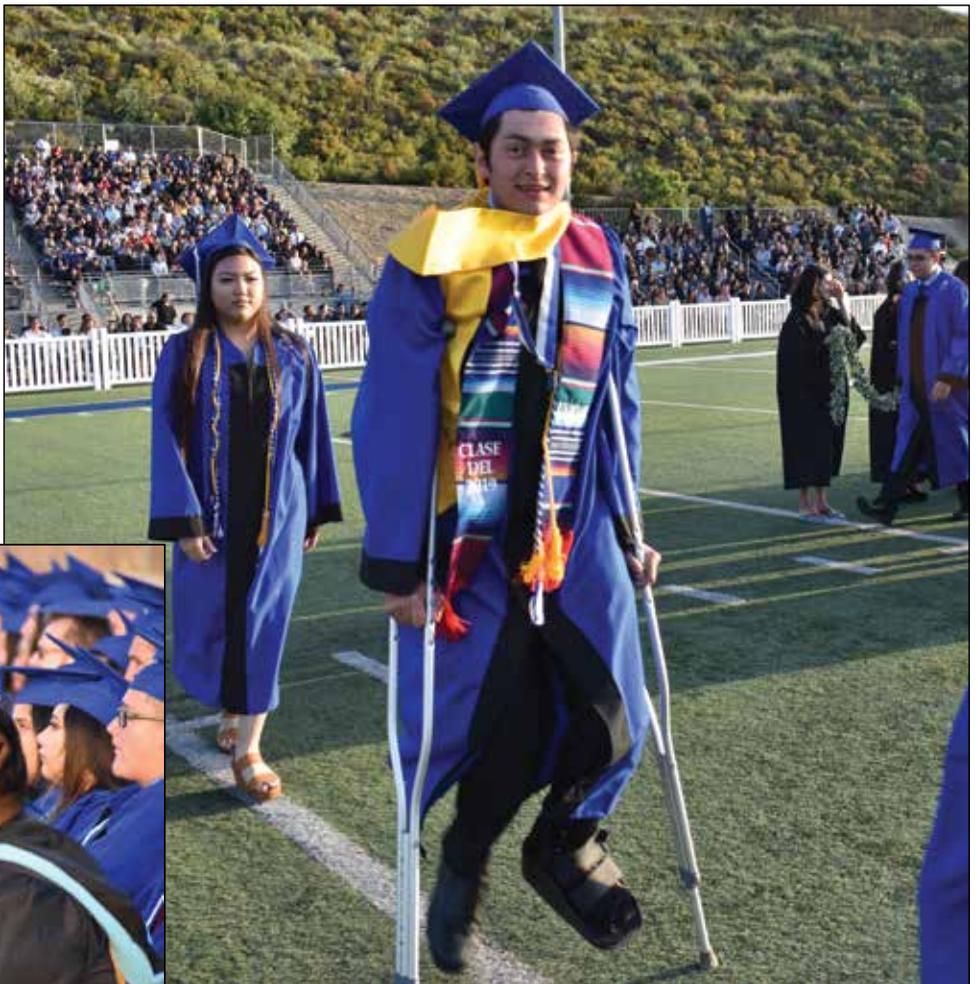
“that are going to translate into your career and your dreams and goals.”

Pomona Unified school board member Dr. Roberta Perlman told the students they’ve been admitted to some of the finest colleges and universities in the country.

“You have proven that you can think and you’re not afraid of hard work,” she said. “But as you embark on this next part of your journey, it’s also going to be about being an upstander, not a bystander, about character, about commitment, about civic responsibility and giving back.”

“It’s easy to go along but making a difference is hard and tiring work,” she said, challenging the students to “choose love over hate, acceptance over intolerance, passion over indifference and courage over fear.”

Class of 2019	
Pomona Unified School District	
School	Number of graduates
Diamond Ranch	364
Fremont	82
Ganesha	193
Garey	348
Palomares	48
Park West	107
Pomona	251
SEEO	49
Village Academy	69
Adult School	65
TOTAL	1,611



Graduates at Pomona’s Diamond Ranch High School this year walked in, some were in wheelchairs and others danced their way up to receive their diplomas. Pictured is Cristian Jimenez, son of Arturo and Monica Jimenez, who made his way in on crutches because of a sprained ankle. (He was off the crutches earlier this month in time to help greet arriving guests at the second annual Mayor’s Gala library fundraiser.)



Members of the Diamond Ranch High School Class of 2019.



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570 N. Garey Ave. Pomona, CA 91767

Claremont Chapel

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