

GRATIS

La Nueva Voz

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

Thursday, March 28, 2013

www.lanuevavoz.net



Huerta said in the

United States men are

expected to be strong but

it is hard for women to

stand up for themselves

since they avoid conflict

and generally are not as-

she said, adding that sex-

ist comments still are too

on it," she said if some-

one makes a sexist, racist

or homophobic remark.

"We have to find more

is using the same model

for organizing communi-

ties in her foundation as

she did in the United

Farm workers, said that

the farm workers asked

what kind of power they

purchase," she told the

"The power is in your

Huerta, who said she

ways to stop sexism."

"We want to be nice,"

"We have to call them

sertive.

common.

United Farm Workers co-founder Dolores Huerta, on International Women's Day, says women have made progress but 'have a long, long way to go'

United Farm Workers co-founder Dolores Huerta, who in the 1960s and 1970s was instrumental in strikes against California grape growers, told 200 students at the University of La Verne on International Women's Day this month that "women are a very important part of that struggle for justice" but "we have a long, long way to go."

Huerta, who today heads the Dolores Huerta Foundation and has dedicated 50 years to community organization and social activism, said the United States considers itself progressive but when it comes to women as representatives in government, "we are number 70 in the

"It's hard for women to get in those positions of power where decisions are made," she said, citing a study by an Ivy League college on the East Coast.

In the study, 85 percent of male students said they believed they were qualified to run for office, compared to only 30 percent of the women. Huerta said women need to look at the reasons for that, adding that it is a cultural phenomenon in Saudi Arabia, as an example, women are prohibited from even going to school.

And in the United States, girls are cautioned against falling down and dirtying their white dress and discouraged from climbing trees.

Further, she said Walt Disney's Sleeping Beauty tells young girls that "Prince Charming will come and give you a kiss and you'll live happily ever after" when in fact, often, the opposite is true and women will

end up raising their children alone.

She said women in this country are raised to be "victims" and that society is "holding our women back."

She said society does not have a system that supports women by providing child care and child develop-

"This is something that should be

a right everyone, Huerta said, adding that Sen. Walter Mondale introduced legislation to provide this but it

was vetoed by then-President Nixon who believed it was socialism.

students. "By taking direct action, then you can Dr. Devorah Lieberman make changes."

> Currently, she said, her foundation is working Huerta... pg. 8



Las mujeres han logrado avances, pero aun falta mucho por realizar, dice Dolores Huerta, co-fundadora del Sindicato de Braceros

Dolores Huerta, co-fundadora del Sindicato de Braceros que en los años 1960's y 1970's fue un personaje instrumental en las huelgas contra los cultivadores de la uva, le dijo a aproximadamente 200 estudiantes de la Universidad de La Verne al conmemorar el Día Internacional de la Mujer, que "las mujeres han jugado un papel importante en la lucha por la justicia" pero "aun falta mucho que hacer."

Huerta, quien actualmente esta al frente de la Fundación Dolores Huerta, ha dedicado 50 años a organizaciones comunitarias y al activísimo social, dijo que los Estados Unidos se considera un país muy progresivo pero cuando se trata de las mujeres que sean representantes

en el gobierno, "somos el país número 70 en todo el mundo."

"Es dificil para las mujeres llegar a esas posiciones de poder donde se deben tomar decisiones importantes," dijo Huerta, refiriéndose a un estudió universitario.

La Señora Huerta hizo una comparación a la pelicula de la Bella Durmiente, lo Dolores... pág. 8

Pomona High School's Jelitza Herrera crowned Miss Pomona

Pomona High School's Jelitza Herrera was named Miss Pomona 2013 last month on a promise that she will work to create a "stronger youth community" and engage new potential leaders working for a better city.

Herrera, 17, a high school senior who has a 3.8 grade point average, is a member of the marching band, works with nonprofits in the community and mentors freshmen coming into high school, said she has learned that "excellence is not about the success of only one person."

"On the contrary, the most beautiful results come from the power of knowing how to bring the beautiful things in every individual so that they can shine together," she added. "As Miss Pomona, I want to do the same with all of the people that I come in contact with."

"I want to show them that there

are many things that we can do together as a team that will lead to a better city and that all that we need to do is become involved," she said, so others can "put their own talents to work."

Jelitza Herrera

"This involvement is essential to the growth of our city and as Miss Pomona I Miss Pomona... pg. 2

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Miss Pomona... from pg. 1

am sure that I will be able to create a stronger youth community by bringing forth potential leaders and having them engage in different activities within the city," said Herrera who last year was a member of Danielle Garcia's royal court as she served as Miss Pomona 2012.

100 in Pomona's Fox Theater that Pomona is a "vibrant city, rich in history" and has "many strengths and positive qualities."

And she promised that as Miss Pomona she will promote those strengths by "sharing the leadership skills that I have acquired through my She told an audience of more than background in numerous organizations in which I have been involved."

Herrera added that the Spanish language is heard throughout Pomona "but unfortunately not everyone speaks it," and that her fluency in Spanish is a strength she wants to share with Pomona.

"I want to help destroy the language barrier that exists between

non-English speakers and English speakers."

In her work at school, Herrera is involved as an afterschool youth instructor at Pomona Hope, a group that is dedicated to strengthening Pomona famineighborhoods.

She said she is in charge of mentoring a large group of freshmen students "and overseeing that they adjust well into the rhythm of high school."

Herrera said she has learned that "team work is vital when attempting to make a big difference."

"I want to call out to all of you and ask that we work together as a team for the sole

purpose of bringing the spotlight back to Pomona," she said.

Herrera was one of three finalists appearing in this year's scholarship pageant, along with Chantal Santoyo, 16, a Diamond Ranch High School



a total of 26 contestants this year. Herrera received a check for a \$3,000 scholarship and Santoyo and Schaller, who will serve this year as members of Herrera's royal court,

junior with a 4.3

grade point average,

and Jessica Schaller, 16, a Diamond

Ranch High School

junior with a 4.8

grade point average.

lected finalists from

The three were se-

The event has been organized by Downtown Pomona Owners Association for the past four years.

each received checks

for \$1,500 scholar-

ships.

Judges for the evening Pomona Police Chief Dave Keetle:

Pomona Councilmember Debra Martin; Jerry Tessier of Arteco Partners; Downtown Pomona US Bank Manager Maribel Alvarez; and Mickey Gallivan, president of the Historical Society of Pomona Valley.

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Community comes together to help get Boys and Girls Clubs pool back in service but more support needed

The Pomona Police Officers' Association, Pomona Valley Harley-Davidson, Pomona pool equipment manufacturer Hayward Industries, Inc. and others are partnering with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley to refurbish the club's swimming pool – which has been out of service for the past three years – in time for this summer's swimming season.

The pool project received its initial push from Pomona Police Lt. Eddie Vazquez, a Board member at the Boys and Girls Clubs, who noticed that when the club gets busy in the summer months, "we have a beautiful foundation for a pool but no water."

He convinced his fellow Board members to take on the project and, with the help of Boys and Girls Clubs Executive Director Victor Caceres, the project is expected to happen in time for the warm weather.

Part of the problem was that the Board agreed the pool was a "want to have" program as opposed to a "must have" program, with the club's after school program at 24 elementary schools in the Pomona Unified School District taking priority.

This forced the Board to look for a more creative approach to funding the pool upgrade in light of the club's limited resources.

Vazquez said a key part of the funding is coming from the sale of raffle tickets to win a 2013 Harley-Davidson Road King (or a cash prize) in exchange for a \$10 donation. The drawing will be held at the 13th annual Pomona Valley Harley-Davidson & Hot Rod Show, set for 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, May 18, at the Harley-Davidson dealer, 8710 Central Ave., Montclair.

Other prizes will be raffled off in addition to the motorcycle, he said.

Vazquez added that his goal – working with the Pomona Police Officers' Association – is to sell a limited number of only 6,000 tickets which will raise \$40,000 for the pool project.

Caceres said another major supporter of the project is the Pomona manufacturing division of Hayward Industries, Inc., the largest manufacturer of residential pool equipment in the world with residential and commercial manufacturing facilities located worldwide.

"They jumped on board without hesitation," Caceres said, "and expressed a desire to give back to the community any way they could."

Hayward has agreed to provide all the pool equipment needed to upgrade the pool back into good



READY TO GET BACK IN THE WATER -- The kids at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley are ready to get back in the swim this summer thanks to a pool upgrade project that is about to make all that happen. Refurbishing of the pool is being made possible by a combined community effort involving the Pomona Police Officers' Association, Pomona Valley Harley-Davidson, Pomona pool equipment manufacturer Hayward Industries, Inc., and others. The pool has been out of service for the past three years.

working order. Caceres said the retail value of the equipment donation is more than \$10,000 and will include all the most modern and energy efficient commercial grade equipment for pump, filters, heaters and more.

Down the road, Vazquez said, the pool system will even be linked to the club's new and expandable solar panel system to help hold costs down for pool heating and electrical requirements.

Work on the pool will include everything from re-engineering the pool site, upgrading plumbing, repairing broken cement areas, replastering the entire pool, refurbishing the deck area and repairing and replacing electrical and gas systems – all to bring the pool area up to code and return it to service.

Vazquez, a veteran of 20 years on the Pomona Police Department and two years as a Los Angeles County Sheriff's Deputy before that, said he was a member of the Pomona Police Officers' Association for years before moving into management.

He said the pool project "gives us an opportunity to do community

service" by getting the pool back into regular use.

But the work will not end with

an upgraded pool. Caceres said it takes \$35,000 per year to operate the pool, including everything from electricity and gas to staffing.

He said the club's goal is to keep the pool open 10 to 18 weeks each year for the kids. Capacity of the pool is 50, although the club limits the number to 35 with five lifeguards.

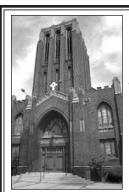
And, with only two city pools in Pomona, one in Washington Park and another in Ganesha Park, the club's pool is an important part of summer for the kids, Vazquez said.

He is continuing to reach out to businesses and organizations in Pomona for on-going support.

Caceres said the Boys and Girls Clubs serve 2,300 kids a year including all site locations and programs.

To help with the pool project, go to the club's web site at www.bgcpv.org and click on the "donate" button or send your check to Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, P.O. Box 1149, Pomona 91769.

Motorcycle raffle tickets are available at the Boys and Girls Clubs, 1420 S. Garey Ave., Pomona, at Pomona Valley Harley-Davidson in Montclair or from any Boys and Girls Club board member.



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Earth Day and water conservation: a natural match

EDITOR'S NOTE: Earth Day (April 22), observed for the first time in 1970 and considered by many to have been the birth of the modern environmental movement, today has partners in some 192 countries around the world.

Next month's observance of Earth Day on April 22 has a special meaning to officials at Three Valleys Municipal Water District in Claremont, the wholesale water provider for Pomona, La Verne and Claremont, where the resources required to keep Southern California's economy and culture healthy are always a concern.

And, while two-thirds of the earth's surface is covered by water, only one percent of that water is suitable for human consumption.

"Protecting and conserving the earth's resources is what Earth Day was founded upon," said Richard Hansen, General Manager of Three Valleys. "For one day, attention is focused on the resources we need to be human."

Hansen said water is one of the most precious resources in Southern California, but that many residents do not realize more than 50 percent of the water used here is imported over long distances - either from Northern California or through the Colorado River Aqueduct.

And, since importing, treating and storing water uses 19 percent of California's electricity, 30 percent of the natural gas and 88 billion gallons of diesel fuel, "if we save water, we save energy," he added.

"Southern California water agencies have worked hard to keep the cost of water low, the infrastructure functioning and quality second to none," Hansen said. As an example, a gallon of tap water costs less than \$0.004, compared to about \$1.35 per gallon when purchased by the

Hansen suggested using a check list to help use water efficiently and, at the same time, save energy, improve air quality and save resources for future generations.

Outside the house, residents are urged to check for sprinkler leaks, water lawns and gardens only when needed, and use a broom instead of a hose to clean walkways.

Inside, he said residents should fix leaky faucets, avoid using the toilet as a trash can, capture water while waiting for hot or cold water and use it on plants, and run only full loads in the dish washer or clothes washer.

For more information, visit the Three Valleys web www.threevalleys.com.



BRIGHT PROSPECT SUCCESS STORIES -- Cameron Kinslow, at left, who graduated from Pomona's Ganesha High School in 2007 and Pitzer College in 2011, told participants at Bright Prospect's 10-year anniversary that the best choice he made was to join Bright Prospect and his second best choice was to go to Pitzer College. The youngest of eight siblings, he was the first to graduate from college. Albert Chavez, at right, a 2011 graduate of Pomona's Garey High School who expects to graduate from Cal State Los Angeles in 2015, thanked Bright Prospect for "believing in me." He said the organization "gave me a family, a shoulder to lean on." Chavez, whose parents died when he was six, is the youngest of seven siblings. His oldest brother and sister took



'THE FUTURE LEADERS OF THIS COMMU-NITY' -- Eric Garen, President and Founder of Bright Prospect, reacting to comments by Bright Prospect students at the organization's 10-year anniversary this month in Pomona, said "When I see them talk my heart just soars." "They are the future leaders of this community and this nation," he added. He said the organization, which began serving only 12 students and has grown to 1,500 students today, operates with 12 full-time staff members, making it possible to keep their total cost to \$1,000 per student per year. He said by 2018, the organization is expected to serve more than 3,000 students from this community "with the skills to contribute to our economy, our culture and to contribute to our future.



'MIRACLES HAPPEN... RIGHT HERE' -- Former University of La Verne President Dr. Stephen Morgan, a Bright Prospect Board member, told 200 guests at Bright Prospect's 10-year anniversary luncheon that "We've learned today... that miracles happen and they happen right here in our community." Bright Prospect, a college access and success program working with 1,500 area students, celebrated its 10-year milestone this month at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Hotel & Confer-

Newport Beach author to speak to Pomona Friends of Library on life as a foreign correspondent

David Henley, author of "From Moscow to Beirut: The Adventures of a Foreign Correspondent," will speak on his travels and his work next month in a presentation sponsored by the Friends of the Pomona Public Library.

The appearance, which is open to the public, is scheduled for 1 p.m. Saturday, April 27, at the library. A book signing will follow.

Henley, a resident of Newport Beach and a Chapman University trustee, has roamed the world for nearly 60 years, covering revolutions, unrest and international hot spots in the Middle East, North Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Eastern and Western Europe and Latin America.

In his book, Henley says he knew he wanted to become a foreign correspondent as early as the age of 12 when he had the opportunity to travel with his parents for three months in China, Hong Kong, Japan and the Philippines.

He has traveled to more than 100 nations working for publications including the Los Angeles Examiner, Hearst Newspapers, the Christian Science Monitor, Ridder (now Knight-Ridder) Newspapers, the Associated Press and others.

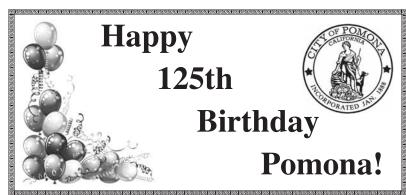
Blood drive set at **Pomona's Seventh Day Adventist Church**

Pomona's Seventh Day Adventist Pomona Valley Church will sponsor an American Red Cross blood drive at the church next month.

All donors will receive vouchers for L.A. Galaxy or Grammy Museum tickets and coupons for tickets to the Laugh Factory in Hollywood.

The blood drive is set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, April 27, at the church, at 402 E. 6th St., Pomona.

For information or for appointments (appointments are optional), call Carla Carbajal at (909) 753-8288.



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FILLING OUT STUDENT FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS -- Pomona City Councilmember Freddie Rodriguez and Kendra Pineda, a Bright Prospect senior program coordinator and Pomona resident, look on as students fill out their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) on-line forms at last month's "Cash for College" workshop at the Boys and Girls Clubs in Pomona. Pineda, a Ganesha High School graduate, went on to graduate from Smith College in Northampton, Mass.

Survival skills academy scheduled beginning next month at Ganesha Park

The City of Pomona is hosting the Pomona Survival Skills Academy, a five-day program beginning next month focusing on emergency preparedness, disaster first aid and more, next month in Ganesha Park.

The free classes will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. on April 3, 17 and 24 and May 1 and 15.

All classes will be held in the Ganesha Community Center at 1575 N. White Ave., Pomona.

Participants should be 16 years of age or older and no reservations are required.

For more information, contact John Schmidt, of the city's Risk Management Division, at john_schmidt@ci.pomona.ca.us.

'State of City' and 'Taste of Pomona' set for April 8

The ninth annual "Taste of the Pomona Valley" and Pomona's "State of the City" address will be held next month at Pomona's Fairplex Conference Center.

Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman will present the State of the City address at 5 p.m. on Monday, April 8, followed by the "Taste of the Pomona Valley," sponsored by the Pomona Chamber of Commerce and featuring samples of the finest restaurants the community has to offer in Pomona and surrounding cities.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Chamber's scholarship program

Tickets are \$50 at the door.



OPTIMIST ESSAY WINNERS -- Winners of the Pomona Breakfast Optimist Club Essay Contest -- on the theme "How Can I Help My Friends Realize Their Value?" -- have been announced. Pictured, from left, are Optimist President M. Joyce Bakersmith; first place winner Brittany Fuentes; second place winner Gabriela Krupa; third place winner Johh Huang; and essay chairperson Vernon Price. Winners go on to Optimist District competition, where the winner will receive a scholarship of \$2,500.

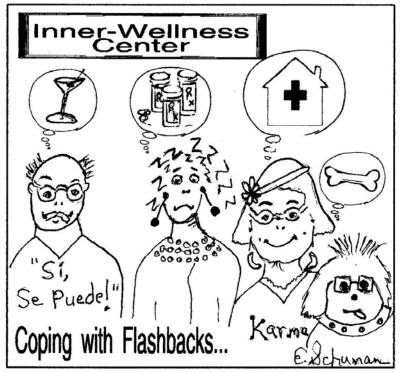


'CASH FOR COLLEGE' -- Assemblymember Norma Torres held one of the three "Cash for College" workshops in her district at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley last month. The free event each year provides trained volunteers to help high school seniors begin the process of applying for student financial aid for college. Co-hosting the event with Torres were Pomona City Councilmember Freddie Rodriguez, the Boys and Girls Clubs, Bright Prospect and Mt. SAC. Pictured reviewing informational materials at the event in the Boys and Girls Clubs gym are, from left, Stephanie Campbell, executive director of Bright Prospect; Torres; and Victor Caceres, executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs. "We share the same goals" as the Boys and Girls Clubs, Campbell said of Bright Prospect, a college access and success program.



HOPE & HURDLES

By Evy Schuman



EDITOR'S NOTE: "Hope & Hurdles," a new 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.



'PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY' -- Three Valleys Municipal Water District Board member Carlos Goytia, who represents South Pomona on the water board, gives "high fives" all around to fifth and sixth grade students on the soccer field at recess during "Principal for a Day" activities last month at Montvue Elementary School in Pomona as school principal Alejandro Villa looks on. Goytia, who said it was his second year participating in Principal for a Day, added that the students motivate him. "I'm very passionate about the city and these kids having success," he said, adding that he is in the unique position of visiting a campus both as a water board member and a school district employee. "I love to see these kids grow." "His passion for the kids radiates," Villa said. The principal, a UC Irvine graduate who received his teaching credential at Cal Poly University Pomona, has been on campus for the past three years and, after "setting expectations" and seeing the culture of the school change, has seen suspensions dramatically decline to only three this year. Montvue, a K-6 school, serves 319 students. The annual event, sponsored by the Pomona Chamber of Commerce, places business leaders at schools throughout Pomona to gain a better understanding of what is involved in today's educational process.

'Opening day' complete with 'parade of champions' kicks off new Pomona United soccer season

Skies were overcast early on a Sunday morning this month at Palomares Academy in Pomona but the weather didn't keep several hundred youth soccer players, parents and coaches from turning out to officially end one season and begin the next for the Pomona United Youth Soccer League.

Included on "opening day" was everything from final rounds of competition and trophy presentations to a "parade of champions" and an opening kick for the new season.

Jose Dorado, vice president of the

six-year-old league, said the league has grown to include 80 teams, each with between 15 and 18 team members. Members must live in Pomona.

Games are held on Sundays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at both Palomares and at Barfield Elementary School. Players range in age from 5 to 18, Dorado said.

He said the league has partnered with the Boys and Girls Clubs of

Pomona Valley, making it possible for club members to join the soccer league at no cost and soccer players to join the club at no cost.

Alternative for the kids

"Basically what we found is an alternative for these kids who have an educational problem to find a solution for them," Dorado said, adding that the league even provides volunteer coaches to the Boys and Girls Clubs during the week to teach the "ABC's of soccer."

The league will also begin staffing an office at the Boys and Girls Clubs where they will register new players.

He said the all-volunteer league even uses students from local colleges as referees (they are also volunteers although they receive some compensation to cover their expenses).

Dorado, who has no kids in the league, said

he grew up in

Pomona and the National Aris simply serving because of his passion for the sport.

"These guys have the philosophy of participation which is our philosophy at the club as well," said Victor Caceres, executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs, adding that part of this includes the "philosophy of affordability"

He explained that the



TURNING OUT TO SUPPORT YOUTH SOCCER -- Showing up under cloudy skies early on a Sunday morning to support youth soccer this month are, from left, Assemblymember Norma Torres; Pomona School Board Member Frank Guzman; Three Valleys Municipal Water District Board Member Carlos Goytia (representing South Pomona); Pomona City Councilmember Freddie Rodriguez; Pomona United Youth Soccer League Vice President Jose Dorado; Jerry Rodriguez, of the Bell Gardens Soccer League, who is assisting with league organization in Pomona; Erica Ambriz, of Assemblymember Torres' office; Victor Caceres, executive director of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley; Pomona United co-President Jose Velasquez (who serves as co-President with Daniel Collazo); and Andy Garcia, who sang the National Anthem during the season kick-off.

Boys and Girls Clubs partnership with Pomona United – and now another partnership with Pomona's new Hip Hop School of Arts – gives the kids exposure to a variety of alternatives, all positive.

"This is a prime example and model that the Pomona Youth and Family Master Plan promotes – everybody working together," Cac-

For more information on Pomona United Soccer League, visit the web site at www.pomonaunited.com.



'PARADE OF CHAMPIONS' ON OPENING DAY -- Dozens of youth soccer players march in during the "parade of champions" in opening ceremonies this month at Pomona's Palomares Academy for a new season in the Pomona United Youth Soccer League.



POMONA UNITED YOUTH SOCCER OPENING CEREMONIES -- Team members gather on the field during opening ceremonies for a new season in the Pomona United Youth Soccer League

Pomona Valley Hospital offers introduction to safety and self defense

"Every Woman's Journey . . . your pathway to health," an ongoing program of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, will offer "An Introduction to personal safety and self defense" next month in Claremont.

The free program is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 10, at the Pomona Valley Health Center,

1601 N. Monte Vista Ave., Clare-

Included will be safety tips and tips on how to be more alert to your surroundings, as well as basic self defense moves and tactics to deter an attacker.

For reservations and more information, call (909) 865-9858 or email FERC@pvhmc.org.



LIONS SPEAKERS CONTEST WINNERS -- Rafael Robles, a freshman at Pomona's Diamond Ranch High School, is the winner of the student speakers contest sponsored by the Pomona Host Lions. Topic was "How do we create and keep jobs in America." Pictured, from left, are contest chair Lion Morgan Brown; Tamitha Williams; Olga McCullough; finalists Janet Vargas of Village Academy High School and Mireya Munguia of Garey High School; winner Rafael Robles; Associated Pomona Teachers President Tyra Wies; and Pomona Unified School District Director of Personnel Services Darren Knowles



HIP HOP SCHOOL OF ARTS OPENS IN POMONA -- Kids of all ages get into the act at the Hip Hop School of Arts in Pomona which held its grand opening and ribbon cutting last month. The school, a non-profit organization partnering with the Boys and Girls Clubs of Pomona Valley, offers a unique performing arts and technical/trade program designed to transform each student's creative energy into marketable skills through education, guidance and self-expression. It already offers an after-school series of learning activities which incorporate academic opportunities into a recreational setting. Eight-week programs are open for ages eight and up in breakdancing, deejaying, urban art, music production, "popping," "locking," "emceeing" and entrepreneurship, according to founder Julio "Lil" Cesar" Rivas, an original B-Boy dance pioneer. Rivas has performed in 37 countries and alongside names like Paul McCartney, Phil Collins, and Madonna. He has performed at Buckingham Palace and on "The Tonight Show" with Jay Leno. The school is located at 499 N. Garey Avenue, Pomona. For more information, visit the web site at www.hiphopschoolofarts.org.

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on education in the Central Valley – an area where schools have the highest suspension rate in California.

Huerta said the logical first step is to back candidates for the local school board as a grass roots movement. Then, she explained, school board members will become motivated and run for city council, state legislature and then Congress.

She said in the Central Valley. which covers an area from Bakersfield to Sacramento, only one university has been built since 1965. During that same period, she said, 17 prisons have been constructed.

And the prisons, she added, are housing black, brown and poor white people, spending taxpayer dollars on prisons instead of education.

In addition, Huerta said, they are privatized so they are making money "off of the bodies of our kids."

"This is something that we need to change," she said.

"We want to be treated like every other group that came into the United States," she said, touching on immigration, and she said the reason farmers come to the United States from Mexico is because they cannot compete, they have few opportunities and there is no work for them.

Corn, for example, initially was a product of Mexico, but the United

Huerta... from pg. 1

States subsidizes corn with tax dollars to make it inexpensive.

"Mexico today imports more corn from the United States than what they grow in Mexico," she said, making Mexican farmers displaced "by our policies."

And she cited the Marshall Plan (European Recovery Plan) after World War II in which the United States defeated Japan and Germany but sent them millions of dollars to rebuild their own economy and with it companies like Honda, Toyota and Mitsubishi.

"We don't do that in Latin America," she said.

Huerta said the United States is the only developed country in the world that does not own its natural resources, and that every citizen of Cuba receives a free college education and free medical care.

But in the United States, "we're not referred to as citizens, we are referred to as consumers."

"We were not born to make somebody else rich," she said. "We were born to live a life of prosperity and happiness and opportunity."

She reminded the students that as few as 400 people in the United States have more wealth than 1.5 million people, yet the voter turnout in last November's elections was

less than 16 percent at a time that voters could have had a say in their

But it is up to the people to "make sure people do something about it, make sure people get engaged."

"No one should have to go without food or without medical care," she said. "But it will only happen if we make it happen."

And she stressed the value of education in the process.

"If you don't know what's going on... the powerful and the greedy will take control and we'll have mob rule," she said. "We do have a democracy but we can't have a democracy if people are not in-

"Some of you have got to run for office - you've got to take this democracy business seriously," Huerta said.

In comments before Huerta's address, University of La Verne President Dr. Devorah Lieberman commented on the importance of diversity on International Women's

"It's important to have diversity week but shouldn't it be diversity year?" Lieberman said.

"We thank you (Huerta) for what you did in the '60s for all of us here today," Lieberman added, explaining that Huerta received her teacher credential at Delta Community College in Stockton and saw children of migrant workers in her elementary school classroom coming to school hungry.

"She said 'I have to do something," Lieberman said. "If it were not for some of her actions we would not be where we are today. You have been tireless with social justice issues and you are a role model for every single person in this room."

Huerta, who co-founded the National Farm Workers Association in 1962 (later the United Farm Workers of America) with Cesar Chavez, was influential in securing the passage of California's Agricultural Labor Relations Act of 1975, and disability insurance for farmworkers in California.

Last May, she received the Medal of Freedom honor from President Obama.

Her address was part of the observance of Women's History Month at the University of La Verne.

La Nueva Voz reaches 50% more readers in Pomona each month than the local suburban daily newspaper.

Dolores... de la pág. 1

cual le da a entender a los jovencitas que algun día su "príncipe azul se las aparecerá y les dará un beso y vivirán eternamente felices los restos de sus días." Sin embargo, lo contrario es la verdad pues en estos tiempos, las mujeres están criando solas a sus hijos.

Huerta dijo que la sociedad no tiene un sistema que apoye a las mujeres con servicios de cuidado de niños o servicios de desarrollo in-

"Estos son servicios que deberían ser un derecho para todos," dijo Huerta, agregando que el Senador Walter Mondale presentó a la legislación este servicio pero fue vetado por el Presidente Nixon quien creía en el socialismo.

Huerta dijo que los hombres ya tienen por naturaleza ser valientes, sin embargo es dificil que las mujeres se valgan por si mismas y no saben enfrentar los conflictos.

Huerta también habló sobre los muy comunes comentarios estereotipicos. "Debemos poner un alto a aquellos que hacen comentarios racistas, comentarios homofobicos o sexuales. "Debemos hallar la manera de ponerle un alto a ese tipo de comentarios."

Huerta, quien esta usando el mismo sistema de organización que ocupó con la Unión de Campesinos, dijo que los campesinos aun preguntan que tipo de poder tienen ellos.

"El poder esta en su consumo," le dijo Huerta a los estudiantes. "Al tomar acción directa, entonces pueden hacer los cambios."

Actualmente, su fundación esta obrando con la educación en el Valle Central – una área donde las escuelas tienen la tasa más alta de expulsion en California.

Huerta dice que lo lógico es votar por miembros para la mesa directiva escolar que tengan sus bases en la comunidad. Por ende, esos mismos miembros se motivaran a correr para puestos al concilio municipal, la legislatura estatal y para el Congreso.

Huerta dio mención a la ironía del Valle Central, el cual cubre el área desde Bakersfield hasta Sacramento, pues desde el año 1965 solamente se ha edificado una universidad. Durante este mismo periodo, se han construido 17 cárceles en esta área.

'Nuestros impuestos están pagando por tener a nuestros jovenes alojados en cárceles en vez de estar pagando por el sistema educativo. Además, estas cárceles son privadas y se enriquecen por alojar a nuestros jovenes. Es importante que hagamos un cambio," dijo Huerta.

Sobre el tema de la inmigración,

Huerta dijo que todos deseamos ser tratados iguales. Los campesinos Mexicanos vienen a los Estados Unidos para trabajar, pues en su país natal no ofrecen las mismas oportunidades.

"Actualmente, México importa más maíz que el que cultiva," dijo Huerta, lo cual esta desplazando a los campesinos "de acuerdo a nuestras pólizas."

Huerta también mencionó el Plan Marshall (Plan Europeo de Recuperación) después de la Segunda Guerra Mundial en donde los Estados Unidos derrotó a Japón y a Alemania pero mando millones de dólares para reconstruir a sus economías y a sus compañías tales como Honda, Toyota y Mitsubishi.

"Eso no se hace en Latinoamericana," dijo Huerta.

Huerta también dijo que los Estados Unidos es el único país desarrollado en el mundo entero que no posee sus propios recursos naturales, y que todo ciudadano de Cuba recibe educación universitaria y cuidado médico gratuito.

Pero en los Estados Unidos, "no somos conocidos como ciudadanos, sino como consumidores."

"No nacimos para llenar de riquezas a otros," dijo Huerta. "Nacimos para vivir una vida prospera, llena de felicidad y oportunidades."

Le corresponde a la gente hacer los cambios, y mantenerse comprometidos para hacer la diferencia.

"Nadie debería de pasar por hambres o faltar de cuidado médico," dijo Huerta.

Huerta también recalcó la importancia del valor de la educación.

"Si usted no se mantiene informado... los poderosos y codiciosos tomarán el control," dijo Huerta. "Si poseemos una democracia, pero no podremos mantener esta democracia si no nos involucramos."

"Algunos de ustedes deben correr para un puesto en el gobierno deben tomar el asunto de la democracia en serio," dijo Huerta.

Huerta, quien fue co-fundadora de la Asociación Nacional de Campesinos en 1962 (después conocido como Union de Campesinos de América) con Cesar Chavez, fue influyente en asegurar la aprobación de Ley de Relaciones Laborales Agrícolas de California en 1975, y de conseguir seguro de incapacidad para los Campesinos de California.

El pasado mes de Mayo, Huerta recibió la Medalla de la Libertad por el Presidente Obama.

Su discurso se llevó a cabo en conmemoración del Mes de la Mujer en la Universidad de La Verne.



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- Turn off your sprinklers one additional day a week. It will save up to 2. 250 gallons each time your system is not used.
- Fix leaks sprinklers, faucets, toilets it can save up to 150 gallons 3. per week.

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For more information on Earth Day celebrations and actions you can take, log on to www.earthday.net



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BLACK CULTURE FESTIVAL -- Farrell Chiles, Pomona author and community volunteer, chats with Barbara Emery of Rancho Cucamonga, a board member with Ujima, Inc., of Upland, at this year's 34th annual Black Culture Festival in the Pomona Civic Center last month, sponsored by Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (Pomona Valley alumnae chapter). Delta Sigma Theta, a community service organization, produces the event each year in cooperation with the Pomona Public Library. Ujima, Inc., one of the many exhibitors at the event, is a community-based scholarship fund created to benefit African American students pursuing a professional career in health care.







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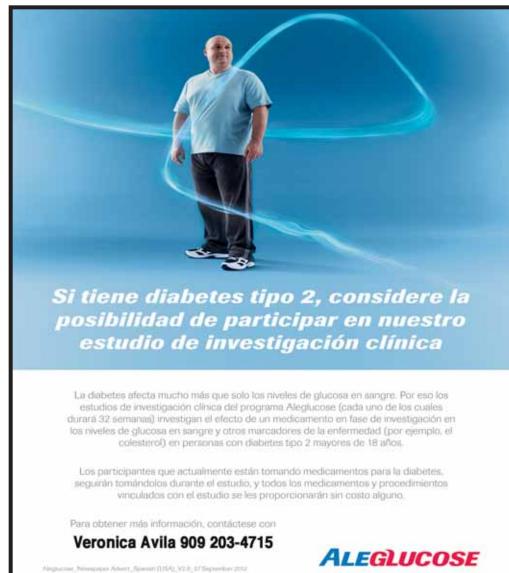
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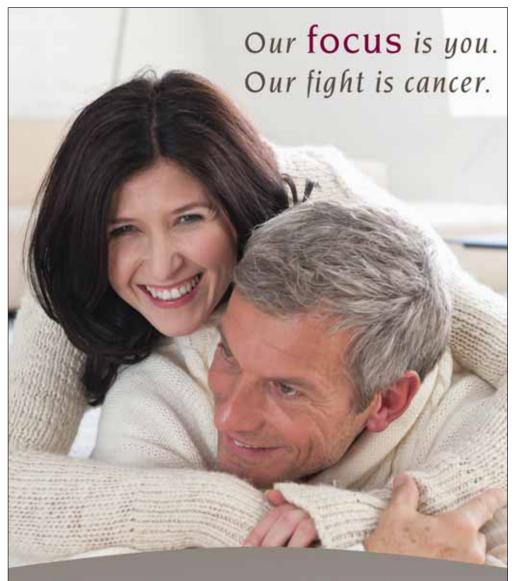
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Library foundation receives \$2,500 donation

The Pomona Public Library Foundation has received a \$2,500 donation from Angel Carrillo of Arroyo Strategy Group, according to a foundation spokesperson.

"We are extremely pleased by this donation from a com-

> pany doing business in the city and their commitment to the citizens of Pomona," said Erin Gratz, president of the foundation. "It is through such generosity that the foundation hopes to be able to improve services and programs at our financially needy library."

The library recently has faced cuts to programs and hours because of city budget issues.

The Pomona Public Library Foundation is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting the capabilities, resources and services of the Pomona Public Library by providing support beyond public funding.

Contributions can be made by mail, by contacting the foundation by telephone at (909) 374-2050 or by using the "donate" button on the web site at www.pomonalibraryfoundation.org.

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Winners announced in Sarah Ross Science Fair

Winners at this month's annual Sarah Ross Science Fair, held each year at Pomona's Cortez Mathematics and Science School, went on to compete at the Los Angeles County Science and Engineering Fair this month at the Pasadena Convention Center, according to a Pomona Unified School District spokesman.

The event was presented by the Promoting Academic Achievement Task Force.

Winners in the Junior Division (grades 6 - 8) were:

Oscar Aguillon, Omar Velazquez (Group Project), Cortez Elementary School; D'Angelo Yonez, Jonathan Picazo (Group Project), Cortez Elementary School; Ivan Escobar, Cortez Elementary School; Carlos Mendoza, Cortez Elementary School; Nayeli Rauda, Cortez Elementary School; Kimberly Metzner, Cortez Elementary School;

Leslie Morales, Cortez Elementary School; Samantha Rodriguez, Emerson Middle School; Fabiola Santiago, Emerson Middle School; Raul Lopez, Fremont Academy; Estevan Chaivez, Harrison Elementary School; Aldo Talamantes, Harrison Elementary School; Haider Alknafaji, Mahammad Alfanari, Isidro Hernandez (Group Project), Harrison Elementary School; Jane Whatley, Lorbeer Middle School.

Winners in the Senior Division (grades 9 - 12) were:

Anthony Tong, Diamond Ranch High School; Anakary Villanueva, Ganesha High School; Veronica Margues, Palomares High School; Julie Lac, Palomares High School; Kyler Lagrandeur, Park West High School.



ONE OF THE WINNERS -- Ivan Escobar, 13, an eighth grader at Pomona's Cortez Mathematics and Science School, one of the winners in this month's Sarah Ross Science Fair held each year at Cortez for students throughout Pomona, explains his project on "Melting of Ice and Water Volume." The experiment explored how the temperature of water affects the volume after adding ice. Escobar said one real world application would be measuring the rise in sea level caused by melting icebergs or glaciers. Pictured, from left, are Escobar, Abigail Fraire, 13, an eighth grader at Cortez and Marifel Lugo, also 13 and also an eighth grader at Cortez.

'HANDS ON' LOOK AT A COW'S EYE -- Pomona Unified School District Board President Dr. Roberta Perlman, an optometrist, gives students at the Sarah Ross Science Fair this month a "hands on" and "up close" look at a cow's eye. Pictured, from left, are Jesus Godinez, 11, a sixth grader at Cortez Mathematics and Science School; Perlman; and Samuel Juarez, 12, also a sixth grader at Cortez.

New kindergarten class to start at Fairplex Child Development Center

The Fairplex Child Development Center will open a new kindergarten class in September as an extension of its existing early childhood education program.

The center, which opened in 1980 and merged with the University of La Verne's child care center in 1991, currently offers more than 200 infants, toddlers and preschoolers a high-quality, safe and nurturing educational experience each year.

"The fantastic results we have had with our pre-kinder class is what prompted us to consider adding a full-day kindergarten class," said Holly Reynolds, director of the center. "Our staff is in place and our curriculum will meet and exceed the achievement standards set by the state Department of Education."

Classroom capacity is 20 and, according to state law, children must be five years of age by Nov. 1 in order to enter kindergarten.

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Cal Poly Car Show and Strawberry Festival set for May

Cal Poly University Pomona's seventh annual Tractor/Car Show & Strawberry Festival – sponsored by the Cal Poly Farm Store - is scheduled for May at the peak of strawberry season and will feature everything from strawberry picking and strawberry pie to strawberry snow cones.

The event will be held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 11, outside the Farm Store at Cal Poly. Strawberry picking begins at 11 a.m. and continues until they are all gone.

Other activities will include a farm animal petting zoo, face painting, horse rides and tractor rides.

The tractor and car show will feature custom, antique, classic, muscle, street rod, special interest cars, motorcycles and tractors. Trophies will be awarded at 3 p.m. Registration is due April 28 with forms available on the Cal Poly web site at www.csupomona.edu/~farmstore/trac tor-car-show.shtml.

For more information, contact Brenda Orozco at borozco@cuspomona.edu.

ALMOST READY FOR PICKING -- Polemounted strawberry plants behind the Cal Polv Farm Store are almost ready for picking in time for the seventh annual Tractor Car Show & Strawberry Festival May 11 at the peak of the strawberry season. Each year the festival includes everything from strawberry picking to





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month at the 11th annual Los Angeles County Irish Fair and Music Festival at Pomona's Fairplex. More than 2,000 performers were featured presenting the best in traditional and contemporary Celtic music, song, dance and pageantry -- from Irish dancers to bagpipers to Irish food and drink



KEEPING AN EYE ON THE PINS -- Juggler Rusty Bawls juggles over audience members he turned into a levitating human table during this month's annual Los Angeles County Irish Fair and Music Festival at Pomona's Fairplex

strawberry pie and more.

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CUTTING HEALTH CENTER RIBBON -- Officials gathered in front of the new Pomona Community Health Center this month to cut the ribbon and officially open the new facility. Pictured, front row from left, are Angie Castro, representing Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina; Pomona Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Frank Garcia; Pomona Mayor Elliott Rothman; Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin; and Johnny Pineda, representing Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod.

OFFICIALLY OPENING POMONA COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER -- Carmen Ibarra, at right, CEO of the new Pomona Community Health Center, is congratulated at the official ribbon cutting and grand opening this month of the new facility at the Village at Indian Hill. Pictured, from left, are Pomona Mayor Ellliott Rothman; Pomona Unified School District Board President Dr. Roberta Perlman; Pomona City Councilmember Debra Martin; and Ibarra. The non-profit clinic provides comprehensive primary care medical services to the working poor and indigent of Pomona and surrounding communities. Ibarra said there are so many uninsured residents in the area that the health center is important "so we can right those wrongs" and provide access. She added that their focus is on ensuring they are "becoming the health center of choice" for "everybody that needs it," providing high quality care at affordable cost. Rothman said the city is pleased to have the health care center in Pomona, while Pomona Unified School Supt. Richard Martinez called the clinic staff "great partners to have" who are "life changing."

Pomona ahead of national average for children living in poverty

Child poverty has reached epidemic proportions, but Pomona and Los Angeles County figures reflect a significantly better picture than the national average, according to a recent study.

"When 45 percent of all children in a country live in low-income or poor families, that's a national calamity," said Curtis Skinner, PhD, head of the Family Economic Security team at the National Center for Children in Poverty in the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University.

"The numbers we crunch year after year should help policy makers make sound policy for American children and families," he added.

The center's latest collection of "Fact Sheets on Child Poverty" showed of the 72 million children under 18 in America, 32.4 million, or 45 percent, live in low-income or poor families.

In urban areas, the figure is 43 percent, compared to 52 percent in rural areas.

In Pomona, 18.7 percent of all people live in poverty. For children under 18, the figure is 24.9 percent.

For all of Los Angeles County, 18.4 percent of the total population lives in poverty, but for children under 18, the number is 25.9 percent.

For more information, visit the web site at www.nccp.org.

21st annual Ohlone 'Pow Wow' set for April

The Costanoan Rumsen Carmel Tribe of Pomona will hold its 21st annual Ohlone "Big Time" Gathering and Pow Wow next month.

The event is scheduled from 6 to 10 p.m. Friday, April 26; 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Saturday, April 27 and 10 a.m. to dusk Sunday, April 28. All activities will be held at Tony Cerda Park, 400 W. Grand Ave., Pomona.

Fun day set by Pomona PONY Baseball at Palomares Park

Pomona PONY Baseball and ASA Softball League will sponsor a second annual day of food, games and fun Saturday at Palomares Park in Pomona.

Included will be fundraising booths for individual teams along with music, vendors, food, a free jumper, games and an egg hunt (free kids' games and the egg hunt will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.).

Bidders also will have the opportunity to bid on a "pie in the face" auction to toss whipped cream pies in the faces of volunteer board members.

The event is free and open to the public.

For more information, contact Joaquin Rodriguez at giouly99@msn.com.

Included will be opening and closing ceremonies, drums, dancers, singers and more, along with vendors selling hand-made Native American jewelry, blankets, clothing and other items.

For more information, contact the tribal office at (909) 623-7889. Exhibitors can call Pete Whitehorse, (760) 953-7010.

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

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El nuevo Programa para el Tratamiento de Abuso de Niños de House of Ruth provee servicios y terapia gratuita para niños que han sido expuestos a la violencia o que han sufrido cualquier tipo de abuso. El abuso no tiene que estar relacionado a la violencia doméstica.

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100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

 Carrie Vivian Jones Brown, of Pomona, who received her early education in a one-room grades 1 - 6 school in West Dunbar, West Virginia, where her mother taught, celebrated her 100th birthday with some 200 well-wishers at Pomona's Sheraton Fairplex Hotel this month at an event organized by Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Epsilon Eta Omega chapter. Pictured with Brown are Juanita Dawson, of Alpha Kappa Alpha, at left, and Brown's son, Arthur Brown. Brown, who has a bachelor's degree in education from West Virginia State University and a master's degree from Columbia University in New York, taught school at Southern University in Louisiana, the School for the Deaf in Institute, West Virginia, and three secondary schools, also in West Virginia. In California, she taught at the California State Prison for Women in Frontera and, later, for the Chino/Montclair Unified School District. She has two sons -- Arthur, Jr., and Reginald, and five grandchildren. Her husband, Arthur, died in 1974. Since her retirement she has been active in community service, working with numerous civic organizations. She is a charter and life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.

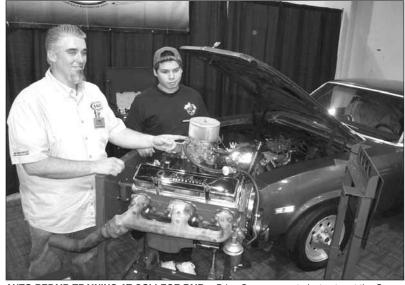




BUS LOADS OF STUDENTS -- Literally thousands of college- and tech school-bound students from throughout the area, many dropped off by the bus load, attended this month's "So-Cal College Fair" at Pomona's Fairplex Conference Center. Universities represented at the event were from as far away as the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, New York Film Academy, and the University of Chicago. The event was hosted by The Learning Centers at Fairplex.



NEW 'LEO CLUB' RECEIVES CHARTER AT GOLDEN SPRINGS SCHOOL -- Some 31 seventh and eighth graders at Golden Springs School, a K-8 Pomona Unified School District school in Diamond Bar, have received the official charter for their Leo Club. The new club was sponsored by Pomona Host Lions Club. Primary organizers were Lions Leo Advisor and Pomona Unified School District Board member Frank Guzman, Assistant Leo Advisor Kris Georgeson and Principal Cynthia Quan. Pictured, front row, from left, are Fernando Garcia, Juan Carlos Ramirez, Francisco Ramirez, Victoria Chan, Paris Munoz, Vice President Jade Love, President Anna Mercado, Secretary Kendra Magana and Leo Advisor Frank Guzman. Second row, from left: Bianca Ramirez, Choi Chow, Aniya Evans, Susan Saikaly, Treasurer Vanessa Pulido, Historian Emely Esquivel, Hannah Elrefai and Assistant Leo Advisor Kris Georgeson. Back row, from left: District 4-L4 Leo Chair John Doogan, District Governor PJ Smith, Pomona Host Lions President Barbara Smith, and Principal Dr. Cynthia Quan.



AUTO REPAIR TRAINING AT COLLEGE FAIR -- Brian Suggs, an auto instructor at the Career and Technical Education Center (CTEC) at Fairplex, shows CTEC volunteer Edgar Orozco a small block Chevy engine rebuilt in the engines class during this month's "So-Cal College Fair -- A College Fair at Fairplex," an event for students and families in the Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center in Pomona. Nearly 100 exhibitors including representatives of colleges from throughout the United States were on hand for this year's event which included seminars and an on-site counselor

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THINKING ABOUT A CAREER AS A MEDICAL ASSISTANT? -- Representatives of Premiere Career College show off their offerings in the medical assistant career path at this month's "So-Cal College Fair" at Pomona's Fairplex. Pictured, from left, are Belinda Lara, Teresa Jiminez, Gizelle Lozano and Maria Medina

PVW 'Fun Run/Walk' set next month at **Fairplex**

PVW's second annual Fun Run/Walk and pancake breakfast will be held next month at Pomona's Fairplex as a fundraiser to support programs for adults with disabilities.

The event, with registration and the pancake breakfast scheduled for 7 a.m. on Saturday, April 27, will include a 1k run/walk at 8 a.m. and a 5k run/walk at 8:45 a.m.

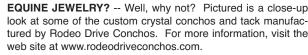
The 1k kids walk (12 and under) is \$15 and the 5k is \$25. Teams of eight or more are \$20 per person and the cost of the pancake break-

Parking is free and admission is at Gate 1 at Fairplex.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available and volunteers are still needed.

For more information, visit the web site at www.active.com/pvw.





DOG TRAINER DEMONSTRATES HIS CRAFT BUT THE HORSE IS INTERESTED, TOO! -- Dog trainer Marvin Pierce, of Oregon, demonstrates the art of training dogs to interact with horses while the audience in the Fairplex Spirit Arena grandstand looks on. But the horse, Buster Brown, a 6-year-old quarter horse, seems to have his eye on things, too. Pictured, at right, is Buster Brown's owner, Jean Chadsey, of La Verne. At left is Amie Dickson and Roxy, a Queensland mix/Australian cattle dog, of Lake



EVERYTHING HORSES -- It was pretty much "everything horses" at the Horse Expo at Fairplex last month with vendors turning out from across the country. Pictured is Dave Frank, of Flagler, Colorado, taking a look at a saddle offered for sale at the Australian Stock Saddle Co. booth



CUSTOM CRYSTAL CONCHOS AND TACK -- If only the best would do for your horse, you could have found it at the Horse Expo at Pomona's Fairplex last month. Pictured is Linda Reed of Rodeo Drive Conchos in Stephenville, Texas

PERUVIAN PASO HORSE --

Debbie Pye of San Diego, coowner with Jorge Valenzuela of RSV Payaso (which means "clown" in Spanish), of Hemet, shows off her horse last month at the Horse Expo at Fairplex. Payaso, a breeding stallion, is one of only about 5,000 of the breed in the country. Most are in California. Interested in learning more about the breed? The Los Amigos Peruvian Paso Club's 2013 Ranch Tour will be held April 26 - 28 at five ranches in Ramona, Temecula and Hemet. Featured will be some of the top trainers in the breed and some of the top show horses in California. To RSVP, contact Debbie Pye at (858) 674-7340 or bv e-mail at wepve@sbcglobal net.



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- Pomona Chamber of Commerce, 101 W. Mission Blvd., Pomona
- Downtown Pomona Owners Association, 119 W. 2nd St.
- 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 Valley Hospital Medical Center main lobby, maternity
- 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,
- Discount Market, Philadelphia Street and Towne Avenue,
- American Legion Post #30, 239 E. Holt Ave., Pomona

Western University students 'adopt' students at Pomona's Madison Elementary School

About 50 students at Pomona's Western University of Health Sciences apparently have a new "home" during their lunch hour when they stop by Madison Elementary School in Pomona to help 265 students in first, second and third grade with their math, science and reading.

Jonathan Melgar, a first-year osteopathic medical student from Boca Raton, Florida, said he came to

Western University for a change of scenery and because it is the top osteopathic medical school in the country.

He said he volunteers at Madison once a week and would like to have more time for the community service project which demonstrates what individualized education can mean to each student.

And, he said, there is "no better opportunity than the elementary school."

Madison Principal Raton, Florida.

Carmen Mejico said the program started last year when a group of parents invited Pomona Unified School District Supt. Richard Martinez to the school to try to find ways to provide more support to younger students who were having trouble with reading.

She said some of the students were English learners while others were simply struggling students. Martinez contacted Western Univer-



MENTORING AT MADISON ELEMENTARY -- Several of the 50 Western University of Health Sciences osteopathic medicine students working in a mentoring program at Pomona's Madison Elementary School pause for a photo on the playground with Madison Principal Carmen Mejico. Pictured, from left, are David Fujihara, of Fresno; Melissa Arbar, of San Diego; Jessie Dhaliwal, of Calgary, Alberta, Canada; Mejico; Michael Speltie, of Lynwood; and Jonathan Melgar, of Boca

sity and the program fell into place last fall with the mentoring Western University students working with small groups of about six students each.

"They get to know each other," Mejico said. "They are kind of like an extra teacher in the classroom with the

teacher." "What's

so exciting is the Western University students are

having such a good time in the classroom with the students," she added. "It's so wonderful that the university students are volunteering their time. But the one thing that's really capturing the kids' hearts is that the university students wear their white coats so the students are very excited... because future doctors are helping (them) learn."

The students also meet



GETTING DOWN TO WORK IN THE CLASSROOM -- Volunteer mentors Michael Speltie, of Lynwood, at left, and Melissa Arbar, of San Diego, take time out from their studies at Western University of Health Sciences to work with the kids in Mrs. Tam Chan's second grade class at Pomona's Madison Elementary School

once a month with families to focus on healthy food choices, exercise and overall well-being.

Other colleges at Western University also are becoming involved. Students in the College of Dental Medicine will be hosting a dental clinic for kindergarten students at Madison next Thursday.

Michael Speltie, a first year osteopathic medicine student from Lynwood, said he met with Mejico in August to institute the program, called the "Madison Elementary Reading Buddies Initiative."

He said Madison was clearly identified by Supt. Martinez as a school in need of men-

Speltie told the story of one Vietnamese girl who would not read or speak, and it turned out it was all because she did not know any English.

Today, he said, she runs around talking to her classmates and is catching up to her grade level.

LEARNING THE VALUE OF VEG-**ETABLE** GAR-DENS AND OF **NUTRITION** -- The at LeRoy Havnes Center in La Verne took time campus to learn planting about flower and vegetable gardens and the importance sustainability and making better choices for healthier eating in "The Gardens at LeRoy Haynes," a project



spearheaded by the organization "enactus" at the University of La Verne and sponsored by Lowe's and Campbell's Soup. Pictured (faces are concealed because of court-ordered confidentiality requirements) are some of the kids reviewing the basic food groups, how to make the best "calorie choices" and how to track daily physical activity. Nearly 30 University of La Verne volunteers participated in the project along with about 15 kids at LeRoy Haynes. Enactus spokesman Sajaad Shah said his organization applies business concepts to develop community outreach projects, transform lives and shape a better, more sustainable world. "This is very important," he said. 'We're improving the community, especially at a facility where the children can use a little light in their life." Instructing the kids are, from left, Elizeth Leon, enactus vice president, and Melissa Gutierrez, enactus president, both seniors in business administration at the University of La Verne

Advance health care planning called the ultimate patient empowerment

By Dr. Kenneth E. Smith

April 16 marks National Health Care Decisions Day – a day to inspire, educate and empower members of the public about the importance of advance care planning before they are too ill to make personal and medical decisions themselves.

While this is an uncomfortable conversation for most people, making decisions ahead of time and putting your last wishes in writing brings peace of mind to families and loved ones. It helps to avoid the difficult situations

that are so common when a person becomes seriously ill and the family is left to guess what their loved one would have wanted.

Over 70 percent of Americans have thought about end-of-life medical decisions and would like their treatment prefer-

ences to be honored; however, studies have shown that less than 20 percent of Americans have an advance directive in place. Of those who do have an advance directive, up to 75 percent of their physicians remain unaware of it. That means that only about one in 20 Americans are in position to feel secure that their personal and medical wishes will be respected if they lose the ability to directly control their own

Dr. Kenneth E. Smith

Advance directives are legal documents that designate a medical power of attorney and provide a physician with instructions for a patient's care when the patient is no longer able to make or express his or her health care wishes. Maybe people think drafting an advance directive is complicated. Maybe they don't like dealing with lawyers or the costs associated with them. But advance care forms for every state are widely available on the Internet, at the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization's web

site or through the National Healthcare Decision Day web site, among others. An advance health care directive doesn't have to cost more than \$10 for a notary.

An easy way to get started working on your advance directive - or if you are helping a loved

one with a directive – is filling out the "Five Wishes" questionnaire designed by the Aging with Dignity organization. The Five Wishes booklet is a 12page check list that asks those important questions about end-of-life planning. There are over 35,000 partner organizations, such as Inter Valley Health Plan, that host advance health care planning seminars/workshops to help the everyday person put his last wishes in order.

The Five Wishes document lets your family and doctors know:

- Who you want to make health care decisions for you when you can't
- The kind of medical treatment you want or don't want.
 - How comfortable you want to be.
 - How you want people to treat you.
- What you want your loved ones

Setting up your advance care directive is a difficult decision, but more often than not, it is the ultimate in patient empowerment – to be prepared for the end of our lives. Take the month of April to prepare yourself and your family. It will take the burden off your loved ones to make difficult decisions when the time comes. Freedom from making heart-wrenching decisions is one of the best gifts you can give them.

Editor's Note: Dr. Kenneth E. Smith is Chief Medical Officer for Pomona's Inter Valley Health Plan. An advance directive planning class will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, April 16, at the Inter Valley Health Plan **Medicare Information & Vitality Cen**ter, Pomona Valley Health Center Building, 1601 Monte Vista Ave., Suite 275, Claremont. Participants will receive a free "five wishes" booklet and forms. For required reservations, call (800) 251-8191, ext. 625, or TTY/TDD 800-505-7150.

TIME FOR PLANTING

- The kids at LeRoy Havnes Center broke into groups after their training this month to begin the process of actually planting their new gardens, providing them with an opportunity to take ownership in their work. Pictured, from left, are Luis Contreras, nursery departmanager Lowe's in Upland, and 'enactus" president Melissa Gutierrez, a senior in business administration at the University of La Verne. group headed the project at LeRoy Haynes Center. Also pictured, from left,



Luis. 15. both residents of LeRoy Havnes Center (faces concealed and last names withheld because of court-ordered confidentiality requirements). Asked why he and the other kids at LeRoy Haynes thought the project was important, resident Luis said he was doing it to help the environment, to "have food" and "so it will look nice." The gardens also will provide kids on campus with a quiet place in the shade to read or catch up on homework.

The LeRoy Haynes Center provides specialized treatment and educational services to children with special needs relating to emotional development, autism, Asperger's Disorder, learning disabilities, neglect and abandonment. The facility serves 350 to 400 children annually through its four basic programs -- therapeutic residential treatment, transitional housing, Haynes Special Education Center, and mental health

For more information, call (909) 593-2581 or visit the web site at www.leroyhaynes.org.

'Sunnyside Up Band' returns to Pomona's American Legion Post 30

La Nueva Voz publisher Jeff Schenkel and his "Sunnyside Up Band" will appear live in concert next month at Pomona's American Legion Post No. 30.

The group will perform from 6 to 8 p.m. on Friday, April 26, in the lounge at the Legion, located at 239 E. Holt Ave., Pomona.

Schenkel, who performed at the American Legion last year and was asked back, said music will include a mix of folk, country and classic rock including songs from the '60s, '70s and even a few from the '50s.

The event is free and open to the public, although \$5 donations to the American Legion are suggested.

n Truck Trail

FOOD TRUCKS BACK AT FAIRPLEX -- Food Truck Thursdays are back at Fairplex featuring gourmet selections from a variety of trucks -- and parking and admission is free! Pictured last month during the second week of the season is the White Rabbit truck, which comes all the way from Canoga Park, featuring selections like Chicken Adobo and Pork Tocino as entrees in a dinner of tacos, nachos, a burrito or a rice bowl -- with prices from \$5.50 to \$7. There's even a stop for your favorite draft beer or wine. Five food trucks and the beverage stand were on hand last month including a bakery truck and the Pineapple Express. Some of the trucks accept credit cards and an ATM machine is located on site. Hours are 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays at Fairplex. Enter at Gate 1 at 1101 W. McKinley Ave., Pomona.



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McLeod's first bill as member of Congress to help veterans

Congresswoman Gloria Negrete McLeod, Pomona's newly elected representative in Washington, D.C., has introduced her first bill as a member of Congress since taking office in January – the Veteran Excellence through Education Act of 2013.

The measure, H.R. 1251, was introduced on the 10th anniversary of the onset of the Iraq war.

"As our men and women return from serving in the military, many will have to make decisions regarding their career paths... often requiring additional training and education," she said. "Acquiring an education can equate to a better paying job and may make the difference in employment prospects during tough economic times."

She pointed out that a recent U.S. Bu-

reau of Labor Statistics report showed the unemployment rate among younger veterans continues to outpace the share of out-of-work civilians with nearly one in 10 ex-service members from the Iraq and Afghanistan eras looking for jobs.

Area schools that would benefit from this act include Cal Poly University Pomona, the University of La Verne, Cal State University Fullerton and others.



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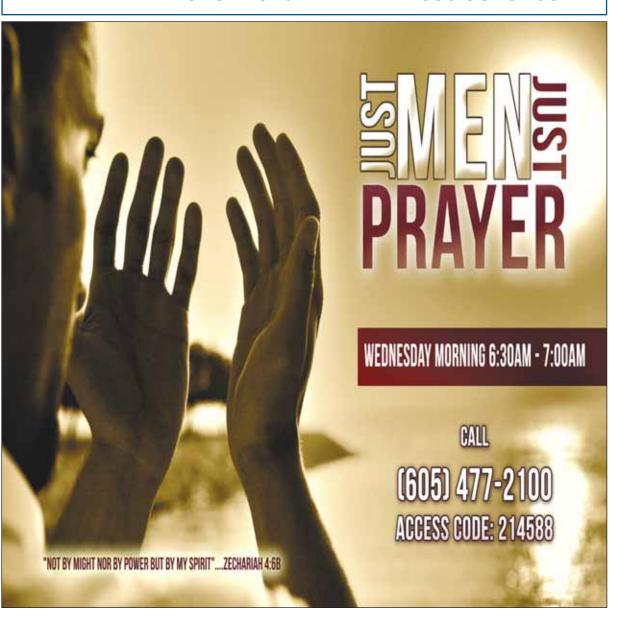


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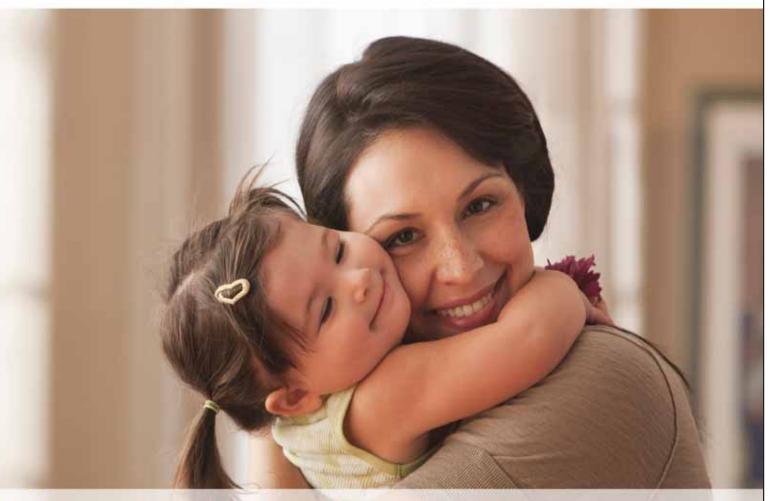
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