City toasts 2015 Rose Queen & Court; float honors ‘Go For Broke’ Army troops

The 26th annual Rose Queen and Court Luncheon took place Dec. 2 at Almansor Court. It was hosted by the Alhambra Tournament of Roses Committee and the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce.

Luncheon guests got to meet the 97th Rose Queen and her Court. KABC news anchor David Ono was the emcee. Proceeds from the luncheon promoted Alhambra’s 2015 Rose Parade float, “Go For Broke.” This will be Alhambra’s 87th float entry. >> see ROSE PARADE PHOTO Page 10A

Mosaic Parking Structure opens with 307 new parking spaces on North First Street

The multi-storied Mosaic Parking Structure, on North First Street, just north of Charlie’s Trio Restaurant and Vino at Trio’s, adds 307 new parking spaces to Alhambra’s vibrant downtown, a ray of parking sunshine for shoppers, patrons of downtown restaurants and lounges, and Main Street merchants.

The five-plus-level parking structure, with fast-track construction — taking less than one year from groundbreaking to completion — has convenient entrances from both First Street and Garfield Avenue, from Talmage V. Burke Alley, located on Garfield across from Renaissance Plaza.

With additional parking structures located on South First Street, behind the Renaissance Plaza, and on Chapel Avenue, visitors to Alhambra’s downtown now have many convenient choices for parking close to their destinations.

Before the ceremonial ribbon cutting, emcee Mark Paulson introduced notable attendees, including members of the City Council, City Manager Mary Swink, Community Services Director and Project Manager for the parking structure project Martin Ray, and Amer Soudani, president of Parking Structure Builders Inc., the project contractor.

Light refreshments were served to those in attendance after the ceremony and, shortly thereafter, the public began making use of the available spaces.

Mark Keppel teacher’s car Overhauled on TV show

Thanking a teacher for his years of dedication, the Velocity Channel’s show Overhaulin’ surprised Mark Keppel auto technology teacher Jim Horton on a Friday afternoon and carted off his beloved 1965 Sunbeam Tiger for an extreme makeover.

The premise of the 60-minute program is to restore and modify cars of deserving and unsuspecting individuals. Chip Foose, >> see CAR OVERHAUL Page 21A
Alhambra is a place where everything gets better

By Mayor Gary Yamauchi

November was the month I tried thanking those who have been so generous with their time and money as they created events, receptions, luncheons, and other activities that have been very beneficial to those less fortunate. But in that column, I could not fit all those individuals in one months writing. So allow me to name a few people and the activity or two that they created or produced as they extended themselves to help others. Let’s start with Dr. Stephen Huang who has created the “Home of The Angels,” an organization devoted to disabled individuals to help them experience all the activities we all enjoy. Thank you Dr. Huang.

And Lorraine Simpson, our new Alhambra Rotary President, a difficult two-to-three-year job that requires planning our weekly meetings every Tuesday at noon. Denis Kerechuk, now a past president, handled this job nicely during 2013-2014, and we sincerely thank him for those efforts. Linda Wong is another fellow Rotarian who has been doing some wonderful things around town. Every time I turn around, she is involved in some project, and they are all designed to help others. Thank you so much for your continued involvement.

And closer to home, my thanks go to City Manager Mary Swink. Her heart overflows with compassion for Alhambra families, and she has done so much to make the entire City a “carnival of activities” that has focused on family fun and a good time for all ages: Fourth of July, Summer Concerts, “carnival of activities” that has focused on family fun and a good time for all ages: Fourth of July, Summer Concerts, Pumpkin Run, to name just a few. Thanks Mary.

And there are a few City staffers who have performed tasks beyond their regular duties that they do so well. Chris Paulson, Paolo Kespredit, and Carmen Hernandez have been involved with so many of the City happenings. Thank you all so much for everything.

But now it’s the season of giving, the time when we make out our wish lists and hope it all comes true. At the “Tree lighting ceremony,” I was first in line to see Santa and to make a wish. I have been doing this for the past seven years, and each year I wish for a better Alhambra for all the residents, businesses, and volunteer organizations. I really think that Santa has been granting my requests because Alhambra is a place where everything gets better. Think about it.

So, let’s hope that 2015 is a better year than 2014 and that everything will continue to go well for Alhambra. I wish you all an exciting holiday season, filled with fun, great food, the presents you hoped for, and a safe, fun-filled year’s end. My wish is for you to experience the joy of giving. Happy holidays.
The following are highlights from the Nov. 24 and Dec. 8 City Council meetings.

Oath of Office
On Dec. 8, an Oath of Office Ceremony and reception took place for the recent re-elections of Councilmembers Stephen Sham, Barbara Messina, and Luis Ayala. Their terms of service will remain in effect through 2018.

Recognition
Members of The Fit Factor, a local fitness studio at 38 W. Main St., were recognized and commended for their successful organization and oversight of the First Annual Alhambra Pumpkin Run on Oct. 4. Their assistance and creative leadership were integral to the fair’s success, which included a blood and bone marrow mobile unit, Zumba class, health screenings, fitness demonstrations, and giveaways from local vendors and sponsors.

Three California Royal Pageant winners receive recommendations and best wishes for their upcoming year of service. From left: Julie Delgadoillo, Royal World International Ambassador; Dr. Wenti Jen, Ms. California Woman of Achievement; and Joanna Vergas, Ms. Latina Business Woman of the Year 2014.

Joanna Vergas, far right, and representatives of the USC School of Pharmacy receive a commendation presented by Vice Mayor Luis Ayala, center, for successfully organizing and participating in the Health Fair that took place with the Pumpkin Run last October.

Dr. Raymond Poon, far right, and representatives of the USC School of Pharmacy receive a commendation presented by Vice Mayor Luis Ayala for their part in successfully organizing and participating in the Health Fair that took place with the Pumpkin Run last October.

Recent City Council actions

As well as the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce, were recognized and commended for their successful organization and participation in the Health Fair that took place as part of the Pumpkin Run. Their assistance and leadership was integral to the fair’s success, which included a blood and bone marrow mobile unit, Zumba class, health screenings, fitness demonstrations, and giveaways from local vendors and sponsors.

Three California Royal Pageant winners receive recommendations and best wishes for their upcoming year of service. From left: Julie Delgadoillo, Royal World International Ambassador; Dr. Wenti Jen, Ms. California Woman of Achievement; and Joanna Vergas, Ms. Latina Business Woman of the Year 2014.

A more descriptive article about the winners is available in the November 2014 issue of Around Alhambra.

Contracts/Agreements
The City has renewed a three-year agreement with Verdugo Services for fire and emergency medical dispatch services with two automatic renewals. With 11 cities under its jurisdiction, Verdugo Services is better equipped to coordinate emergency fire and medical resources throughout the entire area, and the city has benefitted from a superior level of mutual aid with lower response times and increased staffing levels on significant fire and medical incidents.

A new cooperative agreement between the cities of Alhambra and San Gabriel will help enhance safety at the intersection of New Avenue and Shorb Street with the installation of a new traffic signal and highway safety lighting system. Alhambra will manage the project through construction, and San Gabriel will reimburse Alhambra for their share of the project.

Police Department
To encourage safe driving habits and help prevent traffic accidents, the Alhambra Police Department will purchase three new Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) devices, in addition to the three that are already in use by Alhambra motorcycle officers. The use of these devices helps officers with speed enforcement by sending laser light pulses to a targeted vehicle. The primary cause of traffic accidents in the City of Alhambra from 2011 to the present has been unsafe speed.

Fire Department
The Alhambra Fire Department is mandated by the California Health and Safety Code to inspect all R-2 occupancies (any residential occupancy with three or more dwelling units) annually to ensure fire-related safety. In order to carry out the state mandate, a part-time Fire Prevention Specialist position has been created, which will allow all of the 1,700 licensed R-2 occupancies in the city to be inspected annually. The position will be funded by an hourly fee, provided for in the state code, intended to cover the cost of carrying out the inspections.
Join the Alhambra Community Coordinating Council

Highly enthusiastic volunteers, many from local non-profit organizations, attended the inaugural meeting of the Alhambra Community Coordinating Council in November, eager to give back to their community. Many acknowledged their pleasure that Alhambra now has a centralized platform for coming together to work on community projects and concerns.

The Coordinating Council’s second meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 5, in Reese Hall of the Civic Center Library. “It’s not too late to join,” said Paolo Kespradit, who will lead the group on behalf of the City of Alhambra. There are still plenty of empty seats for additional volunteers and local organizations to take part in the formation and development of this new community resource.

Once fully up and running, the Coordinating Council will serve as a neutral forum where members can identify needs, discuss concerns, and take action to help the community prosper and improve its quality of life. Members may represent clubs, organizations, agencies and schools, or join as interested individuals or businesses.

The Alhambra Community Coordinating Council will be a single point of contact for local non-profit and community service groups needing assistance with their projects as well as for people seeking to volunteer in their community or those in need of services or referrals. Many other local cities, including El Sereno, Monrovia, Glendora, Norwalk, Rowland Heights, Duarte, and others, have active Community Coordinating Councils.

The first and perhaps biggest project of 2015 for the Council will be to help plan and execute welcoming activities for approximately 100 Special Olympics delegates who will come to Alhambra and Monterey Park (shared co-hosts). In addition to providing delegates with meals, Host Towns also make available sites for training, such as gyms, sports and track fields, as well as transportation to and from training locations, and they help delegates adjust to life in Southern California by providing opportunities to participate in local recreational activities, learn local customs, enjoy local entertainment, and eat at local restaurants.

Additionally, the Coordinating Council will have a central role in planning and execution for a variety of other projects, including an upcoming Neighborhood Clean-up, 8 a.m. to noon Feb. 28; community beautification; holiday toy and food drives; service awards; and the “America in Bloom” and “All-American City Award.”

Membership in the Coordinating Council is free and open to all. To apply, complete the online registration form available on the City’s Web site at www.cityofalhambra.org in the Community section. Or for more information, contact Mr. Kespradit at 626-570-5011 or pkespradit@cityofalhambra.org.
Tips for post-holiday recycling

Recycle “live” holiday trees — Allied Waste will pick up “live” holiday tree recycling at curbside through Friday, Jan. 9. Tree lengths should be no more than six feet with all items removed, including stands, nails, ornaments, and tinsel. Recycled trees will be turned into compost, mulch, or ground cover.

“Live” wreaths — Decorations should be removed, and then placed in the black yard waste container.

Holiday gift wrap — Place bows and ribbon (not recyclable) in the green trash container; place cardboard and gift boxes in the blue recycle container. Shred wrapping paper with metallic content. It cannot be recycled. Use it as wrapping filler for future gifts and packages.

Outdoor holiday lights and decorations — Remove these by Sunday, Feb. 1 as opposed to later in the year or leaving them up year-round.

Used electronics — Curbside pickup is available on Wednesdays only with an advance call to Allied Waste Services (AWS) at 888-742-5234. Such items include computer monitors, television sets, TV and VCR combos, computer peripherals (CPUs, mice, keyboards, printers and scanners) and personal electronics.

Bulky items — Up to four curbside bulky items (old sofas and chairs, TVs and computer equipment, etc.) will be picked up by AWS at a time, but an advance call to 888-742-5234 is required. For more than four items, consider renting a temporary dumpster, also available through AWS. If the residence is a gated condo, items must be placed at the curb or in the alley.

Household hazardous waste — Take leftover paint and related products, cleaning and gardening products, used motor oil, and other types of household hazardous waste to a County-sponsored event. January events will be offered from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the following locations:

- Jan. 10: Paramount Swap Meet, 7900 All America City Way, off of Paramount Blvd., Paramount.

Battery recycling — Drop off household batteries at one of the following take-back locations: Alhambra Camera, 121 E. Main St.; Dat Chong Jewelry Company, 1231 E. Valley Blvd.; Main Pharmacy, 103 N. Garfield Ave.
Library offers programs for children, teens, adults

The Alhambra Civic Center Library, 101 S. First St., offers a wealth of informational resources. Use the opportunity to discover new books, log on to one of the many free computers, consult with knowledgeable staff, and participate in one of the many daily free activities and programs for all ages, such as the highlighted activities listed below for early 2015:

**Children’s activities**

**Homework Help from 3-30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays in the Children’s Room.** (No Tuessdays, and Wednesdays 5-12 p.m. Mondays, 10 am - 9 pm)

- **Balloons Craft**: Ages 2-6 years old. No registration required.
- **Valentine Crafts at 3:30 p.m.** Monday, Feb. 9, in Reese Hall. An afternoon of crafting just in time for the holiday of hearts. Ages 3-12. No registration required.
- **Children’s Piano Playtime**: Ages 3-12. No registration required.
- **Arts & Crafts for Kids**: a program that focuses on the process of creating, not on the product. Children will have hands-on learning through a world of different textures and colors. For children ages 4 to 6.
- **Japanese Fencing**: ages 6 to 12 meet on Saturday mornings, the winter session runs from Jan. 10 through March 21; the spring session runs from April 4 through May 23.
- **Math Workshop at which students, ages 6 to 14, will learn how to represent problem situations with symbolic expressions, functions, and equations.** Conducted in the Alhambra Park Activity Room on Saturday mornings, the winter session runs from Jan. 17 through March 21; the spring session runs from March 28 through May 23.

**Teen activities**

- **Teen Advisory Board at 3:30 p.m.** Thursday, Jan. 15, in Reese Hall.
- **Jewelry Workshop with Janell Mithani at 3 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22 in Reese Hall.**
- **Adult activities**
  - **Scrapbooking, Knitting, and Crocheting from 2 p.m.** to 4 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 10. Participants need to bring their own materials. There will be lots of help and encouragement.
  - **Movie — BEOWULF 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 13 in Reese Hall.**
  - **Cooking Demonstration 11:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 17.** Darren Wu will demonstrate healthy cooking using fresh vegetables and fruits. Attendees will taste samples.
  - **Lecture on "Medieval Spain and The Alhambra" at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20. Benzioni Chinn lectures about the Moors in Spain and the milieu in which The Alhambra Palace was built.**

**Library lecture features City’s namesake Alhambra Palace**

First there was the Alhambra — the palace built in Granada, Spain — which resulted in the naming of the City of Alhambra, in faraway California. The full story of Alhambra’s namesake palace will be presented by Benzioni Chinn, noted local researcher, teacher, and tutor at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20, in Reese Hall of the Alhambra Civic Center Library, 101 S. First St.

The Alhambra was built in the waning days of Islamic Spain, and Mr. Chinn will discuss the turbulent world in which the palace was constructed. He will examine the life of prominent Jewish leader Isaac Abrabanel and will illuminate the world in which this landmark palace came into being.

Enhance the New Year by signing up for City of Alhambra Leisure Classes

Library offers programs for children, teens, adults

Alhambra offers a wide range of leisure classes to meet the varied interests of the community, such as parent/child classes, dance classes, enrichment classes, music classes, health & fitness classes, yoga classes, and tennis classes. They are listed in the winter/spring 2015 City of Alhambra Leisure Classes, Activities & Excursions Guide, available at www.cityofalhambra.org.

Each year, new classes are organized to add to the available class choices. Registration is open for both the winter session (beginning this month) and the spring session (beginning in March). Registration can now be completed online at www.cityofalhambra.org. New classes are:

- **Arts & Crafts for Kids**: a program that focuses on the process of creating, not on the product. Children will have hands-on learning through a world of different textures and colors. For children ages 4 to 6.
- **Math Workshop at which students, ages 6 to 14, will learn how to represent problem situations with symbolic expressions, functions, and equations.** Conducted in the Alhambra Park Activity Room on Saturday mornings, the winter session runs from Jan. 17 through March 21; the spring session runs from March 28 through May 23.
- **Children’s Piano Playtime**: during which students, in separate classes (beginning in March), Registration can now be completed online at www.cityofalhambra.org. New classes are:
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  - **Arthritis Exercise Program** helps build strength and flexibility, and protect joints, relieves stiffness, and increases strength and flexibility, reduces joint pain, and helps combat fatigue.
  - **Arts & Crafts for Kids**: a program that focuses on the process of creating, not on the product. Children will have hands-on learning through a world of different textures and colors. For children ages 4 to 6.

**Consulting, Design, Maintenance, Support, Cabling**

**McComputer Consulting**

Serving businesses for 14 years
Michael Chan
(818) 303-4111
407 West Valley Blvd, Suite #4, Alhambra, CA 91803

**When IT Simply Has to Work!**

**Kontrax Automation**

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- **Arthritis Exercise Program** helps build strength and flexibility, and protect joints, relieves stiffness, and increases strength and flexibility, reduces joint pain, and helps combat fatigue.

This fun-paced movement program will be conducted Tuesday mornings at the Jodsly Adult Recreation Center for those 18 years of age and older. During the winter session (Jan. 13 through March 17) and the spring session (March 25 through May 26).

**Teen activities**

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Library Friends Foundation supports Alhambra library programs, services

The Friends of the Alhambra Public Library has, for many years, raised funds for library programs and services through book sales at the in-library bookstore. Concomitantly, the Alhambra Library Foundation conducts fundraising events for the same purpose: Alhambra Library support.

Now, the conjoint Alhambra Library Friends Foundation continues to sell books and conduct fundraising events, such as the Foundation’s recent dinner and raffle. Book sales now are conducted in the newly opened, second-floor bookstore. The book-oriented Foundation dinner, based this year on the theme of Alice in Wonderland, successfully raised funds through dinner and a bookish raffle.

Library Director Carmen Hernandez and her staff, during this one evening, fulfilled the roles of noted Alice in Wonderland characters and led attendees on a wild progressive dinner journey up and down the stairs and throughout both floors of the library. Following the dinner, those in attendance vied for possession of book-related gift baskets, producing additional funds for library services.

Alhambra residents and Civic Center Library patrons are encouraged to support the library through book purchases and attendance at special events. Additional tax deductible contributions are always welcome at Alhambra Public Library Friends Foundation, 101 S. First St., Alhambra, 91801.

### Did You Know?

**It is possible to get free or low-cost legal advice**

Legal advice can be very expensive, but there are a few options where one can seek counseling at little or no charge.

**Housing Rights Center** is contracted through the City of Alhambra to provide information on such matters as evictions, security deposits, rent increases, repairs, leases and contracts, and discrimination matters. The center provides free landlord-tenant counseling every Friday, except the fifth Friday, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Alhambra Civic Center Library, 101 S. First St. If immediate assistance is needed, phone 800-477-5977 to reach a Housing Rights Center representative. For more information, view their Web site at www.hrc-la.org.

**Asian Americans Advancing Justice** – LA provides free legal information, on the telephone or in person. They are the nation’s largest legal and civil rights organization for Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders. Their mission is to advance the rights and well-being of Asian Pacific Americans through advocacy, education, and litigation. They provide legal advice on matters such as immigration, employment, housing, family law, and more. Contact them by phone at 800-267-7395 (Vietnamese) or by email at info@advancingjustice-la.org.

**Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)** provides civil legal services to poor and low-income people in Los Angeles County with six branch offices, including East Los Angeles. Its specialization is composed of legal services related to Asian & Pacific Islanders; community economic development; consumer law; family law; employment law; immigration law; and government benefits. Contact them by phone at 800-399-4529 (English/Spanish) or 323-801-7921 (Vietnamese). For more information, view their Web site at www.lafla.org.

**LA Law Library** volunteers host free 20-minute consultations on the second Friday of the month for patrons with legal issues at the LA Law Library, 301 W. 1st St., Los Angeles. Consultations are available only from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. No advance phone reservations or appointments are necessary. Participants register on the day of the program. Examples of issues that may be covered include child custody and support; civil matters; debt and bankruptcy; divorce/family law; employment; government benefits; landlord/tenant disputes; personal injury; and probate. For more information, view their Web site at www.lalawlibrary.org.

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**Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice** provides a full range of legal services, from advice and counsel to court representation, in its four core programs: domestic violence, tenant legal advocacy, immigration, and Access to Justice program. To obtain assistance, phone 323-980-3500, or view them on the Web at www.lacdl.org.
Youth Basketball season begins soon

Speed, agility, strategy, and sportsmanship are the key elements that elementary students, grades three through eight, will learn in the City of Alhambra Youth Basketball program. Registration opened on Dec. 8 and will close on Friday, Jan. 23.

Practice will soon begin at student’s school and online at www.cityofalhambra.org. Volunteer coaches for City of Alhambra Youth Sports programs, including Youth Basketball, are needed. Please phone 626-570-5081 for more information.

A parents meeting will take place at 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8, in the Almansor Park Activity Room, 800 S. Almansor St. Registration takes place at Almansor Park and online at www.cityofalhambra.org.

Climate forecasters have predicted a better than average chance of an El Niño effect this winter and spring, which means the area could finally get some much needed rain that could stave off the drought — and it could be a lot.

With the rainy months occurring mainly from January through April, it’s a good idea to be prepared. To maintain the integrity of one’s home, roofs and rain gutters should be inspected and cleared of any build-up of leaves and debris to provide for a free flow of rain water into the drainage system. When rain gutters get clogged, water has nowhere to go and can drip down the side of the house, leak through windows and damage paint. Check for any possible roof leaks and repair them before the rain arrives. Once the rainy season is in effect, clean gutters weekly to ensure they are free of debris and not backing up.

Make sure all downspouts are down and extend at least six feet away from the foundation. This will allow rain water to drain onto the lawn. Regularly sweep up fallen leaves, clear dead branches and other yard waste debris that may clog a storm drain (placing it in the black yard waste container), or worse yet find its way into the storm drain system where it will automatically flow from the drainage system. When rain gutters get clogged, water has nowhere to go and can drip down the side of the house, leak through windows and damage paint. Check for any possible roof leaks and repair them before the rain arrives. Once the rainy season is in effect, clean gutters weekly to ensure they are free of debris and not backing up.

Get prepared for wet weather

The following crimes were reported to the Alhambra Police Department during November. The areas of occurrence are listed to the nearest block — not exact addresses.

District One

**Burglary (1)**

- 200 S. Second
- 1700 S. Stoneman
- 1500 S. Depot
- 1300 E. Valley
- Los Regios/Almansor
- 1500 S. Garfield
- 900 S. Alhambra
- 300 W. Norwood
- 1000 S. Atlantic
- 00 W. Valley
- **Grand Theft Auto (4)**
- 100 N. Garfield
- 200 N. Garfield
- Garfield and Pine
- **Robbery (1)**
- 200 W. Main
- 300 S. Atlantic

**District Two**

**Burglary (9)**

- 2000 S. Second
- 1700 S. Stoneman
- 1500 S. Depot
- 1300 E. Valley
- Los Regios/Almansor
- 1500 S. Garfield
- 900 S. Alhambra
- 300 W. Norwood
- 1000 S. Atlantic
- 00 W. Valley
- **Grand Theft Auto (4)**
- 1100 S. Fifth
- 1000 S. Garfield
- 700 E. Camella
- 1100 S. Fifth
- **Robbery (2)**
- 1800 S. Valencia
- 1400 S. Atlantic
- **Theft/Burglary from Vehicle (13)**
- District Three
  - **Burglary (2)**
  - 2200 W. Cedar
  - 900 N. Atlantic
- 2100 S. Alhambra
- 2200 W. Main
- 1200 S. Garfield
- **Theft/Burglary from Vehicle (9)**
- 400 S. La Paloma
- 100 S. Hampden
- 2100 W. Vine
- 1100 S. Fremont
- 900 S. Meridian
- 2400 W. Mission
- 200 S. Olive
- 00 S. Hampden
- **Grand Theft Auto (11)**
- 300 N. Primrose
- 1700 W. Pepper
- 200 S. Meridian
- 600 S. Meridian
- 00 S. Waverly
- 3200 W. Main
- 800 S. Raymond
- 300 N. Palm
- 100 N. Curtis
- 3200 W. Midvale
- 1300 W. Alhambra
- **Robbery (4)**
- 1100 W. Commonwealth
- 1200 S. Fremont
- 2800 W. Alhambra
- 500 S. Orange Grove

**District Three**

**Burglary (2)**

- 1200 S. Electric
- 1800 W. Garvey (x2)
- 1700 S. Primrose
- 1200 W. Ramona
- 3000 W. Gateway
- 1000 S. Marguerita
- 2700 W. Norwood
- 1100 W. Shorb
- **Grand Theft Auto (3)**
- Olive/Shorb
- 1205 S. Campbell
- 1200 W. Ramona
- **Robbery (1)**
- 900 S. Marguerita

*CITY OF ALHAMBRA CRIME REPORT*

The following crimes were reported to the Alhambra Police Department during November. The areas of occurrence are listed to the nearest block — not exact addresses. By publishing these reports, it is hoped that Alhambra residents will take the necessary measures to ensure their individual safety, as well as the safety of their property. Neighborhood Watch Works! To join Neighborhood Watch, or for more crime prevention information and safety tips, contact the Alhambra Police Department Crime Prevention Office at 626-570-5177.

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**HALL FOR RENT**

**American Legion Post #139**

24 N. Stoneman Ave., Alhambra

Kitchen facilities available. Weddings, birthdays and other occasions.

- Reasonable rates
- Includes security, tables, chairs and cleanup
- Kitchen facilities available at a small fee

Call (626) 576-9584 or (626) 458-2723
**Heritage**

West Main Animal Hospital has served community for 37 years

West Main Animal Hospital, 2216 W. Main St., Alhambra, has provided the community with veterinary services for more than 37 years.

In 1977, Dr. George Wilson transformed the building, which had been Counts Plumbing, into a veterinary practice. In 1994, Dr. Laslo A. Frics, DVM, remodeled the entire building from a 1,500-square-foot to a 3,200-square-foot animal hospital.

“I have always admired how Dr. Wilson served his community and the relationships he had with the people here in Alhambra,” said Veterinarian and hospital owner Laslo Frics. “When it came time to start my own practice, I knew that Alhambra would be a great place. Alhambra is central to the Greater Los Angeles area and was a great place to be when Dr. Wilson was here, and even a greater place to be now.”

Dr. Frics has seen many changes in the Alhambra landscape since taking ownership of West Main Animal Hospital 20 years ago.

“Aside from the obvious changes, such as city development and real estate, the Alhambra community as a whole has become much more progressive when it comes to their furry, beloved pets,” said Dr. Frics. “Pet owners have become more responsible and diligent about their pets’ health, making our role as animal health care providers that much more rewarding.”

West Main Animal Hospital is a full service veterinarian hospital that offers typical medical treatment and procedures for animals. They also offer pet adoption, pet boarding, grooming, laser therapy for pain management and arthritis, and much more all in one convenient location.

Dr. Laslo A. Frics, DVM, owns West Main Animal Hospital, which offers typical medical treatment and procedures for animals.

Lifestyle, left, and adopted kitten stay at the West Main Animal Hospital for care.

Alhambra 87th Rose Parade float, “Go For Broke,” was featured at the Chamber’s Christmas mixer on Dec. 17 at Rosmead Pavilion in Pasadena. More than 300 people attended. The mixer was co-hosted by Rotary and New Gen Rotary. There was a photo booth, food, live music, and the opportunity to see the progress on Alhambra float.

**3rd Thursday of the month**

“Top Five HR Needs for Small Business”

Presented by Hammerwold & Pershing Consulting

Thursday, Jan. 15 • Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Alhambra Chamber of Commerce Board Room

104 S. First St.

This Chamber program, offered on the third Thursday of each month, provides informative and educational seminars pertinent to small businesses.

The cost of the program is free to Chamber members. There is a $15 charge for non-members. Lunch is included.

To make reservations, or for more information about the Chamber’s Lunch & Learn program, contact Irma Hernandez, Alhambra Chamber of Commerce, at 626-362-9481 or ihernandez@alhambachamber.org.
The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce thanks these members for renewing their memberships and for their continued support:

Alhambra Masonic Lodge #322 9 W. Woodward Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801

Dog Haus 416 W. Main St., Alhambra, CA 91801

Konoike/Noodle Square 618 W. Main St., Alhambra, CA 91801

Alhambra Performing Arts Center 1750 W. Hellman Ave., Alhambra, CA 91803

Farmers Insurance Group 2340 Huntington Dr., Suite 100, San Marino, CA 91108

Mead Realty 119 S. Atlantic Blvd., Suite #503, Monrovia, CA 91016

Alhambra School of Music 226 E. Main St., Alhambra, CA 91801

Firestone Complete Auto Care 857 E. Main St., Alhambra, CA 91801

Onsonta Montessori School 2221 Poplar Blvd., Alhambra, CA 91801

American Legion Post – 139 24 N. Stoneham Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801

First Baptist Church 101 S. Atlantic Blvd., Alhambra, CA 91801

James T. Richette Member since 1994

Chinese Bible Missions Church 280 W. Commonwealth Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801

Home of Angels 317 W. Main St., Suite 329, Alhambra, CA 91801

San Gabriel Valley Medical Center 438 W. La Tuna San Gabriel, CA 91776

Credit Union of Southern California 900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801

J.J. Jumpers Joshua Jumpers LLC 2520 W. Valley Blvd., Alhambra, CA 91803

Transtech Engineers, Inc. 13867 Bronson Ave, Chino, CA 91710

Wells Fargo Bank – Corporate 355 S. Grand Ave., 11th Floor Los Angeles, CA 90071

US Storage, 2500 W. Hellman Ave., Alhambra, had its ribbon cutting and grand opening on Dec. 11. The facility offers extra wide halls, to accommodate the moving process; large loading bays, in tenants can back their trucks up to the building for loading and unloading; huge parking lots; and five large hand-carts. Security and convenience features include cylinder locks, individually alarmed storage units, and bright lighting throughout the property. The managers have big screen TVs connected to video cameras, and there is 24-hour video recording as part of the security package. The building is secured with coded access only. From left, attending the opening: Frank Chen, former Alhambra Chamber president; YMCA CEO Valerie Gomez; City Councilmember Steven Placido, D.D.S.; Vice Mayor Luis Ayala; Cleo Jauregui, US storage manager; Claudio Flores, US Storage district manager; and Mike Brady, US Storage vice president of Operations.

Alhambra Firefighters were among the guests at the 26th annual Rose Queen and Court Luncheon at Alhambra Court.

A grand opening and ribbon cutting took place for Izakaya Akatora, 115 W. Main St., Alhambra, on Dec. 12. Izakaya Akatora offers an authentic Japanese sushi and robata (fireside cooking) experience, serving only the freshest seafood hand selected by their sushi chefs and delicious skewers and small plates crafted by the kitchen chefs. From left are Alhambra Chamber of Commerce Vice President Robert Fukui, Chamber Past President Frank Chen, Izakaya Akatora General Manager Wes Zelio, partner Nick Lison, Izakaya Akatora owner and operator Michael Cardenas, and City Councilmember Steven Placido, D.D.S.

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Alhambra Masonic Lodge 9 W. Woodward Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801

Alhambra Masonic Lodge #322 9 W. Woodward Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801

Alhambra Masonic Lodge 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28 will take place

This month’s Business After Hours mixer will take place

Wednesday, Jan. 28 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Alhambra Masonic Lodge 9 W. Woodward Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801

Masonry is a fraternal organization and is based on the belief that each man has a responsibility to help make the world a better place. Through their philanthropy, they make a difference for their families, their communities, and the future.

The mission of the Masons of California, to foster personal growth and improve the lives of others, is carried out through Masonic principles and tradition.

Cost: $10 for members $15 for non-members

For more information about the Business After Hours Mixers, phone the Chamber at 626-282-8481.

It’s all about networking

Join the Chamber for an informal social where business people get together, exchange ideas, and develop new relationships. These monthly networking programs are sponsored by and hosted at Chamber member establishments. Networking is one of the most affordable means of marketing resulting in invaluable personal referrals and word-of-mouth advertising. So, don’t hesitate. Bring plenty of business cards and a winning handshake to the next Business After Hours and develop a synergistic group of business contacts.

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Estate planning for people with young children, Part 2

BY LAUREN SHIEKELMAN

The first part of this article addressed personal care of minor children. It discussed factors involved in nominating a guardian to take care of your children. This article will focus on financial management for your children. There are several ways to plan for financial management for your children in the event that you pass away and leave your children an inheritance. I will focus on three commonly used management methods: revocable trusts, guardianship of the estate, and California Uniform Transfers to Minors Act (CUTMA) accounts.

Who manages the assets

The money manager for a trust is the “trustee.” This is a person or institution that you select. Your selection is written in your trust. If you decide for your children to inherit their assets via a trust, then the trustee will be in charge of their assets.

If you have a will, then through a guardianship proceeding, the court may appoint a “guardian of the estate” to manage the assets for your children. Your selection is written in your will. You may nominate a custodian for a CUTMA account for your children in your trust or in your will.

How decisions are made

If you have a trust, the trust instrument will govern how trust assets will be managed for your children. The trustee is given discretion to manage assets within the boundaries that you have written in the trust. As the parent/creator of the trust, you can leave detailed instructions for the trustee as to how the money will be spent.

With a guardianship of the estate, the court supervises how the guardian of the estate takes care of the financial well-being of your children. Under California law, custodians of CUTMA accounts are given broad discretion to spend money for the benefit of your children.

In our next article, we will talk about distribution of assets. So stay tuned.

The information in this article is intended as general information only. Nothing in this article constitutes specific legal advice. You should always speak with an attorney first before engaging in estate planning.

27 Quick and Easy Fix Ups to Sell Your Home Fast and for Top Dollar

Alhambra - Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here's away to help you prepare as possible.

To assist home sellers, a new industry report has just been released called 27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar. It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today's tough, aggressive marketplace.

Through these 27 tips you will discover how to protect and capitalize on your most important investment, reduce stress, be in control of your situation, and make the best profit possible. In this report you will discover how to avoid financial disappointment or worse, a financial disaster when selling your home. Using a common-sense approach, you will get the straight facts about what you can make or break the sale of your home.

You owe it to yourself to learn how these important tips will give you the competitive edge to get your home sold fast and for the most amount of money.

Order your free report today. To order your FREE copy of this report call toll-free 1-888-300-4632 and enter 1023. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW. This report is courtesy of Russ L. Kauza Real Estate Broker Lic# 01820322. Not intended solicitor buyers or sellers currently under contract.

ANOTHER'S™
Full Body Massage
Deep Tissue Shiatsu • Acupressure Facial • Waxing
429 South Garfield Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91801-3838
Tel: 626.289.7428
www.traineddogsforadoption.org
To arrange for a visit, please fill out the online adoption application on www.traineddogsforadoption.org

ANOTHER’S™
Full Body Massage
Deep Tissue Shiatsu • Acupressure Facial • Waxing
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www.traineddogsforadoption.org
To arrange for a visit, please fill out the online adoption application on www.traineddogsforadoption.org

Meet Lexi: Lexi is a 2-year-old spayed female shepherd that came from a local animal shelter. She is an exceptionally smart shepherd that craves human interaction. While she is selective about her dog friends, she will bond quickly with a new family. Looking for an active and slightly sassy girl? Then Lexi is a match. She has brains and beauty.

Meet Joey: Joey is a 2-year-old neutered male Rottweiler that came from a local animal shelter where he had run out of time. When Trained Dogs for Adoption first received him into their care, he was very thin and malnourished. His coat was dry and unkempt. Joey clearly had led a difficult life. Since that time, he has blossomed into a happy and loving dog.

Slim came to Trained Dogs for Adoption after being “lost in the system.” He was rescued from the animal shelter by a good-hearted soul who was not getting the training, socialization, and exposure he needed to find his new home. Trained Dogs for Adoption agreed to accept him into their program and help him land on his feet. Slim has come a long way in a short time. He has quiet confidence and a positive attitude.
Why East Los Angeles College

Located in the city of Monterey Park, the East Los Angeles College campus is the largest in the Los Angeles Community College District with an enrollment of more than 60,000 students. The two-year college primarily serves 14 neighboring communities east of downtown Los Angeles and offers associate degree programs in more than 25 fields, along with occupational programs and academic transfer courses.

The campus has evolved with the introduction of the new Performing and Fine Arts Complex, which houses the Vincent Price Art Museum, the Fine and Visual Arts Building, and the Performing Arts Building.

The college is set to complete a comprehensive Student Success and Retention Center, a Math and Science Complex, a Campus Center and Bookstore, and a full-service satellite campus in the City of South Gate. These additions will expand the college’s ability to serve its students.

The college is also noted for its list of alumni-turned-local leaders, including former Mayor of Los Angeles Antonio Villaraigosa, former Los Angeles Sheriff Lee B. Baca, and Los Angeles County Supervisor Gloria Molina.

Facts and Stats

- Approximately 60,000 students
- Urban college located in a large city/urban setting
- 100 percent admitted (open enrollment)
- Hispanic-Serving Institution
- Average student age: 25
- Commuter College

(323) 265-8650
www.elac.edu
Scholarships Help ELAC’s DSP&S Students Achieve

By Lydia Rudametkin

It is often difficult to know exactly how East Los Angeles College (ELAC) impacts its students, but in the case of Karen Azarra, there is absolutely no doubt. Born in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, Karen and her nuclear family immigrated to the United States in 1990. Having been told by a high school counselor that she was not university material, her American dream was shattered until she arrived at ELAC in 1993. ELAC provided Karen with the opportunity of working in the Disabled Students Program & Services (DSP&S) office while earning her associate degree and high grades. She met Grace Hernandez, who eventually became DSP&S Director, and believes that her student worker experiences were transformative in helping her become a future mentor, achieving her dreams and establishing the desire to contribute to students and the DSP&S mission.

“Deep in my heart, I knew that I would come back to ELAC and give back to the college that opened the doors so I could become the leader I am today,” Karen said. After having earned a B.S. Degree in Business Administration from Cal State University Long Beach and an MBA from Claremont Graduate University, Karen met the man of her dreams, her husband James. James is currently working on a B.S. in Business Administration, earned a Safety Specialist Certification, and by virtue of his years of professional experience and knowledge, is an expert in the field of Logistics—the global movement of goods, the workforce, the worksite environment and the virtual office.

James, who was born in California into a German/Italian family, is an entrepreneur and owner of Azarra Enterprises. Nevertheless, he finds time to mentor young people and business owners to achieve their goals and objectives—both financially and professionally.

Through their leadership, dedication, passion and dynamic partnership, James and Karen share the desire of making a significant impact on society and youth through mentorship and financial support. As a result, they created The Azarra Foundation in 2008 with the goal of supporting the education of low-income and disabled students. Since 2001, their Foundation has bestowed 16 scholarships upon graduating DSP&S students.

As part of the application process for The Azarra Foundation Scholarship, students were required to describe their biggest challenges faced, how they confronted each situation and what the outcome was for each challenge.

In June 2016, four extraordinary students were awarded The Azarra Foundation Scholarship at the DSP&S Graduation Banquet, including Rempeng Zhu, First Place and Most Inspirational Award Recipient and on his way to UC Berkeley; Marco Garcia; Caroline Ocampa; Aracely Avila; Jose Soto; and April Gonzalez.

The role of DSP&S is to provide equal access to students with verified disabilities. This is accomplished by providing college and classroom services so that students might achieve successful outcomes and become lifelong learners, as well as role models and mentors to each other and their communities. Given that DSP&S students often have to work harder and more diligently than others, The Azarra Foundation Scholarship recipients not only met these goals, but they exceeded them and were honored for having done so.

Both ELAC and DSP&S look forward to many years of continued collaboration with James and Karen Azarra. In return, they have expressed an even greater desire to interact with ELAC.

“Thank you for allowing us to contribute to your mission,” they wrote in a letter. “It has been extremely rewarding and a true honor to give back to ELAC in this special way and we look forward to our partnership with DSP&S and the ELAC Foundation.”

East Los Angeles College Engineering Students Win Second Place at International Competition

By John C. Rude

Christopher Aguyo and Alex Zaragosa represented East Los Angeles College (ELAC) on November 15, 2014 at the International Congress and Exposition of American Society of Mechanical Engineers. Accompanied by ELAC Associate Professor Karrayar Khadayar on the trip to Montreal, Canada, the three men were on a mission. They wanted to prove that their 3-D design of a rocket launcher could compete in global gathering of student engineers.

ELAC was the only two-year college invited to go up against power-house schools such as SUNY-Buffalo, New Jersey’s Stevens Institute of Technology and Purdue University, plus several world-class universities from India and Canada.

The ELAC team qualified after preparing a 3-D printable model, video presentation, a business plan, and a strongly-formatted report, as well as CAD and STP computer files that described the rocket-launcher.

“...To prepare, we made four CAD designs, analyzed them for fluids and stress. And for safety,” Zaragosa said.

The team demonstrated their rocket to elementary and middle schools in the area, and incorporated feedback from young students before they completed their final 3-D print of the launcher.

There are few more cutting-edge technologies than additive 3-D manufacturing design. Given moral support and guidance by engineering professors Khadayar and Brian Vasquez, the two students had earlier competed in several engineering design contests, including the Human Powered Vehicle Challenge. Motivation was not an issue.

“At the age of six I would take apart cars and modify them to increase their speed,” Zaragosa said.

Student competition at the International Congress was fierce. Future engineers presented their designs ranging from duck calls and ketchup bottles to a re-usable space orbiter. Judges came from the 3-D printing industry, and observers came from Russia and several European countries.

Aguyo and Zaragosa held their own against 23 competitors.

“Alex and Chris are disciplined, organized and motivated,” Professor Khadayar said.

Sheridan College and University of Toronto won first place in the "Best Re-Engineering Collaboration" competition. ELAC won second-place in this division.

“It was an exciting opportunity to showcase our work, and represent ELAC on an international stage,” Aguyo said. “We look forward to pursuing our passion for STEM skills. A passion that Professor Khadayar and the engineering department instilled in us.

“Our students’ local and international accomplishments show the college’s amazing commitment and value on STEM education,” said Paul De La Cerda, dean of economic and workforce development at ELAC. “This success demonstrates that we have established strong pillars in our college’s engineering and technologies programs.”
First-grade students practice their balance and team work during P.E. class.

All Souls School’s enrichment programs give students global learning edge

“A strong curriculum turns student interests into a lifetime of exploration and quest for knowledge,” said All Souls School Principal Carrie Fuller. “Being enrolled at All Souls World Language Catholic School gives students a plethora of opportunities to expand their intellect as well as their interests.”

Part of the students’ daily routine includes music, art, and P.E. classes along with core curriculum instruction in two languages.

About 40% of the children enrolled at All Souls have participated in the after school enrichment offerings since its inception last year. The enrichment program includes Lego® Robotics, flamenco, world dance, world drums, piano, and Chinese, Spanish, and French classes. In the fall, students also have yoga and chess as options.

To learn more about the programs at All Souls, visit the school from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 25, for an open house. All Souls World Language Catholic School, offering dual language programs in Spanish-English and Mandarin-English, is located at 29 S. Electric Ave., Alhambra, 91801. For more information, go to www.allsouls.la.
Community Emergency Response Team classes start this month

CERT means Community Emergency Response Team.

CERT also means being trained and prepared to help family and neighbors when a major community emergency occurs, such as an earthquake.

CERT training is offered by the Alhambra Fire Department, and includes both in-class instruction and significant hands-on practice. The training includes disaster preparedness, basic medical emergency treatment, fire suppression, and light search and rescue. The Fire Department has trained residents and Alhambra business people for several years to assist others in their neighborhoods following a major emergency, pending the arrival of professional emergency personnel.

To register for CERT training, please phone the Alhambra Fire Department CERT Recruitment Line, 626-588-2378, listen to the brief description of the training, and send an e-mail to the address provided to receive an application form.

A brief outline of the course content is included on the City of Alhambra Web site, www.cityofalhambra.org. Click on Government; click on Fire Department; click on CERT.

The next training session begins on Wednesday, Jan. 21, convening at the Alhambra Fire Department Headquarters, 301 N. First St. Some training dates will take place at the department’s training site on New Avenue between the Alhambra Golf Course and the City Maintenance Yard.

If class maximums are reached before an application is reviewed, it will be placed on a wait list for subsequent training sessions.

CERT (626-588-2378), listen to the brief description of the training, and send an e-mail to the address provided to receive an application form.

PETS OF THE MONTH

Shelly

Shelly has lots of energy. She enjoys going on walks and is good on leash. She is curious and likes to sniff and explore on her walks. Shelly will do best with a person or family that has experience with big dogs. Please come in to meet Shelly and make her New Year wish for her own home come true.

Young female Labrador Retriever and American Staffordshire Terrier Mix • Pet ID#14743

Goliath

Goliath is a gentle fellow and would be a great companion. Goliath is sure someone along well with his younger kennel mate and the other dogs he has met and walked with in the park. Another dog in the family would be fine, as long as the dog isn’t overly active.

Male adult male Chihuahua • Pet ID# 8054

Taco

Taco is friendly and will greet people with a smile and a wagging tail. He is very calm and easy going. He is not demanding and enjoys receiving loving pets and sitting on laps. Taco also enjoys his walks, taking his time to explore the world around him.

Meet Taco, a very small, cute, sweet senior Chihuahua gentleman looking for a loving person or couple to spend the rest of his life with. He does not take up much space, and his needs are few: just a soft comfortable bed, a loving lap, and a companion to take him out for casual walks in the neighborhood.

Taco is independent and doesn’t play with other dogs, but he gets along well with his younger kennel mate and the other dog he has met and walked with in the park. Another dog in the family would be fine, as long as the dog isn’t overly active.

He is eligible for the shelter’s “Senior for Senior” reduced-adoption program. He can’t wait to meet his new family.

To inquire about these adoptable animals, contact the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society at 626-286-1159, or visit at 851 E. Grand Ave., San Gabriel. Adoption hours are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. The shelter is closed on Mondays. Directions and photos of many more dogs and cats can be found online at www.sgvhumane.org.

The adoption fee for cats is $99, which includes spay/neuter, vaccinations, de-worming, FIV/FelV/heartworm testing, and microchip. A $120-$135 dog adoption fee includes microchip, vaccinations, spay/neuter surgery, and de-worming, as well as a free health check-up at a participating vet (some breeds slightly higher).

Take advantage of the new cat adoption program to celebrate kitten season.

The “Me and My Shadow” companion adoption program allows pet adopters to have “twice the fun at a third of the cost.” When adopters take a second kitty, who must be “black like a shadow,” the cost is only $29.

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CERT (626-588-2378), listen to the brief description of the training, and send an e-mail to the address provided to receive an application form.

A brief outline of the course content is included on the City of Alhambra Web site, www.cityofalhambra.org. Click on Government; click on Fire Department; click on CERT.

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Ramona Convent kicked off the holiday season on Dec. 3 with a concert and luncheon honoring the students’ grandparents. Grandparents were invited to spend part of the day with their granddaughters on Ramona’s 19 ¼-acre campus.

Jessica Franco ‘15, in the middle, shows her grandparents Aurelia and Paul Franco and Martha and Richard Chacon around Ramona Convent Secondary School on Grandparents Day.

Business and Professional Women’s breakfast guest speaker to extol happiness for success

Internationally renowned motivational speaker Dr. Acacia Parks will be the guest speaker from 7:7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, at the Business and Professional Women’s Networking Breakfast at Almansor Court, 700 S. Almansor St., Alhambra. Her presentation is entitled “Happiness as a Catalyst for Increasing Impact: Changing your world — business and personal — starts with you.”

Make checks out to Soroptimist International of Alhambra, San Gabriel, San Marino, for $25 for each reservation. Please send to Post Office Box 343, Alhambra 91802. The breakfast and program will be $30 at the door.

There is plenty of parking.

For more information, e-mail gaykinman@gaykinman.com.

This is a community service sponsored by Soroptimist International of Alhambra, San Gabriel, San Marino.

550 E. Main Street • Alhambra, Calif. 91801
(626) 299-3000 • www.rosehillsalhambra.com

In honor of Ramona Convent’s 125th Anniversary, the Inaugural Women’s Symposium features

Sister Simone Campbell, SSS “The Nun on the Bus”

Thursday, January 29, 2015
7:00 am to 9:00 am
On the campus of Ramona Convent
Visit www.ramonaconvent.org to reserve a space
Seating is limited!

Sister Simone has often been featured in the national and international media, including recent appearances on 60 Minutes, The Colbert Report, and The Daily Show with Jon Stewart. Copies of Sr. Simone’s book, A Nun on the Bus: How All of Us Can Create Hope, Change, and Community, will be available at the Symposium for purchase. A book signing will follow the event.

IT’S APPLICATION TIME!
Ramona Convent is a high school committed to helping young women reach their full potential with a rich curriculum, expansive selection of college preparatory and AP/Honors courses, comprehensive co-curricular programs, and welcoming community. Deadline for 2015-2016 admission is January 21, 2015.

We warmly invite you to visit and meet Ramona for yourself!
1701 West Ramona Road • Alhambra, CA 91803 • (626) 282-4151
COMMUNITY NEWS AROUND ALHAMBRA

The Alhambra AVSO 1214 girls’ soccer team defeated Arcadia to win the "San Gabriel Valley" big league play through Championship on Dec. 14. “Our Alhambra girls represented our region with excellence,” said Coach Abel Hernandez. “Go Alhambra!”

January 2015

COMMUNITY News

COMMUNITY Calendar of Events

JANUARY

Jan. 5 - Monday
Planning Commission
7 p.m., City Hall, council chambers, 111 S. First St.

Jan. 6 - Tuesday
- Alhambra Chamber Executive Committee
8:30 a.m. Alhambra Chamber, 104 S. First St.
- HUD - Housing Committee
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.

Jan. 12 - Monday
Alhambra City Council
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.

Jan. 13 - Tuesday
- Alhambra Chamber Board of Directors
8:30 a.m., Alhambra Chamber, 104 S. First St.
- Library Board of Trustees
6 p.m., Library boardroom, 101 S. First St.
- Youth Commission
6 p.m., Joslyn Center, 210 N. Chapel Ave.
- Design Review Board
7:30 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.
- Transportation Committee
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.

Jan. 14 - Wednesday
Transportation Commission
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.

Jan. 15 - Thursday
Chamber Lunch & Learn Program
Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Alhambra Chamber of Commerce, 104 S. First St.
Presentations by local business leaders who address important issues related to small business success. Lunch is provided.

February 2015

FEBRUARY

Feb. 2 – Monday
Planning Commission
7 p.m., City Hall, council chambers
111 S. First St.

Feb. 3 – Tuesday
- Alhambra Chamber Executive Committee
8:30 a.m. Alhambra Chamber, 104 S. First St.
- HUD - Housing Committee
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.

Feb. 5 – Thursday
Park and Recreation Commission
7 p.m., Joslyn Center, Story Park
210 N. Chapel Ave.

Feb. 9 – Monday
City Council
7 p.m.
City Hall, 111 S. First St.

Feb. 10 – Tuesday
Alhambra Chamber Board of Directors
8:30 a.m., Alhambra Chamber, 104 S. First St.
- Library Board of Trustees
6 p.m., library boardroom, 101 S. First St.
- Youth Commission
6 p.m., Joslyn Center, 210 N. Chapel Ave.
- Design Review Board
7:30 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.

Feb. 17 – Thursday
Planning Commission
7 p.m., City Hall, council chambers
111 S. First St.

Feb. 18 – Wednesday
Arts & Cultural Events Committee
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.

Feb. 19 – Thursday
Chamber Lunch & Learn Program
Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Alhambra Chamber of Commerce, 104 S. First St.
Presentations by local business leaders who address important issues related to small business success. Lunch is provided.

February presentation by Exact Tax: “General Overview of Business and Individual Taxes.”

Feb. 23 – Monday
City Council
7 p.m.
City Hall, 111 S. First St.

Feb. 24 – Tuesday
- Government Affairs Committee
9 a.m., Chamber, 104 S. First St.
- Design Review Board
7:30 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.

Feb. 25 – Wednesday
Business After Hours Mixer
Alhambra Chamber of Commerce
104 S. First St.
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
$10 members, $15 non-members

Thrifty Ice Cream
One Scoop
$0.99

Any Size Coffee
$0.99

Complimentary JV T-shirt (for the first 26 students that enroll!)

Winter Dance Special
JAYVEE DANCE CENTER
Your Community’s Choice for Professional Dance Classes
$89 for 8 weeks
Special ends: Saturday, January 31, 2015
- Low $40
- Limited space available.
- Valid only for new students and youth classes.
- enroll now!
- (626) 281-5585
- JAYVEE DANCECENTER.COM
- 214 E. MAIN STREET
ALHAMBRA, CA 91801

Winter Session
January 5, 2015 to February 28, 2015

$10 off registration

Alhambra Service Clubs and Organizations

The Exchange Club meets at 12:30 p.m. every Tuesday at Alhambra Court, 700 S. Alhambra Ave., Alhambra. The Rotary Club and Soroptimist Club meet at noon every Tuesday at Alhambra Court. The Civilian Club meets at noon every first and third Tuesday at Azteca Restaurant, 717 S. San Gabriel Blvd., San Gabriel. The Kiwanis Club of Alhambra meets at 5 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays at noon at Denny’s Restaurant, 9 W. Woodward Ave., Alhambra. Alhambra Masonic Lodge 9 W. Woodward Ave., Alhambra 9:30 to 11:30 p.m.
- $10 members, $15 non-members

Alhambra Police Department
Third Wednesday of each month
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
111 S. First St.
Contact Tina Yamashiro at 626-282-8481


Alhambra Historical Society presents its program meetings at 7 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of January, March, May, September, and November (November meeting takes place after Thanksgiving) at the Masonic Center, 9 W. Woodward Ave.
The Alhambra Woman’s Club meets at noon on the first Wednesday each month (except for June through Sept.) at the Masonic Center, 9 W. Woodward Ave.
The Alhambra Woman’s Club meets at noon on the first Wednesday each month (except for June through Sept.) at the Masonic Center, 9 W. Woodward Ave.
The Lion’s Club meets at 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday each month at the Regent Cafe, 1411 S. Garfield Ave., Alhambra.

February presentation by Exact Tax: “General Overview of Business and Individual Taxes.”

Jan. 21 – Wednesday
- Arts & Cultural Events Committee
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.
- Survivors of Murdered Children, SVS Chapter
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Third Wednesday of each month
Alhambra Police Department
211 S. First St., room 205
Contact Tina Yamashiro at 626-282-8654 or trityamashiro@alhambrawa.gov

Jan. 26 – Monday
Alhambra City Council
7 p.m.
City Hall, 111 S. First St.

Jan. 27 – Tuesday
- Arts & Cultural Events Committee
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.
- Survivors of Murdered Children, SVS Chapter
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Third Wednesday of each month
Alhambra Police Department
211 S. First St., room 205
Contact Tina Yamashiro at 626-282-8654 or trityamashiro@alhambrawa.gov

Jan. 19 – Wednesday
- Chamber Lunch & Learn Program
8:30 a.m., Alhambra Chamber, 104 S. First St.
- Design Review Board
7:30 p.m., City Hall, conference room
111 S. First St.

Jan. 28 – Wednesday
Business After Hours Mixer
Alhambra Masonic Lodge
9 W. Woodward Ave., Alhambra
9:30 to 11:30 p.m.
- $10 members, $15 non-members
- Alhambra Masonic Lodge
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9 W. Woodward Ave., Alhambra
9:30 to 11:30 p.m.
American Legion Post 139 hosts luncheon to honor women veterans

The annual “Honoring Our Women Veterans Holiday Luncheon,” sponsored by the American Legion Post 139, the City of Alhambra, and the 18th District, took place on Dec. 10 at the American Legion Hall. It is an annual luncheon for homeless women veterans. Post 139 said it is a small way for a community of veterans and their families to reach out to their fellow soldiers who have fallen on hard times and uplift them during the holiday season.

The American Legion Post 139 Chaplain Monika Rueda, event coordinator for this program, worked with the City of Alhambra, Veterans Advisory Commission, The National Veterans Foundation, Wellness Works-Glendale, the YMCA Veterans Foundation, Wellness Commission, The National Alhambra, Veterans Advisory program, worked with the City of Alhambra, and the Elegant 18th District.

A veteran and her family enjoying the American Legion Post 139’s “Honoring our Women Veterans Holiday Luncheon” on Dec. 10.

The Community News

Huntington Library’s $68 million project to be subject of talk at Historical Society meeting

Alhambra Historical Society member Rose Marie Turney-Markus will discuss the completion of the Steven S. Koldnik Educational and Visitor Center at the Huntington Library at the Society’s meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 28, at the Alhambra Masonic Center, 9 W. Woodward Ave.

Ms. Turney-Markus has been a Huntington Library member, docent, and volunteer since 1985. Her knowledge of the Huntington goes back to her first visit in 1949. The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens will open the front section of the complex on Wednesday, Jan. 14. It will be completed in April 2015. It will be composed of 52,000 square feet of educational facilities and visitor amenities.

The meeting will begin with refreshments with time to view some of the many pieces donated since the last meeting. The business portion of the meeting will start at 7:30 p.m. The program will follow with questions and answers.

The community is invited to attend.

Emery Park home wins 2014 Heritage Home Award

At its annual award presentation in late fall, Alhambra Preservation Group honored three remarkable historical homes with Heritage Home Awards. Among the awardees was a 1925 Pueblo Revival residence located in the Emery Park Tract. Guests at the November meeting were surprised to learn that it was once the childhood home of Barbara Iverson, Alhambra’s own "Princess of Beauty" who in 1940, at 8 years of age, was chosen to lead the Storybook Parade down Main Street before a crowd of more than 50,000 people. Ms. Iverson’s subsequent career as an actress, musician, poet, and songwriter began in Alhambra, when she was a student at Emery Park School.

Emery Park was a newly developed residential area on the outskirts of Alhambra when Daniel Eckerman bought two acres of land there in 1924. Intending to make his fortune in the booming real estate market, he hired a local construction firm to build several small homes for him in styles that reflected the Spanish influence that was extremely popular at the time. The Pueblo Revival residence honored by APG with its 2014 Heritage Home Award features a smooth stucco exterior finish, painted in subtle earth tones; minimal ornamentation; a flat roof with overhang and terra cotta tile capping the parapet; and a restrained arch over the dining room window, which is echoed in the front porch entry. Purchased by its current owners in 2005, the home had suffered a prolonged period of neglect. In addition to addressing the home’s long-deferred maintenance issues, they completely renovated the kitchen and bathrooms, while also adding a new bedroom suite. Where possible, they preserved valuable historical features and materials; where necessary, they replaced missing or damaged elements with ones that matched the character and quality of the originals.

Alhambra Masonic Center

Hall For Rent

For All Occasions - births, graduations, anniversaries, business meetings, conferences and seminars

9 W. Woodward Ave., Alhambra
Contact Building Manager: Alex Navarro
Cell: (626) 407-4448 or (626) 500-6384

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Alhambra Preservation Group, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was founded in 2003 to ensure that the historical, architectural, and cultural resources of Alhambra are identified, protected, and celebrated for their contributions to Alhambra’s heritage, economy, and environment. For more information, contact APG at 626-795-3467, or visit its Web site: www.alhambrapreservation.org.
Jayvee Dance can help with New Year’s resolutions

According to a study published in the University of Scranton’s Journal of Clinical Psychology, only 8% of people keep their New Year’s resolutions, whether they are related to weight or self-improvement, or just enjoying life to the fullest. Achieve goals in 2015 by getting plugged into a community of like-minded individuals who are passionate about helping each other reach these goals at Jayvee Dance Center.

For 10 years, Jayvee Dance Center, 216 E. Main St., Alhambra, has inspired individuals through dance lessons for children ages 2 to adults. With more than 500 dancers enrolled in their programs, Jayvee continues to build a strong community whose members learn confidence, discipline, and healthful habits.

“Participating regularly in community events, such as Hot Spot, First Fridays, and annual recitals, Jayvee offers Alhambrans a place to have fun and to meet people who are invested in their dreams. They are encouraged by companions striving for similar goals. You don’t have to be alone. With classes ranging from ballet, tap, jazz, hula (Hawaiian), hip hop, to Streeterse and pole dancing, there is something for everyone at Jayvee,” said studio Manager Tu DeVera.

Visit jayveedancecenter.net, or phone 626-281-JVJV to inquire about a program that will help people reach their goals this year.
2015 New Year’s resolutions for business owners

By Sandy Walia, Wells Fargo Greater San Gabriel Area President

Meet with your banker. It’s a good idea to organize an annual review meeting with your banker to discuss your current business needs and review your accounts. To prepare for this meeting, review your small-business loan accounts to track payment progress, and reconcile your bank and credit accounts so you can head into the New Year in good standing. Also take time to anticipate how your sales goals or hiring plans might impact your need for a new a deposit account, loan, or line of credit, and be prepared to discuss available options with your banker.

Analyze your business cash flow. One of the most important things for a business owner to track is cash flow: how much cash your business earned and how much you spent. If you have trouble maintaining steady cash flow, especially if you have a seasonal business, make your financial plan includes specific actions to remedy the issue, such as cost reductions or new revenue sources.  Take time to ensure that you fully understand and can forecast cash flow, especially if you have a seasonal business.

Prepare for tax reporting. Meet with your accountant to review your business profits and expenses, and make adjustments to your budget as necessary. Evaluate your business tax records to ensure that everything is in order and be aware of tax filing deadlines so you can plan ahead. Now is also a good time to discuss your estimated tax payments and find out if there’s anything you can do to minimize the taxes you’ll owe.

Bobby’s Club meeting to feature New Year celebration

The Alhambra Woman’s Club will welcome 2015 on Wednesday, Jan. 7, with a “New Year’s in the Country” celebration. Returning to the stage of the Alhambra Masonic Center, 9 W. Woodward, will be Karen Tobin & Crazy Hearts singing popular country and western tunes.

Ms. Tobin has recorded for Arista (New York), Atlantic (Nashville), Big Otis, and Sunnyland, her own production studio. The luncheon is being arranged by two former Alhambra Woman’s Club presidents: Beacint McRae and Mae Wright. Ms. Wright joined The Alhambra Junior Woman’s Club in 1961. “Wear your cowboy outfits to this event, and join in the fun of line dancing, swing, waltz, and the two-step,” said Mrs. Wright.

The Alhambra Woman’s Club celebrated its 121st anniversary on Dec. 13. Founded in 1893, it is the oldest service club in the area. Its goals, since the club’s beginning, are the support of nonprofit organizations and the advancement of its members in cultural awareness.

Visitors are always welcome and may make reservations at 626-548-2209 through Sunday, Jan. 4. All seats are reserved. Please visit the Web site at http://sites.google.com/site/alhambrawomansclub.
Medical mentors visit San Gabriel High School

San Gabriel’s Multi-Purpose Room was awash with medical professionals on Dec. 4, when the Medical Careers Academy (MCA) offered its annual Mentor Mixer to promote student interest in medical careers. Academy coordinators used connections to get a well-rounded list of guest speakers, ranging from doctors, therapists, nurses, paramedics, and veterinarians. Dr. Sheri Johnson, a general and surgical veterinarian, Dr. Michael Ko, a physical therapist, and Garrett Roach, a paramedic and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) intern were some of the 12 professionals in attendance.

The event started with dinner and snacks served to the mentors and the 72 students who participated. Then the speakers were introduced by Cynthia Okimura, the club’s adviser, who planned the event two months prior.

Each student was encouraged to visit stations with a mentor and discuss career questions, requirements, and future concerns for a maximum of 10 minutes. The students gathered around tables — some even standing to learn more about the mentors in front of them.

“I was grateful to have the opportunity to share my experiences in the veterinary field with the MCA students and appreciated their enthusiasm for the medical profession,” said Dr. Johnson.

After every student went to at least five different stations, it was time to gather around and thank the mentors for attending the event. Each mentor received a certificate as a token of MCA’s gratitude for devoting their time to the event.

Senior Melissa Benavides, president of MCA, supported Ms. Okimura in planning and organizing the event and noted that this was one of the best mixers she has attended in her three years of participating in the academy.

“I think what we got out of Mentor Mixer this year was more information about all the careers out there or careers we did not know about,” Melissa said. “I think this will open new paths for us to decide which career we want to pursue.”

Ms. Okimura hopes to extend the Academy’s annual Mentor Mixer into something bigger next year with many more guests and students participating.

This article was written by Carolina Loiasiga, junior, Sports Editor, The Matador, San Gabriel High School.
New rain garden beautifies
San Gabriel campus,
biofilters water run-off

Next to the A-Building, a quiet spot of peace and serenity can be found: a new rain garden, created by the students at San Gabriel High School.

Business Technology Academy’s (BTA) fifth period International Business class prepared the foundation by digging out old plants and adding mulch, while also creating an ideal concave shape for the rain garden, which resembles a small pond. BTA member Christin Nguyen is pleased with the outcome.

“We got a lot of compliments about [it],” Nguyen said. “I feel like we did a good job of building it and helping each other. I didn’t expect [the garden] to come out like that, but once I saw the rain coming and the water building up, [I think] it looked really pretty.”

A large amount of effort went into making the new rain garden possible. On one Saturday, the Environmental Club joined BTA members and loosened dirt, spread mulch, and dug holes for the new plants in order to create a place of beauty on campus.

Senior Janette Nguyen thought the garden she helped create “looked awesome.”

“I like how [the garden works] exactly as we envisioned it,” Janette said. “We made the middle part [of the garden] deeper than the rest, so all the rain would go there. And it did.”

Rainwater collected into a large puddle due to the heavy showers in December. Assistant Principal of Student Services Jocelyn Castro noticed the garden during the showers and thought “it was so beautiful.”

“[It was] a serene place on campus,” Ms. Castro said. “I appreciated the strategic trenches that take advantage of the runoff. Great job to [the BTA teachers] and students!”

The rain garden was funded by a grant received from the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District. Jesse Chang, Kingdom Causes catalyst, helped coordinate the planning behind the rain garden and directed students on how to plant the garden. Mr. Chang was hoping to create “a native plant demonstration garden to help inspire and educate others on how to [conserve water] and use native plants.”

“We hope a garden like this can inspire others to go native and realize [it is] a better option that also encourages more biodiversity,” Mr. Chang said. “[Or] at the very least, give [students] something naturally beautiful to walk by every day.”

The garden was planted directly next to the A-Building to take advantage of the water runoff.

“The goal is twofold: maximize the rainfall we have and [for the rocks to act] like a biofilter to remove contaminants before they run off into our storm drains,” Mr. Chang said. “During warm weather, one of the drains actually puts out a lot of water from all the AC units running to cool our classrooms, so it was an ideal place to put a rain garden.”

BTA teacher Joan Lee appreciates the teamwork that went into the garden: “It’s nice to see a lot of kids caring and putting effort into the garden. … It’s a group effort to make the school look nice.”

This article was written by Hanfrey Deng, senior, Web Editor, The Matador, San Gabriel High School.
Adult Transition Fair targets students with disabilities

The West San Gabriel Valley SELPA, in collaboration with Alhambra Unified School District and the East Los Angeles Regional Center (ELARC), hosted an adult transition fair on Nov. 15. The fair, “Preparing for a Successful Post-High School Transition,” was targeted to students, aged 18 to 21, and their families. The fair showcased local Regional Center vendors who provide a variety of programs, services, and supports available to students after high school/adult transition.

Informational seminars were offered on topics such as “Recent Policy Changes that Could Impact Transition and Employment Plans for Your Child” and “Regional Center Supporting Transition to Adult Life.”

The fair was well attended and families expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to gather and explore valuable resources and information.

San Gabriel places first in Boeing Day competition

San Gabriel High School’s Mathematics, Engineering, and Scientific Achievement (MESA) club attended the 10th Annual Boeing Day and College of Engineering, Computer Science, and Technology (ECST) Open House at the California State University, Los Angeles, in October. This year, the theme of the workshop was aerospace engineering.

“Our team had an awesome day at CSULA,” Adviser Nicolas Nguyen said. “Our students explored engineering and technology fields through lab tours and interacted with college students, professors, and engineers from Boeing. Students also attended workshops, such as writing personal statements for college applications. In addition, some of our students were chosen to learn how to create apps for Android devices.”

The day included a competition in which schools drafted blueprints for a glider and then prototyped and tested it. Each school attending the workshop was allowed to enter two MESA teams, one composed of freshmen and sophomores and one of juniors and seniors, into the Wright Stuff Glider Competition.

Through team effort, San Gabriel’s freshman and sophomore team placed third in the competition, and the junior and senior team placed first. Boeing engineers judged the contest. The members of both teams wished to remain anonymous and said that the victory was “a whole MESA team effort.”

“The goal of MESA is to infuse students with knowledge from applied classroom learning,” Mr. Nguyen said. “The fun part was seeing the students who were learning and interacting with engineering.”

Cassandra Chen places fourth in country for cartooning

The Alhambra Unified School District congratulates Cassandra Chen for placing fourth in the country in the National Scholastic Press Association (NSPA) Cartooning Awards for Comic Strip/Panel. Cassandra, who is a junior at San Gabriel High School and features editor of The Matador, received a plaque for her work.

“The Matador” newspaper staff earned an Honorable Mention award in the NSPA Design of the Year Awards for Page One Newspaper Design (top 10 in the country). Cassandra also earned an Excellent rating in the Journalism Education Association’s National Write-offs for Editorial Cartoon in an on-the-spot competition.

Cassandra, along with Editor-in-Chief Kristy Duong and adviser Jennifer Kim, travelled to Washington, D.C., in November for the award ceremony, competition, and a four-day journalism convention. The Matador staff thanks sponsors Alhambra Educational Foundation, San Gabriel PTSA, AUSD Educational Services, and the numerous teachers, staff, newspaper alumni, and townsmen who helped make this once-in-a-lifetime trip happen.

San Gabriel High School student Cassandra Chen receives a plaque for placing fourth in the country in the National Scholastic Press Association Cartooning Award for Comic Strip/Panel.

The goal of the partnership between Cal State L.A. and Boeing is to create a pipeline of engineers starting in the middle school and high school grades.
Experience the Difference in One Visit

**LOOSE TEETH**

Before | In One Visit
---|---

**TOOTH SAVED**

This example shows how Dr. John Chao saved a hopelessly loose tooth in **ONE EASY COMFORTABLE VISIT** and at a fraction of the cost of implants! (individual results vary).

**NEGLECTED TEETH**

Before | In One Visit
---|---

**TEETH RESTORED**

This example shows how Dr. John Chao saved a severely neglected tooth in **ONE EASY COMFORTABLE VISIT** and at a fraction of the cost of implants! (individual results vary).

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John Chao, DDS, MAGD*

USC School of Dentistry, Faculty, Anxiety Management

*Master, Academy of General Dentistry

“Less than 2% of General Dentists in the United States are Masters,” according to the Academy of General Dentistry

**SE HABLA ESPAÑOL**