



## Winter Around the World in Alhambra

This should be fun! Sat, Jan. 22nd, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. the City of Alhambra, the Parks and Recreation Department and the Alhambra Civic Center Library are teaming will present a community event, 'Winter Around the World'. It will be held on Second Street (the location of the Farmer's Market). All are welcome.

It's time to celebrate winter as it is done in different countries around the world. There will be food, live entertainment, games, crafts, photo ops and so much more. Don't miss the Winter Wonderland Express, for a train ride around the world, traveling to destinations near and far. Book your passage and get your tickets to get on board. The nominal cost is only \$2.00 per person for folks two years or up. Children under two ride free but still need to register.

Oh, the places you'll go! Visit and learn about Chinese New Year, Las Posadas, Dinali, St. Lucia, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and of course Christmas. Get your ticket for the Winter Wonderland Express well in advance and find out more at www.cityofalhambra.org or call (626) 570-3242.



From right are Emcee Belen DeLéon; Rose Court Members Jeannine Briggs, Abigail Griffith, and Jaeda Walden; Rose Queen Nadia Chung; Rose Court Members Swetha Somasundaram, Ava Feldman, and McKenzie Street. Photo by Leonard Oxford.

## Alhambra Chamber of Commerce hosts 33rd annual Rose Court Luncheon

On Dec. 7, the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce once again hosted its annual Rose Court Luncheon at Almansor Court. The 33rd Annual event featured the 2022 Tournament of Roses Queen and Royal Court in conversation with emcee Belen DeLéon, NBC4 Today in LA meteorologist. This year's court included McKenzie Street of Flintridge Sacred Heart, Ava Feldman of South Pasadena High School, Swetha Somasundaram of Arcadia High

>> see **33RD ANNUAL ROSE COURT LUNCHEON** Page 4

## Mark Keppel High a top finisher in California's Race to Submit Campaign

In a "normal" year, high school seniors already have a lot to navigate in order to apply for and finance the next step in their education. But it was far more difficult during Distance Learning when they couldn't just head to their counselor's office during a break or free period to ask a question or get help.

The Mark Keppel High counseling team went above and beyond to get their students to complete the necessary paperwork. Their dedication and accomplishments during the California Race to Submit statewide campaign did not go unnoticed. The California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) recognized MKHS as one of the top 24 high schools in California with the highest percentage of Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and California Dream Act Application (CADAA) completion.

In her award letter to MKHS, CSAC executive director Marlene



The Mark Keppel High School counseling team works hard to help students pursue higher education and to help them complete the FAFSA or CADAA to financially reach their future goals. From left to right: Tracy Tang-Casey, counselor; Elizabeth Sesztak, counselor; Elizabeth An, counselor; Andres Vazquez, USC college advisor; Wendy Duanes, counselor. Not pictured: Ha Linh Matsuo and Irma Preciado.

>> see **MKHS RACE TO SUBMIT** Page 15

### INSIDE

CITY	PAGE 2
BUSINESS	PAGE 6
COMMUNITY	PAGE 9
SCHOOL	PAGE 15
SENIOR	PAGE 18
HEALTH	PAGE 19
DINING & ENTERTAINMENT	PAGE 21
AUTO & REAL ESTATE	PAGE 22

ALHAMBRA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
104 S. First Street  
Alhambra, CA 91801

PRESORT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT #35  
ALHAMBRA, CA

POSTAL CUSTOMER

CAR-RT SORT

Mayor's Corner *By Mayor Katherine Lee*

# A voice for the residents beyond the city hall



By Mayor Katherine Lee

**Advocating** for the residents of Alhambra is my priority as the councilmember for District One since December 2018 and as the current mayor sworn in on May 24, 2021. Last year, several major policy changes at all levels of government that impacted Alhambra residents as well as residents in LA County and throughout California had to be addressed without delay, and there is still much work to be done in the coming years.

**Los Angeles County**

Los Angeles County Supervisors voted 4-1 to close the Men's Central Jail without

a replacement. I attended the final public hearing and submitted my perspective that mayors and councilmembers should have been included in the decision-making process prior to the vote. The general public and city elected officials were not adequately informed along the way and had limited opportunities to give public comments. The final public hearing was held in the morning during a workday which made it difficult for working residents to participate. I decided to advocate for the residents by requesting a meeting. I organized other councilmembers and mayors from the San Gabriel Valley to meet with LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger who wanted an appropriate replacement after the closure of Men's Central Jail. The meeting was informative and positive, and I will look for future opportunities for residents to give their input on this issue.

Soon after he took office, LA County District Attorney George Gascon removed hate crime enhancements for nearly all situations. His reform also included thirteen misdemeanors without charge. Among them are trespassing, resisting arrest, drug possession and making criminal threats. I wrote and signed a letter as the mayor opposing these changes. The offenders are not held accountable for

their behaviors, and no research-based alternatives were implemented at the same time to help them rehabilitate. Other city councils in the county also took action.

**State**

The California state senate and assembly passed SB9 which mandates cities to allow increase in density in the R1 single-family neighborhoods. I informed Alhambra residents through emails, two neighborhood meetings, and the Mayor's Corner about this state bill and urged them to contact our Assemblymember Ed Chau and other state legislators before the final vote was taken. During a virtual meeting with at least thirty other California mayors and Senator Weiner who was one of the co-authors of SB9, I opposed the bill because it takes away more local control over housing developments in the California cities. Under SB9, cities can only require one car space per each new housing unit built if the owner decides to split the lot into two before construction. Residents will very likely see more cars parked on the streets over time as a result. This state bill further reduces available parking spaces on our residential streets throughout the city. Moderate to high density neighborhoods in Alhambra that already have many cars parked on the streets may be impacted as well.

Recently, I had the opportunity to meet with Governor Newsom's staff regarding state funding for smaller cities like Alhambra. I proposed additional state budget allocation for infrastructure upgrade. Since Alhambra is required to plan for over 6,800 new housing units to be built, I called for equitable funding for Alhambra. During the meeting, I also urged Governor Newsom to take immediate action against crimes in the state. As elected officials, we share the responsibility to maintain safe neighborhoods and streets. I urged the governor to meet with District Attorney George Gascon about crimes in LA County and to discuss his reform.

**City News**

Alhambra has a new police chief Kelley Guzman-Fraser and fire chief Jeffrey D. Ragusa. Police Chief Guzman-Fraser is the first female police chief of Alhambra. I look forward to working with both of them in the coming year. Congratulations and my sincere thanks to former Alhambra Chief of Police Eric Parra who resigned on December 26, 2021 and is now the Police Chief of Huntington Beach. Likewise, congratulations and my sincere thanks to former Fire Chief Thomas M. Phelps for his 41 years of service upon his retirement.



## The YMCA of West San Gabriel Valley WINTER BREAK CAMP

Grades K-8th Grade: 7:30a.m – 5:30p.m  
\$160/week or \$40 a day

FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT  
FOR HEALTHY LIVING  
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY



**2021 Winter Break Camp**

Monday - Friday K-8th Grade  
7:30a.m – 5:30p.m  
Week (1) December 20th - 23rd  
Week (2) December 27th - 30th

**What We Offer:**

Breakfast, Lunch, and Snack

\*No Refunds\*

**Your Peace of Mind is  
Our Priority  
During COVID-19**

- Licensed Registered Nurse on Staff
- Daily Entrance and Exit Temperature and Well Check of Children
- Mandatory Mask Worn
- Same Daily Staff Assignment
- Fingerprinted Live Scan
- All Staff trained and certified in CPR/First Aid, Child Abuse Prevention, and Mental Health.

**Activities**

- Swimming Lessons
- Paddle Boarding
- Cooking Classes
- Craft Projects
- Playground Activities
- Sport Activities

Ratio 1-15

\*No Refunds\*



Site: YMCA 401 E. Corto St. Alhambra, CA 91801 Contact: Valarie R. Gomez  
Cell: 626-660-6681 or E-Mail: Val.ymca@gmail.com • Visit Us At www.wsgvymca.org

## City update

### Senate Bill (SB) 1383 is here! Takes effect Jan. 1

SB 1383 sets methane emissions reduction targets in a statewide effort to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCP) in various sectors of California's economy. The regulation establishes targets to divert 50% of organic waste from landfills below 2014 levels by 2020 and 75% by 2025.

Organic waste, which is any material that is biodegradable and comes from a plant or an animal, produces large amounts of methane when disposed of in a landfill and significantly contributes to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Organics like food scraps, yard trimmings, paper and cardboard make up half of what Californians dump in landfills, and reducing their disposal in landfills will have the fastest impact on the climate crisis.

Starting January 1st of 2022, all businesses and multi-family properties must have organics collection services available. Your green carts now accept yard waste, food waste, and other organic waste. Contact Republic Services for any questions or to add organics recycling services at [alhabra@republicservices.com](mailto:alhabra@republicservices.com).

SB 1383 establishes the goal of increasing edible food recovery by 20% by 2025. Certain food service businesses, labeled as edible food generators, must donate all excess edible food to food recovery organizations and services. For any questions about this program, or if you are a business looking to donate excess edible food, please contact Joris Eigirdas at Alhambra City Hall at (626) 570-3249 or [jeigirdas@cityofalhabra.org](mailto:jeigirdas@cityofalhabra.org).

### Household Hazardous Waste Disposal

Any products labeled toxic, poison, combustible, corrosive, flammable, or irritant cannot be disposed of in your black, green or blue bin. LA County Public Works offers collection events every Saturday throughout LA County to dispose of car batteries, automotive products, light bulbs (CFLs), gasoline and diesel fuel, medicine, sharps waste/medical needles, spray paints, and other HHW.

LA County Public Works will be hosting a HHW collection event on Saturday, February 12th at 9:00 AM at the Southwest corner of Walnut Grove Avenue and Klingerman Street, Rosemead, CA 91770.

Scan the QR code to find more collection events near you:

- (QR code for <https://pw.lacounty.gov/general/enotifyCalendar/Calendar.aspx/>)



### Used Motor Oil and Oil Filter Recycling Event

LA County Public Works and SAESHE will be hosting an in-person filter exchange event in Alhambra on Saturday, January 29th. Bring your used oil filter for it to be exchanged for a new, free one and your used motor oil to be recycled. For any questions, please contact Joris Eigirdas at Alhambra City Hall at (626) 570-3249 or

[jeigirdas@cityofalhabra.org](mailto:jeigirdas@cityofalhabra.org).

- Date: Saturday, 1/29/2022
- Time: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- Address: O'Reilly Auto Parts, 800 E. Valley Blvd., Alhambra, CA 91801

### Alhambra Homeless Count

Between Tuesday, January 25th to Thursday, January 27th, 2022, thousands of community members across greater Los Angeles will be counting their neighbors experiencing homelessness. The Count, which is mandated by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development, helps paint a picture of the progress, trends, and shifts in the fight to end homelessness. Help make this Count possible by volunteering in your community.

The City of Alhambra will conduct its Homeless Count on **Tuesday, January 25, 2022 from 8:00PM to midnight**. We are looking for volunteers to help in this effort. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up as teams of two or more. This will allow teams to stay in their Count Team Bubble with people they know. If you do not have teammates at this time, you are still welcome to sign up as an individual. Others can join your team later through this site, or you can be a part of a team created at your deployment site. For volunteer registration and more information, please visit [www.theycountwillyou.org](http://www.theycountwillyou.org).

### Tobacco Retail Licensing Program

Beginning January 1, 2022, all tobacco retailers, wholesalers, distributors, and manufacturers with retail sales within the City must obtain a Tobacco Retail License. The City Council approved establishing a Tobacco Retail Licensing (TRL) Program last year.



Organics waste recycling program.

In order for retailers to sell tobacco products within City limits effective January 1, 2022:

- Submit proof of a Tobacco Retailer license and Resellers Permit from The California Tax and Fee Administration (required under State law). The TRL application is available online at: <https://www.cityofalhabra.org/576/Tobacco-Retail-License>.

- Pay City Business license + fee
- Pay City Tobacco Retailer's License \$300 fee
- Sign the Acknowledgement Addendum

- Obtain or submit a Certificate of Occupancy (administered by Community Development) + fees, applicable to new businesses only.

For more information, including a list of Frequently Asked Questions about the Ordinance, visit the [cityofalhabra.org](http://cityofalhabra.org) or contact the Code Enforcement Division at [code@cityofalhabra.org](mailto:code@cityofalhabra.org).



## Alhambra Library holds story time at Granada Park

The Alhambra Civic Center Library used the shutdown of the pandemic to rethink the library's service to the community. Librarian Hilda LohGuan says that this 'reset' helped them come up with the library's participation in the Police Department event for Halloween called, 'Trunk of Treat' as well as the Asian themed Mid-Autumn Festival, an event observed in China, Korea, Japan, Singapore, Vietnam, Cambodia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, and the Philippines. The library's observance took place on September 17th.

Another 'outside the box' event created by the library this year was a bird walk through Almansor Park presented by the Pasadena Audubon Society. Books about birds were made available for check out. Another idea cooked up during the pandemic was a rethinking of the bookmobile concept. A library bookmobile was in use in Alhambra in the late 50's and early 60's and that concept was revisited and restored.

When it was approved by Alhambra's City Council, the Police Department donated an underused van and the Public Works Department helped to design and wrap the distinctive art work on the van to make clear that it is a library vehicle. The Parks and Recreation Department

made its parks available for the van to have save out door spaces for children to select books they want to read or learn to read. Alhambra came together to help our kids learn to read.

For the latter part of 2021, the bookmobile showed up at Granada Park on the first and third Thursdays to set up their display of children's books for youngsters could chose to check out, as they would at the library itself. In 2022, there will be a few changes. The bookmobile will be visiting Granada Park every 1st and 3rd Wednesday from February 2nd through May 18th. The visit will be from 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. and the popular story time will be at 3:30.

Story time works like this. While the van is at the park, youth services librarian Kate Rao sets up a space under the shade of a tree, under which she reads books to the children and their parents who sit on blankets in the shade. Story Time is the highlight of the afternoon as mothers or fathers join their young ones getting up to move to the rhythmic stories and music.

If you have questions about the bookmobile and its visits to the park, the library phone number is (626) 570-5008 for information or better yet, visit the library in person.

## Historic Preservation Program

Plans are well underway for the establishment of the Historic Preservation Program in the City to recognize and protect important properties in Alhambra's history. The project will be completed in three phases:

**Phase 1:** Historic Context Statement (underway!)

**Phase 2:** Historic Resources Survey

**Phase 3:** Historic Preservation Ordinance

The City is currently working on Phase 1, the preparation of the City's first comprehensive, Citywide Historic Context Statement. The Historic Context Statement will help to identify the important periods of development, historic trends, and other influences that helped to shape and built the environment. This includes important people and events, building types, architectural styles, local architectural practitioners, and patterns of development. The context is an important first step that will provide the framework for the other components of the Historic Preservation Program.

The City is committed to engaging the community throughout the project, both to keep the community apprised of the project status and to solicit feedback and input. To that end, join the project team for our second virtual community outreach meeting on Wednesday, January 26, 2022, at 6:00 pm. Our second community meeting will focus on the recently released Historical Context Statement Draft that is currently available on the City's project website ([historicalhabra.com](http://historicalhabra.com)). The draft was released for public review on December 13, 2021 and will be available on the project website until February 28, 2022. The public will be able to review the draft and submit comments anytime to the City through the project website ([historicalhabra.com](http://historicalhabra.com)) before and after community meeting. All public comments will be accepted until February 28, 2022. For up-to-date news or events, please visit the project website at [historicalhabra.com](http://historicalhabra.com).

## AROUND ALHAMBRA



Published by the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce.

A monthly publication with a circulation of 34,000, Around Alhambra is mailed to every business and residence in the City of Alhambra and to all interested local, state, and county officials.

We welcome comments, press releases, and community interest stories and will make every effort to include all appropriate information. Articles submitted and printed in Around Alhambra do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce or its Board of Directors. Please e-mail submissions to [ihernandez@alhambrachamber.org](mailto:ihernandez@alhambrachamber.org).

For advertising rates and other information, contact  
**Alhambra Chamber of Commerce**  
 104 S. First St., Alhambra, CA 91801  
 Tel: 626 282-8481 Fax: 626 282-5596  
[www.alhambrachamber.org](http://www.alhambrachamber.org)

### Executive Committee

#### President:

**Suzi Dunkel-Soto**, Keller Williams Realty

#### Immediate Past President:

**Helen Romero Shaw**, The Gas Company

#### Treasurer:

**Mark Paulson**, Anthony Venti Realtors

#### President Elect:

**Chris Balmaseda**, Taiwanese American Professionals

#### At Large Member:

**Robert Fukui**, i61, Inc.

### Board of Directors

**Francella Aguilar**, Republic Services

**Nickie Chan**, LiveWave Alhambra

**Valarie Gomez**, YMCA of West San Gabriel Valley

**Kevin Houser**, The Ratkovich/The Alhambra

**Iris Lai**, Alhambra Hospital Medical Center

**Lee Lieberg**, Lee Lieberg Real Estate

**Joe Pavon**, Al's Towing

**Liza Rodriguez**, VIDORRA

**Dr. David Snyder**, Snyder Optometry, Inc.

**Joanna Vargas**, Live Fully Academy

**Linda Wong**, Spark After School Academy

### Staff

**C.E.O.:** John Bwarie

**Office Manager:** Irma Hernandez

**Office Assistant:** Rosemarie Valerio

AROUND ALHAMBRA is not responsible nor liable for any claims or offerings, nor responsible for product availability that may be advertised. Opinions expressed in columns, letters and guest editorials are those of the authors. All rights reserved. Reproductions in whole or in part without permission is prohibited.

### 33RD ANNUAL ROSE COURT LUNCHEON

From Page 1

School, Abigail Griffith of Pasadena High School, Jeannine Briggs of John Marshall Fundamental High School, and Queen Nadia Chung of La Cañada High School.

New to the event this year, the panel discussion highlighted the seven members of the royal court and their perspectives on volunteerism, why they applied to be part of the court, and how they are using their role to inspire others. The group almost unanimously spoke of family influence and their lifelong connection to the Tournament of Roses as the driving force to being a part of this year's court. Many of them spoke of their experience volunteering with children as the most rewarding aspect of being on the Court. Attendees were able to ask questions to get to know these emerging leaders.

After the in-person event was cancelled in 2020, this year's Rose Court Luncheon blossomed back to life with civic leaders including LA County Assessor Jeff Prang, Alhambra Mayor Katherine Lee, Vice Mayor Jeffrey Maloney, Councilmember Adele Andrade-Stadler, and Councilmember Sasha Rene Perez. Also in attendance was outgoing Alhambra Police Chief Eric Parra and incoming Alhambra Fire Chief Jeffrey Ragusa. Business and civic leaders also joined the celebration, including representatives from event sponsors: Transtech, Republic Services, Infinio Capital, Evike.com, The Ratkovich Company, SoCalGas, The City of Alhambra, SoCal Edison, and Soroptimist International.

"It was rewarding to see our community come together in person and honor the traditions that make our community strong," said John Bwarie, CEO of the Alhambra Chamber. "We look forward to continuing to build a stronger community as we emerge from the pandemic and support the next generation of leaders, one of the primary goals of this important annual community event."

This year, sponsors were asked to underwrite the cost of two tables of attendees from local Alhambra high school, Ramona Convent, to further inspire leadership within the Alhambra community. Organizers indicated that plans are already underway for the 2022 event, building on the success of this year's luncheon.

# Fire Chief Jeffrey D. Ragusa joins Alhambra Fire Department



Alhambra Fire Chief, Jeffrey D. Ragusa.

Fire Chief Jeffrey D. Ragusa joined the Alhambra Fire Department in December 2021. Prior to coming to Alhambra, he worked in the Glendale Fire Department for nearly 20 years. While employed with Glendale, he held the positions of Firefighter Paramedic, Fire Captain, Battalion Chief and Fire Marshal. Chief Ragusa served in each of the Department's four divisions, including Fire Operations, Emergency Medical Services, Training and Fire Prevention. That experience has provided the insight, understanding and technical knowledge for him to lead the Alhambra Fire Department.

As the Alhambra Fire Chief,

he oversees all aspects of the multiple divisions within the Alhambra Fire Department. These divisions include Fire Suppression (operations, emergency medical services, training), Community Risk Reduction and Communications. Chief Ragusa brings with him his philosophy that focusing on the needs of the community leads to a successful public safety program.

Chief Ragusa holds a Master's in Business Administration from Azusa Pacific University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Arizona State University. He lives in the San Gabriel Valley with his wife and two children.

# Alhambra Police officers mourn the loss of Corporal Dominguez

With a heavy heart, the Alhambra Police Department announces the loss of one of their Police Corporals. Corporal Sally Dominguez lost her courageous battle with cancer on Sunday, December 5, 2021, at her home in Monrovia. At the time of her passing, Sally was surrounded by her family and coworkers.

Corporal Sally Dominguez was born on December 6, 1976, in Sacramento, California, and grew up in Elk Grove, California. Sally obtained her Bachelor's Degree from California State University, Sacramento, and went on to earn her Juris Doctor from Lincoln Law School in 2009. Sally began her career with the Alhambra Police Department on May 21, 2015, and achieved the rank of Corporal on April 1, 2019. Sally's passion was fitness, working out daily, and encouraging her coworkers and

friends to push themselves. Sally used her passion for fitness and became one of the department's Use of Force Instructors. Sally believed our future was the younger generations and served as a Police Explorer Advisor, mentoring countless Explorers to help them recognize their full potential.

Sally was a fighter and never one to quit. When first diagnosed, Sally refused to accept a less strenuous assignment and continued working weekend nights in patrol. Sally also understood the importance of mental health wellness for first responders and was spearheading a project designed to bring a mental health wellness app to first responder fingertips.

Sally will be remembered for many things, her smile and friendly demeanor, drive and work product, compassion for all people, and love



Corporal Sally Dominguez  
 December 6, 1976 – December 5, 2021

for life. Sally may have only stood 5'2 but she had the heart of a giant.

The family will be arranging private services.

## Tree-Cycle after the Holidays!



Once the holidays are over, your real Christmas tree may begin look dry and tired. When you are ready to take it down, be sure to remove and pack away all ornaments, lights, garland and tinsel, as well as the metal or plastic stand. Once the tree is bare, you ready to tree-cycle it. Republic Services will pick up real holiday trees at the curb through Friday, January 14, 2022. If your tree is more than 6 feet tall, please cut it in half for safe and easy collection.

If your family will be keeping the tree up longer and you want to dispose of it later in January, please cut it into pieces that will fit into your green yard and food waste cart with the lid closed or contact us to schedule it as a bulky item removal. You can also recycle holiday wreaths and

greenery in your green cart. The wreaths and greenery must also be bare, so please remove all wire, hooks, bows and other decorations. Collected trees and greenery are turned into mulch, compost and ground cover.

If your family enjoys an artificial tree, pack it up for next year. If you are discarding an artificial tree or wreath, please place the pieces into the trash cart. Artificial trees and wreaths are not recyclable.

If you have questions, please call Republic Services at **800.299.4898** or email [alhambra@republicservices.com](mailto:alhambra@republicservices.com). To learn more about all commercial and residential waste programs in Alhambra, visit [RepublicServices.com/municipality/alhambra-ca](http://RepublicServices.com/municipality/alhambra-ca).



# Alhambra offers youth basketball

For many years, Alhambra's Parks and Recreation Department has been offering a basketball clinic for students in the 3rd through the 8th grade. This popular athletic program is back again. Registration is now open for this program which teaches the basics of self-discipline speed, agility, all-important strategy and just as important-sportsmanship while building endurance.

Basketball practice emphasizing these skills will take place at the After-School Program playground sites on weekdays during the regular After School Program time. Registration ends Friday, Jan. 14, 2022 or when all the available spaces are filled. There will be teams in three age groups. 3rd and 4th graders, 5th and 6th

graders and 7th and 8th graders, divided into boy's teams and girl's teams. The fee for each child will be \$30.

The League games and the playoffs will take place at the Almansor Park Gym. Bus Transportation will be provided to and from games Tuesday through Thursday. There will be no transportation for Friday's games. Be aware that there will also be a mandatory meeting for parents held via Zoom on January 13th, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

To register for the program, visit the web site <https://secure.rec1.com/CA/city-of-alhambra/catalog> (and click on Recreation Services). For more information, please contact the Recreation Office with questions or to register at (626) 570-5081, Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

# Spark of Love brings Alhambra together

Spark of Love is a Holiday service project that has been serving children and their families for two and a half decades. Organized by community Fire Departments the Christmas time toy and food give away is a growing movement.

In Alhambra, as elsewhere, Spark of Love has been growing in response to the increased need for support created by COVID and a decline in employment opportunities. The Alhambra Fire Department has witnessed the good will of many organizations and individuals who have stepped forward to assist in this time of giving.

Among the many 'helping hands' this year are The LA Regional Food Bank which donated 500 boxes of dry goods, Spouts, The Alhambra Masonic Lodge, ABC Channel 7, Pet Smart, the YMCA of Western San Gabriel Valley, Alhambra Teachers Association, Alhambra Unified School District, Alhambra Educational Foundation, Rotary Club and a bedrock of grass roots community service in Alhambra, Tzu Chi USA.

Volunteers came from many different sources this year including Tzu Chi which provided kits that included a jacket, blanket and a box of COVID masks as well as a \$50.00 debit card, the Kiwanis Club served as volunteers through their affiliate Key Club at Alhambra High School. Also on duty were the students from California Scholarship Federation at Mark Keppel High School and the Dream Center at AHS and more. Others in attendance included

Alhambra City Council members and members of the Alhambra School Board including the Superintendent.

Hundreds of toys were collected through several sources, all of them were unwrapped and children were invited to browse through a room full of toys and pick the one they wanted. Meanwhile, Alhambra Fire Fighters hosted the event and served up a pancake breakfast for volunteers and families alike. All the while, 'Sparky' the department's 'mascot' was also on hand to take pictures with anyone who wanted one.

It is clear that there were a lot of moving parts to the day and these were masterfully handled by Alhambra Fire Fighter, Engineer/Paramedic Heather Blais who was the overall coordinator of the day's festivities. She fielded countless text messages, phone calls, emails, and meetings to produce a smooth running event that displayed Alhambra at its finest.

Ms. Blais estimated that 420 children and their families for a total of about 2,000 individuals, selected by the School District, went away with breakfast, toys, food, debit cards and lasting memories of a good time.

The morning was not even over before Ms. Blais began looking forward to next year. She put out the request for donations for next year's Spark of Love. If you can help, email her at [hblais@alhambrafire.org](mailto:hblais@alhambrafire.org) Thanks to everyone who participated this year and start thinking about December 2022.

**City of Alhambra**  
Parks & Recreation Department

**1st Annual Winter Classic 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament**

Registration starts: December 17th, 2021.  
Fee: \$50.00 per player (5 players max per team)  
**Saturday, February 12, 2022**  
(In the event of rain, tournament will be played on February 19, 2022.)

**Almansor Park - Outdoor Basketball Courts**  
3 Games Guaranteed

**Divisions: Adult & High School**

PLAYERS MEETING ON  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 2022**  
6:00 PM, ALMANSOR ACTIVITY ROOM  
TOURNAMENT INFORMATION & T-SHIRTS DISTRIBUTION

For more information call 626-570-5081 or visit [www.cityofalhambra.org](http://www.cityofalhambra.org)



**Notary services** are available at the **Alhambra Chamber of Commerce** 104 S. First St.

**Must call for appointment. 626-282-8481**  
**Observe COVID-19 guidelines.**

ORDINANCE NO. 02M21-4786

# TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSE

Retailers that sell tobacco products will need to acquire an annual Tobacco Retail License from the City of Alhambra beginning January 1, 2022.

The sale of flavored tobacco products, including menthol cigarettes, is prohibited effective July 1, 2022.

View the application and a list of FAQs about the TRL program at: <https://bit.ly/TobaccoLicense> or scan the QR code on the left.



**City of Alhambra**

# Nu Millennium Hypnotherapy

BY ALEXANDRIA BLASS

Perhaps you suffer with excessive worry, self doubt, and/or hopelessness. Or you're interested in tapping into your hidden strength and potential to live the life you truly desire. Hypnotherapy is for you!

HYPNOTHERAPY is a safe and modern type of therapy in which a deep and comfortable state of relaxation, focused attention, and hyper-suggestibility is created. This allows for positive suggestions to be given directly to your subconscious mind resolving any conflicts between it and your conscious mind. It is these conflicts that are preventing long lasting, positive changes to occur in your life. For example, you are looking to lose weight, however, your subconscious mind accepts the weight you currently at and accepts the food it commonly eats. There is a conflict. Using hypnosis, I can give the suggestion to your subconscious mind that the commonly eaten foods are undesirable and that you enjoy the feeling of smaller portions and the taste of nutrient rich foods. This resolves the conflict and now both the conscious and subconscious mind are working together harmoniously towards the same goal!

Nu Millennium Hypnotherapy is driven by the passion and belief that every individual deserves to live a life of balance, well-being, and joy regardless of status, income, ethnicity, spiritual beliefs, gender identity, sexual orientation or size. Anthony Contreras, Certified Hypnotherapist, uses a variety of techniques such as Therapeutic Imagery, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT), Acceptance Commitment Therapy (ACT),



Anthony Contreras, C.Ht.

and Positive Psychology to effectively bring about positive changes. CBT helps you become aware of automatic thoughts and feelings that arise from specific situations, and actively change the thought. ACT helps develop the skills to acknowledge thoughts, feelings, people, and or situations, without judgement, to explore its effects on our behavior and change them for the better. Positive psychology is focusing on an individual's strengths and values and applying them to all facets of an individual's life to create happiness, joy and abundance. All of the sessions are confidential and done through Zoom, from the safety and comfort of your home. Sessions start at \$100 but sliding scale is available to accommodate any budget. Call (626) 269-9072 to book your Free 30min consultation!

# SoCalGas helping to meet California's climate goals

In December, Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas), Alhambra's natural gas provider, and Bloom Energy announced a new project that will showcase the future of the hydrogen economy and the technologies needed to help California reach carbon neutrality. In a demonstration project, the companies will collaborate to generate and then blend hydrogen into an existing natural gas network. The pilot program will illuminate how the natural gas infrastructure can be decarbonized, while balancing future energy supply and demand. The project is set to launch next year on the Pasadena campus of the California Institute of Technology (Caltech).

"California has ambitious climate goals and a successful energy transition will re-

quire companies to collaborate and implement innovative projects," said California State Assembly member Chris Holden. "This unique demonstration could help our state transition to a carbon neutral future."

If the project is expanded, the technology could provide resilient power when and where energy is needed most, protecting businesses, campuses or neighborhoods from widespread power outages.

"We need to pursue a diverse set of decarbonization levers," said Maryam Brown, president, SoCalGas. "Projects like this expand and accelerate clean fuel initiatives, which will help decarbonize California faster."

Visit [socialgas.com/mission](http://socialgas.com/mission) to learn more about SoCalGas' net zero goals.



# Love Birds is back

Lovebirds Café and Bakery, 10 S. First St., has reopened after a two-year hiatus due to COVID.

The popular café offers coffee; tea; nutritional and power drinks; pastries, including muffins and cookies; sandwiches; salads; and soups, which are available for indoor and outdoor dining and take-out. Catering is available.

Owner Insook Park has operated Love Birds for the past 17 years, and her little corner of the world has become an Alhambra

institution. She has invested in the future by giving her café an extensive makeover with a new roof, new ceiling, new coffee machines, and other equipment.

Celebrate Love Birds with a relaxing latte and pastry with friends, or grab a sandwich to go. There is so much to enjoy at Love Birds.

Love Birds is open from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday. They are closed on Sundays. Reach them at 626-281-9999.

# Tax Tips 2022 Tax Dates

Here's some information to start off the New Year. The dates below are accurate as of writing this article. Because of COVID-19 or other events, some of these dates may change.

January 17 – Final 2021 estimated payment due for both Federal and State, if paying estimated individual payments.

January 31 – The estimated date the IRS will start to accept E-filed tax returns. This date may change depending on the IRS readiness.

January 31 – When your Employer must either mail your Form W-2, or have the form be available to you electronically.

February 15 – The earliest date the IRS can start processing refunds that include Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC), Additional Child Tax Credit (ACTC) and/or refundable portions of the American Opportunity Credit (AOC). If receiving any of these credits, your refund should be issued the first week of March. If you're not claiming any of the above tax credits and you e-file with direct deposit, 9 out of 10 taxpayers will receive their refund within 21 days after the IRS receives your tax return.

March 15 – The filing date for Partnership Income Tax Returns (Form 1065) and S-Corporation Income Tax returns (Form 1120S).

April 18 – The filing date for Individual Income Tax returns (Form 1040), Trusts (Form 1041), and C-Corporations (Form 1120).

April 18 – Due Date to file a 6-month extension for individual tax returns.

April 18 – First estimated payment due for both Federal and State, if paying individual estimated payments.

May 16 – The filing date for Tax Exempt Organizations (Form 990).

June 15 – Second estimated payment due for both Federal and State, if paying individual estimated payments.



Michael Aston is an Enrolled Agent engaged in his family business at Alhambra Tax Center, 1009 E. Main St., Alhambra. Alhambra Tax Center has served Alhambra residents since 1970. He can be reached at 626-282-1084. Tax questions, or any other questions, can be e-mailed to [michael@alhambrataxcenter.com](mailto:michael@alhambrataxcenter.com). To view previous topics, read his blogs at [www.alhambrataxcenter.com](http://www.alhambrataxcenter.com).

September 15 – The extension deadline for Partnerships and S-Corporations.

September 15 – Third estimated payment due for both Federal and State, if paying individual estimated payments.

October 15 – The extension deadline for Individual and C-Corporations.

November 15 – The extension deadline for Tax Exempt Organizations.

I would like to get the readers of my article more involved, so if you would have any tax related questions that you would like to appear in this article, please email them to: [michael@alhambrataxcenter.com](mailto:michael@alhambrataxcenter.com).

The above dates are for a calendar year. If your entity is based on a fiscal year, please contact your tax preparer or the IRS for your due dates.

Wishing you all a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



Since 1970

## ALHAMBRA

Tax Center

It is that time of the year again!

Call us for a FREE tax consultation.

Full Service  
All Tax Returns

1009 E Main St.  
Alhambra CA 91801

[www.alhambrataxcenter.com](http://www.alhambrataxcenter.com)

626-282-1084

Michael Aston, EA




ENROLLED  
AGENT

# Alhambra woman inspires college scholarship

Alhambra resident Joyce Y. Coffey, has found a unique and important expression for her career. Born in China, Ms. Coffey studied at Beijing University before immigrating to the United States and settling in Alhambra. Here, she pursued her M.A. in Education at Pepperdine University.

Upon graduation in 2013, she became involved in assisting immigrant youth in acclimating to College life in the United States and to thrive in the academic environment, first at Harvard-Westlake School, an independent college preparatory school, and at other organizations assisting young people to be successful in their educational pursuits.

This became more difficult during the worst of COVID. But there was more time to think. This led her to found the non-profit organization Youth Research Vox in May of 2020 which is 'a global network of youth researchers, action

seekers, and aspiring social entrepreneurs'. Ms. Coffey began the program with four high school students and started YRV with nothing but a dream. Today, YRV has grown into a global platform of young people from 37 countries.

Youth Research Vox is a pledged partner of local schools (including Alhambra City Schools), city government, and community organizations. By providing high school students with University level skills, such as scientific Stem based research, academic publishing, college and career planning along with community engagement they empower the next generation of leaders.

The program is free to qualifying students and funds are being sought through grants and donations. Interested people can find out more about the work of Youth Research Vox and to make a donation at <https://www.youthresearchvox.org/>

# West Valley Boulevard Walk-About reveals potential

On Dec. 4, the Alhambra Chamber led its monthly Community Walk-About as part of a larger effort to gather input and identify options for improving the business districts of the City. A small but important group of leaders took to walking West Valley from Edgewood Drive to Grandview Drive (and back), discussing observations of what was special about the street, what could be improved, and even what was unexpected.

Joining the group was Fifth District Councilmember Adele Andrade-Stadler, who along with other long-time residents offered historic perspective and insights to some of the types of businesses, owners, and traditions that come from this section of the boulevard. The attendees noted the types of businesses they liked, noting that

they didn't know some of the businesses were actually here. Other conversations focused on traffic and transportation infrastructure, as well as ethics and potential business uses. Feedback was collected and will be incorporated into a larger effort by the Chamber of Commerce to provide recommendations to the City on how to revitalize West Valley Boulevard.

The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce Community Walk-About program offers an opportunity to talk about concerns, interests, and projects with neighbors in support of stronger, local business districts across the City. To join the next Walk-About or get involved in the West Valley Boulevard Project, please contact the Chamber office at [ceo@alhambrachamber.org](mailto:ceo@alhambrachamber.org).

# Still time to make a change to your Medicare plan

Now that Medicare Annual Enrollment has ended, what comes next? Here are some things you should know:

Medicare Open Enrollment Period is an opportunity to switch Medicare Advantage plans. If you enrolled or made a change during Annual Open Enrollment (Oct. 15 - Dec. 7) and are unhappy with your plan choice, **you can still make one more change between Jan. 1 and Mar. 31.** That change will take effect on the first day of the next month after your request is submitted.

What changes can you make during the Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period?

- Change from one Medicare Advantage plan to another, more suitable one
- Drop your Medicare Advantage plan and return to Original Medicare, Part A and Part B
- Sign up for a stand-alone Medicare Part D prescription drug plan, if you return to Original Medicare

Various Medicare Advantage Plans offer:

- Comprehensive Dental (dentures, implants)
- Routine Vision and Hearing
- Routine Chiropractic, Acupuncture, Massage
- Over The Counter Allowance
- Gym and Fitness Benefits
- Part B Supplemental Rebate
- Transportation



*Katherine Yu Simms has supported seniors in making difficult and important decisions for many years. She can be reached at 323-854-2868, or e-mail [kyusimms@rey-top.com](mailto:kyusimms@rey-top.com).*

- Worldwide Coverage
- Meal Delivery
- Mobile Physician Home Visits
- Incontinence Supplies (with diagnosis)

Navigating the Medicare landscape can be a difficult, confusing or frustrating process if you are unfamiliar with the options available to you. Luckily, you don't have to figure it out alone. If you have any questions about your current plan or would like a free consultation to see which plan best fits your needs, feel free to contact me. I'd be happy to help!



City of Alhambra

## Alhambra Homeless Count

**Tuesday, January 25, 2022**  
**8:00PM - 12:00AM**

Sign up:  
<https://www.theycountwillyou.org/>




SCAN THE CODE TO VOLUNTEER FOR THE HOMELESS COUNT.



*The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce hosted a Holiday Open House and Toy Drive benefiting the 29th annual Spark of Love toy drive on Tuesday, December 14, 2021. Attendees braved the rain to donate new, unwrapped toys and sports equipment benefiting underserved children and teens in Southern California, and were invited to enjoy a hot chocolate bar as well as holiday treats donated by Perfectly Sweet, Panera Bread, and Starbucks after making their donation.*

*Pictured: Alhambra Mayor Katherine Lee making her toy donation.*

**Medicare Open Enrollment Period**  
**January 1 - March 31, 2022**



**Important Medicare questions**

- 1 When am I eligible?
- 2 What are my choices for Medicare and supplements?
- 3 How much do the plans costs?
- 4 When and how do I sign up?

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

*I speak Mandarin and Cantonese*  
**Katherine Yu Simms**  
Medicare Insurance Agent  
License #0M21975  
**Cell 323.854.2868**

## WELCOME OUR *New* CHAMBER MEMBERS!

### Central Health Medicare Plan

30 W. Valley Blvd., Unit 101  
Alhambra, CA 91801

Opening soon!  
centralhealthplan.com

*Central Health Medicare Plan was founded in 2004 by physicians determined to provide better solutions to the culturally diverse communities they serve. Since then, we continue to provide quality healthcare that is affordable to Medicare members. We offer benefits in addition to what you would receive from original Medicare like dental, vision, hearing, acupuncture, fitness and OTC – at no extra cost.*

### Youth Research Vox

1200 Midwickhill Drive  
Alhambra, CA 91803

310-484-9916

youthresearchvox.org

*We are a global network of youth researchers, action seekers, and aspiring social entrepreneurs. Together, we lead our communities to a brighter future and a more sustainable world. At Youth Research Vox, no dream is too big, no action is impossible. While the youth are only twenty percent of the world's population, we are one hundred percent of the world's future.*

*Welcome!*

## The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce thanks these members for renewing their memberships and for their continued support:

### Days Inn

15 N. First St.  
Alhambra, CA 91801  
626-308-0014  
Member since 1988

### Pregnancy Help Center of SGV, Inc.

902-904 E. Main St.  
Alhambra, CA 91801  
626-309-0788  
Member since 2020

### The Shredded Carrot

2428 W. Valley Blvd., Suite D  
Alhambra, CA 91803  
626-660-6071  
Member since 2018

### Global Urban Strategies, Inc.

2200 S. Fremont Ave., #208  
Alhambra, CA 91803  
626-383-6565  
Member since 2019

### Sloan's Dry Cleaners

5061 N. Huntington Drive  
Los Angeles, CA 90032  
323-222-1259  
Member since 2020

### Transtech Engineers, Inc.

13367 Benson Ave,  
Chino, CA 91710  
909-595-8599  
Member since 1997

### MC Computer Consulting, Inc.

407 W. Valley Blvd. #4  
Alhambra, CA 91803  
818-303-4111  
Member since 2005

### Steven's Steak & Seafood House

5332 Stevens Place  
Commerce, CA 90040  
323-723-9857  
Member since 2009

### U.S. Bank

2400 W. Commonwealth Ave.  
Alhambra, CA 91803  
626-349-3748  
Member since 2020

### McDonald's

24310 W. Commonwealth Ave.  
Alhambra, CA 91803  
626-281-1603  
Member since 2018

*Thank You!*

*To renew your membership with a credit card, please phone the Chamber at 626-282-8481.*

## The Alhambra kicked off the holiday season with Santa night

The Alhambra was transformed into an outdoor Winter Wonderland for Santa Night on December 2. Tenants and their families were treated to a stroll through whimsical holiday displays lighting up the Oval Mall. Some of the evening's highlights included free professional photos with Santa, outdoor animated films, a visit with Santa's reindeer, and live ice carving. Attendees were serenaded by holiday carolers while enjoying apple cider and cookies. Kids had a chance to write letters to Santa and drop them off in a special Post Box. In all, 132 letters were collected and mailed straight to the North Pole free of charge!



*Festive holiday decorations at The Alhambra.*



*Talbot Insurance Agency Inc. State Farm Insurance Regina Talbot, Agent, 626-357-3401 Insurance License #: 0G05807*

## In the market for a classic car? Here's the buyer's guide you need.

How to inspect and buy the classic car that's best for your purposes.

Buying a classic car might be one of the most exciting auto purchases you'll ever make. So it pays to do your homework. Antique and vintage cars can be costly to purchase, restore, and maintain. Classic car insurance works differently as well, as the cars generally appreciate rather than depreciate in value.

Whether you're looking for a project car to work on yourself or a fully restored show car, you'll want to make a smart, informed decision.

### How to Buy a Classic Car

There are numerous options when buying a classic car. But before getting out the checkbook, it's good to think about what's right for you.

- **Be careful about the investment.** Making money on classic cars can be very difficult. Buying something simply because you think it's a good investment can be risky. The collectible car market is very volatile. Experienced dealers will tell you that a collectible car is only worth as much as someone will pay for it. "Book value" isn't a guarantee. If this car will be for fun, focus in on cars that you would be proud to own and drive for years to come.

- **Decide how it will be used.** Think carefully about what you want to do with the car. Will it be driven daily or just on weekends? Would you like to show it? Will it sit in your garage under a tarp and rarely get used? How you answer these questions will determine what you should buy.

- **Do your research.** Be sure to check the average retail value to get a baseline price. Read any information you can find. Check auto auctions and price guides to help determine what the fair market value is for your car. Be extra cautious when buying

a car on the web.

- **Check mileage.** As with most used cars, the fewer miles on the speedometer, the more the car is probably worth. Don't be afraid to purchase a high-mileage car. Just be sure the high mileage is reflected in the price.

### Classic Car Inspection Checklist

Careful inspection is important when buying a classic car. You may want to use an inspection service. Or if you want to do it yourself, here are a few things to consider:

- **Clear title:** Check if the car is registered to the seller, or not registered at all. Fees and penalties can add up if you need to research previous ownership and apply for a new title.

- **VIN:** Make sure the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) on the title matches the official VIN tag on the car. If they don't match, it's possible the vehicle may have been in a serious accident, the title is counterfeit or the vehicle was stolen. VIN numbers were first standardized for U.S. automobiles manufactured in 1981. The length and character types used for the VIN on older vehicles will vary depending on the manufacturer.

- **Interior:** Original is best. Check if the seats, upholstery, badges, radio, dashboard, and emblems are damaged, or not factory original. Finding and replacing these things can really add up.

- **Exterior:** Try to examine the car in natural daylight. Look for the condition of the paint, obvious dents, and panels that are misaligned or mismatched. Further inspection may reveal signs of major welding which could point to significant structural repairs.

For more information, contact State Farm Agent Regina Talbot at (626) 357-3401

PRESENTS

# ALHAMBRA CONNECTS

An after-hours networking event that connects Alhambra business and leaders and provides access to resources and to leaders whose decisions impact you.

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

5:30 PM - 7 PM

Pacific Plaza Premiere Head Office  
1611 S. Garfield Ave., Ste 300  
Alhambra, CA 91801

Members: Free with RSVP  
Nonmembers: \$25

This event is complimentary for Alhambra Chamber Members, and advanced registration is required.

RSVP by emailing:  
CEO@alhambrachamber.org



JANUARY'S  
FEATURED SPEAKER  
**Jeff Prang**  
Los Angeles County  
Assessor

*The Los Angeles County Assessor's Office is the largest office of its kind in the nation with 1,300 employees and provides the foundation for a property tax system that generates \$17 billion annually.*

## American Legion Post 139 hosts Tamale Contest

When the Los Angeles County Council of the American Legion wanted to find a central location for a county wide fund raising event they chose Alhambra Post 139 to host the gathering. Legion members from around the County gathered in Alhambra on December 4th to sell homemade tamales, snacks and refreshments. The Post parking lot was off limits to cars as tented booths were set up of the vendors and tables and chairs were set up under the shade of other tents.

There was a \$25.00 entry fee for the tamale makers which covered the cost of a \$250 prize for the winner of a tasting contest (the winner was Pico Rivera Post 134) and the opportunity to sell their delicious handmade treats.

Event organizer Jere Romano said he wanted to 'reenergize' the Legion and at the same time to showcase the women who had spent the entire day before making the delicious tamales, giving their Posts an opportunity to raise money for their own activities such as the Boys and Girls State educational programs. The event was held in an atmosphere of fun and food while the participants were entertained by DJ Rick McKail and live music by Mariachi Potrillos who had the crowd on their feet.

In addition to the sale of Tamales there was an open bar with proceeds going to Post 139 and a raffle benefitting the County organization. Legionaries gathered from all over the county including Montebello, Pico Rivera, Pasadena, Santa Monica, Culver City, Hollywood, Pacific Palisades and elsewhere in Alhambra to enjoy a pleasant



*State Senator Susan Rubio shares a moment with World War II veteran and retired Alhambra Firefighter Larry Stevens.*

day outdoors.

Among those present was 97 year old, World War II veteran and retired Alhambra Firefighter Larry Stevens. Mr. Stevens has been a member of Post 139 since 1946 and his father before him since the 1920s. Also in attendance was California State Senator Susan Rubio who remarked about the importance of our nation's veterans and the work of the American Legion.

The event was a great success for everyone who was able to attend. With luck this might be an annual event. If it happens again next year, make plans to attend.

City of Alhambra  
alhambra  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

# Alhambra LUNAR NEW YEAR Festival

Sunday | February 20, 2022  
8:30 am to 1:30 pm

Venue: 100 South Second Street  
Alhambra CA 91801

*Celebrate with Food,  
Entertainment, and Family  
Activities!*

Visit [alhambrachamber.org](http://alhambrachamber.org) for more information.

# A Day of Music

# Johnny Thompson

TRIBUTE & BENEFIT CONCERT

Sunday, January 9, 2022

BARNES PARK AMPHITHEATER,  
Monterey Park, CA





For additional information:  
[www.aef4kids.com](http://www.aef4kids.com) • (626) 943-3080



## Girl Scouts send their Holiday cheer through Operation Holiday Kindness

Local Girl Scout troops from Alhambra, Monterey Park and Arroyo organized to send supplies and holiday cards to Bravo Battery 2-17 Field Artillery in Fort Lewis, Washington. Operation Holiday Kindness, now at its 2nd year, was coordinated by Troop 5371 leader Giselle Aston and local Alhambra couple, Rosa and Anthony Rebamontan. Thomas, their only son, joined the Army in 2014 and currently serves as a Sergeant for Bravo Battery 2-17 Field Artillery "Bulldogs" (approximately 100 soldiers) where he is currently stationed at Fort Lewis in Washington State.

A total of 9 troops participated, 96 girl scouts and one individual donor. Together this band of girls made over 350 hand made holiday cards, 165 care packages to both men and women soldiers and collected an estimated value of \$1,900 worth of supplies to be sent over to the Battery. Some supplies even earmark for pregnant soldiers in need of supplies.

Giselle Aston reached out to fellow troops in San Gabriel Valley who answered the call to action. Alhambra had 7 troops

participate. Troop 1521 led by Jenny Leung and co-leader Carolyn Abrenica, Troop 3431 led by Liz Cardenas, Troop 311 led by Martha Lamas. Troop 5621 led by Layla Valenzuela, Troop 70374 led by Esmeralda Godinez and co-leader Alejandra Jacobo. Troop 5371 led by Giselle Aston and co-leader Hortencia Palicio. Monterey Park Troop 2811 led by Karen Brieghtler and co-leader Daisy Fu-Au. Arroyo Troop 4311 led by Rena Sloan. Individual contributor, Diana Arios from South Pasadena.

"We are truly happy to be able to make a difference this holiday to our brave men and women" Giselle said "We thank our all our sister troops and donors who have participated and put a lot of heart in all the cards and care packages. Now the work begins for Rosa and Anthony. "As a proud Army mom, sending care packages is the least I can do for my brave Army warrior and his regiment, Rosa said. "To have this outpouring of love and support from our community is heartwarming and humbling."

## Alhambra Lunar New Year Festival returns Feb. 20, 2022!

After the pandemic had canceled the Annual Lunar New Year Festival in Alhambra, the Chamber and City are teaming up to bring it back for 2022. Join in the celebration on Sunday, February 20, 2022 from 8:30am to 1:30pm along Second Street between Main and Commonwealth for food, entertainment, family activities, booths, and more! Vendor booth applications are now available for those interested

in a booth. Just visit [www.alhambralunarnewyear.com](http://www.alhambralunarnewyear.com)

This year's Festival will also feature a stage with local performers, dragon dance, local food vendors, and highlight some leading civic organizations. Bring the family and join the fun. Save the date, and look for more information at [www.alhambralunarnewyear.com](http://www.alhambralunarnewyear.com).



Stanbridge University student volunteers plant native trees at Almanson Park.

## Stanbridge University to plant 100 trees in Alhambra

Since 2019, Stanbridge University students have been planting native California trees to help repopulate the urban forest locally in Southern California. The "Root for Change" initiative aims to plant 10,000 plants and trees across Southern California by 2025 with the greater goal of helping provide cleaner air and a healthier environment.

Stanbridge University, with a campus in Alhambra, educates students in the medical arts and grants its graduates with Associate, Bachelors and Masters Degrees. Intrinsic to their education process is community service and tree planting gives students a chance to give back to their communities.

Thus far, Stanbridge University has partnered with the cities of Newport Beach, Santa Ana, Riverside, Irvine and now Alhambra to host tree planting events for the Root for Change initiative. Over 1,000 native plants and trees have been planted by volunteers in other cities and 100 more are scheduled to be planted in Alhambra city parks.

On November 20th that process began at Almanson Park, when volunteers, including students at the Alhambra campus of Stanbridge University located at 2215 West Mission Road, gathered to dig the holes and plant 25 indigenous trees to

help beautify areas of the park and provide shade for future park users. Shovels, refreshments and drinking water were provided by the Parks and Recreation Department.

These trees represent an important step in Alhambra earning and keeping the distinction of being a Tree City. Tree City USA is a program of the Arbor Day Foundation. Their founders had a vision for a greener, healthier America, and hope this initiative will inspire change on a nationwide level. Alhambra is proud to be affiliated with the tree planting movement and demonstrating our commitment to the environment.

Of course we're not done yet. The next tree planting with Stanbridge University will be at Granada Park located at 2000 W. Hellman Ave. This time 50 trees will be planted. Not all of the details have been worked out yet but community members are invited to participate in planting these native California trees. To participate contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 626-570-5044 to find out the date and time of this restorative activity.

Plan to wear substantial shoes, a hat and bring your sun screen. This is an opportunity to create a memory that each individual can be proud of.



See why millions trust us for Home & Auto.

Talbot Insurance Agency Inc  
Regina Talbot, Agent  
Insurance Lic#: OG05807  
Bus: 626-357-3401  
[regina@reginatalbot.com](mailto:regina@reginatalbot.com)

I'm here to help life go right\*, by saving you time and money when you combine your home and auto insurance.  
**CALL ME TODAY.**

 **State Farm**

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company  
State Farm Indemnity Company  
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company  
State Farm General Insurance Company  
Bloomington, IL

1601529

VISIT THE CHAMBER ONLINE AT  
[alhambrachamber.org](http://alhambrachamber.org)

# 10 Questions to Ask Before You Hire a Real Estate Agent

Alhambra - Not all real estate agents are the same. If you decide to seek the help of an agent when selling or buying your home, you need some good information before you make any moves. Choosing a real estate agent is one of those critical issues that can cost or save you thousands of dollars. In this FREE special report, we give you the specific questions you should be asking to ensure that you get the best representation for your needs. Before you hire any real estate agent, call and get a

copy of a FREE Report entitled "10 questions to Ask Before You Hire an Agent". To order a FREE Special Report, call toll-free 1-888-300-4632 and enter 1006. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Get your free special report NOW to find out the questions the others would prefer you never ask!

*This report is courtesy of Rudy L. Kusuma Real Estate Broker Lic# 01820322. Not intended to solicit buyers or sellers currently under contract. Copyright © 2012*

**“Do YOU suffer with Fear, Stress, or Worry? Is Self Doubt or Low Motivation holding you back? I can help build the CONFIDENCE you need to create the life you truly desire!”**

- Anthony Contreras, C.Ht.



Call NOW for your **FREE 20min** Phone Consultation!

**Hypnotherapy is effective with:**

- Weight Control
- Addictions
- Stress Management
- Fear & Phobias
- Stopping Smoking
- Releasing Shame/Guilt
- Excessive Worry
- PTSD
- Sleep Problems
- Trauma Recovery
- Low Self Esteem
- Pain Management

**Anthony Contreras**  
Certified Hypnotherapist  
**(626) 269-9071**

Anthony@NuMillenniumHypnotherapy.com | NuMillenniumHypnotherapy.com  
@NuMillHypnosis | @NuMillHypnosis




**What clogs your drain is your business.**

**Unclogging it is ours.**

**Mr. Rooter**  
PLUMBING  
a neighborly company  
[www.mrrooter.com](http://www.mrrooter.com)

221 W. Pomona Blvd.  
Monterey Park, CA 91754  
**Tel: 323-721-1243**

Independently Owned and Operated



**KARLEO INC**  
A Non-Profit

**VITA**  
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance

IRS Certified Volunteers Providing **FREE TAX PREPARATION**

\*Spanish & English\*

- No cost TAX PREPARATION & CONSULTATION.
- From January 15<sup>th</sup> to April 30<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> time Filers under 30K Income.
- ✓ No self-employed.
- ✓ By appointment only.
- ✓ Only Taxpayers allowed at time of appointment.
- ✓ No companions or kids allowed.
- ✓ SENIORS WELCOME.
- ✓ Persons with a disability.

**626-238-7808**

**2619 W VALLEY BLVD ALHAMBRA CA 91803**

**Alhambra**  
**FIT BODY BOOT CAMP**

**28 DAYS for \$28**

- WEIGHT TRAINING
- NUTRITION ADVICE
- CARDIOVASCULAR TRAINING
- GUARANTEED RESULTS

**Coach Charles**  
(626) 765-1336  
CharlesG@FitBodyAlhambra.com

**43 E Main St Suite 101**  
Alhambra, CA 91801

**CLASS SCHEDULE**  
Monday-Friday: 5am, 5:45am, 8:30am, 7:15am, 8am, 8:45am, 11:15am, 12pm, 3:15pm, 4pm, 4:45pm, 5:30pm, 8:15pm, 7pm, 7:45pm  
Saturday: 7am, 7:45am, 8:30am, 8:5am, 10am  
Sunday: Closed



## Rotary Club of Alhambra and The Ratkovich Company Adopt a Family Project

The Rotary Club of Alhambra partnered with The Ratkovich Company, Alhambra Unified School District and the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office to make holiday wishes come true for 54 families. 154 children in the Alhambra Unified School District put together their "wish lists for Santa." Volunteers from the Alhambra Rotary Club, The Ratkovich Company, Alhambra Unified School District, SPARK Academy and the Alhambra Police Department

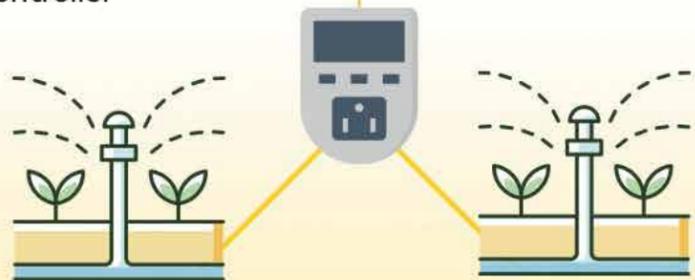
used the "wish lists" to shop for these children at the Alhambra Target store. A heartfelt thank you goes to The Ratkovich Company for their generous donation of \$10,000, which sponsored the Alhambra Rotary Adopt a Family Project. On December 14, 2021, Santa distributed gifts to the families with the help of Rotarians, The Ratkovich Company, and Alhambra Unified School District staff. May the spirit of giving bring love, laughter, hope and good cheer throughout 2022.

# Save Water and Save Money

New Outdoor Irrigation Water Conservation Program starts **January 1, 2022.**  
**FREE** irrigation inspection, irrigation controller and spray nozzles! **Apply Today!**

In response to the drought and declining local water supplies, the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District is offering a **FREE Landscape Survey and Smart Controller Installation** to qualifying residential customers to help water their landscape more efficiently and save money on their water bill.

PROGRAM FEATURES	ELIGIBILITY	VALUE	HOW TO APPLY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Irrigation system inspection</li> <li>• Replacement of existing irrigation controller</li> <li>• Controller programming and training customized for your home</li> <li>• Sprinkler nozzle retrofit/replacement on existing spray heads</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Residential water customers in Alhambra, Monterey Park, Azusa and Sierra Madre</li> <li>• Must have a working irrigation system with a controller</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to \$1,000 in equipment and service (<i>one controller per customer</i>)</li> <li>• Save water and save money!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Come First Serve: Time and funding are limited</li> <li>• Contact the District's partner, EcoTech Services, at 866-308-8391 or <a href="http://ecotechservices.net">ecotechservices.net</a></li> </ul>



*Saving Water...it's a good thing*

For further information, contact the District at (626) 969-7911 or by email ([info@sgvmwd.com](mailto:info@sgvmwd.com)).

# Downtown Alhambra shined bright with official tree lighting



Downtown Alhambra officially lit its Christmas Tree located at Edwards Renaissance Plaza. (Photo Credit: Monina Castillo)

The annual Tree Lighting Ceremony, which took place on December 3, 2021, kick-started the winter holidays in Downtown Alhambra with excitement. The celebration, which returned this year at Edwards Renaissance Plaza, presented another fun family program. Last year, like many events, the celebration was virtual to adhere to local, COVID safety mandates at the time.

**Santa** arrived at 6pm in town after hitching a ride with the **Alhambra Fire Department**. Following an opening speech from Mayor of Alhambra, **Katherine Lee**, the Christmas Tree was officially lit.

During the rest of the night, families were able to take complimentary, socially distanced photos with **Santa and Mrs. Clause**. This year, Santa photos were taken by **Infinifoto** (<https://www.infinifoto.com/>) a photo booth service which allowed for photos to be conveniently printed on the spot at the event. Attendees could also take selfies with **The Grinch** and get balloon sculptures from **Santa's helpers**.

Entertainment included holiday-themed performances by **PopRock Academy**, as well as mesmerizing magic acts from **Siren of Magic** (a.k.a. Elizabeth Messick-Fernandez) and **Christine the Magician** (a.k.a. Christine Chow). Donation drop boxes were also on site to help support the **Alhambra Fire Department's Spark of Love Toy Drive**.

Shopping included wares from select pop-up vendors such as **Ra House of CBD**, and **Toy-Zilla**. Free hot chocolate was also available to guests to keep everyone warm during the chilly night.

Local, adjacent restaurants and businesses were open too, and happy to receive the incoming foot traffic from the event, produced by the **Downtown Alhambra Business Association** (<https://www.downtownalhambra.com/>). In addition to providing some holiday cheer for patrons, the Tree Lighting ceremony provided much support to the Alhambra business community.



Left to right: City of Alhambra Council Members Sasha Renee Perez, Ross Maza, Vice Mayor Jeff Maloney, Mayor Katherine Lee, Santa and Mrs. Clause, Councilmember Adele Andrade-Stadler, and the Grinch welcomed everyone to the Tree Lighting Ceremony. (Photo Credit: Monina Castillo)



Santa arrives to light the Alhambra Christmas tree via Alhambra Fire engine. (Photo Credit: Monina Castillo)



Attendees got to take complimentary photos with Santa & Mrs. Clause. (Photo Credit: Infinifoto)

See the complete Downtown Alhambra Tree Lighting photo album at: <https://bit.ly/DABATreeLighting21>

## RAMONA CONVENT

CATHOLIC ALL-GIRLS' COLLEGE PREP GRADES 9 - 12



APPLY NOW FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR!  
Application Deadline:  
January 19, 2022

Ramona is a **WELCOMING** Catholic **COLLEGE-PREP** high school for girls in grades 9-12. Ramona graduates face the future with an **EXTRAORDINARY EDUCATION**, a global **VISION** fueled by Catholic values, an **INDEPENDENT SPIRIT**, confident **LEADERSHIP** skills, the **SUPPORT** of their Ramona sisters, and the strength of a **LEGACY** of more than 130 years of excellence.

APPLY NOW! →



TUITION ASSISTANCE & MERIT SCHOLARSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE!



Ramona Convent  
1701 West Ramona Road | Alhambra, CA 91803  
(626) 282-4151 | [ramonaconvent.org](http://ramonaconvent.org)

# Alhambra Woman's Club Jan. Meeting

The Alhambra Woman's Club invites new and current members to start the new year by joining the club at 11 am, Wednesday, Jan 5, at Almansor Court, 700 S Almansor Court. For over 100 years they have provided women the opportunity to create new friendships and enjoy good food and entertainment.

A fun filled gathering was held last

month, which included singing, dancing and gifts of toys for children in the SPARK OF LOVE toy drive.

Entertainment for Jan. meeting will be SONIC BOOM, a D.J. and Karaoke singer. The cost is \$20 for members, \$25 for non members. Please call 626-2899307 for a luncheon reservation by Jan 3.



# Ramona Convent Secondary School congratulates National Honor Society members

Twenty-three new members have been inducted into Ramona's chapter of the National Honor Society (NHS) during a traditional ceremony. Membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service. NHS members also serve as Tiger Tutors, a free support service available to all students who need assistance with their courses or are interested in maintaining their grades. The values of scholarship, service, leadership, and character are the four pillars associated with membership in the organization since its inception in 1921.

In addition, 26 students received their two-year membership pins and 9 received their three-year pins.

Ramona is a welcoming Catholic college-prep high school for girls in grades 9-12. Ramona graduates face the future with an extraordinary education, a global vision fueled by Catholic values, an independent spirit, confident leadership skills, the support of their Ramona sisters, and the strength of a legacy of more than 130 years of excellence.

Ramona Convent Secondary School, 1701 W. Ramona Rd, Alhambra, CA 91803, (626) 282-4151 or visit [www.ramonaconvent.org](http://www.ramonaconvent.org).

CONNECT WITH THE CITY OF ALHAMBRA

**Alhambra Civic Center Library**

101 S. First St.  
Alhambra, CA 91801  
626-570-5008  
[www.alhambralibrary.org](http://www.alhambralibrary.org)

Sunday:	01:00 pm - 05:00 pm
Monday:	11:00 am - 08:00 pm
Tuesday:	11:00 am - 08:00 pm
Wednesday:	11:00 am - 08:00 pm
Thursday:	11:00 am - 08:00 pm
Friday:	10:00 am - 05:00 pm
Saturday:	10:00 am - 05:00 pm

# AFFORDABLE BODY MAKE-OVER!

### COSMETIC SERVICES

BOTOX*	\$8 per unit
XEOMIN*	\$8 per unit
Dysport	\$8 per 3 units
Juvéderm*	\$450 per unit
Radlesse*	\$450 per syringe
Belotero*	\$380 per syringe
Restlyne*	\$420 per syringe
Kybella	\$500 per vial
Hand IPL	\$150 per treatment
Ultherapy	\$2,500
Tickle Lipo	\$1500 per area
CoolSculpting	\$600
Tattoo Removal	\$100 & up
Spider Vein Removal	\$200 & up

**Carson (424) 240-7139**  
276 E Sepulveda Blvd, zip 90745

**El Monte (626) 550-4901**  
11008 Main St #201, zip 91731

**Huntington Park (323) 760-7819**  
2140 E Florence Ave #2164, zip 90255

### LASER HAIR REMOVAL

Sideburns	\$50
Upper Lips	\$40
Chin	\$40
Women's Face	\$80
Men's Face	\$105
Underarms	\$65
Areolas – Nipples	\$60
Arms – Half	\$65
Arms – Full	\$95
Bikini – Standard	\$65
Bikini – Strip	\$70
Bikini – Brazillian	\$80
Full Bikini – Men	\$110
Women's Legs – Lower	\$80
Women's Legs – Upper	\$80
Women's Legs – Full	\$130
Men's Legs – Lower	\$90
Men's Legs – Upper	\$90
Men's Legs – Full	\$150
Abdomen	\$70
Tummy Tuck	\$50
Women's Chest – Full	\$85
Men's Chest – Full	\$110
Full Back – Women	\$100
Full Back – Men	\$150
Lower Body – Women	\$220
Lower Body – Men	\$250
Upper Body – Women	\$270
Upper Body – Men	\$300
Full Body – Women	\$425
Full Body – Men	\$485

**PLUSHDERMA**  
SKIN CLINIC & SURGICAL CENTER | DR REZA GHAZAI MD

In all treatments, different parts of the body count as different areas. Every patient is unique and results may vary. Prices are subject to change. Prices can vary based on skin type and total treatments required.



Almost 1,000 doses were administered at COVID-19 vaccination clinics at Monterey Highlands, Park, and Ramona Schools in November and December.

# VISA boosters Día de los Muertos Gala benefits Dream Center students

Many Alhambra Unified School District high school students earn college credit as part of a partnership between AUSD and East Los Angeles College.

Recently, ELAC history teacher Rafael Mazon informed AUSD that three Mark Keppel High School dual enrollment students were selected to have their essays published in the Fall 2021 ELAC History Circle Journal, which is also posted on the ELAC library website.

The three students, senior Hailey Molina and juniors Kayla Holguin and Jessica Pulido were all students in Professor Mazon's ELAC Political and Social History in the United States II class. The work of MKHS 2019 alumnus Vincent Bagabaldo was also published in the journal. In Mazon's class, Hailey, Kayla, and Jessica studied United States history from the Reconstruction era to today, focusing not only on political and social developments in the history of the United States but also on economic and cultural developments, how various Amendments to the Constitution have influenced society, and the ongoing and changing role of the U. S. in international affairs.

Hailey is part of the district's Early College Program and will be earning a certificate of Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum in May 2022. Many classes at ELAC are open to all AUSD high school students, even if they are not officially part of the Early College Program. Kayla and Jessica took advantage of that opportunity, and like Hailey, received three college units for completing the course. These units are transferrable to UC and CSU schools.

College credit courses are offered during



These MKHS students have already attended college courses, earned university credit, and are now published writers. From left to right: Jessica Pulido (grade 11), Hailey Molina (grade 12), Kayla Holguin (grade 11).

the fall, spring, and summer semesters at no charge to AUSD high school students through the AUSD-ELAC Partnership. The deadline for students to submit their interest for spring semester is Monday, January 17, 2022. Classes are offered at the high school campuses and are held after school dismissal. The ELAC spring 2022 class schedule is now available at <https://tinyurl.com/ausd-cte-classes>. Information about Career Technical Education, including the Early College Program, is available at [www.ausd.us/cte/](http://www.ausd.us/cte/). Students should contact their school's College Career Centers if they have any questions.

## AUSD hosts Vaccination Clinics on elementary campuses

In early November, in anticipation of emergency authorization of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for ages 5-11, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health encouraged school districts to set up school-based clinics on elementary campuses.

The Alhambra Unified School District immediately started plans to host COVID-19 vaccination clinics at multiple elementary schools during November and December. Thanks to partner agencies, CSC Health Center and Fulgent Genetics, along with the Monterey Park Fire Department, elementary administrators, campus supervisors, and custodial

and clerical support, these clinics provided a convenient and familiar option for AUSD students, staff members, and their families.

The demand was great, with almost all appointments filled in less than a week. Parents have since inquired about additional clinics. Although AUSD may offer additional clinics in the future, there are no such clinics currently planned. However, since vaccinations are so readily available through pharmacists, local health clinics, and personal physicians, the district recommends families get vaccinated where they can and as soon as they can from one of the many nearby options.

### MKHS RACE TO SUBMIT From Page 1

Garcia wrote to MKHS principal Jeannie Gutierrez, "Your school exemplifies what we can do when working together on behalf of California high school seniors." CSAC has certified that 80.86% of MKHS seniors completed a FAFSA or CADAA last year. MKHS had the second highest return percentage of

schools in its category (501-700 seniors) and was the only high school in the entire San Gabriel Valley to be among the state's top 24.

"We are thrilled to recognize the incredible work accomplished across the state by our schools and districts in promoting financial aid completion via FAFSA and CADAA.

What we have experienced through this pandemic is alarming and speaks to a greater need for financial aid," said Michael Lemus, Program Outreach and Marketing Manager at the California Student Aid Commission. "We acknowledge the hard work it takes to help students access a post-secondary education and appreciate educators recognizing the importance of financial aid in this discussion."

MKHS was recognized on December 7th at the Financial Aid for All Symposium & Race to Submit Virtual Award Ceremony event. Representing MKHS were Elizabeth An, career technical education advisor, and Andres Vazquez, USD college advisor, who played significant roles in the high completion rate. At the ceremony, they also shared their experiences, best practices, and tips to increase participation.



## Alhambra Unified School District Board of Education



**Dr. Marcia Wilson**  
President



**Kaysa Moreno**  
Vice President



**Joanne Russell-Chavez**  
Clerk



**Robert L. Gin**  
Member



**Kenneth Tang**  
Member

On Dec. 7, in its annual reorganization meeting, the AUSD Board of Education voted on the new 2022 slate of officers. Dr. Marcia Wilson will serve as President; Professor Kaysa Moreno is Vice President; Joanne Russell Chavez is Clerk with Robert Gin and Kenneth Tang serving as Members.



At the December 7th AUSD Board of Education meeting, the November Game Changer winners, Jennifer Wright, San Gabriel High teacher, and Kathy Sanchez, lead bus driver trainer, were honored for their inspiring contributions to students, colleagues and school culture. Both winners were nominated by grateful peers. Nominate a Game Changer: Go to [www.ausd.us/badges/](http://www.ausd.us/badges/):

**To Advertise in  
Around Alhambra  
call 626-282-8481**



**ONEONTA MONTESSORI SCHOOL**  
Est. 1981

**Preschool - 6th Grade (2 - 12 years)**  
6:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

**ADVANCED MONTESSORI CURRICULUM  
INCLUDES: PE, ART, MUSIC, STEAM, MANDARIN,  
SPANISH, COMPUTER LITERACY.**

**ACCREDITED TEACHERS**

**Extracurricular Activities:  
Tennis, Soccer, Dance, Hapkido**

**OPEN ALL YEAR  
EXCITING SUMMER CAMP  
626-284-0840  
2221 Poplar Blvd, Alhambra  
(Behind Target)**

Come visit our amazing School!  
Check out all the fun by clicking on our  
website: [www.oneontamontessori.school](http://www.oneontamontessori.school)  
Tours everyday from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon





**ALHAMBRA  
UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**DUAL IMMERSION (DI)  
Registration for 2022-23**

**Join us at a Virtual Informational Meeting:**

- **SPANISH** Dual Immersion program at Fremont School
  - To RSVP, please contact the Fremont School office at (626) 943-3360 or email: [chavez\\_carly@ausd.us](mailto:chavez_carly@ausd.us). (Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/SpandIinfoMtg2021>)
- **MANDARIN** Dual Immersion program at Northrup School
  - To attend, log on via Zoom using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/MandDIinfoMtg2021>

**SPANISH DI Meeting:**  
**January 11th**  
• 10:00am-11:00am

**MANDARIN DI Meetings:**  
**January 12th**  
• 9:00am-10:00am

**February 9th**  
• 9:00am-10:00am

**Online registration  
for 2022-2023 Dual Immersion  
programs is now open and will  
continue through February 7,  
2022. Visit the AUSD website  
([www.ausd.us](http://www.ausd.us) or scan  
the QR code) to register.**



**SCAN ME**

Accepting registration for kindergarten through sixth grade.  
(Kindergarten Birthdate Eligibility is September 2, 2016 - September 1, 2017.)

Helping to Create a Global Future



## Wood Tech teachers continue to hone their craft

Although all Alhambra Unified School District woodworking teachers have many years of experience, they continue to increase their knowledge so they can help build the skills of their students. Mr. Kenneth Thomas, president of Inland Woodworking, was given time off by his employer, Ivanti, as a community

service in order to provide training for our teachers at Mark Keppel High School. Pictured here, from left to right, are John Mason (San Gabriel High School), Paul Lam (Mark Keppel High School), and Trainer Kenneth Thomas (President of Inland Woodworking).



AUSD staff members complete the final preparations for the 2021 Spark of Love event before hundreds of children and their families arrive for this annual event.

## Alhambra USD joins community partners to bring holiday joy to local families

Since early November, every AUSD school and the district office collected toys as part of their ongoing tradition to support the Alhambra Fire Department's annual Spark of Love drive. Each year, multiple community partner agencies spearheaded by the Alhambra Fire Department, collect toys and other Christmas gifts for struggling local families. During pandemic times, the need was great.

On December 10, firefighters made the rounds to all the AUSD campuses to pick up the donated toys and then worked to sort and organize everything. Bright and early on December 11th, dozens of volunteers gathered at the Masonic Lodge

in Alhambra to distribute toys, gift cards, and food to invited families who need a little extra help this year. AUSD is grateful to all the students, parents, and staff members who filled the school site boxes with toys, sports equipment, and even electronics.

Families struggle beyond the holiday season. The Alhambra Educational Foundation accepts tax-deductible monetary donations throughout the year. Donations of food items can be made to the Alhambra Teachers Association food pantry (626-289-2933), which has been feeding our community since the start of the pandemic.

# Strong interest in new AUSD Equity Diversity Inclusion Task Force

At the direction of AUSD Board of Education and building on prior work begun at schools, the district launched the Equity Diversity Inclusion (EDI) task force headed by Dr. Lily Jarvis, director of educational equity and accountability, with a major assist from Dr. Brian Wagner, coordinator special education, and help from Ana Mercedes Haskins.

The overarching first goal of the AUSD EDI task force, Dr. Jarvis explained, is to create a space to engage in critical conversations, beginning with these questions:

- To what extent are outcomes predictable by participants' demographics?
- To what extent do AUSD's diverse populations feel comfortable, respected and empowered within the district?
- To what extent are diverse community perspectives included in decision-making that impacts their lives?

In this first year, the EDI task force has assembled members who will be defining the scope of work and building a shared understanding to set priorities. Year two will be devoted to planning and development, and bringing awareness to educational partners. By year three, full implementation of actions will be in effect across the district. The work, however, of

the EDI task force is ongoing — with consistent assessment and refinement of the actions, progress monitoring, and celebration of successes along the way.

To accomplish these big goals, Dr. Jarvis and Dr. Wagner sent out a call for students, parents, teachers, staff and community members who wanted to make a three-year commitment to advancing equity, diversity, inclusion, and belonging in Alhambra Unified School District. The outpouring of response was enormous: 62 shared their interest, 52 attended the informational session, and 43 became members. Of the 43 who joined EDI task force, 11 are teachers, 23 are parents and family members, six are students, two are non-teaching employees, ones an administrator and one is a community member.

Fifteen AUSD schools are represented on the EDI task force: Alhambra High, Mark Keppel High, San Gabriel High, Baldwin, Brightwood, Emery Park, Fremont, Garfield, Granada, Monterey Highlands, Northrup, Park, Ramona, Repetto, and Ynez.

Sixty people, including Board members, management and the superintendent, attended the powerful two-hour



first Zoom session on “Engaging in Productive Conversations about Race and Racism in Schools” given by Dr. Shaun R. Harper, founder and executive director of the USC Race and Equity Center. His three-part series will continue in January with “Affirming Students’ Racial Histories in Curricula” and in February with “Cultivating Relationships with Families and Communities of Color.”

Ideas for equity initiatives and sub-committee focus are social emotional learning and supports; student voice and participation for all; school climate and culture; opportunity gaps between English Learners and their peers, over-representation of students of color in special education; parent, family and community engagement; and curriculum and instruction.



**contact us**



**To Advertise in Around Alhambra call (626) 282-8481**

Support this paper! Visit our advertisers!

## WHY JOIN THE CHAMBER?

**MEMBERS GET MORE!**

**ADVERTISING**

Chamber members are offered a substantial discount on our monthly newspaper. Around Alhambra features local news, and is carrier route delivered to 32,000 households, plus newsstands around the city.

**VISIBILITY & CREDIBILITY**

Stand out and get noticed as an active member of your community. Your reputation matters. Chamber membership is respected by the community.

**NOTARY SERVICES**

Members receive Official Notary Public service at no charge.

**NETWORK**

It's NOT just who you know, it's who others know. Networking is powerful! Our monthly mixers and Business to Business Networking events are great opportunities to meet new business contacts.

**REFERRALS**

Chamber members are always referred when product or service information is requested at the Chamber office.

Let us help your business!



104 S. First Street, Alhambra, CA 91801  
626-282-8481  
www.alhambrachamber.org



## Homeless Youth Awareness Month

Thank you to all the AUSD schools and partners who answered the call to promote awareness and action to support homeless students and families in our community.



For more information, please contact:  
Vanessa Sandoval  
HOPE/STAR Counselor  
626-943-3410










# Atherton Baptist Homes *Happy New Year* 2022

As a child, I remember the start of a new year in school. It was the beginning of a new year and for our family it meant some new clothes, new crayons, pencils, and notepads. There was both excitement and anxiety as I entered a new grade and wondered which of my friends would get to be in my class, how I would get along with my new teachers, and if the subjects would be easy or difficult. The start of school was always a new beginning for me.

Since I have become an adult, I haven't had as many experiences or as regular experiences with this newness. There are the same feelings of excitement and anxiety as

I start a new job or move to a new home. When I was younger, the birth of a new child, signaled a stage of life was upon us and how our family would manage the addition to our family created both excitement and anxiety. But each year as I grow older, there are not as regular of changes in my life and the result is getting trapped in routines, some of which are life-giving, but also some are not helpful.

A new year represents a season of beginning. As the calendar changes to January, we have an opportunity to make those famous 'New Year's Resolutions.' Most of us make these resolutions around losing

weight or exercise because of our guilt from overindulging during the holidays, but perhaps we can think about making a few more changes which will challenge us with both excitement and yes, a little bit of anxiety. Here are a few ideas...

- Get in touch with someone you haven't talked with for a while. Do you ever wonder what some of your former neighbors, coworkers or school friends are doing? See if you can find someone and give them a call, email or even send them a letter. They'll be happy to hear from you and catching up will bring a smile to your face.

- Buy an article of clothing you'd never think about buying. How about a bright colored jacket or sweater? Some new wool socks with a wild print? A new dress in a new style, or the most comfortable shoes you can find?

- Read a different kind of book or watch a television series you wouldn't normally choose. Do you have children or grandchildren who watch a certain show? Ask them for a recommendation and give it a go. It will give you something new to talk about with them.

- Similarly, listen to new music or a new radio station. New sounds can bring back memories or even cause us to have new, creative thoughts – worth a try!

- For those who use the internet, consider taking an online course. Look into the classes yourself or ask a friend or family member to assist you.

- Some seniors find it rewarding to set aside time to write letters to family

members. It's an opportunity to let you tell them how much you love them, and you can include photos or other mementos in the letters. Not only is this enjoyable, but it will be a lasting, priceless keepsake for your loved ones.

- Try a new activity. This may sound like exercise, but we're talking about something fun. Try to increase the number of steps you take each day by walking more, doing leg exercises while watching TV or sitting in your comfortable chair, or get out of the house more often to explore new sights. How about trying something like drawing, painting, knitting, crafting or doing jigsaw puzzles? How about singing or playing a musical instrument? Many towns or churches have choirs who are always looking for a good voice. You may have done these activities years ago, so picking them up now will be a fun challenge.

- How about creating a year long goal? A friend of mine decided to try to read one book a week. Some people adopt a reading plan to read through the Bible in a year.

- How about writing your history? Even though our memories are sometimes spotty, I have found that our friends and family members love to hear the details of your life. My hasn't the world changed since we first started out in life!

These are just a few; you can probably think of some others on your own. The important point is taking advantage of a moment when a new beginning can be created. There is not a better way to start a new year. Happy New Year!

**Discover Royal Vista  
San Gabriel**




**Royal Vista**

- Assisted Living
- Memory Care
- Skilled Nursing

For more information or to schedule a tour, please phone  
**(626) 289-8889**  
901 W. Santa Anita St., San Gabriel, CA 91776 Lic. #197606796

INDEPENDENT LIVING | ASSISTED LIVING | SKILLED NURSING | REHABILITATION SERVICES

Alhambra's Best Choice in Senior Living for over 100 Years

## CHOOSE YOUR PATH

Chart your Future at Atherton:  
The path and the pace that is right for you.

For over 100 years, Atherton has been a warm neighborhood of friends where seniors can find joy in the journey.

We are a Life Plan Community located on a quiet 15 acres near the heart of Alhambra.

Download Atherton Fact Sheets at [www.abh.org](http://www.abh.org)

Call **1.800.340.4178** to learn more about our

- Lovely Homes
- Active Lifestyle
- Comfortable Amenities
- Amazing Residents
- Quality Care

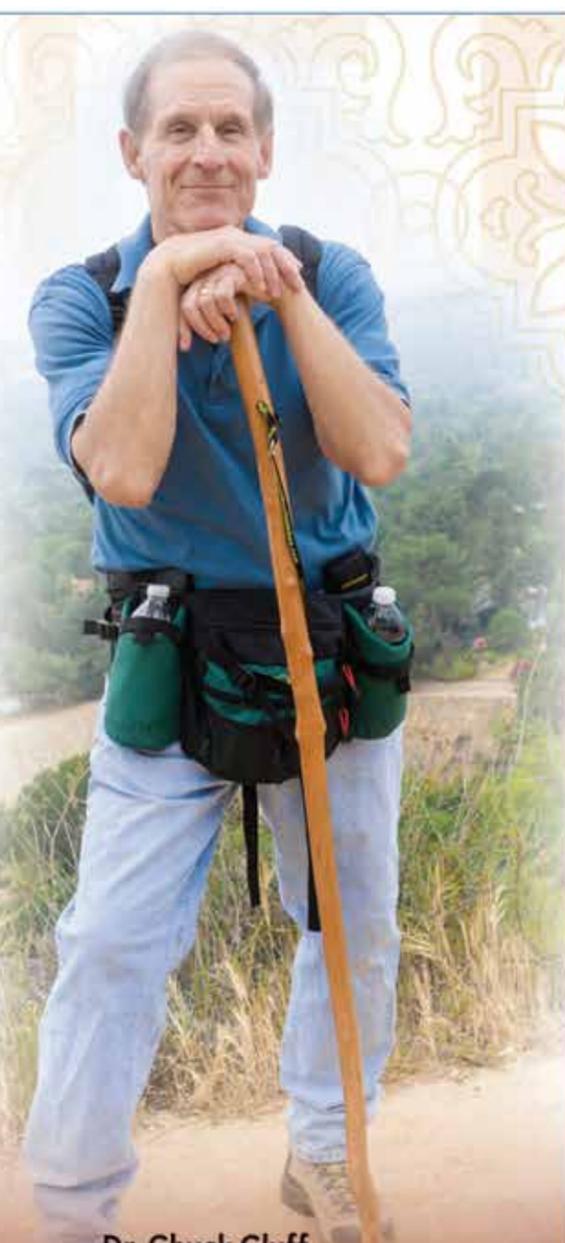
Entrance Fees start at \$113,500.



# ATHERTON

Christian living for today's seniors

214 S ATLANTIC BLVD, ALHAMBRA, CA 91801



**Dr. Chuck Cluff**  
Atherton Resident since 2004

Atherton Baptist Homes is open to people of all faiths. RCFE #197802543 Certificate of Authority #322. Atherton Baptist Homes does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, color, disability, religion or national origin.

# How to afford dental care

**Q:** Dental treatment could be expensive and I don't have a dental insurance.

**How can I afford it?**

**A:** While the cost of dental treatment can be more than you are prepared to pay, the alternative—not getting proper care when it's needed—may be much worse. Dental problems left untreated don't go away; they often get

worse, requiring more complicated and costly treatments and causing pain. So what do you do?

When it comes to paying for dental services, most people have three choices: employer provided dental insurance, purchase an individual dental insurance plan and a dental savings plan.

To decide which option is best for you, here is some information that you can use and apply to your individual situation.

**Employer provided dental insurance:**

How to get it:

If dental insurance is available at a moderate cost from your employer, it makes sense to look into it.

Advantages and disadvantages:

There are PPO and HMO plans.

PPO lets you visit a dentist of your choice. You can also switch to a different provider as many times as you want until you are happy.

HMO plans work different. HMO plan assigns you a dentist you must see for your dental services.

Both provide coverage for prevention: semi-annual exams, cleanings, x-rays. Fillings, crowns, extractions are covered at different rate and amount you have to pay out of pocket. There is a yearly maximum, typically cap coverage at \$1000 - \$1,500 a year. Most dental insurance plans have a "deductible," an amount that you will have to pay out of pocket for dental services before your insurance will begin to cover their portion of the costs, an average \$50-100 per person.

There is no coverage for cosmetic procedure.

Dental insurance typically imposes restrictions on covering costly treatments and pre-existing conditions. Most dental insurance will not pay to restore teeth that were already missing before you got on their policy

**Individual dental insurance plan**

How to get it:

Let say your employer does not cover your dental insurance and you decided to pay one on your own. Most major dental insurances offer individual plans to purchase. Be very selective.

Warning: Beware that the premiums can be so high, and the annual maximum spending so low, that you won't always get a benefit. It is important to thoroughly read the dental insurance plan's terms to understand what is covered, what isn't and if you have waiting period (most plans do).



Read the fine print as well.

Advantages and disadvantages:

Most types of dental insurance provide coverage for prevention: two exams, two cleanings, x-rays.

However they have low yearly maximum, an average of \$500-\$1000,

If you need larger treatment you will quickly exceed your annual spending maximum, meaning you'll have to pay out of your pocket everything above. That is on the top of your monthly premium.

You need to pay monthly premium, that depends on the insurance coverage, typically cost around \$250 to \$400 a year.

Also some treatments will require 6- 12 months waiting period. That means the insurance will not pay for some procedures until you have paid your premiums for at least 6 months and even 12 months.

**Dental Savings Plans**

This is an alternative to dental insurance that has been gaining ground lately. These plans operate on the idea of membership to a specific dental office or chain of offices.

There is an annual membership fee and in turn you receive services at significantly reduced fees.

Advantages and disadvantages:

Essentially, the membership fee covers couple of checkup exams, cleanings and x-rays.

You pay the dentist directly for your dental services, and only pay for things you need.

Usually there is no deductible, or yearly maximum spending amount.

You can join the plan any time and the benefits start from that day.

There is no pre-existing condition limitation and plan covers cosmetic procedure: bonding and porcelain veneers.

Depending on what services are needed, dental saving plans have the potential to offer substantial savings on dental costs.

Disadvantage is that you need to pay the membership fee up front and if you don't return to the office, you will never use the plan's benefits.

How to get a dental saving plan

Start by asking your own family dentist. Dental savings plans are now being offered by individual dentists—a growing number of whom are sponsoring their own plans.

If you already have a dentist whom you like, your best bet may be to ask which options the dentist accepts and compare the costs for your family's general needs. When you don't have a dentist, it can be more

difficult to compare all the different insurance and discount plans available.

**Prevent major problems, Save Money.**

Here's another way to save on dental treatment: Periodic exams and preventive treatments are among the best values in dental care—and they can help keep minor dental issues from becoming major problems for your health and your budget.



Ask  
**Dr. Dara,  
D.D.S.**

Dr. Dara Gashparova, D.D.S. is located at 70 S. Palm Ave., Alhambra 91801. Readers with dental questions or concerns should contact her at 626-289-6131, or e-mail daradds@yahoo.com.

## ADVANCED DENTISTRY

— of ALHAMBRA —

### Healthy Teeth & Bright Smiles for the Whole Family!

- Laser Dentistry
- Pediatric Dentistry
- Implants
- Invisalign & Braces
- Wisdom Teeth Removal
- Dental Emergencies

## (626) 289-6131

70 S Palm Ave., Alhambra, CA 91801

www.DaraDDS.com

OPEN SATURDAYS • 0% Interest payment plans

New Patient Offer

- Digital X-Rays
- Comprehensive Exam
- Regular Cleaning

\$69

Reg. price \$270

PORCELAIN CROWNS IN ONLY ONE VISIT!

- Precise Fit
- Natural Look
- Comfortable Digital Scan

FREE CONSULTATION

Latest Technology!

## Home Medical Equipment

### Supplies / Service / Repairs

FROM YOUR TRUSTED NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPLIER

- ★ Respiratory care services
- ★ Home Oxygen / portable systems
- ★ Air Travel Oxygen
- ★ CPAP / Bi-PAP for sleep disorders
- ★ Home Ventilators
- ★ Nebulizers
- ★ CPM/Tens Units
- Scooters,
- Manual Wheel chairs
- Motorized Wheelchairs
- Hospital Beds, /Air Mattresses
- Wheelchair Ramps
- LiftChairs, / Walkers
- MassageChairs
- Incontinent Supplies
- Diabetic Supplies, Shoes
- Wound Care Supplies
- Patient /Ambulatory Aids
- Compression Stockings
- Orthopedic Supplies
- Power Chair & Scooter Repair
- Sigvaris Compression Stockings
- Blood Pressure Monitoring Systems
- Littmann & other Stethoscopes

## Metro Home Healthcare

### Equipment & Supply Inc.

1430 W. Valley Blvd., Alhambra, California 91803

CALL US FOR DETAIL (626) 282-2200

(24 HRS/7DAYS A WEEK)

Website: www.metro4mediequip.com

## It's Your Choice

"When my ball players are injured, Yonemoto Physical Therapy helps speed their recovery so they can get back into action. For my own physical rehabilitation, I just wouldn't go anywhere else."

**Steve Gewecke**  
Baseball coach  
Alhambra High School



Serving Our Community Since 1982

55 South Raymond Ave, Suite 100 Alhambra, CA 91801

CALL FOR A FREE CONSULTATION

**626.576.0591**

[www.YONEMOTO.com](http://www.YONEMOTO.com)



SGVC Boy Scouts of America  
Distinguished Citizen 2009



2011 Rotary International Award



2011 Small Business of the Year Award



2011 Heart of the Community Award

# Understanding Integrative Manual Therapy

BY SHEILA YONEMOTO, P.T.

Integrative Manual Therapy, or IMT, is best described as a health care process. It is a unique set of techniques, approaches and methodologies used to address pain, dysfunction, disease and disability. It achieves health and recovery by taking into account the diverse systems of the human body and addressing dysfunction at the cellular level. IMT practitioners use their hands and other tools to assess and treat clients, giving the body an opportunity to heal itself.

The fundamental premise of IMT is locating the root cause of dysfunction and reopening the body's natural lines of communication. Once this inherent flow is restored, the body's innate healing abilities return to optimum.

IMT practitioners believe that the body operates as a whole and that all the systems work together to keep the body functioning normally. Using this perspective, practitioners have developed a system of techniques to locate the root causes of any situations challenging the normal functioning and health of the body and addressing those causes directly. Only when the causes are treated can the body's potential for healthy functioning return.

This approach is a breakthrough medical therapy leading to whole body health and recovery.

Each patient receives one-on-one attention from a highly skilled practitioner. The approach utilizes a number of different techniques and approaches and therefore is Integrative.

Many currently followed models of medical treatment seek to address symptoms with surgical or invasive procedures and often accompany those procedures with powerful drugs. Integrative Manual



*Sheila Yonemoto, P.T., has been a physical therapist for more than 30 years, specializing in integrative manual therapy, using a holistic approach. She can be reached at Yonemoto Physical Therapy, 55 S. Raymond Ave, Suite 100, Alhambra 91801. Sheila offers a Qigong "Chinese Energy" exercise class. Your first class is FREE. Call 626-576-0591 for more information, or visit [www.yonemoto.com](http://www.yonemoto.com).*

Therapy seeks to restore health so a patient can recover fully with non-invasive techniques and without drugs.

Help rehabilitate your body and make IMT more effective by eating the right foods to help make it easier for the body to heal.

Drink more water to rid the body of toxins and help the cells function optimally with better hydration while improving overall fluid volume.

Typically the first thing a patient wants to know is if we can cure them of a particular malady. When Einstein revolutionized the field of physics, he did so with a blank blackboard containing no assumptions from the past. We approach each patient the same way.

**Alhambradental.com**

**牙齒鬆了 不用拔** 我可以幫您保住  
節省時間、還省錢

馬上打給趙醫生, 我們說國、粵語

**626-308-9104**



牙齒保住了, 不用拔(只需要一次治療)

These examples show 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)



**趙企安醫生**

**John Chao, D.D.S.**

Research Assoc. Prof., Post-Grad Periodontics  
University at Buffalo, SUNY

Adjunct Asst. Prof., Behavior Science, USC

畢業于USC

美國紐約州立大學牙週病研究教授(SUNY)



**Alhambra Dental**

100 South First Street

Alhambra, CA 91801

營業時間: 週一至週五 9am-5pm

**Alhambradental.com**



**alhambra**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**VISIT THE CHAMBER ONLINE AT**  
**alhambrachamber.org**

**626-282-8481**

# 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
- Free use of kitchen facilities

We follow COVID-19 guidelines

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



<b>Wendy's</b> 245 S. Atlantic Blvd.	<b>Main Street</b>
	<b>Commonwealth</b>
	10-FWY

245 S. Atlantic Blvd.  
Alhambra, CA 91801  
Corner of Atlantic & Commonwealth

**BUY ONE GET ONE FREE**

**Croissant Sandwich**  
(Choose from Sausage, Egg and Swiss or Bacon, Egg and Swiss)

**COMPRE UNO, RECIBA OTRO GRATIS**

**Sándwich Croissant**  
(Escoja entre Chorizo, Huevo y Queso Suizo o Tocino, Huevo y Queso Suizo)

**BUY ONE GET ONE FREE**

**Biscuit Sandwich**  
(Choose from Sausage, Egg and Cheese or Bacon, Egg and Cheese)

**COMPRE UNO, RECIBA OTRO GRATIS**

**Sándwich de Panecillo**  
(Escoja entre Chorizo, Huevo y Queso o Tocino, Huevo y Queso)

OFFER IS FOR SANDWICHES ONLY  
COUPON CODE: 46  
Valid only at participating Wendy's® during breakfast hours. Void if altered, copied or shown in digital format. Coupon only valid for one use per visit. Not valid with any other coupons or offers. Sales tax may apply. Cash value 1/100 of 1¢. ©2020 Quality Is Our Recipe, LLC. EXPIRES 1/31/2022

## Start the New Year with Dance!

**BUY 1 CLASS GET 1 FREE!\***

\*Valid for one-time use only per person. Offer expires 02/28/22. Must bring this ad to redeem offer.

**(626) 458-1234**  
216 E. Main St., Alhambra  
(between Monterey St. and Chapel Ave.)

**ARTE FLAMENCO DANCE THEATRE**

Ballet  
Flamenco  
Folklorico  
Hip Hop  
Jazz  
Polynesian Tap

Enriching People's Lives Through Dance



**WILD ALASKA SALMON**

**FEEL GOOD FOOD is on the menu**

**\$5.00 OFF CHECK OF \$20 OR MORE**

One coupon, per table, per visit. Not valid on national holidays, with the 24/8 Value Menu®, Super Slam®, AARP or any other coupons or promotional offers. This offer can be redeemed only once by the original recipient. Coupon has no cash value. No change returned. Taxes and gratuity not included. Alcoholic beverages not included. Valid at participating restaurants for a limited time only. Selection and prices may vary. Photocopied and internet printed or purchased coupons are not valid. No substitutions. Offer valid for dine in only. Not valid for online orders. Restrictions apply. © 2021 DFO, LLC. Offer ends 1/31/2022.

Visit your local Denny's at 369 W. Main St. • Alhambra, CA • 626-281-6701

© 2021 DFO, LLC. Printed in the U.S.A. At participating restaurants for a limited time only. Selection and prices may vary. While supplies last.



**Alhambra Performing Arts Center**

**BILL YEE PRESENTS**

*The Songs Of*  
**LENNON & McCARTNEY**

**Sat, Jan. 22, 2022 - 7PM**

**FREE Admission with RSVP or \$15 donation at the Door**

Performed by:

**HOWARD PATTOW AS LENNON**      **JEFF TOCZYNSKI AS MCCARTNEY**

Hosted by  
**Sage Granada Park UMC**  
1850 W. Hellman Ave.  
Alhambra, CA 91803  
(626) 230 5435  
bizwind@yahoo.com

**RSVP:**  
**Alhambra.eventbrite.com**

# WHERE LEMON GETS ITS PEPPER



**WHERE FLAVOR GETS ITS WINGS**

**ALHAMBRA**  
100 E MAIN ST, STE 150 • (626) 282-9464 (WING)

**EXPIRES 2/28/22**

**10% FAMILY PACK ORDER**

Offer may not be combined with any other coupons, discounts, offers, or promotions. One coupon per customer per visit. Offer valid at any participating locations. Void if altered or copied. Other restrictions may apply. Void where prohibited. Cash Value .001¢.

**EXPIRES 2/28/22**

**FREE FIVE BONELESS WINGS WITH 10 OR MORE WING PURCHASE**

Offer may not be combined with any other coupons, discounts, offers, or promotions. One coupon per customer per visit. Offer valid at any participating locations. Void if altered or copied. Other restrictions may apply. Void where prohibited. Cash Value .001¢.

© 2021 WF LLC

Protection for Your Family.  
Peace of Mind for You.



**Whole Life Insurance provides:**

1. Lifetime Protection
2. Guaranteed Acceptance
3. No Medical Exam Required
4. Rates Never Increase

**Kevin Knight**  
Life Insurance Agent  
License #0M04292



Se habla español **Cell 310.254.6908**

**Open 7 days a week**  
**626-282-5666**



**Full Service Polish Dept.**

**\$19.99**  
Expires 1-31-2022  
**FULL SERVICE WASH**

**\$2 OFF**  
Expires 1-31-2022  
**ANY CAR WASH PACKAGE**

**Alhambra Car Wash**  
704 W. Main Street, Alhambra, CA 91801



**Hi-Quality Auto Body**  
Fixed Once- Fixed Right  
**REPAIRS GUARANTEED!**

We work with all insurance companies  
Lifetime Guarantee  
Customer Waiting Area  
All Makes and Models Welcome



723 S. Fremont Ave. Alhambra, CA 91803  
P: 626-457-9114  
[www.hiqualityautobody.com](http://www.hiqualityautobody.com)





*Commercial Real Estate*  
**By MARK PAULSON**  
ANTHONY VENTI REALTORS, INC.  
626-282-6121



*Mark Paulson is a Realtor in Alhambra specializing in the sale and leasing of commercial real estate. He has been a real estate professional since 1976.*

# Selling investment property by using 1031 tax deferred exchanges

I always encourage real estate investors to learn more ways to save on business deductions and tax credits. An effective tax strategy for property investments is the IRS Code Section 1031. When an investor sells business or investment property, they generally will have to pay taxes on the profit at the time of sale. There is a way to keep most of your profit.

### What is a Sec 1031 Tax-Deferred Exchange?

IRS Section 1031 allows a tax-deferred exchange by allowing sellers to reinvest the proceeds into a similar property. Gains are tax-deferred but are not tax exempt.

The exchange can include like-kind property exclusively or it can include like-kind property along with cash, liabilities and property that are not like-kind. Individuals, C corporations, S Corporations, partnerships (general or limited) limited liability companies, trusts and any other taxpaying entities are eligible under this Section 1031 tax strategy.

Section 1031 is an exchange of like-kind properties. Like-kind refers to the type or character of the property but not its state or quality. The deferred exchange can be a simultaneous exchange of one property for another or a reverse exchange that allows the investor to purchase replacement property before the current property is sold or traded.

### Property Exempt From SEC 1031

Both properties must be owned for trade, business or investment and should be similar in nature, character or class. For example, a residential rental house is like-kind to vacant land. However, personal use properties such as a primary residence or vacation home do not qualify nor do real property in the United States and real property outside the United States. In addition, specific types of property excluded from Section 1031 are inventory or stock in trade; stocks, bonds or notes; other securities or debt; partnership interests; and certificates of trust.

### SEC 1031 Re-Investment Time Constraints

Two time limits are required or the en-

tire gains on held properties are subject to business tax. The first is that the seller has 45 days from the sale date to identify potential replacement properties in writing, signed and delivered to the replacement property seller or the qualified intermediary. The second is that the replacement property must be received and the exchange complete within 180 days of the sale date.

Deferred and reverse exchanges do have certain restrictions under Section 1031. Taking control of cash or other proceeds before the exchange is complete may disqualify contract and make ALL profit subject to business taxes. If cash or other proceeds that are not like-kind property are accepted at the final exchange, the transaction will still qualify as a like-kind exchange. Any proceeds that are not like-kind property are subject to business taxes. Section 1031 exchanges are reported on the IRS Tax Form 8824.

A method of avoiding early receipt of cash is to use a qualified intermediary (also known as an exchange facilitator) to hold the proceeds until the sale of property is complete. A qualified intermediary will have knowledge and experience with tax codes and regulations; business tax credits and business tax deductions; safeguarding funds such as fidelity bond and an Errors and Omissions Policy to protect the investor's funds and business tax credits; and qualifications such as longevity in the field and membership in Federation of Exchange Accommodators. Investors cannot act as their own agents nor can real estate brokers, lawyers, accountants, current employees or anyone employed by you in the previous two years.

### SEC 1031 Tax Strategy Conclusion

Finally, beware of the improper sale or tax scam that supports the exchange of non-qualifying vacation or second homes and market the exchange as "tax-free" or "tax write-off" rather than tax-deferred. Any agent that advises you to accept receipt or business tax credits before the conclusion of the exchange is not promoting a professional tax strategy for your business.

**Anthony Venti Realtors, Inc.**







**626 282-6121** OFFICE      **626 674-1351** AFTER HOURS

1129 E. Main St., Alhambra, CA 91801  
Habla Español - Bilingual Agents  
Call for a Free Market Evaluation  
[www.ventirealtors.com](http://www.ventirealtors.com)  
Your Neighborhood Professional Realtors for over 40 years

DRE# 00465088

## Understanding Real Estate

By Gary Frueholz  
DILBECK REAL ESTATE

Gary Frueholz is a realtor with Dilbeck Real Estate, a past member of the Alhambra Planning Commission, a certified Senior Real Estate Specialist and a Certified International Property Specialist. He can be reached at 626-318-9436 or at gary.frueholz@dilbeck.com. See his stories at www.garysstories.com.




Valley Blvd. can be seen running diagonally across the top of this aerial photograph of our city's airport.



Alhambra's airport had for a period in the 1920's the "Largest Airplane Repair Facility in the World"!!!!

# Alhambra had an airport

One of Alhambra's distinctive and historical neighborhood's is the Airport Tract. *Once upon a time*, Alhambra had an airport. This was during the 1920's and into the 1940's. And it was not just any airport. It was the headquarters for Western Air Express, which would later become Western Airlines, and contained the largest airplane service facility in the world.

The Airport Tract is bounded by Valley Blvd. to the north, New Avenue to the east, Almansor Street to the west, and the San Bernardino Freeway to the south.

The Airport Tract was constructed in the late 1940's and typically homes in this neighborhood were constructed as three bedroom and one bathroom. These houses invariably ran about 1,100 to 1,200 square feet while their lots measured between 5,700 to 7,000 square feet. The tract is zoned R1. Over the years many of the homes have had additions to them increasing square footage and the number of bedrooms and bathrooms. Some of the remodeled homes in the Airport Tract run in the 1,700 square foot range.

During the last year eleven homes have been sold in the Airport Tract. Nine of the eleven sold in the \$800,000 range with one home transacting for an even \$900,000. All had at least three bedrooms with three of the homes having four bedrooms.

Unlike many of Alhambra's other neighborhoods which have an eclectic combination of architectures, the Airport Tract consistently displays Ranch Style architecture with single story construction.

Ranch Style is a modern architectural design developed in the 1930's and emerged as the single most prolific type of home in the nation during the 1950's and 60's. It is identified by a low pitch roof which evolved from the Craftsman Style of architecture. Roofs are a gable arrangement which means there is a ridge at the top of the roof and at the sides of the house a triangle shape developed by the edges of the ridged roof.

Eaves of the roof do not protrude as far out as eaves on a Craftsman. Other architectural characteristics include stucco, brick, or clapboard sides, picture windows (large windows designed to let light in, but not air), and little ornamentation as opposed to ornate Victorian homes.

The Airport Tract is located on the former 157-acre site of the Alhambra Airport. The airport itself opened in 1920 and in 1929 Western Air Express, the forerunner of Western Airlines, built the passenger terminal and airplane hanger.

At the time of its construction this maintenance hanger was the *largest airplane hanger in the world*. The hanger was shaped like a hexagon and had the unique design where airplanes could approach, enter, and



**ALL-WHEEL ELECTRIC THRILL**  
THE BMW X5 xDRIVE40e WITH eBOOST TECHNOLOGY AND 56 MPGe\*

New Century BMW  
Driven For You  
1139 W. Main St. Alhambra, CA 91801  
www.ncbmw.com

\*European Model Shown

**New Century BMW**  
Driven For You®  
1139 W Main St • Alhambra, CA  
(626) 570-8444 newcenturyBMW.com



**New Century BMW**  
Motorcycles  
3001 W. Main St. Alhambra, CA  
626-282-2233  
www.ncbmwmotorcycles.com



**New Century BMW**  
Certified Collision Center  
3001 W. Main St. Alhambra, CA  
626-282-2233  
www.ncbmwcollision.com

be worked on from six different directions.

The entrance to the Alhambra Airport was along East Valley Boulevard and the main runway ran diagonally 2,870 feet southwest toward where the San Bernardino Freeway now is and across to the current site of Mark Keppel High School. During the 1930's Western Air Express operated a fleet of six 12-passenger Fokker airplanes. The Western Air College Flight School was also located at the Alhambra Airport.

With the airport's proximity to Hollywood, a number of movies were filmed at the Alhambra Airport [*They Met At Bombay* (1941) – Clark Gable, Rosalind Russell, and Peter Lorre, *Flight Lieutenant* (1940)

– Pat O'Brien, Glenn Ford, and *Thirteen Hours By Air* (1936) – Fred MacMurray].

In 1940 Lockheed Aircraft located at the Burbank Airport and with World War II Burbank significantly increased its facilities. The Alhambra Airport consequently decreased in importance and was closed in 1943. By 1946 it had been subdivided for the residential development of what is now the Airport Tract.

The Airport Tract remains a very distinct residential neighborhood in Alhambra and its own history reflects the growth of Southern California. Feel free to give me a call to learn more about the Airport Tract or any of Alhambra's neighborhoods.

**Get Wonderized...**

**Wondries**  
*Family* COLLISION CENTER

**FREE Towing to Our Shop-24/7**  
**FREE Rental Assistance**  
**FREE Insurance Estimates**

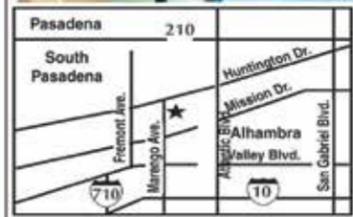
**Ask About No Cost Insurance Claims**

**In Business Since 1949**  
**FREE Consumer Guide, Virtual Tour**  
[www.WondriesCollisionCenter.com](http://www.WondriesCollisionCenter.com)

**Next to Home Depot on Marengo in Alhambra**  
**626-414-1900**

**"We Speak Your Language"**

**328 South Marengo Ave.**  
**Alhambra, CA 91803**



# Fuel Economy

## What can we do to get the most miles per gallon?



**Javier Mendez**  
 Owner and operator  
**Jo's Garage, Inc.**  
 At the Kerechuk building  
 626-872-0705  
 www.josgarage.com

Over the past few months, we have all experienced record-breaking gas prices. For those of us driving SUVs and other high-consumption vehicles, watching the fuel-gauge needle drop can be painful. Yet by adjusting our driving habits, and ensuring that our vehicles are in tip-top shape, we can maximize fuel economy and make the most of every drop.

We can start by taking inventory of the weight in our vehicles. Do we need to lug

around that roof rack or weekend sports equipment on a daily basis? With the exception of emergency supplies, we should store as little as possible in our vehicles. If you are planning a trip, and will need to carry more than what fits inside your vehicle, consider a rear-mounted cargo carrier instead of a roof-mounted one to reduce vehicle drag. This alone can add five to ten percent efficiency.

Before leaving the driveway, don't wait for your engine to warm up. While idling, engines can consume a quart to a half gallon per hour, and late-model engines are actually designed to warm as you drive. Try to plan your stops for efficiency and give yourself plenty of time to get where you need to go. Avoid heavy traffic if possible, as sudden starts and braking can increase consumption from ten to forty percent. If you drive a manual-transmission vehicle, avoid winding every gear out to red line. Instead, up-shifting every ten miles per hour works well for most driving conditions. On open roads, utilize your cruise control and mind the speed limit. Auto experts agree that fuel efficiency above fifty miles per hour is impacted from seven to fourteen percent.

As for vehicle-maintenance strategies, we should check our tire pressure regularly. Most car manufactures recommend doing so once a month. Late-model engines use low-viscosity, energy-conserving oil, so when changing oil, be sure to use the recommended type. Be sure to purchase top-tier fuels at the recommended octane. These

will contain approved detergent additives that will help keep engine internals clean and require less frequent tune-ups. On the other hand, worn plugs, dirty air filters, and carbon build-up will cost you in the long run. And finally, if your check engine light is on, get the trouble code scanned as soon as possible. It is likely indicating a fault affecting emissions and fuel mileage.

I trust that these tips will help keep a few extra dollars in your pocket. As always, give us a call if you have any questions.

Drive safe, Alhambra!



contact us



**To Advertise  
 in Around Alhambra  
 call  
 (626) 282-8481**



**Jo's Garage is a family owned full service facility**

*We service foreign and domestic gasoline, hybrid and electric cars and light trucks.* (most cars)

**(626) 872-0705**  
 120 E. Valley Blvd.  
 Alhambra, CA 91801  
 At the Kerechuk Building  
**www.josgarage.com**

**FREE**  
 Maintenance  
 Inspection  
**\$40** Value

**10%** Off  
 your next visit  
 up to \$50 off

Present this coupon (Expires 1/31/22)

### Residential

**\$1,168,000**

1590 Valley Vista Dr. Monterey Park  
3 Bed/3 Bath House + 1,662 sq. ft.

**\$689,000** JUST LISTED

230 N. Sierra Vista St #E, Monterey Park  
3 Bed/3 Bath Townhome + 1,601 sq. ft.

**DEVELOPMENT**

509 & 515 N. Moore Ave. Monterey Park  
2 Adjacent Lots + 21,071 sq. ft. Combined

**JUST SOLD**

1551 Arriba Dr, Monterey Park  
5 Bed/5 Bath House + 3,251 sq. ft.

**JUST SOLD**

323-325 E. Linda Vista Ave, Alhambra  
3 Bed/2 Bath House + ADU in Rear

**JUST SOLD**

406 Mooney Dr, Monterey Park  
4 Bed/2 Bath Duplex + 1,507 sq. ft.

### Commercial

**FOR LEASE**

119 S. Atlantic Blvd, Monterey Park  
2 Office Suites | 364-1,600 SF | 1-Year Min

**FOR SALE**

11740 Alondra Blvd, Norwalk  
13-Unit Shopping Center | 44k+SF | 140k+SF lot

**SOLD**

300 W. Washington Blvd, Pasadena  
5-Unit Multi-Family | 4,600 SF | 11.116 SF Lot

**SOLD**

809 S. Sierra Vista Ave, Alhambra  
13-Unit Apt Complex | 9,846 SF | 18k SF Lot

# THINKING ABOUT SELLING?

**Contact Us to Get Your Property SOLD for Top Dollar!**

**Happy New Year**

**We've SOLD Over 250 Homes in San Gabriel Valley**  
 專精聖蓋博谷房產，服務好速度快，全程服務

**Call/Text (626)415-0566**  
 Email: [jmg@manrealty.com](mailto:jmg@manrealty.com)  
 Probate & Trust Sale Specialists  
 DRE# 01864766  
 Ranked #1 Listing Team in West San Gabriel Valley

Find us on: