

AROUND ALHAMBRA



APRIL 2023 | GATEWAY TO SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

www.alhamborchamber.org

Sales of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles on the Rise in Alhambra

As gas prices continue to increase and technology steadily improves, sales of hybrid and electric vehicles (EVs) are increasing. Alhambra and the San Gabriel Valley are no exception to the undeniable trend that EVs are gaining acceptance among consumers. According to the EV Market Report compiled by the non-profit, veloz.org, "The trillion-dollar global market for electric vehicles (EVs) has grown exponentially over the last decade."

According to the California Energy Commission EV market share in the state has grown to almost 20%. That means that almost one in five EVs are sold in California.

In 2022 alone, 345,818 EVs

were sold in the golden state, up from 250,279 the previous year.

One thing is very clear, EVs and hybrid vehicles are definitely rising in sales and popularity in California. Of course that includes Alhambra and the entire San Gabriel Valley.

Here in Alhambra, our reporter spoke to three local dealerships to get their assessments of the most popular EVs and hybrid vehicles. We also asked for their expert opinions about what to look for if you are in the market for a more sustainable vehicle.

>>see **Sales of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles on the Rise in Alhambra, P13**



2023 Kia Sportage Plug-In Hybrid. Photo credit: Kia of Alhambra



President Joe Biden, photo credit: whitehouse.gov

President Joe Biden Visits San Gabriel Valley, Offering Support and Comfort

On March 14, 2023, President Biden spoke at a town hall-style meeting to acknowledge the impact of the Lunar New Year tragedy on the region's local communities, including Alhambra, where the shooter was disarmed at the *Lai Lai Ballroom*. During his speech, President Biden expressed his respect

for the cultural heritage, spirit, and strength that define the region.

President Biden emphasized the importance of community members supporting each other during a crisis and throughout recovery.

>>see **President Biden Visits, P4**

ATA Read Across America Family Festival Postponed to Sunday, April 30, Allowing for More Book Donations

The beloved Alhambra Teachers Association Read Across America annual family festival in Alhambra Park always draws a big crowd of children eager to select free books for their home libraries. Created to inspire an early love of reading, the Read Across America event succeeds on many levels — because it is full of fun and so many volunteers from San Gabriel Valley find innovative ways to participate in motivating young readers.

Rainy weather forecasts for the original March date meant that ATA had to choose the new date of Sunday, April 30th. The silver lining in the later event date is now more donations of much needed books and funding for books can be accepted until April 26th.

Call the ATA office at 626-289-1933 to make arrangements to contribute. You will make young readers very happy on April 30th.

READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY

POSTPONED TO APRIL 30th

ATA's 4th Annual Read Across America Day

Reading Brings the World Together

SUNDAY
APRIL 30, 2023
11:00AM TO 1:00PM
ALHAMBRA PARK

Alhambra Teachers Association
 3030 West Main Street, Alhambra
 (626) 289-1933

Read Across America

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY IN ALHAMBRA ON APRIL 22ND & 23RD



(see page 11)

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



Mayor Adele Andrade-Stadler

By Mayor Adele Andrade-Stadler

It's been a very busy month attending regional meetings, Black and women's history events and visiting our schools. I would like to mention the many women who help our city run each and every day. From our front office staff who help residents make their way through a maze of permitting, to our city manager who oversees and executes the council's policies, communicates decisions, and manages staff, to our awesome police chief, and our superintendent of schools: all the incredible women of Alhambra make our city great.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our commissioners who volunteer their time helping in a variety of ways. A big shout out to our Planning Commissioners, who took on the lion's share of the zoning code and have been hard at work for months

in reviewing it. We continue to support the idea of building urban sustainable strategies by including stakeholders in our community. This is ideal for us to build together a more resilient city.

We must have a framework or foundation with a people centered approach.

- Leaders must be inclusive.
- Create a healthier environment so that all can thrive.
- And create an infrastructure that allows for growth and continues to provide critical services.

These are just a few that come to mind as we begin our goal to create our sustainable plan. More to follow in the days to come.

Please stay engaged Alhambra.

Mayor Andrade-Stadler to Deliver the State of the City Address on April 13, 2023

The City of Alhambra and the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce will host Mayor Adele Andrade-Stadler's 2023 State of the City address. The event includes a luncheon that features the Mayor's annual update to the business community, highlighting what the City has accomplished and what the vision is for the year to come. The program will open with the Mayor's remarks and conclude with the lunch reception.

This event will be held on Thursday, April 13, 2023 from 11:30 am -1:00 pm at the Granada LA.

The annual State of the City offers a special opportunity for members of the business community, nonprofit leaders, and residents to connect with the Mayor and other city leaders. In this setting, attendees have a chance to share ideas, network, and understand the many ways that they can work with others to create a more livable, vibrant, and sustainable city.

Plan to attend so you experience this once a year, special event. Individual tickets are \$50. For more information please visit: alhambrachamber.org/events

2023 STATE OF THE CITY

11:30am: State of the City
Presented by Mayor Adele Andrade-Stadler
12:00pm: Lunch Reception

THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 2023
THE GRANADA LA
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Register now: alhambrachamber.org/events

PRESENTED BY: City of Alhambra | Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

THE YMCA OF WEST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

SUMMER DAY CAMP

Ages 4 – Grade 8 • 11 Weeks
May 30th – Aug 11st, 2023
\$900 per month / Weekly rates available
We accept Options and DCFS payment

When is Camp?

***Summer 2023, May 30th - Aug 11st**
Monday - Friday, K-8th Grade
7:30 a.m – 5:30 p.m
What We Offer:
 Breakfast, Lunch, and Snack
 Air Conditioned Classrooms
 Indoor/Outdoor Activities
 Role Model Counselors
 Ratio 1:15
 Swim Lessons
 *Weekly Field Trips at extra cost

Your Peace of Mind is Our Priority

- Licensed Registered Nurse on Staff
- Following CDC Guidelines
- Same Daily Staff Assignment
- Fingerprint Live Scanned Staff
- All Staff trained and certified in CPR/First Aid, Child Abuse Prevention, and Mental Health.

Indoor/Outdoor Activities

- Coding (Bring own device)
- Recreational Swimming
- Paddle Boarding
- Reading Groups
- Cooking Classes
- Craft Projects
- Playground Activities
- Sport Activities
- Theme Weeks

NO REFUNDS

Site: YMCA 401 E. Corto St. Alhambra, CA 91801 Contact: Valarie R. Gomez
 626-576-0226 or Cell: 626-660-6681 or E-Mail: val.ymca@gmail.com • Visit Us At www.wsgvymca.org

NO REFUNDS

metro.net/onthemove

On the Move Riders Program presents 7TH ANNUAL OLDER ADULT TRANSPORTATION EXPO



Free event! Save the date.

**Thursday, May 18, 2023
9am–2pm**

Pasadena Convention Center
300 East Green St
Pasadena, CA 91101

For more information, please contact Lilly Ortiz at 213.922.2299 or email onthemove@metro.net. Sign up to receive emails for this and future *On the Move Riders Program* activities by visiting metro.net/onthemove.



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 AA@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

Executive Committee

President:

Chris Teng Balmaseda, *TAP-LA*

Immediate Past President:

Suzi Dunkel-Soto, *Century21*

Treasurer:

Kevin Houser, *The Alhambra*

At Large Member:

Robert Fukui, *i61, Inc.*

Board of Directors:

Francella Aguilar

Republic Services

Nickie Chan

LiveWave Alhambra

Jewelyn Co

CoKreerate

Maria Gao

Evike.com

Iris Lai

Alhambra Hospital Medical Center

Joe Pavon

Al's Towing

Marc Rodgers

Pacific Plaza Premier

Jeannette Soriano

Southern California Edison

Dr. Harlan Snyder

Snyder Optometry, Inc.

Joanna Vargas

Alhambra Pumpkin Run

Linda Wong

Spark After School Academy

Staff

C.E.O.:

John Bwarie

Publications Manager:

Monika Earle

Events Coordinator:

Lilly Naveira

Project Managers:

Betsy Aguilera

Kathleen Corral

Administrative Assistant:

Alexandra Principe

Marketing and Sales Coordinator:

Justin Lim

Editorial Designer:

Chara Espaldon

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.



The Chamber View

Community Makes Alhambra Sustainable



By John Bwarie
CEO, Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

Alhambra is a strong community with deep roots that go back more than 120 years. To survive (and thrive) this expanse of time, remaining on sound footing while planning for a bright future, requires a precious element. That is the secret to sustainability: involvement and engagement from a cross-section of the community. From our small businesses to our corporate partners and our non-profit leaders to our government officials – each person and part of our community has an essential role in our viability and long term sustainability.

This month, as we approach the annual State of the City, we celebrate everything our local government has done to strengthen our community.

PRESIDENT BIDEN VISITS

from page 1

He said, “This is a tight-knit community with intergenerational households and deep reverence and respect for its elders. A community that’s opened its heart and its homes to friends and neighbors and stood strong throughout the pandemic as anti-Asian hate crimes rose. A community that, in the face of horrific tragedy, has become a symbol of hope and resilience. Pushing forward

together, healing together.”

That includes the policies this council has enacted and is currently pursuing to reduce the environmental impacts we have on our world. The city is working on its first-ever sustainability plan, so we can expect more from our municipal partners on this important topic.

Our community leaders in the non-profit community continue to show up as beacons lighting our future path and helping us strengthen the fabric of the city, as well. Planning is currently underway through the Chamber’s Alhambra Cares initiative for the Alhambra Day of Service on the morning of June 3rd. Faith leaders, service clubs, and business partners have come together to identify and plan a day where we can all roll up our sleeves and work together to spruce up the community in some special ways. Our “can-do” spirit of collaboration is a

manifestation of sustainability: people working together to address concerns and create impact.

For our small businesses – the lifeblood of our community and the region – sustainability is a required daily practice. To do more with less, be as efficient as possible with time and other resources, and innovate for greater effectiveness – these are the hallmarks of small business success. Small businesses continue to move onto digital platforms for payments, accounting, and other services that streamline operations and reduce the amount of wasted time and resources that might have been used just 10 years ago.

We all are called to do more with less, collaborate, create, and live sustainably. Together, we’ll find the greatest success in creating an Alhambra that future generations will be proud to call home.



John Bwarie
CEO Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

SoCalGas Announces \$10 Million for Bill Assistance

Southern California Gas Co. (SoCalGas) announced \$10 million in shareholder funding to help customers with bill assistance and to bolster community resources for those who may be struggling financially.

The company committed \$5 million in shareholder funding to the Gas Assistance Fund, a program administered by the United Way that provides income-qualified customers with one-time grants to help pay their natural gas bills. The contribution is the largest in the fund’s 40-year history and will help the United Way expand access to the program to thousands of additional Southern Californians this winter.

SoCalGas also announced it will contribute \$4 million from its donor advised fund to relaunch its popular Fueling Our Communities program, a collaboration with local food banks and nonprofits that has provided free meals and groceries to thousands of Californians facing food insecurity since 2020.

In addition, SoCalGas will contribute \$1 million in aid from its donor advised fund to small restaurant owners through the Restaurants Care Resilience Fund, a fund that was started in 2021 to help small restaurants with improvements, upgrades, employee retention and to manage debt, losses and rising costs.

Expanded Access to Gas Assistance Fund

SoCalGas’s latest contribution to the Gas Assistance Fund will help the United Way expand income eligibility for the program and increase the grant amount available to each qualified customer from \$100 to up to \$400 for the remainder of the 2023 program. Additionally, income-eligible older adults (55+) and those facing certain financial hardships may be eligible for extra grant funding.

Fueling Our Communities - 2023

The Fueling our Communities Program began in 2020 as a collaboration between SoCalGas and five regional nonprofits to provide free meals to individuals impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. During the

Biden.

The President’s visit coincided with the announcement of an executive order that the President had signed earlier that day. The order includes provisions to increase background checks, encourage safer firearms storage, and strengthen the U.S. law enforcement component of a gun control law passed last summer with bipartisan support.

program’s first summer, SoCalGas and its partners provided more than 140,000 meals to 40,000 individuals from underserved communities across Southern California. With its latest \$4 million contribution, SoCalGas aims to significantly expand the Fueling our Communities program via new and existing partnerships with food banks and nonprofits with a focus on serving families and seniors in need.

Supporting Small Businesses

The Restaurants Care Resilience Fund was started in 2021 to help small restaurants with improvements, upgrades, employee retention and to manage debt, losses and rising costs. SoCalGas has supported the fund since its inception.

“What started as a lifeline to restaurants during the pandemic has grown into a robust fund to assist small restaurants with grants to strengthen their businesses and invest in their people,” said Alycia Harshfield, executive director of the California Restaurant Foundation. “SoCalGas’ incredible >>see SoCalGas, page 8

Tax Tips

Unclaimed Refunds

By Michael Aston EA
Alhambra Tax Center

Roughly one million people who are owed around \$1.3 billion dollars in refunds for taxable year 2019. If you haven't filed your 2019 income tax return, your statute expires on April 18, 2023. That means, you lose the refund.

According to the IRS bulletin, here are some facts about unclaimed refunds:

- The unclaimed refunds apply to people who did not file a federal income tax return for 2019.
- Some people, such as students and part-time workers, may not have filed because they had too little income to require them to file a tax return. They may have a refund waiting if they have taxes withheld or if they qualify for certain tax credits.
- The law generally provides a three-year window to claim a tax refund. For 2019 returns, the window closes on April 18, 2023.
- The IRS must have your tax return by April 18, 2023, proof of delivery is suggested.
- After three years unclaimed refunds become property of the U.S. Treasury. There is no penalty for filing a late return if the taxpayer is due a refund.
- The IRS may hold 2019 refunds if taxpayers have not filed tax returns for 2020 and 2021. The U.S. Treasury will apply the refund to any federal or state tax owed. Refunds may also be held to offset unpaid child support or past due federal debts such as student loans.
- Taxpayers who are missing forms W-2, 1098, 1099 or 5498 for prior years should ask for copies from employers, banks or other payers. Taxpayers who can't get these copies can request a wage and income transcript either at www.irs.gov or by mail. Taxpayers can also file a Form 4506-T to get a transcript.
- The three-year window usually applies to a refund from an amended return. In general, you must file



Michael Aston, E.A.
Alhambra Tax Center
(626) 282-1084

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. To view previous topics, read his blogs at www.alhambrataxcenter.com.

a form 1040X Amended U.S. Individual Income Tax Return, within three years from the due date you filed the original return. That means the deadline for most people to amend their 2019 tax return and claim a refund will expire April 18, 2023.

The State of California has a four (4) year statute (and the IRS has a three-year statute). The deadline to file for a refund for your 2018 California return is April 18, 2023. Just like the IRS – use it or lose it.

For more information you can go to www.irs.gov for the federal return, www.ftb.ca.gov for the California return or speak to your tax professional.

This column is provided to Around Alhambra by Michael Aston, E.A., who is solely responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse the advice from this author or any other provider.

Reinstatement of Bulky Item Sweep Services

On March 13, 2023 the Alhambra City Council voted unanimously to reinstate weekly bulky item sweep services with Republic Services, in an effort to help keep Alhambra clean of bulky items and illegal dumping.

Despite outreach efforts on the new bulky item collection policy and requirements for scheduled pick-ups, illegal dumping continues to be a frequent complaint throughout the City. Illegal dumping deteriorates the overall quality and appearance of the City's neighborhoods and endangers the health and wellbeing of residents and pedestrians.

The reinstatement of the program eliminates the need for residents to pre-schedule bulky item pick-ups and includes

commercial bulky item pick-ups on regular collection days. Residential, multi-family, and commercial service rates will increase depending on container size and number of collections per week by an estimated \$1.67 - \$21.37 per month, effective April 1, 2023.

Residents and businesses can place bulky items on the curb beside solid waste containers on regular collection days and Republic will handle the rest. All reports of illegal dumping should continue to be reported to Republic Services at alhambra@republicservices.com or 1-800-299-4898.

For more information, visit the City's dedicated webpage on bulky item collection at <https://www.cityofalhambra.org/302/Bulky-Item-Pick-Up>.



See why millions trust us for Home & Auto.

Talbot Insurance Agcy Inc
Regina Talbot, Agent
Insurance Lic#: 0G05807
Bus: 626-357-3401
regina@reginataltbot.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 Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
State Farm Indemnity Company
State Farm Fire and Casualty Company
State Farm General Insurance Company
Bloomington, IL

1601529

Your Insurance

Do Electric Vehicles Cost More to Insure?

By Regina Talbot

If you're interested in purchasing an electric car, there are three key reasons why it may be more expensive to insure an electric car:

Higher purchase price

Since electric vehicles typically cost more to buy, they cost more to insure.

More expensive to repair

If the battery is damaged, the battery replacement could cost \$5,000 to \$15,000, which doesn't include the cost of labor.

Higher EV accident payout

Insurers typically have a higher payout with EV accidents. Even a small accident could be costly if the battery is involved. Additionally, since the technology is newer, there are fewer technicians trained to fix them.

Will an EV charging station affect my homeowners policy?

No, since these stations typically run on 110 or 220 volts, which is standard for most residences. However, installation may require an electrician if you need an additional breaker.

What if I run out of battery power on the road, similar to running out of gas?

Maybe you left in a hurry, or didn't find a charging station along your route, but your electric car needs a charge. If your State Farm® auto policy includes emergency road service, your insurance could pay the fair cost for help, such as towing to the nearest place where your vehicle can be charged. It's also possible the roadside service provider has a portable electric car charger to get you running again.

Are coverages different for an elec-



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

tric car or truck?

Essentially, insurance coverage is available in all states and is similar for both electric cars and those with gas or diesel engines.

Is my charging equipment covered by my auto policy?

You may not need to pay for additional coverage. Your auto policy's comprehensive and collision coverages may include equipment that is common to the use of the vehicle, such as charging equipment. Check with your agent to be sure. For more information, contact State Farm Agent Regina Talbot at (626) 357-3401.

This column is provided to Around Alhambra by Regina Talbot who is solely responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse the advice from this author or any other provider.

Meet Dr. Monica Madan of Beverly Hills Orthodontics

Dr. Monica Madan, DDS, has been in practice since 2008 and returned to open an office in the San Gabriel Valley in 2019. Her methodology involves using the best technology to serve her patients and offering personalized service rather than a one-size-fits-all approach.

Dr. Madan established her practice in Alhambra in 2019 shortly after the previous orthodontist, Dr. Hentoz passed away. Dr. Madan changed the name from Beautiful New Smiles this past year to align with the name of her four other offices throughout Southern California.

Dr. Madan was passionate about opening a branch of Beverly Hills Orthodontics in Alhambra since she is a native of the San Gabriel Valley. Her team is also from the San Gabriel Valley. It is important to her that all of her patients at her Alhambra location get that hometown feel!

Part of her San Gabriel Valley roots included serving on the Rose Court in high school!

Dr. Madan is well versed in braces but



Dr. Monica Madan, DDS, MS

her specialty is Invisalign. In fact, she is an invisalign VIP Diamond Plus Provider!

You can schedule a free consultation with Dr. Madan and get \$500 off Braces or Invisalign! They can be reached at 626-458-8898 or www.beverlyhillsoortho.com.

All Around the Town

It Takes a Village: The Alhambra Latino Association

By Glenn Barnett

I like to highlight the efforts of people helping people, especially those helping young people. This column is dedicated to one such organization that exists to help our elementary and high school students get a leg up on college and careers.

In the early 90s, administrators and teachers of the Alhambra Union School District recognized the need to support the ambitions of Latino students. About 30 of them, including long time School Board member Dora Padilla, formally established the Alhambra Latino Association (ALA) to do just that. ALA members decided that they could best help deserving students with college scholarship grants. They developed an application process and established fundraising activities. In December of 1995 they held their inaugural event, "Festival Cultural Latino" which celebrated Latino culture. It is still celebrated today.

The money raised allowed them to award their first grants of \$300 each for four students, one from each high school, Mark Keppel, Alhambra, San Gabriel and Century (now Independence) in 1997. Soon two more scholarships were announced. The children of Dora Padilla, Steve and Lisa, honor their mother with an annual Arts Scholarship. Another addition is the Brian N. Tatsuno Memorial Career Tech Scholarship.

In 2012, a new fundraising event was added with the theme of "Dia De Los Muertos Celebration." This fun evening brought to light the importance of hon-



Glenn Barnett

oring deceased loved ones. The Alhambra High School Folklorico Dancers, musical performances, food vendors and a popular art contest were included. Enough money was raised to increase scholarship amounts to \$1,000 in 2013. It is still a popular occasion today.

The ALA soon started another program, this one for elementary school students. Each year five students are selected from each of our 13 schools, based on their applications, to receive a \$50 gift card (currently from Target) in order to buy supplies for school.

ALA President Teresa Camacho says that this year the total amount they have shared with our local young people will surpass \$100,000. After 27 years of these scholarship awards, students who have received them have graduated from college and moved into fulfilling careers.

Consider making a donation to the ALA by reaching out to their web site at alhambralatinoassociation.com

ALHAMBRA DAY OF SERVICE
SAT, JUNE 3, 2023
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM
SAVE THE DATE!

For more information, visit alhambracares.org

April 2023

AMP Breakfast

Join us for a networking breakfast with business leaders from Alhambra, Monterey Park, and throughout the SGV.

April 19, 2023
8:30 AM to 9:30 AM

Member: \$25
Non-Member: \$30
Group of 8: \$240

For more information, visit alhambrachamber.org/events



The Alhambra Latino Association Board of Directors
 From left to right: Merisa Camacho, Gina Grageda, Irene Recendez, Martin Ulloa, Gina Chavez, Beda Ramirez, Adele Andrade-Stadler, Karla Grijalva and Teresa Ybarra.

Alhambra Foundation Scholarship Program

Graduating high school seniors from Alhambra high schools may qualify to receive up to \$1,000 in scholarship funds.

To find out if you are eligible, visit alhambrachamber.org/Scholarships

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS!
bit.ly/AlhambraScholarships



ELITE COLLEGE CONSULTING

FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 8-11



Multi-Year Admission Counseling for Students in Grades 8-11

Work with the admissions experts to create a **master plan** and get **personalized guidance** through your **entire college admissions journey**.

Students Will Work with Their Elite Counselor on Every Aspect of College Readiness

- 
4-Year Course Plan
 Find out exactly which classes to take (both in and outside of school) to maximally impress colleges, while optimizing GPA and course rigor.
- 
Standardized Test Plan
 Create a customized plan to target 99th percentile SAT, ACT, and/or PSAT scores. Also, discover when and how to study for AP/IB exams.
- 
Extracurricular Plan
 Learn what colleges actually look for and how you can leverage your interests and talents to take your extracurriculars to the next level.
- 
Summer and Winter Break Plan
 Discover the best summer programs based on your intended major and interests. Get help applying with 1:1 essay editing and application review.
- 
Awards & Honors Plan
 Enter exclusive competitions—both academic and non-academic—with Elite's guidance. Gain access to Elite's list of high-value competitions.
- 
College List Plan
 Build a thoughtful, well-balanced college list that takes into account your individual background, goals, interests, and values.
- 
Letters of Recommendation Plan
 Secure outstanding recommendation letters from your teachers and counselor by learning what colleges truly value in prospective students.
- 
Personal Development Plan
 Take in-depth personality and aptitude tests and gain a better understanding of yourself by reviewing your results with your Elite counselor.

All Consulting Packages Include Elite College Application Services

When it's time to bring all your hard work together, our expert counselors and editors will work with you to perfect your essays and craft a winning application package that shines a light on who you are and what you've achieved.

Packages include support for UC applications, the Common App, Coalition Application, and private school applications.

- ✓ **UC Personal Insight Questions Editing**
- ✓ **Personal Statement Editing**
- ✓ **Supplemental Essays Editing**
- ✓ **Extracurricular Activities Strategy**
- ✓ **Best-Fit College List Building and Selection**
- ✓ **College Major Advice**
- ✓ **College Interview Coaching**
- ✓ **One-on-One Essay Editing**
- ✓ **Counselor Strategy Sessions**
- ✓ **Letters of Recommendation Advising**
- ✓ **Early Admission Applications (EA/ED/REA/SCEA)**

Contact us to schedule a complimentary college readiness consultation today!



Elite Prep Arcadia • 1135 W Huntington Dr #220, Arcadia, CA 91007
 (626) 287-1245 • eliteprep.com/arcadia

SoCalGas Announces \$10 Million

from page 4

generosity, commitment, and leadership has a lasting positive ripple effect, and we are proud to partner with them again to make such a meaningful impact.”

Market Conditions Improve

After a significant drop in February from January’s unprecedented natural gas commodity prices, market prices for March 2023 usage are currently forecasted to be significantly lower than February’s prices. In addition, the restoration of service to an out-of-state pipeline, which has been offline for two years, is expected to increase supply capacity to the Southwest. Consistent with regulatory requirements, SoCalGas will file March core procurement prices (rates) with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) at the end of February.

The core procurement rate reflects the price SoCalGas pays for natural gas for residential and business customers. That rate changes each month. SoCalGas does not set the price for natural gas. Instead, natural gas prices are determined by national and regional markets. SoCalGas buys natural gas in those markets on behalf of residential and small business customers, and the cost of buying that gas is billed to those customers with no markup.

What Caused Prices to Spike in January?

According to the US Energy Information Administration (EIA), a number of factors have contributed to higher natural gas commodity prices:

- Widespread, below-normal temperatures on much of the West Coast, including Washington and Oregon;
- High natural gas demand for heating by customers in areas with below normal temperatures; Reduced natural gas supplies to the West Coast from Canada and the Rocky Mountains;

- Reduced interstate pipeline capacity to the West Coast because of pipeline maintenance activities in West Texas (the out of state pipeline mentioned earlier in this news release); and
- Low natural gas storage levels on the West Coast.

According to the EIA, the U.S. set a natural gas consumption daily record on Dec. 23, 2022, further exacerbating supply and demand challenges.

Is Additional Help Available?

In light of unprecedented market conditions, the California Public Utilities Commission voted earlier this month to accelerate the California Climate Credit. As a result, SoCalGas customers will receive a credit of \$50.77 in their February or March bill, depending on their billing cycle.

In addition, SoCalGas continues to encourage customers to take advantage of programs and services that can help manage usage and save costs.

Eligible customers may sign up for a Level Pay Plan (LPP), for example, which averages their annual natural gas use and costs over 12 months. There are also financial assistance programs for eligible customers who are experiencing hardships.

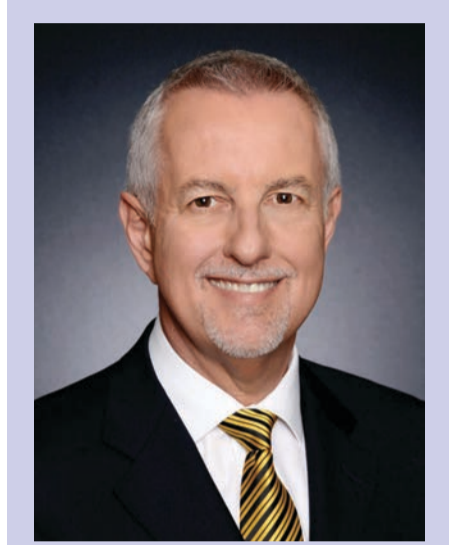
SoCalGas’ free Ways to Save tool may also help customers with energy savings options through a personalized savings plan that offers a household energy analysis, customized energy-efficiency recommendations, bill comparisons, and energy usage comparisons that could help save on natural gas bills. Customers can also sign up for weekly Bill Tracker Alerts to monitor natural gas consumption, take steps to reduce usage, and avoid bill surprises.

Customers can visit socalgas.com/ManageHigherBills for more information on the factors that lead to higher bills and resources to help them.



Taking Steps Toward a Sustainable Water Future *Let's Stay the Course!*

By Mark Paulson, Board of Directors,
Division I – Alhambra
San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District



Mark Paulson
Board of Directors,
Division I – Alhambra
San Gabriel Valley
Municipal Water District

What we had hoped for is becoming reality – our “short-term” water supplies have increased significantly in early 2023. The improvements are obvious in our reservoirs and snowpack. Groundwater, which provides 80% of the water we use, will take more time to show improvement as stormwater runoff may take months to percolate down to groundwater levels.

As a state water contractor, we are pleased to share that the California Department of Water Resources recently increased the amount of water it will deliver to the San Gabriel Valley, via the State Water Project, from 5% to 35% of plan, which amounts to 10,080 acre-feet of water. The “imported” water is used to supplement and replenish local groundwater supplies.

Long-term, we have more work to do, but we are on a steady course toward more sustainable, reliable water supplies. Since 2020, the District has committed \$2.68 million to help plan the Delta Conveyance Project, which would increase sustainability of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the hub of the State Water Project. We have provided more than \$8 million in loans and grants to our member cities for water infrastructure and conservation projects. In addition, the District supports the Metropolitan Water District’s Pure Water Southern California project which has the potential to add 150 million gallons per day of purified wastewater to our local water supply.

Several of these promising, long-term solutions are nearly a decade from reality. So, we need to stay the course. We need

to get a few more years of plentiful rain and snow to move beyond our multi-year drought, manage that water wisely, and increase our commitment to water conservation. Every gallon of water we save is a gallon we don’t need to import, pump, treat, recycle, desalinate, or pay for! Visit the District’s website for information on rebates, conservation tips, grants for schools and non-profit organizations, and water-wise landscaping tips customized to the city of Alhambra (https://sgvmd.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/05CalScape_Alhambra_web.pdf).

Consider scheduling an educational presentation by contacting Evelyn Reyes, External Affairs Manager at (626) 969-7911 or email: info@sgvmd.com.

Spring Into More Sustainable Cleaning Habits



We heard you—bulky items and illegal dumping are a problem



This spring, leave behind nasty cleaning chemicals and harmful household products along with winter’s cool and rainy weather. Follow these tips to make this year’s spring cleaning more environmentally friendly:

Use all-natural cleaners whenever possible. Most of your home can be cleaned with water, soap, vinegar and baking soda. Search online for recipes to create homemade cleaning supplies. When buying cleaners, look for the U.S. EPA’s Safer Choice label.

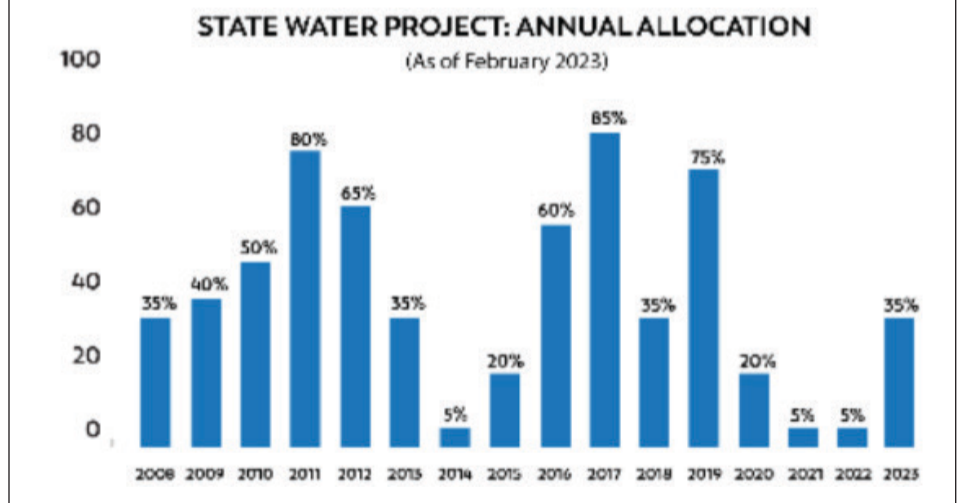
Use old rags and cloths for cleaning whenever possible instead of paper towels. Toss them into your next load of laundry or simply rinse them out by hand.

Take this time to rid your home of things you no longer need. Donate clothes, books and gently used household items. Recycle old magazines and papers.

Wash reusable shopping bags. Most bags can be washed on the gentle cycle or by hand with warm soapy water and then air dried.

Clean out your indoor and outdoor recycling, organics and trash pails, cans and carts. Spray water into empty containers, soak, dump the dirty water onto a landscaped area, rinse, empty again and then air dry.

Republic Services collects recycling, organics (food and yard waste), and house-



hold trash weekly from all residents in Alhambra. Be sure to put the proper items into each cart. Not sure what goes where? Learn more at RepublicServices.com/municipality/alhambra-ca or CityofAlhambra.org/279/Solid-Waste-Recycling.

Beginning April 1, 2023, residents and businesses will also be allowed to discard bulky items on regular collection days with no prior scheduling required. Simply place large items on the curb beside your solid waste carts on your regular collection day and Republic will handle the rest!

Do not place items on the curb before noon on the day preceding your regularly scheduled collection day, or you may

receive a notice from the City’s Code Enforcement Division to remove the items immediately. Bulky items must also be placed curbside and not obstruct public right-of-way. Do not place items on the street or block sidewalks or driveways.

Learn more about the reinstatement of the sweep service for bulk items at Bit.ly/3mQvtZH.

Republic Services also offers temporary rental dumpsters in various sizes for larger cleanouts or remodeling jobs.

With everything clean and in its place, you’ll be ready to enjoy spring and summer activities!



Ramona Convent Secondary School Will Offer Additional College Courses in the Fall

Ramona has partnered with East Los Angeles City College (ELAC) this school year and piloted a new program, allowing a small group of 11th and 12th graders to enroll in ELAC courses virtually while in high school. This program was a huge success and they'll expand the program for the 2023-2024 school year. Some of the courses offered to students this year through this program were Business Law, Chicano Studies, Communications, Sociology, Anthropology, Art, and Psychology. Students can choose one course each semester. These courses are taught by ELAC professors, and are virtual, and asynchronous (students can log in from home or school, at any time, to complete assignments at their own pace). Students can access their professor via email and attend virtual office hours for extra help or course content clarification. All assignments, papers, projects, and exams are assigned and graded by an ELAC professor.

This option will be open to all 11th and 12th graders next year that have earned

a cumulative GPA of 3.3 or greater, and it will be one of their seven classes of the block schedule. Since students work independently with the ELAC professor, it is important that students in this program demonstrate increased student independence, are ready to take on a high degree of responsibility. Students must also be prepared to meet all standards, requirements, and timelines placed on them by ELAC in order to complete and pass college courses. If you have any questions about this program, contact Mrs. Halina Szymanski, Associate Principal, at (626) 282-4151 or hszymanski@ramonaconvent.org.

Ramona Convent is a welcoming Catholic college-prep high school for young women committed to excellence in education. Ramona's graduates are empowered, resilient, socially conscious leaders well prepared to meet the challenges of life as contributing members of the global community, with the strength of a legacy of more than 130 years of distinction.

What's That Smell? Alhambra Historical Society to Flush Out the History of Alhambra's Sewer Farm on April 27

Join the Alhambra Historical Society at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 27, 2023 at the Alhambra Masonic Center for a presentation entitled "What's That Smell? Flushing Out the History of Alhambra's Sewer Farm" presented by Heather Goers, Senior Architectural Historian at Historic Resources Group. Reserve your spot at <https://whatsthatsmellalhambra.eventbrite.com>.

Established in 1887, Alhambra's Sewer Farm utilized "broad irrigation" to treat sewage from Pasadena. It was more than 500 acres in size and known for its more than 100 acres of walnut and citrus trees. "Many don't realize that present-day Almansor Park was the original location of the Alhambra Sewer Farm," stated Chris Olson, Alhambra Historical Society President. "We'll explore why this location was selected, how waste was processed and used and what happened

when Alhambrians decided they just couldn't take it any longer. Join us as we explore the lesser-known side of Alhambra's history," continued Olson.

The presentation will take place at the Alhambra Masonic Center, 9 West Woodward Avenue, in Alhambra. The event is free to the general public and light refreshments will be served. Parking is available onsite and on adjacent streets.

The Alhambra Historical Society is a non-profit organization established in 1966. It is dedicated to programming and activities that educate residents about Alhambra's robust and dynamic history. The Alhambra Historical Society Museum is located at 1550 West Alhambra Road and is open between 1:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. on the first and third Saturdays of each month. For more information, please visit alhambrahistoricalsociety.org or email alhambrahistsoc@att.net.



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

The adoption fee for cats is \$99, which includes spay/neuter, vaccinations, de-worming, FIV/FELV/heartworm testing, and microchip. A \$130 - \$145 dog adoption fee includes microchip, vaccinations, spay/neuter surgery, and de-worming, as well as a free health check-up at a participating vet (some breeds slightly higher).

Save money with the Buddy Program. Adopt two pets at the same time for a reduced fee. The Senior for Senior Program offers pets for \$39 each.

The San Gabriel Valley Humane Society is the local, affordable choice for spay and neuter, vaccinations, and TNR (trap, neuter, and release) for feral cats. Check out the website for information on the adoptable pets and adoption programs: www.sgvhumane.org.



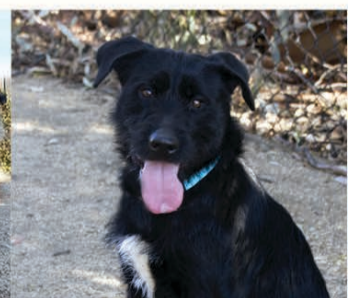
Coco
Boxer Mix • Adult
Male • Large

Coco is a 2-year-old brown and white Boxer mix. His interests include hanging out with human friends, going on walks, runs, or hikes. Coco would like to have a home with a yard so he could run and play with his family.



Lucky
Alaskan Malamute Mix
Adult • Male • Extra Large

Lucky is a handsome black and white Alaskan Malamute mix waiting for his forever home. He enjoys going on walks, eating yummy food, and playing with toys. He loves his food and toys so much, and not into sharing with others. He is about 7 years old. The ideal home for Lucky would be one with no small children and with a patient family who will be willing to work with him.



Nix
Terrier Mix • Adult
Female • Medium

Nix is a 5 year old black and white Terrier mix. She has learned basic commands like sit, paw, and down' but would love to expand her knowledge with a forever family. One of Nix favorite things to do is that's running and playing with humans. She would however do best in a home as an only pet.

To schedule a "Meet and Greet" appointment call the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society at 626-286-1159. Or inquire online through our website at <https://www.sgvhumane.org/adopt>



洛杉磯國語浸信會
Mandarin Baptist Church
of Los Angeles

Good Friday
受難節 LORD'S SUPPER SERVICE
主餐崇拜

2023年4月7日晚上 7:30
April 7, 2023 | 7:30 PM

正堂禮堂
Main Campus Sanctuary

60th Anniversary
Celebration Service
60週年紀念崇拜

2023年4月9日下午 4:00 時正
April 9, 2023 | 4:00PM

正堂禮堂
Main Campus Sanctuary

會後有餐會 Dinner to follow

For Tickets Contact Minister Justin Chang (Justinchang@mbcla.org)

Easter SUNDAY SERVICE
復活節 主日崇拜

2023年4月9日 | April 9, 2023

嘉惠堂禮堂
GWC Sanctuary
上午 9:00AM
英語崇拜 English Worship

上午 11:00AM
粵語崇拜 Cantonese Worship

正堂禮堂
Main Campus Sanctuary
上午 9:00/11:00AM
國語崇拜 Mandarin Worship



Address
Main Campus
110 W. Woodward Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801
GWC
210 N. Garfield Ave.
Alhambra, CA 91801

Get Answers to Questions about Construction Costs

Submitted by N. Joe Miller, CPE

Because of the out-of-control housing market, many homeowners are going the renovation route. Some small business owners who put their construction and renovation plans on hold due to the pandemic, are now ready to expand their businesses. For those thinking of renovating in 2023, they may ask themselves: how does one go about developing a budget and finding a contractor that will deliver that work on time and on budget, while working safely, ethically, and profitably for the betterment of their communities?

Some construction issues can be avoided by consulting a Professional Construction Cost Estimator, who is certified by the American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE. Visit: www.aspenational.org

While architects may do a great job of designing projects that meet current codes and a client's functional needs, cost and delivery issues may receive the same attention. Typically a client is unfamiliar with the jargon, or doesn't know the right questions to ask during the design phase of their project.

The job of a professional estimator is to build the project on paper before it's built. Every cost element should be addressed to identify and mitigate project risk in the estimate. An estimator

can help with identifying constructability issues so they can be resolved with the design team. A project schedule can then be prepared before the owner awards the construction contract. Allowances and contingency are part of project planning. Finally, negotiations with the contractor confirm that everyone understands the scope of work.

Keep in mind that estimate is more of an "art" than a "science." When hiring an estimator, make sure they provide more than a quantity survey (material takeoff), and include labor hours and equipment analysis. Project cost overruns are almost always driven by labor productivity issues.

As you seek to accurately understand construction costs, consider contacting a certified construction cost estimator.

N. Joe Miller, CPE, is an Alhambra-based construction cost estimator doing business as Cornucopia Associates, a Construction and Development consulting firm, and is a member of ASPE, CMAA, CSI, and AACE. He can be contacted at njoemillercpe@gmail.com.

This column is provided to Around Alhambra by N. Joe Miller, CPE who is solely responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse the advice from this author or any other provider.





WE BRING CUSTOM FLOORS
DIRECTLY
TO OUR CUSTOMERS

GRAND OPENING DISCOUNT

\$350 OFF

*FOR PROJECTS OVER \$3,500

PROUDLY SERVING SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

We bring the samples to you! Book an appointment online at nelax.floorcoveringsinternational.com or give us a call!

(626) 387-3337





Philly Jay's opened its first brick and mortar location in Alhambra this year, and the city came out in March to celebrate their grand opening.



Alhambra Celebrates Earth Day

First celebrated in 1970, Earth Day began as the brainchild of San Francisco activist John McConnell and Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson.

Alhambra is preparing to celebrate this Earth Day on April 22, with two special events hosted by the City of Alhambra. All residents are welcome to participate as the City invites everyone to mark the occasion in an environmentally-friendly way.


Eco Fair

The City of Alhambra presents the 2023 Eco Fair! This event will feature games, free giveaways and raffles, eco-friendly vendors, live demonstrations, and more. The Eco Fair will take place on Sunday, April 23rd from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm and will be located by the Farmers Market at 100 S. Second St. For more information please visit <https://bit.ly/3ENheec>.

Alhambra Recycle Event

The City of Alhambra and Republic Services will host their next biannual Alhambra Recycles Event on Earth Day, April 22nd, 2023. From 8:00 am to 12:00 pm, residents are encouraged to come to Granada Park at 2000 W. Hellman Ave. Bring documents to be shredded, electronic waste, plastic bottles and aluminum cans to be recycled, and containers to collect free compost. Please note that no household hazardous waste, no batteries, and no lightbulbs will be accepted. For more information, visit <http://bit.ly/3LJVILw>.

Unable to attend? Some uplifting ways to celebrate Earth Day on your own include: cleaning up trash and plastic in your neighborhood, planting trees, and taking public transportation. How are you planning to spend Earth Day?




ALHAMBRA CONNECTS

The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce's premier networking event

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

5:30 PM - 7:00 PM



Bagel Exchange

137 W Main St, Alhambra

Members: FREE with RSVP

Non-Members: \$20

Though this event is complimentary for Alhambra Chamber Members, advanced registration is required.

For more information,
visit alhambrachamber.org/events



No cost to low cost tuition



Online and in person



150+ certificates and degrees



Transfer/graduate

EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE



Full-time students: 2 years free!



register.elac.edu



[@elachuskiies](https://www.instagram.com/elachuskiies)



**We're Your Neighbor.
How Can We Help?**



CALL US AT
(323)-721-1243

INDEPENDENTLY OWNED AND OPERATED FRANCHISE

celebrating **45** of service
YEARS

HENRY'S
Towing & Recovery, Inc.



"Family Owned and Operated Since 1978"

626-281-3577

www.Henrystow.com

1100 Westminster Ave, Alhambra, CA 91803

Local Sports News from AUSD High Schools

*Submitted by Mike Koski, President
Alhambra High School Sports Hall of Fame Committee*

2022 Moors Varsity Football

The Alhambra Varsity Football team held their Awards Banquet recently with Senior Wide Receiver Josh Soto being named the Moors Most Valuable Player, All CIF, and All Almont League First Team. Soto and the Moors Lineman of the Year, Matthew Salinas, were both selected by the Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley Chapter of the National Football Foundation to receive a Scholar-Athlete Award at a formal banquet which was held on March 8th at Almansor Court.

A total of 16 Moors were selected All Almont League including First Team selections Josh Soto, Matthew Salinas, Cyrus Wu, Julio Munoz, and Edson Mina. Bryan Leonard, Kevin Soto, Anthony Rosales, Erick Baray, Emilio Reynoso, and Steven Gomez were named to the Second Team, while They? Ragland, Jamichael Jackson, Joseph Valdovinos, Michael Ramos, and Joseph Tiscareno received Honorable Mention.

Erick Baray was named as the Moors Offensive MVP, while Julio Munoz was named as the Defensive MVP. Joseph Valdovinos and Jamichael Jackson were named Co-Most Improved Players. Cyrus Wu received the Coaches Award while Michael Ramos received the Blue & Gold Award. The Team Captain Awards went to Kevin Soto and Steven Gomez.

National Football Foundation Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley Chapter

Four football players from the AUSD High Schools were honored recently at the National Football Foundation Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley Chapter's Awards Banquet held at Almansor Court on March 8th.

Alhambra Wide Receiver Josh Soto and Lineman Matthew Salinas along with San Gabriel Wide Receivers Ivan Can and Tijani Daley all dressed up in tuxedos provided by Friar Tux to receive their awards. In order to qualify for an award, student-athletes must have a minimum 3.0 grade point average, play on a Varsity team in their senior year of high school, exhibit outstanding football achievement, and demonstrate leadership both on and off campus.

All-Star Basketball Games

Three seniors from Mark Keppel were selected to participate in the San Gabriel Valley Tribune/Star-News All Star Basketball Classic. Darrin Chung who led Keppel's Varsity Boys team to the second round of the CIF-SS Playoffs, was selected for the Boys Game, while Jayde De Leon and Jordyn Lee were selected for the Girls Game. De Leon and Lee helped lead the Keppel Varsity Girls Team to the CIF-SS Semi Final and into the second round of the CIF State Tournament. The All-Star Games were scheduled to be played at Damien High School on March 25th.

2022-23 Varsity Baseball

The rain has put a damper on the High School Baseball season. Ten games have been canceled so far for all three AUSD schools. The Alhambra Varsity Baseball team is off to a good start with a record of 7-1, while both Keppel and San Gabriel have struggled so far and remain winless.

2022-23 Varsity Softball

The rain has also affected the Girls Softball programs at all three schools. The Keppel Varsity Softball team was 6-3, while Alhambra was 3-4, and San Gabriel was 2-3 during the first month of the season.



Moors Varsity Football MVP Josh Soto



Moors Varsity Baseball Players of the Game Jayden Sandoval, Damian Chacon, Chris Jimenez, and Jaime Macias

Sales of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles on the Rise in Alhambra

from page 1



Kia of Alhambra
Charles Ma,
General Manager
Q1: What is your best selling EV or Hybrid?

CM: The Kia Sportage Hybrid is the best-selling hybrid vehicle at Kia of Alhambra.

Q2: What are the key differences between an EV and a hybrid in terms of sustainability?

CM: The hybrid gets good MPG but still requires fossil fuel. The infrastructure is mature for a hybrid with plenty of gas stations currently. EVs have their challenges in charging station infrastructure as well as a stable and clean power for it to be sustainable. Hybrid is the transition to EV.

Q3: Is there a tax credit available to consumers with the purchase of one of these vehicles?

CM: The Inflation Reduction Act disqualified Kia EV's from the \$7,500 Federal Tax Credit. Kia America is currently working on building EV and battery plants in Savannah, Georgia to qualify for the \$7,500 Federal tax incentive. There are other available tax rebates for qualifying customers that can be found on Plugstar.com. <https://plugstar.com/tools/incentives>

Q4: What are the trends in EV and hybrid sales over the past few years?

CM: Hybrid and EV sales are on the rise at Kia of Alhambra, our entire staff are factory trained, and both hybrid and

EV inventory are plentiful here at Kia of Alhambra. Please see the link below for the Hybrid vs EV sales from the Bureau of Transportation. www.bts.gov/content/gasoline-hybrid-and-electric-vehicle-sales



New Century BMW
Justin Wong,
Business Development Manager
Q1: What is your best selling EV or Hybrid?

JW: EV – i4, Hybrid – X5e

Q2: What are the key differences between an EV and a hybrid in terms of sustainability?

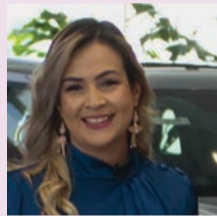
JW: BMW is pushing to be carbon neutral with production of EVs and not use rare earth minerals.

Q3: Is there a tax credit available to consumers with the purchase of one of these vehicles?

JW: Federal tax credit is available for 330e and X5e, BMW lease credit of \$7500 is available for i4, 35i, and IX 50i.

Q4: What are the trends in EV and hybrid sales over the past few years?

JW: Upgraded battery technology equals more range for EV/PHEV.



Wondries Toyota
Abby Valdez,
General Manager
Q1: What is your best selling EV or Hybrid?

AV: The Corolla Hybrid and Sienna Hybrid. The Corolla Hybrid is the most popular option for

commuters and the Sienna Hybrid is most often preferred by families looking to have the space while saving on gas.

Q2: What are the key differences between an EV and a hybrid in terms of sustainability?

AV: Electric vehicles (EVs) and hybrids are both considered more sustainable options compared to traditional internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles, but there are some key differences between them.

EV's are fully electric powered by electricity. EVs emit zero tailpipe emissions, meaning they produce no air pollution from driving. However, the environmental impact of EVs is largely determined by how the electricity used to charge them is generated. If the electricity comes from renewable sources such as solar, wind or hydro power, EVs are considered more sustainable. But it comes from fossil-fuel powered grids, the environmental benefit of EVs is reduced.

Hybrids combine a traditional gasoline engine with an electric motor and battery. They are able to switch between the two power sources, using the electric motor at low speeds and the gasoline engine at higher speeds. They do emit less greenhouse gasses than traditional ICE vehicles, but they still emit some pollution from the gasoline engine. Hybrids have a sustainable advantage over EVs if they are equipped with regenerative braking, as all the Toyota Hybrid technology does, which captures energy that is normally lost during braking and uses it to recharge the battery.

Q3: Is there a tax credit available to consumers with the purchase of one of these vehicles?

AV: At the moment Toyota has entered into a written agreement to become a "qualified manufacturer" but has not yet submitted a list of specific makes and models that are eligible. The Battery electric BZX4 and the Plug-in Electric Rav4 Prime are part of the Clean Vehicle Rebate program in California.

Q4: What are the trends in EV and hybrid sales over the past few years?

AV: With gas price increases that we have all experienced in the last few months, consumers have definitely steered towards the Hybrids and EVs. EVs have been getting a lot of publicity and we all have been hearing the big push about going all EV by a certain dateline but consumers are still not feeling too comfortable to make that transition so they are looking more into Hybrid models over the gas ones.

Is Earth Day igniting your interest in EVs or hybrid vehicles?

Two important things to consider when you are thinking about a purchase or lease of an EV or Hybrid, First, think about your commute or use of the vehicle so you have a good idea of the range you need. Second, consider where you might charge up. Currently 2,264 DC fast chargers are located throughout Los Angeles County and Orange County, with 28,485 level 2 chargers available within the two counties. You can look up the locations of charging stations by visiting plugshare.com.

Remember, if you are in the market for a zero emission vehicle, you have many options right here in Alhambra.

Celebrity-Approved!

Morpheus8

Lindsay Lohan: I just started Morpheus8, which I'm obsessed with!

Effective Non-invasive Subdermal Remodeling!
Call to Make an Appointment

Botox

only \$8 per unit

TickleLipo

Effective Fat Removal & Body Sculpting

\$1500 per area

(626)448-7587 *call now!*
(626)448-7588

Tattoo Removal

Picoway by Candela

XEOMIN®	\$8 PER UNIT
DYSPORT	\$8 PER 3 UNITS
JUVÉDERM®	\$450 PER UNIT
RADIESSE®	\$450 PER SYRINGE
BELOTERO®	\$380 PER SYRINGE
RESTLYNE®	\$420 PER SYRINGE
KYBELLA	\$500 PER VIAL
HAND IPL	\$150 PER TREATMENT
ULTHERAPY	\$2,500
COOLSCULPTING	\$600
TATTOO REMOVAL	\$100 & UP
SPIDER VEIN REMOVAL	\$200 & UP

626-448-7587

APRIL PROMOTIONS

PlushDermalaser.com

PLUSH DERMA LASER CLINIC & SURGICAL CENTER | DR REZA GHAZI MD



ELEVATE YOUR VACATION RENTAL EXPERIENCE WITH OAKGATE!

Say goodbye to property management headaches and hello to an average of 30-80% net income boost!

FULL-SERVICE VACATION RENTAL MANAGEMENT

- 🏠 design and furnishing
- 📞 24/7 customer service
- 📹 camera monitoring
- 👍 premium cleaning
- 🧺 linen lease & wash
- 🛒 hospitality supplies
- ★ maintenance and repairs
- 📊 sales report

Serving San Gabriel Valley, LA County, and San Bernardino Areas

SCAN HERE TO GET STARTED!



303 E Valley Blvd Unit C Alhambra CA 91801
626 408 8009 | inquiry@oakgateco.com
WWW.OAKGATECO.COM



Alhambra Public Library Provides Community Services



Did you know that the Alhambra Public Library welcomes over 500,000 visitors every year? It began serving the public in 2008 and continues to provide a special place in our city today.

Most of us think of a library primarily as a place to check out books. Among the 200,000 items housed at The Alhambra Public Library, you will find an extensive collection of books, in a variety of languages including English, Spanish, Mandarin, Cantonese, and Vietnamese. The library also houses objects including: city directories, old editions of Alhambra yearbooks and databases such as Brainfuse HelpNow which provides homework assistance for every K-12 subject.

The library also has a variety of services that are of assistance to those who are seeking a job or need access to office equipment such as: Computing, Faxing, Printing and Scanning, Access to Databases, and Passport Services.

The Alhambra Public Library offers passport services for U.S. citizens if you

meet at least on of the following criteria:

- You are applying for your first U.S. passport
- You are under the age of 16
- Your previous U.S. passport was issued when you were under the age of 16
- Your previous U.S. passport was lost, stolen, or damaged
- Your previous U.S. passport was issued more than 15 years ago

Hours of Passport Operations:

Wednesday 11am - 4pm
Thursday 11am - 7pm
Friday 11 am - 4 pm
Sunday 1pm - 4pm
(By appointment only)

Fees for Passports are as follows:

Book Fees - \$130 16 and over/\$100 15 and younger
Passport Card Fees - \$30 16 and over/\$15 15 and younger

You may visit the library online at <https://alhambralibrary.org>

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

Alhambra Moms of the Year Award
brought to you by the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

Next month, Around Alhambra will feature moms (and other wonderful people) who deserve special recognition on Mother's Day. Send us your nomination with her name, your name, and 50 words (or less) describing why she's so special - and include a photo.

Email nominations to AA@alhambrachamber.org

Open 7 days a week 626-282-5666

Alhambra CAR WASH ATLANTIC and MAIN

Full Service Polish Dept.

\$21.99
Expires 04-30-2023
FULL SERVICE WASH

\$2 OFF
Expires 04-30-2023
ANY CAR WASH PACKAGE

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

The Front Page Photo that Changed Everything: The Rise of Flood Sports

By Justin Lim, Community Reporter

Strength coach Jeremiah Flood's story is a remarkable testament to the power of perseverance and determination. Despite suffering numerous injuries in his youth, Flood refused to give up on his dreams of football. He walked on to Florida International University's Division 1 football team, where he eventually earned a scholarship. Having not been a starter since the eighth grade, Flood triumphantly returned to the lineup as a college player facing the perennial powerhouse University of Alabama football team.



Justin Lim
Community Reporter

In this game, Flood took a particularly memorable hit when an opposing player struck him with a stiff arm to his face. As Flood was shoved to the grass, Alabama was celebrating their touchdown. This moment would make the front page of Flood's hometown newspaper and at first, Flood's ego took a significant hit. He couldn't help but feel that his reputation as a football player was tarnished. However, as time went on he gained some insight. Flood recalled, "I came to the realization that my perceived loss of esteem was only a product of my own ego, and that other peoples' opinions held no weight on my intrinsic value as a person or as an athlete." This experience shaped his professional dedication to build other athletes' mindsets and perspectives.

What sets Flood apart from other trainers is the judgment-free culture that he has created at his gym. He fosters a fun-loving yet competitive culture where athletes are encouraged to embrace their mistakes. Flood firmly believes that in order to truly learn, failure is necessary. He doesn't view failure as something to be feared. Instead, he encourages athletes to find humor in their mistakes and recognize that failure is simply a natural part of the learning process. By embracing failure and viewing it as an opportunity for growth, athletes can continue to push themselves physically, mentally, and emotionally.

Flood's training philosophy is simple: preparation for competition should be more difficult physically and cognitively than the competition itself. Flood not only focuses on increasing an athlete's speed, power, and strength but he blends that with decision-making and skill acquisition. Flood opines, "Sports is not just about how fast or strong you are, it's about how fast you can be while making the right decision and reliably applying the right skill. It's proving you can do it expertly every time."

Athlete Ellie Chen who is a two-time CIF champion and has twice made the all-CIF team described the gym as "a second home where athletes improve their strength both physically and mentally." Learn more by visiting FloodSports.com.



STRENGTH AND CONDITIONING

POWER
Improve explosiveness and speed

AGILITY
Enhance quickness and reaction

STRENGTH
Increase overall durability

Audrey Chen
CIF Player of the Year

Chayse Ying
Prep League Player of the Year

Make an appointment today
323-543-0540
www.floodsports.com

@flood_sports
jeremiah@floodsports.com

Paid Advertisement

Rudy L. Kusuma
Your Home Sold Guaranteed Realty

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

Alhambra - Because your home may well be your largest asset, selling it is probably one of the most important decisions you will make in your life. And once you have made that decision, you'll want to sell your home for the highest price in the shortest time possible without compromising your sanity. Before you place your home on the market, here's away to help you to be as prepared as possible. To assist homesellers, a new industry report has just been released called "27 Valuable Tips That You Should Know to Get Your Home Sold Fast and for Top Dollar." It tackles the important issues you need to know to make your home competitive in today's tough, aggressive marketplace.

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

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

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

Get your free special report NOW.

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

Alhambra Hospital Medical Center

Emergency Room

OPEN, READY & SAFE
to take care of your emergency needs!

Consistently rated "A" in Patient Safety since 2018!

NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED

A
STRAIGHT A's 2018-2022

LEAPFROG HOSPITAL SAFETY GRADE

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICES
Servicios de Emergencia las 24 Horas!
HOUR 仁愛醫院24小時急診服務

ALHAMBRA HOSPITAL
Medical Center
仁愛醫院
100 S. Raymond Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91801
www.AlhambraHospital.com
Tel: (626) 570-1606

TOP ALHAMBRA BAKERIES FOR EASTER SUNDAY

Easter is right around the corner on April 9, 2023. That is the perfect time to pick up some special treats to celebrate Easter Sunday. Some of Southern California's best bakeries are located in Alhambra, and many will be open to provide delectable baked goods as you welcome the Easter Bunny. You might even hop on over to a few places as part of a unique Easter Egg hunt!

Many of these bakeries have websites, so you can place your order ahead of time and avoid waiting in line.

Shredded Carrot

With a signature and sought after family-recipe carrot cake, this family-owned artisan bakery is an Alhambra destination
2428 W. Valley Blvd., Unit D
(626) 660-6071
www.theshreddedcarrot.com



Momo Bakery

Taiwanese-style bakery with traditional desserts
640 W. Valley Blvd.
(626) 458-9898
www.themomobakery.com

85°C Bakery

With roots in Taiwan, 85° offers international desserts and breads
300 West Main Street #101
(626) 293-8585
www.85cbakerycafe.com



Little Swan Bakery

Traditional Chinese bakery that features traditional items like wife cakes, mochi buns, and even layered crêpe cakes
1024 E. Valley Blvd.
(626) 282-1888



Perfectly Sweet

This bakery creates treats for major stores and restaurants, and they provide local favorites in their Downtown Alhambra storefront
126 W. Main Street
(626) 282-9400



Simply Splendid

A Hong Kong-style bakery serving the community since 2007
1273 E. Valley Blvd.
(626) 308-3227
www.simplysplendidbakery.com



One and One Bakery

Featuring desserts for every occasion
111 E. Main Street
(626) 282-9990
www.oneandonebakery.com



For more information, visit AlhambraEats.com

Silven Zimmerman Sworn in as Postmaster of Alhambra

On Friday, February 24, 2023, at 11:00 am, Silven Zimmerman followed a proud tradition dating back to when Benjamin Franklin was the first Postmaster General of the United States.

In his 23rd year as a Postal employee, Zimmerman raised his right hand to take the official Oath of Office as the Postmaster of the Alhambra Post Office at a ceremony at the Alhambra Post Office, 10 W Bay State St., Alhambra, CA 91802.

Post Office Operations Manager Jolene Fischer administered the oath.

Zimmerman began his postal career in 2000 as a city carrier in Tampa, FL. Over the course of his career, he proudly served on several detail assignments including several years as a Driving Safety Instructor, and a trainer in Learning and Development. In 2015 Zimmerman stepped into the role of management as Station Supervisor in Tampa, FL. He went on to serve additional assignments as a Financial Specialist and as a member of the Gulf Atlantic Hurricane Relief Team.

His most recent role was as Manager of Customer Service in St. Petersburg, FL before his promotion as the Postmaster of Alhambra Post Office in November 2022.

As outlined in the USPS Delivering for America plan, the postal service is committed to modernizing and continually adapting to the evolving needs of all customers. As the Postmaster of the Alhambra Post Office, Zimmerman is prepared to serve his community with that development in mind.

"To me the title of Postmaster is an honor. Being a Postmaster gives me the opportunity of being a committed leader to my postal team but more importantly being committed to the community of Alhambra, California," said Zimmerman.

"It is my goal to build trust within the community of the Alhambra Postal Service by providing excellent customer service both in the office and the neighborhoods in which we serve."

Zimmerman is a proud father of three daughters, Ashley, 31, Emma, 19



and Jillian, 15, and grandfather of three granddaughters, Eloise, 5, Jaylen, 3, and Harper, 2.

He resides in Whitter, CA and enjoys reading, cooking and spending time outdoors.

Zimmerman is also deeply committed to volunteer work and community engagement with a history of volunteer work at St. Jude's Hospital, Metropolitan Ministry and as a member of Krewe of Sant Yago.

He also served as a Referee for City Adult Softball Leagues and as a President for Tampa Gym and Dance.

As Alhambra Postmaster, Zimmerman oversees 75,000 pieces of mail delivered to over 3,500 delivery stops while also servicing over 750 Post Office Boxes. He manages 123 employees and oversees 53 postal routes that serve a population of more than 96,087.

AEF: Let's raise funds for CIF Championship rings to honor Matadors football team's history-making championships + their integrity, win or lose, on and off the field



Alhambra Educational Foundation wants to continue supporting incredible SGHS Matador football team by helping to fundraise for their CIF Championship rings. The goal is \$25,000. Any size donation will be greatly appreciated. Please spread the word and make your donations through this link: <https://www.blastathletics.com/teams/79389/sponsors/new> or through the AEF website: www.aef4kids.com. Photo Credits: Jocelyn Castro, Kristen Nielsen, Jesse Toribio

In a history-making wild ride, the underdog Matadors football team defied expectations, unleashed their power game, and harnessed their familia spirit to win two championship titles and ovations from everyone in the stadium, win or lose. The SGHS football team won the school's first championship in 67 years, the 2022 CIF-Southern Section Division 13 Championship, and a second title, CIF Regional Champs.

It was their actions during the 41-0 loss at State Finals that showcased the character of the team — earning praise from opponents. The Atascadero radio announcer for 30 years, Roger Bland,

tweeted this post to Matador Coach Kevin Encinas: "I have never seen the type of class displayed by the Matadors in Saturday's 6A State Championship game. During the game and under unbearable conditions, the team never gave up. Sometimes the scoreboard is not the best indicator of a true Champion. The actions displayed by your team on a wet, muddy, windy night says a tremendous amount you, your team, and your community. You are Champions!"

The team, hit hard by COVID deaths, illness, economic loss, and a long losing streak, was on no one's list of champions. Led by Coach Kevin

Encinas, the players were grateful to be back on the field together after pandemic hardships, a band of brothers who believed in themselves when few did. In the process, Encinas says, they became familia, family.

Philip Bland witnessed Matadors familia spirit in action. It drives the team's signature integrity, character and class — on view on the field and off, in victory and in loss, toward fellow players, opponents, and officials.

"I'll remember this CIF State game most. It's so easy to stick together when you are winning and it's a beautiful night," said Coach Encinas. "You find out real quick where people stand

when times are tough. The conditions and the loss are teachable moments and that's always been the goal for us."

As Superintendent Denise Jaramillo points out, "The Matadors football team has so much to teach all of us who watched them in action — on and off the field — about integrity and character. Coach Kevin Encinas, his assistant coaches Marcus Galan, Roger Palomino, and Shane Purkiss, and the players' families went above and beyond to support the players. Let's come together to celebrate the players and honor their legacy by raising funds for their team CIF Championship rings."



Founders Day honorees gather at the Alhambra Council PTA's annual Founders' Day Award Dinner + Silent Auction on February 17, 2023, at the San Gabriel Hilton. Photo Credit: John Tong

Alhambra Council PTA Honors Gateway to Success Team at Founders' Day Celebration

By Kelly Tong + Dawna Yip

Alhambra Council PTA hosted its annual Founders' Day Award Dinner + Silent Auction on February 17, 2023, at the San Gabriel Hilton. Fourteen PTA's within Alhambra Unified School District gathered to celebrate the PTA mission to make every child's potential a reality through engaging and empowering families and communities to advocate for all children.

Alhambra Council PTA (ACPTA) honored the entire Gateway to Success Team for their continued work in mental health awareness programs, especially in the face of complications from the Covid-19 pandemic.

ACPTA President Christina Lerma explained, "The Gateway to Success team faced new challenges at the same time they were having to adapt to the pandemic's lingering effects on stu-

dents' mental well-being as they began to readjust their lives."

The well-deserving Gateway counselors are:

Ruth Baratta, John Chae, Mailin Chan, Anny Cruz, Amy Ebert, Denise Fernandez, Kathleen Funes, Pablo Isa-is, Ny'kysha Johnson, Kristiana Koker, Tam Lai, Lily Lam, Susan Lam, Jessica Lan, Elizabeth Lopez-Mondragon, Andrea Madrigal-Garcia, Efren Monterroso, Jennifer Moya, Carol Perez, Melanie Reyes, Monica Rivera, Perla Rodriguez, Vanessa Sandoval, Sabrina Son, Diana Tuthill-Hoover, Olga Velasquez-Rodriguez, and Peter Wang.

The 14 PTA's also recognized Honorary Service Award recipients who have gone above and beyond to advocate for all children. These honorees include:

AHS PTA: Anny Cruz, Elizabeth Lopez-Mondragon, Alhambra High School ASB, Randy Kim, Ilma Egan

BRIGHTWOOD PTA: Enrique Morales, Karen Kao, Brenda Saito, Gracie Takahe, Stacy Iwata Goan, Jane Lin, Monica Rivera

EMERY PARK PTA: Yesenia Nungary, Perla Trejo, Olga Velasquez Rodriguez

FREMONT PTA: Jessica Lan, Sarah Pun, Jesus Murillo, Maria Ramirez, Nidia Ureña, Dr. Carly Chavez

GARFIELD PTA: Amy Walsh, Josephine Caballero, Perla Rodriguez
MARGUERITA PTA: Veronica Vera, Paul Mejia, Sergio Nuno, John Chae, Rebecca Duarte

MKHS PTSA: Kathleen Funes, Andrea Madrigal-Garcia, Christine Takatani-Chung, Sharon Woo, Ever B. Heredia, Gloria Ing

MARTHA BALDWIN PTA: Christopher Takeshita, Robert Gonzalez, Nicolas Av, Jennifer Moya

MONTEREY HIGHLANDS PTA: Rihan Sabbagh, Miriam Tu, Pat Smith-Gong, Khanh Nguyen, Abel Bourbois,

Maria Yu

PARK PTA: Beverly Coe, Rose Sanchez, Lynn Siu, Kristiana Koker, Jennifer Santos, Paola Juarez, Jessica Tan, My Cam Huynh, Ivan Ocampo, Tiffany Cendejas

RAMONA PTA: Lorena Solis, Amy Ebert, Lily Lam


SGHS PTSA: Denise Fernandez, Allen Dennis, Jonathan Gray, Efen Monterroso, Diana Tuthill-Hoover

WM. NORTHRUP PTA: Diane Peralta, Peter Wang, Joy Huang, Hsiulee Tran, Marine Wei, Jennifer Creel


YNEZ PTA: Karla Marquez, Tammy Scordia, Dr. Jennifer Huang, Ruth Baratta, Tam Lai

ACPTA's Founders' Day Chairperson, Pat Smith-Gong, added, "Founders' Day is when our PTAs come together to celebrate the legacy and work of our founders." Through the generosity of many participating in the fundraiser, Alhambra Council PTA is able to grant scholarships to graduating seniors from Alhambra High School, Mark Keppel High School, and San Gabriel High School.


FEBRUARY 2023 **GAME CHANGERS**



LEE TRAN FONG
8TH GRADE TEACHER
REPETTO SCHOOL



MARIA VENHUDA
SCHOOL COMMUNITY COORDINATOR
NORTHRUP SCHOOL



www.ausd.us - @alhambrausd

Mark Keppel 2023 LA County Academic Decathlon Champ for 4th Consecutive Year

AHS comes in 3rd, SGHS places 13th, team coach wins award

Alhambra USD's Mark Keppel High School is the 2023 champion of the 41st Annual Los Angeles County Academic Decathlon. Under coach Tin Tran, Mark Keppel outperformed 36 high schools to score the top prize for a historic fourth consecutive year. More than 450 students on 59 teams from across the county participated in the 2023 competition.

"It takes herculean commitment, preparation, training, and teamwork to excel in the Academic Decathlon," said Superintendent Dr. Denise Jaramillo. "We are so proud of our decathletes at all three high schools for their extraordinary work and sacrifice and we salute our remarkable coaches for supporting and mentoring our students all year."

Alhambra High took third place in the contest, coached by Jose Sanchez, with team member Kenneth San winning trophies for highest averages in three divisions and all ten events. San Gabriel High placed 13th, with coach Kenneth Ma winning the coveted Roberta Kordich Coach Award which is presented annually to the coach who best exemplifies going beyond instructing the fundamentals of the competition to motivating students to a higher level of learning and excellence.

"These Academic Decathlon awards offer a snapshot of the caliber of dedication that our students and teachers bring to the pursuit of academic excellence at Alhambra Unified," said Superintendent Dr. Jaramillo.



Top, Mark Keppel High Academic Decathlon team with coach Tin Tran accepting the thousand dollar check for winning the 2023 LA County Academic Decathlon championship for fourth year in a row.

Middle, Alhambra High Academic Decathlon Team with coach Jose Sanchez, accepting third place trophy at the competition.

Bottom, San Gabriel High Academic Decathlon coach Kenneth Ma was nominated by his students and won the prestigious Robert Kurdish Coach Award for his above and beyond efforts.

AUSD Connection Digital Newsletter Honored with State Recognition

In September, the Alhambra Unified School District launched AUSD Connection — a digital parent newsletter to provide educational partners with an additional communication tool to stay informed about what is happening across the district. The newsletter is sent by email to parents and staff members after each regular board meeting (about every three weeks) and is a collaborative effort of the various district divisions.

Each issue features board meeting staff report deck slides, downloadable flyers, meeting/webinar information, sign-up links, positive news/photos/videos, and a list of upcoming noteworthy events. The newsletter shares updates from AUSD non-profit partner organizations, the Alhambra Education Foundation, the Alhambra Latino Association, and the Asian American Association.

After eight issues, the newsletter has become an invaluable method of community outreach, with an average of over 15,300 views per issue. "We're pleased with the positive reception to the newsletter and the ability to convey important information to our families and staff members, especially with those who do not frequent our social media platforms," said Superintendent Dr. Denise Jaramillo.

AUSD Connection was recognized with a 2023 Award of Merit by the California School Public Relations Association. "We will continue to work as a district to keep lines of communication open with our families, students, and staff members and to create new tools to share information and gather input from our partners to help us make informed decisions for the betterment of our schools and students," said Superintendent Jaramillo.

AHS THEATER BOOSTERS AND ALHAMBRA HIGH SCHOOL THESPIANS PRESENT

ZOMBIE PROM

A MUSICAL COMEDY

MUSIC BY DANA P. ROWE
BOOK AND LYRICS BY JOHN DEMPSEY
BASED ON A STORY BY JOHN DEMPSEY AND HUGH MURPHY

APRIL 14, 15, 21, 22 AT 6:30PM
APRIL 15 AT 11:00AM

\$15 STUDENTS  \$20 ADULTS

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.ALHAMBRATHEATERBOOSTERS.LUDUS.COM
ALHAMBRA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
101 S. 2ND ST, ALHAMBRA, CA

Alhambra High Thespians Soar with Musical Comedy Zombie Prom April 14, 15, 21, 22

Like a blast from the pre-pandemic past — musical season is back at AHS with this high-octane production of the quirky Off-Broadway hit, *Zombie Prom*. A heartwarming send-up of the movie *Grease*, the 1950's rock comedy is fun for the whole family. There are five performances on Fridays and Saturdays in April.

The show is the joint effort of Alhambra High School Thespians Society and AHS Theater Boosters. *Zombie Prom* is directed by AHS Theater Arts teacher Rachel Snow, with choreography by Jessica Beron, musical direction by Sam Chen, technical direction by Brian Cole, and

assistant direction by Natalie Villareal.

Performances
April 14, 15, 21, 22 at 6:30 pm
April 15 at 11:00 am.
Alhambra High Auditorium 101 S. 2nd St., Alhambra

Tickets at the door \$15 for students and \$20 for adults or order online: alhambratheaterboosters.ludus.com

Want to volunteer or donate to the AHS Theater program and Thespians? Please email moorstheaterboosters@gmail.com.

ALHAMBRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
AUSD CONNECTION
PARENT DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

ALHAMBRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCAN ME

CalSPRA
2023
Award of Merit
Newsletter
Alhambra Unified School District

All issues are available at:
<https://tinyurl.com/AUSDConnectionArchive>

All issues of AUSD Connection are archived on the AUSD website and are available by visiting: <https://tinyurl.com/AUSDConnectionArchive>



Ramona School 7th-graders Launch Project-based Learning on Health and Disease

Dressed in their blue surgical scrubs and caps, Ramona School 7th-grade classes certainly look the part of health researchers as they launched their Project-Based Learning or PBL on the biology of health and disease. In their deep dive into health conditions and diseases, students will study genotypes, phenotypes, genetics, their differences and relationships. The project seems particularly timely as we move into the third year of the pandemic.

Project-Based Learning is a signature focus of Ramona principal Dr. Debbie

Kotani, who says, “In the PBL teaching model, students learn by actively engaging in real-world and personally meaningful projects which makes learning come alive.”

The Ramona seventh grade students will work on their health and disease project for an extended period of weeks to solve a real-world problem or answer a complex question. Later this spring, students will demonstrate their knowledge by creating a presentation for the Ramona community. This unique presentation is one many are looking forward to seeing.

Brightwood Student Leaders Unite to Build Supportive, Inclusive School Environment

School staff develop structure to help students feel a sense of belonging — but it is often the peer-to-peer interactions that mean the most. With this in mind, Brightwood School is assembling a powerful cohort of leaders through its PLUS or Peer Leaders Uniting Students Team. PLUS is a student leadership group that will help identify negative issues on campus and design activities to counteract them.

Schools throughout Alhambra Unified School District will be developing PLUS Teams, but principal Candace Griego is excited to get hers off the ground early. “This will help us pinpoint issues on our campus and give students a voice in how our school runs. We are very proud of the students we have selected and can’t wait to see the difference they can make,” explains Principal Griego. “The PLUS program will be an important piece of our PBIS and positive school culture.”

Students will pinpoint what behaviors are the biggest concerns. Principal Griego envisions they will want to address critical issues like bullying, social media harassment, mental health, safety, and vaping. Eighth grader Katelyn Ho agreed, “I hope to decrease bullying at our school.” Students will meet in student forums and

survey their classmates to gather data, establish their priorities, and decide where they can make an impact.

Sixth grader Quinn Abele is looking forward to the next steps, “I joined the PLUS team to help make Brightwood a better place by showing others that they are supported and belong. I want people to want to join PLUS and for people to feel comfortable talking to us about problems.”

With guidance from PLUS advisor Michelle Kanemori, the students will strengthen connections among students, accumulate data, and plan their actions — all with a focus on creating a sense of belonging in their school community. The students will lead monthly forums of diverse cross-sections of students to create social bonding moments so students can get to know each other and find connections and similarities.

Students have a variety of reasons for wanting to be one of the PLUS Team members, but for many, the main reason is simply to help others. As sixth grader Martin Escobar says, “I thought it would be nice because helping kids is fun. I want people to talk to us so they don’t have to worry about problems.”

Eighth grader Javier Monzon has a



San Gabriel High School students Andre De La Roca, Kaitlyn Truong, and George Malance made the Top Ten of the STEM Fuse GOT GAME Competition, with George winning second place. The students are in the SGHS Video Game Design class taught by Mr. Qui Nguy, pictured here with his students.

San Gabriel High Students Are Designing – Not Just Playing – Video Games

SGHS student George Malance won second place in the STEM Fuse GOT GAME competition for his video game “Doomsday Delivery.”

GOT GAME competition judges said, “‘Doomsday Delivery’ relies on speed and accuracy as you seek to deliver packages while craftily avoiding zombies. Very creative graphics and gameplay make this an exciting challenge to complete.”

George takes the SGHS Video Game Design class taught by Mr. Qui Nguy. In addition to George’s second-place win, two other students, Andre De La Roca and Kaitlyn Truong, in Mr. Nguy’s class were among the Top 10 finalists. All three students and Mr. Nguy were

recognized by STEM Fuse for their accomplishments. George also won a \$125 Amazon Gift Card.

You can play George’s video game on the STEM Fuse Hall of Fame site <https://educate.stemfuse.com/arcade/competition/hall-of-fame> Select “Doomsday Delivery,” then click on the “S” in the right-hand corner and press the “S” key to load the game.

While most teenagers just play video games, these accomplished young coders are learning to design games from the ground up, developing 21st-century skills that will make them highly marketable when they enter the job force.



Brightwood held a celebration to announce the students accepted into their PLUS Peer Leaders Uniting Students Team. Students enjoyed hot cocoa and received their PLUS ID cards. The district’s first PLUS Team will work to build a welcoming, uplifting culture at Brightwood. Schools across Alhambra USD will soon incorporate the PLUS Team approach as a way to help address and remedy campus concerns.

similar motivation, “The reason I wanted to join PLUS was to get to know people and grow with them. And in doing that, I could help other people with things they are struggling with.”

Peer-to-peer mentoring is shown to have a positive effect on motivation, social skills, peer relations, and self-esteem. It also decreases bullying and has a positive impact

on attendance and academics.

“I am very excited to be the PLUS advisor here at Brightwood. It has been wonderful seeing students from different grades and social groups be able to create connections with one another,” says Kanemori. “I look forward to seeing the PLUS program grow here at Brightwood and throughout the district.”



Matador Marching Band Adds Style, Great Sound to 56th Annual Laguna Beach Patriots Day Parade

Wearing new uniforms, the San Gabriel High Marching Band looked smart and sounded fabulous at the 56th annual Laguna Beach Patriots Day on Saturday morning, March 4th. This spring, the Matador Marching Band has been adding to festivities around San Gabriel Valley, now that large scale, in person, outdoor events are returning.

“We are having a very busy end of the school year,” said Matador band director Ben Coria. “The SGHS Marching Band performed at the Temple City Camellia Festival Parade in February, the Laguna Beach Patriots Day Parade in March, and our own Spring Concert is coming up May 19th. It’s great for the kids to be able to do what they love — perform for an audience.”

Reading Celebrations Across District, With a Special Breakfast Courtesy of AUSD Cafeterias



Schools celebrated Read Across America Day in many fun and exciting ways. Alhambra USD will continue to celebrate the love of reading during the rescheduled ATA Read Across America festival on April 30th in Alhambra Park from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.

The Read Across America campaign to encourage children to read was launched in 1998 by the National Education Association. It has grown into a year-round effort with special celebrations throughout National Reading Month in March and on Read Across America Day March 2nd.

Around the country, communities come together to inspire children to read by bringing the joys of reading to student classrooms. In Alhambra USD’s own neighborhood, special readers included elected officials, first responders, cherished retirees, loving parents, and dedicated Alhambra Unified School District personnel

who all made time to visit with children about the importance of reading.

Elementary students were served a special treat for breakfast, courtesy of AUSD’s cafeteria staff who prepared green eggs and (turkey) ham for breakfast on March 2nd. Students were eager to taste the literary dish — and commended for their willingness to try something new. Sam-I-Am may not have been present to encourage the kids to sample the colorful food, but if he had, there certainly would have been many children who would have happily chanted to him, “I do so like green eggs and ham. Thank you. Thank you, Sam-I-Am!”

ALHAMBRA LATINO ASSOCIATION

Tax ID: 95-4646116

Scholarship Awards Dinner & Dance

May 5, 2023

Luminarias Restaurant
3500 W Ramona Blvd. Monterey Park, CA 91754



HONORING AUSD

Dream Allies Network & Scholarship Recipients

AWARDING AUSD

PROGRAM

5:30-6:30
Social Hour

6:30-7:30
Dinner

7:30-8:30
Awards

8:30-9:00
Silent Auction & Opportunity Baskets

9:00-10:30
Dance

This is not an AUSD event | No tickets at the door

TICKETS

\$50 Per Guest

ALA SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS DINNER & DANCE TICKET RESERVATION FORM

RSVP BY April 21, 2023

Name _____ School/Organization _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____ Number of Reservations _____ Amount of Check \$ _____

Sorry I cannot attend, please accept my contribution of \$ _____ Meal preference: _____ chicken _____ vegan



← PAY ONLINE
Paypal

INFORMATION

* Seating in tables of 10

Include this form with your check or register here: <https://tinyurl.com/ALA2023Awards> and pay electronically

PAYABLE TO

Alhambra Latino Association

SEND TO

P.O. Box 6062 Alhambra, CA. 91802
(626) 864-4460



alhambralatinoassociation.com

Ovations! Mark Keppel Drama Students Bring Original Stories of Monterey Highlands 4th Graders to Stage

Mark Keppel High School theater students have been transforming the original stories of elementary students into stage productions since 2015. Even during the pandemic, MKHS students innovated to turn the students’ writing into old-fashioned radio dramas.

This year, MKHS partnered with fourth grade classes at Monterey Highlands, a feeder school for Keppel. The younger students wrote original stories and waited eagerly for their high school counterparts to read, select, produce, and perform the stage version of their story.

To find those that best lent themselves to dramatization, MKHS students read every story. Each story selected was rewritten as short play by the drama students. Orchestra students created original

music compositions and provided live accompaniment to the show. Tech theatre students contributed props, settings, and all production technical aspects. Together, the MKHS theater students created From Page to Stage productions for Monterey Highlands students.

This year’s selected From Page to Stage stories were:

- The Puppy Problem: original story by Wonder Ledezma, Elizabeth Mejia and Annamarie Ellis. Play by Raelyn Raygosa, Anthony Porras, and Brian Blackwater.
- Friendship Troubles: original story by Chloe He. Play by Alexa Elizondo, Sean Umeda, and Jessica Pulido.
- The Red Knight: original story by Matthew Trinh and Leandro Hau. Play by Timothy Chuc and Kayla Young.

MARK KEPPEL HIGH SCHOOL Monterey Highlands School



From Page to Stage is a favorite partnership between Mark Keppel High School drama students and elementary students from their feeder schools. This year, MKHS worked with Monterey Highlands School. Next year, they will expand to include all their feeder schools.

- Anonymous: original story by Abbie Auyeung and Kohana Maeda. Play by Trinity Chang and Machu Suh.
- The MKHS student stage performances thrilled the Highlands’ fourth graders.

Keppel thespians shared their talents and passion for the theatre and performing arts, sparking the imagination and enlarging the dreams of their young audience.

Impact
Teen Drivers

**IMPACT TEEN DRIVERS WITH
ALHAMBRA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
VIRTUAL PARENT TEEN WORKSHOP**

ENGAGE EDUCATE EMPOWER

PARENTS AND TEENS TOGETHER CAN HELP STOP THE #1 KILLER OF TEENS IN AMERICA

There are evidence-based strategies to help keep teens safer on the road.

Join us to learn about **Graduated Driver Licensing**, tips and tricks to avoid **distractions**, the importance of **seat belts**, the risks of **speeding**, and more.

Parents, you are the #1 influencers of your teens' driving and riding behaviors.

Save the Date:
Wednesday, May 17, 2023
(More information coming soon!)

Interested in more information?
Contact info@impactteendrivers.org or call 916-733-7432 • ImpactTeenDrivers.org/California

Impact Teen Drivers is pleased to provide this program at no cost, thanks to funding from the Office of Traffic Safety and the California Highway Patrol.




Mark Keppel Launches AUSD's Third Dream Center

When Mark Keppel High opened the doors to its Dream Center on the first Friday in March, it became AUSD's third high school Dream Center. Alhambra High's Dream Center, opened in 2017, recently won a prestigious Golden Bell Award from the California School Boards Association for its manifold efforts on behalf of immigrant students and families. San Gabriel High launched their Dream Center in 2022 to offer similar support to its students and families.

According to MKHS Dream Center advisor, Blazhia Parker, "Our beautiful Dream Center is an oasis of cultural and socio-emotional support for marginalized students. Right now, we offer self-care

practices, trauma-informed yoga classes, life skills workshops, and mindfulness to remove barriers to learning — with many more programs and services planned for the future."

Superintendent Dr. Denise Jaramillo praised the launch, saying, "We are so impressed with the thoughtful, collaborative, and devoted efforts by Mark Keppel staff and students to bring the Dream Center to MKHS. Their important work is at the center of AUSD's commitment to equity, inclusion and diversity and is the path to ensuring that every student has the tools and support they need to succeed."



Photo Credit: Blazhia Parker and Araceli Arzate.

MAMMA MIA!

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY BENNY ANDERSSON
BJÖRN ULVAEUS
SOME SONGS WITH STIG ANDERSON

BOOK BY CATHERINE JOHNSON

ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED BY JUDY CRAYMER

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL & ARRANGEMENTS MARTIN KOCH

MAMMA MIA! WAS ORIGINALLY PRODUCED IN LONDON BY JUDY CRAYMER, RICHARD EAST AND BJÖRN ULVAEUS FOR LITTLEST IN ASSOCIATION WITH UNIVERSAL.
MUSIC PUBLISHED BY UNIVERSAL MUSIC PUBLISHING GROUP AND EMI GROVE PARK MUSIC INC. AND EMI WATERFORD MUSIC INC.

DATES:
APRIL 14, 19, 20, 21 @6:00PM
APRIL 15 @2:00PM

SGHS DRAMA PRESENTS

TICKETS SCAN HERE





ONEONTA MONTESSORI SCHOOL
Est. 1981

Advanced Montessori Curriculum
Accredited Teachers
Classes offered:
PE, Art, Music, STEAM, Mandarin, Spanish, Computer, Literacy, Tennis, Soccer, Dance, Hapkido

Preschool - 6th Grade
Open all year 6:30am - 6:00pm
Tours everyday 10:00am - 12:00pm
626-284-0840
2221 Poplar Blvd, Alhambra
www.oneontamontessori.com




COMMUNITY SPACE RENTAL
Party, Reception, Special Occasions

TABLES, CHAIRS,
KITCHEN FACILITY,
SECURITY, CLEANUP

CALL
(626) 576-9584
(626) 458-2723
24 N. STONEMAN
AVE. ALHAMBRA



From the Desk of Rev. Craig Statton

Seniors benefit from spring cleaning

It has been a wet winter in southern California, and it might be a wet spring. But even with all the rain and snow, the first shoots of green are emerging and the daffodils, ranunculus, and tulips have already emerged and the jacaranda's are on the way. Spring is coming and as the temperatures warm and the days get longer, many of us begin to think of outdoor activities. But around our house, the advent of Spring also meant that some basic chores called "Spring Cleaning". The marketers of my childhood did a great job of telling us, "It's time to make everything 'Spic-N-Span.'" I remember the satisfaction we all felt during a week or two of frenzied activity that transformed cupboards, closets, windows, bedrooms, and floors from the dusty confinements of winter into the sparkling newness of Spring.

It turns out that the ritual of Spring Cleaning is important for all our lives. Our best intentions find us stacking and acquiring articles, periodicals, items and "stuff" that we know will either revolutionize our lives, help out families, or give us some joy for the next day or week. If you are like me, we must admit that many of these items end up unread, under-utilized, or accumulating dust because we have moved on to the next pressing moment. Spring Cleaning is a time to simplify our lives by sorting, thinning, and discarding all the unnecessary "stuff" we have. Once a year or so, amidst our busy, consumer-driven lifestyle, it's good to be reminded of what is basic versus what is discretionary. Seniors can be especially resistant to "sweeping away the stuff" that we really don't need. Many of us grew up with an ethos of saving just about everything; think of all those cans of nails and screws, spare parts, balls of twine, brown paper bags, empty jars, cardboard and wood that once had a place in the basement. We haven't adjusted well to all that is disposable in our society. All of us have seen those television shows where hoarders live on the verge of mental illness because their need to retain all their stuff has overwhelmed all hope and common sense.

Let's face it: at some point, life is going to be much more about doing than it is about having. Seniors who engage annually in this practice of Spring cleaning are much more able to handle the stress of downsizing when the time comes. So, let's be brave and get Spring Cleaning! Here are a few tips to help you get started:

1. Break it down into small bites: Make a checklist so you have a plan. Listing the areas that need to be cleaned, piles that need to be sorted, or even choices that need to be made allows you to have a sense of control in what may seem like an overwhelming task. Even a list of 100 items will result in a plan that makes it much easier to organize your time and efforts. Then just do what you can. I heard of one approach where a person set aside 15 minutes, set the timer and worked on his list until the timer buzzed. He was amazed at how much could be accomplished on his list in small bites.

2. Get the family involved: Don't be afraid to ask for help from loved ones. When we were kids, mom set aside the time for Spring Cleaning and everyone participated. As we get older, it can be overwhelming to sort, clean, and clear a whole house; asking for help should be a natural extension of your relationships. There is also a side benefit to this work: it's the perfect opportunity to bond with your loved ones. You can dig up old family photo books to look through and find toys and trinkets from your kids' childhoods to pass on to your grandchildren. Remember that "many hands make light work." If you have a plan, then when a family asks to help, you will know where to put them to work.

3. Make yourself throw it away! Our lives are filled with a gadget for everything and an outfit for every occasion. Some of this "stuff" is either past its prime or was never all that useful to begin with. It is better to admit you made a mistake and part ways with the item rather than let it take up space for another year. A professional organizer would charge you money to make three sorting piles: yes, no, and maybe. You can do this

yourself. Everyday items you often use go in the "yes" pile. For items you're hesitant to part with, place them in the maybe pile. Don't discard things with sentimental value. They are still important. But tell yourself "no" to those things that you can admit are unusable, unwanted, or unnecessary. Either throw them in the trash, find someone who can benefit from them, or donate them to charity. This process of moving items into piles will also help you declutter a space and allow you to clean behind and around the items.

4. Organize for importance: Review and sort all your important financial, health and legal documents and organize them into one space. This will save you time, money and stress in the event of an emergency.

5. Be prepared for an emergency: Make sure all your mechanical and emergency systems are in good working order. For example:

- Program emergency contact numbers and Medical ID information into your smartphone (or an easily accessible list in your home)
- Double check that your fire extinguisher is charged and not expired
- Test smoke and CO2 alarms for live, active batteries
- Compile an up-to-date list of any medicines (prescriptions and over-the-counter) which you take regularly
- Make sure your first aid kit is stocked and build an accompanying kit of water bottles, a blanket, flashlight with batteries, back-ups of commonly taken medicines, non-perishable snacks, etc.
- Service your furnace, A/C, or water filters

I don't suppose many of us relish the ritual of Spring Cleaning with its sorting, purging, organizing, sanitizing, mopping, vacuuming, and dusting. But setting aside time for this routine maintenance will make a significant difference in your future; and just think how good it feels when your world is Spic-N-Span! Happy Spring!

PLAN YOUR FUTURE WITH PEACE OF MIND

For over 106 years, Atherton has been shaped by the desires and needs of seniors and has provided the care which has allowed them to flourish during this season of their lives.

Our full-service Life Plan Community offers a variety of options from Independent Living to Skilled Nursing on a 15-acre campus located in the heart of Alhambra.

During these unprecedented times, we are committed to helping our residents continue their lives of independence at Atherton, with their safety and wellness as a priority.



Wellness • Independence • Safety



INDEPENDENT LIVING | ASSISTED LIVING
SKILLED NURSING | REHABILITATION SERVICES


ATHERTON
Christian living for today's seniors

Call **1.800.340.4178**
or visit **www.abh.org**
214 S Atlantic Blvd, Alhambra, CA 91801



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

Your Health

Creating Impact

By Sheila Yonemoto, P.T.

How often have you wanted people to notice you or to appreciate your efforts, or to make someone smile or laugh? How do you feel when you make a difference or create an impact? It depends on how much effort you have invested to create the impact, and also what you create.

When my daughter graduated from UC Berkeley, she told me that while walking through downtown Berkeley wearing her graduation robe, she passed a homeless woman who normally mutters to herself with a far away gaze on her face. When this woman saw my daughter, she looked at her and said, "Congratulations." Somehow, the graduate made an impact on this woman and created a lucid moment.

One of my patients is a middle school science teacher. She weaves her teaching methodology in such a way as to teach principles of good citizenship, time management, self awareness about individual learning styles and caring for the environment, skills she feels are primary over the obvious content of the class. No doubt she is creating more future scientists, but she is also creating more productive and contributing members of society.

In my own line of work, I try to create awareness in how a person can take responsibility for creating good personal health. I also use techniques that have a light touch, which is easy on me but has the ability to produce great effects in others. I feel uplifted and lighter when I am able to produce these effects, much



Sheila Yonemoto, P.T.
Yonemoto Physical Therapy
(626) 576-0591

Sheila Yonemoto, P.T., has been a physical therapist for over 40 years, specializing in Integrative Manual Therapy utilizing a holistic approach. She can be reached at Yonemoto Physical Therapy, 55 S. Raymond Ave, Suite 100, Alhambra, CA 91801. Call 626 576 0591 for a FREE consultation and FREE insurance evaluation, or visit www.yonemoto.com for more information.

better than when I used to use heavy force which caused pain in my hands, fatigue at the end of the day and a feeling of wanting to rest. Now I can't wait to do more, to create more positive effects and have more energy. My patients also comment they feel lighter, have greater ease of movement and feel more energetic.

So, what kind of mark do you want to make on the world?

This column is provided to Around Alhambra by Sheila Yonemoto, P.T., who is responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse medical advice or any remedies recommended by this author or any other provider.

It's Your Choice

"Yonemoto Physical Therapy has made a difference in many lives by supporting local charities. I want to personally thank them for their years of service in our community."

Sally Baldwin
San Gabriel Music Theater



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



SGVC Boy Scouts of America Distinguished Citizens 2009



2011 Rotary International Award



2011 Small Business of the Year Award



2011 Heart of the Community Award



It is that time of the year again!
Call us for a **FREE Tax Consultation.**

Michael Aston, EA

Full Service All Tax Returns

1009 E Main St. Alhambra CA 91801

www.alhambrataxcenter.com

626-282-1084



ENROLLED AGENT

Sign up for Medicare Coverage!

IMPORTANT MEDICARE QUESTIONS

- 1 How well does my current plan meet my needs?
- 2 What are my other Medicare plan options?
- 3 I'm turning 65 soon, where do I go and what do I do?
- 4 What is the difference between Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage?

I speak Mandarin and Cantonese

Katherine Yu Simms
Medicare Insurance Agent
License #0M21975

Cell 323.854.2868

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

Ask Dr. Dara, D.D.S.

Straight Teeth Without Braces Frequently Asked Questions

by Dr. Krasnodara Gashparova, DDS (also known as Dr. Dara)

Braces have been the only way to get teeth straight for decades. They are still very common for treatment of youth.

In the future we expect the technology of the braces to improve, requiring less time, better comfort and smaller metal pieces. In the meantime, even teenagers are looking for more comfortable options. Options that allow a more comfortable process of straightening of the teeth without significant change in the lifestyle and appearance.

What are these options?

Clear aligners were developed as an option to move teeth without using traditional braces. The system consists of a series of clear plastic retainer-like trays called aligners that you wear over your teeth to gradually move and straighten your teeth to the desired position. Each tray is worn for about 10-14 days, and you replace it with the next in the series until your teeth reach the correct alignment.

The following is information that may help you better understand what clear aligners have to offer, and perhaps if it is the right choice for you.

Invisalign is one of the first and probably one of the best options, constantly evolving and improving its efficiency and clear aligning system.

Benefits of Invisalign

- Aesthetics – The Invisalign aligners are made of clear plastic that blends

in well with the teeth. Hardly anyone will even notice you're wearing them at all!

- Removability – The aligners are 100% removable and should be taken out when eating and brushing your teeth. In case of a very special event such as a wedding or prom, you may choose to remove them for a few hours.
- Comfort – The smooth plastic of the aligners is very comfortable and won't agitate the gum tissue. There are no poking wires or loose brackets.
- Better Oral Hygiene – There are no wires or metal brackets attached to the teeth, which means you can brush and floss like normal.

What problems can you correct with Invisalign?

Invisalign effectively corrects a wide variety of dental problems: crooked teeth, gaps between teeth, rotated teeth, teeth that moved away from their desired position, deep bite, overbite, underbite, cross bite and more.

After "buttons" came into existence, the Invisalign system can fix almost any problem, big or small. The key is to understand the severity of the problem and determine the right placement of the buttons. Buttons are small, tooth colored dental attachments placed on teeth to help

facilitate desired tooth movement.

How long is the treatment with Invisalign?

Improvements in orthodontic technology not only changes to a more aesthetic look but increased efficiency as well, making treatment times much shorter.

Total treatment time averages 6-15 months depending on the complicity of the case.

Does Invisalign have an age limit?

There is no age limit for Invisalign. The treatment can start as soon as the child can be responsible enough to remember to wear them 22 hours a day. For both adults and kids you can apply the rule that treatment is done for healthy teeth with no cavities and healthy gums with no active inflammation. It is important to get gum disease under control first especially for adults because pressure from tooth movement can cause more damage to the bone and loosens up the teeth.

Does Invisalign hurt?

Invisalign treatment is not painful, and most people describe the first couple of days of each aligner as "pressure awareness" Usually, after two days of wearing an aligner, the teeth will move to their new location, the pressure subsides, and trays become easy to place in and remove.

How much does Invisalign cost?

Invisalign may cost somewhere between \$3000 and \$6000. It is the same or very close to the cost of braces. Invisalign pricing is based on estimated duration and complexity of treatment.

Does insurance cover Invisalign?

Typically, a dental insurance policy that



Dr. Dara, D.D.S.
(626) 289-6131

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

covers orthodontics will cover Invisalign too.

Most patients choose a monthly payment plan or use their flexible spending account.

How often do you see your dentist?

Typically, patients come once every couple of months to ensure that treatment is progressing as planned. Televisits or face timing is possible if you are out of town.

This column is provided to Around Alhambra by Dr. Krasnodara Gashparova, DDS, (also known as Dr. Dara), who is responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse medical advice or any remedies recommended by this author or any other provider.

ADVANCED DENTISTRY
— of ALHAMBRA —

Healthy Teeth & Bright Smiles for
the Whole Family!

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

FREE
CONSULTATION

(626)289-6131

OPEN SATURDAYS
NO INTEREST
PAYMENT PLANS

70 S Palm Ave
Alhambra 91801
www.DaraDDS.com

A NEW SMILE IN ONLY
ONE VISIT

- Precise Fit
- Natural look
- Comfortable process
- No temporaries

Your Insurance

Medicare: What They Don't Tell You

Making smart decisions can lead to manageable costs and access to the best care.

By Katherine Yu Simms

“Once you turn 65, your healthcare expenses are covered by Medicare.”

What they don't tell you: Medicare covers a lot, but most enrollees still pay plenty in premiums, deductibles, copays and coinsurance. Medicare doesn't hide this fact but neither is it well explained.

For instance, most people pay a monthly premium for Medicare (Part B). The premium in 2023 is \$164.90 per person per month. Most everyone pays this — except lower income enrollees — regardless of whether you choose Original Medicare or Medicare Advantage. Your Part B premium could be higher, based on your adjusted gross income.

“Medicare offers broad healthcare coverage.”

What they don't tell you: The program is for older Americans, but there is no long-term care coverage.

Nor is there dental, vision, hearing, chiropractic, acupuncture, transportation coverage for Original Medicare enrollees.

“I don't need to enroll onto a Medicare Drug plan if I'm not taking any medications.”

What they don't tell you: When you turn 65 (and have no other drug coverage that is as good as Medicare), you need to join a Part D drug plan during the 7-month initial enrollment period when you can sign up for Medicare Part A and

Katherine Yu Simms
(323) 854-2868

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.

Part B to avoid a penalty.

If you are in a situation where you need assistance with alleviating prescription medication costs, have questions with penalties of late enrollment of Part D, Medical enrollment and any other questions please contact me for a consultation.

This column is provided to Around Alhambra by Katherine Yu Simms who is solely responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse the advice from this author or any other provider.

APRIL 2023



ALHAMBRA Restaurant of the Week

PRESENTED BY THE ALHAMBRA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Enjoy delicious, local cuisine!

The **Alhambra Restaurant of the Week (ROTW)** highlights the unique flavors of our community. Every week, we showcase the diverse culinary offerings that represent the best of local dining in the City of Alhambra!

March 27 - April 2



Xiang La Hui Alhambra offers a variety of authentic Chinese dishes, including Sichuan-style spicy dishes, seafood specialties, and classic noodle and rice dishes. The restaurant is known for its bold flavors, generous portions, and reasonable prices.

Visit them at 621 W Main St, Alhambra



April 3 - April 9



Bon Appétea was born out of the founders' love for gathering with friends, eating yummy food, and drinking a delicious cup of coffee or tea. Their aim was to deliver a café that was cute and cozy, yet beautiful and inviting, and is located in a building built over 100 years ago, with added aesthetics that would enhance its décor while keeping its old-world charms.

Visit them at 75 2nd St, Alhambra



April 10 - April 16



Denny's Alhambra offers a classic diner-style decor and menu and a wide range of breakfast, lunch, and dinner options that cater to a variety of tastes and dietary needs. With its convenient location and welcoming atmosphere, Denny's Alhambra is a great spot to enjoy a delicious meal any time of day.

Visit them at 369 W Main St, Alhambra



April 17 - April 23



Vita Cane Sugarcane Juicery & Acai Bar sources all-natural, fresh, and organic ingredients that provide high levels of antioxidants, vitamins, and minerals through their Sugarcane-based drinks and Acai bowls. Their purpose is to offer the best juicery and acai so you can eat well, feel good, and be happy!

Visit them at 9 W Main St, Alhambra



April 24 - April 30



Chonito's Mexican Restaurant is famous for their mouthwatering molcajetes and their savory guisados. Their chefs bring the distinctive flavors of Mexico, from their sweet non spicy Mole Poblano to their succulent Carnitas Zacatecas. Chonitos has everything to satisfy your taste buds!

Visit them at 2505 W Valley Blvd, Alhambra



Follow the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce on Facebook and Instagram to learn more about these restaurants or visit alhambraeats.com.



Delhi Belly Brings Bengali Flavor to Alhambra



The Delhi Belly team

Delhi Belly, a one-of-a-kind Indian restaurant in Alhambra, was opened by Sagar Ghosh, who chose the location because he loved the friendly community where his wife had attended school. Ghosh, along with his fellow chef and lifelong friend, Sourav Biswas, bring their expertise from Kolkata, India, and infuse it into the dishes they create. Their culinary creations feature fresh ingredients, halal meats, and authentic Indian spices that they grind in their kitchen.

Ghosh's culinary journey began when he came to California, leading a development team for a celebrity Indian chef opening an upscale contemporary Indian restaurant. After successfully opening two other prominent, upscale restaurants, he was ready to

launch Delhi Belly. Revamping the restaurant location and installing a tandoori oven were keys to the dining experience Ghosh wanted to bring to Alhambra.

Bestsellers at Delhi Belly include traditional favorites like butter chicken and chicken tikka masala, as well as numerous vegan and vegetarian options. The restaurant also offers a range of unique regional dishes from all over India, prepared with fresh ingredients, halal meats, and in-house ground seasonings. Some standout dishes include Nutty eggplant, Coconut pumpkin curry, and Garlic truffle naan.

Delhi Belly also offers contemporary dishes inspired by California and international favorites, like Mexican tacos and Sexy Fries, their take on the Canadian dish.

The Alhambra community appreciates the Indian hospitality and the open kitchen, which adds a fun and interesting element to the dining experience.

In April, Delhi Belly will be featuring Daal, a bright yellow Indian dish perfect for the season. Additionally, the restaurant will be hosting wine pairing dinners and a private Indian whiskey pairing event. To receive a complimentary dessert, mention this article when dining at Delhi Belly. To learn more, visit delhibellyla.com or follow them on Instagram at [@delhibellyla](https://www.instagram.com/delhibellyla).



Chef Sagar Ghosh

Downtown Alhambra Volunteer Clean Up Day!

Downtown Alhambra Business Association had a "MAIN STREET CLEAN UP DAY" on Sunday, March 5th on Main Street in the Downtown Alhambra Business District.

Volunteers from our local high school's service clubs volunteered to clean up our Downtown Alhambra Business District from 3rd Street to Chapel and both parking lots on 1st Street. There were 100+ volunteers who walked around Main St. picking up trash and making our streets beautiful. The volunteers served several

hours that morning. They were led by Joanna Vargas, our Downtown Alhambra Director. Together they made sure to leave Downtown Alhambra with a swept up squeaky clean district.

We are very grateful to have such an amazing group of volunteers from our local high school to keep Downtown Alhambra a safe clean place for our community.

For more information, visit www.downtownalhambra.com or visit Instagram at [@downtownalhambra](https://www.instagram.com/downtownalhambra).



Optum

GRAND OPENING
 May 5, 2023, 3:00 PM
 55 S Raymond Avenue
 Ste 200, Alhambra

alhabra
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

AJ'S BEER & WINE

CONTACTLESS
 EBT
 AMERICAN EXPRESS
 DEBIT & CREDIT

NOW OPEN FROM 8AM TO 2AM

1107 W MISSION RD. ALHAMBRA, CA 91803
 (626) 537-1120

JO'S GARAGE INC.
 Est. 2020
 AUTO SERVICE & REPAIR

We service foreign and domestic gasoline, hybrid and electric cars and light trucks

(626)872-0705 www.josgarage.com
 120 E. Valley Blvd, Alhambra (Kerechuk Building)

FREE MAINTENANCE INSPECTION | **10% OFF ON YOUR NEXT VISIT *UP TO \$50 OFF**

Present this coupon (expires 04/30/2023)

Denny's SO GOOD YOU WON'T WANT TO PUT IT DOWN

© 2023 DFO, LLC. Printed in the U.S.A. All participating restaurants for a limited time only. Selection and prices may vary. While supplies last.

\$5.00 OFF CHECK OF \$20 OR MORE

One coupon, per table, per visit. Not valid on national holidays, with the Everyday Value Slam®, 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. © 2023 DFO, LLC. Offer ends 5.15.2023.

denny's 88880719

Real Estate

Alhambra and the Dodgers Real Estate

By Gary Frueholz, Dilbeck Real Estate



Dodger Stadium was completed in 1962 and Alhambra had a part in its construction.

Alhambra has many Dodger fans, but most of them are not aware of our city's role in Dodgers real estate. Dodger Stadium has been described as the "The Taj Mahal" of baseball stadiums. With its mid-century architecture and magnificent vista of the Elysian Park Hills and San Gabriel Mountains, the ballpark ranks as one of the top sports venues in America.

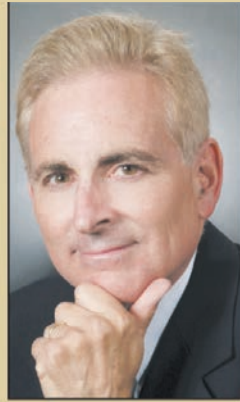
Vinnell Corporation, an Alhambra-based company from 1931 to 1979, built Dodger Stadium. The company started out paving roads and soon progressed into the construction of freeways, airports, and buildings. Vinnell built portions of the Pan-American Highway, the massive Andersen Air Force Base in the US Territory of Guam, and parts of the Grand Coulee Dam. Through these projects, the Vinnell Corporation became an international expert in concrete, a building material that was just gaining great popularity in the 20th century.



The Vinnell Corporation had land moving expertise.

This expertise caught the attention of Walter O'Malley, the owner of the Dodgers at a time when the team had just moved to Los Angeles and needed a ballpark. As a former engineer and attorney, O'Malley was deeply involved with the site selection and construction of his new baseball stadium. Impressed with the structural integrity and cost effectiveness of concrete, O'Malley needed people who truly understood concrete. Enter the Vinnell Corporation of Alhambra. At the time, most baseball stadiums were constructed out of steel and wood. Even though Vinnell had never built a sports venue, the company certainly knew concrete.

"Their (Vinnell's) only early involvement was to bid on grading and the parking lot," said Dodger Historian Mark Langill. Vinnell's bid for the grading and parking lot was accepted and to their surprise O'Malley asked them if they would not consider building the entire stadium. One condition was that Vice President,



Gary Frueholz
Dilbeck Real Estate
(626) 318-9436

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

Jack Yount, would have to be present on the construction site each day.

Vinnell accepted the challenge and set up a casting yard of concrete forms in what now is the parking lot of Dodger Stadium. Mr. Langill noted that the large concrete forms could not be transported on the local highways.



Walter O'Malley utilized a new approach to building his stadium.

Dodger Stadium was unique in another respect. It would be set onto the side of a hill in Chavez Ravine. This building technique utilized the side of the hill for support and reduced the amount of building material required to build the stadium. Again, Vinnell was perfectly suited for this with their earthmoving expertise.



Concrete was the primary material used in the stadium's construction.

Construction began in 1959 on Dodger Stadium and was completed in 1962. The project cost 23 million dollars (1962 value) and the stadium itself became the first to be funded with private funds since Yankee Stadium in 1923. Initially the stadium seated 53,000 fans and later would be expanded to 56,000.

This column is provided to Around Alhambra by Gary Frueholz, who is solely responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse the advice from this author or any other provider.

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

<p>HI-QUALITY AUTO BODY</p>	Main Street	Atlantic Blvd.
	Commonwealth Ave.	
	Mission Rd.	
	Valley Blvd.	

723 S. Fremont Ave. Alhambra, CA 91803
P: 626-457-9114
www.hiqualityautobody.com

PEOPLE LOVE US ON

Wondries
Family COLLISION CENTER, LLC

GOT DAMAGE?

OUR MASTER TECHNICIANS ARE HERE TO RESTORE YOUR AUTO TO LIKE PRE-ACCIDENT CONDITIONS!

CONTACT US TODAY
(626) 414-1900

328 S MARENGO AVE,
ALHAMBRA, CA 91803,
WWW.WONDRIESCC.COM



**REPUTABLE.
TRUSTWORTHY.
KNOWLEDGEABLE.**



**遺產管理及
遺產信託專**
DRE# 01864766

**CONTACT US TO GET YOUR PROPERTY SOLD FOR TOP DOLLAR!
(626)986-3860**



304 W. Markland Dr, Monterey Park
3 Bed | 1 Bath | House | 1,098 ft²



336 Kingsford St, Monterey Park
3 Bed | 2 Bath | House | 1,899 ft²



680 Cadiz St, Monterey Park
4 Bed | 3 Bath | House | 2,584 ft²



224 E. Fernfield Dr, Monterey Park
3 Bed | 1 Bath | House | 936 ft²



14038 Rockenbach St, Baldwin Park
3 Bed | 1 Bath | House | 1,174 ft²



330 N. Rural Dr #205, Monterey Park
2 Bed | 2 Bath | Senior Condo | 838 ft²



210 N. Monterey St #404, Alhambra
1 Bed | 2 Bath | Senior Condo | 870 ft²



209 Elizabeth Ave, Monterey Park
4 Bed | 2 Bath | Duplex | 1,314 ft²



119 S. Atlantic Blvd, Monterey Park
2 Office Suites | NNN | 364-1,600 ft²



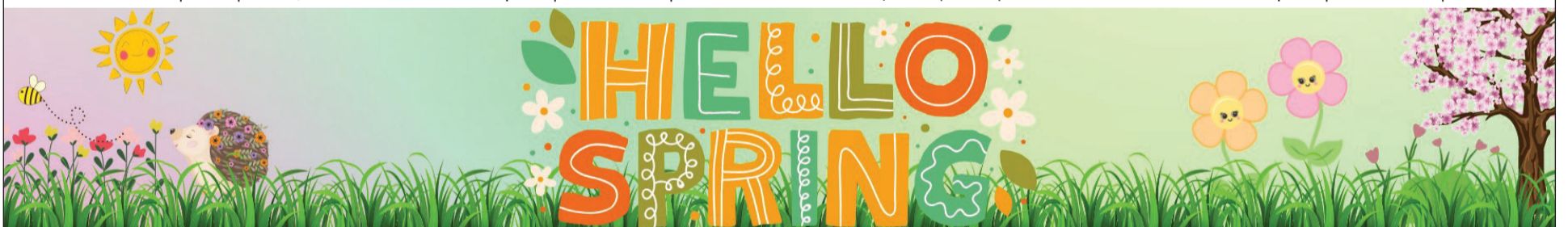
18039 Crenshaw Blvd #304, Torrance
Office Space | Mod. Gross | 300 ft²



222 & 232 E. Main St, Alhambra
Retail Spaces | NNN | 2,603-3,263 ft²



101 E. Huntington Dr #105, Arcadia
Office Space | Mod. Gross | 296 ft²



**INTERESTED IN SELLING YOUR PROPERTY? CALL TODAY FOR A
FREE CONSULTATION (626)986-3860**



City	Property Type	Average Price FEB '23	Average Price FEB '22	YOY%
Monterey Park	Single Family House	\$789,625	\$989,143	-20.17%
	Condo/Townhome	\$629,367	\$577,114	9.05%
Alhambra	Single Family House	\$984,860	\$1,087,559	-9.44%
	Condo/Townhome	\$767,500	\$652,850	17.56%



"Truly excellent service! Philip Chang was incredibly knowledgeable, personable, capable, professional, and was always very responsive in answering all my questions & concerns confidently and patiently. Everything was well taken care of, from negotiation to paperwork, and I truly felt safe with him handling everything. Selling a house and moving can be stressful for many reasons but it was a great comfort to have someone who is truly professional to handle my real estate matters. He is also very observant and considerate in regards to specific customer needs regarding real estate location, amenities, and even to details that would normally have been missed, such as the placement of the plumbing, among many other details. This type of consideration really shows that he really goes above and beyond to provide great service. I recommend him highly as he is a realtor that you can truly trust to handle everything with expertise and consideration. No worries. It was such a relief to find him." 