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ALHAMBRA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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Alhambra, CA 91801

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ALHAMBRA, CA

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City of Alhambra launches Small Business Assistance Grant (SBAG) program to aid local businesses

The City of Alhambra has launched a local business grant program for small businesses in the City. Up to \$5000 will be awarded to eligible businesses that have less than 25 employees and have not received COVID financial assistance from other sources. Applications are open online on the City's website from through April 14. Among other requirements, eligible businesses must have less than 25 employees and have not received Covid financial assistance from other sources.

The City of Alhambra's newly created COVID-19 Small Business Assistance Grant (SBAG) Program to aid for-profit, small businesses located within Alhambra has approximately \$135,000 in grants

funds available for the program.

"The last two years have been very difficult financially for our small businesses," said Mayor Jeff Maloney. "Funds from this program can help support local business owners to continue to rebuild and recover from the damage caused by the pandemic."

Businesses will be subject to eligibility requirements, and if approved, grants can be used for overhead expenses, rent and utilities, business services to increase capacity to carry out business activities including marketing and promotions, payroll expenses including hiring bonuses, business inventory and supplies including Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), and day-to-day expenses including maintenance, capital or equipment

>> see **SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANT** Page 4

OPEN STREETS MADE POSSIBLE BY METRO PRESENTS

626 GOLDEN STREETS MISSION TO MISSION

626 黃金開放街道活動

SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022
1 DE MAYO DE 2022

9:00AM - 4:00PM
EVENTO GRATIS

FREE EVENT
免費活動

BIKE, WALK, RUN, SKATE, DANCE, PLAY, ART, MUSIC, FOOD, ENTERTAINMENT

PEDALEA, CAMINA, CORRE, PATINA, BAILA, JUEGA, ARTE, MÚSICA, COMIDA, DIVERSIÓN

騎自行車, 跑步, 步行, 街道藝術, 音樂表演, 歌舞表演, 娛樂

PARTICIPATING CITIES AND SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

WWW.626GOLDENSTREETS.COM

#626GoldenStreets #ActiveSGV

EVENT MAP

EVENT ROUTE
活動路線 / RUTA DEL EVENTO

CROSSING FOR CARS
允許汽車穿越的路口 / CRUCE DE CARROS

SOUTH PASADENA METRO STATION
South Pasadena 火車站 / ESTACIONAMIENTO DE METRO SOUTH PASADENA

FESTIVAL HUBS
路線基點 / CENTROS DE ACTIVIDAD

Mayor's Corner

Hope for a Sustainable Future

By Mayor Jeff Maloney

Helping to create a more sustainable and environmentally responsible community has been one of my top priorities since first being elected to the City Council back in 2016. The importance of sustainability has only intensified since then, as the challenges we face are immense. From climate change, to air pollution, to the decline of important species on land and in the sea – the survival of the entire human race is on the line.

While I am pleased with many of our accomplishments during my time on the City Council, including Alhambra's first tree preservation ordinance, joining the Clean Power Alliance, reduction in the use of plastic utensils at restaurants, planting of several hundred new (net) trees, and recognition of Alhambra as a "Tree City USA," there is still so much we can and must do.

Alhambra's First Sustainability Plan

We can no longer wait for solutions from the federal government or international community – we have to create our own. That is why, in 2020, I proposed Alhambra's very first comprehensive Sustainability Plan, which my colleagues and I made a top strategic priority for the City.

Last fall, Congresswoman Judy Chu announced that she had secured funding for the Sustainability Plan in the recent bipartisan spending package. President

Biden signed the bill in mid-March, and we are now ready to embark on Alhambra's Sustainability Plan – the most significant such effort in our City's history. Thank you, Congresswoman Chu!

We need to hear about your suggestions, experiences, and desires for a more sustainable Alhambra. There will be a variety of ways to get involved with the Sustainability Plan and your input is crucial as we move forward.

What Can We Do Now?

While the Sustainability Plan gets underway, there are many practices we can adopt now that will have an immediate impact. Here are a few changes that my family and I have already adopted:

- Change to the **100% Green Power** option with the Clean Power Alliance to power your home with renewable energy only and zero fossil fuel emissions.
- Commit to **diverting all organic waste** (yard trimmings, vegetable scraps, food waste, etc.) into your green organics bin. This reduces the release of dangerous methane gas from our landfills and instead produces valuable compost.
- Choose **drought-tolerant California native plants** for your garden instead of thirsty lawns and exotic plants. (Bonus: native plants provide habitat and food for local bird and wildlife species.)
- **Leave the car at home!** In this time of high gasoline prices, there are even



Mayor Jeff Maloney

more reasons to choose to walk or bike as much as possible. Not only will this prevent the release of harmful emissions, but it will also help to reduce congestion on Alhambra's streets.

Thank you to all Alhambra residents for your commitment to sustainable practices, and thank you in advance for making our historic Sustainability Plan a success! These developments give me hope for our future, in Alhambra and beyond.

As always, I welcome your feedback at jmaloney4alhambra@gmail.com.

Sustainable Business Spotlights

ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION:
Alliance Environmental Group

San Gabriel Valley-based Alliance Environmental Group uses green practices to abate pests, clean indoor air, and remediate environmental hazards like asbestos and mold. They encourage commercial and residential property owners to avoid DIY lead and asbestos removal, leaving it to the professionals who follow strict protocols to ensure safety during and after hazardous materials are removed. And, when it comes to pest control, chemical-free heat methods are effective and don't leave harmful residues behind.

As more commercial buildings are seeking LEED certification (which is awarded to builders who implement green initiatives during the building process and in overall design), these structures often have HVAC systems that keep indoor air pure. Alliance provides duct cleaning for hospitals and hotels to keep those systems performing efficiently and maintaining healthy air.

"We're a company that's committed to increasing indoor air quality in residential and commercial buildings" said Bill Wood, Alliance Vice President of Marketing. "We've been a part of the San Gabriel Valley since 1995, and we are proud to be a part of it. We started here and will never forget our roots."

Alliance Environmental Group will provide an estimate via their website alliance-enviro.com or phone call at (877) 858-6220.



The YMCA of West San Gabriel Valley SUMMER DAY CAMP

Grades K-8th • 11 weeks
May 31st - Aug 12th, 2022

\$800 per month / Weekly rates available



When is Camp?

Summer 2022, May 31st - Aug 12th
Monday - Friday, K-8th Grade
7:30a.m – 5:30p.m

What We Offer:

- Breakfast, Lunch, and Snack
- Air Conditioned Classrooms
- 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.

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
Cell: 626-660-6681 or 626-576-0226 or E-Mail: val.ymca@gmail.com • Visit Us At www.wsgvymca.org

NO REFUNDS

From the Chief

By Alhambra Police Chief Kelley Fraser

As environmentalists find innovative ways to address sustainability in our beautiful world, the law enforcement community also strives to maintain a sustainable future. Merriam-Webster defines sustainability as "capable of being sustained." Finding ways to sustain a healthy workforce of the Alhambra Police Department is one of my top priorities. The well-being of our employees is paramount to the success of our effectiveness in providing the highest level of service. Emotional wellness and overall physical fitness are the cornerstones toward longevity and sustainability in law enforcement. In addition to our efforts in keeping our department healthy, we work toward finding the next generation of servant leaders by recruiting community members interested in becoming a member of our department.



Kelley Fraser
Alhambra Police Chief

The members of the Alhambra Police Department perform their duties by policing our neighborhoods and by handling vital administrative tasks – doing so with the highest level of quality service. Our members are provided all the necessary resources and proper training to be physically fit, mentally healthy, and attuned to the ever-changing laws and policies. Members of our department have access to an onsite gym and a myriad of resources when dealing with physical and mental health. These resources include 24-hour access to grief counselors, chaplains, and psychiatrists. We also send our members to classes that address personal and mental wellness.

Our organization carries a family-oriented mindset, where we place the community and the members who represent the department at the core of what matters. This helps us maintain a productive, healthy, sustainable working and living environment. Our Personnel and Training Section, responsible for recruitment and hiring, works tirelessly to find the best and the brightest to represent our city. The applicants who have the

courage to apply for this demanding and rewarding career go through a rigorous and tedious process to retain the best of the best.

There is no doubt about it: a happy employee will provide exceptional service and bring safety to our community, even in its darkest moments. Our officers are trained to perform under mentally straining and dangerous situations and, the next minute, do the small things that matter the most to our citizens.

I am incredibly fortunate to be the Chief of Police for the Alhambra Police Department and will work toward sustainable outcomes. I could not be prouder of the men and women of our department. They love what they do, as showcased through their commitment and professionalism. They take pride in and focus on the things that make a difference while striving to maintain their mind, body, and soul to be a healthy member of the Alhambra Police Department.

If you - or someone you know - are interested in becoming an Alhambra Police Department member, please visit our city website at www.cityofalhambra.org/517/recruitment-and-selection.

Government & Legislative News From The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

• As of March 4, 2022, businesses in LA County are no longer required to ask customers to wear masks indoors.

• During its February 28, 2022 meeting, the Alhambra City Council has sworn in its new Mayor, **Jeff Maloney**. Mr. Maloney was previously the Vice-Mayor and has served in the City's Council since November 2016. **Adele Andrade-Stadler** was sworn in as Vice-Mayor.

• The Chamber voted to support state legislation that creates the California Emergency Relief Fund to provide emergency resources and financial relief to businesses that experienced hardship during the pandemic. The bill was approved into law on February 8, 2022, and will provide over \$150 million in funds to the California Emergency Relief Fund and the Office of Small Business Advocate. This law also reinstates the net operating loss deduction above \$5 million on or after January 1, 2022.

• The Chamber opposes AB-257, which would enact the Fast Food Accountability and Standards Recovery Act or FAST Recovery Act. The bill would establish the Fast Food Sector Council (council) to establish sector-wide minimum standards on wages, working hours, and other working conditions related to the health, safety, and welfare of fast-food restaurant workers.

• The Chamber voted to support AB-1761 - a State bill that would allow workers to request a flexible workweek schedule. As long as a full-time employee works 40 hours a week, they may work up to 10 hours per day without triggering

overtime rules. Employees would still be entitled to overtime if they work more than 10 hours per day and double overtime if they work more than 12 hours per day. The Chamber is joining a coalition with the CalChamber to advocate in favor of the proposed legislation because it allows schedules that fit the needs of both the employee and the employer.

• On March 1, 2022, the Alhambra Chamber announced its support for SB-846, a State bill that would authorize a licensee with onsite alcohol sales privileges to deliver alcoholic beverages to consumers away from the licensed premises until December 31, 2026. This bill allows the customer to pick up an order directly from the restaurant or bar, or the beverages may be delivered to the customer directly. The proposed legislation also would eliminate the requirement that the sale of alcohol to be picked up/delivered include the purchase of food.

The Chamber supports this proposed law because restaurants, bars, and pubs have been severely affected by the pandemic, and experienced above-average revenues decline compared to other industries. Having the ability to sell to-go alcoholic beverages helps these businesses generate more revenue and continue to provide jobs in our community. Additionally, bars and pubs that do not sell food had been excluded from the existing pandemic-related exception that allows customers to purchase to-go drinks with a meal. This bill would fix this problem and help these establishments in our city.

28TH ANNUAL ALHAMBRA POLICE FOUNDATION GOLF TOURNAMENT

THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2022

**ALHAMBRA MUNICIPAL GOLF COURSE
630 SOUTH ALMANSOR STREET
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91801**

INVEST IN SAFETY!
YOUR PARTICIPATION AND SUPPORT AT THE GOLF TOURNAMENT FUNDS NEEDED EQUIPMENT FOR THE OFFICERS OF THE ALHAMBRA POLICE DEPARTMENT, THE DEPARTMENT'S CRIME PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM.

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, EMAIL:
GPONCE@ALHAMBRA.PD.ORG**

RSVP AT WWW.ALHAMBRAPOLICEFOUNDATION.ORG

Bunny-Hop Walk

Bring your little bunnies to hop along, visiting stops to play games and receive goodies!

Saturday, April 9, 2022
9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Almanson Park - 800 S. Almanson St.

Activities: Photo with the Bunny, live entertainment, games, food, and prizes!

**For more information
Call (626) 570-3242
or visit
www.cityofalhambra.org**

Don't forget to bring your own basket!

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 ceo@alhambrachamber.org

For advertising rates and other information, contact

Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

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Pat Brown Institute at Cal State LA releases
AAPI Survey results on key political issues

On March 15, 2022, the Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs (PBI) at Cal State LA and the California Community Foundation (CCF) released the results of a survey that reveals how the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community in Los Angeles views local, state, and national leaders and key issues including pandemic relief, homelessness, immigration, law enforcement, hate crimes and discrimination, civic participation, and identity.

Since PBI's last survey of Asian Americans in Los Angeles, conducted in 2016, the community has experienced the Trump presidency, renewed movements for racial justice, and the social and economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. This survey results provide in-depth insight into the views and experiences of AAPI residents, both voters and nonvoters, who make up about 15% of L.A. County's population and will likely play a significant role in shaping this year's Los Angeles Elections.

The survey results found that the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in Los Angeles County holds deep fears of racial attacks. Nearly a quarter of the 1,500 AAPI residents who were surveyed reported being a victim of a physical or verbal attack because of their race or ethnicity during the COVID-19 pandemic. Two-thirds said they are worried about being a victim of a hate crime, and 80% said they believe anti-Asian racism has been a serious problem during the pandemic. Half of the survey respondents said they have experienced racial discrimination in public spaces.

"It is rare to have a survey with such a large sample of AAPI residents in a single geographic area, allowing an unprecedented deep dive into the challenges, hopes and aspirations of the

fastest-growing demographic group in America," said Raphael J. Sonenshein, executive director for PBI in an article with CalStateLA Newsroom. "The intensity of the community's concerns about anti-Asian speech and action, and about discrimination, is particularly timely on the first anniversary of the horrific murders in Atlanta," he said, referring to the 2021 attacks in Atlanta that killed 8 people, 6 of which were Asian women.

"With election campaigns underway in L.A. city and throughout L.A. County, the survey can help open the door to greater and more productive engagement by candidates and parties with the AAPI community," Sonenshein said.

The survey found that AAPI residents who reported experiencing racial discrimination were more active in political activities, including contacting elected officials, discussing politics with friends or family, signing petitions, donating and volunteering on campaigns.

During the pandemic, 36% of all respondents – and 48% of 18- to 34-year-olds – said they lost their job or had their hours cut.

Most respondents indicated that police funding should remain the same or increase, with 42% reporting it should not change. However, views varied by national origin, with Indian Americans and Chinese Americans being most likely to favor status quo funding levels at 50% and 48% of respondents, respectively, and 37% of Korean Americans and 39% of Vietnamese Americans favoring a slight increase in funding.

Half of the AAPI residents leaned Democrat and 35% of respondents

identified as Independent or with neither party. Nearly 60% of respondents hold unfavorable views of former President Donald J. Trump and generally approve of Democratic leaders like President Joe Biden, Gov. Gavin Newsom and Mayor Eric Garcetti.

An overwhelming majority of respondents—92%—reported being enthusiastic about participating in the 2022 midterm elections. Nearly 85% said having an Asian American elected official representing them was very or somewhat important.

The survey of more than 1,500 AAPI residents was conducted by BSP Research from Nov. 8 to Dec. 24, 2021 under the direction of veteran pollster Matt Barreto, in association with PBI's Nathan Chan, an expert in AAPI public opinion and voting behavior, and with funding from CCF. Overall, 70% of respondents completed the survey online and 30% were interviewed by phone. Participants were able to complete the survey in their preferred language among English, Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog and Korean. The poll's margin of error is ± 2.5%. The full survey results can be found at <https://calstatela.patbrowninstitute.org>.

The AAPI survey is the second in a two-part Voices of L.A. survey series from PBI and CCF. A survey of the Los Angeles Latina/o community was released on March 1. Both are part of The Voices of L.A. survey series, a groundbreaking multiyear PBI project to survey four major racial and ethnic populations in Los Angeles County: the Asian American and Pacific Islander, Latino, Black, and Jewish communities.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANT From Page 1

purchases for business operations.

The program was approved by the City Council during its March 14th meeting, wherein the Council approved allocating \$150,000 from its Emergency Housing Assistance Program to fund small business grants. City staff has indicated that the Emergency Housing Assistance Program, which was funded by the US Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD), has become obsolete since the State and County have created other assistance programs that are more valuable to applicants. The small business program would be subject to the same HUD rules, which does allow up to 10% of the funds, or \$15,000, to be used to administer the program. The remaining \$135,000 is available to provide at least 27 eligible small businesses to access funds of up to \$5000 each.

Qualifying businesses must be for-profit and physically located in the city limits of Alhambra with no more than 25 employees and meet HUD's criteria of low-income benefit, or be a

microbusiness with 5 or fewer employees including the owner(s). Among other criteria, the business must have a current business license with the City of Alhambra and have been operational for at least six months.

One of the most limiting restrictions of the program is that the business must not have received assistance from other sources, including federal, state, or county governments for programs such as the Small Business Administration (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loan (EIDL), SBA Express Bridge Loan, SBA Debt Relief, or Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan.

The business must have incurred COVID-related expenses prior to the submission of this application because this program does not advance grant funds for future expenses.

A complete list of eligibility requirements is available, along with the application form, on the City of Alhambra's website, and the deadline to submit the application is 5:00 PM on April 14, 2022.



CITY OF ALHAMBRA COVID-19 SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM (SBAG)

GRANT AWARD \$5,000

APPLICATION DEADLINE
Application must be received by 5:00 PM on April 14, 2022.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:
Scan the QR Code to view eligibility requirements and download the application or visit our website at: www.cityofalhabra.org
For questions, call (626) 570-5011 or email: communications@cityofalhabra.org

- Business must be for profit, have no more than 25 employees including the owners, and be physically located in Alhambra.
- Business must meet HUD's criteria for low-and moderate-income benefit and provide documentation supporting COVID-19 impact.
- Funds can be used for rent, utilities, overhead expenses, purchasing equipment, marketing, etc.

Seven ways to be more sustainable in April...

Here are seven simple ways for you to make small changes in your life this month to improve the environment while supporting local businesses.

1. Buy a bicycle from Alhambra Cycle Sports on 1024 E Main Street. Don't forget to pick up a helmet, too! Alhambra Schwinn can help outfit you with a bicycle for riding to work or recreational rides around town.



Use your compost pail from Re-public Services. Almost all food waste is compostable, and keeping it out of landfills results in fewer methane emissions. It also helps produce better compost for crops! And speaking of compost...

2. Pick up used coffee grounds for compost from Starbucks on Main Street in Downtown Alhambra. Coffee grounds may be brown in color, but they are a green compost material. Starbucks gives used coffee grounds free of charge every day. Just walk up to the front counter, and ask for a bag!

3. Replace one time use bags with reusable Stasher bags. These can be purchased at CVS on East Valley Blvd, or Target on West Main Street.

4. Purchase previously-loved items at The Salvation Army Thrift Store & Donation Center on 1010 E Main

Street. Purchasing from a thrift store ensures that these previously-loved items such as toys, silverware, clothes, and



furniture stay out of the wastestream and into landfills.

5. Install low-flow fixtures in your bathroom. Updating your bathroom fixtures reduces your overall water consumption without sacrificing comfort or ease of use. Find new, low-flow fixtures at The Home Depot on 500 S Marengo Avenue.

6. Purchase your produce from the Alhambra Farmers Market every Sunday from 8:30am-1:30pm on East 2nd Street. Purchasing your produce directly from farmers ensures that your produce is in season and local, reducing the impacts of it being transported from afar.

7. Invest in Solar Panels for your home from Shift Solar on 630 N Stoneman Avenue, Unit B. Solar panels are a big step towards building a carbon neutral household.



Alhambra is Rich in Restaurants Support Local Businesses!



Sustainable Business Spotlights

CONSTRUCTION: Dynasty Builders, Inc

Dynasty Builders Inc., isn't just find your average contracting company. You'll discover a family-owned team backed by years of experience. They have a special division, Green Concepts, that focuses on sustainable structures and systems. From solar panel installation to energy audits, Dynasty's Green Concepts does it all for you to become more sustainable.

Around 20% of California's power is produced by solar installations! That's a 52x increase from a decade ago. There has never been a better time to save money & energy with solar, especially with the federal 26% tax credit through 2022. Furthermore, Solar energy will help you drastically lower your electricity bills, and even so, California homeowner pays off their solar panel system in 7-8 years due to savings on bills. Homes that are equipped with solar energy systems have a greater property value and are favored on the market. The best part: in 30 years, the average rooftop solar panel system can reduce pollution by 100 tons of carbon dioxide.

Not ready for full solar, there are other services Dynasty offers to help you "go green." In terms of energy efficiency, air sealing is one of the least expensive and most cost-effective measures you can take to improve your home's comfort and energy efficiency. By sealing uncontrolled air leaks, you can expect to see savings of 10% to 20% on your heating and cooling bills, and even more if you have an older or especially leaky house. They also can assist with insulation, doors and windows, and more.

Green Concepts works doesn't just save money and improve your sustainability, it increases the value of your property. This work creates a healthier home or building, which is a more sustainable home or building. You can learn more at www.dynastybuilds.com.



ASIAN AMERICAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ENTERPRISES, INC.

A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION, ENTERPRISE AND EXCELLENCE

AAEDE Internship Opportunity!!!

AAEDE Internship

Under the general supervision of the Executive Director, Administrator, and Administrative Assistant, the interns are primarily responsible for the summer planning of AAEDE's 11th Annual Job/Career Fair. Interns also will be expected to organize and aid with any other projects or events that AAEDE decides to partake in through out the summer.

We expect interns to be strong individuals, self-starters, and leaders who preform at a professional level. We are looking for excellent team players who possess positive professional attitudes and have the skill set to manage multiple projects.

Interns will have the opportunity to learn and assist in all logistical aspects of event planning and marketing. We hope this opportunity will help you grow personally and professionally.

This is a paid Internship.

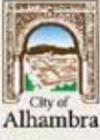
Duties include but are not limited to:

- Preparing or assisting in preparation of proposal to potential companies attending the job fair.
- Developing, and compiling, promotional literature for distribution such as newsletters, brochures or flyers; coordinates process from development stage through the final printing and distribution of materials.
- Interaction and maintenance of open communication channels with vendors and outside agencies.
- Conducting research for vendors, venue selection, outsourced services, creative marketing ideas, etc.
- Creating job fair materials, such as name badges, diagrams, signs, etc.
- Accurate accounting of logistics such floor plans, attendee rosters, etc.
- Cold calling as necessary.
- Miscellaneous office support: processing documentation, filing, reporting, data entry, responding to emails, answering the phone, etc.



Instructions for Applying: Please submit RESUME by **Friday, June 17th, 2022 5:00 p.m.**
Via-Email: aaedeinfo@gmail.com Subject Line: AAEDE Internship

For more information, visit aaede.info and check under internships

STATE OF THE CITY

April 12, 2022 | 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM
at The Granada
17 South 1st Street in Alhambra

MAYOR JEFF MALONEY
City of Alhambra

Join us as Mayor Maloney delivers the 2022 State of the City address at this annual community luncheon to celebrate city accomplishments and look forward to what's next.

Ticket price:
\$50.00 / person



Be a table sponsor to support the economic development work of the Chamber and get the following benefits:

- 8 premiere tickets
- logo in the event program
- acknowledged in *Around Alhambra*
- sponsor logo on the promotional material

LIVE STREAM

Those who can't join in-person are invited to watch on Facebook live.

[REGISTER NOW](https://www.alhambrachamber.org) at www.alhambrachamber.org

For more information, please call the Chamber at (626) 282-8481.

CALLING ALL ADVERTISERS!

Promote your business in Around Alhambra's May issue on **SUMMER FAMILY FUN!**

We'll be celebrating **Summer Family Fun** in our May edition. Let your customers know that your business has something special to offer this coming summer season. We can help you plan your Around Alhambra ad. We can help you with ideas for "summer" promotions, store coupons, and highlighting your brand. Plus, we'll include your business in our social media on Facebook and Instagram.





Deadline for ad reservation is April 12.
Ad submission deadline is April 18.
Call us for rates! (626) 282-8481

Mayor Maloney to deliver State of the City Address on April 12

Continuing a long-standing tradition, on April 12, 2022, Mayor Jeff Maloney will deliver his State of the City address at a luncheon for community members, business owners, and other civic leaders. Held at The Granada in the Civic Center of Downtown Alhambra, the luncheon will feature the Mayor's annual update to the business community on what the City has accomplished and what the vision for the year to come.

Hosted by the Chamber of Commerce in partnership with the City of Alhambra, the annual State of the City offers an opportunity for the business community to connect with the Mayor and other municipal leaders to under-

stand how they can work together to create a more vibrant, sustainable, and livable city.

Tickets for the luncheon are available now by visiting the Chamber's website (alhambrachamber.org), and for those unable to attend in person, there will be a live stream option on Facebook via the City's page as well as that of the Chamber of Commerce's.

For more information on how to purchase a ticket to the event or sponsor a table, contact the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce. Information on how to watch online will be provided at alhambrachamber.org and on the Facebook pages of both the City and the Chamber.

Tax Tips

Tax Deadline & Unclaimed Refunds

By Michael Aston, E.A.

The deadline to file your 2021 tax return is April 18, 2022 (and extensions, too).

There's roughly 1 million people who are owed around \$1.3 billion dollars in refunds for taxable year 2018. If you haven't filed your 2018 income tax return, your statute expires on April 18, 2022. 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 2017.
- 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 2018 returns, the window closes on April 18, 2022.
- The IRS must have your tax return by April 18, 2022, 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 2018 refunds if taxpayers have not filed tax returns for 2019 and 2020. 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 a form



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(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.

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 2018 tax return and claim a refund will expire April 15, 2022.

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 2017 California return is April 15, 2022. 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 responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse financial advice recommended by this author or any other provider.

Your Insurance

Auto insurance for foreign drivers

By Regina Talbot

Just arrived in this country and want to drive? You need to learn about insurance as soon as possible.

Auto insurance for foreign drivers

Whether you're here visiting or starting a brand new life, one of the first things that surely crossed your mind is being able to drive. Clearly, having a driver's license will be the first step. But apart from having a license, and unlike in many other countries, here you have to have auto insurance in order to drive. Don't despair, however — we've gathered helpful information here to assist you. The road awaits. Let's get started.

Driver's licenses and insurance for immigrants

Here in the U.S., everybody needs to have two things before they can drive: a driver's license and insurance. The rules for both of these are different depending on the state that you live in. Typically the DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles — which is in charge of issuing licenses, license plates and vehicle titles) requires that you have a social security number in order to get a license. However, don't get too discouraged if you don't have one.

Car insurance: Do I need to start from scratch?

When it comes to insurance, everything depends on the coverage that you choose, although an insurance company might charge you a bit more at the beginning. It doesn't matter if you have years of experience driving in another country. When you don't have a driving history established in the U.S., you're considered a "new driver."

Who does car insurance protect?

Have you ever wondered why it's mandatory to have car insurance in order to drive here in the U.S.? While it may seem a bit of an exaggeration, every time a person drives they are exposing themselves to the risk of having an acci-



Regina Talbot
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 State Farm Insurance
 Regina Talbot, Agent
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dent. If this were to happen to you and you didn't have insurance, you might have to pay out-of-pocket not only for repairs, but also for medical expenses for both you and the other person. And you've probably found out by now just how much those kinds of things can cost here. In other words, the savings that you've worked so hard for would vanish into thin air. Liability insurance protects you and your family for damages you are at fault for up to the amount of policy limits you choose.

This column is provided to Around Alhambra by State Farm Agent Regina Talbot, who is responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse financial advice recommended by this author or any other provider. For more information, contact State Farm Agent Regina Talbot at (626) 357-3401.

ALHAMBRA MORNING KICK START FOR BUSINESS GROWTH

alhambra CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Alhambra Morning Kick Start for Business Growth is a business networking event that provides participants digestible tools to improve their businesses. Join us and take advantage of this learning and networking event!

In this session, a marketing expert will teach attendees how to craft compelling email subject lines, and captions to increase engagement from potential customers, returning customers, donors, and more.

Wednesday, April 13, 2022
 7:30 - 8:45 AM
 Alhambra Chamber Conference Room

Space is limited, and advanced registration is required. To reserve your seat, please register at <https://www.alhambrachamber.org/event-4745997>

Chamber Members: Free
 Non-Members: \$10

alhambra CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

RECYCLING & WASTE MANAGEMENT TIPS FOR SMALL BUSINESS

REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.

REVIEW AND LIMIT EXCESS WASTE

The first step in any business' search for a more cost-effective waste management plan is reviewing existing waste habits. A business should always start by reducing the quantity of waste they produce.

SEPARATING RECYCLABLE FROM NON-RECYCLABLE

Sorting materials allows later steps within the recycling process to run more smoothly and also helps reduce the amount of waste that goes to landfill.

USE FEWER SINGLE-USE PRODUCTS

Fewer single use products mean less waste. Pay mind to how many of the items used within your product or service are single use. If your small business relies heavily on paper resources, you may wish to investigate paperless alternatives.

VISIT THE CHAMBER ONLINE AT alhambrachamber.org

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Michael Aston, EA

ADMITTED TO PRACTICE BEFORE THE IRS ENROLLED AGENT

2021 Federal Tax Filing Deadline 4/18/2022

The City of Alhambra & Republic Services present:

The Bi-Annual ALHAMBRA RECYCLES EVENT

Saturday, April 23, 2022

Granada Park, 2000 West Hellman Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91803

8:00 AM - 12:00 PM

WHAT TO BRING:

- PLASTIC BOTTLES & ALUMINUM CANS**
- DOCUMENT SHREDDING** *maximum of 5 banker boxes
- ELECTRONIC WASTE** PCs, monitors, cell phones, TVs, VCRs, printers
- COMPOST GIVEAWAY** *Must bring your own bag/container to fill compost.
- ICE CREAM SCOOP VOUCHER** Fosselmans Ice Cream voucher to first 150 participants! First come, first served basis.

NO HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE WILL BE COLLECTED! (i.e. no lightbulbs, batteries, or prescription drugs)

COVID-19 Precautions

- Do not attend if you have:
 - Any COVID-19 symptoms
 - Been asked to quarantine
 - Recently traveled internationally
- Wear a face covering
- Stay in your vehicle with windows closed, if possible

For more information: cityofalhambra.org, republicservices.com/municipality/alhambra-ca

REPUBLIC SERVICES

EVENT SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION BASED UPON COVID-19 STATUS

ALHAMBRA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESENTS

ALHAMBRA CONNECTS

The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce is proud to present this monthly business networking event. This month's featured guest: **Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis.**

Tuesday, April 26, 2022
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM
 Pacific Plaza Premier
 1611 S. Garfield Ave., Ste 300
 Alhambra, CA 91801
Members: Free with RSVP
Non-members: \$20

Registration required to attend:
alhambrachamber.org

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

APRIL'S FEATURED SPEAKER

Hilda Solis
 L.A. County Supervisor, First District
 In December 2021, Supervisor Solis became the new representative for Alhambra. Come learn more about her and hear about her approach to serving Alhambra.

The Chamber View

Creating a Sustainable Business Community

By *John Bwarie*
 CEO, Alhambra Chamber of Commerce



John Bwarie
 CEO Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

For decades, April is when we celebrate Earth Day, which has now come to inspire an entire month to focus on the earth, the environment, and the role we all play in protecting and conserving the world we live in. This issue of *Around Alhambra* focuses on the sustainability of our individual, business, and community activities. You'll find our columnists and features focusing on it because we have to – what's the point of doing all the work we do to support and build our Alhambra community if the impacts of climate change will undermine this work in a few short decades? We look forward to working with the City and Mayor Maloney on bringing best practices to our businesses as the community comes together to develop and implement Alhambra's first sustainability plan.

And sustainability means the sustaining of our business community, as well. The Chamber is proud to have worked with the City Council and staff to advocate and bring about a direct financial assistance program for our small businesses in Alhambra. The City's Small Business Assistance Grant (SBAG) program is running now, and applications are due by April 14th. Sustainability means thinking about the next generation, too. You'll find two scholarships in this issue for our local Alhambra students heading off to college, with one from the Chamber focused on the students who are currently working.

We are lucky to have a column from noted earthquake and disaster scientist Dr. Lucy Jones, who shares how we can talk about the issues of the climate crisis in a way that actually gets action. Climate is not a partisan issue, and we know that most Alhambrians believe we must do something about it. As the recent polling from the Pat Brown Institute shared regarding the AAPI community, we know that there is a

level of engagement among more than half of our Alhambra population that calls for us all to do more.

To create a sustainable community, each business can work to become more sustainable in practice. Just one step at a time. And the Chamber is here to support businesses with free resources and training to allow them to create practices and operations that are the most sustainable they can be. In fact, this month, the Chamber is launching its Sustainability Committee to act as a Green Team to support businesses and policies that create a more sustainable Alhambra. We will shine a light on what's possible and support the City in reactivating its Sustainability Commission, which hasn't met in more than a year (since January 2021).

The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce is a business organization that is committed to the future sustainability of Alhambra, where all businesses can thrive and contribute to the economic sustainability of the City. And that means starting to take the simple steps that begin focusing on the environmental impacts we might have.

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Alhambra News & Notes

Vice-Mayor **Adele Andrade Stadler** was elected SCAG Regional Council District #34 Representative, representing Alhambra, Montebello, and Monterey Park.

On February 22, 45 volunteers including then-Mayor **Katherine Lee** and Councilmember **Sasha Perez**, spread out across the city to conduct the annual point-in-time (PIT) **homeless count**, as did every community across LA County that week.

On February 23, **City Manager Jessica Binqvist** was on-hand to receive a **\$963,000 grant for Alhambra Park Pool improvements** from the first-ever cycle of Measure A Competitive Grant Programs from the LA County Parks District Funding. The grant provides upgrades to the restrooms and changing areas, adds new poolside seating and shade covering, and improves exterior lighting and bike parking.

On March 19, **Alhambra Teachers Association** hosted a **Read Across America Day** event in Alhambra Park, where students were read to by volunteers including members of the City Council, as well as newly elected **Assemblyman Mike Fong**.

On March 19, **Gallery Nucleus** hosted authors **Jeff Yang, Phil Yu, and Philip Wang** for a book signing of their newly released, best-seller **Rise: A Pop History of Asian America from the Nineties to Now**

From March 19-23, **USC's Aviation Safety and Security Program** held its latest 5-day Helicopter Accident Investigation course in their **Aircraft Accident Investigation Laboratory** in Alhambra. Founded in 1952, the USC program is internationally known, and their lab is the gold standard for learning about accidents.

March 27 was the last day of operation for **Diner on Main** in its current iteration. New management is planning a refresh and eventual reopening.

On Saturday, April 23, the City and **Republic Services** will host the bi-annual **Alhambra Recycles Event** at Granada Park from 8am to 12noon. You can bring bottles and cans, paper to be shred and electronic waste. There will be giveaways and more!

The Alhambra City Council will begin to welcome the public back in-person to its meetings starting this month, as well as Board and Commission meetings.

If you have news or announcements to share, please contact us at (626) 282-8481 for rates and deadlines for submission.



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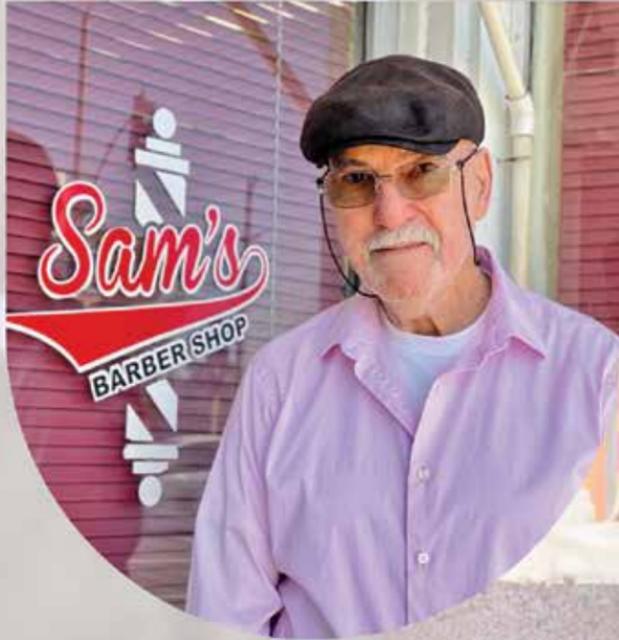
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- Fitness Classes
- Community and Socialization

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- Line Dancing
- Yoga
- Zumba

- Watercise
- Aqua Arthritis

Happy Birthday SAM!



Sam is the most generous and kind person I have ever known. He has been cutting hair in Alhambra for over 63 years and he has always kept the Lord in his life.

To my man, Sam, on his 80th birthday on April 28, 2022.

Lovingly,
Your wife Mary

Republic Services announces first annual environmental scholarship program

Recognizing teamwork and education is essential to creating environmental change, Republic Services is working with the City of Alhambra to help High School students reach waste-reducing goals within the City and become leaders in the three R's; Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. As part of the effort to make recycling second nature to all City of Alhambra residents and Alhambra college-bound senior high school students, Republic Services is launching their First Annual Environmental Scholarship Program.

Republic Services will award one (1) \$1,000 scholarship to a City of Alhambra resident student for the 2022 First Annual Environmental Scholarship Program. High School college-bound seniors living within the City of Alhambra are eligible if they

submit their completed application by April 15, 2022.

Applicants have to write an essay on one of five prompts focused on environmental issues. Since this Scholarship program is a collaborative effort between City of Alhambra and Republic Services, entries will be reviewed by the City of Alhambra's Recycling Specialist, the City of Alhambra's Environmental Compliance Specialist, and Republic Services Recycling Coordinator.

As the provider of the City's waste removal services, Republic Services hopes to inspire young people to express their environmental ideas and opinions through this project.

For those interested, the Environmental Scholarship details can be found on the City of Alhambra website.

Alhambra represented nationally in AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps Week 2022 was held March 13-19 as an opportunity to recognize the service of the 250,000 Americans engaged in AmeriCorps and AmeriCorps Seniors programs annually. These dedicated citizens help communities across the nation combating hunger and homelessness, responding to natural disasters, helping seniors live independently, supporting veterans and military families, and much more.

Alhambra's own **Diane Barbosa** is currently serving with the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), a 10-month, full-time AmeriCorps program. Founded in 1994, AmeriCorps NCCC strengthens communities and develops its young adult members into leaders. AmeriCorps NCCC operates out of four campuses, which serve as regional administrative hubs and training facilities: Sacramento, CA; Aurora, CO; Vinton, IA; and Vicksburg, MS.

Barbosa began her term of service in October 2021 at the Southwest Region campus in Aurora, CO, and as a Corps Member, Barbosa will complete a series of different six- to 12-week-long service projects in different places across her assigned region as part of a 5- to 12-person team over the course of program.

Her first project lasted from late October through mid-December, and was in Tulsa, Oklahoma supporting Up With Trees. There, her team was removing dead and hazardous trees, clearing overgrowth, disposing of debris, planting new and healthy trees, and beautifying school grounds and the surrounding community.

After winter break, her team deployed in January to Superior, Arizona, where they helped the town clear a newly acquired park property to build a new trail. The team also helped remove and control invasive weed species in Queen Creek riparian area of the Highway 60 park, and helped provide/improve a fire break on the southern side of Superior. The project is expected to benefit the community by enhancing the recreational and natural values of the Town of Superior, as well as helping protect it from future wildfires.

On March 21, Barbosa's team relocated to Houston, Texas, where they are supporting an organization called SBP with ongoing Hurricane Harvey recovery efforts. They will be helping restore four



Diane Barbosa

homes damaged in that storm for low- to moderate-income families that have not yet fully recovered. They will serve on that project through early May. Her future projects have yet to be determined, though all NCCC projects support disaster relief, the environment, infrastructure improvement, energy conservation, and urban and rural development.

Before joining the NCCC, Barbosa attended Esteban E Torres High School and UCLA, which she graduated from in June 2020 with a degree in Geography/Environmental Studies. Barbosa said, "I believed that with the ending of my college journey and the occurrence of this pandemic, now would be a great time and opportunity to serve nationwide to those communities that need it the most. My initial passion for the environment and interest in traveling was what brought me to this opportunity, and I am eager to use this year to grow in both my professional and personal life."

AmeriCorps NCCC members complete at least 1,700 hours of service during the 10-month program. Corps Members are all 18 to 26 years old; there is no upper age limit for Team Leaders. In exchange for their service, all program participants receive \$6,495 to help pay for college. Other benefits include a small living stipend, room and board, leadership development, and team building skills. AmeriCorps NCCC is one of hundreds of programs administered by the larger AmeriCorps agency. For more information about AmeriCorps, visit the website at www.americorps.gov/.

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- MassageChairs
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Open Streets return to Alhambra Sunday, May 1st

On Sunday, May 1, 2022 the San Gabriel Valley's largest ciclovia or "open streets" event will return to the City of Alhambra, as well as neighboring San Gabriel and South Pasadena. The first **626 Golden Streets** since Fall 2019 will provide attendees an opportunity to walk, bike, run, skate, scoot, dance, and play across five miles of car-free streets. A follow-up to the successful 2019 event, this "Mission-to-Mission" event will link the historic San Gabriel and South Pasadena Mission Districts through downtown Alhambra.

In Alhambra, the route begins along East Main (from Las Tunas in San Gabriel) through Downtown and then heads north on 5th Street. It then cuts southwest on Woodward Avenue, then north on Olive, west on Alhambra Road before turning north on Marengo into South Pasadena. The section between Garfield and 5th is one of three designated Festival Hubs where there will be booths, activities, and a festival atmosphere.

Attendees have the benefit of visiting the weekly Alhambra Farmers Market on 2nd Street, as well as visiting the businesses along the street. In fact, open street events have been studied as being a benefit to local businesses along the route who have the chance to engage 1000s of new customers who are traveling at much lower speeds than the normal cars that speed past at 35 (or more) miles an hour.

Organized by ActiveSGV and presented by Metro, the Mission-to-Mission event will begin to secure the route by closing streets at 5am on the day of the



#626GoldenStreets in 6 Points

- 1. Golden Streets is a free event!** But bring cash or card to sample SGV treats and support local businesses along the route!
- 2. You get to decide where you start and finish.** There is no right or wrong way to experience the event.
- 3. All forms of non-motorized transportation are permitted,** including walking, biking, skating, jogging, ambling, and strolling.
- 4. Golden Streets is not a race.** There are no finisher medals or awards. Only miles of smiles on open streets.
- 5. Share the road.** Please stay right and exercise caution so everyone can have a safe, enjoyable day.
- 6. Don't forget to stop, enjoy, and take a picture!** Share your best snapshots on social media with the hashtag #626GoldenStreets for chances to win 626 swag and more!

event, with full closures in effect by 6am. Sections of route fully closed to automobiles will begin to re-open to vehicular traffic at 4pm. By 5pm most of the route should be reopened to vehicle traffic.

Like cicLAvia in Los Angeles, 626 Golden Streets is a FREE, family-friendly "ciclovia" that temporarily opens streets for people of all ages and backgrounds to enjoy in a healthy, fun, and novel fashion. The festivities will kick off at 8:30am with

the official Opening Ceremony on Main Street adjacent to the South Pasadena Gold Line Station featuring special guests, entertainment, and community raffle. This will be followed by the 626 Run, a family-friendly 5K Fun Run FREE to all youth 17 and under (www.run626.com) starting from the San Gabriel Hub.

The event is free to the general public. Attendees can start and stop at any point along the route, at any time from 9am to

4pm. Activity zones in each participating community will host live music, cultural performances, family-friendly games and activities, kids play zones, vendors, zero-emission demo zones, and more! Participants are encouraged to enjoy the day by foot, bike, skate, skateboard, scooter, or any other type of human-powered vehicle!

For route map and more info visit www.626goldenstreets.com.

APRIL SPECIALS

LASER HAIR REMOVAL		COSMETIC SERVICES	
Sideburns	\$50	BOTOX*	\$8 per unit
Upper Lips	\$40	XEOMIN*	\$8 per unit
Chin	\$40	Dysport	\$8 per 3 units
Women's Face	\$80	Juvéderm*	\$450 per unit
Men's Face	\$105	Radiesse*	\$450 per syringe
Underarms	\$65	Belotero*	\$380 per syringe
Areolas – Nipples	\$65	Restlyne*	\$420 per syringe
Arms – Half	\$95	Kybella	\$500 per vial
Arms – Full	\$65	Hand IPL	\$150 per treatment
Bikini – Standard	\$70	Ultherapy	\$2,500
Bikini – Strip	\$80	Tickle Lipo	\$1500 per area
Bikini – Brazilian	\$110	CoolSculpting	\$600
Full Bikini – Men	\$80	Tattoo Removal	\$100 & up
Women's Legs – Lower	\$80	Spider Vein Removal	\$200 & up
Women's Legs – Upper	\$130		
Women's Legs – Full	\$90		
Men's Legs – Lower	\$90		
Men's Legs – Upper	\$150		
Men's Legs – Full	\$70		
Abdomen	\$50		
Tummy Tuck	\$85		
Women's Chest – Full	\$110		
Men's Chest – Full	\$100		
Full Back – Women	\$150		
Full Back – Men	\$220		
Lower Body – Women	\$250		
Lower Body – Men	\$270		
Upper Body – Women	\$300		
Upper Body – Men	\$425		
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Alhambra Chamber offers scholarship for working high school seniors

The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce is once again providing scholarships to graduating high school seniors from high schools in Alhambra. The \$1000 scholarships will be provided to graduating seniors who will be attending a community college or four year institution and who are currently working. The deadline to apply is April 30 at 5pm.

In partnering with local businesses, the Chamber is working to support local students in pursuit of higher education as they face the challenge of significantly rising costs of obtaining a post-secondary degree. In service to its mission to foster a community where all businesses can thrive, these awards will support those who are already working to support our local economy by choice or by necessity. With the responsibility and time it takes to hold down a job while going to school, these working students have less time for other activities that might normally help attract scholarships or aid to support their pursuit of higher education. The Chamber's scholarship program recognizes that and seeks to fill in some of the financial gap.

With a focus on students who are already in the workforce, this scholarship will be given to students who have been

employed since at least January 1, 2022 for at least 4 hours per week (on average). Students working in Alhambra will get additional consideration, but any student at Alhambra High, Mark Keppel, San Gabriel, and Ramona Convent who is working and also seeking higher education is encouraged to apply.

Applicants will need to provide a letter from their employer indicating their employment timeframe as well a letter of recommendation from their counselor. These documents will be submitted online, as well as the answer to a question about what they've learned from their work experience and their future goals because of the experience. The \$1,000 checks will be awarded to the recipients of this scholarship contingent upon proof of acceptance and enrollment in the academic program specified on their application.

The Chamber scholarships are coordinated through the Alhambra Foundation, which has a mission to improve the Alhambra community. For more information on the scholarship and to apply, interested applicants can visit the Alhambra Chamber website at alhambrachamber.org. Those wishing to contribute to this year's scholarship fund can contact the Chamber office at (626) 282-8481.



Noe with players Elian Duenes, Jason Hernandez and Justin Flores.



Coach Mosley at Emery Park.



Former Varsity Assistant Coach Chris Cosby instructing the Moors on base running.



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Local Sports News from Alhambra High Schools

By Mike Koski
President, Alhambra High School Sports Hall of Fame Committee

Alhambra Baseball

The Moors Varsity Baseball Team has been very fortunate to have current Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher Noe Ramirez come out and work with them while he was waiting for the MLB strike to end. He was working with the pitchers in the bullpen and on the mound and how to take care of their arms during the season. Noe is a 2008 graduate of AHS who went on to pitch for Cal State Fullerton. He was drafted in 2011 by the Boston Red Sox and made his MLB debut with them in 2015. He also pitched for the Angels from 2017 to 2021 and has been with the D-Backs since last year.

The Moors also had another guest instructor working with them recently. Longtime AHS Varsity Baseball Assistant Coach, Chris Cosby, spent one afternoon conducting a very informative base running clinic. Cosby coached the Moors for 20 years as an assistant under former Head Coach Steve Gewecke. A graduate of Arcadia High School, Chris attended Pepperdine where he was All West Conference in baseball and played in the Minor Leagues for the A's, Brewers, and Phillies.

All of this extra help, along with the new coaching staff, has the Moors playing well, and they are expected to be a contender in the Almont League along with Montebello and Schurr. Pitching has been a strong point for the Moors led

by Seniors Daniel Coronado and Justin Flores, Juniors Damian Chacon and Josh Soto, and Sophomores Matt Garcia and Ethan Ayala. At the plate, the team is led by Seniors Flores and Jason Hernandez, and Sophomores Carlos Hernandez and Ayala who are all batting over .400 on the season. Ayala also became the first player to hit a Grand Slam Home Run at Moor Field since the fences were put up 20 years ago.

Alhambra Alumni Baseball Game

The Moors Varsity Baseball Team will play former AHS players as the Annual Alumni Game is back after a two-year absence. The game will be played on Saturday, April 9, at Moor Field. Barring practice will begin at 10:00am with the game at 12:00noon. If you are an AHS Alumni and want to play in the game or just support the Moors Baseball Program, please contact Mike Koski at kmastermel@hotmail.com. For a \$30 donation you get a special t-shirt and a meal after the game catered by Chonitos Mexican Restaurant in Alhambra.

Alhambra Boys Basketball

The Moors Varsity Basketball Team was well represented when the Almont League selections were announced recently. Seniors Lawrence Mai and Justin Flores were named to the First Team while Senior Michael Gonzalez was named to the Second Team. The Moors had their best season in 30 years, finishing 19-6 and advanced to the Second Round of the CIF Southern Section Division 4AA Playoffs.

Alhambra Chamber Asks...

Each month, *Around Alhambra* asks people in our community to answer a question about life in Alhambra. This month, we posed our question to community members from across the city:

“What can members of the Alhambra community do to be more sustainable?”

Their answers ranged, but each offered advice that can be used to create a more sustainable city.



“We are currently experiencing severe drought conditions in California once again. We ask the Alhambra community to take action and conserve water, our precious resource, for future generations to come.”
Dr. Steve Placido, Secretary of the Board, San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

“Many businesses go through great lengths to try to adopt and live by a triple bottom line principle and business philosophy around social, economic, and environmental sustainability: People, Profit, Planet. Balancing these three sometimes competing goals isn’t easy, but the intentionality behind the principle is most important. It’s easy to think of big nationally recognized corporations, but there are other companies like AVRE (www.avre.com) based in the San Gabriel Valley who are living out the 3 P’s: People, Profit, and Planet. We can be more sustainable by supporting our local triple bottom line companies in the SGV!”



Ken Lee, Pacific Plaza Premier



“One of the best things Alhambra residents can do is to keep recyclables and organics carts free from contaminants — any items that don’t belong in the carts, such as diapers. Know what goes into each cart by visiting RepublicServices.com/municipality/alhambra.”
Francella Aguilar, Municipal Relationship Manager, Republic Services

“Sustainability is a core value in all that Public Works does with our communities. At work or at home, think in terms of the Four R’s: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rethink. Use water more efficiently. Drive less and walk, bike or use transit. Bring your own reusable cups and dishes to events to reduce waste.”



*Mark Pestrella, PE
 Director of Los Angeles County Public Works*



“[The employees] at Bon Appetea make Alhambra more sustainable by taking the used tea leaves to use for composting in our personal gardens.”
Joel Lee, Barista at Bon Appetea Cafe Alhambra, 7 S 2nd St.

“One of the most effective and easiest ways for Alhambra residents to make our community more sustainable is to enroll in the 100% Green Power option with Clean Power Alliance. Lower income residents can choose this option at a significantly discounted rate.”



Mayor Jeff Maloney, City of Alhambra

Do you have an answer to this month’s question? Post your answer by the end of the Month on our Facebook (@AlhambraChamberofCommerce) or Instagram (@alhambraChamber) page with the hashtag #AlhambraChamberAsks, and you could be selected to win a Chamber Prize Pack!

Getting Through It

How To Talk About the Climate Crisis, in Honor of Earth Day

By Dr. Lucy Jones

This month we celebrate Earth Day: a time meant to draw attention to environmental issues and inspire action to address the impacts of climate change. The latter tends to be more difficult to achieve than the former. Much of what slows us down in responding to climate change is our current societal feeling of despair. It is normal to feel this way, but what can we do to effectively communicate the issues around climate change and create the feeling and awareness that there is still something each of us can do?

Our response to climate change is derived from two main components: our “analytical system” (or comprehending risk as analysis) and the affective, “experiential system” (or risk as feelings and emotions). It’s this experiential system that controls most of our decision-making. We tend to say, something has to “feel right” before we do it. It’s emotion that drives our actions.

As humans, we are more afraid of uncertain things (an evolutionary, human reaction). So, if scientists understand the risk, it seems less disturbing. We are also more emotionally affected by dreadful outcomes, specifically ones that impact us directly. Both of these work to make us insufficiently concerned about climate change. By definition, scientists understand it; that is the only way we know it is happening. Secondly, the common image of the consequences of climate change are sea level rise and damage to the Arctic. These things do not seem very dreadful firsthand, at least not compared to being caught in a raging wildfire or crushed by a falling building. When it comes to the climate crisis, the impacts appear distant either by geography or time. Yet, we are seeing evidence of it today through extremes in the weather, such as more intense hurricanes, more severe drought, and overall hotter hots and colder colds. These more direct consequences are helping people recognize that climate change is real and that it matters to them. But as I have found with earthquakes, just saying what the Earth does lets us ignore the human consequences and avoid emotional investment. We need to think about what climate change means for our society.

There are a few things we can do to make climate change real at the cognitive level as well as that key emotional level. First, we need to recognize what it will actually do to our communities. The reality is famine from increased droughts, more disease from ecosystem stress, climate and migrants from sea level rise, leading potentially to conflicts arising from limited resources. Second, in communicating these impacts, keep it personal. Talk about the local effects, such as the lengthened wildfire “season” and wildfire intensity here in Los Ange-



Dr. Lucy Jones

les. Third, we need to provide concrete, realistic actions. If we present a problem without a solution, this disincentivizes people from thinking about it. Loss aversion does this, as well. Focus on what we add, not what we give up. These actions also need to seem effective. If we feel powerless or think our impact is too small, we are less likely to act. We need to think big! Let’s demand a complete change in our energy systems away from carbon reliance. These actions require us to work together. Alone, I can’t change the energy grid, but together we can. And it is only that big change that can solve the problem.

Actually acting on something requires that you first believe it’s real and that it matters to you. People go through a process called “milling” to take action. Before they act, they talk about it with people they trust and care about. So, the climate crisis needs to be talked about by many people. We need to hear it from different perspectives and in different modalities, or engaging different senses to communicate the message. In addition to scientific papers, we need visual arts, we need music, we need poetry! These modes of communication can shift our feeling about climate change from despair, which disincentivizes action, to the feeling of pride in community and hope that there is still something we can do. We need to hit our cognition centers in different ways with the same consistent message: the climate crisis is real, it is now, and we need to take action.

Keep the climate conversation going, but do it in the right way. Recognize the impacts. Keep the narrative local. Remain hopeful. Provide effective, realistic actions. Focus on what we gain from these actions. Let’s work together to create better energy systems.

Dr. Lucy Jones is a seismologist and founder of the Dr. Lucy Jones Center for Science and Society. Dr. Lucy Jones is a seismologist and founder of the Dr. Lucy Jones Center for Science and Society. She is the author of the book, The Big Ones (Doubleday, April 2018) and is also a Research Associate at the Seismological Laboratory of Caltech, a post she has held since 1984. She hosts a weekly podcast by the same name as this column: Getting Through It.

All Around the Town

By Glenn Barnett

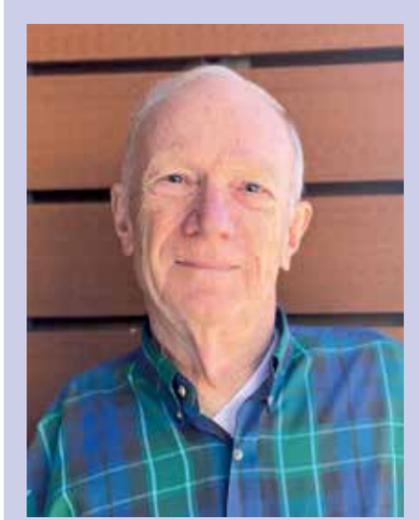
The last two years have been a trying time for everyone. Tests, masks, shots, and variants have consumed a lot of attention. The business community has been hard hit by the pandemic. Some had to close, while others did whatever it took to survive and in some cases thrive.

One success story is the Alhambra Golf Course. Golf was a physical activity that provided outdoor exercise in a very small group. Troon, formerly Indigo Golf Partners, who manage the golf course had a surge in business. Between 2019 and 2021, income rose by 33%.

Other businesses focused on survival. When Sam Artino of Sam's Barber Shop heard that indoor businesses had to close but outdoor businesses could remain open, he worked tirelessly to set up shop in his parking lot. By the next morning he was cutting hair outdoors. As one of the first businesses in the state to make the transition, his efforts were chronicled by KTLA Channel 5 News.

Many restaurants followed his example and set up tents, tables and chairs in their parking lots and some, like Bun & Burger, created outdoor dining on the sidewalk. In a testament to Alhambra's willingness to help businesses, Gen Korean BBQ House was even allowed to operate outdoors on city property. Other businesses working outdoors included Fit Body Boot Camp, which set up exercise stations in their parking lot. Genovese's Italian Kitchen, with its pleasant existing outdoor patio, survived and continues to be a neighborhood favorite.

Many restaurants survived on take-out and delivery alone (including my favorite, Sage Bistro). One of the most inventive restaurants is Yang's Kitchen, which immediately became a grocery store offering organic farm to table produce, much of it from our nearby farmer's market. They soon opened up for outdoor dining as well. The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce has named



Glenn Barnett

them the most resilient business of 2021.

Over on Valley Blvd. popular restaurants like Chonitos, The Hat, Noodle World, Garden Café, Sichuan Impression and Savoy did very well with delivery, takeout, and limited outdoor seating.

Most auto mechanics and repair shops survived the pandemic. Their open work bays allow the kind of air circulation that dissipates the virus. Grocery stores survived, their necessity in the community is obvious to all.

Organizations have been busy, too. The YMCA of West San Gabriel Valley constructed a new building and a playground, while the Mandarin Baptist Church built two buildings, one a gym housing regulation basketball courts and one to house Sunday School classes. There are other businesses and organizations that have also been champions of the COVID era, but I've run out of room to name them all.

Some businesses unfortunately did not make it, and empty storefronts are still a problem. But as soon as some businesses closed, others came to take their place. They are leading the way to our economic recovery. You can too, by shopping and dining in Alhambra.

Alhambra Women's Club hosts Moscarro at April 1st meeting

The Alhambra Women's Club invites women in Alhambra and surrounding communities to join them at Almansor Court on Friday, April 1, at 11 am. They have been an active organization for over 100 years, providing mature women an opportunity to form new friendships and

enjoy a lovely view, excellent food, and fine entertainment. Juan Moscarro, a talented singer, will be the entertainer. The cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Please call 626-289-9307 to make an appointment by March 30.

Ramona Convent Engineering students beautify campus pathway

Students in the Engineering course at Ramona Convent have successfully completed their architectural design unit while creating aesthetically pleasing works of art to display on campus. Using a CAD program, students designed planter benches with precise measurements. They then built the structures, filled the boxes with soil, and planted their favorite flowers for enjoyment.

Students learned to identify and use tools, and proceeded to cut, sand, drill, and screw the pieces together. They also became experts on primers and paint choices. "This project required me to develop problem solving skills, such as when the screw would get stuck on a knot or when I had to attach the screws in unusual places," said Senior Isabella M. "Overall, I really enjoyed the project, and it actually helped me pick a major in Construction Engineering Management."

When asked why she decided to take the Engineering course, Senior Lauren L. shared "I've always enjoyed working with

my hands and creating new things from nothing. Engineering has been a great class for me because we've learned to use new tools and apply new skills to more complex projects. At the beginning of the year, the pinhole camera project was a lot of fun for me, and I enjoyed the opportunity to be creative in designing my camera as well as taking photos. With our larger bench project, I was further from my comfort zone as we built them to full size with lumber and power tools. This was challenging, and although I had some setbacks, it felt like an accomplishment to complete something that anyone in the school can make use of. Opportunities to be creative with new tools and new ideas is the most exciting part of taking engineering!"

Ramona Convent is Catholic, college-prep high school in Alhambra for girls in grades 9-12. Ramona is the oldest Catholic all-girls' school in the L.A. Archdiocese still operating in its original location, where it was founded in 1889 with a gift of 15 acres from James de Barth Shorb.

San Gabriel Valley Humane Society

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.



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. 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>.



German Shepherd Mix • Adult • Male • Large

Pony Boy is a 2-year-old black and brown male German Shepherd mix. He is a very active boy, and likes to walk, run, and chase toys. Pony Boy is young and not familiar with basic commands, so he will require training. 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>.



Belgian Shepherd Malinois Mix • Young • Male • Large

Rockford is a two-year-old male Belgian Shepherd Malinois mix. He is about 63 pounds with a handsome brown and white coat. Rockford has not had any formal training, so he needs someone who will give him the patience and love for his success. Rockford would do best in a home with a big yard and a tall fence. 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>.

Visit us at www.sgvhumane.org

APRIL 2022

Daily Holidays and Observances

Here are all the special days and observances you can celebrate in April 2022, to spark your ideas for how you can make every day special.

- April 1 : Walk to Work Day
- April 2 : National Handmade Day
- April 3 : Geologists Day
- April 4 : International Carrot Day
- April 5 : National Employee Benefits Day
- April 6 : National Walking Day
- April 7 : National Burrito Day
- April 8 : National Empanada Day
- April 9 : National Dive Bar Day
- April 10 : National Hug Your Dog Day
- April 11 : National Pet Day
- April 12 : National Grilled Cheese Sandwich Day
- April 13 : Plant Appreciation Day
- April 14 : National Gardening Day
- April 15 : National Tax Day
- April 16 : National Librarian Day
- April 17 : Easter
- April 18 : National Newspaper Columnists Day
- April 19 : National Garlic Day
- April 20 : Chinese Language Day
- April 21 : Get to Know Your Customers Day
- April 22 : Earth Day
- April 23 : National Picnic Day
- April 24 : National Pet Parents Day
- April 25 : National Hug a Plumber Day
- April 26 : National Pretzel Day
- April 27 : Stop Food Waste Day
- April 28 : National Administrative Professionals' Day
- April 29 : Arbor Day
- April 30 : National Bubble Tea Day

Sustainability, is it right for you? Local Alhambra resident talks about his perspective.

By Erick Cabrera

Power, gas, water. Everyone has experienced paying for these utilities throughout their lives. With gas prices soaring lately, living a sustainable lifestyle may seem appealing, but for some there is a greater meaning.

Aristotle Acevedo tries to live a "low-waste" lifestyle; from shopping at refill stores to avoid buying plastic wrapped products to incorporating more reusable items, such as wool dryer balls instead of dryer sheets.

Aside from living a "low-waste" lifestyle, the Alhambra local also opts to live a greener lifestyle as well. Being vegan for 10 years, Acevedo has seen the difficulty of accessibility become easier over time in Los Angeles.

"I had maybe five places I could go out to eat," said Acevedo. "Now, it's everywhere. You can't really go anywhere without finding a plant-based option."

Living in California all his life, Acevedo noticed the constant state of drought occurring every year. As Acevedo grew older over the years, he realized that it is not normal to be in this stat. Living sustainably, Acevedo hopes is to have a better future for his nephew

"I have a nephew who's a little over one now, and I'd hope for a livable future for him," said Acevedo.

Acevedo realized how consumerism impacted people over time and how people, including himself, have often thrown away things instead of repurposing them for something else.

Although Acevedo's biggest takeaway from living in this sustainable lifestyle is not needing to be perfect, but to just try your best. He acknowledged that it's the small things that go a long way.

"Mistakes still happen. And it's fine. You don't have to throw it all out the window."



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RESIDENTS OF ALHAMBRA, MONTEREY PARK AND SIERRA MADRE ARE ELIGIBLE FOR REBATES





John Mosley, revered men's basketball coach of the East LA Huskies and featured in the Netflix series, "Last Chance U," inspired Emery Park students when he visited the campus the day before his team's biggest state playoff game. "Winning is not about the score board. It is about winning where you are," he told them. "Are you winning in this moment? Are you winning where you are sitting?"

Emery Park students spellbound by the words of ELAC men's basketball coach John Mosley

When Emery Park principal Jeremy Infranca watched the first season of the Netflix show "Last Chance U" he was so moved by the formidable East LA College men's basketball coach John Mosley and his players, he could not stop thinking about the show. Infranca knew his Emery Park students needed that big mentor gulp of new energy, inspiration, and hope. Through a month-long combination of a parent's miracle introduction, attending ELAC Huskies games, and gracious badgering by email and text, Infranca got a yes from Mosley.

On March 4, the day before his biggest state play-off game of the season, Coach Mosley, humble, authentic, funny, bounded up the Emery Park auditorium stage bedecked in ELAC Huskies-green to give those students a master class in motivation. "Winning is not about the score board. It is about winning where you are," he told them. "Are you winning in this moment? Are you winning where you are sitting?"

Students sat up straighter, leaned forward, listened harder. "How many of you are winning right now?" he challenged them. "The point is win in the classroom, win in life, win in relationships, not just on the court." That, Mosley said, is what he tells his players. He asks students, "How

many of you have built a relationship with someone no one wants to talk to?" Hands go up.

Students drink in Mosley's words. Forty-five minutes later the talk ends, but students want more. More than 30 kids crowd around him to get his autograph on the little scraps of paper they have torn out of their notebooks, to tell him they are going to try harder in school, to connect with him just a little longer. Mosley stays another hour until he has talked with every single student.

"By the end of Coach Mosley's visit, all of us — students and staff — were ready to walk through walls for him," Infranca said. "There is no doubt that Coach Mosley changed the life of students today."

Weeks later, students and staff still greet one another, "Are you winning where you are?" Coach Mosley exemplifies the power of a guest speaker to galvanize student learning. Studies repeatedly show that elementary students who are exposed to college early are not only more likely to apply for college, they are more likely to graduate. Mosley made it easy to see why.

Those not lucky enough to be an Emery Park student, can watch Coach Mosley and his players on Netflix season two of "Last Chance U."



Grant-winning trio of SGHS Gateway counselors meet with students in the future home of Matador Calming Room. The room, to open in August, is possible thanks to the Equity Innovation Grant from the Greater LA Education Foundation. Left to right, Photo Caption: Sandra Alcaraz, Lizbeth Alcaraz, Alondra Zubiata, Counselor Denise Fernandez, Counselor Maritza Cha, Counselor Elaine Jong, Ella Urrutia; Belinda Thai. Photo Credit: Lisa Banh.

SGHS Gateway counselor trio wins grant for on-campus Matador Calming Room

When San Gabriel High counselor Maritza Cha realized this fall that students and teachers were still logging on to the SGHS virtual calming room she created months ago during distance learning, she knew the school had to have an on-campus option. Two years of pandemic overwhelm and upheaval had taken a toll on everyone's mental health. The school community needed a quiet nurturing space, a chance to emotionally re-set during the day.

Cha asked Gateway counselor colleagues Elaine Jong and Denise Fernandez to join her in applying for an Equity Innovation LA County Teachers of the Year Grant from Greater LA Education Foundation to fund an on-campus Matador Calming Room.

"We chose student wellness and educator wellness as our focus for the application because even now so many students and teachers are returning visitors to the virtual calming room," says Cha. "We proposed using the grant to buy items like a rocking chair, beanbags, sofas, aromatherapy, Spotify, slime, puppy

toys, and fidget toys to create a beautiful and welcoming Matador Calming Room, a place you could just take a breath."

Cha, Jong and Fernandez not only won a \$3000 grant but received this comment from the Foundation, "Out of 200 applications for this highly competitive grant, your meaningful, pioneering plan to address mental health and support student and teacher wellness stood out. Every school needs a calming room." In total, 41 educators in LA County won \$75,000 Equity Innovation Grants.

"The Matador Calming Room is exactly what our students and staff need right now," SGHS principal Debbie Stone said. "I am so proud of Maritza, Elaine and Denise for their incredible efforts to support our community's mental health and wellbeing in this toughest time."

The counselors are busy with plans to open the Matador Calming Room in August for the 2022-23 school year. Until the on-campus August opening, SGHS students and educators can visit the virtual calming room: <https://sites.google.com/ausd.us/sghsvirtualcalmingroom/home>



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Emery Park 4th grade student, Aidan Magallon, far right front in blue shirt, with 40 of his Wednesday Walking Club members who gather each week to walk from 7:30-8:00 am. Principal Jeremy Infranca notes "Aidan is definitely winning the moment." Photo credit Elsa Balsz.

Emery Park 4th grader leads the way

Drive by Emery Park Elementary on any Wednesday between 7:30 am and 8:00 am and you will see a 4th grade boy leading a long line of 40 classmates around the campus for what looks like Viking victory laps.

Aidan Magallon, Emery Park 4th grader, asked counselor Olga Velasquez-Rodriguez if he could start a Wednesday morning walking club. He says he wasn't sure what would happen, but he knew he wanted to get more steps on his FitBit.

"Aidan used to just walk on his own during recess and lunch. I was impressed that he walked with such 'coolness,'" Velasquez-Rodriguez says. "I joined him a few times to chat and compare steps. He'd always win."

Asked how he feels to have so many classmates join his club in just three weeks, Aidan slowly smiles. "I guess I feel better about myself. I am not so shy." He points out that on Wednesdays he now walks 11,000 steps, compared with 7,000 steps on other days. At first, he says, he was really tired but no more, he's stronger.

Velasquez-Rodriguez agrees, "The

Wednesday Walking Club has definitely made Aidan an advocate for healthy moving, but it's also built on his positive leadership skills by gathering so many Vikings to walk while listening to some music. He is like a serious train conductor —always on time or extra early — stopping at each round to get the kids all aboard! It is nice to see him really shine!"

His parents, Krisia and Ariel Magallon, say that they, too, see a transformation in their son since he began his walking club. "Aidan is an only child and during remote learning he was alone for so long. This is first time since he was in second grade that he's back in class, and he, like so many kids, is finding it hard to talk to others. The walking club is about so much more than walking."

Principal Jeremy Infranca says that Aidan is a great example of what the inspirational East LA College basketball Coach John Mosley recently told Emery Park students, "You start by winning the moment, by winning where you are."

Everyone agrees: Aidan is definitely winning the moment.

AUSD families go virtual to help select new school menu items

After a pandemic hiatus, Alhambra Unified School District Food + Wellness Fair was back — with a twist. The fair went virtual this year, but still interactive!

The 227 students, parents, and staff participants received a sample bag to heat, eat, and review at home. This feedback helps food and nutrition services evaluate new items for future menus.

"We wanted to involve our students and school community in the menu planning process, but we also understand pandemic safety concerns," said FNS executive director Vivien Watts. "We turned a challenge into a creative solution with a virtual food and wellness fair. I hope the participants had as much fun as we did!"

The event started with a virtual introductory meeting on March 16, where they met members of the FNS team, participated in a nutrition education session, discovered what would be in each kit, and directions for the tasting and evaluation process.

Participants were treated to the winning student-created "Let's Get Moving" videos to show the importance of physical activity. The winning videos were by MKHS junior, Warren Dao, and Monterey Highlands 7th grader, Chelsea Chien. Each received a certificate and a Wellness Basket valued at \$100. Registered dietitian Judy Huffaker organized this portion of the Food & Wellness Fair. She and the committee were so impressed with the entries, they couldn't stop at recognizing just the top two.

Five Honorable Mentions were named: Ms. Ramos-Garcia's Ynez 2nd class; Monterey Highlands 8th grade ASB; Monterey Highlands 2nd grader and kindergartener Shara + Hachem Safieddine; Monterey



The AUSD food and nutrition services team in the central processing kitchen worked hard to make a fun and appealing sampling kit for the 227 registered participants of the 2022 Virtual Food & Wellness Fair.

Highlands kindergartener Kiara Konishi; and Monterey Highlands 6th grader Darwin Okimoto. Honorable mentions received a certificate and mini wellness kit, valued at \$20. All honored videos are posted for viewing at <https://tinyurl.com/FNS-AUSD>

On March 25, the tasting kits were distributed to families to sample during spring break. Product samples included: chicken fiesta bowl, hummus, pizza bagel, bean + cheese burrito with green chili, plant-based entrees, egg + cheese muffin, guacamole cups, frozen juice cups, yogurt smoothies, and more.

Everything was packed into a reusable insulated bag, which families kept as a FNS thank you. Families who complete the online survey by April 4 are entered in a drawing with many prizes including a "Family Fun Basket" valued at \$200.

FNS misses in-person Food & Wellness Fair, but with creative changes, they were able to incorporate the key components to reach their goals and safely receive input from families.

Future AUSD freshmen take first steps to high school

Alhambra and San Gabriel High Schools played host to their feeder schools last month to help 8th graders know what to expect as freshmen. In a full morning at each school, the future freshmen were treated to performances, tours, and a Club Fair showcasing extracurricular options soon available to them.

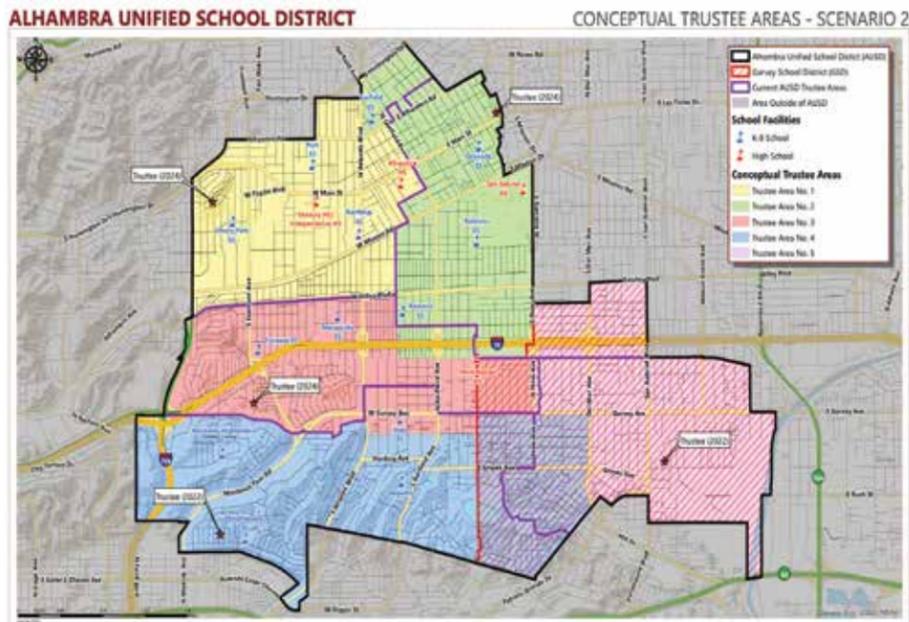
Students watched dance teams, band, cheer, and color guard display their talents on the AHS stage or on the SGHS field. ASB and Link Crew leaders were tour guides, showing 8th grade students where they would pick up food, enjoy their meals, visit their counselor, use the restroom, and

the areas for each department. They gave the incoming freshman suggestions and answered questions to make the transition to high school as smooth as possible. At the end of each showcase, students visited dozens of booths representing clubs and athletic opportunities at the Club Fair.

Superintendent Denise Jaramillo said, "Kudos to Alhambra and San Gabriel High Schools for being such wonderful hosts to our incoming freshmen, giving them a small glimpse of their Class of 2026 future." Mark Keppel will hold a similar event for its feeder schools later this month.



This collage contains photos highlighting the eighth-grade showcases at Alhambra High School and San Gabriel High School.



This map was listed as "Option #2" during the public hearings, and was unanimously approved at the February 1, 2022, Board of Education meeting.

AUSD Board elections move to by-trustee areas

Alhambra Unified School District completed the process of transitioning the method by which Board of Education members or "trustees" are elected, in compliance with the California Voting Rights Act (CVRA).

Previously, all registered voters in the AUSD boundaries could vote for candidates for Board member seats in all five trustee areas. The current system was considered an "at-large" system. Beginning with November 2022 elections, candidates will be elected by equally populated "trustee areas." This means only voters within a given trustee area can vote for candidates who reside within that same area. The intent of this system is to offer greater opportunities for Board representation for candidates that might not otherwise be elected under an at-large system.

Five public hearings were held to discuss

the proposed boundaries of each trustee area based on demographic data from the 2020 Census. On February 1, the Board of Education made their final decision to adopt one of the maps developed by an independent, professional demographer who ensured the trustee map areas are in compliance with the CVRA and other districting requirements.

We want to clarify for families that the new by-trustee area maps have NO IMPACT on student and school attendance boundaries, so there are no changes to assigned schools of residency. **The new maps only affect election areas.**

In November 2022, elections will be held for the first time under the new election method and will apply to elections for trustee areas 4 and 5. Elections for trustee areas 1, 2, and 3 will be held in November 2024.



Class of 2022 winners of the Asian American Association \$800 scholarships: Lani Tran from Alhambra High, Emily Tran from Independence High, Princess Hannah Santillan from Mark Keppel High, and Johanna Sycip from San Gabriel High.

Lunar New Year celebration honors scholarship winners

Traditionally, the Asian American Association of Alhambra holds an elaborate Lunar New Year 10-course banquet meal, lion dancers, guest speakers, student performers, and multiple opportunity drawings. It was one of the last district events in December 2020 before the pandemic shutdown. In 2021, it was not possible to hold a banquet, although scholarships were still awarded.

Plans were in place to resume an in-person banquet in 2022, but the omicron-caused winter surge caused the planning committee to pivot to a virtual celebration, but with a few interactive touches. On February 23, participants were treated to a mini-performance by Lion Dancers from Mark Keppel High, Monterey Highlands, San Gabriel High, and Ynez Schools under the direction of Vince Chan.

Two days later, participants logged in and hosts Leann Huang and Elizabeth An guided guests through a fun evening of cookie painting, good fortune waterfall

event, lottery scratchers, and live opportunity drawings. Throughout the evening, entertainment was provided through pre-taped performances from the Mandarin dual immersion students and the Lion Dancers.

The evening highlight was the presentation of the 2022 scholarship recipients. Four accomplished seniors were selected through a competitive application process to be named 2022 Asian American Association scholars, each earning \$800 towards their future education. Lani Tran from Alhambra High, Emily Tran from Independence High, Princess Hannah Santillan from Mark Keppel High, and Johanna Sycip from San Gabriel High, introduced themselves, expressed their appreciation, and shared their post-graduation plans.

The Asian American Association thanks the many sponsors, donors, and supporters who made the evening possible. They look forward to returning to a large, in-person banquet in 2023, and to celebrating another group of deserving senior students.

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October 14th (full)
November 4th (full)
December 16th (full)
January 20th (full)
February 10th (full)
March 10th (full)
April 14th
May 12th

All meetings will be held on Thursdays from 6:30pm to 7:30pm. Translators will be available upon request.

We welcome questions / concerns / suggestions on any topics you would like to discuss.

Please reserve your spot at <https://tinyurl.com/AUSD-CommunityConversations2122>

You will receive a confirmation & Zoom invitation a few days prior to the meeting.

Please sign up soon. Spaces will be limited as these meetings are intended to be small (no more than 25 people) in order to have a two-way dialogue with our parents, so we can connect and know what is on your mind. We hope you will join us for at least one Community Conversation session this year.



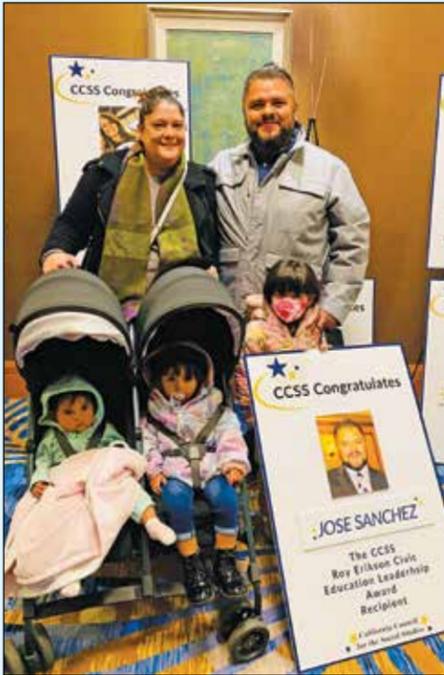
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 Alhambra Unified School District

The Dr. Julie Hadden Memorial Scholarship Fund has been established to provide scholarships for graduating seniors who plan to pursue a degree or program of study in education.

Contributions to the scholarship fund can be made through the Alhambra Educational Foundation at www.aef4kids.com.

Dr. Julie Hadden served as Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent of Alhambra Unified School District, Principal and Assistant Principal of Alhambra High School, Assistant Principal of San Gabriel High School, and Dean of Mark Keppel High School.

AHS Teacher Jose Sanchez



Congratulations to Alhambra High School teacher Jose Sanchez, who recently won a "Keeping History Alive" grant from Azusa Pacific University. The grant allowed Sanchez to attend the California Council for the Social Studies (CCSS) conference, where he was further honored. During the CCSS conference, Sanchez was awarded the prestigious 2022 Roy Erickson Award for Civic Education Leadership for his hard work, dedication, and commitment to high-quality social studies education. Sanchez is no stranger to recognitions. He was one of five California Champions of Civics to receive a 2021 Civic Learning Award, which recognizes achievements in civic engagement in the classroom. Sanchez is pictured here with his wife (and fellow AHS educator) Natalie Sanchez and his three adorable daughters.

Association of California School Administrators (ACSA) Awards

STEPHANIE RICHARDSON
 Region 15 AMA Charter Leadership Award

ABEL BOURBOIS
 Region 15 AMA Charter Promising Administrator

Alhambra Management Association (AMA) Outstanding Administrators (Candidates for ACSA Overall Awards)

NATALIE TEE-GAITHER
 Central Office Administrator

STACIE COLMAN-HSU
 Human Resources

FRANCESCA GUTIERREZ
 Confidential Employee

MICHAEL BARBARA
 Classified Manager

CHRIS NG
 Elementary Principal

All awardees will be celebrated at an awards banquet on April 22nd.



Northrup second graders learn to become mini-entrepreneurs

The second-grade Mandarin Dual Immersion classes at Northrup completed an impressive unit on Consumers and Producers. As part of their culminating event, students used their creativity to produce items and wrote an opinion paragraph to convince others to buy their products. The students said they had so much fun shopping for their classmates' products. Teacher Janette Davis came up with this amazing learning experience for the students, but all her fellow second-grade teachers Jacqueline Carranza, Jody Dowell, and Runa Lin incorporated it into their instruction. Pictured here is second grader Olivia Pai with her adorable shop.



AHS senior Colin Ngo surpasses 1000 National Speech + Debate points

Alhambra High School senior Colin Ngo amassed more than 1,000 National Speech and Debate Association points in February after four years of tournament competition. Though he will continue to earn more points until the end of the year, Colin has already earned the prized 'Outstanding Distinction' purple seal on his NSDA certificate. He is the only AHS team member so far to win this distinction. His speech and debate categories are national extemporaneous speaking and student congress. Colin is Presiding Officers Captain for Student Congress. In this capacity, he trains and schedules Presiding Officers for all of the Student Congress Tournaments. Asked what contributed to his Speech and Debate success, Colin says his public service as a Boy Scout was a big factor. Photo credit: Diany Wang

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From the Desk of Rev. Craig Statton

Spring Cleaning

By Rev. Craig Statton, CEO, Atherton, 214 S. Atlantic Blvd. Alhambra

It feels like the winter of COVID is beginning to break. Last year at this time, we were excited as the vaccines for the COVID virus changed the direction of the pandemic. We hoped that all our activities would return, and our masks would be removed. It started out well, but the new variants of Delta and then Omicron came along and slowed our enthusiasm. Even though much of our activity has returned, this spring we have a more realistic picture of our future which will probably include some seasonal precautions and adaptations to the risk of the virus. We will not be able to eradicate this virus from our world, but instead, we will have to learn to live with it. Though this is not the message we had hoped to hear; accepting it gives us a new direction and allows us "to get on with our lives."

After two years of having this virus be a central part of my life, I am realizing I need to get back to some old patterns which helped me manage my life, and springtime has always been spring-cleaning time. This pattern was set by my mother who gathered her family each spring and said, "It's time to make things 'Spic-N-Span.'" She would rally the family to clean our closets, throw or give away items we no longer used, and dust and clean carpets, shelves, ceiling fans and more.

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 it sure is nice to get back to some of my yearly rituals after a long season of the pandemic.

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Your Health

Some Tips on Sustainability

By Sheila Yonemoto, P.T.

Peace Corps members in Africa tried to teach farmers about crop rotation, but the farmers didn't see the relevance of rotating crops. They viewed the land as infinite, thinking all they needed to do was move to a different spot and continue planting. The farmers didn't know that land on planet Earth is limited and that it needs to be handled in a certain way to keep the land productive.

We all need to rethink how fragile and limited our planet is, and change our behavior to keep our planet alive and functioning. Ten years ago, I started using a whole house water filter instead of buying bottled water in plastic bottles. I also found a way to filter chlorine and other harmful toxins out of tap water to improve health.

NASA studied how to detoxify air and create more oxygen for long-term space flights using plants. This has applications for improving the air quality in our homes and offices as well. I originally put plants into my office and home 35 years ago. But, since the office had fresh paint, new carpet and new equipment, the off gassing of toxic chemicals from these materials caused my plants to wither and die within the first month. I bought a second set, and they did fine. Currently, I have added air purifiers to boost the ability to clear out viruses, bacteria and pollutants. Just one green houseplant on your desk can improve your immediate air space.

We all need to think about making better choices in our daily lives to create a more vibrant, sustainable and healthy planet. Start with yourself, your home, your work place, and make a difference



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

Sheila Yonemoto, P.T., has been a physical therapist for more than 30 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. Sheila also offers a Qigong "Chinese Energy" exercise class. Your first class is FREE. Call (626) 576-0591 for more information or visit www.yonemoto.com.

whenever you can. With gas prices going up, walking more or planning your daily driving trips more efficiently is one way to start. We all need to look for better solutions and wake up from our robotic habits.

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.

Sustainable Business Spotlights

LAWN CARE: Smart Timer Rebate
Alhambra local, Sandy Lee, wants residents to make water conservation easy by installing smart sprinkler systems. Lee's business, Smart Timer Rebates, provides smart timers that work on a simple principle: they automatically adjust for weather changes and irrigate based on the needs of the landscape & soil conditions. Typically, 50% of a homeowner's water bill goes toward lawn and landscaping. A smart timer can provide a cost savings of up to \$700 a year and the cost of the

smart timer can be 100% subsidized through government rebates. "There are mindless ways to conserve water like upgrading to smart sprinkler timers which are subsidized by the government," said Lee "or mindfully through composting and repurposing clean cooking water." Smart Timer Rebate will install your new system and help you get your rebate. Call (323) 791-5289, email Info@SmartTimerRebate.com, or visit their website smarttimerrebate.com.

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Ask Dr. Dara, D.D.S.

Dental information that expectant mothers should know

By Dr. Dara

Are bleeding gums during pregnancy normal? Would that stop after the pregnancy?

Gingivitis - inflammation of the gums - is very common during the pregnancy, usually starting at the end of the first trimester and continuing until the baby is born. During the second semester, a small overgrowth may appear on the gums in the areas where more plaque or food gets trapped. Pregnancy gingivitis comes with red, puffy, and sometimes tender gums that tend to bleed when you brush.

During the pregnancy, a hormone called progesterone is high. That, combined with plaque collection on the teeth, attracts bacteria and creates inflammation. That is why cleaning appointments and maintaining great oral hygiene is essential during pregnancy.

In rare situations, if the gingivitis is not treated, pregnant women may develop more advanced gum disease and create higher risk for preterm birth and low birth weight.



Normally this super sensitivity to bacteria will decrease after the progesterone level lowers down after pregnancy, and gum health should be restored.

Do pregnant women need to eat more calcium?

You need a balanced diet: vitamins, calcium, and other minerals are important for the formation of your baby's teeth. By the time your baby is born, primary teeth are already developed inside their little jaws. And the calcium does not come from the

mother's teeth; this is a myth. It comes from the mother's diet, which is one more reason to maintain a healthy and balanced diet.

Do pregnant women need more fluoride during pregnancy?

While fluoride is known to prevent tooth decay, the benefits of prenatal fluoride supplementation remains uncertain and quite controversial. A person's permanent teeth are developed after birth, so fluoride taken during pregnancy will not affect them at all. Some research has medical concerns that fluoride may have negative consequences on the fetus's developing brain if taken at very high concentrations.

Fluoride in ADA approved toothpaste is too insignificant to create a negative effect on the baby and is still the best way for the mother to maintain good oral hygiene and prevent cavities during the pregnancy.

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.



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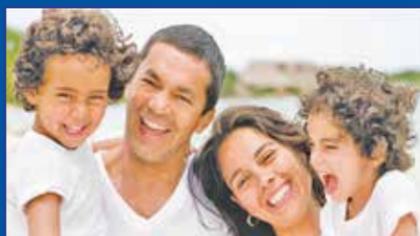
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Your Insurance

Original Medicare vs Medicare Advantage

By Katherine Yu Simms

While there are many similarities when it comes to comparing Original Medicare vs Medicare Advantage, the differences are stark. One of the most important decisions a beneficiary has to make is what type of Medicare coverage to enroll in, and there are multiple factors to take into consideration.

With Original Medicare, your benefits are administered by the federal government. Two parts make up Original Medicare, Part A & Part B. Part A is your hospital coverage, and Part B is your medical coverage. With Original Medicare, the benefits are identical from person to person. There are no copays, no waiting periods, and no pre-existing condition limitations. There are also no networks. You can see any doctor that accepts Medicare.

With Medicare Advantage, your benefits are managed through a private insurance company instead of the federal government. Medicare pays the Medicare Advantage carrier to administer your benefits for both Part A and Part B, under what's known as Part C. These private insurance companies must follow the guidelines the federal government sets in place. Medicare Advantage plans can come with additional perks like dental, vision, hearing, gym membership, transportation and prescription medications.



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.

Not sure which plan is right for you? Give me a call as my consultation and assistance with enrollment in any Medicare plan is always complimentary.

This column is provided to Around Alhambra by Katherine Yu Simms, who is responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse financial advice recommended by this author or any other provider. For more information and to contact Katherine, email her at kyusimms@rey-top.com.



Downtown Alhambra got their “Green On” for St. Patrick’s Day

On March 17, 2022, patrons celebrated St. Patrick’s Day (SPD) by getting their “green on” with Downtown Alhambra’s SPD t-shirt promotion. By visiting participating Downtown Alhambra bars and restaurants, customers were given free, commemorative St. Paddy’s Day Pub Crawl t-shirts with the phrases, “St. Patrick’s Day Drinking Team/ Drinks well with others,” as well as some fun SPD-themed party favors.

This year the participating bars and restaurants included 28 West Bar, 38 Degrees, Big T Mini Mart, Havana House, Limericks Tavern, Ohana Brewing Company, and Rabbit Hole Bar.

To create some enthusiasm during the week leading up to the promotion, the Downtown Alhambra Business Association (DABA) organized online Instagram giveaways that awarded \$25 gift certificates from the participating restaurants and bars. Winners were excited to be able to use their gift cards on St. Patrick’s Day.

It’s the second year that DABA has done the SPD t-shirt/ Instagram promo, vs. the traditional SPD pub crawl of previous years. Before, the event kicked-off at Ohana Brewing Co., and a bagpiper and MC led a large crowd to the participating pubs. However, due to the unpredictability with the

COVID/Omicron variant, DABA opted to celebrate St. Patrick’s Day in a safer manner.

Other Downtown Alhambra bars and restaurants that weren’t part of the SPD t-shirt promo also did their share to keep the St. Patrick’s Day high vibes going. The Chicken Koop Alhambra, La Chuperia Cantina, Vino’s Back Alley, Charlie’s Trio, Yang’s Kitchen, Apple Bee’s, Shin-Sen-Gumi, and more offered Irish-themed drink and food specials. Patrons took advantage of discounted green beer, Shamrock Shakes, and Lucky Leprechaun cocktails.

DABA special events and social media manager, Monina Castillo,

commented, “It was great to see people out and about wearing their green SPD tees, including DABA’s commemorative tees.” She added, “the recent loosening of COVID restrictions and lower COVID rates are hopefully good signs that things are heading back to normal, especially for these small businesses who are still recovering from economic struggles from the past two years.”

To find out about upcoming events in Downtown Alhambra, sign up for the newsletter at: <http://bit.ly/DABANewsletterSignUp>.



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These dumplings are mostly made by the restaurant owner, Mary Shao, who has also made her restaurant a standout for the homelike nature of the food and service. Truly a family restaurant, Mary is often in the kitchen as a family member is in the front of the restaurant interacting with guests. The frozen dumplings have helped them manage to stay open during the

challenges of the pandemic, though they are still facing difficulties of lack of staffing and diminished customers. Visit Mary, try a variety of dumplings, and experience You Kitchen at 1402 E Valley Boulevard.

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Moana JR., Disney's Musical, Finally Debuts in Alhambra

Postponed due to the Covid Shut Down, Student Musical Comes Back Stronger

Students eager to get back on stage after a two-year COVID-19 induced hiatus celebrate the local debut of *Moana JR.* The Disney production will mark the second musical for the budding cast and crew of elementary school students at All Souls World Language Catholic School (All Souls) in Alhambra.

"Our production of the *Lion King Kids* in 2019 was so magical that our students and families wanted to do another show right away!" explained Lisa Vazquez, a parent to three students at All Souls and Co-Chair of the All Souls Arts Committee. "It is truly amazing to witness our students become such confident stage performers. I can see how the discipline they learn as part of a musical production carries over to their studies and instills in them higher aspirations," she added.

At All Souls, parents design and make the professional costumes, stage sets, and props themselves with the help of their children. "Creative arts activities foster growth and development in many aspects of our children's education. Seeing the transformation of a blank surface turn into a finished art piece is an enjoyable accomplishment for our children. To see the artwork alongside the theatrical talent of the actors is a stunning combination," said Claudia Lucio, parent and Co-Chair of the All Souls Arts Committee.

"Moana's focus on cultural traditions including language is especially meaningful for our students who use language to bond with their own families and cultural heritage," states Maria-Elena Navarro, Principal. "After the Covid delays, we are so happy to have our students back at school full-time and finally back on stage! This production comes at an important time, as its theme is quite representative of what our students are doing - finding their way back in full kinship with one another after

two years of Covid difficulties," she added.

Evening performances will be on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, April 7, 8, and 9, 2022, with a Pre-Show Lobby Experience starting at 6 PM. The Saturday, April 9, 2022, matinee opens at 1:30 PM with the Pre-Show Lobby Experience. The musical will be presented on campus at 29 S Electric Avenue, Alhambra, CA 91801. Tickets for livestream are also available. Show tickets are only \$10 at www.ShowTix4u.com/events/AllSouls.

All Souls World Language Catholic School is part of the Los Angeles Archdiocese and is the only two-track dual language Catholic elementary school in the United States. Based in Alhambra on the site of a Catholic school by the same name that existed for over 100 years, the new school offers English/Spanish and English/Mandarin tracks for students in TK to eighth grade. For information visit allsouls.org or call 1-626-282-5695.

Real Estate

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

By Rudy L. Kusuma

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.

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Real Estate

How can I save water in my apartment?

By Mark Paulson

Although apartments generally use less water than houses, in some ways, apartment dwellers can do more to conserve water than homeowners. Consider this: if everyone in your building does a little something to save water, that small water savings is multiplied by the number of units. So, if everyone saves just two gallons of water per day, your building may be saving 10, 50, or 100 gallons per day, depending on the number of units.

Some apartment dwellers pay their own water bills, and some do not. But whether or not you have an individual water bill, it benefits you to conserve water. Conservation helps keep water costs down, and water costs impact the price of necessities such as food (because farms use so much water) – and rent. Here are some ways you can save water as someone who lives in an apartment:

- Even if you already have a low-flow showerhead, every minute you shorten your shower can save up to 75 gallons per month. And remember, there's power in numbers—if every apartment in a 15-unit building cut just one minute from their daily shower, that would be a savings of 1,125 gallons every month!
- Got a leaky faucet? Report leaks promptly to your building manager. A little drip may not seem like much, but a faucet that drips just five times per minute may be wasting more than 260 gallons per year.
- Do you leave the faucet running when you brush your teeth? Turn it off to save 70 gallons of water per month or more. You can also ask your building manager to install water-saving faucet aerators to reduce your faucet water use even more.
- See a leaky sprinkler? An apartment building is a community, and what affects the building affects the tenants. If you see a leak—from a broken sprinkler, washing machine, or pipe, for example—report it immediately to your building manager.
- See room for improvement? Your building manager should also be notified if you see other types of water waste. For example, it's best to water lawns when the sun is down to minimize evaporation, so you should inform your manager if an automated watering system's timer seems to be off. You should also bring to your manager's attention old, inefficient washing machines, gardeners who use water to clean walkways instead of sweeping them, and other sources of water waste.

Remember, we all need to help conserve water, whether you pay the water bill or not.

Mark Paulson

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

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Real Estate

Historically Low Housing Inventories – Why?

By Gary Frueholz

America has fewer homes for sale. Active listings were down 26% for the week ending February 12 this year compared to twelve months earlier. And the previous year when the pandemic started, the inventory of homes for sale dropped 53% between April 2020 and April 2021 (per realtor.com). When calculating the trend line from the past two years, the United States has seen the most dramatic drop in inventory of homes for sale since these statistics have been kept.

To compound this situation, a significant segment of the American population is prepared and actively seeking to purchase a primary home, and some buyers are pursuing a second home.

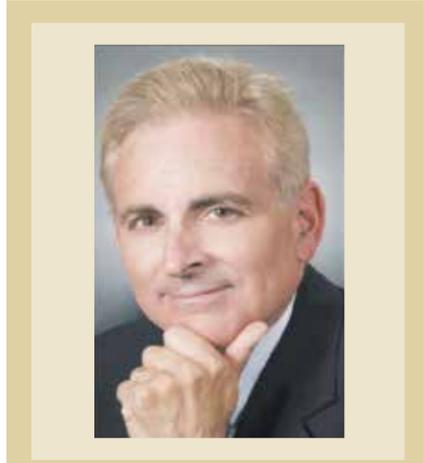
Fundamental economics says that the shift in supply combined with a healthy demand leads to the dramatic rise in the cost of a home. NPR (National Public Radio) reports that United States housing prices increased by 19% during 2021, and over half of the homes sold for above list price.

It is easy to identify the pandemic as a cause, but what are the more detailed reasons for this situation? A key factor is the change in lifestyles and behavior. Many employees were sent home to quarantine by their employers due to COVID-19. Numerous businesses furloughed and later laid off employees. This shift in lifestyle left a lot of people reluctant to sell their homes since they were uncertain of the future. Potential sellers decided to stay put and weather this new frontier of COVID-19 in familiar surroundings.

Federal unemployment benefits ended in September 2021 and the experts erroneously anticipated a vigorous return of workers into the labor force. But this did not happen. After two years of media reporting the devastation of COVID-19 and deaths in the United States now approaching one million (955,135 deaths recorded by March 6, 2022 by the Center for Disease Control), the fear of contagion and its associated health risks have produced a profound impact on Americans and inclined many people to remain cautious and stay on the sidelines. Again, this uncertainty is producing a “wait and see” attitude on returning to the work force, which in turn leads to a postponement of potential sellers listing their homes.

Other members of the pre-COVID workforce have opted for early retirement since older adults are at higher risk of severe illness and death from COVID. Statistically, an increased number have decided to start drawing from Social Security and live off of their nest eggs.

Behavioral changes can also be seen in the economic statistic of “velocity of money”. This measures how often a dollar turns over in the course of a year. The formula is $(V = GDP / (M1 + M2))$. Historically, this statistic runs in the neighborhood of 2, but now has lowered to nearly 1. This is an all-time low and again shows that people may be buying



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on Amazon, but the larger purchases for commodities such as real estate have been reduced.

There are some encouraging factors developing in the real estate market which may help to increase inventory for buyers. The pandemic does appear to be in decline and should encourage potential home sellers to venture into the marketplace. Increased supply will be generated, in part, from new housing construction, as well as from the end of forbearance for struggling mortgage payers (a situation that will cause some homeowners to sell). New housing construction will be supported by easing in material shortages experienced during 2021.

Consequently, 2022 will see some increases in housing inventories. And as the inventories do start to increase, the dramatic price increases of 2021 should begin to taper down.

Automobile

Spring Car Care Tips

Reminders to keep your vehicle running at its best

By Javier Mendez

With winter behind us and spring cleaning in full swing, don't forget to pay a little attention to your vehicle, too. Doing so will help ensure reliability, avoid costly repairs, and maintain the resale value.

Now is a good time to take a look under the hood. You will want to make sure fluids are in good condition and at the proper levels. Have any fluid leaks developed? Then, check those hoses and belts. When checking hoses, look for seepage around fittings. Also, check for soft spots or internal deterioration with a light squeeze. Older car belts traditionally would dry out and crack. Late model car belts wear out like a tire, and wear gauges are used to check condition. You will want to deal with these before things get unnecessarily expensive.

Check those air filters (engine and cabin). How did the battery hold up over the winter? Its condition is best checked professionally, but if you are noticing labored cranking, it may be time for a fresh one. Lastly, check those tires. Is air pressure in need of adjustment? Is the tread depth sufficient for the season? An uneven wear pattern across the tread surface is an indication of a steering or suspension problem. You will want to consult with your trusted service pro to identify the cause.

Exterior and interior maintenance are also important. The exterior should be washed and waxed. Be sure to check for leaves and debris build up at the base of the windshield, trunk, or rear hatch gutters. Interiors will benefit from good shampoo cleaning or at least a vacuum. And don't forget to check under the seats! If you have leather seats, now is a good time to apply a moisturizer to minimize drying and cracking. If you notice any new chips in the paint finish, you will want to apply some touch up



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paint to preserve the exposed metal surfaces. If your vehicle was exposed to snow conditions, an undercarriage wash would be in order. Keep in mind that surface contaminants may not be visible, and you do not want to lock them in with a wax coat. This would be a good time to consult with a professional detailer if your vehicle's overall finish justifies the expense.

Now that your vehicle is ready, get out there and enjoy the warmer weather and longer days. As always, if you have any questions on these topics or others, give us a call, we are happy to help.

Drive safely, Alhambra!

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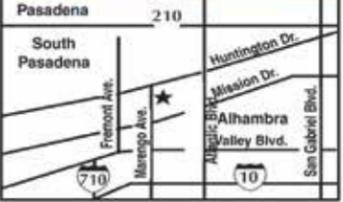
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	Condo/Townhome	\$655,973	\$555,400	+ 18.11%



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