

## Metallic balloons rise, power goes down

On February 9, 2022, at 4:19 PM, a power outage occurred on the Kay circuit in Alhambra, initially affecting 3,393 customers. Metallic balloons got caught in Southern California Edison (SCE) equipment and were identified as the cause of the outage by the utility. Within three hours, the area of the outage was minimized by SCE, using isolating techniques and technologies, so that only 656 customers were affected for the remainder of the outage. Most customers had their power restored by midnight, with the final load being restored in the early hours of February 10, 2022.

"Southern California Edison recognizes that outages can be frustrating for customers, whether they are planned or for emergency repairs. We are moving as quickly as possible toward our end goal of enhancing the future reliability and safety of the power grid, as we work toward California's goal of a clean energy future," said Jeannette Soriano, Government Relations Manager for the area including Alhambra.

>> see **POWER OUTAGE** Page 11

**STUDENT ART CONTEST TO INSPIRE THE DESIGN FOR THE 2023 TOURNAMENT OF ROSES**

**ELIGIBILITY AND RULES**

- Open to all elementary school students currently attending in the City of Alhambra. One entry per child.
- All entrants must have permission from their parent/legal guardian to complete registration.
- All artwork must be exclusively original and cannot incorporate anything, in whole or in part that is owned or created by any third party.

**CRITERIA:**

- Artwork must relate to the 2023 theme, "Turning the Corner", which means rising above, alone, or with friends, family and community, pursuing possibility and dreams.
- All mediums are welcome, for example: pencil, pen, crayons, markers, paint, digital design.

**WIN TWO VIP TICKETS TO THE 2023 ROSE PARADE IN PASADENA!**

Submissions must be turned in to your teacher or returned by 12:00 P.M. NOON on Thursday March 17, 2022 to the Parks and Recreation Department located in the first floor of Alhambra City Hall 111 South First Street Alhambra, 91801.

**FLOAT DESIGN ENTRY FORM**

First & Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 School: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Present your art on reverse.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2022**

Presented by the City of Alhambra and the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce  
 For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 626-379-8346 or by e-mail at parksandrec@cityofalhambra.org  
 Not endorsed or sponsored by the Alhambra Unified School District

## Calling all student artists! 2023 Rose Parade Float Student Art Contest

The City of Alhambra and the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce are launching an Art Contest asking students to help inspire the design for the Alhambra's 2023 Tournament of Roses Parade Float. The theme for 2023 is "Turning the Corner," which means rising above – alone, or with friends, family, and community – pursuing possibility and dreams.

>> see **ROSE PARADE STUDENT ART CONTEST** Page 4

## Brightwood+ Monterey Highlands students thrill to AUSD virtual music + drama variety show, perform Kindness Week song

The innovative, interactive 30-minute weekly music and drama variety show-style lesson format brought to the big screen in each TK-3 class at Brightwood and Monterey Highlands via Zoom is a runaway hit.

Created by music teachers Jennifer Quan and Lisa Jones, and drama teacher Amy Hughson, the AUSD VAPA team serving Monterey Park schools, their show is getting happy raves from little ones who look forward to their Wednesday treat.

The three teachers invented the big screen Zoom approach to allow them to each deliver their 10 minutes of lessons from empty classrooms so they are not wearing masks and to keep in-person classes small and socially distanced.

>> see **AUSD VIRTUAL SHOW** Page 19



Everyone in the Brightwood community embraced the January 24-28th Great Kindness Challenge week with so much note-writing and poster-making enthusiasm and so many random acts of kindness from students, families, and staff, the school earned the coveted designation as a Kindness Certified School. In the halls visitors could hear children joyfully singing their kindness song.

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Mayor's Corner

# Greetings, Alhambra residents!

By Mayor Jeff Maloney

What an incredible honor it is to serve you as Mayor once again. I'm extremely excited about our future, and I'm eager to get to work for you!

These last two years have undeniably been tough for everyone. My sincerest condolences go out to everyone who lost loved ones, endured illness, or otherwise suffered through the pandemic. Despite the difficulties we faced, I saw many acts of goodwill, charity, and kindness that made me even more proud to call Alhambra home.

After reviewing data from the last several weeks, I am cautiously optimistic that the worst of the pandemic is truly behind us, and I am looking forward to our community returning to some sense of normalcy.

While we must continue to ensure the wellbeing of the most vulnerable members of our community, I hope that you'll join me in celebrating our strong, resilient, and supportive City. Please come and find me at the Alhambra Farmers Market, enjoy a car-free day during the upcoming 626 Golden Streets event on May 1st, take in a concert or movie at the park later this summer, or enjoy a meal out at one of our world-famous restaurants. We have so much to be thankful for here in Alhambra!

Of course, we also have work to do on some of the serious issues we face. I'm looking forward to assembling Alhambra's first ever sustainability plan, working on a traffic mitigation and pedestrian safety plan, continuing our work on affordable housing development, and putting forth a

package of initiatives designed to support small businesses, which are the backbone of our local economy.

Clearly, we have our work cut out for us; but I know that if we come together and work on these and other pressing issues cooperatively, we will prevail. Public involvement is crucial, so please consider getting involved, speaking out, and ensuring that your voice is heard.

More than ever, I am optimistic for our future as a community, and I look forward to working with you to help Alhambra reach its full potential. Please feel free to share your thoughts on any of these issues with me directly at [jmaloney4alhambra@gmail.com](mailto:jmaloney4alhambra@gmail.com).

Finally, I would like to offer my thanks to our immediate past Mayor, Katherine



Mayor Jeff Maloney

Lee. Mayor Lee provided strong leadership for our city through a tumultuous time, and she deserves our gratitude. Thank you, Katherine!



This month, Bagel Exchange will open at 137 E. Main Street in Downtown Alhambra at the former location of Rolling Ice Cream.



## The YMCA of West San Gabriel Valley SUMMER DAY CAMP

Grades K-8th • 11 weeks  
May 30th - Aug 12th, 2022

\$800 per month / Weekly rates available



### When is Camp?

Summer 2022, May 30th - 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](mailto:val.ymca@gmail.com) • Visit Us At [www.wsgvymca.org](http://www.wsgvymca.org)

**NO REFUNDS**

From the Chief

By Alhambra Police Chief Kelly Fraser

Norman Rockwell's, *The Runaway*, graced the cover of the Saturday Evening Post in 1958. The iconic print depicts a law enforcement officer sitting at a Howard Johnson's Restaurant having a conversation with a little boy, *The Runaway*. The iconic print has become synonymous with law enforcement's relationship with America's youth. Over six decades later, *The Runaway* continues to portray the significance of the connection between law enforcement and the community.

As the Alhambra Police Department's Chief of Police, I am committed to building upon and establishing a strong foundation, devoted to protecting and caring for Alhambra's youth. For example, the APD partners with the local YMCA, visiting school campuses, and enhancing our *Police Explorer Program*. Recently, several officers visited parks to engage and interact with our kids, creating a safe space.

My goal is to create an atmosphere where APD officers interact with our youth through various avenues. Our goal is to create an atmosphere where children of all ages feel they can confide in an officer.

APD is proud to offer our *Gang Resistance Education And Training (G.R.E.A.T)* program. *G.R.E.A.T* instructors facilitate student learning and build relationships, serving as another opportunity for our police officers to be present in young, school-aged students' lives. We are here to make a difference and create long-lasting, positive relationships that will span generations.



**Kelly Fraser**  
Alhambra Police Chief

Law enforcement agencies across the nation are looking to cultivate an alliance with the communities they serve, and the Alhambra Police Department is no different. My officers recognize that trust and understanding begins with our actions, words, and behavior. The men and women of the Alhambra Police Department strive to employ these principles with every interaction with our community, especially our youth. Partnering with the community brings about needed change along with improved services. We stand committed to making the connections between our police department and the community's youth a beacon for other cities to emulate.

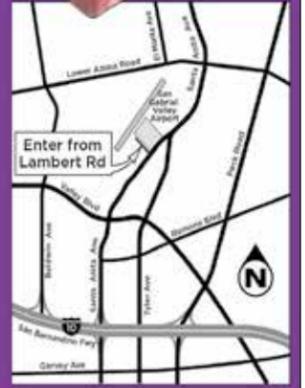
Imagine...all of these connections thriving, what would Norman Rockwell's painting look like today?

TOO TOXIC TO TRASH



FREE Household Hazardous and Electronic Waste Drive-Thru Collection Event

Saturday, March 19 • 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.  
San Gabriel Valley Airport  
4233 North Santa Anita Avenue  
El Monte, CA 91731



COVID-19 Precautions



Do not attend if you have  
1. Any COVID-19 symptoms  
2. Been asked to quarantine  
3. Recently traveled internationally



Wear a face covering



Stay in your vehicle with windows closed, if possible

CHEMICALS  
PAINTS & SOLVENTS  
E-WASTE  
SHARPS



Carefully secure items in your trunk/pick-up bed. Hazardous waste must be in your trunk/pick-up bed with no other items.



Waste should be in a sturdy box, preferably in their original containers. Be prepared to leave containers.



No explosives, ammunition, radioactive materials controlled substances, trash, tires, or large appliances (like refrigerators, stoves and washing machines).



Sharps disposal will require exiting your vehicle in a designated location to deposit them in a bin.

Open to Los Angeles County residents. No business waste accepted.

Limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds of hazardous waste per trip.



Brought to you by Los Angeles County and presented by Los Angeles County Public Works and Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts, in cooperation with the cities of Alhambra, Arcadia, Baldwin Park, Duarte, El Monte, Irwindale, La Puente, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pico Rivera, Rosemead, San Gabriel, San Marino, South El Monte, Temple City, and West Covina.

800-238-0173 • LACSD.org/hhw • CleanLA.com

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2022

**City of Alhambra Parks & Recreation Department**

**\$30 Per Player Plus a \$15 jersey fee.**

**TEEN BASKETBALL LEAGUE**

**Parks Make Life Better!**

*Under guidance from LA County Health Department.*

**HIGH SCHOOL LEVEL STUDENTS ONLY**  
REGISTRATION BEGINS FEBRUARY 14TH  
ALL PLAYERS MEETING MARCH 24TH @ 5:30PM VIA ZOOM  
SEASON STARTS APRIL 1ST

**Games are on Friday nights @ Almansor Park**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 626-570-5081 OR VISIT WWW.CITYOFALHAMBRA.ORG  
\* This program/activity is not sponsored or endorsed by the Alhambra Unified School District.

**Rainwater Harvesting Class & RAIN BARREL SALE**

**When: Saturday, March 5, 2022**  
9AM - 10AM (class)  
9AM - 11AM (distribution)

**Place: Granada Park**  
2000 W. Hellman Avenue, Alhambra, CA

**Topics of Discussion:**

- Importance of rainwater harvesting
- Installation & benefits of a rain barrel
- Applying for the rebate
- Cultivating native plants
- General water conservation tips

**Pre-order your rain barrels for \$65+tax at [RainBarrelsIntl.com](http://RainBarrelsIntl.com) under the EVENTS tab - click on City of Alhambra and follow the instructions from there!**

**Rain Barrel Specifications:**

- Recycled food-grade plastic barrels
- Solid brass 3/4" spigot for garden hose attachment and side brass overflow with cap
- 4" tight steel mesh screen riveted to top, preventing mosquitoes from accessing the water
- Colors:  
Black (60 gallons)  
Terra Cotta (50, 58 gallons)

**\$35/barrel rebate is available with a limit of 4/household. Check out the details at [SoCalWaterSmart.com](http://SoCalWaterSmart.com).**

For any questions, contact [Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com](mailto:Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com) or call (919) 602-6316.

**Sponsored by:** RAIN BARRELS INTL., INC. City of Alhambra

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## AROUND ALHAMBRA



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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](mailto:ceo@alhambrachamber.org)

For advertising rates and other information, contact

**Alhambra Chamber of Commerce**

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[www.alhambrachamber.org](http://www.alhambrachamber.org)

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### ROSE PARADE STUDENT ART CONTEST

From Page 1

The design Art Contest is open to all K-8 students attending a school in the City of Alhambra.

Students must submit their artwork along with the application. All mediums – from digital design to crayons – will be accepted. The artwork must be related to the theme of “Turning the Corner.”

Applications can be picked up at City Hall, Almanzor Park, Alhambra Park, Joslyn Center and the Civic Center Library. The application is also on the City's website ([www.cityofalhambra.org](http://www.cityofalhambra.org)) to download. The deadline to submit the application is Thursday, March 17, 2022 by 12pm.

The winner of the art contest will be awarded two VIP tickets to the 2023 Rose Parade where they can watch their designed float turn the corner onto Colorado Boulevard on New Year's Day morning.

# Thousands take to the street to celebrate Alhambra Lunar New Year

On Sunday, February, 20, 2022, more than 11,000 residents and visitors descended on the first Lunar New Year Festival in two years held in Alhambra, according to City estimates. Hosted by the Chamber of Commerce with the City, the Festival was modified to anticipate COVID-19 restrictions, and it delivered a community event worth celebrating.

"It was great to be back in person with all our neighbors to celebrate the diversity of the Alhambra community," said Councilmember Adele Andrade-Stadler, who attended the entire duration of the festival and whose Dream Center Booth was one of the top destinations of the festival. "This festival was a great comeback after two years of pandemic."

The five hour festival was held on 2nd Street between Main and Commonwealth. As visitors entered the festival from Main Street, they were immediately met with fresh flowers, bonsai trees, and other traditional vendors of the Alhambra Certified Farmers Market. Music echoed throughout the festival, and the smells of fresh foods from dumplings to roasted nuts wafted through the air. A few more steps, and attendees were in the thick of the festival with booths, activities, and entertainment.

From the Commonwealth entrance, attendees could visit with CHP officers, non-profit organizations, and even more vendors. This led into a family area with free games of skill and luck, as well as crafts like lantern-making and Year of the Tiger activities for kids.

Approaching the center court of the festival across from City Hall, attendees encountered health screenings for older adults from UCLA Asian Pacific American Medical Student Association, Asian Youth Center's VISA/Dream Center program and resources, and more. Festival sponsors US Bank, LingoAce, and Clever Care Health Plan ensured the Festival was able to offer a great time to all attendees. And the US Bank booth alone had a prize wheel that had a line almost the entire five hour festival!

Local businesses also were present to showcase their products, including the exciting toys and collectibles from Toyzilla and the custom 3D printed designs from Alhambra's own Cokreerate, to name a few. Future customers were able to see the unique offerings that Alhambra businesses had to offer and plan how they would come back to support them.

"The Alhambra Chamber is committed to celebrating the diverse businesses of our community, and this festival reminds greater Los Angeles that Alhambra is the place to find what you can't find anywhere else," said Christopher Teng Balmaseda, President-elect of the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce.

The Main Stage at the center court was the hub of the festival, with hundreds gathered to watch performances, connect with neighbors, and celebrate the fact they could be together again after years of limited gatherings.

A full day's programming of entertainment started with a Lunar New Year inspired book reading by Kate Rao of the Alhambra Library. She read stories, led interactive games with the children, and ended with music and bubbles. Following her, the main stage hosted a calligraphy demonstration by Fuzhong Gan, who led the audience in large, sweeping, and elegant brushstrokes from the stage, explaining the meaning and tradition of the artform. Audience members could follow along

with their own calligraphy sheets, and after his demonstration, he remained at the Festival creating custom lettering and messages for the new year for festival-attendees.

The first of two segments of entertainment from the Asian American Talent Foundation (AATF) kicked off at 10am with Cáishén, God of Wealth, who walked the festival bringing luck to all. Then, AATF presented children's performers that celebrated the year of the tiger in appropriately attired tiger costumes. The stage then hosted a series of adult performers in dance presentations from the various countries that celebrate Lunar New Year, including Korean fan dancing, Thai ribbon dance, and more. The colorful costumes, skilled execution of the dance moves, and inspiring music kept the

attention of festival goers that gathered by the hundreds at the stage and on the steps and grass in front of City Hall.

Founded in 2003 as a 501C3 nonprofit organization, AATF supports Asian arts, education, and culture. Their studio is located in neighboring Rosemead, and they focus on teaching children as young as 3-years-old traditional cultural performances

to help them uplift their voices and empower them to become community leaders. They also performed on KTLA's *LA Unscripted* with the Chamber and the City, highlighting Alhambra's Lunar New Year Festival to an audience across Southern California.

After the crowd-pleasing performances, elected officials presented scrolls, proclamations, and certificates to the organizers and offered words of support to the gathered community. Dignitaries included Congresswoman Judy Chu; State Senator Susan Rubio; Assemblyman-elect Mike Fong; County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Alhambra Mayor Katherine Lee, Vice-Mayor Jeff Maloney, and Councilmembers Adele Andrade-Stadler and Sasha Renée Pérez; and Alhambra School Board President Ken Tang.

Each dignitary was presented with a custom created candy dragon, tiger or other animal from the next artisan, the Candy Man. The Candy Man is a one-of-a-kind artist; the only artist in the United States to skillfully sculpt dragons, winged horses and well over 100 other figurines out of a secret candy recipe. He heated his special candy mix and created figures live on stage with assistance from children (and adults) from the audience. His skill brought multiple rounds of applause from the standing-room only audience – all for creating art from candy!

Though the demonstrations and performances to that point were compelling and kept the crowd engaged, the highlight of the festival might just have been the Lion Dance, which is traditionally performed at the Lunar New Year and other special occasions to bring luck. Lions play an important role in Chinese mythology, representing joy and happiness, and lion dances are performed accompanied by the music of beating of drums, cymbals, and gongs – instruments synchronizing to the lion dance movements and actions. This lion dance started on stage and then moved into the festival itself, sometimes with the lion head performer standing on the shoulders of the tail performer.

This comeback festival was a celebration of cultures of Alhambra's AAPI community, and the organizers will begin planning the 2023 event in the coming months, ensuring that it continues to celebrate the diversity of the city.

See photos from the 2022 Alhambra Lunar New Year Festival on the next page.





2022



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## Tax Tips

# Gift Tax

By Michael Aston, E.A.

There is no dollar limit on the amount that one person is allowed to give another. Gift tax rules do not prohibit a donor from making gifts in excess of the annual exclusion. However, if more than the annual exclusion is given to any one recipient, other than a spouse or charity, the amount over the annual exclusion is considered a "taxable gift".

Consequences of making taxable gifts:

- Donor is required to file a gift tax return (Form 709) for the year.
- Taxable gifts reduce the donor's \$12,060,000 lifetime gift estate tax exclusion. Gift tax is paid once the exclusion is exhausted.
- Taxable gifts are added to the donor's taxable estate at death.

Donors with small estates can make gifts over the annual exclusion and pay no gift or estate tax.

**ANNUAL EXCLUSION:** For 2022, the annual exclusion is \$16,000 which increased by \$1,000 from 2021.

**GIFTS SUBJECT TO GIFT TAX:** Gift tax applies to any transfer by gift or real or personal property, whether tangible or intangible, that was made directly or indirectly, in trust, or by any other means to a donee. Gifts include transfers of cash, personal property, and payments of debts or expenses for another person.

**NOT GIFTS:** Qualified transfers for tuition or medical expenses are not considered as gifts as long as the donor



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

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

to the school or care provider. The donor and the donee do not need to be related, and there is no limit on the amount that can be transferred.

To get more detail on what is a gift and gift tax, you can go [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov). This information was from Tax Materials, Inc.

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.

**alhambra**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

## CALLING ALL ADVERTISERS!

Promote your business in Around Alhambra's April issue on **SUSTAINABILITY**



We'll be celebrating **Earth Day** in our April edition, with special features on recycling, eco-friendly practices, and ways to enjoy nature. Let your customers know that your business is supporting our planet. We can help you plan your Around Alhambra ad. We can help you with ideas for "green" 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 March 12.  
Ad submission deadline is March 18.  
Call us for rates! (626) 282-8481

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Michael Aston, EA

626-282-1084



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

**Alhambra Educational Foundation**  
1603 Chestnut Street  
Alhambra, CA 91803  
626-943-3080  
Member since 2001

**Credit Union of Southern California**  
900 S. Fremont Ave.  
Alhambra, CA 91803  
626-458-2011  
Member since 2009

**Pacific Medical Imaging & Oncology Center**  
707 S. Garfield Ave.  
Suite B-001  
Alhambra, CA 91801  
626-228-2727  
Member since 2008

**Cathay Bank – Valley Branch**  
43 E. Valley Blvd.  
Alhambra, CA 91801  
626-576-7600  
Member since 2012

**G.E. Property Development, Inc.**  
407 W. Valley Blvd. #4  
Alhambra, CA 91803  
626-282-9200  
Member since 2003

**The UPS Store**  
560 W. Main St., Suite C  
Alhambra, CA 91801  
626-284-8298  
Member since 2005

*Thank You!*

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

# How much do we appreciate mom and pop business owners?

The lifeblood of our local economy is small business, providing our community with the unique restaurants, shops, and venues that reflect the diverse cultures and aspirations that come together in Alhambra. The heart of small business is often found in what we call "Mom and Pop" businesses. These family owned and operated establishments were first singled out in 1939, when March 29 was the date chosen to celebrate these hardworking folks.

Often reflecting cultural origins, delicious cuisines, remarkable handicrafts, and special traditions of the owners, our "Mom and Pop" businesses typically support several generations of a family. Perhaps Grandma does the bookkeeping, a young

son runs the register, a cousin stocks the shelves, Dad is at the counter, and Mom is sewing, cooking, or wrapping in the back. Consider how you celebrate these special businesses on their special day.

When you shop at a "Mom and Pop," you can expect a little extra attention and appreciation as you browse and make a purchase. You might even hear a story about a family recipe or learn about a traditional holiday. It's not just shopping, it's a chance to truly connect with members of our community. You'll also be assured that your purchase supports the people who are serving you. That's why it's worth it to "shop Mom and Pop" on March 29, and truly every other day of the year.

## Real Estate

# 11 critical home inspection traps to be aware of weeks before listing your home for sale

By Rudy L. Kusuma

Alhambra - According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away altogether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help homesellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved. To order



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## Your Insurance

# Turning 65 and ready to sign up for Medicare?

By Katherine Yu Simms

Medicare is health insurance for people 65 or older. You're first eligible to sign up for Medicare three months before you turn 65. You may be eligible to get Medicare earlier if you have a disability, End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD), or ALS (also called Lou Gehrig's disease).

Some people get Medicare Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance) automatically, and some have to sign up for it. You are automatically eligible for Medicare when you turn 65 (as long as you start getting Social Security benefits at least 4 months before you turn 65).

- You'll get Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance).
- Medicare will mail you a welcome letter with your Medicare card three months before your Medicare coverage starts.

Your coverage options: once you've signed up for Part A and Part B, you can choose which way you get your health coverage.

Do you want Original Medicare or Medicare Advantage? If you picked Original Medicare, do you want to add more coverage such as a Part D Prescription Drug Plan or a Supplement Plan?

If you have questions like these and need assistance to pick the best plan for you, please don't hesitate to contact



**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.*

me. My consultation and assistance with enrollment in any Medicare plan is always free.

*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.*

# Help Alhambra High schoolers lift off

Alhambra High School is the only AUSD school to offer extracurricular aerospace activities. Members of the program may be eligible to compete in TARC, also known as the Team America Rocketry Challenge, which is a national competition on rocketry. Participants work with aerodynamics, engine propulsion, and drag ratios. They launch a model rocket and land it safely back to the ground.

Adding to the excitement of the TARC competition, the Alhambra High program also helps prepare students for success in college and careers in the aerospace industry. If you would like to support our community's budding rocket scientists, including girls and other groups under-represented in STEM, reach out to the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce, and we will connect you with the student leaders.

## Sign up for Medicare coverage!



### Important Medicare questions

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

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

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**VISIT THE CHAMBER  
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*The Chamber View*

# Strong business; Strong community

By John Bwarie

CEO Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

In this edition of *Around Alhambra*, we're focused on celebrating good news. We're celebrating the youth of our community this month. With Spring break coming up, you'll appreciate our feature on eight ways to make family time more fun and meaningful. You'll find activities you can do at home and in the community, with some special shout-outs to our local businesses to help make the most of your family time.

We're also launching a new feature highlighting each month's national days. This month, you'll find something special to celebrate each and every day of March. At the Chamber of Commerce, we encourage you to take special notice of National Employee Appreciation Day (March 4th) and National Mom and Pop Business Day (March 29th). Take this opportunity to visit local Alhambra businesses to show your support.

Because small business is top of mind at the Chamber, we're always finding ways to support economic development in our city. As part of this key Chamber initiative, throughout the last month we've been working to bring new businesses to our community. Our goal is to fill the vacant storefronts with vibrant new places to shop, dine, find needed services, and enjoy entertainment. This takes time, but we are talking with potential businesses almost weekly to start the process with them. If you're considering launching a new business or expanding, let us know so we can help you with every aspect of your opening. That includes zoning, permits, and even planning your grand opening celebration.

We're also working with the City to secure more financial support for our businesses through both recovery and private funds. Even though the pandemic feels like it's coming to a

close, many of our businesses still need an extra boost to come back stronger. As we have more news about this initiative, we'll share it with you. In other news about Chamber activities, this month we're tracking numerous pieces of State legislation that could impact local businesses. To help guide our advocacy efforts related to restrictions of restaurants, for instance, Chamber representatives have called over 150 Alhambra restaurant owners to gain their insights and preferences, and then relayed that information to inform policy decisions. We thank everyone who took the time to share their perspectives and will continue to fight for our local businesses in Sacramento as well as here at home.

Keep in mind that the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce is here for every business owner, including those who are not yet members. We're always looking for new ways to support the economic vitality and quality of life in our community. Make sure to reach out to us if we can help you!



**John Bwarie**  
CEO Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

*Your Insurance*

# Insurance questions to ask your insurance agent

By Regina Talbot

**Insurance needs are ever-changing — which means you probably have questions. Here are 5 that are important to ask.**

**1. I've got my insurance. Why do we even need to meet?**

It's totally understandable to think that insurance is a "set it, forget it" kind of a thing — especially when lots of competing priorities try to snatch up time. But a regular check-in with your agent can be great to discuss any big changes that may have occurred (a promotion with a boost in income that should be matched by a boost in life insurance, for example). If you don't have time for an in-person meeting, check in with your agent by contacting them utilizing a mobile app or through email.

**2. Digging through my glove box is never productive, especially when I want to figure out my deductible. Is there a better way (and what's my deductible, while we're at it)?**

There is a better way to know all things insurance-related: State Farm provides ID cards, coverage limits and deductibles through their mobile app. And a deductible is one thing to talk about with your agent: You can change it from year to year based on any number of factors, from the size of your emergency fund (which you can use to cover the cost) to potential changes in insurance costs. (That's another reason to set up that regular meeting or contact.)

**3. OK, I've got my insurance. I've reviewed coverage levels. Are there more resources for me to learn about home, auto and finance?**

When you meet with your agent, talk to them about what you can be doing to be proactive against loss — everything from oil changes to cleaning your gutters. Regina Talbot has all sorts of helpful tools on a range of topics, from setting up a budget to seasonal home maintenance, starting an emergency fund and prepping for retirement. And if you want to do even more to be a better driver, check out the mobile apps

**4. When I buy something, it's covered by my homeowners or renters policy, right?**

Not exactly. Your coverage has certain limits, especially when it comes to irre-



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

placeable or very expensive items such as heirlooms or jewelry. In addition, if you have a home-based business, you may need additional coverage to make sure you do as much as possible to stay protected. Talk to your agent about your coverage limits and extended options that may make sense for you.

**5. Do I have enough life insurance?**

Even if you never buy a different vehicle or live in the same house for decades, life insurance is reason enough to schedule that meeting with your agent. A one-on-one conversation lets you consider those deeper questions about insurance that helps provide for loved ones in case of loss. For instance, the age of your children, the amount of time left on your mortgage and your retirement investment strategy may all play a role in how much life insurance you really need.

*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.*



On February 15, 2022, the Alhambra Wellness Center reopened at a new, larger location at the southwest corner of Valley Blvd. and Garfield Ave.

Pictured at the Ribbon Cutting (L to R): Chamber Ambassador Jewelyn Co, Chamber President-elect Chris Balmaseda, Central Health Medicare Plan Chief Medical Officer Dr. An Pang Chieng, Chamber President Suzi Dunkel-Soto, Central Health Medicare Plan President Shawn Dewers, Alhambra Mayor Katherine Lee, and Chamber CEO John Bwarie.



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104 S. First St.

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

# 8 ways to keep your kids occupied this spring break - without an iPad!

Keeping young people of all ages entertained doesn't have to be difficult or require screen time. Here are eight ways to support local merchants and keep your kids entertained this spring break right here in Alhambra.

## 1. Start a Low-maintenance Garden

Visit **Lutume** for an airplant in a whimsical handmade pot. **Lutume** has been hand-crafting their conversation-starting pots since 1995. If you're lucky, you might just get to meet the owner's dog, Kiko.

## 2. Create a Family Art Project

Have each family member paint one side of a wooden birdhouse, make a hand-print stepping stone, or start a family t-shirt quilt. You can find all of the supplies you need to create a family art project at **JoAnn Fabric Store**.

## 3. Visit an Art Gallery

Visit **Nucleus** art gallery and bookstore on West Main Street. Visiting an art gallery might just inspire your little ones to improve the quality of the art hanging on the refrigerator.

## 4. Start an Aquarium

Fish are great pets for busy families. Visit **Total Fish and Pets** for everything you need to start your new aquarium.

## 5. Camp in Your House

There's nothing more memorable than camping in your backyard or living room.

You can find tents, sleeping bags, and lanterns at **Big 5 Sporting Goods**.

## 6. Bake Bread from Scratch

Having your kids learn to bake bread is a triple threat: they'll learn some food science, spend most of the day watching dough rise, and you're almost guaranteed to have freshly baked bread for dinner. Buy all the supplies you need for this food science experiment at **Sprout's Farmers Market**.

## 7. Travel the World without Leaving Town

Alhambra is the perfect place to try global cuisine with your young people. Plan a visit **Mancora Peruvian Cuisine** to try Peruvian food or **Ipoh Kopitiam** for Malaysian food, to name two of more than two dozen international cuisines found in Alhambra.

## 8. Plan a Scavenger Hunt that Ends with a Sweet Treat

Create a scavenger hunt around your home or neighborhood that ends in a sweet treat! Visit **Perfectly Sweet Bakery** or **Shredded Carrot** for irresistible sweet treats.



## ALHAMBRA MORNING KICK START FOR BUSINESS GROWTH



*This fast-paced **business networking and skills workshop** will help you meet the partners you need and learn the skills necessary to keep your business profitable - all before the work day starts!*

*In this session, representatives from **Shopify LA** will teach attendees how to shoot compelling photos for all their business needs with the materials they already have on hand.*

Wednesday, March 9, 2022

7:30 - 8:45 AM

Alhambra Chamber Conference Room

*Space is limited, and advanced registration is required. To reserve your seat, please call the Chamber at (626) 282-8481.*

Chamber Members: Free  
Non-Members: \$10



## Summer School

Online Registration Begins

**March 7, 2022**

Classes will be held in accordance with LA County and CDC health guidelines.

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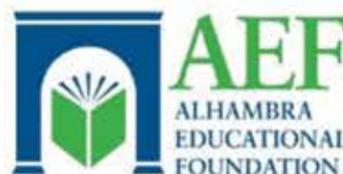
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**Additional  
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## Obituary



Owen H. Guenthard  
May 20, 1937 – February 2, 2022

# Owen Guenthard: A Life of Service

Mr. Owen H. Guenthard was born on May 20, 1937 in Los Angeles, and his family moved to Alhambra in 1942. He attended Marguerita School until the fourth grade when he transferred to All Souls Catholic School. As early as the fifth grade he began to work after school and on weekends to deliver baked goods for Elmer's Bakery.

Entering Alhambra High School in 1951, Owen lettered in baseball as a third baseman and outfielder and in football as a guard. He was named All-CIF First Team in both sports. In his Senior Year, he was elected Student Body President. Throughout high school, he worked weekends and summers for his uncle, refinishing floors.

In 1955, Owen began attending Whittier College on a football scholarship, playing for future Ram's head coach, George Allen. Shortly after, knee and shoulder injuries ended his football career; so he transferred to USC, where he earned a B.A. degree in Marketing and Advertising in 1959. That same year, he enlisted in the California National Guard, serving until 1963, the same year he earned his M.B.A. in Finance and Real Estate.

In 1964, Owen was hired as an Assistant Vice President at Security National Bank. His job afforded him the opportunity to travel, and for the rest of his life, he enjoyed visiting Europe, Latin America, and Canada.

After 22 years with the bank, he began working with the United Way through the Loaned Executive program for four years. In 1992, he found his calling as the Executive Director of the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce.

On December 1, 1995, he printed the first edition of *Around Alhambra* which has been the go-to community newspaper in Alhambra ever since. The paper's long time editor Dulcy Jenkins remembers that, "Owen was so good with people. He listened to them and tried to help them when someone had a problem."

He also ramped up his community involvement, serving as Chairman of the Alhambra Redevelopment Commission which led to further appointments, first to the Planning Commission by then-Councilman Gary Yamauchi. In 2004 he was elected to the Alhambra High School Athletes Hall of Fame and helped coordinate their activities and his High School Reunions over the years.

Owen served as Chamber Director for 21 years before retiring in 2013. He remained involved as the Chamber's Director of Legislative Affairs for several more years. Sharon Gibbs, who succeeded him as Executive Director, remembers, "Owen loved and cared so much about Alhambra; he worked hard to make it a better place for everyone."

His life of service ended on February 2, 2022. He is survived by his devoted wife, Glenda.

# Alhambra News & Notes

The **Alhambra Women's Club** will host its monthly meeting at Almanson Court on Friday, March 4 at 11am with music provided by the delightful **Two's Company**. The cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for nonmembers. Please call 626-289-9307 by March 2 to make a reservation.

The **Bagel Exchange**, slated to open in March at 137 Main Street, is looking to hire new employees.

On January 25, **The Granada** on First Street was the location of filming of the **Warner Bros.** production of *Perry Mason*.

On January 31, at a special council meeting, the **Alhambra City Council** voted to approve its Updated **Housing Element**. The Chamber supported the action as a policy direction to have more housing built in the city.

For the third year in a row, **Mark Keppel High School** was announced as the winner of the Los Angeles County Academic Decathlon, earning a trip to the state competition in March. The nine-member team scored 43,333 points out of a possible 60,000, the highest score of the 35 participating schools.

On February 7, **JCC Ventures** received **Alhambra Planning Commission** approval for their project on East Main Street which will bring ground-floor retail and second-floor incubator space for start-up aerospace companies.

**The Ratkovich Company** has filed a lawsuit, via the state's Housing Accountability Act, against the **City of Alhambra** over the denial of the company's **The Villages at the Alhambra** project, which is intended to add 790 new residential units to a 40-acre, mixed-use property.

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

On February 9, registered nurses at **Alhambra Hospital Medical Center** voted overwhelmingly in favor of ratifying a new three-year contract.

On February 15, **Emcore Corporation** (Nasdaq: EMKR), an Alhambra-based leading provider of products serving the aerospace and defense industry, announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire the assets and liabilities of the **L3Harris** (NYSE: LHX) Space and Navigation Business.

On February 15, the **Alhambra Wellness Center** had its grand opening and ribbon cutting for its new location at Garfield and Valley. Part of the **Central Health Plan**, the Center will offer resources for older adults.

Alhambra resident **Mike Fong** was elected on February 15 as the next State Assemblyman for the 49th district representing Alhambra and the San Gabriel Valley. He will complete the term of **Ed Chau**, who resigned in 2021 to take a judicial appointment.

**Calbay Development** has purchased the fee interest in the former **Office Depot** property, a 26,000-square-foot site with 98 parking spaces along Valley Boulevard.

On February 28, new Alhambra Mayor **Jeff Maloney** took office at the regular council meeting, assuming the role from outgoing Mayor **Katherine Lee**, a position that rotates among the five elected City Council Members.

On March 4, the **Alhambra Historical Society** will install their new President and Board of Directors at a ceremony at **Iona Work Spaces** on Alhambra Road.

# Why Reading Aloud Helps Children Thrive

Reading stories to children, even the youngest infant, is one of the most powerful ways you can build a close relationship and at the same time, accelerate their language development and comprehension. Perhaps the most unexpected benefit of reading aloud is that you are helping the child develop socially and emotionally. Most storybooks have a little drama, humor, and suspense, while they show the characters responding with a range of feelings. Stories teach the vocabulary of emotions to your child, who gains the ability to know what they are feeling and verbalize it. This is especially helpful with difficult emotions, including feeling sad, angry, frustrated, or confused. That may lead to their ability to talk through their discomfort and better self-control over their behavior both at home and at school.

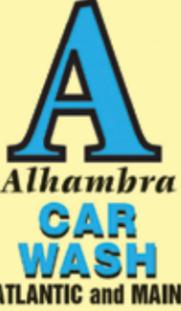
How can you maximize your reading time?

1. Make reading routine. Having a regular story time, perhaps before bed, gives you and your child a special bonding time each day.

2. Describe the pictures or ask your child to tell you what they see. Some helpful questions include, "who's in the pictures," "what are they doing," and "how are they feeling?"

3. Pause to add your own details as you read. You might say, "There's a flower garden in this story, and it looks a lot like the flower garden at our park."

Most importantly, enjoy the quality time and conversation with your child. Along with all the learning and social-emotional benefits you provide, feel proud about being a great parent and caregiver when you read together.



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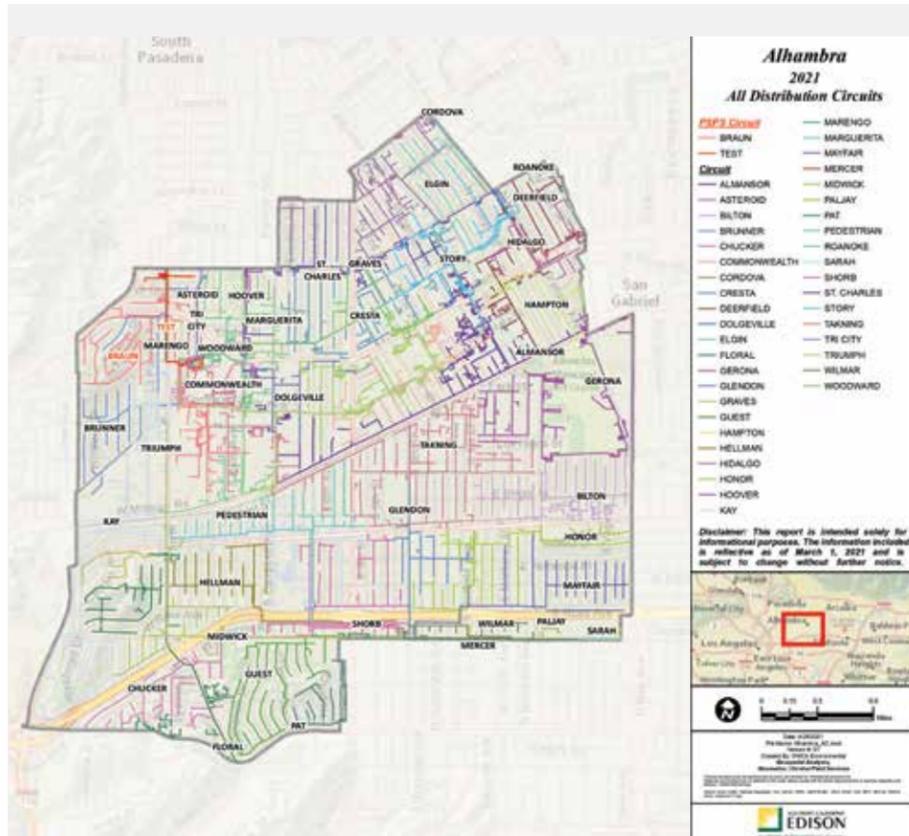


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**POWER OUTAGE** From Page 1

In Alhambra, SCE is working on an enhancement to the Kay circuit to make it more redundant for the purpose of mitigating future outages in our community. Work on this project is scheduled to commence later this year, and maintenance outages to complete this work are planned that will facilitate SCE's ability to isolate outage areas when it sectionalizes and tests circuits. Ultimately, this work will improve reliability by allowing SCE to switch customers to another circuit, creating redundancy for future emergency outages, with the goal

of decreasing the frequency and duration of outages. You can help prevent outages from metallic balloons, which are often part of holiday celebrations. Keep these balloons tied down and dispose of them appropriately to help prevent outages as well as explosions that can occur when they land on electrical equipment. They can bring down power lines and potentially lead to severe injuries, fires, and property damage. As a public service, SCE reminds its customers to stay away and call 911 if they ever see downed lines.



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"Never, ever release metallic balloons outdoors and always keep them tied to a weight as required by state law," said Andrew Martinez, SCE vice president of Safety, Security & Business Resiliency.

"They create a totally unnecessary public safety threat when released outdoors and hundreds of totally avoidable power outages."

**MARCH SPECIALS**

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Women's Legs - Full	\$130
Men's Legs - Lower	\$90
Men's Legs - Upper	\$90
Men's Legs - Full	\$150
Abdomen	\$70
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Men's Chest - Full	\$110
Full Back - Women	\$100
Full Back - Men	\$150
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Upper Body - Men	\$300
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## Obituary

# Champion of equity, former AUSD Superintendent Dr. Julie Hadden leaves legacy gifts to students + educators

From her first days as AUSD superintendent in 2003, Dr. Julie Hadden harnessed her trademark sense of humor, gift for listening, and fierce devotion to students to begin a pioneering campaign to end Z-Tracking for underserved students and to open Honors and AP English and Math to all incoming 9th graders. The longstanding policy of Z-Tracking incoming 9th grade students meant they would not be eligible for college, only for vocational training. By empowering all students to become college-eligible Hadden changed the life trajectories of many.



*Dr. Julie Hadden, Alhambra Unified superintendent from 2003-2007, championed education as the real path to a better life. She is remembered for her mentorship of AUSD employees and fierce devotion to students. Her goal was for students and educators to see their capacity for greatness in order to live bigger lives. Plans to meaningfully honor Dr. Hadden will be announced by the district soon.*

Hadden died in February after seven months battling cancer, but her passionate belief in lifelong education as the real road to a better life was evident in every action she took as an educator. As a high school student struggling without guidance at home, Hadden was fast-tracked to secretarial courses. Only the intervention of a teacher who recognized her potential and helped her apply for college and scholarships allowed Hadden to become Dr. Hadden and a superintendent.

whose work and wisdom helped build a culture of programs and people whose purpose was to expand opportunities for all — and especially for those who needed it most.”

Like all struggling students, Hadden needed an advocate who believed in her first in order to become who she meant to be. That experience galvanized Hadden’s whole approach to education: Teach students and educators to see their capacity for greatness.

Retired AUSD superintendent Donna Perez, who served after Hadden, agrees, “Julie was that gifted leader who people wanted to follow. Her compassion and care for all employees showed — and meant she was available to really listen to you. She sought out input from everyone to make decisions.” Perez also remembers Hadden’s talent for making others laugh, including at herself. “A sense of humor can make a lot of pills go down,” Perez pointed out.

Dr. Hadden fostered expanded professional development courses to build mentors, advocates, and the district leadership bench to ensure that students learned to believe in their potential and had the educational opportunities they deserved.

Alhambra Unified is considering several plans to create a meaningful tribute to Dr. Julie Hadden. The district will announce their plans soon.

“In this district, we stand on the shoulders of Julie Hadden,” AUSD superintendent Denise Jaramillo said. “Julie was an educational visionary

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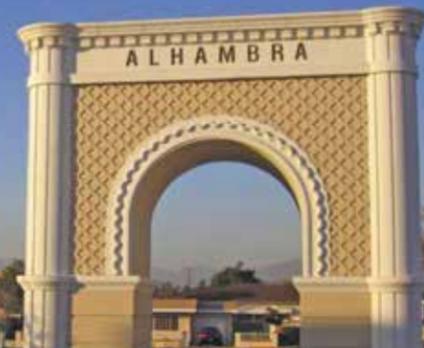
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Alhambra Moors Baseball Coaches: (left to right) Mike Timchenko, Matt Lopez, Travis Arroyo, Jovan Ramirez and Noe Ramirez.

# Local Sports News from Alhambra High Schools

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

### Alhambra Baseball

Jovan Ramirez has been named Head Coach for the 2022 Moors Varsity Baseball Team. Jovan is an AHS graduate and the oldest of three brothers who all played for former Head Coach Steve Gewecke, who retired after the 2021 season. Another AHS graduate and former player, Matt Lopez, joins the staff along with Travis Arroyo and Mike Timchenko, who both coached at Alhambra the last few years. The Moors have been fortunate to have Jovan's younger brother, Noe Ramirez, helping out at a few practices. Noe was inducted into the AHS Hall of Fame in 2019 and now pitches for the Arizona Diamondbacks. Welcome Jovan, and best of luck to the team.

### Alhambra Basketball

The Moors 2021-22 Varsity Basketball Team hosted a CIF Southern Section Second Round Playoff game for the first time in thirty years taking on Garden Grove after defeating Palmdale, 65-46, in the first round. The Moors finished the historic season 19-6 overall after finishing second in the Almont League with a record of 7-2. The team had been led all year by seniors Lawrence Mai, Michael Gonzalez, Justin Flores, and Edmond Hong.

### Alhambra Football

The CIF Southern Section recently announced their All CIF Selections for the 2021 season, and three Moors were among those honored for Division 14. Seniors Joseph Diaz and Michael Gonzalez were joined by Junior Joshua Soto selected by the Football Coaches Association. Diaz was

impressive on both sides of the ball as an Offensive and Defensive Lineman. Quarterback Gonzalez threw for over 2,200 yards and 28 touchdowns. Wide Receiver Soto had 39 receptions for 725 yards and 6 touchdowns. Soto also played well on defense with 2 interceptions including 1 for a touchdown. Congratulations to these well deserving players and to the whole 2021 team.

### San Gabriel Football

The CIF Southern Section's recently announced All CIF Selections also recognized four Matadors among those honored for Division 13. Seniors, Jose Tirado, Edwin Gomez and Devin Estrada were joined by Junior Tijani Daley as selected by the Football Coaches Association. The Matadors finished the season with a record of 9-3 and an appearance in the CIF Division 13 Playoffs.

### San Gabriel Girls Soccer

The Lady Matadors 2021-22 Varsity Soccer Team finished the season with an overall record of 12-9-4 finishing fourth in the Almont League. They did earn a place in the CIF Southern Section Division 7 Playoffs but lost a close game to Capistrano Valley Christian, 3-2.

### Mark Keppel Girls Basketball

After defeating Pioneer, 57-52, in the first round, the Aztecs' 2021-22 Girls Varsity Basketball Team hosted Santiago on February 16 for a CIF Southern Section Second Round Playoff game, which ended their season with a 16-5 record overall. As usual, the Aztecs rolled through the Almont League undefeated at 10-0. They average 55 points per game, while allowing only 33 points per game.

## Getting Through It

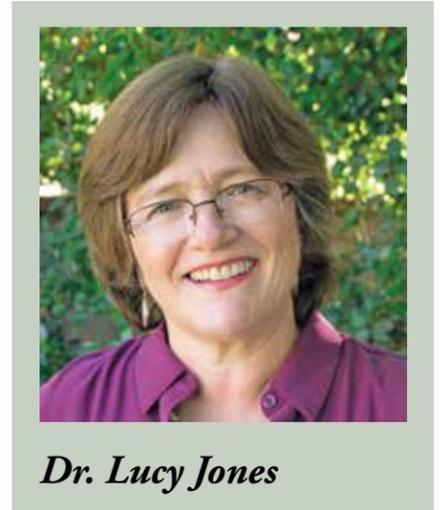
# “Locked, Loaded, and Ready to Roll”

By Dr. Lucy Jones

A headline in the *L.A. Times* from 2016 quoted a seismologist who said the San Andreas Fault was “locked, loaded, and ready to roll.” Many people worried, when they read this, that the big earthquake was imminent. It has now been six years since that publication, and no significant earthquake has occurred on the San Andreas Fault. I will unpack these three phrases-- locked, loaded, ready to roll-- to explain why that is.

First, I will define a “locked” fault. Starting with the basics, a fault is a place where big sections of the Earth's crust are moving past each other. This can happen with or without earthquakes. An earthquake is movement that produces shaking as one of its effects. If the sections move smoothly, the movement is still happening, but no waves are released. The magnitude of an earthquake is determined by how large a part of the fault moves and by how much. So, if a shorter, 10 meter section moves, it's a magnitude of 3 (M3). If a longer, 100km long patch moves, it's a magnitude of 7 (M7). Lots of energy needs to be stored to move this 100km long patch, so it must have not moved for a long time. It needs to be “locked” and storing energy to build up to a big one. A fault will have locked and unlocked sections. Seismologists usually call the unlocked parts “slipping.”

Next, with “loaded,” looking at an individual fault, for example, pressure from the surrounding rocks is holding it in place and plate tectonics is trying to make it move. Imagine a cross-section of the Earth. In the shallowest part, there is not enough stress. At the bottom, it is too hot and can't break; this is where we get creep. That creep movement at the bottom puts more stress on the middle part - the part that has too much pressure and not enough heat to just slip. This is the part that is building up to a big quake, or what the aforementioned seismologist was referring to as “loaded.” Once this stress is released, then the fault goes back to being locked and building up energy for the next one. If you have a part of a fault capable of a big quake, it generally doesn't have small earthquakes. While there are small earthquakes daily on faults, these mostly occur around the patch that will have



Dr. Lucy Jones

the big one on secondary faults: near but around the surface that moves in the big quake. Or they will occur at the bottom of the locked section. The transition zone between the hot creeping part and the cold locked part is like cooling taffy. If it is really hot it stretches. If it is completely cold, it breaks. In between we have the transition zone where we get small earthquakes that continue to load the locked part.

“Ready to roll” is a classic problem in geologists communicating with the public. To seismologists, we would consider an earthquake in the next century as “imminent.” “Soon” for geologists and “soon” for everyone else is seen differently. Pretty much any fault in California could have a big quake today, but it probably won't. Having a small earthquake somewhere around the locked section gives that section a nudge. However, most of those nudges are not enough to push it over. We might think it is ready to roll, but it usually isn't.

So, “locked, loaded, and ready to roll” means that a particular section of a fault is locked, the stress is building, and it could - and at some point, will - move. Every large fault, or at least sections of them, are in this category.

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*.



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## 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 students from Alhambra High, Ramona Convent, and Independence High. Here are their answers to:

*“What’s the best part about growing up in Alhambra?”*



“The best part about growing up in Alhambra is getting to experience the diverse culture and community with all of the people I’ve met over the years. There is nothing quite like hanging out with my friends on Main Street with a boba in hand.”

*Kera C., Sophomore, Ramona Convent*

“The community in Alhambra is very small and personal. It makes me feel like I have more of an identity, and knowing people all around town is great. My favorite place is Main Street, since there are so many options to eat and entertain yourself.”

*Miyana K., Senior, Alhambra High School*



“The best part about growing up in Alhambra is how accessible everything is. The blue line makes getting around the city very easy, and most of the things to do are concentrated in the convenient location of Main Street.”

*Emily D., Senior, Alhambra High School*

“The most touching aspect of coming to age here has been the people, and the innumerable “pages” we have written in each other’s story. Page by page, day to day, a community is made up of all the compassion, awareness, and love that individuals choose to provide for each other.”

*Mark M., Senior, Independence High School*



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!

## All Around the Town

By Glenn Barnett

“All Around the Town” is a new featured column of *Around Alhambra*. It will be a compilation of past, present, and maybe future thoughts about our city and my 72 years of living here. But first, I must pay tribute to the long running column, “Off the Cuff,” by Alhambra’s greatest newspaper man, Warner Jenkins. He was so well respected that a statue of him, sitting on a park bench, adorns the eastern entrance to City Hall. His column set the bar for journalism in Alhambra, for his daughter Dulcy Jenkins (the former editor of *Around Alhambra*), and all who follow in his footsteps. I hope to prove worthy of his example.

For this first column, let’s take a look back. Just after World War II, the new residents of Alhambra were largely made up of veterans returning from every branch of the service and every port and foreign shore where Americans served. Taking advantage of the G.I. Bill, some of these returning vets moved to Alhambra’s newest neighborhoods, the Airport Tract (built in 1946-47) and the Midwick Tract (built in the late 40s and early 50s).

One such veteran was Mr. Frank Onstine. He and his wife, Alice, settled in the Midwick Tract after the war while raising three sons, Frank Jr. (called Tom), Roger, John and daughter Martha, all of whom graduated from Alhambra High School. The family attended services at the First Presbyterian Church at First and Commonwealth, and Frank Sr. worked quietly as an actuary.

During the war, Mr. Onstine was assigned to the Signal Corps in North Africa, and, using his actuarial skills, in 1943, he was able to break the German weather code using a free associative



**Glenn Barnett**

technique of his own design. This meant that the Allies could read what the Nazis were writing about the weather and how it influenced their army’s dispositions.

The British cryptographers at the famous Bletchley Park with all of their resources had not been able to crack that code. But this one American could. They were so impressed with his achievement that they referred to his method as, “Onstineing.” For his efforts, he was awarded the Medal of the Legion of Merit.

Yet like so many of his fellow veterans, he seldom talked about the war or his part in it. Only after his death did his war time service come to light in his obituary. He was only one of many distinguished war veterans who found their way to Alhambra. We are proud of all of them, even the ones we don’t know about.

Next month, we will move to the present day and look at some of the heroic efforts that Alhambra businesses and organizations took to survive – and even thrive – during the time of COVID.

## 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](http://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](http://www.sgvhumane.org).



**Boromir**

**German Shepherd Mix • Adult • Male • Large**

*Boromir is a 2-year-old male German Shepherd mix with a handsome black and brown coat. He is still a little shy with new people, but once he gets to know you, he will relax. He is best suited for a calm home with adults only. If you think Boromir would be a good addition to your family, call the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society at 626-286-1159 to schedule a "Meet and Greet" appointment. Or inquire online through our website at <https://www.sgvhumane.org/adopt>.*



**Big Egg**

**Rhodesian Ridgeback and German Shepherd Dog Mix • Adult • Male • Large**

*Big Egg is a 3-year-old brown male Rhodesian Ridgeback and German Shepherd Dog mix. He is looking for a home where he can release his spunky energy. 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>*



**Phil**

**German Shepherd Mix • Young • Male • Large**

*Looking for a friend? Phil is a one and a half years old male German Shepherd mix. He has a nice coat with black and light brown coloring. Phil is a playful dog that loves to meet people and show them his smile. This boy is young and will need training. He dreams of a home with a big backyard to run and play. 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>*

MARCH 2022

Daily Holidays and Observances

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

- March 1 : National Peanut Butter Lover's Day
- March 2 : National Read Across America Day
- March 3 : World Book Day
- March 4 : Employee Appreciation Day**
- March 5 : National Day of Unplugging
- March 6 : National Dentists Day
- March 7 : National Cereal Day
- March 8 : International Women's Day
- March 9 : National Meatball Day
- March 10 : National Pack Your Lunch Day
- March 11 : Johnny Appleseed Day
- March 12 : Plant a Flower Day
- March 13 : National K-9 Veterans Day
- March 14 : National Pi Day
- March 15 : National Social Work Day
- March 16 : National Artichoke Day
- March 17 : St. Patrick's Day
- March 18 : National Oatmeal Cookie Day
- March 19 : National Poultry Day
- March 20 : International Day of Happiness
- March 21 : National Teenager Day
- March 22 : World Water Day
- March 23 : National Puppy Day
- March 24 : National Cocktail Day
- March 25 : International Waffle Day
- March 26 : National Spinach Day
- March 28 : National Something On A Stick Day
- March 29 : National Mom and Pop Business Owners Day**
- March 30 : National Doctors Day
- March 31 : National Crayon Day



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Karla Stephens' Monterey Highlands 6th and 7th grade class loved competing with their favorite author, Jennifer Nielsen, in the virtual "Author Fan Face-Off" book trivia game show program about her book The False Prince. Teachers and students who want to know more about this show and other inventive opportunities for learning can visit with Alhambra Civic Library's Kate Rao.

# Alhambra Library + AUSD teachers team up to add sparkle to student reading

When Kate Rao, Alhambra Civic Center Library's school and community outreach librarian, discovered "Author Fan Face-Off" for middle grade readers, she loved the clever game-show-themed book trivia concept of a famous author virtually competing with students to determine who knows the author's book better: the kids or the author.

Out of the AUSD sixth and seventh teachers Rao contacted about the show, the host of "Author Fan Face-Off" chose Karla Stephen's Monterey Highlands 6/7th grade class to compete because her students had been reading Jennifer Nielsen's hugely popular fantasy books — the very author who was to meet students to discuss her book 'The False Prince' on

January 25.

"This was so exciting because my students have always loved Jennifer Nielsen books and now this class would actually be able to talk with her — even compete with her." Stephens said. As one of her 6th grade students said, "Having a game show book trivia contest with our favorite author makes reading even more fun."

Teachers and students who want to watch earlier episodes of 'Author Fan Face-Off' can visit: <https://www.youtube.com/hashtag/authorfanfaceoff>

Those who want to learn more about the many innovative programs for teachers and students can visit Alhambra Civic Library or email Kate Rao: [katherine@alhambralibrary.org](mailto:katherine@alhambralibrary.org)



K-Earth 101 challenged Brightwood School to change up its mascot to the Rams for Super Bowl weekend. The school agreed and celebrated the change-over, but once the Super Bowl was over, their beloved Bengal was back.

# Just for the Super Bowl, Brightwood votes Ram as mascot

Last month, everyone had the Bengals vs. the Rams on their minds. But Brightwood students and staff weren't thinking of the game. The student body was embroiled in an epic challenge between mascots in the week leading up to the Super Bowl.

It all started with a phone call to principal Candace Griego from K-Earth 101FM's Gary Bryan and Lisa Stanley. They pointed out that Brightwood should be rooting for the Rams and trading out their Bengals mascot.

An LA Rams fan herself, Griego was hesitant to make such a drastic change to 50 years of Bengal school culture, so she recruited students and staff to vote for the final decision. Despite the Brightwood Bengal mascot's desperate pleas to garner votes, students clearly wanted to show the Rams they were fans by overwhelmingly voting 562 to 150 to oust the Bengal in favor of the Ram.

Gary Bryan brought the entire K-Earth 101 Morning Show team to Brightwood on Friday, February 11, along with Ram's announcer Sam Lagana, to witness the unveiling of the student-created Rams mural in front of a crowd of Brightwood students and staff all dressed in Rams blue and yellow colors. Brightwood's marquee and website touted the school as the "Home of the Rams" complete with a new logo.

Those loyal to the Bengal mascot need not worry...it was all in good fun, the

change only took effect through Super Bowl Sunday. The following week, the marquee and websites were back to normal and the Bengal mural greeted the students upon arrival. No one was more relieved than Brightwood's Bengal mascot.

Griego welcomed the high energy week. "It was a lot of work, but it was such an exciting school wide experience," explained Principal Griego. "All students loved join in on the fun through voting, Rams Spirit Day, and taking class photos in front of the Rams mural. It was big a morale boost for the school!" Griego mentioned some personal benefits too. "Apparently, old friends and acquaintances heard the broadcasts, saw news coverage on TV, or heard about the event through social media and reached out to me. I even heard from my former mentor from the beginning of my career. After so much time separated during the pandemic, these connections lifted my spirits."

Before the K-Earth and LA Rams teams headed out, they surprised Brightwood students with Rams rally towels and a check for \$2,500. Brightwood student leaders also made sure to give their special K-Earth guests a little reminder that the mascot change was only temporary. They presented each of them with gift bags filled with Brightwood and district swag...but hanging off each bag was a small (but very prominent) Bengal keychain.

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**2022 ROTARY MINI-GRANT RECIPIENTS**

Veronica Arellano (LIFT)	Joan Lee (AHS)	Ashleigh Sanders (LIFT South)
Richard Burns (MEND)	Michael Lee (MEND)	Jamie Stewart (Moon Field)
Stephanie Dunna (Moon Field)	Jane Lin (Brightwood)	Shirley Suen (Margaret)
Amy Erenay (GHS)	Winnie Liu (Baldwin)	I Iran (Virtual Learning)
Anne Hastings (Park)	John Mason (GHS)	Amy Walsh (Starfield)
Leslie Hoang (MEND)	Carmine Ida Mojajedi (Granada)	Winnie Wong (Baldwin)
Marie Ibsen (Park)	Tiffany Ng (Yong)	Susie Young (Every Park)
Cuong Paul Lam (MEND)	David Patterson (Baldwin)	Fuwei Zhuang (Northrup)
Lily Lam (Every Park)	Veronica Roldan (Park)	

**\$4,903.00 Awarded**

**THANK YOU, ALHAMBRA ROTARY!**



These Marguerita student leaders launched Project BYOR and have been encouraging their peers to participate in the program to help reduce the amount of waste generated through disposable utensils and containers. Pictured here are, left to right (standing): Anjelah Cardenas, Jordan Jackson, Alexander Segura, Maverick Silva, Roman Olivia, Noah Vera; (kneeling): Ashley Quach, Jane Chen, Holly Wu, Nicholas Der, Raymond Palone, Rita Lin, and Ellen Lay.

# Marguerita students aim to save the planet one utensil at a time

Marguerita's Project BYOR — Bring Your Own Reusables — is a student-led pilot program designed to reduce local landfill waste by encouraging classmates to bring eating utensils and containers from home each day.

“Project BYOR urges our Huskies to take steps to save the environment,” says Tiffany Ramirez, Marguerita Stage Crew advisor. “By bringing in their own reusables, such as containers, forks, and spoons, students are saving the planet one utensil at a time.”

One of the best parts of this project is that it is a student-initiated, student-run campaign. Under the supervision of Ramirez and Associated Student Body (ASB) advisor Lorena Jaurequi, student leaders launched Marguerita's Project BYOR by coming up with the campaign name, creating a poster, writing a script, recording and editing a video, and leading

the campaign kick-off week.

To get classmates excited about participating, ASB members visited every 4th through 8th through grade classroom to give a short rousing presentation. Although Project BYOR is optional (cafeteria staff provide disposable utensils and containers as needed), Marguerita students have embraced it. They are further motivated by Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) Rock Star Bucks which earns rewards for themselves and their class.

“Marguerita students have shown a tremendous interest in Project BYOR,” according to Judy Huffaker, who oversees the program for AUSD and is impressed by the accomplishments of student leaders. “They are ROCK STARS!” Based on the success of Marguerita's program, the district plans to expand the campaign to other schools.



First Place Academic Decathlon  
**MARK KEPPEL HIGH SCHOOL**  
 Alhambra Unified School District

Los Angeles County Office of Education

### Three Time Champions!

The Mark Keppel High School ACADEC Team won the 2022 Los Angeles County Academic Decathlon in February — for the third year in row! Celebrating the news are Coach Tin Tran, center with red pocket square, with his very thrilled student nine-member winning ACADEC team. The MKHS team won 43,333 of 60,000 points, earning top honors over 34 LA County high schools. As regional champions, the MKHS team advances to the Statewide Academic Decathlon Competition held virtually in March.

**ATA's 3rd Annual Read Across America**  
 “Reading Brings the World Together”  
**March 19, 2022**  
 11:00 am to 1:00 pm  
 Alhambra Park

**Book Donations needed (by March 7th)**  
 Our focus is on 2<sup>nd</sup> language & books on diversity

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 3030 W. Main St, Alhambra  
 626-289-1933

save the date IT'S BACK!

### Donate by March 7th to Make it Possible for 1000 Children to Receive 2 Free Books at ATA Read Across America event

The ATA needs donations of books or cash by March 7th to be able to give two books to each of the thousand students expected at their 3rd Annual Read Across America event on March 19th at Alhambra Park. The focus is on second language books and books on diversity. To give, call 626-289-1933. Questions? Email: [ataprestammyscorcia@gmail.com](mailto:ataprestammyscorcia@gmail.com)

**January 2022**

**Enrique Morales**  
Senior Custodian - Brightwood

**Maureen Vukojevich**  
Speech Language Pathologist - MKHS

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CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

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[alhambrachamber.org](http://alhambrachamber.org)



Congratulations to San Gabriel High's Academic Decathlon Team for winning 5th Place in the LA County 2022 Academic Decathlon! SGHS's ACADEC coach Mr. Kenneth Ma, far right first row, with his eight-member team competed against 340 students from 34 high schools in the colorful, rigorous annual contest.



For the Repetto Year of the Tiger celebration, kindergarten students from Andrea Young's class take time to examine the family made lanterns before casting votes for their favorite. Repetto continues to reimagine ways to keep parents safely engaged in positive events on the school campus. (Left to right: Nyssa Stavoestand, Paloma Sedeno, and Gisselle Reyes)

## Repetto families add to Lunar New Year celebration

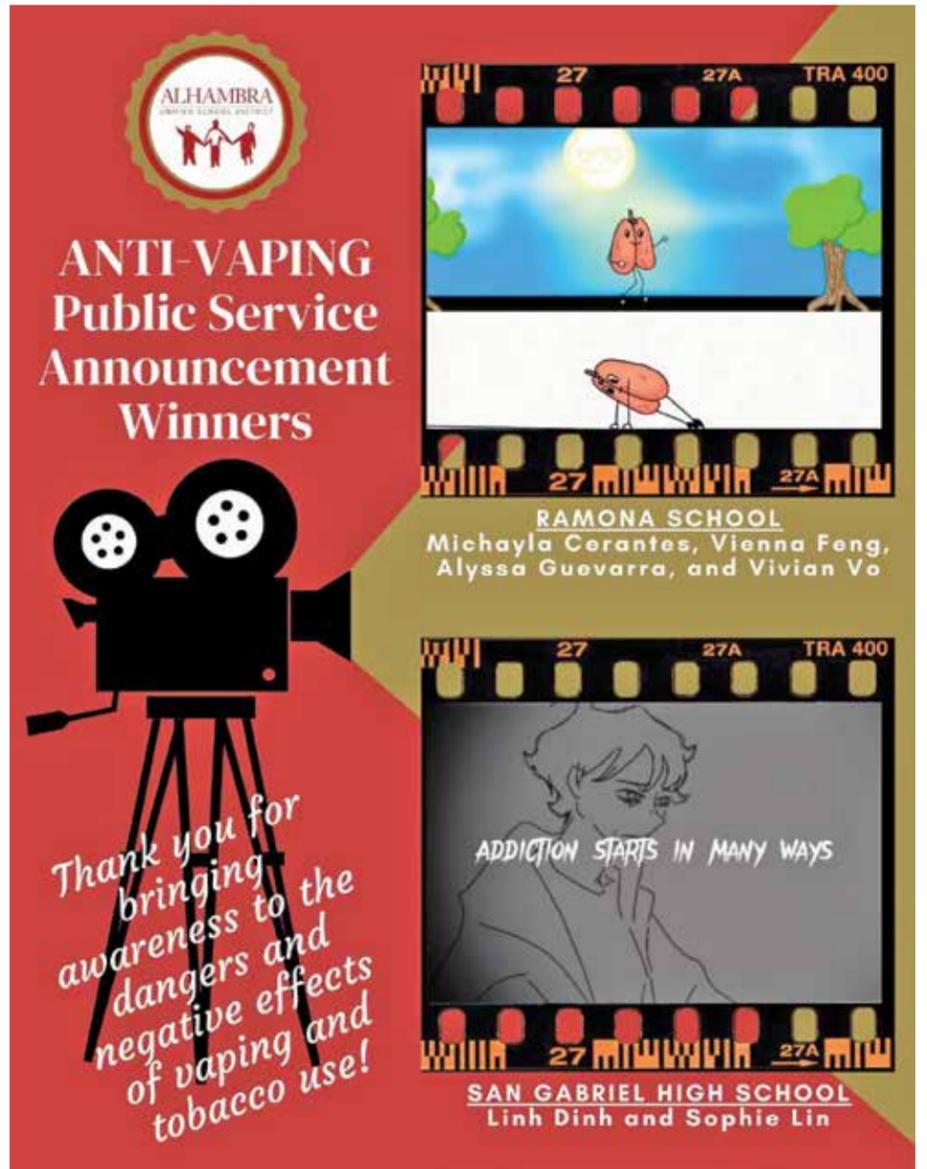
Repetto School innovated ways to safely enfold families in their Year of the Tiger celebration to make lucky Lunar New Year memories for the whole community.

Families were invited to design lanterns together at home which could then become part of the celebratory splendor in the school's Good Fortune Courtyard. Students in each classroom excitedly created banners to add to the festive decor.

Students resplendent in traditional Chinese clothing or dressed in Lunar New Year colors of red and yellow arrived before school on February 1st to take photos with friends and family in the richly decorated Good Fortune Courtyard.

Throughout the day, classes visited the Good Fortune Courtyard for class and individual photos against the dazzling backdrop which featured a large dragon puppet on loan from Board of Education member Bob Gin. Students voted for their favorite family created lantern, carefully examining each of the dozens of lanterns before selecting their top choice.

Like all schools, Repetto misses having families on campus for their school wide cultural events and celebrations, but thanks to the imaginative problem-solving of students, parents, and staff, Repetto's Lunar New Year was a joyful occasion for everyone.



A student team at Ramona School and at San Gabriel High School won the AUSD 2022 Anti-Vaping Public Service Announcement contest out of 27 submissions. The winning Ramona team included Michayla Cervantes, Vienna Feng, Alyssa Guevarra, Vivian Vo. Linh Dinh and Sophie Lin were the winning San Gabriel High School team.

## AUSD student video PSAs warn classmates of vaping dangers

The Alhambra Unified 2022 Tobacco Use Prevention Education (TUPE) Public Service Announcement contest spurred 6-12th grade students to create mini-videos to convey to classmates the addictive, often-unknown, insidious longterm effects of tobacco use and strategies to resist peer pressure to begin vaping. Each video included at least two consequences — physical, emotional, social, and/or psychological — of vaping or use of tobacco products. A panel of judges scored the videos by content, production, and quality.

Working together, student teams collaborated under adult sponsorship at their school. Each team met with AUSD TUPE program specialist, Lee Hanacek, and received principal approval before final submission. A total of 27 video team entries from 13 schools were submitted. The judges declared two winning teams, one from Ramona School and one from San Gabriel High. The winning Ramona

team included Michayla Cervantes, Vienna Feng, Alyssa Guevarra, Vivian Vo. Linh Dinh and Sophie Lin were the winning San Gabriel High School team.

On February 22, the AUSD Board congratulated the winning Ramona and San Gabriel High teams for their PSA videos and applauded the efforts of every student who participated in the contest. All teams who submitted a PSA were honored with TUPE Student Advocate certificates and winners also received gift cards. The winning PSAs are featured on the TUPE link TUPE Program on the district website ausd.us and highlighted on all AUSD social media platforms.

"As I reviewed all the student video submissions, I was so impressed with the level of skill and creativity," said Hanacek. "Even more crucial, the students clearly understood and emphasized the many dangers of vaping. We know that students are powerfully influenced by their peers. Our student advocates may save lives."

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Brightwood and Monterey Highlands student love their new weekly interactive virtual music and drama variety show-style lessons created by AUSD VAPA teachers Jennifer Quan, Lisa Jones and Amy Hughson. Brightwood second graders are performing 'A Little Kindness' song written by Quan for the Great Kindness Week Challenge.

**AUSD VIRTUAL SHOW** From Page 1

A bonus: The kids are thrilled, energized, and refocused after their VAPA variety show lessons. They seem to learn more because the teachers are not wearing masks — since the teachers can deliver the lesson mask-free via Zoom from empty classrooms.

For the Great Kindness Challenge edition of their variety show, Quan wrote the words and music for a song she called "A Little Kindness," collaborating with Monterey Highlands TK teacher Lydia Suarez for the choreography. The students loved it, jumped up to sing and act their hearts out.

Meanwhile, everyone in the Brightwood community embraced the January 24-28th Great Kindness Challenge

week with so much note-writing and poster-making enthusiasm and so many random acts of kindness from students, families, and staff, the school earned the coveted designation as a Kindness Certified School. In the halls visitors could hear children joyfully singing their kindness song.

*'A Little Kindness' — words and music by Jennifer Quan*

*There's a little kindness, always some kindness in every heart.*

*A little kindness, that little kindness plays a great part.*

*No matter where you are, no matter whom you're with,*

*No matter if you're tired or feeling blue, Try using kind-ness with ev'ry one and you.*

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 October 14th (full)  
 November 4th (full)  
 December 16th (full)  
 January 20th (full)  
 February 10th (full)  
 March 10th  
 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-Conversations2122>

*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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From the Desk of Rev. Craig Statton

# An old dog teaches important tricks

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

When I was a kid, my dad brought home a dog named Smokey. Smokey was a big, strong, wild black Labrador Retriever which was evidenced the next spring when Labrador mix puppies showed up around the town. But during the following summer, Smokey was hit by a car and had his leg broken. The vet set the leg with several casts, but Smokey kept chewing them, so the vet set a final cast too firmly, and the result was the leg withered and had to be amputated. Smokey became known as the “three-legged dog” around town. He became a very popular dog. As I look back on those years, I realize there are lessons about attitude which can be learned from my “three-legged” friend.

First, **friendship is important.** Smokey seemed at his best when he was around people who loved him. Dr. Bill Thomas, geriatrician and creator of the Eden Alternative, has described the three plagues of old age as loneliness, helplessness, and boredom. He says, “Loving companionship is the antidote to loneliness. Elders (seniors) deserve easy access to human and animal companionship.” Our attitude is affected by the friendships we enjoy. When we are around people who make us smile and laugh, who have our similar values and beliefs, who enjoy our company and we enjoy theirs,

then life has richness and the result is happiness and a better attitude. Dr. Peter Norvid, a geriatric specialist at Adventist Hinsdale and LaGrange Memorial in Chicago, Illinois says, “Thousands of articles in virtually all popular, medical, health and news journals tout the benefits of PMA (positive mental attitude) on longevity and many other positive aspects of aging. Optimistic people live longer, have closer personal relationships and are able to deal with the negative things that happen to them in a way that allows them to continue to be able to be there for others so that others can help them.” I think Smokey understood that a gentle pat on the head, someone to rub his back, or just being with those who loved him in the backyard or the living room made his life better and more enjoyable.

Second, **keeping active is good.** When Smokey was young, he would chase anything that moved. Cats beware; rabbits or ground squirrels stay out of his way; because Smokey will chase you down! But as he got older, he slowed. And instead of chasing a cat, he would look, perhaps bark, and would continue the walk. Yes, there were still trees to sniff; he was curious, but not quite as impetuous or rambunctious. Physical activity is important as we age. Once

again, Bill Thomas says people who age well incorporate three simple ideas: move well, sleep well, and eat well. As we age, we do not move as fast, but we must continue to move. Regular exercise keeps our muscles and joints more limber and our blood flowing better. We do not have to run long distances or lift heavy weights to be fit. Over exertion may, in fact, cause an injury that will make regular physical activity more difficult. Regular walking, biking, stretching, or swimming keeps our bodies moving; and with mobility comes both freedom of the body and the soul. When we feel better, we are happier; we have a better attitude.

Finally, **enjoy the journey.** As Smokey aged, he seemed to enjoy our walks together even more. The walks started to help Smokey with her daily constitution, but soon turned into observations of the world. Way too many times I was in a hurry, and Smokey obliged. Now as I look back on those times, I realize that in much of life, “the journey is the destination.” Finding the joy in the journey is not a bad philosophy and relieves many of the stresses that accompany life. This kind of attitude is difficult to cultivate without some practice. The ancient religious masters from many faiths have spoken of the importance of meditation, reflection, and prayer as central to a



healthy soul and good attitude. The ancient poet-king, David, spoke of meditating on God’s commands and ways, even when his enemies slandered him (Psalm 119). The ability to reflect on our life helps us understand our circumstances so we can gain a bigger picture of our relationship to life. When we come to understand the meaning, we have a better attitude as we face the issues of our life. Still in his twenties, Michael O’Hara had his left leg amputated because of bone cancer. Today, he works with amputees at the University of North Carolina Wellness Center and says, “I have a great life, and my amputation doesn’t define me. I try to help people realize that they can do much more than they think they can. If I can inspire just one person to give a little more effort each day to stay healthy and fit, then I know that my amputation is helping others.” Michael’s physical disability has not limited him in life; instead, it has become a source of purpose and mission in his life.

Smokey is now gone, but the lessons of his life live on within me. Yes, even a dog can teach an old master some new tricks for living.

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Your Health

# Sharing newly acquired nutritional information

By Sheila Yonemoto, P.T.

I am always looking for easier solutions, especially for serious conditions. One simple suggestion for Alzheimer's was a supplementation routine of niacin or niacinamide and Vitamin B12. Alzheimer's patients apparently have deficiencies in both, and their condition can be improved with the addition of these two readily available, inexpensive supplements. The recommended doses were higher than the RDA suggests, but larger doses made the difference. For niacin or niacinamide (this form does not give a skin flush), 2,000-3,000mg/day was recommended, and B12 was recommended at 5mg/day.

I used niacin as the key vitamin in a detox program I did years ago, and it was quite effective in flushing out toxins from my body. I gradually increased the dose, starting from 50 mg and ending up at 1000-2000mg, after which my detox was complete. Some studies using niacinamide for the treatment of multiple sclerosis show amazing results. Other studies have shown good results using niacin/niacinamide for depression along with B vitamins (B-complex), Vitamin C, sunshine, exercise, and eliminating sugar.

One expert, Andrew Saul, describes sugar as an anti-nutrient, basically a poison no one should eat. For diabetes, adding chromium and B-complex to your daily routine along with eliminating sugar, increasing exercise, and adding more plants into the diet would lead to improvement. He also notes that Vitamin C is toxic to cancer cells, as the cancer cell is fooled into thinking that the Vitamin C is sugar (or food), and once it is in the cancer cell, it creates hydrogen peroxide and kills it. Vitamin C has been studied for 50 years and does not interfere with chemotherapy or radiation therapy in cancer treatment, but does improve quality of life. For cancer, high doses of Vitamin C have to



**Sheila Yonemoto, P.T.**  
Yonemoto Physical Therapy  
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Sheila Yonemoto, P.T., has been a physical therapist for over 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. Call 626-576-0591 for a FREE Consultation, or visit [www.yonemoto.com](http://www.yonemoto.com) for more information.

be administered intravenously, 15,000-50,000 mg. Vitamin C has also been used successfully for sepsis and coughing up blood. Doses were also quite high at 4,000 mg every 30 minutes.

Please, do your own research if you are interested in this and want more details on how others have achieved success. My aim is merely to bring other possibilities to optimize or regain your health. Remember, life is a journey, and it can always be improved.

*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.*

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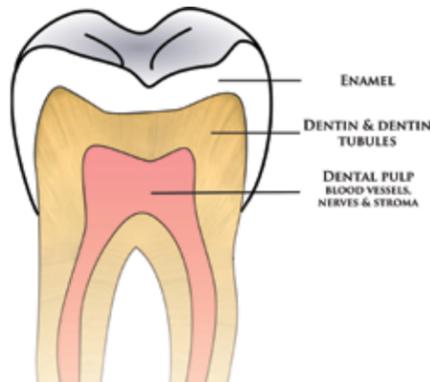
# Sensitive teeth? You are not alone.

By Dr. Dara

**Q: My teeth are really sensitive. What can I do?**

**A:** Tooth sensitivity is one of the most common complaints among dental patients. I will try to provide you with some ideas where the sensitivity may come from and direction to help the problem.

**First: The simple anatomy of the tooth can help understand the problem better.**



The nerve endings are stored in the dentin. That's why when the enamel is missing and dentin is exposed we feel sensitivity to temperature and pressure changes.

Right in the middle of the tooth is the pulp where the nerve of the tooth is located. Being so important, the nerve is protected by two layers: The outside layer is called enamel and is the strongest structure in the human body. It is very condensed and free of any sensation. Inside the inner layer, dentin is built from small tubules and canals where the nerve endings are stored. That's why when enamel is missing and dentin is exposed, the tooth is sensitive.

**What causes teeth sensitivity?**

- **Tooth decay** creates holes in both layers.
- **Cracked tooth.** Deeper cracks are also accompanied by pain to chewing.
- **Grinding and clenching** wears down the enamel. Grinding takes place mostly at night and slowly night after night wears off the enamel and exposes the sensitive dentin.
- **Broken restorations** (fillings, crown, veneers).
- **Eating habits.** Frequent consumption of soda, sport drinks or other acidic food and beverages can cause enamel erosion.
- **Exposed roots** due to periodontal disease or teeth misalignment.

Periodontal disease is an infection of the gums and bone supporting the teeth. If not treated, the gums can pull away from the teeth and let the infection spread down in the bone and cause bone loss. Unfortunately, bone loss is irreversible and even though the infection is treated the roots get exposed. Going back to the anatomy, the roots don't have a protective layer of enamel and that makes them super sensitive.



**Treatment:**

Depending on the cause, the treatment will be different. After conducting a thorough examination, your dentist will be able to diagnose exactly what is causing your sensitivity and develop a personalized plan just right for you.

**Professional treatment** may include filling the cavities, porcelain crowns for cracked teeth, splint or night guard in case of grinding, or periodontal treatment if gum disease is present.

**All fluoride-containing toothpastes** help reduce sensitivity to some degree. Fluoride increases the strength of the tooth surfaces and makes them more resistant to attack by acids and sweets. Toothpastes containing high concentrations of fluoride, up to 5,000 parts per million (ppm), are available by prescription only.

**OTC desensitizing toothpaste** can be helpful as well. My recommendation is to use them as supplemental toothpaste instead of main daily cleaning toothpaste.

**Concentrated fluoride varnish** applied by your dentist is the one most frequently used.

**Fluoride gel** placed in trays at the end of every cleaning appointment is also very effective.

**Bonding agents and sealants** (an in-office procedure) are also used to mechanically block the dentinal tubules. Sensitive teeth can be treated. The



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

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

type of treatment will depend on what is causing the sensitivity. Sensitivity is an alarm signaling distressed in your teeth, and ignoring it can lead to serious dental issues. And addressing it early does not have to cost you a lot of money.

*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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# Flamenco Alhambra featuring Inesita at Performing Arts Center

Under the direction of Chef/Artistic Director Bill Yee, Alhambra Performing Arts Center (APAC) presents Flamenco Alhambra featuring legendary Spanish dancer Inesita and troupe. The performance is on Saturday, March 19, 2022 at 7pm located at Sage Granada Park United Methodist Church, 1850 W. Hellman Ave in Alhambra. Admission is \$20 at the door or Free with an RSVP at [alhambra.eventbrite.com](http://alhambra.eventbrite.com). The audience is required to wear appropriate face masks and will need to sign a general release form at the door.

Flamenco Alhambra is one of the more exciting programs that appears on the APAC stage and is often sold out. Free appetizers will be provided by ACF Chef Apprentice Ryan Lin. The dancers are nationally and internationally known within the flamenco community, led by Inesita, a Spanish dance artist who performed in all-solo concerts internationally including Madrid, London, Liverpool, Paris, New York City, Mexico City, and Valletta, Malta. American tours have taken her to communities from coast to coast.

Born in New York City, Inesita moved with her parents to Los Angeles and began early studies in Spanish dance at age 14. Additional instruction in Mexico led inevitably to Spain, where she studied under the legendary El Estampio, Regla Ortega of the famous Ortega family, and a number of other renowned teachers. She has appeared in all possible venues over eight decades with an extensive career in concerts, films, musical theater, lecture-concerts, and cabarets showcasing her vast range in all aspects of Spanish dance and flamenco.

The program also features Miguel Bernal, Clarita, Ahmae, Ricardo Davil, Benjamin Shearer, and Michael Murphy (El Miguelito). This is an evening not to be missed.

Date: Sat March 19, 2022 7pm  
 Location: Sage Granada United Methodist Church, 1850 W. Hellman Ave. Alhambra 91803  
 Admission: \$20. at the door or FREE with RSVP at [alhambra.eventbrite.com](http://alhambra.eventbrite.com)  
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# Restaurant Preview: Fine Dining Comes to Alhambra

Just over two months old, **Kogane** (at 1129 S. Fremont Ave., Suite C), is a new omakase restaurant that may be the best sushi in the San Gabriel Valley. The sleek interior may surprise anyone who visited the previous restaurant, Aku Poke, with its focus on the small sushi bar and attention to every visual detail.

With only seven seats and two dinner seatings, reservations are booking quickly. Lunch offers more options (and seating). Lunch currently offers Bara Chirashi and Miso Soup for \$50 or Nigiri Omakase and 1 Hand Roll (and Miso Soup) for \$100. Dinner omakase is \$250. For more information, visit [www.exploretock.com/kogane](http://www.exploretock.com/kogane).



One of four Mackerel pieces in the 10-piece lunch omakase at Kogane in Alhambra.



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# Downtown Alhambra celebrates St. Paddy's Day with T-Shirt and Instagram giveaways

For the third year in a row, the Downtown Alhambra Business Association (DABA) is not going to hold its annual St. Patrick's Day Pub Crawl. Traditionally, the event kicks off at Ohana Brewing Co., with a bagpiper and MC leading a large crowd to the participating pubs. However, due to the unpredictability with the COVID/Omicron variant, DABA is opting to celebrate St. Patrick's Day in a safer manner.

Like it did last year, DABA is presenting a St. Paddy's Day T-Shirt promotion on Thursday, March 17, 2022, instead. Patrons are still encouraged to visit local Alhambra bars, restaurants, and businesses (while following all current safety guidelines). Select locations will be giving away a limited supply of FREE St. Patrick's Day commemorative T-shirts on a first come, first served basis to customers.

DABA special events and social media manager, Monina Castillo, commented, "Though it's a quieter way to celebrate St. Patrick's Day this year, it manages to still be safe and fun." She added, "Hopefully as more restrictions are lifted, and more people are vaccinated, we will be able to celebrate future events in the traditional sense so people can feel things are getting back to normal."

To see how this promotion works, watch a fun video from the 2021 event, which was featured on Downtown Alhambra's social media channels: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CMi2AcpUrD/>.

DABA is also hosting Instagram giveaways during the weeks leading up St. Patrick's Day to ramp up some additional enthusiasm. The online contest will award winners \$25 gift certificates from local Downtown Alhambra businesses. For a chance to win, follow and stay tuned at: <https://www.instagram.com/downtownalhambra/>.

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



Customers were given free, commemorative St. Paddy's Day Pub Crawl t-shirts with the phrase, Drink Mood On, as well as some fun SPD-themed party favors when they visited the participating bars and restaurants on St. Patrick's Day March 17, 2021



The following are the current participating business (and their instagram handle):

- Big T Mini Mart (@bigtminimart)
- 28 West Bar (@28westbar)
- 38 Degrees (@38degreesla)
- Limericks Tavern (@limericks.alhambra)
- Ohana Brewing Company (@ohanabrew)
- Rabbit Hole Bar (@rabbitholebar)

To find out an updated list of participating locations in this year's T-shirt giveaway promotion, go to: [www.downtownalhambra.com](http://www.downtownalhambra.com).



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## Real Estate

# Pros and cons of renting to students

By Mark Paulson

Renting to students is one of the ways to make money as a landlord, especially if your property is located in the vicinity of a college campus. Before you consider this tenant base, however, you need to learn the pros and cons and other information about this type of tenant.

**Profile of a Student Renter**  
**Description:** A student is an individual who is enrolled in a college or university. They could be taking undergraduate classes or may be enrolled in a master's program.

**Age:** An undergraduate student renter is commonly between the ages of 17 and 24. The age range for those enrolled in master's programs is much more varied. A 90-year-old person could be enrolled in a master's program if they so choose.

**Income:** Many undergraduate students go to school as their full-time job and might be making a supplemental income from part-time work or work-study programs.

**Marital Status:** The majority of undergraduate students are single, unmarried individuals.

**10 Things Students Look for in a Rental**

**1. Proximity to Campus:** The number one thing a student renter is looking for when choosing a place to live for the school year is how close the rental is to the college campus.

**2. Affordability:** Another high priority on a student's list is how much the rental costs. Money may be tight, and while they need a place to live, they also want money to eat and to go out with their friends. They may prefer a moderately priced rental to a more expensive, renovated apartment. Living with roommates and splitting the monthly rent can also help keep costs down.

**3. Proximity to Amenities:** Being close to downtown is another high priority item on a student's wish list. Quick access to entertainment, shopping, and dining are all desirable in a rental.

**4. Access to Public Transportation:** Many college students do not have cars, so access to public transportation is a must. This can include trains, buses, and taxis.

**5. Safety:** College students, as well as their parents, want to know that they are safe at home. Low crime areas are

the most desirable. Well-lit apartment exteriors are a plus. Deadbolts on doors and working locks on windows are necessities.

**6. Private Area:** Even if a student is living with roommates, they may want their own private space. This can be accomplished by having multiple private bedrooms and a common area, such as a living room and kitchen, which the roommates can share.

**7. Laundry:** College students would prefer to have on-site laundry at the apartment building or home, but it is not a necessity.

**8. Neighbors:** Students may have a desire to rent an apartment in a certain neighborhood. Some students want to live in an area with homes predominantly rented to other college students. Other students want the exact opposite and want to live in a quiet residential neighborhood, removed from other students.

**9. Updates:** If a rental unit has updates, such as stainless steel appliances or a newly tiled bathroom, and it is in the student's budget, he or she will likely choose that rental over a similarly priced rental that is not updated. For most students, updates are a bonus and not a requirement.

**10. Cleanliness:** Most students would prefer to live in a rental property that is clean and free from rodents and other pests.

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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

# Understanding your rental property tenant

By Gary Frueholz

Not all tenants are created equal. Tenant approaches to communicating, paying rent, amenities, environmental aspects, pets, and proximity to services can vary greatly. Understanding these differences can lead to more efficient landlord – tenant relations and also can guide strategies in marketing a rental property.

Millennials, someone reaching adulthood in the 21st century and born between 1981 and 1996, communicate differently from previous generations. They do not want to spend time on the telephone. Communicating via texts or email is preferred, especially with minor repair requests, since it saves time and is convenient. Millennials also prefer automatic and internet based payment systems such as Zelle since they rarely use checks. Six out of ten Millennials do not own a credit card. If a landlord is amenable to these newer techniques this should be advertised in the listing of a property.

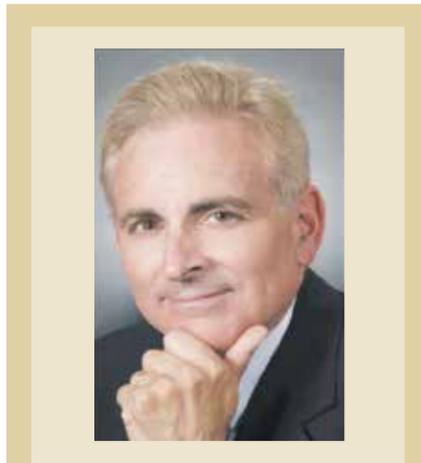
No generation has a higher percentage that own pets than Millennials and since this generation is marrying later, forty-four percent consider a pet good training for when they do become parents. So depending on your requirements, make your position on pets clear in marketing. Nearly half of Millennials are prepared to switch brands to support environmentalism. Rental properties that meet new EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) standards in energy, water, and materials efficiency should advertise these qualities. And being near food outlets, transportation hubs, and financial institutions are aspects that need to be stressed in marketing, especially to Millennials, who statistically are less likely to own a car.

Other groups of tenant groups have their own demographics. Seniors frequently are the reverse of Millennials. They tend to communicate in more established ways such as the telephone, use checks to pay rent, display loyalty to existing landlords.

Another significant segment of renters receive government subsidies. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) provide rental vouchers and/or tax credits to help facilitate rental housing. Some of the programs directly deposit rental checks to the landlord's own accounts. Renters with up to 80% of their area's median income can qualify for state assistance from California.

Effective marketing of your property will provide the largest exposure to the target group. Many of the marketing techniques overlap and can reach multiple market segments.

Perhaps the most productive tool to advertise a rental listing is the MLS (Multiple Listing Service). The MLS is a database that shares the information about properties for lease and sale among real estate agents. The information in the MLS is transferred to public websites such as Realtor.com, Zillow, Redfin, and Trulia. The public websites



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are exactly that, open to the public, unlike the MLS which provides access the real estate professionals. Younger individuals are especially active on searching through public websites.

Offline marketing can also produce desired results, particularly with older renters who may not be as internet savvy. Some of the more traditional and offline methods are "for rent" signs on the property, ads in local newspapers, and bulletin boards at local restaurants, shops, and schools.

In our virtual age, the internet and its exposure is our friend. This powerful tool can be used by real estate professionals and also by private individuals when leasing a property. Along with creating vast exposure of properties for lease, it can be used to target market segments. Information generated through these new virtual realities also allows landlords to better understand their tenants which in turn leads to a more productive relationship when leasing a property.

## Automobile

# Buying a used car?

Consider an independent pre-purchase inspection

By Javier Mendez

With new cars in limited supply and used cars traditionally being a more cost effective purchase, it is not surprising to see many people choose to buy used. Consumers have multiple options for shopping used, including manufacturer's used lots, independent used lots, online retailers, and private party listings. Since buying a car is a very emotional process, it would be wise to take an extra step and have a pre-purchase inspection performed by an unbiased professional.

A detailed inspection will take from one to two hours and should include a road test, an under-the-hood inspection, steering and suspension, brakes, safety, and comfort systems. Where applicable, there should be a scan test of computer-controlled systems as well. There typically are from seventy to over one hundred inspection points. Cost for the service can range from \$100 to \$250.

Sometimes, scheduling will be difficult at the time of purchase, but I have worked with some dealerships that even delivered the vehicle to and from the inspection. How is that for confidence in your product? Even in the best of cases, we have discovered a detail or two that needed attention. We have seen dealers adjust the purchase price for these issues and sometimes take care of them before finalizing the deal. Mobile inspection services are available, but they will be limited to what they can check for. A shop will be able to get the vehicle in the air for a more detailed inspection.

Most sellers have good intentions and are offering a vehicle in good, working condition. Some sellers, however, will have done the bare minimum before putting a vehicle up for sale. Some of the types of issues that we have identified during inspections include: unreported and sometimes poor quality collision repairs, bald or



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expired tires, leaks, worn brakes, missing safety equipment, and failing to pass an emissions inspection (which is a step in the ownership transfer process). We have had some customers who were able to walk away from what would have been a dangerous or costly ownership experience.

While it is true that most purchases end with positive results, don't be the exception to the rule. I recently spoke with someone who bought "as is" and had a tire blow out within a few days of purchase. Do yourself a favor; avoid disappointment, wasted time, and unnecessary expenses. Talk to your trusted mechanic first. Drive safe, Alhambra!

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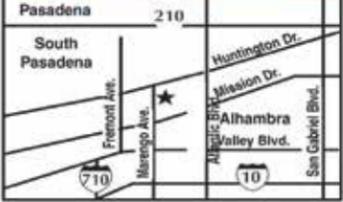
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**\$1,450,000**



680 Cadiz St, Monterey Park  
4 Bed/3 Bath House with 2,584 sqft

**PENDING IN ESCROW**



230 N. Sierra Vista St #E, Monterey Park  
3 Bed/3 Bath Townhome with 1,601 sqft

**PENDING IN ESCROW**



157 Casuda Canyon Dr, Monterey Park  
2 Bed/2 Bath Condo with 1,047 sqft

**SOLD OVER ASKING**



1590 Valley Vista Dr, Monterey Park  
3 Bed/3 Bath House with 1,662 sqft

**SOLD OVER ASKING**



509 & 515 N. Moore Ave, Monterey Park  
2 Adjacent Lots with 21,071 sqft

**SOLD OVER ASKING**



311 N. Huntington Ave, Monterey Park  
5 Bed/3 Bath House with 2,314 sqft

**SOLD OVER ASKING**



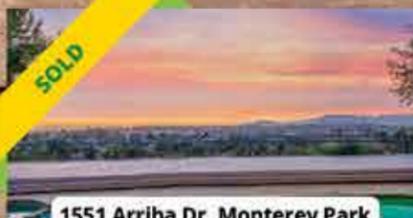
323 E. Linda Vista Ave, Alhambra  
3 Bed/2 Bath House + 1 Bed/1 Bath ADU

**SOLD**



406 Mooney Dr, Monterey Park  
4 Bed/2 Bath Duplex with 1,507 sqft

**SOLD**



1551 Arriba Dr, Monterey Park  
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**SOLD**



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