

## Baja Cali celebrates 5th year anniversary

By JEWELYN CO

A celebration for its fifth anniversary took place at the Baja Cali Fish and Tacos flagship location at 2001 Valley Blvd., in Alhambra on March 26. At the party, a brief ceremony was held to recognize employees who have been with the company since it opened in 2017. That included: Conrado Sotelo, Marisol Galindo, Ausencio Linares, Maria Jimenez, Gaspar Uriate, Jonathan Rico, and Alan Viramontes.

For guests, there were fun activities including spin-the-wheel for chances to win prizes, such as free tacos, burritos, agua frescas, t-shirts, caps, and \$20 prize tickets. Live music was provided and hosted by DJ CHICHO, and artistic colorful face paintings were enjoyed by the kids. Baja Cali

provided free fried fish tacos and beverages for the first 500 guests.

In support of the event, Alhambra City Councilmembers Ross Maza and Adele Andrade-Stadler and Alhambra Chamber President Suzi Dunkel-Soto attended the celebration.

Jaime Alvarez of Baja Cali Fish and Tacos, expressed his gratitude, "We want to thank the community, our supporters, and customers for their continuing support in Alhambra, as well as in all of our locations. Baja Cali Fish and Tacos has now opened in seven locations, including one restaurant in Alhambra on Main St and one on Valley Blvd." The family-owned restaurant continues to grow with three new locations opening this year.

>> see **BAJA CALI ANNIVERSARY** Page 24

## Alhambra Council approves new districts

In March 2022, after months of meetings, public input, deliberation and alignment, the Alhambra City Council adopted the final version of its new council district maps that will remain in place for the next ten years (or until they redraw them again). This effort is done every ten years in response to new demographic data released as part of the every-decade US Census.

This past year, the Council engaged with a consultant to redraw the maps to meet the requirements of Federal and state election law.

In early meetings, consultant Andrew Westall of Bear Demographics informed the Council that even with the new census data, the city council districts could remain as they were and still be compliant with election laws. Even so, the council

spent from October through March deliberating the lines, taking input from the public, and ultimately creating a new map that saw about a 6% shift from the existing map to the new 2022 map, which was known as version #4.

According to the City, the districts were drawn to meet the following criteria (to the extent practicable):

1. geographically contiguous districts
2. the geographic integrity of local neighborhoods or communities shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division
3. geographic integrity of a city shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division
4. easily identifiable boundaries that follow natural or artificial barriers (rivers, streets, highways,

>> see **NEW DISTRICTS** Page 4



Marguerita School students proudly showing their city of Alhambra certificates of commendation for their Bring Your Own Reusables campaign to reduce waste. Kneeling: students Rita Lee, Raymond Palone, Holly Wu, Ashley Quach, Anjelah Cardenas Standing: Noah Vera, Jane Chen, Maverick Silva, Alexander Segura, Jordan Jackson, Nicholas Der. Not pictured Ellen Lay. Principal Thomas Kohout standing left. Kneeling: teacher Tiffany Ramirez right, teacher Lorena Jauregui left.

## City of Alhambra honors Marguerita students' sustainability campaign

During Earth Month, Alhambra Mayor Jeff Maloney and the City Council honored Marguerita School students for launching and leading the school's BYOR campaign at their April 11 meeting. The "Bring Your Own Reusables" project encourages students to bring eating utensils and food containers from

home to reduce waste.

"The BYOR campaign was our students' inventive response to a challenge to cut back on site garbage from AUSD executive director of food + nutrition services, Vivien Watts, and team member, Judy Huffaker," Principal Thomas Kohout explained. "The students named the campaign,

>> see **MARGUERITA SUSTAINABILITY CAMPAIGN** Page 18

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## Mayor's Corner

By Mayor Jeff Maloney

I love springtime. I love the cool nights and warm, sunny days. Gardens swing into full bloom and Dodger games begin to dominate our TVs and radios (at least in my house). But perhaps the best and most promising part of spring is that summer is right around the corner. Summer in Southern California has always been a time to step back, relax, and enjoy what our region has to offer.

For my family, the school year is always extremely busy. And while summer offers a bit of a break from academics, there is no shortage of activities for kids, adults, and families. Personally, I always look forward to the movies and live music at Alhambra Park, our Independence Day celebration at Almansor Park, and all of the wonderful programs put together by our Alhambra Recreation and Parks Department.

This year, however, seems different. Over the last two years, there has been

much hope that summer would bring a respite from the worst of the COVID pandemic, only to have our hopes dashed. Now, with high vaccination rates and fewer serious cases of illness in our community, it finally does seem like we can responsibly enjoy a normal summer – or at least as close to normal as is possible. I can't express how exciting this is for me. I hope to see you at all of our community celebrations as well as out dining *al fresco* at one of our many incredible local restaurants – and if you see me, feel free to stop and chat about what's going on in Alhambra.

One of the most significant recent developments for me is that our City Council meetings are back in-person and 100% open to the public. It has been a pleasure to see my colleagues and our residents in the flesh in the Council chambers at our meetings. Of course, Council meetings

will remain open to the public virtually as well, for those who don't yet feel comfortable attending in-person or for whom getting to City Hall is inconvenient. I hope that everyone takes advantage of the various methods of participating in our decision-making process.

In my opinion, this reopening could not have come at a better time. We have so many important items on our agenda, including the formation of Alhambra's first bike and pedestrian safety plan, our first historic preservation ordinance, and our first comprehensive sustainability plan. There are so many ways for each of our residents to get engaged and involved, and I hope each of you feels comfortable participating in person or virtually. The future success of our City depends on it.

Still, be sure to embrace the fun side of summer and to enjoy this special season with your friends and families!



Mayor Jeff Maloney

## CALLING ALL ALHAMBRA NONPROFITS!

The Alhambra Chamber is inviting all local nonprofit organizations to join the Alhambra Nonprofit Council. The Council promotes collaboration in the sector and advocates for policies and programs that mitigate challenges they face and strengthens the ability of each to achieve their goals. Activities include joint campaigns, resource development, and capacity building in support of the Alhambra community. Join us on our meeting that will be held on May 24, 1:00 - 2:30 PM.



If interested, please call the chamber at (626) 282-8481 or email [CEO@alhambrachamber.org](mailto:CEO@alhambrachamber.org).



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

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

\$800 per month / Weekly rates available



### When is Camp?

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

#### What We Offer:

- Breakfast, Lunch, and Snack
- Air Conditioned Classrooms
- Role Model Counselors
- Ratio 1:15
- Swim Lessons
- Weekly Field Trips at extra cost

### Your Peace of Mind is Our Priority

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

### Activities

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



**NO REFUNDS**

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

**NO REFUNDS**

*From the Chief*

# Welcome SUMMER 2022. It is about that time for some summer family fun!

By Alhambra Police Chief Kelley Fraser

The Alhambra Police Department is ready and excited to help you prepare for family-friendly activities during the summer, whether it's walking, swimming in backyard pools, going to the beach, or a BBQ. Festivities will be held throughout the city and hosted by the city, local businesses, and other organizations in conjunction with the Alhambra Police Department.

**SUMMER EVENT HIGHLIGHTS**

- Alhambra Police Youth Academy (June 6th-16th)
- 626 Golden Streets (May 1st)
- Eco Fair (Sunday, May 1st)
- Concerts at the Park (July 1st-29th)
- Movies at the Park (July 2nd-30th)
- July 4th Fireworks Show
- National Night Out (Tuesday, August 2nd)
- Fiesta Alhambra (September 18th)

I would also like to take this opportunity to provide the citizens and visitors of the City of Alhambra with some summer safety tips:

- 1) Keep your home safe when away on vacation. We tend to open and leave our house windows open during the summer. You can always ask your neighbor to watch your house and put your lights on timers.
- 2) Keep your furry friends cool and safe. Ensure they are hydrated, never leave your furry friend alone in the car, and



**Kelley Fraser**  
Alhambra Police Chief

beware of hot pavements.  
3) Stay hydrated as you can experience heat exhaustion. Here are some symptoms of heat exhaustion: rapid, weak pulse, muscle cramps, nausea or vomiting, pale, clammy skin, and excessive sweating.

Summer is one of my favorite seasons. There is so much to do and see, but the most important thing is that you create beautiful memories with your loved ones and enjoy yourself.

The Alhambra Police Department wishes everyone a happy and safe summer and hopes to see you all during the summer festivities.

# Council talks strategy for 22-23 fiscal year

During a special meeting held on March 24, 2022, the Alhambra City Council undertook its annual strategic planning session to set priorities and define its work for the upcoming fiscal year. With a review of existing goals, which expanded to more than 60 in this fiscal year, the City recognized it has achieved or made progress towards most of its objectives.

Mayor Maloney spoke in opposition to proposed tax increases, as these would require ballot measures costing the City upwards of \$250,000 per initiative. This includes the controversial vacancy tax that had been under consideration. The Mayor directed staff to identify alternative ways to fill vacancies. Community Development Director, Andrew Ho, proposed a vacancy registry, where commercial property owners would have to register with the City and pay a fee when their properties become vacant. This would allow the City to have a complete list of all vacant properties, along with the owners' contact information. It is expected that a formal proposal will be introduced to the City Council this summer for their consideration.

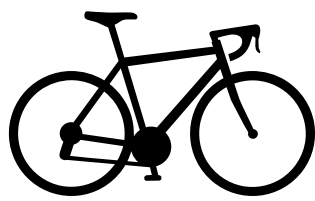
Councilwoman Perez commented that the City's permitting process is lengthy and contributes to the vacancy problem. She requested staff to work with the Chamber of Commerce to streamline permit applications. Mayor Maloney echoed her comments and acknowledged the need for property and business owners to participate in the process. Andrew Ho said that his team has already prepared a plan, which will be presented to the Council in May.

With concern over vacancies in the city's commercial corridors, the Council requested staff to evaluate the creation of a vacant storefront window covering program, which would be presented in July for council consideration. Staff also announced that the Economic Study for West Valley is ready to be reviewed by the Council, and they will present it during the April 25 meeting.

The Council also spent time exploring ways to address the impacts of Airbnb properties. First discussed was a new tax on Airbnb rentals, which would require a public vote. Mayor Maloney again cautioned against an expensive ballot initiative to create a new tax. Councilwoman Lee expressed that it is more important to cap the number of days hosts can offer their space for short-term rentals, which can be achieved through an ordinance. Andrew Ho informed the council that his department is working on creating Airbnb regulations. However, Councilwoman Perez expressed that she is still interested in creating a Transient Occupancy Tax on Airbnbs to boost the City's revenues. No action was taken, but it is expected that the Council will discuss a more specific plan this summer.

As the Council seeks to support economic development and protect the interests of the City, their strategic session made headway on their focus on addressing critical issues in partnership with key stakeholders. The primary goal remains to create a city that has a thriving economy to support the social and administrative activities of the Council.

# Get smart about biking into May



The Alhambra Civic Center Library is teaming up with local partners to host a series of workshops to help teach cyclists learn how to bike smart! These are educational and fun events for the whole family, taking place at local Alhambra parks and at the library. Registration is not required and all ages are welcome.

"Bicycling has so many benefits. It's fun, keeps us healthy, and helps reduce our carbon footprints," said Mayor Jeff Maloney. "These workshops will help people feel more confident about hopping on their two wheels, while providing safety tips for sharing the road with motorists."

**Bike Maintenance and Repair for Advanced Riders**

On Saturday, May 14, from 10am to 1pm, at Alhambra Park, 500 N. Palm Avenue (near the playground), the Alhambra Police Department will hand out helmets for kids at this event. There are limited supplies and the child must be present.

From late May to June, ActiveSGV and the Alhambra Police Department will teach you how to bike safely on city streets. Bringing your own bicycle is recommended for these three events:

**1. Bike Safety for Beginners**

Saturday, May 21, 10:30am - 12pm, Alhambra Library, 101 S. First Street.

Do you want to make bicycling part of your daily travel routine, but you're not sure where to start? This will be a one and one-half hour, in-person class that

will help you improve your bicycling skills and learn to ride safely on city streets. You will also get an overview of the rules of the road, learn how to plan your route, and receive tips and tricks to make cycling safe and convenient for everyday travel. The Alhambra Police Department will also hand out helmets for kids (limited supplies, child must be present).

**2. Bike Safety for Experienced Riders**

Saturday, May 28, 10:30am - 12:30pm, Almanson Park, 800 S. Almanson Street (near basketball courts).

This will be a two-hour "Rules of the Road" class that will help you learn how to bike safely on city streets. You will also practice bike skills to make you a better rider. The Alhambra Police Department will also hand out helmets for kids (limited supplies, child must be present).

**3. Bike Safety for Street Riding**

Saturday, June 4, 10:30am - 1pm, Alhambra Park, 500 North Palm Avenue.

Do you want to be more comfortable and confident when cycling on city roads? This "Streets Skills" class is a free, two and one-half hour class for adults and teens to practice safe riding with a group of beginning cyclists. You'll learn cycling etiquette, practice riding in a real-world setting, and make pit stops to review best practices while riding.

For more information, visit <https://alhambralibrary.org/>.

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**AROUND ALHAMBRA**



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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)

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# Alhambra Mayor announces “The State of Alhambra is Strong”

On April 12, 2022, the Alhambra Chamber hosted Alhambra Mayor Jeffrey Maloney, who delivered the 2022 State of the City address. His address highlighted the accomplishments of the past year and previewed where the city is headed. A crowd of nearly 100 leaders from the region gathered in the historic Granada. The event welcomed dignitaries including members of the City Council and senior city staff, as well as state legislators Senator Susan Rubio and newly elected Assemblyman Mike Fong.

The Mayor asserted that the state of Alhambra is strong, and growing stronger. According to Mayor Maloney, Alhambra has maintained relatively the same population level since the 1960s, seeing a moderate growth of approximately 28,000 new residents over the last five decades. Currently, 52% of our population is of Asian descent and 35% are Latino. Sixty percent of residents are renters, and the median home value is slightly higher than the County's average at \$630,200. Al-

hambra's median age is also higher than both the County and State average, at 41.4 compared to 36.7. These demographics help inform the work of the city as it plans for the future.

In terms of finances, the City's budget is almost balanced. For 2021-2022 it collected a little over \$138 million, with plans to spend closer to \$146 million. Most of the city's revenues come from sales tax. The majority of expenditures are related to public safety with the police department receiving the majority of funding, followed by the fire department.

The Mayor also highlighted some of the City's strategic priorities, such as creating affordable housing, historic preservation, and addressing issues related to the unhoused. Mayor Maloney highlighted the city's sustainability efforts. Recently, Congresswoman Judy Chu secured funding for a comprehensive sustainability plan for the City, and efforts are being made to create an active transportation plan. This work includes efforts to address the 710

“stub” north of the 10 freeway that dumps cut-through cars into the city. Overall, City staff and the City Council are seeking to improve the quality of life and economic opportunities.

Mayor Maloney also touted the city's work to support commercial corridors through economic and design studies, its efforts to help fill vacant storefronts in partnership with the Alhambra Chamber, and its general support for businesses. While the Mayor and Council are supportive of streamlining city processes so businesses that are ready to open can do so faster, it will require a partnership with the business community and the Chamber to ensure vacancies are filled and tax revenue can be collected to support city priorities.

The Alhambra Chamber hosts the annual State of the City to offer an opportunity for businesses and civic leaders to connect with the city, learn how the city is supporting business, and find ways to work together to address key priorities for all residents, businesses, employees, and visitors alike.

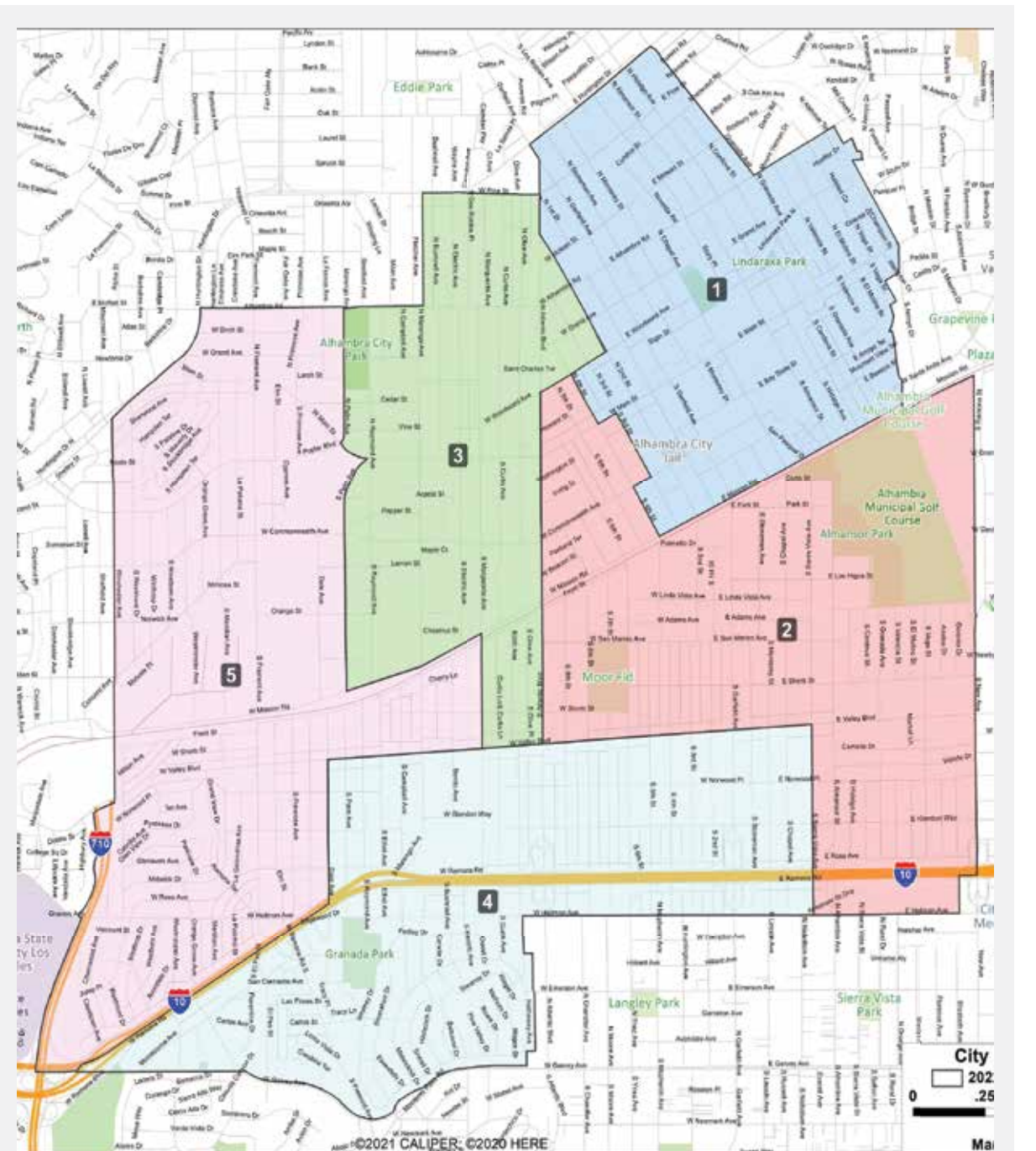
*Alhambra Connects hosts Solis, Civic Leaders*

On April 26, Alhambra Connects saw the leaders from across Alhambra and the region come together to connect with each other to advance the goal of creating a stronger economy. This month's event was hosted by local development company Pacific Plaza Premier at their offices on Garfield and Norwood and the featured guest was Alhambra's County Supervisor, Hilda Solis, who shared her vision for supporting the Alhambra community and the businesses therein.

The event was attended by Alhambra Mayor Maloney, Vice-Mayor Andrade-Stadler, and Councilmembers Perez and Maza, Jennifer Tang representing Assemblyman Mike Fong, and Chamber president-elect Chris Balmaseda. Business leaders included CEOs, Founders, and representatives from more than two dozen businesses including Transglobal, Coldwell Banker George Realty, Republic Services, and more. The evening also welcomed two new business owners to the city: Ryan Natividad of Bagel Exchange and Megan Park of Baskin Robbins.

During the event Supervisor Solis shared her approach to leadership in the City and across the First District, which represents more than 2million people from Pomona to East Hollywood, including Alhambra. Her career of service started in the eastern San Gabriel Valley, and through the decades, she has blazed new trails, being the first Latina in a presidential cabinet when she served as Secretary of Labor for President Obama. Her leadership since 2014 on the Board of Supervisors has brought support for small businesses and a renewed effort to support young people entering the workforce, especially within the green economy.

Alhambra Connects remain the monthly event that businesses looking to grow attend to make connections with customers, partners, and community leaders to advance their goals.



**NEW DISTRICTS** From Page 1

rail lines, etc.)

5. lines shall be drawn to encourage geographic compactness.

6. boundaries shall not be drawn for purposes of favoring or discriminating against a political party.

The changes are fairly nominal, with a fluctuation

in population increase of 568 residents (District 2) or the loss of 486 residents (District 3). The geography was just slightly shifted, keeping most districts where they were with some editing around the edges. These changes generally made for more contiguous and compact districts in the City.



Summer fun is for Alhambrians of all ages! Here are eight ways to enjoy the best Alhambra has to offer all summer.

**1. Sign up for swimming lessons at the West San Gabriel Valley YMCA.** Water safety is fun! Alhambrians of all ages can book swimming lessons at the YMCA. Sign up for lessons at <https://wsgvymca.org/programs/swimming/>

**2. Book a paint party that comes to you with Monliet Art Services.** Monliet offer canvas, potion making, and hand print art parties that come right to your home. Book them now at <https://www.monliet.com>



**3. Go on a boba tour of Alhambra.** May the fourth be with you! Consider celebrating by taking your favorite Boba Fett buddy on a tour of Alhambra's many boba shops. Great options include Ten Ren's Teahouse at 707 E Main, Tastea on 349 E. Main, Moo Tea at 1457 E Valley Blvd, and Bon Appetea Cafe Alhambra at 7 S 2nd St.



**4. Grab breakfast at Bagel Exchange on May 1.** The 626 Golden Streets celebration is coming to Alhambra on May 1; walk, run, or ride through Main Street starting at 8:30am. All that exercise will make you hungry, so stop by Bagel Exchange for their Grand Opening celebration at 9:30am. The first 50 people to visit them on May 1 will receive a free bagel with cream cheese.

**5. Join Camp Alhambra!** 7-12 year olds can join Camp Alhambra from May 31 to August 5 this year. Each of the 10 weekly sessions has a different theme. For more information, visit [cityofalhambra.org](http://cityofalhambra.org)

**6. Shop for vinyl records at Str33t Records at 111 W Main St.** Main Str33t just welcomed a reimagined record store that carries rock, jazz, folk, hip-hop, pop, and everything in-between. It's perfect for those who are growing, starting, or teaching the art of finding a perfect record. Visit them this summer!



**7. Declare an ice cream night.** Declare a weekly ice cream night, and try a new ice cream shop every week. Make sure to try Fosselman's on 1824 W Main, Baskin Robbins on 838 E. Valley Blvd, Afters Ice Cream on 36 W Main, and Michoacana on 2130 S Fremont Ave. Let us know who has the best flavors by tagging #alhambraicecreamnight all summer long.

**8. Send your preschoolers, and K-8 graders to summer school and camp.** Emmaus Lutheran School is offering all-day programs with academics in the morning, and summer fun in the afternoon. Weekly sessions run from June 6 through July 29. To find out more visit [EmmausAlhambra.org](http://EmmausAlhambra.org)



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

**GRANT AWARD \$5,000**

**APPLICATION DEADLINE EXTENDED**  
Applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, until funding for the program is completed. Please apply now due to limited funding.

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

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

**PROGRAMA DE SUBVENCIÓN DE ASISTENCIA PARA PEQUEÑAS EMPRESAS (SBAG) DE LA CIUDAD DE ALHAMBRA COVID-19**

**Premio de subvención \$5,000**

**Plazo de la solicitud ha sido ampliado**  
Las solicitudes se aceptarán por orden de llegada, hasta que se complete la financiación del programa. Solicite ahora debido a la financiación limitada.

**Requisitos de elegibilidad:**  
Escanee el código QR para ver los requisitos de elegibilidad y descargue la solicitud o visite nuestro sitio web en: [www.cityofalhambra.org](http://www.cityofalhambra.org)  
Si tiene preguntas, llame al (626) 570-5011 o envíe un correo electrónico a: [communications@cityofalhambra.org](mailto:communications@cityofalhambra.org)

- La empresa debe tener fines de lucro, no tener más de 25 empleados, incluidos los propietarios, y estar ubicado físicamente en la ciudad de Alhambra.
- Las empresas deben cumplir con los criterios de HUD para el beneficio de ingresos bajos y moderados y proporcionar documentación que respalde el impacto de COVID-19.
- Los fondos se pueden utilizar para el alquiler, los servicios públicos, los gastos generales, la compra de equipos, la comercialización, etc.

**阿罕布拉市 COVID-19 小企業援助贈款 (SBAG) 計劃**

**贈款授予 5,000 美元**

**申請截止日期延長**  
申請將以先到先得的方式接受，直到項目的資金完成。由於資金有限，請立即申請。

**資格要求:**  
掃描二維碼查看資格要求並下載申請或訪問我們的網站：[www.cityofalhambra.org](http://www.cityofalhambra.org)  
如有問題，請致電 (626) 570-5011 或發送電子郵件至：[communications@cityofalhambra.org](mailto:communications@cityofalhambra.org)

- 企業必須以營利為目的，擁有不超過 25 名員工（包括所有者/業主），並且實際位於阿罕布拉市。
- 企業必須符合 HUD（美國住房和城市發展部）中低收入福利標準，並提供受 COVID-19 影響的文件。
- 資金可用於租金、水電費、間接費用、購買設備、營銷等。

**alhabra**  
 CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**RECYCLING & WASTE MANAGEMENT  
TIPS FOR SMALL BUSINESS**

**REDUCE. REUSE. RECYCLE.**

**REVIEW AND LIMIT EXCESS WASTE**

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

**SEPARATING RECYCLABLE FROM  
NON-RECYCLABLE**

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

**USE FEWER SINGLE-USE PRODUCTS**

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

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## Tax Tips

# Identity Protection Pin Program

By Michael Aston, E.A.

An IP PIN is a six-digit number assigned to eligible taxpayers to help their Social Security number from being used to file fraudulent federal income tax returns. This number helps the IRS verify a taxpayer's identity and accept their tax return. The online "Get AN IP PIN" tool immediately displays the taxpayer's assigned number.

This tool uses Secure Access authentication to verify a person's identity. Taxpayers should review the "Secure Access requirements" before they try to use the "Get an IP PIN" tool.

There are other ways to get an IP PIN if someone is unable to pass the Secure Access authentication. Taxpayers with income of \$75k or less should complete Form 15227 and mail or fax it to the IRS. An IRS employee will call the taxpayer to verify their identity using a series of questions. Those who pass authentication, will receive an IP PIN for the current year and the following years.

Taxpayers who cannot verify their identities remotely or who are ineligible to file Form 15227 should make an appointment to visit a "Taxpayer Assistance Center" and bring two forms of picture identification. This is an in-person identity verification. After the taxpayer passes authentication, an IP PIN will be mailed to them within three weeks.

Taxpayers should never share the IP PIN with anyone but their tax service provider. The IRS will never call to request the taxpayer's IP PIN, and taxpayers must be alert to potential IP PIN scams.

Here's what taxpayers need to know before applying:

- The "Get and IP PIN" tool became available in January.
- This is the preferred method of obtaining an IPPIN and the only one that immediately reveals the PIN to the taxpayer.
- Taxpayers who want to voluntarily opt into the IP PIN program don't need to file Form 14039, Identity Theft Affidavit.
- The number is valid for one year. Each January, the taxpayer will be sent a new number.
- It must be entered correctly on



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

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

electronic and paper tax returns to avoid rejections and delays.

- Taxpayers with either Social Security or Individual Tax Identification Number who can verify their identity are eligible for the program.
- Any primary or secondary taxpayer or dependent can get an IP PIN, if they can prove their identity.
- The IRS plans to offer an opt-out feature to the IP PIN program in 2022.

This article is from the IRS Tax Tips 2020-168, from December 9, 2020.

If IP PIN is for you, my suggestion is for you to wait to apply after you have filed your 2020 tax return to prevent any delays on your 2020 filing.

Any taxpayer that already has an IP PIN because of identity theft can retrieve their IP PIN by going to the "Get an IP PIN" tool at irs.gov.

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.

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The Chamber View

# Getting Ready for Summer in Alhambra

By John Bwarie  
CEO, Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

When do you start planning for summer fun? The month of May is a great time to get inspired about making outdoor meals, enjoying family activities, getting kids ready for summer camp, and even decorating for the summer holidays. Remember to support our local businesses as you shop and dine, as well as enjoy recreational and cultural events. In this issue of *Around Alhambra*, we've highlighted some of the places you'll want to visit in our community.

May is also AAPI Heritage Month, which is especially important to us in Alhambra because over half of our city's residents are part of the AAPI community. We are looking forward to working with our AAPI businesses to develop programs that support their growth as well as encourage their participation and leadership within the Alhambra community.

In light of the Chamber's mission to build the economic health of our city, we are actively reaching out to potential businesses to come open in Alhambra, with a priority on filling storefront vacancies. We have been working with commercial real estate brokers and property owners, as well as local and national brands to identify potential new



**John Bwarie**  
CEO Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

tenants that will thrive in our city. In that effort, we are targeting those businesses and brands that truly connect to the market opportunities in our community. And, we continue to work with our current businesses in an effort to retain them and help them grow, as well.

The ability to recognize those new and long-standing businesses that create a vibrant community sends a clear message that we welcome and support businesses

who are doing business in Alhambra. As part of our first President's Awards, the Chamber held an evening celebration last month at The Alhambra to recognize a handful of the thousands of business entities that make up the economy of the city. Every member of the City Council, including the Mayor joined in the celebration to honor the best of what makes Alhambra a destination for businesses.

In my experience, the month of May is also a time to schedule health check-ups, auto and home maintenance, financial

planning, and the myriad of tasks that seem to pile up to prepare for summer. When you select health and service professionals, make sure to consider our advertisers. And let them know you saw their ad in *Around Alhambra* when you visit them. They are supporting the Chamber and our community, so we want to acknowledge them.

As we continue to serve the City and all members of the community, as well as plan for the future, we are excited to make May our Get Ready for Summer edition of *Around Alhambra*.

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*In this session, John Bwarie will teach attendees 5 no-cost strategies to increase your business' bottom line.*

---

**SAVE THE DATE**  
 Wednesday, May 11, 2022  
 7:30 - 8:45 AM  
 Alhambra Chamber Upper Boardroom  
 with Chamber CEO John Bwarie

---

**Chamber Members: Free**  
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*Your Insurance*

# The ins and outs of moving insurance

*By Regina Talbot*

**Your belongings probably aren't covered while in transit, so consider getting coverage.**

**Do you need moving insurance?**

When preparing for a move, you may be hiring movers, packing, and transferring your homeowners or renters insurance to your new address. But what about getting moving insurance?

Most people don't realize that homeowners or renters insurance may not cover loss or damage to your possessions while in transit. Since moving puts your belongings at risk for all kinds of unforeseeable mishaps, having insurance for moving might help protect against anything going awry.

**Does my homeowners policy cover a move?**

Homeowners policies don't usually cover your property during a move. Review your policy or talk with your agent to see if your property is insured while in transit or storage.

**Where do I get moving insurance?**

Moving companies offer various insurance options, two of which are mandated by federal law. The types are:

- **Released value coverage (or basic carrier liability).** As the most basic coverage required by federal law, this liability coverage is free and based on weight, paying up to 60 cents per pound for an item. But if your \$500 one-pound digital tablet gets damaged during a move, well, it hardly comes close to paying the full replacement value.

- **Full value protection (or full replacement value protection).** Also required by federal law, this coverage has to be purchased, but experts recommend it, because it pays for either the current market replacement value of an item, replacement with a similar item, or the item's repair. If you opt for full value protection, make sure to get details of your moving company's specific plan to see how it determines replacement value, especially for items of extraordinary value, and to learn what actions might limit your mover's liability.

- **Separate liability insurance.** Some movers might offer this optional insurance for purchase. Governed by state law, separate liability insurance pays for the insurance amount purchased minus the basic carrier liability amount that the mover pays (up to 60 cents per pound). If you go this route, make sure you get a copy of your policy and understand the amount of insurance you purchased and the cost for this coverage.



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

**What if I do the move myself?**

Most likely, your homeowners or auto insurance policy offers only limited coverage for your possessions if you transport them in your personal vehicle or in a rental vehicle. This means you may assume the risk if you use your own vehicle for the move. Truck rental companies, on the other hand, offer insurance that not only protects the rental vehicle, but also the driver, passengers, and your cargo, depending on the type of coverage you choose.

**What do I need to file a claim?**

To file a claim of loss or damage, you may need to prove that the lost or damaged item was actually moved by the movers and not damaged beforehand. A comprehensive inventory list — which should include items of extraordinary value like jewelry, silverware, and digital devices — can help support your claim, so make sure it is complete before the movers transport your property. It's also wise to take before and after pictures and file your claim promptly to facilitate reimbursement.

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





# Alhambra News & Notes

On April 5, 2022, Alhambra's L.A. County Supervisor, **Hilda Solis**, appointed Alhambra City Councilmember **Sasha Renée Pérez** as a commissioner to the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), calling her "an effective coalition builder and collaborative leader." Pérez joins nine other appointed commissioners from the City and County of L.A. to make budgetary, funding, planning and program policies for LAHSA in addressing the homelessness crisis in the County.

The roof of Alhambra's **Target** partially collapsed shortly after midnight on April 22 during a rainstorm, leaving an approximately 25' by 25' hole in the store. The store was temporarily closed and employees offered temporary positions at area Target stores. No one was hurt, as the store was closed at the time of the collapse.

Starting May 14, **Nucleus Gallery** is hosting wood carving artist, **Misato Sano**, in her first solo exhibition at the gallery: HELLO HELLO! - A MISATO SANO SOLO EXHIBITION. This show will feature new wooden sculptures and embroidery, and it is a tribute to man's best friend that all dog-lovers need to see! More can be found at <https://www.gallerynucleus.com/events>.

**Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Southern California**, which is in the process of returning to in-person events, chose to hold its 2022 installation of officers and awards luncheon on March 27 in Alhambra at Almanson Court.

**EMCORE Corporation** (Nasdaq: EMKR), a leading provider of advanced mixed-signal products that serve the aerospace & defense, communications, and sensing markets, announced on April 13, that it has been awarded a contract extension for Medallion 8100 Series L-EMLTM CATV transmitters by a major broadband MSO in Europe. This contract extension brings the value of L-EML transmitters shipped for this multi-year project to over \$2 million.

On June 2, 2022, the **Alhambra Teachers Association** will host the **2nd Annual San Gabriel Valley Pride Parade & Festival** starting at Mark Keppel High School at 9:30am with a march to Barnes Park in Monterey Park at 10am to 12pm. For more information, contact [ataprestammyscorcia@gmail.com](mailto:ataprestammyscorcia@gmail.com).

**Governor Newsom** has declared May as "**Small Business Month**" in the state of California. Make the conscious decision to support Alhambra's small businesses this month, and make it a habit for the months to come!

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



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*Getting Through It*

# “How We Know What We Know About Earthquakes”

By Dr. Lucy Jones

We have become accustomed to looking up information on an earthquake immediately after the Earth stops shaking. We can almost instantly access reports with the size, location, duration, and impacts of an earthquake. This information can reach us thanks to the instruments measuring what is happening below – sometimes many miles below – the surface. Today, computers and processors are so fast they can send you a warning of approaching earthquake shaking before you actually feel it! But it didn't start out that way...



**Dr. Lucy Jones**

To understand how we got here, first we must understand the people who use these instruments and tools to study earthquakes: seismologists. People often think that a seismologist is a scientist that studies earthquakes. However, some seismologists do study earthquakes, and some don't. Other types of scientists that study earthquakes also include geodesists, earthquake engineers, and earthquake geologists, among others. The actual definition of a seismologist is a scientist who studies seismograms, the records of how the ground moves and the waves pass through the Earth. The seismograms make the seismologist.

The classic image of a seismologist is one reading a paper seismogram from a rolling drum, where the needle from the seismogram stays in one place and the paper rotates past it. While a compelling visual of ground movement, these paper-based instruments are outdated. They are 100 year old technologies that haven't been used for 50 years! Additionally, seismic instrumentation has a history far before rolling drums. And with each new development comes new limitations to be improved upon.

Some of the first seismograms came from early instruments developed in the 19th century that are now called seismoscopes. These were essentially a pendulum that would tend to stay where it was when the Earth started to move the instrument around it. The point of the pendulum would mark the surface below to indicate the shaking movement. The first continuous recording of an earthquake was in the 1880s by John Milne, an engineering geologist, who went to Japan in 1875 and felt several earthquakes. Because these instruments were based around pendulums, one of the limitations was the predominant frequency connected to the length of the pendulum when a number of waves would pass by that fixed position during a set timeframe.

Another limitation was that earthquakes put out waves at many different frequencies, longer and shorter wavelengths. The long wavelengths travel farther than the short wavelengths. So, recording the movement from an earthquake on the other side of the world will be all long wavelengths, but recording a small earthquake nearby will be all short

wavelengths. Furthermore, every seismograph around the world records noise. The ground is moving all the time due to ocean waves pounding the coasts. So, with this “microseism” phenomenon and the difference between frequencies, these early instruments could not look at all of the waves for all earthquakes at the same time. To solve this, separate instruments were used to look at nearby and distant earthquakes. Milne's (and most of the early instruments developed) were long period instruments, some with really long pendulums. The first significant short period instrument to look at small earthquakes was developed by Harry Wood here in California.

Computerization, introduced in the 1970s, has revolutionized this science. We no longer need many different instruments, as we can receive the recordings from a distant site via the internet. By using broadband and filtering out the microseism, we can focus on specific parts of the seismogram, with dynamic range. The difference from the smallest ground motions to the largest is more than a billion times, and now we can record that all in digital form. Of even more significance to the public, those records are now read automatically and almost instantly, providing information in mere moments. With paper records, the time and size of the earthquake motions was literally measured with a ruler. Back in 1987 for the Whittier Narrows earthquake, we had to run to the Siesmolab at Caltech, pull out our rulers, and measure the ink. Now a computer does that and correlates the different readings into earthquakes. With an algorithm called an associator, that decides whether the movements are coming from one earthquake or multiple.

We have come a long way in the 150 years since the early pendulum seismometers. Computerization addressed many previous limitations, but limitations still remain. Sometimes, in the case of a bigger earthquake, the associator may report a split event, showing multiple earthquakes happening at the same time when only one actually occurred. This is why the bigger earthquakes are reviewed by a seismologist.

In a bigger earthquake event, some of our communication services may be disrupted. Our network of sensors in Southern California send their data through

## Alhambra Chamber Asks...

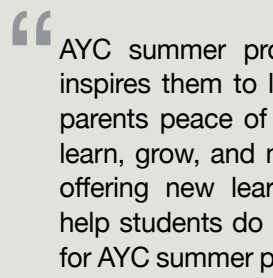
Each month, *Around Alhambra* asks people in our community to answer a question about life in Alhambra. This month, we posed our question to community members from across the city:

*“How would you describe ‘summer fun’ in Alhambra?”*

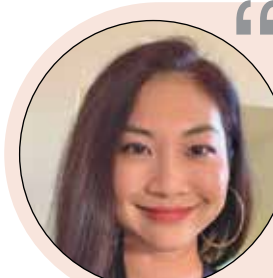
Their answers ranged, but each offered advice that can be used to enjoy a safe and fun summer for Alhambrians of all ages.



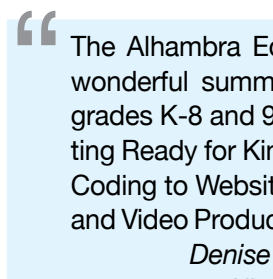
“Alhambra is a wonderful city that offers a variety of diverse foods and treats on Main Street. There are so many fun activities at the parks as well as the theater, and our schools offer students meaningful programs!”  
*Joan Lee, Librarian, Alhambra High School*



“AYC summer programs keeps kids safe, inspires them to learn, and gives working parents peace of mind. We help children learn, grow, and maximize their potential, offering new learning opportunities that help students do better in school. Sign up for AYC summer programs by visiting <https://www.aycla.org>”  
*Julian Zhu, Program Coordinator, Asian Youth Center*



“Summer fun in Alhambra includes visiting Nucleus Gallery for a number of art openings happening during the summer! We will be featuring artwork from various Japanese artists like Maomomiji's delicious food art, Kozaki's popular "No More Heroes" game art, and Nanaco's beautiful paintings.”  
*Linda Chi, Manager, Nucleus Gallery*



“The Alhambra Educational Foundation offers wonderful summer enrichment options for grades K-8 and 9-12! Everything from Getting Ready for Kindergarten and Beginning Coding to Website Design to Photography and Video Production. [www.aef4kids.com](http://www.aef4kids.com)”  
*Denise Jamarillo, Superintendent, Alhambra Unified School District*

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!

## Alhambra Woman's Club to meet on May 13

We invite all women who live in Alhambra and surrounding communities to join us on Friday, May 13, at 11 am, at Almansor Court, for a lovely view, excellent food, friendly talk and fine entertainment. Come festively dressed and be prepared to

sing and/or dance to music provided by the MARIACHI ODISEA. The cost for the luncheon is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members. Please call 626-289-9307 for a reservation by May 10.

telephone and internet connections. With a disruption to these services, this important data, including the original location of the earthquake, could be lost. This limitation reminds us that there is still more to be improved upon. The technology is still developing, and I'm excited to see what is next in both seismological instrumentation and the field of seismology to better understand

the Earth's processes.

*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.*



Ramona Convent Fashion Club members shown with club moderator, Ms. Maggie Averill and FIDM Representatives Cynthia Patino and Cecile Fayen.

## Ramona Convent wins 2022 FIDM Fashion Club contest

High School students representing Ramona Convent's Fashion Club submitted a social justice project to a contest sponsored by the Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising (FIDM) called "FIDM Fashion Club Gives Back" – and claimed first prize! The group was required to write a mission statement, design, and implement a service project and prepare a formal presentation around creating a garment. Club members chose to make and donate scarves to Union Rescue Mission as their project. They were able to make 50 scarves, and each scarf included a heartwarming note attached to it for the recipient.

Cynthia Patino, FIDM Community & Educational Affairs Fashion Club Program Administrator, and Cecile Fayen, FIDM College Representative, joined club members for lunch at Ramona and presented club members with prizes including a brand new sewing machine and a \$50 gift card. In addition, FIDM Alumna Kelly Pudgil, will conduct a sewing workshop with the Fashion Club.

Located in Alhambra for more than 100 years, Ramona Convent is a Catholic college-prep high school for young women committed to excellence in education.

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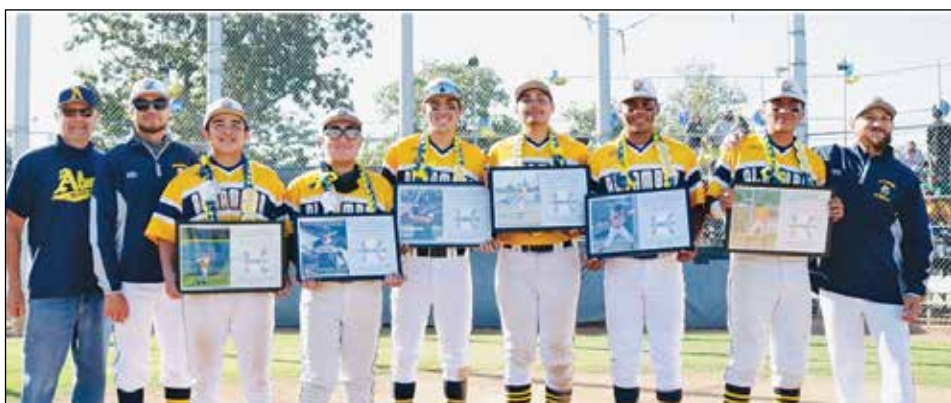
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Former AHS Varsity Baseball Head Coach Steve Gewecke honored before Alumni Game.



Left to right: Statistician Mike Koski, Head Coach Jovan Ramirez, Seniors Tony Leyba, Joshua Candelaria, Elian Duenes, Daniell Coronado, Justin Flores, Jason Hernandez, and Assistant Coach Matt Lopez.



AHS All CIF Honors to Michael Gonzalez, Josh Soto, and Joe Diaz.

## Local Sports News from Alhambra High School

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

### Alhambra Alumni Baseball Game

Over 30 former Moor baseball players played against the current Varsity Team in the Alumni Baseball Game on Saturday, April 9, at Moor Field. All of the players took batting practice and were introduced before the game. Former Head Coach Steve Gewecke threw out the first pitch and was honored prior to the game for his years of service. The Alumni and players were treated to a meal after the game catered by Chonitos Mexican Restaurant of Alhambra. By the way, the current Moors Varsity team won the game, 8-1.

### Alhambra Baseball

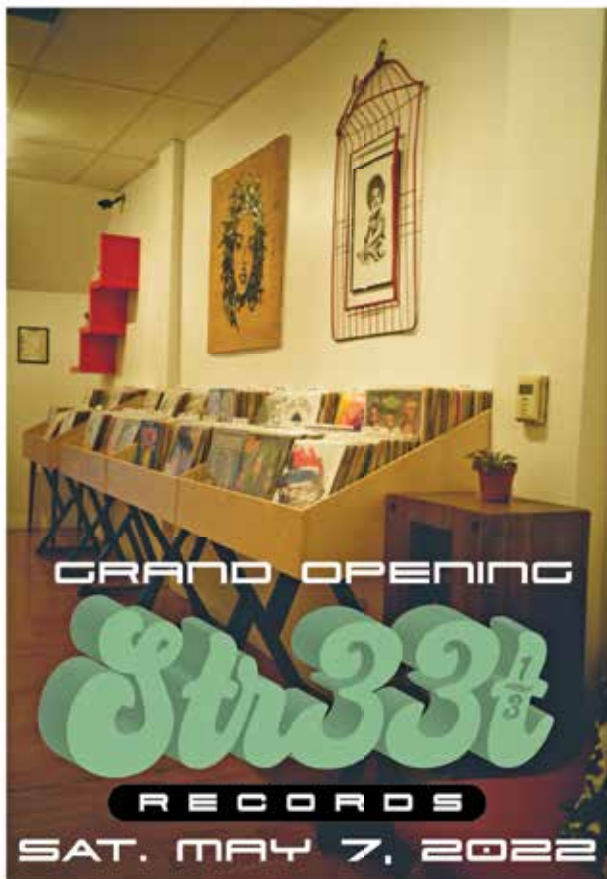
The Moors Varsity Baseball Team recognized their six Seniors following their game against Mark Keppel on April 14. Justin Flores, Jason Hernandez, Daniel Coronado, Elian Duenes, Joshua Candelaria, and Tony Leyba all received plaques and were introduced along with their parents. They

have been a big part of the Moors Baseball Program over the last four years, and they were sent off with well-wishes as they graduate at the end of May.

### Alhambra Football

The Moors recently held their Awards Banquet for the 2021 season. Luis Sanchez and Michael Gonzalez were named Co-Team Most Valuable Players. Kevin Soto and Steven Gomez were named Co-Defensive Players of the Year, while Josh Soto was named Offensive Player of the Year. Linemen of the Year awards went to Mike Ramos and Matthew Zabala, and Elijah Blanchard and Ryan Espinosa were honored as Most Improved Players.

The Moors were well represented on the Almont All League Team by First Teamers Michael Gonzalez, Josh Soto, and Joe Diaz, and Second Teamers Luis Sanchez, Kevin Soto, Liam Barajas, Johnny Tang, and Threy Ragland. All CIF Southern Section Division 14 Honors went to Josh Soto, Joe Diaz, and Michael Gonzalez.



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# Emmaus Lutheran School goes BACK to Science Camp!

It's been two years since the Jr. High students of Emmaus Lutheran School in Alhambra have been able to go on overnight field trips. This past month, the 7th and 8th grade students were able to spend 4 days at Palomar Science Camp.

They experienced the outdoors while learning about aquatics, transfer of heat energy by learning to make their own fires, team building, and an orienteering class where they learn how to use a compass and how to make their own sundial. The afternoons were filled with lots of adventures like hiking, archery, playing games, going on a zipline, and so much more.

One student said, "I haven't been away from home or my family for 2 years, and I grew so much this week—I'm sad to go home, but I do miss my own bed."

Emmaus prides itself on providing well-rounded experiences for its students. Not only do the students soar academically, but they are also given opportunities to play sports, do drama, sing in choirs, lead in student government, and so much more. This field trip is just one of the ways Emmaus provides opportunities for students that they can't get elsewhere. It is such a relief to be able to get back to some of these adventures.

Emmaus Lutheran School  
840 S. Almansor St. Alhambra,  
(626) 289-3664 [www.EmmausAlhambra.org](http://www.EmmausAlhambra.org)

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## ALHAMBRA PRESIDENT'S AWARDS

"There's No Place Like Alhambra"

🌟 Congratulations to our 🌟  
2021 President's Awards Winners!

<b>2021 Best New Business</b> South Bay Safety, Inc.	<b>2021 Non-Profit of the Year</b> Asian Youth Center
<b>2021 Best in Business Marketing</b> A-sha Dry Noodles	<b>2021 Community Investment Award</b> Pacific Plaza Premiere
<b>2021 Most Resilient Business</b> Yang's Kitchen	<b>2021 Restaurant of the Year</b> Jiang Nan Spring
<b>2021 Corporate Citizen of the Year</b> SoCalGas	<b>2021 Business Growth Award</b> Baja Cali Fish & Tacos
<b>2021 Alhambra Institution of the Year</b> Bun n' Burger	

## All Around the Town

By Glenn Barnett

As you may know, Bubba Watson is one of the top ranked professional golfers in the world. He won the Masters Tournament twice in 2012 and 2014 as well as 12 other PGA tournaments. In 2015, he was ranked the second best golfer in the world. Altogether, his golf winnings total almost \$50 million.

But you probably didn't know this. On February 15, 2022, Bubba Watson came to play a round at the Alhambra Golf Course. He is playing at several municipally owned courses around the country to see if he can break their course records, usually set by community members. He personally requested to play at the highly regarded Alhambra course, the fifth in his tour of noted municipal golf courses.

He likes to play these courses on a Tuesday so he can be available for PGA tournaments beginning on Thursday. At the community golf courses, he teams with a set of friends, both personal and professional, bantering along the way as friends do. They are being filmed while playing by an independent media company specializing in golf. The resulting documentary will be shown on a YouTube Channel or a wider audience if a TV network is interested. No viewing date has been announced for the program.

As for the course record in Alhambra, it is held by former course operator Jerry Wisz. He once shot a 57 over the 18 holes. On the day Mr. Watson played the course he shot a 65 or 6 under par for his round. It was a good round of golf but not enough to overtake Mr. Wisz. To be fair, it was Bubba's first time on our links whereas, over the years, Mr. Wisz knew every blade of grass on the course.

Perhaps we should issue a challenge to other professional golfers to also play



Glenn Barnett

the Alhambra Golf course and make it a must stop for the pros.

In other news, on March 24th, the Alhambra Fire Department held their annual retiree luncheon. A tradition of many years, the luncheon is sponsored by the Alhambra Fire Fighters Association. It is a great occasion for the retirees to visit with one another and catch up while at the same time offering the new hires a chance to learn a little about the history of the department.

Fire Chief Jeffrey D. Ragusa emphasized the importance of bringing together the several generations of firefighters. He pointed out that fully 50% of his firefighters have hired in over the past two years and don't know the proud history of their department.

During his brief remarks, Chief Ragusa asked who had been retired the longest. That was Firefighter/Paramedic Art Coleman who will reach 40 years of retirement in June. Former Fire Chief Tom Phelps was on hand, too. He served the city as a firefighter for 41 years. Like Mr. Coleman, he has a lot to share.



## Academy of Special Dreams Foundation celebrates 12 years of inclusion efforts

In the past six months, Michael Dergar, artist and founder of the Academy of Special Dreams Foundation, has traveled in Mexico and collaborated with community ambassadors around the world to bring public awareness to the needs and talents of the community with disabilities.

Mr. Dergar recently received an award of distinction in his hometown of Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico for providing wheelchairs in collaboration with The Alhambra Rotary Club. In addition, the Academy of Special Dreams Foundation sponsored several art therapy workshops in Mexican schools for more than 80 low income students and families living with disabilities.

Along with needed wheelchairs, the Academy provides scholarships and micro business cash awards for local artists and

for group art therapy. Its collaboration involves several local and international organizations, including The Alhambra/Ratkovich Company, Cultura Turismo y Arte Mazatlán, Walmart, California Arts Council, Sonryee Foundation, *Actitud Magazine*, and private donor, Helen Woo.

The Academy is producing *Uniting Borders 2022-2023*, promoting and recognizing the artistic expression of local and international artists, including those living with disabilities.

The art collection will be traveling to a few locations including the City of Alhambra, City of Los Angeles, and Mexico.

Locally, the art exhibition may be viewed from May through August 2022 at The Alhambra. A virtual Art exhibition will also be featured on their website at [www.specialacademy.org](http://www.specialacademy.org).

## 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).



**American Pit Bull Mix • Adult • Female • Large**

*Polly is a 3-year-old female American Pit Bull terrier mix. She has an adorable black and white coat. Polly has a lot of energy and enjoys going on long walks. She would benefit from training. Polly would do best in a home without kids or cats. To schedule a "Meet and Greet" appointment, call the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society at 626-286-1159. Or inquire online through our website at <https://www.sgvhumane.org/adopt>.*



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

*Boromir is a handsome 2-year-old black and brown male German Shepherd mix. He is a little shy with new people but will relax once he gets to know you. He is best suited for a calm home with adults only. 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>.*



**Chihuahua Mix • Senior • Female • Small**

*Sweet girl! Harper is a 13-year-old black and white female Chihuahua mix. She is an affectionate girl who loves to nap and cuddle. Since Harper is a senior girl, she is eligible for the "Senior for Senior" discount program. To schedule a "Meet and Greet" appointment, call the San Gabriel Valley Humane Society at 626-286-1159. Or inquire online through our website at <https://www.sgvhumane.org/adopt>.*

Visit us at [www.sgvhumane.org](http://www.sgvhumane.org)

MAY 2022

### Daily Holidays and Observances

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

- May 1 : National Lemonade Day
- May 2 : National Life Insurance Day
- May 3 : National Teacher Appreciation Day
- May 4 : National Star Wars Day
- May 5 : Cinco de Mayo
- May 6 : National Beverage Day
- May 7 : Free Comic Book Day
- May 8 : Mother's Day
- May 9 : National Butterscotch Brownie Day
- May 10 : National Clean Up Your Room Day
- May 11 : National Eat What You Want Day
- May 12 : National Limerick Day
- May 13 : National Apple Pie Day
- May 14 : National Buttermilk Biscuit Day
- May 15 : National Chocolate Chip Day
- May 16 : National Do Something Good for Your Neighbor Day
- May 17 : World Baking Day
- May 18 : National Employee Health and Fitness Day
- May 19 : International Hummus Day
- May 20 : National Bike to Work Day
- May 21 : National Waitstaff Day
- May 22 : National Buy a Musical Instrument Day
- May 23 : National Lucky Penny Day
- May 24 : National Scavenger Hunt Day
- May 25 : National Wine Day
- May 26 : Sally Ride Day
- May 27 : National Sunscreen Day
- May 28 : National Hamburger Day
- May 29 : National 529 Day
- May 30 : Memorial Day
- May 31 : Autonomous Vehicle Day



### Become a member of the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

Joining Alhambra Chamber of Commerce can be a smart move for your business. Because businesses that participate in this group promote each other and work together. Here are the top 10 reasons why you should join.

- Gain a voice in government
- Increase your visibility in the community
- Membership brings credibility to your business
- Promotion and publicity
- Create networking opportunities
- Join Chamber events and programs
- Make business contacts
- Access to members-only discounts and services
- Acquire customer referrals
- Receive advanced Chamber insights and updates

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## ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH



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ASIAN PACIFIC HERITAGE MONTH AND  
THE MANY AAPI BUSINESSES THAT MAKE  
A STRONG AND VIBRANT ECONOMY HERE  
IN ALHAMBRA.

### 2022 AAEDS Scholarship Opportunity 2022 亞美經濟發展企業 (AAEDS) 獎學金機會

#### Who's Eligible? 誰有資格申請?

- Must be a Graduating High School Senior from a school located within the Los Angeles County.  
必須是洛杉磯縣的高中應屆畢業生。
- Demonstrate financial need (to be eligible for financial aid, applicant must have submitted a FAFSA Report of 2022.).  
證明財務需求 (要獲得經濟援助, 申請人必須提交2022年的FAFSA報告。)
- Only U. S. Citizens are eligible to apply. (Please note, affiliates of AAEDS are not eligible to apply.)  
申請人必須為美國公民 (請注意, AAEDS的員工沒有資格申請。)

#### Award Amount: 獎勵金額:

There will be (3) awards of \$500 each and (3) awards of \$1000 each.  
A total of 6 scholarship awards will be offered.  
獎學金設立\$500三名, \$1000三名, 總計六個獎學金名額。

#### Requirements: 申請材料:

- \*Complete the AAEDS Scholarship application. 完成AAEDS獎學金申請表。
- \*Please provide an essay (in 500 words or fewer).  
請提供一篇文章 (五百字或以內)。
- \*Provide 1 Letter of Recommendation along with the recommendation form completed by the recommender.  
請提供由推薦人完成的推薦表及一封推薦信。
- Provide an official sealed copy of your high school transcript.  
一封由您所在高中提供的密封成績單。
- Please include a copy of your FAFSA Report.  
請附上一份您的FAFSA報告複印件。

**Application Deadline: Friday, June 10, 2022 @ 5:00 pm**

**申請截止日期: 2022年6月10日 (星期五) 下午 5:00**



Scholarship winners from 2019 shown. 圖片為2019年獎學金獲獎者

For more info, please contact AAEDS Scholarship Coordinator via: [www.aede.info](http://www.aede.info) • [aedeinfo@gmail.com](mailto:aedeinfo@gmail.com) • (626) 572-7021

\*\*\* 所有表格請從AAEDS網站獲取 All forms may be downloaded online from [www.aede.info](http://www.aede.info) \*\*\*





The five San Gabriel High School students who participated in Rosemead's Youth in Government program held a mock City Council meeting as part of their hands-on experience in local government. Here they are in chambers with their certificates and two City Council members. L to R: City Council member Sandra Lopez, students Tien Nguyen, Ken Yu, Tinga Su, Lisa Banh, Silvia Wu, and City Council member Margaret Clark.

## SGHS students fascinated by local government in action in Youth in Government program

Five San Gabriel high students are still talking about their experience in the innovative Youth in Government program sponsored by the city of Rosemead. "We wanted to give students who reside in Rosemead a first-hand look at how government works," explained Tom Boecking, director of Parks and Recreation, who launched the initiative. "The two-day, interactive program is designed to get local resident high school students involved in government on a local level."

The SGHS students Lisa Banh, Tien Nguyen, Pingda Su, Silvia Wu, and Ken Yu, who were selected by the city to participate, began their adventure with Shadow Day on March 17 where they shadowed city officials and staff to learn about city programs. On April 7, students joined Mayor Polly Low, City Council members, and department heads for a guest speaker lunch in their honor, a tour of city facilities, and prepared and held a mock City Council meeting.

Sandra Lopez, who is on the staff of CA Senator Susan Rubio and a City Council member, spoke to the students about the importance of community engagement and civic involvement. She pointed out, "Learning early about how decisions on city infrastructure and budget are made

helps create more informed citizens and builds a better society. The Youth in Government program is a chance for students to gain political acumen and self-confidence through public speaking and interaction."

Nicole Manalang Ruiz, one of two SGHS social studies teachers who organized the field trip logistics, said, "The program was AMAZING. The students loved getting to talk with city officials at their lunch. Then they worked together to prepare for the mock City Council meeting. Elected officials and department managers sat with their student counterparts and helped them run the meeting. This was really fun. The students got to sit in the chambers and everything."

SGHS social studies teacher Raymond Gin, noted that the students were very interested in hearing about Rosemead's Youth Employment Program and the school is sharing the link and details with the student body.

"We are cheering the city of Rosemead for their inventive Youth in Government initiative," AUSD Superintendent Denise Jaramillo said. "We want to deepen our district relationship with the city in order to support our students who live in Rosemead."



At Ramona School, Dr. David Synder, Dr. Wayne Hoeft, and Dr. Craig Hoeft were among the dozens of local optometrists who in just six weeks assisted the district in delivering pandemic-delayed essential vision screening to over 8,000 AUSD students. Dr. Wayne Hoeft mobilized the small army of optometrists who worked with hard working AUSD staff to successfully accomplish this important effort.

## Local optometrists deliver essential vision screening to 8,000 AUSD students

The pandemic prevented Alhambra USD's essential vision screening for students. After two years of missed screenings, AUSD schools needed to provide double or triple the number of screenings than in a typical year. In normal times, AUSD nurses facilitate initial vision screening for all students upon school entry and every third year thereafter to help catch potential vision issues early and prevent barriers to learning.

Screening over 8,000 students in less than six weeks is no small task, so AUSD called upon an army of local optometrists to lend a hand. Between March 15 and April 27, Dr. Wayne W. Hoeft, O. D. mobilized groups of local optometrists to

deliver vision screening services at all 13 elementary schools, four high schools, and for students in our Virtual Learning programs. The final count of student screenings totaled 8,324!

The entire Hoeft family was instrumental in completing the vision screening process. Mrs. Lyn Hoeft, Wayne's wife, worked tirelessly behind the scenes, while Dr. Craig Hoeft — an optometrist like his father — joined him to provide screening services for our students. Superintendent Denise Jaramillo says, "AUSD is extremely grateful to the Hoeft family, the many local optometrists, site administrators, site nurses, and the Student Support Services Health division."

**ROSE BOWL**

**Congratulations to the Class of 2022!**

<b>Alhambra High School</b> May 27, 2022 8:00am - 10:00am	<b>Mark Keppel High School</b> May 27, 2022 1:00pm - 3:00pm
<b>Independence High School</b> (Students will graduate with their respective home high schools)	<b>San Gabriel High School</b> May 27, 2022 6:00pm - 8:00pm

**We are excited to hold our high school commencement ceremonies at the Rose Bowl again this year!**

**ROSE BOWL**

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Tours everyday from 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon



Monterey Highlands fourth grade student, Madeleine Angelo, won the California State PTA Reflections Art Program "Award of Merit" for her interpretive dance choreographed and performed to the song "What the World Needs Now is Love Sweet Love". The dance was her response to this year's theme "I will change the world by..." and expresses her desire to make the world better through loving and respecting others.

## Monterey Highlands dancer among students honored by California State PTA

Student artists from across California were honored by the California State PTA through their annual Reflections Arts Program. Madeleine Angelo, a Monterey Highlands fourth grader won an "Award of Merit" for her entry in dance choreography.

Madeleine's response to this year's Reflections theme "I will change the world by..." was an interpretive dance she choreographed and performed to the song, "What the World Needs Now is Love Sweet Love." Madeleine explained, "My dance shows that you should treat the world and others with respect and love."

In existence since 1969, the PTA Reflections Art Program has had more than 10 million student participants. Their program recognizes students' accomplishments in dance choreography, literature, photography, film production, music composition, and visual arts. All entries are submitted to school-level PTAs, where

they are recognized, celebrated and judged by five grade-level divisions, while a non-judged Special Artists division celebrates student artists with special needs. School PTAs choose a selection of entries to be judged by local PTA units, which are sent on to councils and then districts for consideration. The final artworks submitted to California State PTA by districts are considered for Outstanding Interpretation, Awards of Excellence or Awards of Merit. Outstanding Interpretation and Award of Excellence entries represent California in the final National PTA judging round.

A video of Madeleine's dance performance was showcased in last month's California PTA conference in Ontario, and Madeleine was also recognized by the Alhambra Unified School District's Board of Education on April 26. Madeleine's performance is available to view at: <https://youtu.be/QTBD9Z-0Y3U>

## San Gabriel High School's Virginia Vasquez honored by Teaching Peers



The accolades continue for San Gabriel High School English teacher Virginia Vasquez. In the last 11 months, Vasquez has been named Teacher of the Year by the Alhambra Unified School District, the Los Angeles County Office of Education, and by the state of California. On March 26, the California Teachers Association Council on Education recognized Vasquez for her outstanding teaching accomplishments. CTA president, E. Toby Boyd, lauded her establishment of classroom community values to ensure that students feel safe, engaged, and ready to learn. Boyd also emphasized that Vasquez, as a first generation English Learner herself, fully understands the importance of being a champion for her students, bestowing the same care and support she received as a child.

## MKHS culinary arts students become food critics to help set next year's school menus

During spring break, over 200 students, parents, and staff members taste tested some new food items as part of the Alhambra Unified School District's Food & Wellness Fair.

Mark Keppel High School students in Kendra Bradford's Culinary Arts class got a head start and additional guidance when Bradford decided to incorporate the sample tasting into her instructional curriculum.

Students began by unpacking the set of samples from the provided insulated tote bag. They sorted the items and after reviewing the preparation directions, determined which items could be heated together.

They followed the heating directions, participated in "mindful eating" to focus close attention on their tastings, and completed a review of each item. The results will be combined with the surveys of those who completed the tasting at home. These surveys will help create the 2022-23 menus for school meals.

Everyone who completed



During class MKHS students from Kendra Bradford's Culinary Arts class sampled the items from the Food & Wellness Fair. Pictured here, clockwise from top-left: Alyssa Gomez, Marcelo Yip (giving the thumbs up for the peach smoothie), Ashley Ho, Joshua Millan and Ryan Lee (enjoying Cheezy Bites).

the survey by the deadline a "Family Fun Basket," valued at \$200, went to Wendy Soo Hoo from Brightwood School. over 15 prizes were given away. The grand prize of

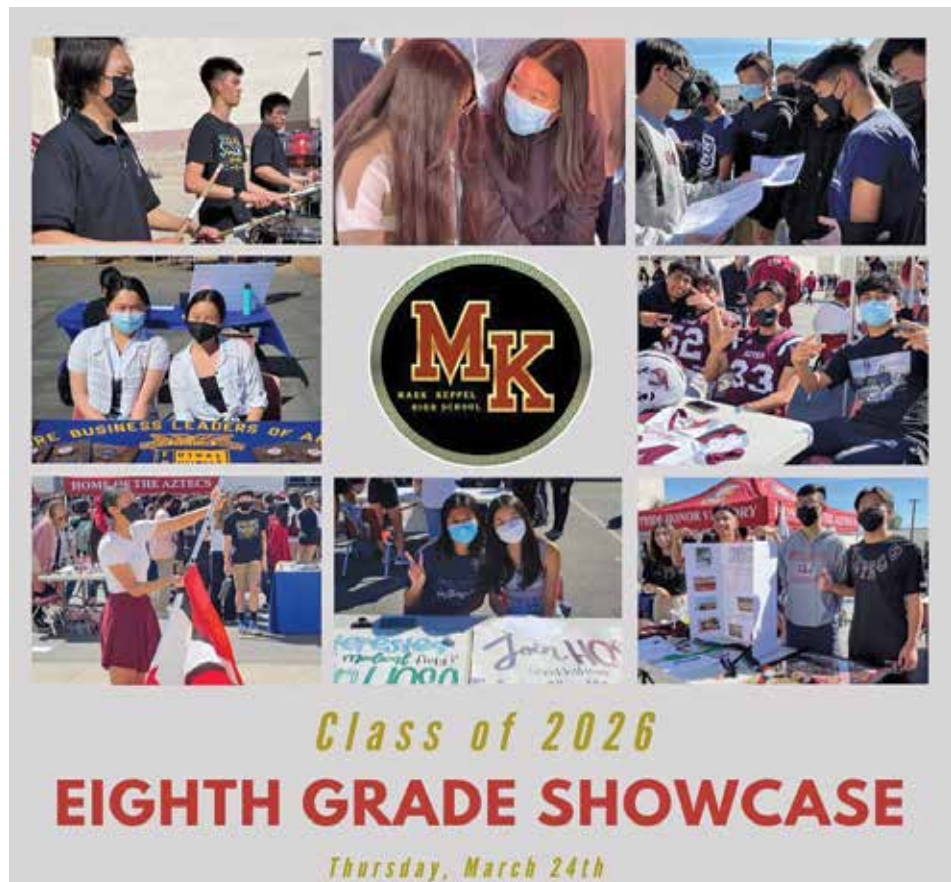
### MARGUERITA SUSTAINABILITY CAMPAIGN From Page 1

created a video, and made a presentation to every classroom to get classmates enthusiastically on board."

The BYOR student leaders said the experience of being recognized at City Hall — presenting their project, shaking hands with the mayor and receiving beautiful certificates of commendation — was incredible. "The value the City

Council members and the Mayor placed on their efforts has really motivated the students to come back and push for more sustainability programs at the school," Kohout added. "And the stunning artwork of the City of Alhambra recognition certificates made a big impression."





This collage contains photos highlighting the eighth-grade showcase at Mark Keppel High School.



# Mark Keppel hosts freshman year preview for class of 2026

Right before spring break, Mark Keppel High School hosted eighth graders from their feeder schools to prepare them to become freshmen, ease anxiety about what to expect, and introduce the many opportunities that await them next year.

Eighth grade students watched multiple performing groups — dance teams, band, cheer, color guard — showcase their talents and took a tour of their future high school campus. MKHS students gave suggestions and answered questions — all with the goal of making their transition to high school as smooth as possible.

The campus tour and performances are a long-standing tradition during the annual eighth grade showcase. New this year was a Club Fair, where organizations and teams highlighted their programs and answered questions. Principal Jeannie Gutierrez said, “MKHS student leaders were wonderful hosts to the incoming freshmen from our feeder schools. This preview day and the connection it brings make our incoming freshmen feel warmly welcome — and more at home when school begins in August.”

## PROMOTION CEREMONIES 2022

<b>Baldwin</b> Almanson Court May 27th 9:00am	<b>Garfield</b> Alhambra Park May 26th 1:00pm	<b>Monterey Highlands</b> Monterey Highlands May 26th 8:30am	<b>Ramona</b> Barnes Park May 25th 9:00am
<b>Brightwood</b> Almanson Court May 26th 11:00am	<b>Granada</b> Alhambra Park May 25th 8:30am	<b>Moor Field</b> Moor Field May 26th 9:00am	<b>Repetto</b> Barnes Park May 27th 8:30am
<b>Emery Park</b> Alhambra Park May 25th 10:00am	<b>LIFT North &amp; South</b> Century High School May 25th 10:00am	<b>Northrup</b> Alhambra Park May 26th 8:30am	<b>Ynez</b> Barnes Park May 26th 8:30am
<b>Fremont</b> Alhambra Park May 26th 11:00am	<b>Marguerita</b> Alhambra Park May 26th 9:30am	<b>Park</b> Alhambra Park May 27th 8:00am	

## 2022-2023 Student Calendar

Student Calendar 2022-2023

1515 W. Mission Road  
Alhambra, CA 91803

August	9, 2022	Tuesday	SCHOOLS OPEN
September	5	Monday	Labor Day – Holiday
October	7	Friday	End of 1st Quarter Grading Period (Secondary School)
October	28	Friday	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Trimester (Elementary School)
October	31	Monday	Pupil Free Day
November	1	Tuesday	Elementary Pupil Free Day (TK-5 <sup>th</sup> )
November	11	Friday	Veterans Day – Holiday
November	21-25	Monday-Friday	THANKSGIVING BREAK
December	22	Thursday	Secondary School Pupil Free Day (9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> & Lift)
December	23 - January 6, 2023		WINTER BREAK
January	9, 2023	Monday	SCHOOL REOPENS
January	16	Monday	Martin Luther King Day – Holiday
January	23	Monday	Pupil Free Day
February	13	Monday	Lincoln's Birthday – Holiday
February	17	Friday	End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Trimester (Elementary School)
February	20	Monday	President's Day – Holiday
March	10	Friday	End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter Grading Period (Secondary School)
March	27-31	Monday-Friday	SPRING BREAK
May	26	Friday	LAST DAY OF SCHOOL End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Trimester (Elementary School) End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester (Secondary School)

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**ALHAMBRA LATINO ASSOCIATION**  
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**Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner**

Friday, May 20, 2022  
Almansor Court Gazebo  
700 S. Almansor Street, Alhambra, CA 91801  
RSVP by: April 29, 2022 • \$50 Per Guest

*RSVP Deadline Extended to May 5th*

HONORING **Denise Jaramillo** AUSD Superintendent  
AWARDING **Scholarship Recipients** AUSD High Schools

**PROGRAM**

6:00 - 6:30	6:30 - 7:30	7:30 - 8:30	8:30 - 9:00
Social Hour	Dinner	Awards	Silent Auction & Opportunity Baskets

Event capacity limited to 150 people | No tickets at the door  
Mask will be required | L.A. County Health Guidelines will be followed | Outdoor event

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TICKETS \$50 Per Guest      ALA ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS DINNER      RSVP BY April 29, 2022 / May 5, 2022  
TICKET RESERVATION FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_ School/Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of Check \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please accept my additional contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sorry I cannot attend, please accept my contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

← PAY ONLINE  
Paypal

SCAN ME

**INFORMATION**

- Seating in tables of 8 • Outdoor event
- Donations welcome | Tax ID: 95-4646116

Include this form with your check or register here:  
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The Alhambra High School Equity Gallery Walk on March 25 showcased the AHS Teachers Equity Team's yearlong work around equitable practices with action research presentation boards to show the data and results. AUSD Superintendent Denise Jaramillo called the event "nothing short of fabulous."

# AHS hosts gallery walk to showcase 2021-22 teacher equity practices

On March 25, Alhambra High School held an equity gallery walk to highlight the work their staff has been doing this school year around equitable practices. The goal of the project was to create a sense of belonging between colleagues in order to achieve academic excellence for students and to build a structure of continuous improvement so teachers learn from each other and enact positive change for AHS.

To accomplish this, teachers identified and analyzed a challenge in school, implemented a practice to address the challenge and collected data on the effectiveness of the practice. For the equity gallery walk, teachers prepared a presentation board to display their findings for the unique practice each of them implemented.

"This event was nothing short of fabulous," AUSD Superintendent Denise Jaramillo said. "Participating teachers had prepared a presentation board that

explained a unique practice that he/she had implemented throughout the year. Everything from grading practices, social emotional learning, school climate to instructional methodologies were on displays. In my 35 years with the district I have truly never seen anything quite like this event. The AHS Equity Team deserves huge applause for leading the way for our students."

Alejandra Perez, AHS assistant principal of instruction, said, "We are so proud of the challenging and rewarding work our AHS teachers have been doing to move the entire school towards more equitable instruction and grading practices."

Instructional specialist for Baldwin and Ynez, David Byer, added: "Bravo! This work is an amazing example of empowerment for a teacher's own professional development. It will have lasting consequences for students."

**Superintendent / Board Member**

**Community Conversations (STUDENT EDITION)**  
via Zoom

**SCHEDULED SESSION:**  
Thursday May 19th  
6:30pm - 7:30pm  
(Grades 9-12)

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

Reserve your spot at:  
<https://tinyurl.com/AUSD-StudentConversations22>

You will receive a confirmation & Zoom invitation a few days prior to the meeting.  
Please sign up soon. Spaces will be limited as this meeting is intended to be small (no more than 25 students) in order to have a two-way dialogue with our students, so we can connect and know what is on your mind. We hope you will join us!

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From the Desk of Rev. Craig Statton

# Getting Seniors Ready for Summer

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

Just a couple of weeks ago, the baseball season started. For me, the start of the baseball season is the prelude to summer. With the advent of Dodger baseball, my thoughts begin to turn to activities of summer such as trips to the beach, baseball games, long days, and vacations. I don't know if there is such a thing as the "lazy days of summer" anymore; however, I do tend to think of leisure activities more as summer gets closer.

As I have gotten older, I realize that I must take more precautions during this season. My older body does not respond as well to the sun and heat. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, seniors are more susceptible to heat-related illnesses and injury. When we age, our bodies become less efficient at regulating temperature because older adults do not sweat as much as younger adults, and sweat is the body's most important heat-regulating mechanism.

Therefore, seniors have health risks that need to be monitored, especially in the heat of the summer. With this in mind, here are a few tips to make summer more enjoyable by avoiding health complications.

**First: Stay hydrated.** It is recommended that we drink eight or more glasses of water and/or fruit juice every day. In addition, certain beverages may not be as

good for us such as sodas, coffee or tea, and alcohol. If you are doing physical activity such as a walk or hike, make sure to carry plenty of water, especially if it is hot outside.

**Second: Stay indoors during extreme heat.** In extreme heat and high humidity, evaporation slows down and the body must work extra hard to maintain a normal temperature. Keep in mind, the sun is most intense between 10 am and 4 pm. If you can, limit your outdoor activity to the early morning and the evening.

**Third: Take advantage of an air-conditioned space.** Air-conditioning is important when it is hot and humid outside. If you do not have air-conditioning in your home, go somewhere that does. A movie theater, the mall, a friend or family member's home, or a community senior center are all good options.

**Fourth: Dress appropriately.** The best clothing to wear in the summertime is loose-fitting and lightweight clothes in natural, breathable fabrics like cotton. Dress in light colors that will reflect the sun and heat instead of darker colors that will attract them.

**Fifth: Protect your eyes and skin.** Wearing sunglasses can block harmful UV rays and protect your vision. When outdoors, protect your skin from damage by wearing a hat as well as sunglasses.

Apply a sunscreen with SPF 30 or higher, and make sure to choose one that protects against both UVA and UVB radiation. Note that sun and heat can cause problems with certain medications. Talk to your doctor if you have concerns about these issues.

**Sixth: Know the early signs of heat-related illnesses such as dehydration, heat stroke, heat exhaustion, hyperthermia, etc.** Signs to look for may include disorientation, dry skin, excessive tiredness, headache, lethargy, nausea, a flushed face, high body temperature, rapid pulse, dizziness, and confusion. Take immediate action if you notice any symptoms coming on. If you start experiencing these symptoms on a hot day, call your doctor or dial 911 for emergency services. Seek shelter, too.

**Finally: Even though the sun and heat can be dangerous, outdoor activities and gathering with others are extremely important.** Breathing fresh air, laughing, sharing with good friends and family, and experiencing new activities not only renew the body, but also enrich the soul. As we get older, our social activities and relationships become even more meaningful and nurturing, so make some plans for this summer and enjoy the season.

In the words of the baseball announcer, "Let's play ball!" this summer.

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Ask Dr. Dara, D.D.S.

## Sports safety this summer: Parents guide for athletics mouth guards.

By Dr. Dara

We want our kids to play sports. Sports are fun and train healthy competition and stamina. However, sports come with a risk of certain injuries.

According to the CDC, sports-related dental injuries account for more than 600,000 emergency room visits each year, making an athletic mouth guard one of the most important parts of your child's uniform. It can prevent tooth loss, facial injuries, and long appointments at the dental office.

I will try to guide you through the process of determining whether your child needs a mouth guard and finding the right one for the sport they play.

### How does mouth guard work to prevent dental injuries?

- By covering the teeth, it prevents direct impact and therefore cracking and knocking out a tooth.

- By covering the sharp surface of the teeth, it prevents damage of the soft tissue: gums, cheeks, lips, and tongue.

- By cushioning against the impact, it prevents jaw joint fracture.

### Does your child need a mouth guard?

The American Dental Association has mandated wearing of mouth guards for US high school football in 1962. Currently, the US National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) requires mouth guards for four sports (ice hockey, lacrosse, field hockey and football). However, the American Dental Association recommends the use of custom mouth



guards in 29 sports/exercise activities. They include:

- Contacts sports: football, rugby, soccer, baseball, la cross, softball, squash, basketball, volleyball and cricket.

- High velocity outdoor activities: horseback riding, skateboarding, biking.

- Hand-to-hand sports like boxing and martial arts

To find more information, visit [www.ADA.org](http://www.ADA.org) and search "athletic mouth protectors."

Think of it this way: If a sport or recreational activity has a high likelihood of impact or collision incidents involving the face or head, a mouth protector is necessary.

### Selecting a Mouth Guard

While any mouth guard can potentially reduce the seriousness of an injury, not all sports mouth guards are created equally. You may typically choose between three types of mouth guards: stock, boil and bite-to-fit, and custom.

**Stock:** The lowest cost and least effective option. It is pre-formed and ready to wear, available at most sporting goods stores. It typically comes in small, medium and large sizes with no adjustment option. It must be held in place by constantly biting down and could make breathing difficult. While better than nothing, it will not protect the soft tissue.

**Boil and bite-to-fit:** The middle-of-the-road option in both price and quality. It is made from thermoplastic material, comes pre-formed, and requires molding. These mouth guards are immersed in boiling water and formed in the mouth by using finger, tongue, and biting pressure. They could be good for less intense contact sports but lack proper retention and thickness for sports like hockey and football. They also often lack accommodation for braces or other dental appliances.

**Custom:** Requires a visit to the dentist but offers the best comfort and protection. Custom mouth protectors are available in multiple materials and thickness and are made from an imprint of your child's teeth

A properly fitted mouth guard will be protective, comfortable, resilient, and tear-resistant. It will minimize interference when speaking and breathing. And though not bulky, it will have sufficient thickness in critical areas to retain its shape and offer protection.

### What Kind of Mouth Guards is the Best?

When it comes to protecting your teeth, the best mouth guard is the one that your child is going to wear.



**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](mailto:daradds@yahoo.com)

Talk to your dentist to help you determine what mouth guard is best for your active child and how wearing a mouth guard can keep your child's teeth healthy for years to come.

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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## Your Insurance

### Medicare Late-Enrollment Penalties

By Katherine Yu Simms

Certain parts of Medicare may have late enrollment penalties if you don't sign up when you're first eligible. These Medicare late enrollment penalties may apply if you delay enrollment for Medicare Part A, Part B, and/or Part D.

Usually, you're first eligible for Original Medicare, Part A and Part B, when you turn 65. You'll get an Initial Enrollment Period that starts three months before you turn 65, includes the month of your 65th birthday, and ends three months later. Some people are eligible for Medicare before age 65 if they received disability benefits for more than two years.

For Medicare Part D (prescription drug coverage), generally you're first eligible to enroll when you have Medicare Part A and/or Part B, and you live in the service area of a Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Plan. Most of the time, your Initial Enrollment Period (IEP) for Medicare Part D will take place at the same time as your Initial Enrollment Period for Original Medicare Part A and Part B. Medicare Part D is optional, but a late-enrollment penalty may apply if you decide to get this coverage after your IEP.

Late-enrollment penalties may apply when you enroll in Medicare Part A, Part B, or Part D after your Initial Enrollment Period. However, there are some situations where you can delay



**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](mailto:kyusimms@rey-top.com).

enrollment without facing a Medicare late-enrollment penalty.

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](mailto:kyusimms@rey-top.com).

Your Health

# Secrets to Happiness: The Eyes Have It

By Sheila Yonemoto, P.T.

A friend of mine returned from India where he saw many people with "smiling eyes," despite the abject poverty and poor living conditions. Conversely, he says many people in the United States have "dead" eyes. Another friend claims many of his wealthier acquaintances don't seem to be very happy. He feels glad he has followed his heart instead of seizing opportunities that might have increased his wealth but would have compromised his personal integrity and path to happiness.

Most people desire happiness, health, and "enough" money. They want to feel safe, to be noticed, and to make a difference in the world. The people I have met who appear to be the most "successful" have loving families and are able to do the things they enjoy and have made positive contributions to society. Most of them have a passion for life, enjoy getting up each day, and look forward to the future. Most are active learners who like to read and enjoy talking to people. They believe in moderation, exercise, healthy eating, and treating others with respect.

One of my patients, a robust 90-year-old who looks 70, always stands straight, displays a quick mind, dances regularly, and still drives a car. He believes the secret to longevity includes keeping a positive attitude, having goals, getting regular exercise, eating well, and choosing good doctors. He claims if you feel good or are improving, then you are in good hands. If not, look for another doctor to get you back on the right track. He believes in keeping your mind active. He stays busy, doesn't watch much television, and likes going to his cabin in the high desert.

The happiest people I know are passionate individuals with an enthusiasm for living. With positive attitudes and



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

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

sharp minds they actively pursue their goals and feel in control of their lives. They make things happen. They find life and people interesting. Loving friends and families play a big part in their life. They are interested in others and try to learn from everyone. These generous souls work at making this a better world.

Do you have smiling eyes? Are you helping others to have smiling eyes?

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

## It's Your Choice

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**Akira Hirose**  
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- 3 How much do the plans costs?
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I speak Mandarin and Cantonese  
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**BAJA CALI ANNIVERSARY**  
From Page 1

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### Real Estate

# Multifamily demand normalizing, but rents will still climb

By Mark Paulson

Apartment demand may be normalizing, but rents are nonetheless expected to continue to climb in 2022.

New research from the National Association of Realtors (NAR) notes that “even if net absorption is normalizing, absorption (demand) is still outpacing deliveries (supply) across all classes of apartments,” and higher mortgage rates and continued price acceleration this year will also push up rates.

Vacancy is tight in Alhambra, especially for Class B and C units.

Amid elevated inflation, rents will continue to rise strongly in 2022 though limited by Rent Stabilization laws. US Census Bureau data shows that the rental vacancy rate in Los Angeles County is below 5%.

At the same time, asking rents in vacant apartments have gone up by more than 11.2% year over year in the past 12 months, according to Costar.

And absorption remains low: quarterly absorption nationally during Q4 2021 totaled just nearly 70 million units, one-third of the average quarterly net absorption during the first three quarters of 2021. The early-2021 surge could be partially attributed to household formation and workers returning to the office. But, the metric is trending towards a normal level, the average quarterly absorption in 2019 was around 82,000.

In 2021, absorption nearly doubled the pace of new supply coming to market, according to the NAR, with 703,924 net apartment units absorbed, but just 378,683 delivered.

So what’s next for the sector? Absorption is likely to trend at normal levels, but with deliveries and construction still lagging absorption, rental vacancy rates will remain tight, which will in turn push up rents.

Higher interest rates in 2022 will further lead to a demand for more apartment units because higher mortgage rates will make a home purchase less affordable for nearly all renting households headed by 25-54 years old. There is a strong demand for affordable apartments (Class B/C), indicating opportunity for more construction to meet the needs of renter households who can afford at this price range.



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### Real Estate

# Local Agent Buys Homes for Cash

By Rudy L. Kusuma, Your Home Sold Guaranteed Realty

Every month, thousands of homeowners are faced with the stressful dilemma of whether to buy first or sell first. You see, if you buy before selling, you could run the risk of owning two homes. Or, just as bad, if you sell first, you could end up homeless. It’s what insiders in the industry call the Real Estate Catch 22, and it’s an extremely anxious position to find yourself in. This financial and emotional tightrope is one you usually have to walk alone because most agents have no way of helping you with this predicament. But one local realtor is using a unique Guaranteed Sale Program which solves this dilemma. This program guarantees the sale of your present home before you take possession of your new one. If your home doesn’t sell in 120 days, they will buy it from you themselves for the previously agreed price ensuring that you never get caught in the Real Estate

Catch 22. Before you hire any professional, you should research the market to find out who can do the best job for you. When interviewing agents, find out what kind of guarantee they are willing to give you with respect to the selling of your home. Unfortunately, you’ll find that most agents simply cannot make such a guarantee.

To help you learn more about this program and how it can make your move less stressful, a FREE special report has been prepared entitled “How to Avoid Getting Stuck with Two Homes”. To order a FREE Special Report, call toll-free 1-888-300-4632 and enter 1022. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Get your free special report NOW to find out how to guarantee the cash sale of your home.

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

Real Estate

# Sacred Real Estate

By Gary Frueholz

Real estate can tell stories. Some of these stories occur at cemeteries. And some of these stories concern more than humans.

As we remember Memorial Day, national cemeteries blend an important part of our country's history with very special real estate. These cemeteries are some of our country's most sacred real estate.

The first Memorial Day, initially called Decoration Day, was held on May 30, 1868, at Arlington National Cemetery to honor fallen Union soldiers. The real estate for Arlington National Cemetery was donated by heirs of George Washington.

And 6,094 miles west of Alhambra, lies the United States Territory of Guam. On Guam is a Marine cemetery honoring a group of fallen Marines from World War II. And these Marines were different in an unusual way: these Marines had four legs and were called Devil Dogs during the war. Later, they became known as the War Dogs of the Pacific.

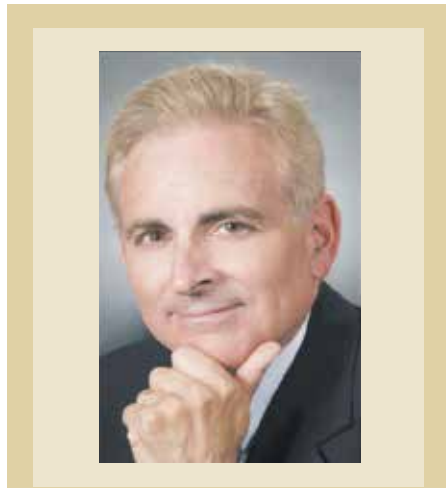
The National War Dog Cemetery is a World War II memorial honoring war dogs that were killed in service during the 1944 recapture of Guam during the Pacific campaign.

The War Dogs were trained to search for the enemy with their acute senses and detect mines and booby traps. The dogs also carried messages, medical supplies into combat areas, and would alert Marines of approaching Japanese soldiers. The dogs' keen ability to detect the enemy led to more than one Marine to call them their "guardian angel".

In the summer of 1942, the Marine Corps initiated a program to use dogs in the war. Dogs had been used in recorded warfare since the time of the Romans. The Marines received the dogs from a variety of sources such as the Doberman Pincher Club of America and Americans who volunteered their pets. The most common dogs were Dobermans and German Shepherds. The dogs needed to weigh at least 50 pounds and be between 1 to 5 years old. After the war, dogs were returned to their owners and in some cases kept by their Marine handlers.

The Marines established a very specific promotion system for the dogs based on length of service. All dogs began as privates and progressed to private first class after three months. After one year they were promoted to corporal and after two years to sergeant.

During the 1990s, I lived on Guam. There were numerous monuments and



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historical sites on the island to commemorate the events of World War II and the liberation of the island. The initial War Dog Cemetery was established in the middle of the island by the village of Yigo back during the war. I had visited it when I arrived to the island in 1993. The cemetery was all by itself and in a rather lonely and remote location. And this all seemed kind of sad since it was in such an isolated place and rather unkempt.

But in July of 1994, with the 50th anniversary of the liberation of Guam from the occupying Japanese forces, over 10,000 US service personnel and their families would come back to the island for a week of celebrations and remembrances. The decision was made to relocate the War Dog Cemetery to the Naval Base at Apra Harbor. One of the ceremonies during the week of the 50th Anniversary Celebrations was the dedication of the beautiful new War Dog Cemetery. It became known as the National War Dog Cemetery.

I attended the dedication ceremonies and was impressed that the keynote speaker of the event was General Carl Mundy, Commandant of the Marine Corp. Some of the Marine veterans who had handled the dogs were in attendance at the dedication ceremonies. William Putney, Commander and Veterinarian of the War Dog Platoon, said a Doberman named Kurt saved the lives of 250 Marines at the island landings when he alerted the

Automobile

# Catalytic Converter Theft

Why are they stolen and what can we do?

By Javier Mendez

Catalytic converter theft is at an all time high. One insurance company reported over nine thousand claims in 2021, that's double the 2020 claims total. Modern converters contain rhodium, palladium and platinum, and these precious metals' value can exceed that of gold. Thieves are motivated by the high recycling value and are willing to take the risk of jacking a vehicle up and sliding underneath to remove one.

To combat this, security devices can be used to slow a thief down or may make them move on to an easier target. Any security device choice should not modify the converter and emissions equipment, and it should allow visual inspection of the converter or its CARB approval number (which will be necessary at smog inspection time). Electronic motion sensors and tilt sensing devices can be useful if they are loud enough, though they may trigger false alarms due to neighborhood pets or wildlife.

Police recommend that a catalytic converter be painted bright yellow or orange with high temperature paint and etched with the vehicle's VIN number, which will help in tracking during the recycling process. VIN etching may even become law and make it more difficult for thieves to cash in.

Choose your parking carefully. When possible, park in a garage or in a driveway. Motion sensing security light and cameras could also be helpful. A motion sensing dash camera can prove useful, as well. When in public, look for a high-traffic, well-lit parking space. If your vehicle will be unattended for several hours or days, consider alternate transportation.

The replacement cost of your converter and its availability should be considered before investing in a device. It may be less costly to replace a



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stolen converter or adjust your insurance premium. Since some converters may not be readily available, a CARB approved aftermarket replacement will get the job done. You can also turn to the state's smog referee for help at [asktheref.org](http://asktheref.org).

Thieves have been known to target an entire neighborhood at once, so team up with your neighbors keeping an eye out for suspicious activity. And if you happen to encounter a theft in progress, please do not confront them; immediately contact the police. If you do happen to be a victim of catalytic converter theft, be sure to file a police report. Drive safe, Alhambra.

*This column is provided to Around Alhambra by Jo's Garage, who is responsible for the content. Around Alhambra does not endorse advice recommended by this author or any other provider.*

solders of the Japanese positions. Kurt was hit by mortar shrapnel and became the first canine casualty at the Asan Beach landings. After performing surgery on Kurt that evening, Putney held Kurt in his arms in his foxhole that night until "at three o'clock Kurt stopped beathing".

Dogs served in the Marines, Army, and Coast Guard during World War II and continue to be utilized by our military today. There is another memorial for Army war dogs in New Jersey.

Interestingly, not only were over 10,000 American veterans and their

families in attendance for the week-long events on Guam in July of 1994, but some Japanese veterans came to the island that week for remembrance and closure.

The solemn and sacred nature of this real estate is reinforced by a statue in the center of the War Dog Cemetery. The statue is of Kurt, the Doberman, and is surrounded by twenty-five headstones with the names of each dog that sacrificed their life. And around the statue's neck is a chain that says Semper Fidelis, *Always Faithful*.





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Alhambra	Single Family House	\$928,000	\$843,611	+ 10.00%
	Condo/Townhome	\$707,442	\$603,222	+ 17.28%



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— Sou W.

