

05/2019

# AROUND ALHAMBRA

ALHAMBRA'S COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

alhambra  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



www.alhambrachamber.org



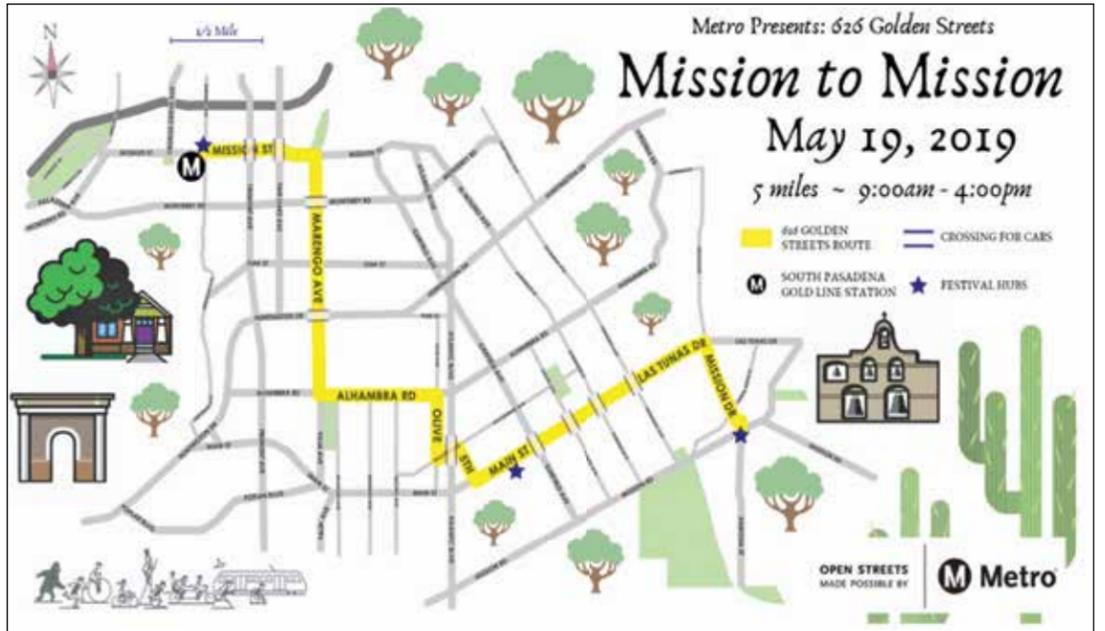
Garfield Wang's film *Man in Focus* is screened at the 2019 Sedona International Film Festival.

## Alhambra film director Garfield Wang gets international recognition for his works

Alhambra resident Gang "Garfield" Wang is a film director who graduated from Chapman University Dodge College of Film and Media Arts. His film *Man in Focus* was screened during the 2019 Sedona International Film Festival in Arizona and will play in the Toronto International Nollywood Film Festival in September.

The film he wrote and directed tells the story about an individual who must prove his innocence when the media label him as the suspect. It won the Bronze Award of Sound and Vision International Film & Technology Festival in New York and was an

>> see **GARFIELD WANG** Page 21A



## Be part of 626 Golden Streets car-free event

Alhambra will take part in the L.A. Metro sponsored 626 Golden Streets event from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 19. The goal of the event is to provide a car-free day on a specific route for riding transit, walking, and bike riding; to encourage a shift to more sustainable transportation; and civic engagement to foster the development of policies and infrastructure for alternative transportation at the city and community level.

The 626 Golden Streets event is called Mission to Mission because it will begin in South Pasadena at the Mission Street entrance to the Gold Line

Train Station and end at the San Gabriel Mission. To get from point A to point B on this 5-mile route, the cyclists and walkers will pass through Alhambra for much of the time.

This gives participants the opportunity to stop to enjoy Alhambra's Farmers Market and breakfast along the way. This is not a race. It is meant to be a pleasant day outdoors using alternative and sustainable transportation.

For the duration of the event, streets along the route will be temporarily closed to automobile traffic and open to cyclists, pedestrians, and other types of non-motorized transportation.

>> see **626 GOLDEN STREETS** Page 18A

## Brightwood, Repetto schools win 2019 Scholar Dollar prizes

California's official college savings plan, Scholar Share 529, announced 20 winning public schools in its 2019 Scholar Dollar program. Schools won by garnering the most votes and received awards ranging from \$5K to \$30K for programs aimed at enriching student lives both in and out of the classroom.

Brightwood School was one of three schools in Category E (901-1500 students), which each receive \$25K. Brightwood will use the



Two of 20 winning California public schools, Brightwood (pictured) and Repetto, will use their prize money for technology and a science lab.

>> see **2019 SCHOLAR DOLLAR PRIZES** Page 25A

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ALHAMBRA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
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# Mayor's Corner Census: Everyone needs to be counted



By Mayor Adele Andrade-Stadler

Greetings Alhambra!

By the time you read this, April will have come and gone. Your council and staff have been very busy with attending so many meetings on behalf of the city and its residents. I attended the Census Counts in preparation for the 2021. Everyone needs to be counted, and the state and L. A. County will be giving dollars to cities and school districts to ensure everyone is counted. Remember our census numbers determine all kinds of funding for city services. We want to be at the front end of this campaign and ensure our residents that it will be a safe and secure count.

The secretary of state and the Los Angeles County registrar recorder has set new rules that will allow voting centers throughout the county. We are hoping Alhambra is

selected to have a center due to its hard-to-count designation. This means voters can vote at the center and not at a particular polling place. The idea is to increase voter turnout.

I attended the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, which is a joint power's authority made up of representatives from 30 cities, three L.A. County supervisorial districts, and three water districts all within the San Gabriel Valley. It is a regional voice and works for quality life issues facing 2 million San Gabriel Valley residents, and it includes us! Alhambra was highlighted for its homeless work with Pasadena's Union station. I hope to have a hotline for us to call when we see someone who may need help.

Many of us attended the Alhambra teachers', AUSD's, and the Alhambra Educational Foundation's Read Across America at Alhambra Park. What a celebration of literacy. We enjoyed reading to kids of all ages and listening to stories of students whose migration to this country was marked with barriers. You couldn't see a dry eye in the park after they shared their stories. There were puppet shows and a government booth, a future Teachers of Alhambra, and many more. Kids got to dance to the music of David and his band and take five books home.

The month was chalked up with ribbon cutting ceremonies as we welcome new businesses into the city, and we topped it off with an eight-hour strategic planning session for council, staff, city manager, and council. We have a few action items to complete from 2018 and new goals and priorities set for 2019.

Please stay engaged, everyone!



A service of memory for Memorial Day will take place at 11 a.m. Monday, May 27, at Alhambra Park, 500 N. Palm Ave.

## Memorial Day service to be presented at Alhambra Park

The City of Alhambra and Alhambra American Legion Post 139 will present a service of memory for Memorial Day at 11 a.m. Monday, May 27, at the Veterans Memorial portion, northwest corner, of Alhambra Park, 500 N. Palm Ave.

This yearly event is a national holiday, commemorated in communities across the country. The Alhambra observance includes the presentation of colors, the singing of the *National Anthem*, and the playing of *Taps*.

It is all in honor of the supreme sacrifice, what President Abraham Lincoln called "the last full measure of devotion" made by those known, and unknown, for the nation's security and freedoms. While dedicated to all fallen servicemen and women, the service particularly remembers those

heroes who lived in Alhambra.

Light refreshments will be served before and after the ceremony. The American Legion Post 139, under the leadership of Commander Gilbert Cardoza, will host a post-ceremony reception at its headquarters, 24 N. Stoneman Ave. Mr. Cardoza has been active in Alhambra's American Legion Post 139 and is gratified to see the Memorial Day event become increasingly well attended. Alhambra's American Legion Post was chartered in 1924 after World War I and has been a proud fixture in Alhambra ever since.

For more information about the Memorial Day observances in Alhambra, call 626-570-3242, visit [www.cityofalhabra.com](http://www.cityofalhabra.com), or contact American Legion Post 139 at 626-576-9584.

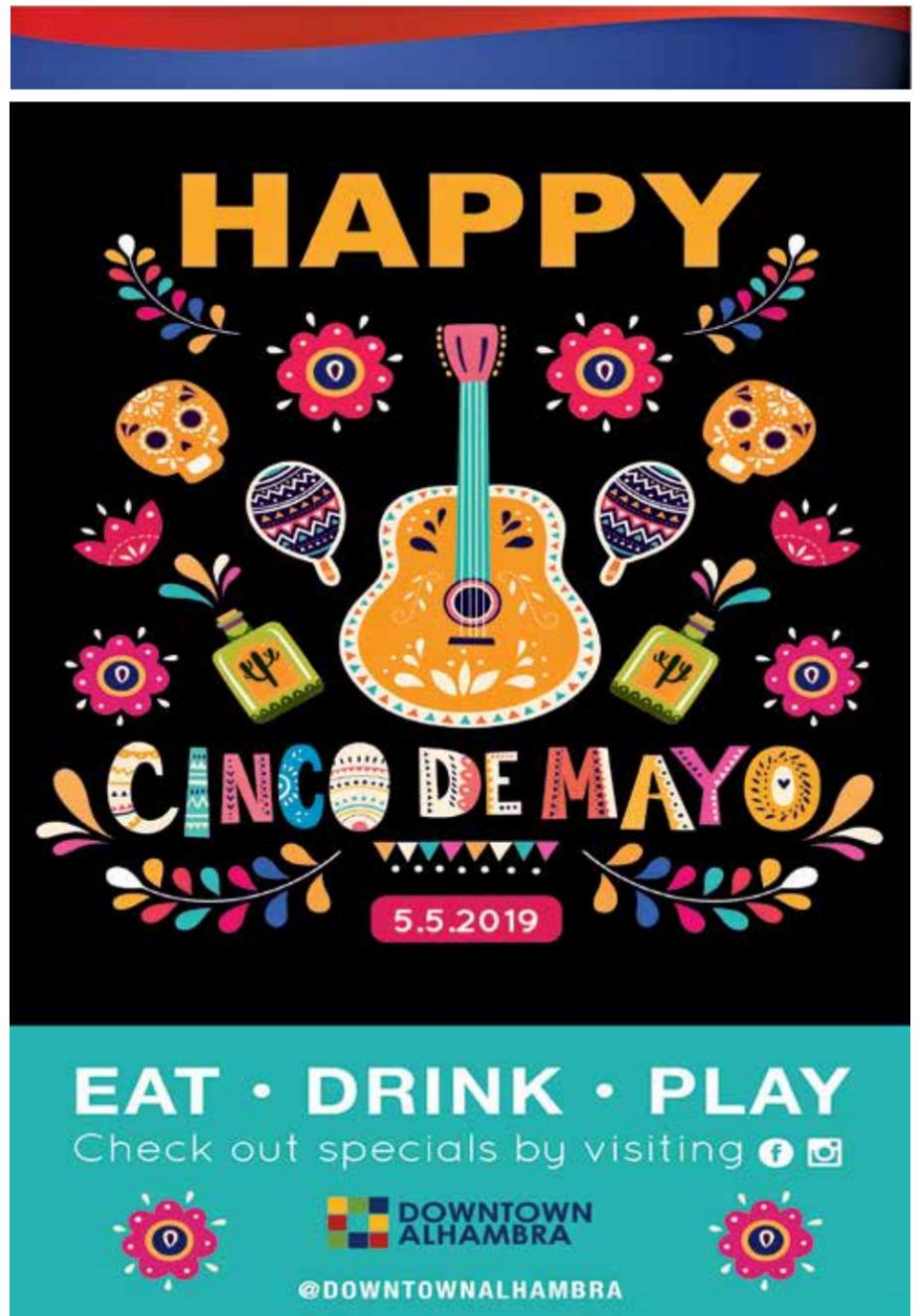


**City of Alhambra**  
**eco Fair 2019**

**Sunday, May 19, 2019**  
9:00am - 4:00pm  
Located on Main Street  
(between Garfield Ave and 4th St)  
Alhambra, 91801

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FREE GIVEAWAYS!  
RAFFLES!  
ENTERTAINMENT!  
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FARMERS MARKET!  
626 GOLDENSTREETS!

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT [WWW.CITYOFALHAMBRA.ORG](http://WWW.CITYOFALHAMBRA.ORG) OR CALL 626-300-1543



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# Planet Fitness Alhambra to celebrate 4 great years

Planet Fitness was founded in 1992 and today is one of the largest and fastest-growing franchisors and gym operators in the United States. As of December 30, 2018, Planet Fitness had more than 12.2 million members and 1,646 locations in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Canada, the Dominican Republic, Panama, and Mexico. Much of Planet Fitness' success can be attributed to its affordable membership options. A recent Planet Fitness survey found that many people are resistant to sign up for gym memberships because of unruly fees. Nearly half of those surveyed, who already feel stressed going to the gym, attribute it to paying high club-related costs. No wonder. The average gym membership in the United States hovers around \$58 a month (StatisticBrain.com).

Fortunately, memberships at Planet Fitness start at just \$10 or \$21.99 a month, which include a variety of benefits, including a non-intimidating environment, brand name, and state-of-the-art cardio and strength equipment, fully equipped locker rooms, flat screen televisions, and much more.

On May 1, our very own Alhambra-Planet Fitness branch will celebrate its fourth judgement-free year of operation. In that short time, Planet Fitness has grown into one of Alhambra's most popular fitness organizations, dedicated to building a clean, safe, and welcoming environment. "The loyalty from our members hasn't wavered since the day we first opened," said Ursula, the general manager



of the Alhambra gym. "We know that finding a gym can be stressful, so we want to make it as easy as possible to come in and give the Judgement Free Zone a try."

Planet Fitness staff members like Tony Chin have been working out at the Judgement Free Zone since the first day it opened its doors May 1, 2015. "I've always been committed to my health, and regularly exercising has made a huge positive impact in my life," Tony said. "In fact, I work out here after every shift. I have felt comfortable here during all four years of working here."

Regional Manager Enrique Sanchez has also been with the company since May 1, 2015. "At Planet Fitness, we recognize and celebrate the benefits of physical activity on our members' health," he said. "We are committed to making a difference in people's lives, and we're here to provide a unique environment in which anyone can be comfortable and accepted."

We hope this article expresses our appreciation to our members and partners. We are proud of our organization's growth and look forward to making 2019 another successful year. We welcome you to come down and take a tour of our Alhambra facility where anyone behind the desk would be more than happy to show you around. In the meantime, please check us out on our website at [www.planetfitness.com](http://www.planetfitness.com) to see club photos. You can also like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter, and check out our mobile app.



From left: Ursula, Tony Chin, and Enrique Sanchez. All three have been with Planet Fitness since it opened May 1, 2015.



## is where you belong

# \$10

## A MONTH

NO COMMITMENT



the world judges.  
we don't.

610 East Valley Blvd • Alhambra, CA 91801  
(626) 576-8800

join in person or at [planetfitness.com](http://planetfitness.com)



Open & Staffed

Must be 18 years old, or 16 with parent/guardian. Home club only. Billed monthly to a checking account. Subject to \$39 annual fee. State/local taxes may apply. Low one time start up fee applies. Offer available at participating locations only. Planet Fitness locations are independently owned and operated. © 2018 PFIP, LLC

**AROUND ALHAMBRA**  **alhambra CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

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We welcome comments, press releases, and community interest stories and will make every effort to include all appropriate information. Please e-mail submissions to [djenkins@alhambrachamber.org](mailto:djenkins@alhambrachamber.org).

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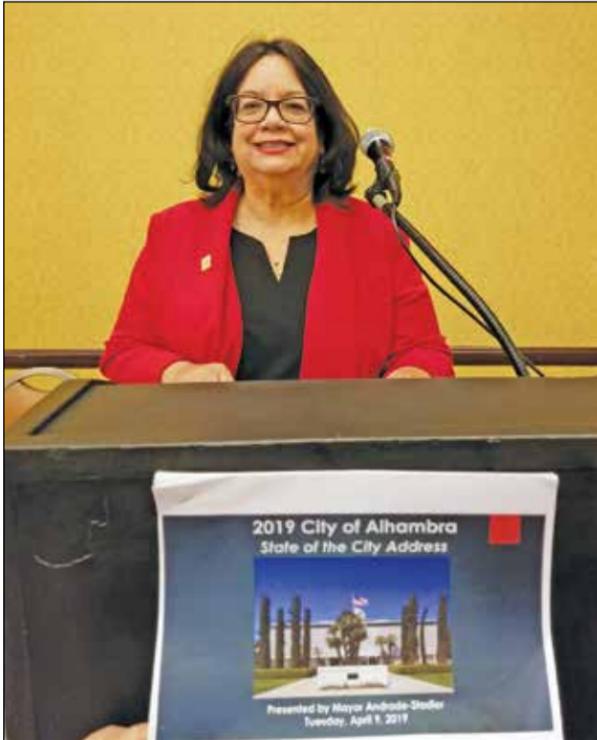
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Mayor Adele Andrade-Stadler gives the annual State of the City address April 9.



About 150 people attend the luncheon.

# Mayor sends positive message in State of the City address

On April 9, the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce and the Alhambra Rotary Club co-sponsored the annual State of the City address at Almansor Court. In attendance were U.S. Rep. Judy Chu, State Sen. Susan Rubio, and Los Angeles County Supervisor Kathryn Barger.

In her remarks, Mayor Adele Andrade-Stadler first gave her thanks and admiration for the work of the Alhambra city staff headed by City Manager Jessica Binnquist. Special thanks were given to city clerk Lauren Myles for her logistical work on last fall's municipal election.

The mayor mentioned each of the city agencies and the services they provide. The Police Department was commended for the Police Academy program, offered in English, Mandarin, and Spanish, that helps to inform participants of the important work of the department and how citizens can help.

Also noted were traffic safety, recruiting, training, and the cooperation between the Police Department and the Alhambra Unified School District in counseling students and teachers of what to do in an active shooting situation. She also offered condolences over the recent death of school resource officer Emmanuel "Manny" Araneta who passed away April 1 at the age of 50.

The Alhambra Fire Department was commended for its active response to 5,200 calls last year and for continually updating its equipment from department radios to resuscitation machines and for the promotion of the first female fire fighter, Monica Gonzalez, to the rank of captain.

Public Works has been busy filling pot holes, trimming trees, and repaving streets with a total of 1.3 million sq. ft. of asphalt. They also oversaw the improvement work on Mission Road between Garfield and the western border with Los Angeles. Much of the work was possible due to a \$2.2 million federal grant. Public Works was also noted for its logistics for the upcoming May 19 626 Golden Streets Mission to Mission alternative transportation event. They will also be involved in improvements to pedestrian improvements on Valley Boulevard.

The Utilities Department was commended for its vitally important work of delivering fresh, pure drinking water while disposing of sewage. Last year, the department finished replacing some water mains in the Midwick Tract. They were also able to replace aging sewer lines on Glendon Way. On their agenda will be projects to replace and update more water mains as well as sewer plant improvements around town.

The Parks Department was commended for their work in putting on the Fourth of July fireworks display, the April 20 Eggstravaganza event, and the Pumpkin Run. This was in addition to Senior Services and summer concerts and movies.

Mayor Andrade-Stadler also commended the Community Development Department for its wide ranging work in attracting new business, monitoring the Accessory Dwelling Units program, municipal code updates, Code Enforcement, and language assistance for non-English speakers. The department has also been responsible for crafting the new General Plan.

The Alhambra Civic Center Library was noted for serving the more than 500,000 visits by patrons while issuing almost 8,500 new library cards. Also noted was the library's homework help and SAT/ACT preparation for students and the many enrichment activities being offered.

The mayor noted new construction around town adding to business activity and community services. They include the new building at the West San Gabriel Valley YMCA, the new building at Wondries Toyota, and the Hellman Medical Center.



Steve Macala, Tournament of Roses press/photo chairman, second from left, presents the City Council with the official photo of the city's 2019 Rose Parade Float, Home Tweet Home, which was awarded the Princess Trophy for the float with the most outstanding floral presentation among entries 35 feet and under in length. From left are Councilmember Jeff Maloney, Mr. Macala, Mayor Adele Andrade-Stadler, Councilmembers David Mejia and Katherine Lee, and Vice Mayor Ross Maza.








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# May 4 is Star Wars Day at library

Saturday, May 4, is Star Wars Day at the Alhambra Civic Center library, 101 S. First St. Board the Millennium Falcon at 1:30 p.m. in Reese Hall to celebrate National Star Wars Day. The library will screen the hugely popular film *Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back* (PG). To make the experience even more fun, the library will make some paper themed crafts. Families of all ages are welcome to join in the celebration.

For teens, there is the TAB Appreciation at 3:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 8, in Reese Hall. All teens are invited to the last TAB meeting of the school year where there will be a crafty ear bud decorating project, boba tea making, and a K-Pop listening session.

The monthly Gaming & Snacks afternoon will be after school at 3 p.m. Friday, May 10, in the Homework Center.

For adults, Author Norma Nikutowski will talk about her book *Turn Your Happiness On* at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 25, in Reese Hall. Ms. Nikutowski earned her degrees in psychology and worked with clients with depression by helping them to center their attention on positive experiences. She also assisted students with disabilities and their families to focus on their areas of strengths to achieve their annual and long-term goals.

She has spent many years exploring strategies for feeling happier every day and creating a joyful future for herself and others. She enjoys sharing what she has learned about happiness through writing, coaching, and speaking.

Volunteers are needed at the library. An organization as large and packed with educational and cultural activities as the Alhambra Library relies on volunteers. Join the library's volunteer team for Summer Reading Fun. Summer is right around the corner, and the library is looking for volunteers to register children, teens, and adults. Help the library spread the word about the



Author Norma Nikutowski will talk about her book *Turn Your Happiness On* Saturday, May 25.

summer reading program, A Universe of Stories.

Volunteers staff the summer reading program and sign people up for the opportunity to earn weekly incentives for achieving their reading goals for the week. They may also help the library staff with programs and events including the summer reading kickoff June 6. This event will include face painting, music, and more.

Volunteers aged 13 and up are welcome to apply. Shifts are generally two hours once or twice a week. This is a perfect way for students to build up hours for school and have an advantage when applying for scholarships. For adults, it is a great way to spend time encouraging children and adults to read and enjoy the library.

The summer reading programs start at the end of May. Apply now at the Civic Center Library.

## Library presents An Evening at Hogwarts May 31

Librarian Carmen Hernandez and her team will pull out all the stops May 31 to give Table of Contents Dinner: Chapter Five, An Evening at Hogwarts guests an immersive experience they will remember for a long time.

The dinner will be at 6 p.m. at the Alhambra Civic Center Library, 101 S. First St. The Evening at Hogwarts will celebrate more than 20 years of Harry Potter Magic from the series of books, films, theme park attractions, and more by world-famous author J.K. Rowling.

The evening will feature a unique dining experience in Hogwart's (the library's) Great Hall and feature visits to Diagon Alley and the Sorting Hat. There will be chances to obtain Opportunity Baskets and trying some Bernie Botts Every Flavor Beans.

The proceeds from the evening will be used by the Alhambra Public Library



Friends Foundation to benefit library programs such as the popular summer reading clubs for children, teens, and adults; new library collections; educational and family programs; cultural programs for all ages; and more.

The entrance fee to Hogwarts is \$75 per person or \$130 per couple. Reserve a seat in the Great Hall by calling the library at 626-570-5008.



## Community Information Meeting

### Meeting

Hosted by:

### Alhambra Police Department

Please join us for a discussion of what is important to you while meeting some members of your police department!

#### Topics:

- Crime Statistics
- Ring Neighbors Portal
- Detective Investigations
- Homelessness
- School Safety
- Traffic Issues

#### Sections Attending:

- Command Staff
- Crime Prevention
- Investigation
- COPPS
- Traffic
- Code Enforcement

#### Booths:

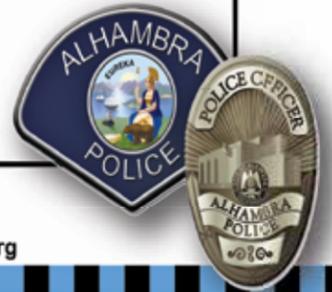
- Crime Prevention
- Code Enforcement
- Ring
- Explorer Program



When: June 12, 2019 (Wednesday Evening)

from 6:00-8:00 PM

Location: Alhambra Civic Center Library- Reese Hall (101 S. First St.)



Questions? Please contact CPS Cuchilla

(626) 570-5177 or [jcuchilla@alhambrapd.org](mailto:jcuchilla@alhambrapd.org)



## Rain Barrel Sale with Rebate

Date: Saturday, May 25, 2019  
 Distribution: 9:00—11:00 AM  
 Place: Granada Park  
 2000 W. Hellman Avenue  
 Alhambra CA 91803

#### Benefits of Rain Barrels:

Rain Barrels divert water from municipal storm drain systems, conserve a vital natural resource, protect our ocean from runoff pollution and help you save money by reducing water bills

#### Rain Barrel Specifications:

- Recycled plastic "food grade" barrels
- Colors: Black (60 gallons), Terra Cotta (58 & 51 gallons)
- Brass 3/4" spigot for garden hose attachment and side brass overflow with cap
- 4" tight steel mesh screen to prevent mosquitoes and other bugs from accessing the water

#### Available Rebates Per Rain Barrel—max 2

- Alhambra—\$35.00
- Burbank—\$35.00
- Glendale—\$35.00
- Pasadena—\$71.00
- LADWP—\$50.00
- So Pasadena—\$35.00

Rain Barrels available for purchase \$65.00+tax  
[www.RainBarrelsIntl.com](http://www.RainBarrelsIntl.com) under the EVENTS tab

City of Alhambra

For Rebate Information:  
[Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com](mailto:Info@RainBarrelsIntl.com) or 919 602-6316

## City Hall Art Gallery presents Frida Kahlo Legend Art Exhibit

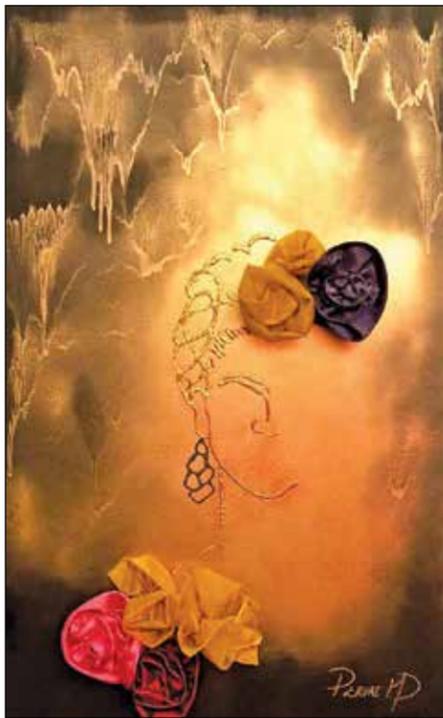
The May art exhibit at Alhambra City Hall, 111 S. First St., was jointly conceived by the Academy of Special Dreams, whose mission is to increase public awareness, appreciation, and recognition of the creative talents of people with disabilities, and New Light Art Gallery. The exhibition features original paintings and other fine artwork created by selected and iconic international artists.

The art on display is meant to honor the famed and beloved Mexican artist Frida Kahlo, herself disabled. It brings a sense of her cultural legacy and is an example of overcoming physical and emotional disadvantages in order to follow her visual dreams and bring them to life. As Frida once said, "Feet, what do I need them for if I have wings to fly."

The artists represented in this collection are Todd Tostado, Moldilox, Kate Tova, Gia Hernandez, Laura Maria Perez, Pal Kepenyas, Luz Nieto, Manuel Benitez, Miguel Valverde, Sergio Arau, Elisa Salas, Samuel Murutyan, Myrick Atanay, Annie Young, Flavia Zuniga West Ruiz, Maru Pombo, and Michael Dergar.

Join these talented artists for a reception from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 15, at Alhambra City Hall.

"This is another testament to bringing public awareness and inclusion in the arts," said Michael Dergar, CEO and founder of the Academy of Special Dreams Foundation. "All in all, we should be proud



Artwork by Michael Dergar, CEO of Academy of Special Dreams.

and very happy for the positive impact these wonderful artists are bringing to our communities through the Frida Legend Art Exhibition. Thank you Alhambra City Hall for the opportunity to exhibit these works inspired by Frida Kahlo."

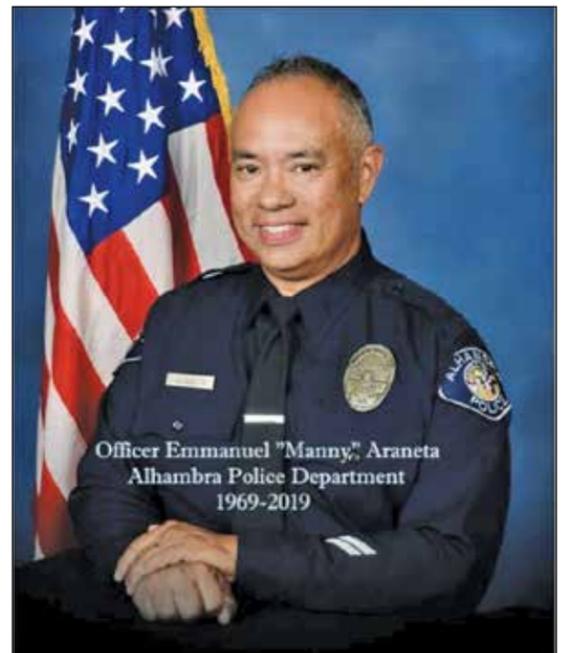
For more information about the Academy of Special Dreams, see [www.specialacademy.org](http://www.specialacademy.org).

## Police Dept. School Resource Officer Emmanuel Araneta leaves strong legacy

The community joined together April 12 to honor and say goodbye to Officer Emmanuel "Manny" Araneta. In the San Gabriel Valley and the City of Alhambra, as well as among his fellow Alhambra Police Department officers, his colleagues at Alhambra Unified School District, and students and families, Officer Araneta was a hero known for his mental health advocacy and dedication to the community.

Nationally recognized for his work, in 2017, in Washington D. C., Officer Araneta was awarded the NASRO\_School Resource Officer of the Year for his pioneering work for the school district's Gateway to Success juvenile diversion program, the G.R.E.A.T. school safety program for elementary students, for teaching Gateway parent classes 30 weeks a year, and for initiating mental health education and prevention training for law enforcement. His legendary relationship-building prowess made everyone feel like they belonged, and he embodied the mental health skills he advocated.

Officer Araneta's legacy is this: Understand that mental health is foundational to life success, and continual mental health education and prevention training is a



lifeline for our children, for all of us.

His legacy reminds people to redouble their commitment to mental health education so everyone knows the warning signs, action steps, coping skills, resources, and better ways to be resilient in hard times and how best to flourish. Officer Araneta believed that when everyone understood that help-seeking and help-giving are strengths, the children, the families, and the community would thrive.

He is survived by his wife, Michelle, and their three children. Condolences and tributes may be sent in care of the Alhambra Police Department, 211 S. First St. Alhambra 91801.

Officer Araneta's legacy will live on in the district and the community in redoubled commitment to mental health education.



Mary Chavez, director of Public Works, third from left, is honored for her 35 years of public service. She retired April 30. From left are Councilmember Jeff Maloney, Mayor Adele Andrade-Stadler, Ms. Chavez, Councilmembers David Mejia and Katherine Lee, and Vice Mayor Ross Maza.

## Mary Chavez, director of Public Works, retires

Mary Chavez, director of Alhambra's Public Works Department, retired April 30. She is a hometown girl, raised in Alhambra and still a resident. She met her husband at Almansor Park, and they have two sons, aged 20 and 26.

She is retiring after 35 years of public service to the city. She was hired in June of 1984 as a clerical assistant 1 in the Finance Department before switching to the city clerk's office and working for Dorothy Outwater and Frances Moore.

She moved to the Redevelopment Agency and became an assistant to City Manager Julio Fuentes. They helped bring many businesses to Alhambra, and she is proud that many of them are still in Alhambra.

Ms. Chavez then switched over to the

First Time Homebuyers program before Mr. Fuentes chose her to be his assistant city manager. From there she became the deputy director of Public Works. In 2008, she was named the director of Public Works and for a time the acting director of the Utilities Department.

Ms. Chavez has worn a lot of hats in the Alhambra City government. "I have never seen someone come into a position and adapt so quickly to all new surroundings," said former Alhambra Mayor Gary Yamachi. "Thanks Mary."

Now Ms. Chavez is looking forward to doing a little traveling and perhaps volunteering.

The city thanks Ms. Chavez for her dedicated service to Alhambra.

## City of Alhambra offers Summer Food Services Program

The City of Alhambra, Parks & Recreation Department will conduct a Free Summer Food Services Program this summer. Free lunches and snacks will be offered to anyone age 1 to 18 years old. The program is administered by the City of Alhambra through the California Department of Education (CDE).

The program runs Monday through Friday, June 3 – Aug. 8.

Crafts and other fun activities will be

offered at all the sites.

All meals are available without regard to race, color national origin, age, sex, or disability. Any person who believes that he or she has been discriminated against should contact the California Department of Education at 560 J Street Suite #270, Sacramento 95814. This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Meals will be served at the following locations:

Site	Lunch	Snacks
Alhambra Park 500 N. Palm Ave.	noon – 2 p.m.	3 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Almansor Park 800 S. Almansor St.	11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.	3 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Granada Park 2000 W. Hellman Ave.	noon – 2 p.m.	3 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Story Park 210 N. Chapel Ave.	11 a.m. – 1 p.m.	3 p.m. – 4 p.m.

For more information, please contact the Recreation Division Office at 626-570-5081 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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# 11 Critical Home Inspection Traps to be Aware of Weeks Before Listing Your Home for Sale

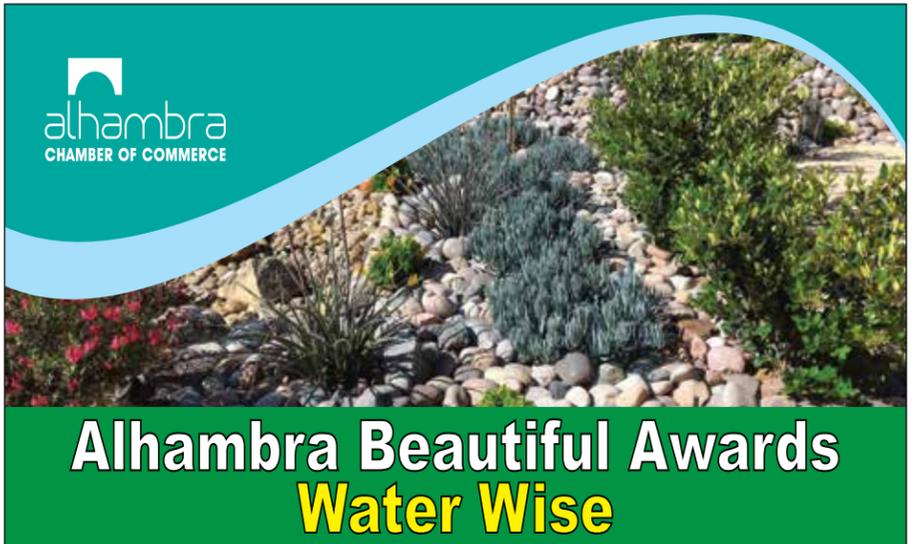
Alhambra - According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list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

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away

altogether. In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspection yourself if you know what you're looking for, and knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones.

To help homesellers deal with this issue before their homes are listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved. To order a FREE Special Report, call toll-free 1-888-300-4632 and enter 1003. You can call any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Get your free special report NOW to learn how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the 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*



## Alhambra Beautiful Awards Water Wise

Please nominate a residence, commercial property or multi-family residence for Alhambra Beautiful Water Wise 2019 Awards. This year's awards will be specifically focused on Water Wise landscaping. Eligible properties must be within Alhambra city limits.

Check Award Category:

- Residential single family house
- Multi-family residential
- Business maintenance of existing facilities
- Business new construction

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Property Address \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Name (if Known) \_\_\_\_\_

Property Owner Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Describe Why You Believe This Property Deserves An Alhambra Beautiful Award

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SUBMIT A PHOTO OF THE PROPERTY With your submission by mail or email to:  
 Alhambra Beautiful Awards  
 c/o Alhambra Chamber of Commerce  
 104 S. First St.  
 Alhambra, CA 91801  
 (626) 282-8481  
 sgibbs@alhambrachamber.org

**Nominations must be received in the Chamber office by June 21, 2019.**



City of Alhambra



### CITY OF ALHAMBRA POLICE REPORT

#### April 5

At 11 a.m. Friday, March 29, a theft occurred at the Home Depot in Alhambra. The suspect entered the store and picked up items. He then walked out of the store without paying for them. He fled the location in the suspect vehicle. The Alhambra Police Department requests the community's assistance in identifying the suspect. If someone can identify the suspect and wishes to remain anonymous, please call the Alhambra Police Department Tip Line at 626-308-4875.



#### March 28

The police met with some of their friends from The YMCA of West San Gabriel Valley. They talked about safety tips, they received a small tour of the station, and they had a chance to see the police cars up-close.



#### March 28

On Thursday, March 28, at 2:54 p.m., a package theft occurred on the 2100 block of South Meridian Avenue in Alhambra. The suspect was seen on Ring surveillance footage entering the east entrance of the apartment complex. He walked up to the victim's front door and removed a package from the floor. The suspect then fled the location using the west entrance. The suspect was a male, 25 to 30 years old, with a thin build. He wore a white shirt, blue jeans, black shoes, dark hat, and sunglasses. He had ear plugs in his ears. The Alhambra Police Department requests the community's assistance in identifying the suspect. If you can identify the suspect and wish to remain anonymous, please call the Alhambra Police Department Tip Line at 626-308-4875.



#### March 24

Congratulations to Alhambra PD Officer Llamas for finishing the LA Marathon!



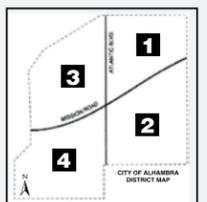
#### March 21

Officers located four vehicles parked around the city that had a total of 57 unpaid parking tickets. California law states that a vehicle can be towed after having five or more unpaid parking tickets. As a result, each vehicle was towed.

### CITY OF ALHAMBRA CRIME REPORT

The following crimes were reported to the Alhambra Police Department in March. The areas of occurrence are listed to the nearest block — not exact addresses. By publishing these reports, it is hoped Alhambra residents will take the necessary measures to ensure their individual safety, as well as the safety of their property. Neighborhood Watch Works! To join Neighborhood Watch, or for more crime prevention information and safety tips, contact the Alhambra Police Department Crime Prevention Office at 626-570-5177.

District One	District Two	District Three	District Four
<b>Burglary (8)</b>	<b>Burglary (3)</b>	<b>Burglary (2)</b>	<b>Burglary (5)</b>
00 S. Garfield (X5)	1000 S. Fourth	1700 W. Cedar	2800 W. Midwick
200 E. Commonwealth	1600 S. Seventh	3200 W. Norwich	1900 S. Orange Grove
700 N. Novelda	1600 S. Granada	<b>Theft/Burglary from Vehicle (13)</b>	1000 S. Marengo (X2)
800 N. Monterey	<b>Theft/Burglary from Vehicle (11)</b>	Sherwood/Hampden	2500 S. Stranahan
<b>Theft/Burglary from Vehicle (16)</b>	1400 S. Third	200 S. Hampden Ter	<b>Theft/Burglary from Vehicle (9)</b>
00 S. First	2000 S. Sixth (X2)	1700 W. Cedar	1200 S. Benito
100 N. Fourth (X2)	400 E. Valley	200 S. Curtis	1200 S. Electric
200 E. Main	1300 E. Valley (X2)	1200 W. Commonwealth	2300 S. Westminter
400 E. Main	1400 E. Valley (X2)	2400 W. Commonwealth	2700 W. Ramona
500 W. Main (X4)	Vega/Norwood	100 N. Primrose	3200 W. Ramona
100 W. Woodward (X2)	800 S. Garfield	500 S. La Paloma	2800 W. Shorb
00 S. Garfield	1400 S. Garfield	900 S. Fremont (X5)	1800 W. Valley
100 S. Hidalgo	<b>Grand Theft Auto (12)</b>	<b>Grand Theft Auto (9)</b>	1600 S. Atlantic
100 N. Atlantic	1700 S. Second	200 N. Huntington	1600 W. Shorb
1200 N. Granada	1000 S. Fourth	2800 W. Alhambra	<b>Grand Theft Auto (2)</b>
100 S. Almanson	900 S. Ninth	2100 W. Commonwealth	3100 W. Ramona
<b>Grand Theft Auto (4)</b>	900 S. Atlantic	2200 W. Commonwealth	2500 La Crescenta
700 W. Main	3100 W. Ramona	500 S. Elm (X2)	<b>Robbery (2)</b>
00 S. First	1200 S. Monterey	500 S. Marengo	1100 W. Ramona
100 S. Almanson	1600 S. Garfield	1200 W. Main	1600 S. Cabrillo
900 E. Main	600 W. Valley	2100 W. Main	
<b>Robbery (1)</b>	900 W. Valley		
Main/Atlantic	600 E. Valley		
	1000 E. Valley		
	Norwood/Garfield		
	<b>Robbery (2)</b>		
	1000 E. Valley		
	1800 S. Fifth		





Assemblymember Ed Chau's 2019 legislative bill package focuses on the work he will do in the areas of privacy and consumer protection, economic development and education, health, and public safety.

# Assemblymember Chau unveils 2019 legislative priorities

Assemblymember Ed Chau (D–Monte-rey Park) unveiled his 2019 legislative bill package, which focuses on the work he will do in the areas of privacy and consumer protection, economic development and education, health, and public safety.

### Privacy and consumer protection

Assembly Bill (AB) 976 would establish the Artificial Intelligence in State Government Services Commission to gather input on how artificial intelligence and data science could be used to improve state services.

“Artificial Intelligence technology will have a profound impact on our lives,” Mr. Chau said. “At the same time, it will present both opportunities and challenges. Establishing a commission to review how California may harness the power of AI, to improve state services, will serve to benefit our economy, public health and safety, jobs, and the environment as this rapidly growing technology reshapes our society.”

### Economic development and education

AB 1409 would provide students with greater broadband access outside of the classroom by funding Homework Gap Projects, such as Wi-Fi enabled school buses or school or library Wi-Fi hot-spot lending, through the California Teleconnect Fund.

“Millions of students live in homes without a broadband connection; so, they struggle to finish homework and miss out on critical after-school education opportunities available through technology,” Mr. Chau said. “We need to make sure that our children have the resources to succeed academically in this technology-driven era, which includes having broadband access.”

“The Homework Gap is the cruelest part of the new digital divide, and it affects 12 million children nationwide,” said Federal Communications Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel. “To have a fair shot at 21st century success, students need the tools necessary to do their homework — and today that means having access to high-speed internet. Thanks to Assemblymember Chau for drawing attention to this issue and working to close this divide and bridge this gap.”

“Teachers all over the country have been concerned about the homework gap and the unfair digital divide for years,” said Jim

Steyer, CEO of Common Sense Media. “When homework is assigned online, student outcomes for those who don't have access to broadband and computers at home suffer. While big picture solutions to ending the homework gap involve industry and changes at the federal level, Assemblymember Chau's Student Broadband Access bill gives the state tools to support students in need by using existing funds, and Common Sense is honored to support this bill.”

### Health

AB 453 would require training on dementia for Emergency Medical Technician Paramedics (EMT-P) in order to provide appropriate emergency medical care to individuals living with this condition.

“Our aging population is increasing and so are the numbers of loved ones affected by Alzheimer's disease,” Mr. Chau said. “As a result, we need emergency personnel that are adequately prepared to serve this population in times of need. We can ensure an appropriate level of care by requiring EMT-Ps to receive dementia specific training as a condition of licensure and recertification.”

“Alzheimer's Los Angeles is proud to sponsor AB 453,” said Heather Cooper Ortner, president and CEO of Alzheimer's Los Angeles. “As a local nonprofit serving families impacted by Alzheimer's and other dementias in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, and Riverside counties, we know that it is not a question of if EMS will interact with a person with dementia, but when. AB 453 will ensure that all paramedics are equipped with the skills to effectively respond to a medical emergency involving a person living with dementia, thereby protecting their health, safety, and dignity. We thank Assemblymember Chau for working to ensure that our health care system is prepared to respond to the needs of our Alzheimer's and dementia impacted families.”

### Public Safety

AB 397 would establish driving under the influence of cannabis, or cannabis and another drug, as its own separate offense.

“The legalization of cannabis will undoubtedly contribute to the rise of impaired driving,” Mr. Chau said. “Tracking how many cannabis DUI arrests occur annually will help inform what policies are

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

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| <p><b>38° Ale House &amp; Grill</b><br/>100 W. Main St.<br/>Alhambra, CA 91801<br/>626-282-2038<br/>Member since 2009</p>                             | <p><b>Home of Angels</b><br/>1000 S. Granada Ave.<br/>Alhambra, CA 91801<br/>626-872-2162<br/>Member since 2013</p>  | <p><b>Plushderma Laser Clinic</b><br/>11008 Valley Mall, Suite 201<br/>El Monte, CA 91731<br/>626-448-7587<br/>Member since 2013</p>  |
| <p><b>Alhambra SDA Church<br/>The Grace Place</b><br/>220 S. Chapel Ave.<br/>Alhambra, CA 91801<br/>626-289-6137<br/>Member since 2010</p>            | <p><b>Landz Real Estate</b><br/>401 N. Garfield Ave., Suite 2<br/>Alhambra, CA 91801<br/>626-289-8584<br/>Member since 2012</p>                                    | <p><b>Simpson &amp; Simpson<br/>Management</b><br/>1000 S. Fremont Ave.<br/>Unit 64, Bldg. A1, Suite 1100<br/>Alhambra, CA 91803<br/>626-282-4000<br/>Member since 2010</p> |
| <p><b>AT&amp;T, Inc.</b><br/>2250 E. Imperial Hwy, 5th Floor<br/>Suite 538G<br/>El Segundo, CA 90245<br/>800-288-2020<br/>Member since 1990</p>       | <p><b>Main Street Attraction</b><br/>218 W. Main St.<br/>Alhambra, CA 91801<br/>626-289-5150<br/>Member since 2015</p>   | <p><b>Soroptimist Intn'l/Alh/SG/SM</b><br/>P.O. Box 343<br/>Alhambra, CA 91802<br/>626-286-3066<br/>Member since 1993</p>   |
| <p><b>Bravo CDJR of Alhambra</b><br/>1100 W. Main St.<br/>Alhambra, CA 91801<br/>626-537-2400<br/>Member since 2018</p>                               | <p><b>Ohana Brewing Company</b><br/>7 S. First St.<br/>Alhambra, CA 91801<br/>626-282-2337<br/>Member since 2014</p>   | <p><b>Vidorra</b><br/>100 E. Main St., Suite 120<br/>Alhambra, CA 91801<br/>626-940-5505<br/>Member since 2016</p>  |
| <p><b>East SGV – America Job<br/>Center of California</b><br/>14101 E. Nelson Ave.<br/>La Puente, CA 91746<br/>626-934-5700<br/>Member since 2014</p> | <p><b>Pacific Medical Imaging<br/>&amp; Oncology Center</b><br/>707 S. Garfield Ave., Suit B-001<br/>Alhambra, CA 91801<br/>626-227-2727<br/>Member since 2008</p> | <p><b>Wendy's</b><br/>245 S. Atlantic Blvd.<br/>Alhambra, CA 91801<br/>626-282-7349<br/>Member since 2012</p>   |

*Thank You!*

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



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needed to address this dangerous behavior.”

AB 1772 would allow distinct, but related incidents of theft, whether committed against one or more victims, to be aggregated to a charge of grand theft.

“Communities throughout the district have experienced an increase in crime since the passage of Propositions 47 and 57,” Mr. Chau said. “One way to address the

unintended consequences of these reforms is by allowing multiple incidents of theft to be aggregated into a charge of grand theft if the total amount of multiple crimes exceeds \$950.”

“For too long, our communities have been less safe because of a technicality,” said Mayor Steven Ly, City of Rosemead. “Assemblyman Chau's bill will fix that.”



Diner on Main, 201 W. Main St., Alhambra, hosts the Chamber's April 11 monthly Business to Business networking event. Diner on Main is a retro American '50s restaurant that is one of the few remaining Googie style restaurants designed by the famed architectural firm of Armet & Davis. Done up in chrome and Formica with canvases of Marylyn Monroe and James Dean, this theme style restaurant promises fun for all. Business to Business is offered from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. the second Thursday of each month.

## WELCOME OUR *New* CHAMBER MEMBERS!

**Alhambra Golf Course**  
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Alhambra, CA 91801  
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*Classic neighborhood pizzeria also offering pasta, subs, and take-out service in casual environs.*

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301 E. Main St.  
Alhambra, CA 91801  
626-281-5341  
tomsuniforms.com

*Tom's Uniforms is one of the largest uniform stores in the San Gabriel Valley. It is a complete uniform store with a large inventory of postal, police, fire, industrial, medical, and restaurant uniforms. The store also carries police, fire, and medical shoes, boots, and accessories. Expert tailoring is provided.*

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South Pasadena, CA 91030  
626-383-2894  
wacowla.com

*Asian food and lifestyle magazine*

*Welcome!*

# Tax Tips

## Taxable Social Security payment

You work most of your life, and at some point, most likely in your 60s, you'll start collecting Social Security benefits. However ...

Did you know Social Security income can become taxable on your IRS Form 1040?

The State of California does not tax Social Security income ...yet. I emphasize the word "yet."

If your only income is from Social Security, you may not be taxed. But if you receive other sources of income that raises your AGI above certain thresholds, you're going to get taxed.

Single, Head of Household, Qualifying Widow(er):

- \$25,000 — 50% Social Security Taxation Threshold

- \$34,000 — 85% Social Security Taxation Threshold

Married Filing Jointly:

- \$32,000 — 50% Social Security Taxation Threshold

- \$44,000 — 85% Social Security Taxation Threshold

Social Security Tax is paid by you and your employer. Each paycheck will have a Social Security (FICA) deduction. This amount, and a matching amount paid by your employer, is sent to the IRS.

Example: if you have \$1,000 deducted from your paycheck, your employer will mail the IRS a check for \$2,000 dollars. You're paying 50% and your employer pays 50%.

Your 50% portion has already been taxed. But your employer's 50% has not been taxed (until you start to receive the benefits). So, of this \$2,000 amount, you have already paid income tax on your 50% contribution.

Are you starting to wonder about this a bit? If so, you'll enjoy this piece.



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

If 50% of your paycheck deduction has already been taxed and your employer's 50% contribution has never been taxed, why is the IRS taxing up to 85% of your Social Security benefits received?

And the answer to that question is — another Tax Tip.

If you would like to see how much your S.S. benefits may be taxed, there are social security calculators on the www.irs.gov website.

If you would like to learn more about taxable Social Security benefits, go to IRS publication 915, which can be found at www.irs.gov, or speak to your tax preparer.

### BUSINESS AFTER HOURS MULTI-MIXER

# network

Thursday, May 16, 2019

## Alhambra Chamber of Commerce

Joins San Gabriel Valley Chambers After Dark Multi-Mixer

Thursday, May 16, 2019  
5:00 — 8:00 p.m.

### Noor

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Pasadena Chamber  
Pomona Chamber  
Regional Chamber of the San Gabriel Valley (Diamond Bar/Walnut)  
Rosemead Chamber  
San Gabriel Chamber  
Sierra Madre Chamber  
South Pasadena Chamber  
Temple City Chamber  
Whittier Area Chamber



**Notary services** are available at the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce  
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## How do I know how much renters insurance to buy? What does renters insurance cover?

In short, renters insurance covers what you own. Most landlords' insurance covers only the building and damages due to negligence. Coverage for some of the most common causes of property damage and loss, such as theft, vandalism, and fire, is entirely up to you. Without renters insurance, you may have to bear the financial burden of a loss on your own.

Most renters' belongings cost more than they think. In fact, the average person has over \$35,000 worth of belongings that are probably not covered by a landlord's policy. Take a moment to add up the approximate cost of your computer, television, stereo, furniture, jewelry, and clothing. If a fire gutted your apartment tomorrow, would you have the cash to replace it all?

Renters insurance also covers much more than just your personal property. The average policy can include up to \$100,000 in liability coverage. That means in the event of a covered loss your insurer will help cover the costs if you're held responsible for injuring another person or damaging another person's property, including your landlord's. Moreover, this coverage applies whether the incident occurred within your residence or elsewhere.

### How much renters insurance do I need?

Renters insurance is relatively inexpensive. According to the Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers of America, Inc. (IIABA), the average renters policy costs just \$12 a month for up to \$30,000 in personal property coverage. That's solid coverage for less than the cost of a few cups of coffee a week. Here are some tips to help you determine your insurance needs.

- **Complete an inventory of your possessions.** Personal property coverage is probably the main reason most purchase a renters policy. The coverage will reimburse you for covered damage, loss, or theft of your personal possessions up to a certain dollar amount, so you'll want to make sure you get that amount right. Completing a home inventory is a good way to determine how much property coverage you need. This inventory lists your personal possessions, along with details about their

age, purchase price, or current value and other identifying information.

- **Check with your insurance agent about bundling options.** Many insurers offer significant discounts if you buy more than one policy with their company. For renters, this usually means bundling auto insurance with a renters policy, but life, business, and other plans may also qualify.

- **Choose the right deductible.** A deductible is the amount of a covered loss or liability that you pay out of your own pocket. In other words, it's the amount deducted from any payout by your insurer. For example, if a fire causes \$1,500 in insured damage to your personal property and your deductible is \$500, then your insurer will pay you \$1,000.

- **Assess your liability.** Your renters policy's liability coverage may protect you if someone injures themselves in your home. It may also protect you in case you or a family member causes damage to others' property. Some policies will pay for defense and court costs in addition to settlement costs. The typical renters insurance policy offers \$100,000 in liability coverage. For renters, this amount is often sufficient. However, if you entertain company frequently at your home or if your assets exceed that amount, you should consider an amount of insurance equal to at least the total value of your assets.

And finally, where your apartment is located will play an important role in determining your renters insurance rates. Prices will vary based on your state, city, and neighborhood. Safer locations might mean lower rates, so renting in a low-crime area near a fire station might save you money. Your rates will also reflect the safety of the rental property itself. For example, an older, unrenovated building might have a higher risk of electrical and plumbing issues, and that can mean higher rates. Fortunately, steps as simple as installing smoke detectors and fire extinguishers in your apartment may mean real savings, even if you do rent an older property.

For more information, contact Regina Talbot at 626-357-3401.

# Chamber's annual installation dinner to be held June 7

Helen Romero Shaw, SoCal Gas Public Affairs manager, will be installed as Chamber president at the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce's 116th Installation Dinner on Friday, June 7, at Almansor Court, Lakeview Room, 700 S. Almansor St.

The program will include the installation of the Chamber officers and presentations of the Outstanding Community Service Award and the Outstanding Business of the Year Award. The Alhambra Chamber of Commerce 2019 scholarship winners will be recognized.

Cocktails and appetizers will be served at 6 p.m. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m.

The Installation's theme is Support Your Team!

DJ music will be provided by Fastrak.

To make reservations, or for more information, contact the Chamber at 626-282-8481.



Helen Romero Shaw, SoCal Gas, will be installed as president of the Alhambra Chamber Board of Directors June 7.



The California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, the City of Alhambra, and the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce host the Alhambra Small Business Seminar to help businesses. The March 27 event's presenters included the California Dept. of Tax and Fee Administration, the Franchise Tax Board, the Employment Development Dept., and the Internal Revenue Service. More than 112 people attended.



Join local businesses for the Alhambra Chamber Business to Business Networking event



## B to B

**Thursday, May 9, 2019**  
**8:30 – 9:30 am**  
**Cost: Free (coffee & pastries)**



Hosted by:  
**Hosted by Baja Cali Fish & Tacos**  
 31 E. Main Street, Alhambra 91801  
 626-940-5549

**Please RSVP:**  
**Alhambra Chamber of Commerce**  
**626-282-8481** or  
**ihernandez@alhambrachamber.org**

There will be no B to B in June.  
 Upcoming B to B  
**Thursday, July 11**

**NOTE**  
 Please be sure to bring plenty of business cards & promotional flyers for networking.

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

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2019 Alhambra Educational Foundation awardees, from left: Terry Jaurequi, Laura Farber, Ashton Potter, Tammy Scorgia (Alhambra Teacher's Association), and Johnny Thompson.



One of the lucky few bands that will march down Colorado Boulevard in the Rose Parade Jan. 1 will be the AUSD band, which includes high school student musicians from Mark Keppel, Alhambra, and San Gabriel high schools.

## Alhambra Educational Foundation gets it done

For 15 years, the Alhambra Educational Fund (AEF) has sponsored a Gala event designed to raise money to support its important work. This year the Gala took place April 6 at the Hilton Los Angeles/San Gabriel Hotel. The money raised by tickets, silent auction, raffle, and sales of T-shirts will benefit the All Alhambra Unified School District Band on its road to the Rose Parade.

The Gala is also an opportunity for AEF to honor some special people for their service to education. Those honored included Johnny Thompson Music, Business Organization; Ashton Potter, Alhambra School District director of Technology and Information; the Alhambra Teachers Association, Community Organization; Terry Jaurequi, Community Services; and a special honor to Laura Farber-Lopez, Alhambra School District graduate and now president of the Tournament of Roses.

AEF was established in 1993 to support and supplement the programs of the Alhambra Unified School District. As state and local funding for education has been outpaced by the increased needs of modern education, the foundation has stepped up to donate more than \$2.8 million in support of district programs. These include Student Leadership Seminars; Authors Festival; computer and technology

purchases; purchase of automated external defibrillators for all sites; disaster preparedness equipment and materials; reading incentives; library and classroom books; and more.

For the remainder of 2019, the foundation has a new goal that is bringing the entire community together: the 2020 Rose Parade in Pasadena. There were over 100 applications of bands to obtain one of the 16 available openings to march and perform in the parade. One of the lucky few that will march down Colorado Boulevard Jan. 1 will be the AUSD band, which includes high school student musicians from Mark Keppel, Alhambra, and San Gabriel high schools. While the combined bands are practicing their marching and music, the AEF is focused on raising \$200,000 toward the expenses of the parade.

There are costs involved in buying additional uniforms, transportation, food, and water and all the logistical preparations required to get 100 teenagers ready for the big day. There is a lot to do, and the AEF is gearing up to give the high school kids an experience they will cherish for the rest of their lives.

Support the young musicians by donating to the AEF. Checks can be sent to AEF at P.O. Box 1188, Alhambra, CA 91802. Online donations can be made at <http://aef4kids.com/donation/>.



Daniel DeSoto cuts hair as Sam Artino looks on.

Daniel DeSoto is learning haircutting from the best, his Godfather Sam Artino of Sam's Barber shop. Daniel is available to cut hair by appointment. Call him at (626) 634-0302



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Bloom Energy fuel cells generate clean, reliable electricity with lower CO2 emissions than the local electrical grid, with virtually no particulate emissions.

## The Alhambra expands Bloom Energy server capacity, achieving 75% of total power demand, energy star score of 91

The Alhambra, a reimagined 40-acre mixed-use urban community located in the City of Alhambra, will be powered by futuristic fuel cells provided by Bloom Energy, which is headquartered in Silicon Valley.

The sleek fuel cells will generate clean, reliable electricity on-site at The Alhambra campus with lower CO2 emissions than the local electrical grid and with virtually no particulate emissions that cause smog and respiratory diseases.

The Bloom Energy Servers were selected by The Alhambra's developer, The Ratkovich Company (TRC), as part of its ongoing strategy to transform the former C F Braun engineering campus, located 5 miles east of downtown Los Angeles. A health-and-wellness-focused, LEED Gold certified campus, The Alhambra is home to major tenants such as County of Los Angeles, USC Keck School of Medicine, and Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center.

"Back in 2010, we were among the first to deploy this extraordinary technology," said Wayne Ratkovich, president/CEO of TRC. "Thanks to Bloom Energy Servers, our electric bills have been lowered significantly, as well as our carbon footprint. Now that we're meeting approximately 75% of our total energy demand and have achieved an Energy Star score of 91, hopefully we'll inspire other communities to reduce their reliance on the grid."

"We're seeing an increasing interest and demand for workplaces and communities that are powered by clean, reliable energy," said KR Sridhar, founder, chairman, and CEO of Bloom Energy. "We're proud to support The Ratkovich Company's efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and improve local air quality."

The new Bloom Energy Servers, the fourth generation of the company's technology, will generate up to 1 MW of power for the campus, with expansion capabilities as the campus grows. According to the US Energy Information Administration, about 39% of total U.S. energy is consumed by the residential and commercial sectors. Higher efficiency electricity generation not only helps lower costs to tenants at The Alhambra, it also reduces CO2 emissions and pollution.

Bloom Energy Servers have the highest electrical efficiency of any commercial electric power system. They generate electricity without combustion, and therefore without smog emissions that cause respiratory diseases. Removing

these pollutants from the air fosters TRC's commitment to improving the health and well-being of its local community and of air quality in Los Angeles overall.

The Bloom Energy Servers use virtually no water in normal operation, an important consideration in drought-prone California. By comparison, power plants supplying electricity to the California grid consume 150 million gallons of water more per megawatt of electricity than Bloom Energy Servers per year.

Since acquiring and redeveloping The Alhambra in 1999, TRC has demonstrated its ongoing commitment to providing tenants and the local community with a healthy, creative, environmentally conscious campus that ties into its mission to improve the overall quality of urban life. This vision has resonated with long-term occupants, resulting in high retention and major expansions, and is a major attraction for new tenants, such as Cal State LA.



Main Street Attraction is a vintage, high end clothing store run by the National Charity League.

## Main Street Attraction benefits charities, scholarships

There are some hidden gems on Main Street worth knowing about. One of them is Main Street Attraction at 218 W. Main St., in the heart of Downtown Alhambra. Main Street Attraction is a vintage, high end clothing store run by the National Charity League.

The league is a charitable non-profit organization of mother and daughter members throughout the country. The store is run as a fund raising venture to support the charitable work of the league in the form of scholarships for girls and to support young women in leadership and cultural experiences.

The clothing available at the Alhambra store is all donated, and much of it is name brand clothing for men and women and boys and girls of all ages. The highest quality apparel with designer labels are displayed in the Boutique section of the store, right up front. The shirts, skirts, shoes, and coats are priced to move.



Here is a money saving hint when shopping at Main Street Attraction. On the first Saturday of every month, there is a half-price sale on everything but the items in the boutique section. That still gives the customer a lot of choices because the store is located in a large space and it is full of bargains. There is ample parking behind the store.

An important thing to remember is that the store has limited hours:

Friday	Closed
Saturday	9 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Sunday	11:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Monday	Closed
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	10 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.
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## PS Play Smarter Basketball Classes

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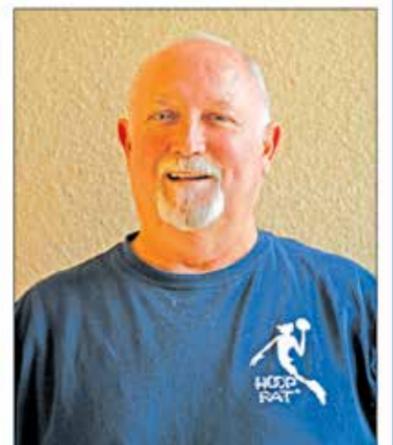


- Saturdays in Temple City and Alhambra
- Sundays in San Gabriel



- Weekend, year round classes
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Coach Richard Marquis of the Play Smarter Basketball Class Program has traveled throughout Mainland China with parents and students of his Play Smarter International Basketball Camp.



### Classes

- **Saturday Mornings**, 10 a.m.-12 Noon at TC Nazarene ICON Church - 9953 Las Tunas Dr., Temple City
- **Saturday Afternoon**, 2-4 p.m. at Emmaus Lutheran School & Church - 840 Almansor St., Alhambra
- **Sundays** 10 a.m.-12 Noon, & 2-4 p.m. at San Gabriel Academy, 8827 E. Broadway in San Gabriel

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AEF'S 15<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SERVICE TO EDUCATION AWARDS DINNER & Gala Unsung Heroes

Thank you

The Alhambra Educational Foundation held their Annual Dinner on April 6th at the Hilton Los Angeles / San Gabriel where more than 460 people honored individuals and organizations who have made significant contributions to education in our community.

The awards were presented by AEF President Steve Perry and AEF Board of Directors to this year's recipients: Business - Johnny Thompson Music; Education - Ashton Potter; Community - Alhambra Teachers Association; Community Volunteer - Terry Jaurequi; Special Honor - Laura Farber-Lopez.



2019 Honorees

Terry Jaurequi, Laura Farber-Lopez, Ashton Potter, Alhambra Teachers Association President Tammy Scoria and Johnny Thompson

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Awards presented by AEF Board members Marcia Wilson and Dawn Rock



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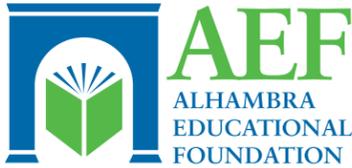
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Steve & Débora Perry



## Alhambra Educational Foundation

AEF would like to thank the following businesses, community members and friends for their generous contributions to its 15th Annual Service to Education Awards Dinner & Gala.

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Sponsors & Donors!*



Thanks to  
Regina and Paul Talbot  
for their generous  
donation to AEF!

# Ramona Convent student leader appointed to Alhambra Youth Commission

Ramona freshman Andrea Gutierrez was recently appointed to the Alhambra Youth Commission by Alhambra Vice Mayor Ross Maza. Andrea attended a City Council meeting and expressed her opinion regarding the SR 710 North freeway discussion. Her testimony was meant to encourage the City of Alhambra to look into improving traffic signals in and around Fremont, Atlantic, and Valley and the I-10 because she noted the three schools that are in the area (Ramona, Marguerita, and Fremont) and how it is astounding that it takes over 15 minutes just to get into the community.



Andrea attended a City Council meeting and expressed her opinion regarding the SR 710 North freeway discussion.

She questioned whether closing the freeway stub between the I-10 and Valley was wise because traffic would only divert into the neighborhoods surrounding the school. Her testimony got the attention of Mayor Andrade-Stadler who asked her if she was on the youth commission. She applied and was nominated by Ramona alumna Ambar Gutierrez, who also served as a Youth Commissioner (she recently resigned since she is away at school). Her school community looks forward to seeing her further develop as a leader with her new responsibilities.

Ramona is a welcoming Catholic college-prep high school for girls in

grades nine through 12. Ramona graduates face the future with an extraordinary education, a global vision fueled by Catholic values, an independent spirit, confident leadership skills, the support of their Ramona sisters, and the strength of a legacy of more than 129 years of excellence.

Ramona Convent Secondary School is located at 1701 W. Ramona Road, Alhambra 91803. For more information, call 626-282-4151, or visit [www.ramonaconvent.org](http://www.ramonaconvent.org).



Students and parents took part in presenting *The Lion King* at All Souls Catholic Elementary School.

## All Souls Catholic Elementary School debuts Performing Arts Program with kids' production of *The Lion King*

When they heard “Nants’ Ingonyama” April 5, grand opening took on a whole new meaning for the elementary students of All Souls World Language Catholic School. The production of Disney’s *Lion King Kids* marked the inaugural opening night for these budding performers, stagehands, and lighting and sound support company of students. Some performed the iconic roles of Simba, Nala, Pumbaa, Timon, and other memorable characters while other students played critical roles behind the scenes.

“We are so excited for our kids — they have learned so much through this musical theatre experience by auditioning, learning lines, dance steps, and working together through the disciplined process that is live theatre,” said Lisa Vazquez, a parent to three students at All Souls and co-chair of the All Souls Arts Committee for the parent-led theatre production. “We appreciate the support of the school administration, teachers and families — this has been a learning experience for all of us and, based on the quality of the show and the excitement of the performers and the entire school, it has proved a worthwhile investment. Our children will never forget this experience and have gotten so much from it that they can apply in their approach to their studies now and careers in the future.”

Kristina Leopold Jarvis directed the show based on her professional experience playing Nala in Hong Kong Disneyland’s *The Festival of the Lion King*. “I have had the privilege of growing up alongside this

wonderful story that teaches us about the wonderment of a child, the toxicity of envy, the pains of loss, the freedom of letting go, the difficulty in forgiveness, the courage to face your fears, and the strength that comes with remembering who you are,” she said. “I am extremely thankful for this dedicated cast of storytellers, as each one brings a unique perspective to the story.”

A number of parents and children at All Souls designed a safari of costumes and meticulously hand sculpted and laser cut animal head pieces. Many children were also involved in creating props authentic to the story and the theatrical presentation. “Creative arts activities such as this foster growth and development in many aspects of our children’s education,” said Claudia Lucio, parent and co-chair of the All Souls Arts Committee.

The musical was presented on a set designed, constructed, and painted by parents. “This show is an amazing testament to the dedication of our school families to their children’s learning experience and the collective skill and professionalism our students’ parents model in every parent-led effort at our school,” said Dr. Carrie Fuller, principal at All Souls World Language Catholic School.

The play, *Lion King Kids*, ran for three nights at the school campus located at 29 S. Electric Ave., Alhambra. For more information about All Souls’ dual language programs in English/Spanish or English/Mandarin, visit [allsoulsla.org](http://allsoulsla.org) or call 626-282-5695.

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## Play Smarter Basketball is cream of crop training program

The Play Smarter Basketball program is designed for serious boy and girl basketball players. It was designed to help local junior and senior high school athletes improve their skills and to move up to the next level.

The staff members were outstanding high school and college players and professional players who played pro ball in several countries and are still very good players.

“We know you cannot find a better staff or program to help your child anywhere,” said Coach Richard Marquis. “So we are able to offer a full refund if for any reason your son or daughter is not completely satisfied. Our Play Smarter training classes are 100% guaranteed.

For more information, call Coach Marquis at 626-482-8267, or visit [www.playsmarterbasketball.com](http://www.playsmarterbasketball.com).



Boys and Girls Club STEM program. From left are facilitator Austin Locurto, Betty Navarro, Carlysia Martinez, and Brooklyn Castaneda.



Boys & Girls Clubs of West San Gabriel Valley host the inaugural Protectors Breakfast, an opportunity for the community to recognize local law enforcement, firefighters, and school safety officers.

# Boys and Girls Clubs share resources, expertise

The Boys and Girls Club of West San Gabriel Valley is a grouping of several local clubs that share resources and expertise to augment the offerings of each individual clubhouse. Their locations include Monterey Park, Baldwin Park, La Puente, as well as Ramona Gardens, Estrada Courts, and the William Mead clubhouses in Los Angeles.

On March 26, a joint open house was held at the Monterey Park location. The open house featured tours of the various offerings at that club. Club member boys and girls and the facilitators of the varied programs were on hand to show off their clubhouse to visitors. For the younger kids, there is the STEM program where, last month, they assembled water and air powered rockets. This month they are assembling functioning R2-D2 Star Wars type robots.

Upstairs is where the teens hang out. There is a game room and drivers education center sponsored by Samsung. Another room houses the college prep center where high school seniors find out about the colleges and universities they might be interested in. The program includes taking students to the campuses of local colleges for tours.

There is also a music studio and rehearsal room where young musicians, like guitarist Adrian Martinez, can immerse themselves in the music world, practice, and even record their music. There is also a Kid's Kitchen where the boys and girls can get healthy meals while at the club.

One exciting program for kids in the land-locked San Gabriel Valley is the sailing program. Traveling by bus to Marina Del Rey, the club has sharing privileges with the Malibu Boys and Girls Club. This makes the equipment of one club available to kids from other clubs. Besides learning to sail, the kids have access to kayaks and paddle boards.

A new feature offered by the local clubs is the purchase of three Mercedes-Benz vans, each being fitted out for a different purpose. They are called the pop-up vans. The first one has been fitted with bench seats with pillows, a TV, and sound system. It can be used for one-on-one counseling, small group presentations, and story time and becomes a mobile club that can be used by all the clubs in the district.

The second van will be decked out as a mobile art room for kids to practice their artistic expressions. The third van will be for fun and games, including video games, computer challenges, and board games. "The pop-up vans allow Boys and Girls Club activities wherever they go," said Director of Advocacy for Teens Nick Koontz.

Consider donating to the Boys and Girls Clubs of West San Gabriel Valley to help support the activities of the club, which does so much for the kids of the community. The nearest club is at 328 S. Ramona Ave., Monterey Park 91754. The phone number is 626-573-2831.

# Protectors Breakfast celebrates relationships between local communities and police, fire, school-safety departments

Boys & Girls Clubs of West San Gabriel Valley hosted the first annual Protectors Breakfast to celebrate and acknowledge those who have shown exceptional commitment and dedication to their safety and well-being in their communities throughout Los Angeles and public housing sites of Ramona Gardens, Estrada Courts, and William Mead. It was held at the San Antonio Winery in Los Angeles.

This breakfast is a celebration of the relationships that are built and fostered between local communities and police, fire, and school-safety departments. By bringing together leaders and key stakeholders from community organizations and public institutions, Boys & Girls Club is providing the stage and platform to recognize the services and efforts of the honorees across departments and districts. This inaugural event is the first step to establishing a tradition that will grow and evolve for many years to come.

Honorees were Officer Genaro Moreno, Los Angeles School Police Department; California Highway Patrol, East Los Angeles Division; Los Angeles Fire Department, Fire Station 2; and the Los Angeles Police Department, Hollenbeck Area Community Safety Partnership.

Founded in 1972, Boys and Girls Clubs of West San Gabriel Valley deliver fun and educational programs each year to over 7,000 youth of Los Angeles County across six club sites: Monterey Park, La Puente, Baldwin Park, Ramona Gardens, Estrada Courts, and William Mead. Our clubs provide unique services for the communities and public housing sites including leadership development, STEM Sailing, Brent's Club, and a certified Early Learning Center. The clubs' mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need them most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, and responsible citizens.

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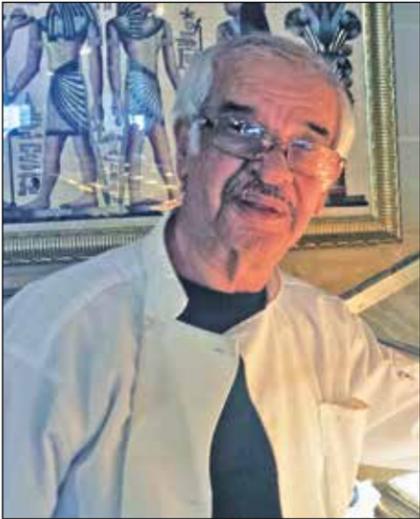
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*Obituary*

# Former Wahib's Middle East Restaurant owner Wahib Wahby dies



*Wahib Wahby*  
Aug. 11, 1945 – April 9, 2019

Longtime Alhambra restaurateur Wahib Wahby, who owned Wahib's Middle East Restaurant, 910 E. Main St., Alhambra, for many years, died April 9.

Mr. Wahby was born in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1945. He owned a downtown Beirut restaurant known as Wahib's Union. In 1979 he and his wife immigrated to California and opened Wahib's Middle East Restaurant in Alhambra in 1982. The first location held four tables

and could seat 20 customers at any one time to enjoy Lebanese and Middle Eastern dishes including kebabs, lamb chops, falafels, vegetarian plates, and other favorites.

In 1990, he moved the restaurant to 910 E Main St. to accommodate the increasing number of customers, up to 200 at a time. Wahib's could deliver, host, and cater events such as weddings and birthday parties of up to 500 people. The patio was set aside for smokers of the traditional Middle Eastern hookahs. In a tribute to Wahib, his friend and longtime Main Street businessman Sam Artino said, "No one on Main Street put in more hours at his business than Wahib."

Unfortunately, Wahib lost his restaurant in 2017. But he did not stop cooking. He rented kitchen space at Star Buffet in Covina to keep his catering business going and to add Mediterranean dishes to the buffet menu.

Wahib and his cooking were so popular that the restaurant changed its name to Star Buffet Chinese & Wahib's Mediterranean. In an interview last summer with Around Alhambra, Wahib candidly admitted, "I miss Alhambra." Today, Alhambra misses him.

Services were held April 20.



The YMCA of West San Gabriel Valley

# Summer is almost here The YMCA is ready

The YMCA of West San Gabriel Valley is the place to be this summer for kids. The Y offers a summer day camp for youngsters from kindergarten through the eighth grade at their location at 401 E. Corto St., Alhambra. There is also an overnight camping experience in the San Bernardino Mountains, serving girls and boys from ages 8 to 15.

Summer Day camp will be from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday June 3 until Aug. 2. Sign-ups are being accepted for the nine-week program that includes air conditioned classrooms, daily activities, such as swimming, golf lessons, breakfast, lunch, snacks, and much more. The kids will be supervised by role model college students and enjoy a safe and fun environment.

There will also be field trips to fun and educational destinations like Scooters Jungle, the L.A. Zoo, and Griffith Park Observatory. Each field trip will cost \$35 extra. For complete details of the cost of

the program and the overnight camping in the mountains, contact the YMCA at 626-576-0226, or e-mail [ymca.sdc.directors@gmail.com](mailto:ymca.sdc.directors@gmail.com). Or stop by the Y in person.

For almost 100 years, the YMCA of West San Gabriel Valley has offered overnight summer camping for young people at beautiful Camp Ta Ta Pochon. The camp is nestled beside the San Geronio Wilderness area and refreshed by a year-round clear mountain stream. Here is a place to experience nature with hiking, canoeing on nearby Jenks Lake, swimming, archery, evening camp fires, and outdoor crafts.

The words Ta Ta Pochon mean everlasting friendship. The camp is a great place for kids to make new friends and participate in group activities. This year's camping dates are July 13 to July 20. Space is limited, so act quickly to reserve a spot on a first come, first served basis. Contact the Y for details about the cost and for questions about the program.

# Woman's Club to celebrate Cinco de Mayo

The Alhambra Woman's Club invites all women living in Alhambra and the surrounding communities to join the club Wednesday, May 1, to celebrate Cinco de Mayo. Come dressed festively. The meeting begins at 11 a.m. at Almansor Court, 700

S. Almansor St., Alhambra.

Sing and dance to the music of Mariachi Di Odesiaea. The cost is \$20 for members and \$25 for non-members.

Please make reservations by April 30 at 626-289-9307.

## 626 GOLDEN STREETS From Page 1A

These "open street" events are happening all over the Southland, and Alhambra is a part of it. The organizers of the Mission to Mission event estimate they will need 200 volunteers to assist with organizing and for support for the participants. To be a part of the team and to find out more, sign up at <http://www.626goldenstreets.com/volunteer.html>.

Alhambra will take part in the L.A. Metro sponsored 626 Golden Streets event from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 19. The goal of the event is to provide a car-free day on a specific route for riding transit, walking, and bike riding; to encourage a shift to more sustainable transportation; and civic engagement to foster the development of policies and infrastructure for alternative transportation at the city and community level.

The 626 Golden Streets event is called Mission to Mission because it will begin in South Pasadena at the Mission Street entrance to the Gold

Line Train Station and end at the San Gabriel Mission. To get from point A to point B on this 5-mile route, the cyclists and walkers will pass through Alhambra for much of the time.

This gives participants the opportunity to stop to enjoy Alhambra's Farmers Market and breakfast along the way. This is not a race. It is meant to be a pleasant day outdoors using alternative and sustainable transportation.

For the duration of the event, streets along the route will be temporarily closed to automobile traffic and open to cyclists, pedestrians, and other types of non-motorized transportation.

These "open street" events are happening all over the Southland, and Alhambra is a part of it. The organizers of the Mission to Mission event estimate they will need 200 volunteers to assist with organizing and for support for the participants. To be a part of the team and to find out more, sign up at <http://www.626goldenstreets.com/volunteer.html>.

Catch the GLOW!



His word in my heart is like fire that burns in my bones, and I can't hold it in any longer. Jeremiah 20:9

# Summer at Emmaus Lutheran

June 3 – July 26

Emmaus Lutheran Summer Academy and Camp 2019  
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Mondays are field trip day and the rest of the week is filled with four mornings of academic achievement classes including reading comprehension, language, writing skills, grammar review, math skills and enrichment, test preparation activities and study skills taught by qualified classroom teachers. Camp activities include team building, crafts, games, Bible study, water fun and field trips.

Students are provided an enjoyable experience in a safe and secure Christian indoor and outdoor environment.

Preschool Summer Program now accepting children 3 to 5 including those entering Kindergarten. Full and part time available for summer.

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Researchers estimate approximately 8 million metric tons of plastic ends up in the world's oceans each year. Picture by Nery Orellana, Cal State LA.

## Cal State LA goes plastic-free with straws, bags for sustainability

Cal State LA has banned the use of plastic straws and bags, a major step in an ambitious initiative to become a zero-waste university.

As of April 8, food vendors at Cal State LA are no longer offering plastic straws or carryout bags. Instead, paper alternatives will be available.

The move is part of a new California State University system policy that aims to eliminate single-use plastic straws and plastic bags and water bottles on all 23 campuses by 2023 to support the CSU's sustainability efforts. Styrofoam food service items will be phased out by 2021, and the use of single-use plastic water bottles will end in 2023.

Researchers estimate approximately 8 million metric tons of plastic ends up in the world's oceans each year. Such waste negatively affects hundreds of marine species, including sea turtles, with more than 80% of debris-related harm associated with plastic, according to the California Coastal Commission.

"Supporting the fight against plastic pollution is an important facet of the university's sustainability efforts and aligns with our commitment to engagement, service, and the public good," said Cal State LA President William A. Covino.

Cal State LA is informing the university community of the new plastic ban through a banner and an informational video in the campus food court, notices near Salazar Café, social media, and university newsletters.

The plastic-free initiative is the latest in Cal State LA's award-winning sustainability efforts, which are directed by Facilities and Planning, Design, and Construction in the Division of Administration and

Finance. The university has a goal of moving to 90% waste diversion by 2026 and zero waste by 2036. Zero waste means managing products, services, and processes to systematically reduce and eventually eliminate the volume of waste and materials, as well as conserve and recover all resources without burning or burying. These thresholds will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with waste sent to landfills.

In 2018, Cal State LA Facilities and Planning, Design, and Construction received a Best Practice Award from the CSU for addressing energy efficiency in a retrofitting project of Salazar Hall.

The Cal State LA Hydrogen Research and Fueling Facility was the first in the world to sell hydrogen fuel by the kilogram directly to consumers. Using renewable energy resources, the facility provides fuel for electric vehicles that will only emit water vapor emissions.

The university also recently unveiled a new fleet of zero-emission fuel cell hydrogen vehicles for use by students, faculty, and staff. The new WaiveCar vehicles are available for no cost for the first two hours, and each additional hour of use is \$5.99. Vehicles can be driven on daily trips within a 30-mile radius of the university.

Cal State LA's Green Revolving Fund provides funding for students, faculty, and staff to support projects that promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, waste reduction, and other sustainability initiatives that can reduce utilities consumption and generate cost savings. Learn more about the CSU's sustainability policy on the system website.

## Gala to raise funds at Westmoreland Academy

The parents at Westmoreland Academy (PAWS) are putting on their first Gala from 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. Saturday, May 18, to raise funds for the educational and enrichment programs on campus and to assist in the completion of the academy's sensory-friendly playground. The event will take place at Westmoreland Academy, 5 Westmoreland Place, Pasadena.

The students will produce artwork to be displayed and auctioned at the event. The annual fundraiser is themed with the

famous Shakespeare comedy *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. There will be a live jazz band, DJ, student art and silent auction, live auction, dancing, premium cash bar, and a delicious 5-star dinner. The tickets start at \$60 and can be purchased at Eventbrite.com or at The Westmoreland Academy.

The link to Eventbrite is <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/westmoreland-academy-gala-a-mid-summer-nights-dream-tickets-54984377754?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>.



Past Commander Michael Berru (left), American Legion Post 139, Alhambra, and 18th District Chaplain Lionel Moreno visit the grave site of Pvt. John Howard Strain at Aisne-Marne American Cemetery and Memorial in Belleau, Northern France. The American Legion Post 139 is named in Mr. Strain's honor. He was killed during WWI. The cemetery is located at the foot of the hill where the Battle of Belleau Wood was fought, with many American fatalities.

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# The new abnormal: increased wildfire threat

The 2017-2018 wildfire season demonstrated the increasing threat of wildfires to California.

Changes to California's climate conditions mean that the traditional notion of a fire season no longer applies because fires now occur throughout the year and are more destructive. Ten of the 20 most destructive wildfires in the state have happened since 2015.

Wildfires threaten not only homes, lives, and economy, but also the fight against climate change.

Public safety is Southern California Edison's No. 1 priority. About 35% of SCE's service territory is categorized as a high fire risk area. SCE's wildfire mitigation strategy is built on investing in a strong and resilient electric grid, bolstering situational awareness capabilities, enhancing operational practices, and public safety power shutoffs.

### Enhanced overhead inspections and remediation

SCE's ongoing commitment to safety and supporting California's fight against wildfires remains its top priority. In early February, the company filed its 2019 Wildfire Mitigation Plan with the California Public Utilities Commission. The plan

further reduces the risk of fire ignitions caused by utility infrastructure.

Inspections of SCE's infrastructure, particularly in high fire risk areas, have been an ongoing part of regular operations for SCE for many years and are just one part of SCE's broader wildfire prevention and mitigation program.

Some of SCE's infrastructure sits on easements on customers' properties. In these instances, SCE asks for support from its customers to ensure safe access to equipment that needs to be inspected.

Throughout this year, crews may be seen doing both inspections and infrastructure improvement work.

If the work takes place in the immediate vicinity to a residence or place of business, owners will be notified in advance of a planned maintenance outage so crews can make repairs.

Additionally, SCE is proactively identifying and mitigating trees outside required clearances that may pose a potential risk to the company's power lines.

SCE employee and contractors will have identification badges. SCE vehicles will feature the company's logos, and contractor vehicles will have signage indicating they are SCE Approved Contractors.



National American Culinary Federation President Stafford DeCambra presents the Presidential Cutting Edge Award to Chef Bill Yee, left.

## Alhambra Culinary School chef wins ACF award

Chef Bill Yee, Alhambra Culinary School owner and Vice President of the ACF Chefs de Cuisine Association of California, received the prestigious Presidential Cutting Edge Award representing the Western United States in Minneapolis April 2 at the American Culinary Federation (ACF) Conference.

With more than 400 executive chefs, suppliers, and supporters from across the country in attendance, Chef Yee, who is also a culinary advisor for the Alhambra School District and a member of the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce since 2006, received the award from the national president Chef Stafford DeCambra at the awards dinner at the Marriott City Center in Downtown Minneapolis.

"This award recognizes innovators who

give their time to help further others on behalf of the American Culinary Federation," Chef Stafford said in presenting the award.

Chef Yee provides free culinary training including uniform and equipment to veterans at March Air Reserve Base and Alhambra and also with his Chef Kids program, a one week intro to culinary for children age 8 – 13 in Pasadena. Funding is through donations provided by the Alhambra Performing Arts Center, which Chef Yee also runs along with other fundraising opportunities. He is a guest chef in Venice, California, at the St. Joseph Center, which provides free culinary training for qualified low income and homeless people who need job training.

"Cooking is my profession, but music is my passion," Mr. Yee said.

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## Alhambra librarian to discuss relationship of library, Alhambra Historical Society

Join the Alhambra Historical Society at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 22, at the Masonic Center, 9 W. Woodward Ave., to hear Alhambra Civic Center Library's reference librarian Michael Whitley talk about the relationship between the library and the Historical Society.

Mr. Whitley has been a reference librarian in Alhambra since 2008 and has helped the Historical Society access the library's historical resources. The most important resource is the almost complete holdings of the *Alhambra Post-Advocate* dating from 1899, and the *Alhambra Free Press*, the *San Gabriel Valley Messenger*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. The library also has city directories and phone books from 1883; Alhambra High School yearbooks from 1920; and some annuals from Mark Keppel and San Gabriel High Schools. Among the library's rare books are the *History of Alhambra to 1915*, by Margaret Patterson, published in 1935, and *Early Alhambra*, by Alberta Clinger and Evelyn Jayne, published in 1964.

Mary Cammarano, San Gabriel Historical Association, will install the officers for the society's 2019-2020 year.

Please join the Historical Society for



*Alhambra Civic Center Library's reference librarian Michael Whitley will discuss the relationship between the library and the Historical Society Wednesday, May 22, at the Alhambra Historical Society's meeting.*

this informative talk, the installation ceremony, and enjoy refreshments during Meet and Greet beginning at 7 p.m. At 7:30 p.m., the meeting and program will begin. Admission is free.

For more information about this meeting, or the Alhambra Historical Society and its museum, please call 626-300-8845.

## Experience Mission to Mission: the nada race

On May 19, streets in South Pasadena, Alhambra, and San Gabriel will be closed to automotive traffic from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. That is the day L.A. Metro is sponsoring one of its county-wide Golden Street events, Mission to Mission, in this neighborhood.

The event begins at the Mission Street station of the Metro Gold Line in South Pasadena and ends at Mission San Gabriel. This is not a race but an opportunity to enjoy city streets without vehicular traffic, the way things used to be and how they may be again.

Leisurely bike riding, walking, jogging, skating, and non-motorized forms of transportation along the 5-mile route are the order of the day. There is no hurry. Participants don't have to begin at the starting point. Anywhere along the route that people want to join in will be their starting point. No one is keeping score. Awareness is key. Be considerate and courteous of others along the way.

Feel free to stop anywhere along the route to pause and notice what is there.

Stop for coffee or at the Alhambra Farmers Market to see what is in season. Take the day at one's own pace. Live it and experience it.

The Mission to Mission event originated when the Metro Board approved the Open Streets Competitive Grants framework to fund a series of regional car-free events. The goals of the Open Streets Program is to provide opportunities for riding transit, walking, and riding a bike, possibly for the first time; to encourage future shifts to more sustainable transportation; and civic engagement to foster the development of policies and infrastructure at the city and community level.

Part of the goal of the day is to hook people up with public transportation. Alhambra already connects to the Metro Link Station at Cal State Los Angeles via the ACT Blue Line bus. See <https://www.cityofalhabra.org/resources/public-transportation> for times and routes of the ACT busses. Perhaps there will be more connections in the future.

### **GARFIELD WANG** From Page 1A

Official Selection of last year's Cannes Short Film Corner. Mr. Wang's works often deal with redemption and struggle in hopeless situations. "One thing that many of my works have in common is they're about ordinary people's lives that are changed by unusual incidents," he said.

When it comes to filmmaking, Mr. Wang prefers stories about real life and social issues. His other award-winning works are *Admitted*, a movie about a senior woman's emotional journey, and *Hearing the Rainbow*, a moving story between a depressed suicidal man and a female dancer suffering from hearing impairment. These films have won awards from many film festivals and played in the U.S., China, and Israel.

Mr. Wang is developing a short film titled *Leave Him, Jenny*, which zeros in on the victims of domestic violence.

## Obituary



*Mary Aqleh  
April 26 1947 – March 10, 2019*

## Perfectly Sweet owner Mary Aqleh passes away March 10

Mary Aqleh, who owned Perfectly Sweet at 126 W. Main St., Alhambra, died March 10. She was a nurse for 23 years at Glendale Adventist Medical Center. She had two loves in life, baking and gardening. She began bringing her homemade desserts to parties and other gatherings at work. They were a hit.

Then came the discovery that changed her life. A Swedish friend showed her how to make Sarah Bernhardt cakes, a delicious concoction of meringue and ground almonds surrounded by chocolate mousse and covered with rich Belgian bittersweet chocolate.

In Ms. Aqleh's off time, she rented space in a bakery to use their ovens to turn out the cakes that became her signature product. She soon had three industrial sized refrigerators in her garage.

She sold her cakes to doctors and nurses at the hospital but soon came to the attention of Bristol Farms and Wild

Oats Markets, who began buying her confections. With the support of her husband Kamal and son Michael, Ms. Aqleh made the decision to end her career as a nurse and become a full time dessert maker.

In 1989, she opened Perfectly Sweet in Eagle Rock and worked hard to fill a growing demand for the Sarah Bernhardt cakes and other cakes, cookies, and tarts that she began to master. She even got the attention of Whole Foods Markets and began filling orders for them.

By 1998, she needed more space, and Perfectly Sweet was drawn to Alhambra by City Manager Julio Fuentes. Ms. Aqleh found space at 126 W. Main St. and became so busy with commercial customers, catering, and in-store sales that she employed two shifts to meet the demand. Her son Michael now runs the operation.

## Ramona Convent student wins oratory contest

Dominique Ruedaflores, a freshman from Ramona Convent Secondary School, won first place at the California American Association of University Women (AAUW) Speech Trek Finals held in San Diego April 6. She won \$1,500.

Dominique represented the Poway-Penasquitos branch of AAUW and qualified to compete in the state competition after winning first place at the branch competition Jan. 12. Her speech addressed the topic of eliminating violence aimed at schools and encouraged students, parents, and community members to use their voices to advocate for gun control legislation and to vote and run for office. She is passionate about public speaking because it creates a safe platform for young people to share their stories and to be heard.

*Ramona Convent student Dominique Ruedaflores.*



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



# SuperHero Summer Fest returns to Alhambra

The Downtown Alhambra Business Association will present the second annual SuperHero Summer Fest from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. June 15 at Renaissance Plaza, northeast corner of Main Street and Garfield Avenue. The event is brought to Alhambra by Nerdbot and Alhambra's local super toy store TOY-ZILLA.

The event will feature musical performances, vendors, cosplayers, and celeb-

rities while honoring local heroes. The community is invited to come celebrate and show their superpowers in the dance and costume contests run by PopRock Academy. Also enjoy music from the band Ragnarock. Meet the official voice of Donald Duck, Tony Anselmo, along with tons of other celebs.

Check SuperHeroSummerFestalhambra.com for updates.



The Alhambra will again host its popular outdoor Summer Concert Series.

# Music On The Green at The Alhambra 2019 line up announced

A festive mariachi band will open the season at Music On The Green, the popular outdoor Summer Concert Series hosted by The Alhambra, 1000 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra. The public is invited to attend a free fun-filled, family-friendly event for all ages. Enjoy an array of live musical talent and play a round of Jenga or Connect Four in the commons. Ignite the taste buds with tacos, burritos, and more for purchase from Juan's Tacos. Take a stroll and explore The Alhambra's beautiful campus. The campus is host to 19 species of drought tolerant California native plants and trees, maintained with a water saving irrigation system.

The Alhambra, a reimagined urban community developed by The Ratkovich Company, supports productivity and efficiency in the workspace through the concept of balance. The campus comprises a series of brick building and gardens, connected by pathways, grass, and tree-filled open spaces. The Alhambra is a place where the human spirit is fed, while work gets done.

### Concert schedule:

- May 2 Mariachi band
- May 30 Jonathan Horton (rock/country)
- June 6 Alhambra Junior High Honor Band (variety)
- June 13 Doctor Reverend (funk)
- June 27 Hip hop DJ
- July 11 Danny Memphis (Elvis impersonator)
- July 25 Desmond Bedlow (reggae)
- Aug 8 Shea (indie soul vocalist)
- Aug 22 Private Cat Radio! (swing)
- Sept 5 Alhambra High School Jazz Band

All concerts are held 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For more information, contact Building Management at 626-300-5000 or service@ratkovich.net.

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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 2019 calendar is available for \$10 if bought directly at the shelter or \$12.50 if mailed.

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).



**Shar-pei mix (Wallie), terrier mix (Cinnamon) • Adult • Male • Large and small**

Wallie and Cinnamon are a senior bonded pair who came to San Gabriel Humane from an L.A. city shelter. They want to be adopted together to live out their retirement years in a comfortable home. Wallie is a 15-year-old shar-pei mix with a beautiful black coat with a bit of gray. Wallie is a mellow dog who is comfortable with people and enjoys getting attention. He's an affectionate boy with a sweet disposition. Cinnamon is a 10-year-old terrier mix who is less than half Wallie's size but is clearly the dominant dog in their relationship. Cinnamon also has a calm, easy-going personality and enjoys being with people. Both Wallie and Cinnamon enjoy going for walks together and are easy to manage on the leash. Both dogs qualify for the Senior for Senior Adoption Discount Program and the Buddy System Adoption Program. Their adoption fee includes neuter surgery, vaccinations, microchip, and a free wellness exam at a participating veterinarian.



**Chihuahua mix • Young • Male • Small**

Meeko is a petite tan and white Chihuahua boy who was transferred to San Gabriel from an L.A. city shelter. Meeko enjoys sitting on a lap and having his back scratched. If you stop, he will gently paw you saying, "Pet me some more — I like it!" Meeko is a charming little dog who needs a loving home with a patient person who will let him take the time to adjust to a new life. He is 1 year old. Come to meet Meeko soon to see if he is a good match for you. His adoption fee includes neuter surgery, a microchip, first vaccinations, and a free wellness checkup at a participating veterinarian.

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



**Chihuahua mix • Adult • Male • Small**

Tommy is a cute little brown and white Chihuahua boy who was transferred to San Gabriel from an L.A. city shelter. Walking on leash seemed like a new experience for him, and he is still learning, but he is a smart boy who will catch on quickly. He loves getting pets and belly rubs and has a very sweet nature once he is comfortable. Tommy is waiting to meet his forever family and find the safe and loving home he deserves. He is 2 years old. Come to meet this charming little dog and see for yourself if he is the right match for you. His adoption includes neuter surgery, a microchip, first vaccinations, and a free wellness checkup at a participating veterinarian.

Community Calendar of Events

MAY

**May 2 – Thursday**  
Parks and Recreation Commission  
7 p.m., Joslyn Center, Story Park  
210 N. Chapel Ave.

**May 6 – Monday**  
Planning Commission  
7 p.m., City Hall, council chambers  
111 S. First St.

**May 7 – Tuesday**  
HCDA Citizens Advisory Committee  
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room  
111 S. First St.

**May 8 – Wednesday**  
Transportation Committee  
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room  
111 S. First St.

**May 9 – Thursday**  
Business to Business networking  
Baja Cali Fish & Tacos  
8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.  
31 E. Main St., Alhambra 91801  
RSVP to the chamber at 626-282-8481

**May 13 – Monday**  
City Council, 7 p.m.  
City Hall, 111 S. First St.

**May 14 – Tuesday**  
• Library Board of Trustees  
6 p.m., library boardroom, 101 S. First St.  
• Youth Commission  
6 p.m., library boardroom, 101 S. First St.  
• Design Review Board  
7:30 p.m., City Hall, conference room  
111 S. First St.

**May 15 – Wednesday**  
Arts & Cultural Events Committee  
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room  
111 S. First St.

**May 16 – Thursday**  
Multi Chamber Mixer  
5 p.m. to 8 p.m.  
300 E. Colorado Blvd., #200  
Pasadena Colorado  
Pasadena 91101  
For tickets, go to [Eventbrite.com/e/sgv-after-dark-multi-chamber-mixer-in-pasadena-tickets-59018745657](http://Eventbrite.com/e/sgv-after-dark-multi-chamber-mixer-in-pasadena-tickets-59018745657)

**May 20 – Monday**  
Planning Commission  
7 p.m., City Hall, council chambers  
111 S. First St.

**May 27 – Monday**  
City Council, 7 p.m.  
City Hall, 111 S. First St

**May 28 – Tuesday**  
Design Review Board  
7:30 p.m., City Hall, conference room  
111 S. First St.

JUNE

**June 3 – Monday**  
Planning Commission  
7 p.m., City Hall, council chambers  
111 S. First St.

**June 4 – Tuesday**  
HCDA Citizens Advisory Committee  
7 p.m. - City Hall, conference room  
111 S. First St.

**June 6 – Thursday**  
• SCORE counselor appointments available  
10 a.m. to noon  
Phone the Chamber at 626-282-8481  
• Parks and Recreation Commission  
7 p.m., Joslyn Center, Story Park  
210 N. Chapel Ave.

**June 7 – Friday**  
Chamber's 116th Installation Dinner  
Almanson Court, Lakeview Room  
700 S. Almanson St.  
6 p.m. Cocktails  
7 p.m. Dinner  
For information, phone the Chamber at  
626-282-8481

**June 10 – Monday**  
City Council, 7 p.m.  
City Hall, 111 S. First St

**June 11 – Tuesday**  
• Library Board of Trustees  
6 p.m., library boardroom, 101 S. First St.  
• Youth Commission  
6 p.m., library boardroom, 101 S. First St.  
• Design Review Board  
7:30 p.m., City Hall, conference room  
111 S. First St.

**June 17 – Monday**  
Planning Commission  
7 p.m., City Hall, council chambers  
111 S. First St.

**June 19 – Wednesday**  
Arts & Cultural Events Committee  
7 p.m., City Hall, conference room  
111 S. First St.

**June 24 – Monday**  
City Council, 7 p.m.  
City Hall, 111 S. First St

**June 25 – Tuesday**  
Design Review Board  
7:30 p.m., City Hall, conference room  
111 S. First St.

**June 26 – Wednesday**  
No Chamber Mixer this month.  
Please join the Chamber at its Installation  
Dinner June 14.

Alhambra Service Clubs and Organizations

**Tuesday:** The **Kiwanis Club of Alhambra** meets at 6 p.m. the first and third Tuesdays of each month at Denny's Restaurant, 369 W. Main St., Alhambra. The **Rotary Club** meets at noon every Tuesday at Almanson Court, 700 S. Almanson St. The **Soroptimst Club** meets at noon the first and third Tuesday of the month at the San Gabriel Hilton, 225 W. Valley Blvd., San Gabriel 91776.

**Wednesday:** The **Alhambra Historical Society** presents its program meetings at 7:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of January, March, May, September and before or after Thanksgiving in November at the Masonic Center, 9 W. Woodward Ave. **Toastmasters** meets from 6:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. on the first and third Wednesdays each month at the Colonial Kitchen Restaurant, 1110 Huntington Drive, San Marino.

**Thursday:** **American Legion Post 139** meets at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday each month at the Legion Hall, 24 N. Stoneman Ave., Alhambra. **San Gabriel Valley New Generation Rotary Club** meets from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. every Thursday at Twohey's, 1224 N. Atlantic Blvd., Alhambra. The **Alhambra Woman's Club** meets monthly. Phone 626-289-9307 for information.

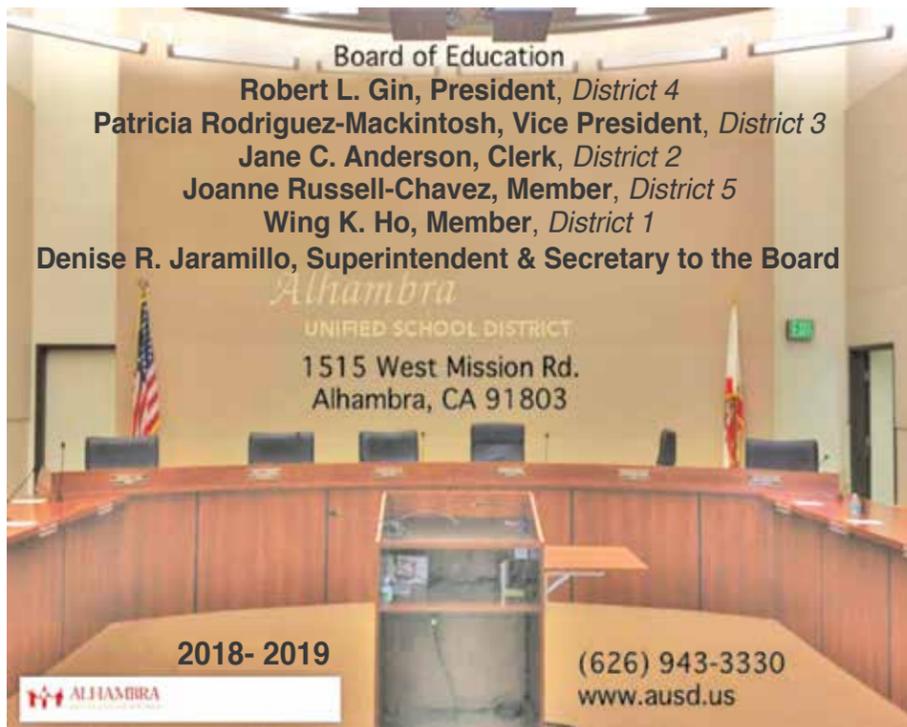


### Mark Keppel High, Century High educators gather for 2019 Distinguished Schools ceremony

Mark Keppel and Century high schools are honored as 2019 Distinguished Schools by State Superintendent Tony Thurmond and the California Department of Education. On hand for the ceremony were, from left, back row: Century High Principal Phuong Nguyen and teacher Patty Garcia; Assistant Superintendent Janet Lees; Superintendent Denise Jaramillo; Director of Secondary Education Brad Walsh; and teacher Alexia Martinez. From left, front row: Mark Keppel Assistant Principal Jocelyn Castro; Mark Keppel Principal Jeannie Gutierrez; teacher Lakia Mozell; teacher Cuong Lam; and Mark Keppel Assistant Principal Marisa Palacios.



Alhambra High English teacher Karen Jacobson, third from left, is honored by the school district for winning the Game Changer Award. On hand to help her celebrate were, left to right: Denise R. Jaramillo, AUSD superintendent; Caroline Botros, AHS assistant principal; Ms. Jacobson; Carly Chavez, AHS assistant principal; Javier Gutierrez, AHS department chair; Stacie Colman-Hsu, AUSD director Human Resources.



## Alhambra High teacher Karen Jacobson wins Game Changer Award with 23 student nominations

Karen Jacobson, Alhambra High English teacher, was honored by the AUSD Board of Education April 2 for winning the Game Changer Award.

Ms. Jacobson set a record by being nominated by 23 students and by AHS social studies department chair Javier Gutierrez for her work with immigrant students. Her

belief in them made all the difference in their ability to learn. Ms. Jacobson is evidence that every student is one adult away from success. Her relationship-building skills make her a role-model for students and staff alike, adding so much character to AUSD family.

## 2019 AAEDS Scholarship Opportunity

### Who's Eligible?

- ◆ Must be a Graduating High School Senior from the listed eligible SCHOOL DISTRICTS:

Alhambra Unified School District • Arcadia Unified School District • Baldwin Park Unified School District • El Monte Union High School District • Montebello Unified School District • San Gabriel Unified School District • San Marino Unified School District • South Pasadena Unified School District • Temple City Unified School District • Ramona Convent Secondary School • Don Bosco Technical Institute

- ◆ Demonstrate financial need (to be eligible for financial aid, applicant must have submitted a FAFSA form by the March 2019 deadline.)
- ◆ Cumulative high school *unweighted* GPA (out of a 4.0 scale) must be 3.0 and above.
- ◆ Only U.S. Citizens are eligible to apply. (Please note, affiliates of AAEDS are not eligible to apply.)

### Award Amount:

There will be (3) awards of \$500 each and (3) awards of \$1000 each.

A total of 6 scholarship awards will be offered.

### Requirements:

- ◆ \*Complete the AAEDS Scholarship application.
- ◆ \*Please provide an essay (in 500 words or fewer).
- ◆ \*Provide 1 Letter of Recommendation along with the recommendation form completed by the recommender.
- ◆ Provide an official sealed copy of your high school transcript.

**Application Deadline:** Friday, May 31, 2019 @ 5:00 pm



Scholarship winners from 2018 shown .

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

\*\*\*All forms may be downloaded online from [www.aede.info](http://www.aede.info)\*\*\*



Team Ramona Elementary turn up in force to celebrate Yvonne Kim's (fourth from the right) Game Changer Award. From left are Juanita Navarro, teacher; Denise Diconti, instructional specialist; Ramona Principal Dr. Steven Suttle; Denise Jaramillo, superintendent of AUSD; Ms. Kim, office assistant at Ramona; Lisa Sanchez; Stacie Coleman-Tsu, AUSD director of HR; and Patricia Synegard, teacher.

# Ramona School's Yvonne Kim wins Game Changer Award

Yvonne Kim, office assistant at Ramona Elementary, has won the AUSD Game Change Award.

Honored April 2 by the Alhambra Unified School District Board of Education, Ms. Kim's colleagues were also on hand to

salute her remarkable way of working with students, parents, and staff no matter the situation. Her kindness, poise, empathy, and grace under fire add to the positive culture at Ramona Elementary.

# Repetto School Library: a window to the world, a wealth of resources

BY AMAL MOORE, LIBRARY MEDIA AIDE, WITH CONTRIBUTION FROM PRINCIPAL CARIN GASCA

Repetto Roadrunners are busy this 2018-2019 school year learning, reading, growing, and participating in educational activities. One wonderful activity has been visiting the school library. Students visit the library with their classes or during morning recess with a library pass from their homeroom teacher. This year, students have the opportunity to explore the district's new Technology and Information Services (TIS) Lending Library. They delve into the new technology with library media aide Amal Moore and district technology instructional specialist Doris Gorski. Teachers and staff members are examining all the TIS lending library offerings as well.



Repetto School third-graders, from left, Kenneth Bui, Ashley Lam, Ken Wang, and Lorenzo Alvarado (holding the device) love to explore the new resources at the Repetto School Library. Photo by Liezel Gutierrez.

Students research robots, including Dash and Dot, and Ozobot robots. They enjoy looking for the Little Bits Kits and built fans and flashlights and other mechanisms they create from their own imaginations. Students love looking for books in every genre and learning the many important possibilities that other libraries offer, including Bruggemeyer Library and Alhambra Civic Center Library. Students and parents can search the AUSD district online library resources from the district homepage [www.ausd.us](http://www.ausd.us) under Parent Resources. This option includes online Britannica Encyclopedias as well as many more possible online academic explorations.

All of these resources, in combination with wonderful classroom lessons in all subjects, balance literacy, and classroom libraries provide students with a feast of opportunities to make the most of their education.

March was filled with much learning, including celebrating Dr. Seuss's birthday and Read Across America. Students are reading a variety of his books, including *Green Eggs and Ham*, *Dr. Seuss's ABC's*, and *Oh the Places You'll Go*, among others. Students had a special treat when Principal Carin Gasca and Vice Principal Candace Griego came to read a Dr. Seuss story to celebrate Read Across America. In April students love the annual Scholastic Book Fair. During summer break and beyond, we want students to read and nurture their special interests! Read to Succeed!



METRO PRESENTS: SUNDAY, MAY 19, 2019 | 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

# MISSION-TO-MISSION 626 GOLDEN STREETS

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The San Gabriel High Marching Band will perform at 626 Golden Streets May, 19. This is a great chance to see them before their performance with the AUSD All District Rose Parade Band Jan. 1, 2020.

## 2019 SCHOLAR DOLLAR PRIZES From Page 1A

prize to expand its use of technology in all curricular areas, recognizing the significant impact technology has on students' learning.

Principal Natalie Tee-Gaither explained how Brightwood will use the award: "By embracing and integrating technology in the classroom, we are setting our students up for success outside of school. Educational technology in the classroom prepares students for their future in this increasingly digital world."

Repetto School was one of four schools in Category D (651 to 900 stu-

dents), which each receive \$20K. Principal Carin Gasca said Repetto will use the prize to develop a Next Generation Science lab for students to explore science through three dimensional learning.

It took the concerted efforts of the whole community to win the Scholar Dollar Award. Alhambra Unified, Brightwood and Repetto schools thank all those who helped to improve learning opportunities for their students by participating and thank Scholar Share 529 for their generosity. Visit [www.myscholarsdollars.com](http://www.myscholarsdollars.com) for more information.

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2nd Annual

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**RSVP**  
[tinyurl.com/2019decisionday](http://tinyurl.com/2019decisionday)

**\* Must bring SIR to attend event**

**See College Advisers in the Career Center for more information**



Mark Keppel junior Sophia Dimas nominated her biology teacher, May Ng, for the prestigious National Honored Award. Photo by Honored.org.

## Mark Keppel teacher wins coveted National Honored Award: Award showcases life-changing impact of teachers

Alhambra Unified is cheering Mark Keppel High junior Sophia Dimas, who nominated her biology teacher, May Ng, for the National Honored Award, and Ms. Ng won!

The non-profit Honored.org is dedicated to honoring the teaching profession and to keeping great K-12 teachers in the classroom by showcasing the life-changing difference they make. Often teachers never learn their impact on students (87% of Americans wish they had told their best teachers how much they appreciated their efforts.).

Believing that students are the best source on the impact of teachers, honored.org awards are based on student nominations. The National Honored Awards include a significant monetary prize and a news story by a nationally recognized journalist.

Vanessa de la Torre, a reporter on the NPR identity, race, and culture team at WNPR-FM in Connecticut, wrote their story. Read about Ms. Ng and Sophia at [www.honored.org](http://www.honored.org). Every month, honored.org selects a student-nominated teacher to win their Honored Award.

As the Sophia Dimas and May Ng's story demonstrates, strong relationships are central to the learning process. AUSD believes

academic excellence is relationship-driven. When students feel cared about, they will try and they learn.

Ms. Ng studied medicine at UCLA, thinking she wanted to become a doctor. But then a quote changed her mind: "Doctors can save lives, but teachers shape lives."

One life Ms. Ng shaped is Sophia's, who was moved by Ms. Ng's relationship-building kindness to nominate her for the Honored.org award.

As soon as Ms. Ng learned the Honored.org Award she'd won also came with a monetary prize, Ms. Ng asked MKHS Assistant Principal Joycelyn Castro how to start a scholarship for her students. Kindness begets kindness.

The beloved Mark Keppel biology teacher has a special knack for making her lessons memorable for students. What made Ms. Ng's teaching style so meaningful to Sophia and other students was her ability to connect complicated textbook science to their day-to-day lives. Her signature questions is, "What if?" According to Sophia, Ms. Ng's real-world anecdotes are anticipated by the class like stories around the campfire.

Students or parents of young students can nominate a K-12, past or present teacher at Honored.org.



From left: San Gabriel High School graduating seniors Brian Barrueta and Josue Zuniga; Telemundo's Norma Ribeiro; San Gabriel High Principal Debbie Stone; AP Spanish teacher Eliana Deniz; and School Community Coordinator Beatriz Macias.

## How two San Gabriel High seniors became first generation college bound

When San Gabriel High students Josue Zuniga and Brian Barrueta met in sophomore chemistry, they shared a desire to drop the class they were about to fail.

Instead, Principal Debbie Stone offered them the Principal's Conference Room as a place to study. That room made Josue and Brian feel like they mattered. It made them want to try. They had a place where they could concentrate.

When asked about the room, Josue said, "It was a privilege. Eventually I thought I could belong in such an important place, like I deserved to be there." Brian said, "We both thought, 'I want to do what I have to do to work in an office like this.'"

That conference room started them on their journey from two freshman Latino boys who didn't take school seriously to motivated sophomore study partners who invented ways to teach themselves what they did not understand. Josue and Brian met every day in the conference room and found ways to tutor themselves. Both boys earned B's in chemistry. Brian said, "Being able to do that, working together to change D's into B's, I changed my opinion of myself."

They began to see they could graduate from a comprehensive high school, something no one in their families had done. With encouragement from Ms. Stone, who shared her own struggles and hard work, and their AP Spanish teacher Eliana Deniz, Josue and Brian dared to think they could be college material. As Brian said, "We began to give our best."

It was field trips to Adelante Young Men Conference organized by Beatriz Macias, school community coordinator, that opened their eyes to what they could dream of accomplishing — and what it would take.

At the November conferences, Latino young men take part in workshops led by successful Latino men from all professions, positive role-models, men who look like them. These mentors tell the students, "The struggles and obstacles we overcame

are the same ones you have. We are here to say you can do it. We are here to help." Inspired, Josue and Brian redoubled their efforts at school. Months later, they quote the men they met, remembering the encouragement, using it to motivate themselves through hardships. "It was life-changing," said Brian.

With mentoring and school successes, they began to think of careers. Brian wanted to go into criminal justice and become a probation officer. Josue wanted to start a business, go into construction. "We said, 'we've got to go to college,'" said Brian.

Asked the secret to their transformation, Josue and Brian said that Ms. Stone told them to succeed "you have to have a plan." Their plan began with tutoring themselves in chemistry in the Principal's Conference Room. That room, a principal's belief in them, their own dedication and successes, shifted their opinion of themselves. They applied for college — a giant step for them and their families. With commitment, hard work, and the SGHS staff who believed in them, Josue and Brian are graduating in May. They are the first in their families to apply to college. Josue is awaiting word. Brian received his acceptance to Cal Poly Pomona. His fifth-grade brother cheered — now he too plans to go to college. They will be two of 550 San Gabriel seniors taking part in Decision Day on May 1 to celebrate their plans after graduation.

Brian and Josue say how much their families sacrificed to make their education possible. Brian said, "I want to make each and every sacrifice my parents made for me pay off for my family, for me and for my future family. I want to be a role-model." Josue nodded, agreeing. That is their plan: Forge new pathways for themselves and for a whole generation. Give it their best.

Watch the Telemundo Norma Ribeiro story on Josue and Brian:

[https://www.telemundo52.com/fotosyvideos/J\\_venes-inmigrantes-listos-para-conquistar-sus-metas\\_TLMD---Los-Angeles-508417562.html](https://www.telemundo52.com/fotosyvideos/J_venes-inmigrantes-listos-para-conquistar-sus-metas_TLMD---Los-Angeles-508417562.html)



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