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School District Honors Lillian Rey for Dedicated Service to the Community

El Monte City School District (EMCSD) and their Board of Education honored Lillian Rey, the Executive Director of the El Monte & South El Monte Emergency Resource Association (ERA) for her dedication to the families throughout the community. After four decades of service, she is officially retiring.

Ms. Rey has spent the last 43 years working at the ERA and was responsible for the administrative tasks of the agency including fund-raising, community liaison, and volunteer supervision. More often you could find her loading groceries into her van to deliver to a family in the midst of a personal or financial crisis. If not providing the necessary resources, Ms. Rey might be at a local motel arranging emergency shelter for a family who has just lost their home.

"I refer to her as a guardian angel," said Dr. Maribel Garcia, EMCSD Superintendent. "This is someone who's always been behind the scenes. She's shown this community how important it is to take care of one another and that ripple will continue as



we strive to continue her work."

Recently, Ms. Rey has been integral to both pandemic and post-pandemic relief efforts. This includes providing basic necessities like hygiene accessories, diapers, toiletries, and canned goods to families in need. Over the years, Ms. Rey has organized gift baskets and toy donations for families during the holiday season. On the last day before Winter Break, many EMCSD staff volunteer to build baskets and donate toys to aid Ms. Rey's

"I just want to thank Lillian for leading with such a beautiful heart. Her legacy is something that will be irreplaceable," added Dr. Garcia. EMCSD Board President, Beth Rivas said at their board meeting, "[Ms. Rey] has always been motivated by abundant compassion to meet every need she possibly could. I remember one time in particular, she had to make sure that a mother who came in went away with a doll and a doll blanket for her small child at home.

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A Unique Opportunity to Learn about Law Enforcement



The City of Rosemead, in partnership with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Temple Station, is pleased to announce the upcoming Community Academy. This exclusive program offers community members a unique opportunity to gain a comprehensive understanding of their local law enforcement agency and the City of Rosemead's governmental functions.

The Community Academy is a 7-week program that will run from April 3 to May 22, 2024. Classes will be held every Wednesday evening, except for May 15th. The program will conclude with a graduation ceremony on May 22, 2024.

Participants will have the privilege of exploring various topics relevant to law enforcement and governance. These include presentations by the Los Angeles County Coroner's

Office, an overview of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department with a focus on patrol and sheriff traffic procedures, a patrol ride-along experience, drug and fentanyl awareness sessions, and Homeless Outreach awareness conducted by the Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse.

To provide a comprehensive learning experience, participants will also have the opportunity to tour Temple Sheriff's Station and the Twin Towers Custody Facility. These visits will provide valuable insights into the day-to-day operations of law enforcement agencies.

In addition to the law enforcement-centric sessions, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the City of Rosemead's governmental functions. Each week, a different aspect of the

ROSEMEAD >> PAGE 7

Mountain View School District Reaches 100th Day of School



February 7 marked the 100th day of the 2023-2024 school year in the Mountain View School District and students across the District's eight schools celebrated being 100 days smarter as they commemorated reaching the school year milestone.

Teachers and staff at various schools organized engaging activities centered around the number 100. These activities included dressing up as 100-year-olds, counting 100 items such as fruit loops and pennies, creating and wearing 100-day hats, glasses, and necklaces. They also encouraged students to showcase their creativity by building structures using 100 Legos and Linker Cubes.

In addition, students were asked to reflect on their learning from the past 100 school days through writing exercises, solve math problems, and create posters and artwork.

At some schools, students went above and beyond to portray centenarians sporting outfits complete with canes, walkers, and even gray hair.

"We've learned a lot the last 100 days at school," said first grader, Aubrey Vazquez. "I really like all the math stuff I've learned like adding and subtracting. Math is my favorite thing to do and I can't wait to learn more and get smarter."

ONE HUNDRED >> PAGE 7



Electrician Program Illuminates Career Pathways for Students



The Electrician training program at El Monte Rosemead Adult School (EMRAS) has gained significant momentum since its establishment in August 2016. Recognizing the pressing need for skilled electricians amidst a severe shortage in the industry, EMRAS has developed a comprehensive curriculum that leads to certification and licensure, equipping students with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities for a successful career in the field.

California's job market has witnessed an impressive 18% increase in employment opportunities, particularly in sectors such as residential, commercial, and industrial construction.

To address the growing demand, EMRAS designed an Electrician program that considers various factors, including job outlook, community demographics, and the expansion of Career Technical Education (CTE) programs.

The program's curriculum encompasses essential aspects such as electrical theory, code knowledge, practical skills, and best practices, ensuring graduates are well-prepared to excel in the industry.

EMRAS's Electrician program has garnered recognition and accreditation from esteemed institutions. Accredited by the State of California Department of Industrial Relations, and acknowledged by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) as a superior training site, EMRAS has solidified its reputation as a premier institution for electrician education.

EMRAS stands out from other programs by offering students a comprehensive education that covers a wide range of electrical procedures for both residential and commercial/industrial applications.

From theory to hands-on applications, the program ensures

students receive a well-rounded skill set. Students can choose the extent of their education based on their career aspirations, whether they prefer to specialize in residential or commercial/industrial electrical work.

To provide students with an unparalleled learning experience, EMRAS has invested in state-of-the-art facilities. The program boasts two cutting-edge labs, equipped with the latest technology, including Vivitech Smart TVs, modern computers, individual Chromebooks, and fast internet.

These resources, coupled with industry-leading hands-on trainers and a self-paced, multimedia curriculum, empower students to gain practical experience and master the necessary skills.

Additionally, EMRAS prioritizes affordability by reusing and recycling materials, making it one of the most cost-effective state-certified electrical programs in California.

EMRAS's Electrician program has achieved a remarkable 90% completion rate and a track record of successful job placements, affirming its effectiveness in preparing students for fulfilling careers in the electrical industry.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the program's resilience prevailed as instructors and administrators swiftly adapted to ensure uninterrupted education for students. The program's popularity is evident through the long waiting list for the upcoming school year.

In a world where skilled electricians are in high demand, EMRAS's Electrician program illuminates the path to a bright future.



**El Monte-Rosemead
Adult School**

El Monte Union Celebrates Athletes' Success at Heritage Bowl



El Monte Union High School District proudly commends the exceptional performance of its football team athletes who recently participated in the highly anticipated Wright-Family Consultant Group LLC. 2024 Heritage Bowl All Star Game. The event, held on February 3, showcased the remarkable talent and sportsmanship of student-athletes from Los Angeles County as they united to compete against their counterparts from San Diego County.

The El Monte Union football team athletes, from various high schools within the district, displayed unwavering dedication and skill on the field. Their participation in such a prestigious event not only showcased their individual abilities but also represented the collective strength and spirit of the El Monte Union community.

The Heritage Bowl All Star Game serves as a platform for exceptional student-athletes to demonstrate their prowess in the sport, while also fostering camaraderie and friendly

competition among players from different regions. This year's event witnessed a remarkable display of talent, as athletes from both Los Angeles County and San Diego County showcased their skills and passion for the game.

El Monte Union High School District takes immense pride in its athletes, recognizing their commitment to excellence both on and off the field.

The participation of El Monte Union's football team athletes in the Heritage Bowl All Star Game not only highlights their exceptional abilities, but also exemplifies the district's dedication to fostering a well-rounded educational experience that encompasses both academics and athletics.

As the El Monte Union High School District celebrates the achievements of its football team athletes at the 2024 Heritage Bowl All Star Game, it reaffirms its commitment to providing exceptional opportunities for student-athletes to excel in their chosen sports.



The District Prioritizes Daily Attendance for Student Success

El Monte Union High School District remains steadfast in its commitment to the academic success and well-being of its students. Recognizing the pivotal role that daily attendance plays in fostering responsible habits, building a positive school culture, and closing the achievement gap, the district is dedicated to equipping students with the necessary tools and resources to accomplish their goals every day.

Extensive research demonstrates the profound impact of regular attendance on academic performance. Studies reveal that missing just 10% of school, equivalent to approximately 18 days in our district, can significantly hinder a student's progress. This chronic absenteeism, which amounts to only two days a month, underscores the importance of maintaining consistent attendance throughout the school year.

To ensure students maintain good

attendance records and arrive at school on time each day, El Monte Union encourages parents and guardians to collaborate with schools. By establishing a consistent routine, monitoring their child's progress, and fostering open communication about daily attendance, families can actively support their students' academic journey.

It is vital to note that the regular start time for the school day is 8:30 a.m. Parents and guardians can find detailed information on bell schedules, including late start dates, by visiting their respective school's website.

By working together and reinforcing the significance of daily attendance, El Monte Union students will continue to thrive and achieve personal and academic success throughout the school year.

Health & Fitness

How To Live A Long And Healthy Life

If you want to increase your lifespan, adopting a healthy lifestyle can help prevent illness and injury. Here's what you should do to live a long life.

Eat well

An abundance of nutrient-rich fruits and vegetables, whole grains and fish packed with omega-3 fatty acids are vital components of a healthy, balanced diet.

Stay hydrated

Drink at least half a gallon of water every day to help your body absorb nutrients, regulate your temperature and eliminate waste.

Watch your weight

If you're overweight, you risk developing a range of health

problems such as cancer, high blood pressure and cardiovascular disease. You're also more likely to experience joint pain and reduced mobility.

Get enough sleep

Adults should sleep between seven and nine hours every night. You should also avoid eating and limit your use of electronic devices before bed.

Remain active

Health experts recommend that adults engage in at least 150 minutes of aerobic exercise every week. Choose an activity you enjoy to ensure you stay motivated.

Learn to manage stress

Explore various ways to relax and reduce stress such as breathing deeply, listening to music and practicing yoga.



5 steps for home preparedness

- Smoke alarms**
Make sure to install smoke alarms on every floor of the house, including the basement and near rooms where people sleep.
- Emergency numbers**
Keep emergency numbers to local emergency services handy. Make sure everyone in the household knows how to make an emergency phone call.
- Involve the whole family**
Hold home fire drills and keep track of the time. Have kids help check smoke detectors.
- Fire extinguishers**
Keep a fire extinguisher in plain view and on every floor of your home.
- Carbon monoxide and radon detectors**
Carbon monoxide detectors and radon detection kits are vital, as both gases are tasteless and odorless. Check batteries regularly.

With the right equipment and planning, many of the disasters that happen at home can be prevented. Follow this guide to make your home an even safer haven.

DNA determines your reaction to caffeine

Caffeine is the most widely consumed psychostimulant in the world, but did you know your genetic code can determine if it has a positive or negative effect on your body? Here's a quick overview.

REACTIONS

Consuming caffeine increases blood pressure and dilates blood vessels. While this can have a feel-good effect on some people, others may experience heart palpitations as a result.

One of the reasons for this difference in reactions is a specific enzyme that's responsible for metabolizing it. Genetic variation determines how fast your kidneys can eliminate caffeine from your body. Consequently, it has practically no effect on people whose bodies can get rid of it quickly, but, it can increase the risk of hypertension in people whose bodies eliminate it slowly.

CONSUMPTION

The amount of coffee you drink may also be linked to your DNA. Scientists have pinpointed two specific genes that are directly associated with how many cups of joe people drink per day. Additionally, these genetic sequences indicate whether someone feels the need to consume caffeine, and if so, how often.

If you're concerned about your caffeine intake, make sure to discuss the issue with your doctor at your next appointment.



7 tips for achieving your fitness goals

Have you decided to start going to the gym? If so, here are seven tips for following through on your exercise goals.

Find a gym you like

Visit the gyms in your area and choose the one that suits you best. You should also assess a facility's cleanliness and find out how busy the place is during the times you plan to exercise.

Gear up

Having the right clothing and equipment will help you feel more comfortable at the gym. Get a good pair of shoes, breathable exercise attire and a decent gym bag.

Get expert advice

Consider hiring a trainer or other fitness professional to help you create a personalized exercise plan. This will help you make the most effective use of your time at the gym.

Track your progress

By regularly noting your weight, body



measurements, blood pressure and other progress markers, you'll be able to see how much your hard work pays off.

Challenge yourself

To make progress, you need to keep pushing past your comfort zone. Bump up to a higher weight or harder type of exercise when you're ready.

Celebrate your achievements

Reward yourself when you reach milestones. Buy that tech gadget you've had your eye on or get a massage or enjoy a night out with your exercise buddy — whatever you choose.

Lastly, when you're at the gym, avoid comparing yourself to others. No two people are the same, and the guy doing 300-pound deadlifts also had to start somewhere.



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Right Of First Refusal: What It Is And Why It's Useful

A right of first refusal (ROFR) in a real estate contract is a clause that gives an individual first dibs on buying a particular property. If someone other than the specified individual makes an offer, they're notified by the seller and given the opportunity to match the bid.

Advantages for landlords

On the landlord's end, he or she maintains the right to sell to the highest bidder and always has at least one interested buyer. As an added bonus, it's likely to be someone who can purchase the place with little hassle.

Who can arrange an ROFR?

An ROFR clause can be arranged between a tenant and a landlord, between family members or between neighbors. An ROFR can also be offered to a tenant via a homeowners' association or condo board.

If you sign a right of first refusal agreement, make sure that the specifics suit you. Look at details such as the deadline to match an offer and the expiry date of the clause. Additionally, it's a good idea to consult with a lawyer before entering into any legal agreement.

Advantages for tenants

This type of agreement can benefit all parties involved. If, for instance, a tenant is interested in eventually buying the home they're renting, an ROFR clause gives them the assurance that so long as they have the funds, they'll be first in line.



Examining the Influence on School Environments in Low Income Housing



In the pursuit of advancing the affirmatively furthering fair housing (AFFH) objective to increase access to opportunity, the State of California has often focused on neighborhood opportunity as a whole, considering the broader concept of "resources" rather than specific neighborhood characteristics.

However, a recent analysis delves deeper into one crucial aspect of neighborhood opportunity: schools. By examining the State's approach to increasing access to opportunity within LIHTC-financed affordable housing, this analysis sheds light on how it has influenced school environments for families residing in these communities.

The study reveals that the State's incentives to promote opportunity areas have resulted in modest improvements in the likelihood of family-serving affordable housing, financed with 4% LIHTCs, being located in neighborhoods with schools that boast higher test scores, lower rates of chronic absenteeism, higher rates of post-secondary enrollment, and greater racial integration. However, corresponding changes have been limited in the 9% program.

Further examination of the TCAC/HCD Opportunity Map highlights profound disparities between school environments in higher and lower resource neighborhoods.

For instance, the analysis shows that the median 4th-grade math proficiency rate is 59% in schools within the highest resource areas, compared to only 21% in schools located in low resource areas.

This concerning gap emphasizes the association between school test scores and long-term economic prospects, particularly for children from low-

income families.

Additionally, schools in higher resource areas exhibit greater racial integration, while lower resource areas are often served by racially segregated schools with minimal white student presence.

It is crucial to note that while the State's opportunity area incentives aim to enhance access to opportunity, other AFFH objectives, such as transforming racially and ethnically concentrated areas of poverty into areas of opportunity, remain separate considerations.

These additional objectives are vital to the State's commitment to addressing segregation and its detrimental effects, deserving of thorough attention and action. A comprehensive approach to advancing AFFH objectives involves both mobility and place-based strategies, as outlined in a previous policy brief.

This analysis provides valuable insights into the impact of California's efforts to advance the AFFH objective on school environments within LIHTC-financed affordable housing.

By recognizing the disparities present in school resources, policymakers can gain a clearer understanding of the challenges faced by families in low resource areas and work towards implementing comprehensive strategies that address these issues.

Through continued research and a commitment to housing opportunities, the State can contribute to creating environments where all individuals have equal access to quality education and the potential for long-term success.

Fixed Versus Variable Rate Mortgages: What You Need To Know

Fixed or variable rate? It's a question every homebuyer is faced with when obtaining a mortgage. If you're unsure about which option is best for you, this primer should help.

increase or decrease several times per year. For example, in 2018, this rate changed four times. It rose by 0.25 percent each time, climbing from 1.25 percent in March to 2.50 percent in December.

What are fixed and variable rate mortgages?

Fixed rate mortgages are straightforward and involve paying the same monetary installments and interest rate for the duration of your term.

Variable rate mortgages, on the other hand, are a little more complicated. They're tied to your bank's prime rate, which may change over time.

Your bank's prime rate is based on the target federal funds rate or the rate banks charge each other when they lend funds overnight. A quoted prime rate is typically the average of the prime rates charged by the major banks.

The target federal funds rate can

Should you choose a fixed or variable rate mortgage?

Variable rate mortgages typically have a lower interest rate than fixed rate mortgages and historically, they've saved people money. However, fixed rate mortgages have the benefit of offering certainty and predictability. They make budgeting easier and take away any trepidation around potential interest rate hikes.

To better determine which mortgage type will cost you the least, see what leading economists are forecasting for the target federal funds rate. Just keep in mind that no one can reliably predict future fluctuations.



HR Assistant Manager HRBP & Training. City of Industry, CA Asst line Manager to update perf mgmt, people dvlpmnt, employee relationship, org dvlpmnt, talent acquisition, employee comm'n, & other HR-rltd activs; Leverage partnerships & bus acumen to enable creation & implmnt'n of HR tactics in alignment w/ overseas regions; Build prod relationships w/ int key clients on all levels; Leverage HQ/regional resources to implmnt talent dvlpmnt strat & activs to help overseas regions to update their talent pool to support bus growth; Comm betw China BU & regions to help overseas regions to promote cultural projs/activs; Bachelor's in Human Resource Mgmt, or Bus Admin, + 3-yr exp in HR rltd occups. Salary: \$65021/yr. Mail résumé & cvr ltr to: JUSDA Supply Chain Management Corporation, 21860 Baker Pkwy, City of Industry, CA 91789



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EYE ON FINANCE / ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

5 tips for improving your credit score

Whether you're looking for a car loan, submitting a rental application or applying for a mortgage, it's important to have a good credit score. If your current credit score is suboptimal, here are five things you can do to rebuild it.

- 1. **Pay your bills on time.** Always pay bills in full before the due date. If you can't pay the total amount, at least make the minimum required payment.
- 2. **Don't max out your cards.** It's best to use no more than half of your available credit (for example, don't put more than \$500 on a credit card with a \$1,000 limit). If you always max out your card, lenders will consider you a high-risk loan candidate. Also, never surpass your credit card limit.

3. **Be a loyal customer.** Don't switch credit cards or financial institutions unnecessarily. The age of your credit history impacts your credit score.

4. **Get credit checks infrequently.** If a lender or company files a request to view your credit report, which is known as a hard inquiry, it'll impact your credit score. Conversely, checking your credit yourself, which is known as a soft inquiry, won't affect your score.

5. **Have multiple types of credit.** Using more than one type of credit (for example, a credit card, line of credit and mortgage) tends to improve your credit score. Just be sure that you're able to pay back everything you borrow.

To get more advice about building up your credit score, reach out to a qualified financial adviser.



5 tips for avoiding financial disputes with your partner

Is your better half thrifty while you tend to spend? It isn't unusual for couples to disagree about financial matters. However, it's important that conflicts be resolved before they impact your relationship. Here are five things you and your partner can do to prevent financial disputes.

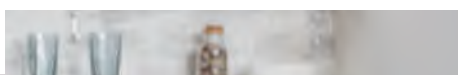
- 1. Discuss your goals and values, and disclose your financial situation before making a serious commitment such as moving in together, getting married or having children.
- 2. Divvy up shared living expenses in proportion to your respective incomes. This involves agreeing on what expenses should be shared.

3. Have separate bank accounts for personal expenses.

4. Create a budget together and track your finances.

5. Determine whether shared expenses that one party voluntarily takes on should be considered gifts or loans in the event that you separate.

Finally, consider consulting industry professionals such as financial advisers, lawyers or therapists if your financial disputes begin to jeopardize the future of your relationship.



How to safely lend money

If you plan to lend money to a family member or friend, it's in the best interest of both parties to have a clear, legally binding loan agreement. Here's how to go about it.

DRAWING UP A LOAN AGREEMENT YOURSELF

If you're loaning a small sum of money, you may choose to draft your own loan agreement. In addition to the loan amount, this contract should include the following:

- The full name, address and phone number of both the lender and borrower
- The loan repayment schedule and whether the amount will be returned in a lump sum or in multiple payments
- The interest rate on the loan, if applicable
- The terms for late or missed payments
- The signature of both parties, the date and, ideally, a witness' signature

The loan agreement should be written in plain language. If you aren't confident about drafting the document yourself, consider looking for a template of a loan agreement online.

GETTING HELP FROM A LAWYER

Drafting a loan agreement yourself carries certain risks. If important information is left out, or if either party's obligations are unclear, the agreement may not be legally valid. Alternatively, you may unwittingly agree to adverse terms simply because you aren't familiar with contract law. If you want extra assurance, or if you're loaning a large sum of money, always have a lawyer draw up your loan agreement.

A lawyer can be counted on to create a comprehensive, airtight contract. In addition, they can provide legal advice about how to handle the more delicate aspects of the loan, such as the procedure for handling missed payments.

By entrusting a lawyer to draft your loan agreement, you may spare yourself some frustration if a dispute arises.



What homeowners should know about their insurance coverage

Some homeowners mistakenly believe that their home insurance covers all types of damage to their property and belongings. Although there are many losses that your home insurance does protect you against, it's important to understand that it doesn't include everything.

WHAT YOUR POLICY COVERS

A standard home insurance policy will cover the most common types of claims. These include losses resulting from a fire, burglary or toilet backup. You can also opt for a comprehensive policy that protects you against less common losses. Some additional coverages include those for flood, sewer backup, windstorm and earthquake damage.

Furthermore, you may want to insure some of your more expensive belongings, such as jewelry and antiques, with what's known as scheduled coverage. This can be a good idea as there are limits to how much you'll be reimbursed for the theft or loss of high-value items.

WHAT IT DOESN'T COVER

Some types of damage are never covered by insurance. Notably, your policy won't cover you for losses resulting from normal wear and tear. Also not covered are damages caused by pests, mould and neglecting to make needed repairs.

To avoid unpleasant surprises, and to ensure you have ample coverage, review the details of your home insurance policy or talk with your insurance broker.



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Three Dot Lounge...

Cracker Barrel

by Mike McClure



...so the other day would have been Steven Parent's 73rd birthday. Steven Parent is probably the least known victim of the Manson Clan's murderous rampage on the evening of August 9th, 1969.

He didn't know any of the famous people who died that night, just a young man trying to make a few bucks that was in the wrong place.

Steven Parent lived in El Monte with his family. He had gone to Arroyo High School where he had become fascinated with electronics.

He would take apart clocks and radios to see how they worked. He was once tested as near genius in electronics.

Steven worked in a plumbing supply shop in Rosemead and a stereo shop in the Wilshire District, on the side he would build stereos for people. That's what led to him being at the estate that fateful night.

Steven had met William Garretson who was the estate's caretaker. Garretson was interested in a clock that Steven had put together.

Parent had driven out to show it to him and hopefully to sell it. Mr. Garretson wasn't interested in buying

the clock so the two of them had a beer and Steven left.

On the way out he ran into Charles "Tex" Watson. Watson was holding a pistol in one hand and a hunting knife in the other when he confronted Mr. Parent.

Steven Parent tried to calm the crazed Watson and drive by him but Watson slashed out with the knife, cutting off Steven's wristwatch then shot him four times.

Garretson always claimed he hadn't heard anything that night. Steven's father was outraged by the way that law enforcement treated the case, he heard by phone of his son's death. For years every time one of the Manson Clan came up for parole he would attend the hearing, Steven Parent never has gotten the attention of the public.

Many believe it was because as a Hispanic living in El Monte that the media didn't think he was as important as the famous people killed that night, but there are still some that remember a young man who grew up here, who had ambitious plans to make money, who's hopes and dreams were just as important as any ones.

Rest in Peace Steven Earl Parent.

Working OverTime

by Cynthia Huizar



So much to do...

Profe and I live in a nice apartment complex in Rancho Cucamonga. Our combined incomes allow us stability and the place where we live provides a lot of activities for us. There was a nice Super Bowl party and there are different classes all the time. Yesterday we did arts and crafts for Valentine Day, I don't think Profe enjoyed it as much as I did but it was fun. We made cards and flower arrangements and had a good time.

I know that there are some of you that aren't as fortunate as we are, inadequate housing in our region is a major problem. Especially for those of us who grew up on the Eastside where we find multi-generations living together in one apartment, or house if they are lucky.

I have worked in property management for years and have seen the effects of substandard housing

opportunities on the community. Over the years I learned to reach out to the local business community for assistance for our tenants. Face it, businesses need a stable population for their work force and their customer base, why shouldn't they be involved in supporting the community they do business in?

Yes, Profe and I live in an apartment community where they care and do bring in outside services for us, but that should be the standard not the exception. So on Valentine's Day, we express our love for each other and why not thank those around us who are working to make our lives a little bit more fun.

Happy Valentine's Day everyone, and no Profe the bouquet of flowers that we made together yesterday doesn't get you off the hook today, you better stop and buy one before you get home!

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- DOWN**
1. Campus drillers
 2. One on a pedestal
 3. Golfer's warning
 4. "Jeopardy" question, e.g.
 5. Closet wood
 6. ___ acid
 7. Body between England and U.S.?
 8. *President who spent the shortest time in office
 9. Orator's stand
 10. Pampering establishments
 11. J.M. Barrie's Peter
 13. Like hot lava
 14. Short and plump
 19. Endow
 22. *WW2 Pres.
 23. *Thomas Jefferson was his VP
 24. "Thesaurus" author
 25. Cut it out
 26. Sound on Old MacDonald's farm
 27. Annoy a bedfellow
 28. "Bravo! Bravo!" e.g.
 29. Online reviews
 32. Delivered by a mare
 33. Hole punching tool
 36. *a.k.a. Old Kinderhook
 38. Danish money
 40. Intelligent humor
 41. Vomiting
 44. Pressed beverage
 46. Tap house
 48. TV classic " ___'s Heroes"
 49. Egg parts
 50. Past tense of chide
 51. Sand trap tool
 52. Ill-mannered
 53. Albany-Buffalo canal
 54. Theater section
 55. Russian ruler
 56. #10 Down, sing.

- THEME: U.S. PRESIDENTS**
- ACROSS**
1. Falling out
 5. Bottle top
 8. Door fastener
 12. Shoe emanation?
 13. Staff note
 14. Home to Buccaneers
 15. Actress Spelling
 16. Thor's father
 17. Kidman's husband
 18. *He served two nonconsecutive presidential terms
 20. *JFK and RFK's relationship, abbr.
 21. Foreword
 22. J. Edgar Hoover
 - Building org.
 23. Pac-Man venue
 26. Long and adventurous journey
 30. Rudolph's Clarice, e.g.
 31. Like life, according to some
 34. Is it enough?
 35. Jalisco plant
 37. As opposed to rent
 38. Grassy mound
 39. Flat-top hill
 40. *W in George H. W. Bush
 42. Nicki Minaj's genre
 43. Reusable painting pattern
 45. Sacred songs
 47. Horse control
 48. Laughing predator
 50. Gunk
 52. *Nobel Peace Prize winning president
 56. Social media button
 57. Tangerine-grapefruit hybrid
 58. Greek god of love
 59. Cautious gambler
 60. Trousers
 61. Baltic capital
 62. Port in Yemen
 63. Follow ems
 64. Not ever, poetically

Movies Night - Zebra Puzzle

Four boys are at home to watch some movies. Figure out what each boy's favorite kind of movie is.

Shirt: black, blue, green, red
Name: Daniel, Joshua, Nicholas, Ryan
Movie: action, comedy, horror, thriller

Snack: chips, cookies, crackers, popcorn
Age: 11 years, 12 years, 13 years, 14 years

	Boy #1	Boy #2	Boy #3	Boy #4
Shirt				
Name				
Movie				
Snack				
Age				

- Joshua is at one of the ends.
- The boy wearing the Black shirt is somewhere to the left of the youngest boy.
- Joshua likes Horror movies.
- The 14-year-old boy is at the third position.
- The boy wearing the Red shirt is somewhere between the 13-year-old boy and the one who likes Action movies, in that order.
- Daniel likes Thriller movies.
- The boy who is going to eat Cookies is at one of the ends.
- The boy wearing the Black shirt is exactly to the left of the one who likes Thriller movies.
- The boy who is going to eat Crackers is exactly to the right of the boy who likes Comedy movies.
- The boy wearing the Red shirt is somewhere between the boy who is going to eat Popcorn and Nicholas, in that order.
- At one of the ends is the boy who likes Thriller movies.
- Nicholas is somewhere between Joshua and Daniel, in that order.
- At the first position is the boy wearing the Green shirt.

6					2		7	
			8		9			
	7		3				8	5
		7		5		1	4	3
8	3	1		2		6		
7	6				1		3	
			9		7			
	4		2					7

One Hundred From Page 1

Throughout the past 100 days of school students have not only built their academic skills, but learned the importance of good citizenship, character development and personal well-being by being kind, respectful and responsible and participating in social-emotional learning and lessons.

The 100th day is a little more than half way through the school year and MVSD is proud of all that has been accomplished by the students and staff.

"I am extremely proud of our students for their efforts during the first 100 days of the school year. They have worked hard, completed an incredible amount of work and reached several goals in their learning." said Dr. Raymond Andry, Superintendent. "I also want to commend our entire Mt. View team of teachers, classified staff, support personnel, administrators and Board members for providing our students with 100 days of outstanding instruction, excellent support, and unending dedication to their success and well-being. Together, we've accomplished a tremendous amount and we look forward to finishing the school year strong."

Lillian From Page 1

Those are the extra special touches that make the El Monte and South El Monte Emergency Resources a place of hope, comfort, and compassion for our community."

At the EMCSO board meeting, Ms. Rey was emotional when she saw all of her colleagues, EMCSO administrators, and teachers who came out to send her off properly. "The love that I have for our

community is because of everyone who has helped me," she said while trying to fight back tears. "This is not [just] Lillian Rey, it's all of you that have helped."

Ms. Rey's efforts as the leader of the El Monte & South El Monte ERA are nothing short of essential to her community. When explaining how she has dedicated over 40 years to serving local families, her reason is simple, "I've always tried to do what I needed to do."

We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking we used when we created them. - Albert Einstein

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Grid of numbers for a crossword puzzle.

CROAT AVE ABED
GISMO KID ICILY
ISLET III SENSE
COBA IN CROSSSED
ALL ATOM
PSI SION BELONG
RUNG AMOK RIVER
INDO DEMIT NOVA
DURAL NASH GLEN
EPILOG LSAT ORT
LEVY NIB
BEATLES VERONA
INURE ICE AGORA
TILED GUN DUGIN
EDDY NET ESSAY

Rosemead From Page 1

City's governance will be presented, allowing attendees to develop a comprehensive understanding of how their local government operates.

Led by experienced professionals, the Community Academy sessions will be interactive and informative. The program aims to foster positive relationships between law enforcement and the community, promoting a safer and more engaged Rosemead.

Interested individuals can apply for the Community Academy by contacting Mandy Wong, Public Safety Supervisor, at (626) 569-2168 or via email at

mwong@cityofrosemead.org. Please note that applications received after 6:00 p.m. on March 14, 2024, will not be considered. All applications will undergo screening and approval by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The program is free of charge, and a maximum of 25 participants will be accepted.

The Community Academy offers community members an exceptional opportunity to gain valuable insights into local law enforcement and the City's governance. Don't miss out on this transformative learning experience. Apply today and embark on a 7-week journey of knowledge and understanding at the Rosemead Community Academy.

Opportunities For Learning Recognized As Non-Profit Of The Year

In a resounding affirmation of its commitment to education and community service, Opportunities For Learning (OFL), a non-profit charter high school located at 12731 Ramona Blvd. in Irwindale, was honored with the prestigious "Non-Profit of the Year" award by the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce during their 44th Annual Board Installation & Awards Brunch on January 26, 2024.

The Irwindale Chamber of Commerce, a stalwart supporter of local economic growth and community development, bestowed this recognition upon OFL for its outstanding contributions to education, alternative learning opportunities for students, and unwavering support for the Irwindale community.

Upon notifying OFL about the award, Nesly Palacios, the Membership and Events Manager at the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce, expressed her appreciation, stating, "Your organization's outstanding contributions to advancing education through alternative learning opportunities for students, your service to the Irwindale community, and your support of the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce have not gone unnoticed."

Richard Moreno, Principal at Opportunities For Learning - Ramona, remarked, "This honor was such a wonderful surprise. The chamber's advocacy, recognition, and support of our school are greatly appreciated. We look forward to continuing to work with chamber partners and are thankful to be part of the Irwindale community."

In addition to the award, OFL experienced a remarkable moment at the 44th Board Installation & Awards Brunch.

The Master of Ceremonies, Jeff Dritley, was so impressed by the school that he pledged a \$5,000 donation. This generosity inspired two others in attendance to match the donation, resulting in a total of \$15,000. The donations will be

dedicated to fund field trips and other school activities for OFL students.

Gretchen Button, an OFL teacher, expressed her gratitude, saying, "It has been a genuine privilege to work as a teacher at Opportunities For Learning for the past 17 years. During this time, I have seen firsthand how much the city of Irwindale values education. The generous donation made by community businesses symbolizes a spirit of collaboration and support that will only strengthen the foundation of education in the city of Irwindale."

OFL's association with the Irwindale Chamber of Commerce has been characterized by significant achievements and impactful community involvement. Since joining the Chamber in August 2022, OFL has been actively engaged in community participation, leaving a lasting impact.

The school continues to foster strong connections with the Irwindale community, as demonstrated through events such as the Legislative Luncheon, providing students the opportunity to interact with State Senator Susan Rubio. OFL also participated in the "2023 First

Responders Appreciation Day," where students conveyed gratitude through heartfelt letters, and collaborated with Toys for Tots in December, collecting toys for those in need during the holiday season.

Through active engagement in events like these that cultivate meaningful connections, appreciation, and support, OFL maintains a steadfast commitment to the Irwindale community.

"We believe in making a positive impact, and this recognition affirms our dedication to fostering educational excellence and community involvement," said Richard Moreno.





**NOW ENROLLING
 FULL DAY KINDERGARTEN AND
 TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN (TK)
 FOR THE 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR**

**INSCRÍBASE AHORA
 KÍNDER DE DÍA COMPLETO Y
 KÍNDER DE TRANSICIÓN (TK)
 PARA EL AÑO ESCOLAR 2024-2025**

- **Kindergarten/Kinder** - children must be 5 years old by September 1, 2024
 los niños deben tener 5 años antes del 1 de septiembre de 2024
- **TK** - children turning 5 years old between September 2, 2024 & June 2, 2025
 niños que cumplen 5 años entre el 2 de septiembre de 2024 y el 2 de junio de 2025

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biliteracy/Dual Language • Dual Immersion Spanish • Mandarin Enrichment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exceptional Early Literacy • Technology Learning • Free After School Programs and Enrichment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Emotional Learning • Visual and Performing Arts • Character Education |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alfabetización bilingüe/ lenguaje dual • Doble inmersión en español • Enriquecimiento de mandarín | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alfabetización temprana excepcional • Aprendizaje tecnológico • Programas extraescolares y de enriquecimiento gratuitos | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aprendizaje socioemocional • Artes visuales y escénicas • Educación del carácter |

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For more information, call 626-652-4982 Para obtener más información, llame 626-652-4982

- Baker School • La Primaria School • Maxson School • Miramonte School
- Monte Vista School • Parkview School • Payne School



**GHI DANH HÔM NAY!
 NGUYÊN NGÀY MẪU GIÁO
 VÀ MẪU GIÁO CHUYỂN TIẾP (TK)
 TUYỂN HỌC SINH NĂM HỌC 2024-2025**

**现在招生
 全日制幼兒園和過渡性幼兒園
 2024-2025學年招生**

- **Mẫu giáo** - trẻ em phải đủ 5 tuổi trước ngày 1 tháng 9 năm 2024
 幼兒園/幼兒園 - 兒童必須在 2024 年 9 月 1 日之前年滿 5 歲
- **Mẫu giáo chuyển tiếp** - trẻ em tròn 5 tuổi từ ngày 2 tháng 9 năm 2024 đến ngày 2 tháng 6 năm 2025
 TK - 2024 年 9 月 2 日至 2025 年 6 月 2 日期間滿 5 歲的兒童

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Song ngữ/Song ngữ • Tiếng Tây Ban Nha • Tiếng Quan Thoại | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Biết chữ sớm vượt trội • Chương trình Công nghệ thông tin • Chương trình bồi dưỡng và miễn phí sau giờ học | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chương trình cảm xúc xã hội • Nghệ thuật tạo hình và trình diễn • Giáo dục nhân cách |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 雙語能力/雙語 • 西班牙語/英語雙語沉浸式教學 • 中文強化 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 出色的早期讀寫能力 • 學習信息技術 • 優秀的課後輔導 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 社會情緒學習 • 視覺與表演藝術 • 性格培養教育 |

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- Monte Vista School • Parkview School • Payne School

**COMMUNITY CHURCH
 OF
 EL MONTE**

Join Us In Celebrating The Lord
 4602 N. Peck Rd, El Monte, CA 91732
 Sundays @ 1:00 P.M
 All Are Welcome
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**WELCOME
 FROM THE SAN GABRIEL
 VALLEY FAMILY CENTER**

The San Gabriel Valley Family Center is a community based, not-for-profit organization serving the cities of El Monte, South El Monte and surrounding communities. It was founded in 1964 by members of the El Monte Civitan Club.

The Family Center conducts two food pantries, reaching over 350 local families each week. The Center fills an important role in helping to maintain community health by providing nutritious food to families in need.

The Center serves extremely low-income neighborhoods with high rates of poverty, unemployment and large number of elderly persons.

We invite you to visit our website for more information at www.sgvfamilycenter.org.

**MEMORIES OF EL MONTE
 Car Show**

SUNDAY MARCH 3, 2024
 10A-5P SAN GABRIEL VALLEY BEER GARDEN
 AIRPORT
 4233 SANTA ANITA AVE, EL MONTE, CA
CARS • VICLAS • LOWRIDER BIKES

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 MORE INFORMATION @ EVENTBRITE.COM
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 CAR SPOTS ARE SOLD OUT. No Same day roll in, no exceptions.

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