

An Official Publication of the Rosemead Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Center

Rosemead Report

An Organization Working to Develop the Community Through the Promotion of its Businesses

3953 Muscatel Avenue, Rosemead, CA 91770 • (626) 288-0811 • news@rosemeadchamber.org • www.rosemeadchamber.org

Upcoming Events

Lunch N Learn

Feb. 8, 2018 11:30am-1pm

Business Insurance 101 for Small Business

700 S. Almansor St., Alhambra, CA 91801

RSVP: (626) 288-0811

Student Run Credit Union Branch – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

Feb. 22, 2018 10am-11:30am

John Muir High School 1905 Lincoln Ave., Pasadena, CA 91103

(877) 297-4707

Lunar New Year Banquet

Mar. 1, 2018 6pm-9pm

888 Seafood Restaurant 8450 Valley Blvd., Ste 121, Rosemead, CA 91770

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Disaster Preparedness: Tools, Tips, and Resources from The American Red Cross

By Chris Ventura

In the wake of the recent wildfires affecting Southern California, The Los Angeles Region of the American Red Cross has provided 346 shelter stays for families at 13 shelters they had opened, served over 3,870 meals, made over 760 health and mental health contacts, and distributed over 1,980 comfort and clean-up kits. Following the containment of the fires, the Red Cross will remain on scene to provide long-term recovery efforts to assist residents.

The shelters have provided affected residents with a safe place to stay, food, water, emotional support, and other necessary resources. Red Cross workers also assist in providing medical services such as assisting in the replacement of lost medications and eyeglasses. The Red Cross also works with partners to provide care for evacuated pets.

It's reassuring to know that the American Red Cross will be there to help, but it is vital that individuals and business owners do their part in planning and preparation before a disaster strikes. The Red Cross reminds us that if a major disaster were to strike Southern California, it could take 5-7 days for outside assistance to arrive. Families are encouraged to get a kit, make a plan, and be informed. PrepareSoCal.org provides information on what you should have in your kit, what your disaster plan should include, and additional information that could very well save lives.

Jarrett Barrios, CEO of the American Red Cross Los Angeles Region spoke with the Rosemead Report to discuss disaster preparedness and his organization's involvement in the community.

Disaster preparedness isn't only a matter at home, but also a matter at your place of business.

Business owners have a lot to consider when it comes to disaster preparedness. Thankfully, there are a number of resources available to help businesses prepare. The American Red Cross suggests the following items to keep in mind when preparing a disaster preparedness plan for

your business:

-Find out which natural and technological hazards can occur in your area.

-Get information about how to prepare your employees and clients to respond to possible hazards and provide help. Disaster safety information and CPR/first aid training are available from your local Red Cross chapter.

-Network with others who have or need

to develop risk or contingency management plans.

-Attend seminars and get information from local risk management associations or chapters.

In addition to these suggestions provided by Barrios, the American Red Cross has a website focused on disaster preparedness for businesses: ReadyRating.org. Here you will find a large collection of documents and interactive assessments that test your organization's ability to handle a variety of disaster situations. One of the online assessments available, ReadyGo, focuses on the most critical steps of preparedness for disasters and emergencies while the other, ReadyAdvance, measures your existing plans and suggests ways to improve them and advance them to a higher level.

The tools provided on the ReadyRating. org website are not only helpful, but are also recognized by OSHA. As noted on the ReadyRating website, the ReadyGo and ReadyAdvance Assessments as well as the Emergency Action Plans EAPGo and EAPAdvance meet or exceed minimal OSHA standards for organizational preparedness.

"Business preparedness is built on personal preparedness," Barrios said. "Businesses are built on employees. Part of that preparedness is investing in their employee's personal preparedness."

Barrios explained that if employees aren't prepared for a disaster, they may not be able to return to work in a timely manner which would have a definite negative impact on the business. If business owners don't prepare themselves personally, they may not be able to provide the leadership necessary when faced with a disaster at home or at their place of business.

Following a tour of Hurricane Harvey, Barrios noted that while some businesses had reopened fairly quickly, some had remained closed. Many of those businesses that remained closed were a

result of employees and business owners who had suffered personal losses.

"[Preparedness] is a big factor in business economic resiliency," Barrios said. "Businesses that don't reopen within the first three months, 70 percent of them—and this was in Hurricane Katrina—70 percent never opened again."

Barrios shared some tips that all of us could use regarding the most common natural disasters in our region.

He began by reminding us the

importance of regularly checking your emergency kit and to replenish any items missing or in short supply—especially medications or other medical supplies.

In case of fires: If a fire breaks out in your home, you may have as little as two minutes to escape. The importance of working smoke alarms and an escape plan cannot be stressed enough.

Smoke alarms should be installed on every level of your home—inside bedrooms and outside sleeping areas. Test smoke alarms monthly and change batteries as needed. Talk with family members about a fire escape plan and practice the plan twice a year. If a fire occurs in your home, GET OUT, STAY OUT, and CALL FOR HELP. Never go back inside for anything or anyone.

In case of floods: Listen to local area radio, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) radio or TV stations for the latest information and updates. Be prepared to evacuate quickly and know your routes and destinations. Find a local emergency shelter.

In case of an earthquake: Make an emergency preparedness kit. Create a household evacuation plan. During an earthquake, remember to DROP, COVER, HOLD ON. If you're away from home, only return when authorities say it is safe to do so. Before assisting other injured or trapped people, be sure to provide care to your own injuries first and seek first aid if needed.

Look for and extinguish small fires. Fire is a common hazard following an earthquake. Be prepared for aftershocks.

The American Red Cross hosts a website called Safe and Well which helps concerned friends and family find out the status of loved ones following a disaster. The website allows individuals impacted by a disaster with a centralized means to register themselves as safe and provide a brief message to friends and family. Those concerned about the status of an individual can use the website to search the database for information on registered individuals.

How can you help when disaster strikes your community? Approximately 90 percent of the American Red Cross workforce is made up of volunteers. These volunteers respond to nearly 64,000 disasters each and every year—many of which are home and apartment fires. If residents are unable to volunteer, making a

RED CROSS, continue on page 8

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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Rosemead Chamber of Commerce is to serve as the catalyst for a prosperous business environment and contribute to the quality of life in the City of Rosemead and the San Gabriel Valley.

Community Press Releases & Photos Accepted

The Rosemead Report is not funded by taxpayers' money.

City of Rosemead

City Hall

8838 E. Valley Boulevard Rosemead, CA 91770 Phone: (626) 569-2100 Hours - Mon-Thu: 7a.m. - 6 p.m

Fri - Sun: Closed Website: www.cityofrosemead.org

City Council

Mayor: Polly Low Mayor Pro Tem: Steven Ly Council Members: Sandra Armenta, Bill Alarcon, Margaret Clark

City Council Meetings

2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. City Hall

City Staff

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Commission Chair: Joanne Russell Commission Vice Chair: Howard Masuda Commissioner: James Berry Commissioner: Roderick Ornelas Commissioner: Edward Quintanilla

Library

City Librarian: Sue Yamamoto 8800 E. Valley Boulevard (626) 573-5220

Rosemead Community Center 3936 Muscatel Avenue (626) 569-2251

Garvey Center 9108 Garvey Avenue (626) 569-2212

Public Safety Center Hours - Mon-Thu: 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. 8301 Garvey Avenue (626) 569-2212

Running out of business cards?



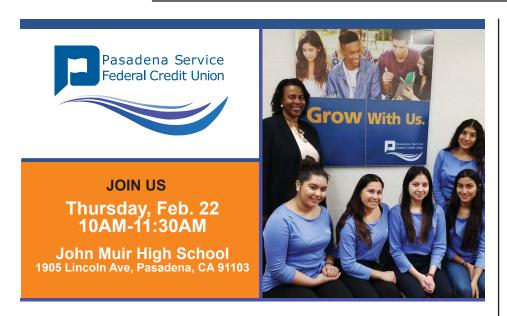


Rosemead Report Deadline 15th of Each Month

E-mail is preferred: news@rosemeadchamber.org

Please submit your press releases, news articles, photos, and ad before the 15th of each month to be published the following month. Our staff has been working diligently to arrange earlier delivery of your monthly newspaper so it arrives at the beginning of the month. Therefore, we must have your information by the 15th of the preceding month to make it possible. Stories submitted must be in Microsoft Word or plain text format and photos in a JPEG format. Stories cannot exceed 400 words. If you have any questions, please call (626) 288-0811.

PUBLIC POLICY UPDATE



Student Run Credit Union Branch **GRAND OPENING - Ribbon Cutting Ceremony**

Join us for Networking, Photo Opportunities, Branch Tour, and John Muir High Campus Tour!

The goal of the Business Academy is to give students real world work experience. We want to take the learning out of the classroom and have students apply their skills in the real world.

John Muir High School is excited to partner with Pasadena Service FCU. PSFCU has strongly supported JMHS' academy the last two years by coming in to do resume reviews, mock interviews,

This program allows students to get work experience, acquire skills in finance, and have access to great adult mentors. The students will eventually teach financial literacy to other students at Muir through workshops and presentations. There is a real need for financial education whether students stay in business or not

The students will learn to interact with customers, work in a business environment and leave John Muir better able to succeed in the real world

877-297-4707 • www.mypsfcu.org



County Supervisors Approve New Fine-Free Library Cards for Students

sors Janice Hahn and Hilda L. Solis, in meeting his challenge." to distribute fine-free student library cards to students under 17.

student in the County, regardless of Library, continue on page 7

LOS ANGELES, CA- Every child economic status, be able to tap into deserves access to library resources these services. I will continue to work and their own library card. Following to make sure our Libraries are safe in the footsteps of President Obama's and accessible spaces for all County National Library Challenge launched in residents. As the former Secretary of 2015, the Board of Supervisors passed Labor under President Obama, it is a motion, co-authored by Supervi- especially meaningful to take this step

"LA County Libraries are incredible resources for students—giving "Our LA County Libraries support them access not only to books, but to the important work of our schools and computers, printers, and after-school provide free access to books, materials, homework help," said Supervisor online tools, homework help, and Janice Hahn. "By getting rid of late even language classes," said Supervi- fees and penalties, our student library sor Solis. "It is important that every cards are finally a risk-free way for

Assemblymember Chau Introduces Legislation in Response to Equifax Data Breach

er Credit Reporting Agencies (CCRAs) patch its network. to patch their vulnerable computer systems in a timely manner or be conducting business in California to years, if not the rest of their lives," said ized data containing personal informato address negligently lax behavior a civil action to recover damages for by credit reporting agencies when it his or her injuries, civil penalties, and comes to safeguarding their systems reasonable attorney's fees and costs. against cybersecurity threats. That is what this bill attempts to do."

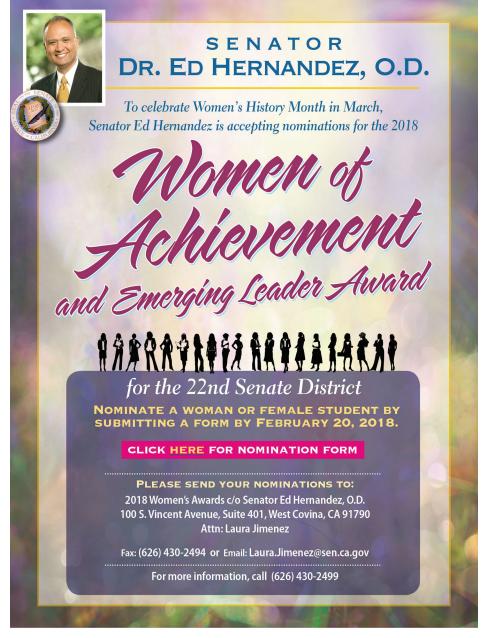
a cybersecurity breach from mid-May ties of Alhambra, Arcadia, El Monte, through July 2017 that resulted in the Monterey Park, Rosemead, San loss of 145.5 million U.S. consum- Gabriel, San Marino, Temple City and ers' personal information, though this portions of Montebello, and South El disclosure was not made until Septem- Monte. ber 7, 2017. Furthermore, it has been

Sacramento – Assemblymember Ed reported by news outlets that the U.S.

Chau (D-Monterey Park), Chair of Department of Homeland Securithe Assembly Privacy and Consum- ty (DHS) notified Equifax and other er Protection Committee, introduced companies of a security vulnerabillegislation in response to the Equifax ity in their software called Apache data breach from last year that resulted Struts, as early as March 8, 2017. In in the loss of 145.5 million U.S. consum-other words, hackers had exploited ers' personal information. Assembly the website vulnerability well after Bill (AB) 1859 would require Consum- Equifax had been notified by DHS to

AB 1859 would require a CCRA subject to civil penalties to individuals patch its computer system in the most whose data was compromised. "The expedient time possible, consistent scale and severity of the Equifax breach with industry best practices, but no is simply staggering and has inflicted longer than 10 days in any case, if it real personal and financial costs on is subject to a vulnerability that could millions of innocent consumers for compromise the security of computer-Assemblymember Chau. "The impact tion. If a CCRA fails to patch its system of this information disaster requires and a data breach occurs, the bill would that we examine our laws to ensure allow a resident of California, whose they are sufficiently updated and robust information was compromised, to bring

Assemblymember Ed Chau represents the 49th Assembly According to Equifax, it experienced District, comprised of the communi-



COMMUNITY

Beware of Scammers, They're More Common Than Ever

our community, the City of Rosemead collecting a prize or award. Public Safety Department would like to protect you from being a scam victim first checking with the Better Bureau by arming yourself with information.

and anyone can become a victim. charities. Unsolicited mail, E-Mails, and phone calls are the primary methods used to courier or wire money to someone you initiate scams. Here are some signs of do not know. a scam:

1. **The Offer Seems Too Good to be** or you risk

True. If it seems too good to be true, it almost certainly is. Examples include, money left to you from an unknown relative, being awarded a loan or grant you have not applied for, winning a scams: lottery you have never entered, and being selected to receive a share in funds in return for using your bank receives a frantic call from someone account.

tion. Many scams involve getting hold of your bank account or credit card ed, or in a car accident, or needing details. Scams involving identity theft emergency car repairs. The caller asks also seek personal information, like the grandparents to immediately wire your social security number.

3. Request for Fees.

payments or fees to clear the funds or member or neighbor. complete their offer. Never pay fees or certain it is not a scam.

- Look carefully at the domain name provided. Wiring money is like sending of every email you receive from a cash, there are no protections for the suspected scammer, Suspect any free sender. email address such as hotmail, aim, yahoo, gmail. Other domain names Scam. There are several reports of not connected with the name of the telephone calls from people posing as company are also suspicious.
- contacts won't give you one, it's a sure you don't owe taxes, report the incident. bet you're being scammed.
- fix them for you for free. Never give your home. anyone remote access to your computer unless you have contacted them and are 100% certain they are not a Winners scammer.
- 7. Untraceable Payment Methods amazing profits. Scammers prefer payment methods that are untraceable. Don't pay anyone to handle a scammer once you have advance fees by any means if you're spotted one. the slightest suspicion it is a scam.
- put pressure on their victims and urge then to pay immediately or lose the opportunity. A genuine business making a legitimate offer will never persuade you pressure you to act immediately.

Never:

- Give any caller your social security
- Give your credit card number or bank account number!
- fees, for customs, for taxes, or any at (626) 285-7171.

- To enhance the quality of life in other reason as a requirement before
- Make a charitable donation without Wise (BBB) Giving Alliance, which There are many scams in operation, offers information about national
 - Send your payment by a private
 - Never click on links or attachments in emails from people you do not know

your computer becoming infected by viruses, trojans, or other malware.

Here is a sampling of current

• Grandparents Scam. A grandparent they believe to be their grandchild, who 2. They Want Private Informa- claims to be in some type of trouble while traveling, such as being arrestmoney to help them and keep it a secret from their parents. Alternatively, the Scammers will want advance scammer may pretend to be a family

A common theme is the caller's taxes in advance unless you are 100% request that funds be wired through Western Union, MoneyGram, or that 4. Suspicious Email Domains. bank account routing numbers be

- Internal Revenue Service (IRS) IRS callers and stating that there is an 5. Suspicious or No Addresses. If arrest warrant for owed taxes. The IRS there is no physical address and your does not call you on the telephone. If
- Home Repair Scams. Be wary of 6. Request for Access to Your door-to-door solicitations for home Computer A common scam is a phone repairs. Obtain 2-3 estimates. Ask to call from someone claiming to be a see the contractor's license and check technician who has detected problems to be sure they are in fact licensed. Do with your computer and would like to not leave home repair workers alone in
 - Foreign Lottery Scams.
 - Luxury Dream Vacation Offers/
 - Investment Scams promising
 - Charity Scams. Be aware of how
 - Say no thank you, ask to be taken 8. Pressure. Scammers will often off their call list and hang up. Do not wait for their reply.
 - Sometimes a polite no thank you is taken as an invitation to keep trying to
 - with this type of caller the best response is rudeness - just hang up.
 - If all else fails, indicate that you are going to call the police. This approach should end the call rather quickly.

If you believe you may have been a victim and/or like to report a scammer, • Pay processing or administrative please contactTemple Sheriff's Station





Speaker: Laura Gutierrez Nationwide Sales Manager

You are cordially invited to come learn about small business insurance, how to protect your business and reduce risks. Don't forget to bring business cards for networking!

> Join us **February 8, 2018** 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

> > **Almansor Court**

700 South Almansor St., Alhambra, CA 91801

Member: \$15

office@rosemeadchamber.org (626) 288-0811

Presented by:





Guest: \$25

MEMBERS

Member Renewals

ership. We are grateful for their continued and dedicated support of the Rosemead Chamber of Commerce. Please support chamber member businesses whenever you're looking for a product or service.

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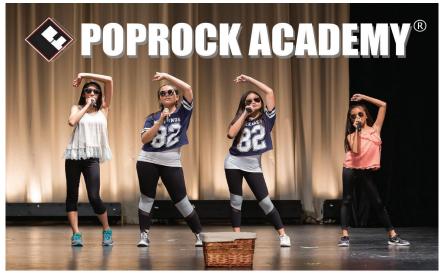












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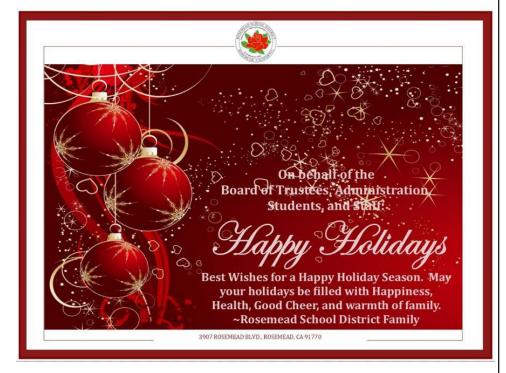
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EDUCATION



Dear Rosemead Community and Friends,

The Rosemead School District will be closed on Monday, December 25 – Wednesday, December 27, 2017 and Monday, January 1 – Tuesday, January 2, 2018 in observance of the Christmas and New Year's Holidays.



We wish you all a blessed Christmas, and a safe, happy, and healthy New Year.

INTRODUCING THE 2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Rosemead School District introduces its Board of Trustees for the 2018 calendar year following the Board's organizational meeting on December 7, 2017, held at the District Office Board Room.

Ms. Nancy Armenta assumed the office of Board President and Mr. Ronald Esquivel assumed the office of Board Clerk, with Mrs. Rhonda Harmon, Mr. John Quintanilla, and Mrs. Veronica Peña, as Trustees.



Pictured (left to right):

Trustee Mr. John Quintanilla, Trustee Mrs. Rhonda Harmon, Superintendent Dr. Amy Enomoto-Perez, Board President Ms. Nancy Armenta, Trustee Mrs. Veronica Peña, and Board Clerk Mr. Ronald Esquivel Pictured (left to right):





Trustee Mrs. Veronica Peña ceremonial swearing in by Mr. Peter Peña.

Mayor Pro Tem Mr. Steven Ly, Trustee Mrs. Veronica Peña, and Councilmember

Mrs. Margaret Clark.

2018 Board of Trustees Leadership:

President Ms. Nancy Armenta, a longtime resident of Rosemead and alumni of the Rosemead School District has served on the Rosemead School District Board of Trustees since 2015 and has served in the roles of Clerk and Member.

Clerk Mr. Ronald Esquivel, a longtime resident of Rosemead and alumni of the Rosemead School District has served on the Rosemead School District Board of Trustees since 1999 and has served in the roles of President, Clerk, and Member.

The Superintendent, administration, and staff look forward to working with the entire Board of Trustees to continue the great work of educating and supporting the students and staff of the Rosemead School District.

RECOGNITION TO EMMA W. SHUEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STUDENTS AND STAFF BY THE PANDA RESTAURANT GROUP, INC. FOR ITS ACHIEVEMENTS AS A LIGHTHOUSE SCHOOL, THROUGH THE FRANKLIN COVEY PROGRAM

The Panda Restaurant Group, parent company of Panda Express hosted its 10th annual party for local elementary school students on Friday, November 3, 2017, in recognition of their accomplishments as a "Lighthouse School" in Franklin Covey The Leader in Me® program.



This year, Panda chose to acknowledge Emma W. Shuey Elementary School for achieving the "Lighthouse" status within The Leader in Me® program. "Lighthouse recognition comes because of the results a school is achieving and the impact it is having on staff, students, parents, and the greater community. We are very proud of our principal, students and staff at Shuey School," said Superintendent Dr. Enomoto-Perez. Shuey School is one of only 347 schools worldwide to achieve this status where schools engage in a rigorous multi-year process to demonstrate their commitment to developing qualities within each student and staff.

All four of our elementary schools have now achieved National Lighthouse status thru the Leader in Me® program. Our schools are learning skills that will help them in college, the workforce and life. The Panda Cares generosity supported by co-founders Andrew and Peggy Cherng support the belief that "giving back" makes this a wonderful and better place for all.

The celebration began at 9:00 a.m. at The Panda Restaurant Group headquarters in Rosemead, California, where over 493 students were treated to a catered delicious Panda Express lunch, a carnival created by the Support Center associates and organized through Panda Cares program, along with a fun filled day.

The Panda Restaurant Group is a business partner in the Leader in Me® program. The Panda Charitable Foundation which supports the health and educational needs of underserved children is of great assistance. The Leader in Me® program is a school program that integrates timeless leadership principles with practical character and life skills relevant to today's challenges. By building self-confidence, interpersonal skills, elevating student achievement and reducing school-wide discipline problems, this program helps children become leaders in their field of interest.

Through The Leader in Me® program, students begin to see themselves in a completely different way. They see that they can make an impact not only on their achievements and progress at school, but also with other people and the community. They take responsibilities for their actions, realize that they are active participants in their learning, set goals and reflect on their progress towards these goals, and initiate and implement community action. As one sixth grade student said, "I used to think that only the smart kids could be leaders, but now I know everyone can be a leader", shared Principal Brydle.

The support that we have received from Panda Cares over the years is invaluable. Children have one childhood, and it is incumbent on all of us to provide students with experiences and memories that will positively impact them. The Panda Cares Fall Festival will be a memory that the children will cherish for a lifetime, and we are very grateful to Panda Cares for their hard work and dedication to the children of Shuey School.

The Rosemead School District Board and administration are proud to have Shuey students selected and honored during Panda's annual party. On behalf of Emma W. Shuey Elementary School students and staff, the Rosemead School District thanks The Panda Restaurant Group and Panda Cares for the honor.



Business Academy allows Student-run Branch

The goal of the Business Academy education whether you stay in business is to give our students real world hands or not. on experience. We want to take the learning out of the classroom and have stay with them for a lifetime. our students apply their skills in the real world.

PSFCU. They have strongly support- better able to be successful in the real ed our academy the last two years by world. coming in to do resume reviews, mock interviews, and career fairs.

This program allows our students to Pasadena, get work experience, acquire skills in finance and have access to great adult website

tions. There is a real need for financial PasadenaServFCU

The skills these students gain will

The students will learn to interact with customers, work in a business We are excited to partner with environment and leave John Muir

> For more information visit PSFCU at 670 North Rosemead Boulevard in

call (877) 297-4707 or visit their http://www.mypsfcu.org. With 2 additional branches in Vernon The students will eventually teach and Covina, you can also stay in touch financial literacy to other students at with them on Facebook: https://www. Muir through workshops and presenta-facebook.com/mypsfcu and Twitter: @



Tuesday, February 27th, 2018

Reception 11:30 am Luncheon 12:00 pm

Almansor Court - Lakeview Room 700 S. Almansor St., Alhambra, CA 91801



Honoring

- California State Legislature Assemblymember Ed Chau 49th District
- **Alhambra Unified School District Assistant Superintendent** Laurel Bear Ph.D.
- SoCalGas, A Sempra Energy utility **Andrew Kwok**

Your donation supports ongoing programs and provides scholarships for children: Summer Day Camp • Weekly Field Trips • Camp Ta Ta Pochon Basketball League • Swim Lessons • Afterschool Program

> Please RSVP by February 22nd, 2018 Valarie R. Gomez 626-576-0226 or val.ymca@gmail.com

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Los Angeles Area Leaders Condemn GOP Tax Scam that Exacerbates Inequality and Overly Burdens **Californians**

Washington, D.C.— Southern California Congressional transportation projects, reduce our Representatives Lucille Roybal-Al- home prices, and force cuts to our lard (CA-40), Linda Sánchez (CA-38), brave first responders and schools." Judy Chu (CA-27), and Jimmy Gomez (CA-34) joined LA County Supervisor celebrating Rev. Martin Luther King Hilda Solis, Los Angeles Mayor Eric Jr. Day, a day to honor the man who Garcetti, LAPD Chief Michel Moore, inspired a nation to share his belief that LA County Fire Chief Daryl Osby, and injustice anywhere is a threat to justice Alex Caputo-Pearl, President of UTLA everywhere. But he didn't just mean for a press conference to highlight the the terriblesin of racial injustice. He ways the recently passed Republican was talking about economic injustice tax reform law will unfairly punish as well. How disappointed he would California families and exacerbate be, then, in the tax cuts Republicans economic inequality. This press passed at the end of last year," said conference coincides with local events Rep. Chu. "This bill borrows trillions led by Members of Congress across of dollars from our children to make the country to teach their constitu- the rich richer, while forcing Califorents about the impacts of this bill and nians to accept a lower standard of what it means for them. The Members living by capping the amount of state of Congress released the following and local taxes they can deduct, while statements: "This Republican tax plan will irresponsibly increase the nation- corporations. And if squeezing Califoral deficit by \$1.8 trillion over the next nia families through SALT caps wasn't 10 years while threatening funding for enough, Republicans went even further schools, firefighters, police, and other and eliminated the Affordable Care vital services here in Los Angeles and Act's individual mandate, raising costs across the State of California," said of healthcare for American families. Rep. Roybal-Allard. "Plain and simple, This bill overwhelmingly benefits this plan is a sham and a tremendous the wealthy, with 83% of the benefits windfall for the wealthiest 1% and large corporations at the expense of our for the rest of us." hard-working families. This type of trickle-down economics hasn't worked California values from President previously, and it won't work now."

California.

that the Republican tax law will stifle but at every level of government."

Today, our investments in freeway and local

"In just a few days, we will be

keeping those deductions for going to the top 1%, while leaving little

"The unprecedented attacks on Trump and congressional Republi-"Republicans jammed through a cans will not be tolerated," said Rep. hastily written tax bill that few had Gomez "These attacks have come from read and even fewer understood," said the same direction but on different Rep. Sánchez. "I am concerned about issues, from opening up our coast to the numerous provisions buried in oil drilling to repealing the legal status this law that could negatively impact of thousands of Salvadorans, Nicaraguans, Haitians, and DREAMers. All Many of the details of how the of this because the people of Califorlaw will be implemented are still nia have had the audacity to say NO. being worked out by the IRS and the The punitive Republican tax law hurts Treasury Department. That is why it working families and hits California is so important that Southern Califor- especially hard. We will resist their nians pay attention as more revelations bigotry, trickle-down economics, and surface from this new law. I'm worried extreme agenda, not just in the streets

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young people to access the tools they sors to re-engage youth in library need to boost their education."

Librarian to begin implementing Library Director, Skye Patrick. "We a fine-free student library card for are absolutely thrilled by the idea of students 17 years old and under. Each offering students a fine-free card and student will be allowed to check out reinforcing the County Library as the a maximum of three print items at a center of learning." time and have full access to online Challenge.

"This is an incredible opportunity, tives that the Library offers students. if approved by the Board of Supervi-

services, assist with homework, litera-Today's motion directed the County cy and general discovery," said County

For the initial outreach to schools, resources. The motion also authorizes the Public Library will be issuing the and delegates authority to the County student library cards to third-graders Librarian to execute agreements to attending schools within the Public partner with K-12 schools to meet Library service area. The Public the goals of the National Library Library has also developed an animated video which features other new initia-

COMMERCE

Red Cross, cont from page 1



in need. An average of 91 cents of every everyone can see it," Barrios said. dollar the Red Cross spends is invested in its humanitarian services and programs.

Another way to help out the Red Cross is through blood donations.

"We really do try to raise as much blood as we can. It is a very critical need," Barrios said. "The Red Cross is committed to making sure the nation has both a safe and secure blood supply. By safe we mean the blood is not contaminated and by secure we mean that there is enough blood to meet the needs of anyone who goes is collected by the Red Cross."

The Red Cross recently held a blood smoke alarm without a battery is useless. drive in the City of Rosemead along with

PrepareLA initiative along with South February 17. San Gabriel. The initiative was launched in 2016 and has provided preparedness of other educational programs in the education to thousands of students within community where they visit schools, senior the Rosemead School District. Through citizens centers, and community centers its efforts, the Red Cross has presented its to teach general disaster and emergency Pillowcase Project to 651 students so far.

Company, the Pillowcase Project is a emergencies. The approximately one-hour and a personalized pillowcase.

"You don't want to frighten kids into immobilizing them. You want to acknowledge that this is a scary thing, but you want more homework in advance to get ready. them to move away from that fear and into action," Barrios said.

safety and preparedness campaign administered by the Red Cross.

several times a year, go door-to-door in neighborhoods and install free smoke alarms," Barrios said. "We typically put two to three in a house."

Barrios said that they focus on communities with a higher than average frequency of fires and also focus on a community where a fire fatality had recently occurred.

"While one volunteer is installing smoke alarms, we have an educator there to walkthrough—kind of like in the Pillowcase Project—working with the family members to develop an escape plan and

charitable donation can bring hope to those that will be put on the refrigerator so that

Smoke alarms must be checked and tested on a regular basis.

"It's not enough to have a smoke alarm. It has got to work," Barrios said. "70 percent of the houses that we go into that had smoke alarms...had them, but they don't work."

Barrios encourages the checking of smoke alarms regularly—typically following the rule of every six months when we change our clocks. He also noted that many times it has been discovered during inspecfor an operation. About 45 percent of the tions that a smoke alarm's battery had been blood that is collected in the United States removed for one reason or another and was never replaced. Check and test regularly. A

Since 2016, The Red Cross has installed its partner Southern California Edison 799 free smoke alarms in residents homes who hosted the drive. The Red Cross also during their multiple Sound the Alarm partners with a number of businesses in the events in the area. The events educate community—notably Rosemead's Panda residents about home fire safety. The Red Cross will be hosting another Sound the Rosemead is part of The Red Cross Alarm event in Rosemead on Saturday,

The Red Cross also does a number preparedness. These local programs have Through a grant from The Walt Disney an emphasis on earthquake preparedness.

Rosemead is part of The Red Cross curriculum that helps teach children Prepare LA program. It is one of 15 (3rd-5th graders, ages 8-11) to prepare for communities identified as particularly vulnerable should a disaster strike. Barrio curriculum is taught by trained Red Cross explained the reason for this designation volunteers and provides children with an is from taking into account a variety of opportunity to feel empowered and take data points including language barriers, control during emergencies and disasters. household income, and access to personal Students are encouraged to develop and transportation. Data used in the determishare their preparedness plans with their nation does not single out individuals or family and friends and pledge to practice individual households, but shows collectheir plan with family at home. Participants tively that the community of Rosemead receive a workbook, a pledge certificate, may require an increased level of assistance pertaining to disaster preparedness.

"That's not a bad thing," Barrios said. "What it means is we just have to do a little What the Red Cross has done is create a leadership coalition of city councilmem-That initiative is part of a larger home bers from Rosemead, organizations, and leadership from local schools. We work with these community leaders to educate "We have lots of local volunteers who, about the vulnerabilities. Where, within

> Rosemead, are there flood zones? Are there liquefaction zones?"

> Homes in liquefaction zones are homes that were not built on top of bedrock. Homes in those areas are susceptible to greater shake during an earthquake. Knowing if and where these zones exist would help the city in the development of its response plan to an earthquake.

More information about the Red Cross efforts in preparedness that are specifically focused on

Rosemead can be found at http://

preparesocal.org/rosemead/. Here, you will updates, program progress, and tools for to the City of Rosemead. residents and local business owners.

"From small to very large. It could be a single-family house fire up to a major earthquake. We take sort of an all hazards approach. We really want to help communities be ready for any type of disaster," Barrios said.

Online Resources:

-PrepareSoCal.org PrepareSoCal is an American Red Cross multi-region campaign designed to address the needs of individuals and families to prepare for disasters, small and large, by providing tips, tools, and training, and to promote community resiliency with a focus on Southern California's most vulnerable American Red Cross communities.

-PrepareSoCal.org/rosemead/-Informafind a full list of coalition members, news tion and tools from PrepareSoCal specific

> -ReadyRating.org - Ready Rating is a program that helps businesses, schools and organizations become prepared for disasters and other emergencies.

-volunteerconnection.redcross.org

- Website to register as volunteer and search for opportunities to help.

-redcrossblood.org - Information on upcoming blood drives and how to donate or make a donation appointment.

-SafeAndWell.org – Website to register and mark yourself safe following a disaster. A searchable database to search for the status of family and friends.

-RedCross.org - Main website for the

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