



# MID VALLEY NEWS

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Serving the San Gabriel Valley Since 1966

June 12, 2019

## El Monte Welcomes Outdoor Research to the Friendly City

by Crystal Garcia, Contributing Writer  
El Monte

El Monte is now home to the newest manufacturing facility for performance apparel and outdoor gear company, Outdoor Research.

The Seattle-based company celebrated the Grand Opening of their San Gabriel Valley facility on May 31st, with hundreds of people in attendance, including the company's new employees and their families, along with many El Monte officials.

"It is with great pride, and honor that you (Outdoor Research) have chosen to be here with us..." said city councilwoman, Maria Morales, as she spoke from the podium during the celebrations.

With that, El Monte Economic Development Director, Betty Donovani, says the city is happy to have a big company join the city, but also bring more of a daytime population to the community.

During the celebrations, Jason Duncan, Vice President of Tactical Innovation and CSR for Outdoor Research spoke to the crowd and shared that the company looked all



Courtesy Photo by Erik Valdivia

over the country before finding the perfect workforce and space for its new facility here in the San Gabriel Valley.

"We have a sewing resource and worker resource in El Monte that has been fantastically skilled and avail-

able and so we're happy to be here," said Duncan.

So far, the company has employed about 115 skilled laborers working inside the brand new 32,000 square foot facility, that will be focusing solely on creating the Outdoor Re-

search specialized gloves.

Attendees of the Grand Opening were treated to a tour of the new facility and got to see the advanced technology workers are using to create these specialized gloves.

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## Red, White and Bounce Brings Fun to Wellness

by Julie Carson, Contributing Writer  
El Monte

"It shows families and kids how to be healthy, the benefits and it's also fun," said Lisa Del Real, Recreation Services Manager with the city of El Monte Parks and Recreation Department. Del Real was referring to the 4th annual Red, White and Bounce! Health and Wellness Fair that took place on June 7.

The event held at Mountain View park featured resource booths, health screenings, arts and crafts vendors, demonstrations and inflatables for the kids enjoyment.

Parents attending the event received information on a diverse range of topics from organizations such as: Active SVG, whose mission is to show how to live a more sustainable life by merging social and environmental justice together in the San Gabriel Valley. The group also teaches safety on bikes through programs like Women on Wheels and 626 Golden Streets; ChapCare who provides healthcare services to low-income residents within the Pasadena area, as well as insurance enrollment; Free screenings for diabetes and anemia were provided by

El Monte Central City Community Health Care which serves low-income and medically underserved residents, and they gave away fun toys.

San Gabriel Valley Mosquito & Vector Control District handed out Public Health Alert booklets on how mosquitoes are changing the way of life in Southern California. With the climate changing they stressed the importance of learning more about mosquitoes and how to stay mosquito-free in your area, especially to watch out for standing water in plant saucers, buckets, pet bowls, and vases inside and outside; El Monte School District gave out information on their Head Start and Early Head Start program which offers early childhood education and social services to kids in low-income families.

At the El Monte Promise Foundation's booth, they discussed how their mission is to ensure young people are college-ready sooner rather than later. They handed out books and crayons as well as information on their Summer Reading Circle at Mountain View Park. At the

Wellness continued on page 18



Courtesy Photo By Julie Carson



**Wellness**

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American Red Cross tent with information on emergency preparedness. Children's eyes lit up at the fiction and coloring books they were able to take home with them.

Parks and Recreation's booth featured information on healthy food and drink options. The department showcased upcoming Cultural Arts & Leisure Classes like Hip Hop Dance Classes, Salsa 4 Kids, Prince and Princess Ballet, Salsarise, Summer Nutrients at the El Monte Aquatic Center, and Superhero Kids Canvas Paint Class.

Attendees participated in CPR,



Courtesy Photo By Julie Carson

cooking, TaeKwonDo, and salsa demonstrations. The Day One organization, based in Pasadena, which assists communities in building healthier schools and neighborhoods showed how to make an easy snack called a Banana Sushi Roll. USA TaeKwonDo Center exhibited their excellent skills. For a \$1 kids could ride a train or have their face painted. Proceeds benefited the Junior Recreation program of the Park District.

Asked how she thought the Red White and Bounce Fair was going, Victoria Burl, the El Monte Park District Resource Supervisor said, "It's great to see the kids having so much fun."

**Working Overtime**

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themselves. I got a nice call from Gil and I can honestly say that as long as he was the District Attorney for the County of Los Angeles he never turned down a request from us.

Fast forward, I was sitting in my office and I got a call from Gil Garcetti, now retired - he wanted a favor. His son Eric was getting into politics. Eric had been teaching a class in political science at Occidental College and was going to run for a vacant seat on the L.A. City Council and Gil was asking me to help him.

I told him yes of course, then I ask one of my partners who knew more about politics than I did what Eric's chances were. My buddy told me that there were seven or eight people running and that one of them was the former chief of staff of the previous Councilmember. They were the favorites but because it was an open seat and there was a good chance of a runoff, Eric Garcetti was one of two or three who had a shot.

My pal went with me to a campaign meeting for Eric. Gil and his wife

were there, my friend and maybe one or two other older folks, and a whole lot of young people.

Those young people made history. There was no runoff. Eric Garcetti won the race and has never looked back.

Lesson learned? Don't ever underestimate the power of enthusiasm youngsters bring to the polls when motivated.

**Families**

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outreach plan to inform immigrants and their families of available wraparound services if/when they contact the County for help as a result of this MUD proposal taking effect. OIA is expected to report back to the Board within 60 days.

Today's action marks the 36th immigration motion Supervisor Solis has authored to protect, defend, and fight for the rights of immigrants since the 2016 presidential election. Her efforts include a \$3 million dollar contribution to the L.A. Justice Fund and the creation of the first-ever County Office of Immigrant Affairs.

the hopeless, and joy to those that can't find joy on their own."

The volunteers' names were submitted by their organization or community group which felt their contributions deserved special recognition. Napolitano gave out the awards and thanked them personally.

The 2019 Volunteers of the Year

from El Monte are Lynette Rausch for her countless hours of service for the El Monte / South Monte Chamber of Commerce and Rudy Sanchez who's not afraid to roll up his sleeves and get to work when something needs get done throughout our community.

**Volunteers**

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tell them it is simple - volunteer is spelled 'L O V E.' Thank you for bringing life to the lifeless, hope to

**Outdoor Research**

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The day before, Rep. Grace Napolitano and Mayor Andre Quintero toured Outdoor Research's brand-new, state-of-the-art-manufacturing facility to meet with the company's workers and executives.

"I was so honored to visit Outdoor Research and congratulate them on opening their new manufacturing facility in El Monte," Napolitano said. "We are so glad they have chosen El Monte of all possible locations



Courtesy Photo by Erik Voldvits



Courtesy Photo by Erik Voldvits

across the USA to expand their production, which is truly a testament to the skills of our workers and will continue to boost our local economy.

Currently, Outdoor Research is continuing to settle into their new home in El Monte and have sign-up sheets outside their front doors for anyone interested in working for the company, when they expand their team again.

The Outdoor Research facility is located at 10668 Hickerson Street, El Monte, CA 91731.

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**Sudoku Solution for 05.29.19**

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

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**Crossword Solution for 05.29.19**

A	S	T	I	R	F	O	G	G	E
L	I	A	N	A	A	L	L	I	N
I	N	L	E	T	I	D	O	T	A
G	A	R	T	E	R	B	U	S	T
T	A	M	M	E	T	E			
I	N	K	T	A	K	A	E	L	V
L	O	O	K	I	N	S	T	F	O
I	R	A	N	L	O	C	A	L	W
A	T	L	A	S	T	A	X	I	S
C	H	A	P	E	L	R	A	T	A
B	U	F	F	E	T	F	O	U	R
N	I	S	E	I	E	N	E	D	R
A	N	E	L	E	L	E	E	A	O
P	S	S	T	A	W	L	D	R	E