

# ywca SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

# our voice



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Covina, CA 91724  
(626) 960-2995  
www.ywcasgv.org

SENIOR SERVICES  
YWCA Intervale  
24-Hour Message Line:  
(626) 214-9465

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
YWCA WINGS  
24-Hour Help Line:  
(626) 967-0658

## eliminating racism empowering women

## June 2011

**OUR MISSION** • *To eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all.*

### New Abuse Hotline Aimed at Senior Citizens

A new senior legal hotline for senior citizens who are victims of domestic violence is now available in California. Funded by a federal grant, the service provides assistance to victims of physical, emotional or sexual abuse.

Advice is also offered for those who experience neglect or stalking. Aimed at individuals over 60 years of age, the toll-free line is staffed Monday-Friday from 9-noon and 1-4 p.m. Referrals to local resources and information about how to stop the abuse are provided to callers at 1-800-222-1753. This number is not a crisis hotline and emergency calls should go to 911.

### Elder Abuse Prevention Toolkit Now available in English, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese!

Download your copy from  
[www.ywcasgv.org](http://www.ywcasgv.org)

English, Spanish, Mandarin Chinese

Funded by a generous grant from the  
YWCA of the Mid-Peninsula Donor  
Advised Fund.



### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LISA BRABO Be On the Lookout!!!

Last month we had the opportunity to honor ten outstanding women and two organizations for their contributions to their communities. Recognizing the service and achievements of these public and not-so-public heroes is one of the joys of working at the YWCA SGV. Each month we will highlight one or two of these award recipients in our newsletter, as their stories are so inspiring! In about six months we'll be accepting nominations for the 2012 recipients, so be on the lookout for those unsung heroes that merit recognition for their good works. We look forward to receiving your nominations! ■



### Research and Planning Keys to Financial Success

Three experts in financial planning, elder law, and life/organizational development, provided tips and advice to more than 100 participants at the Women of Achievement financial health workshop preceding the annual awards luncheon May 19 at the Diamond Bar Center.

Noting that women still make 25 percent less money than men in the same jobs, life coach Angela Richardson pointed out that last year, women started new businesses at twice the rate of U.S. corporations.

She emphasized four common financial mistakes made by women:

- 1) Not being involved in family financial decision-making
- 2) Not setting financial goals
- 3) Not saving enough; carrying too much debt
- 4) Not planning for retirement; believing that employee retirement or social security funds will be adequate

To avoid these mistakes, financial planner Toni Speyer suggested women immediately start making automatic deposits to their saving accounts, even if it's \$50 a month. She also suggested maximizing contributions to IRAs and 401Ks and consulting a financial advisor about long-term goals.

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**June 12  
Cupcake Extravaganza!**

The Soroptimist Clubs of Azusa/Glendora and Irwindale are having a truly fun fundraiser on June 12, 1- 4 p.m. at Glendora High School (1600 E. Foothill Blvd., Glendora). It is a Cupcake Camp - free entrance and \$10 donation for 6 cupcakes.

Agencies benefiting are the YWCA SGV WINGS Domestic Violence program, Project Sister, Stepping Stones for Women, and Pacific Clinics Transitional Age Youth Program.

Currently over 5,000 cupcakes have been donated for the event, and they are expecting 40 vendors and two food trucks. There will be door prizes, raffles, and a silent auction.

You can also access more information at [www.cupcakecampsgv.wordpress.com](http://www.cupcakecampsgv.wordpress.com)

**Clearly an event not to be missed!**



**Marta Escañuelas  
2011 Women of  
Achievement  
Honoree**

For nearly 15 years, Marta Escañuelas has assisted and advocated for people with severe to profound developmental disabilities. She is the Executive Director of MERCI, a racially and ethnically diverse school whose belief is “that every individual has something to contribute to society, and more importantly, that every individual should be given the opportunity to do so.”

MERCI's programs for the developmentally disabled have outgrown the original home that was established on Chandler Avenue in Monterey Park. So Escañuelas is directing the “MERCI Tomorrow” Capital Campaign to fund a new residential home and other facilities at the Chandler site, at a projected cost of \$3.4 million. Known for her grant-writing skills, Escañuelas has already acquired a grant of \$814,000 from Monterey Park HUD funds.

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Sara Polinsky, an elder law expert, advised women to establish a will, living trust and financial power of attorney to avoid protracted delays and legal proceedings. She also noted that a health care directive, regarding end of life wishes, should be put in writing and given to family members and doctors.

In closing, Angela Richardson encouraged participants to “engage the creative process to create what you want.” ■



**38th WINGS  
ROUND ROBIN  
TENNIS TOURNAMENT**

Local tennis players & businesses from the east San Gabriel Valley and Inland Empire joined together to help raise almost \$50,000 at the 38th annual WINGS Round Robin Tennis Tournament held at The Claremont Club. It was a “smashing” success raising money to support the YWCA SGV Domestic Violence Program. Held on May 6, 2011 the all-volunteer organizing committee hosted 200 tennis players and guests. Over the 38 years they have raised more than \$2,550,000.

The funds support life-saving services for domestic violence victims, including shelter and supportive services for over 5,000 adults and dependent children each year through a 24-hour helpline, emergency shelter, counseling and support groups, jobs and housing assistance, and a Temporary Restraining Order Legal Clinic. Over 100 domestic violence education and awareness presentations are given each year at schools, community groups and businesses, and this year in particular there have been a number of trainings for medical and law enforcement personnel so that they can more easily identify and respond to domestic violence situations.

A group of dedicated volunteers, supported by committed friends and sponsors, put on this event. Thank you to all of our sponsors for your generous support. Your interest and concern make it possible for the YWCA to continue these vital programs. Sadly the need for a safe haven for victims of violence has increased during with the difficult economy. The help of our sponsors enables the YWCA to provide life saving resources to many battered women and their children. Your donations have helped save lives and made it possible for many to start new lives free of violence. ■

**THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS**

- |                      |                         |                          |                          |
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| Bob & Cindy Baker    | The Inn at Deep Canyon  | Company                  | Reno                     |
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| The Claremont Club – | Betsy Kaplan            | Salon                    | B & B Carpet Care –      |
| Claremont            | Magnolia – Arcadia      | A NoiseWithin –          | Glendora                 |
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| Costa Mesa           |                         | A.B. Taraporewalla D.D.S | Raven Beeso – San Dimas  |

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MERCI has maintained a group home for males with developmental disabilities for many years. Through Escañuelas' Capital Campaign efforts, the new residential home on Chandler will be for females.

A strong proponent of education, Escañuelas earned her Master's Degree from the American Jewish University and always encourages her predominantly female staff to pursue their education. She is an active member and fundraiser for the Monterey Park Rotary and the East Los Angeles-Montebello Business and Professional Women.

Escañuelas generously shares her knowledge of non-profits and her grant writing expertise, assisting many local organizations such as the West San Gabriel Boys and Girls Club, the Asian Youth Center, and Pomona Community Clinic.

Escañuelas' local, regional, and state efforts to educate and advocate for members of the community—most especially those with developmental disabilities—exemplify her commitment to achieving “dignity for all.”

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**YWCA SGV New Video!**  
View it on YouTube at  
[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)  
(search YWCA SGV).

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Visit our **facebook** page and become a fan of the YWCA SGV!

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|---|--|---|---|
| Byington Winery & Vineyard – Los Gatos  | Island Packers Excursions – <a href="http://www.islandpackers.com">www.islandpackers.com</a> | Rose Wentz Wilson Creek Winery & Vineyards – Tamecula | Lorisa Gardens – Glendora                         |
| Colgate-Palmolive                       | Elton John   | Barbara Ortego  | Martino Handbags                                  |
| Stephen Cook – In Memory of Mary Louise | Dean Koontz  | Yoga by Stephanie                                     | Missy's Chic Boutique                             |
| Covina Women's Club                     | Los Angeles Best – Improv Comedy   | 21 Choices Frozen Yogurt – Claremont                  | N.V. Me – Glendora                                |
| Crossroads Dental                       | Lake Arrowhead Resort Maintenance Shack – Walnut   | Aquarium of the Pacific – Long Beach                  | Pacific Park – Santa Monica Pier                  |
| The Dana on Mission Bay                 | Melinda Maria  | B.R. Cohn Winery – Glen Ellen                         | Hearst Castle and National Geographic Theater     |
| Del Mar Thoroughbred Club               | Frances Maschio  | Bj's Restaurant – Huntington Beach                    | The Pasadena Playhouse                            |
| Designs by Barbra – Claremont           | Alice Murken   | Lisa Brabo  | Mike Preston                                      |
| Disneyland                              | Musical Theatre West – Long Beach  | Candlelight Pavilion – Claremont                      | Traci Ahlen – Primped Salon & Boutique – La Verne |
| Dream Dinners Whittier                  | Oakmont Executive Transportation   | Canyon Mesa Townhouse Assoc. – Sedona                 | Ripley's Believe It of Not – Hollywood            |
| Enterprise Rent-a-Car                   | Oneida Pancake Grill   | Martha – Clear Complexion – Glendora                  | Rosa's Restaurant – Ontario                       |
| The Fairplex                            | Cathy O'Neil   | Clearman's Restaurants                                | Rubio's Restaurants, Inc.                         |
| Joe & Mary Falabrino                    | Festival of the Arts – Pageant of the Masters  | The Coloney Theatre Company – Burbank                 | Nicole Martin – Salon VIP – San Dimas             |
| Fiorina – Fashionable Women's Clothing  | Fraiche Restaurant – Culver City & Santa Monica  | ComedySportz Theatre – Hollywood                      | The San Diego Museum of Art                       |
| Frederick's of Hollywood                | Barry Friedman – The Claremont Club  | Covina Center for the Performing Arts                 | Los Angeles Turf Club, Inc. – Santa Anita         |
| Theresa Goodheart                       | The Great Pretenders Solon – Covina  | Diomenico's Jr. – Glendora                            | Ginny Sanders                                     |
| Ruth A. Hamad, M.D. – Glendora          | Harrals Lake Tahoe   | Dr. Phil Show   | Skirball Cultural Center – Los Angeles            |
| Hawk Signs & Engraving – Glendora       | Hawk Signs & Engraving – Glendora  | Elephant Bar Restaurant                               | Spirit Cruises – L. A Harbor                      |
| Joan Thomas Heynen                      | Industry Hills Pro Rodeo   | Frances Greenspan – Animal Communicator – Orange Co.  | Synergy Home Care                                 |
|   |  | Jack in the Box                                       | Tommy's Original World Famous Hamburgers          |
|   |  | Juicy Fitness – Covina                                | Trails Restaurant – Claremont                     |
|   |  | Los Angeles Dodgers                                   | Marilyn Urquidi                                   |
|   |  | La Villa Kitchen – Via Verde                          | The Warehouse Restaurant – Marina del Rey         |
|   |  |   | Tennis Classic                                    |
|   |  |   | Jerry Seger                                       |



## Sabine Boehme Brings International Flavor

As a girl growing up in Siebenlehn, a small town near Dresden, Germany, Sabine Boehme always wanted to work in the United States. Now 25 years old and the holder of a master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Freiberg, Sabine started a one-year internship in March at the YWCA SGV.

Sabine says her goal is to improve her English skills and to learn everything she can about non-profit management. She has already been involved in organizing the WINGS tennis tournament and the Women of Achievement luncheon and conference. Sabine has also used her website creation skills to develop a new website for one of the YWCA programs. She is now researching suc-

## YWCA SGV Programs

**Services for Domestic Violence Victims:** Shelter and support services so that adults and children can be safe, healthy, and lead violence-free lives. **24-Hour Helpline 626-967-0658**

**Teen Education Program:** Presentations in schools about healthy relationships to prevent teen dating violence and provide assistance to teens in need.

**Services for Seniors:** Nutritious meals and care management so that elders can live in their own homes with independence and quality of life. **24-Hour Message Line 626-214-9465**

**Leadership Development Opportunities** for women, girls and older adults

If you'd like to help the YWCA SGV save money and communicate more efficiently with you, please sign up (via one of the three options below) for our free email newsletter.

Sign up instantly at

[www.ywcasgv.org](http://www.ywcasgv.org)

Email us at [info@ywcasgv.org](mailto:info@ywcasgv.org)

Give us a call at (626) 214-9440

Gloria De Leon always knew she wanted to tell stories-- and she says she is thrilled to be telling stories of outstanding women who have made a difference in their communities. As founder and principal of the firm NY/LA Communications, she produced the 2011 Women of Achievement Award videos for the YWCA SGV. The videos were debuted May 19 at the annual Women of Achievement luncheon in Diamond Bar.

With videographer and editor Juan Iregui, Gloria is building a business that brings together her ten years of network news producing and celebrity booking experience with his photography and documentary producing expertise. Gloria worked as a news associate on the Nightly News with Tom Brokaw, then as associate producer on the Today Show with Katie Couric at NBC New York for six years before moving to CBS Los Angeles as a news specials producer. Among her projects were a Michael Jackson specials and a series on the Columbine murders with Couric.

"I wanted to be in news to tell stories about real people," recalls Gloria. "But in the last few years, the networks have gone increasingly toward covering primarily celebrity news-- and I knew that wasn't what I wanted to do." After collaborating on an independent documentary on homelessness, Gloria and Juan decided to form their own company. Today they serve a wide variety of clients, ranging from interviews for websites of non-profits such as California Forward to settlement documentaries for law firms that seek to settle client claims out of court.

"The common theme among our clients that we are helping them tell stories about real people -- people whose lives are always fascinating whose stories are heart-felt," says Gloria. "That's why I enjoyed working on the Women of Achievement interviews so much-- each woman had made a great contribution and had wonderful stories to tell."

To contact Gloria, visit [www.nylacomunications.com](http://www.nylacomunications.com) ■

successful models for financial empowerment programs for women and girls.

"I've learned so much about event planning and really improved my computer skills," says Sabine. "I am looking forward to making more contributions to the YWCA."

The niece of YWCA volunteer Kay Eckert, Sabine is living with her aunt and uncle in West Covina. During their spare time, they have participated in the Avon Breast Cancer Walk at Dodger Stadium.

"I have never seen so many people turn out in one place for such a great cause," says Sabine. "The Avon Walk is something I would never have experienced back home." ■



## Congresswoman Judy Chu Speaks at YWCA USA Immigration Briefing

Congresswoman Judy Chu was one of the featured speakers at the YWCA USA Immigration Briefing held April 7, 2011 in Washington DC. The forum was part of the YWCA USA annual meeting and capital hill visits. Congresswoman Chu serves on the Judiciary Committee, which has jurisdiction over immigration policy. This year she was also elected Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC).

Other speakers at the Briefing included Rep. Raul Grijalva (Arizona), Rep. Luis Gutierrez (Illinois), Rep. Gwen Moore (Wisconsin), and Rep. Charlie Gonzales (Texas). The speakers provided an update on immigration reform, including current priorities, bills, and strategies. ■

## Gloria De Leon Tells Stories of Women of Achievement

