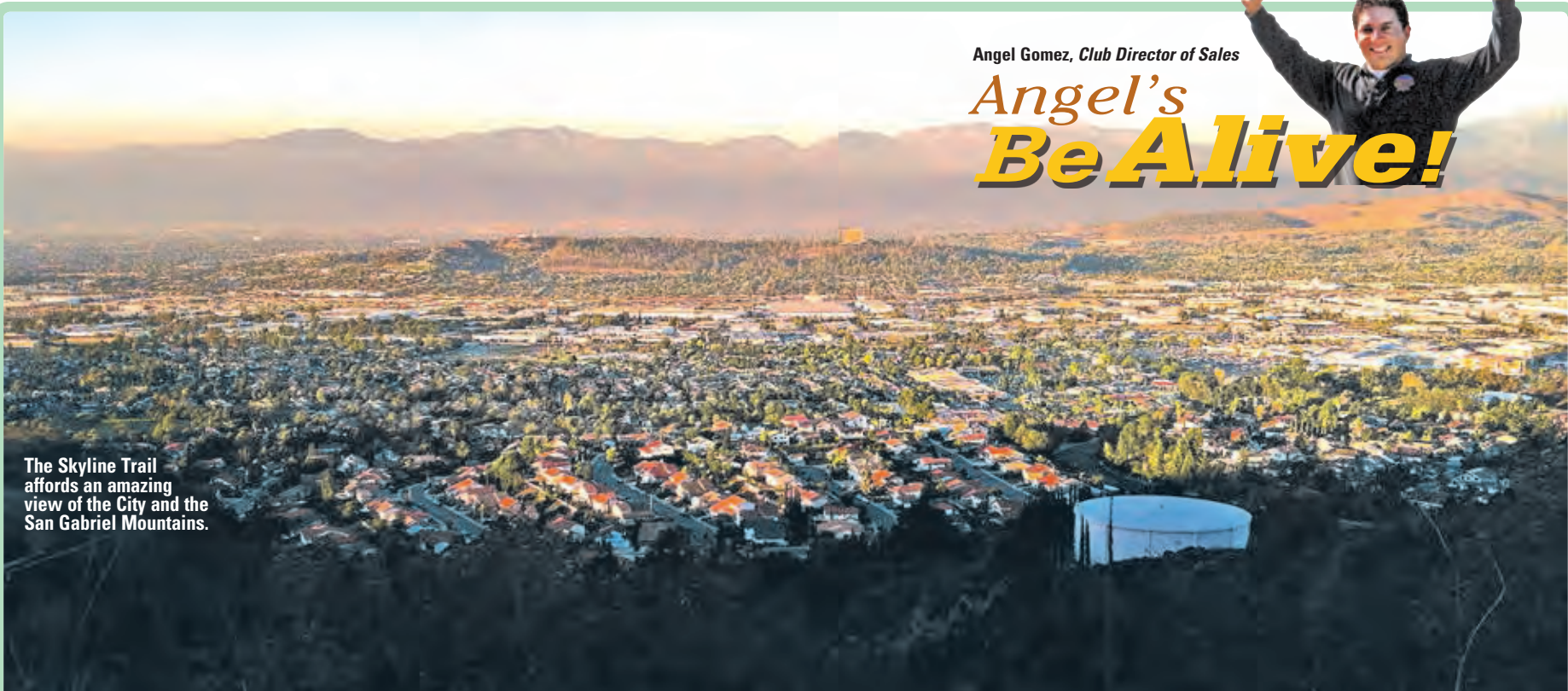




Angel Gomez, Club Director of Sales

Angel's *Be Alive!*



The Skyline Trail affords an amazing view of the City and the San Gabriel Mountains.

Powder Canyon — Puente Hills

Powder Canyon

2345 Old Fullerton Rd., La Habra Heights

Area: 517 acres, managed as a Habitat Authority Wilderness Reserve

Trail distance: 2.4 miles to 7 miles

Difficulty rating: Moderate

Bike time: 2 hours or more

Trail condition: Dirt fire roads

Path activities: Walking, hiking, mountain bicycling, horseback riding, dog walking

Directions: From Los Angeles, take the 10 Freeway east to the south 605 freeway, and then the Pomona Freeway (60) east. Exit at Fullerton Road. Turn right onto Old Fullerton Road.

Parking: on Fullerton Road near Pathfinder and Harbor Blvd.

Hours: 7 a.m. to sunset daily

Check trail conditions: Puente Hills Habitat Preservation Authority, (562) 945-9003, ext. 5



A GPS map of the hike.

Hello again, everybody!

This month, we travel away from Downtown Los Angeles, arriving in the Puente Hills area. Powder Canyon is about 20 miles from Downtown L.A.; it usually takes about 35 minutes to get there.

The Powder Canyon trail loop actually travels through Rowland Heights, La Habra, Hacienda Heights and Schabarum Regional County Park. The area is very well groomed and has lots of shade along the ups and downs of the path. The trail intersects with Black Walnut-Powder Canyon-Nogales trails to create the loop.

The views from the Skyline Trail are amazing – you can see in all directions. Wow! What a gorgeous view! Let's begin.

The canyon is a relatively undisturbed habitat in the middle of the Puente Hills. In fact, the canyon is part of what's called the Puente Hills Significant Ecological Area, one of the last remaining natural areas in the hilly region of eastern L.A. County and one of the few with a relatively undisturbed, self-contained watershed. One of the larger canyons in the hills, Powder Canyon boasts particularly large complexes of oak woodland and oak riparian forest. The canyon's trail system links with Schabarum Trail (Skyline Trail).

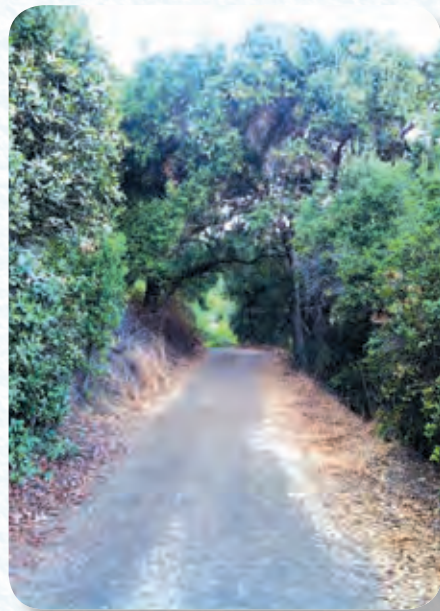
The one thing to be very aware of is your time and how much daylight you have left. You may be surrounded by homes, but there is no light(s) on the trail once the sun goes down. I was lucky there was a full moon and I could see the streets from where I was (on the trail).

This is a moderate to difficult trail. Be sure to take lots of water and flashlights in case you run out of sunlight. There are lots of wildlife animals in the area; I was greeted by little rabbits, lots of birds, and a very curious owl.

Note: Be careful and look ahead before you commit to one direction over another. Some of the paths will lead you up to the base of the electrical towers. (It happened to me. See my photo of the GPS map.)

Don't forget to bring your camera. Take plenty of photos and send them to me at agomez@cityemployeesclub.com. Bring water, snacks and maybe some sunscreen.

As always, *Be Alive!*,
Angel



There is lots of shade along the trail.



Dakota and I by the first trail marker.



A Powder Canyon kiosk with area map.



My new friend the owl looks over me.



The Schabarum trail connection, with a horse stable in the background.



Aden, Dakota and I go up a small hill.



Approaching peak of the trail, there are antennas and a building at the very top.