



Does Councilman Naresh Solanki Live in Cerritos?

By Brian Hews

Cerritos, California is home to three high-end shopping malls, quality restaurants, a world-class performing arts center, several large and successful companies, an award-winning school district, and top-notch city administration.

At the intersection of two major freeways, the city is located within minutes Knotts Berry Farm, Disneyland and popular coastal cities.

According to Realtor.com, as of March 2022, there were 49 homes for sale in Cerritos, ranging from \$565,000 to \$2.4 million. The median listing home price is some of the highest in the nation at \$988,000 with a median home sale price of \$1.1 million, a healthy \$577 per square foot.

Cerritos Councilman Naresh Solanki owns a nice home in Cerritos. According to title documents, the house is 2,700 square feet, with four bedrooms and three baths.

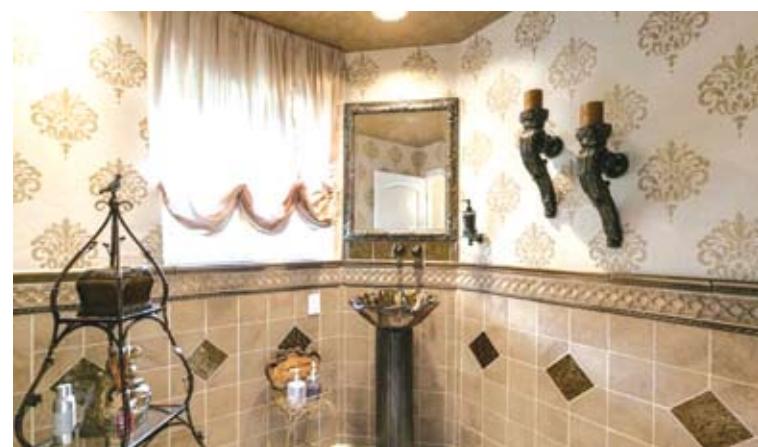
[See **SOLANKI** page 6]

Local Elected Officials Decry Tribal Gaming Initiative on Nov. Ballot

Measure will cause \$5.5 billion in lost economic activity for California communities and \$500 million in lost tax revenue.

This week, a group of California local elected officials joined California cities and officials throughout the state in opposition to the tribal gaming initiative – the only sports betting measure on the ballot in November 2022 that harms local communities.

Newly announced officials include: Jerry Dyer, Mayor, City of Fresno; Graciela Ortiz, Mayor, City of Huntington Park; Alex Walker-Griffin, Vice Mayor, City of Hercules; David Torres, Councilmember, City of Montebello; Gustavo Camacho, Councilmember, City of Pico Rivera; Hipolito Cerros, Councilmember, City of Lindsay; Jesse Alvarado, Councilmember, City of Hawaiian Gardens; Karina Macias, Councilmember, City of Huntington Park; Luis Chavez, Councilmember, City of Fresno; Marco Barcena, Councilmember, City of Bell Gardens; Marilyn Sanabria, Councilmember, City of Huntington Park; Pat Kearney, Councilmember, City of Lawndale; and Scarlet Peralta, Councilmember, City of Monte-



SOLANKI OWNS A MANSION: Pictures of the S. Owens mansion located in Anaheim, which title records show is owned by Cerritos Councilman Naresh Solanki. The 7,000 s.f. home is valued at over \$4 million with interior furniture fashioned after Louis XVI, a stocked controlled-climate humidor/wine cellar, bronze bathroom sinks, and a massive kitchen with top-notch equipment. The house carries a mortgage payment of over \$20,000 and annual property taxes over \$40,000. Solanki claims he lives in a 2,700 s.f. home in Cerritos.



ASSEMBLYWOMAN VISITS LA PALMA

ASM. SHARON QUIRK-SILVA (D-Fullerton), 4th from left, took questions last week from members of the Hubert Humphrey Democratic Club at La Palma's Central Park last Saturday.

By Tammye McDuff

Asm. Sharon Quirk-Silva (D-Fullerton) held a community conversation at Central Park in La Palma this past weekend and fielded questions and comments from rising gas prices to addressing the conditions of shelters with her bill AB 362 Shelter Operator's Accountability.

"There is good work being done, but we have more to do," stated Silva, "I am asking the hard questions because this is the information that must be addressed."

As the former chairperson for Arts and Entertainment in Southern California, her committee had to rectify the task of

dealing with over 30,000 employees and potential layoffs during the pandemic just from Disneyland and Knotts Berry Farm and the loss of millions of dollars in revenue.

"One of the things we did was to propose a bill to open those parks at a faster pace, safely. But these were not the only places to be impacted. Tourism, hotels, restaurants, weddings and public events were all under the Arts and Entertainment Committee."

Silva also sits as Chair of the committee for homelessness and mental health, "We added 'mental health' because we know that is where things

[See **QUIRK-SILVA** page 13]

Pico Rivera Approves Contract for PFAS Treatment of City Wells

By Brian Hews

The Pico Rivera City Council, at its last meeting, addressed the city's water quality in regards to perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane-sulfonic acid (PFOS), two compounds within the PFAS family of "forever chemicals."

In May of 2019, the state required the Pico Rivera Water Authority (PRWA) to monitor its wells for the forever chemicals.

Like many other cities in the basin, the results showed that the levels for PFOS and PFOA had exceeded the notification levels

set for PFOS at 13 parts per trillion and PFOA at 14 ppt.

In Aug. 2019, the city was notified by the state regarding the exceedance of the notification level. On May 5, 2020, the state told the PRWA to monitor the wells beginning in the third quarter of 2020. If the wells exceed the levels for PFOA and PFOS, the PRWA may be required to remove a well from service.

Consequently, at the meeting, the city council approved plans for PFAS treatment on plants 1, 2 and well 5. The city awarded a construction contract for \$4.7

[See **PICO RIVERA** page 13]

Several Area Hospitals Penalized for High Readmission Rates

By Brian Hews

Under programs set up by the Affordable Care Act, the federal government cuts payments to hospitals that have high rates of readmissions.

Hospital readmission is defined as patient admission to a hospital within 30 days after being discharged from an earlier hospital stay.

Since 2012, Medicare has punished hospitals for having too many patients end up back in their care within a month. The government estimates the

hospital industry lost \$566 million in 2018.

The penalties are a signature part of the Affordable Care Act's effort to encourage better care.

In 2018, lawmakers mandated that Medicare take into account a long-standing complaint from safety-net hospitals. They argued their patients are more likely to suffer complications after leaving the hospital through no fault of the institutions, but rather because they cannot afford medications

[See **READMISSION** page 12]

Off Street Café Bans LCCN

We usually have to limit the number of newspapers we drop at city halls, libraries, city sports centers and senior centers.

When it comes to senior centers, we have to drop two bundles, 200 papers, and we do it for free.

Many readers go to their favorite HMG-CN drop spot to read our newspaper, such as Rosewood's or Arte Café.

A favorite spot for years in Cerritos is Off Street Café, the iconic breakfast/lunch diner on Artesia Blvd.

We would drop 100 papers free every week and, according to the former owner Rose, they were gone within the day.

But now there's either a new owner or managers, one named Richard and the other one named John.

The two recently ordered my driver (in a rather rude manner) not to deliver the paper.

So loyal readers, Off Street Café no longer carries HMG-CN, although they have the LB Press Telegram rack there.

For \$1.00 a paper, you can read nothing about Cerritos; HMG-CN is free and has 75% Cerritos news.

The ban is likely because 90% of Cerritos Republican Club members eat breakfast there after golfing at Ironwood.

And everyone knows how friendly they are to this newspaper....

So, you can either go in there and shake Richard or John's hand if you don't like the paper... or you can go in there and tell them, "I would like to have my community newspaper available here."

Here's to the Fourth Estate and quality community journalism.

Cheers!

**Brian Hews,
Owner and Publisher**

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Cerritos to Honor Meritorious Marine Saturday Apr.23

Corporal Aliquan Stokes, a member of the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion (1st CEB), will be hosted and honored by the Cerritos on Saturday, April 23, at 11:30 at the Cerritos Sheraton Hotel. The public is cordially invited to attend the event, wherein the city will present Corporal Aliquan Nahjir Stokes with a proclamation to honor him for his exemplary service. Corporal Aliquan Stokes and his wife (Yomaris) will spend the weekend in Cerritos with lodging and meals compliments of our sponsors.

Stokes enlisted in the Marine Corps in March of 2019 and graduated from Recruit Training at the end of May with a meritorious promotion to Private First Class. His subsequent training included Marine Combat at the School of Infantry, followed by the Combat Engineer Course, graduating with a Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) of Combat Engineer in August 2019. His first duty station was to the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion (1st CEB), where he was meritoriously promoted to Lance Corporal (L/Cpl) in December 2019. L/Cpl Stokes married his wife, Yomaris, in January 2020.

Lance Corporal Stokes deployed with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit in November of 2020 in support of the 1st Battalion, 4th Marines (1/4), returning in May 2021. During his deployment, he was promoted to Corporal. Corporal Stokes is currently a team leader with 4th Platoon, Alpha Company and his platoon is currently in training for another deployment with Battalion Landing Team (1/4) as part of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit.

Veterans and Resource Center Opens at Downey Library



RESOURCES FOR VETERANS: Downey and library officials celebrated the opening of the Center for Military & Veteran Reintegration. Downey is the pioneer city in the entire country to open such a resource. Yorba Linda is next and the organizers have spoken with the cities of Artesia, Lakewood and Norwalk.

By Tammye McDuff

A new veteran's center opened at the Downey City Library on Monday, April 18. The Center for Military & Veteran Reintegration will provide veterans with transition and reintegration services, career and workforce development, benefits and resources, health, wellness, peer-to-peer and family support.

"Transitioning from the military is more than a job change; it is a complete change in lifestyle," stated former mayor Rick Rodriguez and father to veterans, "transitioning back into civilian life can be difficult without community support and an insightful team."

The Downey CMVR has been many years in the making. "The library is a resource for the community," said Executive Director Ben Dickow, "our mission is to unite all the communities in the city and the veteran community is a very important one."

Mayor Blanca Pacheco called the official ribbon cutting one of monumental importance for all veterans in the area.

President and Executive Director of ReBoot Workshop Maurice Wilson remarked, "Across the country, we have about 200,000 veterans transitioning from military service to civilian life. By focusing on and resolving the key reintegration issues of veterans and the challenges employers face trying to hire them, Operation ReBoot helps to coordinate military talents to viable employment opportunities through specified training."

Approximately 45,000 organizations in the country have resources for integration, but what is missing is the central

'hub' for these services.

"This is what is so special about CMVR. We act as a collective organization with a shared agenda. A service member can show up with his family ... no place to live or resources to call on ... and we can now get that family fed, settled and their way to a productive place in civilian life. Our ReBoot workshops have been working successfully since 2010."

"Several years ago, both of my boys were in combat, in Iraq," said Rodriguez, "it was my vision to take an old American Legion building and turn it into a resource center for veterans, then the pandemic hit and everything stopped. That's when we came up with the idea of a Center for Military & Veteran Reintegration. Any veteran can walk into this center with no hope and we can help them find what they need. No red tape. No nonsense."

Downey is the pioneer city in the entire country to open such a resource. The next center will be opening in Yorba Linda soon and the organizers have spoken with the cities of Artesia, Lakewood and Norwalk to open Centers in these areas.

Each year 250,000 service members leave the military—over 80 percent struggle with rebuilding their lives and finding meaningful employment. With your support we can help them reboot their lives. "It's really simple," added Rodriguez, "We are giving our veterans hope."

For more information, visit CMVR-Downey.NVTSI.org or visit the Downey Public Library at 11121 Brookshire Avenue.

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Whittier Post Office Renamed in Honor of Jose Ramos



DEDICATION: The building at 8520 Michigan Avenue in Whittier was renamed the Jose Ramos Post Office, Ramos was a huge advocate of veterans. Seen is NLMUSD Trustee Dr. Robert Cancio with Rep. Linda Sanchez and Vietnam Veterans at the renaming ceremony of the Jose Ramos Post Office.

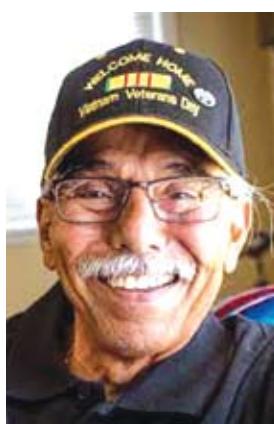
By Tammye McDuff

Representative Linda Sanchez introduced legislation that was signed into law in 2019 to officially rename the building at 8520 Michigan Avenue in Whittier as Jose Ramos Post Office, honoring the late Jose Ramos, a decorated Army combat medic who worked to establish a day honoring veterans of the Vietnam War.

Sanchez was joined by members of the Ramos family and Whittier Postmaster Jojo Olega April 20, 2022.

When Sanchez announced her intentions to introduce the bill, she said, "Jose Ramos was a powerful advocate for veterans in our community and our country. He received the Purple Heart in 1968 and spent much of his time advocating on behalf of veterans."

"I'm proud to be a small part of keeping the legacy of Jose Ramos alive," Sanchez said in 2019. "Mr. Ramos bravely served our country in the Vietnam War as an Army combat medic, earning a Purple Heart. Like far too many veterans returning home, he



Jose Ramos

was caught in the crossfire of public debate surrounding the Vietnam War. He made it his mission to stand for veterans, which has inspired me to introduce the legislation." Sanchez said renaming the post office building will enable Ramos' work to live on.

Ramos was born in East Los Angeles and enlisted in the Army in 1965, while a sophomore at Garfield High School. Upon returning home, he was diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, yet his passion and commitment to fellow service members did not end. Believing no veteran should be treated disrespectfully, Ramos launched a campaign to honor all Vietnam veterans. Ramos and a team of veterans rode their bikes

across the United States, from Whittier to Washington D.C., to petition the federal government to proclaim March 30 as 'Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day', in memory of their last day of service in Vietnam. On September 3, 2017, Ramos succumbed to pancreatic cancer.

In Whittier, March 30 is also celebrated as 'José Ramos Day' to honor him and all Vietnam veterans.

Downey Hosts Fourth Annual Father-Con

By Tammye McDuff

Father-Con is a call to fathers, father figures and future fathers to celebrate the significance of fatherhood.

Father-Con believes that success at home is a tremendous contribution to disrupting the flow of child trafficking. A strong family unit is a stumbling block to predators that take advantage of vulnerabilities in children. These vulnerabilities may be due to absent, disengaged or abusive fathers and father figures in the home.

Father-Con was born after eight years of working on preventing human trafficking. After talking with survivors and researching the causes of what would allow a child to be willing to put their trust in a stranger on or offline.

The conclusion was that absent fathers, distracted fathers, and missing and abusive fathers feed the vulnerability of the exploited.

If a daughter has received healthy male interaction with her father, she is less inclined to respond to a stranger's flattery. If something is missing, children are inclined to go out and look for that. Fathers need to be engaged and equipped to develop children in this new area.

Mentorship is needed. There are organizations across the city which help young men learn how to become fathers.

Please think again if you don't think that daughters and sons in your neighborhood are being victimized and preyed upon by human traffickers.

Traffickers exploit any weakness at home and online. Learn how to stop them and create safe homes and communities by visiting www.father-con.org.

Thanks to Mayor Blanca Pacheco for her participation in Father-Con last Saturday and the continued fight and hard work in legislation that combats human trafficking.

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THE ENTRANCE SIGN at the Father-Con event. Traffickers exploit any weakness at home and online. Learn more at www.father-con.org.

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La Mirada's Youth in Government Students Propose Projects



PROPOSING PROJECTS: La Mirada Youth in Government students. Top row (l-r): Sebastian Magar, Alex Santiago, Ethan Revere, Aaron Twombley, Mia Rodriguez, Andrew Morales. Middle row (l-r): Bella Reyes, Josh Coronel, Patricia Scott, Allyian Guloy, Sarah Figueroa, Faith Yang. Front row (l-r): Sofia Alonso, Elisa Castro, Cambria Martinez, Marina Saffold, Natalia Zuniga, Natalie Buenrostro.

La Mirada's Youth in Government students concluded this year's program at the City Council meeting held on April 12. Students from La Mirada High participated in the program and made their final presentations to the City Council.

The students proposed two projects, including a sculpture garden and a teen center. For the sculpture garden project, students studied neighboring cities and gathered information about budgets, landscaping, and community interests. Students suggested that the sculpture garden be implemented in La Mirada's Civic Center to create a community destination and reflect on the City's rich history.

The second proposed project was to re-establish a teen center at the La Mirada Activity Center. Students explained the benefits involving a teen center at the Activity Center including providing teens with a place to learn, share, and develop

their skills. Students suggested it would also create a safe social environment.

"This award-winning program helps students develop their leadership capacity, communication skills, and ability to work in a team environment which will ultimately better prepare them for a successful future," said Mayor Ed Eng.

Youth in Government project proposals have often been implemented including the creation of the La Mirada Community Gymnasium, Splash! La Mirada Regional Aquatics Center, La Mirada College Banner program, and the newly established Farmers Market.

The program is sponsored by the City of La Mirada and the La Mirada Ebell Club. For additional information, contact the Community Services Department at (562) 943-7277.

La Mirada Prayer Breakfast April 29

Join the community for a morning of fellowship and prayer on Friday, April 29 at the La Mirada Prayer Breakfast. The event will be held at 7 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, located at 14299 Firestone Boulevard.

The keynote speaker for this year's event is Dr. Dave Holmquist, the men's Head Basketball Coach at Biola University. Purchase tickets today for early bird pricing of \$20 per person. Tickets purchased after April 11 will be \$25 per person. Tickets include a breakfast buffet.

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SOLANKI from page 1

But evidently the city and the location of the Cerritos home is not good enough for the acerbic Solanki.

Hews Media Group-Community News has found that Solanki also owns an opulent mansion tucked in a remote neighborhood in the hills of Anaheim.

Solanki's Cerritos home could fit in the backyard of the Anaheim home, the lot is over a half-acre and the home is 7,000 square-foot with seven bedrooms and eight baths, and an outdoor swimming pool area that resembles a high-end resort.

According to the online realty website Zillow, the house is worth in excess of \$4.1 million, carries a mortgage payment

of \$21,000, with annual property taxes of \$40,000.

The beauty of the house is only upstaged by the gaudy, over-the-top French-style interior that would make Louis XIV blush, an interior that would seem to completely contradict any claim by Solanki that he lives in his home Cerritos.

The houseboats has an extremely large kitchen with top-notch kitchen equipment worth hundreds of thousands, state-of-the-art a climate controlled humidor and wine cellar, and bronze coated bathrooms, complete with bronze coated sinks.

According to Cerritos' website, "Councilmember Naresh Solanki was elected to the Cerritos City Council in 2015 and re-elected in 2020."

Online title documents show that Solanki bought the Anaheim mansion for

\$3.4 million in May 2016, immediately after he was sworn in as a City Council member.

And in another fact Solanki will have to explain, HMG-CN has obtained a picture of a wedding event involving Solanki's family which shows the event was held at the Anaheim mansion.

When asked about the house and the wedding event, Solanki who has never answered any questions from HMG-CN did not comment.

The home Solanki claims to be his primary residence is 60% , 4,300 square feet smaller than the Anaheim mansion, located on Bos Street near the 605 freeway in Cerritos.

It is a requirement to live in Cerritos to be a Cerritos City Councilman.

The revelation presents a number of

major concerns for Solanki, including legal issues, a recall movement, and most sticky, explaining how he describes the \$4 million plus home as a second residence to angry Cerritos residents and constituents.

When asked for comment, Solanki initially did not answer the first request, but finally answered saying, "'My son lives in [the] Anaheim house until I am ready to sell and buy another one. I bought that house to exchange [a 1031 exchange] home in Diamond Bar."

A check of title records by HMG-CN shows Solanki sold the Diamond Bar home in 2013 to Lo Kuie Lein and Su Tsung Chang.

He did not buy the Anaheim mansion until 2016, and bought it from the Fermanian Family Trust.

S. Owens Dr in Anaheim.

Solanki owns the property.

Bought in May 2016

Property Data

Site Address:
S OWENS DR
ANAHEIM, CA 92808-1327

Mail Address:
11115 BOS PL
CERRITOS, CA 90703-6426

Primary Owner (s):
SOLANKI NARESH / SOLANKI PRITI

Sale & Loan Information

Transfer Date: 5/9/2016

Transfer Value: \$3,400,000.00

First Loan Amt: \$2,550,000.00

Seller: FERMANIAN FAMILY TRUST

Cost/Sq Feet: \$0.00

Lender: VIDAVAKHARIA LLLP

OWNERSHIP: Above is the property records from OCTitle.com showing the Owens home in Anaheim with the address blanked out. The document clearly states that Solanki owns the property and that he bought it in May 2016 from the Fermanian Trust just weeks after he was sworn in as a Cerritos councilman.

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Whole Child Will Build Interim Housing Project in Santa Fe Springs

Located at Lakeland Rd. and Laurel Ave., the overall project, 'From Homeless to Homeowner,' is a first of its kind in California.

Staff Report

The Whole Child, a 65-year old nonprofit organization, and the City of Santa Fe Springs, recently completed entitlements and funding for their upcoming project in Santa Fe Springs

Located at Lakeland Rd. and Laurel Ave., the overall project, "From Homeless to Homeowner," is a first of its kind in California and will be developed over five acres of land offering interim, permanent supportive and ownership housing opportunities for low-income and vulnerable seniors and families, and homeless families with children.

The Interim Housing component of the development has received support from across the spectrum, with Supervisor Janice Hahn of the 4th District providing seed funding of \$4.8 million to the project.

Hahn stated, "This is an important project that will not only provide safe temporary homes for families with children experiencing homelessness, but will also provide these families with some stability and the support they need to get back on their feet. This is going to fill a gap in our system in



the Southeastern region of LA County and I am proud to support The Whole Child's effort here."

The Interim Housing facility will be a three-story building fully developed and managed by The Whole Child.

The site could provide interim housing to up to 40 homeless families at any time and is expected to serve over 150 families per year.

It will feature a robust supportive services center with consultation rooms, family room, teen area, computer lab, playground and pantry, among other amenities.

The City of Santa Fe Springs provided the land and \$1.1 million funding.

Congresswoman Linda Sanchez confirmed funding for nine community projects in her district, with \$500,000 allocated to The Whole Child's Interim Housing project.

Sanchez said, "...these projects will make life better for Southern Californians and I am proud to deliver the funding needed to complete each one."

In late March, Governor Gavin Newsom announced awardees of the

Homekey2 program, including an allocation of \$5.6 million toward The Whole Child's project.

Newsom stated, "We are continuing to act with urgency to fund quality Homekey projects, because that's exactly what the moment demands – swift, decisive action to assist the most vulnerable Californians."

The project has received \$2.7 million in philanthropic funding; with entitlements and funding completed, the project will break ground in June 2022.

Constanza Pachon, Chief Executive Officer of The Whole Child, stated, "We are grateful to The City of Santa Fe Springs, Supervisor Janice Hahn, and our many philanthropic partners for their early and unwavering support of this project. We are glad to have found a path to full funding with the support of Governor Newsom and Congresswoman Sanchez. We are all deeply committed to a shared vision of ending family homelessness."

The Whole Child's Development team for this project includes experienced housing developer, The Richman

INTERIM HOUSING FACILITY: will be a three-story building fully developed and managed by The Whole Child. The site could provide interim housing to up to 40 homeless families at any time and is expected to serve over 150 families per year.

Group; award-winning architectural firm, SVA Architects; and General contractor, Ravco Inc.

The Whole Child (TWC) envisions a world that values the individual needs of each child and secures access to the resources and opportunities they need to thrive and live a full, happy life. Our MISSION is to help families raise emotionally and physically healthy children and have a place to call home. Founded in 1957,

The Whole Child provides Mental Health services to at-risk children experiencing trauma and behavioral challenges;

TWC also offers Housing Services to families experiencing or at the risk of homelessness; Parenting Education to prevent child abuse/neglect; and Nutrition Education to combat childhood obesity.

Today, they provide our array of multidisciplinary services across 10 locations in LA County to more than 3,000+ families annually, 8,000+ people, including 4,500+ children.

78% of their clients are low to extremely low-income families with a single female head of household who is raising 2-3 children.

For more information, visit www.thewholechild.org.

64th State Assembly District CANDIDATE FORUM

Meet the candidates for the 64th State Assembly District and learn how they stand on issues affecting our community.

Thursday, April 28, 2022

6:00pm - 9:00pm

Holiday Inn La Mirada
14299 Firestone Blvd
La Mirada CA 90638
(714)739-8500

Candidates

Elizabeth Alcantar (D) - Cudahy, CA
Robert "Rob" Cancio (D) - Norwalk, CA
Raul Ortiz Jr. (R) - LaMirada, CA
Blanca Pacheco (D) - Downey, CA
Ana M. Valencia (D) - Norwalk, CA
Rose Espinoza (D) - La Habra, CA

Admission is free and everyone is welcome!

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INITIATIVE from page 1

bello

This week's announcement adds to the chorus of those already opposed to the tribal gaming measure including: California Contract Cities Association - representing 74 cities
Gateway Cities Council of Government
South Bay Cities Council of Government
Cities of Bell Gardens, Commerce, Cudahy, Hawaiian Gardens, and Cities for Self-Reliance JPA

The initiative proposes to amend the State Constitution to guarantee tribal casinos a near-monopoly on all gaming in California – adding exclusivity over roulette, craps and sports wagering to their current monopoly on slot machines – while weaponizing the Private Attorneys General Act (PAGA) so it can be used against tribal casino operators' legally-operating competition.

Specifically, this change in the State Constitution allows tribal casinos to hire private trial lawyers and replace the role of the Attorney General to sue their non-tribal competitors. As a result, the measure puts more than 32,000 jobs, \$1.6 billion in wages and \$5.5 billion in total economic impact at risk. Cities rely on this revenue for resident services such as public safety, housing and homeless programs.



@cerritosnews



BREAKING NEWS

Los CerritosCommunity
Newspaper

Cerritos Home Reaches Milestone, Now at 100 Percent Renewable Energy

A week before Earth Day, a Cerritos couple turn off the gas and goes completely energy efficient, the result of reading a 1999 Time Magazine on global warming.

BY LAURIE HANSON

Climate change advocates Norma and Alan Williamson celebrate their Cerritos home reaching 100 percent renewable energy, just in time for Earth Day on April 22.

"We reached a milestone last week," Norma said. "We are a 100 percent renewable energy electric home due to the turning off of our home's 'natural' gas."

Norma, 70, and Alan, 72, have been climate activists for more than 20 years, and Cerritos homeowners since 2003. Norma is an award-winning Green California Schools Teacher, and Alan is a retired solar industry/energy efficiency professional with 20 years in the industry.

Their home was featured as the cover story of Solar Today Magazine, Nov. 2006, and its energy makeover was featured online at PBS/NOVA This Solar House. They are in the process of getting it certified as a new zero energy home through the 1000 Home Challenge.

The couple is also frequently seen picking up

street litter while walking around Cerritos in their effort to avoid contributing to the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch." In 2020, Norma successfully started a Cerritos based campaign to ban the use of the Roundup Weed Killer in public spaces. It was unanimously voted on by the entire Cerritos City Council, she said.

While camping last summer in Washington the couple directly experienced climate change with the Pacific Northwest Heat Dome, a sign further telling them our planet is in trouble.

"It was 114 degrees 50 miles from the Canadian border," Norma said. "We really felt the distress."

Though they were always into earth-friendly activities such as organic vegetable gardening, organic diets, herbal remedies – behaviors they inherited from their parents, they added behaviors like natural childbirth, camping, backpacking, bicycling and more to their life as a married couple.

"We have always respected John Muir – Father of the National Parks," Norma added.

But their motivating factor to "Go Green" came in the early '70s, while reading and studying the Whole Earth Catalog by Stewart Brand. It was the first time they were introduced to photovoltaics and ecology.

In 1999, after reading a Time Magazine Special Edition cover story, on global warming, the couple started taking climate crisis seriously.

"The scientific reports kept us up at night but after a while we realized that taking green action is a great antidote for climate fear and depression," she explained.

The following year, Alan got laid off from MTA (Mass Transit Authority), and Norma became the "bread winner" while he pursued training in solar installations and building performance energy efficiency certification. In 2001, Alan got hired full time by a private solar company, EE Solar (Energy Efficiency Solar), and installed a 2kW

BACKUP: Cerritos' residents Alan and Norma Williamson in front of their Tesla PowerWall battery storage system. Powerwall is an integrated battery system that stores solar energy for backup protection, so when the grid goes down the power stays on. The system detects outages and automatically recharges with sunlight to keep your appliances running for days.



solar system on their home in Bellflower. Shortly thereafter they proceeded to purchase their first 100 percent electric car, a Toyota RAV4 EV.

By 2003, they moved to Cerritos, and immediately took out a \$35K HELOC (Home Equity Line of Credit), to begin creating their now 100 percent renewable energy electric home.

"We would like to encourage homeowners of the advantages of an all-solar electric home especially now in light of the latest U.N. Climate Report and the funding of Putin's war chest coming so prominently from the oil and gas industry," Norma said.

"We have the renewable energy technologies and know-how to continue to enjoy the amenities of modern life if only we can exert our personal and political will to break our addiction to fossil

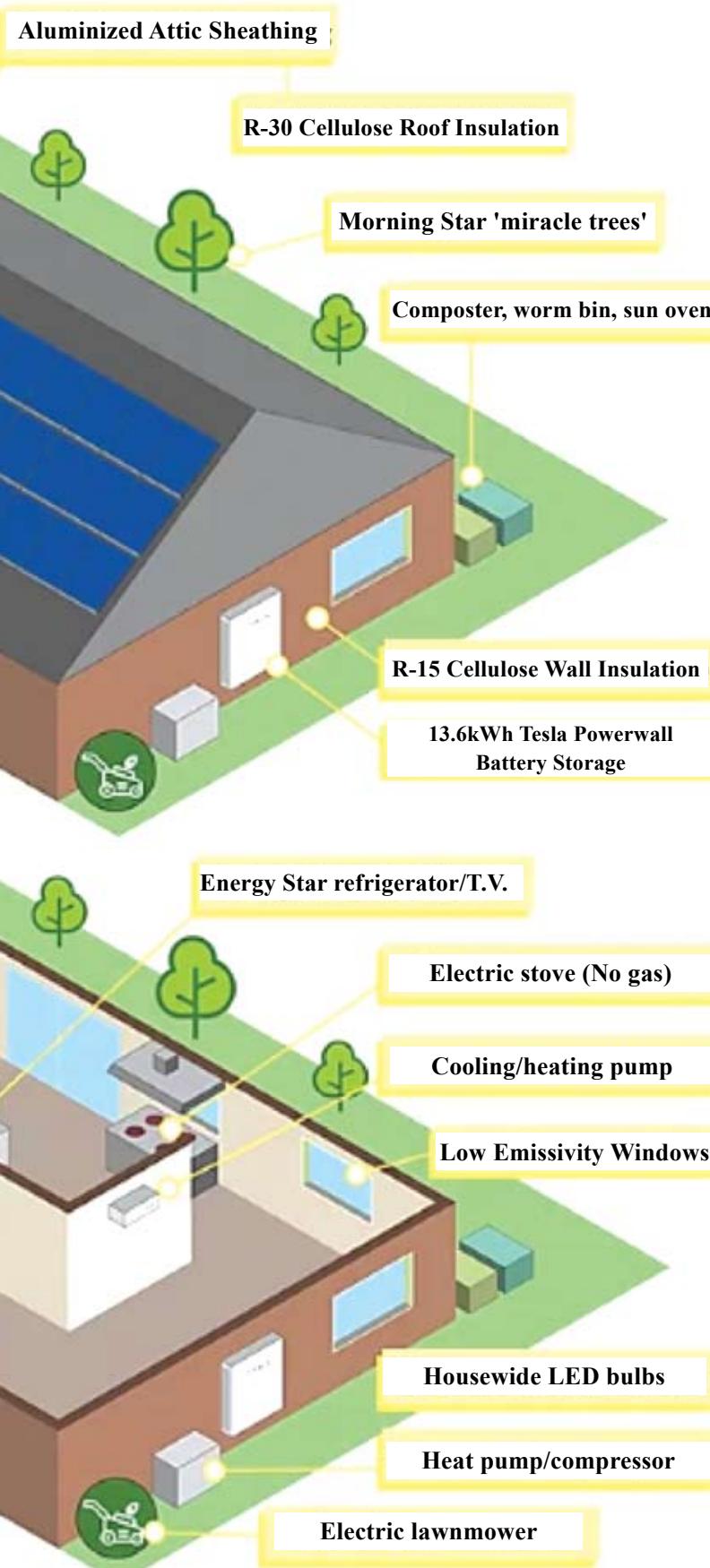
fuels," she added. "We can't afford to wait for governments to act or to buy a 'home of the future.' We can all begin to upgrade our own existing homes right now and start new 'green' habits from the comfort of our homes."

Since 2007, Norma and Alan have paid close to zero dollars on energy bills.

"Our 'natural' gas consumption was so low that several times SoCal-Gas technicians were coming out to



A GAS TECHNICIAN turns off the gas at the house last week making the house completely energy efficient.



HELPING TO SAVE THE PLANET:
The many advantages inside/on/outside the Williamson's home that shows what it takes to convert to all electricity and lessen your carbon footprint

reconstruction and rebuilding of their Cerritos home in line with their 'going green' lifestyle. They insulated all exterior walls with cellulose insulation made from recycled newspaper and cardboard. They tore out the home's natural gas furnace and HVAC air conditioning system and installed electric ductless air source heating and cooling heat pumps. The home's rooftop was fitted with a thermal hot water system, and they also installed a skylight and solar tube to provide natural lighting along with 50 LED lights. Their windows were replaced with high efficiency dual pane thermal windows throughout.

"Alan installed the circuitry for our kitchen's electric stove, and the 'crowning jewel' was the 6kW solar rooftop array which helps us generate 90 percent of our electricity," Normal explained. By 2020, their home got a Tesla Powerwall battery storage system which protects it from blackouts and allows the home to use its own solar generated electricity at night. Their financial return on their cost investment for the 6kW solar system equals to 4 years of gasoline savings by their electric vehicle.

Norma and Alan have conducted several solar tours of their home to the public through American Solar Energy Society (ASES) and had more than 200 guests one year. Subsequently they were invited to write an article about it in the ASES magazine, Solar Today. As

possible, buying organic produce, planting a vegetable garden, planting moringa trees which absorb CO₂ faster than other trees by 20 percent and are drought tolerant and grow quickly.

Other suggestions include planting milkweeds, the natural habitat and food source of monarch butterflies (95 percent endangered) and using electric lawn mowers (since a single new gas lawn mower emits the same amount of CO₂ as 11 new gas automobiles in the same period).

Also important to the Williamson's is recycling soft plastics in recycling bins at certain department stores

the cover story, it featured cutting-edge renewable energy technologies which are still not mainstream today.

"ASES flew us out to Key West, Florida in an all-expense paid trip for a PowerPoint presentation at an environmental conference," Norma said. "This started our 15 plus years of community presentations to civic groups like the Rotary Club, Soroptimist International Club, etc., on the ways homeowners can incorporate renewable energy and lower utility bills."

"We have presented over 20 community-based PowerPoints on renewable energy home upgrades," she added. "Due to the COVID 19 lockdowns, we decided to create a website (www.zehomeupgrades.com), instead of delivering in person presentations, on our home's energy retrofits to help others switch from dirty fossil fuels to clean energy."

In carrying their message and vision on how each of us can avert climate change, the Williamson's believe all of us can by doing several earth sustaining activities and lifestyle adjustments. Their suggestions include composting green waste/kitchen scraps, incorporating a plant-based diet as much as

"Act now and quickly," Norma said. "The window for breaking our dependence on fossil fuels is getting smaller. The latest United Nations Climate Report (April 4, 2022) states that 'it is now or never' that nations need to halve greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, only 8 short years away."

"All of earth's 7.8 billion people contributed to trashing our only home so we all need to do our part to clean it up, especially those in industrialized societies," she added. "Nature's beauty surrounds us. We need to do all we can to preserve Mother Nature's bounty for our grandchildren and their grandchildren."

check if the meter was defective," she said. "They finally suggested this April that we turn off the gas. We happily complied!"

In 2016, Alan retired from working for GRID Alternatives. GRID is a nationwide nonprofit organization that installs small, low-cost solar systems for low-income families. Norma went on to take her Solar Academy (a career tech education, California Department of Education grant-based program).

As a La Mirada High School teacher, she always incorporated environmental lessons into her Spanish as a world language curriculum. She also wrote and coordinated environmental grants valued at more than \$300,000 were implemented in a multidisciplinary approach that included teachers of science, language arts, mathematics, and other subjects. Her students participated in beach and creek cleanups, built a street-ready electric car, a solar dollhouse to name a few activities.

"We participated in Plug in America electric vehicle 'parades' before Tesla Roadsters made EVs popular," she said. "We have been members of the Sierra Club and Citizens Climate Lobby."

Norma and Alan's professional and personal efforts all eventually culminated in the

The 6kW SOLAR ARRAY
on the Williamson's house supplies all the power to the home, appliances and outdoor equipment.



605 LEAGUE SOFTBALL

Seniors celebrate as Cerritos roughs up John Glenn, wraps up another league title

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

On a day in which the Cerritos High softball team clinched the program's second straight outright 605 League title and its seventh run rule decision in nine league games this season, the six seniors collectively had a day to remember. It was a day to celebrate second baseman Kaitlyn Caneda, first baseman Elena Figueroa, pitcher Erin Gibbs, right fielder Madeleine Morante, shortstop Jadyn Nielsen and third baseman Makayla Sur and they did not disappoint in their final home contest.

The seniors combined to go 12 for 21, score 10 runs and drive in eight as the Dons crushed John Glenn High 17-0 for the program's 23rd consecutive league win. Cerritos has now won five straight league championships, seven in the last eight full seasons (no league games were played in 2020) and eight in the last 11.

"That's what we're here for; we're here to compete, and the girls competed today," said Cerritos head coach Todd Denhart of his seniors. "It was a good job."

"That's pretty damn cool, isn't it," Denhart later responded when asked about their performance. "Some of them have been the mainstays and some of them got their opportunity today and they took advantage of that opportunity. It speaks volumes to them and the work they put in. So, when they do get the opportunity, they're ready. Obviously, they showed it today."

In addition, Gibbs allowed just two hits, walked one and struck out nine, including

her freshman counterpart Carissa Galvan to end the game. Gibbs, who tossed a one-hitter when the teams faced each other on Apr. 1, threw 67 pitches and allowed only four runners to reach base.

"I've known quite a few of these girls for a while, so the chemistry was always there," said Caneda. "We've had a great team the past few years and I think we knew right off that we had this one."

Gibbs walked Galvan to lead off the game but in the bottom of the first inning, the Cerritos bats would come alive. After Nielsen was plunked in the helmet, then advanced on a wild pitch, consecutive singles from junior center fielder Camille Lara and Caneda made it 2-0. Following back to back strikeouts, Galvan walked Gibbs, freshman catcher Alianna Calderon singled, Figueroa reached on an error, Morante singled and Nielsen doubled. When the inning was over, it was 7-0.

"I wasn't expecting that, me getting hit in the helmet," said Nielsen. "I was expecting her to throw me outside because that's what I saw the last time. The last time we played them, I hit a home run, so I knew she wasn't going to throw me anything good. She was definitely going to throw a changeup or outside to try to throw me off."

The Dons (13-2 overall, 9-0 in league) would tack on three more in the second inning, highlighted by a two-run single from sophomore designated player Toafaoalii Pua, which scored Caneda and Sur. In the next frame, Sur's single plated Lara to make it 11-0 and in the fourth, the hosts sent 12 batters to the plate, scoring six more runs and collecting nine more hits. Gibbs had a pair of singles in the inning and finished three for three.

Also getting three hits in the game were Caneda and Lara while Calderon and Nielsen each went two for three. Every starter had at least one hit and every starter, except Gibbs, scored at least one run. Sophomore



THE CERRITOS HIGH softball program celebrated the final regular season home game of its six seniors last Thursday in the team's 17-0 win over John Glenn High. From left to right are: second baseman Katelyn Caneda, shortstop Jadyn Nielsen, third baseman Makayla Sur, right fielder Madeleine Morante, pitcher Erin Gibbs and first baseman Elena Figueroa. **By Armando Vargas, Contributing photographer.**

Kylee Manibusan ran for Gibbs each time she reached and scored twice. For added measure, eight of the nine starters drove in at least one run.

"I played with a lot of these girls since I was in 8-U, so I knew we were going to come together and be 605 League champs again," said Nielsen. "I really love these girls; they've been behind my back ever since I was younger. They really pulled me up when I was down and I'm forever grateful for that."

The only threat the Eagles had came in the second inning when senior third baseman Gabby Ortega reached on an error, advanced on a groundout and went to third on sophomore catcher Kristy Galindo's single. After that, Gibbs retired 11 of the last 12 batters she faced, striking out eight of them. Gibbs moved her record to 10-1.

"That defines her career," said Den-

hart. "She threw well today, and she's been getting progressively better over the last month and a half and hopefully we're peaking at the right time."

Even though Cerritos has established itself as one of the top softball teams in the immediate area with those league championships racked up, Denhart couldn't distinguish this one from those in the past.

"We've gone through some adversity, so I think that makes it a little special," said Denhart. "Last year, coming off Covid was a whole other thing. It's hard to compare generations."

"I think we just really need to come together and focus in and get ahead early and get out," said Nielsen.

Glenn, which has been plagued by errors this season after having a breakout 2021 campaign, fell to 14-11 overall. However, the Eagles, who host Wiseburn-Da Vinci High today, find themselves in a precarious situation as it relates to the CIF-Southern Section playoffs. The team went into Spring Break with a 5-4 league mark, a game behind Artesia High for second place, and the two face each other on Tuesday at Glenn. But Pioneer High is 3-4 and closes out the regular season with a pair of games against fifth place Oxford Academy and one on Tuesday against Whitney High. It's possible Artesia, Glenn and Pioneer could all finish at 6-4 in league action.

For Cerritos, it is hoping to go one step further in the playoffs than it did last season. The Dons, who travel to Oxford Academy on Tuesday and Mayfair High on Thursday, lost a heartbreaking 4-3 semifinal decision to Sultana High in which the game-winner was scored in the top of the seventh inning. Cerritos will be seeking a return to the finals for the first time since 2000.

"We don't talk about it," said Denhart. "We talk about the three parts of the game—you throw strikes, you play defense and you put the ball in play hard. If you do all three of those things, more often than not, it's going to work out."

"It's going to be those three parts of the game," he later said. "We're going to have to play solid defense, we're going to have throw quality strikes and we're going to have to put the ball in play hard. And then, you're going to have to have a little bit of luck. From 1995-1999, we [went to the championship game] three times, and we lost two of the three. You're going to have to have some breaks and you have to play the game well."

"I think in the semifinals we kind of lost our bats; kind of lost our approach at the plate," said Caneda. "But I think if we just follow through with the pitching, defense, clutch hitting, I think we're going to be good this year. We're going to have a good run this year."

WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: First, read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are found in all directions - vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues you'll have a number of letters left over that spell out the WONDERWORD. To see the answer use the link below the puzzle.

Sleeping In New Bed Sheets

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

Bamboo, Bedding, Beige, Blanket, Blends, Blue, Bottom, Bunk, Canopy, Clean, Comforter, Corners, Cotton, Count, Coverlet, Covers, Double, Doze, Duvet, Fabric, Fitted, Fresh, King, Lift, Micro, Nod, Pima, Pink, Queen, Rest, Sateen, Satin, Sham, Shuteye, Siesta, Silky, Sleepy, Slumber, Smooth, Snug, Soft, Spread, Thread, Throw, Top, Trundle, Twin, Under, Warm, Weary, White.

Solution: 4 letters

Norwalk baseball grounded by Banning in St. Paul Tournament to extend late season skid

By Loren Kopff

As quickly as the Norwalk High baseball team began the season, winning nine of its first 11 games, the tide has shifted in the opposite direction. And even though the Lancers are ranked third in the CIF-Southern Section Division 6 poll, head coach William Wenrick would rather not be involved in any tiebreaking drama during the final week of the season that could play a factor in the team's playoff fate.

The Lancers dropped a 7-1 decision to Banning High this past Monday to wrap up pool play action in the St. Paul Tournament for their eighth loss in the last 11 games. Just like that, a 9-2 start has turned into a 12-10 mark as Norwalk faced Bell Gardens High this past Wednesday night to conclude the tournament.

"Besides the better quality of play, and as much as I don't want to blame injuries, we've been nicked up a little bit," said Wenrick. "[Junior pitcher] Gabriel Cancino, who has been throwing well for us, has been nicked up. [Junior] Randy [Martinez], my lefty who has been a sparkplug, has been hurt the last three games. We're just not hitting the ball, and like today, we didn't even show up."

Through the first 11 games, the Lancers had 51 hits and scored 45 runs, but during the recent slide, which included four games against Suburban League opponents La Mirada High and Mayfair High, plus a pair of games against Mary Star of the Sea High among others, the team has scored 33 runs and pounded out 57 hits. However, 18 of those hits and 21 of those runs came against league cellar-dweller Firebaugh High.

The Pilots flew past Norwalk in the top of the first inning, batting around and scoring five runs off five hits and a hit batter. Banning would tack on the other two runs in the fourth inning on two more hits. Meanwhile, the Lancers did not get a runner to third base until the bottom of the fifth when junior second baseman Ricardo Guzman doubled down the left field line, moved to third on an infield single from junior left fielder Jonathan Guzman and scored the lone run on a sacrifice fly from junior shortstop Caden Barnhill. Ricardo Guzman would go two for three while four other players accounted for the other four hits the team would collect.

After the first inning, junior pitcher Kevin Carrillo would retire the next six he faced before being replaced by junior Angel Gonzalez, who worked the next three innings.

"He just wasn't ready," said Wenrick of his starter. "Kevin's not a guy who overpowers people. He doesn't have the best changeup in the world."

If any positives have come out of playing Paraclete High, then Salesian High before Banning in the tournament, who all outscored Norwalk 16-3, Wenrick says it's that the Lancers are playing different teams that they haven't seen before.

Norwalk hosted Long Beach Cabrillo High on Apr. 21 and will visit Bellflower High on Tuesday before hosting the Buccaneers on Thursday to end the regular season. The Lancers will enter the week a game behind Bellflower, but tied for third



HMG-CN Sports Editor
Loren Kopff

News & Notes From Press Row

place with Mayfair High, having split with the Monsoons late last month with both results coming in shutout fashion.

"During this tournament, I played guys that I usually don't play," said Wenrick. "So, we're going hard [against Bellflower]. We're going back to our lineup. I expect it to be a battle. It was last year. We beat them once and we had bases loaded and we lost [the other game] last year. I expect it to be exciting. I don't want it to be left up to anybody if we're 3-5, even though we have the tiebreaker against Mayfair. I don't want that. We've come too far since the beginning of the season. We've come too far from where Norwalk has been and I'm not going to let these guys die; I'm just not going to let it happen."

In other St. Paul Tournament action, Cerritos High dropped a 9-0 decision to Paraclete this past Monday and 11-2 to Narbonne High this past Wednesday. The Dons (19-5 overall, 6-0 in the 605 League) have already wrapped up its third straight league title and will visit last place John Glenn High on Tuesday in the front end of a home and home series. The Dons will then host Mayfair on Wednesday and Glenn on Thursday to conclude the regular season.

Besides Artesia High, Cerritos and Norwalk, the potential for as many as three other area teams could find themselves in the playoffs. Gahr High was the last team to begin San Gabriel Valley League action and since then, has won three of four league games. The Gladiators swept a pair of 2-1 decisions against Downey High, then shutout Lynwood High 11-0 last Friday on the road. Gahr was edged by Warren High 2-1 this past Tuesday to see its overall record fall to 8-14 overall. The team visited Warren on Apr. 21 and will entertain Lynwood today before facing visiting Paramount High on Monday, host Martin Luther King High on Tuesday and Paramount on Thursday. On Apr. 29, Gahr will host La Mirada.

La Mirada, which had already locked down its sixth straight Suburban League crown, which will also be its last as the league will join forces with the SGVL next season, faced Sierra Canyon High this past Tuesday in the first game of the Boras Baseball Classic and pulled off a 7-0 victory over the top-ranked team from Division 2. The Matadores (17-5-1, 6-0) then faced Orange Lutheran High this past Wednesday in the tournament and fell to the top-ranked team in Division 1 4-2. La Mirada faced St. Augustine High on Apr. 21 and will wrap up the tournament today before concluding the regular season with a home and home series with last place Firebaugh, Tuesday and Thursday.

Valley Christian High was swept in three games by Olympic League leading Maranatha High, then was edged by Whittier Christian High 4-3 this past Tuesday to drop to 11-12 overall and 3-6 in the circuit. The Defenders will host the Heralds today and last place Heritage Christian High on Tuesday before ending the regular season on Thursday against the Warriors. As of this past Wednesday, V.C. was sitting in fourth place, two games behind Village Christian High, which still has a home and home series with Maranatha.

SOFTBALL

As the final week of the regular sea-

Artesia holds off late Los Amigos rally in first game of doubleheader

By Loren Kopff

FOUNTAIN VALLEY-Artesia High head coach Jose Serrano said junior pitcher Brandon Garcia was going to throw 110 pitches against Los Amigos High last Saturday in the first game of a doubleheader. Even when he ran into trouble in the bottom of the seventh inning, Garcia was not going to leave the game.

With the tying and winning runs on base, it was a baserunning mistake that ended the game and gave Artesia a 6-5 win, assuring the Pioneers of no worse than a .500 record in the regular season. Artesia would drop the second game, 4-0, and enter Tuesday's game at Pioneer High with a 12-10 overall record. Garcia finished with 97 pitches and scattered seven hits while striking out five and walking two.

"It was a good game; great pitching from Brandon," said Serrano. "We're short-staffed today; we have three guys missing. But the guys stepped up today. I told him he was going seven innings or 110 pitches. I needed him to go all the way, even though he got into trouble."

Artesia was up 6-3 heading into the bottom of the seventh when Andrew Roybal singled before being forced out at second when Adrian Ramirez was safe on a fielder's choice. After Garcia got Juan Gutierrez to flyout to left, he walked Chris Betancourt. Aaron Alarcon was then safe on a fielder's choice, allowing Ramirez to score and a base hit from Maysen Navarro drove in Betancourt. But on the play, Alarcon was thrown out steps before reaching third base, ending the game.

The Pioneers grabbed a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning against the top-ranked team in the CIF-Southern Section's Division 7 when junior second baseman Phineas Shahon and junior third baseman Reggie Steele each singled with two outs. That set the stage for senior shortstop Frankie Medina, who roped a double to center, bringing in Shahon and Steele. Artesia would make it 3-0 in the third inning on a run-scoring single from Medina, who plated junior first baseman Francisco Sandoval.

"I mentioned to the guys right now, this was the first time we scored with two outs in the first inning," said Serra-

no. "We always find a way to not score. That right there, for me, was a big accomplishment because we haven't done that all year."

After the Lobos tied the game with one in the third and two in the fourth, the Pioneers regained the lead in the fifth. Gutierrez walked freshman right fielder Jose Garcia, who would move to second on an error as Sandoval was safe on a fielder's choice. Four pitches later, Shahon singled to plate Garcia and on the next pitch, Steele was hit to load the bases. Medina would then ground into a double play as Sandoval came home.

The game-winner would be scored in the last inning when Sandoval laced a double down the left field line. He would be replaced by senior pinch runner Andrew Serrano, who scored on the second of two errors committed by the Lobos. The Pioneers touched up Gutierrez for 13 hits with Steele going three for four and Medina, Shahon and freshman first baseman Victor Sanchez all collecting a pair of hits.

"I think that why I'm glad we're playing [Los Amigos] now, because as I was telling the kids, this is a team we're going to play in the playoffs," said Jose Serrano. "You can't come in and take them lightly and not be ready to go because they're a very good team. I hear good things about them, and you see it. It was a good team to beat."

This season has been what Jose Serrano has been looking for since he took over the program last season. The Pioneers had not had a winning season since going 16-12 in the 2007 season and the 12 wins are the most for Artesia since that season, which was the last time the program advanced to the playoffs. On top of that, the 12 wins are two more than the entire total from the past five seasons. A win on Tuesday at Pioneer or a home win against the Titans on Thursday would officially clinch a postseason berth. Artesia, Oxford Academy and Pioneer could all finish anywhere from second to fourth defending on what happens in the final two weeks of the regular season. Oxford Academy began this past Monday tied with Artesia for second place and has a home and home series with Pioneer, who were sitting with a 1-3 league mark.

"We talked about it at the beginning of the year how it was going to come down to the last week against Pioneer," said Jose Serrano. "It was either them or us for the third spot. Splitting with Oxford for us was a big comfort. I wasn't expecting that, especially Oxford being a great team with a good coach."

NEWS AND NOTES con't

son approaches, as many as seven of the eight area teams could find themselves in the playoffs. In the 605 League, Cerritos had already wrapped up the league title, but there is drama building between second place Artesia (9-11, 6-3), third place Glenn (14-11, 5-4) and fourth place Pioneer High (4-4 in league), which will host fifth place Oxford Academy today. On Tuesday, Artesia visits Glenn while last place Whitney High goes to Pioneer. It's possible there could be a three-way tie for second place.

In San Gabriel Valley League action, Gahr finds itself in a battle for first place as the Gladiators (17-8, 5-1) are a half game behind Warren (6-1). Gahr blanked Downey 8-0 on Apr. 14 to sweep the season series against the Vikings and hosted Lynwood on Apr. 21. The league title could be decided today when Gahr entertains Warren, which defeated the Gladiators 5-4 on Apr. 7. Gahr will then wrap up the regular season against Dominguez

High on Wednesday and at Paramount on Thursday.

La Mirada, which hasn't played since shutting out Kennedy High 10-0 on Apr. 15, has already won the Suburban League and will enter Tuesday's home game with Mayfair at 19-6, 6-0. The Matadores will also go to Firebaugh on Thursday.

Norwalk, which was sitting in third place in the Suburban League, got past Legacy High 3-1 this past Monday to improve to 15-7 overall. With a 3-3 league mark and a non-league meeting with Schurr High today, a visit to Firebaugh on Tuesday and a home game with Bellflower on Thursday, the Lancers have the potential to tie Mayfair for second place.

V.C. hasn't had a good season, dropping to 4-13-1 after a 10-0 loss to Bellflower this past Monday. But the Defenders are 2-2 in the Olympic League and were in third place as they hosted fourth place Village Christian on Apr. 21. Valley Christian will travel to league-leading Whittier Christian on Tuesday, Village Christian on Wednesday and second place Heritage Christian on Thursday.



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Los Cerritos Community Newspaper

Watch This Whittier High Student Excel

At only 18 years old, Whittier High School senior and math enthusiast Joaquin

Perkins is a retired National Chess Master, a title he received in 2018 after years of hard work and multiple national champion titles – the first of which he earned at age six.

His notable accolades extend beyond the world

of chess. Perkins is also a high-achieving scholar with a 4.3 GPA and will graduate with a total of 389 credits – far exceeding the required 220 credits. For his academic excellence, passion and determination, Perkins received an Award of Merit from the Whittier Union Board of Trustees during an April 12 meeting.

Perkins retired from chess as his interest in math began to expand, noting that he became more interested in pure mathematics and less interested in applied mathematics. Before coming to Whittier High School, Perkins had already started taking college-level math classes as a middle

school student. He started classes at Citrus College and since has taken courses at Rio Hondo College, Mt. San Antonio College and Whittier College.

Upon graduation, Perkins will near the completion of a math major having finished and excelled in courses such as calculus 1, 2 and 3, differential equations, linear algebra, advanced geometry, point set topology, numerical analysis, complex variables and number theory.

Additionally, Perkins is a three-year varsity tennis player and is part of the school's Academic Decathlon team, Mock Trial group and Science Cup team.

In the fall, Perkins will matriculate to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), as he majors in mathematics with an emphasis in number theory.



Joaquin Perkins

Classified listings

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For more information, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 562.801.4430.

Pico Rivera Sheriff's Deputy Receives Award



Deputy Sean Leake (l) with CPT. Hutak.

Pico Rivera Sheriff's Station Deputy Sean Leake was recognized by the City Council last month for receiving the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department – South Patrol Chief's All-Star Award.

Deputy Leake was selected amongst over 800 deputies from six patrol stations in the South Patrol Division, exemplifying excellence through performance, productivity, and community partnership.

Angelinos Must Mask Up on Public Transportation

Masks will again be required on all public transit within Los Angeles County, including buses, trains, taxis and ride-hailing service vehicles, under a new COVID-19 health order that will take effect Friday.

The order will also again require masks at all indoor public transportation hubs, including airports and bus terminals.

Public Health Director Barbara Ferrer said Thursday the order is based on the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's opinion that mask-wearing on transit remains an essential step in preventing spread of COVID-19.

"They are experts," Ferrer told reporters during an online briefing. "They made a determination that at this point having that requirement in place is necessary for the public's health, and that resonates with us."

At the urging of the CDC, the U.S. Department of Justice on Wednesday appealed a ruling made earlier this week by a federal judge in Florida that struck down the U.S. government's rule requiring masks to be worn on public transportation, most notably aboard airplanes.

U.S. District Judge Kathryn Kimball Mizelle ruled that the CDC had exceeded its authority in issuing the mask-wearing mandate on transportation systems. But on Wednesday, the CDC issued a statement saying it continues to believe that requiring masks in indoor transportation settings "remains necessary for the public health."

"CDC will continue to monitor public health conditions to determine whether such an order remains necessary," according to a statement from the agency.

READMISSION

from page 1

or don't have regular doctors.

The Medicare sanctions have been especially painful for this class of hospitals, which often struggle to stay afloat because so many of their patients carry low-paying insurance or none at all.

Over 2,200 hospitals are exempt from the program because they specialize in children, psychiatric patients or veterans. Rehabilitation and long-term care hospitals are also excluded from the program, as are critical access hospitals, which are treated differently because they are the only inpatient facility in an area.

Medicare docked payments to 2,521 hospitals — more than half in the nation — in 2021. The average penalty 0.7 percent of each payment.

The fines can be heavy, averaging \$217,000 for a hospital, according to Congress' Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, or MedPAC.

Medicare estimates the penalties over the next fiscal year will save the government \$521 million. Thirty-nine hospitals received the maximum 3% reduction, and 547 hospitals had so few returning patients that they escaped any penalty.

2021 penalties over 1% include Los Alamitos Medical Center; Rancho Los Amigos in Downey; PIH Hospital in Downey and PIH Health Hospital in Whittier, and Chapman Global Medical Center Orange 2.24

2021 penalties over .4 to .99 % include Long Beach Memorial Medical Center; Coast Plaza Hospital, Norwalk; Lakewood Regional Medical Center and Beverly Hospital in Montebello.

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PICO RIVERA from page 1

million to Metro Builders & Engineers Group Ltd. (Metro Builders) for the PFAS treatment systems.

The city anticipates the construction to start within the next few weeks, with a completion date in a little over 13 months.

"The health and safety of our residents is a top priority for the mayor and the city council," said Councilmember Gustavo Camacho. "While our water supply remains in compliance, exceeds all State and Federal drinking water standards and remains safe to drink, this action will bring us one step closer to meeting our goal of delivering a steady supply of improved, safe and reliable water to our residents."

City Secures \$22M to Replace Telegraph Bridge

Residents can get ready for some significant renovations in Pico Rivera and Santa Fe Springs along the bridge on Telegraph Rd.

Pico Rivera has landed nearly \$22 million in grants from Metro and the feds to build a new bridge on Telegraph Road over the Gabriel River.

Built in 1916 and rebuilt in 1937, the concrete tee beam is currently 423 feet long and 43 feet wide but will be widened to six lanes.

"This project will replace and widen the bridge to reduce existing and future congestion from the 605 freeway," City Manager Steve Carmona wrote in the staff report.

The last available inspection report

of the bridge was in December 2018 and indicated the average daily traffic was 44,300; of that, 3% were trucks.

The superstructure condition was rated good, but the structural appraisal was described as, "basically intolerable requiring high priority of corrective action."

Construction will take two years and might not start for three years.

Half of the bridge is likely to remain open for traffic during construction, Carmona said.

Councilmember Gustavo Camacho told HMG-CN, "I am very pleased with staff securing major funding for building a new bridge on Telegraph Road over the Gabriel River. These funds will allow us to provide for better traffic flow for residents and alleviate congestion coming from the 605 freeway."

In other news, the Pico Rivera City Council discussed what to do with an \$8 million surplus. The recommended funding allocations of \$8,025,393 will provide for critical needs identified by city staff.

Under City Manager Carmona's recommendations, several needs were identified, including \$1 million to replace 13 vehicles and equipment for Public Works to prevent delays in daily work and \$340,000 for City Hall Council chambers rehab and audio, visual and broadcasting system upgrades.

According to the report, the audio system crashes, the sound is substandard, and equipment malfunctions frequently occur, disrupting the quality of live streaming to viewers.

Monies would also be earmarked

for accessibility upgrades, including the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) required improvements and replacement of furniture.

Another \$100,000 would go to a Climate Action Plan Sustainability Initiative. Over 181 California cities have adopted Climate Action Plans (CAP) to meet the state's emission reduction goals. CAPs are roadmaps for cities to reduce greenhouse gas emissions through activities that can achieve the greatest GHG emission reductions.

\$450,000 would be allocated for the Whittier Boulevard Specific Plan. Among the corridors in the city, Whittier Boulevard presented the greatest potential for revitalization, given the cultural and historical significance within the region. The city developed a program and has secured over \$2.2 million in grant funds for the corridor.

Finally, \$225,000 will go to city street fests and other community events including: \$100,000 for the popular City Summer Street Fest Concerts; \$50,000 for the City's Parks and Recreation "Leadership Conferences" focused on promoting leadership among participants residing in Pico Rivera and \$75,000 to cover the costs of holding a 4th of July event.

QUIRK-SILVA from page 1

get bogged down. It is not just giving someone medication or removing them from the streets. Sometimes this is a life-long process of supporting mental health issues."

There was a barrage of questions regarding high taxes related to gas prices. "We have a lot of regulations regarding taxes in California. Do I agree with every regulation in California? The answer is No. Is this why people leave California? The simple answer is Yes. We have some of the strongest protection of our oceans and environmental open spaces. But when you put everything into perspective, some of those regulations come with addendums from local government, such as paying for park improvements and infrastructure. This is where the taxes go to," replied Silva.

Quirk-Silva was first elected to serve California's 65th Assembly District in 2012, regaining her seat in 2016 and 2018. Before her service in the State Legislature, she served in local government as a member of the Fullerton City Council from 2004 to 2012, including serving two terms as Mayor. Currently, in her third term, Quirk-Silva has developed a reputation as a hard worker who presses for more transparency and communication between state government, local government, and the people of Orange County.

She was educated in Fullerton public schools through 12th grade. She went on to earn an Associate of Arts degree from Fullerton College, a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology at the University of California, Los Angeles, and a Teaching Credential from California State University, Fullerton. As one of ten children, she honed negotiating skills and learned the advantages of teamwork early on.

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**CITY OF COMMERCE, NOTICE INVITING FORMAL SEALED BIDS
FY 2021-22 PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Commerce invites sealed bids for the above stated project and will receive such bids on **Planetbids**, up to the hour of **2:00 PM on Tuesday, May 17, 2022**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud online. Late submittals will not be considered. It is the bidder's responsibility to upload the bid proposal file by the due date to City's portal on PlanetBids.

Electronic files of the Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents are available for download on the City's portal on PlanetBids.

The work to be done consists of furnishing all labor, materials, tools, equipment as shown in the PLANS, SPECIFICATIONS AND CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.

Estimated cost is \$3,200,000.

Bids must be accompanied by a bid bond, made payable to the City of Commerce for an amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the bid amount.

Required License Classification is State of California, A-General Engineering Contractor.

This project is subject to the requirements of SB 854. Prevailing wages shall be paid to all workers in accordance with California Labor Code 1771.

All questions regarding this bid shall be uploaded City's portal on PlanetBids, no later than 10 calendar days prior to bid due date and time.

BY ORDER of the City of Commerce, California.

Published at LCCN Commerce Community News 4/22/22

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY

Notice is given that pursuant to sections 21700-21713 of the Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of the Commercial Code, Section 535 of the Penal Code. 1812.607, that Norwalk Self Storage at 11564 E. Firestone Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a Lien imposed on said property. The undersigned will be sold at public auction conducted on www.storage treasures.com ending on Thursday, May 12th, 2022, at 9:00AM. The personal property belonging to those listed below to be sold as follows: chairs, bed frame, dressers, ice chest, boxes, totes, loose clothing, blower, ladder, tables, loose bedding, TV, bags, picture frames, crib, tires, shoes, gas can, hamper, microwave, couch, suitcase, stroller, cot, toys, guitar, scooter, bikes, printer, hutch, room dividers, shelf, tools, ball, car parts, wood, and love seat.

NAME	UNIT
RAUL VELASQUEZ	A191
DARNLEY DACOSTA SMITH	A315
ADRIAN RENE MARTINEZ	B255
JOSE LUIS LOPEZ	B500

This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Section 21700 et seq. of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California.

Sales subject to prior cancellation in the event of settlement between Owner and obligated party.

Publication Dates: 4/22/2022 AND 4/29/2022

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

ARMANDO FERREIRA

CASE NO. 22STPB02253

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ARMANDO FERREIRA.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ARMANDO FERREIRA, JR. in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ARMANDO FERREIRA, JR. be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 05/27/22 at 8:30AM in Dept. 67 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner

AARON CHARLES GREGG - SBN 76612

AARON CHARLES GREGG, APLC

110 E. WILSHIRE AVENUE, SUITE 503

FULLERTON CA 92832-1959

4/29, 5/6, 5/13/22

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Los Cerritos Community Newspaper

CITY OF LA MIRADA
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE ADOPTION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ENERGY CONSERVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE RENEWAL PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given of a public hearing to be held by the City Council of the City of La Mirada on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers located at 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California to consider the adoption of a resolution approving the implementation of energy conservation infrastructure renewal program.

At the hearing, the City Council will consider the request, staff's report, recommendations and all other testimony and public input prior to making a final decision. All documents being considered are available for review at the City's Community Development Department offices located at City Hall, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California. You may contact the City Clerk's Office at (562) 943-0131 should you have any questions concerning the project.

If you wish to be heard concerning the project, you may appear in person at the public hearing or you may submit your comments in writing to the City prior to or at the public hearing. Written comments should be addressed to the City Clerk, City of La Mirada P.O. Box 828, La Mirada, California 90637-0828. Please notify the City Clerk at (562) 943-0131 ext. 2302, at least four days prior to the public hearing should you require a disability related accommodation (e.g. sign language interpreter).

If you challenge any of the foregoing actions in Court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing for final action described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City Council at or prior to the public hearing.

Anne Haraksin, City Clerk

Published at LCCN Commerce Community News 4/22/22

**CITY OF CERRITOS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
TOWNE CENTER DRIVE SEWER LINE REPAIR
PROJECT NO. 23601, BID NO. 1460-22**

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cerritos, County of Los Angeles, State of California, hereby invites sealed bids for the following project: **Project Identification: TOWNE CENTER DRIVE SEWER LINE REPAIR PROJECT NO. 23601, BID NO. 1460-22. Project**

Description: The work or improvement to be performed generally consists of providing all labor, material, tools, and equipment necessary to clean and install CIPP lining of existing 12" sewer line on Towne Center Drive between Park Plaza Drive and Center Court Drive. **Bids will be opened: Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 11:00 a.m. Place of bid receipt:** The bid submission must be received in the Office of the City Clerk, First Floor, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703. Bids must be marked: **"TOWNE CENTER DRIVE SEWER LINE REPAIR, PROJECT NO. 23601, BID NO. 1460-22."** It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that the bid is received in the appropriate location by the deadline. Bids not received in the Office of the City Clerk by the deadline provided will not be considered. All Bids shall be made on the form furnished by the City and shall be opened and publicly read aloud at the above-stated time in the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Cerritos, City Hall. **Obtaining Contract Documents:** A set of Contract Documents, including plans and specifications may be purchased at the Engineering Division of the City of Cerritos for \$10.00 (\$15.00 if mailing is requested). There will be no refund for the return of the Contract Documents. Return of such documents is not required. Each bid shall be accompanied by bid security referred to in the Contract Documents and by a list of proposed subcontractors.

Evidence of insurance, a performance bond, and a labor and materials bond as specified in the Contract Documents will be required prior to execution of the contract. In accordance with Public Contract Code section 22300, the bidder who is awarded the contract may substitute securities for retention money withheld by a public agency to ensure performance under the contract. The procedure and requirements for substituting said securities are set forth in Public Contract Code section 22300, which is incorporated by this reference as set forth herein. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or portions thereof, or to waive any informality or irregularity in a bid to the extent allowed by law. No bid will be accepted from a contractor who has not been licensed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 9, Division III of the California Business and Professions Code. The contractor must possess a license of the following classification at the time the contract is awarded (and must maintain this license classification through completion of the project): "A" or "C-42". The bidder's attention is also directed to Section 7028.15 of the Business and Professions Code for further reference. Only a contractor or subcontractor who currently is registered with the California Department of Industrial Relations ("DIR") to bid on public works contracts in California, pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5, shall be permitted to submit or be listed on a bid. No bid shall be accepted, nor any contract or subcontract entered into, without proof of the contractor or subcontractor's current registration to perform public work pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1770, et seq., of the California Labor Code, the DIR has determined the general prevailing rate of wages and employer payments for health and welfare, vacations, pensions and similar proposes applicable to the work to be done. These rates shall be the minimum rates for this project. Copies of the prevailing wage rates are on file at City Hall, located at 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, California, 90703, and shall be available to any interested party upon request. In addition, rates may be obtained by visiting <http://www.dir.ca.gov/OPRL/pwd/>, calling the DIR, Division of Labor Statistics and Research's Prevailing Wage Unit at (415) 703-4774, faxing the Prevailing Wage Unit at (415) 703-4771 or writing to DIR, Division of Labor Statistics and Research, Prevailing Wage Unit, P.O. Box 420603, San Francisco, CA, 94142. The contractor to whom the contract is awarded, and the subcontractors under him, must pay not less than these rates for this area to all workers employed in the execution of the contract. The bidder's attention is further directed to Section 9204 of the Public contract Code regarding the claims resolution process for all public works projects. Any dispute or claim against the City under a public works project shall be processed in accordance with Section 9204 of the Public Contract Code and any other applicable law. By order of the City of Cerritos.

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 4/22/22

**CITY OF LA MIRADA
NOTICE OF NOMINEES FOR PUBLIC OFFICE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following persons have been nominated for the offices designated to be filled at the General Municipal Election to be held in the City of La Mirada on Tuesday, June 7, 2022.

For Member of the City Council Representing District 2. Vote for no more than one.

Andrew Sarega
Chris Pflanzer
David Constantine

/s/
Anne Haraksin, City Clerk

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter 4/22/22

CITY OF CERRITOS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NOTICE TO BIDDERS
**PRINTING OF THE CERRITOS CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
2022-2023 SEASON BROCHURE**

BID NO. 1461-22

The sealed bid submission must be received in the Office of the City Clerk, 1st Floor, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703, until 11:00 a.m. on **Wednesday, May 11, 2022**, for the printing of the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts 2022-2023 Season Brochure, Bid No. 1461-22. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that the bid is received in the appropriate location by the deadline. Bids not received in the Office of the City Clerk by the deadline provided will not be considered. Bids will be publicly opened at Cerritos City Hall at **11:00 a.m., Wednesday, May 11, 2022**. Bids must be made on the form provided for this purpose, addressed to the City Clerk, City of Cerritos, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, First Floor, Bloomfield Avenue at 183rd Street, Cerritos, California, 90703, marked **"Bid for the Printing of the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts 2022-2023 Season Brochure, Bid No. 1461-22."** Please contact the City of Cerritos Communications Division at (562) 916-1320 to obtain specifications and contract documents. No bid will be accepted unless it is made on a proposal form furnished by the City and has the bid number and project name clearly identified on the outside label. The City of Cerritos reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or portions of any and all bids or waive the informality in a bid not affected by law. Bid specifications are available online at www.cerritos.us/BUSINESSES/bid_and_contract_opportunities/bid_listings.php

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 4/22/22

**CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT, 6252 TELEGRAPH ROAD,
COMMERCE CALIFORNIA 90040
NOTICE INVITING BIDS
RIO HONDO RECYCLED WATER PUMP STATION
IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 1, PROJECT NO. REO-0121
SPECIFICATION NO. CB-01-21**

BID SUBMISSION DEADLINE: MAY 25, 2022, 2:00 PM

LOCATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS:

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT, 6252 TELEGRAPH ROAD, COMMERCE, CA 90040 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT ("DISTRICT") invites and will receive sealed bids for the award of a contract for RIO HONDO RECYCLED WATER PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 1, PROJECT NO. REO-0121, SPECIFICATION NO. CB-01-21, up to, but not later than, **May 25, 2022 at 2:00 P.M.** ("Bid Submission Deadline") at the offices of the DISTRICT located at **6252 Telegraph Road, Commerce, California 90040**, after which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after the Bid Submission Deadline will be returned unopened. The DISTRICT reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any irregularities or informalities in any bids or in the bidding process. All interested persons are invited to attend the bid opening. The project shall consist of furnishing products, labor, tools, transportation, and services to construct the following:

PROJECT OVERVIEW: The Work involves furnishing all labor, equipment and materials necessary to construct improvements at the Rio Hondo Recycled Water Pump Station including new valves, chlorine analyzers, compressor, sump pump, controls, gauges, and controllers. In addition the work will include the design, construction, installation, and testing of a new sodium hypochlorite facility, and SCADA upgrades to the Rio Hondo Recycled Water Pump Station and the Hollydale Recycled Water Pump Station. The work may also include, but not limited to, demolition, grading, excavation, backfill, concrete and electrical and piping repairs. In addition, Contractor is to:

1. Protect existing facilities in place.

WORK SITE: The work sites are located at the Rio Hondo Recycled Water Pump Station at 4300 San Gabriel River Parkway, Pico Rivera, CA 90660, and the Hollydale Recycled Water Pump Station, located at 4305 Santa Fe Avenue, Vernon, CA.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE: The DISTRICT will conduct a Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference at the **Rio Hondo Pump Station at 4300 San Gabriel River Pkwy, Pico Rivera, CA 90660**, and may or may not conduct a Site Walk. Prospective bidders are to attend a Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference with the DISTRICT's Representatives at **10:00 A.M. on May 5, 2022**. The purpose will be to discuss the scope of work to be performed under these Specifications.

ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND PRE-BID CONFERENCES IN ORDER TO SUBMIT A BID. PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS SHALL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO SIGN AN ATTENDANCE LOG AT THE PRE-BID CONFERENCES AS CONDITION TO SUBMITTING A BID. Bidders who fail to sign-in shall be deemed absent and shall not be entitled to submit a Bid.

OPENING OF BIDS: The sealed bids will be publicly opened and read at **2:00 P.M. on May 25, 2022** at the above-mentioned office of the DISTRICT. **COMPLETION OF WORK:** The Work must be completed within **240 calendar days**, or less, from the date of receipt of the Notice to Proceed.

EXPLORATORY EXCAVATIONS OR BORINGS: Prospective bidders may perform exploratory excavations or borings at the site with written approval from the Engineer and permitting agencies. Prospective bidders shall also obtain all necessary environmental clearances, agency permits, notify Dig Alert, protect all utilities and facilities, provide traffic control, and restore excavations to original conditions to the Engineer's and permitting agencies satisfaction. Exploratory excavations or borings are at the sole expense and risk of the bidder.

PLAN REVIEW: Plans showing the character of the Work may be seen in person at the offices of Central Basin Municipal Water District, 6252 Telegraph Road, Commerce, CA 90040.

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS: The Contract Documents may be obtained by contacting Ms. Sharon Kumar at (323) 201-5502 for information. If Sharon Kumar is unavailable, please contact the Central Basin Municipal Water District general line at (323) 201-5500 for information. The Contract Documents are defined in the General Conditions, Article 1. Bidding procedures are prescribed in the Contract Documents. Bids shall be executed upon the forms bound and made a part of the Contract Documents.

ADDENDA: ALL ADDENDA FOR THIS CONTRACT WILL BE POSTED ON THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE AT WWW.CENTRALBASIN.ORG. IT IS THE CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSIBILITY TO VISIT THE DISTRICT'S WEBSITE TO CHECK AND VIEW SUCH ADDENDA AND TO INCLUDE THE FORMWORK FOR THE ADDENDA IN THEIR BID PACKAGE. Failure to include all addenda and addendum acknowledgement forms from the DISTRICT'S website with Bids may render the Bid as non-responsive.

BIDDERS WILL HAVE UNTIL 10:00 A.M. ON May 10, 2022 TO SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATIONS TO THE DISTRICT REGARDING THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.

Requests for clarifications will be accepted via email only. Please send requests to: Isabelle Guido at isabelleg@centralbasin.org.

BID SECURITY: Bids must be accompanied by a bidder's bond, cashier's check or certified check (hereinafter, the "Bid Security") in an amount equal to no less than TEN PERCENT (10%) of the amount of the bid. The bidder's bond or certified check shall be made payable to the CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT and shall be given as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract if a contract is awarded to the bidder, and will be declared forfeited, paid to, or retained by the DISTRICT as liquidated damages if the bidder refuses or neglects to enter into a contract on the terms of the accepted proposal within fourteen (14) calendar days after bidder's notification of DISTRICT's acceptance of the proposal. No bidder may withdraw any bid for a period of one hundred and twenty (120) consecutive calendar days after the date set for the opening of bids.

BIDS TO REMAIN OPEN: The Bidder shall guarantee the Total Bid Price for a period of **one hundred and twenty (120) consecutive working days** after the date of **Bid Opening**.

CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE: The Contractor shall possess a valid **California Class "A" Engineering License** at the time of Bid submission as well as at all times the Contractor is engaged in performing the Work for the DISTRICT. Failure to possess the specified license at the time of submittal may render the Bid as non-responsive.

CALIFORNIA WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS: In accordance with the provisions of California Labor Code Sections 1770, 1773, 1773.1, 1773.6 and 1773.7 as amended, the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations has determined the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for the locality where the Work is to be performed. It shall be mandatory upon the Contractor to whom the Work is awarded and upon any subcontractor under the Contractor to pay not less than said specified rates to all workmen employed by them in the execution of the Work.

APPLICABILITY OF CONTINUITY OF WORK AGREEMENT (PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT): Work performed under the Project shall also be governed by the terms of a Continuity of Work Agreement (commonly referred to in the public works construction arena as a Project Labor Agreement) (hereinafter referred to as the "PLA"). The PLA has been executed by and between the Central Basin Municipal Water District and the Los Angeles and Orange County Building Trades Council and the various trade unions that are signatories to the PLA. The PLA requires, among other things: the use of union personnel as the primary source of the contractor's labor for the Project; the payment of prevailing wages and other benefits called for under the collective bargaining agreements and policies of signatory unions; compliance with worksite labor rules set forth in the PLA and other applicable collective bargaining agreements of the signatory unions which are incorporated by reference; compliance with worker grievance and dispute resolution procedures set forth in the PLA and other applicable collective bargaining agreements of the signatory unions which are incorporated by reference; a duty that the contractor pay into pension funds for the benefit of workers working on the Project, including the limited number of the contractor's own core workers; and execution of Letter of Assent wherein the successful bidder agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of the PLA (the form of the Letter of Assent is included as Attachment A to the PLA). Bidders are expected to independently factor-in all direct and indirect costs attributable or potentially attributable to the application of the PLA to the Project. By submitting a bid, bidders represent that they have reviewed the PLA and have familiarized themselves with its conditions and requirements and in formulating their bids have factored-in all direct and indirect costs attributable or potentially attributable to compliance with the conditions and requirements of the PLA. In the event the PLA calls for the payment of wages rates higher than those set forth under the Labor Code, calls for the payment of benefits not otherwise called for in the Labor Code, calls for worksite management protocols more stringent than those called for under the Labor Code or other applicable laws, the more stringent requirements of the PLA shall be adhered to.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY: Work performed under the Project shall also be governed by electrical safety requirements as stated within the Specifications.

SUBSTITUTION OF SECURITIES: Pursuant to Section 22300 of the California Public Contract Code, the Contractor may request the DISTRICT to make retention payments directly to an escrow agent or may substitute certain securities for money withheld by the DISTRICT to ensure performance under the contract, as provided in the Contract Documents.

EXCAVATION AND TRENCH SAFETY: If the work involves trenches or open excavations, which are five feet or deeper, the bid must contain, as a bid item, adequate sheeting, shoring, and bracing, or other methods to assure workers safety.

PAYMENT BOND REQUIRED: The successful contractor will be required to file with the DISTRICT at the time of execution of the contract, a Payment Bond (Labor and Materials Bond) in

the amount of 100% of the bid amount in accordance with Civil Code 9550.
ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE MATERIALS:

X This Invitation for Bids **does not** specify locations of possible materials, such as a borrow pit or gravel bed, for use in the proposed construction project which would be subject to Section 1603 of the Fish and Game Code.

NONCOLLUSION DECLARATION: Each bid submitted for the Project shall be accompanied by a Noncollusion Declaration in the form required by the District.

CONTACT: All communications relative to this Work shall be directed to the DISTRICT prior to opening of the bids. All technical questions regarding the bid documents or addendums must be submitted via email only to: Isabelle Guido at isabelleg@centralbasin.org.

FUNDING: CBMWD O&M Funds.

DISTRICT'S RIGHTS RESERVED: The DISTRICT reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in a bid, and to make award to the lowest responsive responsible bidder as it may best serve the interest of the DISTRICT.

DATE: 4/21/22, 4/28/22

OWNER: Central Basin Municipal Water District

By:
Dr. Alex Rojas, General Manager
Central Basin Municipal Water District

Published at LCCN Commerce Community News 4/21 and 4/28/22

**CITY OF LA MIRADA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS**

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 2021-05
NEIGHBORHOOD SLURRY SEAL AREA 3**

Notice is hereby given that the City of La Mirada, California invites sealed bids for the furnishing of all labor, materials, equipment, and services for Capital Improvement Project No. 2021-05. Project Documents are available online from American Reprographics Company (ARC). Bidders may obtain free copies of the Plans, Specifications and other Contract Documents online by visiting <http://www.crplanwell.com/>. Work includes traffic control, notifications and public safety, removal and replacement of concrete curb and gutter and driveway, full depth asphalt concrete repairs, crack sealing, slurry seal, striping and markings.

Sealed bids shall be delivered to the City Clerk at or before 11 a.m. on May 17, 2022. Bids must be submitted on the blank forms, prepared and furnished for that purpose and included in the Plans and Specifications. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or delete portions of any or all bids, or waive any informality or irregularity in the bid or the bid procedures.

Anne Haraksin, City Clerk

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter 4/22/22

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
VIRGINIA RUTH WEBSTER
CASE NO. 22STPB03332**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of VIRGINIA RUTH WEBSTER.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JAMES WEBSTER JR. in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JAMES WEBSTER JR. be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 05/13/2022 at 8:30AM in Dept. 4 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner

MICHAEL MULLER - SBN 325214

BEZAIRE & LEATHERS

41 CORPORATE PARK, SUITE 320

IRVINE CA 92606

4/15, 4/22, 4/29/22

CNS-3574595#

LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PICO RIVERA ON
THE USER FEE SCHEDULE AND FEE STUDY REGARDING CITY SERVICE FEES**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the City of Pico Rivera City Council to receive and consider all evidence and reports relative to the application described below:

WHEN: May 10, 2022

TIME: 6:00 pm

WHERE: City Hall Council Chambers
6615 Passons Boulevard
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

TELEPHONE: (562) 801-4389

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN: City Council to conduct a public hearing on Tuesday, May 10, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers for the purpose of discussing the User Fee Schedule and Fee Study for the City of Pico Rivera.

PERSONS INTERESTED IN THIS MATTER may correspond with the City Clerk's Office by using the email address provided below. If you challenge the consideration of adoption of the proposed in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing by correspondence email that was sent to the City Clerk's Office prior to the public hearing.

Certain provisions of the Brown Act are temporarily waived pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-25-20 and N-2920. City Council meetings can be attended in person or viewed live on CTV3 and the City's Website at www.pico-rivera.org. If you wish to submit a public comment on this matter, you may do so in advance by e-mail to the City Clerk's Office at publiccomments@pico-rivera.org prior to 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting or attend the hearing in person. Please provide your full name and reference this subject matter: "User Fee Schedule and Fee Study."

In compliance with the Americans with Disability Act of 1990, the City of Pico Rivera is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for a person with a disability. Please contact Anna M. Jerome at (562) 801-4389 if special program accommodations are necessary and/or if program information is needed in an alternative format. Special request must be made in a reasonable amount of time in order that accommodations can be arranged.

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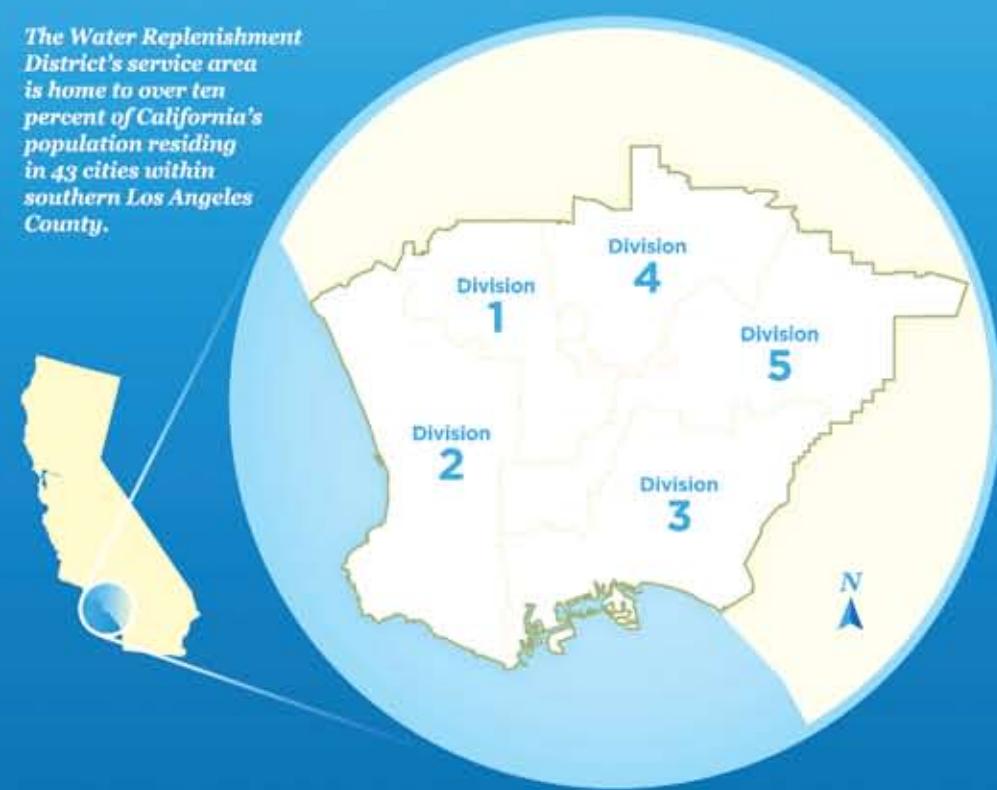


HAPPY EARTH DAY



The Water Replenishment District (WRD) is fighting climate change to build a sustainable water future. In our region, the key to a sustainable drought-proof future lies under our feet. Though we can't see them, groundwater aquifers are immense natural reserves – currently with empty storage space that can hold nearly 150 billion gallons of liquid. WRD is working with our partners to find environmentally sustainable water sources to fill that storage space. This will protect our region against the dry seasons climate change may bring.

The Water Replenishment District's service area is home to over ten percent of California's population residing in 43 cities within southern Los Angeles County.



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