



1989 JUDGES RULING, IGNORED BY CERRITOS CITY ATTORNEY, TAKES BARROWS OUT OF COUNCIL RACE

From AG's website: The Attorney General's opinions are advisory, and not legally binding on courts, agencies, or individuals.

By Brian Hews

Five weeks ago Hews Media Group-Community News published a report pertaining to Article IV of the Cerritos City Charter, which was re-written after voters overwhelmingly approved Proposition H in 1988 that mandated term limits.

Barrows supporters, who

cited a 2004 attorney's general opinion, slammed the report.

Conversely, Cerritos voting residents who are tired of seeing the same city council members cycle through the City every two years, praised the report.

The City, through its attorney, sent out a press release to all media outlets contradicting the report citing the 2004 AG's opinion, even taking the unusual step of posting the letter on the City's website under "Top Stories."

The reaction by Barrows supporters and the City was vitriolic.. and it was premature.

HMG-CN traveled to the Los Angeles County court

archives and obtained two judicial decisions from 1988 and 1989 that invalidate the AG's opinion.

Judge J. Kimbal Walker stated in his 1988 decision, case number SEC 66417, "When the (1988) election is had, all the council members will be ineligible to run or serve a third consecutive term."

Judge Jerold Krieger stated in his 1989 decision, case number SEC 77109, "it is adjudged and decreed that any member of the City Council of the city of Cerritos who has served more than two consecutive terms is prohibited from seeking reelection."

Both rulings should effectively ban Barrows from running for office in April.

The judicial rulings also call into question the City Attorney's own motives and actions in not following the rulings since 1989, and not informing City personnel, including the Cerritos City Clerk's office of the court cases, while relying on an AG's opinion written fifteen years later.

Judges rulings are law; AG opinions, according to the AG's own website, are advisory.

Worse, the '88/'89 court decisions were inexplicably left out of the AG's 2004 decision.

See **BARROWS** page 13



A 1989 L.A. County Superior Court case ruled that "any member of the City Council who has served two or more consecutive terms is prohibited from seeking reelection."

MISSION TO MARS LAUNCHES FROM CCPA



Pictured (l-r) NASA Astronaut Colonel Brian Duffy with Cerritos Mayor George Ray and Aerojet Rocketdyne, Vice President of NASA Programs Jim Paulsen. Photo by Tammye McDuff.

By Tammye McDuff

NASA's Space Launch System [SLS] is ushering in a new era of deep space exploration and, with the Presidential signing of S.442, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Transition Authorization Act of 2017, \$19.1 billion additional dollars will be put into the exploration of space.

More than 1,100 businesses in 43 states across the nation are helping to build the new heavy-lift vehicle which will take scientific missions and humans farther into space than ever before, some of those companies are right here in the city of Cerritos.

California suppliers are critical to the success of NASA's bold vision for America's future in deep space, designing

See **MARS** page 10

Activate Hawaiian Gardens Continues to Have Positive Impact on Community

By Tammye McDuff

Activate Hawaiian Gardens is an instructive event and out reach programs designed to effectively address the issue of childhood obesity within the community. Alexander Khananashvili, doctor and former Wellness Program Coordinator at Gardens Regional Hospital and Medical Center and Founder of Obesity Solutions

See **ACTIVATE** page 12

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HALEY GUERRA APPOINTED TO DOWNEY'S GREEN TASK FORCE



Haley Guerra (right) with Downey Councilman Rick Rodriguez after her appointment.

By Tammye McDuff

Haley Guerra, daughter of former Downey Mayor Mario Guerra, was installed as the newest member of the City of Downey's Green Task Force. Ms. Guerra has been very excited and looking forward to serving since Councilman Rick Rodriguez asked her to be his appointed commissioner. "It's especially symbolic for me since I founded the Green Task Force as Mayor in 2008," said Guerra, "sustainability and environmental education were the focus then and I'm glad it continues to

this day."

Ms. Guerra stated, "tonight I accepted my appointment to the Green Task Force for the City of Downey by Councilman Rick Rodriguez. I am honored to have this opportunity to serve my community. I hope to bring a new energy to the Green Task Force, focusing on environmental responsibility and providing examples to our community and youth on how to protect our planet. I look forward to serving, and continue working towards a greener Downey."

Bellflower Chamber Seats New Board of Directors



By Tammye McDuff

The 2017 Board of Directors for the Bellflower Chamber of Commerce held their first meeting March 21, 2017.

Dan Stepanian (right) with CR & R Incorporated was sworn in as President; Vice President is Russ Rottigni with RLR Enterprise; Sergeant of Arms is Carla Mitchell with Identity Match; Treasurer, is Monica Riche with The Guild House; Directors are Rosalyn Daily a Mary Kay Consultant; Director, Larry Wehage with the Lions Club International; Director, Suzanne Johnson with Rodan & Fields Dermatology; Director, Mike Choi with State Farm Insurance; Director, Robin Snow with Stonebridge Funeral & Cremation Services; and Past President, Jeff Smith with RailMaster Hobbies. Photo by Tammye McDuff.

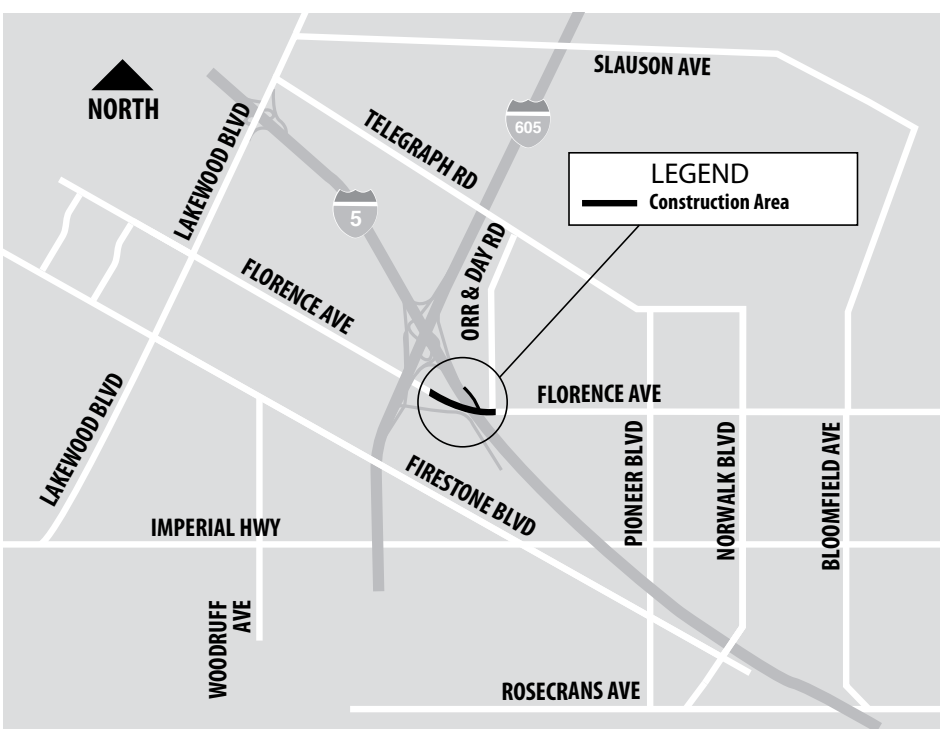


LANE REDUCTION AND RAMP CLOSURE I-5 FLORENCE AVENUE PROJECT

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WHEN Effective immediately. Please be advised, schedule is subject to change due to inclement weather.

CONTACT For updates and suggested alternative routes visit My5LA.com or call (855) 454-6335.



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DIRTY POLITICS:

ARTESIA-CERRITOS WOMEN'S CLUB CANCELS FORUM

Who would dare pressure the venerable women's club?

By Brian Hews

The Artesia Cerritos Women's Club sent out an email last week cancelling its March 22 forum that was scheduled for 7 o'clock at the Cerritos City Council chambers.

This type of cancellation has never occurred in Cerritos politics before.

The ACWC went through the usual channels in scheduling the forum, writing a letter to Cerritos City Council to be agendized with the full city council voting their approval.

The ACWC sent out a brief, cryptic, and very contradictory release saying, "The Woman's Club of Artesia-Cerritos is a non-partisan, non-denominational organization. That being said, our members are free to express their personal opinions and views on their own behalf."

"It has come to our attention that there has been some discourse between members of our club and outside sources. We do not wish this to become a distraction to the candidates nor the city election."

It was signed by the ACWC President Catherine Chu.

It is unknown what the phrase "some discourse between members of our club and outside sources" indicates, and also the phrase "we do not wish in becoming a distraction to the candidates."

The statements are unusual given that 95% of the forum is formatted to take questions from the audience.

Sources were telling HMG-CN that Barrows and Chuong Vo were

"embarrassed" at the Cerritos Chamber candidate forum when asked specific questions by other candidates as the reason the forum was cancelled.

Barrows was slammed for the RDA comment, where he somehow knew an announcement by the City of windfall revenue was coming before all the other candidates and many residents.

HMG-CN also was alerted about a relationship between Cerritos resident Chris Foster, an outspoken Barrows supporter, and Catherine Chu.

The two had a very "chummy" conversation about local politics on Facebook.

Resident Jay Gray told HMG-CN, "This is wrong, the main candidate to benefit from muzzling the residents and other candidates from the democratic process is Barrows and the other candidate supported by the majority council. This could have easily been remedied, simply do what Cerritos does for elections. Ask for volunteers from the Recreation staff to collect questions from the audience and submit to the moderator. The city and those in power were stunned by Anantha Ramachandran and his willingness to take on the establishment."

Resident Jim McMahon told HMG-CN, "forums create wise and educated voters. Very sad that the woman's club had to recall the forum. Voters big loss."

"The Republican slate knew about this RDA judicial settlement (Barrows mentioned), before the 2nd forum, but was not made available to all 7 candidates, in order to produce healthy debates."

"I'm an advocate for fair and balanced politics, not back door ambushed politics, which has leaked in to our debates."

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LA MIRADA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TAKE PART IN "EVERY 15 MINUTES" PROGRAM



A drunk driving traffic collision was simulated during filming for the "Every 15 Minutes" program at La Mirada High School. Several La Mirada High School students volunteered to play the roles of teens involved in a fatal pedestrian collision as part of the program.

La Mirada High School students recently attended an educational program on the devastating impacts drinking and driving can have on friends, families and the community.

"This program is a tremendous cooperative effort involving La Mirada High School, the City's Public Safety Team, Los Angeles County Sheriff's and Fire Departments, and California Highway Patrol," says Safety Education Officer Mary Cipres.

"It aims to discourage underage drinking, especially drinking and driving."

During the first day of the program, 36 students were removed from class every 15 minutes by a member of the City of La Mirada's Public Safety Team and a volunteer dressed as the grim reaper.

The dramatic visual exit of the students leaving class with the grim reaper was meant to illustrate the National Highway Transportation Safety statistic that someone dies in an alcohol related collision every 15 minutes.

After leaving class, the juniors and seniors were escorted to the front of the school where they

witnessed a simulated crash scene in which student volunteers were involved in a fatal pedestrian collision.

One of the students was pronounced dead on arrival, another was airlifted in critical condition, and the driver was arrested for driving while under the

influence.

After the stimulated collision, the students visited the Olive Lawn Cemetery and then spent the night at the La Mirada Activity Center.

During their night away from home, they completed alcohol education activities and viewed video programs discouraging impaired driving.

They read emotional good-bye letters written to them by their parents and also wrote good-bye letters to their parents.

The following day, all juniors and seniors attended an assembly at La Mirada High School where they heard stories from people affected by fatal, alcohol-related auto accidents.

The students also viewed the film featuring some of their classmates. The film depicts a group of teens who consume alcohol at a house party and are later involved in a fatal auto accident. It shows the fate of the teenage driver who is taken into custody and the impact on the victims' families and friends. "These incidents are avoidable criminal offenses

and are often caused by regular, responsible people who made a poor, impulsive decision while under the influence of alcohol," says La Mirada



Community Sheriff's Station Lieutenant Kevin Beggs.

"With this program, students are urged to make smart decisions beginning now and continuing throughout adulthood."



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Metro Briefs

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Metro Seeks Input on 2018 Fiscal Year Budget

Metro's annual budget sets transportation priorities across LA County for the coming year. Metro will gather comments on the 2018 fiscal year budget at the Regional Service Council Meetings in March and May, and a public hearing on May 17th, before formal adoption by the Board of Directors. For meeting information or to provide your comments, go to metro.net/budgetcomments.

Free DASH Rides with Metro Passes

If you have a valid Metro 7-Day or 30-Day pass loaded on your TAP card, you will be able to ride all LADOT DASH buses for free through June 30, 2017. All other Metro passes will still have regular rates. Learn more at metro.net.

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A recycling reminder from the City of Cerritos. Paid for by a grant from the California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle).

Please call the FREE Collection Center nearest you to verify hours of operation and the quantities of used motor oil and filters accepted.

CONTAMINATED MOTOR OIL IS NOT ACCEPTED.

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LA MIRADA LIBRARY OPEN HOUSE



Parents and children explore the newly renovated La Mirada Library on Monday. The library reopened following an extended closure to undergo modernization improvements.

The newly renovated La Mirada Library held its Open House on Monday, March 20. As part of the open house celebration, Friends of the Library served cake and light refreshments to attendees. Renovations to the 45 year-old library include new flooring, ceilings, paint, lighting, furniture and equipment. The library also features a teen work room, study rooms, an extensive children's area, a conference room, and a space for the Friends of the Library group. "The

Library staff is thrilled to open our doors to the public," says Community Library Manager Jennifer McCarty. "I encourage everyone to come out and see what is new at the La Mirada Library." The library's hours of operation are Tuesday through Thursday, 10 a. m. to 8 p. m., Friday and Saturday, 9 a. m. to 5 p. m., and closed on Sunday and Monday. For more information, call the La Mirada Library at (562) 943-0277.

CERRITOS REGIONAL CHAMBER'S GOLF CLASSIC

The Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce will host its 37th Annual Fiesta on the Fairways Golf Classic on May 1, 2017 with a 12:00 noon shotgun start. The event will be held at Los Coyotes Country Club Golf Course, 8888 Los Coyotes Drive, Buena Park. Player packages, foursomes, and sponsorship

opportunities are available. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Don Knabe Safe Surrender Scholarship Fund. For more information and to register, please contact the Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce at 562/467-0800 or visit www.cerritos.org/fiesta

FRANK AURELIO YOKOYAMA FOR CERRITOS CITY COUNCIL

5 Point Plan to Keep Cerritos Safe

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Like most residents, Frank Yokoyama was outraged when he heard some councilmembers were considering downgrading our station and cutting \$3 million from the station budget, sending command to Lakewood. Frank will not cut our station.

2. Expand Burglary Suppression Efforts

Frank Yokoyama is focused on helping end the rise of residential burglaries in Cerritos. He is committed to supporting our Captain and deputies to focus resources to proactively suppress and catch criminals who target our homes.

3. Keep Sky Knight Helicopter to Catch Criminals

Frank Yokoyama understands that our deputy sheriffs need the overhead "eyes in the sky" helicopter support to ensure criminals are caught quickly, not aided by the dark of night. Frank will not cut our Sky Knight helicopter patrol.

4. Fund Needed Equipment and Technology

Frank Yokoyama will support budget priorities to provide our deputy sheriffs with the technology and equipment they need to catch the professional criminals.

5. Mobilize Our Neighborhood

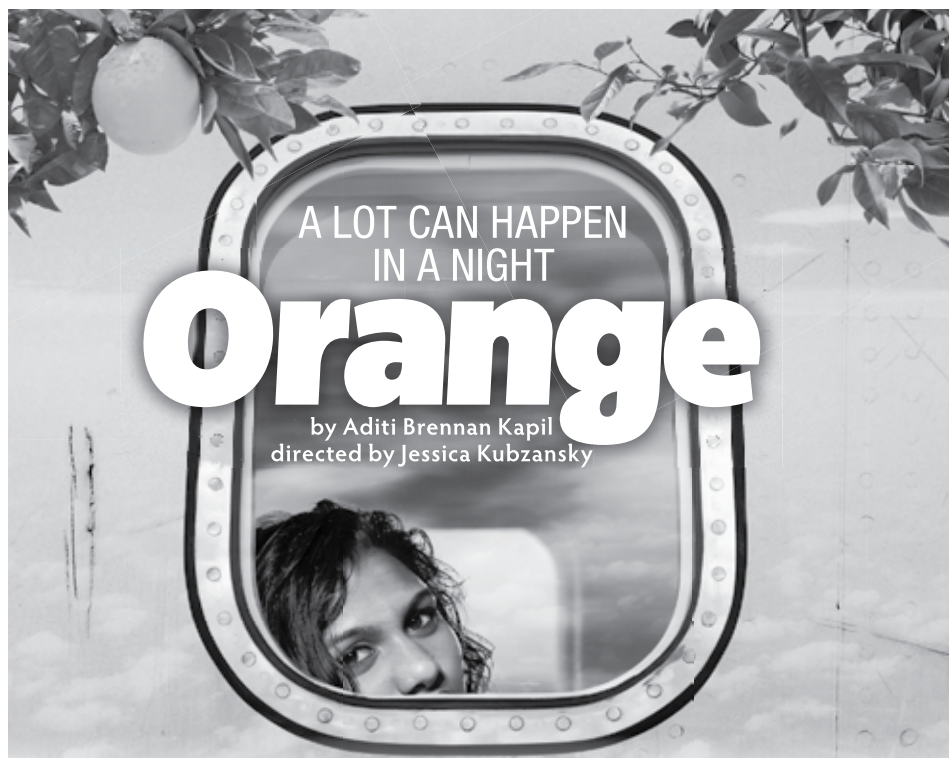
Watch Programs

As a coach, Frank Yokoyama understands the importance of team effort. Our deputy sheriffs need citizen support to "see something, say something" in our neighborhoods.



I WILL KEEP CERRITOS SAFE.

FRANK YOKOYAMA FOR CERRITOS CITY COUNCIL 2017 FPPC ID# 1395161
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Leela is different. A teenager from India, she draws life's important moments in her journal. When a family wedding gets boring, her rebellious cousin decides to run for it with her boyfriend—and take Leela along. As they careen through Orange County, navigating dangerous situations from dusk to dawn, Leela challenges their view of her—and each other. A touching story about a young woman on the spectrum of autism and her search for her place in the world. Recommended for ages 13+. Contains adult language.

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Wellness Fair from 7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

Register Early and Save!

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ARTESIA CITY COUNCIL TO HOLD SPECIAL MEETING AND DOWNTOWN STUDY SESSION

By Brian Hews

The Artesia City Council will hold a special meeting Monday, March 27, 2017 at 3:00 P.M. in the Artesia Community Center, Room A, located at 18750 Clarkdale Avenue.

The Council will discuss issues regarding the Old Downtown area of Artesia.

The area is Pioneer Boulevard bounded by 186th Street on the north, 187th Street on the south, the first alley east of Pioneer Boulevard on the east and the first alley west of Pioneer Boulevard on the west).

Topics to be discussed include issues involving Phase 3 of Pioneer Boulevard Improvement Project, parking, traffic, business regulations, city-sponsored events, and related matters.

Residents are invited to attend and can comment if they wish.

Anyone wishing to speak to the City Council should fill out a speaker card and give that card to the Interim City Clerk at the staff table prior to the commencement of the meeting. Please observe a time limit of three (3) minutes when giving your presentation.

Council will also be allowed to comment also.

CERRITOS AUTO SQUARE SALES GROW A MERE 2% IN 2016

Staff Report

The Cerritos Auto Square experienced record-breaking sales in 2016, selling 61,938 vehicles. The previous sales record occurred in 2015, with 60,842 vehicles sold. Compared to 2015, the 2016 figure was an increase of 1,096 vehicles, a nearly 2 percent gain. The Cerritos Auto Square has been breaking its annual sales records consistently since 2014. Nationwide in 2016, 17.55 million vehicles were sold, marking a record-setting year.

Cerritos Mayor George Ray said, "The City of Cerritos congratulates the Cerritos Auto Square on its record-breaking year. The City is delighted to be home to the world's most successful auto mall. The Cerritos Auto Square provides thousands of jobs and generates millions of dollars in sales tax revenues which help fund public safety, library and recreation services."

President of the Cerritos Auto Square Dealers Association Jack Ameen remarked,

"2016 was another exceptional year for the Cerritos Auto Square. With two back-to-back record-setting years in a row, the Auto Square continues to be the destination for Southern California car buyers looking for selection, convenience and great prices."

Dave Conant of Norm Reeves Honda commented, "With great support for the City of Cerritos and a convenient location for customers all over the Southland, Cerritos Auto Square dealers served up another new all-time sales record in 2016. With well over 61,000 total sales in the books, the Auto Square dealers are already working to set yet another record in 2017."

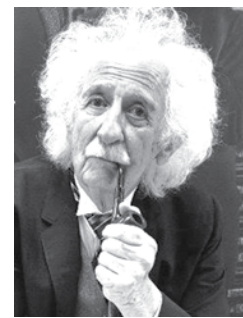
In addition to funds acquired through vehicle sales, the Cerritos Auto Square also generates a significant amount of non-taxed dollars that flow through the economy as a result of maintenance and repair work.

A WISE FRIEND AND SELF EDUCATION



By Tammye McDuff

The world has been through much these past twelve months, a divisive presidential election,



the splintering of the European Union, the refugee crisis and the possibility of war on the horizon. It is more important than ever to focus on what remains good and kind. Random acts

of kindness are those small, insignificant and every day acts that can change the direction of a person's life.

Benny Wasserman is an actor and producer, known for 'Hoops: It's Not Just a Game' [2010]; 'TV: The Movie' [2006] and Angels with Angles [2005]. He is an Albert Einstein look alike and celebrated author of "Presidents Were Teenagers Too, but none of this would have been possible without the help of his friend Carl Levin.

In the latest edition of Chicken Soup for the Soul: Random Acts of Kindness Wasserman recalls his childhood friend. The story begins one late afternoon in Levin's back yard. The two boys were teenagers, "We had just finished a game of stickball, and I was about to get on my bike to go home," writes Wasserman, "before I left, Carl hands me a book, Martin Eden and reads it."

The story "A Wise Friend" follows Wasserman through his time in the Army, as he attempts to go to college, finds love and finds his calling. Flailing through life until he finally picks up the book Martin Eden and reads it.

Martin Eden although set at the beginning of the 20th century, spoke to

Wasserman. Through the struggles to rise above destitute circumstances, the books main character struggles through an intense and passionate pursuit of self-education, hoping to achieve a place among the literary elite, his main motivation being the love of his life. As for Wasserman coming from an uneducated, working-class background, he was able to relate to Martin Eden. The daughter of Jack London commented that in spite of its tragic ending, the book is often regarded as "a 'success' story, not only inspiring a whole generation of young writers but other different fields who, without aid or encouragement, attained their objectives through great struggle"

Wassermann's tale is only one out of 101 stories of compassion and paying it forward. Random Acts of Kindness delivers good news, good behavior and good deeds of the everyday man and woman. People are willing to help, but you have to ask proving that even a few well timed kind words can turn a life around.

What happened to his friend Carl? He went on to graduate from Harvard Law School becoming a Civil Rights Attorney, became a member of the Detroit City Council and was overwhelmingly elected to the Senate from the State of Michigan where he served for 36 years.

Chicken Soup for the Soul is the world's favorite and most recognized storyteller. With over 100 million books sold more than 250 titles and translated into more than 40 languages, it continues to share happiness, inspiration and hope.

Chicken Soup for the Soul: Random Acts of Kindness complements Chicken Soup for the Soul's Hidden Heroes television show about kindness, good deeds and altruism which airs on weekend mornings during the "CBS Dream Team, It's Epic" family viewing time.

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TEDx CONFERENCE AT CERRITOS COLLEGE, IDEAS WORTH SPREADING

By Tammye McDuff

TEDx is a local version of the popular TED Talks conference, which was held at Cerritos College on March 9, 2017. TEDx conferences are independently run and are designed to share ideas from every discipline and culture to seek a deeper understanding of the world through local TED-like experiences.

TED talks are devoted to spreading ideas, in the form of short, powerful talks. TED began in 1984 as a conference where Technology, Entertainment and Design came together. Today TED talks cover almost all topics from science to business to global issues in more than 100 languages. Meanwhile, independently run TEDx events help share ideas in communities around the world.

Now considered a global community, TED welcomes people from every walk of life, discipline and culture who seek a deeper understanding of the world. Believing that the passionate power of ideas can change attitudes, lives and, ultimately, the world, TED prides themselves on 'building a clearinghouse of free knowledge from the world's most inspired thinkers'.

TEDx and Cerritos College sought out teachers, staff and community members as speakers with "ideas worth sharing". The first conference attracted numerous speakers out of which nine were chosen. The event was held in the new Fine Arts building and MC'd by Cerritos college President Dr. Jose Fierro.

Professor Irving Bartikofsky, Cerritos College Faculty and Disability Specialist began the evening with "Three Steps to a Happy and Successful Life". This



Participants at The Tedx Conference held at Cerritos College and hosted by college president Dr. Jose Fierro. TEDx conferences are independently run and are designed to share ideas from every discipline. TED talks cover almost all topics from science to business to global issues in more than 100 languages.

was a simple dialogue that celebrated and illuminated the individual gift of uniqueness that we all possess, "When we bring to fruition and practice these tree very distinct steps, our lives are enriched with purpose and joy," said Bartikofsky.

One of the bright spots of the conference was local community member Jenna Larson. Through her own personal experience Larson discussed the value of taking affirmations offline and offering simple, genuine and unexpected compliments with "Say It Out Loud". "Today people seem far more likely to 'like' a post via social media than pay a compliment to a stranger," says Larson, "We are missing opportunities to connect to others in genuine ways." On a deeper level her talk examines our need for

affirmation and how social media is used to fulfill this, while encouraging the audience to extend a compliment to real people in everyday life.

Rounding out a very balanced conference was Professor Kim Berling, "As a professor, and charity founder, I am always trying to inspire young people to open up to compassion and altruism," notes Berling, "I have been a compassionate activist for almost 20 years and now I teach this in my Critical Thinking classes." Berling has had such a huge effect on her students from the Cerritos College Altruism Club, founded the CIA, Compassion In Action to help more people in bigger and better ways.

Supervisor Hahn Honors Winners of the 37th Annual Bookmark Contest

On Tuesday, March 21, Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn honored four young winners of the Bookmark Contest, an annual art competition for children and teens organized by the County of Los Angeles Public Library. Thousands of young contestants from every corner of Los Angeles County illustrated their own bookmarks and submitted them to the contest. This year's theme: "Read for the Fun of it." Four bookmarks from each supervisorial district were selected as winners. After introducing each of the children to the audience assembled at Kenneth Hahn



Keila Kurihara from Mary Bragg with her parents and Supervisor Hahn.

Hall of Administration on Tuesday morning, Supervisor Hahn said, "I'm so proud of all these young artists. The beautiful bookmarks they illustrated

will be distributed in libraries all across Los Angeles County and inspire readers of all ages to continue 'reading for the

See **BOOKMARK** page 12

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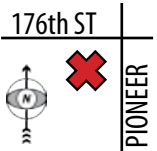
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CERRITOS SHERIFF'S STATION CAR SHOW



Pictured (l-r) at the Mar. 18 car show is Mickey Christiason, Station Volunteer, retired Deputy Atabaki and station Captain Nunez. The show featured 68 Classic cars and Hot Rods which drew several hundred residents. The show also featured a DJ, food, refreshments and raffle prizes. Also on display were several LASD Speciality vehicles and restored old LASD Radio Cars. Photo courtesy Mickey Christiason.

IRVING I. MOSKOWITZ FOUNDATION DONATES \$5,000 TO LA SHERIFF'S COUNTY RUNNING TEAM



LASD'S Jim McDonnell with Sal Flores, Consultant for the Irving I Moskowitz Foundation. The LASD running team will be participating in the Baker to Vegas marathon. The Moskowitz Foundation also donated \$1,000 to the Lakewood Sheriff's running team. 262 law enforcement teams will run the 120-mile course with 20 stages to Las Vegas. The race is put on each year by the Los Angeles Police Revolver and Athletic Club. Photo by Chris Miller.

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CITY OF LA PALMA STATE OF THE CITY MARCH 30

The public is invited to attend as La Palma Mayor Michele Steggell hosts the 2017 State of the City on Thursday, March 30, at 7:00 p.m. in the Royal Palm Room of the La Palma Community Center located at 7821 Walker Street, La Palma. Mayor Steggell kept the State of the City in the evening in order to encourage and increase resident attendance at the event.

Throughout the evening you will hear about La Palma's 2016 Accomplishments, the 2017 City Council Goals, and a financial update along with upcoming projects.

The event is free to the community, with light refreshments being served, and no RSVP is necessary. For further information please visit www.cityoflapalma.org/stateofthecity.

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*The value listed is per booking and equal to the total inclusions and member benefits listed. ¹Rate quoted is per person, based on double occupancy. Banyan City View accommodations, for check-in on September 7, 2017, & includes round trip air transportation from LAX, & is accurate at time of publication. Advertised rate does not include any applicable daily resort or facility fees payable directly to hotel operator at check-out; such fee amounts will be advised at time of booking. Rate may not be available on all travel dates. Airline tickets non-refundable. Additional restrictions may apply, including, but not limited to, baggage charges for first & second checked bag, advance purchase requirements, & airline fee up to \$100 per change plus any applicable fare differential (certain changes may involve pre-notification deadlines), & blackout dates. Airline fees & policies may vary; contact your ticketing airline for information. For baggage fees & other details, see www.flybags.com. Rates involving round trip air transportation from other gateways may differ. ²15% spa discount applies to all treatments available on spa menu, excluding spa merchandise. Certain restrictions may apply. ³Offer only valid for Banyan City, Tower Deluxe City and Tower Deluxe Ocean View accommodations. Valid on new bookings only. ⁴Activity voucher does not apply to air/car only booking. Valid toward the purchase of a select optional activity. Not valid for hotel direct activity bookings. ⁵\$100 off per booking offer applies to new bookings to Hawaii at select hotels made March 1-April 30, 2017 for travel March 1-December 15, 2017. Savings is per booking and taken at time of booking, and not reflected in rate shown. Minimum five-night hotel accommodations and round trip transpacific air required to receive Aloha Days offer. ⁶Complimentary five-day Hertz mid-size car rental valid for new Hawaii bookings made March 1-April 30, 2017 for travel March 1-December 15, 2017. Black out dates may apply. Mid-size car value is \$378. Minimum five-night hotel accommodations and round trip transpacific air required to receive Aloha Days offer. Unless otherwise indicated: taxes, surcharges, gratuities, transfers & excursions are additional. Rates, terms, conditions, availability, itinerary, government taxes, surcharges, deposit, payment & cancellation terms & policies subject to change without notice at any time. Advance reservations through AAA Travel required to obtain Member Benefits & savings which may vary based on departure date. Not responsible for errors or omissions. The Automobile Club of Southern California acts as an agent for Pleasant Holidays®. CTR#1016202-80. Copyright © 2017 Automobile Club of Southern California. All Rights Reserved.

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2016-2017 HMG-CN WINTER ALL-AREA TEAMS

VALLEY CHRISTIAN GIRLS BASKETBALL, GIRLS SOCCER ENJOY WONDERFUL WINTER SEASON

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

It was a championship season for the ages for the Valley Christian High girls soccer team and nearly one for the school's girls basketball team. The Norwalk High boys soccer team also had a historic 2016-2017 winter campaign and as a result, all three of the teams were handsomely rewarded in the HMG-Community News Winter All-Area Teams.

BOYS BASKETBALL FIRST TEAM

Marvin Bragg (Gahr)
Destin Flucas (Cerritos)
Jyvonnte Moore (Cerritos)
Aaron Purnell (Valley Christian)
Gary Williams (Gahr)

SECOND TEAM

Heaven Flores (Whitney)
Heder Gladden (Artesia)
Desmond Johnlouis (Norwalk)
Johnny Johnson (Valley Christian)
Devion Smith (Artesia)

THIRD TEAM

Hugo Anguiano (John Glenn)
Gorden Boykins (Valley Christian)
Tony Crosby (Gahr)

Albert Pascual (Artesia)

Jordan Volpei (Norwalk)

HONORABLE MENTION

David Balderas (Norwalk)
Vincent Biscoe (Cerritos)
Cruz Gomez (John Glenn)
Peter Kang (Whitney)

Jarrel King (Gahr)

PLAYERS TO LOOK

FOR IN 2017-2018

Reginald Reamer (Artesia)
Nathan Amanuel (Cerritos)
Jason Anigbo (Cerritos)
Dorian Harris (Cerritos)
Byron Sur (Cerritos)
Seth Shaw (Gahr)
Chris Lujan (John Glenn)
Chris Murray (John Glenn)
Cris Cecenas (Norwalk)
Jacob Green (Valley Christian)
Trevor LaParl (Valley Christian)
Julio Martinez (Valley Christian)
Garret Williams (Valley Christian)
Kyle Williams (Valley Christian)
Waseem Asiedu (Whitney)
Jonan Baladjay (Whitney)
Adi Jahic (Whitney)
Daniel Sou (Whitney)

Player of the Year: Every season, Gahr High has some of the best talent in the Southland and this past season was no exception, especially with Marvin Bragg. The senior scored an area-high 547 points

and averaged 19.5 points per game. Bragg was held to single digits just once and scored over 25 points six times in 28 games played.

Coach of the Year: It's always a grind playing in the San Gabriel Valley League, where it's tough to go 10-0. But the next best thing is winning league with one loss and that's what Gahr head coach Ricky Roper did. The Gladiators went 18-10 but more importantly won the first nine league contests before falling to Dominguez High by seven points in the regular season finale. The league championship is Roper's second in the past three seasons.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

FIRST TEAM

Naomi Ellis (Gahr)
Nicole Lee (Whitney)
Cheyenne McKinnie (Valley Christian)
Ifeoma Okoli (Cerritos)
Cailey Vitug (Cerritos)

SECOND TEAM

Calla Anderson (Valley Christian)
Lindsay Fujihiro (Cerritos)
Ariel Gordon (Valley Christian)
Christine Hamakawa (Whitney)
Alana Soltis (Gahr)

THIRD TEAM

Crystal Lambey (Norwalk)
Sahana Oglesby (Valley Christian)
Bjanka Torres (Norwalk)
Teresa Torres (Cerritos)

Cassidy Valle (Artesia)

HONORBLE MENTION

Angie Aldana (Norwalk)
Dalilah Mendoza (John Glenn)
Tracy Nakamura (Cerritos)
Dezirae Smith (Gahr)

Justine Wu (Whitney)

PLAYERS TO LOOK

FOR IN 2017-2018

Cesilia Cabrera (Artesia)
Jessica Tibayan (Artesia)
Hannah Carroll (Cerritos)
Kalea Trias (Cerritos)
Clarissa Heredia (Gahr)
Kimya Oliver (Gahr)
Nori Smith (Gahr)
Dominique Harrison (John Glenn)
Paola Ramirez (John Glenn)
Alyssandra Lopez (Norwalk)
Annie Valele (Norwalk)
McKenna Bushong (Valley Christian)
Kira Smith (Valley Christian)
Janelle Ho (Whitney)
Kiana Sanchez (Whitney)

Player of the Year: The heart and soul of the Valley Christian Lady Crusaders for the past few seasons has been Cheyenne McKinnie and the senior left her legacy as one of the best to have played for a

program rich in tradition. McKinnie led the area with 516 points, nearly 200 more than the next best player in the area, and averaged 16.6 points per game. McKinnie scored over 20 points nine times including a career-high 32 against Heritage Christian High on Jan. 6.

Coach of the Year: In his three seasons at Valley Christian, head coach Dominic Freeman has improved his win total. This past season, Freeman guided the Lady Crusaders to a 22-10 mark and a berth in the California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section Division 4AA championship game against Olympic League rival Village Christian High. At one point in the season, Valley Christian was 17-3 and won 11 straight games in one stretch.

BOYS SOCCER

FIRST TEAM

GK-Kevin Guzman (Norwalk)
F-Rudy Cruz (Norwalk)
F-Noah Silverman (Valley Christian)
F-Andrew Vasquez (Norwalk)
M-Alejandro Amador (Norwalk)
M-Miguel Cabrera (Norwalk)
M-Clay D'Amico (Valley Christian)
M-Francisco Sierra (Artesia)
D-Anthony Galicia (Norwalk)
D-Brent Van Meeteren (Valley Christian)
D-Adrian Rosales (Artesia)

SECOND TEAM

GK-Noah Lange (Valley Christian)
F-Jarrold Chacko (Valley Christian)
F-Jose Ortiz (Artesia)
F-Jorge Pantoja (Artesia)
M-Jose Aguilar (Artesia)
M-Oscar Mijares (Cerritos)
M-Jack Montoya (Valley Christian)
M-Kurtis Vander Meullen (Valley Christian)
D-Cesar Mondragon (Norwalk)
D-Antonio Olguin (Norwalk)
D-Peter Said (Cerritos)

Player of the Year: Norwalk High senior forward Rudy Cruz was a big force for the Lancers as the team had a season to remember. Cruz led the Lancers with 17 goals with nine coming in Suburban League action. He scored twice in the same game three times with one of those coming at Artesia High in a 3-2 overtime victory on Jan. 25.

Coach of the Year: Ever since he took over the head coaching duties for Norwalk for the 2003-2004 season, Vinson Pluma has won the Suburban League five times and taken his teams to the quarterfinals three times. Never had the Lancers advanced to the semifinals, but that was finally accomplished this past season.

Pluma guided Norwalk to a 16-7-1 mark and a share of the league title. His team was a minute away from advancing to the Division 2 finals where it would have faced league foe Bellflower High. The 16 wins were one shy of the school record, which was accomplished in the 2005-2006 and 2006-2007 seasons.

GIRLS SOCCER

FIRST TEAM

GK-Destinee Montenegro (Valley Christian)
F-Janna Dunk (Valley Christian)
F-Brittany Llanes (Artesia)
F-Julie Sainz (Valley Christian)
M-Lauren Castillo (Valley Christian)
M-Kavitha George (Cerritos)
M-Hannah Lara (Valley Christian)
M-Kennedy Wesley (Valley Christian)
D-Carli Domino (Valley Christian)
D-Marysa Garner (Valley Christian)
D-Alenna Velazquez (Artesia)

SECOND TEAM

GK-Andrea Diaz (Cerritos)
F-Michelle Abarca (Artesia)
F-Jessica Chen (Cerritos)
F-Erika Rizal (Cerritos)
M-Megan Bouma (Valley Christian)
M-Iris Lee (Cerritos)
M-Ashley Mora (Artesia)
M-Christina Pollard (Valley Christian)
D-Kelly McKittrick (Valley Christian)
D-Erin Pierce (Cerritos)
D-Caitlyn Wind (Valley Christian)

Player of the Year: Only a sophomore, Valley Christian's Kennedy Wesley is already making her mark as one of the best girls soccer players in Southern California. Wesley led the area with 23 goals with 10 coming in Olympic League action and 10 more coming in eight postseason games. She didn't score her first goal until the seventh game of the season, a 3-1 loss at St. Margaret's High and had a hat trick against Whittier Christian High on Jan. 17 in a 4-0 victory.

Coach of the Year: To say that Kim Looney has paid her dues is a huge understatement. The longtime Valley Christian head coach, since the 2001-2002 season, capped off a season that will be hard to duplicate. The Lady Crusaders went 24-3-3, won an Olympic League title, won a Division 6 championship, took home the Division 5 state crown and ended the season on a 16-game winning streak and a 23-game non-losing streak. The 24 wins are a school record and the divisional championship was the school's third and first outright.

MARS

Continued from page 1

and manufacturing hardware that will fly on the first SLS/Orion launch next year. There are more than 3,500 people and 591 small companies in the state alone helping to build SLS and Orion.

Tuesday evening HMG-CN joined with NASA and their Industry Team at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. Members from the NASA SLS and Orion programs were host to government, local residents and suppliers for a leadership reception and presentation about current plans for the journey to Mars.

Engineers and technicians gathered on stage to host an interview type panel to discuss all the aspects involved in building NASA's new Orion spacecraft and SLS rocket from testing edible food recipes to protecting crew members from intense radiation, all of which astronauts need to know before long-duration missions. The first step is to send a rocket to circle the

moon and then go out past the moon into deep space for duration of 14 days.

NASA Astronaut Colonel Brian Duffy told HMG-Cn in an exclusive interview, "After the initial test, of which there will be several, we will then launch a manned rocket to Mars. It will take approximately six to seven months to get there, then a crew will explore the red planet for about a year, circle back around and travel another six months or so back to Earth." This will require extensive planning, "because you know they can't just take a trip down to the local market!" said Duffy.

Giant rocket sections are already being manufactured and tested, preparing SLS for its first flight to cislunar [between the Earth and Moon] space travel. In this area around the moon, known also as the Proving Ground, NASA will test the systems and capabilities needed for humans to survive future deep space missions.

NASA Astronaut Dr. Thomas Marshburn, recently returned from his stay aboard the International Space Station Assembly Mission. His duties were to run tests and experiments on the affects of

prolonged space travel on the human body.

Aerojet Rocketdyne, Vice President of NASA Programs Jim Paulsen, described in intricate detail the upper stage production and engine assembly, "We need to start the assembly line up because the program starts November of 2018. The new administration seems very positive about what NASA is doing and has indicated support of the Mission to Mars."

NASA's SLS is an advanced, heavy lift launch vehicle that will continue Americas' tradition of human space flight. The SLS will provide an entirely new capability for science and human exploration beyond Earth's orbit and offer the nation more versatility for humans to travel to deep space destinations.

The SLS will carry the Orion crew vehicle, as well as important cargo, equipment and science experiments to deep space. NASA's commercial crew and cargo partners will create an American supply line to the International Space Station all while the SLS will provide the transportation needed to reach farther into the solar system.

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SUBURBAN LEAGUE BASEBALL: EARLY LEAD HOLDS UP FOR CERRITOS IN SLOPPY SUBURBAN LEAGUE OPENER

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

Cerritos High head coach Scott Parsonage doesn't want to use the "we're young" card. In fact, he says he's tired of constantly saying those two words but the fact remains that the Dons have been struggling through the early part of the season.

It wasn't the prettiest Suburban League opener the Dons were hoping for as they visited Artesia High this past Wednesday. But Cerritos scored six runs in the first four innings and held on to knock off the Pioneers 7-5 on a windy afternoon. Cerritos improved to 8-5 overall while the Pioneers (1-7 overall) dropped their 18th straight league game and their 27th out of the last 28 league contests.

While the Dons made three errors and gave up four unearned runs, they were helped early on by having the first three lead-off hitters reach on walks with all of them scoring. In the top of the first, Artesia senior pitcher Alex Covarrubias walked sophomore left fielder Matthew Aguinaga. Two pitches later, he came home on a double from senior catcher Brett Wells.

The Pioneers would tie the game in

their half of the inning when freshman left fielder Brandon Azzato reached on an error and scored on a groundout from junior second baseman Bobby Aragon. The Dons would answer back the next inning with one out consecutive singles from freshman right fielder Alex Manibusan, senior pitcher Jonathan Estrada and freshman second baseman Raul Garcia, the bottom three in the lineup. Manibusan and sophomore center fielder Matthew Pinal, who began the frame with a walk, scored.

Cerritos added to its lead in the third inning with two more runs as senior shortstop Trevor McInerney was walked and freshman third baseman Evan Vasquez was hit by a pitch. Both would score on a two-out, bases loaded single from Estrada. The visitors extended the lead to 6-1 in the fourth when Aguinaga was hit by a pitch and touched home plate on a fielder's choice from McInerney.

Through the first three innings, Estrada had been dodging some serious threats as the Pioneers would strand five runners on base but just have the one run to show for it. But all that changed in the next inning.

Artesia, which entered the game with five runs scored in its last four games, scored four runs in the bottom of the

fourth. With one out, junior right fielder Francisco Moreno hit a tapper up the left field line that bounced up and over third base for an infield knock. Senior shortstop Max Anderson reached on an error and both runners came home on a single to left from Azzato.

Senior third baseman Oscar Barragan would reach on a fielder's choice, followed by a single from Aragon and a sacrifice fly from junior designated hitter Mark Chavez. After that, Estrada settled down and allowed three runners to reach before being replaced by Vasquez in the seventh. Estrada scattered six hits and allowed one earned run while striking out three.

"He was doing fine," Parsonage said of Estrada. "We didn't help him. We booted the ball around, made stupid plays; drop a ball or something."

The Dons would get an insurance run in the seventh when Pinal was walked by Aragon, the third Artesia hurler of the game, and scored on Manibusan's second base hit. The bottom three in the Cerritos lineup combined to go five for 12 with five runs driven in. Artesia, which got a two for three performance from Moreno, stranded eight on base including two in the fourth inning.

"You can't drop a game to one of those teams if you plan on making the playoffs in this league," Parsonage said. "You have to take care of people in league like Artesia."

Last season, the Dons split their first 10 games before opening league action by sweeping Artesia. They would finish the season with a 14-14 mark with a much experience team. This season, Parsonage said he isn't too surprised with the start his team has had despite fielding a club of seven freshmen and three sophomores among the 17 players on the team.

"No, not really," Parsonage said. "I figured that's where we would be around. I was thinking we would be around [8-5] and hoping we weren't going to be worse than that. But I thought we would be two or three games better. We dropped two to Costa Mesa. It was kind of like today but worse."

Both teams will meet again today with possible starting pitchers being Estrada and senior David Licea for Artesia. Licea worked the fourth and fifth innings, striking out two and giving up a hit and a run. Cerritos will then be home to Bellflower High on Wednesday while the Pioneers welcome La Mirada High.

AHR'S HIGH SCORING SOFTBALL GAME WITH LOS ALAMITOS STOPPED BY RAIN

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

LOS ALAMITOS-The completion of the biggest softball game of Gahr High's 2017 season up to now will have to be put on hold just a little bit longer. The Lady Gladiators visited Los Alamitos High this past Tuesday but the much-anticipated contest was called in the bottom of the third due to inclement weather.

Gahr entered the contest undefeated in 10 games and ranked number one in the California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section's Division 2 while the Griffins are the third ranked team in Division 1. From the outset of the game, it was easy to see why this could be one of the marquee matchups of the entire season for both teams.

Gahr quickly grabbed a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning as sophomore center fielder Jazmine Hill doubled to the centerfield wall and moved to third on a blooper to the left field gap from junior catcher Madison Huskey. After a walk to senior third baseman Malia Quarles loaded the bases, sophomore second baseman Giselle Tapia dumped a single to the left field gap to score Hill. Following a strikeout, a fielder's choice from junior first baseman Jade Wittman plated Huskey.

Los Alamitos would tie the game in its half of the frame on back to back hits



HMG-CN Sports Editor Loren Kopff

NEWS AND NOTES FROM PRESS ROW

from Alexa Schultz and Cami Sellers. But Gahr's hot bats would get to Ryan Denhart in the second as freshman center fielder Ariell Romero would single down the left field line and come home on a base hit from Quarles. After that, it was all Los Alamitos as the Griffins would touch up junior pitcher Danielle Martinez for four runs on three hits and a walk in the bottom of the second. Gahr would also make two critical errors in the inning.

With one out in the bottom of the third, Martinez walked Kaitlin Parsons and had a 1-1 count on Allison Englant before the game was called. The conclusion of the game is scheduled for today. The Lady Gladiators will then be off the rest of this month.

In other softball action, Mother Nature also wreaked havoc on the Suburban League opener for six teams this past Tuesday as Artesia High visited John Glenn High and Norwalk High was to host Mayfair High.

Artesia (3-2) will host Rialto High today in a non-league affair before hosting La Mirada High on Tuesday and travelling to Bellflower High on Thursday. Cerritos High (5-1) will entertain Norwalk on Tuesday and go to Mayfair on Thursday while Glenn (3-3) competes in the Santa Fe Tournament on Saturday before hosting Bellflower on Tuesday and visiting Norwalk on

Thursday.

Norwalk has struggled to a 3-6 start and hosted La Mirada on Mar. 23. The Lady Lancers will compete in the Santa Fe Tournament on Saturday. Also in the Santa Fe Tournament is Valley Christian High, which was 3-5-1 entering this week. The Lady Crusaders will host Calvary Chapel Downey High today

See **NEWS AND NOTES** page 12

Please Come & Support

The Friends of the Artesia Library Fundraising



"If you build it, they will come."
It's almost built, please come!

The Friends of the Artesia Library present:

Artesia Library's Field of Dreams Benefit

Friday, May 05, 2017
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Artesia Park at ball field South of the new library
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Selection of Food from Ribs 'n' Kabobs and other local restaurants,
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For information or presale tickets contact:

Michele Diaz 562-402-9893 Joanne Witt 562-233-9671

Tickets can also be purchased at

Artesia Library, County of Los Angeles Public Library
18722 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, CA, 90701 562-865-6614



WHEN:
April 7 at 7 p.m.
April 8 at 7 p.m.
April 9 at 12 p.m.

WHERE:
Freed Theater
Christ Cathedral
13280 Chapman Ave.
Garden Grove 92840

Showing of St. John Vianney Play

All are invited to the next Christ Cathedral Drama series presentation about the life of works of St. John Vianney, April 7 - 9, 2017 in the Freed Theater at Christ Cathedral. This play is a riveting one-man drama performed by widely acclaimed actor Leonardo DeFilippis of Saint Luke Productions. The live drama tells the unlikely story of the Curé of Ars, the only canonized parish priest in Church history. The play opens at the height of the French Revolution and goes on to chronicle St. John's incredible ministry to his beloved people.

NEWS AND NOTES

Continued from page 11

and travel to Village Christian High on Tuesday in the Olympic League opener before entertaining Whittier Christian High on Thursday.

Whitney High is also off to a slow start at 4-7. The Lady Wildcats hosted Samueli Academy on Mar. 23 and will be home to Saddleback High on Tuesday.

BASEBALL

The competitive schedule that Gahr has put together is proving to be as advertised as the Gladiators dropped a 5-0 decision to El Toro High last Saturday to fall to 2-7. It's the seventh straight loss for the Gladiators, who have given up 44 runs during that time. Gahr will host Santa Margarita High on Wednesday.

Glenn has lost consecutive games for the first time this season and is now 7-3 as the Eagles begin a home and home series with Norwalk on Wednesday on the road. The Lancers are 5-1 after a 4-0 win against South El Monte High in the first game of the St. Paul Easter Tournament.

Valley Christian evened its Olympic League record to 1-1 after knocking off Whittier Christian 10-4 last Friday night. V.C. went to 6-4 overall as it will be home to Heritage Christian today before travelling to Providence High on Monday. The Crusaders return home to face Shalhevet High on Wednesday. Whitney has not won more than five games in a season since going 11-13 in 1998. But the Wildcats began this season with six straight wins before falling to Sage Hill 9-0 this past Monday in the Academy League opener. The Wildcats have outscored their opponents 105-16 and will host Sage Hill today before visiting St. Margaret's High on Tuesday in the front end of a home and home series.

ACTIVATE

Continued from page 1

[OS] is heading this educational effort.

Over the past five years a community vision and solid infrastructure of the program has taken shape. "We also have established strategic relationships with various organizations, however the City of Hawaiian Gardens has been our biggest supporter," says Khananashvili, "We have been able to gather significant data about the changes, not only in physical health but also in mental wellbeing. It is time to take the program to the next level."

According to the CDC the percentage of children with obesity in the United States has more than tripled since the 1970s. Today, one in five school-aged children, ages 6-19 is obese. Obesity is defined as having excess body fat. Being overweight is defined as having excess body weight for a particular height from fat, muscle, bone, water, or a combination of these factors. The Body Mass Index [BMI] is a widely used screening tool for measuring both overweight and obesity. BMI percentile is preferred for measuring children and young adults because it takes into account that they are still growing. Childhood obesity has immediate and long-term impacts on physical, social, and emotional health and this is why OS starts with kindergarten students and their families.

Currently the program serves five schools in Hawaiian Gardens and approximately 5,000 community members over the last few years. Each class can accommodate 25 individuals, "We work hand-in-hand and one-on-one to address their eating, cooking and shopping habits," adds Khananashvili, "there are many scientific studies that demonstrate a reduction in childhood obesity by up to

20 percent resulting from breastfeeding alone. Our educational program discusses the myths of buying and cooking with healthier alternatives."

In the Southern California, childhood obesity has reached an all time high. Although numerous factors contribute to childhood obesity, energy balance is the key. "Changes in the environment where children spend most of their time, home and school, are where the focus should begin," adds Khananashvili, "we can help children achieve and maintain a healthy weight by making it easier to eat nutritious foods, and that starts by educating families."

OS also discusses the fundamental flaw of current anti-obesity methodologies as uncoordinated efforts of organizations that cannot maintain the type of transformation required to change the outcome. Their approach combines the family, school, childcare facilities and physician in a sincere scientific approach to the best practices to develop, change and keep a healthy lifestyle.

"We are result oriented and our program can be easily tailored regardless of socioeconomic factors, ethnic makeup, existing curriculum and the like so it can be quickly implemented for maximum results on a short timeline," notes Khananashvili.

Activate Hawaiian Gardens has had incredible results that were widely covered by local and national newspapers including the Long Beach Press Telegram, La Opinion and the Los Angeles Times (which featured a front-page story) as well as television news broadcasts on KCBS, KNBC, FOX and KCAL. Thanks to the implementation of Activate Hawaiian Gardens, the city was subsequently recognized by Michelle Obama's "Let's Move Cities, Towns and Counties" as the best in the United States among cities with

populations under 25,000.

This success is the first installation of the OS program; the company will explore and expand into more cities. Khananashvili said, "We are confident OS can positively impact the childhood obesity epidemic.

To contact OS visit www.osnow.org or call (310) 384.6432

BOOKMARK

Continued from page 12

fun of it. ' Programs like this are why our libraries are invaluable resources. ' The winners include Keila Kurihara, Krystian Garrett, Disleiry F. Hernandez, and Gloria Griepsma.

Keila, a second grader who attends Mary Bragg Elementary School, entered her beautifully illustrated bookmark at George Nye, Jr. Library in Lakewood. In her free time, Keila loves to play basketball and practice Taekwondo.

Krystian Garrett is a 5th grader at Nuffer Elementary School. Her favorite book is Rachel Renee Russell's Dork Diaries. She entered her bookmark at the Alondra Library in Norwalk. She is in 5th grade.

Disleiry F. Hernandez, a 7th grader at Paramount Park School, submitted her illustration of a landscape at the Paramount Library. She loves drawing and is currently reading the "I Have a Dream" speech by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Gloria Griepsma, a senior at Richard Gahr High School, submitted her bookmark at the Artesia Library. She hopes to be a freelance animator when she grows up. Her favorite book: A Series of Unfortunate Events.

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BARROWS*Continued from page 1*

And they were left out of Cerritos City Attorney Mark Steres' press release.

HMG-CN talked to a legal advisor who stated, "Steres should have, at the very least, considered the content of the 1988-89 judicial rulings, along with Lockyer's opinion, before writing the press release."

The 1989 court case, filed Nov. 2, saw Hydélita Soto, representing herself, go up against the powerful City of Cerritos' law firm of Brown, Winfield, and Conzoneri (Brown), who was paid by the city of Cerritos to defeat Prop H.

It was a classic David versus Goliath scene, but Soto still won the case.

From the size of the briefs, it looked as if Cerritos spent well over \$100,000 fighting Prop H, a proposition that over 60% of Cerritos residents voted for.

Soto, after winning, received \$1,364 in fees.

The case centered around the now infamous Article IV which stated "any Council member who has served two consecutive four year terms shall not be eligible for a period of two years to seek reelection."

Barrows served two consecutive Cerritos council terms, starting in 2007 and leaving office in March 2015.

In the report, HMG-CN wrote that Barrows could not "seek" office until March 2017—two years after he left office—thereby disqualifying him from the council race after Barrows filed in late January 2017.

Five days later, Cerritos's City Attorney Mark Steres sent out the release citing the 2004 opinion written by then California AG Bill Lockyer.

In his 2004 opinion, which was not a judicial court ruling, Lockyer ruled that Paul Bowlen and John Crowley could retain their council seats and that Article IV did not ban candidates from running for office in two years after serving two consecutive four-year terms.

Ironically, the ruling was in complete conflict with the vocal and extremely well funded No on Prop. H campaign, who's members obviously thought the proposition was a complete ban on running for council after serving two consecutive terms.

The No on Prop H campaign, which spent more than \$50,000 to defeat the initiative, boldly and succinctly stated in their campaign materials, "if this amendment passes, any city councilmember in their second term cannot be a candidate for an additional term."

Days after the Lockyer's opinion, Metropolitan News-Enterprise, a well respected legal newspaper based in Los Angeles, wrote an article stating that, "Lockyer has opined that Prop. H refers to the date of the next general election, not the date that a person becomes a candidate."

Met News stated that the opinion interpreting a city charter by Lockyer was "highly unusual" and something that Lockyer "declined to do in at least two cases" earlier in the year.

Met News cited Lockyer's decision to refuse to rule on whether Los Angeles

City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo held his office in accordance with the Los Angeles' City Charter.

Several individuals, including then-Public Defender Michael Judge, had claimed that Delgadillo had not been qualified to practice law prior to taking office because he was an inactive State Bar member for a period of time.

Lockyer cited the "usual practice of not interpreting local charters and ordinances in determining Delgadillo's case."

Later, Lockyer denied to rule on a case brought by citizens of Inyo County who contended that having a single individual hold two local positions violated a local initiative.

And recently, HMG-CN sent a letter

IT IS HEREBY ADJUDGED AND DECREED that any member of the City Council of the City of Cerritos who has served two or more consecutive terms is prohibited from seeking reelection pursuant to the provisions of Article IV, Section 400 of the Charter of the City of Cerritos. Terms served prior to April 12, 1988 shall be counted when determining eligibility to seek reelection.

Plaintiffs shall recover costs in the amount of

1,364.00

DATED: Dec. 27, 1989

Judge, Superior Court

JEROME A. PETERSON

The ruling by Judge Krieger on Dec. 27, 1989 showing that Article IV was valid, and Councilmembers are limited to two consecutive terms.

asking the current AG to intervene in Cerritos in relation to Article IV.

The AG's office wrote, "It is our general policy that local governments are primarily responsible for citizen complaints, and that appropriate local resources should be utilized for the resolution of such complaints."

It is unknown why Lockyer ruled on the Cerritos case in 2004, when just months before, Lockyer refused to rule on two very similar cases.

His opinion becomes even more questionable given that Lockyer failed to cite the two judicial decisions in 1988 and 1989.

The exclusion calls into serious question the accuracy of the AG's opinion.

Brown spared no expense in litigating with Soto, citing 21 precedent cases, four articles from the California Constitution, four government codes, and one evidence code.

The information from the case was readily available, yet Lockyer inexplicably cited only one case from Brown list in his 2004 opinion.

The 1989 Case-David versus Goliath-

The case began in Nov 1989 with Soto, arguing in her initial brief that Prop H. should be read literally and enforced.

"Defendant, city of Cerritos, acting through city attorney Brown, has expressed its intent not to comply with the charter amendment (Prop. H), therefore a judicial declaration is necessary."

Brown subsequently filed what is called a demur 28 days later asserting the lawsuit could be quickly resolved

because Soto did not present a valid case. Brown cited the 21 cases, and several articles under the constitution.

On December 11 Soto filed an Amicus Curiae. An Amici is someone who is not a party to a case and is not solicited by the party but who assists the court by offering information on the case. The decision whether to admit the information lies at the discretion of the court.

The information was later allowed by Judge Krieger.

The two people who offered advice were David Diaz of the Los Angeles City Two-Term Limit Coalition and current L.A. City Councilman Curren Price Jr. who at the time was with Inglewood Citizens for Reasonable Reform.

ambiguity should be interpreted in favor of the people."

Brown argued that local governments cannot limit the tenure of local elected officials and that State law preempted Prop. H.

Charter counties and general law cities are granted specific power by the state when not in conflict with state laws.

Charter cities, on the other hand, are granted plenary (unlimited) powers except as to those that have been preempted by the State.

Krieger ruled that the court must "look to the test for preemption set forth (in a case called) in re Hubbard."

"Is there an adverse effect of the local ordinance (Prop H.) on transient citizens of the State that outweighs the possible benefit to the city?"

Krieger ruled that Prop. H did not have an effect on the transient citizen.

"By definition, the person who would become ineligible to run for office has been in the city for at least eight years."

"The person who votes must have been registered to vote and residents of the city for a period of 30 days."

Krieger stated that the court finds there has been no preemption meaning Prop H. was valid under the Cerritos City Charter.

"The court finds that there is no ambiguity as to the applicability of the limit in the number of terms to those council members who have served two terms as of the date of the next election."

Brown's demur was denied.

On December 27, 1989 a judgment was entered with Krieger saying, "it is hereby adjudged and decreed that any member of the City Council of the city of Cerritos who have served two or more consecutive terms is prohibited from seeking reelection pursuant to the provisions of Article IV of the Charter of the city of Cerritos."

Attorney General's opinions are usually treated as authoritative by the officers and agencies who have requested them.

But the city of Cerritos did not request the 2004 AG's opinion, **Cerritos residents requested the opinion.**

The AG's website states, "Opinions of the Attorney General, while not binding, are entitled to great weight. In the absence of **controlling authority**, these opinions are persuasive 'since the legislature is presumed to be cognizant of that construction of the statute.(Napa Valley Educators' Association v. Napa Valley Unified School District. (1987) 194 Cal.App.3rd 243, 251.)"

But there **was a controlling authority**—the 1988 decision by Walker and the 1989 decision by Krieger, therefore the AG's opinion is overridden.

In reality the AG, given the 1988/'89 decisions, should have never opined on Article IV.

HMG-CN sent an email Wednesday to City Attorney Mark Steres and City Manager Art Gallucci alerting them that HMG-CN wanted a quote Thursday afternoon. HMG-CN sent a second email describing the story, that email went unanswered as to the time of publication of this article. All supporting documents can be found online at loscerritosnews.net.

The two finished stating, "The charter provision was passed by initiative. Any

**CITY OF CERRITOS STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR
C1 WELL SITE CHLORINE ROOM MODIFICATIONS, RFP NO. 1293-17**

Project identification: **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL NO. 1293-17
C1 WELL SITE CHLORINE ROOM MODIFICATIONS**

Project description: The City of Cerritos is seeking a qualified contractor to provide the design and construction of the C1 Chlorine Room Modifications. The C1 Well Site building was reconstructed in 2007 and is located at 12701 Artesia Boulevard in the City of Cerritos. At the time, the City designed the southerly room of the building to house the chlorine gas storage containers that are used to treat the well water that is pumped from the site before it is pumped into the City's water distribution system. The C1 Chlorine Room currently houses two storage units (one 1-ton and one 150-lb) that were manufactured by TGO Technologies.

Proposals must be received on or before: **3:30 p.m., April 12, 2017**

Place of proposal receipt: Office of the City Clerk, City Hall 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, First Floor Cerritos, California 90703

Proposals must be marked: **"PROPOSAL – C1 WELL SITE CHLORINE ROOM MODIFICATIONS, RFP NO. 1293-17 - DO NOT OPEN"**

Request for Proposal details are available in the Department of Public Works located on the 2nd Floor of City Hall, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, California, 90703, or on the City's website at:

http://www.cerritos.us/BUSINESSES/bid_and_contract_opportunities/bid_listings.php

A mandatory pre-proposal conference shall take place at the C1 Well site on **April 7, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.** C1 Well site is located at 12701 Artesia Boulevard, Cerritos, California. The City will not review any proposals from Contractors who do not attend the pre-proposal conference.

The City's final selection criteria will be based on, but not limited to, the following analysis:

- Completeness of proposal.
- Contractor's demonstrated understanding of the scope of work.
- Feedback received from references listed on Reference Sheet.
- The total fee.

The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or portions thereof, or to waive any informality or irregularity in a proposal to the extent allowed by law.

No proposal 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 s and Professions Code. The contractor must possess licenses of the following classifications at the time the contract is awarded, (and must maintain these license classifications through completion of the project): **A or B.**

Attention is also directed to Section 7028.15 of the Business and Professions Code for further reference. Only a contractor registered with the California Department of Industrial Relations ("DIR") to bid on public works contracts in California shall be permitted to submit a proposal. Furthermore, only subcontractors registered with the DIR to bid on public works contracts in California shall be permitted to perform work or labor or render service under subcontract to the subject contractor.

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 purposes applicable to the work to be done. These rates shall be the minimum rates for this contract. 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.

By order of the City of Cerritos. Dated/Posted/Published: **March 24, 2017**

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 3/24/17

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 17-842

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING BY REFERENCE TITLE 32 OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE, INCORPORATING AND AMENDING THE 2016 CALIFORNIA FIRE CODE, AND TITLE 33 OF THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY CODE, INCORPORATING AND AMENDING THE 2016 CALIFORNIA EXISTING BUILDING CODE, TOGETHER WITH CERTAIN AMENDMENTS, DELETIONS AND ADDITIONS, INCLUDING FINDINGS, FEES AND PENALTIES, AND AMENDING THE ARTESIA MUNICIPAL CODE

This is a summary of the above entitled Ordinance No. 17-842 of the City of Artesia. This summary has been prepared and published in accordance with the requirements of Government Code Section 36933.

On July 1, 2016, the California Building Standards Commission published the 2016 Editions of the State Building Standards Codes governing building, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, fire, residential building, green building and existing building standards applicable to structures in the state. These State Building Standards Codes became effective on January 1, 2017. The City of Artesia obtains building and plan check services from the County of Los Angeles and, as such, adopts the County's version of all of the State Building Standards Codes, including the 2016 State Fire and Existing Building Codes. The County adopted the 2016 State Existing Building Code, with amendments, on November 22, 2016, and the 2016 State Fire Code, with amendments, on January 24, 2017.

Ordinance No. 17-842 adopts by reference Title 32 of the Los Angeles County Code, incorporating and amending the 2016 California Fire Code, and Title 33 of the Los Angeles County Code, incorporating and amending the 2016 California Existing Building Code, together with certain amendments, deletions and additions, including findings (see Exhibit A to Ordinance No. 17-842), fees and penalties, amends Chapter 7 (Fire Code) of Title 8 (Building Regulations) of the Artesia Municipal Code (AMC) and adds a new Chapter 12 (Existing Building Code) to Title 8 of the AMC.

Notice is hereby given that a copy of this Ordinance No. 17-842 is available for public review at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, and that said Ordinance was passed and adopted on March 13, 2017.

- AYES: Taj, Flowers, Lima, Canales and Manalo
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: None
- ABSTAIN: None

This Ordinance will take effect on April 12, 2017.

Pradeepkumar Elayath, Interim City Clerk
City of Artesia, California

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 3/24/17

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 will sell by competitive bidding by Cimer's Auctions (Bond # 5181494), on or after **April 11th, 2017 @ 10:00 a.m.**, property belonging to those listed below. Auction is to be held at the above address. Property to be sold as follows: TV tray, loose clothing, kid toys, plastic table, plastic file cabinet, pillow, doll house, piggy bank, stroller, boxes, floor lamp, table lamp, totes, suitcases, mattress frame, wheelchairs, bed lift, tool box, buckets, compressor, van seats, bikes, broom, fishing rods, chair, chest of drawers, flag, computer frame, wire cart, picture frames, bowling bag, grill, entertainment center, washer, dryer, microwave, appliances, book case, DVD player, books, CD's, swords, Dollie, fan, ladder, mattress, crib, box spring, dresser, night stand, side tables, card tables, hamper, car frame, trash can, painting, saw horses, shop Vac, shovel, speakers, door, filters, couch and radio belonging to the following.

NAME	UNIT #
Paul Olivas	B675
Octavio Ponce	B797
Fernando Antonio Vasquez	B712
Linda J Campbell	B611
Vincente Perez	B174
Kyle Moffett	B110
Melithia R Butler	B499
Gerardo F Pelayo	A242
Anna L Callares	A201
Bar Building Division/Michael Patrick Burke	A100
Cal Sales Tax LLC/Clyde W Sleigh II	A134
Cruz Leon	B824
Monique Nevels	B306

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.

Published at Los Cerritos Community News March 24th and March 31st, 2017

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 17-840

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING ARTICLE 2 (CITY MANAGER) OF CHAPTER 4 (OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES) OF TITLE 2 (ADMINISTRATION) OF THE ARTESIA MUNICIPAL CODE, CONCERNING THE EXECUTION OF COMMERCIAL LEASE AGREEMENTS BY THE CITY MANAGER WITHOUT PRIOR CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL

This is a summary of the above entitled Ordinance No. 17-840 of the City of Artesia. This summary has been prepared and published in accordance with the requirements of Government Code Section 36933(a).

Ordinance No. 17-840 – An Ordinance of the City of Artesia, California amending Article 2 (City Manager) of Chapter 4 (officers and employees) of Title 2 (administration) of the Artesia Municipal Code and added a section to read as "(c)Negotiation, Approval and Execution of Lease Agreements without Prior City Council Approval. The City Manager may negotiate, approve and execute lease agreements within the following constraints: (1) Amount of Lease at fair market value, and (2) Duration of Lease of one calendar year; provided, however, the City Manager may terminate a Commercial Lease upon 30 calendar days' prior written notice to the tenant at any time. The City Manager shall use the form of the commercial lease agreement prior approved by the City Council."

Notice is hereby given that a copy of this Ordinance No. 17-840 is available for public review at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, and that said Ordinance was passed and adopted on March 13, 2017.

- AYES: Taj, Lima, Canales and Manalo
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: None
- ABSTAIN: Flowers

This Ordinance will take effect on April 12, 2017.

Pradeepkumar Elayath, Interim City Clerk
City of Artesia, California

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 3/24/17

SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 17-843

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA, CALIFORNIA, REAUTHORIZING THE CITY'S PUBLIC, EDUCATIONAL, AND GOVERNMENTAL ACCESS SUPPORT FEE

This is a summary of the above entitled Ordinance No. 17-843 of the City of Artesia ("City"). This summary has been prepared and published in accordance with the requirements of Government Code Section 36933.

Public Utilities Code Section 5870(n), which was enacted as part of the as the Digital Infrastructure and Video Competition Act of 2006, authorized the City to adopt an ordinance establishing a fee on state-franchised video service providers to support public, educational, and governmental ("PEG") access channel facilities. The City adopted Ordinance Nos. 07-714 and 07-720 establishing a 1% fee for the support of PEG access facilities and activities within the City, which is codified in Section 3-6.205(a) of the Artesia Municipal Code. Public Utilities Code Section 5870(n) states that such an ordinance shall expire, and may be reauthorized, upon the expiration of a state franchise. The first state franchise to include the City, California Video Franchise Certificate Franchise No. 0001 granted to Verizon California, Inc., expired on March 8, 2017. Ordinance No. 17-843 reauthorizes and readopts the 1% fee imposed on state-franchised video service providers to PEG channel facilities codified in Section 3-6.205(a) of the Artesia Municipal Code, which fee shall remain unchanged and in full effect as to all state-franchised video service providers.

Notice is hereby given that a copy of this Ordinance No. 17-843 is available for public review at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, and that said Ordinance was passed and adopted on March 13, 2017.

- AYES: Taj, Lima, Manalo, Canales
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: None
- ABSTAIN: Flowers

This Ordinance will take effect on April 12, 2017.

Pradeepkumar Elayath, Interim City Clerk
City of Artesia, California

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**ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTICE CALLING FOR BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ABC Unified School District will receive up to but not later than **2:00 PM** on the **19th day of April, 2017** Bids for:

ABC Bid # 1488 Roofing at Various Schools

All bids shall be made and presented on a form furnished by the District. Bids submitted shall conform to the terms and conditions stated on said form. Bids shall be received in the office of the **Purchasing Department at 16700 Norwalk Blvd., Cerritos, CA 90703** and shall be opened and publicly read aloud at the above-stated time and place. Bidders may obtain bid documents at the mandatory jobwalk on April 3, 2017 2:00 PM sharp at the Purchasing Department. All public works are subject to prevailing wage payments, Valid License Class C-39 and DIR Registration will be required.

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