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Commerce Councilman Mendoza Was Fired From His Job With Commerce for Dishonesty, Intimidation

HMG Staff Report

One week ago, Hews Media Group-Community News published a story concerning threatening emails sent from Commerce City Council candidate Leonard Mendoza to HMG-CN Publisher Brian Hews after Hews published a story about Mendoza's question-



Leonard Mendoza

able campaign donations. Turns out threatening and intimidating people who he does not like or agree with is a character trait of Mendoza's. Several documents obtained by Hews Media Group-Community News show Mendoza was fired from his job at the city of Commerce for systematic harassment, intimidation, fighting, and ignoring safety policies that resulted in serious injuries to his

[See MENDOZA page 16]

Concejal de Commerce Mendoza fue despedido de su trabajo en Commerce por deshonestidad e intimidación

Reporte de el personal de HMG

Commerce ~ Hace una semana, Hews Media Group-Community News publicó una historia sobre correos electrónicos amenazantes enviados por el candidato al Concejo Municipal de Commerce, Leonard Mendoza, al editor de HMG-CN, Brian Hews, después de que Hews publicara una historia sobre las cuestionables donaciones de campaña de Mendoza.

Resulta que amenazar e intimidar a las personas que no le gustan o con las que no está de acuerdo es un rasgo de carácter de Mendoza.

Varios documentos obtenidos por Hews Media Group-Community News muestran que Mendoza fue despedido de su trabajo en la ciudad de Commerce por acoso sistemático, intimidación, peleas e ignorar las políticas de seguridad que resultaron en lesiones graves a sus trabajadores.

El comportamiento de Mendoza fue tan abominable que la ciudad se vio obligada a contratar a la abogada Sally Woolley; después de su investigación, Woolley recomendó correr de la ciudad a Mendoza.

En 2014, Mendoza fue despedido y su jefe escribió: "Lo bajamos de puesto dos veces, le recortamos el salario dos veces y todavía no cambió su comportamiento; tenemos que despedirlo". Mendoza apeló la decisión dos veces con la carta final del Director de Seguridad y Servicios Comunitarios de Commerce, Matthew Rodríguez,

en la que escribió que la ciudad "básicamente estaba harta del mal comportamiento crónico de Mendoza".

Mendoza fue disciplinado por primera vez en 2008 y recibió una reducción del 5% en el pago al descubrir que "participó en acoso, intimidación, abuso de autoridad, deshonestidad y creación de un ambiente de trabajo hostil". En 2012, recibió un Aviso de intención de degradar, pero en su lugar recibió otra reducción salarial del 5% durante seis meses. En 2013, recibió otro Aviso de intención de degradar por comportamiento poco profesional, poner en peligro a su equipo de pintores y abuso de autoridad. Mientras la ciudad intentaba intervenir con programas de seguridad y equipos de consultoría, Mendoza no cambió su patrón de comportamiento abusivo. Un incidente ocurrió en 2014, investigado por Wooley, y descubrió que Mendoza ordenó a su empleado que usara una escalera inferior para pintar un techo en Veterans Park. El empleado se cayó de la escalera y sufrió graves lesiones que le impidieron trabajar durante ocho meses. En otro incidente, consistente con lo que la gente dijo sobre Mendoza y la infame pelea de Contract Cities en 2019, desafió a uno de sus empleados a una pelea; el incidente fue corroborado por otros dos empleados. Cuando Mendoza testificó, respaldado por representantes de AFSCME (siglas en ingles de

[See MENDOZA page 16]



CERRITOS HIGH DANCE TEAM WINS NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

LARGE HIP HOP ABCUSD Board of Education recognizes the Cerritos High School Dance Team for winning the West Coast Elite National Championship in large hip hop with 20 plus students. The team also won two state championships.

Newsom Proposes \$128.3 Billion for Public Schools

By Brian Hews

Gov. Gavin Newsom announced this week that the state plans to give schools \$128.3 billion and expand its per-student spending to nearly \$23,000 to give a boost to the state's education system.

The cash will fund school facilities, youth mental health and teacher training and recruitment, universal transitional kindergarten, and college savings accounts for all students, among other needs.

"The revised budget lifts up the most critical needs including funding for school mental health, recruitment and retention of teachers, and literacy strategies necessary to allow students to heal and recover after two very challenging years," State Superintendent of Schools Tony Thurmond wrote in a news release.

The state budget includes funds for reduction in class sizes, special education, teacher

[See SCHOOLS page 12]

Hawaiian Gardens Resident First Mexican-American in 'Majestic Miss' Pageant

By Tammye McDuff

Evangelina Romero will be the first Mexican American to participate in a pageant that has been around for ten years called America's Majestic Miss, and she lives in Hawaiian Gardens. America's Majestic Miss be-

excellence, making a difference through community service, building confidence, improving speaking skills, and achieving their dreams.

Romero currently works at the ABC Unified School District in the Workforce Development Program, helping youth



FORMER MISS HAWAIIAN GARDENS Evangelina Romero currently works at the ABC Unified School District in the Workforce Development Program, helping youth.

gan in 2012 to empower young girls throughout the United States to develop lifelong success skills, including academic

'become accustomed to the real world' by gaining job experi-

[See ROMERO page 12]

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LA County Will Move Into the 'Medium' COVID Risk Level

(KNBC) Los Angeles County was in the CDC's "low" risk category, but that changed as expected yesterday based on rising COVID cases and hospitalizations.

County Health Director Dr. Barbara Ferrer announced the change during a briefing, when LA County reported 4,725 new cases.

The change was expected after more than 4,300 new COVID cases were reported Wednesday in Los Angeles County, where hospitalizations are also on the rise after an encouraging decrease earlier this year. There were 363 COVID-positive patients in county hospitals as of Wednesday, up from 327 a day earlier.

COVID hospital numbers had been dropping in recent months. The figure fell to 219 on April 20, but surged upward ever since.

Those key figures help determine health safety protocols in LA County. A sharp rise and widespread community transmission could trigger a renewal of mandatory indoor mask-wearing rules.

The change in category would not necessarily have an immediate impact. The county has already implemented the CDC's recommendations for areas in the "medium category, like masks on public transit, wide availability of vaccinations and guidance for improving ventilation in indoor settings.

But if there's another spike in COVID hospitalizations, that might push LA County into the "high" risk category and the indoor masking wearing rules that will likely come with it.

Is Los Angeles County in danger of slipping into the 'high' COVID risk category?

Under CDC guidelines, counties in the

"medium" category will move to "high" if the rate of new virus-related hospital admissions reaches 10 per 100,000 residents, or if 10% of the county's staffed hospital beds are occupied by COVID-positive patients.

The county's current rate of new admissions is 3.1 per 100,000 residents, and the rate of hospital beds occupied by COVID-positive patients is just under 2%.

Dr. Ferrer told the board earlier that the county is likely to move into the CDC's "medium" COVID risk category this week. She said she is confident the county will avoid sliding into the "high" category.

"While we are disheartened that the pandemic hasn't ended, I am reassured that with the tools at hand, we can continue to enjoy our time with each other and our participation in those activities that we love," she said.

The 4,384 new cases reported Wednesday lifted the county's overall total from throughout the pandemic to 2,922,210. The average daily rate of people testing positive for the virus, while still relatively low, rose to 3.2% Wednesday, up from 2.6% on Tuesday.

Ten COVID deaths were also reported, raising the cumulative virus-related death toll in the county to 32,055. Health officials have noted that most people who die from COVID suffer from various underlying health conditions.

Similarly, most hospital patients who are infected with COVID were hospitalized for reasons other than the virus, health officials said. Many only learned they were infected when they were tested upon hospital admission.

La Mirada Rotary Donates to LM High School



\$750 CHECK PRESENTATION: City officials, Mayor Ed Eng, and Councilmen Steve DeRuse and John Lewis with Rotary President Raymond Fernandez.

By Tammye McDuff

The La Mirada Rotary donated a check for \$750 to the Norwalk La Mirada School Board to assist in the first annual Matadors Matter event.

"We are very proud to support this new event helping students find their voice," stated Raymond Fernandez, La Mirada Rotary President.

This inaugural event will be loosely based on a Ted Talk concept. Ed Eng, La Mirada Mayor, stated that he wanted to build a safe environment for students to practice their public speaking skills, communications and public speaking.

"This forum will be a safe space for them to practice. The City of La Mirada and the Norwalk / La Mirada School district serves the same students."

Dr. John Lopez, NLMUSD Super-

intendent, is very excited about the opportunity, "First of all, partnering with the city of La Mirada and the students of La Mirada high school, that is the icing on the cake!"

"We will have some great speakers showcasing why 'Matadors Matter' to them," added Lopez. "We are working with our board members to put on an event to shine a light on the best that our students have to share."

The evening theme is 'Ideas Worth Spreading' and was held Thursday, May 19 at the La Mirada High School Little Theater. "I want to thank the City of La Mirada, Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District, and La Mirada Rotary Club for sponsoring this pilot program," added Eng.

There will be monetary scholarships for first, second and third place.

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Norwalk Transit Village Project Advances



THE PROPOSED TRANSIT-ORIENTED eco community project would bring new affordable housing units, commercial spaces and green community spaces to Norwalk at the old California Youth Authority property.

Staff Report

Norwalk, CA – On May 17, 2022, the Norwalk City Council received an update on the Norwalk Transit Village project planned to transform the former California Youth Authority facility located at 13200 Bloomfield Ave. with new affordable homes, community-enhancing activation, recreational areas, and connectivity to the Metrolink Station and public transit for residents of Norwalk to enjoy.

“My fellow councilmembers and I, along with many members of our community are excited to see how this project has been progressing as it has been in the making for years,” said Mayor Rick Ramirez. “This development project provides the City with the opportunity to transform the vacant and deserted land into a neighborhood that beautifies our City and becomes another place for residents to enjoy. As we move through the State’s process, I am confident in our City team and consultants to address concerns that arise to ensure that this project benefits our entire community.”

Since the last update to the City Council on February 22, the draft conceptual plan has been refined after input from the community, key stakeholders, City Commissioners, and the Steering Committee. Key plan updates shared with the Norwalk City Council included:

- Commercial Component at Bloomfield Ave.: Commercial, dining, and hotel uses would be located on the non-residential portion of the site.
- Residential Component: Enhanced residential design features along with a comprehensive mobility and parking strategy.

Community Gathering and Open Spaces: A micro-forest and green buffer zones would be created for the community to enjoy and an at-grade pedestrian and bike connection to the transit center is also being considered.

Through this undertaking, the City has conducted robust community outreach since January 2022, meeting the community where they were at by hosting virtual Community meetings, attending the local Farmers Market, hosting an in-person Community Workshop open house and more.

The Norwalk community continues to be supportive of the project, understanding the benefits it will bring to the City.

Big themes that have been consistent since outreach began have been the community’s interest in affordable housing choices, healthy amenities and restaurants in order to keep dollars in the community, and greater connectivity to the Metrolink and public transit.

The community has also shared that public safety, site access and traffic, and sustainability should be factored into the project, which is being taken into consideration.

Next steps for the project team will be to begin the Environmental Impact Report and specific plan for the project. Entitlements are expected to be approved in mid to late Fall 2023.

The State would then be able to officially transfer the land to the City following project approvals.

Kaiser Downey Awards Community Family Guidance Center \$60,000; Helpline Youth Center \$75,000

Grants target teen and young adults mental health issues, grant also given to Bellflower High Club.

DOWNEY, Calif. – May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Since the pandemic began in 2020, millions of people, including teens and young adults, have been struggling with chronic stress, anxiety and depression.

Because keeping the communities healthy goes far beyond providing medical care, Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center works hand-in-hand with partner organizations in Southeast Los Angeles County that are working to address the mental health needs in the community.

As part of its commitment to improving the mental health of the communities we serve, Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center has provided \$60,000 for additional training to clinical staff at Community Family Guidance Center in Cerritos, which provides mental health services to under-served children and their families in 28 cities in Southeast Los Angeles County.

“Kaiser Permanente Downey’s support has helped us transform the lives of more than 1,700 young people per year,” said Bill Sinko, executive director, Community Family Guidance Center. “It has allowed us to provide excellent training for our clinicians, in turn improving the quality of service for children and youth we serve who are experiencing mental health challenges.”

In addition to the support of Community Family Guidance Center, Kaiser Permanente Downey helped expand access to mental health services at Helpline Youth Counseling, which provides counseling and assistance to at-risk, children, families and homeless individuals in Whittier, with a \$75,000 grant.

“The work done by these organizations to bring mental health and wellness out in the open creates a culture of acceptance and support,” said Payman Roshan, senior vice president and area manager, Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center.

“Kaiser Permanente is beyond proud to be a part of that because when we can make a positive difference in our homes, workplaces, schools and communities we all thrive.”

Kaiser Permanente Downey Medical Center also recently provided in-kind donations to Bellflower High School’s Mental Health Club, a student-led organization that raises awareness about and support for mental health stressors among students.

The health care provider that serves 4.8 million members in Southern California is also sponsoring this year’s Girls on Fire summer program, hosted by the City of Downey, which addresses challenges facing young girls led by female leaders in the community.



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BREASTIVAL! An Event About Breasts, Bodies and More



ORIGINALLY A PLAY of monologues with a through line of breasts and stories told by women for women, the play has evolved to increase the expression and mutual respect in the way that men and women communicate with each other.

By Tammye McDuff

An inspiring production went virtual for the first time, "Conversations 'Bout the Girls". Putting adolescent giggling aside this presentation explores women and their relationship with their own bodies. Breastival is an event about breasts, bodies and more. The opening night was

May 14th, 2022 and will continue to stream for 30 days. Tickets start at \$28 and are now on sale to the general public.

This new event honored the 17th anniversary of Sonia Jackson's controversial play "Conversations 'Bout The Girls" and serves as a fundraiser benefitting Susan G. Komen Foundation.

Grammy winners to best selling authors filled the cast featuring prominent women from a diverse range of backgrounds. The updated cast in this production included: Florence LaRue, original member of the 5th Dimension; Kayla Caulfield, actress; Bernadette Speakes, actress; Eunice El-loitt, comedian; Dr. Marissa Pei, author and journalist; Laurel Harris, award-winning producer, writer and actress; voice and speech coach, and Healthcare IT consultant, Debbie Lynn Carriger; Lily Shaw, motivational speaker and actress; professor and playwright, Madeline Puc-cioni and Sofia Élan, international singer-songwriter, composer, arranger.

The long-running stage play by Sonia Jackson (Speed, Jurassic Park III) reveals the way women look at themselves, their bodies, and their breasts. "Conversations 'Bout the Girls" is a play whose purpose is to provide an engaging way to entertain the public through provoking stories.

"Throughout history, breasts have always attracted attention, wanted or unwanted, and the messages women receive about their breasts are conflicting. We're told that our shape and size, and how much we choose to show or cover-up, makes us beautiful or shameful, nurturing

or sexualized. This show removes outside perceptions and brings to light the true conflicts and wonder that comes with the feminine experience of having breasts," stated Jackson.

The vision is to increase the expression of mutual respect in the way men and women communicate with each other.

Originally a play of monologues, the stories were woven together to tell the story of women. "Conversations 'Bout the Girls" second iteration was a solo show that took place in a bra shop, where the proprietor is restocking and training a new team member on the various bras and the women who purchase them.

Most recently, the play takes the bra shop idea and uses an ethnically diverse cast whose ages span decades to tell the tales of a woman's journey in life because she has breasts. The colorful company, with a range of sizes, weights, hues, and shapes, play the staff and customers in the store and tell their stories live or through flashbacks. The story culminates with the patrons returning to the store after hours for a Women's Circle of camaraderie and frank discussions of women's issues.

Jackson came up with the idea while performing "The Vagina Monologues" she states "I dawned on me that we talk about all sorts of things that happen to our bodies, and we needed to have a great understanding between men and women; women and women; between our bodies and ourselves."

The play gives women the opportunity to realize that they are not alone, that other women experience the same body image challenges across the board.

Proceeds generated will go to the Susan G Komen Foundation, the world's leading breast cancer organization.

To purchase tickets to the Breastival!

Please visit

<https://visionsofpossibilities.org/breastival/>

Cerritos Commission and Committee Applications Now Available

Recruitment is currently under way for service appointments to the City's various Commissions and Committees.

The Commissions and Committees serve in an advisory capacity to the City Council on various matters ranging from the selection and

placement of public art installations to technical urban regional planning matters.

Eligible individuals will serve two-year terms through April 30, 2024. Online applications are available on the city's website

The deadline for submitting an application has been extended until all positions are filled.

For more information contact the Office of the City Clerk at city_clerk@cerritos.us or (562) 916-1248.

Norwalk Council Approves COVID-19 Memorial Artwork

Norwalk, CA – At this past Tuesday's meeting, the Norwalk C Council unanimously approved an artwork project that will memorialize those whose lives were lost due to COVID-19 and will be placed within an existing round planter on the south side near the entrance to the Council Chambers.

The proposed artwork will be a six-to seven-foot-tall weeping willow tree constructed of metal. Encircling the base of the tree will be a metal memorial ring that includes language laser cut into the metal memorializing the loss of life. Leaves will be shaped as hearts dangling with links to allow them free movement with the wind in a variety of colors including some gold-colored hearts sprinkled throughout the tree. These hearts will mimic the yellow hearts utilized by the Yellow Heart Foundation, which remembers loved ones that were lost due to COVID-19.

"This is a great way for our City to memorialize all the lives lost due to

COVID-19, especially the lives lost within our own community," stated Mayor Rick Ramirez. "The City of Norwalk will continue to add art in public places for residents and visitors to appreciate and for future generations to be inspired."

The Art in Public Places Committee was tasked with working with an artist to recognize and memorialize these losses. The Committee, along with local area artist James Naish and City staff, selected the proposed artwork with the belief that it will thoughtfully recognize the sadness felt by families and friends who have lost loved ones.

The City's Art in Public Places Program provides a collection of permanent outdoor sculptures and artwork throughout the City. Developments having a project cost exceeding five hundred thousand dollars are subject to a one percent contribution to the program.

The project is estimated to be completed by late summer 2022.

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AAA Travel Alert: Many travel destinations have implemented COVID-19-related restrictions. Before making travel plans, check to see if hotels, attractions, cruise lines, tour operators, restaurants and local activities have issued health and safety-related restrictions or entry requirements. The local tourism board is a good resource for updated information. **For all offers, unless otherwise indicated:** Rates quoted are available at time of publication and are per person, based on double occupancy. Gratuities, transfers, excursions and/or non-air-inclusive offers, airfare taxes, fees & surcharges are additional. Advertised rates do not include any applicable daily resort or facility fees payable directly to the hotel at check-out, such fee amounts will be advised at the time of booking. Rates, terms, conditions, availability, itinerary, taxes, fees, surcharges, deposit, payment, cancellation terms/conditions & policies subject to change without notice at any time. Some rates capacity-controlled. Advance reservations through AAA Travel required to obtain Member Benefits & savings which may vary based on departure date. Rates may be subject to increase after full payment for travel is government-imposed taxes or fees and, except for air-inclusive offers, for supplier-imposed fees. Blackout dates & other restrictions may apply. As to Air-Inclusive Offers Only: Other restrictions may apply, including but not limited to, baggage limitations & charges for first & second checked bags, standby policies & fees, required mileage and/or fuel surcharges, insurance purchase requirements & supplier & airline-imposed change/cancellation fees up to & including the price of the fare plus any applicable fare differential which may include pre-notification deadlines. Air component of packaged offers may be non-refundable; refunds are subject to supplier & airline terms & conditions. Supplier & airline fees & policies may vary. Contact your supplier & booking office for more information; for baggage fees & other details, see flights.aaa.com. Rates involving travel by air from locations for travel sales or from gateways other than those advertised may differ. Not responsible for errors or omissions. The Automobile Club of Southern California acts as an agent for Pleasant Holidays[®]. CST 106202-00. To learn how we collect and use your information, visit the privacy link at AAA.com. Copyright © 2022 Automobile Club of Southern California. All Rights Reserved.

Pleasant Holidays

Downey Gives 300 Fruit Trees to Residents



EARTH DAY: A you Daisy assists in planting a fruit tree at Downey City Hall.

By **Tammye McDuff**

Every year on April 22, Earth Day marks the anniversary of the birth of the modern environmental movement in 1970.

In the decades leading up to the first Earth Day, Americans were oblivious to environmental concerns and how a polluted environment threatens human health.

Rachel Carson's New York Times bestseller *Silent Spring* in 1962 raised awareness for the environment.

Senator Gaylord Nelson, a senator from Wisconsin, had long been concerned about the deteriorating environment. Nelson announced the idea for a teach-in on college campuses to the national media, they organized and picked April 22.

Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats. The first Earth Day led to the creation of the United States EPA and the passage of a number of laws: the National Environmental Education Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act,

and the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act.

Today, Earth Day is widely recognized as the largest secular observance in the world.

Downey celebrated Earth Day with a complimentary tree giveaway in late April. Working with TreePeople.org, the City provided over 300 fruit trees to residents.

The following Monday, Downey Mayor Blanca Pacheco and Councilmembers Mario Trujillo and Catherine Alvarez, helped by the Daisies and Brownies from Troop 71335, held a special tree planting at City Hall to celebrate Arbor Day.

It was a beautiful California spring day as the group dug holes, planted trees, and listened as Pacheco talked about the career opportunities in the arborist field.

The Arbor Day Foundation started at about the same time (1972) and has distributed 250 million trees for planting in all types of situations since that time.

Artesia High Grad Serving With TOPGUN Aviators

By **Megan Brown**

FALLON, Nev.-Lakewood native and 2011 Artesia High graduate David Chang is serving with the Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Unit Fallon supporting TOPGUN aviators at the Navy's premier tactical air warfare training center.

"Lakewood taught me to have respect for other people," said Chang. "That is important because everyone in the Navy comes from all walks of life. You never know where people came from so you need to give everyone an equal amount of respect."

Fifty-two years ago, TOPGUN was introduced with the mission of reducing casualties of naval aviators sustained during the Vietnam War. Within a year, this goal was reached with the United States having one casualty for every 12 enemy deaths.

TOPGUN is a prestigious program only open to the top one percent of naval aviators. Aviators who attend the course



PETTY OFFICER 2nd Class David Chang. Courtesy USN.

carrier at sea. With more than 5,000 sailors serving aboard these ships, aircraft carriers are self-contained mobile airports.

Chang and the sailors they serve with have many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during their military service. Serving in the Navy means Chang is part of a world that is taking on new importance in America's focus on rebuilding military readiness, strengthening alliances



TOPGUN celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, above, current TG aviators.

are trained in a variety of areas including air combat, jet maneuverability, enemy tactics and more.

The mission of NAS Fallon is to support carrier air wings prior to deployment, as well as other units during training and exercises. This goal is achieved through 300 clear flight days a year, four bombing ranges, an electronic warfare range and many other training facilities. The base is also home to a 14,000-foot runway, which is the longest in the Navy.

This year, the Navy is celebrating the centennial of the aircraft carrier and its importance to naval aviation. When the air wing is embarked on an aircraft carrier, the ship contains more than 70 attack fighter jets, helicopters and other aircraft, all of which take off from and land aboard the

and reforming business practices in support of the National Defense Strategy.

"The Navy protects the interest of our allies and ourselves through the sea lanes which is why it is important to national defense," said Chang.

"I am most proud of getting my Fleet Marine Force pin because there were a lot of mentors that pushed me to earn it," said Chang. "Getting that pinned on was a very proud moment for me."

As Chang and other sailors continue to train and perform missions, they take pride in serving their nation in the United States Navy.

"Serving in the Navy means always doing better than I did yesterday and always taking care of those junior to me," added Chang.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN EFFECTING MEANINGFUL CHANGE TO THE NORWALK- LA MIRADA SCHOOL BOARD?

The Teachers Association of the Norwalk- La Mirada area is looking for interested residents to attend an informational meeting for potential School Board candidates. The meeting will be held Tuesday evening, May 24th at the TANLA Office from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. (A light dinner will be served)

If you are interested in attending, please call TANLA at (562) 868-6251 to RSVP by May 23, 2022



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Cerritos Couple Donates \$5 Million to LB Medical Center



HEFTY DONATION: Hing and Doris Hung (center) recently donated \$5 million to Long Beach Medical Center to help fund a new hybrid operating room. Photo courtesy of Long Beach Medical Center.

(LBBJ) After being forced to work on a labor farm amid the Cultural Revolution, Hing Hung escaped Communist China in 1974. He made his way to the U.S., where he would graduate from college, meet his wife and co-found a successful business in Long Beach.

Hung's road to the American dream gave him a "pay it forward" mentality—a mentality that led to a \$5 million donation toward a hybrid operating room at Long Beach Memorial Medical Center.

"The Hungs are shining examples of what can happen when courage, hard work and love are met with freedom and opportunity," Long Beach Medical Center Foundation President Rob Gunsalus said, "Mr. Hung's story in particular is better than anything Hollywood could produce."

The hefty donation to the Memorial-Care Heart & Vascular Institute helped

fund a new hybrid cardiovascular operating suite that features advanced technology and combines the diagnostic capabilities of a catheterization lab with the surgical functionality of an operating room, according to the hospital.

In 1992, Hung co-founded Mercury Security Corp., which created the technology behind badge readers at door entries. The business was sold in 2013 but remains located in Long Beach near Signal Hill. Hung remained active with the company until 2020.

The Hung's personal connection to Long Beach Medical Center dates back almost two decades. In 2005, Doris was diagnosed with breast cancer and received care at the Long Beach hospital. Today, she is cancer free.

Hing's mother battled ovarian cancer and received care at Memorial as well.

Artesia Recognizes Mental Health Month



ARTESIA recognized the LA County Department of Public Health at their May 9 council meeting for their mental health collaboration.

By **Tammye McDuff**

The Artesia City Council proclaimed the month of May as Mental Health Awareness Month.

Mayor Melissa Ramoso thanked the LA County Department of Mental Health for their services during the pandemic.

During the pandemic, Ramoso had inquired if programming concerning

mental health could be created, "The City was able to successfully implement weekly programs with the Los Angeles health department to combat the emotional and mental pressures brought on my CoVID-19," she stated, "We plan on continuing this relationship in the future."

For more information on programs available please contact Artesia City Hall at 562-865-6262.

Save on Buccaneer Bay Season Passes

Buccaneer Bay season passes are the best way to enjoy La Mirada's pirate-themed waterpark.

Purchase a season pass before May 30 and save up to \$15.

Season Pass holders will receive access to a preview event on Sunday, May 22 with the water park opening

to the general public on Saturday, May 28.

Buccaneer Bay will be open daily from Monday, June 6 through Friday, August 5.

Weekends through Sunday, September 25.

Season Passes are available for purchase at Splash!, the Resource Center, and online at splashlamirada.com.

For information, call (562) 902-3191.

Whitney High Club Cutting Pollution With Compostables

Staff Report

Did you know that ABC School District emits about 1481 pounds of carbon dioxide a day from plastic utensils? The passionate students of the Ecology and Wildlife Club at Whitney High School have decided to take action to reduce their school's plastic waste and fight the climate crisis at the same time.

Whitney's Ecology and Wildlife Club is partnering with the non-profit Grades of Green to bring compostable utensils to school cafeterias. Currently, the team has raised money and purchased compostable utensils to be used in Whitney's cafeteria. The students have also created a petition for students, parents, and faculty to sign. To sign the petition visit: [https://www.change.org/p/abc-unified-school-district-](https://www.change.org/p/abc-unified-school-district-reduce-plastic-waste-with-compostable-utensils-in-abc-unified-school-district-cafeterias)

reduce-plastic-waste-with-compostable-utensils-in-abc-unified-school-district-cafeterias. Plastic utensils are used every day by students across the district and are a large contributor to the ABC School District's carbon footprint. Aiming for districtwide change, the students will present their research on the environmental and public health impacts of single-use plastic utensils to the ABC Nutrition Services Manager.

ABOUT GRADES OF GREEN

Grades of Green is a 501(c)(3) non-profit whose mission is to inspire and empower kids and the broader school community to care for the environment.

Find more information and sign up your student team at www.gradesofgreen.org or email info@gradesofgreen.org.

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Chitty-Chitty Bang-Bang No Longer A Fictional Car

AeroMobil's vehicles are supercars that fly, light aircraft you can drive, transforming between aircraft/auto mode in less than three minutes.

BY LAURIE HANSON

At a rural England garage, two children, Jeremy and Jemima Potts, find a car formerly used for racing in Grand Prix races across Europe until it crashed and burned in 1909. When they learn the car is due to be scrapped, they beg their father, inventor Caractacus, to save it. He purchases the car and rebuilds it with a new name, "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" for

the unusual noise of its engine. Through a series of scenes the car eventually sprouts wings and propellers and flies. Yes, that was the plot for Disney's imaginative movie Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, but a flying car is no longer fiction. Imagine you are cruising down the road, turning heads faster than you turn corners. And just when you feel the Earth tugging at its leash, you flick a button, and get lifted far above traffic communing with the birds. You soar above rush hour traffic in a flying car, landing at your destination relaxed and rested. Well, that concept is close, and it's called AeroMobil. AeroMobil's vehicles are supercars that fly, light aircraft you can drive, transforming between aircraft/auto mode in less than three minutes. Engineers and designers include luxury and supercar makers BMW, Aston Martin, McLaren, Mercedes Benz and Ferrari, and aerospace leaders

Lockheed Martin, Rolls Royce, Airbus, and Diamond Aircraft. "It's a technological breakthrough, the first commercially available true flying car," said CEO Patrick Hessel who has been with the company since 2016. "AeroMobil is about to revolutionize personal mobility. It is the very first production flying car following two market opportunities – 2-seater personal luxury vehicle and 4-seater ride-hailing service." AeroMobil is based in Bratislava, Slovakia, but the prototype was built in Central Europe in Bratislava, near Vienna. Its suppliers are in Germany, the United Kingdom and Israel. The company is led by co-founders Stefan Klein Juraj Vaculik, advised by inventor Dean Kamen. Conceived from a converted automobile, and in development for 20 years, the aircraft first flew in 2013.

work, including cellular signal in the air, to rest, in luxurious reclining seats, to play, with an on-board entertainment system or just to enjoy the view from 10,000 feet." It has a practical operating altitude of 12,000 feet with a 500-mile flying range and requires special operating permissions designed to be used within existing infrastructures. "We are certifying vehicles under the European Aviation Safety Agency and the Federal Aviation Agency rules," Hessel explained. "Owners will need a standard private pilot license." The company has designed the aircraft to lessen its impact on the environment. The engine uses standard unleaded gasoline, and is built with a specially selected clean aviation-certified engine technology which reduces CO2 emissions by up to 50 percent while eliminating 100 percent of toxic lead emissions compared with traditional aircraft engines, according to

FLYING CAR: Rest in luxurious reclining seats, play with an on-board entertainment system or just enjoy the view. The car has an operational altitude of 12,000 feet with a 500-mile flying range.

quota was set at 500 vehicles, with the first 25 orders planned as a "Founders Edition." AeroMobil will sell to regional transportation operators we partner with and perhaps others such

Hessel. "[We are] preparing to transfer to fully electric propulsion as soon as the energy storage technologies have reached the required power density levels, which we expect to occur within the next 4 to 5 years," he added.

With notable interest worldwide, the company believes a huge market exists for this new transportation product. North America alone has a \$70 billion total addressable market for rideshare services, according to Hessel.

AeroMobil could fit in with services much like UBER and is now targeting this business segment with introduction of their 4-seat model AeroMobil NEXT in 2025.

AeroMobil and has been taking preorders since 2017. A first edition production

as flying clubs," added Hessel. "We may also enter a joint venture with new or existing operators, or be our own operators, or both, to provide a regional ride service. [It would be] similar in concept to UBER but using flying cars."

"We see this segment developing in various cities around the world, providing a new regional transportation option

for trips ranging from approximately 200-400 miles," he said. "This market is in its very early stages of development, but we expect that it would be in the

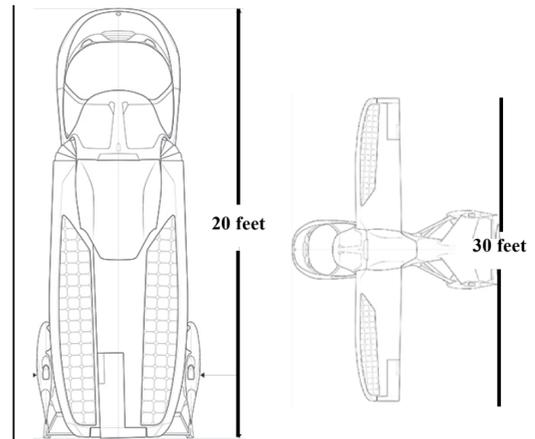
range of \$70 billion by 2030 based on various research forecasts we've seen."

The AeroMobil4 was brought to the U.S., with the company establishing a foothold in 2010. The first AeroMobil 2.5 prototype was tested in 2013, followed by their next prototype testing in 2014. Their most current prototype was tested just two years ago.

"[Since] the AeroMobil is in development, its final manufacturing cost can't be disclosed," Hessel added. "Final pricing has not been determined [but] our current estimate is in the range from \$1.7 million for the AeroMobil AM4."

Currently, all AeroMobil prototypes fly; the 4-passenger model, the AeroMobil NEXT, was announced in 2022 as part of a larger service, said Hessel.

Though the company prides itself on product safety, the AeroMobil3.0 prototype crashed in 2015 during a test flight at an airport near Janikovce. The aircraft entered a spin, and its

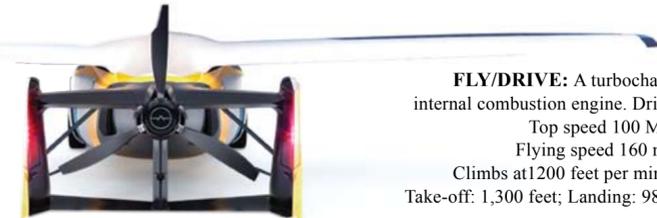


ballistic parachute deployed as it crashed on descent, suffering major damage. The pilot received only minor injuries and was able to walk away from the accident. A month later in June, the company indicated a new prototype was being developed.

Looking to the future, the company boasts of having reliable manufacturing and devel-

opment partners. Though they cannot disclose who they are, they say the partners have a proven track record in aviation manufacturing.

For more information about AeroMobil, please visit online at www.aeromobil.com.



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CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 3 BOYS TENNIS FINALS

Upset-minded Whitney unable to pull off one more surprise, falls to Flintridge Prep

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

CLAREMONT-No one predicted the Whitney High boys tennis team to advance to the CIF-Southern Section Division 3 finals. The odds were stacked against the unseeded Wildcats, the third place team from the 605 League, to knock off second-ranked Flintridge Prep, the lone freelance team in the division.

Both programs have been to The Claremont Club before with Flintridge Prep claiming the Division 4 title just three years ago while Whitney's last trip here was in 2012 when it was ranked second and fell to top-seeded Valencia High 11-7 in Division 3. But last Friday, the dream run ended for the Wildcats who went winless through the first two rounds and lost 15-3. Whitney ends the season at 15-7.

"It's been an awesome year; the way these guys fought together," said first-year head coach David Moorman. "All season long, we've been trying to figure out what would be our best lineup. These guys have been able to just work it through to the point where once we got to the play-off round, they were able to do their very best."

Moorman, who has been in the Whitney program for eight seasons, saw his team open the playoffs with an 11-7 win

against Del Rio League champion La Serna High 11-7, then double up fourth-ranked St. Margaret's High 12-6 in the second round. That would be followed by wins over Pacific View League champion Ventura High (10-8) and the No. 1 team in the division, Royal High, 9-9 (75-65 in games). Whitney had previously captured the 2003 Division V title when it was the top-ranked team in the division and knocked off Fairmont Prep 11-7. Two years later, the Wildcats, ranked third in Division 4, fell to Viewpoint High 13-5 in the Division V finals.

"All season long we believed we could do that," said Moorman of getting to the finals. "It's just that at times, it didn't happen. When we were playing in our league, we just felt like no matter what, we're going to learn from this experience, and that was our goal. What it did was fine tuning us, fine tuning us to the point where these guys were willing to take that flight and they did it on the court."

Whitney did not win a set in singles play and were blanked in five of those nine sets. The best chance of getting a win there came from freshman Arun Nambiar, who lost to No. 1 Matthew Wang 6-4. Flintridge Prep's No. 3 player, Will Lanstra, won a pair of 6-0 sets before being replaced in the third round where Luca Yeghnazar defeated senior Abhiram Putta 6-0.

Junior Gideon Choi, the No. 2 player, lost to Wang 6-2 and senior Neil Tendolkar, who replaced freshman Evan Wang in the third round, fell to Dilan Robbins 6-2. Also in the third round, senior Atreya Petluri, a replacement for Nambiar, lost to Alec Guthrie 6-2.

"You could just see the power the other team had," said Moorman. "That was something you could see throughout. If



PHOTO BY LOREN KOPFF

EVEN THOUGH it lost to Flintridge Prep 15-3 in last Friday's CIF-Southern Section Division 3 boys tennis finals, Whitney High proud to be hoisting the hardware that comes with advancing to the championship match. This the fourth time the Whitney boys tennis program has advanced to the finals, winning the Division V title in 2003 while falling in 2005 and 2012 before this season.

you look at their tournament [run]; where they've been through...you could see their scores and kind of have an idea they're going to come in strong. They kind of proved it in that first round. Sometimes you just have to realize that their players are stronger than yours at times."

Flintridge Prep had an easier road to the finals, crushing Mark Keppel High 17-1, Foothill Tech 14-4, Oxford Academy 14-4 and Orange Lutheran High 14-4. Mark Keppel and Oxford Academy were league champions.

Whitney was much stronger in doubles, winning all three sets in the final round and winning at least one game in every set.

The No. 1 duo of senior Nikhil Lingineni and freshman Mukilan Kamalavannan fell to Miles Cabrera and Ray Cabrera 6-3 and Leon Liao and Neel Satta 6-4, but defeated No. 2 Nico Stanton and Loran Baxter Mercado 6-0. Junior Krishan Parikh and sophomore Darshan Powers, the No. 2 tandem, lost 6-2 and 6-3 before defeating Liao/Satta 6-3 and the No. 3 pair of junior Kyle Phong and freshman David Vo lost a pair of 6-1 sets before knocking off Marcus Lin and Kazuma Hakushi 6-1.

Since joining the 605 League, the Wildcats have remained in the upper half of the league with powerhouse Cerritos High, which captured the Division 4 championship, and Oxford Academy. In 2019, the 'Cats went 8-2 with the setbacks coming to Cerritos 10-8 and 11-7. Last season, Whitney tied Oxford Academy twice and split with Cerritos, defeating the Dons 11-7 while playing to a 9-9 tie in the other match.

"I think it's going to build to the point where it's going to continue with that enthusiasm," said Moorman. "The next group, whoever comes in, are going to want to come in. My goal for them, like I've told them all season, is their key. Now it proves how important where their off-season play is where it gets us through this."

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

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.

I Want A Refund!

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

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CIF-SS Div. 1 SOFTBALL SEMIFINALS

Gahr's run through Division 1 playoffs ends with shutout loss to Roosevelt

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

Several things were going in favor of Gahr High's softball team entering last Saturday's CIF-Southern Section Division 1 semifinal game against visiting Roosevelt High. The Gladiators were riding the high emotions of a trio of big innings in each of their three playoff games, had scored seven runs in each of those playoff games, had been shutout only once this season and had won 14 of their last 16 games.

But on a hot early mid-May afternoon, Gahr would run into a buzzsaw named Priscilla Llamas, who scattered four hits and struck out three, and any chances of the program's first divisional championship were wiped out in a 3-0 loss. Gahr also stranded five runners on bases and only one of them would reach third base.

"It obviously hurts," said Gahr head coach Rey Sanchez. "These girls... they bought in to what we do, and they bought into the system; of Gahr softball, and they went hard every day. When you put everything you've got into it every day, it's hard when the end of the season happens. I told the girls going into this, our goals are always to win league and to win the last game of the season."

Early on, it looked as if the game would be a low-scoring game decided by a run. Gahr junior pitcher Jordan Cathey had faced the minimum through the first two innings, yielding just a leadoff walk to Llamas to begin the game. But courtesy runner Emily Garcia would be caught stealing. Two innings later, Jordan Elias was safe on an error but would be stranded at third.

Meanwhile, Llamas walked senior first baseman Amanda Ta'amu to begin the bottom of the second before a double play erased that chance.

The Mustangs, who won the Big VIII League and had lost three games, got on the board in the fourth inning when Kayla Lyon struck out but reached on a wild pitch. Another wild pitch put her at second and she came home when Ashlee Annett singled and moved up on an error. Roosevelt iced the game in the seventh when Emily Carr singled with one out and Cheyenne Castillo, pinch-hitting in the No. 9 spot, homered on a 2-0 count.

"I'm kicking myself a little bit because in both situations when they scored runs, we were in a 'walk them' situation," said Sanchez. "We had a base open and they got us. Their first run... we were trying to stay away from the girl, and we had a base open and we didn't execute a pitch. Sometimes it comes down a pitch, or two, and that's what it came down to in this game."

Even though they were down 1-0, the fourth time the Gladiators had trailed within the first four innings in the playoffs, they refused to go down without a fight. In the bottom of the fourth, senior second baseman Mika Huskey beat out an infield single before being erased on a double play. Ta'amu then doubled but the inning ended when sophomore designated player Marley Cortez, who replaced Cathey in the circle in the top half of the inning, was half a step out at first on a bang-bang play. Sanchez, and others, initially thought Cortez was safe and when the out was called, he immediately jumped up from his position at the third base box and had some words with the umpires. But evidence from the photographers up the first base line showed she was out.

"Anytime you're in a game like this and it's a tight game... blues pay a part," said Sanchez. "But it's part of the game; it is part of the game. He's umpiring for both teams and sometimes when you're in a game, you think they're favoring their more than ours. We view our game with our hearts a lot and so it's easy [to complain]. Initially, I had Marley safe. But my girls and myself and my coaching staff are going after it 100 percent. That's the only way to do it."

Llamas walked sophomore center fielder Natalia Hill to begin the fifth. A one-out single from junior right fielder Sophia Magcale and a fielder's choice from sophomore shortstop Rio Mendez moved Hill to third where she was stranded. In the sixth, a deep fly ball from Ta'amu with two outs was caught just in front of the right field fence and in the last inning, a two-out double from junior left fielder Hailey Sanchez was all Gahr would get. The Gladiators would have eight baserunners off Llamas.

"We talk about one pitch at a time, one inning at a time, one game at a time," said Rey Sanchez. "You put your heart and soul into that pitch. You put your heart and soul into that inning, and you try to win that inning. In games like this when you're playing top opponents; great teams, it comes down often times to a pitch or two, and that's what this game came down to."

"We had our chances; we definitely had our chances," he continued. "Not just those two opportunities, but we had some opportunities to knock girls in. Our girls, as they have all year have come through. But it didn't work out. It's okay; that's the game. We're playing such a tough game and you're facing such a tough pitcher and a tough team. I'm proud of the girls."

Rey Sanchez went on to say that the two San Gabriel Valley League games against Warren High prepared the Gladiators for the playoffs and because of that, he gives a lot of credit to Warren.

Gahr (23-9) began the playoffs with a 7-3 win over Westlake High with all seven runs coming in the bottom of the fifth. Against La Serna High, the Gladiators scored three times in the top of the fifth and twice in the eighth and two days before the semifinals, scored four runs in the top of the seventh for a 7-3 win.

"I'm proud of them," he continued. "They gave it a great run; beat three solid teams. Westlake is a good team. La Serna is another great team. Obviously, Orange Lutheran is one of the top teams."

There is still a slight chance Gahr's season may not be over as the Gladiators could garner a spot in the CIF Southern California Regionals, which begin on May 31. There will be 20 entries from the Southern Section and considering there are seven divisions, some of the semifinal losers could see their seasons extended.

"I would love that opportunity," said Rey Sanchez. "A lot of it hinges on girls going to [their] travel ball [teams]. There are some [travel] coaches out there that want their girls to do travel. I would love the opportunity, right? Because I think we were right there in this game and in every game we've played. It could happen. I'm hopeful; I'm going to prepare my girls for that."

CIF-SS DIV. 4 BOYS TENNIS FINALS

Cerritos doubles put together late wins to knock off Nordhoff, claim program's third title

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

CLAREMONT-The Cerritos High boys tennis program has made its way to The Claremont Club to play for a CIF-Southern Section divisional title four times. After tying Viewpoint High 9-9 but falling three games short in the 2007 Division IV finals, the Dons returned the next season as the top team in the division, and defeated Rowland High 10-8.

Cerritos was ranked first in 2009 when it crushed Laguna Beach High 15-3 and last Friday, as the No. 1 team in Division

run was going to be tough and the boys put up a good fight."

Cerritos was looking good through the first round, taking four of the if the first six sets. Senior Michael Rafael, the team's No. 1 singles player had as good of a performance as any tennis player can have. He swept all three sets over No. 1 Eric Schmidt, No. 2 Campbell Gaston and No. 3 Rowan Gillooly.

"It's amazing; it's a feeling I've never experienced before," said Rafael. "I'm just glad to be a part of this team."

"I just felt good throughout the day," he later said. "I just tried to go out there



PHOTO BY LOREN KOPFF

THE CERRITOS HIGH boys tennis team won the program's third CIF-Southern Section championship in four attempts, this time edging Nordhoff High 10-8 last Friday in the Division 4 finals. The Dons previously won the 2008 and 2009 championships after losing in the 2007 title match.

4, the Dons broke an 8-8 tie with wins from their top doubles team and their No. 3 duo to edge 10th ranked Nordhoff High 10-8.

"Words can't describe the experience right now," said Cerritos head coach Henry Ayesiga. "As a coach, it's my first time advancing this far. The closest I've gone was the quarterfinals last year with the girls. Adding on a championship right now goes beyond everything I could imagine."

"It's a very special moment for the players; it's a special moment for the team," he later said. "They have been really focused this whole season and they've put up a good fight in every run. It hasn't been an easy journey getting here. They really deserved this victory."

Cerritos was up 8-5 before Nordhoff won the next three sets. At this point, the Dons, who finished the season at 16-8, were leading 77-60 in games played. But, after going 5-4 in singles' play, the second place representatives from the 605 League had won three of seven doubles' sets and needed to win one more. That would come from the No. 1 doubles team of senior Angelo Andal and junior Matthew Phan, who defeated Nordhoff's No. 3 pair of Caleb Saucedo and Dylan Francis 6-3.

"We knew we had to win that one or else it went to a games score," said Andal. "We tried our best and at the end, we got the win. There were some iffy calls by the other team, and I think they might have messed up a few points."

The final set of the match came from seniors Arjun Ayyappan and Mathew George, who breezed past Robert Holdsworth and Lunchih Jamyang 6-2. It was the pair's second win of the afternoon, having previously defeated Saucedo/Francis 6-0 in the second set of the match.

"We kind of had a plan to concentrate on their number two and three at the end," said Ayesiga. "Their number one doubles was just a very good team. They have a very powerful server. We knew the last

and get every win and have faith that my teammates will have my back. Today they did and I'm just happy we got the win overall."

"When he goes on the court, he really has fun," said Ayesiga. "As far as this season went, he's one of the few players we didn't have to worry about. I love his confidence and he goes on the court and gets the job done."

Sophomore Hunter Vong, the No. 2 singles player, posted wins over Gaston (6-2) and Gillooly (6-3) while junior Thomas Pham lost his three sets by scores of 6-4, 6-3 and 6-4.

"We did have a strong start and as the match progressed, it started to become a little shaky," said Ayesiga. "Towards the end, the boys really had to fight their way through the championship. I won't say the last run was easy. At some point, it did seem like the odds were not in our favor. But the boys had to fight that last run."

The No. 2 doubles team of junior Chen Zhang and sophomore Brady Sugino posted a 6-3 win over Holdsworth/Jamyang and 6-1 over Saucedo/Francis before falling to the No. 1 duo of Cole Everett and Gavin Johnson 6-1.

The Dons, who dominated the Suburban League until moving to the 605 League at the beginning of the 2018-2019 season, had not been tested that much in the postseason prior to the finals. Cerritos defeated unranked Thatcher High 12-6 in the opening round, followed by wins over unranked San Dimas High (13-5), unranked Rancho Alamitos High (12-6) and fourth-ranked Heritage High (15-3).

"I think we were definitely motivated that we saw Whitney here and that Oxford, I think our bigger rival, got knocked out in the quarterfinals," said Andal. "It motivated us more to win this because they beat us in league."

"It was a lot of pressure and our first round against Thatcher was really tough," said Rafael. "They gave us a scare. But after that, we got into our rhythm, and we took care of business."

St. Irenaeus Parish Choir Celebrated Cinco de Mayo



ENJOYING DINNER: Pictured at the Cinco de Mayo Choir Taco Party at St. Irenaeus Church of May 5, 2022, are members of the Parish Choir. Standing at the back, near the center, is Fr. Binh Nguyen, Pastor of St. Irenaeus Catholic Church in Cypress. At right, leaning over the table area is Choir Director Anthony Kocal. Photo by Anna Watts, I.D. by Edna Ethington.

By Edna Ethington

Rev. Binh Nguyen, Pastor of St. Irenaeus Catholic Church in Cypress, and Anthony Kocal, St. Irenaeus Music Director, welcomed members of the Parish Choir to a Taco Party at the priests' Backyard behind the Rectory on Cinco de Mayo, May 5, 2022. Fr. Binh and Choir Director Anthony Kocal wanted to thank choir members for all the hard work they did learning the music for Sunday liturgies and especially for actively being a part of the traditional liturgies of Holy Week.

Choir members and their guests

were treated to chicken, beef, and pork tacos, rice, beans, quesadillas, water, tea, wine, and cookies for dessert. The delicious tacos were served by Alfonso, from Tamayo Catering. Everyone enjoyed the tasty rice, beans, and quesadillas, onions and hot sauces that were prepared by Tamayo Catering. It was a wonderful Cinco de Mayo Taco Party! Choir members appreciated Fr. Binh and Anthony Kocal's extra effort to provide this special time to enjoy friendship and fellowship with each other as part of Music Ministry at St. Irenaeus Church. Thank you, Fr. Binh and Anthony Kocal!

SCHOOLS from page 1

hiring school meals, an expansion of summer school and before and after school programs.

A partial breakdown of fund distribution: meals.

\$1.5 billion to fund community schools

\$2.1 billion to fight declining enrollment in public schools.

\$1.8 billion addition for school facilities.

\$2.1 billion to increase the statewide Local Control Funding Formula, which distributes funds to students in K-12 schools. That is on top of a \$1.1 billion cost of living adjustment.

\$8 billion in one-time discretionary fund schools can use to address student mental health, professional development, pension costs or other needs.

\$403 million to accelerate expanded day/summer school.

\$500 million to fund residencies and learning programs for school counselors and teachers.

\$612 million for universal school meals.

\$385 million for STEM professional development.

\$63 million for arts and music.

Newsom announced a framework to help Californians attain higher education. Statewide, leaders are aiming for a 70% statewide degree completion goal by focusing on access and alignment; tuition, housing, fees and other costs; closing equity gaps, increasing enrollment, and annual reporting.

"This budget helps more underserved students achieve timely graduation and increases financial aid for low- and middle-

income California students which, when combined with UC's significant existing investments in financial aid, will help more California students receive a UC education," Michael V. Drake, president of the University of California system, wrote in a news release Friday.

Newsom also announced the state spend an additional \$290 million to its youth health initiative.

The money will fund youth mental health services – including school and community-based crisis response, wellness and mindfulness programs, youth-led social media campaigns, community-based youth suicide prevention and outreach and career development and parental support.

ROMERO from page 1

ence. "I hire, train and recruit students from 14 to graduation. They are very inexperienced with so many things; some of them need to be told about personal hygiene, proper work attire, how to do their taxes and how to get their identification. Teaching them real tools for real-life" said Romero.

"It's an endless circle; you can't get a job if you don't have experience, but to gain experience, you must have a job. And that is what I do," she remarked. "We also teach and train them with skills to know how to deal with sexual harassment, reading the deductions on a paycheck All that kind of fun stuff that the kids call dull-dulting!"

Romero stated that the program director found her social media page, liked what Romero stood for and her ideals and convinced her to join the department." She is very inspiring to be around," she added.

Beginning her pageant career as Miss Hawaiian Gardens, she realized that some people see beauty pageants as sexist, "But some people don't see that these pageants offer tremendous scholarships and connections. The scholarships that I have received paid for my entire college tuition. I am graduating in less than a month with zero debt." Romero will be earning her degree in Public Health Administration with a minor in Environmental Health.

"Growing up low income, I had to learn to use the available resources to me," stated Romero, "my parents worked very hard, and my grandmother pretty much raised me. But I really grew through Pageantry. It helped me find my purpose. I don't do it for the crown or the fame, but this is all about self-reflection and how I can be a better person."

Determination has been a significant factor in Romeros' success. "Sometimes, you just have to jump into a situation and learn to swim along the way," she adds.

At a young age, Romero has faced down employee unions and won, impressed city council members, volunteered countless hours at the teen center, and even won a volunteer award for donating over 500 hours.

"I need to be my best self, not only for me but for my younger brother and my family. I want other young girls to see that your zip code does not define you even though you may be born into a low-income family. Your effort defines you." Romero says it is okay to cry when you are let down 'but just for five minutes.' "But when you are done, you have to keep going, plan your next step, and reach that next goal."

Classified listings

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
 MICHAEL CHAVEZ
 CASE NO. 22STPB04163
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MICHAEL CHAVEZ.
 A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by TONI I. CHAVEZ in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
 THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that TONI I. CHAVEZ 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 with limited authority. (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: 05/31/22 at 8:30AM in Dept. 11 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
 JOSEPH G. DAVIS - SBN 76197
 1100 W. TOWN & COUNTRY ROAD,
 SUITE 1250
 ORANGE CA 92868
 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/22
 CNS-3581324#
 LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

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 NANCY FERREIRA MEJIA in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
 THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that NANCY FERREIRA MEJIA 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: 05/27/22 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
 PRISCILLA C. SOLARIO, ESQ.
 SBN 259607, LAW OFFICES OF PRISCILLA C. SOLARIO
 9431 HAVEN AVE., #108
 RANCHO CUCAMONGA CA 91730
 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/22
 CNS-3581655#
 LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
 WATER STANDBY CHARGE
 Central Basin Municipal Water District continues to administer water recycling and conservation programs. These programs conserve drinking water by using recycled water for non-drinking water purposes. The District's programs involve maintenance and construction of infrastructure and recycled water pipelines to transport the recycled water to areas of demand. In addition, the District provides assistance in promoting water conservation through the distribution of water-saving devices and through public education.
 The District has adopted a resolution of intent to levy water standby charges. A copy of this resolution is available for public review at the District's office on Telegraph Road office and the District's website. The resolution describes how the District will fund water recycling programs through continuation of the proposed levy of a water standby charge. The proposed annual standby charge for a parcel of less than or equal to one acre is \$10.00 per year or \$10.00 per acre per year for parcels larger than one acre.
 NOTE: THIS IS THE SAME CHARGE AS CURRENTLY IN EFFECT SINCE 1991. THERE IS NO RATE INCREASE WHATSOEVER. The charge, if adopted will be collected on the annual property tax bill, or as directed by the District's Board.
 PLEASE NOTE that the Board of Directors of the District will hold a public hearing on May 23, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. at the District's address shown below to receive comments and written protests if any, on continuing the proposed water standby charges for the District fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022. In addition, the Board will review all public protests and/or written comments before considering adoption of the proposed standby charge. Landowners are welcome to file a written protest with the District secretary at the District's office no later than close of business on May 20, 2022. The protest must identify the landowner and contain a description sufficient to identify the land owned by the landowner.
 Central Basin Municipal Water District
 6252 Telegraph Road
 Commerce, CA 90040
 www.centralbasin.org
 (866) 807-6864
 (323) 201-5555

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 5/13/22

**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 **10:00 AM** on the **31st day of May, 2022** Bids for:
ABC Bid # 1591 Gahr High School Modernization
 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 the website link to bid documents at the mandatory jobwalk on **May 23, 2022 at 9:00 AM sharp** at the Gahr HS front of Administration Building, 11111 Artesia Blvd., Cerritos. All public works are subject to prevailing wage payments, Valid License valid Class B Contractor's License and DIR Registration will be required.
 Published at Los Cerritos News May 13, 2022 and May 20, 2022

STATEMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME File Number: 2022083845
 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: EUROPEAN WAX CENTER, 24311 MAGIC MOUNTAIN PKWY, SANTA CLARITA CA., 91355; 1540 EUREKA RD, STE 102, ROSEVILLE CA 95661. REGISTERED OWNER: EWC SANTA CLARITA, LLC 1540 EUREKA RD, STE 102, ROSEVILLE CA 95661. THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: N/A. I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). /S/ NEIL SARCHETT . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 4/15/22. In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the notice of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). LCCN 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/22.

STATEMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME File Number: 2022084191
 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: EUROPEAN WAX CENTER, 1513 VINE ST., LOS ANGELES, CA., 90028; 1540 EUREKA RD, STE 102, ROSEVILLE CA 95661. REGISTERED OWNER: EWC SUNSET, LLC 1540 EUREKA RD, STE 102, ROSEVILLE CA 95661. THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: N/A. I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). /S/ NEIL SARCHETT . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 4/15/22. In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the notice of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). LCCN 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/22.

STATEMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME File Number: 2022075864
 THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: ANCON; ANCON SERVICES, 10571 LOS ALAMITOS BLVD, LOS ALAMITOS CA 90720. REGISTERED OWNER: ANCON MARINE10571 LOS ALAMITOS BLVD, LOS ALAMITOS CA 90720 THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS A CORPORATION. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 1/2015. I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). /S/ BRET HARDIN . This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 4/7/22. In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the notice of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). LCCN 4/29, 5/6, 5/13, 5/20/22.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
 IRIS V. BENNETT
 CASE NO. 22STPB04548
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of IRIS V. BENNETT.
 A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by CAROL F. ROBERTSON in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
 THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that CAROL F. ROBERTSON 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 with limited authority. (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: 06/16/22 at 8:30AM in Dept. 9 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
 EUGENE A. GLEASON III - SBN 096415
 GLEASON LAW OFFICES
 15651 E. IMPERIAL HWY., SUITE 202A
 LA MIRADA CA 90638
 5/13, 5/20, 5/27/22
 CNS-3584700#
 LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

T.S. No. 098043-CA APN: 7034-014-029 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 5/6/2015. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER On 7/19/2022 at 10:30 AM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 5/14/2015 as Instrument No. 20150562320 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Los Angeles County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: CHERYL A. TORRES, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; BEHIND THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED IN CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, POMONA, CA 91766 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: MORE ACCURATELY DESCRIBED IN SAID DEED OF TRUST. The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 11358 SHARON ST, CERRITOS, CA 90703 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$522,569.26 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (844) 477-7869 or visit this Internet Web site WWW.STOXPOSTING.COM, using the file number assigned to this case 098043-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website www.clearreconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 098043-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (844) 477-7869 CLEAR RECON CORP 4375 Jutland Drive San Diego, California 92117

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR BIDS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL will receive up to, but not later than 10:00 AM of the 12th of May 2022, sealed bids for the award of a contract for:

Bid #ABC- 1590 Tree Trimming

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 by request to Wendy Wall (562) 926-5566 x 21218. This work is subject to DIR Registration, prevailing wage payments, Valid License Class C-27 or D-49 and DIR Registration will be required will be required.

Published at Los Cerritos News April 29, 2022 and May 6, 2022

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HEWS MEDIA GROUP

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND OF INTENTION TO TRANSFER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE(S)
(UCC Sec. 6101 et seq. and B & P Sec. 24074 et seq.)
Escrow No. 010069-SH
Notice is hereby given that a bulk sale of assets and a transfer of alcoholic beverage license is about to be made.
The names, and address of the Seller/Licensee are: STAFFING AND MANAGEMENT GROUP INC., 4311 SOUTH STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712
The business is known as: LAKEWOOD MOBIL AKA KAZMO MOBIL
The names, and addresses of the Buyer/Transferee are: A-1 FUEL, LLC, 4311 SOUTH STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712
As listed by the Seller/Licensee, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller/Licensee within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer/Transferee are: NONE
The assets to be sold are described in general as: INVENTORY AND ABC TYPE 20 LICENSE and are located at: 4311 SOUTH STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712
The kind of license to be transferred is: 20-OFF-SALE BEER AND WINE
Now issued for the premises located at: 4311 SOUTH STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712
The anticipated date of the sale/transfer is JUNE 14, 2022 at the office of: SUPREME ESCROW, INC., 3701 WILSHIRE BLVD., #535 LOS ANGELES, CA 90010
The amount of the purchase price or consideration in connection with the transfer of the license and business is the sum of \$50,000.00. Plus the estimated inventory in the amount of \$5,000.00, which consists of the following: Description/Amount CASH \$55,000.00
It has been agreed between the Seller/Licensee and the intended Buyer/Transferee, as required by Sec. 24073 of the Business and Professions Code, that the consideration for the transfer of the business and license is to be paid only after the transfer has been approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.
Dated: MAY 4, 2022
STAFFING AND MANAGEMENT GROUP INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION
A-1 FUEL, LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY
951308-PP COMMUNITY NEWS 5/20/22

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND OF INTENTION TO TRANSFER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE
(UCC Sec. 6101 et seq. and B & P Sec. 24073 et seq.)
Escrow No. 22-45755-SP
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale of assets and a transfer of alcoholic beverage license is about to be made. The name(s) and business address of the Seller(s)/licensee(s) are: SISTERS KOREAN KITCHEN, INC, 19143 BLOOMFIELD AVE. CERRITOS, CA 90703
Doing Business as: SISTERS KOREAN KITCHEN
All other business names(s) and address(es) used by the seller(s)/licensee(s) within the past three years, as stated by the Seller(s)/licensee(s), is/are:
The name(s) and address of the Buyer(s)/applicant(s) is/are: YOUNG JU LEE, 19143 BLOOMFIELD AVE. CERRITOS, CA 90703
The assets being sold are generally described as: ALL STOCK IN TRADE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, GOODWILL, TRADENAME, LEASE, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, AND COVENANT NOT TO COMPETE, AND ABC LICENSE and is/are located at: 19143 BLOOMFIELD AVE. CERRITOS, CA 90703
The type of license to be transferred is/are: 41-633517 ON-SALE BEER AND WINE-EATING PLACE now issued for the premises located at: The bulk sale and transfer of alcoholic beverage license(s) is/are intended to be consummated at the office of: TEAM ESCROW, 6025 BEACH BLVD, BUENA PARK, CA 90621 and the anticipated sale date is JUNE 13, 2022
The purchase price of consideration in connection with the sale of the business and transfer of the license, is the sum of \$160,000.00, including inventory estimated at \$3,000.00, which consists of the following: DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT: CASH \$160,000.00
It has been agreed between the Seller(s)/licensee(s) and the intended Buyer(s)/transferee(s), as required by Sec. 24073 of the Business and Professions code, that the consideration for transfer of the business and license is to be paid only after the transfer has been approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.
Dated: 05/06/22
SISTERS KOREAN KITCHEN, INC, Seller(s)/Licensee(s)
YOUNG JU LEE, Buyer(s)/Applicant(s)
ORD-952588 LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 5/20/22

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND OF INTENTION TO TRANSFER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE(S)
(UCC Sec. 6105 et seq. and B & P 24073 et seq.)
Escrow No. 22-2096-DK
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale of assets and a transfer of alcoholic beverage license(s) is about to be made. The name(s) and business address(es) of the Seller(s)/Licensee(s) are: K & L WORLD INC, 16432 NORWALK BLVD., CERRITOS, CA 90703
Doing Business as: CASA DE LIQUOR
All other business names(s) and address(es) used by the Seller(s)/Licensee(s) within the past three years, as stated by the Seller(s)/Licensee(s), is/are: NONE
The name(s) and address of the Buyer(s)/Applicant(s) is/are: CASARITOS INC, 21031 CHUBASCO LANE, HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA 92646
The assets being sold are generally described as: FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, TOOLS, GOODWILL, TRADENAME, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, LEASEHOLD INTERESTS, ALL TRANSFERABLE PERMITS AND LICENSES AND ALL INVENTORY OF STOCK IN TRADE and is/are located at: 16432 NORWALK BLVD., CERRITOS, CA 90703
The type of license(s) and license no(s) to be transferred is/are: 21-OFF-SALE GENERAL LICENSE # 21-563125. And are now issued for the premises located at: SAME
The bulk sale and transfer of alcoholic beverage license(s) is/are intended to be consummated at the office of: ACE ESCROW INC, 6871 BEACH BLVD, BUENA PARK, CA 90621 and the anticipated sale/transfer date is JUNE 13, 2022
The purchase price or consideration in connection with the sale of the business and transfer of the license, is the sum of \$1,050,000.00, including inventory estimated at \$150,000.00, which consists of the following: DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT: CASH \$315,000.00; CHECK \$735,000.00; ALLOCATION-SUB TOTAL \$1,050,000.00; ALLOCATION TOTAL \$1,050,000.00
It has been agreed between the Seller(s)/Licensee(s) and the intended Buyer(s)/Applicant(s), as required by Sec. 24073 of the Business and Professions code, that the consideration for transfer of the business and license is to be paid only after the transfer has been approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.
Dated:
K & L WORLD INC, Seller(s)/Licensee(s)
CASARITOS INC, Buyer(s)/Applicant(s)
ORD-952618 LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 5/20/22

T.S. No.: 2014-06033-CA A.P.N.: 7044-025-036
Property Address: 19008 Jeffrey Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a) and (d), THE SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO BELOW IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR.
NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED
IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:
注: 本文件包含一个信息摘要
NOTA: SE ADJUNTA UN RESUMEN DE LA INFORMACION DE ESTE DOCUMENTO
TALA: MAYROONG BUOD NG IMPORMASYON SA DOKUMENTONG ITO NA NAKALAKIP
LUU Y: KEM THEO DAY LA BAN TRINH BAY TOM LUOC VE THONG TIN TRONG TA LIEU NAY

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 07/10/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.
Trustor: Eun Ae Kim, A Married Woman As Her Sole And Separate Property
Duly Appointed Trustee: Western Progressive, LLC
Deed of Trust Recorded 07/18/2006 as Instrument No. 06 1573606 in book ---, page--- and of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California,
Date of Sale: 06/15/2022 at 11:00 AM
Place of Sale: BEHIND THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED IN CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, POMONA, CA 91766
Estimated amount of unpaid balance, reasonably estimated costs and other charges: \$ 1,249,269.93
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
THE TRUSTEE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, A SAVINGS ASSOCIATION OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE:
All right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described as:
More fully described in said Deed of Trust.
Street Address or other common designation of real property: 19008 Jeffrey Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703
A.P.N.: 7044-025-036
The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above.
The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$ 1,249,269.93.
Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt.
If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse.
The beneficiary of the Deed of Trust has executed and delivered to the undersigned a written request to commence foreclosure, and the undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located.
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on this property.
NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (866)-960-8299 or visit this Internet Web site https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx using the file number assigned to this case 2014-06033-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction, if conducted after January 1, 2021, pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (866)-960-8299, or visit this internet website https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx, using the file number assigned to this case 2014-06033-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid, by remitting the funds and affidavit described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code, so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase.
Date: April 28, 2022 Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee for beneficiary
C/o 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 238
Ventura, CA 93003
Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299 https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx
Trustee Sale Assistant
WESTERN PROGRESSIVE, LLC MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE.

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated: 10753 Artesia Blvd. Cerritos, CA 90703 on June 08/2022 at 11:00 am.

Jesse Rodriguez - Car parts Ray McCarns -2 seater sofa, dresser, mattress boxes and tables; Dora Maldonado - clothes, personal items; Barbara Trimillos- living room set, dining set, 40 boxes , household items; Jennifer Jean Sanders - Household items Artis Frierson- Household items; Paul Kiefer- Household items; Deloris E Phipps -Household items, dining table, and chairs; Max Joseph Castillo -Fridge and couches; Bryce Brewster -Sofas, household items, 2 large dressers, boxes; Joana Beltran- Household goods; Kyle Ward-furniture, boxes and tools; Terri Walters -Household items; Amanda Quirozsilva -boxes and container;s Nichole Weston -Household items; Ryan Bradley - Boxes, washer and dryer; Anthony Van -Personal items; La Shaun Mitchell- Household items; Deloris E Phipps-lots of boxes, dresser and couch; Ricardo Torres - Household items; Vanessa Gonzalez -Household items; Maria Shaw - Household items; Myles Mitchell- shelves and some boxes.

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage-treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Published at LCCN 5/20/22 and 5/27/2022

T.S. No.: 2022-00135-CA A.P.N.: 7012-006-008
Property Address: 16624 SHENANDOAH AVENUE, CERRITOS, CA 90703
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
PURSUANT TO CIVIL CODE § 2923.3(a) and (d), THE SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REFERRED TO BELOW IS NOT ATTACHED TO THE RECORDED COPY OF THIS DOCUMENT BUT ONLY TO THE COPIES PROVIDED TO THE TRUSTOR.
NOTE: THERE IS A SUMMARY OF THE INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT ATTACHED
IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER:
YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 10/17/2005. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER.
Trustor: JIMMY MCNABB
Duly Appointed Trustee: Western Progressive, LLC
Deed of Trust Recorded 11/08/2005 as Instrument No. 05 2698548 in book --, page-- and of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California,
Date of Sale: 06/16/2022 at 09:00 AM
Place of Sale: VINEYARD BALLROOM, DOUBLETREE HOTEL LOS ANGELES-NORWALK, 13111 SYCAMORE DRIVE, NORWALK, CA 90656
Estimated amount of unpaid balance, reasonably estimated costs and other charges: \$ 296,474.60
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
THE TRUSTEE WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, A SAVINGS ASSOCIATION OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE:
All right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described as:
More fully described in said Deed of Trust.
Street Address or other common designation of real property: 16624 SHENANDOAH AVENUE, CERRITOS, CA 90703
A.P.N.: 7012-006-008
The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above.
The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust with interest thereon, as provided in said note(s), advances, under the terms of said Deed of Trust, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust. The total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$ 296,474.60.
Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt.
If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse.
The beneficiary of the Deed of Trust has executed and delivered to the undersigned a written request to commence foreclosure, and the undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located.
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on this property.
NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (866)-960-8299 or visit this Internet Web site https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx using the file number assigned to this case 2022-00135-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale.
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction, if conducted after January 1, 2021, pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855)-976-3916, or visit this internet website https://tracker.auction.com/sb1079, using the file number assigned to this case 2022-00135-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid, by remitting the funds and affidavit described in Section 2924m(c) of the Civil Code, so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase.
Date: May 10, 2022 Western Progressive, LLC, as Trustee for beneficiary
C/o 1500 Palma Drive, Suite 238
Ventura, CA 93003
Sale Information Line: (866) 960-8299 https://www.altisource.com/loginpage.aspx
Trustee Sale Assistant
WESTERN PROGRESSIVE, LLC MAY BE ACTING AS A DEBT COLLECTOR ATTEMPTING TO COLLECT A DEBT. ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED MAY BE USED FOR THAT PURPOSE. LCCN 5/13, 5/20, 5/27/22

注: 本文件包含一个信息摘要
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Lakewood to Purchase Mobile Security Camera Trailers

At their Tuesday evening meeting, the Lakewood City Council approved the purchase of two video camera trailers that can be used to combat street racing and illegal dumping and provide other services.

Street racing and illegal dumping have increased recently across Southern California, including in Lakewood. The Lakewood City Council has indicated that it wants to do everything it can at the local level to combat these crimes and enhance the quality of life in Lakewood. One tool recommended by professionals is mobile video cameras that can be moved to locations such as existing network of law enforcement security cameras that have proven very successful in identifying and locating wanted vehicles and suspects driving into Lakewood.

The two mobile camera trailers will cost \$83,000, with funds coming from the federal American Rescue Plan Act and the city's Neighborhood Safety Enhancement Plan.



Shoppers Going Out More, Hurting E-Commercs Sales

By Shira Ovide
New York Times

U.S. online shopping has hit a wall. This might feel surprising if you see Amazon delivery vans chugging through your neighborhood.

The e-commerce sag could be temporary as people and businesses adjust and then readjust to the pandemic.

Amazon during the first three months of this year posted its slowest sales growth in decades, and it warned of more of the same in the next few months.

This online shopping comedown isn't confined to one company, Etsy and Shopify, whose software powers online businesses for millions of smaller stores, also posted unexpectedly low sales growth or low expectations for the near future.

Facebook's parent company, Meta, said last month that online shopping companies are becoming less eager to buy ads on Facebook when their sales were under pressure.

And Meta said last week that it was slowing its hiring.

All of this cost-cutting and lack of confidence in the future would have seemed wild six months or a year ago, when Meta, Amazon, Google and other tech companies had stupendously bonkers revenue and profits.

The question this is raising is whether we mis-



facturing and shipping, rising interest rates, continued coronavirus infections and a desire to frolic in the real world.

The new normal for shopping probably doesn't look like either the comeback for physical stores that we've seen in the past six months or the surge of online shopping from 2020.

It is difficult to predict the collective behavior of millions of Americans. And that is making all of technology shudder.

judged the past two years of technology-driven changes in consumer behavior.

Yes, some of us who picked up the habits of shopping more from home and Zooming everything will continue to do so.

But there's been a return to 2019 behaviors, too. Last week, I shook hands with everyone at a business meeting and wondered what happened to the prediction that the virus would end handshakes.

We still don't know what "normal" looks like in the U.S. or elsewhere, and we probably won't for a year or more as our spending habits adjust to higher prices, ongoing difficulties with manu-

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MENDOZA from page 1

crew.

A portion of the termination letter from Mendoza's boss outlining his "abusive and intimidating behavior, poor judgment, and dishonesty." Click to see larger image.

Mendoza's behavior was so abhorrent that the city was forced to hire outside attorney Sally Woolley; after she investigated, Woolley recommended the city fire Mendoza.

In 2014 Mendoza was fired with his boss writing, "You were demoted twice, we cut your pay twice and you still didn't change your behavior; we have to terminate you."

Mendoza appealed the decision twice with the final letter from the Commerce's Director of Safety and Community Services Matthew Rodriguez writing that the city "was basically fed up with Mendoza's chronic bad behavior."

Mendoza was first disciplined in 2008 and received a 5% reduction in pay finding that he "engaged in harassment, intimidation, abuse of authority, dishonesty, and creating a hostile work environment."

In 2012, he received a Notice to Demote but instead was hit with another 5% pay reduction for six months.

In 2013 he received another Notice to Demote for putting his paint crew in danger, and abuse of authority. As the city tried to intervene with safety programs, Mendoza did not change his abusive pattern of behavior.

One incident occurred in 2014, investigated by Woolley, finding Mendoza ordered his employee to use an inferior ladder to paint a ceiling. The employee fell off the ladder, sustaining serious injuries.

In another incident, he challenged one of his employees to a fight; the incident two other employees saw the incident.

When Mendoza testified, several wit-

nesses later contradicted Mendoza's with the attorney ruling that Mendoza lied during the investigation.

"His testimony was not credible, [we found] Mendoza breaks the rules all the time when it comes to his other employees," wrote attorney Susan Wolley.

In another incident, Mendoza's crew had to move a large desk. They asked-doza's to help, he stated, "you do it."

The employee tried to move it and severely injured his elbow; out of work for nine months and filing a worker's compensation claim against the city.

The report stated that several of the witnesses involved in the investigation expressed concern about retaliation by Mendoza, that was the last straw, in mid-2014, the city terminated Mendoza.

MENDOZA from page 1

sindicato de trabajadores), varios testigos contradijeron más tarde el relato de la historia de Mendoza y la abogada dictaminó que Mendoza mintió durante la investigación. "Su testimonio no fue creíble, [encontramos] que Mendoza rompía las reglas todo el tiempo cuando se trata de sus otros empleados", escribió la abogada Susan Wolley. En otro incidente, el equipo de Mendoza estaba pintando una habitación en City Hall cuando tuvieron que mover un escritorio grande. Uno de los empleados de Mendoza testificó que le pidió ayuda a Mendoza, Mendoza respondió, "arreglatelas como puedas". El empleado trató de moverlo y se lesionó gravemente el codo, lo que lo obligó a dejar el trabajo durante nueve meses y presentó un reclamo de compensación laboral contra la ciudad. El informe indicó que varios de los testigos involucrados en la investigación expresaron su preocupación por las represalias de Mendoza, esa fue la gota que derramó el vaso, a mediados de 2014, la ciudad despidió a Mendoza.

El Rancho School Police Raise Over \$3,000 for Autism

By **Tammye McDuff**

The El Rancho School Police would like to thank community partners, parents and students for helping the Department raise \$3,460, which will immediately go to the ERUSD Autism Focus Classes.

In recognition of Autism Awareness month which began April 1, 2022, the El Rancho Unified School Police Department along with the support of CSEA chapter 107, joined the nationwide police patch campaign. The ERUSD School Police Officers wore a special commemorative patch on their uniform recognizing Autism Awareness month.

The goal of the patch campaign is to help raise funds to empower, educate, and advocate for those who are affected by Autism.

The hope through the funding of this project is that it will help to enhance the lives of people living with Autism to become more empowered,

independent and active members of our community.

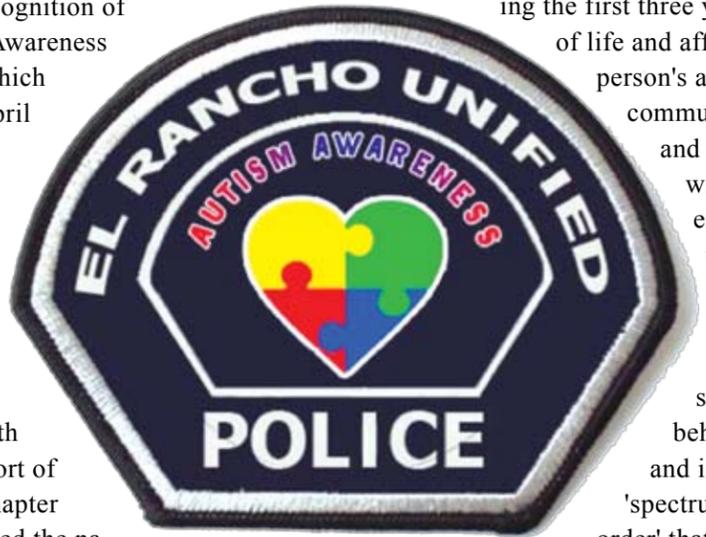
During April, the ERUSD highlighted these support efforts and encouraged awareness and conversation among our community members.

According to the Autism Society, Autism is a 'complex developmental disability that typically appears during the first three years

of life and affects a person's ability to communicate and interact with others. Autism is defined by a certain set of behaviors and is a 'spectrum disorder' that affects individuals differently and to varying degrees." There is no known single cause for Autism.

To further raise awareness, these commemorative collectors patches were sold for \$10, with proceeds being donated to El Rancho Unifies School Districts Autism Focus Classrooms.

For more information about this post, please call the ERUSD Office at 562.801.7300.



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