



LA MIRADA Lamplighter

WWW.LMLAMPLIGHTER.COM

Serving La Mirada and ten other surrounding communities • April 19, 2024 • Vol. 68, No. 42 • LMLAMPLIGHTER.COM



LONG-TIME ABCUSD EMPLOYEE & SHERIFF'S CHAPLAIN RETIRES

CERRITOS SHERIFF STATION'S very own Chaplain Hundley, 4th from right, worked his last day on April 12, retiring from his job at the ABC Unified School District after 25 years. Beginning April 13, he will be retired and enjoying the next chapter in his life. The Sheriff's enjoyed being part of The Chaplain's farewell "Clap Off" alongside his fellow ABCUSD colleagues who were also retiring.

Artesia Parks & Rec. Recognized for Creating Community Excellence

The city worked together with other cities to host a Senior Prom for over 600 seniors at the Commerce Casino.

LCCN Staff Report

The City of Artesia Parks & Recreation Department, with great pride and honor, has been bestowed the prestigious 2023 Creating Community Excellence Award from the California Parks and Recreation Society.

The City, in a remarkable display of unity and collaboration, received the award as part of the Southeast Senior Dance Committee. This committee, comprised of thirteen Southeast Los Angeles municipalities, worked together to host a Senior Prom for approximately 600 seniors at the Commerce Casino.

The Dance Committee included the Cities of Artesia, Bell, Bell Gardens, Commerce, Downey, Huntington Park, Lynwood, Montebello, Paramount, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, South Gate, and Whittier.

The award recognizes Artesia and the other cities for delivering the highest level of recreation programs and services that embody and embrace the profession's values and mission. It also praises Artesia and the collaborators for creating a strong community role by bringing seniors from across the region together to celebrate.

The dance, held in May 2023 at the Commerce Casino to honor Older American Month, featured Prom Queens and Kings from various cities, including Joseph and Adilia

{See ARTESIA pg. 5}

Distinguished Young Women of Cerritos-Artesia Hold Annual Scholarship Award Event



WINNERS: (l-r) Ann Huang, DYW West; Monicka Manni, DYW Central and Interview, Scholastic, Talent, Fitness and Self Expression winner; Gabrielle Tjahjono, DYW Alternate and Spirit of DYW; Erin Cho, DYW East. Erin, Ann and Monicka will be participating in Distinguished Young Woman state competition in Bakersfield in July.

LCCN Staff Report

Distinguished Young Women of Cerritos-Artesia held its 2025 program - the year participants graduate from High School - on Saturday, April 13 and Sunday, April 14, 2024.

DYW is a scholarship program that promotes education and excellence in all areas of life by encouraging the participants to "Be Their Best Selves".

Since 1975, this program has been promoted in the Cerritos-Artesia area, originally called Junior Miss.

Throughout the program, all girls are encouraged to develop self-confidence, interview effectively, speak in public, perform on stage, and build interpersonal relationships.

This program strives to inspire high school juniors to develop to their full and individual potential.

The program offers a fun and transformational experience over a three-week period, culminating in this celebratory showcase of participants' accomplishments.

Practices were held at the First Christian Reformed Church in Artesia.

Thanks to the city of Cerritos, this year's program took place at Cerritos Park East on Sunday, April 14.

The program was emceed by Artesia's past mayor and current councilwoman, Monica Manalo.

Interviews were held on Saturday, April 13, at the Realty Executives Select in Cerritos.

Standards and ideals for evaluating participants are consistent across local, state, and national levels and are characterized by scholastic achievement, community involvement, creativity, and a quest for excel-

{See DISTINGUISHED pg. 6}

Universal Vaccine Could be Coming Soon

The vaccine could be effective against just about any strain, and can be used safely even for babies or the immunocompromised.

By Dennis Thompson

Scientists at the University of California, Riverside have developed a new, RNA-based vaccine strategy that could be effective against just about any strain of a virus, and can be used safely even for babies or the immunocompromised.

A number of other labs are working on the strategy too. "I think we are getting very close," Dr. Irwin Redlener, Founding Director of the National Center for Disaster Preparedness at Columbia University told the Stephanie

Miller Show.

These new vaccines would target viruses using a different response to infection than what is prompted by current vaccines, researchers said.

Instead of teaching the immune system to create antibodies to fight off a specific virus, the new vaccine would instead teach the body to create small signaling RNA proteins that will shut down harmful viral spread.

This new approach could revolutionize current vaccine development, in which experts create vaccines based on predictions of which flu and COVID-19 strains are likely to be most infectious, researchers argue.

Instead, these RNA-promoting vaccines should be effective against all strains of a

{See VACCINE pg. 3}

Young Students Dance Education Program Develops Well-Being Through Creative Expression

By Laurie Hanson

Dance is making a difference in youth mental and physical health through one Orange County organization and its pilot program.

The Wooden Floor is a Santa Ana-based youth development program whose mission is to inspire and transform young people's lives through the power of dance and access to higher education. Their long-term vision is to break the cycle of poverty through generational change.

"Since 1983, we have served

award-winning dance education curriculum, which was provided at nine Garden Grove Unified School District school sites over six weeks this year through a 20-year partnership with Boys and Girls Clubs of Garden Grove.

"The program includes an hour-long movement class two days a week to 3rd and 4th-grade students where they create and learn a variety of modern dance movements that culminate in a dance presentation for their classmates," Reese said.

Through The Wooden Floor, the program fosters developmen-



THE PROGRAM includes movement classes two days a week to 3rd and 4th-grade students who create and learn a variety of modern dance movements and present to other students.

nearly 100,000 young people in Orange County by helping them learn what it takes to succeed both in school and life," said CEO Dawn S. Reese, who has been with the organization for 15 years.

Dance Uplifts is an extension of The Wooden Floor's

tal skills and assets known as the "5 C's: Critical-Thinking, Creativity, Collaboration, Communication, Character, and the organization added 6th C: Courage."

In Dance Uplifts students develop both physical and emotional wellbeing through creative

{See DANCE pg. 5}