



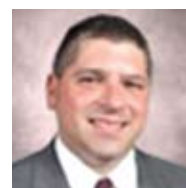
GOVERNOR BROWN'S OFFICE COUNSEL, FPPC COLLUDE TO COVER UP VIOLATIONS COMMITTED BY DEPUTY LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL GUZMAN-ACEVES

COVER-UP IS A RESULT OF HEWS MEDIA GROUP-COMMUNITY NEWS' AUGUST 4 EXPOSE AND FPPC FORMAL COMPLAINT. MEANWHILE BROWN VETOES SEVERAL ETHICS BILLS.

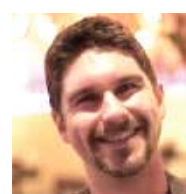
By Brian Hews and
Randy Economy

California Governor Jerry Brown, members of his administration, and the Fair Political Practice Commission (FPPC) are frantically working behind-the-scenes to neutralize an expose by Hews Media Group-Community Newspaper that outlined how one of Brown's top aids intentionally broke over forty government codes.

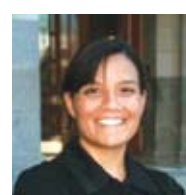
On August 4, HMG-CN published in print and online a very detailed investigative report documenting how Deputy Legislative Counsel Martha Guzman-Aceves, a key member of Governor Jerry Brown's senior staff, intentionally and repeatedly filed false Statements of Economic Interests (FPPC Form 700's) to conceal hundreds of thousands of dollars, filed false and incomplete tax returns, failed to report receipt of payments from a political committee during her appointment, and omitted third-party relationships that directly conflict with her position and duties in the Office of



FPPC Chief Gary Winuk argued and won a case in 2012 against a non-profit, then argued that the exact same case did not apply to Guzman-Aceves' situation.



Deputy Legislative Secretary Daniel Powell wrote the initial letter with weak and indefensible arguments which Winuk basically copied and sent to HMG-CN.



HMG-CN outlined over 40 violations by Guzman-Aceves. Powell said the allegations lacked merit and an investigation was "not necessary."

Governor Jerry Brown.

After a tepid reaction from the Governor's Office (GO), HMG-CN filed a comprehensive formal complaint with the FPPC that requested an immediate inquiry and investigation into the activities of Guzman-Aceves.

The complaint outlined over 40 violations in four major categories and alleged that Guzman-

Aceves knew or should have known of these filing requirements and willfully failed to make the required disclosures.

The over 40 violations in four major categories included:

Guzman-Aceves failed to file a complete and accurate Form 700 Assuming Office Statement and Annual Statements for 2011, 2012 and 2013.

She failed to disclose sources of income on her 700's.

She failed to disclose business positions and third-party relationships.

She made or participated in governmental decisions that financially benefitted organizations where she was an officer or director.

All tolled, Guzman-Aceves

violated four Government Codes: 87202, 87207, 87209, and 87100.

The FPPC complaint also contends that the GO, which is responsible for assuring that appointive officials have accurate reports, intentionally and repeatedly failed its watchdog responsibility.

See **GUZMAN-ACEVES** page 12

Star Wars' R2D2 Hits Commerce

By Tammye McDuff

Mike Senna is a skilled prop maker and hobbyist who built an exact working replica of R2-D2 from Star Wars in 2003 because he was looking for a challenge and wanted to bring joy to children. Senna tells children in his visits "When you have a passion and there is something that you really want to know about, find

See **R2D2** page 7

Artesia Holds Educational Meetings on 'Measure Y' UUT

By Rico Dizon

The first of a series of informative sessions on Measure Y kicked off last Tues, Sept. 30, at Artesia City Hall with mostly the various city commissioners in attendance. Other educational sessions for the public are expected to follow in various strategic locations around the city in preparation for the Nov. 4 election.

At the last special meeting, written information ranging from

the basic "Frequently Asked Questions" to the more serious city's fiscal challenges were handed out to all the attendees.

The informative presentation defined "Measure Y" "as the 4.9% utility users' tax that will be put into the ballot this coming November elections.

It also stressed the urgent need to raise additional city revenues to be able to improve general city services and enhance the

See **ARTESIA** page 11

Downey's Living Tree Foundation Pays Tribute to Military Families

By Tammye McDuff

Living Tree Foundation [LTF] is an organization that strives to meet the needs of current military service families, personnel and veterans.

Rick Rodriguez had two sons that have served in the military. "When they came home" says Rodriguez "I knew we had to do something to embrace all the energy they were bringing home with them from combat."

As the owner of a security firm, Rodriguez has hired almost 200 veterans and knows the particular needs of returning service men and women. Rodriguez Company is made of 67% veterans and the company has received the Army Partner of the Year Award.

The beginning of the LTF was with one of Rodriguez sons saying "Dad, I have 42 soldiers under my command. And they

See **LIVING TREE** page 7

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Priest Ordained at St. Peter Chanel Church in Hawaiian Gardens

By Rico Dizon

Hawaiian Gardens - Bro. Gerardo “Gerry” Joaquin, OMV, a Filipino-American, was ordained to the priesthood last

the Holy Spirit for Bro. Joaquin. Behind the Bishop were the four priests of St. Peter Chanel led by Pastor Fr. Larry Darnell, OMV. Also present were the Provincial Rector of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary Fr. David Niegorski and Deacon Bob Miller of the Diocese of Los Angeles who acted as Master of Ceremonies. Prior to the act of ordination, Bishop Solis asked, “Do you know him to be worthy? Fr. David said, “After inquiry among the Christian people and upon recommendation of those responsible I testify that he



Newly-ordained priest Fr. Gerry Joaquin,OMV, (center) is flanked between Vocation Director Fr. Jeremy Paulin, OMV, (left) and Auxiliary Bishop of LA Oscar Solis (right), after the ceremonies.

Saturday, Sept. 20, 2014 at 10 A.M. at St. Peter Chanel Church in Hawaiian Gardens. Joaquin completed his years of studies and training at the Oblates of the Virgin Mary Seminary in Boston, Massachusetts. Auxiliary Bishop of Los Angeles, The Most Rev. Oscar Solis, DD, was the principal celebrant of the mass. He also performed the imposition of hands and invocation of

has been found worthy.” During the homily, Fr. David said that in his long years of association with the newly-ordained priest, he knows that the latter has a “good” heart. “In fact, I literally saw his heart when the doctors opened his chest to perform a bypass operation while he was still under training in the seminary.”

Friends of La Mirada Library Fall Book Sale

The La Mirada FOL will have their Fall Book Sale on Saturday, October 11 from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM at the La Mirada Activity Center behind the fire station. There will be a Pre-Sale for members only



PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED WATER AND SEWAGE RATE INCREASE

A public hearing for a proposed water and sewer rate increase is set for Thursday, November 13 at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. The hearing will discuss the City's proposal to implement a 10 percent increase in the water rates every year for the next seven years to residential and commercial accounts. Under the plan, an average resident's water bill would increase approximately \$3 per month the

on Friday, October 10 from 3:30 PM to 5:30 PM. and the \$10 annual membership can be paid at that time. Come and join the Friends topurchase your supply of books at astoundingly low prices. All types of books are available with subjects from Children to History. For more information contact the FOL at www.lamiradafol@hotmail.com or look on Facebook for Friends of the La Mirada Library.

first year. Notification about the public hearing has been sent out in bright yellow envelopes via United States Post Office mail. The rate hike will not be instituted if a majority of customers oppose it. If there is not a majority opposition to the increase, it will take effect after the public hearing. Even with the new rate schedule, Cerritos water costs would still be among the lowest in the region. The last rate hike occurred in 2006. The proposed increase will help cover the cost of water, which has spiked roughly 70 percent in the last seven years. The rate adjustment will also help fund the repair of the City's aging water and sewer infrastructure, which is approaching its 50-year life span.

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- ✓ Ensure Successful Street Maintenance and Public Works Projects
- ✓ Protect Educational Programs for Children & At-Risk Youth
- ✓ Keep Norwalk in Solid Financial Condition With a Balanced Budget

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Councilmember
Luigi Vernola

We Urge You to Vote YES on Measure B.
Please Support Norwalk's Future by Voting Early
Through Absentee Ballot or at the Polls on
Election Day November 4! THANK YOU!

Publisher's Corner

Paging Los Angeles D.A. Jackie Lacey...Inmates Running the Asylum at Central Basin Water

By HMG-CN Publisher Brian Hews



I was at the meeting last Wednesday at Central Basin where the “Roybal Three”(I am going to call them the Three Bozos now) namely James “Teacher Jail” Roybal, Leticia “Qui Tam” Vasquez, and Bob “Tag Team” Apodaca basically said to their constituents that we don’t care about you, we don’t care about the water agency or its employees, all we care about is money and power, if anyone gets in our way we will throw your life into chaos, if we can’t get that, we will close the agency down.

That got me thinking.

A partial definition of a psychopath: **A remorseless mind, indifference to others' rights, and not caring about ethical behavior or laws.**

Sound familiar?

General Manager Toney Perez certainly knows, he got in their way and the Three Bozos put him through the grinder for months before “suspending” him.

Central Basin Board President Phil Hawkins knows, he was removed as President at the same meeting.

Director Art Chacon knows, removed as President only days after "Teacher Jail" Roybal and "Qui Tam" Vasquez took office.

Ron Beilke and Chuck Fuentes know, dismissed after exposing the \$2.7 million slush fund.

The lady that was just awarded \$670,000 due to Apodaca's sexual harassment knows.

The LAUSD knows, investigating Roybal for working at Central Basin while in Teacher Jail.

The list goes on.

But there is more evidence of the inmates running the asylum.

Three weeks ago, then-President Hawkins asked for a financial “what if” scenario if they fired Perez.

I know the Three Bozos read the memo, at least Qui Tam Vasquez did, she waved the story published online on the HMG-CN website about the memo at

another meeting.

So how, after reading the memo, could they even contemplate firing Perez?

A remorseless mind, indifference to others' rights, and not caring about ethical behavior or laws.

Because of the Three Bozo’s actions, this is what will happen to CB according to Perez:

CB’s insurance will be cancelled, increasing premiums substantially.

CB’s credit will be downgraded, costing \$14-\$15 million. A payment of this magnitude would completely eliminate the District’s current reserves.

50% staff turnover will occur due to loss of morale.

Severe impact on water supply allocation and long-term purchases, thus hurting water sales of CB, its lifeblood.

Perez will most likely sue, with the agency facing an expensive retaliation lawsuit exceeding \$2-million.

The District’s reputation will be damaged and the Supervisors will act to take it over.

A remorseless mind, indifference to others' rights, and not caring about ethical behavior or laws.

Wiki outlines the traits of a psychopath.

- Glib and superficial charm. A psychopath will put on what professionals refer to as a "mask" of sanity that is likeable and pleasant.
- Grandiose self-perception. Psychopaths will often believe they are smarter or more powerful than they actually are.
- Pathological lying. A psychopath will tell all sorts of lies; little white lies as well as huge stories intended to mislead.
- Level of manipulation. All psychopaths are identified as cunning and able to get people to do things they might not normally do.
- Look for any feelings of guilt. An absence of any guilt or remorse is a sign of psychopathy.
- Look for a lack of empathy. Psychopaths are callous and have no way of relating other people.
- Take a look at the person's lifestyle. Psychopaths are often parasitic, meaning they live off other people.
- Look at whether the person is impulsive or irresponsible. Both those characteristics are evidence of psychopathy.



[l-r] Directors Leticia Vasquez, James Roybal, and Bob Apodaca recently suspended GM Tony Perez. Supervisor Don Knabe warned them not to, but they went ahead. They also elected each other officers, with Apodaca as President and Roybal as vice-president, removing Cerritos resident Phil Hawkins as president.

acteristics are evidence of psychopathy.

- Consider whether the person can accept responsibility. A psychopath will never admit to being wrong or owning up to mistakes and errors in judgment.
- Pay extreme attention to the person's treatment towards others. Psychopaths are generally prone to belittle, humiliate, mistreat, mock and even attack physically people who normally would bring no benefits.

Traits: Charming, I am better than you, lying, manipulating, no guilt, no empathy, living off others, irresponsible, treats others badly.

Evidence: Teacher Jail, sexual harassment, firing a perfectly competent GM and risking closure of the very water agency you were elected to represent?

Sound familiar?

The question is, where is Los Angeles D.A. Jackie Lacey?

There is most certainly a Brown Act violation when it comes to the Perez “violation” list. How can one person think of 100 violations? Not enough to investigate?

Perez came aboard April 2013, 17 months have passed. That is almost six violations per month, why bring them up now, why did the Three Bozos wait?

An employee, a GM no less, is committing 1 "violation" per week and you turn your head?

Roybal’s Teacher Jail violations, as documented by HMG-CN, not enough to investigate?

Roybal earned over \$20K while in jail, a violation of LAUSD policy, not enough to investigate?

Apodaca's wife making over \$10,000 as a vendor to CB, not enough to investigate?

Vasquez leaking an FBI subpoena, not enough to investigate?

That subpoena "somehow" showed up in the hands of Lorraine Cervantes who blasted Hawkins at a MWD Board meeting. Cervantes no longer shows up at CB meeting as she did several times before HMG-CN's revelation of forged subpoenas.

A remorseless mind, indifference to others' rights, and not caring about ethical behavior or laws.

Please Ms. Lacey, do everyone a favor and start an investigation before someone else’s life gets ruined.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

As the author against Measure G of 2012, I was shocked to learn that \$150,000 of student body funds was sent by check to the Yes on Measure G campaign committee.

Then my shock turned to a very deep concern when I learned that another \$150,000 of student body funds was sent to the Yes on Measure CC campaign in 2004.

Therefore I am asking the community to join me in supporting a ban of any further unethical use of student body funds for any off campus political purposes.

Student body funds for student on campus activities, field trips, library books, homecoming, clubs, not campaign war chests.

As a former student of Cerritos College, I was never told that my student body fees would ever be used for outside political campaigns.

John Paul Drayer
College Board Candidate

Dear Editor:

I enjoyed reading the article about the Valley Christian-Mayfair Tournament.

Mr. Kopff painted a very accurate picture of how the day went for Valley, giving them kudos for what they did well, but mentioning their missteps also.

I was surprised to see the research that was done for the article, for example "Still, the 8-0 start to 2014 is the best for Valley Christian since 1998 when the Lady Crusaders finished as the USA Today National Champions following a 33-0 season." This is a bit of history that I didn't know as a parent.

Maybe as the season goes on and league play is underway we can see be treated to another story on how the girls are progressing.

Hal Winter
Cerritos

Yes on Measure AA

Dear Editor:

I believe our students need the very best facilities we can afford so that the best education possible will be available to them.

The slight increase in property taxes is such a small price to pay to insure that our students are granted their right to receive the maximum quality education.

Charlie Ara
Cerritos

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NLMUSD Teacher of the Year Represents District at Annual Ceremony

Becoming a teacher wasn't always in Kathy Jo Gutierrez's life plan. In fact, the La Pluma Elementary School teacher wanted to be a journalist.



NLMUSD Teacher of the Year Kathy Jo Gutierrez

"My sorority sisters were teachers and they came home to create their lesson plans and prepare for class, and I helped them," Gutierrez said. "I was in a room with a bunch of teachers, and through osmosis, I was hooked and have been ever since."

Gutierrez's change in her life plan has paid off rather well as she was honored Friday, Sept. 19 by the Los Angeles County Department of Education at the annual Teachers of the Year luncheon.

The largest competition of its kind, the Los Angeles County Teachers of the Year programs recognizes teachers who show exemplary dedication to their students, practice compelling classroom lessons, receive positive accomplishments and show unwavering commitment to their profession.

"Our teachers are some of the hardest-working in the entire state," said NLMUSD Board of Education President Margarita Rios. "Mrs. Gutierrez is among

the county's elite and this honor is just a testament to her talent and investment in her students."

At NLMUSD, Gutierrez was honored as the District's Teacher of the Year for her work at Moffit Elementary, where she worked before moving to La Pluma this year. It was an accomplishment that, until now, she thought was out of reach. She said she figured there are so many talented and committed teachers in the District, she didn't have a chance.

At the urging of Moffit Elementary School Principal Maureen Bixby, however, Gutierrez threw her hat into the ring.

"I have known Kathy Jo for many years – she is a star," said Interim Superintendent Ginger Shattuck. "I am very proud of her accomplishments."

In her quest to help her students meet and exceed her high expectations, Gutierrez has taken on a superhero theme in her classroom. She encourages them to be the best they can be while rewarding them with wearing a superhero cape.

"I just want to be a better teacher today than I was yesterday," she said. "And I want them to be better students today than they were yesterday. When they leave me, I want them to leave with a sense of accomplishment and high self-esteem. They are my superheroes."

LA MIRADA'S NEFF ESTATE BEAUTIFICATION EVENT

La Mirada's Historical Preservation Advisory Council will participate in a Neff Estate Beautification event on Saturday, October 18 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Community members ages 13 and over are invited to lend a helping hand to assist with beautifying and sprucing up the Neff Estate.

The Neff Estate covers 10 acres and consists of the three structures, all of which are registered on the National Register of Historic Places. The Neff Mansion dated 1892, the Carriage Barn 1894, and the George House 1895. The City along with the Historical Council takes great pride in the estate and aims to preserve the location. Volunteers interested in learning about the history of the estate as well as La Mirada can take part in the free tours of the Neff Mansion on this day between the hours of 10 a.m. and noon. Free tours are offered on the third Saturday of each month for all community members.

To register for the event, make a donation or for more information contact the La Mirada Community Services Department at (562) 943-7277. The Neff Estate is located at 14300 San Cristobal Drive in La Mirada.

Arts Colony of La Mirada Meeting

The Arts Colony of La Mirada will hold their October meeting on Monday the 6th at 6:30 PM. The meeting will take place at the La Mirada Resource Center, 13700 La Mirada Blvd in the Civic Center. Our demonstrator will be Pamela Fall, a freelance photographer and artist based in Southern California. Combining her love for art and photography, she has chosen to take a number of her images to a new level. Her works are in collections around the world and were featured on a Discovery Channel program. The art appreciating public is welcome to join us. For information check the Arts Colony website, www.acolm.com or call 562-941-4116.

The annual Arts Colony of La Mirada's Mirrors of your Mind open and juried art show will take place in November at the Norwalk Sports and Cultural Center at 13200 Clarkdale.

Take in will be November 4 and 5 from 3:00 to 7:00. The show may be visited from November 12 to 22 from 3:00 to 7:00.

The reception will be Saturday November 22, from 5:00 to 7:00. Artists interested in showing check the website, www.acolm.com or call 562-315-5476.

Catherine Grant Wieder

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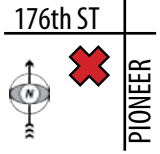
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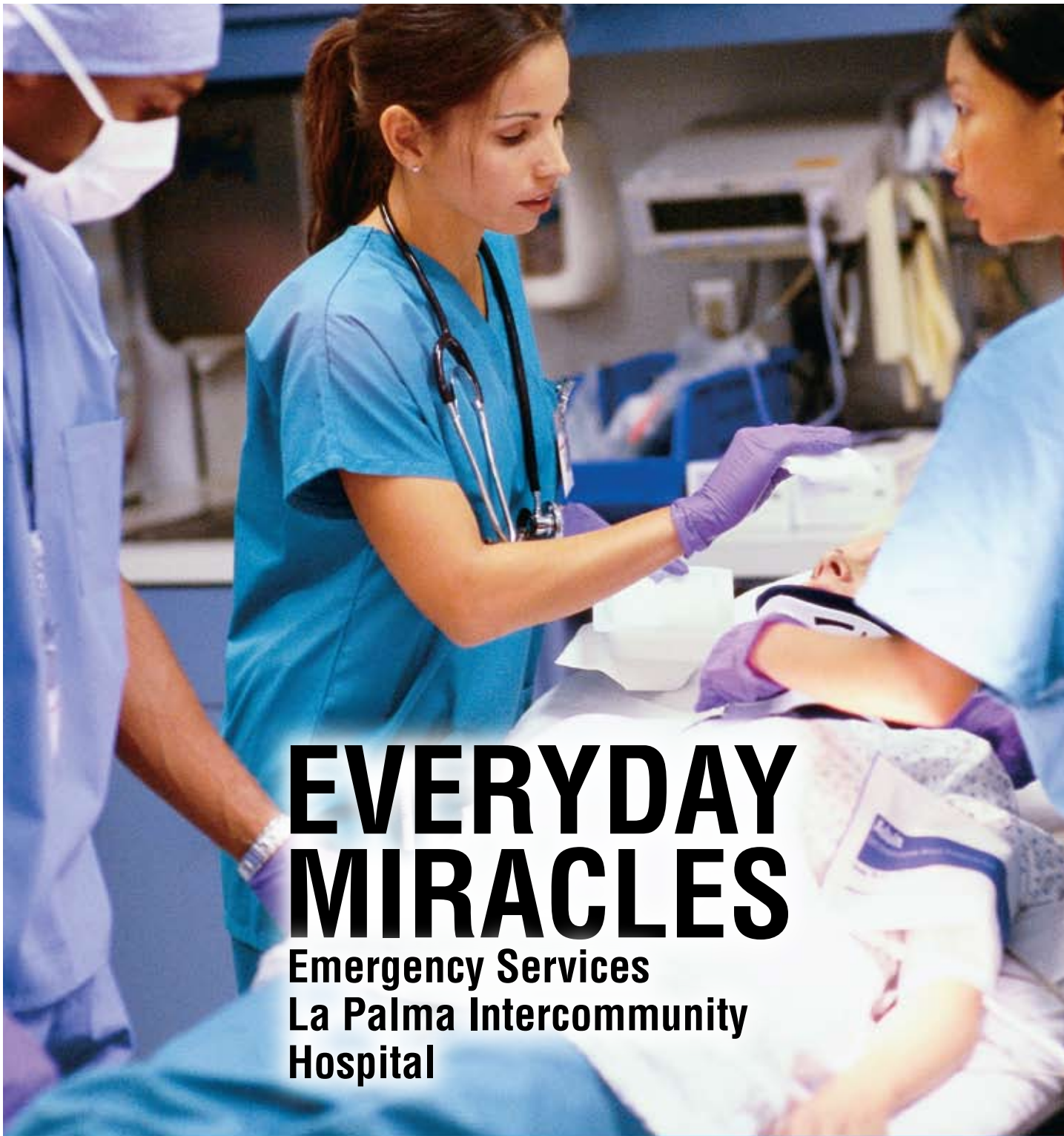
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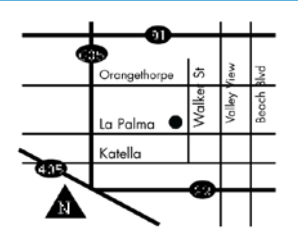


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LBS Financial Credit Union Donates Supplies to Three Local School Districts

HMG Community Wire

LBS Financial Credit Union partnered with three local school districts this summer to collect school supplies for the 2014-2015 school year. The Credit Union worked with ABC Unified School District, Bellflower Unified School District and Long Beach Unified School District for its fourth annual Adopt-a-School Program to select a school and identify specific needs for each school.

The program was promoted during summer months at all of their six branch locations, via marketing materials, newspaper advertisement, Facebook page and on their website to encourage their members and employees to make donations. All of the items donated were delivered to the selected schools in the first couple weeks of the school year.

In addition to the donations from Credit Union members and the public, the



Students and teachers from Juarez Academy (along with Principal, Christine Balbuena on the far left, ABCUSD Superintendent Dr. Mary Sieu on the far right and Ann Griffio, ABCUSD coordinator of school and community partnerships, on right next to Dr. Sieu) greeted the LBS Financial Marketing Department on September 11th during the school supply delivery.

Credit Union promoted the program internally to its employees and collected over \$1,300. LBS Financial matched these donations dollar for dollar in addition to other funds provided by the Credit Union. At the end of the summer, the Credit Union had over three thousand dollars to spend supplementing supplies for the three

schools selected.

ABC Unified School District

The Credit Union partnered with Ann Griffio, coordinator of school & community partnerships for ABC Unified School District to select Juarez Academy as the 2014 recipient of donations. Christine Balbuena, principal of Juarez, provided a

wish list for the school that included items for their classrooms and school supplies.

The final donation delivered on September 11, 2014 in front of an assembly of students, teachers and Dr. Mary Sieu, ABCUSD's Superintendent, included a 40" TV for their engineering lab, 10,500 sheets of copy paper, 2,200 index cards, over 400 pencils, hundreds of paper clips, toner cartridges for their printers and assorted items for their STEM program's engineering lab including industrial shelving, plastic bins with lids, paper products and more.

"Juarez Academy staff and students are so grateful for the generous donation provided by LBS Financial Credit Union under the Adopt-a-School Program," said Christine Balbuena, principal of Juarez Elementary School. "The materials provided will greatly support our new Engineering and Technology focus. Thanks to LBS Financial, we're that much closer to creating the 21st Century learning environment of our dreams!"

WHITNEY HIGH SCHOOL SELECTED AS A 2014 NATIONAL BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson announced that Whitney High School has been selected as a 2014 National Blue Ribbon School. Whitney High School is the only high school recognized among the 24 California public schools. According to U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan, the California schools, which are either high achieving or made significant academic improvement, are among 337 schools in 47 states.

Superintendent of ABC Unified School District, Dr. Mary Sieu said, "We commend Whitney High School for their continuous commitment to provide the type of learning environment that students can excel and thrive in. We're proud of their success and congratulate them on being in this national spotlight."

Dr. Rhonda Buss, Principal of Whitney High School said, "We are honored that the U.S. Dept. of Education has recognized the consistent hard work and dedication of the students, staff and Whitney community by naming Whitney High School a 2014 National Blue Ribbon School. This prestigious recognition shows that everyone is working together toward a common goal--student success. Their achievements are definitely a mark of excellence and we are proud to celebrate these accomplishments with the school community."

Whitney High School was selected as an Exemplary High Performing School, defined as the achievement of the school's students in the most recent year tested placing the school among the highest performing in the state on assessments of reading (or English language arts) and mathematics. Disaggregated results for student subgroups, including students from disadvantaged background, must be similar to the results for all students.

Whitney High School will be honored at the National Awards Ceremony on November 10-11, 2014 in Washington, D.C. Each Blue Ribbon School will receive a plaque and flag. The Blue Ribbon winners may fly this flag at their school as a mark of excellence.

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R2D2*Continued from page 1*

out as much as you can, and then share it with others. It is sharing what you love that can grow into something huge.”

The Commerce City Library was host to over 100 people Saturday, September 13, 2014. The exact working replica of R2D2, C3PO and Wall-E were the stars of the show. R2D2 made more than 200 appearances in its first 4 years, including charity events such as City of Hope, Make-a-Wish Foundation, and Downs Syndrome/Autism fundraisers.

The replica is so authentic that Lucas Films has asked Mike to represent the company at promotional events and commercials since 2005. His R2-D2 has been filmed for VH1, MTV, Access Hollywood and Jimmy Kimmel Live. It appeared on the Lucas Films float in the 2007 Tournament of Roses Parade and on stage with the Pacific Symphony orchestra. His creations have made hundreds of appearances throughout Southern California, Las Vegas, Indianapolis, Orlando, and Montana.

Senna's Mike's next project was building a life-size, fully functional, remote-controlled Wall-E robot from the animated film, which he began constructing in 2010. Senna said “I enjoy the challenge of using innovative materials to create custom parts based merely on drawings.” His electronics background helps him bring those parts to life. The automation was designed with attention to ease of use, speed, and smooth motion. The suspension system allows the robot to float on the springs and adds a rocking motion to the entire body. The paint scheme follows the film in every detail. The Wall-E was built entirely from scratch.

I will usually take Wall-E and R2D2 to C.H.O.C. hospital once a quarter as well as to libraries. Senna got choked up when he relayed a story “You never know if you have made an impact or not. I was visiting the kids in the hospital and this young intern stopped me and thanked me for coming to visit. He said that he had been in the hospital for three months when he was a kid. If someone had brought these Droids to visit me” said the intern “it would have made a huge difference in my recovery.”

HMG-CN was invited to a special gathering of R2 Builders at Senna private residence where the newest robot ‘Chopper’ from the George Lucas animated series Star Wars Rebels was being revealed. Creator Michael McMasters was on hand to answer queries about the android.

“I’m kind of like the Forest Gump of Star Wars; I am just stumbling through this” said Senna “I have met some incredible people from James Cameron to Ted Kennedy because of these Droids.”

Senna believes everyone has some kind of skill or understanding to inspire, motivate, enable, delight, help, or touch lives in a positive way. “After all, isn’t that what we’re here for, to help each other?” comments Senna.

LIVING TREE*Continued from page 1*

are all getting out. And I have to find them jobs.” Rodriguez began hiring more veterans and paying for additional training or licensing that might be required. The Long Beach office of the State Employment Development Department volunteered to help by sending job seeking vets to him. Rodriguez trains them, equips them and has refined his system so that veterans are job ready within three weeks.

“Never before has the need been greater to assist others” says Rodriguez “but it is not just the returning military men and women. Perhaps there is a Mother trying to further her education to guarantee a better paying job to support your family while the husband serves overseas.” Rodriguez goes on to say perhaps there are combat veterans who could benefit from a therapy dog but cannot afford it. LTF provides assistance to select organizations that are committed to providing for the needs of combat veterans, current military service personnel as well as families in dire straits.

Operation Legacy [OL] is one such organization. OL provides intensive life planning information enabling and assisting our military men and women in the transition to purposeful and productive civilian lives. Often, the lack of foundational preparation for civilian life planning strat-

egies sets the stage for a downward spiral including apathy, unemployment, broken relationships, addiction and depression.

Blue Star Family Day [BLFD] is the first annual fair to introduce organization such as Operation Legacy to families in need. Held Saturday, September 27th in the Downey High School Facilities, BSFD was to honor families whose loved ones are currently serving in the Armed Forces.

From American War Mothers who provide food services to returning veterans, to author Reginald Dunham who wrote “From the Heart of a Grieving Father” and his organization that helps others in grief, to GlammyTags, beautifully adorned dog tags to Vetality Corp whose motto is “Pumping L.I.F.E. back into Veterans nationwide”, several dozen vendors adorned their booths with red, white and blue decorations and photos.

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La Palma Resident Hosts Fundraiser for H.O.P.E.

By Edna Ethington

A person celebrating a birthday often receives gifts on his or her birthday, but

gifts for herself, May Jo and her husband purchased and prepared all the food for the luncheon which they gave as their donation to H.O.P.E. A small group of 30 people were invited to come for a donation of \$30.00 each, with proceeds going to H.O.P.E. Also invited as guests for the luncheon were St. Irenaeus' Pastor, Fr. Patrick Moses, Sr. Rita O'Connell and Sr. Kathleen Pritchard



Pictured at the H.O.P.E. Luncheon Fundraiser on September 20, 2014, at the La Palma home of Roberto and Mary Jo Velasco are, at left, Roberto Velasco and Sr. Rita O'Connell and at right H.O.P.E. Chairman Mary Ellen Oves and other St. Irenaeus parishioners and H.O.P.E. members. Photo by Edna Ethington.

Mary Jo Velasco of La Palma had a unique celebration of her birthday on September 20, 2014. She and her husband, Roberto A.K.A. "Bert," hosted a fundraising luncheon for the Food Bank H.O.P.E. (Help Other People Every Day) at the backyard patio area of her home. H.O.P.E. is the all- volunteer non-profit organization that is responsible for the area Food Bank on St. Irenaeus Church grounds. The H.O.P.E. Luncheon Fundraiser featured authentic Filipino food and Mary Jo's special recipes. Instead of receiving

of the Presentation Sisters. Fr. Patrick offered the prayer before meals. Can you help H.O.P.E. help others in need? One of the best ways to help H.O.P.E. is to come to H.O.P.E.'s Annual Dinner/ Dance Fundraiser on Saturday, November 8, 2014, at Knotts Berry Farm in Buena Park. Tickets will be available at St. Irenaeus Church in the patio area after weekend Masses for a donation of \$45 after October 18. For more information, contact H.O.P.E. Chairman Mary Ellen Oves at 714-821-3457.



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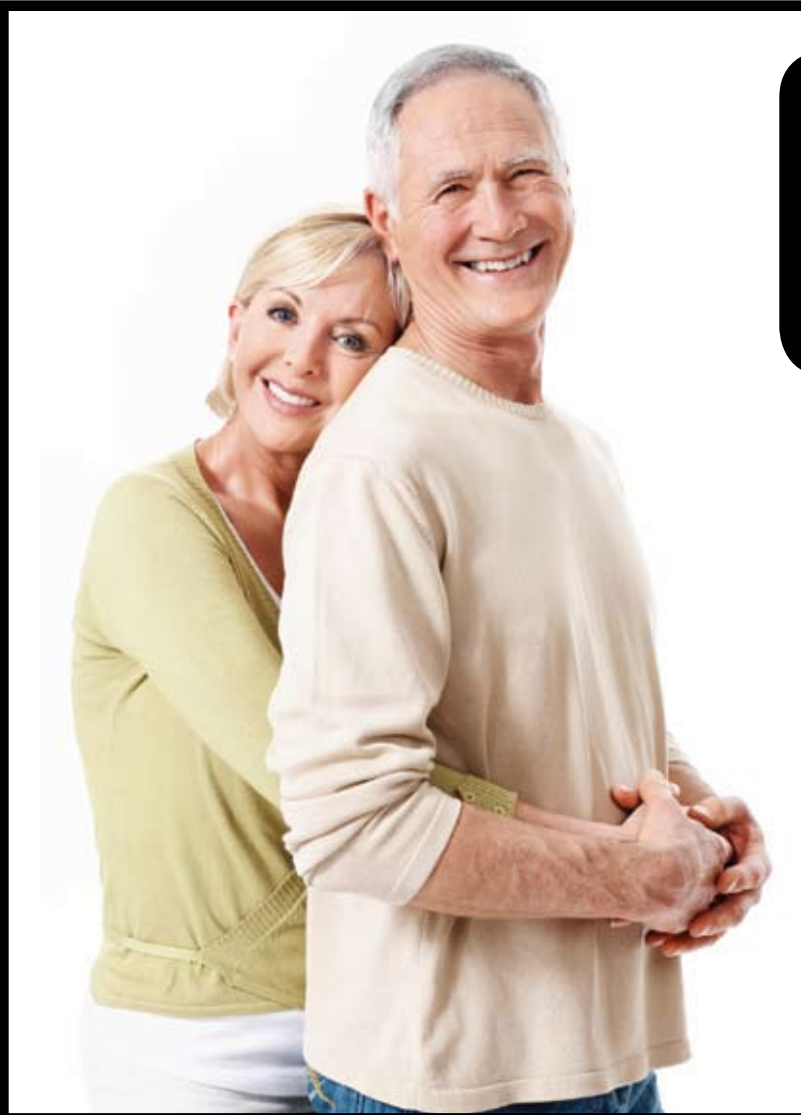
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SUBURBAN LEAGUE GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Norwalk unable to weather Mayfair's storm in four-set loss

By Loren Kopff

LAKEWOOD-The big bulls-eye that has been on the backs of the Norwalk girls volleyball team since winning the Suburban League last season has taken its first hit of the 2014 league season. Going back to the scene of probably its best road win in school history, Norwalk couldn't duplicate the same success a second consecutive time.

Mayfair knocked off the Lady Lancers

25-20, 19-25, 25-14, 25-20 this past Tuesday afternoon to give the defending league champions their first league setback this season. On Oct. 22, 2013, Norwalk stunned the host Monsoons in a four-set victory in which three of the four sets were decided by two points. But this time around, Mayfair dominated early on and again in the third set. The Monsoons raced out to a 7-2 lead in the first set before senior middle blocker Jazmin Guzman served a pair of power aces down the middle of Mayfair's side of the court. Moments later with the hosts leading 10-6, Guzman had her first two kills of the match. Guzman was returning from a two-week absence in which she was healing from a left ankle injury during a match against California on Sept. 12.

"It's kind of hard [to come back] because of building chemistry and just getting used to everyone again," Guzman said. "I wanted to play because I like to help the team out. I know they wanted me back and I wanted to be a team player; just make the team as strong as we can be."

Mayfair's Marilyn Finney posted three straight aces to make the score 16-11 and although the Lady Lancers battle back throughout the set, they just couldn't get closer than two points the rest of the way.

"I think it was just getting to know how they would play," said Norwalk head coach Jessie Gonzalez. "We've kind of had a feeling that they would have a traditional offense and higher sets. And we knew who their offensive hitters were. I think it was just getting a feel for the game more than anything."

Norwalk (6-6 overall, 1-1 in league) bounced back in the second set, taking a 5-4 lead on the second straight kill from junior outside hitter Vanessa Cardenas, and never looked back. An ace from sophomore defensive specialist Paola Nava pushed the lead to 17-11 and later on, a kill from sophomore outside hitter Athena Sio increased the bulge to 22-12.

"We knew it was going to be hard because we knew [Mayfair] is a good team," Guzman said. "We didn't want to come in overconfident. So, we knew it was important to stay strong [in the second set]."

"It's huge, especially away, because once you take a set away from another team, it kind of gets in their head mentally," Gonzalez said.

A combined block from Guzman and senior setter Elana Auwae-Ortiz tied the third set at 5-5 before the Monsoons

reeled off eight straight points and never let Norwalk get back. But in the fourth set, with a sense of urgency for the Lady Lancers, both teams combined for 11 ties and four lead changes until Mayfair took a 15-14 lead after trailing 14-12. Gonzalez called a timeout to calm his team down, but once play resumed, Mariah Clausen served two aces and Mayfair eventually built a 19-14 lead. Two kills from junior opposite hitter Norma Marquez and an ace from Guzman made it 19-17. Then trailing by six points, Marquez had another kill followed by an ace from junior setter Brenda Hernandez and a kill from Auwae-Ortiz before the Monsoons closed out the match. Guzman led the Lady Lancers with 14 kills while Cardenas and sophomore



outside hitter Ashley Whittall added seven and six kills respectively.

"She makes a huge difference offensively and defensively," Gonzalez said of Guzman. "But her coming back after two weeks, the chemistry for the entire team wasn't quite there. But I wouldn't want to have anyone else on the court. In my eyes, she's still the best player in the league. She just needs a little time to get healthy. Next time around, it will be a different result."

Norwalk hosted Artesia on Oct. 2 and will entertain Cerritos on Tuesday. Last season, the Lady Dons survived a five-set win to give Norwalk its only league loss. The Lady Lancers will then visit Bellflower on Thursday.

"That just makes us want to work harder; not letting anyone take that from us," Guzman said of her team having the big target on its back.

"I think it's virtually almost impossible [to go undefeated in league], but I know it's happened before," Gonzalez said. "Different teams go different ways each year and it's kind of tough to tell how a team is going to turnaround."

JOHN GLENN GETS PUMMELED IN SUBURBAN LEAGUE OPENER



HMG-CN Sports Editor Loren Kopff

NEWS AND NOTES FROM PRESS ROW

face La Mirada on Oct. 10.

In other area football action, Artesia was blanked by La Mirada 42-0 last Friday night on the road. It's the second straight shutout to the Matadores on the road, ironically by the same score. The Pioneers (2-3 overall, 0-1 in league) will host Mayfair tonight. Gahr fell behind Fullerton 34-14 at the half and couldn't recover in a 41-33 loss to the Indians last Friday night. The Gladiators wrapped up their nonleague slate at 3-2 and have tonight off before visiting Warren on Oct. 10.

Valley Christian travelled to the Inland Empire to face longtime rival Ontario Christian and came away 34-12 victors to improve to 4-1 this season. The Crusaders put the game away in the third quarter with three touchdowns. Junior Robert Downs scored touchdown runs of 32 and 15 yards, the second time in as many weeks he has scored twice. V.C. will host St. Anthony tonight.

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

The Cerritos Lady Dons have had a rough start to the season but have managed to win their first two Suburban League matches. On Sept. 23, Cerritos knocked off Artesia for the 24th straight time. Two days later, the Lady Dons swept Bellflower 25-12, 25-12, 25-3. Senior middle blocker Brittney Freeman led everyone with 11 kills while senior right side hitter Kaitlyn Bales added nine kills. Senior middle blocker Crystal Amalu also had a big match with six kills and three blocks. Cerritos visited La Mirada on Oct. 2 and will travel to Norwalk on Tuesday before hosting John Glenn on Thursday.

Gahr fell to 2-10 after St. Anthony swept the Gladiators 25-20, 25-17, 25-11 on Sept. 23. Gahr faced Warren on the road on Oct. 2 to begin San Gabriel Valley League action and will host Paramount on Tuesday in its "Dig Pink" affair. Gahr will then go to Downey on Thursday.

Valley Christian remained the hottest team around following a 25-21, 25-17, 25-17 sweep over Fairmont Prep this past Tuesday. The Lady Crusaders, who also won all three pool play matches in the Whittier Tournament last Saturday, improved to 14-0 and will host Heritage Christian on Tuesday in the Olympic League opener. V.C. will also host Village Christian on Thursday.

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WEEK FOUR FOOTBALL

Norwalk's newest member steals thunder from ordinary double wing offense

By Loren Kopff

BELLFLOWER-Since Norwalk head coach Jesse Cenicerros took over in 2008, the Lancers have dominated most of their



Norwalk senior cornerback Remy Harvery (#29) takes down Mayfair's Querale Hall in last Friday night's Suburban League opener. Harvey had four tackles and an interception that ended a the first half. Norwalk knocked off the Monsoons 21-13. PHOTO BY ARMANDO VARGAS.

opponents with their double wing offense. But in last Friday night's Suburban League opener against Mayfair at Ron Yary Stadium, the Lancers unveiled a new element to their potent offense.

Junior quarterback Ausencio Navarro, a junior transfer from Garfield High School, made his Norwalk debut and was nearly flawless. Navarro completed seven of 11 passes for 115 yards and threw one touchdown as Norwalk held off a late Monsoon rally for a 21-13 win. The outcome was in doubt until senior David Laugheed picked off Isaiah Jackson at the five-yard line with 15 seconds left to play.

"We're really proud of the kids," Cenicerros said. "They were hobbling out there and we had a lot of injuries, it seems like we got. But they kept on fighting, they kept on battling and I'm proud for them because we kept on doing what we do. We kept on pounding the ball and we have a new quarterback and it al-

lowed us to do some different things." "It was great," Navarro said. "I barely started practicing this week and I already feel like these are my brothers. I know they have my back and I have theirs." Mayfair controlled the ball for the first 6:17 of the game and ended the long drive when Jackson tossed a five-yard pass to Nicholas Huynh. The Lancers didn't tie the game until the 9:48 mark of the second quarter when sophomore full-back Jordan Thomas rumbled in from 27 yards out. After both teams traded punts on three straight possessions, the Lancers took the lead for good when Navarro made his presence known.

Following an incomplete pass on second and five from the Mayfair 40-yard line, the newcomer found Tyrant Davis on the left sideline and the senior matriculated 40 yards for the touchdown.

"Tyrant has one of the best hands on the team right now," Navarro said. "He was thrown in there and that play was pretty much designed for him. I did my best to get him the ball and I fit it in two defenders and he made way with it and scored."

The Lancers (3-2 overall, 1-0 in league) went up 21-7 on the first play of the fourth quarter when Davis scored from seven yards out. But Mayfair struck back 44 seconds later when Jackson launched a 49-yard pass to Jaylin Godbolt before Faizon Creighton snuck in from a yard out. However, the extra point was unsuccessful.

Norwalk had a chance to ice the game but on the 11th play of yet another long drive, Navarro was intercepted by Querale Hall at the 25-yard line for his only mistake of the game. Mayfair would have two more chances to tie the game but had drives end on downs after Davis sacked Jackson at the Mayfair 44-yard line and the Laugheed interception.

"I didn't do as well as I expected to do," Navarro said. "I threw that interception in the end and there were a couple of passes I could have made better. But the O-line is something. I have nothing to worry about when I'm throwing the ball."

"That's impressive, and again, it's only going to allow us to open some things up," Cenicerros said of Navarro's first Norwalk game. "He's a natural athlete; he's a gift."

Senior running back Ryan McDowell led everyone with 73 yards on 13 carries while junior running back Chris Walker

added 58 yards on 17 carries. Walker also caught three passes for 43 yards. Thomas picked up 53 yards on five rushes and Davis contributed another 49 yards on eight touches. Senior cornerback Remy Harvey had four tackles and an interception while McDowell and senior defensive end Dillon Faamatau each had three tackles. The Lancers sacked Jackson three times, intercepted him twice and tackled him for a 14-yard loss after a bad snap on fourth down.

ARTESIA

Continued from page 1

quality of life for the city's residents. It will provide financing for improvements including maintaining crime and gang preventions, maintaining rapid 911 police response, fixing potholes, maintaining and repairing streets and roads, maintaining neighborhood police patrols, renovation of the 50-year old community center and developing and maintaining parks and recreational facilities.

City Council Member Ali Taj, wanting to get the word and educate residents on Measure Y, personally handled the presentation.

Taj said, "we are not advocating for a "yes" or "no". We just want to provide enough information to all concerned prior to the elections."

He continued, "the city has cut 30% of its workforce as the State had eliminated close to \$2 million annually in local resources. The city's budget has been reduced by about 33% in recent years. If enacted, Measure Y will provide a local source of funding that cannot be taken by Sacramento. Measure Y will provide additional resources to fund programs and

This was Norwalk's third straight win over the Monsoons but first to open league action. The defending league champions will host Cerritos tonight at Excelsior Stadium on homecoming night. It will be just the second of four home games but first at Excelsior Stadium. "It was very important, especially after we had lost to El Toro and [St. John] Bosco," Navarro said of winning the league opener. "This was our comeback game and we're going to show we still have it and what we can do."

services associated with improving the quality of life for all the residents." "We have been hurting as a city," said Mayor Pro Tem Miguel Canales. City Council Member Victor Manalo was even more blunt saying, "expenses have been going up in the city. Everybody has to pitch in."

In concluding, the Taj explained that Measure Y funds are subject to annual independent audit and constant review by a five-member Citizens Oversight Committee. "The measure gives exemptions for anyone in the SCE and Gas Company CARE program."

In 1992, the Artesia City Council passed an ordinance which imposed a 2% utility users' tax that raised more than \$107,000, and an additional \$349,691 in 1995-96. Voters in Artesia turned down two UUT proposals in 1996 and again in 1999 in the ballot box.

For more information on Measure Y, please visit the city's website at www.cityofartesia.us. Deadline for registration to vote is Oct. 20.

Los Cerritos Community News urges Artesia residents to vote YES on Measure Y.

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Norwalk

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GUZMAN-ACEVES
Continued from page 1

The Aug. 4 Guzman-Aceves expose included the publishing of several key documents, state disclosure records, e-mails, social media posts, and other facts obtained from outside sources in HMG-CN’s article that took nearly five months to complete.

Hidden Governor’s Office Letter

On August 27, the FPPC answered the month’s long investigation and eleven-page HMG-CN complaint with a terse one-page letter.

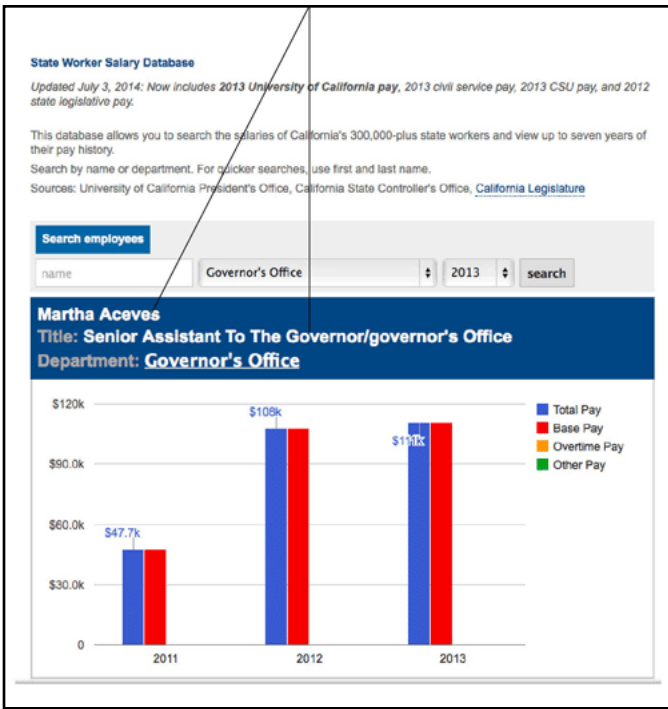
The FPPC letter was based on a response from the Governor’s own Deputy Legal Affairs Secretary Daniel J. Powell, who apparently defended Guzman-Aceves on the matter.

That letter would have never been found had HMG-CN not requested all FPPC documents related to the Guzman-Aceves-FPPC investigation via a public records request.

In the two-page letter, the GO and Powell failed to respond to a majority of the complaints, made indefensible and weak arguments for the complaints it chose to include, all while repeatedly assuring the FPPC throughout the letter that opening an inquiry into Guzman-Aceves “was unnecessary.”

FPPC’s Chief of Enforcement, Gary Winuk then basically “cut and pasted” the GO letter and delivered it to HMG-CN, calling the allegations and overwhelming evidence “without merit and insufficient.

Winuk first argued that Guzman-Aceves, was not, according to the list



A internet search of the Sacramento Bee's website found that Guzman-Aceves was a "designated employee, " (DE) from 2011 to 2013. Powell and Winuk wrote to HMG-CN that she was never a DE, and that was the basis for their entire argument and her lack of proper reporting.

Those positions qualified her as a "designated employee" under the COIC, a fact that the GO and FPPC somehow “overlooked;” an attempted cover-up of the true facts pertaining to Guzman-Aceves and her reporting requirements.

Specific Reporting Requirements for Designated Employees

The code states that designated employees must report “all investments, sources of income, interest in real property, and any business entity in which the designated employee is a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or holds any position of management.”

Mr. Gary Winuk
Chief of Enforcement
Fair Political Practices Commission
428 J Street, Suite 620
Sacramento, CA 95814

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RE: Complaint Against Martha Guzman-Aceves and the Office of the Governor

Dear Mr. Winuk:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a preliminary response to the allegations contained in the letter to the Commission dated August 5, 2014. The allegations are completely without merit and do not warrant the opening of a formal investigation in this matter.

Letter obtained through a public records request shows the Governor's Office calling the allegations "completely without merit and do not warrant an investigation."

below, a “designated employee” under the Governor’s Conflict of Interest Code, (COIC).

He argued that since she was not a “designated employee,” the GO was not required to forward the 700’s to the FPPC, rather, the 700’s are "retained by the Office of the Governor and made available for public inspection upon request."

Nowhere was it mentioned that Guzman-Aceves lied on her 700’s.

Winuk also argued that Guzman-Aceves was:

Not required to disclose the information about her conflicts because she received no compensation from the organizations identified in the August HMG-CN article;

The organizations were non-profit organizations consequently Guzman-Aceves was exempt from any reporting requirements;

All amounts paid to her from those organizations were less than the limit required for reporting.

Internet Search Shows Guzman-Aceves is a Designated Employee

The assertion that Guzman-Aceves was not a designated employee was easily disproven by a simple Internet search.

According to the Sacramento Bee’s State Worker Salary Database, Guzman-Aceves held the position of Assistant to the Governor from 2011 to 2012 and Senior Assistant to the Governor in 2013.

There are two separate and distinct statements in the COIC.

One statement is (the designated employee must) “report all investments, sources of income, {and} interest in real property.”

Unreported Sources of Income

HMG-CN had shown in its Aug. 4 article, and the GO and FPPC could have easily accessed these documents online, that Guzman-Aceves failed to report on her 700’s that she was CEO and a fiduciary officer of Communities for a New California-Education Fund (CNCEF) that reported it lobbied and spent \$1,774 on lobbying.

In addition, Guzman-Aceves did not report over \$5,700 in “occupancy costs” of CNCEF.

CNCEF was operated out of a residence owned by Guzman-Aceves. The address was the same as the address given for her voter registration, and CNCEF reported on its tax return that it paid \$5,732 in “occupancy costs.

It was also shown that she was a di-

orm 990 (2012) Communities For A New California		45-1636468	
Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses			
Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns. All other organizations must complete column (A)			
d Lobbying		1,774.	1,774.
16 Occupancy		5,732.	5,732.

Communities for a New California (CNC) 2012 tax returns showing \$1,774 lobbying costs and \$5,732 in occupancy costs. CNC's address was the same as Guzman-Aceves' voter registration address and her residence. She did not report the income on her form 700's.

rector for the board of Pesticide Action Network North America (PANNA), an entity that paid Communities for a New California (CNC), a non-profit controlled by Guzman-Aceves and her partner in Cultivo Consulting Jennifer Hernandez, for services CNC rendered under Guzman’s direct control. Hernandez was CEO of CNC.

FPPC filings of the political committee Communities for a New California-Fresno Committee (CNCF) reveal that Guzman made cumulative year-to-date reimbursable expenditures on behalf of the committee of at least \$656.85 during 2010, was paid back \$218.95 of the total on November

5, 2010, but failed to report that the balance of \$437.90 was carried forward to 2011 as an accrued debt of the committee to Guzman.

The committee reported in 2011 that it owed a pre-existing debt of \$437.90 to Guzman. Guzman-Aceves failed to report any transactions involving her receipt of money and loan to the committee on her “assuming office” FPPC 700’s, once again violating the two-year assuming office disclosure law.

But the GO and the FPPC somehow disregarded the overwhelming evidence that showed Guzman-Aceves’ titles, fiduciary role, monetary receipts, and responsibilities in conflicting entities. They also disregarded payments that were greater than the cap limits.

In addition, all the foregoing violations were subject to disclosure under the GO’s own COCI policy, GC 81000.

Second Statement in COIC

The other separate statement in the COIC is (the designated employee must report) “any business entity in which the designated employee is a director, officer, partner, trustee, employee, or holds any position of management.”

As outlined above, and in HMG-CN’s Aug. 4 article and complaint, Guzman Aceves failed to report on her 700’s the CEO position in Communities for a New California-Education Fund (CNCEF), her other director positions (PANNA), and the ownership/partnership in Cultivo Consulting.

But the GO and FPPC countered that argument citing Section 82005 of the Code.

They said that although the COIC 82005 states “any business entity,” it only applies to “any entity operated for-profit.”

Winuk Contradicts Himself

But that argument directly contradicts the FPPC’s position and pleadings in its own high profile 2012 lawsuit, FPPC v. Americans for Responsible Leadership (ARL).

ARL, a non-profit organization, had given large contributions to the Small Business Action Committee, which opposed Gov. Jerry Brown’s Prop. 30 tax

increase initiative in the 2012 elections.

The FPPC sued and won the fast-tracked case for an audit of ARL. They argued that GC 82005-with the court agreeing with the FPPC’s position-that the Act “must be liberally construed to include non-profit corporations that make political contributions in order to accomplish its purpose.”

The California Legislature even responded to the loophole by quickly passing AB 800 and SB 27 that essentially removed non-profits from protection under 82005.

Former FPPC Chairwoman Ann Ravel said, “The FPPC is aggressively litigating to get disclosure and working on laws and regulations to put a stop to these practices in California.”

As a result of the case, both of Guzman-Aceves’ two non-profits, CNCEF and Communities for a New California (CNC) fall under the ARL case law—therefore the Conflict of Interest Code would reasonably apply to them the same as if they were for-profit entities.

Apparently not under the GO or FPPC Chief Gary Winuk.

In their response letter to HMG-CN, the GO and the FPPC argued that Guzman-Aceves companies were exempt under 82005 and therefore she did not need to report them on her 700’s.

Their argument to HMG-CN (and the FPPC complaint) stands exactly opposite to the stance argued by FPPC lawyers in FPPC v. ARL case.

Documents show that there are glaring errors in the GO’s and Winuk’s arguments and further suggest an attempted cover-up by the GO.

The GO is ignoring voluminous amount of evidence in the HMG-CN August 4 article; ignoring monies paid to Guzman that were well above the non-reportable cap amount; and ignoring that

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- Martha Guzman-Aceves

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Leadership Profiles

Martha Guzman-Aceves

Jan 2014 contact page for Cultivo Consulting, showing Guzman as Partner. Again she violated the COIC by not reporting this on her 700's, and the GO and FPPC ignored it.

the California Legislature has made non-profits subject to conflict-of-interest disclosures.

Further, as evidenced by the Guzman-Aceves 700’s, the GO and the FPPC are not investigating the 700’s for accuracy and is in violation of its own COIC.

Cultivo Consulting Never Dissolved

Another indefensible argument by the GO and FPPC was that Guzman-Aceves was no longer founder/owner/CEO and is not receiving compensation from the previously mentioned for-profit partnership, Cultivo Consulting.

In the documents obtained from the FPPC via a public records request related

GUZMAN-ACEVES
Continued from page 14

to the Guzman-Aceves investigation, no paperwork was found to demonstrate the dissolution of Cultivo.

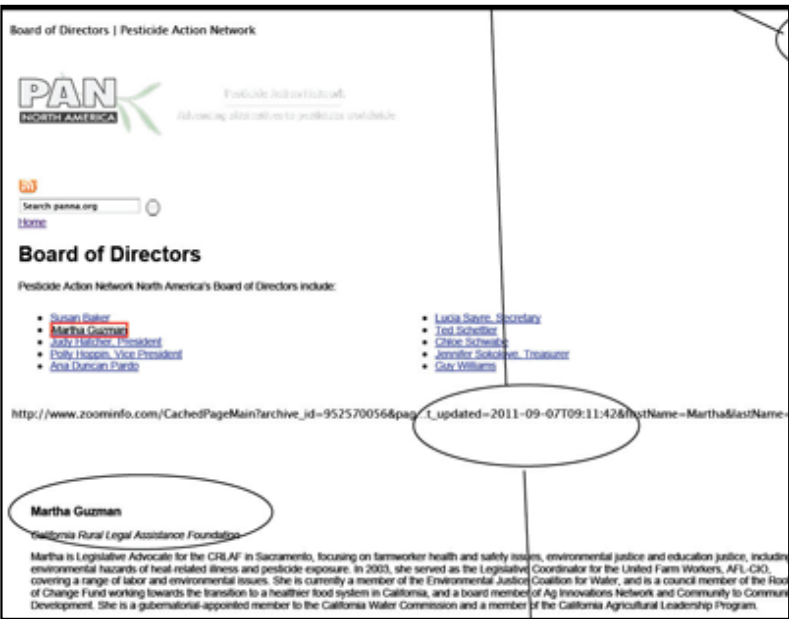
It is apparent that Winuk, after receiving Powell’s letter, did not ask him to produce dissolution documents, and Powell did not volunteer any evidence to support the statement his letter.

A California partnership exists until one partner passes away or it is dis-

Used Her Official Position for Financial Gain

The last argument claimed that Guzman-Aceves did not violate the COIC as it relates to using her official position to influence government decisions for her organizations or her personal financial benefit.

HMG-CN established in this article and its Aug. 4 article that Guzman-Aceves was a director of Pesticide Action Network North America (PANNA) until at least Sept. 7, 2011.



Cached Internet page as of 10/7/2013 showing Guzman-Aceves as a Director of the Board on PANNA, she did not report this on her 700's as required. The page showed she was Director at 9/7/2011 also.

solved.

Yet the FPPC argued that Guzman-Aceves did not violate the code because she “resigned her position as partner (at Cultivo) when she began work at the Governor’s Office in June 2011.”

Once again, the GO and FPPC disregard the overwhelming evidence and state "no further investigation is necessary."

The August HMG-CN article showed that in January 2013, Ms. Guzman-Aceves provided her biography to Latino Journal prior to receiving the Spirit of Latina Award. In the published biography, Ms. Guzman-Aceves described herself as “co-founder of Cultivo Consulting (as well as CNC).

Guzman-Aceves was also was prominently listed on the Cultivo website until at least July 2014.

More documents show Cultivo existed in Nov. 2011 and Jan 20, 2014

All of the documents were obtained by a simple Internet search.

Cultivo website documents described Guzman as a director of PANNA until April 28, 2012.

Communities for a New California Education Fund (CNCEF), of which Guzman-Aceves was the CEO, was a member of the Steering Committee of a PANNA program, Californians for Pesticide Reform (CPR), until at least April 2014.

In April 2014, PANNA published a school children pesticide safety position paper, “Protecting Their Potential” naming CNCEF as one of CPR’s steering-committee members.

Guzman-Aceves’ partner executed the contract while Guzman was handling regulatory and legislative matters for the Governor on agriculture, pesticides, water, and the environment, matters that directly related to PANNA's advocacy interests.

The tax returns of PANNA and CNC showed that CNC’s Chief Executive Of-

ficer and Guzman’s Cultivo partner, Jennifer Hernandez, executed a contract between the two organizations to “conduct public outreach and education pertaining to food and agriculture, grassroots lobbying and voter outreach” on PANNA's behalf at the same time as the Executive Director of both CNC and CNCEF, Pablo Rodriguez, reported to Guzman as well as Hernandez.

In addition, as Executive Director of CNCEF, Rodriguez signed a PANNA public comment letter and sent it to the Director of the Department of Pesticide Regulations arguing in favor of a specific partisan action in an open pesticide regulatory decision.

Once again, the GO and FPPC disregarded overwhelming evidence as documented in the HMG-CN complaint and its Aug. 4 article and ignored Guzman-Aceves’ egregious conflicts of interest that were never disclosed in her statements of economic interests FPPC 700’s.

Additional Violations

The negotiated public outreach contract between CNC and PANNA and the subsequent compensation places both firms in the position of engaging in activities clearly in conflict with Guzman-Aceves’ duties as a Senior Assistant to the

Governor and prohibited by statute.

By compensating CNC, PANNA likely expected to enjoy the influence of the State and governor’s authority for its gain and to further its already conflicting relationship with Guzman-Aceves as a PANNA director.

Further, in accepting compensation from PANNA, CNC entered into an obvious conflicting relationship, conducting business with Guzman-Aceves and her

subordinates.

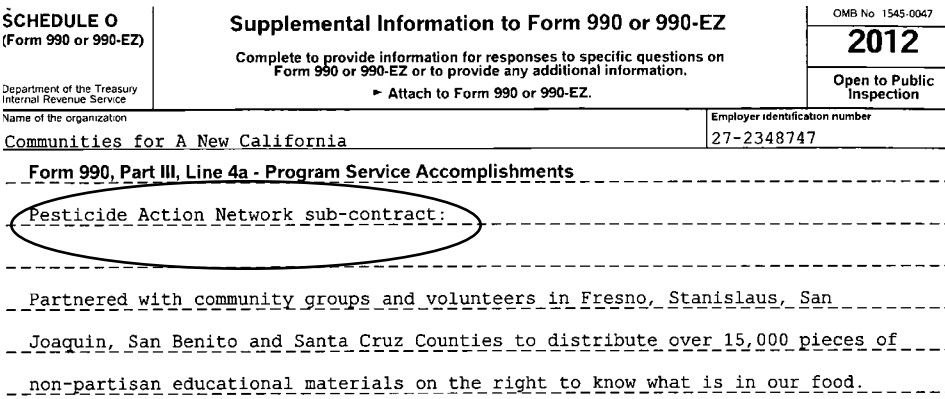
Yet the GO and FPPC argued that Guzman-Aceves had no financial interest in these entities while the documents clearly show that the arrangement had obvious potential to influence Guzman-Aceves in her official duties.

They also may show a “reward” given to Guzman-Aceves for executing official actions favorable to PANNA on legislative and regulatory matters.

In the face of all the preceding overwhelming evidence, the FPPC and Winuk appear willing to accept the Office of the Governor’s assurances at face value and conduct no investigation nor sanction Guzman-Aceves for her violations.

The Office of the Governor’s counsel is equally guilty for failing to respond to other complaints, answering with a blanket “no further investigation into the matter is warranted.”

Winuk’s biography on the FPPC website states, “...the Enforcement Division's responsibilities include...investigating allegations of violations ...by public officials and referring allegations of criminal misconduct to the appropriate criminal investigative and prosecuting agencies, i.e., Attorney General, District Attorney, FBI, IRS, and the U.S. Attorney.....



2012 CNC tax return showing contract work with PANNA. CNC was run by Guzman Aceves' Cultivo Partner Jennifer Hernandez, and its executive director was Pablo Rodriguez, who is executive director of CNCEF also. Guzman-Aceves is CEO of CNCEF.

Given the facts of this article, an additional complaint was filed on Sept. 23 with the FPPC asking them to reconsider opening an investigation of Guzman.

Several calls into Guzman and the Office of the Governor for comment were not returned.

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