



LA MIRADA AMONG TOP 10 PERCENT IN STATE FOR FINANCIAL SOUNDNESS

HMG-CN Staff Report

La Mirada was once again validated as one of the most financially stable cities in the State, when, in a recent report by State Senator John Moorlach, the City was placed in the top 10 percent of California's 482 cities for financial soundness.

The City has once again adopted a balanced budget with a healthy level of reserves. The high long-term financial rating and compliance with governmental accounting practices from independent auditors "are a result of the responsible financial stewardship of the city's leaders and dedicated staff."

La Mirada is making great progress towards achieving the commitments outlined in its 2020 Strategic Plan. Many

See **LA MIRADA** page 6

THE GARDENS CASINO TO HOST 'ALL IN FOR AUTISM' TOURNAMENT

Proceeds to benefit So. Cal.
Chapter of Autism Speaks

By Brian Hews

The newly remodeled Gardens Casino in Hawaiian Gardens will be hosting the inaugural All in for Autism Speaks Poker Tournament on Saturday, April 7th. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Southern California Chapter of Autism Speaks who's mission is to help individuals with autism and their families. Proceeds will also benefit local families by providing Gemiini Educational Systems video therapy services.

Autism, or autism spectrum disorder, refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates 1 in 68 children is on the autism spectrum.

The evening begins at 5:00 p.m. with red carpet arrivals and a reception filled with live music, hors-d'oeuvres, drinks

See **GARDENS CASINO** page 9

ROSE HILLS HOSTS 8TH ANNUAL VETERANS CAR SHOW AND RESOURCE FAIR



A 1953 Classic L.A. Patrol Car at the auto show part of the 8th Annual Veterans Car Show and Resource Fair at Rose Hills Sky Chapel. Forty-four veteran specific businesses were present at the event focusing on veterans families and the veterans. Photo by Tammye McDuff.

By Tammye McDuff

Vietnam veteran Jose Ramos, an Army combat medic who cycled his way across the country and rubbed elbows with politicians and royalty on behalf of fellow veterans was the founder of the 'Welcome Home Viet Nam Veterans Day'.



JOSE RAMOS

Although Ramos has since passed away, the City of Whittier proudly carries on this tradition.

The 8th Annual Veterans Car Show and Resource Fair was held Sunday, March 18th at Rose Hills Sky Chapel.

The focus of this year's event was not only on veterans, but their families.

The event hosted 44 businesses specific to veterans, from the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces Museum of History to 'Run for the Wall' sign-up sheets to Big Johns Military Surplus.

Sylvia Ramos, widow of Jose, has tirelessly continued to work for recognition for the 'Welcome Home Viet Nam Veterans Day'.

"I was so proud of him and how much he cared about his family and his fellow veterans," Sylvia said "I was blessed to be

married to my best friend for 50 years."

Vietnam Veterans Day commemorates the sacrifices of Vietnam veterans and is part of a national effort to recognize the men and women who were denied a proper welcome upon returning home more than 40 years ago.

In 2009, then-Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed into law, with Jose Ramos by his side, the Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act, which designates March 29th of each year as National Vietnam War Veterans Day.

On that day in 1973, the last combat troops were withdrawn from Vietnam and the last prisoners of war held in North Vietnam arrived on American soil.

It is also the date President Nixon chose for the first Vietnam Veterans Day in 1974.

Thirty-eight states and Puerto Rico joined in recognizing the day.

The U.S. Senate in 2011 formally recognized Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day.

The grassroots campaign began as the dream of one veteran, and has since spread to every corner of the country.

It was designed to show Vietnam veterans the honorable "welcome home" they did not receive four decades ago.

At Ramos' request, Whittier became the first city in the U.S. to recognize Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day in 2002.

ABCUSD BOARD VOTES TO HIRE QUESTIONABLE COMPANY FOR BOND OUTREACH

By Brian Hews

The ABCUSD Board, at its regular meeting Tuesday, voted unanimously to hire two organizations that will help them pass a much-needed facilities bond to upgrade its aging infrastructure.

ABCUSD is being left behind by other area districts who passed bonds two years ago. Nearby Norwalk-La Mirada School District is well into spending and building new facilities after they passed a \$300 million bond in 2016.

See **ABCUSD** page 14

RECALL: MONTEBELLO MAYOR VANESSA DELGADO & HADJINIAN SERVED PAPERS

By Brian Hews

A group of residents have served a Notice of Petition to Recall to oust Mayor Vanessa Delgado and Mayor pro tem Jack Hadjinian.



MONTEBELLO
MAYOR
VANESSA DELGADO

The petitions require that the proponents write a statement, not over two hundred words in length, outlining the reasons for the recall.

The proponents must also gather no less than 20 signatures on each of the petitions that must be verified by the City Clerk in order to move forward.

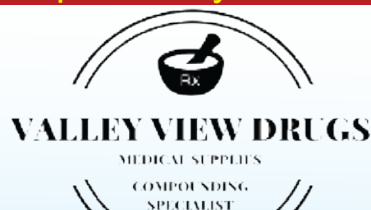
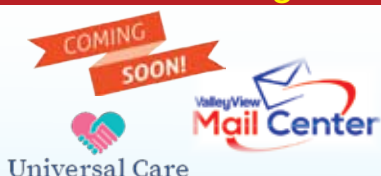
The petitions stated the reasons listed by the residents to recall Delgado are, "Delgado brokered a no-bid contract for her brother's company to build Home2 Suites which cost city \$50 million; Delgado failed to listen to her constituents,

See **RECALL** page 7

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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON SURPRISES ABCUSD SCHOLARS

By Tammye McDuff

Spring is the time of year when high school seniors begin to receive those letters of acceptance or rejections. Along with those letters are hefty enrollment fees and budget planning on the part of the entire family. Scholarships go a long way to easing some of the financial burden.

Southern California Edison recognizes students who want to be ‘makers of tomorrow’ ... dreamers, inventors, guardians and pioneers.

Each year, Edison International, awards 30 scholarships of \$40,000 to high school seniors who want to make a difference in the world by studying science, technology, engineering or math [STEM] in college.

From helping to prevent the rise of ocean levels to increasing access to solar power in underserved communities, real issues need bright ideas to create change. This is a chance for students to stand up, advance their education, and be part of the solution.

ABC School District has three such scholars this year, two seniors from Cerritos High School and one from Whitney High School.

This past week, Lindsey Sayers, Southern California Edison engineering manager, surprised Fu-Tung ‘Irisa’ Chang and Peter Chea, from Cerritos High School with scholarship checks during their Model United Nations class and Justin Hogenauer was taken by surprise by



SURPRISE: Fu-Tung ‘Irisa’ Chang and Peter Chea, from Cerritos High School with scholarship checks given to them during their Model United Nations class.



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Justin Hogenauer (center) with his Track & Field teammates after he received the SCE check.

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a visit from SoCal Edison’s Kevin Payne, CEO of Southern California Edison during a Track & Field team meeting.

Payne noted that giving Hogenauer this scholarship was particularly special “Justin is exceptional because of his passion for sustainable energy. Because of the focus on our company and the fact that we are moving forward in this field we want to support him in his college career and hopefully he will support us after graduation.”

Chang wishes to develop better materials used in electronics that would prolong its use, increase safety and efficiency, and reduce the amount of times people change their electronics.

At a soccer match, Chea received a debilitating knee injury. During his recuperation, he grew sympathetic for people with permanent disabilities. He wants to create

products that would assist those with physical challenges with their everyday tasks, making their lives easier and more fulfilled.

“I really didn’t know what was going to happen,” said Hogenauer,” I have seen the award presented in the past and always thought it would the coolest thing to win.” He went on to say that the money will be impactful on his college career, so that he can continue to follow his passion. Hogenauer has applied to Stanford and has already received a letter of acceptance from UC Davis,”One of the things that I wanted to pursue further is the gardens here at Whitney. We use solar panels for power, and I would like to develop this further and then bring my ideas back to the city and the school in the future. The community has really been helpful and I want to return that investment.”

SU CASA ANNOUNCES NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Su Casa – Ending Domestic Violence is proud to announce the addition of the new members to its governing board of directors.

Dr Kash Nair is the CEO and Medical Director of Nair Urgent Care in Long Beach, California. He was raised and educated in Malaysia, Singapore, England and Canada before completing his medical residency in the US.

John Leonard leads Wells Fargo Capital Finance’s Technology Finance division. In this capacity, John leads all transaction screening, underwriting execution, and portfolio management activities for this lending platform that is geared towards software and technology companies.

Russell Simpkin is currently a Vice President in the Business Banking divi-

sion at City National Bank. He has over 25 years of experience working for banks of all sizes, from small community banks to large international banks. Originally from the Boston area, Russ has been in Southern California since 1982 and holds a B.S. degree in Business Administration from Cal State University, Northridge, majoring in Finance and Real Estate

According to Anna Conti, executive director, “As an organization, we are thrilled with the vision and talents our new board members bring to Su Casa.”

Nair, Leonard, and Simpkin join the 10 current members of the board of directors that provide leadership for Su Casa, which provides domestic violence shelter and services to Long Beach and Southern California.

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LOCAL ROTARY HONORS FIRST RESPONDERS



Attending the Rotary Community Awards Dinner were (l-r): Artesia Mayor Sally Flowers, honorees Deputy Sheriff Cesar Quiroz, Captain Jeffrey Swingle and Deputy Sheriff Kyle Crowley, and Rotary District Governor Ian Hicks. Photo by Larry Caballero.

By Larry Caballero
Social Reporter

to help manage conditions like diabetes, chronic lung disease and heart failure as well as behavioral health and other support.

It will also serve as a place where seniors and other community residents can come to enjoy social interaction with others who live in the area.

CareMore Care Center is located at 3300 East South Street in Lakewood, just west of Downey Avenue.

For more information on the Care Center and CareMore Health, please visit www.caremore.com

The Rotary Club of Cerritos-Artesia held its annual Community Recognition Awards Dinner at Frantone's Pizza & Spaghetti Villa in Cerritos Mar. 20 to honor three distinguished first responders.

Fire Battalion Chief Steve Cabrera introduced Captain Jeffrey Swingle from Cerritos Fire Station #30 "as a man of integrity and courage to get done what needs to be done."

Swingle has served in the community as a firefighter, paramedic, engineer and captain.

"We are truly blessed to have him on our team," said Cabrera.

Swingle thanked the Rotary for the recognition and said, "The Rotary is all about community, and I applaud you for all you

do.”

Artesia Mayor Sally Flowers also thanked Swingle “for taking a real interest in our City.”

Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff Cesar Quiroz was also honored “as one who stops and gets to know everyone in the community, and he has served with distinction for his ten years at the Lakewood-Cerritos station and eight years in Artesia.”

Captain Joe Nunez thanked Deputy Sheriff Kyle Crowley “for your team work ethic and a positive attitude that is contagious.”

Mayor Flowers thanked all of the honorees for helping to lower the overall crime rate in the area that includes residential burglaries. “I always want to take the opportunity to thank you for all you do for our residents.”



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CERRITOS UPS DRIVERS GO 25 YEARS WITHOUT AN ACCIDENT

By Tammye McDuff

Imagine driving for 25 years, and never having a fender bender, close call or accident. UPS honored over one hundred drivers in Southern California for their outstanding driving record on busy roads in that iconic brown truck that everyone recognizes.

It happens that sixteen of these drivers call the Cerritos UPS store their home base and one is a Cerritos resident, and UPS couldn't be more proud of its safe drivers.



Adrian Antonio, long-time Cerritos resident, is among 173 other elite drivers from California that will be inducted into the company's elite driver organization this year.

Adrian Antonio, long time Cerritos resident is among 173 other elite drivers from California that will be inducted into the company's elite organization this year.

The Atlanta based company adds to its prestigious "Circle of Honor" each year to recognize employees who have delivered packages for a quarter of a century without an accident. Globally, 10,504 UPS drivers are members of the Circle of Honor. Collectively they've racked up 257,221 years and nearly 14 billion safe miles during their careers. That's enough miles to travel to the moon and back almost 29,000 times.

California boasts 988 Circle of Honor drivers with a combined 24,258 years of accident-free driving. Len Edelman of Anderson is the state's senior-most safe

driver, with 42 years of accident-free driving under his belt. There are 11,420 total full-time UPS drivers in California.

"My thanks go to all of them for their dedication and focus and for the countless lives they've saved," said George Willis, President, UPS West Region. "Their attention to detail has kept them safe and has helped improve public safety."

The most seasoned UPS Circle of Honor driver is Thomas Camp of Livonia, Michigan with 55 years of driving without an accident. Ronald McKnight of Bronx, New York is next in line with 49 years of safe driving. One hundred twenty six others have logged at least 40

years without an accident.

UPS's 127,000 small package drivers are among the safest on the roads, logging more than three billion miles a year and delivering nearly 5 billion packages annually.

Founded in 1907, UPS has a rich history of safety and training. The company issued its first driver handbook in 1917 and began recognizing safe drivers in 1923. In 1928, UPS recognized its first five-year safe driver, Ray McCue, with UPS founder Jim Casey presenting him a gold and platinum watch. UPS formally established its safe driving honor program in 1928.

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LA MIRADA MEALS ON WHEELS HITS 43 YEARS

Next month, Meals on Wheels of La Mirada will be celebrating its 43rd anniversary serving homebound seniors and adults with disabilities living in the City of La Mirada. Since April 1975, this non-profit organization has served 2,000 residents and delivered over 611,000 meals.

The organization prides itself on having many dedicated volunteers who help deliver the meals. Volunteers deliver approximately 1,565 meals per month, which mainly are delivered to seniors and disabled residents. Volunteers also visit with clients to check on their well-being while delivering the meals. The cost for one meal is \$5 per day, or \$9 per day for two meals. Meals are prepared and packaged by Lascari's Restaurant.

"For the last 43 years, with the support of our community, we have been



This year, Meals on Wheels of La Mirada will be celebrating its 43rd anniversary. Since 1975, it has served 2,000 residents and delivered over 611,000 meals.

able to ensure our homebound seniors and disabled neighbors are taken care of in mind, body, and spirit," says Meals on Wheels President Debbie Garza. "We are incredibly proud of the impact this program has made on the lives of our

homebound neighbors."

If you would like more information on how to become a volunteer, donate, or receive services please call (562) 943-0037 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to noon.

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LA PALMA POLICE ARREST FEMALE FOR CRIMINAL THREATS

On March 22, 2018, the La Palma Police Department arrested Julia Gomez-Lopez, a 56 year old resident of Compton, for making felony criminal threats against a La Palma business and its employees.

Earlier in the week, the business had received an anonymous handwritten letter, which demanded that a specific



JULIA GOMEZ-LOPEZ

employee's employment be terminated, otherwise multiple deaths would occur.

The letter threatened to kill a specific employee, additional unnamed employees, and to set fires at multiple office locations of the company.

La Palma Police Detectives quickly investigated this case and identified the suspect Gomez-Lopez, who is an employee at one of the satellite offices of the involved La Palma business.

Gomez-Lopez was booked at the La Palma Police Department and later transported to Orange County Jail, where she is being held on \$50,000 bail.

ROTARY PROVIDES EASTER DINNERS FOR LA MIRADA FAMILIES

Staff Report

Members of the Rotary Club of La Mirada have provided 36 complete Easter dinners to the Good Sam Pantry at Beatitudes of Our Lord church in La Mirada.

Rotarians donated some \$1,000 in hams, canned goods and other food items to the Good Sam Pantry. Rotarians purchased the supplies using club funds and with the support of the Walmart Neighborhood Market, located at Imperial Highway and La Mirada Boulevard in the Crossroads Shopping Center, on March 22. The food was distributed to needy families later that afternoon by volunteers at the Good Sam Pantry.

As part of its Food for Families project, La Mirada Rotary provided a similar amount of meals to the Good Sam Food Pantry prior to the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays.

In recent months, La Mirada Rotary has also been actively conducting a number of other service projects in the community.

Rotarians purchased \$750 worth of turkey dinners in November from Polly's Pies located at Beach Boulevard and Rosecrans Avenue in La Mirada. The food was served by youth volunteers to hundreds of local residents at the annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner at Foster Road Elementary School.

A Holiday Shopping Spree for needy children was sponsored by the Rotary Club in December at Marshalls in La Mirada. Rotarians worked in conjunction with local elementary schools to identify families in the community who needed assistance during the holidays. The children, assisted by adult volunteers, selected needed clothing items from lists provided by their parents.

"Rotary has been very active in La



ROTARY PROVIDES EASTER DINNERS: Members of the Rotary Club of La Mirada and volunteers from Good Sam Pantry at Beatitudes Church provided holiday meals for families in La Mirada. Rotarians supplied \$1,000 worth of food for the project with the assistance of Walmart Neighborhood Market.

Mirada for more than 50 years," says club president Zurich Lewis. "Rotary has truly made an impact in our community, and we plan to increase our level of activity in the future."

"Rotary is made up 1.2 million business and community leaders who come together to make a positive change in their communities," adds Lewis. "Our many different occupations and cultural backgrounds give us a unique perspective on life, and our shared passion for service helps us accom-

plish remarkable things."

Rotary Club of La Mirada assists with a variety of community service projects throughout the year. The group meets on Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. at the Sizzler Restaurant, 15252 Rosecrans Avenue in La Mirada. Individuals interested in learning more about the Rotary Club are welcome to attend a club meeting. Additional information is available at <https://www.facebook.com/Rotarycluboflamirada>.

CERRITOS SHERIFF'S ACQUIRE TWO MORE ALPR PATROL UNITS

Staff Report

The Cerritos City Council recently approved leasing two additional patrol vehicles that feature Automatic License Plate Reader (ALPR) technology to add to the fleet. Cerritos deputies will soon deploy a total of seven ALPR-equipped vehicles to aid them in their daily crime suppression efforts. The original two ALPR equipped vehicles were introduced in 2016; three additional ALPR's were added in early 2018. The two additional vehicles will be utilized to abate residential burglaries.

The City's ALPR equipped patrol vehicles feature the most updated version of ALPR technology. The vehicles have four roof-mounted, high-resolution, infrared digital cameras providing 360 degree coverage and a computer that automatically photographs, geo-tags and instantly checks the license plate number of every vehicle that passes within proximity of the ALPR cameras. The ALPR system immediately notifies the patrolling deputy if a scanned license plate belongs to a stolen vehicle, a person with an outstanding warrant or other persons of interest. The Cerritos Sheriff's Station's crime analyst and detectives utilize the scanned license plate data to locate possible witnesses and suspects.

"We will soon have five ALPR-equipped patrol vehicles dedicated to the City's residential burglary abatement efforts, with the other two assigned to the City's commercial districts," stated Cerritos Mayor Grace Hu. "These vehicles are valuable tools that assist our deputies in keeping our community safe."

LA MIRADA RECOGNIZES 90TH BIRTHDAY MILESTONE



Long time La Mirada resident Violet Lesko was recognized by the La Mirada City Council for her 90th birthday at the March 13 City Council meeting.

La Mirada resident Violet Lesko was recognized for recently celebrating her 90th birthday by the La Mirada City Council as part of the City's birthday recognition program.

Violet was born in Newark, New Jersey in 1928. She has always had a passion for singing and spent most of her life singing at various venues. Over the years, Violet has shared her gift of singing for groups such as church choirs, Norwalk and Buena Park Chorus, and at weddings, funerals, and sport events. She also had the opportunity to sing with Mr. B's Honeys choral group, where she traveled to the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Washington, DC to perform for veterans.

In 1953, Ms. Lesko married John, a Korean War veteran. They moved to La Mirada in 1970 and have resided over 48 years. When Violet is not singing, she en-

joys spending time with her family, gardening, cooking, traveling, and playing bingo. She also serves as the La Mirada Gadabouts Treasurer.

She has three children, three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

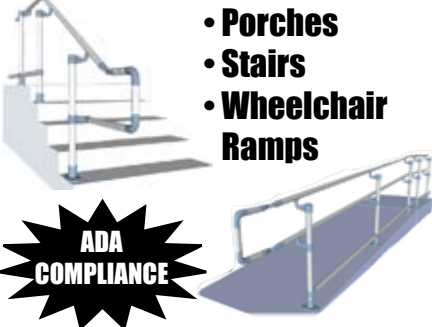
The City of La Mirada recognizes La Mirada residents on their milestone anniversaries and birthdays. The City's Recognition program includes 80th, 90th, and 100th birthdays and 50th, 60th, and 70th wedding anniversaries.

"Special milestones are to be celebrated," says Community Services Director Lori Thompson. "The City encourages eligible La Mirada residents to sign up for this special recognition."

To sign up for recognition, contact the La Mirada Activity Center at (562) 902-3160.

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ABC HOSTS SUCCESSFUL PARENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

By Larry Caballero
Social Editor

More than 300 parent and school leaders attended the ABC School District’s 22nd annual Parent Leadership Conference Mar. 17 at the Cerritos Sheraton.

The theme of the conference this year was "Raising Readers - Our Future Leaders". Welcoming guests to the event were ABC President Soo Yoo; Superintendent Dr. Mary Sieu, who emphasized the importance of reading; and keynote speaker Rebecca Constantino, professor and founder/director of Access Books, a non-profit volunteer organization that has donated millions of books for school libraries.

Yoo and Sieu reported that ABC was the only district, out of approximately 80 school districts in Los Angeles County, to be recognized by the Los Angeles County of Education as a California Exemplary School.

Sieu said, “We strive for excellence every single day, and in ABC, we don’t do things small.”

Constandino reported that research shows that “we learn to read by reading. And children want to hold books in their hands.”

According to Constandino, a predictor of how well students read is determined by the quality of the school library. “When they visit the library, reading scores improve.”

One elementary student told her that “I have so many ideas in my head now, and my imagination is everywhere.”

Another student reported, “I knew I was smart and thought I wanted to be a lawyer, but now I want to be a librarian.”

Constandino said that a library can

change the whole culture of a family, and concluded with her organization’s motto: “With literacy and access for all.”

Her organization has provided books to inner-city schools where at least 90 percent of students live at or below the poverty line.

Most students at the schools served are children of color and children of immigrants. Each year, approximately 18,000 pre-kindergarten through middle school-aged children participate in the program.

After breakfast and entertainment from local elementary school students, parents attended ten workshops, related to the reading theme, and several exhibitor tables that pertained to reading and ABCUSD resources/programs.

The sessions included Leading the Way to College and Career designed to help parents understand the coursework, reading competencies, and employable skills that students will need to be successful in their current lives and beyond high school.

Other sessions included Online Resources for Elementary Reading Success, for Secondary Reading Success, and a panel discussion entitled: Raising Readers—Our Future Leaders.

The parent panelists shared their experiences about reading as a child, encouraging their children to read now and how reading together can be a great family time.

Parents thanked the Conference facilitators for presenting a program that will assist them in providing more opportunities for their children to grow as successful readers and citizens in the future.



Welcoming parent and school leaders to the Parent Leadership Conference were (l-r): Scholastic Book Fairs Representatives Gina Youngs and John Hales.

SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF NORWALK 2018 EDUCATION AWARD BANQUET

Soroptimist International of Norwalk will honor six women at the 2018 Education Awards Banquet at the Norwalk Doubletree Hotel, 13111 Sycamore Drive, Norwalk, CA 90650 on Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

Tickets to the luncheon are \$30, available for purchase from members or via credit card at www.sinorwalk.org. Call Amanda Secola at 949-795-2776 for information. A diaper drive will take place during the “Once Upon a Dream Education Awards Banquet” on April 28th.

Donated diapers of all sizes will be distributed to L.A. CADA’s Family HOPE Program in Santa Fe Springs.

The Family HOPE Program serves

pregnant and postpartum women and their babies/toddlers under 3 years.

Soroptimist is a global volunteer organization that improves the lives of women and girls. Soroptimist’s main program, Live Your Dream Education and Training Awards for Women, has disbursed over \$30 million to almost 20,000 women since 1972. Its newest program, Dream It, Be It, targets girls in secondary school who face obstacles to their future success. Soroptimist also powers LiveYourDream.org, its online community that provides on- and offline opportunities for volunteer action benefiting women and girls.

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LA MIRADA

Continued from page 1

advancements have been made since its adoption in 2016, and more of the Plan’s objectives will be achieved in 2018.

City officials remain committed to directing City resources to preserve

La Mirada as a safe and attractive community with a high quality of life.

Public safety remains the City’s highest priority. A strategic partnership between the City’s Public Safety team, local schools, residents, and businesses, allows La Mirada to stay among the safest cities in the region. This collaborative relationship resulted in City being named one of the safest cities in California for 2018 by the National Council for Home Safety and Security. Ongoing efforts in 2018 will include strengthening partnerships with Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch, and Volunteers on Patrol.

On March 31, 2018, the one percent transactions and use tax from Measure I will expire. However, the City will continue with its robust infrastructure improvement programs.

The City will be working on enhancing the streetscape with new landscaping planted along the medians of La Mirada Boulevard, Rosecrans Avenue, and Valley View Avenue.

A master plan to renovate Creek Park is also being developed and will include improvements to the park’s bridges, walkways, lighting, and landscaping. Additional possible improvements include terraced seating along the creek, fitness stations made of natural materials, and re-naturalization of the creek.

Many companies continue to choose La Mirada as their home. Popeyes Chicken at

the northeast corner of Imperial Highway and Santa Gertrudes Avenue and Chick-fil-A restaurant at the southeast corner of Firestone Boulevard and Gateway Drive have received City planning approval. Improvements to the AMC La Mirada 7 Movie Theater are also underway.

“The City remains dedicated to sustaining La Mirada as a safe and attractive community that families can enjoy and where businesses can prosper,” says Mayor Ed Eng. “We will continue to earn the trust of our community by adhering to the highest ethical standards and prudent financial management.”

LA MIRADA'S ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

The city of La Mirada invites residents to hop in for the annual fun-filled Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 31 from 9 to 11 a.m. at La Mirada Regional Park.

The free event provides a perfect day of fun for the whole family.

Participants can enjoy crafts, games, music, and photos with the Easter Bunny.

Easter Egg hunts promptly begin at 10:15 a.m. and continue throughout the morning for children ages 10 and under.

The La Mirada Kiwanis Club will be serving a pancake breakfast throughout the event, as well as hosting the annual Duck Debry at Splash!, which raises funds to support community causes.

The La Mirada Regional Park is located at 13701 Adelfa Drive.

For additional information, contact the Community Services Department at (562) 943-7277.

For More Information Call: 888 CleanLA (888-253-2652)

WHERE IS THE CERRITOS CRIME SUMMARY?

Many HMG-CN readers have called and emailed asking what happened to the Cerritos Crime Summary.

City management and the Cerritos Sheriff's recently re-formatted their weekly report adding more information to the report.

The summary now identifies Reporting Districts and other categories and is presented in table form.

Unfortunately, the new report is not a good fit for newspaper format.

HMG-CN is in contact with the City in an attempt to keep the new information on the crime summary yet provide the report for newspaper format.

Stay tuned to this spot for future developments.

CRIME SUMMARIES

La Mirada

Mar. 12. - Mar. 18, 2018

Notable Arrests

• Three suspects were arrested throughout La Mirada for various warrants and narcotics violations.

Robbery

• Cash was stolen from business during a daytime robbery on the 15000 block of Leffingwell Rd. No injuries were sustained during the incident. The suspects involved were later arrested.

• Cash was stolen from business during a daytime robbery on the 14700 block of Beach Blvd. No injuries were sustained during the incident.

Other Structure Burglary

• An attempt burglary was reported to a storage shed on the 15800 block of Ali-cante Ave.

Vehicle Burglary

• Three burglaries were reported on the 14300 block of Firestone Blvd. A laptop and duffle bag were stolen.

• A wallet was reported stolen during an overnight burglary on the 13100 block of Cherverton Dr.

• An early morning burglary was reported on the 13300 block of Biola Ave.

Grand Theft

• A theft of various items was reported on the 14700 block of Jalisco Rd.

Grand Theft Vehicle

• A commercial trailer was reported stolen on the 14700 block of Industry Cir. The trailer has since been recovered by Norwalk Sheriff Station.

• A sedan was reported stolen on the 15700 block of Imperial Hwy. The vehicle has since been recovered by Norwalk Sheriff Station.

• A van was reported stolen on the 14400 block of Firestone Blvd.

• A stolen SUV was recovered on the 13400 block of Marlette Dr.

• A stolen truck was recovered near the intersection of Trojan Way and Desman Rd.

Bellflower:

Over the past two weeks there have been 69 reported Part 1 crimes in the City of Bellflower, down from 71 incidents dur-

ing the previous two weeks.

The greatest number of incidents occurred on Mondays 13, Sundays and Fridays 11 each.

BREAK-DOWN OF CRIMES:

Aggravated Assault	6
Robbery	2
Grand Theft Auto	16
Theft from Motor Vehicle	21
Burglary	11
Other thefts	12

Two robberies occurred during this time period:

1) 15000 block of Woodruff Ave. (3/12-Evening): Two suspects approached the victim and demanded his property. One suspect pointed a handgun at the victim, causing him to hand over his items in fear of getting hurt. The suspects then ran off out of view

2) 10000 block of Somerset Blvd. (3/13-Evening): The victim and a witness were standing in the parking lot of the location waiting for someone to pick them up. The suspects approached the victims and offered to sell them marijuana. The victim refused and one of the suspects pulled out a handgun and pointed it at him, demanding his property. When the victim's ride pulled up the suspects ran off through the parking lot and out of view.

2017 DOWNEY ARMED ROBBERY SUSPECT CAUGHT

On Tuesday, December 12th, 2017, at approximately 9:30p.m., officers responded to a call of an armed robbery at the Norm's Restaurant located at 7955 Firestone Boulevard. The suspect brandished a handgun and told the cashier to open the register. The suspect removed money from the cash register and exited through the front doors to an awaiting vehicle.

Detectives investigating the case identified a possible suspect as 46-year-old, Edward Ramon Rodriguez, a Norwalk resident. Mr. Rodriguez was also being sought by the Huntington Beach Police Department for a similar robbery in their jurisdiction.

On March 3, 2018, Mr. Rodriguez was arrested in connection with both robberies and was transported to the Orange County Jail.

Edward Ramon Rodriguez was positively identified as the suspect who committed the armed robbery in the City of Downey. Suspect Rodriguez is being charged with felony armed robbery and is currently being held at the Orange County Jail facility pending his court appearance.

Anyone with information regarding this crime is encouraged to contact Detective Ethan Roberts at (562) 904-2333 or Sergeant Leigh Lacy at (562) 904-2340.

Detectives Investigate Death in Norwalk

Death was near northbound 605 Freeway, near Imperial Highway.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Homicide detectives are responding to investigate the death of a man. The incident occurred on Thursday, March 22, 2018, at approximately 1:13 a.m., on the northbound 605 Freeway, near Imperial Highway, Norwalk.

The male adult was pronounced dead at the scene. There is no additional information available at this time.

Anyone with information about this incident is encouraged to contact the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Homicide Bureau at (323) 890-5500. If you prefer to provide information anonymously, you may call "Crime Stoppers" by dialing (800) 222-TIPS (8477).

RECALL

Continued from page 1

trying to bring cannabis into the City; Delgado made herself mayor by breaking tradition and passing over a senior councilmember voting for herself; Delgado supported measure W (Water Sale), Measure S (Sales Tax), and City Asset Sales, hired friends costing city \$387,100; Delgado doesn't care about Montebello already running for the Senate leaving after only two years; and Delgado is tied to the Calderons.

The petitions stated the reasons listed by the residents to recall Hadjinian are, "Hadjinian keeps trying to raise taxes; Hadjinian paid a false claim that was over 10 years old to Garfield Financial when the City's law firm recommended they not be paid costing our city over \$4 million; Hadjinian supported measure W (Water Sale), Measure S (Sales Tax), and City Asset Sales, hired friends costing city \$387,100 ; Hadjinian used his official capacity to make money conducting personal business, which is a conflict of interest and illegal; Hadjinian has personal ties with cannabis promising favors and licenses in exchange for money; Hadjinian has personal ties to the Calderons; and Hadjinian stated residents are unimportant.

A copy of the notice must be served by personal delivery or by certified mail on Delgado and Hadjinian. In addition, the original of the notice of intention, along with an affidavit of the time and manner of service, must be filed with the local elections official within seven days of being served.

A copy of the notice must then be published at the proponents' expense at least once in a newspaper of general circula-

tion and filed with the City Clerk.

The next step in the recall process requires the proponents to prepare the recall petition for circulation which must be approved by the City Clerk.

After approval, the proponents must collect enough signatures to qualify for a recall election, with the number of signatures based on a percentage of the registered voters in Montebello.

The City has approximately 33,000 registered voters, so the amount needed to qualify is 20% or 6,600 (or more) signatures.

Once the signatures are certified, the proponents of the recall will serve the petition on Delgado and Hadjinian and then have 120 days to gather enough signatures to place on the



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los cerritos
community newspaper

Bowers Museum Celebrates the Life and Times of JFK and Jacqueline Kennedy

By Tammye McDuff



The Bowers Museum, located in Santa Ana, has dedicated the month of March to a living exhibit “American Visionary: John F. Kennedy’s Life and Times “. The special display celebrates the life, political career, and extraordinary vision of one of the country’s most admired and most charismatic presidents.

No single politician was photographed more than Kennedy, from his direct congressional bid as a decorated war hero in 1948, to his fairy tale marriage to Jacqueline Bouvier in 1953 to his run for the White House, his role as commander-in-Chief, his commitment to the arts, his travels around the world, and the final tragedy in Dallas.

American Visionary captures the dramatic scope of Kennedy’s life through the presentation of over 70 photographs and is the most exhaustively researched collections of Kennedy photos ever assembled. The exhibition is produced by WS Productions in association with the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library.

This past Saturday, on St Patrick’s Day, a special presentation was given on the fashion of Jackie Kennedy, an in-depth look at the beloved first lady through the expertise of OC fashionista Lynn Mally.

The lecture introduced the making of Kennedy’s fashion legend with the choosing of her bridal gown. What made her fashion choices unique for any First Lady was a unified vision from a single designer and repeating elements that appeared throughout the wardrobe, such as oversized buttons and lots of bows.

Elements of Kennedy’s everyday wear was called military by designer Oleg Cassini, “Slightly severe, yet comfortable.” Kennedy changed the women’s’ wear for the better by adding simple yet elegant hats that matched her attire, a large variety of color in her wardrobe with sumptuous fabrics and subtle jewelry.

Mrs. Kennedy understood the language of clothes and her role as wife of the President. Her unified style conveyed her youth, modernity and elegance as part of the ‘Camelot’ legacy. No FLOTUS before her or after her has followed this example.



.....

TOP: Evening gown in ivory double-faced silk satin twill with cocade trim. This majestic dress was a masterstroke of image making that established Jacqueline Kennedy in the national consciousness as a woman of commanding personal style. This dress was worn by Jacqueline Kennedy to the Inaugural Gala, National Guard Armory, Washington, D.C., January 19, 1961 the evening before President Kennedy's inauguration.

BOTTOM: Suit in salt-and-pepper wool tweed designed after a spring-summer model by Hubert de Givenchy. This suit was worn by First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy during museum visits with Andre Malraux in Paris, France on June 2, 1961 and during President Kennedy's address to the United Nations in New York City on September 21, 1961.

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Pleasant Holidays.

FRIED FOOD MANIA: RAISING CANE'S OPENS IN LAKEWOOD



Members of the Lakewood City Council & community leaders joined staff for a grand opening celebration this past Tuesday at the chain's newest location on Restaurant Row at 4634 Candlewood Street in Lakewood, former site of the Elephant Bar. Photo courtesy of city of Lakewood.

EDEN ESPINOSA CONCERT IN LONG BEACH MAR. 31

One of the most exciting voices of her generation, Eden Espinosa has wowed audiences in Broadway's *Wicked*, *Rent*, and *Brooklyn*. The Anaheim-native returns home to perform an intimate evening of Broadway and contemporary favorites as part of Musical Theatre West's Broadway in Concert series on Saturday, March 31, 7pm at the Beverly O'Neill Theatre in Long Beach. Tickets are now on sale at www.musical.org, by calling (562) 856-1999 ext. 4 or at the Musical Theatre West Ticket Office. Tickets range from \$45-\$120.



GARDENS CASINO

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

and a silent auction. The auction will include many one-of-a-kind items and VIP experiences, including items donated by the World Boxing Council.

The poker tournament begins at 6:00 p.m. and features a \$250 buy-in, with both cash and prizes up for grabs.

The tournament will boast pro players including Lee Watkinson, Super Bowl XXVI MVP Mark Rypien, celebrities, and other athletes including WBC World Champions.

"This is the most elegant casino in Los Angeles. We are excited to be working with The Gardens Casino and Autism Speaks in connection with this star-studded event designed to bring more resources to the families of Southern California," said Pamela Phillips of Gemiini.

April is Autism Awareness Month and All in for Autism Speaks and the Gardens Casino serves to bring awareness to autism through this competitive tournament. Tickets for the event begin at \$100 to attend. Tickets can be purchased on event day at the Casino. Sponsorship opportunities are available and begin at \$2,500.

To learn more about this year's event please contact: elizabeth.roland@autismspeaks.org. To learn more, donate, or join a fundraising walk with Autism Speaks, go to AutismSpeaks.org.

The Gardens Casino is known as the "friendliest card club" in the Los Angeles area. The casino has been one of LA's premier card clubs for more than 20 years. Its new state-of-the-art venue offers guests over 300 tables, luxury VIP amenities as well as a premium casual restaurant and an upscale bar and lounge. The

Gardens Casino has also been an integral part and partner in the Hawaiian Gardens community, supporting the city with jobs and economic contributions. For more information on The Gardens Casino, visit www.thegardenscasino.com.

Pamela Phillips of Gemiini told HMG-CN that, "Gemiini Systems is a global provider of online video modeling therapy for patients with autism, Down syndrome and other developmental delays. Video modeling is accepted as Established Science by the National Autism Standards Board and Gemiini is dedicated to reaching every family in need of therapy. Gemiini offers scholarships to meet every budget."

Details on research into video therapy or on scholarships for families in need can be found at www.gemiini.org.

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*APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Minimum balance to open is \$100.00. Balance and APY tiers: \$0 to \$99.99 is 0.00% APY; \$100.00 to \$49,999.99 is .25% APY; \$50,000.00 to \$99,999.99 is .85% APY; \$100,000.00 to \$249,999.99 is 1.35% APY; \$250,000.00 and over is 1.75% APY. APY is effective as of March 22, 2018. The APY for your account will depend on the daily balance of your account. We reserve the right to cancel or change the promotion at any time. We may change the APY on your account after account is opened. Deposit funds must be new to First Choice Bank and may not be transferred from existing First Choice Bank account. Fees may reduce earnings on the account. ***\$500 Cash Bonus Requirement – To qualify to earn a \$500 cash bonus, you must: (1) open the account on or before March 30, 2018, and (2) maintain a minimum daily balance of \$100,000 from the account opening date to September 30, 2018. \$500 cash bonus will be credited to the account within 30 days from September 30, 2018 if you fulfill both bonus requirements. Limited to a total of six (6) Reg. D transactions per month. See account disclosure and fee schedule for details.

**APY = Annual Percentage Yield. Minimum balance to open is \$50,000 to a maximum up to \$100,000. All APY tiers are based on the minimum balance of \$50,000 and up and the length of the CD term: Balance from \$50,000 and over, 12 month term is 2.05% APY; balance \$50,000 and over, 24 month term is 2.35% APY; balance \$50,000 and over, 36 month term is 2.85% APY, balance \$50,000 and over, 48 month term is 2.95% APY, and balance \$50,000 and over, 60 month term is 3.05% APY. The offered APY is effective as of March 22, 2018. We reserve the right to cancel or change the promotion at any time. Deposit funds must be new to First Choice Bank and may not be transferred from existing First Choice Bank account. APY assumes principal and interest remain on deposit for the term of the certificate. Interest is compounded monthly. All interest payments for the APY will be credited monthly. Fees could reduce earnings on the account. Early withdrawal penalties may apply. See the account disclosure for details.

BASEBALL: WHITNEY RALLIES TO KEEP ARTESIA WINLESS IN BATTLE OF FUTURE 605 LEAGUE FOES

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

Although they are in the ABC Unified School District, the Artesia High and Whitney High baseball programs have not had a regular season history of facing each other. The last time both programs met was on Apr. 11, 2011 and Artesia was victorious at home by a 19-0 count.

The Pioneers and Wildcats will be 605 League members beginning next season but met last Friday in a battle of struggling programs over the past decade or so. Behind a four-run top of the sixth inning, Whitney rallied for a 7-5 victory that put the Wildcats at 3-1 at the time.

“I hope it’s even better next year,” said Whitney assistant coach Kevin Osaki on creating some type of rivalry. “I hope the guys put in the work and get better and keep that competition level there. Hopefully we’re working harder than they are.”

After seeing the Pioneers take the lead with a four-run bottom of the fifth, singles from senior third baseman Sean Chen and sophomore right fielder Rudy Lopez, plus a walk issued to sophomore center fielder Jedi Hernandez loaded the bases. That signaled the end for Artesia freshman starting pitcher Juan Rodriguez and junior Jonathan Juarez proceeded to walk senior left fielder Angel Gomez and sophomore pinch hitter Martin Macaraeg to allow the visiting ‘Cats to tie the game at 5-5. Following a strikeout, sophomore shortstop Jason Shin singled home Hernandez and a groundout from junior pitcher Michael Campos brought in Gomez.

“We have to throw strikes, we can’t walk anybody, and we have to make plays,” said Artesia head coach Michael Gaoghagan. “That’s what kind of killed us today. I thought our starter did a good job; he kept us in the game for most of it. He

struggled a little bit in the end, but we had plays that we should have made that we didn’t make.”

“It just comes down to being smart at the plate,” Osaki said. “You have to take what the pitcher gives you. If he’s putting it down the plate, swing the bat. We don’t need to be taking strikes; I don’t think we can afford to take strikes.”

Whitney grabbed a 2-0 lead in the top of the first as Shin and Campos scored unearned runs. The Pioneers, who dropped to 0-7 at the time, got on the board in the bottom of the third when sophomore designated hitter Brandon Azzato reached on an infield single and went to second on an error. Two pitches later, he scored on a single from junior shortstop Brian Soto. Whitney would get the run back in the next inning when Lopez was safe on one of four Artesia errors, went to second on a wild pitch, moved to third on an infield knock from Hernandez and came home on a balk.

But the Pioneers, who had scored seven runs combined in their previous five games, put together their best inning of the season and it began with sophomore center fielder Darrell Miller reaching on a catcher’s interference call with one out. Back to back singles from Azzato and Soto allowed Miller to come home. Later in the inning, senior catcher Oscar Esparza’s single plated Azzato and Soto. He would go to second on the play and eventually scored on a wild pitch.

“The one thing that we’ve been pushing is resiliency because it’s a long game, it’s a game of failure; they’re going to fail and so you have to keep pushing them forward and keep them up because they are going to struggle,” said Artesia assistant Don Olmstead. “We have a freshman on the mound today, a freshman at second and they are going to make mistakes.”

Campos was pitching well for the most

part, averaging around 11 pitches an inning through the first four and at one point retired six straight. But after getting the first out in the bottom of the fifth, he threw 16 pitches to the next five batters and was replaced by junior Matt Lacayo, who picked up the save. For Campos, it was his first start of the season.

“He was cruising and initially I thought my whole game plan was maybe we don’t need to run him out there four or five innings,” Osaki said. “Let’s go with three and see how the game goes. But he looked good through four and coming that far, I wanted to give him the ball in the fifth inning. I wanted to see if he could get out some trouble, too. But he pitched a great game.”

Shin went three for four while Chen and Lopez each picked up a pair of hits. Whitney, which had a combined 35 wins from 1999-2015 did not field a team in 2016. But last year, the Wildcats went 10-9, winning at least 10 games for the first time since 1998. The program is hoping that last season was not a fluke and that they can continue to compete and challenge for a postseason berth.

“We’re really kind of driving the fundamentals with these guys and that’s really where it starts when you’re trying to build a team,” Osaki said. “Start with the little things and then we can start to advance places. Really what we’re starting off with is as a coaching staff is the product of coach [Daniel] Reitz. We have a lot of seniors on this team, so, they know what to do.

“For the young guys, we really try to rely on the seniors,” Osaki later added. “This whole team is pretty close as far as what I can see. As I’m going back to these seniors, we want them to teach the younger guys how this program goes; kind of teach them what Whitney baseball is all about.”

Whitney was blasted by St. Anthony High 13-3 last Saturday and fell to Dominguez High 7-3 this past Monday to be even after six games. The Wildcats were scheduled to host South East High on Mar. 22 and will begin play in the Academy League with a home and home series against Calvary Chapel Downey High on Tuesday at home and Thursday on the road.

Azzato and Soto each had a pair of hits for the Pioneers who have had their share of futility, but not as bad as Whitney. Artesia has gone through 10 straight losing seasons and has not made the playoffs since 2007. The program has finished in last place in the Suburban League three straight seasons and has a league mark of 2-33 during that time.

“We wanted to be competitive; we were competitive today,” Gaoghagan said. “But getting close to the [Suburban League] season, we need to make sure that the pitchers are throwing strikes, we’re not walking anybody, and we make the routine play. We’ve been talking about that since day one. They know that and hopefully they’ll continue to get better.”

Artesia finally picked up their first win of the season, edging Pioneer High 7-6 this past Monday before falling to Bellflower High 16-0 the next day to open league action. The Pioneers will visit Bellflower today and Cerritos High on Wednesday. As far a potential rivalry between Artesia and Whitney in the future, that remains to be seen.

“I would assume that this time next year it should be night and day,” Gaoghagan said. “Pretty much we’re losing, after this year, the first baseman and that’s it from the starters today. Everyone else is back. We know we’re getting young; we know we’re going to struggle early. We’re just hoping we can be competitive by league time.”

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SUBURBAN LEAGUE SOFTBALL

NORWALK’S VASQUEZ IS DOUBLE THREAT AGAINST ARTESIA IN SUBURBAN LEAGUE OPENER

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

Through the first four games of the regular season, this hasn’t been the season that Breanna Vasquez had hoped for. The senior pitcher for Norwalk High has been hampered by a nagging elbow injury and has been limited in her time in the circle, something the soon to be University of Central Florida star has never been used to during her time with the Lady Lancers.

But Vasquez was up to her old self this past Tuesday against Artesia High, which brought a smile to first-year head coach David Gonzalez, and the visiting Lady Lancers knocked off the Lady Pioneers 6-2 in the Suburban League season opener for both teams. Vasquez pitched six innings, scattered four hits and struck out 13 batters. She also helped herself at the plate, going three for three, scoring twice and driving in a run.

“Well, she’s incredible and I think our strategy of holding her back a little bit helped contribute to that,” Gonzalez said. “Her elbow, which has been giving her a little bit of problems, felt good. She was able to give us six strong innings and you just kind of see what she is with proper rest and not just being run ragged.”

“Today, the game was a lot of fun,” Vasquez said. “We were hyped as soon as we got here because it was the first day of league. I actually haven’t pitched in a while. So, coming back it felt really good.”

Norwalk (2-3, 1-0) wasted no time in getting on the board as Vasquez doubled to the left field gap with one out in the top of the first inning and scored on a base

hit from freshman designated player Allison Conrad. The lead was doubled in the fourth inning when Conrad doubled to the left field gap and was replaced by sophomore courtesy runner Natalie Juarez. Following a sacrifice from sophomore first baseman Angelina Perez, Juarez scored on a wild pitch.

Meanwhile, Vazquez was cruising along through the first three innings, allowing three runners, none of whom reached second, and struck out seven. But in the fourth, Artesia (2-4, 0-1) had a golden opportunity to possibly change the complexion of the game.

Vasquez walked junior shortstop Natalie Luna, who went to third on a throwing error when junior third baseman Brenda Duran bunted on the first pitch. Then one pitch later, sophomore pitcher Valerie Joaquin also bunted. However, it went back to Vasquez who threw to freshman catcher Estefania Perez to get Luna out at home. Consecutive strikeouts would end the Artesia threat and Vazquez would work a perfect bottom of the fifth.

“It’s one of those things with Breanna, even though she hasn’t pitched a whole lot of innings this preseason and whatnot, that’s been a theme for her,” Gonzalez said. “When she gets runners in scoring position, she just tightens the screws. She’s just about as good as I’ve ever seen anybody be with runners in scoring position.”

“I think that’s kind of the best part of the game,” said Artesia head coach Dayna Feenstra. “You go in there with a plan; we knew we had to play small ball because Bri is a great pitcher. If that bunt went a little left or a little right, maybe [the result] is a little different. But bunting to the best

player on the field didn’t help us out.”

Norwalk scored twice in the top of the fifth as senior center fielder Valerie Zavala tripled to center and scored on a sacrifice fly from sophomore shortstop Brianna Nunez. Then Vasquez doubled and scored on a base hit from senior second baseman Samantha Campos.

Artesia tried to get back in the game with a pair of runs in the bottom of the sixth as Luna was safe on an error with one out and Vasquez walked Joaquin with two outs. Both runners would score on consecutive singles from sophomore catcher Charlene Fregoso and freshman left fielder Isabel Navarro.

But the Lady Lancers iced the game with two more runs in the seventh as a sacrifice fly from Vasquez plated Valerie Zavala and a single from Campos brought home Nunez. Norwalk pounded out 14 hits and the top four in the lineup went a combined eight for 14 with five runs batted in and four runs scored.

“For the most part we had pretty good defense,” Gonzalez said. “We made a lot of contact and when you put balls in play, a lot of good things will happen. And again, with a girl like Bri, you give her three runs, she’s probably going to win 90 percent of her games, if not more.”

Even though the revenge factor may not have been evident, Norwalk didn’t want a repeat of last season when Artesia swept the Lady Lancers, winning 3-2 at Norwalk and 1-0 on the last game of the regular season with the run coming in the bottom of the seventh. In seven games against Artesia, Vasquez has struck out 71 batters and allowed seven runs.

“It definitely was in my mind,” Vasquez

said. “I was thinking about it because I knew I wanted to come back and get back the two losses that we got.”

“With the talent that we have at Norwalk, we should never be swept by any team,” Gonzalez said. “So, when I heard that this team was swept last year, to say that I was shocked was kind of an understatement. I told them from the very beginning we had to come up with tempo, we had to control the speed of the game and we had to win the game.”

Norwalk was scheduled to host Cerritos high on Mar. 22 and will face Lompoc-based Cabrillo High and Sylmar High in pool play action of the Santa Fe Tournament on Saturday. The Lady Lancers will then visit La Mirada High and Mayfair High on Tuesday and Thursday respectively.

For Artesia, Joaquin was making her first high school start and struck out three while not walking a batter.

“I thought Valerie did an amazing job even though the score doesn’t relate to that,” Feenstra said. “This is her first game she has pitched and started in almost a year and a half to two years. But I think she did a great job for who she was facing.”

The Lady Pioneers were scheduled to visit La Mirada on Mar. 22 and is also in the Santa Fe Tournament where they will play Calabasas High and San Dimas High in pool play action. Artesia comes back home to host Valley Christian High on Tuesday and John Glenn High on Thursday.

“I told the girls that we have 11 more [league] games and this, obviously has some impact, but it’s not the end of the world,” Feenstra said. “We have a lot of teams out there that we can beat and that we can play. It’s still very, very early.”

LEAGUE PLAY UNDERWAY AS AREA TEAMS TRY TO SHUFFLE SCHEDULES

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

Mother Nature has wreaked havoc this season and especially this past week for the area baseball and softball teams. Trying to reschedule games, not once, but two or even three times is definitely a challenge, but not impossible. Listed below is a school by school update for the upcoming week.

ARTESIA

The baseball team ended a seven-game losing streak when it edged future 605 League opponent Pioneer High 7-6 this past Monday in an early pool play game of the St. Paul Tournament. Then the Pioneers fell to Bellflower High 16-0 this past Tuesday in the Suburban League opener. Artesia High (1-8, 0-1) is scheduled to visit Bellflower today and Cerritos High on Tuesday. The softball team fell to Norwalk High 6-2 this past Tuesday in the league opener and will face Calabasas High and San Dimas High in pool play action of the Santa Fe Tournament on Saturday. The Lady Pioneers will host Valley Christian High on Tuesday and John Glenn High on Thursday. Artesia was scheduled to visit La Mirada High on Mar. 22.

CERRITOS

The baseball team swept a doubleheader at Long Beach Poly High last Saturday, winning 7-2 and 7-4, to improve to 8-1. The Dons were scheduled to visit La Mirada this past Wednesday and will face the Matadores today. After finishing in third place in the Torrance National Tournament for the second straight season, the softball team blasted Glenn 19-3 this past Tuesday to improve



HMG-CN Sports Editor
Loren Kopff

NEWS & NOTES FROM PRESS ROW

to 6-4, 1-0. The Lady Dons were to visit Norwalk High on Mar. 22 and will travel to St. Joseph High on Saturday before hosting Bellflower on Tuesday and West Albany (OR) High on Wednesday.

GAHR

The baseball team had its home meeting with St. John Bosco High this past Wednesday moved to Saturday. The Gladiators (5-3) will also face Hart High on Monday at the University of Southern California and visit J.W. North High on Wednesday in a game to be played at Cal Baptist University.

The softball team has won four straight games after losing three straight to improve to 7-3. Gahr High pounded La Habra High 17-4 this past Tuesday and is not scheduled to play again until Apr. 3 when it hosts South Torrance High.

JOHN GLENN

The Eagles improved to 7-2 after knocking off Santa Fe High 5-3 this past Monday in baseball action. The Eagles were to host Mayfair High this past Wednesday at Rio Hondo College and are slated to visit the Monsoons today. Glenn will also host Montebello High on Wednesday in a doubleheader.

The Lady Eagles softball team were scheduled to host Cantwell Sacred Heart of Mary High on Mar. 1, then again last Friday but has yet to face the Cardinals. Still, Glenn (2-6, 0-1), which had its Mar. 22 road game at Bellflower cancelled, will host Whitney High today and Mayfair on Tuesday.

NORWALK

The baseball team hasn’t been in action since being swept by Whittier High in a

Mar. 12 doubleheader. The Lancers (3-3) will visit Los Altos High on Saturday and visit Mayfair on Tuesday before hosting the Monsoons on Thursday.

After taking care of Artesia 6-2 this past Tuesday, the Lady Lancers softball team (2-3, 1-0) will face Lompoc-based Cabrillo High and Sylmar High on Saturday in the Santa Fe Tournament before visiting La Mirada and Mayfair on Tuesday and Thursday respectively.

VALLEY CHRISTIAN

The Olympic League baseball season began this past Tuesday with Valley Christian High falling to Village Christian High 2-0 to drop to 5-3, 0-1. Valley Christian will visit Whittier Christian High today and host Maranatha High on Tuesday before travelling to Heritage Christian High on Thursday. On the softball field, the Lady Crusaders lost to Paramount High 9-3 and Bell Gardens High 8-5 last Saturday in the Santa Fe Tournament before defeating Oxford Academy 5-1 this past Tuesday to move to 3-4. V.C. was to visit Calvary Chapel Downey High on Mar. 22 and will host The Webb Schools on Thursday.

WHITNEY

The baseball team rallied to defeat Artesia 7-5 last Friday, then dropped a 13-3 decision to St. Anthony High the next day and a 7-3 affair to Dominguez High this past Monday. The Wildcats (3-3) were scheduled to host South East High on Mar. 22 and will open Academy League play on Tuesday with a home game against Calvary Chapel Downey High with a road game against the Grizzlies on Thursday. It has been a rough season for the softball team, which won its first game in seven tries following a 20-5 rout against Samueli Academy this past Tuesday. After their game against Glenn, the Lady Wildcats are scheduled to be off until Apr. 10.

SOULFUL SENIORS HOSTED FIRST ANNUAL BLACK HISTORY GALA

Staff Report

The Soulful Seniors of Cerritos Association held their very successful First Annual Soulful Black History Gala on Friday, February 23rd in the Majestic Room at the Cerritos Senior Center.

It was indeed an great event with a grand and festive atmosphere.

The Soulful Seniors wanted to take the opportunity offered by HMG-CN to extend a heartfelt “thank you” to all who attended the event.

Their guests enjoyed a huge and delicious catered buffet dinner, danced the night away to the soul sounds of a live band, and smiled for spectacular photos in front of African American greats featured on their Black History photo backdrop.

Guest also posed for special drawings offered by a talented guest caricature artist.

The event proved fun for all who attended socializing among friends, both old and new, at the “sold out” event.

The Soulful Seniors are looking forward to having everyone join them for their Second Annual Soulful Black History Gala in February 2019.

In addition, everyone is welcome to join them at their monthly Soulful Gathering on the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm in the River Rock Room at the Cerritos Senior Center.

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NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS

PROJECT NO: 2016-02
IN THE CITY OF COMMERCE

FOR THE CITYWIDE TRAFFIC SIGN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CITY OF COMMERCE, referred to as “CITY”, invites sealed bids for the above stated project and will receive such bids in the Office of the City Clerk, 2535 Commerce Way, Commerce, California 90040. Proposals will be received by Purchasing Division of Finance in care of City Clerk at said office up to:

3:30 P.M. on April 18, 2018

All proposals shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to:

Purchasing Division of Finance, care of City Clerk
City of COMMERCE
2535 Commerce Way
COMMERCE, California 90040

Identified on the lower left hand corner:

“CITYWIDE TRAFFIC SIGN REPLACEMENT PROJECT
PROJECT NO. 2016-02
- DO NOT OPEN WITH REGULAR MAIL-”

Proposals will be opened and read aloud at the time and date specified above for the replacement and installation of citywide traffic (retro-reflective) signs in the City of Commerce. All information submitted with the bid is public information and may be subject to disclosure. No bids will be accepted after the bid opening time specified.

Bid Documents: Bid documents are available by request only by sending an email to City of Commerce Purchasing Division at *purchasing@ci.commerce.ca.us*; with copies to Mr. Seung Yang, Associate Civil Engineer at *swyang@ci.commerce.ca.us*. Please include company name, contact information and phone number with request. All documents will be transmitted by email.

Pre-Bid Meeting: There will be NO Pre-bid Meeting.

Scope and location of Work: Replace regulatory and warning signs and sign posts at various locations throughout the City of Commerce.

Engineer’s Estimate is \$105,000.

Conflict of Interest: In the procurement of supplies, equipment, construction, and services by sub-recipients, the conflict of interest provisions in (State LCA – 24 CFR 85.36 and Non-Profit Organizations – 24 CFR 84.4), OMB Circular A-110, and 24 CFR 570.611, respectively, shall apply. No employee, officer or agent of the sub-recipient shall participate in selection, or in the award or administration of a contract supported by Federal funds if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, would be involved.

This contract is subject to state contract nondiscrimination and compliance requirements pursuant to Government Code, Section 12990. Any contract entered into pursuant to this notice will incorporate the provisions of the State Labor Code. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1773.2 of the Labor Code of the State of California, the minimum prevailing rate of per diem wages for each craft, classification or type of workman needed to execute the contract shall be those determined by the Director of Industrial Relations of the State of California, which are on file at Commerce Civic Center (City Hall), 2535 Commerce Way, Commerce, California 90040, and are available to any interested party on request.

The CITY will deduct a five-percent (5%) retention from all progress payments. Substitution of securities for moneys withheld to ensure performance of this contract will be permitted pursuant to Government Code Section 4590.

The CITY hereby affirmatively ensures that minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this notice and will not be discriminated against on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, or religion in any consideration leading to the award of contract.

In entering into a public works contract, or a subcontract, to supply goods, services, or materials pursuant to a public works contract, the contractor, or subcontractor, offers and agrees to assign to the awarding body all rights, title and interest in, and to, all causes of action it may have under Section 4 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. Section 15) or under the Cartwright Act (Chapter 2 [commencing with Section 16700] of Part 2 of Division 7 of the Business and Professions Code) arising from purchases of goods, services, or materials pursuant to the public works contract or the subcontract. This assignment shall be made and become effective at the time the awarding body tenders final payment to the Contractor, without further acknowledgment by the parties.

Bids must be prepared on the approved Proposal forms in conformance with the Instructions to Bidders and the Request for Proposals and submitted in a sealed envelope plainly marked on the outside. The bid must be accompanied by a certified/cashier’s check or bid bond, made payable to the City for an amount no less than ten percent (10%) of the aggregate bid price such proposal, submitted to the City as a guaranty that the bidder, if accepted, will enter into and execute the awarded contract and furnish the required bonds in connection therewith, in accordance with the terms of the Request for Proposals and Instructions to Bidders. In the event that a surety bond is submitted in lieu of a check, it shall be subject to the condition that surety thereon be approved by the City.

No bid will be accepted from a Contractor who has not been licensed in accordance with the provisions of the Business and Professions Code. The successful Contractor and his subcontractors will be required to possess business licenses from the City.

Any contract entered into pursuant to this notice shall become effective or enforceable against the City only when the formal written contract has been duly executed by the appropriate officers of the City. The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any irregularity, and to take all bids under advisement for a period of sixty (60) calendar days.

In entering into a public works contract, or a subcontract, to supply goods, services, or materials pursuant to a public works contract, the Contractor, or subcontractors, offers and agrees to assign to the awarding body all rights, title and interest in, and to, all causes of action it may have under Section 4 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. Section 15) or under the Cartwright Act (Chapter 2 [commencing with Section 16700] of Part 2 of Division 7 of the Business and Professions Code), arising from purchases of goods, services, or materials pursuant to the public work’s contract or subcontract. This assignment shall be made and become effective at the time the awarding body tenders final payment to the Contractor, without further acknowledgment by the parties.

This project is subject to the requirements of SB 854.

No prime contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project (submitted on or after March 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5.

No prime contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a Public Works project (awarded on or after April 1, 2015) unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5.

This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

The bid proposal must include a print out from the DIR registration website showing that the prime contractor and each subcontractor is currently registered.

No bid proposals will be accepted nor any contract entered into with a prime contractor without proof of registration as required above. [Unless within the limited exceptions from this requirement for bid proposals only under Labor Code Section 1771.1(a).]

The prime contractor will be required to post job site notices regarding Labor Code compliance as

described in 8 California Code of Regulation, section 16451(d).

CALIFORNIA PREVAILING WAGE:
Bidder agrees to comply with California Labor Code Sections 1771, 1775, 1776, 1777.5,1813, and 1815 to the performance of its work on this project. Specifically, the

Bidder agrees to:

- 1. Pay all workers not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for work of similar character in the locality in which the public work is performed.
- 2. Pay all workers not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for holiday and overtime work fixed as provided in this chapter.
- 3. Adhere to the compliance measures outlined in LC 1775(b) for any second tier subcontractors that the contractor chooses to use on this project.
- 4. If requested, submit certified payroll records to the City on a weekly basis.

Records shall be provided no later than 5 days following the last day of each work week.

Comply with the applicable requirements and joint apprenticeship standards as required by LC 1777.5.

Bidders are hereby notified that the Request for Proposals and Contract documents contain detailed requirements with respect to bonds and insurance, and the furnishing of evidence of insurance to the City. The successful bidder will furnish the required bonds and evidence of insurance, including a Primary General Liability Additional Insured Endorsement naming the City, mailed to the City within ten (10) working days from the mailing of a “Notice of Award” of the contract to the successful bidder by the Department of Community Development. Required bonds and current certificate of required insurance shall be mailed to the City prior to the expiration of the aforementioned ten (10) working days.

The successful bidder shall be licensed in accordance with provisions of the Business and Professions Code and shall possess a Class A license or a combination of appropriate Class licenses at the time this contract is awarded. The successful Contractor and his subcontractors will be required to possess business licenses from the City of Commerce.

Special Instructions to Bidders: Bidders must satisfy themselves by personal examination of location of the proposed work and by such other means as they may prefer as to the actual conditions and requirements of the work, and shall not at any time after submission of the bid dispute, complain, or assert that there was any misunderstanding in regard to the nature or amount of work to be done.

The Contractor to whom this contract is awarded will be required, before execution of the contract by the City, to file with the city surety bonds as follows:

- 1. A “Faithful Performance Bond” amounting to 100% of the total contract price is required for all contracts.
- 2. A “Payment Bond” (labor and materials) amounting to 100% of the total contract price is required for all contracts which have a total contract price in excess of \$10,000.

The City hereby notifies all qualified bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, religion, or handicap in consideration for an award. Attention is directed to the provisions of Section 1777.5 (Chapter 1411, Statutes of 1968) and 1777.5 of the Labor Code concerning the employment of apprentices by the Contractor or any such subcontractor under hire. The bidders and the selected contractor shall not allow discrimination in employment practices on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, religion, or handicap.

The City reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and to waive technical errors and discrepancies or information in the bidding or the awarding of the contract. Such decision shall be final. Bidders or their authorized agents are invited to be present for the opening bids. The City has the right to extend any of its deadline dates for completion of tasks for which the City is responsible to meet. All bids shall remain effective for a period of 60 days after the opening date.

By order of the City Council of the City of Commerce, California

By: Lena Shumway Date: March 20, 2018
LENA SHUMWAY, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Communty Newspaper 3/23/18

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS
LALIT M JOSHI and DEEPTI JOSHI filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: AYUSH JAY JOSHI to AIDEN JAY JOSHI. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant a petition without a hearing. Court date 5/2/18 1:30 PM, Dept C, Rm. 312. Norwalk Superior Court, 12720 Norwalk Blvd, Norwalk, CA 90650. Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13/18 Case-VS030818

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS
LALIT M JOSHI and DEEPTI JOSHI filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: ARNAV JOSHI to DYLAN JOSHI. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant a petition without a hearing. Court date 5/2/18 1:30 PM, Dept C, Rm. 312. Norwalk Superior Court, 12720 Norwalk Blvd, Norwalk, CA 90650. Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 3/23, 3/30, 4/6, 4/13/18 Case-VS030818



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ABCUSD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The Board voted to hire Piper Jaffray as the firm to advise the district on the financial complexities of the bond process.

Piper Jaffray has 36 offices nationwide and, in 2017, was ranked number four senior underwriter of negotiated long-term transactions nationwide.

Another company the Board was voted on was AMN Key Solutions which, unlike Piper Jaffray, has only one office and is owned by Ann Nock, a former long-time George K. Baum executive who “has represented hundreds of clients.”

AMN was hired for crucial public outreach during the bond process.

But the AMN vote was marred by controversy and an attempt to "table," another word to delay, the vote on AMN by Boardmember Christopher Apodaca based on a Monday article published by Hews Media Group-Community News.

That article , a result of a HMG-CN investigation, revealed outright fabrications by AMN, a suspect AMN website, troubling conflict of interest relationships, a history of questionable transactions by Ms. Nock, and questionable actions in the ABCUSD bid procurement process.

When Apodaca voted to table the vote, Board members Sophia Tse, newcomer Ernie Nishii, Maynard Law, and President Soo Yoo voted no to table, with Apodaca, Vice-President Letty Mendoza, and Olga Rios voting yes.

Apodaca argued that the Board could hold a special meeting within days to debate about AMN, but the other Board members and President Yoo would not budge.

Finally the Board took the vote. Wanting to show unity, Apodaca, Mendoza, and Rio voted yes to approve AMN.

This is what the HMG-CN investigation revealed.

Is AMN a Corporation or Not?

On her LinkedIn page, AMN owner Ann Nock claims to be the “President of AMN Key Solutions” for “over five years.”

In emails to HMG-CN, ABC also said Nock informed officials AMN was incorporated.

However, an examination on the California Secretary of State’s website under the corporate search category does not show a corporation registered under the name AMN Key Solutions.

Even more evidence that Nock could be feigning a corporate structure to win the ABCUSD contract can be found searching on Sacramento County’s fictitious business name (FBN) website.

That search revealed AMN Key Solutions is registered to Nock as an “in-

dividual,” not a corporation, and Nock waited more than a year after she started her company to file the FBN.

Individual designations under a FBN are always associated with sole proprietorships and not corporations.

HMG-CN emailed Nock asking about AMN’s corporate registration several times, she did not respond.

Unprofessional and Suspect Website

On its website at www.amnkeysolutions.com, Nock and AMN claim a host of client provided services including Strategic Communications, Public and Media Relations, Community Engagement, Social Media, and Message Development.

An examination of any competent and reputable public relations firm’s website should show extremely professional design graphics and grammatically correct descriptions of its services and offerings.

Yet the AMN website looks as if it was built by a rank amateur in a huge rush to finish, displaying low resolution stock photos while containing several elementary grade-level grammatical errors and alarmingly short descriptions of services.

The first red flag found by HMG-CN showed the AMN website built on the Shopify Platform, an e-commerce platform exclusively used by companies who upload pictures and sell multiple products on the internet.

Shopify proclaims, “We’re not just an ecommerce software, Shopify is the best e-commerce platform that has everything you need to sell online, on social media, or in person.

An additional red flag showed up on AMN’s featured web page.

Five informational slides alternate in order on the featured page, each with a headline and description of AMN’s different services.

Websites normally allow the user enough time to read the slide and click on the slide if they want more information.

Yet the slides on AMN’s website do not provide adequate time for a visitor to read any of the descriptions.

Even more alarming, if a visitor clicks on the slides for more information, they are taken to a Shopify product description page template with blank picture boxes.

A dialogue box pops up and states, “Almost there, add a product now.” Clicking on the dialogue box takes the visitor to the website’s login page.

Highly Questionable Grammar

Good grammar is crucial in any business situation, even more crucial when someone is first looking at a website for information on a company.

But descriptions on the AMN website shows elementary grade-level grammatical errors that should have precluded most school district officials, those that

did research, from including AMN as a responsible bidder.

One sentence on the website states, “Our two-way communication efforts... dovetail with their **Public Agencies** education and community outreach goals. The correct grammar is **Public Agency’s**.

Another sentence contains an incorrect use of a semi-colon, “even when we have successfully worked with the same client we begin **anew**: with a fresh page and a fresh plan.”

Yet another sentence contains an error, “successful proposals presented to voters are those that have earned the **public’s trust**.”

The errors continue on the first page of the site called Strategic Communications.

The AMN page proclaims, “whether it’s your **Public Agencies’s** overall reputation, student retention, and recruitment or a ballot issue....

The second page, Community Engagement, once again contains a grammatical error with a shockingly short 43-word description of how AMN will “engage the community.”

The one paragraph description states, “community engagement is most effective when it is established as an ongoing cumulative process, creating awareness, providing first-hand experiences, and allowing a trust to build and **strength** over time.

The correct sentence is, “providing first-hand experiences, and allowing a trust to build and **strengthen** over time.

Lastly, AMN’s biography pages - written descriptions of AMN’s personnel - show errors, including Ann Nock’s biography.

Potential AMN Customer.....“Don’t Call Us We’ll Call You”

Typically, a website’s “Contact” page contains all pertinent information of the company including name, address, phone, email, fax of the company with corresponding links to the officers and high-level employees.

AMN’s Contact page does not contain any contact information, including a phone number. The page has a four-line box asking the visitors for their information including name, email, phone number and message.

Finally, the AMN website does not have any social media buttons such as Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram, and a search on major social media platforms shows that AMN does not have a social media presence.

AMN Website Created To Win ABCUSD Contract?

Ms. Nock indicates on her LinkedIn page she has been in business for over five years, presumably with a website, and serviced over 300 clients.

Yet using a well-known internet company that tracks other website’s activities shows something different.

Way Back Machine can tell users how long a website has been on the internet. Users put in the address of the website they are researching and a graph will show dates when the website was first uploaded onto the internet.

According to Nock, AMN started in Jan 2013, yet Way Back shows the AMN website was first detected on the internet in July 2017.

That is over four years after Nock “started” her business, a very unusual circumstance given AMN is a Strategic Communications firm with “over 300 clients.”

Similar Case in Montebello Bond Process

In 2016, HMG-CN reported on the Montebello USD bond process and a company called Dansure, which found that Dansure was a “ghost” company set-

up to give an impression of a real company and win bond related contracts.

The Dansure article is eerily similar to AMN and its website as it relates to the ABCUSD bond process.

Dansure claimed “a \$45 billion track record of delivering high-performance services in collaboration with its clients.”

But information on Dansure was extremely difficult to find.

\$45 billion would have indicated a robust social media presence and marketing campaign via Facebook, Twitter and other platforms.

But no such marketing existed. The last post on Dansure’s Facebook was a year earlier in 2015, the last Tweet was in July 2015.

Finally, a search on the California Secretary of State’s website showed Dansure was dissolved in April 2010.

Conflict of Interest

Political consultant Al Gafford has been seen often around ABCUSD since early last year, attending Board meetings, events, and large functions.

But Gafford managed Board member Sophia Tse’s re-election campaign, which could cause Tse to recuse herself from tomorrow night’s vote.

Further clouding the issue, Gafford also managed current Supervisor Janice Hahn representative and former Board member Lynda Johnson’s losing campaign in 2016.

Johnson remains in contact with her friends on the Board.

Ms. Nock worked closely with Gafford while at George K. Baum and was criticized for their part in a bond for the Placentia/Yorba Linda School District in a 2015 Orange County Register exposé.

The OCR wrote, “With no public discussion, the school board had hired George K. Baum & Co. and its staff of political strategists [headed by Nock and Gafford] to help push the measure through so the district could continue an ambitious building spree.”

“After the election, the board allowed the bank to sell some of the costliest bonds ever issued by a California public agency. Just one \$22 million borrowing from 2011 will cost taxpayers nearly 13 times that amount – \$280 million – to repay.”

In an email, Nock told HMG-CN she is not working with Gafford with respect to the ABC bond contract.

But a high-level ABC source told HMG-CN that Gafford is a favorite of certain top officials at the ABCUSD.

Nock also did not answer any other questions posed in the email, such as the corporation question, as of publication time.

HMG-CN sent questions to ABC Superintendent Dr. Mary Sieu, who deferred answering to ABC CFO Toan Nguyen.

In an email Nguyen wrote, “The District, after a RFP process, has recommended AMN Key Solutions to the Board for approval to assist with public relation and strategic communication services. The 1/07/2015 article you referred to in the Orange County Register dealt with the use of Capital Appreciation Bond and George K. Baum, where Ann Nock was an employee until 2012. The District is recommending AMN Key Solutions to serve only as a public relation consultant, and not a financial adviser, banker, or underwriter. In addition, should any bonds be approved by the voters, the District is only planning to issue current interest bond, which has the lowest cost of borrowing to taxpayers, and [sic] NOT Capital Appreciation Bond.”

EDITOR'S NOTE:
All backup documents can be found online at loscerritosnews.net

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF LATHEA LILLIAN JOHNSON
Case No.
30-2018-00978140-PR-LA-CJC
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of LATHEA LILLIAN JOHNSON
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Tony Rackauckas, District Attorney-Public Administrator in the Superior Court of California, County of ORANGE.
THE PETITION FOR PRO-BATE requests that Tony Rackauckas, District Attorney-Public Administrator be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the de-cedent.
THE PETITION requests au-thority to administer the estate under the Independent Admin-istration of Estates Act. (This au-thority will allow the personal rep-re-sentative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very im-portant actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to inter-ested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The inde-pendent administration authority will be granted unless an inter-ested 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 on April 25, 2018 at 1:30 PM in Dept. No. C9 located at 700 Civic Center Dr. West Santa Ana, CA. 92702.
IF YOU OBJECT to the grant-ing of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written ob-jections 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 dece-dent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative ap-pointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of let-ters to a general personal repre-sentative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal deliv-ery to you of a notice under sec-tion 9052 of the California Pro-bate 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 Re-quest for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inven-tory and appraisal of estate as-sets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code sec-tion 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for petitioner:
LEON J. PAGE, COUNTY COUNSEL AND SAUL REYES, DEPUTY
SBN 187346
333 W. SANTA ANA BLVD.
SANTA ANA, CA. 92702
LCCN MAR. 23, 30, APR. 6, 13 2018



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Water Replenishment District of Southern California's service area in southern Los Angeles County

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