



ANTI-HATE MURAL AT KNABE PARK

DURING THE OFFICIAL event, officials said they are establishing the "L.A. vs Hate" initiative, stressing to communities the importance of reporting hate and connecting hate victims with supportive services.

Cerritos and Local Elected Officials Dedicate Anti-Hate Mural at Knabe Park

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

The L.A. County Board of Supervisors, the L.A. County Department of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services and the Commission on Human Relations jointly announced the launch of the "L.A. vs Hate" initiative to report and end incidents of hatred and hate crimes in L.A. County.

"Even before the pandemic began, hate crimes in L.A. County were on the rise, reaching their highest point in a decade in 2020," said Fourth District Supervisor Janice Hahn. "All of our residents need to know they are valued, that they belong, and that the County is taking action to protect them and respond to this growing threat. By stressing to our local communities the importance of reporting hate and connecting hate victims with supportive services, the L.A. vs. Hate campaign is one way that we will achieve that goal."

The City of Cerritos unveiled a giant building-sized comic strip on the wall of the community building at Don Knabe park on Friday, August 13. "We are stronger together," said Hahn, "we are united in addressing and

ending these unprovoked hateful acts – and that is what this mural is all about."

Local artist and cartoonist Mari Naomi painted the scene, "This artwork means so much to me, it's my attempt to bring the community together, to educate, and to encourage us to protect each other. I intended the hero's panel to highlight significant Asian and Asian Americans who have dedicated themselves to helping others."

Cesar Echano was the victim of a hate crime earlier this year at Don Knabe Park where the 100 foot mural was recently installed. On Friday, he returned to the scene of the crime and spoke at the unveiling of Naomi's work.

"When I saw this mural, it made me feel good inside. I feel stronger and I feel more healed."

Naomi remarked that it was magical seeing him healing and holding optimism for the future, "If he can summon up courage and joy after such a traumatic event, it gives me hope that the rest of us might be able to as well. Let's protect each other, together we are stronger!"

Meant to elevate awareness

See **MURAL** page 5

Pico Rivera

Consultant Hired to Look at Smith Park Pool

BY BRIAN HEWS

Pico Rivera's Smith Park Aquatic Center was constructed in 1981 and includes an Olympic size pool, two locker rooms, a staff office, a pump room where the water systems associated with pool filtration and heating reside, and a chemical room. Typically, pools of this size require annual specialized maintenance, and major repairs to the infrastructure or replacements of large equipment every 10 to 15 years.

In the fall of 2019, two boilers were no longer able to adequately heat the pool water; in the summer of 2020, the pool was closed due to Covid-19 pandemic; later one of the two pool pumps failed and is unrepairable with the remaining pump later faltering leading to inadequate water turnover; summer of 2021, the pool remains closed.

At wit's end, City Staff recently hired an aquatics consultant, Aquatic Design Group Inc. for \$13,500, who specializes in aquatic architecture, design, and

See **POOL** page 5

HMG-CN MEGATAXERS INVESTIGATION-PART V

Conflict of Interest Between L. A. County Agencies Mar Inglewood Unified's Bond

Similar to Bassett, Citrus, and Duarte Unified, the ballot label violated several government codes.

**BY THE IRISHMAN
AND BRIAN HEWS**

Education must be aspirational and inspirational. Pure and simple. Lessons should not use excuses; turn headings into questions.

Inglewood Unified School District (IUSD) offices are located at 401 Inglewood Avenue in Inglewood. In 2012, the California Department of Education (CDE) showed IUSD with 23 schools Enrollment stood at just over 11,000 students. The students are predominantly Latino (57.4%)

and African American (39.3%).

According to California's School Dashboard, IUSD suffers from chronic absenteeism, has a mid-level suspension rate, an acceptable graduation rate, mid level English Language Arts, and the children are poor in mathematics.

The Board of Education is committed to once again "providing transformational leadership." Carliss McGhee, Ph.D., is President, Margaret Evans, M.A., Vice-President, Naomi Hammonds and Brandon Myers Board Members.

Ernesto Castillo, who earned his B.A. in political science and Chicano/Chicana Studies, was groomed in Washington, D.C., no doubt a student of Reies "the Tiger" Tijerina, not William Cubberly.

See **MEGATAXERS** page 14

Cerritos to Consider Trash Rate Increase

BY BRIAN HEWS

In September 2020, after seeing three years of disallowed rate increases, the Cerritos City Council, led by Mayor Naresh Solanki, Mayor pro tem Chuong Vo and Councilman Bruce Barrows, voted to give Cerritos' city trash hauler CalMet a 16% resi-

dential increase.

The increase was a combination of the last three years of non-approval to raise the rates.

In 2017 a new agreement with CalMet dictated the maximum rates the company could charge Cerritos residents.

The agreement included a provision for CalMet to submit

See **TRASH** page 5

Hawaiian Gardens

City Offers Financial Assistance to Replace Security Bars With Cameras

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

The city of Hawaiian Gardens has announced the Window Safety Bars Extraction Program to help improve home aesthetics and resident safety.

The program provides financial assistance for the removal of security bars on windows with the exchange of security camera installation. Applicants

who decide to remove their security bars from their windows, but reject security camera installation, may be eligible for other program services, including security doors, gardening and any other aesthetics upon approval.

Assistance to residential properties include single family properties, mobile homes, duplexes and condominium properties.

Window guards can actually

See **REPLACE** page 12



Lakewood Pro Soccer Teen Donates Backpacks

Jalen Neal helped Project Shepherd to get 329 Lakewood children of modest means off to a good start.

Page 2.



New NLMUSD Board Members Sworn In

Dr. Robert Cancio works his cell phone to take a selfie of everyone at the swearing-in ceremony at NLMUSD.

Page 4.



G.O.O. D. Job on Backpacks

Volunteers from Gangs Out of Downey gave out over 400 backpacks to kids, over 21 organizations participated.

Page 7.

Lakewood Soccer Star Donates to City's Project Shepherd



LAKESWOOD RESIDENT JALEN NEAL helped Project Shepherd to get 329 Lakewood children of modest means off to a good start for the coming year with a new backpack full of school supplies.

STAFF REPORT

Project Shepherd’s annual “Backpack and School Supply Drive” received donations from dozens of Lakewood residents, churches, businesses and non-profits this summer.

Enough donations came in to help 329 Lakewood children of modest means get off to a good start for the coming year with a new backpack full of school supplies.

A new donor this year was Jalen Neal, a 17-year-old Lakewood resident who is a rising defensive star with Major League Soccer’s L.A. Galaxy.

Neal attended Galaxy’s high school academy and debuted on Galaxy’s reserve team (Galaxy II) last year.

He attends Long Beach City College

now, has already practiced with the Galaxy’s first team, with hopes of moving up to the top flight in the near future.

Neal is already about giving back to his community too.

He was named “Humanitarian of the Year” by Galaxy II last year, and he donated 10 backpacks with lots of supplies to Project Shepherd this summer.

The City of Lakewood and its residents want to thank Neal and wish him the best on the soccer pitch this season

The City also thanks all the Project Shepherd backpack donors this summer.

"Their donations—large and small—are part of what makes Lakewood a great community that looks out for each other and does everything it can to help our children do well in their education," said a spokesperson for the City.

Norwalk Will Receive Funding for Mercy Affordable Housing Veteran's Project

BY BRIAN HEWS

The City of Norwalk will receive \$3 million in funding from the State that is earmarked for homelessness and affordable housing for the City.

In February 2020, just weeks before the pandemic lockdown, the Norwalk City Council adopted an ordinance that approved a development agreement with Mercy Housing; Mercy has offices all over the country, including three in California. Mercy Housing California (MHC) is the largest regional division of Mercy Housing, Inc., with offices in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Sacramento. MHC has developed and operates 134 affordable communities with more than 9,190 homes serving lower-income seniors, families, and people who have experienced homelessness.

The development agreement was in conjunction with a project that includes constructing a four-story, 60-unit affordable residential apartments that will provide much-needed affordable housing for veterans and their families, including supportive services located at 13629-13705 San Antonio Dr. and 11950 Foster Rd.

The project will basically take the corner at San Antonio and Foster.

During the last meeting, the City Council voted to receive state funds in the amount of \$3 million; the money will be utilized for the Mercy Housing Veteran's Affordable Housing Project.

Governor Newsom's 2021 budget included \$3 million earmarked for homelessness and affordable housing for Norwalk.

One property Mercy developed and now manages in L.A. County is the Baldwin Rose Apartments in El Monte. The

property has 54 affordable housing units, including 22 units for homeless veterans and 32 units for low-income families with a Veteran Head of Household. There is also one manager's unit. The community provides one, two and three-bedroom apartment homes, including 19 accessible apartments for mobility-impaired households and 4 apartments for hearing/visually impaired households.

Mercy also provides case management for Veterans provided by New Directions. New Directions started over 25 years ago and has grown into an organization with a budget in excess of \$10 million annually. They assist over 1,000 veterans and family members annually.

The residential units will serve extremely low, very low, and low-income households and provide them with quality residential living, which may not otherwise be available to such households. The entire development will be affordable housing to help meet much-needed housing unit goals that have been set by the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) number.

Mayor Jennifer Perez stated, "The City has made strategic investments in our efforts to resolve homelessness in our City. The Veteran Housing Project now has the funding necessary to move the project along. We look forward to the City's partnership with Mercy Housing to serve veterans and their families."

The Mercy Project also satisfies the City's Strategic Plan Goal 2, which is to improve living conditions for residents in greatest need.

Residents interested in obtaining more information can email publicaffairs@norwalkca.gov or call (562) 929-5319.

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New NLMUSD Board Members Sworn In

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

The Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District swore in two new board members at a special ceremony prior to the scheduled board meeting held August 9, 2021.

Dr. Roberto Cancio was sworn in by Congresswoman Linda Sánchez of California's 38th District, while Narcis Brasov, Esq., was sworn in by Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Kelvin D. Filer.

The election of the two gives the board seven members as they embark on the 2021-22 school year.

Cancio was born and raised in the NLMUSD community.

He attended schools within the district and graduated Valedictorian from Southeast Academy High School.

Cancio wants to see all students succeed in their education and careers.

"I understand the importance of quality education. After high school, I joined the Navy, and then graduated from U.C. Berkeley with a Bachelor's Degree." He has completed his Master's and Doctorate Degrees at the University of Miami. As a veteran, Cancio believes in numerous career paths to success. As a veteran and professor, he would like to see each student prepared for success, whether in college or professions of their choice. "Thanks for all the love and support from friends and family. I would not have been elected if it weren't for all your efforts. Let the good work begin!"

Brasov has been a teacher for 15 years, "I have taught Spanish and inspired



BOARD SELFIE: Newly sworn-in NLMUSD Board Member Dr. Robert Cancio works his cell phone to take a selfie of everyone at the ceremony.

students at Norwalk High School, now I teach at Trinity Law School.

As a father, teacher, and an attorney, ethics and integrity are key in everything I do."

Brasov developed and taught the first Spanish for Native Speakers class at NHS. As an immigrant, he personally understands the daily struggles of first and second-generation families.

"I am committed to providing every child in our district an excellent education. I will advocate for teacher training and supplies to improve

STEM education in K-8, so our students are adequately prepared for high school math, science, and AP courses."

He does not believe in 'rubber stamping' proposed curriculum, policies or budgets.

Norwalk Plans for ARPA Funding

STAFF REPORT

The Norwalk City Council recently approved the \$28 million American Rescue Plan Act Allocation Plan.

On March 10 President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA).

The Act will provide a \$1.9 trillion stimulus to the United States economy, with the City of Norwalk receiving \$28 million in two equal installments of \$14 million.

The first allocation was already received this year and the second will be received in May 2022.

The U.S. Department of Treasury broke funding requirements into seven categories. Given those constraints, City staff evaluated all viable options for funding with input from professional associations including the United States Conference of Mayors, International City Management Association, and League of California Cities.

On July 26, City staff presented preliminary recommendations to the Fiscal Ad-Hoc Committee.

The committee adjusted the list of recommendations for funding allocation to prioritize infrastructure and other capital investments that would maximize long-term benefits to the community.

This past August 3, City staff presented the amended draft recommendations to the City Council for feedback.

Some of the funding recommendations include community health and crime reduction programs, small business & nonprofit assistance, promotion of healthier living environments, affordable housing funding, and funding for stormwater infrastructure, among other things.

Mayor Jennifer Perez stated, "The ARPA funds will not only help us enhance our economic recovery and economic revitalization efforts, they will enable us to deliver enhanced services to improve public safety, infrastructure, technology and recreational programs. We look forward to making these improvements a reality and building the foundation for a thriving, healthy community."

Funds must be obligated by December 31, 2024 and expended by December 31, 2026.

Residents interested in obtaining more information about the Allocation Plan can email publicaffairs@norwalk-ca.gov or call (562) 929-5319.

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Booster Shots by Sept. 20

With infections from the coronavirus' Delta variant rising, the Biden administration said it plans to provide booster shots starting the week of Sept. 20 to adults who have received the two required doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine. People will be eligible to receive the boosters eight months after their second dose, officials said.

The administration is requiring nursing homes that receive federal Medicare or Medicaid funding to mandate vaccinations for all staff or risk losing those dollars. And the president threatened to take legal action through the Dept. of Education against governors that attempt to prevent school districts from enacting mask mandates.

Biden noted that vaccine requirements "have been around for decades" and have protected Americans from a host of viruses. He urged the private sector to go further in requiring workers to be vaccinated.

Ahead of his remarks, the Department of Health and Human Services announced the plan for booster shots, explaining why a third shot is considered necessary.

In a statement the DHHS stated, "The current protection against severe disease, hospitalization and death could diminish in the months ahead, especially among people who are at higher risk or were vaccinated during the earlier phases of the vaccination rollout. A booster shot will be needed to maximize vaccine-induced protection and prolong its durability."

Boosters will first be given to health-care workers and nursing home residents.

Health officials said they expect boosters will also be needed for those who received the one-shot Johnson & Johnson vaccine. That vaccine did not roll out until March, and administration officials said they needed more data were to assess when boosters for those shots might be necessary.

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T-MOBILE DATA BREACH AFFECTS MILLIONS

Records on nearly 50 million people, were exposed, carrier says.

(AP) The names, Social Security numbers and info. from driver’s licenses or other identification of more than 40 million people who applied for T-Mobile credit were exposed in a recent data breach, the company said Wednesday.

The same data for about 7.8 million current T-Mobile customers who pay monthly for service also appear to be compromised. No phone numbers, account numbers, PINs, passwords or financial information from the nearly 50 million records and accounts were compromised, T-Mobile said.

T-Mobile also confirmed that approximately 850,000 active T-Mobile prepaid

customer names, phone numbers and account PINs were exposed. The company said that it proactively reset all of the PINs on those accounts. No Metro by T-Mobile, former Sprint prepaid or Boost customers had their names or PINs exposed.

T-Mobile said that no customer financial information, credit card information, debit or other payment information or Social Security numbers were in the inactive file.

T-Mobile had said earlier this week that it was investigating a leak of its data.

The company now says it will immediately offer two years of free identity protection services and is recommending that all of its postpaid customers — those who pay in monthly installments — change their PIN. Its investigation is ongoing.

TRASH from page 1

an annual request to adjust the maximum allowable rate that can be charged. In 2018 they submitted their request for a 5% residential increase and a 4.3% commercial increase; that request was denied on a 3-2 vote.

In July 2019, CalMet submitted a second request but this time the company submitted an extraordinary rate adjustment as allowed by the contract.

CalMet proposed a 14% increase to commercial bins while freezing residential rates at current levels, but sensing that would not pass, at CalMet's request, the item was removed from the agenda.

This year CalMet submitted a proposal for a 16% residential increase, 13.7% commercial bin increase, and an 18% commercial roll-off increase.

According to staff reports, CalMet would earn an additional \$1.3 million providing the city nearly \$193,000 in franchise fees, but residents would see their bill go from \$17.60 to \$20.42, an increase of \$2.82.

CalMet's former residential rates in Cerritos were one of the lowest of surrounding cities surveyed; with the new rate increase it is right about in the middle, \$4 less than Whittier, \$3 less than La Mirada and Downey.

The rate increases were approved on a 3-2 vote with Councilpersons Grace Hu and Frank Yokoyama voting no.

Now CalMet is asking for another increase.

A press release from the City stated, "Cerritos City Council to review proposed CalMet Services rate adjustment. The Cerritos City Council will review a request from CalMet Services for an adjustment to the maximum allowable solid waste management rates in the City of Cerritos at its meeting on Thursday, August 26 at 7 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers."

Sources are telling HMG-CN that the increases will be very nominal, less than 1% for commercial and 2% for residential.

MURAL from page 1

of the AAPI anti-hate movement, the building-sized comic strip depicts Asians as targets, and the journey from hate to healing.

"This public art project is meant to be an ongoing project. My hope is that this artwork brings about healing and a sense of solidarity in the AAPI community and sparks a dialogue for non AAPI residents about what we can all do to be allies," said Hahn, "we may not be the first mural but we are the biggest!"

Norma Garcia, LA County Parks and Recreation, called it a big, bold beautiful, strong message "... to the 50 million residents that come to our parks, we want you

to come without fear of hate or discrimination or fear of racism."

Derek Hsieh of L.A. County Department of Mental Health added, "To have an event where you bring the victims back to a place of violence, but bring them back with the support of the community, is a very powerful thing."

The LA vs. Hate campaign has three components: a marketing campaign to provide awareness of the dangers of hate and the importance of reporting hate; the ability to report acts of hate and bias-motivated bullying; and to connect victims with needed resources via case managers by calling 211-LA.

POOL from page 1

engineering, to provide a comprehensive assessment of pool conditions.

The very detailed assessment is anticipated to be completed by the end of September and will include: Evaluation of the pool vessel, deck, and mechanical and chemical systems, as well as provide lifecycle analysis for each; identifying and summarizing findings for water leaks in the pool, decking, and equipment; include findings with the goal to repair or renovate the pool for safe public use.

Lastly the consultant will prepare three options for mitigation, and probable cost estimates for each: 1) Renovation of existing pool; 2) Removal and replacement of existing pool; and 3) Removal and replacement of pool with enhanced features.

"We've got to get it fixed," said Councilman Gustavo Camacho. "It needs to be done by summer of 2022. It's not only a great place to refresh yourself, but it's a safety issue. Learning how to swim is very important."

The report is expected in 50 days.

Sen. Archuleta Delivers 2,500 Chromebooks to Schools



SENATOR BOB ARCHULETA with Richard L. Graves Middle School students, parents and staff and their new Chromebook laptops.

On the second day of the new school year for South Whittier School District, State Senator Bob Archuleta visited Richard L. Graves Middle School to distribute Chromebooks to students.

The California Emerging Technology Fund collaborated with Archuleta's office to bring 2,500 Chromebooks to school districts in the 32nd Senate District.

In addition Frontier Communications

is providing low-cost Internet access.

"It's so important to provide the resources for our students to be successful in their studies and prepare for a bright future," said Archuleta.

Also present were parents, SWSD Superintendent Dr. Gary Gonzales, SWSD Board President Jan Baird, Graves Middle School Principal Angelica De La Rosa, and Assistant Principal Jeselle Mata.

BELLFLOWER SYMPHONY CHANGES VENUE FOR AUG. 21 CONCERT

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

Bellflower Symphony is ready to open their season with a free-to-the-public concert Saturday, August 21, but due to new CDC regulations the concert has been moved to John S. Simms Park Patio.

After reviewing the new guidelines handed down by the State of California, the City of Bellflower requested that the concert be moved to an outdoor event space. "Our musicians must wear masks and obviously our wind instrument musicians can't do that. The City organizers continue to assess current conditions, and when presented with the option to move or cancel all together, we decided to move."

Simms Park has a beautiful patio area with ample room for overflow attendance. Seating will be provided to a first come ~ first serve basis, so please bring lawn chairs and sweaters in case of cooler weather.

Now in their new season, they are looking forward to bringing beautiful music back to Bellflower under the direction of conductor, Heriberto Ramos. "Our first concert will feature first symphonies by Beethoven and Sergei Sergeyevich Prokofiev, a Russian Soviet composer, pianist and conductor. As the creator of acknowledged masterpieces across numerous music genres, Prokofiev is regarded as one of the major composers of the 20th century.

"We are accustomed to playing in parks and this will really be like our performances from 2019," stated Durbin, "We have been closed for a year and half and we want to tell our patrons that we can't wait to see everyone!"

John S. Simms Park is located at 16614 South Clark Avenue in the city of Bellflower.

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Local Resident Graduates from Officer Candidate School



ENSIGN JULIEN PHAM, 32, graduated from the U.S. Navy’s Officer Candidate School on Aug. 8. From his youth and his family’s background as Viet Nam War refugees, he’s always wanted to proudly serve his country. He’s pictured here in training at the 13 week long school.

BY LAURIE HANSON

As the son of Vietnam War refugees helped by U.S. military, Julien Truong Son Pham knew he also wanted to serve and help others.

The 32-year-old from Norwalk recently graduated from the U.S. Navy’s Officer Candidate School (OCS) this month and is awaiting his assignment, which most likely will take him far away from his native Norwalk.

“I joined the U.S. Navy because historically, it is our country’s oldest military relative to others that have a longstanding history and tradition that I would like to contribute and be a part of,” he said. “The Navy serves as a global peacekeeping entity that provides maritime security as well as responding to natural disasters around the world. Without the Navy, other countries would fall ill to internal and external struggles as well as have limited access to new resources that the U.S. Navy can provide when a natural disaster occurs.”

Though his parents Caroline Luong and Hung Pham are no longer alive and couldn’t witness him graduating OCS, he remembers their gratitude to U.S. forces that protected their family during the Vietnam War. He clearly recalls his mother telling stories of how they were helped in their time of need.

“Although they weren’t part of the waves that came into America, they were victims that were forced to relocate in a different country,” Pham said. “Essentially, my parents and myself wouldn’t be here if it wasn’t for their help. Becoming a Naval Officer is my way of continuing that ability to help others when they can’t help themselves.”

However, they did see him graduate from the Marine Corps boot camp in San Diego. He said his mother’s reaction seeing him cross the stage was filled with emotion and excitement for completing such a physically demanding program.

“I can only imagine that’s what she would experience too as I walked across stage accepting my commission as a Naval Officer,” he added.

However, while he was in the rigorous 13-week OCS being put to the test that Pham was supported by his aunt and uncle Cynthia and Peter Pham, and partner Rosalva Guzman.

“Officer Candidate School is unlike any other program that I have participated in,” he said. “Unlike Marine Corps boot camp that I attended in 2007, OCS is not only physically and mentally demanding but immediately tests your leadership capabilities as soon as you arrive.”

“OCS has helped me exceed my limitations,” Pham explained. “In moments of great stress from the staff members yelling and the high expectations they demand, it has helped transform my mindset to one that does not give up the ship and to persevere.”

His greatest challenge physically was simply staying awake, while mentally, it was keeping his focus on his overall goals.

“In the civilian world, I’ve grown accustomed to my sleeping schedule as well as maintaining my physical strength to keep up with OCS standards,” Pham said. “Mentally, I reminded myself why I was here, and using that motivation to succeed and move forward on my journey to become a United States Naval Officer.”

He said that right from the beginning leadership qualities were tested. All approximately 80 candidates in his class were expected to hold a leadership billet in some capacity supporting their class.

Their daily routine continually challenged them as well.

“Our everyday regiment consisted of waking up at 5 a.m. and immediately muster outside for physical training,” he said. “From running to doing high interval intensity training, I would say that my 32-year-old self is in one of the better conditions of my life!”

Training also involved graded classes in division officer fundamentals, navigation, naval history and more. If a candidate failed, they are subject to removal from the program. Throughout Pham’s time there, he saw as many as 20 candidates who failed and were asked to leave.

Now that he’s graduated from OCS, Pham is waiting on medical paperwork to be cleared so he can be redesignated from his original goal of being a Naval Flight Officer to a different occupation. It was only his second day in OCS when he was medically disqualified and was asked to choose a different career. He’s currently applying to be an Aerial Vehicle Operator (a drone pilot), work in Intelligence, and be an Information Professional.

“With the current backlog of applicants also waiting to be medically cleared, I am hoping my experience is expeditious as myself and others eagerly await to move forward with our career,” he said.

To future generations interested in joining the Navy, he says it’s a life-changing experience that no other civilian occupation can give an individual.

“As a Sailor, we are all brothers and sisters in arms that have a common goal,” Pham said. “The Navy entity provides us with a single identity with a single purpose -- to serve and to go to places where only a few will answer to reestablish global and environmental security.”

Watch Out for Valley Fever

Incidents are up for 2021, scientists say its climate change.

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

According to the California Department of Public Health, Valley Fever, also known as “cocci” or Coccidioidomycosis, is an illness caused by a fungus found in the soil in many parts of California, especially the Central Valley and Central Coast.

Valley Fever cases are rising in California and across the arid Southwest, and scientists point to climate change and population shifts as possible reasons.

California public health officials documented 7,768 reports of confirmed, suspected and probable new cases of the fungal disease as of Nov. 30, 2019, up 12% from 6,929 in the first 11 months of 2018.

In L.A. County, 657 cases have been reported so far this year; Orange County, 167; Riverside, 271; San Bernardino, 138; San Diego, 194; Ventura, 166.

For some, it can be severe and even fatal. This fungus lives in the top two to twelve inches of soil in many parts of the state. When soil is disturbed by digging, or is disturbed by environmental conditions such as high winds, fungal spores can become airborne and inhaled.

Construction workers and others who dig outdoors are most at risk. California’s AB 203 requires construction employers, through an awareness program, who work in counties with high rates of Valley Fever to train their employees on minimizing their risk.

The Occupational Health Branch has investigated outbreaks in working groups and developed recommendations for preventing work-related Valley Fever. Recognizing common signs and symptoms include fatigue, cough, Fever, shortness of breath, headache, muscle aches or joint pain, rash on upper body or legs, and symptoms similar to influenza that linger longer than usual.

The CDC reported that persons with CoVID-19 can have a wide range of symptoms, including cough, difficulty breathing, and fatigue. These symptoms are also common among patients with Valley Fever.

To decrease the risk for infection, persons living, working, or traveling in areas where Valley Fever is endemic, especially those at increased risk for severe disease, should limit exposure to outdoor dust as much as possible.

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Outside your home

Reduce your irrigation time by 10-15%, check your sprinkler system for leaks, water your plants in the early morning or evening, install a smart sprinkler controller that adjusts watering based on weather and soil type. Get more water-saving tips, and learn about water-efficient devices and tools at www.bewaterwise.com.

Gangs Out of Downey Step Up to Help Kids Back to School



VOLUNTEERS from Gangs Out of Downey gave out over 400 backpacks to kids. Over 21 community and service organizations supported this annual event including the Downey Police Officers and PIH Health.

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

Gangs Out Of Downey (G.O.O.D) held a backpack and school supplies giveaway at Golden Park on Saturday, August 7.

"This past Saturday's annual backpack and barbecue event by Gangs Out Of Downey was a huge success! We handed out close to 400 backpacks filled with supplies to local kids, K-12," stated GOOD President Hector Sosa. "With different community partners participating, a solid DJ, and games for the kids, this event was entertaining for

everyone who came out to help."

This event takes a lot of planning, coordination, and community collaboration. There are many community partners, service clubs, and local businesses to thank for all their generous donations and support. Their help allowed GOOD to benefit many kids in the community.

Over 21 community and service organizations supported this annual event including the Downey Police Officers Association, Offices of Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard, PIH Health and Stonewood & Lakewood Center Mall to name a few.

Initiative Will Legalize Sports Betting in California

STAFF REPORT

A coalition of California cities this week submitted language to the California AG's office for a ballot initiative for the November 2022 statewide election. The measure is called the California Sports Wagering and Consumer Protection Act.

The initiative would legalize sports wagering in California. Economic surveys estimate illegal sports gambling generates over \$10 billion in revenue entirely outside the regulatory system. This illegal enterprise contributes to criminal activity and leaves bettors without legal protection, accruing all its benefits to out-of-state and criminal enterprises while Californians pay.

The Act attacks black-market gaming, increases public safety, protects consumers from unscrupulous operators, and raises substantial revenue to fund services like improving COVID-19 relief, homelessness, mental health, and public education.

"Let's bring sports wagering out of the shadows, regulate the industry, and use a portion of the proceeds to benefit all Californians. Right now, the illegal and offshore operators reap those rewards and they're bleeding us dry," said Gardena Mayor Tasha Cerda.

"The revenue we generate from making sports wagering legal, while we're making it safer for consumers, will ensure that those who are most in need will receive food, housing, and other vital and necessary basic life services," said Helen Fiscaro, Vice Mayor of Colma in San Mateo.

The measure guarantees strong oversight of monies collected. Among its watchdog provisions, the measure requires sports wagering operators to perform annual audits and publicly report their findings to state regulators.

"California residents continue to suffer

impacts from the pandemic," said San Jose City Council Member Raul Perez. "We built strict accountability into the measure. We need to be able to move forward on what voters have asked for and will demand from us."

The initiative limits sports wagering to highly regulated entities that are experienced in gaming operations like state & federally recognized tribes with compacts or state-licensed gaming establishments, and professional sports leagues will be allowed to have operations at their facilities. The initiative also replaces unregulated, and untaxed operators with a safe and legal online and mobile sports wagering market.

The initiative also establishes strong enforcement mechanisms to keep sports wagering away from underage Californians and sets aside funding for problem gambling programs.

"A legal sports wagering market will bring protections for consumers and children," said Mayor Cerda. "This measure confines sports wagering to highly regulated and safe facilities, requires age verification for digital wagering, and outlaws advertising or marketing of sports wagering to children and young adults."

State elections law requires the proponents to gather 997,139 valid signatures to qualify the California Sports Wagering and Consumer Protection Act and must do so by April 2022 in order to appear on the November 2022 general election ballot.

A spokesperson from the Commerce Casino told HMG-CN, "We are still reviewing this new initiative. Right now, our focus is to defeat the tribal casino monopoly initiative that is being promoted by wealthy tribal casino operators at the expense of California residents with no revenues for taxpayers or safety precautions to protect California consumers."

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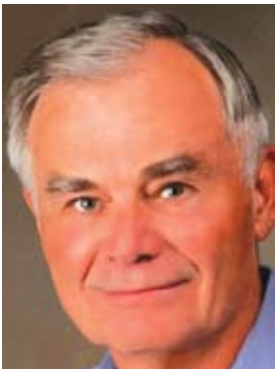
Passings: Former La Palma Mayor Larry A. Herman

STAFF REPORT

Former Mayor Larry A. Herman, who was La Palma's longest-serving council member serving a total of 16 years from 1986-1994 and 2002-2010, including two terms as mayor, passed away on August 15, 2021.

A La Palma homeowner since 1974, Larry continually took pride in the city and helping its residents. He also committed his life to community service. In addition to his service on the La Palma City Council, Larry represented La Palma as an Orange County Vector Control Trustee for more than 24 years and was a member of the Kiwanis Club of La Palma. Additionally, Larry offered his time as a Neighborhood Watch District Coordinator and Meals on Wheels Volunteer. Larry was selected as La Palma's 1996 Americana Awards Citizen of the Year presented by the Cypress College Foundation in recognition of his community service.

Larry was also active with the American Cancer Society, including volunteering in their Road to Recovery and Daffodil Days programs as well as the annual



Larry Herman

Relay for Life event. In 2004, Larry was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Cancer Society.

Larry is survived by his wife of nearly 60 years, Ulla, and son, Michael.

Mayor Nitesh P. Patel said, "The City Council and I are sad to hear of Larry's passing." "He was a devoted public service and volunteer who cared immensely about making La Palma the wonderful city it is today. We are forever grateful for his service to our community," Patel added.

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Day Excursion - Claire's and Long Beach Museum of Art

By Lydia E. Ringwald

Have a day or half-day to enjoy a quick excursion? A chance to get away from the routine to experience new scenery and stimulation?

Cerritos area residents are only fifteen minutes from Long Beach, a short drive to the Southern California historic city that offers a 'long' beach, two marinas, an ocean promenade, theaters and two fabulous art museums.

There is a lot to see, but this day's destination focuses exclusively on the Long Beach Museum of Art at 2300 E. Ocean

Blvd.

Originally a craftsman mansion with an adjoining carriage house built in 1912 for the prominent Milbank family, the property in the 1920s became a beach and athletic club and then an officer's club during WWII.

In 1950 the property was acquired by the City of Long Beach and converted into an art center; then, in 1957, it was converted into an art museum to house its growing fine art collection. In an expansion project completed in 2000, the carriage house was relocated and a new museum building was constructed on the site with carefully designed features that



OUTDOOR DINING at Claire's at the Museum. You can reserve an ocean view table and enjoy delightful cuisine; a luncheon including omelet specialties and 'greens and grains'.

would replicate the craftsman style of the original ocean view mansion.

The museum property, on the cliff overlooking the Long Beach harbor, features an elegant lawn and patio punctuated with a sparkling sculpture fountain by world renown artist Claire Falkenstein.

This stunning location is the site of Claire's restaurant, with its charming patio and medley of tables protected by yellow umbrellas in the summer sunshine and heat lamps when it is cooler.

Those who are covid careful will appreciate the outdoor ambiance of this elegant eatery with its fresh ocean breezes and servers in masks.

Cerritos residents, families, friends, couples, retirees can reserve an ocean view table and enjoy delightful cuisine; a luncheon with selections that span from sandwich and egg omelet specialties to 'greens and grains'.

Creative specialty drink concoctions to savor while gazing at the sea include tasty fruit champagnes, Pomegranate Fizz, Grapefruit Fizz, Bergamot Blood Orange Fizz.

THE LONG BEACH MUSEUM OF ART, is a great day trip that can end eating lunch at Claire's at the Museum.



After dining, patrons can wander through the sculpture garden on the museum property to view more intriguing Claire Falkenstein sculptures, as well as a 'kinetic clock' by George Rickey, the enchanting 'willow vessel' sculptures by Patrick Dougherty and original art tile bench by Marlo Bartels.

Entering the museum, patrons experience a 'feast for the eyes.' Currently on exhibit is the 25 year retrospective of art of Tristan Eaton, "All at Once," showcasing his street art, rock poster design, illustration, mural painting and installation art.

Eaton was a successful toy designer before founding Thunderdog Studios, a leader in commercial art, advertising and design that included celebrity clients the magnitude of Nike, Disney, Elon Musk and former President Barack Obama.

While cultivating a career as a commercial artist, Eaton also created a parallel career as a fine artist with artwork that often ironically critiques the popular culture that he participated in creating.

In his series of paintings, sculptures and in-

teractive art projects, Eaton merges historical classics and icons in contemporary culture into the pop art medley, a cascade of images and references that sift through our subconsciousness consuming us as they swirl and surround.

On the second floor of the museum is Eaton's wildly colorful interactive game arcade, an art installation where visitors can throw 'money' at the popular causes. Perhaps this satirical circus arcade is Eaton's social comment on government waste, excessive and wanton expenditure.

Underlying the excess is Eaton's subtle interpretation of our chaotic culture, and perhaps also a warning and a wake up call.

Exhibits change periodically at the museum, so a day excursion to the Long Beach Museum of Art and Claire's is a unique experience only a few miles from Cerritos that deserves a return visit to view what is new.

Check the Long Beach Museum of Art website for exhibit information and google 'Claire's' to examine a sample menu and make reservations for a table by the sea.

Artesia Seeking Vendors for the City's Street Fair

STAFF REPORT

The City of Artesia will hold its eighth Annual International Street Fair and Diversity Festival on Saturday, October 2, 2021, from 3:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The event is free to the public and held in downtown Artesia, located on Pioneer Boulevard between 183rd Street and 188th Street.

The Festival is one of Artesia's most popular events, and features live cultural performances and musical entertainment, a kids' zone, carnival rides, a variety of international cuisine, and various family-friendly activities. There will be cultural dance troupes on multiple stages and plenty of space to sit and enjoy the show.

It has been two years since the last street fair, and when you attend, you will see that the City has invested a lot of time and effort.

If you have not enjoyed some of the many restaurants in Artesia, you are in for a culinary treat. The food is in a word – amazing. There will probably be a section for 21 and over, there have been in previous years, the beer and wine selection is numerous and you can walk the Festival with it.

A Norwalk resident commented, "I rather enjoyed shopping at the vendors who were selling cute items. The prices were great, and I loved what I purchased. All the vendors were super nice and there were a good amount of people without it feeling overly crowded. It's



THE CITY OF ARTESIA is seeking vendors for the Fair from food vendors and other businesses to provide fun, entertainment, handcrafted items and various artisan-type products.

not a big street fair but it's really great that Artesia does this. I enjoyed hanging out with my friends and my fellow city neighbors. I'm definitely looking forward to going again this year."

A parade celebrating diversity will kick-off the festivities at 2:30 pm and will include participation from community groups.

The City of Artesia is seeking vendors for the Fair from food vendors and other businesses to provide fun, entertainment, handcrafted items and various artisan-type products.

Vendors are encouraged to visit the City's website at tinyurl.com/ArtesiaStreetFair for details and application forms.

An application is required and there is a fee to participate as a vendor. The deadline to apply as a food vendor is Friday, August 27, 2021. And the deadline to apply as a vendor is September 1, 2021.

For more information, please call Artesia City Hall at 562.865.6262 or Artesia Park at 562.860.3361.

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2021 HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL PREVIEW
By Loren Kopff • @LorenKopff on Twitter

Gahr Faces Uphill Battle With
Young and Inexperienced Squad

GAHR GLADIATORS

1-3 last season
23-25 overall last five seasons
Head coach: Greg Marshall
(19th season, 90-92)
Last time missed the playoffs: 2018

2021 SCHEDULE

Aug. 20	CANCELLED GAME WITH MAYFAIR
Aug. 27	North Torrance (3-1 overall last season)
Sept. 3	@ Heritage Christian (2-1)
Sept. 9	@ Garden Grove (3-3)
Sept. 17	Sunny Hills (5-1)
Sept. 24	BYE
Oct. 1	@ Downey (4-1)
Oct. 8	@ Dominguez (2-3)
Oct. 15	Lynwood (0-0)
Oct. 22	@ Warren (5-0)
Oct. 29	Paramount (1-3)

What a difference a year makes. This time last season, Gahr High head coach Greg Marshall was embarking on his 18th season and was hoping to take a team heavy in seniors back to the playoffs for a second consecutive season and fourth out of the last five. But the pandemic hit, the CIF-Southern Section cancelled the fall sports playoffs and an abbreviated season consisting of no more than six games was put together in



the spring. Marshall was proud that his seniors, some of whom had been in the program all four years, were able to get some games in.

“I think we were very fortunate to get those in, and I think a lot of that because we had so many seniors who were able to put it together so fast,” Marshall said. “If I had [the 2021] group, I wouldn’t have felt comfortable playing four games. We might have gotten two in.”

In the past four months since the Gladiators last played, Marshall said the program has been trying to get back to some type of normalcy and added that about 25-30 kids showed up during the recent optional workout period. That number grew to around 60, including freshmen, when it came time to hand out

See GAHR page 11

Valley Christian Back in Action With
New Coach and a Deeper, More Athletic Team

VALLEY CHRISTIAN

DEFENDERS
0-0 last season
31-17 overall last five seasons
Head coach: Kevin McCarthy (first season)
Last time missed the playoffs: 2018

2021 SCHEDULE

Aug. 20	@ St. Paul (0-4 overall last season)
Aug. 26	Santa Rosa Academy (1-3)
Sept. 3	@ Crean Lutheran (2-4)
Sept. 10	Beckman (1-4)
Sept. 17	@ Ontario Christian (4-0)
Sept. 24	BYE
Oct. 1	Artesia (0-1)
Oct. 8	Valley Christian (1-2)
Oct. 15	@ Whittier Christian (1-3)
Oct. 22	@ Heritage Christian (2-1)
Oct. 29	Maranatha (3-0)

Kevin McCarthy becomes V.C.’s fourth head coach in as many seasons and seventh since the legendary Mike Wunderley took his 2002 team to the Division IX championship game in his final season. The Defenders opted not to play this past spring as several football players also compete in spring sports. In 2019, under the tutelage of former head coach Bill Garner, V.C. went 7-4 and won the Olympic League before falling to Pasadena High 47-31 in the Division 11 first round playoffs.

McCarthy had been an assistant coach for V.C. the past seven seasons and took over the new position when Garner stepped down due to personal reasons in the preseason of the 2020 season.

“The program is 85 years in the making,” McCarthy said. “There’s a lot of tradition here. The ease of transition did come by knowing the players, also having much of the staff stay on. We didn’t go through a big transition initially. Coach [Kirk] Diego, he and I have been together for 15 years. But the transition had been pretty smooth, having been here for that period of time and having had some success, winning CIF in 2016.”

Of the 34 players on varsity this season, 13 of them were in the program in 2019, either playing on the varsity team or the junior varsity squad. In fact, McCarthy says this season’s team is deeper, more athletic and adds that it’s the best team that he has seen athletically since the 2016 team.

OFFENSE

Two seasons ago, V.C. put together 320 points and scored at least 31 points in five games, winning four of them. Historically, scoring has never been a problem and this season, the Defenders will have a trio of quarterbacks to choose from, including senior Colin Abrahams, who was 35 for 57 with 513 yards and four touchdowns in 2019. Seniors Rocco Caldarella, who caught 32 passes for 404 yards and scored three touchdowns as a sophomore and Logan Lemonnier, a transfer from Cypress High, are the other two candidates. McCarthy said all three have different skill sets and he isn’t ready to name a true starter.

“The new kid throws the ball really well and Rocco is one of our best athletes,” McCarthy said. “As far as running the ball, we’ve had some success with our quarterbacks running the ball



[and] he’s pretty good at that.” Speaking of running the ball, senior John Nelson, who has been with the program all four years, will likely be the team’s main running back, according to McCarthy. However, look for junior Aaron Chang, sophomore Dylan Sawai and freshman JoJo Apisala to see a lot of touches. Catching the ball will be Caldarella, seniors Ellis Negron and Carson Slager (22 receptions, 260 yards, one touchdown in 2019) and juniors Nick Bozanic, Micah Maurer and Kaden Struiksma.

McCarthy added that the team is deep in both the running back and wide receiver positions and that ideally, the run/pass ratio will be 50-50.

The one area that isn’t as complete right now are the two tackle positions on the offensive line. Senior Jesse Perez, who stands at 6’5” and is 280 pounds, will be at center while 6’2”, 270 pound senior Christopher Chang will occupy right guard with sophomore Jack Van Hofwegen playing on the left side. Junior Jacob Smith most likely will get one of the tackle spots while the other one is still up in the air. But sophomore Max DeMaster is also in the mix.

“My goal, which is kind of the joke amongst the people here, was that I wanted to get to 75 players in the program,” McCarthy said. “And we’re in good shape. We’re up to about 65 with the j.v. and the varsity. What we have is a depth of quality and we’re getting more bodies out. We’ll start the season with probably 31 or 32 varsity players, which is how many we had the year we won [the CIF championship]. It’s a good position to be in.”

DEFENSE

When one sees a V.C. game, most likely it’s going to be a high scoring affair. While the offense rarely struggles to put points on the board, the defense gives up a lot. In 2019, the Defenders allowed 297 points with at least 34 in the first, third and fifth games. However, the defense can show signs of an excellent game as V.C. yielded six points each in the second and fourth games of that season.

Junior Aaron Chang and Negron will lock down the two defensive end positions while senior Lee Kingwood and Christopher Chang will be the two interior linemen. The linebackers will be Apisala, Maurer, Sawai and Slager (29 tackles in 2019) while the secondary will see Bozanic and Nelson as cornerbacks and senior Sam Reeves and junior Nick Turnbow as outside safeties and Caldarella in the middle (34 tackles, four interceptions in 2019).

“I think our defense is probably See VALLEY CHRISTIAN page 11

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GAHR from page 10

gear for the players. But hard times have hit the Gladiators recently with some of the players coming down with Covid. Still, Marshall plans on playing dome games this season.

OFFENSE

After being blanked by Dominguez High 27-0 in last season’s opener on Mar. 25, the Gladiators scored 68 points in the next three games. Because of Covid and players transferring out, Marshall has had to do some tweaking in the offense, meaning what he wanted to run a few months ago will be different when the season begins, including the quarterback. Marshall’s plan A for a signal caller transferred out in the last week of July. So, junior Tyvon McGirt, who caught a 60-yard touchdown pass last season against Bellflower High, gets the starting nod with senior Joshua Rubio as his backup. When he is not under center, Rubio will be one the featured running backs along with junior Jaquan Miller. Also in the backfield will be senior Kye Clemmons and sophomore Royal Nwosu with juniors Micah McNeil and Jalen Montgomery slated to be the tight ends.

Marshall is projecting his offensive line to be senior left tackle Adam McNeil, freshman left guard Branden Meza, junior center Tristen Contreras, sophomore right guards Marcell Frazier or Noah Taylor and sophomore right tackle Anthony Fierro.

“It’s a young line, so we’re going to throw the ball which will be easy to pass protect and try to drive them off the line,” Marshall said. “Switching quarterbacks, we have to be able to run the football. Everything has changed. I’m not saying it can’t be done or won’t be done; I think it will be [done]. But we go from spring to summer, you have an idea of what all the kids can do, and you put them in position to be successful. Now I have to redo that and I’m not going to ask kids to do something they can’t do.”

DEFENSE

Historically, Gahr’s defense hasn’t been one to write home about. It’s rare to see the Gladiators allow less than 20 points in many games. Last season, Gahr allowed an average of 30.5 points a game with its best performance coming in the lone win against Bellflower, a 34-16 decision. The leader of the defensive line will be junior David Mataele, who was a starter last season, along with junior Tuini Mataele, and the two will be on the ends. Marshall is also projecting Contreras, Fierro and junior Jason Jackson to be on the ends at some point. The secondary stacks up with Rubio and McGirt as safeties and sophomores Evan Spurlin and Isaiah Wilcots as cornerbacks. The linebackers will be a combination of brothers as the McNeil’s will be on the inside while Jalen Montgomery and sophomore Kalen Montgomery are slated to be on the outside.

SCHEDULE

Gahr was scheduled to host Mayfair High tonight in the season opener. But after the recent Covid issues, Marshall took that game off the books and the Gladiators, who will now play as many as nine regular season games, will begin the season on Aug. 27 against North Torrance High. The Saxons are one of five teams that had a winning record, making this season’s schedule another tough one. Gahr lost to North Torrance 28-25 in 2018 and 41-7 in 2019 while it fell to Sunny Hills High 38-0 the week following the loss to North Torrance. The meetings against Garden Grove High and Heritage Christian High will be the first for the Gladiators in at least 23 years.

“Sunny Hills and Garden Grove are going to be major tests,” Marshall said. “We saw enough of North Torrance; we scrimmaged them last year. It’s like, ‘oh, they look like us’. Heritage Christian, we got on the phone and had that conversation...we’re both in the same place. So, those two games, I think, will be competitive. Then as we go into Garden Grove and Sunny Hills, we’re starting to step up to league-type schools and we’ll see where we’re at.”

Once San Gabriel Valley League play begins, it will be another big test to see if the Gladiators can crack the top three needed for an automatic playoff berth. They make their even-numbered year visit to the city of Downey where they have not defeated Downey High since at least 1998 and have two wins against Warren High, a 54-21 win in 2012 and a 21-7 victory four years later. Since 1998, Gahr has a winning record against one league team-Lynwood High in which it holds a 13-5 advantage. Against the other four league opponents in over that same time, Gahr has a combined 17 victories.

“This year it’s going to be Downey and Warren at the top of the league,” Marshall said. “Dominguez had some kids come in, I think, so they’ll be pushing [for third place]. I think Paramount is kind of down and Lynwood didn’t even have a football team last year. We’re going to probably be in the bottom half, realistically, going in. The top group is almost unmanageable for us this year. But then we’re going into a conference the year after, so I’m okay. Let’s get through this year playing those guys and hope I never have to play them again.”

HOMECOMING

If there is a homecoming game this season, Lynwood would be the opponent and it would be one of the best chances for the Gladiators to pick up a victory. In addition to the Gladiators defeating the Knights 13 times since 1998, they have not lost to Lynwood in their previous three homecoming meetings going back to 2008. Overall, the Gladiators are 9-10 since 2001 when hosting a homecoming game. But in the last six games, three each with Paramount and Warren, Gahr has been outscored 287-144, winning once (2017) and losing in the last outing to Warren, 51-0, on Oct. 25, 2019,

In closing, Marshall said a successful season, which has always been the case, will be the kids having a positive experience rather than winning or losing. “It’s about creating memories,” Marshall said. “If they can have a good memory of this; of going through this challenge, then it’s positive; it’s good. That’s what high school sports is supposed to be about. I’m confident they’re going to have a good experience and create some good memories from this whether we win or lose.”

VALLEY CHRISTIAN from page 10

ahead of our offense as far as teaching,” McCarthy said. “Randy Williams does such a good job and offensively, we never know what we’re going to be until we get contact.”

SCHEDULE

Had there been a full season in 2020, the Defenders were slated to open at home against San Marino High before travelling to Lancaster High and Portola High. This season, V.C. begins on the road against St. Paul High then hosts Menifee-based Santa Rosa Academy before going on the road to face Crean Lutheran High. The fourth game is at Beckman High and V.C. has never played the latter three in school history and has not squared off against St. Paul in at least 23 years. The fifth game of the season is the rivalry contest at Ontario Christian High where V.C. holds a 12-9 advantage since 1998 but has lost the last two against the Knights.

Although the coaches have changed over time, the final game before Olympic League play begins is a throwback game of two of the top former coaches in the history of the CIF-SS. V.C. entertains Artesia High for the first time in at least over 23 years and if those two schools faced each other in the 1980s or early 1990s, it would have been Wunderley against Artesia legend Norm Flowers.

“St. Paul is a huge step us for us,” McCarthy said. “They’re a Division 5 team and they were in the CIF final two years ago: traditionally very good. But the challenge with coming out of Covid was just trying to find a week zero game. I really wanted to keep that week five bye to give us a week of rest before league starts. I looked around, looked around, looked around and St. Paul was available. We might be biting a little off more than

we can chew. But we’re going to take a shot.” Since 2002, V.C., the school of champions, has won the Olympic League eight times and has finished in second place seven times. Over that time, the Defenders have compiled a 51-18 league mark and went undefeated seven times. Of those 18 league losses, four have come to Maranatha High and Village Christian High and another three to Whittier Christian High. “Heritage Christian is always really good and Maranatha is always really good,” McCarthy said. “They both have gone through coaching changes, but I don’t expect any type of drop-off from them. Village Christian has been improving and Whittier Christian, again, is competitive with us every year. We’ve been pretty lucky with winning the league five out of the last six years that I’ve been here and most of that is a byproduct of just preparation. But any one of those schools could win league this year with the two coaching changes at Heritage and Maranatha. There’s no telling what those schools are going to look like. For all intense purposes, we’re going through a coaching change also.”

HOMECOMING

The last time Valley Christian hosted Village Christian for its homecoming, which came in 2015, the Defenders came away with a 58-6 victory and since 2005, Valley Christian has won all four homecoming games against the Crusaders. Since 1999, Valley Christian holds a 19-2 record on homecoming night, losing to Francis Parker High out of San Diego 46-7 in 2013 and Heritage Christian 25-10 in 2018. And of the 21 homecoming games since 1999, three have been against teams outside the Olympic League.

'Viking of the Year' at Walker Jr. High School



SOPHIA CHICAS (above) is the Viking of the Year award winner given to the top eighth grade female every year based on academic grades, involvement in school and an overall positive attitude. The AAUW also selected her for their STEM camp out of 640 applicants.

BY EDNA ETHINGTON

The La Palma-Cerritos Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) recently sent four young girls to Virtual STEM Tech Trek Camps sponsored by AAUW California this past July. Sophia Chicas was one of 640 girls throughout California who were selected to attend one of three camps.

She was honored by Principal Jennifer Brown at Walker Jr. High School’s Eighth Grade Graduation on Zoom on May 19, 2021, by being selected as “Viking of the Year” for “superior academic achievement and a strong commitment

towards excellence.” She also received a framed Proclamation from the California State 65th Assembly, signed by Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva, for being awarded” the highest distinction which can be bestowed upon a student at Walker Jr. High School.” The Viking of the Year award is given to the top eighth grade boy and girl every year based on academic grades, involvement in school and an overall positive attitude; recipients are chosen by the staff and are chosen for Chicas had a 4.0 GPA in two years at Walker, she was in the honors program, and member/president of several clubs.



BREAKING NEWS

Los Cerritos
Community Newspaper



BREAKING NEWS

@cerritosnews

The logo for the La Habra Corn Festival. At the top is the Lions International emblem, which is a blue circular seal with a yellow 'L' in the center, flanked by two lion heads. The word 'LIONS' is arched above the seal and 'INTERNATIONAL' is arched below it. Behind the seal are three yellow corn cobs with green husks. Below this, the words 'LA HABRA' are written in large, bold, yellow block letters with a green outline. Below 'LA HABRA', the words 'Corn Festival' are written in a stylized, bubbly yellow font with a green outline.

For more information please visit their website at www.lahabrachamber.com

For more information please visit www.cityofartesia.us

For more information about the program or an application, call 562.420.2641. Applications can also be downloaded from the city website at www.hgcity.org

Published at Commerce Community News 8/13/21

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
JEZEBEL R. MAGALLANES
CASE NO. 21STPB07194
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of JEZEBEL R. MAGALLANES.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ANA LOU MAGALLANES in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANA LOU MAGALLANES be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with limited authority. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 09/15/21 at 8:30AM in Dept. 5 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner
EUGENE A. GLEASON, III - SBN 96415
GLEASON LAW OFFICES
15651 E. IMPERIAL HWY., SUITE 202A
LA MIRADA CA 90638
8/6, 8/13, 8/20/21 CNS-3496941# LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
STEVE SAKAKURA
CASE NO. 21STPB07210
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of STEVE SAKAKURA.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by DONALD SAKAKURA AND DAVID SAKAKURA in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that DONALD SAKAKURA AND DAVID SAKAKURA, CO-TRUSTEES OF THE STEVE SAKAKURA LIVING TRUST be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 09/16/21 at 8:30AM in Dept. 29 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner
CARLO AURE - SBN 235896
LAW OFFICE OF CARLO AURE
20955 PATHFINDER RD., SUITE 100
DIAMOND BAR CA 91765
8/13, 8/20, 8/27/21
CNS-3498354#
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

NOTICE INVITING BIDS

ANNUAL SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FISCAL YEAR 21-22

Project number: **50038**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Pico Rivera, California (“City”) invites sealed Bids for the Project. The City will receive such Bids at the City Clerk’s office, City Hall, 6615 Passons Boulevard, Pico Rivera, California 90660 up to **2:00 p.m. on August 31, 2021**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud.
All Bids must be made on the form furnished by the City. Each Bid must be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the City Clerk with the Project name and identification number typed or clearly printed on the lower left corner of the envelope. Bids must remain valid and shall not be subject to withdrawal for 90 calendar days after the Bid opening date.

SCOPE OF WORK. This Work will be performed in strict conformance with the Contract Documents, permits from regulatory agencies with jurisdiction, and applicable regulations. The quantity of Work to be performed and materials to be furnished are approximations only, being given as a basis for the comparison of Bids. Actual quantities of Work to be performed may vary at the discretion of the City Engineer. Time for completion of the Work is forty (40) total Working Days from the date specified in the Notice to Proceed and shall be inclusive of the procurement time to furnish and install all materials associated with this project.

OBTAINING BID DOCUMENTS. Bidders may obtain free copies of the Plans, Specifications, and other Contract Documents online by visiting <http://www.pico-rivera.org/rfps/>. Hard copies of the Contract Documents are not available at this time.

LICENSES. Each Bidder shall possess either of (a) a valid Class “A” Contractor’s license (b) a valid Class “B” Contractor’s license and combination of Class “C8”, “C12”, “C31”, and “C32” as applicable (c) a valid Class “B” Contractor’s license held by the prime and combination of Class “C8”, “C12”, “C31”, and “C32” specialty licenses held by subcontractors as applicable (d) Any of the above stated “C” licenses held by the prime and combination of the remaining state “C” specialty licenses held by the subcontractors as applicable issued by the California State Contractors License Board necessary for the performance of all Work to be performed at the time of the Bid submission, unless this Project has any federal funding, in which case the successful Bidder must possess such a license at the time of Contract award. The successful Contractor must also possess a current City business license.

MATERIALS SUBSTITUTIONS AND OTHER QUESTIONS. Bidders are required to post their questions or equivalent material or substitution request of construction materials to the City Project Manager online by visiting <http://www.pico-rivera.org/rfps/>. Materials substitutions or questions are acceptable until **4:00 pm on or before August 19, 2021**. Any questions or equivalent material or substitution request of construction materials submitted after **August 19, 2021** will not be answered. Questions and answers and/or any responses to material substitution request will be issued by **August 24, 2021** as an addendum. Any addenda and/or supplemental information, as applicable will be posted online and available at <http://www.pico-rivera.org/rfps/>. It is the Consultant’s responsibility to check online for any addenda that are released. Any changes or corrections to the original Bid Documents or any other information that will affect the completion of the award will be disseminated and posted on the City’s website. **Bidders shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda documentation (if any) with the submitted bid proposal.**

CITY PROJECT MANAGER CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name: Nadia Carrasco
Contact Number: 562-801-4221
E-mail address: ncarrasco@pico-rivera.org

By: Monica Heredia 8/10/2020
City Engineer Date

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 8/13 and 8/20/21

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. CA-19-863223-JB Order No.: 190964315-CA-VOI YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 6/28/2006. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 to the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE. Trustor(s): EVELYN F. CARALE, A WIDOW Recorded: 7/11/2006 as Instrument No. 06 1520450 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, California; Date of Sale: 9/14/2021 at 10:00 AM Place of Sale: Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza, located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona CA 91766 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$85,654.29 The purported property address is: 11821 JACKSON ST #102, CERRITOS, CA 90703 Assessor's Parcel No.: 7055-024-039 NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 916-939-0772 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-19-863223-JB. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 916-939-0772, or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-19-863223-JB to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. Date: Quality Loan Service Corporation 2763 Camino Del Rio South San Diego, CA 92108 619-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 916-939-0772 Or Login to: <http://www.qualityloan.com> Reinstatement Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 Quality Loan Service Corp. TS No.: CA-19-863223-JB IDSPub #0174220 8/20/2021 8/27/2021 9/3/2021

NOTICE INVITING PROPOSALS

RFP 2021 – DIAL-A-VAN OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Pico Rivera, California (“City”) invites sealed Proposals for the Project. The City will receive such Bids at the City Clerk’s Office, 6615 Passons Boulevard, Pico Rivera, California 90660 up to **5:00 p.m. on September 30, 2021**.

All Proposals must be made on the form(s) as requested in the RFP Documents. Each Proposal must be submitted in a sealed envelope addressed to the “City of Pico Rivera, Parks and Recreation – SEALED BID / RFP 2021- DIAL-A-VAN OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE”, clearly printed on the envelope.

SCOPE OF WORK. This Work will be performed in strict conformance with the RFP Documents, permits from regulatory agencies with jurisdiction, and applicable regulations. The quantity of work to be performed and materials to be furnished are approximations only, being given as a basis for the comparison of Proposals. Actual quantities of work to be performed may vary at the discretion of the Director of Parks and Recreation.

OBTAINING RFP DOCUMENTS. Proposers may obtain free copies of the RFP Documents by emailing a request to nglasman@pico-rivera.org. Hard copies of the RFP Documents are not available at this time.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS. Each Proposer shall possess the demonstrated experience as requested in the issued RFP Documents.

MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE. A virtual mandatory pre-proposal conference to discuss the details and respond to inquiries specific to the RFP will be held on **Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 10:00 a.m.**

The Successful Proposer must also possess a current City business license.

QUESTIONS. Proposers are required to email their questions to the City Project Contact at nglasman@pico-rivera.org. Questions are acceptable until **on or before Monday, September 20, 2021**. Any questions submitted after September 20, 2021 will not be answered. Questions and answers and/or any responses will be issued by **September 23, 2021** as an addendum. It is the Vendor’s responsibility to check with the City Project Contact for any addenda that are released. **Proposers shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda documentation (if any) with the submitted bid proposal.**

CITY PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name: Natalie Glasman
Contact Number: 562-801-5551
E-mail address: nglasman@pico-rivera.org

By: Natalie Glasman August 12, 2021
Analyst Date

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 8/20/21

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY
Notice is given that pursuant to sections 21700-21713 of the Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of the Commercial Code, Section 535 of the Penal Code. 1812.607, that Norwalk Self Storage at 11564 E. Firestone Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 will sell by competitive bidding by Climer's Auctions (Bond # 5181494), on or after September 15, 2021 @ 10:00 a.m., property belonging to those listed below. Auction is to be held at the above address. Property to be sold as follows: boxes, totes, mattress, cabinet, loose wood, trash bag, shelf unit, coffee table, potty chair, cushion, TV table model, picture frames, dolly, loose clothing, and fan belonging to the following.

NAME UNIT
Elizabeth Delgado Negreros A253
Cresencia Marticio Magbulos B480

This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Section 21700 et seq. of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California.
Sales subject to prior cancellation in the event of settlement between Owner and obligated party. Publication Dates: 08/20/2021 AND 08/27/2021

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 8/20 and 8/27/21

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY
Notice is given that pursuant to sections 21700-21713 of the Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of the Commercial Code, Section 535 of the Penal Code. 1812.607, that Cherry Carson RV Storage 4160 Cherry Ave. Long Beach CA, 90807, will sell by competitive bidding by Climer's Auctions (Bond #5181494), on or after September 15, 2021 @ 11:00 a.m., property belonging to those listed below. Auction is to be held at the above address. Property to be sold as follows: boxes, totes, tool boxes, microwave, paintings, stool, small oven, step stool, loose bedding, grinder, pillow, trunk/ottoman, and bags belonging to the following.

NAME UNIT #
Desmond Miller B113

This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Section 21700 et seq. of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California.
Sales subject to prior cancellation in the event of settlement between Owner and obligated party.
Publication Dates: 8/20/21 AND 8/27/21

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 8/20 and 8/27/21

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Their advertising support keeps this paper in operation. Thank you!

NEWS MEDIA GROUP

MEGATAXERS from page 1

He is a proponent of the Cali-Baja Mega Region and Ethnic Studies that former El Rancho Unified School District Board Member Jose Lara espoused.

Previously under the supervision of the State Superintendent, the Board has a L.A. County Administrator.

In mid-2012, then-Governor Jerry Brown stepped in and loaned the District \$55 Million courtesy of the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank, whom former disgraced Montebello Unified COO Ruben Rojas worked for.

As a result, Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom "the bonds" Torlakson wrested control away from the Board and appointed Kent Taylor as Superintendent, a free-wheeling contractor.

By December of 2012, he was removed or resigned, moved on to Lennox to end his career, and eventually took his life.

Next, Don Grann was hired, but he was too busy playing with Wiseburn School District in El Segundo. Vincent Matthews replaced Grann, Matthews the soon-to-be champion of Non-Citizen voting for school boards. The Bonds later appointed Thelma Melendez de Santa Ana as Superintendent, hailing from Montebello Unified School District. As former Assistant Secretary of Education during the Obama Administration, she may have succeeded in running IUSD. Just ask Joe Bowers, another Cardinal. So much for State control.

That at least explains how George Pla and Cordoba Corporation slipped in as Construction Manager for Measure G.G. in June of 2016. On the same agenda, Cordoba Corporation was engaged as Construction Manager of the Los Angeles World Airport Project, along with McKissak and McKissak. Cordoba delivers, especially on local, state and federal projects. Cordoba and McKissak have everyone on their payrolls.

In November of 2019, Debra Duardo, Superintendent of Los Angeles County Office of Education, appointed Erika Torres as Administrator of Inglewood Unified. Unlike the stone-cold Queen of Angels stationed at Echo Park, this Mom Duardo has ears and eyes on everyone throughout the nearly eighty school districts in Los Angeles County. Just ask Superintendents Vivian Echikian or Mark Skvarna.

Recently California updated the Dashboard, indicating IUSD now serves 7,950 students in 19 schools; they lost four schools and 3,000 students.

The Board was aware of the declining enrollment, but that did not matter; in May of 2020, District officials hired an advance team including Cordoba, and Christine M.I. Decanay, Feldman Rolapp & Associates, Stradling Yocca Carlson &

Rauth, and bond counsel Carlos Villafuete and David Casnocha's.

The Board also engaged Clifford Moss for Community Outreach.

In July 2020, the Board had the first reading of a Resolution Ordering an Election and Establishing Specifications of the Election Order. The agenda reflected, "If approved by the County Administrator - not the Board - the Resolution calls for an election within the District for the purpose of approving general obligation bonds, requests that the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters conduct the election on behalf of the District, and authorize the preparation of election materials, including ballot arguments and tax rate statement, to be included in the ballot pamphlet." The election material, measure arguments, and tax rate statement are printed in the voter information guide or pamphlet containing the sample ballot.

One month later, they had a second reading to make sure they got the verbiage right. This Resolution had the Ballot Label attached as Exhibit A and the Full Text of the Measure attached as Exhibit B.

Duarte Unified's Ken Bell and Azusa's Bradley Patterson, used their campaign contributions to pay Clifford Moss. Now, IUSD was paying them directly for outreach, crossing into the grey area of using taxpayer funds to pay for campaign outreach.

DUSD's and IUSD's Resolutions were mostly the same, except for the amount; \$79 million versus IUSD's \$240 million.

IUSD's section eight stated, "The maximum rate of interest on any Bond shall not exceed the maximum rate allowed by Education Code Sections 15140 to 15143, as modified by Government Code Section 53531."

As we pointed out in our last article, DUSD's Resolution did not disclose the actual rates of interest. IUSD did the same thing in their Resolution.

DUSD's had ten sections, IUSD's eleven, Megataxer cookie cutter documents.

Can a County Administrator Approve the Bond?

At DUSD, the President of the Board signed the Resolution and was attested. At IUSD, the County Administrator Erika F. Torres, Ed.D, MSW signed off.

There are questions whether the law allows a County Administrator, instead of the Board, to sign off on Resolutions to implement a tax measure authorizing the issuance of bonds, in this case, a huge bond.

L.A. County Counsel once again missed the questions, just ask Richard Michel, the voice crying in the wilderness.

The Ballot Label: "INGLEWOOD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT STUDENT SAFETY/HEALTH/ACHIEVEMENT, CLASSROOM REPAIR MEASURE To repair/upgrade classrooms, including instructional technology, vocational/career education, roofs, plumbing, security/fire safety, remove asbestos, lead paint, mold; provide safe drinking water; acquire, construct, repair sites, facilities, equipment; shall Inglewood Unified School District's measure authorizing \$240,000,000 in bonds, at legal rates, levying 6c per \$100 of assessed valuation raising on average \$15,000,000 annually, while bonds

3rd Annual Frank Napolitano Memorial Golf Tournament



GREAT DAY OF GOLF for a good cause at the Norwalk Lions Club of California Third Annual Frank Napolitano Memorial 9-Hole Golf Tournament, named in honor of Rep. Grace F. Napolitano's late husband, Frank. From (l-r) Fred Zermeno and Kyle Miller of the Senator's office; Pico Rivera Pro Tem Monica Sanchez; Rep. Grace Napolitano; Se. Bob Archuleta; Norwalk Councilmember Rick Ramirez, and Montebello City Planner Joe Palombi. Team Archuleta came in second overall

are outstanding, be adopted, requiring oversight, and all funds invested in local schools?"

Similar to DUSD and Bassett, the ballot label does not comply with Education Code section 15272; absent are the words "appoint a citizens'... committee" and "conduct annual audits"?

Election Code section 13119 provides for the "Shall the measure be adopted?" The language is there, but not ending with the question as dictated by the Code.

IUSD's Ballot Label violated the Election Code.

Further, Section 13119(b) requires the disclosure of not only the amount of money to be raised annually, but also the rate and duration of the tax.

IUSD's Ballot Label violated the Election Code, where the lawyers used "at legal rates" and "while bonds are outstanding" in the Ballot Label.

The worst sentence construction in the world appears on ballot labels, intentionally. Just ask FM3.

Section 13119(d)(1) says "For purposes of this Section (13119), the following term have the following meaning: Local governing body means the governing body of a city, county, city and county (thank you San Francisco), including a charter city or charter county, or district, including a school district."

The law clearly does not authorize a County Administrator to impose \$469 Million in taxes on residents.

Finally, Election Code section 9500 states that "the county elections official shall transmit a copy of the measure to the county counsel who shall prepare an impartial analysis showing the effect of the measure on existing law and the operation of the measure.

County Counsel's impartial analysis, penned by Mary C. Wickham, now Judge Wickham, stated:

"Approval of Measure I ('Measure') would authorize the County Administrator ('County Administrator') of the Inglewood Unified School District ('District'), which placed the Measure on the ballot by Resolution No. 05/2020-2021, to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$240,000,000."

The impartial analysis completely ignored Section 13119 regarding the Governing Board of the District and inserted County Administrator. The impartial analysis does not contain the statement indicating that the measure was placed on the ballot by the governing board of the district.

Geoffrey Chaucer in Canterbury Tales wrote, "doctors & druggists wash each other's hands;" the same can be applied to the County Administrator and County Counsel.

Similar to the other bonds, minimal donations came from IUSD residents, most of them were from the Megataxer Network; architects, contractors, engineers, inspectors, and material suppliers.

Roy Rivas signed on as Treasurer and David L. Gould as Assistant Treasurer. No one knows who Roy Rivas is; Gould runs his shop out of Long Beach, hiding committee information behind his office address.

True to the Gould Way, the Campaign Statement does not show a Controlling Officeholder, Candidate, or Responsible Officer of Sponsor.

The Megataxer Network stepped up: Ohrbach Huff Suarez & Henderson, LLP gave \$5,000. Lawyers.

School Business Advisors in Newport Beach contributed \$1,000. Consultants.

C.A. Architects popped for \$10,000.

Dannis Woliver Kelley tossed in \$4,000. More lawyers.

Harvey Ellis Devereaux (HED) Architects, \$10,000,

Cerritos-based Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Rudd & Romo surpassed them all with \$15,000.

The DLR Group, once again, from Omaha, Nebraska donated \$5,000 into the campaign, and Lionakis from Newport Beach threw in \$1,000.

George Pla's Cordoba Corporation, a generous contribution of \$15,000.

Total of \$66,000, no IUSD residents, and a secret campaign committee that would make the Fair Political Practices Commission blush.

The Megataxers count so far: Bassett Unified, \$50 million bond, cost to taxpayers, \$96 million. Citrus College: \$298 million, cost of half billion. Duarte Unified: \$79 million, cost of \$148 million. Inglewood Unified \$240 million, cost of half billion.

Passed using compromised board members, bogus ballots labels, statements and tax measures, questionable impartial analyses by L.A. County Counsel, and a conflict of interest between two L.A. County agencies.

"Paging" L.A. County Board of Supervisors.

Next up, Los Angeles Unified School District.



CITY OF LA MIRADA
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 2018-08
PHASE 6B RESIDENTIAL STREET REHABILITATION

Notice is hereby given that the City of La Mirada, California invites sealed bids for the furnishing of all labor, materials, equipment, and services for Capital Improvement Project No. 2018-08. Plans and Specifications and the Instructions to Bidders for the Phase 6B Residential Street Rehabilitation are available online from American Reprographics Company (ARC). Bidders may obtain free copies of the Plans, Specifications and other Contract Documents online by visiting <http://www.crplanwell.com/>. The general items of work include the sawcut, removal and disposal of existing improvements, AC pavement reconstruction, cold milling, asphalt rubber hot mix overlay, Type 2 slurry seal, curb and gutter, cross gutter, curb ramps, manhole, valve, valve and utility adjustments, traffic control, water quality control plan preparation and implementation, traffic striping and markings. Sealed bids shall be delivered to the City Clerk at or before 11 a.m. on September 30, 2021. Bids must be submitted on the blank forms, prepared and furnished for that purpose and included in the Plans and Specifications. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or delete portions of any or all bids, or waive any informality or irregularity in the bid or the bid procedures.

Anne Haraksin, City Clerk
City of La Mirada

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter 8/20 and 8/27/21

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(Division 6 of the Commercial Code)
Escrow No. 66476-HH
(1) Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller(s) that a bulk sale is about to be made on personal property hereinafter described
(2) The name and business addresses of the seller are: MEILYN CHOU AND SIMON CHING-FU KOO, 12540 SOUTH STREET, CERRITOS, CA 90703
(3) The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is: 12540 SOUTH STREET, CERRITOS, CA 90703
(4) The names and business address of the Buyer(s) are: ESSEM ENTERPRISES, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 2514 FASHION AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90810
(5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT, TRADENAME, GOODWILL, LEASE, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, AND COVENANT NOT TO COMPETE of that certain business located at: 12540 SOUTH STREET, CERRITOS, CA 90703
(6) The business name used by the seller(s) at said location is: BASKIN ROBBINS #3140
(7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 at the office of: UNITED ESCROW CO, 3440 WILSHIRE BLVD, #600, LOS ANGELES, CA 90010, Escrow No. 66476-HH, Escrow Officer: HARRY HWANG
(8) Claims may be filed with Same as “?” above
(9) The last day for filing claims is: SEPTEMBER 13, 2021.
(10) This Bulk Sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2.
(11) As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer are: NONE.
Dated: MAY 3, 2021
TRANSFEREES: ESSEM ENTERPRISES, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION,
ORD-429163 LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 8/20/21

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated: 10753 Artesia Blvd. Cerritos, Ca 90703 on September 07, 2021 at 11:00 am.
Ryan Bradley- Boxes, Washer and Dryer, Daniel Martinez- Household Items, Christine Williams- Clothes, Blankets, T.V, etc, Recquel Thurman- Household Items, Brown Donald, Donald Brown- Household Goods, Paul Kiefer- Household Items, Glenn Eldridge- Household Items.
The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Published on 08/20/21 and 08/27/2021

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
MARK LLOYD VINSON
CASE NO. 21STPB07532

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of MARK LLOYD VINSON.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by KATHLEEN VINSON in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that KATHLEEN VINSON be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 09/10/21 at 8:30AM in Dept. 79 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
STUART L. WALLACH, ESQ. - SBN 89731
LAW OFFICE OF STUART L. WALLACH
34 EXECUTIVE PARK, STE. 210
IRVINE CA 92614
BSC 220395
8/20, 8/27, 9/3/21
CNS-3500705#
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
PETER SHIELDS
CASE NO. 21STPB07722

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of PETER SHIELDS.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SHOUSHAN MOVSESIAN in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SHOUSHAN MOVSESIAN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with limited authority. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 09/10/21 at 8:30AM in Dept. 79 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
KAREN KNUTSON - SBN 216066
LAW OFFICES OF KAREN KNUTSON
11965 VENICE BLVD., STE 404
LOS ANGELES CA 90066
8/20, 8/27, 9/3/21
CNS-3500528#
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
File Number 2021143323

THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: REESE LEWIS FITNESS, 4106 MARLTON AVE., #6, LOS ANGELES CA., 90008. REGISTERED OWNER: RLT CONCEPTS, INC. 4106 MARLTON AVE., #6, LOS ANGELES CA., 90008 THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS AN CORPORATION. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: N/A. I declare that all the information in this statement is true and correct. (A registrant who declares as true any material matter pursuant to Section 17913 of the Business and Professions Code that the registrant knows to be false is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine not to exceed one thousand dollars (\$1,000). /S/ MAURICE LEWIS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 7/25/21. In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). LCCN 8/6, 8/13, 8/20, 8/27/21

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Cerritos City Council will review and consider an agenda item at a regular meeting on **Thursday, August 26, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** on the following matter: **REVIEW AND CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST BY CALMET SERVICES FOR AN ADJUSTMENT TO THE MAXIMUM ALLOWABLE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT RATES**

This public meeting will be conducted in-person in the Cerritos City Council Chamber, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA. To protect public health and safety during the COVID-19 pandemic and in compliance with the current Los Angeles County Health Officer Order and City of Cerritos COVID-19 Safety Plan, the City Council Chamber will be open to the public. As authorized by State of California Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20 this meeting may also be conducted via teleconference, if necessary. Members of the public may provide public comment in-person at the meeting or via email to city_clerk@cerritos.us or by hard copy to the Office of the City Clerk no later than 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Please identify the agenda item number in the subject line of the email or hard copy document. All written correspondence received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline will be distributed to the legislative body prior to the meeting. During the meeting, your name and summary comments will be read into the record. The document will be retained with the public record of the meeting. The meeting will air live on Cerritos TV3 and will be streamed over the City of Cerritos website at **www.cerritos.us**. A copy of the related agenda report will be available for download from the website on the Friday prior to the public meeting. If you challenge the above mentioned item and related actions in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public meeting described in this notice, or in written correspondence emailed to the Office of the prior to the public meeting. Any person interested in this matter may contact the Office of the City Clerk at (562) 916-1248 for additional information and/or appear at the hearing in person or by agent and be heard.

Dated: August 13, 2021 and August 20, 2021, Vida Barone, City Clerk/Treasurer

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 8/13 and 8/20/21

CITY OF CERRITOS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NOTICE TO BIDDERS, PURCHASE TWO NEW COMMERCIAL GRADE 48" RIDING LAWN MOWERS, BID NO. 1436-21

Sealed bids will be received at the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Cerritos, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, First Floor, Bloomfield Avenue at 183rd Street, Cerritos, California, 90703, until **11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 1, 2021**, for the purchase of two new commercial grade 48" riding lawn mowers. Bids will be publicly opened at Cerritos City Hall at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesday, September 1, 2021. Bids must be made on the form provided for this purpose, addressed to the City Clerk, City of Cerritos, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, First Floor, Bloomfield Avenue at 183rd Street, Cerritos, California, 90703, marked **“PURCHASE TWO NEW COMMERCIAL GRADE 48” RIDING LAWN MOWERS, Bid No. 1436-21”**. Two (2) copies of the bid must be delivered in a sealed envelope or package. One copy shall be marked as “Original” and must contain an original signature. No bid will be accepted unless it is made on a proposal form furnished by the City and has the bid number and project name clearly identified on the outside label. The City of Cerritos reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or portions of any and all bids or waive the informality in a bid not affected by law. Bid specifications are available online at **www.cerritos.us/BUSINESSES/bid_and_contract_opportunities/bid_listings.php**

For additional questions please contact Support Services at (562) 916-1318. Dated/Posted/Published: August 20, 2021

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 8/20/21

CITY OF CERRITOS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NOTICE TO BIDDERS OF BLOOMFIELD AVENUE STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT NO. 22301, BID NO. 1437-21

Notice is hereby given that the City Council of the City of Cerritos, County of Los Angeles, State of California, hereby invites sealed bids for the following project: **Project Identification: BLOOMFIELD AVENUE STREET IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT NO. 22301, BID NO. 1437-21, Project Description:** The work or improvement to be performed generally consists of cold milling 3” of existing asphalt concrete (AC), and the construction of a 3” AC surface. Additional improvements also include the removal & replacement of deficient concrete curbs & gutters, sidewalk panels, driveways and wheelchair access ramps; adjustment of utilities to grade; removal of parkway and median trees; installation of traffic signal loops; and re-striping of lane lines, arrows, stop bars. **Bids will be opened: Wednesday, September 8, 2021, 11 am, Place of bid receipt:** Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, First Floor, Cerritos, California 90703, Bids must be marked: **“BLOOMFIELD AVENUE STREET IMPROVEMENTS, PROJECT NO. 22301, BID NO. 1437-21”** All bids shall be made on the form furnished by the City and shall be opened and publicly read aloud at the above-stated time in the Office of the City Clerk of the City of Cerritos, City Hall, **Obtaining Contract Documents:** A compact disc with a set of Contract Documents, including the plans and specifications, may be purchased at the Engineering Division of the City of Cerritos for \$10.00 (\$15.00 if mailing is requested). There will be no refund for return of the Contract Documents. Return of such documents is not required. Each bid shall be accompanied by bid security referred to in the Contract Documents and by a list of proposed subcontractors. Evidence of insurance, a performance bond, and a labor and materials bond as specified in the Contract Documents will be required prior to execution of the contract. In accordance with Public Contract Code section 22300, the bidder who is awarded the contract may substitute securities for retention moneys withheld by a public agency to ensure performance under the contract. The procedure and requirements for substituting said securities is set forth in Public Contract Code section 22300, which is incorporated by this reference as set forth herein. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or portions thereof, or to waive any informality or irregularity in a bid to the extent allowed by law. No bid will be accepted from a contractor who has not been licensed in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 9, Division III of the California Business and Professions Code. The contractor must possess a license of the following classification at the time the contract is awarded (and must maintain this license classification through completion of the project): **A.** The bidder's attention is also directed to Section 7028.15 of the Business and Professions Code for further reference. Only a contractor or subcontractor who currently is registered with the California Department of Industrial Relations (“DIR”) to bid on public works contracts in California, pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5, shall be permitted to submit or be listed on a bid. No bid shall be accepted, nor any contract or subcontract entered into, without proof of the contractor or subcontractor’s current registration to perform public work pursuant to Labor Code Section 1725.5. Pursuant to the provisions of Section 1770, et seq., of the California Labor Code, the DIR has determined the general prevailing rate of wages and employer payments for health and welfare, vacations, pensions and similar purposes applicable to the work to be done. These rates shall be the minimum rates for this project. Copies of the prevailing wage rates are on file at City Hall, located at 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, California, 90703, and shall be available to any interested party upon request. In addition, rates may be obtained by visiting <http://www.dir.ca.gov/OPRL/pwd/>, calling the DIR, Division of Labor Statistics and Research’s Prevailing Wage Unit at (415) 703-4774, faxing the Prevailing Wage Unit at (415) 703-4771, or writing to: DIR, Division of Labor Statistics and Research, Prevailing Wage Unit, P.O. Box 420603, San Francisco, CA, 94142. The contractor to whom the contract is awarded, and the subcontractors under him, must pay not less than these rates for this area to all workers employed in the execution of the contract. The bidder’s attention is further directed to Section 9204 of the Public Contract Code regarding the claims resolution process for all public works projects. Any dispute or claim against the City under a public works project shall be processed in accordance with Section 9204 of the Public Contract Code and any other applicable law. By order of the City of Cerritos.

Dated/posted/published: August 20, 2021

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 8/20/21

Metropolitan Water Calls on Residents to Conserve Water

BY JESSE CORREA

In response to worsening drought conditions, the board of Southern California’s regional water wholesaler will consider declared a Water Supply Alert this past Tuesday, that calling upon residents to voluntarily conserve the precious resource.

According to MWD officials, SoCal’s water supply has been severely impacted by extreme drought in both the Sierras and the Colorado River, saying storage reservoirs are at an all-time low.

The action calls for water agencies and consumers in Southern California to voluntarily reduce usage.

On Monday, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation declared the first-ever mandatory water cutbacks for Arizona, Nevada and Mexico next year due to a shortage on the Colorado River.

The federal government’s declaration comes as Nevada’s Lake Mead, the river’s biggest reservoir, measures at its lowest level since the reservoir was created by construction of the Hoover Dam in the 1930s.

MWD GM Adel Hagekhalil said Lake Mead’s low levels should be a wake-up call.

“The Colorado River is sending us a clear message: conserve, reuse and recycle,” Hagekhalil said. “The river has been a lifeline for Southern California for more than 80 years. This shortage announcement moves the river into a new era and reinforces the need for Southern Californians to use less water to preserve this critical supply.”

He noted that the next chapter in the history of the river must be “one of collaboration and historic action to stabilize a supply that is so vital to seven states and two countries.”

Metropolitan’s action on Tuesday urging conservation would also support Gov. Gavin Newsom’s call last month for Californians to voluntarily reduce water use by 15% amid worsening conditions across the

See **WATER** page 12

Officials Recognized for Support of Veterans



LOS ANGELES COUNTY Supervisor Janice Hahn along with State Senator Bob Archuleta (D-32), were both recognized by the American GI Forum of the US El Camino Real Chapter in Whittier, led by Commander Howard Hernandez, for their continued support of our veterans throughout the county of Los Angeles and state of California. The program also paid tribute to the late Jake Alarid, a past commander.

Southland Home Prices Continue to Set Records

BY BRIAN HEWS

The July median is up 17.5% but see a cool-down.

SoCal home prices soared to new heights in July, although the pace of increase slowed, with the six-county region’s median sales price reached nearly \$682,000 in July, up 17.5% from a year earlier but lower than the 20%-plus gains recorded since April; sales rose nearly 10%.

The housing market has been red hot with the pandemic boosting demand, a desire for more space and rock-bottom interest rates.

But recently there have been signs things are slowing down

In July, 17% of consumers thought it was a good time to buy a home in California, down from 31% a year earlier.

In Riverside County, the median sales price rose over 23% to a record \$525,000, while sales climbed nearly 7%.

In San Bernardino County, the median sales price rose 21% to a record \$455,000, while sales climbed 4%.

In Los Angeles County, the median sales price rose 18.7% to a record \$795,000, while sales rose 20%.

In Orange County, the median sales price rose 16.6% to a record \$904,000, while sales climbed 5%.

In San Diego County, the median sales price rose 15.2% to \$730,500, while sales climbed 4.3%.

In Ventura County, the median sales price rose 16.5% to \$735,000, while sales climbed 10%.

Artesia Begins Its Safe Neighborhood Program

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

The City of Artesia held its National Night Out event August 3, 2021. NNO provides residents and public safety officers with the environment to foster stronger relationships through positive interaction. This year the City introduced the Safer Neighborhoods Program at the event. City Council also proclaimed August as Safer Neighborhoods month to increase community awareness of the program.

The awareness campaign will be promoted through several different events and on social media. Encouraging residents to become more involved in their local Neighborhood Watch is a major goal of the program.


Residents are encouraged to participate with yard signs. These signs come in two sizes so that homeowners and apartments can display them correctly. The signs include contact information for City Hall and information regarding the Neighborhood Watch Program. In addition, city staff coordinated with Public Safety officers to resume monthly in-person block captain meetings.

Designed for community members who may not attend formal Watch meetings or may be hesitant to do so, scheduled officer drop-ins already exist at adult park programs, enabling residents an informal way to advance relationships with Special Assignment Deputies.

The City is working with Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn to provide wellness vans that will conduct regular visits to A.J. Padelford Park and Artesia Park. These vans will provide mobile health services to check interested residents for diabetes, blood pressure, vitals and other health concerns.

As part of their efforts to improve public safety, the City will offer a Home Security and Alarm Rebate program for Artesia homeowners. Those who purchase an eligible alarm system can receive a rebate of up to \$250. The program is currently advertised

See **ARTESIA** page 12



5 days a week In-person classes Begins August 23, 2021

Enroll your student by going to
www.abcusd.us

Protocols to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 based on CDC, state and county health guidelines will be in place.

The ABC Online Independent Study Program is also available as an alternative to in-person instruction.