



MEASURE G funded the complete renovation of the gymnasium. Attending the grand opening ceremony was the NLMUSD Board, NLMUSD Sup. John Lopez and the LM City Council.

Gymnasium and Locker Room Renovation Complete at La Mirada High

By **Tammye McDuff**

La Mirada High School officially unveiled its new gymnasium and locker room building Wednesday, a project that modernized and expanded the previous space for the Matadores student body.

Funded by Measure G at a

total cost of \$26 million dollars, the new upgrades to the existing area added 12,000 square feet to the gymnasium, resulting in a total of 26,000 square feet of space for use by the LHMS student body. The project, which began in January of 2019, faced several setbacks during construction including structural

upgrades and a fire, but was completed for use in the fall of 2021. Matadores athletic teams have been in use of the modernized space since then including the newly crowned Suburban League champion boy's basketball team. The upgrades could not have been made without the

See **GYM** page 12

Pico Rivera Proposing a Tobacco Licensing Program



BUBBLE GUM TOBACCO: This would be banned in Pico Rivera, and the program would establish enforcement procedures.

By **Brian Hews**

The use of tobacco and tobacco products by underage persons is an ongoing public health concern, with youths using flavored tobacco more and more.

In 2016, California raised the age to purchase tobacco products from 18 to 21 years of

age, but that didn't work; state data shows that underage people can still purchase tobacco products 20% of the time, buying at a number of retailers, including tobacco and vape shops, convenience stores, liquor stores, and supermarkets.

State law does penalize re-

See **PICO RIVERA** page 12

Lakewood Sales Tax Generates Surplus, Roads to be Repaved

By **Brian Hews**

On Tuesday evening, the City Council voted to allocate \$5 million to repave eight miles of Lakewood streets.

The construction costs will be funded using various funds from Proposition C, Measure R, Measure M, and SB1.

The repaving program approved by the council will be focused on those streets that need repaving the most. The City will receive more federal, state and county funds in the years ahead, and will keep focusing on the streets most in need at that time.

Streets that will be affected include Candlewood, from Fidler to City Limits west of Paramount; Harvey from Bellflower to Woodruff; Downey from Del

See **LAKEWOOD** page 12

Negotiations Stall Between ABCFT and ABCUSD

ABCFT says their offer is fair and fiscally sound, President Soo Yoo could call a special meeting but will wait until Feb. 15

By **Brian Hews**

The ABC Federation of Teachers is currently staging a work slow down that started last Monday, ahead of a sick-out and possible strike in the coming days.

The ABCFT ordered a Work to Rule action, a unified occupational action in which teachers do no more than the professional responsibilities required in the Negotiated Agreement and Board of Education policies.

Although the two sides are negotiating, negotiations have stalled, according to ABCFT's Ray Gaer.

The teachers have worked two years without a contract and without any COLA raises, according to a teacher in ABC who called in and left a message with HMG-CN, but did not want to leave their name.

"Teachers are fleeing the District because of certain members on the board, we have a teacher shortage and they have no clue, all they want to do is build their \$10 million aquatic center. We are among the lowest-paid teachers in the county, something must be done."

The key statement was "certain members of the board."

HMG-CN has received a

communique from the ABCFT to union members Tuesday that stated, "For the last 24 hours, ABCFT Teachers and Nurses have overwhelmingly supported the deliberate job action in the form of the ABCFT YOUnity Work to Rule Campaign. This campaign is designed to draw attention to the lack of support for educators by the ABC School Board members."

"Please note that board members Dr. Olga Rios and Dr. Chris Apodaca have been very supportive and continue to fight for ABC employees in public and behind the scenes."

"However, the rest of the school board members talk about supporting educators but their actions indicate otherwise as they continue to pile more expectations upon ABC employees yet fail to provide a compensation package that recognizes the value of our exceptional work."

The remaining Board Members are President Soo Yo, VP Brad Beach, Sophia Tse, Ernie Nishii, and Michel Eugenio.

The main problems are that the teachers haven't had a contract in two years, no raises, this with the ABCUSD having a reserve percentage that is far above the required percentage.

It is something Rios and Apodaca have been complaining about for months, while proposing raises and a one-time bonus for the ABCFT.

ABC's reserve currently sits at a whopping 14%, the cap is 10%, minimum 4%, so they have 10%

See **ABCFT** page 6

Norwalk Seeks Remedy to Truck Traffic Issues

By **Tammye McDuff**

Cerritos is not the only area city with semi tractor-truck rumbling through the city.

On Tuesday, February 1, the Norwalk City Council unanimously approved a resolution to support the proposed Santa Fe Springs General Plan Update to reduce the health and environmental impacts of heavy truck traffic on the residents of Norwalk.

Norwalk residents have increasingly raised their concerns about the public health and public

safety impacts of industrial development and activity on their quality of life. There are several large freight forwarding, distribution, and warehousing businesses that are located in Santa Fe Springs that generate thousands of truck trips. Several Norwalk streets including Carmenita Road, Bloomfield Avenue, Imperial Highway, and Norwalk Boulevard, among other streets, are affected by significant noise, air pollution, and congestion at all hours of the day by these industrial businesses lo-

See **NORWALK** page 12

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Redistricting Cerritos College

The Cerritos Community College District is redistricting. **Redistricting** is the process of adjusting District lines every 10 years after the release of the U.S. Census.

We want public feedback.

- **January 12**
1st Public Hearing and Discussion of Draft Maps
- **January 19**
2nd Public Hearing on Draft Maps
- **February 9**
Consideration of Vote on Revised Trustee Areas
- **February 16**
Consideration of Vote on Revised Trustee Areas (if needed)
- **February 28**
Deadline to adopt map

Visit www.cerritos.edu/redistricting to view the proposed maps and comment.



CCPA Presents Free Concert by U.S. Army Field Band

In honor of Presidents’ Day, the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts will present a free concert by the U.S. Army Field Band on Tuesday, February 15 at 7 p.m. The band will perform the “Sound-track of the American Soldier,” a tribute to the stories of our military as told by Hollywood. Audience members will enjoy exciting movie music from some of the greatest films of our generation highlighting the service of American soldiers, from “Saving Private Ryan” to “The Great Escape.”

Founded on March 21, 1946, the U.S. Army Field Band recently marked its 75th anniversary. The band’s mission is to connect America to its Army by telling the Army story and honoring soldiers and veterans.

Tickets to this special event are available only by visiting the CCPA Ticket Office. There is a limit of four tickets per household, and seating is General Admission. The box office is open Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. If the concert sells out, there will be a stand-by line to accommodate the overflow seating.

To protect the health and safety of patrons, performers, volunteers, and staff, the CCPA is following all recommendations and requirements from public health officials. Health & Safety Guidelines are posted on the theater’s website at cerritoscenter.com. The CCPA reserves the right to cancel or postpone any event in conformance with health mandates from public officials in effect on the date of an event. Please note that everyone attending performances must show either proof of full COVID-19 vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test result.

Buttigieg Pushes For Major Changes at Long Beach Port

(AP) The Port of Long Beach is still dealing with a backlog of waiting cargo vessels, its top official said Wednesday in renewing calls for transforming the supply chain into a round-the-clock operation.

In an annual state-of-the-port address, Executive Director Mario Cordero also outlined infrastructure and technology plans for improving movement of goods.

About 40% of the container cargo entering the U.S. comes through the Long Beach and Los Angeles, and both moved record volume last year. In October, Biden announced a plan for round-the-clock operations, but it hasn’t happened.

“There are 168 hours in a week, and for the most part, our terminals are open less than half of those hours,” Cordero said. “Without expanding our terminals or building new facilities we could still handle more cargo by utilizing more of those hours. We’d also need truckers and warehouses to go 24/7.”

Cordero said the Biden administration helped to establish the “framework” for 24/7 supply-chain operations. “We need to make it our goal. It has to be our next great transformation,” he said.

Among the initiatives, the port is working to maximize on-dock rail to accelerate cargo destined for Utah, Nevada, New Mexico and Arizona. That would free up equipment to support the Southern California market.

It also joined with a tech company to create a “supply-chain information highway,” a tool launching this month that will allow cargo to be tracked across various modes of transportation.

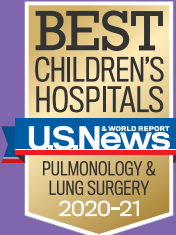


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DUSD Alumnus First Latina President of Harvard Law Review

Staff Report

The Harvard Law Review has named a Downey Unified alumnus and a California-born daughter of Mexican immigrants its newest president, elevating a Latina to the top of one of the most prestigious U.S. law journals for the first time in its 135-year history.

Priscila Coronado, 24, attended Rio San Gabriel Elementary, Doty Middle School and graduated in the top three percent of her class in 2015 from Downey High School. She is the first in her family to attend college and earned her undergraduate degree from the University of California Los Angeles.

Law Reviews are staffed by the top students at U.S. law schools, who are often recruited for judicial clerkships and other prestigious jobs in the profession. Legal and political luminaries who have worked at the Harvard Law Review include President Barack Obama, named the journal’s first Black president in 1990. Three serving members of the U.S. Supreme Court have served as editors.

According to an article published by Reuters, an email sent by Coronado shared her experiences growing up as a Mexican American have informed her perspectives and that she wanted to “work hard to show how being a Latina is an important part of who I am.”

When a former Downey High School teacher asked her, what does it mean to you to be the first Latina president? Coronado shared that this was a difficult question to answer. She continued to explain, “On the one hand, I’d like to work hard to show how being a Latina is an important part of who I am. My perspective as an editor and as president is necessarily informed by the experiences I’ve had growing up Mexican American. On the other hand, I recognize the privileges I have benefitted from, such as growing up in a great public school district and having supportive family and friends. There



PRISCILA CORONADO attended school in DUSD and graduated in 2015 from Downey High School.

are countless other Latinas who won’t hold positions like this but are just as intelligent – or more than – I am,” Coronado concluded.

As a Downey Viking, competed and received a silver medal at the SkillsUSA State Competition in Quiz Bowl; was a California State Federation Seal bearer for her academic achievements; participated in wind ensemble and jazz band for two years and concluded her senior year as a section leader in the marching band.

“Honestly, I couldn’t have done it without you,” shared Coronado in a recent email to her former Downey High School teacher, Bernie Glasser. “I am fortunate I was able to attend a great public school system and thank you for teaching us about college admissions.”

When the academic year is done at Harvard Law School, she plans to work as a summer associate at Munger, Tolles & Olson, a California-based firm known for ranking among the most selective law firms in the United States that regularly tops lists of the country’s elite law firms.

Her legal interests include education law and disability rights. She is known as a “rigorous scholar and a passionate advocate,” both by her Harvard peers and during her time at Downey High School.

understanding that extreme weather events will only increase in intensity and frequency with climate change. “Weather related natural disasters, from the Napa Valley fires to the mudslides in Montecito, have highlighted the critical importance of community hazard mitigation planning. SCG understands that with climate change, these extreme weather events are only going to increase in intensity and frequency, that’s why SCG started the program.”

To assist local governments in planning for these events, SCG initiated the Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Planning Grant Program.

The shareholder-funded initiative invested \$150,000 this year to support local planning efforts to help prepare for and recover from climate change risks, such as extreme heat, wildfires, drought, subsidence, sea-level rise, flooding and mudslides.

An advisory panel of planning and sustainability experts selected the winning applications from across Southern and Central California.

Local governments that are participating in vulnerability assessments, climate adaptation and resiliency plans, or updating their local hazard mitigation plans to address climate adaptation through their General Plan process are eligible to apply.

Cities that want to apply go to:
socalgas.com/sustainability

FRANK AURELIO YOKOYAMA FOR CERRITOS CITY COUNCIL

Happy Valentine’s Day



Frank Aurelio Yokoyama, wife Wendy Sung-Hee Ha, kids Makenna and Maddox, parents Tom and Chit Yokoyama & sister Tatiana Yokoyama Bui at Makenna’s Senior Night.

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PAID FOR BY FRANK YOKOYAMA FOR CITY COUNCIL 2022 ID# 1442100

Pico Rivera Receives So Cal Gas Climate Grant

By Tammye McDuff

Pico Rivera is one of three local governments that received this year’s Southern California Gas Company (SCG) Climate Adaptation & Resiliency Grant for \$50,000.

The purpose of the grant is to aid with climate change impact reductions.

The city plans to use this funding to develop a Climate Adaptation Plan (CAP) to measure past, current, and future actions towards climate change mitigation.

The CAP will provide a clear path to reducing GHG emissions factors, including on-road transportation, energy use, solid waste, short-lived climate pollutants, and off-road equipment.

“The city understands the importance of responding to the needs of the community with solutions to all of the issues surrounding health and well-being while using an approach rooted in social equity and environmental justice,” said City Manager Steve Carmona.

SCG awards these grants to ‘highlight the critical importance of community hazard mitigation planning,

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Haw. Gardens Councilwoman Myra Maravilla Resigns

By Brian Hews

Hawaiian Gardens Councilwoman Myra Maravilla suddenly resigned Tuesday night at the end of the regular City Council meeting.



She will succeed Eddie Sarmiento as Hermosa Beach's city clerk. Her first day on the job for the seaside town, according to a

Hermosa press release, started this past Wednesday.

"I've told the City Council, the City Attorney and the City Manager, I have to regretfully resign from my position on the Hawaiian Gardens City Council effective today. I have accepted a position with the City of Hermosa Beach as City Clerk and I start that journey effective tomorrow.

"Holding back her emotions, Maravilla said, "It is with mixed feelings, especially since I've been on the council since 2015 and made great memories serving the residents and businesses and working with staff.

"Thank you to all the City Council, City Staff, Public Safety and the Fire Department, I still live in the city so if anybody needs anything from me, I will be here."

City Manager Suja Lowenthal, who appointed Maravilla, said in a statement that "her wide range of public service made her uniquely qualified for the position."

Gov. Recall Cost \$200M

Last year's bogus election of whether to recall California Gov. Gavin Newsom cost taxpayers just over \$200 million.

The state Legislature set aside just over \$278 million for the Sept. 14 election. Of that, \$35 million went to the Secretary of State's office, while the rest — about \$243 million — was divided up among the state's 58 counties.

However, it cost the counties \$174 million to put on the election, leaving \$69.5 million left over, according to a letter published Thursday by the Secretary of State's office.

Meanwhile, the Secretary of State's office spent \$26.1 million, leaving a balance of \$8.8 million. It's possible those costs could increase as the office is still processing expenses.

The election was called after more than 1.7 million voters signed a petition to remove Newsom from office, fueled by anger over his handling of the pandemic and other policies.

But on Election Day, more than 81% of the 12.8 million people who voted chose to keep Newsom, a Democrat, in office.

While the recall came in under budget, it was still a large unexpected expense for taxpayers.

Some Democrats have said they want to change the process to make it more difficult for recall elections to be called in the future.

"This was a substantial cost to taxpayers and a significant disruption to governing the state," Secretary of State Shirley Weber said in a news release. "This price tag confirms that it is necessary to revisit the recall process and to pursue effective reforms."

OPINION

Why Are We Taking Masks Off Now?

Over 2,700 people are still dying a day, over 240,000 cases are detected each day, 111,000 in the hospital, yet some governors, including ours, are going to lift mask mandates?

COVID deaths from Omicron are higher than when Delta was raging.

The CDC just came out and said we should not drop the mask mandate just yet, citing the number of deaths and cases each day.

One of the leading virologists in the world, CDC chief Rochelle Walensky, told Reuters in an interview published Tuesday, "Now is not the moment," one day after five states announced major changes in their masking policies.

When you're doctor tells you to do something to keep from getting sick, and take your meds, don't you follow through?

Hospitals are still overcrowded, with nurses and doctors pleading not to cut the mandate; the percentage of vaccinated is still lower than it needs to be - 62.5% -yet we're going to yield to the very few who have been complaining since the very beginning?

500,000 deaths from Omicron, over 100,000 of those deaths occurred in the U.S., said WHO manager Abdi Mahamud, said.

"It is tragic, beyond tragic to witness in a country where vaccines are available free, and that many people died, and are still dying."

The seemingly endless pandemic has brought together diverse people furious over "government overreach into public life."

Over wearing a mask and the inability to dine inside; I guess they don't read a newspaper.

In Florida, where Governor Ron "Death Sentence" De Santis is infamous for weak COVID rules, the state has logged 307 deaths per 100,000.

California with stricter mask rules? 203 deaths per 100,000.

It is estimated that 14,000 people who died in Florida would have been saved if Florida had strict rules like California. 14,000 souls saved.

California's death rate in the Delta and Omicron eras? Half of Florida's.

If most in the U.S. followed guidelines, wore masks, and got vaccinated at the rwe would've been out of this months ago.

This is now almost endemic, like the flu. We will have ways to deal with COVID - like the flu - in the future, but now is not the time to drop the mask mandate. Just ask any first responder, nurse or doctor.

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Author Dr. La-Doris McClaney at the Cerritos Library

In celebration of African American History Month, the Cerritos Library welcomes author Dr. La-Doris McClaney, who will discuss her book, "God, I Listened Too," at 7 p.m. in the Skyline Room on Friday, February 18. Seating is available on a first-come, first-seated basis. Attendees will be required to sign a COVID-19 waiver and wear a face covering.

Dr. McClaney is a real estate mogul, philanthropist and author. In "God, I Listened Too," she recounts her life and shares how the power of prayer, determination and pure grit can transform a simple seed into an abundant harvest worth millions of dollars and countless lives forever changed.

Copies of Dr. McClaney's book will be available for purchase. The Cerritos Library is located at 18025 Bloomfield Avenue. For more information, call (562) 916-1342.

Flyin' Miz Daisy Pop-Up at OC Fair

Flyin' Miz Daisy Vintage Market will hold their first event April 2, from 9 am - 3 pm.

Free admission at the OC Fair Event Center in Costa Mesa, \$10 parking fee per vehicle. Attendees can converse with the exhibitors and learn the rich history of each piece that has been carefully curated, collected, and restored.

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Whittier's Bizarra Capital Gets Creative with Tacos



Chipotle Chicken Chowder

By Tammie McDuff

Bizarra Capital is a bustling Mexican eatery offering creative tacos, small plates and spirits in old town Whittier, with the greatest spot within walking distance of the Whittier Museum.

Start your meal off with their more-than-ample margaritas or Sangria. They also offer fresh lemonade, agua fresca and coffee.

You can have a full meal or a taco [or two] made with freshly patted tortillas and the long-cooked Yucatan-style pork cochinito pibil, or a plate of Nayarit-style aguachile, marinated raw shrimp and tilapia fire-hot chile and lime. Just a note items marked with a chile are really, really spicy, everything else is just spicy.

As a tip, you must order the fried huauzontle, an old pre-Hispanic food that is still treasured in Mexico and a popular food during Lent. The Huauzontle is dipped in beaten eggs, fried like chiles rellenos until crisp, and sprinkled with vivid red stripes of chiles, onions and Mexican

herbs. There are, apparently, lots of ways to eat huauzontle, but the preferred method is to eat as a finger food, stripping the crunchy, bittersweet blossoms from the stalks with your teeth. Nowadays, some even consider it a gourmet or specialty food, but in reality, it is of the most humble of meals.

The guacamole is by far the best I’ve ever had in a restaurant;navocado, herbs and citrus, almost too special to be used as a condiment. There is another wonderful salad of grilled cactus paddles with chiles and cotija cheese.

Chef Ricardo Diaz of Cook's Tortas, Dorados Ceviche Bar and Guisados Tacos, brings you a full service restaurant of authentic Mexican Recipes, Tequilla tastings and Mexican Craft Beers. The menu of Mexican and New Mexican cuisines offers mouth watering omelets, asada and stewed steaks. The flan is fresh and tasty with crumble and tres leches cakes.

With a consistent 4.5 stars across the board, the spectacular service is something these restaurateurs care about. This place offers you meals at average prices. Customers may choose between indoor or outdoor seating at 12706 Philadelphia Street.



CAPITAL'S Asada Family Pack featuring homemade corn tortillas, avocado sauce, cilantro lime rice, and delicious and tender asada

Impressionist Art Coming to San Diego Museum of Art

Monet to Matisse: Impressionist Masterpieces



Monet's Grand Palai

The San Diego Museum of Art will welcome Monet to Matisse: Impressionist Masterpieces from the Bemberg Foundation to the institution this spring, marking the first time the collection will be on view in California and only the second time in the country.

Opening March 19, the exhibition will now feature 60+ works of art produced between the 1870s to 1930s from some of the most significant names in Europe, including renowned painters Paul Cézanne, Edgar Degas, Claude Monet, Berthe Morisot, Pablo Picasso, Alfred Sisley, while Pierre Bonnard is represented by over ten remarkable examples.

This marks the first time the Bemberg Foundation’s Impressionism collection, which rarely leaves its permanent home in France, has traveled to California and is one of only two showcases in the United States.

The exhibition also includes two exclusive pieces that have not been on view in the country before.

This is the second installment of a loan from the Bemberg Foundation, following the Cranach to Canaletto exhibition on view at the Museum from June to September 2021.

TERRA: Fernando Casasempere (April 29 - September 5, 2022) - The exhibition highlights the urgency of the environmental crisis through installations that utilize the Earth as both subject and medium.

Using waste produced by mining and drilling from his native Chile, artist Fernando Casasempere creates four immersive installations that provide a meditative, thoughtful experience meant to inspire the public to consider how they interact with the Earth. Previously presented in Madrid at the Casa de América, this will be the artist’s first exhibition in the United States.

The exhibition will have a variety of programming and event elements, including a sustainability panel discussion with the artist that will take place May 3.

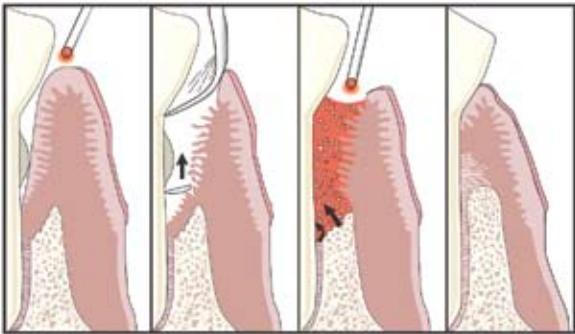
Art Alive 2022 (April 28 - May 1, 2022) - Celebrate the return of Art Alive which features nearly 100 colorful floral interpretations of works of art from the Museum’s permanent collection, a dazzling floral Rotunda display, and four days of fun-filled events.

Art Alive is The San Diego Museum of Art’s most important annual fundraiser, providing essential support for the Museum’s exhibitions, education, outreach, and public programs.

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Imperial Healthcare Center
11926 La Mirada Blvd
It's A Grind
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Kindred Hospital
14900 Imperial Hwy.
Knabe Park
Kristens Beauty Salon
13952 Valley View Ave
La Casa de Concinera
15711 Imperial Hwy,
Lakewood Regional
3700 South St.
La Mirada City Hall, Library,
Resource Center, Sheriff's
LA Nails
13239 South St
La Palma City Hall
La Palma Community Center
La Palma Intercomm. Hospital
Liberty Park
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Long Beach Memorial
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Manila Sunset
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Anaheim-Cypress Boys & Girls Club's Youth of the Year

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Anaheim-Cypress has named Bandai Teen Center Club Teen Ava M. as its 2022 Youth of the Year.

Ava said, “For the past 3 years of coming to the Boys & Girls Club, I have drastically improved my public speaking skills, gained knowledge that will help my future, and found my passion for art. I am very grateful for all the staff and this opportunity to reflect on all they have done for me. The Boys & Girls Club has given me a home away from home where I can really be myself and feel accepted. What draws me into the club is the amount of opportunities it has. From the various virtual clubs, the amazing staff, and all the members, everyday being here is unique and different. The Boys & Girls Club gave me friendships I see myself having for a lifetime, as well memories that will last forever.”

Ava will move on to represent the organization at the county-wide competition on March 4th against other teens for the title of Orange County Youth of the Year.

Ava joins every club offered, is a self-proclaimed “Vice President of everything” and participates in Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Anaheim-Cypress’s virtual programming.

She is involved in QuarantEEN Video



YOUTH OF YEAR Ava has found her passion of Art at the Club and one day hopes to become a Webtoon Comic.

Creation Club, gEARed up for the Future Club, Teen Cuisine Cooking Club, Leadership Club, and many others.

Being named Youth of the Year is the highest honor a Boys & Girls Club member can receive. Youth of the Year encourages Club members to reach their full potential by achieving academic success, leading healthy lifestyles and contributing to their communities.

No More Walking, Disney Parking Trams Are Back



VISITORS tired of walking to the front gate and then back to their cars lugging all their goodies and full of healthy food after a long day at Disneyland and California Adventure will be grateful the theme park's trams are finally returning.

ABCFT from page 1

to spend.

Meanwhile, the District is losing mental health professionals, substitutes, students, and teachers.

The latest ABCFT newsletter stated, "Negotiations between ABCFT and ABCUSD resumed [Wednesday] morning after two days of member work to rule job action, which encouraged the district to finally reach out to ABCFT to resume salary compensation negotiations.

"As of Wednesday afternoon, the ABCFT Negotiating team has delivered the latest salary compensation proposal to the ABCUSD negotiating team and was told that we have to wait for a response from the school board on Tuesday, February 15th. The school board will determine the fate of the ABCFT proposal in a closed session before the open session of the school board meeting.

The newsletter continued, "the ABCFT negotiating team is scheduled to return to the table on February 16th to discuss the latest District response. ABCFT members will continue to work to rule with the intent of encouraging ABC School Board member holdouts to reconsider their unwillingness to find a resolution for this salary negotiation cycle. The work to rule the campaign will continue until ABCFT members are

heard and have a tentative agreement.

"ABCFT is currently delivering informational flyers to the school sites for members to hand out. The informational flyers ask parents to write letters to Board President, Soo Yoo and Vice President, Brad Beach in support of our campaign for a fair salary compensation package.

"ABCFT leadership is encouraging members to attend the school board meeting Tuesday, February 15th where they can read their letters to the school board members during the public comments section of the meeting."

Councilman Frank Yokoyama told HMG-CN, " As an ABC alumnus, an ABC parent of two students, and a Cerritos Councilmember, I am grateful and thankful to the ABC Unified School District, Superintendent Dr. Mary Sieu, the ABC School Board members, and especially the hard-working and exemplary ABC teachers and nurses. On behalf of concerned ABC families, parents and students, I respectfully call for immediate good faith negotiations between the ABCUSD and the ABCFT. The ABCUSD has long been an award-winning School District and that starts with the ABC teachers. I respectfully request that the ABCUSD and the ABCFT negotiate a fair compensation package for the ABC teachers and nurses."

HMG-CN is waiting for a statement from ABCUSD.

Supervisors Call to End Discrimination of Gay Men in Blood Donations

This week, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors called on the FDA to reverse its discriminatory blood donor policy and allow gay and bisexual men to give blood.

The current blood donor policy requires gay or bisexual men to abstain from sex for a minimum of three months before they can donate blood.

The policy dates back to the HIV/AIDS crisis of the 1980s, in an era when HIV was poorly understood by scientists and doctors.

In 1985, the FDA established a lifetime ban on donations by men who have sex with men. In 2015, the lifetime ban was changed to include anyone who had sex with men in the last 12 months. In April 2020, 12 months was reduced to 3 months.

Sup. Janice Hahn’s motion, co-authored with Sup. Sheila Kuehl, directs a 5-signature letter to be sent to acting FDA Commissioner Janet Woodcock urging the reversal of restrictions that prevent sexually active gay and bisexual men from becoming blood donors.

“These outdated restrictions aren’t just discriminatory – they’re actively endangering the lives of people in need of blood,” said Hahn. “As we face the worst blood shortage we’ve seen in a decade, we have an easy way to increase our blood supply.”

“It is really discriminatory to prevent healthy and willing gay men from donating blood,” said Kuehl. “According to UCLA’s Williams Institute, changing this policy could result in the donation of more than 600,000 additional pints of blood.”

Today, every unit of blood is rigorously tested to detect any trace of HIV, syphilis, hepatitis, West Nile virus or other blood-borne diseases.

There is gaining momentum to end the policy during the current national blood shortage crisis. Members of the House Oversight Committee wrote a letter on January 13 to the FDA asking for “immediate action.”

On January 18, the Biden administration voiced commitment to ensuring that that the blood donor policy “is based on science, not fiction or stigma.”

The Human Rights Campaign, the nation’s largest LGBTQ+ civil rights organization, added to calls for change saying the current policy is “outdated” and “does not reflect the state of the science.”

One day book sale Feb. 26 at the Cerritos Library

The Friends of the Cerritos Library will hold a one-day book sale from 1 to 5 p.m. on Saturday, February 26 in the Cerritos Library. The sale will be held on the first floor, near the Craftsman area.

A wide selection of fiction and non-fiction books will be available for only \$5 per bag. Come early for the best selection. Only cash or checks will be accepted as payment. The Cerritos Library is located at 18025 Bloomfield Avenue in the Cerritos Civic Center.

Funds raised by the Friends of the Cerritos Library help support the Summer Reading Program and art and writing contests for students.

For more information about the book sale, call (562) 916-1342.

Celebrating National School Counseling Week

By Tammie McDuff

It's National School Counseling Week, a celebration that focuses on the unique contribution of school counselors and the impact they have in helping students achieve school success.

NSCW is always celebrated the first week in February. It brings public attention on the unique contribution of school counselors within U.S. school systems.

The event is sponsored by the American School Counselor Association [ASCA] and highlights school counselors' tremendous impact.

Counselors are a vital part of the educational process for all students, helping them examine their abilities, strengths, interests, and talents while fostering a collaborative partnership with parents to enhance the student experience.

The 2022 theme is School Counseling: Better Together.

Four sets of school counseling standards define the school counseling profession. These standards help school counselors develop, implement and assess their school counseling program to improve student outcomes: Ethical Standards; Professional Standards & Competencies; Student Standards: Mindsets & Behaviors for Student Success and Counselor Preparation Programs.

ASCA regularly joins with other national education and advocacy organizations to improve access to school counseling and related policy issues including student mental health, career and technical education and college readiness and affordability.



WHITNEY HIGH SCHOOL counselors Valerie Diaz (r) and Dean Kimberly Andre display how school counselors and administrators work better together to support our students showing their student success posters.

Su Casa Diaper Drive



LAKEWOOD'S DNA SALON owner Alisa Macias, with 1,450 client-donated diapers donated to Su Casa – Ending Domestic Violence. This is the fourth year that DNA Salon has held the event.

Downey City Manager Retires

Downey CM Gilbert Livas announced his retirement, effective July 1, 2022, capping nearly 15 years of service.

“It has been an honor and privilege to serve the residents of Downey,” said Livas, “Together, we have worked hard to preserve everything that makes this City special. I sincerely thank all of the elected officials I have had the pleasure of working with throughout the years - thank you for your support and trust in me. To our wonderful City of Downey employees who work tirelessly every day to keep our City running - thank you.”

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AAA Travel Alert: Many travel destinations have implemented COVID-19-related restrictions. Before making travel plans, check to see if hotels, attractions, cruise lines, tour operators, restaurants, and local authorities have issued health and safety related restrictions or entry requirements. The local tourism board is a good resource for updated information. Offers subject to change without notice. Restrictions apply. Offers may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Travel Sale will take place January 22 - February 5, 2022 during normal business hours. Certain restrictions may apply. AAA members must make advance reservations through AAA Travel to obtain Member Benefits and savings. Member Benefits may vary based on departure date. Rates are accurate at time of printing and are subject to availability and change. Not responsible for errors or omissions. The Automobile Club of Southern California acts as an agent for the various providers featured at the sale. CST 1016202-80. To learn how we collect and use your information, visit the privacy link at AAA.com. Copyright © 2022 Automobile Club of Southern California. All Rights Reserved.

La Palma-Cerritos AAUW to Hold Cerritos Candidates' Forum

By Edna Ethington

The Public Policy Committee of the La Palma-Cerritos American Association of University Women (AAUW) is holding a Candidates Forum for City of Cerritos residents on Tuesday, March 1, 2022, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in the Cerritos City Council Chamber at 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos CA.

Seven Cerritos residents are vying to win two open seats on the City Council at the Tuesday, April 12, 2022, Cerritos General Municipal Elections; Sam Desai, Jennifer Hong, Lynda Johnson, Patricia Murray, Ernie Nishii, Rocky Pavone, and Frank Aurelio Yokoyama.

Yokoyama is currently a Cerritos City Council member running for re-election.

The Candidates Forum will be moderated by La Palma-Cerritos AAUW board member Jackie Shahzadi. Members of the AAUW's Public Policy Committee will be on hand to collect questions that Cerritos residents wish to ask of the candidates.

Residents of Cerritos who cannot attend the Forum in person can watch the proceedings on a live broadcast on TV3 in Cerritos starting at 7:00 p.m. on March 1, 2022.

The Candidates' Forum will be re-broadcast two more times, on Tuesday, March 8 at 7:00 p.m. and Monday, March 14, at 7:00 p.m.

In case the Covid-19 virus causes the City of Cerritos to close the City Council Chamber, the Candidates' Forum will be canceled. For more information regarding the possible closure of the City Council Chamber, contact Vida Barone, City Clerk/Election Official at 562-916-1248 or contact her by e-mail at election2022@cerritos.us.

For information about future meetings of the La Palma-Cerritos Branch of the AAUW that are open to the public, contact Program Co-VP Karen Cox at 562-519-0596 or e-mail: catalinaspirit39@gmail.com

Calif. Court Rules Developers Exempt From Local Rules

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Developers who include affordable housing in their projects are exempt from many local limits on height, zoning and density, a California appeals court ruled in a decision that, if upheld, could have immense impact as the most populous state struggles with a housing crisis.

California's 1979 Density Bonus Law requires local governments to grant permits and waive conflicting development standards for builders who commit to provide certain levels of low-income housing for their projects, the Fourth District Court of Appeal ruled.

The court made the ruling on Jan. 7 and on Wednesday certified it as a precedent for future court cases after hearing

from the California Building Industry Association and others, the San Francisco Chronicle reported.

There are exceptions for threats to public health or safety, harm to a historic resource or conflicts with state or federal laws, the paper said.

The case involved local opposition to a 20-story mixed-use project currently being built near Balboa Park in San Diego.

The city approved a plan for a building more than 25% higher than local development standards normally would allow, with 204 housing units instead of 147, after the developer promised to make 18 units affordable.

The ruling was condemned by an attorney for a neighborhood group that challenged the development.

The association hadn't decided whether to appeal to the California Supreme Court, DeLano said.

Happy Valentine's Day



Thank you ABCUSD teachers and staff for ALL you do for our students. We ❤️ You! Happy Valentines! Ernie Nishii, ABCUSD Board Member

Yosemite Nat'l Park May Limit Visitors This Summer



CONCERNED about traffic jams from more than half a dozen major construction projects, park leaders are drawing up plans that could limit the number of visitors this summer. “Bring your hard hats,” said one park official. Congress passed a landmark law in 2020, the Great American Outdoors Act, providing billions for repairs and upgrades.

Spring Basket Items Needed

Staff Report

Celebrate springtime by helping a child in need! The Bellflower Volunteer Center works closely with community groups, churches, service clubs, schools, organizations and residents to provide spring baskets for our most needy students.

Partnering with Caring Connections through the Bellflower Unified School District, the Volunteer Center takes referrals from case managers who work directly with families in need.

There are several ways to get involved.

- “Adopt” a child – We provide you with the details of the child you “adopt” (name, age, etc.). You create a basket

based on the information we provide, and arrange to drop off the basket at the Volunteer Center.

- Donate items for a basket - Suggested items for donation include: books, balls, puzzles, games, toys, candy, socks, school supplies, gift cards, toiletries (brush, lotion, comb, toothbrush, etc.) * Please include new items only. All donations must be received by March 16, 2022.

If you would like to be a part of this important program, please contact the Volunteer Center located at Simms Park at (562) 804-1424 ext 2331 or email mnavarro@bellflower.org. Program sponsored by HUD – CDBG, Community Development Block Grant.



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605 LEAGUE BOYS SOCCER: Cerritos Plays Itself Into the CIF-Southern Section Playoffs, Edges Oxford Academy

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

As a freshman, senior midfielder Jeremy Couto landed a spot on the Cerritos High boys soccer varsity team but didn’t play as much because it was his first year in high school and there were a lot of seniors. As a sophomore, Couto had a concussion and missed the entire season as the Dons advanced to the CIF-Southern Section Division 5 playoffs for the first time since the 1999-2000 season. Couto junior’s campaign was the shortened Covid season and the Dons won just once in 10 games played. But now, Cerritos is heading back to the postseason, thanks to Couto’s leg. He scored on a pair of long range free kicks

within three minutes of each other early in the second half and the Dons held on for a 2-1 victory over Oxford Academy last Thursday in a third place play-in game. It was the first third place play-in game of any sport in the brief history of the 605 League and sent the Dons into today’s Division 7 playoff contest at ninth-ranked St. Pius X-St. Matthias Academy. “It feels amazing,” said Couto. “We’ve been working all year; all summer for this. So, it’s nice to see that it finally came together.” Both teams were entering the contest with identical 2-2-1 league marks with



the lone tie coming against each other on Jan. 27, a 2-2 affair at Oxford. The game was a make-up from the originally scheduled Jan. 4 contest while the Jan. 21 game at Cerritos was cancelled. For Cerritos to be in this position is far contrast from the first two months of the season when the Dons were 0-7-2 and 0-2-0 in league action. But starting with a 6-0 win against John Glenn High on Jan. 18, Cerritos won four of its last six games to head into the play-in contest at 4-8-3. “In December, it was very frustrating,” said Couto. “No one likes to lose. No one likes to tie. We were just trying to find new ways to win. We just kept our heads up, kept working and as we kept going and things started to be put together...we got a win today.”

Both teams couldn’t get much going in the first half, combining for seven shots on goal without any legitimate scoring chances. “It was a bit rocky, especially for myself,” said Couto of the first half. “I started off slow and when [Cerritos head] coach [Edward Vasquez] took me off, I knew what I had to do. When I came in, I kept telling my teammates, ‘let’s go, let’s go’, and we were able to pull off the win.” But all that changed 11 minutes into

the second half when Couto boomed a free kick from 35 yards that found the back of the net to the right of goalkeeper Marius Sobremisana. Two minutes later and from the opposite side of the field, Couto took another free kick from about the same distance that curled towards Sobremisana, who deflected it in the upper right corner of the net. “When I was backing off, I saw the goalie was a little bit off to the right, so I told everyone to get in just in case if he blocked it, the ball could come in and we could get it in,” said Couto. “But I told myself I was going to hit it and when I hit it, fortunately it was able to go in. So, that was nice.” “The second goal was kind of about the same thing too,” he continued. “I told them to go in just in case the goalie bobbled it and we were able to get it in. But luckily he [deflected] it and it went in the back of the net.” With the Dons now up by two with 27 minutes remaining in regulation, the pace picked up and the play began to get a bit chippy. Cerritos would take seven shots on goal in the second half but was also whistled for six fouls. Oxford had four shots on goal in the half with junior goalkeeper Josh Moon coming up with three saves. After not getting a foul in the first half, the Patriots were whistled for four infractions after halftime. Oxford Academy drew closer in the 65th minute

See CERRITOS page 11

605 LEAGUE BOYS BASKETBALL Cerritos Boys Sweep Season Series Against John Glenn As Both Prepare For Upcoming Playoffs

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

Cerritos High first-year co-head coach Lance Convento wanted to use the final game of the regular season against John Glenn High just to get ready for the upcoming CIF-Southern Section divisional playoffs. The teams had already clinched second and third place respectively in the 605 League and Convento just wanted to work on more executions, clean up on its offensive and defensive sets and trying to take it to the next level. Even though the Dons led wire to wire last Thursday, it wasn’t the crisp, clean game Convento had hoped for in their 57-45 win against an improved Glenn squad from previous seasons. Cerritos improved to 9-14 overall, 4-1 in league action and will travel to Chaparral High, ranked second in Division 3AA, tonight in a first round game. “We’re trying to preach to these kids to not be in cruise control right now just because we’re second in league and we clinched [the] playoffs,” said Convento. “We still have to get prepared, and they’ll be ready to take it to the next level and stay disciplined.”

He was referring to the 23-point lead the Dons had built with 1:56 remaining in the third quarter. After scoring 26 points in the first half, Cerritos scored as many points in the third quarter alone. Meanwhile, the Eagles (12-12, 3-2) were wrapping up its best regular season in over 25 seasons and despite the loss, will enter tonight’s Division 5A first round game at River Springs High in Hemet. Glenn is ranked eighth in the division. “Tonight, I’m proud of them because the team did get down big and I told them, ‘hey, let’s make it respectable’,” said Glenn first-year head coach Sam Abebe. “Optics are big for John Glenn because last year, this would have been a 60-point loss for

them. Escaping [their] senior night with a 12-point loss...again, obviously I don’t like to lose. But I’m glad of the way they finished because this is a good taste for them to get prepared for what’s coming in the playoffs next week.” Glenn trailed by three points twice in a low-scoring first quarter in which both teams combined for 17 points. Cerritos would go up 18-6 early in the second quarter before the Eagles scored the next right points, including a pair of baskets from junior Sebastian Figueroa. But the Dons made sure the lead wouldn’t get closer as junior Andrew Hartman nailed a pair of three-pointers and junior Dominic Dela Cruz added a basket while Glenn could muster free throws over the final 2:41 of the half. The third quarter would be unkind to the Eagles, who turned the ball over eight times in the stanza and attempted only six shots from the field while the Dons were on fire. Cerritos was true on seven of its first 10 shots while eight of the 12 players who were in action scored in the quarter. Senior Armand Soriano recorded all three of his steals in those eight minutes. “It was a little sloppy; I’m not going to lie,” said Convento of the third quarter. “I told them they have to clean it up. I know it’s senior night and we’re having fun, but we have to win this game still. It’s going to count towards our overall record, so we have to come out and win and try to get ready for playoffs.” “It was déjà vu again of what happened in the second quarter the last time we played them,” said Abebe. “I knew going in we were going to have a stretch like the second quarter the last time we played them. I was hoping that we would withstand it and just battle through that storm a little bit.” “This is where this team needs to figure it out quickly if we’re going to go far in

See BBALL page 11

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CIF-SS BASKETBALL & SOCCER DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

AREA SCHOOLS TO BE WELL REPRESENTED BASKETBALL, SOCCER PLAYOFFS

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

Of the 31 basketball and soccer teams from the eight area schools, there will be 19 teams that will have their seasons extended as they have qualified for the CIF-Southern Section divisional playoffs with almost half of them winning or sharing for a league title. The first round of the playoffs for boys basketball and soccer start today with second round action on Tuesday and quarterfinal action on Friday while girls basketball and girls soccer begin on Saturday with second round action Wednesday and quarterfinal action on Feb. 19.

BOYS BASKETBALL
Division 4AA
Muir High/Mesrobian High @ #1 Artesia High (23-5 overall, 5-0 in the 605 League, first place)-The names of James Harden, Malik Story and others from the 2006-2007 team that won a CIF Division I-AA state title have been replaced by senior Miles Jennings, sophomores Aaron Banks and Zion Staples and others as the Pioneers enter the playoffs as the division’s top-seeded team. Artesia will host the winner of this past Wednesday’s wild card game and is ties with the best record in the division. The 23 wins are the most for the program and the five losses are the fewest since that state championship season. The Pioneers began the season with six straight wins and come into the playoffs having won 12 of their last 13 games.

Division 3AA
Cerritos High (9-14 overall, 4-1 in the 605 League, second place) @ #2 Chaparral High (19-6)-The Dons began the season with a pair of new co-head coaches and two wins in their first 14 games. But the team turned it around once league play began and despite having five games cancelled, four of which were non-league outings, Cerritos did just enough to finish in second place and earn one of the three automatic berths. However, the Dons will be in for a challenge against the second place team from the Southwestern League

“We really have to take a step up and take it to the next level,” said co-head coach Lance Convento. “We’re going to be playing teams that are either going to be at our level or above our level. It’s going to take all of us to come together to really clean things up, stay disciplined, and execute well. I don’t think we’ve really had our best game yet with everyone. I think we’re due for that.”

Division 5A
#8 John Glenn High (12-12 overall, 3-2 in the 605 League, third place) @ River Springs High (7-2)-The Cinderella story of the season comes out of Glenn

where the Eagles, under first-year head coach Sam Abebe, had their best season in over 25 seasons and claimed a playoff berth for the first time since the 2013-2014 season. Before that, Glenn’s last postseason trip was in the 1999-2000 campaign.

“This team, if they started to listen to me, could accomplish these features,” said Abebe. “It took a while. At the end of the day, I have to understand where I’m at as well. Having six guys and being able to do this and having five [guys] for the first part of the season…it’s been a journey and I’m actually proud of them. They can hang their hats and be proud of themselves for what they have accomplished.”

Glenn makes the long road trip to the Hemet-based school to face a team that has played in nine games. Even more remarkable about the Eagles is that they have done this with anywhere from five to eight players. A win would most likely mean a rare home playoff game on Tuesday.

“We told them it’s [a] us against the world mentality,” said Abebe. “I know it’s real cliché and whatnot, but it’s really us against the world. A lot of these kids have gotten a lot of slack from a lot of students at this school saying they weren’t going to make the playoffs. I told them, ‘look, let them do the talking. Let that fuel the fire’. I think it’s fueled the fire.”

Division 2A
Beckman High (10-17) @ #14 La Mirada High (13-13 overall, 6-0 in the Suburban League, first place)-La Mirada has only been above .500 once this season, but that came when the Matadores were 2-1. At one point, they were 6-12, but had no problems in claiming the Suburban League. La Mirada will host the third place representatives from the Pacific Coast League.

Division 2AA
Valley Christian High (17-10 overall, 3-5 in the Olympic League, third place) @ #7 Los Altos High (21-4)-The Defenders had a slow start but won eight straight games to finish the regular season with a respectable record. V.C., led by senior Nathan Medina, one of the best to ever put on a V.C. uniform, will have its hands full with the champions of the Hacienda League.

GIRLS BASKETBALL
Division 4AA
Artesia (13-10 overall, 2-3 in the 605 League, fourth place) @ #4 Heritage High (19-4, tied for first place in the Inland Valley League)-If the Pioneers are to get back to the divisional championship game like they did two seasons ago, they’ll have to survive a tougher bracket. Artesia, like most teams, had a tough time battling the Covid situation and had three games cancelled, two coming in league play. The

team is also struggling, winning four times in the last 12 games.

Division 3AA
#9 Hesperia High (18-8) @ Cerritos (16-7 overall, 4-1 in the 605 League, tied for first place)-Despite sharing the league title with two other teams and hosting a first round game, the Dons will be facing a ranked team that finished in third place in the Mojave River League. At one point, Cerritos was sitting at 7-6 following losses to Whitney High and Aliso Niguel High.

Division 3AA
Norwalk High (15-10 overall, 4-2 in the Suburban League, second place) @ #2 Hart High (18-6)-The Lancers began the season at 11-2 but stumbled to win twice in six January games. It would take a miracle for Norwalk to pull off the upset against the second place team from the Foothill League.

Division 2A
Valley Christian (8-18 overall, 3-5 in the Olympic League, tied for third place) @ #12 Mary Star of the Sea High (18-4)-If the Glenn boys are the Cinderella story of the season, then the V.C. girls aren’t far behind. The Defenders lost their first 11 games, the completed the first round of league play with a 3-1 mark. A coin flip between three teams sent V.C. to the postseason where it will face the Santa Fe League champions.

Division 3AA
Whitney High (18-3 overall, 4-1 in the 605 League, tied for first place) @ #5 Riverside Poly High (20-6)-Whitney has been solid all season, winning its first six games, before losing by eight points to Kennedy High. The other two losses were to Hillcrest High by seven points and Cerritos by 20 points. All three came on the road. The Wildcats have played the season with eight players and a ninth was recently called up from the lower levels. Poly won the Sunbelt League and if one is looking ahead in the division, Cerritos and Whitney could meet in the semifinals.

BOYS SOCCER
Division 5
Animo Leadership/Hawthorne High @ #3 Artesia (18-1-1 overall, 5-0 in the 605 League, first place)-In the 2012-2013 season, Artesia went 22-1-4 but couldn’t get to the quarterfinals. The Pioneers are hoping for a deeper run in the playoffs as the program has won for straight league crowns but has not advanced to the semifinals since 2004. The lone loss came back on Dec. 2 against Norwalk, the second game of the season, and the Pioneers defense has allowed 12 goals with 11 shutouts.

Division 7
Cerritos (5-8-3 overall, 1-2-2 in the 605 League, third place) @ #9 St. Pius X-St. Matthias Academy (8-3-2)-It took

a third place play-in game for the Dons to advance to the playoffs for the second time in the past three seasons. Cerritos began the season with five shutout losses and a pair of 1-1 ties. But all that matters is how you do in league and that’s why the Dons are continuing their season.

Division 2
Paramount High (10-6-5) @ La Mirada (12-3-2 overall, 6-2-0 in the Suburban League, second place)-This is a preview of near future as the San Gabriel Valley League and Suburban League will join forces to form one big conference next academic school year. The Pirates came in third place while the Matadores, who lost twice to Norwalk, posted nine shutouts. The winner will travel to top-seeded Moorpark High, which drew a first round bye.

Division 2
Salesian High/Santa Monica High @ #2 Norwalk (14-1-2 overall, 8-0-0 in the Suburban League, first place)-The Lancers drew a first round bye and will not play until Tuesday. Norwalk’s lone setback was on Dec. 15 against Anaheim High (2-0) and since then, the Lancers have won nine straight contests. This the second time in four seasons the Lancers have lost one game. But the other time came in the second round.

Division 5
Diamond Ranch High/La Canada High @ #4 Valley Christian (15-2-2 overall, 8-0-0 in the Olympic League, first place)-Just like clockwork, V.C. won another league title and will host a wild card winner. The Defenders lost lack to back games on Dec. 11 and 17 and have yielded six goals in the other 17 games with 11 shutouts.

GIRLS SOCCER
Division 7
Samueli Academy (6-6-1) @ Artesia (5-12-1 overall, 3-1 in the 605 League, second place)-It wasn’t looking promising at the beginning of the season when Artesia started off 0-11-1. But thanks to a short league season that counted in the standings, the Pioneers won five of their last six games played despite having two league games cancelled. Samueli Academy is the second place team out of the Academy League. The winner will have the tough task of likely facing second-ranked Garey High.

Division 5
Montebello High (6-10-4) @ #8 Cerritos (12-1-3 overall, 4-0 in the 605 League, first place)-For most of the season, Cerritos was ranked towards the middle of the division. The lone setback came on Dec. 9 at Portola High and since then, the Dons have gone 11-0-2 with nine straight shutouts. Cerritos is looking to get to the second round for the second time in the past three seasons.

Division 1
Brea Olinda High (11-4-5) @ La Mirada (12-2-7 overall, 7-0-1 in the Suburban League, first place)-The defending Division 2 champions moved up a division and even with two losses, was unranked most of the season. Still, this a dangerous La Mirada squad with 13 shutouts and 10 goals given up. The Wildcats finished in second place in the North Hills League and the winner of this contest will most likely play top-ranked Santiago High out of Corona on Wednesday.

Division 4
Paramount High/Torrance High @ #8 Valley Christian (13-4-3 overall, 7-0-1 in the Olympic League, first place)-Since Jan. 4, V.C. has given up five goals with shutouts in seven league games. For the season, the Defenders have blanked 11 opponents. V.C. is on pace to possibly face top-ranked Granite Hills High out of Apple Valley in the quarterfinals.

CERRITOS from page 10

when Javier Luna took a corner kick and fed a pass to Andres Garcia who netted in the tally on a corner kick.

“When they scored, we knew we had to keep going because if we started to put our heads down, then we were just going to be decreased,” said Couto. “We made sure that we kept going and we kept working and win every ball every chance we had.”

The winner of today’s game will face either Newbury Park Adventist or Yeshiva High on Tuesday in the second round.

BBALL from page 10

the playoffs because our kryptonite is that, and they just need to not panic,” he continued. “They broke the press pretty well in

the first quarter. If we made our shots, we would have been okay.”

On Jan. 19, Cerritos defeated Glenn 64-21 for its fourth win of the season at the time while Glenn dropped to 9-8. The Eagles have not been more than two games above or below .500 all season. Figueroa, who transferred to Glenn but sat out the first 11 games, scored a career-high 26 points grabbed four rebounds and had four steals while junior Michael Saucedo added 10 points and four boards.

“The kid has ability,” said Abebe of Figueroa. “The one thing about him is he begins to get a little down on himself when the team struggles.”

Cerritos was led by Hartman’s 13 points and six rebounds off the bench while senior Alec Reyes added nine points and six rebounds. Senior Matthew White chipped in with eight points as all but one player scored for the Dons.

Prior to the game, it was all Cerritos in

a 66-4 win as 12 players had at least one rebound, 11 players had at least a steal and 10 players scored. The Dons (16-7 overall), who led 20-0 after the first quarter and 39-0 at the half, were led by senior Amara Hizon (15 points, seven steals, two rebounds, two assists) and senior Jasmine Uy (14 points, five rebounds, four steals and two rebounds). Cerritos grabbed 37 rebounds and had 24 steals as the 605 League tri-champions will host ninth-ranked Hesperia High on Saturday in a Division 3AA first round game.

Glenn, which went winless in its 21-game schedule, didn’t score until freshman Aaliyah Ramirez connected on a pair of free throws with 6:29 left in the third quarter. Senior Ruby Chavez would account for the lone basket a few minutes later as the Eagles attempted 27 shots in the game.

LAKWOOD from page 1

Amo to Country Club; Del Amo from Downey to Cherry; Del Amo from Studebaker to Bloomfield; Los Coyotes Blvd from Del Amo to Pioneer; Ashworth from Clark to Woodruff; Castana from South to Ashworth; Hersholt from South to Hedda.

The City Clerk received six bids and awarded the project to R.J. Noble Company of Orange for \$4.4 million.

The consulting engineering firm of Willdan has an agreement with the City of Lakewood to assist with various engineering matters. It has submitted a proposal for \$127,800 to provide construction inspection services for this project.

In other matters, the City Council received good news related to their budget and revenues. The City is currently in the second year of a two-year budget adopted in June 2020, with budget estimates revised in June 2021.

When adopted last summer, the General Fund budget anticipated a surplus of \$695,000. "After taking into account year-to-date information and fiscal trends," the budget was adjusted, adding \$2.4 million for a total surplus of \$3.1 million.

Sales tax Measure L was the most significant increase, adding \$1.5 million to revenues.

On the other side of the ledger, expenses are expected to increase nearly \$349,000. The

central increases are attributed to a \$254,000 increase in capital outlays, and \$109,000 in special department supplies.

City Staff has taken the first steps in developing the City's next two-year budget. As in recent years, Staff is prepared to bring a proposed two-year budget for '22-'24 prior to the end of the current fiscal year.

NORWALK from page 1

cated in Santa Fe Springs.

One of the largest heavy truck businesses that impacts Norwalk is the DAMCO distribution facility located on Excelsior Drive in Sante Fe Springs. According to a recent traffic study this business brings 700 trucks through the community every day that impact Bloomfield, Norwalk and Pioneer Boulevards.

Santa Fe Springs' update includes a reclassification of land use designations near residential areas from Industrial to Business Park and Light Industrial uses. It will transform some of the properties affecting Norwalk residents into mixed-use employment centers with professional offices, research and development, and clean flex industrial.

A special meeting was held by Santa Fe Springs City Council regarding their plan to change some warehousing and trucking buildings into office, retail, and manufacturing businesses.

Several Norwalk residents raised concerns regarding the trucks during public comment.

"My City Council colleagues and myself had been hearing from several Norwalk residents regarding traffic congestion and loud noises associated with the former Vons Distribution Center and we had explored several different options to remedy this situation," stated Mayor Rick Ramirez, "I'm glad that the City of Santa Fe Springs took our Norwalk residents into consideration when updating their General Plan and I'm looking forward to the area affecting Norwalk residents being updated."

GYM from page 1

passage of Measure G, a \$375-million-dollar bond which supplies funding aimed at improving and modernizing facilities to further provide a high-quality experience for District students in and out of the classroom.

"La Mirada High School Athletics has a rich heritage that spans over 60 years," said LMHS Principal Lisa Reed. "The new gymnasium is a beautiful facility that will support our athletic programs and allow them to expand opportunities on our campus. The joy of watching our athletes and fans as they enter the gym for events has been amazing. They are proud of this facility and what

it means for our school."

The project consisted of: An additional regulation-sized court with divider curtains to bring the total number of floors to three; renovation of the courts; upgraded spaces compliant with current building codes and accessibility requirements including a lift, ramp, and accessible lockers and restroom stalls; a new lobby/foyer area; a new weight room; expansion and modernization of team rooms with new lockers, benches & storage space; new bleachers, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, and technology throughout.

"To stand in this wonderful new facility is a testament to the vision of the Board of Education and the community of Norwalk-La Mirada as well as the leadership of the District Facilities team and the administration of La Mirada High School," said Superintendent John M. Lopez. "While the project did encounter some setbacks, everyone was focused on the goal to provide the best for the Mata-dores school community. I want to thank everyone involved for their expertise and dedication. This gymnasium is another example of the high-quality experience we strive to provide for the students of Norwalk-La Mirada."

The grand opening was held within the gymnasium and featured remarks from Principal Reed, Superintendent Lopez, and Board of Education President Norma Amezcua. Members of the Board of Education, La Mirada High School staff and students, Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District staff, and other dignitaries and members of the community were also in attendance. La Mirada High School ASB President Jordan Garcia cut the ribbon to officially open the gymnasium.

Opening ceremonies began with an introduction by LMHS Principal, Lisa Reed. The national anthem was performed by the La Mirada High School Choir followed by the flag salute led by ASB President Jordan Garcia. Superintendent John Lopez was the keynote speaker for the evening followed by the plaque unveiling and ribbon cutting.

PICO RIVERA from page 1

tailers for underage tobacco sales, but it stops there, and the state does not provide funding for enforcement.

Tobacco's marketing efforts to youth, communities of color, and low-income populations significantly affect the Pico Rivera community, whose residents are more likely to use menthol cigarettes and other flavored tobacco products. These groups disproportionately bear the burden of tobacco-related harm.

Cities with that demographic have significantly reduced the number of underage tobacco sales by implementing a Tobacco Retail License program.

Establishing such a program would require a background check of the applicant before license issuance and provide a mechanism to suspend or revoke the license if recurring underage sales occur.

Pico Rivera would coordinate with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to review underage sales violations from the city's tobacco retailers.

To further advance these efforts, the city is also looking at prohibiting the sale of flavored tobacco, which is not included in the city's current tobacco ordinance. The new ordinance would include the license program and also ban flavored tobacco sales.

The current tobacco retailers in the city, along with any new establishments, would be required to obtain and maintain an annual Tobacco Retail Permit and be extended a six-month grace period following the ordinance's effective date.

The period will also allow time for the city to talk to tobacco retailers and design a penalty system.

The city is contemplating charging around \$320 per retailer. Currently, there are 53 tobacco retailers in the city, so the total amount would be nearly \$17,000 annually.

The city can also go after enforcement funds allocated to the state's Tobacco Grant Program, which provides annual funds to local enforcement agencies. The 2021 Grant cycle made \$26.8 million in funding available in enforcement.

Dr. Monica Sanchez, Mayor of Pico Rivera, told HMG-CN, "Vapes come in dozens of flavors, such as cotton candy, chocolate, and bubble gum, which mask the harsh taste of tobacco products. Big tobacco companies' market these products to youth in communities of color like Pico Rivera so we disproportionately bear the burden of smoking-related health disparities. This ban on flavored tobacco is fundamental to our efforts as the City Council to protect the health, safety, and welfare of residents, particularly our children."

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Tips for Holding a Safe Super Bowl Party

Staff Report

Most football fans will be rooting for the home team by holding or attending Super Bowl parties this Sunday.

Lost in the excitement, however, is the fact that we're still in a pandemic, and that it is wise to take safety precautions to protect oneself against COVID-19, notes Dr. Priscilla Hanudel, an emergency medicine specialist with Kaiser Permanente Southern California.

"Because COVID-19 and the Omicron variant still pose a threat to public health across the Southland, many people may be tempted to let their guard down," she said. "However, that could be a costly mistake, and we need to protect ourselves."

There are some simple steps that we can take to help protect our health while still enjoying watching the big game with our friends.

If you plan to host a Super Bowl party, Dr. Hanudel recommends limiting the number of attendees to no more than 10 people. Ensure that everyone attending is fully vaccinated or recently tested.

It's also recommended that everyone wear a face covering when not eating or drinking for maximum protection.

If at all possible, Dr. Hanudel recommended watching the game outdoors if a TV can be moved. If not, it's advisable to open windows for ventilation, as the virus is airborne and is more easily transmitted indoors. Additionally, establish use single-use (disposable) utensils, plates and cups, and avoid sharing food. Also, keep hand sanitizer and paper towels around to frequently clean your hands and disinfect surfaces.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
File Number 2022006143
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: MENTAL HEALTH WITH MJ, 3325 E 2ND ST, APT. 7, LONG BEACH, CA., 90803 REGISTERED OWNER IS MARILYNN JAUREGUI, 3325 E 2ND ST, APT. 7, LONG BEACH, CA., 90803. THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS A INDIVIDUAL. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 5/21. 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/ MARILYNN JAUREGUI. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 1/10/22. In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the of notice of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). LCCN 1/21 1/28, 2/4, 2/11/22.

STATEMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
File Number 2022001825
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: SIMPLY MOHS 8049 MASONCREST DR., PICO RIVERA, 90660. REGISTERED OWNER DEBRINA D. HERNANDEZ 8049 MASONCREST DR., PICO RIVERA, 90660. THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS AN INDIVIDUAL. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 12/21. 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/ DEBRINA D. HERNANDEZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 1/4/22. In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the of notice of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). LCCN 2/11, 2/18, 2/25, 3/4/22

CITY OF CERRITOS
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
NOTICE TO BIDDERS OF
C-2 BOOSTER PUMP STATION BACKUP GENERATOR AND RELATED HARDWARE
BID NO. 1451-22

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: C-2 BOOSTER PUMP STATION BACKUP GENERATOR AND RELATED HARDWARE, BID NO. 1451-22. Project Description:** The City of Cerritos (“City”) is requesting bids from qualified vendors for the sale of a backup emergency generator, conforming to the specifications stated in this bid, and all work necessary to complete the installation of the generator at the City’s C-2 Booster Pump Station located at 16540 Marquardt Avenue Cerritos, CA 90703. **Bid Specifications:** The bid specifications can be obtained by emailing Priscilla Solis, Water Division Secretary, at psolis@cerritos.us or visiting the Public Works Department at City Hall, 2nd Floor, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., weekends and holidays excluded). **Mandatory pre-bid site tour: Tuesday, February 22, 2022, 8:00 a.m. Bids will be opened: Wednesday, March 2, 2022, 11:00 AM. Place of bid receipt:** Office of the City Clerk, City Hall, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, First Floor, Cerritos, California 90703, Bids must be marked: **“C-2 BOOSTER PUMP STATION BACKUP GENERATOR AND RELATED HARDWARE, BID NO. 1451-22.”** 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. The City’s final selection criteria will be based on, but not limited to, the following analysis: Completeness of bid; Vendor’s team members’ experience in performing similar work; Vendor’s demonstrated understanding of the scope of work; Quality of work previously performed by the vendor; Feedback received from references listed on Reference Sheet; The total fee listed on the City’s Quotation Form. 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. By order of the City of Cerritos. Dated/Posted/Published: **February 11, 2022**

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 2/11/22

STATEMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
File Number 2022004283
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: LEMONADE SHOES 17900 AJAX CIRCLE INDUSTRY, CA., 91748. REGISTERED OWNER OC APPAREL AND DESIGN, 17900 AJAX CIRCLE INDUSTRY, CA., 91748. THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS A CORPORATION. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 11/2018. 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/ PHILIP JUN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 1/7/22. In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the of notice of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). LCCN 1/14, 1/21, 1/28, 2/4/22

CITY OF COMMERCE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
VARIANCE NO. 21-02
4468 TUTTLE STREET

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Commerce will conduct a public hearing to consider a Variance request from Humberto Corona to allow for the new construction of a 1,000 square foot accessory dwelling unit that will not meet the minimum height requirement for said structure. Pursuant to Chapter 19.07.090.B.3, the maximum height of any accessory dwelling unit is 16-feet. In this case, the applicant is proposing an 18-foot 6-inch high accessory dwelling, resulting in a deviation of 2-feet 6-inches.

SAID PUBLIC HEARING MEETING: A virtual meeting will be held via Teleconference during a Planning Commission hearing on Wednesday, February 23, 2022, at which time proponents and opponents of Variance 21-02 will be heard. Instructions for Teleconference access are provided below:

Call in phone number: (669) 900-9128
Meeting ID: 936 8760 5928
Password: 838914

On March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom proclaimed a State of Emergency in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19. On March 17, 2020, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 (superseding the Brown Act-related provisions of Executive Order N-25-20 issued on March 12, 2020), which allows a local legislative body to hold public meetings via teleconferencing and to make public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to all members of the public seeking to observe and to address the local legislative body.

Pursuant to Executive Order N-29-20, please be advised that members of the Commerce City Planning Commission will participate in meetings virtually and telephonically. Further, in the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, and restricting gatherings of over ten (10) people, due to the health risks associated with COVID-19 pursuant to Federal, State and County orders, directives and/or guidelines, this meeting will be telephonically accessible to the public. Members of the public may participate by calling in to the number provided herein.

Per Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the above-listed item in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public scoping meeting and during the comment period described in this notice in written correspondence delivered to the city office, at, or prior to, the public hearing.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION
Jose D. Jimenez

Publish date: Los Cerritos Community News, February 11, 2022

Published at Los Cerritos Community News, 2/11/22

CITY OF CERRITOS CITY'S FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS REPORT SUMMARY AND STATISTICS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2021		
Fiscal Year: 2021		
SUMMARY		
	Governmental Funds	Proprietary Funds
Revenues	\$ 78,744,760	\$ 18,379,213
Expenditures/Expenses	72,203,424	21,276,610
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ 6,541,336	
Income (Loss) Before Capital Contributions, Transfers, and Special and Extraordinary Items		\$ (2,897,397)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	(1,518,434)	-
Capital Contributions		35,691
Proprietary Fund Transfers In (Out)	-	1,518,434
Special and Extraordinary Items		
Change in Fund Balance / Net Position	\$ 5,022,902	\$ (1,343,272)
Fund Balance/Net Position (Deficit), Beginning of Fiscal Year	\$ 200,845,151	\$ (9,383,243)
Adjustments (Specify)	-	
Specify Governmental Fund Adjustments		
None		
Specify Proprietary Fund Adjustments		
Restatement		
Total:	\$ -	
Fund Balance/Net Position (Deficit), End of Fiscal Year	205,868,053	(10,726,515)
Statistics		
Current Transient Occupancy Tax Rate		12%
Effective Date of Current Transient Occupancy Tax Rate		3/5/15
Current Utility User Tax Rate		-
Appropriations Limit		\$ 208,232,275
Total Annual Appropriations Subject to the Limit		\$ 53,027,238
Published at Los Cerritos Community News 2/11/22		

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(Division 6 of the Commercial Code)
Escrow No. 002604-CK
(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: CHEEMA TANVEER INC, 12236 CENTRALLA STREET, LAKE-WOOD, CA 90715
(3) The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is: SAME
(4) The names and business address of the Buyer(s) are: RENE GONZALEZ, 5519 HAZELBROOK AVE, LAKE-WOOD, CA 90712
(5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, GOOD-WILL, TRADENAME, LEASEHOLD INTEREST AND IMPROVEMENTS, COVENANT NOT TO COMPETE, INVENTORY OF STOCK IN TRADE of that certain business located at: 12236 CENTRALLA STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90715
(6) The business name used by the seller(s) at said location is: SUDZ COIN LAUNDRY
(7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is MARCH 2, 2022 at the office of: HANA ESCROW COMPANY, INC., 3580, WILSHIRE BLVD., SUITE 1170 LOS ANGELES, CA 90010
(8) Claims may be filed with Same as “7” above
(9) The last date for filing claims is: MARCH 1, 2022.
(10) This Bulk Sale is subject to Section 6106.2 of the Uniform Commercial Code.
(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: JANUARY 31, 2022
TRANSFEREES: RENE GONZALEZ
ORD-804346 LOS CERRITOS COM-MUNITY NEWS 2/11/22



Los Cerritos Community Newspaper

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