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~Martin Luther King Jr.

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## LCCN Investigation

### Firm Hired to Investigate Central Basin Contract Has Ties to Director Juan Garza

By Brian Hews

The effort by certain Central Basin (CB) directors to illegally oust CB GM Alex Rojas has gone on for months, with newbie



Juan Garza

Director Juan Garza, who Los Cerritos Community News recently found was handing out lucrative no-bid contracts while Executive Director of California Cities for Self-Reliance-JPA, joining Leticia Vasquez-Wilson and Mar-

tha Camacho-Rodriguez in their quest to remove Rojas.

The three subsequently recruited Director Michael Gualteri to join the effort. Many purveyors and other observers questioned Gualteri's move of joining with Vasquez-Wilson, who reportedly refuses to say the Pledge of Allegiance at meetings and whom LCCN found was friends with an accused child molester in 2014.

Similar questions surround Camacho Rodriguez, who, in an email obtained by LCCN, was found harassing and intimidating

[ See WATER, page 14 ]

### Woman Who Spoke at a Cerritos Republican Club Meeting Moves to Ban Books at Libraries

Gracey Van Der Mark, who also spoke at a La Mirada Chamber meeting, led the effort. ACLU will likely file a lawsuit.

By Brian Hews

Last year, the Cerritos Republican Club invited known white supremacist and Proud Boy supporter Gracey Van Der Mark to speak to the club at the Cerritos Library.

Los Cerritos Community News learned of the invite and published a story that generated a sizable backlash among Cerritos residents.

Several residents came to speak at a City Council Special Meeting and blasted then-Mayor Chuong Vo and Mayor pro tem Bruce Barrows, who could have stopped Van Der Mark from speaking.

But both Vo and Barrows get thousands in campaign donations from Republican Club members, so there was no way they would have stopped it.

Van Der Mark held the event and spewed the same right-wing memes still prevalent in society: LGBTQ+ rights, sex education, and Critical Race Theory.

Embattled ABCUSD Trustee Soo Yoo attended and apparently

[ See BOOKS, page 5 ]



### CREDIT UNION DONATES SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO FEDDE ACADEMY

**MUCH NEEDED:** Fedde Academy staff, LBS Financial Credit Union employees, teachers, and students are all smiles after receiving thousands of school supplies donated by LBS. The donations included a variety of classroom items including art supplies, binders, classroom games, colored pencils, markers, whiteboards, and social-emotional items to support student's mental health.

LBS Financial members and employees donated new school supplies throughout the month at LBS' Cerritos location.

By Brian Hews

LBS Financial Credit Union donated thousands of school supplies to Fedde Academy in Hawaiian Gardens in mid-September; Fedde is the organization's adopted school in ABC Unified School District.

Denise Macias, Principal of Fedde Academy, worked directly with the credit union at the beginning of the summer to create a wish list of items for

the school.

Their list included a variety of classroom items including art supplies, binders, classroom games, colored pencils, markers, whiteboards, and social-emotional items to support student's mental health.

The credit union purchased all of the wellness items from Fedde's list which included anxiety relief word search puzzles and coloring books, calming stickers, fidget stress relief toys, heart-shaped stress balls, Zen gardens with a playful panda bear and more.

It all started in August when LBS Financial promoted the school supply drive for Fedde

Academy with credit union members and employees to donate new school supplies throughout the month at LBS' Cerritos location.

LBS Financial also spread the word on their social media and company website.

"We're absolutely thrilled and deeply grateful for LBS's extraordinary generosity," said Principal Macias. "Their donation will make a positive impact on the various programs Fedde Middle School has to offer, like the Creative Arts Program, Global Honors Program, A.V.I.D Program, Student Union, and Wellness Center.

[ See FEDDE, page 6 ]

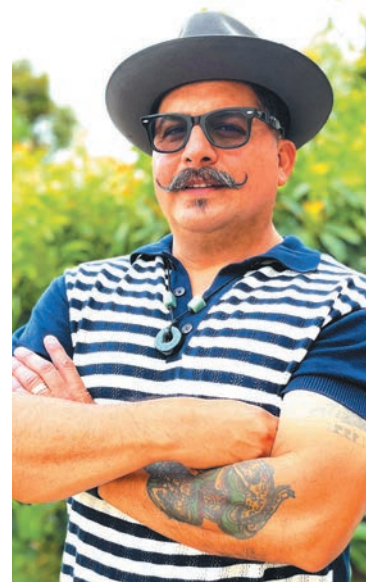
### Whittier Union Maintenance Worker Produced Award-Winning Documentary 'The Great American Lowrider Tradition'

By Andrea Garcia

WHITTIER – History will be made when the California Museum screens "The Great American Lowrider Tradition," an award-winning car culture documentary created and produced by Pioneer High School maintenance custodian Martin Torrez, as part of the museum's Fall programming celebrating the rich history, artistry and impact of low rider culture.

The film will be screened on Saturday, Oct. 21, followed by a Q&A with Torrez and documentary subjects Oscar Ruelas, co-founder of Duke's So. Cal, believed to be the world's longest-running low rider club, and Little Willie G., lead singer for the legendary Chicano band, Thee Midnites.

The screening will be the first time a movie exploring American car culture will be presented at the museum and represents a major advancement in telling



**PIONEER HIGH SCHOOL** maintenance custodian Martin Torrez has produced the award-winning "The Great American Lowrider Tradition" documentary, which will be shown at the California Museum as part of the museum's Fall programming celebrating the impact of low rider culture.

the first-hand stories of low-rider enthusiasts who endured decades-long racial discrimination for pursuing their passions and celebrating their Chicano heritage.

"Having this documentary screened at the state capital is a dream come true. For me, it's like winning an Academy Award," Torrez said. "Lowriders have an epic history and its culture is celebrated all over the world. But in California, we still have laws banning the cars and discrediting our traditions. We are working to repeal the laws, and screening at the California Museum is a huge step forward."

The documentary has already created a substantial buzz, winning the Breaking Barriers Award at the Portland Film Festival in 2021, where it made its debut, and the Audience Favorite Award at the Downtown Los Angeles (DTLA) Film Festival

[ See LOWRIDER, page 14 ]



**ANTI-EDUCATION:** ABC Trustee Soo Yoo with Gracey Van Der Mark (left) at the Club meeting. Behind them is the State Education seal with a prohibition sign-circle with a slash-over the seal.

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## Holiday Inn Express Opens in Hawaiian Gardens



**THE HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS** in Hawaiian Gardens boasts 71 rooms, including 18 suites; guests can expect a wide range of options in the rooms including wi-fi, big screen tv and a mini-fridge.

### Staff Report

Hawaiian Gardens announced this week the grand opening of the Holiday Inn Express at 22434 Norwalk Boulevard in the heart of Hawaiian Gardens.

The Inn is a four-story, 42,164 square-foot building with 71-units, 18 suites, all with 64 parking spaces on the former 1.25-acre eye-sore open lot at the intersection of 226th and Norwalk.

It is another feather in caps of the City Council and City Management.

The Hawaiian Gardens City Council mandated that IHG Hotels and Resorts follow the contemporary architectural design used by other IHG Hotels & Resorts; and they did just that.

The building is 53 feet tall with a first-floor lobby area consisting of guest rooms, a meeting room, offices, a bar and lounge, business center, kitchen and breakfast area.

The hotel also features a pool and a fully-equipped fitness room

Mayor Maria Teresa Del Rio expressed her enthusiasm about the opening of the Holiday Inn Express, saying, "This new addition to our community is a testament to our commitment to providing top-notch accommodations for our residents and visitors.

"The Holiday Inn Express is a fantastic addition to our city, and I'm confident it will become a staple for travelers seeking a wonderful place to stay in Hawaiian Gardens."

## Arts Colony of La Mirada 'Mirrors of Your Mind' Art Show

November 13th to 17th, 2023

Call for entries, all artists welcome, cash awards for 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Place.

The Arts Colony of La Mirada will present its "Mirrors of Your Mind" Art Show. Art take-in will be November 7,

8, & 9 at the La Mirada Activity Center from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The art exhibit will be open to the public on Monday, November 13 through Friday, November 17 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the La Mirada Activity Center. An award reception will conclude the art show on Saturday, November 18 from 3 to 4:30 p.m. This is an Open Show, artists do not need to be a member to submit their art.

*For more info. contact Victoria Pflanzler-artscolonylm@gmail.com or call Mike Lamb at (562) 760-3175.*

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## HEADS UP! Amazon Drones Begin to Drop Off Prescriptions



**BEZOS DRONE:** An Amazon drone in Texas flying to deliver drugs. Courtesy Amazon.

### By Haleluya Hadero

Amazon will soon make prescription drugs fall from the sky when the e-commerce giant becomes the latest company to test drone deliveries for medications.

The company said Wednesday that customers in College Station, Texas, can now get prescriptions delivered by a drone within an hour of placing their order.

The drone, programmed to fly from a delivery center with a secure pharmacy, will travel to the customer's address, descend to a height of about four meters — or 13 feet — and drop a padded package.

Amazon says customers will be able to choose from more than 500 medications, a list that includes common treatments for conditions like the flu or pneumonia, but not controlled substances.

The company's Prime Air division began testing drone deliveries of common household items last December in College Station and Lockeford, California. Amazon spokesperson Jessica Bardoulas said the company has made thousands of deliveries since.

Amazon is not the first company to explore prescription deliveries by drone. The

drugstore chain CVS Health worked with UPS to test deliveries in 2019 in North Carolina but that program has ended, a CVS spokesman said.

Companies seeking to use drones for commercial purposes have faced hurdles from regulators who want to make sure things are operating safely.

Lisa Ellman, the executive director of the Commercial Drone Alliance, an industry group that counts Amazon as one of its members, said to date, regulatory approvals have been limited to specific geographic areas.

She noted regulators have also been issuing more approvals. Last month, the FAA gave the OK for Zipline and UPS to fly longer-range drones.

Walmart has also been working to expand its own drone deliveries.

Also on Wednesday, Amazon unveiled a new drone called MK30 that, by the end of next year, will replace the drones it currently uses to delivery packages. The company says the new drone flies further, is smaller and quieter, and also has enhanced delivery capabilities.



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## RESIDENTS SOUND OFF AGAINST ABCUSD TRUSTEE SOO YOO AND 'SILENT' TRUSTEES

### Dear Editor:

To Members of the ABCUSD School Board:

In reference to Trustee Soo Yoo, former ABC Board Member Celia Spitzer, and numerous educators and administrators (within and outside of the ABC school community) have all voiced their opposition to her extremist views which can no longer be ignored. Justifiably, a call for her resignation is now mounting.

As a retired ABC educator, I firmly stand with Brian Hews from LCCN and all the voices calling for Area 2 Trustee Soo Yoo's resignation. Moreover, I call for the school board to act on behalf of all students. Censor her divisive political platform which has no place in a school forum. EVER. With the exception of Dr. Rios, the school board's silence seemingly sanctions her partisan views and ignores the glaring conflict of interest that benefits her academic academy.

ABC Trustees, restore confidence in the public school system unlike Trustee Soo Yoo, who calls for parents to pull their children out of ABCUSD schools. And you remain silent on this issue? Has the school board forgotten the importance of effective, responsive governance?

I suggest all involved parties take a hard look at how far ABCUSD has fallen given the grave challenge Trustee Soo Yoo poses (and will continue to pose) if unchallenged.

Consider why a district, such as, CNUSD (Corona-Norco) is nationally recognized for its exemplary leadership. (See CNUSD TV State of the District.) While CNUSD is invested in on-going

collaboration, innovation, strategic planning, 21st century academic excellence, and equity, the ABC school board appears unfocused, unproductive and passive. It is still early enough in the academic year to focus on the essential element- students. Students care most about their future, not about partisan politics that do not serve their best interests.

ABC Trustees, our district students deserve your unwavering support for public education, unlike your colleague, who aims to dismantle it. The voices, past and present, strongly urge you to hold Trustee Soo Yoo accountable for her actions. Urge her to step down. Get back to the business of educating our students. Restore confidence in your leadership. Revive the board's tattered reputation. You owe it to all students. You owe it to the VOTING community. Join the growing voices, calling to unseat Trustee Soo Yoo. It is the honorable thing to do.

*In solidarity,*  
**Sandra Nevarez**  
*Retired ABCUSD Educator*

### Dear Editor,

Thank you for once again keeping ABC Board Member Soo Yoo's dismal record and disturbing personal agenda on the front page of our only local community newspaper. I am truly appalled by her actions in all three of my roles as an educator, parent and community member in ABC for the past 53 years. Thank you also for highlighting longtime former Board Member Celia Spitzer's direct call for Soo Yoo to resign at the October 3 meeting. With 16 years experience as a highly knowledgeable and respected former ABC Board Member and President, Celia certainly knows what is acceptable and proper in a board member's public comments. Not since the governing board that led up to our 11-day ABC Teachers' Strike of 1993, have I heard such disgraceful and disrespectful comments by a school board member as Soo Yoo's.

I strongly believe the entire ABC Community deserves an apology from Area 2 Trustee Yoo for her divisive and insulting public accusations against hardworking, dedicated educators and those they serve.

*Linda J. Hernández*  
*Retired ABCUSD Educator, Parent and Community Member Since 1970*

### Dear ABCUSD Board President Mr. Brad Beach,

As a retired 30 plus year public school teacher of a neighboring school district and a 20 plus year resident of Cerritos, I am deeply troubled and outraged by the ignorance, callousness, and racism expressed by Trustee Soo Yoo. She is an embarrassment to ABCUSD and should be removed from office or at the very least censored for as long as possible.

Below is a short list of her extremist remarks, which keep on growing (paraphrased):

... no quinceañeras...  
... tell your druggie friends (spoken to a Latino middle school students who spoke publicly about his pride in his Hispanic culture)...  
... get over slavery...  
... homeschool your children...  
... promiscuous sex education...

Her bigotry is infecting the entire school district and surrounding cities and contributing to the decline in enrollment. It is so obvious that she became a school board member to tear down our 388 year old institution of public education in the U.S.A.. An equal education for ALL is the only path to progress and equality in our country and she is becoming a public enemy to the American way of Life.

Perhaps her ownership of a private tutoring academy is a conflict of interest to her position as trustee; the more failed dis-hearted students, the more clients to her tutoring academy.

*Thank you,*  
**Norma Williamson, M.Ed.**  
*Cerritos*

### Dear Editor

First I want to thank Los Cerritos Community News for keeping the residents of ABCUSD informed on the words of Board Member Yoo.

I am a product of Long Beach Unified School district, Public Education for 13 years graduating from Lakewood High School and at Long Beach City College, another Public Education Institution. My mother, who had Public Education in New York City and taught in this district for over 25

I have sat back and listened to the words coming out of Yoo's mouth long enough. Thank you to former Board Member Spitzer, Board Member Olga Rios, and ABCFT President Gaer in speaking with such eloquent words, controlling their anger.

How can we respect someone who has been elected, unfortunately twice by the voters, who ran for two offices at the same time, for Assembly and School Board, not wanting to give up her perks if she didn't get elected to Assembly. Thank goodness, for Sharon Quirk Silva winning.

This is a woman who not only condemned Public Education, which her daughters took part in, but she is a racist, anti-religious and cultural practices (and her husband is a Pastor and she has a degree in Religion.)

This woman stood before this community, which is quite diverse, spouting the words "You should not spend the money Quinceras but use it for private education" and then said to the African American Community that "We should stop teaching about Slavery, it took place 200 years ago." This great country that she calls home was founded over 200 years ago. She also stood up in front of the Republican Club of Cerritos, in front of a picture of the seal of the California Board of Education, with a line thru it denouncing the institution along with one of the biggest Racist, White Supremacist, Anti Semitic members of the Southern California community in Gracey VanderMark.

During her first run for office when it was all district wide, a resident had a big problem when Yoo responded to her "if you are not happy with Public Education you should send your child to my private education school." This was before being elected.

Again is this who you want to be a representative on ABCUSD Board of Education. She must be removed before she continues to lecture on her MAGA philosophies. Please join me and ask for her resignation now.

*Thank you,*  
**Gail Grossman**  
*53 year resident of ABCUSD*

### Dear Editor:

I am a 46-year Cerritos resident, a 39+ year ABCUSD teacher now retired, my 3 children attended & graduated from ABC schools as did my youngest sister, and my dad also taught in ABC schools for many years.

As a past ABCFT president I attended numerous board meetings and experienced the way in which board members conducted themselves at those meetings.

Never has there been a trustee like Ms. Soo Yoo! (You can see my comments re: her infamous and shameful chastising of teachers and curriculum while advocating homeschooling and/or opting out of public education for students in my 9-13-23 letter to the editor.)

Why I am writing to you now is to thank you for printing the comments of Celia Spitzer, past president of the ABC School Board and a 20-year trustee, for speaking out to the board on October 3rd re: Soo Yoo's past remarks, stating that she "does not deserve our trust and should not be on the board; that she should resign or be recalled." I agree!

Surprisingly, there has been no public censuring\* by the board except for trustee Olga Rios' welcome remarks. By not doing so, they allow themselves to appear that they are sanctioning Ms. Yoo's behavior. This is truly concerning.

*Roni Love*

\*Censuring is a formal, public, group condemnation of an individual, often a group member, whose actions run counter to the group's acceptable standards for individual behavior.

### Dear Editor,

As a longtime community member, parent and teacher in ABCUSD, I was appalled and disheartened to read in your paper about Trustee Area 2 Representative Soo Yoo's attack on Public Education at the September 5 Board Meeting. We bought our first home in ABC in 1970 and both my sons attended Palms Elementary School. By volunteering in their classrooms, I became aware of how caring and involved public school teachers are in their students' education. I had been educated in overcrowded, private parochial schools, K-12, and had not found this generally to be the case there. This experience inspired me to become a Teachers' Aide at Palms and go back to college to get my teaching credential. I went on to teach at Juarez, Bragg, Hawaiian and Furgeson Elementary Schools before retiring. I had equally satisfying experiences there and was always impressed with the dedication and competence of my fellow teachers, paraeducators and administrators. I was equally impressed with the quality of education that my sons received at Tetzlaff Middle School and Artesia High School.

Board Member Yoo is doing a great disservice to the many dedicated public school professionals that strive every day, indeed go above and beyond, to bring the best educational experiences to their students. I want to thank your publication for bringing her disgraceful attacks on public education to the light of your readers and Voters in Trustee Area 2 especially!

*Irene J. Parsons*  
*Retired ABCUSD Bilingual Teacher*

### Dear Editor:

It's difficult to understand how a School Board member who represents public schools could endorse alternative education. Why did Soo Yoo have a desire to serve on the ABC School Board if she does not believe in public education? She is definitely in the wrong public office. She should resign and allow someone who is dedicated to better serve the students in the ABC School District. She is certainly not that person.

*Sincerely,*  
**Nancy Kawamura**  
*Retired teacher, LAUSD*

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# Shuttle Motors Find Their Home at California Science Center



**THE SOLID ROCKET MOTORS** (upper right) wait for their final resting area (bottom left) at the Go for Stack at the California Science Center.

## Staff Report

Crowds turned out last Wednesday to watch the arrival of two large Solid Rocket Motors (SRMs) in the next phase of Go for Stack – the complex, multi-phase process of moving and lifting each of the space shuttle components into place.

The SRMs, donated by Northrop Grumman, had been stored at the Mojave Air and Space Port, and are the final elements of the space shuttle system to arrive at the California Science Center.

The components that will make up the world’s only authentic, “ready-to-launch” space shuttle stack include the orbiter Endeavour, two Solid Rocket Boosters, and External Tank.

“Exactly eleven years after Endeavour’s memorable crosstown journey,

we’re delighted that the public has once again demonstrated such enthusiasm for this historic arrival,” said Jeffrey Rudolph, President and CEO of the California Science Center. “The arrival of our SRMs propels us one step closer to the completion of the future Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center, which will serve as a launchpad for creativity and innovation and will inspire future generations of scientists, engineers, and explorers.”

The SRMs were transported overnight from the Mojave Air and Space Port by freeway until the last leg of their journey to the California Science Center. After exiting the 110 freeway the morning of October 11, the motors traveled northbound along Figueroa Street to Martin Luther King, Jr. Boulevard, to reach the ceremonial “finish line” at 39th Street.

## BOOKS from page 1

enjoyed the racist comments spewed by Van Der Mark, taking a picture with her and Trustee Michale Eugenio under the State Education Seal with a prohibition sign over the seal-the familiar circle with a slash over the seal.

Van Der Mark took that appearance, and others, and won a seat on the Huntington Beach City Council; now she wants to ban books in HB libraries, the same drivel she told Yoo and the Cerritos Republican Club to consider at their libraries.

This week, the HB City Council majority created a 21-member review board that will have oversight of children’s books in city libraries, the move was spearheaded by Van Der Mark.

Book rejections must be by a “majority vote,” new books must be approved, and the committee will look at the current children’s book inventory.

Like Cerritos, scores of vocal residents denounced Van Der Mark’s resolution, calling it a book ban; public comment that night took five hours.

The council members who voted yes denied it was a book ban.

The First Amendment Coalition, the ACLU of Southern California, and the Freedom to Read Foundation said in a letter that the board violates the First Amendment.

“The resolution would prohibit children from accessing literary classics such as “I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings,” “The Great Gatsby” and “Romeo and Juliet.”

The nonprofit Friends of the Huntington Beach Public Library released a statement that it opposed book bans in the city’s library system, saying individuals have the right to determine what’s appropriate for them and their families to read, not a government-appointed committee.

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## Hahn Pushes Plan for Whittier LGBTQ+ Community Center



**MOVING ALONG:** (l-r) Whittier Councilmember Fernando Dutra, Assemblymember Lisa Calderon, Supervisor Janice Hahn, and Whittier Councilmember Cathy Warner tour the future site of the LGBTQ+ Community Resource Center. The center was made possible with \$4.2 Million in state funding secured by Assemblymember Calderon. The center will be established in an existing LA County building at 7639 Painter Avenue in the city of Whittier. The property, which already belongs to the County and has sat empty since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Staff Report

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has unanimously approved a motion by Supervisor Janice Hahn to take the next steps in a plan to create a LGBTQ+ Community Resource Center in an empty County building in the City of Whittier.

“With this vote, we are one step closer to opening this important resource center, and I am grateful for the support we heard from community members and leaders at our meeting,” said Chair Hahn, who represents Whittier and has championed this project. “At a time when hateful rhetoric about the LGBTQ+ community is louder than ever, a center like the one will serve as a lifeline for the community and provide better access to resources and support for anyone in need. I’m especially thankful for Assemblymember Calderon’s hard work to secure the state funding we needed to make this new center a reality.”

With unanimous support for Hahn’s motion, the board formally accepted a \$4.2 million state grant secured by Assemblymember Lisa Calderon to fund the project and approved the partnership with the Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse to operate the new center.

“It is important to bring resources to

my district that help our communities thrive. That is why I am pleased to partner with Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn to establish a new LGBTQ+ Center in Whittier,” said Assemblymember Lisa Calderon, representative for the state’s 56th Assembly District. “I was thrilled to advocate for this project in the legislature, which will support the livelihoods of my constituents and individuals in the region through the creation of a safe and supportive space for all!”

The center will be established in an existing LA County building at 7639 Painter Avenue in the city of Whittier. The property, which already belongs to the County and has sat empty since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, consists of a single-story building of approximately 2,694 square feet and a surface parking lot.

Supervisor Hahn and Assemblymember Calderon hopes to open the center in early 2024 with plans to provide the following services:

- Information and Referral Services
- Support Groups
- Substance Use Disorder Treatment
- Mental Health Treatment
- Legal Assistance
- Youth Programs: Offer age-appropriate support and programs for LGBTQIA+ youth, including mentorship, peer support, and empowering socials events.
- Educational Workshops
- Health and Wellness Programs
- Social Events and Networking
- Cultural Programs: Highlight LGBTQIA+ art, literature, cinema, and history with exhibits, performances
- Community Outreach
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Advocacy: Collaborate with other organizations to advocate for LGBTQIA+ rights and policy changes at local, state, and national levels.

### FEDDE from page 1

LBS’s kindness has overwhelmed us, and we can’t wait to see the incredible impact this contribution will have on our students.

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This is LBS Financial’s thirteenth year of adopting a school in ABC USD. LBS Financial also adopted two additional schools in Bellflower Unified School District and Long Beach Unified School District and delivered their supplies in September.

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# Avoid Major Pitfalls When Shopping for Medicare Advantage

Only 3 in 10 Medicare beneficiaries shop around during open enrollment, according to a 2022 analysis from KFF, a health policy nonprofit — and only 1 in 10 Medicare Advantage enrollees voluntarily switch plans.

But a 2020 analysis of Medicare Advantage plan choices found that more than half of beneficiaries overspent by more than \$1,000 due to the plan they selected.

Medicare open enrollment is Oct. 15 to Dec. 7, giving people with Medicare a chance to change plans for the upcoming year.

Although potential Medicare Advantage enrollees may be swayed by \$0 premiums and extra perks like vision and dental coverage, there are more important features to explore when you're choosing next year's coverage.

Here are some practices to avoid as you shop for Medicare Advantage this fall.

## 1. Thinking Medicare Advantage is Medicare

If you're considering Medicare Advantage, understand that it's not the same thing as government-provided Medicare. It offers the same benefits, but Medicare Advantage is run by private health insurance companies and it operates differently.

"You are essentially taking the Medicare coverage that you've been provided by the government and turning that in," says Melinda Caughill, co-founder and CEO of 65 Incorporated, which offers Medicare guidance.

You can switch back to Original Medicare during each year's open enrollment period, but you may not be able to qualify for an affordable Medicare Supplement Insurance, or Medigap, plan once you're past the one-time Medigap open enrollment period. (Medigap helps with certain out-of-pocket costs not covered by Original Medicare.)

## 2. Assuming your doctors are in network

Medicare Advantage plans operate within networks of medical providers, and you usually must see in-network doctors for covered care.

"A lot of people don't realize that

— especially those \$0-premium plans — they tend to have fairly confined networks," says Emily Gang, CEO of the Medicare Coach, a site that provides Medicare guidance. "You want to double-check that your doctor is actually an approved provider in that network."

Ask your providers what insurance they'll be accepting in 2024, suggests Sarah Murdoch, director of client services for the Medicare Rights Center, a nonprofit consumer advocacy organization. It's easier than trying to check each plan's network individually.

## 3. Not checking your drug coverage

Like network providers, Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage can also change each year. Your drug plan might cover one of your medications differently in 2024, leaving you with more out-of-pocket costs than you expected.

"If you take even one brand name medication, your need to compare plans," Caughill says. No brand names on your list? Shop around if you take five or more medications in general.

## 4. Buying for the dental benefits

Medicare Advantage plans usually include benefits that aren't part of Orig-

inal Medicare, such as dental, vision or hearing coverage. These extras may be appealing, but don't let them steer your plan choice.

"First of all, it's health insurance — so how is it going to cover your health care providers and your medications?" says Katy Votava, who holds a doctorate in health economics and nursing and is president and founder of Goodcare, a consulting firm focused on the economics of Medicare. "If you pick [your plan] for a benefit that isn't health insurance, you're often picking wrong. And the dental benefit is pretty limited in all these plans — it's a couple of cleanings and some bite wings."

## 5. Looking at the premium only

The majority of Medicare Advantage enrollees are in plans with no premium, meaning you pay nothing each month for the plan. "People see that \$0 premium and they're like, 'Oh, it's free,'" Gang says. "And it's not."

Research the rest of the plan's costs before you sign up, including deductibles, copays, coinsurance and the out-of-pocket maximum, which is the most you might have to spend on covered care in a year.



In 2023, the out-of-pocket max can be as high as \$8,300 for in-network care.

## 6. Buying because your friend has it

People eligible for Medicare are bombarded by information during open enrollment, and it can be overwhelming. "They don't shop," Votava says. "They go with name recognition or what their friend has." The better choice: Focus on your own situation and find the plan that meets your needs.

If you need help, contact your State Health Insurance Assistance Program, or SHIP, for free Medicare guidance. Just don't wait until the last minute, because appointments fill up, Votava says. "If you need individual help, you'd better get on the list."

*This article was written by NerdWallet and was originally published by The Associated Press.*

# Hawaiian Gardens Set to Hold Red Ribbon Rally Walk

Hawaiian Gardens, in partnership with the Sheriff's Department, invites area residents to join them for the annual Red Ribbon Rally Walk on October 24 at 4:30 p.m.

Red Ribbon Week, celebrated annually, is a powerful reminder of the importance of leading a drug-free life. It provides an opportunity for parents, educators, and communities to reinforce the drug-free messages they share with their children throughout the year.

Event Details:

The meeting point will be at Civic Center Drive and Norwalk Boulevard, with the walk ending at Hawaiian Gardens City Hall.

Bring banners and wear red to symbolize commitment to this important cause.

For additional information, please contact (562) 430-2641, extension 229 or visit the Hawaiian Gardens website at [www.hgcity.org](http://www.hgcity.org).

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## Fall Care of Perennials

By Melinda Myers

**A**s you transition your gardens from fall to winter, you may be contemplating a bit of garden clean up.

Before reaching for the pruners and rakes, consider all the benefits and beauty of leaving healthy perennials stand for winter.

The seed heads of many perennials like coneflower, rudbeckias, liatris and bee balm attract seed-eating songbirds like finches, sparrow, chickadees, juncos, and jays to the winter garden.

These winged visitors add motion and color to the winter garden. Best of all, you don't need to refill and clean this natural food source.

Many of these plants provide homes for beneficial insects, including native bees and other pollinators. A variety of these insects overwinter in or near the stems of perennials.

Native plants have evolved with many of these insects, birds and wildlife and most provide homes and food for native insects, songbirds, and wildlife. Purple coneflower, liatris, rudbeckias, sunflowers, asters, goldenrod, yucca, and Joe Pye weed are just a few of these native plants you might be growing.

Enjoy the winter foliage of evergreen and semi-evergreen perennials by leaving them intact in the garden.

Watch for and avoid disturbing the green leaves at the base of perennials like yarrow, Shasta daisy, and globe

thistle.

Leave borderline hardy perennials intact to improve their chances of surviving a harsher-than-normal winter. The stems capture any snow and helps retain any additional winter mulch, both providing needed root insulation.

Remove any diseased or insect-pest-infested plants. Removing this from the garden in fall reduces the risk of these problems occurring next year. Discard do not compost this material as most compost piles do not heat up to high enough temperatures to kill them. Contact your local municipality for disposal options.

Remove hosta leaves once the fall color fades and leaves die to reduce the risk of leaf nematodes overwintering in the crown of the plants. It also eliminates a winter home for slugs and their eggs.

Wait for several hard frosts when cutting back perennials in the fall. In milder climates, wait for leaves to brown and dry completely. This ensures the plant has stored all the energy it produced in the roots for healthy growth next spring.

Use sharp bypass pruners to make a clean cut through the stem. Disinfect tools by dipping in rubbing alcohol or spraying with a disinfect spray to prevent the spread of disease.

Rake leaves into the garden over the soil surface around the plants instead of to the curb. Fall leaves make great mulch that moderates soil temperature, suppresses weeds, conserves moisture, and improves the soil as they break down. Plus, they are free.

Wait to finish removing perennials until spring temperatures regularly hover in the 50's. This allows overwintering insects a chance to leave their winter



**THE SEED HEADS** of rudbeckia attract seed-eating songbirds to the winter garden.

homes. It also provides songbirds much needed food in spring before many of our plants begin producing seeds and berries.

Once the garden is set for winter, you can relax and make plans for the spring garden.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Garden-*

*er's Handbook*, 2nd Edition and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses* "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her website is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

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# St. Irenaeus 'Trunk or Treat' Tradition to Once Again Bring Community Together

By Laurie Hanson

During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, St. Irenaeus Catholic Church's Trunk or Treat provided a measure of "normalcy" at Halloween time, by bringing together neighboring families.

Today it remains an event for all ages who desire to come together and celebrate the spooky spirit of the season. St. Irenaeus' 'Trunk or Treat' will be held on Friday, Oct. 27 from 5:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the church parking lot. Trunk or treating begins promptly at 6 p.m. Cost is \$8 per child and \$2 per adult.

What exactly is 'Trunk or Treat'?

"'Trunk or Treat' is decorated car trunks where kids come by and say 'trick or treat' and receive candy just like they would at a house," said Executive Administrator Lisa Sambrano. "Each family comes up with their own theme when it comes to decorating their car, providing the décor and dressing up if they want."

"This is a community event overall," she added. "It brings children and families together from the neighborhood and all surrounding schools, many of which take part in our religious education, but everyone is welcome."

Featured will be a live D.J., photo booth, costume contest (by age group), a Haunted Maze put on for no additional fee by the Boy Scouts, along with food, snacks and desserts on hand for purchase. Over the years the event has become so popular that the church has had to charge a nominal fee to cover its costs.

"We get so many guests now and there are costs involved like the D.J. and for costume contest prizes," Sambrano explained. "And though the school and the church ask for candy to be donated, and we get a lot, we also have to purchase candy."

As a collaborative effort between the church and parish school, 'Trunk or Treat' began in 2009 with 20 cars, bounce houses, and more than 300 children attending. At its height last year, more than 700 children and 1,000 adults were in attendance with 60 trunks participating. It is a welcomed community event which continues to bring a measure of normalcy in the lives of all who participate.

Additionally, over the years 'Trunk or Treat' has been supported by the Boy Scouts of America and Knights of Columbus, who sold food and provided security or other things, respectively. Many volunteers included parents and other parishioners. Eventually, the Home and School Association took over the event, adding entertainment and other things which are a part of today's event.

If you'd like to be a part of this safe community event by entering your car and popping open its decorated trunk, sign up online at [www.signupgenius.com/go/805094CAFA82CAB9-44905984-trunk#](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/805094CAFA82CAB9-44905984-trunk#/). Donations of candy (individually wrapped) are being accepted at the Parish Office. For more information, please email at [St.I.TrunkorTreat@gmail.com](mailto:St.I.TrunkorTreat@gmail.com) or call 714-315-7612.



**RAINBOW TRUNK & TRUNK OR TREAT CAR** – Kids of all ages will enjoy the St. Irenaeus Catholic Church's annual "Trunk or Treat," a safe community Halloween event to be held on Oct. 27 at the church parking lot in Cypress. On display will be differently decorated car trunks handing out candy to children. A costume contest, photo booth and live D.J. will be on hand along with food that's available for purchase.



  
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**605 LEAGUE FOOTBALL**

**DEFENSE CARRIES CERRITOS TO ANOTHER SHUTOUT WIN OVER JOHN GLENN IN 605 LEAGUE OPENER**

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on Twitter

The offensive numbers were somewhat lethargic for Cerritos High and John Glenn High last Thursday night in the 605 League opener at Dr. Hanford Rants Stadium. The stat sheet will show the visiting Eagles owned the time of possession and had a few more offensive plays, but five costly turnovers were the difference in what turned out to be a whitewash after a close game in the first half.

Cerritos, the two-time defending league champions which led 10-0 at the half, scored on the first possession of the second half, then recovered a fumble that led to a quick score and just like that the Dons were up 24-0 and on their way to a 38-0 victory. It was the fourth straight win over Glenn, two coming by way of a shutout, and comes after the Eagles had won the previous four games in the series.

This game was more about defense and special teams, especially if you were wearing black, gray, and red as the teams struggled offensively. Although the Dons fumbled on their second drive, muffed a punt, and had a field goal blocked, the Eagles had four fumbles, an interception and a punt blocked.

"I can't understand [it]," said Cerritos first-year head coach Demel Franklin of the sloppiness. "It was weird, but we were able to keep our composure. Our defense held them to a shutout, and we were able to get our legs up from under us and get the win."

The turning point came after senior Moises Mendoza booted a 35-yard field goal three minutes into the second quarter, making it 10-0. Glenn would get



**CERRITOS HIGH** junior running back Josiah Ungos powers through on one of his six carries against John Glenn High last Thursday night. Ungos gained 33 yards on the night as the host Dons shutout the Eagles 38-0 in the 605 League opener.

Photo by Josie Quibrantar.

to the four-yard line and thought it had a touchdown when senior running back Tuiono Tuifua scored from that distance. But a holding penalty nullified the score and pushed the ball back to the 14-yard line. Then on fourth and goal from the eight, a potential touchdown throw from

junior quarterback Raymond Acosta to junior wide receiver Jacob Ramirez was called back because of a pass interference call. One play later, the drive ended on an incomplete pass.

After Glenn was held on downs following a lengthy 5:17 drive to begin the game, the hosts opened the scoring by going 41 yards on seven plays, taking over three and a half minutes off the clock which ended when junior running back Nathaniel Crawford went in from a yard out. The Eagles would fumble on the ensuing kickoff, but two plays later, Glenn junior linebacker Dylan Arrington recovered a fumble at the Glenn 18-yard line.

However, on the second play of the second quarter, the Eagles (5-3, 0-1) saw a punt blocked by junior linebacker Devyn Chantha and the miscue led to Mendoza's

field goal. The Eagles would have another opportunity to score late in the half when Ramirez recovered a fumble when Cerritos couldn't make a reception on Glenn's second punt. But a sack for a 15-yard loss by Cerritos senior linebacker Jeremiah Bagaygay with 21 seconds left in the half kept the score at 10-0.

Cerritos had just 73 yards in the first half while Glenn picked up 45 yards, and the way the offenses were moving, the game would be put away nearly midway through the third quarter when the Dons took the second half kickoff and went 78 yards on seven plays, all runs, with Crawford scoring from seven yards out.

"That was kind of the gameplan," said Franklin of the second touchdown. "At

[ See CERRITOS, page 13 ]

**WONDERWORD**

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** First, read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are found in all directions - vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues you'll have a number of letters left over that spell out the WONDERWORD. To see the answer use the link below the puzzle.

**Dessert Toppings**

Y	A	B	E	P	A	L	M	O	N	D	S	N	L	G
C	R	M	U	N	N	A	C	E	P	U	I	E	U	E
D	I	R	A	T	S	H	M	F	G	S	M	M	Z	D
L	E	N	E	R	T	P	C	A	I	O	M	A	R	O
E	A	P	N	B	E	E	R	A	N	I	L	A	E	T
B	T	E	P	A	E	T	R	I	E	G	H	R	N	K
A	J	A	N	I	M	U	T	S	N	P	O	I	A	Z
T	P	U	L	I	H	O	L	O	C	K	M	H	E	T
A	T	R	B	O	L	W	N	B	S	O	L	S	C	E
S	A	A	I	I	C	A	A	H	W	U	T	E	U	E
R	S	E	H	C	L	O	R	L	A	I	L	C	S	W
O	O	P	O	R	O	E	H	P	N	E	N	R	H	S
B	M	D	N	E	D	T	E	C	S	U	B	E	A	N
P	I	N	E	A	P	P	L	E	B	I	T	T	E	R
G	M	E	Y	M	O	C	H	A	L	L	I	N	A	V

Almonds, Amaretto, Apricot, Banana, Bean, Bitter, Blueberry, Borsata, Butterscotch, Chocolate, Cinnamon, Cream, Glaze, Gummies, Hard, Honey, Jubilee, Kahlua, Lemon, Lime, Mango, Mimosa, Mint, Mocha, Oreo, Peach, Peanuts, Pear, Pecan, Pineapple, Praline, Puree, Raisin, Secret, Select, Shred, Sprinkles, Sugar, Sweet, Vanilla, Walnut, Whipped, Wine, Zest.

Solution to puzzle on page 14.

Solution: 5 letters

**GATEWAY LEAGUE FOOTBALL**

**LA MIRADA RALLIES FROM EARLY HOLE TO SURVIVE NORWALK'S DOUBLE WING OFFENSE**

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X/Twitter

The first 20 minutes of a pivotal Gateway League contest between La Mirada High and Norwalk High went as good as it could for the host Lancers and not so good for the Matadores. But in the blink of an eye, La Mirada recovered two fumbles late in the first half and turned them into touchdowns.

Then senior Martin Aguilera returned the second half opening kickoff 85 yards for a touchdown as the Matadores scored 34 unanswered points to defeat the Lancers 34-13. Both teams were able to gain over 200 yards, but the difference was La Mirada's defense making the timely stops on third or fourth downs and cashing in offensively.

"I think early in the game, they got after us a little bit," said La Mirada first-year head coach Lucas Mealy. "They hit us in the mouth; it took us a little bit of time for us to kind of settle in. Obviously, that fumble recovery was huge. I think that's a testament to our defense, our coaches and our players of not giving up on what we're trying to accomplish."

"We thought we were sitting pretty well," said Norwalk head coach Ruben Guerrero. "We looked pretty good [but] those turnovers really killed us. It kind of stopped our momentum we had going. It was like a landslide there for a second; we couldn't stop it."

With the Lancers up 13-0, they drove to their 44-yard line where a fumble was recovered by sophomore cornerback Jordan Lauago at the La Mirada 48-yard line with 4:05 left in the opening half. That's where it went 52 yards on seven plays and got on the board with a Lauago six-yard run. But on the ensuing kickoff, another fumble at the Norwalk 17-yard line led to Aguilera scoring on one play to tie the game with 45 seconds remaining in the half.

The momentum would carry to the opening kickoff to the second half where Aguilera grabbed the ball with his right hand on one bounce at the 15-yard line, found a hole on the left side and raced down the near sideline as Norwalk senior defensive back Jacob Lopez couldn't keep up. From that point on, La Mirada would score two more touchdowns on a combined nine plays while the Lancers were stymied on 17 second half plays.

"Our defense definitely set the tone," said Mealy. "Obviously, coming out with the kickoff return for a touchdown was huge. We told the kids at halftime we weathered their storm. You could see as we were going in, our kids were up here ready to go. So, I think when we came out in the second half and we had that big play, I think from there it just took off."

"Our defense knew that if they kept listening to their coaches and do what the coaches told them to do, we could stop this offense," he continued. "It's definitely a good offense and they do a great job at Norwalk of running it. But we put ourselves in a position to be successful. The kids bought in, and once the defense gets stops, I think our offense has the confidence to go out there and do what they need to do."

The game began in typical fashion for Norwalk (3-5, 0-3) with six running plays from senior running back Caleb Mitchell

and junior running back Ezra Mueller covering 31 yards before Mitchell cashed in from 34 yards out to make it 7-0 four minutes in. Following a three and out, Norwalk got the ball at its 45-yard line and again, Mitchell and Mueller combined for 54 yards on nine plays, plus a three-yard gain from junior fullback Papo Lieataua to conclude the opening quarter. On the second play of the second quarter, Mueller scored on a two-yard run and then when senior defensive back Hector Cruz



picked off sophomore quarterback Santino Garcia at the Norwalk 10-yard line, it looked like the Lancers would continue their momentum.

"We were doing what we do, we were having success doing it," said Guerrero. "But when we're moving, a turnover or

a fumble is a killer to our offense. Anytime we move backwards with a penalty or a fumble or something, it just kills the momentum of the drives that we're in. Tonight, I think they won the turnover battle in the game, and I think that's what it might come down to."

Norwalk would rush for 171 yards on 31 carries in the first half while the Matadores (3-5, 2-1) gained 118 yards on 17 plays. And after Aguilera's kickoff return, Norwalk seemed to be gaining back some momentum. But senior quarterback Rylee Sosa overthrew a target on third and 11 from the Norwalk 43-yard line, the Lancers were forced to punt and would run eight plays the rest of the game.

After converting on four of five third down plays and its lone fourth down attempt in the first half, Norwalk was one of one of four on third down plays and was unsuccessful on a pair of fourth down plays after Aguilera's kickoff return. Meanwhile, the Matadores would get an eight-yard run from Aguilera and a 21-yard run from Lauago for their last two touchdowns, the latter coming less than three minutes into the fourth quarter.

"They made some pretty good adjustment on us in the second half, and it took us awhile to figure that out," said Guerrero. "That drive stalled because of some adjustments they had made. Then we had to go to a couple of other things to try to start moving the ball again. Once we figured something that we could use, it just kind of got away from us."

Mitchell gained 134 yards on 22 carries and Mueller another 73 yards on 20 touches while Garcia's passing paced Matadores as he was seven of 11 for 84 yards. Aguilera and Lauago rushed for 66 and 61 yards, respectively.

"I do think, ultimately, we are young," said Mealy of his offense. "So, it's going to take time. But, being the offensive coordinator, I want to score 1,000 points and have 1,000 yards and throw for 10 touchdowns and do all that stuff. But we have to do what it takes to win."

This was the ninth straight win over Norwalk but the first time the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District rivals have met since the merger of the San Gabriel Valley League and Suburban League. Norwalk, by sharing for the Mid-Cities League last season, jumped to the Gateway League and it's possible, the Lancers could remain in the Gateway League for next season.

"We know that they've done some things that are special," said Mealy. "But it's good to have these crosstown rivalries."

[ See LA MIRADA, page 13 ]

**NEWS AND NOTES FROM PRESS ROW**

**GAHR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL SURVIVES A FIVE-SET, WILD CARD ROLLER COASTER VICTORY OVER SULTANA**

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X/Twitter

For a girls volleyball program that was more successful in the CIF-Southern Section playoffs in the 1980s and 1990s, Gahr High hasn't fared too well recently. With one playoff win in the last five seasons despite winning a league title three times since 2016, the Gladiators may have found that post-season spark of the earlier days.

It didn't look good after the first set against Sultana High this past Tuesday in a Division 6 wild card match. But the seventh-ranked Gladiators, behind the stellar play, both offensively and defensively, form junior opposite hitter Kyla Jones, had enough to move to the first round after a 20-25, 25-13, 25-12, 21-25, 16-14 home win and visited West Valley High on Oct. 18. The Mountain Pass League champions are ranked 10th in the division.

The Gladiators, who finished third in the Gateway League, had a 3-0 lead in the fifth set turn into a 5-5 tie before Jones had a kill, then served consecutive aces. While the Sultans never led in the set, they got to within a point three times and caught Gahr three times. When Mishelle Dominguez put down her team-high 17th point to tie the set at 13-13, Gahr head coach Charity Dennis called

a timeout before Jones' kill put her team up 14-13. A serve into the net tied the set again before Jones and senior outside hitter Isabela Torres, off the touch of a Sultana player, won the match.

Gahr (21-11) led by four points early in the first set that saw nine ties and four lead changes. The Sultans took the lead for good at 19-18 on a kill from Maggie

Warden. She and Dominguez combined for 10 of the 14 kills the visitors from Hesperia would collect in the set.

But Gahr completely dominated the second and third sets, never trailing while Jones, Torres and senior outside hitter Mariah Robinson were spiking kills all over the place and senior setter Cassandra Zoellers was serving four of the team's nine aces during those two sets.

"Everyone was contributing," said Gahr assistant coach Alex Quan-Madrid. "Everyone was playing at their peak performances. They were playing as a team; everything was going great."

After six ties in the fourth set, Sultana took its first lead at 16-15 on a Warden kill before Gahr rallied to take an 18-17 lead. But Dominguez had a pair of kills down the stretch and Isabella Abeyta had consecutive aces to send it to the final set.

[ See NEWS & NOTES, page 13 ]



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**NEWS & NOTES** from page 11

Jones led everyone with 19 kills and had six aces while Robinson added a dozen kills with five aces and Torres another 10 kills.

"Kyla has been big for us all season and we've been kind of lucky because a few other girls have stepped up in the last couple of weeks where we haven't had to lean on her as much as we had to earlier in the season," said Quan-Madrid. "So, I think she was just trying to find that rhythm. But she's always been consistent for us, no matter what."

Gahr entered the playoffs on a roll, winning six of eight matches after a lackluster performance on Sept. 28 against La Mirada High, losing in four and picking up 34 points over the final three sets.

"I think that La Mirada game definitely represented a low point for us, and we did a lot of reflection, said Quan-Madrid. "We redefined our game to really find our rhythm. We feel like we're hitting a good peak right now in terms of the overall team; in terms of overall play level, we're where we want to be in the playoffs."

After going 10-14 last season and missing the playoffs for the first time since 2008, Gahr reached a rarity with its 21 victories. Since 1998, the most victories by any Gahr team came in 1998

when that team went 17-5. Before this season, the last time any Gahr team won 20 matches in a season was back in 1988 when the Gladiators, behind the tutelage of Sonny Okamoto, went 21-1, won the 4A Division championship and was a CIF Division 1 State semifinalist. Two years before that, Gahr posted a 20-1 mark, also winning the 4A Division title.

In other girls volleyball playoff action, with first round matches to be played on Oct. 18, Artesia High defeated St. Pius-St. Matthias Academy in four sets this past Tuesday in a Division 7 wild card match. The Pioneers (11-8), the third place representative from the 605 League, went to Wildwood High, the champions from the Coastal League. In Division 5 action, Cerritos High, the champions of the 605 League which enters playoffs at 19-4, hosted Culver City High, the fifth place team from the Bay League.

La Mirada (18-10), which finished second in the Gateway League and are ranked sixth in Division 6, entertained Desert Christian Academy, the second place team out of the South Valley League while Mid-Cities League co-champion Norwalk High (22-11), ranked second in Division 7, welcomed Twentynine Palms High, the Desert Valley League's third place team.

Finally, Valley Christian High (15-

10), the second place representative out of the Olympic League, travelled to seventh-ranked Paloma Valley High in Division 4 action. The Wildcats won the Ivy League and have lost four matches.

**FOOTBALL**

Cerritos (3-5, 1-0 in the 605 League) @ Artesia (5-3, 1-0)-See Cerritos/John Glenn High game story. This game was played on Oct. 19.

**Prediction: Artesia 35, Cerritos 28**

**Paramount High (3-5, 1-1 in the Mid-Cities League) @ Gahr (5-3, 1-1)**-The winner of this contest will grab second place in the league and if you go by the numbers, Gahr should ease past the Pirates on homecoming night, which is also the final regular season home contest. Gahr blasted Firebaugh High 42-8 last Friday for its fourth game of scoring at least 40 points. But despite this season's success, the Gladiators have lost 10 straight to the Pirates, including a 41-20 affair last season.

Paramount's win have come against Compton High (45-20), Venice High (27-17) and Lynwood High (2-0). In the five losses, the Pirates combined to score 40 points.

**Prediction: Gahr 42, Paramount 13**

**Pioneer High (2-6, 0-1 in the 605 League) @ Glenn (5-3, 0-1)**-See Cerritos/Glenn game story. This game was played on Oct. 19

**Prediction: Glenn 35, Pioneer 14**

**La Mirada (3-5, 2-1 in the Gateway League) @ Warren High (6-2, 3-0)**-See La Mirada/Norwalk game story.

**Prediction: Warren 38, La Mirada 17**

**Norwalk (3-5, 0-3 in the Gateway League) @ Dominguez High (5-3, 0-3)**-See La Mirada/Norwalk game story.

**Prediction: Norwalk 35, Dominguez 20**

Valley Christian (2-6, 1-2 in the Ironwood League) @ Big Bear High (2-6, 0-3)-This game will be played on Saturday afternoon at Big Bear Middle School. V.C. was blanked by Aquinas High 48-0 last Friday, the third time the Defenders have been whitewashed this season. and the fifth time they have been held to single digits in the scoring department. V.C.'s only win in Ironwood League action last season came against Big Bear, a 35-21 contest.

While V.C. has yet to reach the 100-point mark, the Bears have scored 186 points despite a five-game skid in which they have yielded 218 points in that time. Big Bear was blanked by Heritage Christian High 48-0 last Saturday.

**Prediction: V.C. 38, Big Bear 14**

*Last week's predictions: 4-1  
Season to date: 39-12*

**LA MIRADA** from page 11

It's good to have these local teams playing each other. It's something that we're going to continue to try to do outside of league as well. But it's nice to have them in league and to battle it out and show everybody what we can do."

The win improved La Mirada's playoff chances with two games remaining in the regular season. While the Matadores are tied with Mayfair High for third place, they have to travel to first place Warren High on Friday and close the season out at second place Downey High. Even if La Mirada finishes in fourth place and knowing that the top three teams get automatic playoff berths, it stood in the middle of a potential CIF-Southern Section Division 9 playoff position, based off rankings from Calpreps.com. earlier in the week.

"It was huge," said Mealy. "For the playoff picture, it's huge, but it's also huge for the simple standpoint of, like I said before, we're young and we have to learn how to win games. I think tonight was a really big step in the right direction to

learn how to do it."

As for the matchup with Warren, the Bears are coming off a 28-21 win against Downey last Friday at SoFi Stadium, improving to 6-2 overall and remaining undefeated in three league contests. Quarterback Madden lamaleava completed 23 of 28 passes for 236 yards and four touchdowns against the Vikings, three of which went to Jordan Ross. During the current winning streak, the Bears have scored 169 points while allowing 85 and their two losses have been to Serra (27-0) and Woodford County out of Versailles, KY (40-39).

Iamaleava, one of the top quarterbacks in the CIF-SS, has passed for over 1,700 yards and 21 touchdowns while throwing just three interceptions. He's also completing nearly 66 percent of his passes. Three wide receivers have caught at least 28 of his passes, including Ross, Jace Brown and Jalen Ross, all of whom have combined for 1,548 yards and 16 touchdowns. On the ground, freshman Kelton Strickland leads Warren with just over 900 yards and has found the end zone seven times. The Bears, who defeated La Mirada

37-8 last season, are projected to be situated in Division 3 once the playoffs begin.

"We know Warren is a powerhouse," said Mealy. "We know Downey is a powerhouse. We know how talented and well-coached they are. We're going to take next week day by day, get after it in practice and do everything we can to get ourselves in position to be successful against them. We know now that we have a chance to control our own destiny to a certain extent."

He added by saying the Matadores need to play the right style of football and to lock into what they're doing, play mistake-free football, not have an interception in the end zone and can't start the game off slow.

Norwalk will also be on the road for its final two games, starting with Dominguez High on Friday. The last time these two faced each other, the Lancers were on the south end of a 32-13 decision on Sept. 15, 2017. The previous season, Norwalk came away with a 21-13 victory and in the 2013 Southeast Division second round playoffs, the Lancers prevailed 19-7 as Rashaad Penny rushed for 123 yards on

27 carries and scored twice.

Norwalk has lost three straight games and has scored 37 points during that stretch. Despite being tied with the Dons for fifth place, the Lancers were ranked 238th by Calpreps.com with 224 teams advancing to the playoffs.

Dominguez is 5-3 overall and is coming off a 28-14 loss to Mayfair High last Friday. The Dons won the first five games of the season, scoring at least 34 points each time. But in the three league setbacks, Dominguez has scored 14 points against La Mirada, Downey and Mayfair.

"After facing Warren and Downey, we thought that level of competition would have put us in a good light for tonight," said Guerrero. "And it did for the first quarter. But that's not a complete game. We have to play a complete game and I think if we put a complete game together, maybe the outcome is a little bit different. But we felt really good about tonight; we felt really good about our chances and our opportunities to win tonight. We kind of let those get away from us with those turnovers."

**CERRITOS** from page 10

halftime, my coaches were like, 'coach, run the ball. I know you want to throw it. Let's get some more points, then we'll let you throw the ball'. I listen to my staff; they know what's best and they guide us in the right direction."

When the Eagles got the ball, it took five plays before Cerritos sophomore linebacker Bailey Crawford recovered a fumble and two plays into the ensuing drive, senior running back Josh Park scored from a yard out with 2:37 left in the stanza. If the turnover wasn't bad enough for Glenn, which ran nine plays and gained three yards in the quarter, the final stanza began with Cerritos senior Diego Martinez intercepting Acosta.

The Dons (3-5, 1-0) would be held at the 20-yard line where Mendoza would have a 37-yard field goal attempt blocked. But, as the ball was travelling back to the endzone, Glenn couldn't find a handle on the pigskin and senior lineman Sam Marcroft pounced on the ball for a touchdown. It would be another fumble on Glenn's next possession that would turn into a 47-yard recovery for a score by Park to end

the scoring.

The only offense from Glenn came from Tuifua, the league's second leading rusher at 1,137 yards and 13 touchdowns, who picked up 75 yards on 11 carries while the defensive leader was Ramirez (six and a half tackles) as the Eagles did not cross midfield until the final seconds of the game when they reached the 15-yard line.

"I gave [our defense] a little tongue lashing after the last game," said Franklin. "I felt after the Gahr game, we needed to be a little tougher. So, we worked our butts off preparing for that double wing, which is a very tough offense. We were just fortunate that the ball bounced our way tonight.

"We were in a little bit of a slump for two games," he continued. "We weren't holding [Chino High and Gahr] what we thought we could hold them to. And then we figured it out. The kids came out and played amazing. I'm so proud of my defense."

For the Dons, Park rushed eight times for 35 yards while junior running back Josiah Ungos gained 33 yards on six touches. Sophomore quarterback Justin Sagun completed four of eight passes for

67 yards, all going to junior wide receiver Ruben Castro. On top of that, for the first time all season, a Cerritos quarterback did not throw an interception. Senior linebacker Gabe Gaudi had three and a half tackles while Nathaniel Crawford added three tackles.

"This [win] was enormous just because we came off three losses, but also...I was nervous," said Franklin. "I didn't know what Coach [Elijhaa] Penny was going to do. I know he has experience with the NFL and all that. So, we were just excited to get a chance to compete against those guys."

With two of the four league teams advancing to the CIF-Southern Section playoffs, Glenn would need to defeat Pioneer High on Thursday to keep any postseason dream alive. The Titans lost to Artesia High 37-19 last Thursday and are the least scoring team in the league with 110 points. Pioneer is on a four-game losing streak and have not scored more than 21 points in any game, which bodes very well for Glenn.

Despite the loss to Cerritos, Glenn is still enjoying one of the program's better seasons in recent years with a 5-3 mark. The Eagles, who had won three straight

in the series against Pioneer before last season's 51-6 loss, have scored 255 points this season and have held four opponents to 10 points or fewer.

When Cerritos visits Artesia on Thursday, the winner will clinch no worse than a tie for the league title. And while the Pioneers have lost three consecutive games to Cerritos, they still have dominated the series since 1998, winning 15 of the past 25 meetings. The Dons will have their hands full with the highest scoring team in the league, also at 255 points, as they will face junior quarterback Charlie Lopez, who is the league's leading rusher with 1,228 yards and 16 touchdowns. As a team, the Pioneers have rushed for 2,571 yards and 31 touchdowns while the Dons have gained close to 1,300 yards on the ground.

"I got a chance to see them earlier in the season," said Franklin. "They have a great rushing attack. That quarterback... he runs and runs and runs some more. He can throw it as well, but he wants to run. So, we have to make sure to contain him; keep that zero on the board as much as possible."

**WATER** from page 1

CB employees, one who was pregnant at the time, calling her a heifer in the email. The employees sued and won a massive settlement. LCCN has been told that Camacho-Rodriguez also refuses to say the Pledge of Allegiance at meetings.

Yet Gualteri joined forces and continues to vote with them.

**Sham Internal Investigation**

A few weeks ago, without any evidence, Vasquez, Camacho, Garza and Gualteri moved to send out a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to hire a costly investigative law firm to look into a company CB has done business with called Capstone.

Vasquez' lawyer-husband Ron Wilson has been very vocal, alleging publicly that "major financial fraud is occurring" concerning Capstone and Central Basin and that he has "the checks to prove it."

LCCN has emailed Wilson seven (7) times, asking him for the proof, without response. Strangely, Wilson has not given the checks to his reporter-on-speed-dial, Whittier Daily News' Jason Henry.

**Investigative Firm Amid Influence and Interference Campaign**

To prevent any possible undue influence, conflicts of interest and corruption, most public agencies prohibit prior contact with any firm principals who have answered an RFQ and are scheduled to present to elected members.

But that was not the case with Director Garza and San Francisco-based Renne Public Law Group (RPLG), selected by CB to present its qualifications to the board on September 29.

LCCN has obtained documents that show that an employee of Renne Public Policy Group (RPPG), a subsidiary of RPLG, fielded a call from Central Basin (CB) Director Juan Garza just hours before RPLG was set to present in front of CB's Board of Directors.

Garza did not inform anyone at CB about the call before, during, or after RPLG's presentation, which occurred Friday, September 29.

That is a direct violation of the Central Basin Administrative Code changed after the 2015 state audit revealed several conflicts of interest between vendors and board members, similar to what Garza did.

In addition, the RPPG employee who took Garza's call, Dane Hutchings, did not inform anyone in his company about Garza's call.

During the presentation, Andrew Shen, Principal of RPLG, was asked if anyone at his company had any contact with anyone at Central Basin.

Shen said no.

Three days later, Shen "found out" about the Garza-Hutchings conversation and called CB attorney Derrick Lowe to explain the disturbing incident. Lowe asked for a letter explaining the incident.

Shen wrote, "Hutchings and Garza were professional acquaintances when Garza was a Bellflower Councilman and Hutchings worked for the League of California Cities. Then Mayor Garza was essentially Mr. Hutchings client."

Garza lost his incumbent election nearly three years ago in 2020, any contact with Hutchings would have ended at that time as the League of California Cities only deals with elected officials.

In a subsequent letter, Shen told Lowe that "the functions of RPLG and RPPG are entirely different. Although RPPG is a subsidiary, the two groups operate separately, which is why we were unaware of the Garza-Hutchings call."

LCCN sent questions, including asking Shen how he discovered the Garza-Hutchings phone call if the two "operate separately"

Shen oddly referred LCCN to CB

attorney Derrick Lowe.

When asked about the Shen referral, Lowe responded, "Our firm, myself specifically, is the project manager for both the independent investigation and the audit, which means, among other things, that we are tasked with being the contact point for the District."

However, the contract still needs to be approved by the CB Board, which will consider the RPLG contract on October 23, so Shen has no contractual right to refer LCCN questions to Lowe, nor does Lowe have a contractual duty to defend Shen.

**Investigative Firm Contradictions**

In his presentation to CB, Shen said no contact had occurred between RPLG and CB; he had to walk that back once he "found out" about the Garza-Hutchings call.

In addition, sources are telling LCCN that there were statements made weeks earlier by Garza that strongly indicated Garza had previously talked with someone at RPLG. And in a public CB committee meeting, Garza stood up and opined about RPLG and its experience.

In an email to Lowe, Shen said that RPLG and RPPG "operate separately, which is why we were unaware of the Garza-Hutchings conversation."

Yet, in a second follow-up email to Lowe, Shen contradicted that statement, writing "the firm will create a wall between RPPG and RPLG."

"To further address any concerns about the contact between Garza and Hutchings, we will create a formal ethical wall between RPPG and RPLG. The ethical wall will formally prohibit RPLG attorneys and staff from talking with any member of RPPG any aspect of the independent investigation of Central Basin."

Shen should start with Hutchings' phone; after the initial presentation, Garza texted Hutchings informing him of the board vote and the approval of RPLG.

**Questionable Indemnity Clause**

In simple terms, an indemnification clause is a legally binding agreement between two parties specifying that one party will compensate the other party for any losses or damages that may arise from a particular event or circumstance.

In Central Basin's contract with RPLG, the contract would contain a clause whereby RPLG indemnifies CB.

But in an extremely questionable move, RPLG inserted their own indemnity clause, wanting to be indemnified by CB.

"District (CB) agrees to indemnify and hold Consultant (RPLG) harmless, to the full extent permitted by law, from and against all claims, formal or informal, actions, proceedings, liabilities or damages, whether actual or threatened, related to arising out of Consultant's services for District under this Agreement. This includes indemnification for all costs incurred in investigating, preparing to defend, defending and resolving such claims or actions including, attorney's fees, experts' fees, disbursements, settlement costs, and attorney time to be compensated at attorney's then current hourly rate."

The clause is unheard-of; RPLG is demanding that if RPLG employees commit a crime, whether criminal or civil, that CB must pay all cost associated with the crime.

CB's attorney has recommended that the board reject the contract, but sources are telling LCCN that Garza, Vasquez, Camacho and Gualteri will vote to approve the RPLG contract at their Oct 23, 2023 meeting.

Previous emails into Andrew Shen were met with "I have forwarded your emails to Derrick Lowe."

As of LCCN's Thursday Oct. 19 print newspaper deadline, Shen has not answered questions about the indemnity clause.

**LOWRIDER** from page 1

in 2022, where it set a festival record by selling out its first screening at L.A. Live in 13 hours. Two subsequent screenings also sold out in record time.

Torrez came to Pioneer High School in July 2022, just prior to the screening at the DTLA Film Festival. No one in the District had any idea that Torrez was a self-taught filmmaker, let alone an award-winning documentary producer, until he appeared on an NBC4 morning news segment promoting the film wearing his Pioneer Titan sweatshirt.

"I appreciate the tremendous support from the Board of Trustees and District for the film. But I tell them, despite the film's success, I'm not going anywhere," Torrez said. "I love my job and I'm a proud member of the Whittier Union community. I want to be able to give back to our kids. Part of that is empowering them with their own history and the positive impact that it's had on our culture."

"The Great American Lowrider Tradition" tells the story of lowriders as a uniquely American culture and art form, in the words and images of those who created and continue to maintain the lifestyle. Meticulously researched, the documentary works to restore credit to lowrider pioneers, push back on negative media connotations, and call for legislative action to repeal anti-cruising laws.

The documentary is a labor of love for Torrez, who researched, wrote, filmed, edited and narrated the film on his own, even composing some of the music on the soundtrack. Torrez is driven by the opportunity to tell the story of car culture aficionados, which include his 9-year-old son.

"We are so proud of Martin Torrez, who has turned his passion for Southern California car culture into a compelling historical document," Superintendent Dr. Monica Oviedo said. For more information about the film, visit [lowriderdocumentary.org](http://lowriderdocumentary.org).

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 11/07/2023 at 11:00 AM.

Rafael Urbino- Furniture  
Christine Maramba- Household items (furniture)  
Anthony Acuna- buckets  
Maria Cano- boxes, clothes  
Aaron Reid- Boxes of clothes, bed frame, mattress dresser  
Margaret Nyachae- Household Items  
Stephanie Alvarado- Furniture, boxes  
Kamelah Thompson- 1bdm, queen size, dresser, boxes  
Abelardo Iancu- Boxes of clothing  
Roosevelt Dixon- Boxes with personal items, clothes, etc.  
Nataша Castillo Madrid- bikes  
Recquel Thurman- items  
Jeffrey Pierce- 1 BR, two couches, weight bench, fridge, tables  
Samantha Blount- Furniture  
Dean Raulston- boxes queen bed queen murphy bed pool table china cabinet fridge freezer tbl chairs recliner  
James Williams- House Items  
Cheri Cummins- small couch, kitchen appliances, clothing  
Alicia Guerrero- Couch, bed  
Donald Brown- Household Goods  
Teresia Collins- Misc item, boxes, totes  
Smith Damion- household goods  
Nichole Weston- T.V., furniture, totes  
Leslie Wade- Boxes, bikes, garden tools  
Jack Guarino- Winnebago 1972 red, white, blue  
The auction will be listed and advertised on [www.storage treasures.com](http://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. Please publish on 10/20/2023 and 10/27/2023

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 10/20 and 10/27/23

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE**

(UCC Sec. 6105)  
Escrow No. 23-3139-KK  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale is about to be made. The name(s), business address(es) to the Seller(s) are: SEUNG HEE YI, 18009 NORWALK BLVD STE B, ARTESIA, CA 90701  
Doing Business as: GOMBO WANG  
All other business name(s) and address(es) used by the Seller(s) within three years, as stated by the Seller(s), is/are: NONE  
The location in California of the Chief Executive Officer of the Seller(s) is: NONE  
The name(s) and address of the Buyer(s) is/are: HYANG OK KIM, 18009 NOR-WALK BLVD STE B, ARTESIA, CA 90701  
The assets to be sold are described in general as: FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, TOOLS, GOODWILL, TRADENAME, LEASEHOLD INTEREST, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, ALL TRANSFERABLE PERMITS AND LI-CENSES AND INVENTORY OF STOCK IN TRADE and are located at: 18009 NORWALK BLVD STE B, ARTESIA, CA 90701  
The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: ACE ESCROW INC, 1725 S. NOGALES ST #104, ROW-LAND HEIGHTS, CA 91748 and the anticipated sale date is NOVEMBER 7, 2023  
The bulk sale is subject to California Uni-form Commercial Code Section 6106.2.  
[If the sale is subject to Sec. 6106.2, the following information must be provided.] The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is: ACE ES-CROW INC, 1725 S. NOGALES ST #104, ROWLAND HEIGHTS, CA 91748 and the last day for filing claims shall be NOVEM-BER 6, 2023, which is the business day before the sale date specified above.  
Dated: 10/12/23  
BUYER: HYANG OK KIM  
ORD-1934995 LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 10/20/23

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
PLOT (SITE) PLAN NO. 998 AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 545  
7400 SLAUSON AVENUE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Planning Commission of the City of Commerce will conduct a special public hearing on a Plot (Site) Plan No. 998 and Conditional Use Permit No. 545 and to consider a development review to allow the construction of a new 292,029 square foot warehouse building on a 13.94-acre site in the City's M-2 (Heavy Industrial) zoning district, at 7400 Slauson Avenue, Commerce, CA 90040. Pursuant to Chapter 19.39, Division 10 (Site Plan Review) of the Commerce Municipal Code (CMC), a Plot (Site) Plan and Development Plan Review is required for any new building or structure in excess of 25,000 square feet in area. Pursuant to Chapter 19.11.030 of the CMC, a Conditional Use Permit is required due to the location of the proposed industrial use relative to residentially zoned property. The project will also involve the demolition of existing structures and associated parking totaling 249,597 square feet.

As part of its decision, the Planning Commission will consider the certification of the 7400 Slauson Ave Project Environmental Impact Report, and adoption of the environmental Findings of Fact and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program that was prepared in conjunction with this project.

Said public hearing will be held before the Planning Commission of the City of Commerce in the Public Safety Conference Room, 2535 Commerce Way, Commerce, CA, 90040 on Monday, October 30, 2023, at 6:30 p.m., at which time proponents and opponents of Plot (Site) Plan No. 998 and Conditional Use Permit No. 545 will be heard. Any comments, objections or other information may be offered in person at the time of the hearing or in writing, prior to the hearing.

Per Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge the Plot (Site) Plan and Conditional Use Permit in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION  
Viviana M. Esparza

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**CITY OF CERRITOS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA. NOTICE TO BIDDERS OF THE CDBG-FUNDED CURB RAMP/SIDEWALK REPAIRS AT CERRITOS TOWNE CENTER, PROJECT NO. 24302, BID NO. 1532-23.** 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: CDBG-FUNDED CURB RAMP/SIDEWALK REPAIRS AT CERRITOS TOWNE CENTER, PROJECT NO. 24302, BID NO. 1532-23. Project Description:** The work or improvement to be performed generally consists of removal and replacement of deficient concrete curbs and gutters, sidewalk panels, driveway aprons, wheelchair access ramps, parkway tree removal; stump grinding; removal of all roots; and replacement of trees required for the construction of concrete improvements and other items identified in the bid schedule. **Bids will be opened: Wednesday, November 8, 2023, 11:00 a.m. Place of bid receipt:** The bid submission must be received in the Office of the City Clerk, First Floor, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703. Bids must be marked: **“CDBG-FUNDED CURB RAMP/SIDEWALK REPAIRS AT CERRITOS TOWNE CENTER, PROJECT NO. 24302, BID NO. 1532-23.”** It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that the bid is received in the appropriate location by the deadline. Bids not received in the Office of the City Clerk by the deadline provided will not be considered. 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 set of Contract Documents, including plans and specifications can be obtained by contacting Cerritos Engineering Division at (562) 916-1219. The cost of the bid documents is \$10.00 (\$15.00 if mailing is requested), **only** if a printed copy of plans and specifications 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 a bid security referred to in the Contract Documents and by a list of proposed subcontractors. Evidence of current City Business License (applies to contractor and all subcontractors), insurance, a Performance Bond, a Labor and Material Payment Bond, and Warranty 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 money withheld by a public agency to ensure performance under the contract. The procedure and requirements for substituting said securities are set forth in Public Contract Code Section 22300, which is incorporated by this reference as set forth herein. 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. 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. 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. Any requests for information regarding opened bids shall be directed to the Office of the City Clerk via a formal Public Records Act request. The City has determined that opened bids are confidential and therefore the negotiations process outweighs the public interest in prematurely disclosing such records. (Gov. Code § 6255). On March 4, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-6-22 (EO) regarding sanctions in response to Russian aggression in Ukraine. The EO is located at <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/3.4.22-Russia-Ukraine-Executive-Order.pdf>. All contractors shall comply with economic sanctions imposed in response to Russia’s actions in Ukraine, per this order and other federal executive orders identified by the U.S. Department of Treasury. Failure to comply with these orders shall result in the termination of contract. This is a federally assisted construction contract. Federal labor standards provisions outlined in HUD-4010 form, including the prevailing wage requirements of the Davis-Bacon and Related Acts (DBRA), will be enforced. The applicable federal wage decision is the one in effect ten (10) days prior to bid opening; it is online at <http://www.wdol.gov/wdol/scafiles/davisbacon/ca.html>. In the event of a conflict between Federal and State wage rates, the higher of the two will prevail. The State wage rates are available online at <http://www.dir.ca.gov/DLSR/PWD/index.html>. Lower State wage rates for work classifications not specifically included in the Federal wage decision are not acceptable. Additional federal requirements, as detailed in the Information to Bidders, apply to this project. Apprenticeship Program: Attention is directed to Sections 1777.5, 1777.6, and 1777.7 of the California Labor Code and Title 8 of the California Administrative Code, Section 200, et seq., to ensure compliance and a complete understanding of the law regarding apprentices. Conflict of Interest: No employee, officer, or agent of the sub-recipient shall participate in the selection, award, or administration of a contract supported by federal funds if a conflict of interest, real or apparent, would be involved. The conflict of interest provisions in 24 CFR 85.36, OMB Circular A-110, and 24 CFR 570.611 shall apply. By order of the City of Cerritos.

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**CITY OF CERRITOS, STATE OF CALIFORNIA. REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL. CERRITOS LIBRARY FOREIGN LANGUAGES BOOK COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT SERVICES, RFP NO. 1524-23.** The City of Cerritos seeks by this Request for Proposal (“RFP”) a qualified company to provide foreign language collection development services. Sealed proposals for these services will be received at City Hall in the Office of the City Clerk, located at 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, First Floor, Bloomfield Avenue at 183rd Street, Cerritos, California, 90703. It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that the bid is received in the appropriate location by the deadline. Bids not received in the Office of the City Clerk by the deadline provided will not be considered. Proposals must be received no later than **11 a.m., on Wednesday, November 15, 2023.** Proposals must be addressed to the City Clerk, City of Cerritos, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, First Floor, Bloomfield Avenue at 183rd Street, Cerritos, California, 90703, marked **“Proposal for Cerritos Library Foreign Languages Book Collection Development Services, RFP No. 1524-23”**. No proposal will be accepted unless it has the proposal number and project name clearly identified on the outside label. The City of Cerritos (“City”) reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or portions of any and all proposals, or waive the informality in a proposal not affected by law. A copy of the General Descriptions and Conditions and Agreement can be obtained by calling the Cerritos Library at (562) 916-1377 or (562) 916-1346. Notifications, updates and addenda will be posted on the City’s bid page at: [www.cerritos.us/BUSINESSES/bid\\_and\\_contract\\_opportunities/bid\\_listings.php](http://www.cerritos.us/BUSINESSES/bid_and_contract_opportunities/bid_listings.php) Proposed Service Providers (referred to as “Proposers”) shall be responsible for monitoring the site to obtain information regarding this solicitation. Failure to respond to required updates may result in a determination of a nonresponsive proposal.

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**CITY OF PICO RIVERA CITY COUNCIL  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO ADD CHAPTER 9.52 TO THE PICO RIVERA MUNICIPAL CODE ESTABLISHING A SOCIAL HOST LIABILITY ORDINANCE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a public hearing will be held before the City of Pico Rivera City Council to consider amendments to Title 9 Public Peace, Morals and Welfare of the Pico Rivera Municipal Code (PRMC) to establish Chapter 9.52 Social Host Liability. A Social Host Ordinance holds accountable the host of a gathering where alcoholic beverages, marijuana and illegal substances are served to or consumed by underage persons. The ordinance deters hosts from creating dangerous and illegal situations involving minors and reduces the nuisance that loud gatherings inflict on the community. Penalties for a violation of the social host ordinance begin at \$1,000 for the first violation, \$2,000 for the second, and \$3,000 for the third in addition to law enforcement or emergency personnel response fines.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, November 14, 2023  
**TIME:** 6:00 P.M.  
**WHERE:** City Hall Council Chambers  
6615 Passons Boulevard Pico Rivera, CA 90660

Pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the proposed amendments to Title 9 are exempt under State CEQA Guidelines §15061(b)(3) common sense exemption. It can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the proposed amendments would have a significant effect on the environment; therefore, the amendments are exempt from CEQA under the common sense exemption.

**PERSONS INTERESTED IN THIS MATTER** wishing to observe the meeting may do so in the following ways:

- (1) Turn your TV to Channel 3;
- (2) City’s website at <https://bit.ly/picorivera-ctv3live>
- (3) Email public comments to [publiccomments@pico-rivera.org](mailto:publiccomments@pico-rivera.org) prior to 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting;
- (4) Attend the Public Hearing in person

Copies of all relevant material including project specifications are available to the public for review in the Community & Economic Development Department at City Hall, 6615 Passons Boulevard, Pico Rivera, California. Please contact Estefany Franco, Planner at 562-801-4026 for additional questions.

If you challenge the consideration or adoption of the proposed applications in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or written correspondence delivered to the City of Pico Rivera City Clerk at, or prior to, the public hearing.

\*\*\*\*\*  
In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Pico Rivera is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for a person with a disability. Please contact Anna M. Jerome at (562) 801-4389 if special program accommodations are necessary and/or if program information is needed in an alternative format. Special requests must be made in a reasonable amount of time in order that accommodations can be arranged.

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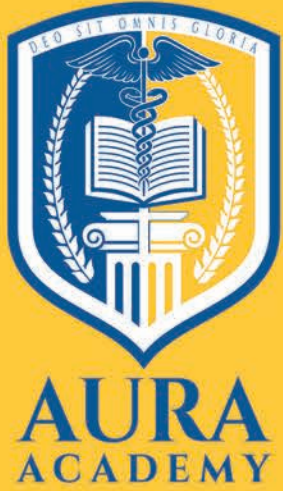
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File Number 2023201739  
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: FHCCGLA FEDDE SCHOOL BASED HEALTH CENTER, 11949 215TH ST. , HAWAIIAN GARDENS CA 90716 LOS ANGELES COUNTY AND 6001 WASHINGTON BLVD COMMERCE CA 90040, LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGISTERED OWNER: FAMILY HEALTH CARE CENTERS OF GREATER LOS ANGELES INC. 6001 WASHINGTON BLVD COMMERCE CA 90040. INCORPORATED IN CALIFORNIA. THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS A 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/ FAMILY HEALTH CARE CENTERS OF GREATER LOS ANGELES INC., CEO, RAQUEL R. VILLA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 9/13/23. 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 9/15, 9/22, 9/29, 10/6/23

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF  
BUN HEANG NY  
CASE NO. 23STPB09915  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of:  
BUN HEANG NY  
A Petition for Probate/Letters of Administration has been filed by PHIBUN NY in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.  
The Petition for Probate/Letters of Administration requests that PHIBUN NY 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 on NOVEMBER 17, 2023 at 8:30 AM in Dept. 11 located at 111 North Hill Street Los Angeles, CA 90012/ Stanley Mosk.  
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: Saman Behnam, Esq. 354 West Ocean Boulevard Long Beach, CA 90802, Telephone: 562.436.1500  
10/6, 10/13, 10/20/23  
CNS-3743455#  
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT  
File Number 2023216201  
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: DIYANA’S DESIGNS 19729 JACOB AVE., CERRITOS CA., 90703, LOS ANGELES COUNTY. REGISTERED OWNER: DIYANA SIEM 19729 JACOB AVE., CERRITOS CA., 90703 THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS AN INDIVIDUAL. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 10/20/23. 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/ DIYANA SIEM, OWNER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 10/3/23. 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 10/6, 1/13, 10/20, 10/27/23

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