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THIRD ANNIVERSARY OF THE INSURRECTION

NON-VIOLENT? Many Trump supporters believe the insurrection was non-violent even though people were killed and injured. Above, Capitol Police try to hold off insurrectionists entering the House on January 6, 2021. Getty Images.

La Mirada Begins **Solar Carport** Project

The project is part of the city's plan that assessed the existing energy systems in 2021, it will start mid-February.

By Brian Hews

La Mirada began working on a comprehensive energy infrastructure modernization program in May 2021.

The city retained energy solutions provider, Climatec to assess the existing energy systems and identify those in need of replacement.

The assessment was used to develop a plan for

New California Laws in the New Year

The New Year brings new laws.

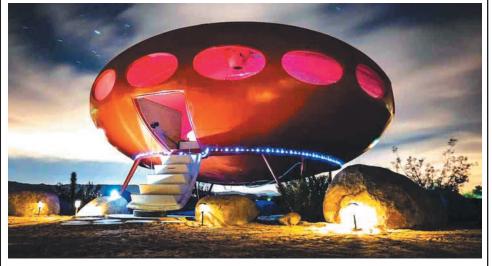
By Brian Hews

Public Safety

Lawmakers and the

concealed carry firearm permit holders, while AB 28 imposes an 11% tax on firearms and ammunition to help fund violence prevention programs.

California has made reproductive protection a priority. SB 345 sets legal protections for healthcare providers who mail abortion pills or gender-af-



REFUND: An Airbnb rental near Joshua Tree. A new California law requires full refunds for short-term rental reservations that are canceled within 24 hours of booking confirmation.

Cerritos Council Orders Study of City-Based Public Safety Drone Program

Councilman Chuong Vo wants to explore the options of developing a separate public safety drone program "if a program is not feasible with LASD."

By Brian Hews

The use of drones by police departments across the nation is becoming more prevalent, with more than 1,500 departments now using them for a vamonitoring large crowds during events, accident reconstruction, and tracking suspects.

The drones are also used for search and rescue operations and the rapid assessment of disaster-affected areas, providing real-time information to emergency responders for better decision-making.

Drones can also monitor traffic flow and congestion, which can assist in managing traffic more effectively and improving



EYE IN THE SKY: more than 1,500 police departments now use drones for a variety of situations. Currently, the LASD is severely limited in the use of drones.

riety of situations.

Now, the Cerritos City Council wants to research the possible use of drones in Cerritos.

At its December meeting, Councilman Chuong Vo "directed the City Manager to coordinate with the Los Angeles County Sheriff Department (LASD) to explore the potential use of drones for public safety in the city by LASD, and if necessary, with support of the California Contract Cities organization. If such a program is not feasible with LASD, explore the options of developing a separate city-based public safety drone program." Police departments use drones for surveillance,

public safety on roads.

The Los Angeles Police Department [LAPD] has used drones in certain situations. The department has a program for employing drones in limited capacities, predominantly for tactical operations, search and rescue missions, hazardous materials incidents, and to provide support during natural disasters or major events.

The program has strict guidelines and requires high-level approvals before deploying drones. The LAPD's policy states, "Authorized UAS (unmanned aerial systems)

modernizing aging energy infrastructure at all city facilities and parks. Oppor-

[See LA MIRADA page 4]

governor this year passed two laws in response to

Health Since the Supreme mass shootings nationwide. Court of the United States SB 2 places new limits on struck down Roe v. Wade,

firming prescriptions out of state. SB 385 allows physician's assistants to [See LAWS page 4]

[See DRONES page 5]

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Dale Myers is Cerritos Sheriff Station's Volunteer of the Year



DALE MYERS has been a volunteer at the Cerritos Station for 9 years logging over 4,126 hours of volunteer service.

Congratulations to VOP (Volunteer on Patrol) Dale Myers on receiving the Cerritos Sheriff Station's Volunteer of the Year Award for 2023.

His well-deserved award was presented at their recent 2023 Volunteer Holiday Party.

VOP Myers serves as a mentor and trainer to new volunteers in addition to his weekly patrol duties.

VOP Myers has been a volunteer at the Cerritos Station for 9 years and has put in over 4126 hours of volunteer service; 764 of these hours were served in 2023. The Cerritos Sheriffs wish to thank VOP Myers and all their volunteers. They are very much appreciated not only by the deputies but by the entire community for all the work they do to make Cerritos safer.

Submitted by Linda J. Hernández

January Social Security Payments Will Have COLA Increase

Checks are sent on scheduled Wednesdays monthly, so when you get the first increased check depends on your birth date.

By Brian Hews

The new year is here, which means your Social Security checks are getting a cost of living adjustment increase of 3.2%. The first round of January payments will start getting disbursed this week for some beneficiaries. If you're not sure how much more money you're getting, read on.

Here's the January schedule for when you should receive your Social Security check and/or SSI money:

Dec. 29: January payments for those who receive SSI.

Jan. 3: Social Security payments for people who've received Social Security since before May 1997.

Jan. 10: Social Security payments for people with birthdays falling between the first and 10th of any given month.

Jan. 17: Social Security payments for people with birthdays falling between the 11th and 20th of any given month.

Jan. 24: Social Security payments for people with birthdays falling between the 21st and 31st of any given month.

What if I receive both Social Security and SSI payments?

If you received Social Security benefits before May 1997, or if you receive both Social Security and SSI, the payment schedule is different. Instead of getting your payments on a Wednesday, you'll receive your Social Security payment on the third day of each month and your SSI on the first day of each month. Those payment dates change if the first or third day of the month falls on a weekend or a holiday. For instance, Jan. 1 falls on a holiday, so SSI recipients received their January payments a few days early, on Dec. 29, and their Social Security payments will arrive on Jan 3. What if my check doesn't arrive on the expected date?

If your check doesn't arrive on the date listed above, the Social Security Administration advises waiting three additional mailing days before reaching out. After that, you can speak with a representative at 800-772-1213. (The SSA notes that wait times are shorter Wednesday through Friday and between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. on weekdays.) You can also access your Social Security benefits online. How much will my Social Security payment be with the 2024 COLA increase?

The COLA increase raises Social Security payments by 3.2%. The Social Security Administration says that will raise average monthly payments by more than \$50. Here are the new average payments for 2024 based on recipient groups.

Retiree gets an increase of \$58 to \$1,885; a Worker with disabilities gets a \$47 increase to \$1,530; a Senior couple, both receiving benefits sees a \$95 increase to \$3,067; a Widow(er) gets an increase of \$55 to \$1,759; a Widow(er) with two children gets a \$113 to \$3,633.

When will I see the COLA increase in my Social Security check? Payments for Supplemental Security Income recipients generally arrive on the first of each month, unless it's a holiday or weekend, so those payments arrived in December 2023. And if you received Social Security benefits before May 1997, your payment should have arrived on Jan. 3, 2024.

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SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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NO FEE TO PARTICIPATE RULES:

Cerritos Towne Center to Undergo Upgrades

CJ Concrete Construction, Inc. has been awarded a \$163,000 contract to perform curb and sidewalk repairs at the Cerritos Towne Center.

The Santa Fe Springs-based company will remove and replace 2,000 square feet of sidewalk and 22 curb ramps along Towne Center Drive and perform tree removal.

The work will be covered with Community Development Block Grant funds, which are allocated for revitalizing neighborhoods, preventing or eliminating blight, and/or improving accessibility for handicapped or disabled individuals. The project is expected to conclude in March.

St. Irenaeus Provides Gifts to Long-Term Care Residents

By Rosemary Lewallen

St. Irenaeus Health Ministry brought Christmas cheer to the residents and staff at the five local long-term care centers we serve. Each resident of the care centers received a bag of gifts generously provided by St. Irenaeus parishioners. Parishioners also donated online to fund



XMAS CHEER: St. I's members bring the cheer to local long-term care centers.

this project. A total of 425 bags of gifts were distributed to residents in five local care facilities, including our homebound parishioners. There were four Giving Tree Parties held in December that included singers and guitar players. Each party highlighted Santa, who exuded love and caring at the events. Unfortunately, the party at Harvest Retirement in Buena Park was cancelled due to health concerns, but each resident received a bag of gifts.

Singers from the St. Irenaeus Parish Choir, the Osher Lifelong Learning Chorus, and community members caroled at the centers, encouraging residents to join in singing traditional Christmas songs at Ivy Park in La Palma, the Karlton Residential in Anaheim, OC Health in Buena Park, and Anaheim Terrace.

St. Irenaeus Health Ministry also brought delicious trays of cookies to the staff at each of the five care centers we serve in appreciation for their dedicated work all year.

Thanks to the guidance of St. Irenaeus Health Ministry Co-Facilitators, our Faith Community Nurse and the volunteers. The Giving Tree Outreach Project brought joy to our care center residents and homebound parishioners. They knew they were not forgotten during the holiday season. If you have questions about the Ministry or are interested in volunteering at outreach communion services during the week, please contact Grace Francis, Care Center Chairperson, at 714-742-0960 or Nurse Jennifer at 714-826-0760.

MUST LIVE IN CERRITOS-ARTESIA GPA HIGHER THAN 2.5

CERRITOS-ARTESIA'S 2024 DYW WINNERS Amy Ganatra (WHS) Aila Jahromi (WHS) Samantha Sugino (CHS)

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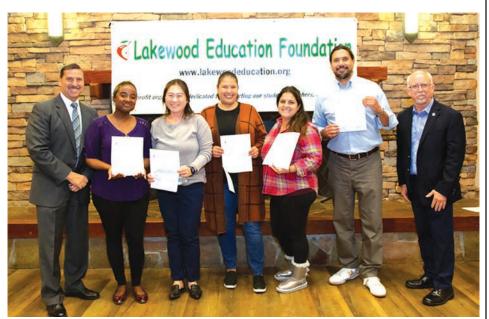
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Lakewood Teachers Receive Classroom Grants



LAKEWOOD Vice Mayor Todd Rodgers (left) and Steve Croft (far right) with Lakewood school teachers who received grants.

Staff Report

The Lakewood Education Foundation recently gave out its 2023 classroom improvement grants for Lakewood schools, and LEF was able to fulfill 123 requests totaling \$58,920.

The number one request this year for Lakewood classroom improvement grants, which average about \$500, was for extra books, proving that some teaching tools never go out of fashion. Following close behind were requests for classroom technology, flexible seating and learning materials for STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). "We want to extend a huge 'thank-you' to everyone who donated to LEF this past year," said LEF President Todd Rogers and Vice President Steve Croft. "Your generosity of any amount over the past year really does make it to classrooms where it provides a positive boost to our kids' education." Donations are always welcome any time of year and are tax deductible. You can give online at www.lakewoodcity.org/DonateLEF.

LA County Rent Relief Program Now Accepting Applications

Staff Report

The Los Angeles County Department of Consumer and Business Affairs (DCBA) is now accepting applications for the Los Angeles County Rent Relief Program.

Spearheaded by the LA County Board of Supervisors and administered by The Center by Lendistry, the program will distribute over \$68 million in financial support to qualified landlords adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

To review eligibility requirements and apply for the LA County Rent Relief Program, visit lacountyrentrelief. com.

To ensure accessibility and ease throughout the application process, the Rent Relief Call Center is open tollfree at (877) 849-0770 daily from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM PST. Free in-language technical assistance will be available in all County threshold languages. You can also learn more details at an upcoming event or webinar. Visit lacountyrentrelief.com for dates and times.

The Rent Relief Program will provide up to \$30,000 per rental unit to landlords for past-due rent and eligible expenses dating from April 1, 2022, to the present. The Program aims to curb tenant evictions and ensure the continued provision of housing.

DCBA has implemented a prioritized review process for the upcoming LA County Rent Relief Program applications. Applications submitted will be systematically evaluated, with priority given to those demonstrating the most substantial financial distress, those catering to the most vulnerable tenants, and properties located in areas of highest need, as identified by the LA County Equity Explorer Tool. Early submissions are strongly encouraged. Submission of a completed application does not guarantee funding.

The deadline to submit applications is Friday, January 12, 2024, at 11:59 PM PST.

Long Beach Opera Receives \$1.25 Million Gift

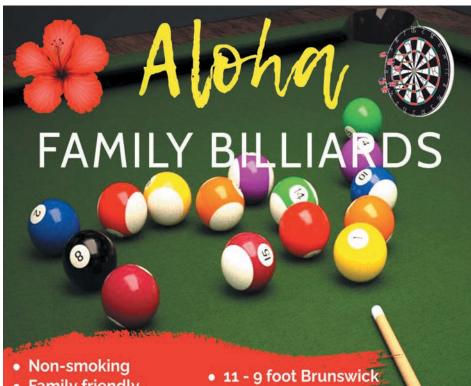
By Stepheny Gehrig

Long Beach Opera announced that it received the largest single gift in the company's history of \$1.25 million from long-time Board member Carol Richards. Richards served on LBO's Board from the company's inception in 1979 until her passing in 2021, at which time she included Long Beach Opera in her estate plans with this historic gift, which recently came to fruition. LBO plans to use Richards' gift to make strategic investments that will build organizational capacity over time, slowly expanding its artistic offerings over the next five years, when LBO will celebrate its 50th anniversary season.

In addition to this historic gift, LBO also recently received a \$100,000 capacity building grant from the Perenchio Foundation of Los Angeles. The company has utilized this grant to upgrade its ticketing and database platform which will be launched in conjunction with the sale of single tickets to the 2024 season, starting today.

General Director and CEO Jennifer Rivera stated, "We are so grateful to both Carol Richards and the Perenchio Foundation. We plan to utilize these gifts to make important investments in the future of LBO, allowing the company to thrive and grow, while continuing to focus on changing the artistic landscape with non-traditional programming like our 2024 season." Information about season tickets at longbeachopera.org







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La Mirada Farmers Market Resumes January 6

La Mirada's Farmers Market is back! Celebrate the new year with a "fresh start" and fresh regional produce, packaged artisan and ready-to-eat specialty foods, and locally made crafts and gifts. The La Mirada Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. On Saturday, January 6, and every first Saturday of the month, the Farmers Market will have its monthly kick-off featuring live music, crafts for kids, and giveaways. The Farmers Market features 20 to 25 vendors each week in the area just west of the La Mirada Library.

La Mirada businesses interested in becoming a vendor should contact VenaVer Events at venaverevents@gmail. com.

Volunteer for the 2024 Los Angeles County Homeless Count

Volunteers are needed to assist with the 2024 Homeless Count. This year's Count will be held on Wednesday, January 24 at 8 p.m. The data collected from the Count is an essential component in understanding and addressing homelessness in L.A. County and helps the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and its partners deliver services where they are needed most. For more information, or to sign-up, visit www.theycountwillyou.org/volunteer.



You like to move it, we like to move it!







LA MIRADA from page 1

tunities for converting to renewable energy sources were also incorporated into the plan.

The plane included state-of-the-art energy infrastructure including new HVAC units, smart controls, interior and exterior LED lighting, sports field LED lighting conversions, electric vehicle (EV) charging stations, roof replacements, and pool efficiencies at Splash!

As part of the city's energy infrastructure modernization plan, construction and installation of solar parking carports will begin in mid-February.

Access near the Community Gymnasium will be limited. The Gymnasium will remain open during construction.

The entire program projects more than \$21 million in operating budget savings over the useful life of the improvements. to be used for key services and programs for the city.

Funds for the project came from the Biden Administration's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and Capital Improvement Program.

LAWS from page 1

do surgical abortions without the direct supervision of a doctor. For those mourning a reproductive loss, SB 848 requires employers to provide five days of time off for workers who went through the loss, including a miscarriage, stillbirth, or unsuccessful embryo transfer, insemination or adoption.

Children

SB 14 - Defines child sex trafficking as a serious felony under California law, meaning repeat offenders of this crime and other serious offenses could face up to life in prison

AB 452 - Eliminates the statute of limitations, or time limit for the recovery of damages, for victims of childhood sexual assault that occurs on or after January 1.

Catalytic converters

New laws will prohibit car sales with catalytic converters without a vehicle identification number; making, altering or removing a VIN on a catalytic converter is now a misdemeanor.

Consumer

SB 478 - Hidden fees no longer. Starting in July, websites will be required to show the actual cost of a service or item upfront. This includes hotel or short-term rental stays, event tickets, and food delivery services.

Pay a living wage.

California's statewide minimum wage was raised a whopping 50 cents to \$16 an hour, all the pizza chains used the law to layoff their delivery drivers whom they were paying \$10 per hour; and who can

live on \$400 per week in California? Protections for cannabis users

AB 2188 prohibits employers from discriminating against a worker or applicant based on their use of cannabis off the job off-the-clock. Good thing building and construction trades and federal workers are exempt from this.

Gender-neutral toy sections

Under A.B. 1084, passed by the State Legislature in 2021, large retail stores that sell toys must now maintain a gender-neutral section for children. The state can fine non-compliant stores up to \$250 for a first violation and \$500 for each subsequent infraction.

More sick leave

California employers must now, under S.B. 616, provide each employee with at least five days, or 40 hours, of sick leave a year. The old minimum was three days. New York, Oregon and several other states already require employers to offer at least 40 hours of sick leave a year.

More lawsuits

SB 497 - Known as the Equal Pay and Anti-Retaliation Act, this law makes it easier for employees to establish retaliation claims against their employer.

Where's my refund?

S.B. 644 requires that hotels, travel booking companies and short-term rental services like Airbnb allow reservations to be "canceled without penalty" within 24 hours of booking confirmation. The rule applies only to reservations made 72 hours or more before the scheduled check-in.

Longer sentences for fentanyl crimes Under A.B. 701, people convicted of dealing or attempting to deal more than a kilogram of fentanyl can now be sentenced to more prison time than was previously allowed. More than 6,000 Californians died of fentanyl overdoses in 2022.

Alerts

SB 673 - Establishes the "Ebony Alert" for missing young Black women and children.

Housing

AB 12 - Starting in July, prohibits landlords from charging more than one month's rent for a security deposit.

SB 4 - Allows places of worship or independent higher education institutions to build a housing development project on their property "by right."

DIY

SB 244 - The Right to Repair Act will require manufacturers of devices that cost more than \$50 to provide consumers and repair shops with parts, tools, or instructions to repair the device.

Unclassified

Undocumented immigrants can now qualify for Medi-Cal.

Another law prohibits people from parking within 20 feet of a crosswalk.

Laws to increase construction of granny flats and backyard cottages; accessory dwelling units now account for more than 10% of all housing units built.



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Area City's Crime Summary: Dec. 25 - 31, 2023

La Mirada **Crime Summary**

From La Mirada Sheriff's

Highlight: A tractor was stolen on the 16600 block of Knott Ave.

Notable Arrests

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

· Two suspects were arrested for assault.

· One suspect was arrested for felony vandalism.

· One suspect was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon.

Aggravated Assault

• An assault was reported on the 13500 block of Brazo Rd. This incident is still under investigation.

Other Structure Burglary

• A burglary was reported on the 13900 block of Imperial Hwy.

Vehicle Burglary

• A window smash vehicle burglary occurred on the 14400 block of Alondra Blvd.

Grand Theft

• An afternoon theft occurred on the 15700 block of Imperial Hwy.

• An early morning catalytic converter theft occurred on the 13600 block of Valley View Ave.

• A tailgate was reported stolen on the 13700 block of De Alcala Dr.

• A theft of a catalytic converter occurred on the 14000 block of Estero Rd.

Grand Theft Auto

 A sedan was reported stolen on the 16100 block of Rosecrans Ave.

• A tractor was stolen on the 16600 block of Knott Ave.

DRONES from page 1

operations are limited to emergency and life-threatening situations, such as search and rescue missions, explosive ordnance detection missions, disaster response, barricaded suspects, hostage situations, active shooters, hazardous materials incidents, fire-related incidents, and other high-risk tactical operations.

"A UAS shall not be used for non-emergent surveillance missions or missions that would violate the privacy rights of the public."

It is unknown at this point what Councilman Vo's position on drones is, but he sounded determined to implement a city program when he stated, "If such program is not feasible with LASD, explore the options of developing a separate city-based public safety drone program."

Up until 2019, the US Federal Aviation Administration required police departments to fly drones only within operators' line of sight, but the agency began offering BVLOS waivers (beyond visual line of sight), opening up remote operations and longer flights. Chula Vista was the first police department to be awarded the BVLOS waiver. According to reports, roughly 225 departments now have the BVLOS wiaver, operating drone-as-first-responder [DFS] programs. DFS systems use pilots who listen to live 911 calls and dispatch a drone to the scenes of accidents, emergencies, and crimes; the drones often arrive first with cameras in tow. The UAV can quickly assess the seriousness of a situation, preventing officers and first responders from making unnecessary trips and freeing them to react to more pressing public safety issues. According to an MIT article, in the first four months of BVLOS

drone usage in 2022 by the city of Elizabeth, New Jersey, drones responded to 1,400 total calls, clearing 21% of them with an average response time of 90 seconds; that was compared to four minutes from a patrol unit.

The FAA is expected to legalize BVLOS within the next few years fully. New technologies such as autonomous flying, where drones fly pre-programmed routes for autonomous safety deployment, could be in many police department's future.

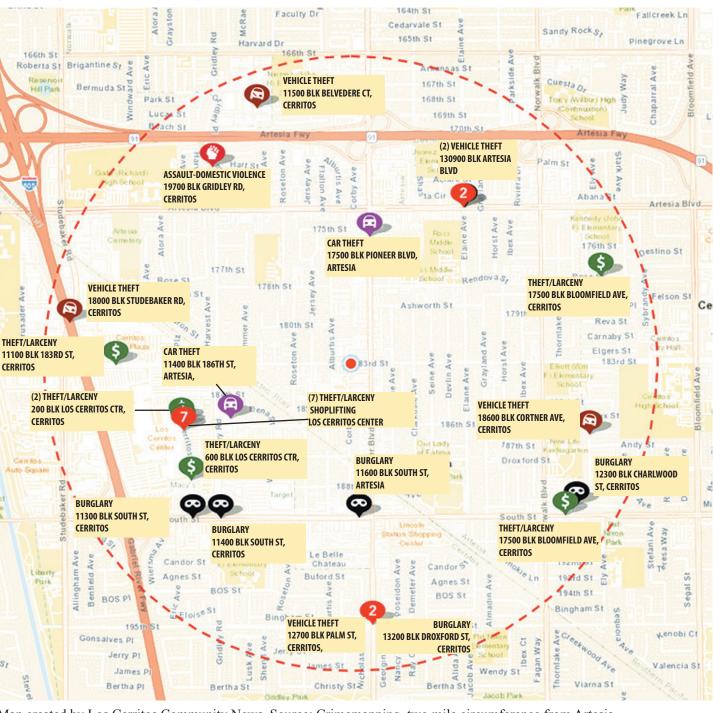
But this is a fundamental shift in policing, one that is happening without public debate about privacy, tactics, and limits for drone technology. There are worries that drones equipped with cameras can capture images and videos of individuals without their consent, raising concerns about unauthorized surveillance

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La Palma City Hall La Palma Community Center La Palma Intercomm. Hospital **Liberty Park** 9211 Studebaker Rd, Long Beach Memorial 2801 Atlantic Ave. Manila Sunset 13347 South St **Massage and Stone** 13247 South St. Medipost 13299 E South Street **Norwalk Arts and Sports** 13000 Clarkdale **Norwalk Senior Center** 14040 San Antonio Dr. **Norwalk City Hall Offstreet Café** 11020 Artesia Blvd. **Olive Lawn** 13926 La Mirada Blvd 11832 E Carson St 5016 Passons Blvd **Pico River City Hall and Sheriffs** 6615 Passons Blvd Rosewoods 10769 South St. State Farm 12616 South St LAFD Station 30 Silverlake Ramen 11103 183rd St Sophia Hair Salon 13243 South St. Splash! La Mirada Sukos Sushi 14156 Rosecrans Ave **Tacos San Pedro** 11832 E Carson St **Tour Le Jour** 13359 South St **VI Pharmacy** 12610 South Street WRD 4040 Paramount



Map created by Los Cerritos Community News. Source: Crimemapping, two mile circumference from Artesia.

and invasion of privacy.

There are legitimate concerns about collecting and storing personal data gathered by drones, including images, videos, and location information, and the potential misuse or mishandling of this data.

Drones can be loud when flown at low altitudes near residential areas, impacting neighborhoods. Also, there are safety worries, particularly when drones might be used near people or properties.

Many cities recognize the concerns, and those with drone programs are implementing regulations for usage, such as guidelines on where drones can operate and how data is collected and stored.

The cities have also conducted public education and awareness campaigns to inform individuals about drone operations and their associated privacy measures.

Cerritos City Council Staff is expected to put together a study and report to the City Council at a future meeting.



CerritosNews



loscerritosnews.net

Whitney Girls Basketball Has Double Threat In Wang Sisters as Wildcats Eye Outright League Title

By Loren Kopff @LorenKopff on X

For the past three and a half seasons, the Whitney High girls basketball program has been a major force in the 605 League because of sisters Haylie and Kylie Wang. Now, as the 2023-2024 regular season is more than halfway done, the Wildcats are hoping the sisters can guide the team to something that hasn't happened since the 2013-2014 campaign-an outright league title.

Whitney entered its Jan. 3 605 League opener at Pioneer High sporting a 10-5 record with 13 games remaining in the regular season. The Wildcats, who have won at least ten games for the 14th straight season, are expected to vie for a league crown with Pioneer and Cerritos High, which has been the case for the past four seasons.

For the Wildcats to reach this goal, Kylie and Haylie Wang will each have to have their best seasons to date. In Kylie Wang's freshman season, the Wildcats came in second place behind Pioneer and one game ahead of Cerritos. The next season, all three schools were tri-champions, but the league played five games instead of ten games. Last season, Whitney and Pioneer were co-champions with a 9-1 league record, three games ahead of third-place Cerritos.

"I feel like time just flew; these past four years have passed so fast," said Kylie Wang. "I think it's partly because I'm amazed by the coaching staff and the team in general. I love the culture at Whitney."

"They were part of the turnaround to make the program stronger," said head coach Myron Jacobs, who took over a season before Kylie Wang began her high school career. "Don't get me wrong, those girls are really good; they've improved themselves. These girls have dedicated themselves to the team. Again, it's just not the Wang sisters. I think all the girls on the team take pride to make improvements. But those two girls stand out because they really dedicate themselves.

"Last year, we got put out in the

just so much pressure on myself. So, I told my mom I don't think figure skating was right for me. That's when we started branching out and basketball was the next sport I tried, and I just stuck with that."

It took just one basketball season with the City of Cerritos for Kylie Wang to fall in love with the sport. Her first coach was Ryan Lacorte, whose daughter Layla was another former Whitney standout and on the same team as Kylie Wang. After seeing Layla play basketball, said she wanted to be just like her.

Now, the 5'9" senior, who will be taking her talents to Claremont McKenna College in the fall, has been stronger than ever as a scoring machine for the Wildcats. She leads the team with 257 points, including a career-high 35 points at Laguna Beach High on Dec. 11. She has missed one game and is averaging 18.4 points a game.

But scoring has never been a problem ever since she began her high school career during the abbreviated Covid 2020-2021 season, which began some five months after its normal November start. She started all 17 games, scored six points in her high school debut at Rancho Alamitos High, had a season-high 16 points against Crossroads High two weeks later and scored in double figures seven times.

"During my freshman season, I came in not knowing a whole lot about the program," Kylie Wang recalls. "I just came there and didn't know what my role was, or my position was or what I would be doing to be an asset to the team. But coach Myron quickly showed me what I was needed to do. My freshman year was a year where I had to sort of figure out what my role was for myself. And playing behind the seniors [Kimberly Hosoda, Julianna Lee and Makenna Yokoyama] was also helpful. By the end of the season, I started to know how the program runs, how coach Myron coaches, and what my role was going to be."

She remembered that Jacobs made her teammates "really inclusive" and that the team was welcoming to her as a freshman starter. She also remem-



WHITNEY HIGH junior Haylie Wang (left) and senior Kylie Wang are focused this season to help bring the program its first 605 League outright league title in girls basketball. They are currently the top two scorers on the team. Photo by Loren Kopff.

sister, Haylie, enter Whitney to provide even more of a threat to opponents. Kylie Wang had a monster season-opener as a sophomore, scoring 25 points at South El Monte High while Haylie Wang, who is an inch taller, had nine points. The older sister would score at least 21 points in three other games and had 17 double-digit games while the freshman scored a season-high 21 points against Santiago High on Dec. 21 and would have eight other games of scoring in double digits.

Haylie Wang says that going into the summer before a freshman begins at Whitney is harder because to get in, someone has to leave Whitney. After she took the test to get into the highly-ranked academic school, it was the waiting game. She didn't even get the email confirmation that she had been accepted until the beginning of August of 2021.

"We got lucky that Haylie actually passed the test and came [to Whitney]," "I thought in case I didn't get into Whitney I should at least start practicing for Cerritos for their summer program," said Haylie Wang. "I was actually put on j.v., which was different."

She remembers playing with current Cerritos varsity players her age, including juniors Kishan Saberon and Sophie Watanabe, among others.

"We've been playing together since a very young age and I know that I can rely on her because we've been playing for so long," said Kylie Wang. "Her getting that call and her being accepted into Whitney was just a huge thing for us because I never thought we would play on the same high school team."

"This kid came in and never complained about workouts," said Jacobs. "She never complained about running; she never complained about sand dunes. We knew that she was young, we knew that she really wanted to be on the wing. But this was a kid that was able to do it from every position on the floor. It was like someone threw us a Hail Mary and we got lucky." What Haylie Wang remembered from her freshman season was that she was more capable of doing things that she didn't know she was capable of because Whitney had not had a history of having someone that tall and have the traits that Haylie Wang possesses. "I learned so much more about my game and how I can score better in the key," she said. "It helps me, and it helps the team." As she was beginning her sophomore season, Kylie Wang knew the expectations would be greater as Jacobs began to implement more offensive plays for her, knowing that she liked to drive to the basket. But with Hayle now on board, the team was becoming more of a force in the league. The Wildcats went

playoffs and the next day in the morning, they were in the gym working because they were that determined to be better the next year," he continued. "Kylie came in 100 percent and put herself out there acting like, 'hey, I'm here to sacrifice my body and my time to be better for this team, this program, this school'. That means a lot to me as a coach."

But it's hard to believe that basketball wasn't even their first option as an extracurricular activity when the sisters were young. Both were put into figure skating, with Kylie Wang beginning when she was in kindergarten and Haylie Wang lacing up the skates at the age of four. The eldest sibling said she did it for about four or five years before taking a liking to basketball.

"It just didn't click for me," she remembered. "I didn't like performing as only one person. I felt like it was bered that Jacobs expected her to be more of a factor on defense.

"I think the first thing that impressed me about Kylie was her defensive effort and her competitive spirit," said Jacobs. "The first time I saw her walking into practice...here's this skinny freshman walking through the door, and you hear a lot of great things about her. But to see her on this play guard, a senior [who was] on her way out [of high school], and lock her down was like, this is what we needed. This is the one kid that was going to be the glue kid who I could build off to turn the program around and go into a direction where the future was bright."

That season, the Wildcats went 10-7 and lost to Ayala High 54-43 in the first round of the CIF-Southern Section Division 3A playoffs. The next season would see Kylie's younger said Jacobs. "We were lacking a big; we didn't have a post player. We needed help. The year before, we had eight players and only one senior. We were kind of on the verge of a rebuild, but we needed another big body."

"I just remembered the day we got the call that [Haylie] got into Whitney, we were all so excited because there was a low chance she would get in," said Kylie Wang. "Her being here all together was a huge asset for us because we needed another big; we needed another player to help rebound and just score, and I feel like she brought that to our team."

While she was waiting, Haylie Wang was expecting to attend Cerritos and even practiced that summer with the Cerritos junior varsity team. But the same day she got the call that she had been accepted into Whitney, both sisters were in the gymnasium practicing.

[See SISTERS page 9]

Birdfeeder Battleground: Winning the War **Against Squirrels**

By Joan Casanova

For bird lovers, the sight of a bushy tail hanging off the side of a feeder means one thing: war. Love them or loathe them, most birders agree they don't want squirrels in birdfeeders where they can devour seed meant for birds.

Squirrels have to eat, too, and no one wants to harm the persistent critters. However, that doesn't mean you have to put up with squirrels scarfing down seed set out for birds, damaging feeders and bumping up your blood pressure. It's possible to discourage squirrels - and even outsmart them – with the right seed mix and some nature-friendly squirrel-control tactics.

Because squirrels love birdseed as



much as birds do, both groups routinely battle for rights to the birdfeeder. It's not an equal fight - most squirrels are bigger than the average bird, so chances are they're going to devour the seed.

Squirrels are one of the biggest problems for people who feed birds. They can eat large amounts of seed, destroy birdfeeders and chase birds away. When squirrels claim your feeder as their territory, it's hard to get rid of them.

While they can be relentless in their perpetual pursuit of birdseed and don't like to share, you don't want to hurt them, just set them on the straight and narrow. One of the most effective tactics to keep squirrels out of birdfeeders is taste aversion - serving seed that birds find delicious, but squirrels consider downright distasteful. Simply put, if the seed you serve tastes terrible to squirrels, they'll seek sustenance elsewhere.

Put pesky squirrels on notice your birdfeeders are meant to be bird-exclusive by stocking them with products infused with fiery hot habanero chili peppers, like Cole's "Hot Meats" that appeals to birds with top-quality sunflower meats and spicy taste but turns squirrels away with hot chili-pepper oil. Or offer "Blazing Hot Blend," which combines the same habanero chili oil formula with preferred seeds to attract a maximum variety of songbirds.

STOCK your feeders with products infused with fiery hot habanero chili peppers that birds love but squirrels hate.



AN EFFECTIVE TACTIC to keep squirrels out of birdfeeders is taste aversion serving seed that birds find delicious, but squirrels consider downright distasteful.

Birds find the spicy taste delectable but squirrels detest it.

Studies show mammals, including squirrels, have receptors on the tongue and mouth that react to chili peppers by sending heat signals to the brain. Although there's no actual harm, the sensation makes it seem like the mouth is on fire. Birds lack receptors that make chewing chili peppers such an eyewatering experience for mammals and they love the spicy flavor.

Another easy option is Cole's "Flaming Squirrel Seed Sauce," a nutritional birdseed "hot sauce" that contains all-natural, 100% food grade ingredients with a hot and spicy flavor. It's a safe, effective and humane way to feed birds and thwart squirrels. Remember, your feathered friends can't taste the heat, but squirrels sure can. Add this chili pepper formula to any birdseed to reduce squirrel visits at the birdfeeder.

If you have a soft spot for those fluffytailed felons as amusing additions to your backyard, try diversion feeding, an effective tactic to lure squirrels away from the birdfeeder by providing them with their own food source. Set up a squirrel feeding station away from birdfeeders and make it easy for squirrels to access their own platform feeder filled with favored temptations. This can satisfy squirrels and allow for a "birds only" oasis at the birdfeeder.

Try "Critter Munchies," a blend of whole yellow corn, striped sunflower, peanuts in the shell, black oil sunflower and raw peanuts.

If you're among the bird lovers who have tried countless devices and gimmicks over the years to thwart seed-stealing squirrels, using taste aversion and diversion feeding tactics can help you win the age-old war at your backyard birdfeeders. For more information,

visit coleswildbird.com



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RANCHO ALAMITOS GIRLS CHRISTMAS CLASSIC GAHR PUTS ON A REBOUNDING CLINIC AGAINST FORMER LEAGUE RIVAL IN CHAMPIONSHIP GAME ROUT

By Loren Kopff (a)LorenKopff on X

GARDEN GROVE-With only four returning players coming off a season in which Gahr High advanced to the CIF-Southern Section Division 5AA

GAHR HIGH SON championship game, head coach Alfred Howard wasn't sure what the encore performance would be this season. As it turns out, the Gladiators are doing much better than anyone could have expected. Gahr

cruised past former Mid-Cit-

ies League rival La Mirada High 56-37 last Saturday in the championship game of the Rancho Alamitos Christmas Classic, wrapping up its nonleague portion of the 2023-2024 season at 16-2 and owners of six straight wins. The lone setbacks have come to Millikan High, ranked 11th in Division 3A, by four points after Gahr began the season with eight straight wins. The second loss was to the top-ranked team in Division 2A, Lakewood High, by 20 points three games later. Gahr is the fifth-ranked team in Division 4AA.

"The plan is to get better, play the game and see what happens," said Howard. "To say if I thought we would be at 16-2, I would be lying. But I thought we would handle business early in the season."

"They gained a lot," said La Mirada head coach Victoria Luong. "I was talking to [Howard] even beforehand. They got [sophomore Chloe Beard] from Mayfair last year, who just sat out her 30 day [transfer period]. Then they picked up [two] freshmen and he didn't expect that because in setting up for the season, it was a rebuilding year for him.

"I told my girls to come in and play strong out of the gate and be prepared regardless of who it is because we never know who is going to be in and who is going to be out," she continued. "There could be injured players and there could be players who are sick or

whatever." But with Gahr moving to the Gateway League this season, the months of November and December have motivated La Mirada to show why it should be the favorites to win the Mid-Cities League. The Matadores en-

Saturday's contest tered last on an eight-game winning streak and now sit at 10-3 with their previous losses coming by 11 points and 16 points to Savanna High and Fullerton High respectively.

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Gahr never trailed in the game and raced out to a 6-0 lead less than 45 seconds into the affair on the strength of consecutive three-pointers from junior Simarpreet Sogi. The Matadores would cut that lead to 6-4 before the Gladiators finished off the final half of the stanza with a 7-0 run.

But it wasn't just the scoring that was frustrating the Matadores throughout the game. It was the rebounding, where Gahr grabbed 13 in the first quarter and another 18 in the second quarter. Freshman sensation Ella Sims could not be stopped on the glass, accounting for 14 rebounds in the opening half while fellow freshman Rachel Fredenburg had 11 before halftime.

"Ella physically was going to be what you want to see in a basketball player, especially for a freshman," said Howard. "But Rachel Fredenburg... you remember that name. She's had



GAHR GIRLS basketball team celebrates their victory at the Rancho Alamitos Christmas Classic. Gahr never trailed in the game and raced out to a 6-0 lead less than 45 seconds into the affair on the strength of consecutive three-pointers. Photo by Loren Kopff.

multiple 14 and 15-rebound games and she's just a monster down there. To be only 14 or 15 years old, her and Ella...I appreciate the effort they give."

"It's something we've always struggled with," said Luong of the rebounding. "I'm not sure what it is, but my girls don't want to jump. I always have to remember that out of all the girls, I think two of the girls grew up playing basketball and the others were brand new to organized sports their freshman year. But rebounding has always been a struggle for us."

All five Gahr starters had at least four points by halftime with Fredenburg leading the way with nine points. But it wasn't until Gahr had an 18-12 lead that it began to run away. The Gladiators closed the half on a 13-6 run and began the second half on a 7-0 run to lead 38-18 with 5:13 left in the third quarter. Gahr would score off seven offensive rebounds in the game which is

one of the reasons why the Matadores scored consecutive baskets just three times in the contest.

"I think that's something we're still struggling with as a team, is just mentally getting the girls focused and not just giving up," said Luong. "I think it's just having them fight all four quarters. The girls just haven't learned emotionally how to deal with that. Yesterday, I had three of my five starters cry in the middle of the game, and we can't do that. I don't think they've learned how to control their emotions."

Sogi led everyone in scoring with 16 points while Fredenburg added 14 points and 19 rebounds. Mims grabbed an amazing 25 boards while junior Jody Colbert and Beard each added eight points. As a team, Gahr recorded 61 rebounds while La Mirada, which shot 21 percent from the field, had 40 rebounds. The Gladiators, who had

[See GAHR page 11]

20th ANNUAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA HOLIDAY PREP CLASSIC CERRITOS ENDS FRUSTRATING WEEK WITH BLOWOUT WIN OVER HOST SCHOOL OF PRESTIGIOUS TOURNAMENT

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By Loren Kopff **(a)**LorenKopff on X

LAKESIDE-To say that the Cerritos High girls basketball team had a rough week to close out 2023 would be an

United States and a couple from Canada. The Dons were one of eight teams in the NAIA Division.

"With everything that has happened in the past [week], and they had closure yesterday, I think that was somebeen all season'?

Cerritos and El Capitan came out shooting hot from long distance in the opening quarter with the Vaqueros connecting on three of four three-point-

ers and Cerritos perfect on all

were part of.

"Both sides were hot, and when we looked at it, it was going to be a battle down to the end," said Chinen. "We always kept saying, 'you have to keep shooting the ball, you have to keep shooting the ball'. Maybe one of us, and hopefully it's not us, may not make everything or the percentage won't be as high. Because it's really harder to have a high percentage going all the way through the game." The Dons kept the momentum going in the third quarter, draining three more shots from beyond the arc, two by Dizon, and seeing half a dozen players be a part of the 19-point performance. When the quarter had ended, Cerritos was owing a 54-32 lead. El Capitan would not score its last point until there was 3:16 left to play. That came after the Dons scored the first 15 points of the final quarter. Nwanze, who led everyone with 24 points and 19 rebounds, could have had more points if it wasn't for the missed baskets from 12 offensive boards. She

understatement. The Dons were in San Diego to play in the 20th annual Southern California Holiday Prep Classic but had their minds elsewhere all last week as they played the first two games of the tournament, then came back to the Southland last Friday to attend a funeral for former Cerritos boys basketball player Ethan Soriano before returning to America's Finest City.

Cerritos began the highly touted tournament on Dec. 27 with a 65-54 loss to Gig Harbor (WA) High, then came out flat against Fallbrook High (55-29) and Torrey Pines High (47-30) last Thursday and Friday, respectively. But the Dons ended a four-game slide last Saturday by routing El Capitan High 75-33, setting a season-high in points scored. El Capitan was one of nine locations that hosted 94 teams over 11 divisions, mostly from the Western

thing that really helped them; that they had a chance to close out [the game] and pay their respects to their classmate," said Cerritos head coach Marcus Chinen. "That was something that may have been on their mind the two games in

between. The first game, we just played

> solidly, but unfortunately, we came up short."

> In fact, early in the fourth quarter, during an 18-0 run, Cerritos assistant Richard Villeza turned to his players on the bench and was heard asking the players on the bench, 'where has this

three of its trifectas by three different players. Cerritos led 18-11 after the first quarter but it wasn't until the 6:25 mark of the second quarter when the Dons began to pour it on.

> А three-pointer from freshman Kalana Nguyen and a two-point basket from senior

Oneyka Nwanze in a span of 74 seconds made it 23-14. Later in the stanza, senior Mailee Dizon drained the team's fifth downtown basket of the half to make it 34-21. A free throw seconds later would close out the first half scoring, in which half a dozen Cerritos players

[See CERRITOS page 11]

SISTERS from page 6

18-5 but lost to Riverside Poly High 51-41 in the first round of the Division 3AA playoffs. It was the second straight season of losing in the first round after back-to-back quarterfinal appearances.

Last season, the Wildcats went 17-13 and went to the second round of the Division 3AA playoffs before losing to El Dorado High 53-44. Haylie Wang had 21 games of scoring at least 10 points, including a season-high 22 points against Kennedy High on Dec. 2. Her older sister had 19 double-digit games and scored 31 at Santa Fe High on Nov.15 plus two other games of at least 24 points.

"I thought as a team we played a very tough schedule and I think some of the teams that we played, we definitely showed out and played well," said Kylie Wang. "But at the [Timber-Lion, ID] tournament, I know we could have done better. But we couldn't win a game [there]. By the time we got to league, we knew what our goal was."

"I thought last year was a lot different than my freshman year because of the travelling and that introduced us to new competition that we wouldn't get from here," said Haylie Wang. "From that, we were able to learn more about our team and get better. That helped us understand what we needed to succeed in the league."

This season, the Wildcats won their first seven games and nine of their first ten games, including a come-from-behind win over Crean Lutheran High on Nov. 30.

Whitney's first loss was a six-point setback to Lakewood High in one semifinal game of the Glenn-Norwalk Tournament on Dec. 8.

But the team has struggled lately, falling in three of four games in the NIKE Tournament of Champions in Mesa, AZ two weeks ago.

Still, the sisters are one and two in the team's scoring category with Haylie Wang 10 points behind her sister with 24 points, good for a 16.5 ppg. average. Haylie has scored double figures in all but one game and had a career-high 27 points against Rowland High on Dec. 9 in the third-place game of the Glenn-Norwalk Tournament.

"I think we prepared a lot in the summer," said Haylie Wang. "We went to Palm Springs, and we practiced every day in the summer. I felt like that really helped us to get comfortable with each other, especially with our two freshmen, and we were able to learn about them and their game."

When the two are on the court together, they are prone to getting into foul trouble much earlier than later. Yet, they are mature enough not to pick up their fourth and fifth fouls until late in the fourth quarter, if it ever gets to that. Jacobs has all the trust in the world that neither of them will get careless and foul out. They complement each other so well that they don't need to speak to each other to call out plays or tell each other where to go. They know what each other is thinking before it needs to be thought out. Because of that, it confuses the opposition even more. "On the court, I sometimes can get a little mad at her," said Kylie Wang. "I yell at her because I expect more from her out of everybody else because I know she can do better. But on the court, I tell her just to stick to what she knows and what works for her. I motivate her to not think about anything else; just play your game."

up and do better," said Haylie Wang. "But I feel like I let her figure it out because I don't want to get her mad.

"I can tell when she's about to make a drive, or I can tell when she wants to give me the ball," she later added. "So, if I know she wants to give me the ball, I obviously stay in the key, get into my position and trust that she's going to make a good pass."

Long before the Wang sisters ever put on a Whitney uniform, one of the greatest basketball stars to come through the school's ranks was Rachel Nagel, a current assistant coach at the University of San Diego who played collegiately at the University of California, Davis.

In Nagel's senior season at Whitney, which was the 2013-2014 campaign, she averaged 21.8 points a game, had 241 rebounds, 117 steals, 95 assists and 38 blocks.

Either sister can put up those numbers throughout any season. But for Kylie Wang to end the season with at least a 20-point average, she would need to score at least 24 points in the remaining 13 regular season games.

"When I first came in as a freshman, I didn't know who Rachel Nagel was," said Kylie Wang. "But I've heard people talking about her and people telling me who she was and how good she was. I just knew she was always a great player."

Whitney is ranked fourth in Division 2A and if the Wildcats are to have dreams of getting past the quarterfinals for the first time in school history, this might be as good of a chance, with the sisters, the emergence of sophomore Mady Macaraeg, freshman sensation Alyssa So, key returning juniors Rachel Moyher and Allie Yamaguchi and the five other players on the team.

"For me at least, I have a chip on my shoulder," said Haylie Wang. "I want to get into the higher rounds, and I believe that we can this year, especially since we only lost to Lakewood by [six] points, and they're [ranked] first in [Division 2A]. I definitely think we have a chance, and for me, as a senior, I want more from my team, and I think we do have a common goal of winning the league outright and getting [farther] in the [playoffs]."

In four and a half seasons as Whitney's head coach, Jacobs is 69-44, which ranks him third in terms of victories behind David Garcia, who coached from 2000-2008 and Jeff Day, who was the head coach from 2012-2018. Both sisters credit Jacobs for making them the players they are today.

"He's a coach that, coming into my freshman year, I didn't have that much confidence in myself," said Kylie Wang. "I remember I was going through a slump, and I was just not confident in myself. Coach Myron made sure that I was okay, and he built my confidence up. I owe all that to him. I just feel like he's such a great coach; he knows what I like and what I don't like. He knows how to coach me right. He knows me as a person, and I think that's what sets him apart from some of my other coaches. I don't think I would be here or get as many opportunities as I have today without him." "I think he has a coaching style that is customized for each player," said Haylie Wang. "He knows how to get a response from me and how I respond to what he says. Based on that, I feel like he really motivates me for when I'm not starting off well in a game." As for the future of Whitney girls basketball, it seems to be in great shape if Jacobs, or future coaches continue to develop freshmen into star athletes.

Beginning with the 2015-2016 season with Christine Hamakawa, there has been at least one freshman that has been a varsity starter and one of the team leaders in almost every season. Hamakawa was followed by Hosoda and Lee (2017-2018), Lacorte (2019-2020), Kylie Wang (2020-2021), Haylie Wang (2021-2022), Macaraeg (2022-2023) and So (2023-2024).

Both sisters agree that So is off to a better start this season as a freshman than either one of them was when they were a ninth grader. In fact, Kylie Wang admitted that Whitney's newest star has a lot more confidence than she did when she was a freshman. Part of that is because Jacobs has run his program year-round and So has gotten a jump start on knowing the team better than when Kylie Wang did prior to the start of her freshman season.

"Kylie has given everything that she has while at Whitney," said Jacobs. "She has never held back. She has given 100 percent everything she has when she's on that floor to us. As a coach and for Whitney and any other assistant coach will tell you, we are so appreciative of the kid. I wish high school was five years because I would love to coach her one more year. But as they say, all good things don't last forever."

"I think Whitney has something very special about freshmen; this one freshman coming in every single year who is so incredibly good," said Kylie Wang. "This year it was Alyssa So and people stepping up like Allie and Mady has also helped. They have improved so much since from their freshman year to now."

Jacobs wanted to stress that because Whitney doesn't have a freshmen team like most schools, it has to develop its players even more, and if you're a freshman that doesn't get to be on varsity, you have to figure it out on the junior varsity team.

"That's tough for a team," he added. "These two girls that came into this program is one of the biggest reasons why Whitney is where it's at today. Yeah, we're not Division 1 and we might not have won a CIF [championship]. But it goes beyond that. These two girls showed that hey, we can help build a program. They helped build it along with Layla Lacorte, Rachel Song, Kayla [Hamakawa], and now Mady Macaraeg and Alyssa So. These are girls that helped build Whitney. There's no Whitney without those girls."

Jacobs wanted to thank Whitney's parents because, without them, the team's success wouldn't have happened. He said he doesn't care how good a player is or how good a coach is. If a program doesn't have parents on board who are willing to dedicate as much as the coaches and players do, then Whitney is not the same team or program as it is today.



WONDERWORP

By DAVID

HOW TO PLAY: 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 ind 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.

CHEERS TO A NEW YEAR

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"Mostly, it's her telling me to wake

Abundant, Ahead, Calendar, Champagne, Chime, Commemoratory, Confetti, December, Exciting, Extravaganza, Family, Father, Flute, Food, Forward, Fresh, Friends, Games, Gathering, Gift, Glass, Gown, Hats, Horns, House, Kiss, Newborn, Parade, Past, Pictures, Plan, Restaurants, Social, Stroke, Suit, Sweet, TimeOff, Tuxedo, Twelve, Vow, Wine, Worldwide, Year, Yell

Solution: 6 letters

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GAHR from page 8

tournament wins over Fullerton High (76-39), Laguna Hills High (46-24) and Orange High (61-19), will play their first Gateway League contest on Friday at Lynwood High and travel to Warren High on Wednesday.

'The honeymoon is over," said Howard. "We came out and wanted to get some good looks early on in terms of our non-league. And now with league, we're going to compete in every game like we have in every game this season and the plan is to go up there and be a force to be reckoned with."

The Matadores were paced by senior Jirah Domingo (11 points, six rebounds, five steals) and junior Jael Arreguin (seven rebounds, six points, four steals). La Mirada posted tournament victories over Long Beach Cabrillo High (54-32), Santa Ana Valley High (54-36) and El Rancho High (52-49) as it began Mid-Cities League action this

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY

bedding/blankets, trash cans, Speakers, ONKYO a ALVAREZ, JORGE JONES, CHARLES JERMAINE MEJIA, FERNANDO JOSE RODRIGUEZ, ADELINE SEVILLA, UNISIA TRUDY STEWART, YASMINA OLIVIA MCKENZIE This at it show the old no with the sector

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY

past Wednesday against Firebaugh High and will go to Mayfair High on Friday before entertaining Dominguez High on Wednesday.

"I didn't know what to expect," said Luong of her team's 10-3 start to this season. "Our girls the past two seasons...we have our highs and lows. We either come in and play well, or we come in and they don't perform. I think, coming into the season, I was expecting something similar to that where we weren't sure how they would perform. But they've come in strong every single day fighting. I'm optimistic about the season.

"Going back to last season, La Mirada is the hardest playing team in the Mid-Cities [League]," said Howard. "We always know we have to bring our 'A' game against them. Jirah is a hell of an offensive and defensive player. Jael never quits; fights hard and [Luong] is a class act. I love their program."

CERRITOS from page 8

would, though, score on half a dozen offensive putbacks. Dizon added 17 points with five three-pointers while senior Mia Rivera (10 points, four rebounds, four steals), junior Ambar Multani (four points, eight rebounds) and sophomore Cameron Lacorte (four steals) also had solid performances.

"She'll probably have to keep it up, and then hopefully it will open up our shooters, or open up some lanes for our girls to drive to the basket," said Chinen of Nwanze. "But all in all, it's actually going to be our defense controlling the boards, both offensively and defensively."

The Dons, who began the season with five wins in their first six games, begin 605 League action with an 8-8 record. They visited Oxford Academy this past Wednesday and will host Artesia High on Friday before going to Pioneer High on Tuesday. "It's been a great, learning experience for all the girls back to what we're normally doing," said Chinen of the first 16 games. "That's one thing they had to pick up on, was that we're going to play the way we play and hopefully it will work out and take us a little deeper in the playoffs than last year."



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CITY OF LA MIRADA NOTICE INVITING BIDS

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 2022-09 CITY HALL ROOF REPLACEMENT

Notice is hereby given that the City of La Mirada, California invites sealed bids for the furnishing of all labor, materials, equipment, and services for Capital Improvement Project No. 2022-09. Work includes removal of the existing roofs on the sloped and flat portions of the City Hall building and replacement with new roofs, in the City of La Mirada.

Project Documents are available online from American Reprographics Company (ARC). Bidders may obtain free copies of the Plans, Specifications and other Contract Documents online by visiting https://customer.e-arc.com/arcEOC/PWELL_Main.asp?mem=29.

Sealed bids shall be delivered to the City Clerk at or before 11 a.m. on February 26, 2024. Bids must be submitted on the blank forms, prepared and furnished for that purpose and included in the Plans and Specifications. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids, or delete portions of any or all bids, or waive any informality or irregularity in the bid or the bid procedures.

Anne Haraksin, City Clerk

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter 1/5/24

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700–21716 of the CA Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of CA Commercial Code, Sections 1812.600 –1812.609, Section 1988 of CA Civil Code and Section 535 of the CA Penal Code. The undersigned will be sold at public auction conducted on www.storagetreasures.com ending on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 10:00am. The personal property including: general household goods, electronics, tools, personal effects, and or miscellaneous items are stored at: Cerritos Self Storage, 16515 Valley View Ave., Cerritos, County of Los Angeles, State of California by the following:

tonowing.		
Name	<u>Unit #</u>	
John Benton	M053	
Dorothy Brandon	M055	
	Sale is subject to cance cember 2023 and 5th	at the above referenced facility in order ellation in the event of settlement between day of January 2024.
	Published at LCCN 12	2/29/23 and 1/5/24
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADM	INISTER ESTATE OF	
GEORGE CHOE	INGTER ESTATE OF.	

sell the personal property described below to enforce a Lien imposed on said property. The undersigned will be sold at public auction conducted on www.storagetreasures.com (bond #63747122) ending on or after Tuesday, January 16th, 2024, at 9:00AM. The personal property belonging to those listed below to be sold as follows: Boxes, totes/bins, shoes, clothing, hat, totes/bins, Adidas gym bag, duffle bags/bags, rolling collapsible cart, laundry baskets, bedding, briefcase, wall art, corkboard, mini popcorn maker, Hot Wheels RC Terrain Twister, metal boat wall art, Swiffer, storage trunk, guitar, 2 snowboards, cleaning supplies, door, toolbox, weed whacker, HP printer, stor age shelf, paint, speaker, 6 tire rims, amplifier, Campbell Hausfeld Powerpal Air Compressor, bungee cords, hose, rolling bag, umbrella, stuffed animal, 5 gallon water bottle, basket, step ladder, milk crate, chair, ladder, and suitcase belonging to the following.

Notice is given that pursuant to sections 21700-21713 of the Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of the Commercial Code,

Section 535 of the Penal Code. 1812.607, that Cherry Carson RV Storage Inc. at 4160 Cherry Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807 intends to

Notice is given pursuant to sections 21700-21713 of the Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of the Commercial Code, Section 535 of the Penal Code. 1812.607, that Norwalk Self Storage at 11564 E. Firestone Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 intends to sell the personal

535 of the Penal Code. 1812:007, that Norwalk Self Storage at 11504 E. Firestone Bida, Norwalk, CA 90550 intends to sen the personal property described below to enforce a Lien imposed on said property. The undersigned will be sold at public auction conducted on www. storagetreasures.com (bond #63747122) ending on or after Tuesday, January 16th, 2024, at 9:00AM. The personal property belonging to those listed below to be sold as follows: Bob Torso Training Bag, 3 outdoor patio chairs, 2 coffee tables, 2 landscape rakes, boxes, totes/bins, milk crate, bags, crutches, storage drawers, console table, headboard, wall art, rug, hair accessories, 4 rims, 4 tires, fishing pole, Bikes, bike pump/parts, dog crate, golf clubs, baseball bat, football, tools, vacuum, outdoor turkey fryer pot/burner, helmets, shoes, baskets, buckets, MAKITA wet/dry dust extractor/vacuum, RIGID portable electric pancake air compressor, air hose, 2 mini fridges, VITAPUR cold/hot water cooler, microwave, storage bag, GOOD GUYS Chuckie doll, baseball trading cards, GUESS wallet, scissors, ourse, storage bag, back and back as protecting and back as professor and back and back and back as professor and back and back as professor as the potent of the solar as professor.

sunglasses, Hallowen décor, stuffed animals, purses, sports memorabilia, books, ss refrigerator, furniture, side table, chairs, bench, stroller, collapsible rolling cart, ladder, boogie boards, snow saucer sleds, dolly, flat dolly, extension cord, wood crate, milk crates, home décor, decorative cross, decorative pillars, baking pan, wok, dishes, camping chair, car battery, push broom, birdhouse, bed frame, mattress, bedding/blankets, trash cans, Speakers, ONKYO amplifier, air fryer, backpacks, end table, and clothes belonging to the following.

This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Section 21700 et seq. of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California. Storage Treasures' Principal Auctioneer and Auctioneer on Record: Auctioneer License Numbers for Christopher Paul Rosa California #3112562

Published at LCCN 12/29/23 and 1/5/24

A133 B485 A123 A316 B433 B257

Sales subject to prior cancellation in the event of settlement between Owner and obligated party

NAME	<u>UNIT #</u>
Joana Vanzie	B13
Joana Vanzie	B15
Joana Vanzie	B27
Joana Vanzie	B28
Joana Vanzie	B32
EMMA LEE CORFIELD	007
	co .: 0

This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Section 21700 et seq. of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California. Storage Treasures' Principal Auctioneer and Auctioneer on Record: Auctioneer License Numbers for Christopher Paul Rosa-California 3112562

Sales subject to prior cancellation in the event of settlement between Owner and obligated party Published at LCCN 12/29/23 and 1/5/24

Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated: **17701 Ibbetson Ave. Bellflower, Ca. 90706 on January 10, 2024, at 12:30 p.m.**

Exquisito Catering- Jimmy Prieto- personal items, 2bedroom home

The auction will be listed and advertised on <u>www.storagetreasures.com</u>. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property. Published at LCCN 12/29/23 and 1/5/24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JAIME HERNANDEZ ALFARO CASE NO. 23STPB14040

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

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SANDRA A. RINCON in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SANDRA A. RINCON be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 02/01/24 at 8:30AM in Dept. 44 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

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

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

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

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

Attorney for Petitioner RENEE R. CHIAPELLONE - SBN 129351 17702 MITCHELL NORTH, STE. 100 IRVINE CA 92614 Telephone (714) 538-7820 BSC 224487 1/12, 1/19, 1/26/24 CNS-3771219# LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER estate, or both of GEORGE CHOE (AKA GEORGE JINWOO CHOE)

CASE NO. 23STPB13570

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SAMUEL CHOE in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or

THE PETITION requests that SAMUEL CHOE be appointed as ADMINISTRATOR the estate of the decedent.

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

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 1/18/24 at 8:30AM Dept. 67, Room 614 in Stanley Mosk Courthouse located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012.

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

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

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

Self represented 47 BAMBOO, IRVINE CA 92620 562-667-6919 LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 12/15, 12/22, 12/29/23 AND 1/5/24

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