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& Tuesday night. Republicans are  
not just losing, they are losing  
big because of one self-inflicted  
Trump wound after another,  
the latest ...immigration.  
~James Carville

Serving Cerritos and ten other surrounding communities • February 16, 2024 • Vol. 38, No. 14 • LOSCERRITOSNEWS.NET



## LA MIRADA HOLDS ANNUAL YOUTH IN GOVERNMENT EVENT

ASSEMBLYMEMBER **BLANCA PACHECO** and La Mirada City Council pictured with La Mirada Youth in Government students at the annual Youth in Government Luncheon. Members of the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District were also among the attendees. Photo courtesy city of La Mirada.

## Cerritos Auto Square Celebrates its Legacy with Documentary

*Nothing Like It In the World* features footage showing the building from dairy farms to the Cerritos Auto Square.

By Thom Hartmann

The Cerritos Auto Square, the world's largest auto center by annual sales, is set to host Southern California's first red-carpet movie premiere that will showcase a full-length documentary detailing the development of Cerritos Auto Square, taking place at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts on Wednesday, February 21, 2024.

"We are honored to chronicle the dynamic history of Cerritos Auto Square, from its humble beginnings to its current status as a global automotive landmark as the film brings to life the captivating journey," said Dave Conant Owner of the Norm Reeves Superstores in the Cerritos Auto Square.

The 55 minute documentary

{See **Auto Square** pg. 6}

## Young California Innovators Take Top 2024 Westly Prize Awards



**INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY:** The Westly Foundation Award winners for 2024 with co-founders of the Westly Prize, Steve Westly, and Anita Yu. These young men and women were awarded for their innovations that improve the lives of others both locally and around the world. Photo courtesy the Wesley Foundation.

By Laurie Hanson

With today's community and global challenges young people are striving to find innovative solutions that are being recognized by organizations such as the Westly Foundation in Silicon Valley.

This year, three teams were recently awarded \$40,000 each

as part of the 2024 Westly Prize for Young Social Innovators in California. All members were in their 20's.

Co-founders of the Westly Prize, Steve Westly, and Anita Yu, noted that this year's Westly Prize teams are ones that equally encompassed strong technical skill and have a mission-driven

{See **Innovators** pg. 7}

## Pico Water District Wants to Raise Rates 111% Over Five Years, 51% by March 1

An outside water study wants to build reserves in three years, putting a burden on ratepayers, the ball is in the PWD's court.

By Brian Hews

According to online financials, the Pico Water District (PWD), which serves nearly 30% of Pico Rivera residents, has been raising its rates annually for years, but apparently, that has not fixed the infrastructure or financial problems of the tiny water district.

The PWD recently retained Water Resources Economics for a water rate study to develop a five-year schedule to increase water rates that "will sufficiently fund the District's expenses and provide financial sustainability."

PWD has scheduled a public hearing to discuss and potentially implement the recommended changes at a public meeting this Thursday, February 15.

According to the study, the proposed rates will trigger a huge increase for PWD users, amounting to 111%, over the next five years: 51% in the first year, 20% in the second year, and 12% for the next three years. Additionally, potable water rates per cubic foot have a proposed increase of nearly 29% for the first year, 20% in the second year, and 12% for the three years after that, amounting to over 85% over five years. PWD indicates the increases will generate 35% more revenue in year one, 20% in year two, and 12% in the three years after that, and 91% in additional revenue for five years, averaging 18% per year.

By contrast, PWD's proposed expenses, excluding capital spending, are projected to increase by only 6% per year.

For comparative purposes, rate increases for the Pico Rivera Water Authority (PRWA), which serves 70% of Pico Rivera, were also done with the objective of

{See **Pico Rivera** pg. 10}

## Bellflower Unified School Board Fires Superintendent Dr. Drati

By Brian Hews

Last Friday, Los Cerritos Community News was first to report that, at its February 8 meeting, three Bellflower Unified School District Board members voted to engage in a contract settlement and termination with Superintendent Dr. Ben Drati.

Dr. Drati had been on the job for only thirteen months, hired in January 2023.

Those voting to fire Dr. Drati were Board President Brad Criffield, VP Amie Stewart, and Clerk Mayra Garza, who is embattled Central Basin Director Juan Garza's wife. Dr. Drati replaced Tracy McSparren — who was put on leave shortly before a state audit, first reported by this newspaper, revealed the district



Dr. Ben Drati

had misconstrued its finances for years.

Bellflower Unified's financial issues had been a concern for years, prior to the state's audit, the district had a series of run-ins with the Los Angeles County Office of Education and the State Superintendent's Office.

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## Artesia Resident Publishes Online Series



**ARTESIA RESIDENT** Veronica Bloomfield has produced a series of meaningful interviews in honor of her late father. Scan the QR code to see some of the interviews.

Artesia resident Veronica Bloomfield has produced a series of meaningful interviews in honor of her late father, beloved philosophy professor Edward Bloomfield.

*This Book Matters* brings together an eclectic group of participants who speak candidly in one-on-one interviews, reflecting upon the significance of books in each of their lives.

A sitting judge, a tea sommelier, a civil rights advocate, and a seven-year-old are just a few of the guests who share their stories. Representing a myriad of personal and cultural identities,

each episode explores the unprecedented power books have to educate, inspire, and connect to the lives of those who read and cherish them.

*This Book Matters* emphasizes the personal and social relevance of reading and books as essential pathways to information, imagination, and personal growth. Watch now on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@ThisBookMattersWithVeronica/playlists>. For more information or to book a speaking engagement, contact Veronica Bloomfield at [thisbookmatters@gmail.com](mailto:thisbookmatters@gmail.com) or 562.619.4392.

## Feds Taking Steps to Speed up FAFSA

### Staff Report

The Department of Education said this week that “it’s taking steps” to speed up college financial aid awards for the upcoming 2024-25 school year after a bumpy rollout of the new Free Application for Federal Student Aid, known as the FAFSA.

It’s the first time students and their families are using a simpler version of the FAFSA to apply for student loans and grants. With the new form, more students are expected to be eligible for more financial aid – but the rollout has been plagued with delays.

First, the form – which is usually released on October 1 – wasn’t widely available until early January. Then, after making a last-minute change to the financial aid calculation, the Department of Education said that it won’t be able to transfer students’ financial information to colleges until the first half of March – more than a month later than expected.

The Department of Education has been facing criticism from lawmakers on both sides of the aisle for the delays.

Department of Education officials have repeatedly said that overhauling the FAFSA has been a major, complicated undertaking that has been made more challenging by a lack of resources. In 2022, the Biden administration requested additional funding to handle a bigger workload, but Congress left its budget the same as the year before.

### Steps to speed up financial aid awards

On Tuesday, the Department of Education announced three steps to help free up time for colleges to prepare financial aid packages before students must make a decision about where to enroll next school year.

First, the agency will select fewer FAFSA filers for an added, often lengthy, process called verification to confirm that everything on the form is accurate.

In past years, about one-third of applicants were selected for the audit-like process.

Previously, the Department of Education waived some kinds of verification for students submitting the FAFSA for the 2021-22 award year due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Second, the department is going to suspend all new routine program reviews, which are usually conducted to confirm a college is eligible to receive federal funds.

In past years, several hundred college programs were reviewed annually. The agency will still conduct the review for programs related to the most serious



issues like suspected fraud.

Third, the Department of Education is giving colleges more flexibility to recertify eligibility for federal aid by temporarily waiving a requirement to apply 90 days before the expiration date.

The flexibility will give more time back to those institutions at this critical moment.

Last week, the Department of Education also announced that it will be providing personnel, funding, resources and technology to some colleges and universities to help them get financial aid packages to students as quickly as possible.

### What is the FAFSA and how has it changed?

The FAFSA determines eligibility for federal Pell grants and federal student loans – and in most cases, the financial aid provided by colleges as well.

The form has long been due for an update, and the new version released at the end of last year is a culmination of changes approved by Congress in 2019 and 2020.

In previous years, the FAFSA could be as long as 108 questions. With the new form, some applicants will have to answer as few as 18 questions, which would take less than 10 minutes to complete, according to the Department of Education.

Some information is now directly taken from a filer’s tax return so that the applicant doesn’t have to hunt down numbers on old tax returns.

With the new FAFSA, an increased number of families is expected to be eligible for financial aid.

In fact, the Department of Education estimates that 610,000 more students will qualify for a Pell grant on an annual basis.

The Pell grant program is a key way the federal government helps students from low-income families go to college by providing eligible students with money they don’t have to pay back.

And an estimated 1.5 million more students will be eligible for the maximum Pell grant amount, which typically changes each year.

The Pell grant is worth up to \$7,395 during the current school year.

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## Bellflower Unveils Murals at the 91 Fwy Underpass



FOUR MURALS depicting nature's four elements of earth, air, fire and water was approved by both the City Council and CalTrans Art Department.

Bellflower unveiled four new murals located under the 91-Fwy at Lakewood Boulevard which were recently completed by local artist Dave Van Patten. Each mural is approximately 16' tall by 24' wide and was commissioned by the city for both pedestrians and commuters to enjoy.

Murals depicting nature's four elements of earth, air, fire and water are concepts often found throughout art history and in mural designs nationwide. Van Patten's unique design using two elements, water and air, and a timeline of children transforming into adulthood

through childhood interests was approved by both the City Council and CalTrans Art Department. Two children who are fishing that grow up to both be deep sea divers is featured on the eastside, and two children playing with Astro dolls who later become astronauts is displayed on the westside.

"These illustrations speak to adults as a reminder of their childhood dreams said Van Patten. "Van Patten's imaginative design and his proven expertise in handling large-scale artwork made him an ideal artist for this project," stated Mayor Dan Koops.

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# Area City's Crime Summary-February 5-11, 2024

## La Mirada

### Notable Arrests

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

### Robbery

• A morning robbery occurred on the 14400 block of Rosecrans Ave. This incident is still under investigation.

### Residential Burglary

• Tools were stolen during a burglary on the 15100 block of Vanada Rd.

### Other Structure Burglary

• One suspect was arrested during a late-night burglary on the 14800 block of Telegraph Rd.

• An overnight burglary was reported on the 15700 block of Imperial Hwy. No property was stolen during the incident.

• An early morning window smash burglary was reported on the 16100 block of Canary Ave.

### Vehicle Burglary

• A window smash vehicle burglary was reported on the 11900 block of La Mirada Blvd. A laptop was stolen.

• Tools were stolen from a vehicle burglary on the 16000 block of Mart Dr.

• An early morning window smash vehicle burglary was reported on the 14800 block of Calpella St.

• A backpack was stolen from a vehicle burglary on the 14600 block of Dalmatian Ave.

### Grand Theft

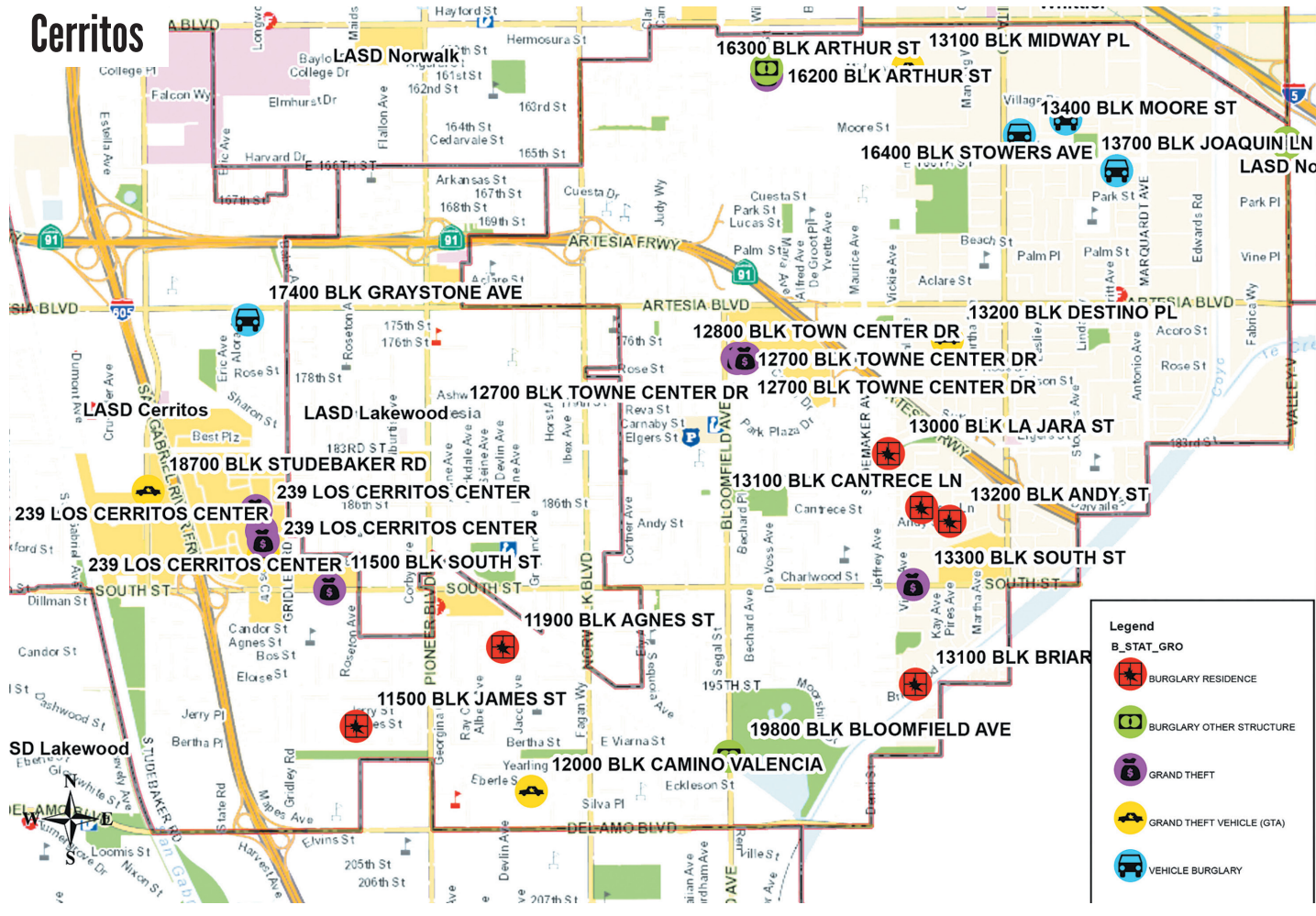
• An electric bicycle was stolen on the 13800 block of Biola Ave.

• A wallet was reported stolen on the 16300 block of Trojan Way.

• Tools were stolen on the 14300 block of Firestone Blvd.

### Grand Theft Auto

• A pickup truck was reported stolen



on the 15100 block of Talbot Dr.

- An overnight theft of a pickup truck was reported on the 15400 block of Loretta Rd.
- A sedan was reported stolen on the 14700 block of San Ardo Dr.
- A pickup truck was stolen on the 14100 block of Ratliffe St.
- An attempt was made to steal a sedan on the 14700 block of Stanton Ave.
- A trailed was reported stolen on the 16300 block of Phoebe Ave.

## La Mirada Stays Among Area's Safest Cities

### Staff Report

La Mirada has once again demonstrated its commitment to safety by maintaining one of the lowest crime rates in the region, and continues to be among the safest cities in L.A. County. The City's low crime rate is attributed to a strong and collaborative partnership between the Public Safety Team and the community.

In 2023, there were 984 Part 1 crimes reported in La Mirada compared to 936 in 2022. The number of Part 1 crimes reported in other cities patrolled by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department include Paramount 1,789; Lakewood 1,999; Bellflower 2,093; Cerritos 2,111; and Norwalk 2,409. Part 1 crimes include homicide, rape, larceny, burglary, auto theft, robbery, assault, and arson. The small uptick in crimes reported in 2023 is attributable to additional property crimes including robberies, thefts, and grand theft automobiles.

Larceny crimes increased from 578 in 2022 to 585 in 2023. Larceny is defined as theft including grand theft and petty theft cases. The number of thefts from vehicles increased from 130 to 183 in 2023. Many of the thefts from vehicles were crimes of opportunity, where valuables were left in view or vehicles were unlocked.

There were some notable decreases last year. Burglaries decreased from 146 to 125 reported in 2023. There were 43 residential burglaries reported in 2023 compared to 57 in 2022. Grand thefts, which are classified as theft of property with a value of more than \$950, decreased from 254 to 213 in 2023. The decrease can partly be attributed to fewer catalytic converters being

taken last year. In 2022, 140 catalytic converters were taken from vehicles compared to 89 in 2023. The number of petty thefts also decreased slightly from 193 in 2022 to 189 in 2023.

"While La Mirada continues to be a safe community, residents are reminded to remain vigilant against property related crimes," says Assistant City Manager Anne Haraksin. "Opportunity thefts are often highly preventable. Avoid leaving valuables unattended, even for short periods of time.

La Mirada's Special Assignment Officers (SAO) Team will focus on preventing and suppressing criminal activity and nuisance issues in the community. The SAO Team serves a key role in keeping La Mirada among the safest cities. Last year, the team conducted quality investigations that led to arrests that had a significant impact on lowering the crime rate.

The Public Safety Team also emphasizes that community involvement is a valuable component of keeping La Mirada safe. The team will continue to enhance their visibility as a measure to prevent property crimes and watch for criminal activity.

The City will continue to explore the use of new technology to prevent crime and apprehend offenders. As part of a pilot program last year, video cameras were installed at Creek Park. The cameras aided in the investigations that led to arrests. Ten automated license plate recognition (ALPR) systems were also installed at ten intersections. The ALPR systems captures vehicle information, alerts the Public Safety Team of stolen or wanted vehicles, and provides key information for criminal investigations. The Public Safety Team is excited to use this new technology to help fight crime and hold offenders accountable.

For more information on the annual crime report and the City's crime prevention efforts, contact the La Mirada Community Sheriff's Station at (562) 902-2960.

## Find our paper at these convenient locations:

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <b>AAA</b><br>18642 S. Gridley<br><b>ABC Adult School</b><br>12254 Cuesta Dr.<br><b>ABC District Office</b><br>16700 Norwalk Blvd.<br><b>ABCFT</b><br>19444 Norwalk Blvd.<br><b>Aikan Sushi</b><br>12155 South St<br><b>All Cerritos Parks</b><br><b>Amor Y Tacos</b><br>13333 South St<br><b>Arte Café</b><br>12741 Towne Ctr. Dr.<br><b>Artesia City Hall</b><br>18747 Clarkdale Ave.<br><b>Artesia Library</b><br>18722 Clarkdale<br><b>Artesia Cemetery</b><br>11142 Artesia Blvd.<br><b>Artesia Christian Home</b><br>11614 183rd St, Artesia<br><b>Artesia Senior Apts</b><br>10427 Artesia, Bellflower<br><b>Ave. 3</b><br>12612 South St.<br><b>Bellflower City Hall</b><br><b>Bellflower Terrace Apts.</b><br>9920 Flora Vista<br><b>Belmont Place Apts.</b><br>9830 Belmont St., Bellflower<br><b>Ramona Senior Ctr.</b><br>9843 Ramona St. Bellflower<br><b>Bellflower Friendship Manor</b><br>9550 Oak St.<br><b>Cassidy's Cafe</b><br>15010 La Mirada Blvd<br><b>Cerritos Autosquare</b><br>All Dealerships<br><b>Cerritos Chamber</b><br>13259 South St.<br><b>Cerritos College</b><br><b>Cerritos City Hall</b><br><b>Sheriff's/Community Center</b><br><b>Cerritos Library</b><br><b>Cerritos Park East</b> | <b>18125 Bloomfield Ave</b><br><b>Cerritos Medical Center</b><br>Dr. De Kriek<br><b>11911 Artesia Blvd.</b><br><b>Cerritos Senior Center</b><br>12340 South St.<br><b>Cevitas Coffee</b><br>14218 Rosecrans Ave<br><b>CTA Travel</b><br>12750 Center Ct Dr S.<br><b>ContunEM</b><br>6430 South St<br><b>Don Knabe Park</b><br>At the Tennis Center<br><b>El Tepeyac</b><br>13926 Imperial Hwy<br><b>Foggia Deli</b><br>5522 Del Amo Blvd.<br><b>Grocery Outket</b><br>15745 Imperial Hwy,<br><b>Grove at Cerritos</b><br>11000 New Falcon Way<br><b>Goodyear Auto</b><br>19404 Norwalk Blvd.<br><b>Gardens Casino</b><br>11871 E Carson St.<br><b>Hawaiian Gardens City Hall,</b><br><b>Rec. Center, Library</b><br>21815 Pioneer<br><b>Holy Family Church, Artesia</b><br><b>iHop</b><br>15140 La Mirada Blvd<br><b>Imperial Healthcare Center</b><br>11926 La Mirada Blvd<br><b>It's A Grind</b><br>13295 South St.<br><b>Kindred Hospital</b><br>14900 Imperial Hwy.<br><b>Knabe Park</b><br><b>Kristens Beauty Salon</b><br>13952 Valley View Ave<br><b>La Casa de Concina</b><br>15711 Imperial Hwy,<br><b>Lakewood Regional</b><br>3700 South St.<br><b>La Mirada City Hall, Library,</b><br><b>Resource Center, Sheriff's</b><br><b>LA Nails</b><br>13239 South St<br><b>La Palma City Hall</b><br><b>La Palma Community</b> | <b>Center</b><br><b>La Palma Intercomm. Hospital</b><br><b>Liberty Park</b><br>9211 Studebaker Rd,<br><b>Long Beach Memorial</b><br>2801 Atlantic Ave.<br><b>Manila Sunset</b><br>13347 South St<br><b>Massage and Stone</b><br>13247 South St.<br><b>Medipost</b><br>13299 E South St.<br><b>Norwalk Arts and Sports</b><br>13000 Clarkdale<br><b>Norwalk Senior Center</b><br>14040 San Antonio Dr.<br><b>Norwalk City Hall</b><br><b>Offstreet Café</b><br>11020 Artesia Blvd.<br><b>Olive Lawn</b><br>13926 La Mirada Blvd<br><b>11832 E Carson St</b><br><b>Pico Rivera Chamber</b><br>5016 Passons Blvd<br><b>Pico River City Hall and Sheriffs</b><br>6615 Passons Blvd<br><b>Rosewoods</b><br>10769 South St.<br><b>State Farm</b><br>12616 South St<br><b>LAFD Station 30</b><br><b>Silverlake Ramen</b><br>11103 183rd St<br><b>Sophia Hair Salon</b><br>13243 South St.<br><b>Splash! La Mirada</b><br><b>Sukos Sushi</b><br>14156 Rosecrans<br><b>Tacos San Pedro</b><br>11832 E Carson St<br><b>Tour Le Jour</b><br>13359 South St<br><b>VI Pharmacy</b><br>12610 South St.<br><b>WRD</b><br>4040 Paramount |
|---|---|--|

## Local Author-Teacher Celebrates Birthday With Friends



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY:** Local Bilingual Author-Teacher Ceci Borja (front) celebrated her 70th birthday on February 8 with longtime friends. They enjoyed spending the day at the San Antonio Winery in Los Angeles. Most of them were also born in 1954 and have known each other since their school days. "It's a blessing to reconnect, enjoy and appreciate life. God is good and Life is beautiful", commented the ever-positive Ceci.~Submitted by Linda J. Hernández

## Pico Rivera Custodian Finalist in Custodians Are Key Contest

By Brian Hews

Tennant Company this week announced the finalists in its fifth annual Custodians Are Key program, a recognition campaign that honors and rewards the great work K-12 custodians are doing in schools around the country.

This year's finalists were chosen from a field of nearly 1,400 nominations from around the U.S. and Canada.

"At Tennant, we believe in creating a positive impact by recognizing and honoring those who go above and beyond. These finalists are true leaders, aligning with our mission to create a cleaner, safer, and healthier world," says Brian Leland, Vice President, General Manager North America. "Our team is in such awe of the past nominees over the last four years, so launching year number five serves as a testament to our enduring commitment to community enrichment. We are privileged to continue highlighting the inspiring and dedicated individuals who play a crucial role in keeping schools clean and fostering a conducive learning environment."

Crystal Ibarra, of Birney Tech Academy, located in Pico Rivera, is one of the finalists.

Crystal is a dedicated and cherished figure who creates a welcoming environment.

She mentors students and actively participates in various school events and



**FINALIST:** Crystal Ibarra of Birney Tech Academy, located in Pico Rivera.

activities, making her an irreplaceable part of Birney Tech Academy.

Crystal was nominated anonymously for more than just her cleaning skills but her impact on the community. Because of her commitment to Birney Tech Academy and making a difference in the staff members', teachers', and students' lives, Crystal and the other finalists will receive \$500. The grand prize winner will then be announced in May, in which the winner will receive a prize totaling \$15,000.

## Cerritos Park East Name Will Not Be Gallucci Park

Mayor Bruce Barrows and Councilman Chuong Vo have been on a crusade to rename CPE Art Gallucci Park; guess it was not enough to hand him over \$500,000 when Gallucci finally left, years after he should have retired.

But over 500 Cerritos residents signed a petition submitted by resident Mel Cortez; seeing evidence they were right, three current Cerritos elected, Mayor pro tem Naresh Solanki and Councilpersons Lynda Johnson and Frank Yokoyama, who were against the renaming from the beginning, voted no to rename CPE.

Bypassing city policy, a motion was made to rename a room at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts after Gallucci. You can make up your own joke.

~Brian Hews

## Electric Lawnmower Rebate: Get Up to \$250

Staff Report

The South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) now offers a year-round rebate program for local residents who scrap their old gas mower and purchase a new electric lawn mower.

Rebate checks range from \$150 to \$250, based on the purchase price.

You can see a short video and learn more about the process at [www.aqmd.gov/lawnmower](http://www.aqmd.gov/lawnmower).

Six easy steps to receive your rebate: Purchase your new, cordless electric lawn mower, either in-store or online. You can choose from more than 20 models available for residential use.

Begin the online application, uploading your purchase receipt.

Select a certified scrapper from the SCAQMD list and print your certification form.

Take your old working gas mower to the scrapping location. They will sign and return the certification form to you.

Scan and upload the signed certification form to your online application.

Electronically sign and submit your final application online.

How much is the rebate?

Rebate amounts are based on the purchase price of the new electric lawn mower, not including taxes and delivery, and range from \$150 to \$250.

The electric lawnmower purchased must include a battery and charger.

The rebate program is first-come, first-served and rebates will continue until all program funds are exhausted.

For additional information, email [lawnmower@aqmd.gov](mailto:lawnmower@aqmd.gov) or call 888-425-6247.

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## Japanese-American Concentration Camp Survivor Event



**REMEMBRANCE:** Cerritos Councilman Frank Yokoyama (far right) and his dad Tom (left, seated) attended the Day of Remembrance Assemblies at Tracy High School and Fedde Middle School on February 8. The students listened to the stories of the Japanese-American survivors of the American concentration camps created by the signing of Executive Order 9066 during World War II. "I was proud of my dad for sharing his story of being a little boy with his family in the concentration camps," said ABCUSD Board Vice President Ernie Nishii (back right) organized the Day of Remembrance at ABC Schools for the fifth year.

## Cerritos Library book sale set for February 24-25

Stock up on books, music and movies at the Friends of the Cerritos Library book sale on Saturday, February 24 and Sunday, February 25. A great selection of fiction and nonfiction books in English and foreign languages, plus multimedia items, will be sold at bargain prices.

The sale takes place inside the Cerritos Library, near the Craftsman area. Sale hours are 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, February 24 and from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, February 25. The Sunday sale will offer fill-a-bag for \$4 per bag for Friends of the Library members and \$5 per bag for non-members. Come early for the best selection.

The Cerritos Library is located at 18025 Bloomfield Avenue in the Cerritos Civic Center. For more information, call (562) 916-1342.

## Whittier Celebrates Opening of Paramedic Station



**NEW PARAMEDIC UNIT:** L.A. County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Whittier Mayor Joe Vinatieri and LA County Fire Department officials at new station 59 in Whittier.

Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Whittier Mayor Joe Vinatieri, and Whittier City Councilmembers, and LA County Fire Department officials celebrated a new paramedic unit stationed at LA County Fire Department Station 59 in Whittier. The new unit will shorten response times in the Whittier area.

"In the past few years, residents in the Whittier area have been calling 911 for medical emergencies more often and that was putting a strain on our LA County Fire Department paramedic units and meant longer response times," said Supervisor Hahn. "Fixing this problem became a priority for my office and this new additional paramedic team dedicated to Whittier is worth celebrating."

The new Paramedic Unit at Fire Station 59 is made up of two paramedics. Last year, Supervisor Hahn celebrated a new LA County Fire Paramedic Assess-

ment Unit at Station 28 which is made up of one paramedic and emergency medical technician partners. Both new units are proving effective in shortening response times to emergency medical calls across the Whittier region.

"This is the end of a dream come true," said Mayor Joe Vinatieri who, along with Councilmember Cathy Warner, requested the paramedic unit and the paramedic assessment unit.

"Our residents need to know that their lives matter," said Supervisor Hahn. "And no matter where they live, when they pick up the phone in need of help for themselves or a loved one, help will be on the way— fast."

At the event, Supervisor Hahn reflected on the importance of paramedics in our emergency response system decades after her father, Supervisor Kenny Hahn, launched the nation's first paramedic program here in Los Angeles County.

## Auto Square from page 1

titled *Nothing Like It In the World* is a testament to vision and determination, and will feature archival footage revealing the transformation of the land from dairy farms to the bustling Cerritos Auto Square that stands today.

Interviews with key City leaders Art Gallucci and Don Knabe as well as automotive figures Kent Browning, Dave Conant and more will provide insight into the groundbreaking steps taken to establish the world's most successful auto square.

Cerritos Auto Square was a pioneer in the concept of an 'auto mall,' a one-stop destination housing multiple competing car dealerships under one roof.

The film captures the new and risky path taken, bringing to life the characters

and innovations that shaped this automotive landmark.

Notably, the documentary showcases eight years of memorable commercials featuring Ernest Worrell, portrayed by the legendary Jim Varney.

The red carpet movie premiere will provide an unforgettable experience, featuring free photos at the step and repeat, appetizing offerings from food trucks, and opening remarks preceding the screening of the documentary.

Esteemed community leaders will be in attendance for this historic event.

The film was directed and produced by Todd Huffman of Pipeline Digital Media.

*For more information and to secure your free tickets to be part of Southern California's largest red-carpet movie premiere, visit [cerritosautosquare.com/movie](http://cerritosautosquare.com/movie)*

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## From the Assessor's Office: Tax Relief is Available for Natural Disasters

By Jeff Prang  
Los Angeles County Assessor

This has been a challenging few months when it comes to our weather because we've been ravaged by severe storms not experienced in decades. The damage has been extensive throughout California and our region has suffered significantly. The rain totals have been historic with meteorologists indicating the most recent storm was the third wettest over a two-day period since 1877.

My entire Office extends our sincerest regard to all those suffering from these storms and we do have a program that offers property tax relief for qualified property owners.

It's understandable that those affected by these storms would not be thinking about their property taxes at this difficult time. However, I did want to remind them there is property tax relief available in the event of damage to their property resulting from these types of natural disasters.

By filing a claim for Misfortune & Calamity relief within one year of the incident, properties that have sustained a minimum of \$10,000 in damage or destroyed may be eligible for a refund of taxes already paid and lower annual tax bills until the property is repaired or rebuilt.

This property tax relief is available to owners of homes, business equipment and fixtures, orchards or other agricultural groves, and to owners of aircraft, boats, and certain manufactured homes. It is not available to property that is not assessable, such as state licensed man-

ufactured homes or household furnishings.

As stated, the claim has to be filed with my office within 12 months of the event, whether it be caused by fire, earthquake, flooding or any other natural disaster, for that matter. The savings can be for a total loss of the property or a percentage of the damage as long as it's \$10,000 or more. The percentage is calculated by the appraiser using a standard formula, oftentimes in conjunction with other factors such as existing insurance.

If granted, the assessed value of your property will be reduced, effective the date the damage occurred, until the damaged structures are rebuilt or repaired, the property undergoes a change in ownership, or a base year value transfer is affected.

Furthermore, we are going to be proactively identifying eligible properties so the process can be moved forward expeditiously. These types of reassessments led to millions of dollars in property tax relief a few years back during a significant event known as the Woolsey Fire as well as victims of the Rolling Hills Estates landslides where homes were red-tagged as uninhabitable when the ground collapsed underneath their foundations, reducing homes to rubble.

The M&C claim forms - known as the Application for Reassessment: Property Damaged or Destroyed by Misfortune or Calamity - can be obtained online at <https://assessor.lacounty.gov/tax-relief/disaster-relief> or by phone at (213) 974-8658.

## Innovators from page 1

impact.

"After running the competition for more than a decade, we have enjoyed seeing the social entrepreneurs come up with transformative innovations impacting the world at large," said Yu. "We hope that the work we do here is instrumental in keeping them going. Perhaps someday, 10 to 20 years down the road, we can watch their success flourish and say, 'We had a hand in that.'"

The innovators were awarded for their early-stage, novel solutions to some of today's most confounding challenges affecting society locally and around the world.

The three award-winning teams are Beamlink, compact cell towers for rural communities, Birth By Us, a maternal health platform for women of color, and Mida, a cutting-edge translation app.

The Los Angeles-based Beamlink team Corporate Technical Officer Arpad Kovesdy, age 24, from Memphis, TN, and Corporate Executive Officer Mateo Abascal, age 24, from Alta Dena, CA, created Bentocell to help address the lack of cell service for 3.5 billion people globally.

With technology that impacts safety, education, healthcare, and equity in rural communities and disaster zones worldwide, the team felt it is imperative to have it in place especially in natural disasters such as hurricanes. In such disasters, cell phone capabilities are compromised.

Both Kovesdy, a John's Hopkins and USC alumni along with Abascal, a USC alumni, produced the lunch-box sized cell tower for rapid deployment in internet-deprived communities. At a cost reduction of 99 percent, the Bentocell can operate anywhere in the world, and is the only patented cell tower existing independently of existing infrastructure.

From the bulky metal frame of traditional cell towers, Bentocell condensed radios are placed with a small amount of processing power into one tower box, while moving the server room that is normally at the tower's base into a virtual cloud operational by the push of a single button, according to Abascal.

"By downsizing, we also removed the reliance on existing infrastructure," he said. "[And] it uses less power than a lightbulb."

He went on to explain that with the currently with the high demand for Internet all over the world, and how there are more phones than people, many people in rural communities even with phone plans drive a couple of hours into a larger town nearby to use the service.

"Every piece of this puzzle has been solved except that cell towers are still too expensive to build in these communities," Abascal said. "Our network is 1 percent the cost of a traditional network by area. [A] traditional cell tower's [cost] ranges from \$250k to \$2M."

Abascal personally believes whenever a modern technology is invented or discovered, it has the potential to either

bridge equity gaps or further them.

"[The] Internet is a complicated example where, locally, its access helps bridge equity gaps [for users] to help further education and access in a community," he explained. "But on a global scale, [the] Internet has shifted the connected world's focus to creating Internet connected solutions, even though half the world still can't access them."

"I've been in countless pitch competitions and met/worked with tons of social entrepreneurs doing amazing work, but the half the world that needs their innovations the most will never see them," Abascal said. "I've dedicated my life to bridging that gap, both through increasing Internet access around the world, and also through changing the way we use digital technology to address equity gaps."

"It's a global issue, and we're bringing this technology everywhere we can, as fast as we can," he added. "Our main model is working with carriers to help them expand affordably, and working with the communities to make sure they get the kind of access they need and will use. Our model is adaptable though, and we can work with just the community (i.e., we become the carrier) if necessary."

According to Abascal, ideally Bentocell works the same as any traditional cell network but in the background where users would never know its presence.

"There's already a misconception that the Internet is just this thing floating around in the air, or that phones talk directly to each other, and in a lot of ways that's good," he said. "Most people don't actually need to know how the Internet works; they need to know how to use it to better their lives."

"In a perfect world, we're helping communities to better education, healthcare, and overall quality of life, and no one needs to know where that came from," Abascal added.

Though they do not have any live networks yet, Beamlink has run thousands of discovery interviews over the past 6 years to ensure they fully understand the different problems faced by all involved, ensuring all problems have one solution. They have also extensively tested their network both in the lab and at their test site in the Mojave Desert, according to Abascal.

Abascal hopes Beamlink's technology will be up and running this year starting with a network they have been planning in Nigeria. By early 2025, their plans are to comfortably be operating in the African and Pacific Island markets, quickly expanding to Latin America.

"With winning the Westly Prize, and Beamlink's recent work in Africa, [its] all been incredibly motivating and reassuring," Abascal added. "We've gotten a ton of positive feedback not just about the technology, but also about our model, our focus on impact and working with communities and carriers at the same time."

Winning the Westly Foundation Award inspired Abascal to be recognized and excel even more.

"In an industry where young innovators are often overlooked, we constantly struggle to be taken seriously," said Abascal. "The Westly Foundation's mission and its emphasis on young social innovators is not only refreshing, but incredibly encouraging. We are excited to leverage the experience and network of the Foundation alongside our own innovative spirit to further our impact."

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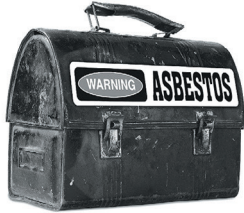
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# Keep Your Green Thumb in Shape- Starting Plants from Seeds Indoors

BY MELINDA MYERS

**K**ee your green thumb in shape this winter while getting a jump on the growing season by starting your favorite or hard-to-find plants indoors. It's fun, simpler than you think, and can help stretch your plant budget.

Start with some clean containers that you purchase, recycle, or make from newspapers. Be sure to add drainage holes to any repurposed yogurt or similar containers you are using for starting seeds to avoid waterlogged soil. Always clean used pots by soaking them in a one-part bleach and nine-part water solution for ten minutes then rinse with clear water. This helps reduce the risk of disease.

Fill the containers with a moist well-drained potting mix or a sterile seed starting mix. Once the containers are filled, check the back of your seed packets for planting directions. Most contain all the information you need for when and how to plant the seeds. Some seed companies now provide this information on their website instead of the seed packets.

Most seeds are planted about twice the seed diameter deep while smaller seeds are often set on the soil surface and gently watered in place. Once again, check the seed packet for the seeds you are growing. Plant two seeds per container just in case

one of the seeds fails to sprout.

Once planted, move the containers to a warm location. Many gardeners use heating pads designed for germinating seeds to help speed sprouting. Covering the containers with a sheet of plastic or one of the prefab domes will help conserve moisture so you will need to water less often.

Check the soil moisture daily and water often enough to keep the soil evenly moist but not soggy wet. Remove the plastic and move the containers to a sunny window or better yet, under artificial lights as soon as any green appears.

Regularly rotate plants that are growing in sunny windows to promote more even growth. Adjust artificial lights as plants grow. Most seedlings benefit from keeping the lights four to six inches above the top of the seedlings. Leave the lights on for 14 but no more than 16 hours a day. Using a timer is an easy way to make sure the plants receive the right amount of light each day.

Once the seedlings develop two sets of true leaves (these will look like the leaves of the plants you are growing), it is time to do some thinning. Remove the weakest seedling in each pot so only one strong seedling remains. Trimming the weaker seedlings back to ground level instead of pulling avoids damage to the remaining seedling.

Once seedlings have been thinned



**SEEDLINGS** should be moved to a sunny window or placed under artificial lights as soon as any green appears.

and are actively growing, use a fertilizer labeled for this use. Continue to water thoroughly and often enough to keep the planting mix slightly moist but not soggy wet.

Check the weather and seed packet to determine when it is safe to move your plants outdoors. You'll need to prepare them for their new home outdoors with a technique called hardening off. Start by moving the plants to a sheltered and shaded location after the danger of frost has passed. Stop fertilizing, and check soil moisture daily but allow it to dry just slightly before watering thoroughly.

Gradually increase the amount of sunlight the plants receive each day. Cover or move them indoors when frost is in the forecast. Your transplants are ready to move to their permanent location after a week or two.

Start gathering your supplies and seeds now. And before you know it, you will be enjoying the beautiful blooms and tasty vegetables you started from seed yourself.

*Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books. Myers' website is [MelindaMyers.com](http://MelindaMyers.com)*



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# Solidarity & Prayer Vigil to Honor Victims of Human Trafficking

By Rosemary Lewallen

St. Irenaeus Health Ministry's Bridge of Light: Human Trafficking to Human Triumph Ministry presented a powerful and prayerful program to honor victims and survivors of human trafficking on February 6 at St. Irenaeus Church. The event raised awareness of the scope of human trafficking in various forms hidden in our midst.

The evening started with Taize chant, "Veni Sancti Spiritus" (Come Holy Spirit), led by Belinda Gonzalez, Betty Borowski, Rosalie Valles and Anthony Kocal, Music Director.

A scripture reading was read by Deacon Jerry Pyne.

Human trafficking is modern day slavery that occurs in our local communities and around the world.

Men, women and children are kidnapped or coerced into labor or sexual exploitation.

It often begins with recruitment and grooming, then moves to trafficking and control. Only 2% of those trafficked ever recover or have a chance to heal.

Human trafficking is the 2nd largest and fastest growing criminal enterprise in the U.S. with close to 70% being U.S. citizens.

It has an estimated \$150 billion in annual revenue, more money worldwide than Nike, Starbucks and Google.

According to a 2023 Global Slavery Index study, more people are trafficked in the United States than the total number of residents in the state of Wyoming.

Human trafficking is most prevalent in societies with wide economic and

social disparities.

Fifty-five percent of forced labor victims and 98 percent of sex-trafficking victims are women and girls.

Labor trafficking includes forced work on farms, factories, hotels, restaurants, seafarers on cargo ships, fishers on fishing boats, and domestic help.

Hours are long, conditions are poor, and victims labor for little or no money. Victims of sex trafficking may work in brothels, strip clubs, luxury homes in gated communities or on the streets.

Aged-out foster youth who find themselves with nothing to eat, nowhere to stay and no means of support are most vulnerable. Victims are too afraid to speak up due to threats of harm from their traffickers.

A short film, "Native Hope: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and the Red Sand Project," revealed the high rate of human trafficking among indigenous women and girls.

It opened our eyes to the plight of native women in South Dakota, where the third leading cause of death for indigenous women is murder.

We also learned that California is 6th out of the top 10 states and San Francisco 10th out of the top ten cities with the highest number of missing and murdered indigenous women and girls' cases.

Rima Nashashibi, Founder and President of Global Hope 365, spoke about child marriage, another form of modern-day slavery, which is legal in 40 out of 50 states.

California is one of five states with no age limit for marriage. Child mar-



**DIVINE MERCY** prayer station during candlelit procession showing Deacon Gerald Pyne at the Prayer station during the procession in the church.

riage is marriage before age 18.

Her organization is promoting a digital letter writing campaign to California legislators to end child marriage under 18 - no exceptions.

It is also working with cities and counties to pass resolutions. Counties in California with the highest rates of human trafficking are San Diego, Los Angeles and San Francisco, according to the FBI.

Cypress Mayor, Scott Minikus, a former Long Beach Police Sergeant, talked about the plight of victims of human trafficking who are assumed

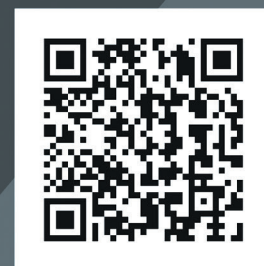
to be prostitutes when in fact, they are victims. He prayed for an end to this heinous crime.

Cypress Chief of Police, Mark Lauderback, spoke about the Orange County Human Trafficking Task Force and their efforts to fight human trafficking. He said one agency can't do it alone, and noted law enforcements' victim-centered approach to human trafficking.

If you suspect a case of human trafficking, call the Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-3737-888. If there is imminent danger, call 911.



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## CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 4AA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS

# Norwalk, Sans Ganancial, No Match for Marina in Another First Round Blowout Loss

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on Twitter

HUNTINGTON BEACH-The odds were not in favor for the Norwalk High girls basketball team and eighth-year head coach Ashley Baclaan heading into its CIF-Southern Section Division 4AA first round game at Marina High. Senior scoring star Keilani Ganancial, who scored at least 10 points in 25 out of 26 games played in, injured her foot in her last regular season game at Firebaugh High on Feb. 1.

The odds didn't get better because Baclaan herself had won just one playoff game and her teams had been blown out of the playoffs the last two seasons by Anaheim High (85-25) and Hart High (79-24). Last Thursday, it was Marina High's turn as the defending Division 5AA semi-finalist went on a 14-0 run in the first quarter and was never challenged in a 61-27 win. Norwalk, the third place representative out of the Mid-Cities League, ends the season at 13-16. The only playoff win Baclaan has experienced as a coach, or player, came in 2021, a two-point victory over Shalhevet High. She was a 2005 Norwalk graduate.

"Even last year and this year, they were good, solid teams that we went up against," said Baclaan. "Whether it's luck or...I don't know what it is, but whoever we're supposed to face, we just have to come out as prepared as possible. I still think the girls played hard; they tried their best, especially this

year because we didn't know if we were going to make it this far."

Ganancial strained her right foot against Firebaugh and was on crutches, sitting two spots from Baclaan against the Vikings. She had 16 games of scor-



ing at least 20 points and four games of at least 31 points.

Half a minute into the game, junior Janii McGarrah nailed a three-pointer before Marina scored the next seven points. Sophomore Monica Ruiz ended that streak almost two minutes into the game, but the Lancers would hit 50 percent from the field in the stanza and turned the ball over 10 times in the quarter and another 11 times in the second quarter limiting Norwalk in its

ability to get more shots off.

"That was pretty frustrating to start off in that way," said Baclaan. "Especially, you prep how many days in a row [and] you try to mimic and tell them and show them exactly what they're going

to face. They just had to be reminded and readjust themselves and get situated."

Marina led 42-16 at the break as the Lancers had four more turnovers than shots attempted. McGarrah and Ruiz each had six points in the half while sophomore Kaitlyn Moreno accounted for the other four points.

"You never want it that way," said Baclaan of missing Ganancial and the offense she brings. "We always try to push the girls to be a factor in that sense offensively and defensively. I think throughout the year, the girls definitely grew in that area. People started to find their rhythm; their comfort zone and producing whatever they can for us."

It wouldn't get better in the second half as the Lancers didn't score until the 3:53 mark of the first quarter but attempted four shots before Moreno ended that drought with a trifecta. Then with 2:24 before the fourth quarter, McGarrah scored Norwalk's last basket over the next 3:27. During that time, Norwalk missed 13 consecutive shots. It would score eight points in the final stanza, but half of those came off a four of eight performance from the charity stripe and the team went one of 18 from the field.

McGarrah led the Lancers with nine points while Ruiz added eight points and Moreno another seven points along with a team-high of nine rebounds. Norwalk would collect 35 boards from 10 of the 11 players who saw action. But in the end, the Lancers had one more free throw than field goal and 34 turnovers.

"She could be a big piece right now," said Baclaan of Moreno. "She's one of the younger ones that will consistently look to shoot and attack. With Keilani being the 20-point average [scorer], we're trying to find a way to cover that gap in points. We're just looking forward to all the girls stepping up and growing and seeing what they can bring next year."

examining the effects these reserve requirements have on the proposed rates; and, if they want to achieve the upper limit, set a more reasonable period of time to do so, maybe over 10 years. There have to be other ways to obtain financial stability besides such high rate increases."

Casting a shadow over the proposed rate increases is the lack of financial information provided in Water Resources Economics' study. Shockingly, the financial results of prior year's and current reserve balances were not included. The City of Pico Rivera initiated a public records request at PWD to receive the last two years of audited financial statements and approved budgets. According to City officials, the PWD financials were received, and the city asked PWD for more time to review the numbers and postpone the meeting; PWD declined.

Pico Rivera has options to protest the rate changes, including negotiations, public hearings, and forums to present evidence concerning the rate increase.

And many think that is excessive, including the city of Pico Rivera, which is asking the PWD to set a longer period of time to achieve its reserve goals, closer to ten years instead of three, easing the burden on its water users.

### Pico Rivera from page 1

"We would ask that PWD consider

meeting its current obligations as well as providing funding for water improvements. PRWA's increases were set well below PWD's at 10% per year for the first five years, with an automatic CPI inflator option after year five.

The driver behind the huge increases is the PWD's proposed increase to its cash-on-hand reserve targets, from about \$2 million to over \$6 million.

The PWD wants operating reserves to be set at 35% of annual operating expenses, capital improvement reserves to be set at 80% of the annual five-year capital improvement plan, a 20% rate stabilization reserve, and an emergency reserve set at \$2 million.

The increases for each category amount to a total of \$6 million, which is nearly 100% of the PWD's annual expense budget; with that, the agency will achieve its reserve targets set by the study in five years.

And many think that is excessive, including the city of Pico Rivera, which is asking the PWD to set a longer period of time to achieve its reserve goals, closer to ten years instead of three, easing the burden on its water users.

"We would ask that PWD consider

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

**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 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.

### VALENTINE'S DAY IS HERE

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

Arrows, Atmosphere, Bars, Bills, Bows, Boyfriends, Candy, Cards, Care, Chocolates, Color, Cupid, Dance, Dates, Decorations, Feel, Flowers, Food, Gasp, Gift, Girlfriends, Husbands, Kids, Kiss, Letters, Lovers, Loving, Meal, Orchids, Parties, Poems, Reds, Ribbons, Roses, Send, Song, Spice, Sweethearts, Telegrams, Telephones, Verse, Warm, Wishes, Wives, Words

Solution on page 13.

Solution: 8 letters



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## CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 5AA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS

# La Mirada Corrals the Bison to Lock Up Historic Win in the Program, Will Host Quarterfinal Game

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X

WINCHESTER-You had to excuse the La Mirada High girls basketball team as it entered the gymnasium of Liberty High, an hour before last Saturday night's CIF-Southern Section Division 5AA second round game. While the Matadores have had little success in the playoffs, Liberty was built coming out of the pandemic and had a full varsity basketball squad for just two years.

Once La Mirada put its game face on for shootaround practice it was all serious and despite unusually sloppy play from both teams for a playoff contest, the Matadores, ranked third in the division, had enough to outlast the Bison 45-35. They improved to 20-5 as they will host unranked Santa Ana High on Wednesday.

While Liberty has the flashy new gym in which spectators can look down onto the court from the second level, the one thing that concerned L.M. head coach Victoria Luong was its lack of history. The Bison



**THE LA MIRADA HIGH GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM** after its 45-35 victory at Liberty High last Saturday in a CIF-Southern Section Division 5AA second round playoff game. According to a former Suburban League girls basketball coach, this is the first time La Mirada has won at least one playoff game since the late 1980s. Photo by Loren Kopff.

fielded a junior varsity team for the 2021-2022 season, went 9-10 last season and entered the second round contest at 12-10, having defeated Sierra Vista High 38-35 last Thursday.

"Just look at their history; just not having any data," said Luong. "And then not having any info on their players or

background... we watched film, but again, there's limited info out there. We did the best we could with what we had. But we made it and I'm proud of the girls."

"It's exciting to be playing with these people and making records for my school," said senior Jirah Domingo.

Both teams took a while to get going as the Bison took a quick 4-2 lead 71 seconds in, then missed their next 14 shots from the field. While this was going on, the Matadores couldn't take advantage the way they wanted to because they turned the ball over 10 times in the first quarter while

Liberty had half a dozen turnovers.

A steal from junior Jael Arreguin, who fed the ball to Domingo, gave the second place representative from the Mid-Cities League the lead for good at the 5:28 mark. Those two hooked up again in the same format to make it 12-5 with just under a minute remaining in the stanza. The Matadores would lead by seven on two occasions in the second quarter, only to see the Bison storm back to tie the contest on a Giana Crosby basket with 22.3 seconds left before the break.

La Mirada led 25-23 at the break, but turned the ball over seven more times while Liberty had a dozen by halftime in a sloppy first 16 minutes that saw the hosts take 35 shots from the field while La Mirada went 10 of 33 from the field.

"It was, it was," said Luong of the sloppy play. "In the first half, it was just sloppy, and we talked to them at halftime. I think the hardest part is their mental game. Getting them to

{See **La Mirada** pg. 13}

## NEWS AND NOTES FROM PRESS ROW

# Cerritos Girls Hoopsters Advance to Semifinals Following Back and Forth Battle With Oak Hills

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X

HESPERIA-In a game that saw eight lead changes and six ties, most coming in the second half, it was only fitting that the CIF-Southern Section Division 3AA quarterfinal contest between the Cerritos High girls and Oak Hills High would go into overtime. Both teams would blow seven-point leads but in overtime, a pair of free throws from senior Mia Rivera with 81 seconds remaining stood up and the Dons, ranked 15th in the division, escaped with a 51-48 victory this past Wednesday.

Cerritos improved to 22-9 overall and will host 11th-ranked Cantwell-Sacred Heart of Mary High on Saturday. The Cardinals stunned third-ranked Anaheim High 61-47 this past Wednesday in another quarterfinal tilt. This is the second time in three seasons that Cerritos head coach Marcus Chinen has guided the Dons to the semifinals.

"I don't know; it's a dream I guess," said Chinen. "That's tough to say. Pinch me if not awake, but that's what we play for. Hopefully, we can do our job and duplicate what we did two years ago."

After holding the lead for most of the opening quarter, the Dons let the game slip away nearly midway through the second quarter as the sev-

enth-ranked Bulldogs went on a 12-2 run to take a 25-18 lead with 2:28 remaining in the half. Cerritos would get a basket from Rivera, a three-pointer from senior Mailee Dizon and a pair of free throws from Rivera down the stretch, even though Oak Hills led 29-25 at the break.

But Chinen's halftime speech sparked the team, which began the second half on an 8-0 run. The Bulldogs wouldn't score until the 3:22 mark of the stanza and wouldn't hit a field goal until Kivonni Williams sank a three-pointer with 1:19 left in the quarter, making it 37-33 Cerritos.

"We were just flat; they weren't playing their game," said Chinen of the half. "Their intensity... they're a great team and their defense came out and they came right at us, and they gave us punches in the mouth. That was the difference in the first half. In the second half, we tried not to allow that to happen, but they still came back super strong. That's a very, very good team."

One of the third quarter sparks was Rivera, who nailed all four of her free throw attempts, had three assists, three rebounds and two steals. While she didn't attempt a shot from the field in the second half, or overtime, Rivera finished the game with 16 points, the most for her since scoring 19 points against Gig Harbor (WA) on Dec. 27. The 16 points is also

the fourth highest output this season for her.

"She didn't want to go down [with a loss]," said Chinen. "We had an off game from [senior Oneyka Nwanze] and she just did not want to give up. She was the one who was the difference maker in this game. Also, [senior] Faith Lacorte came out and played some tough defense and that's all we ask from her."

The Dons, who were held to their lowest output since a 49-34 win at Laguna Beach High on Jan. 27, led by four points heading into the fourth quarter. But the Bulldogs, who lost to Yucca Valley High two seasons ago, whom Cerritos then defeated, scored eight of the first 10 points of the fourth quarter to take a 43-41 lead with 4:28 left in regulation. That was countered by a 5-0 run by the 605 League champions, only to see Samantha Santiago send the game into overtime with a three-pointer from the right corner with 6.4 seconds left.

She would score the first points of overtime, but Oak Hills then missed its next five shots from the field. Cerritos survived an intense, deafening crowd which still didn't fill up the entire gymnasium. Oak Hills, which opened in 2009, was seeking its second trip to the semifinals, having accomplished that feat in 2016.

"It played a lot," said Chinen of the crowd. "The reason why is we're not used to

that stuff. To have that happen and that crowd... that's what championships are all about. So, we'll see what happens in the next round."

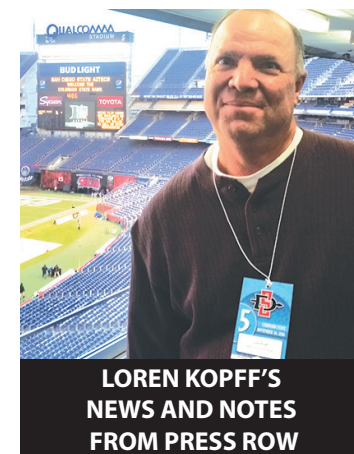
Nwanze led everyone with 21 points but had 11 rebounds while four other players combined for the other 14 points. The winner of the Cerritos-CSHM game will face the winner of the Oak Park High-Torrance High contest. Oak Park is the top-ranked team in the division while Torrance is unranked.

**BASEBALL** (scheduled games subject to change due to inclement weather)

Artesia High was scheduled to visit Santiago High last Saturday for a doubleheader to kick off the 2024 season but lost to Anaheim High 7-0 this past Tuesday. The Pioneers will host St. Anthony High today and Bolsa Grande High on Tuesday.

Cerritos blanked Valley Christian High 7-0 last Saturday and outdueled Marina High 12-7 this past Tuesday. The Dons entertained Hemet High on Feb. 15 in the first game of the Newport Elks Tournament and will have games in the tournament on Tuesday and Thursday.

Gahr High split its first two games of the PBR Invitational, defeating Cypress High 6-2 last Saturday before falling to JSerra High 11-9 this past Tuesday. The Gladiators faced Huntington Beach High on Feb. 15 and



**LOREN KOPFF'S  
NEWS AND NOTES  
FROM PRESS ROW**

will face their fourth tournament opponent on Tuesday.

John Glenn High lost its season opener to Bell Gardens High 12-5 this past Tuesday and went to Cabrillo High on Feb. 15 and will host Whittier High on Tuesday.

La Mirada High fell to Santa Margarita High 2-1 and South Hills High 6-4 in the PBR Invitational and faced El Dorado High on Feb. 15 in the tournament with a final game coming on Tuesday.

Norwalk High dropped a 5-1 decision to St. Paul High last Saturday and was edged by Legacy Prep 2-1 this past Tuesday. The Lancers will visit Sierra Vista High on Saturday, Bellflower High on Tuesday and Paramount High on Wednesday.

V.C. defeated Sage Hill High 7-5 this past Tuesday and hosted Citrus Valley High on Feb. 15. The Defenders will also be home to Bishop Montgomery High on Saturday

{See **Cerritos** pg. 13}

**CITY OF PICO RIVERA CITY COUNCIL  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER THE APPROVAL OF GENERAL PLAN  
UPDATE NO. 62 AND ZONE CODE AMENDMENT NO. 194**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a public hearing will be held before the City of Pico Rivera City Council to consider General Plan Amendment No. 62 and Zone Code Amendment No. 194. General Plan Amendment No. 62 is initiated by the Director of Community & Economic Development pursuant to findings received from the California State Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) regarding the Sixth Cycle Housing Element Update and includes adoption of a revised draft Sixth Cycle Housing Element Update pursuant to HCD’s findings. Zone Code Amendment No. 194 is initiated by the Director of Community & Economic Development, pursuant to findings received from HCD regarding Zone Code Amendment No. 190 and includes various text amendments to Title 18, *Zoning*, of the Pico Rivera Municipal Code pursuant to HCD’s findings.

**WHEN:** Tuesday February 27, 2024,

**TIME:** 6:00 P.M.

**WHERE:** Council Chambers  
6615 Passons Blvd  
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

**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 City Clerks Office at City Hall, 6615 Passons Boulevard, Pico Rivera, California. Additional information may be found at the City’s website at <https://www.pico-rivera.org/index.php/housing-element/>. Please contact Jordan Perez, Economic Development Analyst at 562-801-2163 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.

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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 City Clerk’s Office 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.

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 2/16/24

**AYUNTAMIENTO DE LA CIUDAD DE PICO RIVERA  
AVISO DE AUDIENCIA PÚBLICA PARA CONSIDERAR LA  
APROBACIÓN DE LA ENMIENDA AL PLAN GENERAL NO. 62 y  
LA ENMIENDA DEL CÓDIGO DE ZONA NÚM. 194**

**POR LA PRESENTE SE NOTIFICA** que se llevará a cabo una audiencia pública ante el Concejo Municipal de la Ciudad de Pico Rivera para considerar la Enmienda al Plan General No. 62 y la Enmienda del Código de Zona Núm. 194. La Enmienda No. 62 del Plan General de conformidad Iniciado por el director de Desarrollo Comunitario y Económico con las conclusiones recibidas del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo Comunitario del Estado de California (HCD) con respecto al Elemento de Vivienda del Sexto Ciclo. La Enmienda No. 62 del Plan General incluye la adopción del Elemento de Vivienda del Sexto Ciclo revisado de acuerdo con las conclusiones del HCD. La Enmienda No. 194 del Código de Zona de conformidad, iniciada por Director de Desarrollo Comunitario y Económico, con las conclusiones recibidas del Departamento de Vivienda y Desarrollo HCD. La Enmienda No. 194 del Código de Zona incluye varias enmiendas de texto al Título 18, Zonificación, del Código Municipal de Pico Rivera de conformidad con las conclusiones del HCD.

**CUÁNDO:** martes, 27 de febrero de 2024

**HORA:** 6:00 P.M.

**DÓNDE:** Cámara del Consejo  
6615 Passon Boulevard  
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

**LAS PERSONAS INTERESADAS EN ESTE ASUNTO** que deseen observar la reunión pueden hacerlo de las siguientes maneras:

- (1) Sintone su televisión al Canal 3;
- (2) Sitio web de la ciudad en <https://bit.ly/picorivera-ctv3live>;
- (3) Enviar comentarios públicos por correo electrónico a [publiccomments@pico-rivera.org](mailto:publiccomments@pico-rivera.org) antes de las 4:00 p. m. el día de la reunión;
- (4) Asistir personalmente a la Audiencia Pública

Las copias de todo el material relevante, incluyendo las especificaciones del proyecto, están disponibles para el público para su revisión en el Departamento de la City Clerk, 6615 Passons Boulevard, Pico Rivera, California. Se puede encontrar información adicional en el sitio web de la Ciudad en <https://www.pico-rivera.org/index.php/housing-element/>. Comuníquese con Jordan Perez, analista de desarrollo económico al 562-801-2163 si tiene preguntas adicionales.

Si tiene una objeción a la consideración o adopción de las solicitudes propuestas en el tribunal, es posible que se limite a plantear solo aquellas cuestiones que usted u otra persona hayan planteado en la audiencia pública descrita en este aviso, o la correspondencia escrita entregada a la secretaria municipal de Pico Rivera durante o antes de la audiencia pública.

\*\*\*\*\*

De acuerdo con la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades de 1990, la Ciudad de Pico Rivera se compromete a proporcionar adaptaciones razonables para una persona con discapacidad. Comuníquese con el Departamento del Secretario de la Ciudad llamando al (562) 801-4389 si se necesitan adaptaciones especiales del programa y/o si se necesita información del programa en un formato alternativo. Las solicitudes especiales deben hacerse en un período de tiempo razonable para que se puedan organizar las adaptaciones.

Publicado en Noticias de la Comunidad de Los Cerritos 16/02/24

**CITY OF LA MIRADA**

Please take notice that on February 13, 2024, the City Council of the City of La Mirada adopted the following Ordinance:

**ORDINANCE NO. 732 REVISING REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO ENTERTAINMENT PERMITS, AND AMENDING TITLE 4 OF THE LA MIRADA MUNICIPAL CODE**

**Summary of Ordinance No. 732**

Ordinance No. 732 made the following amendments to Title 4 of the LMMC:

- Section 4.35.120 is amended to read as follows:  
“Except as provided herein, each permit granted hereunder shall be valid for a period of four years following the date of approval. Upon expiration, a new permit is required to be applied for and received in order to continue to provide entertainment at the authorized location. Each permit is issued to the applicant business entity. No entertainment permit is transferable. Each current permit shall terminate and be void immediately upon: (i) a change of ownership or sale or other transfer of the business entity to which the permit was issued. A ‘change of ownership’ includes, but is not limited to, sale or conveyance of more than fifty percent (50%) ownership interest in the business entity to which the permit was issued; or, (ii) relocation of the business where the permit authorized entertainment.”
- Section 4.35.130 requiring a guard be present at dances was deleted.

The names of those Councilmembers voting for or against Ordinance No. 732 are as follows:

AYES: Councilmembers Eng, Lewis, Otero, Mayor De Ruse  
 NOES: None  
 ABSTAIN: None  
 ABSENT: Mayor Pro Tem Sarega

A certified copy of the entirety of the text of Ordinance No. 732 is available in the office of the City Clerk, City of La Mirada, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California, and is available for public inspection at that location.

Anne Haraksin, La Mirada City Clerk

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter 2/16/24

**CITY OF LA MIRADA  
NOTICE INVITING BIDS**

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT NO. 2023-01  
CARPET AND FLOORING REPLACEMENT AT VARIOUS CITY FACILITIES**

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. 2023-01. Work includes carpet and flooring replacement at various City facilities.

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 the ARC Southern California website: [https://customer.e-arc.com/arcEOC/PWELL\\_Main.asp?mem=29](https://customer.e-arc.com/arcEOC/PWELL_Main.asp?mem=29). Look under PUBLIC PLANROOM and click GO, then search for City of La Mirada from the dropdown list titled “in all company”. You can also contact ARC at (949) 660-1150 or [costamesa.planwell@e-arc.com](mailto:costamesa.planwell@e-arc.com) to request Plans and Specifications.

Sealed bids shall be delivered to the City Clerk at or before 11 a.m. on April 3, 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 2/16 and 2/23/24

**NOTICE OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the **Cerritos City Council** will consider the item listed below at a regular meeting on **Thursday, February 22, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.: Review and consideration to waive full reading of and introduce AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CERRITOS AMENDING CHAPTER 3.20 OF THE CERRITOS MUNICIPAL CODE TO UPDATE VARIOUS MUNICIPAL CODE PURCHASING STANDARDS TO ALIGN WITH THE STANDARDS SET FORTH WITHIN THE RECENTLY ADOPTED CITY OF CERRITOS POLICY AND PROCEDURE MANUAL.** *City Attorney Summary:* Chapter 3.20 of the Cerritos Municipal Code (CMC) governs the purchasing and procurement of supplies, equipment, and services for the City of Cerritos (City). This Ordinance, if adopted, would amend various sections of Chapter 3.20 to clarify and align the CMC with the City Council’s recently adopted amendments to the City of Cerritos Policy and Procedure Manual, Policy No. 8.03, which sets forth implementing policies for the purchasing and procurement of supplies, equipment, and services. Among other provisions, the proposed Ordinance clarifies and aligns the CMC with Policy No. 8.03 regarding (i) formal and informal bidding requirements, (ii) bid protest procedures, (iii) use of specific types of procurement contracts, and (iv) other general contracting authority, as specified. A copy of the full text of this proposed Ordinance can be viewed or obtained by contacting the City Clerk’s Office during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., weekends and observed holidays excepted) at 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703, [city\\_clerk@cerritos.us](mailto:city_clerk@cerritos.us), or (562) 916-1248. This meeting will be conducted in person in the Cerritos City Council Chamber, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, California, 90703. The meeting will also air live on Cerritos TV3 and will be streamed over the City of Cerritos website at [www.cerritos.us](http://www.cerritos.us). A copy of the related agenda report will be available for download from the website on the Friday prior to the public meeting. Public comments can be provided during the meeting or via email to [city\\_clerk@cerritos.us](mailto:city_clerk@cerritos.us) or by hard copy to the Office of the City Clerk no later than 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Please identify the agenda item number in the subject line of the email or hard copy document. All written correspondence received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline will be distributed to the legislative body prior to the meeting. During the meeting, your name and summary comments will be read into the record. The document will be retained with the public record of the meeting. Any person interested in this matter may contact the Office of the City Clerk at (562) 916-1248 for additional information and/or appear at the meeting in person or by agent and be heard. /s/Vida Barone, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 2/16/24

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS**

VIOLETTA MIKHELASHVILI-BLECHMAN filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: VIOLETTA MIKHELASHVILI-BLECHMAN TO VIOLETTA MIKHELASHVILI. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant a petition without a hearing. Court date 2/23/24, at the SUPERIOR COURT COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 1725 MAIN ST., SANTA MONICA, CA., 90401. A HEARING will be held MARCH 1., 2024 at 8:30 am, Dept K. Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9/24 Case number 24SMCP0005



**La Mirada** from page 11

reset...and I think that halftime [talk] kind of helped them to reset them and we came back strong in the third and fourth quarters, which is what we needed.

"I was just reminding the bigs that we need them on defense; that they just need to go in and play strong defense," she later added. "We told them because they were double-teaming Jirah; that it's a game of the bigs. It was their time to step up and be a part of the team as opposed to just relying on Jirah and Jael all the time."

"I think everyone just has their nerves," said Domingo. "But I think our talk at halftime really turned us around."

While Domingo was pacing everyone with 10 points in the first half, she was saddled with three fouls, the last coming with 2:58 left before halftime. She picked up her fourth foul late in the third quarter, but the Matadores brought out their defense in the stanza. Liberty had 17 turnovers in the third quarter and missed all 15 shots it took. La Mirada wasn't much better, shooting two of 20 from the field in the quarter, but was able to increase its lead to 33-24 with eight minutes left to play, but Domingo never fouled out.

"She knows the game well enough that she knows her limit," said Luong of the team's lone senior. "She knows the game, so she can control it, and we just tell her it's not worth the foul. We told her to look at some of their shots, and we put the pressure on them. That was sufficient that we didn't need to force

a foul on them. She was able to use her head and really play smart on that."

The Matadores scored the first six points of the fourth quarter to hold their largest lead of the contest with five minutes remaining. That was followed by the Bison scoring the next five points, but their deficit never got under double digits. Domingo led everyone with 16 points and attempted 31 shots but was perfect in six free throw attempts. Freshman Jordin Shaw added nine points and five rebounds while Arreguin pitched in with six points and just as many boards.

However, Luong and her team received a big game from junior Emily Gonzalez, who scored six points and grabbed 20 rebounds, seven coming from the offensive end.

"She's actually stepped it up recently," said Luong. "A couple of games into league this year is when she really turned around and just started to have focus. She does have an incentive from her parents. They do give her two dollars per rebound, so that was a strong incentive for her."

For La Mirada to even get this far has been a work in progress. Since Luong took over, the Matadores have gone from zero wins to two, 10 and now 20 and she had never been to the playoffs until this season. Dating back to 1994, the Matadores had lost at least 12 straight playoff games.

"Honestly, we've had a lot of injuries and I know that kind of hurt us because I know everyone is a big part of the team," said Domingo. "But other than that, I think we've grown a lot in our chemistry and our skill, and we just all have fun on the court."

**Cerritos** from page 11

before travelling to Los Amigos High on Wednesday.

Whitney High was scheduled to visit Jordan High last Saturday in what was to be the program's first game since Mar. 9, 2020. However, the Wildcats will go to Cabrillo on Wednesday.

**SOFTBALL** (scheduled games subject to change due to inclement weather)

Artesia edged Bellflower 7-6 this past Tuesday in its season opener and visited Paramount on Feb. 15. The Pioneers will travel to Legacy Prep on Tuesday before facing V.C. on Thursday in the first game of the St. Joseph/May-fair Tournament.

Cerritos rallied to nip V.C. 3-2 this past Tuesday in the season opener for both teams. The Defenders scored twice in the top of the first inning on two-out singles from junior shortstop Britton Brown and sophomore catcher Briana Ramirez. But the Dons sliced their deficit in half in the bottom of the first as senior first baseman Natalie Gardea reached on an error and scored on a base hit from junior shortstop Michelle Meza.

Two innings later, Gardea reached on a fielder's choice and tied the game on a bases loaded, infield knock from senior center fielder Presley Hendrix. The game-winner was scored in the sixth when Meza led off with a triple to right field and stole home two batters later. Brown, Ramirez and freshman left

fielder Rachel Zhang all had a pair of hits as the Defenders went to Rio Hondo Prep on Feb. 15 and will face Garden Grove High and Santa Ana High on Saturday in the Savanna Showcase.

Meza and senior pitcher Kylee Manibusan each had two hits as the Dons went to Newport Harbor High on Feb. 15 before hosting Norwalk on Tuesday and venturing to Mark Keppel High on Thursday.

Gahr is off to a 2-0 start following a 4-1 win against Chino Hills High and a 6-2 victory over Vista Murrieta High last Saturday in the 1st Pitch Challenge Classic. The Gladiators will face Huntington Beach and Aliso Niguel High on Saturday to conclude the tournament before going to California High on Wednesday and Millikan High on Thursday.

Glenn got past Baldwin Park High 10-9 last Saturday for its only game until Feb. 23 while La Mirada was also in the 1st Pitch Challenge where it defeated JSerra 7-1 but lost to Huntington Beach 4-1. The Matadores will square off against Los Alamitos High and Millikan Hill on Saturday, then play Yucaipa High and Upland High on Thursday in the Norco Showcase.

Norwalk lost to Downey High 9-6 this past Tuesday and will host Whittier on Friday and El Rancho High on Thursday while Whitney's season was to begin this past Tuesday at Western High. The Wildcats will travel to Bolsa Grande on Friday and Orange High on Tuesday.

**CITY OF PICO RIVERA CITY COUNCIL  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR  
WAREHOUSE URGENCY ORDINANCE**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that a public hearing will be held before the City of Pico Rivera City Council to consider the approval of an urgency ordinance to prohibit further development and intensification of warehouse and distribution facilities and similar land uses. The urgency ordinance is applicable to the City of Pico Rivera's industrial zoned districts.

**WHEN:** February 27, 2024

**TIME:** 6:00 P.M.

**WHERE:** City Hall Council Chambers  
6615 Passons Boulevard  
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA, Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.), the State CEQA Guidelines (California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Sections 15000 et seq.), and the environmental regulations of the City. Upon review, it has been determined that that this Urgency Ordinance is not subject to environmental review pursuant to Sections 15060(c)(2) and 15060(c)(3) of the State Guidelines for Implementation of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

**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

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 the City Clerk's office 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.

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 2/16/24

**CITY OF PICO RIVERA CITY COUNCIL  
NOTICE OF 10-DAY PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING PERMANENT LOCAL HOUSING  
ALLOCATION (PLHA) GRANT APPLICATION AND PLAN FOR FUNDING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that, pursuant to a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) dated December 29, 2023, a public hearing will be held before the City of Pico Rivera City Council as follows:

**WHEN:** February 27, 2024

**TIME:** 6:00 P.M.

**WHERE:** City Hall Council Chambers  
6615 Passons Boulevard  
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

At the above-described public meeting, the City of Pico Rivera ("City") will consider taking action to approve the Permanent Local Housing Allocation ("PLHA") grant application and 5-year plan pursuant to a Notice of Funding Availability ("NOFA") issued by the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development ("HCD") on December 29, 2023. Senate Bill 2 (SB 2), known as the Building Homes and Jobs Act, established the PLHA program with the principal goal to make funding available to eligible local governments for housing related projects and programs to assist in addressing the unmet needs of the local community, with prioritization of serving households at or below 60% of the area median income. As an entitlement jurisdiction, the City is eligible to receive up to \$2,033,838 over 5 years. The 5-year funding amount is an estimate and may fluctuate based upon revenue generated by real estate transactions. To receive the funds, the City must submit a 5-year PLHA Plan describing how the funds will be used.

The City is proposing to allocate 50% of the PLHA funding under the eligible category of, "The predevelopment, development, acquisition, rehabilitation, and preservation of Affordable rental and ownership housing, including Accessory dwelling units (ADUs), that meets the needs of a growing workforce earning up to 120 percent of AMI, or 150 percent of AMI in high-cost areas. ADUs shall be available for occupancy for a term of no less than 30 days." The remaining PLHA funding (50%) will be allocated for the eligible category of, "Assisting persons who are experiencing or at-risk of homelessness, including, but not limited to, providing rapid rehousing, rental assistance, supportive/case management services that allow people to obtain and retain housing, operating and capital costs for navigation centers and emergency shelters, and the new construction, rehabilitation, and preservation of permanent and transitional housing."

**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 Eduardo Lizarraga, Community & Economic Development Analyst, at (562) 801-4420 or [elizarraga@pico-rivera.org](mailto:elizarraga@pico-rivera.org) 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 the City Clerk's office 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.

Dated: February 16, 2024

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 2/16/24

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## ATTORNEY

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**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE**  
(Division 6 of the Commercial Code)  
Escrow No. 01-42167-066  
(1) Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller(s) that a bulk sale is about to be made on personal property hereinafter described.  
(2) The name and business addresses of the Seller are: J & J MACHINE & ENGINEERING, INC., 5612 EAST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD, COMMERCE CA 90040  
(3) The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is: 5612 EAST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD, COMMERCE CA 90040  
(4) The names and business address of the Buyer(s) are: JAM MAINTENANCE, LLC, 16250 CRESCENT MOON COURT, RIVERSIDE, CA 92503  
(5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: MACHINE AND ENGINEERING COMPANY AND ALL ASSETS OF THE AFORESAID COMPANY, INCLUDING FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, MACHINERY, GOODWILL of that certain business located at: 5614 EAST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD, COMMERCE, CA 90040  
(6) The business name used by the seller(s) at said location is: J & J MACHINE & ENGINEERING  
(7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is MARCH 6, 2024, at the office of INTER VALLEY ESCROW, 516 BURCHETT ST. SUITE 201, GLENDALE, CA 91203, Escrow No. 01-42167-066, Escrow Officer: PJ TRUJILLO AND SUZY TCHOULDJIAN  
(8) Claims may be filed with Same as "7" above.  
(9) The last date for filing claims is: MARCH 5, 2024.  
(10) This Bulk Sale is subject to Section 6106.2 of the Uniform Commercial Code.  
(11) As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer are: NONE  
Dated: FEBRUARY 6, 2024  
TRANSFEREES: JAM MAINTENANCE, LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY  
2148269-PP COMMERCE COMMUNITY NEWS 2/16/24

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE**  
(Division 6 of the Commercial Code)  
Escrow No. 623308-SL  
(1) Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller(s) that a bulk sale is about to be made on personal property hereinafter described  
(2) The name and business addresses of the seller are: DOUBLE Y FOOD, INC, 4079 HARDWICK STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712  
(3) The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is: DOUBLE Y FOOD, INC, 4079 HARDWICK STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712  
(4) The names and business address of the Buyer(s) are: GOLDEN PK, 4079 HARDWICK STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712  
(5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: FURNITURE, FIXTURE AND EQUIPMENT, TRADENAME, GOODWILL, LEASE, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENT, COVENANT NOT TO COMPETE of that certain business located at: 4079 HARDWICK STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712  
(6) The business name used by the seller(s) at said location is: WASABI RAMEN BAR @ 4079 HARDWICK STREET, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712  
(7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is MARCH 6, 2024 at the office of: METRO ESCROW, INC., 3600 WILSHIRE BLVD., SUITE 326, LOS ANGELES, CA 90010, Escrow No. 623308-SL, Escrow Officer: SUNNY HEE LEE  
(8) Claims may be filed with Same as "7" above  
(9) The last date for filing claims is: MARCH 5, 2024.  
(10) This Bulk Sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2.  
(11) As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer are: NONE  
Dated: JANUARY 24, 2024  
TRANSFEREES: GOLDEN PK, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION  
2144086-PP LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 2/16/24

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE**  
(UCC Sec. 6105)  
Escrow No. 240309-SP  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale is about to be made. The name(s), business address(es) to the Seller(s) are: MYOUNG SOON JON, 12260 SOUTH STREET, CERRITOS, CA 90701  
Doing Business as: HAIR TOTAL  
All other business name(s) and address(es) used by the Seller(s) within three years, as stated by the Seller(s), is/are:  
The name(s) and address of the Buyer(s) is/are: HYUN JU KIM, 12260 SOUTH STREET, CERRITOS, CA 90701  
The assets to be sold are described in general as: ALL STOCK IN TRADE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, GOODWILL, TRADENAME, LEASE, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, AND COVENANT NOT TO COMPETE and are located at: 12260 SOUTH STREET, CERRITOS, CA 90701  
The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: TEAM ESCROW BP, INC, 6025 BEACH BLVD, BUENA PARK, CA 90621 and the anticipated sale date is MARCH 6, 2024  
The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform 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: TEAM ESCROW BP, INC, 6025 BEACH BLVD, BUENA PARK, CA 90621 and the last date for filing claims shall be MARCH 5, 2024, which is the business day before the sale date specified above.  
BUYER: HYUN JU KIM  
ORD-2150071 LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 2/16/24

**CITY OF BELLFLOWER  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
REGARDING ADMINISTRATIVE APPEAL CASE NO. AP 23-01**

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Bellflower Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706 to consider Southern California Alcohol and Drug Programs, Inc's appeal of a Director's Determination that Accessory Dwelling Unit development on property developed and utilized as a community care facility with approximately 23 persons, located at 16314 Cornuta Avenue, is inconsistent with California law and the Bellflower Municipal Code. The proposed action is exempt from environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code §§ 21000, et seq., "CEQA") and CEQA regulations (14 California Code of Regulations §§ 15000, et seq.; "CEQA Guidelines") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines §§ 15061(b)(3) and 15378(b)(5) because they: do not involve any commitment to a specific project which could result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that such action may have a significant effect on the environment; and do not constitute a "project" requiring environmental review.

The City of Bellflower invites members of the public to review and comment on this item. Copies of the staff report and supporting documents regarding this matter may be inspected by the public on the City's website at [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org), or by appointment in the Planning Division's Office at Bellflower City Hall, 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, California; telephone number (562) 804-1424, extension 2248. All written comments concerning this may be submitted to Jason Clarke at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706; or by email at [jclarke@bellflower.org](mailto:jclarke@bellflower.org).

If you wish to challenge this item 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 City at or before the Public Hearing.

**ELIZABETH C. OBA  
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES**

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 2/9/24

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE**  
(Division 6 of the Commercial Code)  
Escrow No. L- 040946-JB  
(1) Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller(s) that a bulk sale is about to be made on personal property hereinafter described.  
(2) The name and business addresses of the seller are: GREAT KHAN MB, LLC, 131 LOS CERRITOS CENTER, CERRITOS, CA 90703  
(3) The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is:  
(4) The names and business address of the Buyer(s) are: JC COCO, INC, 721 E. CYPRESS AVE #105, BURBANK, CA 91501  
(5) The location and general description of the assets to be sold are: FURNITURE, FIXTURE, AND EQUIPMENT, COVENANT NOT TO COMPETE, GOODWILL, TRADE-NAME, LEASE, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS of that certain business located at: 131 LOS CERRITOS CENTER, CERRITOS, CA 90703  
(6) The business name used by the seller(s) at said location is: GREAT KHAN'S MONGOLIAN GRILL CERRITOS  
(7) The anticipated date of the bulk sale is MARCH 6, 2024, at the office of TOWER ESCROW INC, 3400 W. OLYMPIC BLVD, #201, LOS ANGELES, CA 90019, Escrow No. L-040946-JB, Escrow Officer: JULIE BAHANG  
(8) Claims may be filed with Same as "7" above.  
(9) The last date for filing claims is: MARCH 5, 2024  
(10) This Bulk Sale is subject to Section 6106.2 of the Uniform Commercial Code.  
(11) As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer are: NONE  
Dated: OCTOBER 6, 2023  
TRANSFEREES: JC COCO, INC, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION  
ORD-2140486 LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 2/16/24

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT**  
File Number 2024022376  
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: TGR SOLUTIONS, 360 EAST 2ND STREET SUITE 600, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90012, LOS ANGELES COUNTY, REGISTERED OWNER: TGR SOLUTIONS, 360 EAST 2ND STREET SUITE 600, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90012. INCORPORATED IN DELAWARE. THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS A CORPORATION. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 1/2023. 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/ TGR SOLUTIONS, CEO, JOHN RHEE. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 1/31/24. In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the of notice of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). LCCN 2/9, 1/16, 2/23/, 3/1/24

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DALE JOSEPH VERTREES CASE NO. 23STPB13087** To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of DALE JOSEPH VERTREES A PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION has been filed by SAMETH KONG TENG in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION requests that SAMETH KONG TENG be appointed as ADMINISTRATOR the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. A \$31,098.00 BOND WILL BE FURNISHED BY AN ADMITTED SURETY INSURER. OR AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED BY LAW. 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: 3/12/24 at 8:30AM Dept. 2D 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 SAMETH KONG TENG Self represented 562-569-3069 LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 2/2, 2/9, 2/16, 2/23/24

**NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS  
BANDINI LIBRARY & LEARNING CENTER**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CITY OF COMMERCE, referred to as "CITY", invites sealed bids for BANDINI LIBRARY & LEARNING CENTER, and will receive bids on **PlanetBids**, up to the hour of **2:00 PM, March 12, 2024**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud online. Late submittals will not be considered. It is the bidder's responsibility to upload the bid proposal file by the due date to City's portal on PlanetBids.

Electronic files of the Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents are available for download on the City's portal on PlanetBids.

Working hours for are from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The work shall be completed within 120 working days after the City's Notice to Proceed.

**A mandatory pre-bid meeting will be held on February 21, 2023, at 10:00 AM in front of Bandini Library & Learning Center at 2269 S Atlantic Blvd, Commerce, CA 90040.** Every Bidder is required to attend the pre-bid meeting and Project site visit. Failure of a Bidder to attend will render that Bidder's Bid non-responsive.

Each Bidder shall possess a valid California Class B General Building License issued by the California State Contractors License Board at the time of the Bid submission for this project. The contractor must employ a hazardous abatement contractor for the lead, mold, and asbestos abatement activities that has a California C22 Contractor's License in good standing with the Contractor's State License Board, is registered with the California Department of Industrial Relations Division of Occupational Safety & Health ('DOSH' or 'Cal/OSHA'), a California Department of Public Health (CDPH) lead worker and supervisor certification, a Hazardous Substance Removal Certification, a Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) certification, and a American National Standards Institute / Institute of Inspection Cleaning & Restoration Certification (ANSI / IICRC) S500 and S520, and comply with the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1403 (i) Asbestos Training Requirements. The successful Contractor must also possess a current City business license before commencing work.

This project is subject to the requirements of SB 854. No prime contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal and may be awarded for a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5.

If there are any questions regarding this project, please upload all questions to: City's portal on PlanetBids.

Published at LCCN 2/8/24 and 2/16/24

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS**  
ZESHAN SHOUKAT ALI filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: ZESHAN SHOUKAT ALI TO ZESHAN AKASH OCHOA. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant a petition without a hearing. Court date 2/23/24, at the SUPERIOR COURT COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 111 N. HILL ST. ROOM 118, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90012. A HEARING will be held FEBRUARY 26, 2024 at 9:30 am, Dept 26. ROOM 316. Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9/24 Case number 24STCP00091

**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS**  
CORINNE SUSAN RUFF filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: CORINNE SUSAN RUFF TO CORINNE SUSAN RUFF OCHOA. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant a petition without a hearing. Court date 2/23/24, at the SUPERIOR COURT COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES 111 N. HILL ST. ROOM 118, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90012. A HEARING will be held FEBRUARY 23, 2024 at 10:00 am, Dept 82. ROOM 833. Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 1/19, 1/26, 2/2, 2/9/24 Case number 24STCP00085

**LEGAL NOTICE  
CITY OF BELLFLOWER  
ORDINANCE NO. 1426**

**AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING DESIGNATION FROM C-G (GENERAL COMMERCIAL) ZONE TO R-1 (LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL) ZONE FOR PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 10473, 10505, AND 10511 ARTESIA BOULEVARD**

The City Council of the City of Bellflower introduced Ordinance No. 1426 at its Regular Meeting of February 12, 2024.

If adopted, Ordinance 1426 would change the Zoning Designation from C-G (General Commercial) Zone to R-1 (Low Density Residential) Zone for properties located at 10473, 10505, and 10511 Artesia Boulevard.

For a copy of Ordinance No. 1426, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (562) 804-1424.

Approved as submitted above:  
Karl H. Berger, City Attorney

ATTEST:  
Mayra Ochiqui, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 2/16/24



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  - Nursing
  - Clinical Research
  - Medicine

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**YEAR-ROUND ENROLLMENT  
APPLY TODAY, ATTEND TOMORROW**

*AURA welcomes incoming 9th and 10th graders to apply!*



**LEARN MORE:**

<https://auracademy.org/p205/application-for-admission>

## Announcing the **Edna Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund!**

- **\$10,000 scholarship**
- **\$5,000 remaining tuition cost**

AURA High School, an International Baccalaureate (IB) MYP and DP Candidate School\*. This school is pursuing authorization as an IB World School. These are schools that share a common philosophy—a commitment to high quality, challenging, international education that AURA High School believes is important for our students.

\*Only schools authorized by the IB Organization can offer any of its four academic programmes: the Primary Years Programme (PYP), the Middle Years Programme (MYP), the Diploma Programme, or the Career-related Programme (CP). Candidate status gives no guarantee that authorization will be granted. For further information about the IB and its programmes, visit [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org)