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LCCN INVESTIGATION RESULTS:

Central Basin President Mike Gualtieri Vacates Board Seat, Juan Garza Out as Vice-President

As president, Gualtieri was not allowing a board reorganization, with Garza's support...until a LCCN exposé exposed their scheme.

By Brian Hews

At the end of last week's CB Board meeting, after strong objections by other board members, Central Basin (CB) President Michael Gualtieri defiantly stated, "There is an Attorney General's opinion about me resigning, and I am not resigning, I am staying until 2027."

Gualtieri, who the Fair Political Practices Commission is currently investigating, was mandated under AB 1794 to leave his seat on May 4 due to

his retirement from his employer, La Habra Heights Water.

After the meeting, Los Cerritos Community News asked for the AG's opinion and immediately received a document from Los Angeles-based Burke Williams Sorensen attorney, Zachery Lopes.

But the opinion was not about Gualtieri's situation; it was about a 2018 incident involving the city of Huntington Park, which proposed a candidate for a purveyor-appointed CB board seat; the candidate was disqualified for living out of the district.

Gualtieri was not mentioned anywhere, directly contradicting his statement at the board meeting, "There is an AG Opinion about me saying I can stay

[See GUALTIERI, page 4]



VOLUNTEERS deliver an average of 3,500 lasagnas every week to all 50 states in the U.S.A, Puerto Rico, Canada, and Australia. Since its establishment in 2020, Lasagna Love volunteers have positively impacted the lives of more than 1.8 million families by delivering more than 430,000 meals.

Mangia! Non-Profit Volunteers Bake and Deliver Lasagna to the Needy

By Laurie Hanson

Lasagna Love is a volunteer organization with a simple mission to feed families, spread kindness, and strengthen communities through a simple act of love and kindness, providing lasagna during times of uncertainty and stress.

Volunteers deliver an average of 3,500 lasagnas every week to all 50 states in the U.S.A, Puerto Rico, Canada, and Australia. Since its establishment in 2020, Lasagna Love volunteers have positively impacted the lives of more than 1.8 million families by delivering more than 430,000 meals.

Their journey began during the pandemic when a mother aimed to assist others in her community.

San Diego resident and founder Rhiannon Menn and her daughter began making and delivering meals to families in their neighborhood. Some were struggling with pandemic hardships, while others were contending with income or job loss. All were fearful and overwhelmed. What was most needed was comfort and kindness and what better comfort than a big ol' pan of lasagna?

Menn started preparing extra meals and offering to deliver them to neighbors' doorsteps (contactless) to provide a small break from

everyday worries while assuring them that someone cared and was looking out for them. This small act of kindness was an easily replicated approach that crossed all language and cultural barriers.

Menn's acts of kindness quickly moved others into action.

Several within her social circle initiated what became a viral movement that gained momentum throughout the country. During the pandemic, Americans were looking for a safe and thoughtful way to stay connected to one another during a time of disconnect.

Today, Lasagna Love still

[See LASAGNA, page 13]

Cerritos Honors Six Eagle Scouts at Cerritos High



DESERVING AWARDS: from (l-r) Deven Solanki Jr. Saamarth Sethi, Shay Pema, Cerritos Mayor Naresh Solanki, Jay Parikh, Ben Giordano, and Miles Mareau at the awards ceremony.

By Stepheny Gehrig

On April 27, Ben Giordano, Miles Moreau, Jay Parikh, Shay Pema, Saamarth Sethi, and Deven Solanki Jr., were honored as they achieved the title of Eagle Scout.

All six of those honored at the ceremony have demonstrated an unwavering commitment, completing a monumental amount of

tasks, and have been awarded the title of Eagle Scout, which is the highest scout ranking.

To earn the title of Eagle Scout, a scout must progress through different rankings, hold a leadership position, earn 21 merit badges, and complete an Eagle project. These stepping stones are

[See EAGLE SCOUTS, page 7]

Tuberculosis Outbreak Now Health Emergency

LCCN Staff Report

(CNN)~An outbreak of tuberculosis has led to a public health emergency in Long Beach, California.

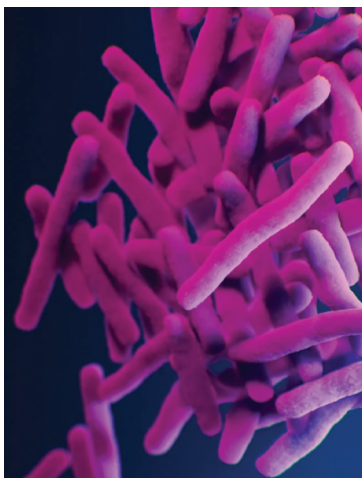
City Health Officer Dr. Anissa Davis declared a public health emergency Thursday in response to the outbreak, according to a city announcement, and the declaration is expected

to be considered for ratification by the Long Beach City Council on Tuesday.

In its investigation of the outbreak, the city health department has identified about 170 people who have probably been exposed to tuberculosis.

But overall, "the risk of TB for people who live, work,

[See OUTBREAK, page 7]



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The Water Replenishment District celebrates Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage month, and our District’s AAPI management and staff who have been integral to WRD’s mission to provide, protect, and preserve safe and sustainable groundwater.



Established in 1959, the Water Replenishment District (WRD) oversees the Central and West Coast Basins in southern Los Angeles County, crucial urban groundwater sources providing 50% of the water supply for four million people across 43 cities in a 420-square-mile area. WRD's responsibilities include replenishing the basins, protecting against contaminants like PFAS, and monitoring groundwater quality and quantity. WRD is charged with:

- Replenishment of the groundwater basins,
- Protection and cleanup of groundwater against natural and human-made contaminants (such as PFAS), and
- Regular and comprehensive monitoring of the quality and quantity of groundwater in the basins.

The Water Replenishment District's service area in southern Los Angeles County

= WRD Facility



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A Look at the Las Vegas High Speed Rail

By Brian Hews

Brightline West, owners of the high speed rail line from Rancho Cucamonga to Las Vegas, released images of what the trains might look like this week.

Brightline will be capable of reaching speeds of up to 200 miles per hour.

The 218-mile system will primarily operate within 96% of the median of the Interstate 15 right-of-way.

The station in Rancho Cucamonga will be located directly next to the existing Metrolink station, allowing for a seamless link to Metrolink's regional service, including seamless service to downtown Los Angeles.

Brightline West will be constructing all new tracks to accommodate the all-electric, zero-emission trains using an overhead catenary system consisting of overhead wires suspended over the tracks along the entirety of the right-of-way.

The trains will carry up to 450



THE TRAIN will run from Rancho Cucamonga to Las Vegas.



THE STATION in Rancho Cucamonga will be located directly next to the existing Metrolink station, allowing for a seamless link to Metrolink's regional service, including seamless service to downtown Los Angeles.

passengers, with plans to connect it, via a high-speed rail alignment in the high desert, to the California High-Speed Rail Authority system planned between San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Construction of the system is expected to take about 4 years and is expected

to break ground in Spring 2024.

Brightline will work with the departments of transportation, municipalities, and other stakeholders to ensure any detours, lane restrictions, and other construction-related occurrences are kept to a minimum. Residents can stay



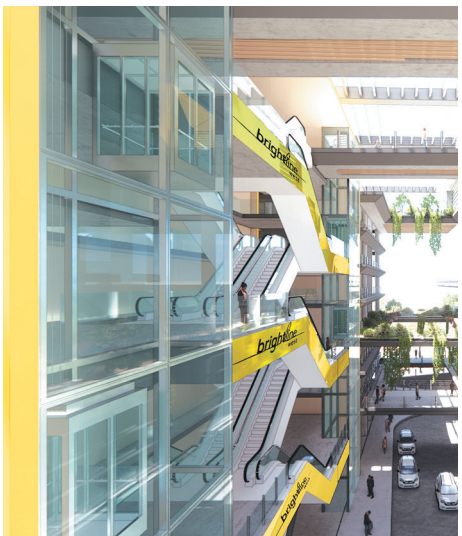
THE PARTY CAR onboard Brightline trains from Rancho Cucamonga to Las Vegas.

up-to-date with construction alerts and through social media channels on Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn.

Brightline stations will be located in Las Vegas, just south of the iconic Las Vegas Strip, and in Apple Valley, Hesperia, and Rancho Cucamonga.

The station in Rancho Cucamonga will be located directly next to the existing Metrolink station, with multiple trains each day from downtown Los Angeles to Rancho Cucamonga.

Travel from Rancho Cucamonga to



RENDERING of station in Rancho Cucamonga.

Las Vegas will take about two hours and 10 minutes; three including a connection from Downtown Los Angeles

Ticket pricing are not set "but can be expected to be priced on par with the cost of gas and parking."

Brightline is boasting premium food, beverages, and cocktail service in the stations and onboard the trains.

On board free WiFi will be available at the stations and onboard.

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A group photo of the Santa Fe Springs City Council and staff at the Art Fest. From left to right: Assistant City Manager Nicholas Razo, Mayor pro tem William Rounds, Councilmember Annette Rodriguez, Mayor Jay Sarno, Councilmember Juanita Martin, and City Manager Rene Bobadilla. They are standing in front of a colorful backdrop that says "Greetings from SANTA FE SPRINGS".

ENJOYING THE ART FEST: The Santa Fe Springs City Council with City Staff at the Art Fest. From (l-r) Assistant City Manager Nicholas Razo, Mayor pro tem William Rounds, Councilmember Annette Rodriguez, Mayor Jay Sarno, Councilmember Juanita Martin, and City Manager Rene Bobadilla.

By Brian Hews

Thousands attended the annual SFS Art Fest this past April 25-26 at the city’s Heritage Park, the fest returning for another year of celebration of the arts.

“Heritage Park was full of creative talent at our annual Art Fest,” Santa Fe Springs Mayor Jay Sarno told Los Cerritos Community News. “Bringing this art festival to our city is not just about displaying works of art; it is also about showcasing local talent, appreciating cultures from various backgrounds, and creating an unforgettable experience celebrating the arts. Together, we made this Art Fest a memorable celebration of culture, connection, and creativity.”

The event showcased local talent and included an eclectic mix of visual arts, live performances, interactive workshops, artisan vendors, food, and much more.

The SFS Art Fest was a celebration of

the rich culture that defines Southern California. It was a platform that welcomed seasoned artists and emerging talents alike, providing a space for artists of all backgrounds and disciplines to showcase their creativity and connect with fellow art lovers. Everyone’s contribution was valued and celebrated.

New to this year was an enhanced car show component, Arte Con, Cosplay, and a special highlight of the Native American Exhibit. The exhibit featured the rich heritage of the Native American community, with a significant contribution from the Gabrieleno Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians, who shared their traditional arts and crafts on Friday evening.

The Preview & Art Showcase was held on April 25 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. which provided an evening for the community to enjoy an art mixer, entertainment on the main stage, a food truck, shopping with various artisans, a paint & sip experience (for a fee of \$35.00), and options to purchase art.

The main SFS Art Fest event unfolded on Friday, April 26, from 3:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. The festivities brought a vibrant energy, a diverse array of talent, and a strong sense of community spirit. For more info go to www.ArtCrawlFest.com

Artesia City Manager
Leaving for Same
Position in Tustin

By Brian Hews

LCCN has learned that Artesia City Manager Aldo Schindler has taken the same position in Orange County at the city of Tustin. Schindler will be leaving June 8, 2024.

Before Artesia, Schindler came from Moreno Valley, where he held the position of Assistant City Manager. He has served communities including the cities of Long Beach, Whittier, and most recently in Downey as Deputy City Manager.

GUALTIERI from page 1

until 2027.”

With Vice President Juan Garza at his side, Gualtieri asserted that the president has “ultimate authority” over placing items on the agenda and indicated he was staying and would not allow a board reorganization vote at the next meeting.

Los Cerritos Community News broke the news in print and online about Gualtieri’s defiance last Friday, May 3; by yesterday’s special board meeting, Gualtieri evidently changed his view, announced he was vacating his seat, and immediately left the meeting.

Now stripped of his short-lived board power, a silent Garza watched as the board moved for a reorganization and appointed Art Chacon as president and Martha Camacho-Rodriguez as vice-president.

After two years of growth and increasing credit ratings, then one year of complete disarray, the leadership that was responsible for the agency’s \$9 million reserve and increased credit rating is back in control.

The meeting concluded with the board completing the entire agenda; it was the first time in months since the board finished a meeting agenda.

A group of people dressed in Star Wars costumes, including Jedi and Sith, posing with their lightsabers. They are standing in front of a wooden wall.

CERRITOS COUNCILMAN Frank Yokoyama attended a fun-filled Star Wars Celebration at the Cerritos Library this past Friday, May 3. The attendees enjoyed Star Wars-themed activities including coloring, crafts and more. The Celebration culminated with a live-action Star Wars duel by Jedi and Sith from Saber Guild-Temple Prime in the Skyline Room.

Fire Tears Through RV Dealership in Santa Fe Springs



AT APPROXIMATELY 12:15 AM, the Whittier Police Department responded to a burglary alarm. Upon arrival to the property, officers encountered unexpected light smoke. SFS Fire Department personnel were then alerted of the fire.

From the City of Santa Fe Springs

SANTA FE SPRINGS, California – Mike Thompson’s RV Super Store, located at 13940 Firestone Blvd. in Santa Fe Springs (SFS), California, experienced a fire that ignited in the early morning on May 9, 2024.

At approximately 12:15 AM, the Whittier Police Department, who are contracted to provide police services for Santa Fe Springs, responded to a burglary alarm at the location.

Upon arrival to the property, officers encountered unexpected light smoke emerging from the southwest portion of the property near the railroad tracks.

SFS Fire Department personnel were then alerted of the fire.

At 12:31 a.m., SFS Fire-Rescue units were dispatched and found heavy smoke and flames upon arrival. The responding fire units immediately launched an aggressive attack on the fire. After approximately one hour of efforts, SFS fire units successfully mitigated the blaze.

At this time, approximately 12 to 15 fifth wheel trailers are confirmed destroyed by the fire, with an estimated

loss of \$1.5-2 million dollars. However, the SFS Fire Department’s efforts played a pivotal role in minimizing the fire’s spread and safeguarding additional losses to vehicles and business structures. There were no injuries reported among civilians or fire personnel.

“We are immensely grateful for the swift and coordinated response of our fire department,” said Mayor Jay Sarno. “Their professionalism and dedication undoubtedly prevented further loss of RVs and business property, allowing Mike Thompson’s RV to continue business operations today.”

An area check was conducted by the Whittier Police Department, but the suspect was not located. The origin of the fire is still currently under investigation. SFS Fire-Rescue investigators are working closely with the Whittier Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) to ascertain the cause of the fire. If anyone has any information regarding this incident, The Whittier Police Department encourages the public to contact the anonymous tip line at (562) 567-9299 or Detective Brenda King (562) 409-1869.

Another Sriracha Shortage Could Be Coming

LCCN Staff Report

Last week, Huy Fong Foods said in a letter to its wholesale buyers that it will be halting Sriracha production until after Labor Day. The reason, according to a copy of the letter obtained by The Washington Post: Its crop of red jalapeño peppers are just not the right shade to produce the beloved sauce known for its citrusy-sweet heat.

“After reevaluating our supply of chili, we have determined that it is too green to proceed with production as it is affecting the color of the product,” the company wrote in a letter, which was first reported by USA Today. “... Unfortunately, all orders that have been scheduled beginning on May 6, 2024, will be canceled and the status changed



to pending.”

A representative for Huy Fong Foods declined to comment on the letter.

The letter Huy Fong Foods sent to distributors said the California-based company hoped to resume production “when our next chili season starts” later this year.

Applications are available at cerritos.us.

Recreation Leaders work at various City park facilities, assisting with programs and special events.

For more information, contact the Recreation Services Division at (562) 916-1254.

Cerritos Library Presents ‘The Life and Times of A. Einstein’

LCCN Staff Report

The Cerritos Library presents “The Life and Times of A. Einstein” starring Kres Mersky in the Skyline Room on Tuesday, May 14 at 6 p.m.



Kris Mersky

The event is opened to all ages. In the one-woman play, Einstein agreed to an interview with the press but doesn’t show.

His secretary must then explain his “Theory of Relativity,” the “Theory of Simultaneity” and much more.

This is a science story, a woman’s story, a love story and a history story, all rolled into one.

Mersky has had a long career in television, theater and film. She has performed at various prestigious venues, including the Mark Taper Forum and the Ahmanson Theater.

Kres has performed widely on television appearing in such shows as Charlie’s Angels, Taxi and Murder She Wrote.

The Cerritos Library is located at 18025 Bloomfield Avenue. For more details on the event, call (562) 916-1342.



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Bellflower Physician Pleads Guilty to \$4.6M Fraud Scheme

The owner and sole physician of a medical clinic in Bellflower, Calif., pleaded guilty to a scheme that submitted more than \$4.6 million in fraudulent claims to Medi-Cal.

Robert Eyzaguirre, MD, 77, of Torrance, Calif., pleaded guilty to one count of healthcare fraud, which carries a maximum sentence of 10 years in prison, according to a May 7 Justice Department news release.

From December 2013 through January 2020, Dr. Eyzaguirre and two of his employees submitted more than \$4.6 million to a Medi-Cal program for

family planning services that were never provided, according to the release. An employee created fake patient files with fake vitals and patient notes, which were then signed by Dr. Eyzaguirre and submitted to the program. Medi-Cal paid more than \$2.5 million on the fraudulent claims.

He also falsely certified that the fake patient files that laboratory tests were medically necessary, according to the release. The employees then referred the names of fake patients to a laboratory in Northern California, which paid an illegal kick of \$30 cash for each referral. The lab paid more than \$372,000 in illegal kickbacks for the referrals from the medical clinic. Medi-Cal paid more than \$1 million on the fraudulent claims submitted by the lab.

When Dr. Eyzaguirre learned law enforcement was investigating the scheme, he instructed an employee to hide the files offsite, according to the release.

Dr. Eyzaguirre is scheduled to be sentenced Oct. 28.

- A wallet was stolen from an afternoon window smash vehicle burglary on the 12800 block of Valley View Ave. Grand Theft Auto
- An evening theft of a SUV occurred on the 13900 block of Valley View Ave.
- A SUV was reported stolen on the 15700 block of Formby Dr.
- A trailer was stolen on the 15900 block of Valley View Ave.

Join Neighborhood Watch

Residents interested in helping keep the La Mirada safe are encouraged to become involved in the Neighborhood Watch program.

Neighborhood Watch is a crime prevention program that enlists the active participation of residents in cooperation with law enforcement to reduce crime in the community.

Neighborhood Watch involves:

- Neighbors getting to know each other and working together.
- Neighbors learning to recognize and report suspicious activity in their neighborhood.
- Implementing crime prevention techniques such as home security and property identification.
- Learning how to prepare yourself and your neighbors for emergencies.

For more information on how to be a part the Neighborhood Watch program in your area, contact Mary Cipres at (562) 902-2986

Cerritos

Robbery
12000 Blk Camino Valencia, residence
The victim had pulled into the driveway and exited her vehicle when the suspect vehicle pulled up behind her. Suspect exited the vehicle and grabbed the victim's backpack from her shoulder. The victim held onto her backpack so another suspect exited the vehicle and

helped steal the backpack. Both suspects got back into the car and fled.

Residential Burglary
•19200 Blk Sheryl Ave, rear sliding door shattered.
•19200 Blk Benfield Ave, rear sliding door
•19600 Blk Miguel Ave, kitchen window left open, jewelry/cash
•12600 Blk Park St, Rear sliding door shattered
•13100 Blk Destino Pl, kitchen window removed screen, jewelry
•16900 Bk Cedarwood Ct., punched lock stole Go Cart

Grand Theft
•16700 Blk Chapparral Ave, Residence, Catalytic Converter stolen
•239 Los Cerritos Cntr Store, Keyboard; Mouse
•239 Los Cerritos Cntr Store. Jewelry
•239 Los Cerritos Cntr Store, Make-up
•239 Los Cerritos Cntr, parking lot, Tailgate

Grand Theft Auto
•18900 Blk Studebaker Rd., Business, Ford Mustang, not recovered
•12700 Blk Moore St., Business, Chevy Tahoe, not recovered
•10800 Blk Alondra Blvd., Business, Chevy Silverado Attempt Only
•17300 Blk Studebaker Rd., Business, Hyundai Sonata, recovered
•17200 Blk Ibex St, Residence, Kia Sol, not recovered
•16400 Blk Redwood Dr., Residence, Hyundai Elantra, Attempt Only
•239 Los Cerritos Center, Chevy Corvette, not recovered
•239 Los Cerritos Center Chevy Silverado, not recovered
•239 Los Cerritos Center Chevy Silverado, recovered

Vehicle Burglary
•12600 Blk Artesia Blvd., Business, Hyundai Tucson Window/Shattered
16600 Monte Cristo Ave., Residence, Ford Ranger Window/Shattered
•12600 Blk Artesia Blvd., Residence, Chevy Colorado
•239 Los Cerritos Center 21 Mercedes Gle Window/Shattered
•11300 Blk South St Store, Chevy Silverado Window/Shattered Backpack taken

Artesia

Assault-Gun
•18600 Blk Horst Ave

Vehicle Burglary
•12200 Blk 179th St

Domestic Violence
•18400 Blk Horst Ave

Hawaiian Gardens
Grand Theft Vehicle
•11800 Blk Carson St, Truck
•11700 Blk 205th St

Burglary, Other Structure:
•12500 Blk Carson St., Night, Entry By Force

Vehicle Burglary:
•21300 Blk Norwalk Blvd

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Crime Summary

La Mirada

April 22-28, 2024

Notable Arrests

- April 29, 2024 - May 05, 2024Notable Arrests
- Five suspects were arrested throughout La Mirada for various warrants and narcotics violations.
 - One suspect was arrested for burglary.
- Other Structure Burglary
- An overnight burglary was reported on the 12600 block of La Mirada Blvd.
- Vehicle Burglary
- A window smash vehicle burglary occurred in the area of Parise Dr. and Ratliffe St.

BBQ & Brews

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June 6, 2024

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Cerritos' Jasmine Koo Finishes Tied for 12th at the LPGA Chevron Championship



JASMINE KOO holding an award from an earlier tournament, shot 1 under in her final round. Koo will be remembered for hitting one of the craziest shots as described by the golf announcers. On the 18th hole, Koo hit a ball that bounced off of a floating Chevron billboard in the middle of the lake to just over the green: she birdied the hole.

LCCN Staff Report

As fans of the LPGA golf tour eagerly awaited Nelly Korda's bid for her fifth consecutive golf tournament win and the first major of the year in 2024, the residents of Cerritos had their eyes fixed on Jasmine Koo, a student at Cerritos High, who was participating as an amateur in her first-ever professional golf tournament. The Chevron Championship took place at The Club at Carlton Woods in Woodland, Texas, from April 18 -21 and included the field of the best women's golfers in the world.

Koo finished in a tie for 12th at 3 under par playing alongside and watching many of her golf idols walk inside the ropes with her in which she described as "surreal moments throughout the tournament". She made the two-round cut at even par and shot a final round 1 under par to complete the tournament and won

the award for the low amateur. However, Koo will be remembered by the golf world (and can be seen on you tube) for hitting one of the craziest shots as described by the golf telecast. On the 18th hole, Koo hit a ball that bounced off of a floating Chevron billboard in the middle of the lake to just over the green. She then proceeded to chip on and make a putt for a birdie. This shot turned out to be the talk of the tournament as Koo was asked about the shot and the scuff mark on her ball from numerous interviewers in the aftermath of the tournament. Koo is excited to begin her golf career at USC in the fall, but will enjoy her last summer playing junior golf. However, this experience has allowed her to recognize that she was able to compete against the best professionals in the world which is what she aims to do one day in the future.

OUTBREAK from page 1

study or visit in Long Beach remains very low," the announcement said. Tuberculosis, or TB, was found among several people associated with a single room occupancy hotel in Long Beach, according to the announcement. As of Monday, 14 cases were associated with the outbreak. and nine of them had been hospitalized at some point in their illness. One person has died. The city said that the name of the hotel will not be released to protect patient privacy and comply with regulations, but people who were staying at the hotel or who may otherwise have been exposed will be contacted. "The outbreak is currently isolated to a distinct population and the risk to the general public is low," the announcement said. Health department staff are in the process of screening contacts for TB based on symptoms, blood or skin tests and chest X-rays, according to the announcement. "Screening and treating such a large number of people requires many resources," the announcement said. "Declaring a public health emergency streamlines the Department's ability to quickly secure resources and take additional action to contain the outbreak." Tuberculosis is a bacterial infection, usually in the lungs, that can cause coughing, chest pain and fever – but it's characterized by coughing up blood or mucus. Tuberculosis disease is curable, often treated with a standardized course of drugs that usually includes antibacterial medicines. It can also be prevented with protocols such as screening, vaccination and making sure people who are infected finish their course of treatment.

EAGLE SCOUTS from page 1

required to be completed by the time the scout turns 18. Held at Cerritos High School, the library lobby was decorated with scout memorabilia, including poster board collages, framed letters and certificates, and binders with countless pages detailing their achievements. The scouts each had their own moment to display their road to Eagle Scout. With Cerritos Mayor Naresh Solanki in attendance, each Eagle Scout was awarded a certificate of recognition. The scouts were presented with a merit badge, a patch, a blue neckerchief, and a neckerchief slide, each serving as regalia to distinguish the Eagle Scout. Along with the scout recognition, the scouts' parents and mentors were given a moment in the spotlight as they were presented with their own pins. The parents, mentors and friends of the scouts, pillars of support and guidance, each had the opportunity to speak regarding the journey of the scout. From sharing stories about past camping trips to expressing immense pride for their children's accomplishments, each parent and mentor shared kind, loving, and inspiring words that brought the scouts to tears. Each scout, then, took to the podium to share their moments of joy, fear and pride regarding their own journey to Eagle Scout, along with recognizing the efforts of their parents, friends and mentors. Concluding the ceremony, the scouts donned their regalia, recited their Scout Oath and exited with their parents and mentors. The ceremony exhibited a great sense of camaraderie, while highlighting the achievements that these teenagers strived to accomplish.



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Water Replenishment District Holds Groundwater Festival



WATER ADVOCATE: WRD presented the WRD Lifetime Achievement Award to Congresswoman Grace Napolitano. From (l-r) Director Rob Katherman, Board President Joy Langford, Napolitano, Director Vera Robles DeWitt, and Director John Allen.



AWARD: from (l-r) WRD Director Vera Robles DeWitt, President Joy Langford, Senator Steven Bradford, Director Rob Katherman, and Director John Allen. Senator Bradford was presented with the WRD Groundwater Champion Award.



WATER QUALITY: Andrew Thomas, Assistant Hydrogeologist for WRD, showcasing the equipment he uses in the field to manage water quality at monitoring wells.



WRD STAFF Peter Piestrzeniewicz (left), Associate Hydrogeologist and Brian Funo, Accountant, showcasing a virtual tour of Albert Robles Center for Water Recycling.

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MAY 17

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Garden Your Way to Better Health

By Melinda Myers

Break out the tools and garden your way to a healthier mind, body and spirit. Gardeners have always know it, but now research proves that gardening is a great form of exercise. You'll work out all your major muscle groups when raking, digging and planting for an hour. Include gardening as a major component of your workout schedule. You'll stretch and strengthen muscles while promoting cardiovascu-

lar health and maintaining bone mass. A University of Arkansas study found that yard work as well as weight training more significantly maintained bone density than aerobics, dancing or bicycling in women over 50. And for those of us trying to lose weight, add 30 minutes of gardening to your daily or weekly routine to help shed some extra pounds. A half hour of raking burns 162 calories, weeding 182, and turning the compost pile a whopping 250 calories. Gardening several times a week will help keep you and your landscape looking its best. Anytime I can receive double or triple the benefit from my time and energy, the more likely I am to complete the task. Protect your joints and muscles

while gardening. Warm up, just as you would for any workout, with a few simple stretches. Protect your knees by using a stool, kneeling pad or one legged kneel (keeping your other foot flat on the ground and back straight) instead of squatting. And no matter what shape you are in, drink lots of fluids to stay hydrated during and after you finish gardening. This is especially important with the extreme temperatures we are experiencing this summer. Try gardening early in the morning or evening when temperatures are a bit cooler. And time your work in garden beds when they're blanketed in shade. Protect both your eyes and skin from the sun's intense rays by always wearing sunscreen, a hat and sunglasses. And consider regular checkups with a dermatologist to monitor for skin cancer.

Pace yourself so you can enjoy the process and smell the roses, heliotrope, daphne and alyssum along the way. Gardeners have been into aromatherapy long before its recent rise in popularity. A few strategically placed fragrant flowers can create a delightful welcome home, soothing scent in your secret garden or aromatherapy as you weed and tend your landscape. Include some edible flowers and fruit for you, the birds and the butterflies. Nothing beats the flavor or nutritional value of fresh-from-the-garden fruits and vegetables. Plus, watching the butterflies and hummingbirds sip on nectar from a fuchsia, coral honeysuckle, verbena or salvia as the finches feed on coneflower seeds will provide added beauty while the squirrels' acrobatic antics on giant sunflowers are sure to entertain. If the task is too big or your time is limited, ask for help. Gardening can also



AROMATHERAPY: Heliotrope, nicotiana and other fragrant flowers can provide aromatherapy at the end of a stressful day. Others include Lavender, Chamomile, Eucalyptus, Mint, Jasmine, Lemon Balm, Sage, Rosemary, Lilac, Basil, and Fennel. **Photo by Melinda Myers.**



ENJOY THE BENEFITS of aromatherapy year-round by planting a garden that enhances your mood, relieves stress, and improves your well-being. Aromatic plants make excellent additions to outdoor spaces because they naturally release essential oils into the air when their leaves are rubbed or crushed. They also can be used in cooking and home remedies, making them useful multitaskers in any garden.

be a great team sport. Or make it a round robin as you take turns gardening in each other's gardens. You'll all enjoy a day filled with gardening, conversation and laughter. What was once an overwhelming task suddenly becomes a chance to spend time with friends, enjoy the garden and create new memories. Sharing your knowledge, plant divisions or other talents like cooking or pet sitting may be the perfect trade for your friends' time and energy. And as a wise person once said "Planting a garden is a way of showing you believe in tomorrow."



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CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 4 SOFTBALL PLAYOFFS

BANDA BOUNCES BACK FROM SHAKY FIRST INNING AS NORWALK RALLIES FOR WALK-OFF WIN

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on X

It wasn't the start senior pitcher Jalynn Banda or her Norwalk High softball team was anticipating when the Lancers hosted Covina High in a CIF-Southern Section Division 4 first round playoff game last Thursday. Banda served up a three-run home run to Maya Venegas on the 12th pitch of the game and the defense made three miscues through the first three innings.

But Banda settled down and gave her offense the opportunity to come back, which it did as Norwalk scored four times in the final three innings with Banda collecting two hits, including the game-tying knock as the hosts edged Covina 5-4. The win sent the second place team from the Mid-Cities League to a 19-7 mark as it visited J.W. North High this past Tuesday.

"We left a couple of runners on base previously, and they knew they had an opportunity to get those runs in," said Norwalk head coach Fred Perez. "We just had to make sure we got that big hit, which we got in the last two innings."

"I felt like I was already under pressure and because it's my senior year, I put more pressure on myself," said Banda. "But I knew at the end of the day, I just had to do a job. It's a team effort, not just a me effort."

With Norwalk trailing 4-1, Banda took an 0-2 pitch from Lexi Sumpter and sent it down the left field line to begin the bottom of the sixth inning. Two batters later, a fielder's choice from sophomore first baseman Nayeli Sanchez scored junior courtesy runner Janii McGarrah. Norwalk would leave two runners on base but in the seventh, it made sure it would cash in on more opportunities.

Sumpter walked senior shortstop Amarie Encarnacion on four straight



THE NORWALK HIGH softball team, moments after scoring three runs in the bottom of the seventh inning against Covina High in a 5-4 victory. It would be Norwalk's last home game of the season, where the Lancers went 9-4. PHOTO BY LOREN KOPFF.

balls and hit senior third baseman Kendall Nakano on the next pitch. Then on a 2-0 count, junior catcher Jezrael Acosta singled to right to bring home Encarnacion. Banda would take Sumpter's first pitch to center this time, scoring Nakano to tie the game. Next up was junior right fielder Diana Avina, who singled on the first pitch she saw, plating Banda and the game-winner. Sumpter threw 10 pitches to five batters in the inning.

"Diana has been really working with us; [spending] a lot of extra time in the cages working on her batting," said Norwalk assistant coach Keith Nakano. "She noticed she was doing a couple of hiccups that she normally does. In this last inning, I said you have another opportunity and to make the adjustment that we were talking about that she had asked me in the dugout. She stayed be-

hind the ball and drove it exactly where she pitched her."

"All I could think about was I had to get on base, no matter if I get walked or no matter if I get hit," said Banda. "No matter what happened, I just had to be a teammate and get on base. Usually what I try to do is hit the first [pitch] because as a pitcher, I know that the first [pitch] tends to be a strike. I knew that was my best choice and when I got up there, she threw a strike and I hit it."

After Banda allowed the home run to Venegas, she struck out the next three batters and four of the next five before Isabell Ramirez singled to lead off the top of the third inning. Following two straight errors, the latter bringing in Ramirez, Banda would retire seven straight and allowed just one runner to reach base the remainder of the contest.

Banda threw 102 pitches, struck out 10 and did not walk a batter. It was her ninth game this season of striking out at least 10 batters and pushed her season total to 193.

"It is frustrating because I know we [have] a better defense than what we [showed] in the first couple of innings," said Banda. "But I knew we just had to put a little heat under our butts. After that, I felt like we got hyped and we knew what we had to do."

"She's been our ace all season on the mound," said Perez. "She does that every game. We just have to make sure we play behind her."

Norwalk got on the board in the bottom of the first inning as Kendall Nakano launched a home run over the left field fence with one out. It was her team-leading 17th home run of the season, matching her total from last season, which is tied for third in the state this season. In her next two at-bats, she sent deep balls to right field and center field which were caught at the fence.

"We're lucky enough that we have two MVP's on this team," said Perez. "One on the mound and one at third base. We've relied on them the whole season just to help guide this team. So, they show it on the field with their effort and in the dugout."

After Acosta singled on the next pitch following the home run, Sumpter retired the next six straight batters. But from the second inning to the seventh, the Lancers left half a dozen on base and were hitless in seven at-bats with runners in scoring position.

"We talked about the last three outs are the hardest outs to get," said Keith Nakano. "And being that we needed to change our approach at bat, they became a little bit more aggressive, and they made some adjustments at the plate. It's what we've been practicing, and it worked out."

Still, Norwalk wxqas dominant with its offense as the first five batters went a combined nine for 17 with all five runs scored and four runs batted in.

"We have a lot of underclassmen who haven't played in the playoffs," said Perez. "They really had a lot of strong feelings about trying to impress the seniors or the upperclassmen. We told them they had to continue to play through and we prevailed because they continued to play through and not dwell on the errors that they made early in the game."

Norwalk would fall to J.W. North High 7-6 in eight innings this past Tuesday as the Lancers blew leads of 2-1, 5-2 and 6-5. The Huskies tied the game at 6-6 with two outs in the bottom of the seventh and two outs in the bottom of the eighth. The Lancers conclude the season at 19-8 and in the past three seasons, they have gone 56-22 with a trip to the quarterfinals.

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NEWS AND NOTES FROM PRESS ROW

Artesia Baseball Can't Recover From First Inning Deficit, Season Ends With Second Round Loss

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on X

Artesia High's young baseball team, with only two seniors, had rallied five times this season for a victory, including coming back from a 5-3 deficit entering the top of the seventh inning last Friday to defeat Eisenhower High 7-5 in a CIF-Southern Section Division 7 first round game. But when the Pioneers hosted South El Monte High this past Tuesday, they were in a 4-0 hole before they could even swing the bats.

This time, it was too much to overcome, and Artesia dropped a 6-1 decision, ending its season at 13-12. The Pioneers have advanced to the second round twice in the last three seasons and went to the quarterfinals in 2023. It's the first time since 2003-2005 the program has advanced to the playoffs in three consecutive seasons. The game also marked the fifth time the Pioneers had allowed at least three runs in the first inning, each time resulting in a loss.

"In the playoffs, it only takes one inning, and it was the first inning," said Artesia head coach Jose Serrano. "We have a young team, and they have a hard time coming back, especially any time we go down. The [lack of] experience and not wanting it more...I think being down 4-0 was a big punch in the face."

Freshman pitcher Ramon Chavez, who started against Eisenhower and led the team with 10 starts, had control issues in the first two innings. He gave up three hits and walked three in the top of the first inning as nine players went up to bat. He threw 21 strikes and 18 balls in the frame and 14 balls and 13 strikes in the second inning.

"It shows you right there," said Serrano. "I always tell the kids, if you don't pitch to contact, and you walk people and especially in high school baseball, if you throw more balls than strikes at one point, you're not going to succeed, and that's what happened today."

Still, the Pioneers had opportunities to chip away at the deficit throughout the game but could get just one runner to third base through the first six innings. In the second inning, junior second baseman Victor Sanchez reached on a fielder's choice and stole third with two outs. In the next inning, junior right fielder Alex Escobar singled to right with one out and advanced on an error when freshman first baseman Jorge Vidal was safe on a fielder's choice. Both runners, though, would not be able to advance.

Artesia avoided the shutout when junior pinch hitter Jacob Kim was walked with one out in the seventh and replaced by senior pinch runner Daniel Guardado. Then with two outs, junior left fielder Daniel Serrano singled to center, allowing Guardado to come home.

The recent rise in the Artesia program over the past three seasons has been a pleasant surprise for Jose Serrano and his coaching staff. Besides graduating Guardado and pitcher Juan Ceballos, the Pioneers had 10 juniors, two sophomores and three freshmen, making the future bright.

"It definitely does; it really does," he said. "I knew this year was going to be a struggle from the very beginning after last year. So just making playoffs, and even winning the first game meant a lot, especially for my young kids. The experience they're getting this year and last year is good for them."

In other baseball action, sixth-ranked La Mirada High knocked off Foothill High 5-2 in a Division 1 second round game, improving to 23-6. The Matadores will host #3 Orange Lutheran High on Friday.

In Division 4 action, Cerritos High, ranked ninth, squeaked past Los Osos High 6-5 in eight innings this past Tuesday, moving to 22-6 as the Dons will travel to top-ranked Camarillo High on Friday. Cerritos matched the same record it had two seasons ago and an upset win will mark the first time in over 25 seasons the program has posted 23 wins.

SOFTBALL

In Division 2 action, Gahr High got past Tesoro High 4-3 this past Tuesday, improving to 16-10. The Gladiators, who visited fourth-ranked Rio Mesa High on May 9, built a 4-1 lead after three innings and staved off a late inning rally.

In Division 5 action, Valley Christian High, was trailing Shadow Hills High 3-0 after the first inning before tying the game in the fourth. The Defenders were again down 5-3 before scoring single runs in the sixth and seventh before pulling out an 8-5 victory in eight innings. The Defenders, ranked sixth in the division, improved to 16-6 and hosted third-ranked Providence High on May 9.

La Mirada lost another heart-breaking first round home game when the Matadores were nipped by JSerra High 3-2 this past Tuesday in Division 1 action. The Matadores (19-6-2) had a 2-0 lead entering the top of the seventh inning.

Cerritos dropped a 7-4 contest to La Canada High last Thursday in a Division 3 first round game to end the season at 15-4.

Artesia (13-8-1) lost to Carter High 13-12 in eight innings last Thursday in a Division 5 first round game after tying the game with seven runs in the top of the seventh inning.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

There were several individual championships and other top performers at the CIF-SS Swimming Championships, held at Mt. San Antonio College last Thursday through last Saturday. The diving finals were held the previous week at the Marguerite Aquatic Complex in Mission Viejo where Whitney High freshman Trisha Lapidario came in 13th place in Division 2 in the 1-meter event with a score of 323.85 to account for the only 10 points the school would get. La Mirada freshman Claire Droessler finished in fourth place in Division 4 in the same event with a score of 284.75.

In Division 2 swimming action, the Cerritos girls picked up 75 team points and finished in 13th place out of 48 schools while the Cerritos boys came in eighth place out of 49 schools with 95 points.

For the Cerritos boys, freshman Anthony Dornoff won the 200-yard IM with a time of 1:48.35 while sophomore Andrew Vet was second with a time of 1:52.46. Dornoff later would come in third place in the 500-yard Freestyle with a time of 4:32.24 while Vet came in ninth place with a time of 4:41.11.

In the consolation finals, the 200-yard medley relay team of Dornoff, Vet and sophomores Andres Garey and Matthew Ho, finished in third place with a time of 1:39.05.

On the girls side, Cerritos junior Clemence Choy came in first place in the 100-yard breaststroke with a time of 1:02.72 and in fifth place in the 200-yard IM with a time of 2:05.44.

Top performers in the consolation finals were the 200-yard medley relay team of Choy, senior Alexandria Dornoff, junior Daphne Khong and freshman Alice Tam, which finished third in the consolation finals with a time of 1:53.56 and freshman Isabella Castro, who was second in the 500-yard freestyle with a time of 5:10.54 and

[See NEWS AND NOTES, page 13]

CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 1 BASEBALL PLAYOFFS

Pinch Hitter Afemata's Double in Sixth Inning Gives Gahr Another Playoff Win Over Fullerton

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on X

FULLERTON-Senior pinch hitter Donevahn Afemata had one hit in 17 at-bats in the regular season for Gahr High entering its CIF-Southern Section Division 1 first round playoff game at Fullerton High last Friday. But it was his 18th at-bat that helped the Gladiators break open a close game late.

With none out and the bases loaded in the top of the sixth inning, Afemata was summoned by head coach Gerardo Perez to get a base hit in a 2-1 game. He did better than that as his double to centerfield brought home senior pinch runner Chase Miller and sophomore right fielder JoJo Eljaik as the Gladiators went on to post a 5-2 victory. It was the second and third runs driven in this season for Afemata, who was also walked three times and hit by a pitch as part of his now 22 plate appearances.

"I [thought] I would be put into [that situation] because I can hit the ball a little bit, as you saw today," said Afemata. "But it was nerve-racking. Coach was telling me [Fullerton pitcher Declan Fitzgerald] was a fastball dominant pitcher and we just hit fastballs. So, he gave me what I wanted, and I just produced."

He said right before he went up, Perez told him he was going to get a couple of fastballs from Fitzgerald and that he better not miss it.

The inning began with Fitzgerald walking sophomore catcher Oscar Grijalva on a full count before Eljaik laced a single into right field and sophomore center fielder Julian Lucero reaching on an error. After Afemata's double, freshman second baseman Chris Vera was out on a sacrifice with Lucero scoring Gahr's last run.

"We're real young and once in a while when you're in high school, you're fortunate if you have really complete players at an early age," said Perez. "And we have some guys that have some really nice compliments to the guys that are playing, sometimes, off the bench. I knew

Donny would be a good matchup because he swings fastballs pretty good."

Gahr, which defeated Fullerton 10-5 in the playoffs last season, was entering the contest on a four-game losing streak which included a 10-2 loss to La Mirada High in which the Gladiators committed six errors. According to Perez, it was the worst game he's seen in 25 years from a defensive standpoint. But the blue and gold rebounded behind the pitching of sophomore Jake Ourique. All he did was allow four runners through the first four innings, none of whom got past second base, and end up scattering six hits over six innings and striking out six while giving up a fifth inning run and a leadoff home run to Malachi Meni to begin the sixth inning.

"I think there's a lot of layers," said Perez. "Number one, I talked a little bit about it before the game. I think our guys were in a good place coming back to a place where they were last year. So, I think you're familiar with where you're going; it's a close bus ride and you had a little success here last year. I think that bode well in our state of mind where we were mentally."

"We have guys that obviously are going to swing the bat from the very first pitch, and we have some guys that are going to try to work the pitchers and work the counts," he continued. "It was a good game on offense for us. My compliments to Jake Ourique, again. He's pitched a lot of games where he's in the flow; he's in the rhythm."

A trio of Fullerton pitchers had a full count on Gahr hitters five times with three of them reaching base. Four other hitters saw seven pitches in their at-bats with half getting on base and two more saw eight pitches with one reaching base.

"It's a great win; a great feeling for both years," said Ourique. "We came out here putting trust in our team, our defense, and our hitting. Hitting was the main part."

Ourique began his day by giving up a single to Zach Fany on a full count before

[See GAHR, page 13]

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CITY OF COMMERCE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
VARIANCE NO. 24-05

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Commerce will consider a request to allow the construction of a 10 to 12-foot-high wall around a portion of the perimeter of the subject property, which exceeds the maximum allowable height of 8 feet per Section 19.11.050 of Commerce Municipal Code, in the City’s M2 Zone District at 6904 E. Slauson Avenue, Commerce, CA 90040.

The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., at the City of Commerce City Hall, 2535 Commerce Way, Commerce, CA, in the Public Safety Conference Room.

Per Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge this Variance in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the hearing described in this notice or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the hearing.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION
Louis Morales

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 5/10/24

CITY OF COMMERCE
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
PUBLIC NOTICE
SITE PLAN NO. 24-01, CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 24-03,
VARIANCE NO. 24-03, AND VARIANCE NO. 24-04

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Commerce will consider a request to allow the construction of a new warehouse building or structure in excess of twenty-five thousand square feet in area, and a Conditional Use Permit to allow a specialized warehouse use consisting of a new, unmanned energy storage facility. In addition, the applicant is seeking the following Variance requests: (1) to allow relief from the parking requirements; and (2) to allow the construction of a 12-foot-high wall, which exceeds the maximum allowable height of 8 feet per the Zoning Code, in the City’s M2 Zone District at 6920 E. Slauson Avenue. The project will also involve the demolition of an approximately 50,000-square-foot building that was built in 1966.

The Planning Commission is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, at 6:30 p.m., at the City of Commerce City Hall, 2535 Commerce Way, Commerce, CA, in the Public Safety Conference Room.

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

THE PLANNING COMMISSION
Louis Morales

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 5/10/24

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NEWS AND NOTES from page 13

third in the 200-yard freestyle at 1:55.37.

In Division 3, the La Mirada boys finished in 22nd place out of 48 schools with 44 ½ points and Whitney garnered 16 points. La Mirada junior Lincoln Jones finished in second place in the 200-yard IM with a time of 1:54.71 and fifth place in the 100-yard Backstroke (53.75) while senior Robert Rayfield tied for second place in the consolation finals of the 100-yard Butterfly with a time of 54.50.

Whitney junior Aaron Lee won the consolation finals in the 500-yard Freestyle with a time of 4:56.88 and finished in fourth place in the consolation finals in the 200-yard Freestyle (1:49.42).

In Division 4, the Gahr boys picked up 41 points, good for 24th out of 62 schools as junior Carlos Valderamma had a CIF-SS Division 4 record time of 49.42 in the 100-yard Butterfly and came in second place in the 50-yard Freestyle with a time of 21.39.

TRACK AND FIELD

The CIF-SS divisional championships will take place on Saturday at Moorpark High with several area athletes vying for a spot to advance to the Masters Meet. In the Division 3 preliminaries last Saturday, Gahr senior Josiah Joseph tied for first place in the long jump with a mark of 22-00.75 while Artesia senior Jordan McGruder came in fourth place in the triple jump (44-1.50) and junior Keiasja Carbins was ninth in the girls triple jump with a mark of 34-8.

In the Division 4 preliminaries, the V.C. boys 4x400 relay team finished in second place with a time of 3:29.94 while V.C. senior Micah Jones was sixth in the 800-meter run (1:59.95) and junior Jayce Shields came in seventh in the 400-meter run (50.10). V.C. freshman Celia Polk came in seventh place in the girls pole vault event with a mark of 9-06.00.

GAHR from page 11

getting the next four outs. Then Wayne Warren singled on a full count but was picked off first base. The move hurt the Indians because on a 3-0 count, D.J. Garcia doubled down the third base line in what should have been a run for Fullerton. Garcia would lead off the fifth with another double and scored his team’s first run on a single from Niko Mendez.

“I just kind of lost a little control,” said Ourique. “I was going more; trying to throw harder and getting out of myself instead of attacking and trusting my defense. That was one of the biggest things.”

Gahr got on the board in the second inning when Eljaik homered over the left field fence with two outs. In the fifth inning, junior left fielder Jake Curneen and junior pinch hitter Nathan Baptista were hit by pitches and after Fitzgerald walked senior third baseman Jose Perez with one out to load the bases, a wild pitch allowed Curneen to make it 2-0. Eljaik went three for four as the Gladiators were limited to five hits.

“It was a great win for us overall,” said Afemata. “Jake pitched amazing and our hitting today...it was doing better than in recent games. Jake is one of the leaders that we have here and when he’s on the mound, we know he’s going to throw lots of strikes and he’s just going to give us lots of outs with low runs given up as you saw today,” he continued.

The Gladiators travelled to fourth-ranked Santa Margarita High this past Tuesday and were defeated by the Eagles 6-3. Gahr (18-11) had lost to Santa Margarita 4-2 in the fourth game of the season but edged the Eagles 4-3 later in the season. This is the seventh time since 2007 the Gladiators have fallen in the second round of the playoffs.

LASAGNA from page 1

spreads selfless acts of kindness, one lasagna meal at a time free of charge, to the doorsteps of local families who request one. Families can privately sign up to receive a meal, no questions asked. Once a family is matched with a volunteer, the volunteer coordinates preparation using the contact information provided, and schedules a day and time for contactless meal delivery. Even families with dietary restrictions are accommodated.

The non-profit organization has over 52,000 volunteers hailing from diverse backgrounds. They are united by a common goal, irrespective of their gender, age, race, political views or socio-economic status. The movement encompasses individuals, couples, families, community clubs and organizations, including Girl Scout troops.

One volunteer, Dennis DiPlacito, first learned about Lasagna Love after watching a morning news show on which Menn was being interviewed.

“I had been making and freezing meals for my elderly parents who lived in Northern California as well as other friends who were ill or needed some culinary assistance for years,” he explained. “So, deciding to become involved with this caring organization was a natural combination of my interest in helping others with my joy of cooking.”

He has repeatedly heard from recipients saying how a prepared meal helped them feel like all was well with the world despite their hardships.

DiPlacito is retired from working 33 years for the University of California, Irvine (with 25 years in Student Housing and the remaining eight in the Office of the Ombudsman). He has volunteered for Lasagna Love now for 2.5 years.

One day, he encountered a woman living out of her car, a single mom with a teenage son who was working long hours to afford her daughter’s college tuition. The woman’s daughter would be the first in the family to attend college, and nothing would get in her way to ensure that her daughter’s expenses, not covered by a scholarship, would be paid.

“On her request form, she simply said, ‘I’ve made the last tuition payment, and now there is no money available for food.’ DiPlacito said. “Over texts, I told her about my career at UCI, and we talked about college life,” he explained. “It was clear she was beyond proud of her daughter, and having a home-cooked meal meant the world to her.”

So far, DiPlacito has made and delivered 78 lasagnas, including others for those living on the streets or in their cars, renting rooms at cheap motels, for families who have lost their jobs, those who are working but having difficulty making ends meet, and to people juggling work while taking online classes and dealing with serious illness. He also helped single moms struggling to put food on the table, and even families living behind wealthy gated communities.

“One thing I’ve learned is we just don’t know what goes on in people’s lives behind closed doors,” he said.

Another encounter he had was also with a woman living in her car for over a year after fleeing an abusive relationship.

“Her car and dog represented safety and security,” he explained. “when I learned of her situation I realized I needed to prepare her food differently.”

“She told me she had an ice chest, and a local grocery store allowed her to warm up food in their microwave even if she hadn’t purchased it there,” he said. “I decided rather than make a lasagna; I would make and freeze a couple of small containers of a pasta bake that she could thaw and warm up in the microwave when needed.”

While Lasagna Love only asks that volunteers supply their family matches with a pan of lasagna, DiPlacito typically adds items to make it a full meal, such as bread, salad, and dessert.

“Due to this woman’s special circum-

stances, I felt compelled to do more to help her,” he said. “I also froze a couple of soups and twice baked potatoes.”

When he met her in a parking lot to give her the food, DiPlacito was shocked because no one would have guessed that she was living in her car.

“She was clean, wore nice clothes, was clear-headed, intelligent, and had a great sense of humor,” he said. “She said she was unemployed and was seeking counseling to help. For days after our meeting, she would text me telling me how much she enjoyed my food.”

DiPlacito said that many recipients send lovely “thank you” and “God bless you” texts once they have received their food. Each comment warms his heart and spurs him on to do more.

“Those comments of appreciation bring on feelings that last much longer than the time it took to shop for the ingredients, make the lasagna, and deliver it,” he explained. “However, many do not respond at all, and that is okay. Their needs are more important than mine. Their struggles are real, and I am satisfied knowing I was able to make them a meal.”

“At times, the hardest part is getting a glimpse into people’s lives but not knowing how their story ends,” DiPlacito said. “I just hope this single act of kindness teaches them that someone out there cares about them and their situation. And maybe someday they will pay it forward.”

He remembered a favorite saying Mother Teresa said, “If you can’t feed 100, then just feed one.” He hopes others remember a time when someone brought them a home-cooked meal.

California Regional Director Bethany Williams has been with Lasagna Love since October 2020. A technical editor by trade, she joined out of a need to support others safely and feel connected to her community during the pandemic. Like DiPlacito, she witnesses every week how one meal makes a world of difference to someone in need.

“People don’t believe Lasagna Love is real because who brings a total stranger a delicious homemade meal, all for free?” she said. “The volunteers of Lasagna Love do! And it is incredibly heartwarming to see, hear, and read how that kindness moves people.”

“Every week, I deliver a lasagna and meet some wonderful people [like] an elderly widower who can’t cook for himself, a family of eight dealing with the loss of their single income, a new mom overwhelmed with that new life, or a cancer-stricken household desperately looking for the bright side,” she explained.

One recipient powerfully impacted was ‘Yvonne,’ who had been diagnosed with breast cancer and could not cook for her 88-year-old and 90-year-old parents. Her daughter and son-in-law also suffered from health problems, according to Williams.

“Yvonne nominated both households for a lasagna, and after hearing rave reviews, she decided to pay it forward and become a volunteer,” Williams explained. “She started crocheting ‘lasagna sweaters’ to deliver meals in. [And now] Yvonne and her pattern have become an Internet sensation. Several of our requesters have become volunteers, whether to pay it forward just once or as cooks delivering regularly.”

According to Williams, Lasagna Love has served 1.8 million people globally. In the Gateway Cities of Southern California, they have served about 3,388 people. Still, only 67 percent of the people who request a lasagna receive one due partly to only 13 volunteers in this area.

“We need more people making and delivering hot homemade meals to their needy neighbors.”

Demonstrating kindness by fulfilling a basic need is also important to Debbie Ceitin, a director of customer service for a computer company based in South Carolina. The company specializes in IT needs for large chain restaurants.

Ceitin came to Lasagna Love in 2021

after seeing a social media post from another lasagna chef. After looking into the non-profit, she knew immediately that this was something she could do.

I actually have a sign on my desk I look at every day that says, ‘In a world where you can be anything, be kind.’” she said.

“I firmly believe in giving back and helping whenever possible,” she explained. “I may not be able to help everyone with everything they need, but if someone requests a hot meal, that I can do!”

She added that the Lasagna Love mission of spreading kindness is contagious and fun.

“I have interacted with some of the nicest people I have ever had the pleasure of knowing,” Ceitin said. “It is hard for most people to ask for help. The people asking for lasagna are facing something in their lives that has them ask for help in the form of lasagna. How can you say no to that?”

Ceitin, who lives in Laguna Niguel, has taken this year to fill lasagna requests in North Orange County. She has delivered to people who have lost their jobs, who are going through medical challenges, the homeless, and those who cannot make it on Social Security and food stamps and are overwhelmed by life.

“These noodles, sauce, and cheese creations are met with awe and delight,” she added. “I hope the lasagnas I make and deliver bring a moment of joy to the recipients, so they know they are not alone and someone - even a stranger - cared enough to cook them a nice meal. Kindness is contagious!”

Like all the lasagna chefs, Ceitin has many stories to tell. Once, she delivered a hot lasagna to a woman and her 72-year-old mom, who were also homeless and living in their car. They arranged to meet at a convenience store, where she delivered a hot lasagna that she packaged differently than she normally would.

“I made lasagna rolls and put them in individual, microwavable containers, which I had piping hot,” she explained. “I wrapped them in a foil bag and made a small picnic basket with plasticware, bowls, and napkins. They were utterly delighted and sent me the nicest text. It was the best lasagna they had ever had, and they asked for the recipe so they could make it for themselves when they were settled.”

“I also delivered to a family of five and was met by the mom at a bus stop,” Ceitin said. “The mom approached me and said, ‘My husband wanted me to tell you something. His brother died 2 years ago and one of the things they used to do together was watch wrestling and eat lasagna. When I told my husband this morning that you were delivering lasagna for us today, he stopped cold in his tracks and said ‘please tell the lady my brother sent her. There is a wrestling match on tonight I did not tell you about and when we have that lasagna, my brother will be here with us.’” Ceitin said she gets chills thinking about this one and misty at the same time.

“Cooking and sharing food is a universal symbol of kindness that’s easy to do,” she added. “Lasagna Love is the epitome of kindness with no judgment. The idea of lending a helping hand through cooking is a simple act of kindness. I may be unable to make a difference in my family’s challenges, but I can cook a lasagna for them - especially if they did the hard part and asked for help. Life can turn on a dime, and any of us can be faced with a situation where we need to ask for help.”

Interested volunteers need only sign up at www.lasagnalove.org/volunteer, complete a brief online training on food safety and preparation, and share how often they wish to participate. Volunteers can participate as much or as little as desired—whether one-time, weekly, every other week, or monthly, allowing volunteers to give when and how they wish.

Lasagna Love can also be found on Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

CITY OF ARTESIA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES NO 24-XXX

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Artesia Planning Commission will hold a Regular Planning Commission Meeting in the City Council Chambers of Artesia City Hall located at 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, California at 7:00pm on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 to conduct a **Public Hearing** to consider the following projects:

Project Description:

Case 2024-12: **Zoning Ordinance Amendment:** The Planning Commission will consider and provide a recommendation to the City Council to amend regulations related to permitted uses and development standards in the Open Space and Recreation (OS-R) Zone to exempt park improvements on City-own parks from a Conditional Use Permit.

Applicant:

City of Artesia

Location:

City-Wide

CEQA Determination:

The Zoning Ordinance Amendment is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15061(b) (3) because it can be seen with certainty that the proposed Municipal Code amendments will not result in a significant effect on the environment.

Project Description:

Case 2024-13: The Planning Commission will consider Resolution No. 2024-13P for a request for a Design Review to for exterior and interior modifications to convert two of the four existing dwelling units into one unit, for a total of three units, and for a first and second story addition to the converted dwelling unit at the property located at 18633 Corby Avenue.

Applicant:

Chirag Patel

Location:

18633 Corby Avenue, Artesia, CA 90701

CEQA Determination:

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the Planning Department has determined that this project is categorically exempt from the requirements of CEQA pursuant to Section 15303, Class 3 for New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures.

Members from the public who would like to address the Planning Commission may appear at the public hearing during the consideration of this item and state their opinion. If you have written comments that you wish to submit, please deliver them to the Artesia City Clerk’s Office, 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, CA, or by email: planning@cityofartesia.us prior to the start of the public hearing. If you have questions about this notice or the proposed action, please contact the Artesia Community Development Department at (562) 865-6262 or by the email above. If you challenge any action related to this public hearing in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the public hearing.

Peter Kann,
Planning Manager

Publish at LCCN 5/10/2024

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 2024099448

THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: NPC SOCIETY 11331 183RD STREET, SUITE 1082, CERRITOS CA 90703, LOS ANGELES COUNTY. ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 202462016219. REGISTERED OWNER: RUGER HOLDINGS LLC, 11331 183RD STREET, SUITE 1082, CERRITOS CA 90703 INCORPORATED IN CA. THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 5/2024. 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/ RUGER HOLDINGS LLC., MEMBER RYAN RUGER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 5/08/24. 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 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31/24.

Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated.

10753 Artesia Blvd., Cerritos, CA 90703 on 05/22/2024 at 11:00 AM

Gabriela Monterosa- Ibarra
Shields Marc, Marc Shields
Claudia Aquino
Eddie Ramirez
Sammie Solomon
Katrina Crawford
Dawn Hamilton
Edward Melvin
Carl Stephenson
Isaiah Gallegos
Samantha Blount
James Williams
Kathi Wilson
Jenel Bartee
Uniteddocuprep Inc. , Saqib Khan
Jason Ishii
Albert Penn
Francine Lozano
Leslie Wade
Diego Castaneda
Anna Aldaco

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Publish at LCCN 5/10/2024

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CITY OF BELLFLOWER

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

REGARDING DEVELOPMENT REVIEW CASE NO. DR 1-24-15045 AND CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT CASE NO. CU 24-02

TAKE NOTICE that the Bellflower Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, May 20, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706 to consider a Development Review and a Conditional Use Permit to allow a new 2,123-square foot, drive-through restaurant on property located at 10146 Artesia Boulevard, within the (M-1) Light Industrial District. The City reviewed the environmental impacts of the proposed Project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code §§ 21000, et seq. “CEQA”) and the regulations promulgated thereunder (14 Cal. Code of Regs. §§ 15000, et seq., the “CEQA Guidelines”). CEQA Guideline § 15303, Class 3(a) (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) provides an exemption for restaurants not exceeding 2,500 square feet in floor area. This project proposes the construction of a 2,123-square foot restaurant building. The project does not involve the use of significant amounts of hazardous substances.

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, 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 2011. All written comments concerning this may be submitted to Eliana Muñoz at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706; or by email at emunoz@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

Publish at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 5/10/24

PUBLIC NOTICE

CITY OF PICO RIVERA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2023-2024 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN AND FY 2024-2025 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the City of Pico Rivera City Council to receive public comment for Substantial Amendments to the Annual Action Plans for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023-2024 and FY 2024-2025. The City is an entitlement community and receives federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) each fiscal year.

WHEN:

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

TIME:

6:00 P.M.

WHERE:

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

As an entitlement jurisdiction, the City is required to prepare and submit to HUD an Annual Action Plan that generally describes how the City will utilize federal money during the fiscal year to meet the goals and objectives approved by the City Council in the Five-Year Consolidated Plan.

For FY 2023-2024, the City received \$559,364 in CDBG funds. For FY 2024-2025, the City expects to receive approximately \$550,000 in CDBG funds.

Priority Funding for CDBG activities are given to activities that:

- Provide decent affordable housing;
- Maintain and promote neighborhood preservation;
- Affirmatively further fair housing choice for all;
- Provide public services for extremely low, low- and moderate-income residents;
- Construct or upgrade public facilities and infrastructure; and
- Planning and administration.

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

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

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

Availability of Documents for Public Comment: The City of Pico Rivera encourages citizen participation in the planning process. The 30-day public review period for the Substantial Amendments to the FY 2023-2024 Annual Action Plan and the FY 2024-2025 Annual Action Plan runs from Friday, May 10, 2024, through Tuesday, June 11, 2024. A copy of the draft Plans will be made available for public review on the City of Pico Rivera’s website: <https://www.pico-rivera.org/housing-services-division/>. For more information, please contact Eduardo Lizarraga, Analyst, at (562) 801-4420 or via email at elizarraga@pico-rivera.org.

If you challenge the consideration or adoption of the proposed Substantial Amendments to the Annual Action Plans 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 Pico Rivera 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:

May 10, 2024
Los Cerritos Community News

Publish at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 5/10/24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
NORMA VERDUGO
CASE NO. 24STPB04494
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of NORMA VERDUGO.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SANDRA DESCHNER in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SANDRA DESCHNER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 06/07/24 at 8:30AM in Dept. 44 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner
MARC P. GRISMER - SBN 300270
LAW OFFICE OF MARC P. GRISMER
2390 E. ORANGEWOOD AVENUE, SUITE 515
ANAHEIM, CA 92806
Telephone (626) 282-1136
5/3, 5/10, 5/17/24
CNS-3807397#
COMMERCE COMMUNITY NEWS

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
TIRSO MELENDREZ GAMO, JR.
CASE NO. 24STPB04817
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of: TIRSO MELENDREZ GAMO, JR.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by J STAR AUTO GROUP, INC. in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that J STAR AUTO GROUP, INC. be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with limited authority . (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on 05/31/2024 at 8:30 AM in Dept. 62 located at 111 N. HILL ST. LOS ANGELES CA 90012
STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE.
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 (DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
BRAD N. BAKER (SBN: 65106)
MARY G. KORKODIAN (SBN: 330782)
BAKER, BURTON & LUNDY, P.C.
515 PIER AVENUE
HERMOSA BEACH, CA 90254
Telephone: (310) 802-7774
5/10, 5/17, 5/24/24
CNS-3811347#
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

File No.: 21-11811 APN: 7012-002-069 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER CERRITOS VILLAS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION NO. 1 (ASSOCIATION) COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS AND A NOTICE OF DELINQUENT ASSESSMENT (LIEN) DATED 08-16-2022. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 06-05-2024 at 10:30 AM, Behind the fountain located in Civic Center Plaza located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766, ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES (Trustee), 1601 Response Road, Suite 390, Sacramento, CA 95815, (877) 282-4991, under and pursuant to Lien, recorded 08-18-2022 as Instrument 20220826786 Book - - Page -- of Official Records in the Office of the Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, CA, WILL CAUSE TO BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION to the highest bidder for cash, cashier’s check/cash equivalent or other form of payment authorized by 2924h(b), (payable at time of sale) the property owned by STEVEN JOSEPH MALABICKY, situated in said County, describing the land therein: APN: 7012-002-069 The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 12420 CUESTA DRIVE , CERRITOS, CA 90703 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to satisfy the sums due under the Lien. The estimated total unpaid balance at the time of the initial publication of this Notice of Trustee’s Sale is \$14,199.85. THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE 90-DAY POST-SALE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION AS SET FORTH IN CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE SECTION 5715(B). THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION BEGINS WHEN THE SALE IS FINALIZED PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA CIVIL CODE SECTION 2924m. Association heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default. The undersigned caused a Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located, and more than three months have elapsed since such recordation. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder’s office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder’s sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. REPLACE- MENT OF WINNING BIDDER CHECKS: Winning bid checks received at the public auction sale not payable directly to Allied Trustee Services (i.e. containing third-party endorsements) must be replaced within five business days after the sale. The winning bidder will be contacted at the phone number and/or email address provided for further instructions. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the Association, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the resched- uled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (844) 477-7869, or visit this Internet Web site WWW.STOXPOSTING.COM for information, using the file number assigned to this case: 21-11811. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to pur- chase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an ‘eligible tenant buyer,’ you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an ‘eligible bidder,’ you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (844) 477-7869, or visit this Internet Web site WWW. STOXPOSTING.COM for information, using the file number assigned to this case: 21-11811 to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee’s sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee’s sale. If you think you may qualify as an ‘eligible tenant buyer’ or ‘eligible bidder,’ you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. DATE: April 29, 2024 ALLIED TRUSTEE SERVICES, Trustee TANYA HALL, Authorized Signature

Extra Space Storage, on behalf of itself or its affiliates, Life Storage or Storage Express, will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated: **17701 Ibbetson Ave. Bellflower, Ca. 90706 on May 22, 2024, at 12:30 p.m.**

Petrina King
Elijah Gallegos
Maria Chavez

The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Publish at LCCN 5/10/2024

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE’S SALE T.S. No. 23-02317-SM-CA Title No. 02-23005251 A.P.N. 7050-010-024 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 11/25/2019. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, (cashier’s check(s) must be made payable to National Default Servicing Corporation), drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state; will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made in an “as is” condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Jason Ha, a single man Duly Appointed Trustee: National Default Servicing Corporation Recorded 11/27/2019 as Instrument No. 20191312568 (or Book, Page) of the Official Records of Los Angeles County, California. Date of Sale: : 05/30/2024 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: Doubletree Hotel Los Angeles-Norwalk, Vineyard Ballroom, 13111 Sycamore Drive, Norwalk, CA 90650 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$633,194.63 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 20008 Gridley Road, Cerritos, CA 90703 A.P.N.: 7050-010-024 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder’s sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The requirements of California Civil Code Section 2923.5(b)/2923.55(c) were fulfilled when the Notice of Default was recorded. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder’s office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 800-280-2832 or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com/sales, using the file number assigned to this case 23-02317-SM-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT*: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are a “representative of all eligible tenant buyers” you may be able to purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an “eligible bidder,” you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 888-264-4010, or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 23-02317-SM-CA to find the date on which the trustee’s sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee’s sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee’s sale. If you think you may qualify as a “representative of all eligible tenant buyers” or “eligible bidder,” you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. *Pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code, the potential rights described herein shall apply only to public auctions taking place on or after January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2025, unless later extended. Date: 04/19/2024 National Default Servicing Corporation c/o Tiffany and Bosco, P.A., its agent, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 820 San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free Phone: 888-264-4010 Sales Line 800-280-2832; Sales Website: www.ndscorp.com Connie Hernandez, Trustee Sales Representative A-4815365 04/26/2024, 05/03/2024, 05/10/2024

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
ROSE MARIE SMITH, ROSE SMITH
CASE NO.24STPB02038
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ROSE MARIE SMITH, ROSE SMITH. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by LUCILLE BAKER in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION requests that LUCILLE BAKER be appointed as EXECUTOR the estate of the decedent.
The PETITION requests the decedent’s will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 5/28/24 at 8:30AM Dept. 99 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.
JOSEPH D. BORJAS, ESQ.
3220 S. HIGUERA ST. STE 311
SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA., 93401
805-544-8510
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS
5/3, 5/10, 5/17, 5/24/24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF MORGAN KENNEDY GROVER Case No. 23STPB09123 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of MORGAN KENNEDY GROVER A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by: WENDELL A. SKIDGEL, JR. in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that WENDELL A. SKIDGEL, JR. be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on MAY 31, 2024 AT 8:30 A.M. in Dept. 79 Room N/A located at STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE, 111 NORTH HILL STREET, 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: WENDELL A. SKIDGEL, JR. 2 PERCH ROAD MADISON, ME 04950 (617) 901-6754. Los Cerritos Community News 5/3, 5/10, 5/17/24.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
FRANK MICHAEL WOODLAND
CASE NO. 24STPB04600
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of FRANK MICHAEL WOODLAND.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by MICHAEL SCOTT CARTER in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that MICHAEL SCOTT CARTER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 05/24/24 at 8:30AM in Dept. 79 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner
ARLIN P. NESER - SBN 116047,
ATTORNEY AT LAW
9110 IRVINE CENTER DR
IRVINE CA 92618,
Telephone (949) 484-9607
BSC 225045
5/3, 5/10, 5/17/24
CNS-3808199#
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File Number 2024096680
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS:CERRITOS ANIMAL HOSPITAL, 11360 183RD STREET, CERRITOS CA 90703, LOS ANGELES COUNTY. ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION 6194752. REGISTERED OWNER: CERRITOS ANIMAL HOSPITAL, 11360 183RD STREET, CERRITOS CA 90703, INCORPORATED IN CA. THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED AS A CORPORATION. The date registrant started to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above: 5/2024. 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/ CERRITOS ANIMAL HOSPITAL, INC., PRESIDENT, JENNIFER SELF. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 5/06/24. 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 5/10, 5/17, 5/24, 5/31/24.



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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

 562.800.0249  www.auracademy.org  admission@auracademy.org
 Building 2, 1600 E Hill St., Signal Hill CA 90755

