



METRO SECURES \$77M GRANT TO BUY ZERO-EMISSION BUSES

LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR and Metro Board Chair Janice Hahn in front of an electric bus at Metro headquarters. The Federal Transit Admin. announced that they will award Metro a \$77.5 million grant to buy the buses.

Hahn Assumes Chairship of Metro

She takes over at a time of heightened crime, vows her focus will be on safety and rider experience.

By Brian Hews

This week, Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn assumed the Chair of the Metro Board and immediately outlined her priorities with a focus on safety.

Just two days later, the Federal Transit Administration announced that they will award Metro with a \$77.5 million grant for Low or No Emission buses.

Hahn spoke about the importance of law enforcement visibility on buses, trains and at Metro

[See METRO, page 12]

New California Laws in Effect July 2024

If you ever thought you had a good deal on an Airbnb and then discovered a bunch of hidden fees during checkout,

many laws taking effect July 1, 2024 in California. Here's what is changing: Housing Construction, SB 684, allows cities

or votes. The developments must have 10 or fewer residential units and be on lots no larger than five acres. The law



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

a new state law makes hiding those junk charges illegal.

That's just one of

and counties to build medium sized housing developments without the need for public hearings

only applies in areas already zoned for multi-family housing.

[See LAWS, page 11]

State Tax Agency Files \$49,000 Lien on Home of Central Basin Director

Juan Garza was under FTB scrutiny while he was accusing others at Central Basin of financial fraud.

By Brian Hews

Los Cerritos Community News has obtained a document showing that Central Basin Municipal Water Director Juan Garza and his wife Mayra, a Bellflower

Unified School District Board Member, were hit with a massive \$49,000 tax lien filed by the California Franchise Tax Board on May 30, 2024.

The public document states that the Garzas "were liable under Parts 10 and 11 of Division 2 of

the Revenue and Taxation Code," which are related to business income and partnerships.

Questions to Garza sent yesterday have yet to be answered.

The revelation of the FTB action will not sit well with Central Basin employees and contractors, some of whom Garza has accused of financial malfeasance for months - while he was under an FTB investigation and eventual assessment himself.

Garza also slammed GM Alex Rojas and eventually voted to place Rojas on leave, and a contractor called Capstone for major fraud, citing work from questionable auditors; this while Garza was receiving letters from the FTB warning of an impending property lien.

Even more shocking, the lien was based on the Garzas' 2022 tax returns,

[See TAX LIEN, page 11]

LA County Axes Leadership in Juvenile Detention System

Authorities in Southern California have axed more than a dozen top officials after complaints of violence and injuries from rank-and-file officers in the county's juvenile facilities.

Los Angeles County Probation Chief Guillermo Viera Rosa said that 14 top managers would be impacted and 13 chief deputy positions would be eliminated - "an entire layer of management" in the department, which has 6,600 employees.

The impacted individuals were offered

positions in other county offices, authorities said.

The shakeup is connected to chaos within the county's juvenile facilities. Officers have been complaining of increasing violence against themselves and between inmates at the jails for at least the past two years.

The cuts came in expedited fashion after Viera Rosa's office asked the county board of supervisors to eliminate funding for the jobs in its latest budget revision.

[See AXES, page 12]

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Gun Violence Awareness Day Held in Buena Park



AWARENESS: In honor of National Gun Violence Awareness Day, Cerritos City Councilman Frank Yokoyama (center) and his son Maddox attended a Gun Violence Prevention Rally at Buena Park City Hall held by Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva on June 8. Also attending was ABCUSD Board VP Ernie Nishii, far right.

Artesia Councilwoman Monica Manalo Kicks Off Re-election Campaign



ARTESIA COUNCILWOMAN Manalo with Lifeguard/Supervisor Janice Hahn.

Artesia City Councilwoman and former Mayor Monica Manalo kicked off her re-election campaign for a second term with an endorsement from L.A. County Supervisor Janice Hahn.

Manalo has served on the City Council since December of 2020 and served as Mayor in 2022.

A 30+ year resident and a graduate of the ABCUSD, she has been an active member of Holy Family Parish in Artesia for over 50 years.

Councilwoman Manalo is also endorsed by Assemblywoman Sharon Quirk-Silva and Congresswoman Michelle Steele.

The election will be held on Tuesday, November 5th, 2024.

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Cerritos Names New Director of Community and Cultural Services

Staff Report

Cerritos has named long-time employee Annie Hylton as the new Director of Community and Cultural Services.

Hylton will be responsible for overseeing the Community Participation/Senior Center, Library and Recreation Services Divisions.

She will lead the new department in setting up systems for improved city staff collaboration and ensuring a consistent approach to providing services to the Cerritos community among the

city's many public facilities.

Hylton joined the city of Cerritos in 1991 as a Communications Assistant.

She was promoted to the position of Public Information Manager in 1995, in which she led the Communications team through several new initiatives including the launch of the City's first website.

She was promoted to City and Theater Marketing Manager in 2005 and to City Librarian and Marketing Manager in 2014.

Hylton has held several leadership roles throughout her Cerritos career, having simultaneously managed the Communications Division, Theater Marketing and the Cerritos Library.

Hylton received her bachelor of arts degree in communications from California State University, Fullerton.

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Project 2025: Conservative-Backed Group Going After Civil Servants It Suspects Could 'Resist' Trump

The concept of compiling and publicizing a list of government employees shows the lengths Trump's allies are willing to go to ensure nothing or no one will block his plans in a potential second term.

(AP) ~ From his home office in small-town Kentucky, Tom Jones, a seasoned political operative is investigating scores of federal employees suspected of being hostile to the policies of Republican Donald Trump.

The effort, focused on top career government officials who aren't appointees within the political structure, has stunned democracy experts and shocked the civil service community in what they compare with the red scare of McCarthyism.

With a \$100,000 grant from the Heritage Foundation, the authors of Project 2025, the goal is to post 100 names of government workers to a website this summer to show a potential new administration who might be standing in the way of a second-term Trump agenda — and ripe for scrutiny, reclassifications, reassignments or firings.

It is a highly unusual and potentially chilling effort that dovetails with broader conservative preparations for Trump.

The American Accountability Foundation are digging into the backgrounds, social media posts and commentary of key high-ranking government employees, starting with the Dept. Homeland Security.

They're relying on tips from his network of contacts, including workers. In a move that alarms some, they're preparing to publish the findings online.

The concept of compiling and publicizing a list of government employees shows the lengths Trump's allies are willing to go to ensure nothing or no one will block his plans in a potential second term. Jones' Project Sovereignty 2025 comes as Heritage's Project 2025 lays the groundwork, with policies, proposals and personnel ready for a possible new White House.

Jacqueline Simon, policy director at the American Federation of Government Employees, said the language being used — the Heritage Foundation’s announcement praised the group for ferreting out “anti-American bad actors” — is “shocking.”

Civil servants are often ex-military personnel and are required to take an oath to the Constitution to work for the federal government, not a loyalty test to a president, she and others said.

“It just seems as though their goal is to try to menace federal employees and sow fear,” said Simon, whose union backs President Joe Biden, a Democrat, for reelection.

As Trump, who has been convicted of felony charges in a hush money case and is under a four-count federal indictment accusing him of working to overturn his 2020 election loss, faces a likely rematch with Biden this fall, far-right conservatives have vowed to take a wrecking ball to what they call the deep-state bureaucracy.

Conservatives view the federal workforce as overstepping its role to become a power center that can drive or thwart a president's agenda.

While Jones' group won't be recommending whether to fire or reassign the federal workers it lists, the work aligns

PROJECT 2025

The Weapons of the Heritage Foundation

Paul Dans, Director, Project 2025

Kevin Roberts, President, Heritage Foundation

Russell Vought, President, Center for Renewing America

Christian Nationalism dominates

Military executive theory adopted, giving Trump absolute power

Thousands of civil servants replaced by MAGA results

Insurrection Act used to pursue political enemies

Abortion rejected, contraception restricted

Climate regulations gutted, fossil fuel production boosted

Charlie Kirk, Executive Director, Turning Point USA

Mark Meadows, Senior Partner, Conservative Partnership Institute

Stephen Miller, President, America First Legal

Donald Trump, Enforcer

Leonard Leo, dark-money funder, Co-Chairman of Federalist Society

BRODNER

Graphic courtesy of the Nation Magazine.

operates remotely across the country, poring over the information about federal workers within Homeland Security, the State Department and other agencies that deal with immigration and border issues.

Their focus is on the highest ranks of the civil servants — GS-13, GS-14 and GS-15 employees and those in senior executive positions who could put up roadblocks to Trump’s plans for tighter borders and more deportations.

Jones dismissed the risks that could be involved in publicly posting the names, salary information and other details of federal workers who have some level of privacy or the idea his group's work could put employees' livelihoods in jeopardy.

“You don’t get to make policy and then say, ‘Hey, don’t scrutinize me,’” he said.

He acknowledges some of the work is often a “gut check” or “instinct” about which federal employees would be suspected of trying to block a conservative agenda.

Biden had repealed Trump’s Schedule F executive order in January 2021, but a GAO report in 2022 found that agencies believed it could be reinstated by a future administration.

Since then, the Biden administration issued a rule that would make it harder to fire workers. A new administration could direct the Office of Personnel Management to undo the regulation, but the process would take time and be open to legal challenges.

with Heritage's far-reaching Project 2025 blueprint for a conservative administration.

Heritage's Project 2025 proposes reviving the Trump Schedule F policy that would try to reclassify tens of thousands of federal workers as political appointees, which could enable mass dismissals — although a Biden administration rule seeks to make that more difficult.

Heritage President Kevin Roberts said the “weaponization of the federal government” has been possible only because of the “deep state of entrenched Leftist bureaucrats.”

The federal government employs about 2.2 million people, including those in the Washington, D.C., area and workers who the unions say many Americans know as friends or neighbors in communities across the country.

About 4,000 positions in the government are considered political appointees who routinely change from one presidential administration to the next, but most are career professionals — from landscapers at Veterans Administration cemeteries to economists at Labor Statistics.

The public list-making conjures for some the era of Joseph McCarthy, the senator who conducted grueling hearings into suspected communist sympathizers during the Cold War. The hearings were orchestrated by a top staffer, Roy Cohn, who became a confidant of a younger Trump.

Skye Perryman, CEO of the advocacy group Democracy Forward, said it's deeply disturbing and reminiscent of "the darker parts of American history."

Publicly naming government workers is an "intimidation tactic to try to chill the work of these civil servants," she said, and part of a broader "retribution agenda" underway this election.

With six researchers, Jones' team



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SUMMER FESTIVAL: SEJSCC board members and guests from (l-r) front row, Ted Yoshimura, Karrie Takeuchi, Kimie Matsumoto, Richard Shinomoto, Japanese Consul General Kenko Sone, Mami Sone, Norwalk Mayor Margarita Rios, Norwalk School Board member Jose Rios, Cerritos Councilmember Frank Yokoyama, Linda Kusuda, Miki Suzuki. Back (l-r) Fred Matsumoto, Tye Masaki, Masa Lau, and ABCUSD VP Ernie Nishii.

Staff Report

The Southeast Japanese School and Community Center opened its summer festival season in June with food, games, exhibits, entertainment, and bingo.

Norwalk Mayor Margarita Rios and her husband, Jose Rios, Norwalk School Board member; Cerritos City Councilmember Frank Yokoyama, and the Honorable Japanese Consul General Kenko Sone were among the honored guests.

The entertainment included Kozue Matsumoto's Koto Ensemble, The Hawaiian Delites, Kamake Keawe's Ukulele Jammers, Kekaimoku's Hawaiian Dancers, and Hikari Taiko.

Shiho Tendou danced to "Tabaru Zaka" and wowed the audience.

Kozue Matsumoto's Koto Ensemble. Koto classes are offered on Saturday afternoons at SEJSCC.

Japanese dance class for children will begin in August at SEJSCC. For information, please call (562) 863-5996.

This summer season for celebration and dance is just starting.

Be sure to visit the many Japanese festivals and Obons throughout the Southern California area.

Enjoy the camaraderie and share the joy dancing in the community dance circle.



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Philippine-American Friendship Day at Don Knabe Park



MAGKAISA CLUB of Cerritos High School will perform. Photo by Dan E. Nino.

By Dan Nino

Cerritos, Calif. – On July 13, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., all roads will lead to the Don Knabe Community Regional Park on Bloomfield Ave. to celebrate Los Angeles County’s largest 3rd annual Philippine American Friendship Day .

The fun parade will kick off the festivities, snaking through around the portion of the sparkling lake and proceeding towards the large canopy where food, merchandise, and informational booths are arrayed.

Among the early community groups that committed to participate in the parade include the Filipino American Catholic Community of the Holy Family, Pangasinan Brotherhood-USA, Filipino-American Community of Los Angeles (FACLA), joint APOGLA and APO South Bay Alumni, Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Cerritos, Lanao Del Sur-Iligan Association, and Adobers.

After the parade, the festivities will commence with an invocation by Rev. Fr. Matthew Ma. Fernande of the Holy Family Catholic Church in Artesia. This will be followed briefly by inspirational remarks from the Philippine Consulate and elected officials. The remaining non-stop free entertainment will beheadlined by Junior New Systems, a runner-up of America’s Got Talent. Other performers include Lanao Del Norte Dance Troupe, Magkaisa Club of Cerritos High School, Jhala Angelique, Ballet Folklorico Almitas, Move Essential, Party of Three, Ardyanna Ducusin, Jane Rock Star Magan Chang, I Dance, Dalisay Filipino American Dance Company, Lyndon Apostol, Shiloh Baylon, Twin Singers, Shekinah Austria, Pamana Kali, Buck Palace Tribe, Love Cats Band, RTPACT, and many more. After the live performances, DJ Marlino will provide danceable music for dance aficionados to cap the day.

Downey PD Shoot, Kill Man Lighting Fireworks in Backyard

DOWNEY, Calif. - A man was shot to death in an officer-involved shooting in Downey, authorities said Sunday.

Officers were dispatched about 6:15 p.m. Saturday to a call of a disturbance in the 7100 block of Stewart and Gray Road, the Downey Police Department reported.

“Officers arrived on scene and during their investigation, an officer-involved shooting occurred,” according to a police statement.

“A male subject was shot and died from his injuries.”

No officers were hurt and no other injuries were reported.

Witnesses said the man, who allegedly has mental health issues, was lighting fireworks in the backyard and got into an argument with a neighbor before being fatally shot by a responding officer.

Downey police reported that the California Department of Justice was handling the investigation.

Anyone with information regarding the incident was urged to call Crime Stoppers at 800-222-8477 or go directly to www.lacrimestoppers.org.



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Lakewood Town Square Project Moves Ahead

Staff Report

The Lakewood City Council selected an architectural/engineering firm, the Dahlin Group, to design a Town Square for the three-acre dirt lot at the corner of Clark Ave. and Del Amo Blvd.

The Town Square will include art, landscaping, seating and an entertainment area. It will be attractively secured and not accessible when not in use. It will be a gathering place for public events and will be available for rent for weddings and private parties. It's expected to be used and visited by thousands of Lakewood residents in the years to come.

City Council members were saying this will be a legacy project that gives

Lakewood a creative and attractive centerpiece to the civic center area. City Manager Thaddeus McCormack said the dirt lot at one of Lakewood's most prominent intersections has long been something the city wanted to develop, but "we needed to wait for the right time and the right idea to move ahead with. And we think both of those have come together now."

The design process is expected to take about 11 months, with construction following after that.

In other action, the council approved a 60-day trial period of adding two security guard patrols to daytime shifts seven days a week.

Currently, four security guards patrol the city during overnight hours.

Historic Fire Station 9 in Los Cerritos Sold



GEMMAE BAKE SHOP the popular bakery that specializes in Filipino treats bought the historic building and will build another location at 3917 Long Beach Blvd.

Historic Fire Station 9 in Los Cerritos, located at 3917 Long Beach Blvd., is one step closer to becoming an a Gemmae Bake Shop, the popular bakery that specializes in Filipino treats.

Over 40 years ago, Gemmae Bake Shop opened its doors in the Philippines and began serving fresh and traditional Filipino dishes. In 1993, it opened in Long Beach led by mother-daughter duo - Prescilla and Catherine Tolentino which is set to buy the property from the city of Long Beach for \$750,000.

The Long Beach City Council signed

off on an offer in March that began a 60-day escrow window for the bakery's parent company, Tolentino Properties, LLC, to examine the property and see if it can be converted into a production bakery and restaurant.

"I can't think of a more appropriate use," said Councilmember Megan Kerr.

The popular Westside bakery that specializes in Filipino treats emerged in 2023 as a potential buyer for the Fire Station 9 property, which has sat vacant for years as the city works to build a new station nearby.



William

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La Mirada Proactively Maintaining 144 Miles of Sidewalks

Staff Report

(JPIA)~Smooth sidewalks are taken for granted all too often. Tripping hazards can be caused by tree roots, soil expansion, heat expansion, and several other environmental factors. A city may not notice that a walkway is uneven until someone takes a tumble. Implementing consistent inspection schedules and developing an action plan to correct hazards is the key to maintaining public safety.

La Mirada has demonstrated success in its sidewalk inspection program, setting a standard for proactive risk management and showing its commitment to public safety.

“Sidewalk trip and fall claims are one of the most frequent liability claims experienced by cities,” said California JPIA Risk Services Director Alex Mellor. “Cities usually don’t have the resources to inspect their sidewalks as frequently as they would like, and people can get seriously hurt, especially if there is a sidewalk deviation close to a senior center.”

In September 2007, La Mirada formalized its program and developed a system of evaluation and repair for its 144 miles of sidewalks.

The city developed a sidewalk inspection and maintenance policy that identifies potential hazards, measures them, and schedules them for repair or replacement if the measurement is deemed dangerous.

“If staff identifies a deviation that



SIDEWALK TRIP and fall claims are one of the most frequent liability claims experienced by cities. The city developed a sidewalk inspection and maintenance policy that identifies potential hazards and fixes them.

exceeds 1.5 inches, mitigation measures are implemented immediately, and a temporary or permanent repair is added to the schedule,” said Tony Moreno, a senior administrative analyst for La Mirada. “If the pavement displacement is shorter than 1.5 inches, it is noted, evaluated, and scheduled for reinspection or temporary repair. If the hazard is adjacent to a school, senior center, or zone with above-average foot traffic, it may be prioritized for repair.”

Based on established standards of what constitutes a dangerous condition, La Mirada’s public works staff also looks for sidewalks with excessive slopes, cracks and holes exceeding a half-inch in depth or diameter, damage around traffic signals, utility poles, ground utility boxes, streetlights, and regulatory sign posts, hazardous tree wells, and other relevant hazards, regardless of whether they meet specific requirements for repair. They

also check on potential hazards reported by community members.

“Our public works staff responds to reports about sidewalks, regardless of the size reported,” said Moreno. “The separation doesn’t have to meet any ‘hazard’ standard — our field and office staff endeavor to coordinate inspections of nearly all reports of sidewalk separations. Staff do a great job communicating with citizens regarding their requests and strive to provide excellent customer service in addition to the physical work performed.”

Staff flags sidewalk hazards with fluorescent paint. This marker draws pedestrians’ attention to the defect, reducing the potential for a trip and fall before a repair is completed.

When La Mirada staff flag a walkway hazard, temporary repairs are installed by city staff, addressed by another contractor, or repaired by the city’s contractor.

La Mirada also employs a fast-setting cold mix material called Trowelpave to patch and repair City sidewalks. This material creates wedges that bridge the vertical separations created by tripping hazards, removing the need for a more expensive and time-consuming repair process.

La Mirada Mayor John Lewis told the LML, “La Mirada is a safe place in all areas of life. We know our residents enjoy walking on our many well paved streets. But our teams also know that even small separation or raised cracked on a sidewalk other imperfection can cause someone to trip if they are not repaired. We have 144 miles of sidewalks that residents enjoy on a daily basis. We do the best we can to make sure the residents maintain a high quality of life here in the City.”

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SCAN FOR ALL OPEN POSITIONS

CLASSIFIED RECRUITMENT EVENT

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 2024

8:30AM – 3:00 PM

12820 PIONEER BLVD., NORWALK, CA 90650

The Norwalk–La Mirada Unified School District will be hosting a Classified Recruitment Event for qualified personnel in the positions listed to the right.

Interested applicants are encouraged to apply for these positions ahead of the event by visiting EdJoin.org/nlmusd or by scanning the QR code next to each job title. Online applications must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. PT, on July 9, 2024. Qualified applicants will be invited to the event for in-person panel interviews.

Walk-ins are welcome for assistance in application submission. Will be required to create an EdJoin account and have any applicable materials for the position.

CHILD CARE, AIDE/BUS MONITOR

NUTRITION SERVICES ASSISTANT II

NUTRITION SERVICES ASSISTANT III

PARAEDUCATOR, PRESCHOOL

PARAEDUCATOR, SPECIAL EDUCATION

QUESTIONS? Contact the Division of Human Resources at (562) 210-2401

'Always a Good Time' OC Fair exhibits showcase the best in local talent and creativity

From cake decorating to the loveliest rose to brilliant photography and woodworking, the OC Fair showcases top local talent every year and awards its coveted blue ribbons to the best of the best.

Additional demonstrations and exhibits bring experts and unique experiences to fairgoers every day.

All exhibits are free with Fair admission. The 2024 theme is "Always a Good

Time" and runs July 19-Aug. 18.

Featured exhibits- The Art of Music Experience

This experiential exhibit inspires people of all ages to discover and appreciate the stories and creators behind album cover art. Fairgoers can explore iconic album covers and learn about the creators behind the art.

The exhibit features more than 150 hand-painted recreations, neon displays, a themed cocktail lounge, a pop-up record store and interactive experiences.

Rides & Rhythms

The work of OC Fair photographers Michael Goulding and Miguel Vasconcellos documents the excitement of the Fair as captured through the lenses of these photo professionals over the past several years. This exhibit will be on display in the Visual Arts Gallery for the duration of the Fair.

Boris Khechoyan Woodcarver

Master woodcarver Boris

THE VIETNAM WAR through the Art and Photography of Ed Bowen exhibit features letters, memorabilia, photographs and more than 30 paintings and sketches produced by combat artist Ed Bowen.



Khechoyan's eclectic display of furniture, wall art and sculpture will be showcased in July. Visit the Visual Arts & Woodworking Gallery for the exhibit and live demonstrations.

Travel With Artist Mimi Kuo

Artist Mimi Kuo's travel sketchbook journals will be featured in July. Her artwork showcases characters inspired by her daughter's

stuffed animals, Peter DeMouse and friends.

Artist Jaqueline Valenzuela's Car Parts

Mixed-media artist Jaqueline Valenzuela's paintings and work on car parts using bold colors, portraiture, lowrider custom paint, and elements of the urban landscape will be on display in August. Check out the display in the Visual Arts Gallery and bring the kids along to get their creative lowrider kits.

Chicano Heritage Month



MINI HOME DEPOT IMPROVEMENT STORE

- TOILETS-ALL BRANDS
- SHOWER BASE / TUBS- ALL SIZES AND BRANDS
- VANITIES-ALL SIZES 18 IN - 72 IN
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- CEILING FANS - OVER 50 MODELS
- MEDICINE CABINETS AND MIRRORS BLACK, WHITE, GOLD, CHROME, BRONZE
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- TANKLESS WATER HEATERS
- FLOORING-VINYL, LAMINATE, TILE
- DOORS-INTERIOR, EXTERIOR, BARN DOORS - CLOSET
- KITCHEN SINKS
- PLUMBING AND ELECTRICAL SUPPLY
- AREA RUGS INDOOR & OUTDOOR
- OUTDOOR SUPPLY - GARDEN SUPPLY
- POOL EQUIPMENT
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BLUEPRINTS AND PERMITS
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ART FOR MUSIC’S SAKE

ART FOR MUSIC’S SAKE
This experiential exhibit inspires people of all ages to discover and appreciate the stories and creators behind album cover art.

• Hands-on History – Visitors will be able to see, handle and wear military artifacts.

• The SAAAB Story – Celebrate the history of the Santa Ana Army Airbase flight training center.

• Arts, animals and more
• Cow milking demonstrations

• Great American Petting Farm

• OC Tole & Decorative Painters

• OC Quilters Guild
• Chef Ray fruit and vegetable carver

• UCCE Master Food Preservers of OC

• OC Beekeepers
• Pygmy goats
• Llamas
• Urban chickens
• Global livestock
• California Rare Fruit Growers Club

• Competitions on display

THE FAIR FOOD will be the usual eclectic mix of natural, fried foods and exotic drinks.

• Collections
• Handcrafts and Fiber Arts
• Jewelry Arts
• Culinary Arts
• Horticulture including fruit, vegetables and floral
• Table Settings
• Photography
• Fine Arts
• Woodworking
• Miniature Donkey Competition

• OC Equestrian Vaulting
• Angora Goat Competition

Fair Specifics

OC Fair schedule: 11 a.m. - 11 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday & Sunday; 11 a.m. - midnight Friday & Saturday

• A limited number of tickets are available each day – dates will sell out

• Advance online ticket sales are required – no transaction fees

• Tickets are good only

for the date purchased; please choose days carefully – no refunds

• With the Every Day Passport fairgoers can enjoy the Fair any day or every day for \$60 with no restrictions or blackout dates - quantities are limited

• Same-day Fair admission is included with tickets to performances during the Fair

General admission tickets - no fees: \$13 weekdays (Wednesday, Thursday) and \$15 weekends (Friday, Saturday, Sunday). Tickets for seniors (60+) and youth (ages 6-12) are \$9 every day and children 5 and younger are always free.

The 2024 OC Fair mobile app is now available with information on daily activities as well as a map, news & information and tickets. Search for “ocfair 2024” in your app store



Chicano Heritage Month will be celebrated with activities and exhibits during the month of August in the Visual Arts Gallery and OC Promenade.

Here’s a list of exhibits at the 2024 OC Fair

• **Orange County Sand and Sea** – Kids can explore iconic beachside landmarks, wander through seaside experiences, discover a touch tank and take a deep dive into beachy virtual reality.

• **Woodworking and Scroll Saw**

Demonstrations – Masters will be demonstrating different techniques, styles and steps of woodworking.

• **Culinary Activities & Contests** – The OC Promenade stage hosts daily activities and demonstrations, including a fun food-related contest.

Heroes Hall

• Main exhibit – The Vietnam War through the Art & Photography of Ed Bowen.



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TRAVEL SOFTBALL ROUNDUP

AREA SOFTBALL PLAYERS COME BACK FROM THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN STATE, PREPARE FOR NEXT TOURNAMENTS

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on X

Now that the Triple Crown Sports Colorado 4th of July Fireworks and Sparkler Tournament is over, it's time for the next set of travel softball showcase tournaments. Numerous area players competed in the Rocky Mountain State from July 1-7, preparing themselves for either The Alliance Fastpitch Championship Series or the Premier Girls Fastpitch National Championships later this month.

In the 16-Under National Power Pool of the Fireworks and Sparkler Tournament, consisting of 72 teams, Valley Christian High catcher Peyton Kingery helped her travel team, the (Riverside) BSC Bengals-Briggs win five of eight games played. After winning both games of the B Box bracket on July 2, the Bengals lost to the (Wentzville, MO) Unity-Slezak and the (Ruther Glen, VA) Unity-Johnson on July 3. But the Bengals bounced back to get past the (Edison, N.J.) Lady Dukes-Torres/McHale 7-5 and the (Bonner Springs, KS) Select Fastpitch-Woelbel 5-0 last Friday. Kingery went two for three and drove in a pair of runs against the Unity-Slezak. In the two games last Friday, Kingery went a combined two for five with two runs batted in and a run scored.

Last Saturday, the Bengals doubled up the (Lees Summit, MO) Top Gun National 8-4 with Kingery collecting another hit and another RBI. All eight

runs were scored in the final three innings. The last game was a 9-2 loss to the (Kyle, TX) Hotshots Naudin National-Villegas this past Sunday. Kingery was hitless in three at-bats.

Gahr High's Malaia Huskey and V.C.'s Brianna Ramirez are on the (Fountain Valley) Explosion-Kim Adame, which split its two A Box bracket games on July 2, then lost four of its next five games. Huskey went a combined one for nine with the lone hit being a leadoff home run last Saturday against the (Fenton, MI) Turnin 2-Robeson/Long in a 10-8 victory. She would also score another run in the game.

Ramirez went hitless in one at-bat against the (Gretna) Nebraska Gold last Friday, a 7-0 loss, and against the (Winston, GA) Athletics Gold-Tamorra/Freeman last Saturday in a 10-2 defeat.

The (Fountain Valley) Orange County Batbusters-Fernandez, with La Mirada High's Dani Lopez, split its two L Box bracket contests on July 2, lost a pair of games the next day, before



winning two of three games last Friday, then knocked off the (Katy)Texas Unity-Smith 11-7 last Saturday. Lopez did not have a hit in five-at bats in the nine games played in Colorado and half of the games the Batbusters won in Colorado came against the Texas Unity.

Finally, in the 16-Under National Power Pool, La Mirada's Angelina Ratzlaff and Katherine Villegas of Cerritos are members of the (Westminster) USA Athletics Gold-Rogers, which won one of seven games played in the tournament. Ratzlaff played in seven games, going five for 18 with four RBI, three doubles and three runs scored. Two of those hits and two of those runs came against the (Perry) Oklahoma Epic National 0-8-Shrum/Smith in a 17-3 rout.

While still on the team, Villegas has not played since before this past high school's season.

In the 18-Under National Power Pool, consisting of 54 teams, the (Huntington Beach) Firecrackers Select-Rico/Brashear, home to La Mirada's Rebecca Eckart and Amanda Urbina, split a pair of games from the D Box bracket on July 2, then defeated the (Monroe) GA Impact Premier 7-6 on July 3 before falling to the (Pickens, SC) TN Mojo-Ramsey/Fisher 7-3 later in the day.

Last Friday, the future University of Notre Dame catcher saw her travel team defeat the (San Mateo) Warrior Academy-McDonald 13-2 before falling to the (Coahoma, TX) Oklahoma Athletics National-Madden/Clammer 13-9. The Firecrackers then defeated the (San Diego) Power Surge-Walling 5-4, the (Missouri City, TX) Bombers Gold American 17-0 and the (Oklahoma City) EPIC National-Smith 12-0.

From there, the Firecrackers advanced to the National Power Pool Championship bracket where they defeated the (San Jacinto) Athletics-Mercado Smith 12-7 last Saturday night before losing to the (Rockvale, TN) Sparks Elite-Ross/Stewart 3-2 this past Sunday.

La Mirada's Reese and Riley Hilliard play for the (Anaheim) Orange County Batbusters-Stith, which won the Alliance Super Cup Championship Series with wins over the (Fairfax Station) VA Glory National-Willemsen 12-2, the Corona Angels 15-8 and the (Overland Park, KS) Aces Fastpitch 20-3, all on July 2.

The Hilliard's La Mirada teammate, pitcher and San Diego State University commit Montserrat Reyes-Cardenas and her Corona Angels-Tyson team got past the (Pearland, TX) Impact Gold-Jackson 2-1 on July 2 before the loss to the Batbusters. Reyes-Cardenas pitched one inning against the Batbusters, threw 22 pitches to seven batters, giving up three runs on a pair of hits while walking one. Eight teams, selected by their national rankings, participated in the Alliance Super Cup

Championship Series with all games played at the Aurora Sports Park.

In the 18-Under Fireworks Power Pool, consisting of 49 teams, V.C.'s Zoe Barrett and Choyce Chambers play for the (Downey) Nemesis Elite-Manny, which went 1-3 in its pool with the lone victory coming against the (Rocklin) Hype Fastpitch-Watson 5-3 on July 3. Then in the bracket portion, the Nemesis lost to the (Riverdale) Central California Dirdogs-Close 6-5 last Friday, slammed the (San Diego) Athletics Mercado-Carden/Hull 17-6 last Saturday morning before losing to the Las Vegas Blast 14-6 later in the day. Barrett went a combined four for 13 with three RBI and two runs scored while Chambers, who batted in the leadoff spot for all but one game, went a combined four for 16 with four RBI and three runs scored.

Finally, in the Fireworks Power Pool, Alyssa Avila and Angelyna Conde of La Mirada are on the (Garden Grove) West Coast Lady Dukes-Blanco, who won all four pool play games July 2-3, scoring 43 runs. In those four games, Conde went nine for 13 with eight runs scored and seven RBI. She also hit four home runs, including two in an 11-2 win against the (Grand Blanc, MI) TN Mojo-DeWitt last Thursday. Avila went three for eight with three RBI and three runs scored in the pool play games.

In the playoffs, the West Coast Lady Dukes split a pair of games last Friday, then won their first two games last Saturday by a combined score of 20-9 before falling to the (Corona) Athletics Mercado-Cook 9-6 last Saturday night. Both losses in the playoffs came to the Athletics Mercado-Cook. Avila went five for 13 with four runs scored and an RBI while Conde went four for 14 with three runs scored, three RBI and another home run in the playoffs.

Beginning on July 10 and going through Sunday, the USA Softball Champions Cup Elite Showcase, now in its 21st summer for the 18-Under division, takes centerstage and area softball players for at least eight travel teams will partake in this event. Listed below are the players and their teams.

Gahr's Vivian Tavera is with the (Torrance) California Cruisers-Smith, Norwalk High's Jailynn Banda and La Mirada's Angelie Kennedy are with the (Pasadena) Firecrackers-Vines, John Glenn High's Diana Bravo and Sienna Contreras, Artesia High's Arianna Franco and La Mirada's Amber Valdez are with the (Downey) Ohana Tigers-Colenzo, Whitney High's Audrey and Nuella Anyama are with the (Whittier) USA Athletics-Garcia, Cerritos' Kylie Manibusan and Norwalk's Kendall Nakano are with the (La Palma) Wildcats-Hunter and Gahr's Abbygail Perez is with the (Montebello) ZT Blaze-Del Campo/Roman.

Avila, Barrett, Chambers and Conde will also be with their respective teams in the Champions Cup.

There are eight pools with 48 teams and each team will play five pool play games before the single elimination playoffs begin on Saturday. All games in the 18-Under division will be played at Harvard Park in Irvine.



By DAVID OUELLET

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

REMEMBERING Y2K

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

Alert, Arrival, Bugs, Calendar, Clocks, Clue, Code, Computer, Concerns, Crash, Data, Date, Deliver, Digital, Disaster, Documentation, Doomsday, Errors, Failures, Final, First, Fixed, Glitch, Havoc, Idea, Incorrect, Leap, NewYearsEve, Number, Operations, Perl, Prepare, Rules, Save, Scare, Sign, Software, Storage, Stored, System, Time, Worry

Solution on page 12 **Solution: 10 letters**

LAWS from page 1

Hidden Fees, SB 478 makes it illegal for businesses to advertise a price for an item and then add hidden fees at the time of purchase. The price transparency law requires businesses, restaurants, websites and apps to display the true cost of an item or service, such as lodging, tickets for live events and food delivery fees. Businesses do not have to include taxes

Short-term rentals, AB 537 requires hotels, motels and short-term rentals on Airbnb and Vrbo to disclose the total price of a rental in their advertised rate, including cleaning fees and other charges. Taxes and governments charges do not have to be included in the rate. The law imposes a \$10,000 penalty for not disclosing the true cost of the rental.

School Athletics, AB 245, requires high school sports coaches, who already receive training in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, to receive training in recognizing and responding to signs and symptoms of cardiac arrest. It will also require certification in the use of external defibrillators.

Firearms Tax, AB 28: imposes an 11% tax on the sale of firearms and ammunition. The money generated will fund gun violence prevention and school safety programs. California is the first state to implement such a law.

Rental Deposit, AB 12, any new rental contracts for housing signed after July 1 will only require one month's security deposit. Existing rental agreements that required larger deposits are not affected. Landlords can still seek additional fees at the end of a lease if there is damage that exceeds one month's deposit.

Hate Crimes, AB 449 requires law enforcement agencies in California to adopt a hate crimes policy that guides officers on how to recognize suspected hate crimes. It authorizes the Department of Justice to review materials submitted to make sure law enforcement departments are complying with the law.

No Roofies Law, AB 1013 requires businesses that sell alcohol for consumption in their premises to sell or give away date-rape testing kits to customers. Bars and nightclubs must also post signage in their business informing customers that the drug testing kits are

available. Businesses will be required to obtain their own kits.

Fireworks, AB 1403 mandates that the State Fire Marshall identify and evaluate methods to gather data on fires, injuries and damages caused by illegal fireworks and safe and sane fireworks. The goal is to train law enforcement and fire personnel on seizing, transporting and storing fireworks, and prosecution of those caught with illegal fireworks. The law doubled fines for illegal fireworks starting in January of 2024.

Vehicle Registration, AB 256, prohibits police from stopping a vehicle solely because the license plate registration has expired, unless at least a month has passed since the original month of expiration. Law enforcement can cite a vehicle with expired tags if the vehicle was stopped for another violation.

Menstrual Products, AB 230, requires public and charters schools with students from grades three and up to provide free menstrual products in their bathrooms. Expands a previous California law that required menstrual products starting in the sixth grade.

Willful Defiance, SB 274, prohibits the suspension or expulsion of students from kindergarten to 12th grade for what's known as 'willful defiance', defined as disruption of school activities or defying school staff. Research studies have shown students of color, homeless and LGBTQ+ students are more likely to be disciplined for willful defiance than other students. The 'Keep Kids in School' law requires schools to instead use intervention methods and provide support as an alternative.

Violence Prevention, SB 553, requires businesses with 10 or more employees to implement and maintain a workplace violence prevention program. Employers must train workers on how to identify workplace violence hazards and how to respond to them. Employers must keep a log of workplace violence incidents.

Property Disclosures, AB 968, requires the owner of a single-family residential property who is selling the home with 18 months of acquiring it to disclose the name of each contractor involved in any room additions, structural modifications or repairs to the property and copies of any permits that were obtained. The law only applies to new transactions.

La Mirada Recognizes Woman of the Year Recipient



HONORED: During Women’s History Month in March, members of the California Senate recognized women for their leadership and volunteerism. The La Mirada City Council recognized Patty Miller for her valuable contributions to the community and being selected as 2024 Women of the Year. Miller is with La Mirada Mayor John Lewis.

Staff Report

Senator Bob Archuleta recently recognized 21 women at his annual Women of Achievement in Senate District 30 program in honor of Women’s History Month. Patty Miller was selected for her initiative and dedication to the community. While serving as president of the La Mirada Kiwanis in 2023, Patty

helped establish “Buddy Benches” to combat loneliness and bullying. The Buddy Benches are located at all six La Mirada elementary schools. The Buddy Benches program is a passion project for Patty and will help the children of the community establish friendships for years to come. This project exemplifies Patty’s efforts over many years to support programs for La Mirada’s youth.

La Mirada Crime Summary

July 1-7, 2024
Notable Arrests

- Six suspects were arrested throughout La Mirada for various warrants and narcotics violations.
- One suspect was arrested for grand theft auto.
- One suspect was arrested for theft.
- Robbery**
 - A robbery was reported on the 15700 block of Imperial Hwy. This inci-

- dent is still under investigation.
- Other Structure Burglary**
 - Two early morning burglaries occurred on the 13900 block of Valley View Ave.
 - Vehicle Burglary**
 - An afternoon window smash vehicle burglary occurred on the 16100 block of Rosecrans Ave.
 - Grand Theft**
 - A backpack was stolen on the 14200 block of Firestone Blvd.
 - Grand Theft Auto**
 - A sedan was reported stolen on the 15000 block of Ocaso Ave.

TAX LIEN from page 1

which would have included income from Garza’s representation of Joaquin Garcia, a convicted child rapist and pedophile who was the leader and pastor of La Luz Del Mundo Church.


An LCCN investigation found that Garza, who admitted he was a member of La Luz at the time and called Pastor Garcia “a prophet” in a text exchange with LCCN, represented and was paid by Pastor Garcia and La Luz immediately before he was convicted.

One of the sections in Part 10 of the Revenue and Taxation Code that Garza is liable under refers to “Non-Resident Income.”

The FTB records a tax lien as a “last straw” scenario and only after extensive collection efforts have failed. That indicates that the Garzas either never communicated with the FTB or that the couple stopped communicating after a certain amount of time.

Targets of an FTB investigation have many chances to avoid financial armageddon before the lien is filed. The process starts with several letters from the

Special Procedures Section PO BOX 2952 Sacramento CA 95812-2952	20240350304 05/30/2024 08:06:29 \$0.00
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Notice of State Tax Lien

Filed With: LOS ANGELES

Certificate Number: 24150349156

The Franchise Tax Board of the State of California hereby certifies that the following named taxpayer(s) is liable under parts 10 or 11 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code to the State of California for amount due and required to be paid by said taxpayer(s) as follows:

Name of Taxpayer(s) : JUAN GARZA
MAYRA C GARZA

FTB Account Number : 1213186334

Social Security Number(s) :

Last Known Address : BELLFLOWER CA 90706-7007

For Taxable Years : 2022

Total Lien Amount * : \$49,149.37

Further interest and fees will accrue at the rate prescribed by law until paid; that the Franchise Tax Board of the State of California complied with all of the provisions of parts 10 or 11 of Division 2 of the Revenue and Taxation Code of the State of California in computing, levying, determining and assessing the tax, the said amounts are due and payable and have not been paid. Said lien attaches to all property and rights to such property now owned or later acquired by the taxpayer.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Franchise Tax Board of the State of California has duly authorized the undersigned to execute this Notice in its name.

Dated: 05/29/24

FRANCHISE TAX BOARD
of the State of California

Tax lien from Norwalk Registrar-Recorder on the Garza’s house. Garza was under FTB scrutiny while he was accusing others of financial fraud.

FTB outlining the debt and demanding payment. If the targets do not respond, a 30-day notice of lien is mailed. Thirty days later, the lien is filed with the local county recorder, in Garza’s case, the Norwalk Registrar/Recorder.

Once the notice is received, the FTB offers the opportunity to file for a review of the FTB findings. At that point the taxpayers could set-up a payment plan and get up to sixty months to pay the balance off, or offer a lesser total amount called “an offer in compromise.”

But evidently the Garza’s did very little in the way of communications as evidenced by the FTB’s quick actions to place the \$49,000 lien on Garza’s Bellflower home and “protect their interests.”

The FTB action stops the Garza’s from selling or refinancing their home or obtaining any kind of personal or business loans or other lines of credit, even a credit card. Interest and penalties accrue on the balance.

Questions to Garza asking why he refused a payment plan went unanswered. Garza also did not answer whether he is disputing the tax.

METRO from page 1

stations and praised the recent surge of police and Sheriff’s deputy presence on the system in response to violent crimes.

“We know that new lines and stations will ultimately fail if riders’ top concern isn’t whether the Metro system goes where they need it to -- but whether they will reach their destination safely,” said Chair Hahn.

On top of safety, Hahn laid out additional priorities: helping unhoused people find shelter and assistance off the Metro system, focusing on the rider experience, and supporting Metro’s workforce.

She also spoke about her plan to ride Metro more often as Chair.

“When my father was a Supervisor, he would take a different route to the office through his district every day. And every time he came across a pothole, he would report it to his staff and tell them that, the next time he drove that road, he expected it to be fixed,” said Hahn.

“So, I am going to take a page out of my dad’s book. I haven’t ridden Metro as much as I should have in the past, but I am going to make it a point to ride more while I am Chair. And at our Board meetings, I am going to talk about what I experience as a Metro rider. That will mean calling out problems I see -- as well as praising the things that go right.”

Hahn then talked about the Federal Transit Administration grant.

Metro’s \$77M award is the second largest in the country out of 117 projects that the FTA selected for funding from 477 eligible applications. The funds will help the agency purchase dozens of battery electric buses, install new chargers and expand workforce development train-

ing at its West Hollywood bus division.

“117 communities, including Los Angeles, are receiving the good news that their transit buses are being modernized and their commutes improved through President Biden’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law,” said U.S. Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg. “The Biden-Harris Administration is helping agencies across 47 states replace old buses running on dirty, expensive fuels by delivering modern and zero-emission buses, manufactured by American workers, that will connect more people to where they need to go.”

The new electric buses will run on multiple lines throughout Los Angeles County and enhance mobility with direct access to Metro rail lines. The project emphasizes environmental and air quality improvements while providing high-quality transit service to Los Angeles County’s residents and visitors.

“Just as LA Metro was on the forefront in ushering in the cleanest bus fleet in the nation years ago, so we are once again leading the way with zero emissions buses,” said Hahn. “This federal funding will help us get one step closer to that zero emissions future that we need here in LA County. I’m grateful to President Biden, Secretary Buttigieg, Senators Butler and Padilla, and all our partners in DC who helped make this day possible.”

In April Metro released a solicitation for a base buy purchase of 260 battery electric buses (BEB) and 20 hydrogen fuel cell electric buses (FCEB). The solicitation includes additional purchase options that will allow for the potential procurement of up to 1,980 BEB and FCEBs.

Metro’s procurement effort aligns with the FTA’s priorities, reducing the level of customization of buses, partnering with other transit agencies on purchase options, and using progress payments to reduce the

financial burden facing the domestic bus manufacturing industry.

“Huge thanks to the Federal Transit Administration for funding that will help replace Metro’s aging compressed natural gas (CNG) buses and support Metro’s goal to transition its entire fleet to zero-emission operations,” said Los Angeles County Board Chair and Metro Board Member Lindsey P. Horvath. “As we approach the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Metro will continue to showcase Los Angeles as a climate leader on the world stage, providing clean transportation options to athletes and attendees.”

The federal funding provided for Metro’s Zero-Emission Bus and Charging Infrastructure Project was made possible through the USDOT’s Low or No Emission Grant Program. This grant will enable Metro to acquire new electric buses and begin installation of chargers at the West Hollywood bus yard.

“This project, funded by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, is critical to increasing Metro’s fleet of zero emission buses and charging stations,” said Metro CEO Stephanie Wiggins. “I thank U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg and Federal Transit Administration Acting Administrator Veronica Vanterpool for their strong support in helping us create one of the largest fleets of clean buses in the nation. I am also deeply appreciative to members of the Los Angeles County Congressional Delegation, including U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler, our congressional delegation, and key stakeholders like the LA/Orange County Building and Construction Trades Council and MOVE LA for their strong support for this grant application.”

Hahn has served on the Metro Board of Directors since her election to the Board of Supervisors in 2016 and has championed building the Southeast

Gateway Line from Artesia to Downtown, the preservation of the Dodger Stadium Express, and providing better mental health outreach to people in need on the Metro system.

AXES from page 1

“A streamlined organization will not only allow us to enact internal reforms more effectively, but it will also align us better with the new County Departments of Youth Development, and Justice Care and Opportunities,” the probation chief said in a statement.

The cuts come as the department is facing a class action lawsuit from officers who accuse leadership of discriminating against officers with injuries, and the county as a whole struggles with crime.

The Los Angeles Times last week revealed that dozens of probation officers assigned to the Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall facility were calling out on a daily basis, due to the unchecked inmate violence.

Last year, overcrowding at the facility forced police to wait with suspects in their squad cars in the parking lot for hours.

Los Angeles has shied away from prosecuting juveniles for minor offenses – so the ones who do make it to lockup are accused of serious and often violent crimes. Last summer, the juvenile hall endured an inmate riot and a jailbreak. On the night of the escape, 60 officers out of 100 scheduled to work that shift had failed to show up, according to the LA Times report.

And although it is a juvenile facility, there are still offenders housed there who are above the age of 18.

And juvenile inmates have been growing bolder at the same time.

On top of the probation department’s funding problems, the county is facing a number of whistleblower retaliation lawsuits aimed at the district attorney’s office – two of which have ended in multimillion-dollar payouts – and at least one other major labor lawsuit from Viera Rosa’s predecessor, Alfredo Gonzales.

Gonzales’s lawsuit states that he repeatedly told the county board of supervisors that the department was so understaffed that it violated state law. When state inspectors conducted a review of Los Angeles’ juvenile facilities, he told them that compliance issues were due to the staffing shortage.

Then he was fired.

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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 July 24, 2024 at 12:30 p.m.**

Anthony Brenes

Ronald Gallagher

Tonya Dennis

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.

Published at LCCN 7/12/24

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NOTICE INVITING BIDS
FOR
SITE CLEARING OF SIX EXISTING STRUCTURES AT
11462 AND 11504 178TH ST. ARTESIA, CA
[THE “PROJECT”]

BID NUMBER: 2024-109
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Artesia, California (“City”) invites sealed Bids for the Project. The City will receive such Bids at the City Clerk’s office, City Hall, 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, California 90701 up to 4:00 p.m., August 6, 2024 at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud.

SCOPE OF WORK. The Project includes, without limitation, furnishing all necessary labor, materials, equipment and other incidental and appurtenant Work necessary to satisfactorily complete the Project, as more specifically described in the Contract Documents. This Work will be performed in strict conformance with the Contract Documents, permits from regulatory agencies with jurisdiction, and applicable regulations. The quantity of Work to be performed and materials to be furnished are approximations only, being given as a basis for the comparison of Bids. Actual quantities of Work to be performed may vary at the discretion of the City Engineer.

OBTAINING BID DOCUMENTS. Bidders may obtain free copies of the Plans, Specifications and other Contract Documents online by visiting the City of Artesia’s website at: <https://www.cityofartesia.us/bids.aspx>

MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING AND SITE VISIT. A mandatory pre-bid meeting and site visit will be on **July 23, 2024 at 9:30 a.m.** at **11462 178th St.** in Artesia, Ca. 90701. Every Bidder is required to attend the pre-bid meeting and project site visit. Failure of a Bidder to attend will render that Bidder’s Bid non-responsive. No allowances for cost adjustments will be made if a Bidder fails to adequately examine the Project site before submitting a Bid.

PREQUALIFICATION. The City will only accept Bids from Bidders who have been prequalified for the Project. Any Bid received from a Bidder who has not been prequalified for the Project will be returned unopened. Please contact Leslie Nacionales-Tafoya at (562) 865-6262, Extension 246, or by email at lnacionales-tafoya@cityofartesia.us prior to bid submission in order to prequalify for the Project.

REGISTRATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS. In accordance with Labor Code Sections 1725.5 and 1771.1, no contractor or subcontractor shall be qualified to bid on, be listed in a bid proposal, subject to the requirements of Section 4104 of the Public Contract Code, or engage in the performance of any contract for public work, unless currently registered and qualified to perform public work pursuant to Section 1725.5 [with limited exceptions for bid purposes only under Labor Code Section 1771.1(a)].

PREVAILING WAGES. In accordance with Labor Code Section 1770 et seq., the Project is a “public work.” The successful Bidder (“Contractor”) and any Subcontractors shall pay wages in accordance with the determination of the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations (“DIR”) regarding the prevailing rate of per diem wages. Copies of those rates are on file with the Director of Public Works and are available to any interested party upon request. The Contractor shall post a copy of the DIR’s determination of the prevailing rate of per diem wages at each job site. This Project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the DIR.

BONDS. Each Bid must be accompanied by a cash deposit, cashier’s check, certified check or Bidder’s Bond issued by a Surety insurer, made payable to the City and in an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total Bid submitted. Personal or company checks are not acceptable. Upon Contract award, the Contractor shall provide faithful performance and payment Bonds, each in a sum equal to the Contract Price. All Bonds must be issued by a California admitted Surety insurer using the forms set forth in the Contract Documents, or in any other form approved by the City Attorney. Failure to enter into the Contract with the City, including the submission of all required Bonds and insurance coverages, within fifteen (15) Days after the date of the mailing of written notice of contract award to the Bidder, shall subject the Bid security to forfeiture to the extent provided by law.

LICENSES. Each Bidder shall possess a valid Class B Contractor’s license issued by the California State Contractors License Board at the time of the Bid submission. The successful Contractor must also possess or obtain a current City business license.

RETENTION SUBSTITUTION. Five percent (5%) of any progress payment will be withheld as retention. In accordance with Public Contract Code Section 22300, and at the request and expense of the Contractor, securities equivalent to the amount withheld may be deposited with the City or with a State or federally chartered bank as escrow agent, which shall then pay such moneys to the Contractor. Upon satisfactory completion of the Project, the securities shall be returned to the Contractor. Alternatively, the Contractor may request that the City make payments of earned retentions directly to an escrow agent at the Contractor’s expense. No such substitutions shall be accepted until all related documents are approved by the City Attorney.

BIDDING PROCESS. The City reserves the right to reject any Bid or all Bids, and to waive any irregularities or informalities in any Bid or in the bidding, as deemed to be in its best interest.

By: Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk Date 7/5/24 & 7/12/24

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 7/5 and 7/12/24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
BERYL K. BROOKS
CASE NO. 24STPB07168
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of BERYL K. BROOKS.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by BRYON P. BROOKS in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that BRYON P. BROOKS be appointed as personal representative to administer 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: 07/25/24 at 8:30AM in Dept. 4 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
EUGENE A. GLEASON III - SBN 096415
GLEASON LAW OFFICES
15651 E. IMPERIAL HWY., SUITE 202A
LA MIRADA CA 90638
Telephone (562) 943-5566
7/5, 7/12, 7/19/24
CNS-3828619#
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

ACCESS SERVICES
NOTICE INVITING BIDS

BID NO. 20240501-4398
VARIOUS REPAIRS AT THE ELIGIBILITY CENTER

Notice is hereby given that Access Services (“Access”) will receive sealed bids up to, but not later than **3:00 PM (PT) on August 6, 2024**, for the award of a contract for:

Bid No. 20240501-4398 - Various Repairs at the Eligibility Center in Commerce, CA

All bids shall be on the form provided by Access. Each bid must conform and be responsive to all pertinent Contract and Bid Documents.

All bids shall be made and presented on forms furnished by Access. Bids shall be received at Access Services, located at 3449 Santa Anita Ave., 2nd Floor, El Monte, CA 91731 and shall be opened and publicly read aloud at the above stated time.

Sealed bids are to be either hand delivered or sent via courier services, USPS does not deliver to the above address. Any bid that is submitted after this time shall be non-responsive and returned to the bidder.

A mandatory pre-bid conference and jobwalk will be conducted on Thursday, July 18, 2024 at 10:00 AM (PT) at Access Services’ Eligibility Center (Bidders are to meet at the front entrance) located at 5747 Rickenbacker Rd., Commerce, CA 90040. The site visit is expected to last less than one hour. Contractors are required to attend the jobwalk.

Each Bidder shall possess at the time that this Contract is awarded, a Class A or B or D-8/D-28 or C-10 or C-7 Contractor’s License, current and legally issued by the State of California Contractor’s State License Board, pursuant to Public Contract Code Section 3300. The successful Bidder must maintain the license in good standing throughout the duration of this Contract.

As security for its Bid, each bidder shall provide with its Bid Form, a bid bond issued by an admitted surety insurer on the form provided by Access Services, cash, or a cashier's check or a certified check, drawn to the order of the Access Services, in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the total bid price. This bid security shall be a guarantee that the Bidder shall, within five (5) calendar days after the date of the Notice of Award, enter into a contract with Access Services for the performance of the services as stipulated in the bid. The successful Bidder shall be required to furnish a 100% Performance Bond and a 100% Payment Bond if it is awarded the contract for the Project.

This is a prevailing wage job. The successful Bidder and its subcontractors shall pay all workers on the Project not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages and the general prevailing rate for holiday and overtime work as determined by the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations, State of California, for the type of work performed and the locality in which the work is to be performed, pursuant to sections 1770 et seq. of the California Labor Code. Prevailing wage rates are available on the Internet at: <http://www.dir.ca.gov>. Bidders and Bidders’ subcontractors shall comply with the registration, qualification and any other requirements pursuant to sections 1725.5 and 1771.1 of the California Labor Code.

The deadline to submit questions related to this solicitation is July 25, 2024, prior to 2:00 PM (PT). Questions regarding this solicitation should be submitted to purchasing@accesssla.org and copied to nimori@accesssla.org. Any questions submitted after the date and time specified may not be considered.

Access reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to waive any irregularities or informalities in any bids or in the bidding process. The award of the Contract, if made by Access, will be to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The bid packet for this project is available for download at accesssla.org and publicpurchase.com.

Kimberlie Nimori, Procurement Coordinator
Access Services

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 7/5 and 7/12/24

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
THOMAS LEE GILLESPIE
CASE NO. 24STPB07170
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of THOMAS LEE GILLESPIE.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JANIS GILLESPIE AND JON GILLESPIE in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JANIS GILLESPIE AND JON GILLESPIE 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: 08/07/24 at 8:30AM in Dept. 5 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
JOSHUA D. RAMIREZ - SBN 300285
CA ESTATE PLANNING SERVICES, PC
170 E. YORBA LINDA BLVD. #212
PLACENITA CA 92870
Telephone (714) 584-5009
BSC 225372
7/5, 7/12, 7/19/24
CNS-3829039#
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
FREDERICK CLEEK MITCHELL
CASE NO. 24STPB06428
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of FREDERICK CLEEK MITCHELL.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by CLINTON RAY MITCHELL in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that CLINTON RAY MITCHELL 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 in this court as follows: 08/08/24 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
ANDREA G. VAN LEESTEN - SBN 152628
VAN LEESTEN LAW CORP
6101 W. CENTINELA AVENUE, SUITE 392
CULVER CITY CA 90230
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