



## Central Basin Directors Look to Pad Their Pocketbooks With Taxpayer Dollars

By Brian Hews

With water sales dropping, water pumps malfunctioning, and revenue-generating projects on hold, the Central Basin Administration and Finance committee, whose Chair is Juan Garza and includes members Gary Mendez, Nem Ochoa, and Joanna Moreno, is busy helping directors line their future pocketbooks with taxpayer dollars voting on an item to add more paid meetings to CB's already long list.

CB Directors earn nearly \$300 for every meeting they attend.

Per the state's Water Code and CB Administrative Code, A & F members Ochoa and Moreno's terms ended 49 days ago on February 28, 2025. Yet, they remain on the CB board and CB committees, illegally voting for items.

(While cities and water purveyors inside CB's footprint are crying foul about Ochoa and Moreno, no Los Angeles daily newspapers are calling attention to the violations; no elected official in Los Angeles is questioning the abuse of power and conflicts of interest. Ochoa and Moreno's superiors, David Schickling of

Golden State Water and Vernon City Manager and former city of Whittier Manager Brian Saeiki sit quietly, ignoring the fact their employees are violating the State's Water Code.)

It is unknown why items were added to the list, the former list of paid meetings has been used since 2021 and includes over 50 items.

The changes will only affect elected Directors Garza, Mendez, Chacon, and Vasquez, yet appointed Directors Ochoa and Moreno, ignoring the obvious conflict of interest, voted to move the item to the CB Board. This will likely result in the CB adopting the new list; Ochoa, Mendez, Moreno, and Garza are the directors in the majority and vote together 99% of the time.

(A check of CB's website shows the new list of meetings has already been uploaded.)

The CB Staff report indicated that 56 meetings were paid before October 25, 2021. After October 25, the CB Board, led by then-President Art Chacon, amended the list to reduce it to 24 approved meetings.

On March 6, 2024, the new majority, with Michael Gualtieri

{See WATER, page 7}



## HONORING THOSE WHO SAVED TODDLER AT KNABE PARK

**HONORING HEROES:** At last week's meeting the Cerritos City Council honored area residents, Deputies and Sheriffs personnel who saved a toddler who fell into the lake at Knabe Park. The boys in front holding proclamations, Julian Mata and Preston Hong, pulled the toddler named Niko from the water then Sheriffs and L.A. Fire personnel saved Niko using CPR. In the back row are, in no particular order, Deputies Nelda Viveros, Xavier Alvarez, Erick Mutem, Danile Mailloux, Rebecca Chavez, and Law Enforcement Technician Leslie Gutierrez.

## Fullerton City Council Bans Newspapers at All City Facilities

By Brian Hews

Like the Fullerton City Council has nothing better to do?

Hiding behind newspapers saying they are "non-governmental content," on April 1, the Fullerton City Council, in a 4-1 vote, approved a policy banning the distribution of newspapers at city buildings. The one exception to the new policy is a "community news" rack at the back of Fullerton libraries.

The last time I looked, Fullerton was running legal notices in print (as required by Government Codes 6000 and 6008). So, when they publish a legal notice, how will they get a copy of the notice for their files?

City Attorney Richard Jones said a letter to city officials from a local blog "making a statement of intent" to display its newsletter in the City Hall lobby sparked the policy question.

Somehow that led to "a broader conversation with respect to the policy issues regarding the use of our city facilities and whether or not they should be deemed to be non-public forums or a source of public forum," Jones said.

I have been covering City Councils for over 25 years, this is the first for me.

Jones told the councilmembers as they discussed the ban that because the council's focus was on the broader question of

{See FULLERTON, page 5}

## Distinguished Young Women of Cerritos-Artesia Hold Scholarship Award Event



**WINNING PARTICIPANTS** for DYW Cerritos-Artesia pictured; Jolie Vo, DYW Central; Grace Zhao, DYW East; DYW West; Beverly Osaji, Alternate; Sarayu Snehansh, DYW West.

### LCCN Staff Report

Distinguished Young Women of Cerritos-Artesia held their 2026 program (the year participants graduate from high school) on Saturday, April 12 and Sunday, April 13, 2024. DYW is a scholarship program that promotes education and excellence in all areas of life by encouraging the participants to "Be Their Best Selves". Since 1975, this program has been promoted in the Cerritos-Artesia area, originally called Junior Miss. Throughout the program, all girls are encouraged to develop self - confidence, interview effectively, speak in public, be fit, perform on stage, and build interpersonal relationships.

This program strives to inspire high school juniors to develop to their full and individual potential. The program offers a fun and transformational experience over a three week period, which culminates in this celebratory showcase of participants'

accomplishments. Practices were held at the First Christian Reformed Church in Artesia. This year our official program took place at the Cerritos College Student Center, many thanks to the college, on Sunday, April 13. The program was emceed by Artesia's past mayor and current councilwoman, Monica Manalo. Interviews were held on Saturday, April 12 at the Artesia Christian Home in Artesia.

Standards and ideals of evaluating participants are consistent across local, state and national levels characterized by scholastic achievement, community involvement, creativity, and quest for excellence in every facet of life. Girls are judged in the following areas: Scholastics, 25%; Interview, 25%; Talent, 20%; Fitness, 15%; and Self Expression, 15%.

\$11,000 in scholarships were awarded in ten categories, and

{See DYW, page 9}

## JCOD Launches First All-Female Firefighter Training Cohort During 'Second Chance Month'



**SECOND CHANCE:** JCOD launched its first all-female cohort of the Firefighter Training Program at the Los Angeles County Training Center (LACTC). Some of them already fought fires in Southern California.

### LCCN Staff Report

The Los Angeles County Justice Care and Opportunities Department (JCOD) was established in November 2022 by the LA County Board of Supervisors. It embodies the County's "Care First, Jails Last" vision, focusing on prevention, diversion, reentry, and community-based support for justice-impacted individuals.

As part of Second Chance Month, JCOD launched its first

all-female cohort of the Firefighter Training Program at the Los Angeles County Training Center (LACTC).

Second Chance Month is observed every April in the United States to raise awareness about the challenges individuals face with criminal records and promote opportunities for their successful reintegration into society.

Initiated in 2017 by Prison

{See JCOD, page 5}





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- Samantha L. -  
6th Grade - Manhattan Beach Middle School, Manhattan Beach

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La Mirada Pop Warner Junior Pee Wee Cheer Squad Recognized



LA MIRADA MAYOR John Lewis with the Pop Warner Junior Pee Wee Cheer squad at a recent La Mirada City Council meeting. The squad was recognized for winning the 2025 JAMZ Youth National Championship. Photo courtesy city of La Mirada.

LCCN Staff Report

The La Mirada City Council recognized the Pop Warner Junior Pee Wee Cheer squad at the April 8 City Council meeting. In November 2024, the La Mirada Matadores Youth Football/Cheer Junior Pee Wee squad competed in a JAMZ Cheer and Dance championship competition held in Anaheim. At that competition, the Junior Pee Wee squad placed sixth in the 8 to 11 age division. The Pee Wee squad's hard work paid off as they earned enough points to qualify for the JAMZ Youth Nationals 2025 cheerleading competition. The members maintained a rigorous training regimen in preparation for the national competition. The JAMZ Youth National 2025 cheerleading competition was

held in Las Vegas over three days in February. The competition was open to cheer teams of all skill levels and attracted competitors throughout the country. During the JAMZ Youth Nationals competition, the squad competed against eight other cheer squads in their division. These other cheer squads had prior competition experience and were far more seasoned than La Mirada's squad. At the competition, the squad demonstrated extraordinary talent and teamwork during their routine which featured stunts, tumbling, and dance. The team received no deductions from judges, meaning the squad was flawless during its performance. Their perfect performance earned the cheer squad first place, and they were crowned JAMZ Youth National Champions in the 8

to 11 age division. The La Mirada Matadores Youth Football/Cheer Junior Pee Wee Cheer squad is led by Head coach Justine Garcia, Coach Natalie Ruiz, and Coach Cassandra Torres. The team includes Kayla Barker, Sofia Barrios, Cadence Bradvica, Gracie Chu, Khloe Ferguson, Abigail Gutierrez, Mackenzi Hollan, Sadie Maldonado, Sophia Mora, Mia Posadas, Kallie Rios, Ava Rodriguez, Madison Smith, and Grace Ybarra.

Virtual Meeting – Southbound I-605 South Street Off-Ramp Improvements Project

Metro is making improvements to the Southbound I-605 at the South St Off-Ramp to enhance safety and improve traffic flow. The project includes adding a right-turn lane for vehicles exiting the freeway to help reduce congestion and improve mobility. Metro invites the community to a virtual meeting to receive an update on the Southbound I-605 South St Off-Ramp Improvements Project. Metro representatives will provide an update on ongoing construction progress and upcoming work.

**Virtual Community Meeting**  
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2025  
Time: 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Location: Virtual (via Zoom)  
Meeting Access:  
Join via Zoom  
Webinar ID: 895 7653 8735  
Call-in: +1 213 338 8477

Community members are encouraged to attend and stay informed about the project's progress and potential impacts. For more information, please visit the project webpage or contact the project team at i605corridor@metro.net.

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# Senator Archuleta Urges Public Support for SB 296: Property Tax Relief for 100% Disabled Veterans

LCCN Staff Report

Senator Bob Archuleta (D-Pico Rivera) is calling on Californians to stand up for the state’s disabled veterans by voicing their support for Senate Bill 296, a vital measure that would provide a full property tax exemption for veterans with a 100% disability rating. Senator Archuleta encourages all Californians – especially veterans, their families, and advocates – to contact their state

legislators and express support for this critical legislation as it moves through the Senate and Assembly. “This legislation is a matter of dignity and stability for those who have sacrificed the most for our state and the nation,” said Senator Archuleta, Chair of the Senate Committee on Military and Veterans Affairs and an Army combat veteran. “It’s time we do more to ensure our disabled veterans, many of whom are living on fixed incomes, are not left behind. SB 296 is one way we can honor their service and help them stay in their homes.” This bill expands the current Disabled Veterans’ Property Tax Exemption to allow a full exemption for homeowners who are 100 percent disabled veterans. Several other states – including Florida, Texas, Virginia, New Mexico, and Hawaii – already waive property taxes for veterans with total and permanent disabilities. California must now rise to meet that same standard. California is home to nearly one-quarter of the nation’s homeless veterans. According to data from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), over 11,000 veterans are currently experiencing homelessness in California – more than any other state. “This is unacceptable,” Archuleta said. “SB 296 is one step toward reducing homelessness and providing much-needed relief for those who honorably served this country.” For more detailed information and to follow the bill’s progress, visit Senator Archuleta’s website.

# Long Beach Branch of AAUW Holds Election of Officers



**NEWLY ELECTED:** The Long Beach Branch of AAUW held its annual election of officers on Saturday, April 5. From (l-r) are Co-Presidents Jane Hansen and Barbara Hall. Photo credit-Jeane Caveness

The Long Beach Branch of AAUW held its annual election of officers with a strong quorum in attendance on Saturday, April 5 to cast their votes. Achieving quorum was an accomplishment with the famed Literary Women Festival of Authors taking place downtown that same day. Plus, a national mobilization event on April 5th by nearly a thousand citizen action groups across the U.S. called Hands Off! A National Day of Action were out in force that day too. The duly elected slate of officers for the AAUW Long Beach Branch Executive Committee 2025-2026 are:

**Co-Presidents:** Barbara Hall and Jane Hansen  
**President Elect:** Open  
**Co-Program VPs:** Celia Mejia and Erin Murphy

**Co-Membership VPs:** Faye Alperin and Mary Ann Takemoto  
**AAUW Fund VP:** Virginia “Ginny” Baxter  
**VP for Investments:** Patricia “Pat” Ferrer  
**Co-Treasurers:** Darlene Daclan and Tammy Kane  
**Co-Secretaries:** Cacilia Kim and Linda Westman

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), was founded in 1881. It is a national non-profit organization that advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research. The organization has a nationwide network of 170,000 members and supporters, 1,000 local branches, and 800 college and university partners. Its headquarters are in Washington, D.C.

# Mike Egan to Help La Palma During City Manager Transition

By Brian Hews

On April 1, 2025, during closed session, the La Palma City Council conducted interviews for the Interim City Manager. Following those interviews, the City Council selected Mike Egan as interim city manager. Many in the area know Egan as the former Bellflower and Norwalk City Manager. He has over 30 years of local government experience. Egan

retired in 2017 but continued to support municipal operations through interim assignments, including serving as Interim City Manager for the City of Artesia. Egan’s will start on April 28, 2025, to allow him some overlap with former City Manager Conal McNamara before his departure to Whitier. The city agreed that Egan will stay on until December 31, 2025, and work approximately thirty-two to thirty-eight hours per week at an hourly rate of \$122.81, which represents the annual salary of the City Manager, divided by twelve months.

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JCOD from page 1

Fellowship, the nation's largest nonprofit serving incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals, the campaign has garnered bipartisan support and widespread participation from various organizations, policymakers, and communities.

Some of the women in the cohort have already served Los Angeles County, demonstrating incredible courage and determination while battling wildfires. Now, they're stepping into a new chapter that offers a pathway to long-term careers in fire service while advancing JCOD's mission to create meaningful second chances.

"I was in fire camp for two years—a year and a half at Puerta La Cruz in San Diego County and six months at Malibu Camp 13," said Patricia M., a Cohort 2 cadet. "JCOD came and gave a presentation about the program, and that was it."

Tiffany F., another Cohort 2 cadet, shared that she never learned life skills and "was homeless at 13, taking care of my brother and sister, doing whatever I had to do to get by. I did four years. Now, everyone is so proud of me—and I'm proud of myself. I had accepted that [path] for a long time. So, this program is amazing."

To celebrate the launch of Cohort 2, JCOD invites you to join them at a Second Chance Month Open House at the LA County Training Center in Calabasas on Monday, April 28th, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

For more information or to apply, go to <https://jcod.lacounty.gov/program/la-county-training-center/>

FULLERTON from page 1

the appropriate use of city facilities and not "retaliatory or focused in nature on a given publication," it would not be a violation of the First Amendment.

Yeah right. And what does "the appropriate use of city facilities" actually mean?

Councilman Ahmad Zahra, the only dissenting vote, argued the approved policy encroaches on freedom of speech rights.

"We have two publications in our city that have been producing news and covering the city for the last several decades. One of them is the Fullerton Observer, and the other one is the Daily Titan," Zahra told the OC Register.. "The end result is pushing those two out."

Emily Wilson, editor-in-chief of the Daily Titan, Cal State Fullerton's student newspaper, said the policy "signals to me that they want to control the message."

LCCN would agree.

This is very similar to the actions of former Cerritos Mayors Chuong Vo and Bruce Barrows, when, after an investigation revealed campaign donations from questionable people, the two blackballed LCCN stopping all city advertising.

Mayor Fred Jung defended the policy and said it is intended to keep city buildings neutral.

To LCCN, the fact that Jung used the word neutral indicated bias toward the Observer and the Tiitan.

"It was meant for nonprofit brochures, postcard advertisements, flyers to events that are not city-sponsored," Jung said. "It's meant for anything. The fact that the Daily Titan and the Fullerton Observer have taken it upon themselves to take this personally when it has nothing to do with them is really strange and, quite frankly, counterproductive."

The Daily Titan, Wilson said, will continue to cover the city of Fullerton.

"This ban is not going to significantly impact our ability to distribute, our ability to (stay) afloat, so to speak," Wilson said.

"But we do take significant issue with the fact that the city is symbolically messaging to us that not only do they not think our work is important, they think it doesn't have a place on city property."

In 2013, the City of San Juan Capistrano banned newspaper racks in public facilities, including City Hall and the community center.

This action was widely perceived as targeting Community Common Sense, a local newspaper known for its critical reporting on city officials.

In response, Community Common Sense filed a lawsuit against the city, alleging violations of the First Amendment, the California Constitution, and the city's own municipal code.

The lawsuit argued that the ban infringed upon residents' rights to access and read newspapers freely. A temporary

restraining order was granted, allowing the newspapers to be distributed once again in public spaces.

The legal challenge and ensuing public outcry led the city to reverse its policy, reinstating the distribution of newspapers in public facilities.

The case underscores the importance of upholding free speech rights and the crucial role of local journalism in watching elected officials and holding government accountable.



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A Day of Inclusive Play For All – Second Annual Adaptive Sports Fair

LCCN Staff Report

Playmakers, Long Beach City College, and the Long Beach City College Foundation are proud to present the second annual Long Beach Adaptive Sports Fair.

The #AdaptiveSportsFair is just around the corner, and we're so excited to welcome vendors giving you an opportunity to try out over 20 different adapted sports like Baseball, Basketball, Boccia, Golf, Hockey, Martial Arts, Soccer, Tennis, and more. New to this year's fair will be Fencing, Archery, Skateboarding, and Goalball.


We're so grateful to the many generous sponsors who are helping us bring this free event to the community. Special thanks to our "We Love Long Beach" sponsors: Megan Kerr - Long Beach District 5 Councilwoman, Cambrian Homecare, L.A. Care Health Plan, Memorial Care Long Beach Medical Center, Port of Long Beach, The Rinks & Great Park Ice, and Sunset Vans without whom none of this would be possible.

Please join us on Saturday, May 17, 2025 at Long Beach City College, 3932 Faculty Ave in Long Beach to experience adaptive sports, build connections, and be part of a day that celebrates abilities and inclusion.


Everyone plays!

Register today to join the fun at this free event: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/long-beach-adaptive-sports-fair-2025-powered-by-playmakers-tickets-1250876137199>





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# From the Mayor’s Desk: April 18, 2025

By Cerritos Mayor  
Frank Aurelio Yokoyama

Throughout my time living in and serving the City of Cerritos, I’ve always found joy in celebrating others and elevating their accomplishments for all to witness. Last week, this column paid homage to Cerritos Sheriff’s Station deputies, Los Angeles County Fire Department paramedics, and boys whose quick decisions led to the recent rescue of a toddler at Don Knabe Regional Park. Details of their life-saving actions were shared during a press conference in the City Council Chamber on April 10, and City Proclamations were bestowed upon these heroes at the City Council meeting that evening. This was an incredibly proud day for our City, and emphasizes our long-standing commitment to recognizing the accomplishments and talents of our community members and partners.

A proclamation is a formal public statement often commissioned by government entities. In Cerritos, we also present Certificates to various persons, teams, and community groups. The practice of recognizing others in this fashion dates back several years. The City Council dedicates time nearly every meeting to this tradition, as well as in other pubic settings where we have the opportunity to connect with our honorees directly. From heroic acts and community service to academic and athletic achievements, we are pleased

to recognize these deserving individuals and organizations.

As a proud alumnus of Whitney High School, I was thrilled to join my City Council colleagues last week in recognizing the 2024-2025 Division IV State Champion Girls Basketball team. The Whitney Wildcats’ victory marks the first State Championship in the school’s history and just the second State Championship for a team from the ABC Unified School District. We applaud these young women for their determination, dedication, and commitment to excellence.

The City Council and our Recreation Services Division also had the opportunity last week to recognize members of the Cerritos Girls Intermediate All-Stars Youth Basketball team for their Southern California Municipal Athletic Federation (SCMAF) Open “A” Division Championship win. The team showed perseverance in winning all three games to secure the championship.

In addition to the above accomplishments, we are pleased to showcase the volunteer work of our community members. For his Eagle Scout project, Jeffrey Nishida built an emergency supply cabinet for Ronald McDonald House Orange County. In addition, he raised \$6,000 to help stock the cabinet with first aid supplies and emergency food rations. Jeffrey worked alongside 20 scouts and adults, dedicating 250 hours of service to this project.

As these recognitions exemplify, fantastic things are happening every day in our community. The Cerritos City Council looks forward to celebrating more individuals, teams, and businesses and continuing this great tradition of recognition. You can watch these presentations during our meetings and view summaries in our City Council agenda reports, found at [cerritos.gov/agendas](http://cerritos.gov/agendas).

# A Spring Message from La Mirada Mayor John Lewis

Spring is in full bloom, and with it comes longer days, warmer weather, and a fresh burst of energy throughout our community. It is the perfect time to get outside, connect with neighbors, and take part in everything La Mirada has to offer this season.

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt kicks off on Saturday, April 19 from 9 to 11 a.m. at La Mirada Regional Park. This family-friendly event includes crafts, games, music, and photos with the Easter Bunny. The Easter egg hunt for children ages 10 and under will begin promptly at 10:15 a.m. Don't forget your baskets!

For all our theatre lovers, the stage will be shining bright with the production of Legally Blonde at the La Mirada Theatre, running from April 25 through May 18. It's fun, high-energy entertainment for the family, so get your tickets today!

Looking to refresh your bookshelf? Join us for the Spring Book Sale on Saturday, April 26 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the La Mirada Activity Center. There will be a wide selection of book. Members-get early access on Friday, April 25 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Join me at the La Mirada Community Breakfast on Friday, May 2 at 7 a.m. at the La Mirada Golf Course. This year’s keynote speaker will be Norwalk Station Captain Rick Conti of the L.A. County Sheriff’s Department. To purchase your tickets or information, visit [lamiradabreakfast.org](http://lamiradabreakfast.org).

Celebrate mom at the Mother-Daughter Luncheon. The festivities will take place on May 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the La Mirada Activity Center. Enjoy lunch, games,

crafts, and door prizes. Space is limited, so reserve your spot today.

As we celebrate the season, we also take time to honor and remember those who died in service of our nation. Join us for our Memorial Day Remembrance Ceremony on Monday, May 26 at 10 a.m. at Olive Lawn Memorial Park, located at 13926 La Mirada Boulevard. This meaningful service will feature special presentations, guest speakers, and a tribute to fallen soldiers. Seating is limited, so attendees are encouraged to bring lawn chairs.

May is also Older Americans Month, and the City is offering a variety of workshops and events designed to engage, educate, and entertain our older adult community. It’s one of the ways we celebrate the incredible contributions of our older residents.

Don’t forget to stop by the La Mirada Farmers Market every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for fresh seasonal produce, artisan-made goods, ready-to-eat specialties, and unique handcrafted gifts. The Farmers Market features 20 to 25 vendors each week. The Farmers Market has a temporary new location within the La Mirada Civic Center campus adjacent to the Activity Center.

The City is also gearing up for summertime at Splash! La Mirada Regional Aquatics Center. Get your season pass now for Buccaneer Bay, La Mirada’s own pirate-themed water park! Passholders get exclusive access to the preview party on Saturday, May 17, a week before the park officially opens for the summer. Kick off your warm-weather fun!

This spring, let us make time for connection, celebration, and community. Whether you are spending a sunny afternoon at the Farmers Market, making memories at Splash!, or honoring our nation’s heroes on Memorial Day, there is something for everyone in La Mirada. On behalf of the City of La Mirada, have a happy spring!

Warmly,  
John Lewis, Esq.  
La Mirada Mayor

## Elections Have Consequences

# At Naval Academy Library, Maya Angelou is Removed But Hitler’s “Mein Kampf” Remains

An order by Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth’s office resulted in a purge of books critical of racism but preserved volumes defending white power.

By John Ismay, N.Y. Times

In response to an order by the office of Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth, civilian Navy officials picked books that were then removed from the academy’s Nimitz Library, which contains nearly 600,000 publications, reference texts, novels and works of nonfiction.

Officials began pulling books off the library’s shelves the evening of March 31 and completed the purge the next morning, before the defense secretary visited that day.

Gone is “I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings,” Maya Angelou’s transformative best-selling 1970 memoir chronicling her struggles with racism and trauma.

Two copies of “Mein Kampf” by Adolf Hitler are still on the shelves.

The Trump administration’s decision to order the banning of certain books from the U.S. Naval Academy’s library is a case study in ideological censorship, alumni and academics say.

Political appointees in the Department of the Navy’s leadership decided which books to remove.

The actions have caused a stir among some of the school’s alumni, who include four-star admirals and generals as well as other high-ranking government and elected officials.

“The Pentagon might have an argument — if midshipmen were being forced to read these 400 books,” said Adm. James G.

Stavridis, an author, academy alumnus and former commander of all U.S. forces in Europe. “But as I understand it, they were just among the hundreds of thousands of books in the Nimitz Library which a student might opt to check out. What are we afraid of keeping from them in the library?”

One of the admiral’s recent books specifically cited Ms. Angelou’s memoir as a valuable resource for helping military leaders understand the diversity of viewpoints that make up the armed forces.

Book banning can be a canary in a coal mine and could predict a stifling of free speech and thought,” he added. “Books that challenge us make us stronger. We need officers who are educated, not indoctrinated.”

William Marks, an alumnus of the academy and a retired Navy commander, set up a GoFundMe campaign to purchase books from the banned list and provide them to academy midshipmen.

“These are among the most intelligent students in the world, who we are entrusting to go to war,” he said. “What does this say about the Pentagon if they don’t trust these young men and women to have access to these books in the library?”

Commander Marks is working with a bookstore in Annapolis to have a banned books table where midshipmen can get a free book from the list. He aims to expand the effort to hand out books at off-campus events such as Naval Academy football games.

“Conservatives should be just as outraged at banning books as liberals are,” he said. “This should be a bipartisan issue.”

Representatives Adam Smith of Washington and Chrissy Houlahan of Pennsylvania, both Democrats, denounced the removal of the books in a letter on April 4 to John Phelan, the Navy secretary.

They called the move “a blatant attack on the First Amendment and a clear effort to suppress academic freedom and rigor” at the school and “an alarming return to McCarthy-era censorship.”

The purge at the library is extremely rare and possibly unprecedented at an institute of higher education, said Philomena Polefrone of American Booksellers for Free Expression, a group representing independent booksellers.

“Most of these books are not about D.E.I.,” she said, referring to diversity, equity and inclusion. “They’re by or about L.G.B.T.Q.+ people, or Black people, or anyone who is not a white, cisgender, heterosexual man.”

With President Trump’s political ideology beginning to curtail academic freedoms, Professor Brooks said that discussing one of the now-banned books in class could have added value for future military officers.

“Libraries don’t have these books because they are indoctrinating people,” she said. “They can help expose them to different ideas they may not have encountered before.”

It is similar to a point made by Gen. Mark A. Milley, the former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, during testimony before the House Armed Services Committee, where Republican members complained that the military academies were teaching “critical race theory.”

“I’ve read Mao Zedong. I’ve read Karl Marx. I’ve read Lenin,” General Milley said at the hearing, in June 2021. “That doesn’t make me a communist.”

He then offered an argument for expanding political studies in the service of defending the Constitution after the Jan. 6 attack on the Capitol.

“I want to understand white rage, and

I’m white, and I want to understand it,” the general continued. “What is it that caused thousands of people to assault this building, and try to overturn the Constitution of the United States of America?”

That books touching on racism would be banned from a library dedicated in honor of Fleet Adm. Chester W. Nimitz, a 1905 academy graduate and five-star naval hero of World War II, seems incongruous with his actions during the war, when the military was still racially segregated.

Notably, in 1942, Admiral Nimitz personally bestowed the service’s second-highest valor award, the Navy Cross, to a Black enlisted sailor named Doris Miller for his courageous actions during Japan’s attack on Pearl Harbor.

Admiral Nimitz recognized the historical significance of the award at the time.

“This marks the first time in this conflict that such high tribute has been made in the Pacific Fleet to a member of his race,” the admiral said. “And I’m sure that the future will see others similarly honored for brave acts.”

Petty Officer Miller was later killed in action when his ship, the U.S.S. Liscome Bay, was torpedoed in the Pacific.

In 2020, the Navy announced that one of its newest aircraft carriers would be named the U.S.S. Doris Miller in his honor.

John Ismay is a reporter covering the Pentagon for The Times. He served as an explosive ordnance disposal officer in the U.S. Navy.

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WATER from page 1

as president, added 15 more meetings.

Then Gary Mendez was elected and two months later appointed Vice President (with no water experience.) Mendez immediately proposed adding more meetings, which included “inspections and tours of facilities,” meetings that were not on the list before Mendez’ proposal.

Added was:

- California State Assembly: Committee on Natural Resources and regular floor sessions where water-related and special districts bills
- California State Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water and regular floor sessions where water-related and special districts bills
- Southern California Association of Governments: Energy & Environment Committee and general sessions where water-related and special district matters

The list also included meetings that would directly benefit Mendez, including:

- University of California; UC Environmental Stewards Programs; Including California Naturalist and Climate Stewards
- University of California, Davis; Department of Land, Air and Water Resources; Water Program.

Director Garza was the sole respondent to LCCN emails about the meetings. Garza wrote, “It’s clear that our board has not considered, added, or authorized more paid meetings.”

This is not the first time Garza and his cohorts have taken advantage of attending meetings for pay.

In September 2024, a Los Cerritos Community Newspaper investigation found that Garza and Martha Camacho-Rodriguez immediately began taking more in payments to attend meetings after the two illegally voted to put Dr. Alex Rojas on paid leave and appoint attorney Vic-

tor Ponto as acting CB General Manager.

The vote to put Rojas on leave violated his employment contract and the Water Code, with Ponto allowing the vote that ultimately put him in charge of the water agency.

The investigation came on the heels of an LCCN article that showed CB’s cash on hand had plunged \$3.4 million to \$10 million-34 percent-since

Rojas was put on leave, and Ponto was put in charge.

According to CB’s checks written to vendors, since February 2024, Garza, a loyal ally of Ponto, has cashed the biggest checks, taking \$2,656 in February, \$3,246 in March, \$2,655 in April, \$4,722 in May, and \$1,475 in June, for a total of \$14,754 for five months for attending meetings.

Garza also took a monthly car allowance of \$397, a total of \$1,985, and \$200 for his cell phone, a total of \$1,000. All told, Garza took \$17,739 in five months for meetings, a car, and a cell phone, aver-

aging \$3,500 per month.

And that is not all the public agency money Garza is taking; he cashes a \$5,000 check every month as the Executive Director for California Cities for Self-Reliance-JPA, a consortium of five L.A. County cities that advocate for cardrooms within their city boundaries.

Garza’s nearly \$18,000 in payments was \$6,000 more than the next closest Director, Martha Camacho Rodriguez.

Like Garza, Camacho-Rodriguez saw her meeting payments skyrocket after she fired Rojas and put Ponto in charge.

Camacho-Rodriguez totaled only \$323 in Feb, but for the next four months, she was paid \$1,399 in March, \$1,632 in April, \$3,497 in May, and \$2,097 in June for a total of \$8,858 for five months.

Camacho-Rodriguez also took a monthly car and cell phone allowance like Garza. All told, she took \$11,843 in five months for meetings, car, and cell phone averaging \$2,400 monthly.

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# A Sustainable Lawn Starts with the Right Grass Seed

By Melinda Myers

Growing a healthy lawn in a more sustainable manner is better for the environment and can also help reduce maintenance. As a major component of landscapes, they provide living surfaces for play areas and pathways while protecting the soil from erosion and slowing stormwater runoff. When starting a new lawn, selecting the best lawn grass is as critical as selecting the right plant for your gardens. Look for a mixture of grasses that thrive in your growing conditions and activity level, provide the aesthetics you prefer and with the care you are willing and able to provide.

Fescues are known for their shade and drought tolerance and ability to thrive in warm and cold climates. Tall fescues are among the toughest with their dense root system, ability to tolerate heavy foot traffic and other wear and compaction. Turf-type tall fescues have finer leaf texture, denser growth, and tend to spread better than the bunching tall fescues.

When selecting a tall fescue grass seed, look for one with several varieties to create an attractive, resilient and low maintenance lawn. Varieties like Annihilator, Marauder, Rhizing Moon, and Bloodhound have excellent heat resistance while Channell is great for high traffic and low maintenance areas. Barbarian can be managed at a moderate



**TOLERANT:** Fescues are known for their shade and drought tolerance and ability to thrive in warm and cold climates. Tall fescues are among the toughest with their dense root system, ability to tolerate heavy foot traffic and other wear and compaction. Turf-type tall fescues have finer leaf texture, denser growth, and tend to spread better than the bunching tall fescues.

height. Roman tolerates diverse soils and Warhawk produces a beautiful dark green lawn.

Using a mixture of grass seed allows the various varieties to fill in where they excel, tolerate the often-challenging growing conditions and work together to create an attractive lawn. Grass seed mixes, like Combat Extreme Transition Zone (Outsidepride.com), contain

several tall turf type fescue seeds to create a heat, cold, and drought resistant lawn that looks good and requires less watering and fertilizing and is suitable for zones 3 to 8.

Prepare the soil and begin planting the seeds when the soil temperature is 55 degrees and warmer or up to six weeks before the first fall frost. Use this seed calculator to help you determine

how much seed you'll need. Broadcast the seed over the soil surface and lightly rake to ensure adequate seed to soil contact. Water often enough to keep the soil slightly moist and mulch to conserve moisture. Look for seedlings to sprout in 7 to 14 days and be ready to start mowing in 21 to 30 days. Mow high, 2 ½ to 3", and often enough to remove no more than 1" at a time. Regular mowing is less stressful on the lawn and the short clippings quickly decompose, adding nutrients and organic matter to the soil. Save even more time, fuel, and water with sharp mower blades when cutting the grass. You can cut more efficiently when the blades are sharp, your mower will consume 22% less fuel, and the lawn will use up to 30% less water when using sharp blades. Put away the rake and mow over fall leaves in the lawn. As long as they are the size of a quarter or less, they will not pose a problem to the grass. You may need to make several passes, but the leaf pieces will decompose, adding nutrients organic matter to the soil for your lawn to benefit. Selecting the best grass seed for your climate and growing conditions and making a few changes in maintenance can help you grow a beautiful lawn.

*Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Outsidepride for her expertise to write this article. Myers' website is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).*



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# Safari Park Elephants Formed ‘Alert Circle’ When Quake Hit



A HERD OF AFRICAN ELEPHANTS pictured at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park in Escondido. Recently, members of the herd formed what’s known as an ‘alert circle’ during an earthquake. Courtesy San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance.

The alert circle is used in the wild to protect the youngest members of the herd from threats.

By Clara Harter

As Ndlula, Umngani and Khosi felt the ground rattle beneath them, the mighty African elephants sprung into action — forming a tight circle around their youngsters in a moving display of protective instinct in the face of Monday’s earthquake.

The elephants, who live at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park in Escondido, were engaging in a defensive behavior known as an “alert circle,” which is used in the wild to protect the youngest members of the herd from threats, said Mindy Albright, curator of mammals at the zoo.

The Safari Park captured the herd’s defensive formation on camera as a magnitude 5.2 earthquake rattled the region, sending shock waves through the elephant enclosure and across Southern California.

As the earth began to shake around 10 a.m., the elder elephants in the enclosure rushed to encircle the youngsters, the video shows. “It was really neat to see them come together as a herd to protect the juvenile and then immediately try to survey their habitat,” she said.

“Elephants have an incredible sense of hearing — they can feel sound through their feet — so you can see them pause after they all formed the alert circle to see if they could get any more information from the environment.”

After roughly four minutes, the

elephants determined the danger had passed and exited the circle, although they remained close together.

Ndlula and Umngani are 35 years old, Khosi is 18 and half-siblings Zuli and Mkhaya are both 7.

Albright said it was particularly interesting that although Zuli and Mkhaya are the same age, Zuli tried to position himself on the outside of the alert circle.

“Instead of being in the center of that protective circle, he was on the outside as one of the protectors and to see that evolution of his social responsibility within the herd is really interesting,” she said. African elephants typically live to be 60 to 70 years old in the wild, thanks in part to the survival advantages they obtain through their protective family social structures.

In the wild, herds might form alert circles to protect their young from predators, humans or other elephants fighting, Albright said.

This defense tactic is also a testament to elephants’ communication skills. Elephants can speak to each other using infrasonic rumbles — sounds that humans are incapable of hearing — that travel long distances and warn other nearby elephants of potential danger.

Oftentimes it is the older elephants in the herd that determine whether the group should flee, investigate the danger or resume normal activities.

The elephants at the Safari Park similarly formed an alert circle in 2010 when the magnitude 7.2 Baja California earthquake rattled the region, Albright said. “Elephants are very unique,” she said.

“I think one of the things that makes them so likable is their connectedness to each other, which you can really see in moments like these.”

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## DYWfrom page 1

four overall awards.

The award winners were as follows:

DYW Winner East (\$2000), Grace Zhao (Whitney High School)

DYW Winner West (\$2000), Sarayu Snehanish (Whitney High School)

DYW Central (\$2000), Jolie Vo (Whitney High School)

DYW Alternate (\$1500), Beverly Osaji (Whitney High School)

Spirit of DYW (\$300), Janica Joaquin (Whitney High School)

Interview (\$900), Grace Zhao, (Whitney High School); Scholastics (\$900), Neha Agrawal (Whitney High School); Talent (\$600), Grace Zhao (Whitney High School); Fitness (\$400) Grace Zhao (Whitney High School);

Self Expression (\$400), Grace Zhao (Whitney High School).

Grace, Sarayu and Jolie will be participating in Distinguished Young Women state competition in Bakersfield in July.

Our showcase awards were handed out by community dignitaries including: Past Mayor of Artesia and current councilwomen, Melissa Ramoso; Zeel Ahir, Artesia City Council; Cerritos City Council Women, Lynda Johnson, Sophia Tse and Jennifer Hong; President of Artesia-Cerritos Soroptimists, Jennifer Hong; Optimist President, Harold Bazarian; Cerritos College Foundation Director, Etelvina Jurado.

Judges for this program included: Brit-tany Lundeen (Cerritos College), Scholastics; Alysha Del Valle, journalist and award -winning TV and radio personality; Bhavana Shad, Human Resources Manager for MS International; Stephanie Pagan-Fraser, Businesswoman; Sara Hilt, Businesswoman with Pageant Industry involvement; Giselle Garcia, educator and Miss Downey Royalty in 2019.

Sponsors of the program include:

County Supervisor, Janice Hahn; City of Cerritos; Chugh, LLP; MSI Corporation; Patrick Stacker, lawyer; Dr. David DeKriek, Au.D.; Dr. Terrisa Ha, M.D.; Monica Manalo, and Melissa Ramoso, Artesia City Council members and past mayors; Carol Chen, past mayor of Cerritos; Cerritos Optimists, Cerritos-Artesia Soroptimist and Women's Club of Artesia-Cerritos; Gloria and Sherman Kappe, George Ray, Gene and Rhonda Burd Realty; Alexnder Perez, Realtor; Harold and Kathy Bazarian,; George Ray; Print Media Designs and Joyce's Flowers.(Joyce Pang).

Famous Distinguished Young Women Alumnae include Diane Sawyer, Deborah Norville, Kim Basinger, Debra Messing, Kathie Lee Gifford. Founded in 1958, Distinguished Young Women is a free program that encourages participants to reach their full individual potential. Our mission is to empower young women by providing over \$1 billion in scholarship opportunities, connecting with a nationwide network of women, developing their self-confidence, and participating in our Life Skills Workshops that prepare them for success after high school. National sponsors include Barbara Barrington Jones Family Foundation, Mobile County, City of Mobile, Alabama Power Foundation, Master Boat Builders, Shoe Station and the Barkin Family, Gant Travel Management, the Coffeen Family, Regions Financial Corporation, Jostens and Alabama Media Group. The National Finals will take place in Mobile, Alabama in June 2026. For more information about Distinguished Young Women, visit [www.DistinguishedYW.org](http://www.DistinguishedYW.org)

For more information about Distinguished Young Women, contact Tara Principe, National Headquarters Marketing and Communications Director, at 251-438-3621 or [Tara@DistinguishedYW.org](mailto:Tara@DistinguishedYW.org)

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## Magana’s Home Run Late Enables Gahr to Tie Valley Christian in Battle of 2024 CIF Champions

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X

The 2024 CIF-Southern Section Division 2 and Division 5 softball champions faced each other this past Tuesday and unlike last May 18, a winner could not be decided, thanks to Gahr High sophomore third baseman Leah Magana. She deposited a one out, first-pitch home run over the center field fence to enable the hosts to tie Valley Christian High 2-2 in a non-league contest.

Since it was not a league game, it ended with the final out in the bottom of the seventh with plenty of daylight left. While the Defenders don’t have another game until Tuesday when they visit California High, Gahr (10-10-2) entertained La Serna High and La Habra High in consecutive days after the rare tilt with its Artesia Blvd. neighbors. The last time the schools, separated by less than a mile, faced each other was on Mar. 7, 2014. And the reason for the low scoring affair can be attributed to the pitching from sophomores Isabelle Gonzalez of Gahr and Rachel Zhang of V.C.

“I knew they’ve really done a good job of improving over there,” said Gahr head coach Rey Sanchez. “When you win CIF at any level, obviously you’ve done something special. The coaching

staff over there has done a good job of getting them dialed in; they do a good job of managing the game, and their girls play hard. They came ready to play.”

“Oh absolutely,” said V.C. head coach Chet Kingery. “Gahr’s a great team; I expected to come out and see some great pitching for our hitters and that’s what we got.”

After Gonzalez retired the first five batters she saw on 21 pitches with a pair of strikeouts, senior left fielder Zoee Barrett beat out an infield hit, and junior designated plater Brianna Ramirez singled to the right field gap. But Gonzalez ended the game’s first scoring opportunity by striking out freshman right fielder Molly Douglas.

That would be the first of six straight batters she did not allow to get on base until she hit sophomore right fielder Tallulah Ireland. But all that changed in the top of the fifth inning when Gonzalez walked Ramirez and Douglas singled to the right field gap. Junior second baseman Aubrielle Ramirez then put down a bunt in which she was safe at first, but freshman pinch runner Jewel Malae was picked off third base.

Two pitches later, junior center fielder Choyce Chambers was safe on

{See GAHR, page 12}



## La Mirada Doubles Up Gahr With Four-Run Seventh, Avenges Big Loss From Previous Day

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X

This is how Gateway League baseball is supposed to be, depending on who you talk to. A day after Gahr High exploded for eight runs in the top of the ninth inning to defeat La Mirada High 10-2, sending the Mata-dores to their first league loss, revenge was the name of the game this past Wednesday.

La Mirada, which saw the Gladiators take a 3-0 lead after the first inning, scored twice in the top of the fifth, then four more in the seventh, all with one out, to knock off Gahr 6-3, leaving both teams with one league loss. A La Mirada win on Friday on their field will give the defending league champions at least a share of the title with one more league contest to play. That will come on Monday against last place Bellflower High.

Junior shortstop Jesse Colon, the ninth hitter in the lineup, reached on an error with one out in the seventh and was replaced by senior pinch runner Travis Friend. Senior third baseman Maverick Russell and senior first baseman Jason Rodriguez each followed with base hits with Friend scoring. After an intentional walk to senior right fielder Kevin Jeon loaded the bases, a sacrifice from junior pinch hitter Aaron Sykes brought in

Russell. On the next pitch, a base hit from sophomore second baseman Ian Nunez plated Rodriguez and that was followed by a sacrifice from junior designated hitter Jaeden Estevez, allowing Jeon to come home for the final run.

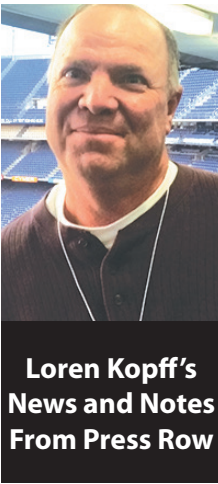
Gahr junior third baseman Andres Gonzalez led off the bottom of the first inning with a double to right field, advanced on a passed ball and scored on a groundout from senior center fielder Taison Miller. Junior first baseman Bryce Morrison then doubled and senior right fielder Adrien Ramirez was hit by a pitch. The two runners would move up on a wild pitch before they scored on a sacrifice from junior second baseman Julian Lucero and a base hit from junior catcher Nate Guangorena.

After that, the sophomore Luke Armijo limited the Gladiators to one hit over the next four innings and senior Connor Jones retired all six batters he saw, striking out three batters.

Rodriguez and Russell also had two-out base hits in the fifth inning with the former driving in the latter, then scoring the team’s second run on a balk.

Gahr sophomore pitcher Carlos Munoz had allowed one hit through the first four innings and did not allow a runner to get past second base until the two-out La Mirada rally in the fifth. Once the weekly series concludes on Friday, Gahr (10-8, 4-1) will entertain Warren High on Tuesday before facing the Bears on Wednesday on the road while La Mirada (17-5, 9-1) hosts West Ranch High on Saturday before the Bellflower game. Af-

{See LA MIRADA, page 13}



Loren Kopff’s  
News and Notes  
From Press Row



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## Streaks Snapped as John Glenn, Behind Rodriguez And Sy, Surprises 605 League Kings

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X

Since the 605 League was formed, the Cerritos High baseball team has been so dominant that the numbers are just about staggering. Entering its home game with John Glenn High last Friday, the Dons had won 48 of 49 league games since 2019, allowed 57 runs and shutout their league counterparts 22 times.

The other five league teams knew the day would come when they would knock off Cerritos, but no one knew when that day would come, until last Friday. A big time hit by senior left fielder Matthey Sy and five shutout innings in relief by junior Bert Rodriguez, who began the game in center-field, was all the Eagles needed to upset league-leading Cerritos 3-1 to keep their playoff chances very much alive. They improved to 6-11 overall, 3-3 in league while the Dons dropped to 11-11, 5-1.

"I'm so proud of my players," said Glenn head coach Ken Mason. "They battled and we believed. Yesterday was a close one; we thought we could win yesterday. We actually thought we could sweep. We just weren't playing good baseball, and we know that. To take that hard loss yesterday and then come back today and have our pitchers show up the way they did to pitch so well... we still have to figure it out offensively. We had lots of traffic on the bases today and couldn't quite get them across. But I'm really proud and we're right in this thing. We just talked about not only do we have our sights on the playoffs, but we have our sights on maybe a co-

league championship."

Mason was talking about a 4-1 loss to Cerritos last Thursday night in which his team was limited to four hits and scored the lone run in the bottom of the sixth inning. It was the fifth loss of three runs or fewer of the 11 setbacks thus far.

"Honestly, it's not that big of a deal," said Cerritos assistant coach Chris Masella. "I still think we're still in the driver's seat to win league, and it helps us to understand where we're at as a team and what we need to

innings, none getting past second base, Meanwhile, the Eagles got on the board in the top of the third when Cerritos junior pitcher Jacob Hoosac, who had worked a perfect first two innings, walked senior first baseman Brandon Rivera and allowed a base hit to center from senior right fielder Angel Aguilar.

Both runners would move up on an error and with two outs and facing a 0-2 count, Sy knocked in both runners with a double to the right field gap.

It was just the fifth game for the La Mirada High transfer.

and junior third baseman Josiah Alcala was hit by a pitch to load the bases. But two strikeouts and a force play at home kept the score at 2-1.

Again, the Eagles had the bases loaded with none out in the sixth but picked up their last run when a groundout from Aguilar plated Acosta, who had reached on an error. But the story of the game was on Rodriguez, who knew he would be coming into the game in the third inning no matter what the score was.

"We wanted [junior pitcher] Evan [Perez] to give us two, almost like an opener in the MLB," said Mason. "We were going to Bert regardless. And then we had Josiah, our third baseman, was still available because of his [low] pitch count. So, we felt pretty good.

"We wanted to get Evan back at shortstop; he's a really good shortstop for us," he continued. "We're stronger with Evan at shortstop and our backup shortstop back in center field."

After a strikeout, Rodriguez walked Reed, who would then get caught stealing on a 1-2 count to senior first baseman Fabian Mejia, who singled to left two pitches later. Rodriguez then walked Chi but ended further damage by inducing Regis to groundout. Rodriguez would walk junior left fielder Justin Sagun in the fourth and yield a leadoff double to Chi in the sixth while striking out three more batters over the final four frames.

"I was just nervous because this was the biggest spot I've been in all year," said Rodriguez. "But I knew if I just got the strikes down, my defense would

{See GLENN, page 12}



do to improve and get ourselves ready for the push to the playoffs."

On the first pitch of the bottom of the first inning, senior center fielder Braxton Reed singled, stole second and scored on a one-out base hit from senior second baseman Carter Chi. He would move to second on a sacrifice from senior shortstop Adrian Regis and advance to third on a passed ball.

However, Cerritos would have five runners reach base over the final five

"That was absolutely huge, and we love having him here," said

Mason. "Coming in as a senior, it's sometimes hard to fit in, and he fit right in; the kids embraced him. There's a little stigma coming from La Mirada because they're the big dogs. But he's fit right in, he's one of the guys and he's clutch."

Glenn had a chance to add to its lead in the next inning when junior second baseman Jonah Mason and senior catcher Raymond Acosta each singled

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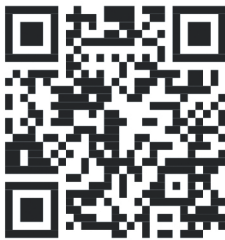


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GAHR from page 10

a fielder’s choice and the two runners would steal their respective bases to set up the stage for junior catcher Peyton Kingery. On a full count, she singled up the third base line and dove into the first base bag where she was barely safe, but more importantly, drove in Aubrielle Ramirez and Chambers. After that, the Defenders (11-3-1) would get three more runners on base in the final two frames.

“Our bottom of the lineup is just as good as our top,” said Chet Kingery. “They swing the bat really well; that’s why they play and that’s why they start. They’re tough outs and they look for good pitches to hit and they put good bat on the ball. You’re going to get rewarded when you do the right things the right way.

“Peyton’s a gritty player,” he later said. “She knows what it takes and that’s what it takes; that’s what she does.”

V.C.’s star catcher jammed her ring finger on her left hand, which is her catching hand, with the dive into first base and was taken out of the game.

Meanwhile, Zhang was just as effective as Gonzalez, as she gave up three singles, walked one and faced two over the minimum through the first five innings because one Gahr runner was caught stealing and another one was picked off. In fact, the four runners to reach through the first five innings did not make it to second base. And, Zhang had struck out one batter in each of the first five innings.

“All game, I don’t think we adjusted to the strike zone; the strike zone was a little bit on the bigger side in this game for both sides,” said Sanchez. “We

didn’t adjust to the outer pitch well enough. We finally did [later] and Leah Magana, with a nice hit there, came through for us, so that was big.

“Once you see that two innings have gone by and you see what the strike zone is, there’s got to be some physical adjustments that we make,” he continued. “And I think we kind of refused to make that...in the third, fourth and fifth innings.”

But in the bottom of the sixth, junior designated player Alexis Johnson singled on shallow right. After a sacrifice on the first pitch from freshman right fielder Megan Wong, Magana tied the game.

“That was big; it was super important for her,” said Sanchez. “I know she wasn’t completely happy with how they had scored their runs on the ground ball right at her. She was a little bit slow getting rid of the ball. So I know she was a little down.

“She’s a big time hitter and I believe in her 100 percent, and I’ve seen the power and the bat,” he added. “She still has [played in] very few games for us. I’m happy with her coming through. She had a nice hit in her second at-bat, but she did come through and got a pitch and really delivered a nice ball for us.”

“You find the barrel and good things happen,” said Chet Kingery. “That girl found her barrel and something good happened for her. Rachel is a workhorse for us and that’s what she does. I think she hit her spot, and [Magana] did her job. What can we say?”

Both teams collected half a dozen hits with Gahr freshman shortstop Hazel Anglo going three for three and Magana two for three while six different players accounted for V.C.’s offensive

production. Zhang threw 122 pitches, struck out seven and walked two while Gonzalez threw 107 pitches and had one more strikeout.

“Bella’s a good pitcher; she hits her spots, and she works both sides of the plate really well,” said Kingery. “You can’t guess on her because she’s that good. Rachel came in and hit spots, mixed her speeds pretty good and she stayed off the good part of the bat.”

GLENN from page 11

have me.”

“He’s amazing; he’s a bulldog,” said Mason. “He was just on fire. We knew that he would be able to shut them down. We worked really hard as a coaching staff on scouting, so we felt like we had a good gameplan for their hitters and we executed that gameplan.”

Cerritos played four games last week and in three of them, it was held to fewer than five hits. For the season, the Dons have been limited to four hits or fewer seven times, winning one of them.

“You have to give it to that young man,” said Masella. “He came out and threw strikes and kept our hitters off balanced. We didn’t have an answer for him. I think a lot of it had to do with our inability to make adjustments in game, and it showed. Offensively, we struggled today.

“We didn’t execute the small ball and being able to advance the runners,” he later said. “We just had a bad day; it was an off day.”

“It was a good win; a good team win,” said Rodriguez. “We’ve been grinding all year. There were a lot of ups and downs, but [we’ve] been a good group of guys who stay together. We’re

kind of like a family.”

The Dons had won 16 straight 605 League games since falling to Oxford Academy 6-4 on Apr. 25, 2023. Cerritos also saw its 25-game home league winning streak come to an end. The last time the black and gold lost a league game at home was on May 2, 2018, a 7-0 loss to Glenn. After completing a home and home series with Whitney High on Apr. 17, the Dons will entertain Ocean View High on Friday before taking the next week and a half off to prepare for a first place battle with Oxford Academy.

“We just have to take care of business and worry about ourselves,” said Masella. “That’s what it comes down to. It always comes down to the last week of the season, too, with those two games. We’ll see what happens.”

The Eagles feel they should be 6-0 in league as they dropped a 9-4 decision to last place Whitney and a 7-6 affair to Oxford Academy in which they blew leads of 4-1 after four innings and 6-5 after five and a half innings. Glenn wrapped up a home and home series with Pioneer High on Apr. 18 and will host Pasadena High on Wednesday before going to St. Pius X-St. Matthias High the next day.

“All our losses have been mental mistakes,” said Rodriguez. “I don’t think any team we’ve faced was any much better than us. But it happens; it’s baseball.”



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LA MIRADA from page 10

ter that, the Matadores will take a lengthy break that will last until May. 6.

In other baseball action, crucial games are on the docket as the regular season is down to the final three weeks, and seven of the eight area teams are in position to lock down an automatic berth to the CIF-Southern Section divisional playoffs or grab an at-large berth.

Artesia High dropped a 1-0 decision to Oxford Academy this past Tuesday to

fall to 12-7, 3-4 in the 605 League. The Pioneers, who are now a game behind John Glenn High for third place, hosted the Patriots on Apr. 17 and will be home to Long Beach Cabrillo High on Friday before facing the Jaguars in West Long Beach on Tuesday.

Norwalk High, which has not played since last Thursday, (11-8, 7-4) is in third place in the Gateway League and will travel to Lynwood High on Tuesday for their lone game in the upcoming week.

Valley Christian High, coming off a weekly sweep against Whittier Chris-

tian High last week, is 10-9 overall, 3-1 in the Olympic League and travelled to Woodcrest Christian High on Apr. 17. The Defenders began the week in second place, a game behind Maranatha High and will visit Heritage Christian High on Tuesday before hosting the Warriors two days later.

**SOFTBALL**

The race for the second and third automatic playoff berths in the 605 League just got tighter after Whitney High out-dueled Artesia 18-12 this past Monday. The Pioneers (9-8, 3-3) had built a 6-0 lead going to the bottom of the second before the Wildcats erupted for 11 runs in the second and third innings. Artesia is off until Apr. 29 but the loss dropped them to fourth place, a half game behind Oxford Academy and Pioneer High.

Meanwhile, Whitney improved to 7-9, 2-5 and does not have a league game

until Apr. 29 against league-leading Cerritos High. The Dons (10-6, 6-0) had to score twice in the top of the seventh inning to escape with a 4-3 win over Pioneer this past Tuesday. They hosted John Glenn (8-6, 0-5) on Apr. 17 for their last game until meeting Whitney.

La Mirada defeated Warren 5-1 and Santa Fe High 5-0 last Saturday in the La Mirada Classic to improve to 18-3. After facing Beckman High on Apr. 17, the Matadores will play California High in one semifinal game on Saturday in the tournament, then either play for the championship or third place later in the day.

Norwalk (11-10-1), which is in second place in the Mid-Cities League, a game behind Warren, will host Legacy High on Monday and Whittier High on Thursday.

CITY OF HAWAIIAN GARDENS CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
FOR THE  
PERMANENET LOCAL HOUSING ALLOCATION (PLHA) FUNDING  
FOR YEAR 5 ALLOCATION

Notice is hereby given that the City of Hawaiian Gardens City Council will conduct a Public Hearing pertaining to the item(s) listed below:

DATE OF HEARING:

TIME OF HEARING:

LOCATION OF HEARING:

Wednesday, May 28, 2025  
6:00 p.m., or soon thereafter  
City Council Chambers  
City of Hawaiian Gardens  
21815 Pioneer Boulevard  
Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716

HEARING ITEM:

The City of Hawaiian Gardens City Council will hold a public hearing on May 28, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 21815 Pioneer Blvd., Hawaiian Gardens, California, to consider public comments and input on a PLHA allocation of \$60,669 from the State of California Department of Housing and Community Development (“HCD”) as administered by the Los Angeles County Development Authority (“LACDA”). The City will consider the use of grant funds for shelter beds at the Salvation Army Bell Shelter, located at 5600 Rickenbacker Road, Building 2A/B, Bell, CA 90201.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Hawaiian Gardens Community Development Department at (562) 420-2641 Ext. 244. Si desea obtener mas informacion, llame al Departamento de Desarrollo de la Comunidad al (562) 420-2641 Ext 244.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are invited to attend said hearing and express opinions regarding the PLHA allocation and proposed use. Written comments may also be submitted to the City Council ahead of the May 28, 2025 public hearing via email at [cddirector@hgcity.org](mailto:cddirector@hgcity.org).

Elise McCaleb, Community Development Director  
Published: Los Cerritos Community News 4/18/25

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 4/18/25

CITY OF LA MIRADA

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
PROPOSED RATE ADJUSTMENT FOR  
RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL REFUSE SERVICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the La Mirada City Council will conduct a public hearing in order to allow comments from local residents and businesses regarding adjustment of the franchise fee for residential and commercial refuse rates and service. The City will review and discuss proposed adjustments in the City’s refuse rate schedule.

Said hearing will be held on June 10, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California, 90638. All interested persons are invited to attend and public testimony will be heard at that time.

Additional information on refuse rates and services can be obtained by calling the City’s Recycling Coordinator at (562) 902-2372.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals in need of special assistance at the public hearing should contact the City Clerk at (562) 943-0131, extension 2309 three days prior to the date of the hearing.

Anne Haraksin, City Clerk

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter 4/18/25

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Notice Inviting Proposals  
City of Santa Fe Springs  
Downtown Specific Plan

The City of Santa Fe Springs invites proposals from qualified consultants to provide in preparation for the Downtown Specific Plan in accordance with the terms and conditions of Request for Proposals (RFP) No. 25-13.

To view the complete proposal package and associated documents visit: <https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/65093/portal-home> and click “Bid Opportunities” or to <https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/65093/bo/bo-detail/128728> access the project directly. You can also visit the City’s website and find the link on the “Bids & Proposals” webpage.

Questions/inquiries regarding this opportunity must be submitted via the PlanetBids Portal by **Tuesday, April 29, 2025, at 2 PM Pacific**. The City will not respond to any questions/inquiries submitted after this deadline.

Please review all related documents in their entirety before submitting a response. Responses must be submitted electronically via the City’s PlanetBids Portal by **Thursday, May 22, 2025, at 2 PM Pacific**. Any proposals received after this deadline will be deemed non-responsive, and the City reserves the right to reject them.

Responses to this request will be evaluated to determine the most qualified and responsive contractor. Responses must adhere to the format and content described.

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 4/18/25

WONDERWORD

By DAVID  
OUELLET

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

Under Construction

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

Apartments, Architects, Bill, Buildings, Carpenters, Class, Clauses, Community, Company, Condominiums, Construction, Contracts, Electricity, Employees, Employer, Engineers, Estimate, Hall, Hammer, Home, Hours, Houses, Nails, Plans, Plumbing, Schools, Spray, State, Termination, Tiles, Unions, Worker, Zone.

Solution on page 14

Solution: 10 letters



NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:  
DAN CHOI  
CASE NO. 25STPB02896  
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of DAN CHOI.  
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by KYOUNG SUN MIN in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that KYOUNG SUN MIN be appointed as Special Administrator with general powers 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: 04/28/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 99 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  
ELLIOT S. BLUT - SBN 162188  
BLUT LAW GROUP, APC  
1925 CENTURY PARK EAST, SUITE 850  
LOS ANGELES CA 90067  
Telephone (310) 203-0038  
4/4, 4/11, 4/18/25  
CNS-3909613#  
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:  
RANDALL W. TRAVIS  
CASE NO. 25STPB02384  
to all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of RANDALL W. TRAVIS. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JAMES BRUCE TRAVIS in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES, 111 N. HILL ST, LOS ANGELES CA 90012, IN THE PROBATE COURT AT THE STANLEY MOSK COURT HOUSE.  
THE PETITION FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION requests that JAMES BRUCE TRAVIS be appointed as special administrator with general powers representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with full 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: 5/16/25 at 8:30AM Dept. 62 in Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES, 111 N. HILL ST, LOS ANGELES CA 90012, IN THE PROBATE COURT AT THE STANLEY MOSK COURT HOUSE.  
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  
JOHN LEWIS  
LAW OFFICE OF LEWIS AND LEWIS APC  
14241 E. FIRESTONE BLVD SUITE 400  
LA MIRADA CA.  
562-941-2459  
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER 4/11, 4/18, 4/25/25

CITY OF BELLFLOWER  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
APPEAL CASE NO. AP 25-01

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Bellflower City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, April 28, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706 to consider an Appeal application from Robert Preece (representing Design UA, Inc.) regarding the Planning Commission’s denial of Development Review Case No. DR 3-24-15169 and Conditional Use Permit Case No. CU 24-07 associated with the construction of a 3,786-square-foot restaurant with a drive-through component located at 16211 Bellflower Boulevard, within The Downtown Bellflower Transit Oriented Development Specific Plan (“TOD SP”).

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”). The requested Appeal is covered by the “general rule” of CEQA § 15061(b)(3), in which CEQA applies only to projects, which have the potential for causing a significant effect in the environment. Where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment, the activity is not subject to CEQA. If the requested Appeal is denied, CEQA Guideline § 15061(b)(4) exempts projects that are disapproved or rejected and no further environmental review is required. If the requested Appeal is granted, CEQA Guideline § 15303 (New Construction or Conversion of Small Structures) provides an exemption in urbanized areas, up to four such commercial buildings not exceeding 10,000 square feet in floor area on sites zoned for such use if not involving the use of significant amounts of hazardous substances where all necessary public services and facilities are available, and the surrounding area is not environmentally sensitive. This Project proposes the construction of a 3,786-square-foot restaurant building.

The City of Bellflower invites members of the public to review and comment on this item. Copies of the staff report and supporting documents regarding this matter may be inspected by the public on the City’s website at [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org), or by appointment in the City Clerk’s Office at Bellflower City Hall, 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, California; telephone number (562) 804-1424, extension 2220. All written comments concerning this may be submitted to the City Clerk’s Office at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706; or by email at [cclerk@bellflower.org](mailto:cclerk@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.

MAYRA OCHIQUI, CITY CLERK

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 4/18/25

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 05/07/2025 at 11:00 a.m.**

**Raymond Vasquez**  
**Alexis Alvarado**  
**Martin Ramos**  
**Roggie Padilla**  
**Zachary Moore**  
**Terence Hartfield**  
**Casey Kehoe**  
**Donald Brown**  
**Rebecca Ceniceros**  
**City Wide**

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

PUBLISHED AT LCCN 4/18/25

PUZZLE ANSWER: BLUEPRINTS

Director, International Division for Day-Lee Foods Inc., Santa Fe Springs, CA. Manages all international meat export operations to Japan, improves profit, ensures compliance with laws and reports to senior management in Japan. Requires bachelor any field + 2 years experience in meat import/export sales manager or related. Work experience must include knowledge of Japanese: meat market, import requirements, and consumer quality standards in meat flavor, texture & fat. Required: Japanese written & verbal fluency + 25% domestic & international travel. \$146,640-170,000/year. To apply email resume to: Tom Taniguchi, Senior Manager [taniguchi@day-lee.com](mailto:taniguchi@day-lee.com).

A.P.N.: 8041-008-003 Trustee Sale No.: S.477-1175 Title Order No.: 220481131-CA-VOI NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE  
YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 8/26/2005. 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 drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or 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, 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: RUDY M. VIDAL AND YGNACIA F. VIDAL, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS JOINT TENANTS Duly Appointed Trustee: PROBER AND RAPHAEL, ALC Recorded 9/1/2005 as Instrument No. 05 2114437 in book N/A, page N/A of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, Date of Sale: 5/27/2025 at 11:00 AM Place of Sale: BEHIND THE FOUNTAIN LOCATED IN CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, 400 CIVIC CENTER PLAZA, POMONA, CA 91766 Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$434,590.12 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 13015 GABBETT DRIVE LA MIRADA, California 90638 A.P.N.: 8041-008-003 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. 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 (855) 986-9342 or visit this Internet Website [www.superiordefault.com](http://www.superiordefault.com), using the file number assigned to this case S.477-1175. 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. For sales conducted after January 1, 2021: 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 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 (855) 986-9342, or visit this internet website [www.superiordefault.com](http://www.superiordefault.com), using the file number assigned to this case S.477-1175 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: 4/15/2025 PROBER AND RAPHAEL, ALC 20750 Ventura Blvd., Suite 108 Woodland Hills, California 91364 Sale Line: (855) 986-9342 Phone Number: 818-227-0100 Rita Terzyan, Trustee Sale Officer (TS# S.477-1175 SDI-33684)

LEGAL NOTICE  
CITY OF BELLFLOWER  
ORDINANCE NO. 1443

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT  
AMENDMENT CASE NO. ZOTA 25-01 AMENDING VARIOUS  
PROVISIONS OF TITLE 17 (ZONING) OF THE BELLFLOWER  
MUNICIPAL CODE TO IMPLEMENT THE HOUSING ELEMENT

The City Council of the City of Bellflower introduced Ordinance No. 1443 at its Regular Meeting of April 14, 2025.

If adopted, Ordinance 1443 would amend various provisions of Title 17 (Zoning) of the Bellflower Municipal Code to implement the Housing Element.

For a copy of Ordinance No. 1443, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (562) 804 1424.

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

ATTEST:  
Mayra Ochiqui, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 4/18/25

CITY OF HAWAIIAN GARDENS PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE  
FOR THE  
PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY 5-YEAR PLAN

Notice is hereby given that the City of Hawaiian Gardens Housing Authority will conduct a Public Hearing pertaining to the item(s) listed below:

**DATE OF HEARING:** Wednesday, June 11, 2025  
**TIME OF HEARING:** 5:45 p.m., or soon thereafter  
**LOCATION OF HEARING:** City Council Chambers  
City of Hawaiian Gardens  
21815 Pioneer Boulevard  
Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716

HEARING ITEM:

The City of Hawaiian Gardens Housing Authority will hold a public hearing on June 11, 2025 at 5:45 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, 21815 Pioneer Blvd., Hawaiian Gardens, California, to consider public comments and input on the proposed Public Housing Agency 5-Year Plan, which the Housing Authority is preparing for submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Public and Indian Housing. The proposed plans are available for public review at Hawaiian Gardens City Hall during regular business hours at 21815 Pioneer Boulevard, and on the City’s website: [www.hgcity.org](http://www.hgcity.org). The plan will be available from April 18 through June 11, 2025 and will be discussed at a public hearing which has been scheduled for June 11, 2025.

Further information may be obtained by contacting the Hawaiian Gardens Community Development Department at (562) 420-2641 Ext. 244. Si desea obtener mas informacion, llame al Departamento de Desarrollo de la Comunidad al (562) 420-2641 Ext 244.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are invited to attend said hearing and express opinions regarding the Public Housing Agency 5-Year Plan. Written comments may also be submitted to the Housing Authority ahead of the June 11, 2025 public hearing via email at [cddirector@hgcity.org](mailto:cddirector@hgcity.org).

Elise McCaleb, Community Development Director  
Published: Los Cerritos Community News 4/18/25

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 4/18/25



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