

Win two front-row Pavilion seats to a Dodger game! See page 14.



PHILIPPINE AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP DAY IN ARTESIA

OVER 4,000 people gathered at Artesia Park on July 12 to celebrate the 5th annual Philippine American Friendship Day Festival, now the largest Filipino-American cultural event in Los Angeles County. Dozens of public officials and dignitaries attended the celebration, including Artesia Mayor Ali Sajjad Taj (front left), City Councilmembers Rene J. Treviño, Melissa Ramoso, Monica Manalo, and Zeel Ahir.

Hawaiian Gardens Launches \$591K Overhaul of Outdated City Software

By Brian Hews

Hawaiian Gardens is embarking on a sweeping overhaul of its core financial and administrative software, approving a \$591,600 contract with SDI Presence LLC to procure and implement a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. The move comes as the city's existing system—Tyler Technologies' Fund Balance—nears the end of its useful life and vendor support.

Fund Balance was first installed in 1995. Although the system has seen incremental upgrades over the years, city staff say it is now fundamentally outdated and incompatible with modern technologies. The developer notified Hawaiian Gardens that support will end on December 31, 2026, prompting urgent

action to avoid operational disruption.

"This project is essential to keeping the city running smoothly," said Finance Director Linda Hollinsworth in a staff report. "The new ERP will significantly modernize how we do business—improving reporting, reducing paper, and giving employees better access to payroll and benefits information."

The city issued a Request for Proposals in April and received responses from 20 consulting firms. Six firms advanced to the interview stage. After scoring proposals based on experience, approach, references, and cost, staff ranked SDI Presence LLC highest and recommended awarding the contract.

The Council approved the contract at its July 23 meeting.

[See ERP, page 4]

25th Annual Hawaiian Gardens Friendship Pow Wow Set for August 23–24

LCCN Staff Report

The 25th Annual Robert Canada Native American Friendship Pow Wow will take place Saturday and Sunday, August 23 and 24, at the Fedde Sports Complex in Hawaiian Gardens. The event runs from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, with Grand Entry scheduled for 12 noon on both days.

Sponsored by the local Native American community and supported by the Hawaiian Gardens Eagles Soccer Club, the pow wow is a rare opportunity to experience Native American culture through traditional singing, drumming, and dancing.



The event also features an Indigenous marketplace with arts, crafts, and the ever-popular frybread.

This year's celebration hon-

[See POW WOW, page 4]

By Dan Nino

More than 4,000 people gathered at Artesia Park on July 12 to celebrate the 5th annual Philippine American Friendship Day Festival, now the largest Filipino-American cultural event in Los Angeles County. Under mild summer skies, attendees enjoyed a vibrant day of parades, cultural performances, celebrity guests, and over 65 food and merchandise vendors—all in celebration of Filipino heritage and unity.

The day kicked off with a lively community parade featuring more than a dozen organizations winding their way through the park's baseball fields and culminating at the main stage. A three-judge panel recognized standout groups with \$200 prizes: the Filipino-American Catholic Community of the Holy Family Church, led by Rev. Fr. John Roxas Cordero, was awarded Largest Delegation; Alpha Phi Omega Greater Los Angeles/South Bay won Liveliest Contingent for the fourth year in a row with their energetic noisemakers; and Hula O' Hoaloha from Saint Genevieve Catholic Church took home Most Colorful Costume for their eye-catching Hawaiian attire.

The formal program opened with the US and Philippine national anthems led by singer Romaliza, followed by an invocation from Pastor Cordero. Festival Chairperson MaryAnn M. Omega then struck a ceremonial gong to officially launch the day's theme, "Celebrating Friendship Through Cultural Diversity."

Hosts Jules Graeser, Moises "Jun" Aglipay, Mark Almeria, and Nonie Belarmino led a spirited Zumba session that got the crowd moving. Performances from the Synergy Kids and other youth entertainers added energy and charm to the main stage. Hula O' Hoaloha returned to perform traditional Pacific Island dances, even inviting attendees to participate in an inter-

[See FESTIVAL, page 4]

LCCN Exposé Leads to State Tax Fraud Allegation in Central Basin Contract Scandal

LCCN investigation revealed an unregistered Texas LLC tied to a no-bid contract; now the state could investigate fraud and illegal public contracting.

By Brian Hews

In early July, Los Cerritos Community News reported—backed by documentation—on a lucrative no-bid contract awarded to MV Cheng and Associates by Central Basin Municipal Water District. The contract had been pushed through by Board President Nem Ochoa and Directors Joanna Moreno, Juan Garza, and Gary Mendez, in apparent violation of recommendations made in the State Auditor's 2015

report.

MV Cheng and Associates, owned by Misty Cheng, claimed to provide staffing and consulting services in finance, purchasing, human resources, risk management, and IT. However, a visit to the company's website painted a much different picture. The site appeared amateurish, using blurry stock images, offering no client list or testimonials, and featuring a "News" section whose most recent item linked to a seven-year-old cached article.

Despite Cheng's claim that her company was headquartered in Southern California—with offices in Pasadena and Upland—property records told a different story. The Pasadena location was

[See FRAUD, page 2]

La Mirada Man Survives Traumatic Motorcycle Crash, Now Offers Hope to Other Trauma Patients



CARING: Marcello Prieto pictured with his family. Prieto lost his leg in a motorcycle accident, he now visits patients in the trauma unit, sharing his experience and offering encouragement.

By Sandy Rodriguez

A La Mirada man who lost his leg in a Thanksgiving weekend motorcycle crash is now back at the hospital that treated him—not as a patient, but as a volunteer helping others recover from trauma.

Marcello Prieto, 53, was riding home from a children's toy drive at the Derby Room in Pomona on November 25, 2023, when the crash occurred. He had left the event early, but while traveling through Pomona, the vehicle in front of him braked suddenly. To avoid a collision, Prieto swerved, hit a curb, and was thrown into a fence. His motorcycle landed on his leg.

Prieto was rushed to Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, where he underwent emergency

surgery. He awoke in the hospital's trauma intensive care unit, intubated and in pain. A nurse named Hailey informed him he had undergone a below-the-knee amputation. Days later, surgeons amputated further above the knee to allow for a prosthetic.

His family, unable to reach him after the event, tracked his smartwatch and eventually located him at the hospital. "Throughout my recovery and coming to terms with my new reality, I knew I was blessed to have my family," Prieto said. "Life is a roller coaster. It's hard to climb up that hill, and you need support to help lift you up."

The injury capped off a difficult year for Prieto, who had lost his mother to cancer just months earlier. Still, he promised his children—Amanda, Marcello

[See LA MIRADA, page 4]

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Bellflower's License Plate Readers Help ID Street Takeovers

LCCN Staff Report

Bellflower continues to lead the way in leveraging technology to enhance public safety. In response to recent illegal street takeover activity, the City activated its exclusive network of Rekor license plate reader (LPR) cameras to support targeted enforcement efforts.

Rekor Systems is a leading provider of AI-powered license plate recognition technology. Its software can read plates in real time, identify vehicle characteristics, and cross-reference law enforcement databases—all without requiring expensive hardware or complicated infrastructure.

Rekor was installed at key intersections and high-traffic corridors and automatically scans and records plates of vehicles involved in street takeovers. The system then sends real-time alerts to Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies providing evidence for citations and investigations.

These advanced tools provided critical vehicle identification data, enabling the L.A. County Sheriff's to issue more


REKOR license plate reader.

than two dozen citations tied to multiple vehicles involved in the takeovers.

Bellflower is currently the only city in the region using its LPR system specifically for street takeover enforcement—a bold and strategic investment in community protection.

The success of the initiative sets a strong example of how cities can use technology to curb dangerous and disruptive behavior on local roads. Bellflower remains committed to proactive, data-driven strategies that protect residents and maintain public safety.

Whittier Approves Relief Funds for Families Impacted by Immigration Raids

The Whittier City Council has approved emergency funding for two local nonprofits to assist families impacted by recent immigration enforcement actions in the city. In a swift move to get aid to residents, the City Manager authorized \$30,000 in total funding—\$15,000 each for the Hispanic Outreach Task Force (HOT) and the Inter-faith Food Center (IFC).

The funds will support the nonprofits' relief efforts, which are aimed at mitigating the ripple effects of stepped-up immigration enforcement. HOT's Bondad program will assist families with basic needs such as utility bills, fuel, and educational costs for children. IFC will expand its food distribution services to ensure local families—especially students—don't go hungry during this difficult time.

Residents seeking assistance or legal guidance can visit the city's online resource hub at cityofwhittier.org/services/programs/immigration-rights-community-resources for more information on "Know Your Rights" protections and local support services.

FRAUD from page 1

a single-family home owned by Cheng. The Upland property was owned by MV Cheng Properties LLC, a company unknown to anyone at Central Basin.

Further investigation by LCCN revealed a Facebook page stating that MV Cheng Properties LLC "was owned and managed by Misty Cheng for properties in California and Texas." A search of the Texas Secretary of State's business records confirmed that MV Cheng Properties LLC was registered in Texas and controlled by Cheng.

That revelation raised a serious issue: the Texas-based company had been operating out of Cheng's California residence without registering as a foreign LLC in California, a clear violation of state law. Under California Corporations Code Section 2105, any out-of-state business conducting business in the state must register with the Secretary of State, file the proper paperwork (Form LLC-5), and pay state taxes.

A search of the Secretary of State's records found that Cheng had failed to register the Texas LLC in California. As a result, her company had been operating illegally for nearly eight years, potentially avoiding at least \$6,400 in taxes—including California's mandatory \$800 annual registration fee for out-of-state entities.

Following LCCN's reporting, a reader filed a formal complaint with the Cal-

ifornia Franchise Tax Board alleging tax fraud. The complaint stated, "Tax fraud by Misty Cheng of MV Cheng Properties LLC in Texas and MV Cheng and Associates in Pasadena. No Texas business whatsoever exists. All the business is from California. The LLC registered in Texas has been and is utilized for the purpose of evading taxes due to the Franchise Tax Board for revenue and income earned in California."

When contacted about the complaint, Cheng responded, "I am a bit shocked as well as offended that a total stranger would file a complaint with the Franchise Tax Board and include all the news articles that have been listed on my company's website. Those articles have nothing to do with any alleged tax fraud."

However, in a subsequent email to LCCN, Cheng admitted she had been operating under the radar. "Hi Brian, first of all, I would like to thank you for bringing to my attention that MV Cheng Properties LLC needs to be registered as a foreign entity doing business with the CA Secretary of State. Upon further research, you are indeed correct, and I have since registered it with the CA Secretary of State. I am awaiting the final paperwork/certificate."

Despite the admission and apparent tax evasion, Cheng's no-bid contract with Central Basin remained in place.

Cheng originally secured the deal just under the \$25,000 threshold requiring board approval—shortly after General

Manager Elaine Jeng took over in 2024. Neither Cheng nor Jeng responded to questions about any prior professional relationship.

Five months later, without a competitive bidding process, the same board members—Ochoa, Moreno, Garza, and Mendez—approved Amendment No. 1, expanding the scope and raising the contract amount to just over \$250,000. Directors Art Chacon, Jim Crawford, and Leticia Vasquez voted no.

Then on June 12, 2025, the same board approved another \$250,000 amendment, bringing the total contract to an eye-popping \$501,125. Notably, the June amendment left the agenda item number and board approval date blank, raising questions about whether it was signed before formal board action—a potential violation of the Ralph M. Brown Act, which governs public meetings.

Legal experts said the deal was on shaky ground. "This is a textbook example of contract splitting to avoid competitive bidding," said one municipal attorney familiar with California procurement law. "Once you amend a professional services agreement multiple times—especially past the \$250,000 threshold—you're in dangerous legal territory unless you can show emergency need or issue a valid exemption. The Public Contract Code exists to protect public funds from cronyism, and this contract raised major red flags."



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By Brian Hews

At the Wienerschnitzel in Pico Rivera, the voice taking your order isn't human. It's a conversational AI system from a company called Presto—and according to franchise owner Emily Madrid, it's a game-changer.

Presto is a Silicon Valley-based technology company that specializes in AI solutions for the hospitality and restaurant industries. Founded in 2008, Presto began with tabletop ordering tablets and evolved into a leader in voice AI and automation for drive-thru and dine-in operations.

The company is best known today for its AI-powered voice assistant used in quick-service restaurant drive-thrus. Presto's system automates order-taking using natural language processing and machine learning models trained on millions of real-world interactions. It can handle high-noise environments, upsell menu items, apply coupons, and accurately navigate complicated menu configurations.

Presto went public in 2022; while the company has seen ups and downs in the stock market, it continues to aggressively expand its presence in fast food automation, emphasizing that its tools "augment workers rather than replace them."

As of 2025, Presto's AI handles tens of thousands of drive-thru orders per day with a high accuracy rate and limited need for human intervention—typically referred to by the company as a "non-intervention rate" in the 90%+ range.

"She is so smart. She knows everything. Everything from every menu item down to the last one," said Madrid, describing the AI's performance at the drive-thru. "Honestly, it's the best tool we have ever gotten."

Presto's system is designed to take orders quickly and accurately, even in noisy environments, allowing staff to focus on food prep and customer service. "As soon as she's taking the order, she's greeting them, she's upselling them, they're bagging, they're cooking, they're making the shake," Madrid told KTLA.

The technology isn't exclusive to Wienerschnitzel. Presto is also partnering with



FRIES WITH THAT? At the Wienerschnitzel in Pico Rivera, the voice taking your order isn't human. It's a conversational AI system from a company called Presto.

other major chains like Carl's Jr. and Taco John's. CEO Gee Lefevre says the impact goes beyond convenience. "From a restaurant perspective, you get greater revenue or greater check size, and you also have more efficient or less labor costs," he said.

Presto's AI is particularly skilled at one task humans often fumble: upselling. "Humans are actually pretty inconsistent and quite bad at upselling," Lefevre said. Madrid confirmed the boost, adding, "Our upsells have increased immediately, like so much already."

Lefevre said the system easily handles complex orders, applies discounts, and offers promotions without missing a beat. It also rarely needs help. "Our system can now do things such as coupons or special offers or very complicated combos," he said, noting a "non-intervention rate" in the nineties—meaning the AI completes

most orders without human assistance.

While the technology's efficiency is clear, questions remain about its impact on jobs. Lefevre framed it as "labor redistribution, not labor replacement," emphasizing the idea that human workers are being reassigned to other duties rather than replaced outright.

Whether customers are aware or not, their orders are now part of a technological shift sweeping through fast food. And yes—the AI might even convince you to try that all-beef chili cheese dog.

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- The 1st Combat Engineer Battalion (CEB) Adoption Committee is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.
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FESTIVAL from page 1

active hula lesson.

The Cerritos High School Club Magkaisa, representing the ABC Unified School District, performed the elegant Cariñosa, a traditional Filipino courtship dance. The 11-Sharp Quartet followed with a medley of beloved songs from APO Hiking Society, The Rainmakers, and Hotdog, earning enthusiastic applause. Young musicians trained by the Filipino American Symphony Orchestra also showcased their talents with impressive ensemble pieces.

A highlight of the festival was a fire-side-style chat hosted by Jannelle So featuring Jessica Cox, the world’s first armless licensed pilot and a proud Filipino-American. Cox flew in from Arizona in her aircraft and spoke about overcoming adversity, becoming a black belt in karate, and inspiring others through her writing. She gifted a signed copy of her book to a young fan who quoted one of her motivational phrases.

Dozens of public officials and dignitaries attended the celebration, including Artesia Mayor Ali Sajjad Taj, City Councilmembers Rene J. Treviño, Melissa Ramoso, Monica Manalo, and Zeel Ahir; California Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva; West Covina Councilmember Ollie Olegario Cantos; Carson Councilmember Jim Dear; Cerritos Mayor Frank Aurelio Yokoyama; and Philippine Consul to Los Angeles Francis Maynard Maleon. NaFFAA Greater Los Angeles President Noel S.V. Omega welcomed and thanked the officials for their continued support of the Filipino-American community.

Comedian Erick Esteban entertained the crowd with a stand-up set full of relatable stories and Jokoy-style humor. Singer and former MTV VJ Donita Rose captivated the audience with personal stories of faith and resilience, often breaking into spontaneous renditions of pop hits alongside her husband, singer Felson Palad. Palad’s mix of spiritual and pop ballads kept the audience engaged, and his playful exchanges with Donita delighted fans.

Eight-year-old Leilane Tom of Cerritos surprised the crowd with a powerhouse performance of Alicia Keys’ “Girl on Fire.” Already a hit at the city’s Fourth of July event, she again brought down the house with her confident vocals.

The festival’s finale featured a high-energy set from 4th Impact, the internationally known sister group that rose to fame on “X Factor UK.” Their harmonies, choreography, and a medley of Manila Swing hits closed out the day on a high note, with attendees dancing and cheering until the event wrapped up at 6 p.m.

Around the festival grounds, nostalgic Filipino icons drew smiles and photo ops—from a vintage Sarao-style Jeepney and a traditional ice cream cart to imported tricycles and the Pinoy Harley Riders Club showing off their custom motorcycles and jackets.

The festival was presented by NaFFAA Greater Los Angeles with major support from sponsors including Toyota USA, GCASH, California Credit Union, Vista Land, Philippine National Bank, Philippine Airlines, Comprehensive Community Health Centers (CCHC), Print Hub, and So Janelle Productions. Technical production was provided by Arjay Jimenez of Audio Tech Production, with digital support from SoCalFilipinos.org, SoCalPinoy.com, Adobers.net, and Mic Diaz Presents. Media partners included Los Cerritos Community News, Philippine Post, Weekend Balita, Asian Journal, TFC, US Asian Post, GMA, and many others.

“This event isn’t just about friendship—it’s about identity, pride, and legacy,” said Noel S.V. Omega. “It’s a celebration of who we are and how we continue to shape the vibrant multicultural fabric of Southern California.”

For more information or to get involved in next year’s event, contact denino1951@gmail.com.

LA MIRADA from page 1

II, and Nathan—that he would never ride again. His daughter Amanda became his lead caregiver, organizing appointments and shielding him from stress in the early days of his recovery.

Prieto said the compassion he received from hospital staff inspired him to give back. In 2024, he joined Pomona Valley Hospital’s patient and family advisory committee. He now visits patients in the trauma unit, sharing his experience and offering encouragement.

“I go in open-minded, tell my story, and listen,” he said. “Even if the patient can’t talk, I connect with their families. Just being there shows they’re not alone.”

His first visit was to another motorcyclist recovering in the very same ICU room he’d been in. Although the patient was unresponsive, Prieto said he was able to speak with the man’s mother and offer comfort.

Now more than a year into recovery, Prieto works out five days a week to rebuild strength and maintain his mobility. “There are days I don’t want to go,” he said. “But I push forward. If you can’t take a full step, take a half step. If not a half, take a quarter. Just never go backward.”

He’s looking forward to key family milestones this year, including his youngest son’s high school graduation and his other son turning 21.

“I may have lost a limb,” he said, “but I have plenty of life left to live.”

ERP from page 1

The deal includes \$98,640 for the procurement phase—needs assessments, RFP development, vendor interviews—and \$492,960 for implementation oversight. The entire project will be paid from funds allocated in the city’s June 2025 budget.

SDI Presence, which has a local office in Anaheim, brings deep experience in public sector ERP transitions, having advised more than 50 cities and special districts. They will work closely with city staff to document existing processes, define technical requirements, evaluate software vendors, and manage the selection and rollout of the new system.

The scope of the work is extensive. Beyond basic financial operations, the new system will incorporate modules for human resources, data analytics, and staff self-service. SDI will also help Hawaiian Gardens redesign outdated workflows and introduce best practices to streamline city operations.

The city hopes to have the system fully operational by early 2027, though SDI cautioned that timeline is ambitious and depends on staffing and vendor performance.

City Manager Ernesto Marquez praised the project’s proactive planning. “This is a long-term investment in transparency, efficiency, and better public service. It’s not just about technology—it’s about delivering value to residents.”

POW WOW from page 4

ors Tongva/Acjachemen spiritual leader Jimi Castillo, as well as several community elders and spiritual leaders who have passed.

More than just a cultural festival, the pow wow is a vital civic gathering for urban Native communities—many of which lack dedicated cultural centers or community spaces. In that void, the pow wow becomes the heart of the community, offering a place for cultural preservation, political expression, spiritual renewal, and intergenerational connection.

Saturday will feature California Indian Bird Singers before the Grand Entry, while Sunday begins with the Golden State Gourd Dancers. The event is family friendly, open to the public, and free of charge. All drums and dancers are welcome.

Please note: no drugs, alcohol, pets, or selling of sage is permitted on site (service animals only).

The event will be held at Fedde Sports Complex, 21409 Elaine Avenue, Hawaiian Gardens, CA 90716.

For vendor inquiries or more information, contact Jesus Mendoza at aaje-men2@gmail.com.



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Lakewood Extends Home Rehab Programs for Low-Income Residents Through 2026

LCCN Staff Report

Lakewood is continuing its commitment to neighborhood improvement and housing stability with several home rehabilitation programs available to qualifying low-income residents through June 2026. These programs offer financial assistance for critical repairs, accessibility upgrades, and exterior beautification—helping residents remain in their homes safely and with dignity.

Funded by federal and other housing sources, the city’s primary program is a zero-interest, deferred-payment loan of up to \$35,000 for qualified homeowners to repair and rehabilitate their properties. No monthly payments are required; the loan is only due when the home is sold, refinanced, when equity is withdrawn, or if ownership is transferred.

To qualify, applicants must own and occupy a single-family home in Lakewood and meet income limits—\$84,850 for a one-person household and \$121,150 for a family of four, with limits adjusted based on household size. Additional restrictions apply.

Eligible improvements include roof repairs or replacement, kitchen and bathroom remodeling, interior and exterior painting, electrical and plumbing upgrades, flooring repairs or replacement, termite damage repair and fumigation, HVAC installation, stucco repair, and window replacement.

The city also offers a Fix-Up, Paint-Up Grant to assist with exterior painting and minor repairs to gates, windows, wood trim, doors, and stucco. This grant is available to income-qualified homeowners occupying single-family residences in Lakewood.

Additionally, the Accessible Modification Grant provides up to \$10,000 for ADA-compliant modifications, including walk-in showers, widened doorways, grab bar installation, and exterior ramps. This grant is also available to eligible low-income, owner-occupied households.

To qualify for any of these programs, applicants must reside in a single-family home in Lakewood that serves as their primary residence. Applicants may not own other property and must meet federally defined income limits. Other restrictions may apply.

For more information, including a full chart of income limits and details on eligible improvements, residents can contact Lakewood City Hall at (562) 866-9771, ext. 2320.

By Brian Hews

Los Angeles County took a bold step this week in pushing back against the use of masked, unidentified law enforcement officers operating in its unincorporated areas. On Tuesday, the Board of Supervisors voted 4-0, with Supervisor Kathryn Barger abstaining, to direct County Counsel to draft a new ordinance that would prohibit law enforcement officers—including federal agents—from concealing their identities while interacting with the public. The measure, authored by Supervisor Janice Hahn and co-authored by Supervisor Hilda Solis, is a direct response to disturbing reports of masked and unidentifiable officers detaining and confronting residents, particularly during recent immigration raids.

But questions remain about the county’s ability to enforce such rules on federal agents. While local governments cannot typically regulate federal law enforcement, legal scholars say there may be exceptions. Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean of UC Berkeley Law School, told NPR that if federal agents act in an “objectively unreasonable manner,” they could be subject to prosecution under state law. “The question is whether a prohibition on law enforcement wearing masks interferes with the performance of their duties,” Chemerinsky said, adding that the 9th Circuit—which covers California—has recognized some room for states to impose such standards. Ultimately, he noted, it may be up to the courts to decide.

“Across the county, people are being pulled out of their cars, beaten, and ripped from their families by men in tactical gear with balaclavas, no badges, and no names,” said Hahn during the meeting. “That’s not how law enforcement in a democracy should operate. Residents have a right to know who is stopping them, questioning them, and detaining them.” Solis echoed that sentiment, calling the refusal of officers to identify themselves “alarming” and a serious threat to public safety and trust. Both supervisors say the ordinance is a matter of basic accountability and civil rights.

If enacted, the ordinance would bar law enforcement officers from wearing masks or disguises while engaging with the public, except in cases where masks are medically necessary, required for fire or smoke safety, involve gas protection, or are used during undercover operations. It would also require that all officers, including those from federal agencies like Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), visibly display identification and their agency affiliation while on duty in public areas within unincorporated Los Angeles County.

The proposed policy comes in the wake of reports from residents across the



QUESTIONS REMAIN about the county’s ability to enforce such rules on federal agents. While local governments cannot typically regulate federal law enforcement, legal scholars say there may be exceptions.

county who say they’ve encountered men in military-style clothing and face coverings who refuse to show identification, often while conducting raids or detentions. These encounters have raised fears not only of abuse and overreach but also of impersonation and vigilante behavior. Since ICE operations ramped up in June, calls to local officials and community organizations have surged, many describing what Hahn referred to as “an unacceptable climate of fear and confusion.”

Supervisor Barger, the lone abstention, voiced concerns about whether the ordinance would meaningfully protect residents or withstand legal challenges. “I don’t want to give people a false sense of security,” she said, suggesting that the federal government would likely ignore such a mandate.

Nonetheless, supporters of the motion argue that it sends a powerful message:

that LA County will not stand by silently while law enforcement, especially federal agents, act without transparency or accountability. Hahn stated plainly, “Our communities are asking us to protect them. I believe that implementing this ordinance will show that LA County stands up to injustice and hate by working to hold all law enforcement officers accountable to their duty to protect and serve.”

County Counsel has been given 60 days to draft the ordinance, which will then return to the Board for consideration. If passed, the law would mark one of the first attempts by a local government to directly regulate the visibility and identification standards of federal officers. It could also pave the way for a legal showdown—one that pits local autonomy and civil rights against the expansive authority of federal law enforcement.

Cerritos-Artesia Rotary Club Hosting Shrimp Boil Benefit on October 19

Get ready to crack some shells and support a good cause—because the Cerritos-Artesia Rotary Club is bringing back its popular Shrimp Boil & Benefit fundraiser on Sunday, October 19 at 2:00 p.m. in Artesia, California.

For just \$60, guests will enjoy an all-you-can-eat seafood feast in an indoor air-conditioned venue with parking. The mouthwatering menu features shrimp (Cajun or garlic butter style), corn, potatoes, sausage, and pulled pork sliders. Drinks—including beer, wine, and lemonade—are included with admission.

Beyond the food, the event also

promises raffles, an auction, and live music, making it a full afternoon of fun for a worthy cause.

Proceeds benefit the Rotary’s ongoing community service and youth programs throughout Cerritos and Artesia. Seating is limited, so attendees are encouraged to get their tickets early at cerritosartesiarotary.com/shrimp or scan the QR code below.

Bring your appetite—and your generosity—and help the Rotary Club make a difference, one shrimp at a time.



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Trump’s Tariff Tantrum: He Fights, You Pay

By Brian Hews

Donald Trump is back on his favorite hobby horse—starting a trade war and calling it “strategy”—and guess who’s footing the bill? Spoiler: it’s not China.

As Trump’s latest round of tariffs threatens to jack up prices on everything from avocados to aluminum foil, a federal appeals court just took a hard look at whether any of it is even legal. Eleven judges—appointed by both parties—gathered to ask: can a president use an “emergency powers” law that doesn’t even mention tariffs to launch a full-blown trade war without asking Congress?

Short answer: Trump thinks he can. And he’s doing it with the kind of unchecked gusto usually reserved for authoritarian regimes and third-rate action movies.

Neal Katyal, representing the plaintiffs, shredded the legal logic in court. “It’s a breathtaking claim to power that no president has asserted in 200 years,” he said—translation: this is some banana republic-level overreach.

Judge Alan Lourie, appointed by George W. Bush, chimed in that the tariffs “seem to have no friends” in the law. In other words, even conservative judges are looking at Trump’s legal theory like it’s a fart in an elevator.

But don’t get too excited—this isn’t ending anytime soon. Even if the court rules against him, expect delays, appeals, and a fast-track to the Supreme Court, where a 6–3 conservative supermajority sits ready and willing to back his every whim.

Why the confidence? One phrase: unitary executive theory. The current Court—thanks to Trump’s own appointments—has shown increasing deference to the idea that the president should have sweeping, near-monarchical control over the executive branch, unchecked by pesky things like

Congress or existing law. If the Court’s recent rulings are any indication, they might just bless this latest power grab as another example of “presidential discretion.”

And if the Supremes don’t play along? No big deal. Trump’s administration has already ignored about one-third of all court rulings it didn’t like, according to a Washington Post investigation. Because rules are for suckers, right?

So while Trump rants about “protecting American jobs,” the only thing he’s really protecting is the illusion of control. Meanwhile, the rest of us get slapped with higher prices, thanks to a trade war nobody voted for and nobody can escape.

And just in case your wallet wasn’t already screaming, the latest economic data dropped like a lead balloon. Consumer confidence has plummeted, job growth slowed for the second straight month, and inflation—shockingly—remains stubbornly high, especially in food, energy, and housing. Economists are now whispering the “R” word again, and Wall Street had a full-blown mood swing at the news.

Oh, and beef? It’s gone full luxury item. Ground beef is averaging over six bucks a pound, and steaks are pushing twelve. In some places—like Texas—restaurant cuts are reportedly selling for up to sixty-eight dollars a pound. Why? A perfect storm of droughts, the smallest cattle herd in 70 years, rising feed costs, and—you guessed it—Trump’s tariff threats on foreign meat. So now your burger isn’t just a meal, it’s a status symbol.

The Tariff Tax: What’s Going Up

- Appliances: up 9 percent
- Produce: up 12 percent
- Electronics: up 8 percent
- Building materials: up 15 percent
- Auto Parts and repairs: up 10 percent
- Clothing and Footwear: up 6 percent
- Beef: up 10–12 percent

From the Mayor’s Desk: August 1, 2025

By Cerritos Mayor
Frank Aurelio Yokoyama

The Cerritos City Council represents the interest of our residents, businesses, and visitors through effective collaboration and advocacy. We engage with organizations and leaders across our region and beyond to bring awareness, secure funding, and drive improvements



for our City. These partnerships align with short- and long-term goals outlined in our Strategic Plan.

Last week, the City Manager’s team joined Mayor Pro Tem Lynda P. Johnson and I in welcoming representatives with the California Governor’s Office of External Affairs to City Hall. We discussed several key initiatives and funding needs that will improve Cerritos’ infrastructure and drive economic development.

This includes assistance with the completion of the Del Amo Boulevard Bridge replacement project, with initial design work currently underway. Another key infrastructure goal of the City Council is to bring the Southeast Gateway Line through Cerritos. We are seeking support from the Governor’s Office for the development of a potential station in Cerritos, as well as exploring the line’s continued expansion to Orange County. These projects are not just investments in infrastructure; they’re investments in quality of life and mobility for our residents and the broader region and would stimulate economic growth.

State funding is also requested in

the City’s acquisition of surplus property owned by Caltrans adjacent to Valley View Avenue and Interstate 5. This would enable the development of housing in accordance with the State-approved Housing Element. Additionally, the City is seeking continued funding to support the implementation of Proposition 36. This initiative was passed by voters last year and is intended to help address retail theft and narcotics-related crimes.

Funding support could come in the form of State grants. The Governor’s Office of External Affairs informed the City that resources are available as part of programs to commemorate the State’s 175th birthday later this year. Representatives also shared information on Clean California initiatives and programs for youth.

Meetings with our elected leaders at the state and federal levels, local organizations, and residents are common among City Councilmembers and staff. My Council colleagues and I are also active in our roles as either delegates or alternates on a combined 36 internal ad hoc working groups and external organizations. In addition, residents are appointed to serve on six City advisory boards and three external boards that support the advancement of key projects and long-term initiatives. The City of Cerritos is grateful for these partnerships to help ensure continued advocacy, determine positive outcomes, and achieve our Strategic Goals. Learn more about our Strategic Plan at cerritos.gov/strategy and our advisory boards at cerritos.gov/boards.

Require IDs From Federal Agents; End Some Fears

By Thomas D. Elias

If a U.S. senator doesn’t work to alleviate the fears of his or her constituents, they probably are not doing their job very well.

This explains why, even when he knows the measure has no immediate chance for passage, California’s Democratic Sen. Alex Padilla the other day introduced new legislation requiring federal immigration enforcement agents to display clearly visible identification during their actions, except those involving stealthy approaches to hideouts of the undocumented.

In California, this should not strike anyone as new or dangerous to law enforcement officers. The state penal code already requires uniformed officers to wear badges or nameplates correctly displaying their identification number or name. It means on-duty police, sheriff’s deputies and Highway Patrol members cannot conceal either their badge or name.

A current state Senate bill called SB 627 would also make it a misdemeanor for any law enforcement officers to mask up while on duty, although this most likely could not be enforced upon federal officers working for Immigration and Customs Enforcement or the Border Patrol.

But in this case such symbolism is important, letting the host of mostly brown-skinned Californians now explicitly targeted by immigration agents, both legal residents and not, know that at least some public officials are on their side.

Said Padilla, “Without visible badg-



es, names or insignia, members of the public often have no way to confirm whether they are interacting with legitimate government officials...causing widespread confusion and fear, especially in communities already subject to heightened immigration scrutiny.”

Padilla, like co-sponsor Cory Booker of New Jersey, knows this bill will not pass the Senate in this session, controlled by Republicans aligned with President Trump and his mass deportation campaign.

But it means something to many of the targeted – legitimately or not – for prominent senators to take their side.

Then there’s the whole issue of whether immigration agents should be permitted to wear masks or balaclavas in the first place while making arrests. If those under arrest aren’t sure their captors are really government officials, can they be blamed if they resist? So far, the

arrested have not only been blamed in such incidents, but often beaten to a pulp.

California officers could not do that. They must be identifiable unless working undercover. Yes, they can be masked when conditions justify it, but their badges must still be visible.

The federal Department of Homeland Security has so far justified allowing masks and lack of any identifying markers during arrests – both individual and mass – by claiming that identification would expose agents and their families to danger.

But their danger would be no more severe than the supposed peril of California officers, who have been openly identified for years.

It’s true that California cops who opposed the current state laws while they were still mere proposals offered precisely the same arguments against identification now being purveyed by Homeland

Security. Yet, there has been no wave of attacks on California officers.

In fact, several online search engines indicate there have been no reported incidents of targeting cops based on badge or name visibility. Not even one case where assailants singled out officers because their uniforms were identifiable as representing a particular agency.

So at least in California, there is no evidence for the kind of danger alleged by Homeland Security. But it is still possible that because of the fear and hatred thus far aroused by masked ICE agents, such incidents might occur.

Yet, federal rules and laws are not usually based on such conjecture. Rather, it usually takes some actual incidents for rules to become firm, as they appear to be today.

That’s why, said Padilla, “Our bill is grounded in law enforcement best practices that would prohibit immigration enforcement officers from wearing face coverings and require them to display name or badge number and the agency they represent. We must act to maintain trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve.”

That reasoning may prevail someday in the Senate, but certainly not while Democrats are in the minority there.

Email Thomas Elias at tdelias@aol.com. His book, “The Burzynski Breakthrough, The Most Promising Cancer Treatment and the Government’s Campaign to Squelch It,” is now available in a soft cover fourth edition. For more Elias columns, visit www.californiafocus.net

Beat the Heat by Planting Trees in the Right Places Around Your Home

By Melinda Meyers

During the heat of summer, few things offer more immediate relief than the cooling shade of a mature tree. Standing under its canopy, you can feel temperatures drop by as much as 15 to 20 degrees—a natural comfort that reminds us just how powerful trees can be in our daily lives. But the benefits of trees go far beyond momentary relief; when planted strategically around your home, they can lower your energy bills, improve comfort year-round, and even enhance property value.

To maximize those benefits, begin by understanding how the sun interacts with your property throughout the day and across the seasons. Take note of how shadows shift as the sun rises and sets, and how nearby buildings, fences, and existing vegetation affect the amount of direct sunlight your home receives. This sun-mapping exercise helps identify areas that suffer from the most heat exposure—information that is essential when deciding where to plant shade trees.

One of the most effective places to plant shade trees is near outdoor living spaces such as patios and decks. These are often unusable in the summer due to heat, but a well-placed tree can transform them into cool, welcoming retreats. Deciduous trees—those that shed their leaves in the fall—are ideal for these spaces. They provide cooling shade during the summer but allow warming sunlight to filter through in the winter.

To reduce heat buildup inside your home, consider planting deciduous trees along the east and west sides of your house. The sun’s angle in the morning and late afternoon often causes intense heat-



NORWAY MAPLES provide shade while cooling yards, sidewalks and streets.

ing of windows, walls, and roofs. Shading these areas not only reduces indoor temperatures but also cuts the energy required to run your air conditioner. In fact, studies show that up to 75 percent of unwanted heat gain during summer comes through windows, so shading them can have a major impact on comfort and cost.

Don’t overlook the heat trap created by nearby pavement. Driveways, side-

walks, and patios made of concrete or asphalt absorb heat all day and radiate it back into the surrounding air at night. Adding trees to these areas not only cools the surfaces themselves but also helps reduce the ambient temperature around your home, which in turn lowers the load on your cooling system.

You can also improve the efficiency of your air conditioning unit by shading it.

A cooler surrounding environment helps the system operate more efficiently—by up to 10 percent in some cases—resulting in less energy use and lower bills. If space is tight, you can still plant shade-producing shrubs or vines on a trellis nearby. Just make sure to leave sufficient clearance around the unit to maintain proper airflow.

Before planting, always identify the location of underground and overhead utilities. Roots can damage buried utility lines, and tall trees can become hazards if they grow into power lines. For safety and to avoid costly repairs, call 811 at least three business days before you dig. Utility companies will mark the location of lines so you can plant with confidence.

When selecting trees, consult with your local university extension service or energy utility. They often provide region-specific guidance on the best species for your area, including tips on drought tolerance, soil type compatibility, and pest resistance. If you live in a wildfire-prone region, follow fire-safe landscaping practices, which recommend trees with low resin content and adequate spacing from structures.

And if your own yard lacks planting space, you can still make a difference. Get involved with your city’s tree board or a local environmental organization. Community tree-planting efforts can increase canopy cover across neighborhoods, reduce the urban heat island effect, and make cities more livable for everyone.

Planting a tree isn’t just a landscaping decision—it’s an investment in comfort, sustainability, and community well-being. With thoughtful placement and the right species, your trees will pay you back for decades to come.

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2025 FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Young Artesia Squad Hopes to Build Off Success Seniors Had Last Season

By Loren Kopff

ARTESIA PIONEERS

9-3 overall last season, 2-1 in the 605 League, second place, lost to Gahr High 34-7 in the CIF-Southern Section Division 13 quarterfinals.
20-26 overall last five seasons
Head coach: Connor Crook (third season, 17-8)
Lost 17 seniors out of 43 players from 2024 opening day roster
Last missed the playoffs: 2022

2025 schedule

Aug. 22 Long Beach Cabrillo (2-8 overall last season, Division 13)
Aug. 28 @ Maranatha (4-6, D. 13)
Sept. 5 @ Firebaugh (6-4, D. 14)
Sept. 12 Buena Park (4-6, D. 13)
Sept. 19 @ San Gabriel (7-7, D. 14)
Sept. 26 Estancia (9-3, D. 12)
Oct. 3 Rowland (6-4, D. 13)
Oct. 10 BYE
Oct. 16 Cerritos (8-3, D. 9)
Oct. 23 John Glenn (1-8, D. 14)
Oct. 30 @ Pioneer (10-6, D. 14)

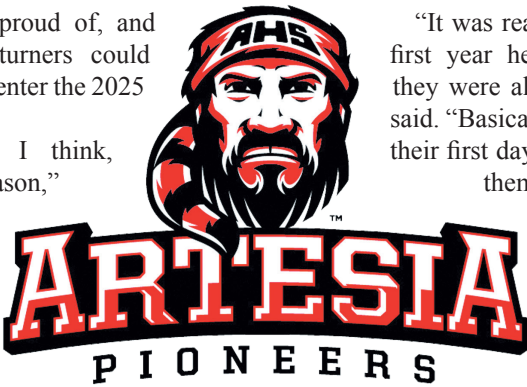
Not even the 2018 Artesia High team that ended with a 10-4 record and advanced to the CIF-Southern Section Division 12 championship game did what the Pioneers accomplished in the first half of the 2024 season. Artesia began last season with five straight wins and were tied with Estancia

High 21-21 at the half in the sixth game. The Pioneers would lose that contest by nine points and fell two more times, scoring just a touchdown in each of those games.

Still, it was a season that the seniors could be proud of, and something the returners could build from as they enter the 2025 season.

“Last season, I think, was a good season,” said Artesia head coach Connor Crook. “Especially on paper, when you look at 9-3, and then we had a bunch of guys who played well and got recognized with All-League and All-CIF. I think it was a really good year for our guys, and it was a good year for the seniors too, who had a rough first two years and they were able to kind of do really well their junior year and finish it off strong their senior year.”

On top of that, Crook cited a good freshmen class and incoming athletes who saw the 9-3 record and were inspired by that, which could be a sign of things to come for the next several seasons as the Pioneers hope to end the eighth and final season of the original 605 League the same way it began in 2018-a league championship. If that happens, it will be the program’s second league title in over two and a half decades.



The seniors who graduated last season will have a special place in Crook’s heart as some were with him when Crook began his time in the red and black, before he took over the varsity duties in 2023.

“It was really fun because my first year here as an assistant, they were all freshmen,” Crook said. “Basically, my first day was their first day, and to kind of see them...we’re kind of going through it together. But watching them their senior season play really well at times and have a lot of success was really cool to watch.”

OFFENSE

Artesia scored 350 points last season, reaching at least 40 points four times including a 54-point performance against Mark Keppel High in the second game. This season, the offense will look different from the previous seasons, although some components will be similar.

“It’s always tough to replace good players like Charlie [Lopez] and Julius [Padilla] and so on,” said Crook. “But you can kind of use these new players and recognize their strengths and weaknesses and you can go, ‘okay, we’re going to do this instead of that’ and it’s still going to be just as good. It’s just a different way of attacking teams’ defenses.”

There’s competition to replace Lopez at quarterback between senior quarterback Joey Peck, who was five of 15 for 97 yards last season and sophomore Jorge Velazquez. Peck played in key moments, especially the second half against Pioneer High when Lopez got hurt and the Pioneers leading 21-8 at the half. Peck also played against ABC Unified School District rivals Cerritos High and Gahr. So, he does have the experience of playing in big games.

In the backfield will be juniors Izayah Carranza and Fermin Duran and sophomore Justin Pettus, who was on the freshman team last season and was initially listed as a wide receiver for this season. Crook says he’ll still catch some passes, but for now, the Pioneers are banking on those three to be the leading ground gainers.

Senior wide receivers Elijah Johnson (11 receptions, 112 yards, one touchdown) and Christopher Razo (three receptions, 40 yards, one touchdown) are the leading returners at this position and will be joined with junior Ismael Felix (three receptions, 50 yards), sophomore Andrew Quarles and Pettus.

“We actually like our receivers right now,” said Crook. “Since I’ve been the head coach, this is by far the best group of receivers that can catch. I just named five guys who can catch, and usually that’s rare for us to have. We’re excited about that, and all those guys are going to play a lot this year, and I think make big plays for

[See ARTESIA, page 13]

2025 FOOTBALL PREVIEW

Cerritos Hoping to Get Back to Their 2023 CIF-Southern Section Championship Ways

By Loren Kopff

CERRITOS DONS

8-3 overall last season, 3-0 in the 605 League, 1st place, lost to Highland High 21-17 in the CIF-Southern Section Division 9 first round playoffs
30-22 overall last five seasons
Head coach: Demel Franklin (third season, 17-9)
Lost 14 seniors out of 47 from 2024 opening day roster
Last time missed playoffs: 2019

2025 schedule

Aug. 22 Cypress (2-9 overall last season, Division 8)
Aug. 29 @ Gahr (8-6, D. 13)
Sept. 5 Portola (9-7, D. 11)
Sept. 12 Valley Christian (7-3, D. 9)
Sept. 19 @ Canyon (3-7, D. 11)
Sept. 26 Wilson/Hacienda Heights (11-2, D. 12)
Oct. 3 West Torrance (10-3, D. 7)
Oct. 10 BYE
Oct. 16 @ Artesia (9-3, D. 13)
Oct. 23 @ Pioneer (10-6, D. 14)
Oct. 30 John Glenn (1-8, D. 14)

It was business as usual, status quo, and any other cliché you want to add for Cerritos High as it pertained to the 605 League, winning its fourth straight title. But unlike the 2023 season when the Dons shocked the world and won the CIF-Southern Section Division 12 championship game and were two points shy of capturing a CIF Division 6AA state title, Cerritos was bounced out of the first round playoffs, losing a heartbreaker on the road in the Antelope Valley to the eventual champion Highland High. The Bulldogs edged Long Beach Wilson High 14-13, then got past Coalinga High 33-31 in the CIF Division 4AA state championship first round before falling to St. Vincent de Paul High 25-23

the following week for the state title.

“It was mistakes,” said Cerritos head coach Demel Franklin of the loss to Highland in the postseason. “All week, I knew they had some explosive kids, specifically [Andrew Garner] and [Demond Blanchard]. In my opinion, [Blanchard] was the best athlete they had, and I told my kicker whatever we do, we’re not kicking it deep. Late in the game, we kicked it right to him and didn’t tackle him and we were not able to recover from that.”

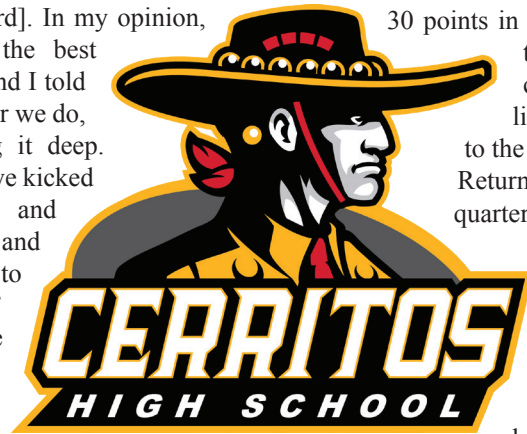
Following the loss, Highland head coach Richard Lear told Franklin that the game could have gone either way and out of the teams Highland had faced last season, Lear added that had Cerritos won that first round game, the Dons would have won the division.

In two short seasons, Franklin has continued to keep the program full steam ahead that was already heading in the right direction. Before Franklin, former head coach Brad Carter had compiled a 13-13 record in three seasons with two trips to the playoffs. Before that, Cerritos had not been to the playoffs since 2001 and had not won more than five games since 2003. In fact, Franklin’s two-year record is the best since Kurt Bruich went 16-6 in his final two seasons with the Dons (2000-2001).

“We have high hopes, and we have to execute; I have to do a great job of organizing,” said Franklin. “I’m not doing a great job without trying to get better. I’m going to different camps, clinics; going to different practices and taking what I can take to make us better. Absolutely, this is the direction we wanted to go.”

OFFENSE

The Dons began last season like a



team that was ready to go back to the championship game, shutting out their first two opponents by a combined 75-0 score. The team still had momentum heading into the playoffs, winning the last five regular season contests and scoring over 30 points in those games. When the season had concluded, Cerritos lit up the scoreboard to the tune of 352 points. Returning as the team’s quarterback is senior Justin Sagun, who was brilliant last season, throwing for 1,329 yards and completing over 65 percent of his passes. He tossed 15 touchdowns to eight

different players but was intercepted eight times. Sagun is also the leading returning rusher as he gained 235 yards on 44 carries and scored half a dozen touchdowns last season. Franklin says he has improved tremendously in the offseason.

“His arm is so much stronger,” he added. “He understands things better, so he has more freedom. But he’s going to have the freedom to check to different players and keep it himself. He’s going to have input in the game plan. We’re not running any plays he’s not comfortable running. Before, I would just redesign it, but now, if he doesn’t like it, we’re not doing it.”

Franklin says Sagun will be throwing the ball more this season, mostly because the running game isn’t as strong as it was in 2024. He says, the team has two good running backs, but Sagun is going to lead the team. Backing him up is junior Alexander Laurin and Frankin says those two are more like 1 and 1A as opposed to Laurin being a backup. He completed 14 of 23 passes for 252 yards and had five touchdowns.

The rushing department will be

handled by senior Labrenton Wilson and junior Sam Reeves, a transfer from John Glenn High. When speaking of those two, Franklin said, ‘that’s going to be a fantastic one-two punch’.

Senior Jayden Bagaygay will also get some time in the backfield, but Franklin admitted he’s more excited about his wide receivers even though the leading returners, senior Suvan Pradham and junior Terrence Grissom, each caught five passes for 63 yards and 61 yards respectively and caught one touchdown. Junior Matthew McCoy, a transfer from Bishop Montgomery High who stands at 6’ 2”, has drawn interest from colleges at several showcases.

Protecting all those guys will be senior left tackle Devion Stinson, senior left guard Jonathan Avendano, who moves from center, junior center Jayden Marcos, senior Luke Bocanegra or sophomore Marlon Vernon at right guard and senior right tackle Chidubem Ozoagu. Also in the mix at right guard is senior Dorian Hunn, a 6’5” 280 pound transfer from Gahr High.

The one thing that Franklin likes about the offense which will be different from last season is that he has 100 percent confidence in his offensive line. The Dons have been going to different showcases and tournaments during the offseason and Ozoagu and Stinson have each received offers from the University of La Verne at the Redlands camp. Then they each were invited to go to the San Diego State University full padded camp the next day.

“We have a lot of weapons,” said Franklin. “Before, it was more getting the ball to one guy. I can literally give the ball to anybody. When we don’t have any injuries or turn the ball over, we’re going to do some big things this year.”

DEFENSE

Last season was one of the best defensive performances the program has seen in a while, allowing 156 points,

[See CERRITOS, page 13]

Trio of Area Softball Players Fall Short of Playing for a PGF Title

“I really like this team because a lot of these [players] are high in academics and

"She's just got a really, really good personality; she seems to always be happy and positive," said coach Michelle Lehr of her



“She’s been my idol,” said Conde. “When I was 13, I got to decorate my room, and I did it all Michigan Wolverines. Obviously, it’s now ‘Wreck ‘Em Tech’, but Michigan was my dream school. I looked up to her greatly.

“Definitely, she has great power, but also just her approach to hitting,” said Blanco of Conde’s numbers. “She gets a good pitch to hit, she doesn’t chase many bad pitches, and she has just a great knack for squaring the ball on the barrel. She makes good contact.

Cerritos High's Zoe Corrales, who plays for the (Westminster) USA Athletics-Mathis, went hitless in a pinch hitting role as her team lost to the (Charleston, SC) Rogue FC-Voak/Malgradi 1-0.

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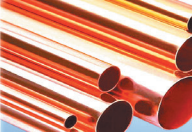
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ARTESIA from page 10

us.”

The offensive line will be held down by sophomore left tackle Le’Yon Brown, junior left guard Giovanni Martinez, senior center Nehemiah Levu, senior right guard Jaell Rueda and junior right tackle Jonathan Foster.

Although the Pioneers graduated a bulk of weapons who put up a lot of yards and touchdowns, Crook is excited about the future of the program with his youth. While he says he’s not looking past this season, Artesia had a solid freshman team in 2024, and a lot of those sophomores are going to get extensive playing time this season.

“I think the improvement from game one to game 10 is going to be great for us to, just because of how many young guys we’re playing,” said Crook.

“We really like our offense,” he later added. “We were really successful running the ball the last couple of years and doing certain things on offense. Now we have a totally new offense for the most part, and maybe a lot the things we were successful at before is not going to be the same success. But we’re going to be able to do a lot more things that maybe we didn’t do with the last group. You just take what you get with each group and add to their strengths and weaknesses. We’re young, but these guys are eager to learn and they’re very coachable.”

DEFENSE

Artesia’s defense was solid for the most part last season, allowing 235 points, but 124 of those came in the last four games. In four other games, the Pioneers did not allow more than a touchdown. However, they will need to fill a huge void left behind by brothers Maximus and Robert Garcia who moved in the offseason. They each had 38 tackles with the former adding four sacks while the latter had three interceptions.

The defensive line figures to be held down by Levu, who had 22 tackles last season, Martinez, Razo and Rueda. Levu was once a linebacker but was moved to the line last season and has not missed a beat.

“He’s such a good football player; if he was 50 pounds lighter, he would probably be our best linebacker,” said Crook. “But he’s a big kid, so he’s an O-line, D-line kid now.”

Speaking of linebackers, that position will be handled by senior Angel Lagunas, who had 28 tackles and two sacks last season and juniors Jonathan Garcia (15 tackles) and Jamorie Mitchell. Also in the mix will be sophomores Antony Amaya and Coy Talkington.

Senior Anthony Sevillano and Pettus will be the main cornerbacks with senior Edward Jones also getting some time while Johnson will be the free safety and at rover, it will be senior Joshua Campos and Velazquez.

“We’re going to be young, but we’ve accepted that, and I think it’s an exciting thing, too because we’re going to give quite a few young guys a chance to improve and grow throughout the season this year,” said Crook.

SCHEDULE

Artesia will have nearly a different non-league schedule as only Long Beach Cabrillo High and Estancia return as opponents. The Pioneers defeated Cabrillo 29-26 in last season’s opener and lost the only two meetings all-time with Estancia. Every opponent this season was either in Division 12, 13 or 14 except for Cerritos, which was a Division 9 squad. Four opponents advanced to the playoffs in 2024 and the one thing on Artesia’s schedule that stands out is the fact that it will travel just four times, however, two of them are long distance road trips. Pioneer and San Gabriel High faced each in the Division 14 championship game.

The Pioneers have not faced the other five non-league opponents in this century

and it’s unknown if they have played them ever. Artesia has lost five straight to Cerritos and many figure when the Dons come to Atkins Stadium on Oct. 16 for the league opener, the league title could very well be settled on that night.

“We don’t think about playoff divisions too much when we’re making the schedule,” said Crook. “We don’t take that into account too much. We just try to schedule teams that we think will give us a good chance. I think this schedule this year is probably, compared to our last two schedules is going to be a little tougher, I think. And we told the kids that, too.”

HOMECOMING

Artesia’s fifth straight victory to begin last season was against Mountain View High on homecoming night, a 41-7 thrashing which snapped a three-game losing streak in homecoming games. This season, Rowland High is slated to be the homecoming opponent and while these two teams haven’t faced each other in at least 27 seasons, if ever, the Raiders defeated Pioneer 32-21 last season nearly two weeks before Artesia got past Pioneer 35-27 in the second league contest. Since 2002, the Pioneers are 10-12 in homecoming games.

FINAL COMMENT

“I’m excited,” said Crook. “We’re so young and a lot of guys are going to have to step up in a different spot. Of course, there’s going to be some question marks, but summer has gone really well; spring has gone well and we’re practicing really well. I think this group practices better than maybe the last two teams I’ve coached, which is always good. The harder you practice, the better you play. I think these guys really want to win this year and want to have a good year. So, I think there’s a really good chance we’ll have one.”

CERRITOS from page 10

which was over 100 points fewer than the championship team. Franklin’s twin brother, Devin, is the new defensive coordinator. He’s been around the team for the past couple of seasons and was more of a consultant.

Seniors Nathaniel Marcroft and Makai Ortiz (34 tackles last season, four sacks) will be guards on the defensive line with sophomore Jared Fernandez in the mix while senior Bailey Crawford (43 tackles, three sacks) and junior Noah Schaffer will be on the edges. Crawford could also spend some time as one of the inside linebackers while sophomore Jacob Sims could be mixed into the line as well.

Senior Jacob Hoosac (64 tackles) has locked down one of the middle linebacker positions while the outside linebackers will be senior Tyler Ky (75 tackles) and a mix of either juniors Uriah Archie and Jordan Ju and sophomore Jameir Thomas. Any of those could spend also see time in the secondary as Franklin is preaching versatility.

Senior Michael Quibrantar (30 tackles, three interceptions), a three-year starter, will play free safety while the cornerbacks are projected to be either sophomores Austin Hobbs or Xavier Palmer and Wilson.

“I tell my position coaches we will not have a position where it’s all seniors,” said Franklin. “That’s out. We’re going to have some young guys; I want a 10th grader, an 11th grader and a senior at every position. So, if we get transfers or injuries or whatever, I have a guy behind him that has experience.”

SCHEDULE

Cerritos drops Buena Park High, Don Lugo High and Westminster High as non-league opponents and replaces them with Canyon High, Cypress High and Wilson High out of Hacienda Heights. Only Cypress was in a division higher than Cerritos and advanced to the playoffs but won just two games. Four other non-league opponents advanced to the playoffs last

season with Division 11 champion Portola High playing the maximum number of games possible. Cerritos snapped a four-game losing streak to Portola last season with a 21-14 road victory, then one week later, was surprised by Valley Christian High 28-14. It was the fourth straight loss to the Defenders dating back to 2013.

“I, myself, wanted to play a more challenging schedule and my coaches agreed,” said Franklin. “And I wanted to stay somewhat local; I wanted to see what the local coaches do. So, it was either Cypress or Kennedy and the only way it could shake out is I had to take Cypress in week zero or I would have had to take Kennedy and drop Gahr, and I’m not dropping Gahr.

“If we’re going to preach a better brand of football, then we have to schedule it as well,” he later said. “I’m not interested in playing a team that’s in a lower, lower division and then running up the score. We don’t get better that way.”

After losing 13 straight games to Gahr, the Dons have taken two of the past three from their bitter city rivals to the north and when it comes time for 605 League action, the black and gold has won five straight each against Glenn and Pioneer High, the latter the defending Division 14 champions.

“I love the [league] competition,” said Franklin. “When I talked to those coaches at Pioneer, I congratulated

them because it makes our league look stronger that we have champions coming out of this league. So, when we go to the playoffs, my opinion is we’re all brothers and I’m rooting for all of us to win.”

HOMECOMING

In 2023, Cerritos faced West Torrance High for the first time as a homecoming opponent and last season, the homecoming game was against first-timer Don Lugo. The Dons won that game 31-24. This season, another new opponent will be Cerritos’ homecoming opponent. Wilson is one of three opponents that won at least 10 games last season and will be the beginning of what figures to be the teeth of the schedule. Last season, the Wildcats scored nearly 500 points and since 1998, Cerritos is 8-18 in homecoming games.

FINAL COMMENT

“I love our chances; we’re doing some great work, and we’re starting to get some recognition,” said Franklin. “Schools are coming by, and we’ve done the Poly showcase, where we did very well in that. We did the Wilson showcase, and we did well in that. Some seven on seven tournaments...our freshman team beat Palos Verde, beat Los Alamitos, beat Montebello, lost a tough one to Upland and lost one to Villa Park. So, the young guys are competing. Varsity, we’ve done some great things on seven on sevens, so I’m extremely excited and I love our chances.”

LEGAL NOTICES YOUR RIGHT TO KNOW

**CITY OF COMMERCE
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
GENERAL PLAN AMENDMENT (GPA) NO. 25-01
ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENT (ZTA) NO. 25-03
ZONE CHANGE (ZC) NO. 25-01
CITYWIDE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Commerce will conduct a public hearing on a request from the Community Development Department for a recommendation to the City Council regarding GPA No. 25-01, ZTA No. 25-03 and ZC No. 25-01. To implement the City’s adopted Housing Element, the proposed amendments include: 1) GPA No. 25-01 to change certain properties to Atlantic Mixed Use designation; 2) ZTA No. 25-03 to amend Title 19 of the Commerce Municipal Code (“CMC”) by establishing a Atlantic Boulevard Overlay Zone and Washington Boulevard Overlay Zone, amending the Site Plan review process and Definitions section, and adding new Live/Work standards; and 3) ZC No. 25-01 re-zones certain properties to implement adopted Housing Element policy. The CMC amendments apply Citywide, and the land use amendments and rezoning affects the following real properties:

Address/ APN	Address/ APN
5736 Washington Blvd. / 6334-006-900	Washington Blvd./Daniel Ave. / 6335-024-908
5733 Sheila St. / 6334-006-901	5555 Washington Blvd. / 6335-024-909
5611 Washington Blvd. /6335-023-900	Atlantic Blvd./Jardine St. / 5244-024-001, -002, -003
5600 Jillson St. / 6335-023-901	Atlantic Blvd./Jardine St. / 6335-005-053, -054, -055
Jillson St./Daniel Ave. / 6335-023-902, -903	2358 Atlantic Blvd. /6335-005-056
2500 Eastern Ave. / 6335-024-900	2354 Atlantic Blvd. /6335-005-057
Jillson St./Daniel Ave. / 6335-024-901, -902, -903, -904, -905, -906, -907	Atlantic Blvd./Harbor Blvd. / 6335-003-002
	2210 Atlantic Blvd. / 6335-003-003

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 City reviewed the environmental impacts of the proposed amendments. Potential impacts from implementation of the Housing Element rezoning effort were previously analyzed and mitigated by the 2008 General Plan Environmental Impact Report that was certified on September 18, 2008. An Addendum to the Final Environmental Impact Report has been prepared pursuant to the CEQA and no subsequent environmental review is required in accordance with Public Resources Code § 21166 and State CEQA Guidelines § 15162. Said public hearing will be held before the Planning Commission of the City of Commerce in the Council Chambers, 5655 Jillson Street, Commerce, CA, 90040, on Wednesday, August 20, 2025 at 6:30 p.m., at which time proponents and opponents of the proposed amendments will be heard. Any comments, objections, or other information may be offered in person at the time of the hearing or in writing, prior to the hearing. We encourage submittal of written comments supporting, opposing, or otherwise commenting on an agenda item, for distribution to the Planning Commission prior to the meeting. Send emails to planning-division@commerceca.gov; written correspondence may be sent to:

City of Commerce – Community Development Department
2535 Commerce Way Commerce, California 90040
Phone: (323) 722-4805

Per Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge this Project 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 Planning Commission at, or prior to, the public hearing.

THE PLANNING COMMISSION
Jessica Serrano

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 8/1/125

Pamala Jane Eaton
CASE NO. 25STPB08285
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be inter-ested in the will or estate, or both, of
Pamala Jane Eaton
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Dar-rell Eaton in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Darrell Eaton be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the
decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for
examination in the file kept by the court.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Es-tates Act with full authority .
(This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking cer-tain very
important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to inter-ested persons unless they have waived
notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files a
objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on 08/25/2025 at 8:30 AM in Dept. 62 located at 111 N. HILL ST. LOS ANGELES CA 90012
STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE.
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objec-tions 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 ap-pointed 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 sec-tion 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or
personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney
knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for
Special Notice (DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate
Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner:
Peter A. Rasla [SBN: 222960]
19200 Von Karman Ave., Suite 400
Irvine, CA 92612
Telephone: (949) 387-9443
8/8, 8/15, 8/22/25
CNS-3953616#
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

Notice Inviting Bids
City of Santa Fe Springs
Request for Bids 26 – 1
Landscape Maintenance Services

The City of Santa Fe Springs invites bids from qualified contractors to provide landscape maintenance services in accordance to the terms and conditions of Request for Bids (RFB) No. 26 - 1.

To view the complete proposal package and associated documents, visit <https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/65093/portal-home> and click “Bid Opportunities” or <https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/65093/bo/bo-detail/129325> to access the project directly. You can also visit the City's website and find the link above on the "Bids & Proposals" webpage.

Questions/inquiries regarding this opportunity must be submitted via the PlanetBids Portal by **Tuesday, August 12, 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, September 4, 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 vendors. Responses must adhere to the format and content described in the RFB. Responses will not be evaluated unless all parts requested are submitted in a complete package.

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 8/1/125

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property pursuant to Sections 21700–21716 of the CA Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of CA Commercial Code, Sections 1812.600 –1812.609, Section 1988 of CA Civil Code and Section 535 of the CA Penal Code.

The undersigned will be sold at public auction conducted on www.storage treasures.com ending on Friday, August 22, 2025 at 10:00am. The personal property including: general household goods, electronics, tools, personal effects, and or miscellaneous items are stored at: Cerritos Self Storage, **16515 Valley View Ave., Cerritos, County of Los Angeles, State of California by the following:**

Name	Unit #
Juan Carlos Priego	A27
Juan Carlos Priego	E54

Purchases must be made in CASH ONLY and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party.
Self Storage Management Company
Bond #: WL11254152

Published at LCCN 07/30/25 & 08/07/25

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE

(SEC 6104, 6105 U.C.C.)
Order No. FBSC250327

Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller that a bulk sale is about to be made of the assets described below. The names and business addresses of the seller are: PIE VENTURE, LLC, A CALI-FORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY PIEOLOGY STORE 8054, DBA PIEOL-OGY PIZZERIA 850 FILBERT PLACE, BREA, CA 92821
The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is: SAME AS ABOVE
As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the buyer are: PIE VENTURE, LLC #8003 5027 LAKEWOOD BLVD., UNIT 63-2, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712, PIE VENTURE #8045 12848 DAY STREET, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553, PIE VENTURE, LLC #8054 12841 TOWNE CENTER DRIVE, CERRITOS, CA 90703
The names and addresses of the buyer are: PIEOLOGY CERRITOS (2025) LP, A DELAWARE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP 18101 VON KARMAN STE. 1100, IR-VINE, CA 92612
The assets to be sold are described in general as: BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS, FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, LIQUOR LICENSE AND INVENTORY and are located at: 12841 TOWNE CENTER DRIVE, CERRITOS, CA 90703
The business name used by the Seller at that location is : PIE VENTURE, LLC, PIEOLOGY STORE 8003, DBA PIEOL-OGY PIZZERIA

The anticipated date of the bulk sale is AUGUST 19, 2025 at the office of: CHI-CAGO TITLE COMPANY, 3780 KILROY AIRPORT WAY, SUITE 100, LONG BEACH, CA 90806
This bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2. If so subject, the name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is: COLLEEN CANTLAY, CHICAGO TITLE COMPANY, 3780 KILROY AIRPORT WAY, SUITE 100, LONG BEACH, CA 90806 ESCROW NUMBER FBSC2503924, and the last date for filing claims shall be AUGUST 18, 2025, which is the business day before the sale date specified above.
BUYER: PIEOLOGY CERRITOS (2025) LP, A DELAWARE LIMITED PARTNER-SHIP
4005610-PP LOS CERRITOS COMMU-NITY NEWS 8/1/25

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

File Number 2025140684
THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) IS (ARE) DOING BUSINESS AS: ATHENA'S SWEETS AND TREATS, 13742 MCNAB AVE, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706, LOS ANGELES COUNTY. ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OR ORGANIZATION NUMBER: N/A. REGISTERED OWNER: MAGDA GARCIAJUAREZ, 13742 MCNAB AVE, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706.
THIS BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED BY: AN INDIVIDUAL.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: 07/10/2025.
/S/ ATHENA'S SWEETS AND TREATS; OWNER; MAGDA GARCIAJUAREZ
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles on 07/10/2025. In accordance with Subdivision (a) of Section 17920, a Fictitious Name Statement generally expires at the end of five years from the date on which it was filed in the office of the County Clerk, except, as provided in Subdivision (b) of Section 17920, where it expires 40 days after any change in the facts set forth in the statement pursuant to Section 17913 other than a change in the residence address of a registered owner. A new Fictitious Business Name Statement must be filed before the expiration. Effective January 1, 2014, the Fictitious Business Name Statement must be accompanied by the affidavit of identity form. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a Fictitious Business Name in violation of the rights of another under Federal, State or Common Law (see Section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY

Notice is given that pursuant to sections 21700-21713 of the Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of the Commercial Code, Section 535 of the Penal Code. 1812.607, that Mission Hills Self Storage 15241 Rinaldi St., Mission Hills, CA 91345 intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a Lien imposed on said property. The undersigned will be sold at public auction conducted on www.storage treasures.com (bond #63747122) ending on or after Tuesday August 12th, 2025, at 9:00AM.

NAME	UNIT
ROBERT CAMACHO E271	
JUSTIN ROY HILL H160	
DEBORAH ANN IRELAND D144/E273	
BRUNO HERNANDEZ MORALES E245	
MARGARET LYNN WOODBURY C124/C123	

This notice is given in accordance with the provisions of Section 21700 et seq. of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California. Storage Treasures' Principal Auctioneer and Auctioneer on Record: Auctioneer License Numbers for Christopher Paul Rosa- California 3112562
Sales subject to prior cancellation in the event of settlement between Owner and obligated party.

Published at LCCN 07/25/25 & 08/01/25

NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY

Notice is given pursuant to sections 21700-21713 of the Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of the Commercial Code, Section 535 of the Penal Code. 1812.607, that Cherry Carson RV Storage Inc. at 4160 Cherry Ave., Long Beach, CA 90807 intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a Lien imposed on said property. The undersigned will be sold at public auction conducted on www.storage treasures.com (bond #63747122) ending on or after Tuesday, August 12th, 2025, at 9:00AM.

NAME	UNIT
LARRY ARTHUR WILMOT	B22

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

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

Published at LCCN 07/25/25 & 08/01/25

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMIN-ISTER ESTATE OF BRENDA M. ROBERTS

Case No. 25STPB08315

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of BRENDA M. ROBERTS

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Pamela R. Rogers in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Pamela R. Rogers be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

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

A HEARING on the petition will be held on August 28, 2025 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 79 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

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

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a con-tingent 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 au-thority 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:

DARIN W BARBER ESQ
SBN 189008
LAW OFFICE OF
DARIN W BARBER
16163 WHITTIER BLVD
WHITTIER CA 90603
CN118842 ROBERTS Jul 25, Aug 1,8, 2025

SUMMONS

(CITACION JUDICIAL)
CASE NUMBER (Número del Caso):
25NWCV00333
NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): MARISOL OCHOA, INDIVIDUALLY AND DBA NEW LIGHT CONTROLS; RAUL CRUZ, INDIVIDUALLY AND DBA NEW LIGHT CONTROLS; AND DOES 1 THROUGH 50, INCLUSIVE
YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF (LO ESTÁ DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): U.S. ELECTRICAL SERVICES, INC., A CONNECTICUT CORPORATION, DBA WALTERS WHOLESALE ELECTRIC
NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 12720 NORWALK BLVD. NORWALK, CALIFORNIA 90650

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): STEVEN A. JONES, BAR NO. 90562, MADDEN, JONES, COLE & JOHNSON, 3010 OLD RANCH PARKWAY, SUITE 450, SEAL BEACH, CA 90740

DATE (Fecha): 01/28/2025
DAVID W. SLAYTON, Clerk (Secretario), by T. TANG, Deputy (Adjunto)
(SEAL)
7/18, 7/25, 8/1, 8/8/25
CNS-3944577#
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:

CHANG JO LEE
CASE NO. 25STPB07698
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of CHANG JO LEE.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JI EUN KANG in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JI EUN KANG be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 08/07/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 4 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

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

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

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

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

Attorney for Petitioner
CAROLINA GONZALEZ RONDAN, ESQ. - SBN 332857 JOSHUA MEIER, ESQ. - SBN 25726
MEIER LAW FIRM
450 NEWPORT CENTER DRIVE, SUITE 500
NEWPORT BEACH CA 92660
Telephone (949) 718-0420
BSC 227114
7/18, 7/25, 8/1/25
CNS-3946416#
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

CITY OF BELLFLOWER
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING ENTERTAINMENT PERMIT CASE NO. EP 25-01

TAKE NOTICE that the Bellflower City Council will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, August 11, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706 to consider Entertainment Permit Case No. EP 25-01 to allow for live musical and dance performers, DJs, dancing, karaoke, and stand-up comedy at an existing restaurant within the General Commercial (C-G) Zone on real property commonly known as 14074 Woodruff Avenue. Pursuant to the authority and criteria of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an environmental assessment was conducted for this project. This project was determined to be categorically exempt from additional environmental review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Existing Facilities).

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.ca.gov, 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.ca.gov.

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 8/1/25

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