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NON-PROFIT RENOVATES SO. CAL. VETERAN’S HOMES

VOLUNTEERS at Pico Rivera resident Carol Guzman’s house after the renovation was complete. Guzman is in the middle holding the U.S. flag. The organization that renovated the home is the Oath to Country Foundation which relies on donations and volunteers to renovate homes.

Hawaiian Gardens Awarded \$262K to Launch Youth@Work Program

By Brian Hews

Hawaiian Gardens announced the receipt of a \$262,644 grant from the Southeast Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board (SELACO WDB) to implement the Youth@Work program for Program Year 2025–2026. The funding will support paid employment and personal development opportunities for 72 local youth. The Youth@Work program is designed to provide young residents with valuable work experience, job readiness training, and access to professional mentorship. Participants will complete a minimum of 140 hours of paid work experience and 20 hours of personal enrichment training, totaling 160 paid hours at a wage of \$17.87 per hour, as set by Los Angeles County. The program will operate from July 1 through December 30, 2025.

City officials expressed en-

thusiasm about the return of the program, noting its impact in preparing local youth for future career opportunities. “Programs like Youth@Work invest directly in the futures of our young people,” the city stated. “They build both skills and confidence while connecting youth to real-world workplace settings.” Youth@Work is part of a broader effort by the County of Los Angeles and SELACO WDB to promote youth employment and career readiness across underserved communities. SELACO administers youth development programs across its member cities, including Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Lakewood, Norwalk, and Paramount, with each city receiving resources and support to implement localized job-readiness efforts. While the grant awarded to Hawaiian Gardens is one of the largest per capita allocations this cycle, SELACO WDB’s total

[See YOUTH, page 6]

Norwalk Council Approves \$1.2M to Fund City’s Elderly Nutrition Program

By Brian Hews

At its July 15 meeting, the Norwalk City Council approved a \$1.2 million agreement with the Los Angeles County Aging & Disabilities Department to continue funding the city’s Elderly Nutrition Program through June 2026. The program provides vital meal support to local seniors and will be supplemented by a \$700,000 contract with Trio Community Meals for catered

meal services. In addition, the council allocated \$78,000 for the Supportive Services Program, which offers homemaking and wellness assistance for older residents. The council also approved several other notable items, including a revised legal services agreement, infrastructure projects, and updates to planning efforts. A unanimous vote approved an amended agreement with Alvarez-Glasman & Colvin,

[See NORWALK, page 4]

By Brian Hews

PICO RIVERA, CA – They served our country with honor. Now, a special effort is being made to serve them. Operation Hero Home Restoration, a non-profit initiative launched by the Oath to Country Foundation, is transforming the homes of veterans and seniors across Southern California—restoring not just property, but dignity and hope. One of the latest recipients of this goodwill is Carlos Guzman, a Vietnam War veteran and long-time Pico Rivera resident. Guzman was only 18 years old in 1967 when he enlisted in the U.S. Army at the height of the conflict in Southeast Asia. He was deployed with the 5001st Signal Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Like many of his generation, Guzman carried the physical and emotional toll of war with him long after returning home.

After decades of living with those memories, Guzman is now finally receiving the help and recognition he has long deserved. Through the Oath to Country Foundation, Guzman’s backyard was selected for a full-scale transformation. Volunteers, equipped with landscaping tools and construction materials, descended on his property, clearing more than 20 years of clutter and buildup. They installed new gravel, patio furniture, and fresh vegetation, turning a once-neglected backyard into a peaceful retreat. “It looks beautiful. It’s like night and day,” said Guzman. “I’m so happy to go back there, you know?” The Oath to Country Foundation was founded by Dr. Justin Gracieux in 2021. In-

[See OATH, page 12]

ABCUSD Backs Off School Closures Despite Ongoing Enrollment Decline

Vote was 4-3 to “not move forward” with the plan. Trustee McHatton, who was appointed to Sophia’s Tse’s seat, and not elected, voted with the majority.

By Brian Hews

Facing a sharp and ongoing decline in student enrollment, ABC Unified School District proposed a comprehensive plan to close five elementary schools and reconfigure grade levels throughout the district. The proposal, introduced a few months ago at a board meeting, was meticulously designed to address the loss of more than 3,300 students over the previous decade—a 17% decline district-wide. According to

district data, enrollment peaked at nearly 19,000 students in 2014 but had fallen to just over 15,600 by 2024. Projections indicated that the trend would continue, with enrollment expected to drop below 14,000 by 2030. Officials cited multiple contributing factors: a sharp decline in birth rates across Los Angeles County, a rise in housing costs that has driven out young families, and growing competition from charter schools and private education providers. The controversial plan aimed to consolidate underutilized campuses—some operating at less than 60% capacity—to reduce administrative overhead and maintain academic quality and

[See ABCUSD, page 5]

L.A. County Sheriff Luna, D.A. Hochman Headline Cerritos Community Safety Town Hall

By Brian Hews

Cerritos will host a Community Safety Town Hall on Wednesday, July 30, featuring a panel discussion with Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert G. Luna and District Attorney Nathan J. Hochman. The discussion will be moderated by Cerritos Mayor Frank Aurelio Yokoyama, and the public is encouraged to attend. The Community Safety Town Hall will take place in the Sierra Room at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts, located at 18000 Park Plaza Drive. Doors open at 5 p.m., when guests can



DISCUSSION: L.A. County Sheriff Luna and D.A. Hochman. view informational displays and be connected with local safety resources. The panel discussion will begin at 6 p.m. “The City of Cerritos is honored to welcome Sheriff Luna and

[See CERRITOS, page 4]

Houseless Count Falls Again in L.A. County, But 72,000 Remain Without Shelter

LCCN Staff Report

In what officials are calling a sign of progress, the 2025 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count revealed that the number of people experiencing houselessness across Los Angeles County has declined for the second year in a row. The survey, conducted in February and released Monday by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), estimates 72,308 individuals are currently unhoused in LA County—a slight improvement from last year. The number of people living without shelter—on sidewalks, in tents, cars, or abandoned buildings—dropped by

9.5 percent countywide, while the City of Los Angeles saw a 7.9 percent drop in its unsheltered population. Over the past two years, unsheltered houselessness in the county has fallen by 14 percent, while the City of LA has seen a record 17.5 percent decrease, according to LAHSA’s data. Officials attribute the downward trend to an influx of public funding, new housing units, and aggressive outreach strategies focused on mental health and addiction support. Mayor Karen Bass, who declared a state of emergency on houselessness shortly after taking office in 2022, said the re-

[See HOUSELESS, page 4]

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Hahn, L.A. Fire Chief Demand Immediate Action to Remove 75 Tons of Hazardous Fireworks in Commerce



MAJOR HAZARD: 75 tons of illegal fireworks and 27 pallets of hand sanitizer sit in a warehouse in Commerce. Federal officials have indicated that removal may not happen until mid-August. They are just half a mile from residential neighborhoods.

By Brian Hews

LOS ANGELES – Citing an “immediate and severe threat” to public safety, Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn and County Fire Chief Anthony Marrone have sent an urgent letter to U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Lee Zeldin, calling for the expedited removal of 75 tons of illegal fireworks and 27 pallets of hand sanitizer from a warehouse in the City of Commerce.

The cache, uncovered in May during a joint operation involving Cal Fire and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, remains stored inside a commercial facility just half a mile from residential neighborhoods and surrounded by active businesses. The hazardous materials prompted the L.A. County Fire Department to issue a Stop Work Order and a Fire Watch Order on May 23, but the department does not have the legal authority to remove the materials due to their classification.

In the letter, dated July 16, Hahn and Marrone wrote that while some of the highest-risk pyrotechnics had been mitigated by Cal Fire, “a large quantity of

these materials remain on-site, thereby creating an imminent risk to residents in the surrounding community.”

The EPA has identified China Lake, a Department of Defense site, as a possible destination for the safe transport and destruction of the materials. However, federal officials have indicated that removal may not happen until mid-August—an unacceptable delay, according to county officials.

“This facility is located in an area densely populated with occupied businesses, and a residential community approximately one half a mile away,” the letter stated. “The continued presence of such a large volume of highly combustible and hazardous substances near a vulnerable population and active commercial occupancies represents a critical public safety threat.”

Hahn and Marrone are urging the EPA to fast-track logistics and arrange for removal “as soon as possible, well in advance of the projected mid-August timeframe.”

In the meantime, the warehouse remains under 24-hour surveillance and active fire watch. County officials said they are committed to protecting public safety but need federal intervention to eliminate the ongoing hazard.

La Palma to Hold Special Meeting for City Manager Recruitment

The La Palma City Council will hold a special meeting on Monday, July 21, to discuss the recruitment or appointment of a new city manager during a closed session. The meeting will begin with an open session at 4:00 p.m. at La Palma City Hall.

Interim City Manager Mike Egan has held the role since April 28, following the departure of the previous permanent man-

ager.

No formal action is expected to be announced at the meeting, but the discussion signals that the city is moving forward in its effort to identify a permanent candidate for the position. Any appointment would be made public in a future open session.

The meeting will take place at La Palma City Hall, 7822 Walker Street.

Provide Input on Santa Fe Springs Parks, Recreation, and Community Services Master Plan Survey

Santa Fe Springs announces the launch of its Parks, Recreation, and Community Services (PRCS) Master Plan—a comprehensive effort to shape the future of the City’s parks, facilities, recreation programs, and community services. This initiative will serve as a strategic roadmap, helping the City make informed decisions that reflect the needs, desires, and priorities of the community for years to come.

A PRCS is a long-range planning document that evaluates existing facilities and programs, identifies gaps, and sets forth a vision for future improvements. For cities like Santa Fe Springs, a master plan ensures resources are used efficiently, public spaces are safe and accessible, and recreational opportunities meet the evolving needs of the community. It helps the City make proactive, data-driven decisions—especially important as communities grow and change. A well-crafted master plan also strengthens the City’s ability to apply for and receive grant funding, making it a key component in delivering cost-effective services to residents.

How Community Input Plays a Role

Community input is central to this planning effort with a random sampling of 2,500 households across Santa Fe Springs receiving a mailed survey—with the option to complete it online. Residents who received a survey are encouraged to complete it within 10 days.

In addition, beginning in early August, an open-link survey will be available for all Santa Fe Springs residents to share their thoughts, even if they did not receive a mailed survey.

Planning Partners

This project is being led by KTUA, an award-winning landscape architecture and community planning firm, with survey development and analysis conducted by RRC Associates, a national leader in recreation and public input research.

The results of the survey will inform key decisions on improvements to parks, potential new amenities, facility upgrades, program offerings, and services for all ages.

Have Questions?

Residents with questions about the Master Plan process or current PRCS programs and services are encouraged to contact the City at (562) 863-4896 or email recreation@santafesprings.gov.



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HOUSELESS from page 1

sults represent more than statistics.

“These results aren’t just data points — they represent thousands of human beings who are now inside, and neighborhoods that are beginning to heal,” Bass said in a statement.

Supervisor Janice Hahn also praised the results, citing targeted programs as a major reason for the shift. “With thousands fewer people on our streets, these numbers are encouraging. It is clear to me our focus on bringing people inside by clearing encampments is paying off and programs like the city’s Inside Safe and the county’s Pathway Home are working,” Hahn said. “These strategies are not only compassionate, but they are also the most effective tools we have in addressing homelessness and we are seeing the impact in real time. As the County builds out our new homeless services department, I want us to double down on these encampment operations and get more people off the streets and safely inside as quickly as humanly possible.”

Supervisor Kathryn Barger offered a similar perspective while acknowledging the ongoing crisis. “It’s encouraging to see that—for the second consecutive year—the annual homeless count reflects a decrease in homelessness across Los Angeles County. This positive trend is a clear indication that our collective efforts are beginning to make a meaningful impact,” Barger said. She continued, “At the same time, the count is a sobering reminder of the work that lies ahead. The fact remains that 72,308 individuals are still experiencing homelessness in our County is heartbreaking. Each person counted represents a life in crisis. They must remain at the center of our housing, outreach, and support service strategies. I remain fully committed to ensuring that Los Angeles County continues investing in innovative and compassionate solutions that deliver lasting, measurable results. I am also optimistic about the establishment of our new County department dedicated solely to homelessness. I believe this focused and coordinated approach will significantly strengthen our efforts and help reduce homelessness further in our communities.”

Key to the city’s efforts is Bass’s Inside Safe initiative, which has moved thousands of people from encampments into motels or permanent housing. The county has also spent nearly \$2.5 billion over the past eight years on rental subsidies, outreach programs, and affordable housing construction.

CERRITOS from page 1

D.A. Hochman for this important event. We have a strong relationship with Los Angeles County’s law and order officials, and we are excited to hear from our special guests,” said Cerritos Mayor Frank Aurelio Yokoyama. “Ensuring Public Safety is Cerritos’ number one Strategic Goal. The City looks forward to sharing progress on this goal with our community, highlighting our partnership with the Cerritos Sheriff’s Station, and strengthening our relationship with the County.”

Guests are invited to submit questions in advance of the town hall for Sheriff Luna and D.A. Hochman. Questions can be submitted via an online form no later than Friday, July 25. Please enter one question per submission. For time considerations, please note that similar questions from multiple submissions may be combined, and not all questions may be asked.

For more information, please contact the City of Cerritos Community Safety Division at (562) 916-1266 or visit safercerritos.com.

NORWALK from page 1

the city’s legal counsel since 2019.

The new contract increases the monthly retainer to \$18,750 for up to 75 hours of general legal services and sets new hourly rates for special legal work, litigation, and complex matters—still below market rates, according to city staff. The agreement will now remain in effect indefinitely until terminated by either party.

Council members also accepted completion of more than \$536,000 in ADA-compliant concrete improvements and authorized nearly \$400,000 in contracts for construction and support services for various infrastructure upgrades.

In planning matters, the council received an update on the “Heart of Norwalk” Specific Plan. Staff called for more community engagement and feasibility reviews before the August meeting, while public commenters raised concerns about the direction and scope of the proposed redevelopment.

Finally, the council received a 10-day report reaffirming a citywide moratorium on new liquor stores, discount shops, laundromats, car washes, payday loan outlets, emergency shelters, and supportive or transitional housing while zoning policies undergo further study.

The Council also discussed delinquent trash collection liens. If homeownersfees remain unpaid by July 31, 2025, the full owed amount plus a \$25 administrative fee will be levied as a lien on their property, appearing on next year’s tax bill

42 Citations, 325 Pounds of Illegal Fireworks Seized in Lakewood



LAKESWOOD DEPUTY SHERIFFS and City staff coordinated efforts over the July 4th holiday to crack down on illegal fireworks, issuing citations and confiscating more than 300 pounds of dangerous materials.

LCCN Staff Report

Lakewood continued its tough stance against illegal fireworks this Fourth of July, deploying an increased number of deputy sheriffs and public safety officers throughout the city. The enforcement teams were out in force, responding to resident calls and tips, and issuing citations with fines that can exceed \$2,000.


Between late June and July 7, deputies handled 54 calls for service—a sharp drop compared to previous years, representing less than one-third of the usual volume. Still, the city’s efforts were aggressive: 42 citations were issued, and authorities confiscated over



325 pounds of illegal fireworks.

To further deter fireworks activity, Lakewood’s Special Assignment Officer Deputies conducted undercover operations targeting those selling illegal fireworks within the community.


The city once again funded extra neighborhood patrols during the peak enforcement period, reinforcing its reputation as one of the few cities in Southern California that consistently backs up its fireworks ban with action.

Residents are encouraged to continue reporting fireworks activity using the Lakewood Connect app, available for download in the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.





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Huntington Beach’s Weenie Crowned ‘Fastest Wiener in the West’

CYPRESS, CA — In a crowd-pleasing performance filled with doxie drama and doggy determination, a two-year-old dachshund named Weenie raced her way into history Saturday night, winning the 28th running of the Wienerschnitzel Wiener Nationals at Los Alamitos Race Course.

Facing a field stacked with talent—including two former champions and multiple returning finalists—Weenie, a red female from Huntington Beach owned by Florence and Sean Gregory, surged ahead from gate seven and never looked back. She crossed the 50-yard finish line in just 6.59 seconds, narrowly holding off La Habra’s crowd favorite Avi, a pink-eared miniature doxie, to claim the title of Fastest Wiener in the West.

For her efforts, Weenie earned a \$1,000 cash prize and a custom doghouse shaped like a Wienerschnitzel restaurant. Not bad for her debut race.

While this was her first appearance at the Wiener Nationals, Weenie—affectionately known as “Baby Ween”—came in with an impressive résumé. She is the reigning Grand Champion of Dexter’s Dachshund Derby at Temecula’s Wine Country Wiener Fest and finished second at SoCal Wiener Fest earlier this year. When the Gregorys entered her in the Nationals, they wrote: “I bring absolutely nothing to the table except for speed. My team and I are ready to take the gold.”

Mission accomplished.
“We take her to the beach, and she just loves to run,” said Flo Gregory, still in shock after watching Weenie cross the



WEENIE raced her way into history Saturday night, winning the 28th running of the Wienerschnitzel Wiener Nationals at Los Alamitos Race Course. With Weenie is owner Florence Gregory

line first.

Last year’s fourth-place finisher Avi, an 8.5-pound sparkplug of a pup, earned second place and a \$500 prize. “She is a little girl full of energy,” said owner Kimberly Rosas. “Don’t be fooled by her size—she’s small but mighty. When she runs, you can see the joy all over her face.”

San Antonio’s Forest, owned by Paula Boxie, placed third in his first ever Wiener Nationals. He was followed by 2023 champ Beenie VonWeenie from Fullerton (4th), Santa Monica’s Bella Rose (5th), Cypress hometown hero Burr (6th), SoCal Wiener Fest Halloweenie winner Chorizo (7th), and 2022 champion Paisley (8th). Rounding out the field were Rowdy the skating doxie (9th) and Stella from Long Beach (10th), winner of the “Long In the Tail” race for older dachshunds.

The fun continued with the 3rd annual Diaper Dash for dachshunds under 12 months old. Boo Boo Bear, the largest

Diaper Dash winner to date and owned by Oscar Loreto, took home top honors. He’s expected to be a future contender in the big leagues.

The night wasn’t just about the glory of speed. With over 8,500 people in attendance—the largest crowd since 2018—the biggest winner may have been the Seal Beach Animal Care Center, a no-kill shelter that benefits from event proceeds. Thanks to the generosity of attendees and a \$5,000 donation from Los Alamitos CEO Ed Allred and his wife Cathy Allred, the event raised thousands for the nonprofit.

Over the years, the Wiener Nationals has generated approximately \$315,000 in support of the shelter’s efforts. The event was not held in 2020 or 2021, making this year’s turnout especially rewarding for fans and organizers alike.

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ABCUSD from page 1

programming amid declining state revenue tied to student attendance.

The district identified Aloha, Furgeson, Juarez, and Stowers Elementary Schools for closure, along with a significant reconfiguration of Whitney High School.

Under the plan, students from these campuses would be reassigned to nearby schools with sufficient capacity. For example, Aloha students would shift to Melbourne and Willow; Furgeson students to Hawaiian and Melbourne; Juarez students to Burbank or Kennedy; and Stowers students to Gonsalves and Cerritos, contingent on a district-wide move of sixth graders into middle schools. In addition to the closures, the proposal included a transformation of Whitney High.

The academically prestigious campus would be expanded to include a new middle school for sixth through eighth grades, housed at the current Stowers site.

This would not only accommodate current ABCUSD students but also allow Whitney to admit a limited number of out-of-district students through permits, increasing overall enrollment and diversifying revenue sources.

The district said the closures would save approximately \$850,000 per school per year, primarily through reductions in administrative costs.

Teachers and support staff would follow students to their new campuses, and no programs would be eliminated. Instead, specialized services such as Magnet, Head Start, and Special Education would be relocated and preserved.

Unused campuses would not be sold off, according to district officials. Instead, ABCUSD explored future uses including community centers, after-school programs, sports facilities, employee housing, or reactivation as schools should enrollment ever rebound, all of which would serve the

needs of the local community.

Under California law, the proposal was supported by a nine-point Equity Impact Analysis, mandated by AB 1912, which concluded that all affected campuses were structurally sound, receiving campuses had ample space, and transportation impacts would be minimal due to the proximity. Free busing was included in the plan.

Despite the comprehensive planning, the Board of Education ultimately voted 4-3 against moving forward. Vice President Francisco Noyola, along with Board Members Olga Rios and Letty Mendoza, voted to halt the plan.

They were joined by Board Member Jean McHatton, who was appointed earlier this year. That evidently was a surprise. Sources told LCCN that McHatton had voiced support for school consolidation during her interview for the appointment but then suddenly voted no to move forward.

Voting yes to consolidate were President Ernie Nishii, Clerk Tatiana Yokoyama-Bui, and Board Member Soo Yoo. Concerning the consolidation, Trustee Olga Rios told LCCN, “It was a difficult decision for sure. There is a lot happening in our communities. The last thing I want to do is add to the burdens they may be facing. Also, families, teachers and school staff fought to keep their schools open and I wanted to support them. The children from these schools deserve to know their voice was heard and that they make a difference as our future leaders.”

Clerk of the Board Yokoyama-Bui told LCCN, “As an ABC USD Alum/Graduate and as a current parent of two ABC students, I consider and weigh the best interests of the entire district - including all our students, educators, and staff. I prioritize educational programs and academic excellence for all our students as well as our district’s ability to attract and retain highly qualified teachers and staff.”

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Low-Cost Pet Care Event Returns to Mayfair Park

Pet owners looking to keep their furry companions healthy without breaking the bank are invited to a low-cost pet care clinic at Mayfair Park on Friday, July 18, from 4 to 7 p.m.

The walk-up event, hosted in the area next to the parking lot off Fidler Avenue, offers a range of affordable services including \$12 rabies vaccinations, discounted vaccine packages, micro-chipping, deworming, parasite prevention, and basic physical exams.

No appointments are necessary. Pet owners are asked to bring dogs on leashes and cats in secure carriers to ensure safety in the waiting area.

While prior medical records are not required, they are recommended for those continuing veterinary care.

All major forms of payment—cash, checks, and credit cards—will be accepted. For a full list of available services and prices, visit the city’s pet care information page.

La Mirada Honored for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 36th Year

The City of La Mirada has once again been recognized for its commitment to transparency and fiscal responsibility, earning the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

The award, given for the City’s Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024, marks the 36th consecutive year La Mirada has received the honor.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, underscoring the City’s long-standing dedication to open and accurate financial practices.

The report was evaluated by an impartial panel and found to meet the program’s rigorous standards, including clarity, completeness, and a strong “spirit of full disclosure” that helps residents and stakeholders better understand the City’s financial position.

“La Mirada is proud to once again be recognized for our continued dedication to responsible financial stewardship,” said La Mirada Finance Manager Melissa Pascual. “This award reflects the City’s focus on maintaining transparency, accountability, and trust with the community.”

The City’s Financial Report and related budget documents are available for public viewing at cityoflamirada.org.

California Credit Union Foundation Gives \$5,000 in Teacher Grants



GRANTED: (l-r) Los Padrinos Teacher Grant Recipient Tam Nguyen, Jennifer Tokaji and Yvette Hernandez-Diaz, and Marvel Ford, President, CCU Foundation. The grant will be used to fund Social/Emotional Learning workshops for students at the juvenile court school.

LCCN Staff Report

Creating a forensic science project, supporting 4th grade student entrepreneurs in creating and marketing products, and expanding a horticulture club with California native plants are just some of the school projects receiving funding from California Credit Union Foundation through its Spring 2025 Teacher Grant program.

As part of its commitment to help educators create innovative learning opportunities for their students, the Foundation provided 10 grants to underwrite class projects in Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Orange and Ventura counties. The credit union grants will fund a diverse range of programs illustrating the commitment teachers bring to their classrooms and communities.

“Teachers are at the heart of student

success, and these innovative projects represent the kind of hands-on, inspiring learning experiences that make a meaningful difference,” said CCU Foundation President Marvel Ford.

The Spring 2025 California Credit Union Foundation Teacher Grant recipients included Tam Nguyen of the Los Padrinos Academy in Downey.

Since the creation of the program in 2012, California Credit Union and its Foundation have awarded \$215,000 in teacher grants to support innovative learning projects. Up to 20 grants are awarded bi-annually in the spring and fall. Any full-time classroom teacher in Los Angeles, and other counties can apply for a grant provided it meets certain standards. Please visit ccu.com/foundation to learn more.

Active Shooter Training Exercise Scheduled at Lakewood Center on July 23

Residents and shoppers near Lakewood Center may notice an unusual scene early Wednesday morning, July 23, as the Lakewood Sheriff’s Station, L.A. County Fire Department, and the City’s Public Safety Department conduct an active shooter exercise at the mall.

The scenario-based drill will run from 6 to 9 a.m. in the east wing of Lakewood Center, between Kay Jewelers and Ulta Beauty. During this time, expect to see numerous Sheriff’s vehicles, fire engines, and emergency responders in full gear. Simulated smoke, loud bangs, or sounds resembling explosions or gunfire may also be heard shortly after 6 a.m.

Officials emphasize that the activity is part of a planned training event and poses no actual danger to the public.

Certain mall parking areas and internal roadways will be temporarily closed to accommodate the exercise, though no public streets will be affected.

This type of training is part of a broader

countywide effort to prepare law enforcement and emergency personnel for real-world emergencies in high-traffic public locations. It ensures coordinated readiness and rapid response should a crisis ever occur.

YOUTH from page 1

youth program funding across the region exceeds \$1.7 million. These funds help deliver job counseling, mentorship, career workshops, and paid internships for youth aged 14 to 24.

Participants in Hawaiian Gardens will be placed in roles with local businesses, nonprofits, and public agencies, with structured training focused on developing soft skills, workplace habits, and long-term career planning. The city is also seeking employers to serve as job sites for participants and invites interested businesses to partner with the program.

For more information on the Youth@Work program in Hawaiian Gardens, or to learn how to participate, visit Hawaiian Gardens City Hall or the city’s website at www.hgcity.org

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The High Cost of Inaction

**By Ernie Nishii, President,
ABC Unified School District
Board of Education**

After months of reviewing data, listening to community input, and weighing options provided by our consultant, School Works, to consolidate four schools and reconfigure middle school to 6-7-8, on June 17, the ABC School board declined to follow recommendations and elected not to provide policy direction to address declining enrollment. As President of the Board, I honor the will of our board and commend our community for its dedication to our schools and for some very innovative ideas.

Does the board's vote mean that no actions will be taken to address declining enrollment? No. Staff will continue to compete with the other 977 public school districts in California for ever more competitive grants and donors to fund our programs. The district will continue to address the negative academic impacts of declining elementary and middle school enrollment. I am hopeful that the two demographic studies and analysts are wrong and that, instead of a decline, ABC bucks the California trend of declining enrollment and students push through the obstacles of other districts and find their way into ABC. We welcome students with open arms. When we run out of our reserves in three years, ABC will do its best to find ways to provide our employees fair pay without drastically cutting our staff and teachers. We will persevere.

Some of the public who watched the meetings may not understand why, despite the pain of closure, I felt we needed to consolidate so many schools in two years. Why now? Why not study the issues more with more accurate enrollment data to find a more perfect solution? The people pleaser, academic in me says - yeah, wait for a better solution. I would prefer to be like Captain Kirk from Star Trek and command Scotty to find me a better way. For those who listen to the voice commanding additional study, I understand because part of me likes that idea to procrastinate. But I also know that this is not a perfect world and that in no situation will I ever please everyone. We are not in a sci-fi TV show. Time is not on our side. We can find a million rational reasons why the outside analyst considered the wrong facts and factors. But if we are honest, what I consider a priority factor will not be the same for everyone, and, after over eight years of study and thousands of hours poring over the issues, analysis is leading us to paralysis. After almost a decade of studying declining enrollment, we need to get out of the ivory tower and act.

Time waits for no one. To wait for a proposed study session, as suggested by some, needs direction. Specifically, to study what? How to increase population growth? Study more grants? Study different criteria that meet a better or different definition of what schools to consolidate? More studies would create more unease for the entire district, cost money, and take more time we don't have.

Parents do not have the luxury of time for us to reanalyze the same facts, hoping a different solution comes up. Their kids are growing, and our job as leaders is to address their needs while they are

in school and not years after they graduate. We can procrastinate and decide later, but this shortchanges parents and our community the time they will need to adjust to changes that must occur. Other districts have provided short transitions with disastrous results. If we delay, teachers and staff lose precious time to prepare for the changes, parents become confused, and something as simple as the bus schedule is chaotic. Procrastinating does not help our community.

You may have heard misinformation about stopping Schools of Choice. Schools of Choice is a policy that allows parents to choose which schools their children attend. It is not true that we can stop Schools of Choice. Even if it were true, it is inappropriate. Parents have the right to choose. They have the right to put their kids in a performing arts school, STEM-focused school, or folk arts magnet, because it is THEIR kids. Denying parents the right to choose doesn't change the fact that as enrollment declines, our district income declines.

Why didn't I vote to close some schools on the SchoolWorks "recipe" as a start? Have you tried to bake a cake using only half of the recipe's ingredients? Skip the flour? It usually doesn't turn out well. The SchoolWorks recipe included geographic and demographic fairness and a way to address middle school enrollment. Geographically, the plan addresses all parts of our district. The conversion to 6-7-8 middle schools will affect several other school sizes, and that is why we needed more than a year to work out the details for a smooth transition. After listening to the community, I did not think it would be fair to only effect reform in part of the district and not the whole district. The board, to its credit, also rejected these well-meaning partial "band-aids." Knowing the trauma of making hard decisions is rarely voluntarily revisited, this band-aid would have an insufficient effect and long-term consequences.

So, where do we go from here?

We have exceptional educators. I know they will continue doing their best for students. But I also know that without meaningful action, we'll face even harder decisions in the years ahead - whether it's cutting programs, increasing class sizes, or losing staff to better pay in other places. None of these are outcomes we want, and none are good for our students.

I didn't run for school board to make difficult decisions, but I also didn't run to avoid them. I ran to serve our students and families and to ensure we provide the best possible education with the resources we have. That responsibility requires us to make tough calls, even when they're unpopular. These last few months, filled with passionate public comment and hard conversations, have been difficult for everyone.

What stood out most to me was how deeply our families care about their schools. That engagement is powerful. I hope to see it continue throughout the year. Every Board meeting includes important decisions about programs, services, and the future of ABCUSD. Your voices matter, and your continued involvement makes a difference.

Now is the time to come together as a community. Our students are counting on us.

They deserve nothing less.

From the Mayor's Desk: July 18, 2025

**By Cerritos Mayor
Frank Aurelio Yokoyama**

The tremendous contributions and quality service from City of Cerritos staff to our community is on display daily. Key partners in these efforts are the hundreds of City volunteers who elevate how we serve through their time, commitment, and customer service.

This past Monday, I was honored to join our staff and my City Council colleagues at our annual volunteer recognition dinner. We are incredibly proud of our dedicated volunteers with the Cerritos Library, Cerritos Sheriff's Station, Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park, and Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. In 2024, volunteers across these areas generously contributed 17,000-plus hours of service, a nearly \$570,000 value to our City.

This work is not only valuable, but it also directly aligns with multiple Cerritos Strategic Goals: Enhance Public Safety and Ensure Continued Excellence in Community Programming. Our City cannot achieve our goals without the support of these dedicated individuals, who have been called to serve and are passionate about making a difference in the lives of others and our community as a whole.

We would like to thank the volunteers from the Cerritos Senior Center, whose compassion and commitment support our seniors. They assisted at special events, served lunches, packed meals for

home delivery, and led classes, among other activities. To the Friends of the Cerritos Library, we appreciate their time to ensure quality and robust Library programs. This includes staffing the Friends Bookstore, organizing fundraiser events, and sponsoring contests for our youth. We're grateful for safer neighborhoods. This is supported in part by Volunteers on Patrol (VOPs), who serve the Cerritos Sheriff's Station by conducting security checks and working special events. To our Arts Ambassadors, we are thankful for their time supporting activities at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. They assist with checking and collecting patron tickets, escorting them to their seats, and contributing to several City and community events.

Our wonderful volunteers represent multiple generations of Cerritos residents and community advocates. On July 10, the Cerritos City Council honored Cerritos Library teen volunteers at the Volunteer Stan Awards. Thank you to these individuals who shelved books, monitored workstations in the children's area, worked in the Friends Bookstore, and helped with multiple Library programs.

City of Cerritos volunteers are clearly making a difference in our community, which reverberates across our region. In the words of the late Margaret Mead, an anthropologist and humanitarian: "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

For more information about volunteering with the City of Cerritos, please contact City Hall at 562-860-0311.

Trump Tariffs—Wine, Pasta, Tomatoes and Coffee Now All Political

By Brian Hews, Publisher, LCCN

We're just beginning to see it now: higher prices creeping into produce aisles, all produce inching upward. Not because of a bad harvest. Not because of inflation. But because Donald Trump slapped tariffs on fruits we don't even grow here.

In his latest move, Trump has imposed new tariffs on imports from Brazil, including coffee, mangoes, bananas, and even taxi services. Let's be clear: we will never be able to grow coffee or bananas or mangoes at scale in the United States. So who's really being punished? Not Brazil. American consumers.

In the name of "protecting American farmers," Trump has also taxed produce like Mexican tomatoes—which make up over 60 percent of what you see in your local supermarket. Sure, a handful of U.S. growers may briefly benefit. But here's the kicker: he's simultaneously deporting the very farmworkers who pick the tomatoes we grow domestically.

That's Trump economics in a nutshell—create the illusion of strength while gutting the workforce and handing you the bill.

And now, the European Union is retaliating. They're slapping tariffs on American goods like pasta and wine. So let's get this straight: tomatoes cost more, the people who pick them are gone, and now your spaghetti dinner is getting hit from both ends. Brilliant.

Even if Trump wakes up tomorrow and backs off these tariffs, the damage is done. Major importers already made panic buys to get ahead of price hikes. When tariffs suddenly disappear, they'll hold off on buying again—leaving supply chains in chaos. Prices won't go down;

they'll just swing wildly. This is what happens when trade policy is written with a Sharpie and a vendetta.

Trump's strategy is like shooting yourself in the foot, then aiming at your neighbor's foot for good measure—thinking somehow that makes you taller. But we're not just hurting them. We're hurting ourselves. These tariffs aren't some genius maneuver. They're a direct tax on Americans, passed on at the check-out line.

And the other countries? They'll be just fine. In France, it's France First. In Japan, it's Japan First. When Trump pretends it's America First by jacking up grocery bills, he's only giving our trading partners more reason to double down. Because unlike Trump, they're playing the long game.

Remember the China tariffs? Trump talked tough, then backed down-TACO. Farmers got crushed. Markets trembled. And China moved on—without us. That wasn't strategy. That was a tantrum with consequences.

You don't bring jobs back by taxing what we don't produce. You don't grow the economy by making lunch more expensive. And you sure as hell don't win trade wars by losing access to bananas, wine, and your morning coffee.

This isn't policy. It's political theater. And like every bad show, the audience—us—gets stuck with the tab.

So the next time you're staring at a nine-dollar bag of coffee or a two-fifty tomato at Ralph's, remember who made your dinner political. This isn't America First. It's Americans last. And the longer it continues, the more we all pay.

Reduce Maintenance, Boost Your Garden Enjoyment and....

By Melinda Meyers

Every gardener has personal reasons for gardening whether it be the hope that their garden brings joy, productivity, beauty, or peace throughout the growing season. Embrace what makes you happy as you tend, view, and enjoy every aspect of your garden.

Weather, busy schedules, and life in general can interfere with the best laid plans for any garden and landscape. Take some time now to evaluate what is working so you can do more of that and decide what needs changing in your garden plantings, designs, and maintenance.

If you are feeling overwhelmed with the maintenance but still want seasonal interest, consider filling garden beds with shrubs. Look for low maintenance varieties suited to your growing conditions and climate. Select those with multiple seasons of beauty from flowers, foliage, fall color, and interesting form and bark. Include some that provide birds with food, shelter, and protection from predators. You'll appreciate the beauty and motion these winged visitors provide.

Consider using fewer species of low-maintenance perennials and more of each. You'll have fewer plants to try to identify as the garden comes to life in spring and as you weed throughout the growing season. Look for those that are disease and insect-pest resistant, need minimal or no deadheading and pruning, and attract and support pollinators as well as provide winter interest and food for songbirds in the winter.

Then add season-long color with pockets or containers of annuals. With fewer to buy and maintain you may decide your schedule and budget will allow you to

CONSIDER FILLING GARDEN BEDS WITH SHRUBS

Consider filling garden beds with shrubs. Look for low-maintenance varieties suited to your growing conditions and climate. Select those with multiple seasons of beauty from flowers, foliage, fall color, and interesting form and bark. Include some that provide birds with food, shelter, and protection from predators. You'll appreciate the beauty and motion these winged visitors provide.



change them out as the seasons change.

Accept and embrace the beauty of a less-than-perfect garden. Most visitors won't notice the imperfections unless you point them out. Plus, faded flowers and seed pods can provide unique texture and

food for songbirds.

Do minimal cleanup that is better for the plants, pollinators and songbirds. Do remove or cut back diseased and insect-infested plant material as needed. Leave fall leaves in the garden to serve as mulch, a

home for some beneficial insects, and insulation for toads, queen bumblebees, and others that overwinter underground. Allow perennials to stand for winter, increasing hardiness, providing homes for beneficial insects, food for songbirds, and adding winter interest. Leave some of these stems standing throughout the upcoming growing season to serve as homes for some of the native bees.

Ask for or hire help if needed. As much as you love gardening, securing help for some of the larger tasks or those that just aren't getting done can help boost your enjoyment. It can be hard to find gardening help so you may need to get creative. Consider sharing your gardening space with someone who loves to garden but lacks a garden. Barter your knowledge and skills for help in your garden. Or plan a round robin of fun and gardening with a few friends. Take turns visiting and tending each other's gardens. You'll enjoy the time spent together in each other's gardens as you tackle a gardening task or two. Then top off the visit with a favorite beverage and snack or meal.

Don't let your list of unaccomplished tasks or weeds stop you from enjoying your garden and what you have accomplished. Relish every bloom, fresh tomato, or visiting bird or butterfly.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the *Midwest Gardener's Handbook*, 2nd Edition and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her website is www.MelindaMyers.com.



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Boyz II Men Kicks Off Cerritos Center for the Performing Art Season



ON BENDED KNEE: With more than 64 million albums sold worldwide, Boyz II Men earned the title of best-selling R&B group of all time,

CERRITOS, CA – Four-time Grammy-winning sensation Boyz II Men will woo, wow, and have you On Bended Knee when the trio kicks off the 2025-2026 Season at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA) on Saturday, August 23. The show sold out in record time and demand was so thunderous, it forced the addition of a second performance for Friday, August 22. Very limited tickets remain on cerritoscenter.com. The start time for both shows is 8 PM.


Crowned “masters of the silky, romantic ballad” by the Los Angeles Times, BOYZ II MEN redefined the R&B genre, blending in creative Hip-Hop beats and danceable Pop strains that grasped the attention of fans and music critics worldwide, and dominated the musical landscape with its chart-topping hits One Sweet Day, 4 Seasons of Loneliness, and Motownphilly. From its debut nine-time Platinum

album Cooleyhighharmony to II, which Rolling Stone magazine named to its “500 Greatest Albums of All Time” list, the band played and swayed its way to the top with eye-catching choreography and signature soothing harmonies evident in hits such as the Grammy-winning End of the Road, I’ll Make Love to You, and On Bended Knee.


With more than 64 million albums sold worldwide, Boyz II Men earned the title of best-selling R&B group of all time, a distinction that the band still holds today. The troupe also boasts three Billboard Awards and a whopping nine American Music Awards, including for “Favorite Soul/R&B Band/Duo/Group.”

Even after more than three decades in the spotlight, Boyz II Men continues to command attention

For tickets or more information, call (562) 916-8500 or go to cerritoscenter.com.



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USA SOFTBALL CHAMPIONS CUP

Area Players Tune Up One Last Time Before PGF National Championships

By Loren Kopff

IRVINE-Nearly 10 area travel softball players for their respective 18-Under teams spent anywhere from four to six days competing in the 22nd annual Champions Cup, the last major showcase tournament before the national championships in respective organizations take centerstage next week. When it was all said and done, recent La Mirada High graduate Angelyna Conde and her (Anaheim) West Coast Lady Dukes-Blanco team advanced to the semifinals this past Monday at Harvard Park.

The WCLD won all four games during pool play action, outscoring the opposition 36-8, then defeated the (Los Angeles) Firecrackers-MG 6-2 last Saturday and the Fresno Force-Enriquez/Romero 13-8 and the (Los Angeles) Athletics Mercado-Gurrola 5-4 this past Sunday to get to the semifinals.

In the semifinals, the WCLD were tied with the (Livermore, CA) Batbusters-Ching 1-1 after three innings before surrendering solo tallies in the top of the fourth and fifth innings. The WCLD got a run back in the bottom of the fifth but would fall 3-2.

Conde, a third baseman who will be attending Texas Tech University next month, went eight for 20 with 10 runs batted in, scored nine runs and had three doubles.

Recent Artesia High graduate Alea Medina, who will be going to

California State University, Dominguez Hills, plays for the (Los Alamitos) Wildcats-Hunter which went 1-3 in pool play action, then fell to the (Castro Valley) Extreme-Orta/Cortez 9-3 last Saturday in the single elimination playoffs.

Medina, a center fielder, went six for 14 in the five games, scored three times and drove in a run.

The (Redondo Beach) USA Athletics-Phillips/Lehr, with Valley Christian High pitcher and outfielder Rachel Zhang, also won their pool, going 3-0-1 while allowing five runs. In the playoffs, they doubled up the (Whittier) USA Athletics-Garcia 8-4 last Saturday before falling to the (Las Vegas) Lil Rebels-Gordie/TC 4-3 this past Sunday. Zhang did not appear in any of the games during the Champions Cup.

Playing for the USA Athletics-Garcia are Cierra Contreras and Abbygail Perez of Gahr High and Nuella Anyama of Whitney High. That team split its four pool play games, then eased past the (Fontana) Arsenal



Fastpitch 9-1 this past Saturday before falling to the USA Athletics-Phillips/Lehr. Contreras was nine of 17, had nine RBI, scored five runs, had three doubles and two home runs in all six games while Perez was hitless in seven at-bats and scored once in five

games. She also pitched in three games, totaling eight and two-thirds innings, allowing 17 hits, 10 earned runs, walked five and struck out four.

Finally, La Mirada’s Bettie Mae Acevedo and Mya Laroya of Gahr play for the (Whittier) BSC Bengals-Gurule, which went 2-0-2 in pool play before

slamming the (Livermore, CA) Lady Hustle-Marshall 14-0 last Saturday. Later in the evening, the BSC Bengals-Gurule lost to the (San Clemente) Watson Wolfpack 9-0. Acevedo was hitless in four at-bats and pitched six innings, yielding seven hits, no earned runs, walked 10 and struck out four. Laroya had two hits in eight at-bats, scored once and drove in a run.

In the 14-Under Division, the (Buena Park) Cal A’s-Jackson, in just its third major tournament of an organization, all coming this summer, went 2-2 in pool play action, then fell to the Corona Angels-Carter/Tyson 6-2 last Saturday morning at Great Park in Irvine.

“I think that we played a really good team, and we competed really well against them,” said head coach Jennifer Jackson, a former Gahr High standout who was Jennifer Willig in her high school days. “We just didn’t capitalize on the opportunities that we needed to

[See **SOFTBALL**, page 12]

PGF NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, THE ALLIANCE FASTPITCH FINALS PREVIEW

Stars Will Be Shining as Nation’s Top Travel Softball Champions Will Be Crowned

By Loren Kopff

It’s time again for a number of area softball players to display their talents one last time before heading off to college next month, or to give potential future college coaches another look at what they can give their team upon graduation in 2026 or 2027. It’s time for the Premier Girls Fastpitch National Championships, now in its 15th season, and The Alliance Fastpitch Championship Series, which is five years old. Pool play games for the PGF will take place on Saturday and Sunday at the following locations: Fountain Valley Sports Park, Great Park of Irvine, Harvard Park, Huntington Beach Sports Complex and Peralta Park.

Double elimination bracket play begins on Monday and runs all week leading up to the 16-Under Platinum championship game on Friday, followed by the 18-Under Platinum championship game. The championship game for the 16-Under and 18-Under Premier Divisions will take place on July 26. All championship games will be held at Deanna Manning Stadium at Bill Barber Park and will be streamed live on ESPN+ except for the 18-Under Premier finals, which will be televised live on ESPNU.

The Alliance Fastpitch Championship Series will hold their games at Grand Park in Westfield, Indiana and at Championship Park in Kokomo, Indiana. The tournament runs from July 20-27.

Listed below is a brief synopsis of the area players and their respective travel teams based off information obtained over the past several months, and their pool play or bracket schedules for the opening games.

18-Under Premier Division (18 pools, 72 teams)
(Anaheim) BSC Bengals-Briggs
15-8-1 since June 7
Peyton Kingery (Valley Christian High/University of North Texas commit)
Pool A games @ Huntington Beach Sports Complex, Field 1
Saturday @ 9:45 a.m. vs. (Phoenix) Arizona Storm National-Mathis
Saturday @ 1:15 p.m. vs. (Kansas City)

Select 18’s-Jones
Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. vs. (Santa Clarita) So Cal Choppers-Fausett
Kingery has had a solid summer and in 19 games from June 7-July 6, is batting .350 with 14 runs, 11 runs batted in, five doubles, three home runs and one triple.
(Anaheim) BSC Bengals-Nichols
17-6-2 since May 31
Alianna Calderon (Cerritos High/Long Beach City College)
Pool M games @ Huntington Beach Sports Complex, Field 5
Saturday @ 3:00 p.m. vs. (Layton) Utah Avalanche-Sky
Saturday @ 4:45 p.m. vs. San Jose Sting Gold
Sunday @ 12:00 p.m. vs. (French Camp, CA) Sorcerer-Gann
Calderon has played in every game this summer and is second on the team in batting with a .438 average and doubles (six). She leads the team with 28 hits, 21 RBI and four home runs while scoring 15 runs (third most).
(Huntington Beach) Explosion Premier
7-12 since June 7
Malaia Huskey (Gahr High/California State University, San Marcos)
Pool G games @ Huntington Beach Sports Complex, Field 7
Saturday @ 8:00 a.m. vs. (Wrentham, MA) Rhode Island Thunder National-Lotti
Saturday @ 9:45 a.m. vs. (Cookeville) Tennessee Mojo-Ramsey/Fisher
Sunday @ 8:00 vs. (Spotsylvania, VA) Unity-Johnson
Husley has played in a dozen games this summer, collecting one hit in nine at-bats while scoring four runs.
(Long Beach) USA Athletics Gold-Rogers
23-6-1 since June 7
Isabella Gonzalez (Gahr High)
Pool E games @ Huntington Beach Sports Complex, Field 5
Saturday @ 11:30 a.m. vs. (Belmont, CA) Cal Nuggets-Woods
Saturday @ 1:15 p.m. vs. (Durham, NC) Lady Dukes-Lamar
Sunday @ 8:00 a.m. vs. (Mission Viejo) California Cruisers-Sievers
Gonzalez has appeared in half the

[See **PGF**, page 12]

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12741 Towne Ctr. Dr.
Artesia City Hall
18747 Clarkdale Ave.
Artesia Library
18801 Elaine Avenue
Artesia Cemetery
11142 Artesia Blvd.
Artesia Christian Home
11614 183rd St, Artesia
Artesia Senior Apts
10427 Artesia, Bellflower
Ave. 3
12612 South Street
Bellflower City Hall
Bellflower Terrace Apts.
9920 Flora Vista
Belmont Place Apts.
9830 Belmont St., Bellflower
Ramona Senior Ctr.
9843 Ramona St. Bellflower
Bellflower Friendship Manor
9550 Oak St.
Cassidy’s Cafe
15010 La Mirada Blvd
Cerritos Chamber
13259 South St.
Cerritos College
Cerritos City Hall
Sheriff’s/Community Center
Cerritos Library
18125 Bloomfield Ave
Cerritos Park East
13234 E 166th St.
Cerritos Medical Center
11911 Artesia Blvd.

Cerritos Senior Center
12340 South St.
Cevitas Coffee
14218 Rosecrans Ave
CTA Travel
12750 Center Ct Dr S.
ContunEM
6430 South St
Don Knabe Park
At the Tennis Center
Foggia Deli
5522 Del Amo Blvd.
Grocery Outlet
15745 Imperial Hwy,
Grove at Cerritos
11000 New Falcon Way
Goodyear Auto
19404 Norwalk Blvd.
Gardens Casino
11871 E Carson St.
Hawaiian Gardens City Hall,
Rec. Center, Library
21815 Pioneer
Heritage Park
18600 Bloomfield
Holy Family Church, Artesia
18708 Clarkdale
IHop La Mirada
15140 La Mirada Blvd
Imperial Healthcare Center
11926 La Mirada Blvd
Coffee Place
13295 South St.
Kindred Hospital
14900 Imperial Hwy.
Knabe Park
Kristens Beauty Salon
13952 Valley View Ave
La Casa de Concinera
15711 Imperial Hwy,
UCI/Lakewood Regional
3700 South St.
La Mirada City Hall, Library,
Resource Center, Sheriff’s
Splash! La Mirada
13700 La Mirada Blvd
LA Nails
13239 South St
La Palma City Hall

7822 Walker St
La Palma Community Center
7822 Walker St
La Palma Intercomm. Hospital
Liberty Park
9211 Studebaker Rd,
Long Beach Memorial
2801 Atlantic Ave.
Manila Sunset
13347 South St
Massage & Stone
13247 South St.
Medipost
13299 E South Street
Norwalk Arts/Sports
13000 Clarkdale
Norwalk SR. Center
14040 San Antonio Dr.
Norwalk City Hall
12700 Norwalk Blvd,
Olive Lawn
13926 La Mirada Blvd
11832 E Carson St
Pico Rivera Chamber
5016 Passons Blvd
Pico River City Hall
and Sheriffs
6615 Passons Blvd
Rosewoods
10769 South St.
State Farm
12616 South St
LAFD Station 30
19030 Pioneer Blvd
Silverlake Ramen
11103 183rd St
Sophia Hair Salon
13243 South St.
Sukos Sushi
14156 Rosecrans Ave
Tacos San Pedro
11832 E Carson St
Tour Le Jour
13359 South St
VI Pharmacy
12610 South Street
WRD
4040 Paramount

OUTLOOK ON NEW FOOTHILL AREA RELEAGUING

Whitney Anticipates More Playoff Opportunities With New League Opponents

By Loren Kopff

This is the sixth part in a series of area schools involved in the upcoming Foothill Area releaguings that will begin for the 2026-2027 school year. The 20 schools involved in what will be a new conference are from the current 605 League, Del Rio League, Gateway League and Mid-Cities League. This is the third time since the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year that area schools have been involved in releaguings.

Up until the end of the 2001-2002 school year, Whitney High athletics were situated in the Delphic League, facing schools from West Los Angeles, North Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley. Then the Wildcats moved into the Academy League and were traveling in the opposite direction on the 405 Freeway to face Orange County schools. The most recent league change placed Whitney, and former Academy League member Oxford Academy, in the 605 League where its athletics finally got to see more of their ABC Unified School District rivals. Now, the Wildcats will see much more after this upcoming school year as up to 14 new league opponents could be new rivals. “I was very open to it,” said Whitney co-athletic director Marlene Jollensten when she first heard about plans for the new 20-school conference. “Since I first started being an A.D., one of the first things that [co-athletic director] Virginia Keith was trying to tell me about was

the league that we’re currently in was founded because we wanted equity. So, when we started to see what could potentially happen down the road with how few schools were in our league, the thought of going into this bigger [conference]...I was open to it. It fell

far as Montclair Prep, which was 46 miles away. It was slightly better when Whitney was in the Academy League even though the farthest it would have to go was to St. Margaret’s High, just shy of 40 miles from the Cerritos institution. Across the board in the major sports,

League despite not having a football program, which people have said sets the tone for the rest of the school year. The Wildcats also did not have a boys water polo team in 2019, have not had a girls soccer program since the pandemic and did not have a baseball program from 2021-2023.

In contrast, the Wildcats have won eight 605 League titles, all since 2021 and three coming in the 2024-2025 school year, highlighted by the girls basketball team, which claimed a CIF State Division 4 title this past March. In fact, of the major sports, Whitney has finished in last place in the 605 League 10 out of a possible 61 times. “I think [the 605 League] has been a great experience,” said Jollensten. “As an athletic director, I’ve got to work with fantastic people; we look out for each other. If something goes wrong where if the gym starts leaking, [we ask] if we can swap home and away [games]. We were very open to making sure that everybody in the league was happy. So logistic-wise, [the 605 League] was absolutely amazing.

“And for the students, it was really nice that we got to play two other high schools in our district,” she continued. “You found that the kids were very excited to be able to play against people they knew, and then of course, our rival school. I say that with a lot of love. I love the Oxford-Whitney rivalry; it’s been there forever, and especially now that I get to work with [Oxford Academy athletic director David] Clifton. But it seems like a whole new dynamic to it. So, it’s a lot of fun. We enjoy it and we plan on continuing to schedule games with Oxford even if we don’t end up in the same league in our conference.”

Something else Whitney was at ease with in the 605 League was the travelling with Pioneer High being the farthest school, about 10 and a half miles away, or 15 minutes with no traffic. With the new conference, the farthest Whitney would travel is 13 and a half miles to Firebaugh High.

Jollensten said the school tried to ask around to merge with a smaller league before talks of the new 20-school conference surfaced. However, the schools Whitney was asking, which happened to be in the Del Rio League, all wanted to be together, according to the co-athletic director. Those talks occurred last December.

“We felt that it would have been a nice way to kind of dip our toes,” she said. “It just ended up being that we were kind of like we’re just going to have to dive right in. But Del Rio was where we were considering because of where they are geographically, but also where their ranking was. They seemed to be the most obvious choice for where we were at that time.”

Jollensten says the fact that Oxford Academy and Whitney don’t field football programs, it’s not going to hinder the process of plugging in the other schools into the number of leagues they decide to go with. With 18 schools with a football program, it makes sense logistically to have three leagues of six schools each. But a seven-team league could get you more automatic berths and according to Jollensten, each sport will dictate how many leagues they want to have.

Currently, Whitney hasn’t had a girls soccer program since the 2019-2020



within the values that we wanted to have.” Jollensten graduated from Whitney in 2005, became a coach there in 2012 and a teacher in 2020. When the Wildcats were in the Delphic League, they would have to fight the traffic on the 405 Freeway, travelling anywhere from 29 miles away to Pacific Hills High to as

Whitney became more competitive when it was in the Academy League and even more as a member of the 605 League. However, the girls volleyball program won Delphic League titles from 1998-2000 and finished in second place in its final year the school was in the Delphic League. Both soccer programs finished in second place in the 1998-1999 season while the girls were in second place the following season and the softball program was successful in the final seasons before moving to the Academy League. But the girls basketball program finished below third place in three of the last four seasons in the Delphic League and the baseball program has never finished above fourth place since the 1998 season.

“As someone who was a player in the Academy League and then a coach while we were in the Academy League, yes, there was a very large gap, at least in the sports I was involved in,” said Jollensten. “We’re talking about Sage Hill, St. Margaret’s, Crean Lutheran. Yes, we were all in that same league and it was a hard league to be in. Our goal was to place fourth. I would say it’s very different than it is now. Our goal [now] is to place first.”

Whitney athletics have fared much better in the seven years of the 605

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

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

The Red Cross

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

Activities, Bags, Battle, Blood, Body, Budget, Care, Committee, Counsel, Country, Doctors, Drive, Duty, Education, Emergency, Flag, Food, Funds, Give, Health, Help, Historic, Hope, Independence, International, Life, Line, Need, Nurse, Push, Reach, Rescue, Response, Role, Safety, Saving, Search, Serve, Supply, Symbol, Tasks, Treatment, Type, Unity, Values, Youth.

Solution on page 15

Solution: 8 letters

CALLING ALL DODGER FANS! SHOW US HOW YOU BACK THE BLUE!

Enter For a Chance to Win TWO FRONT ROW Pavilion Seats!

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(LCCN contest not affiliated with the Dodgers or the Dodger organization.)

WHITNEY from page 11

season when the Wildcats finished in third place. Jollensten said the school tries every year to bring back the program but hasn’t been able to get the numbers to, as she puts it, comfortably put together a team with a couple people on the bench in case a starter or two has to leave because of an injury.

“That would not only affect us, but that would affect the relationships as possible scheduling for the years coming with a full league,” she said. “We just don’t have the numbers for it. But we try every year.”

On the flip side, the baseball program didn’t have the numbers coming out of the pandemic to keep a team and it wasn’t until 2024 when the school brought back the sport. Jollensten added that the school is happy to be able to have a baseball program and is hoping that the coaches continue to have the same passion for the sport.

Jollensten doesn’t know immediately which sports will benefit or not benefit with the new conference because she has to wait and see what happens this upcoming school year and in the first year or two of the new conference. The example she used was that any sport could do well one year, get bumped up to a higher league, not do as well thus not getting an automatic berth to the CIF-Southern Section.

“I think our girls [basketball] are definitely closer to the top which is going to make it harder for them,” said Jollensten. “It’s going to make it harder for them, I would say, especially since they had won their state championship title.”

When it comes to challenges that the athletic directors and principals will face this upcoming school year, Jollensten says it’s going to be logistical issues, like having double meetings because they’re going to have to deal with the new conference while attending to their own current league duties at the same time. Another issue is the possibility of how much say each school has in the new conference; how much has been established and how much can be changed.

One other aspect of the new conference that Jollensten is excited about is forming new rivalries with schools that the Wildcats have either faced here and there in non-league contests, or schools that they haven’t faced before. But no matter what comes out of it, the new conference figures to be even a better fit for Whitney.

“We’re looking forward to it; we made this decision not just for the benefit of our kids, but for the kids in our entire league and for the benefit for the other schools in our league,” said Jollensten. “That’s the wonderful part about having those relationships with the rest of the A.D.’s and I’m hoping to continue and build more of those types of relationships.”

Jollensten added that there will be a simple meet and greet amongst the 20-plus athletic directors on Aug. 1 with the first official meeting most likely on Sept. 4.

SOFTBALL from page 10

as far as swinging at strikes when we had runners in positions and taking too many strikes.”

The Cal A’s-Jackson lost its first two pool play games last Thursday before blasting the (Rosemead) Cal Panthers-MM 19-0 last Friday, then knocked off

PGF from page 10

games, pitching nearly 46 innings while sporting a 9-1 record with a save. She has allowed 43 hits, 23 earned runs struck out 39 batters and walked 32. Her earned run average is 3.53.

18-Under Platinum Division (20 pools, 80 teams)
(Whittier) BSC Bengals-Gurule 16-9-2 since May 31

Bettie Mae Acevedo (La Mirada High), Mya Laroya (Gahr High/St. John’s University)
Pool D games @ Great Park, Field 3
Saturday @ 8:00 a.m. vs. (Clovis, CA) Top Dog Gold-Nomura/Santana
Saturday @ 11:35 a.m. vs. (Pennsylvania) TNT Gold-Godard
Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. vs. (Tracy, CA) AASA-Perez

Coming off the USA Softball Champions Cup, Acevedo has collected eight hits in 33 at-bats since May 31, scored four runs, driven in three runs and has a pair of doubles. In the circle, Acevedo has pitched just over 19 innings, given up 21 hits, 12 runs while striking out 20 and walking 19.

Laroya has played in all but two games since May 31 and is 15 for 43 with 11 RBI, seven runs, five doubles and one triple while reaching base another four times by way of a walk.

(Mission Viejo) California Cruisers Gold 5-15-1 since June 7
Kayla Martin (Valley Christian High/Colgate University)
Pool P games @ Great Park, Field 7
Saturday @ 3:30 p.m. vs. (Corona) Athletics Mercado-Sabo
Saturday @ 7:05 p.m. vs. (Stockton) Mojo-Espinoza
Sunday @ 2:00 p.m. vs. (Romeoville, IL) GenuWin Reign-KW

In 19 games, Martin is nine for 39 with seven RBI, six runs, three walks with a triple.

(Whittier) Firecrackers-Medina/Gomez 9-10-1 since May 25
Lea Hilbert (Gahr High)
Pool R games @ Harvard Park, Field 2
Saturday @ 8:00 a.m. vs. (Pinole, CA) Universal Bay Area Gold-Tatro
Saturday @ 9:40 a.m. vs. (Louisville, KY) Fusion National-Unruh/Greenwood
Sunday @ 8:00 vs. (Newcastle, WA) Ladyhawks Seeley/Haney

Hilbert had a pair of hits and was walked three times within the first 11 games of the summer but as a pitcher, she has worked five innings in seven games, allowing 10 hits and 14 earned runs while walking nine and striking out five.

(Downey) Nemesis Elite Gold 14-13 since May 31
Zoe Barrett (Valley Christian High/Clark Atlanta University)
Pool T games @ Harvard Park, Field 2
Saturday @ 3:15 p.m. vs. (Beaverton, OR) WA Ladyhawks-Gonzalez
Saturday @ 4:55 p.m. vs. (Tracy, CA) Mojo-Pikas
Sunday @ 12:00 p.m. vs. (Whittier) USA Athletics-Garcia

In 21 games this summer, Barrett is batting .308 with 21 RBI, 16 hits, 11 runs, has drawn five walks while smacking four home runs and three doubles.

(Redondo Beach) USA Athletics-Phillips/Lehr 16-6-2 since June 7
Rachel Zhang (Valley Christian High)
Pool G games @ Great Park, Field 6
Saturday @ 11:50 a.m. vs (Sacramento, CA) Firecrackers-Leles/Veasey
Saturday @ 1:30 p.m. vs. New Lennox (IL) Lightning-MD
Sunday @ 8:00 a.m. vs. (Corona) Athletics Mercado-Cook

Zhang has been pulling double duty this summer as an outfielder and a pitcher. In 21 games, she is batting .408 with 20 hits, 16 runs scored and 10 RBI

while in five games in the circle, the V.C. star has pitched 14 innings, giving up 15 hits, five earned runs while walking nine and striking out seven.

(Garden Grove) West Coast Lady Dukes-Blanco 23-9-2 since June 1
Angelyna Conde (La Mirada High / Texas Tech University)
Pool M games @ Great Park, Field 4
Saturday @ 7:05 p.m. vs. (San Mateo, CA) Eagles Fastpitch
Saturday @ 8:45 p.m. vs. (Idaho Falls, ID) USA Explosion Premier-Butler/Bybee
Sunday @ 12:00 p.m. vs. (Chandler) Arizona Storm-Sheehan

As hot as Conde has been this summer, so has her travel team. Conde is batting .449 with 35 hits, 39 RBI, 32 runs, 11 doubles, has been walked 11 times and has smacked eight home runs in all but two games. She has been held hitless in eight games. The West Coast Lady Dukes-Blanco enter the PGF National Championships on a 14-3-1 streak and recently lost in the semifinals of the USA Softball Champions Cup.

(Los Alamitos) Wildcats-Hunter 9-9-2 since May 25
Alea Medina (Artesia High/California State University, Dominguez Hills)
Pool O games @ Great Park, Field 6
Saturday @ 7:05 p.m. vs. (Tempe) Arizona Storm-Westover
Saturday @ 8:45 p.m. vs. (Waxhaw, NC) Team NC-Baylog/Tracy
Sunday @ 12:00 p.m. vs. (Castaic, CA) Team I-5 Softball-Snyder/Mack

Medina is second on the team with a .452 average, 19 hits, 17 RBI and leads the team with 23 runs and seven walks.

16-Under Premier Division (20 pools, 80 teams)
(Long Beach) USA Athletics-RML 24-8-1 since June 7
Choyce Chambers and Aubrielle Ramirez (Valley Christian High)
Pool D games @ Fountain Valley Sports Park, Field 5
Saturday @ 8:00 a.m. vs. (Sacramento) Firecrackers-Leles
Saturday @ 9:45 a.m. vs. (Orland Park, IL) Sparks Premier-JP
Sunday @ 8:00 a.m. vs. (San Diego) Power Surge-Berndes/Mujica

Chambers is on fire as one of seven players who is batting at least .400. She has an impressive .447 average with 34 hits, 35 runs, 18 RBI, five doubles, three home runs and one triple. Ramirez is right at .400 with 22 hits, 12 runs, eight RBI and three doubles.

16-Under Platinum Division (23 pools, 92 teams)
(Westminster) USA Athletics-Mathis 6-9-1 since June 7
Zoe Corrales (Cerritos High)
Pool W games @ Peralta Park, Field 2
Saturday @ 6:30 p.m. vs. Spokane Expos
Saturday @ 8:15 p.m. vs. (Ontario) Team Hustle So Cal
Sunday @ 12:00 p.m. vs. (Laguna Niguel) Cruisers Fastpitch VC

Corrales has a pair of hits in 11 at-bats over 10 games and has scored twice.

The Alliance Fastpitch Softball Championship Series; first bracket games on July 21
18-Under Division (94 teams)
Corona Angels-Tyson 25-11-2 since May 31
Montserrat Reyes-Cardenas (La Mirada High/San Diego State University)

The Angels will play either the (Meridian, ID) USA Explosion Premier-Kloczko or the (San Diego) Athletics Mercado-Carden/Hull game. Reyes-Cardenas has pitched in 19 games, working just over 42 innings. She has given up 41 hits and 15 earned runs while striking out 43 and walking 16.

(Laguna Hills) Firecrackers-Brashear Angelina Ratzlaff (La Mirada High)
The Firecrackers-Brashear will play either the (Des Moines) Iowa Premier-

Anthony/Yegge or the (San Antonio, TX) Corona Angels-Coleman. In 26 games played, Ratzlaff is batting .231 with 11 runs, nine hits, three RBI and two doubles.

(Anaheim) OC Batbusters-Stith 30-5 since June 1
Reese and Riley Hilliard (La Mirada High)

The OC Batbusters-Stith, the nation’s top-ranked team, will play either the (Kenosha) Wisconsin Lightning-Boydston or the (Easley) SC Elite National-Genovese for their first game. The statistics for the sisters go back to last September, but in 70 games played, Riley Hilliard is batting .444 with 76 hits, 78 RBI, 41 runs, 12 doubles and 21 home runs while in 65 games plays, Reese Hilliard is batting .368 with 56 hits, 48 RBI, 30 runs, 12 doubles and seven home runs.

16-Under Division (105 teams)
(Hacienda Heights) Firecrackers Select RTY 22-14-1 since June 1
Alison Ortega (La Mirada High)

The Firecrackers Select RTY will play the (Oregon City, OR) NW Vandals-Woods. Ortega is showing no signs of slowing down as she enters The Alliance Fastpitch Championship Series. After not appearing in the first three games of the summer, Ortega did not allow a run in her first four games of action. In 19 games covering 63 innings, Ortega has given up 61 hits, 19 earned runs, struck out 70 and walked 10. She has also pitched four complete games, not yielding an earned run in any of them.

OATH from page 1

spired by his grandfather, a World War II veteran, Gracieux launched Operation Hero Home Restoration with a mission to bring comfort and care to aging veterans. The work is fully volunteer-driven and fueled by local partnerships, enabling crews to tackle a wide range of tasks, from landscaping to painting, plumbing, and repairs.

“These are truly the most beautiful, kind, selfless, giving humans you could meet,” Gracieux said of the volunteers who show up to support each project. “That’s at any one of our veteran home projects.” Their selfless service is a reason for us to be grateful and inspired.

For Guzman, the backyard makeover represents more than a physical improvement. It’s a symbol of long-overdue appreciation.


“Thank you very much for what was done in my house,” he said. “I would have never been able to do it without everyone’s help.”

Operation Hero Home Restoration continues to identify and uplift veteran households in need throughout the region, providing a sense of pride, peace, and community to those who once sacrificed everything.


OTCF is a registered 501(C)(3) non-profit organization.

OTCF Federal Employer Identification Number is: 85-0607699.

For more information go to oathtocountryfoundation.org



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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
DEBORAH COLEMAN AKA DEBORAH ANN COLEMAN
CASE NO. 25STPB07809
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of DEBORAH COLEMAN AKA DEBORAH ANN COLEMAN.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by MICHELLE LEE BYRD in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that MICHELLE LEE BYRD be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 08/12/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 79 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner
PAUL HORN, ESQ. - SBN 243227
PAUL HORN LAW GROUP, PC
11404 SOUTH STREET
CERRITOS CA 90703
Telephone (800) 380-7076
BSC 227139
7/18, 7/25, 8/1/25
CNS-3947500#
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

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.
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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
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BSC 227114
7/18, 7/25, 8/1/25
CNS-3946416#
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING/PROPOSED ORDINANCE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Cerritos City Council** will conduct a public hearing at a special meeting on **Monday, July 28, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** on the following matter: **Review and consideration to waive full reading of and introduce AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CERRITOS AMENDING CHAPTER 13.12 OF THE CERRITOS MUNICIPAL CODE TO ADOPT THE CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL POLICY HANDBOOK AS REQUIRED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD.**
City Attorney Summary: California regulations require public agencies who operate public water systems to implement cross-connection control programs to prevent backflow contamination and protect the integrity of drinking water. The proposed ordinance will comply with State regulations by adopting by reference the State of California Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH) developed by the State Water Resources Control Board. The CCCPH develops a program to identify, assess, and mitigate cross-connection hazards, requires the installation of appropriate backflow prevention assemblies, and ensures regular testing and maintenance of these assemblies in residential, commercial, and industrial properties. Key components of the CCCPH include:

- Mandatory designation of a Program Coordinator and Certified Cross-Connection Control Specialist;
- Use of only State-approved backflow prevention assemblies;
- Hazard-based protection requirements for all service connections;
- Standardized requirements for installation, testing, maintenance, and documentation;
- Enhanced public education, outreach, and incident response protocols; and
- Annual program reporting to the State Water Board.

A copy of the full text of this proposed Ordinance can be viewed or obtained by contacting the Office of the City Clerk during regular business hours (Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., weekends and observed holidays excepted) at 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703, city_clerk@cerritos.gov, or (562) 916-1248. This public hearing will be conducted in person in the City Council Chamber, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, California, 90703. The public hearing will also air live on Cerritos TV3 and will be streamed over the City of Cerritos website at cerritos.gov. A copy of the related agenda report will be available for download from the website on the Wednesday prior to the public hearing. Public comments can be provided during the meeting or via email to city_clerk@cerritos.gov or by hard copy to the Office of the City Clerk no later than 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Please identify the agenda item number in the subject line of the email or hard copy document. All written correspondence received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline will be distributed to the legislative body prior to the meeting and retained with the official meeting record. If you challenge the above-mentioned item and related actions 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 received in the Office of the City Clerk by the submission deadline, prior to the public hearing. Any person interested in this matter may contact the Office of the City Clerk at (562) 916-1248 for additional information and/or appear at the hearing in person or by agent and be heard. /s/Cynthia Nava, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 7/18/25

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, 8/25
CNS-3944577#
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Cerritos City Council** will conduct a public hearing at a special meeting on **Monday, July 28, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.** on the following matter: **Recommendation by the Cerritos Planning Commission, on a vote of 5-0, to approve the following: Review and consideration to waive full reading of and adopt A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF CERRITOS APPROVING PRECISE PLAN 1972-29(A)(2025) AMENDMENT, A PROPOSAL BY PROPERTY OWNER LH INVESTMENT GROUP LLC, TO CONSTRUCT AN ADDITION TO AN EXISTING WAREHOUSE BUILDING AND COMPLETE OTHER RELATED SITE IMPROVEMENTS AT 14113 183RD STREET, CERRITOS, CALIFORNIA, 90703. THE SUBJECT PROPERTY IS ZONED INDUSTRIAL (M)/EMERGENCY SHELTER OVERLAY (M-1) (APN 7022-014-019).*Pursuant to Section 15301 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines, this project is categorically exempt from CEQA review.** This public hearing will be conducted in person in the Cerritos City Council Chamber, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, California, 90703. The meeting will also air live on Cerritos TV3 and will be streamed over the City of Cerritos website at cerritos.gov. A copy of the related agenda report will be available for download from the website on the Wednesday prior to the public meeting. Public comments can be provided during the meeting or via email to city_clerk@cerritos.gov or by hard copy to the Office of the City Clerk no later than 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Please identify the agenda item number in the subject line of the email or hard copy document. All written correspondence received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline will be distributed to the legislative body prior to the meeting and will be retained with the public record of the meeting. If you challenge the above-mentioned item and related actions 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 emailed to the Office of the City Clerk prior to the public hearing. Any person interested in this matter may contact the Office of the City Clerk at (562) 916-1248 for additional information and/or appear at the hearing in person or by agent and be heard. /s/Cynthia Nava, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 7/18/25

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND OF INTENTION TO TRANSFER ALCO-HOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE
(UCC Sec. 6101 et seq. and B & P Sec. 24074 et seq.)
Escrow No. 003471-EL
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale of assets and a transfer of alcoholic beverage license is about to be made. The names of the Seller/Licensee are: VIKRAM NA-GABHAI SUVA AND NIRU SUVA, 11801 CARSON STREET, HAWAIIAN GARDENS, CA 90716
The business is known as: CARSON PIO-NEER LIQUOR
The names of the Buyer/Transferee are: G2S2 LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, 11801 CARSON STREET, HAWAIIAN GARDENS, CA 90716
As listed by the Seller/Licensee, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller/Licensee within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer/Transferee are: NONE
The assets to be sold are described in general as: FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT, TRADENAME, GOODWILL, LEASE, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENT, COVENANT NOT TO COMPETE WITH ABC LICENSE together with the following described alco-holic beverage license(s): 618745 and are located at: 11801 CARSON STREET, HA-WAIIAN GARDENS, CA 90716
The kind of license to be transferred is: 21 OFF-SALE GENERAL now issued for the premises located at: 11801 CARSON STREET, HAWAIIAN GARDENS, CA 90716
The anticipated date of sale/transfer is: AUGUST 15, 2025 at the office of: HANA ESCROW, 3580 WILSHIRE BLVD, STE 1170, LOS ANGELES, CA 90010
It has been agreed between the Seller/Licensee and the intended Buyer/Transferee, as required by Sec. 24073 of the Business and Professions Code, that the consideration for the transfer of the business and license is to be paid only after the transfer has been approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.
Dated: APRIL 30, 2025
VIKRAM NAGABHAI SUVA AND NIRU SUVA Seller/Licensee(s)
G2S2 LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY, Buyer/ Transferee
ORD-3967253 LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 7/18/25

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Catherine Grant Wieder
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ATTORNEY

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CITY OF COMMERCE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. 25-01
5436 EAST WASHINGTON BOULEVARD

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Commerce will conduct a public hearing on a request from Sergio Jimenez for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow a business primarily engaged in manufacturing ice for sale. Pursuant to Chapter 19.11, Table 19.11.030A of the Commerce Municipal Code (CMC), a CUP is required for any business involved in food processing operations. The project site is located at 5436 East Washington Boulevard, Commerce, CA 90040, located within the City’s C/M1 (Commercial-Manufacturing) Zoning District.

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, July 30, 2025 at 6:30 p.m., at which time proponents and opponents of the proposed CUP 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
Email: planning-division@commerceca.gov

Per Government Code Section 65009, if you challenge this CUP 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 7/18/25

NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS

FOR CLICK HERE TO ENTER PROJECT NAME
IN THE CITY OF BELLFLOWER
SPECIFICATIONS NO. 22/23-05

The City of Bellflower is accepting sealed bids in the City Clerk’s office, 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706, until 11:00 a.m. on:

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 2025

at which time they will be publicly opened. Bids will not be accepted after that time. Each bid must be accompanied by a certified or cashier’s check or bidder’s bond payable to the order of the City of Bellflower or cash for an amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price submitted, and the check, bond, or cash deposit of the successful bidder shall be forfeited to the City if such bidder fails to enter into the contract to perform the work within ten (10) days after written notice of award.

As described in the Bidding Documents, the bids are for a public works project (“Project”) which consists of the resurfacing of Alondra Boulevard between Bellflower Boulevard and Hayter Avenue and related work, including providing all necessary equipment, materials, transportation and labor for the project as shown on the plans on file with the City’s Public Works Department. The Engineer’s Estimate of cost is \$2,000,000. Bids will be publicly opened on Wednesday, August 13, 2025 at 11:00 AM.

The contractor shall possess a Class A Contractor’s License. No bid will be accepted from a contractor who has not been licensed in accordance with the Provisions of Chapter 9, Division III, of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California at the time the bid is submitted.

Following the issuance of the Notice to Proceed, the contractor shall have **forty-five (45)** working days to complete the work.

Work on the Project must be performed in strict conformity with Specification No. 22/23-05, which is filed with the City’s Public Works Department. Copies of these plans and specifications may be obtained by prospective bidders from the Public Works Department, 9944 Flora Vista Street, Bellflower, CA 90706 for a non-refundable fee of \$35.00. Plans and Specifications can be mailed for an additional non-refundable fee of \$10.00 per set.

A mandatory jobsite walk will be held on **Wednesday, August 6, 2025, at 10:00 AM**, at 9944 Flora Vista St., Bellflower, CA 90706. Prospective bidders will have opportunity to examine the project site and are encouraged to raise any questions associated with the project and site. Attendance of the jobsite walk is mandatory for parties wishing to submit a bid as the Prime Contractor.

The terms and conditions for bidding on the Project are described in the attached Bidding Instructions.

This project requires payment of State prevailing rates of wages for Los Angeles County. The contractor must post copies of the prevailing schedule at each job site. Copies of these rates of wages are available from the State of California Department of Industrial Relations Prevailing Wage Unit, Telephone No. (415) 703-4774. The website for this agency is currently located at www.dir.ca.gov.

Note that the Project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the California Department of Industrial Relations. Pursuant to California law, the City must find bids failing to comply with all applicable Labor Code requirements including, without limitation, Labor Code §§ 1725.5 and 1771.4, to be nonresponsive.

Five percent (5%) will be deducted from each progress payment and retained by the City. The remainder less the amount of all previous payments will be paid to the Contractor. Pursuant to Public Contracts Code (“PCC”) § 22300, the Contractor may substitute securities for retention monies held by the City or request that the City place such monies into an escrow account. The Contractor is notified, pursuant to PCC § 22300, any such election will be at the Contractor own expense and will include costs incurred by the City to accommodate the Contractor’s request.

DATED this 17th day of July 2025.

CITY OF BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 7/18/25

CITY OF LA MIRADA

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on July 8, 2025, at 6:30 p.m., the City Council of the City of La Mirada adopted the following Ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 743 DESIGNATING FIRE HAZARD SEVERITY ZONES

Summary of Ordinance No. 743

The Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM) released updated Fire Hazard Severity Zone (FHSZ) maps for Local Responsibility Areas in a phased approach across California. These maps identify the physical fire hazards in local areas based on factors such as topography, fuel load, prevailing winds, and historical fire behavior, and are categorized as Moderate, High, or Very High hazard zones. Pursuant to California Government Code Sections 51177 through 51179, cities receiving a recommended FHSZ map from the OSFM are required to adopt the map by local ordinance. Adopting the FHSZ map ensures the City remains in compliance with state mandates and enables enforcement of wildfire safety standards, such as applying California Building Code Chapter 7A in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones, implementing local defensible space and vegetation clearance requirements, disclosing FHSZ designations during property transactions, and informing insurance provider assessments and policy issuance. Ordinance No. 743 adopts the map and the FHSZ designations.

A certified copy of the entirety of the text of Ordinance No. 743 is available in the office of the City Clerk, City of La Mirada, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California, and is available for public inspection at that location.

The names of those Councilmembers voting for or against Ordinance No. 743 are as follows:

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

A certified copy of the entirety of the text of Ordinance No. 743 is available in the office of the City Clerk, City of La Mirada, 13700 La Mirada Boulevard, La Mirada, California, and is available for public inspection at that location.

Leticia Revilla, City Clerk

Published at La Mirada Lamplighter 7/18/25

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
LYNDA LEE SCHENK
CASE NO. 25STPB04786
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of LYNDA LEE SCHENK.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by LEE SAGAL in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that LEE SAGAL 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: 07/28/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 11 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
DONALD L. SCOGGINS - SBN 167359
ATTORNEY AT LAW
9190 W. OLYMPIC BLVD. 414
BEVERLY HILLS CA 90212
Telephone (323) 591-0144
7/11, 7/18, 7/25/25
CNS-3945186#
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: BRUCE ERWIN BROWN CASE NO. 25STPB06948
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of BRUCE ERWIN BROWN: A PETITION FOR PROBATE HAS BEEN FILED BY TERRY LAMAR MASSENGIL IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012, IN THE PROBATE COURT AT THE STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE. The Petition for Probate requests that TERRY LAMAR MASSENGIL be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. The petition requests that the decedent’s will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with full authority. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING ON THE PETITION WILL BE HELD IN THIS COURT AS FOLLOWS: JULY 31, 2025 AT 8:30 AM IN DEPT. 5, IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012, IN THE PROBATE COURT AT THE STANLEY MOSK COURTHOUSE. If you object to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the california probate code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the california probate code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. You may examine the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (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 WITHOUT A PARTY:
TERRY LAMAR MASSENGIL
9614 ARTESIA BLVD. SPACE 2
BELLFLOWER, CA 90706
(562) 846-2853
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 7/11, 7/18, 7/25/25

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
ROSEL BALES AKA ROSEL TABANERA BALES
CASE NO. 25STPB07054
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ROSEL BALES AKA ROSEL TABANERA BALES.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by RAYNELL BALES AND ROSEMARY BALES in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that RAYNELL BALES AND ROSEMARY BALES be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with limited authority. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 07/25/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 11 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
J. PETER WAKEMAN, ESQ. - SBN 116317
WAKEMAN LAW GROUP, INC
4500 E. THOUSAND OAKS BLVD., #101
WESTLAKE VILLAGE CA 91362
Telephone (800) 366-1186
7/4, 7/11, 7/18/25
CNS-3943032#
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