

Win two front-row Pavilion seats to a Dodger game! See page 3.



JOHN LEWIS: GOOD TROUBLE LIVES ON RALLY IN WHITTIER

NOT SILENT: Under a bright summer sun and the looming shadow of an increasingly authoritarian federal government, more than 200 people gathered at Whittier City Hall to say one thing loud and clear: we will not be silent. It was organized by Rich Procida of the Truth and Democracy Coalition.

Kaiser Foundation: Health Insurance Costs Set for a Huge Spike as Federal Subsidies Expire

Originally reported by Washington Post, increases will average 75 percent, biggest in seven years, unless Congress renews pandemic subsidies.

By Brian Hews

Health insurance premiums under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) are poised for their steepest increase in seven years, with consumers facing double-digit hikes and an average 75 percent jump in out-of-pocket monthly costs—unless Congress intervenes.

According to a new analysis by the nonpartisan health policy organization KFF, insurers selling plans on ACA marketplaces are proposing a median premium increase of 15 percent for 2026. More than a quarter of insurance providers are requesting hikes of 20 percent or more—an alarming surge compared to just 3 percent of insurers doing so last year.

The price spikes come as two major factors collide: the expiration of enhanced federal premium subsidies enacted during the

[See **HEALTH**, page 4]

By Brian Hews

Under a bright summer sun and the looming shadow of an increasingly authoritarian federal government, more than 200 people gathered on the steps of Whittier City Hall to say one thing loud and clear: we will not be silent.

The “Good Trouble Lives On” rally, organized by Rich Procida of the Truth and Democracy Coalition with the support of Victoria Leigh Julien and Whittier Indivisible, wasn’t just another political gathering. It was a call to arms—for democracy, for truth, for basic human dignity in the face of Trump’s militarized immigration crackdown and power-grabbing policies.

The crowd, waving American flags and hoisting hand-painted signs, listened as speaker after speaker delivered a message of urgency, resistance, and unity. Poet Laureates Lynne Thomson and Camille Hernandez moved the audience with verse. Local musician Kris Bramson opened with a stirring rendition of the national anthem. But it was the speeches from labor leaders, elected officials, and faith leaders that formed the backbone of the event.

Teresa Romero, President of the United Farm Workers, warned of the growing ICE raids targeting immigrants across the Southland. “Agents are rounding people up indiscriminately,” she said. “No warning. No war. No humanity.”

Whittier City Councilmember Mary Ann Pacheco didn’t mince words either. She urged residents to speak out at City Council meetings—to express

[See **RALLY**, page 9]

ABCUSD Board Retreats from Responsibility Despite Clear Planning

The board approved an extensive SchoolWorks study and outlined a detailed two-phase implementation timeline. Then, four board members reversed course.

By Brian Hews

After months of research, professional analysis, and public hearings, the ABC Unified School District Board of Education had a chance to lead. Instead, they blinked.

On June 17, 2025, district staff—backed by years of enrollment data, financial projections, and community input—present-

ed a measured, thoughtful plan to consolidate four under-enrolled elementary schools and reconfigure middle schools to include sixth grade. The plan came with clear fiscal benefits, community transition strategies, and even protections for unique programs like IB and Dual Language Immersion. The district was facing a stark reality: a 26% drop in enrollment over the next four years, with thousands of empty seats and millions in wasted resources.

So what did the Board do? They backed off. Despite approving the SchoolWorks study, despite holding public hearings, despite laying out a detailed

[See **ABCUSD**, page 9]

Cerritos Sees Strong Construction and Economic Activity in Latest Development Update

By Brian Hews

Cerritos is seeing steady private and institutional investment across auto retail, industrial, restaurant, residential, and civic projects, according to a June 13, 2025 memo from the Community Development Department to the City Council.

The largest long-range opportunity remains the former Sears parcel at Los Cerritos Center, where the city continues discussions with owner Macerich about a mixed-use redevelopment concept combining

retail, hotel, housing, and open space in an interconnected lifestyle campus staff will launch formal review once a full design package is submitted.

Staff reported that interest in upgrades, expansions, and new construction remains strong, and that 686 building permits were issued citywide between January and May 2025, with 731 permits finalized in the same period—a sign the local business community continues to build and reinvest despite broader regional headwinds.

[See **CERRITOS**, page 5]

Artesia Expands Public Safety Efforts With New Security Guard Partnership

By Brian Hews

In a proactive move to bolster neighborhood safety and deter crime, Artesia has partnered with Southwest Patrol to provide citywide security services throughout the 2025-26 fiscal year. The agreement is another step in the City Council’s sustained commitment to enhancing public safety and supporting law enforcement across residential, commercial, and public spaces.

Under the newly approved contract, unarmed security personnel from Southwest Patrol will patrol Artesia seven nights a week in clearly marked vehicles. These patrols will cover residential neighborhoods, city

parks, and key commercial corridors, offering an added layer of visibility and deterrence aimed at discouraging criminal activity.

“These patrols will provide an added layer of visibility and awareness that strengthens our community’s overall safety,” said Artesia Mayor Ali Taj. “Our partnership with Southwest Patrol is another step in ensuring Artesia remains a safe place to live, work, and visit.”

Southwest Patrol is a thirty year-old company experienced in municipal security and currently works with other Southeast Los Angeles cities, including Bellflower, Cerritos, Lakewood, and Paramount. Their security teams

[See **ARTESIA**, page 9]

Cerritos High Club Magkaisa Dances Through History



CLUB MAGAISA: Cerritos High School’s Club Magkaisa’s Folk Dance Ensemble performs the Cariñosa, the Spanish Colonial Period during the Philippine American Friendship Day. Photo by Dan E. Niño

Cerritos High School’s Club Magkaisa Folk Dance Ensemble recently performed the Cariñosa, a traditional Filipino dance dating back to the Spanish Colonial period. Dressed in cultural attire, the students showcased the courtship-inspired dance known for its graceful hand and fan movements. The performance was part of the club’s ongoing mission to

celebrate Filipino heritage and promote cultural unity on campus.

Panay Island and was introduced by the Spaniards during their colonization of the Philippines.

It is related to some of the Spanish dances, like the bolero and the Mexican dance, jarabe tapatio, or the Mexican hat dance.

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Cerritos Neighborhood Watch: Block Captains Clean-Up & Potluck



Photo by NW Block Captain Kanna Vanch

CLEAN UP: from (l-r) Norma and Alan Williamson, Bala Nava, Arpita and Jay Mehta, and Asha Vanch with her croc-wearing German Shepherd, Saachi.

CERRITOS — On Saturday morning, July 19, six of the ten Cerritos Neighborhood Watch Block Captains from Area D, Zone 60 gathered for a one-hour beautification walk around the Casa La Cuesta tract. Armed with litter pickup poles and five-gallon buckets—generously donated by the Cerritos Home Depot—the group collected trash and helped spruce up the neighborhood. The cleanup walk concluded with a

potluck brunch hosted at a local home, giving participants a chance to share food, visit with neighbors, and enjoy a sense of community. During the gathering, the captains also discussed plans for an upcoming Neighborhood Watch meeting in collaboration with the City of Cerritos and the local fire station. They also committed to organizing a second cleanup event in another part of the Casa La Cuesta tract.

Care For Your New Parkway Tree in Cerritos

Cerritos is asking residents and business owners to help maintain the health and appearance of parkway trees throughout the community. The trees contribute to neighborhood beauty, shade, and property value, but they require early care to thrive. Cerritos Municipal Code Section mandates regular-

ly watering the parkway trees in front of homes or businesses.

Young trees need special attention to establish strong root systems. Deep watering is especially important, as it encourages roots to grow downward—away from sidewalks, curbs, and driveways—helping prevent future damage.

To promote healthy growth, residents should avoid altering the tree’s staking. Tight staking can inhibit the tree’s natural movement and weaken its structure over time. The base of the tree should be kept free of weeds, grass, and other plants that might compete for water and nutrients. When watering, place a hose at the tree’s base and let water run slowly to allow deep penetration into the soil. This method should be done two to three times per week during warm months and once per week in cooler weather. After the first year, most irrigation systems should provide adequate water.

Herbicides or weed killers should not be used within 10 feet of the tree to avoid damaging the roots. Additionally, new city trees are planted with sufficient fertilizer to last four to five years, so residents should avoid over-fertilizing their parkway areas. Excess nutrients can harm young tree roots.

Finally, homeowners should leave a six- to eight-inch ring of bare soil around the tree’s base. This helps the tree retain water and protects it from damage caused by weed trimmers and lawn equipment. For more information, contact the Cerritos Public Works Department at (562) 916-1220.

La Palma Reschedules Festival of Nations for September 20 After Spring Washout

LCCN Staff Report

La Palma’s signature cultural celebration, the Festival of Nations, is back on the calendar after a weather-related cancellation this spring. The City Council unanimously approved rescheduling the event for Saturday, September 20, 2025, along with vendor contracts and street closures to support the long-anticipated festival and parade.

Originally set for April 26, the event was canceled due to heavy rain and safety concerns. At the May 6 council meeting, Mayor Pro Tem Nitesh Patel requested staff to explore rescheduling options. After confirming availability with vendors and parade participants, staff proposed the September date, which received strong support from both council and the community.

During the July 9 meeting, the council approved a \$37,404 agreement with James Events Productions, Inc., the city’s longtime provider of carnival rides, game booths, and attractions. The contract reflects a 10% discount and will cover the full range of family-friendly entertainment at Central Park.

In addition to the festival, the popular Festival of Nations Parade will return, requiring temporary street closures along Walker Street from Conifer Drive to La Palma Avenue and Houston Avenue, as well as several adjacent residential roads. The council adopted a resolution authorizing the closures, which will be posted in advance in compliance with state and local regulations.

The total estimated cost of the rescheduled event, including staff time, police and public works support, is approximately \$50,000—a figure already accounted for in the city’s adopted Fiscal Year 2025–26 budget.

Though one resident urged postponing the event until 2026 to allow for more preparation time, other members of the public spoke in support of holding it this fall, citing the festival’s importance as a celebration of La Palma’s diverse community and its 70th anniversary as a city.

“This is La Palma’s premier event,” said Mayor Pro Tem Patel, who championed the rescheduling effort. “It’s a celebration of culture, community, and connection—and after the cancellation in April, our residents deserve the chance to come together.”

The city is expected to begin promotion and outreach immediately, with plans to re-engage parade groups and cultural performers who had previously committed.

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Valarie Frost Installed as New Lakewood Rotary Club President



PAST PRESIDENT Mario Vargas hands the gavel and Rotary Bell to newly installed President, Valarie Frost. Frost will lead the club’s youth and community service projects for the Lakewood community for the upcoming year.”

LAKEWOOD — In a ceremonial passing of leadership, past president Mario Vargas handed the gavel and Rotary bell to newly installed president Valarie Frost, who will lead the Lakewood Rotary Club through the 2025-2026 service year. The event took place during a weekly Thursday luncheon at The Centre at Sycamore Plaza, the club’s regular meeting venue.

Frost takes on the role with a focus on youth engagement and community service, continuing the Rotary tradition of “Service Above Self.” Under her leadership, the club plans to expand its support for local schools, student scholarships, and hands-on volunteer initiatives that benefit Lakewood residents.

The Lakewood Rotary Club is part of Rotary International District 5320 and meets every Thursday from noon to 1:30 p.m. at The Centre, located at 5000 Clark Avenue in Lakewood. The club welcomes visitors and potential members interested in making a difference locally and globally.

One of the club’s signature events, the annual BBQ and Brews fundraiser, will be held Friday, August 8, from 5:30 to 10 p.m. at Roxanne’s in Long Beach. Proceeds support Rotary programs such as Project Shepherd, student recognition awards, food distribution drives, and more. For more information, visit rotary-oflakewood.org

Cerritos Postpones Community Safety Town Hall Following LASD Tragedy

Cerritos has postponed its upcoming Community Safety Town Hall, originally scheduled for July 30, in response to the tragic loss of three detectives from the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department’s Arson/Explosives Detail.

“The City of Cerritos stands with our law enforcement partners in mourning the loss of Detective Joshua Kelley-Eklund, Detective Victor Lemus, and Detective William Osborn,” said Cerritos Mayor Frank Aurelio Yokoyama. “We send our deepest condolences to their families, friends, and colleagues during this challenging period.”

The event was set to feature a panel discussion with Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert G. Luna and District Attorney Nathan J. Hochman. City officials are currently coordinating with the Sheriff’s Department and District

Attorney’s Office to determine a new date for the event.

Updates will be posted at cerritos.gov/townhall and shared across the City’s official platforms. For more information, residents can contact the City of Cerritos Community Safety Division at (562) 916-1266 or visit safercerritos.us.

Pico Rivera Reports 61% Drop in Homelessness

Pico Rivera announced a major reduction in its homeless population, with preliminary data from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) showing a 61% decrease in individuals experiencing homelessness compared to last year.

The 2025 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count recorded 37 unhoused individuals in Pico Rivera—down from 95 in 2024—a net reduction of 58 people. City officials say the numbers demonstrate the impact of a coordinated and compassionate strategy that has prioritized outreach, safety, and dignity.

“Pico Rivera is a city that cares deeply about all its residents. Reducing homelessness by over 60% is a testament to our proactive, people-centered approach,” said Pico Rivera Mayor John Garcia. “We will continue to ensure public spaces are safe and accessible, while working tirelessly with our partners to uplift those who are unhoused with dignity and care.”

City Manager Steve Carmona credited the results to a unified approach. “These results reflect what’s possible when a community comes together with purpose and compassion,” Carmona said. “While we remain steadfast in protecting the safety and well-being of our neighborhoods, we also recognize that addressing homelessness requires more than enforcement—it requires empathy, coordination, and long-term commitment to helping people rebuild their lives.”

Despite the drop in total individuals, the count also showed a decrease in “improvised dwellings”—such as vehicles, tents, and makeshift shelters—falling from 104 in 2024 to 58 this year, a 44% reduction.

Gas Line Relocation Begins In Artesia

Southern California Gas will begin relocating gas lines in Artesia as part of ongoing utility adjustment work for the Southeast Gateway Line. The construction is scheduled to take place weekdays from 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., starting the week of July 21 and continuing through September 2025, weather permitting and excluding holidays.

The project will require trenching along two key streets: 186th Street between Jersey Avenue and Alburdis Avenue, and 187th Street between Alburdis Avenue and Corby Avenue. Construction crews will excavate, remove, and relocate existing gas infrastructure beneath the roadway, followed by backfilling, repaving, and sidewalk repairs as needed.

Although both streets will remain open throughout the project, intermittent single-lane closures and temporary lane shifts will be in place. Flaggers will be on-site to manage traffic and ensure safety for both motorists and pedestrians.

Residents can expect short-term traffic impacts and the presence of construction equipment and personnel in the area. All work has been approved and permitted by the appropriate agencies. Access to driveways, homes, and businesses will be maintained at all times unless prior notice is given. Emergency responders

will continue to have full access during the construction period.

The city reminds residents that construction schedules are subject to change due to weather and other unforeseen circumstances.

Anyone who encounters individuals in need of assistance is encouraged to submit a request through the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority’s outreach portal at [\[www.lahsa.org/portal/apps/la-hop/request\]](http://www.lahsa.org/portal/apps/la-hop/request)(<http://www.lahsa.org/portal/apps/la-hop/request>). For additional health and human services, call 2-1-1 or visit 211LA.org.

Senior Scam Stopper Event July 31

A free seminar to help seniors protect themselves from scams will be held on Thursday, July 31 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Weingart Senior Center in Lakewood. Seniors, their families and caregivers are invited to attend.

Seniors are a vulnerable target for scam artists. One in five seniors has been a victim of fraud, and new scams are developed constantly.

To help, Senate Majority Leader Lena Gonzalez, Assemblymember Jose Solache and the Contractors State License Board are hosting this free seminar. Seniors, their families and caregivers are invited to learn from experts how to protect themselves from scammers.

The seminar will also include information to avoid identity theft, email/texting and mail fraud, insurance scams and shady foreign lotteries.

The Weingart Senior Center is located at 5220 Oliva Avenue, Lakewood.

For more information or to RSVP, please contact Senate Majority Leader Gonzalez’s office at 562-256-7921 or email Olina.Benson@sen.ca.gov.

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Home-generated sharps waste such as hypodermic needles, pen needles, syringes, lancets, and intravenous needles **SHOULD NOT** be placed in your trash. Bring them to the Roundups or visit www.CLEANLA.com for alternate disposal options.

You can also take your used motor oil to more than 600 oil recycling centers in Los Angeles County. Call 1(888) CLEAN-LA for a complete listing.

Trump’s Healthcare Plan Is Simple – Pay More and Get Less

By Brian Hews

Here we go again. Just when you thought it was safe to budget for groceries, insurance companies—backed by a silent nod from Washington—are about to jack up your premiums by 50%, some as high as 70%. And for what? The same care you had last year. Maybe less.

This isn’t an accident. It’s a policy. The Washington Post just reported that Affordable Care Act premiums are set to skyrocket in 2025. Why? Because Donald Trump and his Republican enablers in Congress let key subsidies expire, the ones that made healthcare somewhat affordable for millions of Americans.

You remember those—put in place during COVID, extended under Biden, gutted as soon as Trump got back in the door.

The result? Millions of middle-income Americans—people who don’t qualify for Medicaid but can’t afford \$800-a-month premiums—are now stuck. They’re not poor enough to be helped and not rich enough to be ignored. So they’re punished.

And don’t think for a second this wasn’t by design.

Trump’s “One Big Beautiful Bill” stripped the guts out of ACA funding. It shrunk enrollment windows. It layered on red tape. It pushed states to go backward on Medicaid. It prioritized private insurance profits over public health. Then it threw up its hands and said, “Well, the market will figure it out.”

Of course it did: the market raised your rates. Because that’s what unregulated insurance companies do.

Let’s be clear—this isn’t just about premiums. This is about how much punishment regular working Americans are expected to take. Because this isn’t just happening in a spreadsheet—it’s happening to real people. People who now have to decide whether to pay for insulin or rent. Whether to keep their kids insured or pay the electric bill.

Trump and the Republicans don’t care. They’ll tell you it’s about “efficiency” or “entitlement reform.” But it’s really about starving public programs so they can declare them broken. Then they blame the very people who relied on them. It’s the same old scam: break it, blame it, gut it.

Meanwhile, your tax dollars are flowing freely—to defense contractors, to oil subsidies, to corporate tax breaks. But not to your family’s healthcare. That would be “socialism.”

So here we are. A country where you pay more to get less. A government that refuses to intervene while insurance companies line their pockets. And a political party that wants you angry at immigrants or drag shows, so you don’t notice you’re being robbed blind by the people holding the pen.

Enough. Healthcare is not a luxury. It’s not a talking point. It’s a right. And if you’re not furious yet, check your deductible. You’ll get there.

HEALTH from page 1

pandemic and the impact of President Donald Trump’s new tariffs, which are expected to raise pharmaceutical costs. As reported by The Washington Post on July 18, 2025, these changes could affect up to 24 million Americans who rely on the ACA for health insurance.

“These are the largest proposed increases we’ve seen in years,” said Cynthia Cox, director of KFF’s ACA program. “Middle-income Americans who lose subsidies are going to feel this the hardest.”

The enhanced subsidies, which made ACA plans more affordable for millions, are set to lapse at the end of the year after congressional Republicans excluded an extension from the massive domestic spending and tax package—dubbed the “One Big Beautiful Bill”—they passed earlier this month. Without those subsidies, many consumers—particularly healthier, younger individuals—may opt out of coverage altogether, further destabilizing the insurance pools and pushing premiums even higher for those who remain.

Insurers are also pointing to other cost drivers: new high-cost weight-loss drugs, ongoing labor shortages in healthcare,

and general medical inflation. With fewer healthy enrollees expected to stay on the rolls, the financial burden of care shifts increasingly to sicker patients, prompting insurers to hedge with higher premiums.

The timing couldn’t be worse. Just as the Trump administration finalized tougher rules governing ACA enrollment and eligibility in June, several Democratic-led states, including California, have filed suit, claiming the policies will further undercut consumer access.

Prominent Democrats quickly pointed fingers at the GOP’s role in the unfolding crisis. “It begins,” wrote former Biden domestic policy adviser Neera Tanden on X. Rep. Greg Casar (D-Texas), chair of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, didn’t mince words: “Trump is stealing from the sick to give tax cuts to the rich,” he wrote, slamming the legislation’s tax provisions that favor the wealthy while stripping vital healthcare protections.

While insurers could theoretically revise their rate proposals before open enrollment begins, past trends suggest most of these hikes will stick—ushering in the most expensive year for ACA consumers since 2018.

Source: The Washington Post, July 18, 2025, reporting by Paige Winfield Cunningham.

LETTERS

Dear Editor:

Recently we have read about devastation from wildfires and strong storms. Climate scientists say we will see more as a result of climate change. To reduce air pollution that causes climate change we must reduce carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions. Several politicians stated, “CO2 emissions generated by man is creating our greenhouse gas effect that traps heat, and the planet is warming.” Our government needs to do much more to promote clean energy, such as wind, solar,

and geothermal, and reduce our dependence on fossil fuels. This includes restoring tax credits for clean energy—not reducing them.

I encourage readers to email their U.S. Senators and Representative. Joining Citizens’ Climate Lobby and similar groups is another great way to fight climate change. Make earth great again. There is no planet B. When our grandchildren ask what we did about climate change, let’s have an answer.

Sincerely,
Gary Jump

From the Mayor’s Desk: July 25, 2025

By Cerritos Mayor
Frank Aurelio Yokoyama

My Cerritos City Council colleagues and I are committed to your safety. That is why Enhancing Public Safety is our



City’s number one Strategic Goal, and why time and again I have shared about the importance of protecting you and your property. Critical to these efforts is the respect we hold for those who have sworn to protect us and the support we provide in times of peace, conflict, and loss.

On July 18, tragedy occurred when three Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department deputies were killed in an explosion at a training facility. We send our deepest condolences to the families, friends, and colleagues of Detective Joshua Kelley-Eklund, Detective Victor Lemus, and Detective William Osborn with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department’s Arson/Explosives Detail. The City stands with our law enforce-

ment partners in mourning their loss during this challenge time.

In light of the recent tragedy affecting the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department, the City of Cerritos’ Community Safety Town Hall scheduled for July 30 has been postponed. The Community Safety Town Hall was scheduled to feature a panel discussion between Los Angeles County Sheriff Robert G. Luna and Los Angeles County District Attorney Nathan J. Hochman. The City is working with the Sheriff’s Department and District Attorney’s Office to identify an appropriate time to reschedule. Updates on the event will be shared at cerritos.gov/townhall and across the City’s platforms as new information becomes available.

During our meeting on Monday, July 28, my City Council colleagues and I will pay tribute to our fallen heroes, Detectives Kelley-Eklund, Lemus, and Osborn. The City of Cerritos is grateful for the service and bravery of our law enforcement officials and first responders within our community and abroad. You have our unwavering respect, admiration, and sincere thanks.

No One is Above the Law – That Includes Ice Agents

Earlier this month, Congressional Republicans pushed through the passage of their Orwellian titled “Big Beautiful Bill” on a party-line vote. While the massive cuts to Medicaid and food assistance programs like SNAP coupled with the unprecedented tax giveaways to billionaires dominated the headlines, this bill also contained a little-noticed provision to provide a whopping \$170 billion for President Trump’s immigration agenda, including \$75 billion to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). To put this in context, this is more money than most countries, including Canada, Italy and Israel, spend on their military and makes ICE the “highest-funded federal law enforcement agency in history.”

We should all be extremely concerned about what this budget increase will mean for communities across America.

Under Trump, ICE is essentially operating as a lawless paramilitary operation, intended to intimidate Americans—immigrants and citizens alike—with shocking displays of brute force such as the sweep of MacArthur Park in Los Angeles, in which 90 National Guardsmen and dozens of ICE agents, utilizing 17 military Humvees and four tactical vehicles, descended on the park.

We’ve seen the videos. We’ve heard the eyewitness accounts. ICE agents are kidnapping and assaulting people in broad daylight. They are doing so while masked up, refusing to identify themselves and wearing civilian clothing like jeans and sneakers. They jump out of unmarked vans and tackle, shove and punch civilians, and frankly, other than the ICE vests or jackets they wear—which have been available for sale on Amazon for \$29.99—they often look and act more like gang members than law enforcement agents. Bystanders who have asked for identification or arrest warrants have been assaulted and arrested. Those who seek to film these incidents have been threatened.

Actual police officers follow the law. They wear body cameras and are subject to disciplinary action if they violate the constitutional rights of the civilians they are meant to protect. But this is not the case with ICE agents, who are completely unaccountable and totally out of control.

ICE agents have assaulted citizens, elected officials, and even police officers.

And the reality here is that ICE is making our communities more dangerous, not safer. As podcaster Joe Rogan recently noted, Trump ran on a platform of deporting violent criminals and gang members. In reality, as the libertarian Cato Institute recently found, only 7% of the people being arrested by ICE have ever been convicted of a violent crime. Instead of going after criminals, ICE is targeting peaceful, law-abiding immigrants, including those here with permanent residency and student visas.

Now imagine this same complete contempt for the rule of law and the basic rights of Americans that ICE has demonstrated over the past few months, but with nearly a tenfold expansion in funding? We are only a few months into ICE’s systematic mass deportation efforts, and already one in 10 Americans (one in five Latinos) knows someone who has been detained or deported. The enormous increase in ICE funding that Republicans just greenlit means that the lawless attacks Californians have been witnessing for months will now be visited on communities across America.

This cannot stand. We must rein in the lawlessness of ICE. That starts by demanding accountability for criminal actions by ICE agents. That’s why I’m leading a letter to the inspector general of the Department of Homeland Security to demand answers into the conduct of ICE agents. Americans deserve to know.

Like so many Americans, I’m the proud son of immigrants. My parents left Korea in search of the promise etched on our Statue of Liberty: “Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.” These attacks on our immigrant communities are not just an attack on our rule of law, they are also an attack on our most important and cherished American values. And I will continue to fight to protect our Constitution and the constituents I represent.

Dave Min represents California’s 47th congressional district.

WRITE US! LET YOUR OPINION BE KNOWN!

Send letters to Editor@cerritosnews.net. Letters can be edited. Opinions expressed here are not necessarily the views of the editor.

CERRITOS from page 1

Auto-related construction continues to anchor portions of the city’s tax base. At 11011 South Street, the City Council in April 2023 approved a new Genesis of Cerritos dealership that replaced an older auto facility. Permits issued in January 2024 led to full buildout, and the dealership is now open.

Storage and overflow parking capacity tied to auto sales expanded when Extra Space Storage at 17900 Crusader Avenue converted its ground floor from vehicle storage to self-storage, completed in November 2024, and restriped the lot to provide 80 overflow spaces for the Cerritos Auto Square. New signage was permitted in January 2025 and has been installed the facility has reopened with the upgrades.

The city recently completed a long-planned civic amenity with the First Responders Memorial at the Cerritos Sheriff’s Station entrance, where statues, hardscape, landscape, and two granite walls were installed to honor public safety personnel the final phase wrapped in February 2025 with the granite additions finished mid-June.

School and athletic improvements are significant this construction season. The Valley Christian Schools high school stadium renovation—approved by the City Council on May 23, 2024—includes replacement bleachers (same capacity), new synthetic turf, a rubberized track surface, upgraded lighting, and landscaping, along with flexibility in the campus master plan for future phases. Grading was permitted in May 2024, landscaping in August, and stadium and site permits in February 2025 the track and field work are done, bleachers and press box are in, and entry plaza, gateway, and fencing are underway toward an expected August 2025 completion.

Restaurant reinvestment continues in neighborhood corridors. Angelo’s Burgers is renovating the former Boy’s Burger building at 13759 Artesia Boulevard with interior and exterior refreshes, a new tile roof, and landscape work permits began flowing in July 2024 and signage was cleared in April 2025, with completion targeted for August.

Volvo Cars Cerritos has joined the city’s auto retail cluster within the Volkswagen Cerritos building at 18303 Studebaker Road, with plans submitted for wall-mounted and monument signage at 183rd Street and Studebaker plan check fees were paid in May and the submittal is under Building and Safety review.

At Los Cerritos Center, Chick-fil-A at 18605 Gridley Road previewed a re-model before the Planning Commission

on June 4, 2025 because it qualifies as a minor precise plan, administrative approval will come through Community Development.

The work would add a 360-square-foot storage room, expand and add drive-through canopies, reconfigure trash handling, and update interior finishes and systems formal construction plans are expected soon.

The former Peking Wok space at 11203 183rd Street is being converted to Chubby Cattle, a premium hot pot chain.

Shopping center reinvestment continues at Keystone Plaza, 13201-13223 South Street, where a February 2023 City Council approval greenlit a Craftsman-style exterior overhaul—wood siding, stucco-wrapped columns over a stacked stone wainscot, tower elements, lighting, ADA ramps, and landscaping to align with neighboring Cerritos Plaza.

Permits were issued in November 2024 and construction is nearing completion with final façade and landscape touches underway.

Outdoor dining is set to expand at Tous Les Jours Bakery, 13359 South Street, where the city and Los Angeles County approved a new patio with associated parking and landscape changes permits were issued in May 2025 and construction is expected to begin shortly.

Industrial demand remains strong. On Edwards Road, the City Council in December 2024 approved demolition

of two office buildings and construction of a 58,467-square-foot light industrial building with tilt-up walls, concrete form liner accents, decorative stone, and water-efficient landscaping building plans are expected for review in July.

AutoZone is pursuing interior and exterior tenant improvements at 11540 South Street—including new restrooms, break rooms, a curtain wall, widened entry doors with ramp access, refreshed landscaping, and signage—now in plan check, with construction set to follow once review is complete.

Golden Star Technologies (GST) continues its warehouse expansion at 12881 166th Street after a January 2022 City Council approval the addition provides more warehouse and manufacturing space with coordinated exterior design, and the project was granted a temporary certificate of occupancy in September 2024 to allow stocking while stormwater and exterior work proceed. Owners are also exploring further entrance upgrades with city staff.

The Ford Automobile Reconditioning Facility at 17720 Studebaker Road received April 2025 approvals to expand service operations in support of the Ford dealership, including customer areas, intake, offices, locker rooms, and branded exterior and landscape upgrades plans are under staff review.

Toyota of Cerritos installed six electric vehicle charging stations under a

February 2023 application although construction finished after permits issued in December 2023, the city is requiring the dealer to resolve roof screening issues before final sign-off, and updated plans are in County review as of May 2025.

On the residential side, two new single-family homes—one two-story, one single-story with a detached ADU—are under development at 13730 Artesia Boulevard following October 2023 entitlements and April 2024 map approval demolition is done, grading is underway, and plans remain in review.

Broth Shabu Shabu at 11221 183rd Street has plans for an enclosed patio roof, low walls with glass partitions, façade upgrades, and lighting the city issued plan check corrections in October 2024 and now expects permits to follow after applicant delays.

Clarkdale Estate Homes will add five two-story residences, each with an accessory dwelling unit, at 17200-17224 Clarkdale Avenue under a June 2025 City Council approval construction plans are expected soon.

At Cerritos Towne Center, HomeGoods and Trader Joe’s are planning dock and back-of-house changes that include relocating offices and compactors, cutting new wall openings, adding a roll-up truck door, and upgrading employee and utility areas the city has approved plans but the applicant may revise the scope before moving ahead.





AUTHORIZED: JUNE 2024



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With guidance from Olympic athletes, live animal encounters, and immersive hands-on exhibits, the California Science Center invites families to explore the science behind sports, ecosystems, fear, and everyday life in ways that are as surprising as they are unforgettable.

Among the several permanent exhibits, GAME ON! Science, Sports, and Play, featuring several athletic mentors on video, Dogs! A Science Tail, which explores the world from a dog's perspective, the Ecosystems exhibit explores the links between the living

Behind these captivating exhibits are the Curators of Life Sciences, Lucy Chang and Liz Roth-Johnson. With their combined experience of seven years at the California Science

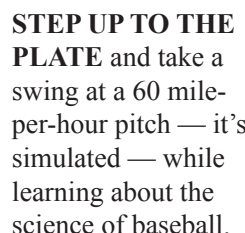
The GAME ON! Science, Sports & Play exhibit is a dynamic celebration of the transformative power of play and the joy of the human body in motion. This 17,000 sq. ft. uniquely Los Angeles exhibition engages people of all ages, backgrounds, genders, and abilities through an array of exciting and immersive activities. These activities, which include baseball hitting, softball reaction times, basketball shooting

“There has been a growing awareness of the importance of mental health, both in sports and in our daily lives,” added Roth-Johson. “GAME ON! explores the mind-body connec-

"I hope [the exhibit] helps guests of all ages appreciate some of the scientific principles behind sports [and] inspires young people to think about their favorite sports in a new way," she

“By observing these animals, guests can better understand how they live and how they interact with their environment and each other.”

In the Deep-Sea Vents



The L.A. Zone features interactive experiences, such as creating rain beads that fall over two different landscapes and tracing their course to see how urban areas can be designed to absorb more water and limit runoff. It also examines the city's land-use deci-

The overall purpose of all these exhibits aligns with the Science Center's mission to stimulate curiosity and inspire science learning in everyone through fun, memorable experiences, according to Roth-Johnson.

"Most of the exhibitions at the California Science Center are designed with families with children ages 4-14 in mind," she added. "But we hope that everyone, regardless of age or background, can find something fun and memorable in each of our exhibitions."

The California Science Center opened in 1998 and has continued to grow and develop ever since, including up to the present day. Construction for the future Samuel Oschin Air and Space Center is currently underway. This 200,000-square-foot expansion will nearly double the Science Center's educational exhibit space, adding an impressive collection of 100 aerospace artifacts integrated with 100 new hands-on exhibits.

Guests of all ages will be encouraged to explore the scientific and engineering principles of atmospheric flight and the universe in three major galleries—the Samuel Oschin Shuttle Gallery, Korean Air Aviation Gallery, and the Kent Kresa Space Gallery.

General admission to the California Science Center is FREE.

There is a cost to attend the IMAX Theatre and for some temporary exhibitions. For more information, please visit our website at www.california-sciencecenter.org.

SOCCER
is also featured, along with softball, yoga, dance, and snowboarding, too.

said. "[I hope it shows] how science relates to the things we do in our everyday lives, and maybe [that young people] even consider sports-related science careers." The GAME ON! exhibit is on display through at least the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

For another exhibit, Dogs! A Science Tail, guests explore the world from a dog's perspective through a variety of hands-on exhibits ranging from hearing hidden sounds dogs can listen to but that humans cannot, testing their running speeds against different varieties of canines, and getting inside a dog's head to see and hear like them, plus more.

The permanent Ecosystems exhibit, spanning 45,000 sq. ft., where guests can get close to and even touch various organ-

Zone, guests are taken to the deepest, most unknown areas of the ocean floor, far beyond the reach of sunlight, to discover how animals have adapted to survive and thrive in the dark and under pressure. A mock deep-sea research vessel and a remotely operated vehicle allow for a dive to the bottom of the ocean in this exhibit. Guests can see what scientists have learned about underwater geysers and the adapted creatures that live near them.

Within isolated communities, such as those in the Island Zone, ecologists study how populations change over time. In this sub-exhibit, guests dis-

cover why isolation breeds change while visiting a tropical island research station. They



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New Orienteering Course Unveiled at La Mirada Park as Eagle Scout Project

By Brian Hews

A fresh adventure awaits visitors to Historic Neff Park, thanks to the initiative of Eagle Scout candidate Luke Champagne-Cottom of La Mirada’s Boy Scout Troop 438. As part of his Eagle Scout service project, Champagne-Cottom designed and installed a permanent Orienteering Course that blends outdoor exploration with map-reading and navigation skills—bringing a new layer of engagement to one of the city’s most treasured landmarks.

The Orienteering Course features a series of checkpoints strategically placed

throughout the park, challenging participants to navigate using only a detailed map and compass.

The course is designed to be both educational and fun, catering to scouts, families, students, and anyone with an adventurous spirit.

Historic Neff Park, home to the iconic Neff Estate, has deep roots in cartography through its historical connection to Andrew McNally—the famed 19th-century mapmaker and co-founder of Rand McNally.

By establishing this Orienteering Course at Neff Park, Champagne-Cottom’s project pays tribute to McNally’s legacy while fostering critical outdoor skills like navigation, problem-solving, and teamwork.

“This project was designed to encourage adventure and exploration while teaching a useful survival skill,” Champagne-Cottom said. “I hope this course will inspire more people to get outdoors, engage with nature, and appreciate the history of our city.”

The Orienteering Course will be integrated into La Mirada’s popular youth programs, including the annual Father-Son Campout and summer camps, offering an exciting educational component to city-sponsored events. Local schools and scout troops will also be encouraged to use the course as a hands-on learning tool.

Residents are invited to visit Neff Park and test their navigation skills in a fun and family-friendly setting.

The course is open during regular park hours and is free to the public.

For more information or to request photos of the new Orienteering Course, contact Luke Champagne-Cottom or the La Mirada Community Services Department.

Despite Looming Medi-Cal Cuts, Nutrition Support Programs Remain a Lifeline for Vulnerable Patients



A VOLUNTEER loads boxes of medically tailored nutrition support meals that stabilize patients with chronic illnesses such as diabetes, hypertension and cancer.

By Laurie Hanson

Although Medi-Cal funding cuts are on the horizon, one of its most innovative sub-programs—offering nutritious meals to patients with chronic conditions—is expected to continue, thanks to its measurable impact and broad political support.

“Funding adjustments are happening; however, there is a long-term strategy with strong bipartisan support,” said Lane, Senior Vice President of Healthcare Partnerships at ModifyHealth, a partner in the delivery of food and nutrition services under California Advancing and Innovative Medi-Cal, or CalAIM.

At the heart of the CalAIM is the concept of using medically tailored meals and nutrition support to stabilize patients with chronic illnesses. These include conditions such as diabetes, congestive heart failure, hypertension, cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, HIV, and kidney disease. Health plans identify eligible members and match them with customized food support—ranging from medically tailored meals to fresh produce—alongside nutrition counseling and wraparound services.

“While the state is navigating a tough budget year, this remains one of the most forward-thinking Medi-Cal and Medicaid investments in the country,” Lane said. “We are continuing to see strong engagement from the community and clinical partners, reinforcing that these much-needed interventions should remain in place.”

The program serves both children and adults, including people with disabilities, postpartum women, and high-risk younger adults. Lane emphasized that these efforts are more than temporary food support—they are clinical interventions designed to prevent avoidable hospitalizations and help patients regain control over their health.

“Food is often the missing piece in health care,” she explained. “By aligning meals and groceries with clinical needs, members are aided in controlling blood sugar, lowering blood pressure, and avoiding preventable emergency room visits.”

Data from CalAIM-aligned programs

shows that members have lowered their A1c by an average of 1.1 points within 12 weeks. According to Lane, that translates to an annual cost savings of \$800 to \$1,500 per patient in diabetes-related medical expenses. There is also a 4.5 times increase in primary care engagement when food is paired with wraparound support like community health worker navigation and nutrition education.

“This is a meaningful clinical and financial impact,” she said. “Food is not just a tool to manage disease—it’s a tool to bring high-cost members back into care.”

A 2024 study by the National Institutes of Health found that for every \$1 spent on medically tailored meals, the return on investment was \$13 in saved healthcare costs. Lane sees this as further proof that nutrition-based interventions should be central to any Medicaid model.

“CalAIM targets people with complex needs who would benefit most from medically appropriate food paired with education and care coordination,” she said. “It’s a wraparound model, designed to feed people and support long-term health.”

Although the formal CalAIM framework is beginning to wind down, the needs it was built to address are not. Lane remains optimistic that California—and other states—will continue to support food and nutrition interventions through new models and funding mechanisms.

“Even as the structure changes, the focus on whole-person care remains,” she said. “These services reduce avoidable utilization and help the healthcare system work better for the people it serves.”

In maternal health, Lane notes, food support has a dual impact. “It’s an opportunity to improve two lives for the cost of one,” she said.

If given the chance to speak directly with legislators, Lane’s message would be simple: “CalAIM proves we can do more than treat illness—we can prevent it in our most vulnerable populations. Don’t let budget pressure force a retreat from what’s working. Invest in models that keep people out of the hospital and connected to care.”

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RALLY from page 1

their fear, their anger, and their refusal to accept what's being done in their name. "We can't stay quiet while people are dragged from their homes," Pacheco said. "This is our community. We have to protect it."

Pastor Richard Jarman of TouchPoint Church offered a blistering sermon-turned-speech, tying faith to action. "We are not here to beg for crumbs of compassion," he thundered. "We are here to demand dignity." Jarman channeled the legacy of civil rights icon John Lewis—who famously called on Americans to get into "good trouble"—reminding the crowd that silence in the face of injustice is complicity.

Rich Procida, who led last month's "No Kings Parade" and has organized a string of local protests under the banner of the Truth and Democracy Coalition, laid out the stakes in no uncertain terms. "Trump wants to deport millions," he said. "But who's next? Activists? Journalists? Anyone who disagrees? This is not just about immigrants. This is about democracy."

Procida's vision, he said, is to bring together Democrats and Republicans, socialists and moderates, believers and skeptics. "We don't need to see eye to eye," he told the crowd. "But we must hold shared values—truth, freedom, and democracy."

Representatives from L.A. County Supervisor Janice Hahn's office and Whittier mayoral candidate James Becerra voiced their support for the movement, signaling that even some elected officials are fed up with the federal government's increasing hostility toward immigrants, dissent, and democratic norms.

But make no mistake—this wasn't

a feel-good rally. This was a fire-alarm event. A clear message to every agency that believes fear equals safety, and that militarization equals patriotism: You've gone too far. And people are paying attention.

In a time when mainstream media often shrugs at ICE raids, when state and county officials tiptoe around Trump's abuses, and when community newspapers like this one are ignored because we don't charge \$3.25 at a newsstand, the voices on the steps of Whittier City Hall were defiant, unwavering, and long overdue.

This isn't just about Whittier. This is about America. The truth is under attack. Democracy is on life support. And if you're not willing to stand up now, you might not have the chance later.

So yes—get into good trouble. And do it loudly.

ABCUSD from page 1

two-phase implementation timeline, the Board reversed course. Four members—Francisco Noyola, Olga Rios, Letty Mendoza, and appointed trustee Jean McHatton—voted not to move forward.

To be fair, Trustee Letty Mendoza was transparent from the beginning: she didn't support closing schools and said so clearly. At least her vote was consistent with her stated position. But McHatton? Sources told Los Cerritos Community News she indicated support for consolidation when she was interviewed for her appointment. Her sudden reversal was not only a betrayal of that commitment—it was a betrayal of the district's need for long-term planning and stability.

And why? Not because the plan was flawed. Not because the need had disap-

peared. But because some Board members decided their political futures mattered more than doing the right thing. It's the same cowardly calculation we've seen time and again from Trump-era Republicans—like Susan Collins and Lisa Murkowski—who talk a big game about leadership, then shrink when it's time to vote. It's performative governance: patting themselves on the back for listening, for being "thoughtful," only to fold when their name is on the line. This wasn't about students—it was about saving face. The Board had the facts. They just didn't have the guts.

Let's be clear—this wasn't about blind cost-cutting. The plan specifically accounted for teacher continuity, student mental health, academic supports, and community transition. It included multi-year timelines, stakeholder collaboration, and equity considerations. It was everything you'd want in a responsible public policy response to a looming crisis.

And yet, it was politically inconvenient. Closing schools is never easy, but real leadership means making hard decisions. Instead, this board chose to kick the can down the road, risking larger deficits and more disruptive closures in the future.

President Ernie Nishii, Clerk Tatiana Yokoyama-Bui, and Trustee Soo Yoo stood firm and voted to approve the plan. They understood the stakes. They saw the data. But three votes weren't enough.

Meanwhile, declining enrollment is not slowing down. Without bold action, the district will hemorrhage more students, more dollars, and more trust. This retreat doesn't save schools—it just delays the inevitable while making the eventual reckoning even harder.

The board had a plan. They had the facts. What they lacked—at least in the majority—was the courage to act.

ARTESIA from page 1

will coordinate closely with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to tailor patrol efforts based on the city's evolving safety needs.

Artesia has made public safety a central part of its governance strategy, alongside recognized achievements in infrastructure and sustainability. The new security initiative complements the city's ongoing efforts to invest in community well-being and responsive local services.

Residents seeking more information about the security patrol program are encouraged to contact Artesia City Hall at (562) 865-6262 or visitcityofartesia.us

Free Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Recycling

Norwalk — Area residents will have the opportunity to safely dispose of unwanted hazardous materials and electronic waste at a free recycling event on Saturday, July 26, 2025, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Cerritos College, Parking Lot 1-G, 11110 Alondra Boulevard, Norwalk.

Hosted by the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts and Los Angeles County Public Works, the event accepts a wide range of items including motor oil, paint, household cleaners, batteries, fluorescent bulbs, televisions, computers, and other electronics. This service helps prevent hazardous waste from entering landfills or waterways and is offered at no cost to all Los Angeles County residents.

For details and a complete list of accepted items, visit: lacsds.org/services/solid-waste/household-hazardous-waste-collection/norwalk-07-26-25

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NOTICE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 25-970
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA, CALIFORNIA
ADDING ARTICLE 46 (MIXED-USE OVERLAY ZONE (MU-O) OF CHAPTER 2 (ZONING)
OF THE ARTESIA MUNICIPAL CODE.

Notice is hereby given that on July 14, 2025, the City Council of the City of Artesia adopted Ordinance No. 25-970, adding article 46 (Mixed-Use Overlay Zone (MU-O)) of Chapter 2 (Zoning) of Title 9 (Planning and Zoning) to the Artesia Municipal Code. The following is a summary of the proposed Ordinance:

- The Ordinance establishes a Mixed-Use Overlay (MU-O) Zone, Article 46 of Chapter 2 of Title 9 to the Artesia Municipal Code to implement, in part, the City of Artesia 6th Cycle Housing Element of the Artesia General Plan, to incentivize new mixed-use infill development and to facilitate affordable multi-family housing for very-low and low-income classifications and establishes a Community Benefit Program.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Ahir, Manalo, Ramoso, Trevino, Taj; Noes: None
Please note that the above is simply a summary of the Ordinance. To obtain a full understanding of the Ordinance it should be read in its entirety. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is posted in the City Clerk’s office at 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, California 90701.
PUBLISHED: July 25, 2025 Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 7/25/25

NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS
FOR THE THOMPSON PARK AQUATIC CENTER OUTDOOR POOL IMPROVEMENTS IN THE
CITY OF BELLFLOWER

SPECIFICATIONS NO. 23/24-06R

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19, 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 AQUATIC CENTER OUTDOOR POOL IMPROVEMENTS and related work as shown on the plans on file with the City’s Public Works Department. The Engineer’s Estimate of cost is \$765,000. Bids will be publicly opened on Tuesday, August 19, 2025 at 11:00 AM.

At the time of contract award, the Contractor shall possess a Class C-53 (Swimming Pool Contractor) 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.

Work on the Project must be performed in strict conformity with Specification No. 23/24-06R as approved by the Bellflower City Council on August 12, 2024, 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 Monday, August 11, 2025 at 10:30 AM at 14001 Bellflower Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706. 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 23rd day of July 2025.

CITY OF BELLFLOWER, CALIFORNIA

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 7/25/25

NOTICE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 25-968
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA AMENDING THE
ARTESIA LIVE SPECIFIC PLAN

Notice is hereby given that on July 14, 2025, the City Council of the City of Artesia adopted Ordinance No. 25-968, making certain amendments and additions to the Artesia Live Specific Plan. The following is a summary of the proposed Ordinance:

- Amendments and additions to the Artesia Live Specific Plan include changes to the development standards, reflecting a new mixed-use building six stories high, consisting of 83 residential units, with a 1,600-square-foot rooftop restaurant including alcohol sales.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Ahir, Manalo, Ramoso, Trevino, Taj; Noes: None
Please note that the above is simply a summary of the Ordinance. To obtain a full understanding of the Ordinance it should be read in its entirety. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is posted in the City Clerk’s office at 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, California 90701.

PUBLISHED: July 25, 2025 Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 7/25/25

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

NAME	UNIT
LARRY ARTHUR WILMOT	B22

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

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

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

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CITY OF SANTA FE SPRINGS
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING & CEQA EXEMPTION
A ZONING CODE AMENDMENT TO AMEND SECTIONS 155.003 (DEFINITIONS),
155.833 (DEFINITIONS), 155.384 (BILLBOARDS) AND 155.519 (INTERSTATE 605
CORRIDOR ELECTRONIC BILLBOARD SIGN PROGRAM) WITHIN TITLE 15 (LAND
USE), CHAPTER 155 (ZONING), OF THE SANTA FE SPRINGS MUNICIPAL CODE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Planning Commission of the City of Santa Fe Springs will hold a Public Hearing to consider the following:

PROJECT: A Zoning Code Amendment (ZCA) to amend Sections 155.003 (Definitions), 155.833 (Definitions), 155.384 (Billboards), and 155.519 (Interstate 605 Corridor Electronic Billboard Sign Program) within Title 15 (Land Use), Chapter 155 (Zoning), of the Santa Fe Springs Municipal Code.

PROJECT LOCATION: Citywide, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

APPLICANT: City of Santa Fe Springs

CEQA STATUS: The Zoning Code Amendment is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) in accordance with State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b)(3) (Common Sense Exemption).

THE HEARING will be held before the Planning Commission of the City of Santa Fe Springs in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, 11710 Telegraph Road, Santa Fe Springs, on **Monday, August 18, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.**

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are invited to participate in the Public Hearing and express their opinion on the item listed above. Please note that if you challenge the aforementioned item in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues raised at the Public Hearing, or in written correspondence to the office of the Commission at, or prior to the Public Hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS may be submitted in writing to the Community Development Department at City Hall, 11710 Telegraph Road, Santa Fe Springs CA 90670 or e-mail the Planning Commission Secretary, Esmeralda Elise, at esmeraldaelise@santafesprings.gov. Please submit your written comments by 12:00 p.m. on the day of the Planning Commission meeting. You may also contact the Community Development Department at (562) 868-0511 ext. 7550.

FURTHER INFORMATION on this item may be obtained from Laurel Reimer, Planning Consultant, via e-mail at laurelreimer@santafesprings.gov or by phone at: (562) 868-0511 ext. 7354.

NOTICE AND SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 25-969
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA AMENDING
SECTION 9-2.3453 (SPECIFIC PLAN ZONES) OF ARTICLE 34.5 (SPECIFIC PLAN
ZONES (SP)) OF CHAPTER 2 (ZONING) OF TITLE 9 (PLANNING AND ZONING) OF
THE ARTESIA MUNICIPAL CODE

Notice is hereby given that on July 14, 2025, the City Council of the City of Artesia adopted Ordinance No. 25-969, making certain amendments and additions to the Artesia Municipal Code related to the adoption of amendments to the Artesia Live Specific Plan. The following is a summary of the proposed Ordinance:

- The Ordinance amends the description of the Artesia Live Specific Plan by eliminating a reference to a seven-story building associated with an older, withdrawn development project. Instead, it provides new information regarding the height (six stories) of a new development project.

The Ordinance was adopted by the City Council by the following vote: Ayes: Councilmembers Ahir, Manalo, Ramoso, Trevino, Taj; Noes: None
Please note that the above is simply a summary of the Ordinance. To obtain a full understanding of the Ordinance it should be read in its entirety. A copy of the full text of the Ordinance is posted in the City Clerk’s office at 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, California 90701.

PUBLISHED: July 25, 2025 Jennifer Alderete, City Clerk

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE
(SEC 6104, 6105 U.C.C.)
Order No. FBSC2503924
Notice is hereby given to creditors of the within named Seller that a bulk sale is about to be made of the assets described below. The names and business addresses of the seller are: PIE VENTURE, LLC, A CALIFORNIA LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY PIEOLOGY STORE 8003, DBA PIEOLOGY PIZZERIA 850 FILBERT PLACE, BREA, CA 92821
The location in California of the chief executive office of the Seller is: SAME AS ABOVE
As listed by the Seller, all other business names and addresses used by the seller within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the buyer are: PIE VENTURE, LLC #8003 5027 LAKEWOOD BLVD., UNIT 63-2, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712, PIE VENTURE #8045 12848 DAY STREET, MORENO VALLEY, CA 92553, PIE VENTURE, LLC #8054 12841 TOWNE CENTER DRIVE, CERRITOS, CA 90703
The names and addresses of the buyer are: PIEOLOGY LAKEWOOD SQUARE (2025) LP, A DELAWARE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP 18101 VON KARMAN STE. 1100, IRVINE, CA 92612
The assets to be sold are described in general as: BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS, FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT AND INVENTORY and are located at: 5027 LAKEWOOD BLVS., UNIT 63-2, LAKEWOOD, CA 90712
The business name used by the Seller at that location is : PIE VENTURE, LLC, PIEOLOGY STORE 8003, DBA PIEOLOGY PIZZERIA
The anticipated date of the bulk sale is AUGUST 12, 2025 at the office of: CHICAGO TITLE COMPANY, 3780 KILROY AIRPORT WAY, SUITE 100, LONG BEACH, CA 90806
This bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2. If so subject, the name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is: COLLEEN CANTLAY, CHICAGO TITLE COMPANY, 3780 KILROY AIRPORT WAY, SUITE 100, LONG BEACH, CA 90806 ESCROW NUMBER FBSC2503924, and the last date for filing claims shall be AUGUST 11, 2025, which is the business day before the sale date specified above.
BUYER: PIEOLOGY LAKEWOOD SQUARE (2025), LP
3972667-PP LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 7/25/25

By Loren Kopff

As Jennifer Willig was building herself as a wall as Gahr High’s star catcher from 2000-2002, she had an idea that one day, she would be coaching a softball team at some level. She says she was interested in it, helping her late father, Craig Willig, coach in the Cerritos Girls Softball Association.

Now known as Jennifer Jackson, who married former John Glenn High football, boys basketball and volleyball athlete Davion Jackson in 2015, she is coaching the [Buena Park] Cal A’s-Jackson 14-Under travel softball team, which is in its first official season of existence and will be one of 156 teams in that age group in next week’s Premier Girls Fastpitch National Championships. The Cal A’s-Jackson will begin with three pool play games from the Platinum Division on Monday before moving on to the double elimination bracket. Jackson’s oldest daughter Rylee, also a catcher, is on the team and will be a freshman at Gahr next month.

“I would help [my father] coach [younger sisters] Erica and Tory’s team, and I loved it,” said Jackson. “I have always just loved being around kids. So, I kind of knew that it was something that I was definitely interested in pretty young.”

Just because her mom was a catcher at Gahr and again at Cypress College, Rylee was not influenced to be a catcher by her. She knew that she wanted to be a catcher, so she could follow in her mom’s footsteps.

“I would say the reason why I got into it was because of my mom, and watching college players,” said Rylee Jackson. “For example, [University of Texas catcher] Reese Atwood; I love watching her play, and she’s a big inspiration. Obviously, my mom is a big inspiration, and just by growing up and hearing all the stories about how good she was and reading old [articles in the Los Cerritos Community News].”

When Rylee began in the CGSA in February of 2016, Jackson admitted she wasn’t sure if she was ready to coach her daughter. She wanted her to be coached by someone else first, and even when she reached the 8-Under division, Jackson still didn’t coach her up-and-coming star daughter. However, she saw something at the 8-Under level that changed her mind.

“She was on a team with older girls; second-year 8-Under’s who were more advanced, and it was just a more advanced team,” recalls Jackson. “The coach had been coaching these girls for a little bit, and so they knew everything about the game as much as you can know as an eight-year-old. Rylee, coming up from T-ball, didn’t know [as much]. She didn’t know that there’s three strikes and you’re out. She didn’t know that ball four meant walk because in T-ball, they didn’t have strikeouts or walks.”

After witnessing how her daughter and the other younger ones were being coached at a young age, she decided to start her team so she could properly, as she said, ‘could be shaped and molded and taught the game. ‘ At that moment, Jennifer and her younger sister Erica, who was also a catcher at Gahr, decided to start a recreational team in 2021.

“So, we took a team in the fall and honestly, the rest is history, and we haven’t stopped coaching since,” she said. “We’ve always taken a team fall and spring, fall and spring and all-stars.”

The Jacksons returned to the CGSA early in 2022 but six months later, switched to the Cypress Girls Softball League because the former president of the CGSA didn’t want to let Rylee move up a division. Using her mother’s instinct, Jackson felt her daughter again wasn’t at the level of the girls who were in the division the former president wanted. Still, Jackson took a team that season and coached all-stars that summer before deciding to switch leagues. They were in Cypress for one year before deciding to start their own travel team.

“It was hard for me because we all grew up in CGSA, but also our dad has

Former Gahr Standout Getting Her Feet Wet in Travel Softball While Coaching Her Daughter



THE 2024-2025 Cal A’s-Jackson 14-Under travel team at the USA Softball Champion’s Cup. Jennifer Jackson is on the far left, next to younger sister Erica Jackson. On the far right are assistants Edgar Cervantes and former Artesia High player Natalie Luna. Photo Loren Kopff.

a field named after him [at the Cerritos Sports Complex] on Field 4,” said Jackson. “The talent isn’t there; there’s not a lot of competition. I knew Rylee was the best in Cerritos, but I wanted Rylee to go and be with girls who were better than her so that she could grow. I wanted her out of her comfort zone.”

In the late spring and early summer of 2023, while at Cypress, Jackson’s all-star team, which included seven or eight girls from the CGSA, advanced to the Western Nationals where it finished eighth out of 32 teams. It was then that Jackson knew her daughter was ready for travel ball.

“During that whole all-star season of 2023, me and Davion were just talking about it; me and Erica thought we needed to make the move to travel. [Rylee] is ready, and she needs to grow and compete, and this is another stepping stone. I didn’t want her to be in recs at 14.”

Again, parents were asking Jackson that summer what she was going to do, but when they asked if she was going to start a travel team, Jackson initially said she would put Rylee on another team where she could be coached by someone else. After coaching her entire softball career, she wanted Rylee out of her comfort zone and really be pushed.

“She loves softball just as much as I did,” said Jackson. “She is constantly watching college games all day long. She has so much potential, and I want her to get to her best. I’m not the best coach and I don’t know it all. I never coached travel, so I was out of my comfort zone.”

That was the initial plan for Jackson, who once played for the Artesia Punishers and San Pedro Waves in the late 1990s and early 2000s. But the parents who had followed Jackson all this time persuaded her to start a travel team, which would be known as the Cal A’s-Jackson. If that wasn’t enough persuasion, Jackson received the biggest vote of confidence from Erica, who goes everywhere her older sister does.

“She’s definitely harder on me, and it pushes me to become a better player,” said Rylee Jackson. “I feel like a lot of my success is from her coaching, obviously, and my aunt coaching me too, and my dad coaching me in my other sports. Growing up, I’ve always been coached to be the best I can be more than any other player.”

The process of beginning a travel team isn’t as easy as it sounds. First, Jackson had to find an organization, which wasn’t too hard, as she knew of one from a girl she had previously coached. She ended up being the granddaughter of Tommy Parten, who was in charge of the Cal A’s-Parten.

“I had to go and create a business license because this is a non-profit,” Jackson remembered. “I had to open a team bank account, then came all the other stuff, like creating an Instagram profile page because you have to have all those things. In today’s travel ball world, oh, that’s huge. I went and did all that stuff, got the parents updated, and told them we were doing this.

“I think that [Tommy] has put good products out there on the field and he has a good success rate of getting these girls scholarships and teaching them all the things

they need to do to get a scholarship,” she later said. “He has a wealth of knowledge. So, I just trusted him that he was going to guide us in the right direction to get us started, and he definitely has given us all the fundamentals to start this team.”

Once Jackson had established the team, she had to tackle the most critical aspect: finding a suitable playing facility. Because every city is affiliated with either a recreational team or a travel team, securing field times was impossible, as she put it. In the first year, the Cal A ‘s-Jackson practiced at Rio San Gabriel Park in Downey, then was able to gain access to the fields at San Antonio Park in Buena Park.

When the team first started, there were just nine girls, six of whom were originally from the CGSA and the other three from Cypress. Today, of the 14 girls on this season’s Cal A’s-Jackson team, four have followed Jackson since they were seven years old, playing for the CGSA. It even reached the point of the girls asking, “where are going Coach Jen, where are you going? We want to come with you.”

“It makes me feel, obviously, really good; it makes me feel like I am doing something right,” said Jackson. “I feel like they know that I’m in this for the right reasons, and they trust me. It really means everything to me. I’m so thankful for this group of girls and their parents, who have accompanied me on this entire journey. I think that without them, it might have been a little different. But I feel really grateful, and appreciated and trusted.”

The first year of the team was a learning experience as Jackson lost a few players along the way. There were two pitchers, but one of them was too busy with other obligations and had to leave the team. Another player who had been with Jackson since she was seven left to go to another team. The team did not participate in any tournaments and was relegated to playing in friendlies whenever possible.

But mostly, the team primarily focused on mechanics and fielding, the latter of which was led by Natalie Luna, an infielder who graduated from California Lutheran University in 2023 and also played at Artesia High. Luna has become the team’s fielding coach.

All the time spent working on practicing and mechanics has paid off, as the team advanced into the PGF National Championships with an amazing run in the loser’s bracket at the 14-Under Southern California National Qualifier, held from June 13 to 15 in Irvine.

The Cal A’s-Jackson fell to the [Anaheim] Firecrackers-Brashear/Meza 6-3 in the first game, then eliminated three teams on the 14th before falling to the [Lake Elsinore] West Coast Dukes-Jensen 4-3 the next morning. Although the Cal A’s-Jackson team was eliminated early Sunday morning, it earned one of the four extra berths in the Platinum Division. Of the 18 teams who lost their first game in the qualifier, Jackson’s team was the only in on Sunday morning.

“We worked hard; we worked very, very hard and our girls put in so much work to get us to this point here,” said Jackson. “I was 50-50; I totally believed we had the potential

to qualify, but I wasn’t sure of what to expect when we came out to the tournament.”

The Cal A’s-Jackson also played in the Zoom into June showcase tournament and the USA Softball Champions Cup. Jackson said she wanted to go to the Triple Crown Sports Sparkler Tournament earlier this month, but didn’t make it.

Jackson said it’s bittersweet that her father is not here to see her coach Rylee, but and start a travel team.

“I know that he would be so proud of everything that we have accomplished,” said Jackson, who also played at Cypress College until her father passed away. “He was absolutely my...I looked up to him for everything in softball. He taught me all the things I know about softball before I entered travel and high school, even when I went to Cypress College. He’s definitely the one thing that’s missing. I wish more than anything that he were here. But I would say he’s had such an influence on the way that I have coached.”

Jackson says that coaching softball for all these years has forced her to step up her game on different levels. She acknowledges that it’s up to her to get the girls prepared and ready for the next step, which is high school. But she is also preparing them for college. Jackson admitted she is constantly learning because the game of softball isn’t the same as it was during her Gahr days.

Looking ahead to next season, Jackson said she would like to participate in more showcase tournaments, including the Colorado Fourth of July Sparkler Tournament. The team will also move up to the 16-Under age division and has already been playing in high school friendlies.

“I would think that we would want to qualify again,” she added. “I think PGF is probably pretty important. But right now, we’ve actually started the recruiting process for the girls, as I now have sophomores, and the other girls are freshmen. We just want to get them started by getting familiar with the process of recruiting.

“We’ve been able to compete some; we’ve gotten our butts kicked some,” she later said. “I fully believe that if you’re playing up with girls that are better than you, it’s going to force you to grow, and it’s going to force you to play up to their level. You’re going to get better against girls like that.”

Rylee leads her travel team with a blistering .491 batting average, 28 hits, 21 RBI, 20 runs, six doubles, and three triples and is one of two players to appear in all 26 games this summer. Jackson said that she did not have to influence her daughter to play the same position as she did.

“Rylee is mommy’s girl through and through, and whatever mom does, she wants to do too,” said Jackson. “So, when she was little, she was like, ‘Oh, you were a catcher. I want to be a catcher. She’s [uniform] number 31; she’s been 31 since she started playing, and that was my number. She’s never been anything since then.”

Rylee says she is determined not only to live up to the standards her mom sets for her when she sets foot on the Gahr campus next month, but also to exceed them. And while it’s still early to do anything with colleges, Rylee already has her shopping list made as far as where she would like to attend.

“Since I started watching softball with my mom, we’ve always watched all the games and seeing the dynasty of [the University of] Oklahoma; leading up to it and winning their four straight national titles has shown me what greatness can come out of that,” said Rylee. “I like watching [former Norco High and Oklahoma catcher] Kinzie Hansen and all the other players. They’re all good, and I want to be one of those good players.”

In closing, Jackson said she is very grateful for this journey and is happy with the decision to start the Cal A’s-Jackson travel team. While she knows there are many really tough moments, especially with her family, which includes her son Carson (10) and daughter Peyton (4), she wouldn’t change anything because she loves the game so much.