



TONY MENDOZA RESIGNS SEAT, WILL SUE SENATE OVER INVESTIGATION

By Brian Hews

In a stunning move, State Senator Tony Mendoza (D-Artesia) resigned his Senate Seat yesterday.

Mendoza was facing expulsion from the Senate after a sexual harassment investigation found that he “more likely than not” harassed former staffers.

The allegations were levied on Mendoza only a few months ago, with the culmination of the investigation occurring last week.

Along the way, Mendoza claimed that the investigation was not transparent and was farcical.

In his letter of resignation, Mendoza blasted the Senate, Senate President pro tem Kevin De Leon and the Senate Rules Committee for the entire process.

See **MENDOZA** page 7

LAKWOOD'S MAYFAIR PARK WILL BE OUTFITTED WITH INNOVATIVE RESERVOIR SYSTEM

**City received \$20 million
from state to complete two projects.**

By Tammy McDuff

The Lakewood City Council, at the February 13th meeting, approved a bid from Sukut Construction, of Santa Ana to build a storm water capture project for Mayfair Park. The \$12 million project will be fully funded by the State of California. Construction is set to begin in May 2018 and is expected to be completed in the summer of 2019.

The project is very similar to the one currently in production at Bolivar Park scheduled to be completed soon.

Both storm water projects are among the first of their kind in the region. The goal is to capture storm water flowing in nearby flood control channels, filter and clean the water, and store the water underneath the parks in large underground

See **LAKWOOD** page 12

S.S. LANE VICTORY: 25 YEARS IN SAN PEDRO



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CURRENT BILLS IN CALIFORNIA HOUSE WILL TIGHTEN LAWS ON HOME SCHOOLING

By Tammy McDuff

In light of the horrific tragedy involving the 13 children of the Turpin family, whose parents allegedly held captive, it has been reported that the state of California is considering a bill to tighten the ability to home school children.

According to the Sacramento Bee the abuse at the suburban home in Riverside County was shocking by any standard: Thirteen siblings, emaciated, chained to the furniture, living in filth. Since the arrest of David and Louise Turpin on suspicion of torture and child endangerment, Californians have wondered how such a thing could have gone for years undetected. The answer is that the couple exploited California's lax home schooling laws to keep the authorities from finding out what they were doing to their kids.

In September of 2008 a California appeals court ruled the homeschooling of children was illegal unless parents had teaching credentials. President of the Home School Legal Defense Association at that time, Michael Smith stated “California is now on the path to being the only state to deny the vast majority

of homeschooling parents their fundamental right to teach their own children at home.” The court overturned a lower court's finding that homeschooling did not constitute a violation of child welfare laws.

In 2016 a Northern California school district sent letters telling parents that their home schooled children were not being legally educated, even though homeschooling has been frequently contested by state officials, their attacks on the time-honored educational practice have been consistently put to rest.

There are currently two bills in Congress with the potential of affecting homeschoolers in California, HR 610 and HR 899. California Homeschool Network [CHN] is aware of these bills and are currently monitoring them.

The state of California is privileged to have a lenient outlook on homeschooling.

To date, there has not been an official state definition of homeschooling which has been an advantage to homeschoolers. CHN states, “If you are homeschooling through a public school or a charter school you are required to meet common

See **HOME SCHOOL** page 5

FIRST FEMALE ROTARY PRESIDENT IN THE WORLD ('87) VISITS LA MIRADA ROTARY

**Group will hold Spring
open house Mar 1.**

By Tom Robinson

LA MIRADA – The first female Rotary President in the world, Sylvia Whitlock, recently visited the La Mirada Rotary.



Whitlock was a real pioneer in Rotary history.

Back in 1982, Whitlock signed up for Duarte Rotary with just her first initial and last name.

At the time, women were not allowed in Rotary.

Later when Rotary International discovered there were women members in the club, they immediately came and revoked their charter.

That led to a court battle that went all the way to the Supreme Court.

Later, at the invitation of one of the women whose admission had caused the ouster of the Club, Whitlock joined the "Ex-Rotary Club of Duarte."

In 1987, Whitlock was serving as President of the Ex-Rotary Club in Duarte when the court ruling came down in their favor.

The Club's charter was reinstated and Whitlock became the first woman club president in Rotary.

Women now make up 20% of membership worldwide.

Whitlock was born in New York City but was educated, through high school, in Kingston, Jamaica.

She has degrees from Hunter College, Cal Poly, Pomona, and a Ph.D., cum laude, in Education, from Claremont Graduate School.

Whitlock was a true pioneer in Rotary history.

Men and women looking for ways to make a difference in their community and network with other business and local leaders may attend a Spring Open House being held by the Rotary Club of La Mirada Rotary Club on March 1.

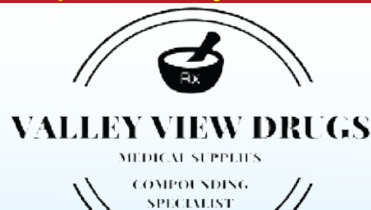
Rotary's Spring Open House is intend-

See **WHITLOCK** page 13

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LAKWOOD HOLDS STATE OF THE CITY LUNCHEON



Lakewood resident, Dr. Demento (left, who was featured in the City's video and introduced at the luncheon) is pictured above with Lakewood Mayor Diane DuBois. Lakewood Sheriff's Captain James Wolak provided a public safety update and Mayor DuBois provided a forecast of the year ahead.

By Tammye McDuff

The annual Lakewood State of the City luncheon was held on Wednesday, February 7th, and all 225 attendees enjoyed the theme of the Lakewood City TV video, which was ‘Secrets’. There were several surprises such as a former rock guitarist by night who now calls Lakewood City Hall home during the day and world-famous radio personality and Lakewood resident, Barry Hansen, also known as Dr. Demento.

There was an abundance of dialogue and video of Lakewood's achievements over the past year, including park improvements, new businesses and city events. Lakewood Sheriff's Captain James Wolak provided a public safety update and Mayor DuBois provided a forecast of the year ahead in Lakewood.

Some of the ‘secret ingredients of Lakewood were first set in place at the very beginning. Lakewood was designed in a very attentive method. The original plans in the late 1940's and early 1950's built on what was known as innovative service roads and tree lined median strips. These innovators also set aside land for a park in every neighborhood. Mayor Diane DuBois commented, “These decisions were some of the secret ingredients that helped keep Lakewood a wonderful, livable community for over 60 years.”

The City is getting very near completion with the \$11 million project at Bolivar Park to construct an underground reservoir that will capture and clean storm water runoff. And with thanks to City Staff 100% of the funding for the work will be secured from the State. A similar project will go into Mayfair Park later in 2018.

Lakewood has had the benefit for many years in its staff guidance from having California's longest serving city manager, breaking 41 years of high quality stable service. DuBois said, “Let's recognize that Energizer Bunny of city managers, our record breaking, original Lakewood kid, Howard Chambers!” DuBois stated that Chambers leaves behind a legacy of staff committed to good service and has hired an excellent replacement, the electric guitar hero Thaddeus McCormack.

Another clandestine component to Lakewood's success is the ‘Contract City’ model of government, known in public administration circles as “the Lakewood Plan.” This Plan is the method of creating smart combinations of private contractors, public agencies and city staff to deliver the best possible service to residents. It has allowed the City to provide high quality, cost effective services to the City for over 60 years.

Some of Lakewood's partners include The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the original key component of the Lakewood. The City has also profited from being part of a regional Fire Protection District that provides top notch fire and emergency services from the Los Angeles County Fire Department. The private sector businesses take care of the street lights, trash, recycling, street sweeping and tree trimming.

Successfully adopted by many cities ‘The Lakewood has been a subject of study by scholars as they continue to research and consider the best way that the federal, state, county and local levels of government can relate and collaborate for their citizens.

One of those scholars was present at the luncheon, Professor Frank Zerunyan from Fordham University “Urban Law Journal.” He is a professor of Public Policy at USC, City Councilman from Rolling Hills Estates, and former president of the California Contract Cities Association.

Businesses coming to the City in 2018 include a Fortune 500 clothing chain, Burlington Coat Factory; they have announced that they will open a new store in the 42,000 sq. ft. former Sports Authority building at Lakewood Center, expect to see the new store September 2018.

For over 30 years, the city ran a program called ‘Lakewood Beautiful’ where homeowners were honored that made a concerted effort to beautify their yards and the exterior of their homes

In 2015, the program was put on temporary hiatus while the City focused time and resources on the drought and on encouraging residents to take water saving steps. “While we remain concerned about water conservation,” said DuBois, “We felt it was time to bring back

Lakewood Beautiful to remind our residents how much we value their efforts to keep their homes and yards in good shape. So I'm pleased to announce here today that the Lakewood Beautiful program will start up again, with nominations opening next month.” A new category will be added this year recognizing recently remodeled or rejuvenated homes and yards. The new award will be called the Jackie Rynerson Transformation Award, in honor of one of our original Lakewood residents who helped organize her fellow citizens to form the city in 1954.

HIGHWAY PATROL HONORS DOWNEY POLICE OFFICERS



At Tuesday night’s city council meeting, 16 Downey police officers received recognition from the California Highway Patrol for their exceptional success in recovering stolen vehicles. In 2017, these 16 outstanding officers recovered 301 vehicles and arrested 139 car thieves.

By Tammye McDuff

At the February 13th city council meeting, 16 Downey police officers received recognition from the California Highway Patrol, for their exceptional success in recovering stolen vehicles. In 2017, these 16 outstanding officers recovered 301 vehicles and arrested 139 car thieves.

“We are here to honor a lot of the work that the Police Department has done over the past 12 months in the recapturing of stolen vehicles,” said Mayor Sean Ashton. Downey Police Chief Carl Charles and Captain Muller from the Highway Patrol made the presentations. As Captain of the Santa Fe Springs

HQ, officer Muller noted “We do a lot of work with the Downey PD. A Police Department is a reflection of the leadership in the community that we serve. The Downey PD is a fine group of professionals and I couldn’t be happier knowing that the area is safe, due to the assistance of the Downey PD.”

The award began in 1979 along with the California Highway Patrol [CHP] and since that time Triple AAA has been awarding these pins to officers who make a significant contribution to the recovery of vehicles in their area. This recovery has resulted in 91.4 percent of stolen vehicles, found. In 2016 approximately 178,000 vehicles were stolen, representing over one billion dollars in auto theft.

IRON-WOOD WOMEN’S GOLF CLUB CELEBRATES ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY



Members of the Iron-Wood Women’s Golf Club at a recent outing. The course opened in 1977, the club formed one year later. Photo courtesy Judy O’Leary.

The Iron-Wood Women’s Golf Club is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year. Iron-Wood opened in 1977, the following year a group of women got together and decided to form the club.

The founding member, Marie Hutchinson, passed away 2 years ago but there remains an original member, Eileen Gregg who still plays every Tuesday and is "still darn good."

The club plays every week in “Fun and Friendship to enjoy a sport we all love at our beautifully maintained golf course with a great welcoming staff.” The Club plays every Tuesday morning with tee times starting at 7:30 am. If you are interested in joining please contact June Raiford at 562-298-7780, or stop by the Iron-Wood Pro Shop and pick up a New Member Application.



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CITY OF DOWNEY MAYOR'S CORNER

This year promises to be a great year for Downey. Continuing with the Council's goal of Economic Vibrancy, the city is happy to welcome and announce some of the businesses coming to the City in 2018: Burlington, Giant RV, Kirkland's Home Décor, LOUKS Greek Baby Donuts, Mo-vita Juice Bar and Nexx Burger.

With great additions such as these, it is no wonder that Downey was voted "Most Business Friendly City" by the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation.

January saw the Downey Fire Department transition two paramedic engine companies. By redeploying the four firefighter/paramedics onto the four district fire engines, the city has doubled the number of advanced life support (ALS) units serving the city in a cost-effective manner. Each of the city's four fire stations will now have a paramedic fire engine and an EMT ambulance capable of providing rapid lifesaving services. A big "Thank you" goes to Chief Mark Gillaspie and the entire Downey Fire Department for their continued efforts to keep the community safe.

The City of Downey is home to one of the busiest senior centers in the area. The Barbara J. Riley Community & Senior Center offers a variety of services and classes, most at little or no cost. The

NORWALK ACCELERATES SCHOOL SAFETY PLAN

In consideration of and in view of their concerns surrounding the recent arrest of the El Camino High School student, the Norwalk City Council has directed staff to accelerate its multi-faceted school safety plan. This plan will include the strengthening of collaborative efforts by the City's Public Safety Department, Norwalk Sheriff's Station, the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District, the District's Safety Officers and the City of La Mirada.

This partnership will focus on joining school security, school principals and counselors to identify adverse and or aggressive behavior at its earliest stage. The team will work together to focus on the root causes of the behavior and employ a team approach to assist the student and his or her family in redirecting the behavior.

The City will continue to encourage schools, parents and the community to report any potential threats in elementary, middle and high schools. The Deputy City Manager, Kevin R. Gano, will be the focal point moving forward



Downey Mayor Sean Ashton (second from left) during Keep Downey Beautiful event. This year's clean up occurred this past Saturday, February 17th. Keep Downey Beautiful also hosts Smart Gardening Workshops and Recycling events.

Health & Wellness Workshops are offered twice a month and include free haircuts, exercise classes, craft courses and social lunch hours. Caseworkers from the office of Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard offer resources such as legal and income tax assistance at no cost. For more information please contact the senior center at 562-904-7223 or you can view the City News and Parks & Recreation Guide on the city's website.

If you are looking for volunteer opportunities in the community, one with great impact is "Keep Downey Beautiful". This month's Clean Up is scheduled for Saturday, February 17th beginning at 9:00 am at the parking lot on 8832 Imperial Hwy.

COMMERCE MAYOR PRO TEM IVAN ALTAMIRANO WILL RUN FOR GARCIA'S SEAT

Commerce Mayor Pro Tem Ivan Altamirano announced today that he is running for the 58th Assembly District during a time when there is need of leadership to serve the residents of southeast Los Angeles.

Altamirano pulled papers from the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder County Clerk's office last week. He has raised over \$50,000 within a week of opening his assembly campaign committee, and he is on track to raise over \$100,000 by the end of the month.

"I am committed to stepping up to serve my community and the region no matter what is the outcome of the investigation," said Altamirano. "With the support of my family, I am excited and ready to do what is needed to win and serve in Sacramento."

Altamirano has experience taking a leadership role when there is a void. He was first appointed to the Commerce City Council to fill a vacated seat when the city was in need due to the great recession. As one of his first actions as an appointed council member, Altamirano successfully worked to create much needed jobs in the city.

"As a small business owner, I have experience with hard work, overcoming challenges, and dedicating myself to succeed in order to provide for my family under extraordinary circumstances," stated Altamirano. "As an Assembly Member, I am ready to work hard in Sacramento in order to acquire much-needed resources to increase the quality of life for the Southeast Los Angeles communities. The people deserve an effective Assembly Member that is dedicated to meet their needs."

Altamirano has served on the Commerce City Council since 2012. He is a son of immigrants, of both Cuban and Mexican heritage. He is married, and the father of three children, born and raised in Commerce. He owns a Commercial and Residential HVAC business.

RUDY BERMUDEZ WILL RUN FOR STATE SENATE

Former Democratic Assemblyman Rudy Bermudez today declared his candidacy for State Senate in District 32 citing his track record as a law enforcement officer, Norwalk city councilmember, assemblymember, and small business owner as evidence that he can restore dignity, respect and effectiveness to the legislature, which recently has seen rampant sexual misconduct.

"I'm running because it's time to clean up the legislature," said Bermudez, who spent over 30 years in law enforcement. "As a career law enforcement officer, I believe our legislators should help lock-up sex offenders, not act like them."

"With so many challenges facing us, our leaders must spend their energies fighting back against President Trump and his dangerous policies instead of fighting off scandals."

"Voters can count on me. As a local and state leader I made our communities safer, improved education – particularly early childhood education, and championed the cause of working men and women seeking better jobs, wages and workplace conditions."

While in the Assembly from 2002-2006, Bermudez wrote the law barring sex offenders from practicing medicine in California, keeping residents of the Golden State safe from harm and enabling them to put faith and trust in their doctors. To protect children, he worked to increase the minimum distance sexual predators must live away from schools.

Bermudez also wrote the law permitting California schools to offer full-day kindergarten, which helps children learn and makes it easier for working parents to have their young children in school.

"As a legislator, I focused on making people's lives better. Period," said Bermudez. "That's what I'll do if elected to the senate."

The 32nd Senate District includes Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Commerce, Downey, East La Mirada, Hacienda Heights, Hawaiian Gardens, La Habra.

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MAN STABBED TO DEATH, WOMAN INJURED IN ROBBERY ON LAKEWOOD-CERRITOS BORDER

A man was stabbed to death early this morning and a woman was injured during a robbery in Lakewood, authorities said.

The crime occurred at approximately 1:15 a.m. at the intersection of Del Amo Boulevard and Violeta Avenue.

The man was taken to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead, Bracks said. His name was withheld, pending family notification. The woman was treated at the scene for minor injuries.

“The victims were walking east-bound on Del Amo Boulevard, on the south sidewalk, when a vehicle drove up to them,” a sheriff’s statement said.

“Three suspects exited the vehicle and assaulted the two victims,” the statement said. “During the robbery, personal items were stolen from the victims. After the robbery the three suspects entered the dark-colored sedan and drove southbound on Violeta Avenue and out of view.”

No descriptions were released of the suspects. Witnesses with information are urged to call homicide detectives at (323) 890-5500.

NEW OUTDOOR ADVERTISING SIGNS WILL BRING MUCH NEEDED REVENUE TO LA PALMA



One of the billboards that can be seen from the 91 freeway in La Palma. The City will make over \$200,000 thousand in revenue from the new billboards.

By Brian Hews

Drivers going east and westbound on the 91 freeway might have noticed the two new outdoor advertising signs that popped up just off of the Valley view freeway exit in La Palma.

The signs are "digital," as opposed to "static"- static meaning the poster type billboards so often seen on other free-ways.

With this type of digital advertising, the billboards can have up to 7 different advertisers, each staying visible for 8

seconds.

The outdoor advertising boards were built inside of a week and is managed by Foster Interstate outdoor advertising.

The billboards were a culmination of five years of work by the City Council of La Palma and will bring in much needed revenue to the city.

The first organization that eventually bowed out was willing to give the city \$240,000 per billboard per year.

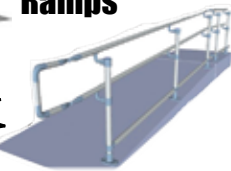
Sources are telling HMG-CN that the Foster Interstate agreement is very similar to that first company's proposal

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La Mirada Crime Summary

Feb. 12-18

Notable Arrests

A suspect was arrested for driving under the influence near the intersection of Desman Rd. and Trojan Wy.

Nine suspects were arrested throughout La Mirada for various warrants and narcotics violations.

Other Structure Burglary

An evening window pry burglary was reported on 13500 block of Adelfa Dr. Several boxes of potato chips were stolen.

Vehicle Burglary

A daytime burglary was reported on the 13700 block of Adelfa Dr.

Grand Theft

A purse was reported stolen from an unlocked vehicle near the intersection of La Fonda Dr. and La Fortuna Dr.

A daytime theft was reported stolen the 13800 block of Biola Ave.

A late night theft was reported on the 14800 block of Biola Ave.

Grand Theft Vehicle

A sedan was reported stolen on the 15800 block of Imperial Hwy. The vehicle has since been recovered by Norwalk Sheriff's.

A truck was reported stolen on the 14400 block of Alondra Blvd. The vehicle has since been recovered by Lakewood Sheriff's.

A sedan was reported stolen on the 16000 block of Canary Ave. The vehicle has since been recovered by Long Beach PD.

A sedan was reported stolen on the 12300 block of La Mirada Blvd. The vehicle has since been recovered by Norwalk Sheriff's.

A sedan was reported stolen on the 15700 block of Stanbrook Dr. The vehicle has since been recovered by Garden Grove PD.

HOME SCHOOL

Continued from page 1

standards that charters must follow. If you are homeschooling through the private sector you have many more freedoms, especially in choosing the style of home-schooling and the curriculum.”

CHN goes on to say that if these bills are passed then ‘homeschooling’ will be defined by the Federal Government. This is where the danger lies. For Charter students the standards may not be much different than they are now, but for the private home school family, the changes may be a serious deterrent to their style of freedom. The legal definition of home-schooling that will be encouraged by the Federal government will most likely include the following requirements:

- Must follow Common Core Standards or whatever Federal program that will replace it.
- Family must be supervised by a state credentialed teacher or the parent must hold a credential.
- Curriculum choices may become restricted (i.e. faith based curriculums like ABeka).
- Homeschooling styles may become restricted due to the potential serious adherence to “scope and sequence” that may be implemented. This will possibly restrict families from participating in “delayed” academics or any other style that is not “time” sensitive.
- All homeschoolers will be required to be “accountable” to both the State and Federal Governments through the process of mandated meetings and providing evidence of adequate work being accomplished.

Parents and guardians have always taken it upon themselves to give the

younger generation the knowledge that they received through experience, but we live in a different world. With over two million children from kindergarten to 12th grade being educated at home, the Turpin’s house of horrors brought home schooling to international headlines.

California is one of 15 states that require parents to merely register with education authorities, according to the Home Education Coalition, which has pushed for greater oversight. Others include Nevada, New Mexico and Wisconsin.

Eleven other states, including Illinois, New Jersey and Connecticut, require no documentation. There is no list anywhere of who is being home schooled in these states and parents are not required to have any contact with education officials at all. There's no follow up. They're completely off the radar.

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Los Cerritos Community News and La Mirada Lamplighter is published weekly and delivered to Artesia, Cerritos and surrounding communities. Los Cerritos Community News has been established as a newspaper of general circulation in Los Angeles County. Based on this legal status we are eligible to publish Legal Notices and Fictitious Business Name Statements. Published and copyrighted by Eastern County Newspaper Group, Inc. Reproduction in whole or part of any material in the Community News without permission of the publisher is prohibited. ©2012



ST. IRENAEUS PARISHIONERS GIVE VALENTINES TO LOCAL AREA CARE CENTER RESIDENTS



Pictured, left to right, are parishioners Connie Ordanza, Terry Arenz and Sylvia Valdez at St. Irenaeus Valentines Outreach. Parishoners delivered to Sunrise Assisted Living in La Palma; Harvest Retirement in Buena Park; Genesis in Anaheim; Healthcare Center of Orange County in Buena Park; and Karlton Residential in Anaheim.

Staff Report

At St. Irenaeus Parish in Cypress, Valentine’s Day is celebrated throughout the entire month of February. St. Irenaeus Health Ministry members asked parishioners to choose Valentine cards created by Junior High Peacemakers and deliver them in person any day during the month of February to residents of the five Care Centers that St. Irenaeus’ Health Ministry serves. With the guidance of Youth Ministry Director, Laura Benoit, Junior High Peacemakers made about 100 original Valentines in January for residents of the Care Centers. The students hope that the

Valentine cards bring a smile to those who receive them. Monica Kovach, Facilitator of the Health Ministry Board, would like to thank the students who made the Valentine’s Day cards and all the parishioners who agreed to deliver them during the month of February. The card and the friendly visit means so much to those who live in the Care Centers. This Valentine’s Day Outreach could only be possible with the caring response of St. Irenaeus parishioners. For more information about the Valentine Outreach at St. Irenaeus Church, please contact Monica Kovach 310-490-6113.

ABC SCHOOL BOARD UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTS RESOLUTION TO RAISE PER STUDENT FUNDING

By Tammye McDuff

The ABC School Board unanimously adopted a resolution requesting the State of California implement full and fair funding. “What this basically means,” says Area 7 ABCUSD Trustee Chris Apodaca, “is that we want to change some of the statistics in California education.” For instance, the State ranks 41st out of 50 states in ‘per student’ funding. California’s spending rate is currently \$8,694 per student, approximately \$3,462, 28% less, than the national average of \$12,156 per student. “California prides itself for being on the leading edge of technology, yet fails in student funding,” said Apodaca. The state ranks even lower, 45th for student to teacher ratio, and ranks 48th in student to staff ratio. “This impacts counselors, support staff, instructional aides, just about everyone associated with a school,” stated Apodaca. The State is, however the sixth largest economy in the world. “This begs the question,” said Apodaca, “what are our priorities in this state?” Apodaca, with Vice President of the Board Leticia Mendoza, and in collaboration with the California School Boards Association, drafted the resolution to increase the funding to the national average. Apodaca will be meeting with legislators in Sacramento next month to discuss the next steps of making this a reality. The resolution also requests that California strive to be in the top ten in fund-

ing by the year 2025. Many people are opposed to this resolution, stating that it will increase taxes. Apodaca says he is not asking for a new tax or increased taxes but rather a re-allocation of funding. “It’s simply a matter of where we prioritize our schools in the state budget,” said Apodaca. A recent study session held by the Board looked at the aging district facilities. The Facilities Master Plan was created by 20 community members over a period of 18 months. This committee visited every school, every facility and every district office, roughly 2.4 million square feet of instructional space that makes up the ABC Unified School District. The committee constructed an itemized list of all areas that needed to be fixed immediately and what could wait. The total cost came to an overwhelming \$250 million dollars. “Our facilities are safe,” notes Apodaca, ”but the funding has not been adjusted.” Apodaca pointed to teacher salaries in the District. “We cannot give our teachers a full cost of living increase. They are still making what they did coming out of the recession. We are losing teachers to higher paying districts. We lost five speech language pathologists last year alone.” More information on the full and fair funding initiative can be found at the California School Boards Association website: www.csba.org/fff

S.S. LANE VICTORY: 25 YEARS IN SAN PEDRO

By Tammye McDuff

Built in 1945, in Los Angeles, California, the S.S. Lane Victory served with distinction during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War as well as in times of peace as part of the merchant fleet. Saturday, February 17th the public was invited for free to tour the historic vessel. After years of deterioration in mothballs, it took countless months of restoration to put her back into her original condition by volunteers of the United States Merchant Marine Veterans of World War II. Now a nationally recognized historic landmark, the S.S. Lane Victory serves as a living museum and memorial to the service and sacrifices of all Merchant Marine sailors and Navy Armed Guardsmen. In 1950 the Lane Victory was deployed to evacuate Korean civilians and United Nations personnel at Wonsan, North Korea. During December 1950 she evacuated over 3,800 U.S. troops and 1,100 vehicles from Hungnam while under attack during the Battle of Chosin Reservoir. Lane Victory offloaded troops, vehicles and cargo as the cruiser USS Saint Paul and destroyers laid down a covering fire. After unloading she evacuated 7,010 men, women and children, taking them to safety. When the ship

arrived 7,011 passengers disembarked, due to the arrival of a newborn during the voyage. On October 10, 1953 she was laid up in Suisun Bay, California storage. An annual Korean War tribute day is held aboard SS Lane Victory in honor of those saved. The lower hull / hold of the ship is dedicated to the numerous refugees that were rescued from Korea and Viet Nam. A video show sobering photos of the horrific conditions that were endured, but through the care of our Navy and those aboard the Lane Victory, not one soul was lost. Lane Victory has been used in many movies, TV shows and commercials because of her excellent working condition. The ship's has been featured in Titanic; Black Ops; Flags of Our Fathers ; GI Jane and Pearl Harbor , just a few of over 50 plus commercial, television series and movies. For any Steve McQueen fans visiting the ship, they have the working prop-engine used in the filming of "The Sand Pebbles" (1966) starring Steve McQueen, Mako Imwamatsu, Candice Bergen and Richard Attenborough. The Ship is open every day from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm for self guided tours. The fee at the gangway is \$7 for Adults, \$3 for Children 5 to 14, and Active Duty personnel and children under 5 are free.

VETERANS RESOURCE CENTER AT NORWALK LIBRARY

LA County Library is pleased to announce that they will soon be opening a Veterans Resource Center in Norwalk Library. The Center will provide veterans with information about the benefits and services available to them and their family members, particularly in the areas of housing, employment, health, and education. The Norwalk Library Veterans Resource Center is expected to open in late February 2018. But before these services can be offered, volunteers are needed to

help staff the Veterans Resource Center desk for a few hours per week. All training will be provided. You do not need to be a veteran to volunteer, but your desire to help veterans is essential. A minimum of a six-month commitment is requested. Call Norwalk Library Manager Sue Kane to inquire about this meaningful volunteer opportunity. Norwalk Library is part of the LA County Library system and is located at 12350 Imperial Hwy, Norwalk, CA 90650.



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CERRITOS STARBUCKS FEATURES OUTDOOR FIREPLACE

Councilmen Frank Yokoyama (sixth from left) and Jim Edwards (center) join the Cerritos Regional Chamber at the Starbucks ribbon cutting in Cerritos across from Cerritos College.

By Tammye McDuff

Whether you are a coffee snob, frap-puccino aficionado or looking for a good cup o’ joe, you are fully aware of Starbucks. A brand new location is now open on the corner of Alondra Boulevard and Studebaker Road, in the Home Depot shopping center. The new coffee café opened on January 17th and is already enjoying a full house of contractors wanting an early cup of coffee or students and teachers looking for a place to chat or study.

This Starbucks is the only store, other than one in Seattle, that boasts a working fireplace.

Back in 1971 when the first store opened in a narrow storefront in Seattle’s historic Pike Place Market, Starbucks offered some of the world’s finest coffees. The name was inspired by the first mate in Herman Melville’s Moby Dick, evoked the romance of the high seas and the seafaring tradition of the early coffee traders

and the logo is also inspired by the sea, featuring a twin-tailed siren from Greek mythology.

In 1981, Howard Schultz, Starbucks Chairman and Chief Executive Officer walked into his first Starbucks store. From his first sip of Sumatra, Schultz was interested in the company and joined a year later.

In 1983, on a trip to Italy, Schultz became fascinated with Italian coffee bars and the romance of the coffee experience. He had an idea to bring the Italian coffee-house tradition back to the United States. He left Starbucks for a short period of time to start his own Il Giornale coffeehouses and returned to the company August 1987 to purchase Starbucks with the help of local investors.

At this newest location you can enjoy sitting inside enjoying the music and art or sit on the semi-enclosed patio to host the first Starbucks fireplace in Southern California.

MENDOZA

Continued from page 1

"I refused to participate in any further in the farcical "investigation" against me that ignores the Senate's own rules, invents processes, criteria and standards as needed, ignores due process and constitutional right to self-defense all for the purpose of playing to election-year politicking.

I shall resign my position as Senator with immediate effect as it is clear that Senate President pro tem Kevin De Leon will not rest until he has had my head on a platter to convince the MeToo movement of his sincerity and supporting them.

De Leon ordered up a secret investigation in my case, without any due process of providing me with any specific charges, access to witnesses or evidence, or any opportunity to defend myself. The results reported using the lower standard of proof -"more likely than not"- but asking for the highest penalty, expulsion.

Since November 2017 the Senate rules committee required me to stay silent under Senate rules and also required me disparately to give up leadership positions, go on leave, and essentially disappear from Sacramento.

Now with over a quarter of Democratic senators either running for state-wide office or under investigation, I cannot expect any fairness or justice. This is particularly true as a large number of my

mostly male colleagues from either party are concerned at the prospect of being accused of "protecting" me.

I want to thank the voters in the district who elected me for their continued and strong support. I intend to canvas my district to determine my candidacy for Senate this year.

I also intend to pursue my lawsuit against the Senate for violating the Constitution and the rights of my district's voters and mine, dealing with me disparately compared to others charged with more serious allegations and leaving the 32nd district without representation."

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DOWNEY EARMARKS \$352,000 FOR HOMELESS

Staff Report

At their regular meeting of February 13, 2018, the Downey City Council committed \$352,998 to assist homeless families and homeless youth through a federally-funded Housing Rental Assistance Program.

Downey Mayor Sean Ashton stated, “It’s been a longstanding priority of the City Council to take a proactive approach to helping the most vulnerable members of our community; our commitment of more than \$300,000 in federal funding is just one of many ongoing activities, including the development of a Downey Homeless Action Plan, which is funded through a County Measure H grant.”

The City is partnering with the non-profit organizations The Whole Child and Jovenes to provide rapid re-housing and rental subsidies for young adults aged 18-24 and families with children. These organizations are able to pair the City’s Federal HOME funds with other supportive services such as job training to ensure families can remain permanently housed after the financial support has ended.

Mayor Pro Tem Rick Rodriguez, one of two Council Members who serve on the Council’s Homeless Subcommittee, stated, “the City has for years, without fanfare or attention-seeking, approached the problem of homelessness holistically with investments in job training, literacy and community programs such as TLC, as well as proactive outreach and compassionate enforcement along our riverbeds and freeways, and the commitment of these HOME funds is another way City continues helping families and young people in dire need.”

“I’m proud to have been part of the vetting process to select local providers that will assist our local Downey residents, particularly families referred through Downey Unified School District’s TLC program,” added Council Member Alex Saab, who also serves on the Council’s Homeless Subcommittee. “The public should rest assured that these new services are funded with federal dollars which come with a high degree of oversight not only from federal and City staff but also from those of us on the Council Homeless Subcommittee.”

COLUMBIA MEMORIAL CENTER'S 3D PRINTING PROGRAM

Staff Report

The Columbia Memorial Space Center [CMSC] has partnered with five sites of the LA Alliance Boys and Girls Club to bring ‘3D Literacy on the Go’. The Space Center has an opportunity to engage with youth of communities that would not otherwise have chance to be exposed to STEM related experiences.

The program will run in two phases. First, young people will learn 3D modeling and 3D printing basics, then apply their new skills to solving an issue in their

community. After that, phase two will see these students working with virtual reality storytellers to develop an original storyline for the Space Center’s Challenger Learning Center. The most workable story will become part of the Center’s regular programming.

For more information about The Columbia Memorial Space Center, please call (562) 231-1200 or visit www.columbiaspace-science.org. The Columbia Memorial Space Center is located at 12400 Columbia Way, in Downey.

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Goodbye Charley

CERRITOS SAYS FAREWELL TO A NEIGHBORHOOD ICON

By Tammye McDuff

If you are a resident of Cerritos, chances are that you noticed a 140 pound, long haired black Newfoundland walking his owner. Charley, as he has come to be known was a gentle giant, with soft fur, understanding eyes, a fabulous personality and a Mohawk, “We could never get that patch of hair to stay down,” said doggie daddy Richard Farley, “So we just let it stand straight up. It became his signature, so to speak.”

Charley could be seen walking the malls with his owners, greeting students at Lynne’s beading classes or sitting patiently while children fawned over this loving, easy going neighborhood icon. “When we would go to the park, you could hear the coaches call for a break in the game, because they knew if they didn’t, all the players would leave the field to come and say ‘Hi’ to Charley,” said Richard.

With a five star rating, Newfoundland’s are known for their all around friendliness and babysitting abilities. Do you remember the story of Peter Pan and the sweet natured Nana, the dog / babysitter? Although J.M. Barrie’s fictional account of Nana as a round the clock babysitter stretches reality a bit, there is truth in the characterization of the breed.

“Charley loved kids, he was always sweet and gentle with them and even if he didn’t know them always seemed to want to protect them,” said Lynne.

Richard recalled one instance where he and Charley were on a walk, had stopped to say hi to some folks and their toddler that was sitting in a wagon, “Charley and the baby were getting along so well, the parents and I just stood talking for a while. When it was time to walk away, we noticed that Charley had eaten all three hamburgers the family had just purchased, the toddler had let Charley eat the family’s dinner.”

HMG was contacted by the Farley’s who thought it was only appropriate for the local paper to let fans know that Charley had crossed over to the Summerland’s. Charley was 12 years old which is a good life span for the breed. “Even though he still loved his walks,” said Richard, “You could tell he was slowing down.”



Charley could no longer climb the stairs because of hip and back issues, so Richard had begun to sleep on the downstairs sofa with him. With tears in his eyes, Richard added, “Charley got to pass away at home. We were loving him and telling him how much he would be missed. With three short breathes, he closed his eyes.”

Lynne added, “I know those three breathes were Charley’s way of saying ‘I Love You’.” A tree will be planted in Charley’s name in the Chippewa National Forest.





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ARTESIA COUNCILMAN ALI TAJ HOLDS FUNDRAISER



Over 60 guests attended Councilman Taj's fundraiser including Commerce Councilman Ivan Altimirano and Downey Mayor Sean Ashton. Congresswoman Linda Sanchez (below left) also attended to congratulate him for his strong leadership in promoting his City. Also speaking was Dina Abdo Cahla, Manager of the Anaheim Branch of California Bank & Trust.



By Larry Caballero
On Politics

Two multi-story projects, Artesia Live I and Artesia Live II, have already been approved by the City to be built on Pioneer Boulevard and on Gridley Road across from the Los Cerritos Center. The projects will include a high-end hotel, condos and shops.

"It's amazing that just a few years ago, the City was contemplating the possibility of filing bankruptcy, and now we are debt free with one hundred per cent of our budget in reserves for unforeseen needs," said Taj.



He also informed more than 60 guests, including community leaders and local public officials, that it is planned for Artesia to be the final stop for the proposed new train station. He believes that this could lead to more economic growth.

Special guest Congresswoman Linda Sanchez congratulated Taj "for your leadership and dedication and hard work that you have shown for your City, and I am proud to support you for re-election to the Artesia City Council." Taj promised to continue promoting "the City I love, and I know that Artesia will continue to grow in the future."

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CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 3AA BOYS BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS

CERRITOS FINDS NO WAY TO STOP CREAN LUTHERAN OR OFFICIALS, GETS BLASTED IN SECOND ROUND

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

The unranked Cerritos High boys basketball team knew it was going to tough to get past 11th ranked Crean Lutheran High in the second round of the California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section Division 3AA playoffs. But when your battling against virtually a one-man wrecking crew, plus the officials, it's almost too much to handle.

That's what the Dons were facing in their second round game last Friday night and when the clock had read triple zeros, Cerritos was staring at a 78-61 loss. Cerritos, the second place representatives out

of the Suburban League, ends its season at 20-8.

"They're a big team," said Cerritos head coach Jonathan Watanabe. "We had problems with their size early; we didn't play very well. I want to say it does have something to do with their defense because I talked to the University coach last night and he said the same thing. They have some really good guards and they had the same kind of problems."

Cerritos never led in the contest as the Saints built first quarter leads of 12-2, 15-4 and 19-8 with Isaiah Johnson closing out the stanza with his fourth basket with 5.2 seconds left. Johnson would be a thorn in Cerritos' side throughout the game, scoring

42 points and connecting on 16 of 18 shots from the field. Eight of those points came in the first period and by halftime, he had three fewer points than the total put up by the Dons.

The closest Cerritos would get in the second quarter was 10 points and that came 64 seconds in following a basket from senior Destin Flucas off a steal. After that, the Academy League champions went on a 10-0 run and maintained a lead of no fewer than 12 points the rest of the lead. At its peak, Crean Lutheran had a 21-point advantage, but not until the final minute of the game.

While Cerritos was having trouble stopping Johnson, who scored 14 of Crean Lutheran's 19 points in the third quarter, it was also facing a disadvantage with the officiating, which frustrated Watanabe the most. The Saints were called for four fouls in the first half, but it got worse in the second half when the officials whistled Cerritos 19 times to just eight for the Saints.

"I've never been a big critic of the officials, but we didn't have a chance tonight," he said. "The officials did not give us a chance to win the game tonight. I don't know why, but we had no chance. The calls were not the same on either side of the court. We were trying to adjust to what they were calling and they were not calling the same game on both sides."

Even with the deep bench that Cerritos had, the major disadvantage was causing

havoc as four starters had four fouls and another one, senior Jyvontte Moore, fouled out nearly two minutes into the fourth quarter. A second Cerritos player, senior Brandon de Groot, also fouled out but with under two minutes remaining.

"I think the kids should dictate who wins the game" Watanabe said. "We have almost all seniors and the kids should be the ones that dictate who wins and who loses the game, not the officials. We didn't play one of our best games, but we didn't have a chance tonight."

Flucas led the Dons with 24 points, seven rebounds and three steals while senior Byron Sur added nine points and had three assists. Senior Dorian Harris also had seven boards as Cerritos had one of its finest seasons in school history, winning 20 games and losing less than 10 games in the same season for the first time in the 20 seasons it has been a member of the Suburban League. Next season, the Dons will move into the new 605 League with six returning players-three current juniors, two sophomores and a freshman. Cerritos had as many as 11 seniors begin the season.

"Over the last three years, this senior class has driven me nuts, made me work, made me earn my paycheck," Watanabe jokingly said. "But we've rebuilt, we've grown. We're not perfect; these are 17-year old, 18-year old high school kids. [But], they are a lot further along than they were."

CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 3A GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS

CERRITOS' RUN THROUGH PLAYOFFS STOPPED BY CHEN, FLINTRIDGE PREP IN QUARTERFINALS

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

LA CANADA-The only thing that was stopping a potential 605 League preview between Cerritos High and top-ranked Oxford Academy in the California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section Division 3A semifinals was Flintridge Prep, specifically Kaitlyn Chen. The sophomore small forward/small guard for the fourth ranked Rebels was nearly a one-person wrecking crew, scoring 29 points and helping her team to a 60-47 victory this past Wednesday night.

The Lady Dons were seeking their first trip to the semifinals since 2005 but ran into a buzz saw with not only Chen, who averages over 20 points a game, but a team that does not have one senior. Cerritos, ranked fifth in the division, ends the season at 24-5 and saw its 17-game winning streak come to an end.

"I think it was difficult because the girls knew who they had to stop," said Cerritos head coach Marcus Chinen. "I don't think they got down. I just think they didn't expect that she was going to do everything-rebound, push the ball up, play defense. She's a great player and I think she's going to take them pretty far in the playoffs."

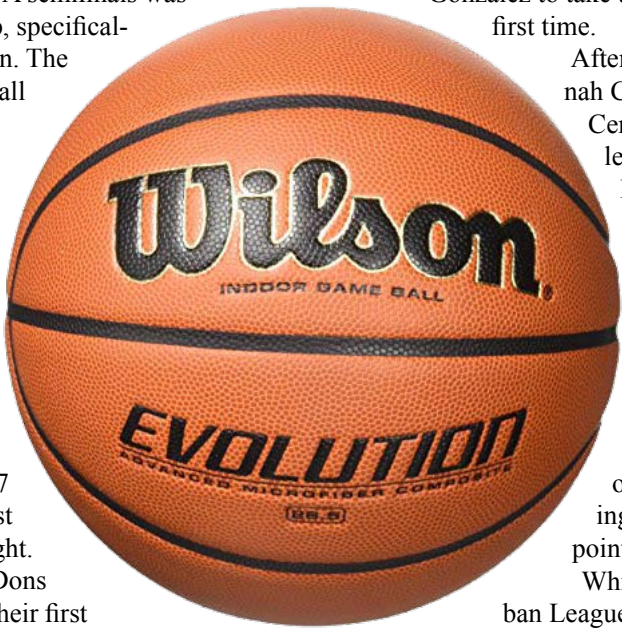
The Lady Dons held the lead throughout most of the first quarter and had their biggest advantage of the game (9-4) when senior Tracey Nakamura hit the first of her two perimeter shots with 3:26 left in the stanza. But the Rebels got a Chen basket off one of her four steals, plus back to back scores from Sofia Gonzalez to take the lead for the first time.

After junior Hannah Carroll gave Cerritos the lead again, Flintridge Prep opened the second quarter on a 15-3 run before the Lady Dons ended the half with a bit of a burst, scoring the final six points.

While the Suburban League champions were hanging with the Rebels, they found themselves trading basket for basket for the most part. Then with 2:46 remaining in the third quarter, junior Alyxe Tamaki's three-pointer tied the game at 32-32. However, that lasted 22 seconds because Gonzalez responded with a three-pointer of her own for the beginning of a 13-3 run.

"You can stay in the game but trading one basket and then they score two or three is kind of hard," Chinen said. "And it's going to be very hard staying in the game when that happens."

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See BASKETBALL page 11

BASKETBALL

CONTINUED FROMPAGE 10

quarter, the Lady Dons got it down to a two-possession game when sophomore sensation Minh-Thy Vo put in consecutive baskets. But the Rebels quickly doubled their lead in a span of 68 seconds and cruised to the double-digit win.

In addition to Chen’s 29 points, she was 11 of 16 from the field while Gonzalez added 17 points off the bench. Vo led Cerritos with 18 points on seven of 12 shooting from the field while Nakamura added eight points. Sophomore Kamsi Okere grabbed 17 rebounds, all but two coming on the offensive end, and had three steals.


As they move into the new league next season, Cerritos figures to be just as solid as it graduates only four seniors from a team of 15 players with Carroll, Okere, Tamaki, Vo and current junior Lindsay Fujihiro as the main core players.

“We have to look elsewhere, too, on who else can rebound,” Chinen said.

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“There were a couple of girls who were sitting on the bench that I think can help us. There were a couple of girls down on the lower level that can come up and maybe help us in the future. But right now, Kamsi is the one and Kamsi’s going to have to do pretty much the bulk of the rebounding the next couple of years unless someone comes in and can step up.”

Last Saturday night in the second round, the Lady Dons roughed up visiting Hemet High 43-29, setting season lows in points scored and points allowed. Cerritos went wire to wire, allowing four points in the first half and going on scoring runs of 7-0 three times before halftime.

“That’s what we told the girls, that defense was going to get us through every round,” Chinen said. “We actually challenged them through the regular season that defense was going to get us to a league title, or even a chance of a league title. We ended up doing that.”

Hemet, which entered the contest with a 23-5 mark, finally scored consecutive baskets early in the third quarter and cut the Cerritos lead down to 15 points before the midway point of the third quarter. But the hosts managed to get their lead back up to 19 points by the end of the stanza and never led by less than a dozen points.

“At that point, it did surprise me, and I think it did surprise some of the girls too,” Chinen said of the big lead “But we didn’t want them to relax. At one point, they did relax a little bit. But when it’s all said and done, it was our defense that won this game.”

Nakamura and Okere each scored nine points to pace the Lady Dons while Fujihiro added another six points. Okere also had 10 of Cerritos’ 36 rebounds. The Lady Dons also swarmed Hemet for 18 steals, five coming from Carroll.

WHITNEY GIRLS FALL APART IN FOURTH QUARTER, BOUNCED OUT EARLY BY DON LUGO

By Loren Kopff


@LorenKopff on Twitter

CHINO-In the past six seasons, the Whitney High girls basketball team has reached the California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section divisional quarterfinals four times, three of them under head coach Jeff Day’s watch. The Lady Wildcats had their best season since the 2013-2014 campaign and although they drew Don Lugo High on the road last Thursday night, all signs pointed for a victory against a team that finished a game over .500

But Whitney couldn’t get into any type of groove and the 10th ranked team in Division 4AA fell to the unranked Conquistadors 54-37. Whitney ends its season at 17-11.

“I never thought our zone would be so porous,” Day said. “It’s just so frustrating because everything Don Lugo did, we knew they were going to do. I knew they were going to be in a 2-3 zone and they weren’t going to press us. I never would have thought their 2-3 zone would give us that much trouble.”

Whitney took its first lead of the game inside the final minute of the first quarter when freshman Kim Hosada connected on her lone basket of the game, making it 10-9 after the first eight minutes. Then with 88 seconds into the second quarter, a bucket from sophomore Janelle Ho put the Lady ‘Cats up 12-11 before Don Lugo went on an 11-3 run and holding off a pesky Whitney squad that made many attempts to get back into



HMG-CN Sports Editor
Loren Kopff

NEWS & NOTES FROM PRESS ROW

the game in the second half.

Consecutive baskets from Ho and junior Justine Wu in a 30-second span made it a 22-19 affair before the hosts quickly went up by seven. Then after junior Kiana Sanchez hit her only basket to begin the second half scoring over two minutes in, Don Lugo went on an 8-0 run to lead by 11 points, its largest lead up to this point.

Whitney made things interesting by going on its own 8-0 run in the fourth quarter and when junior Christine Hamakawa nailed her third three-pointer, it was 38-36 with 5:20 left to play. But the Lady ‘Cats missed their final seven field goals of the game while the Q’s scored 14 straight points. Whitney was plagued by poor shooting, hitting 14 of 51 shots and was six of 24 from three-point land.

“I think it was more effort in certain players,” Day said. “We have a lack of effort and we have a lack of attitude in some of our players,” Day said. “That’s as far as I’ll go.”

Whitney was also a huge disadvantage on the boards, getting outrebounded 42-24 with Wu leading her team with half a dozen rebounds. Meanwhile, Don

See WHITNEY page 12

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WHITNEY

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

Lugo had 19 offensive rebounds to 10 from Whitney.

“I would have thought it was worse,” Day said. “And we talked about that between quarters and we talked about that at halftime. I basically said if we don’t rebound, we’re not going to win this game. You can’t give teams two, three, four, five chances. There were rebounds where their girl didn’t even want the ball.”

Hamakawa led the Lady ‘Cats with 11 points while Wu added nine. Whitney will lose three seniors, one of whom was a starter but none of the three scored more than 10 points in any one game this season.

“With the team we had, I thought we would win 18 to 20-something games,” Day said. “We had about three really bad games; I’d say this was one of them. And Long Beach Wilson was one of them and Crean Lutheran was one of them. Those were probably our bad three.

Division 4 Boys soccer first round

La Serna 1, Norwalk 0

It was a bitter and sudden end for Norwalk High last Friday, which advanced to last season’s Division 4 semifinals. The host Lancers were unable to mount enough offensive opportunities and were blanked for just the third time this season, all by the same score.

“We just didn’t have that offensive threat that we did last year in key points,” said Norwalk head coach Vinson Pluma. “And in big games, you have to have an offensive threat where we can just score from anywhere. Today, they

got a good, easy pop shot from outside and the ball just landed to him. We were out of position and he got a shot.”

Ten minutes into the contest, La Serna High’s Eric Soto’s header off a corner kick clanked off the left post. Norwalk’s first legitimate opportunity came in the 22nd minute when senior forward Alejandro Amador long range shot sailed to the left of the net. Seven minutes later, another Amador shot went off to the right. Then with six minutes remaining in the half, a long range shot from senior defender Angel Olivares-Almejo went to the left of the net. He would also have another shot seven minutes into the second half from the left side of the penalty box that hit the crossbar. Meanwhile, the lone tally came with a minute before halftime off the foot of Ryan Bliss.

“Defensively, we played well,” Pluma said. “Offensively, we lacked creativity, I believe. That was the tough part. We couldn’t get wide and then cross the ball in from the back and we got very few shots that were just in front of the goal.”

While Norwalk was holding its own defensively, the game became more and more physical in the second half with La Serna being whistled 13 times and Norwalk another seven. In fact, La Serna’s Oscar Vaquevana was issued a red card in the 70th minute and gave Norwalk a man-advantage the remainder of the game.

“As we’re playing through the whole game, some teams will systematically foul you too, constantly,” Pluma said. “And it got worse throughout the game. That’s something you can prepare the for, but again it’s not until they hit the game that they understand how it’s going to affect them and how they’re going to react to it.”

Norwalk, tied for second in the

Suburban League with Artesia High, concludes the season at 14-7, but the immediate future looks very good as the junior varsity team went 20-0 and the frosh/soph team went 19-1.

In other playoff soccer action, the Artesia boys squad posted a 3-1 home victory over Quartz Hill High this past Wednesday evening in Division 3 action with tallies coming from senior defender Javier Gonzalez and sophomore midfielders Jose Aguilar and Alejandro Romero. The Pioneers (19-7-1), ranked ninth in the division, will travel to top-

ranked University High (18-1-3) and should they post the upset, Artesia will face the winner of the La Habra High-Newbury Park High in the semifinals on Tuesday.

In Division 4 girls action, third ranked Valley Christian High was upset by unranked La Canada High 1-0 last Tuesday evening. The loss snapped a 13-game winning streak for the Lady Crusaders (20-4-1), who outscored their opponents 55-4 during that stretch. V.C. was last season’s Division 6 champions.

LAKEWOOD

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

reservoirs. The parks will then use that water for irrigation. It has been stated these projects will save Lakewood on irrigation costs and keep contaminated storm water from flowing into Alamitos Bay in Long Beach.

Lakewood received special state funding that will fully pay for the innovative system, one of the first of its kind. When completed, Bolivar Park will also receive all-new picnic shelters, the updated irrigation system, and new turf that will completely hide the reservoir underground.

During construction, most of Bolivar Park will remain open, including the ball fields, swimming pool, and two new playgrounds, which includes the 75-foot zipline.

In the future, most cities will have to use their own local funds to pay for these kinds of projects as mandated increase for such clean-water efforts. Due to the

fact the City was able to act quickly when limited funding became available, the City is due to receive over \$20 million of state dollars for the Bolivar and Mayfair projects.

Mayfair and Bolivar parks will also be given new infrastructure as part of the projects. Mayfair Park will receive new tennis courts. The existing court must be removed while the reservoir is being constructed. Bolivar Park will see the installation of new picnic shelters because the old ones must be torn down to make way for the reservoir.

While the Bolivar and Mayfair projects, will have an inconvenience factor while they are happening, City staff has pledged to do the best they can to minimize inconveniences during the construction work.



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DALLAS CHILDREN’S THEATER’S ‘HOW I BECAME A PIRATE’ VIA CCPA’S EDUCATION THROUGH ARTS EXPERIENCE



Dallas Children’s Theater’s “How I Became A Pirate” at the CPA made possible and funded by the City of Cerritos and Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn.

The Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts (CCPA) presented two performances of Dallas Children’s Theater’s “How I Became A Pirate” on Thursday, February 15 as part of its arts education program for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. The shows were made possible and funded by the City of Cerritos and Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn. More than 2,600 students and educators participated from school districts such as ABC Unified School District, Bellflower Unified School District, Long Beach Unified School District, Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District and Paramount Unified School District. Both performances were presented for kindergarteners through fifth graders. Students were treated to a swashbuckling musical adventure as young Jeremy Jacobs joined Captain Braid Beard’s band of comical pirates and searched for the

perfect spot to bury their treasure. Based on the popular book by Melinda Long, the production included songs like “A Good One to Boot,” “Green Teeth” and “Talk Like a Pirate.” The mission of Dallas Children’s Theater is to inspire young people to lead creative and productive lives through the art of theater. The group was founded in 1984 by Robyn Flatt and Dennis Vincent in response to the growing need for professional family theater. “This performance was a joyful family musical that left the young students singing and dancing in the aisles,” remarked Cerritos Mayor Grace Hu. “The City of Cerritos is grateful for the partnership with Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn, which allowed us to present this educational and entertaining show to students from various communities.”

WHITLOCK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ed for people from La Mirada’s business and professional community. The event will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m., Thursday, March 1 at the Twelve-Sixty Modern Pub & Kitchen, a popular La Mirada gathering place located in the Gateway Plaza Holiday Inn. “Guests will get a chance to mingle in a relaxed setting with Rotary members, and learn about Rotarians’ commitment to making a difference in our community and business activities while developing leadership skills,” says Zurich Lewis, club president. Lewis will also be discussing the establishment of a new evening meeting club for the La Mirada Rotary Club. It is anticipated that the evening club will meet once per month, and run in conjunction with La Mirada Rotary’s daytime club. The evening club meeting time is projected to be more convenient for many young professionals and others with daytime work commitments, as well as those who work out of the La Mirada area. La Mirada Rotary Club has received special recognition from Rotary District 5320 for the positive impact of its youth programs. The club’s Eileen Wade Clothes for Kids project is held each December. Rotarians help La Mirada high school students by providing college scholarships, sponsoring the local Interact club and offering Youth Leadership training. In addition, Rotary assists at various community events throughout the year. “Rotary supports a diverse range of programs and institutions, including educational programs at local schools and the La Mirada Library, efforts to improve health by eliminating polio and children’s cancer, and cultural programs such as the La Mirada Symphony.” adds Lewis. “Getting involved in Rotary is a great way to become more active in your community and increase the visibility of your business or profession.” “Some people mistakenly believe that Rotary is for men only, and that is not the case,” says President-Elect Tom Robinson. “Rotary encourages women to join the organization and assume important leadership roles. Women make up more than 20 percent of Rotary’s membership worldwide, and they are filling many key leadership positions throughout the organization.” Weekly meetings of the daytime club at 12:30 p.m. on Wednesdays provide an opportunity for members and guests to network and hear interesting speakers. The parent Rotary International organization claims 1.2 million members around the world who are involved in efforts to advance goals such as clean water, maternal and child health, literacy, economic development and peace. The Twelve-Sixty Modern Pub & Kitchen is one of La Mirada’s newer restaurants. Serving fresh, gastro-inspired food, hand-mixed drinks and an extensive selection of brews, the restaurant redefines classic pub favorites with bold flavors and taste combinations prepared with locally sourced ingredients and handcrafted with an artistic attention to detail. Persons interested in reserving a spot for the Rotary open house should email Lewis at goldenstatesman@gmail.com. Information on La Mirada Rotary will be available at the meeting, and can be found online at www.rotarycluboflamirada.com/ or www.facebook.com/rotarycluboflamirada/.

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Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 2/23 and 3/2/18

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR BIDS

DISTRICT: MONTEBELLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the above-named California Unified School District, acting by and through its Board of Education, hereinafter the “District” will receive up to, but not later than the above-stated date and time, sealed Bid Proposals for the Contract for the Work of the Project generally described as: **Bid No. 23(17-18) Site Work for the New Head Start Buildings, Shade Canopies and Play Structures at Cesar Chavez Elementary School.**

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF BID PROPOSALS: **March 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.**

LOCATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BID PROPOSALS: MONTEBELLO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT, Facilities Development Department, 500 N. Hendricks Street, Montebello, CA 90640, ATTENTION: Jeff Woods, Acting Director Maintenance & Operations and Facilities Development.

PLACE FOR OBTAINING BID AND CONTRACT DOCUMENTS: Available through ARC/ Planwell at (626) 583-1122 and <http://www.e-arc.com/ca/pasadena>

1.

Licenses.

Contractors are required to have a Class: B license and/or certification at the time of bid submission.

2.

Prequalification.

N/A

3.

Registration with DIR.

Pursuant to Labor Code §1725.5, all bidders and their subcontractors of any tier must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations in order to submit a bid, be listed in a bid proposal, or engage in the performance of this contract.

4.

Bid Security.

Each Bid Proposal shall be accompanied by Bid Security in an amount not less than **ten percent (10%)** of the maximum amount of the Bid Proposal, inclusive of any additive Bid Alternates. Failure of any Bid Proposal to be accompanied by Bid Security in the form and in the amount required shall render such Bid Proposal to be non-responsive and rejected by the District.

5.

No Withdrawal of Bid Proposals.

Bid Proposals shall not be withdrawn by any Bidder for a period of **sixty (60) days** after the opening of Bid Proposals. During this time, all Bidders shall guarantee prices quoted in their respective Bid Proposals.

6.

Job-Walk.

The District will conduct a **Mandatory Job Walk on March 6, 2018 beginning at 10:00 a.m. Bidder’s attendance to the Job Walk is mandatory.** Job walk location: **Cesar Chavez Elementary, 6139 Loveland St., Bell Gardens, CA 90201 at parking lot entrance on Jaboneria Rd.** The Bid Proposal submitted by a Bidder whose representative(s) did not attend the entirety of the Mandatory Job Walk will be rejected by the District as being non-responsive.

7.

Contract Time.

The date(s) for completion of Milestones and for achieving Substantial Completion of the Work shall be as set forth in the Special Conditions. Failure to complete designated portions of the Work, including Milestones, within the time(s) established in the Special Conditions and/or failure to achieve Substantial Completion of the Work within the Contract Time shall subject the Contractor to Liquidated Damages as set forth in the Special Conditions.

8.

Payment and Performance Bonds.

A Labor and Materials Payment Bond and Performance Bond are required in the amount of 100% of the Contract amount.

9.

Prevailing Wage Rates.

The Contractor and all Subcontractors performing any portion of the Work shall pay not less than the applicable prevailing wage rate for the classification of labor provide by their respective workers in prosecution and execution of the Work. Pursuant to Labor Code §1773, the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations of the State of California has determined the generally prevailing rates of wages in the locality in which the Work is to be performed. Copies of these determinations, entitled "PREVAILING WAGE SCALE" are available on the Internet at www.dir.ca.gov/dir/S&R/statistics_research.html. The Contractor awarded the Contract for the Work shall post a copy of all applicable prevailing wage rates for the Work at conspicuous locations at the Site of the Work.

10.

Substitute Security.

Substitution of eligible and equivalent securities for any monies withheld by the District to ensure the Contractor's performance under the Contract will be permitted at the request and expense of the Contractor and in conformity with Public Contract Code §22300. The Bidder to whom the Contract is awarded shall have thirty (30) days following award of the Contract to such Bidder to submit its written request to the District to permit the substitution of securities for retention. The failure of the Bidder to make such written request to the District within said thirty (30) day period shall be deemed a waiver of the Bidder's rights under Public Contract Code §22300.

11.

Award of Contract.

The Contract for the Work, if awarded, will be by action of the District’s Board of Education to the responsible Bidder submitting the lowest priced responsive Bid Proposal.

Publication Dates: **February 23, 2018 and March 2, 2018.**

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 2/23 and 3/2/18

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Athens Services is a local, family-owned waste collection and recycling company that has been a fixture in the greater Los Angeles community for the past 60 years. We provide innovative, consistent and quality environmental services to our more than 200,000 customers in the 50+ communities we serve. Through reuse, recycling and composting, Athens diverts valuable resources from landfills.

Athens is the right choice for Norwalk. The "Athens Advantage" includes rate stability, high landfill diversion, outstanding community partnerships and discounts for seniors, Norwalk Sheriff first responders and LA County firefighters. We will work with your community to improve quality of life by targeting abandoned waste and partnering with law enforcement to eliminate scavenging. Our staff also understands the community intimately, as 10 Athens employees are Norwalk residents.

We pride ourselves on being a family-owned company. After immigrating to the United States from Armenia and settling in the San Gabriel Valley, Athens Services founder Jack Arakelian began waste hauling in the Athens district of Los Angeles – inspiring the name "Athens Services." Arakelian passed down his legacy to his son Ron Sr., grandsons Ron Jr. and Michael, and great grandsons Ron III and Adam, who run Athens today.

As the largest independent recycling and solid waste services company in Los Angeles County, Athens is responsible for exclusive recycling, solid waste, green waste and organics services for residential, multi-family and commercial customers in 23 local municipalities, and is active in 27 cities in open franchise markets. We have never lost a municipal franchise once service has begun, a record that remains unmatched in the industry. Athens' combination of experience and infrastructure allows us to provide both source separation and processing of recyclable material. Our two Materials Recovery Facilities (MRFs) are some of the few operating within the Los Angeles area; our MRF in Sun Valley, CA is the most innovative mixed-waste processing facility in California.

Athens is committed to protecting the environment. We are always looking for ways to advance our recycling programs, save precious resources and create a better environment for current and future generations. One of the ways we promote this goal is by operating clean fuel vehicles. Over 75% of our fleet is powered by alternative fuels. Our Southern California focus also translates into a labor force with personal involvement in local neighborhoods. We consistently support various nonprofits and organizations in the communities we serve.

We look forward to the opportunity to service Norwalk as your community's zero waste partner, and thank the City for their consideration.

CITIES WE SERVICE

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Burbank
Covina
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Glendora
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Monrovia
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Sierra Madre
South El Monte
Temple City
West Hollywood
Whittier
& MORE!