



REMEMBERING COVID VICTIMS

ROSE HILLS has placed laminated cards in front of several trees so that anyone, whether they are interred at the cemetery or not, can remember loved ones that have passed due to the pandemic.

Volunteers Help to Clean Up Artesia

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

Artesia Volunteers and city staff joined together last Saturday May 22 for a Community Alley Clean-Up. Residents came out in full force from 7:00 am to noon to clean and clear alleys that have collected unwanted waste and litter.

All volunteers met up at the Albert O Little Community Center then headed out to the alley entrance on Ibex Avenue, between Horst Avenue and Norwalk Boulevard. Volunteers were asked to bring their own equipment. All the work gloves, stiff brooms, scoop shovels, buckets, and wheelbarrows were

appreciated. Mask wearing and social distancing was strictly enforced.

Mayor pro tem Melissa Ramoso said she is not usually an early riser, but made it to the 7:00 am call time for another Artesia alley clean up, “what a difference a lot of care and team work will do. Thank you to Mayor Trevino, City Staff, Jessica for organizing with Micah, Public Works Ernesto and Hugo, residents Carl, Dan, neighbors, and awesome students from Gahr High School, Whitney High School and La Quinta High School. Bravo everyone! “

If you have questions or would like to sponsor another clean up, please contact Jessica Medina at jmedina@cityofartesia.us or at (562) 865-6262, ext. 249.

Covid-19 Memorial at Rose Hills

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

“With over 1,600 Rose Hills families directly affected and over 20 million southern California residents impacted, we felt the need to create a space for our community to find comfort in knowing they are not alone,” said Antoinette Lou, Director of Community Relations and Communications.

Rose Hills Memorial Park has taken a portion of lawn and placed several trees in very large planters and placed laminated cards at the base, so that anyone, whether they are interred at the cemetery or not, can remember loved ones that have passed due to the pandemic.

A grove of trees physically distanced represents the experience of these past 15 months. Over 1,600 reflective hearts and stars on the trees represent a love one lost to CoVid-19. Their reflective light serves as a reminder of those who once brought light into the lives of their friends and families.

The memorial began March 23 and was to run only a month; however it has received such attention that the grove is still standing just inside Gate One in the Garden of Meditation.

“There are some who bring

See **MEMORIAL** page 12

Central Basin Water Lowers Rates, Earns \$2.5 Million Net Operating Margin

Central Basin customers expected to pay 14 percent less for imported water.

BY BRIAN HEWS

COMMERCE, CA – Only months after Assemblywoman Cristina Garcia's controversial bill failed, a bill that attempted to place Central Basin Water (CB) into receivership despite an \$8 million reserve and a budget that showed a slight net operating margin (NOM), it is evident that the new CB Board, led by Art Chacon, and management team, led by Alex Rojas, cleaned up the mess left by Kevin Hunt, and the corporate sabotage of

former Finance Director Andrew Hamilton, earning a \$2.5 NOM and announcing a rate reduction.

Despite a projected statewide drought, the CB Board approved a 14 percent reduction in imported water rates for cities and other customers in its service area. The reduction was approved during the District's monthly Board meeting on May 24.

Many California counties are currently under a severe drought forecast precipitated by low water levels and little snow in the Sierras. The District did not increase its recycled water rates, or imported water administrative fees, further reducing the cost of water for its customers.

See **WATER** page 12

Proposed California Math Framework De-Tracks, Structures Math by Grade Rather Than Courses

Students take the same math classes in 6th - 10th grade rather than placing students in traditional or advanced math.

BY BRIAN HEWS

It seems as if California has a math problem. The Wall Street Journal agreed running the headline “California leftists are trying to cancel mathematics.”

Nearly a decade after Common Core math standards left ethnic students behind while making it difficult for others, a state-led recommendation from the Instructional Quality Commission faced a huge backlash from parents and teachers against a rewrite of the California Mathematics Framework.

The commission voted to incorporate changes, including to specify guidance for districts around accelerated math tracks.

The framework will get a second public review in June and then the State Board of Education will review in November.

The new standards emphasize de-tracking and alternative math courses, such as data science and statistics over calculus, “math

that people are more likely to use in their careers.”

The framework structures mathematical topics by grade rather than distinct courses. The controversy is the recommendation that students take the same math classes in 6th through 10th grade

See **MATH** page 12

So Cal Median Home Price Jumps 20%

Sales jumped 86.2% to nearly 26,000, compared with 14,000 in April 2020.

BY BRIAN HEWS

There is a glut of potential home buyers but a shortage of sellers, which is leading to bidding wars.

Southern California home prices hit to an all-time high in April as the hot real estate moved to sizzling.

The six-county region's median home price increased

See **HOME PRICES** page 12



ARTESIA CITY COUNCILMAN Tony Lima (l) and Mayor Rene Trevino work to clean the alley between Horst Avenue and Norwalk Boulevard in another clean-up event for the city. Another clean-up event will occur on June 19 from 7- 12 noon.



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After 3 years and cleaning 100,000 pieces.
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The LM Community Foundation gave out eight.
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Police find drums full of fireworks in Lakewood.
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Six straight league titles comes to an end.
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Pay it Forward: Cerritos Couple Hides Cash in Diaper Boxes at Three Targets

Krystal Duhaney remembers all too well how much money it takes to keep a baby in diapers and formula, so she decided to help some of her fellow moms.

Duhaney went to Target stores in Manhattan Beach, Carson, and Signal Hill to hide cash in boxes of diapers and under the lids of formula. Altogether, Duhaney and her husband, Patrick, hid about \$1,000 in cash.

“No, we didn’t leave any notes or anything, really identifying ourselves, so it really wasn’t something that we wanted them to say, ‘hey, thank you so much.’ We just really wanted to brighten someone’s day,” Duhaney said.

Duhaney posted video on Instagram, showing her hands tucking cash into the products. Captions on the video said they too struggled to make ends meet when Duhaney had her first baby. But the former nurse now has a lactation business, so another message in the video said, “Now that I own a successful business, I wanted to give back.”

Cerritos Reopening Planned for July 1

The City of Cerritos is working toward reopening the Cerritos Library, Cerritos Senior Center at Pat Nixon Park and the Liberty Park Fitness Center on Thursday, July 1. The date is subject to change, depending on the requirements of the Los Angeles County Health

Officer Order. Services at each facility will be modified to meet health and safety requirements.

At this time, the City is not taking any reservations for facility or picnic shelter rentals. The City is carefully monitoring the Health Officer Order updates to determine when it will be feasible to resume facility and picnic shelter rentals.

Cerritos Library's Summer Reading Program

Cerritos Library cardholders are invited to participate in the “Tails and Tales 46th Summer Reading Program,” which is sponsored by the Friends of the Cerritos Library.

Children ages 12 and younger who read 30 minutes per day (210 minutes per week) during the program will earn a Summer Reading Program Tote Bag (while supplies last). Young Adults, ages 13 to 17, and adults, ages 18 and older, must complete four books, either fiction or non-fiction, in any language to earn the tote bag.

Once every reading goal is met, participants can visit the Children’s Help Desk in the Cerritos Library to receive their tote bag beginning Monday, July 19 through Friday, August 6. (Using the Beanstack mobile App, participants must show library staff the digital completion badge they’ve earned. Those who register in person must present the completed reading log.) Each participant must be present to receive their tote bag.

There are two ways to register for the summer reading program:

Online registration: Pre-registration will be available through the Cerritos Library’s Beanstack service from Monday, June 14 through Sunday, June 20. To access and sign-up for a Beanstack

account, visit cerritoslibrary.us. Each participant must have a valid Cerritos Library card. Participants can log their reading progress in Beanstack and will need to complete their reading from Monday, June 21 through Friday, July 23.

In-Person Registration: Patrons can also register in person starting Monday, June 21. Patrons who register in person need to bring their valid Cerritos Library card to the Cerritos Library’s Sidewalk Service. Each participant must be present to register or their valid Cerritos Library card must be presented. A separate form will need to be completed for each person who signs up to receive a reading log.

La Mirada VFW Memorial Day Service

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post #9148 will host a Memorial Day Service on Monday, May 31 at 11 a.m. at Olive Lawn Memorial Park, located at 13926 La Mirada Boulevard.

The service will include a Memorial Day address given by Associate Pastor of Community Life Church, Arco Cabrera. A recognition of Blue Star families, a special tribute to fallen soldiers, and the placing of memorial flowers by the La Mirada City Council, community organizations, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Auxiliary will be part of the program.

Attendees are encouraged to bring their own chairs, as seating is limited. For additional information, call La Mirada VFW Post #9148 at (562) 903-1185 or Olive Lawn Memorial Park at (562) 943-1718.

La Mirada Neighborhood Mosquito Watch Meeting

A Neighborhood Watch meeting via Zoom will be held on Wednesday, June 16 at 6 p.m.

The Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District (GLACVCD) will be presenting its grassroots outreach program, Mosquito Watch. This neighborhood program, facilitated by the GLACVCD’s Community Liaisons, educates, mobilizes, and empowers neighborhoods to take action against mosquitoes as activity increases.

The presentation will be held online using Zoom and may be viewed on any computer, laptop or mobile device. Users of tablets or smart phones will need to download the free Zoom app to participate. No cameras or microphones are needed, and participants will be able to ask questions via the text chat box.

Meeting ID: 890 6873 0258
Passcode: 585975

The Gardens Casino Offering Free COVID Vaccinations

The Gardens Casino is teaming up with Remedia Care to provide local residents free COVID vaccinations. The vaccinations will occur outside the Casino at 11871 Carson St. in Hawaiian Gardens, Ca., 90716.

Those that want a vaccine need to go online to pre-register now.

Below is the information for signing up and making an appointment.

1. Click on the link to pre-register. Link: https://remediarecare.md-hq.com/schedule_unregistered or www.remediarecare.com and click the “book now” button to access the same link.

2. Select the provider: “Garden’s Casino- 11871 Carson St.”

3. Select the appointment date of DATE: 6/7/21, 6/9/21 or 6/11/21

Please come in at your scheduled appointment time with your mask on, a government ID or some form of identification and insurance card (not required). Appointments are strongly encouraged.

Lakewood Fireworks Show

A safe and professional aerial fireworks show will take place at three locations across Lakewood on Friday, July 2 for 15 minutes starting at 8:45 p.m.

The city is sponsoring this show in place of the Civic Center Block Party, which had to be canceled again this year due to COVID health precautions for large gatherings.

The Block Party traditionally included a fireworks show.

The city has chosen three locations for the July 2 show so that as many Lakewood residents as possible will be able to view it from their front yards or near their homes. The locations will be:

Holmes Elementary, Lakewood High and Artesia High.

Public safety personnel will prevent people from congregating at those locations.

Instead, please try to see the fireworks from your yard or neighborhood.

The City of Lakewood encourages residents to enjoy this safe and professional fireworks show on July 2nd and to enjoy “safe and sane” fireworks on July 4, during the legal hours of 11 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Cerritos City Council Review of the Preliminary Combined Financial Program for Fiscal Year 2021-2022



The Cerritos City Council and members of the Successor Agency to the Cerritos Redevelopment Agency will review the following item at a special meeting to be held on **Thursday, June 3 at 7 p.m.** in the City Council Chambers:

- Review of the Preliminary Combined Financial Program for Fiscal Year 2021-2022, for the City of Cerritos and the Successor Agency to the Cerritos Redevelopment Agency

Community members are encouraged to participate and review the preliminary budget on the City’s website, cerritos.us.

For more information, call (562) 916-1315.

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Downey Library Holds Ribbon Cutting For Official Opening



DOWNEY MAYOR Claudia Frometa (with scissors), Mayor pro tem Blanca Pacheco, and Downey Library Executive Director Ben Dickow cut the ribbon signalling the opening of the library after three years.

There were over 100,000 items that had to be sorted through, piece by piece to clean, update or repair.

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

Earlier this month HMG-CN was granted a sneak preview of the newly renovated Downey City Library and their many state-of-the-art upgrades.

This past Saturday May 22, the official ribbon was cut and the library is now almost fully reopened.

“The reopening of this facility has been three years in the making,” remarked Executive Director Ben Dickow.

“The City Council has been instrumental in supporting the renovation of the library. It had not been updated in 40 years, but thanks to Measure S we were able to bring the library into the 21 Century.”

The library staff was actively involved in all of the ideas and rethought the operation of what a future library should be.

There were roughly 100,000 items that had to be sorted through, piece by piece to clean, update or repair.

“We are so overjoyed and this is such a grand day for our community. On behalf of the City Council we are honored to hold this official ribbon cutting for our library and a 21st century public learning environment,” stated Mayor Claudia Frometa. Over 70 percent of Downey residents passed Measure S, to improve parks and facilities.

The library was closed March 16, 2019 and reopened May 3, 2021 with a limited amount of public action.

“The library is more than a building; it is an idea of public service that is responding to its community. We have seen the importance of public libraries in the past 15 months during the pandemic and watched as they actually set the tone on continuing service to their communities,” said Dickow.

“The library has become a sacred space in a way. Children learn to read and write here, some take their first steps or say their first words. We have adults join our literacy program and learn to read and write. Our library is a powerful place.”

Downey Library is located at 11121 Brookshire Avenue, right beside City Hall.

The library is currently opened at 50 percent and should be fully opened in time for school days in the fall.

Cerritos Housing Element Online Survey

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

The city of Cerritos is asking for residents input and feedback regarding the future of housing in Cerritos. The survey is open to the public through June 11, 2021.

As required by State housing law, the Cerritos is currently in the process of updating its Housing Element (HE) for the 2021-2029 planning period. The HE outlines the City’s housing policies, goals, programs and opportunities for new housing development over the next eight years. As part of the State’s efforts to provide housing opportunities for all income categories and housing types, California quantifies projected housing needs and assigns housing allocations to each County. This allocation, called the Regional Housing Needs Assessment is

the total number of housing units that City must plan for in the Housing Element. For the 2021-2029 periods, Cerritos was allocated a total of 1,908 housing units, which must be planned for construction during this time period.

The survey gathers community feedback on housing preferences, needs and future housing opportunities. The survey will remain anonymous. If you would like to be more involved or stay up to date or be notified of updates, visit here:

<http://bit.ly/Cerritoshousing>

A City Council session and community workshops will be held to allow the general public to provide input.

For information regarding the survey please visit www.cerritos.us or email your contact information to

housingelement@cerritos.us

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Downey Has Reasons to Celebrate

BY MAYOR CLAUDIA FROMETA

We are finally turning the corner on the pandemic and according to the latest numbers from L.A. County Public Health, the vaccination rate for Downey residents 16 years of age and older is now 62.2%, for adults 65 years of age and older it is 85.7%. Downey is surpassing LA County vaccination rates in both categories. This is a significant milestone for our community as we continue to see Covid-19 cases plunge across LA County and across the country.

Just this week, the Centers for Disease Control reported a 90% drop in the daily infection rate. January 2021 saw a daily

infection rate at 250,000 across the country, earlier this week however, it was reported at 25,000 nationwide. Let’s continue to do our part and increase the vaccination rate in our community. Our goal is to surpass 75% within the next few weeks!

We plan is to reopen Council Chambers for our City Council meetings on June 22; Downey City Library is now open at 50% capacity. We held a small ribbon cutting ceremony last weekend to commemorate this milestone.

Concerts in the Park will be back this summer. The City’s Parks and Recreation office will be providing more details about the line-up for concerts at the newly renovated Furman Park. Stay tuned for additional details in the coming weeks.

Regarding Public Events in Downey, there is a process to host/hold a public event in any of our parks, especially if vendors are involved, even if this gathering is of religious nature. City permits needs to be acquired and the event must go through an approval process. To prevent any future event from being cancelled and the organizers fined, please visit city hall to ask about the event permit process.

Keep Downey Beautiful Monthly Street Volunteer Clean-up is back after more than a year, the first Keep Downey Beautiful Volunteer clean-up event along Lakewood Blvd., is scheduled for Saturday, June 19 from 9am-10am in the

back parking lot of Big Lots located at 9200 Firestone Boulevard.

I’d like to ask our Downey residents who are currently conducting spring cleaning or yard sales, to please verify the donation area at Goodwill or Salvation Army stores is open to receive them. Please, do not leave your leave your unwanted items outside the closed stores. We have received numerous reports of transients taking items left outside and being scattered throughout adjacent parks.

Downey’s anti-litter campaign is being well received, let’s continue to do our part by putting all trash in its place. To report illegally dumped items to the City of Downey, please call 562.904.1161. If you would like bulky items removed, please call CalMet at 562.259.1239

Regarding the city’s day to day activities and response to CoVid 19, operations and public safety has a small but might staff who work tirelessly to serve our community. To date, we have had three food distribution events in partnership with county and state representatives, and served 6,903 households.

Our city conducts 255 senior wellness checks twice a week and has distributed 65,618 senior meals. We currently distribute 1,175 meals to 168 seniors each week. There have been 204 virtual enrichment videos, 17 virtual/drive-by community events and our city continues to offer free transit rides on Downey Link,

free Wi-Fi throughout our city parks, library, and city buildings.

There have been 1,422 applications distributed for the city’s rental assistance program. This program has a budget of \$950,000. Close to 1,000 door hangers have been distributed door-to-door to rental properties in the city to ensure the information gets to our renters. New applicants that qualify and go through the process will automatically receive three month’s rental assistance. Those that received one-month assistance previously, please contact the Community Development office at 562.299.6706.

The business community received 60 small business grants; 36 temporary outdoor dining applications and ten temporary outdoor business applications received. The city’s code enforcement division has contacted 707 businesses and organizations to address violations.

There has been a \$5.3 million annual budget allocation for street rehabilitation, which allows us to prioritize certain areas based on our city’s Street Management Plan. Old River School Road is undergoing much-needed repair.

Downey Police Department Street Racing detail has continued to diligently patrol segments throughout the city that are prone to speed and street racing. If there is street racing in your neighborhood, please report it to the Downey Police Department Dispatch at 562.861.0770

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Norwalk-La Mirada Unified Superintendent Update

BY JOHN LOPEZ, NLMUSD SUPERINTENDENT

As we plan for the 2021-2022 school year, I would like to provide you with a preliminary update on what school will look like next year. Based on the steady decline of COVID-19 cases in Los Angeles County, we are optimistic about returning to school in our traditional in-person instructional model. Learning in this model will follow the “pre-pandemic” regular school day schedule, where students attend school full-day, five days a week.

The in-person model will include all grade levels, TK – 12th grade. Rest assured, we will continue to follow the guidance from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health and adjust our health and safety protocols based on the most current information.

For those families who prefer to keep their student home, we will provide three different options based on student needs:

- Virtual Academy: students

complete all courses independently on an online platform through Acellus or Edgenuity.

- Independent Study:students complete work independently using print materials as well as online resources with in-person support on a weekly basis.
- Distance Learning - Pending California Department of Education Authorization: students receive all instruction online synchronously with a teacher in a schedule that resembles the fullday in-person model.

For planning purposes, you will receive a link from your site principal to complete a Learning Model Interest survey regarding your preferences for next school year. Your response will be greatly appreciated. Please note: our State Preschool/Head Start services are pending further guidance from county and state officials. Additionally, our Adult School will provide updates pertaining to their learning options within their program. We will continue to monitor and follow all health and safety guidelines to ensure a safe school environment for our students and staff.

I want to thank you for your continued support as we continue to navigate through this pandemic.

Lakewood's Drive-In Summer Concerts

The City of Lakewood will offer two Drive-in Summer Concerts in June at Lakewood Center mall in the northwest parking lot near the El Torito restaurant.

The concerts will begin at 6:30 p.m. with car staging beginning at 5:30 p.m. Pre-registration is required and is open to 100 cars.

Thursday, June 17 – The Amanda Castro Band (Modern Big Band)

Resident registration begins June 5 (\$10 per car); Non-resident registration begins June 7 (\$15 per car)

Thursday, June 24– Blue Breeze Band (Motown/R&B/Soul)

Resident June 12 (\$10 per car)
Non-resident June 14 (\$15 per car)
Register online at lakewoodcity.org/ecatalog using the keyword "concert," or call 562-866-9771, ext 2408.

Lakewood's Summer Concerts in the Park returns to Del Valle Park with a series of six Thursday night concerts starting July 8.

For more information on the full concert lineup, see the city's website.

LAKWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

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CERRITOS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

REPORT ALL SUSPICIOUS PERSONS AND ACTIVITIES TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

To sign up in Cerritos go to bit.ly/CerritosNW (URL goes to city's site)

La Mirada Community FoundationAwards Scholarships



LA MIRADA Community Foundation scholarship award recipients. Top row (l-r): Jacob Silver Hernandez, Bethany Choy, Katrina Mizou, Emma Spirescu. Bottom row (l-r): Liam Saucedo, Natalia Morales, Natalie Constantine, Samantha Morales-Barreto.

STAFF REPORT

The La Mirada Community Foundation awarded scholarships to eight graduating high school seniors residing in La Mirada who plan to continue their education. The students were selected based on outstanding academic achievements and involvement in the community.

Since 2005, the Community Foundation has awarded \$70,750 in scholarships to 81 graduating seniors. This year, the Community Foundation offered the Bob Jenkins Community Service Scholarship and a STEM scholarship for students planning to study science, technology, engineering and mathematics in college.

The Bob Jenkins Scholarship, named in memory of the dedicated community volunteer and President of the La Mirada Community Foundation, was presented to Bethany Choy, Natalie Constantine, Samantha Morales-Barreto, Natalia Morales, and Emma Spirescu.

Katrina Mizuo, Jacob Silver Hernandez, and Liam Saucedo received the Southern California Edison STEM Scholarship, which offers scholarship to students pursuing careers in business, computer and information systems, engineering, mathematics, engineering technology, natural resources and conservation, and physical science.

For additional information about the La Mirada Community Foundation, call (562) 943-0131.

ABC Unified School District Employees Set to Picket

A strongly worded statement from AFSCME Local 2229 accuses the ABCUSD of giving ABCFT teachers extra payment for the pandemic while neglecting their workers, consequently the employees will hold an informational picket and rally in response to the denial of the bonus.

The statement read: “The more than 200 employees represented by the American Federation of State, Counties, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 2229 began negotiating a new contract in February 2021, six months after their contract expired. When discussions began about a bonus, the School District initially offered them nothing.”

“Initially, the maintenance and food service workers were going to get nothing, but after advertising our situation, the District offered us a \$300 bonus,” said Judi Dixon, the lead manager for food services at Cerritos High School.

In the statement, AFSCME representatives said that the ABCUSD recently received a \$6.2 million grant of which \$3.2 million was allocated to the District’s teachers. Last month, the School Board voted in favor of each teacher receiving \$4,000.

“The maintenance and food service

workers of AFSCME Local 2229 are asking for their fair share of the grant money after working throughout the entire pandemic and constantly being exposed to the COVID-19 virus.,” the statement continued.

“The Board seems to think it has no responsibility to ensure all employees are treated equitably and that AFSCME, having had to risk exposure unlike other unions, should not be compensated with ‘heroes pay’ like other essential workers,” says Joan Heithoff, Business Representative for AFSCME Local 2229. “We are happy that the teachers have received a \$400 a week bonus. All we ask is that our members receive similar recognition.”

After being informed of the union’s stance, sources told HMG-CN that several ABC Board Members refused to accept the budget at the beginning of the pandemic because it laid off many workers in AFSCME, and were successful in defending their jobs.

“Members will continue to try and negotiate in good faith despite the School District’s attempt to downplay the importance of AFSCME Local 2229 members. The picket is being held on June 1, 2021 from 5PM-6PM at the ABC Unified School District office, located at 16600 Norwalk Blvd., Cerritos, CA 90703. This is an informational picket, not a strike. Members will be working their regular shifts and attending the picket during their personal time.”

Cerritos Water Quality Report Available Next Week

The City’s Annual Consumer Confidence (Water Quality) Report will be available next week on the City’s website at cerritos.us/ccr2020.pdf. It is anticipated that the report will indicate that Cerritos water meets all state and federal standards.

State and federal laws require printed or electronic distribution of the water-

quality information to everyone served by the City’s water utility. The report will describe the City’s stringent water tests, which are conducted more frequently than required by the State Health Department.

The Consumer Confidence Report will provide detailed test results and explain the City’s water supply, which flows to customers through a system of wells, reservoirs, mains and pipes.

For more information, call the Water Division at (562) 916-1223.

SCGA Gifts Equipment to Bell High Golf Team

STAFF REPORT

After being fit for equipment over a year ago, the the Bell High golf team received a brand-new set of clubs and golf bag this past week . It is a welcome relief, both teams were sharing equipment, none of which accommodated their specific needs based on height and skill level.

At the end of practice, a match or the season, the coach had to round everything up leaving the students no opportunity or equipment to practice with or play on their own. “Some of the clubs from school are too small so you have to bend down and that really messes up your swing,” said sophomore Fernando Salas, “These clubs fit perfectly. I’m pretty excited, they feel really good.”

For Salas and the rest of his teammates, this was the first time that any of them have owned their own set of clubs. The

because a lot of us don’t have the money to buy all of this on our own,” said senior Bryann Bracamontes. “I’m so surprised at how different it feels playing with these new clubs. It feels great seeing how everyone is doing with them already.”

The impact of the new equipment was immediate for Bracamontes and her teammates. After teammate Samantha Valladeres hit a great shot, the driving range erupted into cheers. She insisted it was the clubs, but the rest of her team is sure that it was just her talent.

“It’s amazing, this is just going to motivate them even more,” said Alfredo Aviles who has been coaching both the boys and girls teams for nearly a decade. "They can go to the range on their own instead of me having to gather up the school equipment when the season is over. They can go out with their friends and play.”



MEMBERS of the Bell High School boys and girls golf teams received a game-changing gift from the SCGA Junior Golf Foundation after months of pandemic-related delays.

set included 10 clubs and a bag, which can begin at \$400.

The Bell High School teams received them at a 90 percent discount supplemented by financial aid from SCGA Junior. Annually, SCGA Junior provides more than \$46,000 in financial aid, with more than \$11,000 of that being specifically for equipment.

“It’s really special to receive these

For SCGA Junior Instructor Eric Koscielak, seeing the smiles on everyone’s faces and the fun they had with their new clubs made all the delays worthwhile. “This is the most rewarding thing we do,” Koscielak said. “Giving back to those who want to play the game, they just don’t have the means to get there on their own creates lasting change and access in golf.”

La Mirada’s Summer Day Camp Returns

The City of La Mirada Summer Day Camp is returning to Neff Park on Monday, June 7 through Friday, August 6. Day Camp is open to children ages 6 to 12 and offers a variety of fun activities each week.

Summer Day Camp will take place Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a \$90 fee per camper, per week.

An option for extended hours beginning at 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. is available for \$145 per camper, per week. Children will need to bring lunch and water for the day.

Space is limited. To register, call La Mirada Community Services at (562) 943-7277 or visit cityoflamirada.org.

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CRIME SUMMARY

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Cerritos

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

5/20 13200 Blk. Moore St. at a business victim and suspect are in a dating relationship. suspect hit and bit victim during an argument, suspect was arrested.

GRAND THEFT

05/19 11500 Blk. South St., store, male Hispanic stole legos and DVD's.

5/19 239 Los Cerritos Ctr., store, sunglasses stolen.

5/20 18900 Blk. Vickie Ave., apartments, catalytic converter stolen from a 2008 toyota prius.

5/17 11500 Blk. 183rd St., store, catalytic converter stolen from a 2007 toyota prius.

05/19 Lucas St. and Maria Ave., ring suspects used a ruse to switch victim's jewelry.

5/23 11200 Blk. 183rd St., store, catalytic converter stolen from a 2004 honda accord.

VEHICLE BURGLARY

5/21 11100 Blk. 183rd St., in front of a store, 2016 Dodge Charger passenger side front window/shattered, bag, checkbooks stolen.

5/21 Norwalk Bl. and Yearling Pl. 2007 Chevy Impala, front passenger side window shattered purse, cell phones stolen.

5/20 12600 Blk. Artesia Bl., apartments, 2010 Honda Accord front passenger window shattered, sunglasses, cash stolen.

5/17 12600 Blk. Artesia Bl., apartments, 2020 Kia Forte rear driver side window smashed purse, laptop, passport stolen.

Part One Crimes Up 33%; Miscellaneous Up 18%

Part 1 crimes were 29 for the week, down from 33 the week before; YTD 2020 average was 27.8, 2021 YTD average is 37, an increase of 33%.

Miscellaneous crimes were 9 for the week, down from 29 the week before; YTD 2020 average was 7.8, 2021 YTD average is 9.2, an increase of nearly 18%.

Alarm calls were 42 for the week, down from 44 the week before; YTD

2020 average was 37.5, 2021 YTD average is 34.8, a decrease of nearly 8%.

Calls for service were 297 for the week, down from 298 the week before; YTD 2020 average was 267.2, 2021 YTD average is 267.1.

La Mirada

NOTABLE ARRESTS

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

AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

• A victim was struck with in the face by a known assailant during a conversation on the 14600 block of Firestone Blvd. The suspect fled out of view prior to deputies' arrival. The victim was treated for minor injuries.

OTHER STRUCTURE BURGLARY

• A paint sprayer was reported stolen during an overnight burglary on the 13300 block of Beach Blvd.

• A daytime burglary was reported on the 12600 block of Gabbett Dr. They exact loss it yet to be determined.

VEHICLE BURGLARY

• Various tools were reported stolen during on the 14400 block of San Ardo Dr.

GRAND THEFT

• A late-night catalytic converter theft was reported on the 15900 block of Formby Dr.

• A catalytic converter was reported stolen on the 15400 block of La Mirada Blvd.

• A late-night catalytic converter theft was reported on the 14600 block of Rosecrans Ave.

• An unauthorized transaction was reported on the 12200 block of La Mirada Blvd.

• An overnight theft of a catalytic converter was reported on the 15000 block of Leffingwell Rd.

• Cash was reported stolen from an unlocked vehicle on the 13900 block of Imperial Hwy.

• Construction equipment was reported stolen on the 13800 block of Valley View Ave.

GRAND THEFT AUTO

• A SUV was reported stolen on the 14700 block of Firestone Blvd.

• A truck was reported stolen on the 14300 block of Plantana Dr.

• A stolen sedan was recovered on the 14400 block of Ermita Ave.

• A stolen sedan was recovered on the 14100 block of Foster Rd.



Large Cache of Fireworks Seized From Lakewood Home

BY BRIAN HEWS

Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies discovered a large cache of fireworks while conducting a welfare check at a Lakewood residence just before 2:30 p.m. Sunday. No one was inside the home, however.

The L.A. County Fire Department hazmat team was called in to remove the fireworks with "drums" of fireworks seen taken out of the house. The L.A. County Fire Department hazmat team was called in to remove the fireworks. Sky2 got aerial footage of several drums

of fireworks being loaded onto trucks.

There were no immediate arrests. It's unclear who lives in the home.

On the afternoon of March 16, a massive fireworks explosion occurred at a property in Ontario, sending terrified neighbors scrambling for safety. The initial explosion had the magnitude of a bomb blast, followed by a series of ensuing explosions.

Two cousins were killed on the property and three others were hurt. The blasts sent debris covering 80 properties and caused an estimated \$3.2 million in damage.



BREAKING NEWS

@cerritosnews



BREAKING NEWS

Los Cerritos Community Newspaper

Director of Cerritos Tennis Center Has Local Ties

BY BRIAN HEWS

One of the sports Whitney excels in is tennis, and there is a reason.

Both the boys and girls’ teams are coached by Eli Alejo Sr. who teaches here locally at the iTennis Center at Don Knabe Park.

Alejo is a USPTA and PTR certified professional coach. Eli is also a recent Tennis Teachers Institute graduate and was mentored by Don Henson, one of the original 18 Master Professionals. He has 13 years of experience teaching tennis and has been playing for 43 years. Eli played high school and college tennis in the Philippines.

He views teaching tennis on a wholistic level, helping students understand themselves as a player and empower them to be the best that they can be as they grow.

“This approach,” says Alejo, “combines the principles of human movement and the principles of tennis to produce a complete stable player.”

Those teaching skills came through during COVID with the Whitney boys team, who was undefeated last year before the COVID shutdown and has been a leading force in the 605 league, took second place among six competing teams.

The teaching also came through amid the uncertainty for Whitney girls varsity tennis team.

The team was worried there would not be a season, but Alejo kept up his teaching so the team could defend their 2019-’20 league title.

After months of waiting the season finally commenced in March of 2021, albeit much differently due to COVID restrictions.

Stricter regulations were in place, and more than half of the varsity team had left.

Despite these difficulties, the girls' tennis team not only defended their title as 2019-2020 co-league champion, but actually became the solo league champion.

The Lady Wildcats maintained a 16-game undefeated streak, battling their way through each one of the games.

Notable matches included those against rivals Oxford Academy and Cerritos High School, as well as their CIF Division 3 Round 1 match against Capistrano Valley which they won.

Despite their unprecedented run, the Lady Wildcats ended their season after their loss in CIF Round 2 against Fountain Valley.

Although the season is now over for most of the team, Whitney continues to practice and gear up for their next season guided by Alejo Sr.

And for singles players Camille Dang and Melinda Wu, as well as doubles team Christy Ahn and Kate Chiang, their season is still in play as they continue to prepare for CIF individuals.

Moreover, Junior Nikhil Lingineni qualified for the CIF championships.

Alejo Sr. compliments his coaching team with Coaches Khanh Truong, Dave Morman, and Eli Alejo Jr., all of whom are instructors at iTennis Cerritos.

ABCUSD Announces New Cerritos ES Principal

STAFF REPORT

The ABCUSD announced the new principal of Cerritos Elementary School at their last board meeting. Mr. Craig Spratt, the interim principal at Cerritos Elementary, is now principal.

“Mr. Spratt has done a wonderful job as interim principal, and I know he will continue his great work now as principal,” said Superintendent Dr. Mary Sieu.

Mr. Spratt is a product of the ABC, having graduated from Gahr High. He earned both his Bachelor of Arts degree in Education, a minor in Early Childhood Education, and his teaching credentials from

Hope International University. He earned his Master of Education in Educational Management from the University of LaVerne.

During his time at ABCUSD, Mr. Spratt has taught at Aloha, Cerritos and Leal.

He has also served as the assistant to the principal at Leal and as secondary school dean at Whitney High School.

“It’s great to see one of our former students now serve as a principal,” said Board President Sophia Tse. Mr. Spratt will officially become the principal at Cerritos Elementary School at the beginning of the 2021-2022 school year.



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ABCUSD TO HOLD SURPLUS SALE OF HIGH SCHOOL FURNITURE

Sale of only surplus furniture are from Artesia and Whitney High Schools.

STAFF REPORT

The ABC is selling surplus furniture and will take bids up to but not later than 4:00 pm on the 4th day of June, 2021

Bids for sale are for surplus school furniture at Whitney High School and Artesia High School.

No in-person viewing is available those interested can view the surplus by going to www.abcusd.us then scroll down to News and Announcement for the link to the Surplus Bid.

This is a furniture only sale, pictures may contain computers, books or equipment etc. however, those items are not included.

All items must be picked up on June 11, 2021 or sale will be forfeited.

Appointments will be given to the awarded bidders on June 8, 2021, confirmation is required no later than June 8 or award will be forfeited.

Only cash will be accepted, no checks or credit cards.

Bids must be sent to: bids.purch@abcusd.us before the deadline to be considered. All late bids will be disqualified.

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Cerritos Councilman Visits New Business



D'VINE MEDITERRANEAN EXPRESS opened at Cerritos Towne Center with Cerritos Councilman Frank Yokoyama welcoming the new owner with a certificate.

L.A. County Fair Will Move to May in 2022

BY BRIAN HEWS

After nearly 100 years of holding the annual Southern California tradition of ooey-gooey delectables on-a-stick, farm animals and carnival thrills in September, the LA County Fair is permanently moving its dates to May beginning in 2022, when the fair celebrates its Centennial.

Next year's Fair will run Thursdays-Sundays, plus Memorial Day Monday, May 5-30, 2022.

Experience the Fair of the past, present and future as the 2022 LA County Fair celebrates the 100th anniversary of the very first Fair held in 1922. From remembering the Fair's early days of tent expositions to the

introduction of midcentury inventions like the Frisbee to the home of the future, the 2022 Fair will embody nostalgia, warmth and good old-fashioned Fair fun.

Although the large-scale Fair was cancelled for 2021, organizers are planning to host a Fair Food experience in late-September. A quiet goodbye to the season we welcomed for the last century.

Fair organizers say the cooler May days and nights will be more conducive to fairgoers. Also, moving the fair to May aligns it with the celebration of Cinco de Mayo and Mother's Day and the summer kickoff of barbecues and national pride on Memorial Day weekend.

Digital Yogurtland Reopens in Lakewood

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

With dancing fruit, balloon animals and games of chance Yogurtland reopened their Lakewood location on Saturday May 22.

Yogurtland is the leading frozen yogurt franchise, partnered with Olo to offer online ordering for Yogurtland guests. In addition to making it more convenient to get your froyo fix through online ordering, Yogurtland has revamped its mobile app and Rewards Program, which makes every purchase more rewarding.

Yogurtland fans can now order their favorite customized frozen yogurt orders for delivery, in-store pickup, or catering directly through yogurt-land.com/order or the Yogurtland app. The digital upgrades allow guests to order easily and safely

from the comfort of home without compromising the Yogurtland experience of creating a unique treat.

The benefits get even sweeter with Yogurtland's revamped Real Rewards program, which introduces new Rewards member advantages such as earning two points for every dollar spent, a \$5 reward for every 100 points earned, a free birthday treat, three new Rewards tiers, and 50 bonus points just for signing up.

Yogurtland

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Visit the L.A. Arboretum

BY TAMMYE MCDUFF

As tiers begin to lift and move in a positive direction, so too does the opportunity to get out and explore all the wonderful adventures that Los Angeles County has to offer.

HMG-CN took a day trip to The Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden, 127 acres of botanical gardens, conservatory, plant nursery and historical buildings all nestled into hills of the San Gabriel Mountains in Arcadia, California.

Hugo Reid, a Scotsman with Mexican citizenship, married to a Gabrielino woman, became the first private owner of Rancho Santa Anita and in 1840 constructed his adobe house next to Baldwin Lake. Rancho Santa Anita has justly earned its reference as the ‘fairy spot’ of the Valley. The property passed through numerous owners before landing in the hands of

QUEEN ANNE COTTAGE
built in 1885 by Elias Jackson (“Lucky”) Baldwin’s as a gift for his fourth wife, sixteen-year-old Lillie Bennett.

Lucky Baldwin.

When Elias Jackson “Lucky” Baldwin purchased Rancho Santa Anita in 1875, he acquired not only the natural lakes and cienegas on the property, but water rights in both Big and Little Santa Anita Canyons just north of his home site. The Baldwin Ranch was situated on a 2,000 acre artesian belt.

Three historic structures are home to the Arboretum. The Baldwin cottage which was designated “Queen Anne” was the Santa Anita Ranch guest house. The Baldwin Coach Barn is an equally ornate example of Victorian extravagance with alternating slats of interior cedar and redwood paneling and original iron grillwork, cast in 1879.



The third is the Don Perfecto Hugo Reid adobe constructed in 1840 with the help of Gabrielino laborers. It was built of sun-dried adobe blocks made by mixing clay soil, water and a straw binder. The roof was made of rawhide-lashed carrizo cane and smeared with brea. All three structures are undergoing major renovation but are slated to be open early 2022.

The Arboretum has had their share of the spotlight. Since 1936 Hollywood has made use of Baldwin Lake. The entertainment world has looked to the Arboretum to film 12 Tarzan films beginning in 1936 with Tarzan Escapes. With a little bit of imagination, movie makers made the landscape represent deep dark jungles and a Polynesian paradise with probably its most

significant series being that as the backdrop for the television hit Fantasy Island.

There are 11 gardens to explore and it is doubtful you could appreciate all of them in one day from the Rose Garden to the Aquatic Garden - complete with a several waterfalls - the Arboretum is a place of beauty and repose.

Designed by noted landscape architect Edward Huntsmen Trout, the Rose Garden features heritage varieties and David Austin selections, amid elegant pergolas and arbors, all in a setting of citrus and swaying Mexican fan palms. The serene landscape of gentle pools, water lilies and shaded benches, the Aquatic Garden sits at the picturesque summit of Tallac Knoll with the Meyberg Waterfall cascading below.

Many of their programs have already opened back up including. For more information and to plan your visit check out the website at www.arboretum.org.



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605 LEAGUE BASKETBALL

Whitney hoops sweep John Glenn as Lady Wildcats prepare for the upcoming playoffs

BY LOREN KOPFF
@LORENKOPFF ON TWITTER

The regular season for basketball is over and if the Whitney High girls team makes another deep run like it has recently, the Lady Wildcats will have earned it, especially after the week they have had. Because of Covid postponements throughout the 605 League, Whitney had to spend the week before the playoffs playing five games in five straight nights.

The regular season finale was last Friday at John Glenn High where the Lady Wildcats shook off a rusty first half to outscore the Lady Eagles 29-14 in the second half and run away with a 53-35 victory that left Whitney with a 10-6 overall record and 8-2 in the circuit, good enough for second place.

“We’ve been starting off like that the whole week,” said Whitney head coach Myron Jacobs. “We’re the only team in league that’s played five games in five days. I think that was the big issue when we played yesterday at Pioneer because if you look at the score, we went down by [almost 20] to fight back in the third [quarter], then coming into the fourth being down by three.

Anytime I have my seniors, I’m going to take that five games any day.”

“Since it was our fifth game this week, we were all very tired,” said senior Kimberly Hosoda. “Me, [senior Julianna Lee] and [freshman] Kylie [Wang] have been getting a bunch of minutes this week. So, it was just a long game today. Everyone was sore; we were all just trying to pull through to finally finish this week off strong.”

Glenn, which went through the season losing all 10 games it played, got out to a 7-2 lead and led 9-5 after the opening quarter. It would gain a 15-11 advantage following consecutive baskets from junior Sara Mendoza. After that, Whitney senior Makenna Yokoyama continued her hot shooting of the stanza. Already with a pair of three-pointers in the quarter, Yokoyama drained her third perimeter shot with 5:30

left in the first half, and after Lee’s trifecta tied the game 37 seconds later, the Lady Wildcats would take their biggest lead on Yokoyama’s fourth three-pointer.

Yokoyama would score 14 of her season-high 20 points in the second quarter and added a pair of rebounds. Whitney would take a one-point lead into the halftime break before opening the second half on a 15-2 run to blow the game wide open.

“Makenna has just been struggling,” Jacobs said. “The kid wants to be here; she wants to play. Evidently, her shot hasn’t been dropping the last three games. I think this game, she needed this to show her that she’s able to do that. Especially coming back right before playoffs, it’s going to help us huge.”

“I definitely think Makenna kept us in this game, especially in the second quarter, hitting big shots [and] keeping us right with John Glenn,” Hosoda said. “I know today, everyone was struggling to score. Kylie, who usually puts in double figures, Jules usually puts in double figures...it was just a tough battle today. All props go to Makenna because I don’t think I would be able to score in the third quarter if she didn’t keep us in the game in the second quarter.”

If Yokoyama dominated the second quarter with her scoring, then Hosoda was in charge of the third quarter. Her first three-pointer of the contest put the Lady ‘Cats in front for good at 25-23. She would proceed to score nine of her team’s next 12 points with Yokoyama nailing her sixth and final three-pointer of the game. In addition to Hosoda scoring 12 of her 14 points, she was adding more rebounds to her game total. Hosoda, who had 10 rebounds in the first half, six coming on the defensive end, grabbed six more defensive boards in the third quarter and finished with a game-high 16. She also had three steals in the game.

“Honestly, I think rebounding is just as important as scoring because if I’m not having a good scoring game, I’m going to try to give my teammates another chance at the ball,” Hosoda said. “I’m going to try to get a fast-break layup for Jules who is running hard. If you don’t rebound, you’re not going to win the game.”

“I’m going to miss that kid,” Jacobs said. “When I came in [two years] ago, that was one of the first kids I noticed with a high basketball IQ and she’s just a competitor. She likes to compete; she wants to win games. Unfortunately, it’s sad that I

only had her for two years versus having her for four years. There’s always going to be room for improvement. But at the end of the day, I think this kid is going to do great things no matter what she does in life.”

Whitney continued to keep the foot on the gas pedal with a pair of coast-to-coast baskets from Wang and sophomore Rachel Song in a span of 23 seconds midway through the fourth quarter to open its largest advantage at 17 points.

The 35 points allowed was the second time in three nights Whitney has allowed under 40 points in the week. Overall, the Lady ‘Cats have yielded 40 or fewer points in league competition six times.

“We’re not having enough fun,” Jacobs said. “You’ve got to have more fun playing defense. When we have fun playing defense, we control the game, control the plays, the pace of the game. And eventually, the teams are going to get worn down trying to beat us. If you look at the 605 League, we have probably one of the best, if not the best defense.”

Wang added seven points, six rebounds and a pair of steals while Lee, who has scored in double figures in four league games and six times overall, pitched in with half a dozen points and three steals.

“Julianna by far, right now, is on a whole another level than anybody on Whitney,” Jacobs said. “She has improved [since] her freshman year not being a scorer [but] known for defense. Second year, she didn’t really play that much and she wasn’t known as a scorer. I got her [last year] and she averaged seven points and she has legitimately averaged around 11 points this season. The kid had 20 points yesterday. The improvement is there.”

Senior Cynthia Almanzar paced the Lady Eagles with 16 points and 15 rebounds while senior Kei’Ana Hood added eight points and seven rebounds. Glenn played the entire season with five seniors and one junior with Almanzar scoring in double figures in six of the 10 games.

But the story on this night was all Whitney, which hosted Ayala High on May 27 in a CIF-Southern Section Division 3A first round game. Ayala (9-4 overall) finished in third place in the Palomares League but is ranked 11th in the division. The Lady Wildcats have advanced to the quarterfinals the past two seasons, six times since 2012 and seven times since 2008.

“I would say this, I’ll always take my team over any other we play,” Jacobs said. “We don’t look at size. Every team we’ve played this year...Crossroads [High], to beat them to playing against a good Pioneer team which was big...Any team that had a big [player] was a problem. But the one thing about my team is they compete.

“I don’t know if anybody paid attention to us, but when we come out in the third quarter, we manage to put up 20 points to come back against any team,” he continued. “Going into the playoffs, I’m happy to go in with this group. It’s just we have to stay locked in and get this nice week of practice ready before Thursday.”

“I think today was a good show of what we can do,” Hosoda said. “We can hit shots outside. We know Kylie can drive. We know Jules can get a couple of threes and a couple of floaters. If we just continue doing what we’re doing right now and keep going from this momentum, I think we can go pretty deep in CIF.”

Following the girls game, the Whitney boys put an end to a frustrating season for second-year head coach Lance Convento, who had high hopes of taking the team to the playoffs for the first time since 2015 when current Glenn head coach Ruben Guerrero was coaching the Wildcats.

Whitney went on a 16-0 run from the final seconds of the opening quarter to the 5:53 mark of the second quarter and held

on for a 56-50 victory. The Wildcats end the season at 5-10 overall, 4-6 in league while the Eagles went winless in their 10 games played, all in league.

“A win is a win, so I’ll take it,” said Whitney head coach Lance Convento. “I’m proud of my guys. It’s definitely a strange season with Covid, having to adjust to all the Covid protocols and everything and having some guys out for sometimes. It was tough, but it was a fun, crazy season and I’m proud of the way we ended the season.”

Glenn raced to an 11-5 lead nearly five minutes into the game before consecutive three-pointers from juniors Joshua Limjundo and Jae Sung Park began the run. Glenn would get to within eight points at 23-15 before the Wildcats closed out the half on a 9-2 run. The Eagles doubled up Whitney in third quarter points to trail 39-32 entering the final stanza. However, Whitney held the hosts at bay and when the score dipped to 43-38 with 4:12 remaining in the game, the fourth place representatives from the league iced the game with another 9-2 run.

At one point in the season, Whitney was 2-2 in league and Convento thought the team was making strides to remain in the upper half of the league. But Covid hit the program and the team wasn’t the same since. The game against the Eagles was a makeup from the originally scheduled May 7 contest.

“I was pretty confident,” Convento said. “Like I said, some stuff happened during Covid in which some players were out. So, it kind of hurt us big time. One of our seniors was out and another senior was hurt with his ankle. It just happens; you can’t control that. But I was definitely confident after beating Oxford [Academy] and I thought we could definitely have a run for the playoffs. But all in all, I thought it was a great season. I can’t complain.”

Glenn senior Chanmaraforine Som led everyone with 18 points and 10 rebounds while junior Natanael Jacobo added 17 points. Whitney was led by sophomore Ethan Wong (12 points, four rebounds) while Dhilan Amin and Jeffrey Fernandez, two of the three seniors, combined for 16 points and seven rebounds. The third senior, Kofi Addo, added five points and three boards.

“Man, I’m going to miss them, I’m going to miss them a lot,” Convento said of his seniors. “I think they were three of our key players this year. Kofi is a quiet guy, but he leads by example. Dhilan is a vocal leader and Jeff is a lead by example, a little bit of both. So, we’re definitely going to miss their leadership.

“Jeff Fernandez is a physical guy; plays [defense] he continued. “Dhilan is a shooter; one of the best shooters I’ve ever seen, and Kofi plays with his heart out there. He’s a humble guy and just a team player.”

Last season, Whitney went 9-17 and the last time it had a winning record, you have to go back to the 2011-2012 campaign when that team went 15-9. But the possibilities of having a strong 2021-2022 season are there as three Whitney teams since that 2011-2012 have posted at least 10 victories.

“We’re going to have the other guys step up,” Convento said. “We’re definitely going to have to hit the weight room because our juniors right now don’t look like seniors. So, we’re going to have to get some muscle on them. We definitely have to work on our athleticism and get stronger and faster. To me, defense and rebounding are the keys to winning games. So, those are the main things I want to focus on, and then just getting the other guys confidence up on offense and playing team basketball is how we’re going to get there.”



@cerritosnews

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY LEAGUE SOFTBALL

Gahr Unable to Rally From Early Deficit,
Streak of Six Straight League Titles Snapped

BY LOREN KOPFF

The softball queens of the San Gabriel Valley League since the 2014 seasons will not hold that title in 2021 as Gahr High



LAGI QUIROGA of Warren High is forced out at second base by Gahr High senior shortstop Taylor Stephens, who then threw to freshman first baseman Marley Cortez to complete a bang-bang double play in the top of the fourth inning of this past Tuesday’s key SGVL softball game. Warren posted a 7-5 victory with all runs coming in the first two innings to prevent Gahr from ending the season in a three-way tie for first place.

will not call itself league champions. The Lady Gladiators, who entered this season having won 56 of 59 league contests over the previous six seasons, fell to Warren High 7-5 this past Tuesday, costing them a chance of potentially going into the CIF-Southern Section playoffs as tri-league champions. Gahr, ranked 10th in Division 1, dropped to 13-6 overall and 6-3 in league action, having been swept by the Bears for the first time since 2013. Gahr needed to win its last two games of the regular season (it visited Paramount High on May 27) and have Warren defeat Downey High, also on May 27, to finish in a three-way tie.

Both teams combined to score 11 of the 12 runs in the first two innings as Gahr rallied from deficits of three and five runs respectively, but never tying the game. To make matters worse, the early innings provided some controversial plays on both sides leading to some angry moments from both coaches. “There were emotions; there were definitely emotions on both sides,” said Gahr head coach Rey Sanchez. “We know a lot of their girls and they know a lot of our girls. So, emotions were high. We had our senior event before [the game] and it’s hard to transition from celebrating to all of a sudden coming back [to play].” “We were basically, a couple of times, a call and a catch; a pop-up, away from them not scoring at all,” he later said. “We just have to be ready to make plays. We were there; we had good intensity. I liked the intensity we had. It was almost playoff atmosphere, which I liked. But they took advantage of some opportunities, which is what good teams do.”

With two outs in the top of the first,

Warren pitcher Lauren Narvaez reached on the first of those controversial plays as she legged out an infield single, barely beating the throw from senior shortstop Taylor Stephens, who scooped up the

softball, spun around and threw a dart to freshman first baseman Marley Cortez. That opened the floodgates as the Bears (15-7, 8-1) would get a single from Alyssa Vasquez and a two-run home run from Dyoni Garcia on a total of four pitches thrown by senior pitcher Valerie Alvarez. In the bottom of the first, sophomore third baseman Hayley Olivas reached on a fielder’s choice and Stephens made it to second on the first of three Warren errors in the inning. The second one allowed Alvarez to be safe and bring home Olivas and when Cortez reached on the third error in a span of six pitches, it was 3-2. Narvaez would walk sophomore left fielder Hailey Sanchez to load the bases. After a strikeout, the second controversial play would prove more of a killer than the first one as senior right fielder Skyler Sanchez reached on a fielder’s choice. But Hailey Sanchez would be out at second when it appeared from the eyes of the Gahr coaches, players and spectators that she had beat the throw from Warren’s Philycia Pedrosa. Instead of sophomore courtesy runner Sophia Magcale tying the game and having the inning extended, it remained 3-2 in favor of the Bears. “I liked the way the girls responded,” Rey Sanchez said. “We could have gotten out of that first inning unscathed. But I liked the way our girls were ready to bounce back. That was part of the emotion and I think everybody was hyped up, and they responded.” Warren would flex its muscles in the next inning, scoring four more times on four consecutive hits with the big blow

See **GAHR** page 13

Perez Saves the Best for Last, Scores Game-Winner
for Artesia in Winner-Take-All Marathon

BY LOREN KOPFF

Artesia High’s softball finale against John Glenn High had enough stuff to make a Hollywood movie. The game featured everything one could imagine, ranging from just one senior in either dugout, to a combined 13 freshmen in the starting lineup and a three-run rally by the hosts late in the game to a total of 17 runs, 27 hits and 16 errors between the playoff-hungry teams. When the dust had settled, literally, the Lady Pioneers had scratched out a 9-8, 12-inning victory, sending them to the CIF-Southern Section Division 4 playoffs for the first time since 2019 and third time in the past four complete seasons. And it was that lone senior, Artesia first baseman Shaylin Perez, who was the star of the game, coming up with a base hit in the bottom of the 12th inning, then scoring on a bases loaded single from freshman center fielder Jazlynn Jara to propel Artesia to the win. The Lady Pioneers (6-5 overall) clinched third place in the 605 League with a 6-4 league record while sending the Lady Eagles to 8-5 overall and 5-5 in the circuit. “Shay has been stepping it up the whole time through the whole season,” said Artesia first-year head coach Ed Blanck. “She’s worked really hard and I like said, it’s tough for her this year because she’s a working senior; she works and goes to school and carries a high [grade point average]. That’s awesome.” “It’s amazing,” Perez said. “Honestly, we’ve worked hard this whole season. Being the only senior, it was hard to be able to hold the team up as youngsters. But I did my best; I came out, I played for every single body who came and supported. It was an amazing season.” Artesia bounced back from a 6-1 deficit to tie the game before falling 10-9 in nine innings on May 11, and trailed 2-0 after half an inning, 5-1 after two and a half innings and 8-4 through four innings the second time around before nearly shutting down the Glenn offense, thanks to the stellar work of freshman pitcher Maya Torres. And if it wasn’t Torres, who at one point retired nine straight batters, 14 out of 15 and 17 of 19 batters from the fourth to the ninth, it was the defense that cost the Lady Eagles a chance of the playoffs. Glenn, which ended the season losing four straight games, had 10 errors. “That’s what killed us,” said Glenn head coach Larry Leal. “Our top of the lineup didn’t do what they did last time [against Artesia]. Unfortunately, somebody is going to lose, and we lost. We’ll see what happens, but our kids fought hard. They didn’t give up.” Freshman catcher Vanessa Soto led off the 12th with a base hit to center before Perez’ fifth hit in seven at-bats. Soto would be out at third on a fielder’s choice from freshman third baseman Allisiah Valenzuela and with the bases loaded Jara connected on the first pitch she saw from junior pitcher Gabby Ortega and deposited it in right field, allowing the proper senior sendoff for Perez, who said she works 15-20 hours a week during the season and carries a GPA over 3.0. “Honestly, it’s time management,” she said. “It’s being smart, prioritizing school first. If you’re a student-athlete, you have



to make sure those grades are maintained. You have to know what comes first and prioritize the most important things.” “They amaze me; they totally amaze me,” Blanck said. “I’m so excited for the years to come. They gelled and they became a team.” Artesia began its comeback in the fifth when Soto reached on an error, stole third and scored on another error. In the next inning, Ortega, who would throw 174 pitches, walked freshman Jazmine Anguiano. One out later, consecutive singles from junior second baseman Alexis Duenas and Torres made it 8-6. Following a single from Perez, another error allowed Duenas and Torres to score, tying the contest at 8-8. Valenzuela went five for six while Soto went three for seven, scored three times and drove in a pair of runs. Duenas would go two for six and score twice and Torres pitched all 12 innings, throwing 207 pitches, striking out 17 batters and walking just four. “We knew it was going to be tough on the errors,” Blanck said. “We missed some crucial fly balls and our girls work hard. They’ve been getting better and better and better.” “I went out and asked [Torres] if she was feeling okay and she said, ‘I feel better than I did in the first inning’. I realized how many pitches [she was up to] and she goes, ‘coach, I pitched five games on Sunday in travel ball. I’m feeling good’. I was getting ready to warm up my other freshman [pitcher] just to come in just in case. But I didn’t have to. She did not want to give up the ball and I’m going ‘good’ because I was going to go with her to get her the experience for next year and the following year.” Sophomore shortstop Beatriz Galvez went four for six and scored three times for the Lady Eagles while freshman third baseman Julia Cole went three for five with a pair of runs and Ortega had a pair of hits and two runs scored. Glenn’s long playoff drought continues as the program hasn’t been to the postseason since 1986. The winning record is the first time Glenn has experienced since 2004 when that team finished 12-9-1 but fifth place in the Suburban League. In fact, Glenn had not finished above fifth place in either league in over two decades. “The only real improvement the program has made is we got the new [playing] fields; top of the line stuff, and people want to come and play on that,” Leal said. “We have 10 freshmen here and they just want to play.” The softball brackets will be released on Saturday morning and Perez, who has been on varsity all four years, remembers what it was like in the 2019 when Artesia fell to Jurupa Hills 5-0. “Playoffs are amazing; you just have

See **NEWS AND NOTES** page 13

MEMORIAL from page 1

a light so great to the world that eve after they are gone their light remains,” added Lou, “and we want to commemorate that.”

As longtime members in the community, BrightView and Rose Hills have collaborated on this meaningful memorial to support the families and provide a space for healing.

The staff is currently reviewing options to permanently include this memorial in the gardens. For more information please email stories@rosehills.com

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WATER from page 1

“Given the impact of severe curtailments in revenue for local cities caused by the pandemic, the Central Basin Board felt that lowering the rates for imported water for our customers was necessary at this time,” said Art Chacon, Board President, Central Basin Municipal Water District. “Although it seems counterintuitive given the state’s drought condition, we really felt it was the right thing to do.”

The drought in California has been growing for two years, and now 14 percent of the state is in "exceptional" drought. Exceptional is the top and worst level from the US drought monitor. Most of the rest of California is in the extreme or severe categories while small sections of the far north coast and the two southernmost counties are in moderate drought.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom recently expanded a drought emergency across most of the state from 41 of California’s 58 counties.

"As a Central Basin customer, we are incredibly pleased the District is working with all its customers to ensure its service areas have a reliable and diverse source

of high-quality water at affordable rates, particularly at a time when local governments have been impacted by the pandemic,” said John Oskoui, Assistant City Manager, City of Downey.

“The Board’s actions reflect a new direction for Central Basin which has started to form collaborative partnerships with its customers and take the necessary steps to ensure the District’s long-term fiscal stability.”

Central Basin’s drop in water fees comes at a time when other districts are proposing or increasing water rates.

The Santa Clara Valley Water District is increasing water rates by 9.1 percent for FY 2022 to help pay for emergency water needed this year to meet demand and keep groundwater at normal levels, other water conversation programs, and expanded recycled water use.

The District then plans to raise its rates by up to 9.6 percent each year for the next eight years, followed by an 8.7 percent jump the following two years.

The East Bay Municipal Water District has proposed an increase for water and wastewater rates of 4 percent each in the first year and an additional 4 percent for each in the second year while the Ventura City Council recently gave initial approval to increase water rates by 7 percent and wastewater rates by 6 percent each year for the next five years.

Additionally, the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) raised their 2121 rates by 3.75 percent while Western Municipal Water District in Riverside plans to raise rates by 2.1 to 3.5 percent.

“It’s important to remember that one of the principal reasons Central Basin is able to lower water rates is that we have taken prudent measures to regain fiscal control of our budget,” said Alex Rojas, General Manager, Central Basin Municipal Water District. “Our goals for the District are to lower the cost of imported water, ensure our

long-term fiscal stability, improve customer service, diversify our revenue streams, and grow our recycled water services.”

At the same meeting, the board adopted a budget and district reorganization that will realize nearly \$1.2 million in annual operating savings starting with the 2021 budget year. That is after CB earned \$2.5 million in NOM this year.

The District’s monthly average operating cash and unrestricted reserves are at levels not seen since 2016, and reserves have jumped nearly 40 percent further stabilizing its long-term financial outlook.

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HOME PRICES from page 1

20.2% year over year to a record \$655,000, \$25,000 more than the previous median price record set in March.

Realtors are rejoicing as April home sales jumped 86.2% year over year with a total of nearly 26,000, compared with almost 14,000 in April 2020.

This is the ninth straight month of double-digit price increases, and experts credit a mix of factors including the aforementioned the housing shortage, low mortgage rates, and millennials.

The bidding wars continued in March as more than half of homes in the area sold for more than the seller was asking.

Both sales and prices rose in all six counties in Southern California.

In San Diego County, the median rose nearly 18% to \$700,000, while sales climbed just over 74%.

In Ventura County, the median almost 19% to just over \$700,000, while sales climbed over 82%.

In the OC, the median rose nearly 16% to \$872,000; sales climbed nearly 98%.

In L.A. County, the median price rose 19% to \$750,000 in April, while sales climbed 101%.

In Riverside County, the median price

rose nearly 20% \$490,000, while sales climbed nearly 81%.

In San Bernardino County, the median price rose nearly 24% to \$437,000, while sales climbed 67%.

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MATH from page 1

rather than placing students in traditional or advanced math courses.

The recommendations also question the concept of the "math brain," the idea that students are born with a brain that is more suited for math.

The California Teachers Association, the Education Trust-West and the California STEM Network expressed support. Some other groups, such as the California Association for the Gifted, said it hinders opportunities for students.

A major part of the framework emphasizes grouping students with different levels through the 10th grade. No more placing of students with equal abilities together, those that are gifted versus not gifted, instead the students would be dispersed among their classmates.

Teachers would recognize advanced students and give them harder assignments, what is called differentiated instruction.

The proposed framework does not require districts to eliminate honors math programs, nor does it direct schools to hold students back from rigorous math courses.

Districts that choose to remove accelerated courses in middle school could still offer calculus and other advanced math courses required for STEM pathways.

Many supporters of the new proposal point to examples, such as San Francisco Unified, which in 2014 voted to remove accelerated middle school math classes.

Five years after the policy change, the San Francisco Unified graduating class of 2018–19 saw a drop in Algebra 1 repeat rates from 40% to 8%, while 30% of the students in high school were taking courses beyond Algebra 2.

But critics argue that new efforts in their districts have not made any noticeable improvements for disadvantaged students, and instead have removed opportunities for students to excel.

In addition, on the heels of another fierce debate over a statewide ethnic studies curriculum, state education officials are now finding themselves trying to address both social media misinformation and the concerns parents have over their children’s future with mathematics.

Some opponents argue the framework attempts to inject math with critical race theory, a method that argues that the history of slavery and segregation lives on in current social structures, perpetuating racism in the U.S.

The framework does point to research that supports teaching math through a social justice lens. It also suggests using real-world examples to make math lessons more relevant to students’ lived experiences, encouraging multiple ways of showing an answer.

The commission agreed to remove references to the study from the draft framework, stating it was inconsistent with teaching to the standards.


Still, some parents feel uneasy about a subject they believe lives outside the realm of race and politics.

“Don’t turn math into an ideological battleground,” said one parent.

The proposal still has a long way to go to earn approval: Over 50% of those who provided comments during the public review rated the framework as “poor.”

One commission member said that students who do not have the opportunity to take accelerated classes were largely missing from the discussion.

She said the commission did not hear from people who have been harmed by tracking and that those learners who don’t have people to speak for them need to be represented.



By DAVID OUELLET

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

Camping

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

Barbecue, Beach, Bear, Below, Biking, Boats, Bugs, Burger, Burn, Canoe, Canvas, Caves, Clubs, Cook, Deer, Farm, Flies, Food, Grounds, Groups, Heavy, Hike, Horse, HotDogs, Hungry, Lantern, Mosquito, Porch, Quiet, Raccoon, Races, Raft, Relax, Restroom, Sand, Scare, Showers, Spiders, Storms, Stove, Summer, SunBlock, Swimming, Tans, Tiring, Tonic, Track, Trailer, Warm, Yard, Zipper.

Solution: 9 letters

Walmart Ups Their Tire Selling Process

STAFF REPORT

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GAHR from page 11

being a bases-clearing double from Narvaez. But the Lady Gladiators chipped away again with their own two-out rally. Olivas singled and Stephens was walked on four straight pitches before Alvarez drove them in with a single.

Warren would get three hits over the next five innings and did not get a runner past second base.

Meanwhile, Gahr got a little closer in the fourth with another two-out rally. Olivas doubled to the right field gap, moved to third on a wild pitch and came home on a base hit from Stephens, who will be attending UCLA in the fall. However, she was thrown out at second trying to stretch the single to a double. After that, Narvaez retired the final nine batters of the game and after throwing 51 pitches in the first two innings, she tossed 49 over the final five frames.

“Lauren’s a competitor,” Rey Sanchez said. “I’ve known her for a long time, and I’ve had the fortune of coaching her in travel ball, so I know how good she is. She has pinpoint accuracy and she’s a battler. But we battled a lot better than we did in the first round against her.”

Gahr had won 10 straight games against the Bears in league competition before this season and including the two losses this season, the Lady Gladiators have a 23-25 record against Warren, including tournament games, since 1998.

Gahr will know who, where and when it will play, whether it’s a wild card game or a first round game, when the brackets are released on Saturday.

The program has not played in a wild card game since 2009, the last

time it finished in third place. The next four seasons after that, Gahr missed the playoffs.

“I’m just glad we’ve able to get on the field, play and celebrate our seniors today, which was a great thing for them,” Rey Sanchez said. “I’m just happy because there were times there where I didn’t think we would even have a season. And I think everybody was in the same boat.”

NEWS AND NOTES from page 11

to come out twice as harder you do in the regular season,” Perez said. “The [2019] team was high, the energy was high and our luck for winning was high, but of course we didn’t make it very far. But we had the confidence of making playoffs.”

BOYS BASKETBALL

First round action of the CIF-SS playoffs began this past Wednesday Artesia falling to San Marino High 61-53 in Division 4AA. Senior Jonathan Nelson led the Pioneers (15-8 overall) with 18 points while freshman Zion Staples added a dozen points.

Cerritos High was on the losing end of a 66-52 contest to Orange Lutheran High in Division 2AA. The Dons, who won the 605 League, wrapped up their season at 11-4.

In Division 2A, La Mirada High lost to La Serna High 61-48 to conclude its season at 9-8 while in Division 3AA, Valley Christian High knocked off Temescal Canyon High 72-63. The Defenders, who won a third place tiebreaker over Maranatha High in the Olympic League, improved to 11-6 and will visit Long

Beach Wilson High tonight.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Three other area girls basketball teams besides Whitney High advanced to the playoffs and all of them began action on May 27. Cerritos, the third place representative from the 605 League, drew a road game at Portola High in Division 3AA. The Lady Dons went 8-8 in the regular season. In Division 4AA, Norwalk High, which played only four Suburban League games but finished in second place, travelled to Shalhevet High. The Lady Lancers went 7-2 in the regular season. V.C., which also won the third place tiebreaker in the Olympic League over Village Christian High and went 8-9 in the regular season, visited Bell Gardens High in Division 3A action.

SOCCER

A pair of area teams will play for a divisional championship with the Whitney boys facing Sierra Canyon High on the road today for the Division 7 title. The Wildcats are 9-2-1 and ranked sixth while Sierra Canyon, the second ranked team, is 13-2-0.

The La Mirada girls, champions of the Suburban League, visit Saugus High on Saturday in the Division 2 championship game. The Lady Matadores enter the game at 14-0-2, ranked fourth in the and have allowed one goal all season. Saugus is unranked and enter the game at 9-1-4.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

V.C. is one step away from advancing to the Division 4 title match after sweeping Santiago High out of Corona this past Wednesday. The Defenders, who are ranked second and have yet to lose a set in the playoffs, host Laguna Hills High on Saturday.

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NOTICE INVITING BIDS
DEMONSTRATION GARDEN
PROJECT NO. CBMWD 2021-100

BID SUBMISSION DEADLINE:

JUNE 15, 2021

2:00 P.M.

LOCATION FOR SUBMISSION OF BIDS:

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

6252 TELEGRAPH ROAD
COMMERCE, CA 90040

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT (“DISTRICT”) invites and will receive sealed bids for the award of a contract for DEMONSTRATION GARDEN, IN THE CITY OF COMMERCE, PROJECT NO. CBMWD 2021-100, up to, but not later than, **June 15, 2021 at 2:00 P.M.** (“Bid Submission Deadline”) at the offices of the DISTRICT located at **6252 Telegraph Road, Commerce, California 90040**, after which time bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids received after the Bid Submission Deadline will be returned unopened. The DISTRICT reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any irregularities or informalities in any bids or in the bidding process. All interested persons are invited to attend the bid opening.

The project shall consist of furnishing products, labor, tools, transportation, and services to construct the following:

PROJECT OVERVIEW: The Work involves furnishing all labor, equipment and materials necessary to construct new Demonstration Garden including but not limited to demolition, grading, hardscape, landscaping, infiltration swales, irrigation, electrical, rocks, boulders, signage, and all planting. In addition, Contractor is to:

1. Protect existing facilities in place.

2. Provide traffic control as needed and as required by public agency permits.

WORK SITE: The project area is at the Central Basin Municipal Water District’s offices at the intersection of Washington Blvd. and Telegraph Blvd. in the City of Commerce.

PRE-BID CONFERENCE: The DISTRICT will conduct a Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference at the DISTRICT’s offices at **6252 Telegraph Road, Commerce, California 90040**, and may or may not conduct a Site Walk.

Prospective bidders are to attend a Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference with the DISTRICT’s Representatives at **10:00 A.M. on June 7, 2021**. The purpose will be to discuss the scope of work to be performed under these Specifications.

ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS SHALL BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND PRE-BID CONFERENCES IN ORDER TO SUBMIT A BID. PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS SHALL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO SIGN AN ATTENDANCE LOG AT THE PRE-BID CONFERENCES AS CONDITION TO SUBMITTING A BID. Bidders who fail to sign-in shall be deemed absent and shall not be entitled to submit a Bid.

OPENING OF BIDS: The sealed bids will be publicly opened and read at **2:00 P.M. on June 15, 2021** at the above-mentioned office of the DISTRICT.

COMPLETION OF WORK: The Work must be completed within **72 calendar days**, or less, from the date of receipt of the Notice to Proceed.

EXPLORATORY EXCAVATIONS OR BORINGS: Prospective bidders may perform exploratory excavations or borings at the site with written approval from the Engineer and permitting agencies. Prospective bidders shall also obtain all necessary environmental clearances, agency permits, notify Dig Alert, protect all utilities and facilities, provide traffic control, and restore excavations to original conditions to the Engineer’s and permitting agencies satisfaction. Exploratory excavations or borings are at the sole expense and risk of the bidder.

PLAN REVIEW: Plans showing the character of the Work may be seen in person at the offices of Central Basin Municipal Water District, 6252 Telegraph Road, Commerce, CA 90040.

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS: The Contract Documents may be obtained by contacting Ms. Sharon Kumar at (323) 201-5502 for information. If Sharon Kumar is unavailable, please contact the Central Basin Municipal Water District general line at (323) 201-5500 for information. The Contract Documents are defined in the General Conditions, Article 1. Bidding procedures are prescribed in the Contract Documents. Bids shall be executed upon the forms bound and made a part of the Contract Documents.

ADDENDA: ALL ADDENDA FOR THIS CONTRACT WILL BE POSTED ON THE DISTRICT’S WEBSITE AT WWW.CENTRALBASIN.ORG. IT IS THE CONTRACTOR’S RESPONSIBILITY TO VISIT THE DISTRICT’S WEBSITE TO CHECK AND VIEW SUCH ADDENDA AND TO INCLUDE THE FORMWORK FOR THE ADDENDA IN THEIR BID PACKAGE. Failure to include all addenda and addendum acknowledgement forms from the DISTRICT’S website with Bids may render the Bid as non-responsive.

BIDDERS WILL HAVE UNTIL **10:00 A.M. ON JUNE 9, 2021** TO SUBMIT REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATIONS TO THE DISTRICT REGARDING THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS. Requests for clarifications will be accepted via email only. Please send requests to both: Jeremy Melendez at jeremym@centralbasin.org and Rudy Viramontes at Rviramontes@capstone-partnersinc.com.

BID SECURITY: Bids must be accompanied by a bidder’s bond, cashier’s check or certified check (hereinafter, the “Bid Security”) in an amount equal to no less than TEN PERCENT (10%) of the amount of the bid. The bidder’s bond or certified check shall be made payable to the CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT and shall be given as a guarantee that the bidder will enter into a contract if a contract is awarded to the bidder, and will be declared forfeited, paid to, or retained by the DISTRICT as liquidated damages if the bidder refuses or neglects to enter into a contract on the terms of the accepted proposal within fourteen (14) calendar days after bidder’s notification of DISTRICT’s acceptance of the proposal. No bidder may withdraw any bid for a period of one hundred and twenty (120) consecutive calendar days after the date set for the opening of bids.

BIDS TO REMAIN OPEN: The Bidder shall guarantee the Total Bid Price for a period of one hundred and twenty **(120) consecutive calendar days** after the date of Bid opening.

CONTRACTOR’S LICENSE: The Contractor shall possess a valid **California Class “B” General Contractor** license at the time of Bid submission as well as at all times the Contractor is engaged in performing the Work for the DISTRICT. In addition, Contractor and/or subcontractor shall possess the following licenses at the time the Contract is awarded for the work described: **Landscaping - Class C-27 Landscaping Contractors License**.

Failure to possess the specified license at the time of submittal may render the Bid as non-responsive.

CALIFORNIA WAGE RATE REQUIREMENTS: In accordance with the provisions of California Labor Code Sections 1770, 1773, 1773.1, 1773.6 and 1773.7 as amended, the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations has determined the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for the locality where the Work is to be performed. It shall be mandatory upon the Contractor to whom the Work is awarded and upon any subcontractor under the Contractor to pay not less than said specified rates to all workmen employed by them in the execution of the Work.

APPLICABILITY OF CONTINUITY OF WORK AGREEMENT (PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT): Work performed under the Project shall also be governed by the terms of a Continuity of Work Agreement (commonly referred to in the public works construction arena as a

Project Labor Agreement) (hereinafter referred to as the “PLA”). The PLA has been executed by and between the Central Basin Municipal Water District and the Los Angeles and Orange County Building Trades Council and the various trade unions that are signatories to the PLA. The PLA requires, among other things: the use of union personnel as the primary source of the contractor’s labor for the Project; the payment of prevailing wages and other benefits called for under the collective bargaining agreements and policies of signatory unions; compliance with worksite labor rules set forth in the PLA and other applicable collective bargaining agreements of the signatory unions which are incorporated by reference; compliance with worker grievance and dispute resolution procedures set forth in the PLA and other applicable collective bargaining agreements of the signatory unions which are incorporated by reference; a duty that the contractor pay into pension funds for the benefit of workers working on the Project, including the limited number of the contractor’s own core workers; and execution of Letter of Assent wherein the successful bidder agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions of the PLA (the form of the Letter of Assent is included as Attachment A to the PLA). Bidders are expected to independently factor-in all direct and indirect costs attributable or potentially attributable to the application of the PLA to the Project. By submitting a bid, bidders represent that they have reviewed the PLA and have familiarized themselves with its conditions and requirements and in formulating their bids have factored-in all direct and indirect costs attributable or potentially attributable to compliance with the conditions and requirements of the PLA. In the event the PLA calls for the payment of wages rates higher than those set forth under the Labor Code, calls for the payment of benefits not otherwise called for in the Labor Code, calls for worksite management protocols more stringent than those called for under the Labor Code or other applicable laws, the more stringent requirements of the PLA shall be adhered to.

ELECTRICAL SAFETY: Work performed under the Project shall also be governed by electrical safety requirements as stated within the Specifications.

SUBSTITUTION OF SECURITIES: Pursuant to Section 22300 of the California Public Contract Code, the Contractor may request the DISTRICT to make retention payments directly to an escrow agent or may substitute certain securities for money withheld by the DISTRICT to ensure performance under the contract, as provided in the Contract Documents.

EXCAVATION AND TRENCH SAFETY: If the work involves trenches or open excavations, which are five feet or deeper, the bid must contain, as a bid item, adequate sheeting, shoring, and bracing, or other methods to assure workers safety.

PAYMENT BOND REQUIRED: The successful contractor will be required to file with the DISTRICT at the time of execution of the contract, a Payment Bond (Labor and Materials Bond) in the amount of 100% of the bid amount in accordance with Civil Code 9550.

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE MATERIALS:

This Invitation for Bids **does not** specify locations of possible materials, such as a borrow pit or gravel bed, for use in the proposed construction project which would be subject to Section 1603 of the Fish and Game Code.

NONCOLLUSION DECLARATION: Each bid submitted for the Project shall be accompanied by a Noncollusion Declaration in the form required by the District.

CONTACT: All communications relative to this Work shall be directed to the DISTRICT prior to opening of the bids. All technical questions regarding the bid documents or addendums must be submitted via email only to both: Jeremy Melendez at jeremym@centralbasin.org and Rudy Viramontes at Rviramontes@capstone-partnersinc.com.

FUNDING: The project is funded with MET Water Conservation Grant Funds and CBMWD Water planning, use & Efficiency Grant.

DISTRICT’s RIGHTS RESERVED: The DISTRICT reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in a bid, and to make award to the lowest responsive responsible bidder as it may best serve the interest of the DISTRICT.

DATE: _____

OWNER: Central Basin Municipal Water District

By: _____
Dr. Alex Rojas, General Manager
Central Basin Municipal Water District

Published at Commerce Community News 5/28/21

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the **Cerritos Planning Commission** will conduct a public hearing at a special meeting on **Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** on the following matter: Review and consideration to waive full reading of and adopt **A RESOLUTION OF THE CERRITOS PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDING THAT THE CERRITOS CITY COUNCIL APPROVE DEVELOPMENT CODE AMENDMENT 2021-1, A REQUEST TO AMEND SECTION 22.48.600 OF THE CERRITOS MUNICIPAL CODE, ADDING AND CLARIFYING REGULATIONS FOR POLITICAL SIGNS.* *Pursuant to Section 15061(b) (3) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), this project is categorically exempt from CEQA review.** This public hearing will be conducted in-person in the Cerritos City Council Chamber, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, subject to posted COVID-19 protocols, and by teleconference via ZOOM video communications, as authorized by State of California Executive Orders N-25-20 and N-29-20. Members of the public may provide public comment for this meeting in-person at the meeting or by using any of the following alternate methods: Written correspondence (hard copy or email): Public comments can be submitted via email to planning@cerritos.us or by hard copy to the Community Development Department no later than 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Please identify the agenda item number in the subject line of the email or hard copy document. All written correspondence received by the 3:00 p.m. deadline will be distributed to the Commission prior to the meeting. During the meeting, your name and summary comments will be read into the record. The document will be retained with the public record of the meeting. Teleconference Participation: Live audio public comments can be made by connecting to the meeting using the information listed below. Public speakers will be queued to provide comment at the appropriate time during the meeting agenda and must be available at the time they are called upon to speak. Cerritos Zoom Meeting online link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82780230365>, Cerritos Zoom Meeting call-in telephone/mobile number: (669) 900-6833, Cerritos Zoom Meeting ID: 827 8023 0365. The meeting will also air live on Cerritos TV3 and will be streamed over the City of Cerritos website at **www.cerritos.us**. A copy of the related staff report will be available for download from the website on the Friday prior to the public hearing. If you challenge the above mentioned item and related actions in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence emailed to the Department of Community Development prior to the public hearing. Any person interested in this matter may contact the Department of Community Development at (562) 916-1201 for additional information and/or participate in the teleconference public hearing. Dated: May 28, 2021, /s/[Robert A. Lopez](#), Robert A. Lopez, Director of Community Development.

Published at LCCN 5/28/2021

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated: 10753 Artesia Blvd. Cerritos, Ca 90703 on June 14, 2021 at 11:00 am. Recquel Thurman, Household items, Paul Kiefer, Household items, Daniel Martinez, Household items. The auction will be listed and advertised on www.storage treasures.com. Purchases must be made with cash only and paid at the above referenced facility in order to complete the transaction. Extra Space Storage may refuse any bid and may rescind any purchase up until the winning bidder takes possession of the personal property.

Published at LCCN 05/28/21 and 6/4/2021

CITY OF PICO RIVERA CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING CONSIDERING AN AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 18.46 ENTITLED “SIGNS AND ADVERTISING” OF THE PICO RIVERA MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW DIGITAL BILLBOARDS IN INDUSTRIAL ZONES DESIGNATED HEREIN AS ZONE CODE AMENDMENT NO. 188

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a public hearing will be held before the City Council to consider an amendment to Chapter 18.46 entitled “Signs and Advertising” of the Pico Rivera Municipal Code to allow Digital Billboards. The amendment would include requirements needed to be met by a digital billboard developer including but not limited to an application, photometric plan, compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act and specified development standards.

WHEN: June 8, 2021

TIME: 6:00 PM

WHERE: City Hall Council Chambers
6615 Passons Boulevard
Pico Rivera, CA 90660

In accordance with the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), to the extent that the actions constitute a project, there is no possibility that the project will have a significant effect on the environment and as a result, no further CEQA review is necessary. This determination is in accordance with Section 15061 (b) (3) of the CEQA Guidelines that states, a project is exempt from CEQA where it can be seen with certainty that there is no possibility that the activity in question may have a significant effect on the environment.

Certain provisions of the Brown Act are temporarily waived pursuant to Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-25-20 and N-2920. In the interest of public health and safety, City Hall facilities are temporarily closed to the public until further notice. City Council meetings can be viewed live on CTV-3 and by visiting the City’s website at www.picorivera.org. From the City’s main webpage, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on CTV-3 live stream. To submit a public comment pertaining to this hearing, an email may be sent to the City Clerk’s Office at publiccomments@pico-rivera.org prior to 4:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting. Please provide your full name and reference the following subject matter: “Public Hearing- Chapter 18.46, Signs and Advertisement Amendment”

PERSONS INTERESTED IN THIS MATTER may correspond with the City Clerk’s Office by using the email address provided above. If you challenge the consideration of adoption of the proposed application in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or correspondence email that was sent to the City Clerk’ Office prior to the public hearing.

If a challenge is made by any party in court from actions arising out of the public hearing, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised during the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City of Pico Rivera City Clerk at, or prior to, the public hearing.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the City of Pico Rivera is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for a person with a disability. Please contact Anna M. Jerome at (562) 801-4389 if special program accommodations are necessary and/or if program information is needed in an alternative format. Special requests must be made in a reasonable amount of time in order for accommodations to be arranged.

Posted Date: 5/28/21

Published at LCCN 5/28/2021

Extra Space Storage will hold a public auction to sell personal property described below belonging to those individuals listed below at location indicated: 10753 Artesia Blvd. Cerritos, Ca 90703 on **June 14, 2021 at 11:00 am.**

Recquel Thurman, Household items,
Paul Kiefer, Household items,
Daniel Martinez, Household items.

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

Published at LCCN 5/21 and 5/28/2021

NOTICE OF BRANCH OPENING

Notice is hereby given that Open Bank, 1000 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 500, Los Angeles, California 90017, will be filing an application with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation on June 7, 2021 for the authority to establish a branch at 11811 South Street, Cerritos, CA 90703. Any person wishing to comment on the application may file his/her comments in writing with the regional director of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, 25 Jessie Street at Ecker Square, Suite 2300, San Francisco, CA 94105, no later than 15 days after the date of this newspaper publication. The non-confidential portions of the application are on file in the appropriate FDIC office and are available for public inspection during regular business hours. Photocopies of the non-confidential portion of the application file will be made available upon request. This notice is published pursuant to 12 CFR 303.7.

Published at LCCN 5/28/2021

**ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

At the Board Meeting of June 1, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., the Board of Education will hold a public hearing regarding the Budget of the District for the fiscal year 2021-22, prior to Final Adoption as required by Education Code Section 42103. The proposed budget will be on file and available for public inspection at the following location should members of the public wish to review the budget prior to the public hearing.

Location: www.abcsud.us
Date(s): May 27 - June 1, 2021

The Public Hearing of the School District, to be held during the Board Meeting June 1, 2021 will begin at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as practicable, conducting its business telephonically. The public can listen to it live via www.myabcsud.org/boardmeeting, Spectrum/Charter-Channel 32, or Frontier-Channel 29.

Persons wishing to address the Board should provide public comments during the Public Comments section via the following method: www.myabcsud.org/boardmeeting and use the link or phone number to participate in the Zoom Meeting. If using Zoom, please use the “raise your hand” feature. If using the phone, please use *9 to “raise your hand” during the Public Comments portion of the agenda, or during the Public Comments time after an agenda item. Then use *6 to unmute yourself when you are called on to speak.

Published at LCCN 5/21 and 5/28/2021

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
ELIE G. MALOUF AKA ELIE GEORGE MALOUF AKA ELIE MALOUF
CASE NO. 21STPB00149
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ELIE G. MALOUF AKA ELIE GEORGE MALOUF AKA ELIE MALOUF.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ROB SASLOW, CLPF in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ROB SASLOW, CLPF be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.)
The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 06/11/21 at 8:30AM in Dept. 5 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.
Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner
JEFFREY A. COLEMAN
SBN 209669
THE COLEMAN FIRM PC
417 31ST STREET, UNIT B
NEWPORT BEACH CA 92663
BSC 219946
5/21, 5/28, 6/4/21
CNS-3471587#
LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS

**ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTICE CALLING FOR BID**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ABC Unified School District will receive up to but not later than **11:00 AM** on the **10th day of June, 2021** Bids for:

ABC Bid # 1568 Fuel Pump Replacement

All bids shall be made and presented on a form furnished by the District. Bids submitted shall conform to the terms and conditions stated on said form. Bids shall be received in the office of the Purchasing Department at 16700 Norwalk Blvd., Cerritos, CA 90703 and shall be opened and publicly read aloud at the above-stated time and place. Bidders may obtain the website link to bid documents at the mandatory jobwalk on June 3, 2021 at 10:00 AM sharp at the Transportation yard 11865 178th St. Artesia. All public works are subject to prevailing wage payments, Valid License valid Class A HAZ Contractor's License and DIR Registration will be required.

Los Cerritos News May 21, 2021
May 28, 2021

Published at LCCN 5/21 and 5/28/2021

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice US Storage Centers - Commerce – Olympic located at 5415 E. Olympic Blvd. Commerce CA 90022 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage treasures.com on 6/17/2021 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Tania Salinas Bernal; Jose L Molina; Arturo Tanori; Yasmee Anguiano; Rosario D Paz Laborde (2 units); Otto Francisco Davila Jr; Elie Samaha; Angelica M Barajas; Luz Adriana Pacheco Rangel; Manuel de Jesus Martinez; Joseph David Jacobo; Janet Sanchez; Juan Manuel Morales; Lucy G Vega; Fernando Hernandez; Elisa Michelle Fisher; Gabriel Terriquez; Jose Fernandez; Israel Navarro. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

Notice of Self Storage Sale

Please take notice US Storage Centers – Cerritos located at 16015 Piuma Ave. Cerritos, CA 90703 intends to hold an auction to sell the goods stored by the following tenants at the storage facility. The sale will occur as an online auction via www.storage treasures.com on 6/17/2021 at 10:00AM. Unless stated otherwise the description of the contents are household goods and furnishings. Alvaro de Jesus Perez; Michael John Brophy; Jaime Leighton; Erika Gabrielle Bannister- Mejia; Maurice Parker Jr Jones; Pamela Keiko Eberle. All property is being stored at the above self-storage facility. This sale may be withdrawn at any time without notice. Certain terms and conditions apply. See manager for details.

Published at LCCN 5/28 and 6/4/21

**ABC UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
SURPLUS SALE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the ABC Unified School District will receive up to but not later than **4:00 pm** on the **4th day of June, 2021** Bids for sale of surplus school furniture at Whitney High School and Artesia High School. NO IN-PERSON VIEWING available only view by going to www.abcsud.us then scroll down to News and Announcement for the link to the Surplus Bid.

This is a furniture only sale, pictures may contain computers, books or equipment etc. however, those items are not included. All items must be picked up on June 11, 2021 or sale will be forfeited. Appointments will be given to the awarded bidders on June 8, 2021, confirmation is required no later than June 8 or award will be forfeited. Only cash will be accepted, no checks or credit cards. Bids must be sent to: bids.purch@abcsud.us before the deadline to be considered. All late bids will be disqualified.

Published at LCCN 5/28/21



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BREAKING NEWS

Los Cerritos
Community Newspaper



Save our beaches.
Recycle used motor oil
and filters.

Recycling keeps hazardous waste out
of our water and soil, so we can enjoy
a better tomorrow.

Used motor oil and filters are harmful to our water and soil
and end up polluting the ocean. When you change your used
motor oil, please recycle it at a certified collection center. Do
your part for the next generation to enjoy our beautiful beaches.

Certified Collection Centers Near You

Commerce Lube
2432 S. Indiana St., Commerce, CA 90023

International Repair
4246 E. Washington Blvd., Commerce, CA 90023

AutoZone
11560 Telegraph Rd., Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670



(888) CLEAN LA
CleanLA.com