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thought could make it.
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I couldn't pronounce my R's.
I wasn't a beauty.
~Barbara Walters

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Cerritos Using 'Cooperative Agreements' With Private Companies to Award No-Bid Contracts

By Brian Hews

HMG-CN has recently learned that the city of Cerritos is using a little-known City Municipal Code coupled with cooperative agreements to bypass the public bidding process and avoid scrutiny of public contracts awarded by the city.

Cooperative agreements are, in essence, contracts negotiated by a third party using its purchasing power to get a lower price. The bargaining of the price by the third party, typically a private company, is hidden from public scrutiny.

In one case, Cerritos used Franklin, Tennessee-based

Omnia Partners, to negotiate prices - out of public scrutiny - with local vendors that Omnia prefers, and then awarded contracts to complete projects in the city under Omnia's cooperative agreement.

To bypass public scrutiny and competitive local bidding, Cerritos cites Section 3.20.060(e) of the Cerritos Municipal Code, which states, "bidding may be dispensed with when services can be purchased through cooperative agreements."

In addition, once again bypassing bidding scrutiny, the

[See CERRITOS page 9]



BELLFLOWER SALVATION ARMY HELPS FAMILIES IN NEED

THE BELLFLOWER SALVATION ARMY assisted hundreds of families and children with food, clothing, toys and much more through their events. The BSA wanted to thank city officials, services clubs business owners and volunteers for supporting their holiday fundraisers. To help, visit Bellflower.SalvationArmy.org.

Veteran's Resource Center Opens in Pico Rivera

By Brian Hews

In November 2021, after much prodding from the Pico Rivera City Council, the Los Angeles County Library and the California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) finally began the process of establishing a Veterans Resource Center inside the Pico Rivera library.

Veterans Resource Centers (VRC) provide critical services to Veterans and supply information about state and federal education, employment, housing, health, disability and other benefits.

Pico Rivera is home to a sizeable Veteran population, and the city was already working with local Veteran service groups to disseminate information about Veterans' benefits, education assistance, employment resources, vocational training, rehabilitation and homeless services.

City Council and city staff were excited at the prospects of having a VRC at the library, but at the time of the collaboration, Los Angeles County had indicated no funding was available for Pico Rivera's

VRC. Well, they found the funding and the city announced its new Veterans Resource Center, now located at the Pico Rivera Senior Center, is open and taking Veterans Service Officer (VSO) appointments for 2023.

The VSO is a key component of the city's new Resource Center and is ready to provide expert assistance to Veterans and their families.

The VSO serving inside the Pico Rivera VRC area is Kenneth Gonzales, Jr., who is an Accredited California Department of Veterans Affairs Service Officer.

Kenneth is no stranger to Pico Rivera; his family has been in the city since his grandfather bought his home in 1963. He was born and raised in the city, participated in city programs at the local parks, and graduated from El Rancho High.

Kenneth then joined the United States Navy where he proudly served for four years, and is a Gulf War Veteran. After his service, he worked in private industry before working for the County of Los Angeles as a Veterans Service Officer. Kenneth had a busy Decem-

[See PICO RIVERA page 9]

25 Year-Old Artesia Resident Shot and Killed at Pioneer and Artesia



MARISSA PEREZ photo from GoFundMe page. Marissa was pregnant and due in June.

The girl was a passenger driving with her father when a gunman pulled up to the truck and opened fire.

By Laurie Hanson

A 25-year-old pregnant woman was shot to death in Artesia as she was headed to a birthday party with her dad, and her distraught family believes this was not a random act.

The shooting happened at

around 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 29, at the intersection of Pioneer and Artesia boulevards.

Marissa Perez, who was expecting a child in June, was in the front passenger seat of the vehicle as her father was driving to pick up a birthday cake.

According to Perez's mother, Sandra Tolentino, a driver pulled up next to the father and daughter and began shooting. Perez was shot several times, including once in the head, her mother said.

"She was 25. She was about to be a mother in five more months. She was so happy,"

said Tolentino, who said the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said investigators do not believe this was a random act.

"She always cared for so many people. Her heart was literally on her sleeve every day."

As the search for the shooter continues, a growing memorial filled with flowers and heartfelt messages now sits at the intersection of the shooting.

Tolentino and her family, who described Perez as "the most loyal, loving, outgoing, and strongest person," are left grieving, trying to make sense of such tragedy that occurred just days before the New Year.

"She should have never been taken from us that way," said Tolentino. "She still had such a life ahead of her and it kills me that we won't be able to have that next chapter. Don't hold grudges and just love, love so hard because you just never know when will be the last time to say goodbye."

The sheriff's department has not released a description of the suspect or suspects.

[See SHOOTING page 4]

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NINETEEN PLUS YEARS: As Rivera Elementary closed for the Winter break, "Ms. Lucille," the crossing guard at the corner of Rex and Passons, decided to hang up her stop sign after over nineteen years. She has crossed many students, watching them grow before her very eyes. "I will miss them, but it was time to retire," said Ms. Lucille.

Lakewood Farmers Market Opens This Saturday

A new Lakewood Farmers Market will open on Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the city property at Del Amo Blvd. and Clark Ave., starting Jan. 7, rain or shine.

The Farmers Market will feature California-certified fresh produce, crafts and pre-packaged goods, with 20-30 vendors joining throughout the month as the market grows in size. The number of vendors may be smaller in number the first few weeks of operation.

Shoppers will find a variety of fresh, delicious items including seasonal fruits, fresh vegetables, fresh fish and certified organic chicken, plus hot prepared foods,

such as tacos, burritos, quesadillas, tamales, smoked BBQ meats, vegan dishes, coffee and iced coffee drinks. There will be a shaded dining area too.

And, shoppers can pick up fresh flowers, as well as prepacked goodies like French bakery items (croissants, pastries), everything sourdough, cookies, cupcakes and more!

A variety of crafters and artisans will also offer their specialty items.

The market will be run by the operators of a longstanding successful Farmers Market in Long Beach at Clark Ave. and Spring St.

La Mirada Farmers Market Resumes January 7

La Mirada's Farmers Market is back to the delight of are residents.

Celebrate the new year with a visit to the Farmers Markets and experience the best regional produce, packaged artisan and ready-to-eat specialty foods, and locally made crafts and gifts.

The La Mirada Farmers Market is open every Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The first Saturday of each month will feature live music, crafts for kids, and giveaways.

The Market will feature 20 to 25 vendors and beginning this Saturday, has a new location in the City Hall Parking lot, across from the Fire Station on Civic Center Drive.

Local La Mirada businesses interested in becoming a vendor should contact VenaVer Events at venaverevents@gmail.com. For more information, call (562) 943-7277.

Volunteer for the 2023 L. A. County Homeless Count

La Mirada is taking part in the 2023 Los Angeles County Homeless Count.

Every year, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) conducts a census of the homeless population through the Homeless Count.

The data collected is an essential component in understanding the scope and nature of homelessness in Los Angeles County and helps LAHSA and its partners deliver services where they are needed most.

For more information, or to sign-up to volunteer visit theycountwillyou.org

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JANICE HAHN

Supervisor Hahn Announces New Pickleball Courts in La Mirada



PICKLEBALL COURTS at La Mirada's Community Regional Park. Hahn's office directed the Parks Department to survey parkgoers about their support for the proposal, and with the community's support, Supervisor Hahn allocated \$46,000 from her office's discretionary funds to fund the project.

Staff Report

La Mirada-- Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn and the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation are proud to formally announce the opening of eight dedicated pickleball courts in La Mirada Community Regional Park.

"These new pickleball courts are something La Mirada residents came to me to ask for," said Supervisor Hahn. "I was more than happy to provide the funding to make it happen and I appreciate the Department of Parks and Recreation for delivering them so quickly. Have a great time everyone!"

Last year, multiple residents in La Mirada came to Supervisor Hahn's office requesting pickleball courts be installed in La Mirada Community Regional Park.

Hahn's office directed the Parks De-

partment to survey parkgoers about their support for the proposal, and with the community's support, Supervisor Hahn allocated \$46,000 from her office's discretionary funds to fund the project and directed the Parks Department to transform two of the park's twelve tennis ball courts into pickleball courts.

The new courts, completed in late December, join other pickleball courts offered at LA County Parks, including Farnsworth Park in Altadena.

Pickleball is similar to tennis or badminton, played on a smaller version of a tennis court with a small paddle and a ball similar to a whiffle ball.

In recent years, pickleball has exploded in popularity and become one of the fastest-growing sports in the United States due in part to its accessibility to persons of all ages interested in pickleball.

'Horendous' Consequences After Musk-Twitter Cuts Child Abuse Screening Team

Staff Reports

Reports emerged a few weeks ago that Elon Musk has cut the size of the child sexual exploitation Twitter team in half, leaving behind an overwhelmed skeleton crew.

Reports indicated the team had fewer than 10 specialists down from 20.

The team was responsible for stopping the distribution of child sexual abuse material, instances of online grooming, and media that promoted attraction to minors as an identity or sexual orientation.

Now the platform is seeing an increase in that kind of despicable behavior.

Human review is important for recognizing grooming and other exploitative behaviors, and identifying previously unknown abusive images and videos.

The specialists worked closely with dedicated product managers and engineers to build tools and automation to stop the spread of the material, as well as third-party contractors who helped triage posts that users reported.

Unlike other types of egregious content that violates Twitter's rules, child sexual abuse material is illegal to host on the platform, and, depending on the country, there are requirements to take down and report material within specific time limits.

In the U.K., the Online Safety Bill gives regulators the power to fine platforms hosting user-generated content as much as 10% of their revenue.



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Soroptimist International of Artesia-Cerritos's 28th Annual Monte Carlo Fundraiser Gala

Saturday, February 25, 2023

Buffet Dinner 6-7:30 PM and Casino-Style Games, Silent Auction, and Prizes until 9:30 PM.

The Centre at Sycamore Plaza
5000 Clark Ave, Lakewood, CA

Theme: "Return to Paradise"
A return to good times for a good cause!

Dressy or Themed Tropical Attire

Early Bird tickets \$95 or \$125 per person after Jan. 20th and available through all members of Soroptimist International of Artesia-Cerritos.

Proceeds go to local charities and awards for women and girls in our own communities through Soroptimist educational and mentoring programs.

Questions or to Purchase Tickets:
call Monte Carlo Co-Chairs,
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Cerritos: 19th Annual Children's Art Contest: 'Your Dream Park'

Kindergarten

First Place, Everett Choi, Wittman

1st Grade

First Place, Benjamin Leo Kim, Leal

Second Place, Aryanna Vigil, Elliot

Third Place, Lauren Wu, Leal

2nd Grade

First Place, Keanu Bui, Leal

Second Place, Dhyana Dave, Bragg

Third Place, Tasfia Rahman, Leal

3rd and 4th Grade

First Place, Theodore Chang, Vly Chrstn

Second Place, Jacqueline Wang, VC

Third Place, Sofia Juliette Galdamez, VC

5th Grade

First Place, Leslie Lam, Leal

Second Place, Jayden Tung, Cerritos



CERRITOS Councilman Frank Yokoyama with 2nd grader Keanu Bui from Leal ES who placed first in the Art Contest and won \$20.

Lakewood Leadership Academy Starts Jan. 30

Recent college graduates and working professionals can sharpen their communications, team-building and management skills to advance their careers and become leaders in the Lakewood community through the Lakewood Leadership Academy sponsored by the City of Lakewood and the Greater Lakewood Chamber of Commerce, with funding from Supervisor Janice Hahn.

Applications for the 2023 cohort are due by Jan. 18, 2023.

The program will educate attendees about the depth and breadth of the public agencies and community-based organizations that serve the Lakewood community; teach attendees how to bal-

ance work and personal life demands, develop effective communication skills, build great teams and value the importance of diversity, inclusion and tolerance in their workplaces; encourage attendees to serve the community in leadership roles and expand and enhance networking and relationships.

Participants meet monthly for nine sessions from 5 to 9 p.m.; dinner will be provided. Each session will cover a different topic and include a combination of lectures, panel discussions and hands-on activities relevant to that session's topic; during each session, experts are invited to share their insights and views. The first meeting will be held Monday, Jan. 30, 2023. Dates are subject to change with advance notice. For more information, visit lakewoodcity.org/Business/Lakewood-Leadership-Academy.

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ZERO-WASTE: Jessica Walden and Chris McGuire, doctoral students in UC Irvine's Department of Earth System Science, at their store Amis de la Terre Zero-Waste Market. The shop sells pantry staples and health foods in bulk, customers take home their wares in jars or paper bags without creating additional plastic waste. The store is located in Costa Mesa. *Courtesy photo Daily Pilot.*

Construction to Start at Cerritos Civic Center

Construction at the Cerritos Civic Center parking garage is set to take place in early January.

Certain areas and levels of the parking structure will be cordoned-off for the safety of pedestrians and motorists.

Road closures, intermittent noise and traffic delays are also anticipated.

The multi-phase project is expected to extend through the spring.

The work includes upgrades and rehabilitation to the parking garage and groundwater remediation.

Signs will be posted as needed to announce closures.

SHOOTING from page 1

Anyone with information is urged to contact the LASD homicide bureau at 323-890-5500.

Meanwhile, the family of Perez has created a GoFundMe to collect donations during their time of need. The family wrote on the GoFundMe page, "Marissa was the most loving daughter, sister, cousin and friend. Marissa was expecting the biggest blessing, a baby in June. Thank you to everyone who has reached out during this difficult time for our family, know that we appreciate your love and support. Nothing has prepared us for this immense feeling of loss and sorrow."

To donate go to the Go FundMe page at <https://bit.ly/HMGMarissa>

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RENEW ANNUAL CERRITOS PARKING PERMIT ONLINE

Cerritos residents can renew their 2023 annual parking permit or request an overnight parking permit 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week, online at safercerritos.com.

City parking permits are free of charge and must be clearly displayed on the driver's side dashboard of the vehicle (left corner) from 3 a.m. until 5 a.m.

A vehicle displaying a valid California DMV Disabled Person Placard

does not require an overnight parking permit. A parking permit does not exempt a vehicle from the City's street sweeping ordinance (10.12.065 CMC).

The parking permit criteria allow two-car garage households with five vehicles and four licensed drivers to qualify for a second annual parking permit.

Three-car garage households would require seven vehicles and six licensed drivers to qualify for a second parking permit.

For more information, contact the Community Safety Division at (562) 916-1266.

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Man Who Drove Family Off Cliff Did It On Purpose



THE DRIVER of a Tesla that went off a cliff at Devil's Slide in San Mateo County has been arrested for attempted murder and child abuse. Dharmesh A. Patel of Pasadena will be booked into San Mateo County Jail after he's released from the hospital. Patel, another adult and two juveniles suffered serious injuries Monday morning after the Tesla they were in plunged 250 to 300 feet down the side of a cliff along Highway 1, according to the CHP.

La Mirada Crime Summary

December 26, 2022 - January 01, 2023

Notable Arrests

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

Residential Burglary

- A residential burglary was reported on the 15000 block of Costa Mesa Dr. Entry was made through the rear door.

Vehicle Burglary

- An early morning vehicle burglary was reported on the 15000 block of Tacuba Dr.

- A late-night vehicle burglary occurred on the 12800 block of Valley View Ave.

Grand Theft

- A purse was stolen during the morning hours on the 15200 block of Rosecrans Ave.

- A catalytic theft was reported stolen on the 15100 block of La Mirada Blvd.

- A theft was reported on the 15700 block of Imperial Hwy.

- A catalytic converter was stolen on the 14900 block of Northam St.

- A theft of a catalytic converter was reported on the 16000 block of Grayville Dr.

Grand Theft Auto

- A sedan was stolen on the 15400 block of Placid Dr.

- An attempted vehicle theft was reported on the 15000 block of Firestone Blvd.

La Mirada Neighborhood Watch Meetings

The City will host City-Wide Neighborhood Watch meetings via Zoom on the following dates and times:

- Wednesday, March 15 at 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 14 at 10 a.m.
- Thursday, September 7 at 6 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 13 at 10 a.m.

The meeting presentations provide information on the benefits of Neighborhood Watch, current crime trends, and prevention tips. Zoom 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. The use of cameras or microphones is not needed, and participants will be able to ask questions via the text chat box.

If you are interested in the Neighborhood Watch program or have additional questions, please contact Safety Education Officer Mary Cipres at mcipres@cityoflamirada.org or at (562) 902-2986.

Parking Enforcement Resumes on January 10 in Cerritos

Cerritos' overnight parking restrictions and enforcement will resume on Tuesday, January 10.

Permits are required to park on City streets between 3 and 5 a.m. to help keep streets clear and allow residents and deputies to quickly spot suspicious vehicles.

The parking permit criteria allow two-car garage households with five vehicles and four licensed drivers to qualify for a second annual parking permit.

Three-car garage households would require seven vehicles and six licensed drivers to qualify for a second parking permit.

For more information, call the Community Safety Division at (562) 916-1266.

Lakewood Mall the Safest in South L.A. County



AN AVERAGE of 2.1 crimes per 100,000 visitors occurred at neighboring major shopping malls compared to only 1.2 crimes at Lakewood Center, based on newly compiled statistics.

A survey of south Los Angeles County shopping malls showed that fewer crimes were committed at Lakewood Center per 100,000 visitors each year than at other shopping malls.

An average of 2.1 crimes per 100,000 visitors occurred at neighboring major shopping malls compared to only 1.2 crimes at Lakewood Center, based on newly compiled statistics.

“Creating a safe environment at Lakewood Center is a priority for the City of Lakewood, and we’re glad the statistics bear out that our efforts in partnership with the mall and the Sheriff’s Department work,” said Lakewood Mayor Steve Croft.

According to the city, the Lakewood Center partners with the city to provide Deputy Sheriffs to patrol the center year-round.

The Deputy Sheriffs have stepped up proactive policing at the mall, focusing on spotting suspicious behavior.

The mall’s own security team and

Lakewood Deputy Sheriffs jointly staff a Safety Center at the mall.

While specifics of the Lakewood Center security program are confidential, it is known to be a highly team including undercover personnel who provide an extra level of protection for shoppers.

Lakewood Center Security Officers also provide customer service.

Mall Security Officers were honored at Lakewood’s Award of Valor event for life-saving measures performed on a guest having a medical emergency at the mall.

“Lakewood Center has been extremely important to the economic health of our community since it opened as America’s largest shopping mall in the 1950s,” said Croft. “As statistics show, Lakewood Center remains a very safe place to shop, and I hope Lakewood residents will continue to make it a place they visit and patronize for their convenience, personal benefit and the economic betterment of our community.”

Su Casa – Ending Domestic Violence

Su Casa is a nonprofit community-based organization dedicated to the philosophy that every individual has the right to live free from violence or the threat of violence.

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2023 'Floatfest' Allows Up Close Viewing of Rose Parade Floats



The hard rain managed to hold back this past Wednesday at the Rose Parade's Floatfest, a 2-mile stretch of floats located at Sierra Madre and Washington Boulevard in Pasadena. Float viewers were treated to an up close and personal viewing of every float in the iconic parade.

Clockwise from top left is the Traders Joes float, birds on the TJ's float (Most outstanding display of floral presentation, float design and entertainment); San Diego's Safari Park (Most outstanding use of animation); Downey' Float (Most outstanding floral presentation from a non-commercial participant); Cal Poly Universities (Most outstanding floral presentation from a non-commercial participant); AIDS Healthcare Foundation (Grand Marshal Award for most outstanding creative concept and float design); City of South Pasadena (Bob Hope Humor, most whimsical and amusing float). Photos by Cora & Brian Hews



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Norwalk Senior Center
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ANAHEIM COLONY CLASSIC

Loara’s Toscano torches Norwalk as Lancers falter in final seconds of final tournament

By Loren Kopff
@LorenKopff on Twitter

ANAHEIM-It was just three seasons ago that the Norwalk High boys basketball team was enjoying part of its 10-game winning streak during the Anaheim Colony Classic, held in late December. But the pandemic and a lack of interest has forced tournament officials to mark the 2022 version the final year of the tournament, at least for now.

With that said, the Lancers wanted to avoid going winless in the event and snap a three-game losing skid. But Loara High’s Markus Toscano, who stands at 6’6”, scored a pair of baskets in the final 14 seconds and the Saxons rallied for a 55-53 win last Friday afternoon. Norwalk, which did not trail until the beginning of the fourth quarter, dropped to 7-11 as it wrapped up its non-league part of its schedule.

The Lancers had taken a 53-51 with 43.7 seconds left after senior Vincent Hernandez scored off his only offensive rebound. After Toscano tied the game, Norwalk took a timeout with 7;5 seconds remaining. A missed three-pointer from senior Jesus Gomez prompted Loara to call a timeout with one second left. When play resumed, Remy Ybarra inbounded a long

pass to Toscano who launched a shot at the buzzer for the game-winner. Toscano entered the game averaging 20.4 points a game and led everyone with 20 points in the seventh-place game of the tournament.

“I thought we came out with a good attitude and a good approach and guys were playing very, very hard and focused early,” said Norwalk head coach Brent Campanelli. “We struggled to guard [Toscano]; he’s pretty good. We did a good job but when he got his touches, he made us pay for it. I have no doubt that he kind of paced them. But I think that third quarter really got to us. We went a little bit cold, and they just kept chipping away and chipping away.

“This has probably been the worst week of our season by far,” he later said. “I thought we started off Monday very well. We played Newport Harbor very tough with a chance to win the game in the fourth quarter. We didn’t show up on Wednesday to play a scrappy Anaheim team and it’s really, really hard to win games at the varsity level no matter who you’re playing.”

Hernandez opened the second half with a basket to give the Lancers a seven-point lead. But they would manage just two more baskets the rest of the third quarter and with 54.8 seconds left in the stanza, Toscano tied the game at 40-40. Then 35 seconds

into the fourth quarter, Kedir Abdi gave the Saxons their first lead of the game.

After Gomez sank a pair of free throws to give Norwalk a two-point lead 59 seconds into the final quarter, the Lancers wouldn’t lead again until Gomez scored with 1:22 left in regulation. But it would be a tale of two halves as Norwalk was eight of 24 from the field in the second half after shooting 13 of 29 in the first half.

“We were managing foul trouble, so I don’t know if there was a rhythm there for some guys in that third quarter,” said Campanelli. “They were trying to figure out how to play with that.”

The Lancers had three starters and their top bench player all pick up two fouls in the first half. But senior Aytin Reyes picked up his third foul before the midway part of the third quarter and his fourth at the same point in the fourth quarter. Senior James McGarrah would pick up his third and fourth fouls before the third quarter was over, and while no one fouled out, it disrupted Norwalk’s game in the second half.

“It’s difficult; it puts guys in a position where they have to play a little bit differently,” said Campanelli. “We’ve really been trying to get a little bit more aggressive, and I think they came out to be more aggressive; our guys did defensively. But defending aggressively and with the intelligence sometimes is a fine line. I thought a few of [the fouls] were maybe questionable and something for a little bit more of a physical game if we could play that way. But we just did the best we could.”

Norwalk seemed to be in control from the opening tip, outscoring the Saxons 20-13 in the first quarter while building a nine-point lead with 3:34 left in the stanza. The Lancers shot 50 percent from the field and had three steals as Loara was limited to nine shot attempts while turning the ball

over five times. It wasn’t until the three-minute mark of the second quarter that Loara was able to tie the game. But Norwalk closed out the half on a 9-4 run.

Hernandez led Norwalk with 14 points and missed just two shots from the field while junior Jakhari Ramey scored a dozen points, had four rebounds and two assists. Gomez chipped in with 11 points, five steals, three rebounds and three assists as the Lancers put themselves in a position where they need to have a strong Mid-Cities League slate just to make the playoffs. With 10 games left in the regular season, the Lancers need to go at least 7-3 just to reach the .500 mark, which would be enough to apply for an at-large berth in the CIF-Southern Section playoffs. But a 7-3 league record would also be good enough for no worse than third place in the circuit.

After opening league action at Firebaugh High, Norwalk will host Lynwood High on Friday before going to Warren High on Wednesday.

“That would be a tremendous 7-3 record, but that would be to get us to .500,” said Campanelli. “If we finish in the top three in our league, we going to get that automatic bid. So, we’re not going to set an unrealistic goal, but we do feel we have an opportunity in this new league. We feel like we can compete with just about any of the teams on any night. We’re just going to prepare the best we can and see what happens.”

SHOWCASE ON SHOEMAKER TOURNAMENT

Surging short-handed Whitney boys advance to finals of co-hosted event in defensive battle

By Loren Kopff

When you’re down two starters because of injuries, it’s that ‘next man up’ mentality and was what was facing the Whitney High boys basketball team throughout the inaugural Showcase on Shoemaker Tournament, hosted by John Glenn High and Whitney. Still, the Wildcats battled through the adversity to advance to the finals, made possible with a tough 35-32 win over Katella High last Thursday night in one semifinal game.

Whitney, which had won four straight games, would fall to (Bluffdale, UT) Summit Academy 49-25 the next night in the finals but still sported an impressive 13-3 record entering 605 League action, which began at Glenn this past Wednesday. The 35 points scored were the fewest in the first 15 games while the 32 points allowed marked the eighth time the Wildcats have yielded 35 or fewer points, including the first three games of the tournament.

“Yeah, they were good,” said Whitney head coach Joseph Webber of Katella. “We actually thought they had a big advantage in this game. I have two starters out, so I wanted to grind it out a little bit. We went through the walk-through today and my assistant coach, Nasir Akmal, designed a fantastic defensive plan. And the boys stuck to it most of the time.”

Whitney was leading 31-24 with 3:50

left in the game before the Knights went on an 8-0 run, taking their second and last lead of the contest with 1:21 remaining on a basket from Emari Hart. But with 33.5 seconds left, junior Joseph Whitaker had an offensive rebound and found senior David Song open for the game-winning basket. Then with 3.8 seconds left, Song grabbed a defensive board and fed a pass to senior Ethan Wong for the nail in the coffin.

After Katella’s William Leapart scored the game’s first points just over two minutes into the game, Whitney scored the next seven points over the next 2:15 and held the lead until late in the game. The lead would grow to nine points on three separate occasions, the first coming with 3:46 left in the first half when Song scored on an offensive rebound as the shot clock expired to put the improving ‘Cats up 18-9.

Although Whitney would have a lead of six to nine points for most of the game, it would go through several scoring droughts. In the first quarter, the Wildcats went through stretches of 2:58 and 3:15 without scoring, 2:11 in the second quarter, 3:00 and 4:08 in the third quarter and 2:55 and 3:16 in the final stanza.

“You know that defense is what you’re going to hang your hat on at the end of the game,” said Webber. “If we’re not scoring, we have to stop them from scoring,

too. I just thought it was amazing that as much firepower as Katella has, nobody really got off.

“We knew they would get a few putbacks; we knew they would go down on transition,” he continued. “But when we kept the ball in front of us, that was the plan we came up with. That was the part we told the boys to stick to. Without my two leading scorers, it’s hard to create scoring. It puts a heavy load back on Ethan, and I don’t want that. David has been fantastic, but our team was based off being a team. Based off [junior] Sakeef [Sekender] being in the corner for three’s. Based off [sophomore] Morgan [Marks] breaking down the offense, and instead, I don’t have them right now and it’s been a tough stretch without them.”

Whitney was up 22-16 at the half, partly because of the 10 turnovers it forced, some of them being offensive charges and the others coming in the way of steals, in which Wong had three and sophomore Kailan Hizon another two.

The Wildcats went up 25-16 three minutes into the second half on a three-pointer from Wong, his third of the game. After that, the hosts wouldn’t score until 51.8 remained in the stanza. Then the Wildcats went on a brief 4-0 run to lead 29-22 with 5:05 left in the game.

With Marks and Sekender not in the lineup, other players who have not gotten a lot of playing time this season stepped up in the tournament. Sophomore Christian Carreon had four second half points against Katella and had 17 points through the first three games of the tournament while sophomore Alex Cheng, who had scored 12 points through the first three games of the tournament, hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to end the first quarter to put Whitney up 12-6. And sophomore Rafael Mercado scored five points, grabbed a pair of rebounds and had an assist against the Knights.

“Christian is one of our dynamic sophomores that we brought up,” said Webber. “He’s the backbone of our team. Kailan had a giant defensive game for us, Alex had a giant defensive game for us and Christian...the whole team is based on trust, and they trust him. We know he loves to play and he will do anything he can for this team. So, I’m very happy for him when he made those plays because it breaks down the other team.”

Wong led everyone with 14 points, had three rebounds and two assists while junior Justin Wahyodi and Whittaker each grabbed half a dozen rebounds and Song added another five boards. This was the second straight tournament in which the Wildcats won the first three games to advance to the championship game and with the loss to Summit Academy, Whitney has now gone 3-1 in all three tournaments. The 13 victories are the most since the 2012-2013 when the Wildcats went 13-14 and with at least one more victory, Whitney will have its first non-losing season since the 2011-2012 campaign when that team went 15-9.

“It’s been a special team from the very get go,” said Webber. “Like I’ve said, our seniors last year spurred us into the spring and from there, this team has just gotten together and went on a little mission. Through spring we saw it, through summer we saw it, through fall ball we saw it and the team being able to trust off guys stepping up with all these games all this time together...I’m just very, very proud of them. And as I’ve always said, I have the best coaching staff in the state, and my coaches have these guys ultra-prepared for any challenge that comes up.

The Wildcats opened league action this past Wednesday at Glenn, easing past the Eagles 57-26 and will go to Artesia High on Friday before hosting Oxford Academy on Tuesday.

NEWS AND NOTES - Valley Christian basketball blown out by Heritage Christian in Olympic League opener



@LorenKopff on Twitter

The Valley Christian High boys basketball team hasn't had much luck with Heritage Christian High over the past seven seasons, losing nine straight to the Warriors and going 2-12 against them since 2016. Before that, V.C. had gone 14-4 since 2005.

So, who knew what to expect as the Olympic League began this past Tuesday with the Defenders, ranked 14th in the CIF-Southern Section Division 2A poll hosting Heritage Christian. After a very close first quarter in which the lead changed hands three times and no lead being greater than four points, the Warriors exploded for a solid second quarter and blew the game open in the second half, running away with a 79-58 win.

"We played well for a quarter and a half, probably," said V.C. first-year head coach Jason Flowers. "I thought the big difference when they made their run was that we turned the basketball over and gave them easy baskets. Anytime you do that against a team that's good, you have no chance of winning."

The Defenders led 18-17 after the first quarter before seeing the Warriors put on a second quarter display that included a flurry of dunks and lay-ups compliments of Seven Bahati and Tae Simmons. Those two would combine to go 10 of 12 from the field in the quarter and score 20 points over that time. Still, V.C. was down by four points with 1:48 left in the half. That's when the wheels came off and the Warriors closed out the half on an 8-0 run to lead 43-31 at the break. Then back to back three pointers from Dillan Shaw in a span of 40 seconds early in the third quarter increased the

lead to 51-35.

"They're hard to defend when you have those types of players," said Flowers. "But even bigger, you're giving those players lay-ups and dunks. Against a team like that, you try to make it as tough as possible and giving up lay-ups off turnovers or straight line penetration...that's the exact opposite of making it tough."

V.C. wouldn't get closer than 14 points after those perimeter shots, that coming on a steal and basket from junior Myles Harvey with 3:20 left in the third. He would score a dozen points while junior Jacob Bayla led the Defenders with 16 points and junior Gavin Stahl coming off the bench to add 11 points. V.C. shot 19 of 51 from the field and had 12 rebounds while the Warriors were as hot as any team could be.

Heritage Christian shot 34 of 49 from the field with Simmons, who led everyone with 23 points, missing just one of his 12 shots. Giovanni Goree scored 15 points and was six of nine from the field while Bahati (13 points) and Shaw (12 points) combined to go 10 of 15 from the field.

V.C., which had gone 3-1 in the Orange Tournament to end December, dropped to 11-7 overall as it will visit Maranatha High on Friday, host Loyola High on Saturday in non-league action, then go to Whittier Christian High on Tuesday.

"I am pleased with the growth of the young men that are in the program, and I think that's always the goal; for them to continue to get better," said Flowers. "It shows up on the basketball court because that's obviously when everyone is in the gym and they see what's going on. I think the process really happens every single day, and kind of seeing them mature and seeing them learn what it takes to be successful, that's what this while deal is all about."

Preceding the game, the girls never got into any rhythm and were blasted by the Warriors 56-21 for their seventh straight loss. The Defenders shot 15 percent from the field and tied for their sec-

ond lowest point total of the season.

"I think my girls came out flat," said V.C. head coach Ariel Sanchez. "I tried to tell them it's all about the energy. I have a young team and I think they were just a little nervous. Not having a starter was very tough. Finding out minutes before the game is a very big decision. You come up with a gameplan this whole week and then you go to execute it and one of your main starters is not there. That was a tough adjustment we had to make a couple of minutes before the game started."

Sanchez is referring to freshman sensation Jocelyn Tani who injured her ankle in the Dec. 29 West Ranch High game. Before that, Tani had scored in double figures in right of the 15 games she had played in. The Defenders never led in the game and scored five points in the opening quarter, the first coming from junior Jada Thompson with 5:25 left and a three-pointer from senior Meghan Patterson with 1:08 left in the stanza.

Heritage Christian began the second quarter on a 10-0 run to put the game way as it built a quick 20-5 lead. And even though the hosts would score the last six points of the first half, they had turned the ball over 12 times in the first 16 minutes. That number would nearly double in the third quarter alone as the Defenders were outscored 16-2 with the only points not coming until nearly the midway point of the stanza, the only two-pointer from senior Carissa Kamstra.

"We don't have that many strong ball handlers," said Sanchez. "So, it was kind of up to people who weren't really ball handlers. They were probably discouraged coming out of halftime and just played flat."

Kamstra led V.C. with 12 points with seven of them coming from the free throw line. She also grabbed seven rebounds while Patterson had five points, five rebounds and two assists. V.C., which shot six of 41 in the game, fell to 5-12 overall and have lost seven straight games. It will travel to Maranatha on Friday, entertain St. Joseph High on Saturday and go to Whittier Christian on Tuesday.

"I think we just need to work on scoring more and getting the ball in the basket," said Sanchez. "That's what I told them at the beginning of the fourth quarter. I said, 'hey, we're obviously not going to win this game, but let's just try to get the ball in the basket as much as we can and have fun'."

In other basketball action Artesia High hosted Cerritos High this past Wednesday to open play in the 605 League. The Cerritos girls (7-8, 1-0), which snapped a six-game losing streak, blasted Artesia 62-13 as junior Mailee Dizon had a career-high 22 points while seniors Doris Chen and Kaitlyn Sugita each added 10 points. Artesia (2-14, 0-1) was led by sophomore Ashlee Chung (eight points).

Following the game, the Artesia boys posted a 51-20 win to improve to 8-7, 1-0 while Cerritos fell to 5-14, 0-1. Both Artesia teams will host Whitney High on Friday and Pioneer High on Tuesday while both Cerritos squads entertain Pioneer on Friday and John Glenn High on Tuesday. In addition, the Artesia boys travel to Kennedy High on Thursday.

In other 605 League action, both Glenn teams visit Oxford Academy on Friday while both Whitney teams host Oxford Academy on Tuesday. The Glenn boys will also visit Firebaugh High on Saturday.

In Gateway League action, the La Mirada High boys are off on Friday but will host Dominguez High on Wednesday while in Mid-Cities League action, the Gahr High boys visit Firebaugh on Friday while the girls travel to Dominguez. Also on Friday, the Norwalk girls visit La Mirada while on Wednesday, the Gahr boys host Bellflower High on Wednesday and the Norwalk boys travel to Warren High while the La Mirada girls host Gahr and the Norwalk girls are home to Firebaugh.

CERRITOS from page 1

Code gives Cerritos staff the power to decide if a bid is competitive. Many staff reports related to projects state, "staff has deemed the proposed price (from the cooperative agreement) to be very cost efficient for the scope of work."

At its December 8 meeting, the Cerritos City Council considered two contracts for the Cerritos Senior Center, one to upgrade the hearing loop and the other to replace the flooring, costing \$47,000 and \$123,000, respectively.

In the normal course of city business, the city sends out bids and eventually awards the contract to "the lowest responsible bidder, that is, the lowest bid that makes sense. For example, if a number of submitted bids are around \$100,000 and one is submitted for \$25,000, the \$25,000 bid is not a "responsible" bid.

The city obtained a price, through Omnia Partners, from Irvine-based Commercial Interior Resources (CIR) at a little over \$123,000 to replace the floors inside the Majestic Room, the Arts and Crafts Room, and the River Rock Room.

According to their website, CIR has over 35 installers they contract with for services; at the bottom of the website

are two union logos, Partners and Allied Trades International and the Carpet Lino- leum and Tile Workers Union.

Cerritos used its cooperative agreement contract to award CIR the no-bid contract stating that CIR had installed the Cerritos library flooring. Using the agreement, the city's municipal code and City staff's apparent expertise in flooring installation, the city completely bypassed the public bidding process.

"How can CIR be cheaper when they use union labor," said one resident who did not want to be identified, "there's no way it can be cheaper, we should be able to look at bids, the city should obtain other bids. There are two big flooring companies here in Cerritos, and they pick one out of Irvine? Its just flooring, not a specialized project."

In regards to the second contract for the hearing loop at the Cerritos Senior Center, City staff once again recommended using a previous vendor, which allowed the city to bypass the public bidding process using the City's Municipal Code as justification.

Otejoy will upgrade the hearing loop at the Senior Center, which is a system that amplifies sound in a room using technology that communicates with attendees' hearing aids.

The price of that contract was \$47,000.

Cerritos Councilman Frank Yokoyama told HMG-CN, "In order to assure our residents that the City of Cerritos is being fiscally responsible, the City should normally require public bidding for City contracts. Whenever public bidding is not used, City staff should be transparent and clear as to why public bidding was bypassed by the City."

Cerritos Councilman Naresh Solanki was not pleased with the cooperative agreement process, "all projects should go out to bid so we get the best price and the process is transparent to the public."

Emails into the mayor and other councilmembers went unanswered.

PICO RIVERA from page 1

ber at the Pico Rivera Resource Center with all of the available December dates booked as soon as the Center opened. "All of December was quickly booked, we are glad to see that our city's Veterans and Veterans from nearby communities are receiving the help that they need regarding Veterans services," said city Manager Steve Carmona.

Helping Pico Rivera Veterans is something that Kenneth is committed to doing. He can provide Veterans with valuable assistance in applying for federal and state benefits and claims, as

well as information on burial services, survivor benefits, transportation, and a slew of other Veterans services. "What we hope to accomplish with the Veterans Resource Center is to provide Veterans with resources they may not know are available," said Carmona. "When they make an appointment and speak to our VSO, I believe the information and assistance they receive will alleviate any stress or doubts a Veteran had regarding applying for or receiving any entitled benefits and services." The Veterans Resource Center is just one of the services available for Veterans. The city's Virtual city Hall also includes a Virtual Veterans Resource Center which will provide Veterans with even more access to resources at the convenience of their home computers or mobile devices.

The Pico Rivera Veterans Resource Center will be available inside the Pico Rivera Senior Center Monday through Thursday.

The VSO will be available on Mondays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and staff and volunteers will be available Tuesday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

For additional information, or to make an appointment with the VSO, call the Senior Center at 562.948-4844.

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NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE T.S. No. 22-00405-RM-CA Title No. 8774422 A.P.N. 8037-024-121 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 01/24/2013. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, (cashier's check(s) must be made payable to National Default Servicing Corporation), drawn on a state or national bank, a check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state; will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made in an "as is" condition, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: Dolores Linda Tafoya, an unmarried woman Duly Appointed Trustee: National Default Servicing Corporation Recorded 01/30/2013 as Instrument No. 20130149012 (or Book, Page) of the Official Records of Los Angeles County, California. Date of Sale: 01/30/2023 at 11:00 AM Place of Sale: By the fountain located at 400 Civic Center Plaza, Pomona, CA 91766 Estimated amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$291,565.67 Street Address or other common designation of real property: 13606 La Jolla Cir, Unit D, La Mirada, CA 90638-3326 A.P.N.: 8037-024-121 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The requirements of California Civil Code Section 2923.5(b)/2923.55(c) were fulfilled when the Notice of Default was recorded. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 714-730-2727 or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com/sales, using the file number assigned to this case 22-00405-RM-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT*: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 888-264-4010, or visit this internet website www.ndscorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 22-00405-RM-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. *Pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code, the potential rights described herein shall apply only to public auctions taking place on or after January 1, 2021, through December 31, 2025, unless later extended. Date: 12/14/2022 National Default Servicing Corporation c/o Tiffany and Bosco, P.A., its agent, 1455 Frazee Road, Suite 820 San Diego, CA 92108 Toll Free Phone: 888-264-4010 Sales Line 714-730-2727; Sales Website: www.ndscorp.com Connie Hernandez, Trustee Sales Representative A-4768059 12/23/2022, 12/30/2022, 01/06/2023

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS No. CA-16-734190-JP Order No.: 12-0006655 YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 4/9/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE. Trustor(s): OLGA URIARTE AND OSCAR URIARTE, MARRIED TO EACH OTHER Recorded: 4/11/2007 as Instrument No. 20070867685 and modified as per Modification Agreement recorded 10/8/2015 as Instrument No. 20151245084 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, California; Date of Sale: 1/26/2023 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: At the Doubletree Hotel Los Angeles-Norwalk, 13111 Sycamore Drive, Norwalk, CA 90650, in the Vineyard Ballroom Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$739,041.89 The purported property address is: 14806 FACETA DR, LA MIRADA, CA 90638-4916 Assessor's Parcel No.: 8064-001-020 NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call 800-280-2832 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-16-734190-JP. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the internet website. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call 800-280-2832, or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-16-734190-JP to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE OWNER-OCCUPANT: Any prospective owner-occupant as defined in Section 2924m of the California Civil Code who is the last and highest bidder at the trustee's sale shall provide the required affidavit or declaration of eligibility to the auctioneer at the trustee's sale or shall have it delivered to Quality Loan Service Corporation by 5 p.m. on the next business day following the trustee's sale at the address set forth in the below signature block. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. Date: Quality Loan Service Corporation 2763 Camino Del Rio S San Diego, CA 92108 619-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 800-280-2832 Or Login to: <http://www.qualityloan.com> Reinstatement Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 Quality Loan Service Corp. TS No.: CA-16-734190-JP IDSPub #0182835 12/30/2022 1/6/2023 1/13/2023

NOTICE OF PLANNING COMMISSION
PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City of Artesia Planning Commission will hold a **Public Hearing** to consider the following project:

Project Description:

The City of Artesia is noticing a public hearing of the Planning Commission to consider recommending a zone text amendment to the City Council amending Title 9, Chapter 2, Article 45, of the City of Artesia Municipal Code relating to accessory dwelling units and junior accessory dwelling units and determining the resolution and ordinance to be Exempt pursuant to Section 21080.17 of the California Environmental Quality Act.

Applicant:

City of Artesia

Location:

Citywide

CEQA Determination:

Under California Public Resources Code Section 21080.17, the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) does not apply to the adoption of an ordinance by a city or county implementing the provisions of section 65852.2 of the Government Code, which is California’s ADU law and which also regulates JADUs, as defined by section 65852.22. Therefore, the proposed ordinance is statutorily exempt from CEQA in that the proposed ordinance implements the State’s ADU law.

Hearing Date:

The Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on January 17, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Albert O. Little Community Center, Room A, located at 18750 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, CA 90701.

This Planning Commission meeting is in-person. The public has the option to attend the meeting in person to provide comments or to provide comment before the meeting.

Written public comments can be submitted via email to planning@cityofartesia.us or US Mail (submit early) to the Community Development Department, 18747 Clarkdale Ave., Artesia, CA 90701 provided that the comments are received prior to the time of the public hearing. Comments received prior to 12:00 noon on the day of the meeting will be posted as an addendum to the agenda. If submitting written comments, please note the agenda item by number or name.

Challenge to the action in court will be limited to issues raised at the public hearings or in written correspondence delivered to the Planning Commission at, or prior to, the close of the public hearing.

The project staff report will be available for review on the City’s website (<https://www.cityofartesia.us/AgendaCenter>) on the Friday preceding the hearing. If you have any questions or have trouble accessing the staff report, please contact the Community Development Department at (562) 865-6262 or via email at Planning@cityofartesia.us.

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 1/6/23

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
REBECCA TAYLES
CASE NO. 22STPB11742
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of RE-BECCA TAYLES.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by MICHAEL D. GRUGAL in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that MICHAEL D. GRUGAL 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: 01/10/23 at 8:30AM in Dept. 2D 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
EUGENE A. GLEASON III - SBN 096415,
GLEASON LAW OFFICES
15651 E. IMPERIAL HWY., SUITE 202A
LA MIRADA CA 90638
12/23, 12/30/22, 1/6/23
CNS-3653084#
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

CITY OF ARTESIA
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the City Council of the City of Artesia will hold an Adjourned Regular City Council Meeting at the City Council Chambers located at 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, CA at **7:00 p.m.** on **Tuesday, January 17, 2023**, to conduct a Public Hearing concerning:

• **RESOLUTION NO. 23-2916**, A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A FREEWAY AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR STATE ROUTE 91, AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF ARTESIA

• The Council will also consider a finding that this agreement is not subject to CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section § 15061(b)(3).

Members from the public who would like to address the City Council may appear at the public hearing during the consideration of this item and state their opinion. If you have written comments that you wish to submit, please deliver them the Artesia City Clerk’s Office at 18747 Clarkdale Avenue, Artesia, CA, or by email: publiccomments@cityofartesia.us before 12:00 p.m. on the date of the meeting. If you have questions about this notice or the proposed action, please contact the Artesia City Clerk’s Office at (562) 865-6262 or by the email above.

If you challenge any of these proposals in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in the notice, or in written correspondence delivered at, or prior to, the public hearing.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in the meeting, please contact Jennifer Alderete, Acting City Clerk. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35. 102-35.104 ADA Title II)

Jennifer Alderete
Acting City Clerk

PUBLISHED: January 6, 2023

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 1/6/23

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 **21st day of February 2023** Bids for:

ABC Bid # 1606 Ross Middle School Modernization

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 January 12, 2023 at 10:30 AM sharp at the Ross MS front of Administration Building, 17707 S. Elaine Ave., Artesia. All public works are subject to prevailing wage payments, Valid License valid Class B Contractor's License and DIR Registration will be required.

Los Cerritos News

December 30, 2022
January 6, 2023

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 12/30 and 1/6/23

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 **10:30 AM** on the **21st day of February 2023** Bids for:

ABC Bid # 1605 Carmenita Middle School Modernization

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 January 13, 2023 at 9:00 AM sharp at the Carmenita MS front of Administration Building, 13435 E. 166th St., Cerritos. All public works are subject to prevailing wage payments, Valid License valid Class B Contractor's License and DIR Registration will be required.

Los Cerritos News

December 30, 2022
January 6, 2023

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 12/30 and 1/6/23

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 **11:30 AM** on the **21st day of February 2023** Bids for:

ABC Bid # 1607 Tetzlaff Middle School Modernization

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 January 12, 2023 at 9:00 AM sharp at the Tetzlaff MS front of Administration Building, 12351 Del Amo Blvd., Cerritos. All public works are subject to prevailing wage payments, Valid License valid Class B Contractor's License and DIR Registration will be required.

Los Cerritos News

December 30, 2022
January 6, 2023

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It's Up



to Us

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Infectious Diseases
Society of America