



## Cerritos Dedicates Public Safety-First Responders Memorial



**DEDICATION:** Officials and community members joined in recognizing the contributions of public safety officials at the monuments which is located outside the Cerritos Sheriff's Station/Community Safety Center. Seen here (l-r) are Cerritos resident Riaz Surti, Cerritos City Councilman Frank Yokoyama, former Cerritos Mayor Mark Pulido and Cerritos resident "Pat" Ashok Patnaik.

By Brian Hews

This past Wednesday February 26, Cerritos honored first responders with an unveiling of three bronze sculptures, an honorary memorial, and a 9/11 monument placed in a new public gathering space at Cerritos City Hall.

The Cerritos City Council, other elected officials, and community members joined in recognizing the contributions of public

safety officials at the monument which is located outside the Cerritos Sheriff's Station/Community Safety Center. The dedication featured music, a moment of silence, and comments from members of the City Council and dignitaries.

The City partnered with artist Gary Alsum and the National Sculptors' Guild for the memorial's design and installation.

The Tribute to Public Safety memorial features three bronze

sculptures; a firefighter performing a rescue, a deputy sheriff, and a sheriff's K-9 unit. An honorary granite memorial pillar is dedicated to the late Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Detective Donald William Schneider and Detective Sergeant Carl Eugene Wilson, who died serving in Cerritos in 1973. A granite monument honors those who lost their lives in the September 11, 2001 attacks, which will rest

[ See DEDICATION, page 6 ]

## 30 Charged With Allowing 'Gladiator Fights' at Los Pedrinos Youth Facility

Officers allowed multiple one-on-one fights to occur, leading some youths to sustain broken noses and other injuries.

By Brian Hews

Thirty officers have been accused of staging brutal "gladiator fights" at Los Pedrinos, the youth detention facility in located in Downey.

According to a March 3 news release from the state DOJ, offi-

cers at Los Pedrinos "allowed and, in some instances, encouraged" 143 children between the ages of 12 and 18 to participate in 69 violent brawls from July 1, 2023, to Dec. 31 of that year. After footage of a so-called "gladiator fight" leaked in January 2024, the DOJ launched an investigation, leading the department to file criminal charges against several corrections officers who allegedly oversaw the melees.

An unsealed indictment filed in L.A. County Superior Court

alleges that many of these fights took place in Unit L, where officers allowed multiple one-on-one fights to occur, leading some youths to sustain broken noses and other injuries. It also alleges that one officer, Shawn Smyles — who allegedly briefed other employees on the fights and said it helped them control the teenagers in their custody — told the children to refuse subsequent medical treatment from nursing staff. Another officer accused of facilitating these fights, Nancy Sostre, previously worked as a treatment counselor at a homeless youth organization, according to her LinkedIn profile.

This isn't the first time the troubled detention center has been in the news.

In 2024, the LA County Board of Supervisors voted to declare a local emergency at Los Pedrinos after inspectors found out that it was severely short-staffed.

Many of the workers were on medical leave or had called out due to dangerous conditions, creating a "vicious cycle" of

[ See FIGHTS, page 6 ]



**LOS PEDRINOS** Youth Detention facility in Downey. The DOJ complaint alleged 69 violent brawls from July 1 to Dec. 31, 2023. This isn't the first time the troubled detention center has been in the news.

LCCN EXCLUSIVE

## After Rebuke From DOJ, Central Basin Directors Now Breaking the Law, Where is the District Attorney?

CB argued that two boardmembers should unlawfully remain on the board, the AG refused to rule on the letter.

By Brian Hews

Documents from a public records request by to the California Department of Justice (DOJ) revealed that Central Basin Municipal Water District (CB) Director's corrupt scheme to unlawfully keep President Nem Ochoa and Director Joanna Moreno on the CB Board was roundly rebuked by the DOJ.

The DOJ's rebuke essentially called the director's actions stupid.

LCCN has been the only newspaper that has reported on the scheme involving Ochoa, Moreno, newly elected VP Gary Mendez, and Director Juan Garza, other media outlets and local law officials do not seem to care about the outright corruption inside a public agency whose members are blatantly violating the State's Water Code and CB Administrative Code while depriving local water companies and residents their rightful representation.

Ochoa and Moreno termed out in December 2024, which, under the Code, should've triggered a new nomination process culminating in new director appointments on February 28, 2025.

But Ochoa, the GM of Golden State Water, and Moreno, who

works for the city of Vernon, have, for reasons unknown, defiantly remained, their respective employers silent on their offenses. And Mendez, Garza, and CB GM Elaine Jeng have done nothing to remove the directors.

Sources tell LCCN that it's all about CB Directors and their position on the Metropolitan Water District Board, which those in the water industry call "prestigious." Currently, Garza is on the MWD Board - but he can be removed if he is not in the majority - which could happen if Ochoa and Moreno step down.

CB Directors Art Chacon, Jim Crawford, and Leticia Vasquez have been highly critical of the scheme, but Ochoa, Moreno, Garza, and Mendez have the majority and will not allow the appointment process to proceed.

They have made many unlawful attempts to stop it, including sending the costly letter to the DOJ in an effort to alter the terms of appointed directors.

According to the sources, the letter was never properly agendized or called for a vote, a Brown Act violation, as evidenced by the fact that Ochoa and Moreno would have been conflicted and precluded from voting to send the letter. That would have left Garza and Mendez without a majority.

Despite that, the letter was sent anyway, with Ochoa, Moreno, Mendez, and Garza once again violating the CB Code to advance their scheme.

In an email sent to the entire

[ See SCHEME, page 6 ]

## Huntington Park Residents Initiate Recall of Vice-Mayor Arturo Flores

By Brian Hews

Last week the FBI raided Huntington Park (HP) City Hall and the residences of HP officials, including HP City Manager Ricardo Reyes, former HP Mayor Graciela Ortiz, former



Arturo Flores

HP Councilmember Marilyn Sanabria, current HP Mayor Karina Macias, current HP Councilmember Eddie Martinez, and former HP official Efren Martinez for looking for evidence in a wide-ranging corruption probe involving a pool project at Salt Lake Park.

Current HP Vice-Mayor Arturo Flores's residence was not on the list.

Just days earlier, as exclusively reported by Los Cerritos Community News, Flores, Martinez, and current HP Councilman Jonathan Sanabria illegally removed Councilwoman Esmeralda Castillo from her city council seat for allegedly living outside the city.

Castillo's constituents alleged that the HP Police Department helped frame up Castillo when they found her at her elderly parent's house.

City Manager Reyes had hired former La Mirada Councilman now-lawyer (for only two years) Andrew Sarega as a "special counsel," using a no-bid contract, to level the residency charges against Castillo in closed session and allow the vote to remove Castillo.

The removal looked like a frame-up itself. When the council came out of closed session,

[ See FLORES, page 9 ]



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## The Friends of the Cerritos Library to Host Writers Festival

A don't-miss for bookworms and aspiring writers, the second annual Writers Festival to celebrate the magic of storytelling will be held at the Cerritos Library's Skyline Room on Saturday, March 29, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is open to ages 18 and older.

Hosted by The Friends of the Cerritos Library, the festival will include a luncheon, entertainment, and a six-author panel discussion followed by a book-signing.

Featured authors include Jennifer Coburn of "The Girls of the Glimmer Factory"; Melissa Chadburn, who wrote the acclaimed "A Tiny Upward Shove"; Elise Bryant, a NAACP Image Award nominee, who wrote "It's Elementary"; bestselling author Amy Meyerson, who penned the novel "The Love Scribe"; Maria Amparo Escandion, who scribed "L.A. Weather"; and Naomi Hirahara of "Evergreen."

Proceeds will support The Friends of the Cerritos Library in its mission to raise funds for library programs and services.

Registration is \$60 for The Friends of the Cerritos Library members and \$70 for non-members. Guests can register online at [friendsofthecerritoslibrary.eventbrite.com](http://friendsofthecerritoslibrary.eventbrite.com) or by mailing a check to Friends of the City of Cerritos Library, P.O. Box 3876, Cerritos, CA, 90703. Payments submitted by check should include a note of the guests' names and phone number or email address.

The Cerritos Library is located at 18025 Bloomfield Avenue. For more details on the event, call (562) 916-1342.

## La Mirada's Youth in Government Students Propose Projects



**LA MIRADA HIGH SCHOOL** Youth in Government students pictured with La Mirada City Council at the City Council meeting on February 25.

### Staff Report

The City of La Mirada's Youth in Government students concluded this year's program at the City Council meeting held on February 25. La Mirada High School students participated in the award-winning program and made their final presentations to La Mirada City Council. The students proposed two projects, including a Cultural Festival and a Teen Center.

The proposed Culture Festival would promote diversity, inclusivity, and community by showcasing various traditions, arts, music, food, and performances that celebrate the many cultural identities

within the city. The second proposed project was a Teen Center that aims to provide a safe, engaging, and supportive environment for teens to develop their skills and participate in enriching activities that promote personal growth and community involvement.

Youth in Government project proposals have often been implemented including Santa's Holiday Caravan, the La Mirada College Banner program, and Farmers Market.

The presentation marked the conclusion of the program, which has been in place for 65 years. For additional information, contact La Mirada City Hall at (562) 943-0131.

## Vets Remove 44 Objects From Puppy's Stomach

Socks, hair ties and a scrunchie were found inside Luna, a Bernese mountain dog.

By Terry Castleman

Luna wasn't well. The family of the 7-month-old Bernese mountain dog rushed her to a Corona veterinary center after she began vomiting. The pup's abdomen was firm and distended.

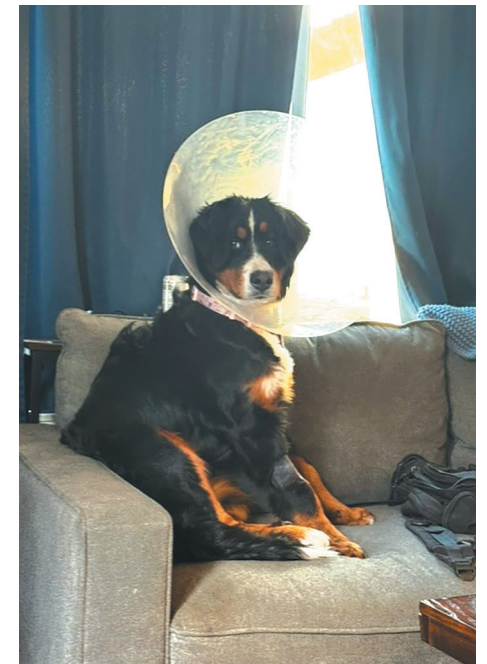
On Feb. 16, veterinarians at the Corona Animal Emergency Center performed exploratory abdominal surgery on Luna and removed 44 objects. Most of them were socks, the emergency center wrote on Instagram.

X-rays showed a significant buildup within Luna's stomach and intestines — and for good reason.

She had managed to consume 24 socks, a scrunchie, two hair ties, a shoe insert, a onesie and multiple pieces of cloth.

Remarkably, Luna survived the surgery and is back with her family. Veterinary experts at the emergency center said she was lucky to be alive.

"If your dog swallows something unusual, don't wait — act fast and con-



**LUNA** with her halo after the operation. Luna's parents are now "puppy proofing" the house.

tact your vet," the office wrote.

"We're so glad Luna is on the mend," the office wrote in a comment. Her family has implemented a "solid prevention plan, including puppy-proofing the house, supervised playtime, and working with a trainer to help her develop good habits."

## Free Document Shredding Offered on March 15 in Cerritos

The City of Cerritos is offering a paper shredding event from 8 a.m. to noon on Saturday, March 15. The event will be held in the parking lot of the Cerritos Senior Center located at 12340 South Street.

Community members may bring up to two banker-sized (12" wide, 15" long and 9.5" deep) boxes of paper documents to be shredded at no charge. Staples and paper clips may be left on documents, but paperwork should not contain any binder clips or three-ring

binders. Documents will be shredded on-site at the program. This is a secure way to dispose of paperwork that contains private information.

In addition to the shredding event, each participating resident will have the option to obtain free fresh compost. Residents must bring their own rigid container, no larger than 35 gallons, to hold the compost.

For more information, call the Community Services Division at (562) 865-8101.

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## La Mirada Remains Among Region's Safest Cities



**SAFE CITY:** A recent crime analysis of surrounding cities showed that La Mirada experienced the lowest number of major crimes last year in southeast L.A. County.

A recent crime analysis of surrounding cities showed that La Mirada experienced the lowest number of major crimes last year in southeast Los Angeles County.

According to Overall, there were 875 Part 1 crimes reported in La Mirada last year compared to 981 Part 1 crimes in 2023.

Part 1 crimes include homicide, rape, assault, larceny, burglary, automobile theft, robbery and arson. The majority of Part 1 crimes in 2024 were property crimes. Of the 875 Part 1 crimes reported, 832 were property crimes, this accounts for 95 percent of Part 1 crimes reported in 2024.

Crimes against persons decreased from 59 incidents in 2023 to 43 in 2024.

There were 516 larceny cases reported in 2024 compared to 583 in 2023. Larceny is defined as theft including grand theft and petty theft cases. Petty thefts increased

from 188 cases in 2023 to 200 cases in 2024, with shoplifting being the primary factor contributing to this increase. Thefts from vehicles decreased from 183 cases in 2023 to 139 cases in 2024.

La Mirada officials told the Lamp-lighter that their priority is public safety. In addition to patrol deputies responding to calls for service and being visible in the community, La Mirada's Special Assignment Officers (SAO) Team "will continue to focus on preventing and suppressing criminal activity and nuisance issues. Residents and businesses who observe and report issues are also a significant part of the City's public safety efforts."

For additional information on the annual crime report and the City's crime prevention efforts, including joining Neighborhood Watch, contact the La Mirada Community Sheriff's Station at (562) 902-2986.

## La Palma-Cerritos AAUW Celebrates Women's History Month in March

By Edna Ethington

The members and guests of the La Palma-Cerritos Branch of the American Association of University Women will celebrate the month of March as Women's History Month at the Cabrillo Lane Adult School Auditorium at 20122 Cabrillo Lane, Cerritos, on Thursday, March 20, 2025. The meeting will start with a Social Time at 6:30 p.m. and a program at 7:00 p.m.

At this March meeting, Branch Secretary Christine Taxier will also serve as Program Chair as she and her committee present this program of stories of lesser-known women who have made significant accomplishments or contributions to our American history. Members and guests are asked to bring a pen to write down information on activity sheets that will be provided as you learn about these unheralded women. Branch members hope that interesting information will be shared with your families and communities.

The La Palma-Cerritos Branch of the AAUW usually meets for General Meetings on the third Thursdays of the month, but members can join four different social

groups, called Interest Groups, that meet at different times and on different days of the week. Members can join four different groups this year and can contact them through phone numbers provided in the Branch Directory.

The four Interest Groups and their leaders are: 1) Cover to Cover, a Book Discussion Group on second Thursdays of the month, with Thea Siegel; 2) Great Decisions, Discussion Group about world affairs, based on the Great Decisions Briefing Book on fourth Wednesdays, with Dorothy Edwards; 3) Gourmet Group, a couples or pair group, which meets at host families four times a year and shares the cost of preparation and enjoyment of preplanned meals, with Joan Flax; and 4) Readers' Theater on first Thursdays of the month to read plays aloud, by contacting Esther Aronson. Members can join the Interest Groups to learn about new and old books, different food menus, world affairs, and experience feeling like an actor or actress.

The La Palma-Cerritos Branch of the AAUW is open to all graduates who have an associate, baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university and want to work to advance equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy. Persons interested in joining the La Palma-Cerritos Branch of the AAUW can contact Administrator Harriet Moses at 714-994-1487.

## Pico Rivera Mall Sold

Newport Beach-based firm JH Real Estate Partners bought Village Walk Center, a 133,000-square-foot mall in Pico Rivera, for \$37.5 million.

The deal for the property, at 8500 and 5005 Paramount Boulevard, closed on Feb. 10, according to a deed filed in Los Angeles County. More than half of the mall, at around 69,200 square feet, is leased to a 14-screen Cinopolis cinema.

The movie theater includes a child-friendly auditorium called Cinopolis Junior, which features playground equipment.

Other tenants in the complex include hardware store Harbor Freight and a CVS pharmacy.

The seller is Arizona firm Vestar, which owns the Cerritos Towne Center. The company put the property on the market in November 2023, according to a listing on Crexi. At that time, the complex was 100 percent leased.

## Cerritos Semi-Official City Council Election Results

Semi-official results from Cerritos City Clerk in Tuesday's election show former Mayor Mark Pulido ahead with 3,249 votes.

Three seats were up for grabs due to Naresh Solanki, Bruce Barrows and Chuong Vo leaving their seats.

Barrows finally admitted to himself it was time to go, Solanki wanted more time with his family, while Vo, who twice refused appointment as Mayor while holding Frank Yokoyama away from the post with his no votes, just left his seat.

In second was Jennifer Hong with 3,118 then Sophia Tse with 2,901. Riaz Surti is at 2,209 while (Pat) Ashok Patnaik is at 1,763

Official Results / Certification  
The final tally of election results is tentatively scheduled to commence at 1 p.m. on Friday, March 14, 2025 in the City Council Chamber and will also be broadcast live on Cerritos TV3 and the City's YouTube Channel.

Results are not official until certified by City Council adoption of a resolution. Certification is currently scheduled at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chamber on Wednesday, March 19, 2025. Presentations to the outgoing City Councilmembers will also be conducted at this meeting.

Public Swearing in of Newly Elected Councilmembers and the Annual Mayoral Transition will be at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.

At this meeting, the City Council will also select, by majority vote, the Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem. The meeting, with a reception to follow, will be held at the Cerritos Center for the Performing Arts. Measure J was approved so elections will remain in odd-numbered low turnout years.

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## Cerritos Council Recognizes Cerritos High Girl's Wrestling



**CERRITOS HIGH** School Girl's Wrestling team achieved an impressive milestone by winning the ABC District Championship after completing the 2023-24 season with a record of 6-3. The team demonstrated remarkable growth and resilience in making the program's first appearance in the CIF championships and sending a program-high five qualifiers to the CIF Masters Meet. Courtesy city of Cerritos.

## ABCUSD Announces 2nd Annual Film Festival

The ABC Unified School District's Career Technical Education (CTE) Arts, Media, and Entertainment Pathway announced last week the 2nd Annual ABCUSD Film Festival, scheduled for Wed. April 16, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Whitney High School. This highly anticipated event celebrates the creativity and talent of student filmmakers across the district.

This year, the festival will recognize students with AME Awards for outstanding student-produced films. The event promises an unforgettable evening, including:

**Film Showcase:** Screening of student-created short films.

**Red Carpet Experience:** Attendees can enjoy a true Hollywood-style entrance.

**Film Colleges:** Representatives from

film schools will share information about programs and opportunities.

**Guest Speakers:** Industry professionals will share insights and experiences.

**Community Tables:** Local organizations and partners will be present to support the event.

ABCUSD student filmmakers interested in participating must submit their films by the March 28, 2025, deadline. Submissions can be made through the official website: [abcusd.info/2025FilmFestival](http://abcusd.info/2025FilmFestival).

The ABCUSD CTE Arts, Media, and Entertainment Pathway continues to provide students with hands-on experiences and opportunities to develop the skills needed for future success in creative industries.

## Cerritos College Student Earns Esteemed Brooke Owens Fellowship

Staff Report

Cerritos College student Peijuan Huang has been selected for the 2025 Brooke Owens Fellowship, a nationally acclaimed nonprofit program that recognizes exceptional undergraduate women and gender minorities, providing them with mentorship, career development, and industry networking opportunities.

She is among 44 fellows, known as "Brookies," chosen this year from an international pool of over 400 applicants from colleges and universities.

Inspired by her lifelong fascination with space exploration, Peijuan is majoring in aerospace engineering to pursue a career in space exploration and aerospace technology development, and she completed an internship at Caltech last summer.

She plans to transfer to California State University, Long Beach, in fall 2025 to complete her bachelor's degree. Peijuan is considering pursuing an advanced degree to develop technologies that make space missions more efficient



Peijuan Huang

and sustainable.

Through the fellowship, Peijuan will join a network of more than 350 Brookie alumni, representing various fields within space and aviation.

This summer, she will participate in a research internship and be paired with an executive-level mentor in the aerospace industry.

Additionally, the fellowship will host the Brooke Owens Summit in mid-July, providing fellows the opportunity to connect with industry leaders.

"This fellowship is a highly competitive program that selects women and gender minorities passionate about aerospace," said Peijuan. "I'm excited to officially become part of the Class of 2025!"

## Cerritos Optimists Essay Contest Winners

Congratulations to this year's winners of the Cerritos Optimist Club's Essay Contest. The three top spots went to students who exemplified this year's theme: "How Optimism Has Paved My Road to Success."

**Pragya Jain - 1st Place**  
**Emily Kim - 2nd Place**  
**Ella Mak - 3rd Place**

All three winners from Whitney High School were recognized by the Cerritos Optimist Club at its February 13, 2025, meeting.

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**Cerritos Medical Center**  
11911 Artesia Blvd.

**Cerritos Senior Center**  
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**Cevitas Coffee**  
14218 Rosecrans Ave  
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**Holy Family Church, Artesia**  
**IHop**  
15140 La Mirada Blvd  
**Imperial Healthcare Center**  
11926 La Mirada Blvd  
**It's A Grind**  
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**Kindred Hospital**  
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**Knabe Park**  
**Kristens Beauty Salon**  
13952 Valley View Ave  
**La Casa de Concina**  
15711 Imperial Hwy,  
**Lakewood Regional**  
3700 South St.  
**La Mirada City Hall, Library,**  
**Resource Center, Sheriff's**  
**LA Nails**  
13239 South St  
**La Palma City Hall**  
**La Palma Community Center**  
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**Pico Rivera Chamber**  
5016 Passons Blvd  
**Pico River City Hall and Sheriffs**  
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**State Farm**  
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**LAFD Station 30**  
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**Sophia Hair Salon**  
13243 South St.  
**Splash! La Mirada**  
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# Cochlear Implant Trials Begin in So. Cal.

By Laurie Hanson

Clinical trials for the first fully internal cochlear implant, offering a better solution for profound hearing loss, are now underway in Southern California.

According to the World Health Organization, 1.5 billion people worldwide experience hearing loss, nearly 20 percent of the global population. In the U.S. alone, about 37.5 million people have some form of hearing loss, according to the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders.

Shohet Ear Associates in Newport, Irvine, and Seal Beach will be the only clinical trial sites in California.

“The fully implanted Acclaim® Cochlear Implant is designed to be fully internal with no externals on the outside of the head,” said Envoy Medical CEO and Board Member Brent Lucas, who has been working in the hearing industry for almost 18 years. He’s been CEO of Envoy Medical since 2015.

Founded in 1995, Envoy Medical is a privately held hearing health company that provides innovative technologies across the hearing health spectrum. They have pioneered one-of-a-kind, fully implanted devices for hearing loss, including the fully implanted Esteem® active middle ear implant, which has been available in the U.S. since 2010. According to www.envoy-

medical.com, the company is “dedicated to pushing hearing technology beyond the status quo to improve access, usability, compliance and ultimately quality of life.”

“To our knowledge, this will be the first pivotal clinical study to investigate a fully implanted cochlear implant in the U.S.,” Lucas said. The Acclaim® CI received Breakthrough Device Designation from the FDA in 2019.

Lucas went on to explain how it works by using the ear itself to pick up sound, not a sub-dermal microphone or external microphone.

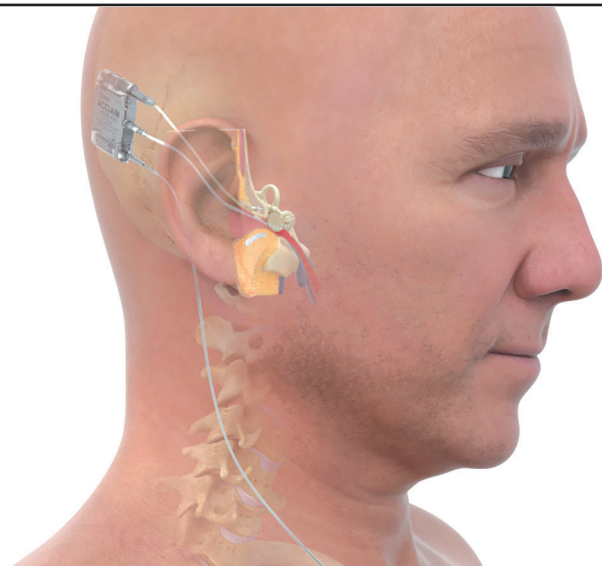
“It is designed to capture sound from the environment, as a normal hearing person would capture sound,” he explained.

- More -

Typically, sound wave vibrations in the environment are picked up by the outer ear and funneled down the ear canal to the eardrum. At this point, the ear drum vibrates, which then engages three tiny hearing bones (the ossicular chain) to carry that mechanical energy to the cochlea. The Acclaim® CI’s piezoelectric sensor picks sound vibrations off the middle ear hearing bones, which it uses to process the signal.

“By picking up the sound vibrations off of the hearing bone and not relying on an artificial microphone or sub-dermal microphone, the Acclaim® CI can benefit and leverage the outer ear’s natural anatomy,” Lucas explained. “We use the ear to capture sound, as a normally hearing person would.”

Unlike traditional cochlear implants that are large, bulky, and held on to the head by



**A COCHLEAR IMPLANT** is a medical device that helps people with severe to profound hearing loss by bypassing the damaged parts of the inner ear, the cochlea, and directly stimulating the auditory nerve. Unlike hearing aids, which amplify sound, cochlear implants convert sound into electrical signals and send them to the brain, allowing the person to perceive sound.

a magnet, the Acclaim CI offers people a better way to hear without all the external equipment.

“These externals have obvious limitations, and one of the primary reasons people do not get cochlear implants, even if it would help them hear, is because of these large, bulky externals,” he added. “Because it is fully implanted with no external devices attached to the head to hear, the Acclaim® CI is designed to be worn all day and all night. Partially implanted cochlear implants are taken off or fall off at night as the patient

attempts to sleep.

“We believe that the ability to hear at night, in or around water, and while doing other activities not typically conducive to an external implant will separate the fully implanted Acclaim® CI from other partially implanted cochlear implants that have bulky externals,” Lucas added.

Similar to other implantable medical devices, such as pacemakers, the Acclaim CI has a rechargeable battery specifically designed for the device’s placement in the chest.

“We anticipate patients to average between 3 and 5 days per charge,” he said. “The length of time between charges may vary from patient to patient depending on factors such as number of hours used during the day, level of therapy required, and other program settings.”

The Acclaim® CI implant’s design is unique among other cochlear implants on the market or under investigation elsewhere. Dr. Jack Shohet, the implanting surgeon at Shohet Ear Associates, is the primary investigator in the clinical trials.

“In addition to being a highly trained neurotologist, he has an incredible amount of experience with a variety of hearing implants, including cochlear implants,” Lucas said. “He is one of only a few surgeons who have implanted hundreds of Esteem® fully implanted middle ear implants.”

“The Acclaim® Cochlear Implant is indicated for those with severe to profound sensorineural hearing loss and do not do well with hearing aids,” he added. “We estimate that roughly 2.8 million adults would be a candidate for a cochlear implant.”

Cochlear implants have existed in one form or another for over five decades. The first documented implant took place in the 1960s. The Acclaim® CI project began in 2015, with the first implant completed in 2022. As part of an early feasibility study, it has been implanted in three patients so far. The pivotal clinical trial will now be part of seeking FDA approval. Dozens of Envoy Medical employees, consultants, and advisors have contributed to the development of the Acclaim® CI, according to Lucas.

“Fully implanted cochlear implants could be the future of cochlear implants by offering people an opportunity to hear without the burden of bulky externals,” he added. “Other medical technologies [such as pacemakers] have moved from fully external, to partially external, to completely internal.”

“We believe fully implanted solutions are the future for cochlear implants, and we are honored to be leading the way,” Lucas said.

*To learn more about the Acclaim CI clinical trials, contact Shohet Ear Associates at [Mleet@eardoctor.org](mailto:Mleet@eardoctor.org) or [jessica@eardoctor.org](mailto:jessica@eardoctor.org). To learn more about Envoy Medical and the Acclaim CI, visit online at [envoymedical.com/acclaim-cochlear-implant](http://envoymedical.com/acclaim-cochlear-implant).*



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**SCHEME** from page 1

board after LCCN broke the DOJ letter story, Garza, who has appointed himself the spokesperson of the board, another violation of the CB Code, stated, "We are not trying to alter the code we are seeking clarification."

Garza then threatened LCCN (without CB Board approval) over the article demanding "a front-page retraction within three days" or "face litigation."

Garza, a known impulsive hothead, was evidently ignorant that a public agency could only sue a newspaper under extremely limited guidelines, finding out in a later board meeting in which he was slammed for threatening the lawsuit.

The non-approved letter to the DOJ read, "How long is the term of appointment for District Director Nem Ochoa, in light of the fact that he was appointed to fill a vacancy in an existing term of appointment? How long is the term of appointment for District Director Joanna Moreno, in light of the fact that she was appointed prior to the expiration of her predecessor's term of appointment?"

LCCN has pointed out several times in the past few weeks that the State's Water Code and CB Administrative Code are very clear on directors who assume the seat of a director who resigned.

If an appointed director resigns before the term ends, the State's Water Code and CB Administrative Code reads, "A vacancy in an office of appointed director shall be filled in accordance with the [normal] selection process." (Chapter 1.6 - Central Basin Municipal Water District Section 71267 (h) ).

The replacement director serves out the remainder of the term and then must resign their position, "where there is a term of office remaining, nominations for the balance of the term shall be valid..." [if the

new directors were appointed correctly,] "in accordance with the [normal] selection process." (Chapter 1.6 - Central Basin Municipal Water District Section 71267 (j) ).

Ochoa and Moreno were appointed to take the seats of Michael Gumatieri and Thomas Bekele. two directors who had resigned in 2024 before their term ended.

Under the State's Water Code and CB Administrative Code, Ochoa and Moreno's terms also ended in December 2024. (Chapter 1.6 - Central Basin Municipal Water District Section 71266 (2) ).

The letter went on (and on) for five pages, arguing that the State Code should be altered so Ochoa and Moreno could remain on the CB Board. In a few days, Ochoa, Mendez, Moreno, and Garza got their polite answer from the DOJ, basically calling them stupid.

"Unfortunately, we must decline your request for an opinion on behalf of the Central Basin Municipal Water District (District). Government Code section 12519 provides that the Attorney General "shall give the Attorney General's opinion in writing to any state agency.... when requested, upon any question of law relating to their respective offices." With regard to the term "state agency".... "the Attorney General interprets this as permitting opinions to be provided to state-level departments, agencies, boards, and commissions. This does not include local agencies, even though the local agency has been organized under state statutes."

As the District is a local agency, we must decline this request."

The DOJ letter was dated February 18, 2025, but was never made public until LCCN's records request. Judging from the previous actions of the four directors, they likely never would have been released, leaving Ochoa and Moreno to extend their unlawful CB Board seat terms.

As of the time of the publication of this article, emails were not answered.



Sent via electronic mail only to Marc.Nolan@doj.ca.gov

Marc J. Nolan  
Senior Assistant Attorney General  
Office of the Attorney General  
Opinion Unit  
California Department of Justice

**Re: Request for Opinion – Central Basin Municipal Water District**

Senior Assistant Attorney General Nolan:

Please accept this letter as a request, pursuant to Government Code section 12519, from the Central Basin Municipal Water District ("District") for an opinion on the following questions:

- (1) How long is the term of appointment for District Director Nem Ochoa, in light of the fact that he was appointed to fill a vacancy in an existing term of appointment?
- (2) How long is the term of appointment for District Director Joanna Moreno, in light of the fact that she was appointed prior to the expiration of her predecessor's term of appointment, but *not* to fill a vacancy in an existing term of appointment?

Hello Messrs. Lopes and Ponto,

Thank you for contacting the Attorney General's Opinion Unit. Unfortunately, we must decline your request for an opinion on behalf of the Central Basin Municipal Water District (District). Government Code section 12519 provides in part that the Attorney General "shall give the Attorney General's opinion in writing to any Member of the Legislature, the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Controller, Treasurer, State Lands Commission, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Insurance Commissioner, any state agency, and any county counsel, district attorney, or sheriff when requested, upon any question of law relating to their respective offices." With regard to the term "state agency" as used in section 12519, "the Attorney General interprets this as permitting opinions to be provided to state-level departments, agencies, boards, and commissions. This does not include local agencies, even though the local agency has been organized under state statutes." (See Guidelines Regarding Attorney General Opinions (Aug. 2022), available online at <https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/ag-opinion-guidelines.pdf>.) As the District is a local agency, we must decline this request. We are sorry we could not be of more assistance on this occasion but appreciate your interest in our work. Kind regards.



**MARC J. NOLAN**  
Senior Assistant Attorney General, Legal Opinions Unit  
Office of the Attorney General | Department of Justice | State of California

**REJECTED:** the documents obtained by LCCN via a public records request. Top, the letter (not approved by the CB Board) with Ochoa and Moreno questions. Bottom: the polite letter-answer that read, "CB is a local agency you cannot ask for an opine."

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**FIGHTS** from page 1

dysfunction, probation department representatives told the outlet.

Twenty-two officers at Los Padrinos have been arraigned, and the remaining eight are scheduled for arraignment in April of this year, the March news release shows.

"Officers at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall have a duty to ensure the safety and well-being of those under their care," Attorney General Rob Bonta said in the release. "Instead, the officers charged today did just the opposite — overseeing 'gladiator fights' when they should have intervened. The indictment — and the filing of criminal charges — is an important step toward holding these officers accountable and addressing shortfalls at Los Padrinos Juvenile Hall."

**DEDICATION** from page 1

among a newly planted group of trees.

"The City of Cerritos is excited to unveil a memorial that will help us to reflect, celebrate, and never forget the sacrifices of those who have sworn to protect us," said Cerritos Mayor Naresh Solanki. "From the recent response to wildfires in our nearby communities to the daily patrols of our neighborhoods, we are grateful for the services of our first responders locally and beyond."

The Cerritos Sheriff's Station/Community Safety Center is located at the Cerritos Civic Center, 18135 Bloomfield Avenue. Parking is available on site. In the event of inclement weather, the dedication will take place inside the Cerritos City Council Chamber, located adjacent to the Sheriff's Station.



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## Trump's Plans for Social Security. Plans? Like He Proposed for Obamacare?

With the Trump administration attempting to make significant spending cuts, many retirees might be wondering what the plans are for Social Security, which distributes benefits to tens of millions of Americans each month.

Well you might have got a clue during his speech Wednesday night where Trump announced that his administration is investigating fraud within the program, citing issues like unrealistic beneficiary ages and excessive spending.

### Trump says he will not cut benefits

As recently as Feb. 18, Trump promised not to cut benefits. On Fox News, Trump told Sean Hannity that "Social Security won't be touched, other than if there's fraud or something. It's going to be strengthened. But it won't be touched." Trump also said that his administration will not be making cuts to Medicare and Medicaid.

However, the House Budget Committee voted for a minimum of \$880 billion in cuts to mandatory spending programs monitored by the House Energy and Commerce Committee. One of these programs is Medicaid. This is all part of a House budget resolution that Trump has supported.

Among the things Trump could do was starving the program of administrative resources — think money and

staff. Sure enough, this past Friday the program, announced plans to reduce the program's employee base to 50,000 from 57,000.

"Without adequate staff at the agency," Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) said at a news conference Monday, "there will be people who can't get their benefits, period."

Trump's reluctance to cut Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid comes back to comments he made in 2013 when he said making cuts to these programs and winning elections "really is not going to happen."

### Cutting income taxes on benefits

Not everyone is subject to income taxes on Social Security. The rule is based on combined income, which the Internal Revenue Service defines as half of a retiree's Social Security benefits plus other income from sources such as pensions, wages, dividends, and capital gains.

Single filers can see as much as half of their Social Security benefits taxed if they make between \$25,000 and \$34,000, and as much as 85% of benefits taxed if they make more than \$34,000. For married couples filing jointly, the thresholds are \$32,000 to \$44,000 for half of their benefits taxed, and more than \$44,000 for 85% of benefits taxed. Remember, these are

not the actual tax rates, just the share of a retiree's benefits that could be taxed.

Trump said throughout the campaign trail that he wants to eliminate these taxes. However, this promise could also prove tricky. Trump has promised to slash spending to try to rein in the growing fiscal deficit, which exceeded \$1.8 trillion in fiscal year 2024.

It has been estimated that eliminating income taxes on Social Security could cut U.S. revenue by \$1.5 trillion over a decade while raising the country's debt burden 7% by 2054. That's going to leave a difficult decision for Trump, given his hopes of significantly lowering the deficit.

**Social Security Administration:** SSA will have 'significant' cuts. What does this mean for you?

Trump wants to lower inflation, which would impact COLAs

High inflation is not a President's friend, as many voters focus on the economy when they head to the polls. High inflation significantly hurt former President Joe Biden's approval ratings and likely had an impact on the outcome of the election. Now, inflation has slowed dramatically after rising as high as 9% in 2022. Recent data from January shows the year-over-year inflation rate was at 3%.

That is better but still above the Federal Reserve's preferred 2% target, and it's been sticky in recent months. Consumer prices remain high due to the elevated inflation in recent years, and even when inflation slows, prices are still going up. President Trump has made it clear he would like to lower prices, but the task is easier said than done, and in many cases, outside of a President's control.

Either way, if inflation drops as Trump desires, that could lead to a lower cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for benefits. The Social Security Administration distributes a COLA each year to help the purchasing power of benefits keep pace with inflation. The annual COLA is based on inflation data from the third quarter of each year, so if prices rise at a slower pace year over year, then the next COLA will shrink too.

The 2025 COLA came in at 2.5%, but it remains to be seen how inflation will look in the remainder of this year (and the third quarter specifically). To complicate matters further, many beneficiaries and groups also believe COLAs have not kept pace with inflation long term, so even rising COLAs may not be the win some think they are.

*From USA Today, edited by LCCN*

## LETTERS

### The Fight to Protect Public Education and the Department of Education

The threat of dismantling the Department of Education has significant implications for America's public school system. The newly appointed Secretary of Education, billionaire Linda McMahon—a wrestling executive—will do irreparable damage to our public schools if federal funding is slashed for vulnerable students with disabilities and special needs (IDEA), Title I schools, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) programs, the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and other vital initiatives. Trump's education cuts will have a devastating impact on our school system.

According to AFTvotes.org, in California, federal funding supports over 6.7 million students across 10,000 K-12 schools. Deep cuts to school services—including Title I programs, speech and language services, reading intervention, special education, after-school and sports programs, and English language learner support—are estimated to total \$4.4 billion. Cuts to workforce preparation programs, including job apprenticeships, traditional trades, and STEM careers, will amount to approximately \$619.4 million. Furthermore, estimated cuts to two- and four-year colleges, which help students transition into higher education, are projected at \$155.72 million. Finally, reductions in services that support school communities—such as teacher training, mental health services, parent liaisons, counselors, psychologists, support staff, and school safety measures—will total an estimated \$106 million.

For decades, the Department of Education has overseen and allocated federal funds for these essential programs. However, if Trump, Musk, and McMahon have their way, we will witness the erosion of our public school system. If the department is dismantled, who will advocate for students?

If we truly care about all students, we must demand transparency from Trump, Musk, and McMahon. They must release the federal funds appropriated by Congress so that public schools can continue provid-

ing these vital programs. What we are witnessing is nothing short of an authoritarian takeover of our education system.

In the name of efficiency, Musk and Trump led voters to believe they would offer an alternative to public schools. One would expect that such an alternative instead, we are witnessing a hostile takeover of the Department of Education and an ideological war on public schools. Schools are being scapegoated by authoritarian leaders with ulterior motives: namely, seizing control of our education system to impose an ideology of Christian nationalism and privatize education. This will inevitably widen academic disparities, especially as federal oversight of potentially predatory private schools is weakened.

Educators acknowledge that schools have room for improvement and reform. However, despite the many challenges and social barriers that school communities face, dedicated educators work tirelessly to create equal opportunities for all students. When key stakeholders collaborate to improve academic outcomes, students ultimately benefit.

For example, over the past two decades, high school graduation rates in the U.S. have steadily increased, reaching an all-time high of nearly 87% in 2019. This success is largely attributed to federal funding for intervention programs, improved teacher training, and efforts to close achievement gaps among disadvantaged and minority students. Without federal oversight, these hard-won gains could be reversed.

Another example is the success of Head Start and state-funded transitional kindergarten (T-K) programs, which have been shown to improve kindergarten readiness, boost academic achievement, and set students on a path toward higher education. Research indicates that students who attend high-quality early childhood programs are more likely to graduate from high school and pursue college. Federal investment in these programs has played a crucial role in supporting students from diverse backgrounds.

Additionally, federal grants and funding have expanded access to STEM education, providing students with opportunities to learn technology, robotics, and coding. Many public schools have successfully

integrated pathways to technical education careers, offering hands-on experience and training in high-demand fields such as healthcare, computer science, engineering, artificial intelligence, and cybersecurity.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) has provided vital support for millions of students with disabilities, ensuring they receive the services they need to thrive. Thanks to IDEA's funding and legal protections, more students with disabilities are receiving targeted support, graduating from high school, enrolling in college or vocational programs, and entering the workforce than ever before. Dismantling the Department of Education would put these hard-earned gains at risk.

Despite these successes, Trump, Musk, and McMahon are determined to dismantle the Department of Education and destroy the public school system without offering a viable replacement. Their reckless plan, conceived without input from educators, academic experts, or school communities, is deeply flawed. Moreover, their threats to withhold funding and pursue lawsuits against school districts that engage in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives are both illegal and unconstitutional.

Are Americans truly willing to accept the dismantling? Let's not forget Trump's previous attempt to dismantle the Affordable Care Act, a healthcare system that millions depend on. His "plan" was nothing more than an empty concept with no viable alternative. Fortunately, Americans pushed back and preserved a critical human service.

Similarly, Americans must resist Trump's Project 2025, which aims to destroy the Department of Education and dismantle public schools. What is at stake? Over 50 million students nationwide—including more than 6.7 million in California. We must not allow students to become the sacrificial lambs of a radical political agenda.

We must boldly protect the Department of Education and our school system while our democracy still stands. Will we stand by as Elon Musk gleefully wields a metaphorical chainsaw, boasting about his new role in gutting public education? There is no time for passive observation. The future of our students is at stake.

Many Americans recognize this

all-too-familiar pattern: dismantling federal agencies, creating chaos, siphoning massive funds, and engaging in endless legal battles. Trump, Musk, and McMahon are systematically weakening our government, subverting the Constitution, and undermining the rule of law. Without remorse, they are directly harming our nation's most valuable resource—our students.

Educators across the nation echo the words of Congresswoman and former educator Jahana Hayes: "The American people know there is a difference between rooting out waste, fraud, and abuse, and cutting essential programs that support our school communities." The phrase "dramatically impacts" does not even begin to capture the gravity of the situation.

We must act before the sledgehammer comes down on the Department of Education and the U.S. school system. Across the country, Americans are watching in disbelief as authoritarianism takes hold. We must reject Trump, Musk, and McMahon's vision for our schools.

The American people hold the keys to our essential institutions—especially our public education system, which is worth saving, improving, and defending. Trump's hostile takeover is not the solution. Project 2025 is not a plan for reform. The survival of democracy in our schools depends on our vigilance, engagement, and determination to stop Trump, Musk, and McMahon before the damage becomes irreversible.

**BREAKING NEWS:** Employees of the Department of Education have just been offered a one-time severance package to resign or retire by March 31. The political purge and demolition are now underway—but not unstoppable. We must fight to save our public education system before it's too late.

*Social Justice & Legislative Committee  
ABC Federation of Teachers*

### WRITE US! LET YOUR OPINION BE KNOWN!

Send letters to [editor@cerritosnews.net](mailto:editor@cerritosnews.net).

Letters can be edited. The opinions expressed here are not necessarily the views of the publisher.



# Celebrate the Year of the Asclepias by Planting Milkweed

By Melinda Myers

Grow milkweed (*Asclepias*) to support monarch butterflies, hummingbirds, and bees while adding color, fragrance, and beauty to your landscape. You'll find native milkweeds throughout North and South America. In recognition of this garden star's attributes, 2025 has been deemed the Year of the Asclepias by the National Garden Bureau. With so many to choose from, select the milkweed that is best suited to the growing conditions, your landscape design, and garden maintenance. Some milkweeds are very aggressive and can quickly take over garden beds and large areas in the landscape, requiring time and effort to maintain their spread.

Butterfly milkweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) is one of the tamer milkweeds with lots of ornamental appeal. This adaptable milkweed is hardy in zones three to ten and was named the 2017 Perennial Plant of the Year. Grow butterfly milkweed in full sun with well-drained soil. You'll appreciate its drought tolerance once it's established.



If you are gardening in clay soil, consider growing *Asclepias tuberosa* var. *clay*, a natural variant found growing on clay soil. Mark the location of any butterfly milkweed in the garden or plant some spring flowering bulbs nearby to avoid accidentally digging up this late-to-emerge perennial. You'll enjoy the orange blossoms in meadow, prairie, and even semi-formal gardens. Combine this beauty with yellow, purple, and blue flowers. Deadhead faded flowers to extend bloom time and prevent reseeding if this is a concern.

When looking for a bit larger plant that tolerates moist to wet and occasionally dry soils, check out red milkweed (*Syriaca incarnata*), also known as pink and swamp milkweed. You'll enjoy the fragrant reddish-pink flowers and the butterflies, bees, and hummingbirds that visit the flowers. It's hardy in zones three to nine plus red milkweed grows three to five feet tall in upright clumps. The flowers are followed by narrow pods that release silky-haired seeds like other milkweeds. It grows best in full sun with moist soil and is less aggressive than common milkweed. Grow this milkweed in sunny mixed borders, natural gardens, rain gardens, and alongside ponds. And best of all, the deer and rabbits tend to leave it, and other milkweeds, be.

Common milkweed *Asclepias syriaca* is a favorite of monarchs, hardy in zones three to eight, but very aggressive, spreading by deep rhizomes and seeds. The purple-pink flowers are fragrant at night, and you will find a variety of butterflies stopping by for a visit. Keep it contained by persistently removing unwanted suckers and seedpods before they open to prevent reseeding.



**ASCLEPIAS** is a genus of herbaceous, perennial plants commonly known as milkweeds, and are native to North and South America. These plants are well known for their milky sap, complex flowers, and their crucial role in supporting pollinators, especially monarch butterflies above, which rely on them as a host plant for their larvae.

Sullivant's milkweed *Asclepias sullivantii* is similar but a bit less aggressive. It has the same great butterfly appeal and is hardy in zones four to seven. These are just a few of the more than 100 native milkweed species, many of which you may want to add to your gardens. You can find out more about the species native to your region in the Milkweed Regional Guides located on the Xerces Society website. You are sure to find one or more to add

to your garden beds. Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including *Midwest Gardener's Handbook*, Revised Edition, and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses* "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers' website is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).



## ABCUSD Measure BB Citizens' Oversight Committee Opening



The ABC Unified School District's Measure BB Citizens' Oversight Committee has openings for the following representatives:

- **Senior Citizens' Organization Representative** - Must be an active member of a senior citizen's organization.
- **Taxpayer Organization Representative** - Must be active in a bona fide taxpayer association.
- **Community-At-Large Representative (2 openings)** - Must be a resident in a community served ABCUSD.
- **Parent of Enrolled ABC Student Representative** - Must be a parent or guardian of a child currently enrolled in ABCUSD.

This committee was established as part of Measure BB, the \$258 million school facilities improvement bond passed by voters in November 2018. The committee is responsible for ensuring the proper spending of Measure BB funds by carefully reviewing expenditures. The committee typically meets quarterly but may convene more frequently if necessary.

Applications for the position can be found online at [www.abcusd.us](http://www.abcusd.us).

For further questions, please contact the Deputy Superintendent/Chief Financial Officer's Office at (562) 925-5566, extension 21257.

ABCUSD Medida BB  
Puestos Vacantes del Comité de Supervisión Ciudadana

El Comité de Supervisión Ciudadana de la Medida BB del Distrito Escolar Unificado ABC tiene puestos vacantes para los siguientes representantes:

- **Representante de una Organización de Personas de la Tercera Edad** - Debe ser miembro activo de una organización de personas de la tercera edad.
- **Representante de una Organización de Contribuyentes** - Debe ser miembro activo de una asociación de contribuyentes de buena fe.
- **Representante de la Comunidad en General (2 puestos vacantes)** - Debe ser un residente en una comunidad servida por ABCUSD.

➤ **Representante de Padres de Estudiantes Inscritos en ABC** - Debe ser un padre o tutor de un niño actualmente inscrito en ABCUSD.

Este comité se estableció como parte de la Medida BB, el bono de mejora de las instalaciones escolares de \$258 millones aprobado por los votantes en noviembre de 2018. El comité es responsable de garantizar el gasto adecuado de los fondos de la Medida BB revisando cuidadosamente los gastos. El comité normalmente se reúne trimestralmente, pero puede reunirse con más frecuencia si es necesario.

Las solicitudes para los puestos se pueden encontrar en línea en [www.abcusd.us](http://www.abcusd.us).

Si tiene más preguntas, comuníquese con la Oficina del Superintendente Delegado/ Director Financiero al (562) 925 - 5566, extensión 21257.



**FLORES** from page 1

Reyes had a typed notice of release on the city manager's letterhead that he handed to Castillo. There was not a typewriter in sight inside the council chambers.

Castillo said the reason she was removed was because she had filed a complaint with the city in December accusing Flores, Martinez, and Sanabria of harassment, intimidation, and verbal abuse.

Castillo, only 21-years-old, called out Flores as particularly nasty, saying he harassed, yelled, intimidated, and hurled profanity at her in several closed-session meetings

But the local TV news media, apparently unaware of the actions against Castillo, treated him as if he were a crime fighter in an interview after the FBI raid. Flores said on TV that he had been "championing the investigation" and "wanted to get to the bottom of it all."

Now, fed up with the Vice-Mayor, a united group of residents have gathered 100 signatures - when they only needed 60 - and took the first step to recall Flores, publishing a Notice of Intention to Recall (NOI) Vice Mayor Flores in Los Cerritos Community News.

HP does not have a city "adjudicated" newspaper. Under Government Codes Sections 6000 and 6008, if an adjudicated paper does not exist in the city, then an entity wanting to publish a legal notice can use an adjudicated paper within the county; LCCN is adjudicated in seven L.A. County cities.

Under government code, the NOI for the recall must list the reasons for the recall and attach the names, addresses, and signatures of the residents who voted in favor of it.

Flores, the proponents, did not hold back, labeling him "Abusive Arturo."

The recall read:  
"Abusive Arturo Flores must go! - Abusive Arturo is a disgrace to Huntington Park he is using his position to intimidate and harass women while pushing a corrupt agenda. He lied about living in our city before scheming with the City Council and is now abusing his power.

"Serial abuser of women- Abusive Arturo has a long history of intimidating and harassing women, including all women city council members and staff. He gets drunk at official events, stumbling and verbally harassing women, and attends city council meetings wreaking alcohol.

"Under investigation- Abusive Arturo is currently under investigation for sexual harassment, hostile work environment, and abuse of power at city hall.

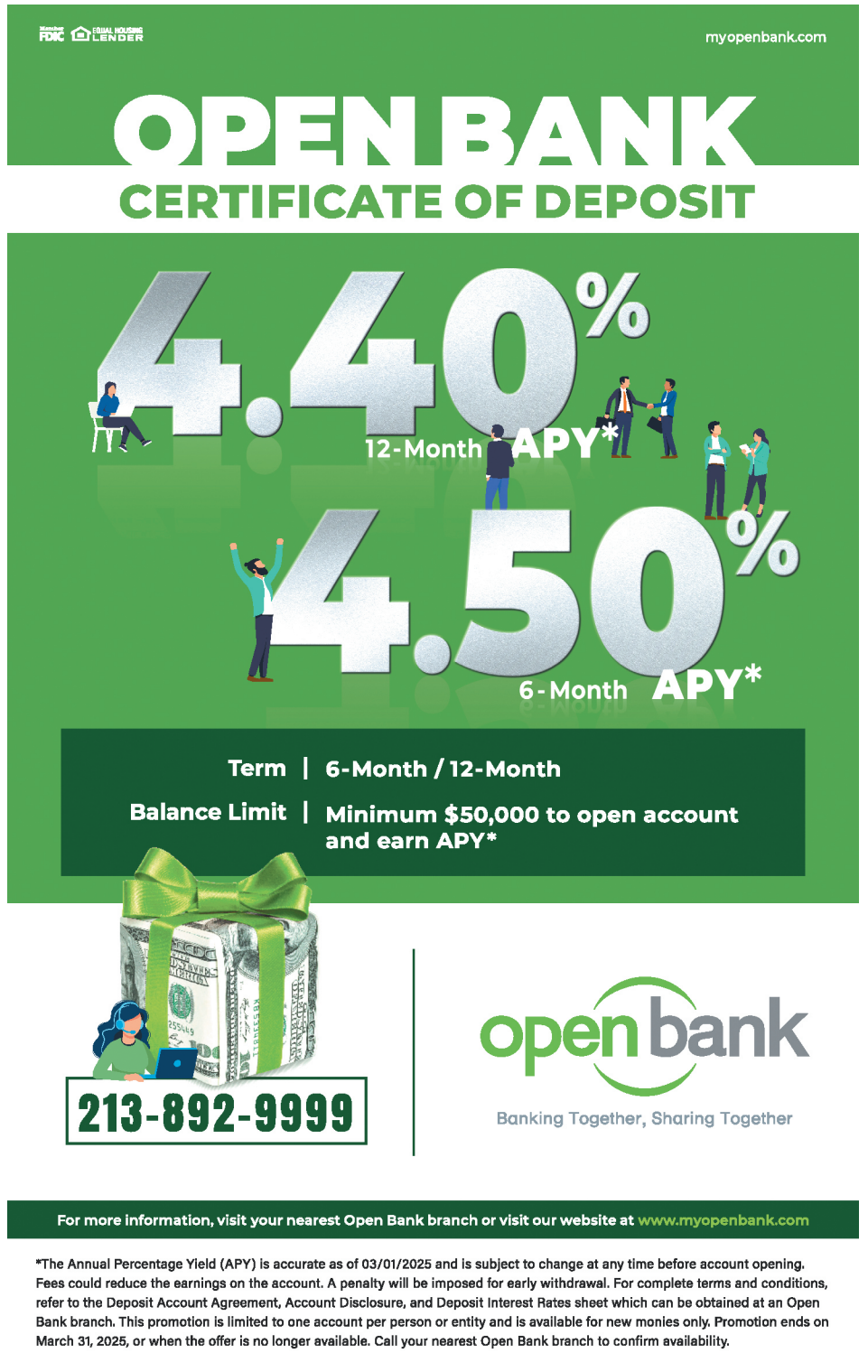
"Corrupt- Abusive Arturo abused his power by making city staff block his license plates on the law enforcement system so Arturo can get out of tickets for drunk driving and parking [sic] on red.

"Self-serving- within a year, Abusive Arturo voted to give himself almost \$20,000 yearly raise while voting to cut senior citizen services by denying city services that support food distributions and cutting public safety programs while giving contracts to his friends."

The notice is below. Emails to Vice-Mayor Flores went unreturned.



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**CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 4A GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYOFFS****Scoring Run by Pilibos Too Much For La Mirada to Overcome in Finals Debut**

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X

AZUSA-La Mirada High and Pilibos High had never played each other and had never seen each other this season. The only time each school saw the other came in the few days of film watching prior to last Friday's CIF-Southern Section Division 4A finals at the Felix Event Center on the campus of Azusa Pacific University.

With so much uncertainty, all it took was an 11-0 run by Pilibos in a span of 2:29 to all but seal the first championship for the Eagles in a 55-40 decision over the Matadores, also making their first appearance in a girls basketball title game. Senior Jael Arreguin's three-pointer, the team's lone perimeter basket of the game 11 seconds into the second quarter, put La Mirada up 11-10. Nearly two minutes later, a basket from senior Emily Gonzalez made it a 15-13 affair with Pilibos in the lead. After that, Pilibos ran through La Mirada's defense for 11 straight points, capped by a three-pointer from Sevana Keuroghlian, making the score 26-13. La Mirada would get its deficit under 10 points just once the rest of the game, and that came over 90 seconds later when Gonzalez scored for the second time within a 38-second span.

"First time in school history that we made it to the championship game [and]



**LA MIRADA HIGH:** From (l-r) Senior Jael Arreguin, sophomore Jordin Shaw, La Mirada High head coach Victoria Luong and senior Emily Gonzalez at last Friday's postgame press conference after Pilibos defeated the Matadores 55-40 in the CIF-Southern Section Division 4A championship game. **Photo by Loren Kopff.**

"I'm so proud of these for the fight and the heart that they put in," said La Mirada head coach Victoria Luong. "It's a tough loss, as with any game, nonetheless a championship game. I'm super proud of how far these girls have come."

"It's hard; it's really, really hard," said Arreguin as she was trying to hold back the tears. "Being one of the nine seniors on varsity right now; being on varsity all four years, I dreamed of coming this far. It really sucks we fell short. I tried my

best...but sometimes we don't get what we want. All I can say is that I played my heart out and I left it out on the court."

The Matadores (20-11) had built a 6-3 lead with 2:44 left in the first quarter behind a pair of baskets from Gonzalez and one by Arreguin. But the Matadores would go scoreless for the final 2:05 of the stanza. When the team's came out of their respective locker rooms to begin the second half, Gonzalez continued her hot shooting by scoring two straight baskets in the first 63 seconds of the half.

But the Mid-Cities League champions, who entered the game on an 11-game winning streak, trailed 32-17 at the half, found themselves trading basket for basket in the third quarter and were unable to get closer than 11 points the remainder of the game.

"In that second quarter, I think there were a lot of emotions that we just couldn't close out on those three's," said Luong. "Some of those shots, defensively...we just weren't there, and it was a fight. I think in the third quarter, it was basket for basket kind of a deal; just back and forth, and it was just a fight. [Pilibos] didn't let up and it was just a struggle [for us] in the third quarter."

Defensively, the Matadores have been solid over the past two months, allowing at least 50 points three times before last

[ See LA MIRADA, page 12 ]

**CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 7 BOYS SOCCER FINALS****Historic Season for Glenn Boys Soccer Program Ends in Shutout Loss to Pasadena Poly**

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X

Playing on the biggest stage in the history of the John Glenn High boys soccer program, the Eagles, not known for doing much in the sport, was in the CIF-Southern Section divisional finals for the first time ever. In fact, Glenn had won more playoff games in the previous two and a half weeks or so than it had combined in at least the past 27 seasons.

But Momo Tonthat provided all the scoring for Pasadena Poly High, recording a hat trick as the Panthers blanked the Eagles 3-0 last Saturday night on Glenn's home turf for the Division 7 championship. The Eagles conclude the season at 15-10-2.

"It was unbelievable the season that we had," said Glenn head coach Luis-David Enciso. "In the past, Glenn has been written off as a team that hasn't really made CIF, let alone the finals. But we've faced various hurdles-injuries, certain things like suspensions and maybe even our calendar. We had a calendar where we played eight games in 10 days. But despite all that, the boys pulled off a feat. And they were just short of something historic; they became the first [City of] Norwalk soccer team to be in the CIF finals. That's something special."

Junior Ricardo Rodriguez provided most the offensive action for Glenn with at least half of the 10 shots the hosts would have in the first half. The first came in the 10th minute when his attempt was saved by Eli Axel. Five minutes later following a corner kick from junior Juan Navarro, Rodriguez missed a pair of shots within seconds of each other. In the 24th minute, another shot sailed off to the left and two minutes after that, Tonthat scored the first goal. Rodriguez would miss an open net

opportunity in the 28th minute and after Noah Daniel was assessed a yellow card for taking down sophomore Juan D. Martinez, junior Mauricio Duque's free kick was off the mark. Glenn, the third seeded team in the division, outshot the Panthers 9-8 in the half.

"In all objectivity, I think Pasadena [Poly] took control of the first half in the first 15 minutes after their goal, then we started taking control," said Enciso. "There were some very good chances that I think if we had put them away... that would have turned the tide of the game. but I think it was very back and forth."

Tonthat made it 2-0 in the 56th minute as he raced down the Glenn sideline and took his shot from just outside the penalty box. Rodriguez would have another opportunity three minutes later as he saw an opening through the box. But his shot sailed, and the last goal came in the 70th minute. The Eagles would have just five shots on goal in the second half to just the two goals from Tonthat.

The 15 victories are the most by any Glenn team in at least 27 seasons, if that. From the 2001-2002 season to 2004-2005, the Eagles had anywhere from 10-13 wins. Other than that, the program has not posted more than nine victories in any season since the 1998-1999 campaign. Glenn also finished in fourth place in the 605 League and were in the playoffs as an at-large team. It marked the first time since 2002 the Eagles advanced to the playoffs as an at-large representative. The program had teams make it to the playoffs in the 2001-2002, 2002-2003, 2004-2005, 2011-2012 and 2019-2020 seasons, never getting to the quarterfinals until now.

"It was a little bit of everything," said Enciso. "I've always told my players that you need tactics, talent and heart.



**THE JOHN GLENN HIGH** boys soccer team made school history by playing in its first soccer divisional championship game ever. Glenn lost to Pasadena Poly High 3-0 last Saturday night in the CIF-Southern Section Division 7 finals.

**Photo by Loren Kopff.**

Sometimes you need all three to make it past, no matter what division you face. For instance, we play Artesia, which is a Division 2 school, in our league and against them, we always go toe to toe when technically, and on paper, we're supposed to be the underdog. But honestly, it was just believing that we're worth more than being an underdog."

Outside of wrestling, there hasn't been much to cheer for when it comes to John Glenn athletics. Only the 1964 and 1966 boys cross country teams have brought home a CIF-Southern Section championship besides wrestling. The 1970 football team lost to Temple City High 14-7 in the AA championship game and the 1977 baseball team fell to San Marino High 4-1 in the 2-A division title game. The school does have a combined nine wrestling championships since 1993.

And for those thinking this season was a fluke for the Eagles, guess again. The team had three seniors off a squad of 19 players and if the 16 underclassmen return next season, Glenn will have at least 11 seniors.

"To have that underdog mentality knowing that people are pretty much going to write off John Glenn, not just in the Norwalk area, but in the 562 [area code] area, I think we gave a statement that we could [win games]," said Enciso. "We had really good results during the year where we defeated Cerritos, which was [second-seeded in Division 5] and where we should have beat Norwalk, but we missed a penalty kick. Glenn just has a special thing that when all the chips are down, we're usually the guys that want to get the challenges."



**CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 3AA GIRLS BASKETBALL FINALS****Third Time Not the Charm for Cerritos in Divisional Championship Games**

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X

ONTARIO-Cerritos High had one fewer field goal than Mark Keppel High and one fewer three-pointer but seven fewer free throws in last Friday's CIF-Southern Section Division 3AA championship game. But what stood out the most is 15-1.

That was the score to begin the game at the Toyota Arena and despite getting to within three points early in the fourth quarter, Cerritos ran out of steam in a 49-39 defeat to Mark Keppel. This was the third divisional championship setback for the Dons in the last four seasons.

"Throughout this whole game, we were down, and our girls fought back into it," said Cerritos head coach Marcus Chinen. "At one point, we thought that maybe if we could get over that little hump, we would have a chance. But playing catch up the whole game...it's tiring. It's very tiring for these girls."

Mark Keppel led 21-10 after the first quarter as the Dons (17-16) connected on just two shots in 13 attempts, six coming from three-point territory. They were still down by 11 at the half before staging a mini comeback in the third quarter. Junior Cameron Lacorte drained a three-pointer with 5:45 left in the stanza to make it 33-25 and with less than a minute to play in the quarter, senior Ambar Multani converted a three-point play to bring the Dons to within six points for the second time in the quarter.

The momentum carried into the fourth quarter as Lacorte scored 36 seconds in, and after the second rebound of the quarter from sophomore Kalana Nguyen, her free throw with 6:35 left in the game made it 36-33, the closest Cerritos would get the remainder of



**CERRITOS HIGH** girls basketball head coach Marcus Chinen holds up the finalist plaque with junior Cameron Lacorte (far left), senior Ambar Multani and sophomore Jordin Pulley looking on after last Friday's 49-39 loss to Mark Keppel High in the CIF-Southern Section Division 3AA title game. **Photo by Loren Kopff.**

the way. Seconds later, Alyssa Canizal hit her only trifecta, beginning a 7-3 run for Mark Keppel that would last for nearly five and a half minutes.

The only points for Cerritos in that time was a Lacorte three-pointer with 3:53 left in the game, making it 41-36. That would mark the last basket the third place representative from the 605 League would make until junior Mady Macaraeg closed the game's scoring with 6.8 seconds left. In between, the Dons missed seven straight shots, the first four coming from beyond the arc.

"It is frustrating to not have a shot go down," said Lacorte. "But I knew I had to take the open look. I may not have been

super open, but I took the shots just to try to get us back on our feet or get that momentum shift. Although it is frustrating for it not to go in, I didn't let it get to me because I knew that would really destroy us. If you let that get to you, then you've already lost it from there."

"After halftime, I think for me, it was just do or die at that point," said Multani. "But as long as my team tried their hardest, and we did, I was just proud of them."

The 39 points were the fewest since a 51-31 loss to Whitney High on Jan. 22 and the eighth time this season the Dons were held under 40 points. While the Aztecs had three players score at least 11 points, Lacorte led

Cerritos with 13 points, had five assists, five rebounds and five steals. Multani led the team with 10 rebounds, scored nine points and had a pair of blocks and sophomore Jordin Pulley pitched in with eight rebounds and six points.

After winning the first two games of the season, Cerritos would lose 14 of the next 17 games before entering last Friday winners of 12 of 14 contests.

"All in all, these girls played their hearts out," said Chinen. "Not bad for a team that entered the playoffs under .500. It tells you a lot about the character of the players and their will to come out here and play hard. Again, I'm proud of them and we still have state games."

"We all tried our hardest, so I have no regrets coming out of this game," said Lacorte. "I'm really proud of my teammates."

The Dons were seeded ninth in the CIF Southern California Division III regionals and will visit Christian High on Tuesday. The Patriots, out of El Cajon in the East County area of San Diego, are 24-4 and are riding an 18-game winning streak. The winner will face top-seeded Palisades High or El Toro High on Thursday.

One of the strengths of the Dons this season has been the depth of the team. All 14 players have started at least a game and because of injuries, illness, vacations and eligibility issues, Chinen wasn't able to use is current starting lineup until the second half of league play.

"I'm just really proud of everybody and I know the starting lineup has always been mixed up," said Pulley. "But our team has always fought, and they've always tried hard."

**CIF-SOUTHERN SECTION DIVISION 4 GIRLS SOCCER FINALS****La Mirada Struck by Lightning in Penalty Kicks After Scoreless Regulation**

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X

ORANGE-The way La Mirada High's girls soccer team had advanced to the CIF-Southern Section Division 4 title game wasn't the ideal situation for long-time head coach Dave Christensen. The Matadores had eliminated Beaumont High in penalty kicks 4-2 in the quarterfinals and Redlands East Valley High 5-4 in penalty kicks four days later.

So, when La Mirada and Sage Hill High were scoreless after 80 minutes of regulation, and 20 minutes of overtime, many in attendance had that, 'here we go again' feeling. But on a blustery morning last Saturday at Fred Kelly Stadium on the El Modena High campus, senior defender Kiersten Mahan's attempt hit the upper right corner of the goalpost, giving the Lightning a 4-3 victory in the extra session.

"It's a cruel game, the way they decide overtime and PK's, it is tough," said Christensen. "Being on this side of it...we won two PK's; we got to the finals. It was a huge accomplishment [and] I'm so proud of these kids. They played with a lot of heart and pride and did a great job all year. Really, we were peaking at the right time, and it just fell short today."

This was La Mirada's sixth trip to the divisional finals since 2008, fifth for Christensen with the Matadores, winning three times, losing in 2017 and tying arch nemesis Mayfair High in 2008.

Giselle Barron opened the penalty kick format with a goal through the left side while senior midfielder Giselle De Anda was high on her attempt. The next three rounds would see goals by Keila Fukuda (right corner), Elliot Trout (right side

and Capri Hill (right side) while the third place representatives from the Gateway League stayed a goal behind with tallies from freshman defender Zoey Santiago (right side), junior midfielder Zoe Chang (left side) and junior midfielder Mia Carrillo (left side). When senior goalkeeper Mia Cook stopped Jaden Rall's shot in the fifth round, it opened the door for Mahan to tie things up.

Shots were at a premium for both teams in the first half as the first one didn't come until the ninth minute off the foot of Fukuda, the Lightning's leading scorer. Her free kick from 33 yards out in the 23rd minute was stopped by Cook. It wasn't until the 30th minute when the Matadores took their first shot as De Anda's attempt hit the crossbar. Five minutes later, her second shot would be saved by Finley Maynard.

"[Sage Hill] did a great job," said Christensen. "Their back line was strong; they kept us from, and you have to give them a lot of credit. Unfortunately, today wasn't our day offensively. Yeah, we struggled to score goals today. Defense has been our forte all year. We keep teams out of the goal; we don't give up cheesy goals, and unfortunately, we didn't get one like we typically get."

La Mirada would be limited in opportunities in the second half as Santiago's attempt in the 76th minute sailed to the left. Six minutes earlier, she had cleared a Sage Hill opportunity off a corner kick with a header in the middle of the penalty box. Sage Hill's best chance to score the first goal of the game came in the 52nd minute as Lizzy Ball's shot was saved by Cook at the right post.

The last major push from either team before the penalty kicks came in the 97th



**LA MIRADA HIGH** head coach Dave Christensen holds up the CIF-Southern Section Division 4 finalist plaque after his team lost to Sage Hill High 4-3 in penalty kicks last Saturday. In his postgame speech, he reminded the team that the season isn't quite done as state playoffs are on the horizon. **Photo by Loren Kopff.**

minute as a free kick from sophomore forward Mia Gutierrez 42 yards was punched away by Maynard. For the game, Sage Hill took 10 shots to La Mirada's four and the lone corner kick by the Matadores came in in the 78th minute.

"You never enter a game thinking, 'well, let's go to penalties,'" said Christensen. "Certainly, we had some confidence in penalties; we've won a couple of games, we've worked hard on our penalties. We were prepared for that today. Those kids have nothing to hang their heads about."

Of the six appearances in the divisional finals, this was the first time the Matadores (14-8-3) entered the postseason with less than 10 victories and without a league

championship. In fact, La Mirada visited Downey High on the last game of the regular season with a chance to win the Gateway League. Instead, a 1-0 loss to the Vikings sent the Matadores to third place. They hosted Eagle Rock High this past Tuesday in the first round of the Division IV CIF Southern California Regionals and posted a 1-0 victory. La Mirada will host Heritage High, a 5-0 winner over Banning High, on Mar. 6 in the semifinals.

"Every team is different; everyone has their personalities," said Christensen. "I think the thing I appreciate about this team is they battled. They battled and when it was on the line, they came through. They did a great job."



**LA MIRADA** from page 10

Friday, and their four playoff victories have been by an average of 13 points. However, the Eagles beat La Mirada at its own game, which was the perimeter shooting. Arreguin's three-pointer was the only one the team would connect on in 13 attempts while Pilibos was seven of 22 from beyond the arc. Of those seven, five came in the first half with two coming from Lara Kasbarian.

"There's been games where we had players hit eight three's and baskets weren't going in tonight," said Luong.

Arreguin, the team's feisty spark plug leader this season, led the Matadores with 19 points, including all 11 La Mirada scored in the fourth quarter and had three assists while Gonzalez added 18 points and 14 rebounds despite getting into foul trouble in the first half. Senior Destiny Elmore had nine rebounds while Arreguin grabbed seven boards.

"I really had to find my rhythm on defense to make sure I wouldn't [pick up another foul]," said Gonzalez of the second half. "There were a lot of times where I would keep my hands up and not move."

"I definitely think I was making the right choices, but it was a little late [in the game]," said Arreguin. "I just saw they were letting me drive, so I just took it every time. I didn't want to let up, but it was too late. That hurts, but I know, regardless, I played my game, and I went out and gave what I love."

Despite the loss, the Matadores are still smiling at the historic season that still isn't done yet. They will travel to top-seeded Cantwell Sacred Heart of Mary High on Tuesday in the first round of the CIF Division 4 Southern Califor-

nia Regionals. The Cardinals lost to El Toro High 52-48 last Saturday in the Division 3A championship game.

It bears repeating the rise in the La Mirada girls basketball program. When Arreguin, Gonzalez and Nayeli Tamayo were freshmen, the Matadores were 2-12 and lost all six Suburban League games. The next season, they were 10-12 and 4-6 in the Mid-Cities League and last season, La Mirada finished 22-7, lost to Colton High in the semifinals by a point and won a Southern California Regional game at home by 20 points. Luong, who played at La Mirada in the early 2000s, has seen more lows than highs, both on and off the court, in the program over the past two decades.

"When I played in high school 20-something years ago, we didn't have what we have now," said Luong. "When I look at when I played in high school... these girls have heart, and they really developed, and they really wanted it. Just to see what the program become what it is today... these girls have [made] school history for the last two years. They've done everything. It's just one thing after another and these girls have put everything they've got into the program."

"This group is special," said sophomore Jordin Shaw, who led La Mirada with five assists and a pair of steals. "We've been making history since last year and they were very welcoming to me last year when I was a freshman. I fit right in and gelled really well together. I'm just going to transition that to next year. The expectations are still going to be the same no matter who's playing and who's not. I'm very thankful to be playing with this group."

# Gahr Girls Basketball Routs Banning in Opening Round Of Southern California Regionals

By Loren Kopff  
@LorenKopff on X

When Gahr High senior Christine Ho drained a three-pointer 36 seconds into the contest against Banning High, you knew this CIF Southern California Division IV first round game wasn't going to be close. In fact, after Melony Bernabe scored the first points for the Pilots with 6:30 left in the first quarter, it was 5-2.

Then the Gladiators ran away, scoring the next 14 points, leading by as many as 31 points in the third quarter and advancing to the second round with a 57-34 victory this past Tuesday. Fifth-seeded Gahr (19-11) traveled to fourth-seeded Verdugo Hills (26-6) on Mar. 6. The Dons knocked off George Washington Prep 50-43 to win the CIF-Los Angeles City Section Division I championship before eliminating Leuzinger High 70-62 this past Tuesday.

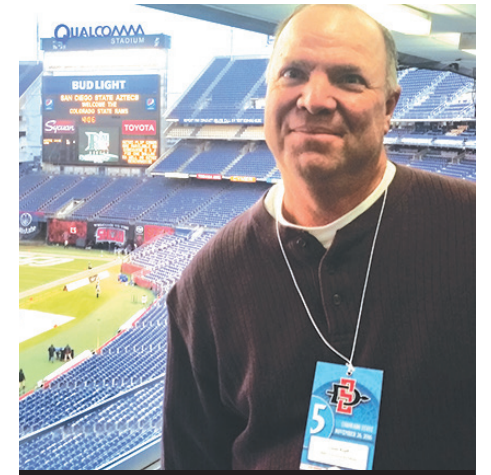
"We knew that we were more athletic," said Gahr head coach Alfred Howard. "So we were going to come out and try to exploit that early, and we were able to do it."

Sophomore Ella Mims was making her presence known early, scoring eight points and grabbing seven rebounds in the first eight minutes, four on the offensive end. Junior Chloe Beard had seven points in the stanza with a pair of assists and senior Simar Sogi's three-pointer with 3:06 left made it 15-2.

Bernabe began the second quarter with her second basket but that was followed by an 11-0 run as Mims was perfect on four free throws while collecting another six rebounds before halftime. In fact, after hitting on three straight baskets, the Gladiators ended the final 4:17 of the half scoring nothing but free throws.

The second half took on a different look as Howard emptied his bench, and the tempo slowed down a bit to focus more on running plays as the competition from here on out won't be as easy as Banning. The Pilots scored one more point in the third quarter than they had in the first half but were still down 45-17 going into the fourth quarter.

"What we do in games where we're handily taking care of a team, we try to work on stuff we don't get to work on in practice," said Howard. "We only play seven girls' we don't have a real deep team. So we really don't get a chance to compete and scrimmage in paly each other at a high level."



**LOREN KOPFF'S NEWS AND NOTES FROM PRESS ROW**

"We really didn't worry about the score or what [Banning's] deficit was," he continued. "It was more of working on improving our stuff."

Beard led everyone with 13 points while Ho and Mims each had a dozen points. Mims also grabbed 16 rebounds while sophomore Rachel Fredenburg pulled down 10 boards as the Gladiators had 40 rebounds. Gahr was also five of 24 from three-point land and scored on four offensive putbacks.

The last time Gahr was in action, it fell to El Toro High 36-34 on Feb. 22 in the CIF-SS Division 3A semifinals. The second opportunity to come away with a championship, albeit a state title, is always on the mind for semifinal losers in every division. Gahr would need to win three more regional games before playing the Northern California regional champion next Saturday at the Golden I Center in Sacramento.

"It feels good," said Howard. "As a coach, you figure...this is my third year, we've been to state twice, we've been to two semifinals. Three years ago, the plan was to always be above .500 and make a playoff run. We've been able to exceed that in my three-year tenure. So, I'm very proud of that."

La Mirada High saw its season end this past Tuesday as it dropped a 63-49 contest to Cantwell Sacred Heart of Mary High, the top-seeded team in Division IV. The Matadores (20-12) led by three points after the first quarter but were outscored 46-18 in the second and third quarters combined. Senior Jael Arreguin and sophomore Jordin Shaw each scored 11 points for the Matadores, who graduate nine players off a team of 10.

Also in the division, second-seeded Whitney High breezed past Pilibos High 74-32 as sophomore Alyssa So scored 39 points. The Wildcats (24-9) were home on Mar. 6 to Chatsworth High, which defeated George Washington Prep 81-60 this past Tuesday in a rematch of the City Section Division 1 semifinals in which the Chancellors (13-15) lost 65-64.

In Division III action, Cerritos High fell to Christian High 67-58 this past Tuesday to conclude the season at 17-17. The Dons led 35-23 at the half but the third quarter spelled doom for the third place team from the 605 League. The Patriots outscored Cerritos 20-8 in the third quarter and held off a fourth quarter rally.

Junior Cameron Lacorte led the black and gold with 18 points while senior Ambar Multani and sophomore Mady Macaraeg each poured in 13 points.

## WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

### Women's History Month

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

Althea, Amelia, Anthony, Antoinette, Baker, Billie, Blackwell, Busy, Caroline, Carson, Cause, Curie, Earhart, Emily, Franklin, Gift, Harriet, Holiday, Jackson, Ladonna, Lise, Marian, Marie, Mary, Meitner, MotherTeresa, Parks, Perkins, Plath, Rachel, Rosa, Sacajawea, Sally, Shirley, Sojourner, Susan, Tubman, Victoria, Wollstonecraft.

Solution on page 15

Solution: 7 letters

**Catherine Grant Wieder**

**Attorney & Mediator**

**Probate, Wills & Trusts, Conservatorship, Guardianship, Dispute Mediation**

**562-404-4039**





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## ATTORNEY

**Catherine Grant Wieder**  
 Probate, Wills, Living Trusts, Special Needs Trusts, Powers of Attorney & Advance Directives.



**562-404-4039**

## ATTORNEY

THE LAW OFFICE of **LEWIS & LEWIS**



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(562) 293-4073 LewisLaw.info

JOHN LEWIS, ESQ.

- REAL ESTATE LAW
- PERSONAL INJURY
- BUSINESS LAW
- WILLS & TRUSTS

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 Broker - Advisor

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**DONATE YOUR VEHICLE** to fund the SEARCH FOR MISSING CHILDREN. FAST FREE PICKUP. 24 hour response. Running or not. Maximum Tax Deduction and No Emission Test Required! Call 24/7: 1-877-434-6852 (Cal-SCAN)

**GOT AN UNWANTED CAR???** DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. All 50 States. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-855-408-6546 (Cal-SCAN)

**Tiene un vehiculo no deseado?** Donelo a Patriotic Hearts! Recogida rápida y gratuita en los 50 estados. Patriotic Hearts ofrece

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**PETS ALIVE, A CALIFORNIA, QUALIFIED 501(c)3 NONPROFIT**

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programas para ayudar a los veteranos a encontrar trabajo o iniciar su propio negocio. Llama ahora: 1-855-408-7368 (24/7) (Cal-SCAN)

**Get a break on your taxes!** Donate your car, truck, or SUV to assist the blind and visually impaired. Arrange a swift, no-cost vehicle pickup and secure a generous tax credit for 2025. Call Heritage for the Blind Today at 1-844-491-2884 today! (Cal-SCAN)

## BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

Debt? Pay off up to \$10,000 Per Month. Discover our new budgeting Course and Membership. 1-833-283-4380, 1-760-865-0707 Also Hiring www.Applyhere.info(Cal-SCAN) Struggling with debt? If you have over

## FINANCIAL SERVICES

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Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-888-256-9155 (Cal-SCAN)

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costs! (Additional terms apply.) Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 12/29/24.) Call 1-833-985-4766

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**Consumer Cellular** - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-908-0605 (Cal-SCAN)

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**DID YOU KNOW** Newspaper-generated content is so valuable it's taken and repeated, condensed, broadcast, tweeted, discussed,

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## REAL ESTATE LOANS

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**Don't Pay For Covered Home Repairs Again!** Our home warranty covers ALL MAJOR SYSTEMS AND APPLIANCES. We stand by our service and if we can't fix it, we'll replace it! Pick the plan that fits your budget! Call: 1-855-411-1731 (Cal-SCAN)

**WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION:** A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals do complete repairs to protect your family and your home's value! Call 24/7: 1-888-248-0815. Have zip code of service location ready when you call! (Cal-SCAN)

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**City of Santa Fe Springs  
Request for Quotes 25 – 10  
Vehicle Purchase – One (1) 2024 or Newer Chevrolet Trax LT**

The City of Santa Fe Springs invites bids from qualified vendors to provide one (1) 2024 or Newer Chevrolet Trax LT in accordance with the terms and conditions of Request for Quotes (RFQ) 25 - 10.

To view the complete package and associated documents visit: <https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/65093/portal-home> and click "Bid Opportunities" or <https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/65093/bo/bo-detail/127219> to access the project directly. You can also visit the City's website and find the aforementioned link on the "Bids & Proposals" webpage.

Questions/inquiries regarding this opportunity must be submitted via the PlanetBids Portal by no later than **Monday, March 10, 2025, at 10 am Pacific**. The City will not respond to any questions/inquires submitted after this deadline.

Please review all related documents in their entirety prior to submit a response. Responses must be submitted electronically via the City's PlanetBids Portal by **Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 10 am Pacific**. Any proposals received after this deadline will be deemed non-responsive and the City reserves the right to reject the proposal.

Responses to this request will be evaluated to determine the most qualified and responsive vendors. Responses must adhere to the format and content described in the RFQ. Responses will not be evaluated unless all parts requested are submitted in a complete package.

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 3/7/25

**NOTICE INVITING SEALED BIDS  
FY 2024-25 PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT**

PUBLIC NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the CITY OF COMMERCE, referred to as "CITY", invites sealed bids for **FY 2024-25 PAVEMENT REHABILITATION PROJECT**, and will receive bids on PlanetBids, up to the hour of **2:00 PM, Thursday, April 4, 2025**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud online. Late submittals will not be considered. It is the bidder's responsibility to upload the bid proposal file by the due date to City's portal on PlanetBids.

Electronic files of the Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents are available for download on the City's portal on PlanetBids.

The work includes pavement rehabilitation of a number of Alleys in the City. The Work shall be completed within 80 working days after the City's Notice to Proceed.

Each Bidder shall possess a valid California Class A General Engineering Contractor's License issued by the California State Contractors License Board at the time of the Bid submission for this project. The successful Contractor must also possess a current City business license before commencing work.

This project is subject to the requirements of SB 854. No prime contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal and may be awarded for a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations pursuant to Labor Code section 1725.5.

If there are any questions regarding this project, please upload all questions to: City's portal on PlanetBids.

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 3/6 and 3/13/25

**NOTICE OF ADOPTED ORDINANCE**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the City Council of the City of Cerritos adopted Ordinance No. 1048, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF CERRITOS AMENDING CHAPTER 2.15 OF THE CERRITOS MUNICIPAL CODE TO EXTEND THE TERMS OF OFFICE FOR ADVISORY BOARD, COMMISSION, AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS ORIGINALLY APPOINTED TO A TWO-YEAR 2022-24 TERM, AND GENERALLY AMEND THE DATES OF SUCH TERMS (COUNCIL). **City Attorney Summary:** Current City law provides that members of the City's advisory boards, commissions, and committees, who are appointed by the City Council, serve two year terms subject to an automatic extension for not more than 90 days pending the qualification of their successors. The adopted ordinance amends Chapter 2.15 of the Cerritos Municipal Code to automatically extend the 2022-2024 terms only, for the appointed members of the City's advisory boards, commissions, and committees, through and including the last day of the month in which the Mayor is selected pursuant to Section 404 of the Cerritos City Charter as part of the 2025 annual Mayoral Transition, pending the qualification of his or her successor, or within 90 days, whichever is earlier.

The full text of this adopted Ordinance can be obtained at the Office of the City Clerk, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703. I, Cynthia Nava, City Clerk of the City of Cerritos, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing **Ordinance No. 1048** was introduced for first reading on February 13, 2025. Thereafter, said Ordinance was duly approved and adopted at a regular meeting of the City Council on February 27, 2025, by the following vote: AYES: Councilmembers – Barrows, Vo, Solanki; NOES: Councilmembers – Johnson, Yokoyama; ABSENT: Councilmembers – None; ABSTAIN: Councilmembers – None. /s/Cynthia Nava, City Clerk

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 3/7/25

**CITY OF BELLFLOWER  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
REGARDING INITIAL STUDY AND NEGATIVE DECLARATION NO. ND 24-01 DEVELOPMENT REVIEW CASE NO. DR 7-23-14488  
VARIANCE CASE NO. V 23-01**

**TAKE NOTICE** that the Bellflower Planning Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Monday, March 17, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706 to consider Negative Declaration No. ND 24-01, Development Review Case No. DR 7-23-14488, and Variance Case No. V 23-01. The proposed project involves a Development Review to allow construction of a 4,842-square-foot office building and an 8,316-square-foot warehouse building for a utility company, and a Variance to allow the buildings to encroach within the required 10-foot yard setbacks on a lot measuring 31,490 square feet (0.72 acres) within the Light Industrial ("M-1") District on property located at 10145 Artesia Place.

Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), an IS and ND were prepared, which means that the project will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment. The 20-day public review period for this document began on February 14, 2025 and closed on March 6, 2025. On February 13, 2025, a Notice of Intent to Adopt was filed/posted with/at the Los Angeles County Clerk, the Governor's Office of Land Use & Climate Innovation ("LCI"), City's facilities and website, and mailed to other appropriate public agencies. A Notice of Completion was also filed with LCI on February 13, 2025. On February 14, 2025, a Notice of Intent to Adopt was published in the Los Cerritos Community News. The City is now considering the IS and ND. The IS and ND are available online at [https://www.bellflower.org/departments/planning/planning\\_division/environmental\\_documents\\_and\\_information.php#outer-234](https://www.bellflower.org/departments/planning/planning_division/environmental_documents_and_information.php#outer-234).

The City of Bellflower invites members of the public to review and comment on this item. Copies of the staff report and supporting documents regarding this matter may be inspected by the public on the City's website at [www.bellflower.org](http://www.bellflower.org), or by appointment in the Planning Division's Office at Bellflower City Hall, 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, California, telephone number (562) 804-1424, extension 2228. All written comments concerning this may be submitted to Rowena Genilo-Concepcion at 16600 Civic Center Drive, Bellflower, CA 90706; or by email at [rngenilo@bellflower.org](mailto:rngenilo@bellflower.org).

If you wish to challenge this item in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the Public Hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City at or before the Public Hearing.

**ELIZABETH C. OBA  
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND BUILDING SERVICES**

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 3/7/25

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND INTENTION TO TRANSFER ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSE(S) (UCC Sec. 6101 et seq. and B & P Sec. 24073 et seq.)  
Escrow No. 7523-EY  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale of assets and a transfer of alcoholic beverage license is about to be made. The names, Social Security or Federal Tax Numbers, and addresses of the Seller/Licensee are: LAKEWOOD LIQUOR LLC AKA TUOK CHHANN AND ILENH VARIE SOK, 11455 CARSON ST, LAKEWOOD, CA 90715  
The business is known as: LAKEWOOD LIQUOR  
The names, Social Security or Federal Tax Numbers, and addresses of the Buyer/Transferee are: TRIPLE C LIQUOR INC, 11455 CARSON ST, LAKEWOOD, CA 90715  
As listed by the Seller/Licensee, all other business names and addresses used by the Seller/Licensee within three years before the date such list was sent or delivered to the Buyer/Transferee are:  
The assets to be sold are described in general as: FURNITURE, FIXTURE, EQUIPMENT, MACHINERY, GOODWILL, TRADE NAME, LEASE, TENANT'S IMPROVEMENT AND ABC OFF-SALE GENERAL LICENSE #21-646433 and are located at: 11455 CARSON ST, LAKEWOOD, CA 90715  
The kind of license, to be transferred is: ABC OFF-SALE GENERAL LICENSE #21-646433 now issued for the premises located at: SAME  
The anticipated date of the bulk sale is APRIL 7, 2025 at the office of: SAPPHERE ESCROW, 17100 PIONEER BLVD., SUITE 110, ARTESIA, CA 90701  
The amount of the purchase price or consideration in connection with the transfer of the license and business, including the estimated inventory \$150,000.00, is the sum of \$500,000.00, which consists of the following: DESCRIPTION, AMOUNT: CASH \$350,000.00; PROMISSORY NOTE \$150,000.00; TOTAL \$500,000.00  
It has been agreed between the Seller/Licensee and the intended Buyer/Transferee, as required by Sec. 24073 of the Business and Professions code, that the consideration for the transfer of the business and license is to be paid only after the transfer has been approved by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.  
Date: FEBRUARY 24, 2025  
LAKEWOOD LIQUOR LLC AKA TUOK CHHANN AND ILENH VARIE SOK, Seller/Licensee  
TRIPLE C LIQUOR INC, Buyer/Transferee  
3369722-PP LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 3/7/25

**CITY OF CERRITOS, NOTICE OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**  
**Project Identification: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR ON-CALL CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SERVICES, RFP NO. 1560-25. Project Description:** The City of Cerritos is requesting proposals from qualified Engineering firms interested in providing professional Construction Management and Inspection services. This work is to be performed on an on-call, flexible service basis. **Project Specifications:** A copy of the Request for Proposal details are available by contacting the City of Cerritos, Engineering Division at (562) 916-1219. **Sealed Proposals must be received on or before: 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 2, 2025. Place of Sealed Proposal Receipt: The sealed proposal submission must be physically received in the: Office of the City Clerk, 1st Floor, 18125 Bloomfield Avenue, Cerritos, CA 90703.** It is the responsibility of the bidder to ensure that the proposal is properly marked and received in the appropriate location by the deadline. Bids not received in the Office of the City Clerk at the above-referenced location by the deadline provided will not be considered. **Sealed Proposals must be marked: "PROPOSAL – ON-CALL CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT AND INSPECTION SERVICES, RFP NO. 1560-25 - DO NOT OPEN."** No proposal will be accepted unless it has the above referenced information clearly identified on the outside label. **Final selection criteria:** The City's final selection criteria will be based on, but not limited to, the following analysis: Completeness of proposal; Firm's and key project team members' record in accomplishing work assignments for similar projects; and The resources and rates required for performing the requested services. The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, or portions thereof, or to waive any informality or irregularity in a proposal to the extent allowed by law. Any requests for information regarding proposals submitted shall be directed to the Office of the City Clerk via a formal Public Records Act request. The City has determined that opened proposals are confidential and therefore the negotiations process outweighs the public interest in prematurely disclosing such records. (Gov. Code § 7922.000). By order of the City of Cerritos.

Published at Los Cerritos Community News 3/7/25

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND SALE OF CAPITAL STOCK (UCC Sec. 6101 to 6107)  
Escrow No. 16538  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to creditors of the within named parties that a bulk sale is intended to be made of personal property hereinafter described of the Corporation whose stock is being sold: DILDAX CORPORATION, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION  
The name(s) and business address of the Seller(s)/transferor(s) are: THE DILDAX COMMUNITY PROPERTY TRUST DATED MAY 29, 2020 BY: DILIP CHHAGANLAL MISTRY, TRUSTEE AND DACSHABEN DILIP MISTRY, TRUSTEE, 16900 BELLFLOWER BLVD., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706  
The name(s) and business address of the Buyer(s)/transferee(s) are: MANOJ B. PATEL, 5322 PEMBURY DRIVE, LA PALMA, CA 90623  
The stock being sold/transferred is generally described as 51% Per cent of the issued and outstanding shares of capital stock of: DILDAX CORPORATION, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION  
The assets/personal property being sold/transferred are generally described as INVENTORY, FURNITURE, FIXTURES, TRADE FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, TRADE NAME, LOGO, SIGNS AND ADVERTISING MATERIALS, WEB SITES, URL NAMES, E-MAIL ADDRESSES, SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS, VENDOR LISTS AND CATALOGS, TELEPHONE AND FAX NUMBERS, GOODWILL, COMPUTER AND COMPUTER SOFTWARE, ETC.  
Business known as: MEDIC PHARMACY and is/are located at: 16900 BELLFLOWER BLVD., BELLFLOWER, CA 90706  
The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: JEAN ALLEN ESCROW CO, INC, 3341 CERRITOS AVENUE, LOS ALAMITOS, CA 90720 and the anticipated sale date is MARCH 25, 2025  
All other business name(s) and address(es) used by the seller(s)/transferor(s) within the past three years, as stated by the seller(s)/transferor(s), are: NONE  
Dated: FEBRUARY 20, 2025  
MANOJ B. PATEL, Buyer(s)  
ORD-3370535 LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 3/7/25





**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 **2:00 PM** on the **18th day of April 2025** Bids for:

ABC Bid # 1673 Leal Elementary 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. There will be a mandatory jobwalk meeting on March 10, 2025 at 9:00 AM sharp at the front of Administration building at Leal ES 12920 Droxford St., Cerritos. To prequalify to bid, bidders with contractor license class of C-4, C-7C-10, C-16, C-20, C-34, C-36, C-38, C-42, C-43 or C-46 must submit Prequalification package no later than April 3, 2025. Prequalification Package is available to enter and submit at the PQ Website <https://pqbids.com/abc-usd-ab2031/> 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

February 28, 2025  
March 7, 2025

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 2/28/25 and 3/7/25

**NOTICE OF SALE OF ABANDONED PROPERTY**

Notice is given pursuant to sections 21700-21713 of the Business and Professions Code, Section 2328 of the Commercial Code, Section 535 of the Penal Code. 1812.607, that Norwalk Self Storage at 11564 E. Firestone Blvd., Norwalk, CA 90650 intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a Lien imposed on said property. The undersigned will be sold at public auction conducted on [www.storage-treasures.com](http://www.storage-treasures.com) (bond #63747122) ending on or after Tuesday, March 18th, 2025, at 9:00AM.

**NAME**  
IRMA GRANDADOS A260  
MICHAEL STEVEN SILVA B661  
RENAE VIOLET STOVALL B700

**UNIT #**

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

Sales subject to prior cancellation in the event of settlement between Owner and obligated party. **Publication Dates: 02/28/25 & 03/07/25**

Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 2/28/25 and 3/7/25

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINIS-TER ESTATE OF:**

KATHRYN ELIZABETH JENSEN  
CASE NO. 25STPB01948

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contin-gent creditors, and persons who may other-wise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of KATHRYN ELIZABETH JENSEN.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JOHN ORRIS HOFF in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JOHN ORRIS HOFF be appointed as per-sonal 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 admin-ister the estate under the Independent Ad-ministration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court ap-proval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representa-tive will be required to give notice to inter-ested 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: 03/27/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 44 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the peti-tion, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objec-tions 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 knowl-edgeable 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 as-sets or of any petition or account as provid-ed in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner  
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2/28, 3/7, 3/14/25CNS-3899212# LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

**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 **2:00 PM** on the **16th day of April 2025** Bids for:

ABC Bid # 1675 Nixon Elementary 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. There will be a mandatory jobwalk meeting on March 10, 2025 at 1:00 PM sharp at the front of Administration building at Nixon ES 19600 Jacob Ave., Cerritos. To prequalify to bid, bidders with contractor license class of C-4, C-7C-10, C-16, C-20, C-34, C-36, C-38, C-42, C-43 or C-46 must submit Prequalification package no later than April 3, 2025. Prequalification Package is available to enter and submit at the PQ Website <https://pqbids.com/abc-usd-ab2031/> 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

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**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 **2:00 PM** on the **17th day of April 2025** Bids for:

ABC Bid # 1674 Carver Elementary School Modernization  
ABC Bid # 1675 Nixon Elementary 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. There will be a mandatory jobwalk meeting on March 10, 2025 at 11:00 AM sharp at the front of Administration building at Carver ES 19200 Ely St., Cerritos. To prequalify to bid, bidders with contractor license class of C-4, C-7C-10, C-16, C-20, C-34, C-36, C-38, C-42, C-43 or C-46 must submit Prequalification package no later than April 3, 2025. Prequalification Package is available to enter and submit at the PQ Website <https://pqbids.com/abc-usd-ab2031/> All public works are subject to prevailing wage payments, Valid License valid Class B Contractor's License and DIR Registration will be required.

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**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:**

MARGARET GREENBERG  
CASE NO. 25STPB01584

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the lost WILL or estate, or both of MARGARET GREENBERG.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by MATTHEW GREENBERG in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that MATTHEW GREENBERG be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's lost WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The lost 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: 03/14/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 79 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

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BSC 226422  
2/21, 2/28, 3/7/25  
CNS-3897245#  
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINIS-TER ESTATE OF:**

REFUGIO MUNGUIA AKA RUDY MUNGUIA  
CASE NO. 25STPB01754

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contin-gent creditors, and persons who may other-wise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of REFUGIO MUNGUIA AKA RUDY MUNGUIA.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by BARBARA J. GUADAGNI in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that BARBARA J. GUADAGNI be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to admin-ister the estate under the Independent Ad-ministration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court ap-proval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representa-tive will be required to give notice to inter-ested 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: 03/18/25 at 8:30AM in Dept. 44 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the peti-tion, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objec-tions 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 knowl-edgeable 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 as-sets or of any petition or account as provid-ed in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

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2/21, 2/28, 3/7/25  
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LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER  
2/21, 2/28, 3/7/25  
CNS-3897245#  
LA MIRADA LAMPLIGHTER 3282719-PP LOS CERRITOS COMMUNITY NEWS 2/21/25

**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 **2:00 PM** on the **8th day of April 2025** Bids for:

ABC Bid # 1672 Artesia High School Cafeteria

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. There will be a mandatory jobwalk meeting on March 12, 2025 at 8:30 AM sharp at the front of Administration building at Artesia HS 12108 Del Amo Blvd., Lakewood. All public works are subject to prevailing wage payments, Valid License valid Class B Contractor's License and DIR Registration will be required.

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**TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS**

VANESSA DE JESUS CHAIDEZ GARCIA AND CESAR OMAR BRAVO FOR ANDREA JULISSA BRAVO

CHAIDEZ filed a petition with this court for a decree changing name as follows: ANDREA JULISSA BRAVO

CHAIDEZ TO ANDREA JULISSA BRAVO. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter

appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name

should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection

that includes the reasons for the objection at least two days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must

appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed,

the court may grant a petition without a hearing. Court date 4/11/25, at the SUPERIOR COURT COUNTY OF

LOS ANGELES 12720 NORWALK BLVD. NORWALK, CA 90650. A HEARING will be held APRIL 11, 2025

at 9:30 am, Dept C ROOM 315. Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 2/14, 2/21, 2/28, 3/7/25 Case

number 25NWCP00067



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**PUZZLE ANSWER: MOTHERS**



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