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HMG-CN Exclusive-L.A. District Attorney Jackie Lacey Reflects On First Year

By Randy Economy and Brian Hews

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey has a sign hanging on the wall near her bathroom inside her office that reads: "Put On Your Big Girl Panties and Deal With It!"

The sign inspires her and in her words "reminds me of the huge responsibility the people and voters have entrusted me with as District Attorney."

Her election was historical. Lacey is the first female and first

person of color to be elected as the top criminal prosecutor of the famed department that has overseen trials of some of the biggest and more famous legal cases in US history.

Next month Lacey celebrates her first year in office.



District Attorney Jackie Lacey in her office in downtown Los Angeles. Photo by Randy Economy

Lacey granted her first in-depth interview about her first year in office last month with Hews Media Group-Community News. Lacey revealed in great detail how she has reshaped the office left by her predecessor District Attorney

Steve Cooley who held the position for 16 years.

"The transition was smooth. I need to thank Steve for his encouragement and bits of wisdom now and then. This is an awesome responsibility and so far, so good, knock on wood, we

are off to a great start," Lacey said.

Lacey was joined by Communications Director Jean Guccione in the interview with HMG-CN. Guccione has been a key part of Lacey's new team to help bring

See DISTRICT ATTORNEY page 7

Hawaiian Elementary Sponsors First Walk to School Day at ABC Unified School District



[l-r] Laurie Cordova, principal at Hawaiian Elementary, Hawaiian Gardens Mayor Victor Farfan, [center] Mayor pro tem Mike Gomez, Councilmen Barry Bruce and Reynaldo Rodriguez, and [far right] Matthew Gomez, Deputy, Senator Ron Calderon's office celebrate Walk to School Day with students.

By Brian Hews

Hundreds of students, parents, and teachers from Hawaiian Elementary participated in a Walk To School Day event this past Wednesday to remind the community about physical activity and the health benefits of walking. The event was designed to encourage parents and students to participate in fun walking

activities to promote a healthier lifestyle, and to address physical challenges such as childhood obesity, and asthma.

Students were accompanied by Hawaiian Principal Laurie Cordova, Hawaiian Gardens City Mayor Victor Farfan; Mayor Pro Tem Mike Gomez; Councilmembers Barry Bruce and Reynaldo

See WALK page 7

WRD Board President Ron Katherman Admits He Formed PAC to Influence Elections

By Randy Economy and Brian Hews

In an interview with Hews Media Group-Community Newspaper on Tuesday Rob Katherman, an elected member of the Water Replenishment Board of Directors, confirmed he was actively involved in a political action campaign committee who successfully helped elect two current members of the rival Central Basin Municipal Water District

back in 2012.

Katherman, said he helped start the "Coalition for Clean and Affordable Water" that raised campaign contributions and produced campaign materials that led to the successful election of former recalled Lynwood City Council member and Mayor Leticia Vasquez and James Roybal to the CBMWD Board of Direc-



See WRD page 7

Restaurant Incentive Program to Draw Businesses to Artesia

By Rico Dizon

A Restaurant Incentive Program for the City of Artesia that gives up to \$ 50,000 rebate in planning/building review and permit fees incurred by a newly-opened restaurant was recently approved by the City Council.

Developed and proposed by the City staff headed by Interim City Manager

See ARTESIA page 10

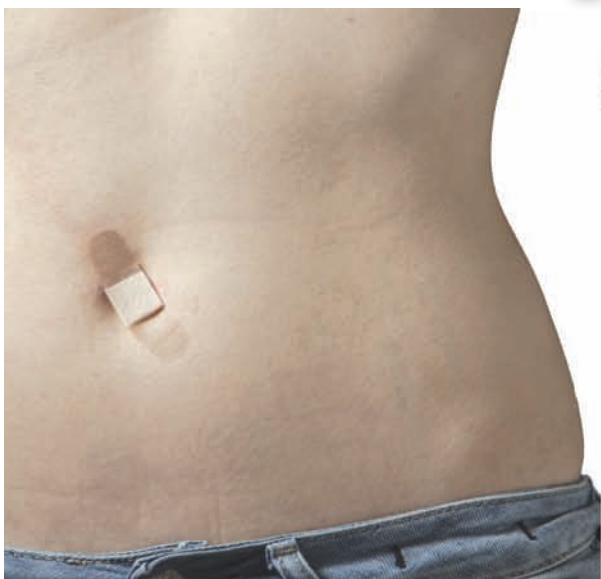
Daniel Fierro Drops ABC School Board Campaign

By Randy Economy

Candidate Daniel Fierro has halted his campaign for a seat on the ABC Unified School District Board of Education in spite of voters already casting early vote-by-mail ballots for the election that is scheduled on Tuesday, November 5.

Fierro, who had raised more than \$20,000 in campaign donations according to reports filed with the California Secretary of State, informed voters via email

See FIERRO page 10



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Artesia Historical Society Celebrates at 10th Annual Gala

By Randy Economy

The Artesia Historical Society held its 10th Annual Gala Dinner this past Saturday night attracting more than 100 celebrants including several local community leaders and longtime residents from both Artesia and Cerritos.

Called the “Last Days of Summer

for the Performing Arts, Aquarium of the Pacific, and the La Mirada Theater.

A “silent auction” also took place at the Gala. One of the most popular items that was sold for nearly \$400 was a “private dinner for eight people held inside the Old Artesia Fire Station and Historical Museum.”

Other silent auction items included four



Members of the Artesia Historical Society celebrate at the 10th Annual Gala held last weekend at the Albert O. Little Community Center. Seen are members Karen Morris, Michele Diaz, Betty Lou Ormonde, President Barbara Applebury and Veronica Bloomfield. Randy Economy Photo

Beach Party Bash,” attendees feasted on hors d’oeuvres and dined on a lavish dinner prepared locally by Vital Catering. The Gala was held at Artesia Park at the Albert O. Little Community Center.

Artesia Historical Society President Barbara Applebury greeted guest while the “Retro Station Band” entertained with a musical tribute to classic summer time tunes from groups and musicians such as the Beach Boys, Dick Dale, Jan and Dean and many others.

Throughout the evening dozens of raffle drawings were held that provided attendees to win meals at local restaurants, movie passes, tickets to the Cerritos Center

VIP tickets to see the LA Galaxy take on Chivas USA in soccer match in Carson.

The Artesia Historical Society also debuted its recently completed 2014 Calendar during the Gala. The colorful publication was made possible from key members Delores Eveland, Jenny Kubinski and Troy Kubinski.

Information about purchasing the calendars is available by calling Barbara Applebury at (562) 865-3107, or by visiting the Old Station 30 Firehouse or the Framp-ton/Dantema House at the Artesia Historical District at Alburdis and 187th Street on the second Saturday of each month from 1 to 3 p.m.

Wal-Mart Deliveries Continue to Violate Parking Laws



An angry Cerritos resident sent LCCN this picture of a delivery truck illegally parked behind Wal-Mart in the Cerritos Towne Center. “This happens all the time, nobody is enforcing the law. After I took the picture, I almost hit another car going around the truck, the city has to do something about this.” Name on file.

Niemes Elementary Hosts Community Garden Day on Saturday

By Kristin Grafft

Niemes Elementary School launches an innovative composting program with a

community garden day on Saturday, October 5.

The community is invited to join in with this ‘Gold

Award’ project as Celine Chen spearheads a new composting program at Niemes Elementary School with Ms. Melissa’s Garden Club and the Scout’s project.

Volunteers are encouraged to bring their work tools, gloves, hats and re-usable water bottles to help prune fruit trees, dig out weeds, harvest soil from compost bins and collect and save seeds.

The event will take place in the garden and nature center from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. and will include compost workshops. The address is 16715 Jersey Ave in Artesia.

Girlscout Troop 5623 will also be at the event to speak with interested students, parents, and community members about the benefits of composting. Boy Scout Troop 693 will also be on site building the

composting bins and helping out.

All volunteers will be provided with water and a light lunch.

Already considered a “green,” environmental science and technology magnet school, Chen is hopeful that this highly beneficial program will begin with the 6th grader, but will continue to spread to other grade levels as the program continues to grow.

Arts Colony of La Mirada Meeting

The Arts Colony of La Mirada will hold their next meeting on Monday, October 7 at 6:30 at the La Mirada Resource Center, 13700 La Mirada Blvd. Artist Jorge Valdes, originally from Cuba, will present a demonstration using acrylic medium. Mr. Valdes’ work reflects Caribbean color, light and culture. The demonstration is free to the art appreciating public.

This Colony is reflecting on 50 years of its existence and contribution to this community. Mr. Tom Cherry, Arts Colony President, accepted a proclamation of service from La Mirada at the City Council meeting on September 24. “The Mirrors of Your Mind” art show will be held at the Paxon Gallery located in the Norwalk Cultural Center, November 8 to 16, with a closing reception from 5:00 to 7:00. For further information check the website, www.acolm.com or call 562-941-4116, 562-245-7940, or 714-522-8157.

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La Palma-Cerritos AAUW Meeting

The La Palma-Cerritos American Association of University Women will be meeting on Thursday, October 17, 2013 from 6:30 p.m. till 8:30 p.m. at Cerritos Park East, 13234 166th Street in Cerritos. Guest Speaker, Alex Carballo, Information & Assistance Manager of the Orange County Office on Aging, will be presenting a Power Point Presentation about the SOAR Program, "Speakers on Older Adult Realities." There will be refreshments available at 6:30 p.m. followed by a brief business meeting.

For more information, contact Program Co-Chairs Christine Taxier at 714-828-7711 or Barbara Dunstan at 562-404-4762.

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Honda Rewards Local Cerritos Drivers With Free Gas

By Kristin Grafft

Look out Honda drivers, because free things could be coming your way, especially if you live in the Cerritos area and you are in the need of a full tank of gasoline.

Since 2007 Southern California Honda has changed the way they advertise through the “Helpful Honda Campaign.” Instead of billboards and commercials Honda is simply giving back to the community and rewarding Honda customers, and the campaign has focused in on different gas stations in and around Cerritos during the past few weeks.

“SoCal Honda is trying to change the perception of what a car dealer is,” said Alex Hill, one of the many iconic, blue-shirt-wearing, ‘helpful Honda people’.

The most recent ‘reward’ for Honda drivers was the “free gas” in these days of \$4 per gallon and higher. The helpful associates in blue showed up at three different gas stations in the Cerritos area on



Thursday, September 26 ready to pump out \$2,000 worth of gas into Honda vehicles.

Hill said it’s all about surprising the customer and rewarding them. “Especially today,” he said, “today is all about rewarding the Honda driver.”

Robert Aldemita had been following Honda on Twitter and has known about these events for a while. He said that he received free gas one other time and has been trying to get in on it again, but kept missing them at other locations.

“You guys gave me such a good morning! Thank you so much!” Aldemita said repeatedly as they filled up his gas tank.

In addition to giving away free gas, Southern California Honda also enjoys showing up to events, like Dodgers games, to surprise Honda drivers with free parking and the opportunity to win an upgraded seat through a raffle on twitter. They have also been known to give away LA Galaxy tickets.

However, Southern California Honda is also committed to rewarding and helping out the community at large.

Honda associates can be seen at homeless shelters, animal shelters, food drives, and blood drives.

They have even been found at UCLA helping new students move into their dorms, at the Fair picking up litter, at the Zoo handing out ice cream, and at grocery stores unloading purchases for unsuspecting shoppers.

Recently Southern California Honda has been “Helping the Helpful.” During the month of September they focused on firefighters by delivering complimentary lunches and other good deeds. In October they will be focusing on children’s hospitals.

“The program is constantly expanding because Honda sees that it’s working. It feels different working for Honda – I know that it’s still part of a marketing campaign, but if you’re going to be spending money on marketing it might as well be for a good cause,” Hill said.

La Palma Residents Celebrate 50th Wedding Anniversary



By Edna Ethington

Robert “Bob” Witkowski and his wife, Dora Diaz Witkowski, celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on September 21, 2013, at the home of their daughter, Lisa, and son-in-law, Mark Ethington in La Palma. The Witkowskis were married at the First Methodist Church in Hollywood on October 5, 1963. They have been residents of La Palma since 1965 and have been active in the local community with different groups. Bob Witkowski repre-

sented the City of La Palma and served on the Board of Directors of the La Palma Intercommunity Hospital for about ten years. He was recognized for his service as chairman of the Board from 1988 to 1992. Dora was active with the La Palma Methodist Church, she later joined the Crystal Cathedral Hispanic Ministry and has been active there for many years. Dora was also active in the past with Children’s Home Society in La Palma and the La Palma-Cerritos American Association of University Women.

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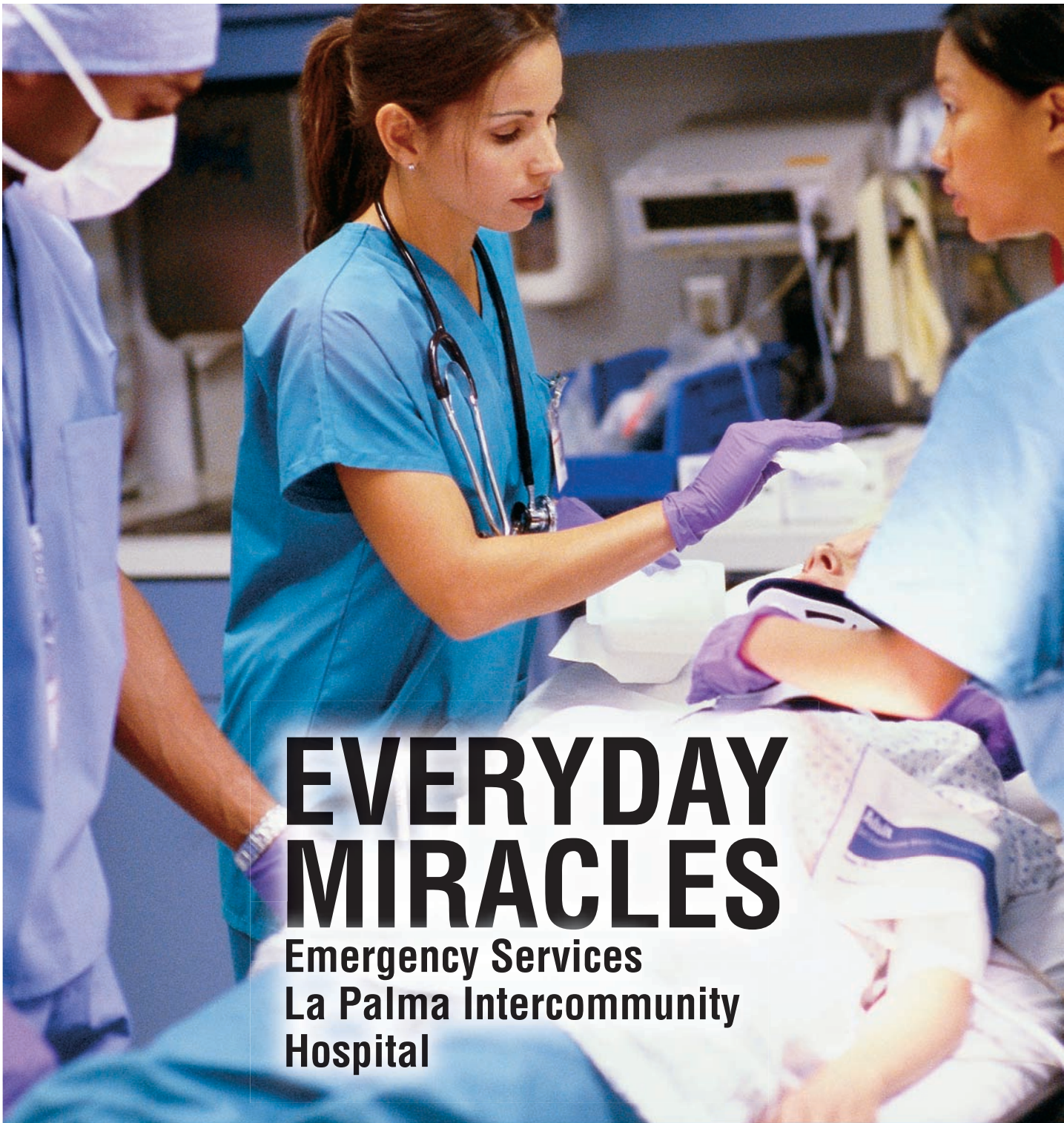
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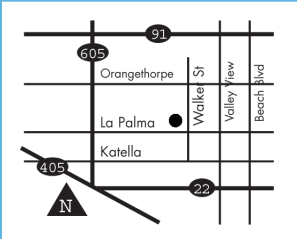
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LETTERS & OPINION

PUBLISHER'S CORNER

GOP Wanted Government Shutdown All Along

By Brian Hews



HMG-CN
Publisher
Brian Hews

When President Obama was elected in 2008, he came to Congress with a Democratically controlled Senate and House.

In those two years he passed Wall Street reform, credit card reform, student loan reform, healthcare reform-Obamacare, the Fair Pay act, the expanded G.I. Bill, reauthorization of the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), expanded the National Civilian Service Corps, passed the 911 First Responders bill, passed Don't Ask Don't Tell, bailed the auto industry out, passed a stimulus bill and enacted middle-class tax cuts.

But then in the midterms, for some unexplained reason, Republicans did really well and in 2010 took over the House.

And since then there has not been one single significant piece of legislation that has been enacted into law. Not one.

Zero legislative accomplishments. Why? Because the GOP has been otherwise occupied.

They were sworn in January 2011 and in April they threatened to shutdown the government.

By July 1, 2011, we saw the first ever

debt-ceiling crisis in American history leading to the first-ever downgrade of our credit status.

By September they were threatening the take us off the fiscal cliff.

In early 2012 they were attempting another shutdown.

By December they were trying to push us over the fiscal cliff again.

This past January congressional Republicans were again talking about the fiscal cliff before they backed down.

And now, at long last, they got what they always wanted, a government shutdown.

We are deep in year three and we've seen nothing from the GOP as far as laws getting passed but we have had seven fiscal cliff/shutdown showdowns and forty votes to try and repeal Obamacare.

And it's not a mistake; it's all been planned. Now that they got control of one half of the government they're shutting it down.

It's a decisive lack of respect for the government, it's a willingness to go to extremes. There are tapes of Michelle Bachman, Mike Pence and others calling for the shutdown of the government

The Republicans see the shutdown as 'great news.'

The New York Times reported House Republicans were "ecstatic" when they presented the shutdown plan, observing them leaving the House Chamber 'down-right giddy.'

These dysfunctional politicians have not passed any legislation into law since having control of the House but this is our seventh brush with the fiscal cliff and a shutdown

Which one do you think is more important to them? They wanted this all along.

Good Samaritans

Yesterday, on our way to an Angel's game we got a flat tire on La Mirada Blvd. between Santa Gertrudis and Alondra. For whatever reason we were unable to get two of the lug nuts off, and were forced to call AAA for assistance. As we were waiting for them to show up, we had 4 cars stop to ask if we needed help. Fortunately, one of the drivers had a tool that got the two stubborn lug nuts off, and a few minutes later we were on our way to the game.

So many times we hear how no one is willing to help. Yesterday, we had help in abundance. To the men who stop to help, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for being men of integrity. I have heard that La Mirada is consider the Courtesy Capital, and yesterday it was proven through the kindness of these 4 strangers.

Wanda Peterson, La Mirada

WEBSITE SUBMITTALS
Names on File

Re: WRD Director Influenced Elections

Dear Editor:

Why is the District Attorney allowing Lit' Al to feed off of two troughs? Politician should NOT be allowed to serve in two political offices within the same jurisdiction! Power should NEVER be allowed to accumulate and build in one person's hands. Corrupt con men like Albert Robles DON'T KNOW HOW TO DO GOOD THINGS WITH POWER. Jackie Lacey apparently is too weak to hold her office. Either that or she's "playing ball"? Where's Cooley when we need him?

Dear Editor:

Whoever said that Albert Robles of Carson is the ringleader of all these Water Replenishment District issues, could not have said it any better. Lil Albert(Carson) as we like to call him in South Gate (compared to Felon Big Al of South Gate) learned an awful lot from the Corrupt Politicians we had in 2001 here in South Gate. I went to most Court Proceedings involving South Gate and these guys just pass dishonest ideas around until one sticks. Thank you HEWS News.

Dear Editor:

Standard with the WRD. Why is it that all these small water districts are so corrupt. The ringleader on WRD seems to be Robles with the others following suit. It appears to be collusion in their attempt to influence the elections. There has got to be a felony in here somewhere. All the water agencies with their corruption will make the City of Bell look like pikers.

Dear Editor:

It seems as if it is a NEVER ending cycle of graft and corruption in the Central Basin Water District. I also wonder if all of the perps involved were democrats? Why do I ask? They seem to be the only ones state and nationally who will go any lengths to win elections legally or illegally! Now I see why my old democrat Assembly member Tony Mendoza wanted on to the board! MONEY-MONEY-MONEY and very little accountability.. right up his alley.

CRIME SUMMARIES

Cerritos

September 23-29

23 Part I felony investigations were conducted by members of the Cerritos Sheriff's Station last week, up by two cases from the last reporting period. Robberies, commercial/"other structure" burglaries, locker burglaries and vehicle thefts were up while residential burglaries and vehicle burglaries were down. Patrol deputies handled 292 calls for service, which is up from 271 the week before. The 2013 weekly average in calls for service is now 299.

After three weeks with no robberies reported, two were logged last week. On Wednesday September 25 at 7:32 p.m. a male suspect opened the door of a parked vehicle in the 10800 block of Alondra Boulevard and confronted the driver. The victim relinquished a small amount of cash and the suspect fled. At 4:30 on Thursday September 26 a male victim noticed two suspects stealing items from his work truck that had been parked in the 18000 block of Kensington Avenue. When the victim attempted to stop them, he was pepper-sprayed and the suspects drove away in a white vehicle.

Residential burglaries were down again from two to one last week. An unlocked sliding glass door allowed access and the loss was jewelry. The 2013 weekly average in residential burglaries is currently 4.1.

After two weeks with no commercial "other structure" burglaries reported, there were two investigated last week. Copper wire was stolen from a storage facility and an interior mailbox was breached at a post office. Nothing was taken.

The 2013 weekly average in "other structure"/commercial burglaries is 2.5.

One locker burglary was recorded. There had been no such incidents investigated the two previous weeks. A lock was removed and a wallet along with keys was taken.

Vehicle burglaries dropped from six the past two consecutive weeks to two last weeks. Two SUVs were targeted in high-volume commercial parking lots. A purse, a cell phone and credit cards were stolen. The new 2013 weekly average in vehicle burglaries is 6.3.

Vehicle thefts were up from six to eight. High-volume commercial parking lots were the locations in all eight and all of the stolen vehicles last week were Hondas manufactured in the early to mid -90's. The 2013 weekly average in vehicle thefts is now 4.4.

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BEFORE AFTER

CRIME SUMMARIES

La Mirada

Sept. 23 - Sept. 29, 2013

Aggravated Assault
A domestic assault was reported on the 15300 block of Loretta Dr. The suspect, who was the victim's significant other, attacked the victim while asleep. The incident is under investigation.

Residential Burglary
A burglary was reported on the 15500 block of Loretta Dr. Jewelry and electronics were stolen from the residence.

An incident occurred on the 12800 block of Colima Rd. It is unknown if any property was stolen.

Vehicle Burglary
A vehicle burglary was reported on the 14700 block of Artesia Blvd. Various tools were stolen from the vehicle.

Grand Theft
Four grand thefts were reported last week.

A theft of copper wiring was reported from a cell tower on the 16200 block of Alicante Rd.

A theft of a delivery package was reported on the 16000 block of Peppertree Ln.

Various jewelry was reported stolen from a residence on the 16500 block of Blackburn Dr. The incident remains under investigation.

A tablet computer was reported stolen from the 16700 block of Trojan Wy.

Grand Theft Vehicle
A vehicle was reported stolen from a commercial parking lot on the 14200 block of Firestone Blvd.

PIH Health Finalizes Acquisition of Downey Regional Medical Center

Hospital will be called PIH Health Hospital-Downey.

Whittier, Calif. (Oct. 1, 2013) – PIH Health announced today that it has officially acquired Downey Regional Medical Center (DRMC), now known as PIH Health Hospital - Downey.

The announcement follows a process that included PIH Health seeking and gaining approval from the Attorney General's office to include the Downey hospital in its integrated healthcare network. The two hospitals signed a Management Services Agreement months prior, opening the doors for an eventual partnership between the two mission-based nonprofit providers.

"This announcement is the culmination of the hard work of many and we are excited about the new possibilities that will result from the acquisition," said Brian Smolskis, Chief Operating Officer for PIH Health Hospital - Downey. "Throughout this process—from the moment we announced our Management Services Agreement with DRMC, to the Attorney General's approval of the transaction—our shared community, our employees, partners and physicians have supported this effort."

There will be a transition period, leaders said, for the operations to be coordinated and the name change to be fully implemented, with the installation of new signage and branded materials incorporating PIH Health Hospital - Downey into the healthcare network. A public open

house of the Downey campus is planned for early 2014.

Smolskis and James West, PIH Health President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), noted the significance of the new partnership in the wake of new strides in the healthcare reform implementation.

"October 1 is a significant date for PIH Health, as well in the history of healthcare," West said. "This is the day the Affordable Care Act signals the official opening of the public exchange market for insurance. We can think of no better way to commemorate this significant step than to officially welcome PIH Health Hospital - Downey into our regional healthcare delivery network, positioning PIH Health to meet the expanding needs of the communities we serve."

LBS Financial Donates \$2,000 to Children's Hospitals

LBS Financial Credit Union joined hundreds of other credit unions across the United States in support of Miracle Jeans Day on Wednesday, September 18, 2013.

For a donation of \$5 or more, LBS Financial employees traded their work attire for jeans and helped raise funds to be donated to Children's Miracle Network. Employee donations amounted to \$985 and in addition, the Credit Union added \$1,015 towards the cause. LBS Financial and its employees raised a total of \$2,000. Children's Miracle Network Hospitals treat

17 million children each year for every disease and condition - from asthma and broken bones to cancer and heart defects. Each year, Children's Miracle Network Hospitals adopt life-saving equipment, perform breakthrough research and provide more than \$2.5 billion in charitable care.

Since its inception in 2009, the program has raised over \$1.4 million. Last year was also a huge success—credit unions were the biggest supporter with over 600 participating and raising over \$300,000 for local Children Miracle Network Hospitals. Millions of children get treated at Children's Miracle Network regardless of their condition or ability to pay. Every dollar, every penny they receive from donations makes a difference.

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CANDIDATE'S FORUM
ABC Unified School District

The Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce will host the Candidates Forum for ABC Unified School District on October 9, 2013 from 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm.

Invited candidates include Olympia Chen, Daniel Fierro, Lynda Johnson, Ethan L. Robinson, and Soo Y. Yoo.

The event will be held at Cerritos City Hall in the City Council Chambers, 18125 Bloomfield Ave., Cerritos.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please contact the Cerritos Regional Chamber of Commerce at (562) 467-0800.

Ramoso Leads Fundraising in Bid for Artesia City Council

Melissa Ramoso, Democratic candidate for Artesia City Council, has gained a significant lead in fundraising over most of her opponents in seeking a seat in Artesia's City Council.

Ramoso, who just filed to run on August 16th, reported raising more than \$14,300 in the latest campaign finance report, according to documents filed with the Artesia City Clerk's office. She has close to three times more cash on hand than most of her opponents and appears to have gained considerable support in the race.

"This report shows Melissa's viability of being a strong and serious candi-

date," says Miguel Canales, Artesia City Council member. "Melissa would bring a new perspective and leadership to the council" he added.

"People are starting to get very excited about Melissa, and this report shows the real grassroots momentum that her campaign has right now," stated, Tony Mendoza, former Assembly member and Mayor of Artesia.

Voters in Artesia will make their decision on Election Day on November 5th.

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Tony Mendoza Earns Federation of Teachers Endorsement in '14 Senate Race

By Randy Economy

NORWALK, CA – Former California State Assemblyman Tony Mendoza announced on Tuesday that he has been endorsed by the California Federation of Teachers in his election bid for State Senate in 2014 in the 32nd District.



CFT is the California affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers and represents over 120,000 educational employees working at every level of the education system in California, from Head Start to the University of California.

“As a former legislator, Tony Mendoza fought passionately for better education, better textbooks for our kids, and better resources in our classrooms,” said Joshua Penchthalt, President of the California Federation of Teachers. “That’s because as a classroom teacher himself, Tony understands that California’s schools are the backbone of our state’s future. He’s fought to ensure that students all across California receive a good education and that teachers have the resources they need to succeed.”

Mendoza is facing a stiff challenge in the campaign from at least a half dozen other well known hopefuls including former Assemblywoman Sally Havice, Downey Mayor Mario Guerra, Cerritos College Trustee Sandra Salazar, Cerritos City Councilman Joseph Cho, Kevin Per-

ez-Allen, and possibly former Assemblyman Tom Calderon as well as Hacienda Heights school board member Jay Chen.

“As a classroom teacher, this endorsement means a great deal to me,” said Mendoza in a statement to Hews Media Group-Community Newspaper.

“Having the support of California’s classroom teachers demonstrates to voters in the 32nd Senate District that education is a paramount issue for me. I look forward to working with CFT in my campaign and once I am elected to the California State Senate.”

Mendoza said that he has also garnered the support of California’s Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom Torlakson.

Mendoza is a resident of Artesia and is a former elected member of the Artesia City Council before serving three two-

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Ju Percussion Group Brings the Rhythm of Taiwan to Cerritos

By Glen Creason

I may have been one of the few in a large crowd at the Performing Arts Center who did not know what to expect when the Ju Percussion Group took the stage over the weekend. Thirteen polished musicians assembled on an impressively decorated stage setting where I expected something like taiko drumming. Instead, I was treated to an amazing percussion concert that included the big drums but for the most part complimenting a variety of vibes, marimbas, bongos, congas, snare drums, Western drum kits, and all manner of hand manipulated instruments including painted fans that doubled as sticks and visual images. The Ju Percussion group creates a

thoroughly rehearsed and precision based sound that can reach thrilling heights and intimate nuances all in the same composition. There were no dull moments in this big show.

The musical choices were eclectic and sometimes brilliantly juxtaposed to give texture and a refreshing variety to the program. This included music from Okinawa, the Balkans, Africa, Spain, Brazil, the United States and Taiwan where most of the troupe calls home. They ranged from the deeply mystical “Izanagi” by Koji Sajorai to the sweetly swinging “Attraction 2” to the visually dazzling “Solar Myth”



by native son Chang, Chiung Ying. The second half contained even more surprising musical moods including the decidedly lounge-smooth “3 Epilogues,” the Flamenco flavored “Calienta” and the glow in the mesmerizing dark fantasy of “Short Circuits.” The final piece of the program, “Drumming Fest” returned to the traditional Chinese bass drums and proved a pulse quickener that hardly prepared the hall for the Chinese enhanced dreaminess of “Love Story for an encore.

Although every single musician in the bakers dozen here were accomplished and strong there were standout marimba performances throughout from the beautiful Dr. Pei Ching Wu; a wonderful strength and smiling energy from director Shih San Wu and a remarkable solo from assistant director Hong Chi Ho in “To the God of Rhythm.” Yet, even these remarkable talents stayed within the ensemble which found heights that only a group in harmony can find. That synergy drew a lengthy and standing ovation at evening’s end.

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La Mirada EMT Recognized for 20 Years of Service

By Rico Dizon

Douglas Carwile recently was recognized by the Board of Directors of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) for achieving 20 consecutive years as a Nationally Registered EMT.

The honoree is the son of Willard and Marilyn Carwile, of La Mirada.

This distinction, held by few EMTs, means Carwile has become a member of

an elite group having the most training in pre-hospital emergency medical care.

To maintain his status as a Nationally Registered EMT, Carwile completed, on a biennial basis, the most comprehensive recertification programs for Emergency Medical Technicians in America. He not only completed courses to refresh his fundamental knowledge and skills but also attended a minimum of two hours per month of additional continuing education courses to advance his knowledge on new lifesaving skills.

Joining the Air Force in 1979, Carwile served 4 years as a Security Specialist in the Philippines prior to cross-training into Para Rescue, a field in which a few highly motivated and trained graduates acquire specialized rescue skills. His “PJ” graduation class motto was “That Others May

Live.” Carwile’s Air Force career includes 13 years of overseas assignments. He served three times in Iraq – once during Desert Storm and twice during Desert Shield. He also worked with PJ’s worldwide during many U.S. shuttle launches. Retiring from the Air Force after 24 years, he was a reservist for two years, then was re-activated for three more years. From 2004 to the present, Carwile has been working as a Medic in the Middle East.

The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians serves as the national EMS certification organization by providing a valid, uniform process to assess the knowledge and skills required for competent practice by EMS professionals throughout their careers and by maintaining a registry of certification status.



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DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Continued from page 1

more transparency and assistance to the DA’s office.

“News is so instant, we are constantly monitoring the media to see what’s going on, there is no vacation away from this job,” Lacey said.

“It is always interesting to see that the presence of social media sites, blogs, web news sites, Twitter and Facebook posts feature activities happening within the DA’s office as they take place,” she said.

In the new reality hyper-local era, Lacey said that her office watches and use social media to see what other departments are doing within the massive county that also includes hundreds municipalities, school districts, water districts, college boards, and other elected bodies.

“Social media is a great tool, and we want to keep tuned in to what’s happening, while it is happening,” she said. “We are going to continue to use social media to inform the community of what we are doing, especially when we present local awards and hold other events.”

‘It’s a necessity that everyone has a Facebook page and that everyone Tweets,” she said, “and I am no exception.”

“I am most proud of the number of changes we have been able to implement in the first 10 months, especially in regards to investigating and prosecuting environmental crimes,” she said.

Lacey pointed to a wide swath of Southeast Los Angeles County including the industrial City of Vernon where her office is looking into the possible illegal manufacturing of batteries at a plant facility. She said that her office has already added new prosecutors who will be specially tackling “crimes against our environment.”

Lacey also confirmed in the interview that her office is working on details of prosecuting one of the largest retailers in Southern California for illegally disposing of medical waste products and that an announcement of possible prosecution in the case could take place as early as next week (the first week of October).

Lacey is also proud of the “leadership role” her office has taken on prisoner realignment due to the implementation of Assembly Bill 109 that shifts the responsibility from state officials to local county jurisdictions to deal with prisoners who are released back into the community due to overcrowded conditions in jails.

“The biggest challenge regarding realignment is figuring out accurate numbers, in other words, is crime going up, are we doing a better job than we have in the past?”

“Our office is taking the lead on this issue. We need to ask the question, are we better off having the state of California deal with prisoners or can we here at the county level do a better job?”

“The problem is recidivism, how many prisoners being released are committing crimes? We need to track that number to get an idea, and solve the problem, and we are doing that.”

Lacey also said that the closure of some local courthouses and the shifting of operating hours at other courts has created “a little bit of a strain on the DA’s operation.”

“Unfortunately, due to cutbacks and closures of some court houses, you are going to see cases take longer to going to trial. When a case ages, it diminishes the chance of getting a conviction. Witnesses can only remember back so far when it comes to specific details of a case, so we are concerned when a court room closes due to the economy,” Lacey

stressed. “How many times can you bring the same witness to testify in a case just because you don’t have a place for a trial due to the fact that we have less court rooms available to try cases?”

“For every change there is an unintended consequence,” Lacey said during the interview. “You just don’t change something and just hope that it happens, change takes work, lots of time and open mindedness.”

Lacey also highlighted a new program that specifically targets elder abuse. “We are warning our seniors about financial schemes, and not to fall for those,” she said. The DA’s office is also planning several community outreach meetings as well as a public service announcement that actually feature her mother. “If it can happen to the DA’s mom, it can happen to you,” is the theme of the campaign. “My own mother was a victim of a financial scam.

The office is also focusing in on “cyber crimes” and will be presenting awards to businesses that have helped catch suspects involved in credit card theft.

Lacey is also committed to stop the increase of cyber-bullying crimes that have grabbed headlines across the nation for the past several months. “It’s hard to prosecute Cyber-Bullying Crimes.

The DA said that she has been following the developments of the story of Cassidy Lynn Campbell a transgender student at Marina High School who was a candidate and won the title of “Homecoming Queen” at the Huntington Beach based campus.

Campbell, who was born biologically male but identifies as female took the crown just over a month after the state’s governor signed a law to aid transgender youth in public schools.

“It is an amazing story, because in this day and time, here she wins, it is a historic and incredible accomplishment and then to read all of the horrible comments being left on blogs and under articles in newspapers, it has brought out the worst in people,” Lacey said.

“The racist and homophobic comments are being left by people who do not have the courage to leave their own real names, so it shields them and it allows them to be just cruel and mean and not have any repercussions, so seeing this take place has disturbed me,” she said.

Asked if she plan to personally contact Campbell, Lacey quickly responded, “yes, I should call her. Talk about an inspiration to me. Cassidy has already changed the faces of many of our lives, she held her head up, she ran, and won.”

“I can’t imagine being a teenager and having to tell your parents, I don’t know about you but I was a nerd in high school. Parents need to love their children no matter what, there are enough people out there who will judge you, and I have two grown children, and I never want to be put in the position of having be someone who looks critically at their own lives,” Lacey said.

WALK
Continued from page 1

Rodriguez and city staff Linda Suniga, and Melissa Valdez.

The Walk to School event was co-sponsored by the Cities of Artesia, Cerritos, Hawaiian Gardens and the ABC Education Foundation.

Others who walked with the students include ABC Education Foundation Chair Sal Flores, representative with the Moskowitz Foundation, L.A. County Sheriffs and Kaiser Permanente staff, Dr. Karen Maples who answered questions about physical activity and health, Sheri

Bathurst, Kaiser Public Affairs Department, as well as Matthew Gomez from the office of State Senator Ronald Calderon who presented Hawaiian Elementary with the Certificate from the Senator.

According to the latest California Healthy Kids Survey, 20 percent of all 5th grade students in the ABC Unified School District said they had been diagnosed with asthma. Further, childhood obesity rates in the district are at 43 percent, slightly higher than the LA County average of 42 percent. This data and the fact that kids are less active is the reason why ABC Education Foundation, the fundraising and resource development arm for ABC Unified School District, along with various community agencies, is hosting Walk to School Day.

YCities, the school district, and local agencies work hard to operate in a collaborative model and Walk to School Day is a great example of our inter-agency collaboration, states Dr. Mary Sieu, ABCUSD superintendent. YThese environmental, programmatic, infrastructure and policy successes do not happen on their own but, with passionate people from all different agencies committed to promote healthier communities.

This year, ABC Unified School District will host four Walk to School Days: October 2 at Hawaiian Elementary, Hawaiian Gardens; October 9 at Leal Elementary, Cerritos; October 16 at Kennedy Elementary, Artesia and October 16 at Carmenita Middle School, Cerritos. YES Sports Inc., a nonprofit promoting pedestrian and bike safety and Kaiser Permanente will provide fun giveaways to students at the assemblies that will follow the Walk.

The ABC Education Foundation, founded in 2011, is dedicated to providing financial support and resources such as Walk to School Day to ABCUSD to ensure that every ABC student and every ABC school succeeds.

This was a wonderful event, said Terri Villa-McDowell who runs the ABC Education Foundation, “we look forward to the next Walk to School Day and hope even more people can join us.”

WRD
Continued from page 1

tors.

“I got involved with a group of people who wanted to unseat the incumbents at Central Basin Municipal Water District (in 2012) who were misbehaving,” he said.

Katherman said that he met with the officials inside Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Fuerer’s office about his involvement in the political action committee as well as his private consulting company called “Katherman Company.”

He said that he has divested his ownership in Katherman Co., which he claims amounted to around 35% of the total business. “My wife owns the balance of the company and she writes and signs the checks, all I do is hand the checks to my wife and she takes it from there,” Katherman said.

Katherman also admitted that he “helped start the Clean and Affordable Water Committee” and the treasurer of the political group is David Gould, who is considered one of the most influential campaign treasurers in the entire state. “David makes sure that we are legally compliant with all the Fair Political Practices Commission regulations,” he said.

Katherman said the he is “probably under the microscope now” with legal authorities, but did not say if he was under any type of formal criminal investigation.

“The public should be more interested in what is going on in these public water agencies, they are not interested enough,

this is why we started the Coalition of Clean and Affordable Water.”

Katherman said that former Pico Rivera Mayor Ron Bielke was involved in creating the group with him, and mentioned that convicted felon, Ricardo “Ric” Mayer, wasn’t really involved in starting the group, “but has been involved in many ways.”

Mayer donated \$13,000 to the coalition.

Also involved in the coalition is Angel Gonzalez, who is a local political advisor and commercial printer who recently made headlines after being appointed to a paid position as a Deputy to Compton Councilman Mario Galvan. Gonzalez himself has been the focal point of legal cases involving political corruption having been convicted of a past felony that eventually was plead down to a misdemeanor.

Katherman also had the “indirect support” and involvement of powerhouse municipal attorney Francisco Leal, who had previously represented several cities and agencies in Southeast Los Angeles County including the city of Huntington Park before being removed after a series of critical articles about his billing practices became the focal point of a series of articles by HMG-CN.

“We actively solicited donations. We wanted to get good government back into the office. Roybal and Vasquez had one big advantage, they were not the incumbents on the Board of Directors at the Central Basin Water District,” Katherman said.

Donations to the PAC also came from Mendoza for Central Basin, \$5,000; \$1500 from Kindel Gagen Public Affairs in L.A.; \$2500 from the L.A. Law firm of Harris and Associates; \$13,000 from Mayer; and \$7000 from Leal, \$3,000 of that from a company called Legislative Advocacy Group that has the same address as Leal.

Katherman was recently called out in a recent article by the LA Times about his company dealing with LA City Councilman Curran Price and the apparent conflict of interest.

Katherman told HMG-CN, “I think it is simply that a reporter noticed my former company’s name on an agenda item a couple of weeks ago at the (Los Angeles) city council, and he (the reporter) was shocked that someone would come from the private sector and come back into the public sector, so I was wondering if he (the reporter) thinks that there is some other reason why I am doing this (working for Councilman Curran Price).”

“You would have to ask (the reporter) what his motivation was. I mean he raises the question, is there a potential conflict of interest, and I think yes, there could be a conflict of interest, that’s why I recused myself. Those cases were in the past before I decided to come to work for Councilman Price,” he said.

Katherman said he could not “comment or speak on behalf of Councilman Price” as for what his reaction was regarding the lengthy article that appeared about him and his political dealings in the LA Times.

Katherman said that he is focused on economic development in the 9th District here in Los Angeles while working under Price. “I want to get people to come and invest in the 9th District, which is the poorest district in the city of Los Angeles.” He said that the median income of residents is around \$26,000 per year and one-third of the residents do not own an automobile.

Ask if he had concerns about being so closely associated with political figures who had controversial political pasts, Katherman responded, “We all make mistakes in life, I believe in redemption.”

“Seeking the truth is always a good thing. We don’t want to see people take over, get public contracts, and then get their cousins jobs in government,” he stressed



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Endorsements (partial list)

- Don Knabe-LA County Supervisor
Cristina Garcia-California Assemblywoman
ABC Federation of Teachers, California Association of Teachers
American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, California School Employees Association
Lynda Johnson, Maynard Law, Armin Reyes, Celia Spitzer, Sophia Tse-ABC School Board
Dr. Gary Smuts-Retired ABC School District Superintendent
Cynthia Corrales, Mae Lovgren - ABC Council PTA
- Dr. Bob Hughlett Bob Arthur, Dr. Shin Liu-Cerritos Community College Board
Dr. Victor Manalo, John Lyon, Miguel Canales-Artesia City Council
Bruce Barrows, Mark Pulido, George Ray-Cerritos City Council
Sherman Kappe, Gloria Kappe, Laura Lee, Paul Bowlen, Diana Needham, Jim Edwards-Former Cerritos Mayors
Victor Farfan, Mike Gomez, Michiko Oyama-Canada-Hawaiian Gardens City Council
Diane DuBois, Jeff Wood, Steve Croft-Lakewood City Council

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- Collaborated with ABC Federation of Teachers to improve student achievement
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FIERRO

Continued from page 1

late Tuesday night about his decision to drop out of the campaign.

Fierro said that he has decided to enter the Army National Guard and will no longer be a resident of the ABC Unified School District. State laws require that elected Governing Board Members to school and college district seats must reside within the district they are voted to represent.

Fierro is considered to be one of the front running candidates in next month’s campaign for three open seats on the ABC School Board. Incumbent school board members Olympia Chen and Lynda Johnson are running aggressive reelection efforts as are businesswoman Soo Yoo and Deputy City Attorney Ethan Robinson.

In the email, Fierro tells voters, “when they entered the United States, my grandparents settled in this community so their children would have the best possible education. My mother has taught high school math in ABC schools for 32 years, and my two siblings and I all graduated from ABC schools.”

“ABC is home. That long-term commitment to this community is why I chose to run for the Board of Education in the November 5th election, and I’ve been humbled by the overwhelming support I’ve received. To serve you on the Board

would be an honor,” he continued.

“Another honor I have is serving our country in the Army National Guard. In the last few days, I was informed of an assignment that would not allow me to reside in the ABC Unified School District for some time, and would not allow me to serve my full term, if elected,” he stressed.

“You deserve the best possible representation on your Board of Education because our children deserve the best our community can offer. In light of these new circumstances, I am suspending my campaign for the ABC Unified School District Board of Education, effective immediately. I will not continue to campaign knowing that I will not be able to serve the full term you have the right to expect. Although I am disappointed that I will not be able to continue this campaign, I am confident that this is the best decision for the district and my family,” he said.

“I owe a great deal of gratitude to my family, friends, and neighbors who have so generously given their support, time, and spirit. This community has a remarkable ability to select leaders worthy of the task, and I have no doubt the same will be true this November,” Fierro concluded.

Regina Ip, a spokesperson for the Los Angeles County Registrar of Voters Office told HMG-CN in a written statement that Fierro will still be on the ballot. “Daniel Fierro drops out but cannot withdraw because the deadline was August 9. His name will remain on ballot and votes will be counted. If he wins, he can take the post

or resign. If he resigns, the board can appoint someone or have an election to fill the seat.”

“As for the money he raised for his campaign, Fierro will have to either donate it or return it to those who contributed it to him. He will have to report what he does on California Fair Political Practices Commission forms by a deadline and submit it to our campaign finance section,” Ip said.

ARTESIA

Continued from page 1

William Rawlings, the program aims to attract dine-in restaurants (excluding fast food and bars) to set up operations in Artesia.

“It is a cost effective and mutually beneficial proposition that is expected to generate jobs and long term revenues that city residents have been asking for,” said Rawlings.

“I love the idea,” was the immediate reaction from Mayor Pro Tem Tony Lima.

The program’s focus is on national chains, and sit-down/dine in restaurants completed and ready for occupancy by Dec. 31, 2014. Under this program, the restaurant developer is required to show that the restaurant would generate enough sales and business license tax revenues to offset the reimbursed amount within

a maximum period of five years of operation. The city will also retain approval rights over the size, site location, restaurant brand/name/type, and development schedule. The restaurant developer would need to agree to maintain operation at the existing restaurant for no less than 10 years.

The rebated amount on the other hand, would be paid by the city over an equivalent time frame of 1 to 5 years.

Other benefits of the program include fast-tracking of the restaurant development and close assistance by an assigned city staff that would facilitate the project’s success.

Funding for this program was not included in the fiscal year 2013-2014 budget.

However, the program is expected to be self-funding through anticipated increased business license and tax revenues in future fiscal years.

Applicants must complete and file the application at City Hall. Applicant must attach a detailed business plan, proposed planning and development schedule, proofed conceptual site plan, and other documents or plans as requested by the City.

To be eligible under this program, the restaurant must qualify in type and use as outlined in the program copy of which is attached to application.

The City will conduct an analysis for each proposed restaurant, developer and operator. Upon approval, all proposed projects, d

evelopments/agreements granted benefits under the program must be brought to the City Council for consideration and final approval.

For more information about the Artesia Restaurant Incentive Program, please contact Pradeepkumar Elayath, Administrative Services Manager, at pelayath@cityofartesia.us.

Flowers Holds Campaign Tea Party in Artesia

By Rico Dizon

(Artesia) As part of her re-election campaign for the Artesia City Council, Mayor Sally Flowers' friends Steve and Lisa Diaz hosted a tea party for her and her supporters at Andy's Garden.

Among the guests were Cerritos Mayor or Bruce Burrows and Council Member



Artesia Mayor Sally Flowers at campaign event with a trio of visually impaired singers. Photo by Rico Dizon

Carol Chen, Norwalk Council Member Cheri Kelly, Cerritos College Board of Trustee Dr. Shin Liu and former Buena Park Mayor Patsy Marshall.

"I want to continue our moving forward to a more viable economy for Artesia," said Flowers who is now on her 4th term.

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WEEK FOUR FOOTBALL

Valley Christian's running game stymied in rivalry loss to Ontario Christian

By Loren Kopff

Through the first three games of the season, the strength of Valley Christian's offense had been its rushing game, averaging over 236 yards a game. But when the Crusaders hosted longtime rival Ontario Christian last Friday night, they were stopped dead in their tracks for the first 37 minutes.

V.C. was able to rush for 140 yards in the fourth quarter alone, but it was too little, too late as the Knights came away with a 23-7 victory. It was the 41st game in the 40th year (there were two games in the 1984 season) in what is dubbed "The Classic" with the Crusaders still owning a 26-14-1 mark. It was also the first experience of this rivalry for V.C. first-year head coach Woodie Grayson, who saw his team fall to 1-3.

"It's big," Grayson said. "Forty years of history and lots of stories. You have [former Valley Christian head] coach [Mike] Wunderley who came here and talked to the guys and explained to them a little about the rivalry. It was great to see the size of the crowd and to hear all of the guys coming back and talking about it.

It's a very big deal and I'm glad to finally get my feet wet in it and I look forward to doing it again next year."

The Knights began the game on an 11-play, 84-yard drive that lasted just over four minutes and ended with a five-yard touchdown run from Josh Bayliss. Despite the Crusaders going three and out twice in the opening quarter, the game was still within reach for the hosts, even after Brandon Hatfield booted a 42-yard field goal early in the second quarter. V.C. trailed 10-0 at the half but punted on all five possessions, gained only 33 yards, all through the air, and did not get past its own 38-yard line.

"They did a great job up front and controlling the line of scrimmage," Grayson said. "We just couldn't get it started and that forced us to the air a little bit. My hat's off to [Ontario Christian]. They did a great job of just playing well up front. They won the game in the trenches."



Valley Christian junior running back Jonathan Nicholson looks for open space on one of his nine carries last Friday night against Ontario Christian. Nicholson is second on the team with 365 rushing yards and leads the team with five rushing touchdowns. PHOTO BY ARMANDO VARGAS

The game began to get out of reach for the Crusaders in the third quarter when Hatfield connected on another field goal, this one from 27 yards out, after the Crusaders punted for the sixth straight time. Then after a 12-yard completion to sophomore wide receiver Trent Berkenkamp, junior quarterback Jack Struiksma was picked off by Bryan Zarate. That turnover would eventually lead to a Bayliss five-yard score with 4:03 left in the third quarter and the Knights increased their margin to 20-0.

It was at this point that the Crusaders were in jeopardy of being blanked by the Knights for the fourth time in the rivalry and first since 1993. V.C. reached its 38-yard line late in the stanza after a six-yard reception from junior wide receiver Aaron Kirchner. But the hosts would be forced to punt again early in the fourth quarter.

Entering the fourth quarter, the Cru-

saders had 72 yards passing and just two yards on the ground. Hatfield booted another field goal with 10:38 left in the game before V.C.'s ground game finally woke up. On the sixth play of the ensuing drive, senior running back Adam Range gained eight yards to move the team to its 40-yard line, the farthest to that point it had advanced. A fumble at the six-yard line ended that drive but the Crusaders had one more chance.

With the ball at its own 11-yard line and 91 seconds left in the game, Range busted loose for a 56-yard run, followed by a 17-yard gain. Then with 48.6 seconds remaining, Struiksma hooked up with junior tight end Kyle Westra for a 16-yard score.

"In a normal game, you play the two's," Grayson said. "In a rivalry game, you don't get shutout. It's that simple. We were determined to get something going and put something on the board just because of the rivalry."

Range ended with 112 yards on nine carries while Struiksma was 11 of 29 for 92 yards. Westra also led the defense with eight tackles. V.C. will visit St. Anthony tonight at Clark Field. The Saints (3-1) are the fourth-ranked team in the California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section Northeast Division top 10 poll.

"It's not going to get easier," Grayson said. "Next week we play an athletic St. Anthony team. I think what we learned is that we can't be one dimensional. We have to mix it up and keep teams off-balanced offensively."

SUBURBAN LEAGUE GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

John Glenn makes change, storms back to knock off Artesia

By Loren Kopff

Through the first month of the 2013 season, it had been very frustrating for Micah Burpo and David Cruz, the head coaches of the Artesia and John Glenn girls volleyball teams respectively. But when they faced each other in Suburban League action last Thursday, someone came away even more frustrated.

That happened to Burpo as he witnessed a potential victory slip away late as the host Lady Eagles rallied for a 23-25, 22-25, 25-14, 25-23, 15-6 victory. It

was only the second win of the season to that point for Glenn and it came without its top hitter. During warm-ups, junior outside hitter Leslie Larranaga rolled her left ankle and had to be helped off the court. She spent the entire match on the sidelines nursing her ankle and her playing status for the upcoming weeks was uncertain at the time.

With Larranaga out of the lineup, Artesia took advantage of Glenn's sloppy play early on as the Lady Eagles had nine kills in the first set and eight more in the second set to account for 17 of the 45 points scored. At the same time, the Lady Eagles served into the net or served long nine times.

Artesia was also getting points from its serving as five different players combined for 14 aces in the first two sets and senior middle blocker Daisy Briseno pounded down 11 of her team's

20 kills including a power kill straight in the middle of Glenn's defense to end the second set.

"There was a lot of confusion just because they were out of position," Cruz said. "Watching our number one hitter sitting on the bench with that sprained ankle, my daughter, Nicole, playing middle for the first time, [junior middle blocker] Zahory [Ramirez] playing outside...we had a bunch of confusion. They weren't sure of the lineup. They weren't sure how to rotate."

"All of it was pretty sloppy," Burpo said of his team's performance. "Serve receive passing was very sloppy. The setting was extremely sloppy. There were a lot of double [hits]."

It was at that time Cruz made a few changes and the hosts began to build

[See VOLLEYBALL page 12]

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VOLLEYBALL
Continued from page 11

momentum. Cruz moved junior libero Kashmir Davies to outside middle back and Ramirez back to middle blocker. The move paid off as Glenn raced to a 10-2 lead in the third set. The lead grew to 16-7 after a Ramirez kill and 24-10 following a block from senior middle blocker Myra Gomez.

“I think that settled down the team,” Cruz said. “Putting people in their original positions and just having one person out of position really settled us down. It allowed us to focus on what we can do best.”

Glenn was on its way to put the fourth set away early with a 10-5 lead but a kill from junior outside hitter Martina Kim gave Briseno the serve where she promptly posted three straight aces. Eventually, Artesia built a 21-13 lead on the strength of a block from Briseno and three straight kills from the power hitter.

However, the Pioneers had a mental lapse and Glenn forged back in a big way. Gomez had a kill and two straight aces to make it 21-17. Later on, Davies had an ace, followed by a delay of game point

against Burpo, a block from Ramirez off of Briseno and another kill from Ramirez.

“I gave them an instruction and it was very simple,” Burpo said. “At that point in the match, Glenn was weak at right back defensively and I gave them very clear instructions on how to get the side out and they couldn’t do it. All we had to do was put the ball to deep right back and the match was over and we couldn’t do that.”

Artesia was never the same in the fifth set as consecutive kills from Davies put Glenn up 4-1. Then with the Lady Eagles clinging to a 7-5 lead, Artesia was called for a double hit violation and Davies served six straight points, including four more aces to give her team a second straight five-set home victory over Artesia. Glenn has now won 14 of the last 16 home meetings with Artesia.

Gomez and Ramirez led Glenn with nine kills each while Davies and sophomore opposite hitter Stephanie Lemus both added seven kills. Davies also put down 12 aces while sophomore setter Chanel Villegas pitched in with 10 more aces. Briseno led everyone with 24 kills.

“There’s a huge lack of experience,” Burpo said. “So when things are tough, we’re falling apart real easy. In the long term, I want to be a little tougher on them now to make them stronger later. It may affect a few points here and there. It was just an emotional breakdown.”

Artesia, which was swept by Norwalk this past Tuesday to fall to 1-6 overall and 0-3 in league, will visit Mayfair on Tuesday and host Bellflower on Thursday while Glenn is home to Cerritos on Tuesday. Glenn went 3-4 in the Whittier Tournament last weekend before losing to Bellflower in three sets this past Tuesday. The Lady Eagles fell to 5-12 overall and 1-2 in league.

NEWS AND NOTES FROM PRESS ROW

Norwalk opens Suburban League action with emphatic victory over Cerritos

By Loren Kopff



HMG-CN Sports Editor Loren Kopff rushed for 254 yards and needed only 26 plays to whitewash Cerritos 56-0 last Thursday night at Hanford Rants Stadium.

Norwalk (5-0 overall, 1-0 in league) remained the top ranked team in the California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section’s Southeast Division for the fourth week in a row. The second half was played under a running clock as the Lancers built a 42-0 halftime lead.

Norwalk had the ball for less than two minutes in the first quarter but had a 21-0 lead as senior wingback Rashaad Penny caught a 43-yard touchdown pass from junior quarterback Jacob Carr and senior fullback Xavier Fuery scored on a 22-yard run within the first five plays. Later in the stanza, Carr returned a punt 53 yards for the third score of the night.

Penny would score twice on Norwalk’s first three plays in the second quarter, a 48-yard run 16 seconds in and a six-yard run almost three minutes later. Sophomore Chris Walker got into the action with 2:58 left in the half as he went in from 15 yards out. The last two scores of the game came on a Penny 28-yard run early in the third quarter and an eight-yard run from junior wingback Ryan McDowell shortly before the end of the third quarter.

Penny had 115 yards on six carries while Fuery added 64 yards on four rushes. The Lancers have now rushed for 1,710 yards with Penny leading the way with 641 yards on 53 touches. McDowell paced the defense, which posted its second straight shutout, with six and a half tackles. The Lancers, who are idle tonight, have allowed 31 points this season.

Cerritos senior running back LaMarr Crowder led the Dons (1-3, 0-1) with 65 yards on 17 carries. Cerritos will visit Artesia tonight in the third and final ABC Unified School District game.

In other area football action, Artesia fell to Mayfair 44-33 in its Suburban

League opener last Friday night as the Monsoons erupted for 20 fourth quarter points. The Pioneers (3-2, 0-1) are still on pace for their best record since 2008, the last time they reached the playoffs. Gahr (2-3) dropped a 43-14 decision to La Habra and will be off tonight before opening San Gabriel Valley League action on Thursday against Warren. After taking a week off, the 0-4 John Glenn Eagles will host La Mirada tonight.

VOLLEYBALL

Five days after a huge road win at Downey, Cerritos couldn’t keep the momentum going at home as the Lady Dons lost their first Suburban League match this past Tuesday. La Mirada defeated Cerritos 25-17, 21-25, 25-23, 25-20. The Lady Dons (5-7, 1-1) hosted Norwalk on Oct. 3 and will visit Glenn on Tuesday and Mayfair on Thursday. After nine days off, Gahr didn’t skip a beat as it swept Santa Fe 25-20, 28-26, 25-17 this past Tuesday. The Gladiators (5-10) opened up San Gabriel Valley League play on Oct. 3 with a home match against Warren and will visit Paramount on Tuesday before coming home two days later to face defending league champion Downey.

The hottest team in the area remains Valley Christian, which swept Fairmont Prep 25-11, 25-11, 25-13 this past Tuesday to improve to 14-3. The Lady Crusaders began Olympic League action on Oct. 3 with a road match at Maranatha and will visit Village Christian on Tuesday before hosting Heritage Christian on Thursday.

CROSS COUNTRY

Cerritos completed a sweep in the first Suburban League cluster meet last Thursday at Cerritos Regional Park as the boys easily ran past the competition while the girls held on against perennial power La Mirada. On the boys side, the Dons picked up 23 points led by seniors Joshua Quarles (16:39), Jonathan Carranza (16:54) and Shrineel Patel (16:58) who finished in second, third and fourth place respectively. For added measure, freshman Bill Chuang came in fifth place with a time of 17:03. Norwalk came in second place with 70 points as junior Christian Perez was the team’s top runner at 17:10.

Although La Mirada sophomore Samantha Huerta finished first with a time of 20:00, the Cerritos girls still won the meet with 41 points. La Mirada came in second with 53 points and Norwalk picked up 57 points. The Lady Lancers were led by sophomore Jennifer Osorio-Melendez, who finished in second with a time of 20:23. The top Cerritos was sophomore Amanda Atilano, who placed fourth with a time of 21:03.

The next league cluster meet will be on Thursday at La Mirada Regional Park.


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