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Tierra Luna Marketplace Stirs Conversations From All Sides

By Tammye McDuff

"I like history, and here in Downey we have so much of it" Mayor Guerra boasts about the controversial Tierra Luna Marketplace.

This particular building plan has caused much concern amid local historians. When posing this statement to the Mayor he replied "Do you want to have big empty buildings just to say they are historic? Or is there a better way to still preserve the history while reusing and re-adapting the space to incorporate all the historical elements of the original site?"

See **TERRA LUNA** page 8

Death of Downey High School Football Player Dodi Soza Saddens Team, Community

By Tammye McDuff



Students gather for Candlelight Vigil for Dodi this past week. He was running to the end zone when he fell on the field mid-run and could not be resuscitated. Firefighters were immediately on site, and reported Soza not breathing.

Downey High School is in deep mourning with the passing of Dodi Soza, 16-year-old running back just one week ago.

After scoring a major touchdown for the Downey High School Junior Varsity football team, Dodi collapsed.

He was running to the end zone when he apparently fell on the field mid-run and could not be resuscitated. Firefighters were immediately on site, and reported Soza not breathing.

Paramedics arrived shortly thereafter and rushed Soza to nearby St. Francis Medical Center. He was later transferred to Long Beach Memorial Hospital, where he was listed in critical condition.

Downey Unified School District, teammates, several of his teachers and board

See **DODI** page 8

California Controller Chiang: Cerritos Must Return \$170 Million in City Assets

HE SAYS LITIGATION IS
OVER, CITY MUST RETURN
ASSETS TO STATE.

By Randy Economy and Brian Hews

California Controller John Chiang told Hews Media Group-Community Newspaper in a statement on Monday that Cerritos city officials must comply with a ruling that demands that more than \$170 million in municipal assets be transferred to state coffers as a result of the elimination of redevelopment agencies in the state more than two years ago.

HMG-CN requested that Chiang respond to a statement that was issued by Cerritos Mayor Bruce Barrows and other top city officials last week that blasted state officials over the final ruling.



In the ruling Chiang told the newspaper through spokesman Jacob Roper that "more than two years ago, at a time when severe budget shortfalls forced difficult choices between competing programs, lawmakers (with sign-off from the Supreme Court) put schools, public safety, healthcare and other local services ahead of redevelopment."

The Controller's office also stated: "Moving away from a long-time dependence on redevelopment and now sharing those funds has been a difficult transition for many cities. While we appreciate their frustration, the Legislature and the courts have made it clear that redevelopment assets must be used to pay off the RDA debts and support other community services."

"Once the assets have been returned to the locally-appointed oversight board,

See **CERRITOS** page 9

Cerritos Mayor Barrows: 'The Worst That Could Happen is Bankruptcy'

By Randy Economy and Brian Hews

In a stunning omission, Cerritos Mayor Bruce Barrows told a daily newspaper in an interview on Thursday that the once fiscally successful municipality could be heading to bankruptcy after a stunning ruling by the California State Controller's Office was handed down this past Monday.

"The worst that could happen is that we go bankrupt," Barrows said in an interview Thursday to the newspaper.

Hews Media Group-Community Newspaper was the first media outlet in California to break the details of the staggering ruling handed down by State Controller John Chiang on Monday.

The Controller's office told HMG-CN that they have the legal right to demand

that Cerritos put all properties back into redevelopment agency and that no further litigation by the city can brought under state law.

Barrows and Cerritos officials said in a statement on Friday that "The City of Cerritos strongly disagrees with the findings of the Cerritos Redevelopment Agency Asset

Transfer Review Report issued by the State Controller's Office and will be pursuing litigation to protect the community's assets."

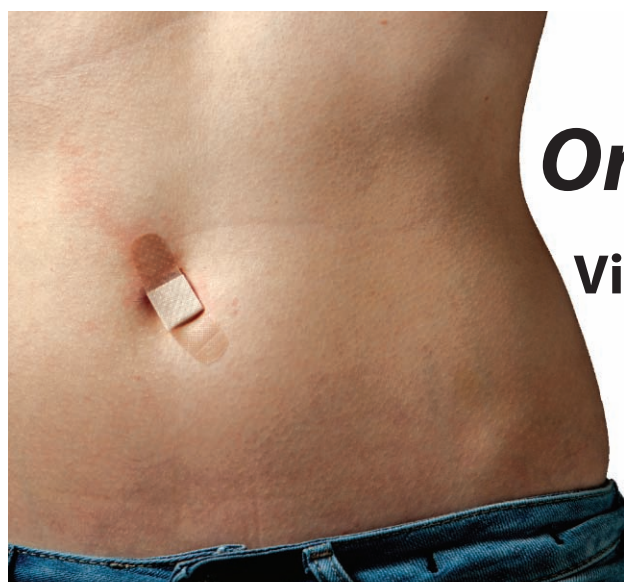
Jason Roper a spokesperson with the Controller's office in Sacramento said that he was "unaware" of the press statement issued by Cerritos officials on Friday. HMG-CN forwarded a copy of the

press release and is awaiting an official response from Roper and the Controller's

See **BARROWS** page 9



Cerritos Mayor Bruce Barrows indicated that bankruptcy was an option for the city.



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Ironwood Women’s Golf Club Raises Over \$700 for Breast Cancer Awareness



The Cerritos Ironwood Women's Golf Club held the 1st Annual Angel Rally on Oct. 15th in support of a local organization called The Breast Cancer Angels. The Ladies of Ironwood proved once again to be a very special group of women. Together the club raised \$720 to be used towards helping women in treatment with breast cancer. Featured in the photo is Faye Dietiker, Director and Caitlin Cutt, Marketing Director. They are a wonderful non-profit group out of Los Alamitos, California. Congratulations to the Ironwood Women's Golf Club

EVALYNN ALU: A SOLO EXHIBITION

October 15 - November 29, 2013

BUENA PARK - The City of Buena Park Cultural and Fine Arts Division proudly presents a solo exhibition by artist Evalynn Alu, showing October 15 through November 29, 2013 in Buena

Park City Hall Council Chamber. Alu’s work reflects her curiosity and emotional thoughts about the universe, the earth, and the forces that are forever in action. The gallery is open to the public during regular business hours, Monday through Thursday 7:30 a.m. through 5:30 p.m.and is located at City Hall, 6650 Beach Blvd., Buena Park 90621. Guests are encouraged to call the Fine Arts office at (714) 562-3868 in advance to confirm viewing accessibility.

Tetzlaff Middle School Among 18 SpringBoard National Demonstration Schools Selected by the College Board

ABC Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Mary Sieu is pleased to announce that Tetzlaff Middle School in Cerritos has been selected as a National Demonstration School by the College Board for 2013-15. It is the only school in California selected as a National Demonstration School. Tetzlaff MS was selected because of the outstanding practices of teachers and administrators during the implementation of the SpringBoard Program. There were 18 schools selected nationally by the College Board as a National Demonstration School. SpringBoard is the College Board’s college readiness program in English language arts and Mathematics. A research based program, SpringBoard is a pre-Advanced Placement Program that increases participation and prepares a greater diversity of students for success in AP and college by providing culturally and personally relevant activities designed to engage students in problem solving and critical analysis. Tetzlaff MS has implemented the SpringBoard Program for over two years and has received ongoing professional development. Since its implementation, the school’s Academic Performance Index has risen significantly. In addition, Tetzlaff MS was honored as a California Distinguished School for 2013-17. According to Pamela Nelson, Vice

President and General Manager of SpringBoard at the College Board, “These 18 National Demonstration Schools were chosen because they have established high quality implementation leading to academic success for all students.” Each school produced a brief video featuring student, teacher and administrator interviews that highlight the benefits and success achieved. Additional evaluation criteria included classroom visits, student and staff interviews as well as portfolio review by the SpringBoard National Demonstration School site selection team. Tetzlaff Middle School will be recognized at the November 6th Board of Education Meeting by College Board as well as during the “Spotlight on Teaching and Learning” segment.

Gahr High AVID Program Receives \$1K From Retired Teachers Association

By Randy Economy

Richard Gahr High School in Cerritos was gifted \$1,000 from representatives of the California Retired Teachers Association, Area X, Division 3for the campuses Advancement Via Individual Determination Program. Principal Gina Zietlow was presented the check by three former ABC Unified School District Teachers including Mary Slattery, Toni Tawzer and Shirley McKinney. In 1980, Mary Catherine Swanson,

[See **AVID** page 5]

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“Can 30 Minutes A Day Keep The Doctor Away?”
Learn how staying active throughout life may also prevent disease.
Interpreted in Spanish & Korean

Speaker: PIH Health Family Practice Physician
Date: Friday, Oct. 18
Time: 10 am
Location: La Mirada Activity Center
Address: 13810 La Mirada Blvd. La Mirada, CA 90638

“Eyes For All Ages”
Keeping your eyes healthy for a lifetime.
Interpreted in Spanish & Mandarin

Speaker: PIH Health Optometrist
Date: Wednesday, Oct. 23
Time: 10 am
Location: Barbara J. Riley Senior Center
Address: 7810 Quill Dr. Downey, CA 90242

“Not All Coughs Are The Same”
Learn about symptoms, preventions and treatments of the common cold, flu and pneumonia.
Interpreted in Spanish & Mandarin

Speaker: PIH Health Internal Medicine Physician
Date: Tuesday, Oct. 29
Time: 10 am
Location: Norwalk Arts & Sports Complex, Hargitt Room
Address: 13000 Clarkdale Ave. Norwalk, CA 90650

Death of Bellflower Man Turns into ‘Nightmare’ for Family Dealing With Mortuary

By Randy Economy

For Evelyn Hileman of Bellflower, the recent passing of her beloved father Mi-



Evelyn Hileman holds picture of her father, Michael Henry Gregory-

chael Henry Gregory-even at the age of 80-was a “sudden shock” to her and her family.

“My dad was the rock of our family, a real loving kind man who would help anyone at any time in need. He was a kind soul,” Hileman said in a recent interview with Hews Media Group – Community News. Gregory passed away on September 13 after a short bout with cancer. “He was full of life and literally within a couple of months had taken ill and passed away,” Hileman said.

Gregory had purchased a “Pre-Planned Funeral Package” through Luyben Family-Dilday-Mottel Mortuary who has offices

located in the city of Long Beach. Hileman’s grief was short lived and said the day of her father’s funeral turned into a literal nightmare. After arriving at the memorial service on September 20th before 11 a.m., Hileman said that a funeral director had told her that “the cemetery says you have an unpaid bill and we need \$1,250 before we can conduct the burial.”“I tell her no problem and I go sit down in the front row,” Hileman said. With the service now underway, Hileman said the employee walked over to her while the pastor was conducting the service and handed her a bright yellow note that read: “Per: Forest Lawn. Fees need to be paid before service.” Hileman said she was “stunned” by the note. “I had paid them more than \$10,000 the day before, and I was not told about a remaining outstanding balance of \$1,250,” she said. Hileman said that she informed the employee that the credit card was at home. “The employee literally stood there in front of me until I told her that I will go home and get the credit card.” Hileman then said her husband left the service and went home to retrieve the credit card. “It was surreal, stunning, everything was like in slow motion,” she said. Hellman said after her husband returned with the credit card in his possession, funeral staff members would not process the card because the name of the card was in Gregory’s name, even though she contends that she was a co-signer on the account. “The day before, they gladly accepted the card and our money, and charged me \$10,000 but the next day they didn’t accept the same card,” she said. “They said they don’t take credit cards from the deceased, and I tried to explain that I am on his bank account and that I am to Executor of his Estate,” Hileman said. While all of this was taking place, Hileman said that the Pastor had concluded his

graveside service and a Military Honor Guard had unfolded the American flag and had refolded it, and that 20 white doves had been released and the service was over. “We are walking out to our cars and here comes my husband. He tells me they want me to go home and get a check and come back and pay them or they are going to take my dad’s body back to the mortuary and bury him at a later time,” Hileman told HMG-CN. “Can you believe this?” Hileman said. “So not only was I hurting from my dad’s death but now I am hurting for my husband for having missed the funeral completely,” Hileman said. HMG-CN contacted Luyben Mortuary for a comment on the situation and said in a written statement: “as a matter of policy do not discuss these matters outside of the contents of the family involved in the situation,” McDunn said.



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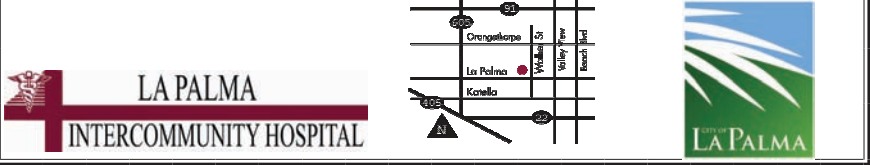
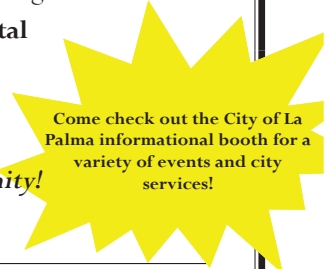
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I humbly ask you to vote for me as your #1 choice for Artesia City Council on Tuesday, November 5, 2013.

Sincerely,
Ali S. Taj
Ali S. Taj

Phone: (562)450-3214 Cell: (949)836-7107
Email: ali4artesia@gmail.com
Campaign I.D. #1358275
website: www.taj4artesia.com

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READERS SOUND OFF ON REDEVELOPMENT ISSUE

Dear Editor:

Maybe next time when a community group such as United HOA, presents to the council the idea that maybe sinking re-development money in to long term projects might not be such a great idea since redevelopment money may be fleeting due to the ups and downs of the state and national economies, the brain trust on the council might consider listening. But hey, the elitists on the council don’t really care since the worst that can happen is “we go bankrupt” with the taxpayers money. Does that mean that the mayor and his minions might miss out on lifetime healthcare? Heaven forbid! To paraphrase Margaret Thatcher, “The problem with the Cerritos City Council is that they will eventually run out of other people’s money to spend”. Is the city name of “Bell” taken?

John Transue
Cerritos

Mr. Doug Kellam

I am curious. You conveniently suggested an agenda for one long time Cerritos resident. However, no matter what one thinks of the city’s handling of all of this it is the BIGGEST news story to in this city in two decades.

I say this because NO WHERE is there any mention of this \$200,000,000 loss on the Cerritos-Artesia Patch. However, there is an article on what movies are playing in Cerritos.

If you want to suggest an agenda, Mr. Kellam, look in the obvious places and please don’t try to deflect from the story at hand.

Thank you Hews Media Group for reporting the News that matters to residents!

Submitted online at loscerritosnews.net

Dear Editor:

Where was the leadership?

For years the world traveling mayor and city council have justified their extravagant travel solely on the basis that their ability to to do so improves their ability to govern.

They have justified the high cost of countless seminars, retreats, organizational memberships as a way to be “in the know” and help influence public policy for the betterment of Cerritos.

They bragged and photo op’d with countless state, local and federal officials. At our expense, of course.

For the millions this city has spent to send our city council, committees and commission members around the world is what it all comes down to – Bankruptcy? We the families of Cerritos deserve and DEMAND better. To our city council and city manager... one simple question. Why did you allow the city of Cerritos to be put in this disgraceful position?

Your actions that put us in this mess, your actions to mislead the state have shamed this city. You have given this great city a black eye. Do the honorable thing and step down and move to the city of Bell!!

Submitted online at loscerritosnews.net

Dear Editor:

As a 22 year resident of Cerritos, I have watched this city go from being a “jewel” to a run downed city that is in disrepair. Cerritos is not aging well and this current city council cannot be trusted to fix the mess they are trying to “sweep under the rug.” Giving millions of more tax payer dollars to MILLIONAIRE LAWYERS is not going to stop the State of California. We are once again being mislead.

F. Wang-Cerritos

Dear Editor:

The previuos City Councils legally made great use of redevelopment laws to make many of the award winning improvements that the residents today enjoy.

Nothing illegal about it. Redevelopment has made a huge difference in California. In fact, many agencies in the state copied the Cerritos model to try and maximize the use of this tool.

However, when the Gov pulled the plug and demanded every asset from each agency, most cities went about trying to protect those assets and their citizens as best they could.

They knew it was a long shot in keeping these things from being essentially stolen by the state, but I certainly don’t blame them for trying.

It would seem that the people commenting on this site would have been happier if Cerritos had just handed the Gov the keys to the City.

Shame on the State and the Gov for their collective lack of concern for the many cities in Ca now faced with financial difficulties as they try to maintain services while all of their previously legal revenues are taken from them and misspent by badly regulated state and county programs.

The people making the ignorant comments on this blog should try to focus on the actual issue at hand and not ram their thinly veiled agendas home. J

im McMahan, who obviously penned the posts demanding the heads of everyone in Cerritos, has every right to hate the Mayor for beating him up, but not for trying to save the legally built Cerritos assets from being stolen from the residents of the City. Wake up.

Doug Kellem-Cerritos

Bellflower teacher protest

Dear Editor:

Your article " Teachers plan protest at BUSD Board meeting " was extremely one sided.

So much so one would wonder if Mr Collins paid a fee for advertisement There are just a few things he forgot to mention.

1. The 49 million in "funds taken out of the classroom" is actually a state required reserve half of which is made up of worthless "Vouchers " the state issued instead of money.

The rest is about 3 months of payroll that is in place to safeguard his paycheck should what's happening in Washington DC, happen in California.

I don't think he would call getting paid, an "unfair spending process, "even if it Kept much needed funds away from the class rooms and children" which is hog wash!

2.The money from prop. 30 and our school bonds hasn't got here yet and unless you are the Gov't you can't spend what you don't have.

3. The entire thrust of each Speaker that came to the board (all teachers) was all about them getting a raise, not a word about the children or the classrooms, The last teacher to speak went on and on about how he felt unappreciated because teachers in paramount make \$ 8000 more than he did!

4. To say that a board that brought its district through the worst educational cut backs in history, without closing schools, going bankrupt, (200 school districts did !) and keeping the core subjects intact while passing a school bond to insure our children's future is " out of touch " is ridiculous.

The fact is if Mr Collins got that raise all these problems the schools have would still not be helped and he would walk away with his raise.

Name on file

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CRIME SUMMARIES
OCTOBER 7 – 13

La Mirada

Aggravated Assault
An assault occurred on the 12700 block of Valley View Ave. The suspect involved became uncooperative during a traffic stop conducted by a Deputy. The suspect was taken into custody a short time after fleeing the scene at his residence.

Residential Burglary
An incident was reported on the 13400 block of Marlette Dr. Cash and other items were stolen from the residence.

A burglary was reported on the 13900 block of Rio Hondo Cir. It is unknown if there was any loss of property in the burglary.

Other Structure Burglary
A bicycle was reported stolen from an unlocked garage on the 13600 block of Lyon Pl.

Vehicle Burglary
Four vehicle burglaries were reported last week.

Separate window smash burglaries were reported on the 14900 block of Imperial Hwy and the 12200 block of La Mirada Blvd. Purses were stolen from the vehicles in both incidents.

A tablet computer was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 14400 block of Ermita Ave.

A CD player and battery were reported stolen from an older model Honda on the 14300 block of Rosecrans Ave.

Grand Theft
A purse containing cash and other items was stolen from a business office on the 14700 block of Beach Blvd.

A catalytic converter was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 14200 block of Firestone Blvd.

Grand Theft Vehicle
Two semi trailers were reported stolen from the 14400 block of Industry Cir.

A trailer and mini excavator were reported stolen from the 14600 block of Valley View Ave.

A vehicle reported stolen from Signal Hill was recovered on the 12000 block of Penford Dr.

Christopher Wilcher of
Norwalk Killed by
Asphyxiation by Brother

By Randy Economy

Homicide officials with the Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Department confirmed that the death of an adult male early Friday morning on Pioneer Boulevard in

Norwalk was the result of a fight between two brothers.

Members of the Norwalk Sheriff’s Station responded to the 16000 block of Pioneer Boulevard at around 1:15 a.m. where they found the victim Christopher Wilcher, 48, of Norwalk dead.

A spokesman for the Sheriff’s department said that “The brothers were arguing and a physical fight ensued, no weapons were involved.”

As a preliminary cause of death, police are looking toward asphyxiation as the cause.

Deputies take suspected
gang member, ex-felon,
off streets

On Oct. 10, Los Angeles County Sheriff’s Deputies from the La Mirada Special Assignment Officer (SAO) team arrested a suspected gang member from out of the area.

During a traffic stop at Mayes Dr. and Golden Lantern Ln., Deputies discovered a loaded firearm and methamphetamine in the vehicle. The suspect, a confirmed ex-felon, also possessed various narcotics paraphernalia used for packaging and distribution. The suspect eventually confessed to selling narcotics in La Mirada.

The suspect was arrested and booked for ex-felon in possession of a loaded firearm, possession of narcotics while armed with a firearm, possession and transportation of methamphetamine for sales, and driving with a suspended license.

30th Annual Arturo
Sanchez Sr. Halloween
Parade

(Norwalk, CA)...The 30th annual Arturo Sanchez Sr. Halloween Parade rolls through Norwalk on Saturday, October 19th – start time 11:00 a.m.

The parade will feature marching bands from throughout the southland, musical groups, local service organizations, businesses, and dignitaries. The event is named in honor of Arturo Sanchez Sr, a community leader and volunteer who organized the first parade on the south side of Norwalk to boost neighborhood pride.

The parade begins at the intersection of Pioneer Boulevard and Mapledale Street and concludes at Hermosillo Park.

AVID
Continued from page 2

then-head of the English Department at San Diego’s Claremont High School began the A.V.I.D. program because she believed that “if one held students accountable to the highest standards as well as provide accountable to the highest standards as well as provide academic and social support that they would rise to the challenge.”

Gahr High School’s AVID Program is simple, according to proponents. The campus accepts the students who “have the desire and determination to apply and be successful in a college setting.”

The program is currently 7% of the total Gahr High School population with almost 150 students enrolled in AVID.

The California Retired Teachers Association, Area X, Division 3 includes the ABC, Bellflower, Compton, Cypress, Long Beach, Los Alamitos and Paramount Unified School Districts.

Becky Carroll, President of Division 3 said that the organization purpose includes giving scholarships, hosting six luncheons meetings a year, safeguarding retired teachers benefits and monitoring legislation affecting education.

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Saturday	6 pm - 2 am
Sunday	2 pm - 12 am

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Division 5

Lakewood Regional Medical Center Offers Robotic Surgery Program

By Brian Hews

The da Vinci Si e HD robotic surgery system was installed in the hospital's recently expanded surgical services unit earlier this year. The first procedure using the system was performed at Lakewood Regional Medical Center in August, and more cases are scheduled.

"We are very excited to offer this as a treatment option at LRMHC," said Cyndee Woelfle, Associate Administrator of Lakewood Regional Medical Center. "With extremely precise movements and 10-times magnification, surgeons on our medical staff can operate with exceptional precision and clearer visibility. For many patients, that can mean a faster, less-painful recovery."

The robotic surgery program is being launched as a part of Lakewood Regional Medical Center's surgical services and will be used for specified gynecologic, urologic and general surgical procedures, such as hysterectomies or Prostatectomies, for patients who might benefit most from robotic surgery.

Doctor Jennifer Liu, Urologist at Lakewood Regional Medical Center, performed the first surgery at the hospital. She was trained to use the da Vinci Sur-

gical system in residency and performed over one hundred cases.

"We're being very deliberate with ensuring that the members of our medical staff who use the system are very well trained at robotic surgery said Woelfle."

Along with tiny, highly-dexterous implements, the da Vinci Si e HD system at Lakewood Regional Medical Center provides a higher level of visibility for surgeons, who can view a magnified, high-resolution three dimensional image of the surgical site from the da Vinci console.

"The ability to perform surgery by looking through a laparoscope has been available for some time, and has been what enables providers to offer minimally invasive surgeries," said Woelfle. "At Lakewood, all of our operating rooms are outfitted to accommodate minimally invasive surgery, which accounts for about 90 percent of the procedures we perform. This system offers advanced 3-D high definition visualization, improved dexterity and an immersive view of the operative field."

Lakewood Regional Medical Center is offering minimally invasive robotic surgery only for those who would best be served by the service. In some cases, use of robotic surgery has not been shown to offer a significant improvement over more conventional minimally invasive approaches in terms of patient outcomes. However, in many cases, the improved imaging and movement of the extremely precise surgical implements available with minimally invasive robotic surgery can lead to positive benefits for patients.

"We built a new Interventional suite and vastly expanded our cardiac services, unit, and still, a lot of people told me that they came to see the robot," said Woelfle. "For a lot of people, this is the future of surgery, and now it's available right in their community."

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14!**

TERRA LUNA

Continued from page 1

This specific plan has been in effect since February, 2002 and two of the projects that have been developed under it include the Downey Landing Retail Center and the Kaiser Downey Medical Center. The Amended Plan is to make provisions of the former Downey Studio Site and re-develop it into a mixed-use development. The proposed development is called the Tierra Luna Marketplace.

The Downey planning commission voted unanimously to approve the Tierra Luna Marketplace project. Developer Robert Manarino and landowner Industrial Realty Group plan to replace all but one building at the Downey Studios site with 1.1 million square feet of retail, 300,000 square feet of office, a movie theater, and 150 hotel rooms. Building 1, where Apollo rockets were once built, will be adaptively reused.

The entire NASA / Rockwell / Boeing center was originally 177 acres. The City Council was unsure as to what to do with this much property that was sitting on top of contaminated land.

The City Council sold some of the land to Kaiser Permanente at a very reasonable price, where they built a 700 million dollar hospital. This center employs 4500 people and brings in over 18,000 people to visit the Center and the City of Downey every day since it opening.

The continuance of the massive complex gave birth to the Downey Discovery Sports Complex. The well maintained park/ sports complex is 11 acres of baseball and soccer fields, for both youth and adult leagues. The complex is clean, well lit and safe.

The next item of business was to pro-

vide a place where future generations of Scientists and Engineers could find inspiration. The City wanted to be able to preserve the history and originality of the site as well as teach children about robotics and technology. Congress unanimously passed the legislation to make the Columbia Memorial Space Learning Center the official memorial to the Columbia disaster.

This left 77 acres of still contaminated land due to the mass manufacturing on this site beginning in 1929. The City brought in an outside company who took all the risk and all the clean up. They insured the property for over 27 million dollars and tested soil 18 times a day for over four years. The land has since been cleared of contamination.

Downey Movie Studios came next with a contract to be used for at least five years as an active studio. Many people don't realize the numerous films that were produced on the site. All the Spiderman movies; all the Ironman movies; The Spy who Shagged Me; The Italian Job; Christmas with the Cranks and Lemony Snicket's A Series of Unfortunate Events, which constructed the largest indoor water arena in the world constructed, topping the Rosarita Beach location where they filmed the Titanic.

After the Tesla debacle the City began to work with a developer to create a monument to the history of the remaining acreage. "Every astronaut from the Apollo and Mercury flights all came back to Downey to place their hand prints and foot prints in cement. The one building that will remain in tact is the historic Kaufmann building. This building will hold historical archives and a possible museum." says Mayor Guerra.

If you go into the Columbia learning center, there is one hand print and one foot

print from Gene Cernan. Commander Cernan was the last person to step foot on the moon. "Apollo 17 gathered more information on that single flight than all the others put together." States Guerra "We all know the phrase by Neil Armstrong 'One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind' - well Gene said the last words spoken on the moon in December of 1972 saying 'We leave as we came, and God willing, we shall return.' The City will incorporate all elements of flight – wing shaped covers; walkways with memorial pillars from the Apollo capsules – a walk of fame through out the entire village."

By the later part of 2014 there will be some business openings and within two years Tierra Luna Marketplace will be fully functioning.

DODI

Continued from page 1

people from the community carried white balloons and candles and stood outside the high school. "He touched so many lives, whether on the football field or in the classroom," Downey football coach Jack Williams told NBC 4 News "You can see by the support of everyone who showed up."

A young Downey High School classmate tweeted "You've brought strangers, rival schools and a community together, RIP Dodi #vikingforever #prayfordodi you will be forever missed".

The Los Angeles County Coroner's office opened an investigation into the teen's death because there was no clear medical history that could have lead to a sudden collapse. An autopsy was performed on Tuesday, October 15, 2013 to determine the cause of death for the young 16 year old football player. Hews Media Group spoke with the L.A.County Assistant Chief Coroner Ed Winter on Tuesday afternoon. Winter stated "Nothing conclusive has been found. Further testing will be needed to determine the cause of death; this could take up to six weeks." Dr. Winter stated further that the body was being prepared to be released to the family.

Warren High School and Downey High School have their annual rival football team this Friday Night, October 18th. Assistant Principal Don Rounds of Warren High School, Mr. Rounds said "Each year Downey High School and Warren High School trade off hosting privileges for our rival game. Faculty, Coaches and our Warren High Football players will be planning a very special tribute to Dodi. We have discussed having a possible 'white out' in his honor, having white tee shirts to sell to all those in attendance with the proceeds going to help his family with expenses. We may have stickers for each of the

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



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Football given to Dodi’s parents.

player’s helmets with Dodi’s initials and jersey number; we have not finalized our plans. But we will be honoring this young man and his contribution to our city.”

“He just touched so many lives on the field, off the field. He was just a great human being,” Coach Jack William said.

CERRITOS

Continued from page 1

existing law does provide Cerritos with an opportunity to work with the local board to address its concerns -- that some of the assets serve a governmental purpose and should be retained by the City,” the statement continued.

“As always, my office will continue to work closely with impacted cities, including Cerritos, to ensure that they understand their responsibilities and successfully comply with new state laws,” Chiang sternly warned.

In response to the ruling, Barrows blasted Chiang in a tersely worded prepared statement saying: “The City paid the Redevelopment Agency consideration for the transfers and the transfers were legal and permissible under state law at the time they were made.”

Barrows also said, “The State Controller’s Office went beyond its authority to demand that the assets that were transferred

for consideration be returned to the Successor Agency for disposition.”

The Cerritos Mayor who has been a vocal critic of the State’s decision to dissolve redevelopment agencies concluded by saying: “The state has arbitrarily decided the money doesn’t belong to the City and has rolled back years of redevelopment.”

BARROWS

Continued from page 1

office.

Barrows also said in a prepared statement: “The City paid the Redevelopment Agency consideration for the transfers and the transfers were legal and permissible under state law at the time they were made. The State Controller’s Office went beyond its authority to demand that the assets that were transferred for consideration be returned to the Successor Agency for disposition. The state has arbitrarily decided the money doesn’t belong to the City and has rolled back years of redevelopment.”

Cerritos officials said that “the assets in dispute include a freeway slope easement adjacent to the 91 Freeway, Reservoir Hill Park and water reservoir, the Cerritos Center for the Cerritos Performing Arts, the former Mullikin medical building on 183rd Street, the former Regional Occupational Program building on Studebaker Road, an easement adjacent to B&B Stables, a parking lot on Gridley Road, the Liberty Park Community Center Annex, Fire Station #30 on Pioneer Boulevard and the C-5 water well.”

Montebello Unified School Board Member Montoya Scoffs at ‘Residency’ Claims

By Randy Economy

An appointed member of the Montebello Unified School District Board of Education has denounced claims that he was not a registered voter and did not live inside district boundaries when he was chosen to serve the remainder of a term left vacant due to the death of longtime school board member Marcela Calderon.

On Monday, MUSD Board Member Paul Montoya issued a statement to Hews Media Group-Community Newspaper responding to allegations written by a Montebello school district voter who claims that he was not a resident of the sprawling district during the time the appointment was made back in 2012.

Lorraine Lugo, who identified herself as a resident of the Montebello Unified School District in an email to HMG-CN said that she questions Montoya’s legal residence requirements.

“In researching Paul Montoya’s qualifications for re-election and political party status I noticed that he didn’t register to vote within MUSD boundaries until April 9, 2013,” Lugo said.

“From September 15, 2004 to April 8, 2013 he was registered to vote in Arcadia according to the LA County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk. This means he served on the MUSD School Board from February 25, 2012-April 8, 2013 when he was registered to vote and actually voting by mail on at least two occasions in another

jurisdiction in violation of state law,”

Lugo continued “If Mr. Montoya misrepresented himself to the Board of Education, is the Board’s appointment valid? I’ve attached the vacancy appointment that went out when he was appointed which states that legally the appointee must not be disqualified by state law from serving in order to be appointed.”

Montoya slammed Lugo and her assertions in a written statement.

“I was born and raised in East Los Angeles and have live in the Montebello Unified School District for over 36 years. I attended Winter Gardens Elementary, Joseph Gascon Elementary, Eastmont Intermediate, and Schurr High School. I am a product of the district and I am honored to have been appointed to the Board of Education in March of 2012,” Montoya said.

Montoya did acknowledge that he lived outside of the Montebello Unified School District for a brief period nearly eight years ago.

“I did live in Arcadia the first year of my marriage and I voted there in one election, but my wife and I moved back to East Los Angeles and the Montebello District in late 2005 and have lived here to this date. I updated my voter registration and have voted in my East Los Angeles precinct since 2006,” Montoya said.

It is not known who Lugo is supporting in the campaign, and additional emails to her were not returned to the newspaper.

“Never having run for public office before, I was warned that it could possibly get nasty or ugly, but I never thought people would spread such blatant misinformation,” Montoya said.

“If it were a valid issue it would have been raised after my appointment last year and not during this election campaign,” he stressed.

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SAN GABRIEL VALLEY LEAGUE
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Gahr stays close to Downey but gets swept by league queens

By Loren Kopff

Gahr girls volleyball head coach Iris Murray thought this would be the season that the Gladiators could finally curtail Downey's chances of another perfect San Gabriel Valley League season. In the past 140 league matches coming into this season, Downey has lost only four times and has gone 10-0 three straight seasons, four of the last five and eight of the last 10.

Last Thursday afternoon, the Gladiators were within striking distance of upsetting the Vikings but ended up on the short end once again. Downey swept Gahr 25-22, 27-25, 25-21 for its 29th straight win over the Gladiators. Gahr dropped to 6-12 overall and 1-2 in league action.

"We were definitely physically capable of winning this last [match] and also winning league," Murray said. "But we are our own worst enemies. We are learning how to play together and we're learning how to communicate and we're learning how to be good teammates. Right now,

that is our focus. I just want the girls to play together and play hard."

Both teams traded points throughout the early portion of the first set and Gahr took a 13-10 following a kill from junior setter Frankie Di Iorio. It would be the largest lead for the hosts in the entire match. But with the Vikings leading 22-17, the Gladiators made one final push to steal the set. Senior outside hitter Oluoma Okaro pounded down her fifth kill, then junior middle blocker Stephany Rodriguez had a kill and a block to pull her team within two points. Both teams were sloppy with their serving as they each picked up five points off of the others' serving errors and another seven in the second set.

"During practice, we are a great serving team," Murray said. "During the matches, when we are relaxed and playing together, we are an excellent serving team. Usually we have many, many aces against the other team."

Again, the teams traded point for point throughout most of the second set with Downey's largest lead being four points at 9-5. But a pair of aces from senior defensive specialist Alicia Barron tied the set at 10-10. Gahr took its first lead (12-11) moments later on an ace from senior libero Jennifer Diggs and later was serving for the set before Downey's Bela Gamboa's 16th kill tied it up at 24-24. A net violation gave Gahr another chance to win, but a serving error, a double hit violation and an ace from Gamboa ended the second set.

Gahr was trailing 21-15 in the third set, its biggest deficit in the match, before Okaro literally brought her team back to the brink of a victory. Her 16th and final kill of the match gave Gahr possession and she served three straight aces before Downey called a timeout. It was the first time that Gahr had reeled off four straight points in the match.

Following the timeout, Okaro served two more aces to tie the set at 21-21. But Gamboa had the last of her match-high 21 kills and Victoria Trejo served two straight aces.

Gahr had entered the match coming off a pair of five-set matches to begin league action. The Gladiators fell to Warren on Oct. 3, losing in the fifth set 15-4 but came back to edge Paramount 19-17 in the fifth set on Oct. 8.

Gahr visited Lynwood on Oct. 17 and will travel to Warren on Tuesday before hosting Paramount on Thursday.

"I didn't think we were sluggish or tired," Murray said. "I think we might have other things going on mentally. I don't question our ability physically, even if we're physically tired or physically making a mistake. We have to work on our mental game."

"When we lost to Warren last week, I told my girls I want to be yelling and screaming and celebrating in their gym just like they were celebrating in our gym," she added. "And it's going to be the same thing when we play Downey in a couple of weeks. We'll be ready for them in the second round."

NEWS AND NOTES FROM PRESS ROW

Gahr opens San Gabriel Valley League action by extending Warren's losing streak

By Loren Kopff



After a week off to reflect on its 1-4 on the field record, Gahr's football team got back into action last Thursday night in its San Gabriel Valley League opener. And the Gladiators extended two streaks following their 28-7 victory over visiting Warren.

Gahr knocked off the Bears for the third straight year and fourth time since at least 1998 while sending Warren to its 18th straight loss. Gahr wasted little time in getting on the board as junior wide receiver William Latham rumbled 34

yards for a score on Gahr's first play from scrimmage 77 seconds into the game.

With the score tied in the second quarter, Latham put his team in front for good when he caught a 21-yard touchdown pass from freshman quarterback Kobe Lagarde. With 55 seconds left in the first half, Lagarde connected with freshman wide receiver Elijah Hicks for a 20-yard score. The Gladiators put the game away just 2:10 into the second half when junior running back Leotis Johnson III cashed in from 66 yards out. Johnson led Gahr with 79 yards on four carries while Lagarde completed 12 of 22 passes for 143 yards. Gahr put up 276 yards in the game and held the ball for 15:45. The Gladiators improved to 3-3 overall (one of the victories is a forfeit against Lakewood) and will visit Paramount tonight.

In other football action, Cerritos visits John Glenn tonight with both teams looking for its first Suburban League victory. Cerritos (1-5 overall) lost to Bellflower 59-8 last Friday night while the Eagles (0-6) were doubled up by Mayfair 30-15.

Valley Christian posted its second win of the season after knocking off Whittier Christian 35-27 last Friday night in the Olympic League opener. Junior quarter-

back Jack Struikma tossed touchdown passes of 22 and 24 yards to junior Brian Cok and added a one-yard run himself. The Crusaders (2-4 overall) will host San Diego-based Francis Parker tonight at Crusader Field for its homecoming game. The Lancers are 6-0 and have outscored their opponents 263-68.

VOLLEYBALL

The Suburban League ended its first round this past Tuesday with Mayfair and Norwalk tied for first place with 5-1 league marks. Norwalk struggled against John Glenn this past Tuesday but still managed to record a 25-9, 24-26, 25-14, 25-16 victory. Norwalk junior middle blocker Jazmin Guzman had a match-high 23 kills. Norwalk (9-6 overall) will visit Mayfair on Tuesday to begin the second round, then host Artesia on Thursday. Senior middle blocker Myra Gomez paced the Lady Eagles (5-15, 1-5) with 11 kills. Glenn hosted Mayfair on Oct. 17 and will visit Artesia on Tuesday before hosting Bellflower on Thursday. Cerritos remained a game behind Mayfair and Norwalk following its victory over Cerritos this past Tuesday. The Lady Dons

[See NOTES page 11]

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WEEK SIX FOOTBALL

Norwalk jumps all over Artesia fast, remains undefeated

By Loren Kopff

Everything was coming up aces for Norwalk’s football team last Friday night on its homecoming game against Artesia with a Monte Carlo theme. The Lancers took advantage of two straight turnovers within the first three minutes of the game and scored on seven straight possessions as they routed the Pioneers 62-3.

The California Interscholastic Federation-Southern Section Southeast Division’s top ranked team for the sixth consecutive week improved to 6-0 overall and 2-0 in the Suburban League. In addition, Norwalk has not allowed a touchdown in 12 straight quarters and only four all season long.

“Our boys are playing pretty good football right now,” said Norwalk head coach Jesse Cenicerros. “I’m just real proud of them. It’s kind of hard when you have a game like this [when] you get so far up so early. You can kind of have a letdown. But they stood in there and played.”

Senior wingback Rashaad Penny put the Lancers on the board 2:35 into the game on a 60-yard touchdown run. Then senior linebacker Matthew Ortega recovered a fumble in the end zone on Artesia’s first play from scrimmage. Following the kickoff, junior free safety Jacob Carr intercepted a pass at the 20-yard line and two plays later, he threw a 10-yard touchdown pass to junior tight end Dillon Faamatau for a 21-0 lead just four minutes into the game.

After a bad snap on a punt gave the

hosts the ball at the Artesia 23-yard line, the Lancers needed four plays to add to its lead as Penny cashed in from five yards out. Artesia would get three first downs in the first half and did not get past the Norwalk 46-yard line. The Pioneers would begin their first half drives at their own five, five, 13, 23, 20, 13 and 24-yard lines.

“We can’t start drives inside our five,” said Artesia head coach Joe Veach. “I think we did that the first two times we had the ball. We can’t turn the ball over; we did that. We didn’t perform at any level of the game at all.”



Norwalk senior wingback Rashaad Penny eludes Artesia senior Jose Soto in last Friday night’s 62-3 victory. Penny rushed for 179 yards on seven carries and scored three touchdowns. PHOTO BY ARMANDO VARGAS

Penny would score on a 71-yard run in the second quarter sandwiched in between touchdown runs of four and 23 yards from junior wingback Ryan McDowell as Norwalk led 49-0 at the half. McDowell would add a two-yard score with 5:29 left in the third quarter and senior Dante Foster returned a kickoff 90 yards in the fourth quarter for Norwalk’s final touchdown.

The lone Artesia points came prior to Foster’s return as junior Ezekial Diaz

booted a 33-yard field goal. The 62 points scored and its and the 59-point margin of victory are the most Norwalk has recorded against Artesia in at least 15 years. Norwalk also held Artesia to under 10 points in the series for the first time since 2001 when the Pioneers posted a 6-0 win on Norwalk’s homecoming night.

Defensively, Norwalk intercepted Artesia junior quarterback Jimmy Rodriguez three times and stopped the Pioneers behind the line of scrimmage 16 times out of 40 plays.

“When you have a bunch of kids who are eager to learn and they’re ready to play and you have coaches who are giving them the right game plan, good things are going to happen,” Cenicerros said of his defense.

“They’re good; they’re very good,” Veach said. “They’re aggressive. We’re very young in a lot of spots and inexperienced on the line. So we didn’t do a good job of blocking.”

Penny led everyone with 179 yards on seven carries while McDowell added 47 yards on eight carries. The Lancers picked up 303 yards on the ground. Norwalk will visit Bellflower tonight, hoping to avenge consecutive one-point overtime losses to the Buccaneers. A victory over Bellflower would match Norwalk’s best start to a season for the second time since 2009.

“We’re just trying to take one game at a time,” Cenicerros said. “We’re not looking back to last year or the year before that. We did lose close games to them, both times in overtime. But we have a special group of kids this year and they just focus on what the task is at hand on that week. I think we’ll be okay.”

The Pioneers, who were held to 110 yards total offense, will have tonight off before hosting Bellflower on Oct. 25.

NOTES FROM PAGE 10

(8-8, 4-2) went to Bellflower on Oct. 17 and will travel to La Mirada on Thursday in a third place battle. La Mirada also ended the first round with a 4-2 mark. Valley Christian ended its first round of Olympic League action on a down note as first place Whittier Christian came away with a 25-7, 25-15, 25-9 win this past Tuesday evening. V.C. (16-5, 2-2) will host Maranatha and Village Christian on Tuesday and Thursday evenings respectively. CROSS COUNTRY Cerritos kept its 2013 dominance going

by sweeping away the competition in dual meet scoring at last Thursday afternoon’s second Suburban League Cluster Meet at La Mirada Regional Park. Seniors Jonathan Carranza (16:25), Joshua Quarles (16:26) and Christian Cortez (16:45) claimed the second, third and fourth spots while senior Shrineel Patel (17:03) finished in seventh place, just ahead of freshman Bill Chuang (17:07). The top Norwalk boys runner was junior Carlos Nevarez, who finished in fifth place with a time of 16:52. The leading John Glenn harrier was senior Suni Bedi (17:42) and pacing Artesia was sopho-

more Dominic Gonsales (18:26). On the girls side, Cerritos claimed five of the top 10 places as sophomore Catherine Lin finished in third with a time of 20:17. Junior Alyssa Movchan was a fifth place finisher with a time of 20:58. Norwalk sophomore Jennifer Osorio-Melendez came in second place (20:04) while her teammate, junior Rocio Rodriguez, finished in sixth place (20:58). The only John Glenn runner was junior Blanca Reyes, who had a time of 22:32. The Suburban League finals will take place on Oct. 30 at Cerritos Regional Park.

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CCPA REVIEW

Ring of Fire Charms

Cerritos

By Glen Creason

It seemed appropriate that a show dramatizing the life of Johnny Cash would appear on the same stage at Cerritos where he once performed one of the great shows in hall history.

This week’s tribute show, created by Richard Maltby was nothing like a one-man show I expected.

Instead “Ring of Fire: the Life and Music of Johnny Cash” was actually a full-scale musical with spare no expense costumes, evocative sets and an entire stage-full of actors and actresses who sang

musical vignettes that paid homage to the “Man in Black” from his early days in the cotton fields of Arkansas through stardom, addiction, bigger stardom and living legend status by the time of his rather early death at 71.

While this show was equal parts pure corn, plentiful musical show Branson-style drama and a genuine affection for the memory of the truly great artist it might have floundered amongst the slickness of the production except for the fact that the entire cast was made up of very talented musicians who could also act.

While the biography of Cash is applied with very broad strokes the music is lively and textured while the singing is downright outstanding from Candice Lively, Chet Wollan and Steve Lassiter who has the closet to Cash’s trademark two-note bass.

Tim Drake handled the bulk of the

narration with great polish and whenever it appeared the music needed a boost the high-voltage fiddle of Amberly Rosen took over.

This is very much an ensemble effort and the music was offered in actual numbers with songs ranging from “Two Foot High and Rising” to “Daddy Sang Bass” to “the Man in Black” with the classics standing tall in “Cry Cry Cry,” “Ring of Fire,” “Jackson,” “Folsom Prison Blues,” and “I Walk the Line.”

Outstanding in the medleys were the beautiful “I’ll Be Waiting on the Far Side Banks of Jordan” which Johnny Cash sang with June at Cerritos and a quite literally flag waving “the Ragged Old Flag” which drew a big ovation.

Sanchez Elementary is

pilot site for disaster

training

City Launches Emergency Program at NLMUSD School.

Sanchez Elementary School has been selected to serve as the pilot site of a partnership between schools, the city of Norwalk and the Save the Children charity to provide emergency preparedness training for students, parents, staff and community members.

The goal of the SPIRIT (School Preparedness, Inter-Community Readiness, Inter-Agency Training) is to engage agen-

cies and the community to ensure the safety of students during an emergency, such as an earthquake or other large-scale disaster.

“There could be so much damage to the community that there may not be enough public safety personnel to go around and get to a school quickly enough,” said Sanchez Elementary Principal Alicia Rubio. “With this program, we are building the capacity within the community to handle the situation until support arrives.”

City of Norwalk Emergency Services Manager Raquel Vernola has been working closely with the staff at Sanchez to launch the program, which began Sept. 26. Students were treated to activities and presentations that incorporated a theme of preparedness. Together with Save the Children, the city of Norwalk also donated 500 backpacks filled with safety supplies for the students to take home.

“To be a model school for this program is a major coup for Sanchez Elementary,” said Norwalk-La Mirada Unified Superintendent Dr. Ruth Pérez. “SPIRIT has the potential of being a life-saving program and the District is proud to be a partner.”

Vernola anticipates building relationships with first-responders to develop training for the community in areas such as first aid and CPR. If successful, the SPIRIT program may expand to other schools and other districts, Rubio said.

“Protecting our children is of utmost importance to anyone working in the education field, so this program is essential to our development as a community and as educators,” said Board President Ed Hengler.



Metro Briefs

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Upgrades Coming to Metro Blue Line

Metro is committing more than \$190 million over the next two years to rehabilitate and modernize the nearly 25-year-old Metro Blue Line, one of the most heavily-used light rail systems in the nation. In addition, Metro is considering the purchase of 69 new rail cars for the line at a cost of \$262 million.

Metro Co-Sponsors Economic Summit

Learn about Metro employment and contracting opportunities at the Crenshaw/LAX Business Opportunities Summit, October 28 from 9am to 3pm at the California African American Museum. The Los Angeles Sentinel and Crenshaw Leadership Council are co-sponsors of the event. Register at metro.net/deod.

Help Metro Prevent Suicides

Metro asks for the public’s help in preventing suicides on the tracks. Metro has partnered with the Didi Hirsch Suicide Prevention Center to post information on a 24-hour suicide crisis line in all rail stations. If you know or see anyone who may be at risk, please contact the crisis line at 877.727.4747.

Metro Launches Freeway Beautification Program

Cleaner and greener freeways are in LA’s future. Metro’s Freeway Beautification Program will improve landscaping at several key freeway intersections, planting more than 150,000 drought resistant plants and installing some 24,000 feet of irrigation pipe and 900 sprinklers. More about Metro freeway projects at metro.net.



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CITY OF NORWALK PUBLIC NOTICE	
FINANCIAL REPORT SUMMARY Consolidated Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance/Working Capital FISCAL YEAR 2012/13	
Expenditure Net of Functional Revenues	
General Government	10,802,411
Public Safety	11,553,547
Transportation	(2,919,928)
Community Development	(237,263)
Health	1,427,353
Culture and Leisure	5,402,225
Public Utilities	(1,481,249)
Total	24,547,096
General Revenues	
Taxes	34,144,153
Fines and Forfeitures	136,578
Revenue from Use of Money & Property	1,061,801
Intergovernmental State	116,492
Other	-
Total	35,459,024
Excess/Deficiency of General Revenue over Expenditure	10,911,928
Excess/Deficiency of Internal Service Charges over Expenses	-
Beginning Fund Balance/Working Capital	34,599,900
Ending Fund Balance/Working Capital	45,511,828
Appropriation Limit as of Fiscal Year End	66,505,621
Total Annual Appropriation Subject to the Limit as of Fiscal Year End	32,540,897
Dated this 18th day of October 2013.	
/s/ Jana Stuard Director of Finance/Treasurer City of Norwalk	
Published at Los Cerritos Community Newspaper 10/18/13	

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