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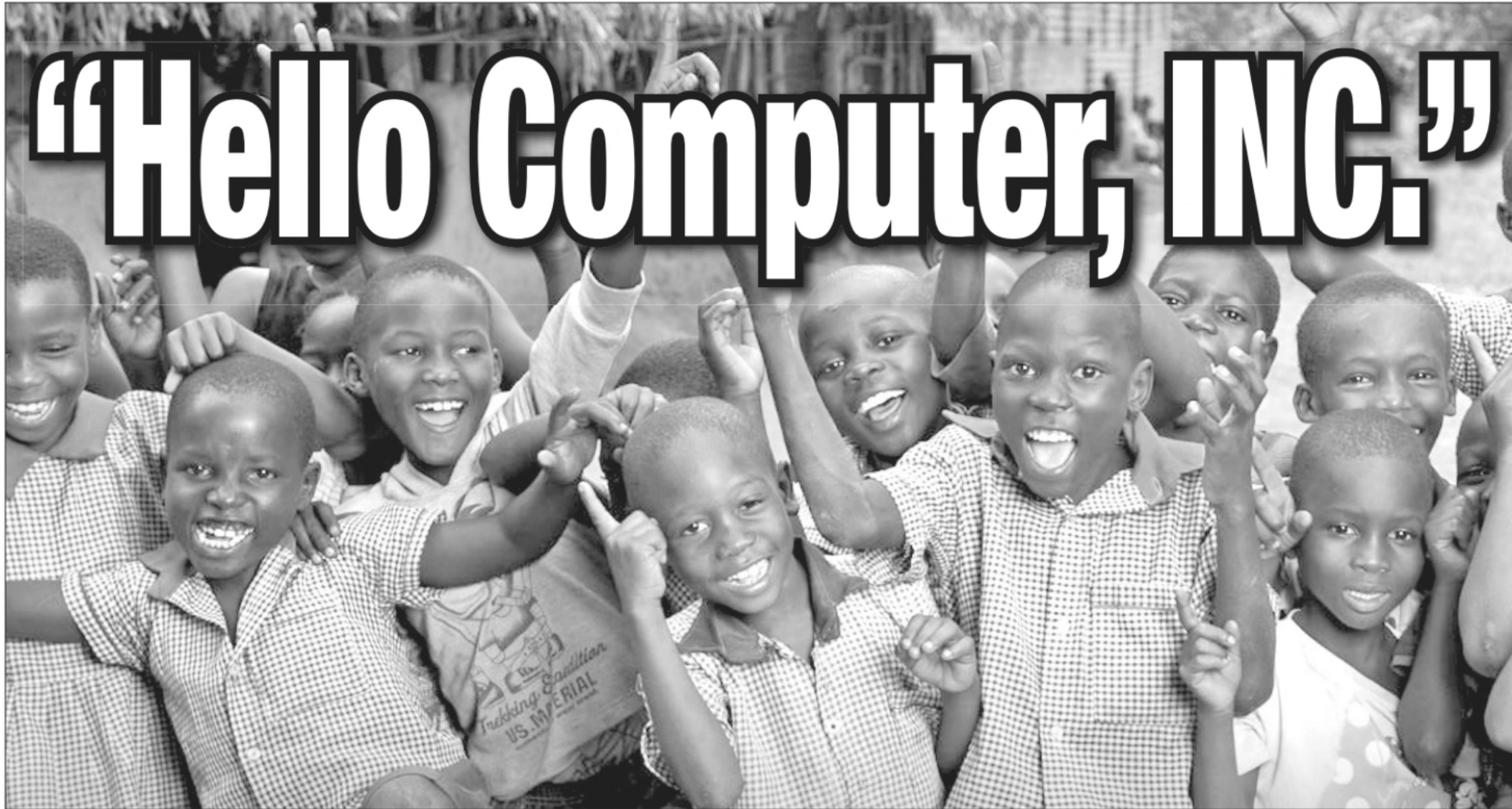
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Remember to "fall back" one hour

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W E E K L Y

Friday, November 3, 2023 Vol. 20 No. 88



“Hello Computer, Inc. Partners with World Literacy Foundation for Sun Books Initiative”

By Desert Star Staff

Hello Computer, Inc. has partnered with the World Literacy Foundation to provide educational mobile apps on solar-powered tablets to remote regions to promote literacy and improve people's lives in marginalized areas. The partnership will support the Sun Books initiative, and StoryTime International will be distributed to help children with reading and inspire a love of language. The app offers endless story content in English, translated into 137 languages, that can be read aloud from any tablet or smartphone. The collaboration aligns with the mission of both organizations to leverage technology for positive social impact, and the partnership is a significant step toward closing the education gap and promoting literacy in underserved regions.

Our mission is to revolutionize education and empower people to reach their full potential. Everyone should have access to

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Mayor Rita Lamb Highlights Annual Veterans Day Ceremony

By Desert Star Staff

Join us on Saturday, November 11, 2023, at Desert Memorial Park in Cathedral City as we honor our nation's war dead and veterans at the annual Veterans Day Ceremony. This year's event, sponsored by AMVETS Post 66 and the Jon Castro Chapter of Veterans For Peace, will be a special one as we commemorate the 40th anniversary of the terrorist attack on the Marine Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon.

Let's unite as a community to pay tribute to those who have served our country and made the ultimate sacrifice. We will hear from elected officials, including Rancho Mirage City Council Member Ted Weill, a Navy veteran, and honor World War II veteran Dorothee Irwin with a

Certificate of Recognition from the staff of Rep. Ken Calvert.

The Cathedral City High School JROTC will present colors, and we will be joined by Lee Wilson of the Fallen Heroes Project, who will introduce Gold Star Family members. Each family member will receive a rose, and the music of Steve Petersen will move us.

Remember the late U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein, whose special letter praising the California LGBTQ Veterans Memorial will be read. This event is free and open to the public, so please join us as we pay homage to those who have served our country with honor and distinction.

A Veterans Day Ceremony honoring all veterans will be held on November 11, 2023, in Cathedral City, CA. The



Cathedral City



MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBER AND HONOR

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event will recognize the 40th anniversary of the terrorist

attack on the Marine Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon. Contact

Tom Swann Hernandez for more information.

“Cristina Velazquez named Events Coordinator for Cat. City”



By Desert Star Staff
Cristina Velazquez is the new Events and Special Projects Coordinator for Cathedral City. She will work in the Communications & Events Department, managed by Ryan Hunt. Cristina started on October 23, 2023.
Cristina has over 16 years of education experience, focusing on student leadership development, community activities, and event planning. She earned a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from California State University, San Bernardino, in 2019, researching how Spanish as a heritage language affects student development, success, and well-being.
Ryan Hunt, Communications & Events Manager, said, “We’re thrilled to have Cristina join us to expand and enhance our Communications & Events

team. She brings years of experience in event planning and community outreach and has an undeniable love and passion for this community.”
Cristina Velazquez is a lifelong educator and committed community member. As a proud graduate of CCHS, she grew up in the Coachella Valley and has a unique perspective on the community. Cristina is committed to contributing to the success of everyone in the community. She is honored to represent the City of Cathedral City and is excited to create moments of joy and inspiration for all. Cristina’s primary goal is to keep the rich tapestry of diversity within the city and create inclusive spaces and initiatives. She looks forward to working with the community to build a better future where every resident feels valued, represented, and empowered.

CA enviro groups celebrate ruling against big warehouse proposal

By Desert Star Staff
Local environmental activists applauded a big win in court against a large warehouse project proposed in Moreno Valley.
A Riverside Superior Court judge overturned approvals for the massive Compass Danbe Centrepointe project, ruling the city failed to fully consider the impacts of truck traffic, noise, and air pollution.
Ana Gonzalez, executive director of the Center for Community Action and

Environmental Justice in the Inland Empire, explained the importance of the ruling.
“We are just here sending a message to those developers and local elected officials that don’t listen to the community and don’t have the community’s best interests at heart,” Gonzalez emphasized.
Last year, the city council approved the project to include almost 400,000 square feet of industrial warehouses on a site zoned for commercial use across from a residential area.

A report published earlier this year by the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice, the Sierra Club, and the Robert Redford Conservancy found the Inland Empire already has about 1 billion square feet of warehouse space, with an additional 170 million square feet either approved or pending. It also showed the warehouses generate more than truck trips per day, and those trucks emit more than 15 billion pounds of carbon dioxide per year.

Gonzalez argued the logistics hub in the Inland Empire is taking a toll on public health.
“Enough is enough,” Gonzalez asserted. “The cumulative impact shows that asthma rates, COPD rates, and cancer rates are going up dramatically every day, as more and more trucks come into our communities and poison the air that we breathe.”
A recent state EnviroScreen report found the Inland Empire has the country’s highest ozone

pollution concentration. The company, Compass Danbe, did not immediately respond to a request for comment.
The Moreno Valley interim city attorney said the ruling was disappointing - arguing that the court should have given the city’s air quality study more weight and that the company offered substantial mitigation in the form of more than a million dollars in grants to city programs, including those that promote clean air and renewable energy.

“Hello Computer, INC.”



Continued from Page 1
educational resources, regardless of their background.
The photo accompanying this message is from the

Malagita School in Uganda, courtesy of the World Literacy Foundation.
Hello Computer, Inc. is a technology company based in Palm Desert, California, affiliated with the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership (CVEP) Palm Desert iHub. Our mobile apps have been downloaded millions of times and have

won multiple international awards. As a member of the International Trade Council (ITC), we are dedicated to creating innovative digital tools that promote literacy

and imagination worldwide. StoryTime International is our latest app, available for download from the Google Play store.