

VOL. XLV NO. 09

Serving Bixby Knolls, California Heights, Los Cerritos, Wrigley and Signal Hill

Friday, March 3, 2023

COMMUNITY

Pull the plunger and prepare for passionate pings with the Long Beach Pinball League

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

entire body to play pinball.

His checkered flat cap dips low and pops back up as he closely tracks the small metal ball that holds his fate. He looks comfortable in his crouched stance, ready to give the machine a swift jolt with his hips if a tilt is needed. As his eyes dart swiftly over the illuminated, chaotic playfield, it's clear only one thing matters—it's pinball night.

itch Kasse uses his

Kasse is one of over 30 passionate pinball players who will congregate to the Long Beach Beer Lab each Tuesday over the next month for the second season of the Long Beach Pinball League.

On the night of Feb. 28, the league is sandwiched into the eastern corner of the Beer Lab. Players crowd around the 10 machines to watch their opponents (constantly cheering them on), weave in between one another to make room for the next player and run to and from the next room to replenish themselves with frosty craft beers and homemade pizza.

"It's a very welcoming community and it's a physical, kinetic thing with real people, in person,"



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Jet Vanderlee stares intently towards the top of a Dr. No pinball machine. While their ball bounces around in the bumpers, the other players on the remaining nine machines compete against Vanderlee in the Long Beach Pinball League meet-up at Long Beach Beer Lab on Feb. 28, 2023.

said Tom Walker, who runs the league with his wife Jessica. "You get paired up with strangers and you interact with each other. People make friends here. I think after COVID everybody was missing

The couple runs pinball leagues

in Newport, Huntington Beach and Long Beach, welcoming "one and all," their website, Brewcades.com "We really try to appeal to all levels of players," Walker said. "I have people that have been coming for two seasons and they'll just start winning."

Players who join the Long Beach Pinball League are automatically entered into the International Flipper Pinball Association's ranking system. The association was formed by lovers of the game in 2006 and now has over 96,000 players in its system from 45 countries.

Long Beach is the latest city that's participating in the return of beloved retro games, thanks to Lakewood resident Gonzalo Martinez, a pinball machine collector. The 10 machines that the league plays on each week are part of his personal collection.

Martinez bought his first pinball machine about seven years ago, a "Ghostbusters" machine that was released in 2016 and is now sold out. It's described as "easy to play, but difficult to master" on the manufacturer's website, which may explain why Martinez was enamored with it.

"From there it was like a drug," Martinez said.

He owns about 25 machines now, 10 of which live at the Beer Lab. "I keep my holy grails at home," Martinez said. The "Ghostbusters" ma-

see PINBALL LEAGUE pages 4 & 5

COMMUNITY

After public outcry, Long Beach cancels plans for winter shelter at Silverado Park

Kristen Farrah Naeem

Staff Writer

In response to pressure from the community, Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson announced on Tuesday that the City has abandoned its plans to turn the Silverado Park gymnasium into a temporary homeless shelter.

Richardson said that he will be meeting with community leaders throughout the week to come up with other solutions to assist people experiencing homelessness.

During the last city-wide count of unhoused people in Feb. 2022, a total of 3,296 individuals were found to be without a home.

The current winter shelter at the Community Hospital site can house a total of 84 individuals, around 2.5% of Long Beach's homeless population.

The city planned to provide another 84 beds at the Silverado Park gym to provide a small number of the city's unhoused population with respite from the cold and wet winter weather.

Dozens of West Long Beach residents criticized the City's plan to create a winter shelter in Silverado Park. Many stated that the west-side of Long Beach already has less park space than the more affluent



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
An aerial view of the playground and
gym at Silverado Park on Feb. 14,
2023

neighborhoods on the east side of the city, such as the areas near El Dorado Park and Belmont Shore. Residents also pointed out that the

see SHELTER CANCELLATION page 5

ART

Community Corners will give the Washington neighborhood a safety-led makeover

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

The Washington neighborhood will soon receive a makeover—one with an emphasis on safety and youth as part of its Community Corners project.

After a year of community input, the Arts Council for Long Beach is looking for a local artist to paint four original murals on the intersection of 15th Street and Chestnut Avenue. The Community Corners project will not only bring bright

see COMMUNITY CORNERS page 7



The intersection of 15th Street and Chestnut Avenue will receive original murals and crosswalk extensions for the Community Corners project from the Arts Council of Long Beach.



TIRED OF PAYING THIRD PARTY DELIVERY FEES?

THESE APPS COST OUR CUSTOMERS AND OUR RESTAURANT EXTREMELY HIGH SERVICE FEES.

ORDER DIRECTLY FROM OUR WEBSITE AT <u>BIGEPIZZA.COM</u>. Join our Loyalty Program on our website and receive \$10 off your next order as well as other rewards!

FAST DELIVERY

562-498-8788

3225 E. PCH, Suite C, Signal Hill, CA 90755



SCAN HERE
TO ORDER
ONLINE

EDUCATION

Teacher's association continues to rally Long Beach setting up 60 against additional instruction days

Briana Mendez-Padilla

Education Reporter

Nancy Aguilar and her two daughters stood outside the Long Beach Unified School District building holding signs that read "Teachers Deserve a Raise" as they faced the wind and cold to support the Teacher's Association of Long Beach (TALB) on Wednesday, March 1.

Aguilar has been working in the district for 19 years as a dual language elementary school teacher, and said that when she started, "LBUSD was the place to work at."

However, she said, things have not been that way for a while. For Aguilar, it seems like the relationship between the district and teachers is no longer a partnership.

"It feels like the district has all the power, like they're dangling a carrot in front of us," Aguilar said, in reference to the district's promise of a raise.

LBUSD and the TALB have been in contract negotiations since September 2022. Bargaining updates on salary increases and the suggested addition of four days to the school year for personal development have caused a rift between the two.

TALB members and supporters have been rallying since the district's last board meeting on Feb. 15 and sharing their discontent through public comment, emails, signs and chants.

"There's power in numbers, and that's why we're out here," said Mimi Kao, a Los Cerritos Elementary fifth-grade teacher.

Millikan High School teacher Michele Mize said she showed up to remind the board and the district that educators have voices.

"I think that the decisions that they're making are so far out, they are so far from the classroom, that it's hard for them to really grasp the



The Teacher's Association of Long Beach and students protest the proposed additional personal development days for teachers outside of the Long beach Unified School District building on March 1, 2023.

reality of what's happening on our campuses and with our students," Mize said.

An overall feeling of underappreciation and lowered morale was echoed both by teachers outside rallying and those who gave public comments.

"We just feel professionally undervalued, so we want to speak our truth, and hopefully somebody in that room will listen," Mize said.

According to the district's latest update, the district proposed at the Feb. 24 bargaining session to phase in the four professional development days over the 2024-25 and 2025-26 school years.

Multiple educators have pointed out that they are not opposed to the four days for lack of wanting to work, but would rather do something more valuable for their students and their job during that

"We've told you in no uncertain terms that district professional development isn't very good. For a teacher it's an hour or more of wasted time where we could have been doing something useful," Peder Larsen, TALB vice president, said during public comment.

According to a survey conducted by TALB with responses from over 1,500 members, 45.5% of survey takers said the personal development days are "less than valuable" and 22.4% said it's not valuable at

"We as TALB, teachers, psychologists, early childhood educators and librarians, we volunteer our time because we believe in what we do, and that's being taken advantage of," Kao said.

The chants and cheers from protestors outside could be heard well after public comment as the board continued with their meeting.

Echoing statements from their previous board meeting, the board said they could not comment on the negotiations as it is a non-agenda

The district and TALB's next bargaining session is scheduled for March 9.

Staff Report Signal Tribune

A homeless person died in Long Beach on Friday, Feb. 24 due to exposure to the cold, windy and wet weather going through Southern California, the City announced on Sunday, Feb. 26.

In response, the City has set up 60 beds at the Multi-Service Center (MSC) to keep those suffering from homelessness safe from the wet weather and low temperatures through at least March 5. The MSC is the hub for homeless resources in Long Beach and provides case management, housing services, mental health assistance and more.

Long Beach was issued a storm warning last weekend, as residents across the city experienced bouts of hail, inches of rain and fallen trees.

Residents will have access to the beds at the MSC each evening at 6 p.m. on a first-come, first-served basis. The beds will be removed at 8 a.m. the following day, prior to the facility's opening.

City staff began public outreach on Sunday to inform people about the 60 available beds. There are 80 beds available at the winter shelter located at the former Community



beds for homeless people

at Multi-Service Center

An aerial view of the Long Beach Multi-Service center on Feb. 6, 2023.

Hospital building, which has been at full capacity since opening. The City had plans to open a second winter shelter at Silverado Park, but canceled the plans following community opposition.

The Homeless Services Bureau of the Health and Human Services Department announced they are seeking help from community groups to provide meals to those sleeping at the MSC. People or groups interested can call 562.570.4500 or email homelessservices@longbeach.gov.

Long Beach was able to quickly add these 60 beds due to the emergency proclamation that the city council passed on Jan. 10 in response to the rising numbers of homelessness in the city, according to a statement from the City.

HOUSING

Long Beach hopes to boost number of accepted housing vouchers in the city

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

The Long Beach Housing Authority is hoping to incentivize landlords and housing providers to accept Emergency Housing Vouchers and Housing Choice Voucher Programs, which would increase housing opportunities for those suffering from homelessness or in danger of becoming homeless.

Housing vouchers were granted to 582 individuals in Long Beach as part of the 2021 American Rescue Act. As of today, 401 of those people have been able to use their voucher for affordable housing.

"There are hundreds of people who have been issued vouchers but are still in search of housing," said Health and Human Services Director Kelly Colopy in a statement from the City. "This focused outreach is part of the City's effort to provide long-term solutions to housing insecurity and homeless-

The Housing Authority has launched a call center where City



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Two Long Beach residents hold up signs demanding changes to housing inequality during a Long Beach City Council meeting on Nov. 16, 2021.

staff will contact property owners to inform them of the incentives available for those who accept housing vouchers.

These incentives include: \$2,500 to landlords for each voucher accepted and leased to, \$2,500 in funds for damages that exceed the security deposit and a security deposit up to two times the amount of

The City is also launching a variety of virtual information series to teach landlords about subsidized housing (housing obtained with the

help of a voucher) regulations, various Housing Authority processes as well as any updates to the program.

"The City is doing everything it can to ensure that those with Emergency Housing Vouchers are able to find homes," said Mayor Rex Richardson in a statement from the City. "We are personally reaching out to property owners to ask them to do their part in solving the homelessness crisis. We hope they'll answer the call."

Information sessions will be held on the days listed below.

- •Tuesday, March 14, noon to 1 p.m. - New owner info session
- Wednesday, April 19, 4 to 5 p.m. Renewing for success • Tuesday, May 16, noon to 1 p.m.
- Partner portal • Wednesday, June 21, 4 to 5 p.m. Housing inspections

Housing providers interested in learning more or signing up for an information session may call 562.570.5372, e-mail HA-Owners@longbeach.gov or visit longbeach.gov/haclb.





New Co-Working Space NOW OPEN

Use our space to work on your business, projects or host a meeting!

Hours: Monday - Friday 9:00am to 5:00pm Daily RATE: \$25 Hourly Rate: \$10 MONTHLY MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE

1850 E. Willow St., Signal Hill <u>Homeofficellc2022@gmail.com</u>

562-478-1246 www.homeofficellc.com

AROUND TOWN

A WEEKLY LIST OF THINGS TO DO IN LONG BEACH AND SIGNAL HILL



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A volleyball court net with signage displaying love for the City of Long Beach is seen on the beach with light illuminating the crest of tiny waves in the ocean just past a lifeguard station on Oct. 25, 2022.

his week, residents are invited to step out of their comfort zone and take advantage of the respite from

Venture outdoors to help clean the El Dorado Park Nature Center Saturday morning, or play volleyball while sipping mimosas on the beach and listening to open mic performances Sunday morning.

For a more relaxing weekend, chess players of all skill levels are invited to play at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library Friday afternoon, while Saturday night offers a "sip and read" event at Casita Bookstore and an open mic night at Shades of Afrika. Those who are feeling brave may consider auditioning for Long Beach Playhouse's upcoming musical Monday evening.

03FRIDAY

PRESCHOOL STORY AND PLAYTIME

10 a.m. Parents and caregivers are invited to bring preschoolers to enjoy playtime, music, stories and snacks at the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.) Free.

CHESS CLUB

3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Chess enthusiasts of all ages and skill-levels are invited to play together at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library (5870 Atlantic Ave.). Free.

LB NIGHT MARKET

6 p.m. to 11 p.m. Over a dozen local food vendors will be selling their products at 237 Long Beach Blvd., including chicken wings, ube desserts, tacos, empanadas, barbecue and more. Admission is free.

()4SATURDAY

NATURE VOLUNTEER **CLEANUP**

10 a.m. Volunteers are needed to help clean and maintain the El Dorado Park Nature Center (7550 E Spring St.). Volunteers will be cleaning the stream, pulling weeds, clearing the trails and spreading mulch. Sturdy shoes will be necessary. The cleanup will be canceled in the event of rain. Free.

DIY GREEN & SAFE

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. The public is invited to the Michelle Obama Library (5870 Atlantic Ave.) to learn how to make non-toxic cleaning supplies with safe, natural ingredients. Free.

LOWRIDER SUPERSHOW

11 a.m. to 6 p.m. This event at the Long Beach Convention Center (300 E. Ocean Blvd.) will exhibit a wide range of lowrider cars, vendors, carhops, music, a zoot suit contest and more. General admission costs \$40, and tickets can be purchased at lowriderexperience. com. Admission is free for children ages 12 and under.

05^{SUNDAY}

SPIKE AND MIC

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. This monthly mixer on the beach (4300 Ocean Blvd.) combines volleyball, live performances and brunch. Volleyball players will be divided randomly into teams. There is no cost to play. An open mic will also be held, and five-minute time slots can be purchased for \$10. A breakfast

consisting of a burrito and a bowl of fruit can be purchased for \$7. Bottomless mimosas will be available for those 21 and older for \$20. To purchase tickets, visit Eventbrite.

COMMUNITY PURIM CELEBRATION

12:30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Jewish organizations Temple Israel, Beach Hillel, Shul by the Shore, and PJ Library will be holding a celebration for the Purim holiday at the Alpert Jewish Community Center (3801 E Willow St.). The celebration will include games, activities, music and drinks. There will be a costume parade at 2:30 p.m. Kosher food will be available for purchase. Tickets will be \$15 at the door. Pre-sale tickets can also be purchased for \$10 on alpertjcc.org.

O6MONDAY

READ TO DOGS

5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Young children can practice reading to certified therapy dogs at the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.). Reading to dogs is meant to build a child's self confidence as they learn to read. Free.

THEATER AUDITIONS

7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Long Beach Playhouse (5021 E Anaheim St.) is holding auditions for cast members to perform in the "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee." The play will run from April 28 to May 27, on Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m, and Sundays at 2 p.m. Those who audition must bring their head shots and prepare 16 to 32 bars of a contemporary musical theater song similar to those in the play. All actors who participate in the play

must be vaccinated for COVID-19. This is a volunteer acting position, and chosen actors will not receive compensation.

17TUESDAY

RESUME WORKSHOP

4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Local nonprofit Pacific Gateway will be teaching job-seekers between the ages of 14 and 30 how to write an effective resume. The workshop will be held at the El Dorado Neighborhood Library (2900 Studebaker Rd.). Free.

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH FOR TEENS

4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Teens are invited to celebrate Women's History Month at the Burnett Neighborhood Library (560 E. Hill St.). The event will include a screening of the film "Little Women," as well as treat bags and buttons. Free.

08wednesday

BABY & TODDLER **STORYTIME**

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Parents and caregivers are invited to bring babies and toddler to enjoy story time at the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.). Free.

JOB INTERVIEW PREP

4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Local nonprofit Pacific Gateway will be teaching job-seekers between the ages of 14 and 30 different tips and tricks they can use in job interviews. The workshop will be held at the El Dorado Neighborhood Library (2900 Studebaker Rd.). Free.

09THURSDAY

BILINGUAL STORYTIME

3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Salvadoran author René Colato Laínez will be hosting a virtual reading of his bilingual book "René tiene dos apellidos / René has Two Last Names." This online event is ideal for children between the ages of 5 and 7. To register, visit the City of Long Beach's events calendar. Free

PRESCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The nonprofit Preschool Without Walls holds educational events that prepare parents and their children to begin school. During this event at the Burnett Neighborhood Library (560 E Hill St.), children will play and learn together while parents receive helpful information to prepare them to enroll their child and support them in school. This event is geared towards families with children ages 5 and younger. Free.

IS THAT IT? NOPE!

VISIT US ONLINE AT WWW.SIGNALTRIBUNE. COM FOR MORE EVENTS.

gnal Tribune

MANAGING EDITOR Samantha Diaz

DESIGN EDITOR Ryan Hardison

PHOTO EDITOR Richard H. Grant LEGALS COORDINATOR Katherine Green

ADVERTISING Sharon McLucas

EDUCATION REPORTER Briana Mendez-Padilla

STAFF WRITER Kristen Farrah Naeem SPANISH TRANSLATOR Carlos Omar

The Signal Tribune welcomes letters to the editor, which should be signed, dated and include a phone number to verify authenticity. Letters are due by noon on the Wednesday before desired publication date. The Signal Tribune reserves the right to edit letters for grammar, language and space requirements. Letters must be 500 words or fewer. The Signal Tribune will publish no more than one "pro" letter and one "con" letter on a particular topic in a single issue. The Signal Tribune does not print letters that refer substantially to articles in other publications and might not print those that have recently been printed in other publications or otherwise presented in a public forum. Letters to the editor and commentaries are the opinions of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Signal Tribune or its staff. Although the editorial staff will attempt to verify and/or correct information when possible, letters to the editor and commentaries are opinions, and readers should not assume that they are statements of fact. Letter-writers will be identified by their professional titles or affiliations when, and only when, the editorial staff deems it relevant and/or to provide context to the letter. We do not run letters to the editor submitted by individuals who have declared their candidacies for public office in upcoming races. This policy was put in place because, to be fair, if we publish one, we would have to publish all letters submitted by all candidates. The volume would no doubt eliminate space for letters submitted by other readers. Instead, we agree to interview candidates and print stories about political races in an objective manner and offer very reasonable advertising rates for those candidates who wish to purchase ads. The Signal Tribune is published each Friday. Yearly subscriptions are available for \$100.

1860 Obispo Avenue, Suite F, Signal Hill, CA 90755 (562) 595-7900 www.signaltribune.com newspaper@signaltribune.com

PINBALL LEAGUE continued from page 1

chine is among these.

A couple times a week, Martinez clocks off from his 9-to-5 as a project manager at a construction company, goes to his Lakewood home for a quick shower and a bite to eat before racing down to the Beer Lab to check on his machines. He cleans them, waxes them, tests the switches and makes sure each machine gives off that distinct and satisfying *ping* sound of the metal ball ricocheting around and hitting targets.

"As my collection grew, I wanted to share it with other people ... Everyone thinks they're great at [pinball] at home, and then you come to the wild and you realize you're not," he says, laughing. "But everyone helps each other out when they have questions."

Each game has its own intricacies; storylines to follow, spaces to manipulate, captive balls or holes to hit and gaps to avoid.

There's an AC/DC machine that gives players a bump in scoring just for choosing the song "Highway to Hell" before starting. Each contestant has their favorite machine to play on, and they can rattle off reasons why without hesitation.

"You gotta know how to play. You can be playing for 30 minutes and basically score nothing," Martinez said. "Then I'll tell someone, 'Hit this or hit that, focus on this and that to get the multi-ball.' Then all the lights come on and they want to keep going."

For newer players, the game seems mostly random. But these guys—and they are mostly guys—will tell you it's more skill than luck. The ones who get better are the ones who keep coming back.

Die-hard fans of the game consider themselves part of the Stern Army, the largest manufacturer of pinball machines. When Stern Pinballs announced the release of the "Dr. No" pinball machine—based on the 1962 James Bond 007 spy

film, fans rejoiced on social media and online.

When Martinez installed the machine at the Long Beach Beer Lab in January, after a year-long wait to get his hands on it, there was a line of players waiting for their turn. The game is never empty on Tuesday nights.

It's a fierce competition in an undeniably friendly environment. Between the jumping and yelling, competitors are congratulating each other and giving tips on how to complete certain tasks that will achieve higher scores, such as the multi-ball Martinez mentioned, when a heap of metal balls comes raining down with better chances to control the chaos.

Each Tuesday, teams are formed of two to three players who are placed with each other based on their previous scores and switched around every week. This is to even out the competition, Walker said, though prizes rewarded and points tallied are purely based on an individual's score.

It also allows the newer players to meet new people each time they attend. More seasoned players give tips to their teammates while newcomers vigilantly watch in between games, hoping to pick up the techniques and secrets for conquering each machine.

Players compete for prizes each Tuesday, which include Long Beach Pinball League T-shirts that are redesigned each year and posters matching the original art that's used in some of the games, donated by Stern Pinball manufacturers.

Competitors get five chances throughout the night to tally the highest scores possible in order to receive prizes. It's all leading up to April 1, when the top eight players will face off for the coveted Silver Ball Trophy.

Last year, Martinez walked away victorious, but tonight he sits at



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

The lights of a Deadpool-themed pinball machine light up a competitor's face while they concentrate on the ball at the Long Beach Pinball League meet-up held at Long Beach Beer Lab on Feb. 28, 2023.

the bottom of his team's rankings. In good humor, his teammate Dan Mac revels in finally beating Martinez

"He never gets last," Mac says, grinning.

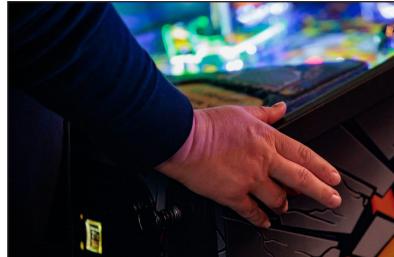
Martinez is laughing too, then he gets serious as he scans the competition again. "It's a focus game. You get distracted ... You lose focus. It's like a board game. I have a family you know, I could be really good if I wanted to but I would have to apply myself more."

Martinez says he doesn't have any rituals or superstitions about competing, but just at that moment he's called up for his turn and puts on his headphones. He's one of the only players wearing headphones while they play, and his teammate/ competitor asks me to find out what he's listening to. Any edge counts.

These days, Martinez prides himself a bit more in keeping his machines in pristine condition.

"I'm very proud of my machines. I'm very picky," Martinez said. "If I go somewhere and it's a bad machine I won't go back. You feel like you got cheated out of your game."

Most of these players have palpable memories of the neon lights, plastic flippers and ticking scores back when pinball machines could be found in nearly every mall and



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A competitor at the Long Beach Pinball League meet-up held at Long Beach Beer Lab on Feb. 28, 2023, frantically slaps the flipper control buttons on a pinball machine sending the ball up into the machine.

arcade in the '8os.

"I'm an '80s kid at heart," Martinez said. "I grew up having the mall and playing arcade games and pinball. Now every game is the same."

He's talking about video games, which essentially put pinball underground when they arrived in the '80s. A few players share the same sentiment—what makes pinball special is the physical strategy that goes hand-in-hand with the

mental. It's a balance of luck, skill and dedication to learn the tricks of each machine.

Even the newer players can recall the first time they rested their hands on the flipper buttons, patiently waiting for the right time to hit the ball.

Mitch Kasse played his first game of pinball when he was working in a satellite launching facility in

see PINBALL LEAGUE page 5



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A Godzilla-themed pinball machine, provided by Gonzalo Martinez is brightly illuminated during the Long Beach Pinball League meet-up held at Long Beach Beer Lab on Feb. 28, 2023.



Russia in 1996.

"This motherfucker right here," he says, pointing to another player in the league who unknowingly walked into Mitch reminiscing. "He brought two machines into the facility just for fun, and that was it."

For the three years that Mitch and his team were working in an isolated environment, they would unwind with 10-hour sessions of pinball on a 1992 Creature from the Black Lagoon machine and endless glasses of Russian vodka.

Now he and his former co-worker come to the Beer Lab every Tuesday to play.

Long after prizes are handed out and scores are entered into the IFPA rankings, about a third of the players remain, practicing for next week's matches. They correct their earlier mistakes, egg each other on and take pictures of personal records achieved.

In the midst of late-night games, as the Beer Lab announces last call, Martinez checks on his machines one last time, opening them up to check on wires and switches. He'll be back in a couple of days to do it again.

The Long Beach Pinball League will play each Tuesday night at the Long Beach Beer Lab (518 W Willow St.) at 7:30 p.m. until April 1. Entry is \$30, which goes towards prizes, and players must bring their own coins to play the five rounds. In order to compete in the April 1 final, a player must attend at least four meetings.

The pinball league will host a tournament on Saturday, March 4 at 2 p.m. Entry is \$10, plus coins to play. The tournament is welcome to players of all skill levels.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Mitch Kasse watches on with folded arms while mentally preparing for his next game during the Long Beach Pinball League meet-up held at Long Beach Beer Lab on Feb. 28, 2023.

SHELTER CANCELLATION

continued from page 1



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Protest signs are taped to the newly erected frencing surrounding the Silverado Park Gym on Feb. 14, 2023.

Silverado Park gym is used by the John Muir Elementary School baskethall team.

Residents from the surrounding neighborhood expressed frustration that the City didn't gather any input from the community before deciding to use Silverado Park for the shelter.

"We've heard concerns from the community, and we thank them for their feedback," Richardson said. "We know that Silverado Park isn't going to be the best solution for a temporary shelter and we will not be moving forward with it."

Sixty beds have been set up at the Long Beach Multi-Service Center, a site that helps connect unhoused people to available aid and resources. Richardson said that this is an untenable solution, as staff has to set up the beds each night and put them away each morning in order for the Multi-Service Center to provide its usual services.

Richardson said the City would be unable to effectively tackle the homelessness problem without the help of the community.

"Right now, we want to make sure our residents who are sleeping in tents and cars, and sometimes without anything, not even a blanket, on sidewalks or tucked behind bushes, have a solution and that we can lead with compassion," Richardson said.





WWW.SIGNALTRIBUNE.COM • LEGAL NOTICES • FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2023

TST6908 Case No. 23LBCP00044 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 275 Magnolia, Long Beach, CA 90806 PETITION OF: Graviela Sambrano for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Graviela Sambrano has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing her name as follows: Present Name: Graviela Sambrano Proposed Name: Gabriela Zambrano 2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause. if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: March 17, 2023; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept. 27. The address of the court is the same as above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county, THE SIGNAL TRIBUNE, 1860 Obispo Ave., Ste. F, Signal Hill, CA 90755, February 10, 17, 24, & March 3, 2023 Mark C. Kim, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: February 3, 2023

TST6910 / 2023 033016 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: 1. BERACOT ENTERPRISES, 2. WHEELS SERVICES, 8234 3RD STREET, PARA-MOUNT, CA 90723. Registrant: CARLOS ROBERTO SANTOS, 8234 3RD STREET. PARAMOUNT, CA 90723. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: CARLOS ROBERTO SANTOS. OWNER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in N/A. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on February 13, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seg., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: February 17, 24 & March 3, 10, 2023

TST6913 / 2023 033018 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: JALPA, ZAC. LANDSCAPING, 14037 ARTHUR AVE. PARAMOUNT, CA 90723. Registrant: URIEL ANTONIO ARROYO SILVA, 14037 ARTHUR AVE, PARA-MOUNT, CA 90723. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: URIEL ANTONIO AR-ROYO SILVA. OWNER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in N/A. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on February 13, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code) Pub The Signal Tribune: February 17, 24 & March 3, 10, 2023

TST6911 / 2023 033020 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: TORTAS Y HAMBURGESAS GRESS, 3209 NAOMI AVE, LOS ANGELES, CA 90011. Registrant: RUBEN GRESS MA-QUEDA, 3209 NAOMI AVE, LOS ANGE-LFS CA 90011. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: RUBEN GRESS MAQUE-DA, OWNER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in N/A. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on February 13, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: February 17, 24 & March 3, 10, 2023

TST6912 / 2023 033014 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: TACOS Y QUESADILLAS LUPITA'S, 733 S CENTRAL AVE. LOS ANGELES. CA 90021. Registrant: MA GUADALUPE RI-VERA DELGADO, 6600 GAGE AVE SPC2. BELL GARDENDS, CA 90201. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: MA GUADA-LUPE RIVERA DELGADO, OWNER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in N/A. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on February 13, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: February 17, 24 & March 3, 10, 2023

TST6914 Notice of Public Lien Sale

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of the California Self-Storage Facility Act Code, Section #21700. the undersigned will be sold by public auction at: Storco Self Storage, 3050 Orange Ave, Long Beach, CA 90807, County of Los Angeles, and State of California. Auction date of: March 14th. 2023 at 11:30 a.m. Terms of sale: Cash sale, all sales are final and purchased at buyers own risk. No guarantees or warranty of any sale are promised by seller. Storco Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any bid or cancel auction. Facility owner or its representatives has the right to bid on any and all units or stop sale at any time. Name of auctioneer: Climers Auction Services. The following units are scheduled for sale: Unit # & Customer Name: Unit # C004/Alvaro Martinez - Unit # A044/Alvaro Martinez - Unit# E072/ LaSunda McCrary. Unit contents may include but are not limited to: Electronics, furniture, appliances, garage items, toys, clothing, sporting goods, tools, automotive and miscellaneous household goods, unless otherwise stated. Publish Dates: 02/24/2023 & 03/03/2023.

TST6886 / 2022 280169 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: VOLLMER-GRAY ENGINEERING LABO-RATORIES, 2421 N PALM DRIVE, SIGNAL HILL, CA 90755, LOS ANGELES COUN-Registrant: BRIGNOLA ENGINFFR-ING INC., 2421 N PALM DRIVE, SIGNAL HILL, CA 90756. State of Incorporation/ Organization: CA. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: CHRISTOPHER BRI-GNOLA, CEO. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in December, 2022. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on December 30, 2022. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: January 13, 20, 27 & February 3, 2023

TST6920 / 2023 044717 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: FRIENDS OF LONG BEACH ANIMALS, 3815 ATLANTIC AVE SUITE #4, LONG BEACH, CA 90807. Mailing address: PO BOX 92736, LONG BEACH, CA 90809. Registrant: FRIENDS OF LONG BEACH ANIMAL SHELTER, 3815 ATLANTIC AVE SUITE #4, LONG BEACH, CA 90807. State of Incorporation/Organization: CA. This business is conducted by: a Corporation. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: FRIENDS OF LONG BEACH ANIMAL SHELTER, TREASURER, LARRY BLUND-EN. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in February, 2023. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on February 28, 2023. NOTICE:

This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2023

TST6922 CASE NUMBER: (Numero del Caso):

21STCV15989 SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVI-SO AL DEMANDADO): ALVARO LOPEZ dba LOPEZ REMODELING SERVICES, Does 1 - 10 YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): ABHAIJEET SINGH, an individual; "Additional Parties Attachment form is attached" NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CAL-ENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/ selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/ selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVI-SO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 dias, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su version. Lea la informacion a continuacion. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hac er que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte. ca.gov) en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el aso por incumplimiento y la corte le po dra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperacion de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesion de arbitraie en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso. The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es): Superior Court of Callfornia, County of Los Angeles, 111 N. Hill

Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. The

name, address and telephone number

of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): Ernesto F. Aldover, Esq., 2550 Via Tejon,Suite 3A, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274 (310) 540-9800 Date: (Fecha) May 4, 2022 SHERRI R. CARTER, Clerk (Secretario) By: J. So, Deputy (Adjunto)

CITY OF SIGNAL HILL

TST6921

NOTICE OF ORDINANCE INTRODUCTION

Ordinance No. 2023-02-1543 was introduced by the Signal Hill City Council at their meeting of Tuesday, February 28, 2023. A summary of the ordinance is as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL, CALIFORNIA, AMENDING SECTION 12.05.040 OF CHAPTER 12.05 OF THE SIGNAL HILL MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO NEW STREET TREE PLANTING

The ordinance was introduced by the following vote:

AYES: MAYOR TINA L. HANSEN, VICE MAYOR LORI Y. WOODS,

ROBERT D. COPELAND, KEIR JONES, EDWARD H.J. WILSON

NOES: NONE
ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

A copy of the full text of the ordinance is available in the City Clerk's Office and on the City's website: www.cityofsignalhill.org.

_____//ss// __ Carmen R. Brooks

Carmen R. Broo

Published in the Signal Tribune newspaper on March 3, 2023. Posted at City Hall, Discovery Well Park, Reservoir Park, and Signal Hill Public Library on or before March 3, 2023.

CITY OF SIGNAL HILL

TST6916

NOTICE INVITING PROPOSALS

A COMPREHENSIVE FEE STUDY, DEVELOPMENT IMPACT FEES AND COST ALLOCATION PLAN STUDY

The City of Signal Hill ("City") will receive electronic proposals only for qualified consultants to provide a comprehensive fee study, development impact fee study and a cost allocation plan study, no later than 4:30 PM on Friday, March 31, 2023. Proposals shall be valid for 180 calendar days after the submission deadline.

The project scope of work is to develop a Comprehensive Fee Schedule, Development Impact Fees, and Cost Allocation Plan. In 2018, the City worked with a consultant to develop a Comprehensive Fee Study and a Cost Allocation Plan. The City would like to review all existing fees. All City fees have been updated annually based on the Consumer Price Index.

The City has not undertaken a Development Impact Fee review study; or the current City staff is not aware of a previous study. The Study would be used to assess the current and a variety of development impact fees on new development to assist in mitigating citywide impacts on public improvements, public services, and community amenities. The City's impact fee program must comply with all relevant sections of the Government Code.

Proposals must be submitted in accordance with the City's Request for Proposal (RFP), which is available to registered vendors through the City's electronic bid management system, PlanetBids. The RFP can be found using the link below.

https://pbsystem.planetbids.com/portal/36746/bo/bo-detail/101784

Interested bidders may participate by selecting "Bid Opportunities" on the home page. The Contract Documents may be downloaded at no charge. Contract Documents will not be available for sale at City Hall. Proposals must be submitted in electronic format through the City's electronic bid management system. The electronic bid management system will not accept late proposals. Electronic modifications to or withdrawal of proposals may be made by the Respondent prior to the proposal classing deadline.

A contract shall be awarded, if at all, to the qualified consultant(s) whose competitive proposals are responsive to this RFP and are in the best interest of the City as determined by the City, a determination to be made solely by the City upon criteria as determined and weighed by the City. The decision of the City shall be final. In its discretion, the City may reject any proposal, abandon the purchase, or re-advertise. The City reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals and to waive any informality or irregularity in any proposal received by the City.

For further information, contact Sharon del Rosario at <u>sdelrosario@cityofsignalhill.org</u> or at 562-989-7319.

Published in the *Signal Hill Tribune* Newspaper:
Posted in accordance with S.H.M.C. Section 1.08.010 on or before
Published on PlanetBids:

March 3, 2023 March 3, 2023 March 1, 2023

TST6918/Order No: 13163 Auto Lien Sale

On 03/16/2023 at 16971 SIERRA HIGH-WAY CANYON COUNTRY,CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2018 HONDA VIN: 2HGFC4B55JH309009 STATE: CA LIC: GTKARMA at 10 AM

> TST6919/Order No: 13024 Auto Lien Sale

On 03/16/2023 at 3229 E IMPERIAL HWY INGLEWOOD,CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2020 TOYOT VIN: JTDEPRAE8LJ003694 STATE: TN LIC: at 8AM



Real Estate License #01041073
CA Department of Real Estate, NMLS #339217
Private Party loans generally have higher interest rates, points & fees than conventional discount loans

EYE ON CRIME

CRIMES REPORTED BY THE SIGNAL HILL POLICE

Wednesday, February 22

4:14 p.m., Injury traffic collision, Coronado Ave./E. PCH 6:25 p.m., False identification to Peace Officer; Obstruct/resist Peace Officer, 3000 block California Ave. (suspect arrested)

Thursday, February 23

10:03 a.m., Identity theft, 2200 block Redondo Ave. 10:30 a.m., Forgery, 2000 block Junipero Ave. 10:48 a.m., Battery, 1900 block Cherry Ave. 5:55 p.m., Injury hit-and-run, 2200 block E. Willow St.

Friday, February 24

11:37 a.m., Injury traffic collision, E. Willow St./California Ave. 1:11 p.m., Identity theft, 2400 block E. 28th St. 2:38 p.m., Auto burglary, 2700 block Cherry Ave.

Saturday, February 25

12:22 a.m., Auto burglary, 2200 block E. 28th St. 7:32 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 1100 block E. 23rd St. 9:19 a.m., Auto burglary, 1000 block E. 32nd St. 11:37 a.m., Stolen vehicle – recovered, 3300 block Orange Ave. 1:39 p.m., Auto burglary, 2700 block E. 20th St. 7:21 p.m., Shoplifting, 900 block E. 33rd St. (suspect arrested)

Sunday, February 26

12:09 p.m., Auto burglary, 2600 block Wall St. 8:04 p.m., Injury traffic collision, Temple Ave./E. Willow St.

Monday, February 27

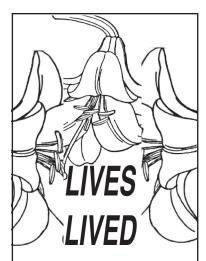
10:20 a.m., Kidnap report, 2400 block Cherry Ave. 2:47 p.m., Injury traffic collision, Orange Ave./E. Spring St. 4:56 p.m., Criminal threats report, 1600 block E. Spring St. 5:21 p.m., Injury traffic collision, Walnut Ave./E. Willow St. 5:39 p.m., Injury hit-and-run, Junipero Ave. south of E. Willow St. 7:05 p.m., Auto burglary, 3200 block Industry Dr.

9:29 p.m., Felony spousal abuse, 2500 block Cherry Ave.

Tuesday, February 28 2:44 p.m., Fight, 1900 block Cherry Ave.

TST6917/Order No: 13162 Auto Lien Sale

On 03/16/2023 at 16971 SIERRA HIGH-WAY CANYON COUNTRY,CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2019 HONDA VIN: SHHFK7H68KU417133 STATE: CA LIC: 8KZH056 at 10 AM



Michael Anderson 55 Judith Ennis 87 Fredrick Washington 72 Sally Dickson 80 Brian Tedisco 59 Alva Hodson 98 Robert Johnson 74 Evelyn Rucks 86 Michael Ramirez 59 Kenneth Henke 87 Marion Smith 78 Scott Cooper 55

The families were assisted by McKenzie Mortuary. For more details on service dates and times, contact (562) 961-9301



Pet of the week:

What a good housecat she would be. Brandy came to our shelter when her human died, and she was sad and shy. She's since become friendly and loves attention and petting. She's a beautiful brown tabby, as you can see, with possibly some Maine coon cat in her. She's only 4 and would love to spend her life in a good home with a caring human. Shelter hours are Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., at 7700 E. Spring St. at the entrance to El Dorado Park (no parking fee for shelter visitors). You can email PetAdopt@ longbeach.gov to speed the process for adopting or fostering Brandy. Ask for ID#A688670).

COMMUNITY

Long Beach Rescue Mission tries to bring unhoused people out of the cold, into shelter

Kristen Farrah Naeem

Staff Writer

During the most recent bout of cold weather, rain and hail, Long Beach Rescue Mission personnel took to the streets, bringing aid to those without shelter.

As part of the Search and Rescue Program created in Dec. 2022, the Long Beach Rescue Mission sends out vans during stormy weather to distribute supplies, basic necessities, information and care packages to people experiencing homelessness. Simultaneously, the nonprofit organization tries to form connections and build trust with the unhoused people they come across-hoping to convince them to let personnel drive them back to

"We're trying to cultivate relationships and trust where people feel comfortable coming into shelter," Executive Director Jeff Levine said. "And then if they say yes, we load up their stuff and bring them back to the shelter. And we've had some really great success."

Levine said that as of Monday, Feb. 27, the Long Beach Rescue Mission had been able to bring 10 people back with them to the shelter, including a pregnant woman.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune A man who goes by the name JQ packs his possessions into his tent after being informed he needs to leave the area under the Ocean Ave. bridge that crosses the LA River in Long Beach on Nov. 18,

"We did bring one couple in. They've been homeless for six months and she was pregnant," Levine said. "I can't even imagine what that would be like, to be with your wife or significant other, pregnant, trying to figure out where you're gonna go."

According to Levine, as of Feb. 27 the Long Beach Rescue Mission's women and children's shelter was already at 100% capacity, while the men's shelter was at 85% capacity.

While the Long Beach Rescue Mission is doing what it can to help as many people as possible, Levine said that due to the presence of children in its shelter, the organization has to sometimes use discernment when deciding to bring someone into the shelter.

Levine shared that these children have already been traumatized, and recounted a recent interaction with a child at the shelter—the little boy was scared just by the presence of an adult man, bursting into tears and becoming visibly frightened at the site of Levine.

"I think with children enrolled, it does create its own kind of unique circumstances," Levine said. "So we can't just bring anybody in. Somebody's struggling with substance abuse or has [a] mental illness— we have to be wise with who we bring into the home so that we're not creating additional trauma for the children who are already presently there. I think that that's a consideration that's on our heart: Trying to love our community who's in need while also loving those who are already residing."

The Long Beach Rescue Mission accepts donations daily to aid their clients. To see a full list of items they need, visit lbrm.org/ways-tohelp/current-needs/. Donations can be dropped off at the Long Beach Rescue Mission's Samaritan House at 1335 Pacific Ave.

COMMUNITY CORNERS continued from page 1

new life to the Washington neighborhood, but will expand pedestrian use by removing illegal parking spaces and extending the crosswalk.

"This is one of the first times there's like, over a year of community engagement, trying to get community input on this project and these types of projects," said Cynthia Luján, director of public art for the Arts Council. "And hopefully setting more of a precedent for projects that happen in the city."

The Arts Council will choose 10 semi-finalists from the 47 local artist submissions by March 1. The community will be able to vote on their favorite artworks through in-person and virtual meetings starting on March 15 to decide how the intersection will be transformed.

This marks the fourth time that the Arts Council has invited residents to vote on which art they want to see in their surroundings. Luján said though the process is more time-consuming, the council hopes to involve the community on more projects in the future.

"I think that a lot of Long Beach community members are very vocal that they want more input and I want to listen to that, even if it takes a little more time and effort, I think it's really important," Luján

Community Corners is the first floor mural that the Arts Council has conducted, and a continuation of its focus on beautifying the Washington neighborhood. The project includes plans for roughly 16 plastic bullards which will "expand pedestrian space, substantially reduce crossing length, and will alert drivers of the intersection's four-way stop," according to the Arts Council website.

Luján said that the mural could have gone anywhere in the public space, but the council wanted to respond to resident's concerns about the safety of the intersection. Last

year, a babysitter was walking two children to school and got struck by a speeding driver. There have been multiple incidents of residents being hit by cars at or near the same intersection.

"We just want to amplify the community's concerns and be able to hopefully make the streets safer," Luján said.

The intersection of 15th Street and Chestnut Avenue are used by many students from Washington Middle School while walking to and from school. The theme for the murals are meant to align with the theme "Fearless Love, Fearless Dreams," which is an homage to the youth in the neighborhood.

The project is in partnership with Habitat LA, who has partnered with the council in the "Together We Make Change" initiative since 2016, which has resulted in two community murals and multiple utility box artworks across the Washington neighborhood.

The council received \$65,000 in grant funds from Bloomberg Philanthropies, the JAG Foundation and the Southern California Association of Government's Go-Human mini-grants. Long Beach is

one of 26 cities across the country who received funds for Community

Community surveys were conducted from nearly 250 residents over the course of five months in 2022. Many residents who were surveyed had children attending either Washington Middle School or the Long Beach Day Nursery, which was a key component in the proposed theme for the street mural.

"I think we really wanted to center on youth, especially because the crosswalk is right where the Long Beach Day Nursery is," Luján said. "So just wanting to have something exciting and fun for kids who use the intersection everyday to look at on the way to or from school."

Most drivers were also recorded driving over the speed limit for the intersection, which is 25 miles per hour. According to Luján, the intersection also regularly has issues of illegal parking, which the bullards would also prevent.

The finalists will be announced in early April and the floor murals are expected to be installed later in the month. There will be a community celebration hosted by the Arts Council and the city in May.

We want you to be a **Re-Pete customer!**

Fast, same day-service • Free estimates 10-day accounts and payment plans

Pete's Plumbing • BATHROOMS (562) 599-0106 petes-plumbing.com

 KITCHENS WATER, DRAIN

OR GAS LINES

We're in a drought... don't leak it out!



Company pension plan

Minimum 2 years full-time, hands-on vehicle mechanic experience required.

To learn more and apply, visit ridelbt.com/careers



