

HAPPY EARTH MONTH

SMALL BUSINESS

Have a look at Nature Nook!

This plant mom wants to bring green spaces to local homes and businesses

Samantha Diaz
Managing Editor

Five years ago Suzie Meyers was struggling to keep her Elephant Ear plant alive, then she read some advice online to replant the sad-looking bulb in some rich soil and hope for the best. She was shocked and delighted weeks later to see that the plant she was ready to give up on had started sprouting bright green leaves, or its namesake “ears.”

Through her new business Nature Nook, Meyers wants to help others grow the same affinity for plants and experience the benefits of an earthly oasis.

Meyers’ Elephant Ear now towers over her with healthy, sturdy leaves that are bigger than her face. It’s one of countless plants, herbs and flowers she has in her backyard—on top of the 50 houseplants she keeps indoors. She hopes to help others create lush green spaces in their home and become successful plant parents themselves.

“I’m just trying to convince other people that I can help them take care of plants,” Meyers said. “Because a lot of people just think that they can’t and I like to think everybody can have plants and they’re not too hard to take care of—at least some of them.”

During the COVID-19 pandemic, plant popularity soared as people searched for ways to spend their time indoors. According to Garden Center magazine, houseplant sales jumped 18% in U.S. and Canada garden centers. Their study found that 66% of U.S. homes have at least one houseplant.

But a OnePoll study found that while 70% of millennials now consider themselves “plant parents,” most of them consider themselves “plant murderers” and struggle to keep their green friends alive. That’s where Nature Nook comes in.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
Suzie Meyer, owner of Nature Nook, poses for a portrait with a reclaimed wood pallet turned succulent planter in her home garden on April 20, 2023.

see NATURE NOOK page 6

CONSERVATION

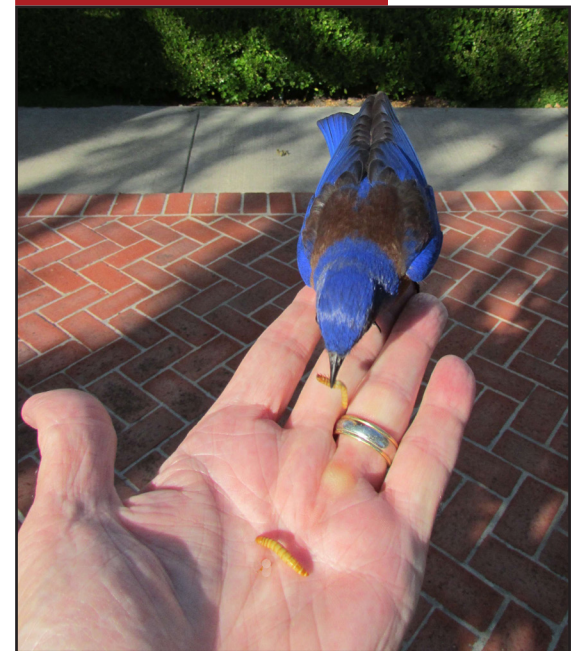


Image Courtesy of the Southern California Bluebird Club
A western bluebird eats from the hand of a conservationist.

Local bird lovers help western bluebird population soar

Long Beach now has around 55 bluebird boxes

Kristen Farrah Naem
Staff Writer

Back when Mary Parsell joined the El Dorado Audubon Society in the 1970s, the western bluebird was rarely seen gracing the skies or trees around Long Beach. Now they’re a relatively common sight thanks to decades of work by citizen conservationists.

The most significant aid local bird lovers have given the western bluebird is shelter and protection by building and installing bluebird boxes—small, light blue rectangular birdhouses, mounted high in trees, specifically made for the western bluebird.

According to Bill Wallace of the Southern California Bird Club, bluebirds typically make their nests in holes made by woodpeckers in dead or dying trees. But since dead trees pose a safety hazard for humans if they fall, most dead trees are cut down, eliminating the western bluebird’s natural habitat.

The bluebird boxes provide a substitution for missing habitats, and were first brought to Los Angeles and Orange Counties around 25 years ago by Richard Purvis, one of the founding members of the Southern California Bluebird Club.

see BLUEBIRD page 6

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HOUSING

53% of homeless people in Long Beach became homeless within the last year, according to annual Point-in-Time Count

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

While Long Beach announced the smallest increase in its homeless population since 2019, more than half of these people became homeless in 2022, the city announced Thursday morning during the results of the 2023 annual Point-in-Time homeless count.

Hundreds of volunteers surveyed different parts of the city on January 23 and found 3,447 homeless people in Long Beach, a 4.6% increase since 2022 when there were 3,296 homeless people identified.

Of the total number of homeless people in Long Beach, 71% were unsheltered and 29% had shelter. There was a 2% decrease in those who had shelter (including vehicles) and a 6% increase in those without shelter.

"We certainly have a lot of work to do but I'm encouraged by the story the data is telling," said Mayor Rex Richardson. "We're really encouraged by the slowing of growth that we've seen since the pandemic."

In 2022, there was a 22% increase in people living in homeless encampments and a 380% increase in people living in their vehicles.

There are 1,827 people experiencing homelessness for the first time in Long Beach, which accounted for 53% of the homeless population. This is an 18% increase from the 1,549 first-time homeless people from 2021 to 2022. Of the homeless people identified, 18% were living in their vehicle.

"What it shows is this, the new



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
Tents line part of the LA River bike path under the Ocean Ave. bridge in Long Beach on Nov. 18, 2021.

group of folks experiencing homelessness are open to accepting services," Richardson said. "When services are provided they do accept those services and that is very promising."

Thirty nine percent of the people identified during the Point-in-Time Count are chronically homeless, which means they have been homeless for at least a year and are struggling with serious mental health issues, substance abuse or a physical disability. Just 19% of people said they have been homeless for less than a year.

According to city data, 35% of people became homeless due to financial hardship, 27% said it was due to "family disruption" and 16% said they became homeless after being evicted.

Nearly one in five people experiencing homelessness in Long Beach are former foster youth, more than 15% suffered child abuse and more than 60% reported being neglected as a child, Director of Health and Human Services Kelly Colopy said. Those who recently became homeless are six times more likely to be victims of domestic violence than

those who are chronically homeless, according to Colopy.

The new homeless population is more likely to identify as female or gender-binary and more likely to be Black or Latinx. There is a 45% increase in older adults (55 years and older) experiencing homelessness, accounting for more than 1,300 people. More than 200 people under 24 years old are homeless in Long Beach.

There's also a 2.5% increase in students who are homeless and a 20% decrease in veterans experiencing homelessness. 11.2% of the homeless population identified as LGBTQ.

There are currently 1,300 beds in shelters in the city for those who are homeless, according to Colopy. A shelter providing an additional 85 beds at the former Long Beach Rescue Mission Thrift Store will be opening this weekend.

The Luxury Inn in North Long Beach is expected to open as a homeless shelter and provide 78 beds by the end of the year, Richardson said.

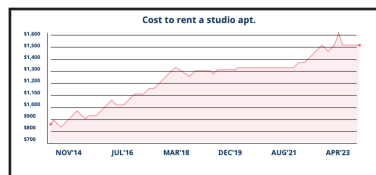
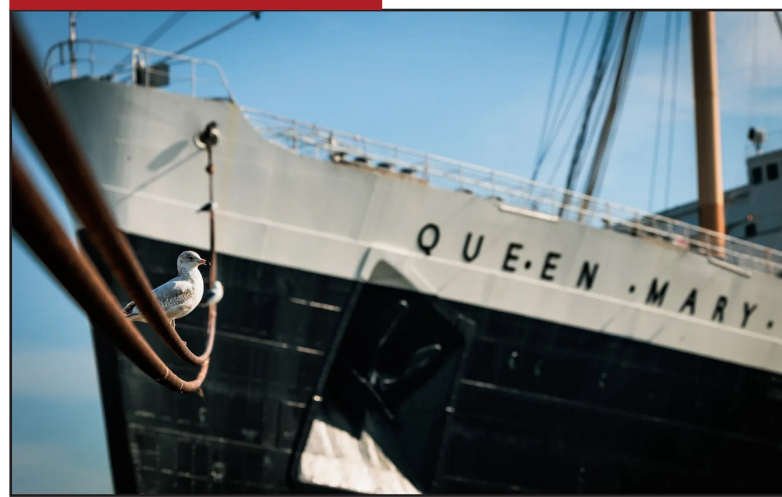


Image Courtesy of Long Beach
A line graph shows the steady rise in studio apartment prices in Long Beach in the last nine years.

PORT OF LB



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A seagull rests on one of the cables holding the retired oceanliner, Queen Mary, in its permanent location in Long Beach on Dec. 15, 2022.

The Queen Mary saga continues: Long Beach Port expected to loan the city \$12 million to continue ship repairs

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

The Queen Mary will receive a \$12 million face-lift after the city and Port of Long Beach (Port) announced an anticipated partnership Monday, April 24. The \$12 million is being loaned to the city from the Port in order to fund the ship's reopening operations, complete infrastructure repairs and undergo restoration projects.

The deal will allow the Port to use nearly 14 acres of land that's currently being used for oil operations and lease it to customers. Revenue from the newly leased land will be split between the city and the Port, though the city will be using its half of the revenues to repay its loan for the foreseeable future.

Long Beach city council will have the final say on whether to approve or deny the proposed deal when it's presented to the body next month. The Harbor Commission gave its approval on April 19.

"All cities have big challenges, but when we work together we can find solutions," said Mayor Rex Richardson. "This creates more opportunities at the Port. When the Port does well, the city of Long Beach does well; it creates revenue streams to help offset oil revenues that are anticipated to decline and it helps inject much-needed resources in our Queen Mary. That's a win-win."

Once the loan is repaid, Richardson expressed interest in using the revenues to develop the rest of the land surrounding the Port—roughly 43 acres. City Manager Tom Modica said it will be "several more years" before that happens.

The 13.9 acres of land to the west of the ship will be taken from Long Beach Energy Resources and transferred to the Port for non-oil uses. Some of the operations will continue, but be shrunken down, Richardson explained, while most of it will be leased to Port customers.

"Certainly we have terminal operators who operate our terminal [as] options, but we also have a number of other logistical companies and we believe that this land

will attract many many suitors in the years ahead," said Noel Haccagaba, deputy executive director of administration and operations for the Port of Long Beach.

The city is hoping the repairs and revenue from land leases will help return the Queen Mary to a profitable tourist location rather than a financial squander. According to Modica, the ship was generating \$68 million in the last year prior to closing. However, a 2017 marine survey identified up to \$289 million in long-term needed repairs and it's unclear where that money will come from.

Part of the problem for the last several decades has been the carousel of failed operators, two of which filed for bankruptcy and one of which defaulted on their loan and sapped \$23 million in city funds. In June 2022, Long Beach agreed to take the Queen Mary back under city control, with Evolution Hospitality running operations.

Revenue from the operations mostly goes to the city, with Evolution Hospitality receiving a portion. In order to complete critical repairs and reopen to the public, the city funneled \$3.6 million for installing an emergency generator, updating lighting fixtures and adding boilers to provide hot water.

"[This agreement] will be key to implementing strategies and policies that will facilitate our future and economic success by diversifying the local economy and establishing new revenues and growing targeted industry sectors," said Vice Mayor Cindy Allen. "This will also be a focused effort in the city's shift away from fossil fuels. The 13.9 acres are former oil-operating properties and will strengthen and grow transportation and logistics at the Port. And of course, new revenue streams will be created by private lease-holders."

The Queen Mary opened its doors for limited tours in December of last year and there are plans to begin restaurant and hotel operations the week of May 12, Modica said.

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NEWS

Woman found dead in Long Beach a year ago still unidentified

Staff Report
Signal Tribune

A year after her body was found, no one has yet come forward to name an unknown woman found dead in Long Beach.

According to the National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs), the unidentified woman was fatally struck by a vehicle in the 90810 zip code, where she died at the scene. Her body was found on April 20, 2022.

According to NamUs, the woman is believed to be Latina with brown eyes and short black hair.

She is estimated to be between 35 and 45 years old, 125 to 140 pounds, and 5 feet to 5 feet and 3 inches tall.

NamUs provided a photo of the deceased woman's face on its website.

Those who may have information about her identity are urged to call the Long Beach Police Department at (562) 570-7260.



Kat Wilcox | Pexels

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PUBLIC NOTICE
by
COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 29
OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY
of
FILING OF A SERVICE CHARGE REPORT; and
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SERVICE CHARGE REPORT

The Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 29 of Los Angeles County will hold a public hearing on May 10, 2023, 1:30 p.m., in the Board Room at the District's Administrative Offices, 1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601. The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with an opportunity to make comments regarding the Service Charge Report filed with the District Clerk on March 8, 2023. Please refer to the agenda for instructions regarding public participation. The boundaries of Sanitation District No. 29 are shown below.

Sanitation District No. 29 provides wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal services. Residential and commercial users pay for their share of these services through the District's service charge program. The average daily quantity of sewage flow and strength from one single family home is equal to one sewage unit. All other user categories are assessed proportionately. The service charge rate for fiscal year 2023-24, as previously approved by the District's Board of Directors, is \$358 per year per sewage unit. No changes to the approved service charge rate are proposed.

The District intends to continue to collect the service charge as a separate line item on the property tax roll as the most cost-effective means of collecting the charge. To do so, the California Health and Safety Code requires the filing of and subsequent hearing on a Service Charge Report. Copies of the Report are available on the District's website (www.lacsd.org) or can be obtained by contacting District's staff by regular mail at P.O. Box 4998, Whittier, CA 90607-4998; by e-mail at Rates@lacsd.org; or by phone at (855) 240-9506 (toll free). In addition to providing comments at the public hearing, written comments regarding this matter may also be submitted to the District Clerk at these same addresses.

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EDUCATION



Briana Mendez-Padilla | Signal Tribune

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.

Teacher's association votes to pass tentative agreement; LBUSD needs to ratify

Briana Mendez-Padilla
Education Reporter

After about six months of negotiation, the Teacher's Association of Long Beach (TALB) ratified a tentative labor agreement with the Long Beach Unified School District for the 2023-24 school year.

The tentative agreement passed by TALB members on April 21 consists of a 9% on-schedule raise and a 3% off-schedule raise for the 2023-24 school year. The tentative agreement also lowered the number of personal development days the district was mandating from four to two.

The inclusion of four personal development days was a point of contention between the district and the teachers association. According to the district, the additional days are meant to "support the adults in helping students achieve." Teachers said they found it unnecessary and rallied against it at multiple board meetings.

During their March 25 bargaining update on their website, TALB expressed that since the summer of 2020 "every bargaining cycle has been unnecessarily confrontational and contentious." The full contract does not need to be renegotiated every year, but there are certain clauses like compensation and contract language that are negotiated every three years or so, according to TALB Jordan Elementary Area Director Mimi Kao.

For her, the biggest issue was the lack of transparency when it came to the additional days.

"The initial proposal did not have any specific professional development attached to it. There was no teacher feedback surveyed in terms of do we need extra days? When would these extra days be? What professional development would be involved?" Kao said.

The two extra development days will be moved to the 2024-25 school year as opposed to including them in the 2023-24 school year as the district had originally proposed.

Before reaching the tentative agreement, the bargaining process had reached an impasse—which is when both parties have reached their "best and final offer"—as it appeared they would be unable to reach any sort of agreement.

The district's highest offer was an 8.5% on-schedule raise with 3.5% off-schedule raise, whereas TALB wanted a minimum of 10%

on-schedule with a 3% off-schedule. According to Kao, a day after the impasse was reached, LBUSD reached out to schedule another bargaining meeting on April 5.

The TALB and district bargaining teams reached a tentative agreement during that negotiation meeting, but TALB members still had to vote to ratify or deny it.

Out of 3,495 members, 2,310 voted on the tentative agreement. The K-12 contract received 1,726 yes votes and 435 no votes. The Child Development Center and High School contract received 143 yes votes and 7 no votes.

Kao said she voted against the tentative agreement.

"I wanted to hold out for more, I did not like the way that any of it was done. [Personally], I'd be okay with additional days, but I want to see what we're doing," Kao said. "And the honest truth is, every teacher is already working for free. Those days we go in early to set up the classroom, we review records, we do that on our own time so that we can be prepared. I'd like to just be paid for that."

The tentative agreement now needs to be approved by the LBUSD board and will be voted on at their May 3 board meeting.



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EYE ON CRIME

CRIMES REPORTED BY THE SIGNAL HILL POLICE

Wednesday, April 19

6:30 a.m., Throwing objects at moving cars, E. Willow St./Lemon Ave.
10:46 a.m., Grand theft, 2600 block E. 28th St.
11:17 a.m., Grand theft, E. 19th St./Stanley Ave.
12:04 p.m., Annoying/threatening phone calls, 2600 block Signal Parkway
12:56 p.m., Indecent exposure, 2200 block Temple Ave.
12:56 p.m., Battery, E. 19th St./Stanley Ave.
3:57 p.m., Grand theft, 2200 block E. 21st St.
5:38 p.m., Intoxicated person on drugs, Legion Dr./E/ Hill St. (citation)

Thursday, April 20

2:12 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 1300 block E. 29th St.
6:19 a.m., Elder abuse, 2300 block Promontory Dr.
7:11 a.m., Burglary report, 2600 block Panorama Dr.
10:57 a.m., Burglary report, 1700 block E. Hill St.
11:22 a.m., Auto burglary, 2400 block Cherry Ave.
11:27 a.m., Criminal threats, 2300 block California Ave.

Friday, April 21

8:33 a.m., Intoxicated person on drugs, 1800 block Redondo Ave.
11:25 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2900 block Cherry Ave.
3:56 p.m., Grand theft, 2500 block Cherry Ave.
6:23 p.m., Intoxicated person, 2000 block Alamitos Ave.

Saturday, April 22

6:21 a.m., Intoxicated person on drugs, 2400 block E. PCH
9:51 a.m., Stolen vehicle – recovered, Walnut Ave./E. 21st St.
10:38 p.m., Auto burglary, 1700 block Summit Dr.

Sunday, April 23

1:14 a.m., Possessing nitrous Oxide, 2700 block Panorama Dr. (2 suspects arrested)
12:57 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2300 block E. Spring St.
2:58 p.m., Fire, 900 block E. 25th St.
7:49 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2300 block E. Spring St.

Monday, April 24

8:19 a.m., Identity theft, 2700 block Walnut Ave.
9:20 a.m., Criminal threats with intent to terrorize, 3200 block Walnut Ave.
10:44 a.m., Auto burglary, 2500 block Walnut Ave.
12:50 p.m., Group disturbance, 3200 block Walnut Ave. (suspect arrested)
1:27 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 1900 block Freeman Ave.
8:10 p.m., Grand theft, 2400 block California Ave.

Tuesday, April 25

11:37 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2300 block E. 19th St.
3:26 p.m., Burglary report, 2200 block E. 21st St.
3:51 p.m., Stolen vehicle – recovered, 2700 block St. Louis Ave.
4:04 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2400 block Cherry Ave. (suspect arrested)
4:50 p.m., Grand theft, 3300 block Atlantic Ave.
8:17 p.m., Petty theft, 3 misdemeanor warrants, 1600 block E. Willow St. (suspect arrested)

LBPD reporting area is too extensive to report here, but you can go to their website: longbeach.gov/police. Once there, click on Crime Info, then Crime Incident Mapping Application. Click on Launch Crime Incident Mapping Application & type in an address.

You can use filters to select dates and types of crime.

CRIME

Reward renewed in 2022 hit-and-run that killed father and daughter in Long Beach



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Protest signs are seen on March 15, 2022, at the memorial set up at the apartment of Jose Palacios Gonzalez, 42, and his daughter Samantha Palacios, 3, who died after being struck by a driver.

City News Service

Southern California Local News

A \$25,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the suspect in a Long Beach hit-and-run crash in 2022 that killed a 42-year-old man and his 3-year-old daughter has been renewed, and police on April 21 continued their search for the motorist.

Octavio Montano Islas, 25, was allegedly driving a 2014 Ram 1500 pickup northbound on Rose Avenue near East Artesia Boulevard about 10 p.m. March 1, 2022, when the truck “left the roadway and collided with an apartment building, killing two of the occupants inside,” the Long Beach Police Department reported. The suspect allegedly ran from the crash scene.

Jose Palacios Gonzalez was pronounced dead at the scene, and his daughter Samantha Palacios was taken to a hospital, where she later died.

“To the suspect that took the lives of Jose and Samantha—our officers will not be dissuaded by the passage of time,” Hebeish said in a video statement released Friday. “We will continue our investigation until we find and arrest you. You will be held accountable for the death of Jose and Samantha.”

The suspect was described as 5

feet, 8 inches tall, 160 pounds, with black hair, brown eyes and unspecified tattoos on his right forearm.

The reward, which had been offered in 2022 by the city of Long Beach and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, has been renewed, said Long Beach police Chief Wally Hebeish.

Anyone with information on his whereabouts was asked to call LBPD Detective Kevin Johansen at 562-570-7355. Anonymous tips can be called in to Crime Stoppers at 800-222 8477 or submitted online at lacrimestoppers.org.



Image Courtesy of Long Beach Police Department
Octavio Montano is wanted by the police for allegedly driving his vehicle into the apartment of a family, killing a father and daughter.

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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.**

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FLOWERS

Pictures from the People: beautiful blooms, and bees!

Our readers sent in their best California poppy photos for a chance to be published



Image Courtesy of Bdaltonphoto.com

Lakewood resident Bill Dalton traveled to Antelope Valley on April 23, 2023 to experience one of Southern California's superblooms.



Image Courtesy of Alina King

A throwback photo of the superbloom in 2019 from Alina King.

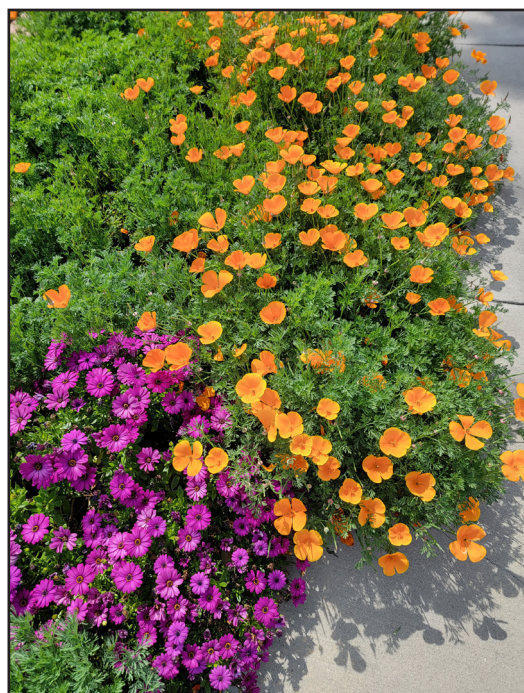


Image Courtesy of Laurie C. Angel

Bushes full of bright orange poppies adorn Laurie C. Angel's front yard in North Long Beach.

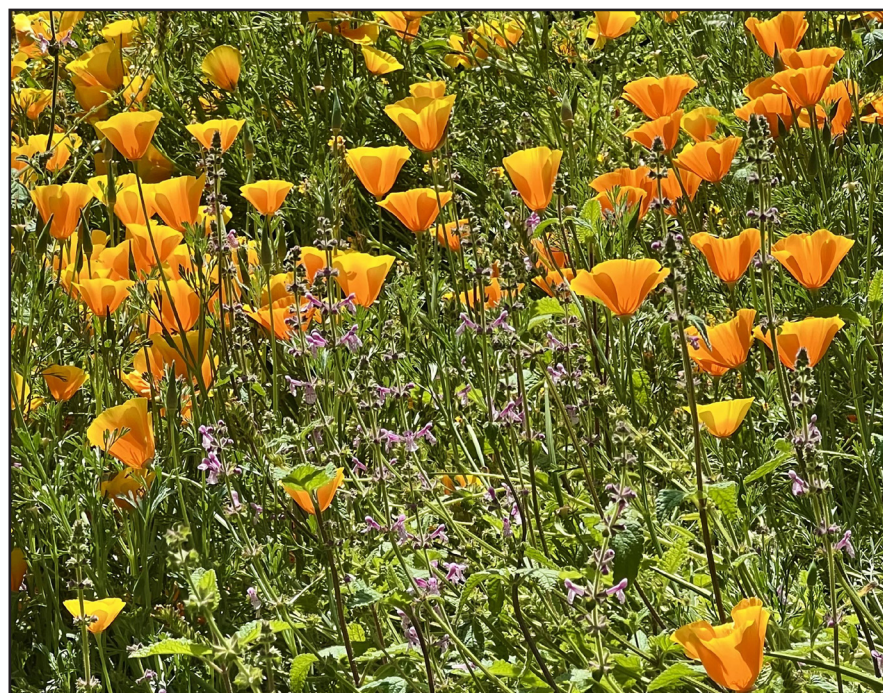


Image Courtesy of Lizzy Donahue

A field of poppies on the El Dorado Nature Center's 1/4 mile trail loop from Lizzy Donahue.

Last week the *Signal Tribune* announced its community-focused project "Pictures from the People" and our readers amazed us with vibrant California poppies from throughout Long Beach and beyond, and even caught a bee napping inside a flower. There's less than a week left to send poppy photos in so get entries sent to Newspaper@signaltribune.com or to our Instagram @SignalTribune by May 3. To see all the community entries, visit our website and social media channels. The next photo prompt will be announced on May 5.

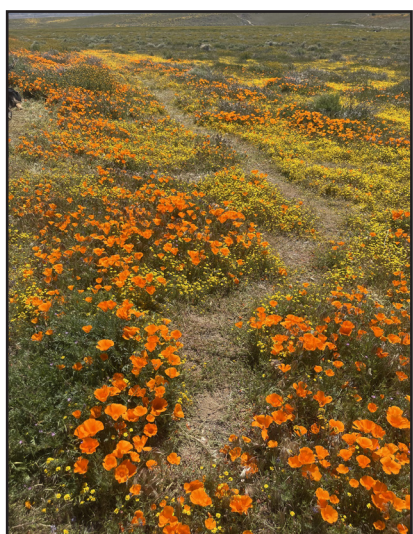


Image Courtesy of Kyle D.

Kyle D experienced a field of orange poppies and yellow flowers at Rose Park in Long Beach.



Image Courtesy of Mason Kuehler

Local photographer Mason Kuehler took a walk through the El Dorado Nature Center to see poppies and fuzzy bees. Mason's Instagram is @masonkuehler.



Image Courtesy of Bdaltonphoto.com

Lakewood resident Bill Dalton traveled to Antelope Valley on April 23, 2023 to experience one of Southern California's superblooms.



Image Courtesy of Sheridan Cazarez

A bee hovers over a poppy at Central Park in Huntington Beach from Sheridan Cazarez.

NATURE NOOK

continued from page 1



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Suzie Meyer, owner of Nature Nook, peeks through the leaves of a large Monstera plant in her home garden on April 20, 2023.

Meyers began her journey when one of her friends was having issues taking care of her houseplant and was about to give up. Meyers was able to share her “trial and error knowledge” and help her friend revive the plant.

“I think that’s the fun part about being a gardener, is figuring it out yourself,” Meyers said.

For years now, Meyers has been donating cuttings of plants to her friends—plant babies, if you will—to help them grow both their knowledge and gardens.

Meyers has had her fair share of plant-based, botanical failures too. It took about a year and a half before she built the confidence to start a collection, and by sifting through hundreds of articles, TikTok videos and Pinterest how-tos, she learned to listen to her plants for what they need to thrive.

Nature Nook meets people where they’re at. If someone is just beginning their plant parent journey, Meyers will begin with a phone call

to discuss goals and levels of experience, do a walkthrough of their home to survey the space and environmental factors then provide a price estimate within a given budget. Once an idea is settled, Meyers will take to Photoshop to experiment with designs and various plants and then present it to the client, who will have the final say on which plants they want to adopt.

“My goal is to expand our image of popular plants, so we can explore all mother nature has to offer,” her website states.

“When I see a space, I just like to think about all the different plants I think would look cool there,” Meyers said. “I know that a lot of what I consider really cool aren’t just at your average Home Depot ... So I feel like just by informing people of going to the different nurseries online and I feel like people don’t know that you can get plants shipped for like a pretty decent price.”

For those who have already

found success keeping their plants alive, but want to expand their collection or need someone to care for their plants while they’re out of town, Meyers offers weekly or bi-weekly plant-care services.

Nature Nook will also provide clients with a typed-out guideline on how to care for specific plants, since each one is vastly different. Clients will learn how to avoid over-watering, identify when their plant needs to be moved into the sunlight, notice when the leaves need to be wiped down and other advice from Meyers on an as-needed basis.

Earlier this year, Meyers was feeling creatively uninspired in her work-from-home job and had to return to her roots, quite literally. By spending time in her outdoor garden and arranging then rearranging her plants so they looked “just so,” Meyers felt more at peace. She wanted to share this feeling with others.

Her first client asked for some-

thing slightly out of her line of expertise: an herb garden. Meyers happily welcomed the challenge.

“Obviously I grow my own herbs too,” she said. But Meyers is going beyond choosing and buying herbs for her client to grow. She’s in the process of designing and building a garden bed out of reclaimed pallets of wood to fulfill her client’s wishes of homegrown mint, rosemary, thyme and more.

It’s not just that Meyers loves her plant babies, though she lets out an occasional scream of excitement when a succulent or flower blooms for the first time. Multiple studies have shown that being surrounded by greenery and nature can have positive physical and psychological effects on people.

According to the National Library of Medicine, exposure to natural elements have been associated with a decrease in blood pressure, depression, anxiety and stress and an increase in attention and focus.

There are multiple health insti-

tutes in Europe that have experimented in “horticulture therapy” to aid their patient’s recovery.

Meyers’ next step is to bring these benefits to stores around Long Beach. She wants to work with businesses to design green spaces for employees and customers to enjoy.

“I just love Long Beach, there’s so many places like on Second Street and Fourth Street etc. that have really large glass storefronts and I feel like plants would do so well there,” Meyers said. “I feel like I’m really good at making a space feel good, and that’s kind of where I want to build my future. I just really like making a space that feels comfy and so that’s kind of where I see myself in the future, is doing more interior decorating with not only plants.”

To book a consultation or request plant-care services from Nature Nook, visit the website and click the contact button or email naturenookbc@gmail.com.

BLUEBIRD

continued from page 1

“[Purvis was] quite an avid birder in his younger days,” Wallace said. “He noticed that there were a few western bluebirds out in Anaheim and so he started putting up some bluebird boxes and it sort of grew from there.”

Purvis is a lifelong bird enthusiast, who created his first bird box as a young child in Georgia.

“I’ll remember that forever,” 95-year-old Purvis told the *Signal Tribune* in regards to his first bird box.

After moving to Southern California as an adult and putting up his first bird boxes specifically to help the western bluebird, Purvis began to spread his knowledge with other local birders throughout LA and Orange Counties. This included a volunteer trip to Long Beach to teach the El Dorado Audubon Society how to create and tend to the boxes.

Due to Purvis’ influence, the El Dorado Audubon Society went on to install and tend bluebird boxes in Long Beach for over two decades.

The El Dorado Audubon Soci-

ety focuses on the conservation of native birds and their natural habitats. Its activities and programs suffered during the COVID-19 pandemic, and as a result, its Bluebird Nest Box Monitoring Program hasn’t been operating since 2020. But Parsell said that local birders are still tending to some of the boxes on their own.

According to Wallace, there are now around 55 bluebird boxes in Long Beach.

Due to Purvis’ intervention into the fate of the western bluebird, and the decades of work by the El Dorado Audubon Society and other local conservationists, the population of this native bird has shot back up.

The National Audubon Society asks local birders to participate in a yearly Christmas Bird Count, where participants go out into their local communities and log the number and species of birds they see.

Data from the Christmas counts shows the resurgence that occurred after Purvis brought his bluebird boxes to Southern California.

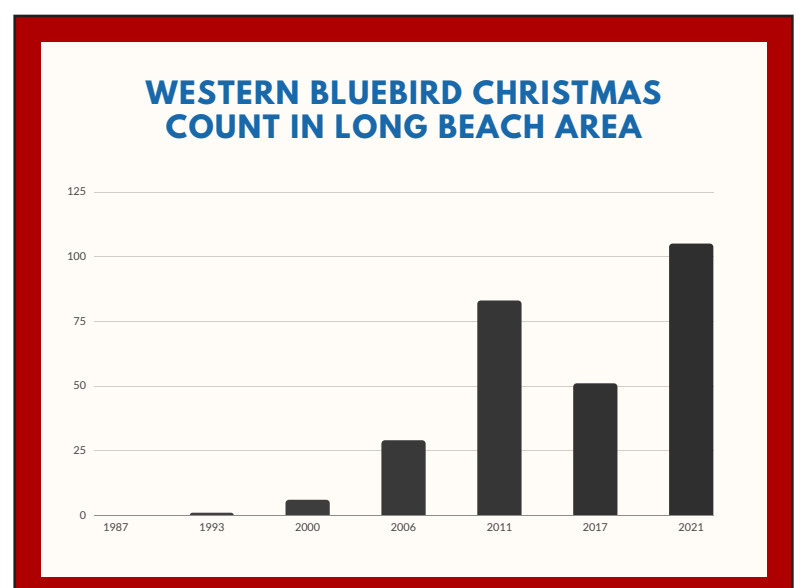
Although the local birding area is designated as “Long Beach - El Dorado” on the National Audubon Society’s map, it includes parts of surrounding cities such as Signal Hill, Lakewood, Seal Beach and more.

In 1987, no western bluebirds were seen during the Christmas count in the Long Beach area, but in 2021 a total of 105 western bluebirds were counted by volunteers.

“I’m really pleased with the way they have increased since I started working with them,” Purvis said.

Residents can spy bluebird boxes high up in the trees of local parks such as Heartwell and El Dorado, safe from curious hands and prying eyes.

“There’s more and more bluebirds in the neighborhoods now,” said Mary Parsell of the El Dorado Audubon Society. “Because what happens is then they spread out to the neighborhoods around the parks. And Long Beach has so many parks that if you start with a few bluebird boxes, then you have more bluebirds out into the neighborhood.”



Kristen Farranh Naeem | Signal Tribune

A bar graph shows the rapid rise in in the Western Bluebird Christmas population in Long Beach since the year 2000.

Those interested in installing or monitoring a bluebird box can reach out to the Southern California Bluebird Club at socialbluebirdclub38@gmail.com. Monitoring

duties include checking on boxes once a week from March to July, and sometimes performing maintenance such as getting rid of insects such as bees and ants.

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AROUND TOWN

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



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A Long Beach Community Compost volunteer uses a shovel to break up frozen fruits to be added to the compost pile near Farm Lot 59 in Signal Hill on Oct. 29, 2021.

To ring in the end of Earth Month, the wonderful nonprofits, local businesses and public libraries in Long Beach and Signal Hill are hosting plenty of outdoor events. Residents can soak up the sun, spend a few hours away from the heat at an indoor event or visit our lists of gardens or beach cleanups throughout the city.

Nature-themed events are kicking off the weekend with a celebration of native flowers and music Friday night at Semillitas and an environmental art show at The Hangout. For an educational experience, residents can learn to compost food scraps with worms at Willow Springs Park Saturday morning.

For more artsy events, residents can learn how to create Japanese woodblock prints Wednesday afternoon at the Bay Shore Neighborhood Library and children can watch a Star Wars movie and make a lightsaber Thursday night at the Los Altos Neighborhood Library.

Family-themed events are also highlighted this week, starting with the Celebration of the Young Child at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library Saturday morning. Families that want to support Autism Awareness can join a Family Fun Day at the LBX Hangar later that afternoon.

28 FRIDAY

AUTHOR TALK & STORYTIME

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Author Shari-fa Anozie will read her children's books "It's In You" and "Sibling Love" at Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.) Young children will be able to listen to story time, ask questions after and make a craft. To register or learn more, call the library at (562) 989-7323. Free.

CHESS CLUB

3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Every week chess players of all ages and skill levels are invited to compete against each other at the Michelle Obama Neigh-

borhood Library (5870 Atlantic Ave.). The chess club will be held in the library's Magazine Room. Free.

TIANQUITZL

5 p.m. to 9 p.m. The public is invited to celebrate Mother Nature during this event at Semillitas (3920 Atlantic Ave.). Attendees can make native flower seed balls, listen to music and shop. Free to attend.

WILDFLOWER ART SHOW

6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The opening reception of a group art show that focuses on the natural environment, located at The Hangout (2122 E 4th St.). Free admission.

LIVE MUSIC

6:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Local musician Alan Levine will be performing at Wine on 2nd (5640 E 2nd St.). Free admission.

29 SATURDAY

LEARN TO VERMICOMPOST

9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. The City of Long Beach will be teaching residents how to turn food scraps into fertile soil with the help of worms. During this workshop at Willow Springs Park (2745 Orange Ave.), attendees will learn how to set up a vermicompost bin, what to compost and how to use the resulting soil. Free.

CELEBRATION OF THE YOUNG CHILD

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event at the Billie Jean King Main Library (200 W. Broadway) will celebrate the importance of early childhood with various educational and fun hands-on activities, while also providing families with information on how to support their child's learning and overall well-being. Over 50 different City and County departments, local organizations and agencies will be hosting resource and activity booths. Focus will be placed on families with children ages 6 and under. However, all families are welcome to attend. Free.

AUTISM AWARENESS FAMILY FUN DAY

1 p.m. to 8 p.m. Angel City Market will be hosting neurodiverse vendors selling a variety of products at the LBX Hangar (4150 McGowen St.) There will also be music and art. Attendees are encouraged to wear blue in support of Autism Awareness. Free to attend.

30 SUNDAY

HOLLAND FESTIVAL

11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Dutch Americans are invited to celebrate their cultural heritage at POA Park (7390 Carson Blvd.) There will be music, street food, photo opportunities and a beer garden. Admission is \$10 at the door.

READ CON AMIGOS

3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Caregivers and children up to the age of 10 are invited to the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library (5870 Atlantic Ave.), to enjoy stories, songs and rhymes in both English and Spanish. Free.

01 MONDAY

RESEARCH FOR STARTING, MANAGING AND GROWING YOUR BUSINESS

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.

SPRING MUSIC CONCERT SERIES

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Kozue Matsumoto will be performing original compositions and traditional Japanese music at the Signal Hill Library's Zinnia Courtyard (1800 E. Hill St.). This event is family-friendly. Free.

02 TUESDAY

AFTER SCHOOL DROP IN

3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Local 3rd to 5th graders are invited to the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.) after school to enjoy crafts, gaming, snacks and more. Free.

TEEN ADVISORY GROUP

4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Local high schoolers are invited to help the library develop events, crafts and activities for their peers at the Burnett Neighborhood Library (560 E. Hill St.). Free.

03 WEDNESDAY

JAPANESE BLOCK PRINTING

3 p.m. to 5 p.m. The public is invited to learn about the history of Japanese woodblock prints and their impact on the modern-day art world. After the discussion, participants will be able to make their own block prints out of foam or soft rubber. This event will be held at Bay Shore Neighborhood Library (195 Bay Shore Ave.). Free.

FOOD TRUCKS VIRTUAL COMMUNITY MEETING

6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The City of

Long Beach is hosting an online forum to gather community feedback that will be used to shape future regulations around food trucks. To register for the virtual meeting, visit bit.ly/3KDLU3N.

04 THURSDAY

SENIOR DANCING FOR HEALTH

10 a.m. to noon. The United Cambodian Community of Long Beach is holding a line-dancing class for seniors at the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.). Seniors are encouraged to socialize with each other as they learn various country line dances. To register, call (562) 989-7323 or visit the library. Free.

LIGHTSABER CRAFT

4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Children and teens are invited to watch Star Wars while creating a themed craft at the Los Altos Neighborhood Library (5614 Britton Drive.). Free.

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AROUND TOWN
A WEEKLY LIST OF EVENTS IN
LONG BEACH AND SIGNAL HILL



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ENVIRONMENT

Make Earth Month every month: Here are nine monthly cleanups in and around Long Beach



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A woman picks trash out of the rocks along Alamitos Bay on April 10, 2022, during a beach clean-up event in Long Beach.

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

Every April we receive a welcome reminder to care for the planet any way we can. Earth Month was first established in America in April of 1970, after 4.2 million gallons of oil spilled onto the beaches in Santa Barbara and coated the shores with dead animals and crude oil. It was the largest oil spill in history at the time—and is now third on the list.

The incident inspired the nation to be more environmentally conscious, and Earth Month was recognized globally in 1990. While April is a great month to learn how to become an environmental advocate, there are plenty of ways throughout the year to care for the planet.

One of the easiest ways to make an impact is removing leftover trash and debris from neighborhoods and beaches. Long Beach has multiple organizations that dedicate at least one day a month to remove waste from our surroundings. Residents have plenty of options for monthly cleanups around the city so they can take care of the Earth year-round.

Cal Heights Cleanup: 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. every Saturday. Volunteers are needed to help clean the California Heights neighborhood. Bags, trash pickers and reusable gloves are provided. This weekly cleanup is organized by Cal Heights Clean Streets. Volunteers should meet on the northwest corner of the intersection of Lime Avenue and Wardlow Road.

Cleanup Coalition's Beach Cleanup: 10 a.m. to noon on the third Saturday of each month. Six various organizations in Long Beach team up every month to clean Junipero Beach and teach an environmental topic to volunteers. Organizers will provide free coffee, donuts (vegan and non-vegan), a water-filling station, gloves and sifters. Volunteers should bring a reusable water bottle and sunscreen.

Belmont Pier Cleanup: 10 a.m. to noon on the first Saturday



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Members from the People of the Earth Krew pick trash out of the rocks along Alamitos Bay on April 10, 2022, during a beach clean-up event in Long Beach.

of each month. The Surfrider Foundation asks volunteers to help clean the beach around the Belmont Pier. Volunteers should bring their own bags or buckets, trash pickers, gloves, sun protection and water. Hand sanitizer and a free parking pass will be provided. Volunteers are asked to sign up ahead of time at volunteer.surfrider.org. Volunteers will be able to see the exact meeting location after signing up.

30-Minute Beach Cleanup: 9:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. on the third Saturday of each month. Community organizer Justin Rudd invites volunteers to this short clean up in Belmont Shore (1 Granada Ave.). Trash bags, gloves, refreshments and free parking will be provided. The code for the parking kiosk is JUS0520.

Zaferia Neighborhood Cleanup: 8 a.m. to noon on the fourth Saturday of every month. The WESCA/Zaferia Neighborhood Association is asking volunteers to help clean Orizaba Park (1435 Orizaba Ave.). There will be a canopy at the intersection of 14th Street and Orizaba Avenue where volunteers are asked to sign up. Trash bags, gloves and bottled water will be provided. There will also be a dumpster where residents can drop off large pieces of trash such

as old or broken furniture, tires, tree trimmings and more.

Alamitos Beach Cleanup: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on the fourth Sunday of every month. Volunteers are needed to help clean Alamitos Beach (380 E Shoreline Dr.). Gloves and bags will be provided. Free parking is available and codes are posted on the @alamitosbeachcleanup Instagram page.

Junipero Beach Cleanup: 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. on the second Saturday of every month. Clean LB asks volunteers to help clean Junipero Beach (2100 E Ocean Blvd.). Bags and gloves will be provided.

Los Cerritos/Bixby Knolls Cleanups: Every Sunday from 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. The Los Cerritos and Bixby Knolls Clean Streets organization meets at a different location in the neighborhoods every Sunday to keep the area trash-free. All supplies are provided and the location is posted on the group's Facebook page each week.

Seal Beach Cleanup: 9 a.m. to noon on the third Saturday of each month. Nonprofit organization Save Our Beach meets up at the Seal Beach parking lot at the end of First Street to help clean the one-mile shoreline. Volunteers are asked to register online so there are enough supplies.



Pet of the week: Melon

The 14 cats removed from a hoarding situation and brought to our shelter were each given the name of a fruit to put some sweetness into an otherwise doleful, pun intended, situation. Melon is one of the picks from the basket, and you musk—er, must meet him! This 3-year-old orange guy likes to hang out with his upstairs littermate, Apple, and is as sweet as his name implies. He's shy at first but comes out of his shell quickly when pets are liberally applied. He's a great favorite of the volunteers, who call him Melonhead out of silliness. He'll be a paw-some playmate for another cat or a great solo cat for you. Meet Melon, and you'll say, "Honey, dew be mine!" 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 Melon. Ask for ID#A695636).

(This rescue encouraged by the usual suspects.)

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**TST6943 / 2023 067898
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: OVAL LEATHERS, 2601 E VICTORIA ST SPC 483, RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, CA 90220. County: Los Angeles. Registrant: OVAL LLC, 2601 E VICTORIA ST SPC 483, RANCHO DOMINGUEZ, CA 90220. State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: ALEXIS LOPEZ CANTOR, PRESIDENT. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in March, 2023. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on March 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: April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023

**TST6944 / 2023 067901
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: ARCHILA CARS RESTORATION & PARTS, 3096 SPRINGDALE DR 320, LONG BEACH, CA 90810. Mailing Address: PO BOX 6013, LONG BEACH, CA 90806 County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: WILLIAM ALEXA ARCHILA SOLARES, 3096 N SPRINGDALE DR APT 320, LONG BEACH, CA 90810. State of Incorporation/Organization: N/A. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: WILLIAM ALEXA ARCHILA SOLARES, 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 March 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: April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023

**TST6945 / 2023 067903
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: 1. HECHOS GIFTS, FLOWERS & EVENTS, 2. HECHOS, 7965 CLETA ST, DOWNEY, CA 90241. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: KATHERYNE MICHELLE BENAVIDES, 7965 CLETA ST, DOWNEY, CA 90241. State of Incorporation/Organization: N/A. This business is conducted by: (Get from form). I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: KATHERYNE MICHELLE BENAVIDES, OWNER. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in January, 2020. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on March 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: April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023

**TST6946 / 2023 069531
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: FAMU CLEANING SERVICES, 13867 MCCLURE AVE, PARAMOUNT, CA 90723. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: FAMU CLEANING SERVICES LLC, 13867 MCCLURE AVE, PARAMOUNT, CA 90723. State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: MARIA D MUNOZ GARCIA, PRESIDENT. 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 March 29, 2023. NOTICE: This fictitious busi-

ness 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: April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023

**TST6947 Case No. 23CMCP00057
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, COMPTON COURTHOUSE, 200 W. Compton Blvd, Compton, CA 90220 PETITION OF: Ramon Antonio Olazaba for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: RAMON ANTONIO OLAZABA has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing his name as follows: Present Name: RAMON ANTONIO OLAZABA Proposed Name: RAMON ANTONIO OLAZAVA 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: June 20, 2023; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept. A, Room 904. 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, April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2023 ___/ss/___ Michael Shultz, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: April 5, 2023

**TST6953
Case No. 23STPB03379
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER
ESTATE OF: DENNIS M. OKUJI**

1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of DENNIS M. OKUJI 2, A Petition for Probate has been filed by MICHAEL M. OKUJI in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. 3. The Petition for Probate requests that MICHAEL M. OKUJI be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. 4. The Petition requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. 5. The Petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain and very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. 6. **A hearing on the petition will be held in this court as follows:** a. May 9, 2023 @ 8:30am, Dept: 2D b. Stanley Most Court-house 111 North Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90802. 7. **If you object** to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objection or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. 8. **If you are a creditor or contingent creditor of the decedent**, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court with the **later** of either (1) **four months** from the date of issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. **Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.** 9. **You may examine the file kept by the court.** If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A request for Special Notice form is available from the Court clerk. **ATTORNEY FOR PETITIONER: AMY R. HENDERSON 225642 LAW OFFICES OF EMILY J. BUCHBINDER 525 CAPITOLA AVENUE CAPITOLA, CA 95010 Phone: 831-462-1313 Fax: 831-562-1045** Pub. Signal Tribune, April 14, 21, 28, 2023

**TST6948
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER
ESTATE OF: ARTHUR K. MITCHELL
AKA ARTHUR JAMES MITCHELL
CASE NO. 23STPB03538**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ARTHUR K. MITCHELL AKA ARTHUR JAMES MITCHELL. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SILVIA P. GALAVIZ in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SILVIA P. GALAVIZ be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 05/09/23 at 8:30AM in Dept. 44 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner ALEX R. BORDEN - SBN 180301 STEPHANIE CHAO - SBN 294712 BORDEN LAW OFFICE 1518 CRENSHAW BLVD TORRANCE CA 90501 4/14, 4/21, 4/28/23 CNS-3688335# THE SIGNAL TRIBUNE

**TST6949
T.S. No. 17-48690 APN: 7211-004-033
NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE**

YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 3/16/2007. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to a Deed of Trust described below. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Trustor: KIMBERLY BLUE, AN UNMARRIED WOMAN Duly Appointed Trustee: ZBS Law, LLP fka Zieve, Brodnax & Steele, LLP Deed of Trust recorded 3/21/2007, as Instrument No. 20070636444, of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, Date of Sale: 5/18/2023 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: Vineyard Ballroom, Doubletree Hotel Los Angeles-Norwalk, 13111 Sycamore Drive, Norwalk, CA 90650 Estimated amount of unpaid

balance and other charges: \$554,572.21 Note: Because the Beneficiary reserves the right to bid less than the total debt owed, it is possible that at the time of the sale the opening bid may be less than the total debt owed. Street Address or other common designation of real property: 2535 CALIFORNIA AVE, 1 SIGNAL HILL, California 90755-3306 Described as follows: As more fully described on said Deed of Trust A.P.N #: 7211-004-033 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address or other common designation, if any, shown above. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (855) 976-3916 or visit this Internet Web site www.auction.com, using the file number assigned to this case 17-48690. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: You may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 976-3916, or visit this internet website tracker.auction.com/sb1079, using the file number assigned to this case 17-48690 to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's

sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. Dated: 4/5/2023 ZBS Law, LLP fka Zieve, Brodnax & Steele, LLP, as Trustee 30 Corporate Park, Suite 450 Irvine, CA 92606 For Non-Automated Sale Information, call: (714) 848-7920 For Sale Information: (855) 976-3916 www.auction.com Michael Busby, Trustee Sale Officer This office is enforcing a security interest of your creditor. To the extent that your obligation has been discharged by a bankruptcy court or is subject to an automatic stay of bankruptcy, this notice is for informational purposes only and does not constitute a demand for payment or any attempt to collect such obligation. EPP 36945 Pub Dates 04/14, 04/21, 04/28/2023

**TST6954 Case No. 23LBCP00121
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, GEORGE DEUKMEJIAN COURTHOUSE, 275 MAGNOLIA, LONG BEACH, CA 90802 PETITION OF: Aeden Keffelew for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: AEDEN KEFFELEW has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing his name as follows: Present Name: AEDEN KEFFELEW Proposed Name: AEDEN ANBESSAW KEFFELEW 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: May 23, 2023; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept. 26. 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, April 14, 21, 28, & May 5, 2023 ___/ss/___ Michael R. Vicenciaz, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: April 10, 2023

**TST6928 / 2023 042458
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: 1. DRAGONBUNNY, 2. DRAGONBUNNY SERVICES, 3. DRAGONBUNNYHAULING & JUNK 4. PROP OPS, 5. PROP OPS JUNK REMOVAL, 6. PROPERTY OPERATIONS JUNKREMOVAL, 7. PROPERTY OPERATIONS, 2600 EAST PANORAMA DRIVE #202, SIGNAL HILL, CA. 90755. LOS ANGELES COUNTY. Registrant: DRAGONBUNNY LLC, 2600 EAST PANORAMA DRIVE #202, SIGNAL HILL, CA 90755. State of Incorporation/Organization: CA. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: RALPH NAVAL, MANAGER. 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 27, 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 17, 24, 31 & April 7, 2023

CITY OF SIGNAL HILL

TST6957

NOTICE OF VACANCY

CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that one vacancy for an unexpired term through May 31, 2025 exists on the Civil Service Commission. The City of Signal Hill will be conducting a recruitment to fill the vacancy. All interested residents are encouraged to apply.

To serve as a Civil Service Commissioner, you must be a U.S. citizen, 18 years of age or older; and a registered voter and resident of the City at least 29 days prior to the date of appointment. Each member shall continue to reside in the City for the duration of the term of office (Signal Hill City Charter Section 602).

If you are interested in serving as a Commissioner, please apply online via the City's website at www.cityofsignalhill.org. If you have any questions, please contact the City Clerk's office at (562) 989-7305.

Online applications will be accepted until Friday May 12, 2023 at 4:30 p.m.

Published in the Signal Tribune Newspaper April 28, 2023
Posted in accordance with S.H.M.C. Section 1.08.010 on or before April 28, 2023

GARDENS

Get your green on: Here are 10 public gardens to explore in Long Beach

Ryan Hardison
Design Editor

Flowers are blooming, leaves are growing and the weather is finally beginning to warm up—spring is here. For residents who are looking to take advantage of the season by finding the best natural habitats that Long Beach has to offer, we've got you covered.

Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden (Earl Warren Drive): Located on the Cal State Long Beach campus, this garden is a peaceful 1.3-acre sanctuary for students and horticulturists alike. As scenic as it is serene, visitors can expect to see wooden bridges, Japanese Black Pines and decorative varieties of koi fish roaming the large pond. The garden is free to visit and requires a reservation. Reservations can be made Tuesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Rancho Los Cerritos (4600 Virginia Rd.): Formerly a 27,000-acre settlement pre-Mexican-American War, Rancho Los Cerritos is a national landmark highlighted by the property's historic adobe ranch house. Even more notable is the spectacular foliage that surrounds it, including a native garden brimming with yellow spring flowers and an orchard path leading to the house that's filled with subtropical fruit trees growing citrus, guavas and avocados. Visitors can check out the site's natural elements Wednesday through Friday and Sundays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is free and online reservations are recommended, however, walk-in guests are welcome if space is available.

Rancho Los Alamitos (6400 E. Bixby Hill Rd.): Featuring giant

Moreton Bay Figs towering over a historic ranch house dating back to the early 19th century, there is an impressive amount of nature to view at Rancho Los Alamitos. The 7.5 acres of land includes cactus and rose gardens as well as oleander, geranium and jacaranda plants, offering plenty of land to walk around and admire. This historic site is located on the eastern border of Cal State Long Beach and is open Wednesday through Sunday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (entry ends at 4:30 p.m.).

Rainbow Bridge English Garden: Located on the Rainbow Bridge connecting the Long Beach Convention Center (300 East Ocean Blvd.) and the Terrace Theater, this garden is short but sweet. It can be walked through fairly quickly, but it's recommended to slow down and appreciate the collection of roses, daisies, geraniums and much more. At night, the walkway is illuminated with LED lights and offers a more unique experience that makes it worthy of taking the scenic route.

El Dorado Nature Center (7550 E. Spring St.): As the largest natural habitat preservation in Long Beach, the El Dorado Nature Center covers 105 acres and is home to a variety of birds, turtles and abundant plant life. The vast habitat includes two miles of dirt trails, a paved path that guides visitors around a stream, two lakes and lush forests. The visitor center also includes an art gallery, educational displays and a gift shop with environmental-themed gifts. The trails are open Tuesday through Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with trail entry ending at 4:30 p.m.

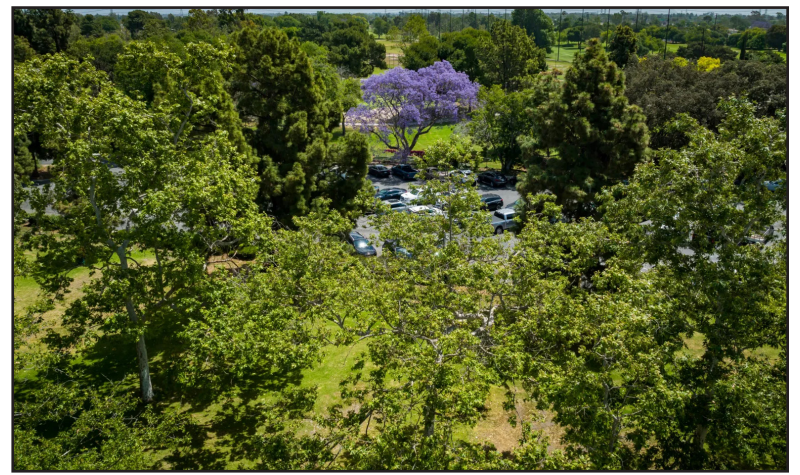
Willow Springs Park (2745 Orange Ave.): Willow Springs Park is located atop the Cherry Hill

Fault, with views of nearby Signal Hill and 10 acres of native plants and trees. Along with seasonal wetlands and plenty of unique topography, Willow Springs Park has a walking loop that routes through the wetlands, a constructed spring and a water retention basin that cleans and diverts water to be re-used onsite. Additionally, Longview Point gives visitors a full view of the Long Beach downtown, the Port of Long Beach, Rancho Palos Verdes and on clear days, the San Gabriel Mountains.

Dominguez Gap Wetlands (286 W. Del Amo Blvd.): A place fertile with plants and native wildlife, these wetlands originated as a flood control basin for Long Beach, but a recent project turned the area into a thriving natural habitat. Receiving sustenance from the LA River and local urban runoff, the wildlife is kept intact while the area's open space offers an equestrian trail, bird watching, a bike path and walkways to observe the natural environment. The wetlands are open to the public all day every day as long as weather permits.

Prisk Native Garden (375 Fanwood Ave.): Serving as a schoolyard nature center, this 7,500 square foot garden located at the rear of William F. Prisk Elementary School allows its students to learn about preservation in an immersive natural environment. Several native plant types and a variety of environments work in harmony and are maintained by volunteers. Though it is a private garden, there are occasional open house events where the public is invited to tour the garden, so keep an eye open for any announcements on their Facebook page.

DeForest Park & Wetlands (6255 De Forest Ave.): Alongside



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
A single jacaranda tree blooms among other green trees near the El Dorado Duck Pond in Long Beach on April 26, 2022.

the park, the DeForest Nature trail covers nearly 35 acres of freshwater wetlands, and an abundant wildlife habitat filled with native plants and recreational trails. After much of the land consisted of overgrown non-native vegetation, plants were donated and the area was restored as a natural wetland habitat and reopened in 2018. Public uses include passive recreational activities such as bird watching, walking, horseback riding and a variety of educational tours and programs. The park and nature trail are open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Mary Lou Heard Memorial Garden Tour: Several of the most impressive private gardens in and around Orange County, including a few of the finest in Long Beach, will be on-display during this public event on May 6 and 7 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. This annual gathering is a charitable event organized by the Mary Lou Heard Foundation with the goal of raising money for The Sheepfold, a shelter for women and children in crisis. Those who tour the gardens will be able to make donations at any of the donation jars available at each host garden.

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LEGALNOTICES@SIGNALTRIBUNE.COM

TST6959/Order No: 13576
Auto Lien Sale

On 05/17/2023 at 2915 E SOUTH ST LONG BEACH, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2018 CHEVROLET
VIN: 3GNAXJEV9JL352998
STATE: CA LIC: 79490DV at 8 AM

TST6958/Order No: 13549
Auto Lien Sale

On 05/17/2023 at 815 CROCKER ST LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2019 CHEVROLET
VIN: 2GNAXJEV5K6277495
STATE: CA LIC: 9CNY544 at 8AM

LIVE MUSIC

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UPCOMING MUSIC NIGHTS AT JIMMY E'S

APRIL 28 - B SIDE 7-11 p.m.

APRIL 29 - JERRY ROMANO & FRIENDS 7-10 p.m.

APRIL 30 - THE VOICE'S WILL BREMAN 2-6 p.m.

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