

ENVIRONMENT

Los Cerritos Wetlands Authority receives \$32 million grant to restore part of wetlands, increase public access

Samantha Diaz
Managing Editor

Following a decade of advocacy and planning, the Los Cerritos Wetland Authority (LCWA) received a grant of \$32 million to finally begin restoring the natural environment.

The grant will go toward the Southern Los Cerritos Wetlands Restoration Project, focusing on 103 acres spanning through Long Beach and Orange County which has largely gone underappreciated and until recently, unfunded.

"It's very happy news, and good news on the environment is not as common as I wish it would be," said Elizabeth Lambe, executive director of the LCWA.

The Los Cerritos Wetlands Complex makes up 500 acres, which is all that remains of the 2,400-acre historic wetland system that used to go through parts of Los Angeles, the San Gabriel River and Orange County. Most of the land has been lost to housing and commercial developments, oil drilling and public infrastructures.

The LCWA has been advocating for the protection of the land since 2011, speaking out against proposed developments surrounding the site and asking federal and local governments to reclaim the land from private ownership.

The organization now runs the government-owned portion of the wetlands, and Lambe said the other 400 acres are "on track" to be moved back into public ownership. When Lambe started working with the LCWA, all of the land was still privately owned, and she said through hosting community events, nature walks and field trips, she's seen firsthand how much public interest has grown in the wetlands.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

An aerial view of part of the Los Cerritos Wetland Area on the eastern side of Long Beach on Oct. 3, 2023.

see LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS page 6

ART

Explore the beauty of life and death at Long Beach Creative Group's Memento Mori show



Image Courtesy of Travis Stock-Tucker

A sculpture in the Memento Mori and The Macabre show at the Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery.

Samantha Diaz
Managing Editor

Over the next month, there's one place in Long Beach where residents can go for spooky storytimes, opera performances, costume parties, a masquerade ball, tarot card readings, historical discussions and over 300 works of art—all for free.

The Long Beach Creative Group is celebrating the impermanence of life and the beauty of death in its most ambitious programming yet: Memento Mori and The Macabre.

The Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery in downtown Long Beach has invited over 50 artists to enter pieces that capture what life and death mean to them. Over 300

paintings, photographs, collages, prints, drawings and sculptures are included in the show, featuring a wide range of images and tones.

Exhibit Coordinator Helen Cox said the idea stemmed from her experience hosting "Halloween extravaganzas" every year in her home, which resulted in hundreds of people coming through over the three years they hosted. Her affinity for the macabre only grew from there.

"Memento mori is the recognition that we're all going to die, life is fragile and because of that, we want to live life to the fullest and really enjoy its beauty and the amazing things it has to offer," Cox said.

Local company Bunny King Productions volunteered their involvement early on, with a natural

affinity toward the theme. The company will be helping host the larger events throughout the month.

LBCG expanded its scope of artists this year in order to produce a more diverse experience for the community, with artists from around Los Angeles County. Cox said one of the gallery's main focuses this year has been to reach younger and more culturally diverse audiences.

Local painter Jana Opincariu said the show's theme is right up her alley, as she tends to work with macabre often. Her oil painting shows a skull with the jaw missing from its face with a single white daisy sprouting from a crack on the top of the skull.

Opincariu said she wanted to show the "duality" of life and death

see MEMENTO MORI page 7

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HOUSING

Long Beach amends Housing Trust Fund to qualify for state grants



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

An aerial view of some of the houses within the newly formed Nehyam Historic District along the 6000 block of Walnut Avenue in North Long Beach on March 16, 2022.

The changes incentivize the City to prioritize low-income and extremely low-income households.

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

In an effort to increase its chances for state funding, Long Beach City Council voted to update its Housing Trust Fund guidelines at its meeting Tuesday night.

The Housing Trust Fund (HTF) was approved by the council on Oct. 11, 2005. The goal of the HTF is to “meet the housing needs of the city’s extremely low and above-moderate income households” through housing assistance and homeownership opportunities, according to a representative from the Community Development Department.

The fund was created with \$250,000 from the Douglas Park project mitigation fund and \$500,000 from transient occupancy taxes from Fiscal Years 2005 and 2006.



Signal Tribune File Photo

The Motel 6 Long Beach site located at 5665 East 7th Street was purchased by the City and used as an Interim Shelter site before being converted to permanent supportive housing.

A member from the Community Development Department said the two projects that have been funded through the HTF are a mobile home repair grant program and second mortgage assistance—currently, \$33,000 remains in the trust fund.

Funds can be used on construction loans, loans for the costs associated with development or rehabilitation of affordable rental housing projects as well as emergency shelters, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing and the construction of Accessory Dwelling Units.

Since its inception, Long Beach’s HTF has not been eligible to receive funding from the California Department of Housing and Community Development’s Local Housing Trust Fund Program. The program helps by providing matching funds toward the creation, rehabilitation or preservation of affordable housing, transitional housing and emergency shelters.

According to Community Development Director Christopher Koontz, Long Beach’s HTF “hasn’t been structured in a way to get matching funds.” City Council is hoping to receive these funds by updating their “goal populations,” meaning the groups they aim to assist through the HTF.

Previous guidelines for the HTF

stated that at least half of the funds must be used to assist extremely low-income households, while the other 50% must go to above moderate-income households.

The new guidelines for the Housing Trust Fund are as follows:

- At least 30% of the funds must be used on assisting extremely low-income households.
 - No more than 20% of the funds can be used on moderate-income households.
 - The remaining funds must be used on lower-income households.
- Councilmember Kristina Duggan asked Community Development Department members what plans exist surrounding the funding, and the department said there are no plans at the time.

HEALTH EVENT

City asks public to discuss Filipino Community Needs Assessment on Monday

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

On Monday, Oct. 30, the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (Health Department) will give a presentation to the public at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library about its ongoing efforts to evaluate the health and wellbeing of the Filipino community in Long Beach.

Following the presentation, there will be a roundtable discussion about the Filipino Community Needs Assessment, which is being spearheaded by the Health Department’s Racial and Health Equity team. The assessment aims to evaluate service gaps as well as strengths related to the overall health of Long Beach’s Filipino community.

“We remain committed to racial and health equity in the city and look forward to learning about the specific needs of Filipinos in Long Beach,” said Mayor Rex Richardson in a public statement. “This upcoming round table is an opportunity for us to build relationships and explore partnerships with the Filipino community so we can work together to address their concerns.”

Over 20,000 individuals of Filipino descent live in Long Beach. According to the 2022 Census and California Healthy Places Index, approximately 20% of the population in West Long Beach (zip code 90810) self-identifies as Filipino.

The Filipino Community Needs Assessment was initiated to gauge the impacts of COVID-19 on the city’s Filipino population and gain a deeper understanding of their requirements to reduce health inequities. To achieve this, a research team with the assistance of community advisors, organized focus groups and a town hall in April 2023 and conducted a health survey among Long Beach’s adult Filipino residents over the summer.

“Our department is committed to ensuring that all of our communities in Long Beach have what they need to be healthy and thrive. These community health needs assessments are an integral step in ensuring that all [...] communities are seen, valued and uplifted,” said Director of Health and Human Services Kelly Colopy in a public statement.

After the presentation and community roundtable, the Health Department will keep working with the Filipino Community Advisory



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Lester Ramos, a human trafficking survivor from the Philippines, speaks during the May Day rally on May 1, 2022.

Committee to identify short, medium and long-term goals aimed at enhancing health outcomes for the local Filipino community. Community members will be invited to participate in working groups to develop and monitor progress towards these goals.

Individuals are encouraged to RSVP in advance through the Filipino Community Health Needs Assessment Presentation and Roundtable Registration Form. Interpretation services will be provided in Tagalog, and language interpretation requests in other languages can be made via the RSVP link at least 72 hours before the meeting.

The Filipino Community Needs Assessment is funded by a grant from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

The assessment aligns with goal four of the City’s Racial Equity and Reconciliation Initiative, which aims to improve health and wellness in Long Beach by eliminating social and economic disparities in marginalized communities.

The Health Department plans to assess the health and wellness of historically underserved neighborhoods and groups on an ongoing basis. In 2022, the Health Department developed the Mi Vida Cuenta COVID-19 Latinx Health Initiative Report and Workplan in partnership with the Center for Latino Community Health, Evaluation, and Leadership Training.

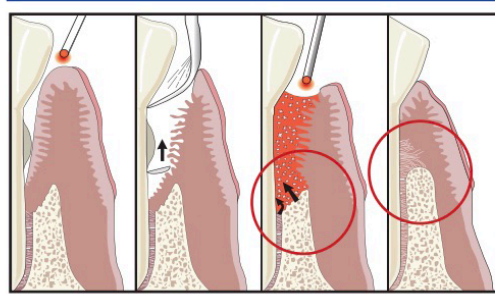
Currently, the Health Department is working on a Community Health Needs Assessment focusing on Cambodian and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities and plans to commence a Black Community Health Needs Assessment early next year.

The presentation of the Filipino Community Needs Health Assessment will be held from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 30 at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library (5870 Atlantic Ave.).

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EVENT



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Poet Jaden Fields recites a poem about the struggles and joys of living life as a trans, Black man in the United States to attendees of the Trans Day of Remembrance held at Harvey Milk Promenade Park on Nov. 20, 2022.

Seven LGBTQ+ community leaders will have their names added to Harvey Milk Park's Equality Plaza

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

This weekend, residents can honor seven local LGBTQ+ leaders while celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Harvey Milk Promenade Park.

Councilwoman Mary Zendejas and the Harvey Milk Promenade Equality Plaza Selection Committee invite residents to join in celebrating the induction of the 2023 honorees on Saturday, Oct. 21.

"Harvey Milk Equality Plaza serves to honor and recognize the contributions of our LGBTQ+ leaders who represent the values of public service," Zendejas said in a statement. "Our 2023 honorees have exemplified the dedication to their communities that Harvey Milk embodied, positively impacting the lives of the LGBTQ+ community."

Each of the honorees will receive a plaque at Equality Plaza, which serves as the focal point of the park. Equality Plaza features a concrete replica of the soapbox where Harvey Milk once stood to address and inspire crowds. Additionally, a 20-foot flagpole at the plaza displays the gay pride flag.

The Harvey Milk Promenade Park, named after the country's first openly gay politician, became the nation's first park dedicated to Milk's memory nearly a decade ago.

Stuart Milk, nephew of the park's namesake, will be in attendance during the event, which coincides with the park's 10th anniversary.

"The Harvey Milk Equality wall has become a landmark for the LGBTQ+ community of Long Beach," the Harvey Milk Park

Equality Plaza Selection Committee said in a public statement. "The selection committee is thrilled to induct these local leaders who continue to inspire and create change in their own lives and our communities."

The Equality Plaza portion of the park is dedicated to honoring local LGBTQ leaders who have been advocates for equal rights, AIDS research, entertainment, historic preservation, reducing homelessness and other important causes.

The 2023 honorees are as follows:

- Cory Allen: With a background in local government, Allen has been a voice for the community and has developed policies to support LGBTQ business owners. He has collaborated with various local and statewide governmental officials and previously served as Emperor of the International Imperial Court of Long Beach.

- Karel Bouley and Andrew Howard: This pair is recognized for hosting the first openly gay drive-time radio talk show on KFI and for their advocacy for LGBTQ rights.

- Charlotte "Charlie" Cornett: Charlie played a significant role in co-founding the Gay & Lesbian Havurah at the Jewish Community Center, the first of its kind in the nation. Additionally, she co-founded the LGB Teams Project at the Center and led the Legal Clinic at Rainbow Services, a shelter for battered women, primarily serving the lesbian community.

- Tom Crowe: Crowe led the LGBTQ+ Ugandan Refugee Program in response to the Anglican Church of Uganda's support of the 2014 Ugandan Parliament's "Kill



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Long Beach City College added pride flags to both campuses on May 20, 2021, to honor national Pride month and Harvey Milk's birthday.

the Gays" Bill.

- Carol Hass: Hass has been a Board Member of Long Beach Pride for over a decade and has worked on facilitating funding for LGBTQ community groups. She has also hosted and led numerous workshops for the community.

- Debra Kahookele: During her work as a community advocate, Kahookele has been instrumental in raising awareness on various projects for the City of Long Beach. She has volunteered and sponsored events for the LGBTQ+ community for over a decade and serves on several boards, including the Long Beach Rotary, Long Beach Day Nursery and more.

CITY COUNCIL

Signal Hill selects nonprofit for housing developments



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

The Signal Hill City Hall building on Jan. 13, 2022.

Kristen Farrah Naem

Staff Writer

The City of Signal Hill has chosen a nonprofit developer to create two workforce housing developments on Walnut Avenue and Orange Street.

In April, the City said it had identified \$10 million in funding to help create the Walnut Bluff and Orange Bluff workforce housing developments, with the goal of increasing the amount of affordable housing in Signal Hill.

According to the California Statewide Communities Development Authority, workforce housing is for individuals and households that earn between 60% and 120% of the Area Median Income (\$51,684 to \$103,368 for Signal Hill). Sometimes it is also known as middle-income or moderate-income housing.

The City has estimated that the total amount a developer will spend to create both housing developments is \$160 million.

The Orange Bluff workforce housing development will have 290 units across 8.6 acres, while the Walnut Bluff project will have 90

units across 2 acres.

On Tuesday, the City Council voted to partner with the nonprofit developer National Community Renaissance (National CORE) to create the two workforce housing locations. In addition to building housing, National CORE has also proposed building a 5,000-square-foot Boys & Girls Club location at the Orange Bluff site to provide social services.

"We really see this as an opportunity to create a texture of a neighborhood," said Gregory Bradbard, president of the Hope through Housing Foundation, a group affiliated with National CORE that will be working with the Boys & Girls Club. "So it's not a development here, a development there, but it's a series of building opportunities to introduce new kinds of amenities and architecture and attention for a neighborhood."

The City Council directed City staff to negotiate with National CORE over the next few months to create an agreement for the development project. City staff will return to the City Council with the agreement for final approval.

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EYE ON CRIME

CRIMES REPORTED BY THE SIGNAL HILL POLICE

Tuesday, October 10

11:23 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, Gundry Ave./E. 21st St.
6:21 p.m., Robbery, 700 block E. Spring St.

Wednesday, October 11

8:19 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 3200 block Lemon Ave.
11:48 a.m., Grand theft, 2800 block Cherry Ave.
12:36 p.m., Grand theft, 2400 block Cherry Ave.
5:32 p.m., Fire, E. Spring St./Olive Ave.
6:16 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 3200 block Lemon Ave.
7:42 p.m., Grand theft, 700 block E. Spring St.

Thursday, October 12

9:28 a.m., Injury traffic collision, 3000 block E. PCH
11:22 a.m., Injury traffic collision, 1900 block E. Willow St.
3:31 p.m., Injury traffic collision, 3300 block Orange Ave.
3:53 p.m., Injury traffic collision, Cherry Ave./E. 28th St.
6:11 p.m., Intoxicated person, 1800 block Temple Ave.

Friday, October 13

9:40 a.m., Auto burglary, 2400 block Cherry Ave.
2:05 p.m., Auto burglary, Myrtle Ave./E. 27th St.
6:39 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2600 block E. 20th St.

Saturday, October 14

12:36 a.m., DUI; Orange Ave. north of 29th St. (suspect arrested)
1:07 p.m., Auto burglary, 2100 block E. 21st St.

Sunday, October 15

2:08 a.m., Auto burglary, 2600 block E. 28th St.
12:02 p.m., DUI, E. Willow St./Orange Ave. (suspect arrested)
1:57 p.m., Robbery, 2200 block E. Willow St.
2:07 p.m., Identity theft, 1300 block E. 23rd St.
5:03 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 3000 block California Ave.
6:08 p.m., Auto burglary, 2100 block E. Hill St.
8:23 p.m., Prowler, 2300 block Amelia Ct.

Monday, October 16

3:15 a.m., Intoxicated person, E. 21st St./Stanley Ave. (suspect arrested)
12:14 p.m., Grand theft, 900 block E. 33rd St.
12:19 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2400 block Cherry Ave.
1:44 p.m., Grand theft, 2600 block E. 20th St.
1:52 p.m., Auto burglary, E. Hill St. west of Walnut Ave.

Tuesday, October 17

9:42 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, E. Spring St./California Ave. (suspect arrested)
10:14 a.m., Identity theft, 2400 block Lewis Ave.
2:11 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, Dawson Ave./E. Willow St.
4:08 p.m., Person with a gun, E. PCH/Freeman Ave.
4:20 p.m., Elder abuse, 2100 block Kelly Dr.
8:57 p.m., Fire, Cherry Ave. north of E. 19th St.
9:10 p.m., Intoxicated person, 2100 block E. 21st St. (suspect arrested)

OPINION EDITORIAL

The 2023 Assessment Roll, Signal Hill



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

An overhead view of a cul-de-sac neighborhood near Hilltop Park in Signal Hill on Oct. 26, 2021.

This is an opinion editorial from the office of Jeff Prang, Los Angeles County Assessor.

It's that time of year again when my Office undertakes its most important function of the fiscal year that lays the ground work for our very property taxes that pay for our vital public services: The Assessment Roll. In fact, it's a Constitutional mandate.

The Roll for 2023 has been closed as of June 30 and it reflects growth for Signal Hill as well as the rest of the County.

First off, let me say this comprehensive tally values more than 2.5 million real estate parcels in Los

Angeles County and results in the very tax dollars that goes to pay for vital public services, such as health-care, police, fire, schools, and even librarians, to name just a few. As I mentioned, I am constitutionally mandated to close the Roll by the end of the Fiscal Year on June 30. As a point of reference, my Fiscal Year runs from July 1 to June 30.

I am pleased to announce that the 2023 Assessment Roll has a total net value of \$1.997 trillion, indicating the 13th year of consecutive growth. The 2023 Roll also grew by \$111 billion (or 5.91%) over 2022. That value places nearly \$20 billion to be used for those public services I just mentioned.

Locally, Signal Hill for 2023 came in at \$3.28 billion for taxable values, which is a 6.7% increase over last year's numbers. That includes 2,775 single-family homes, 583 apartment complexes, 1,063

commercial-industrial parcels for a grand total of 4,421 taxable properties. Yes, it's a solid growth at \$3.28 billion.

Some basics: The Roll, as it is known, contains the assessed value of all real estate and business personal property in the county's 88 cities along with the unincorporated areas. It also breaks down the number of single-family residential homes, apartments and commercial-industrial parcels.

This year's Roll comprises 2.58 million real estate parcels as well as business assessments county-wide. That includes 1,892,564 single-family homes, 250,511 apartment complexes, 248,123 commercial and industrial properties and more than 200,000 business property assessments.

Since the Roll is the inventory for all taxable property in the county, it can provide some insight into the health of the real estate market. The Roll is also driven in large measure by real property sales, which added \$67.4 billion to the Roll as compared with 2022; the CPI adjustment mandated by Prop. 13 added an additional \$36.7 billion; and new construction added \$5.6 billion.

Finally, to say this has been a challenging couple of years is an understatement and the fact that property values continue to grow is certainly good news and testament to the viability of the region.

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IMMIGRATION

Long Beach is expanding its Justice Fund and searching for partners

The low-income, immigrant legal service is in need of partners to provide free legal representation and outreach efforts.

Samantha Diaz
Managing Editor

For the first time since its inception in 2019, the Long Beach Justice Fund will expand its scope of services, and the City is seeking partners in order to do so. The City is hoping to partner with one or more organizations that can provide free legal representation and outreach services.

The Long Beach Justice Fund connects with organizations to provide legal representation for immigrants who live or work in the city and are facing deportation. The fund was approved by City Council in 2018 with a one-time grant of \$250,000 from Long Beach and a \$100,000 catalyst grant from the Vera Institute of Justice.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
Members of the Long Beach chapter of Students for Quality Education use sidewalk chalk to depict a piggy bank in a police uniform breaking apart as a call for defunding the police department at the People's Budget Long Beach rally on Aug. 2, 2022.

The Vera Institute of Justice created the SAFE Network, made up of various communities, to provide legal representation.

The People's Budget, made up of various community organizations, asked the Long Beach City Council to allocate \$1 million toward the Justice Fund for the last two years and succeeded. The Fund is currently supported through the Long Beach Recovery Act.

Since then, the Justice Fund has "positively impacted" over 70 Long Beach residents by "giving them more time with their family and a heightened sense of safety," according to a statement from the City.

According to the SAFE Network's most recent annual report from 2019 to 2020, about 20% of its Long Beach clients whose cases began in custody ended up released from detention.

Tony Viramontes, a specialist from Long Beach's Office of Equity, told the *Signal Tribune* in an email that the SAFE Network and Vera Institute are no longer directly involved, though they still "support the program with their expertise."

"The Justice Fund stands as a pillar, ensuring stability for families and the community alike, addressing support for residents to navigate the complicated landscape of immigration law and reducing the number of Long Beach families and communities impacted by de-



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
An attendee of the People's Budget Long Beach uses chalk to write "Invest in Youth" during the rally at Long Beach City Hall on Aug. 2, 2022. Participants were encouraged to use the chalk to write where they would like the city's funds to be invested.

The Justice Fund is currently supported through the Long Beach Recovery Act.

portation," the City said in a public statement.

The Immigrant Defenders Law Center, based in Los Angeles, has been the sole legal service provid-

er of the Justice Fund, and the City is hoping to expand the fund's services by creating additional partnerships. The Center is the largest nonprofit provider of deportation legal defense services in Southern California, according to a 2019 statement from the City.

The Justice Fund expansion will provide enhanced services beyond detained removal defense, including:

- Affirmative applications for people who are not in removal proceedings, but seeking immigration

protections including but not limited to U-Visas, T-Visas, and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) petitions.

- Appellate removal defense, such as filing Motions to Reopen and Ninth Circuit Appeals for cases in which an immigration judge orders a person to be deported.

- Community outreach, education and referrals to the Justice Fund.

- The Legal Service Provider will also administer a Basic Needs Fund, which offers gift cards to clients referred to the program.

The Immigration Defenders Law Center is now directly contracted with the City, Viramontes said, and future partnerships with local organizations will build upon the services they already provide.

Long Beach is seeking a nonprofit legal service provider that specializes in immigration law and deportation defense. Organizations should have experience in both appellate and affirmative interventions, an understanding of universal representation and cultural humility to ensure that vendor candidates facilitate inclusive legal practices.

The City will prioritize organizations with strong Long Beach ties whose income is below 200% of the federal poverty line.

Interested organizations can see eligibility requirements and apply on the Long Beach Buys website by Nov. 7 at 11 a.m.



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LOS CERRITOS WETLANDS

continued from page 1

The grant from the State Coastal Conservancy will fund the restoration of more than half the site and increase public access.

“At first, not everybody felt this way. Everyone was like, ‘It’s just a bunch of weeds’ ... so I’m pretty proud of facilitating public access to the land,” Lambe said. “John Muir had this theory that if you take people out into the land, they will feel inspired to save it, so that was our theory.”

While Long Beach has been updating its zoning codes throughout the city to increase mixed-use development, the LCWA has been focused on protecting the wetlands and the habitats that thrive in the area. Some of the species in the wetlands include Belding’s Savannah sparrow, California least tern, Loggerhead shrike, Western snowy plover, California gull, Cooper’s hawk and more.

Phase one of the project will focus on the restoration of 54 acres through remediating contaminated soils, filling in areas to restore its original level of wetlands elevation, placing natural vegetation native to the wetlands and uplands and constructing flood management facilities.

The restoration takes into account the rising sea levels projected for the area, and includes plans to restore the degraded uplands and tidal salt marshes to create a more resilient coast in the face of climate change. Part of those efforts means redesigning the marshes so they grow up-slope as sea levels rise.

The first phase will also prioritize increasing public access to the wetlands, as people currently can

Most of the initial 2,400 acres of wetlands has been lost to housing and commercial developments, oil drilling and public infrastructures.

only visit the wetlands through the free community events and nature walks hosted by Los Cerritos Wetlands twice a month.

“Since it’s state funding we’re obligated to provide a resource to people, but it has to be done responsibly,” said Eric Zahn with Tidal Influence, the consulting group for LCWA. “We’re going to perpetuate access along the trails already there. We don’t want to add new public access that may conflict with sensitive areas.”

Public access improvements will include interpretive signage, a formal gathering site for people with shade and seating and connecting already existing trails to one another. Another aspect of public access will include tribal access and co-management for spaces of the Gabrielino/Tongva and Acjachemen tribes.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

An aerial view of part of the Cerritos Wetland Area on the eastern side of Long Beach on Oct. 3, 2023.

“The original inhabitants of this land are the leading constituents so we’ve been working closely with our tribal advisory group to make sure the plan fits their vision,” Zahn said, adding that it may include private entries to select parts of the wetlands. “We want it to be a generational thing where tribal groups can have access to exclusive areas for exclusive purposes.”

Zahn said that Tidal Influence and the LCWA are working to provide this access now, so tribal groups don’t have to wait until the restoration efforts are complete in order to use the land.

Phase two of the restoration will work on expanding the wetlands by creating a tidal connection to the Haynes Cooling Channel. California has mandated the phasing

out of once-through cooling, which means in a few years the Haynes Cooling Channel will be available for tidal connections.

Planning and permitting for the phases are expected to be complete by 2025, when phase one can begin. It’s unclear when phase two will begin, as Zahn said he expects it will require more funding to expand the wetlands.



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MEMENTO MORI
continued from page 1

From Oct. 14 to Nov. 11, the Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery will host 20 spooky, macabre events all for free.



Image Courtesy of Jana Opincariu

Jana Opincariu's painting in the Memento Mori and The Macabre show at the Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery.



Image Courtesy of Travis Stock-Tucker

A sculpture and various paintings in the Memento Mori and The Macabre show at the Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery.



Image Courtesy of Travis Stock-Tucker



(Top) Various paintings in the Memento Mori and The Macabre show at the Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery. (Bottom) Tarik Mask's illustration in the Memento Mori and The Macabre show at the Rod Briggs Gallery.

by merging a living flower and a broken skull.

"When we think of death, our immediate thoughts go to the end of life, the end of a living thing. Death to me means many things; the end of the day is a strange sort of death," Opincariu said. "We're surrounded by endings everyday. We're always in a state of constant entropy and chaos. Life would not be appreciated as it is without death ... death and life they're so much closer than we realize."

She said she hopes the show will teach people that death doesn't always have to be a dark thing, and there can be a "regality" to death.

This idea will also be explored in many of the readings taking place throughout the next month at the gallery. Cox said that local librarians have volunteered to read fun, silly Halloween-themed books to children ages 2 through 6, while kids ages 6 through 12 will get the chance to hear dramatic readings of the cult classic novel "Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark" and adults can enjoy readings from various community members.

Iconic horror writers will be highlighted during the dramatic readings, such as Edgar Allan Poe, Mary Shelley, Neil Gaiman, Shirley Jackson and Clive Barker.

Residents can gain a deeper appreciation of the show through the two educational opportunities, "Bringing Death to Life: The History and Philosophy of Memento Mori," or gain insights into their future through two tarot card reading nights.

For local illustrator Tarik Mask, the wonder and opportunity to guess about life and death was part of his reason for entering his work into the show. Mask specializes in skeleton drawings, saying that he enjoys how much detail he can hide in the pieces.

His illustrations show intricate, yet cartoon-like characters reminiscent of the classic Mickey Mouse characters with large black eyes and goofy expressions.

"There's an aspect that isn't meant to be bleak or anything, but there's kind of an excitement about death in it, what comes next," Mask said. "... I had a little bit of a fas-

ination with mythology and what comes next. I think that came from having the bible available as a youth."

Bleak moments will be rare in the Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery, with opening ceremonies on Oct. 14 and 15 setting the tone with music and costumes. The celebrations continue with a masquerade ball on Oct. 22 and "Phantom of the Opera" song performances on Nov. 4.

At the closing ceremony on Nov. 11, residents can look back on all they've learned, take home some commemorative bookmarks and enter raffles to win the books read throughout the month.

All events will take place at the Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery at 2221 E Broadway and will be free. For the full list of events in the Memento Mori and The Macabre, visit <https://longbeachcreativegroup.com/special-events/>.



Image Courtesy of Travis Stock-Tucker

Various paintings in the Memento Mori and The Macabre show at the Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery.



Image Courtesy of Travis Stock-Tucker

A piece of art in the Memento Mori and The Macabre show at the Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery.



Image Courtesy of Travis Stock-Tucker

Various paintings and collages in the Memento Mori and The Macabre show at the Rod Briggs Memorial Gallery.

AROUND TOWN

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



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A plastic skeleton handles the controls of a Nanchang CJ-6 plane on display at the Long Beach Festival of Flight on Nov. 6, 2021.

If you wished to the Great Pumpkin for fun and free things to do in Long Beach and Signal Hill this week, consider your wish granted, Charlie Brown!

First, for the spooky season lovers: The weekend kicks off with a screening of "Hocus Pocus" at PCH and 2nd, and the Long Beach Shakespeare Company is hosting its annual Halloween radio shows all weekend. Families can zombie-walk over to Pixie Toys for the zombie-themed bike ride Sunday morning, then watch cult classic scary movies at The Place LB.

Local bar Supply & Demand will host a Halloween-themed burlesque show Wednesday night, PCH & 2nd will host Halloween musical and dance performances, and the Signal Hill Public Library is hosting a scary movie night under the stars Thursday night.

For those celebrating the fall season by getting out into nature, a community member needs help tending to their ocean-friendly garden Saturday morning, the South Coast Orchid Society is auctioning off rare plants, and residents can learn about the sacred Puvungna land during a book-launch/nature tour/community potluck Saturday.

20 FRIDAY

AUTHOR STORY TIME

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Children's book author Sophia N. Lee will be reading two of her stories at the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E. Hill St.). Afterwards, there will be a Q&A session and a craft in honor of Filipino American History Month. Free, but registration is required. Call (562) 989-7323 to register.

PCH MOVIES & MOONLIGHT

5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Residents can snuggle up under the stars to watch the Halloween classic "Hocus Pocus 2" at 2nd & PCH (6400 E Pacific Coast Highway). Limited seating is available and families are encouraged to bring their own blankets and lawn chairs. The movie will begin at sunset and kids can get free airbrush tattoos during the event. Free.

BINGO NIGHT

7 p.m. Ficklewood Ciderworks (720 E Broadway) will be hosting a night of bingo and hard cider. There will be normal rounds, speed rounds, full card rounds and surprise bingo cards. Entry into the game is included with the purchase of any cider. Those who register on Ficklewood Ciderworks' website will have their seats saved until 7:15 p.m.

21 SATURDAY

FESTIVAL OF FLIGHT

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The community is invited to this celebration of aircraft (west end of the airfield at 3590 East Wardlow Road). Different planes will be parked on the tarmac for visitors to view. Food trucks will also be selling food and beer. No pets, large coolers or large bags are allowed at the event. Free.

LIWANAG LITERARY FESTIVAL

10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Filipina-owned bookstore Bel Canto Books and the Long Beach Public Library invite the public to an event recognizing Filipino authors at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library (5870 Atlantic Ave.). The event will feature author readings, panel discussions and book signings. Free.

HEALING THE LAND, HEALING OUR RELATIONSHIPS

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nonprofit OC Environmental Justice will be launching its new coloring book about Puvungna at the sacred site (near the intersection of Bellflower Blvd. and Beach Dr.). There will also be guided walks around Puvungna as well as a native plant workshop. Everyone is asked to bring a potluck-style dish to share with the community. Free.

FALL FESTIVAL & BOOK FAIR

12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. During this community event at Drake Park (951 Maine Ave.) organized by My Ancestors' Dreams, kids from infancy to 17 years old can receive free books. Attendees are encouraged to come dressed in costume. The event will also feature games,

prizes, arts and crafts and more. Free.

22 SUNDAY

KID-FRIENDLY ZOMBIE BIKE RIDE

11 a.m. Kids of all ages are invited to the monthly Bixby Knolls kidical mass bike ride, with a zombie theme this month. Families can meet at the back parking lot of Pixie Toys (3914 Atlantic Ave.) at 10:30 a.m. to be "zombified." Children will also receive treats and can enter the best/ugliest zombie contest. Costumes are encouraged. Free.

SPOOKY RADIO SHOW

2 p.m. The Long Beach Shakespeare Company is hosting its October radio shows with a double feature running all weekend at the Helen Borgers Theatre (4250 1/2 Atlantic Ave.). General admission is \$13 and can be purchased on LB-Shakespeare.org.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS SPACE FOR PALESTINIANS

4 p.m. to 8 p.m. The Long Beach Birthworkers of Color Collective will be providing a healing space for Palestinians during this stressful time. The event will include complementary acupuncture, massages and healing tools. To register, send a direct message on Instagram, @solandrootsdoula. The location will be shared after registration. Free.

NOVEL READING

5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Long Beach native author Max Evans will celebrate the anniversary for his novel "Escape to Butterfly Ave" at The Wicked Wolf Lounge (2332 Pacific Ave.). Witness the drawings of artist Katie Dezember inspired by the novel and enjoy a craft drink specially curated to commemorate the evening. For more information, check Eventbrite or email long-beachwritercontact@gmail.com. Free.

16MM SPOOKY MOVIE NIGHT

6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The community is invited to enjoy B-grade and classic horror films at Place LB (830 Pacific Ave.). Complimentary

popcorn and candy will be provided, but attendees are also welcome to bring their own. A donation of \$10 is suggested, but no one will be turned away because they can't pay.

23 MONDAY

HOLIDAY MARKET

8 a.m. to 7 p.m. At this marketplace organized by the Assistance League Long Beach (6220 E Spring St.), over 30 vendors will be selling their wares, with the proceeds benefiting 11 different philanthropic programs. Free to enter.

BOOK TALK

1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. This virtual book discussion will be led by CSULB film faculty member Seung-hoon Jeong on their book "Biopolitical Ethics in Global Cinema." The book offers an unconventional analysis of the film industry in the scope of global politics and various theories. Free, but registration is required.

DONATED PLANT AUCTION

6 p.m. The South Coast Orchid Society invites residents to participate in an auction of over 100 various plants, books and other items at the Whaley Park Community Center (5620 E Atherton St.). Residents can view the auction inventory at <https://www.southcoastorchidsociety.com/>. Cash, checks or credit card payments are accepted. Free.

24 TUESDAY

FREE FLU VACCINATION CLINIC

9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (Health Department) will be administering flu vaccinations at the Long Beach Senior Center (1150 East 4th St.). This initiative aims to prepare residents for the upcoming flu season, which typically spans from mid-fall to mid-spring. Free.

DROP-IN AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

4 p.m. to 5 p.m. Students from the 3rd to 5th grade are invited to enjoy STEAM crafts, 3D printing, gaming, snacks and more at the Sig-

nal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.). Free.

25 WEDNESDAY

BABY & TODDLER STORYTIME

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Babies and their caregivers are invited to Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E. Hill St.) to enjoy stories and playtime. Free.

NIGHTMARE BURLESQUE SHOW

8:30 p.m. Moon Gem Productions will be presenting a Halloween-themed burlesque performance at local bar Supply & Demand (2500 E Anaheim St.). General admission tickets cost \$15, and can be purchased on Eventbrite.

26 THURSDAY

HALLOWEEN-THEMED CONCERT

5 p.m. to 8 p.m. This family-friendly concert will celebrate Halloween classics with a "Thriller" flash mob tutorial and performance starting at 5 p.m. on Seaport Way. Filipino band BrownDition will also perform to celebrate Filipino American History Month. Seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis and kids can get free face painting. Free.

SCARY MOVIE UNDER THE STARS

6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Residents 18 and older are invited to the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.) to watch the horror movie "The Conjuring" in the Zinnia Courtyard. Free, but registration is required by calling 562.989.7323.

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EDUCATION

LBUSD finalizes five-year goals to achieve student success

Briana Mendez-Padilla
Education Reporter

In a continued attempt to create a student outcomes-focused agenda, the Long Beach Unified School District has identified four board governance goals to focus its efforts on.

During the Oct. 4 meeting and after discussion at previous district workshops, the LBUSD board condensed its list of six goals to just four.

These goals will create guidelines for the board to shape their planning and decisions over the next five years.

The goals include:

1. Reading Proficiency
2. Reading Acceleration
3. Algebra Proficiency
4. College and Career Readiness

They also agreed upon three guardrails to hold the superintendent accountable when implementing these goals:

1. The Superintendent may not allow resources to be allocated without evidence of their equitable distribution aligned with the Excellence & Equity board policy.

2. The Superintendent may not allow major district-wide initiatives to go forth without engaging students of color and their families, following stakeholder engagement principles that utilize current adopted best practices.

3. The Superintendent may not allow the implementation or adoption of any classroom curricula or programming that does not prioritize educational and racial equity.

Districts can choose between



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A student in Sister Marie Carmen's third grade class fills out a worksheet about symmetry in the natural world at the Holy Innocents Parish School on Aug. 22, 2023.

one and five goals, but AJ Crabill, an education reform advocate who has been assisting LBUSD with this process, recommended the board decide on three.

"Fewer goals give you more ability to focus your resources and accomplish larger improvements," Crabill said.

Focus on Reading, Algebra and A-G Requirements

The board originally explored the idea of combining the two reading goals, but given that they address different demographics, it proved difficult to integrate them.

The reading proficiency goal seeks to increase the percentage of third-grade students who meet or exceed grade-level standards for reading from 48% in June 2023 to 70% by June 2028. The reading

acceleration goal is to decrease the amount of fourth through eighth graders who were one or more grade levels behind from 4% to 0% in the same timeframe.

Board member Erik Miller wanted to prioritize fourth through eighth grade students who need intervention, while board members Maria Isabel Lopez and Doug Otto said prioritizing third-grade students would create a stronger foundation so that fewer fourth through eighth graders would test below their grade level.

Ultimately, the board unanimously agreed to keep both goals as they considered them equally important.

"I don't see a way of combining them because they represent two separate ideas and they're both

good ideas," Otto said. "I'm not worried about us having two goals here ... I just think we need to keep these two because reading is so foundational."

The board's other two goals address inequities among Black LBUSD students. Goal three addresses algebra proficiency for Black students and hopes to decrease the academic disparity from 4% in June 2023 to 0% by 2028.

Similarly, in an attempt to have more than 66% of Black graduating seniors meet their A-G requirements, the board's fourth goal plans to address the academic disparity with a decline from 13% in June 2023 to 0% by June 2028.

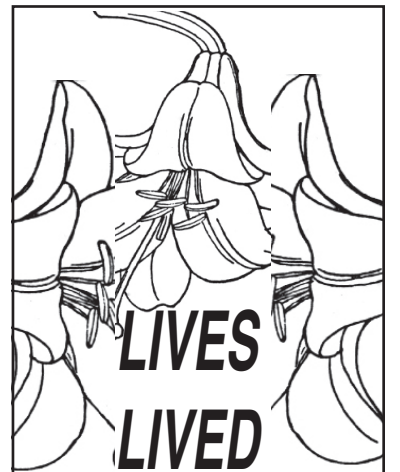
Next Steps

Now that the board has its final goals, Superintendent Jill Baker and her team will develop interim goals and guardrails built upon the board's goals and create a monitoring calendar.

The board cannot officially vote on the goals until after Baker presents her interim goals, which she said should be completed within a month and will be added to a future board agenda.

Crabill said it's normal among districts to change their overall goals upon seeing the interim goals, so he recommends the board look over them before the approval meeting.

"I know it's been a long process, but we want to get it right," LBUSD board president Diana Craighead said. "The bottom line is that we do right by our kids and that's why we embarked on this journey."



- Richard Cottle 86
- Martin Monzon 53
- Patsy Shepard 84
- Lois Stewart 83
- Linda Abbott 76
- Patricia Anthony 94
- Thomas Black 75
- Steven Brooks 58
- Trisia Maluia 50
- Thomas Post 66
- George Ross 78
- Judy Taylor 75
- Lawrence Taylor 81
- William Worth 90
- Victoria Toth 102
- Richard Wiest 84
- Maureen Bott Bours 44

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

NEWS

Natural gas prices protected for Long Beach and Signal Hill residents during winter

Staff Report
Signal Tribune

The Long Beach Board of Utilities Commissioners has unveiled a new contract designed to safeguard Long Beach and Signal Hill residents from extreme natural gas prices.

Ratepayers will receive protections from fluctuations in natural gas prices over the upcoming winter season, as well as the following three winters.

"Long Beach families deserve hot food on the table and a way to heat their homes without breaking the bank," Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson said in a statement. "Last winter, natural gas bills were astronomical throughout California. But due to the work of our Utilities Department, Long Beach residents and businesses will be assured of much more reasonable winter gas bills this coming winter."

During the winter months, an average single-family home in Long Beach typically consumes 65 therms of natural gas. Last winter, gas prices soared, and this average level of consumption resulted in a monthly bill of \$313.36.

"I've got my senior mom at home in Long Beach, freezing, scared



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

An exposed natural gas line connected to a wall heater is seen through a hole in the wall of an apartment in Long Beach on Feb. 2, 2023.

to turn her heater on because she can't afford the bill every month," Long Beach resident Heidi Kitchen said to Long Beach City Council during public comment in February. "You know what I mean? My little 4-year-old daughter tells me, 'Mommy I'm cold,' and then I'm scared my gas bill is going to be over \$500. I mean, that's pathetic. We're talking about a hot shower. We're talking about drying clothes or heating your home. It's 35 degrees outside. Isn't this basic human rights?"

Thanks to new pricing protections implemented by the Utilities Department, it is anticipated that the average natural gas bill for January 2024 will be approximately \$108.20, significantly lower than

the charges incurred the previous January.

"Long Beach has always prided itself on being an affordable city to live in, with quality and reliable public services," Long Beach Board of Utilities President Gloria Cordeiro said in a statement. "We take utility pricing seriously, and when confronted with record-setting high natural gas prices last year, our Board directed our staff to do their best to ensure that this never happens again."

In pursuit of customer protection, Long Beach Utilities engaged in aggressive negotiations to secure natural gas pricing at an average of \$0.625 per therm for the next three winters, a substantial reduction from the elevated prices experienced in the prior winter when natural gas prices rose to \$3.8101 per therm in January 2023.

As California relies on out-of-state sources for approximately 90% of its natural gas supply, the Long Beach Utilities Department, acting as the municipal natural gas utility for Long Beach and Signal Hill, has worked to mitigate and stabilize both natural gas commodity and pipeline transportation costs, while also optimizing storage to maintain affordable rates for all customers.

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**TST7092 Case No. 23LBCP00363
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, Governor George Deukmejian Courthouse, 275 Magnolia, Long Beach, CA 90802 PETITION OF: Kayleigh Carol Marie Davis for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Kayleigh Carol Marie Davis has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing her name as follows: Present Name: Kayleigh Carol Marie Davis Proposed Name: Kayleigh Sierra Eden 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: November 17, 2023; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept. 27, Room 5400. 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, September 29 & October 6, 13, 20, 2023 ___// ss//___ Mark C. Kim, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: September 20, 2023

**TST7093 Case No. 23LBCP00357
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, Governor George Deukmejian Courthouse, 275 Magnolia, Long Beach, CA 90802 PETITION OF: Penelope Andrea Ramirez for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Penelope Andrea Ramirez has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing her name as follows: Present Name: Penelope Andrea Ramirez Proposed Name: Penelope Andrea Duran 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: October 31, 2023; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept. 26, Room 5500. 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, September 29 & October 6, 13, 20, 2023 ___// ss//___ Michael P. Vicencia, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: September 15, 2023

**TST7100 / 2023 210221
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: MYGOODEBAG.COM, 3757 MEADVILLE DR, SHERMAN OAKS, CA. 91403. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: 1. ERIC GARFINKEL, 2. ARIELLE GARFINKEL, 3757 MEADVILLE DR, SHERMAN OAKS, CA. 91403. State of Incorporation/Organization: N/A. This business is conducted by: a Married Couple. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: ARIELLE GARFINKEL, WIFE. 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 September, 25, 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: September 29, & October 6, 13, 20, 2023

**TST7101 / 2023 180267
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: BATTER UP SWEETERY, 915 FREEMAN AVE #6, LONG BEACH, CA 90804. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: HOLY CHIT FOODS, LLC., 915 FREEMAN AVE #6, LONG BEACH, CA 90804. 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: ALENNI CHITWOOD, CEO. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in July, 2023. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on August 18, 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: September 29, & October 6, 13, 20, 2023

**TST7094 / 2023 207339
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: 1. THE SIGNAL TRIBUNE, 2. THE SIGNAL HILL TRIBUNE, 1860 OBISPO AVENUE SUITE F, SIGNAL HILL, CA 90755. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: SIGNAL HILL PAPER, LLC, 1860 OBISPO AVENUE SUITE F, 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: JAMES ELEOPOULOS, MANAGING MEMBER. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in December, 2017. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on September 21, 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: September 29, & October 6, 13, 20, 2023

**TST7106
KERN COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT
METROPOLITAN DIVISION - JUSTICE
BUILDING
CITATION TO PARENT
CASE NO. BAT-23-003016**

In Re The matter of: The Petition of: ROBIN RENE FERGUSON to Declare: JUSTICE ALFONSO RAMIREZ and JORGE JOEL TRAVIS RAMIREZ, Minors, for freedom from Parental Custody and Control THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA To: BREANNA LEIGH REYES: By order of this court you are hereby advised that you may appear before the judge presiding in Division F of this court on JANUARY 05, 2024, at 8:30 am, then and there to show cause, if any you have, why JUSTICE ALFONSO RAMIREZ and JORGE JOEL TRAVIS RAMIREZ, should not be declared free from your custody and control. The following information concerns rights and procedures that relate to this proceeding for the termination of custody and control of JUSTICE ALFONSO RAMIREZ and JORGE JOEL TRAVIS RAMIREZ, and require such protection that court will appoint counsel to represent them, whether or not they are able to afford counsel. JUSTICE ALFONSO RAMIREZ and JORGE JOEL TRAVIS RAMIREZ, will not be present in court unless they so request or the court so orders. 2. If a parent of JUSTICE ALFONSO RAMIREZ and JORGE JOEL TRAVIS RAMIREZ, appears without counsel and is unable to afford counsel, the court must appoint counsel for the parent, unless the parent knowingly and intelligently waives the right to be represented by counsel. The court will not appoint the same counsel to represent the minor child and the parent. 3. The court may appoint either a public defender or private counsel. If private counsel is appointed, he or she will receive a reasonable sum for compensation and expenses, the amount of which will be determined by the court. That amount must be paid by the real parties in interest, but not by the minor, in such proportions as the court believes to be just. If, however, the court finds that any of the real parties in interest cannot afford counsel, the amount with be paid by the county. 4. The court may continue the proceedings for not more than 30 days as necessary to appoint counsel and to enable counsel to become acquainted with the case. Attorney for Petitioner: George R. Horryngan, Esq. State Bar No.: 134450 LAW OFFICE OF GEORGE R. HORRIGAN, APLC 900 Truxtun Avenue, Suite 310 Bakersfield, California 93301 (661) 489-3100; Fax: (661) 489-3500 DATED: October 2, 2023 Tamarah Harber-Pickens, County Clerk By: A. Muratalla

**TST7103
Case No. 23STPB03196
NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINIS-
TER ESTATE OF: JOSEPH THOMAS
YOUNGER JR.**

1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of JOSEPH THOMAS

YOUNGER JR. 2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by JONATHAN M. YOUNGER in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. 3. The Petition for Probate requests that JONATHAN M. YOUNGER 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. November 7, 2023 @ 8:30am, Dept: 5 b. Stanley Most Courthouse 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: THOMAS M. MCINTOSH, ESQ. 135582 LAW OFFICES OF THOMAS M. MCINTOSH 2122 N. BROADWAY SANTA ANA, CA. 92706 Phone: 714-973-1113 Fax: 714-973-1271 Pub. Signal Tribune, October 6, 13, 20, 2023

**TST7108 / 2023 216777
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: AAA CALVERT, 1348 29TH STREET, SIGNAL HILL, CA 90755. Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 90268, LONG BEACH, CA. 90809. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: AAA ELECTRICAL ENTERPRISES, INC., 1348 E. 29TH STREET, SIGNAL HILL, CA 90755. 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: LAURA J SULLIVAN, TREASURER. The registrant has not begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in September, 2008. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on October 3, 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 SignalTribune: October 13, 20, 27 & November 3, 2023

**TST7109 Case No. 23LBCP00385
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME**

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, Governor George Deukmejian Courthouse, 275 Magnolia, Long Beach, CA 90802 PETITION OF: Morcia M. Vonk Brasser for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: MORCIA M. VONK BRASSER has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing her name as follows: Present Name: 1. MORCIA M. VONK BRASSER Proposed Name: 1. SACRED LOTUS SKY 2. MARCIA M. VONK BRASSER 2. SACRED LOTUS SKY 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 pe-

tion for change of name should not be granted. NOTICE OF HEARING: Date: November 17, 2023; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept.27, Room: 5400. 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, October 13, 20, 27 & November 3, 2023 ___// ss//___ Mark C. Kim, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: October 6, 2023

**TST7110 / 2023 215392
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: 1. PERMA TOUCH SERVICE, 2. PERMA TOUCH, 4451 PEPPERWOOD AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90808. Mailing Address: PO Box 3350, REDONDO BEACH, CA 90277 County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: REX SLUGGETT, 4451 PEPPERWOOD AVE, LONG BEACH, CA 90808. 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: REX SLUGGETT, OWNER. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in March, 2008. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on October 2, 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: October 13, 20, 27 & November 3, 2023

**TST7111 / 2023 220508
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT**

The following person is doing business as: M.R. RAMOS AUTO BODY SUPPLY, 10828 AVALON BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90061. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: MARIO AMILCAR RAMOS, 10828 AVALON BLVD, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90061. 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: MARIO AMILCAR RAMOS, OWNER. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in October, 2023. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on October 10, 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: October 20, 27 & November 3, 10, 2023

**TST7118/Order No: 15597
Auto Lien Sale**

On 11/07/2023 at 6825 CRENSHAW BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2020 HARLE VIN: 1HD1KZF26LB673314 STATE: CA LIC: 25F877 at 10 AM

**TST7117/Order No: 15564
Auto Lien Sale**

On 11/07/2023 at 15321 ATLANTIC AVE COMPTON, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2020 HONDA VIN: 2HGFC2F86LH569558 STATE: CA LIC: 8SNP91 at 10 AM

**TST7116/Order No: 15513
Auto Lien Sale**

On 11/07/2023 at 15321 ATLANTIC AVE COMPTON, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2018 TOYOTA VIN: 5TDZZRFH9JS264038 STATE: CA LIC: 8EFL794 at 10 AM



**Pet of the week:
Bosco**

Look at Bosco, all ready to trick-or-treat with you! Bosco's sweetheart, described by a shelter volunteer as a "king goofasaurus derp face with Marty Feldman eyes." He's also been at the shelter for a long, long time, and that's no treat. Without rescue or foster, Bosco might not see the next Halloween. This guy loves to play, is affectionate and tops it all off with a goofy grin. He's also great on leash, so you can walk off all that Halloween candy at the park with him! With Bosco in your house, you'll have your tricks and treats in one place! You can speed the process to adopt or foster Bosco and any of our other pets by emailing PetAdopt@longbeach.gov or petfoster@longbeach.gov. You can also call (562) 570-4925. Even better, stop by during our new open walk-in hours every Wednesday through Sunday from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Our shelter is located at 7700 E. Spring St. Ask for ID#A696134 to meet Bosco.

**TST7115/Order No: 15511
Auto Lien Sale**

On 11/07/2023 at 15321 ATLANTIC AVE COMPTON, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2019 HONDA VIN: 2HGFC2F60KH539081 STATE: CA LIC: 9GCX787 at 10 AM

**TST7113/Order No: 12447
Auto Lien Sale**

On 11/02/2023 at 580 W COCOA ST COMPTON, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2017 HARLE VIN: 1HD1KH37HB633340 STATE: CA LIC: 23H7303 at 10 AM

**TST7112/Order No: 15547
Auto Lien Sale**

On 10/30/2023 at 821 SOUTH MAPLE AVE MONTEBELLO, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2017 NISSA VIN: 3N1AB7APXHY303360 STATE: CA LIC: FA500DP at 8 AM

**TST7114/Order No: 14405
Auto Lien Sale**

On 11/07/2023 at 1969 FIRESTONE BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2019 TOYOTA VIN: JTDDBVRBD4KA007366 STATE: CA LIC: 8MJT631 at 10 AM

EMPLOYMENT



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Anna Alma Lorenzano, 18, practices using the register at Coco Beach Presents while her mentor and a founder of Our Generation Cares (OGC), Shelly Guevara, watches over her shoulder on Nov. 1, 2022.

Long Beach welcomes new youth employment center, Future LB

The space will prepare 14-30 year olds for the workforce through free resources.

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

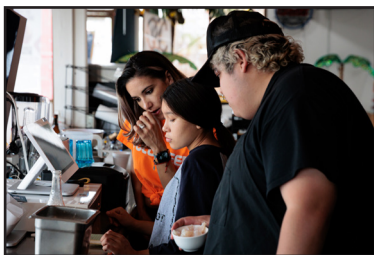
The City of Long Beach invites the public to celebrate the opening of a new youth employment center, known as Future LB, on Saturday, Oct. 21.

The new facility, located at 508 W. Willow St., will be operated by the City's Department of Economic Development's Pacific Gateway Workforce Innovation Network, and funded by the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act.

The opening celebration will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony, attended by Mayor Rex Richardson and Seventh District Councilmember Roberto Uranga, along with vendors, food, music and community resources.

"The Future LB Youth Job Center will expand opportunities for our young people to pursue their passions, enhance their skills and secure fulfilling careers," said Long Beach Mayor Rex Richardson in a public statement. "This new center will empower them to achieve their goals and dreams, while also enriching the economic vitality and social well-being of our city."

In a public statement, the City said Future LB is a space for Long Beach youth ages 14 to 30, to connect with resources to help them plan for their future and develop the skills, knowledge and work experience needed to thrive in today's job market.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

From the left, Shelly Guevara, Anna Alma Lorenzano and Erick Garcia review what is written on an order ticket before Garcia prepares the order on Nov. 1, 2022.

The center offers various free services related to workforce readiness, including on-the-job training, paid internships, career exploration resources, intensive case management and connections to employment opportunities. Youth interested in accessing these services can visit the center during regular hours on weekdays, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., or by calling 562-570-4700 for further information.

"We are so proud to officially welcome Future LB to our community," said Seventh District Councilmember Roberto Uranga in a public statement. "This employment center offers the tools, resources and connections to ensure our youth and young adults enter the workforce prepared and confident."

The opening celebration of the Future LB Youth Job Center (508 W. Willow St.) will be held on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 1 p.m.

ENVIRONMENT

Long Beach streamlines permit process for renewable energy projects

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

In an effort to encourage renewable energy projects by residents across the city, Long Beach has streamlined its process for solar roof and electric vehicle charging systems.

The new one-step process allows residents to submit an application, pay permit fees and receive a job inspection card in the same place. Permits will be immediately sent to residents upon payment.

"Long Beach continues its commitment to providing convenient and affordable ways for owners to enhance and improve their properties," said Mayor Rex Richardson in a statement. "This new streamlined service will help make renewable energy options easier and faster."

According to Google's Project Sunroof, 1.6% of buildings in Long Beach have solar roof panels, but roughly 85% of the city's buildings are solar-viable. The new permitting process should help incentivize residents to explore their home's possibilities for solar options.

The three types of project permits available on the Long Beach Community Development Department website include:

- Solar photovoltaic systems (PV), such as roof solar systems panels and associated electrical connection to the existing electrical system.
- Energy storage systems (ESS),



Emma DiMaggio | Signal Tribune

The Energy Observer is coated in solar panels from bow to stern. Solar energy is just one type of renewable energies the vessel uses.

in conjunction with or without the PV systems.

- Electric vehicle charging stations (EVCS), for small vehicle charging stations at residential projects.

"There are many benefits to individuals and the community by increasing renewable energy projects such as solar installations," Vice Mayor Cindy Allen said in a statement. "The City's new online system will make the process easier and more convenient for residents while also helping Long Beach achieve its environmental goals. We want to do everything in our power to encourage residents to use clean energy."

Allen recommended updating and streamlining the permit pro-

cess for residential renewable energy projects at a November 2022 city council meeting.

For more information or questions regarding the new online process, email LBCD@longbeach.gov or call the Department's Building and Safety Bureau at 562.570.PMIT (7648).

For residents who prefer in-person appointments, they can schedule an appointment at longbeach.gov/permits.

SIGN UP FOR OUR NEWSLETTER!

ETHICS

Long Beach Ethics Commission seeking member

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

Long Beach residents have a chance to shape the ethical backbone of the City's government and proceedings by applying to a position on the Ethics Commission.

The Ethics Commission board member will help influence the policies that dictate campaign finance, conflicts of interest, lobbying and other ethical dilemmas. The commission also ensures that all city employees, officials and departments understand the City Charter, which states the rules surrounding City proceedings and will help departments shape their own conflict of interest codes.

The position is only open to Long Beach residents, and will be for a partial term through June 30, 2024. After that term, the appointee has the opportunity to be appointed by the Commission for two additional full terms.

Ethics Commissioners are limited to two consecutive full terms of four years total. The spot is considered a volunteer position, but commissioners have the option to receive a \$200 stipend for each monthly meeting, or other special meetings.

On Nov. 8, the Ethics Commission will select applicants for interviews at its monthly meeting. On Nov. 15, interviews and the final



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A picture of the LONG BEACH sign located in the Long Beach Civic Center, in Downtown Long Beach.

selection will take place at the Billie Jean King Main Library. If more time is needed for interviews or discussion, an additional meeting will be held at a later date.

Roles of the Commission include:

- Provide support to agencies and public officials in administering the provisions of the City Charter and other laws relating to campaign finance, conflicts of interest and governmental ethics.
- Make recommendations to the Mayor and the City Council concerning campaign finance reform, lobbying, governmental ethics and conflicts of interest and to report to the Council concerning the effectiveness of these laws.
- Assist departments in developing their conflict of interest codes as required by state law.
- Advocate an understanding of the City Charter, City ordinances and the roles of elected and other

public officials, City institutions and the City electoral process.

- Develop an educational program to familiarize newly elected and appointed officers and employees, candidates for elective office and their campaign treasurers, and lobbyists with City, state and federal ethics laws and the importance of ethics to the public's confidence in municipal government.

Other duties may also be established by the City Charter or the Long Beach Municipal Code.

Long Beach residents can apply online through a Google form. Questions to apply include:

- Why are you interested in serving on the Ethics Commission?
- What is your personal definition of ethics and integrity?
- Please describe your experience volunteering and/or community involvement in the Long Beach area.

Questions following experience in Long Beach government follow, along with disclaimers about being in the public eye and following the City Charter. A resume is also required as part of the application, and applications without an attached resume will be automatically disqualified.

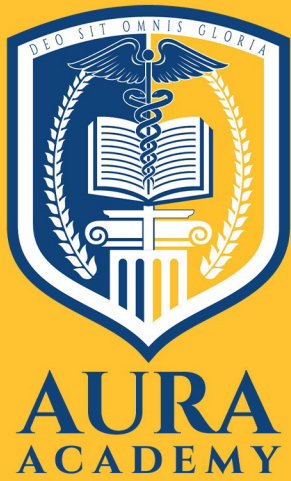
If residents have questions or technical issues, they can reach out to Heather Van Wijk at (562) 570-7443 or heather.vanwijk@longbeach.gov.

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