

SPRING FORWARD SATURDAY

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ART



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
A ceramic hammer, from artist Ilana Harris-Bapou, used to make clay tools rest on a work bench at the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum at Cal State Long Beach during the Spring Exhibition on Feb. 20, 2024.

See vast personal and generational stories in CSULB's 'It Moves Forward, Always'

Samantha Diaz
Managing Editor

Within the large slanting walls of Cal State Long Beach's contemporary art museum await over 10 autobiographical tales, both personal and universal, all striking in their own way.

It's not just the varied mediums used to represent complicated and appreciative feelings of the past and what lessons they may hold, but the kaleidoscope of disparate journeys on display that tie the exhibition "It Moves Forward, Always" seamlessly together.

The Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum will hold this curated collection of photographs, collages, projected film, holographic images, family keepsakes and clay pieces until May 9.

Before venturing into the main gallery room, guests are treated to a series of standalone pieces by various artists scattered through the lobby and hallway. These pieces — large stained-glass sculptures, dazzling tapestries and historical miniature photographs — are similar to "It Moves Forward, Always" in sentiment.

'IT MOVES FORWARD, ALWAYS' see page 6



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
"Talaoc, and Chalchiuhtlicue and the Great Flood" is one of two stained glass and rebar art piceeces on display at the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum at Cal State Long Beach during the Spring Exhibition on Feb. 20, 2024.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
Inkjet print etchings by artist Sky Hopinka are displayed on a wall of the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum at Cal State Long Beach during the Spring Exhibition on Feb. 20, 2024.

ELECTION

Measure RW squeaking by with approval, and other Long Beach 2024 election results

Samantha Diaz
Managing Editor

While the last of votes are still being tallied, most Long Beach election results were determined late Tuesday night, resulting in a projected narrow win for hospitality workers and a mostly unchanged City Council landscape.

The Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder is still counting ballots as of March 7, and reported a 12% voter turnout from registered voters for the March 2024 Primary Election for LA County. This shows a drop in

MARCH 5 ELECTION RESULTS see page 5



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
An election worker hands an "I Voted" sticker to a voter after turning in their ballot at the Signal Hill Community Center voting center on Nov. 7, 2022.

POLITICS

What did your state and federal representatives do in February?

Kristen Farrah Naem
Staff Writer

Another election season is behind us now, with all of the ballots tallied up. All of Long Beach's state and federal representatives won their reelection campaigns and will be remaining in office. While it may be tempting to ignore politics for a while now that the elections are over, it is always important for constituents to pay attention to what their elected officials are doing.

Robert Garcia — U.S. Representative for California's 42nd Congressional District
Translation Requirements for Immigrants: Garcia led Latino members of Congress in urging the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS)

FEB. REPRESENTATIVE ROUNDUP see page 11



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
Congressman Robert Garcia talks to Long Beach residents during his first town hall meeting in Downtown Long Beach on Aug. 23, 2023. During the month of February, Garcia made headlines for his criticism of fellow representative Marjorie Taylor Greene.

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EDUCATION

LBUSD moves forward with potential removal of positions that serve students with disabilities

Briana Mendez-Padilla

Education Reporter

The Long Beach Unified School District approved a classified personnel report that included the potential abolishment of six behavior intervention supervisor positions.

Board members postponed the item at the Feb. 21 board meeting to learn more about what the support plan would be, and passed the personnel report with four votes in favor and one abstention at the March 6 board meeting.

The abstention was from board member Maria Isabel Lopez, who has been vocal against the abolishment since the previous meeting. Student board member Axel Aguilar also abstained from his preferential vote.

"I am personally in favor of positions that directly impact kids versus replacing them with positions that are not necessarily working with students," Lopez said.

Behavior Intervention Supervisors are responsible for providing behavior support for students with disabilities. This can look like attending Individualized Education Program meetings and helping teachers with classroom management. They are also first responders when students leave school unattended.

Deputy Superintendent Tiffany Brown said the supervisor role is



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Assistant Superintendent of High Schools, Dr. Jay Camerino, listens to a speaker during the Nov. 18, 2021 Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education meeting.

a management position that is not in direct service to the students the way behavior intervention aids do.

However, multiple behavior intervention supervisors spoke during public comment of their first-hand experience addressing behavioral issues with students with disabilities.

April Acuña, a behavior intervention supervisor, assisted a student whose desk was in the hallway for months because the environment inside the classroom was too overwhelming for her.

"Through my work she is now a

star student, and a participant in a transition program," Acuña said. She did not specify what steps were taken with the student.

Michelle Neilsen said she has had students with permanently scarred hands from biting them whenever they were overwhelmed or afraid and others who can't communicate verbally so resort to banging their heads on hard surfaces to get their caretaker's attention.

"[These stories] may make you uncomfortable to hear and I'd like for you to remember that we

LBUSD JOB CUTS see page 9

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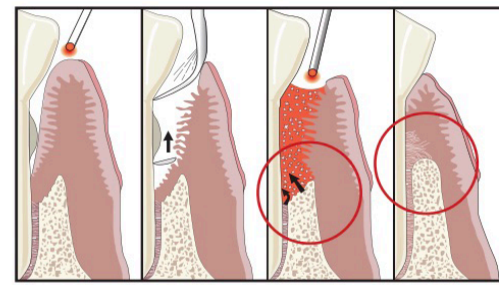
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COMMUNITY

St. Mary Medical Center gifts \$200,000 to local mental health and housing nonprofits

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

Dignity Health's St. Mary Medical Center recently granted nearly \$200,000 to three local nonprofits that assist Long Beach's underserved communities.

For its annual Community Health Grant Program, St. Mary chose Century Villages at Cabrillo, Mental Health America of Los Angeles and Precious Lamb Preschool. The nonprofit organizations primarily address housing, mental health and trauma-informed healing, respectively.

"Thanks to our Community Health Grant Program, we were able to provide assistance to three organizations that prioritize the needs of underprivileged families and victims of trauma," said Carolyn Caldwell, president and CEO at St. Mary Medical Center in a public statement. "We are so grateful to have the opportunity to collaborate with such key partners in the community to help those in greatest need."

Century Villages at Cabrillo, the nonprofit housing and resources organization, received \$74,797 for its Pathways to Health 2024 pro-



Courtesy of St. Mary Medical Center
Carolyn Caldwell, President and CEO at St. Mary Medical Center, hands off a commemorative check for Mental Health America of Los Angeles as part of its Community Health Grant Program for 2024.

gram that provides mental health resources, community engagement opportunities, peer-to-peer support groups and more. The program started in 2017 with a focus on mental wellness and healthy living for those residing at the Villages.

Mental Health America of Los Angeles (MHALA) received \$74,797 to continue its work addressing the psychological factors and mental health needs of unhoused residents. The nonprofit serves low-income, transition-age youth and veterans through partnerships around

Los Angeles County.

MHALA provides mental health care, medical services, substance abuse help, employment opportunities, life skill programs, housing initiatives and more programs that are individualized for the community.

Precious Lamb Preschool received \$50,000 for its supportive services that promote healing and trauma-informed care for students and their parents who are experiencing homelessness. Since 1999, the nonprofit has provided no-cost, high quality preschooling and supportive behavioral services for children 18 months to 5 years old whose families are experiencing homelessness.

Over 700 children have received full-time, free preschool along with trauma-informed care. Precious Lamb Preschool also connects the parents with its over 20 local partners around the city, and connects children to related services to provide a holistic continuum of care.

Dignity Health's Community Health Improvement Grants program has awarded \$91 million to nearly 3,800 health improvement projects since 1991, according to the Center.

CRIME



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Exterior picture of the Governor George Deukmejian Courthouse in Long Beach.

Man charged with murder in fatal stabbing in Long Beach's Belmont Shore

City News Service

Southern California Local News

An Orange County man was charged with murder Wednesday for the stabbing death of a man in Belmont Shore in Long Beach.

Brandon Van Nguyen, 29, of Huntington Beach, was found Monday at Los Angeles International Airport, taken to the Long Beach City Jail and booked on suspicion of murder, according to the Long Beach Police Department.

Officers were sent to the area of East Second Street and Covina Avenue at about 1:06 a.m. Sunday regarding a stabbing inside a nearby business and found a man suffering from a wound to the upper body, police said.

Long Beach Fire Department paramedics rushed the victim to a hospital, where he died from his

injuries.

"The preliminary investigation indicates two groups of subjects were involved in a fight. During the fight, a male adult suspect stabbed the victim. The suspect and subjects fled the scene," police said in a statement.

It was unclear what may have led up to the fight at Dave's Hot Chicken at 5246 Second St.

The victim's name has not yet been released by the Los Angeles County Department of Medical Examiner pending notification of relatives.

Nguyen has remained behind bars without bail since his arrest.

He was due in a Long Beach courtroom for arraignment Wednesday, according to the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office.

HEALTH

Alison King appointed Director of Long Beach Health Department

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

Alison King was officially appointed as the permanent director of the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services (Health Department) on Feb. 29, after serving as the Acting Director since October 2023.

According to a statement from the City of Long Beach, King has over five years of experience in public health administration and over 20 years of experience in human services.

"It is a privilege to officially appoint Ms. King as our new Health Department Director," said City Manager Tom Modica in a public statement. "Her critical thinking

and innovative approach to problem-solving, coupled with her compassion and genuine leadership, has already made such a positive impact in our Health Department and the way in which we serve our community. I look forward to seeing her thrive in her new role as director and the continued change she will make for our community."

In her role as Director for the Health Department, King will supervise over 55 programs related to public health services, housing, homelessness, mental health, family and youth development.

She will oversee the Health Department's more than 500 employees at 12 sites across the city.

King will also manage the department's annual budget of \$180



Courtesy of City of Long Beach
Alison King has been named as the permanent director for the Long Beach Department of Health and Human Services.

million, 95% of which comes from federal, state, county and private funding sources.

King first started working for the City in 2005 for the Housing Authority, a bureau in the Health Department. She went on to become Bureau Manager in 2016.

During her time as Bureau Manager, King managed a \$110 million budget that subsidized housing for more than 7,000 local low-income renters. Under her leadership, the Housing Authority has been identified as a high-performing agency by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

For more information about the Health Department, visit longbeach.gov/health.

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**Pet of the week:
Misty**

Trust us: Misty is far from being helpless as a kitten up a tree. Like many tortoiseshell cats, she has what people who live with them call "tortitude." Her adoring disciples at the shelter call her Queen Bee, and she knows that it's an apt descriptor. She socializes with other cats on the patio at Long Beach and only smacks them with her scepter of a foreleg when they get between her and a goodie. Misty should be the only cat in the home, though, and her human must understand that she expects to be loved, but on her terms only. She's just 3 years old and deserves a good, long life. To adopt or foster Misty, email PetAdopt@longbeach.gov to speed the process, or call (562) 570-7387. Ask for ID#A700148. Better yet, come meet her and all the other cats in person at Long Beach Animal Care Services, 7700 E. Spring St., Long Beach. Visitors are welcome Wednesday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

(This rescue encouraged by the usual suspects.)

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HISTORY

Part VIII
a continuing series about
HISTORY
On the Hill



The Black Gold Rush Begins

The events of June 23, 1921; when discovery well Alamitos Number One struck oil atop Signal Hill, forever altered the destiny of this locale. Instead of remaining a pristine hilltop chaparral rich in canyon flora and fauna, encompassing a few mansions and truck farms, Signal Hill became a frenzied eruption of oil derricks, pipelines, gushers, and Big Money. Competition to get in on this oil money was fierce. According to Walker A. Tompkins, author of *Little Giant of Signal Hill*, never before had southern California seen such a frenzy of town-lot drilling such cut-throat royalty wars and unprecedented speculating. The scramble for Signal Hill drill sites became so competitive that in many cases the legs of tall wooden derricks interlaced each other.

By late October 1921, within five months of the original discovery of oil, Signal Hill, states Tompkins, "appeared to be cowed by a perpetual fog bank (of) steam from the myriad boilers which furnished power to the drilling and producing rigs." It was said that the noise from this drilling could be heard from five miles away.

The statistics for the Signal Hill oil field in February 1922 were impressive, especially for a field that had not yet reached its peak production level. By this time there were 158 active operators on the hill with approximately 400 rigs at work, more than 300 completed wells, and 150 of these wells were actively producing oil. Daily oil production was estimated to be 100,000 barrels, and climbing.

Real estate values skyrocketed as speculators and oil company bidders swarmed the Hill like ravenous termites. On the evening of June 23, 1921, Andres Palas was offered \$150,000 for his pink hilltop mansion, ten times its pre-oil strike market value. One by one, Palas's neighbors' homes were moved or torn down to clear land for more drilling. One such casualty was the adjacent Denni mansion, torn down by the Richfield Oil Company. Denni's carriage house was relocated across the street and later became the Hilltop Cafe. (Unfortunately, this historic landmark has since been destroyed.) Lewis Denni negotiated for, and received, and unprecedented 50% royalty on the oil recovered from his leased

land. Other landowners received 20% to 33% royalties from drilling on their property. Prior to the Signal Hill oil boom, royalties of 12% to 16% were the norm. _

In 1924, the Signal Hill area was considered part of the City of Long Beach. Long Beach's annual revenue from lease rights, oil royalties and related taxes reached \$1.2 million that year. But when Long Beach approved a barrel tax on oil produced within city limits, the oil producers of Signal Hill revolted. They moved rapidly to incorporate a two-square-mile area which included the most profitable hilltop wells.

On April 14, 1924, the City of Signal Hill, population 2000, was incorporated. This new city was entirely surrounded by the City of Long Beach. The latter retained some 140 acres of producing wells.

California's first woman mayor was also Signal Hill's first mayor. Her name was Jessie Elwin Nelson and her official title was President of the Directors' Board of Trustees. She functioned the same as today's mayor of Signal Hill. Mrs. Nelson's 1924 home stood at the corner of Hill Street and Cherry Avenue, the present site of the Signal Hill City Hall.

to be continued -



Oil derricks & homes in Signal Hill c. 1922 - 1923

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*Above article originally published Oct 19, 1990 in the Star Tribune
Written by Julie Bendizick-Sin. Part 8 of 23*

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MARCH 5 ELECTION RESULTS

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Raindrops collect onto a sign leading voters towards the Walter Pyramid at Cal State Long Beach, which is used as a voting center ahead of the Nov. 8, 2022, election.

voter participation in the county, as 24% of registered voters participated in the June 7, 2022 Primary Election.

Long Beach had four City Councilmember races, on school board seat and one local measure on the ballot.

Measure RW has a narrow margin of victory with 50.63% of the Yes votes and 49.37% of the No votes. If it passes, Long Beach hospitality workers employed at hotels with 100 employees or more will see an increase in their minimum wage rate, set to increase from \$17.55 to \$23 by July 1, 2024. Their minimum wage will see an annual increase and cap at \$29.50 in July 2028.

The City Council seat for District 2 was under contest, with incumbent Vice Mayor Cindy Allen defending her spot. Allen is projected to keep her seat, receiving 54.35% of the votes from 2,724 votes tallied

so far.

Ketty Citterio received 40.2% of the District 2 votes from 2,015 ballots. Citterio made the biggest dent as a candidate challenging an incumbent in Long Beach's March 2024 Primary Election. Sara Zaidi received 5.45% of the votes, translating to 273 voters.

Daryl Supernaw is projected to keep his seat as the District 4 City Councilmember, earning 49.73% of the votes from 4,252 voters. This will be the last term Supernaw can serve as he will hit his cap of three terms and 12 years on the council.

Gerrie Schipske received 22.51% of the votes for the District 4 candidate from 1,925 voters, while Herlinda Chico gained 23.06% of the votes and Amrit Singh gained 4.7% of the votes.

For the sixth district, Suely Saro will retain her seat after receiving 75.96% of the votes from 1,599 voters, the largest lead of all council

members. Cristino Pinto received 24.04% of the votes from 506 voters.

District 8 saw two new faces running for the council seat, since Al Austin hit his term cap after serving on the Long Beach City Council for 12 years. Tunua Thrash-Ntuk is projected to win the council seat for the eighth district after receiving 54.15% of the votes from 1,606 residents. Sharifa Batts has received 45.85% of the votes so far from 1,360 voters.

Long Beach Unified School District board member Erik Miller is poised to reclaim his seat, garnering 73.33% of the votes so far. Jerlene T. Tatum has gained 26.67% of the votes.

This article was last updated on March 6 at 4:55 p.m. and will continue to be updated as the Los Angeles County Registrar-Recorder continues to count ballots.

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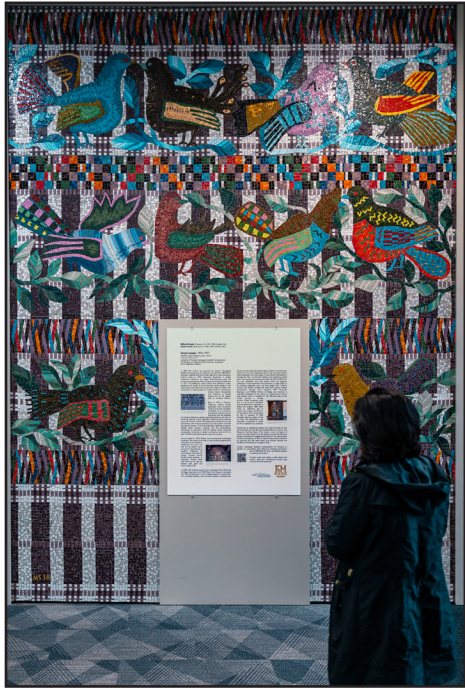
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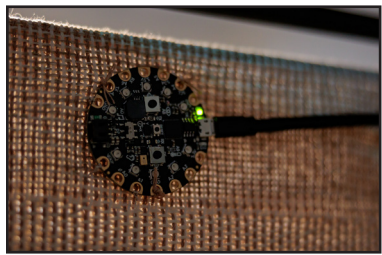
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Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

(Left) A mosaic called the Miller Sheets adorns an exterior wall of the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum at Cal State Long Beach. The art and the wall originally came from a local bank vault and the inches of thick steel can be seen on the side of the wall. (Middle) One part of the series, "Rock, Paper, Sun" by artist Tarrah Krajnak on display at the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum at Cal State Long Beach during the Spring Exhibition on Feb. 20, 2024. (Right) Art work from Long Beach artist Rita Letendre is displayed on a wall of the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum at Cal State Long Beach during the Spring Exhibition on Feb. 20, 2024.

Timo Fahler's stained-glass panels hung up by daunting iron hooks depict a personal and culturally historical image of being Mexican-American. The imagery is clearly Aztec in origin, but in a style most often seen in Catholic cathedrals with religious symbolism.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Some of the hidden electronics that make up artist, Ahree Lee 'retro-futurism' art work on display at the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum at Cal State Long Beach during the Spring Exhibition on Feb. 20, 2024.

The two panels instead opt for Aztec gods and tales of creation, such as in "Talaoc, and Chalchiuhtlicue and the Great Flood," which shows an Aztec god spitting out all of creation and life. By blending Mexican cultures over the span of centuries, Fahler illustrates a personal mythology that many can relate to with the bright clashing colors that in turn create its own beauty on the wall on which it hangs.

The first series of paintings in "It Moves Forward, Always" may strike certain Cal State Long Beach alums with a sense of familiarity. Rita Letendre's signature hard-edged abstract geometric paintings have a home on campus as a sort of welcome banner for liberal arts students titled "Sunforce."

Letendre's attempts to "catch a flash of light" are striking, but felt more like a palate cleanser between the personal mythology behind and the intimate stories ahead.

Sky Hopkina, a member of the Ho-Chunk Nation Indigenous tribe, uses a series of inkjet prints from 35mm film, projected images and digital photographs to take viewers through a journey of self-discovery and understanding. The series evokes a sense of nostalgia through its fragmented images; a cup of tea sitting on a window sill, an empty beach, a cloud of smoke, weeds yearning towards the sky.

Many of the images are reused throughout the series, but reworked in a different position and hue each time, prompting the feeling of revisiting places once intimate and now blurred with memory. His goal

to "create remembrance without longing or desire," as written in his online artist statement, is wonderfully achieved as if watching an old memory through someone else's vision.

On the wall adjacent is a scrapbook unlike any I've ever seen. Hanging under a metal awning similar to ones used for corner markets is a plank of wood large enough to act as a doorway into the past of local artist Daniel Ramos. Scattered atop the door and sprinkled with wood chips are baby photos, childhood drawings, urban landscapes, postcards, photobooth strips, and map clippings.

Viewers could stand in front of the doorway, in awe of the seemingly deeply personal fragments of a Mexican-American family and go through each individual piece of history long enough to track the life of Ramos. His "self-portrait" is at once intimate and relatable, portraying candid photos of family members donning iconic '90s Chicano styles as well as a loteria card and Catholic religious figures.

It's not just the varied mediums used to represent complicated and appreciative feelings of the past and what lessons they may hold, but the kaleidoscope of disparate journeys on display that tie the exhibition "It Moves Forward, Always" seamlessly together.

The generational examination continues as viewers are confronted with a large wooden table topped with disfigured clay tools from African-American sculptor Ilana Harris-Bapou. Her accompanying video shows the process by which she created the twisted, pierced

and mangled hammers and other objects for "Reparation Hardware."

Harris-Bapou narrates over a video of her in a cabin in the woods, as she comments on the grief that African-Americans have endured in America, being pushed under constant violence and pressure. She exposes the "American dream" as one reliant on using and recklessly consuming the "tools" needed to create stability.

"It Moves Forward, Always" leaves behind the generational scope and takes a turn into themes of nature and individual exploration on the back wall of the gallery. Tarrah Krajnak's group of black and white photographs pair an image of Krajnak holding large stones in her hands with an image of her grid-ruled notebook. The pages of the notebook show a detailed drawing of each stone and long paragraphs of how each one affected her.

Krajnak's series feels private, more intimate than the collections before it. She skates the line of journaling one's emotions and simply documenting the nature and life around oneself, and shows viewers that these actions are sometimes one and the same. The black and white images invite the audience to creep closer, welcoming people into her personal journal entries.

If viewers venture into the side room in the back of the gallery, they are treated to an immersive experience much different than the intimate portrayals surrounding it. Los Angeles artist Ahree Lee has used the small room to comment on a woman's ever-shifting place in society, using the 1940s as a backdrop.

Lee has created a futuristic looking panel made of pipes, thick woven textiles, copper beading and computer programming of her own invention. Depicted on the panel is a changing set of kitchen appliances through projected shapes, such as an oven, washing machine and refrigerator while a video of a "Jetsons" like family, both futuristic and old-fashioned, plays in the foreground.

The dichotomy of old and new is used to comment on the roles women are allowed to play in American society. Women who laid the groundwork for computer science in the '40s were forced back into domestic roles once World War II was over, begging the question, "What would the world look like if women were allowed to create and keep spaces of their own?"



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Art work from Long Beach artist, Daniel Ramos is displayed on a wall of the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum at Cal State Long Beach during the Spring Exhibition on Feb. 20, 2024.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Part of the display from artist Ahree Lee that uses lights and fabrics to create art that mimics the 'retro-futurism' aesthetic of the post WWII period in the United States, on display at the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum at Cal State Long Beach on Feb. 20, 2024.

LOCAL BUSINESS



Welcome to The Wicked Wolf

Dive into the drinks, decor and ambiance of Long Beach's most unique cocktail lounge.

Samantha Diaz

Managing Editor

Cozy couches, lush pillows and handcrafted cocktails — The Wicked Wolf has created an unexpected but beloved setting for Long Beach's book clubs, board game gatherings, open mic nights and ever-growing list of local meetups.

It's exactly what owner Thea Mercouffer envisioned when she spotted the cottage-like building sitting snugly in the Wrigley neighborhood.

"To me it looked like a cottage in the woods, what I imagined the 'Hansel and Gretel' cottage would look like," Mercouffer said. "It's a fairy tale. It's that tiny house on the street that people would walk by and is lost in the urban woods."

Much like "Hansel and Gretel," the cozy brick building with its roof just slightly pointed in the center holds tasty treasures for those who venture inside. Their menu of fantasy-themed cocktails such as "Fairy Fizz," and "Once Upon a Time" are more than just clever monikers. Each drink boasts a list of elaborate flavors, with juices, syrups, grenadine and even the ginger ale made in-house.

"The Fairy Fizz," made up of Junipero gin, Lo-Fi Gentian Amaro, Kleos Mastiha Liqueur, super lime juice, blood orange syrup, rich turbinado syrup, sparkling wine and tonic water, was crafted by local bartender Nick D.

One of the most popular selections is bartender Ashleigh H.'s spirit-filled invention "The Jack Albert" which consists of Bowling & Burch gin, Luxardo maraschino, super lemon juice, pea flower simple syrup, Fee Foam and rose water spritz.

The Wicked Wolf also offers classic cocktail selections such as an old fashioned, espresso martini, paloma and a dozen others. Mercouffer keeps the menu fresh by inviting local bartenders to host educational cocktail workshops and cocktail-crafting competitions.

When a bartender introduces a new creation that becomes a favorite, The Wicked Wolf credits them for their idea on the menu, an uncommon practice in bars and cocktail lounges.

"It takes a lot of imagination and work to come up with a drink that's well balanced and special ... I felt it was right to give them credit and didn't know that's not customary to do," Mercouffer said. "In some ways not knowing the industry has worked in our favor."



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Wicked Wolf owner, Thea Mercouffer, adjusts some of the inventory in her bar before it opens for the night on Feb. 20, 2024.

Mercouffer, not much of a drinker herself, didn't want to run a typical bar with loud music, cheap but strong drinks and the occasional karaoke night. She wanted to own a bar that she would frequent herself, again contributing to The Wicked Wolf's unique setting.

"I wanted it to be safe and comfortable for women," Mercouffer said. "Not knowing much about bars, I went to design it and one thing led to another; I ended up designing it as a super nice place."

The Wicked Wolf greets residents with extravagant, Victorian-inspired furniture with rich colors and textures, ornate glassware, unique art, dazzling chandeliers and a mischievous female wolf watching over its patrons. Mercouffer refers to it as "the queen's cottage," a setting both inviting and lavish.

The collection of antique-but-chic decor is the result of months of scouring Facebook Marketplace, fabric stores, yard sales and freebies for one-of-a-kind pieces begging to be salvaged. Mercouffer went against advice she received to opt for cheaper, replaceable furniture and instead doubled down with plush pillows and lush fabrics.

So far, she said no one has stolen or even damaged any of the accessories or furnishings.

"We went for the art of it and I think people came to appreciate that and enjoy that. They take ownership in that," Mercouffer said. "I think it speaks to who our guests are. We have an incredibly diverse group that comes through every age range and demographic, every walk of life. They're just really good people, but they don't come to our place to get drunk, they're coming for the cocktails."

The success and community embracement of The Wicked Wolf also speaks to Mercouffer's ability to fully commit to whatever she sets her sights on. Since she emigrated from Romania to America with her family when she was 21 years old, Mercouffer has dived headfirst into her passions, from acting to filmmaking to eventual business owner.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

(Top) Wicked Wolf owner, Thea Mercouffer, sits on one of the plush arm chairs inside her bar for a portrait on Feb. 20, 2024. (Bottom) A portrait of a wicked wolf hangs in the back of the bar at Wicked Wolf in the Wrigley neighborhood of Long Beach.

AROUND TOWN

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



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Oranges grow on the Orange Avenue entrance to Willow Springs Park in Long Beach on Sept. 28, 2021.

With the extra hour from daylight savings on Sunday, residents can fill their time with things to do in Long Beach and Signal Hill.

Artful gatherings abound this week, beginning with a meditative nesting doll project Friday night at the Art Spot, Cal State Long Beach's family museum day Saturday, a poetry night Monday at Work Evolution Laboratories or a weekly crochet club meeting Wednesday evening.

Residents who want their hands caked with dirt rather than paint can help out at a Willow Springs Park restoration day Friday afternoon, a kid-friendly gardening day with Ground Education Saturday morning or an early morning bird walk at Ranchos Los Cerritos Thursday.

Community-centric events this week include a celebration for two businesses closing their doors in Downtown Long Beach, a kid's spelling bee Sunday afternoon and a Signal Hill historical talk Thursday evening.

08 FRIDAY

PLAY DATE IN THE PARK

Noon to 1 p.m. Geared towards children ages 3 to 12, this weekly meetup offers different activities for casual play dates between local children at Lincoln Park (101 Pacific Ave.). Free.

RESTORATION FRIDAY

3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Volunteers are needed to help care for native plants and pull weeds at Willow Springs Park (2745 Orange Ave.). Volunteers are encouraged to bring a reusable water bottle, comfortable shoes and sunscreen. Free.

INNER CHILD NESTING DOLLS

6 p.m. Local therapist Cynthia Perez will be leading a guided meditation and introspective art project at the Art Spot (4356 Atlantic Ave.). Participants will be decorating their own nesting dolls that represent their inner child. Tickets can be purchased for \$35 on the Art Spot's website.

09 SATURDAY

FAMILY MUSEUM DAY

10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Families and children are invited to this art-guided gathering at the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum (1250 Bellflower Blvd.). Visitors can learn to make miniature "stained-glass" creations, inspired by Timo Fahler's works currently hanging in the museum, or simply roam around the exhibit. All materials will be provided. Free.

KWENTOS AT KANTA

10:30 a.m. Young children can enjoy a bilingual story in English and Tagalog at Harte Library (1595 W Willow St.). There will also be a short demonstration of Filipino music. Free.

BUSINESS APPRECIATION CELEBRATION

11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Two local businesses, 1st & Elm Community Garden and 6th & Detroit, will be closing. A block party will be held to celebrate them on their last day. 1st & Elm Community Garden will be holding a plant sale, while 6th & Detroit will be having a \$5 pile sale. Free to attend.

GARDEN ADVENTURES

11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Adventures to Dreams and Ground Education invites children between 5 and 16 years old to spend an educational day in the garden (903 DeForest Ave.). Lunch and snacks will be provided. Free.

COMEDY SHOW

7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Friendzone will be hosting this stand-up comedy show at Hi-Lo Liquor (707 E Ocean Blvd.) for those 21 and older. Space will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. There's no cover charge, but there will be a two-drink minimum.

10 SUNDAY

ART WORKSHOP

8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Participants will practice their art skills during this outdoor workshop in the garden of the Museum of Latin American Art (628 Alamitos Ave.). Supplies will

be provided. Admission costs \$5. Registration through the museum's website is required.

AUTHOR STORYTIME

2 p.m. Author Shelby Van Pelt will be reading an excerpt from her novel "Remarkably Bright Creatures" in the City Council Chambers at Long Beach City Hall (411 W. Ocean Blvd.). Copies of the novel will be available for purchase and signing. This event is appropriate for all ages. Free.

KIDS SPELLING BEE

2 p.m. Local community organizer Justin Rudd will be holding a spelling bee for students from the third to fifth grades at Bay Shore Church (5100 E Toledo). The first place winner will receive \$1,000. It costs \$5 to spectate. It costs \$20 per child to participate if they sign up beforehand, or \$30 for those who sign up the day of the event. To pre-register, visit Justin Rudd's website.

11 MONDAY

ARTIST TALK

2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Curator Erin Stout will discuss the work of Pao Houa Her and other artists included in the exhibit "It Moves Forward, Always" at the Carolyn Campagna Kleefeld Contemporary Art Museum (1250 N Bellflower Blvd.). Free.

POETRY NIGHT

Time TBA. The public is invited to share original haikus they've composed for Women's History Month at Work Evolution Laboratories (235 E Broadway, Suite 800). Free.

12 TUESDAY

FIRE STATION TODDLER TIME

10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Caregivers and toddlers are invited to enjoy songs, rhymes, dancing and play at Fire Station 8 (5365 Second St.). Space is limited, and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Free.

PRESCHOOL WITHOUT WALLS

10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The

nonprofit Preschool Without Walls holds educational events that prepare parents and their children to begin school. During this event at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library (5870 Atlantic Ave.), children will play and learn together while parents receive helpful information to prepare them to enroll their child and support them in school. This event is geared towards families with children ages 5 and younger. Free.

13 WEDNESDAY

CUENTOS Y CRAFTS STORYTIME

Noon to 1 p.m. Preschoolers between 3 and 5 years old are invited to enjoy crafts and a bilingual story in Spanish at Burnett Neighborhood Library (560 E. Hill St.). Free.

WEEKLY CROCHET

4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. People of all ages are invited to learn the basics of crochet at Bach Neighborhood Library (4055 N. Bellflower Blvd.). A limited amount of yarn and hooks will be provided. Free.

14 THURSDAY

BIRD WALK

8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. Residents and birders can explore local bird species in this guided walk at Ranchos Los Cerritos (4600 Virginia Road). Staff will be available to answer bird and nature-related questions and residents are encouraged to bring their binoculars. Free, but registration through the rancho's website is required.

HISTORY ON THE HILL

6 p.m. to 7 p.m. Local historian David Ferrari will be speaking about Signal Hill in the 1930s at the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.). Registration required. To register, call the Library at 562-989-7323. Free.

IS THAT IT?

NOPE!

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

AROUND TOWN

A WEEKLY LIST OF EVENTS IN LONG BEACH AND SIGNAL HILL



CHECK IT OUT EVERY FRIDAY, ONLINE AT SIGNALTRIBUNE.COM

LBUSD JOB CUTS
continued from page 2

live these stories every day in our work," Neilsen said. "All 24 of us do this work. Every day. We run toward the crisis that nobody else knows how to help."

Board member Doug Otto, who made the motion to pass the personnel report, said that as the district continues to face budget cuts and the termination of one-time funds, this is just the beginning of difficult decisions the board will have to make.

"I know that it's very personal and it's very important to a lot of people, but I'm confident that by the elimination of these six positions, we will continue to be doing a good job in this area," Otto said.

Since the previous meeting, Brown expressed that abolishing these positions stems from a need to reimagine approaches to student behavior. She said that the Office of School Support Services is looking at the different types of needs students have and broadening the scope to include trauma-specific behaviors.

"We do need professionals who bring a variety of training and expertise that is not just specific to behavior, but also specific to the social, emotional and trauma-informed perspectives that other professionals also bring," Brown said.

Neilsen argued that special needs and trauma are not mutually exclusive.

"Behavior and special needs and trauma are intertwined. We have a both/and problem. We need more resources for our behavior department," Neilsen said.

Sara Frederiksen, one of the 18 behavior supervisors who will remain if the six positions are abolished, highlighted that behavior intervention specialists have diverse backgrounds in education, counseling, psychology, family therapy and mental health.

"Please realize that our specializations, years of experience working in LBUSD and unique skill sets are assets that can contribute to the repurposing vision," Frederiksen said.

EYE ON CRIME

CRIMES REPORTED BY THE SIGNAL HILL POLICE

Wednesday, February 28

10:56 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, E. Hill St./Gaviota Ave.
11:23 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 1000 block E. Burnett St.
12:30 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2600 block Cherry Ave.
3:54 p.m., Injury traffic collision, E. PCH/Freeman Ave.
6:43 p.m., Grand theft, 2700 block Cherry Ave.

Thursday, February 29

2:14 p.m., Identity theft, 2200 block St. Louis Ave.
3:02 p.m., Injury traffic collision, 2500 block Cerritos Ave.

Friday, March 1

6:57 a.m., Auto burglary, 1200 block E. 32nd St.
4:23 p.m., Battery spouse; Elder/dependent adult cruelty, 700 block E. Willow St. (suspect arrested)
4:59 p.m., Criminal threats, 2500 block Cherry Ave.

Saturday, March 2

9:03 a.m., Auto burglary, Myrtle Ave. south of E. Wardlow Rd.
6:22 p.m., Burglary, E. 28th St./Atlantic Ave.
6:45 p.m., Shoplifting; felony warrant; trespass, 700 block E. Spring St. (suspect arrested)
9:48 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 600 block E. Willow St.

Sunday, March 3

6:07 p.m., Auto burglary, 800 block Walton Ave.
6:26 p.m., Inflict corporal injury on spouse, 3300 block Falcon Ave. (suspect arrested)

Monday, March 4

6:54 a.m., Auto burglary, 22100 block Gundry Ave.
11:28 a.m., Identity theft, 2600 block E. 20th St.

Tuesday, March 5

9:06 a.m., Injury traffic collision, Cherry Ave./Crescent Heights
4:14 p.m., Identity theft, 2200 block E. Willow St.
4:49 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2800 block Sunset View
8:40 p.m., Burglary, 2000 block Obispo Ave.

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 and type in an address.

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

CITY OF SIGNAL HILL

TST7228

NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING AND CEQA CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, the Planning Commission of the City of Signal Hill will conduct a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. Planning Commission will consider the following:

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT 00-05

AN AMENDMENT OF CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (CUP) 00-05 WHICH ALLOWS OPERATION OF A SELF-STORAGE FACILITY, AMENDING EXISTING CONDITIONS AND ADDING NEW CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL TO LIMIT OPERATIONS ADJACENT TO ELLIS AVENUE ON PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2901 EAST PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY WITHIN AREA 2 OF PACIFIC COAST HIGHWAY SPECIFIC PLAN (SP-10)

Agent: Chris Mata
Property Owners: Signal Hill Self Storage LP
Recommendation: Staff is recommending approval, subject to conditions.

ALL INTERESTED PERSONS are hereby invited to participate in this public hearing to present written information, express their opinions, or otherwise present evidence on the above matter.

YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE and provide comments in one of the following ways:

- In-person: Council Chambers of City Hall, 2175 Cherry Avenue, Signal Hill, California;
- You may submit comments prior to the meeting date by email to cluis@cityofsignalhill.org, or by mail to the attention of Carlos Luis, 2175 Cherry Avenue, Signal Hill, CA 90755. If received prior to the publication of the agenda on or before Wednesday, March 14, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., City staff will incorporate the comments into the staff report. Written comments received by 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 will be provided electronically to the Planning Commission and attached to the meeting minutes. Written comments will not be read into the record; You are encouraged to provide written comments in advance of the publication of the agenda as well as participating during the meeting, to ensure that the Planning Commission has ample time to consider your comments and that the applicant has the opportunity to respond to comments prior to finalizing the item for City Council review. You will receive another notice when the City Council public hearing is scheduled.

THIS PROJECT IS CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15303 Class 1 as an Existing Facility (Class 1 Exemption), consistent with the provisions of CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301 and 15300.2. The proposed project consists of the continuation of a storage facility business in an existing commercial building and does not involve expansion of the existing building or require offsite utility improvements. The subject site is located in an urbanized area where all necessary public services and facilities are available, and the surrounding area is not environmentally sensitive.

IF YOU WISH TO LEGALLY challenge any action taken by the City on the above matter, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City prior to or at the public hearing.

THE FILE and associated documents for the proposed project may be reviewed publicly on the City's website at www.cityofsignalhill.org. If you have difficulty in accessing the documents, please contact Carlos Luis, Planning Manager, at (562) 989-7360 or via email at cluis@cityofsignalhill.org.

Published in the Signal Tribune newspaper: March 8, 2024
Posted in accordance with SHMC Section 1.08.010 on: March 8, 2024
Mailed to affected property owners within a 300' radius on: March 8, 2024

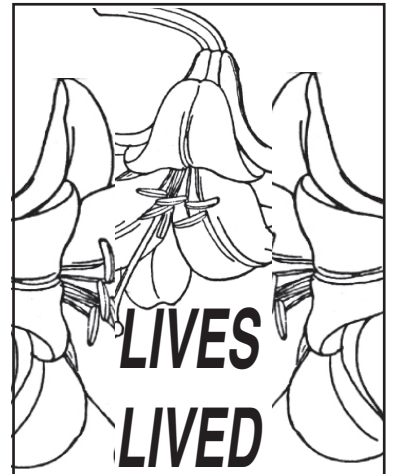
TST7229

Case No. 23STPB13617

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Monica Rae Herman, aka Monica Herman, or Monica R. Herman

1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of MONICA RAE HERMAN, aka Monica Merman or Monica R. Herman. 2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by Charlene Garces in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. 3. The Petition for Probate requests that Charlene Garces 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. April 15, 2024 @ 8:30am, Dept: 99 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: J. BRETT MILLER 3070 BRISTOL ST., STE. 500 COSTA MESA, CA. 92626 Pub. Signal Tribune, March 8, 15, 22, 2024**



- Ubaldo Moreno 37
- Christopher Jenkins 58
- Luis Gonzales 94
- George Davis 86
- Jane Lowrie 86
- Terrell Kimbrough Sr 56
- Herminia Luna Lozano 98
- Emilie Fuchs 86
- Janet Felien 68
- Bruce Wills Sr 82
- Bernadette Conley 98
- Heidi Dalton 58
- Harold Hayes 81
- June Stein 88
- Catherine Voris-Mosby 62

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

NEED TO POST A LEGAL NOTICE?

email: legalnotices@signaltribune.com

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TST7215

County of Los Angeles
Department of the Treasurer and Tax Collector

NOTICE OF DIVIDED PUBLICATION

Pursuant to Revenue and Taxation Code (R&TC) Sections 3702, 3381, and 3382, the Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector is publishing in divided distribution, the Notice of Online Public Auction of Tax-Defaulted Property Subject to the Tax Collector's Power to Sell in and for the County of Los Angeles, State of California, to various newspapers of general circulation published in the County. A portion of the list appears in each of such newspapers.

Notice of Online Public Auction of Tax-Defaulted Property Subject to the Tax Collector's Power to Sell (Sale No. 2024A)

Whereas, on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, directed the County of Los Angeles Treasurer and Tax Collector (TTC), to sell certain tax-defaulted properties at the online public auction.

The TTC does hereby give public notice, that unless said properties are redeemed, prior to the close of business on Friday, April 19, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, the last business day prior to the first day of the online public auction, the TTC will offer for sale and sell said properties on Saturday, April 20, 2024, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time, through Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time, to the highest bidder, for not less than the minimum bid, at online public auction at www.bid4assets.com/losangeles.

The minimum bid for each parcel is the total amount necessary to redeem, plus costs, as required by R&TC Section 3698.5.

If a property does not sell during the online public auction, the right of redemption will revive and remain until Friday, May 31, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

The TTC will re-offer any properties that did not sell or were not redeemed prior to Friday, May 31, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, for sale at online public auction at www.bid4assets.com/losangeles beginning Saturday, June 1, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. Pacific Time, through Tuesday, June 4, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

Prospective bidders should obtain detailed information of this sale from the County of Los Angeles Treasurer and Tax Collector at ttr.lacounty.gov. Bidders are required to pre-register at www.bid4assets.com and submit a refundable \$5,000 deposit in the form of wire transfer, electronic check, cashier's check or bank-issued money order at the time of registration. Registration will begin on Friday, March 15, 2024, at 8:00 a.m. Pacific Time and end on Tuesday, April 16, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time.

Pursuant to R&TC Section 3692.3, the TTC sells all property "as is" and the County and its employees are not liable for any known or unknown conditions of the properties, including, but not limited to, errors in the records of the Office of the Assessor (Assessor) pertaining to improvement of the property.

If the TTC sells a property, parties of interest, as defined by R&TC Section 4675, have a right to file a claim with the County for any proceeds from the sale, which are in excess of the liens and costs required to be paid from the proceeds. If there are any excess proceeds after the application of the minimum bid, the TTC will send notice to all parties of interest, pursuant to law.

Please direct requests for information concerning redemption of tax-defaulted property to the Treasurer and Tax Collector, at 225 North Hill Street, Room 130, Los Angeles, California 90012. You may also call (213) 974-2045, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, visit our website at ttr.lacounty.gov or email us at auction@ttr.lacounty.gov.

The Assessor's Identification Number (AIN) in this publication refers to the Assessor's Map Book, the Map Page, and the individual Parcel Number on the Map Page. If a change in the AIN occurred, the publication will show both prior and current AINs. An explanation of the parcel numbering system and the referenced maps are available at the Office of the Assessor located at 500 West Temple Street, Room 225, Los Angeles, California 90012, or at assessor.lacounty.gov.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed at Los Angeles, California, on February 6, 2024.

KEITH KNOX
Treasurer and Tax Collector
County of Los Angeles
State of California

The real property that is subject to this notice is situated in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, and is described as follows:

PUBLIC AUCTION NOTICE OF SALE OF TAX-DEFAULTED PROPERTY SUBJECT TO THE POWER OF SALE(SALE NO. 2024A)

3840 AIN 7133-019-010 JACKSON CONSULTING AND MANAGEMENT LLC LOCATION CITY-LONG BEACH \$3,872.00
3842 AIN 7212-009-015 KING TUT TRUST LOCATION CITY-LONG BEACH \$4,406.00

4113 AIN 7217-015-013 TEN EYCK, FRED W AND TEN EYCK, WARREN E LOCATION CITY-SIGNAL HILL \$7,917.00

4116 AIN 7204-009-036 RAYO, JAVIER AND ANGELA LOCATION CITY-LONG BEACH \$23,414.00
CN104674 578 Mar 1, 8, 15, 2024

TST7214

Case No. 23STPB08115

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: FRANCES EDWARD ARNOLD

1. To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of FRANCES EDWARD ARNOLD. 2. A Petition for Probate has been filed by ROBERT EDWARD ARNOLD in the Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles. 3. The Petition for Probate requests that ROBERT EDWARD ARNOLD 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. March 18, 2024 @ 8:30am, Dept: 62 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. ROBERT EDWARD ARNOLD 506 SOUTH LEBANON STREET MASCOUTAH, ILLINOIS 62258 Phone: 618-334-13069 Pub. Signal Tribune, February 23 & March 1, 8, 2024

TST7210 / 2024 033282 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: LUBREE, 2661 JUNIPERO AVE, SIGNAL HILL, CA. 90755. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: ROAG HOLDINGS LLC, 2661 JUNIPERO AVE, 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: MONICA AGUERO, 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 2/13/2024. 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 Pro-

fessions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: February 16, 23 & March 1, 8, 2024

TST7208

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

TS No. CA-23-964112-BF Order No.: 230387394-CA-VOI YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 11/26/2007. 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 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 to the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. 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. **BENEFICIARY MAY ELECT TO BID LESS THAN THE TOTAL AMOUNT DUE.** Trustor(s): AMANDA WASVARY, A SINGLE PERSON AND NOLAN RANSDALL, A SINGLE PERSON Recorded: 11/28/2007 as Instrument No. 20072615801 of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, California; Date of Sale: 3/21/2024 at 9:00 AM Place of Sale: At the Doubletree Hotel Los Angeles-Norwalk, 13111 Sycamore Drive, Norwalk, CA 90650, in the Vineyard Ballroom Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$521,704.13 The purported property address is: 17140 SUMMER MAPLE WAY, FAIR OAKS RANCH, CA 91387 Assessor's Parcel No.: 2841-051-008 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 800-280-2832 for information regarding the trustee's sale or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-23-964112-BF. 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 website. 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 800-280-2832, or visit this internet website <http://www.qualityloan.com>, using the

file number assigned to this foreclosure by the Trustee: CA-23-964112-BF 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. **NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE OWNER-OCCUPANT:** Any prospective owner-occupant as defined in Section 2924m of the California Civil Code who is the last and highest bidder at the trustee's sale shall provide the required affidavit or declaration of eligibility to the auctioneer at the trustee's sale or shall have it delivered to QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION by 5 p.m. on the next business day following the trustee's sale at the address set forth in the below signature block. The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. 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. If the sale is set aside for any reason, including if the Trustee is unable to convey title, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the monies paid to the Trustee. This shall be the Purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Trustor, the Trustee, the Beneficiary, the Beneficiary's Agent, or the Beneficiary's Attorney. If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holders right's against the real property only. Date: QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION 2763 Camino Del Rio S San Diego, CA 92108 619-645-7711 For NON SALE information only Sale Line: 800-280-2832 Or Login to: <http://www.qualityloan.com> Reinstatement Line: (866) 645-7711 Ext 5318 QUALITY LOAN SERVICE CORPORATION. TS No.: CA-23-964112-BF IDSPub #0200925 2/23/2024 3/1/2024 3/8/2024

TST7213 / 2024 032704 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: AUNTIE JOES, 1759 N PALMER CT, LONG BEACH, CA. 908013. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: JOEANNE GAINES, 1759 N PALMER CT, LONG BEACH, CA. 90813. State of Incorporation/Organization: (State). This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: JOEANNE GAINES, OWNER. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in 01/2024. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on February 13, 2024. NOTICE: This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14411 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Pub. The Signal Tribune: February 23 & March 1, 3, 10, 2024

TST7216 Case No. 24LBCP00057 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: Anna Lamae Johnson for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Anna Lamae Johnson has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing her name as follows: Present Name: Anna Lamae Johnson Proposed Name: SkyWalker 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: April 9, 2024; 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. March 1, 8, 15, 23, 2024 ___/ss/___ Michael P. Vincencia, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: February 23, 2024

TST7231 Case No. 24CMCP00032 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, 200 W. Compton Blvd., Compton, CA. 90220 PETITION OF: TAYNA LAVON KING for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: TAYNA LAVON KING filed a petition with this court for a decree changing her name as follows: Present Name: TAYNA LAVON KING Proposed Name: TANYA LAVON KING 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 14, 2024; 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. March 8, 15, 22, 29, 2024 ___/ss/___ Michael Shultz, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: March 5, 2024

TST7230/Order No: 17275
Auto Lien Sale

On 03/25/2024 at 1969 FIRESTONE BLVD LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2020 FORD
VIN: 1FTEW1CP4LFB46552
STATE: TX LIC: at 10 AM

TST7227/Order No: 17023
Auto Lien Sale

On 03/20/2024 at 4351 S. BROADWAY LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2020 FORD
VIN: 1FMCU9J96LUA78813
STATE: CA LIC: 9GKT937 at 10 AM

TST7226/Order No: 16983
Auto Lien Sale

On 03/20/2024 at 16971 SIERRA HIGHWAY CANYON COUNTRY, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2020 HYUNDAI
VIN: 5NPD84LF5LH525824
STATE: CA LIC: 9DCY545 at 10 AM

TST7225/Order No: 17108
Auto Lien Sale

On 03/20/2024 at 2801 W SLAUSON AVE LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2019 HONDA
VIN: 2HGFC2F83KH539853
STATE: CA LIC: 8LPT736 at 10 AM

TST7224/Order No: 16984
Auto Lien Sale

On 03/20/2024 at 16971 SIERRA HIGHWAY CANYON COUNTRY, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2018 TOYOTA
VIN: NMTKHMBX4JR012202
STATE: CA LIC: 8TBN142 at 10 AM

TST7223/Order No: 17256
Auto Lien Sale

On 03/22/2024 at 4961 FIRESTONE BLVD SOUTH GATE, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2023 NISSA
VIN: 1N4BL4DVXPN424480
STATE: CA LIC: 9JGN095 at 10 AM

TST7222/Order No: 17225
Auto Lien Sale

On 03/22/2024 at 15321 ATLANTIC AVE COMPTON, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2016 CHEVROLET
VIN: 2GNALBEKXG6340010
STATE: CA LIC: 7TPF115 at 10 AM

TST7221/Order No: 17252
Auto Lien Sale

On 03/22/2024 at 9635 LAUREL ST LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2021 CHRYSLER
VIN: 2C3CCABG9MH537346
STATE: CA LIC: 9FKP210 at 10 AM

FEB. REPRESENTATIVE ROUNDUP

continued from page 1

to begin handling translations for documents submitted by congressional offices.

Congressional offices assist their constituents with their immigration cases. Currently, the congressional offices are required to provide translated versions of any non-English documents they receive from their constituents before submitting them to USCIS. Congressional offices are also required to provide the certification of the translator that worked on the document.

“Our limited staff are often forced to spend hours translating constituents’ documentation and outreach into English on our constituents’ behalf before submitting these materials to your agency,” said the Congress members in a letter to USCIS. “[...] The current

translation requirement creates an undue and unnecessary barrier and casts doubt on our commitment to equity and equal protection.”

USCIS has not yet publicly responded to the lawmakers’ letter.

Marjorie Taylor Greene: On Feb. 6, U.S. Representative Marjorie Taylor Greene stormed out of a congressional hearing on crime in Washington D.C., after Garcia criticized her and accused her of hypocrisy due to her support of inmates charged with breaking into the capital on Jan. 6.

Garcia later called Taylor Greene insane on the social media platform X, formerly known as Twitter.

On Feb. 15., during a hearing about the public’s trust in vaccines, Garcia came prepared with large printed versions of some of

Greene’s statements about the COVID-19 vaccine, including a tweet in which she likened vaccinated workers to Jews during the Holocaust.

During a House hearing last month, Garcia came with an image depicting border solutions suggested by Donald Trump and other Republican lawmakers, including an alligator moat, electrified fence, armed soldiers and fighter jets.

On Feb. 15, Garcia tweeted that Taylor Greene had reprinted the image and hung it outside her office. The tweet included a picture of Garcia standing between the image and Taylor Greene’s office plaque on the wall behind him.

Garcia called the impeachment of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas a “politi-

cal sham” orchestrated by Taylor Greene. Mayorkas was impeached for enacting the Biden administration’s border policy, following a resolution brought forward by Taylor Greene.

Lena Gonzalez – California State Senator for the 33rd District
Bill to Address Health Disparities for Latino and Indigenous Communities: Gonzalez introduced Senate Bill 1016, The Latino and Indigenous Health Disparities Reduction Act on Feb. 5. If passed, the bill would require that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and the Department of Social Services (DSS) collect and analyze comprehensive health data focusing on Latino and Indigenous communities.



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THE WICKED WOLF

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Mercouffer grew up under a communist dictatorship in Romania, calling it “an enormous stroke of luck” that her family was able to obtain visas to move. She can still recall arriving at an airport in Pennsylvania carrying large canvas bags filled with clothing equipped for any type of weather, plus pots, pans and personal items.

While Mercouffer studied acting at Penn State, she admired how her mother saved up money by hand-sewing dresses at \$5 a pop until she could afford to open up her own shop and place to live.

Mercouffer left the acting world after a stint off Broadway once she had children and started making film documentaries for the Refugee Women’s Alliance while she served on the board. She helped produce a film teaching women how to identify sexual assault in various situations and another explaining what human trafficking is, each with multiple casts and languages.

Mercouffer grew to enjoy the freedom her filmmaking came with, and when her daughter started college she decided to take things a step further and venture into owning her own business.

“I wanted to prove to myself that I can run my own business, because my mom had her own business and my grandmother had her own grocery store where we lived in Romania so I felt like maybe it’s in my blood somehow,” Mercouffer said.

The Wrigley neighborhood in Long Beach won her heart as soon as she saw the cottage-like building, and the surrounding community welcomed her. Mercouffer envisioned The Wicked Wolf becoming a “cultural hub” for Long Beach, bringing people in for a chill night with friends or to explore a club or workshop.

As Mercouffer spoke to the *Signal Tribune* on Feb. 27, she was gearing up to host a mixology class, a writers series, an open mic night and a networking event all for the same week. On March 8, The Wicked Wolf will host a Women’s History Month exhibit in partnership with the Historical Society of Long Beach.

The exhibit will highlight women in local history who have made a lasting impact on their community. The opening reception on March 8 will also feature women-owned alcohol brands, a “La Loba” cocktail which will help fund a nonprofit and performances from female musicians. The event is free to attend.

The Wicked Wolf doesn’t charge artists or clubs to use the space as long as members support the bar by buying either a cocktail, mocktail or bottle of water.

“I want the space to be open as much as it can for whatever they [residents] want,” Mercouffer said. “If they succeed, we succeed.”

The Wicked Wolf is located at 2332 Pacific Ave. and open Mondays through Thursdays from 5 p.m. to midnight, Fridays and Saturdays from 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. and Sundays from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

The Wicked Wolf bar logo is stamped onto a large ice cube that will be used to make an old fashioned on Feb. 20, 2024.

Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

(Top) Wicked Wolf owner, Thea Mercouffer, takes a sip of an old fashioned she made at her bar on Feb. 20, 2024. (Bottom) An old fashioned is stirred by Thea Mercouffer at The Wicked Wolf on Feb. 20, 2024. One dollar of each drink sold through June 19 will help benefit a Historical Black College or University.



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