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STORY AND
PHOTOS ON PAGE 6

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LGBTQ+

Long Beach Pride is this month. Here's what to know.

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

Long Beach Pride will take over the downtown shoreline this month, inviting thousands of people to celebrate love, inclusivity and this year's theme "Rhythm and Rainbows."

The two-day festival will culminate with the 41st annual Long Beach Pride Parade, and accompanying events will take place around the festival throughout the weekend. Many traditions that surround the festival, which began in 1984, will continue this year while new faces and performances will grace the stages as well.

Whether you're returning to the festival for the umpteenth time or it's your first whirl down the rainbow road, this article will explain everything to know about the festival, parade and additional events celebrating Long Beach's queer community.

Long Beach Pride Festival - May 18-19

Headliners for this year's festival include Ivy Queen, Saucy Santana, Valentina and many others. Over 20 artists and dancers will highlight a wide range of scenes and genres such as hip-hop, country and reggaeton.

The Rhythm of the Rainbow Ball



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Pepper, a 4-year-old beagle, looks into the camera while wrapped in a LGBT Pride flag. The annual celebration of Long Beach Pride will kick off in mid-May, headlined by the 41st annual Long Beach Pride Parade.

will take place at the main stage of the festival on May 18 at 6 p.m. Participants can watch the ball for no extra charge, but those who wish to participate in one of the categories (face, runway or performance)

must register at @houseoflongbeach on Instagram and pay the \$200 registration fee.

The ballroom scene is a widely celebrated subculture created by the Black and Mexican LGBTQ

community, with the first known example in 1869 in Harlem. The culture thrived in the '70s by creating a safe space for the Black and brown queer community to gather, celebrate their individuality and

fully express themselves.

The Rhythm of the Rainbow Ball will be hosted by Princess Destiny Ninja, with Torie Balmain commentating and Sidney Perry DJing.

The festival will take place at 386 Shoreline Drive on May 18 and 19 from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Attendees can purchase a single-day ticket for \$45.10 or one of the VIP packages, with prices ranging up to \$238.43.

Honor Our LGBTQ Elders Day - May 16

The Cal State Long Beach gerontology program will host this workshop teaching how LGBTQ older adults have been affected by historical barriers. Elders will learn how to heal from trauma, caregiving and helpful networks.

Long Beach seniors in the LGBTQ community can attend this free forum and workshop event on May 16 from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church at 2325 E Third St.

Teen Pride - May 17

Teens and youth can gather for a free night of games, music, connections to resources, workshops, performances, food and more the night before the Long Beach Pride Festival.

Attendees can enjoy arts and crafts, drag shows, resource and vendor booths, DJ performances

LONG BEACH PRIDE see page 5

CULTURE

Long Beach Public Library announces slate of free events for AAPI Heritage Month

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

Residents can enjoy a series of cultural, educational and artistic events from the Long Beach Public Library (LBPL) in celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month.

During the month of May, all 12 LBPL locations will host free events under the theme of "A Bouquet of Cultures," in recognition of the cultural diversity of AAPI communities.

"We invite community members to join us in these month-long celebrations in recognition of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month," said Mayor Rex Richardson in a statement from the City.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A selection of books written in the Khmer language are available in the children's section of the Mark Twain Community Library. AAPI authors will be celebrated on May 4 during the Festival of AAPI Books at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library.

The month-long series will include performances from AAPI performing arts troupes, workshops led by local artist Stacy Wong and a mini-Zen Garden crafting session.

For the third straight year, the

opening event of the LBPL's AAPI Heritage Month series will be the Festival of AAPI Books (FAB) on Saturday, May 4 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library.

This literary-themed event will feature book discussions and author readings from more than 15 AAPI authors, including renowned authors Kaylin Melia George and Jenny Liao.

The keynote discussion for FAB will be led by Pulitzer Prize winner Viet Thanh Nguyen and Rome Prize in Literature winner Gina Apostol, which will be followed by a book signing. Attendees will also get the chance to browse through books and treats from several local literary vendors, such as Bel Canto Books, We are Sunraised and Kubo LB.

"As we honor Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, we stand proud to offer programs that showcase the vibrancy and richness of Asian and Pacific Islander cultures," said Library Director Cathy De Leon in a statement from the Long Beach Public Library. "This month is not only about celebrating heritage but also about fostering connections and understanding within our community."

The full list of upcoming Long Beach Public Library events for AAPI Heritage Month can be found on the library's events calendar at lbpl.org. For more information, residents are advised to contact the LBPL at 562-570-7500 or visit their social media accounts on Facebook, Instagram and X (formerly Twitter).



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A sign and artwork by Cambodian residents shows where section for books written in the Khmer language is at in the Mark Twain Community Library in the Cambodia Town neighborhood of Long Beach. All 12 locations of the Long Beach Public Library will be hosting free events as part of its AAPI Heritage Month series "A Bouquet of Cultures."

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COMMUNITY

Dust off your running shoes for the 16th annual Wrigley River Run



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A Long Beach Running Club member makes his way up to Skyline Trail in Signal Hill, leading to Hilltop Park on March 21, 2022. Local runners will have the chance to test their endurance during the Wrigley River Run on Saturday, June 1 with several long distance race options.

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

Runners, novices and kids have one month to prepare for the 16th annual Wrigley River Run and Tadpole Trot, a flat, scenic race through Long Beach with options for a 5K, 10K, 10-miler and more.

The June 1 run will feature four different live music locations to keep runners encouraged and entertained, water stations throughout the course and free pizza and discounted beer for participants following the event. Runners will begin at various times depending on which race option they choose, then run along the Los Angeles River and through the Wrigley neighborhood.

Experienced runners can earn up to three medals by running the 10-mile route with enough leftover time to run the 10K route immediately after, while parents can push their children in strollers for the “Baby Jogging” route and children can complete the 300-yard “Tadpole Trot.”

All participants will receive a

medal, and the first 300 to show up on race day will receive a “Wrigley River Run” T-shirt.

Race options and the accompanying start times for each route is below:

- Onsite registration: 6 a.m.
 - 10-miler: 7 a.m.
 - 10K: 7:30 a.m.
 - 5K baby jogging stroller race: 8:15 a.m.
 - 5K: 8:30 a.m.
 - 300-yard Toddler Tadpole Trot: 9:30 a.m.
 - 1K Tadpole Trot: 9:40 a.m.
 - Awards Ceremony: 9:45 a.m.
- Time limits are set for the 10-miler, 10K and 5K races:
- 10-miler must be completed in two hours and 40 minutes
 - 10K course must be completed in two hours and 10 minutes
 - 5K course must be completed in one hour and 10 minutes

Those who want to run with their squad can compete in the Wrigley Cup Team Challenge in either the 5K, 10K or 10-mile runs. Teams of up to three people will complete the same route and combine their times. The fastest team will have

their member’s names and times engraved on the Wrigley Cup and receive bragging rights for the entire year.

The Long Beach Neighborhood Foundation is hosting its annual Pizza Pig Out event the night before the run, open to the entire community and runners who want to load up on carbs and sample pizzas from restaurants throughout the city. The Pizza Pig Out will take place May 31 at 6 p.m. at 520 W Willow St. with pizza samples from Buono’s, Long Beach Beer Lab, Pizzax-Two, Big E Pizza and more.

Volunteers are needed to help the event run smoothly by handing out medals, T-shirts and water, supervising the event expo and barricades and cheering on all the runners. Organizations that register 20 or more youth volunteers are eligible to apply for a Long Beach Neighborhood Foundation grant.

For more information on how to register and prices for the different race times in the 16th annual Wrigley River Run, visit wrigley-riverrun.com/.

EVENT

Iconic Queen Mary Dark Harbor creeps back into LB this fall



Signal Tribune File Photo

A scare actor at the Queen Mary Dark Harbor, which is returning to Long Beach after a nearly five-year hiatus.

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

After a nearly five-year hiatus, Long Beach’s favorite Halloween event is clawing and crawling its way back to the shore.

Dark Harbor at Queen Mary, one of Long Beach’s iconic holiday traditions, will make its return on Sept. 20 with the haunted mazes, live entertainment, themed bars and on-board scares so many people came to love each spooky season. The event ran from 2010 to 2019 in the Queen Mary parking lot and aboard the ship, drawing 100,000 people each year.

“Dark Harbor has become an iconic part of our city’s Halloween celebrations, and we are excited to once again transform the Queen Mary into a haunted spectacle for scare-goers,” Mayor Rex Richardson said in a public statement.

“Having brought in hundreds of thousands of visitors to Long Beach in years past, its return is another major step in the Queen Mary’s recovery and return to a premier tourist attraction.”

The theme for this year’s return of the beloved event will be Dark Harbor: The Spirits Rise. The Queen Mary’s legacy will be eerily highlighted through characters like The Captain, Ringmaster, Scary Mary as well as new additions to

the frightful family.

Thirteenth Floor Entertainment Group will produce, promote and operate the event for the next five years, following an event license agreement the City made with the company in April. The City and Evolution Hospitality currently own the Queen Mary and adjacent property.

A profit-sharing component was part of the licensing agreement, meaning Long Beach can receive more than \$1 million from this year’s event, and up to \$3 million in the final year.

“After a four-year hiatus, we’re thrilled to resurrect Dark Harbor and summon the spirits back to The Queen Mary for this coming Halloween season,” said Steve Caloca, Managing Director of the Queen Mary in a public statement.

“We’re grateful to be working with Thirteenth Floor Entertainment Group, as well as the unwavering support of the City of Long Beach. This event holds a special place in the community’s heart, and has long been a cornerstone of Long Beach’s Halloween traditions.”

Dark Harbor will run select nights from Friday, Sept. 20 through Saturday, Nov. 2. Event updates and announcements will be revealed later this summer at darkharborhalloween.com.

SPORTS



Jonathan Bigall | Signal Tribune

(Top) Long Beach State sophomore Skyler Varga leaps up for a kill against Belmont Abbey College defenders at the NCAA men’s volleyball tournament on April 30, 2024. (Bottom) Two Long Beach State players, #19 DiAeris McRaven and #5 Aidan Knipe, jump up for a block against Belmont Abbey College.

LBSU advances to second round of NCAA Tournament with emphatic victory

Jonathan Bigall

Staff Writer

LBSU advanced to the semifinals of the tournament after beating Belmont Abbey College 3-0 in the quarterfinals match Tuesday night, securing a spot in the semifinals against Grand Canyon University.

Head coach Alan Knipe and the No. 2 seeded Beach showed why they were ranked overall first in the nation by the American Volleyball Coaches Association and defended their home against the No. 7 Crusaders with excellently timed spikes and an all-around dominant performance.

LBSU is looking to win its first championship since its back-to-back run in 2018 and 2019. The last time the Beach made it to the finals of the tournament in 2022, they lost 0-3 to the University of Hawai’i.

Check sigtrib.com Friday for an update on LBSU’s championship run

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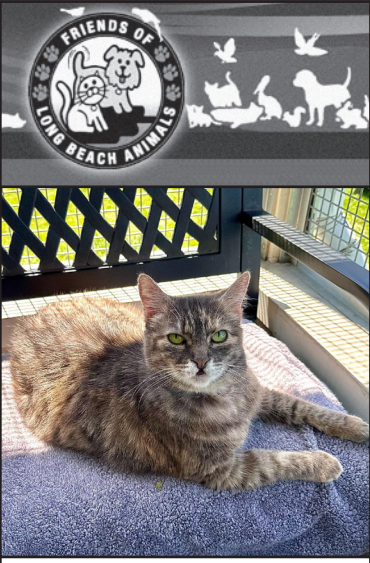
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**Pet of the week:
Ruby Tuesday**

The only good way to sing "Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday" is by watching some loving human cart her in a carrier to a new, loving, forever home.

Ruby came to the shelter as a stray, and you wouldn't believe that this beautiful, 5-year-old silver tabby once struggled with shelter life! She adores lounging in the sun, sniffing the air, pricking up her ears at sounds, and exploring at Long Beach Animal Care Services' Catio. She's made both human and kitty friends, and now she wants some forever legs to rub up against and her very own toys to play with.

To adopt or foster Ruby Tuesday, email PetAdopt@longbeach.gov to speed the process, or call (562) 570-7387. Better yet, meet her in person at Long Beach Animal Care Services, 7700 E. Spring St., Long Beach, at entrance to El Dorado Park (no parking fee for shelter visitors). Visiting hours are Wednesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., and Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Ask for ID#A711239.

HISTORY

Part XV
a continuing series about
HISTORY
On the Hill



Signal Hill Weathers the Great Depression

On "Black Tuesday" in late October, 1929, the New York Stock Exchange suffered a sudden and devastating collapse in stock prices. This event marked the advent of the crippling Great Depression of the 1930s. The day following Black Tuesday, K. R. Kingsbury, president of Standard Oil Company, tried to calm the fears of his stockholders and the oil industry-at-large by stating: "I know of nothing in the present condition or the future of the oil industry that justifies the extraordinary depreciation of prices of oil stocks today."

On the contrary, the prospect for effective conservation which will result in balancing production with demand, is brighter today than it has been at any time."

Nevertheless, oil stock prices continued to decline and the symptoms of a deepening depression worsened. Following a sharp drop in building permits, oil refineries cut back to a six-day work week to hold down their inventories (in response to a dropping product demand.) Drilling rig crews were cut back to six-hour work days, so that a maximum number of men could keep working, even if each man earned less. Oil field operators took advantage of this shortened work day by denying their men time off to eat, whereas they had been required to provide a meal break during the eight-hour work shift.

By July 1931, Standard Oil Company and the other major producers agreed upon a plan to hold down production activity in Signal Hill and other California oil fields. The object of this plan was, according to Standard Oil, "to eliminate the over-production which has featured the industry for some months." But independent producers, of which there were many in Signal Hill, were neither consulted nor represented in the decision making that went into this production curtailment.

Meanwhile, the depression deepened. By December 1931, more than 6 million Americans were jobless. Throughout 1932 this number doubled. Over 32,000 businesses went bankrupt, while more than 5,000 banks failed.

Although the oil industry suffered losses and cutbacks during this period, it did not come to a standstill. California's division of Oil and Gas took advantage of these hard times to push for reforms that would strengthen the industry. The Gas Act of 1929, for instance, was actively enforced. This Act was designed to regulate and prevent gas wastage and the occurrence of blowouts. It stated: "The unreasonable waste of natural gas, whether before or after the removal of gasoline from such natural gas, is hereby declared to be opposed to the public interest and is hereby prohibited. The

blowing . . . of natural gas into the air shall be prima facie evidence of unreasonable waste."

Blowout prevention, as mandated by the Gas Act, required that Signal Hill's producers install special blowout prevention equipment on all wells. In the early 30's the Division of Oil and Gas determined that 100 million cubic feet of gas per day was being wasted in Long Beach and Signal Hill oil fields, in violation of the Gas Act.

After a suit was filed against the oil producers responsible, the Superior Court set a trial date. The Division of Oil and Gas dropped the suit however, when gas wastage was reduced, (in part due to the decline in production induced by a depressed economy.)

Another problem that concerned the Division of Oil and Gas during the depression was spacing requirements. In 1931, a spacing statute was passed to curtail haphazard town lot drilling, like the kind of over drilling that was rampant on Signal Hill. The statute restricted all future drilling to parcels of no less than one acre in size. Also, wells on leaseholds greater than 250 feet in width had to be located 150 feet apart and 100 feet from property lines. Engineers, enthusiastically supported these new spacing regulations, because they would lead to the recovery of more oil and longer life for producing fields.

In September 1933, the Federal Government took control of the regulation of oil production rates. That year, California crude production sank to a post-crash low of 471,000 barrels per day. Ironically, by the time the Federal Government stepped in to regulate production, the worst effects of the Great Depression on the oil industry had passed. From 1934 to 1938 the demand and production of oil would gradually climb as the American economy slowly recovered.

To Be Continued

Save the date: Wednesday, May 15th, 2024
Jessie Nelson Memorial and Old Towne Orange Visit.
Sign up now before the bus fill up.

This great day trip will honor Jessie Nelson, "Mother of Signal Hill" who is with both husbands at the Fairhaven Memorial Park in Santa Ana, visit Old Towne Orange, and a guided tour at the Hilbert Museum featuring California Artists.

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Learn more about Signal Hill. Join the Historical Society May 9th at 5:30 then at 6:00 Speaker David Ferrari's history talks in the Signal Hill Library Open to the public.

*Above article originally published Feb 28, 1991 in the Star Tribune
Written by Julie Bendizick-Sin. Part 15 of 23*

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LONG BEACH PRIDE
continued from page 2

and a talent show for free. Parents can attend with their child or drop them off at a designated drop-off zone on Shoreline Drive.

Teen Pride will take place in the parking lot of the Aquarium of the Pacific at 100 Aquarium Way on May 17 from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Long Beach Pride Run - May 19

This longstanding tradition invites the LGBTQ community to support each other's goals and accomplishments at the 32nd annual Long Beach Pride Run. The run will take place on May 19 and begin at the intersection of Ocean Boulevard and Junipero Avenue at 8 a.m.

The event requires a \$50 registration either online or in-person at 6:30 a.m. the morning of the run. Participants can either enjoy a brisk 5K walk or a 10K race along the Long Beach shoreline. Each participant will receive a commemorative T-shirt and a medal for completing the route, and can enjoy an awards ceremony at 9 a.m. on the bluff at Junipero Avenue and Ocean Boulevard.

Children can participate in the Pride sKIDaddle, a 200-foot dash beginning at 7:45 a.m. before the main races. Kids will receive crayons and bibs to color as well as finisher medals for running. Children can run free with a registered adult.

All participants should cross the finish line by 9:30 a.m. in order to accommodate the Long Beach Pride Parade beginning at 10 a.m. Proceeds from the run will go towards local nonprofits such as the LGBTQ Center of Long Beach, the CARE Program at St. Mary's Medical Center, the AIDS Food Store, Gay for Good, Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse and the South Bay LGBTQ Center.

Runners and volunteers will get

to vote on how to divvy up the funds for the various organizations.

For more course details on the Long Beach Pride Run and to register, visit www.lbpride.run.



Samantha Diaz | Signal Tribune
Dancers wave to the crowd at the Long Beach Pride Parade on July 10, 2022. The Long Beach Pride Parade returns Sunday, May 19.

Long Beach Pride Parade - May 19

The 41st annual Long Beach Pride Parade will continue the theme of Rhythm and Rainbows, inviting thousands of spectators and over 100 organizations to take over downtown and celebrate the LGBTQ community.

Residents can attend the parade from the sidewalk for free.

The parade will begin at 10 a.m. at Ocean Boulevard and Lindero Avenue then travel along Ocean Boulevard to Alamitos Avenue, finishing around noon. Parade participants will travel down the streets of downtown on parade floats or walk, sashay or dance their way down the road.

Road closures for the parade will begin as early as 5 a.m. and end at 2 p.m. Sunday.

There will be no parking from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m. on:

- Ocean Boulevard from Redondo to Atlantic Avenues.
- Immediate side streets on the north and south sides of Ocean Boulevard from Redondo to

Atlantic Avenues.

The following streets will be closed to vehicle traffic during designated times from 5 a.m. to 2 p.m.:

• 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Ocean Boulevard between Redondo and Lindero Avenues, including side streets on the north and south side of Ocean Boulevard.

• 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Shoreline Drive between Ocean Boulevard and Shoreline Village Drive.

• 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Ocean Boulevard between Lindero and Atlantic, including all side streets on the north and south side of Ocean Boulevard.

• 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. - Alamitos Avenue between Ocean Boulevard and Broadway.

More information about the 2024 Long Beach Pride Parade is available at longbeach.gov/pride-parade.

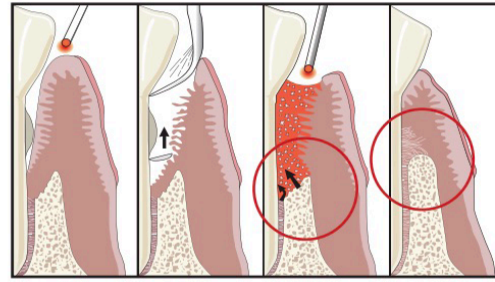


Samantha Diaz | Signal Tribune
The Service Employees International Union participates in the Long Beach Pride Parade on July 10, 2022. The Long Beach Pride Parade returns Sunday, May 19.

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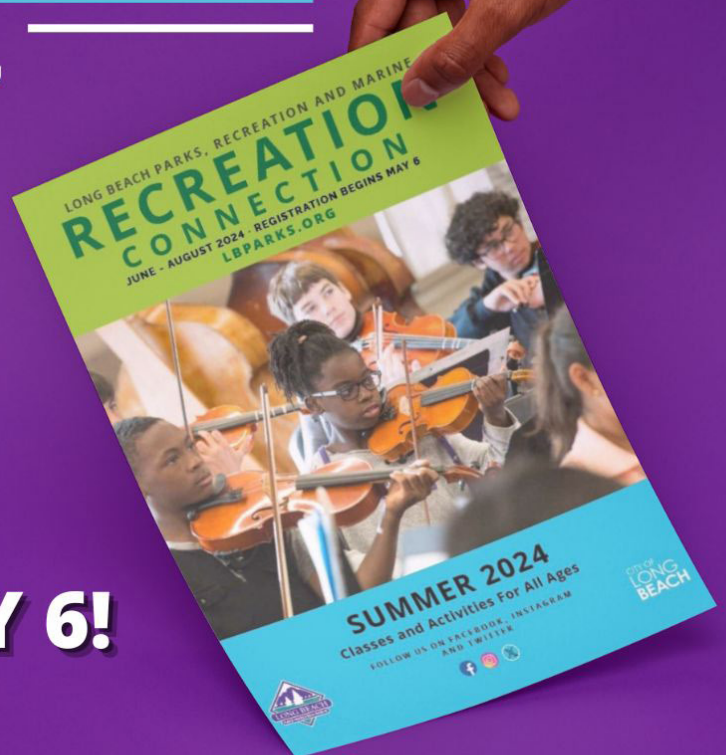
LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION, AND MARINE

Register for Summer 2024 Recreation Classes!

Classes in art, music, fitness, sports and aquatics will start in May for preschool-aged children to adults.

Register at LBParks.org

REGISTRATION BEGINS MAY 6!



PROTEST

CSULB students rally for peace in Palestine, divestment from Israel

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

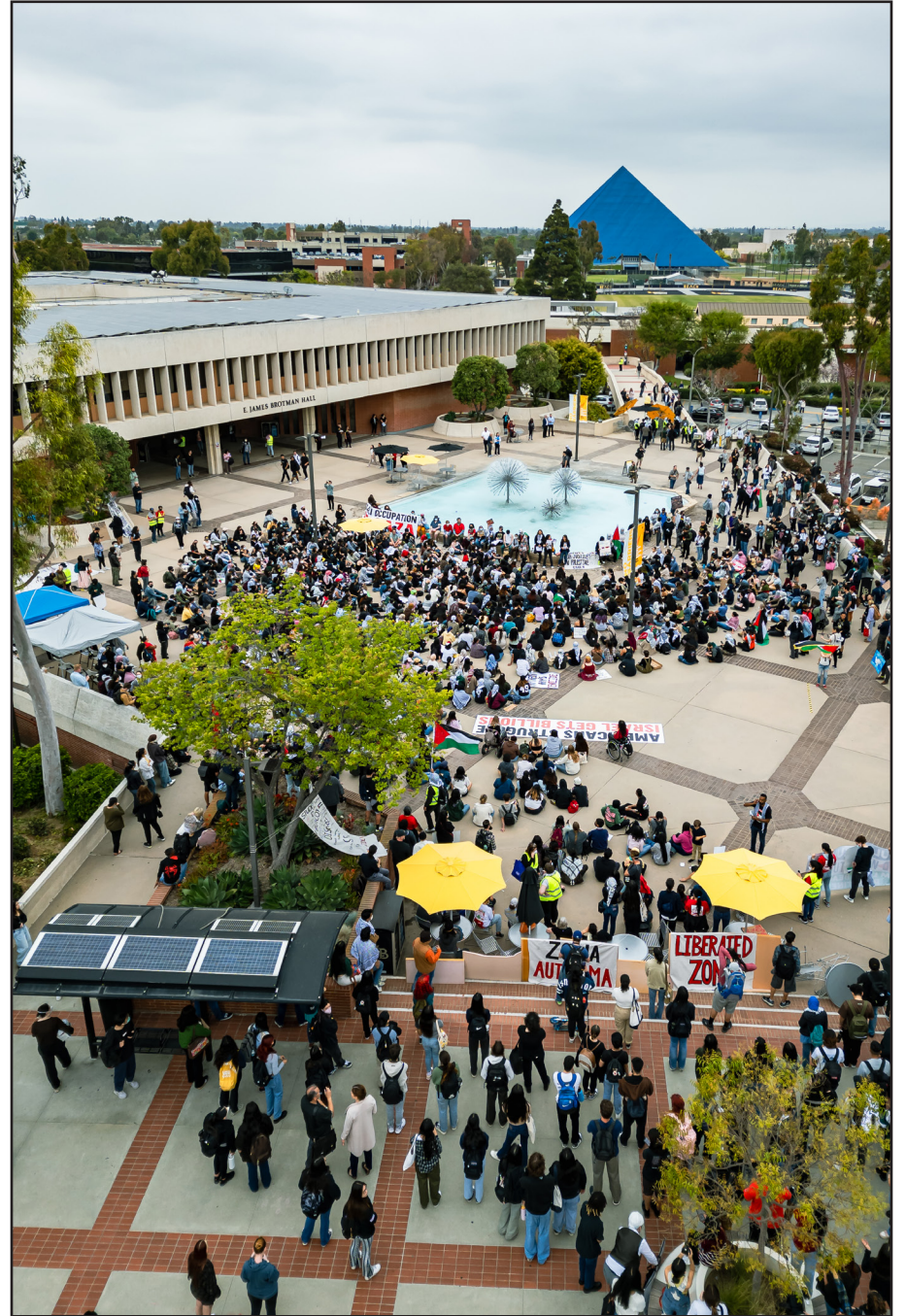
Nearly 1,000 students marched through the Cal State Long Beach campus Thursday morning holding signs, Palestinian flags and a list of demands for the university.

Cal State Long Beach (CSULB) students are the latest in a growing number of demonstrations at universities and colleges throughout the nation protesting for peace in Palestine and demanding their schools disclose full financial investments and divest from companies that profit from Israel and the military occupation of Palestine.

Students, faculty and community members met at the main quad then marched through parts of the campus around 11 a.m. The rally settled in front of Brotman Hall Plaza, where hundreds of students sat and declared the space an autonomous zone.

Organizers said they would remain in the plaza until 7 p.m., making banners and kites, praying, chanting and reading poetry. Around noon a small group of half a dozen counter-protesters began waving Israeli flags outside of the barricade of the "liberated zone."

Read the full coverage and photo gallery of CSULB's pro-Palestine rally at SigTrib.com



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

An aerial view of Cal State Long Beach students as they occupy the plaza of the main administrative building on campus to call for university officials to divest from corporations that are involved in the ongoing war in Gaza on May 2, 2024.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A student holds up a sign while protestors occupy Brotman Hall at Cal State Long Beach to call for the university to divest from Israel on May 2, 2024.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Protestors at Cal State Long Beach begin to barricade the area around the Brotman Hall Plaza to stage a sit-in and declare the area a liberated zone on May 2, 2024.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Students drape banners along the inside of Brotman Hall outside of the Cal State Long Beach president's office on May 2, 2024, to call for the university to divest from Israel for its actions in Gaza.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

A list of demands from students is attached to a tree near Brotman Hall at Cal State Long Beach while students stage a sit-in to call for the university to divest from Israel on May 2, 2024.

SUMMER PROGRAM

Long Beach Youth Chorus invites kids to a week of artistic immersion

Samantha Diaz
Managing Editor

Children in Long Beach can experience a beginner-friendly melting pot of artistic workshops and lessons for a week in June through Long Beach Youth Chorus's Summer Arts Institute.



Courtesy of Stan DeWitt

Children show off their choir singing skills at Long Beach Youth Chorus' Family Arts Festival.

Kids grades 2 through 12 will be introduced to ceramic arts, storytelling theater, instrumental jazz, mosaic art, electronic music, drumming, aerial acrobatics, barbershop quartet singing, dancing and of course, chorus singing.

Long Beach Youth Chorus (LBYC) recruits local organizations and professionals to teach these crash courses, allowing youth to connect with potential teachers if they find themselves drawn to a certain medium.

"In addition to being a weeklong preparation of singing three to four pieces of music with our kids ... it's also an immersion in a whole spec-

trum of the arts and trying to give kids a wide variety of experiences and learning," Stan DeWitt, Executive Director with LBYC, told the *Signal Tribune*.

The LBYC teaches chorus singing throughout the year for different age groups and experience levels, but the Summer Arts Institute invites children to discover what type of art and performances speak to them.

The week of artistic immersion will end with a celebration of the progress children make during the program, as well as a recognition of the people and organizations that help teach them. The last day of the institute will be the Family Arts Festival, inviting families and friends to witness performances from this year's graduating students.

The festival is open to the entire community and free to attend. Families and children will be able to meet local youth arts organizations such as the Jazz Angels, the Jewel Box Children's Theater Company and the Children's Theatre of Long Beach.

Organizations will perform at the Family Arts Festival on the main stage, and children who have gone through the Summer Arts Institute can perform solo or duo performances, showing their family and friends what they've learned through the week. While the festival is open to the public, only students of the program and partnered

organizations can perform.

"One of the things we wanted to do was bring together organizations who serve children in the arts in the city," DeWitt said. "The city has so many organizations that are doing great work with kids, there's no reason for us to not celebrate that."



Courtesy of Barry Cogert

The Jazz Angels aims to provide accessible music education to middle schoolers. The local music education nonprofit will be in attendance at this year's Family Arts Festival.

The Summer Arts Institute festival will also feature food trucks, a petting zoo, arts and crafts activities, photo opportunities and resource booths.

Another focus of the program was accessibility, so while similar camps have fees in the thousands, children can attend the entire week for \$100. Scholarships are also available for families, made possible by grants and private donors.

"I think our artistic staff, we all have a real passion for this and we know what a difference it made in our life growing up," DeWitt said.



Courtesy of Stan DeWitt

A music teacher shows a student how to use a cello during Long Beach Youth Chorus' Summer Arts Institute. The LBYC invites kids grades 2 through 12 to check out a variety of musical vocations under the guidance of local teachers.

"For kids who don't fit in anywhere else, maybe they're not good at sports, this is a safe space to feel safe and welcome."

LBYC's Summer Arts Institute will run from June 24-29 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily.

Registration is open at longbeachyouthchorus.org/sai up until the day the program begins. Families should register in advance however, if they want their child to receive a Summer Arts Institute T-shirt.



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AROUND TOWN

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



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Dancers from Ballet Folklorico Nueva Antequera perform a folk dance at the Museum of Latin American Art during the Dia de los Muertos celebration on Oct. 29, 2023. Long Beach residents can enjoy a cultural dance performance from the Malaya Filipino American Dance Arts on Sunday, May 5 from 2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. at the Museum of Latin American Art.

While you bask in the sunlight and possibilities of a new month, take some time to join neighbors, family and friends at some fun and free events in Long Beach and Signal Hill.

Seniors can celebrate Older Americans Month with a slew of workshops and activities, such as a nature walk Friday morning, live music Tuesday evening and a financial workshop Thursday afternoon. Children and their families can attend the inaugural Youth Day in the LBC event Saturday, a library story time Tuesday afternoon or perhaps adopt a furry family member Saturday morning.

An array of culture will be celebrated this week, at the Filipino Festival in downtown Long Beach Saturday or the Mariachi Festival by the shore on the same day. Nerd culture will also be recognized at the Long Beach Beer Lab's three-day Star Wars marathon and celebration Friday through Sunday.

03 FRIDAY

SENIOR NATURE WALK

10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Seniors are invited to this group walk through El Dorado Nature Center (7550 E. Spring St.), as a physical therapist provides tips for walking safely. A complimentary lunch will be provided. Free.

AFTER HOURS BURLESQUE

11 p.m. to 11:59 p.m. This late-night burlesque performance at Harvelle's (201 E Broadway) is for those 21 and older. There is a two-drink minimum. General admission tickets can be purchased for \$15 on Eventbrite.

04 SATURDAY

COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

8 a.m. to noon. The public is invited to help clean the Midtown Neighborhood. Volunteers will meet at 1744 Gaviota Ave. Volunteers are asked to wear sunscreen, closed-toe shoes, comfortable clothing and to bring their own water.

YOUTH DAY IN THE LBC

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Long Beach youth can enjoy performances, games, food, free swag and more while voting on what programs to fund for summer activities at this inaugural event at Cabrillo High School (2001 Santa Fe Ave.). Free.

SHPD OPEN HOUSE

11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Signal Hill Police Department (2745 Walnut Ave.) invites the public to tour the station, meet police personnel and take a look at emergency equipment. There will also be food and games for attendees to enjoy. Free.

FILIPINO FESTIVAL

11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The fifth annual Filipino Festival will feature food, dances, performances and more at Jackie Robinson Academy (2750 Pine Ave.). This year's celebration will be Star Wars themed.

PET ADOPTIONS

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cats and dogs from Long Beach Animal Care Services, K-9 Kismet and The Little Lion Foundation will be available for adoption at Timmons Subaru (3700 Cherry Ave.). Free to attend.

MARIACHI FESTIVAL

11 a.m. to 6 p.m. This event at Harry Bridges Park (1126 Queens Highway) will celebrate Latino culture through music, live performances and more. Several mariachi bands will be performing. Free.

GROUP ART SHOW

6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The public is invited to the opening reception of this art show featuring the work of 14 different artists at the Icehouse Arts Complex (625 W Anaheim St.). Free.

05 SUNDAY

YOGA AT THE FARM

10 a.m. This morning yoga session at Farm Lot 59 (2714 California Ave.) is appropriate for all experience levels. The class will consist of breathing exercises and gentle stretching. Tickets are available on a sliding scale on Farm Lot 59's website, and attendees are asked to pay a minimum of \$12.

CULTURAL DANCE PERFORMANCE

2 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. The Museum of Latin American Art (628 Alamitos Ave.) will be hosting a performance by an ensemble of dancers from the Malaya Filipino American Dance Arts. To register, visit the museum's website. Free.

06 MONDAY

OPEN HOUSE

2:30 p.m. The public is invited to tour the Long Beach City College Higher Education Center (635 E South St.). Various career and education resources will be available. To register, visit www.lbcc.edu/northlb. Free.

MOBILE RECESS PROGRAM

5:30 p.m. Kids between the ages of 5 and 14 are invited to participate in sports and arts and crafts activities in a safe environment during this City-run after-school program at Hudson Park (2335 Webster Ave.). Free.

07 TUESDAY

AUTHOR STORYTIME

3 p.m. to 4 p.m. Children are invited to listen to local author Alexandra Adlawan as she reads her book "Sub Journey" aloud at Los Altos Neighborhood Library (5614 Britton Dr.). Children can participate in submarine-themed crafts afterwards. Free.

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH CELEBRATION

3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Seniors are invited to the Long Beach Civic Center (411 W Ocean Blvd.) to enjoy live music and learn about community resources. Free.

08 WEDNESDAY

PORT TOUR FOR SENIORS

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Seniors are invited to enjoy a 90-minute narrated harbor tour with Harbor Breeze Cruise (100 Aquarium Way). Par-

ticipants should bring an extra layer of clothing for warmth. A complimentary lunch will be provided. Registration is required at any Parks, Recreation & Marine senior program site. Free.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Tenants of Los Angeles County are invited to learn about their rights as renters during this online event hosted by Keep LA Housed. To register for this event, visit bit.ly/klah-teach-i. Free.

09 THURSDAY

MONEY MATTERS FOR SENIORS

12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. Seniors will learn strategies to protect their savings and wealth at the Harte Neighborhood Library (1595 W Willow St.). This workshop will be led

REDUCE, REUSE, REGROW

3:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. The Office of Climate Action & Sustainability and LB Recycles will teach residents how to waste less food, use food scraps and more at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library (5870 Atlantic Ave.). Free.

NIGHT MARKET

6 p.m. Food, art and more will be available for purchase during this night market at the Queen Mary Events Park (1126 Queens Hwy.). Admission is \$7 at the entrance.

DOCUMENTARY SCREENING

6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The public is invited to a screening of the documentary "Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution" in the auditorium of Jordan High School (6500 Atlantic Ave.). American Sign Language interpretation will be available at the event. After the film, filmmakers Nicole Newham and Jim LeBrecht will be leading a discussion. To register for this event, visit the link found in the Instagram bio of organizer Nubia Flores, @nubiafloreslb. Free.

IS THAT IT?

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AROUND TOWN

A WEEKLY LIST OF EVENTS IN
LONG BEACH AND SIGNAL HILL



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ONLINE AT SIGNALTRIBUNE.COM

LOCAL BUSINESS

Long Beach small business owners can apply for 'makeovers' and \$10,000 grants through Level Up LB

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

The City of Long Beach recently opened up applications for its new small business success initiative, encouraging local entrepreneurs to apply for an extensive marketing makeover.

Led by the Long Beach Department of Economic Development, Level Up LB: Extreme Small Business Makeover and Grant Program will work with 25 small business owners to provide support services, business plan workshops and \$10,000 in grant funding.

Applications are open from now until May 21 at 5 p.m.

"Our small businesses are essential to the economic prosperity of our city," said Director of Economic Development Bo Martinez in a statement from the City. "By shopping and investing in small businesses locally, we are investing in the vibrancy and expansion of our neighborhoods, jobs, and local economy."

The City's Inclusive Business Navigators Program, which



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Former Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia speaks with small business owners and city officials at Rose Park Coffee Roasters on Pine Avenue during the District 1 Recovery Roundtable event on March 8, 2022. Local entrepreneurs have the chance to earn grants and a marketing makeover by applying for Level Up LB.

launched in February 2023, will conduct business outreach, application assistance, program workshops and more as part of Level Up LB. Businesses that are selected for Level Up LB will be assisted with evaluating their business plan and financials to identify potential areas of growth.

During the program, participants will have access to a variety of ser-

vices to grow their business, including:

- One-on-one business coaching and advising
- Strategic business planning
- Marketing and branding
- Social media promotion
- Business finance
- Government procurement opportunities

Business owners who participate in the workshops and complete their business and grant investment plans will be eligible for \$10,000 in grants that can go towards equipment, facility and technology improvements, marketing and employee training and retention.

Anyone interested in learning more about the eligibility requirements for Level Up LB is encouraged to visit longbeach.gov/levelup. For more information about the Inclusive Business Navigators, small business owners are advised to visit longbeach.gov/biznavigators or reach out to the City's Biz-Care Hotline at 562-570-4249 or 4Biz@longbeach.gov.

ENVIRONMENT

Port of Long Beach wins sustainability award for zero-emission trucks

City News Service

Southern California Local News

The ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach received a top honor for their Clean Truck Fund initiative, which aims to support the transition from gas-fueled trucks to electric-powered, officials announced Thursday.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

Port of Long Beach Executive Director Mario Cordero speaks to attendees of the Long Beach Clean Air Day event on Oct. 5, 2022, in front of one of their new electric Volvo trucks.

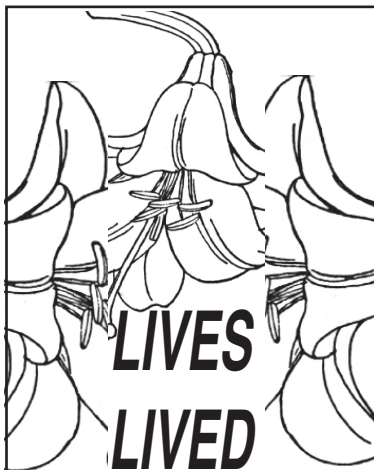
The Southern California Association of Governments recently recognized the ports during the 2024 SCAG Sustainability Awards cere-

mony, which aims to celebrate efforts to improve the mobility, livability, prosperity and sustainability of the Southern California region.

The ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach garnered the award this year in the Clean Cities: Alternative Fuels and Infrastructure category.



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- John Cutler 79
- Randolph Chang 64
- Arvella Robinson 69
- Frances Holland 91
- Paul Arias 54
- Donald Van Cook 92
- Martha Santiago 58
- Steven Marr 70
- Carol Guerre 94
- Raymond Dickerson 80
- Gwendolyn Herbert 61
- Amada Silva 94

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



562-494-1014 LBPlayhouse.org
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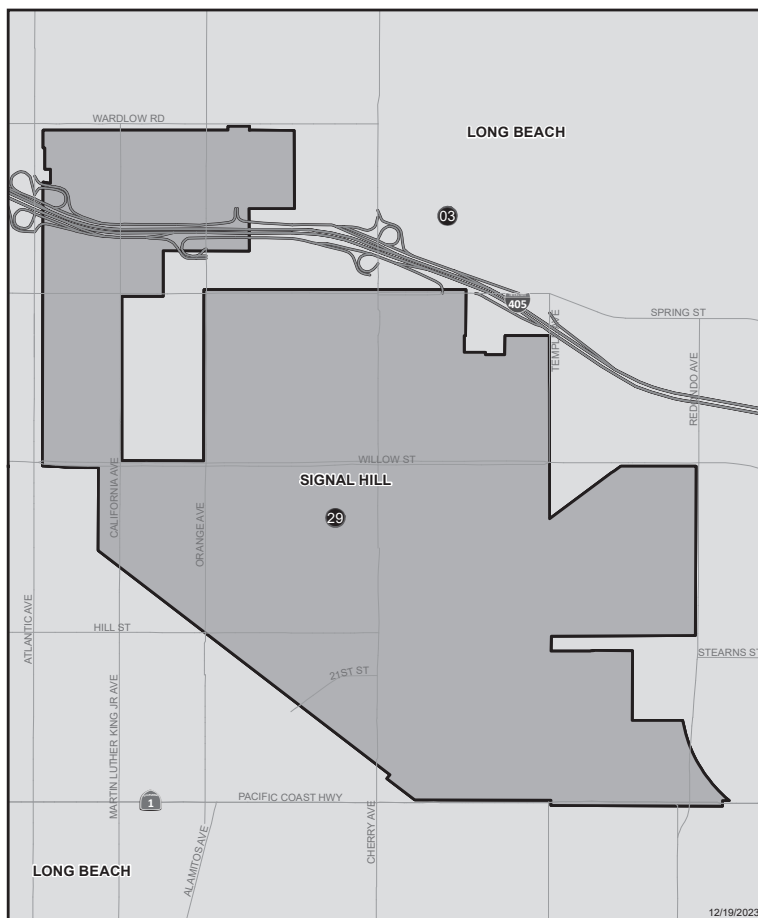
PUBLIC NOTICE
by
COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICT NO. 29
OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY
of
FILING OF A SERVICE CHARGE REPORT; and
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE SERVICE CHARGE REPORT

The Board of Directors of County Sanitation District No. 29 of Los Angeles County will hold a public hearing on May 8, 2024, 1:30 p.m., in the Board Room at the District's Administrative Offices, 1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601. The purpose of this hearing is to provide the public with an opportunity to make comments regarding the Service Charge Report filed with the District Clerk on March 13, 2024. Please refer to the agenda for instructions regarding public participation. The boundaries of Sanitation District No. 29 are shown below.

Sanitation District No. 29 provides wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal services. Residential and commercial users pay for their share of these services through the District's service charge program. The average daily quantity of sewage flow and strength from one single family home is equal to one sewage unit. All other user categories are assessed proportionately. The service charge rate for fiscal year 2024-25, as previously approved by the District's Board of Directors, is \$367 per year per sewage unit. No changes to the approved service charge rate are proposed.

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

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POLITICS

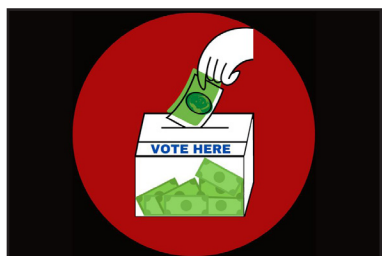
What did Long Beach's state and federal representatives do in April?

Kristen Farrah Naeem

Staff Writer

This installment of the *Signal Tribune's* monthly series covers actions taken and statements made by Long Beach's federal and state representatives throughout April.

Elected officials were involved in debate and legislation surrounding public health, government transparency, the widening conflict surrounding the Israel-Palestine War and more. The purpose of this ongoing series is to help the public stay abreast of their elected officials and hold them accountable beyond election day.



Samantha Diaz | Signal Tribune
Graphic of a hundred dollar bill going into an election ballot box.

Robert Garcia –
U.S. Representative for
California's 42nd
Congressional District

•The Hatch Act Enforcement Transparency and Accountability Act: Garcia unveiled this proposed legislation aimed at bolstering a 1939 law that restricts the political activities of federal civilian employees working in the executive branch. The Hatch Act of 1939 prohibits these federal employees from engaging in specific political activities to preserve nonpartisanship within the government, insulate employees from political pressure and prioritize merit-based promotions.

Forbidden activities include: displaying campaign materials, hosting a political fundraiser, making contributions to a political party, posting online comments in favor of or against a political party, wearing or displaying political apparel or signs.

Enforcement of the Hatch Act has been called into question, and a public statement from Garcia's office said that the U.S. Office of Spe-

cial Counsel sometimes falls short in upholding this law.

Garcia's bill would require the executive branch to report to Congress whenever it opts not to investigate potential Hatch Act violations.

"Political influence in our official government operations can lead to a real threat to our democracy. As civil servants, we are bound to the needs of our constituents, not political interests," Garcia said in a public statement. "We must make sure that the rules we have in place are followed and that oversight is carried out efficiently and effectively. That is why I am proud to lead this bill in the House, it will empower Congress to strengthen enforcement of the Hatch Act to prevent political influence on our federal government operations."

•Resolution Recognizing Neurodivergent People: Congressman Robert Garcia introduced a resolution in the U.S. House of Representatives recognizing the contributions neurodivergent people have made to society.

"Neurodivergent people have made incredible contributions to our country, utilizing their unique perspectives and strengths to advance so much of our society," Garcia said in a public statement. "We must make sure the United States supports and uplifts all people, regardless of identity, disability, or neurological difference. I hope this resolution will contribute to the work of advocates and organizations who raise awareness and fight to eliminate stigma for neurodivergent individuals."



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
A group of young pro-Israel women begin chanting towards the pro-Palestine attendees while residents wait outside of Long Beach City Hall to give public comment on a vote for a resolution calling for a ceasefire in Gaza on Dec. 19, 2023.

Nanette Díaz Barragán
U.S. representative for
California's 44th
Congressional District

•WomenShelter Funding: On April 22, Barragán presented \$850,000 in federal funding her office helped secure for the WomenShelter of Long Beach, a local nonprofit that assists victims of domestic violence. The money will be used for therapy, case management and transitional housing for victims.

•Israel vs. Iran: On April 1, Israel launched an airstrike against the Iranian consulate in Syria, which killed two generals and five officers. Iran responded later in the month by launching over 300 drones and missiles into Israel, which injured a young child and caused minor damage to a military base.

Barragán posted the following statement about the conflict on the social media platform X on April 13 "As President Biden said, we stand with our ally Israel against these Iranian attacks and support Israel in their defense. Thoughts are with the people of Israel."

•Foreign Aid Funding Bills: Following months of stalling and dissent from Republicans on the far-right who were against sending additional military aid to Ukraine, Speaker of the House Mike Johnson allowed the House of Representatives to vote on a package of four bills that would provide military aid to Israel, Ukraine, Taiwan and other U.S. allies in the Indo-Pacific region.

A fraction of the funding in this package will go towards humanitarian aid around the world, with some of that aiding civilians in Gaza. Barragán voted in support of this package of bills. It was passed into law by the senate days later.

In a public statement, Barragán said the following:

"This should not have taken this long. Extreme Republicans for months have compromised our national security and weakened America's standing around the world. It is past time that we support Ukraine, Israel, and Taiwan and provide critical humanitarian aid to civilians in Gaza. Once again, House Democrats provided the

majority of votes for common sense legislation, this time to deliver critical aid to our allies. I continue to have concerns with Prime Minister Netanyahu's lack of strategy to protect innocent civilians and bring this war to a swift end. I will continue to press for increased accountability and call for the immediate return of all hostages. Today, it was necessary to prioritize our national security, deliver critical humanitarian aid to where it is needed most, and ensure America continues to stand with our democratic allies around the world."

The online reaction to Barragán's statement was resoundingly negative, with netizens criticizing her support of additional military funding for Israel.

The website Track AIPAC, which gathers information from the Federal Election Committee and the nonprofit organization OpenSecrets, states that pro-Israel groups have spent a total of \$103,210 on lobbying Barragán throughout her career.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune
A woman in traditional Khmer clothing performs a ritual while a group of monks looks on before the start of the annual Cambodian Town Parade on April 2, 2023.

Lena Gonzalez
California State Senator
for the 33rd District

•SB 1337: On April 16, Senate Bill 1337, which was authored by Gonzalez, was passed by the Elections & Constitutional Amendments Committee. The bill would require that the top contributors to any campaign attempting to overturn existing law be listed online for the public to view. The bill is now being discussed by the Committee on Appropriations.

•Resolution on Recognizing Cambodian Genocide: Gonzalez presented a senate resolution recognizing Cambodian Genocide Me-

morial Week from April 17 to April 23. Gonzalez said she was "very proud" to represent Long Beach, which has the largest Cambodian community outside of Cambodia.

Josh Lowenthal
U.S. Representative
for California's 69th
Assembly District

•PANS/PANDAS: On April 16, Lowenthal spoke in support of Assembly Bill 2105, which he introduced earlier this year, during a hearing held by the Committee on Health. This bill aims to secure insurance coverage and expedite care for those suffering from Pediatric Autoimmune Neuropsychiatric Disorder Associated with Streptococcal Infections (PANDAS) and Pediatric Acute-onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome (PANS). There is still much to be learned about this medical condition, but it is believed to be triggered by infections such as strep throat and leads to tics and obsessive compulsive disorder. AB 2105 was passed by the Committee on Health and has been sent to the Committee on Appropriations.

Later in the month, Lowenthal received the Healthcare Leadership Award from Memorial-Care because of his work with AB 2105 and PANS/PANDAS.

•AB 2351: On April 3, Lowenthal testified during a hearing by the Assembly Standing Committee on Education about his bill, AB 2351. The bill would allow students to be suspended or expelled for actions they commit outside of school hours and online. Lowenthal authored the bill after a schoolmate of his daughter sent her an image of a swastika through social media. The ACLU has come out against the proposed legislation, saying that it may lead to disparate punishments for children of color, and that it could contribute to the "school-to-prison pipeline." The bill passed with five members of the Committee on Education voting in favor of it. The bill was then sent to the Committee on Judiciary, where it unanimously passed on April 30.

Read the full Long Beach representative roundup online at sigtrib.com.

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It's Graduation Season!

The Signal Tribune will be commemorating the 2024 graduating class from local high schools and colleges with a special graduation celebration issue on May 24!

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MAY 10TH | JERRY ROMANO + FRIENDS | 7 - 10 P.M.



MAY 11TH | TRES HOMBRES | 7-11 P.M.



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