

FEATURE

# Long Beach nonprofit will host film premiere in August with hopes of reaching more children this holiday season

Samantha Diaz  
Managing Editor



Courtesy of Yuri Williams

Yuri Williams and Rodney Smith Jr. pose for a picture during their trip across the 50 states, where they visit children with disabilities or illnesses and surprise them with gifts.

For 23 days in 2022, Yuri Williams and Rodney Smith Jr. donned various superhero costumes while trekking through all 50 states with the goal of bringing joy to children and families that needed it most.

The trip was not the first of its kind. Williams' Long Beach-based nonprofit, A Future Superhero & Friends, has made the tour of the United States several times since 2017, visiting children with disabilities, special needs and life-threatening illnesses.

A Future Superhero & Friends has blessed hundreds of families with gifts during the holidays, as well as hosting blood drives, movie nights, toy drives, and bringing supplies to veterans and homeless people. Williams and Smith not only bring a slew of gifts with them while they visit homes and hospitals, but they wear "screen-accurate" costumes of popular superheroes and other characters while visiting children.

see A FUTURE SUPERHERO & FRIENDS page 4

ART EXHIBIT

# Rethinking the American cowboy: Ranchos Los Cerritos' new exhibit highlights Black, Mexican and Indigenous cowboy culture

Samantha Diaz  
Managing Editor

Following in the leather-clad footsteps of phenomenons like "Cowboy Carter" and "Old Town Road," Ranchos Los Cerritos will provide a fresh, historically accurate perspective on the American cowboy.

Ranchos Los Cerritos' nearly year-long exhibit "Untold Legacies: Rethinking the American Cowboy" will open on July 14, with hopes to challenge the narrative surrounding the "traditional cowboy." The exhibit will highlight the overlooked legacies of Black, Mexican and Indigenous cowboys with a focus on the local history of Ranchos Los Cerritos.

"Untold Legacies" combines history, pop culture and modern art while featuring local groups still living the cowboy lifestyle to give residents a holistic perspective on what an American cowboy is.

"I think for so many people if you say, 'Close your eyes and think of a cowboy' ... for the most part people are picturing a white man," Alana Reese, curriculum specialist for Ranchos Los Cerritos said. "We felt the



Courtesy of Rancho Los Cerritos

Ranchos Los Cerritos' new exhibit "Untold Legacies: Rethinking the American Cowboy" will highlight Black, Mexican and Indigenous cowboys throughout American history and will open to the public on July 14, 2023.

see AMERICAN COWBOY page 5

COLUMN



Kristen Farrah Naeem | Signal Tribune

Three-month-old Tuna (left) and two-month-old Rufus (right) pose for a photo on a windowsill.

# A tale of two kittens

What was nearly a 'cat'-astrophe has become a successful double adoption.

Kristen Farrah Naeem  
Staff Writer

I'm happy to report that I brought in a bountiful harvest this kitten season. The cat distribution system brought me not just one, but two weird little guys to call my own.

Kitten season refers to the time of year when cats have their kittens, when it's warm enough outside for them to survive. Because of Southern California's idyllic weather, the region has a particularly long kitten season, extending from spring through autumn. Each year across the nation, around 180 million new kittens are born, according to a 2022 article published in *Frontiers in Veterinary Science*. And they always far outnumber the amount of loving home available for them.

Last September, I saw a post on the Long Beach Animal Care Services Instagram page urging people to volunteer to foster bottle kittens (newborn kittens that need to be bottle fed). I had lost one of my beloved cats to cancer the prior year, and I felt I was ready to open up my home and heart to a new kitten.

I filled out an online application for a bottle kitten, and indicated that I was interested in fostering-to-adopt. Months passed and I nearly forgot about my application, but in May I got a sudden call asking if I could pick up a bottle kitten that same day.

Prepare yourself for sad news dear reader: I never got to meet that kitten, or the next kitten they called me about. They didn't make it. The first kitten came down with "fading kitten syndrome" and began suddenly and rapidly declining in health, and the shelter's foster coordinator told me to hold off on picking him up. The next kitten that they contacted me about apparently seemed fine at first, but again I was told not to come to the shelter at the last minute. The second kitten apparently had fatal neurological damage that went unnoticed when he was first brought in.

But less than a week after that first call, I was sent a photo of the tiniest tuxedo kitten I'd ever laid eyes upon, along with a text asking if I could pick him up from the shelter the next day. I crossed my fingers and hoped that the powers that be would keep him in the land of the living 'til I could get to him.

I'm happy to report my hopes weren't in vain. Upon arriving at the shelter, I was escorted into a small, warm, windowless room where one wall was lined with kitten incubators and filled with miniscule orphans in glass cases. While the other neonatal kittens had littermates, my tuxedo boy was by himself inside of his incubator. He had been turned in alone.

see A TALE OF TWO KITTENS page 5



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## PUBLIC MEETING

# LB residents have a chance to stop their water bills from rising

Kristen Farrah Naeem

Staff Writer

The Long Beach Utilities Commission is set to hold a public hearing on proposed rate increases to Long Beach water and sewer bills on Monday, Aug. 19. This is the last opportunity residents have to keep their bills from going up.

During the hearing, members of the public will have the opportunity to submit public comments and protest the proposed 11% increase in water rates and an 8% increase in sewer rates.



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune  
A drop of water hangs at the edge of a water faucet.

These proposed hikes were previously discussed and adopted by the Board of Utilities Commissioners during public budget workshops held on May 2, May 16, and June 6. The Board of Utilities Commissioners decided that the rate increases were necessary in order to maintain and improve the local water system.

The increases are also meant to help the City to more efficiently access groundwater in the area in order to cut down on the City's reliance on imported water, according to an email by Diana C Tang, Assistant General Manager of Long Beach Utilities.

Proposition 218, approved by

California voters in 1996, mandates a public hearing before implementing rate increases for water or sewer services.

All utility account holders and members of the public are invited to attend. The Board may adopt the proposed rate increases if a majority of water and sewer account holders do not formally protest. A majority of account holders would represent approximately 45,000 people.

The rates must then be approved by the Long Beach City Council before taking effect on Oct. 1. For an average Long Beach residential customer, the proposed rate increases would mean an additional \$9 per month, including \$6 for water, \$1 for sewer, and \$2 for a previously approved natural gas rate increase. Gas rates are not subject to Proposition 218.

Formal protests under Proposition 218 can be submitted via email to [commission@lbutilities.org](mailto:commission@lbutilities.org) or mailed to the following address:

Long Beach Board of Utilities Commissioners

Attn: Executive Assistant to the Board

1800 E. Wardlow Road  
Long Beach, CA 90807

The hearing will take place on Monday, Aug. 19 at 7 p.m. at the Long Beach Utilities Administration Building, located at 1800 East Wardlow Road. The venue is accessible via Long Beach Transit Bus routes 21, 23, 71, and 131, and free visitor parking is available.

Protests must be received by the close of the public hearing on Aug. 19. Requests for language interpretation at the hearing should be emailed to [commission@lbutilities.org](mailto:commission@lbutilities.org) by 5 p.m. on Aug. 5.

## SPORTS

# Online registration is open for the 2024 Long Beach Legacy Triathlon

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

Weekend warriors, endurance athletes and Olympic hopefuls have the opportunity to race along the city's shoreline during the Long Beach Legacy Triathlon on July 20 & 21.

Adding onto the region's storied Olympic history, this year's triathlon competitors will participate on the proposed triathlon race course for the 2028 Summer Olympics & Paralympics.

People who sign up for the triathlon will have the choice to compete individually, as a relay team member or as part of the triathlon's Corporate Challenge.

Competitors in the Corporate Challenge will raise a minimum of \$250 per person as various company teams go head-to-head in a fundraising challenge. The 2024 Long Beach Legacy Triathlon will benefit Children's Hospital of Los Angeles (CHLA), with proceeds going towards the Pediatric Cancer Research Program.



Courtesy of supertri  
A competitor poses with their finisher's medal following the 2023 Long Beach Legacy Triathlon.

Beginner athletes are advised to participate in the shorter Sprint Distance category, while the Olympic Distance category is for the more seasoned endurance competitors.



Courtesy of supertri  
Competitors cross the finish line during the 2023 Long Beach Legacy Triathlon.

Organized by triathlon company supertri [sic] in partnership with USA Triathlon (USAT), this event is a way for athletes of all ages and abilities to race in a professional atmosphere.

"With supertri now hosting age group events in major US cities like Chicago and Long Beach, we see a bright future ahead with expanding the sport and making it accessible to all," said Michael D'hulst, CEO and Co-Founder of supertri in a public statement. "The Long Beach Legacy Triathlon announcement is significant for U.S. short course triathlon, as we commit to a long-term partnership with USAT to deliver a world-class event at the venue that will house the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics. With our previous efforts in raising \$18 million for Children's Hospital Los Angeles with the Malibu Triathlon, we believe this race will pave the way for our success in the years ahead!"

Sunday is the primary race day, while Saturday's festivities will include a beach clean-up, appearanc-

es from Olympic athletes, a racing expo and the Splash & Dash.

This year's race options for the Long Beach Legacy Triathlon are as follows:

### Sprint Distance

Distance: 750 meter swim, 20 kilometer bike, 5 kilometer run  
Categories: Individual, Relay and Corporate Challenge

### Olympic Distance

Distance: 1.5 kilometer swim, 40 kilometer bike, 10 kilometer run  
Categories: Individual, Relay and Corporate Challenge

### Splash & Dash\*

Ages: Kids 7 to 18 years old  
Distance: 100 meter open water swim and a 0.5 mile run

### Tot Trot

Ages: Kids 3 to 12 years old  
Distance: 50 yard dash (children ages 3-7), 100 yard dash (children ages 8-12)

\*taking place Saturday, July 20.

To learn more about Long Beach Legacy Triathlon, visit [legacy-longbeach.com](http://legacy-longbeach.com)

## SUMMER PROGRAMS

# Health Department awards local nonprofits with \$67,000 to plan youth summer events

Staff Report

Signal Tribune

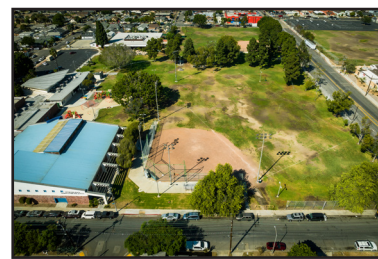
Long Beach Health and Human Services (Health Department)'s Advancing Peace Initiative is giving \$67,000 to over two dozen local organizations to plan events that emphasize safety, community, healthy neighborhoods and economic development throughout the summer.

Twenty-seven non-profits will receive funds to contribute to the further development of S.T.R.O.N.G. Beach (Standing Together to Reach Our Next Generation), an element of the City's Summer of Opportunity Initiative. S.T.R.O.N.G. Beach Summer is intended to provide free community activities for Long Beach youth and combat youth violence in the city.

The Long Beach Advancing Peace Steering Committee, made up of City staff, community and nonprofit representatives, helped organize the necessary criteria for the summer event plans.

"These programs embody Long Beach and our commitment to fostering a vibrant, connected and

thriving city. S.T.R.O.N.G. Beach Summer focuses on creating safe, enriching and inclusive events for all our residents," said Mayor Rex Richardson in a public statement. "We are proud to have these 27 organizations join our effort to providing a safe and healthy summer."



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune  
An aerial view of the green space at Martin Luther King Jr. Park in Long Beach on Oct. 3, 2022.

The S.T.R.O.N.G. Beach Summer event lineup will feature the following free activities:

### July:

**Begins Saturday, July 13** - Mind-1-1: A Summer of Mental Fitness at Bluff Park (2500 E. Ocean Blvd.).

**Saturday, July 20** - Developing Future Leaders: Unity in the

Community Multicultural Festival at Martin Luther King Jr. Park (1950 Lemon Ave.).

**Saturday, July 20** - Long Beach Filipino Festival: A&F Market Westside Mural Celebration at A & F Market (2569 Santa Fe Ave.).

**July 22 - Aug. 2** - BOSS, Inc.: BOSS Summer Academy at California State University Long Beach (1250 Bellflower Blvd.).

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# AROUND TOWN

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

**F**ood, exhibits and film are taking the spotlight this week, offering artsy ways to get out of the house and beat the heat.

Ficklewood Ciderworks will be hosting a hot dog eating contest for the brave (and hungry), while residents can walk, talk and eat creative variations of the Filipino purple yam ube at Ube Fest Saturday. Get your artistic fill at the Downtown Long Beach Art Walk all day Saturday, at the Ranchos Los Cerritos cowboy exhibit opening Sunday or a summer-themed art workshop geared towards kids.

Families have a wide range of movies and concerts in the park throughout the week, as well as an indoor horror movie double feature, multiple story times and a flower-picking party.

### 12 FRIDAY

#### CONCERT IN THE PARK

6:30 p.m. The Long Beach Municipal Band will be performing a series of jazz, pop and patriotic songs at El Dorado Park West (2800 N Studebaker Road). Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair, blanket and picnic food. Free.

#### MOVIE IN THE PARK

8 p.m. to 10 p.m. The public is invited to an outdoor screening of the 2023 animated film "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles: Mutant Mayhem" at Cherry Park (1901 E 46th St.). Attendees are encouraged to wear fun or unusual socks. The movie will begin at dusk. Free.

### 13 SATURDAY

#### BARNYARD STORYTIME

10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Children

ages 5 and older and their families are invited to this fun-filled story time where they can listen to stories and interact with live animals at the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.). Space is limited; please register by calling (562)989-7323. Free to attend.

#### U-PICK FLOWERS

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Residents can pick and take home their own flowers from local nonprofit Farm Lot 59 (2714 California Ave.) during their U-Pick day. Tickets are \$55 and come with a bucket that participants can fill with flowers of their choosing. Tickets can be purchased online.

#### FOURTH DISTRICT LISTENING SESSION

11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Local youth are invited to Houghton Park (6301 Myrtle Ave.) to tell the LA County Youth Commission and the Long Beach Office of Youth Development their ideas on how to support and uplift young people in Long Beach. Free food will be available.

#### ART WALK

Noon to midnight. The fourth installment of Downtown Long Beach's Art Walk will activate a myriad of businesses throughout the day, inviting residents to enjoy art, music, live performances, food and more. A map of activations can be found on the Downtown Long Beach Alliance website. Free to attend.

#### ECO-FRIENDLY FILM PROCESSING DEMO

Noon to 2 p.m. Place LB (2172 Pacific Ave.) will be hosting a workshop where participants can learn how to develop film using a coffee-based solution. A donation of \$5 to \$10 is suggested, but no one will be turned away because they can't pay.

#### HOT DOG EATING CONTEST

Noon to 11 p.m. This hot dog eating contest at Ficklewood Ciderworks (720 E Broadway) will last all day. All competitors will be given a punch card to track how many they've eaten. Participants must finish the buns as well. All participants will get 40% off orders of cider. Cider prices vary. Entry is free.

#### UBE FEST

2 p.m. to 8 p.m. A variety of vendors will be selling different foods made with ube, a purple yam from the Philippines, along First Street between Elm Avenue and Linden Avenue. Free admission.

### 14 SUNDAY

#### CHILDREN'S ART WORKSHOP

1 p.m. To 3 p.m. Kids are invited to create summer-themed tempera paintings at the Museum of Latin American Art (628 Alamitos Ave.). All materials will be provided. Free.

#### RETHINKING THE AMERICAN COWBOY

1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The public is invited to see an exhibit honoring Black, Mexican and Indigenous cowboys and cowgirls from the Wild West at Rancho Los Cerritos (4600 Virginia Road). The event will also include activities and live performances. Barbecue will be available for purchase from Batambong BBQ. Free to attend.

#### HORROR MOVIE DOUBLE FEATURE

8:30 p.m. The Long Beach Art Theatre (2025 E Fourth St.) will screen the 1931 film "Frankenstein" and the 1935 film "The Bride of Frankenstein" back-to-back for classic horror film lovers. General



Richard H. Grant | Signal Tribune

As the sun disappears behind Downtown Long Beach, residents snuggle under blankets to watch "Stand by Me" at Rosie's Dog Beach during the second film in the Moonlight Movies at the Beach series on June 27, 2023.

admission is \$13.50 for both films (online or at the door).

### 15 MONDAY

#### FAMILY BINGO

10 a.m. Families are invited to play bingo together at the Signal Hill Public Library (1800 E Hill St.). All ages are welcome, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Free.

#### MOVIE IN THE PARK

8 p.m. to 10 p.m. The public is invited to an outdoor screening of the movie "Wonka" at Pan American Park (5157 Centralia Ave.). Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair, blanket and picnic food. The movie will begin at dusk. Free.

### 16 TUESDAY

#### CONCERT IN THE PARK

6:30 p.m. The Long Beach Municipal Band will be performing a series of jazz, pop and patriotic songs at Bixby Annex Park (Intersection of Cherry Ave. & Ocean Blvd.). Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair, blanket and picnic food. Free.

#### MOONLIGHT MOVIES ON THE BEACH

7 p.m. to 10 p.m. Watch a screening of "The Princess Bride" at Granada Beach (5000 E. Ocean Blvd). The event will feature pre-show entertainment from local bands. This screening is part of the summer-long Moonlight Movies at the Beach series. Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets and chairs to sit on. Food trucks will be present. The movie screenings are family-friendly and pet-friendly. Alcohol is prohibited. Free.

### 17 WEDNESDAY

#### ARTISAN MARKET

5 p.m. to 9 p.m. Pop-up marketplace Creative Communal (195 Corona Ave.) will be hosting a variety of local artisans who will be selling their wares. Friendly pets are welcome. Admission is free.

#### BOARD GAME GROUP

6:30 p.m. Ficklewood Ciderworks (720 E Broadway) will be holding weekly movie nights throughout summer. The film for this week has not yet been revealed, but is described as a Fourth of July classic. Free to attend.

### 18 THURSDAY

#### PARENT INFORMATION WORKSHOP

Noon. Parents and caregivers are invited to learn about speech and language development in children 5 years old and younger at Billie Jean King Main Library (200 W Broadway). Free.

#### MOVIE IN THE PARK

8 p.m. to 10 p.m. The public is invited to an outdoor screening of the 2023 live-action film "Transformers: Rise of the Beasts" at Martin Luther King Jr. Park (1950 Lemon Ave.). Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair, blanket and picnic food. Free.

### IS THAT IT?

### NOPE!

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A FUTURE SUPERHERO & FRIENDS

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Courtesy of Yuri Williams  
Yuri Williams and Rodney Smith Jr. visit a family with a slew of gifts during the holiday season. The duo make trips across the 50 states while visiting children with disabilities or illnesses as part of Williams' nonprofit A Future Superhero & Friends.

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Yuri Williams and Rodney Smith Jr. visit a family with a slew of gifts during the holiday season. The duo make trips across the 50 states while visiting children with disabilities or illnesses as part of Williams' nonprofit A Future Superhero & Friends.



Courtesy of Yuri Williams

Yuri Williams and Rodney Smith Jr. pose for a picture during their trip across the 50 states, where they visit children with disabilities or illnesses and surprise them with gifts.

Williams was inspired to start the nonprofit after his mother Lynda C. Hubbard passed away after battling cancer in 2009. He faced a five-year depression after his mother died, which drastically improved once he started bringing joy to children and families facing illnesses or disabilities.

Williams started his journey dressed as Spiderman at a Miller Children's Hospital 5K in Long Beach, where he met a young boy with brain cancer and a short life expectancy. Williams rented a movie theater out so the boy and other children with illnesses in the community could see the new Spiderman movie. He also dressed up as Spiderman for the boy's birthday that year.

"It keeps me from being depressed knowing that my mom is proud of me, because she taught me all this stuff and I'm just doing what she taught me and uplifting these parents and their children for the time being," Williams said. "I saw what she was going through when she was battling cancer, so I can only imagine what these parents are going through with their kids."

Since then, Williams and Smith have been traveling throughout the country visiting homes and hospitals to spread joy. For the first time ever, the community is invited to witness this state-spanning journey and learn about the lives of those impacted by A Future Superhero & Friends through a documentary-style film "Hope for the Holidays."

Williams' directorial debut follows the two friends during their trip, while delving into various stories and lives of the families they visit.

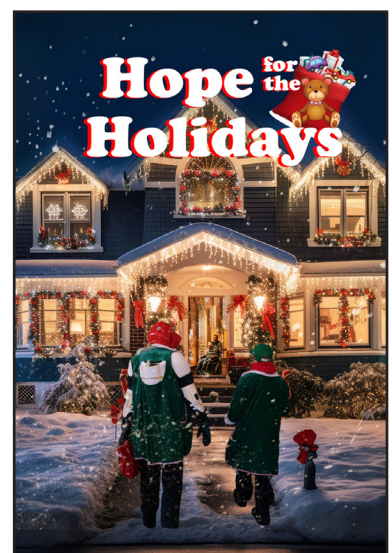
"People need to see how these

parents put these kids before themselves," Williams said of his reason for making the film. "You shouldn't be just worried about yourself all the time, you should be worried about your neighbors, your family."

"Hope for the Holidays" will premiere at the Art Theater of Long Beach on Aug. 10 at 3 p.m. Ticket purchases for the film will help Williams and Smith purchase more gifts for children and complete another tour of the states this holiday season.

Each ticket purchase comes with popcorn, a drink, a raffle ticket and a swag bag. The first 100 people lined up for the film will receive a "Hope for the Holidays" T-shirt. Attendees can line up for the film at 2 p.m. and entrance to the theater will begin at 2:45 p.m.

Tickets for "Hope for the Holidays" can be purchased on A Future Superhero's website, where those who cannot attend the film can make a donation.



Courtesy of Yuri Williams

A promotional poster for the film "Hope for the Holidays."

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**AMERICAN COWBOY**  
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Courtesy of Rancho Los Cerritos

Ranchos Los Cerritos' new exhibit "Untold Legacies: Rethinking the American Cowboy" will highlight Black, Mexican and Indigenous cowboys throughout American history and will open to the public on July 14, 2023.

Rancho had almost an obligation to shed light on the cowboys who had been there all along whose stories have not been shared and encourage visitors to rethink that."

Ranchos Los Cerritos' 175-year history includes a time where the site spanned 27 acres and acted as a cattle ranch. Part of the exhibit will focus on the Mexican cowboys, or vaqueros, who helped the Rancho thrive during its early days.

Residents can also learn about the history of cowboys in a broader perspective, through the different cultures and types of cowboys in American history. "Untold Legacies" will challenge stereotypes surrounding cowboys, specifically the "John Wayne" archetype fueled by westerns throughout the late 1950s and '60s. The exhibit will prompt the audience to ask themselves who is missing from the cowboy stories most people grew up with.

"You see cowboys everywhere; they're riding their horses along the San Gabriel and LA rivers, they're in urban streets, they're in a lot of communities," said Rancho Los Cerritos Executive Director Alison Bruesehoff. "We typically think of cowboys as something of the past and I think a lot of us have a nar-

row viewpoint of a cowboy. A cowboy can be many different things."

"Untold Legacies" will invite the audience into the renaissance of the traditional cowboy, bred through education and pushed by pop culture. Artists like Beyoncé, Lil Nas X, Kat & Alex, Carin León and Darius Rucker and movies like "Nope" and "Strange Way of Life" have recently reclaimed cowboy culture through Black and Mexican lenses.



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**A TALE OF TWO KITTENS**  
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Despite his previously bleak circumstances, my little guy was a fighter. He crawled around his incubator on wobbly legs, mewling louder than all the other kittens combined.

The lovely and hardworking foster coordinator at the shelter guided me through the fundamentals of bottle kitten care. She taught me how to prepare the kitten's formula and bottle, how to feed him, keep him warm and help him go to the bathroom — one of many skills he hadn't yet learned.

The shelter sent the kitten and I home with two containers of powdered kitten formula, a kitten-sized bottle, a blanket, a carrier and an electric heating pad.

But soon after bringing him home we hit a bump in the road — he wasn't pooping no matter how much I tried to help him, which is something new kittens should do every 24 hours.

Anyone who's ever tried to look up a minor health concern online only for WebMD to nearly have you convinced that you are now at death's door will understand how my stress increased after researching constipation in kittens. I was nearly certain my tiny new friend was going to literally die from constipation. After the longest 36 hours of my life, which included two warm baths and numerous belly rubs to get things moving, he finally took a dump in my bathroom sink. I could have wept with joy.

After that he started pooping on a normal schedule, which was a huge weight off my shoulders. But he still needed round-the-clock care. Neonatal kittens need to eat around every three hours, including overnight. They also aren't yet able to regulate their body temperature and have to constantly be kept warm. The electric heat pad the shelter gave me automatically turned off every three hours as well.

I was able to make a little apartment for him under the desk next to my bed, and plugged in his heat pad and an electric kettle on top to warm his formula in the nearby electric outlet. I added a waste paper basket, gloves, paper towels and hand sanitizer, so I had everything to take care of him in one corner that I could reach from bed. This went on for about two weeks. When he turned a month old, he didn't need the bottle as constantly



Kristen Farrah Naeem | Signal Tribune

Tuna the kitten, when he was around two months old.

anymore as he started to show an interest in wet food.

**Double the trouble**

At the end of May, a friend told me that a family she knew had found a litter of kittens in their yard, and had already found homes for all but one of them. My friend said they were going to take the last kitten left to the shelter if no one wanted him.

I had not been planning on getting another kitten, but I remembered how crowded the shelter was and how overworked the dedicated staff were. I told my friend I could take him if no other adoptive families presented themselves.



Kristen Farrah Naeem | Signal Tribune

Rufus and his pitbull Hippo settle in for a nap together.

But those absolute idiots inexplicably dropped him off at the shelter instead. Luckily, the universe intervened on his behalf, and he ended up being dumped at the shelter on the exact same day I had to bring in my first kitten — now and forever more known as Tuna — for scheduled vaccinations. I was able to arrange to take him home with me as another foster kitten.

When they brought me into the kitten room, separate from the incubator-filled room for the newborns, I could have cried. I don't

want anyone to think the situation is the fault of shelter workers, because it absolutely is not. They are trying their utmost to tend to the rising flood of unwanted kittens that are born each year in our city.

But Jesus Christ, it was like walking into a kitten prison. An entire wall lined with little barred jail cells, the adorable inmates inside screaming for attention and freedom, fully aware that they had committed no crimes to justify their current circumstances. I'll hear them crying at night when I can't sleep for years to come.

Unlike Tuna, I planned to temporarily foster this new kitten. Then the foster coordinator told me that he'd have to be brought back to his cell once he was old enough to be neutered so that potential adopters would be able to meet him. There was no way I was sending him back there.



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1. Gregg RH II, Gregg DM. Laser-assisted periodontal regeneration with the LANAP protocol. Dent Today 2019 May;38(5):78, 80-83  
2. FDA Clearance K151763

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# EYE ON CRIME

## CRIMES REPORTED BY THE SIGNAL HILL POLICE

### Wednesday, July 3

4:29 a.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2400 block California Ave.  
9:37 a.m., Auto burglary, 2100 block E. 21st St.  
1:57 p.m., Forgery, 2500 block Cherry Ave.  
4:31 a.m., Injury traffic collision, Junipero Ave./E. PCH  
5:50 p.m., Injury traffic collision, E. Willow St. west of California Ave.  
9:37 p.m., Pyrotechnics, 1800 block Junipero Ave.

### Thursday, July 4

12:58 a.m., DUI; possessing controlled substance, 1800 block E. Willow St. (suspect arrested)  
1:31 p.m., Stolen vehicle – recovered, California Ave. north of E. Willow St.  
6:11 p.m., Pyrotechnics, 2300 block Jeans Ct.  
9:04 p.m., Pyrotechnics, 2600 block Wall St.  
9:06 p.m., Battery, E. Hill St./Skyline Dr.  
9:07 p.m., Pyrotechnics, E. 20th St./Stanley, Ave.  
11:01 p.m., Pyrotechnics, 2200 block E. Willow St.

### Friday, July 5

1:36 a.m., DUI; Inflict corporal injury on spouse/cohabitant/dating relationship, E. PCH/Junipero Ave. (suspect arrested)  
7:25 a.m., Auto burglary, 1600 block E. 28th St.

### Saturday, July 6

12:48 a.m., Grand theft, 2800 block Walnut Ave.  
1:03 p.m., Grand theft, 2500 block Cherry Ave.  
8:30 p.m., Carry loaded, concealed, firearm w/prior felony convictions, 2700 block Cherry Ave. (suspect arrested)

### Sunday, July 7

12:13 a.m., Injury traffic collision, E. Willow St./Walnut Ave.  
12:07 p.m., Battery, 2200 block E. Willow St.

### Monday, July 8

4:55 a.m., Petty theft, 2700 block Cherry Ave. (suspect arrested)  
10:18 a.m., Grand theft person, Cherry Ave./E. 21st St.  
11:15 a.m., Grand theft, 2100 block Ohio Ave.  
2:20 p.m., Robbery, 700 block E. Spring St.  
8:55 p.m., Intoxicated person, 900 block E. Spring St. (suspect arrested)  
11:31 p.m., Burglary, 2000 block E. 21st St.

### Tuesday, July 9

1:14 a.m., Battery, Raymond Ave./E. 21st St.  
6:21 a.m., Grand theft, 1800 block Orizaba Ave.  
7:56 a.m., Burglary, 1800 block Stanley Ave.  
12:43 p.m., Grand theft – motor vehicle, 2300 block E. Spring St.  
3:28 p.m., Felony spousal abuse, 2700 block E. PCH

*LBPD reporting area is too extensive to report here, but you can go to their website: [longbeach.gov/police](http://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

### TST7357 NOTICE OF ELECTION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a General Municipal Election will be held in the City of Signal Hill on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, for the following Officers:

Three Members of the City Council	Full term of four years
One City Clerk	Unexpired term of two years

The nomination period for these offices begins on Monday, July 15, 2024, at 7:30 a.m. and closes on Friday, August 9, 2024, at 4:30 p.m.

If nomination papers for an incumbent officer of the City are not filed by Friday, August 9, 2024 (the 88th day before the election), the voters shall have until the 83rd day before the election, Wednesday, August 14, 2024, to nominate candidates other than the person(s) who are the incumbents on the 88th day before the election, for that incumbent's elective office. This extension is not applicable where there is no incumbent eligible to be elected.

If no one or only one person is nominated for an elective office, appointment to the elective office may be made as prescribed by §10229, Elections Code of the State of California.

Vote centers will be open as required during the identified voting period pursuant to Section 4007 of the Elections Code. Vote centers can be found at [www.lavote.gov](http://www.lavote.gov).

Daritzta Gonzalez  
City Clerk

Published in the *Signal Tribune* newspaper on: July 12, 2024  
Posted at City Hall, Discovery Well Park, Reservoir Park, Signal Hill Library and on the City's website on or before: July 12, 2024

### TST7346 / 2024 124383 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: HAUS OF REGIMENS, 143 W 59TH PL, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90003. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: SIYYA LLC, 143 W 59TH PL, LOS ANGELES, CA. 90003. State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: YARITZA SILLAS DOMINGUEZ, PRESIDENT. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in 05/2024. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on June 10, 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: June 21, 28 & July 5, 12, 2024

### TST7347 / 2024 128265 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: PURI GENETICS, 351 1/2 HERMOSA AVE, LONG BEACH, CA. 90802. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: WAYSTAR, LLC, 351 1/2 HERMOSA AVE, LONG BEACH, CA. 90802. State of Incorporation/Organization: CALIFORNIA. This business is conducted by: a Limited Liability Company. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: MONICA KIM, MEMBER. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in 06/2024. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on 6/14/2024. 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: June 21, 28 & July 5, 12, 2024

### TST7358 Case No. 24LBCP00203 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME

SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, GEORGE DAUKMEJIAN COURTHOUSE, 275 MAGNOLIA AVE., LONG BEACH, CA. 90802 PETITION OF: Mai Le Mary Diep Wei for Change of Name. TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioners: Mai Le Mary Diep Wei has filed a petition with this court for a decree changing her name as follows: Present Name: Mai Le Mary Diep Wei Proposed Name: Mary Diep 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: August 16 2024; Time: 8:30a.m., Dept. S27, Room: 5400. The address of the court is the same as above. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county, THE SIGNAL TRIBUNE, 1860 Obispo Ave., Ste. F, Signal Hill, CA 90755. July 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024 \_\_\_//s//\_\_\_ Mark C. Kim, Judge of the Superior Court Dated: July 2, 2024

### TST7359 / 2024 14061600000 FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT

The following person is doing business as: ALISON'S MARKETING, 3547 CERRITOS AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CA. 90807. County: LOS ANGELES. Registrant: ALISON BACON, 3547 CERRITOS AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CA. 90807. State of Incorporation/Organization: N/A. This business is conducted by: an Individual. I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. Signed: ALISON BACON, OWNER. The registrant has begun to use this fictitious business name. The registrant began using this fictitious business name in 10/2014. This statement was filed with the county clerk of Los Angeles County on July 1, 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

## CITY OF SIGNAL HILL

### TST7367 NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

Ordinance No. 2024-06-1548 was introduced by the Signal Hill City Council at their meeting of Tuesday, June 11, 2024, and adopted by the City Council at their meeting of July 9, 2024. A summary of the ordinance is as follows:

Ordinance No. 2024-06-1548:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL AND EDCO, FOR CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 65864 ET SEQ

The ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

AYES:	MAYOR LORI Y. WOODS, COUNCIL MEMBERS ROBERT D. COPELAND, TINA L. HANSEN, KEIR JONES
NOES:	NONE
ABSENT:	VICE MAYOR EDWARD H.J. WILSON
ABSTAIN:	NONE

Pursuant to Signal Hill Charter Section 315, this ordinance shall become effective 30 days from and after the date of its adoption. A certified copy of the full text of the ordinance is available in the City Clerk's office and on the City's website: [www.cityofsignalhill.org](http://www.cityofsignalhill.org).

\_\_\_//s//\_\_\_

Daritzta Gonzalez  
City Clerk

Published in the *Signal Tribune* newspaper on July 12, 2024.  
Posted at City Hall, Discovery Well Park, Reservoir Park, and Signal Hill Public Library on or before July 12, 2024.

## CITY OF SIGNAL HILL

### TST7368 NOTICE OF ORDINANCE ADOPTION

Ordinance No. 2024-06-1549 was introduced by the Signal Hill City Council at their meeting of Tuesday, June 11, 2024 and adopted by the City Council at their July 9, 2024 meeting. A summary of the ordinance is as follows:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIGNAL HILL, CALIFORNIA, APPROVING ZONING ORDINANCE AMENDMENT 24-02, AMENDING CHAPTER 20.58 SIGNS OF TITLE 20 OF THE SIGNAL HILL MUNICIPAL CODE FOR CONSISTENCY WITH STATE AND FEDERAL LAWS BY REMOVING LANGUAGE PERTAINING TO SIGN CONTENT, ELECTION SIGNS, PUBLIC INFORMATION SIGNS, AND ADDING REGULATIONS FOR TEMPORARY NON-COMMERCIAL SIGNS, CITYWIDE; AND FINDING THE ACTION TO BE EXEMPT FROM CEQA

The ordinance was adopted by the following vote:

AYES:	MAYOR LORI Y. WOODS, COUNCIL MEMBERS ROBERT D. COPELAND, TINA L. HANSEN, KEIR JONES
NOES:	NONE
ABSENT:	VICE MAYOR EDWARD H.J. WILSON
ABSTAIN:	NONE

Pursuant to Signal Hill Charter Section 315, this ordinance shall become effective 30 days from and after the date of its adoption. A certified copy of the full text of the ordinance is available in the City Clerk's office and on the City's website: [www.cityofsignalhill.org](http://www.cityofsignalhill.org).

\_\_\_//s//\_\_\_

Daritzta Gonzalez  
City Clerk

Published in the *Signal Tribune* newspaper on July 12, 2024.  
Posted at City Hall, Discovery Well Park, Reservoir Park, and Signal Hill Public Library on or before July 12, 2024.

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: July 5, 12, 19, 26, 2024

### TST7366/Order No: 13807 Auto Lien Sale

On 07/28/2024 at 9517 MAGNOLIA ST BLOOMINGTON, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2016 MERCEDES-B VIN: 55SWF4JB5GU167464 STATE: CA LIC: 9COR820 at

### TST7360/Order No: 18426 Auto Lien Sale

On 07/26/2024 at 7401 1/2 S MAIN ST LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2018 NISSAN VIN: 3N1CN7AP8JL883341 STATE: CA LIC: 8EYF273 at

### TST7361/Order No: 18019 Auto Lien Sale

On 07/26/2024 at 2801 W SLAUSON AVE LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2021 LAND ROVER VIN: SALYJ2EX9MA301473 STATE: CA LIC: 8UZH775 at

### TST7362/Order No: 18120 Auto Lien Sale

On 07/26/2024 at 9223 S VERMONT AVE LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2021 TOYOTA VIN: 3TYAX5GN3MT013895 STATE: CA LIC: 22397E3 at 10 AM

### TST7363/Order No: 15897 Auto Lien Sale

On 07/28/2024 at 6020 S WESTERN AVE LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2015 MERCE VIN: 4JGDA5HB9FA598704 STATE: IL LIC: at 8AM

**MISSING PERSON**

# Man last seen in Long Beach in July 2020



Courtesy of NamUs

Ralph David Puentes was last seen over four years ago in Long Beach.

**Kristen Farrah Naeem**  
Staff Writer

A missing man was last seen in Long Beach over four years ago. Ralph David Puentes has been missing since July 1, 2020. He was 58 years old at the time he went missing, and would now be 62. Puentes is described as a Latino man with hazel eyes and brown

hair. He's five feet eight inches tall and weighs 190 pounds. He wears eyeglasses, and has two tattoos: the name "Adrian" on his chest, as well as a cross on his left forearm. Anyone who may have seen Puentes or has information about his location is urged to call LBPD Missing Persons Detail at 562-435-6711 or police dispatch at 562-435-6711.

**MISSING TEEN**

# Long Beach 13-year-old missing for over a month



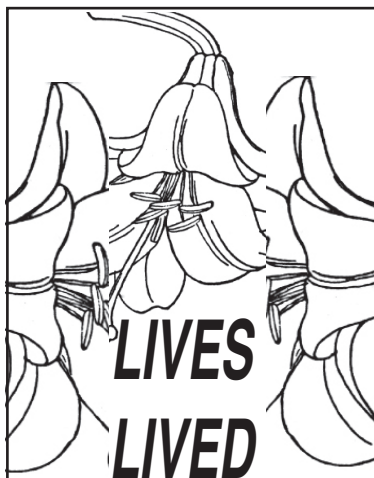
Courtesy of California Department of Justice

Izabella Macy Solares has been missing for over a month

**Kristen Farrah Naeem**  
Staff Writer

A 13-year-old girl from Long Beach has been missing for over a month. Izabella Macy Solares was last seen leaving her family home at 1:30 a.m. on May 27. Solares is described as a Latina girl with brown eyes and brown hair. She is 5 feet 2 inches tall and

weighs around 140 pounds. Anyone who may have information about Solares' whereabouts is urged to call the LBPD Missing Persons Detail at (562) 570-7246 or Police Dispatch at (562) 435-6711. Anyone wishing to remain anonymous may submit a tip through "LA Crime Stoppers" by calling 1-800-222-TIPS (8477), downloading the "P3 Tips" app to your phone, or visiting [www.lacrimestoppers.org](http://www.lacrimestoppers.org).



- Robert Bums 82
- David Phelps 79
- Michael Nakamura 39
- Olataga Pele 43
- Elaine Condon 83
- David Jones 70
- Alfredo Villasenor 75
- Joseph Moore 46
- Wayne Mason 72
- Luis Castillo Cobarrubias 71
- Steven Clay 79
- Ilana Cohen 84
- Pamela Sheets 73
- Baltazar Menendez-Morales 63
- Rodney Briggs 78

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

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**Pet of the week: Antoine**

Antoine is an 11-year-old lap cat. He was given up because he was jealous of the other cats in the home and felt he had a proprietary right to their human's lap. At the shelter, he loves to sashay from kennel to lap and back, and is full of love. He needs to be an only cat and will reward his new humans with love, devotion and lots of lap warming! The shelter took care of his dental needs, and he's in very good health. To adopt or foster Antoine, email [PetAdopt@longbeach.gov](mailto:PetAdopt@longbeach.gov) to speed the process, or call (562) 570-7387. Better yet, meet him 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#A712847.

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TST7365/Order No: 18350  
Auto Lien Sale

On 07/28/2024 at 7401 1/2 S MAIN ST  
LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2017 BMW  
VIN: WBA8E5G35HNU42656  
STATE: CA LIC: 8RFL036 at

TST7364/Order No: 18165  
Auto Lien Sale

On 07/28/2024 at 8110 S BROADWAY  
UNIT B LOS ANGELES, CA a Lien Sale will be held on a 2017 TOYOT  
VIN: 4T1BF1FK0HU321929  
STATE: AZ LIC: at 10 AM

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## MUSIC NIGHTS AT JIMMY E'S



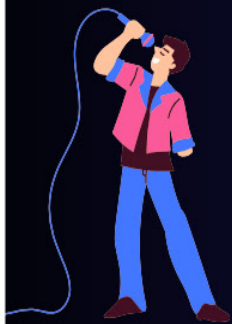
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& FRIENDS

**JULY 13TH** | TWIZZLE | 7 - 11 P.M.



**JULY 17TH** | KARAOKE | 7 - 10 P.M.

W/ SILVER FOX KARAOKI



**JULY 19TH** | AMERIGUMBO | 7 - 10 P.M.

SOUL



**JULY 20TH** | HIGH NOON | 7 - 11 P.M.

**JULY 26TH** | MOONDOG MILLER | 7 - 10 P.M.



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