

We Create Community



Renovated Bixby Park Opens

Mayor Robert Garcia, Vice Mayor Suja Lowenthal, the Department of Parks, Recreation, and Marine, and the Tidelands Capital Improvement Division joined the public at the grand opening of the Bixby Park Bluff renovation on November 1.



The Bixby Park Bluff project included replacing the grass and irrigation system south of Ocean Boulevard between Junipero and Cherry avenues, and adding new staircases and an ADA-accessible path down to the beach, with lighting, emergency call boxes and drought-tolerant landscaping.

The improvements at Bixby Park Bluff are making it easier for visitors to enjoy the park and beach. The lighted staircases and path enable residents to easily and safely access overnight parking at the Beach Parking Lot through the Community Parking Program.

The staircases and path will also connect with the new Beach Pedestrian Path project which, when completed, will provide completely car-free access to the beach from the Downtown Shoreline Marina to 54th Place.

Signs are being added to two historic World War II gunpads on the bluff, informing visitors of the military history of the site.

Belmont Plaza Olympic Pool "Closing Ceremony"

Residents and many who have swam and used the Belmont Pool throughout their lives including several Olympians, gathered to say a final goodbye to the Belmont Plaza Olympic Pool on October 26. The pool was closed in January 2013 when it was determined that the Belmont Pool Natatorium was seismically and structurally unsafe.

While not able to access the pool, attendees viewed the pool from the inside of the lifeguard office located in a seismically safe portion of the building. Many guests brought trophies, medals, and other pool memorabilia to share.

The Belmont Plaza Olympic Pool opened in 1968, and hosted the U.S. Olympic Swim Trials that year and in 1976, as well as NCAA championships in 1974 and 1978 and several collegiate conference championship events. It was a training site during the 1984 Olympic Games held in Los Angeles. In addition, more than 200,000 recreational users enjoyed swimming in the pool every year.

The Belmont Plaza Temporary Pool opened in December 2013, so the community could continue to have year-round access to a versatile pool with ample opportunities for recreational and lap swimming, water exercise classes, competitive swimming and water polo programs.

The City Council approved programmatic plans for the new Belmont Beach and Aquatic Center on October 21, 2014. The Center's plans include multiple bodies of water and a separate diving well.

The design and environmental review processes continue, with hopes to begin construction in 2016.

The demolition, set to begin in late October, will take approximately six months to complete.



14th Street Park Fitness Zone Opens

Mayor Robert Garcia, Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez and the Departments of Parks, Recreation and Marine and Public Works invited the public to an opening ceremony for the new Fitness Zone at 14th Street Park, between Locust Avenue and Palmer Court, on Saturday, October 25. Fitness Zones are free, easy-to-use outdoor gyms with top-quality exercise equipment suitable for all fitness levels.

"This project is part of the transformation of 14th street and the Washington neighborhood," Mayor Robert Garcia said.

"What was once blighted has become a popular park, where residents can enjoy leisure and social activities, and there are more improvements to come."



"Fitness Zones are a great way for residents of all ages to live a healthier, more active lifestyle. The Zones are accessible to those on a tight budget. They are conveniently located in neighborhood parks and include some

ADA- accessible equipment," Councilwoman Lena Gonzalez said.

The Fitness Zone incorporates:

- Leg press machine with four seats
- Lower body exercise machine
- Stand up pendulum for abdominal exercise that accommodates four people at a time
- Cross-country ski machine that accommodates two people at a time
- Vertical press for legs and arms (ADA Accessible)
- Pull down lift for lats (back muscles) (ADA Accessible)
- Chest press (ADA Accessible)
- Press and pull for upper body exercise



The Fitness Zone has a colored paved path for circuit training. The project also included drain repair, and water-wise plant landscaping at the entry on Locust Avenue. The 14th Street Fitness Zone was funded with \$117,500 from one-time infrastructure dollars. Fitness Zones are also available at Admiral Kidd, Coolidge and Orizaba Parks.

Mayor Visits Parks, Recreation & Marine

On October 9, a standing room only group of Parks, Recreation and Marine employees and managers filled Wardlow Park's community center for a visit by newly elected Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia. The Mayor, who has been visiting with each city department, thanked the attendees for their service to the city and made note of how well the department has performed under the current economic downturn.

"The future is good and bright," he said. Garcia continued by speaking on the importance of public service, "Our mission, and at the core of all public missions, is to serve the public good. We are working to improve the lives of people and the community," he said.

When it came to the future, Garcia said he saw both greater opportunity and a more stable economic environment as well as the need, in the near future, to approach the community for ways to increase revenue. He then spoke of his vision of the future of the city and his guiding principles, which he broke down into these four categories: creating an open

and responsible government; innovation and investment in technology; creating a more sustainable community and promoting education.



Garcia spoke of his time in the Long Beach educational system and was especially focused on the future of underserved Long Beach youth. He stressed the important role the city should have in promoting job growth and training by providing internships and mentoring opportunities to the city's youth.

Junior Beach Runners Compete at Long Beach Marathon

On Saturday, October 11, over 150 youth from the Junior Beach Runners program participated in their annual fall kick-off event at the Aquarium of the Pacific Kids One Mile Fun Run. Decked out in red capes emblazoned with the Junior Beach Runners logo, the program participants captured everyone's attention. Finishers received medals, certificates and free entrance into the Aquarium. The Junior Beach Runner participating sites include eight WRAP programs from Edison, Lafayette, Burbank, Starr King, Grant, Hudson, Lee, and Garfield Elementary Schools.



Run Racing, the Long Beach Marathon organizers, have been long time partners of the Junior Beach Runner Program and each year offer free spots in the sold out Aquarium of the Pacific Fun Run to our Junior Beach Runners. The goal of the program is to increase the knowledge and consumption of healthy foods and physical activity among at-risk children in Long Beach. This is the Junior Beach Runners eighth year of participation in the Kids Fun Run.



City of Long Beach Youth Sports Pink Out



On the Saturday of October 18th, 2014 the City of Long Beach took part in the Second Annual Youth Sports Pink Out. With parks such as Pan American, El Dorado, and Wardlow tie-dyeing t-shirts for their kids, and other parks wearing pink socks, headbands and wristbands, this year's event was definitely bigger and better. This year's event also



saw parents at Marina Vista Football Site and Pan Am Volleyball Gym raise over \$200 with all of it being donated to the Susan G. Komen Foundation. We are excited for next year's Youth Sports Pink Out with more and more of our parks, youth and parents getting involved and exploring new ways to show that the City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation Department supports Breast Cancer Awareness. Special thanks to Michael Perez and the whole Pan Am staff; Melissa Snyder, Ashlee Lawton and the whole El Dorado



Staff; Terri Eggers (Pan Am/El Dorado Supervisor); and the entire Youth Sports Staff. Let's make next year's Pink Out BIGGER and BETTER!

Long Beach Senior Center Health Fair

The Long Beach Senior Center held their annual Health and Wellness Fair on October 9. Local seniors got valuable information about home health care, local health agencies, transportation services, senior assistance programs, and pharmacy and insurance programs, as well as the latest health technologies and innovations.

Attendees also took advantage of a flu shot clinic and a facility tour showcasing the Center's in-house gym, cafe, daily meal program, classrooms and information services.

The backbone of this successful event was the Long Beach Senior Center staff pictured below. Back row; Left to right: RLS Alan Wessies, Acting Supervisor Eileen Ludlam, Reynaldo Lagarde. Middle row; Left to right: Rec. Assistant Jean Rabune, RLS Socorro Hernandez, Barbara Loeffler, Kimberly Evans, Donna Helsley. Front row; Left to right: RLS Gloria Galvez, Elsa Ducreux, Tabettha Gonzales. Missing from photo: Rec. Assistant Rosemarie Salinas, RLS Peggy Evans, Tom Braybrook and David O'Day.



CRS Statistics September 2014

| | |
|--|--------|
| Permits to Gather..... | 170 |
| Reserved Picnic Sites | 43 |
| Number of Contract Classes | 272 |
| Facility Use Permits Issued..... | 83 |
| Field Use Permits Issued | 157 |
| El Dorado Regional Park Annual Passes | 374 |
| El Dorado Regional Park Paid Entries..... | 13,359 |
| Adult Sports League Participants | 3,904 |
| Visits to City & City Operated LBUSD Pools | 16,997 |
| Youth and Teen Participants | 39,645 |
| Senior Citizen Participants..... | 40,430 |
| Visits to the El Dorado Nature Center | 14,337 |

Know Your Long Beach Park: Long Beach Senior Center

For older adults in Long Beach, the Long Beach Senior Center at 1150 E. 4th Street is "the place where fun begins." This motto is the inspiration behind an amazing array of social, fitness and cultural programs that appeal to the interests of seniors, and that are offered six days a week. A glance at the Center's monthly events calendar shows times for billiards, table tennis, games & cards, weaving, computer classes, cooking demonstrations, round dance class, social dances, gym hours, movies and holiday celebrations.

The Center has a Gift & Thrift Shop, a library, meeting rooms, a spacious ballroom, auditorium and dining facilities for rent. The Friendly Cup Café is open for all ages Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. and serves delicious breakfasts, lunches and snacks.

Seniors have convenient access to information about social services such as social security, the Cal Fresh nutrition program, HICAP health advocates, Disabled Resource Center mobile training and Medicare benefits. Notary Public and Tax Preparation services are also offered during the year.

Seniors are able to access health services such as flu shot clinics, and memory testing. The St. Mary Medical Center operates a drop-in clinic on the fourth Friday of each month from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The "Heart of Ida" organization teaches weekly "stepping on" classes to help seniors manage the risk of falls and recover from falls.

The Senior Citizen Advisory Commission meets on every second Thursday at 9 a.m. at the Center to advise the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, and the Mayor and City Council about matters pertaining to older Americans.

For more information about the Long Beach Senior Center, visit or call 570-3111 for more information.

PRM Halloween Happenings

Parks, Recreation and Marine staff did a great job coming up with creepy and creative Halloween fun for all ages this year.

During Halloween week, the supervised after school programs and Teen Centers conducted a variety of activities such as mask and treat bag making, ghost story times, and “graveyard” cupcake making. Several parks had parties, carnivals and haunted houses to bring the neighborhood together for a safe and fun time.

On October 31, the ARISE (Adaptive Recreation in Special Environments) Program held their annual regional Halloween



Dance with Beetlejuice as the Emcee and the Happy Egg Band playing avant-garde music and providing the DJ. A total of 72 adults with disabilities attended and rocked out to the music. Adaptive staff were dressed to the nines. Everyone had an outstanding time.

El Dorado Nature Center’s first annual Howl-oween Festival was a success. Along the trails more than 600 guests met live animals, heard spooky stories created “critter” crafts and did the monster mash.

Maintenance Operations Bureau - October 2014

Community Service Workers Program attendance:

Total number of persons enrolled in the program111

Total number of hours worked at Queensway Bay260
(Water cleanup, debris removal, litter pickup)

Hours worked at Beach Maintenance331
(Litter pickup along beaches, parking lots, Belmont Pool area, Ocean Blvd., Peninsula area & maintenance yard)

Hours worked at Marine Maintenance:286
(Litter pickup around various sites including Belmont Pier, maintenance building, and assist with custodial work)

Hours worked at Los Cerritos Wetlands:192
(Litter pickup and vegetation removal of Sims Pond, Golden Shore, Colorado Lagoon & Various Wetlands)

Hours worked at all other sites774
(Litter pickup, custodial and facility maintenance)

CSW hours for the month of October1843

Work orders completed210

Restrooms cleaned on a daily basis172

Facilities & Gymnasiums cleaned & stocked daily28

Park acres maintained
Park turf814
Park landscape2310
Street (medians) turf53
Street landscape143

Water use MOB GP105 Water cost & consumption for
September, Parks and Street Island Potable
Estimate57,017ccf, \$144,653
Parks & Street Island Reclaimed61,548ccf, \$96,016



More than 2,500 visitors picked pumpkins and enjoyed the games and bouncers provided by long time El Dorado Express train operator, Greg Ruvolo at the first annual El Dorado Express Pumpkin Patch. The El Dorado Express is open to the public at the El Dorado Regional Park and is available for picnics, birthday parties and special events. Please visit www.cabooscorners.com for more information.



Boat Auction Scheduled



The Long Beach Marine Bureau will hold an auction of impounded and abandoned vessels on Saturday, November 22 at the Alamitos Bay Marina Office, 205 N. Marina Drive. Inspection and registration begins at 8 a.m., and the auction begins at 9 a.m.

Visit www.longbeach.gov/park/marine/boat_auction.asp to see a list of the available vessels. Full payment is due on the day of the sale, no later than 11 a.m. No refunds or adjustments are permitted. Payment may be made with cash, Visa or Mastercard.

All items are offered "as is." All sales are final. There is no warranty either specific or implied as to the condition of the vessels offered for sale. The Marine Bureau reserves the right to reject any offer or withdraw any item from sale. No vessels sold at auction will be allowed in City of Long Beach marinas for a period of six months.

To receive notification of upcoming auctions register for "E-Notify" at www.longbeach.gov.

For more information contact Kimarie Vestre at (562) 570-3236 or Kimarie.vestre@longbeach.gov.

Happy Trails to Anna Mendiola

Parks, Recreation and Marine wishes Park Development Officer Anna Mendiola "happy trails" as she retires and starts a new chapter in her life. Anna served for 15 years in the department starting as a Superintendent in Grounds Maintenance Division and later transitioned to the Planning and Development where she was instrumental in the design of dozens of new parks and park renovations.

Her family and friends gathered at Rancho Los Cerritos on October 13 to wish her well. Thanks to Leslie Hunsaker and her committee members Sharon Gates, Bob Livingstone, Valerie Davis, Analay Zavala, Gladys Kaiser, Jane Grobaty, Theresa Maceyka and Terri Eggers and for putting together a great send off event.



Part of the Solution

LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE

Help our parks lead the way
in water conservation.

To report a water issue in
the park, call (562) 570-4895, or
get the GoLongBeach app.



Visit www.LBParks.gov/water
to see the ways we are becoming
a part of the solution.

ANIMAL CARE SERVICES

Low Cost Pet Clinics Scheduled



Convenient low cost pet clinics are coming to a park near you. Pet owners ages 18 years or older can have their pets vaccinated against rabies, renew licenses and have their pets microchipped. All pets must be on leashes or in carriers, and be healthy

and non-pregnant. If you have a prior Rabies vaccine certificate, license tag or license renewal notice for your pet, please bring it with you to the clinic. Vaccination and microchip services are provided for pets residing in any city. Licensing service is provided for residents of Long Beach, Signal Hill, Cerritos, Los Alamitos and Seal Beach. For more service information and pricing please visit <http://www.scvvc>.

November - December 2014 Calendar

November 15, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Arbor Dog Park, 4665 Lampson Ave., Seal Beach

November 15, 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Orizaba Park, 1435 Orizaba Ave.

December 6, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Signal Hill Park, 2175 Cherry Ave., Signal Hill

December 6, 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Stearns Champions Park, 4520 E. 23rd Street

December 20, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Bixby Park, 130 Cherry Ave.

December 20, 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Marine Stadium, 5255 Paoli Way

REGISTER NOW FOR WINTER 2015 RECREATION CLASSES!

Hundreds of classes are starting in December for pre-school through adults 50+ offered by Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine.

ADAPTIVE RECREATION
ART • COMPUTERS
DANCE • DOG TRAINING
FITNESS • ENRICHMENT
MUSIC • SAILING
SWIMMING • TENNIS
AND MUCH MORE!

REGISTER ONLINE AT

WWW.LBPARKS.ORG



(562) 570-3111

We are a National Parks and Recreation Association "Gold Medal" award winner for excellence in parks and recreation management. Like us on Facebook and see our daily "Gold Medal" moments to see why

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/LONGBEACHPARKS



Coyote Management Plan

Long Beach Animal Care Services (ACS) has posted a proposed "Coyote Management Plan" on their web site, www.longbeach.gov/acs. The staff at ACS is encouraging feedback on the plan. Please send your thoughts to animal-care@longbeach.gov.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 2014 - January 2015

NOVEMBER

| | | | |
|----------|-----------|---|--|
| Sat. 15: | 10 am | **Volunteer Wetlands Cleanup | Golden Shore Marine Biological Reserve |
| | 10 am | Low Cost Pet Clinic | Arbor Dog Park, 4665 Lampson Ave. |
| | 1:30-3 pm | Low Cost Pet Clinic | Seal Beach |
| Wed. 19: | 9 am | Senior Citizen Advisory Commission | Orizaba Park 1435 Orizaba Ave |
| | 6 pm | Nature Center Entry Plaza | Long Beach Senior Center |
| | | Improvement Stakeholder Meeting | El Dorado Nature Center |
| Th. 20: | 9 am | Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting | El Dorado Senior Center |
| Fri. 21: | TBA | *The annual Basket Brigade Volunteer event | El Dorado Park West. |
| Sat. 22: | 7:30 pm | *Storytelling event Ages 12 & up. \$5 per person. | El Dorado Nature Center |
| Th. 27: | All Day | Thanksgiving Holiday | |
| | 7 am | Turkey Trot | |
| Fri. 28: | All Day | Thanksgiving Holiday | Granada Launch Ramp & Belmont Pool Lot |

DECEMBER

| | | | |
|----------|------------|---|---|
| Sat. 6: | 10 am | Low Cost Pet Clinic | Signal Hill Park, 2175 Cherry Ave., Signal Hill |
| | 1 pm | Low Cost Pet Clinic | Stearns Champion Park, 4520 E 23rd St. |
| | 2 pm | Native plant gardening education program | El Dorado Nature Center |
| | 6 pm | Belmont Shore Christmas Parade | Second Street |
| Wed. 10: | 6 pm | Nature Center Entry Plaza | El Dorado Nature Center |
| | | Improvement Stakeholder Meeting | |
| Sat. 13: | 5 pm | Daisy Lane Christmas Tree Lane Parade | Daisy between PCH and Willow |
| | 5 pm | Annual Parade of 1,000 Lights | Downtown Shoreline Marina |
| | 6 pm | Naples Boat Parade | Naples Canal |
| Sat. 20: | 10 am | Low Cost Pet Clinic | Bixby Park, 130 Cherry Avenue |
| | 1:30 pm | Low Cost Pet Clinic | Marine Stadium, 5255 Paoli Way 90803 |
| Mon. 22: | Hours Vary | Free Winter Fun Days Rec Programs (Ages 5-12) | City Park Community Centers |
| Tue. 23: | Hours Vary | Free Winter Fun Days Rec Programs (Ages 5-12) | City Park Community Centers |
| Wed. 24: | Hours Vary | Free Winter Fun Days Rec Programs (Ages 5-12) | City Park Community Centers |
| Fri. 26: | Hours Vary | Free Winter Fun Days Rec Programs (Ages 5-12) | City Park Community Centers |
| Mon. 29: | Hours Vary | Free Winter Fun Days Rec Programs (Ages 5-12) | City Park Community Centers |
| Tue. 20: | Hours Vary | Free Winter Fun Days Rec Programs (Ages 5-12) | City Park Community Centers |
| Wed. 31: | Hours Vary | Free Winter Fun Days Rec Programs (Ages 5-12) | City Park Community Centers |

JANUARY

| | | | |
|--------|------------|---|-----------------------------|
| Fri. 2 | Hours Vary | Free Winter Fun Days Rec Programs (Ages 5-12) | City Park Community Centers |
|--------|------------|---|-----------------------------|

**Call location for registration and fee information.

NATIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARD WINNER!









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**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**

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