

We Create Community

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Coolidge Dog Park Opens

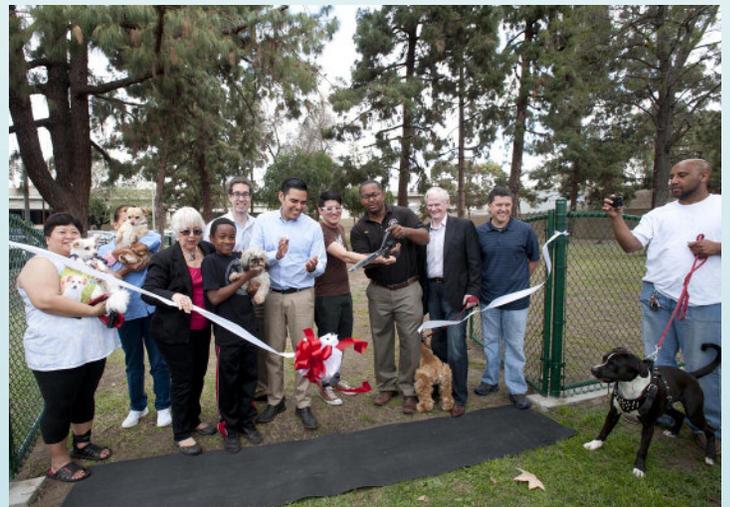


Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster, 9th District City Councilmember Steven Neal, and Parks, Recreation and Marine staff joined the public to open the Coolidge Dog Park on March 22.

Kaiser Permanente administered by the Long Beach Health and Human Services Department and the Coalition for a Healthy North Long Beach.

The new dog park is the first in northwest Long Beach, and the City's eighth off-leash dog recreation facility. The 0.25-acre, ADA accessible dog park has perimeter fencing, double-gate entry, separation between large and small dog areas, a drinking fountain, benches and waste bag dispensers. The cost to construct the park was approximately \$35,000, with funding from one-time infrastructure dollars.

The dog park is the latest improvement at Coolidge Park. In February the park's basketball courts were refurbished and a new playground was built with support from the Los Angeles Clippers and the California Endowment. A "Fitness Zone" with outdoor exercise equipment was installed with grant funding from



Coolidge Park neighborhood residents join L-R: Assemblywoman Bonnie Lowenthal, City Councilmember James Johnson, Vice Mayor Robert Garcia, John Rivera, President of the Coolidge Park Neighborhood Association; Rex Richardson, Chief of Staff to City Councilmember Steven Neal, Long Beach Community College Trustee Doug Otto, and Parks and Recreation Commissioner Ron Antonette to open the dog park.

Long Beach Parks and Recreation Commission CAPRCBM Commission of the Year



L-R: Long Beach Parks and Recreation Commissioners Ron Antonette and Albert Guerra with CAPRCBM "Commission of the Year Award."

The Long Beach Parks and Recreation Commission picked up their "Outstanding Commission of the Year" from the California Association of Parks and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members (CAPRCBM) at the CAPRCBM Annual Awards Banquet on March 6 in Ontario, CA.

The Commission's award reflected their success in helping to implement activities that made significant contributions to the community such as offering recreation programs with community partners and creating a fee waiver policy.

“Buried Secrets” film Uncovers Student Talents

The Houghton Park Tech Zone staff recently collaborated with Jordan High School students to create a short film and experience a Hollywood moment in their own backyard.

The Houghton Park Tech Zone involves students in learning the art of filmmaking and offers classes in web design, digital animation, cinematography, video editing, digital photography and Photoshop SFX. In the Jordan Media and Communication Department (J-MAC), students learn and develop technical skills that are useful in the arts, media and entertainment industries. The J-MAC students’ Work Based Learning projects increases their skills and prepares them for college or employment after high school. The J-MAC is equipped with a full television station sound stage, including a green screen and monitors.



Houghton Tech Zone staff worked with J-MAC students over five months to produce the student-directed, 16-minute film short, “Buried Secrets,” about the difficulty of making hard choices. The final cut called for a red carpet celebration on February 21 with more than 300 people in attendance.

Congratulations to Houghton staff Angelo Barrera, Lareina Wong and Cynthia Lara who assumed directing, producing and editing duties, as well as the numerous staff that acted in the film.



Some of the cast and crew of “Buried Secrets” on opening night including L-R back row center, Lareina Wong, Angelo Barrera and Veronica Ortega.



Houghton Park Community Service Supervisor Sonny Seng with his family at a “Buried Secrets” premiere.

Tennis Center Updates

Spring tennis classes began in March with players of all ages and abilities taking advantage of affordable tennis instruction taught by United States Professional Tennis Instruction (USPTA) certified tennis professionals.

United States Tennis Association (USTA) league play begins in April. Both Billie Jean King (BJK) and El Dorado Park Tennis Centers are hosting several USTA League men’s and women’s league matches each week. The season runs from April 4 through June.

Registration is underway for the spring season of recreational World Team Tennis (WTT) at BJK and El Dorado Park Tennis Centers from April 7 through June 2.

The **El Dorado Park Tennis Center Network** organizes and manages Challenge Ladders and weekly tennis clinics as well as assisting players to connect and to play more tennis. The Network has over 378 tennis patrons,

and more join each month. The Winter/Spring Challenge Ladders began on February 1 and is picking up the pace as the weather gets better. After two months, 59 challenge matches have been played.

Both Billie Jean King and El Dorado Park Tennis Centers hosted matches for the **Long Beach Tennis Patrons** annual junior tennis tournament. On March 8-9 and 17-18, 2014, with close to 1,000 competitors from the ages of 18 down to 9 & 10 year olds, the **57th Annual Long Beach Junior Tournament** was held at several sites in the greater Long Beach area.

The General Manager of Billie Jean King and El Dorado Park Tennis Centers, **Cathy Jacobson-Guzy** will enter into the State of Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame. During a dinner and ceremony on May 3, Cathy along with nine of the most well-known names in Pennsylvania sports history will be among the newest members inducted into the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame this year.

Loma Vista Tot Lot Groundbreaking Held



Breaking Ground for the new Loma Vista Tot Lot are L-R: Vice Mayor Robert Garcia, community member, Assemblywoman Bonnie Lowenthal, Mayor Bob Foster, PRM Director George Chapjian and Long Beach Police Commander Richard Rocchi

Mayor Bob Foster, Vice Mayor Robert Garcia, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, and Department of Public Works joined the public for a groundbreaking ceremony for a new Tot Lot at Loma Vista Park, 1173 Loma Vista on Wednesday, March 26.

A groundbreaking ceremony was held on Wednesday for new play equipment for toddlers at Loma Vista Park. This tiny .14-acre park makes a big impact in a neighborhood with very little open space. The new equipment and some irrigation upgrades, landscaping, and fence and bench repairs will be completed in early June. The improvements are funded with \$116,000, from City Council District One's Infrastructure Funding.

14th Street Park Fitness Zone Groundbreaking

Residents in the 14th Street Park area will soon have a free convenient way to get a great workout. On March 27, Mayor Bob Foster, Vice Mayor Robert Garcia, and staff from Parks, Recreation and Marine, and Public Works joined the public to get a sneak peek at a new Fitness Zone to be built at 14th Street Park, between Locust Avenue and Palmer Court.

The zone will incorporate several pieces of equipment to exercise legs, abs and upper body. The zone will be surrounded by a colored paved path for circuit training.

The work includes some drain repair, and water-wise plant landscaping at the entry on Locust Avenue. The 14th Street Fitness Zone project is provided through \$117,500 in City Council District One's Infrastructure Funding. The project is expected to be completed in mid-May 2014.



Vice Mayor Garcia and resident try out the leg press machine.

Maintenance Operations Bureau: By the Numbers - March 2014

Community Service Program Workers:	99	Work orders completed bureau wide:	470
Community Service Program Hours:	1658	Restrooms cleaned on a daily basis:	172
Queensway Bay:	250	Facilities & Gymnasiums cleaned daily:	28
Beach Maintenance:	316	Debris tons removed from beaches, bays and lagoons	638
Marine Maintenance:	285	Park acres maintained:	
Los Cerritos Wetlands:	230	Park turf:	814
All other sites:	576	Park landscape:	2,310
		Street (medians) turf:	53
		Street landscape:	143

Maintenance Team Talent Makes Long Beach Shine

The Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach is the biggest event held in the City of Long Beach each year. More than 175,000 people attend the three-day race and there is up to 10 hours of national television coverage giving the City even more exposure.

Attendees and television viewers alike are focused on the speeding cars winding around the City's signature dolphin fountain near the Aquarium of the Pacific and at the race's end in the checkered themed winner's circle. These two areas are the work of Oscar DeLeon and his Queensway Bay Maintenance team who create these beautiful areas to show off our great City to the world.



Classic checkboard pattern rings Aquarium dolphin fountain



Colorful planting adds to appeal at Winner's Circle.

One Time Funds Support Park Enhancements

In every corner of the City, park improvements are underway thanks to one-time funding allocated by the Long Beach City Council from the Uplands Oil Fund and other sources. The Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine was approved for \$15 million in FY 2014 to complete renovations, repairs and enhancements to parks.



Ramona Park Restroom Renovation

At 32 parks, one or more of the following projects are underway: door replacement, new ceiling tile installation, new window installation, new lighting, restroom renovations, roof repair or replacement, irrigation system repair or replacement, painting, fence repairs, turf conditioning, sport court resurfacing, field renovations, tree planting, and playground equipment installation.

Throughout the City, fire suppression systems are being replaced and tree trimming is taking place in many locations. The Bixby Park fountain and surrounding grounds are being renovated with the Friends of Bixby Park. Residents will be able to stay fit at a new fitness zone at 14th Street Park and a new bocce ball court at El Dorado Park West.



El Dorado Regional

El Dorado Regional Park and Coolidge Park have added new dog parks, College Estates Park has new drinking fountains, benches and picnic tables, and McBride Park has new kitchen equipment and a new gym floor.

In addition to park maintenance, the funds are being used to upgrade the reservation and registration system and enhance recreation programming in targeted areas.

Re-Imagining Bixby Park: Master Plan Meetings Underway

Working with the theme, “History Inspires Our Future,” residents and stakeholders in the Bixby Park neighborhood gathered at the park on March 29 to discuss the Bixby Park Master Plan.

This was the first of three community workshops to gather input on the plan, where the outcome was to establish a vision and set goals for redesigning the park and playground and prioritizing funding. The project has \$1.3 million dedicated, which is a rare opportunity to make significant enhancements. The second workshop will involve participants in developing preliminary concepts and at the third workshop; the master plan will be presented.

Following the first workshop, volunteer students from Cal State Long Beach will be at Bixby Park on a weekday and weekend conducting a use survey. They will be recording activity, location and general demographics of actual park users. Their data will provide additional analysis for the formulation of the master plan.

There is a Bixby Park Master Plan on-line survey to gather information about the park’s users, how the park is used, and ideas for improvements. Suggestions have come in regarding the community center, picnic and grassy areas, pathways, fitness equipment, restrooms, skate park, playground, the historic band shell, and safety and security concerns. Residents can still take the survey and provide at www.surveymonkey.com/s/BixbyParkUpdate.

The next meetings will be held on April 12 from 9 – 11 a.m. and on May 3 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.



Second District Councilmember Suja Lowenthal addresses the participants in the first Bixby Park Master Plan meeting.

The first of the Master Plan meetings engaged participants in establishing a vision and goals for redesigning the park and playground.



After a productive morning, the community center walls were filled with ideas for prioritizing \$1.3 million in funds to “reimagine” Bixby Park.

Tree Planting Held in Honor of Arbor



The Long Beach Garden Club held a tree planting ceremony on March 19 at Rosie the Riveter Park in honor of Arbor Day. Eric Stewart from Maintenance Operations and Bob Livingstone from Contract Management were on hand to dig in and represent Parks, Recreation and Marine.

By the Numbers:

Community Recreation Services - February 2014

Permits to Gather	50
Reserved Picnic Sites	1
Number of Contract Classes	120
Facility Use Permits Issued	66
Field Use Permits issued	117
EI Dorado Regional Park Annual Passes	690
EI Dorado Regional Park Paid Entries	9,543
Adult Sports League Participants	5,872
Visits to City and City Operated Pools	10,218
Youth and Teen Participants	37,700
Senior Citizen Participants	36,071
Visits to EI Dorado Nature Center	21,444

Long Beach Historic Site Events

Mark your calendars for great events coming up this week at Long Beach's historic ranchos.

Rancho Los Alamitos



In honor of the 40th Anniversary of National Volunteer Week, Rancho Los Alamitos will conduct a Volunteer Recruitment Program on Saturday, April, 12 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Persons interested in finding out about Rancho Los Alamitos' volunteer committees for Curatorial, Docent Tours and School Programs, Gardens, Hospitality, Office and Administration, and Special Events and Public Programs are encouraged to attend. The event will include a tour of the ranch house, presentations by current volunteers and refreshments. Make a reservation by April 11 by calling (562) 431-3541 or email to info@rancholosalamitos.com.

Rancho Los Cerritos



Rancho Los Cerritos continues their 2014 lecture series, California – A Land of Many: The Immigrant Experience & Its Legacy with “Madness and Migration in Gold Rush California,” on April 12 at 10 a.m. presented by Angela Hawk, Ph.D. of California

State University, Long Beach. ‘Mad’ migrants during the Gold Rush concerned politicians who wanted a settled existence for California and led to the state’s publicly-funded asylum system. Explore the psychological impacts of the migration to California and incidences of insanity among Gold Rush migrants.

Admission is \$7 (\$5 for students) and payable at the door; call (562) 570-1755 to make a reservation.

Know Your Long Beach Park: Officer Daryle W. Black Memorial Park



Daryle W. Black Memorial Park honors Long Beach Police Officer Daryle W. Black who died in the line of duty near the park on April 19, 2000. The .14-acre mini park is located on Pasadena Street between 20th and 21st Streets.

The former Long Beach Redevelopment Agency purchased the land in 2002 with Central Area Project Funds. The lot housed an apartment building that had been nuisance to the community and was condemned and removed.

The park opened October 2006 and was a welcome addition to the neighborhood. Residents can enjoy a playground, benches, turf and trees. The Police Officers Association donated a statue of Officer Black seated on a park bench, extending his hand in assistance to a small child while seated next to another child.



Get Involved in Your Community... Become a Partners of Parks Volunteer

For the past 28 years, the non-profit Partners of Parks has supported parks and open space, and recreation programs in the City of Long Beach. You can make a difference too, by volunteering your time with this great organization as they work to improve the quality of life in our city. Volunteers are needed for:

- Park Cleanups
- Beach Cleanups
- Event Staffing
- Partners of Parks Ambassadors represent the organization at events

These are just some of the ways that you can share your time and talents to support our local parks. Sign up on line at www.partnersofparks.org or call Jennifer Toun at (562) 570-3209.



Partners of Parks – Celebrating 28 Years of Supporting Long Beach Parks

Pet Fair and Fix Fest

Foster Pet Parent Classes

City of Long Beach Prosecutor Douglas Haubert,
Long Beach Animal Care Services,
and Fix Long Beach present

Pet Fair and Fix Fest

May 17 at Silverado Park

Free Giveaways

Free Advice From Veterinarians, Animal Trainers,
Law Enforcement Professionals and Humane Education

Free Spay and Neuter.
Call 323-413-7729 to schedule an appointment.





spcaLA cares for pets of all ages that require extra care. These pets may need extra socialization, require medical care, or are too young for adoption, like bottle babies, the litters of motherless kittens that come to spcaLA during kitten season (the warm spring and summer months). Foster parents help pets with special needs and prepare them for adoption into permanent loving homes. Classes are scheduled at the P.D. Pitchford Companion Animal Village & Education Center on the following dates:

May 19	10 a.m.-12 p.m.
July 19	10 a.m.-12 p.m.
September 14	10 a.m.-12 p.m.
November 16	10 a.m.-12 p.m.

Upcoming Low Cost Pet Clinics

Pet owners must be 18 years or older. Pets must be on leashes or in carriers. Only healthy and non-pregnant animals will be vaccinated. If you have a prior Rabies vaccine certificate, license tag or license renewal notice, 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 within our jurisdiction: Long Beach, Signal Hill, Cerritos, Los Alamitos and Seal Beach. For more information and pricing visit www.scvvc.com.

April 12	10 – 11:30 a.m.	Scherer Park	4600 Long Beach Blvd.
April 12	1:30 – 3 p.m.	Good Neighbor Pk	2800 Studebaker Rd.
May 10	10 – 11:30 a.m.	Coolidge Park	362 East Neece Street
May 10	1:30 – 3 p.m.	Ramona Park	3301 East 65 th Street
June 7	9 – 10:30 a.m.	Signal Hill Park	2175 Cherry Avenue
June 14	10 – 11:30 a.m.	Cherry Park	1901 East 45 th Street
June 14	1:30 – 3 p.m.	Orizaba Park	1435 Orizaba

The Office of the Long Beach City Prosecutor, Long Beach Animal Care Services and Fix Long Beach will present a “Pet Fair and Fix Fest” on May 17 at Silverado Park.

Residents can learn how to live with pets as members of the family with “ask the vet,” “ask the trainer,” “ask the Animal Care Officer/City Prosecutor” booths, and various “humane education” booths.

Mobile spay and neuter clinics will be available, and local pet businesses will be on hand with information and giveaways. The event is sponsored are Fix Long Beach, Hope for Paws, Us, Angel Dog Foundation, Friends of Long Beach Animals, and Spay 4 LA.

For more information, visit www.longbeach.gov/acs.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS: APRIL - MAY 2014

April

Sat. 5:	10 a.m. 1 p.m. All Day	First Saturday Stewards Clean-up Creation Station arts and crafts - free Congressional Cup Match Race	El Dorado Nature Center Rancho Los Cerritos Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier
Tue. 8:	7 p.m.	**Family Nightlife Walk	El Dorado Nature Center
Th. 10:	9 a.m. 2:30 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Marine Advisory Commission Meeting	El Dorado Park West Sr. Ctr. Long Beach Yacht Club
Fri. 11:	10 a.m.	**Mother's Day Brunch	Rancho Los Cerritos
Sat. 12:	10 a.m. 10 a.m. 10 a.m.	Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic **"CA Gold Seekers" presented by Nancy Hendrickson Volunteer Recruitment call 562-431-3541 for details	Scherer Park Rancho Los Cerritos Rancho Los Alamitos
Sun. 13:	1:30 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	2010 Good Neighbor Park
Wed. 16:	9 a.m.	Senior Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Senior Center
Mon. 21:	9 a.m. 10 a.m.	**Spring Break Science Workshops – Ages 5-9 Spring Fun Days Drop In Recreation Programs	El Dorado Nature Center Park Community Centers
Tue. 22:	9 a.m. 10 a.m.	**Spring Break Science Workshops – Ages 5-9 Spring Fun Days Drop In Recreation Programs	El Dorado Nature Center Park Community Centers
Wed. 23:	9 a.m. 10 a.m. 6 p.m.	**Spring Break Science Workshops – Ages 5-9 Spring Fun Days – Drop In Recreation Programs Commission on Youth and Children	El Dorado Nature Center Park Community Centers Parks, Recreation & Marine Admin.
Th. 24:	9 a.m. 10 a.m.	**Spring Break Science Workshops – Ages 5-9 Spring Fun Days – Drop In Recreation Programs South Coast Plaza Garden Show – call 562-431-3541	El Dorado Nature Center Park Community Centers Rancho Los Alamitos Event
Fri. 25:	9 a.m. 10 a.m. 10 a.m.	**Spring Break Science Workshops – Ages 5-9 Spring Fun Days – Drop In Recreation Programs Chittick Field Opening	El Dorado Nature Center Park Community Centers Chittick Field
Mon. 28:		Summer "Recreation Connection" Published	

May

Sat. 3:	8 a.m. 10 a.m. 10 a.m.	Summer Aquatics Camp Registration Begins Southern California Turtle and Tortoise Club Show ** "C19 Chinese Immigrants" presented by Pro Yong Chen	4000 Olympic Plaza or PRM Admin. El Dorado Nature Center Rancho Los Cerritos
Th. 8:	9 a.m. 2:30 p.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Marine Advisory Commission Meeting	El Dorado Senior Center Long Beach Yacht Club
Sat. 10:	9 a.m. 10 a.m. 1:30 p.m.	Bird Walk for Beginners Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	El Dorado Nature Center Coolidge Park Ramona Park
Sun. 11:	10 a.m.	Mother's Day Brunch. Call 570-1755 for ticket info	Rancho Los Cerritos
Mon. 12:	Varies	New Swim Lesson Sessions Begin	Belmont Plaza Outdoor Pool
Tue. 13:	7 p.m.	Family Nightlife Walk	El Dorado Nature Center
Sat. 17:		Pet Fair and Fix Fest	Silverado Park
	10 a.m.	Wetland Warrior Cleanup	Golden Shore Marine Reserve
Wed. 21:	9 a.m.	Senior Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Senior Center
Fri. 23:	6:30 p.m.	100 Days of Summer Event	Marina Vista Park
Mon. 26:		Memorial Day	

**Call location for registration and fee information.



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