

We Create Community



Park Named For Long Beach Branch of NAACP

Mayor Robert Garcia, Councilmember Dee Andrews and Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine staff joined the community at the grand opening celebration for the NAACP Freedom Park at 2300 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. on September 29.

The NAACP Freedom Park is part of the Pacific Electric Right of Way that the City of Long Beach acquired in 2008 and opened as a park in 2012. The 2.8-acre park along a bicycle path provides much-needed open space in Central Long Beach, where residents can relax at benches and picnic tables.

Founded in 1909, the NAACP is the nation's oldest, largest and most recognized civil rights organization. Its more than half-million members in the United States and the world are advocates for civil rights in their communities, campaigning for equal opportunity and conducting voter mobilization. Its mission is "to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination."

In October 2014, Councilmember Andrews requested that the Mayor and City Council refer a request to recommend a name for the park to the Parks and Recreation Commission. The Commission forwarded the recommendation to the Long Beach Housing and Neighborhood Committee. On December 16 the City Council voted to approve the Committee's recommendation to name the area "NAACP Freedom Park."

"I am extremely proud that NAACP Freedom Park will be the first park in the United States to be named in honor of this extraordinary organization," said Councilmember Andrews. "In Long Beach, and across the United States, the NAACP has helped to make positive change in education and economic development, and has stood for freedom and justice for all."



L-R: Front: Councilman Roberto Uranga, Maxine Waters Andrews, Councilmember Dee Andrews, President of the NAACP Naomi Rainey, Mayor Robert Garcia, LBUSD Board of Education member Felton Williams.

L-R: Back: President of Green Education Inc, Stella Ursua; President Long Beach Ministers Alliance Gregory Sanders, Executive Director of the Police Complaint Commission Anitra Dempsey, PRM Manager of Maintenance and Development Hurley Owens, Police Chief Robert Luna, Manager of Disaster Preparedness Reggie Harrison, and son of Long Beach NAACP Founder Ernest McBride, Ernest McBride Jr.



Molina Healthcare Inc. Supports Long Beach Junior Runners



Molina Healthcare Inc. had their mascot, Dr. Cleo at the shoe party to help hand out the shoes. The Jr. Beach Runner staff presented Molina Healthcare Inc. with a gift basket to thank them for all their support.

The Junior Beach Runners are participating in the one-mile Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific Kids Fun Run on October 10 at the

Aquarium of the Pacific, the day before the jetBlue Long Beach Marathon and Half Marathon.

On October 3, participants in the Long Beach Jr. Beach Runner program received new pairs of running shoes donated by Molina Healthcare Inc. Children from the eight Long Beach Unified School District Winners Reaching Amazing Potential (W.R.A.P.) program sites supervised by Parks, Recreation and Marine attended the shoe distribution party at Bixby Park. They not only received a great pair of shoes to kick off the Fall Jr. Beach Runner session, but also enjoyed a jumper, face painting, a farmers market and balloon artist.

“To see these children’s eyes light up and even tear up when receiving their new pair of shoes gave me goosebumps”, said Andrea Lain-Ruffino, Acting Supervisor of the Jr. Beach Runner program.



By the Numbers for August: Community Recreation Services

Permits to Gather	250	Visits to City / City Operated LBUSD Pools	40,586
Reserved Picnic Sites.....	73	El Dorado Regional Park Paid Entries	19,528
Number of Contract Classes	122	El Dorado Regional Park Annual Passes.....	564
Facility Use Permits Issued.....	51	Youth and Teen Participants.....	66,285
Field Use Permits Issued.....	48	Senior Citizen Participants	42,894
Adult Sports League Participants.....	10,740	Visits to the El Dorado Nature Center	16,472

El Dorado Nature Center Supports California Coastal Cleanup Day

On Saturday, September 19 volunteers all along the coast of California joined forces for the state's largest annual beach cleanup.

The City of Long Beach, led by El Dorado Nature Center staff member Brooke Davis, coordinated seven locations for community members, corporate groups, scout troops and students of all ages to help remove trash from our beaches and waterways. Clean-up sites included the Alamitos Bay Marina, Belmont Veterans Memorial Pier, Bluff Park, Cherry Beach, Colorado Lagoon, Mother's Beach and the Claremont Launch Ramp at the Peninsula.

Partnering with groups including the Aquarium of the Pacific, Long Beach Health Department, Long Beach Environmental Services Bureau, Long Beach Animal Care Services, Long Beach Water Department, Clean Long Beach, El Dorado Audubon Society, Algalita, Los Cerritos Land Trust, Surfrider Foundation, Seal Beach Yacht Club, and Shoreline Yacht Club, over 1,009 volunteers showed up to lend a hand.

At the end of the event a record 3,217 pounds of debris was removed making it one of the most successful cleanups in the 20 years that the City of Long Beach has been participating.

Volunteers were encouraged to continue their efforts by becoming an Adopt-A-Beach participant, or joining one of the many on-going monthly beach cleanups. For more information about the programs contact Brooke Davis at (562) 570-4876.



El Dorado Nature Center Volunteer Opportunities

You can make a difference in the health of our local natural areas by participating in El Dorado Nature Center environmental stewardship events.

1st Saturday Stewards

Join staff and volunteers in cleaning the stream, clearing trails, or pulling weeds at El Dorado Nature Center. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water and sunscreen. Saturdays, beginning November 7, 10 a.m. - noon.

Wetland Warrior Cleanups

Only five percent of California's once vast coastal wetlands remain today. The Weekend Wetland Warrior team helps protect the critical habitat at Golden Shore Marine Biological Reserve. Two hours of time can save wildlife. Wear sturdy shoes. Rain cancels. Saturdays, October 17 & November 21, 10am - noon. Meet next to 101 Golden Shore Ave.

Pre-registration for these events is required. Call (562) 570-1745 or stop by the El Dorado Nature Center, at 7550 E. Spring Street.



ANIMAL CARE SERVICES

Long Beach City Hall Becomes “Kitty Hall” for Cat Adoption Event

Long Beach Animal Care Services repurposed Long Beach City Hall as “Kitty Hall” on September 18, to encourage shelter cat adoptions and promote awareness of Long Beach Animal Care Services.

The public was invited to play and cuddle with the kittens and cats available for adoption at “Kitty Hall.” Representatives were on hand to answer questions about cat ownership and accept adoption applications. Spay and Neuter vouchers were available, and cat adopters paid a discounted adoption rate of \$20. A total of 14 cats were adopted at the event.

Mayor Garcia and the “First Cat,” Tommy were in attendance. According to Mayor Garcia, “When you adopt a shelter cat, you are saving a life. I adopted my cat from our shelter and he’s been a great addition to our family.”

To view the cats (and other animals) available for adoption at the Long Beach shelter, visit www.LongBeachAnimalCare.com or download the Long Beach Animal Care Services mobile app on iTunes and Google Play.



*Mayor Garcia
congratulates
new cat owner.*



Long Beach Mandatory Spay/Neuter Law for Dogs in Effect



Effective October 1, 2015, all dogs over the age of 6 months are required to be spayed or neutered. Spaying and neutering are proactive steps toward reducing the number of unwanted pets in the community. The new law will continue to establish Long Beach as a pet friendly city by making our neighborhoods safer,

educating pet owners to be more responsible, and reducing the number of animals impounded at the animal shelter.

Any unaltered dog that has a valid license from Long Beach Animal Care Services prior to October 1, 2015 is exempt from the mandatory spay/neuter law as long as the license is kept current. Additional exemptions to the spay/neuter law can be found at www.LongBeachAnimalCare.com. Violations are subject to increasing fines, starting at \$100 and increasing to as much as \$500.

Pet licenses can be purchased and renewed in person, by mail or online. Visit www.LongBeachAnimalCare.com for more information.

“We want to assist people to get their pets spayed or neutered, and we have information on our website about vouchers and other low-cost options available,” said Ted Stevens, Manager of Animal Care Services.

Visit Animal Care Services at the P.D. Pitchford Companion Animal Village to adopt, volunteer, donate, license your pet or obtain resources regarding low-cost vaccination and spay/neuter clinics throughout the city. LBACS is located at 7700 East Spring Street in Long Beach. The Village is open Wednesday through Friday 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 10 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and is closed on Mondays, Tuesdays and holidays.

Know Your Long Beach Park: Los Altos Plaza Park

Los Altos Plaza Park is located in the Park Estates neighborhood of Long Beach at El Prado Avenue and El Parque Street near Anaheim Street and Pacific Coast Highway. The City acquired the .75-acre site from residential developer Lloyd Whaley in 1959.

The park provides landscaped open space with trees, lawn and shrubs for surrounding residents. The Parks Estates Homeowners Association (PEHA) partnered with the non-profit Partners of Parks organization to raise funds for a new playground in 2001. The PEHA coordinates events for residents such as the annual Park Estates Picnic at Los Altos Plaza Park.



By the Numbers Maintenance Operations Bureau - September 2015

Community Service Worker Program:

Total Enrollment:	115
Total Queensway Bay hours (Water cleanup, debris and litter pickup):	421
Total Beach Maintenance hours (Litter pickup):	166
Total Marine Maintenance hours (Litter pickup):	362
Total El Dorado Park hours (Litter pickup, and custodial).	426
Total Los Cerritos Wetlands hours (Litter pickup and vegetation removal):	321
Special Cleanups: City clean-ups, graffiti paint-out:	665
Total hours for the month of September:	2,361

Work orders completed:	159
Restrooms cleaned on daily:	172
Facilities cleaned and stocked daily:	28

Park acres maintained:	
Park turf	814
Park landscape	2,310
Street (medians) turf	53
Street landscape	143

Tennis Program Update



The Billie Jean King and El Dorado Park Tennis Centers had a very busy and successful summer. Coach Valter Paiva and Valter Paiva Tennis Academy at BJK, and coaches Mitch Bridge and Peter Smith and the Southern California Tennis Academy (SCTA) staff at El Dorado Park helped make the weekly Junior Summer Tennis Camps a huge success. All summer, participants had a great time learning tennis and meeting new friends.

Over Labor Day Weekend, El Dorado Park Tennis Center hosted 165 competitors for the 94th Annual Pacific Coast Championship Tennis Tournament. The Pacific Coast Championship, Inc was formed in 1916 by Dr. Alva Garrett to meet the competitive needs of African American tennis players who were excluded from some tournaments. The proceeds from this tournament develop tennis programs for disadvantaged youth.

On September 19, First Serve and the Long Beach Tennis Patrons invited potential and current high school girl JV tennis players from the local high schools to partici-

pate in a free tennis clinic and round robin event at El Dorado Park Tennis Center to prepare them for the upcoming season. Over 45 girls took advantage of the clinic taught by the tennis pros. The youth competed for prizes while playing in the fun-filled doubles round-robin. First Serve Tennis presented a new Wilson racquet for the round-robin winner and also presented the "lucky loser" with a new Wilson racquet. Thanks to the Long Beach Tennis Patrons for sponsoring the event.

On September 26 and 27 El Dorado Tennis Center hosted the 86th Annual Long Beach Open. The men's open finalists were Victor Silva of Long Beach City College and Derek Chen of the City of San Gabriel. Chen prevailed with a 6-1; 7-6 victory in the extreme heat that all players contended with the entire weekend.

Southern California Tennis Academy at El Dorado Park Tennis Center was proud to have two star players granted a wild-card entry into the Junior Boys Doubles draw at the US Open in New York. Riley Smith and Brandon Holt successfully fought their way through the draw and made it to the finals where they were ultimately defeated during a rain-delayed, hard fought final match 5-7; 6-7 by the Canadian team. The weekend of October 2-4 the doubles team of Riley/Holt won the doubles event during the \$15,000 International Tennis Federation Pro Circuit Futures event in Laguna Niguel.

The Southern California Men's Pro Futures Tennis Tournament is coming to El Dorado Park Tennis Center in January 2016. Players with ATP WORLD TOUR rankings in the low 290s up to 600 will compete for valuable ranking points and \$25,000 in prize money in the 32-player singles and 16-player main draw doubles.

Long Beach Tennis Facilities

Billie Jean King Tennis Center	10 th St. & Park Ave.	8 Lighted Courts/Pro Shop \$8-13/hr .	438-8509
Cherry Park	1901 E. 45th St.	Free Lighted Courts	570-1615
College Estates Park	808 Stevely Ave.	Free Unlighted Courts	570-1617
DeForest Park	6255 DeForest Ave.	Free Lighted Courts	570-1620
Drake Park	951 Maine Ave	Free Lighted Courts	570-1625
El Dorado Tennis Center	2800 Studebaker Rd.	15 Lighted Courts/Pro Shop \$8-13/hr.	425-0553
Heartwell Park	5801 E. Parkcrest	Free Unlighted Courts	570-1535
Houghton Park	6301 Myrtle Ave.	Free Lighted Courts	570-1640
Los Cerritos Park	3750 Del Mar Ave.	Free Lighted Courts	570-1725
Marina Vista Park	Colorado and Santiago	Free Unlighted Courts	570-1725
Ramona Park	3301 E. 65th Street	Free Lighted Courts	570-1665
Scherer Park	4600 Long Beach Blvd.	Free Lighted Courts	570-1674
Silverado Park	1545 West 31st St.	Free Lighted Courts	570-1675
Somerset Park	1500 E. Carson St.	Free Lighted Courts	570-1690
Veterans Park	101 E. 28 th St.	Free Lighted Courts	570-1695

Upcoming Events

El Dorado West Sugar Peach Festival

2800 N. Studebaker Rd Long Beach, CA 90815

Saturday, November 7, 2015

9:00am-3:00pm

For more information
(562) 570-3227



YOUTH FISHING DERBY

FREE!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

EL DORADO REGIONAL PARK

7550 E. SPRING ST.

LONG BEACH, CA 90815

• Registration: 8-9 a.m.

• Fishing Derby: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

• Raffle: 1 p.m.

**PRIZES AND
REFRESHMENTS!**

This is a free children's fishing derby. Fishing poles and tackle to catch fish will be provided to kids 15 years old and under for free. Anyone over 16 years old is required to have a California State Fishing License.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:

El Dorado Regional Park (562) 570-1771



Tellabration Storytelling Event



Celebrate the power and wisdom of storytelling at the Long Beach Storyteller's "Tellabration" Event on Saturday, November 21 from 7:30-9:30 p.m.

The evening will showcase nine local storytellers who will capture the imagination of the audience with their fascinating tales.

Ages 12 & Up.

\$5 per person.

Pre-registration required. Call (562) 570-1745.

Winter Break Workshops

Pre-registration is required at www.lbparks.org.

Online registration begins November 2.

Join us for vacation fun at the Nature Center! Ages 5-8.

Children must have Kindergarten experience.

9:00am - noon. \$15 per class.

Winter Wings

Monday, December 21

Grab your binoculars and we'll explore the fascinating world of migration through games, crafts, and nature observations. Class 15500

Science Magic

Tuesday, December 22

Ever wonder how'd they do that? Join us for a day of science discovery and fun as we investigate the world behind some amazing experiments. Class 15501

Crafty Kids

Wednesday, December 23

Celebrate the gifts of nature with beautiful holiday creations made from recycled materials and things found on the trail. Class 15502



Skunk-o-rama

Monday, December 28

Don't leave your nose at home... just join us at the Nature Center as we learn all about these amazing and fun creatures. Class 15503

Frozen in Time

Tuesday, December 29

Discover the magic of winter as we journey on the chilly trails of the Nature Center! The cold won't bother you anyway... we'll be having too much fun learning how animals survive this enchanted season. Class 15504

Survivors Wanted

Wednesday, December 30

Find out what it takes to survive in the wild... locating food, shelter, and following your map to safety. Adventure guaranteed! Class 15505

Art Smart

Thursday, December 31

Get your creative on as we look for art on the trails and make some of our own. Class 15506

Pre-register at www.lbparks.org

Call (562) 570-1745

El Dorado Nature Center 7550 E. Spring St.



October - November 2015 Calendar

October

Wed. 14:	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Park West
Th. 15:	4 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	Scherer Park
	7:30 p.m.	Audubon Society Meeting	El Dorado Nature Center
Sat. 17:	10 a.m.	Wetland Warrior Clean up	Golden Shore Marine Reserve
	10 a.m.	Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	Signal Hill Park
	1:30 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	Stearns Champions Park
Sun. 18:	1:30 p.m.	**"Liveable Places" Lecture	Rancho Los Alamitos
Sat. 24:	6 and 8 p.m.	**Victorian Magic Show	Rancho Los Cerritos
	1:30 p.m.	***"Planting Perspectives" Lecture	Rancho Los Alamitos
Mon. 26:		Winter "Recreation Connection" is published	
Sat. 31:		Halloween	

November

Mon. 2:		Winter Class Registration Begins	
Th. 5:	4 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	Scherer Park
Sat. 7:	Varies	New Swim Lesson Sessions Begin	Belmont Plaza Pool
	9 a.m.	Sugar Peach Festival (Crafts Fair)	El Dorado Park West
	10 a.m.	First Saturday Stewards Clean up Event	El Dorado Nature Center
	10 a.m.	Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	Ramona Park,
	1:30 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	Drake Park
Sun. 8:	8 a.m.	Audubon Bird Walk	El Dorado Nature Center
Tue. 10:	7 p.m.	**Family Nightlife Walk	El Dorado Nature Center
Th. 12:	2:30 p.m.	Marine Advisory Commission Meeting	Long Beach Yacht Club
Mon. 16:	Varies	New Swim Lesson Sessions Begin	Silverado Park Pool
Tue. 17:	Varies	New Swim Lesson Sessions Begin	King Park Pool
Wed. 18:	9 a.m.	Senior Citizen Advisory Commission	Long Beach Senior Center
Th. 19:	9 a.m.	Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting	El Dorado Park West
Sat. 21:	9 a.m.	**Kid's Fishing Derby	El Dorado Regional Park
	10 a.m.	Wetland Warrior Cleanup	Golden Shore Marine Reserve
	10 a.m.	Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	Arbor Park, 4665 Lampson Ave.
	1:30 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination and Licensing Clinic	Whaley Park
	7:30 p.m.	**Tellabration Storytelling Event	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 23:	Varies	Park Fun Day Programs	Community Parks
Tue. 24:	Varies	Park Fun Day Programs	Community Parks
Wed. 25:	Varies	Park Fun Day Programs	Community Parks
Th. 26:		Thanksgiving Holiday	
Fri. 27:		Thanksgiving Holiday	

**Call for registration and fee information.



Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine
 2760 Studebaker Road - Long Beach, Ca 90816-1697
 Phone: 562.570.3100 Fax: 562.570.3109

