

# We Create Community

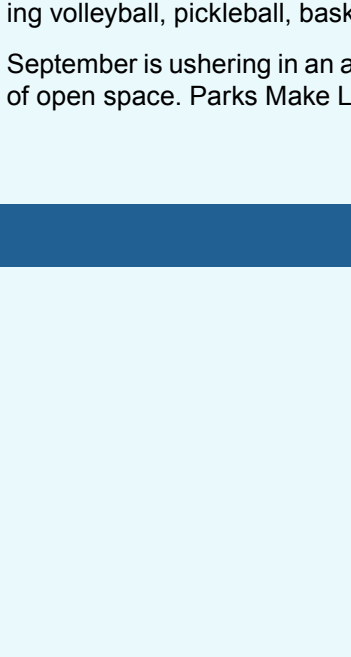


## Summer Fun for Kids Parks, Recreation and Marine Day Camp Jamboree



On August 12, Parks, Recreation and Marine's Community Recreation Services Bureau (CRS) staff brought the Day Camp Jamboree back after a two-year hiatus. More than 450 youth from 12 day camps enjoyed a fun day of water play, crafts, and games at the El Dorado Regional Park Golden Grove. The Jamboree kicked off with performances from each camp as Bailey, the LA Kings Mascot, and the crowd cheered each group on. The LA Kings added to the fun with their ball hockey set up, and giveaways. In addition to the fun activities, participants enjoyed pizza and shaved ice while listening and dancing to the DJ also provided by the LA Kings. This incredible day and free field trip for day camp participants was planned by the hard-working CRS Jamboree Committee.

### Director's Corner



As our Parks, Recreation, Marine and Animal Care Services (PRM) team shifts from summer to autumn, one constant has been 'budget season'. Should the proposed fiscal year 2023 budget and slate of capital improvement projects be approved this month by City Council, then our Department will launch into the new budget year that will begin on October 1st in a very good and welcomed position.

The department's proposed \$74 million operating budget contains structural budget enhancements for beautification efforts that include tree trimming, weed abatement, and water for irrigation. Investments in maintenance staffing, animal care medical services, and an array of customer service improvements could soon be on the way. An impressive half-decade of proposed infrastructure improvement projects includes approximately \$100 million for Parks, Recreation, Marine and Animal Care facilities.

The Summer of 2022 was a wonderful welcome back to normal for our Community Recreation Services team. Summer camps, movies in the parks, mobile recreation, and special events galore kept our parks activated in positive, fun-filled ways. As we said thank you and best wishes to our summer team, we welcomed new team members for fall and an expanded after school program.

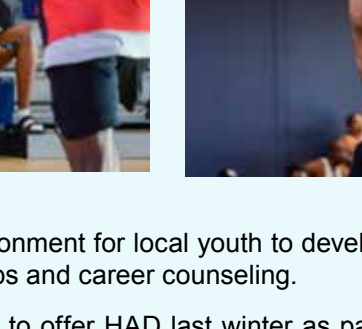
Great things have been happening at Long Beach Animal Care Services where our professional team and supportive volunteers have successfully placed over 1,140 animals in loving adoptive homes in the first three quarters of this calendar year. We are also pleased to have returned to our pre-pandemic levels of open adoption hours for the community to visit the facility. Efforts in support of fostering are seeing more animals placed off-site in family homes.

As PRM collaborates with the Long Beach Police Department and Health Department to improve the safety, cleanliness, and welcoming qualities of our parks, beaches, and recreation facilities, we are to receive additional resources and support to address encampments and the removal of trash and abandoned items. Park Safety Ambassadors will soon be activated in a second shift in the evenings to provide additional cleaning, repairs, and the locking of the free-standing restrooms in the 39 parks where they exist on a nightly basis. The securing of mini-park gates will be included in the team's nightly rounds.

Following the Labor Day holiday weekend, the two Wibit floating playgrounds will be disassembled and stored until next summer. The beaches and marinas saw a super busy summer season with an abundance of recreational activities including volleyball, pickleball, basketball, skating, biking, swimming, sailing, and boating.

September is ushering in an awesome autumn season. Enjoy the colorful change of seasons out in our 166 parks and acres of open space. Parks Make Long Beach...Parks Make Life Better!

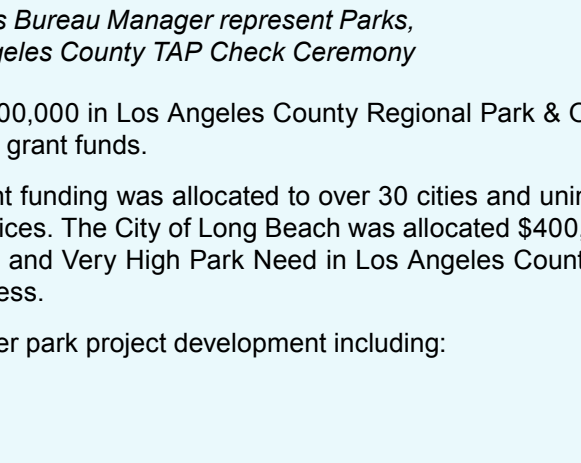
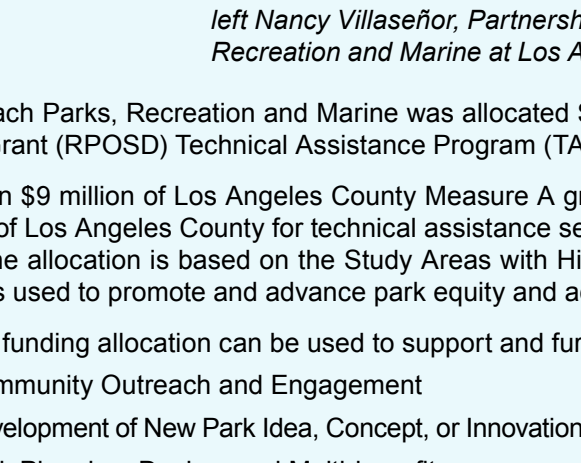
### Gallery News El Dorado Nature Center



Allison Allen, an artist specializing in African American quilting will display quilt and textile art in the Nature Center gallery this fall. Visit <https://kuumba421.wordpress.com/acta-ma2018> to see samples of her unique designs that feature bold colors, asymmetric designs, and applique.

For more information on the El Dorado Nature Center Gallery, call 562.570.1745.

### Hoops After Dark Enriches Lives of Young People



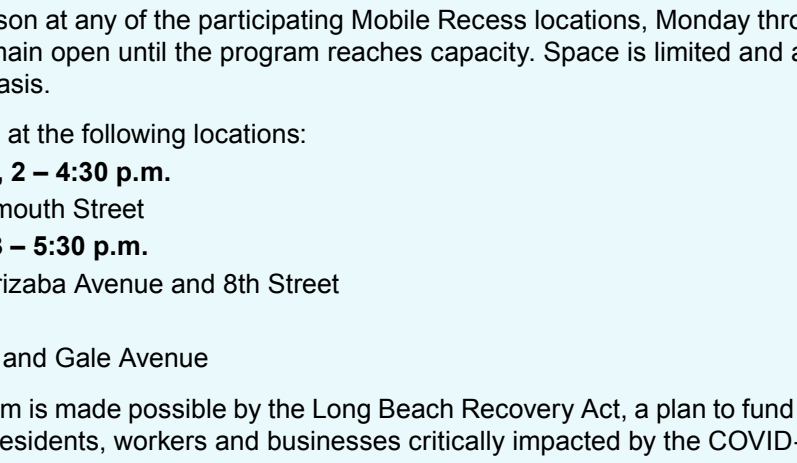
Hoops After Dark (HAD) provides a safe environment for local youth to develop athletic and leadership skills. HAD offers educational workshops that include mentorships and career counseling.

Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) moved to offer HAD last winter as part of the Long Beach Recovery Act (LBRA) funded public safety initiatives. Due to impacts from COVID-19 and water damage to the gym floor at the California Recreation Center at McBride Park, the program was cancelled.

This summer from August 8 through September 16, the Long Beach Salvation Army offered their Red Shield Gym as a location. Sixty players participated, forming six teams of 10 players. Trained coaches, referees, program and workshop coordinators and leaders, scorekeepers, videographers, and game announcers were provided through the nonprofit Partners of Parks.

The Long Beach Police Department has transferred approximately \$162,000 in LBRA funding to the PRM for two additional HAD seasons. These fall and winter seasons are expected to take place at California Recreation Center with its roof and gym floor repairs completed.

### TAP Grant to Support Park Development



Third from left: Elizabeth Norman, Grants Administrator and 4th from left Nancy Villasefor, Partnerships Bureau Manager represent Parks, Recreation and Marine at Los Angeles County TAP Check Ceremony

Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine was allocated \$400,000 in Los Angeles County Regional Park & Open Space District Grant (RPOS) Technical Assistance Program (TAP) grant funds.

More than \$9 million of Los Angeles County Measure A grant funding was allocated to over 30 cities and unincorporated portions of Los Angeles County for technical assistance services. The City of Long Beach was allocated \$400,000 of TAP funds. The allocation is based on the Study Areas with High and Very High Park Need in Los Angeles County. The TAP funding is used to promote and advance park equity and access.

The TAP funding allocation can be used to support and further park project development including:

- Community Outreach and Engagement
- Development of New Park Idea, Concept, or Innovation
- Park Planning, Design, and Multi-benefits
- Application and Grant Writing for Project Funding and Co-Funding

For more information, visit RPOS's website <https://rposd.lacounty.gov/TAP-resources/>.

### Free Mobile Recess Program for Youth This Fall



Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) will continue offering its Mobile Recess Program for youth through October 28.

The Mobile Recess Program allows for neighborhood streets to be blocked off so that youth may have a supervised safe space for play. PRM staff provide supplies and equipment to facilitate recreation activities for youth ages 5 through 14 (grades K-8), including activities such as physical fitness, games and arts and crafts.

People may register in person at any of the participating Mobile Recess locations, Monday through Friday, during program hours. Registration will remain open until the program reaches capacity. Space is limited and all sign-ups are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

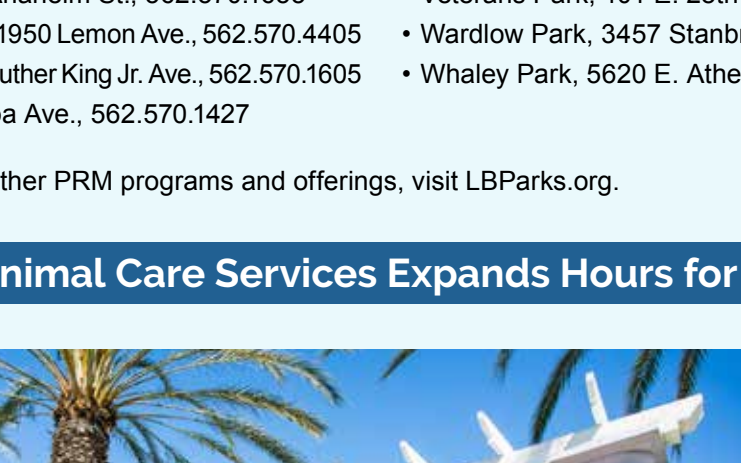
Mobile Recess will be held at the following locations:

- Monday and Wednesday, 2 – 4:30 p.m.**
  - Grace Park, 361 E. Plymouth Street
- Tuesday and Thursday, 3 – 5:30 p.m.**
  - Rose Park, corner of Orizaba Avenue and 8th Street
- Friday, 2 – 4:30 p.m.**
  - Hill Street, at Hill Street and Gale Avenue

The Mobile Recess Program is made possible by the Long Beach Recovery Act, a plan to fund economic and public health initiatives for Long Beach residents, workers and businesses critically impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

For additional information about the Mobile Recess Program and other activities for youth, people may visit LBParks.org, or call 562.570.3150.

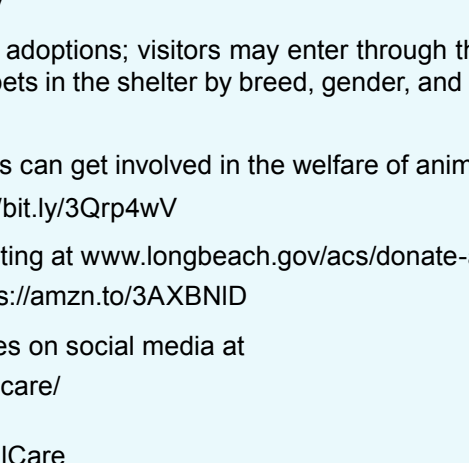
### Parks, Recreation and Marine Ends Summer With Concert By "Under Cover" Band



Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine's summer season concluded with a concert by the "Under Cover" band on August 26, at Marine Stadium. The event began at 5 p.m. with a Kid's Activity Zone followed by the concert at 6 p.m. Hundreds of people danced and sang along to the sounds of pop, funk, soul, rock, Top 40, Latin and more.

"The concert capped off a great summer of family fun," said Parks, Recreation and Marine Director Brent Dennis. "From free family events at Be SAFE recreation programs to Movies in the Park and performances from the Long Beach Municipal Band, Long Beach Community Band and ensembles at El Dorado Nature Center, it has been a memorable three months."

### Fall Adaptive Programs for Youth and Adults



The Youth ARISE (Adaptive Recreation in a Special Environment) program is an adaptive program for middle school- and high school-age participants featuring recreational and enrichment activities designed for youth with disabilities. The program will take place at Stearns Champions Park (4520 E. 23rd St.) from 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. on Saturdays beginning Sept. 3 through Dec. 17 (holidays excluded). The fee is \$4 per session.

ARISE for adults is an adaptive recreation program at Stearns Champions Park for individuals 18 and over. The program provides fun and enriching experiences such as art, games and fitness activities designed for people with disabilities. This program is offered weekdays from 2 to 5 p.m. through Dec. 30 (holidays excluded). The fee is \$15 per weekly session.

Registration for the ARISE Programs will be available in person at Stearns Champions Park by appointment only. Online registration is available on the PRM website. An in-take meeting is required for all new participants. Individuals may call 562.440.2867 for more information and to make a registration appointment.

Both programs will follow enhanced safety protocols for the health and safety of both participants and staff and include a 5:1 participant-to-staff ratio; spots are limited.

For more information about other PRM programs and offerings, visit LBParks.org.

### Parks, Recreation & Marine to Offer After-School Program for Youth



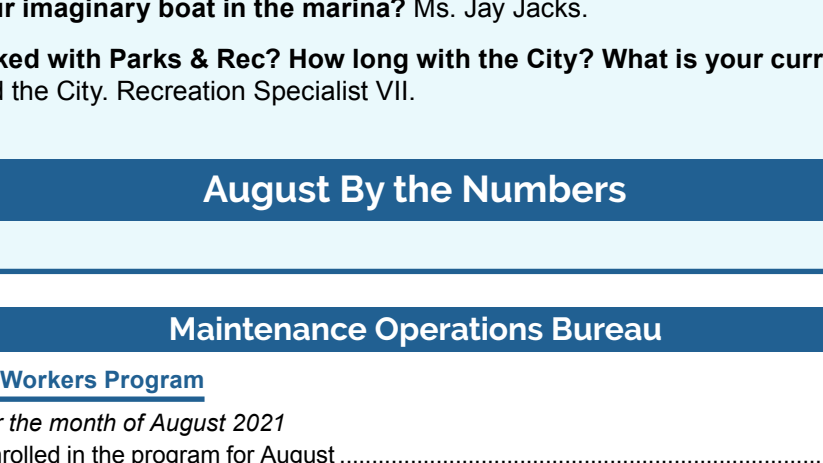
This fall, Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) will engage youth after school recreation programs for middle school and high school youth and adults, providing fun and enriching experiences such as art, games and fitness activities.

After-School Programs are for children ages 5 to 12 and will take place after-school, at varying times per location, on weekdays through December 23. This is a free drop-in program where registered participants may come and go as they please. Participants will receive homework assistance and enjoy enrichment activities and games. Pre-registration is required. To register, participants can visit the park of their choice. The after-school programs will take place at the following Long Beach parks:

- Bixby Park, 130 Cherry Ave., 562.570.1601
- Cesar E. Chavez Park, 401 Golden Ave., 562.570.8890
- College Estates Park, 808 Stevely Ave., 562.570.1617
- Coolidge Park, 352 E. Neece St., 562.570.1618
- Drake Park, 951 Maine Ave., 562.570.1625
- El Dorado Park West, 2800 N. Studebaker Rd., 562.570.3225
- Houghton Park, 6301 Myrtle Ave., 562.570.1640
- MacArthur Park, 1321 E. Anaheim St., 562.570.1655
- Martin Luther King Jr. Park, 1950 Lemon Ave., 562.570.4405
- McBride Park, 1550 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave., 562.570.1605
- Orizaba Park, 1435 Orizaba Ave., 562.570.1427
- Pan American Park, 5157 E. Centralia St., 562.570.3297
- Ramona Park, 3301 E. 65th St., 562.570.1665
- Secherer Park, 4600 Long Beach Blvd., 562.570.1674
- Seaside Park, 14th Street at Chestnut Ave., 562.570.1625
- Silverado Park, 1545 W. 31st St., 562.570.1675
- Somerset Park, 1500 E. Carson St., 562.570.1690
- Stearns Champions Park 4520 E. 23rd St., 562.440.2867
- Veterans Park, 101 E. 28th St., 562.570.1695
- Wardlow Park, 3457 Stanbridge Ave., 562.570.1705
- Whaley Park, 5620 E. Atherton St., 562.570.1710

For more information about other PRM programs and offerings, visit LBParks.org.

### Long Beach Animal Care Services Expands Hours for Pet Adoptions



Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS) has expanded its adoption hours, extending its weekday operating hours in the mornings and afternoons and opening one-hour earlier on Saturdays and Sundays. The public is invited to celebrate this expansion by visiting LBACS and browsing the adoptable animals during the longer operating hours.

Those interested in adopting a pet can now visit LBACS, located at 7700 W. Spring St., on the following dates and times:

- 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. – Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
- 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. – Saturday and Sunday

Appointments are no longer required for adoptions; visitors may enter through the Animal Admissions entrance. Long Beach adopters can also search for adoptable pets in the shelter by breed, gender, and size and apply online at <https://www.longbeach.gov/acs/pets/adoptions/>

There are many other ways that residents can get involved in the welfare of animals:

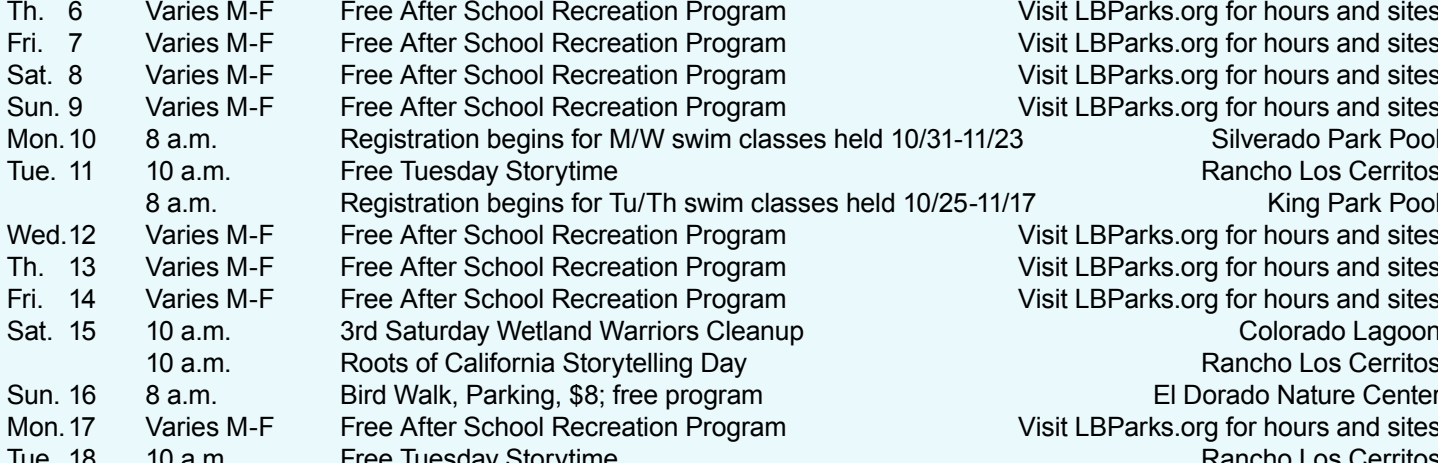
- Make a monetary donation at: <https://bit.ly/3Qrp4wV>
- Learn more about fostering and adopting at <https://www.longbeach.gov/acs/donate-and-volunteer/volunteer-team/>
- Donate supplies to the shelter at <https://amzn.to/3AXBNID>

Follow Long Beach Animal Care Services on social media at

- <https://www.instagram.com/lbanimalcare/>
- <https://twitter.com/LBAnimalCare>
- <https://www.facebook.com/LBAnimalCare>

For more information about LBACS is available at [longbeach.gov/acs](https://www.longbeach.gov/acs).

### Maintenance Operations Restores Headstones at Sunnyside Cemetery

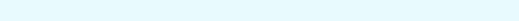


The Facility Maintenance staff responded to reported vandalism issues at Sunnyside Cemetery on August 22, after several headstones had been pushed over the previous evening. Staff worked to right the stones and restore dignity to this historic place.

Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) took over the maintenance of the long neglected site in 2019. Ground Maintenance restored the turf by converting manual irrigation valves to automated valves, converted all irrigation heads from above ground to below ground pop up sprinklers, programmed a watering schedule to promote healthy turf recovery and dealt with gopher control through our landscape contractor.

Many Long Beach residents have found their final resting place at Sunnyside Cemetery and their families are appreciative of the maintenance and conservation efforts that are now ongoing.

### Congratulations July Employee of the Month Jamilah Ragland



Congratulations to Jamilah Ragland on being named the Employee of the Month for July. Jamilah is a Recreation Leader Specialist at Martin Luther King Jr. Park.

**What do you like to do in your free time?** I have recently lost 140lbs, so working out with my trainer at Stearns Champions Park is how I spend my free time.

**What's your biggest work achievement so far?** Having the type of leadership to train staff effectively to be able to progress within Parks and Recreations or within the City of Long Beach. We have four staff that were just hired as coordinators this year, and that does not include one that worked for the Vice Mayor of Long Beach and is now continuing such efforts working for another councilman.

**What's your own advice that you always follow?** Being an active listener. We can learn a lot about ourselves and others if we took the time to listen.

**What's one small thing that makes you day better?** A child's smile. I could have had the worst morning in the world, but once a child approaches me with "Hi Ms. Jay" and a warm smile it automatically places me in a brighter mood.

**Who inspires you?** Returning seasonal participants. Seeing participants return to our seasonal camps who do not participate in our after school program is always rewarding because that signifies the impact I have had on them to remember to return to my camp when they are out of school for holidays and summer.

**What are you famous for at work?** My patient nature. I have the patience to talk and calm down an adult and a child in the most difficult situations.

**What song is always in your head when you're working?** Beyoncé: "Break My Soul", the main verse is "You won't break my soul", because no matter what is going on at work it will not break my spirits or my joy.

**If you could have a superpower, what would it be?** It would be to multiply so I can be at several places at once.

**Who would play you in a movie of your life?** Angela Bassett.

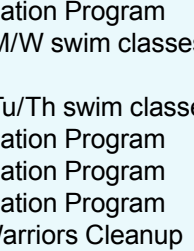
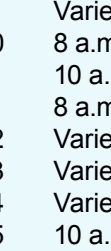
**Using one word, how would you describe your family?** Team.

**Who would rather be the best player on a horrible team or the worst player on a great team?** The best player on a horrible team. Everyone has greatness within them, and with a great leader you can bring that greatness out of anyone which will eventually create a strong team overall!

**What is the name of your imaginary boat in the marina?** Ms. Jay Jacks.

**How long have you worked with Parks & Rec? How long with the City? What is your current title?** Eleven years for Parks and Recreation and the City, Recreation Specialist VII.

Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine  
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