

We Create Community

CITY OF LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION
& MARINE

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ISSUE 11

DAVENPORT PARK EXPANSION PROJECT RIBBON CUTTING



MAYOR REX RICHARDSON (CENTER LEFT) AND COUNCILMAN AL AUSTIN (CENTER RIGHT) CELEBRATE THE RIBBON CUTTING OF THE DAVENPORT PARK EXPANSION WITH CITY OF LONG BEACH STAFF AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS.

The community joined Mayor Rex Richardson, Councilman Al Austin, and staff from the Departments of Parks, Recreation and Marine and Public Works to participate in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Davenport Park Expansion project on November 12.

The project expanded the existing 5.5-acre park to 11.5 acres, and includes a multi-use sports field, fitness

stations, outdoor seating areas, site furnishings, a walking trail, and additional parking. Other amenities include shaded picnic areas and drought-tolerant landscaping with updated lighting, bike racks and a connecting path to the existing Davenport Park.

The project was made possible by a \$3.7 million grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund, \$1.2 million from park impact fees, \$1.7 million from Measure A, and \$3.5 from Measure A Bonds.

Director's Corner

BRENT DENNIS, DIRECTOR, LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE



November brings many great events and reasons to celebrate community across Long Beach. Many of our park community centers were busy leading up to Election Day with ballot drop

boxes and active in-person voting on a day that is recognized by the City of Long Beach as an official holiday. Beach Streets Uptown occurred on Saturday, November 9 in tandem with the Veterans Day Parade. Houghton Park, Michelle Obama Library and the recently upgraded Artesia Blvd. were the three activity nodes that Beach Streets linked. A team of 20+ Community Recreation Services staff provided fun activities at the Doris Topsy-Elvord Community Center in Houghton Park where the Vietnam Veterans Helicopter and Memorial Plaza provided a meaningful place to honor and remember those service members who have served the United States in all branches of the military.

Other notable November events included the popular Fishing Derby at El Dorado Regional Park on Saturday, November 16, and the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday. We have so much to be thankful for this year.

The exciting new vision plan for Scherer Park that was approved by the Parks and Recreation Commission earlier this year, will be presented for support to the Long Beach City Council on Tuesday, November 19. The community engagement and outreach coordinated by our Park Planning and Partnerships Bureau team with consultant support by City Fabrick became the basis for the updated master plan for this beloved Council District 8 park. Hundreds of neighbors to the park participated in the process to share their voices and ideas for a park to better meet their active and passive recreational needs and desires. The new vision plan for Scherer Park is another great accomplishment for Councilman Al Austin as he concludes his third term of leadership and public service over the past twelve years.

Another great moment in the life of Council District 8 and the leadership legacy of Councilmember Austin, was the ribbon-cutting for improvements to Davenport Park. The park doubled in size after the development of a major sports field, walking trail and exercise equipment and enhanced parking and landscaping, all bring welcomed additional park space and recreational amenities to the community. The project marks another great collaborative effort between our Department and Public Works.

Late November will usher in the Long Beach holiday tradition of Trees on the Bay with 68 LED illuminated trees popping up in highly visible waterfront and park locations. Ten of the trees this year will be solar-powered, an innovative enhancement to the popular holiday display introduced by the Marine Bureau. Our Parks, Recreation, Marine, and Animal Care Services team continues to be dedicated to working diligently every day to deliver clean, safe, welcoming and beautiful parks, beaches, and recreational areas for the community to enjoy, especially during the holiday seasons. Parks Make Life Better and Parks Make Long Beach! Have a FUNtastic November!

**Parks
Make
Life
Better!**

LINDA RUBIO, PRM CLERK TYPIST I NAMED CITY-WIDE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Linda works in the PRM Registration and Reservations Office where she provides excellent customer service to customers seeking picnic permits or facilities reservations. She patiently explains permit application processes and always has a smile on her face. Many customers ask for her by name when they need assistance. She is an incredible team player and is relied upon to train new staff. PRM is thankful to have her on their team and happy that she is getting the recognition she so well deserves.



OCTOBER CAPPED TWO LEGGED AND FOUR LEGGED FRIENDS HALLOWEEN EVENTS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY



Parks, Recreation and Marine held family friendly Halloween events during the month of October.



The El Dorado Nature Center's Howl-o-ween Festival on October 19 provided opportunities for kids and families to trick or treat along the trails, visit animal displays, hear spine tingling stories, and get into the Halloween spirit. The event also featured the Ohhh-possum Patch moon bounce, food trucks and seeing guests decked out in their Howl-o-ween finest.

Silverado Park's Neighborhood Halloween Carnival on October 31 was a Neighbor-To-Neighbor event that is part of a California Volunteers Network Program, sponsored by the State of California Governor's Office of Planning and Research and Long Beach Office of Sustainability to help strengthen communities by bringing neighbors together. Attendees enjoyed carnival games, crafts cookie decorating, costume contests, a cake walk and more.

Long Beach Animal Care Services held a month long adoption event, Take Home Your New BOO! during the month of October. This Adoption event at Long Beach Animal Care Services ran through Thursday, October 31 with reduced adoption fees of \$13 for any long-stay animals (over 30 days).

SIGN UP FOR SPORTS, FITNESS, ARTS AND MORE WINTER CLASS REGISTRATION GOING ON NOW

Registration for new and existing recreation classes offered by the City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) is going on now.

PRM is offering over 600 activities taking place throughout the city. Enjoy special interest subjects as well as classes in arts, music, nature, fitness, sports leagues and more available to residents ranging from Preschool and Adults 50+. Classes offerings include:

PRESCHOOL

Preschool Cake Design (2 years, 6 months to 5 years old)
Biddy Soccer League (ages 2 to 3 years)
Parent & Me Soccer (ages 2 years to 3 years, 6 months old)

YOUTH

Jazz Tap (ages 9 to 17 years)
Build a Beat (ages 5 to 6 years)
Beginning Karate (ages 5 to 6 years)

ADULTS

Ceramics Workshop (ages 16 years and up)
Argentine Tango (ages 18 years and up)
Cardio Kickboxing Fusion (ages 16 years and up)

OLDER ADULTS

Senior Line Dancing (ages 50 years and up)
Gentle Yoga (ages 50 years and up)
Zumba® Gold (ages 50 years and up)

Residents can register for classes by visiting lbparks.org and clicking on "Online Registration" under "LB RecConnect," by calling 562.570.3111, or by visiting the Registration Reservations Office (2760 Studebaker Rd.), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Long Beach Parks, Recreation, Marine and Animal Care Services

SHOP LOCAL TO SUPPORT LONG BEACH PRM

Visit Rancho Los Alamitos, Rancho Los Cerritos and the El Dorado Nature Center's Gift Shops to purchase a variety of gifts.

Shop for nature and educational books for children and adults, ceramic candles, finger puppets, stuffed animals, t-shirts, cards and stationary and much more.

How about an Annual Parking Pass for the Regional Park that can be purchased at the Nature Center or El Dorado Park West Administration office?

<p>El Dorado Park West 2760 Studebaker Rd (562) 570-3100 Mon-Fri 8 a.m-5 p.m.</p> <p>Nature Center 7550 E Spring Street Long Beach, CA 90815 (562) 570-1745 Tues-Sun 8:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.</p>	<p>Rancho Los Cerritos 4600 N Virginia Road (562) 206-2040 Wed-Sun 1-5 p.m. Saturday, 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.</p> <p>Rancho Los Alamitos 6400 E Bixby Hill Road (562) 431-3541 Wed-Sun 1-5 p.m.</p>	<p>El Dorado Regional Park Annual Parking Pass: Ranging from \$40-65 and must be purchased in person at El Dorado Nature Center or El Dorado Park West Administration office 2760 Studebaker Rd Cash, Credit Card, Check accepted</p>
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PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE HOSTING JOB FAIRS FOR RECREATION POSITIONS

Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) will host upcoming job fairs where PRM staff



will share information on current and upcoming job openings for Recreation Program Leaders.

Job fairs will take place:

Saturday, Nov. 16, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Martin Luther King Jr Park (1950 Lemon Ave.)

Tuesday, Dec. 10, 6-8 p.m., Whaley Park (5620 E. Atherton St.)

Saturday, Jan. 18, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m., Houghton Park, (6301 Myrtle Ave.)

The job fairs will include information on a wide range of PRM programs that are currently hiring or will start hiring soon within the Community Recreation Services Bureau. These programs include Day Camps, Youth Sports, Older Adults, Teens, and Mobile Recreation.

Applicants can view information about the positions and complete an application at <https://www.longbeach.gov/park/about-us/job-opportunities/>. Those interested in job opportunities are encouraged to come by and meet PRM supervisors and staff and learn what a day in the life of a Long Beach Recreation Leader is like.

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR EVENT WHOVILLE WINTER VILLAGE

The Whoville Winter Village is a Neighbor-To-Neighbor event that is part of a California Volunteers Network Program,

sponsored by the California Governor's Office of Planning and Research and the Long Beach Office of Sustainability. These events empower Californians to strengthen communities by bringing neighbors together. Bring your family and friends to the Whoville Winter Village on Saturday, December 14 from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. at Silverado Park. Enjoy carnival games, crafts, cookie decorating, face painting, balloon twisting, family recreation games, pictures with Santa and The Grinch, enjoy snow falling while sledding down a snow hill, and more. For more information, call 562.570.1675.



LONG BEACH ANIMAL CARE SERVICES HELPS ORGANIZE THIRD ANNUAL PET FAIR

The Third Annual Long Beach Pet Fair was held on October 19 and 20 at Marina Green Park. The event organized by



The Little Lion Foundation, The Cat Cove, and Long Beach Animal Care Services (LBACS), brought pet lovers, families, and local organizations together to promote pet care and the adoption of rescue and shelter animals.

Attendees enjoyed live demonstrations from the Long Beach Police Department's K-9 unit, dog agility courses, live music, vendors and workshops on pet nutrition, grooming, behavior training, and the benefits of spaying and neutering. Hundreds of adoptable animals were available for the public to meet. A total of 28 animal adoptions were made between LBACS and the partner agencies.

The event underscored the importance of collaboration among residents, businesses, and animal welfare organizations in creating a better future for pets in Long Beach.

EL DORADO NATURE CENTER ANNUAL CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SALE

Long Beach Parks, Recreation and Marine (PRM) will continue their annual California Native Plant Sale on

Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays through November 26 at El Dorado Nature Center (7550 E. Spring St.). The plant sale will feature hundreds of beautiful and beneficial native plants to enhance gardens, patios or balconies and increase habitat for wildlife.

Plant sale patrons can expect an easy shopping experience by completing the following steps:

- Download the plant order form.
- Complete the form in advance by checking the desired type and quantity of plants.
- Drive order fulfillment line between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays through Nov. 26.
- Staff will collect the order form and load the plants into the shopper's vehicle.
- Payment will be collected at the time plants are received.



Proceeds from the California Native Plant Sale will benefit Friends of El Dorado Nature Center, an affiliate of the non-profit Partners of Parks, a group that works to cultivate respect, understanding and stewardship of the natural world.

For more information, people may call 562.570.1745, or visit the El Dorado Nature Center webpage.

Parks, Recreation & Marine Department **STRATEGIC PLAN**

The Department's Strategic Plan will guide the operational, staffing and budget decisions from 2024 to 2032 and serve as a tool to adapt park services as the community's needs evolve. Visit <https://bit.ly/3x2L22R> to learn more.

#PARKSMAKELB

CONGRATULATIONS AUGUST EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH DR. LILIA ENCISO

Congratulations to Dr. Lilia Enciso, named the Employee of the Month for August 2024.

Lilia serves on the medical staff at Long Beach Animal Care Services where she cares for the multitude of pets that arrive each week. While she helps all types of wildlife, she is known for her skill fostering neonate kittens-newborn to four weeks old- and often bottle feeds

them every two hours throughout the night, because no foster or rescue could take them.

Her fellow staff describe her as thoughtful and kind. When she hears that a colleague has made an achievement, she makes special key chains for them to congratulate them.

She is an example for all LBACS staff in her dedication to the Bureau's mission to protect shelter animals by creating an environment of care.



CONGRATULATIONS SEPTEMBER EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH CHRISTOPHER KRUGER

Chris Kruger is the Employee of the Month for September 2024.

Chris began working for Parks, Recreation and Marine in 2022 as a gate attendant at El Dorado East Regional Park and Nature Center. He quickly distinguished himself as a responsible, hard worker. He took on new duties and trained to become the park's gate lead last year. Chris is always friendly and helpful to patrons and staff and is an excellent representative for our Department.

He is always quick to support coworkers, and seeks extra projects when time allows. He recently created a temporary fix to outdated directional signage until the new permanent sign could be installed. This prevented potentially unsafe situations caused by patrons driving the wrong way.

He also removed one of the Nature Center's turtle platforms from the lake for refurbishment. Chris is a beloved and valuable member of our team at El Dorado East Regional Park and Nature Center.





Free Winter Fun Days

AGES 5 TO 12

Free supervised games, crafts, sports tournaments, and holiday celebrations offered Dec. 23, 2024, - Jan. 3, 2025, Mon.-Fri. from noon - 5 p.m. No program on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1. Youth may come and go at their own discretion. Onsite registration is required to participate.

FUN DAYS AT THESE PARK LOCATIONS:

<p>BIXBY PARK 130 Cherry Ave. 562.570.1601</p> <p>CESAR E. CHAVEZ PARK 401 Golden Ave. 562.570.8890</p> <p>COLLEGE ESTATES PARK 808 Stevely Ave. 562.570.1617</p> <p>COOLIDGE PARK 352 E. Neece St. 562.570.1618</p> <p>DRAKE PARK 951 Maine Ave. 562.570.1625</p>	<p>EL DORADO PARK WEST 2800 N. Studebaker Rd. 562.570.3225</p> <p>HOUGHTON PARK 6301 Myrtle Ave. 562.570.1640</p> <p>MACARTHUR PARK 1321 E. Anaheim St. 562.570.1655</p> <p>MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PARK 1950 Lemon Ave. 562.570.4405</p> <p>MCBRIDE PARK 1550 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. 562.570.1605</p> <p>ORIZABA PARK 1435 Orizaba Ave. 562.570.1427</p>	<p>PAN AMERICAN PARK 5157 E. Centralia St. 562.570.1662</p> <p>RAMONA PARK 3301 E. 65th St. 562.570.1665</p> <p>SCHERER PARK 4600 Long Beach Blvd. 562.570.1674</p> <p>SEASIDE PARK 14th Street at Chestnut Ave. 562.570.5162</p> <p>SILVERADO PARK 1545 W. 31st St. 562.570.1675</p> <p>SOMERSET PARK 1500 E. Carson St. 562.570.1690</p>	<p>STEARNS CHAMPIONS PARK 4520 E. 23rd St. 562.570.1685</p> <p>VETERANS PARK 101 E. 28th St. 562.570.1695</p> <p>WARDLOW PARK 3457 Stanbridge Ave. 562.570.1705</p> <p>WHALEY PARK 5620 E. Atherton St. 562.570.1710</p>
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For more information, visit www.longbeach.gov/park/recreation-programs/youth-programs/winter-fun-days/

NOVEMBER 2024 CALENDAR

Sat. 16	10 a.m. - noon	3 rd Sat. Wetland Warrior Cleanup. Register at 562.570.1745	Jack Dunster Reserve
Sun. 17	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	California Native Plant Sale	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 18	10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination Clinic. Call 562.570.7387	Long Beach Animal Care Svcs
Tue. 19	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	California Native Plant Sale	El Dorado Nature Center
Wed. 20	2:30 - 5:30 p.m. 3 - 6 p.m.	Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site. Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site.	Visit LBParks.org for sites Visit LBParks.org for sites
Th. 21	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	California Native Plant Sale	El Dorado Nature Center
Fri. 22	2:30 - 5:30 p.m. 3 - 6 p.m.	Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site. Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site.	Visit LBParks.org for sites Visit LBParks.org for sites
Sat. 23	9 - 10 a.m.	4 th Sat. Regional Park Cleanup Register at 562.570.1745	El Dorado Regional Park
Sun. 4	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	California Native Plant Sale	El Dorado Nature Center
Mon. 25	10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination Clinic. Call 562.570.7387	Long Beach Animal Care Svcs
Tue. 26	10 a.m. - 1 p.m.	California Native Plant Sale	El Dorado Nature Center
Wed. 27	2:30 - 5:30 p.m. 3 - 6 p.m.	Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site. Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site.	Visit LBParks.org for sites Visit LBParks.org for sites
Th. 28		Thanksgiving Holiday	
Fri. 29		Thanksgiving Holiday	
Sat. 30	2 - 4 p.m.	Free West African Dance Class	Homeland Cultural Center

DECEMBER 2024 CALENDAR

Mon. 2	2:30-5:30 p.m. 3-6 p.m.	Free Afterschool program Register on site. Free Afterschool program Register on site.	Visit LBParks.org for sites Visit LBParks.org for sites
Tue. 3	10 - 10:30 a.m.	Children's Tuesday Storytime Free	Rancho Los Cerritos
Wed. 4		Youth Basketball League Registration Begins	Register at teamsideline.com/longbeach
Th. 5	3-7 p.m.	Teen Centers open M-F, 3-7 p.m.	Visit LBParks.org for sites
Fri. 6	10 a.m. - noon	1 st Saturday Stewarts Cleanup	El Dorado Nature Ctr
Mon. 9	10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination Clinic. Call 562.570.7387	Long Beach Animal Care Svcs
Tue. 10	2:30-5:30 p.m. 3-6 p.m.	Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site. Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site.	Visit LBParks.org for sites Visit LBParks.org for sites
Wed. 11	2:30-5:30 p.m. 3-6 p.m.	Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site. Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site.	Visit LBParks.org for sites Visit LBParks.org for sites
Th. 12	8-9:30 a.m.	Bird Walk Free.	Rancho Los Cerritos
Fri. 13	10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination Clinic. Call 562.570.7387	Long Beach Animal Care Svcs
Mon. 16	10 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Low Cost Vaccination Clinic. Call 562.570.7387	Long Beach Animal Care Svcs
Tue. 17	2:30-5:30 p.m. 3-6 p.m.	Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site. Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site.	Visit LBParks.org for sites Visit LBParks.org for sites
Wed. 18	2:30-5:30 p.m. 3-6 p.m.	Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site. Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site.	Visit LBParks.org for sites Visit LBParks.org for sites
Th. 19	2:30-5:30 p.m. 3-6 p.m.	Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site. Free Afterschool program (ages 5-12) Register on site.	Visit LBParks.org for sites Visit LBParks.org for sites
Fri. 20	10 a.m. - noon	Wetland Warrior Cleanup	Jack Dunster Marine Reserve
Sat. 21		Winter Solstice	
Mon. 23	Noon - 5 p.m.	Free Winter Break Fun Days for Ages 5-12	Visit LBParks.org for sites
Tue. 24	Noon-6 p.m.	Winter Break Teen Center hours	Visit LBParks.org for sites
Wed. 25		Christmas	
Th. 26	Noon - 5 p.m.	Free Winter Break Fun Days for Ages 5-12	Visit LBParks.org for sites
Fri. 27	Noon - 5 p.m.	Free Winter Break Fun Days for Ages 5-12	Visit LBParks.org for sites
Sat. 28	8 a.m.	Register for Sat. swim lessons from 1/11 - 3/1	Belmont Plaza Pool
Mon. 30	Noon - 5 p.m.	Free Winter Break Fun Days for Ages 5-12	Visit LBParks.org for sites
Tue. 31		New Year's Eve	

LONG BEACH PARKS, RECREATION & MARINE

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