

LONG BEACH
BUSINESS JOURNAL

An edition of the Long Beach Post



Brandon Richardson / Business Journal

Nick Worthington’s shadow is cast over an iconic photo of his grandfather, Cal, and his “dog, Spot” inside the family’s recently sold Long Beach car dealership.

Worthington Ford sunsets 49-year Long Beach legacy

By Kat Schuster

“If you need a better car, go see Cal,” are a few lyrics to a jingle that’s likely still burned into memories en masse. The iconic automotive dealer Cal

Worthington died at 92 in 2013, and now his family marks the end of a five-decade era after finalizing the sale of the dealership at the end of February. It’s where many of Worthington’s zany (and convincing) commercials were filmed beneath the

“Worthington Ford Long Beach” sign. About 30 years ago, Nick Worthington remembers “awed and confused” reactions from his third-grade class when his grandfather presented his famous “My Dog Spot” commercials on career day (note: Spot was never a dog).

Recently, Nick said he showed them to his marketing class at Cal State Long Beach.

“They were equally awed and confused, so that feeling continues to this day,” Worthington told the Long Beach Business Journal, chuckling, as he remembered his grandfather.

“We’ve been in the news a bit lately,” said Nick while serving as Worthington Ford’s president for a few more days before it closed to transition to new ownership under another

family-owned dealership chain.

The shop officially closed as Worthington Ford on Feb. 27.

“Long Beach has been synonymous with the family name longer than I’ve been alive,” he said.

Many of the employees have worked at the Long Beach shop longer than he has.

What made Worthington a national, albeit offbeat, sensation were his wacky commercials in which a Stetson-sporting Cal—looking like he walked right off the set of “Dallas”—introduced a cast of animals from a tiger to a hippopotamus and beyond as “My Dog Spot,” drawing viewers off the couch and onto his lot.

“Worthington Ford in Long Beach—open every day ‘till midnight!” Those commercials, which poked

Continued on page 10

LONG BEACH
BUSINESS JOURNAL
211 E. Ocean Blvd., Ste. 400
Long Beach, CA 90802

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Los Angeles, CA
PERMIT NO. 447

City seeks \$50M loan for affordable housing project3

First-ever (almost) fully 3D-printed rocket to take flight3

Century Villages, United Cambodian Community get community health grants4

DLBA continues restructuring, filling old and new positions4

Bar Envie brings frog legs and absinthe to the Zaferia district ...5

The white founder of Black Restaurant Week said the N-word. What should be done?.....6

Contract negotiations for dockworkers across the West Coast continue8

LGB passenger volumes bounced back in January, but still fell short of pre-pandemic levels8

Vast Space triples Long Beach workforce9

May opening planned for bike path honoring cycling advocate Mark Bixby11

LBUSD Teachers rally as contract negotiations drag on12

CAMEO mentoring program to host annual March fashion show fundraiser12

Chuze Fitness project set to take over shuttered Food 4 Less 13

Long Beach Airport’s historic terminal closes temporarily for year-long, \$18M renovation 13

California Heights seeks to become official business improvement district 16

LGBTQ chorus South Coast Chorale to perform ‘Oliver Button is a Sissy’ March 1117

New deputy mayor tapped for economic development17

More than 43% of homes for sale in Long Beach are listed over \$1M..... 19

Virtual Topgolf suites opens in Downtown 20

After scrubbing plans for LA Fitness, a new luxury gym is coming to Marina Pacifica 20

Long Beach Health Department to launch community crisis response team21

A dozen Bigbelly trash stations are coming to Second Street despite some resident opposition22

What bills are Long Beach’s state legislators working on?24

Construction of racetrack begins for 48th annual Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach25

SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

LBBJ.com/subscribe

Subscriptions: (562) 553-3391
subscriptions@lbbj.com
Editorial: (562) 655-7678
editor@LBBJ.com
Advertising: (562) 912-0161
info@LBBJ.com

Long Beach Business Journal
211 E. Ocean Blvd., Ste. 400
Long Beach, CA 90802

Editorial Deadline:
Two weeks prior to publication. Email press releases to editor@lbbj.com.
Advertising Deadline:
Wednesday prior to publication.
See editorial calendar at
lbbusinessjournal.com/advertise.

Facebook LongBeachBusinessJournal

Twitter LBBizJourn

Instagram LBBusinessJournal

Publisher David Sommers // Editor Hayley Munguia // Advertising Director Andrea Estrada // Visuals Editor Brandon Richardson // Assistant Editor Kat Schuster // Columnist Tim Grobaty // Reporters Laura Anaya-Morga, Fernando Haro Garcia, Cheantay Jensen, Tess Kazenoff, Brandon Richardson, Alicia Robinson, Jason Ruiz, Jackie Rae // Lead Graphic Designer Candice Wong // Graphic Designer Chanel Villanueva // Publisher Emeritus George Economides

The Long Beach Business Journal is a publication of Pacific Community Media. The Business Journal is published every other Tuesday. Reproduction in whole or in part without written permission is strictly prohibited unless otherwise stated. Opinions expressed by perspective writers and guest columnists are not necessarily the views of the Long Beach Business Journal.



monday morning coffee

&

Biz Brief

FREE email newsletters about issues, events and meetings for the week.

Monday Morning Coffee is sent out at 7 a.m., and BizBrief is news of the day, sent out Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

City seeks \$50M loan for affordable housing project

By Jason Ruiz

The First Lutheran School near St. Mary Medical Center in Long Beach could be demolished and turned into a 100-unit affordable housing project if the city’s application for a \$50 million state loan to finance it is approved.

Long Beach City Councilmembers will vote March 7 on whether to allow the city to apply for the loan with AMCAL Multi-Housing Inc., the developer that agreed to purchase the land where the school sits at the corner of Linden Avenue and 10th Street.

AMCAL is proposing to knock down the First Lutheran School and build a four-story, 100-unit project in its place. All of the units would be reserved for extremely low and low-income households, with the exception of one manager’s unit located on the property, according to city documents.

The project would include a mix of one-, two- and three-bedroom units and would be accompanied by 125 underground parking spaces. The development would include amenities like a gym, a computer center, a children’s playground and a community room. The units would be reserved for families making 60% of the area median income, according to city documents. The median income for a family of four in Los Angeles County is \$71,460.

Rick De La Torre, a spokesperson for the city’s Development Services Department, said that if the funding is approved, it would put AMCAL in a good position to apply for the “gap funding” it would need to complete the project. De La Torre said construction could begin as soon as December 2024.

The project would become the second affordable housing project that AMCAL has built in Long Beach. AMCAL also built the 102-



Thomas R. Cordova / Business Journal

The First Lutheran School building on Linden Ave. could be demolished to make way for 100 affordable units.

unit Las Ventanas project on Pacific Coast Highway and Long Beach Boulevard, in addition to numerous other projects in Los Angeles.

The \$50 million loan is being requested from the state’s Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities program, which is intended to finance projects that would lower greenhouse gas

emissions and benefit disadvantaged communities.

That can be done by building new affordable housing near mass transit options like this project, which is in an underserved community located two blocks east of the Metro A Line.

But according to city staff, only \$35 million of the \$50 million loan would be dedicated to financing

Continued on page 6

First-ever (almost) fully 3D-printed rocket to take flight

By Brandon Richardson

The first rocket manufactured almost exclusively using 3D-printing technology will attempt to reach outer space in early March, marking a major milestone for Long Beach-based Relativity Space.

Manufactured at the firm’s Long Beach headquarters, Relativity’s 110-foot-tall, 7.5-foot-wide Terran 1 launch vehicle is the largest 3D-printed object to exist, according to the company, and when the launch window for the company’s first mission opens March 8, it will become the largest object to attempt orbital flight.

“Seven years ago, I remember at Y Combinator our mentor Sam Altman told us we were absolutely crazy for trying to simultaneously invent a brand new manufacturing technology and an orbital rocket, which is already super hard,” founder Tim Ellis tweeted last week. “Now we are on the launch pad almost ready to go with the world’s first 3D printed rocket.”

While the company has a goal of its Terran 1 rocket to be 95% 3D

printed, the first iteration is 85% 3D printed by mass, according to the company. The rocket’s structure and engines are entirely 3D printed, but other components are not yet produced in-house by the company.

The two-stage rocket cannot be 100% 3D printed, as certain components such as wiring do not lend themselves to being printed.

Dubbed “Good Luck, Have Fun,” the mission will not be carrying a customer payload, according to the company’s website. In future missions, the company’s target performance capability is to be able to deliver a payload of up to 2,756 pounds to orbit 310 miles above the Earth’s surface.

The mission is slated to take off as early as 1 p.m. EST from Launch Complex 16 in Cape Canaveral, Florida.

“It’s been a truly wild ride to get to this point, and certainly way harder than I ever imagined going into it – but all the feels from me and our team as we embark on this historic launch,” Ellis wrote. “There is a very bright future ahead for Relativity Space. (And for what it’s worth, Sam says he’s a big fan now.)” ■



Trevor Mahlmann for Relativity Space

Relativity Space’s Terran 1 rocket sits on the pad at Launch Complex 16 in Cape Canaveral, Florida.



NEED A GREAT DOCTOR?

Check out our website to find a doctor in your area...

www.ProHealthPartners.com

prohealth PARTNERS
A Medical Group, Inc.

Century Villages, United Cambodian Community get community health grants

By Tess Kazenoff

St. Mary Medical Center recently announced this year's recipients of its community health improvement grant program, an initiative meant to improve the well-being of local underserved populations.

Century Villages at Cabrillo, an organization that focuses on building and supporting affordable housing, was awarded \$97,000, and the United Cambodian Community, which provides culturally competent social services meant to uplift Long Beach's Cambodian residents, received \$96,000.

The community grant program, facilitated by CommonSpirit Health and Dignity Health, is funded by Dignity Health hospitals across California, as well as some locations in Arizona and Nevada, according to community health director Kit Katz.

"At a system level, we're just one hospital in a big world," Katz said. "We need community

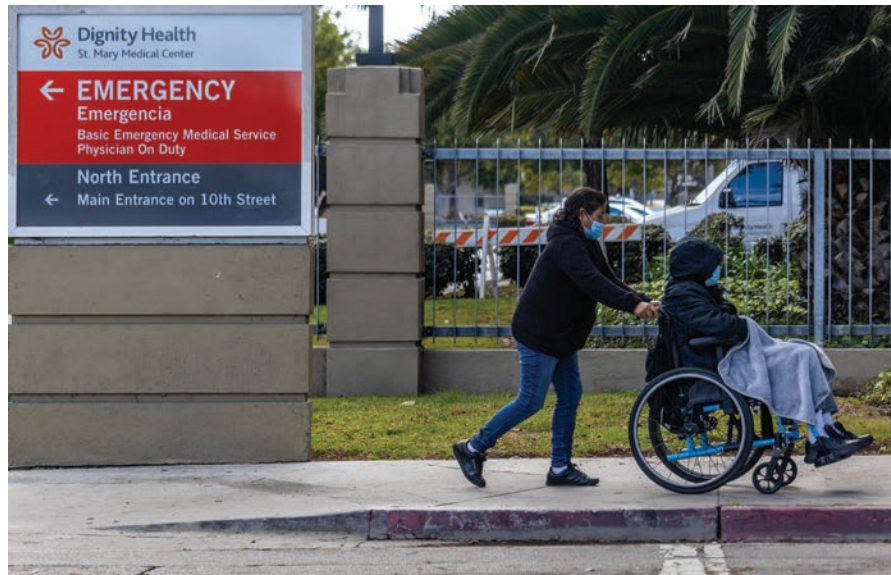
partners to help us do the things that we need to do."

Causes that are funded through the grant program are determined by a community needs assessment, a nearly year-long process which takes place every three years, Katz said.

"We actually go out and ask the community, 'What do you need? What is harming or keeping you from getting proper health care? What are your social determinants of health?'" Katz said. "Based on what their responses are, as a hospital, we determine what we're going to champion."

The lengthy process occurs every three years, and it involves gathering data and holding culturally and linguistically competent focus groups with residents of each ZIP code, as well as with other stakeholders, Katz said.

In three years, the social determinants of health don't tend to change much, and the largest community concerns are typically mental health, food insecurity and



Brandon Richardson / Business Journal

St. Mary Medical Center announced its annual community health improvement grant recipients, the United Cambodian Community and Century Villages at Cabrillo.

housing issues, Katz said.

However, where on the list these concerns fall can vary.

Particularly since the pandemic, food insecurities and mental health have ranked higher, and violence and injury prevention also saw a stark increase, Katz said.

Through a formal bid process, community organizations propose how they can assist in these causes, and grant recipients are selected by the Community Health Advisory Committee.

Recipients must be registered nonprofits, and project requirements include specifically addressing vulnerable or underserved populations, having specific outcome goals and working in some capacity with a local Dignity Health hospital.

"I want to be sure that as a community health department, and as a hospital, we're out there where people know that they can trust us to help, and trust us to deliver," Katz said.

Continued on page 7

DLBA continues restructuring, filling old and new positions



Brandon Richardson / Business Journal

A member of the Downtown Long Beach Alliance Clean Team walks along Pine Avenue.

By Brandon Richardson

Over the past six months, the Downtown Long Beach Alliance has grown its staff while the organization undergoes a restructuring of internal operations.

The genesis of the shake-up was the departure of longtime President and CEO Kraig Kojian in November 2021, one month after an investigation related to alleged worker mistreatment became public. Nearly a year later, in September, the

organization announced an internal pick for Kojian's replacement: then-Economic Development and Policy Manager Austin Metoyer.

While Kojian preferred to be involved in as much of the organization's operations as possible along with his chief operating officer, Metoyer on March 1 said he is taking a different approach by divvying up the workload among leadership.

"Everybody has their own style, and my style is that I don't need to be at every meeting," Metoyer said.

"You have to hire the people that you trust to do the work."

In December, the DLBA hired Stephanie El Tawil to fill the economic development and policy manager position that Metoyer left open. Then came Operations Manager Juan Torres in January and Communications and Marketing Manager Asia Morris in February. James Ahumada, who previously served as then-Mayor Robert Garcia's chief of staff, is the organization's latest hire, coming on as senior vice president and deputy CEO.

Meanwhile, the DLBA's longtime chief operating officer, Broc Coward, left the organization last month.

As part of the restructuring, Metoyer will focus on board and external relations as well as economic development, while Ahumada will oversee the Clean and Safe Team, beautification and placemaking, and communications. Jeremy Ancalade, meanwhile, who is transitioning from chief financial officer to the new vice president of finance and administration position, will lead business operations, including human resources, finance and accounting.

"I can't respond to every email and every call ... and to every manager's needs," Metoyer said. "By giving that up and giving them to someone who is solely

responsible for those areas of focus, ... it's just a way of kind of eliminating some of the barriers that perhaps were in the way."

Several positions are new to the organization under Metoyer's leadership, including the senior vice president and deputy CEO, operations manager and vice president of finance and administration positions. Two other new positions—business navigator and homeless outreach specialist—have not been filled.

The new positions were called for in the organization's management plan that came after Kojian's departure, Metoyer said.

When he assumed the leadership role, Metoyer said the organization was on a hiring freeze despite being short-staffed with only seven full-time employees. With its recent onboarding, the DLBA now has 10 staff members with the expectation to grow to 14 in the coming months, Metoyer said.

The changes, Metoyer said, are expected to make the DLBA more efficient and proactive in its mission to support Downtown businesses.

"I think you'll just have a much more direct and responsive approach, rather than it being a little bit more nebulous," Metoyer said. "I think what you'll see is a lot more intentionality in the work that we do." ■

Bar Envie brings frog legs and absinthe to the Zaferia district

Introducing Bar Envie, the NOLA-inspired lounge where you can munch spicy frog legs and sip a rhubarb ramos fizz cocktail—and play an old Nintendo while you're at it.

By Kat Schuster

Long Beach residents Geoff and Karna Rau were instantly enamored with New Orleans when they first set foot there in 1998. Over several trips in 20 years, they were taken by its culture, its hearty Creole cuisine, deep jazz roots and of course, the cocktails.

The couple—owners of Selva, Panxa and Roundin' 3rd—were so enchanted by the city that they bought a house there in 2022 to split their time with Long Beach. And in late February, the restaurateurs, along with Selva chef Carlos Jurado, opened their own take on a New Orleans-style lounge in the Zaferia district: Bar Envie.

On March 1, the Raus spoke to the Long Beach Business Journal over the phone while sipping cocktails in New Orleans' 84-degree weather—a sharp contrast to Long Beach's 52-degree drizzle.

"It's super eclectic here," Geoff said. "There's every race and color and creed, sexuality...it's a very inclusive community, a lot like Long Beach."

Their NOLA-inspired lounge opened three weeks ago on the corner of Anaheim Street and Termino Avenue within the short-lived Tennessee Jacks. Its official sign went up last week.

"There's nothing like it in Long Beach," Geoff said. "Heck, we're doing a crawfish boil this weekend, which you don't see in Long Beach ever, unless there's like a Cajun festival or something."

Bar Envie offers a roster of Cajun comfort food and Creole classics—from jambalaya to the hot catfish po' boy—in a menu carefully crafted by Jurado, the Long Beach chef who has garnered high praise for the culinary mastery of Selva's menu through his Colombian roots.

Together, Jurado and the Raus took to the streets of NOLA to come up with their own twist on the city's cuisine and unique spectrum of flavorful cocktails.

"Shockingly," the spicy frog legs have been one of the best selling items on Bar Envie's food menu so far, Geoff said.

"It's as authentic as we can be in California," Geoff said, adding



Thomas R. Cordova / Business Journal

Mike Borowski makes a Mountain Moonshine at Bar Envie.

that many products, including the bread (and rolls for the po' boy sando of course) are sourced from New Orleans.

Although the Raus are proud of

the menu Jurado was able to curate, Geoff affirmed that the trio want Bar Envie to be a "a cocktail lounge that has great food, rather than a restaurant with great cocktails."

"If you know New Orleans and you see our cocktail menu, you will go 'wow'—absinthe service, rhubarb fizz...we also just want to be a place where you walk in and feel really

Continued on page 22



Private Dinner Cruises
Premium Bar
Port Tours

All-Inclusive Pricing makes
Planning the Easiest
Part of the Trip!

The Best Destination for
Your Next Best Occasion
is with Spirit Cruises.

Let us Make Your Event
an Unforgettable Success!

Spirit
CRUISES

Southern California's Leading
Cruise Operator for
Over 40 years!

Specializing in Award-Winning
Events and Dinner Cruising

429-D Shoreline Village Drive
Long Beach, CA 90802
(562) 495-5884 • spiritmarine.com
spiritcruises@sbcglobal.net

COLUMN: JACKIE RAE

The white founder of Black Restaurant Week said the N-word. What should be done?

How much should you be willing to be demeaned by a powerful person trying to help you? That is the question the Black restaurant community is struggling with after Terri Henry, a well-known name in the Long Beach food world, repeated the N-word on more than one occasion.

Henry has a long-standing career in food marketing, advertising and public relations. She's worked in the industry since 1993, holding positions with companies like Norms Restaurants and Chipotle before launching her own company in 2011. In 2019, she founded the nonprofit Long Beach Food & Beverage out of a desire "to put butts in seats of restaurants in Long Beach"—a desire that made her a prominent force in the local food scene.

She launched well-known promotional events like the wildly successful Long Beach Burger Week in 2020 and, in 2022, Long Beach Black Restaurant Week.

In my work at the Long Beach Post, I've seen the new clientele and other benefits overlooked restaurants can get by working with Henry. Her work with Black Restaurant Week is truly impressive as she has facilitated major media attention that has elevated several small Black-owned businesses in the city.

So, how did someone who calls herself an ally land herself in the middle of a firestorm where some of the same people she helped are cutting ties with her? It started in February at the final pop-up tasting event for Black Restaurant Week.

After the event, Henry told me about how a Black woman harassed several vendors, saying they shouldn't be part of a Black event run by a white woman. Luckily, one of the vendors—LaTanya Ward, the owner of Filthy Rich Banana Pudding—was there to defend Henry and the work she's done for Black businesses.

Henry said Ward and the confrontational woman began to argue and it got heated. She described the confrontation by saying, "They were yelling back and forth and saying N-word this and N-word that." But, Henry didn't say "N-word" when she was talking to me. She said the actual word, but would later expect a pass because she said it with an "a."

When Henry said the word, I wanted to react harshly. This wasn't a teaching moment; this was a "you should know better" moment. But I resisted that urge.

I was also confused. I know Terri Henry the woman. We've shared personal stories, and we've laughed together. She is the last person I would expect to say such a word.

My last reaction was that of a journalist. I listened, allowing the conversation to continue without interjection. There was clearly more to learn. Did Henry make the inaccurate assumption that all the work she'd done in the community had earned her an invitation to the cookout? Was she using the word with me because I somehow made her feel comfortable to do so? Or was there a deeper story to uncover?

I called Ward to learn more, and after barely a hello, she asked me, "Did Terri tell you she used the N-word with the hard 'er'?"

Ward explained that she defended Henry during the confrontation that night, but afterward, she pulled Henry aside. She wanted Henry to understand that the woman harassing vendors had a good point: Black Restaurant Week should be in the hands of a Black person.

Nevertheless, Ward told Henry she appreciated what she'd done with the event. It was admirable, Ward told her, that Henry was using her "privilege" to "help [N-words]."

For Ward, like many Black people, using the

N-word wasn't out of the ordinary. It's part of her vernacular. But Ward was shocked to hear Henry repeat it right back to her.

By Ward's account, the word "privilege" upset Henry, who said she didn't agree: "I don't use my privilege to help [N-words]," she said, using the hard "er."

In response, Ward told Henry in no uncertain terms that Henry should never say that word—no matter the context or how it's pronounced.

That one utterance unleashed a torrent of emotions through the Black community. I got calls not just from Ward but from several other people who overheard or learned about what had happened. So, several days later, I asked to sit down with Henry for an on-the-record interview. To my surprise, as we talked, and Henry went over what happened one more time, she again repeated the N-word—thinking it was OK because she was quoting someone.

After re-explaining to Henry why that word should never come out of her mouth, I asked what she wanted to say to people who'd been hurt. Her response: "Consider me educated."

Henry was honest about being frazzled by the end of our interview. Honestly, I felt the same way. Reporting on a stranger's use of the N-word is one thing. When it is someone you know, it's daunting.

The next day, Henry texted me, saying she was worried about the implications if I reported what happened. The story I planned to write, she said, would have a devastating impact on her nonprofit, Black Restaurant Week and the other events she runs, such as Cambodian Restaurant Week, Burger Week and CANstruction.

Before I could respond, Henry sent an email to a list of the Black Restaurant Week vendors. She described what happened and warned that I was about to publish a story that could ruin her.



Black Restaurant Week founder Terri Henry, right, is pictured with journalist Danielle Nottingham and Fluffy's Sno-Balls owner Kevyn Lee-Wellington.

She said that "in a one nano-second slip of the tongue I used the N-word with an 'er' instead of 'A'. Completely accidental and unintentional, I swear to you, and to be honest I should not have been using it in any form, even ending with an 'A'."

The email continued, "I just wanted to extend a profound apology to all of you and I hope my actions and support of the Black community will somehow make up for a one-time stupid mistake."

There is no denying the N-word is deeply rooted in hate. But Black Restaurant Week vendors who've worked with Henry are split over her plea for forgiveness.

Chef Ronnie Woods says there is no defense for Henry's use of the word, but the focus should be on what she has done for Black people.

"You have all these different communities being represented within the city, but nobody representing Black people. Not even Black people," he told me.

Woods said not only did Henry waive his \$100 fee to participate in the first Black

Restaurant Week, but she also gave him the opportunity to be one of the featured chefs providing a multi-course gourmet lunch for unhoused people at the Long Beach Rescue Mission. The resulting media attention helped grow Woods' Northtown Bistro, which has gone from being strictly a pop-up to having a consistent location at Eddie's Market on Fourth Street four days a week.

Woods says Henry used her connections to open doors that otherwise would've been closed for people like him.

Michelle Roberts, who owns a cracker business called The CrackerLady that was featured in Black Restaurant Week, echoed Woods' sentiment.

"Terri worked with me, helping me understand the value of my business in the city of Long Beach." She said, "I can't take that away because she let the N-word slip out of her mouth. No matter what the circumstances are."

Is that the trade-off Black people must be willing to make to succeed? Does a white person's

willingness to help outweigh the legacy of a word that has always been used to degrade and humiliate? "We shouldn't have to shake it off," said Qiana Mafnas, co-owner of Axiom Kitchen, which was featured on "Good Day LA" during Black Restaurant Week.

Mafnas said she appreciates what Henry has done and she'll keep working with her, but "we should have somebody of color who has the same connections and is able to get the same things done."

If there were someone like that, maybe this story would be easier for everyone involved. Black restaurant owners wouldn't have to choose between forgiving the use of a racial slur and continuing to grow their businesses.

For some, it's too much to ignore. Kevyn Lee-Wellington, co-owner of Fluffy's Sno-Balls, said Henry's proclaimed ignorance is not an excuse.

When you run a program called Black Restaurant Week, "the assumption is that you have some connection to the Black community," he said. "The assumption is that you have educated yourself on the systemic, historical racism that Black people have endured."

Lee-Wellington said he will no longer work with Henry or any organization associated with her.

Ward agrees with Lee-Wellington, but she also acknowledges how much Henry helped her business. Ward, an ex-gang member who uses Filthy Rich Banana Pudding to help other former Black gang members find healing, was able to further her cause after receiving media attention from the Long Beach Post and Spectrum News 1 because of Henry's promotion.

Ward said this situation is an example of the longstanding disadvantages Black people face. Because they "don't have opportunities as often as others," Ward said, "we will bargain and trade dignity, self-respect and everything else."

Ward refuses to do so in this case, calling Henry's email more of an explanation than a real apology.

For her part, Henry says she's stepping away from at least some of her events. She's given up control of Cambodian Restaurant Week and handed the reins of Black Restaurant Week to the organization 100 Black Men of Long Beach and DeAndre Parks, owner of StrongBeach Lemonade, which was featured in this year's event.

Henry says she will continue to consult behind the scenes, but her nonprofit, Long Beach Food & Beverage, will shut down in the coming weeks. ■

Affordable Housing

Continued from page 3

the construction of the building. The remaining \$15 million would go toward transportation improvements around the project.

One of those projects could be a long-planned cycle track project on Pacific Avenue between Ocean Boulevard and PCH, which would include a separated bike lane, sidewalk and curb improvements for better access in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, along with improved bus stops along Atlantic Avenue.

The funding could also help buy three new fully electric buses.

The Long Beach Community Investment Company already granted a \$5 million loan to AMCAL when it agreed to begin negotiations to buy the property in January 2022.

While the city will be part of the application, AMCAL would be liable for paying back the loans if the project is not finished. AMCAL is expected to indemnify the city, which is applying for the loan with AMCAL to increase the chances of the funding being awarded.

The city community investment company's decision to provide \$5 million in funding and waive about \$554,000 in developers' fees could also help the application succeed, the city said. The council will also vote to pursue a "pro-housing" designation for Long Beach from the state before applying for the loan, another factor that could help AMCAL's pursuit of the loan.

In order to be designated as pro-housing, the city will have to prove that its zoning and land use is favorable to housing development, that it works to accelerate construction timeframes, reduces development costs and provides



Clouds move over the spire of the First Lutheran School building.

financial subsidies.

A separate city memo says that recent policies adopted by the council including the Land Use Element, an inclusionary housing policy and the city's Housing Element, which outlines where

thousands of potential units can be located by the end of the decade, will all help the city earn the pro-housing designation.

Once the project goes live, revenue generated from the rental units will help pay back the loan. ■

Health Grants

Continued from page 4

Each Dignity Health hospital runs a similar process—although it's not centralized, each hospital is "pretty much on the same page," at least in Southern California, Katz said.

Past funded project recipients include Mental Health America and Project Angel Food, which delivers meals to chronically ill, homeless people, mostly older adults. Funding has also gone to purchase a new refrigeration system for Food Finders, a food rescue organization, and Century Villages at Cabrillo, one of this year's recipients, also received funding in 2017, Katz said.

Grant recipients present a mid-year and end-of-year report, to ensure that St. Mary's expectations are met, Katz said.

"We're required to get that

trust," Katz said. "And so we want to make sure that the partners that we give our dollars to, are those trusted community partners and are well received not only by the individuals that they already serve, but by any new individuals who need their services."

While the larger network has provided \$91 million to nearly 3,800 health improvement projects since 1991, St. Mary began this particular grant model in 2017, which shifted its method away from distributing several smaller-sized grants to providing two annual grants of more significant size.

The modification also added the requirement that grant recipients have at least two community partners.

As for this year's recipients, Century Villages at Cabrillo plans to use its grant to fund mental health resources, community engagement opportunities, peer-to-peer support

groups and more. It will partner with Cal State Dominguez Hills' occupational therapy program, plus local agencies such as Sowing Seeds of Change, which will offer a gardening program, and CityHeART, which will provide an art program.

The United Cambodian Community, which holds health education workshops along with social and spiritual events, will partner with the Cambodian Association of America as well as Khmer Parents Association. The St. Mary grant will support the continuation and expansion of its strategic program areas, which include health equity and community integration.

"Not only does (the funding) help that one agency, it helps a lot of other agencies here in Long Beach that need that extra boost and support as well," Katz said. "It's the funnest part actually of my job, to

give out these grant dollars and to see what it does and see what it does in the community. It's really, really impactful."

Katz hopes that the grant program will continue to grow and be able to distribute even more each year.

"I really want to make sure that we're addressing the health equities and making sure that everybody's getting a fair chance," she said. "It's all about looking at what is going on in our community, where we need to help, and putting as much help and resources in that area as we possibly can."

As the Long Beach community grows, the challenges in overcoming health disparities can also grow, Katz said.

"The more the challenges are out there, the more you want to say, 'OK, we got this, let's get our partners together,'" she said. "We're going to take care of our community the best way possible." ■

Contract negotiations for dockworkers across the West Coast continue

By Brandon Richardson

Eight months on, negotiations for a new labor contract impacting operations at ports across the West Coast continue with no hint of resolution.

In a joint statement in late February, the International Longshore & Warehouse Union, which represents more than 22,000 dockworkers on the West Coast, and the Pacific Maritime Association, which represents shipping companies and terminal operators, announced that negotiations are ongoing and that both parties “remain hopeful of reaching a deal soon.”

The two groups, however, agreed to a media blackout early on, which means details of the contentious negotiations remain uncertain, despite how crucial they are to the nation’s economy—from large corporations down to the individual consumer.

“News articles purporting to know what is happening at the bargaining table are speculative at

best,” the statement reads.

Since negotiations began in May, a tentative agreement on “certain key issues, including health benefits,” have been reached, the organizations stated. Terminal automation is likely one of the more controversial items, with the union working to protect as many jobs as it can.

The old contract expired on July 1, but the ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles have continued to move high volumes of cargo—both recording their second-busiest years on record. The ports, however, two of the busiest in the country, have seen cargo volumes decline over the past six months.

One cause of the decreased volume is uncertainty over the continued labor negotiations, directors at both ports have said. Shippers have diverted some cargo to Gulf and East coast ports out of fear of a potential strike of West Coast workers, despite no strike having been authorized at this point.

Cargo also was diverted because of the unprecedented backlog of ships waiting off the Southern California coast—an issue that was resolved



A container handler and a host of trucks move down a port road on Pier T lined with shipping containers.

months ago. Some ships waited upward of two weeks for their turn to unload at the San Pedro Bay ports, which caused store inventories to drop and prices to rise.

The loss of market share in Long Beach caused it to lose its position as the second-busiest container port in the U.S. last year, a title assumed by the Port of New York and New Jersey. Los Angeles, for its part, was able to hold onto the top spot.

Even with shippers taking some of their business to other ports,

Long Beach had six record-breaking months last year.

“We welcome the announcement that the parties are working toward an agreement, and we join them in looking forward to a resolution of the contract talks,” Port of Long Beach Executive Director Mario Cordero said in an email to the Business Journal Feb. 28. “The ILWU and PMA have accomplished great things together – moving record amounts of cargo and keeping the economy thriving.” ■

LGB passenger volumes bounced back in January, but still fell short of pre-pandemic levels

By Brandon Richardson

Passenger volumes at Long Beach Airport rebounded in January after an unusually slow December, but they remained well below pre-pandemic levels.

Last month, 260,199 people traveled through the small, municipal airport, down 9.7% from the same month in 2020, which saw 288,070 passengers less than two months before the pandemic would ground almost every plane in the U.S.

December passenger volumes—247,285 travelers—in Long Beach were far below expectations due to mass cancellations by Southwest during the peak holiday travel period.

At the national level, meanwhile, passenger volumes came within 1% of 2020 levels. Last month, 60,548,344

people passed through U.S. Transportation Security Administration checkpoints compared to 61,172,421 during the same month in 2020.

“With the addition of new supplemental flight slots, we expect stronger volumes starting in late spring and summer,” Airport Director Cynthia Guidry said in a statement.

Earlier this month, Southwest was awarded five additional flight slots at the noise-controlled airfield, bringing its total to 45 out of the airport’s allotted 58. The carrier announced three additional daily, nonstop routes—to Colorado Springs, El Paso and Albuquerque—which all begin this summer.

Southwest also is bringing back its seasonal daily, nonstop service to Maui next month and is adding a second daily flight to Dallas in June. ■

Vast Space triples Long Beach workforce

Vast workforce jumped from about 40 to over 120 employees in the acquisition of Launcher, which also brings manufacturing equipment and a host of components it already manufactures to further Vast’s mission.

By Brandon Richardson

Long Beach’s newest space company, Vast Space, has acquired another tech startup, effectively tripling its workforce and expediting its mission to create the world’s first artificial gravity space station.

Launcher, a Hawthorne-based startup founded in 2017, announced the acquisition in late February. The company is the developer of Orbiter, a space tug that can deposit multiple satellites to different orbits during a single mission. The firm also has developed a liquid rocket engine dubbed E-2.

“Our Launcher team jumped at the chance to join Jed [McCaleb’s] vision of moving beyond Earth and advancing humanity’s exploration of space,” founder and CEO Max Haot said in a statement. Haot will now serve as president of Vast.

This is Vast’s first acquisition, Haot said, declining to say how much it cost the company. He said future acquisitions will not be ruled out if other companies could put a space station in orbit sooner.

Haot said he met Vast founder and CEO McCaleb last summer as an introduction for a potential investment opportunity in Launcher. The pair quickly realized the benefits of combining the two companies, he said.

Overnight, the finalization of the acquisition more than tripled Vast’s workforce from about 40 to over 120. The original Vast employees are expected to move from El Segundo to the company’s new 115,000-square-foot Long Beach facility in the newly constructed industrial complex at Spring Street and Orange Avenue in the coming weeks, Haot said in a phone interview Feb. 23.

The Launcher employees, as well as its equipment, will move to Long Beach in the summer or early fall, he said.

“This is great news,” Long Beach Economic Development Department Director Bo Martinez said in an email to the Business Journal on Feb. 21. “The city looks forward to working in partnership with Vast Space as they continue to invest, add

talent and grow their headquarters in Long Beach.”

The company previously announced plans to grow its workforce to 700 employees by the end of 2027.

In addition to increasing its workforce, Haot said the acquisition will expedite Vast’s efforts in a number of ways. Being focused on designing its space station, Vast had not built up its manufacturing capabilities. Launcher, on the other hand, already had manufacturing equipment.

Launcher also produces its own components for Orbiter, including thrusters, flight computers, cameras, guidance systems and separation devices, among other things, that can be tweaked into systems for the future space station.

Vast is slated to use the Orbiter to test its space station subsystems and components beginning this year with missions in June and October. These will be the second and third Orbiter missions, following the first in January, which failed after the power systems malfunctioned.

Haot said the company is disappointed in the outcome of its first mission but that the team knows “exactly what went wrong.”

Orbiter currently reaches space through rideshare missions aboard the SpaceX Falcon 9, Haot said, but it is compatible with most launch systems, including those from Long Beach companies such as Rocket Lab. For now, Haot said SpaceX remains the cheapest rideshare option.

Launcher previously had the intention of developing its own launch system, but that effort has been abandoned as the priority shifts to the space station, Haot said. He added that the company will continue to invest in the E-2 engine as he thinks it is a much more powerful and reliable system than other proprietary engines.

Haot said many other companies are or are likely to “suffer from low-performance engines” that are not capable of carrying advertised payload sizes to orbit, which could lead them to seek another already available option such as the E-2.

The Vast station, meanwhile, is in the early stages of development. Preliminary designs call for a 100-meter-long space station, which will have the capacity to house more than 40 people—a large increase from the seven that can be accommodated aboard the International Space Station.

The ISS is set to be retired in 2030, NASA announced early last year. The forthcoming retirement after over three decades led the space agency to develop the Commercial Low-Earth Orbit Development Program to support the development of commercially owned and operated space stations, which Vast hopes to take advantage of.



Orbiter is a space tug developed by Launcher, a tech startup recently acquired by Long Beach's newest space firm, Vast Space.

Previously announced CLD organizations include Axiom Space, Blue Origin, NanoRacks and Northrop Grumman.

There is still not a solidified timeline for when Vast’s station will reach orbit, Haot said. The process requires many milestones, and the first artificial gravity station likely won’t be in orbit for a decade or longer.

The first space station will be zero

gravity similar to the ISS, he said. Information on upcoming phases of the mission will be announced soon, Haot said, but for now the company is staying tight-lipped.

“We are keeping it close to our chests,” Haot said. “Our goal is to tell the community very clearly a timeline, a goal. We’re excited that we’re going to announce it pretty soon ... but not yet.” ■

CENTENNIAL
ADVISERS
TUSTIN LONG BEACH CENTURY CITY LAS VEGAS

DOES YOUR
BUSINESS REQUIRE
A CLEAN ROOM?

3,000 SF CLEAN ROOM
AVAILABLE

SCAN

HERE



FEDERAL
STANDARD
209E RATING
10,000



HOLMES & ASSOCIATES
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

YOU RUN YOUR BUSINESS.
WE'LL HANDLE
YOUR FINANCES.

H&A CPAs has been helping small
businesses thrive since 1986.

H&A, CPAs - Long Beach's Premier Small Business Accounting Firm

Reach out today for a
Free Consultation.

(562)495-3331
holmescpa.com

Worthington Ford

Continued from cover

fun at other competing car salesmen, helped Worthington build his car dealership chain, which started in Los Angeles in 1951 and spread throughout the Southland and southwestern states.

Many might remember a commercial in which Cal balanced atop a small airplane. Nick remembers sitting on his grandfather's lap

as he flew his plane above the Worthington's ranch in Orland, California, where Nick was raised.

"He had a Lear, he had a Mooney and the Cessna," he said. "He would kind of trade through planes like he did cars, dealerships and ranches."

Nick said his grandfather used the Learjet to commute between his various businesses and dealerships in Alaska and around Southern California.

But what made Cal a local sensation was his charm and genuine kindness, his grandson said.

"When his blue eyes focused on you, everybody was normally quite captivated," Nick said. "But he really cared for the people around him, the employees will tell you."

"Just the most loving caring person you could ever meet," he said.

Many of the employees at Worthington Ford have been with the dealership since around the time it opened in 1974, he said.

So, Nick said it was nonnegotiable to transition to a buyer who would rehire all of his employees and treat them well. The Nouri/Shaver Group, family-owned since 1935, checked off all of the boxes he deemed necessary to be entrusted with the people who have worked for his family since before he was born, he said.

Since the news broke, the phone has been ringing off the hook at the store, he said.

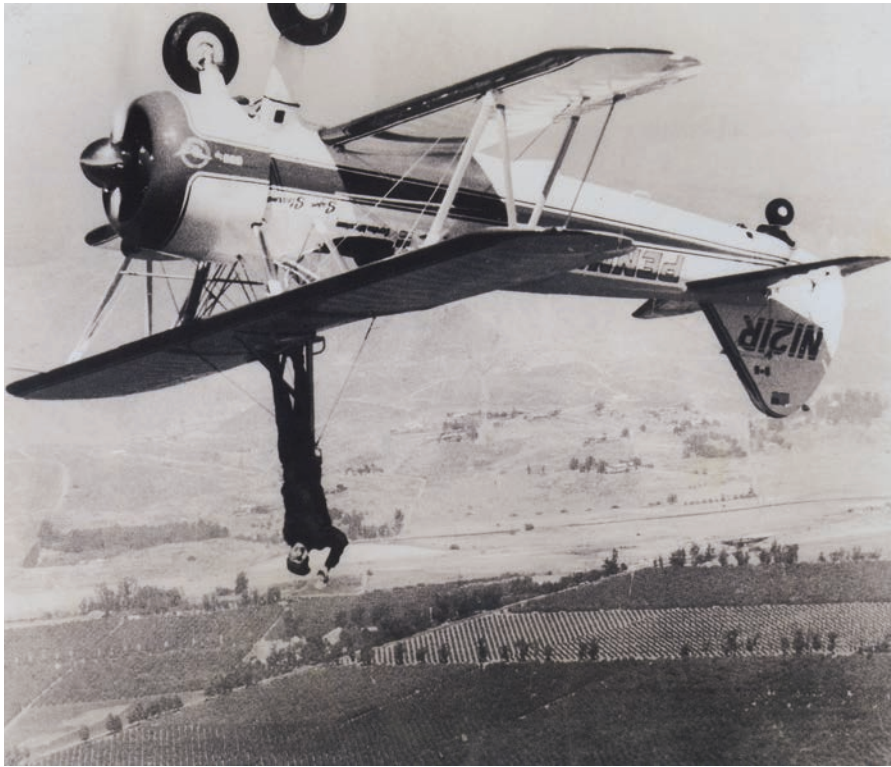
"Just people calling in sharing memories ... and favors that grandpa had done for them, you know, he let them use this or that or borrow this or that ... or just that they love the commercials and will never forget them." ■



Courtesy of the Worthington family
Cal Worthington poses with a bobcat at his Long Beach Ford dealership.



Courtesy of the Worthington family
Cal Worthington co-starred alongside animals of all sorts in his "My Dog Spot" commercials, which were meant to spoof competing commercials from other dealerships.



Courtesy of the Worthington family
Cal Worthington famously rides one of his airplanes in yet another whimsical commercial that likely sold thousands of used Ford vehicles.



Courtesy of the Worthington family
Cal Worthington gets a kiss from an orca whale.



Brandon Richardson / Business Journal
A couple walks into the Worthington Ford on the corner of Bellflower Boulevard and Spring Street.

May opening planned for bike path honoring cycling advocate Mark Bixby

By Alicia Robinson

This spring, nearly two years after a private dedication ceremony honoring the man who helped make it possible, the Mark Bixby Memorial Bicycle and Pedestrian Path will open to the public at last.

The path was built as part of the replacement for the half-century-old Gerald Desmond Bridge, a striking \$1.5 billion cable suspension span that was completed in 2020 and is officially named the Long Beach International Gateway Bridge. But officials have said they kept the bike path under wraps for safety reasons while the old bridge is being demolished.

Demolition work that's near the Bixby bike path is expected to finish in April, in time to open the path in May, Port of Long Beach spokesman Lee Peterson said in an email. In another effort to make the path safer for users, port officials had a connector built to get walkers, runners and cyclists from Ocean Boulevard to the new bridge path.

"We know there is a great deal of interest among members of the public to use the new pathways," Peteson's email said. "We share the enthusiasm and excitement, and we are grateful for the public's understanding and patience as we plan for a safe opening."

Once the path opens, planned safety measures include closing it to use from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m., and banning roller skates and skateboards, whether motorized or not, according to an item on the Port of Long Beach Harbor Commission's Feb. 27 meeting agenda.

Mark Bixby, a member of one of the city's founding families, was an active community volunteer and cycling advocate who helped found the Long Beach Bicycle Festival before he died in a 2011 plane crash.

Rep. Robert Garcia, who at the time was on the City Council, wrote immediately after Bixby's death that he was "the leading city voice on bike policy, advocacy and community engagement."

While some might shy away from even a protected bike lane that goes alongside whizzing semi-trucks in an area with famously poor air quality, cyclists are expected to cheer the Bixby path's public opening.

"The views are iconic—to get up there and to be able to see the port, the largest port complex in the U.S.," said Allan Crawford, a Long Beach resident and advocate for bikeable communities.

And while Crawford expects excitement in the bicycling community and in Bixby's family

at seeing the path open, he doesn't believe advocates' work is done yet.

When they were lobbying for a way to safely cross the Gerald Desmond Bridge's eventual replacement, Crawford said, Bixby and other supporters also envisioned a connection to the north, where the Commodore Schuyler F. Heim Bridge gives vehicles a way to get into Wilmington.

When Caltrans replaced that bridge (the new one opened in 2020), it left a 10-foot shoulder, and "the designer's idea was ultimately that would accommodate bikes," Crawford said.

Crawford collaborated with BikeLA (formerly the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition) to apply for a grant from the port to cover the roughly \$2.5 million cost of a Schuyler Heim bike path; their proposal has support from Caltrans and the city of Long Beach, he said.

On Feb. 23, Crawford learned their pitch made it past the first round and can compete for funding.

Nia Hartman, a past president of Long Beach-based Lightning



Brandon Richardson / Business Journal

Signs block the bike path on the Long Beach International Gateway Bridge, which remains closed to pedestrians almost two and a half years after the bridge's completion in October 2020.

Velo cycling club, said biking enthusiasts welcome any and all improvements that make it easier and safer to get around the area on two wheels.

"The more bikeways, the better,

especially when the current ones are along really busy streets that don't have adequate infrastructure for bike groups," she said. "We have a lot of resources, but they're not connected very well." ■

Our Highest CD Rates In Over 15 Years!

INTERNATIONAL CITY BANK

12-MONTH CD 4.24% APY*
New Money Only**

Janet Nelson
VP, Community Development Officer
249 E. Ocean Boulevard · Long Beach
562-436-9800 Ext. 5207



icb.biz



*Annual Percentage Yield current as of 01/06/2023 for the 12-month CD. **Funds may not be transferred from existing International City Bank account(s) to fund new CD(s). Rates subject to change at any time. A penalty may be imposed for early withdrawal. Fees may reduce earnings and principle. Minimum deposit of \$1,000 required to open CD. CD renews automatically to a standard rate in effect at the time of renewal unless instructed otherwise. See associate for details.

LBUSD Teachers rally as contract negotiations drag on

Long Beach teachers rallied at a Board of Education meeting on March 1, protesting for better wages and relief from what they feel are higher and higher demands from the district since the COVID-19 pandemic.

By Mike Guardabascio

For the second time in as many weeks, Long Beach teachers rallied at a Long Beach Unified School District Board of Education meeting on the evening of March 1, protesting for better wages and relief from what they feel are higher and higher demands from the district since the COVID-19 pandemic.

More than 400 teachers rallied outside the board meeting, with a demonstration that could be heard inside the board chambers over the district's livestream.

The differences between the Teachers Association of Long Beach and the LBUSD—the city's largest union and its largest employer—seem simple on the surface, as they did when the teachers last rallied at a board meeting two weeks ago. The LBUSD wants teachers to work an additional four days, without students, and is offering an 8% ongoing raise. But the division between the district and its teachers is clearly deeper, as the protest outside the boardroom and the comments inside of it illustrated.

TALB president Christine Kelly underlined her membership's frustrations during a three-minute public testimony to the board.

"Most (LBUSD) senior staff has been out of the class for a decade or more," she said. "Things have changed dramatically in the past four years alone. It's because of these changes it's important to listen to the people who are doing the job. ... Our members are telling you it's too much, it's not safe, we need help with this."

A fundamental issue is teachers feeling that the district is asking for additional days of "professional development" that they feel amount to out-of-touch trainings by the district, while they don't

feel their concerns about safety on campus are being listened to.

Teachers across the country have experienced severe burnout in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and its disruptions, prompting early retirements and career-switching, a phenomenon common enough that one LBUSD teacher wrote an essay this year titled "Why I Didn't Quit Teaching" because of how frequently he was seeing posts about why people did.

"Look at the number of your employees you have on leaves of absence," said Kelly. "That is telling. I was speaking with a teacher who had been punched in the back of the head by a student. When he was checked out, the nurse told him, 'You're the third teacher I've seen this week.' It's not safe. ... When it comes to bargaining, our members are angry. You've filled every moment of their day with more and more expectations, frequently with no support."

In its most recent bargaining update, the LBUSD said it's increased its offer from an 8% raise with a 2% one-time payment to an 8% raise with a 3% one-time payment. The district also said that while its original proposal was to add four pupil-free days to the calendar for teachers, the updated proposal was to add three pupil-free days beginning in the 2024-25 school year, and one additional pupil-free day in 2025-26.

TALB's current counter-proposal, according to an update to its members, is a request for an 11% raise, with one additional pupil-free day, leaving the two sides far apart on one of the final sticking points of these contract negotiations. Perhaps more challenging than the compromise on numbers is the feeling teachers articulated Wednesday that they've been overlooked and overburdened by district leadership. One sign outside the meeting read, "Teacher Trauma is Real."

"Our members are not being heard," said Kelly. "They're working at sites where out of control behaviors are a constant threat. They feel micromanaged by the district and they're treated dismissively by principals and now even our Board of Education."

Because the contract negotiations were not listed on the agenda, no boardmembers or district officials responded to the speakers. The next bargaining session between the two sides was scheduled for March 9, and the next board meeting is scheduled for March 15. ■

CAMEO mentoring program to host annual March fashion show fundraiser

By Tess Kazenoff

For the past 30 years, The Assistance League's CAMEO Mentoring Program has provided support and enrichment to students facing barriers in their academy journeys, and on March 18, community members can support the organization during its annual fashion show fundraiser and luncheon event.

From offering cultural events, volunteering, and career readiness and college prep workshops throughout the school year, as well as a paid summer internship, the CAMEO program is meant to support students in their pursuit of higher education, said public relations chair Gail Bradley. For high schoolers who complete 80% of the three-year program, they receive a college scholarship as well as assistance with equipment.

While the program is primarily made up of high schoolers, a two-year program for Long Beach City College students is also available. Both programs include an annual stipend that increases in value each year of the program, with LBCC students receiving \$1,000, the largest amount.

Typically 25 to 30 students participate each year and are recommended by their school counselors based on need as well as academic promise. However, the number of students depends on the success of the fundraiser, Bradley said.

"Community really makes a difference," said Bradley. "The entire program is funded by the fundraiser."

For participating students, mentorship has had an invaluable impact, and according to exiting student surveys, 100% say that it helped them be better prepared for college, Bradley said.

The CAMEO program allows students to reach their potential, and many of the students reinvest into the Long Beach community later on, Bradley said.

"What also inspires me about this program and our mentees is the number of them who actually have felt the impact in their lives and have come back into our program," said resource development chair Sherry Hom.

Some former mentees have returned as mentors, while several others have returned to provide support through events and

speaking arrangements, Hom said. "I think they felt the impact of having this group of people behind them," Hom said. "We do really provide an entire community behind them, and I just am so inspired by the mentees that I see returning to help out in that capacity."

About 400 people typically attend the gala. The March fundraiser will be themed "the magic of mentoring" and will feature a fashion show highlighting the work of high-fashion couture designer Lourdes Chavez.

This year's event will also honor its philanthropic partner of the year, Suzanne Nosworthy, a long-time volunteer who serves on the board of the Long Beach Ronald McDonald House, Community Hospital Foundation and the Long Beach City College Board of Governors. She has also served as the Assistance League of Long Beach president and National Assistance League president, and was on the original committee that created the mentoring program.

"Inspiration for that theme really is for that concept of what's possible when a group of people feel so strongly about supporting young promising students, and what can happen when those students are empowered and come back to provide support for the next generation of students," Hom said.

The silent auction includes about 200 items, including wine and cheese, services such as spa and salon treatments, as well as a large selection of vintage items. Raffle items include a variety of high-valued gift cards and shopping experiences, and the live auction will include a dining experience hosted by a professional chef, a VIP weekend at the Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach and a trip to visit with Rep. Robert Garcia in Washington, D.C.

"It's a very inspirational event and a lot of fun," Bradley said. "And it is wonderful to hear the heartwarming stories of our students."

While students are not a part of the fashion show, they each are introduced on the catwalk, which is an opportunity for confidence building, Bradley said.

"It's part of ... showing them that there is a community there to support them," Bradley said. "At certain parts of the event, there's not a dry eye in the house, because people just see that inspiration and that excitement on the kids' faces. It's wonderful." ■

Chuze Fitness project set to take over shuttered Food 4 Less

By Jason Ruiz

Planning Commissioners approved a proposed Chuze Fitness location in North Long Beach on March 2, which is slated to take over half of an old Food 4 Less store that closed in 2021.

The 100,883-square-foot building will be remodeled with a new interior wall that will separate the eastern portion of the building from the new gym, which will be located on the western side.

The project, located in the shopping center at the intersection of South Street and Cherry Avenue, will include nearly 30,000 square feet of individual and group workout areas as well as other amenities like a sauna, steam room and an area for tanning, according to plans submitted to the city.

The Planning Commission's

vote to approve the gym and the necessary conditional use permit because of its size will be final unless someone files an appeal against the project, according to Rick De La Torre, a spokesperson for the city's Development Services Department.

While the renderings submitted to the city included signage for an El Super grocery store to be located in the eastern portion of the building, De La Torre said that the city does not have a proposal or commitment from a tenant at this time. But De La Torre added that the property management group is continuously looking for one for the vacant space.

The Food 4 Less was closed in April 2021 just a few months after the City Council voted to approve a "hero pay" wage increase for frontline grocery workers during the pandemic. The vote for a \$4-per-hour increase was quickly followed by a



Courtesy of the city of Long Beach

A rendering of the proposed Chuze Fitness that will take over the western half of a former Food 4 Less in North Long Beach.

lawsuit challenging the vote and led to the closure of the Food 4 Less and an East Long Beach Ralphs location.

The Kroger Co. operates both the Ralphs and Food 4 Less brands.

The gym is expected to operate 24 hours per day, and the developer said in its proposal that the gym would create about 30 jobs once the gym is open. ■

Long Beach Airport's historic terminal closes temporarily for year-long, \$18M renovation

By Brandon Richardson

The historic terminal building at Long Beach Airport is temporarily closing for about a year beginning this week as it undergoes \$17.8 million in preservation and renovations, city staff announced Feb. 21.

The iconic building, which was designed by Horace Austin and Kenneth Smith Wing, first opened in 1941. It features numerous mosaics comprised of 1.6 million hand-cut tiles designed and created by Grace Richardson Clements—all of which will be restored and preserved, including some that have long been covered and out of the public eye.

"The historic terminal is one of the most beloved architectural icons of our city," Mayor Rex Richardson said in a statement. "These improvements represent our commitment to preserve its history for generations to come."

The renovations began in September, but restrooms on the ground floor remained accessible to the public. A full closure, however, is required to complete the renovations, which include seismic retrofits and upgrades to the bathrooms.

The building previously housed the municipal airport's ticketing lobby. Last year, however, a new ticketing lobby opened, leaving the historic space open for updates. Once completed early next year, the building will serve as the car rental facility, which for years has operated out of temporary buildings in the parking lot area.



Brandon Richardson / Business Journal

Electricians examine the Long Beach Airport's historic terminal building, which is undergoing an extensive renovation and preservation effort.













The renovation is the fourth project in the \$110 million Phase II Terminal Area Improvement Program—the ticketing lobby and new checked baggage inspection systems being the first two, which opened almost one year ago. A new baggage claim area is under construction and is expected to open "in the coming months" after delays.

The terminal building was declared a historic landmark in 1990 by the Long Beach Cultural Heritage Commission. It "bridges the transition from the Streamline Moderne style of the 1930s to the geometric abstraction of the post-war International Style," according to the city.

The Long Beach Airport,

including the terminal building, has been featured in dozens of feature films, including "Airplane!" (1980) starring Robert Hays and Julie Hagerty, "The Parent Trap" (1998) starring Lindsay Lohan and Dennis Quaid, and "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer" (1947) starring Cary Grant, Myrna Loy and Shirley Temple. ■

LONG BEACH BUSINESS LIST
HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

LOGO	COMPANY + SERVICES	WEBSITE + STREET ADDRESS	YEAR+ EMPLOYEES	LEADERSHIP	PHONE + EMAIL
	facility: College Medical Center	street address: 2683 Pacific Ave. Long Beach, CA 90806	year founded: 1956	name(s): Joe Avelino	phone number: 562-997-2350
	facility type: Hospital		# of employees: 750	title(s): CEO	website: collegemedicalcenter.com
	facility: Reddy Urgent Care Bixby Knolls	street address: 4237 Atlantic Ave. Long Beach, CA 90807	year founded: 2012	name(s): Usha Rani K. Reddy	phone number: 562-336-1656
	facility type: Urgent Care		# of employees: 6	title(s): Founder	website: reddyuc.com
	facility: Community Medical Wellness Centers USA	street address: 1360 E. Anaheim St. Long Beach, CA 90813	year founded: 2011	name(s): Sompia Paigne, PhD, LCSW	phone number: 562-270-0324
	facility type: Wellness Center		# of employees: 30	title(s): CEO	website: cmwcusa.org
	facility: Whole Person Therapy	street address: 444 West Ocean Blvd. Suite 800 Long Beach, CA 90802	year founded: 2012	name(s): Helen Caldwell	phone number: 562-888-1856
	facility type: Outpatient		# of employees: 1	title(s): Owner	website: helencaldwell.org
	facility: Simple Health Acupuncture & Wellness	street address: 3505 Long Beach Blvd. Ste 2D Long Beach, CA 90807	year founded: 2011	name(s): Julia Wu	phone number: 562-424-5505
	facility type: Medical Clinic		# of employees: 15	title(s): Licensed Acupuncturist	website: simplehealthlb.com
	facility: Dr. Mary Long, DACM, LAc	street address: 4301 Atlantic Ave. Suite 5 Long Beach, CA 90807	year founded: 2019	name(s): Dr. Mary Long	phone number: 562 888-9933
	facility type: Wellness Center		# of employees: 1	title(s): Licensed Acupuncturist	website: drmarylong.com
	facility: Intrepid Ayurveda	street address: 911 E. San Antonio Dr. Suite 4 Long Beach, CA 90807	year founded: 2020	name(s): Valerie Hwang	phone number: 562-246-8975
	facility type: Holistic Health (Ayurvedic) Clinic		# of employees: 1	title(s): Owner	website: intrepidayurveda.com
	facility: The Waltzman Institute	street address: 4251 Long Beach Blvd. Suite 102 Long Beach, CA 90807	year founded: 2015	name(s): Dr. Josh Waltzman, MD	phone number: 562-448-6100
	facility type: Plastic Surgery and Aesthetic Practice		# of employees: 11	title(s): Board-Certified Plastic Surgeon	website: waltzmanplasticsurgery.com
	facility: SALT Marriage and Family Therapy Inc.	street address: 3815 Atlantic Ave. Suite 6 Long Beach, CA 90807	year founded: 2019	name(s): Ashley Kretzschmar, LMFT	phone number: 323-999-4638
	facility type: Mental Health Outpatient Facility		# of employees: 7	title(s): Owner Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist	website: saltpsych.com
	facility: Ark Clinical Research	street address: 2220 Clark Ave. Unit A Long Beach, CA 90815	year founded: 2017	name(s): Dr. Kenneth Kim	phone number: 562-997-1000
	facility type: Clinical Research		# of employees: 40	title(s): Medical Doctor	website: arkclinicalresearch.com
	facility: Allergy Asthma Medical Clinic	street address: 220 Clark Ave. Unit B Long Beach, CA 90815	year founded: 1996	name(s): Dr. Kenneth Kim	phone number: 562-997-7888
	facility type: Private Practice		# of employees: 20	title(s): Medical Doctor	website: theallergyasthma.com
	facility: Bixby Knolls Wellness Center	street address: 4301 Atlantic Ave. Suite 5 Long Beach, CA 90807	year founded: 2018	name(s): Anna Pearl, DC	phone number: 562-219-4200
	facility type: Chiropractic Office		# of employees: 6	title(s): Doctor of Chiropractic	website: bixbyknollswellness.com






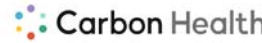








LBBJ

The Long Beach Business List, an industry-specific directory of local businesses, is a feature exclusive to the print edition of the Long Beach Business Journal. Subscribe today to get 26 issues a year delivered to your home or office, plus unlimited digital access to the local business news you can't find anywhere else.

SUBSCRIBE TODAY: lbbj.com/subscribe

Ask us about group discounts! subscriptions@lbbj.com

LONG BEACH BUSINESS LIST
HEALTHCARE FACILITIES

LOGO	COMPANY + SERVICES	WEBSITE + STREET ADDRESS	YEAR+ EMPLOYEES	LEADERSHIP	PHONE + EMAIL
	facility: David Younan, DDS	street address: 249 E. Ocean Blvd. Suite 102 Long Beach, CA 90802	year founded: 2018	name(s): David Younan	phone number: 562-432-1022
	facility type: Dental Office		# of employees: 8	title(s): Dentist / Owner	website: dryounan.com
	facility: ProHealth Partners, A Medical Group Inc.	street address: 5150 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. Suite 500 Long Beach, CA 90804	year founded: 1995	name(s): Dr. Barry Allswang	phone number: 562-299-5200
	facility type: Primary Care		# of employees: 530	title(s): Doctor	website: Prohealthpartners.com
	facility: Argus Medical Management, LLC	street address: 5150 E. Pacific Coast Hwy. Suite 500 Long Beach, CA 90804	year founded: 1995	name(s): Robert Boullon	phone number: 562-299-5200
	facility type: Healthcare Mgmt		# of employees: 131	title(s): Robert Boullon	website: Argusmso.com
	facility: MemorialCare Long Beach Medical Center and Miller Children's & Women's Hospital	street address: 2801 Atlantic Ave. Long Beach, CA 90806	year founded: 1907	name(s): Blair Kent	phone number: 877-696-3622
	facility type: Hospital		# of employees: 5209	title(s): CEO	website: memorialcare.org
	facility: Dignity Health - St. Mary Medical Center	street address: 1050 Linden Ave. Long Beach, CA 90813	year founded: 1923	name(s): Carolyn Caldwell	phone number: 562-491-9000
	facility type: Hospital		# of employees: 1,350	title(s): President and CEO	website: dignityhealth.org
	facility: Carbon Health Urgent Care	street address: 555 E Ocean Blvd. Long Beach, CA 90802	year founded: 2020	name(s): Eren Bali	phone number: 562-261-2799
	facility type: Clinic		# of employees: 5	title(s): Co-Founder / CEO	website: carbonhealth.com
	facility: Westside Neighborhood Clinic	street address: 2125 Santa Fe Ave. Long Beach, CA 90810	year founded: 1975	name(s): Colleen Sparks	phone number: 562-933-0053
	facility type: Clinic		# of employees: 20	title(s): Vice President	website: memorialfamilymedicine.org
	facility: St Nazarene Medical Clinic	street address: 2403 Atlantic Ave. Long Beach, CA 90806	year founded: 1998	name(s): Suzanne Fussell	phone number: 562-989-0145
	facility type: Clinic		# of employees: 3	title(s): CEO	website: N/A
	facility: Reddy Urgent Care Downtown LB	street address: 123 Atlantic Ave. Long Beach, CA 90802	year founded: 2012	name(s): Usha Rani K. Reddy	phone number: 562-726-1383
	facility type: Urgent Care		# of employees: 4	title(s): Founder	website: reddyuc.com
	facility: Concentra Urgent Care	street address: 100 Oceangate P245 Long Beach, CA 90802	year founded: 2018	name(s): Samantha Garcia	phone number: 562-432-2821
	facility type: Urgent Care/Workers Comp		# of employees: 20	title(s): COD	website: concentra.com
	facility: Carbon Health Urgent Care	street address: 2010 E. Carson St. Long Beach, CA 90807	year founded: 2022	name(s): Eren Bali	phone number: 562-424-5450
	facility type: Clinic		# of employees: 10	title(s): Co-Founder / CEO	website: carbonhealth.com
	facility: AHF Healthcare Center - Long Beach	street address: 3500 Pacific Coast Hwy. Long Beach, CA 90804	year founded: 1987	name(s): Chris Brownlie, Michael Weinstein	phone number: 562-494-3413
	facility type: Healthcare Center		# of employees: 7	title(s): Founders	website: ahf.org
	facility: Long Beach Comprehensive Health Center	street address: 1333 Chestnut Blvd. Long Beach, CA 90813	year founded: 1993	name(s): Jeffrey Barbosa, MD	phone number: 562-753-2300
	facility type: Medical Group		# of employees: 200	title(s): Director	website: dhs.lacounty.gov/longbeach
	facility: UrgentMED Long Beach	street address: 3932 Long Beach Blvd. Suite A Long Beach, CA 90807	year founded: 2020	name(s): Richard Wang	phone number: 562-855-2800
	facility type: Health Clinic		# of employees: 20	title(s): CFO	website: urgentmednetwork.com

The Long Beach Business Journal makes every effort to verify the information included in the list above, but we also rely on the accuracy of the information provided by the employers and organizations represented.

California Heights seeks to become official business improvement district

Business leaders are surveying the area's owners and hope to gain BID approval for the upcoming budget cycle.

By Brandon Richardson

For about a decade, businesses along Wardlow Road in California Heights have banded together to promote the area in hopes of increasing foot traffic. Now, the unofficial organization is taking steps to become an officially recognized business improvement district. The group has sent out questionnaires to the area's businesses to get a better sense of their needs and to gauge their desire to form a city-recognized BID. "I think it's been a positive

reaction," Robert Molina, owner of Roxanne's, said. The group already has established a five-person board, with representatives from Steelhead Coffee, Long Beach Ballet, f/8 Studios and Verde's, a new juice bar getting ready to open at the former Babe's Kitchen location. They have not, however, determined how the BID would be set up. There are two ways BIDs are funded in Long Beach: through property owners or business owners. If approved by the city, staff would provide annual assessments using a methodology approved by the BID stakeholders. Based on the assessment, a fee is collected and distributed to the BID. "From a business perspective, it's kind of a big ask," Jim Torres said. The Belmont Shore BID, for example, charges varying rates depending on business type as well as a per employee fee. In Bixby Knolls, meanwhile, the BID charges the same rate for all businesses, with nonprofits



Roxanne's owner Robert Molina addresses other California Heights business owners to update them on the progress being made to create a new business improvement district.

receiving a discounted rate. Each BID also offers its members different perks. The Downtown Long Beach Alliance's red shirts can be seen throughout the BIDs boundaries picking up trash, power washing sidewalks and engaging with unhoused residents. Up in Bixby Knolls, the organization pays for private security to patrol the area. BIDs also serve as an information source for their respective members,

Continued on page 18



In the top **10%** of universities that provide the greatest ROI

(Georgetown University, 2022)

NO BARRIERS

TO THE STRENGTH OF A BEACH DEGREE

LGBTQ chorus South Coast Chorale to perform 'Oliver Button is a Sissy' March 11

By Tess Kazenoff

When artistic director Chris Smith first was introduced to the show "Oliver Button is a Sissy" several years ago, he knew it was a performance he eventually wanted to introduce to the South Coast Chorale, Long Beach's LGBTQ chorus. "I said, 'One day I want to do that with my singers, but it needs to be the right timing,'" Smith said. "It needs to be when it's when it's going to have kind of the greatest impact on the community." To Smith, the time is now, and on March 11, community members can attend the first local performance of the production, in collaboration with several other Long Beach performing arts nonprofits.

The 30-minute semi-staged musical adaptation of a children's book by Tomie DePaola, with music and lyrics by Alan Shorter, features themes of identity, acceptance and anti-bullying. Unlike many other boys his age, Oliver Button doesn't like to play sports or partake in other typical gendered activities, explained Smith. Instead, he likes to draw, dress up in costumes, sing and dance. "The story really just celebrates the fact that as long as you believe in yourself and as long as you just continue to celebrate who you are as a person, eventually everyone else will acknowledge that too," Smith said. Beginning in 1990 as a community vocal ensemble, the South Coast Chorale was founded to provide a safe space for the LGBTQ community. "The '90s was kind of a rough time for the LGBTQ community, and it was



Courtesy of South Coast Chorale

The South Coast Chorale, Long Beach's LGBTQ chorus, was founded in 1990. Today, about 50 singers are involved in the organization.

created by the artistic director at that time as a place where music can be used as a vehicle to promote acceptance and to promote welcome and belonging," said Smith. Over the years, the organization has kept that philosophy, but it now emphasizes more interconnectivity between communities, Smith said. "One of the vehicles that we use to share that sentiment is music, which is a universal language," Smith said. Amid political polarization and anti-LGBTQ legislation spreading across the country, having an organization like the South Coast Chorale promoting acceptance is even more important, Smith said. "Organizations like the South Coast Chorale remind people that it is OK to be who you are, it is OK to live your life the way you want to live, it is OK to love who you love ... the opinions of other people really shouldn't matter," Smith said. The South Coast Chorale of today includes about 50 singers, about 30 volunteers, a staff of four and three

interns, plus a board of eight. "There's just such an incredible energy and incredible love and an incredible passion to share these stories that are sometimes fun and light-hearted stories, and are sometimes really kind of gut-wrenching stories," Smith said. The South Coast Chorale typically performs three concerts each year, and auditions are usually held each August and January, although singers are generally welcomed at any time, Smith said.

Continued on page 25

New deputy mayor tapped for economic development

By Staff Reports

Mayor Rex Richardson has appointed a deputy mayor for economic development after the City Council voted last month to approve the newly created role. Lucius Martin, who most recently led the business development bureau within the city's Economic Development Department, will fill the new position beginning in mid-March, Richardson announced March 2. Along with this role, the City Council's vote last month also allowed for a second deputy mayor position to focus on housing, though an appointment for that position has

not yet been announced. In his new role, Martin will oversee the mayor's "Grow Long Beach" initiative, which focuses on five sectors: aerospace, goods movement, tourism, education and health care. "Mr. Martin has demonstrated a proven track record of capable and effective leadership during his time with the City as a workforce development leader and relationship builder," Richardson said in a statement. "I am thrilled to welcome him to the team and look forward to his contributions as we grow our Long Beach economy in new and exciting directions." ■



Courtesy of the city of Long Beach

Lucius Martin will become the city's deputy mayor for economic development in mid-March 2023.

Cal Heights

Continued from page 16

relaying important notices from the city, including grant opportunities.

But first and foremost, BIDs are cheerleaders for their neighborhoods, tasked with promoting the area for the betterment of all businesses. Many put on events such as Fourth Street's Fourth Fridays and Bixby Knolls' First Fridays.

"We want to make sure people see the value of joining," Molina said, adding that he thinks there is enough support to create an official BID. For approval, the group would need the support of 50% plus one of the businesses or property owners.

Following in the footsteps of the BIDs that came before it, Molina said the group has started its own monthly event: Second Saturdays. Like other events hosted in the area, Molina said the idea is to increase business for all by increasing foot traffic and awareness of what Cal Heights has to offer to nearby residents and visitors alike.

Cal Heights is the city's largest historical district with some 1,600 homes, Molina explained, but many of the residents don't know the businesses and amenities right in



A truck drives by Wille's Tin Shop and Roxanne's on Wardlow Road in the California Heights neighborhood.

their own backyards.

"We'd definitely love to see that neighborhood support," Torres said, noting that the surrounding community has been changing rapidly as younger families move into the area that value walkable neighborhoods. "There used to be a lot of retirees in the neighborhood who didn't quite see the value in something like this."

In addition to promoting the area through marketing and events, Molina said top priorities would

be security and signage so drivers know when they enter the BID, similar to prominent signs in Bixby Knolls and Belmont Shore. The group also would strive to be a strong community partner through fundraisers such as toy and food drives, Molina said.

The organization also will be an advocate for increased safety along Wardlow, which has two lanes in either direction and wide shoulders. With cars parked on either side of the street, cars careen down the

corridor at high speeds, Molina noted.

Reducing speed limits, improving lighting and adding more crosswalks and traffic signals are some of the actions the group would like the city to take.

"We've seen a lot of foot traffic coming at nighttime, and it's super scary trying to cross the street," Torres said, noting a recent incident where an employee got hit by a car after a shift.

"And there are a lot of kids around here with Long Beach Ballet," he added.

In addition to improved pedestrian safety, slower-moving cars would have time to see what the neighborhood has to offer, Molina said. There is also potential for a bike lane in the area, he added.

Molina said if all goes well and stakeholders are on board, the organization hopes to be approved by the City Council for the upcoming budget cycle, meaning the Cal Heights BID would officially begin operating in October.

In the early days of the unofficial alliance, the businesses referred to themselves as the Wardlow Strip. Today, the organization wants to be more inclusive of the entire Cal Heights neighborhood—one issue, however, is that the well-established Bixby Knolls Business Improvement Association already includes a portion of the neighborhood.

Bounded by Bixby Road to the north, Cherry Avenue to the east and Wardlow Road to the south, the California Heights neighborhood extends west to Long Beach Boulevard. The Bixby Knolls association, however, already includes Atlantic Avenue and Long Beach Boulevard between Bixby and Wardlow roads.

Bixby Knolls Business Improvement Association Executive Director Blair Cohn, for his part, said he encourages all areas to establish BIDs to support local businesses. The Bixby Knolls BID was founded in 1989 and incorporated as a nonprofit in 1994.

Cohn said it is impossible for the new Cal Heights BID to encompass the entirety of its namesake neighborhood but that he welcomes the new group coming right up to his association's boundary.

During a meeting on Feb. 22 at f/8 Studios, Molina, Torres and other board members updated Cal Heights businesses on their progress toward becoming a BID. Meat & Vino owner Al Valadez asked if it were possible to be absorbed into the Bixby Knolls association.

Molina and Torres, for their part, praised the work Cohn has done in Bixby Knolls and said the businesses in the overlapping area are always welcome to join in the Cal Heights festivities, including Second Saturdays.

"There is no reason we can't collaborate," Torres said. "But we deserve our own BID." ■



INTEGRATED RESOURCES FOR RESILIENCY

Evelyn, MHALA member and advocate.

MHALA
Mental Health America of Los Angeles

Mental Health · Physical Health · Employment
Education · Wellness · Outreach · Housing

(888) 242-2522 · info@mhala.org · mhala.org

COLUMNIST: TIM GROBATY

More than 43% of homes for sale in Long Beach are listed over \$1M

There are, as of last Feb. 21, 65 homes in Long Beach listed at \$1 million or more—up to nearly \$5 million. Of the 149 homes on the market, 43.6% are listed at over a million dollars, and they're all over town, from North Long Beach to the great concentration of them along the waterfront, especially in Naples and the Peninsula. If you can see water, you can see a multi-million-dollar price tag.

A million-dollar home. It's a phrase that once fairly reeked of opulence. It conjured thoughts of near-limitless bedrooms and even more bathrooms. It would be three stories minimum and so close to the water that you had to carefully ease out the front door to avoid tumbling into a canal or a bay or an ocean. Crystal, marble and endangered woods would abound.

Just a few decades ago you didn't see million-dollar houses. You gawked at them, envied them, but could never imagine living in them.

Now, throughout much of the state, they're as common as white cars. A million dollars doesn't get you the house of your dreams. For a mere million bucks you're going to wind up with a nondescript house in a pretty good neighborhood or, if it's in a great neighborhood, you're going to have to roll up your sleeves and equip yourself with a Sawzall and a lot of other destructive/reconstructive machines as well as probably more know-how than you possess just to make it livable.

Both the Naples and Peninsula areas are once again in the top 50 priciest neighborhoods in LA County, as determined by the real estate site PropertyShark. For 2022, Naples leapfrogged over the Peninsula, landing in the No. 43 spot, while the Peninsula dropped to No. 47.

Realtor Keith Muirhead, who has sold more million-dollar properties than anyone I know of in Long Beach—he sold four of the top 10 most expensive homes in the city in 2022, topped by an \$8.4 million home at 14 The Colonnade in Naples—recalled that the first time he heard of a \$1-million sale in Long Beach was a property on the Peninsula's Balboa Place in 1977.

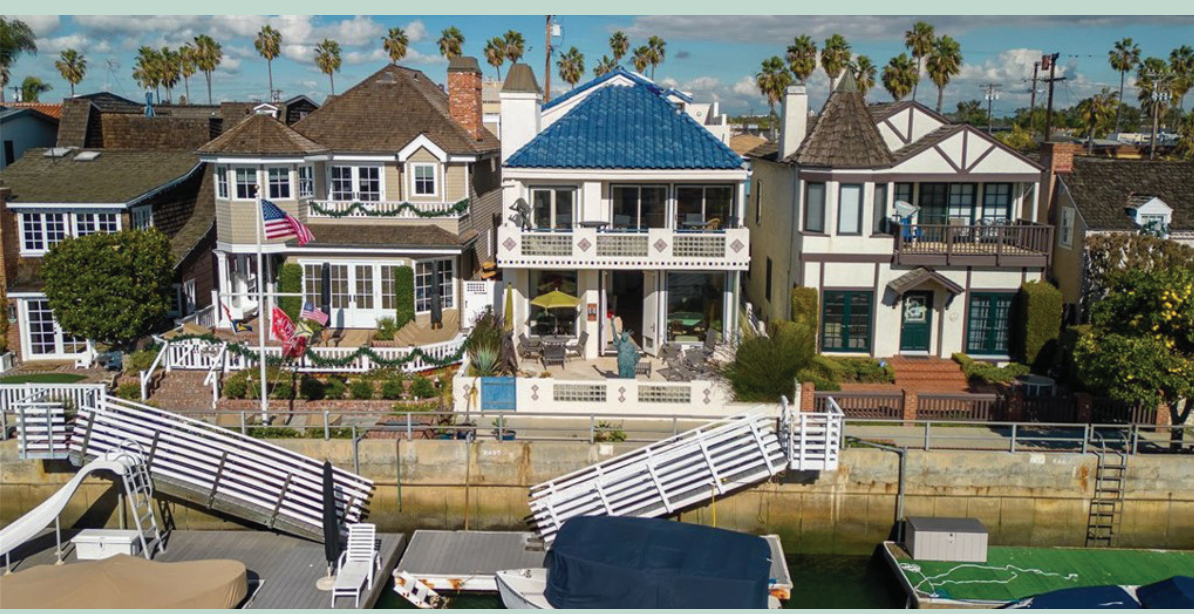
"We all thought, 'Wow, a million-dollar home,'" he recalls. "It was unbelievable. That was crazy money."

Just a couple of years before that astonishing sale, you could still easily get into the Naples/Peninsula neighborhood for a lot less than a million. I found an ad in the LA Times in 1975 for a three-story home at 271 Bay Shore Ave. with 40 feet of water frontage for \$108,000. The property sold again in 1987 for \$485,000 and is now estimated by Redfin at \$2,191,371. And a two-story waterfront home on Naples' extra-prestigious Treasure Island was listed in 1975 at \$225,000. Shoulda bought a dozen of 'em.

I know, I know, people made less money then than they do now. But the median household income for Americans was fairly static from 1967 through 1987,



A three-bedroom home on Ostrom Avenue in Lakewood Plaza is listed at \$1.03 million.



Listed at \$4.275 million, this Naples home on Rivo Alto Canal is among the most expensive homes currently for sale in Long Beach.

when it was it rose from \$24,315 to just \$25,986, while median home prices in the west rose from \$24,100 to \$111,000 in that period, and, more recently, homes in 2022 had risen in value by 41% over the previous five years. How many people do you know who've seen a 41% pay increase over that span?

So yes, homes remain or are becoming increasingly unaffordable, and Long Beach homes are increasingly unaffordable for Long Beachers. According to Today's Homeowner, if you assume a 20% down payment on a million-dollar house, that's \$200,000, leaving you a mortgage balance of \$800,000, and if you follow the Department of Housing and Urban Development's suggestion that your annual housing payment doesn't exceed 30% of your pre-tax income—or call it 25% to give yourself a tad more walking-around money—your household income should be at least \$200,000 a year. The median household income in Long Beach hovers around \$70,000 a year.

So, what does a million-dollar house look like in Long Beach in 2023? Here are a few listings at or just slightly above the \$1 million mark.

3021 Ostrom Ave.

This three-bedroom, two-bath home in Lakewood Plaza is just north of Spring Street and a short walk to El Dorado Park West and the Eldo Restaurant. It's close to how it was first built in 1952, though a tad larger at 1,362 square feet, with a spacious living room with a stone fireplace. The interior has been freshly painted in neutral colors. The kitchen is on the small side, as is typical of homes in the Plaza, but it's stocked with new appliances. Perhaps putting it over the top is its inviting backyard swimming pool. The home is listed at \$1.03 million by Gabriel Valdez, of Opendoor.



This home on Ring Street in El Dorado Estates is on the market for \$1 million.

7886 Ring St.

This four-bedroom, two-bath house in the desirable and generally quiet El Dorado Estates is listed right at \$1 million. By "generally quiet" I mean under ideal circumstance; this home may be a tad too close to the 605 Freeway, but as one Realtor told us when my wife and I were considering a home close to the 405 back in the late 1980s, "the sound after a while is like a river. You get used to it." This one's a nice home for entertaining, especially in the summer with its expansive swimming pool. It's fairly spacious at 1,701 square feet, and it has a cozy family room with a fireplace. The kitchen is nice and has bar-height counters with barstools. New to the house is its air-conditioning and dual pane windows, plus a resurfaced patio deck out back. It's listed by Ernie Caponera of Harcourts Newport Properties.

5916 Walnut Ave.

Million-dollar homes may be popping up all over, but here's an unexpected one in North Long Beach which, I admit, doesn't have you reaching for your wallet at curbside. But it's got a lot of things in the plus column, not the least of which is a bonus house—a nice, spacious ADU in the back where you can keep your extra kids, a mother-in-law or just rent it out to help with the mortgage (the listing claims you can get \$3,000/month for it).

Both the three-bedroom two-bath main house and the two-bedroom one-bath ADU have new laminated wood floors in a herringbone pattern throughout and are painted in the trendy white with black trim. The 1940 house with the new ADU is listed at \$1.25 million by Manuel Badiola of Monaco Realty. ■



A North Long Beach home and ADU on Walnut Avenue is listed at \$1.25 million.

A dozen Bigbelly trash stations are coming to Second Street despite some resident opposition

By Kat Schuster

Twelve “smart” Bigbelly trash stations will be installed along Second Street in March, thanks to a decision made by the Belmont Shore Parking and Business Improvement Area Commission.

“Boy, is this good news,” Matt Peterson, chair of the commission and co-owner of Legends, said to those who attended the commission’s Feb. 16 meeting inside Fire Station 8.

The dozen new receptacles will enable the commission to replace the “worst looking” Bigbelly stations on the street, some of which were broken, Peterson said. Their \$33,229 price tag will drain the last bit of funding from a Community Facilities District bond from 2007, which dedicated dollars for such acquisitions in Belmont Shore, he said.

Peterson says the incoming receptacles will have foot pedals and they won’t have all of “the bells and whistles,” meaning they

are more affordable than previous models purchased.

“Some number of the Bigbellys are the fully operational, compacting, solar—all that stuff,” he said. “What we’re trying to do is move away from that technology, because it’s expensive and the maintenance on them is high.”

Most importantly, Peterson said the new models will keep doing what they need to: keep trash in and prevent people from pulling anything out.

While a handful of residents

want to bring back the old cement waste bins, Peterson told the Post in a separate interview that would not be an option, and it would mean hundreds of thousands of dollars spent in vain.

A mixture of battery-powered and solar Bigbellys first arrived in the neighborhood in 2016, when the commission approved 53 of them for \$99,653. Since then, the commission has OK’d various costs associated with the upkeep of the smart trash stations, many of which have the ability to alert whoever is

Continued on page 24

Bar Envie

Continued from page 5

comfortable,” Geoff told the Journal while enjoying a NOLA staple, an iced Irish coffee.

The space offers a colorful palate of jewel tones in its couches and chairs. Board games and cards are within reach at the couches. There’s even some “old school” Nintendo consoles connected to some of the TVs.

“We just want people to be comfortable, relaxed and have a place, a neighborhood bar, with some great food,” Geoff said.

Eventually, the Raus said Bar Envie will host live music, from French Jazz to African Blues to contemporary rock, within the Zaferia district. The neighborhood’s few bars have been gaining momentum for the subculture and musicians it attracts. Walking distance to Bar Envie, there’s Bamboo Club, and from there, you

can now walk around the corner on Loma Avenue and find Buvsns Wine Bar + Shop, which opened about a year ago.

“If you count Roundin’ 3rd and Sevla, Port City, Envie, Alex’s (Bar) and Bamboo (Club)—it’s starting to get that little corridor feeling that we’d love,” Geoff said. “We’re getting closer all the time.”

Long Beach residents (and now New Orleans part-timers) Geoff and Karna met 24 years ago when they were both working as servers at Claim Jumper. They now own seven restaurants across Southern California, with three in Long Beach.

“If we could get one more spot in there,” Geoff said of the Zaferia district, with a chuckle. “Although, I think we might be done owning restaurants.”

Bar Envie, located on 4000 E. Anaheim St., is open from 4 p.m. to midnight Sunday through Thursday and 4 p.m. to 1 a.m. on Friday and Saturday. Eventually, the Raus will likely extend its closing time to 2 a.m., after live music is implemented. ■



Thomas R. Cordova / Business Journal

Shrimp and grits with creole spiced shrimp, fried egg and bacon bits at Bar Envie.



Thomas R. Cordova / Business Journal

Bar Envie has a New Orleans vibe.



Thomas R. Cordova / Business Journal

The sun sets while customers enjoy Bar Envie.



Thomas R. Cordova / Business Journal

The sun sets while customers enjoy Bar Envie.

Community Health

Continued from page 21

crisis, such as a Mental Evaluation Team and Integrated Medical Response Program.

We will always be open to working collaboratively with any service that provides our community members with the best possible care and support they need,” the spokesperson said in an email. “Ultimately, the effectiveness and impact of this new program will be determined by the outcomes achieved and feedback from the community.”

Apart from a nationwide push for police accountability, the need for mental health services has only increased since the pandemic; a stark increase in mental health needs among youth and the city’s unhoused population is particularly troubling, Long Beach Health Department Director Kelly Colopy told the Business Journal in October.

According to CalMatters, between 2016 and 2020, California’s National Suicide Prevention Lifeline call centers experienced a 67% increase in calls.

For Melissa Morgan, a member of Black Lives Matter and communications director for Long Beach Forward (whose work with the

People’s Budget Coalition calls for reallocating funding from police and directing it toward other community resources), it has become clear that there are community members more equipped to handle mental health crises than police, she said.

“I have really begun to embrace and understand how we keep each other safe as a community,” Morgan said. “There are professionals in the community who are not police, who have incredible skill and ability to respond to issues of crisis and community where they don’t need weapons.”

A crisis response team is an important first step in the right direction, Morgan said.

But while Morgan looks forward to seeing how the program rolls out, she has concerns that the hours will not be enough to provide access when there is a real need for support, she said.

“Likely, the majority of these folks who they’re responding to are going to be people of color or poor people,” she said. “If those sitting leaders really prioritize this work, (the crisis response team) would be 24/7, absolutely, and it would be fully funded.”

Morgan hopes that funding will be sustainable going forward and that the program will be able to expand from just the West Police Division and respond to more calls, she said.

“Certainly there are needs all across the city,” Morgan said. “So I know we’ll be keeping our eyes open to see when they’ll be expanding out into other areas of the community.”

In order for there to be truly impactful change, values within the city need to change, and ultimately, the Health Department needs to be considered a higher priority, Morgan said, noting that the Police Department receives a large part of the city’s budget every year.

The Health Department has “to look for grant funding continually to be able to help their programs to survive and thrive,” Morgan said. “It’s not a secret ... what departments the city values and doesn’t value, and that’s quite often laced with racism.”

Morgan referenced the Be Well OC Mobile Crisis Response Team, where mental health care workers respond to mental health and substance abuse issues and are able to transport patients to facilities throughout the county.

“It’s just a beautiful model,” Morgan said. “I hope that Long Beach at some point will look into funding to create some of those health care centers.”

During a community meeting regarding the crisis response team, Morgan was struck by the realization that within her diversity, social justice and civil rights field, there is

the hope that eventually that type of work won’t be needed.

“We want to do the work and support community so badly that in the end, there wouldn’t be racism or discrimination or hate crimes, that we’d be putting ourselves out of work,” Morgan said. “We would do whatever it takes to do that, and I think that police need to take that same mindset, they need to care so much about serving the community that they want to put themselves out of a job.”

Boatright and Valencia-Adachi acknowledge that gaining the community’s trust can be a challenge, and can take time to develop.

“We know that need is out there, we just want people to trust us,” Boatright said. “And we know that takes time. And that takes work. And so we’re really excited about this team, because they’re very focused on building relationships.”

Morgan hopes to see police responding to a significantly reduced number of calls for service, and to see support from the police, and for the city to truly embrace community voices in informing how to care for one another, she said.

“The source, the root of policing, is very destructive,” Morgan said. “Anytime you can bring community together to care for one another, wonderful things can happen there.” ■

CITY OF LONG BEACH

Bid Opportunities

Title	Bid Number	Due Date
Strategic Communications & Graphic Design	WD-23-057	03/16/2023
R-7211/R-7212 Taxilane K Reconstruction & Construct Taxilane U Projects	AP-23-242	03/27/2023
Sales, Use, & District Tax Auditing, Projection, Recovery, & Consultant Services	FM-23-225	03/28/2023

Bidder Registration

To receive notifications of bid opportunities, register with the city, and download additional bid details, visit www.longbeach.gov/purchasing.



Auto Lien Sale Auction

3111 E. Willow Street
Long Beach, CA 90806
(562) 570-2828

Mar 14 & 28, 2023
Registration & Viewing:
8:00 A.M. - 9:50 A.M.
<http://www.longbeach.gov/autoauction>



Marina Pacifica Gym

Continued from page 20

for the membership even though the gym was not open. Residents were later told of the change in concept for the space, making their memberships meaningless, as LA Fitness members do not have access to Club Studio facilities.

After months of back-and-forth, Fay said, the residents were finally able to get refunds.

“Even though I wanted the membership that was proposed to

us, I clearly won’t be joining any gym that they are behind,” Fay said in an email to the Business Journal. “Dishonesty and deceit are two characteristics I just do not tolerate.”

The company did not respond to questions about the allegations.

While LA Fitness has memberships starting at just \$40 per month with a \$99 initiation fee, Club Studio runs \$189 per month—with the first and last months fees due upfront.

It remains unclear when the new gym will open, but construction is expected to wrap in July, according to a worker on site. After that, Club Studio will have to bring in equipment. ■



Brandon Richardson / Business Journal

Work is underway on a Club Studio fitness center, a luxury concept by LA Fitness, at the old Best Buy location at Marina Pacifica.

What bills are Long Beach’s state legislators working on?

Long Beach’s state representatives have drafted a slew of bills to address opioid addiction, gun regulations and air pollution from oil refineries and more.

By Alicia Robinson

With nearly two months of the 2023-24 state legislative session under their belts, Long Beach’s representatives have drafted a slew of bills to address opioid addiction, gun regulations, air pollution from oil refineries and more.

Friday, Feb. 17, was the deadline to introduce new bills for this session. Some bills are placeholders on topics legislators are still researching, and others may get rewritten in an effort to win support as they pass through committees. Here’s a sampling of the issues the city’s delegation is working on.

Assemblymember Mike Gipson

Gipson represents the 65th District, a weirdly shaped area that includes North Long Beach and Compton on its northern end and Wilmington, part of San Pedro and the Port of Los Angeles to the south, with most of Carson



A mixologist at Baltimore Spirits Company pours two mixed drinks on Wednesday, Feb. 8, 2023, in Baltimore.

cut out of the middle (it’s in the 69th District).

Gipson—a former police officer and Carson City Council member—has been a state legislator for almost a decade, but his district changed when the lines were redrawn after the 2020 census; it now includes a little more of Long Beach plus San

Pedro and the LA port.

In the 2023-24 session, Gipson has put forward a package of 28 bills that deal with topics including police reform, gun laws, public safety, health equity and the rights of foster youth. Here are a few details:

AB 1089: This bill would

tighten restrictions on using a 3D printer or CNC milling machine (a computerized cutting tool) to manufacture a gun, and it would create legal liability for anyone who “distributes any code or digital instructions for the manufacture of a firearm” by such a printer or machine.

Continued on page 26

Bigbelly

Continued from page 22

maintaining them as to whether it is full or close to overflowing. Currently, the Conservation Corps of Long Beach is in charge of maintaining the Bigbelly receptacles in Belmont Shore.

Peterson says the Bigbelly stations are simply more hygienic. Before they came to the Shore, he said some residents complained that the city waste cans were easy to pull items out of and easy to overflow. Plus, “they were the right height to sit on and use as a toilet,” he said.

Yet, some Shore residents still allege that Bigbellies are poorly maintained, are often overflowing and are an unnecessary expense.

“It doesn’t seem like they’re maintained at all,” Brian Cochrane, a member of the Belmont Shore Residents Association, said at the meeting.

Jennifer Sandoval, who works with the Conservation Corps of Long Beach, said many of the



Second Street will get 12 new replacement BigBelly trash stations, some of which will replace solar Bigbellies like this one.

Bigbellies on Second Street are broken and are difficult for her and fellow members to maintain.

“Some of them, the batteries in the shaft thing get stuck to a point where you can’t really take it out to change the bag,” she told the Post as she worked on the street.

She said that she’s also arrived many mornings to find locks broken and bags taken from the stations so that people can collect bottles and cans.

Melinda Cotton, who’s lived in the neighborhood for 40 years, told the Post that many were immediately

broken into when they first came to the street, which she says defeated the purpose of having them.

Jeff Miller, another member of the residents association, urged the commission to ditch the high-tech stations and resurrect the traditional solid, concrete receptacles that used to line the Second Street sidewalks he’s traipsed up and down for years. They were impossible to knock over, he added.

Miller said the Bigbellies are “filthy inside. That’s not a good look for Second Street.”

Peterson told the Post: “That’s a silly critique...it’s a garbage can for crying out loud.”

“I think some of the complaints that are being made are geared toward anything that’s different, anything that represents change,” Peterson said, referencing recent debates over parklets and a new Belmont Shore sign. “I think that their thought is, ‘This ought to be Main Street at Disneyland, and it should be so pristine that you could sit down on any stretch of sidewalk and have a picnic.’” ■

Chorale

Continued from page 17

“We have singers that have been with the group since the ‘90s. We have singers that just joined at the beginning of this year,” Smith said. “But on average, the longevity is pretty decent.”

Singers also regularly volunteer, from beach cleanups to participating in collection events with the nonprofit Love in the Mirror.

“Our concerts share about building bridges between communities, but it’s important that we also do that in practice,” Smith said.

Past concerts have highlighted the intersection between the LGBTQ movement and the civil rights movement, including a 2018 performance of “Bayard Rustin the Man Behind the Dream,” a choral tribute to the life and accomplishments of openly gay civil rights activist Bayard Rustin.

“We partnered with the NAACP, we partnered with some other organizations in Long Beach to really make it a true community event,” Smith said. “And I think it was really powerful.”

A couple of years later, the organization performed “Street Requiem” during the city’s annual homeless memorial, honoring those who have lived and died on the streets.

“I think of things that really have not only set a tone, I think, for who the chorale is, and the impact that we can have on the community, but also, just were incredibly powerful events to just be part of as a human, as an individual, and I’m proud of those two things,” Smith said.

Smith suspects that the upcoming performance of “Oliver Button is a Sissy” will “be right up there with those,” he said.

With collaboration from both adult and youth musicians of Musique Sur La Mer Youth and Professional Orchestras, as well as youth actors from the The Kids Theatre Company and adult actors from the Landmark Theatre Company, the “Oliver Button” concert is a true community partnership, Smith said.

“In order to have a powerful impact on the community, you actually need to involve the community,” he said.

Although the South Coast Chorale does not typically perform with youth, “Oliver Button” will also be performed for school groups attending field trips, and it is important for youth attending to see themselves reflected in the performance, Smith said.

The performance will also be narrated by Benni Latham, who is the voice of Dot Malto in the Nickelodeon and Paramount+ animated series, “Transformers: EarthSpark.”

“It’s fun, it’s funny, it’s redeeming, and it has just a really powerful message,” Smith said.

Tickets for “This Is Me: Featuring ‘Oliver Button is a Sissy’” are available for Saturday, March 11, at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at The Beverly O’Neill Theater, 300 East Ocean Blvd. Tickets range from \$15 to \$60. ■

Construction of racetrack begins for 48th annual Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach

By Tess Kazenoff

Construction began in late February in preparation for the 48th annual Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach, taking place from April 14 to April 16.

The start of construction was commemorated this morning by Grand Prix Association of Long Beach President and CEO Jim Michaelian, Mayor Rex Richardson and LiUNA Local 1309 Business Manager Mario Suales in what will become Turn 10 of the racecourse in the Long Beach Arena parking lot.

The commemoration event was moved one day early due to weather, according to Chris Esslinger, Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach’s director of communications.

Over the next month and a half, Grand Prix Director of Operations Dwight Tanaka, LiUNA and Grand Prix operations staff will dedicate over 33,000 working hours to installing the safety system along the nearly 2-mile, 11-turn course, which includes



Thomas R. Cordova / Business Journal

Debris is blown from the street as construction begins for the 48th annual Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach racetrack.

more than 14 million pounds of concrete blocks, 4 miles of fencing and 17,000 bolted-together tires—plus grandstands, six pedestrian bridges and eight giant vision boards for full-circuit TV coverage.

Tanaka’s staff will also install 45 high-end hospitality suites, three

hospitality clubs, tents, electrical lines and equipment, phones, porta-potties, trash containers and a myriad of other items around the track.

All businesses along the race circuit, which includes Shoreline Drive, Aquarium Way and Pine Avenue, will remain open during

Continued on page 26

Comfort, Attention,
Expertise...

KEEN HOME CARE

- Private In-Home Care
- 6-Bed Board and Care
- Transitional Care
- Helpful Planning Tools
- Answers to Your Questions



Keen provides you and your loved ones with dedicated concierge care through all your lifestyle transitions.



www.keenhomecare.com

Keen Life Care Managers
are available 24/7.
Call for a consultation.
562.438.5336



Legislators

Continued from page 24

In an email, Gipson said he was thinking of the tragedy of David Mora, a man who was prohibited from having firearms when he used a ghost gun to kill his daughters, the chaperone supervising his visit with them and himself last year in Sacramento. Authorities don't know how or when Mora obtained the gun, Gipson said.

AB 1751: Under current law, if a doctor intends to treat pain in a minor patient by prescribing opioids, they must first discuss the risk of addiction and other dangers with the patient and their parent or guardian. The bill would extend that requirement to cover patients of any age and also require doctors to explain alternative, non-drug treatments or therapies.

AB 21: The bill would require that law enforcement officers get trained in "how to effectively interact with persons with Alzheimer's disease or dementia" as part of crisis intervention techniques.

"Oftentimes people with dementia can become confused and agitated and it is important that our peace officers are trained to recognize these signs and respond with compassion and patience," Gipson said in the email.

Assemblymember Josh Lowenthal

Lowenthal, a Long Beach native and business owner, is new to state politics but comes from a political family that includes his father, Alan, who held local, state and federal elected offices for three decades; and his mother, Bonnie, a Port of Long Beach Harbor Commissioner and former City Council member. His 69th District includes most of Long Beach

and Carson, plus Signal Hill and Catalina Island.

In addition to focusing on protections for girls and young women, Lowenthal authored a gun safety bill and is supporting climate legislation that could address air quality and protect communities from sea level rise. Here are a few of his proposals:

AB 1013: Under the bill, alcohol-serving restaurants and bars would have to offer test strips, straws, or some other device to detect certain drugs in beverages; the aim is to help patrons make sure no one has drugged their drink. The bars and restaurants could charge patrons to cover their costs for the testing devices.

AB 1164: Crowding and patient wait times at hospitals, especially in emergency departments, became a higher-profile issue during the pandemic. This bill would mandate that hospitals create a protocol to deal with crowding and help speed the process of getting patients admitted after they've received emergency care, to free up space in the ER for incoming patients.

Lowenthal said a previous version of this bill was vetoed in 2008 by then-Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

"Our emergency rooms are the only locations in the entire state where not a single patient will be turned away, so it's critically important that we have the facilities and resources available to see all our patients in a timely manner—it could be a life or death situation," he said.

AB 1135: Remember long-distance charges? Most young people probably don't, but phone companies used to charge extra for calls outside your geographic area (such as to another state), so most government agencies and some businesses responded by paying for toll-free

numbers, so callers wouldn't have to bear the cost.

This bill would require state agencies to switch their main phone numbers to non-toll-free ones and inform the public of the change. Lowenthal said while he's not sure how much it's costing taxpayers to maintain those lines, it's certainly multiple millions of dollars.

Having toll-free access to their government was "important to consumers back at a time when we paid per-minute long-distance charges, but to my knowledge, there's not a single plan remaining for domestic long-distance charges. We don't pay long distance on our cell phone plans," and people can make free calls over the internet, Lowenthal said, so there's no need for toll-free lines.

Senator Lena Gonzalez

Gonzalez, who won a special election in 2019 and was elected to a full term the following year, represents the 33rd District, which stretches from Long Beach north to the city of Vernon.

Some of her bills this session focus on environmental protection, extending paid sick leave and giving more people access to electric vehicles, she said in an email.

"This legislation will greatly benefit working families and underserved communities all across California who have been struggling the most from the impacts of climate change, and a post-pandemic economy," Gonzalez said. "I believe it is extremely important to prioritize equity in our legislative work so that those who need help the most are getting the support they need."

SB 57: Details of this bill are still being hammered out, but the basic idea is to stop utility providers from shutting off service during major storms and other extreme

weather events.

Electric utilities—whose lines or equipment have been blamed for some of the state's most devastating wildfires—have at times opted to shut down service when dry weather and high winds increased fire risk. But critics point out that the loss of power is not just an inconvenience for people and businesses; some customers need electricity to charge electric wheelchairs, keep medicine refrigerated or run life-saving medical devices.

SB 674: Petroleum refineries are already required in some cases to install air monitoring equipment to measure any pollutants they generate and make sure they don't exceed legal limits.

The bill would expand the types of refinery facilities that must monitor emissions and create a statewide standard, require the facilities to collect and report monitoring data and conduct independent audits to ensure the data is accurate.

SB 616: California employers are currently required to provide most employees with at least three paid sick days per year. The bill would increase that minimum to seven days.

A federal bill passed early in the pandemic provided emergency sick leave to most workers who had COVID-19 symptoms, were recommended to quarantine or were caring for someone infected with the coronavirus.

A fact sheet on Gonzalez's bill said that emergency leave was "one of the most effective tools in curbing the spread of COVID-19" and that paid leave is especially important for lower-income workers "who can least afford to miss work and jeopardize their ability to make ends meet." ■



Grand Prix

Continued from page 25

construction of the racetrack.

In 2022, over 188,000 fans attended the race, returning to pre-pandemic levels, according to a statement.

The eastern portion of the racetrack will also be used for Round One of the eight-event 2022 Formula Drift season on April 7 and 8, and part of the circuit will be used as a running course for the Grand Prix Foundation of Long Beach's 5th Annual G & M Grand Prix 5K Run on April 2.

The Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach will be headlined by the third round of the NTT INDYCAR SERIES, as well as the IMSA WeatherTech SportsCar Championship.

Beyond the six car races throughout the weekend, attendees can also

attend concerts, view exotic car displays and enjoy food trucks.

"Every year, our city has the unique opportunity to welcome more than 180,000 people to our downtown, support our local restaurants, engage with our beautiful waterfront and see what makes Long Beach so very special," said Richardson in a statement. "I look forward to welcoming the Grand Prix back to Long Beach for its 48th year to continue this incredible tradition of community and highlighting the prosperity of our city."

A Lifestyle Expo with more than 100 products and services in automotive, travel, home improvement, green power, fitness and recreation in the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center, and the large Family Fun Zone in the Long Beach Arena will also be open to attendees. ■



Thomas R. Cordova / Business Journal

K-rails are unloaded in preparation for construction kickoff for the 48th annual Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach racetrack.

Together we power Long Beach.

California Resources Corporation (CRC) is a different kind of energy company. With a Full-Scope Net Zero Goal by 2045, CRC is leading carbon capture and empowering Long Beach to be a solution in the energy transition.

Learn more about our new and innovative technology solutions like Carbon TerraVault that are helping California meet its ambitious emissions reduction goals by visiting CarbonTerraVault.com.





from brain trauma to

triumph

It takes a village.

Charly suffered a fall while biking — a severe brain trauma that threatened his life. Until Miller Children's & Women's Hospital helped his brain heal. Our therapists helped him walk and talk again and our highly specialized pediatric team dedicated themselves to his recovery. Because we knew, to lift Charly back up again, it would take a village. So when we watched Charly walk the stage at high school graduation — supported by his physical therapist — we knew he'd only keep going.

Learn more.

millerchildrens.org/care

Miller Children's & Women's Hospital Long Beach | Cherese Mari Laulhere Children's Village
Outpatient Specialty Centers from the South Bay to Orange County

Charly, Age 17



MemorialCare[™]
Miller **Children's & Women's**
Hospital Long Beach