

STRAIGHT TALK MAGAZINE

Community & Television Show News

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Volume 11 Number 5

September/October 2016

Long Beach Marathon

Approximately 20,000 runners and cyclists are expected to participate in this year's **Jet Blue Long Beach Marathon & Half Marathon** on **Sunday, October 9**.

Celebrating its **32nd Anniversary** this year, the Marathon has morphed into an **international race** with three full days of fun filled activities. It even includes a likely field of 15 remaining "Legacy Runners" who have run in every Long Beach Marathon since 1982.

Runners and cyclists will traverse a myriad of iconic landmarks like the Queensway Bridge, the Queen Mary, Lighthouse Park and Rainbow Harbor, along with residential neighborhoods and popular locations like Belmont Shore, Marine Stadium and California State University, Long Beach.



Sunday's activities will include the full marathon, half marathon and Bike Tour.

On **Saturday, October 8**, 2,000 children are expected to take part in the **Aquarium of the Pacific Kids Fun Run** and 2,500 participants in the **Aquarium's 5K**.

An estimated 50,000 people will attend the two-day **Health and Fitness Expo** on Friday and Saturday, with an additional 50,000 expected to attend the **Finish Line Festival** on Sunday.

For more information, visit RunLongBeach.com or call (562) 795-8900.

Mayor Garcia on Straight Talk



Robert Garcia
Mayor
City of Long Beach

Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia joins us to discuss the work and accomplishments of the City, as well as the challenges ahead.

Dr. Robert Garcia, 37, the 28th Mayor of Long Beach, has taken a leadership role in economic development and investing in technology, and is committed to moving Long Beach forward by attracting tech and green jobs, creating new educational partnerships, and making government more efficient.

An accomplished educator, Mayor Garcia has been a member of the public policy and communications faculty at USC, and taught at Cal State Long Beach and Long Beach City College.

Garcia has been named one of Long Beach's "Most Innovative Minds" by Long Beach Magazine, and was the recipient of the 2014 Vanguard Leadership award from Equality California.

Mayor Garcia served as First District Councilmember from 2009-2014 and as Vice Mayor from 2012-2014. He lives in downtown Long Beach.

Mayor Garcia will be our guest on the Straight Talk Show airing the weeks of September 10 & September 17.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **ICT Announces 32nd Season**
- **Police Chief on Straight Talk**
- **SCAN Helps Community Seniors**
- **CCEJ Human Relations Awards**
- **Around Town Photo Spread**
- **Sponsor Spotlight on Spencer Snyder**
- **Photo Focus on Endless Summer**
- **Sponsor & Community News**
- **Guest Column by Dr. Craig Smith**
- **Sponsor Spotlight on Phil Trani's**



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25th Anniversary Season

This September we begin our 25th year on air. We deeply appreciate the support and loyalty of our viewers, sponsors, cable stations and dedicated staff that have made this possible.

The new season for Straight Talk will start on September 10. We are honored to have Mayor **Robert Garcia** as the first guest of the new season (See story on front page). He will be followed by our Chief of Police **Robert Luna** (See story on page 4).

Over the past 25 years, we have taped 568 shows and interviewed nearly 1,000 guests. Take a look at the photos on page 15 and see how many of our past season guests you can identify.

In the Spring 2017, we are planning a **25th Anniversary Celebration** at the El Dorado Country Club big white tent. It will feature a buffet BBQ dinner and live rock n' roll band. Save **Saturday, June 10, 2017** for this special evening. Many of our past TV guests will be attending as well as sponsors and friends of the show. Tickets will be \$85 and all proceeds from the event will go to help our youth through the programs of BLAST and CCEJ. Details will follow as the date gets closer.

We are planning some special programs and events for this coming season.

Thank you again for watching Straight Talk, reading the Straight Talk Magazine and staying connected. You all help make Long Beach better and the special place it is.

These include a selection of 25 of our most memorable shows which we are calling **Straight Talk Classics**. They feature such guests as Governor George Deukmejian, Arianna Huffington, Nell Carter, Sally Struthers, Leslie Gore, Supervisor Don Knabe, the penguin from the Aquarium and other memorable guests.

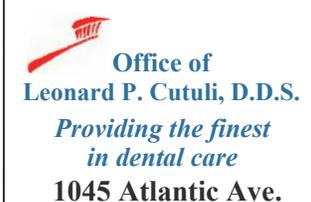
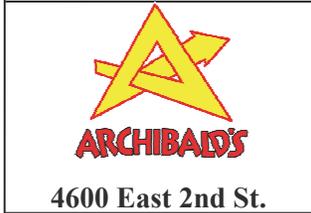
— Art Levine, Host
Straight Talk TV Show

Each show will air for two weeks on LBTV Channel 3 and Charter Channel 188, and will be in addition to our regular Straight Talk programs.

Thought of the Month

"The only person you are destined to become is the person you decide to be."

— Ralph Waldo Emerson





www.musical.org



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ICT Announces 32nd Season

International City Theatre has announced its 32nd Season with critically acclaimed plays. The season opens on **February 15, 2017** at the Beverly O'Neill Theatre in the Long Beach Performing Arts Center.

The theme of the season is *Encouraging Exploration - Exploring the Future and the Past.*

ICT 2017 Season

Feb. 15 - March 5: *Forever Plaid*— This popular musical by **Stuart Ross** is chock full of classic barbershop harmonies and nostalgic 1950s pop hits!

Once upon a time, there were four guys who discovered that they shared a love for music and then got together to become their idols – The Four Freshman, The Hi-Lo's and The Crew Cuts. Rehearsing in the basement of a family plumbing supply company, they became "Forever Plaid." Songs include *Heart and Soul, Catch a Falling Star, Rags to Riches, Love is a Many Splendored Thing,* and more.

April 19– May 7: *Uncanny Valley*— LA Premier of **Thomas Gibbons'** humorous and chilling jaunt into the future.

Drawing on current research in artificial intelligence and robotics, *Uncanny Valley* charts the relationship between Claire, a neuroscientist, and Julian, a nonbiological human. As Julian is "born" a few body parts at a time over the course of the play, Claire teaches him how to be as human as possible. *Uncanny Valley* explores the painful divide between creator and creation,

and how we are redefining what it means to be human in the twenty-first century.

June 7– June 25: *Crimes of the Heart*— Award-winning comedy by **Beth Henley**, one of the theatre's greatest voices.

Pulitzer Prize winner for Drama, NY Drama Critics' Circle Award for Best Play & Tony Award nominee for Best Play First presented by the Actors Theatre of Louisville, then off-Broadway, and then on Broadway, it established the author as a major voice in our theatre. Warm hearted, irreverent, zany and brilliantly imaginative, the play teems with humanity and humor as it examines the plight of three young Mississippi sisters betrayed by their passions.

Aug. 23– Sept. 10: *Silent Sky*— LA Premiere of **Lauren Gunderson's** illuminating tribute to a real-life female pioneer of astronomy and equality.

The true story of 19th-century astronomer Henrietta Leavitt explores a woman's place in society during a time of immense scientific discoveries. When she begins work at the Harvard Observatory, she isn't allowed to touch a telescope. Instead, she joins a group of women "computers" charting the stars for a renowned astronomer. Henrietta Leavitt and her female peers believe in both scientific and social progress, and their dedication changed the way we understand both the heavens and the earth.

Oct. 18 - Nov. 5 — To be announced. Currently in negotiations for an exciting final production.

For further information or tickets, contact ICT at **(562) 436-4610.**



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Police Chief on Straight Talk



Robert Luna
Chief of Police
City of Long Beach

Long Beach City Chief of Police Robert Luna joins us to discuss the work of the Department, and how the City is addressing disaster and emergency preparedness, terrorism, critical incident management and the problem of gangs in our city.

BIO

Robert Luna was sworn in as the 26th Police Chief for the City of Long Beach on November 22, 2014. Chief Luna began his law enforcement career with the Long Beach Police Department in August 1985 as a Reserve Officer. He entered the Basic Police Academy as a Recruit in April of 1987, and has since promoted through every rank within the Department, having worked a variety of assignments.

Chief Luna is a long time advocate of community policing, and actively promotes the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, policing in a smart, focused and effective manner, and treat-

ing people with dignity and respect. He embraces the concepts presented in the U.S. President's 21st Century Policing Report, which provides key elements that help strengthen community policing and trust among law enforcement officers and the communities they serve. He has been instrumental in helping to build and maintain productive and trustworthy relationships with the community, and has received many awards from several community organizations for his civic leadership.

The Chief strongly believes in the importance of higher education and made a significant investment in his own education. He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) National Executive Institute, the FBI National Academy, the Harvard University Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program and holds a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from California State University, Long Beach.

Chief Luna is committed to ensuring a safe city for all people through sound principles, practices, and partnerships.

Chief Luna will be our guest on the Straight Talk Show airing the weeks of October 8 & October 15.

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SCAN Helps Community Seniors



Chris Wing
Chief Executive Officer
SCAN Health Plan

Coming up on its 40-year anniversary, SCAN continues to adapt while remaining true to its founding mission: *Keeping Seniors Healthy and Independent*. **Chris Wing** and **Dr. Romilla Batra** will be guests on

Straight Talk to discuss SCAN's assistance to our community seniors.

Headquartered in Long Beach, SCAN is a senior-focused organization offering SCAN Health Plan, which serves 170,000 Medicare beneficiaries throughout California. One of the nation's largest not-for-profit Medicare Advantage plans, SCAN has a 90% member satisfaction rating and earned 4.5 stars in the CMS 5 Star rating program for 2016. (Star Ratings are calculated each year and may change from one year to the next.)

SCAN also offers a range of community benefit programs. Independence at Home, a community service of SCAN, provides seniors and their caregivers the services and resources they need to remain safely at home. These programs are available to the community at large. IAH is also a recognized source for

behavioral health counseling, resource navigation and health education.

In addition to the services available through IAH, SCAN has an active volunteer program, Volunteer Action for Aging, and a generous community giving fund that supports organizations serving seniors in need. SCAN also offers the award-winning Trading Ages senior sensitivity training, which Art got a taste of on his show last November.



CEO Chris Wing, who recently marked his fifth anniversary with SCAN, emphasizes the company's drive to support communities so they can better meet the needs of older adults. Wing

explains, "We are committed to connecting seniors to a better healthcare experience; working with providers, community partners, legislators and local governments to build a system that is comprehensive, yet personal."

Dr. Romilla Batra is the Chief Medical Executive for SCAN, setting clinical policies and procedures while also providing physician oversight of clinical programs.

Chris Wing and Dr. Romilla Batra will be our guests on the Straight Talk Show airing the weeks of November 5 & November 12.

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CCEJ Human Relations Awards

The California Conference for Equality and Justice (CCEJ) will host the **Gene Lentzner Human Relations Awards** on **Thursday, October 20**, at Keesal, Young & Logan.

The reception, with hosted hors d'oeuvres and cocktails, will start at **5pm** followed by the program at **6pm**. Tickets are \$75 per person.

The Gene Lentzner Human Relations Award will be given to the following individuals for their exceptional contributions to improving human relations in Long Beach:

Porter Gilberg

*Executive Director
The LGBTQ Center, Long Beach*

Heather Green

*Cultural Program Supervisor
City of Long Beach
Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine*

Mary L. Zendejas

*Executive Director & Founder
Professional Abilities Association of America*

CCEJ's Community Partner, the City of Long Beach Human Dignity Program, will present the **2016 Human Dignity Award** to **Mary White**, Director of *Gems Uncovered*.



Gene Lentzner

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In its 28th year, these awards are given in the name of Gene Lentzner because of his extraordinary life-long commitment to bringing diverse people together to improve human relations in the greater Long Beach area.

The event will be held at the beautiful offices of Keesal, Young, & Logan at 400 Oceangate. Free on-site parking is available in the building garage.

The **California Conference for Equality and Justice (CCEJ)** is a human relations organization dedicated to confronting bias, bigotry and racism through education, conflict resolution and advocacy.

For tickets or more information, visit www.cacej.org or call (562) 435-8184.



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Ballast Point at Alamos Bay Landing opened to a packed house over the July 3 weekend.



Local leaders break ground for the new Civic Center in downtown Long Beach. The Center will include a new City Hall, a new Port Headquarters and a new City Library.



The sun sets over Alamos Bay prior to the great fireworks display on July 3 as part of the **Big Bang on the Bay** celebration. Organized by **John Morris** and headquartered at **Boathouse on the Bay**, the event featured Vintage Aircraft flyovers and a Bar-B-Que dinner and raised more than \$60,000 for *Children Today*.



Laura Herzog, Founder and Executive Director of *Honoring Our Fallen*, standing beside her Tribute Jeepster with the names of the 6,864 warriors who have died in combat since 9/11.



Joe Correa of Alfredo's Beach Club at Mother's Beach on a beautiful Sunday.



The Grove behind Mother's Beach provides a restful umbrella for family picnics and recreation.

Around Town



Straight Talk Host **Art Levine** at the entrance of **Alfredo's Beach Club** at Granada Beach.



A rock climbing wall is one of the many attractions at Alfredo's Beach Club. **Fred Khammar**, owner of Alfredo's, has been a long time major supporter of many summer events.



Moonlight Movies on the Beach attracts thousands to Granada Beach on Tuesday nights over the summer. The event was created and is supported by Alfredo's Beach Club.



Staff of the Communications Division of the Port of Long Beach attract youngsters to their booth with games and giveaways. The Port is one of the major sponsors of *Moonlight Movies on the Beach* as well as other *100 Days of Summer* events.



Boat races are a regular summer feature at Marine Stadium.



Kayaks and other boating equipment are available for rental at Alamitos Bay.

Sponsor Spotlight: Spencer Snyder – Elevating Expectations

Spencer Snyder is a long time resident of Naples Island. His intimate knowledge of the area made his transition into real estate a natural fit.

His long history in the Naples Island area gives him the ability to find buyers the perfect home based on subtle needs that another agent might not pick up on.

The same goes for residents that are looking to sell their home. Spencer's marketing is just one example of his investment into the successful sale of his client's property.

For Spencer, being a real estate professional is more than just a career choice; it is an opportunity for him to give back. **Listing4Love** is Spencer's philanthropic program that provides home sellers an opportunity to give 4% of the net commission from the sale of their home to the charity of their choice.

After many successful business ventures, Spencer has realized that "true success" comes from inspiring others. Whether it's his two beautiful daughters, his clients or the real estate community, he is always striving to *Elevate Expectations*.



The Spencer Snyder Group is Spencer's real estate team located right in the heart of Naples Island. The Spencer Snyder Group is a collective of professionals who specialize in every facet of the areas diverse landscape, always focusing on their client's successful transaction while setting the standard for real estate agents everywhere.

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Photo Focus: Endless Summer



Long Beach Municipal Band Conductor **Larry Curtis** welcomes a huge crowd at Marina Vista Park for the *Spirit of America* Concert, the first of six weeks of concerts.



Terry Geiling proudly waves the American flag during the playing of the Armed Forces Medley at the *Spirit of America* Municipal Band concert.



Stone Soul perform opening weekend at *Concerts at the Beach* on the campus of CSULB. Formerly held at the Soroptomist House and known as *Concerts in the Grove*, the new venue for the concerts is the Courtyard of the Kinesiology Building.



Michele Dobson dances up a storm at the *Concerts at the Beach* with her daughter, **Meara Dobson-Wilson**.



The Emperors entertain a record crowd at the third *Concerts at the Beach* event. **Ken Miller** served as m/c and helped raise a record amount of money for the CSULB Alumni Association Scholarship Fund.



Kent Heyl joins the band with his tambourine talent. *The Emperors* played at Kent's wedding 44 years earlier.

Sponsor & Community News

A Few Good Men Fundraiser

A Few Good Men Fundraiser will take place this year on **Wednesday, October 26** at the Pacific Ballroom in the Long Beach Arena. The event annually raises hundreds of thousands dollars for the Ronald McDonald House.



along small-scope construction projects using an established

This year's honorees are **Blake Christian, Charles Feder, Russ Hill, Matt Knabe, Rick Lorenzen, Jerry Maize, John Morris, Richard Neri, Vern Schooley, Kurt Schulzman** and **Dr. Grant Uba**. Also, **Umberto International Clothier** will coordinate the fashions for the Class of 2016 Honorees. For tickets or sponsorship opportunities, call Michelle Daley at **(562) 285-4308**.

CCEJ

The Long Beach Police Department (LBPD) has been awarded a two-year, \$600,000 grant from the California Board of State and Community Corrections to strengthen police-community relations and help ensure fair and impartial policing throughout Long Beach neighborhoods.

The **California Conference for Equality and Justice (CCEJ)** was selected as the **Community Partner** for this grant. CCEJ has served the Greater Long Beach community since 1963, and has worked with the LBPD in providing training, dialogues and support for addressing hate crime and hate violence prevention in the community.

CCEJ Board Member and retired LBPD Administration Bureau Chief **Braden Phillips** said, "As a long-time CCEJ

Board member and former member of the LBPD Management Team, I am very pleased to see this opportunity for meaningful collaboration to improve the relationship between our officers and the community. This grant will renew a productive training relationship that started over 20 years ago."

Port of Long Beach

The Port of Long Beach has announced a new initiative to broaden its educational outreach through a specialized academy at **Cabrillo High School**, which is located in the vicinity of the Port.

The Port of Long Beach **Academy of Global Logistics** was created in partnership with the Long Beach Unified School District. The new academy will be a **four-year global trade and logistics pathway** that will provide a unique opportunity to bring real world experiences to the classroom. The Academy will be one of the district's many "small learning communities" which offer incoming high school students a wide variety of professional educational opportunities.

Mayor Garcia expressed his support for the Port's new academy. "As an advocate for education, I'd like to congratulate the Long Beach Unified School District and the Port of Long Beach on the creation of the new Academy of Global Logistics," he said. "The district is known for its small learning communities and this is a prime example of how industry and educators can partner to nurture and train the leaders of tomorrow."

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Straight Talk Magazine

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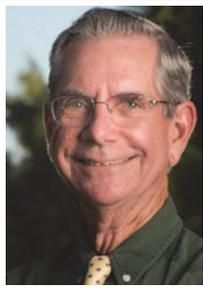
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What to Watch for in the Presidential Debates

by
Dr. Craig R. Smith
Author, Confessions of a Presidential Speechwriter

During the first presidential debate televised in 1960, Vice President Richard Nixon looked gaunt after a hospital stay. The cathode tube in the black and white television cameras revealed his five o'clock shadow. The klieg lights induced sweat on his brow and upper lip. Senator John Kennedy, appeared polished, poised, tan and mature. A majority who watched the debate on television believed Kennedy won; a majority who heard the debate on radio believed Nixon had won. However, many more people watched on television than heard on radio. When Kennedy carried the election by 112,000 votes, the first debate was blamed for Nixon's loss. There were no more presidential debates until 1976, when, trailing in the polls, President Gerald Ford challenged former Governor Jimmy Carter to debate. When Ford upset expectations by winning the first debate, the race for president became an even contest.

Using my experience with that debate and others that followed, I provide a guide for viewers as to what to watch for in the coming debates between Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton.

1. **Expectations:** The news media regularly speculates on what is going to happen in presidential debates. Just as the bumbling Ford was expected to lose the first debate against nuclear engineer Carter in 1976, Ronald Reagan, portrayed as an aging ex-governor and actor, was expected to lose the only debate he would have with President Carter. When Reagan won the debate, there was a 10% shift in voters. He not only won the election, the Republicans picked up 12 seats in the Senate.

2. **Sound Bites:** Generally, the media is not interested in how the candidates frame their position on the issues. They are interested in drama or comedy that arise from zingers. In 1980, Reagan's "There you go again" line effectively ridiculed Carter's attacks. Reagan finished Carter off with his closing rhetorical question: "Are you better off today than you were four years ago?" In 1988, when Senator Dan Quayle compared himself to John Kennedy, Senator Lloyd Bentsen responded, "I knew Jack Kennedy. Jack Kennedy was a friend of mine. Senator, you're no Jack Kennedy." The media played the line over and over.

3. **Gaffs:** In the second debate in 1976, with the race dead even, President Ford mis-spoke himself when he claimed that the Soviet Union did not dominate Poland. Instead of immediately correcting the error – he meant to say "in the hearts and minds of the Polish people" – his staff debated what to do for five days and the election slipped away. When asked during a 1988 debate if he would support the death penalty for someone who raped and murdered his wife, Governor Michael Dukakis coolly said he would not. His opponent, George H. W. Bush, responded that Dukakis was an "ice man." Soon the press was referring to him as "passionless."

4. **Proper Preparation:** In preparation for his first debate against Senator Walter Mondale, Reagan was handed a briefing book which contained a response paragraph and pages of detailed back up material on every issue. As he did with scripts when an actor, Reagan tried to memorize the entire briefing book. He looked flummoxed in the debate. Furious, Nancy Reagan demanded that the staff "Let Ronnie be Ronnie." In the second debate, he easily carried the day.

5. **Humor:** In that second debate with Mondale, Reagan quickly defused any potential attack on his age by stating that he would not attack his opponent's "youth and inexperience."

6. **Clothes:** In the 1960 debate, the only suit Nixon had that fit after his hospital stay was beige, the same color as the wall behind him. His head seemed to float bodiless through the debate. Women face an unfair disadvantage when it comes to what they wear. Men can put on the dark suit with the red or blue tie and be done with it. However, the media pay scrupulous attention to what women wear. On the day of the 1988 Vice Presidential debate, Congresswoman Geraldine Ferraro changed clothes seven times before settling on a fuzzy, hounds-tooth outfit that was, according to the fashion police, more appropriate for a grandmother.

7. **Nonverbal Behavior:** In 1992, during a three-way debate with Bill Clinton and Ross Perot, George H. W. Bush looked at his watch indicating he couldn't wait to leave the stage. In 2000, Vice President Al Gore regularly sighed and rolled his eyes during George W. Bush's answers to questions. The media portrayed him as inauthentic. In the 2008 Town Hall debate, while Senator Barack Obama was speaking, Senator John McCain wandered the stage as if looking for a lost cat.

It should be clear that campaign debates are mine fields for candidates. They need to step carefully which is why debates are often boring. Neither side wants to take a chance. As we approach the first debate of 2016, it is clear that a huge number of people will be watching because they believe there will be fireworks. I suspect one candidate will be something of a bomb thrower and the other something of a bomb de-fuser. In any case, these candidates will give the media a lot to talk about.

Sponsor Spotlight: Phil Trani's — A Long Beach Institution

Phil Trani's has been a favorite Long Beach gathering spot for the past **26 years**. Serving the best in California cuisine, specializing in fresh fish, prime steaks and a variety of classic Italian pastas. Phil's personal touch is evident in each delicious dish.

But Trani's is much more than a restaurant. It is also a **favorite gathering spot** for sports celebrities from Southern California and beyond. The walls of the restaurant are adorned with priceless memorabilia, from **Reggie Bush** to **Mark Sanchez** to the late **John Wooden**.

On weekends Trani's heats up with **live music** every Friday and Saturday night from 8pm to midnight.

When you visit Trani's, come into the kitchen and watch Phil work his magic. You'll also see walls filled with signatures and notes from Hall of Famers and celebrities.



Book your holiday parties or work lunch at Trani's. They have lunch and dinner packages to accommodate anyone. Happy hour Monday- Friday 4pm- 6pm with \$5 appetizers, wines and well drinks.

Trani's is open for dinner nightly at 5:30pm, and for lunch weekdays at 11:30am. Open for dinner Sundays at 4:30pm. Free on-site parking.

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Naples Rib Company.....(562) 439-7427

Papalucci's.....(562) 434-4454

Phil Trani's.....(562) 426-3668

Russo's Ristorante.....(562) 433-1616

Special Events

Renaissance Pleasure Faire.....(626) 969-4750

Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach.....(562) 981-2600

Theater

International City Theatre.....(562) 495-4595

Long Beach Playhouse.....(562) 494-1014

Musical Theatre West.....(562) 856-1999

Tires/Wheels/Service

Performance Plus Tire & Auto Superstore.....(562) 988-0211



2015-2016 Year in Review



Do You Know These Community Leaders?



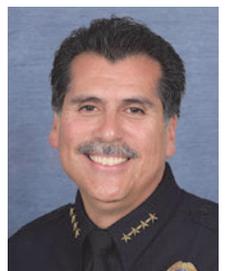
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