



April 2011 Newsletter

Official Publication of the Wrigley Association

April, 2011

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From The Desk of Colleen McDonald

Hello Neighbors,

At our next meeting of the Wrigley Association we will have Lt. Lancaster of the West Division bring us up to date on the crime trends in our neighborhood and how we can help. Also, we have invited the new owner of the bar that used to be the Puka. I'll have another update on the Signal Hill Petroleum /Nodal Seismic thumpers. Lots more neighborhood news: planned fundraisers, cleanup projects, and the WVBI project plans.

Last week, Raul Romo, Sammy Portillo, and I met with city staff to do a thorough walk of the commercial blocks of Pacific Ave.; basically from Pho America to Thai Boom and return. We had Ed from RDA (Erica also attended for an hour of so), Margaret Madden, Karl from Code Enforcement, Sunni from BikeLongBeach.org and Tonya Martin and John Edmond from Dee Andrews' office. In all we spent 2 hours noting problems and opportunities, discussing solutions and timeframes. Margaret will be having her staff send out notices to all in the area about the Residential and Commercial rebates available and to have staff contact all the business in person. I have posted 2 videos and a photo on the Wrigley Neighborhood facebook page. Please check it out.

Lastly, we have scheduled a neighborhood cleanup for June 4th, 2011 in preparation for the Fourth Annual Wrigley River Run & Tadpole Trot. Please mark your calendar now to join us, more info to come.



Check out the New Bike Rack we got the city to install in front of Buono's!

If you know a place that needs a bike rack, email us at

wrigleyvillage@att.net

Calendar Items

Tues & Thurs
River Runners

Mar. 30- Vets Park
6th district town
hall mtg

May 2nd
Wrigley Mtg

June 4th
Neighborhood Clean
up

June 10th
Pizza Pig Out

June 11th
Wrigley River Run

Next Meeting: May 2nd, 7pm, New Bar on Willow, Earthquake Trucks, LBPD and More!

Copies provided FREE of charge by the Neighborhood Resource Center (562) 570-1010

Long Beach Businesses:

Many businesses generously support the Wrigley Association and its events, Businesses that are members of the Wrigley Association are listed throughout this issue. Contact wrigleyvillage@att.net with questions about business memberships.



Buono's Pizzeria
401 W. Willow Street
Long Beach, CA 90806
562-595-6138
www.buonospizza.com/

Wrigley Leader

Your Business Here

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Support your local newspaper with a voluntary subscription, Call 562-427-8678.

Wrigley Association Members get 10% off advertising in the Signal Tribune.



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My Volunteer Story

By Joy Mendoza

"Ask not what your country can do for you - ask what you can do for your country."
-- President John F. Kennedy

Rachele may mean ewe or a female sheep in Hebrew, but the Rachele that introduced me to volunteering was undoubtedly a shepherd. And she epitomized being a shepherd the first day I saw her at the library of Jackie Robinson Academy (JRA) for a Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA) meeting in 2004. She was taking down minutes being the JRA PTSA Secretary, but she was smiling at me and was very friendly to everyone. According to Rachele, when she heard me ask a smart question at the end of the meeting, she had her eyes on me since then. That smart question meant that I was a candidate for her shepherding ways – she tended, she reared, she guided and cared for me, the newborn sheep, since then. And true enough, in her best shepherd ways, she has guided me into the ins and outs of PTSA, the School Site Council and the biggest leap I took was in 2007-2009 when I became the JRA PTSA President. Rachele was the wind beneath my wings – I could not have taken off without her help. She encouraged me to go out and see how JRA PTSA can connect with the community. This led me to look into the Wrigley Association (WA). I went to one meeting at the Veterans Park but I didn't feel I was ready then to present my ideas to this established organization. Yes, I felt a little bit intimidated being a newbie in what seemed like a volunteer-veterans only group. So I just signed up for their email group to keep myself updated with what's going on in our neighborhood and encouraged the JRA parents to follow suit.

Now that I had my head start into being 'involved' in the community (technically, when you sign up for a community email list, you are already 'involved'), I did a little more exploring on what Long Beach had to offer. And boy was there a lot! So I decided to look into what my interests were. The arts had been a hidden passion of mine since birth. Naturally, because I had a little more time to spare, I wanted to see what Long Beach had to offer when it came to the arts and that's when I came across Stearns Musical Theatre Company (SMTC) in 2007. I've been performing (singing, dancing and acting) with them since then. SMTC is an all-volunteer community theatre lead by Alexis Amador-Marrero, which specializes in musical variety shows. Alex took me in just like how Rachele had. JRA PTSA and SMTC were giving me a natural high and I was determined to keep being involved!

One day I received an email from WA promoting the Wrigley River Run (WRR). It was perfect timing because that year at JRA PTSA, our focus was physical health and education. I went out and contacted Gavin McKiernan who happened to be the President of the Long Beach Neighborhood Foundation (LBNF). I asked him a myriad of questions about WRR and he graciously answered all of them. I was convinced that this event will not only be a great physical activity but also a great community involvement starter for the students at JRA. With the help of Mr. Licano and Ms. Stevens, over 20 middle school students from JRA participated in the 2nd WRR. It was also my first 5k experience. I could write a separate story about that!

The sad news of Camp Hi-Hill being closed indefinitely because of budget cuts hurt me most because my son was going into 5th grade and that is when students go to camp. As an involved parent, I felt there was a need to fill in the void a camping experience will provide for the 5th graders. Aside from camping, there were a whole lot of other things that were going to be cut, such as the planners. Planners help students organize their homework and it helps parents to be updated with what their children are required to do. Planners have a proven track record of academic advantages. LBNF was instrumental in helping with the funding for the planners. As they say, it's who you know that will get you the money.

Unknown to me, another shepherd by the name of Gavin was looking to herd sheep for the WA Board... **TO BE CONTINUED NEXT MONTH!**

7th District Update

Dear Neighbors,

Join me for "First Books at First Fridays" on Friday, May 6th, at 5:30pm at Dana Branch Library. This month's theme is: Hide and Go Read! I will be reading pirate related books with my special guest reader, 4th District Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell. There will also be a surprise guest, treasure hunt, and other fun activities. Don't forget to bring your library card!

On Saturday, May 28th, from 11am-12:30pm, please join me for a "Cup o' Joe" at Guadalupe's (3431 Pacific Place). I will be discussing the latest developments in the 7th District, upcoming events, and legislation I am currently working on. I would also like to hear any thoughts, questions, or concerns you may have. To RSVP, please contact my office.

Finally, the grand opening of the Wrigley Dog Park is scheduled for Saturday, May 21st, at



and



MOTHER'S DAY SPRING CLEANING EVENT

Help Mom discard old paperwork and donate unwanted items to Goodwill

Shred & Donate Day

Tuesday, May 10, 2011, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
Goodwill Facility: 800 W. Pacific Coast Highway, Long Beach



*Reduce
Clutter*



*Help the
Environment*



- * **Free shredding for one bankers' box of documents**
- * **Bring items for donation and receive a tax deduction receipt**
- * **Free refreshments and Senior Health Fair**

For questions or directions, please contact:
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11am. The newest dog park is located at the corner of Wardlow Rd. and Golden Ave. For more information, please contact my office.

The next California Gardens tour (aka Willow and Spring Gulch) is on Wednesday, June 29th, at 5:30pm. California Gardens is a 55 acre undeveloped property behind Sunnyside Cemetery, between Willow St. and Spring St., and California Ave. and Orange Ave. Join me for this tour and hear about this property's geology, history, wildlife, and opportunity. To RSVP please contact my office.

I look forward to seeing you at these events.

Sincerely,

James Johnson, 7th District Councilmember

district7@longbeach.gov

River Runners Return

River Runners have returned!

Free Runs/Walks will occur every Tuesday and Thursday until the Wrigley River Run on June 11th.

You can join the River Runners for any or all of the training runs.



Runs begin with stretching at 615p on Tuesdays and Thursdays led by Heather and Cheryl who are both certified Yoga instructors. The training is led by Vernon Rudd who is a veteran of many marathons including completing a very wet and windy LA Marathon this past weekend - way to go Vernon!

Walkers, children, and dogs are welcome as well! We want this to be a chance for you to improve your fitness as well as connect with your neighbors and your community.

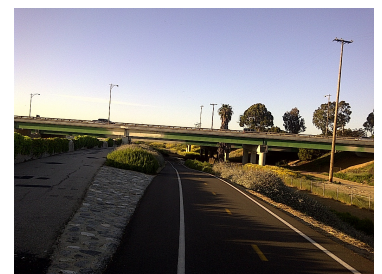
Whether you are planning on your first 5k, a veteran marathon runner or just want to get out on a nice evening and meet a few of your neighbors, then please join us.

Tuesdays meet at 34th & DeForest, Long Beach, CA, at the LA River Entrance

Thursdays meet at Buono's 401 W. Willow, at Chestnut.

Buono's is the official Pizza of the Wrigley River Run and offers 15% off to runners on Thursdays!

To sign up for the River Runners email list go to www.lbfoundation.org/Events.html or email lbmf@att.net. Pictures from a recent group meeting on this page.



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Ask your neighbor to join, there is strength in numbers!

The Wrigley Association will not sell, loan or give membership information to anyone, under any circumstances, unless compelled by law.

Name(s) _____

Email Address _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____ FAX _____

As a member, I/We agree to abide by the Association By-Laws

Membership Year is June 1, 2010 through May 31, 2011

Annual Membership Fee: \$15.00, Make Check payable to Wrigley Association

Optional Contributions: \$_____ For Wrigley Landscape Project

\$_____ For Wrigley is Going Green

\$_____ Donation

\$_____ Total Payment

Type of Membership: Resident___ Business___ Associate___

Please check if you are interested in volunteering for Association Activities___



PO Box 16192

Long Beach, CA 90806

E-mail: wringleyville@att.net

Wrigley Association Websites:

www.neighborhoodlink.com/longbch/wrigley/

www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=28996908644

www.myspace.com/wrigleyassociation