



NEWS & VIEWS

WANA • Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.

Home of Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane

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Message from the President



Happy Holidays to Everyone!! December is a busy yet exciting month. As you plan your gatherings with family or friends, your work or social parties, baking goodies, and your shopping days, remember to leave some room to celebrate what Wrigley has come to

be known for—**Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane.**

WANA begins the Christmas spirit with our festive Pot Luck Holiday Party on December 4th. Everyone is invited. Bring a dish to share, relax and spend a little time with neighbors and friends, and enjoy the abundance of delicious food.

WANA was granted a permit to decorate Daisy Avenue and activities include: work day to set up the lane on Dec. 6th, the home decorating contest on Dec. 12th, and the entertainment nights on Dec. 14th, 19th, 20th, and 21st. (at which time Santa will make an appearance and hand out candy canes). See Maria's article on page 7 for more information. Please plan some time in your schedule to visit Daisy Avenue from PCH to Hill Street sometime between December 13th and the 29th so you can marvel in the beauty that the decorations bring. WANA takes great pride and works so hard to create this "Winter Wonderland" that we want you to take advantage of this 55th year of Holiday tradition that takes place right in our own community—how very fortunate for us!! Also, don't forget to attend the City sponsored parade on December 13th at 5 PM from PCH to Hill Street.

Just to digress to the past month of activities for a few minutes, be sure to read about our great WANA Halloween event on page 4 and clean-up/native planting on page 3. Events happening in the future: Kaboom project on page 2 and a skate park at Veteran's Park which will

WANA Annual Holiday Potluck Party

Thursday, December 4th at 7 PM

Jackie Robinson Academy
2750 Pine Avenue

Across from Veterans Park on 28th off Pacific Ave.

FREE childcare and parking.



Please bring your favorite dish to share. There will also be food donated by local restaurants.

WANA will have a donation box for the combined Long Beach Police and Fire Departments' Holiday Toy Drive.

Please pick up a toy or book for those in need during this Holiday Season and drop it off in the box.

have more information in a future News & Views newsletter. If you like all the fun activities and events WANA provides for the community, I encourage you to become a member and support our mission. It's only \$15/year and there is a membership form on the back page. You'll receive this newsletter monthly so you can stay informed.

In closing, on behalf of your WANA Board of Director's. I wish you love and goodwill during this Blessed Holiday Season!

Yours in Service,
Jill



WANA

Kaboom Project on the Near Horizon for Wrigley

by Jill Hill



For those of you who have never heard of Kaboom before, they are a non-profit organization whose goal is to build a playground within walking distance of every child. They oversee the partnership between a major sponsor, who pays for the equipment and provides 100 volunteers for build day, and a neighborhood group that helps design the park, can raise or has raised \$7,500 towards the project and can recruit 100 volunteers to help on build day. I am so excited to say that right now, I am filling out an application to get a Kaboom playground built between 21st and Hill Streets next to the riverbed. Wrigley is so in need of more places for kids and families to play and this addition of playground equipment will fill some of the void. Iso, WANA will be applying for another Neighborhood Partners Program (NPP) grant for \$5,000 from the City of Long Beach (we received two 6 months ago: to purchase new LED lights for the trees for Daisy Ave Christmas Tree Lane and get a website) to help defray our costs. As for the other \$2,500 needed, we are looking at Partners of Parks for help. If our application is approved and if all comes together, we will be building a playground in ONE DAY, from 7AM until 3PM. And hopefully, that day will be sometime in February or March of 2009. What I need from our members is a commitment to help on build day. It will be one day during the week (of which I don't know at this time) but I am recruiting volunteers now. If you haven't already and are interested in signing up, please call me at 599-1822, or e-mail me at jhill2075@verizon.net and leave me your name, phone number, and e-mail address. I will keep you all posted as to the progress of things. This is a great opportunity for our neighborhood. Please help us out if you can. To find out more about Kaboom, visit their website at: www.kaboom.org.

Sincere Acts of Kindness Get Rewarded

by Jill Hill



I'd like to tell you a story based on the old saying, "what goes around, comes around". Pacific Baptist Church, located at 3332 Magnolia, next to Magnolia Royale and Brethren Manor, called me months ago and asked to speak at our WANA meeting because they wanted to give the public information about their plans to expand their church and build a new sanctuary. They openly explained what they were looking to do with their property and extended themselves to any questions or comments the public had.

Their expansion plans would have to go before the Planning Commission because they were requesting a three foot height variance for the building and the steeple and for a few other reasons. If you are not familiar with Pacific Baptist Church, all one would have to do is look at their well manicured property and respectfully spoken parishioners, pastors, and church workers to see that they are people of high morals and values. So, when I went to the Planning Commission meeting (as well as WANA members Joan Greenwood, Maria Norvell, and John Deats) to speak in favor of their plans, I was not expecting anything in return because I am grateful to have such conscientious neighbor friendly organizations such as Pacific Baptist Church operating in Wrigley.

But what they did next really touched by heart. They were so grateful to us for supporting their project that they gave WANA a check for \$500 for Christmas Tree Lane, offered to send 40 volunteers for the work day to set up the lane, sent 24 paid member applications from their parishioners who live in Wrigley and became a member of WANA, and if that weren't enough, they came to our November 6th public meeting and presented us with a beautiful plaque! The good news is their plans were approved with conditions but have since been appealed to the City Council for a hearing on December 16th by four residents in Wrigley. WANA will be there once again in support of the church as I hope you all will. Please call me at 599-1822 for further details or on how you can help.



Bags of collected trash loaded into Environmental Services trash truck.

Takin' it to the Streets

by Jill Hill

On **Saturday, November 1st**, a number of **WANA** volunteers showed up at **Jackie Robinson's** Native Landscape Garden to prep the area. Headed by **Ken Gore**, the volunteers included: **Edie Pearl, Nancy Risch, Jim Trout, Barry Walsh, Jeremy Robles, Anthony Robles, and Frank Koslowski**. They spent 2½ hours removing non-native plants or trees and trimming some back plants that were staying in order to prepare the ground for the following Saturday. (A special thanks to Jim Trout for having his chainsaw and not only knowing how to sharpen the blade,

but also how to work it!)

WORK DAY: November 8th.

What an incredibly successful clean-up and planting we had. Over **90** people came out to help. There was **Stephanie Jones**, principal, **Joy Mendoza**, PTA President, a few teachers and parents and a couple dozen students from **Jackie Robinson**, almost 50 **Pacific Baptist Church** youth and adults, and of course, a number of **WANA** members. **WANA** volunteers (**Edie Pearl, Regina Taylor, Barry Walsh, Judy**



Moving mulch to place around plants

Way, Frank & Rose Koslowski, Nancy and Timothy Risch) properly instructed a dozen or so students and church youth about digging, planting, watering, and mulching of the new natives as well as the trimming of existing natives while others took to the park, alleys, and streets to pick up trash on our sidewalks and streets. And boy did they do an **AWESOME** job of that!!

Ken Gore is to be thanked for organizing the planting and purchasing the 10 native plants. This would not have happened without him. Also, thanks to **John Case** for donating the cost of the plants. Our City's **Environmental Services Bureau (ESB)** provided all the tools and supplies and most importantly, the refuse truck to get rid of the collected trash. City workers, **Antonio** and **Sony**, came through for us! Also, thanks to **Smart-n-Final** for a donation towards water. Every volunteer received a **FREE** reusable bag and other goodies, courtesy of **ESB**. **WANA** also thanks **Arborite Trees** and **Tree of Life Nursery** (www.treeoflifenyrsery.com) for their donations of mulch and a discount on the plants. Over 1.5 tons of trash was picked up from the school yard, local alleys and Veterans Park. Great Job Everyone!!!



Banner made by kids at Jackie Robinson and placed at the school entrance.



Kids work together to dig the hole for a new plant.

EXISTING PLANTS	
Botanical Name	Common Name
Encelia California	Coast Sunflower
Quercus Agrifolia	Coast Live Oak
Salvia Clevelandii	Cleveland Sage

NEW PLANTS	
Botanical Name	Common Name
Baccharis Pilularis "Pigeon Point"	Dwarf Coyote Bush
Dendromecon Harfordii	Channel Island Bush Poppy
Eriogonum Fasciculatum	California Buckwheat
Eriogonum Fasciculatum "Dana Point"	Dana Point Buckwheat
Eriogonum Parvifolium	Coastal Buckwheat
Penstemon Spectabilis	Showy Penstemon
Salvia Brandegei	Brandegee's Sage
Salvia Clevelandii	Cleveland Sage
Salvia Munzi	San Miguel Mountain Sage
Salvia Clevelandii "Whirley Blue"	None
ANNUAL SEED:	
Eschscholzia California	Coastal Poppy





Ages 9-12 Costume Winners from l-r: 3rd Place, Jeremy Saddler; 1st Place, Sarahi Hernandez and 2nd Place, Ahtziri Aguilar

Ages 5-8 Costume Winners from l-r: 2nd Place, Mark Gliane, 3rd Place, Natalie Salgado, and 1st Place, Samantha Torres

Ages 1-4 Costume Winners from l-r: 2nd Place, Ladon Ray Jr., 1st Place, Abel Lopez III, and 3rd Place Christian Lopez

HALLOWEEN ON THE GREEN



Kids playing the ring toss game.

The morning rain on October 31st didn't keep trick or treaters away from WANA's Second **Halloween on the Green** festival. Over 200 kids and parents enjoyed the evening activities which included a costume contest (over 100 children participating), ring toss, bean bag, and get the ball in the bucket games, and mini pumpkin decorating. All the kid's costumes were great and 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Prizes were awarded in the ages 1-4, 5-8, and 9-12 categories. **There are many people to thank for such a successful event:** Junie Salcido, Veterans Park Supervisor, for letting us borrow some of their decorations; **Connie Chick** and her daughter **Kim**, **Veronica Robles** and her son **Jeremy**, **Anthony Robles**, **Nancy** and **Timothy**

Risch, **John Deats**, **Ador Raquel**, **Victoria Reynafarje**, **Joan Greenwood**, **Edie Pearl**, **Jim Trout** and his cousin **Pat**, **Maria Norvell** and her mom **Dolores**, **Richard Slaughter**, **Loren Patten**, and **Jill Hill** who helped either set up the decoration, work the games, or take down the decorations; 6th District Councilmember **Dee Andrews**, LBUSD Board President **Felton Williams**, Signal Tribune Publisher **Neena Strichart**, and 9th

District Field Deputy **Jerry Caliguiri** for being our distinguished costume contest judges; **Buono's**, **Aquarium of the Pacific**, **Vons**, **Albertsons**, **Ralphs**, **S C Wireless** on Pacific Avenue for their donation of toy prizes; and the **\$1 & Discount Mart** on Pacific Avenue for their donation of candy. **Loren Patten**, **Maria Norvell** and **Jill Hill** spent a number of hours making the new ring toss and bean bag games that were added this year to the event, and they turned out so nice. Everyone who attended seemed to have a lot of fun and best of all, it was safe. See you Next Year!!!



New this year: ring toss games.



Decorating the mini-pumpkins.



Over 200 people enjoyed the activities, games and blown up pumpkin.

New bean bag games added.