



# NEWS & VIEWS

WANA • Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.

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## Message from the President



Welcome to the month of March, already! I want to start out my message with an issue that is of deep concern. Seeing it is March, many of you may have noticed that the Christmas Tree Lane displays are still on Daisy Avenue. Why, you might ask. To make a long story short, because of the claim that the Wrigley Association (WA) made a few months ago stating that they owned them. The City Attorney's office will not let WANA move them to an available, identified city-owned location for the reason that they see this as a civil matter. On February 5, 2009, I wrote a letter to the WA asking that they take some kind of action to resolve this issue, and as of this writing, I have not heard a word from them. So, it is time for you, the people to help. I urge you to please call the 7th District Council Office at: 570-6139, or e-mail: [District7@longbeach.gov](mailto:District7@longbeach.gov), and ask how much longer the displays are going to remain on the Lane. I have already asked this of you in an e-mail dated Feb. 15th and I hope you have responded. If you are a member, have an e-mail address and didn't get my Feb. 15th e-mail, please send your e-mail address to me at: [wrigleyalliance@msn.com](mailto:wrigleyalliance@msn.com) and I will send you a copy of my letter. Your immediate attention and support is needed on this matter if we want to get the displays off the Lane. Please act quickly.

I am excited to mention WANA's **Second Annual Easter Egg Hunt and other fun activities** on **Saturday, April 11 from 2-4 PM**. Last year everyone had a blast so it was a for sure repeat event. WANA is planning on holding it at 20th Street and Daisy Avenue just as we did last year, but that, of course, will depend on if the displays are moved by then. More details will follow in next month's newsletter but in the meantime, please **SAVE the DATE**.

Simultaneously occurring with the Easter Egg Hunt will be a fundraiser. Instead of selling See's candy this year, the Board of Director's decided to have a **Bake Sale Fundraiser**. That will take place also on Saturday, April 11th from 2-4PM at 20th Street and Daisy Avenue. So think about either Bakin' or Buyin' and then you'll have your dessert for Easter! (See page 7 for more information.)

The reason for the fundraiser is to help augment WANA's postage expenses. Every month we are paying anywhere from \$75 to \$90 for postage, mainly to send out the newsletter. Postage is due to rise 2 cents on May 11th. Now, I feel very strongly about members receiving monthly News & Views newsletter and I am not going to discontinue that. So, your Board of Director's decided to do 2 things: **1.) Hold a bake sale fundraiser in which all proceeds will go towards WANA's postage and, 2.) Give you the option of receiving your newsletter via e-mail or U.S. mail.** If you want future newsletters sent via e-mail, please call me or send us an e-mail stating such—599-1822, [wrigleyalliance@msn.com](mailto:wrigleyalliance@msn.com).

Good News! I'd like to let you know that the \$5,000 Neighborhood Partners Program grant for the playground Kaboom project that I have spoken much about did get approved for funding along with \$2,500 from Partners of Parks. However, there have been some delays along the way—the Councilwoman wants to have a meeting with the residents and I am still awaiting needed information from our Parks, Rec & Marine Department before I can send in our application to Kaboom. I will keep you posted on the progress. A public meeting will be held at Pacific Baptist Church located at 3332 Magnolia Avenue to discuss this project and naming of the site on Monday, March 23 at 6 p.m. **For more information on the meeting, call 7th District Office at 570-6139.**

In closing, know that together, we can overcome any challenges that may come our way leaving us the beneficiaries. **Live, Love, Wrigley!!**  
Yours in Service, Jill







## Christmas Tree Lane Report

MARIA NORVELL  
CTL Executive Director  
562-427-5021



I am not sure what to say at this point. Here it is almost March and the displays are still on Daisy. Volunteers have gone out there three times to cover and secure them the best we can.

The residents on Daisy have spoken to me and are very upset because they are still out there. They are not only concerned about the displays, also the Park land and the value of the homes that are up for sale. I told them that we are trying our best to find a secure and private property for them. On Saturday, February 21, Pat Arndt and I went out there at 9 am to cover up the rest of the ones that hadn't gotten covered a few weeks back. The weeds have taken over, inside the fencing. Something has to happen soon.

I am afraid that they will get termite damage on the bottom. With all this rain that we have had, it is not good for them. Also, It's a darn shame when we worked for a whole year to restore all of the displays. That was in 2007. That's the same year that the Wrigley Association voted three times to give up their stewardship responsibility for Christmas Tree Lane. I remember all the awful comments that were made by the Wrigley Association Board members, so why don't they just let it go for the sake of the Community? WANA has tried to mediate using professionals and has written the Wrigley Association requesting them to take some action because the City refuses to let us move them onto available city property until ownership is resolved. I have the volunteers and all the equipment to move them RIGHT NOW. I hope this will be resolved **VERY SOON**.

### **Paid Summer Internship in Washington D.C. for Students of Color**

Submitted by: **Tonya R. Martin**  
Office of Councilman **Dee Andrews**

The application deadline is March 12th, 2009. All application packages must be postmarked by this date to be considered. The Urban Institute Summer Academy is uniquely designed to offer students the specialized knowledge and skills required to begin a dynamic career in the world of policy research – especially research on policies and programs that disproportionately affect minorities and distressed communities.

The UI Summer Academy is free to students who are accepted. In addition, the program will provide students with round trip transportation to Washington, DC, free housing at nearby George Washington University dormitories and a \$4,000 stipend

If a student's college or university awards credit(s) for participation in the program, the Urban Institute will facilitate the submission of the documentation necessary to obtain such credit(s). For more information, go to:

<<http://www.livingadvantageinc.org/events.aspx?DoAction=ViewEvent&EventID=890873964821695>>

or contact **Tonya Martin** in the 6<sup>th</sup> District Council Office by calling her at (562) 570- 6816.



## Welcome New Members

Al Austin  
Daysha Austin  
Dijon Wimberly  
Cathy Seabourne  
Jasmine Seabourne  
Rachel Seabourne  
Greg Brown  
Emalyn Brown



## NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

The Community Crime Prevention Meeting is taking a different approach this year. They'll be held alternately at the four Sub-Division Station locations. We hope to start with the West Division. The tentative meeting will be **March 18, at Silverado Park. Located at 1545 West 31st Street at 7:00 p.m.** Please call me for more information or come to our next WANA meeting.

**LBPD Volunteers Needed:** The Police Department is still in need of volunteers to assist with staffing the Business Desks at the substations. Due to reductions in Police Department staffing, the Substation Business Desk hours are currently Friday through Monday, from 8 am to 5 pm. Volunteers are asked to commit to at least 1 four-four shift per week to assist with garage sale permits, phone inquiries, and walk-in customer service for community members. If you or someone you know is interest in volunteering at on of the substation Business Desks, please contact the Community Relations Division at 570-7098 or **Commander Billy Quach** in the North Patrol Division at 570-9806. You can also contact **Maria Norvell** at 427-5021.

## Don't Wait...

To help **Interval House**, a shelter and center for victims of domestic violence, take your working or non-working cell phones to a WANA meeting or to:

**Buono's Pizzeria**  
401 W. Willow Street

If your business would like to be part of our effort to help this organization by placing a collection box in your office or store, call Jill at (562) 599-122. We'll include your business name and address in the next newsletter.



## Home Grown Fruits, Vegetables and Herbs to Share!

If you have any fruits, vegetables or herbs that you would like to share with your neighbors, bring them to the meeting on March 5 or post what you have to offer in the April Newsletter. Please send your name, phone number and list of items to:

<wrigleyalliance@msn.com>

or call Jill at (562) 599-1822.



## Volunteer of the Month Kendall Rainwater



Kendall lives in Wrigley Heights and has been a strong advocate for cleaning up the vacant parcels next to the riverbed known as Oil Operators, Baker Street, and Golden Avenue parcels.

The Baker Street and Golden Avenue parcels are now owned by the City with hopes that the Oil Operators property will soon be purchased turning the whole area into a neighborhood-serving, low impact park.

Kendall has led the charge by contacting CalTrans, the County and the City seeking assistance in clearing out brush and trash in areas adjacent to the Los Angeles River just north of Wardlow. He has worked tirelessly trying to pave the way for safety's sake at these future park areas. He is also working on making the area more secure by gating off areas under bridges to prevent homeless encampments.

Kendall also volunteers at our clean ups and attends our meetings on a regular basis. **THANK YOU, Kendall,** for all you do!!