

# NEWS & VIEWS

WANA • Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.

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MAY 2012



## Message from the President

First of all, I would like to wish all the Mothers a belated **"Happy Mothers Day"**. I am so fortunate to have my Mother with me today. She is 89 years old. I hope all of you had a wonderful day.

**Our 5<sup>th</sup> tour of the Dominguez Gap** was a **big, big** success. There were over fifty people who joined us. It turned out to be a great day. It was a little bit on the chilly side, but that didn't keep the people away. We had guests joining us all throughout the tour. Our weather has really changed, so we might consider May again for next year. Thanks again for coming out and supporting our efforts to help keep some of our wilderness. Once again I would like to thank all of **WANA Board Members** for making this a great event.

**For our May 21** meeting, we are honored to have **Congresswoman Laura Richardson** give her yearly report. It should be a very informative meeting, She always gives a complete description of all her activities on behalf of her constituents. We thank her for taking time out of her busy schedule to come out and address us. See Page 4 for more information.

**June 18 & July 16** meetings will also be very important meeting for Wrigley residents. The Draft EIR on the alternatives for the 710 freeway is now scheduled for release at the end of June. We plan on having a report on the public comment process in June and a Study Session to discuss the alternatives before the vote in July. Please attend both of these meetings. We will need a quorum of 30 members to take an official position on which alternative or hybrid is the preferred Wrigley option. At our July 16 meeting members will also vote to select their representative on the nominating committee.

**Early reminder:** We are off site and will not meet at Veterans Park during the months of August and September. August 7 is our National Night Out celebration in the mini-park south of Hill Street next to the LA River. September 17 is our **WANA** mixer to celebrate our Fifth Anniversary. We hope to have our mixer at **Buono's Pizzeria**. Won't that be great now that Frank expanded the dining area and can accommodate our group.

We are looking for a sponsor for holding another **Movie Night on the Green in July**. Everyone always has such a good time out on **Daisy**. **Until next time ...**

Warmest Regards,  
Maria

### 2011-2012 Board

#### Officers

**Maria Norvell, President**  
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**Joan Greenwood, VP**  
Tel: 599-0812

**Jill Hill, Secretary**  
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**Nancy Risch, Treasurer**  
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**Frank Kozlowski**

**Don Raines**

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570-1010

## APRIL IN REVIEW: EASTER ON THE GREEN



People often ask why volunteers give up their Saturdays. Well, just look at all the joy that our efforts and our members' generous donation of time and energy bring to our neighborhood kids.

WANA thanks the **Long Beach Airport** for sponsoring this event. In these tough economic times, it's the spirit and commitment of community that carries us through!



Our members baked treats and boiled eggs for decorating. Kids could also color, play ring toss and chat with the WANA Easter Bunny.

## APRIL IN REVIEW: GREAT LOS ANGELES RIVER CLEANUP

Once again, WANA and Friends of the Los Angeles River teamed up to clean up the Willow Street Estuary on April 28. Over 150 volunteers participated. Several WANA members helped out as Site Captains here and at Compton Creek and Golden Shore Wetlands.

**Nancy Risch** deserves special recognition both as a WANA member and the event's regional coordinator. Several volunteers commented that Willow Street estuary was the best organized clean up that they had ever attended!

Student volunteers conducted sorted trash and tallied up the types of junk that floated down the River. 7th District Councilman Johnson and his Chief of Staff stopped by and helped haul the trash bags up the levees. More photos on Page 4.





## MESSAGE FROM THE 7TH DISTRICT COUNCILMAN

Dear Friends,

With summer approaching, we have a lot of news for our future regional park, California Gardens. On June 16<sup>th</sup>, instead of our regular monthly California Gardens Tour, we will be taking a field trip to Madrona Marsh in Torrance. The purpose of this tour is to show the community a site that is similar in size and past use to our California Gardens site so that people can have an idea of what is possible as we begin the Master Planning for California Gardens. We will tour the marsh and take input from the community on what they would like to see on our 47 acres. For this tour, we will be meeting at the new EDCO facility across from California Gardens at 2755 California Avenue at 9:45 am. We will leave EDCO at 10 am sharp to go to Madrona Marsh. We should return at approximately 12 pm and then take input from everyone on what they liked and did not like. RSVPs are required, so please contact my office at [district7@longbeach.gov](mailto:district7@longbeach.gov) or (562) 570-7777. We hope to have a bus, but if not, or if there are a lot of RSVPs, we may need to caravan.

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a "Concert & Park Preview" at the 4-acre hilltop that will soon open as the first phase of California Gardens. Bring out your picnic basket and your lawn chairs for a concert at the highest accessible point in Long Beach, allowing for 270-degree views from the oceans to the mountains. From this vantage point, you should be able to see a great sunset and possibly nearby Independence Day celebrations. Details will be coming soon, or feel free to contact my office with questions.

With the master planning process for California Gardens about to begin and Phase I coming soon, I need your help. It is time to start collecting name suggestions for what we've been calling California Gardens. This naming opportunity is two-fold: we need names for the whole 47-acre site, plus names for the components, in this case, the hilltop park. Please send your ideas to [district7@longbeach.gov](mailto:district7@longbeach.gov).

Finally, as many of you know, I have been working with the Catalyst Network to bring a Farmers' Market to the 7<sup>th</sup> District at Admiral Kidd Park. The new market, along with the Center Space series of workshops, occurs weekly on Saturdays from 9AM-2PM. In addition to the market, the Center Space puts on a series of workshops on everything from fitness to soccer to cooking. For details on the various Center Space workshops and the Farmers' Market, visit [www.centerspacelb.org](http://www.centerspacelb.org).

I look forward to seeing you at these coming events and in the community.

Sincerely,  
James Johnson  
7<sup>th</sup> District Councilmember  
[district7@longbeach.gov](mailto:district7@longbeach.gov)  
(562) 570-7777

### HEY NEIGHBOR! WANA SHARE???



If you have any fruits, vegetables or herbs that you would like to share, please bring them to the May 21 meeting.

### BIRTHDAY GREETINGS!

Our belated best wishes go out to WANA member **Edith Freeman**, who just celebrated her 85th Birthday!





## MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

### WANA Public Meeting

**Monday, May 21 from 7-9 pm**  
**Veterans Park, 101 E. 28th Street**

Say Hello to your friends and meet your Neighbors!  
 Become a new Member! Everyone is **WELCOME!**



Arrive early — around 6:45 — and share member-donated refreshments and a cup of Starbucks coffee. Hospitality Hostess, Nancy Risch invites you to sign up to bring your favorite nosh to share in future months. FREE parking. To arrange for free on-site child care, contact Maria at 427-5021 at least 24 hours in advance.

### Featured Speaker: Congress-

woman **Laura Richardson** has been invited in her role as our current representative not as a political candidate for the 2012 election cycle. Questions directly related to her current congressional duties and activities will be answered. Redistricting for the 2012 elections put her into the 44th district, which will not include the Wrigley Area. However, her current committee assignments have a direct bearing on several controversial projects that have major potential impacts on our community. She serves on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit; Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials; and, the Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment.



Please note ... In keeping with our non-profit status, WANA does not allow electioneering or distribution of political materials inside the lobby or the hall during our meetings.