



NEWS & VIEWS

WANA • Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.

ISSUE 4

April 2013

VOLUME 7

COMMITTED TO MAKING WRIGLEY A CLEANER, GREENER, SAFER, STRONGER COMMUNITY &
DEDICATED TO PRESERVING DAISY AVENUE CHRISTMAS TREE LANE TRADITIONS



message from the President

Our March 18 meeting was better than excellent. One of the best ever. We had four panelist who addressed the 1-710 and the SCIG Rail Yard Project impacts on West Long Beach and Wrigley neighborhoods. Our panelists were **Angelo Logan**, Co-founder of East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, **Councilmember James Johnson**, 7th District Councilman, LBUSD Board **President Felton Williams**, **John Cross**, **President** West Long Beach Association. They each told us where they stand on each project. It's all about protecting our health and air quality. Our schools on the West part of town are too close to build this project. WANA voted to support the West Long Beach Association and oppose the **SCIG** project.

April 15 Meeting

At our April meeting we have invited Jim Kuhl (Environmental Services) to update us on a new program to get rid of hazardous household wastes. He will give us information on the EDCO facility that just opened up. Also, a presentation on the new mental health facility on Long Beach Boulevard. Please make an effort to come. This information is of importance to all Wrigley residents. See Page 7 for more about the tentative agreement between the City and Mental Health America.

Cressa Park

I know that this is after the fact, but Saturday, April 6 at 9:00 am was our regularly scheduled weed and mulching morning. The Park is really looking nice now. With your help, we will get it done in no time. The native plants are starting to come alive. The colors are beautiful. Hope to see you at our next clean-up which is May 4th. **Job Corps** will be coming to help on our Community Day of Service on April 25th from 9:00 am to 4 :00 pm. We will be cooking Hot Dogs for lunch so come out and join us if you can. See Page 4.

On April 28th we will be having our fundraiser for **Cressa Park at Dominguez Gap**. I took a walk on the Gap a few weeks ago. The Natives plant's are blooming it's really pretty. Lot's of yellow flowers and the purple blooms are also starting to open. I even saw a large turtle and lots of ducks. By the time we have our tour on the 28th it should be quite a site to see. It's so wonderful to walk there . You think you are somewhere in the wilderness. Come out and join us it is so relaxing out there. **(Continued on Page 2)**

President's Message (continued from Page 1)

Easter

was another success this year. Lot's of children with their parents. Everyone had a great time. Councilman Johnson even brought the twins they really had a good time. This wouldn't be such a great event if we didn't have the **volunteers** who came out to help to set-up and take-down. **Board members: Jim Trout, Timothy Risch, Joan Greenwood, Nancy Risch, Jill Hill, Don Raines. WANA members: Loren Patten, John Deats, Edith Pearl, Pat Ardnt, Jean Hirashima, Gloria Gonzalez, Victoria Reynafarje and one of our newest members Afsi Levy.** Please forgive me if I left anyone out. I want to especially thank **Diane McNinch and Judy Way** for coming out to do **Face Painting** for us. We also had a surprise visitor from the West Long Beach Association. He brought Easter Baskets and candy as a good as a neighborly gesture.

Members thank you for renewing your dues and supporting the great organization that we have become.

Join us at our next meeting and have some pastries, coffee and cold drinks. Learn what's happening in Wrigley. Until next time!!!

Warmest Regards,
Maria

Volunteers needed May 18 ...

Community Service Hours for Students

Who's ready to help out with the 24th Annual **La Gran Limpieza** – the Great Los Angeles River Cleanup? **Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR)** and **WANA** (FoLAR's Community Partner) are looking for Volunteers. The Site is at the Willow Street Estuary. The cleanup will be from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, May 18, 2013. Register at 25th Way and Deforest, south of Willow Street.

Access to and egress from the Estuary requires using a rope on a sloped, concrete levee. **Be sure to wear sturdy shoes, long pants, a hat and sunscreen.**

To learn more, call **Nancy Risch** at (562) 426-5266. Nancy is FoLAR's Regional Coordinator for this event.



WANA Habitat Restoration and Water Conservation Education Program

Dominguez Gap Wetlands Restoration Project 2013 Earth Week Celebration & Fundraiser

Sixth Annual Guided Tour!

See spectacular displays of California native wild flowers!

Bring binoculars if you are interested in bird-watching!

Sunday, April 28, 2013

Registration starts at 3:45, All tours begin at 4:00 and longest one ends around 6 p.m.

Meet at Southern Entrance across from 4062 Del Mar Avenue, north of San Antonio Road past Los Cerritos Park in Bixby Knolls. Refreshments will be served at the shaded pavilion located at the south end of the wetlands. Dogs on leashes welcome. Bring your kids, too! Suggested donation \$5 per person or \$7.50 per family or couple.

For more information, call Joan at (562) 355-8679 or send E-mail to wrigleyalliance@gmail.com

WHY COMMUNITY WATCH?

From LB Police Department Webpage

Community Watch is a crime prevention program that involves individual groups working with the police to affect crime. Crime prevention resources are available online regarding current crime trends, crime prevention, and safety techniques. Community Watch encourages participants to keep a watchful eye, not only on the block where they live but the community as a whole, and report suspicious and potential criminal behavior. **Community Watch begins with a block approach and expands to**



HOW DOES A RESIDENT START A COMMUNITY WATCH?

Residents wishing to initiate Community Watch on their block should send an email to WANA at wrigleyalliance2 gmail.com. The first step is to define your Community Watch group, usually 12 to 20 homes or businesses. Everyone on a block should be invited, including neighbors on the next block. School or faith based representatives, and community leaders should be considered. Purposely excluding renters or specific people causes tension and may make residents feel that they are being discriminated against. At least one person per group needs to volunteer to act as the liaison and will be known as the Community Contact. Usually this is the individual who takes the first step to get the group started. The Community Contact should not be an absentee property owner or businessperson.

COMMUNITY'S CONTACT ROLE:

As the Community Contact, you will:

- ◆ Personally introduce yourself to your neighbors to gain residents' support and participation in the program. Your goal is 100% participation. Ask your neighbors what day would be best for them to participate in your first meeting.
- ◆ Schedule your group's initial meeting with the Community Resource Specialist and notify the council office. The meeting is usually 1 hour in length and is held at a home or other nearby location.
- ◆ Prepare and distribute meeting invitations. Re-notify your neighbors just before the meeting.
- ◆ Before your meeting, draw a map that shows your street name and a square for each house/business. Write the address in each block. Make copies for each household.
- ◆ At your meeting - Have an attendance sheet available and assign someone the task of taking meeting notes. This will help track action items. Provide and distribute nametags to encourage attendees to get acquainted. After introductions, discuss a plan for neighborhood communication i.e. email tree, phone tree, regular social gatherings, newsletter. Discuss any neighborhood issues and potential resources or action plan to address them.
- ◆ Keep in touch with your Community Resources Specialist. If you need resources, clarification, or help, do not forget to call.
- ◆ Disseminate information received from the Police Department.
- ◆ Periodically review the Long Beach Police Department website to provide your group with information.
- ◆ Attend one Police Department organized meeting annually to keep your group on the "active" list.

PARTICIPANT'S ROLE:

As a participant, you will:

- ◆ Get to know your neighbors and build a neighborhood team.
- ◆ Keep a watchful eye and report suspicious or potential criminal behavior.
- ◆ Develop strategies for communicating.
- ◆ Identify and discuss neighborhood problems.
- ◆ Develop a plan of action to resolve problems.
- ◆ Learn about community resources, crime trends, and crime prevention.



'Green Port Gateway' Rail Project Begins

State, federal funding help fix rail bottleneck, improve operations



Officials in March formally launched an \$84 million Port of Long Beach project to remove a railroad bottleneck and build additional on-dock rail capacity to move cargo more efficiently and sustainably.

The "Green Port Gateway" project, funded in part with state and federal transportation dollars, is realigning a critical rail pathway to the Port's southeastern terminals and adding a rail support yard for the Port's new Middle Harbor Terminal, already under construction.

The project will add a third rail line at Ocean Boulevard, helping to remove bottlenecks on the existing mainline track to allow Port terminals to shift cargo from trucks to trains, which decreases local traffic congestion and air pollution. Roadwork will also be needed to reconfigure one Port thoroughfare to make room for the additional rail line. Overall, about 29,000 feet of track is being added.

The Port is funding the project with the help of \$27 million from the state's Proposition 1B Trade Corridor Improvement Fund, and another \$17 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation's TIGER III program (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery). The construction work, awarded to Ames Construction of Corona, is generating about 340 jobs now through scheduled completion of the work in July 2014.

The Green Port Gateway -- the first of four rail projects already started or expected to begin in the next year to promote more on-dock rail shipments -- is also part of the larger San Pedro Bay Ports Rail Enhancement Program, which involves several projects by the Port of Long Beach, the Port of Los Angeles and the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority.

Community Day of Service: Weeding and Mulching at Wrigley's Cressa Park



When: Thursday, April 25, 2013

Registration & Refreshments: 8:30
to 9:00 AM

Join us any time between 9 and 4 PM

Location: Meet on the 900 Block of
West 19th Street , Between Los
Angeles River Trail and
San Francisco Avenue

Earn Community Service Hours! Beautify Long Beach!

For more information, contact Nancy at (562) 426-5266
or send e-mail to <wrigleyalliance@gmail.com>

7th District Update

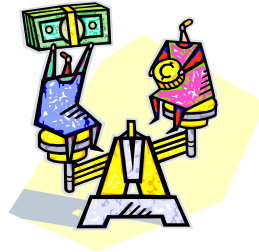
Dear Neighbors,



As many of you know from the last WANA meeting, I spoke a few weeks ago at the Port of Los Angeles hearing regarding their proposed Southern California International Gateway (SCIG) project. Recent Port of Long Beach and Los Angeles projects have demonstrated that “green growth” is possible—creating jobs while reducing pollution and establishing community mitigations. Thus, I asked the Port of LA to follow this precedent and pursue such green growth instead of sacrificing our neighborhoods. While the Port denied my request, pursuing a model that diverts from the model of green growth, I am pleased to report that the Long Beach City Council voted to appeal that decision to the L.A. City Council and the Long Beach Harbor Commission has voted to support our appeal. I continue to think that green growth is possible--that we can make progress towards zero emission goods movement, mitigate the impacts of projects on our neighborhoods, and protect local jobs--and I will continue to fight for that goal.



On March 19th the City Council approved my recommendation that the City Manager explore the expansion of our BARK program. For the past two years, trained therapy dogs have come to the Bret Harte Library every month to help kids with their reading. Research shows that providing children with non-judgmental pets to read to, reading and comprehension skills improve. This program has been a great success in the 7th District and my hope is that we can expand it to libraries throughout the city. BARK is run by volunteers without cost to the city, allowing us to provide additional services while living within our fiscal constraints.



This week, I asked the City Manager to examine the convenience fees we place on several services available to residents online. Anything we can do to incentivize people to use our online services saves the time of residents and employees, allowing us to be as efficient as possible in these tough times. Eliminating fees where possible will encourage people to use these online services more.

Also this week at the City Council, I argued that Long Beach should set aside a portion at one-time revenues as reserves. What do you think--should we set aside money for a “rainy day”? Email me and let me know your opinion on this important issue.



Finally, summer is approaching and I’d like you to save the date for three events I’d like you join me for. First, save the date for another 4th of July Concert at Willow Springs Park (2745 Orange Ave). After the sun goes down, we will have views of firework shows throughout the region. Last year we could watch shows from Long Beach to Los Angeles at this highest point in the city.



The second event I’d like you to put on your calendar is the 3rd Annual 7th District BBQ & Croquet Tournament. The BBQ will be on Sunday, August 18th at 1pm. I will provide the meat and drinks, and you are welcome to bring a side dish to share with your neighbors. I hope you can join me for these two great events this summer. WANA, the WLBA and I are working on a Wrigley Movie Night. We don’t have details yet, but those will be coming soon.

For any questions or further services, please call my office at (562) 570-7777.

Yours truly,
James

6th District Update

Greetings!

I have a few updates I would like to share with you this month.

"Aviles Law Resolution"

The City of Long Beach is sponsoring the "Aviles Law Resolution" in the 2013 State Legislative Session. I created the "Aviles Law Resolution", along with the Long Beach Fire Department and the City Council unanimously approved it to be moved forward to the State on September 18, 2012. Assemblymember Lowenthal will author the resolution to designate the month of May as *Building and Safety Code in honor of the Aviles Sisters*, and encourage other California cities to rename building and safety codes that regulate illegal garage conversions after the Aviles Sisters.

The three young Aviles sister, Jasmine, Jocelyn, and Stephanie, lost their lives in a fire while sleeping in a garage that had been illegally converted into a living space. Upon investigation, Fire Inspectors and Building Officials Identified multiple fire and life safety code violations. On December 14, 2010, I brought the item to City Council asking the Long Beach City Council take a position for the approval of all City of Long Beach Municipal Codes relating to garage conversions should be collectively known as **the Aviles Law**. The Item passed unanimously and the City has since renamed all Long Beach municipal codes applicable to regulating illegal garage conversations.

This is another huge step for the Long Beach Community and I am grateful for Assemblymember Lowenthal for moving this item forward.

SCE Alamitos Avenue Utility Undergrounding Project to Start March 11

Southern California Edison (SCE) and other utility companies will soon be starting work to underground all overhead utility lines along Alamitos Avenue between 7th Street and Pacific Coast Highway. Construction in the public right of way is estimated to start on March 11, 2013 and last approximately six to eight months. I am happy to partner with Southern California Edison to beautify our community. There will be a community information session on Thursday, March 28, at 5:00 pm at Ernest McBride Park's Cal Rec Community Center, 1550 Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue.

E-Waste Collection Center now open!

Area residents now have a convenient, one-stop venue for safely and properly disposing their household hazardous, universal and electronic wastes. The new Los Angeles County Environmental Collection Center is located at EDCO Recycling and Transfer, 2755 California Ave., Signal Hill. This new Collection Center will be open the second Saturday of each month, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., beginning Saturday, March 9, 2013.

For any questions or further services, please call my office at (562) 570-6816.

Sincerely,
Councilman Dee Andrews



Events:

Councilman Dee Andrews will host a **6th District Food Distribution**, 9 am, April 19th, at McBride Park, located at 1550 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, Long Beach. The events begin at 9 am until all food is disbursed. You must bring your own bag.

More from the 7th District Office ...

Efforts continue to plant 6,000 trees that the City was recently awarded from the Port of Long Beach. We have submitted the requests for those of you (over 150 people so far) who have already requested new parkway trees, and you should be contacted soon for placement. If you would like a parkway tree in front of your home and haven't requested one yet, let the Council District know by emailing at District7@JamesJohnsonLB.com or by calling (562) 570-7777.

**More from the 6th District Office ...
Chittick Field Park**

Construction on Chittick Field will begin this month! Once completed, this park will be thriving with adults and children enjoying themselves, playing sports and leading happier, healthier lives, thanks to these 19 acres that are for all of Long Beach to enjoy.

The park will feature:

- Two youth soccer fields
- One adult soccer field
- One regulation football field
- A 400-meter all weather track-and-field track
- A parking lot for approximately 136 vehicles
- A bike path connecting the area to the Pacific Electric Right-of-Way Bike Path
- Bleachers, lighting and a concession stand

More About the April 15 Meeting ...

The City plans to purchase the building at 1955-1965 Long Beach Boulevard for use as a homeless accommodation site. The plan is to offer high-quality retail as well as job training and mental health services. There will be an outside patio, coffee, refreshments, deli, bakery and community meeting space. There will be operating conditions to ensure that this facility can co-exist with its neighborhood setting.

**2012-2013
Executive Board****Officers**

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Frank Kozlowski
Don Raines
Timothy Risch
Jim Trout

WANA Members and the public are encouraged to contact Board Members with questions, comments, requests and suggestions.

PO Box 6370
Long Beach, CA 90806



**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE LONG BEACH
NEIGHBORHOOD RESOURCE CENTER**

This issue of **WANA NEWS & VIEWS** was copied free of charge at the Long Beach Neighborhood Resource Center—562-570-1010



Attn: Maria Norvell, President
P.O. Box 6370,
Long Beach, CA 90806
WANA • Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.



Save the Dates!

April 25: Day of Community Service at Cressa Park 9 AM Until 4 PM — See Page 4.

April 28: Earth Week Celebration Refreshments & Guided tour of Dominguez Gap — Register at 4062 Del Mar Ave at 3:45 PM to see spectacular display of wildflowers & restored habitat in nearby Bixby Knolls — See Page 2

May 18: FoLAR River Clean Up at Willow Street Estuary, 9 AM until Noon — community service hours for students — See Page 2.

April 15 WANA Community Meeting

Veterans Park
101 East 28th Street, 7-9 pm

Mixer & Refreshments Starting at 6:45 pm

- ◆ Reports from Council Offices and LBPD West Division
- ◆ Update on Proposed Mental Health Facility on Long Beach Boulevard
- ◆ Special Guest: Jim Kuhl, Environmental Services, will report on the new program to make disposal of hazardous wastes more convenient for Long Beach residents.

Members of the public are welcome. Parking and admission are free. Free on-site child care can be arranged by sending an e-mail to wringlealliance@gmail.com or by calling Maria at 427-5021 at least 24-hours in advance.



WANA thanks our very special *Easter on the Green* sponsor for the joy its generosity brought to our neighborhood kids on March 30!