

NEWS & VIEWS

WANA • Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance, Inc.

VOLUME 7(5)

MAY 2013



Message from the President

How time flies! May is almost half over. We didn't get enough rain this year. So please begin water conservation if you haven't started already. Get in the habit of watering before 9:00 a.m. and after 4:00 p.m. on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

At last month's meeting, **Jim Kohl** (Environmental Services) spoke about the new household hazardous waste facility on California Ave open the second Saturday of the month from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. He brought tote bags for everyone. He told us about how to safely dispose of household hazardous wastes. We also had a presentation by **Mike Conway and Martha Long from the Mental Health America (MHA)**. The location of the new MHA facility will be on 1900 block of Long Beach Blvd. There were a lot of questions and concerns expressed by the audience. Some were good and some not so good. We didn't take a vote to support or oppose it. It has already been approved by the City Council.

Our guest speaker this month is **Ted Stevens, Animal Care Services Manager**. He will bring materials about all the urban animals that have become our pets from the wild. He will also give a presentation on coyotes. (See Pages 4 & 6.)

I have talked to several people about the pending sale of the old Moose Lodge on **2300 Pacific Avenue**. The new owner has applied for a Site Plan Review for a **non-residential Drug and Alcohol Rehab facility**. I have expressed my personal opposition to the Sixth District. There are too many day care operations, schools and churches in that area of Pacific Avenue. On May 1, the WANA Board unanimously voted to oppose it. **At the May 20 meeting, our membership will vote on this issue. (See Page 6.)**

FYI - Airport Tour: 25 WANA members that have signed up. The tour will either be on a Friday afternoon or a Saturday in July or August. I will keep you informed.

There's not enough space in this column to name each of the volunteers who came out to help at Cressa Park on April 25. There were so many of our regulars. I am only going to thank one couple **Veronika & Mark Rodriguez**. It was their first time helping at Cressa Park. The **Job Corps** sent over 80 people in each shift. WANA salutes Job Corps' **Sandy Annano** for her remarkable recruiting efforts on our behalf. (See Page 3 for more about the Community Day of Service and Page 6 for the "after" pictures.)

For our **June 17 meeting**, Diane Ripley is putting together an update on what BP is doing to cleanup the contaminated soil due to a **pipeline leak in Wrigley Heights**.

Join us at our May 20 pre-meeting mixer. Meet your neighbors. Greet our speakers and learn what's happening in your Wrigley neighborhood. Until next time ...

Warmest regards,
Maria



2012-2013 Board

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Tel: 212-9397

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of Long Beach Neighborhood
Resource Center.*

570-1010

EASTER ON THE GREEN: MARCH 30, 2013



Building a Better Way to Fly

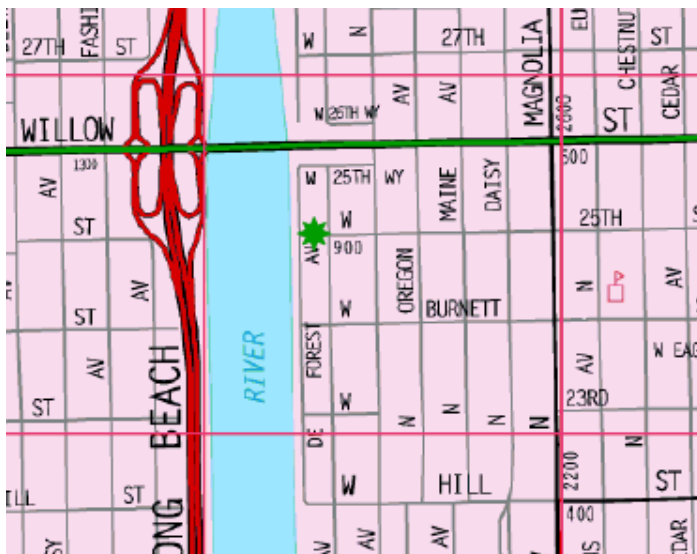
**WANA thanks the
Long Beach Airport,
and the 6th & 7th
District Council
Offices for co-
sponsoring this event.**

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 brought to over 100 of our neighborhood kids. 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, get their faces painted, play ring toss and chat with the WANA Easter Bunny. More pictures on last page.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: GREAT LOS ANGELES RIVER CLEANUP

Once again WANA and FoLAR are teaming up at the Willow Street Estuary. Register on DeForest Avenue — north of 25th Street, south of Willow Street, west of Golden Avenue and east of the LA River. Look for the signs! Call Joan at (562) 355-8679 if you get lost!

- ♦ Community Service Hours for Students
- ♦ Free Tee Shirts and Re-usable Shopping Bags while Supplies Last
- ♦ Raffle Prizes from Local Businesses



WANA Salutes

Long Beach Jobs Corps for its Day of Community Service at Cressa Park on April 25, 2013!

Job Corps youth came out in force. Approximately 80 volunteers showed up in the morning and about the same number showed up in the afternoon. These young adults pulled out weeds and spread lots of mulch. They even got to the property north of 19th Street. It was amazing to see all of them working so hard.

Nicole Vasquez from the City Prosecutor's Office recruited a dozen Community Service Workers through its program. WANA Board member Jim Trout brought his BBQ and cooked over 192 hot dogs! There were snacks and fruit provided by WANA member donations for everyone.

We owe **Job Corps, the City Prosecutor's Office, Long Beach Environmental Services, Litter Free Long Beach** and 7th District staff member **Jerry Caligiuri** a



At Long Beach Job Corps, students receive the skills needed to succeed in today's workforce - **at no cost** to them or their families! If you are looking for a better quality of life and are willing to dedicate yourself to its life changing program, Long Beach Job Corps is the place for you! Young people interested in joining Job Corps are invited to visit the [Job Corps Recruiting Web site](#) or call **(800) 733-JOBS** today! .

Job Corps is taking steps to help protect our environment and connect students with businesses and their surrounding communities through community service and green training. Job Corps is preparing students for the green economy through green training in the advanced manufacturing, automotive and construction industry areas.

Critter Corner

The vision of Long Beach Animal Care Services is to become California's safest large city for people and animals through a proactive strategy of community engagement and enforcement activities. The City of Long Beach provides animal care services to four contract cities, including Cerritos, Seal Beach, Signal Hill and Los Alamitos. The annual budget of \$4.3 million is supplemented by over \$2.1 million in revenue collected through donations, fees and contract revenue. Over 50 staff members work in eight program areas, providing 48 key service areas. **In 2012, this department:**

- ◆ Completed 63,049 calls for service.
- ◆ Increased feline adoptions and redemptions by over 9%, the highest number in 24 years.
- ◆ Increased new and renewed pet licenses by 18%.
- ◆ Added new cat cottages and puppy condos to improve health, comfort and safety of the animals in our care.
- ◆ Collaborated with veterinarian offices in the community to house cats available for adoption in their office lobbies.
- ◆ Increased the number of Low Cost Clinics in the Long Beach area by 121%.
- ◆ Increased Shelter Veterinarian coverage from five days to six and increased Registered Veterinary Technician coverage to seven days.

How You Can Help

Animal Care Services welcomes donations and is in need of the following items, which you can bring to the May 20 Meeting: Financial Donations, Soft Foods and Cat Carriers & Dog Crates.

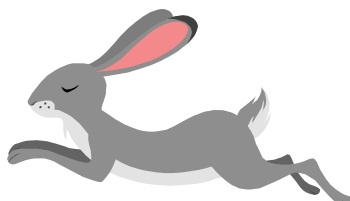


Volunteers needed to socialize animals

www.facebook/LongBeachAnimalCare

For more information, please visit www.longbeach.gov/acs

Tax ID #95-6000733



MESSAGE FROM THE 7TH DISTRICT COUNCILMAN

Dear Friends,

The battle continues. By the time you read this, the Los Angeles City Council will have voted on the Southern California Intermodal Gateway (SCIG) project that is on the border of Long Beach. Given that time and time again our voices have not been heard by L.A. regarding this \$500 million project that could have such a profound impact on the western end of our city, I think a positive outcome at L.A. City Council is unlikely. (So far, their offer on funds to help mitigate the negative impacts of their project is easy to remember--\$0.) Nonetheless, this is not the end. I will continue to fight for our neighborhoods on this and other projects, and to ensure that we pursue truly green growth—growth that improves, not deteriorates, our neighborhoods.



This month, I would like to issue a challenge to WANA. I have worked hard to get the money in place to plant 6,000 trees in our side of Long Beach, and I am doing everything I can to get them in the ground as soon as possible. It is important that we not just plant the trees, but that we have a commitment from neighbors who will water the trees in the critical first two years before it has the deep roots to sustain itself. I would love to start planning a tree planting for the fall (when the rainy season begins again) in Wrigley—what do you say? If WANA is up to it, please call my office and let's start organizing for an even greener, more beautiful Wrigley.

Wrigley residents know that our city's infrastructure has long been a passion of mine. In recent years we have made significant progress in tree trimming, street maintenance, and sidewalk repairs, although more remains to be done. As the Chair of the City Council's Transportation Infrastructure Committee, I will be calling a meeting soon to discuss how we can build on our progress and continue to work on making Long Beach better for current and future residents. Topics will include using new technology that will allow us to more efficiently improve our streets, new techniques for sidewalk maintenance, and how we can better coordinate our urban forest with our sidewalk repair program. Given that available resources are limited, I will continue to work on the Infrastructure Committee to see how we can get the maximum benefit out of every dollar available.



Finally, I want you to know of some key events coming up. On **Friday, May 17th from 8 a.m. to noon at Cesar Chavez Park** (401 Golden Avenue), we will be having our first **anti-bullying symposium**. This is sponsored by the City of Long Beach and LBUSD and is the result of the Joint Use Committee I started between the City and LBUSD. We all have a role to play in ensuring that youth live free from the fear of being bullied, and I hope this symposium will be followed by others. Also, on **Wednesday, May 29th at 7 p.m. at Silverado Park (1545 W. 31st Street)** we will be having the first **7th District Public Safety Forum**. LBPD Chief McDonnell and LBFD Chief Duree will both be there to discuss how we can all work together to make this the safety possible city, so I hope you can join us for what I know will be a great conversation.



Yours truly
James Johnson
7th District Councilmember
district7@longbeach.gov
(562) 570-7777

Cressa Park After Community Day of Service



WANA Public Meeting Monday, May 20

**7-9 pm
Veterans Park, 101 E. 28th Street**

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

Arrive early — around 6:45 — and share member-donated refreshments and a cup of coffee donated by Starbucks in the Wrigley Marketplace. Hospitality Hostess, Nancy Risch invites you to sign up to bring your favorite treat 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

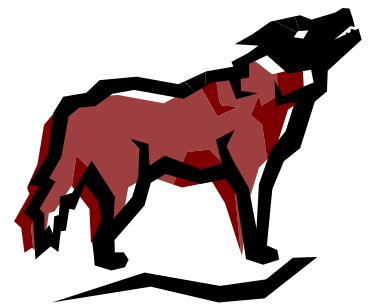
**Ted Stevens, Manager
Long Beach Animal Care Services**

His presentation will focus on coping with urban wildlife — coyotes, possums, skunks, raccoons.

Sightings of coyotes throughout Wrigley have increased dramatically during the past year. Long Beach Animal Care Services recommends calling them at **(562) 570-7387(PETS)** to report all coyote sightings and determine if an Animal Control Officer is needed.

Sightings can also be reported online using the link below:

<http://longbeach.gov/acs/wildlife/report/default.asp>



**If a coyote is posing an imminent threat to life,
call 911 immediately.**



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2013 Easter on the Green — More Photographs



Two hunts for plastic eggs hidden in the straw were held — one for 2 to 6 year olds and one for 7– 9 year olds.

The eggs contained coins or prize coupons for chocolate bunnies and small Easter baskets donated by the 6th District Council Office. A drawing was held for the grand prizes — four large Easter baskets donated by the 7th District Council Office.

Every child also received a bag of Easter Candy when the plastics eggs were re-turned for re-use next year.

Our thanks to
Dianne McNinch and
Judy Way for donating their
face painting services.



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.