Crowd Turns Out for NWSPNC Youth Employment Preparation Fair

On Saturday, June 2, more than 120 youth from through San Pedro participated in the Youth Employment Preparation Fair sponsored by the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council. The idea and drive behind this event came from the youth representative on our council, Anise Goldfarb.

Councilmember Joe Buscaino told the audience “Today’s graduates face a challenging job market. It is important to be creative and resourceful; get an internship, volunteer in your community, continue your education. Never stop reaching for your goal, don’t settle for NO as the final answer.”

Chamber of Commerce Chair Anthony Pirozzi shared his personal story of achievement—how he went from a mediocre student with a 2.7 for his commitment to restoring this beautiful church back to its original glory in its new home, so it can again be a beacon of hope for the south bay.

The restoration of the Old St. Peter’s Episcopal Church is a great gift to the south bay, and to the people of the current St. Peter Church. The staff and parishioners of St Peter’s Episcopal Church want to extend our heartfelt thanks to so many, especially John Resich, Roy Frew, the board and staff of Green Hills. The restored old St. Peter’s Church at its new home at Green Hills.

Congregation Offers Thanks for Restoration of Old St. Peter’s Church

The restoration of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church is a great gift to the south bay, and to the people of the current St. Peter Church. The staff and parishioners of St Peter’s Episcopal Church want to extend our heartfelt thanks to so many, especially John Resich, Roy Frew, the board and staff of Green Hills.

The restored old St. Peter’s Church at its new home at Green Hills.

Port Police

NORTHWEST ADVOCATE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHWEST SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL • JUNE 2012

On hand to talk with them about job opportunities. Youth unanimously reported that they learned a lot.

The NWSPNC thanks the following employers and organizations for making this event such a success: Albertsons

Big Nick’s Pizza

Boeing

California Conservation Corps

Cabrillo Aquarium

CrossAmerica Financials

Double Tree

Fast Undercar Auto Parts

FIDM Fashion Institute

Grand Vision Foundation

Harbor College YouthSource Center

Kaiser Bank

Kiwanis

Laborer’s Union

Los Angeles Fire Department

Malaga Bank

Marinello Schools of Beauty

Nicole Mazier Investment Advisor

PC Nordis

Peace Corps

Plaza Shell

Port of LA

POLA High School

Port Police

Peary Cruises

Red Cross

Rotary

Service By Air

Southern California Carpenters

Youth Employment Opportunity Program

Thanks also to the planning committee—Mike Aguilara, Bob Bryant, Anise Goldfarb, Maré Lujan, Barbara Schach, Katlyn Tomasello, Darlene Zavaleny, Jeri Hawkins and all of the Board members and other volunteers who gave of their time to make this event possible!

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**President’s Corner**

By Diana Nave, President

San Pedro is infused with new energy! I am fortunate to have served as president of your council this last year. One of the council members, Joe Buscaino, brings great energy to the job. He has listened to our concerns and acted on them! I am particularly impressed by the thoughtfulness that went into his parking plan for downtown San Pedro. His predecessor, now Congresswoman Janice Hahn, has brought new federal attention to our area including increased attention to Port Community Advisory Committee.

This has been a busy and productive year for our council. I want to personally thank every member of our board for their contributions. It has been wonderful and satisfying to see some of the results, including:

- **Sponsoring a Youth Employment Preparation Fair for over 120 youth in our community (see article).**
- **Working with Marymount College on their expansion plans on Palos Verdes Drive North and in downtown San Pedro, including working with them to minimize traffic impacts. Marymount’s expansion will be an exciting addition to our community.**
- **Working with Ponte Vista on how they analyze traffic and other impacts. We anticipate release of the draft EIR in the near future and we will develop further comments at that time.**
- **Working on the creation of a Skate Plaza at Peck Park anticipated to open in 2013.**
- **Joining with other neighborhood councils to successfully advocate that DWP not increase its rates until the ratepayers’ advocate was appointed.**
- **Working with the council office to improve the exit from Target onto Capitol Drive.**
- **Continuing to seek ways to reduce hazards of the Rancho Holdings including advocating for relocation away from our homes.**
- **Advocating during redistricting for San Pedro to be kept together.**
- **Planning for an Emergency Preparedness Fair, tentatively scheduled for August.**

The coming year promises to be a critical one for our community as developers of Ponte Vista move forward their plans. I urge you to vote on June 19 to select the members of the Governing Board for 2012-2016. Selection and will be held in the auditorium at Peck Park from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

**Cell Tower Ordinance Goes to City Council**

Cell towers have been one of the most contentious issues in our community. In 2009 we joined several other neighborhood councils in requesting the city attorney to examine the current court rulings and report back on what restrictions could legally be put into place. The city attorney’s office recently completed the report (see www.nwsanpedro.org for a copy) and the city council’s Public Works and Planning and Land Use Management committees approved drafting an ordinance that would:

1. Delete exemption for cell installations mounted on utility poles so that these installations will be regulated under the ordinance;
2. Broaden public notice of applications and public hearings;
3. Enhance aesthetic requirements by adding specific criteria to be applied and if not satisfied then the decision maker would be authorized to deny a permit application on aesthetic grounds. In this regard, the cabinetry, the pole and antenna configuration as well as placement of the foregoing would all be reviewed for aesthetics against the applicable criteria;
4. Create a time limit for permits of somewhere between two and 10 years;
5. Include provisions that antennas installed operate within FCC requirements.

This motion now goes to the full city council. If approved, the city attorney will be instructed to draft the ordinance.

**Message from the Councilman**

By Councilman Joe Buscaino

It was one year ago that I started putting some serious thought into running for the 15th District seat on the Los Angeles City Council. Janice Hahn, who represented the district for 10 years, was poised to win a special election to fill the vacancy left by Congresswoman Jane Harman, and would soon depart for Washington DC to represent much of her old district in the House of Representatives.

Many of you saw, it was a real battle. I went up against some very tough and some very well-funded opponents. But, with the dedication of my team, the support of my volunteers, and the love of my family, we carried the day and together, we shocked the city. We showed that an “everyday Joe” with no political experience could run a true grassroots campaign, buck the political establishment, win a seat on the city council, and thereby bring new light to our community. It was the single greatest achievement of my life.

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The NWSNCC Governing Board meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Peck Park Auditorium, 560 North Western Avenue.

**NWSNCC Committees**

- **Budget and Finance**
  - Recommends budget, reviews funding requests.
- **Community Involvement and Collaboration**
  - Deals with youth, education, and community engagement.
- **Elections and Bylaws**
  - Deals with elections and bylaws matters.
- **Community Issues**
  - Deals with traffic and transportation, parks, community beautification, and other issues not covered by specific committees.
- **Planning and Land Use Committee**
  - Deals with planning and land use issues.
- **Port Committee**
  - Deals with port-related issues and advises our representatives on Port Community Advisory Committee.
- **Safety and Security**
  - Deals with community safety, emergency preparedness, and evacuation planning.

If you are interested in being a member of any of these committees, please e-mail your contact information to board@nwsanpedro.org.
Here are personal statements from the 11 candidates who have qualified for the June 19 NWSPNC board selection. 

Scott Allman (At-large)
My name is Scott Allman. I’ve lived in San Pedro for 5 years now. I’ve served on the board of NWSPNC for the last twenty years as member at large. Over those two years I’ve served on the port committee and just joined the financial committee. In my time for many other events that NWSPNC has been involved in. I started being a mentor to a few kids at William J. Johnston (formally Cooper High School) but I was unable to really follow through with it because of my last job but since starting a new job I will be able to do so again. As a member on the board I am looking forward to being a part of this organization because I believe I have a lot more to give to San Pedro. Many Thanks, Scott Allman International Operations Supervisor SBA (Service By Air, Inc.)

Gary Buss (Business)
I have lived in San Pedro for 30 years; my father sold real estate here for 45 years. I have owned a Farmers Insurance Agency since 1982 and I am a partner in Captain Kirks Windsurfing and Kitesurfing on Harbor Blvd. for 19 years. I am a past President of the San Pedro Rotary Club and have been a member for over 9 years. I am very interested in making sure that San Pedro stays a wonderful city that we can enjoy and feel safe to live in. My wife has been a schoolteacher in the San Pedro south bay for 15 years. I feel it is my pleasure to be a member of this board and help out in any way I can.

Carolyn Grayson (Census Tract 2970)
I’m pleased to have served on the Board of the Neighborhood Council for seven months, and as a member of the Safety and Security Committee, and I would like the opportunity to continue to serve stakeholders in Northwest San Pedro as a Board member. I believe Neighborhood Councils give stakeholders an important voice in how projects and proposals are considered and prioritized, and bring important issues to audiences both within San Pedro and in a wider context. Haven’t we all said, at one time or another, “Somebody ought to do something”? I am running for a seat on the Board for the opportunity to continue doing something. My more than 20 years experience in being self-employed gives me a pragmatic perspective in thinking about how policies and proposals will affect stakeholders, and I’m looking forward to enabling San Pedro to create opportunity and meet challenges.

John Greenwood (Census Tract 2964)
As the founding President of this Neighborhood Council and chair of our Planning & Land Use Committee, I am proud of our Council’s record. Working with the community we have stopped the 2300 unit Ponte Vista Development, removed the leaking fuel storage tanks on Gaffey St., redeveloped Peck Park Canyon, got the Port to install a beautiful park along North Gaffey and much more. My qualifications? My wife and I are Realtors in San Pedro and have helped families buy homes here. We were awarded the Habitat for Humanity Home Builder Award for our work with deserving families. I chair the City of Los Angeles Citizens Oversight Commission for Proposing 4. We monitored the spending of $700 million for police and fire facilities. I have been president of GAP, San Pedro Rotary, and currently Core Southern California. I look forward to continuing to work with you on the Neighborhood Council.

Laurie Jacobs (At-large)
I have been a proud member of the San Pedro community since 1984. My children attended San Pedro public schools. My daughter is a freshman at UCLA and my son will be a Junior at SPSH in the fall. As a very active leader in the San Pedro Girl Scouts for over 10 years, I am dedicated to helping young girls realize their potential and leadership skills through our diverse programs. I am the daughter of a long time political activist, so I was raised to understand we each have a responsibility to be aware and actively involved in our community. Recently a few San Pedro Girl Scouts have been learning about advocacy; that their efforts can make a difference. What better way to teach our girls than to join the NWSPNC as an advocate to champion positive changes in our neighborhood. I look forward to this opportunity.

Katie Marrie (Census Tract 2964)
I was just recently appointed to the NWSPNC at the end of 2011 by filling a vacant seat and I have been looking for an opportunity to make friends and to come together. This has been an educational, enlightening and thoroughly satisfying experience. I am seeking another term on the NWSPNC because I feel that I have only begun to accomplish all of the goals and aspirations I have for the students who live in this council area. There are many more challenges to be faced in the upcoming years.

Margaret Molloy (Census Tract 2964)
My name is Margaret Molloy and I’ve lived in Pedro for over 25 years. I’m also a past Board member from 2002 to 2005. During my term away I’ve noticed some significant changes occurring that should be addressed. The city has become less solvent with many of our public services diminished and there is a higher unemployment rate especially among our youth. This Board cannot tackle all these issues, however, we can do something to improve our quality of life, rather than focus on our quantity of economic growth. As a member of the Board, I am looking forward to being a part of this organization because I believe I have a lot more to give to San Pedro. Many Thanks, Margaret Molloy International Operations Supervisor SBA (Service By Air, Inc.)

Diana Nave (At-large)
As a founding member of the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council Board, I am seeking reelection because I think it is important to have institutional memory on the Board. I love San Pedro and am committed to making it even better than it is.

I am proud of the positive impact NWSPNC has had on our community including the beautification of North Gaffey and the rehabilitation of the Peck Park Canyon. I successfully opposed the proposal for Ponte Vista’s 2300 units and initiated the plan for a Skate Board Facility at Peck Park.

The coming year will continue to present challenges for us as the new developers present their plans for Ponte Vista, an updated Community Plan is adopted, we prepare to deal with the challenge of reduced City Resources. With your support I will continue to deal with these and other important community issues.

Raymond Regalado (Census Tract 2963)
I am proud to run for a seat in the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council. I live at 954 W. Channel St. and have been a resident of San Pedro for nine years. I am employed by the county of Los Angeles as a Senior Human Relations Specialist for the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations. I am also a proud union member of Service Employees International Union, local 721. My responsibilities with the commission are to promote equity in our diverse communities and to identify and implement solutions when division occurs. I feel my professional skills can be of service to my local community. Additionally, I have volunteered in a number of grassroots efforts including voter registration drives, candidates’ forums and have been involved in community driven issues resolution in various communities within Los Angeles County. Thank you for your consideration.

Barbara Schach (Education)
I have been an educator for the past 43 years teaching all grades in the elementary and middle school area. 15 of those years have been in an administrative position in 2 school districts.

I am seeking another term on the NWSPNC because I feel that I have only begun to accomplish all of the goals and aspirations I have for the students who live in this council area. There are many more challenges to be faced in the upcoming years.

George Thompson (Census Tract 2951)
After 30 years in the U. S. Navy and 15 years teaching in public schools, I was ready and willing to serve on the neighborhood council.

It is very meaningful to me to be able to contribute in this relatively small way to furthering the goals of this very dedicated group. I believe that we can make a difference when we approach our work with the same passion and enthusiasm that we demonstrated in the past. I treasure the many friends and colleagues I had the opportunity to work with over the years and look forward to continuing my work.

Katie Marrie (Census Tract 2964)
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Remember to vote on Tuesday, June 19, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Peck Park Auditorium!
Community Updates

Peck Park
Construction of the skateboard plaza is scheduled to begin in late 2012. Peck Park tennis courts will be closed for 4-5 weeks beginning June 11. All courts are being resurfaced.

Highlands Park
The basketball courts will be repaved and reopened in early July.

Plaza Automotive Center
The NWSPNC commends Plaza Automotive and Mitch Harmatz for going green! As a full-service automotive center, the most requested service that they could not provide was a car wash at the end of a service or repair. They have always vacuumed and cleaned the windshields and interior and provided clients with a trash bag and safety light for their keys. However, they could not provide was a car wash at the end of a service or repair. They are also looking for answers to questions such as: What is your favorite historic place in Los Angeles? For more information go to www.portoflosangeles.org.

Good News, Bad News: Western Avenue Repaving Scheduled
We just received information that CalTrans is planning to repave Western Avenue this summer. This is good news in the long run, but bad news for traffic in the short run. We have asked for advanced notice of when the work will be scheduled. We will send out an e-mail alert to our list. If you want to join our e-mail list, you can sign up on our website www.nwspnc.org. We will also post any information we receive on our website and facebook page.

New Bus Bench at Westmont and Gaffey
In response to our request, a new bus bench has been installed at Westmont and Gaffey. Previously individuals waiting for the bus sat on overturned shopping carts. If you see a bench that needs maintenance (e.g., trash or graffiti removed) or has an offensive advertisement, call 855-441-1300 (toll free) or email bus.boss@lacity.org.

USS Iowa Opens July 7
The Red Car will be shut down until June 26 due to the work being done on the ship. Parking will be available adjacent the ship with entry at First Street and Harbor Boulevard in San Pedro. For more information go to www.portoflosangeles.org.

Plaza Automotive Center Going Green
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Cars and Stripes Forever June 29
The Port of Los Angeles presents the fourth annual Cars and Stripes Forever on Friday, June 29, from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Harbor Boulevard and the Vincent Thomas Bridge in San Pedro. This is the perfect way to kick off the July Fourth weekend. Admission and all activities are free. Fireworks at 9:20 p.m. There will be live music, more than 100 classic cars and motorcycles on display, dancing water shows at the Gateway Plaza Fanfare Fountain, the Dodgers Street Team, food trucks and a beer garden. Parking is available at Harbor Boulevard and First Street, Harbor Boulevard and Sixth Street and Ports O’ Call Village. The Red Car will be free. There will also be a free shuttle to and from downtown San Pedro. For more information go to www.portoflosangeles.org.

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Community Updates

Peck Park Mural—Volunteers hard at work on the newest park project.

Peck Park
The powerhouse team behind Bergamot Station Arts Center in Santa Monica is proud to be working with the Port of Los Angeles on CRAFTED AT THE PORT OF LOS ANGELES.

New venture is a bold vision for a large-scale permanent craft marketplace that will showcase unique handmade goods. It will serve as an incubator space for up to 500 micro-businesses folks like you, creating exceptional items with your head, heart, and hands.

This unique blend of art and commerce is turning a dilapidated warehouse into a place where buyers and sellers of high-quality handmade crafts mingle in a festive and colorful atmosphere.

Celebrate the grand opening Friday, June 29, from 10:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. "Crafted" is located at Warehouses 9 and 10 (112 East 22nd Street, San Pedro). There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at 11:00 a.m.

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Good News, Bad News: Western Avenue Repaving Scheduled
As a result of an audit of the City’s Emergency Preparedness, the Controller recommended that the Port needs to conduct a “comprehensive threat and hazard risk assessment of its properties, including security and earthquake vulnerability assessments, extending to hazardous material and security sensitive facilities occupied by shipping companies and other private operators.”

The Board of Harbor Commissioners considered our recommendation and that of the Port Community Advisory Committee that they conduct a safety investigation into rail and truck car movements in the harbor area. Staff recommended against this on the grounds that the Rancho Facility is outside the Harbor District boundary. Our representative, Pat Nave, pointed out that the staff recommendation did not address the rail and truck movements that are inside Port boundaries. The Board upheld the staff report.

Interested in Local History?
Do you know of any significant historic resources in your neighborhood? Do you know of any significant historic resources in your neighborhood? They are also looking for answers to questions such as: What is your favorite historic place in Los Angeles? For more information go to www.portoflosangeles.org.

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In April, owner Mitch Harmatz attended the Marymount Senior Capstone Business presentations where a student, German Delgado, presented a business plan for a virtually waterless, mobile car wash system using steam and needing only 1 1/4 cups of water. Mitch quickly set up a demonstration and was sold on the idea.

Initially they plan to implement a Sunday “Pop Up” car wash with wax and detailing. You will be able to drop off your car and walk over to do your shopping or grab lunch. Once the program launches, it will be expanded into a Saturday service and then into a full week executive program.

On Sunday, July 1, they will introduce the car wash to the public as an incubator space for small businesses. They are also looking for answers to questions such as: What is your favorite historic place in Los Angeles? For more information go to www.portoflosangeles.org.

Do you have ideas about how to increase mobility in L.A.? Share them at Ideas.LAZB.org.

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The NWSPNC congratulates Dr. Knatz on being named the 2012 recipient of the Blue Frontier Campaign’s Peter Benchley Ocean Award for Excellence in Solutions. The Blue Frontier campaign is a conservation activist organization, recognized Dr. Knatz for her efforts at the nation’s busiest port to transform it into “America’s Greenest Port”.

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The NWSPNC commends Plaza Automotive and Mitch Harmatz for going green! As a full-service automotive center, the most requested service that they could not provide was a car wash at the end of a service or repair. They have always vacuumed and cleaned the windshields and interior and provided clients with a trash bag and safety light for their keys. However, a car wash, the service most often requested by clients eluded them. They could not wash cars because they did not have a recycling system or a way to capture the water.

In April, owner Mitch Harmatz attended the Marymount Senior Capstone Business presentations where a student, German Delgado, presented a business plan for a virtually waterless, mobile car wash system using steam and needing only 1 1/4 cups of water. Mitch quickly set up a demonstration and was sold on the idea.

Initially they plan to implement a Sunday “Pop Up” car wash with wax and detailing. You will be able to drop off your car and walk over to do your shopping or grab lunch. Once the program launches, it will be expanded into a Saturday service and then into a full week executive program.

On Sunday, July 1, they will introduce the car wash to the public as an incubator space for small businesses. They are also looking for answers to questions such as: What is your favorite historic place in Los Angeles? For more information go to www.portoflosangeles.org.

Do you have ideas about how to increase mobility in L.A.? Share them at Ideas.LAZB.org.