Thank You!
The NWNC humbly thanks the many volunteers who demonstrated their passion and dedication with assisting our harbor area youth by devoting their time, experience and generosity in participating with Pathways to Employment IV.

Our outstanding co-sponsors:

Harbor Community Benefit Foundation
Rotary Club of San Pedro

The employers/organizations that participated this year:

- Alta Sea
- Boys & Girls Club
- California Conservation Corps
- Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
- City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
- Community Career Development
- Double Tree
- Harbor YouthSource Center
- Los Angeles County
- Department of Mental Health
- IOW
- Los Angeles Maritime Institute

Thank you to the many other event staff who graciously contributed to this event.

Port Plans to Shut Down Red Car

At this time the iconic Red Car will be closing for good on September 27. All rides are free until closing. The port did not put the cost of running the Red Car in its 2015-16 budget. The town square project is not scheduled to start construction until the summer of 2017. That is right; some 200,000 riders will not be able to enjoy this incredible Red Car. So please come down to say goodbye and make sure that your children can say they rode the Red Car. The Port is saying it will cost over $60 million to replace the Red Car in 10 years. This trolley will not be the iconic Red Car of today. It will be a modern version of a trolley. Our Red Car will be gone. So please ride the Red Car while you can.

Keep the Red Car Running

By Congresswoman Janice Hahn, 44th District

Like many of my fellow San Pedrans, I was appalled to hear the Port of LA’s recent decision to get rid of the waterfront Red Car. The Red Car is a beloved icon in San Pedro and this would be a real loss for our community and a huge setback in our work to revitalize the waterfront.

When I was on the Los Angeles City Council I fought to bring the Red Car back to San Pedro as a unique tourist attraction and a way to jumpstart the waterfront project. For more than a decade it has been a draw for cruise passengers and a boost for businesses in downtown.

The Port of LA has claimed that redirecting the rail lines around Ports O’Call construction would be too difficult and too expensive. Yet, the port has been working with the community on plans to revitalize the waterfront for years and not once had the possibility of losing the Red Car come up before. I refuse to accept that we cannot find a way to engineer a safe Red Car rail line to accompany the new Ports O’Call and I cannot believe that there isn’t enough money to get it done. We should not have to choose. There is no reason why San Pedro should not have the beautiful waterfront it deserves.

Thank you to the many other event staff who graciously contributed to this event.

Pathways to Employment IV

We could not do a better job describing the huge success of Pathways to Employment IV than the following evaluation comments provided by the presenters and participants.

Presenter Comments
- I enjoyed the experience but most importantly the kids learned something practical that will be useful for them.
- The students did an excellent job of introducing themselves and taking advantage of volunteer and internship opportunities.
- I was pleased to meet several potential employment candidates that were well prepared.
- Organized—went on schedule, kids are interested and sincere. Everything went smoothly.
- Very well planned and executed. Students were engaged and attentive—asked good questions.
- Loved to see a high school senior student do the intro of the program.
- Thanks so much for the opportunity! Bunch of fun!
- Thanks for letting us participate! Loved the quality of kids that came through.
- It was an excellent event. I will love to do it again.

Youth Participant Comments
- Media Writing: Taught me a lot about the field, and opened my eyes to various opportunities.
- Entrepreneurship: Engaging and interesting, very interactive and made information specific to us and our situation.
- Gamification: Fun and helped us engage creatively, physically and emotionally.
- Get Work Experience and Employment: Very informing and educational.
- Social Media: Helpful information on what to do and what not to do when using any source of social media.
- How to Find a Job: I opened my eyes on how there are many different ways to get a job and to follow up.
- Got The Job, Now What?: Helped me know what to do in a job and what I need to do to succeed, get a raise and make a good impression.
- Interview Skills: Very informative and great insight on how to be remembered.
- Banking on Your Future: It’s never too late to plan one’s financial future. This will help us prepare for adulthood.
- Networking: Got me out of my comfort zone, got me thinking. Love it!
- Non-Verbal Communication Skills: Taught me how to control my verbal tones and how to present myself overall.
- Effective Resume: Provided interesting information about the do’s and don’ts of creating a good resume.
- Resume/Cover Letter: I am confident that the skills I learned today will lead me straight to success.
President’s Corner

The Neighborhood Council’s Relationship with Los Angeles City Departments

By Ray Regalado, President

When I first joined my local neighborhood council, it was my desire to contribute to my community in the best way available. I have mentioned in this column before that I did not want others to make decisions about my community without my input. I was concerned that others were making decisions about land use, tax and utility rates, and public safety without considering my view or input as a member of my neighborhood. In short, I wanted a voice. Once introduced to the concept of neighborhood councils, I knew I wanted to participate.

My first venture into the world of neighborhood councils came as an attendee at monthly council meetings at Peck Recreational Center. I was impressed by the caliber of the council representatives and how business was conducted. There was interaction with community members and city officials, and a few city departments. Elected officials had representatives giving reports of their activities and LAPD was talking about how to keep the community safe by giving tips as to how to keep residents from being victims of criminal activity. I was hooked. I wanted to be a part of this.

Today, with a few years of neighborhood council experience under my belt, I am able to draw a couple of conclusions. First, I don’t feel many of the departments within the city of Los Angeles truly appreciate the resource available to them through local neighborhood councils. I feel some departments find themselves engaging councils at arm’s length. I am not saying all departments exhibit this behavior. However, it appears that, at times, department staff members interact with a neighborhood council board in a manners that conveys they would much rather be somewhere else. Here is where I will state my second conclusion: sometimes neighborhood councils make it hard to gain the trust and respect of the city departments. Our behavior could be at fault.

Here is my point: I believe we, as neighborhood councils, are not given the opportunity to build respectful relationships with city departments because there is a level of distrust shared between the two. Further, I don’t believe the various city departments have a full understanding as to how important a role neighborhood councils can play when a respectful relationship is in place. They don’t understand us, so they hold us off at arm’s length.

In an attempt to remedy this, I would like to recommend that Los Angeles city leadership, in partnership with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) organize a meeting or a retreat type gathering where effective neighborhood council partnerships can be explored. I would like to suggest that this effort include a representative of all neighborhood councils, perhaps the presidents, department heads along with an appropriate staff, and elected city officials and their staff. Ibelieve this effort may pave the path for better city/community relations, build trust, thereby advancing towards more effective working partnerships.

Introducing New NWSNPC Board Members

Chris Valle

I am a relative newcomer to San Pedro, but my family and I have been involved in this community for years, and wished to become more involved at a leadership level by joining the Neighborhood Council.

I want to be part of helping this community address its problems and celebrate its strengths. Issues such as traffic and development along Gaffey and Western, public safety and law enforcement in and around our neighborhoods, need to be addressed, and working to energize the economic and cultural power of the community are my main priorities.

I think that as a relatively new resident of the community, I can bring different viewpoints and fresh eyes to the Council, while still appreciating and respecting the close-knit culture, history, and traditions of this neighborhood, and San Pedro generally.

I am a professional photographer, married father of three. My other interests include music, art, and the outdoors. I am forward to working with my fellow councilmembers and our friends and neighbors throughout the South Bay to keep building and maintain greater sense of community.

Lee Williams

Lee Williams holds one of the business seats on the NWSNPC. He leads a top real estate team and also publishes BestoftheSouthBay.com, an online magazine focusing on the things that make the South Bay a great place to live.

My main motivations for joining the council are threefold. First, funding is now available to improve the quality of life for San Pedro residents through road improvements, new home construction as well as waterfront developments. I intend to participate in making sure these activities represent actual improvements to our quality of life with an emphasis on keeping San Pedro family friendly. I will fight against “improvements” that make it harder to live in San Pedro. For example, lane reductions that affect commutes.

Second, waterfront improvements should be designed to bring more jobs to San Pedro that keep folks employed and tourist dollars local. Projects like Altasea and Ports O’Call should help people live close to work with good paying jobs and a short local commute.

Lastly, I support gardeners, beekeepers and those who are making San Pedro green/sustainable. As a beekeeper, I am working to create a public space where I can use the bees that I rescue to better educate the community on safety and sustainability.

San Pedro is actually getting smaller as it grows. People are connecting on social media, getting to know their neighbors and coming together as a closer community than ever before. I like being part of that.
Senator Isadore Hall
‘Seeking the Truth’

A Hearing to Examine
Risks to the Public from the
Plains/Rancho LPG Storage Site
The Warner Grand Theater
Saturday, October 3, 10:00 a.m.

Rancho LPG butane and propane storage tanks located on Gaffey Street across from Home Depot continue to be a significant cause for community concern. Senator Hall will be holding a hearing to determine how significant is this risk? Are these tanks safe from the threat of a terrorist attack? According to the USGS, the tanks sit on an earthquake rupture zone. What would be the result of a 7.3 earthquake? Considering this is a landslide and liquefaction zone, what would happen if the land were to dissolve around them? In case of a disaster is there an evacuation plan in an earthquake rupture zone. What would be the designated as the “Community Vision Committee.”

The committee sometimes deals with large, city-wide concerns, but is most frequently tasked with seemingly local concerns. Everyone is responsive to local needs through enhanced outreach actions, relationship building efforts and strategic partnerships.

Issues Committee

The committee hears about and attempts to take action on seemingly local concerns. Everyone is affected by, or unhappy about events or “issues” that affect our local neighborhood, our streets, or our own homes.

The committee hears about and attempts to respond to questions of street safety; noise on the Fourth of July and other times during the year; parking issues, including curb painting and overnight parking; cleaning up roadways, parkways and sidewalks, and general quality of life issues throughout the Northwest neighborhoods. Frequently, these small local questions impact other areas of San Pedro or the City at large. The committee attempts to take thoughtful positions, and to ask the City’s officials and departments to help resolve these questions in a meaningful and realistic way.

It is unlikely that the range of the committee’s interest or its volume of tasks to be attended to will ever be complete.

Planning and Land Use Committee

The Planning and Land Use Committee seeks to improve the quality of life in Northwest San Pedro by studying the committee, and monitoring planning, land use, and proposed developments to best meet the needs and character of our community.

Sustainability Committee

The mission of the Sustainability Committee is to advocate for local environmental sustainability and safety through community outreach and education. Our motto is, “think globally; act locally.” Throughout the upcoming year, the Sustainability Committee plans to work with the Northwest San Pedro community in order to promote clean air, clean water, and public health and safety.

We welcome all members of the community to join our efforts! The Sustainability Committee meets every third Tuesday of the month, from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at San Pedro City Hall, Room 452.

Youth and Outreach Committee

The mission of the Youth and Outreach Committee is to engage, collaborate and partner with stakeholders to promote the mission of the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council. Our goals to achieve this mission objective are to: Inform, Network, Listen, Motivate and Involve the community of Northwest San Pedro.

Look What’s Coming Up at Peck Park!

Preschool

Ages 3-5. Class meets Monday to Thursday, 9:00 am to 12:00 noon, August 17, 2015 to May 27, 2016. Fees: $175 per month plus $20 one-time registration fee. Children MUST be potty trained.

Sign-up NOW! Only a few openings remain.

Flag Football League

Ages 9-12. Fee: $125 (includes uniform, game days, trophy and staff). Mondays, Mighty Mite 5-6; Minors 7-9; Majors 10-12 (age as of 8/1/15). Online and walk-in registration going on now.


Tennis Lessons

Ages 6-99. Beginner and intermediate levels available. Ten-week session. One class per week.

Next session begins week of September 14. Cost: $75 per session

LAPD Social Media Links

• Facebook http://facebook.com/LapdHarborDiv
• Twitter http://twitter.com/LapdHarborDiv
• Nixle – just input your area code and receive real-time text messages about events as they happen in your area including events from the fire department http://www.nixle.com
• E-Policing – sign up to receive crime alerts and other information http://www.lapdepolicing.org

Like us on Facebook!
Planning Update

Ponte Vista
Ponte Vista is still working to obtain its grading permit from the City of Los Angeles. NWSPNC obtained a copy of the letter from the City to the developer with regard to the soils report and information needed before the grading permit can be approved. It can be read on our website, www.nwspnc.org.

Urban Greening Plan
The Urban Greening plan for San Pedro is nearing completion. This plan looks at improved landscaping and pedestrian connections, particularly in the downtown area and connections to our parks and open space. It includes the landscaping of Western Avenue from Ninth to Morse and on North Gaffey up to Westmont as well as improving trail connections between Peck Park, Leland Park, Rena Park, and Bandini Trails.

They anticipate sharing the final plan with the community during First Thursday, November 5. Watch our website for more information.

As part of the Urban Greening Plan, the Los Angeles Conservation Corps has been awarded $1.5 million to provide 3,000 new large trees and other landscaping for Leland Park (along North Gaffey), downtown San Pedro, Knoll Hill, the Caltrans triangle at the end of the Harbor Freeway, and other Caltrans right-of-way property.

Visit Westcoast Barbell's New Location at World Port Business Center
Westcoast Barbell’s is now open at 1841 North Gaffey Street, Unit G, San Pedro, CA 90731.

Get in shape the West Coast way at your friendly neighborhood gym! Ever try to get in shape only to get nowhere for your efforts? Maybe you have been turned away from the right place to get you to where you wanted to go.

The team at West Coast Barbell are experts in getting folks into shape and turning lives around when it comes to the quality of the life you’re living. It’s no fun being out of shape and carrying around that extra weight, but we are here to help you.

This gym is more as a group of friends who are excited to meet you and help you reach your goals. Most gyms today are overcrowded; they herd you in and herd you out. West Coast Barbell is concerned with the individual and the trainer’s needs and goals.

Fitness and getting in shape can be very confusing, but it doesn’t have to be. West Coast Barbell has many affordable options to help everyone with their fitness goals. Whether you like exercising in a group or prefer one on one training, we’ve got you covered.

Services include:
• Gym memberships;
• Strength and conditioning;
• Group get fit kickboxing classes;
• Personal training;
• Self defense;

Muay Thai kick boxing taught by stuntman and actor Master Joe Lee; and

Stretch and flexibility.

Call (310) 850-9274 or stop by our location today for a free trial!

Jeff Auquire, owner of West Coast Barbell, is a San Pedro native, who is passionate about making San Pedro a healthier and stronger town.

CONTACT the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council
Let us know what issues are of interest to you. Would you like to be the brainstormers on a particular topic? An update on the status of a project in our area? Are there projects you want the council to get involved with? Do you want to volunteer your time to help the council with projects of interest to you? Or do you have a general question for the board or a particular board Member? Our contact information is posted below.

However you choose to communicate with us, please include your phone number or e-mail address if you’d like a response.

E-Mail: Board@NWSanPedro.org

Mailing Address:
NW San Pedro Neighborhood Council
638 S. Beacon Street, Box 688
San Pedro, CA 90731

Telephone: (310) 732-4522