Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council believes that investing in local youth groups is a great investment for the future of our community! Inspired by last year’s youth creative and passionate grant applications, NWSPNC once again offered Neighborhood Purpose Grants to youth-based/ youth-led projects that benefit community, the environment or the arts.

While there were several applications from which to choose, three stood out above the others:

Park Western Place Elementary School, which last year received funding for their very successful ‘Buddy Bench’—a safe place for students to retreat to when feeling bullied, requested assistance in purchasing an additional bench for their younger students playground. Now the kindergarten and first grade students will also have a safe place to go when feeling bullied.

Alliance Alice M. Baxter College Ready High School submitted an application to beautify Anderson Memorial Park, a park that is frequented by the students. It was the students’ vision to paint a mural of a beautiful garden with different types of flowers and the words “Every person is a different kind of flower and all together make this world a beautiful garden.” It is their hope this will inspire more community pride and family events in the park. We look forward to seeing their final masterpiece.

UCLA Uni-Camp was also chosen. Their partnership with Dana Middle School to send up to 80 students to a residential outdoor summer camp with the emphasis on building relationships, leadership, nonviolent communication and character development encourages students to become role-models within their peer community and influences others to make a positive impact on their community.

We will post future grant opportunities as they are made available on our website www.nwsanpedro.org and on our Facebook page, Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council.

Darlene Zavalney, NWSPNC Chair of Youth and Community Outreach

Darlene Zavalney congratulates honoree Omar Bojorquez as Phillips 66 Los Angeles Refinery Public Relations Manager Janet Grothe looks on.

NWSPNC, Phillips 66 Honors Area Youth

Omar Bojorquez was awarded a $500 check by NWSPNC and Phillips 66 for his outstanding community service work that included feeding the homeless, helping his school to distribute books and volunteering at community events. The funds were provided by Phillips 66.

The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council hosted their fifth annual Pathways to Employment event on May 14. Another great success for our community, this event, free to local youth ages 16–24, is designed to assist youth in the Harbor area with the skills they need to be successful in both attaining and keeping a job.

The day included 18 different workshops covering a wide variety of topics such as interview skills, personal networking, resume writing, internships, and owning your own business in addition to specific topics such as career paths in education, law enforcement and public service.

This year we had close to 140 youth in attendance from 14 different local schools.

We are very proud of the success achieved with this event along with the community engagement accomplishments working together towards a mutual goal of assisting our youth.

The Community “Village” Involvement

- 33 people facilitated workshops.
- 20 people conducted individual practice interviews.
- 25 organizations met with youth to review job openings, internships and career paths.
- 30 people helped staff the day.
- 15 people participated with the Planning Committee.
- Eight people from the hosting San Pedro High School Olguin Campus assisted.
- Five wonderful organizations supported us with sponsorships.
- A voter registration station successfully registered nine youths to vote in the next election.

We are grateful to the many people who contributed their time, talent and experience.
The NWSPNC Governing Board and stakeholder meeting is on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Peck Park Auditorium, 560 North Western Avenue, San Pedro.

NWSPNC BOARD MEMBERS

RAY REGALADO, President
LEE WILLIAMS, Vice President
CYNTHIA GONYEA, Secretary
MELANIE LABRECQUE, Treasurer
ROBERT J. BRYANT
PETER BURMEISTER
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STEVEN SKRUMBIS
SARAH VALDEZ
CHRIS VALLE
DARLENE ZAVALNEY
MATTHEW DIMEGLIO, Youth Seat

NWSPNC Committees

Budget and Finance
Recommends budget, reviews funding requests
Chair: Melanie Labrecque
Vice Chair: Sarah Valdez
Members: Bob Bryant, Pete Burmeister, Craig Goldfarb, George Thompson

Bylaws and Elections
Elections and bylaws matters
Chair: Diana Nave
Vice Chair: Bron A’Angelo
Members: David Rivera, George Thompson

Community Vision
Traffic and transportation, parks, community beautification, and other issues not covered by specific committees
Chair: Dan Dixon
Members: Pete Burmeister, Craig Goldfarb, Chuck Hart, David Rivera

Planning and Land Use
Planning and land use issues
Chair: Diana Nave
Vice Chair: Lee Williams
Members: Pete Burmeister, Bob Garcia, Caroline Grayson, Chuck Hart, Jason Herring

Port
Port-related issues
Chair: Phil Nicolay
Vice Chair: Carlos Garcia
Members: Bob Bryant, Craig Goldfarb, Cynthia Gonyea

Public Safety
Community safety, emergency preparedness, and evacuation planning
Chair: Bob Garcia
Members: Jeannine Bryant, Pete Burmeister, Cynthia Gonyea, Ashley Grayson

Sustainability
Environmental issues
Chair: Sarah Valdez
Vice Chair: Darlene Zavalney
Members: Jan Guerra, Chuck Hart, Gwen Henry, Laurie Jacobs, Bobbi Lisk

Youth and Outreach
Youth, education, and community engagement
Chair: Darlene Zavalney
Vice Chair: Jeri Hawkins
Members: Joleen Deatherage, Matthew DiMeglio, Laurie Jacobs, Chris Valle

If you are interested in being a member of any of these committees, please e-mail your contact information to board@nwsanpedro.org.

President’s Corner
What I Have Learned
By Ray Regalado, President

It is not easy being a member of a neighborhood council. For those who have chosen to run for a position on the council board and have been fortunate enough to be elected by members of their community the work is hard and, sometimes, it appears never-ending. When I ran for a board seat over four years ago, I had no idea of the amount of work it took to execute the tasks set before me, however, one thing I learned quickly. I took on a responsibility that no longer focused on my specific wants and desires for my community, I now took on the obligation of representing a community. In addition, I had to work with 16 other individuals with the same commitment.

For the first few months in this new job I found myself doing a lot of listening and my contributions were few. Over time I felt comfortable contributing my vision and ideas, I thought, best represented my neighborhood. It didn’t take long to realize I needed to rethink what my contributions represented. They were not the needs of my community, they were my personal needs. I was not elected to represent my personal agenda, I was elected to know my community and represent their collective wishes. I found I needed to start listening again. And, I needed to effectively vocalize the desires of my community. Basically, I needed to be able to listen to what my community was saying, understand what was being said and communicate that message. I have found if I don’t effectively communicate what my community requires I have failed in the trust they have given me. I must be able to listen to all aspects of my community and sometimes represent the local voice so that all have an equal opportunity to be heard. All have the right to be heard.

Something else I have found I have learned over the past years as a member of my neighborhood council, I have an obligation to actively engage my council partners and listen to them. I must respect their position and try to understand the basis of their advocacy. That means I must use my communication skills with my council peers. I have an obligation to listen and discuss with the eventual outcome of improving the greater community. Engagement can be difficult, specifically when you are passionate about your position on an item. Passion can be a good thing when change is positive.

I’ll end by saying I am looking forward to another four years of service to my community. I make this promise to my colleagues and the community I represent, I will be honest, thoughtful and respectful with the hopes of leaving a positive result.

Mark Your Calendars!

Before you know it, the fall and winter holidays will be here so pull out your calendar now and let’s mark in a few dates together:

October 22
Weymouth Corners Candy Cane Lane event Santa will be there and so will we!

December 4
Annual Spirit of San Pedro Holiday Parade. A great way to get into the Holiday spirit! We will be ‘flying’ our giant peace dove puppet, wishing everyone a peaceful and happy holiday season.

There are other activities in the planning stages. Please be sure to check social media for updates and ‘like’ us on Facebook.

NWSPNC will be showing the 20th anniversary version of E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial including scenes that have not been shown previously. Fun starts at 6:00 p.m., movie at dark. Please check our website www.nwsanpedro.org and our Facebook page for updates on the evenings activities.
You Can Be Part of the Solution!

Did you know that in the Pacific Ocean, about 1,000 miles off the coast of San Francisco is the Pacific Gyre? A virtual island of floating plastic reported to be twice the size of Texas with plastic pieces outnumbering sea life six to one. According to EcoWatch, the Los Angeles area creates 10 metric tons of plastic fragments, like grocery bags, straws and soda/water bottles, that are carried into the Pacific Ocean every day.

NWSPNC continues its effort to inform and motivate residents to stop purchasing disposable plastic bottled water. We are a community that relies on the greatness of the sea whether for food, transportation, tourism, etc. It is essential we commit to protecting it.

We thank our elected officials, Mayor Eric Garcetti and Councilman Joe Buscaino, for their help in our efforts.

During a May city council meeting, Joe delivered to each of the councilpersons NWSPNC reusable stainless steel water bottle along with a message of support.

At a luncheon at the mayor’s home in July, Mayor Garcetti promised he would carry our reusable water bottle in public to help in our awareness campaign.

If you’d like to be a part of our environmental team, the Sustainability Committee needs you! For meeting listings and agendas, please check our website at www.nwspedro.org.

San Pedro International Film Festival

San Pedro International Film Festival celebrates its five-year milestone this year expanding to 10 days, featuring multimedia programming—film, art, music, virtual reality and更多

Directed by Rodrigo Ribera d’Ebre, Dark Progressivism documents the brilliance of LA’s history of murals, tagging and street art born during urban upheaval of the ’80s and ’90s. The film screens October 15 at the elegant Warner Grand Theatre, followed by Playing Leccano, a stunning documentary that explores Cuban pianist and composer Ernesto Leccano’s influence through the lens of three

Budget and Finance Committee Mission Statement and Goals

The mission of the Budget and Finance Committee is to manage Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council (NWSPNC) funds with transparency and accountability, within the guidelines of the City of Los Angeles and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, with the purpose of working with the council and stakeholders for the betterment of the NWSPNC community.

Goals:
1. Increase attendance of stakeholders, board members and committee chairs for the Budget and Finance Committee meetings.
2. Meet on a monthly regular basis.
3. Hold committee chairs accountable for submitting “Request for Funds” in adequate time (two months prior to event).
4. Recapitalize and reallocate any unused funds that are budgeted monthly.

Report Traffic Issues

To report any traffic or skateboarding concern, call 323-421-2588.

Traffic officers said to report any intersections where cars are not stopping at stop signs, any stretches of streets such as Gaffey or Western that there are unsafe passages of cars, not stopping for those in the crosswalk, and any skateboarding concerns. They will come out and monitor the areas or run a task force for traffic suppression. The traffic suppression task force when used on Gaffey between Fifth and Sixth streets last time issued 80-90 tickets in a four-hour period.

Planning Update

Proposed New Developments

With the lease signed for the redevelopment of Ports O’Call and process being made on the development of AltaSea, we are seeing an increased interest in building in San Pedro. Time will tell how much of this actually materializes, but here are some of the things on the drawing board. For more information on the individual projects, visit http://nwspedro.org/planning-and-land-use-committees.

The proposed development at 550 South Palos Verdes is moving along through the city’s process. The development would extend from Fifth to Sixth streets along Mesa with an alley separating it from the Sunrise Hotel and Grindr. The project consists of 494 multi-units in six stories over a podium with underground parking and about 5,200 square feet of retail along Sixth Street. Nelson One is a proposed 12-story mixed-use building at 355-357 Sixth Street. The project consists of 404 rental units in three stories over a podium with underground parking and about 5,200 square feet of retail along Sixth Street.

A request for proposals has been released by L.A. County to determine possible uses for the former courthouse at Sixth and Palos Verdes. Proposals are due at the end of September. The RFP allows for a wide variety of proposals and requires a strong public engagement component and some type of community use component.

The city received one proposal for the parking lot between Eighth and Ninth streets behind O’Reilly Auto Parts. It was for a five-story building.

Starbucks has acquired a long-term lease on the property at Ninth and Gaffey and is proposing both drive-through and sit-down services. Jack in the Box has received approval to build a sit-down facility at Sixth and Gaffey. Del Taco is proposing to build a sit-down and drive-through at Gaffey and Fourth.

New businesses coming to downtown San Pedro include the San Pedro Brewing Company in the old Liberty Auditorium at the corner of Seventh and Centre, and a new fish restaurant, Pappy’s, in the old Papadakis. Unfortunately, the city’s process is arduous and lengthy and we do not have any anticipated opening dates.

Community Beautification: Welcoming Introducing Gaffey

Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative is scheduled to share the Gaffey Phase 1 Implementation Plan at our Planning and Land Use Committee Meeting on September 21. Check the website for more information. As soon as the plan is available, it will be posted on our website.

The San Pedro Urban Greening Plan, a project of the Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC), is nearing completion and release of the draft plan is anticipated in late September. Once the draft plan is released, it will also be posted on our website when it is released. A public adoption event is being planned for January.

LACC received a $1.4 million CalFire Green Innovations Grant. Under this grant, they will be planting 3,000 new trees in the greater San Pedro area including the development of an urban forest in the “CalTrans Triangle” under the end of the Harbor Freeway. As part of this grant, there will also be installing smart irrigation, creating 3,600 feet of bioswales and 25 rain gardens and removing 7,500 square feet of concrete to enlarge tree wells.

LACC received a grant to clean up the median on Harbor Boulevard between Swing and Sixth Street, install smart microspray irrigation, and plant shrubs and shade trees between the palm trees. They were also funded by the council office to remove the asphalt and plant 25 trees in the median on Western Avenue from First to 19th.

The Port has awarded a contract for beautification of Front Street. However, there are some issues that need to be resolved before construction can begin.

The Harbor Boulevard/Gaffey Wayrealignment is expected to begin soon. In the beginning there will be no disruption to traffic. As the project progresses, one lane in each direction will be closed. The construction schedule will be posted on our website when we receive it.

Stay tuned...
Pathways to Employment V

Volunteer Linda Alexander and NWSNPC President Ray Regalado thank Pathways to Employment sponsors for their generous donations.

Hannah Jacobs and Diana Nave ready to check in participants at this year’s Pathways to Employment event. Nearly 140 students and dozens of community and business leaders provided their time and expertise.

Why I Love San Pedro

By Darlene Zavalney, NWSNPC Youth and Outreach Chair

I often wonder if those who are “born and raised” in San Pedro realize how unique this community truly is. I’d like to share a few examples of what is not typical of many other communities.

Here it is not uncommon for a complete stranger to go out of their way for someone they have never met. One weekday morning a few years back I decided that the huge bamboo plant I had in a pot on our lower deck patio had to go. It was not thriving and deserved a home where it could be planted in the open ground. My plan was to drag this big potted bamboo plant to the corner in hopes someone would take it home, plant it and enjoy.

As I was slowly starting scooting the plant along the sidewalk toward the corner a gentleman, who was obviously on his way to work, passed by. He saw me dragging this tree toward the corner, turned his car around, came back and in his crisp dark suit he carried the bamboo plant to the corner for me. Get back in his car and continued his trip to work.

I wonder how many of you know how unique this is?

Then there was the time I was at South Shores Meat. I was in second line. I had decided I would purchase meatloaf and call it dinner for the evening. South Shores was running low on meatloaf and the lady in front of me purchased all but about a quarter-pound. She was still waiting to pay when I was asked what I would like. I was temporarily unprepared and said I had intended to purchase meatloaf and would need a moment to choose an alternative.

The woman immediately turned to me and said “wait, I don’t need all this, let me share this with you!” I protested, telling her it was fine; there were plenty of other choices. She would hear none of it and insisted we split all that was available. This is not typical, just in case you didn’t know that!

Then there was the evening that my husband and I were at Trani’s Restaurant, sitting at the bar and preparing to order dinner. We were on the very south end of the bar and on the precise opposite end was a lovely mature woman. I happened to catch her and she signaled me to come to her.

I walked over to the other end of the bar and she handed me a bowl of lovely deep fried peppers telling me that they were way too hot for her and that she would like us to have them. We had never met her before but we do know who she is now! And, by the way, those peppers were so delicious!

This is the Pedro we absolutely love! People are kind, thoughtful and generous.

Thank You, Chris Valle

Many of the photos in this and other issues of the Northwest Advocate were taken by board member Chris Valle, who is a professional photographer. We appreciate his help in making the newsletter look good.

Farewell, Kim Weldon; Hello, Phyllis Grierson

Management Changes at Peck Park

Kim Weldon (pictured), senior recreation director at Peck Park Recreation Center, is being transferred to Pan Pacific Park in downtown Los Angeles. Kim has been a wonderful asset to our community and we will miss her terribly! She was instrumental in helping us to pull together our very popular Halloween movie in the park event and she was always available and willing to assist our council with any and all requests. We will be missing an important member of our team. Please join us in wishing her all the best in her new position as she certainly deserves it!

Returning to Peck Park is Phyllis Grierson. Perhaps some of you remember her from 1984 to 2007, her previous time at Peck Park?

We look forward to continued successful teamwork! Welcome back, Phyllis.

What’s Coming Up at Peck Park

Winter Basketball 2017 - Co-ed

Registrations begin October 1. Deadline is December 6. Practices will begin December and season will kick off in January. 4-15 year olds. Fee is $125 and it includes uniform, trophy, and officiating fees.

Halloween Carnival October 31

Free. Open to the public. We will have 25-cent carnival games, prizes, costume contests for all ages (five age divisions) and more. Ghostbusters-themed.

Harvest Fun Days November 21, 22, 23

Ages 6-12. Various activities: games, arts and crafts, sports, snacks and movies. Registration begins October 1. Deadline: November 16. Space is limited. Registration must be done in advance. $120: three days, $85: two days, $45: one day.

Winter Day Camp December 19-January 6

Ages 5-12. 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Camp activities include a variety of games, sports, and arts and crafts activities. Registrations begin October 29. Must register in advance. No week of or day of registrations.

What Is Your Phone Telling Your Rental Car?

By Lisa Weintraub Schifferle Attorney, FTC, Division of Consumer and Business Education

When I rent a car, it’s fun to get all the bells and whistles – like navigation, hands-free calls and texts, streaming music and even web browsing. But did you know that cars with these features might keep your personal information, long after you’ve returned your rental car?

Here are some things to keep in mind when renting a connected car. What happens when you rent a connected car? When you use the car’s infotainment system, it may store personal information. It may keep locations you entered in GPS or visited when travelling in the rental car – like where you work or live.

If you connect a mobile device, the car may also keep your mobile phone number, call and message logs, or even contacts and text messages. Unless you delete that data before you return the car, other people may view it, including future renters and rental car employees or even hackers.

If you decide to use a connected car, here are some steps you can take to protect your personal information:

• Avoid connecting your mobile phones or devices to the infotainment system just for charging. It’s safer to use a cigarette lighter adapter to charge devices, instead of the car’s USB port. Why? In some cases, the USB connection may transfer data automatically.

• Check your permissions. If you do connect your device to the car, the infotainment system may present a screen that lets you specify which types of information you want the system to access. Grant access only to the information you think is necessary – if you just want to play music, for example, you don’t need to okay access to your contacts.

• Delete your data from the infotainment system before returning the car.

Go into the infotainment system’s settings menu to find a list of devices that have been paired with the system. Locate your device and follow the prompts to delete it. The owner’s manual and the rental car company may have more information about how to delete your data.

Want to learn more about how your personal information is shared and used every day? Watch this short video online at https://www.consumer.gov/bcp/what-your-phone-telling-your-rental-car?utm_source=govdelivery.

Public Safety 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