

# NORTHWEST ADVOCATE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTHWEST SAN PEDRO NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL • MARCH 2017



**PATHWAYS TO EMPLOYMENT VI**  
EMPLOYMENT PREPARATION & JOB OPPORTUNITIES  
YOUTH 16-24

**SATURDAY  
APRIL 1,  
2017  
8:30-3:00**

Out of care and concern for the environment we ask you to please bring your reusable water bottle. Individual bottles of water will not be provided.

**SAN PEDRO HIGH SCHOOL  
OLGUIN CAMPUS**

**FREE ADMISSION**  
REGISTER AT  
[NWSANPEDRO.ORG/PATHWAYS](http://NWSANPEDRO.ORG/PATHWAYS)

PRODUCED BY:  
  
Northwest San Pedro  
Neighborhood Council  
"Your Community Voice"  
[nwsanpedro.org/pathways](http://nwsanpedro.org/pathways)

## Pathways to Employment is First Step on the Way to a Great Career *Annual Job Skills Event April 1 at Olguin Campus*



*Left: Speaker addresses students at the one of the workshops at the 2016 Pathways to Employment event.*



*Right: Company representatives talk to students at last year's Pathways to Employment event. Registration for this year is now open at [nwsanpedro.org](http://nwsanpedro.org).*

Plans are underway for the sixth annual Pathways to Employment event hosted by the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council. This event is designed to assist Harbor Area youth with the skills they need to apply for jobs, get hired, and successfully navigate every day work life.

The event will be held on April 1 at San Pedro High School Olguin Campus. It will include workshops in many practical areas, from mock interviews to networking, and is free. These skills are critical for young people today, and provide a solid foundation upon which you can build for the rest of your professional lives.

Our 2017 event is expanding to include local nonprofit partners and the value of volunteerism for young people. Volunteering helps develop lifelong interpersonal and communication skills. Community service is an essential way for you to explore your interests, show colleges what you believe in, and define a possible career path. By engaging in volunteer work, you have an opportunity to learn experientially.

***The first 200 students to register and attend will receive a free backpack and event T-shirt!***

Registration will open the first week of March. Watch for details on our website at [nwsanpedro.org](http://nwsanpedro.org).

We are looking forward to another successful event for the youth of our community.

Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council  
638 South Beacon Street, Box 688  
San Pedro, CA 90731

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**Attn: POSTAL PATRON**



**NORTHWEST SAN PEDRO  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
638 S. Beacon Street, Box 688  
San Pedro, CA 90731  
(310) 732-4522  
board@nwsanpedro.org

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**  
**BRON D'ANGELO**  
**DAN DIXON**  
**CARLOS GARCIA**  
**CRAIG GOLDFARB**  
**GWENDOLYN HENRY**  
**LAURIE A. JACOBS**  
**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**

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

### The Time to Think About Summer is Now

By Ray Regalado, President

It's hard to think about warm summer days when we look out our window and see rain clouds, wet streets and sidewalks and an occasional rainbow.

But for our young people it may be the perfect time to think about vacation, no homework and a summer job. Or, for those who have graduated, it may be the right time to think about a career.

For the young people of the harbor area, a great opportunity will occur on April 1. Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council will hold its sixth annual Pathways to Employment career and job resources fair at San Pedro High School's Olguin campus.

On this day students will have the chance to participate in workshops that will develop their knowledge in possible career paths for their

future. This day also talks about the importance of volunteerism and internships. Professionals in various employment fields will talk about how to prepare for future job opportunities.

It is important for our youth to be prepared to compete for jobs that can provide for a successful future. Along with a good educational foundation, making thoughtful choices about a career path is also important.

Pathways to Employment is an opportunity nobody should miss. As a parent, grandparent, teacher or friend, you must let young people you know not to miss this event. It will be time well spent.



## Northwest San Pedro Public Safety: Tips to Deter Crime; New Neighborhood Watch

The Northwest San Pedro area lately has been experiencing an increase in car break-ins, package thefts, vandalism and RV's parking around the community streets and residences.

There are many ways you can protect your home from criminals.

- Have great lighting around your home. Motion lights or floodlights are great deterrents.
- Install a good, high-definition security camera and security system.
- Keep your garage closed and locked. Never leave your garage open and unattended.
- Do not keep spare house keys or garage door opener in car.
- Share your numbers with your adjacent neighbors, especially if you are going to be away.

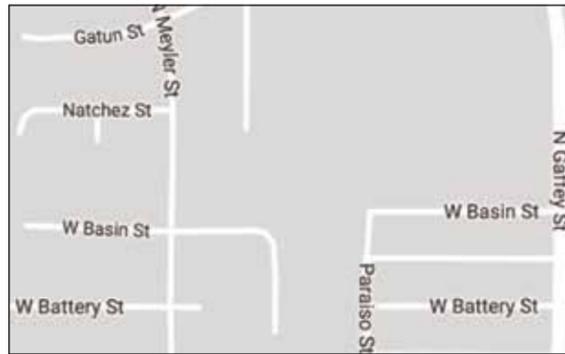
They can be your eyes and ears for your home.

- When you "See Something, always Say Something". Always call in a crime to 1-877-ASK-LAPD or 911.
- Be the witness LAPD and your neighborhood needs. Step up and identify the criminal when needed. Don't take pictures and video and decide you don't want to get involved. It takes a village to work together to catch the thieves.
- Join a Neighborhood Watch.

There is a new Neighborhood Watch starting for the San Pedro Harbor Highlands area and Taper Elementary. You can join by contacting Melanie Labrecque at melanie.labrecque@yahoo.com.

See the maps (left and below) for areas included. Any one in Northwest is welcome to join, even if not a resident of the area on the map.

Stay safe and secure.



Harbor Highlands Neighborhood Watch area



Taper Elementary Neighborhood Watch area

## Public Safety Committee

Our Public Safety Committee has a new chair and vice chair.

They are Melanie Labrecque and Peter Burmeister.

We will start having meetings in March and would like to invite stakeholder to come and join the committee.

Your input is important in keeping our Northwest Community safe and informed.

Our mission is to keep the northwest community and northwest neighborhood watches informed. Help with safety and security tools to inform you.

We also will be working with public safety officials to help provide a safe environment for our families.



## New Bogdanovich Park Playground Opens with the Sound of Laughter and Cheers

The Department of Recreation and Parks and Councilman Joe Busciano proudly cut the ribbon on the brand new and fabulous playground at Bogdanovich Park, Friday, December 23, 2016.

It was a chilly and foggy morning but that didn't

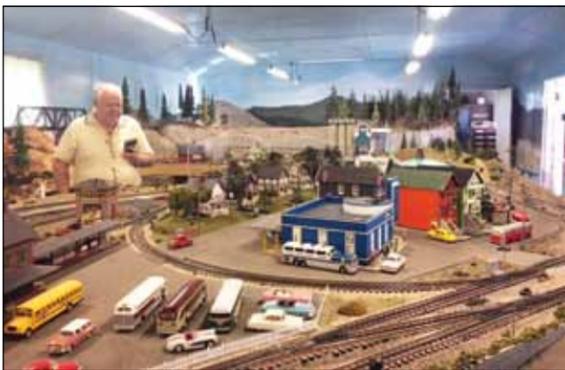
quell the excitement of the kids that had been anxiously awaiting the opportunity to hop on or climb all over the new playground equipment.

If you haven't been there yet, check it out. You will wish you were a kid again!

## Places to Go, Things to Do in San Pedro

By Darlene Zavalney

Have you ever tried to show someone the highlights of San Pedro in just one day? I have on a few occasions. Each time I wished there were more hours in the day as I continue to find more hidden treasures to share. Here are a couple you may or may not know about.



### Angels Gate Hi-Railers

Did you know there is a model train club at the top of 38th Street just above San Pedro High School's Olguin Campus?

It is an amazing exhibit. The model trains meander along railroad tracks passing through forests where tiny bootleggers are making moonshine in their tiny working still!

Then, a bit further along the trains pass over a gorge on a beautiful trellis bridge before coming into a working port that leads to carnival and on and on!

I don't want to spoil all the surprise details the

club has put together for you. You need to see this firsthand. The Angels Gate Hi-Railers Model Railroad Club is for kids young and old.

Speaking of kids young and old, if you ever rode the Red Car while it was in operation at our port you may have had as your engineer or conductor, Mr. Bob Bryant.

Bob is a member of the Angels Gate Hi-Railers Railroad Club and also a long standing board member on Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council. If you love the train museum come to one of our board meetings and I'm sure Bob would love to share train stories and information with you.

They are open to the public every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and the admission is FREE.



**Fort MacArthur Museum Battery Osgood-Farley**

After experiencing the model train museum, you may wish to check out the Fort MacArthur Battery Osgood-Farley Museum located just down the hill.

Here you can wander through the underground tunnels with their 16- to 30-foot thick concrete walls where once were housed giant seacoast guns with the capacity to fire 14 miles and ability to be reloaded in 20 seconds. This fort protected the harbor from attack by sea from 1920 to 1945.

Inside the concrete tunnels is a wealth of history in the old newspaper clippings, photos, drawings, old cars and trucks. It is a walk back in time and a great history lesson for all.

The Fort MacArthur Museum is open Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday and holidays from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. The admission is free, but donations are appreciated.

I hope you have found these two suggestions useful. We will try to share a few opportunities like these with each new issue of the *Advocate*.

## Looking in the Rearview Mirror and Into the Future What is Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council Up To?

NWSPNC Have been experiencing a very busy year. Kicking off the fall with an October movie in the park at Peck Park. December was the Weymouth Corner's Candy Cane Lane street holiday party and the Spirit of San Pedro Holiday Parade.

In January, we launched our neighborhood purpose grants for youth projects and, in February, we cohosted a wonderful native plant lecture at the White Point Nature Preserve with Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council.

Here it is March already and our work continues. On April 1, NWSPNC will produce its sixth annual Pathways to Employment Event at San Pedro High School, Olguin Campus.

We are contemplating a potential movie in the park at Bogdanovich Park for sometime in June and, at the end of September, we have plans to host the documentary *Racing Extinction* at the Warner Grand Theater for middle school and high school students.

World-famous ethnologist and anthropologist Dr. Jane Goodall, who is in this documentary, has agreed to Skype into the theater after the showing of the film and take question from the students. Adults will be allowed to fill any seats that are not filled by students.

We will post updates on all events on our Facebook page and our website: [www.nwsanpedro.org](http://www.nwsanpedro.org).

### Peck Park Activities

- March 14: Last day to register for Girls' Softball and Co-ed Baseball
  - April 8: Egg Hunt and Spring Activities: 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
  - April 10-14: Spring Break registration now open
  - Mid-April: registration begins for summer camp (June 12-August 11)
- See park office for list of classes starting in April.

### Bogdonovich Park Upcoming Sports Schedules

- Adult Basketball League begins every March and September. Team entry fee is \$225 plus referee fees. For more information, call (310) 548-7590.
- Adult Softball League summer and fall; team entry fee: \$250 plus referee fees. For more information, call (310) 548-7590.
- Flag Football registration July, boys and girls ages 6 to 13, season: September to November.
- Fall Girl's Volleyball registration July, girls 8 to 13, season: September to November.
- Winter Youth Basketball registration September, ages: boys and girls 5 to 13, season: December to March.

### Deane Dana Friendship Park Nature Center

1805 West Ninth Street, San Pedro 90732 (310) 519-6115

- Starting March 18: free power walk every Saturday; meet in front of the building at 7:00 a.m.
- Earthday Environmental Fair, Saturday, April 22, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., exhibitors, live animals, game booths, face painting, arts and crafts and free giveaways. FREE EVENT



## Neighborhood Council Oath

- I pledge to represent my Neighborhood Council and Stakeholders with dignity, integrity, and pride.
- I will encourage other points of view, even when they differ from my own.
- I will respect, value, and consider everyone's opinion.
- I will adhere to all local, state and federal laws as well as hold other board members accountable to do the same.
- I will find the good in my neighborhood, praise it and promote it.
- I will work to honor diversity, build community, forge bonds with neighboring communities, and promote participation in city governance and the decisionmaking processes, to improve the quality of life for all Stakeholders.
- To the neighborhood council system, to my neighbors, and to neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles, I pledge to do this to the best of my ability.

**LADWP**  
 24 hours a day,  
 365 days a year  
 800-342-5397

## NWSPNC Co-sponsors Native Plants Event at Nature Preserve

On Saturday, February 18, the Central San Pedro and Northwest San Pedro neighborhood councils co-hosted an educational presentation, together with the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC), at the White Point Nature Education Center. The presentation was conducted by Dr. Allen Franz, professor of anthropology at Marymount College University and executive vice president of the PVPLC Board of Directors.

Dr. Franz presented an overview of the evolution of local geology and ecology over the past 10,000 years. Our beloved San Pedro was not always the urbanized port town that it is today. In fact, thousands and thousands of years ago, the peninsula was an island, similar to many of the islands currently located off the coast of Southern California.

A shift in tectonic plates eventually led to the beautifully striated cliffs that San Pedrans now call home. In addition to such massive geologic shift, Spanish colonization, American settlement, and rapid urbanization have



Dr. Franz talks about native flora and fauna.

also had a profound impact on the evolutionary processes of local ecological systems. Such multifaceted history has engendered the multiplicity of flora and fauna that are endemic to the San Pedro Peninsula today.

Considered a "biodiversity hotspot," California is home to one of the most biologically diverse regions in the world. However, modern living has come at a cost and human activity has triggered a major extinction event. As mentioned by Dr. Franz, an estimated three to 10 species of our fellow earth creatures are declared extinct every day.

Biologists estimate that half of all species on earth could be extinct by the end of the century. Such a severe blow to the planet's biodiversity would have a grave and irreversible impact on the ecological systems that sustain human life. Thus, in addition to being philosophically imperative, preserving biodiversity is pragmatic. Humans rely on the genetic diversity of plants and animals to support a healthy food supply and provide key pharmaceutical ingredients, among other resources.

The Palos Verdes blue butterfly, found nowhere else in the world, is among



Dr. Allen Franz tells the group about native plants at the White Point Nature Preserve.

the many species that are currently critically endangered. San Pedro residents can do much to change that. By planting native plants such as milk vetch (*astragalus trichopodus*) and deerweed (*lotus scoparius*), San Pedrans can provide a home for the Palos Verdes blue butterfly and thus support local biodiversity.

As a community, we may support biodiversity by encouraging the use of native plants in public landscaping. We may urge our elected officials and pertinent city departments to utilize the wide range of native plants species that are available and thus give San Pedro a unique look to match its unique character. Such plants require no pesticides and very little water, since they have adapted over the course of millennia to survive local climate conditions.

To experience a lovely example of a landscape design that employs native plants, please stop by the White Point Nature Education Center, located at 1600 West Paseo Del Mar, where you may take a self-guided tour through their garden. The White Point Nature Education Center also hosts native plant sales every fourth Saturday month. Please visit [www.pvplc.org](http://www.pvplc.org) for more information.

The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council's Sustainability Committee meets every third Tuesday of the month, in room 452, at San Pedro City Hall. Please join us as we continue to discuss projects that may promote the cultivation of native plants in our area.



Albertsons is back in business in Garden Village on Western Avenue. Store manager Rick Sanzone (pictured, above) and many familiar faces are waiting to welcome customers to the newly-remodeled market.

## Welcome Back! Albertsons Returns to Garden Village

Albertsons supermarket in Garden Village on Western Avenue reopened on Wednesday, March 1, after having been absent for nearly two years, including a year-long period during which Haggen markets took over the location, part of a failed regional expansion by the Washington state-based grocery chain.

According to store manager Rick Sanzone, spirits were high on the occasion.

"We had our grand opening today, and it was like home week. People that used to shop here just didn't want to go shopping anywhere else, and were kind of forced to do that. Now that they're back here, it's like 'Oh my gosh', and they live across the street, they live next door, they live up the hill, and... this was their store. So they're coming back!"

Sanzone mentioned that he was able to rehire approximately 30 former staff from that location, and that depending on demand, might need additional staffing in the future.



## Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Nextdoor, Instagram

These social media sites have become political debate arenas where many of us share our views on the current state of the world and local governmental affairs.

Article after article is shared and commented on largely by a group of like minded individuals. Most rallying behind one view point or another with an occasional contrary opinion.

While many of us find these articles and comments interesting and some even entertaining, not much is accomplished just reading and sharing ones own opinions.

Sure, you get the reassurance from your peers that your perspectives are consistent with theirs. But, what is the positive result from all your time spent reading and sharing these pieces of news? Has any of the time spent attributed to change you seek?

What if you took just a portion of the time spent online and joined a neighborhood council commit-

tee? Neighborhood councils not only share ideas, they forge change in the community.

Your knowledge and passions are needed to help other community members see your vision and create a better place for all of us.

Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council has the following committees: Youth and Community Outreach, Sustainability, Public Safety, Community Vision, Planning and Land Use, Budget and Finance, Port.

We would very much like for you to join one or more committees. The meeting date, times and location can be found on our website at [www.nwsanpedro.org](http://www.nwsanpedro.org).

You are also welcome to come to our full board meeting. They are at 6:00 p.m. on the second Monday of each month at Peck Park Auditorium. In the event of a holiday, this date may change.

We hope you will join in and help to work toward the change you wish to see in your community.