Are you looking for ways to make a difference in your community on the issues you care about that affect the quality of life in our neighborhood?

Voting for your neighborhood council board members is a way to participate. Help choose the people you feel will initiate changes for improvement that affects you, your family and your neighbors.

Being active in community-based activities such as volunteerism, making contact with elected officials, and VOTING are ways to connect. Voting equates to greater awareness of neighborhood projects and community issues, thereby contributing to the social capital of our locale.

Neighborhood councils are empowered to advocate directly for real change in your community. Our council consists of residents, business owners, and property owners. Local engagement is important because no one understands our neighborhood better than the people who live, work and play here.

Join our “PARTY AT THE POLLS” event on Saturday, June 2, at Peck Park to meet your neighbors, eat good food, hear and dance to great music, and VOTE.

10 AM to 3 PM at Peck Park
Featuring music by Easy Reader’s Best of the Beach ‘Best Original Band’
Andy & Renee from 12 NOON to 3 PM
PET ADOPTIONS and so much more...

Meet the candidates!
Candidate forums at 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM
Every vote counts!

For more information, check out our website: www.nwsanpedro.org and ‘like’ us on Facebook

See Who’s Running: Candidate Statements on Page 4

Inside this issue...
Pathways to Employment
Noise Survey Update
Rec and Parks
Peace/Buddy Bench Program
Volunteers Live Longer
NWSPNC: 15 Years of Service Planning Update

At the recent Pathways to Employment event, representatives of the Boys and Girls Club discussing College Bound, Career Bound and other comprehensive afterschool programs they offer. More photos on page 2.
The seventh annual Pathways to Employment event was held on Saturday April 14, at the San Pedro High School Olguin campus. Attending youth were able to select from 19 workshops and interact with 26 organizations, as well as participate in mock practice interviews. The event focuses on job preparation skills and career guidance for youth ages 16-24.

Recreation and Parks News

Pathways to Employment

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Bogdanovich Rec Center Summer Camp

Ages 5-12, June 11 through August 10 (no camp July 4), Monday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., extended care available 7:30 to 10 a.m. and 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Camp includes a variety of activities such as games, sports, arts and crafts, field trips and special events. Bogdanovich Recreation Center, 1920 Cumbers Dr., (310) 548-7590.

Peck Park Summer Camp

Ages: 5-15; days: Monday, June 11 to Friday, August 10; camp hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; activities: sports, games, arts and crafts, team building, cooking, drama special theme days and field trips; register now at Peck Park, 560 N. Western Ave.; (310) 548-7580. Visit the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks website at www.laparks.org.

Deane Dana Nature Center Volunteer Reserve Program

Experience wildlife and the outdoors! Explore exciting career opportunities! Expand your knowledge of our resources! Now accepting applications; orientation Saturday, June 2, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Deane Dana Nature Center, 1805 W. Ninth St., San Pedro. To register, call (310) 519-6115 or email hinznunz@parks.lacounty.gov.

Update on Noise Survey and Analysis

As a result of stakeholder concerns raised during NWSPNC meetings, the Port Committee has undertaken the evaluation of noise in our community. Two issues have been raised by stakeholders: periodic noise from train horns from grade crossings and persistent noise from container terminal activities (truck horns, back-up beepers, container banging etc.).

Several studies have been under taken by the Port of Los Angeles and Harbor Benefit Corporation to evaluate noise in San Pedro and Wilmington. These studies evaluated ambient noise and solicited input from stakeholders in the area. The NWSPNC Port committee has initiated a survey using an app on our website to capture data relative to noise observations and frequency in Northwest San Pedro.

The purpose of this data gathering is to:
• Evaluate time, location and noise type observed;
• Determine community response relative to noise observations;
• Provide better understanding of noise levels in NWSP;
• Determine the noise sources observed by stakeholders (train, container terminals activity, other);
• Provide data to be used in future noise studies, noise models, and noise mitigation.

Data collected by the app is limited to:
• Time of noise observations;
• Location of the person hearing the noise;
• Type of noise (rail horn, container activity, etc.);
• Respondent name (optional);
• Comment.

The app is easy to use, and the Port Committee is hoping that data collected will help answer the following questions:
• What type of noise sources are observed by NWSP stakeholders? port / train
• Time of day when the noise source was observed: daytime (7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.), evening (6:00 to 10:00 p.m.), or nighttime (10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m.)
• Location of noise observations
The NWSPNC is hoping data collected from the noise app will increase our understanding of specific noise related concerns or our stakeholders. Data from the app, and specific noise studies could be used to initiate discussions on how to reduce and mitigate adverse noise impacts in NWSP.

Follow-up activities might include a noise forum with participation from local officials, acoustic experts, health experts, and noise code experts. A forum or standing noise committee may provide a mechanism to ensure dialogue between the City of Los Angeles, Port of Los Angeles, and local communities in achieving noise reductions, where possible, without shifting noise from one community to another.
NWSNPC Awards Grants to ‘Peace / Buddy’ Bench Anti-Bullying Program

In 2016 and 2017, the Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council sponsored neighborhood purpose grants to Park Western Elementary school in San Pe- dro to help fund “Peace/Buddy Benches” supporting their anti-bullying campaign. The school has a student leadership team who meets weekly to address these serious issues. After the grant was issued, we had the audacity to announce this success at our next board meeting promoting their leadership skills. These are our future leaders at work.

Our grants were the catalyst to action by another local organization, The Rotary Club of Southern California District 5260 will be installing Peace/Buddy benches in designated Los Angeles County schools and parks.

The first bench was installed at Barton Hill Elementary School in San Pedro on February 19. On April 15, the Rotary dedicated a new bench to the Willenberg Special Education Center in San Pedro to eliminate loneliness and foster friendship on the playground.

The icing on the cake is that students at the Benjamin Baneker Special Education Center in Los Angeles are being taught woodworking skills to make these benches themselves.

Our neighborhood council does great work, impacts our community, sets the tone for other organizations to replicate. This is civic engage- ment at its best!

Volunteers Live Longer and Are Healthier!

So how is it good for your health? Studies have found that when you stop thinking about your own problems and focus on someone other than yourself, your stress levels start to decrease, your immune system is strengthened and your overall sense of life satisfaction increases. Helping others interrupts tensions-producing patterns and replaces it with a sense of purpose, positive emotions and high confidence levels.

The Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council loves all volunteers. Why do we do it? Why do we spend our valuable free time doing tireless work when we don’t even get paid? For some it offers the chance to give something back to the community or make a differ- ence to the people around them. For others it provides an opportunity to develop new skills or build on existing knowledge. Regardless of the motivation, what unites us all is that we find it both challenging and rewarding.

Making a difference through volunteerism gets one involved to vote and influence the kind of community one wants to live in. It gives the chance to be a part of something bigger than you and use our civic responsibility for the greater good.

Our neighborhood council has many committees that could use you! We need passionate stakeholders who want to take back and be a part of groups dedicated to improving the quality of live for our area.

So please check out our committees to find one that addresses your particular concerns. Allow your actions to be led from a place of passionate intention. Get healthier through volunteering!

NWSNPC: 15 Years of Serving the Community

The Northwest San Pedro recently celebra- ted its 15th anniversary of certification by the City of Los Angeles. Some of the accomplish- ments in the past 15 years have included:

• Getting rid of the tank farm where Harbor Freight now exists;
• Getting Ponte Vista (now Highpark) reduced from 2,500 units to under 700 units;
• Beautification of North Gaffey—transforming what was a barren strip where mat- tresses and other items were frequently dumped into a greenbelt; the council is working on the continuation of the path;
• Obtaining over $7 million in Proposition O funds to improve Peck Park Canyon;
• Working with Target to improve pads before the next round of Raffeli’s built them to pay for the traffic light at Gaffey and Capitol, and currently working to get them to better maintain their property;
• Holding annual Pathways to Employment events for youth;
• Working with other neighborhood councils and the chamber of commerce to move the Port forward on developing the waterfront infrastructure needed for the redevelop- ment of Ports O Call;
• Getting the trains to stop blowing their horns in the middle of the night;
• Awarding scholarships to youth based on their community involvement;
• Sponsoring the annual Candy Cane Lane at Weymouth Corners, movies at Peck Park, Cabrillo Beach fireworks, and the annual Santa Claus visit to the Waterfront;
• Providing funds for youth-based projects that benefit health, environment, arts, or humanity in San Pedro, including the an- ti-bullying buddy bench at Park Western, Youth in Government, and water-filling stations to reduce the use of plastic water bottles at POLA High School;
• Sponsoring POLAHS Green Festival;
• Conducting an awareness campaign to de- crease the volume of plastic water bottles contaminating our oceans and landsfills;
• Supporting the distribution of rain barrels;
• First Annual Rio Fest with Deanna Dana Nature Center;
• Annual Halloween Movie in the Park;
• Replacing roses at Averill Park.

For a list of our committees along with a list of the time and place they meet, please go to our website: www.nwsanpedro.org We would love to have you join one of our committees and help us accomplish even more in the next 15 years.

Planning Update

A lot is going on in San Pedro. Here are a few of the highlights:

• Highpark has been sold to the Harridge Development Group. A spokesperson for the group says that they are excited to obtain this property and look forward to work- ing with the community. They will attend the Planning and Land Use Committee meeting on May 8th and the NWSNPC Board Meeting August 13. Check our website for more information. The development has been fully approved by the City of Los Angeles and they are not planning to request any changes to their current plan. They are liabilized to make the necessary permits and approvals from Caltrans for the off-site work and to build out the water and power infrastructure.

• 855 W. Miraflores — Vacant lot approved for a small lot development that would result in 17 single-family “attached” homes.

• San Pedro Courthouse Property — unfortunately the county and the developer did not come to an agreement on this issue.

June 2018 The NORTHWEST NEIGHBORHOOD ADVOCATE 3
Who’s Running: NWPSCN Candidate Statements

Ben Chai

As a husband and a father of two who loves the wonderful city of San Pedro, I want to do everything in my power to help them grow up in a great neighborhood. I want to work with fellow neighbors to build a better San Pedro community with growth while keeping the environment in mind. A safe neighborhood where fellow neighbors can walk on the streets without fear of being a victim of a crime. Currently I work for Los Angeles World Airports doing the protect of Operations - Landside Manager. Some of my duties include traffic task force, construction impact subject matter expert, ground transportation, and enforcement management. I am fast responding to all airport emergencies. I am currently involved in the $14 billion Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP). My main role is to ensure that no construction project interferes with the normal operations of the airport while keeping the impact to the traveling public to a minimum. I will work hard for the residents of San Pedro and all of San Pedro.

Richard Paolotti

I am a long time San Pedro resident and a business owner. That's who I am. One position open / four-year term

Census Tract 2963

John Barbera

No photo provided. I have always wanted to do more for our community. I believe that we need to make a different this world in. Since I have moved to San Pedro I have been coming to this town since I was a kid to the fish market, Ports of Call and my favorite place at the Italian market. Now we live here and it's great. We live next door to Laurie Jacobs and her family is great. So I am honored to live in San Pedro and feel we are home.

Dan Dixon

It has been my honor to serve as a member of the city council since 2015. Working to address issues affecting the community is gratifying, whether the issues are city-wide, such as homelessness, or something as local as the Ponte Vista development, or purely local, such as issues affecting the Port. As board members, we deal with a great variety of challenges and opportunities. I firmly believe that our number one task is to listen to all sides of the issue and do to do with civility and respect toward each other. We may not "win" on every issue, and sometimes it is challenging to build a consensus in this wonderfully independent town we call home, but I believe the neighbor council model is still the best way to help the "City family" of San Pedro. I am running and every move forward together.

Pets Unstressing Passengers. Started volunteering at LAX PUP program, therapy dog team at LAX PUP program, Pets Unstressing Passengers. Started volunteering at the marine mammal care center in San Pedro.

Armando Balderrama

I am not a politician. I am your neighbor your friend and a citizen of San Pedro. I am a veteran the Air Force and the United States Navy. I will do whatever I can do to serve and protect you with what we have available and what we can obtain through the city of San Pedro. I am tired of seeing of reading about our neighbors being afraid in their own neighborhoods and how crime is increasing, we need to control and put to a stop to this ominous behavior. I'll do what I can, I will give you 100%

Mary Chan

Since 2016, I have lived, worked, volunteered, and raised a new family in the community for future generations to enjoy. I am a San Pedro Resident and Business owner that sees the tremendous potential that lies ahead.

Non-government Organization Representative

Carlos M. Garcia

If elected this would be my third term on the NWPSCN Board. I served one term in the early 2000s and became a Board member again in 2016. During both terms I have served on the Port Committee. I was actively involved in the NWPSCN work with the Port about the funding of public access waterfront projects that resulted in the Port’s commitment to an additional $10 per cruise passenger in addition to $50 million over 10 years. I am currently involved in discussions about potential future waterfront projects with the Port, other Neighborhood Councils and Harbor Area Chambers of Commerce. I am also involved in efforts to have the Port include its Risk Management Plan in an analysis of any lease of tranche of Port land to the global FE Gas on oil rail lines. Improving collaboration with other San Pedro Neighborhood Councils in these efforts is an important priority for me.