

Neighborhood Services Bureau Highlights

On Thursday, May 14, 2009 the Neighborhood Services Bureau held its seventh session of the Neighborhood Leadership Program in the auditorium of Long Beach Community Hospital. Annette Kashiwabara, Executive Vice President for the California Conference for Equality and Justice (CCEJ), presented this class session on Fundraising and Grant Writing. NLP Class of 2009 participants learned how to effectively seek out and obtain funding for their NLP class projects and for their future community projects. Participants also spent time in class working in teams on their project proposals for improvements along the Pacific Avenue corridor. First draft grant proposals were submitted on June 1, 2009 and final draft proposals are due on July 1, 2009 in order to complete their class projects before they graduate on August 15, 2009.

The Neighborhood Leadership Program is partially funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and is free to participants. The Neighborhood Leadership Program is a nationally recognized, multi-lingual, multi-cultural program. The program has been offered by the City of Long Beach, Neighborhood Services Bureau since 1992 and over 400 graduates have completed this intensive program. A list of residents interested in participating in the Class of 2010 is now forming. For more information, please call (562) 570-1010 or e-mail Francisco.Rodriguez@longbeach.gov.

On Wednesday, May 27, 2009 the North Alamitos Beach Association (NABA) held its monthly neighborhood board meeting along with the Community Code Enforcement (CCE) meeting at the Long Beach Senior Center. Thirteen (13) Hellman NIS area residents worked with Code Enforcement Inspectors to address property maintenance violations in the Hellman NIS Area. The CCE Team Captains provided eighteen (18) referrals to the David Woods, the CCE Inspector. Inspector Woods answered numerous questions regarding property maintenance and code violations. To date, over 770 property maintenance violations have been corrected in the Hellman NIS Area.



After the CCE session, NABA hosted its monthly community improvement safety meeting. Guest speakers included Long Beach Police Department Police Services Specialist Mary Antunez who provided updates on Police related issues in the Hellman NIS area. In addition, City of Long Beach Neighborhood Services Bureau, Karen Pruet provided information on rebates available to assist in the improvement of residential properties in the NIS area. For more information, contact Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov.



Neighborhood Services Bureau Highlights

On Thursday, May 28, 2009 the Neighborhood Services Bureau and the Anaheim Street Community Police Center (APC), in collaboration with the Franklin Middle School Parent Center, hosted and facilitated a neighborhood improvement educational workshop. Neighborhood Improvement Coordinator, Gonzalo Sanchez provided a brief presentation about the various services and resources provided by the Neighborhood Services Bureau to forty-one (41) area residents. Highlighted services included the child passenger safety seat program, home improvement rebates, neighborhood watch, neighborhood leadership programs, and code enforcement efforts. Numerous questions were asked from the people in the audience concerning City services and safety concerns. For more information, contact Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov.





On Saturday, May 30, 2009 the North Alamitos Beach Association (NABA), working in collaboration with the Franklin Middle School Parent Center and the Litter Free Long Beach, hosted a neighborhood cleanup (including the acceptance of E-waste) and graffiti removal event in the Hellman Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area. Forty-three (43) area residents and twelve community service workers assigned from the City Prosecutor's Office met at 540 Cerritos Avenue and collected illegally dumped trash and debris as well as removing graffiti from the area streets and alleys. Numerous electronic devices were collected and recycled during this event. In addition, eight property maintenance issues were identified and referred to the Hellman NIS Community Code Enforcement Inspectors. This event provided an opportunity for the residents and staff from Franklin Middle School to work together to improve the physical appearance of their neighborhood. For information about the Hellman NIS area, contact gonzalo.sanchez@longbeach.gov.



On Saturday, June 27, 2009 staff from Neighborhood Services Bureau (NSB) organized a neighborhood cleanup at 6900 Muriel Avenue, in the North Long Beach NIS Area. Thirty-eight (38) neighborhood volunteers came out to support this effort. The volunteers, with the support of NSB staff, collected 9 tons of trash, debris and large discarded items located in the neighborhood streets and alleys. For more information contact Chantara.Nop@longbeach.gov.



Neighborhood Services Bureau Highlights

On Saturday, June 6, 2009 the Craftsman Village Historic District hosted its annual community awards barbeque celebration. This year's awardees were Checker Flag Car Wash and D'Lorah Hunt, a property owner who resides on Toledo Walk in the Craftsman Village neighborhood. Checker Flag Car Wash, located at the northwest corner of Walnut Avenue and 7th Street, were acknowledged for their outstanding efforts in improving the landscape at their business thus reducing the noise generated from their operation.



Each year, Craftsman Village gives recognition to businesses, property owners and City staff that had gone the extra mile to make of the Craftsman Village Historic District a better and safer place to live. First and Second Council District field representatives attended the event and gave a certificate of recognition to the awardees. More than 25 Craftsman Village Historic District property owners participated in this event. For more information contact Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov.

On Saturday, June 13, 2009 the Anaheim Street Community Police Center (APC), in collaboration with the Neighborhood Services Bureau and residents living along the 1100 block of Almond Avenue, sponsored a neighborhood clean up in the Saint Mary's Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area. Seventeen area residents and seven community service workers assigned by the City Prosecutor's Office, met at 1240 E. 11th Street and began removing over nine tons of trash, debris and large discarded items from the surrounding streets and alleys. In addition, graffiti was removed from surfaces observed in the neighborhood.



This event provided an opportunity for the neighbors to work together to improve the physical appearance of their neighborhood. Eighteen property maintenance violations were identified and referred to Code Enforcement. For information about the Saint Mary's NIS area, contact gonzalo.sanchez@longbeach.gov.

Neighborhood Services Bureau Highlights



A very successful clean up was held on Saturday, June 13, 2009 in the Lower West Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area. Twenty-one (21) area residents participated in this event organized by the Madres Unidas neighborhood group, the Neighborhood Services Bureau and supported by the Environmental Services Bureau. Cleanup efforts were focused on the area bounded by Santa Fe Avenue to the 710 Freeway and from Pacific Coast Hwy to 20th Street. Over 8 tons of trash, debris and illegally discarded items were removed from the area streets and alleys. For more information contact Teresa.Gonzalez@longbeach.gov.



The Anaheim Street Community Police Center Advisory Board and Socorro Valderrama sponsored a neighborhood cleanup in the MacArthur Park/Whittier School Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area on Saturday, June 13, 2009. Twenty-nine (29) residents and business owners met at 1501 Gaviota Avenue and together collected over nine tons of trash, debris and large discarded items from the surrounding streets and alleys. This effort provides residents with the opportunity to meet their neighbors and improve the physical appearance of their community. For more information contact Bryant.Ben@longbeach.gov.

The MacArthur Park/Whittier School Neighborhood Improvement Strategy area and the Anaheim Street Community Police Center held their regular monthly meeting on June 16, 2009. The meeting focused on the United States Census 2010 and the need for assistance in census taking from the public. Carol Ly, Partnership Specialist for the US Census 2010, spoke to the fourteen (14) residents and business owners who attended this meeting. After the presentation was over, there was a lengthy question and answer period. For more information contact Bryant.Ben@longbeach.gov.



On Saturday June 20, 2009 staff from the Neighborhood Services Bureau and volunteers from the Central Neighborhood Advisory Committee (CNAC) planted thirty – seven (37) trees in Central Long Beach. These trees, which consisted of Tristania, Purple Orchid, Chinese Elms and Evergreen Pear species, were planted along Linden, Elm and Pasadena Avenues between Burnett Street and Willow Avenue. For more information about this and future neighborhood tree planting projects, please contact James.Osgood@longbeach.gov.



On Thursday, June 11, 2009, the Neighborhood Services Bureau hosted the Neighborhood Leadership Program's Session 8 -- Event and Project Planning at the Neighborhood Resource Center. During this session, Class of 2009 participants learned about successful event and project planning skills. Class of 2009 participants are currently planning community class projects along the Pacific Avenue corridor between Ocean Boulevard and Spring Street. Completion of the class project is an essential component for graduation from the program.

The Neighborhood Leadership Program is partially funded through the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and is free to participants. The Neighborhood Leadership Program is a nationally recognized, multi-lingual, multi-cultural program. The program has been offered by the City of Long Beach's Neighborhood Services Bureau for the past sixteen years and has graduated over 417 Long Beach residents. A list of residents interested in participating in the Class of 2010 is now forming. For more information, please call (562) 570-1010 or e-mail Francisco.Rodriguez@longbeach.gov.

On June 18, 2009 the Lower West Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area and the Madres Unidas Group organized a meeting to welcome Robert Garcia, Councilmember for the First Council District. Councilmember Garcia met with area residents and learned about concerns they have in their neighborhood. Councilmember Garcia explained that while in office, he will be focusing on safe streets, neighborhood tree plantings, and parking problems in the District. For more information about activities in the Lower West neighborhood, please contact Teresa.Gonzalez@longbeach.gov.



Neighborhood Services Bureau Highlights

Willmore City Heritage Association (WCHA) is a winner of the Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream "Neighborhood Slow Churned Neighborhood Salute" contest Grand Prize and won an ice cream party for 100 neighbors! The neighborhood association submitted a short paragraph explaining why their neighborhood deserves a Slow Churned Neighborhood Salute. Jim Danno, WCHA Boardmember and a Neighborhood Leadership Class of 2009 participant, submitted their application and shared how the Willmore City area brings back to mind an era that is represented by quality and neighborliness. WCHA is planning their ice cream party for later this year.

Neighborhoods, USA shared information about the contest with the Neighborhood Resource Center who then shared this contest with the community via e-mail. This is the second year in a row that a Long Beach had a winner for this contest. Last year, Wrigley Area Neighborhood Association (WANA) won an ice cream party. What neighborhood group will win next year? We're on a roll!

On Thursday, June 25, 2009 the Neighborhood Services Bureau hosted the Neighborhood Leadership Program's (NLP) Session 9 – Marketing and Public Relations at the Community Hospital of Long Beach Auditorium. Stephanie Robinette, a fund development expert, shared her expertise on how to effectively promote a community project through press releases and promotional flyers. Neighborhood Leadership Program participants learned how to successfully write press releases that catch the attention of editors and reporters. In addition, participants learn to create effective promotional flyers that are sure to get the desired attention. During the session, participants met with their project groups to draft class project press releases and marketing flyers. Class of 2009 NLP community class projects will be completed along the Pacific Avenue corridor are funded by the Central Project Area Committee (Central PAC). Completion of the class project is an essential component for graduation from the program. Final grant proposals from the four class project teams are due on July 1, 2009.

In keeping with the international theme of the program meals, Class of 2009 participant Anna Ulaszewski prepared a Polish feast for the class that included traditional family recipes for cabbage, noodles, sausages and delicious desserts!

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Neighborhood Services Bureau Highlights

On Saturday, June 27, 2009 the West East-Side Community Association (WESCA), in collaboration with the Neighborhood Services Bureau and Litter-Free Long Beach, hosted its monthly neighborhood clean up. Twenty-eight (28) volunteers were out on the neighborhood streets, sidewalks, and alleys in a united effort to clean up the Cherry-Temple Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area from illegally dumped items, hazardous materials, trash and debris. In total, over two dumpsters of trash and debris were collected on this day.



Following the clean up, a free barbecue was provided to all the volunteers. This was a wonderful opportunity for neighborhood residents to meet each other and discuss concerns and solutions to issues affecting the Cherry-Temple neighborhood. For more information on neighborhood clean ups in the Cherry-Temple NIS area, please contact Suzan Simaan at (562) 570-5087 or via email at suzan.simaan@longbeach.gov.

Thirty (30) Long Beach residents representing neighborhood organizations and charities attended the **Neighborhood Resource Center's** "Meet the Funders Workshop" on Monday, June 15, 2009.

Dave Ursini, Owner of **Naples Rib Company**, **Liz Pearson**, Owner of **Sell It on ebay** , and **La Donna Cofield**, General Manager of **Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill**, talked about their fundraising programs that provide charitable organizations with fun and easy ways to reach their fundraising goals. For more information, contact:

Naples Rib Company (562) 439-7427
www.ribcompany.com/charity/fundraiser_nights.asp

Sell It on ebay (562) 938-9500
isoldit.com

Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill (562) 439-8317
<http://www.rubios.com/fundraisers/>



Neighborhood Services Bureau Highlights

On July 16, 2009 the Lower West Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) and the Madres Unidas Group held their monthly meeting. In response to the neighborhood interest, City staff from the City Traffic Engineering Division, the Citizen Police Complaint Commission (CPCC), Sergeant Richard Conan from the Long Beach Police Department West Division, the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department as well as representatives from the First and Seventh District Council offices presented at the meeting. Neighborhood Services Bureau staff provided translation. For more information about Lower West meetings and events, contact Teresa.Gonzalez@longbeach.gov or call (562) 570-1146.

On Saturday, July 18, 2009 staff from the Neighborhood Services Bureau (NSB) organized a neighborhood clean up at 6900 Muriel Avenue, in North Long Beach NIS Area. Forty-three (43) resident volunteers came out to support this effort. The volunteers, with the support of NSB staff, collected 9 tons of trash, debris and large discarded items located in the neighborhood streets and alleys. For more information contact Chantara.Nop@longbeach.gov.



On Saturday, July 11, 2009 the Anaheim Street Community Police Center (APC) in collaboration with the Neighborhood Services Bureau and residents living along the 1200 block of Lewis Avenue sponsored a neighborhood clean up in the Saint Mary's Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area. Seventeen community members and four community service workers assigned by the City Prosecutor's Office took part in this community event. Over nine tons of trash, debris and discarded household furniture were removed from the surrounding streets and alleys. In addition, the volunteers removed graffiti from numerous sites in the neighborhood.



This event, organized by the APC staff, provided an opportunity for the residents to work together to improve the physical appearance of their neighborhood. Twelve property maintenance code violations were identified and filed during the event. For information about the Saint Mary's NIS area, contact Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov.

Neighborhood Services Bureau Highlights



On Saturday, July 11, 2009 the Central Neighborhood Advisory Committee (CNAC) in collaboration with the Neighborhood Services Bureau hosted its monthly neighborhood clean up. Twenty-nine volunteers were out on the neighborhood streets, sidewalks, and alleys in a united effort to clean up the Central neighborhood from illegally dumped items, hazardous materials, trash and debris. Volunteers also painted out graffiti from the streets and the alley. For information on this and future clean ups in the Central NIS area, please contact Suzan Simaan at (562) 570-5087 or at suzan.simaan@longbeach.gov.



On Monday, July 20, 2009 the Central Neighborhood Advisory Committee (CNAC) in collaboration with the Neighborhood Services Bureau (NSB), the Long Beach WRAP/YMCA Program, and the Child Passenger Safety and Bicycle Safety Program (made possible due to a grant from the State of California, Office of Traffic Safety), hosted a Carnival and Bike Safety Rodeo at the Burnett Elementary School playground. About 160 school children and their parents attended this fun-filled event. Approximately 40 volunteers from CNAC, NSB, and the Long Beach Police Department Explorers assisted with the set-up, clean up, games, and the bike safety rodeo. Neighborhood children who brought their bikes received free helmets after completing various bike safety obstacle courses. The children enjoyed carnival games, jewelry making, face painting and a pizza and juice lunch. This was a wonderful day in which local residents, community groups and local programs worked together in collaboration to provide an afternoon of enjoyment for children participating in the WRAP/YMCA program in the Central NIS area. For more information on future events occurring in the Central NIS area, please contact Suzan Simaan at (562) 570-5087 or at suzan.simaan@longbeach.gov.



Neighborhood Services Bureau Highlights

The Mac Arthur Park/Whittier School Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area and the Anaheim Street Community Police Center held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, July 21, 2009. The eighteen (18) residents and property owners listened to Karen Pruet from the Neighborhood Services Bureau talk about free neighborhood improvement programs such as the \$2,000 Home Improvement rebate program, rebates for security lighting, and vouchers for tool rentals and home security dead bolt locks. For more information contact Bryant.Ben@longbeach.gov.





A successful cleanup was held on Saturday, July 25, 2009. Chetra Keo and the Anaheim Street Community Police Center Advisory Board sponsored a neighborhood cleanup covering the streets and the alleys on the east side of MacArthur Park. Thirty-five (35) volunteers participated in this effort removing trash, debris, and illegally dumped large items that resulted in collecting 9 tons of trash from the surrounding streets and alleys. This event provided an opportunity for the neighbors to work together to improve the physical appearance of their neighborhood. For more information contact Bryant.Ben@longbeach.gov.

On Saturday, July 25, 2009 the City of Long Beach Miracle on 4th Street Park staff, working in collaboration with the North Alamitos Beach Association (NABA), hosted a Family Fun Day event at the Miracle on 4th Street Park in the Hellman Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area. More than 100 local children participated in this community event and everyone was treated to free refreshments, a piñata, arts and crafts, face painting, music, balloons, x box games and special surprises. JIU-JITSU Neutral Grounds Academy of Long Beach provided a martial arts self-defense demonstration and brought special gifts for the kids. A month of free training was given as an opportunity drawing to one of the lucky attendees.



Special thanks to those who made this event special: Second District Councilperson Suja Lowenthal, for attending and offering encouraging words and support; Second District Field Representative Ramon Aguilar for cooking and serving free popcorn; Henry Salzer for donating a piñata and a large container of refreshing horchata; the Alamitos Beach Neighborhood Association and the Neutral Grounds Jiu Jitsu Academy for donations for future events; Francisco Rodriguez for providing his Xbox game for everyone's use; and, of course, the Miracle on 4th Street Park Heather Green and her super volunteer staff and NABA for hosting and orchestrating "Family Fun Day at Miracle on 4th Street Park!" For more information contact Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov.



Neighborhood Services Bureau Highlights

On Wednesday, July 29, 2009 the North Alamitos Beach Association (NABA) held its monthly neighborhood community meeting at the Long Beach Senior Center. As part of this meeting, NABA, working in collaboration with Neighborhood Services Bureau's Community Code Enforcement (CCE) program, hosted the Hellman NIS area Block Captain meeting. Ten area residents attended and addressed property maintenance violations observed in their neighborhood. David Woods, the CCE Inspector, provided a status report on the property maintenance referrals received. To date, CCE has helped correct more than 1000 property maintenance issues in the Hellman NIS Area.



After the CCE meeting, NABA continued with its monthly community improvement and safety meeting. Guest speakers included members from the Alamitos Beach Neighborhood Association (ABNA) who discussed upcoming events sponsored by their organization. In addition, neighborhood improvement projects, new NABA T-shirts and business cards, NPP grant opportunities, graffiti prevention, landscaping projects, Burbank Elementary School Restoration Fair, neighborhood E-waste clean up, tree plantings, the Miracle on 4th Street Park Family Fun Day event and the new web page <http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/longbch/nab/> were all discussed. The next NABA meeting is scheduled to for Wednesday, August 26, 6:00 p.m. at the Long Beach Senior Center Auditorium. For more information contact Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov.

Two North Long Beach Redevelopment Neighborhood Enhancement Areas (NEAs), DeForest Park and California-Cherry, began a second rotation offering Home Improvement Rebates on July 1, 2009. Until July 1, 2010, residential property owners in these areas are eligible to apply for the Home Improvement Rebate Program (up to \$2,000 reimbursed for exterior front property improvements) and the Home Security Lock (up to \$300 voucher for deadbolt lock installation) and Home Security Lighting Programs (up to \$500 reimbursed for exterior lighting installation.) Over 80 residents attended informational workshops held on Saturday, July 18, 2009 and Wednesday, July 22, 2009 and submitted 20 completed applications. DeForest Park NEA boundaries are from Harding Street to South Street between DeForest Avenue and California Avenue. California-Cherry NEA boundaries are from Harding Street to South Street between California Avenue and Cherry Avenue.



Since March 2000, the Neighborhood Services Bureau has helped improve the appearance of North Long Beach neighborhoods by coordinating the reimbursement of \$4.6 million of Redevelopment Agency funds to over 2,251 North Long Beach residential property owners. For more information, please contact Kathleen McCleary at (562) 570-6065 or Kathleen.McCleary@longbeach.gov.

On Thursday, July 9, 2009, the Neighborhood Services Bureau held Session 10 of the Neighborhood Leadership Program (NLP) in the auditorium of Community Hospital of Long Beach. During this session, Class of 2009 participants met in their class project groups with the NLP team facilitators to receive feedback on their second draft of their grant proposals including recommendations and conditions the class project groups must fulfill in order for their proposed class projects to be funded. Completing the Community Project Grant-Request For Proposals (NLP-CPG-RFP) is a requirement for obtaining NLP class project funding. Up to \$4,000 in funding for the class projects is provided by the Central Project Area Committee (CPAC). Completion of the class projects along the Pacific Avenue corridor is an essential component for graduation from the program. During the session, Class of 2009 participants also took part in a civics exercise to recognize Long Beach City Council and other government officials.

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Over sixty-one (61) Long Beach residents attended the "Long Beach Police Department Front Desk Volunteer" workshop co-hosted by the Neighborhood Resource Center and the Long Beach Police Department on Thursday, July 16, 2009 at the LBPD North Substation.

The workshop was organized by Neighborhood Resource Center staff and North Police Division Lt. Dan Pratt. North Division Police Commander Billy Quach, Karen Owens and Sgt. Paul Sanford from the Long Beach Police Department Community Relations Division, Lt. Pratt, Officer Matt Dougherty and Jose Flores from the LBPD Senior Police Partners Program presented information about the proposed duties and necessary requirements for the volunteer positions. For more information, please call Evelyn Johnson in the LBPD Community Relations Division at (562) 570-5299.

On Thursday, July 23, 2009, the Neighborhood Services Bureau hosted Neighborhood Leadership Program's Session 11 -- Public Speaking in the auditorium of Community Hospital of Long Beach. Christina Moorhead, Adjunct Speech Communication Faculty at Long Beach City College, shared her passion for public speaking and taught public speaking skills, strategies and techniques for organizing a presentation. Professor Moorhead definitely lived up to her reputation as an articulate and engaging speaker. Her spirited enthusiasm inspired the class to new heights of confidence and competence. Following her dynamic presentation, participants made presentations about themselves in front of the class. Participants then voted to select four classmates to represent the Class of 2009 at an upcoming City Council meeting, at their Graduation Ceremony and to the Central Project Area Committee.

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On Saturday, August 8, 2009 the Anaheim Street Community Police Center (APC), in collaboration with the Neighborhood Services Bureau and residents living in the 1100 block of Lewis Avenue, sponsored a neighborhood clean up in the Saint Mary's Neighborhood Improvement Strategy (NIS) area. Twenty (20) area residents and ten (10) community service workers assigned by the City Prosecutor's office removed over nine tons of trash, debris and discarded household furniture from the surrounding streets and alleys.



This event provided an opportunity for the neighbors to work together to improve the physical appearance of their neighborhood. Eleven property maintenance code violations were also identified during the event. For information about the Saint Mary's NIS area, contact Gonzalo.Sanchez@longbeach.gov.



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