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THE WILLMORE CITY ENTERPRISE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WILLMORE CITY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION APR 2008 

April Meeting

The April meeting will be held on Wednesday April 16th at the Willmore Community Police Center (910 Daisy Ave.) at 7:30 p.m. Topic: The Restoration Process – Where to Start? Living in a historic district, many of us are either going through or have already been through many phases of restoration on our properties. For those just starting or not knowing where to start it can certainly be a daunting process. However, no need to reinvent the wheel as they say. Many of your fellow Willmore residents have been through it (and are still alive to talk about it!). Have questions? Come to the April meeting and if no one knows the answer they probably will know where to refer you. See you there!

Reminder to all Code Enforcement Block Captains: A Code Enforcement meeting for all Block Captains will be held at 6:30 p.m. on April 16th.

Code Enforcement Group Receives Award

Each year during National Community Development Week, the City of Long Beach Community Development Department honors various individuals and groups for their community service. One of this year's recipients was the Willmore/WECA Code Enforcement group which meets monthly at the Willmore Community Police Center. The group works closely with the City's code enforcement inspectors to help promote compliance and remove litter, graffiti and other items that detract from the quality of life in the neighborhood. A few of the members of the group who were able to attend the event were: From left to right: Sherron Leno, Tom Martin, Cheryl Perry, Phyllis McDaniels, Teresa Gonzalez, Sherry Ray-Von, Richard Fehr and Jill Black.



Congratulations Angela

Congratulations to Angela Reynolds who has been named the new Bureau Manager of Neighborhood Services. Angela first came to work with Willmore residents many years ago when we were just starting up a code enforcement program in the area. After moving from Community Development to Planning & Building for awhile, she has now returned to Community Development as Neighborhood Services Manager. We have always worked very closely with Neighborhood Services and it will be great to be able to continue to work with someone who is so familiar with our special neighborhood. We would not expect anything less though from those working for Dennis Thys. He always puts together a wonderful team! Welcome back Angela! See you in the neighborhood.

Copies provided via the WCHA printing HQ

The April meeting will be held
Wednesday April 16th at
7:30 p.m. at the
Willmore Community Police Ctr.
910 Daisy Ave.

THE WILLMORE CITY ENTERPRISE
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Mark Your Calendar!!

T H E W I L L M O R E

Neighborhood Cleanup

Through the efforts of Jana Shields and the Willmore Community Police Center, a very successful neighborhood clean up was held on February 23rd to help eliminate trash in the Willmore Neighborhood. Willmore volunteers completely filled an industrial size dumpster with large appliances and other various dumped items. Two of the volunteers donated the use of their pick-up trucks to help collect some of the larger illegally dumped items. Event boundaries were from Loma Vista to Chestnut and 11th St. to 8th St. including all the alleys in-between. Great job!



Upcoming Tours

The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) (previously called Senior University) at California State University Long Beach will be conducting a series of classes, for those of us aged 50 and over, called "Touring Long Beach Historic Districts IP". Classes will be meeting on Saturdays beginning April 19th with tours of some of the historic districts of Long Beach as well as a field trip to the Frank Lloyd Wright Hollyhock House in the Los Feliz District of Los Angeles. For more information call Sherron Leno (562) 432-5140 or Phyllis McDaniels (562) 435-4162.

Long Beach Heritage is offering a bus tour on April 20th of various historic sites of Long Beach. The tour will be narrated by Stan Poe, President of Long Beach Heritage. Having served on the City's Cultural Heritage Commission since 1993, Stan is famous for his knowledge of Long Beach history. Space is limited so call Long Beach Heritage (562) 493-7019 for ticket information right away.

"School House" Project Update

The interior of the house is almost complete. The painters will be finishing up inside in a couple of weeks. We will soon be starting on the landscaping so get those gloves and shovels out. We will need all the help we can get. Thanks to Kathleen Irvine, Kellogg Garden Products donated (and delivered) about 200 bags of soil amendment for the landscaping. It was a little bit of a surprise when they showed up with all those bags however and unloded them in the yard. But thanks to Kathleen, Jim Danno and Mark Perry, with a little ingenuity and a lot of lifting, all the bags got moved from the yard into the garage.

We will be having an open house for everyone as soon as the interior is complete. We will keep you posted on when that will be. Stay tuned.....

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C I T Y E N T E R P R I S E

"The Unromantic Gardener"

All things in nature have a job. Even ants help - they move about 250 pounds of soil to the surface every year. For your soil to be a welcoming environment for plant and animal life, it must have things to nurture them. Whether you have sand, clay, loam or a combination, the answer is always organic matter. Mulch, mulch, mulch. You cannot have too much. It will keep moisture in and weeds out. It will feed the bacteria, molds and algae. These in turn form humus in the soil - the key to a rich, well-drained soil. If you have sandy soil, it will add nutrients and help hold in water. If you have clay, it will create drainage and make the nutrients available to your plants. If you are lucky enough to have a loamy soil, it will maintain and improve the soil. Instead of just purchasing mulch, you can do this in a sustainable way. Don't rake out your leaves - if they are on the lawn/sidewalk/patio, put them in the garden. If you have a fescue lawn, sprinkle the clippings in the beds. Make a compost heap out of your vegetable trimmings. Your garden will thrive and you will work less to make it beautiful.

Next month: What To Put In Your Soil - Victorian vs. Arts and Crafts

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The Willmore City Heritage Association is committed to the preservation, protection and improvement of the physical environment and quality of life in the Willmore City/Drake Park neighborhood.

WCHA Board Members* - 2007/2008

Cheryl Perry, President*	436-2815
Ernie Villa, Vice-President*	436-6522
Sherron Leno, Secretary *	432-5140
Jill Anne Black, Treasurer*	495-3377
Erik Sochin*	435-1146
Jana Shields*	495-1729
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Newsletter - Mark Perry	436-2815
WCHA Voice Mail	436-8611
Police Center Chair: Carrol Goddard	618-9507
Willmore Community Police Center	570-1146
1st District Council Office	570-6919

visit us at our website: <http://www.willmorecity.org>

THE WILLMORE CITY ENTERPRISE

May Day Celebration




Come on down to Long Beach to visit us at the Bembridge Homesite (953 Park Circle) and Drake Park (Maine at 10th Street.) for a **May Day** celebration this year! It will be a wonderful day with a health fair, free hot dogs, and a living history tour of my 1906 home.

There will be May Pole Dancing, games, a story tent and free arts & crafts!

Saturday, April 26, 1-5 pm

Love,
Dorothy Bembridge

Long Beach
April 26
1943
1:00 PM
California



Venga a Long Beach a visitar La Casa Bembridge (953 Park Circle) y el Parque Drake (Maine y la calle 10th.) para el evento de FERIA de la Primavera. Este año será un día maravilloso con una feria de salud, hot dogs gratis, y un recorrido dentro de la Casa Histórica Bembridge con personajes en vivo narrando la historia de esta casa en los años de 1906.

Tendremos bailes, juegos, cuentos para sus niños y divertidas manualidades.

The Annual May Day Celebration is being held at Drake Park and the Bembridge House on Saturday April 26th from 1:00-5:00 pm. There will be games, face painting, May Day crafts, dancing, and storytelling at the park. The Long Beach Firefighters are providing hot dogs and chips. There will be living history tours at the Bembridge House with the focus being the year 1943. A DVD of the tour will be also be available for viewing in the Carriage House. Lots of fun for children and adults alike. Come and join the festivities!

Schedule: 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. May Pole Dancing led by the Naronidi International Folk Dancers

2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Crafts, Storytelling, Games and Face Painting

1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Home tours

Tickets: Park activities are free. Tickets for the tours will be available the day of the event at the Bembridge House. Adults \$2, Children under 13 accompanied by an adult Free (Tickets are limited)

Drake / Chavez Greenbelt Community Meeting

On Saturday March 8th the Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine held a community visioning meeting at Drake Park. The purpose of the meeting was to solicit community input, opinions and ideas to help develop the design of the Drake/Chavez Greenbelt. The proposed park will link Drake and Chavez Parks and form a greenbelt along the L.A. River. More than sixty residents took advantage of the opportunity to be a part of this important project.

Part of the event included a walk down Loma Vista Drive with the City's consultant David Volz to see the future site of the proposed park. The location is approximately 32 acres, consisting of former Union Pacific Railroad and other properties obtained by the City of Long Beach. The stretch is from Daisy Avenue southwest to the river channel. Some of the existing buildings might be used as a community center and the surrounding land will be for various sports activities.

The architects and designers will take the community input and ideas and return at a later date with their preliminary renderings and designs. Residents will be invited to a follow-up community meeting to continue the design of the plan that will combine our two community parks. The Neighborhood Services Bureau helped with the event by providing Spanish translation for some of the non-English speaking residents so that everyone could understand and participate in the process.



THE WILLMORE CITY ENTERPRISE
March Joint Neighborhood Meeting

There was standing room only at the Joint Downtown Neighborhood Meeting in March. Mayor Foster and City Manager Pat West answered numerous questions regarding retail stores (or the lack of) along Pine Avenue, port pollution, parks, litter, and others as they related to "Downtown". The event was held at the Courtyard Marriott and was sponsored by the DLBA (Downtown Long Beach Associates) who paid for the food and beverages as well as helped facilitate the use of the meeting room and the free parking. The North Pine Neighborhood Alliance, East Village Association, WECA (West End Community Association) and St. Anthony's Neighborhood Association along with Willmore City Heritage Association were the organizers of the meeting. Robert Garcia, President of the North Pine Neighborhood Alliance, acted as moderator for the evening and did a marvelous job.

I am proud to say that there were quite a number of Willmore residents that not only attended the meeting but who asked some very well thought out questions of the Mayor and City Manager as well.

The overwhelming turnout of approximately 250 people at the meeting surprised and pleased everyone. "Downtown" isn't your "little downtown" anymore.



W I L L M O R E C A L E N D A R

- April 16th Code Enforcement 6:30 pm
WCHA Meeting 7:30 pm
Willmore Community Police Center
- April 19th Touring Long Beach Historic Districts II
OLLI of CSULB
- April 20th Long Beach Heritage Historic Tour
11:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- April 26th May Day Celebration 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Drake Park/Bembridge House