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The Dec. Holiday Potluck will be held on Wednesday Dec. 19th 7:00 p.m. at 351 Magnolia Ave.

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THE WILLMORE CITY ENTERPRISE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WILLMORE CITY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION DEC 2007

December Holiday Potluck

December 19th is WCHA's Holiday Potluck -- no meeting -- just a few hours of visiting with friends and neighbors and of course sampling some delicious food. This year's festivities will be held at 351 Magnolia (home of Mark and Cheryl Perry). Their lovely Queen Anne home was built in 1902-1903 by James and Clara Porter. James Porter was a surveyor and was reportedly in the first survey party to map Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. The Porters lived in Arizona and vacationed in Long Beach until finally moving here around 1900. The Porters built another house on East 4th Street in 1905 after which they turned the 351 Magnolia house into a boarding house. The house remained in the Porter family until the 1940s. It continued to be operated as a boarding house until the Perrys purchased the house in 1983.



The house was designated a City Landmark in 1991, being a well-preserved example of Queen Anne Victorian design. It has the characteristic Queen Anne Victorian style of steep roof gables, decorative surfaces, bay windows and a wrap-around porch with Ionic columns.

So join us at 7:00 p.m. on the 19th for some holiday cheer!

—Perry Family—

Carol McCafferty Honored

Carol McCafferty, our infamous "Willmoran", recently received the prestigious and well-deserved *Mayor Beverly O'Neill Lifetime of Leadership Award* at the 9th Annual Neighborhood Leadership Conference last month. Carol, a graduate of the 1996 Leadership class, is a model of neighborhood activism at its best.



Carol receives award from Dennis Thys, Neighborhood Services Bureau Manager

Born and raised in North Long Beach, Carol's family was always involved in local issues so she comes by it naturally. Back then she said North Long Beach was referred to as the step-child of Long Beach so there were always issues to deal with. After she married she lived in Lakewood for 9 years before moving to the "Lakewood Village" area of Long Beach where she lived for 20 years. In 1986 Carol moved to Willmore where she has been a non-stop active force ever since.

photo taken by Diana Lejins

Carol is a retired school teacher but probably puts in more hours now for various committees and causes than before she retired. In addition to serving on the Willmore City Heritage Association Board off & on, including twice as president, she has served on the Cultural Heritage Commission, was instrumental in the establishment of the Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association, and continues to volunteer with Long Beach Heritage and the Historical Society of Long Beach. And those are just the preservation organizations she helps. Working through WCHA with Community Development Carol helped Willmore become an NIS (Neighborhood Improvement Strategy) area and in 1993 the opening of the Willmore Community Police Center. If there is a cause that needs attention, Carol is not afraid to make her voice heard - whether

Carol McCafferty continued.....

it's a neighborhood issue or a city-wide issue. She'll call, write or do whatever it takes. One of the things Carol loves about Willmore is its diversity and she is there for anyone that needs help. Because she is so visible and involved in the neighborhood, Carol usually knows what's happening in the area.

Carol says "to stay in Willmore one needs three things: a great house, good neighbors, and a sense of humor." Well, Carol definitely has all three and hopefully her 21 years here is just the beginning.

CONGRATULATIONS Carol and thank you from all your friends and neighbors for all that you do for us.

Cheryl Perry

Graffiti

On November 16th the Press Telegram ran an article about Graffiti Protective Coatings, the company that has the graffiti removal contract with the City. The pictures and the story featured Aaron Cuchillas, who covers (in more ways than one) our part of town.

Coincidentally, only the week before, Richard Fehr had suggested that the Enterprise cover the fine work a young man named Aaron was doing with our graffiti. The best part is that he doesn't cover it with neat squares of paint that scream "graffiti under here!"

I told this in the Enterprise years ago, so a few of you may remember it. There's a British TV movie called "Frenchman's Creek". A major plot device is the sailing ship leaving a harbor that must be a historic site that is rented out to film crews. As the ship leaves port, it passes a tall sea wall, and on the wall are two perfect squares of white paint. The film is set in about 1680. Do graffiti cover-ups really go back that far?

Carol McCafferty

Anonymous Donation

WCHA recently received an anonymous donation through a program called "Cars 4 Causes". Through this program anyone can donate a vehicle (either operational or non-operational) and when the vehicle is sold, part of the proceeds are given to the charity of the donor's choice. This particular donor selected WCHA as the non-profit it chose to receive the funds. THANK YOU!!! What a wonderful surprise. The funds will be well used for our preservation projects.

Cars 4 Causes has some interesting programs. Through their Affordable Transportation Program, approximately 400-500 cars per month - smog-compliant and road-ready - are sold to people searching for essential transportation. When a car won't meet their criteria for affordable transportation, they take it off the road. If it's not environmentally responsible, economical, or cost-effective to repair, their Clean Air Program recycles it. So far they've removed and recycled an estimated 20,000 such vehicles. And through their Give-Away Program they have given away almost \$1,000,000 worth of cars over the last 5 years to people suffering through temporary setbacks, unfortunate circumstances, illnesses, and hard times.

So if you have a vehicle you would like to donate you can call (800) 766-CARE and they will pick up the vehicle (car, truck, boat, RV or motorcycle) and you can donate any proceeds to the charity of your choice. Their website is www.cars4causes.net. With all the excess inoperable vehicles in our neighborhood surely you'd think some of them could be donated. Just think how much more parking we'd have! What a concept!



News from Willmore Police Center

22 local residents received Certificates for completion of a three-month citizenship class held at the Willmore Community Police Center. The classes were taught by Irene Hatch and Marri Hawkins, volunteer instructors of Friends' House of Drake Park, a non-profit organization, under the direction of Jana Shields. The Neighborhood Services Bureau and the Willmore Community Police Center helped make these classes available.



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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.

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

THE WILLMORE CITY ENTERPRISE
Of a Yellow House and a Yellow Cat

By Carol McCafferty

My series on the history of Willmore City is suspended for the holidays--sort of. Instead, what follows is some of the humorous history of the neighborhood.

Patty Lund just treated her house on Ninth Street to new paint, replacing the overstated yellow she inherited at purchase. When it was bought by Chris and Joyce Guldimmann a few years earlier, it had belonged to the same family for many years and I think it was an unexciting (but typical in the old days) white. Joyce got a pale yellow approved by Ruthann Lehrer, then the city's Historic Preservation Officer. When Eddie Gonzalez turned up to paint, Joyce had substituted an intense, teeth-grinding yellow.

Six months later, I attended a potluck at the Gonzalez house, two doors away. We were distracted by the paint job occurring at the intervening house: a pale blue with navy blue trim and no prep work. For once, a crowd of Willmorons agreed unanimously on an issue: we all hated it. I was delegated to talk to Ruthann about it.

Ruthann's response was that it would be difficult to object to the blue paint when we'd allowed the unapproved yellow on the Guldimmann's house.

The Guldimmanns, other than their taste in exterior paint, were some great neighbors. When they moved in they had trouble sleeping because their backyard was the designated trysting place for all the stray cats in the neighborhood. Chris repeatedly borrowed cat traps so he could trap strays. He had a rolodex full of sources for low-cost spaying, and he spayed and released every female cat for blocks around. But he couldn't seem to trap the male he dubbed "King Kitty", who appeared to be the father of all the kittens. "King Kitty" was described as a big yellow tom with an impressive mane and only one ear. He'd obviously fought for his dominance and lost the ear in the process.

After a while, it occurred to us that WCHA should own a cat trap to loan out. Chris agreed to take care of storing it, loaning it, and getting it back. With no deadlines, he could play with the trap all he wanted. So he baited it and set it up every night. When he heard it trip, he raced to the yard, but each time he found one of the spayed females in it. Eventually he quit answering the call of the trap. He had decided that the females were getting a square meal and an uninterrupted night's sleep, so he treated himself to some uninterrupted sleep.

Several years later I was in their backyard when I was approached by a male cat who rubbed against my legs and solicited a good petting. He was big, yellow, had an impressive mane and only one ear, and had been neutered. His name was Tom.



Extra Parking Spaces Found

When the new stop signs were recently installed at the corners of 8th & Chestnut, 8th & Cedar, 9th & Chestnut & 9th & Cedar, we lost a few parking spaces in the process. But due to the magical powers of Dave Roseman and his staff, they found ways to create some additional spaces and we actually ended up with a gain of 5 parking spaces. Every little bit helps! Thanks Dave and crew for the spaces and the stop signs!



By Shoshanah Siegel, yourcolordiva@aol.com

If you love a traditional, old-world Christmas and holiday season, you probably won't think much about a color scheme for your decorations. You'll gather together everything with sentimental value in any color, and find just the right place for it

But if you're just starting out or want your decorations to complement your home's decor, you'll find that all your Christmas decorating decisions will be easier if you start out with a specific color scheme. When choosing color combinations, remember that most colors of equal depth and intensity will harmonize with each other. Here are some ideas.

Colors and Items from Your Childhood: If you have particularly happy memories from holidays past, try to choose a color theme to enhance that memory. If you loved candy canes, choose a red and white color scheme. Did your tree have shiny silver tinsel strewn on the branches? Or was your tree illuminated by a color wheel? How about bubble lights? Vintage-look ornaments are brighter and bigger than the ones of old, and are less precious if you have little ones around.

Bring in the Bling: Do you love luminous ornaments? Then you might want to bring jewel tones into all your holiday decorating. String garlands of faux crystals from chandeliers and lampshades. Or try strands of gold or silver pearls, mirrors or iridescent beads that will reflect the light. For colors, jewel tones of navy blue, hunter green, and deep red will combine well. For more bling, set items on shiny metal trays or chargers or on mirrors.

A Piece of Fabric: If you have a beautiful piece of fabric that would be spectacular on the center of your dining room table, draw your colors from the fabric design. Bring the hues into all the rooms for a unified look.

Inspiration from the Pros: Most photo layouts from magazines and books are "staged" by professional designers. Use their ideas to bring the color scheme and designs into your home.

Gift Wrap: You can see lots of color schemes used in gift-wrapping paper. See which ones you like and think about the style, the motifs represented, and the colors. Choose a paper that would look good in your home and find more decorations to place around the house.

Ribbons and Bows: Add ribbons and bows to enhance almost any Christmas decorating. If you find a ribbon that you particularly like, use the colors for the decorating scheme throughout your home.

Too Many Colors? Go with just one color for a monochromatic look. For contrast, just use a different value--which means the same color but lighter or darker. Try different textures like velvet, leather, silk, or faux feathers and furs.

Go Global: If you are feeling more secular this season you can still vamp up your diverse decorating. Go beyond borders and celebrate a region of the world that is new to you. Mix it up with a Latin or Mediterranean holiday theme. Or go with an Asian influence and celebrate the Chinese New Year. Pick a theme and browse the international section at a local bookstore for inspiration. Or shop at stores that have products from around the world. The possibilities are endless.

Let There be Light: Hanukkah isn't the only festival of lights. The African tradition of Kwanzaa and Sweden's Santa Lucia Day shine, too. Whether inside or outside, lighting can change the mood instantly. For outside high-lights the latest trend is attaching bulbs to stakes in the ground or secured and draped from the bows of trees. Change bulbs to amber to give off a warm glow rather than a stark white wash. And you don't have to spend a fortune for this sparkle. "Go to the local hardware store and look for flood lights with a hint of color for an instant transformation." Make your room look instantly larger with lights that shine from the four corners. Give depth to any room by placing lights in plants.

Let Your Imagination Flow: The themes are endless. Try snowflakes, country rustic, Hollywood glamour, penguins, black and white with a splash of color, the ocean, birds, cats, dogs, pine trees.... For continuity carry your theme and color scheme throughout the house. Have fun, and enjoy!

May your season glow.

Shoshanah, Your Color Diva