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THE WILLMORE CITY ENTERPRISE

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE WILLMORE CITY HERITAGE ASSOCIATION JULY 2007



July 18th Meeting

Our July meeting will be held on Wednesday July 18th at 7:30 p.m. at the Willmore Community Police Center (910 Daisy Avenue).

At our last meeting there was some discussion regarding the difficulties many residents are having in getting service when calling the non-emergency police number for such things as loud noise & parties, illegal dumping, illegal parking, etc. Sometimes it is a matter of knowing exactly how to explain the problem to the dispatcher, so Mary Antunez from Community Policing has arranged to have someone from dispatch come to our July meeting to help us learn how to communicate with the police department in "their language" so as to achieve the desired results.

Knowing how the system works and how to better utilize the assistance of our police officers will certainly help improve the quality of life in our neighborhood.

Please join us and the police officers on July 18th to learn how we can help them to help us.

A Code Enforcement meeting for all Block Captains will be held at 6:30 p.m.

644 W. 8th Gets a Face Lift



All of the bricks are being removed and reinstalled



Mike points out one of the old nails that has rusted and collapsed



Copies provided via the WCHA printing HQ

The July meeting will be held on
Wednesday, July 18th
7:30 p.m.
Willmore Community Police
Center
910 Daisy Ave.

THE WILLMORE CITY ENTERPRISE
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Mark Your Calendar!!

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T H E W I L L M O R E

644 W. 8th cont'd.....

When Mike LaPoint purchased the 4-plex at 644 W. 8th Street in 2001, the building was in need of everything (including the physical removal by the Police of a "special" character living there before escrow could close). Mike worked closely with the Historic Preservation Officer at the time to make sure the exterior doors, railings and windows were restored to their original design. Unfortunately most of the built-in cabinets were gone but the original interior mouldings were still intact.

The building still has it's original layout of 4 one-bedroom units. It did not get split out to make more bedrooms as others of this type have had done. The interiors have all been upgraded with new kitchens, bathrooms, plumbing and electrical.

After completing the interior, Mike began to search for someone to repair his exterior bricks -- a process which proved to be quite a nightmare for him but through his perserverance he finally found someone able to do the job. Originally this brick facade was constructed by placing nails under each brick into the redwood siding and then filling between each one with mortar. Over the years, the nails have begun to rust and break off, thus leaving no support for the bricks and the mortar has gradually turned to sand. The bricks are being carefully removed, one by one, and because the mortar is virtually gone, they are coming off very clean and the majority are being reused to restore the original design of the brick facade.

This lovely 1924 four-plex is registered with the State of California Office of Historic Preservation as a significant historical structure within an historic district.

It is through dedicated efforts of individuals such as Mike that the treasures of our historic district and our City are saved. It is a costly and frustrating process sometimes but oh so worth it. Thank you Mike and all you other crazy Preservationists. Keep up the good work!

Another movie star in our midst

Filming for an upcoming episode of "The Closer" was done a few weeks ago at 1255 Loma Vista (home of Ernie Villa and Caesar Castillo). The episode will be aired on Monday July 16th at 8:00 p.m. on the TNT cable channel.

Watch for shots of their downstairs entry, living and dining room, kitchen and office as well as some shots of the upstairs.

Several other Willmore homes have been the locations for some other movie and tv filming and 1255 Loma Vista has now joined this elite group. Congratulations! "See you in the movies" as they say.



Got Plants?

Do you have a green thumb? Do you have plants to share? We are looking for you! Help us to landscape the foursquare house that was recently moved to its new, and permanent, home at 419 Daisy Avenue. A volunteer committee of Willmore City Heritage Association neighbors have submitted applications for two landscaping grants to help to pay for landscape and fencing. Our goal is to create an attractive, historically appropriate, drought-tolerant garden filled with California natives and old-fashioned favorites.

To complete this project, we are looking for cuttings (slips) of plants from your yards that we could root and plant in this garden. If you have a stand of Al and Edna Saxlund's irises, then you know how special it is to share a plant legacy with your neighbors. Several years ago, Carol McCafferty rescued some of the traditional blue irises at Edna Saxlund's home on Loma Vista Drive. Edna's children - Kristin, Molly, and her son (whose name escapes us, who worked for LBFD) - were happy to donate them to the neighborhood after Edna passed. Those irises have multiplied over the years and have been shared with other neighbors in Willmore and Rose Park. Edna Saxlund's memory lives on through her irises. eru

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

Got Plants cont'd

The foursquare house at 419 Daisy Avenue has not been connected to a foundation in years. This landscape project will help reconnect this house to the neighborhood and to all of us. Our plants will help connect all of us in a special way and will create a new living legacy.

If you have ideas, plants you would like to share, or materials for this project, please call us at (562) 435-7752.

Summer Potluck

August is Summer Potluck month and this year we have been invited for a get-together in the lovely backyard of Dianne McNinch's 1908 home at 908 Park Circle. Bring your favorite dish and join your neighbors for a delightful summer evening beginning at 7:00 p.m. on August 15th and get a chance to see Dianne's lovely home and great backyard and deck.

Mark this date on your calendar because there will not be a regular general meeting or newsletter in August. See you at the Potluck instead!

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

- | | | | |
|------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| July 14th | Concert in the Park
Long Beach Comm. Band
Drake Park 4:00 pm | August 1 | Movie - "Charlie and the
Chocolate Factory"
Drake Park at Dusk |
| July 18th | Code Enforcement (Block Captains) 6:30 pm
WCHA Meeting 7:30 pm
Willmore Community Police Center | August 15th | Summer Potluck
Home of Dianne McNinch
908 Park Circle 7:00 p.m. |
| July 22 | Long Beach Heritage General Meeting
at the Gaetonia | | |

Willmore City Heritage Association

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Donations are Tax Deductible

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

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Jill Anne Black, Treasurer*	495-3377
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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>