

GRAND CENTRAL



Newsletter of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council

Summer 2010



'Peter's Dragon'—The lighted sculpture and neon work of Candice Gawne was featured on the May 6 Artwalk Tour. "Peter's Dragon"—four by eight feet (all classic neon glass)—is an example of her artwork. See more at www.luminousartworks.com.

First Thursday Means Business—and Fun

Now in its 13th year, the San Pedro First Thursday ArtWalk draws more artists, locals and the nearby culture-curious and has become a regular gathering for the community. Local artists open their studios and galleries and offer hospitality. The evening offers casual shopping at uncommon stores, live music, and the eclectic array of fine dining for which San Pedro is known.

Free guided tours are offered each month, visiting different sections of downtown. The one-hour tour leaves at 6:30 from a different location each month, following a route that spotlights unique historical buildings, shops, restaurants, galleries and studios.

The artwalk give artists a chance to exhibit their work, and perhaps find a buyer for one of their pieces. It is also a night that benefits the downtown business community, directly with sales at the shops, and dining at the restaurants. And indirectly, by familiarizing visitors with the unique atmosphere of the area.

The San Pedro Arts, Culture and Entertainment District Board (SPACE) recently awarded a contract for the support of the First Thursday Artwalk to the fINDings Art Center, centrally located next to the Warner Grand Theatre. fINDings Art Center Executive Director, Annette Ciketic is excited to provide support and a headquarters for the First Thursday Art Walk, as it is one of the many ways that San Pedro artists demonstrate their commitment to the community. Route maps and tour meeting place are available at fINDings, and online at www.1stthursday.com.



First Thursday Art Walk participants view works at The Loft, one of the many galleries in downtown San Pedro.

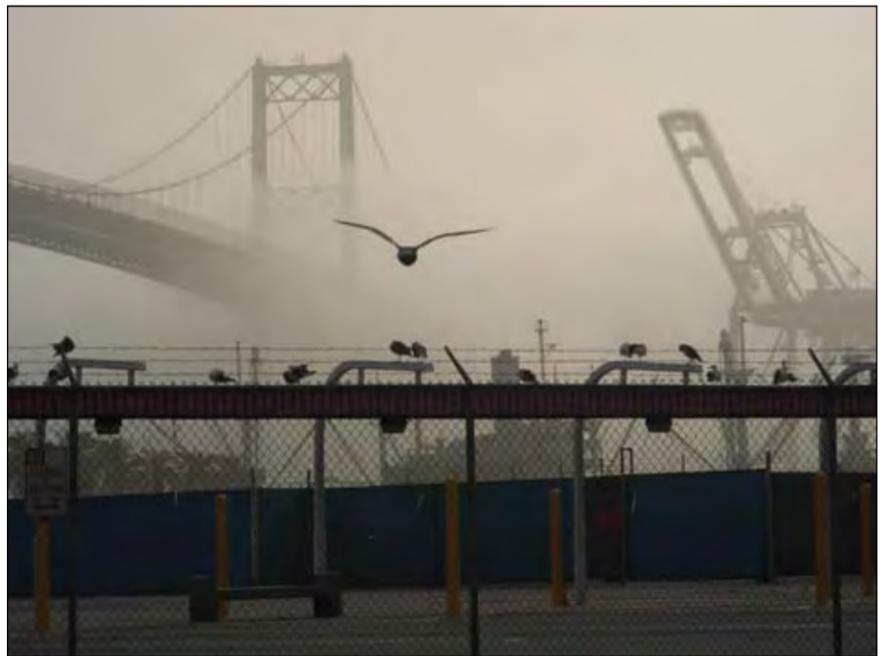
VOTE TWICE ON JUNE 8! (And It's Legal)

The statewide election primary and your Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council election will be held on June 8 this year. This potential conflict of dates was set by the Los Angeles City Clerk's office. We urge you to show your interest in our community by coming out to vote in the Neighborhood Council election. A strong voter turnout increases the visibility of the Council with the officials in downtown LA, and will increase our ability to have your issues listened to and have action taken to resolve problems.



The candidate statements are on page 4. These are your neighbors who have volunteered to study, discuss, and vote on the concerns of Central San Pedro, your concerns. By voting, you show your support for the process.

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Election
Tuesday, June 8, 2:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Anderson Senior Center
828 S. Mesa St., San Pedro, CA 90731



"Birds at Dawn" is the title of this early-morning waterfront photo by CSPNC board member Carrie Scoville.

Waterfront and Red Car Development Update

The agenda of Central's April 11 stakeholder meeting included a review of the Port's current plans to develop a Downtown Harbor and Town Plaza at the foot of Sixth Street and their Red Car Expansion Feasibility Study. These were complex topics, and the neighborhood council board agreed to hold a special meeting to provide additional time for public discussion on April 29.

Port staff generously supported this meeting by sending three of their engineers who had expertise in waterfront and Red Car issues. After a brief introduction on the two items, a healthy debate ensued between the board and Port staff. While the board generally supported the Port's plans to create a major "town square" at this downtown location (the final term settled upon was "wildly enthusiastic"), a broad consensus on certain issues of concern emerged.

The Port's plans include a new watercut harbor to accommodate special visiting vessels, and our beloved Tall Ships in particular. Broad terraced seating would be situated parallel to Harbor Boulevard, along the Promenade, offering a grand view of this new harbor. Flanking plazas would be developed

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Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council
1840 South Gaffey Street, Box 212
San Pedro, CA 90731

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Attn: POSTAL PATRON

Central's Senior Lead Officer is Committed to a Safe San Pedro

Senior Lead Officer Maligi ("Junior") Nua has served in the Harbor Area since he completed his probationary period in the Rampart Division. Most of his 15 years of service have been spent in a gang unit. Although Jr. was assigned at different times in his career to a plain-clothes detail targeting career criminals and later to the bicycle detail; it became clear to him that he could best contribute while working in the gang units.

Junior continued to add to his knowledge and experience while in the Harbor Gang Enforcement Detail, as patrol field training officer and as senior officer in the Gang Enforcement Detail ultimately leading to his current assignment. SLO Nua clearly is passionate about his work and says:

"After the gang detail, I was promoted to my current assignment, senior lead officer. Working in a field assignment all of my career, I had to adjust to the administrative demands of my new position. Believe me, I know I am not a Helen Pallares or Irmina Dumaplin (prior SLO's), tough shoes to fill. My commitment to the downtown central San Pedro area is to combat violent crime, suppress gang activity within the downtown area, and implement crime fighting strategies utilizing our department resources and the community (Neighborhood Watch Program).

"I have currently three active Neighborhood Watch programs within my basic car. Vinegar Hill, Mesa Street, and the Rancho San Pedro Housing Development. I am working with the Centre Street Lofts and their homeowners association on some issues that have surfaced and will continue to do so.

"I know I have a lot of people to answer to and I will never point a finger at anyone other than myself. God-fearing, respectful to others, and willingness to 'fai faasa'o' (something my father always told me in Samoan, 'make things right'), I am here, hopefully, to make a difference."

We in Central San Pedro are fortunate to have such a dedicated law enforcement officer who is so particularly well versed in the challenges of our urban life. Thank you, Officer Nua, for your faithful service to our community. Meet Officer Nua at the next Central NC meeting where he updates the status of our community from his perspective.



LAPD Senior Lead Officer
Maligi ("Junior") Nua

City Government Talks to the Neighborhood Council



"As a community advocate, I am thankful for the opportunity to build partnerships and collaborate in creating a better and safer San Pedro. Having lived in this town for most of my life, I have a personal tie and passion about the issues impacting our community."

—Ana Dragin,
Office of Councilwoman Janice Hahn

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council

1840 South Gaffey Street, Box 212, San Pedro, CA 90731

Telephone: 310-918-8650 / www.sandpedrocity.org

Governing Board

President – John Delgado Jr.

Vice-President – Andrew Silber

Treasurer – Linda Alexander

Secretary – Sue Castillo

Communications/Outreach Officer – Phillip Trigas

Art Almeida	Scott Gray	Bill Roberson
Frank B. Anderson	Kara McLeod	Carrie Scoville
Caroline Brady-Sinco	Julia Parker	Daryl Sebold
Patricia Carroll	Ralph (JR) Perez	Phillip Strout

Grand Central Editorial Committee

Patricia Carroll / Linda Alexander, co-editors

Carrie Scoville Sue Castillo

President's Message

By John Delgado, Jr.

WOW! Three years have flown by and life on our board never seems to get dull. During the past three years of serving on our board I have had some valuable experiences and learned a lot about our community. Our council district is very unique, not only in design and layout, but because of a richness of community involvement.

After starting this venture as an attendee at a Land Use subcommittee, I was intrigued by the processes of our city and the passion of the Central Neighborhood Council members. Being able to voice my opinion and provide input at meetings in order to contribute and resolve issues, was a draw to my continuance of my newly-found venture.

Upon being elected as a board member, I watched and listened to the order of the meetings. I watched grassroots practices at their best. Sure, at times the meetings were intense, but at each meeting I learned and always looked for the silver lining.

After one year I was selected the president by our board. A position which I humbly accepted, yet kept in high regard. As I was still new to the game, each board member provided me with a boost of confidence. I also had valuable advice and insight from my colleagues from Northwest San Pedro Neighborhood Council and Coastal San Pedro Neighborhood Council. I would be remiss if I did not mention past president Joe Gatlin, as well.

A fast-paced learning curve was before me—Brown Act, agendas, minutes, motions, city officials' reports—all which I am still learning, even as I write this after our meeting tonight. Needless to say we, as the Central Neighborhood Council, have come a long way; dealing with various groups in our community, learning different perspectives and different agendas.

The Central Neighborhood Council helps our community by being a voice for the voiceless and place where we can contribute to the betterment of our community. Being able to fund projects and assisting organizations in our community is icing on the cake. The Central Neighborhood Council is a solid, stable board with good people who may not always agree with one another, but have learned to work with one another.

Besides, where else can you go and have good food and entertainment value—we are Central—in the Central part of one of the most important towns and cities in the world.



Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Government Agency Representatives

Ricardo Hong, Harbor Area Representative for Mayor Villaraigosa

Ana Dragin, Office of Councilwoman Janice Hahn

Officer Maligi A. "Junior" Nua, Jr.,

Los Angeles Police Department, Harbor Division

Officer Stacey Creech, Port of Los Angeles Police

Augie Bezmalinovich, Port of Los Angeles

Bianca Villanueva, Representative for
Assemblymember Bonnie Lowenthal

CSPNC Committees

The Executive Committee consists of the executive officers (president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and communications officer). They meet monthly to determine the agenda for the stakeholder meetings. Their meetings are public meetings, and persons wishing to participate in formation of the agenda are invited to attend. Meeting details are announced on our main page. Visit the board's webpage to see a list of executive committee members, or contact them.

The Finance Committee is chaired by the treasurer, Linda Alexander. All interested stakeholders are invited to participate. Monthly meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Whale and Ale Restaurant, 327 West Seventh Street, San Pedro.

The Land Use Committee is chaired by Sue Castillo. Monthly meetings are scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:30pm. Check our homepage, which lists upcoming meeting dates, times and locations.

The Outreach Committee is chaired by Phill Trigas. Monthly meetings are usually held on the fourth Thursday of the month. Check our homepage, which lists upcoming meeting dates, times and locations.

The Standing Rules/Bylaws Committee is chaired by Bill Roberson. The committee meets on an as-needed basis to address bylaws issues. Check our homepage, which lists upcoming meeting dates, times and locations.

Artist's rendering of new Harbor Interfaith Services building.



Harbor Interfaith Services Wins Approval for New Facility

Harbor Interfaith Services recently won approval from the City of Los Angeles to build a three-story Family Resource Center on the site of its current administrative office and childcare center in San Pedro.

The new, 15,000 square-foot building, at 670 West Ninth Street, will include the agency's food pantry, preschool, after-school program and administrative offices. The nonprofit agency, founded in 1975, serves approximately 15,000 homeless and working poor families each year.

In addition to the Family Resource Center, the agency operates an Emergency Family Shelter and a transitional housing program, which serve approximately 450 people each year—300 of whom are children.

The new center will allow the agency to expand and improve its childcare center, bring its after-school program back on site and improve its food pantry, clothing program and other client services.

Los Angeles Supervisor Don Knabe awarded the agency \$4.97 million to fund construction of the project. The agency must raise another \$5 million to relocate during construction, continue offering essential services to needy families and to furnish and program the new building once it's complete. The agency has identified relocation properties and is in the process of signing leases for those spaces.

Construction of the new building should get underway by August and should take approximately 18 months to complete. The area is currently zoned

for two stories, so the project required a variance from the city's planning department.

Only about 17 percent of the total building will reach the third-floor height, however. A billboard currently on the site will be removed to make way for the new building. Parking will be underground.

The project received the support of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council. HIS continues to work closely with the Community Redevelopment Agency's Design Review Committee to ensure the building's "look" is consistent with the surrounding neighborhood.

Torrance-based Withee Malcolm Architects is designing the building to fit into the area's mixed commercial and residential use and to use environmentally sensitive materials and construction.

San Pedro Touched By A Brush With Kindness

Drive past the intersection of Palos Verdes Street and O'Farrell and it is hard to miss 16 craftsman-style homes that sit perched atop a hill overlooking the Port. Many San Pedrans will remember the LEED Silver Certified homes in Haborside Terrace being constructed by a sea of volunteers during the Habitat for Humanity 2007 Jimmy Carter Work Project (JCWP).

However not far from the new homes, with far less flash and news coverage, nine homes received much-needed improvements through Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles' A Brush With Kindness program.

Not only is the nonprofit organization dedicated to building new homes in partnership with hardworking families, they are equally dedicated to helping current homeowners who may be struggling with the upkeep of their homes.

A Brush With Kindness is a program that seeks to restore and beautify neighborhoods by making free exterior repairs to the homes of those unable to do so because of financial hardship, age, or disabilities.

Typical exterior home improvement projects include a fresh coat of paint, landscaping, clean up and safety related repairs such as wheelchair ramps, roof repair and door and window replacement.

Community programs for low-income homeowners, like A Brush With Kindness, are important because they help struggling individuals and families to continue to live independently and securely.

Simone Condley, a native San Pedran, received A Brush With Kindness during JCWP in 2007. Upon completion of the project she remarked, "I believe strongly that everything worth having is worth working and waiting for."

Condley, who has served as block captain and

emergency preparedness coordinator in her local neighborhood, also said, "I look forward to living in my freshly painted home forever and continuing to be active in my local community."

A common misconception is that Habitat for Humanity gives homes away. This is not true. Families selected for a new or rehabilitated Habitat for Humanity home must contribute 500 hours of "sweat equity" building their home, or volunteering in some capacity with the organization, plus qualify to pay back a zero-interest mortgage. Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles offers deserving members of our community a hand up, not a hand out.

In line with this philosophy, to qualify for A Brush With Kindness homeowners must be able to participate in the work, or have friends and family members who are willing to contribute on their behalf. One of the most rewarding parts of the program is that the homeowners are involved. When all is said and done, they take pride in knowing that they were given an opportunity to help themselves.

The program also strengthens connections in the community. Each A Brush With Kindness project requires 10 to 20 volunteers. Often times, it is the homeowners' neighbors who come out to volunteer. After all, revitalizing the appearance of a neighbor's home has a positive impact on the entire community.

Since October 2007 Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles has completed over 100 A Brush With Kindness projects, which includes nine homes in San Pedro.

To become A Brush With Kindness volunteer, or to apply or recommend a San Pedro homeowner for the program visit <http://www.habitatla.org/abwk.asp> or call (310) 323-4663.



Nine homes were spruced up as part of the recent "A Brush with Kindness" effort in San Pedro.

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Candidate Statements

Linda Alexander

I have had the privilege of serving as the treasurer on the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council board since 2008.

I am proud that our Finance Committee has created a more understandable and transparent process of providing our financials to the board and to the community at large. We also established a more equitable process for receiving, deliberating and voting on requests for funding. In addition, I serve as the representative to the board of the Arts Cultural and Entertainment District and as co-editor of our new newsletter, "Grand Central".

I am a business owner, active volunteer and San Pedro is my home. I experience what our stakeholder's experience, 24/7 and we can do better!

Your neighborhood council, with your support, can change the manner in which the city does business and improve the quality of lives in our community. I look forward to continuing the work I have begun.

Art Almeida

I am a San Pedran by birth, born in 1928, in a house built by my father in 1921 on Black Hill. I am a retired stevedore after working on Los Angeles and Long Beach docks including during my early years as a newsboy. I have been involved in many community issues for the past 55 years.

I have been and am very interested in all San Pedro projects, including serving for 12 years on the original Beacon Street Development Advisory Committee. I have long been associated with the San Pedro Bay Historical Society as a charter member, president, and on the board. I possess extensive knowledge of local history... where it has been and our hopes for its future. San Pedro's evolution has been phenomenal.

Pat Carroll

Pat Carroll was appointed to the CSPNC board in December 2009. She quickly stepped into service, taking on the responsibility of producing the neighborhood council's newsletter as co-editor, hoping to increase the community's involvement with the council, and encouraging them to bring their quality of life issues to the council. Believing that Central San Pedro is the economic and cultural engine of the entire area, she works to support the growth of businesses as an ambassador for the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce. The arts are an important element in creating a vibrant downtown and Pat serves as a member of the board of directors of Grand Vision Foundation, which supports restoration and maintenance of the Warner Grand Theatre. She also leads the monthly First Thursday Artwalk Tour, introducing people to San Pedro's diversity on the visual arts scene. Pat serves on the Outreach and Finance committees of CSPNC.

Sue Castillo

In lieu of a campaign statement, I want to encourage community members to participate in community dialogues about land use issues facing San Pedro today:

- LA city budget constraints impacting our crumbling parks, sidewalks and utilities
- Environmental and quality of life issues
- Increasing our stock of affordable, quality housing
- Improving our Downtown San Pedro streetscapes
- Creating and promoting our fledgling Art District

- Maximizing waterfront development to serve both residents and our economic future as a regional attraction
- Developing the California Coastal Trail along our waterfront

I've invested significant personal energy following and participating in such issues over the past six years, as an active resident, as Central's Land Use Planning chair, and on the Pacific Corridor Redevelopment Advisory Committee. I hope that additional members of the public who care about these matters will join community discussions and become a part of progressive change!

Scott F. Gray, Ed.D.

Far too often citizens feel disconnected from the governmental bodies that exercise authority over their lives, homes, and community. Neighborhood councils give us an opportunity to influence the decisions that affect us.

To achieve this, however, requires representatives who are knowledgeable about the community, who know the needs and wants of community members, and who are not afraid to ask the tough questions.

My commitment is to represent and give a voice to the broadest interests of our community, to fully understand the San Pedro community and the aspirations of its residents, and to question authority when necessary.

I ask for the opportunity to continue to serve you. I ask for your vote for the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council.

Julia Parker

I have been a member of the Neighborhood Councils since its inception. I served on the Northwest Neighborhood Council as one of the founding board members and I am currently the co-chair of the Issues Committee for the NW Council. I am also currently a board member of the Central Neighborhood Council.

I have been involved in many levels of politics over the years and my reason for being involved in the neighborhood councils is that I want to know what is going on in my community before it happens. I also want to help shape San Pedro to make it a wonderful waterfront town.

Rafael (J.R.) Perez, Jr.

I became a business owner in Downtown San Pedro (7th St. Chophouse) because I saw the great potential for a safe, secure and prosperous neighborhood. My appointment to the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council has given me an opportunity to have direct participation in improving our community for its business owners and residents. I believe that my additional roles as a member of the board of the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce and president of the newly-formed Los Angeles Harbor Latin Association allow me to bring a variety of perspectives to the council.

Bill Roberson

These are exciting times for Central San Pedro. The Port of Los Angeles has begun to cooperate with community leadership in developing a greener environment for those who labor on its docks and live nearby and in improving attractive access to the waterfront, complete with fountains, walkways, and historical markers.

The City of Los Angeles may be experiencing a budget crisis; however, San Pedro can continue to benefit from the Port's great engine of commerce at our doorstep. I am dedicated to assuring that Port money stays in San Pedro to enhance the lives of

its citizens.

I heartily support the daily efforts of our local police departments. Peace on the streets and justice in the Projects and neighborhoods can best be achieved by supporting our very professional LAPD and Harbor Police Departments, by providing a forum for community stakeholders to voice grievances and concerns, and by bringing all Stakeholders together to learn how best we may all live safely and peacefully in our town.

The creativity of our local artists never ceases to amaze me. The ACE District is an especially exciting addition to downtown. We are specially blessed with wonderful performing artists, production personnel, and theatrical producers and directors at our historical Warner Grand and in The Little Fish Theater. Our Central Neighborhood Council needs to continue its support of these worthwhile initiatives and activities.

Over the past three years, I have been proud to serve with my fellow Board Members the residents, merchants, and variegated interests of Central San Pedro as one of its volunteer voices to the best of my ability for the past three years.

If re-elected I will continue to do all in my power to assure that our community voice is articulated and amplified so as to be heard in City Hall and wherever Power tries to prevail over People.

Carrie Scoville

I am interested in the welfare of the people in our community and would like to make a contribution to help solve some of the problems and improve the services for the neighborhood. As a resident of this council district, I want Central San Pedro to be healthy, safe, clean and accessible for everyone.

In this last term, I have supported the council with fiscal planning, newsletter production, and organizing our board retreat. I serve as representative to the Port Community Advisory Committee, and as alternate to the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils. I prepare written financial reports as well as the PCAC Reports which are available on the CSPNC website <http://www.sanpedrocity.org>.

I regard elected offices to be the highest priority as elected officials have the trust of the public and are answerable to them. My main contribution to this board has been to represent my community at every stakeholder meeting and vote in the interest of those who cast their vote for me.

As evidenced, I have the time, skills, talent and willingness to serve the board and our community.

Andrew Silber

Community: Andrew has twice been elected to the San Pedro Business Improvement District (BID) board of directors, secretary for one term. He has been a director of the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce for 12 years, and remains a member, (also past vice president in charge of economic development). He is a board member for Angels Gate Cultural Center, San Pedro Arts & Cultural Entertainment District (ACE) and vice president of the San Pedro Village 7th Street Merchants' Association. The Whale & Ale is proud to lead local businesses in both environmental preservation and philanthropic involvement.

Andrew has served on the board of Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council for four years, and as its Vice President for two years.

Aspirations: Andrew's only public mission (reflected in the paragraph above), is to make downtown San Pedro an attractive and vibrant place to live, to visit and to be proud of.

You Are Powerful. Yes, You!

How so, you may ask? For starters, you have the power to hire and fire the politicians. Through the power of your vote, you decide who represents you from the White House to the... neighborhood council.

You alone can't change the outcome of a federal, state or even L.A. city election. But you are amazingly influential when it comes to a neighborhood

council election. Just like elections for higher office, there can be campaign platforms and hot issues that increase voter turnout.

If you feel strongly about a given issue that has come before the neighborhood council and you do your own personal get-out-the-vote drive to bring people to the polls, there's every possibility that your candidate could win by a margin of one, two or three votes—votes that you delivered.

They say that "all politics is local." Indeed, there is a local angle to every issue that's debated during national, state and city elections. When it comes to neighborhood-level issues, there's less policy-wonk jargon and more first-hand reality. You're an eyewitness to the issues happening right outside your door.

If you want to do something about them, you have the power to affect change. And if you want to be the solution you seek, you can run for office yourself. See that empty chair to the right? Read the accompanying story to learn how it can be yours.

So, put down this paper long enough to vote on June 8. Not once, but twice. When you cast a ballot in the neighborhood council election, you're doing more than choosing officeholders to represent the neighborhood. Through the simple act of voting, you're endorsing the fundamental concept of grassroots democracy in Los Angeles. You're signaling your support for the neighborhood council system and that's no small gesture.

Secondly, head to your regular polling place and assert your San Pedro voice in the state and local issues on the statewide primary ballot. Exercise your power twice on June 8 and you'll be flexing your political muscle mightily.

There's a new twist to the old expression, "vote early and often." For once, it's not illegal to vote twice.

Your Seat is Waiting



Nature abhors a vacuum and so does the neighborhood council. Let's fill this empty chair... with you! From time to time, over the course of two-year terms, there are vacancies on the governing board. Basically, all you have to do is step right up and convince us of your leadership and it's yours.

You don't have to run for office; any stakeholder interested in filling a vacant seat shall submit a written notice to the secretary or any board member within 25 days of the date that the board issues a call for stakeholder applicants. You will have the opportunity to declare your interest before the board. The board will then vote to appoint qualified community members to the board. If you are elected, you take your seat right then and there and begin your service.

To be nominated to the board, you must be a "stakeholder" of the neighborhood council. Stakeholders are people who live, work or own property within the council boundaries. You can also qualify as a stakeholder through membership in a community organization or some other connection or "sense of belonging" to the council.

Here's a profile of an effective board member:

You are open-minded and willing to work cooperatively to improve the wellbeing of the community. You are capable of debating and disagreeing respectfully. You're prepared to do some homework to learn about the issues. You can commit to attending the monthly governing board meetings and serving on a committee or otherwise contributing to council projects. Above all, you care about San Pedro and are willing to volunteer your time as a public servant for an official government body with a commanding voice in local politics.

Vacancies will be announced on our website following the June 8 election. The board will vote on candidates at the August 10 board and stakeholder meeting. Even if you are not interested in joining the board, please join the council's online mailing list. There are many more opportunities to serve. You can chair a committee or spearhead a special project. This is your council and the door to your participation is wide open.

Now, about that empty chair... We hope to seat you in it this year. How does the title "council member" sound to you?

Please visit www.sanpedrocity.org or call (310) 918-8650.

Candidates for Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Two-year Term July 2010 to June 2012

Linda L. Alexander *

Arthur A. Almeida *

Frank B. Anderson

Patricia A. Carroll*

Sue Castillo *

Scott F. Gray*

Kara D. McLeod

Julia L. Parker*

Raphael (J.R.) Perez, Jr.*

William N. Roberson*

Carrie Scoville*

Andrew E. Silber *

Phillip B. Trigas,

Phillip S. Strout

Neighborhood Prosecutors Are Here to Help You

Having problems in your neighborhood? Is there dumping? Drug dealing? Noise? An offending business establishment? Pollution? Abandoned or excessive vehicles? Prostitution? Blight? Graffiti? Vandalism? Transients? The City Attorney's Neighborhood Prosecutor can help.

This is a liaison of City Attorney's criminal division who is specifically assigned to community affairs. The purpose of this program is to proactively approach community problems before they lead to neighborhood decay.

Once a complaint is filed with the LAPD it can then be followed up by the Neighborhood Prosecutor. They work with LAPD and LAFD to facilitate joint operations. They specialize in Neighborhood Watch activities and are enthusiastic about attending local meetings.

The Neighborhood Prosecutor can only follow up on complaints that have been filed with the authorities, so after speaking with LAPD contact Sonja Dawson at (323) 789-2701. She is the Central and South Bureau coordinator with responsibility for our division. Neighborhood prosecutors are located at each LAPD Division headquarters, in our case the Harbor station.

In addition to the Neighborhood Prosecutor, the City Attorney's Office has a Nuisance Abatement Program. The contact for our area is Becky Gardner, rebeccagardner@lacity.org (310) 575-8500.

This program handles issues caused by abandoned buildings and property owners or tenants who are committing crimes out of their building. This includes drug trafficking, gang activity, prostitution, hoarding, dumping, vandalism, or special needs housing nuisance issues.

Invite them to your local meetings to see how you can work together and keep our community clean and safe.

Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council Meeting Notice

Central San Pedro Board & Stakeholder meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at POLA High School, 250 W. 5th Street, San Pedro, 90731. The agenda is posted on the website (www.sanpedrocity.org) prior to the meeting so you can see what topics are being discussed.

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services please make your request at least three business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the City of Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at (213) 485-4608.

Por favor vengan a nuestras juntas y déjenos saber si podemos ayudarles con problemas que tengan con el gobierno de la ciudad. Estos asuntos pueden ser de nuestras calles, banquetas o conductas criminales también. Nuestras juntas son cada segundo martes del mes a las 6:30 pm, en el Port of Los Angeles High School 250 W. 5th St. San Pedro, Ca. Refrescos para todos serán disponibles a las 6 pm. Servicios de traducción son disponibles, por favor contacten City of Los Angeles Neighborhood Empowerment (213) 485-4608 por lo menos tres días (72 horas) antes de la junta.

Making Downtown San Pedro a True Destination

The Community Redevelopment Agency of the City of Los Angeles (CRA/LA) has created a number of successful programs and projects that are making Downtown San Pedro a true destination for residents and visitors.

Focusing on the need to bring more residents downtown, CRA/LA sought to re-energize the existing retail and commercial districts through the development of 549 condominium and loft units.

To provide homeownership opportunities to a variety of income levels, CRA/LA provided soft-second mortgage loans to 17 families (now residing in Centre Street Lofts), and is offering soft-second loans to up to six first-time homebuyers in the recently completed, 26-unit La Salle Lofts complex.

The 89-unit Bank Lofts are the product of adaptive reuse of the original Bank of San Pedro. And, the 316-unit VUE luxury condominium complex (also the first high-rise in San Pedro) has the motto "it is a view, whether you are looking in or looking out."



Community Redevelopment Agency projects in Downtown San Pedro (reprinted with permission of the CRA/LA)

To increase patronage and improve the image of Downtown San Pedro, CRA/LA established the Business Incentive, Commercial Façade and Signage Program, offering various levels and types of grants to assist property owners and tenants improve the interior and exterior appearances of their businesses.

Some of the businesses that have participated in the program include Niko's Pizzeria, Soluna Boutique, Mishi's Strudel, and Medea Gallery.

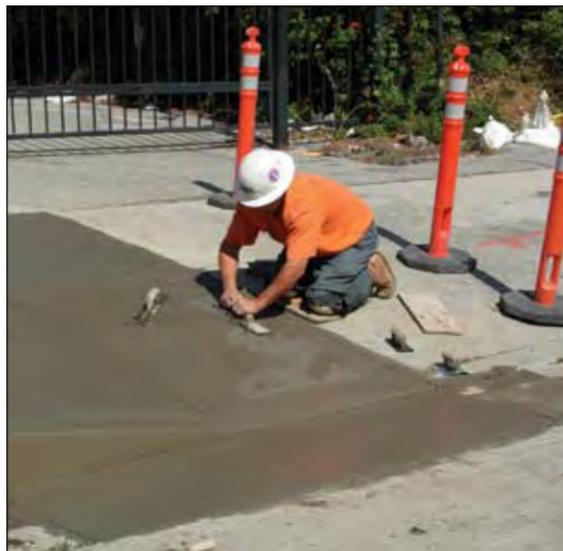
Starting this summer, there will be a Business Assistance and Retention Program that will assist property owners in securing tenants to reduce vacancies.

The program will also address expansion of existing businesses, attraction of new retailers and generation of employment opportunities, while improving the image of the area.

Working in concert with the Port of Los Angeles, the San Pedro Historic Waterfront Property Based Improvement District, and the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, CRA/LA is also attempting to reconnect the downtown community to the waterfront. Some public improvements have

already been completed (i.e. sidewalk, curb and gutter repair) and others are underway, including the installation of street furniture.

CRA/LA is committed to the continued revitalization of Downtown San Pedro.



Fixing the Sidewalks in Central San Pedro

For the next couple of months you will be seeing sidewalk repairs in the vicinity of downtown San Pedro. The city is doing the work with Community Redevelopment Agency money. Approximately \$400,000 was allocated from the Pacific Corridor Project budget.

However, the city does not have sufficient funds to repair all of the sidewalks that need fixing, and city council is considering a new citywide ordinance to require property owners to repair their own sidewalks at the time a property is sold.

Photos show work in progress at Fourth and Pacific, and the before, during, and after condition of a sidewalk on Pacific near Bonita.



Don't Throw Used Oil Down the Drain; Get Rid of It for Free at the L.A. City Recycling Center

The Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation offers residents free toxic waste disposal at their Harbor District Yard, 1400 North Gaffey Street. Just bring your paint, oil, solvents, toner cartridges, bat-



teries and electronic devices Friday through Sunday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Tell them you live in San Pedro, zip code 90731, and they will gladly take it off your hands. Proof of residency may be required. See the Bureau's website for a complete list of acceptable items and quantities http://www.lacitysan.org/solid_resources/special/hhw/safe_centers/index.htm

This is part of the Bureau's SAFE (Solvents, Automotive, Flammables, Electronics) Hazardous Materials Recycling/Disposal program. L.A. City

Business recycling is accepted by appointment the first Wednesday of the month, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

The City of Los Angeles is also offering free tire recycling disposal Saturday June 12, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Bureau of Sanitation's Harbor District Yard, 1400 North Gaffey. Limit: four auto/light truck tires, L.A. city residents only (no businesses), ID required. Five other city locations are recycling during May/June. Take those old tires off your roof and bring them down!



Harbor Freeway Interchange Improvements Coming Soon

CalTrans and the Port of Los Angeles are planning big changes for traffic patterns through Central. So big that the Harbor Freeway (I-110)/Vincent Thomas Bridge (SR-47) interchange will be expanding to accommodate the projected increase in truck traffic from the numerous terminal expansion projects.

Changes are also in the works for the I-110's John S. Gibson and "C" Street off-ramps. A few public meetings have been held since 2006 on the planning for this package of projects but no design details have been provided yet.

CalTrans is the lead agency so they will be conducting the environmental review process. It is anticipated that a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) will be issued any time now. Once announced the public has 30 days to respond with comments.

Since the I-110/SR-47 Interchange is within

Central's district we invited the POLA to our March meeting for a briefing on what to expect. Current plans are to add a lane to the connector from the Vincent Thomas Bridge to the northbound Harbor Freeway.

This would mean replacement or widening of the Pacific Avenue overpass to accommodate another eastbound lane, and addition of a new lane around the base of Black Hill connecting the SR-47 to the I-110.

Since the new lane would be completely within the existing right of way no retaining wall is anticipated at this time. All the work would be limited to the northwest portion of the interchange.

This project is now in the preliminary design stage. Technical studies are underway for geology, noise, etc. Once these are complete the MND will be released and the reports will be made public. CalTrans will be holding more meetings during the

30 day public review period. The Harbor Commission will also need to approve the MND document.

A final design is expected in 2012 then construction would begin. Current project funding is through Proposition 1B Bond monies. Other funding sources would be needed to finish the project.

The 30-day review period is your opportunity to provide feedback on this project and request compensation in return for this expansion. This could be in the form of sound walls throughout the intersection, air quality monitoring stations, public gardens in the Gaffey Street swale, etc.

Look for announcements from CalTrans in the press, the mail, or on the Port's website. Central SPNC will also post the announcement on our website at <http://www.sanpedrocity.org>.

HANC Strengthens the Impact of Neighborhood Councils

An article in our previous newsletter gave a brief introduction to the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (HANC) which was founded a year ago to act as an advocate for Neighborhood Councils in CD15.

It is recognized that there is strength in a collective voice, and that, together, we are more likely to be heard by City Hall, some 25 miles distant. Board Member Julia Parker is the Central SPNC representative to HANC.

HANC members have testified before the city council on our behalf on city budget issues and city ordinances such as the proposed public sidewalk repair personal financial responsibility ordinance where property owners are responsible for sidewalk repair and liability.

The HANC has spoken collectively on the city clerk election process and provided feedback from the region's NCs on how this new system is being implemented.

Special HANC public forums have been conducted on community plan issues and the city budget. The January Community Planning Forum featured Dick Platkin of Tierra Concepts and had 27 participants. The enthusiastic response led to special follow-up meetings in February.

"The L.A. Budget Crunch: Can the City Avoid Bankruptcy" forum was held February 27 at Rolling Hills Prep School. Over 60 people came out in the pouring rain to hear Councilman Bernard Parks, chair of the city council's Budget and Finance Committee, Julie Butcher of SEIU Local 721, and San Pedro's own City Attorney Carmen Trutanich discuss options before the mayor and the city council on handling the city's fiscal problems.

The HANC has also debated and responded to proposals for an I-110 Toll

Lane, the Harbor Subdivision Rail Corridor development, the watering-down of the CEQA community-preservation tools, and the accessory dwelling unit ordinance. From emergency preparedness to gang and crime reduction efforts, from cells towers to medical marijuana outlets, HANC engages and acts.

You are invited to join this dialogue and share your ideas in a community setting. Meetings are held at 6:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month in the Kaiser Harbor City Conference Center, 25965 South Normandie in Harbor City.

Contact HANC639@YAHOO.COM or call (310) 833-2980 to join HANC's email meeting notification list.

**One Call
to City Hall** 

You can access any City of Los Angeles government office by calling 311. When the operator answers, just tell them what you need or which department you're trying to reach. They'll connect you. You can call from land lines or cell phones and it's free.

What's Coming 'Round the Bend in the Summer of 2010?

Date	Event	Time	Location
June 9–September 1	Warner on Wednesdays (films)	7 p.m.	Warner Grand Theater
June 10–August 7	Shakespeare by the Sea	8 p.m.	Point Fermin
June 12	Rummage Sale	8 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Muller House
June 13	White Point Home Tour	1 – 5 p.m.	7 San Pedro homes
July 2	Cars & Stripes	TBA	Port of Los Angeles
July 4	Fireworks at Cabrillo Beach	8 p.m.	Cabrillo Beach
July 11, 18, 25, August 1	Music by the Sea	Noon - 5 p.m.	Point Fermin
July 16–18	Mary Star Festival	varies	Mary Star
July 17–18	Target Family Festival	TBA	Peck Park
July 24	Wine Tasting	1 – 4 p.m.	Muller House
August 6–8	Taste in San Pedro	varies	Point Fermin
September 17–19	Lobster Festival	TBA	Ports O' Call

Ongoing Summertime Family Fun in San Pedro

Fly kites at 22nd Street Park
 Play Bocce by the SS Lane Victory
 Visit the Lane Victory
 Swim at Peck Park
 First Thursday Artwalk
 Friday Farmers Market
 Angels Gate Cultural Center
 Los Angeles Maritime Museum
 Cabrillo Marine Aquarium
 Fort MacArthur Museum
 Muller House
 Point Fermin Lighthouse
 White Pont Nature Preserve



There was a big crowd at last year's Taste in San Pedro.

Waterfront/Red Car continued from page 1

adjacent to the Fire Boat Museum on the north and the Maritime Museum on the south, providing a spacious community gathering space.

However, the proposed Ralph J. Scott Fireboat Display Building, approximately two stories high, would occupy the center of the north plaza. It was felt that this structure was not optimally sited and would impede community-side views, as well as the possibility of this space serving as a grand community gathering space for special events.

The board asked Port staff to consider alternative orientations and locations in the immediate vicinity, although existing utilities, fire department access and parking lot impacts present significant challenges. The board asked the Port to make our "window to the water" more important than expansive surface parking lots.

The second topic on the agenda were the conclusions contained in the Port's Red Car Feasibility Study. The first priority developed in this report was a reconstruction of the existing system as a low-boarding system, extending from the Cruise Terminal Fountain south to 22nd Street, at a cost of \$26 million.

Some board members opposed the demolition of our existing station platforms and the replacement of the historic Pacific Red Car type with a more generic streetcar model. Raised platform boarding, it was noted, provides quicker and easier boarding for wheelchair users, parents with children and strollers in tow, and visitors with luggage. Furthermore, the existing stations themselves are iconic to San Pedro and interesting places in their own right.

The board asked the Port to refocus on making the Red Car Line an all-embracing waterfront feature, from Cabrillo Beach to the future Wilmington waterfront attractions, including the new buffer park along the Harry Bridges Boulevard and the proposed grand Banning's Landing Recreational and Industrial Park.

"Let's build upon what we have, as a sustainability feature, and spend public dollars to extend the system and maximize the benefits to the community and region as a whole," asked one board member.

"The Red Car Line could serve as a significant transportation connection all along the San Pedro Bay region, and not just a tourist toy," said another. A Downtown San Pedro street car system was supported, but as an independent loop with a smaller streetcar type for better fit within our compact urban environment.

Full board resolutions on these subjects can be found on our website. We hope that this whets your appetite for what is to come to San Pedro, and encourages you to participate in future Port workshops on these topics and Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council reactions and commentary.

San Pedro Medical Marijuana Centers Ordered to Close

439 medical marijuana centers have been notified that they must shut down by June 7 when a new city ordinance goes into effect. Violators could face six months in jail and a \$1,000 fine. They could also be penalized \$2,500 a day for remaining open. Approximately 130 dispensaries would remain.



The city council passed a moratorium on new dispensaries in 2007, those which have opened since then are to close. Six of these are in San Pedro, all within Central's District:

- Compassionate Caregivers of San Pedro, 410 S. Gaffey St.
- Magical Healing Herbs, 905 Pacific Ave.
- Natural Wellness Caregivers Group/Nature's Way Compassionate Group 1111 S. Pacific Ave.
- Pacoima Rehabilitative/PR Collective, 136 S. Gaffey St.
- Southern California Herbal Network, 600 S. Pacific Ave., #104
- The Cannaverse, 624 W. 9th St., #103

The ban was enacted when it was discovered there was no oversight of this new industry. No regulations had been established as to where they could be located or how the business operations were conducted. The closures are expected to be challenged in court.

Shore Power: Not for the Easily Shocked

Shore power, also known as Alternative Maritime Power (AMP) or cold ironing, is the new system of plugging in ships while docked (hotelling), turning off the auxiliary engines used to maintain operations, and running the ship's systems through landside electrical power.

This is currently in use at all major airports to save expensive jet fuel.

Why use shore power? Because it eliminates 95 percent of the toxic diesel particulates (soot), NOx, SOx and green house gasses that ships emit by running their own engines. Ships are often docked (or hotelled) for several days loading and unloading passengers and freight cargo, and all that soot blows directly into our community.

The drawback to shore power is that it only works for a small percentage of the ship's voyage. It does not work while the ship is arriving at or leaving the dock, in the turning basin, in the channel, or at sea. It only works with properly outfitted ships at properly outfitted docks, and only while the ship is stationary and plugged in.

This photo shows an AMPed ship docked at the China Shipping Terminal. The cord drops from the red container and plugs directly into the dock. NYK Lines are also outfitted with AMPing at the Yusen Terminal on Terminal Island. The NYK AMP system is located in the ship's tower.

AMPing at two POLA Cruise Terminal docks is scheduled to be ready in May/June, with a test run conducted prior to an official opening ceremony. The Port has just installed solar panels on the roof of the Cruise Terminal to provide power for this new AMP system. They are providing power back into the grid until the system comes online.

The POLA is at the cutting edge of shore powering technologies with plans to have 26 AMPed berths completed by the end of 2013. This includes 22 of the container berths, all three cruise terminal berths, and one tanker berth. We are especially looking forward to the cruise terminal's use of shore power—and the electrification of all the major shipping terminals in our district.

