

SAVE THE DATE!



The Point Loma Annual Dinner Spring Fling is May 19, 2009.

This is our major FUN and FUNdraiser event for the year, so get it on your new 2009 calendar now!

The Spring Fling will be held at the Marriott Courtyard Ballroom at Liberty Station, 2692 Laning Road.

The PLA is excited to welcome special guest speaker Noah Tafolla, who hosts the Wonderland series on KPBS. He will talk about Point Loma and air a video.

Doors open at 5:30; dinner begins at 7:00.

Plans are already underway for the Live Auction. To donate an item, contact Klone Kunzel at kunzel@cox.net. There will be no silent auction this year.

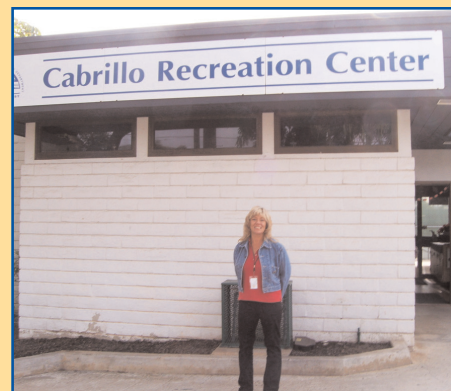
A Community Resource: The Cabrillo Recreation Center

With City budget cuts on everyone's minds, it's important to know what's in our own back yard. Near the corner of Rosecrans and Canon sits the Cabrillo Recreation Center, a small brick building surrounded by a basketball court, softball field, and tennis court.

Behind the humble walls is a force of nature called Ruby Houck, who has been the Center Director since March 2007. "It's not just my job, but my way of life," said Ruby in a recent interview.

The Cabrillo Recreation Center packs a lot of things into a small space. They offer morning and afternoon child care for 60 families in the community. Recreation Leader Walter Heyward (whom the kids call "Mr. Walter) keeps

the kids busy and makes sure they get to school on time. "We're here in the morning at 6:30 a.m. and when they



Ruby Houck in front of the Rec Center get out of school at 2:10," said Ruby. The center is also home to the Point Loma Community Park and Recreation Council, the Sunset Cliffs Recreation Council, Boy Scout meetings, Point Loma Nazarene cheerleading practices, and the Point Loma Little League board. In addition, the center is home to five adult softball leagues, a soccer league, and Pee Wee Sports. Before Ruby arrived, the Center was only open one night a week. Now, it's open five nights a week. "We try to be accommodating to community groups," said Ruby.

And she tries to accommodate the needs of the people using the center. Right after she started the job, Ruby immediately got the ball rolling to refurbish the basketball courts and tennis courts. "Everything was faded," said Ruby. She immediately replaced the nets on the tennis courts, repainted the hopscotch and four square lines on the blacktop and started the long process of raising the funds to resurface the basketball courts. They will be newly resurfaced in two months.

Ruby also spearheaded a fundraiser to resurface the tennis courts, which were uneven and full of cracks. She was proud of the fact that she received funding from many different sources – the Point Loma Cabrillo Tennis Club, the Point Loma Recreation Council, The Greater San Diego Tennis Association, and from City of San Diego funds. Cabrillo Elementary School helped replace the fence and wind screens. "I don't say, 'it can't be done,'" said Ruby. "When you see a need, you start raising money."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We hope everyone had a Happy Holiday Season! Are you ready to fulfill your New Year's resolutions? Your PLA has been busy planning events for the new year to fulfill our resolution of increasing membership!

The Annual Dinner Committee chaired by Dorothea Laub is finalizing our main fundraiser of the year. Save the date of May 19th for the 47th Annual Dinner!

Martha Phillips, Chair of the Point Loma Summer Concert Series, has met with her committee and will need volunteers to help plan for the 8th Annual Concert Series. The first concert is Friday, July 17. You can call Martha at (619) 523-3787 or e-mail mjpsandiego@aol.com.

A BIG "Thank you!" to Karen Davis who has worked tirelessly on the Hugh Story Memorial at Liberty Station. Karen is waiting for final Recreation Council approval this month, but the work on the garden has started and will be completed this year. Thank you to long time PLA member Dick Lareau for completing the design work on the Hugh Story Memorial!

Peninsula Chamber of Commerce President Matt Kalla continues to work with Councilman Kevin Faulconer and his staff on the PBID. Contact Matt at (619) 223-1629 if you are interested in helping make the PBID a reality.

"Thank you!" to Membership Chair Patti Adams and her committee for our new membership drive, and for reminding members to send in their renewal checks so they can continue to receive our newsletter. Our newsletter editor Kerri De Rosier from "Write it Right" continues to write and edit the newsletter each quarter. We thank her for all she does, including coordinating the art on the utility boxes.

As we start the new year in these difficult economic times, we want to thank the Board of Directors, Committee members and our many volunteers who help make our PLA one of the strongest civic associations in San Diego. We all need to ask our friends to join the PLA as we continue our mission to improve the quality of life in Point Loma.

"Think Membership!"

—Bill Klees, Chair

Garden Award



Moises Sanchez and his crew at Total Green Landscape were given a basket of edible goodies by the Mean Green Team to show their appreciation for the excellent landscaping services provided to PLA. This past year, at no cost to PLA, Total Green upgraded the irrigation and replanted our Tennyson Triangle work site. Additionally, they have been very responsive to PLA's requests to plant trees and replant flower planters.



The above picture is of the Tennyson Triangle, a project maintained by the Point Loma Association. Moises Sanchez and his Total Green Landscape staff upgraded the irrigation system, mulched, and added new iceberg roses, lavender and pentas — all at no cost to the PLA! Moises also indicated that his Total Green Landscape staff will maintain the site for one year. The PLA thanks Moises and his staff for all of their work on behalf of the community.

Do you want to serve your community?? Join the Point Loma Association Board of Directors! For more information, call PLA president Bill Klees at (619) 200-8200.

Continued from page 1

The tennis courts are now finished, and Ruby is ecstatic. "They are definitely Point Loma worthy," she said.

Then there are the things Ruby does that are not exactly in her job description, like negotiator. For example, Ruby was instrumental in creating a consensus between community groups and the Concert Series Committee. "The Concerts Committee depends on the Cabrillo Rec Center director and staff," said former Concert Series Chair Lee Lipsey. "We truly could not produce these events at Point Loma Park without their help. They assist us with the Ground Use Permit, maintain the park, prepare the field, set out the traffic and parking signs, and help us promote the events. Ruby's cheerful, capable leadership made it all come together seamlessly last summer."

"We've benefitted from Ruby's prior experience as a member of the Pacific Beach Town Council and a founder of Pacific Beach Concerts on the Green," continued Lee. "She knows what it takes to produce these events, and she shares our commitment to community service."

More recently, Ruby was on hand to see if the City could offer some storage space to the Concert Series Committee at the Soto Street storage shed. She met with the Mean Green Team to see what could be done. "Ruby is an integral and positive force in our Peninsula community," said Ron Brooks, Beautification Committee Chair. "Whatever volunteer job I'm involved with, I can expect that Ruby will show-up and lend a hand."

Ruby gets the community thing. Although she calls the Point Loma community her own, Ruby lives in Pacific Beach, where she recently was honored for her work as president of the Pacific Beach Town Council. She served on the council for six years. Ruby wants the kids of Point Loma to get the community thing. "I want to bring kids from all the schools in Point Loma here," she said. "Point Loma deserves its own Spring egg hunt ... and we're having cookies and milk with Santa – here – not only at Robb Field."

The Cabrillo Rec Center is the place to go to reserve park space at Point Loma Park and NTC Park. Call the center at (619) 531-1534 or fax your request to (619) 226-2438.

NOTE: Unfortunately, for Point Loma, City budget cuts have prompted Ruby's move to a new Park and Recreation assignment in January 2009. Her last day at Cabrillo as the Recreation Center Director was December 31. She will be missed.



Beautification update

Village Trees: The Mean Green Team received three Jacaranda trees from Drew Potocki, Urban Forester for the City of San Diego, and received permission to fund planting the trees.

Graffiti Strike Force: The Graffiti Strike Force appreciates everyone's help in removing graffiti in the community. We covered Graffiti Do's in the last newsletter. The don'ts are just as important!

- DO NOT paint over graffiti on traffic signs or other metal signs. These signs can often be cleaned with designated graffiti solvents.
- DO NOT mar traffic signs. If the graffiti paint does not come off from stop signs and other street signs with the usual solvents, call the city at (619) 527-7500 with the exact location of the sign. Leave your name and number for questions.
- DO NOT confront graffiti vandals. They may be armed and dangerous.
- DO NOT let graffiti on walls or any private surfaces remain. Effective abatement includes timely removal. Private graffiti removal professionals such as Graffiti Patrol (619-465-6625) are available, if necessary.
- If you find graffiti on utility boxes, public walls or sidewalks, call the Graffiti Control Hotline at (619) 525-8522 with the exact location and description. Leave your name and number for questions.

Thanks to team members who monitor the neighborhood for graffiti and remove it as it appears – Betty Allman, Dave Brown, Karen Davis and Cecilia Carrick.

Holiday Light Project: Thanks go to Dee Kettenburg for coordinating the effort to put new red holiday bows on the Nimitz median trees. Bob Sherman added lights and decorations on the Nimitz and North Harbor signs - and there was a lighted deer and tree added to the Nimitz sign site this year.

La Playa Trail Monument: Patti reported that the La Playa Trail Association is continuing efforts to resurrect the six original monuments that were initially placed in 1934 to mark this historically significant trail. Go to www.laplayatrail.org for additional information.

Dick Lareau continues developing drawings of proposed monuments to replace those that have been lost. New members are needed – especially business members.

Roses and Radishes: Bouquets go to Moises Sanchez and Total Green Landscape for the excellent job at the Tennyson Triangle, and to Point Loma Nazarene University for acknowledging the Beautification Committee at their Fall Festival.

The Mean Green Team meets every Friday at 9:00 a.m. The Beautification Committee's next meeting is at 8:00 a.m. on January 9, 2009. The committee meets at the San Diego Yacht Club Board Room. For the Mean Green Team Schedule or to place items on the Beautification Committee agenda, e-mail Ron Brooks at brooks1@cox.net.

The PLA in Pictures



Stan Nadel, Karen Davis, and Cecilia Carrick accept the Presidential Community Service Award to the Point Loma Association Beautification Committee from PLNU President Bob Brower. The award was given during the PLNU Fall Festival.



Martha Phillips works the PLA booth at the Community Fair in Liberty Station on September 13.



The Mean Green Team presents Moises Sanchez of Total Green Landscape with a gift of appreciation for all of his work on behalf of our community.



The succulent garden at the foot of the Famosa ramp



Bob Sherman gets the Point Loma Sign into the Christmas spirit!



Dee Kettenburg and Karen Davis thank Mean Green helper Jorge Ziramba for his work during the year.

Shelter Island and Oversized Vehicles

Walk along Shelter Island Drive, and what do you see? An endless line of RVs, trailers, semis – some that look lived in, others – abandoned. A few might as well have addresses posted on them, as they appear to have taken up permanent residence.



Currently, oversized vehicles are permitted on Shelter Island Drive for up to 72 hours. According to Officer Ken Franke with the Harbor Police, officers actively tag and

enforce the 72 hour limit on all vehicles. A common complaint is that some of the vehicles are occupied and that the balance of the vehicles are apparently being stored on the street. According to the law, a person is NOT prohibited from being in their vehicle while it is parked.



"Have I bored you with my oversized vehicle speech before?" joked Officer Franke, when asked about all of the oversized vehicles parked legally or otherwise along Shelter Island Drive.

He began by explaining a recent court decision that had a direct impact on enforcement efforts. "A person has the constitutional right to sleep, so laws we had previously used pertaining to the act of sleeping are now unenforceable." Additionally, there was no clear definition of what "camping overnight" was. The end result was that the laws pertaining to park use and camping had to be rewritten.

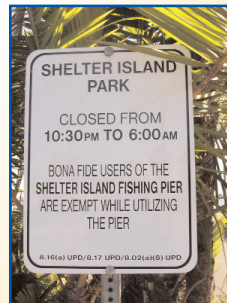
The community and the Port District have spent the past three years working to solve the problem of stored oversized vehicles on Shelter Island. "We made numerous phone calls to Point Loma residents who were storing vehicles and trailers on Shelter Island," said Franke. "One owner had five vehicles. There are even Orange County residents storing their vehicles on Shelter Island. ... On an average day, there are 40-50 motor homes or oversized vehicles along Shelter Island Drive."

As part of a community outreach effort, the Port District and Harbor Police have met with many area groups – the Point Loma Association, Point Loma Community Planning Group, the Port Tenants Association, sportfishing clubs, businesses – to solicit ideas for solving the problem. "It took us two weeks alone to walk Shelter Island Drive and meet with all of the businesses leaders," said Franke.

The possible solution? Based on community recommendations, the Port is proposing to limit parking for oversized vehicles to 25 parking lot stalls per day. The stalls will be distributed throughout the parking lots and street with consideration for the safe turning radius of the oversized vehicles. **Oversized vehicles would not be permitted to park overnight any longer.**

In addition, the Port is proposing to close Shelter Island Drive (the street only) to all parking between 3:00 a.m. to 4:30 a.m. – meaning that owners using Shelter Island Drive as a storage facility would have to move – permanently. Those using the marinas, fishing pier and hotels (etc.) could continue to park in the public parking as long as they did not "stay" in the lots between the hours of 10:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m.

"These ideas aren't driven by the Port, they're driven by the community," said Franke.



The 10:30 p.m. to 6:00 a.m. parking lot restriction was the result of another Port Commission victory about 18 months ago. Three years ago, there were increased complaints of drug use, thefts, weapons violations, and alcohol-related crimes in the parking lots along Shelter Island Drive. In response to community concern, the

Port Commission expanded the definition of Shelter Island Park to include the parking lots and grassy areas. People are now prohibited from "staying" in the parking lots between 10:30 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. "After we put that into place, we saw a substantial drop in criminal activity," said Franke.

The public has two opportunities to review the Port's proposed solutions to limiting oversized vehicles:

- At the regular Point Loma Association meeting on Wednesday, January 14, 7:30 a.m. at the Bali Ha'i, or
- On Tuesday, January 20, 6:00 p.m. at the Bali Ha'i.

Bali Ha'i is located at:
2230 Shelter Island Drive

Many thanks to Officer Ken Franke for his time and effort in ensuring the accuracy of this article.

Around town...Happenings in Point Loma

Pomodoro Ristorante Italiano opens at Former Luna Notte site

Co-owner Antonino Mastellone is serving the “Best of Italy” at Pomodoro, which opened mid-November at the former Luna Notte location. The restaurant is open for lunch and dinner, and Mastellone hopes to begin serving brunch on the weekends.

Mastellone is no stranger to the restaurant business. He co-owns Arrivaderchi in Hillcrest, which opened in 1995, and is 50% owner of Buon Appetito in Little Italy. He also co-owns Osteria Romantica with Fabio Speziali in La Jolla Shores.

Asked about his hopes for Pomodoro, Mastellone said, “I wanted to bring some good Italian food to Point Loma. ... I like the small spaces, it’s an intimate and cozy restaurant. ... We offer good food at a reasonable price.”

Pomodoro, located at 2833 Avenida de Portugal, is open for lunch from 11:30 - 2:30. They re-open for dinner at 5:00.

Update: The Wharf at Point Loma and North Harbor Drive realignment

Phase I of The Wharf project is complete, with Fraser Yachts open, and boats in the water at the Marina.

The N. Harbor Drive realignment and parking structure proposal went before the Port on October 7, where they

were both approved. According to George Folgner, Project Manager for Point Loma Marina, the company is in the process of getting Coastal Development Permits and negotiating lease terms for the parking structure. Construction on the parking structure is expected to begin in Fall 2009.

NTC Update

Here’s a quick update from Ron Brooks:

- BAE Systems will be the last major new construction planned for the office district.
- The Tin Fish Restaurant is open for dining, and Corvette Diner is planned to open in summer of 2009.
- Phase II of NTC Park is progressing and should be complete next summer or fall.
- The Harbor Drive bridge is being retrofitted for earthquake safety.
- The Navy continues to hold the title to the boat channel.

Thanks to Peet’s Coffee and Von’s for providing discounts for cookies and coffee at the Town Hall forum!

From our City leaders

San Diego Clean Generation Program

On December 5, Mayor Jerry Sanders unveiled a major initiative to make solar power more accessible to residents and businesses.

The program stems from the July passage of Assembly Bill 811, which allows municipal governments to provide financing to property owners for renewable-energy installations and energy-efficiency retrofits.

Property owners within the city who participate will be provided up front financing to install solar or other renewable energy-generating devices. Participants agree to be part of an assessment district and will pay for the cost of the improvements, plus interest, over a 20-year period on

their property tax bill. The obligation to pay the assessment will transfer to the new owner if the property is sold during the 20-year repayment period.

The San Diego Clean Generation program removes two of the primary barriers to installing solar panels: the upfront cost – typically about \$25,000 – as well as the concern that the customer will move before the investment pays off through utility bill savings.

The expected cost to participants of approximately \$150 per month will be substantially offset by utility bill savings. In addition, all state and federal tax credits and rebates for solar installations will apply.

By next fall, the city should be ready to enroll several hundred participants in a pilot program.

Sign up for e-mail blasts from the Mayor

Just go to www.sandiego.gov/mayor/ and enter your e-mail address under “Sign up for E-Updates.”

What are your budget priorities?

Councilman Kevin Faulconer voted to keep the Ocean Beach Library and Cabrillo Recreation Center open during the tough budget cut negotiations last month. What are your priorities? E-mail Councilman Faulconer at kevinfaulconer@sandiego.gov and let him know!

Guest Editorial: Protecting Our Neighborhood Services



By Councilmember Kevin Faulconer

The Cabrillo Recreation Center will celebrate its 30th anniversary next year. While our neighborhood has changed over the decades, the center has been and continues to be a constant in Point Loma. Portuguese and Italian fisherman of the 1970s played soccer on the same fields that families use today.

In November, the Cabrillo Recreation Center, the Ocean Beach Library and other community facilities were proposed to be closed as part of the midyear budget cuts. I knew I needed to find a way to keep them open in a fiscally responsible way. This is why I supported the independent budget analyst's proposal to keep the libraries and recreation centers open and fire engines operational.

I believe the Council needs to address both a short-term and long-term solution for the city's budget deficit. The short-term solution I voted for kept the recreation centers, libraries and the fire engines operational. With the limited time we had and the information available, it was the best decision for the short term. It will close the budget deficit while providing more time to determine what will be best for taxpayers and for the financial stability of the city in the long term.

The long-term solution must be to not immediately place recreation centers and libraries on the chopping block every time the city has a budget deficit.

For next year, the Council must first look to City Hall for reductions and ways to eliminate costs. There is no reason to close services our families rely on when the city has not yet even looked at enacting at least a one-week mandatory furlough in the next year. This is just one example of what I will support to balance the city's budget.

Second, we need to review city services like the library and recreation centers. For example, why was the Ocean Beach Library on the proposed "to be closed" list but is also on the proposed "to expand" list? We need a cohesive plan that serves all of the communities.

Additionally, it is critical that the Council maintain public safety services. We must develop a long term-plan and standard for fire and police that assures the public safety standards are met before I could support a proposal to enact rolling brown-outs, which keep two fire engines and companies out of commission on a rotational basis. This would have slowed response times to emergencies where one minute can literally mean the difference between life and death.

Fire stations in Downtown, the Gaslamp Quarter, Pacific Beach and Sports Arena area are some of the busiest stations and are all located in the center of people, businesses, buildings and high-rises.

I will advocate for more community dialogue and input as we work through this challenging period. These are our tax dollars. Some communities may not use certain city services while other communities may heavily rely on those same services. We need to do what is possible to determine the best ways to balance the budget.

As we go into this tough budget year, I am committed to working with our community to balance the budget in a way that is best for our community and the city as we work to protect our neighborhoods and restore the city's financial stability.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Point Loma Association meetings – 2nd Wednesday of every month, 7:30 a.m., Bali Ha'i, 2230 Shelter Island Drive. Come find out what the PLA is up to! Winter meeting dates are January 14, February 11, and March 11.

Point Loma Association Membership meetings – First Friday of each month at 2:15 p.m., except in January, when the meeting will be held on January 9. Meetings located at the Point Loma Community Bank conference room, 1350 Rosecrans Street. For information, call Patti Adams, chair, at (619) 887-9313.

Point Loma Association Beautification meetings – First Tuesday of each month, 8:00 a.m. at the San Diego Yacht Club. Winter dates are January 6, February 10, and March 10. For information, call Ron Brooks, chair, at (619) 224-9912.

The **Point Loma Garden Club** has meetings and workshops at the UPSES Hall on the second Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. For more information, go to www.plgc.org.

1st Saturday and 3rd Sunday of each month, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. – Point Loma Native Plant Reserve work parties
Volunteers are needed to help water and care for this unique public park.

Located on the corner of Mendocino Blvd. and Greene St. For information, e-mail Richard Dhu at richard@sandiegoriver.org or call (619) 297-7380.

OASIS Classes at the Library
The History and Geopolitics of Oil in the Middle East and Beyond
Wednesday January 14, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Antioxidants to the Rescue
Wednesday, February 11, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Rose Stanfill Thomas, Licensed Acupuncturist, Herbal Expert and Nutritional Counselor, explores the cardiovascular system, the brain, skin, eye and liver health, and discusses key antioxidants and supporting nutrients.

Women in Islam – Wednesday, February 25, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Ghada Osman, PhD, Associate Professor, Islamic & Arabic Studies discusses the position of women in the Quran, and examines the role of women in several Muslim countries today.

For arts-related events at the Library, see the enclosed Peninsula Arts Calendar.

Save The Date for the PLA Annual Dinner! Tuesday, May 19, 2009.

Peninsula Community Planning Board

Meets third Thursday, 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.
Pt. Loma Library
3701 Voltaire Street

Ocean Beach Town Council

Meets monthly on fourth Wednesday, 7:00 p.m.
Masonic Center
1711 Sunset Cliffs Blvd.
Jim Musgrove,
jimmusgrove@mac.com

Midway Planning Advisory Committee

Meets second Wednesday 2:00 p.m.
Peninsula Community Service Center
3740 Sports Arena Blvd.

La Playa Trail Association

Meets second Tuesday, 2:30 p.m.
Peninsula Community Service Center
3740 Sports Arena Blvd.
Charles Best, 223-3418



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Who We Are

Point Loma Association was organized in 1961. Originally called “Point Loma Village Beautiful,” we were primarily concerned with the aesthetics of the Village.

Today, in addition to beautifying the Peninsula, PLA represents the community through direct involvement with agencies of federal, state and local governments, the Port District, the San Diego Unified School District, the Peninsula Community Planning Board, and others who directly affect our quality of life.

PLA Membership consists of residents and local businesses working together. We donate time, effort and money to make the Peninsula a better place in which to live and work. Annual Membership is \$30. We appreciate donations at additional support levels: \$1,000 Platinum, \$500 Gold, \$250 Silver, and \$100 Bronze. Our membership year is July 1 through June 30. To request a membership brochure, please call Patti Adams at (619) 887-9313, or go to our web site at www.PLAweb.org and click on “Join the PLA.”

Our Mission:

PLA is an organization of residents and local businesses committed to improving the quality of life in Point Loma through beautification, education, charitable activities and civic collaboration.