



**WEST  
END  
NEIGHBORS**

# WEST END NEWS

www.westendneighbors-longbeach.org

February 2009

## Calendar of Events

**February 25<sup>th</sup> —  
West End Neighbors  
Meeting,  
NEW LOCATION:  
People's Church  
(Delaware & W Park  
Ave), 7:00pm**

**February 26<sup>th</sup> — Zoning  
Board Meeting. - 7:00pm**

**March 3<sup>rd</sup> — City Council  
Meeting - 7:00pm**

**March 17<sup>rd</sup> — City Council  
Meeting - 7:00pm**

## Reminders...

Safety and quality of life is what it's all about folks. With that in mind, our Police force is ready, willing and able to respond to any and calls. If you feel it's necessary, make the call:

**Non-Emergency  
Number: 431-1800**

In consideration of your neighbors, kindly remember to curb your pets at all times...remember, Courtesy is Contagious!

## *Letter from the President...*

Hello Neighbors,

Brrrr!!! Man it's cold out! At least we can look to those summer days and our beautiful beaches that lie ahead. Congratulations to those who came out of winter hibernation to partake in the Annual Polar Bear Plunge...truly a great success for the cause.

It's been awhile since I've spoken to you, but I assure you, WENCA has not been "hibernating". Maria (VP) and I recently met with City Manager Charles Theofan to discuss various projects that will affect our West End Neighborhood.

First, some great news! Our brand new library branch is almost completed, with an opening date scheduled on or around the first of March. Many thanks to the Palmerie Family for their dedication and civic pride in bringing this very important social tool to fruition. I would be remiss not to extend thanks to our Library Board members that listened to our request and recognized the importance of such a valuable learning tool for young and old alike. Remember, the best way to show your appreciation for the efforts put forth is to utilize the branch to its fullest.

Next, thanks to the efforts of Assistant City Manager Lisa

Hirsch, City Council President Tom Sofield Jr., Community Development Director Laurie Buscemi and others, the Georgia Avenue Playground will be getting a Spray Park. Although it's tough to think about frolicking in a sprinkler right now (remember those days ahead), I'm sure this is refreshing news to the little ones and their parents that enjoy the use of the playground.

We were also informed that the remainder of our beach entrances will be renovated on or close to the opening of the season. This was especially good news as we have been pushing this project as a priority issue.

As many of you have read or heard about, the City is determined to address the issue of illegal rentals throughout Long Beach. Mr. Theofan informed us that a letter will be forthcoming outlining his strategy and enforcement plan. We believe that by addressing this issue head-on there will be several benefits for the City and specifically for the West End. Perhaps the biggest impact will be on our parking quandary... fewer cars equal more available spaces.

A letter from City Hall will also be forthcoming to West End

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residents regarding commercial vehicle parking. The plan will prevent commercial vehicles from parking on any residential street at any time of day; another measure that will help to alleviate our number one problem (every survey says so).

In other news updates: the latest information regarding the Connecticut Avenue property is that negotiations are ongoing with a serious potential buyer. The City feels a deal could be brokered in the near future that would include two retail storefronts and a dental office. A major benefit to the West End Neighborhood would be the use of the parking lot after business hours. In addition, the funds the City had originally allocated (from Senator Skelos' office) for the purchase of this property can now be used for acquisition of additional property for parking.

Finally, I want everyone to know that we (WENCA) have put City Hall and the City Council "on notice". Our working relationship with them has garnered assurances that projects such as enhancing street intersections will be completed. But the clock is ticking. The people in City Hall and on the City Council have openly listened to our requests and we have every reason to believe they will deliver (they better...or I could be out of a job).

Please make an effort to come to our next meeting. The only way to make a difference is to know the facts and then voice your opinion.

Take Care,  
Rick

**BLOCK CAPTAINS NEEDED**

Here is a big Thank You to all who have stepped up and volunteered to be Block Captains. Many of you have been so generous as to offer to help with the blocks that did not have anyone. It is greatly appreciated. Here are a few blocks that are still in need to help distribute the newsletter on their block and to keep an eye and ear open for anything that should be brought to the attention of West End Neighbors.

KENTUCKY

LOUISIANA

VERMONT

OREGON

ARIZONA

NEBRASKA

NEW YORK

ILLINOIS

CONNECTICUT

INDIANA

If you are interested in being a BLOCK CAPTAIN please e-mail us at [www.westendneighbors-longbeach.org](http://www.westendneighbors-longbeach.org) or you may contact Maria Fitzgerald at 917-913-8703. Any questions please call. Your neighbors thank you & WEST END NEIGHBORS CIVIC ASSOC thanks you

**2009 Membership Form**

Mail to West End Neighbors Civic Association

248 West Park Avenue Suite 350, Long Beach, NY 11561

\*Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Seniors \$10.00 per year. Family \$20.00 per year

\* Required for mailings

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