Another summer has come to a close and I’d like to take a moment to reflect and highlight some of the Commission’s summer accomplishments, and the programs and events we supported. They included establishing a new six-month strategic plan and attending several events in the community to connect and understand community needs. The Commission initiated a Door-to-Door walking tour in Districts 1, 3, and 5 to interact with our neighbors and share our mission and goals. We provided support and made recommendations to the City Council on affordable housing projects.

Many community programs and events were held at Villa-Parke and Robinson Park that served our community under the direction of the City of Pasadena’s Human Services and Recreation Department dedicated team.

The summer started off with a newly developed “Afterschool Adventures Program” structured for boys and girls ages 5 to 14. The program helped them to begin to explore the unknown and think the unthinkable. Then the City’s program activities ramped up with the well-attended “Parks after Dark” from July 9 through August 16 where our youth and young adults built camaraderie by participating in basketball, swimming, Zumba dance, co-ed softball, ice cream social and movies in the park.

The City and Commission supported a number of Summer Special Events including the Juneteenth Festival, Marcus Robertson and Chad Brown Youth Football Camp and the 26th Annual Michael Bryant Free Hair Cut Day.

The summer of 2014 was a success for the NWC in engaging the community and supporting quality community program opportunities. We all appreciate the dedicated services of our Human Services and Recreation Department staff and management. We are committed to making a positive difference in the Northwest and we will continue to provide high quality, innovative and collaborative programming for our community to share and enjoy.

- Craig Washington
The County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works (Public Works) is in the process of planning the Devil’s Gate Reservoir Sediment Removal and Management Project which will remove sediment from behind Devil’s Gate Dam to enhance its flood protection capabilities.

The draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project is expected to be completed in November 2014. Project construction is expected to start in the fall of 2015 and finish in the fall of 2020.

While this EIR process is underway, Public Works is continuing to implement interim measures similar to the previous project that was completed in the summer/fall of 2013. The goal is to reduce the potential impact of debris on flood control operations during the upcoming storm seasons until the major sediment removal project is implemented.

This year, work on the interim measures will begin as early as October 6, 2014 and is expected to be completed within one month. The project work area is highlighted in red. Riding and hiking paths within the reservoir will remain open, except for brief closures to move equipment and materials along the roadway.

Public Works will remove approximately 5,000 cubic yards of sediment. The City of Pasadena is allowing sediment to again be temporarily placed at Johnson Field. Green waste (dead tree branches and other vegetative matter) will also be removed from the area immediately in front of the dam. The green waste will be hauled to Scholl Canyon Landfill at a rate of no more than 10 trucks per day to avoid impacts to the neighborhood along the haul route on Windsor Avenue.

Public Works has obtained all of the necessary permits and has received clearance from our biologist, who will oversee work activities. No live trees will be removed during this operation.

For continuing updates on the status of these projects, please visit www.LASedimentManagement.com/DevilsGate or contact Steve Sheridan, of Public Works’ Flood Maintenance Division – East Area Office at (626) 445-7630.
Reality Party for Parents will be held on Saturday, September 13 in Pasadena. The event will raise awareness among parents about the seriousness of underage drinking, binge drinking, and drug culture at teen house parties that are a dangerous and growing concern impacting the safety of youth in our community. Tours are every half hour between 3:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. Registration is required. The event will be held at a local residence in Pasadena. Address will be given when a tour time is reserved. Event is free and open to the public. Adults only. Registration Link: www.straightupvc.org/register. The event will give parents an eye-opening opportunity to learn more about the current realities of underage drinking parties and how to help change these dangerous social norms. Parents will take a 30 minute tour through a ‘party’ in a local residence and then participate in a 30-minute debrief and facilitated discussion. Youth actors and local teens will depict drug and alcohol use, as well as dangerous behavior typically present at a local party.

PPD CHIEF SANCHEZ VISITS NORTH-WEST, SERVES FOOD TO COMMUNITY AT JRC

Community members were pleased to see PPD Chief Philip Sanchez on the serving side of the buffet line this month at the regular Wednesday night community meal at Jackie Robinson Center. Wearing gloves and a hair-net, the Chief served generous portions of macaroni and cheese to a hungry community.

Chief Sanchez shared additional information at the event. “Most people don’t know the Pasadena Police Department website has tab labeled FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) that provide a broad-range of information from what to do about a parking citation to the formal process involved with personnel complaints and employees’ use of force. FAQ is divided into sections to aid the viewer in finding the information they desire quickly.”

You can receive trusted and real-time public safety alerts from the police and fire departments by signing-up for “NIXLE.” Users can sign up for the Pasadena/Altadena area by texting their zip code on their smart phone to 888-777, or by signing up on-line at www.nixle.com. Users can choose the type of messages they want to receive (alerts verses community event notifications), method (by cellphone text or e-mail) and they can select to receive information for any city across the United States if they desire alerts for other regions where family members live. It is a Nation-wide highly recommended service.

The Pasadena Police Department encourages everyone to take an active role in promoting a safer community through engagement with See Something, Say Something. This nationwide campaign raises awareness of indicators of terrorism and crime prevention thorough reporting of suspicious activity. Emergency call to 9-1-1, non-emergency calls to (626) 744-4241.
Opened in October 1989, the Alkebu-lan Cultural Center has been serving Pasadena residents for 26 years at 1435 North Raymond Avenue in the Northwest.

Current Center Director Diane XXXXX was first a board member and community activist. An educator at LAUSD for 33 years and a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, she first came to the Center 11 years ago and restructured the Center’s library and created a new board.

“The Center was about to be closed,” she says. “I was scared. Lord, what if I can’t do this?” She used her considerable experience as an educational leader and her organizational skills and navigated and mobilized the City resources.

The Alkebu-lan Center’s mission is to provide knowledge and awareness of African and African-American heritage through culturally informed educational activities which nurture individual abilities and build confidence in academic, social and artistic achievement.

The Center has a vision to create an empowered community, which incorporates the knowledge and appreciation of African and African American history, heritage and cultures to live productive and successful lives.

The Center is open daily from 10 am to 8 pm. Programs offered include dance, ballet, jazz dance, African drumming, education classes and workshops stressing African culture, people (African American), yoga, martial arts classes, Thursday jazz nights. The library is free to the community. Movies about black history and a summer day care program are also offered. Partnering with the La Pintoresca Teen Center, math and science workshops are provided.

Upcoming calendared items include a discussion about Tupac Shakur. Neighbors can rent space for events: baby showers, memorial services, birthday parties and wedding receptions for a nominal fee. Diane hopes to partner with other organizations to renovate the basement; add programs and workshops for women; and reinstate the boy’s choir.

For more information please contact the Center at 626.794.9570.
CITYWIDE SUCCESS FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Pasadena celebrated "National Night Out" on Tuesday August 5, 2014. This is the 31st anniversary for the nationwide program that helps get neighbors and friends together to talk about crime prevention, encourage neighborhood camaraderie, and instill police-community partnerships.

*Pasadena celebra "National Night Out" martes, 05 de agosto de 2014. Este es el 31 aniversario del programa a nivel nacional que ayuda a los vecinos y amigos para hablar de prevención del delito, estimular la camaradería de barrio e inculcar las alianzas de la policía y la comunidad.*

USS Pasadena, a nuclear powered submarine, is now home ported in San Diego. Through the Navy League and the USS Pasadena Foundation, a close relationship has been forged to support the crew and their families.

The Foundation is organizing a tour of the City of Pasadena for the crew and is asking for **volunteers to provide a two-night homestay, September 5th & 6th. Are you willing to open your home to two people from the USS Pasadena?** During their visit they will participate in a number of activities, including a tour of a float construction facility, the Rose Bowl, and a chance to play a flag football game on the field of the Rose Bowl! If you are interested in hosting, please contact Bill Creedon at 626 840-9682 or Vance Weisbruch at 626 233-5207. This is not a City Sponsored effort, but a great opportunity to show our armed forces Pasadena supports them.
This fall Northwest Pasadena residents Matt and Eva Webb and their three young children will climb aboard their school bus RV and begin their journey crisscrossing the US for a year, making a documentary film about kids in all 50 states who are doing remarkable things to try to change the world. Along the way they’ll be working with social entrepreneur business mentors to help increase the impact of these kids’ projects. The project is titled, “One Year Road Trip: Generation of Generosity.”

“Children have the potential to change the trajectory of our world, but this potential is often overlooked,” says Matt Webb, the father of this road-tripping family. “But we are committed to activating and highlighting that potential in kids across America.”

The Webbs believe children have untapped creative ideas for addressing some of the most challenging social issues we face today.

Some of the dozens of young change-makers the family will be interviewing include:

- **Jack Andraka** www.jackandraka.net, a young inventor-scientist-philanthropist who, at the age of 15 invented a simple test that detects pancreatic cancer at its earliest stages for about $.03 per test.

- **Lexi Kelley** founded Kids Helping Kids www.kidshelpingkidsct.org, an organization that develops leadership skills through youth-led service projects

- **Joshua Williams**, who at five years old started Joshua’s Heart Foundation www.joshuasheart.org, and has distributed over 650,000 pounds of food to those in need.

One Year Road Trip is currently fundraising for the documentary, which is the research and development phase for the larger mission of driving a Generation of Generosity, and will begin travel and production in late August. Upon their return to Pasadena in October 2015, their mission is to create events that use the child development study and social entrepreneurial leadership strategies to provide experiences for kids, parents, educators, community developers and local leaders to all come together and brainstorm creative responses to various challenges facing local and global communities.

To learn more and make a tax-deductible contribution to the One Year Road Trip project, visit www.oneyearroadtrip.com; One Year Road Trip is a documentary film that follows the Webb family as they crisscross the US interviewing young change-makers in all 50 states.

For more information contact Matt Webb at 626-616-4208 or info@oneyearroadtrip.com.
MICHAEL BRYANT FREE HAIR CUT DAY AUGUST 17

August 17—Robinson Park Recreation Center hosted the 26th Annual Michael Bryant Free Hair Cut Day. The event was co-sponsored by the Pasadena Police Department, the NW Commission, Women in Action and the Human Services and Recreation Department. Participating youths received a free backpack with school supplies and a free hair cut for boys and styling for girls.

Photos courtesy of Lola Osborne, Northwest Manager, City of Pasadena
The City of Pasadena is dedicated to delivering exemplary municipal services, responsive to our entire community and consistent with our history, culture and unique character.

Northwest Commission meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at the Jackie Robinson Center Auditorium, at 6:30 pm. The address is 1020 North Fair Oaks Avenue, Pasadena, 91103.

Bilingual translation will be provided upon request within 24 hours of the meeting: call (626) 744-4371 (TDD) at least 24 hours in advance.

A petición se proporcionará traducción bilingüe dentro de 24 horas después de la reunión: llame al (626) 744-4371 (TDD) al 24 horas por adelantado.