

Long Beach Day Nursery News

Since 1912 • Published for the friends and staff of Long Beach Day Nursery • Fall 2002

Patrice Wong Takes the Lead As New Executive Director

The Long Beach Day Nursery proudly announces the appointment of Ms. Patrice (Pat) Wong as its new Executive Director.

Before joining LBDN, Pat was the Director, Workforce and Training Division, at the Valley Economic Development Center (VEDC), and has over 10 years experience in community economic development, particularly in the fields of business assistance, access to capital, and workforce development. Prior to joining VEDC, Pat was a Community Builder Fellow with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, one of 400 fellows selected from over 9,000 applicants to participate in this two-year program.

“It is both a privilege and a pleasure to join the LBDN family,” said Pat. “I am very excited to be a part of an agency that has provided quality child care and early childhood education to children and families for almost a century, and I look forward to maintaining this important historical role as we move through the new century. As a working mother myself, I know first hand just how critical the need is for affordable, high quality child care in today’s economic envi-

ronment. LBDN remains committed to meeting this need and providing quality, early care and education for young children of working parents – a mission that has not changed since its original founding in 1912. We have a great team –including our teachers, support staff, program staff, and administrative staff, not to mention our Board of Directors – and together we will continue this distinguished tradition of commitment and service to the Long Beach community.”

Pat is a graduate of Occidental College and received her MBA from the University of Southern California. As part of her HUD fellowship, Pat also completed an Executive Education program in Public Policy Management at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Pat currently sits on the board of directors for the Los Angeles Community Design Center and is a member of the economic development committee of the California Reinvestment Committee. She is a past member of the board of directors of the Long Beach Housing Development Corporation, Western Region Asian Pacific Family Services, California Resources and



Executive Director Pat Wong.

Training, and the Asian Pacific Revolving Loan Fund of Los Angeles. She is the mother of Sara, a toddler at LBDN’s East Branch.

Please welcome Pat to the Long Beach Day Nursery! 🎉

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President's Message



I would like to begin by thanking two very dedicated LBDN board members, Donita Van Horik and Kathleen Costello-Pitts. They spent many, many hours and did a truly outstanding job running LBDN as Interim Co-Executive Directors. We owe them a large debt of gratitude.

Donita, Kathleen, and I have worked very closely with our senior staff in the last few months. During this time, I have gained tremendous respect for our employees' knowledge of their jobs and dedication to our mission. We have a great group of people! We used a "team approach" to create the Fiscal 2002-2003 budget. In the process of preparing the budget, everyone achieved a better understanding of the

others' roles and respect for their expertise. Thank you to Program Director Amy Bigelow; Center Directors Linda Blackshire, Carolynn Douglas and Maria Corona; Finance Director Chris Francisco; Human Resources Director Enrique Hernandez; and the rest of the staff for their hard work and commitment to LBDN.

One of the Board's major goals is to improve benefits for our staff. This spring, we restored the professional education incentive program and provided a four percent salary increase to Center Directors, teachers, housekeepers and cooks. Beginning in October 2002, we will provide dental insurance to all our employees, at no cost to the employee. This is a good start, and we hope to be able to continue to improve benefits as financial considerations allow.

Remodeling of the West Branch bathrooms is underway and playground renovation will begin soon, thanks to community and corporate donors. Our family picnic August 24 at Heartwell Park was a great event to help celebrate our 90th anniversary and to enjoy the day with our staff, students, and their families.

I believe we have made some excellent strides already this year, and I look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead. These are challenging times for all nonprofit organizations, but providing high quality early care and education to children of working parents is the most important cause I know. With the help of the Long Beach Day Nursery family of staff, volunteers, donors, and friends, we look forward to the next 90 years of service to the children of Long Beach.

Carolyn Bixby • Board President, 2002-03

25 LBDN Employees Mark Five or More Years of Service

This year, 25 employees of the Long Beach Day Nursery are celebrating employment anniversaries of five years or more. Two employees are, in fact, celebrating over 25 years of service: Penni-Jo Laking (25 years) and Louise Spurling (28 years). Congratulations to all!

OVER 5 YEARS OVER 10 YEARS OVER 25 YEARS

- | | | | |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Alicia Barragan | Liz Jenkins | Amy Bigelow | Penni-Jo Laking |
| Carolyn Brooks | Linda Marsh | Linda Blackshire | Louise Spurling |
| Socorro Castellanos | Deborah Mingo | Margie Layton | |
| Maria Corona | Zulma Orellana | Deborah Napoleon- | |
| Rita Feazell | Dianna Pyland | Holifield | |
| Yvette Fletcher | Rita Rahman | Carmen Nunez | |
| Delmy Garibay | Editha Reapor | Rosa Taosoga | |
| Alicia Guevara | London Watts | Delia Thomas | |



New Program Director - Amy Bigelow



Above: Amy reads one of her favorite stories to children at the East Branch.

Amy Bigelow has been serving as the new Program Director for the past several months, but while this is a new position for her, Amy is a veteran employee with LBDN. Amy joined the Nursery 13 years ago and has experience working at each of the branches, which she feels is very helpful in understanding her new role.

As part of her responsibilities, Amy is involved with developing curricula for all three branches, assists with the hiring of new staff, provides staff training, and helps the staff renew or obtain their child development permits. Amy also works very closely with the Nutrition Services Division of the California Department of Education, which provides subsidies for meals, and the Child Development Division, which subsidizes the cost of tuition for families who qualify.

“Our philosophy is a ‘back-to-basics’ approach that focuses on providing the best foundation for our children as we prepare them to enter Kindergarten,” says Amy.

“The environment here at LBDN is very home-like and hands-on – more hugs and personal attention are given – as we strive to build a strong partnership with our parents who trust in the care and nurturing we provide.”

Part of what makes the LBDN unique is its Early Intervention and Early Literacy programs. These programs provide resources for parents and for children who may require more individualized attention.



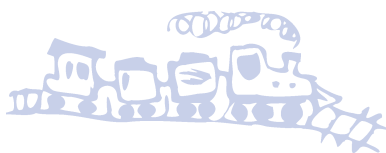
Above: East branch children share their craft-making talents with Amy.

Right: Executive Director Pat Wong (left) and West's Center Director Linda Blackshire relax at the annual family picnic.



Left: Over 300 LBDN children and parents attended the annual family picnic at Heartwell Park.

Below: Two small guests enjoy a ride to the picnic.



Long Beach Day Nursery - Gallery of Donors

A Special Thank You to All of Our Donors!

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We apologize for any omissions in our listing. If you feel your name has been left out, please contact us at 562.591.0509. Thank you.

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Jimmie Nutter

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TO SUCCESS**

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OR ORGANIZATION**

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Altha Fry Trust
Atlas Family Foundation
BP-Amoco
Baker Child Development Center
Bank of America Foundation
Bess Hodges Foundation
Boeing Corporation
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Burlington Northern Santa Fe Foundation
California Community Foundation
Catholic Healthcare West
Dameron Family Foundation
Disneyland Cast Fund
EarthTech
Eastern Meats
Edison International Employees

El Dorado Women's Club
Elizabeth Janeway Foundation
Farmers & Merchants Bank
Galasso's Bakery
Josephine S. Gumbiner Foundation
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John Porter Trust
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Kiwanis of Long Beach
Knight Foundation
Long Beach Emblem Club
Los Angeles Zoo
Miller Foundation
Noah's Bagels
Norris Foundation
PacifiCare Foundation
Palm Desert Gyro Club
Pete's Pizza
Piazza McDonald's
Quiznos
RK Properties
Rick Rackers
Rotary Charitable Foundation
Sandlarks
Sorowitz-Morse Charitable Trust
South Bay Foods
Thelma Pearl Howard Foundation
Tree People
TRW Employees
Union Pacific Foundation
United Way of Greater Los Angeles
Valentino's Pizza
J.B. & Emily Van Nuys Charities
Washington Mutual Foundation



L to R: Board Member Kathleen Costello-Pitts and Board President Carolyn Bixby accept a check for \$5,000 from Union Pacific Foundation Special Representative Wayne K. Horiuchi.

Deukmejian, Gumbiner, Westlund to Lead 2002-03 'Stepping Stones' Campaign

LBND Board Members Gloria Deukmejian, Judy Gumbiner and Meg Westlund will lead this year's 'Stepping Stones to Success Scholarship Campaign' with a goal of raising \$100,000 for the program. The 'Stepping Stones' campaign was established in 1992 to provide scholarships for child care to low-income working families.

"We are always seeking to increase the number of scholarships that are available for children to attend the Nursery but don't have the funds to do so," said Meg Westlund, co-chair of the campaign. "'Stepping Stones' helps to augment the State funds we receive and in turn, we are able to help out where it is needed."

Branch Updates:

MEMORIAL

Maria Corona has been with the Memorial Branch since 1994, and has served as its Center Director since 1999. Memorial Branch is currently getting ready for reaccreditation with the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), which takes place every three years. Memorial has a total of eight classrooms and just opened another classroom this past March.

Maria makes a point to observe every classroom each day, and communicates with her teachers and staff so that she is aware of any concerns or problems that may arise. After 25 years in the child care field, Maria has a big attachment to her kids at the Center and looks forward to periodic visits from former students.

WEST

Remodeling of the West Branch bathrooms is underway and playground renovation will begin soon, thanks largely to funds from community and corporate donors. The bathrooms are being completely remodeled and will include new paint, tile, toilets, sinks, lighting fixtures and doorways. The playground renovation will start as soon as the bathrooms are completed, and will include new surfacing, equipment, a smaller contained sandbox, and an herb and butterfly garden.

Linda Blackshire has served as the Center Director for the West Branch since February 2000 and has been a teacher for over 10 years. One of her goals is to get the community and neighborhood surrounding the Center more involved with the Nursery. With the commitment she has from her teaching staff of 13, Linda is sure to succeed.

EAST

With the renovation complete, East Branch proudly announces the appointment ofCarolynn Douglas as its new Center Director. Carolynn has served in this capacity since mid-July, but is not a stranger to the Long Beach Day Nursery. With a brief absence last year, Carolynn returned earlier this year and will soon be celebrating her eighth anniversary with LBDN.

3 p.m. This feature ensures the safety of the children and staff, as well as alerts staff to unfamiliar visitors to the property. Regular tours of the East Branch are also available by appointment on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Visitors to the East Branch will observe a safety practice that has been in use for several months that requires visitors to be “buzzed” in at the door. The doors to the main building remain locked between the hours of 10 a.m. and

One of Carolynn’s goals is to build better communication between her staff and teachers. To do this, she is planning to offer hands-on activities that will allow her staff and teachers to learn effective communication skills while building morale and motivating everyone. Carolynn is passionate about her work and the LBDN, and is very glad to be “back home” at the East Branch.

Our Wish List

- Blankets, body towels, washcloths, sheets, crib sheets, crib blankets
- TV/VCR combo for Memorial Branch
- Foam pad to place on infant yard
- Materials for pre-school writing centers, such as computer paper, old Christmas cards, blank envelopes, various kinds of paper, etc.
- Clothes for dramatic play – women’s and men’s hats (fireman, policeman, etc.), shoes, pants, earrings, purses, etc.
- Baby clothes for dolls
- Old storage containers for sand and water play
- Old baking tins (pie, muffin, cake, etc.) – need to be lightweight
- Campbell’s “Labels for Education.” Save labels, UPC codes and lids from the following food products: Campbell’s Soups, Franco American, Pepperidge Farm, Swanson Broths, Pace Salsa, Prego Pasta Sauces, and V8 Juices.
- 15' x 15' area rugs for classrooms at West Branch
- Toys and books for infants and toddlers, including teachers’ resource books
- Games, puzzles and books for preschoolers, including teachers’ resource books
- Crafts materials and supplies
- Children’s CDs
- Giant cuddle-up pillows for infants and toddlers
- Crock pots (4)
- Sensory materials for infants: 50-pound bags of corn meal, cornstarch, flour, oatmeal, or instant potatoes
- Small dry-erase boards
- Paint smocks for children – all ages
- Cameras for each classroom

For more information or to make a donation, please contact the Center Directors at any of our Branches. Thank you for your support!

Early Intervention Program: One Main Focus, Three Basic Components

Dr. Jana Martin has played an active role with the Long Beach Day Nursery and its Early Intervention Program (EIP) for over 14 years, when she first arrived in Southern California. Back then, she was the Chief Psychologist for the Psychiatric Clinic for Youth (currently the Greater Long Beach Child Guidance Center) at Memorial Medical Center of Long Beach, and was so compelled by the benefits of the EIP program, and so connected with it and the staff, that she wanted to continue working with LBDN after she left the Clinic. Luckily the LBDN and Dr. Martin were able to work out an independent contract in 1991 so that the beneficial partnership could continue.

According to Dr. Martin, the EIP is a team effort involving teachers, LBDN staff, an Intervention Specialist, families, the children and community resources. The main focus of the EIP is to meet each identified child's needs by tailoring a program that builds on the child's strengths, and facilitates that child's healthy development. The three basic components of the program are:

- ✓ **Being a resource to parents:** This is as simple as providing parents with a copy of an article on excessive biting among toddlers, divorce, or whatever the matter may be, or a phone conversation with the parents, or meeting with the parent about the child to facilitate progress;
- ✓ **Being a resource for the teachers:** To be available for the teachers on a variety of issues from curriculum to personal matters. Dr. Martin offers suggestions on how to handle situations so that the teachers are better equipped and feel supported; and
- ✓ **Being a resource to the children:** Dr. Martin meets monthly with the Center and Associate Directors and the teachers to discuss concerns they have, and to observe the interaction with the children and teachers.

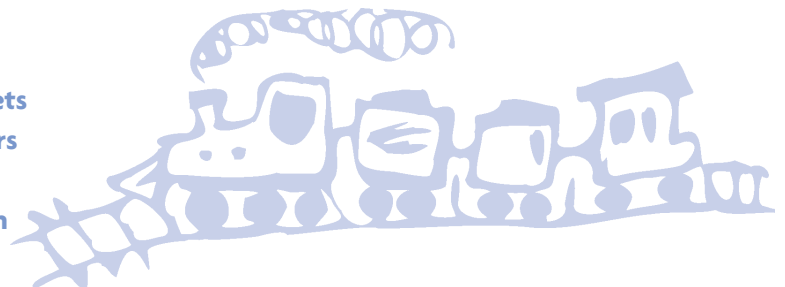
Dr. Martin's role in the EIP is that of an active observer. She is available for meetings, phone consultations, private discussions or whatever else it takes to facilitate change. Dr. Martin also works directly with the Associate Directors at each branch who

serve as Intervention Specialists, providing them with suggestions and techniques to use in their one-on-one work with identified children. The Intervention Specialists play a valuable role in the EIP, and are able to track progress and identify needs on site. One of the strongest supporters of the EIP is the Atlas Family Foundation of Southern California. This private, family-run trust provides financial support that is critical to the existence of the program.

A native of Montgomery, Alabama, Dr. Martin moved to Southern California in 1988 and went into private practice in 1991. She is a graduate of Belhaven College in Jackson, Mississippi, where she received her undergraduate degree with Summa Cum Laude honors. Dr. Martin earned her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the University of Mississippi, and 12-month Child Specialty Internship with Duke Medical Center. Dr. Martin is a licensed psychologist and is currently the president-elect for the California Psychological Association.



Dr. Jana Martin.





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Barbara Blackwell	Judy Gumbiner
Gloria Deukmejian	Georgia Jones
Jan Faris	Kathy Wade
Marta Griffin	Dr. Meg Westlund

West Branch/Administrative Offices

1548 Chestnut Avenue
 Long Beach, CA 90813
 562.591.0509

East Branch

3965 Bellflower Boulevard
 Long Beach, CA 90808
 562.421.1488

Memorial Branch

2801 Atlantic Avenue
 Long Beach, CA 90801
 562.933.5236

Long Beach Day Nursery is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Early Child Educator by both policy and practice, and is in accordance with Federal labor laws that forbid discrimination.

