

Long Beach Day Nursery News

Since 1912 • Published for the friends and staff of Long Beach Day Nursery • Fall 2004

'Tea Time Treasures' Raises \$50K

The Long Beach Yacht Club was the idyllic setting for this year's annual fundraiser, "Tea Time Treasures," which replaced our two former LBDN

fundraisers, **Mardi Gras** and **Dia de los Ninos**. Tea sandwiches, scones and champagne flowed as a spring/summer fashion show featured children and adult fashions modeled by friends and family members of the Long

Beach Day Nursery. Adding to the day's fun and excitement was a silent auction and opportunity drawing for a \$1,000 shopping spree. The winner of the drawing, Betty Webster, is the daughter of a former teacher at LBDN who taught at the West Branch in the early 1940s.

The event honored Jana N. Martin, Ph.D., noted psychologist, researcher and lecturer. Dr. Martin is a consultant with LBDN's Early Intervention Program (EIP).

Event chairperson, Kathleen Costello-Pitts, along with fashion show coordinators Gloria Deukmejian and Sande Rice, made sure everyone had a wonderful time. Committee members included Barbara Blackwell,



Above: *Jacob Bennett and Erica Beebe*



L to R: *Kathleen Costello-Pitts, Dr. Jana Martin, Sande Rice, Gloria Deukmejian, and Georgia Jones.*

Jan Faris, Marta Griffin, Georgia Jones, May Ma, Linda Silver, Donita Van Horik, Kathy Wade and Melanie

Werts. With her usual wit, Suzanne Nosworthy served as the fashion show moderator, keeping guests entertained with anecdotes during the show.

Clothing was provided by Neil's Apparel in the Marketplace Long Beach, and Sunshine on 2nd in Belmont Shore.

Golf Open - First Year Hit!

The first Monday in August was the date for this year's first LBDN Golf Open at Palos Verdes Country Club. The mission of this fundraiser – to make it the most enjoyable golf tournament around, as well as to introduce new supporters of LBDN – was achieved through the support and hard work of the golf committee.

"This tournament was a pleasure to work on," said Gregory Haeseler,

chairman for the Golf Open. "A dedicated committee, gracious players and sponsors, and a spectacular golf course made this event a complete success. We look forward to building on this success in the years to come."

Thanks to Mike Pitts and the staff of Palos Verdes Country Club for making the event happen and for the entire golf committee – Kathleen Costello-Pitts, Jan Faris, Barbara Blackwell, Donita Van Horik, Georgia Jones, May Ma, Daphne Ching-Jackson, Linda Silver, and Greg Burnight, as well as to the LBDN Board of Directors and Staff for helping to recruit golfers and secure sponsorships.

And a big thank you to our lunch sponsor, WalMart, cocktail reception sponsor, Wentworth, Hauser and Violich, and other major sponsors – Farmers & Merchants Bank, Bixby Land Company, and Paul Giuliano of Giuliano's Bakery and Delicatessen for providing the food, and for our tee sponsors and all of the golfers who helped to raise \$12,500!

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President's Message



Long Beach Day Nursery is the "Happiest Place on Earth." The children are involved in an outstanding developmentally appropriate program facilitated and taught by qualified teachers at three different sites in Long Beach.

One of the many things that sets LBDN apart from other early care and education centers is our low teacher to child ratio. There are more adults to give more personalized attention. This translates into a better quality of care.

Because their children are happy, safe and well-cared-for, parents are able to go to work and continue their education with confidence, knowing their precious family members are receiving the best care and early education. Parent involvement is encouraged at LBDN. Parent workshops are held regularly and each branch has a Parent Advisory Council. Parent engagement and input is very important at LBDN.

August was a very busy month for us. The first LBDN Open Golf Tournament was held at the beautiful Palos Verdes Country Club. It was a very successful event. We also held our annual LBDN Family Picnic. I had the wonderful opportunity to meet many of our families

and friends. It was a special day where the families were treated to an old fashion family picnic with activities provided for the children's entertainment, such as the Balloon Man, Story Teller and a Magician. Mayor Beverly O'Neill (and LBDN alumna) came by to say "hello" and the Long Beach Firefighters Association Local 372 provided and grilled the delicious hot dogs for everyone. August was also the time we had to say good-bye to our preschoolers who left for kindergarten and hello to many new younger children.

It is my belief that the Long Beach Day Nursery is a very special place. All present and past Board members state that LBDN has their heart. LBDN is a special place for financial supporters also. It is very rewarding to invest in the future of children. It is the type of organization where you will really want to stay involved for years to come.

Sincerely,

**Georgia Jones,
Ed.D.
President
2004-05**

Below: Donita Van Horik passing the gavel to Georgia at the installation breakfast on May 12, 2004.



Below: First District Councilmember Bonnie Lowenthal (far right), presents a Certificate of Recognition to LBDN President Georgia Jones (far left) and Executive Director Patrice Wong. LBDN was recognized for its commitment and dedication to improving the quality of education for the children of the First District community.



Steve Chesser, Boeing Corporation, presents Patrice Wong with a \$7,500 grant check for LBDN's Ready to Read program.

Executive Director's Message

All my child does is play all day."

And to that, we say "Great!" Play is an essential part of every child's life. Through play, children learn cooperation, problem solving, language, and mathematics. They develop curiosity, self-esteem, strength and coordination, self direction and values. Play allows a child to discover the world on his/her own terms. It is a form of communication and allows a child to connect with other people. Yet, with the increasing pressure for early academic performance at even the kindergarten level, a child's ability to play has been severely curtailed on many fronts. The trend for increased standardized testing – for five-year-olds in some school districts in our nation – has created an atmosphere of pressure that has caused even some preschools to relentlessly drill three and four year olds about the alphabet, dividing words into syllables and spelling. Unfortunately, we live in a competitive world, and our tendency to "hurry up," along with heightened performance demands, has sadly infiltrated our attitudes toward children.

Furthermore, as Joan Almon states in "The Vital Role of Play in Childhood," *Children are not machines...They are governed by internal processes that are sometimes called the laws of child development. These processes cannot be sped up without doing serious harm to children. This harm touches many areas of their lives – physical, emotional, social and mental.*

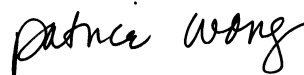
The body of research into the importance of play in the healthy development of our children is quite clear. Jean Piaget, the well-regarded child psychologist, demonstrated through his research that children actually experiment with their perceptions of the world and master their environment through play and manipulation of their toys.

Other early childhood professionals, both psychologists and educators alike, agree that play is vital in helping children understand their emotions and life experiences. Ashley Montagu, the renowned anthropologist and humanist, once commented, "The ability to play is one of the principal criteria of mental health."

Yes, it is important to be concerned about academic preparation. At the developmentally appropriate time, we need to ensure that our children have the necessary tools to be ready for school and ready to learn. But we also need to be aware that inappropriate demands and pressures discourage children. "...Simple counting, colors, and the alphabet are really not how kids get ready for school," says Dr. Peter Jensen, director of Columbia University's Center for the Advancement of Children's Mental Health. When children play, they construct their own knowledge of the world, and this is the most meaningful type of knowledge. Play is not separate from learning. Play is the basis of social and emotional competence that best prepares our children to be lifelong learners.

So jump right in. Play with your child. Take time to engage in creative child-centered silliness. Sing. Dance. Read. Encourage your child to make-believe. Be enthusiastic. Have fun!

Sincerely,



Patrice Wong
Executive Director



"Imagination is more important than knowledge."
– Albert Einstein

RESOURCES:

- Almon, Joan, "The Vital Role of Play in Childhood," from *A Crisis in Early Childhood Education: The Rise of Technologies and the Demise of Play*, Greenwood, 2003.
- McCracken, Janet Brown, "Play is FUNdamental," National Association for the Education of Young Children, 2002.
- Murphy, Lisa, *Play...The Foundation that Supports the House of Higher Learning*, 2003.
- Root-Bernstein, Robert and Michelle, *Sparks of Genius: Thirteen Thinking Tools of the World's Most Creative People*, Houghton Mifflin, 1999.

HELPFUL WEBSITES:

- Civitas: Tools for Shaping Children's Lives. <http://beginwithlove.com/play.html>
- Learning Through Adventure. <http://ooeygooey.com>
- Literacy Connections: <http://www.literacyconnections.com/ReadingAloud.html>
- Songs for Teaching: <http://www.songsforteaching.com/preschoolkindergarten.htm>

Please visit our website www.lbdn.org for more ideas for fun at home. Click on "Family Resource Center," then click on "Homework" for fun (and developmentally appropriate) activities.

Long Beach Day Nursery - Gallery of Donors

April 1, 2004 – July 31, 2004 • Thank You to All of Our Wonderful Supporters!

We apologize for any omissions in our lists. Donations received after the print deadline are gratefully acknowledged and will appear in our next issue. If you feel your name has been left out, please contact us at (562) 591.0509. Thank you!

IN MEMORY OF

Martha Erickson

Sonya Erickson
Melissa Miller Jeffries
Clifford & Carol Slosson

Alison Thrash

Amy Bigelow
Patrice Wong
George Roger Wilkinson

Mary Wilkinson

John T. Webster

Betty A. Webster

INDIVIDUALS

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Richard Fiust
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Martha Haeseler
Pam Hays
Chad & Sandy Hert
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Bedelia Honeycutt
Cynthia Ingrao
Vicina Jordan
Sophia Kavoulakos-Miramontes

Michelle Lee
April Lucero
Paula Mark
Raquel Mireles
Mike Murray
Sonya Neal
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Linda Silver
Shaneda Stephenson
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Frederick & Vanessa Uy
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Donita Van Horik
Margaret Wallace
Patrice Wong

MEMORIAL BRANCH PLAYGROUND

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AARP
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KaBOOM!
Kiwanis Club of Long
Beach/Jessie Roberts Fund
Sorbitist International of
Long Beach
Weingart Foundation

IN-KIND

AARP
Albertson's/Long Beach
Fairytale Brownies
Home Depot/Signal Hill
Starbucks
W.I.N.T.E.R.

STEPPING STONES SCHOLARSHIPS

IN HONOR OF

Gloria Deukmejian

Barbara Blackman

Lucy Kuster

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Barbara & Michael Newton

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Mary B. Soth

Sel & Sheri Beebe

Donita Van Horik

Jeffrey & Joanne Levin

Richard & Hazel Wong

Patrice Wong

Our Grand 5 Boys

Mr. & Mrs. Duane Kuster

The Wonderful Staff

Jana N. Martin, Ph.D.

IN MEMORY OF

Betty Bixby

Barbara Bixby Blackwell

Jean Bixby Smith

Donald F. Costello

Kathleen Costello-Pitts

Earl Fast

Norma Fast

Sharon Fitzgerald

June Hill

Tasia Livingston

Betty Mitchell

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Miller Foundation

TEA TIME TREASURES FASHION SHOW & TEA LUNCHEON

Partial list cont. from Spring

2004 newsletter

INDIVIDUALS

Norma Jo Abu-Dayyeh

Reva Alban

Joan M. Alderson

Jean Aldrich

Faye Alperin

Alice M. Anderson

Carrie M. Andrews

Bonnie J. Asher

Nancy T. Bachtelle

Betty Jean Barnecut

Dr. Virginia L. Baxter

Kay Berg

Carolyn M. Bixby

Heidi D. Bixby

Theresa Bixby

Shirley E. Black

Barbara Bixby Blackwell

Mary Alice Braly

Debra M. Brancato

Blanche G. Brewster

Margaret Brown

Greg & Carol Burnight

Cara Burns

Ann Cahill-Colo

Shirley Ann Callan

Grace Cameron

Catherine Champion

Daphne Ching-Jackson

Mrs. John Cockreil

Kay Collins

Jane E. Conway



Gallery of Donors *(cont from pg.4)*

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 Cynthia J. Cooper
 Kathleen Costello-Pitts
 Susan Crockett
 Sandra H. Darling
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 Gloria M. Deukmejian
 Charlene S. Ebright
 Mai Britt Ellis
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 Janice L. Faris
 Mrs. F.A. Fillipow
 Janet Foley
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 Norma Marter

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 Janice Merriweather
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 Phil Sblendorio
 Loree L. Scarborough
 Gail A. Schack
 Marcia D. Schoettle
 Natalie Sellers
 Virginia Shlemmer
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 Lynn M. Shrum
 Mary Lou Sheridan
 Linda M. Silver
 Gloria B. Simon
 Debra K. Smith
 Jean Bixby Smith
 Mary. B. Soth
 Pam Spoo
 Marian Stocking
 Linda Strong
 Julia A. Taboada
 Judy Taylor
 Buwon Tran
 Diane H. Trunek
 Pam Tuck
 Nadine Vander Lans
 Christina M. Van Horik
 Donita Van Horik

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 Sheila B. Watson
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 Betty Webster
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 Los Angeles County Supervisor
 Don Knabe, 4th District

IN-KIND

Albertson's, Inc
 Aquarium of the Pacific
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 Center Theater Group
 Hunter's Chosen Child
 Long Beach Marriott
 The Queen Mary
 See's Candies

UNITED WAY

Amy Bigelow
 Linda Blackshire
 Anita Bonds
 Carolyn Brooks
 Cessna Citation
 Robert Contreras
 Maria Corona
 Lori Dahling
 Martha Garcia-Houghton
 Delmy Garibay
 Gregory Haeseler
 Barbara Hennessy
 Enrique Hernandez
 Judith Hess
 Elizabeth Jenkins
 Franchell Lawton
 Jonahtan Leigh
 Kitty Letourneau
 May Ma
 Kenneth Marden
 Lisa McDowell
 Revi Panickaveetl
 Mandie Connie Rios
 Kim Rodriguez
 Lenore C. Rozner
 Manuel Sandoval
 Philip Sblendorio
 Janet Carol Upton
 N. Ventura
 Editha Villaverde Reapor

LBDN OPEN GOLF TOURNEY

INDIVIDUALS

Sel & Sheri Beebe
 Barbara Bixby Blackwell
 Jean Bixby Smith
 Patrick Bixby
 Bruce Brookshire
 George & Daphne Ching-Jackson
 Kenneth R. Downing
 Emil J. Iwansky
 Bernie & Georgia Jones
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 Wentworth, Hauser & Violich
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GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
 California Department of Ed.
 City of Long Beach Health and
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 County of Los Angeles, Arts
 Education Program

'Day of Service' Event Creates New Playground for Memorial Branch

Children who attend the Memorial Branch have a new playground, thanks to the 'Day of Service' event sponsored by KaBOOM!, a national nonprofit that specializes in linking community organizations with partners to build much-needed, safe and accessible playgrounds, and AARP, a nationally known organization serving persons aged 50 and over. The 'Day of Service' event took place May 13 with over 200 volunteers from AARP, Home Depot, W.I.N.T.E.R. and LBDN were on hand to help renovate and renew the playground.

The volunteers arrived at 7:00 a.m. for breakfast and quickly began work on the renovations. Once completed, officials from the city of Long Beach, KaBOOM!, AARP and LBDN dedicated the new playground later that afternoon.

"As we get ready to replant our lovely new garden areas, the staff and I are thankful to AARP and KaBOOM! for providing us with new opportunities to bring elements of the natural world to our children," said Memorial Center Director Martha Garcia-Houghton. "The amount of genuine care and help from the volunteers, staff and AARP was overwhelming. They went above and beyond what anyone could have hoped for and made us all feel that this project was the most important goal that they had to achieve all year."

The key organizers were Melanie Barnes, Patrice Wong, Martha Garcia Houghton, Ron Calhoun, and Nancy Carriello. Thanks also to AARP, Krispy Kreme doughnuts, Starbucks Coffee, SYSCO Foods, Albertson's and Mum's Restaurant for sponsoring the food and refreshments to feed all of the wonderful volunteers during the event.



Above: Home depot volunteers putting the roof on the play equipment.



Above: Kristine McDonald prepares the sandbox.



LBDN alumna Mayor Beverly O'Neill greets the volunteers.

Staff Congratulations



L to R: Linda Maywood, Dannah Perez, Liz Jenkins, and Monica Casillas.

- Annette Harville, Finance Director on her marriage to Kevin Lindquist.
- Enrique Hernandez, HR Director, for his acceptance into the Pepperdine MBA program.
- Dannah Perez, East Receptionist, on her award from Healthy Connections. (Photo on left).
- Elia Alfaro, Memorial Associate Center Director, and Kitty Letourneau, West Associate Center Director, on their scholarship awards to the State of California's conference, Early Intervention School Success.

Staff Anniversaries

OVER 5 YEARS

Alicia Barragan
Sussy Campos
Carla Chua
Yvette Fletcher
Delmy Garibay
Alicia Guevara
Vickie Harris

Elizabeth Jenkins
Linda Marsh
Zulma Orellana
Rita Rahman
Editha Reapor
Olga Rodriguez

OVER 10 YEARS

Linda Blackshire
Carolyn Brooks
Rita Feazell
Deborah Mingo
Carmen Nunez
Diana Pyland
Tosa Taosoga
Delia Thomas

OVER 15 YEARS

Amy Bigelow
Deborah Napoleon-Holifield

OVER 25 YEARS

Penni-Jo Laking

OVER 30 YEARS

Louise Spurling

3rd Annual Family Picnic



Thank you to the Long Beach Firefighters Association Local 372, Albertson's, Farmers & Merchants Bank, Girl Scouts of Lakewood, Sylvia Lawrence, SYSCO, and Wild Oats for making our picnic a huge success by sponsoring food and children's activities. Over 200 staff, families and friends attend the

day's festivities. A special thank you to Melanie Werts, Marta Griffin, LBDN board of directors and staff who made it all possible.



Left: Honorary firefighter Laura Hunter and Local 372 President Bill Ardizzone cook up hot dogs.



In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of the following individuals...

Alison Thrash



Alison Thrash passed away in June after a sudden illness. Alison had been an Infant and Toddler teacher with the East Branch since November 2002. Prior to this, she had many years of teaching experience. "Alison was a really personable teacher," said co-worker and friend, Deandra Johnson. "She went above and beyond her teaching duties, enjoyed the kids and parents, and really got involved." According to parent Diana Navarro, "Alison made such an impact on my daughter, Kristen. She was not only a wonderful teacher, she was considered part of the family. Her passing is a total shock and a great loss for us all."

Virginia Artman

Virginia Artman passed away in August and was 90 years old. A former member of our board of directors, Virginia served as both treasurer and president. LBDN remained dear to her heart throughout the years, and Virginia and her daughter, Ann Warren Artman Morales, have been long time donors and supporters.

Our Wish List

We have updated our list, please help us by donating new or used items:

- "Labels for Education" – save labels or lids with UPC codes from Campbell's, Franco American, Pepperidge Farm, Swan Broths, Pace Salsa, Prego Pasta Sauces and V8 Juices.
- Plants and Garden supplies: seeds, potting soil, plastic watering cans, large plastic pots, patio umbrellas and stands.
- "Gently used" children's clothes, toys, CDs, cassette tapes, balls, large picture and board books, children's basketball hoop, large wagons and twin strollers.
- Art & Craft supplies: leftover party supplies, bubble wrap, letter stencils, stickers, large scrap paper, assorted fabric scraps, plastic strawberry baskets and picture frames.
- Appliances, electronics and furniture: sofas, refrigerator, electric wok, portable CD player, 35mm cameras, book cases, televisions with built in VCR and karaoke machine.
- Kitchen items: Serving trays, pie pans, small pots and pans, plastic kitchen cooking & serving utensils, oven mitts, plastic containers, ice cream scoops, child and adult-sized aprons.
- From the linen closet: big floor pillows, bath/hand towels, quilts, baskets
- Clothes and accessories for dramatic play: purses, shoes, hats, uniforms (firefighter, construction worker, fast food, etc.), wigs, restaurant menus, vinyl place mats
- Aquarium care products, pet cages, parakeet seeds, shavings for mice and hamster cages

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



Long Beach Day Nursery
1548 Chestnut Avenue
Long Beach, CA 90813
www.lbdn.org

Address Correction Requested



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3rd Vice President	Gregory Haeseler
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Parliamentarian	Kathleen Costello-Pitts (Honorary)
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Jan Faris	Melanie Werts
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Liisa Penrose	
Executive Director	Patrice Wong
Directors Emeritus	Nelle Richards, Mary Soth

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 90806
 562.933.5236

Long Beach Day Nursery News

Editor: Gretchen Dixon, Dixon PR

Contributors: Gretchen Dixon,
 Georgia Jones, May Ma, Kathleen Costello-
 Pitts, Patrice Wong

Designer: Oroz Co. Design

Printer: Twin Concepts

*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.*

