

CYS Shares "Good Vibrations" at Beach Boys Landmark Dedication


Hawthorne, CA – On May 18, 2005, approximately 1,000 local residents and city officials gathered to celebrate the unveiling of California's historical landmark, No. 1041, in memory of the Beach Boys. The monument depicting all six members of the Beach Boys along with memorial plaques contributed by family members and friends was constructed by the late Dennis Wilson's son, Scott, who owns his own construction company. During the dedication speech it was shared that Scott Wilson's company was amongst many who submitted bids for the job but the Hawthorne City Council and the California Landmark Committee chose Scott's company because they could be sure that he would put his heart and soul into a project that would memorialize his father, uncles and long-time family friends. The landmark was erected on the original site of the Wilson Family home at W. 119th Street and Kornblum Avenue. Although the home was demolished years ago to make room for the 105 Freeway, the space of land was still available for this piece of California history.

On this special day, Friends of CYS had our first activity. As a volunteer FARS mediator and Friend of CYS, I wanted to be there to represent Centinela Youth Services and help pass out hundreds of flyers to the public. Being that CYS was founded in Hawthorne in 1975 when the Beach Boys were still riding their peak of popularity, it seemed only fitting that Friends of CYS would attend this special occasion taking place practically in their own backyard. The flyers gave information about CYS beginnings and also shared how CYS, with the help of dozens of volunteers, are able to help families and at-risk youth obtain their own "good vibrations" through the help of mediation.

Many dedicated Beach Boys fans were pleased to see that three of the four surviving Beach Boys namely Brian Wilson, David Marks, Al Jardin and their immediate family members were in attendance. Mike Love, cousin and a founding band member, was unable to attend as he was scheduled for a concert in Florida that evening. All in all it was a wonderful day where the sun was hot and the music was cool and together they brought back memories of youthful sunny days gone by. The dedication was brought to a close with the Brian Wilson Band performing two memorable Beach Boys hits, In My Room and Surfer Girl.

I cannot express the joy and pride I felt on that day being a Friend of CYS and being able to take part in California and the Beach Boys history.

Sincerely,



Paula Gonzales