



West Floral Park SUMMER 2015 NEWSLETTER



WFPNA

Where Neighbors Turn Into Family and Friends

Your West Floral Park Neighborhood Association Elected Board Members

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West Floral Park Stories : Building Connections & History

BY DONNA LAYNE, COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Stories connect us, stories let us know about each other and about our shared history. After moving into the neighborhood almost 14 years ago, I soon learned that the people of West Floral Park have a lot of stories to share. Over the years, this newsletter has featured several of our neighbors and their stories. After reading these articles I always have a feeling of gratitude for living in such a great neighborhood. A few years back I collected "House Stories" from you for our "Neighborhood Walks" and now have a treasure trove of WFP history. So, here goes some of your stories, past and present, and one of my stories I collected while doing the "House Stories" series.

Howdy Neighbor!



My granddaughter Lauren sometimes spends the night with me. When we had our dog Rex, we would always do our "Rex walk" in the morning. She loved these walks and one morning after walking and greeting neighbors, she asked me if I knew everyone in the neighborhood! And just last weekend after waving to a passer-by, she said "I just love this neighborhood because everyone says hi." This is from a 5 year-old! I know you will enjoy the next story that Jenny McGuire on Freeman Street submitted.

■ **Stories Connect Us.** Hey Neighbor! Not a phrase used much in today's world, except here in West Floral Park. There is definitely a difference here. We connect through fantastic social events, walking our dogs or ourselves, and out in our yards. It isn't just an occasional wave every few months but actual conversations that display neighborly love. Upon moving in during a busy Christmas season, I was blessed with brownies, flowers and welcome baskets. This was a clue of the kindness to come. I learned about a Social Media app NextDoor.com from a new friend in the hood, Mika Denny. This provides an internal marketplace, referral resource, and random conversations as we explore life together. There I get guidance from experienced home enthusiasts as we all take pride in what goes on in our neighborhood. My husband and I attend events and find how similar our life joys and

UPCOMING WEST FLORAL PARK NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

Wednesday, August 12 | WFPNA General Meeting

Saturday, August 15 | WFPNA & JFPNA Progressive Dinner

Thursday, September 24 | New Neighbor Social

Saturday, October 10 | West Floral Park Octoberfest



West Floral Park Stories : Building Connections & History

(Continued from cover page)



Jim and Jenny McGuire Rock Out



struggles are to those around us. What really strikes me is the gesture of love someone that I just met will give. I attended Donna's Christmas party for the ladies of the neighborhood and we played the white elephant game. I ended up choosing a gift of mugs and cake platter I really liked but as a part of the game it is "stolen" by another woman with the same taste as mine and I leave with another sweet gift. Christmas day I open my front door to find the mugs and cake platter wishing me a Merry Christmas! Wow, that little sacrifice meant a lot. I decided to become involved and join the board as your secretary. At one meeting, Cathie Fryer mentioned that after her travels she will be returning to see the Rolling Stones with her husband. I immediately stop typing and share with her how

they are my all-time favorite band. Without hesitation she invites me along! I am so touched I get teary and giddy at the same time. When I arrived home, my husband wonders if I'm okay and I just tell him how happy I am to live here. This inspires me that I seek out ways to bless others in my neighborhood. In my job working for The Salvation Army, I give my time and efforts to those in real need and at times come home empty only to be lifted up again by my neighbors and then I can remind myself to work another day remembering a smile, interaction, or a need met does go a long way! Hey Neighbor...have I told you lately that I love you!

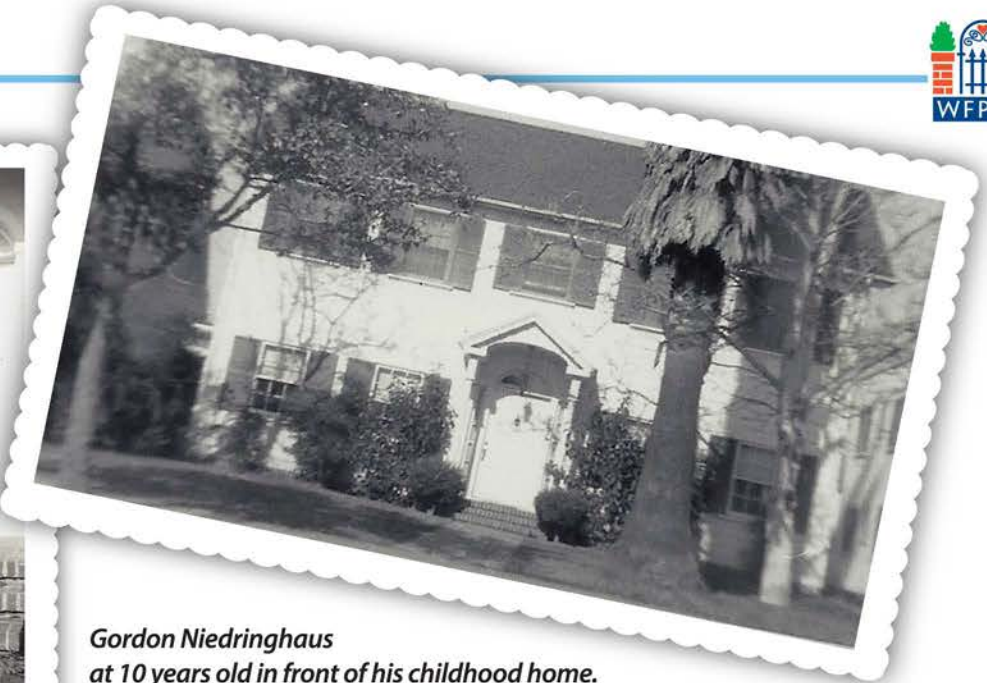
■ **Unknown Hero.** There are so many other heart-warming stories I have heard or witnessed. One such story is when a complete stranger rescued Diane Farley's dog Valentine from two pit bulls attacking him. A few years ago, Diane, one of our JFP neighbors, was walking her dog Valentine along Riviera Drive. She saw two loose pit bulls. She tried to hide alongside someone's house but the two dogs saw Valentine and started attacking him. A Good Samaritan driving on Riviera, saw the situation, stopped, and pinned the two dogs down. He stayed there until Animal Control came and long after Diane and Valentine headed to the vet for emergency surgery. Since Valentine's life was threatened, Diane never stopped to ask the stranger's name. But she is grateful for his unselfish act of courage.

■ **Holiday Mystery.** As promised on Nextdoor.com, I said I would tell you my story of the Christmas wise man who visited us one Christmas in the early 2000's. It was Christmas Eve and we were entertaining family. After the evening ended, we walked our guests out to their vehicles (both small trucks). Much to our surprise, we found a plastic, life-size wise man (lawn orna-

ment) in the back of one of the trucks. We joked about how we were blessed to have this visit on Christmas Eve. Since truck #1 family had to go and truck #2 family was spending the night, we put the wise man into the back of truck #2. After about an hour and way past time to go to sleep, my husband Allen decided to call the police (just to make sure they didn't think we had taken the wise man). Around midnight, the police arrived and we were stupefied and embarrassed to see that the wise man was no longer in the back of truck #2! We had a very hard time explaining this situation to the police! But we liked telling people about how the wise man came to visit us one Christmas Eve.



■ **Way Back When.** As most of us know, we have a rich history. We have many stories from the past to enjoy. Several of our neighbors have lived in Santa Ana their entire life and several are the original owners (almost 60 years) of their homes. One long-time Santa Ana resident is Gordon Niedringhaus on Olive Street. Did you know that Gordon grew up next door to Bowers Museum on 20th Street? His father was the pastor of the First Congregational Church from 1940-1968. The house where he lived, was the parsonage for the pastor and his family until 1961. Bower's, of course, was not the museum it is today but still quite an



Gordon Niedringhaus
at 10 years old in front of his childhood home.

interesting place. Gordon remembers all the early California details such as the stagecoach and rocks that were good for climbing on. Gordon had his piano recitals upstairs and I believe this room is still available for rental. Highway 101 went down Main Street and it was a good place to sit on the curb and watch the cars go by. This was particularly true on a Sunday afternoon when his parents were resting. Gordon's house was torn down for the addition to the museum but he had a chance to go inside before the demolition. This visit brought back lots of memories of sliding down the banister etc. The bedrooms were so small in this colonial style home. (See photos above).

■ **Sweet Notes.** Then there is the story of Mildred and Miles who lived on Westwood. Here is part of their story as told by Melinda Jordan-Heathcock who lives there today. "Our home was built in 1965 and originally owned by Glenn & Mary Sturgis. In 1972 they sold their home to Miles & Mildred Proctor who had previously lived in Mill Valley, California. We have a few items of personal correspondence between

Mary and Mildred that reveals the personal feelings of both regarding the home and in friendship... (see below).

Mildred was a lovely woman who adored dogs, although she didn't own one, rode her adult tricycle all through the neighborhood, and had the most beautiful roses on the block. When Miles passed away Mildred continued to live here until she passed away in early 2006. In her passing she left her entire estate to a Seeing Eye dog charity." What Melinda didn't say was that Mildred had a pocketful of dog treats to pass out to pooches. Dogs

would recognize her from a half a block away and eagerly wait for her. My own dog Rosie, would even walk up her front sidewalk to the front door in hopes of a treat!

We continue to make stories. Our animal stories are enough to fill volumes. The acts of kindness continue. Well known people are our neighbors. We have many great traditions that we continue today. West Floral Park is vibrant. Let's continue to tell our stories, both past and present. For through them we get to know our neighbors and create the WFP legacy.



Dear Mildred,

I was delighted to receive the beautiful Brazilian Citrine. It has so much brilliance and sparkle (just like the giver). What a lovely work you do. It is one of my favorite colors too. I know I shall enjoy wearing it.

As it looks now we will be moving the 6th of 7th and everything should be ready for you by the 10th, or, whenever you wish to come. We will take care of the watering etc., until you arrive.

It is going to be much easier for me to leave knowing two such nice people will be enjoying the house I put so much love and thought into.

Most Sincerely, Mary Sturgis

Open Garden Day 2015

OPEN GARDEN DAY WRAP UP... A TOP-NOTCH EVENT

BY DONNA LAYNE, CHAIR

■ **Best Day Ever!** This event just keeps getting better and better. Although the weather didn't cooperate with us, the event turned out to be wonderful. Seven spectacular gardens in West Floral Park and Jack Fisher Park were open for visitors to tour. And visitors not only got beautiful gardens but got an assortment of animals—birds (three different aviaries), chickens, koi, turtles, and a pig! Our garden expert series is truly becoming one of our signature offerings. We had our own Carolyn Honer talking about backyard birds, Sotera Townsend and Teresa Wagner, also WFP neighbors, doing a garden to table demonstration, two Master Gardeners telling us about succulents, our new neighbor David Wurts and his Koi Club showing us over 40 koi, and the City of Santa Ana water expert talking about water conservation. To top that off we had information booths on mosquitoes, coyotes, rodents, water-wise planting and water conservation. Add to this already rich offering we had our vendors, vintage car display and food trucks. All of this made for a very jam-packed delightful day. Enjoy our photos and check out even more on our website www.westfloralpark.com.



SAVE THE DATE FOR 2016 : MAY 14



The Social Buzz

BY RADHIKA DHOLAKIA, SOCIAL CHAIR

FUN AT THE 2015 WINE WALK

The 2015 Social Calendar kicked off with a bang via our very successful Wine Walk. Thank you to the Co-Chairs Nichole Doughty and Brian Dawson, the incredible and committed Social Committee, to the Steve Tancredi set up and take down teams, and to our wonderful homeowners. This was a full team effort and successful because YOU, our neighbors, enjoyed the evening. Thank you all who helped make this a memorable event.

Our next event is the 2015 Progressive Dinner. Co-Chairs: Christina Kellman and Lauren Hawkins are meticulously planning the festivities. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information.

Join us for Some Southern Comfort

2015 WEST FLORAL PARK & JACK FISHER PARK PROGRESSIVE DINNER

Dust-off your bow tie, seersucker and best Derby hat, because the south is coming to Santa Ana. Prepare to sip mint juleps and enjoy the fine company of our lovely neighbors at this adult only event on

Saturday August 15th, beginning at 5:30 pm.



HAPPY HOUR *Girls' Night Out*

Our Review of Local Restaurant : Velvet Lounge in Downtown Santa Ana

BY LAURIE HAMPTON, CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST

It all started at the Best Taste Of Santa Ana

while a few of our Happy Hour Girls waited in one of the longest lines to try the hamburger sliders from the Velvet Lounge Booth...if you were lucky enough to get one before they ran out. We knew a little background about the Velvet Lounge on 416 West 4th Street, (previous establishment called Jason's Cellar), but we love our adventures into new haunts and curious about the whole scene. For those of you who do not know, The Velvet Lounge is one of downtown's LGBT owned and operated restaurant and night clubs, supporting the gay community but equality is what is most important. They are known for their Saturday Sunday Drag Champaign Brunch with endless Mimosas, build your own Bloody Mary Bar and with that you get The Velvettes, a female impersonation comedy and music act. Dinner shows start at 8:00 pm Thursday – Sunday with the entertainment of Lipstick and Lashes, Sam Paul gave it 5 stars and said 'better than Vegas.' The Happy Hour Girls are putting the dinner show on our must do list.

When entering the restaurant you do see a lot of red velvet, a small intimate bar area, and a good sized outside patio area overlooking the active street scene. The full height velvet curtains lead you into the dining room and stage. The downstairs will be opening soon for private parties and events, but now it serves as the



dressing room filled with elaborate dresses, wigs and boas! The inviting staff is ready to eagerly explain the menu and specialty drinks.

This is entrepreneur Zach Moos' first time as an owner of a restaurant and nightclub which opened three and a half years ago. His success, he feels, was opening at the right place, the right time and the right community. He is from Minnesota with background and experience in nightclubs. Now married and resides in our neighborhood and loves it! His staff of 50 (not including the entertainers) includes Chef

Robert Duvall, a Culinary School Graduate, with his 'can do attitude' offers a nice miscellany of appetizers. The Happy Hour Menu is all ½ price – the appetizer menu ranging from \$3.50 - \$6.50 and a selected drink menu. We started with, of course, the Velvet Sliders: Wagu Beef Marinated-Korean Style @ two for \$5.50. Scrumptious – 5 stars all around. Oh...the cocktails...we were so graciously greeted by Andrew, who is also the bartender and server, we felt like 7 little princesses – waiting on us with his engaging, fun personality. Since I tweaked one of the cocktails a bit, I got a preview 'straw tasting' for my approval before he poured. We tried a few of the signature drinks, a very pretty sweet candy-like Marilyn Montini – strawberry vodka, cranberry juice, splash of cream, Blueberry Lemondrop and Cucumber Fresh. We continued through the appetizer list with Calamari Strips, Jalapeño Poppers, College Quesadillas and Hummus Trio. We finished off with their home made Molten Lava Cake and the pastry chef's version of Crème Brulee but over a thin layer of chocolate cake...both delicious! Total bill was about \$30 per person with two cocktails.

What's nice about our unique downtown Santa Ana is that the demographics are here to support this melting pot of first time restaurant entrepreneurs. They can now show off their unique culinary offerings in a concentrated setting and get the support of not only our community but ALL of Orange County, South County and even LA. The word is out and we have it in our own back yard! When we started the Happy Hour Girls we just thought it would be fun to try new venues, drink, eat and review (kind of like a book club-Ha!) But what we gained was meeting some of the most passionate, interesting, entertaining, high energy people with great stories. We spend more time engaging with the owners and staff than we do with ourselves.

Not to be intimidated by the setting at the Velvet Lounge dinner shows, Zach said about 90% of the audience are straight, even the OC Housewives (reality show) came with their awaiting limo to see the rave review show. We'll give it a blurb in our next review.

Enjoy...Until Next Time...*The Happy Hour Girls* ■

The Backyard Scoop

BY THE GARDEN KEEPER, COLUMNIST

The drought is official. The City is encouraging us to cut back by restricting water use on our lawns and in our homes. Of course, lawns will turn brown and plants will fade away but do we have to let everything die! Surely we can be creative when it comes to our yards. Perhaps pull out those hated plants and replace them with drought tolerant ones. What about those little potted plants that require water almost every day during the summer. I would find that hard myself and besides they don't take that much water.

What about redoing our yards! Egads! I can't bear the thought actually. Anyway, back to the drought. Did you see the latest WFPNA "Keeping You in the Know" email blast, sent on June 9th? It provided a nice summary of Santa Ana's Phase II Water use restrictions. And it also mentions several websites for additional information in regards to caring for your yards and garden. Other resources and ideas can be found by walking the neighborhood or talking to friends who are in the process of converting their lawns/gardens to fit a dryer climate. Perhaps someone on your block or a close friend did this a couple years ago. They could offer a wealth of do's and don'ts. So, ask questions and be somewhat selective when purchasing your plants. And just a note of caution, you will still need to water drought tolerant plants such as succulents. And the yard still needs to be weeded and leaves blown. If you want to be a bit more unique then research green



Waterwise solution at the Matheny Home on Westwood

drought-tolerant plants such as hedges or boxwoods. You have more options than you know. Nursery personnel can point you in the right direction and though it's true you will have to care for them a bit more in the beginning, once established you'll be saving water and money now and in the future. If you're brave enough to redo the yard I figure you'll be watering something unless you're planting gravel. And if you are planting gravel I didn't mean to offend you.

This neighborhood has plenty of talented families and individuals. Some are well-trained seasoned gardeners and others are natural. In the meantime pray for rain!

Editor's Note: *The drought and how it affects us is very much on our minds. See page 10 for an article with helpful tips on maintaining the ambiance of our neighborhood while following our drought regulations.*

Senior Tea...A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

BY DONNA LAYNE, COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR

Almost 30 West Floral Park seniors enjoyed an afternoon of good food, good company and lots of pampering. Scott Lohse, WFPNA Outreach Chair, along with his group of five solicitous helpers and food/drink contributions from others, worked hard to make sure our seniors felt relaxed and valued. Brian Dawson opened up his beautiful pool side yard for this event. And of course, no WFPNA Senior Tea would be complete without champagne! We love this event as we see people who don't ordinarily come to our other social events. This senior tea has certainly become one of the finest traditions of West Floral Park!





Internet Safety : Reduce Your Risk

BY RIGO GARCIA, NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH CO-CAPTAIN

June was internet safety month, both for children and adults. If you are a long time internet user you may already be aware of the risks involved with online communication and socializing. For the newbies, and as a good reminder, here are some sure fire tips to keep you and your family safe and internet savvy.

Although most children are not getting into trouble, when your kids begin socializing online, you may want to talk to them about certain risks:

- **Inappropriate conduct:** The online world can feel anonymous. Kids sometimes forget that they are still accountable for their actions.
- **Inappropriate contact:** Some people online have bad intentions, including bullies, predators, hackers and scammers.
- **Inappropriate content:** You may be concerned that your kids could find adult content, violence, or hate speech online.

You can reduce these risks by talking to your kids about how they communicate both online and offline and encouraging them to engage in conduct they can be proud of. Use everyday opportunities to talk to your kids about being online. For instance, a TV program featuring a teen online or using a cell phone can tee up a discussion about what to do or not do under similar circumstances. And news stories about internet scams or cyberbullying can help you start a conversation about your kids' experiences and your expectations.

Adults also need to consider that there are risks involved in using the internet. They include the possibility of inadvertently downloading viruses, malware, or being the victim of a scam. Often, these all have the same goal in mind, to create distance between you and your hard earned

money. You can avoid and limit your odds of being an online victim by doing the following:

- Create a strong password that includes alphanumeric and special characters. Change them every 60 days. An example would be: westfloralpark vs W3stFl0raIP@rk
- Do not use the same password for every website
- Be wary of using "free" Wi-Fi hotspots because that free Wi-Fi might have the ability to access all of your documents and photos without you even knowing.
- When using Craigslist, avoid these common scams: Over payment on goods, sending of fake checks, offers that include shipping, giving out financial bank information.
- Neither Microsoft, nor Apple will ever call you to tell you that you have a virus on your computer. The people that are calling you are scam artists, trying to remote access your computer for their financial gain.
- Don't click on hyperlinks on emails from people you do not know. 70% of internet scams are initiated through email.

Lastly, information that is posted online can never really be deleted. Be cautious with your choice of words, and remember to be courteous when interacting with your neighbors.

Side Note: *If you have questions or are looking into getting a surveillance system please contact either Mika, or Rigo at wfpnawatch@gmail.com and they will be happy to give you suggestions on proven systems.*



West Floral Park's Neighborhood Hero Mika Denny

■ **Congratulations** to Mika Denny for being selected by the City as a Neighborhood Hero. She was recognized and honored at the City's June 25th ComLink meeting. Mika has worked hard to improve safety, quality of life and communications in our neighborhood. As the Neighborhood Watch Co-Captain, she has excelled as our liaison between the Santa Ana Police Department and the neighborhood, working regularly with detectives and officers. As the administrator for the West Floral Park Nextdoor.com website, residents are more informed on community events, news, activities, crime prevention and updates. We are very grateful for the accomplishments she's brought. Hats off to Mika for a job well done.



MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

BY MELINDA JORDAN-HEATHCOCK, VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIP

Although we are seven months into our 2015 membership drive that began in February, you can still donate toward our neighborhood association and continue to make this neighborhood one to be proud of. We are a little ahead of last year's membership numbers, but still behind in our 20% goal of all households in West Floral Park, so your participation will help meet that goal.

The various committees have been hard at work this year: the Beautification Committee is getting city approval to replace trees in our neighborhood and working at putting tree bows on Santa Clara; our Neighborhood Watch Committee has been very successful in keeping our community safe & informed and working on plans see if speed bumps will be approved for our busy streets; and our various other committees and

volunteers have been busy organizing the annual 4th of July parade, the Senior Tea, and the Progressive Dinner. Our community outreach efforts are also dependent on membership dues that welcome our new neighbors with gift baskets and useful information and contribute to a variety of charities in our area. All of these events and outreach programs are only possible because of the donations we receive from our members each year.

■ Do Your Part, Join Today!

If you haven't already become a member, please consider becoming a contributing member of the West Floral Park Neighborhood Association. Either mail your check to WFPNA, Attn: Steve Tancredi, P.O.Box 6243, Santa Ana, CA 92706, or go to our Pay Pal link on the WFPNA website at www.westfloralpark.com. Help to make this another great year for our West Floral Park neighborhood.



WELCOME NEW NEIGHBORS!

If you happen to see them out and about, be sure to say hello.

Please welcome the following people to our neighborhood. These new neighbors will be invited to our upcoming September New Neighbor Social.

SARAH GREENBERG on Rosewood
JUSTIN UCHIDA on Freeman
TROY AND AIMEE GROVER on Rosewood

Let's not forget two additional households who aren't really new to the neighborhood, but have moved to a different residence in West Floral Park:

DAVID AND MONIQUE WURTS moved from Olive Lane to Westwood
STAN MAGILL from Olive to Towner



The Charm & Beauty of our Neighborhood

WATER WISE LANDSCAPING

BY SCOTT LOHSE

With California facing one of the most severe droughts on record and continuing into the summer months, we can still maintain our beautiful yards with a few modifications. Take out a small portion of your grass and expand your garden, border edges or walking pathways. Make new plant choices when planting flowers, shrubs, trees and grasses that are drought-friendly, water-efficient species. You do not have to put in cacti and rock, which may not look right for the architecture of your home or fit into our neighborhood. Here are some tips and tricks to think about during our water conservation period.

CREATING A WATER-EFFICIENT LANDSCAPE



Choose the right seeds.

Fescue, Zoysia, St. Augustine and Marathon II are good. These seed variations require less water and can tolerate the heat.

Keep Lawn Mower Blades Sharp.

Grass is growing slowly so raise the cut setting as high as it goes and when you cut, leave the clippings on the lawn for fertilizer.

Water Correctly.

Water early morning if possible or right before sunset to reduce evaporation and prevent fungus. Water deeply twice a week to encourage deeper root system. Water in 3 cycles if possible, 3 minutes, allow water to soak in for half hour, then

repeat two more times. Aerate your lawn for better water absorption and root growth, less runoff to your sidewalk. Try drip irrigation in the garden instead of from the tap.

Thank you very MULCH.

Apply at least a 3 to 4 inch thick layer of mulch in your garden. This will help reduce evaporation, conserve water, shield your plants' roots from extreme temperatures, improve the soil from the break down and discourage the growth of weeds. One place you don't want mulch is right up against plant stem and tree trunks. Leave at least four inches for the plant to breathe and prevent water logging problems.



Drought-friendly plants.

There are many colorful plants, scrubs and trees. Kangaroo Paws, Powder Puff, Plumeria, Parry's Penstemon, Lavender, Lantana, Bird of Paradise, Roses, and California native plants to name a few. Visit your local nurseries (Tree of Life, M&M, Roger's Garden, Armstrong, and Village Nursery) and get professional advice and services.

Master Gardeners of Orange County.

If in doubt consult the experts. Great resource for advice, workshops and what is going on in our gardens and landscape. Visit www.uccemg.com

As neighbors search for new ways to maintain curb appeal, it's important to set the correct tone within our neighborhood. It's the charm and beauty that brought us here. Given the array of options, there's no need to settle for dried up eyesores. First impressions are lasting impressions and curb appeal pays off.

Let's not dread and keep striving forward; we will survive through the drought season.



MENDEZ HOT SHOTS GO TO WASHINGTON DC

WFPNA Helps Make the Trip Possible

BY RUTH OREGEL, TEAM MOM & WFP NEIGHBOR

■ **They are known as the Mendez Hot Shots.** A group of six students from Mendez Fundamental Intermediate School. Their journey started with weekly team meetings to design and build their rocket, once a month weekend trips (2+ hours each way) to test launch their rocket and ongoing fundraising efforts. After a few disasters (including broken fins, a torn parachute and a dunk in Mission Bay) they had 2 amazing launches which put them in the finals! They traveled to Washington DC on May 8th, accompanied by their teachers, Andrea Earl and Harrold Garret.

The Team has returned from an amazing adventure! They successfully launched and recovered their rocket, with the egg intact to earn a score of 56.76. Unfortunately, this was not enough to move them on to the second round. But with many teams scoring over 100 (the lower the score the better) and others being disqualified for broken eggs, the team is very happy with their performance. They are already analyzing their launch and planning modifications for next year. The team is very grateful for everyone's support!

Editor's note: After hearing that their teacher Andrea Earl used her own personal credit card to fund the trip, WFPNA gladly donated \$250 toward this nonprofit endeavor. WFPNA feels it is important to support the youth of our community and the leaders of tomorrow.

BUGS and Blooms



BY DOUG JAGERMAN, BEAUTIFICATION CO-CHAIR

BUGS! As we enter the summer months, we tend to spend more time enjoying our outdoor living spaces. These are the same spaces that many of our eight legged friends call home all year long. Yes, most of us in West Floral Park have noticed a healthy population of spiders and in particular the Brown Widow. The Black Widow is far more famous, but much less prevalent in our neighborhood.



We are featuring this poisonous beauty because of its extremely large population, the need to educate our neighbors, and most importantly because ONE BIT ME! The bites are not that bad, but I can tell you for certain, I don't want another one. Bite reactions vary from

mild pain and burning to severe pain and headaches. Mine was in the middle. My bite was on the back of my thigh. I had 6" diameter area of redness and burning on day one. The next day my entire leg ached from hip to toe. Bizarre!! Then it felt like a bruise for about a week and the symptoms ended. Yeah, I got some sympathy from my wife so it was all good.

Once healed, I decided that extermination was my only recourse. I knew I couldn't do it alone.

My list of spider battling friends is short, but at the top of the list was Steve Simon. He has a compression bow, good arrows, and cammo gear so I figured he was qualified. We waited till dark and began our attack.

First we sprayed the spiders in their webs.

That was pretty easy, but creepy for sure. Then, we had to go back through to find all of the spiky white eggs that they leave on the undersides of patio furniture and other places that are protected from light. We carefully removed the eggs with tweezers, destroyed them, sealed them in a freezer bag, and disposed of them. In my back yard alone we found about 20 spiders and dozens of eggs, but they were no match for Steve and me. That's right! We took 'em all! You don't wanna mess with us.

BLOOMS! Talk and concern of the drought seem to be increasing daily and rightly so. As we all look at ways to reduce our water consumption, we want to take a moment to address our yards. The move toward drought tolerant landscaping is alive and well and gaining momentum every day and this is a great thing! However, I would like to encourage those of you considering making changes to your yard to also include the landscape integrity and continuity of West Floral Park as whole.



We are blessed in our neighborhood to have so many majestic trees and mature landscape features. While some may opt to remove their front lawn, some may opt to keep it, and others opt to remove only part of their lawn, it is important to include the overall impact of your landscape design on the neighborhood as a whole. Don Winn recently included drought tolerant landscaping at his home on Baker Street and was just awarded Most Beautiful Yard in West Floral Park by the city of Santa Ana. (See photo on opposite page) Congrats Don! Here's to saving water and looking great!!





**Congratulations to
Don Winn on Baker!**



MOST BEAUTIFUL YARD AWARD 2015



SANTA CLARA 4TH OF JULY BOWS

A "shout-out" goes to Bruce Bauer and his crew which included the joint effort with Floral Park for the beautiful 4th of July tree bows. Rumor has it that the holiday bows will look even greater and will be up/down Flower Street as well! **Thank you Bruce!**

ANDERSON
REAL ESTATE GROUP

LUXURY HOMES INTERNATIONAL

KEVIN SHULER

Your Neighbor, presents
A Fresh Perspective for West Floral Park



Kevin Shuler
BRE 01953088



Jeff Anderson
BRE 01729514



FloralParkLiving.com

kw | KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY

657-229-4306



NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS!

West Floral Park Neighborhood Association relies on many different communication tools to communicate neighborhood news, safety and events as well as important city information. Sign up for one or all to get connected!

■ **WFPNA Email Blasts:** Be "In the Know," send us your email contact information and we will add you to our email blast list. Email Donna at a.layne@sbcglobal.net and in the subject line of your email type: WFPNA Add me to your list. Include your name, address, and email in the body of your message. Email blasts are sent out as needed, about twice monthly.



■ **Facebook:** Our Facebook page is a more informal, day-to-day, interactive page on happenings in and around our neighborhood and the City of Santa Ana. Check it out and request to join this closed and private Facebook group. Send an email to Mika at mikadenny@me.com if you have trouble joining.



■ **Nextdoor.com:** WFP residents can sign up on Nextdoor.com/join/JXNKHE at any time by going directly to the website. There is an address verification requirement—to ensure the safety and security of this site. Residents can post on Nextdoor.com as appropriate and needed. You can access the site from your desktop or better yet, get the Nextdoor.com app for your smart phone and get alerts any time, anywhere.

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