

Your West Floral Park **Neighborhood Association Elected Board Members**

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Where Neighbors Turn Into Family and Friends

The Arts are Alive and Well in Santa Ana!

Here in West Floral Park we have many successful residents. We have judges, doctors, teachers, business executives, mothers, fathers, designers, small business owners, and the list just goes on and on. However, we wanted to take this issue to learn about the visual and performing artists that dwell in our neighborhood. We have such talent among us, old and young alike!

Orange County School of the Arts senior visual artist in digital media Drew Denny has been drawing passionately since she was two years old. She started with little perfect circles drawn with a crayon. In elementary school she used to get in trouble for drawing in class and this is when it became clear to her family that she needed to attend a special school where artists are celebrated and nurtured. That is what led



Drawings of Dragons by Drew



Drew to Orange County School of the Arts here in Santa Ana. She auditioned for the Visual Arts Conservatory and was accepted in 7th grade. Freshman year she joined the Digital Media Conservatory and now creates illustrations in professional drawing software. She is currently working on applications for college (looking to major in animation) and

putting together a portfolio of all of her best work. Her skills have not gone unnoticed by the staff at OCSA as she has been tasked and paid to do logos for two departments so far. A chip off the old



block as her mom, Mika, is also a graphic designer.

Autumn Browne and Michael Buss of Olive Lane are not only a West Floral Park couple, but they are also performers. Michael has sung with the Meritage Choir in Anaheim for the last year while Autumn is in her 21st year of (continued on Page 2)

Upcoming West Floral Park Events

November 12: Garden Swap November 15: WFPNA General Meeting December 17: Holiday Light Judging

December 10: WFP Christmas Party

The Arts are Alive and

(Continued from Page 1)

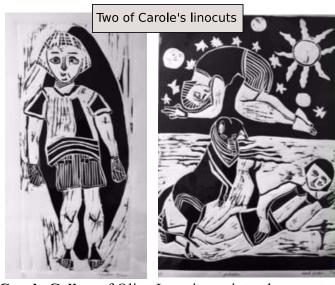
teaching drama at Brookhurst Junior High School. She directs 7-8 shows each year teaching improvisation, original and scripted material, and performances at lunchtime and for local elementary schools. Last spring her kids performed Superheroes Unite! about a ragtag bunch of unlikely superheroes that have to work together thwarting an evil villain. They are currently in rehearsals for their Halloween show, a collection of scenes with spooky themes. One of the pieces, Stage Sprite, was written by Autumn's husband, Michael. Most of Autumn's students come to her with no stage experience and she has said that it is her goal to open up their creativity and increase self-confidence. No wonder that in 2015 she was Theatre Teacher of the Year and a semi-finalist for the 2016 Orange County Teacher of the Year. In addition to teaching, Autumn acts and directs with La Mirada Theatre, Stage Door Repertory, and Stages Theatre.

Santiago Elementary began a Visual and Performing Arts Academy a little over a year ago, right here at our neighborhood school. Under the direction of Mrs. Siebert, the theater arts teacher, the program has thrived and continues to grow with each production. Last year, Maverick Espinoza played Oz in *The Wizard of Oz* for his 5th grade class. This summer, he was also in *Bullies Anonymous*, which was rehearsed, designed and choreographed

by the Arts Academy in only 13 days! The show was also performed during the first week of school for students and helped start the year off at Santiago with a great message. Maverick and many of his fellow students are eagerly looking forward to participating in many more shows at their school.



(above) Maverick as Oz in *The Wizard of Oz* The set for Santiago's production of *The Wizard of Oz* last year



Carole Gelker of Olive Lane is a printmaker working with wood and linocuts. She recently was in a printmaking show at the Orange County Center for Contemporary Art as well as at "Im-press" in the Downtown Artist Village.



Joseph and Chela Banuelos of Westwood and Jon Gothold of Riviera love to moonlight in their Country Western band, Peanut. Joseph "The Rooster" plays fancy guitar and banjo, Jon "Don't call me John" plays rhythm guitar and yodels, while Chela "Daisy Mae" sings high vocal and plays a variety of percussion instruments. The band describes themselves as deeply rooted in wagon trains, moanin' coyotes, 1950's TV, beans, babes and beers. PEANUT is your rootin' tootin' go-to band for some backyard, down home fun times!

Well in Santa Ana!

MenAlive has been Orange County's Gay Men Chorus for the past fifteen years. Today, with more than 130 members and a support team of 50 plus volunteers, MenAlive has grown into one of Orange County's largest choruses as well as an active and respected partner in Southern California's arts scene. But MenAlive is more than just Arts and Entertainment. Their goal is to promote understanding and acceptance for the LGBT community, countering the fear and discrimination that threatens all of society, especially youth. They do this through the love of performance, community outreach, and friendship. There are even some WFP residents that are members and volunteers of the chorus. Rob Barker and Dean McCleskey of Olive Lane have been with the chorus for a number of seasons and have enjoyed making music with so many talented performers from the area. And although he is not in the choir, Scott Lohse of Baker Street has assisted with costumes and backstage for the past few concerts with the chorus. MenAlive has their next performance on December 1st and 2nd. They will be presenting Santa & Son, a show about Orphan Jack who sets out on Christmas Eve to find his father. Who could it be? More info and tickets can be found at www.menalivechorus.org.

teaches Fine Arts and Music to Kindergarten through 8th grade at Saint Jeanne de Lestonnac Catholic School in Tustin. Over the past nine years, Saint Jeanne has put on a yearly spring musical. The musical is an after school theater arts program put on by third through eighth grade students. It is directed by a team of teachers, alumni, and volunteers. Last year they produced *The Lion King Jr.* where they had 84 students in the cast including the stage crew and AV team which is managed by students. This was one of the largest casts they have ever had and with a lot of hard work and dedication it was a huge success. Some of the musicals Annie has directed in the past are Beauty and the Beast, The Music Man, Oklahoma, Annie, The Wizard of Oz, Peter Pan, and The Sound of Music. According to Annie, the success of the production comes from multiple levels, however, the main component is time and dedication from the entire cast. "A lot of our children are not only young thespians; they are academic scholars, athletes, artists, dancers, and singers. The time and dedication from all reflects a successful production."

No stranger to the arts, Annie Corcoran of Towner

Holiday Boutique

Santiago School's PTA Holiday
Boutique will be held in Santiago
School's Media Center on Thursday, November
30th and Friday, December 1st, from 8am until
6pm. There will be lots of vendors selling a
wide variety of items, and lots of holiday

cheer! Please come by to do some shopping or just to visit the school. For the special neighbor price of \$35, we also have some spots for our neighborhood vendors to sell their wares. Items must be brand new and unfortunately homemade food is not allowed to be sold (SAUSD policy). If you would like more information, please email Patty at averybusymom2@gmail.com. Please stop by this wonderful event. 2212 N. Baker St., Santa Ana

Have you recently installed a security camera system on your home or property?

Join the West Floral Park camera crew and ensure the safety of our properties and loved ones. The WFP Neighborhood Watch maintains a list of all homes that have security cameras. When something happens in our neighborhood, those on the list are emailed so that they may check their cameras and try to prevent crime from growing in our neighborhood.

If you have cameras and are not on the WFP Camera Mailing List please contact Neighborhood Watch Captain
Rigo Garcia at rigo-garcia@outlook.com



Beautification Committee Report





By Joseph and Chela Banuelos, Beautification Chairs

Congratulations to our West Floral Park
Garden of the Season Winner



Home of Matt and Susie Bailey at 1022 19th Street

The WFPNA Beautification Committee is proud to announce our "Garden of the Season" award for the summer season. Our committee looks at all of the homes in our beautiful neighborhood. Neighbors who demonstrate "above-and-beyond" efforts to maintain and beautify their front yards help to make our neighborhood a more beautiful place to live and contribute to the value of our homes.

Garden Award Guidelines

- *Pruned, trimmed, and shaped foliage; edged and defined lawns; yard is free of debris and clutter.
- *Water-wise gardening: plants and trees that reduce the need for watering, while preserving the integrity and continuity of the landscapes for which the WFP neighborhood is known.
- *Excellence in home and property maintenance.
- *Overall landscape design, including elements that are original and creative.
- *Garden beds that are neat in appearance, weed-free, mulched, etc.
- *Landscape design that fits the home's architecture.
- *Overall, beautiful curb appeal.



Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 17th and turn on your holiday lights. The WFP elves will be cruising the neighborhood between 5:00-8:00pm to determine who will be awarded "Best Light Display," "Best Window Display," and "Best Entry Display." You can help determine the winners too! We will be asking for neighborhood participation again this year. Stay tuned for more details!



Are We Powerless in Affecting Change in Santa Ana? Editorial by Donna Layne, WFPNA President

Everybody seems to love San Francisco and the song "I Left My Heart in San Francisco" rings true for many of us. I don't necessarily desire to live there, but I still love to visit that beautiful city. I had the chance just last week to go to San Francisco for the Assistance League National Convention. The city was as alive as ever, including the homeless population. We witnessed in one Starbucks an apparently homeless man pull down his pants, scratch, do a little dance and then pull up his pants again! Needless to say, we O.C. girls were a little shocked. Thinking about the homeless has been on my mind more and more as the year goes by. This latest incident underscored for me that state-wide we need both short-term and long-term solutions to the growing homeless problem. "Solutions that both help the homeless residents address their housing, employment, mental health, drug treatment and other basic needs and solutions that ensure the safety of all residents, workers and visitors." (Councilman Jose Solorio)

Americans are compassionate people as evidenced by the outpouring of money and tireless work during the recent hurricanes and earthquakes. As to those who are homeless and/or food deprived in Orange County, I would guess that over 50% of our neighbors give to organizations such as Second Harvest Food Bank, O.C. Rescue Mission, the Salvation Army, places of worship, etc. and volunteer countless hours in organizations that help those who need help. We are good people. Most of us would like to see everyone have a place to call home. During the last year or so, most of us have been impacted by the growing homeless population in Santa Ana. We find them camping out behind our fences in the creek bed or alongside our homes. We feel unsafe walking in our neighborhood as the reports of seeing homeless people increase. We cannot take our young children to nearby parks in fear of encountering the homeless or finding needles in the sand of the play areas. Property crime has increased. Going downtown is not so much a treat with seeing so many homeless camping or roaming about. It seems that everywhere you go, someone is asking for a hand-out. Some of us are worried about attracting business to and keeping businesses in Santa Ana while others are worried about our home values. While some of us are asking the question, when do the property owners/residents of Santa Ana get their rights upheld? It's not an easy solution and everyone seems to have their own version of what solutions should be acted on first. As I write this in late September, the City Council of Santa Ana just approved a Homeless Services Manager position. It declares in the action plan that "For the protection of Santa Ana residents, employees and visitors, the enforcement of laws is important. This includes enforcement against homeless individuals who are endangering others or otherwise engaging in unlawful activity, the City use of its police powers make both County and City services more effective." A position paper credited to Councilman Jose Solorio was briefly posted on Nextdoor.com that outlines some very definitive actions that can be taken by the city. The title of this paper is "The Homelessness Crisis in Santa Ana is a Shared Responsibility and it's Time for Bold & Thoughtful Action." We can take bold and thoughtful action, but it will take more than just the City Council to ease the crisis. Let your voice be heard! Keep up the communication with your city, county, and state representatives. Invoke the power of your tax paying status.

Letters can be sent to the Councilmembers and the Mayor at City Hall, 20 Civic Center Plaza, Post Office Box 1988, Santa Ana, CA 92702. The main telephone for the Mayor and Councilmembers is 714-647-6900.



Mayor, Miguel Pulido Council Member, Jose Solorio email address: mpulido@santa-ana.org email address: jsolorio@santa-ana.org

telephone: 714-647-6900 mobile: 949-426-6504

The association presidents of North Santa Ana have been meeting with Councilman Solorio and then as a separate unit. We have listed several ways to make our voices heard. The first is to start contacting our local officials. Look on Nextdoor.com for more suggested actions in the coming months. We can be both compassionate and active. Let's work together to ensure that everyone's rights are upheld.



Welcome New Neighbors! .

We would like to welcome the following people to West Floral Park. Our new neighbors had the chance to meet at our New Neighbor Social in September. If you happen to see them, be sure to say hello and welcome them to the neighborhood!

June 2017

Norman & Carol Cowden N. Olive St.

Matt & Stacy Lasater N. Westwood Ave.

W. 19th St.

July 2017

Oscar & Ana Gonzalez N. Westwood Ave.

Salvador & Amelia Ibarra N. Rosewood Ave.

August 2017

Danielle Esparza & Giancarlo Casanova W. Santa Clara

Zaven & Jamie Bilezikjian W. Riviera Dr.

Jason & Jennifer Saenz W. Riviera Dr.

> Matthew Hale W. Buffalo Ave.





2017 Board Elections

It takes a lot of dedicated volunteers to make our neighborhood such a wonderful place to live. We would love to have some new faces on our board and to serve WFPNA committees.

If you are curious about a board position and/or committee and want to know more about what the responsibilites are, please ask anyone on the current board and we can give you an idea of what the time commitment is. You can find all of our email addresses on the cover page of this newsletter. You could also consider having two people share a position to help make the time commitment more manageable. If you don't want to be on the board, consider joining a committee to help out when you can. Sign up sheets for all committees will be at the general meeting.

West Floral Park Neighborhood Association Board Elections and General Meeting

Wednesday, November 15 at 7:00pm in the Library at Santiago Elementary







Luck was a lady on August 19th at the West Floral Park casino-themed progressive dinner. Our event was held at two beautiful WFP homes where new neighbors met and old neighbors reconnected. We enjoyed a pizza dinner from Company 77 where our meal was served from a converted fire truck, complete with photo booth. We ended the night with games of blackjack, beer pong, giant jenga, and of course our wonderful raffle baskets! (more pictures from the fire truck photo booth can be found on page 12)



Our Annual Oktoberfest was held on October 7th. We sampled amazing chili, drank delicious beers, and as always, enjoyed spending time with the wonderful neighbors that make West Floral Park such a unique and special neighborhood!









HAPPY HOUR Girls' Night Out

Your next "Vacation" is just a stones throw away

We're always on the lookout for the newest haunts in DTSA and discovered this newly opened bar and restaurant (converted jewelry store), that just debuted about a month ago at 204 W. 4th Street. It has a small entrance that is set back and may be easy to miss.

"Vacation" is getting some buzz in local papers, but none we know with a personal review....until now!!! We arrived at 5:30ish where we were greeted by friendly smiles. Welcoming us in was the warm, lively, and outgoing staff as a small crowd was starting to gather. The vibe was a very casual, relaxed atmosphere, a place to hang out and experience a one-of-its-kind cocktail! The long expansive bar was tended to by Gabi, last year's LA Bartender of the Year. If you feel adventurous, just close your eyes and point to one of the 'around the world' concoctions. Based on our choices you will not be disappointed. We went from London to Spain to Thailand and back to Santa Ana all within an hour! The drinks, priced around \$15, are absolute works of art, beautifully handcrafted to flawless perfection! The atmosphere is lively and a place to hang out with friends with local live music - the crowd was increasing around the 7:00 hour. The

owner/Chef, Aron Habiger (who originally opened Crosby and then North Left in the same location a few years ago) moved away to LA for a bit. He did some travel Pop-Ups and then met up with Chris Parker, investor in



restaurants, and Harry Kho who also will greet you at the door. They teamed up to start a vacation themed restaurant inspired by their travels to different parts of the world. The initial feel as you enter through the original glass door is a tropical island themed atmosphere...open, airy and relaxed. The menu is certainly unique and worldly diverse as we started off in a slow 'vacation' style of casual dining from the appetizer menu. Sampled first was the Steak Tartar for \$15. It really was indescribably delicious. It rated a

10 all around. We asked what made it so unique and were told it was the Secret Sauce – which is a secret. If she told us "it wouldn't be a secret!" I would go back just for that and also attempt to get that secret! We asked for suggestions and then

ordered the Blue Corn Chicken Quesadilla- uniquely non-traditional, nice presentation. The "Spiralized" potatoes were masterfully displayed with the fixin's-of-the day at Market Price...we had mixed reviews. The Heirloom Tomato Tartar with mushrooms at \$12 was just that, a vegan version of the "Heathen Meat Version." Another 10 all the way around! The Broccoli (seasonal vegetable) was a bit salty for our tastes. We would go back to further explore the other offerings, like Cubano- twice cooked pork belly and Cusco Ceviche- seabass, shrimp and crispy octopus...that's just the appetizers! The Chef procures his meat selections daily from our local Electric City Butcher in the 4th Street Market. The dinner menu is our next to try. We were told to come back and experience the "off the menu" burger! Gotta try it! We ended our GNO with, of course, dessert. They only had a few special offerings, so we ordered two:





Bleu Cheese Ice Cream with Port Wine Syrup at \$7- mildly distinctive flavor within the homemade frozen delight and rated a 10 once again! Vanilla Panna Cotta at \$7 with 18-year-old Balsamic Vinegar- creamy, chiffon-like dish

by Laurie Hampton



similar to a fluffy 'Crème Brulee'...another 10! FYI: This syrupy version of balsamic vinegar, which can be made by reducing down any (flavored or not) balsamic on a medium heat to a syrup consistency or just purchased as a "glaze", is great to try over different kinds of frozen desserts/sorbets, custards, bread puddings, and fresh fruits like berries or watermelon. We started off as a group with an ever so slight bit of trepidation, because of our unfamiliarity with this unique menu (remember, we did the same thing with Irenia's!! Ha!) This was our best attitude transformation so far!!!! Give it a try...(they are closed Mondays and Tuesdays) Enjoy...Until Next Time...The Happy Hour Girls!



The chef, Aron, currently lives in our neighborhood.

WFPNA Treasurer's Snapshot

(as of 9/30/2017)

By IAN GIBSON, Treasurer

Account Balances	2017 Budget	YTD Actual
Checking Savings		\$9,491 8,097
Revenues		
Membership	\$7,500	6,166
Advertising	1,500	3,620
Social Events	10,311	7,636
Open Garden Day	13,500	12,754
Other	-	525
Subtotal	32,811	30,701
Expenses		
Membership	300	212
General Meetings	400	301
Community Events	50	231
Community Outreach	-	235
General Operations	2,188	1,649
Open Garden Day	8,050	9,191
Social Events	10,620	7,235
Neighborhood Watch	450	200
Communications	5,400	2,984
Beautification	4,500	1,645
Subtotal	31,958	23,883
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We publish the Treasurer's Report each quarter and provide copies at each General Meeting to let you know what's going on with our WFPNA funds. The Board has completed and approved the 2017 Budget.

\$ 853

Balances / Totals

Should you have any questions, please contact Ian Gibson (iangibson@nexgenpharma.com)



\$ 6,818



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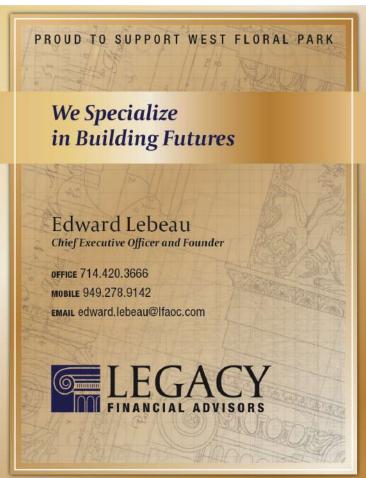
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Michele Chatelle, Chela Banuelos, Harrison Zierer, Annie Corcoran, Scott Lohse, and Laurie Hampton

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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 Harrison Zierer at ziere101@yahoo.com 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. Anyone who is a member can post there. 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.



It's about YOU and YOUR Home.

A FRESH PERSPECTIVE FOR WEST FLORAL PARK





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AND PHIL MADE THIS ONE HAPPEN (TOO)





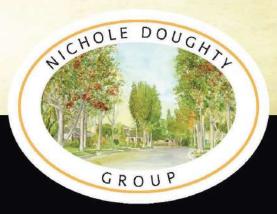
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