



McFadden Goes To Washington

McFadden Intermediate School was honored as a National Exemplary School by President George Bush at White House ceremonies. Out of 218 schools chosen nationwide, McFadden was one of eight chosen from Orange County.

Representatives from the school, including Principal Alexander Aitchison, teacher Ester Severy, and Santa Ana school board president Robert Richardson met with Bush in the White House Rose Garden.

Last year, McFadden was honored as a California Distinguished School, chosen for its outstanding programs, academic accomplishments, staff commitment, and community projects.

Santa Ana Teacher Named One of County's Best

Carolyn Alex, a pre-first/first grade teacher at Hoover Elementary School was named one of Orange County's four Teachers of the Year.

Warm and enthusiastic, Mrs. Alex is highly regarded by fellow teachers and administrators. "She's the kind of teacher that all parents would like to have for their children," said Hoover principal Helen Romeo.

"As long as I can remember, I have always wanted to be a teacher," said Mrs. Alex. "I remember sitting in a little circle with the third-grade teacher as she taught us to read, and I still remember her patience when I continued to stumble, reading the same line over and over again...These are some of the events that caused me to want to become a teacher.

Mrs. Alex will go on to compete for this year's California Teacher of the Year.

McFadden students have continually scored high on CAP and CAT scores and have had winning teams in the Orange County Academic Pentathlon for three consecutive years.

Students additionally participate in programs such as Project DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), a pride and self-esteem building "All Winners Club," and Project ISH (Intermediate Students Help) to aid the needy.

Residents to March Against Drugs

Citizens Against Narcotics (CAN) will sponsor a march on Saturday, October 28 to show their colors in a war on drug use.

Organizers hope that several hundred people will join together and demonstrate against narcotic abuse. Marchers will be able to make up their own signs and banners before the start of the event.

CAN was organized with the help of the Community Oriented Policing (COP) program.

Adults and students are invited to the Walk which will start at noon at the corner of Center and McFadden, near Bristol.

For more information, call Nancy Inglehart at 547-1358.

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Dear Santa Ana:

The Mayor and City Council have given top priority to making our city a better place to live, work, and play. In recent years, redevelopment in the commercial arena has brought Santa Ana national recognition.

These successes must not overshadow the successes within the Neighborhoods. The City administration is dedicated to providing safe, clean, and well maintained neighborhoods for the residents of our city. The key to that success is how well each of us participates in this effort. Government alone cannot do the job.

Each of us as residents, neighbors, employers, and employees must play a role in every step of our progress. While we share ideas and concerns, we must also share the commitment to maintain and improve our neighborhoods.

The most important aspect of a community is communication. I want to offer my appreciation and support to the residents who have set their goal to build and enhance communication within our city. This newsletter will provide another method of communication between the City, neighborhoods, businesses and residents.

Thank you for your efforts to open new avenues for understanding and citywide sharing of ideas.

Sincerely,
David N. Ream, City Manager

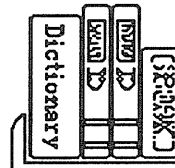
Eye on Santa Ana is a production of the residents of Santa Ana through the Neighborhood Communications Linkage Committee in cooperation with the City's Neighborhood Improvement Office.

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Special Thanks to Linda Foster.

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Page Two

The Santa Ana Renaissance

We're at a key point in the life of our city.

We can see the distant past when Santa Ana was a majestic city in the newly booming state of California.

We can also see the near past when the city was rapidly deteriorating and began a path towards urban blight. It was a time when the public and private sectors only added to the downward spiral.

But today we can see a city with a second chance...and a city not letting that second chance slip by.

Santa Ana is a city where the public officials are taking the tough steps to stop the downhill trend and head us up towards the fresh air of renaissance.

It's a city where businesses have taken a chance and committed millions of dollars to rebuild their economic life without leaving the city.

And it's a city where older and newer residents are taking a stand for what belongs to them. They're taking a stand to bring back the beauty and the majesty they know Santa Ana has within.

There's a lot of effort out there working for a better Santa Ana.

This newsletter's purpose is to publicize that effort--be it from individuals, a neighborhood, a civic organization, or the City government.

The more we realize we're not working alone, the quicker we'll see that light at the end of the tunnel.

And that light is all of the greatness our city can be.

----*Guy Ball*

If you would like to receive future editions of **Eye on Santa Ana** in Spanish or Vietnamese, please contact us.

Neighborhood Focus: Historic French Park

French Park, called the Nob Hill of Orange County at the turn of the century, is a twenty square block residential district north of downtown Santa Ana.

The neighborhood sits around a real "French Park," a triangular strip of land located at French and Minter Streets.

Originally named "Flatiron Park," it forms the nucleus of the Historic French Park District, whose streets are lined with large houses built by some of the Orange County's most affluent citizens from the late 1890's into the 1920's.

Unfortunately, from the 1950's through the 70's, some of the finest French Park homes, including that of their namesake, C. E. French (1841-1914), were torn down to make room for parking lots, condominiums, and apartments.

This trend towards demolition and high density development was stopped in the late 1970's, however, when neighbors organized into a strong, cohesive group and successfully lobbied the Santa Ana City Council for historic district status, despite vehement opposition from developers.



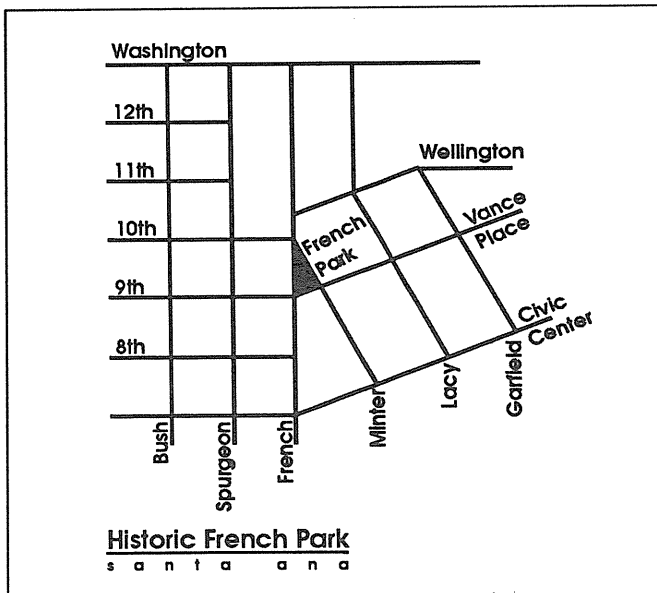
Its activities currently include writing architectural guidelines enhancing and defining the Secretary of Interior's "Standards for Rehabilitation and Guidelines for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings," which are the official rules to which neighborhood restoration projects must conform.

French Park (along with the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society) co-sponsors the Santa Ana Victorian Home Tour every spring. Approximately 10 homes in the neighborhood put out the welcome mat to interested "tour"-ists.

The Tour gives people a chance to see the charm and character of historical homes built in the early part of this century. It also allows home owners a chance to show off their hard work in restoring their pride and joy.

Most residents who choose to live in this unique neighborhood do so because they love its ambience, and appreciate those historic homes remaining. Many have extensively renovated the houses to return them to their original splendor.

The residents feel that living in a historic house is exciting, romantic, and fulfilling. It provides a sense of the past, and a respect for those who created these lovely homes.



Today, the Historic French Park Neighborhood Association continues to protect its special status with watchful vigilance, led by a strong 20 member executive board.



In Our Neighborhoods

South Coast--One of Santa Ana's newest neighborhoods has been busy on several fronts. This summer they sponsored a neighborhood clean-up to promote residential pride. This has led to discussions with the City regarding rehabilitation of their Flower and MacArthur block walls. Residents may help fund the re-stuccoing and leveling.

South Coast now has 2 Vietnamese speaking reps in addition to a Spanish speaking member in order to communicate with non-English speaking residents.

50 residents came to a neighborhood picnic held on Labor Day. Organizers noted that future events will not be held on popular 3 day holidays to avoid conflicts with resident's vacations.

In addition to the upcoming 2nd issue of their newsletter, other projects include the start of a Neighborhood Watch program and a neighborhood association membership drive.

Bristol-Warner-- The preservation of neighborhood values have been high on their list lately. They've been successful at stopping unwanted and illegal use of residences.

Recently, residents worked with the City to shut down 2 car spray painting operations set up at local homes.

1501 W. St. Andrew Pl. won the Keep America Beautiful prize for most beautiful front yard.

Residents have been working closely with the Police Dept. to target gang and auto theft activity.

Bristol-Warner has also been working to set up bulletin boards at local businesses and library to increase neighborhood communication.

Sandpointe--Planning for the 2nd Neighborhood Fair has already begun. It rides on the coat tails of their successful first fair held last May.

Sandpointe--(con't)

Emphasis on home improvement and neighborhood clean-up has begun. An "Adopt a Sidewalk" campaign is hoped to increase resident awareness.

A neighborhood recycling program is on the agenda for discussion at the next quarterly meeting.

The next issue of their newsletter is due out soon.

Washington Square--Summer skies and moderate temperatures brought out a large crowd for the 1st annual WSNA Summer Party. The four hour event featured entertainment, carnival games, and food (all put together by residents). Neighbors renewed friendships and traded the latest gossip.

Washington Square residents are now sporting the latest in fashion--the Washington Square T-Shirts. Watch out Wilshire Square.

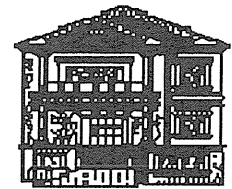
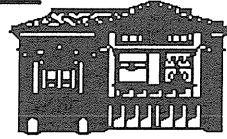
The serious issue of traffic reduction is presently being discussed with City staff. Washington Square residents recently were asked by City Council to come up with a new plan to reduce traffic incursion into their neighborhood.

A general meeting was held on Oct 5 to discuss (among other things) street lighting and the latest city proposals.

The Washington Square 2nd Annual Christmas Decorating Contest is in the planning stages. Awards will be given to the Most Whimsical, Best Use of Lights, Best Religious Theme, Best Door Decoration, and Most Creative.

Wilshire Square--You see smiles on the faces of both residents and Public Works after an agreement was reached over a tree removal issue. Over 150 trees were originally slated to have been removed from WS. For the last 1 1/2 years, dedicated residents and a sympathetic City

In Our Neighborhoods



Wilshire Square--(con't) staff have been working on a compromise plan.

A final agreement called for 31 trees to be removed. Removal has been completed and sidewalk repair is in progress. Tree replacement is slated for late winter.

"Ninja" residents have been actively removing graffiti from fences, light boxes, and street poles. Because of the backlog of the City's service and the desire to take care of it themselves, several residents are working to paint over the writing within 48 hours.

Wilshire Square will sponsor a neighborhood clean-up to coincide with the Citywide event Nov. 4th. Residents will assist those unable to bring trash and debris to the dumpsters. Residents will also mount a neighborhood wide effort to pick up litter and trash from the streets and parkways.

Plans for the 2nd Wilshire Square Historic Home Tour are being laid by those who swore "never again."

An as yet undated neighborhood pot-luck is being planned.

Laurelhurst Park--A long sought closure of a problem bike trail between Warner and Raitt Streets succeeded recently when the City Council agreed to a one year trial closure. The neighborhood had seen an increase in crime which was attributed to the easy access via the trail.

A recent bi-lingual general neighborhood meeting went well. This was Laurelhurst's first large attempt to communicate with non-English speaking neighbors. The main topic of the meeting was home improvement. City aid programs were discussed.

The residents continue in their bi-weekly sidewalk clean-up. On the day before street sweeping, they clean up trash and litter along Raitt St.

Laurelhurst residents have also begun painting over graffiti on their block walls.

Heninger Park--1989 sees a revitalized Heninger Park leadership. Resident involvement and participation at the quarterly meetings have increased.

Heninger Park streets are in the process of being slurry sealed and sidewalks are being repaired. Trees which were causing damage were recently removed and replaced.

Neighbors seem to be taking an increased pride in their properties with improved landscaping and new paint jobs.

Some homes are also being restored to their original, early 1900's condition.

Since Heninger Park is a Historical District, all construction within is supposed to be reviewed by the Site Review Committee. Eugene Myers has become the newest member of the Committee.

A survey was recently completed to determine owner and renter occupied residences and their concerns. The Association hopes to use that information to increase resident involvement.

Meanwhile, various Heninger Park residents have been actively involved on all of the Mayor's special Task Forces.

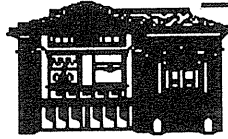
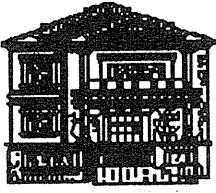
Eastside--With major problems of overcrowding, excessive noise and traffic, Eastside residents have been working with several departments of the City to find solutions.

Code Enforcement has been working on house and apartment overcrowding. Eastside also has several large apartment complexes which compound the traffic and parking issues.

The City is presently working on a traffic study to determine if any change in traffic flow or stop signs are needed.

Public Works has been working on tree replacement and sidewalk and curb improvements. They have also been replacing decaying asphalt in alleys with longer lasting concrete.

The neighborhood association has seen a small influx of new members which they hope will bring new energy to some big problems.



In Our Neighborhoods

Frontier Valley--Residents of the original Frontier Tract of homes recently organized a neighborhood association.

The first meeting was held at a resident's home. The steering committee is presently working with the City's Neighborhood Improvement Office to identify resident's concerns and to hold their first general meeting.

Saddleback View--This fall, the Saddleback View Neighborhood Association will be identifying historically significant houses in their area. The neighborhood contains several mansions, some of which date to the turn of the century.

In addition, there are several small homes from the 1900-1920 period and many more from the 1920's and 1930's.

The neighborhood's eventual goal is to place signs on the homes signifying their date of construction and original owner, similar to what was done in Heninger Park. Also, they would like to have historical sketches of the homes written.

Saddleback View is on the east side of Santa Ana bounded by Grand Ave, First St, and the Santa Ana Fwy. It was organized in 1984.

New Neighborhood--Another group of residents had their first general meeting October 2nd.

This new neighborhood, as yet unnamed, is located near Raitt and Warner. Their meeting discussed neighborhood concerns and association focus.

If you would like information on forming a neighborhood association (or would like to know who your neighborhood leaders are) contact Neighborhood Improvement at 667-2260. They can provide you with start-up assistance and support.

P.R.I.D.E.--Over 500 children and adults of PRIDE, Parks and Recreation Inspires Dignity and Esteem, marched down First Street recently supporting their "No Drugs/No Gangs" program.

PRIDE targets elementary schoolchildren who live in areas with gang activity. It was recently expanded to eight schools and will now target fourth graders.

Children in PRIDE clubs participate in after school activities.

Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society-- will hold a progressive dinner on December 9th. Members will eat their way through various French Park homes, finishing at the Howe-Waffle House, which will be decorated for Christmas.

Tours of the historic Dr. Howe-Waffle House, located on Civic Center Drive, are given every Tuesday and 3rd Saturday from 11 am to 2 pm.

Call 547-9645 for further general or membership information.

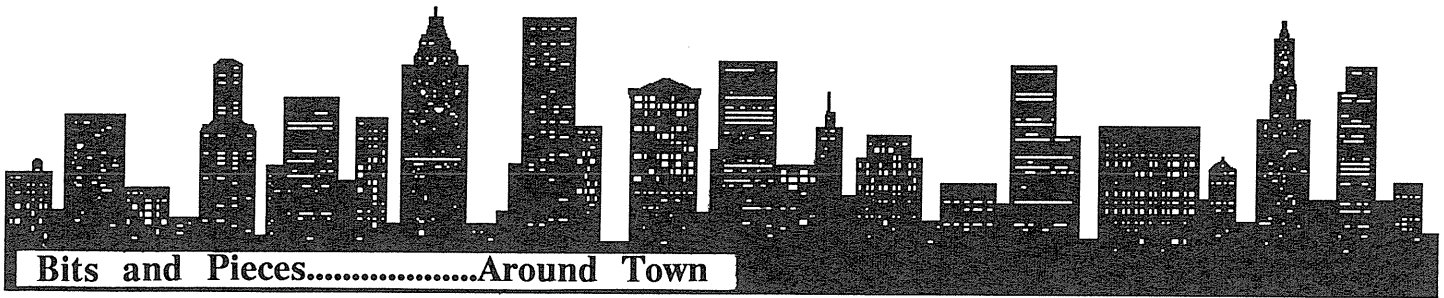
Far West and Far North West--activities at these neighborhoods were unavailable at press time.

We hope to have information about these two areas in the next issue.

Big or small, if your neighborhood or civic organization is working for a better Santa Ana, we want to spread the word and let others know.

Send us information on your organization along with past, present, or future projects. Include the name and phone number of a contact person.

Send material for the next issue of Eye on Santa Ana by December 10th.



Bits and Pieces.....Around Town

It's difficult to pick the best of the finest cops around, but the **Santa Ana Police Benevolent Association** recently named their personnel of the year at their 23rd annual recognition event.

This year the honorees were: Ed DeMarco, Bill Scheer, Tony Ochoa, Mark Bell, Ferrell Buckels, Jim Pruitt, Sheryl Calbert, and Marlene Davies.

Congratulations and thanks for giving Santa Ana your extra best!

Five of our newest residents were honored October 16th by the City Council as participants in the Housing Department's innovative **Home Buyer's Mortgage Assistance Program**.

The program was intended to help stabilize and enhance our downtown single family neighborhoods by increasing the percentage of owner occupied homes.

Twenty-one families in all received low interest loan assistance in down payment and closing costs.

Capital Projects--contact Neighborhood Improvement at 667-2260 for further information)

Alley Reconstruction--vicinity of 17th St, Warner and Main, and Pine and Main.

Tree Trimming/Removal/Planting--various neighborhoods including Far North West, Wilshire Square, and others.

Street Reconstructions--
Fairview--17th to Trask.
17th Street--SA River to Bristol
Flower Street--Pine to SA Blvd.
First Street--I-5 to Tustin
Edinger--SA River to Center St
Baker St--Myrtle to 1st St

The **Greater Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce** is sponsoring **Santa Ana Proud**, a 3 year image enhancement program with a three-fold purpose: "to promote a positive image of Santa Ana, marketing our community as a place to live, work, shop, and play; to protect and enhance the investment we have in our community; and to promote the economic health of our businesses and the quality of life of our residents."

Their program includes townhall meetings, business roundtables, a leadership training program, promotional tools, and special events.

If you would like information or a speaker for your organization, call 541-5353.

If you've been looking at real estate ads lately, you've seen how real estate agents are marketing Santa Ana homes more and more by neighborhood.

In addition to **North Santa Ana** and **French Park**, the neighborhoods of **Washington Square**, **Sandpointe**, and **Wilshire Square** are being featured.

All of the work these areas have been doing are starting to pay off with increased Realtor and home buyer awareness (along with stable or increasing home prices).

Meetings:

City Council--meets the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month, 7:30 pm at City Hall.

Housing Advisory Commission--meets the last Tuesday of the month, 6pm at Housing Division offices, 500 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Suite 400.

Keep America Beautiful--meets the 2nd Wed. of the month, 5:30 pm, at 500 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Suite 400.

Community Calendar and Events:

- October 20-22--Golden City Days Festival** held on Fourth Street in Downtown Santa Ana. Features international food booths, live entertainment, arts and crafts, and carnival attractions. 10 am- 10 pm Fri., 10 am- 8 pm Sat./Sun.
- October 22-----"Grand Prix" Bicycle Racing** on the streets of Santa Ana. First race begins at 7:30 am. Races continue until 4:30 pm. Other events include a Cub Scout Pinewood Derby, bicycle freestyle competition, and a children's Big Wheel race. Call 647-5301 for further information.
- October 29-----Antique & Collectibles Swap Meet** sponsored by the Santa Ana Uptown Lions Club. 7:30 am- 2 pm at the Irvine Valley College, Jeffrey & Irvine Center Dr., Irvine. \$1 donation.
- October 31-----Halloween Carnivals** at El Salvador, Jerome, and Memorial Centers, 5-9 pm. Events include a costume parade, game booths,(including Pumpkin Shoot and Zombie Toss), Haunted House, and free Halloween treats. Call 549-6887.
- November 4----Neighborhood Clean-Up--**Trash dumpsters will be placed in locations throughout the city. Call 667-2260 for info.
- December 2-----Santa Ana /Times Holiday Parade** begins at 10:30 am at Civic Center and Broadway. The 90 minute parade features 214 marching bands., 20 floats, 6 international performing groups, and 10 giant character balloons. Volunteers are still needed to help decorate the floats. Call 647-6565.
- December 16---Children's Holiday Party**, complete with St Nick, will be held at the Santa Ana Stadium, from 3-5 pm. Call 647-6561

Submit your event listing by December 10 for possible inclusion in our next issue.

Interested in receiving the next Eye on Santa Ana? Just send us your name and address.

Si usted quiere recibir revistas en el futuro o informacion especifico, llame al Programa de Mejoramiento de la Comunidad (714) 667-2260.

NẾU QÚI VỊ TRONG TƯƠNG LAI MUỐN NHẬN THÊM NHỮNG BẢN TIN BẰNG TIẾNG VIỆT NAM HAY CÓ GÌ THẮC MẮC, XIN QÚI VỊ LIÊN LẠC VĂN PHÒNG NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT Ở SỐ 667-2260

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