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# Eye on Santa Ana

Our Community Newsletter

Volume 5 Number 3

Free

Spring 1994

## Under Pressure: Not Just Acting

"Your play made me think about all the friends and relatives I have doing drugs ... I don't want them to throw away their lives ... Some of my friends that saw the play told me they felt like they wanted to cry because the play reminded them about their families and themselves."

This was the reaction of one Carr Intermediate student to a recent performance of STOP-GAP's educational touring play, "Under Pressure", on teenage substance abuse. Performed alternately by two casts, one comprised of professional actors and the other of young residents from the drug recovery center, Phoenix House, "Under Pressure" is just one of several touring plays which STOP-GAP brings into Santa Ana schools.

Using drama to promote education about critical social issues has been one of the main goals of this award-winning, non-profit theatre company since its founding by Don Laffoon and Victoria Bryan in 1979. Based in Santa Ana, STOP-GAP gives hundreds of performances each year in Southern California classrooms allowing young people to address issues such as drug abuse, racial prejudice, alcoholism in the family, and date rape, while learning healthy communication and decision-making skills. The hour-long presentations consist of a short scripted play followed by discussion and role-plays in which students and STOP-GAP staff act out fictional scenes to try to solve very real problems.

In addition to its educational touring plays, STOP-GAP provides innovative therapeutic drama workshops for populations in crisis. Weekly workshops are given for abused and neglected children in Orangewood, battered women in shelters throughout Orange County, recovering substance abusers, pregnant teens and teen mothers, homeless street youth, and Cambodian teenagers.

For more information about STOP-GAP's educational and therapeutic drama programs, call (714) 979-7061.



Use My Real Name — STOP-GAP actors Tanya Smith (left) and Eva Burgess role play students prejudiced against each other because of race. The student audience members guide the actors towards a solution of this tense scene in a school setting.  
Photo by Patty Williams

## Santa Ana: A City Built on Neighborhoods

By Catherine C. Cate

"It's our neighborhoods that sell our City," says David Rudge, winner of this year's Wilshire Square "Good Neighbor of the Year Award."

"When my wife, Jacquie, and I were looking to buy a home, we were attracted to the community qualities of several Santa Ana neighborhoods," Rudge remembers.

Ultimately, Wilshire Square won out and David has become one of that neighborhood's most treasured human resources, always ready to paint and to party in what has become one of Santa Ana's many neighborhood success stories.

Just 10 or so years ago, Santa Ana had maybe 15 active, organized neighborhood associations, including Eastside, Santa Anita, French Park, Logan-Lacy, Heninger Park, Washington Square, and Bristol/Warner.

In 1983, the City, seeing the potential, decided to establish the Neighborhood Improvement Program to assist residents in their grass-roots efforts to improve their neighborhoods. City officials viewed the associations as "a powerful tool" to give residents the power to control "the direction they wanted their neighborhood to go.

Today, there are 45 organized neighborhoods: neighborhoods whose associations have been so visible, successful, and sophisticated in their efforts to solve a variety of problems that the City now actively solicits the input of their members in many decision-making processes that affect the future of the entire city.

It's commonly recognized that residents working as a cohesive and supportive group have created numerous partnerships both with City agencies and the business community to address issues facing their neighborhood, thereby enhancing their quality of life.

For instance, Sandpointe and Northeast are among the neighborhoods that have successfully negotiated with developers to modify planned nearby developments that would have a significant impact on their communities of one and two-story homes.

After meeting with the leaders of the Sandpointe Neighborhood (in the south end of town) for several months, developers of the Hutton Center (at Main and MacArthur) and PacTel lowered the height and density of their newest office building to reduce its impact to nearby residents.

— continued on page 8

## Bowers to Open Children's Center

The Bowers Museum of Cultural Art expects to open their Bowers Childrens Center in the former California Federal Bank Building at the corner of 18th and Main this fall thanks to support from both public and private sectors. And Bowers is planning to ensure this will be a special place for kids.

"Too many children remember their visit to a museum as one where they were told to not touch or make a sound," noted Peter Keller, Director of the Bowers Museum. "There is so much a museum can offer to encourage children to have fun, and to learn by doing and experiencing."

In the Childrens Center, there will be a special room devoted to story-telling by Bowers docents. The original bank vault will be a classroom. Another area will be dedicated to art projects. The main lobby area will contain activity centers where children can try on native costumes, examine artifacts through a microscope, or learn about masks from around the world by trying on, or even making one. There will be special activity boxes containing small projects or games that can be checked out and worked on by a school class or a family.

The help from various agencies included an inexpensive lease from Santa Ana's Community Development Agency (which recently acquired the empty building) and a \$50,000 grant from the Weingart Foundation of Los Angeles to help seed the development of the Center.

The building is large and has ample parking. "The City's Development Agency appreciated the importance of this property to the museum district, and the Bowers Museum saw an opportunity to better serve the children of Santa Ana and Orange County by creating their own hands-on center, focusing on the mission of the Museum," noted Keller.

"This is an important step in helping us develop the Museum's future audience and our community's future leaders," Keller continued. "We hope the Childrens Center is never really finished. As new ideas develop, the Center will be open to adaptation and improvement."

# VIEWPOINT

*Guy Ball*

## Giving Back

All of us have some wonderful "gifts" we too often take for granted. It could be our wonderful spouse or children, our health, a good job (or any job at all), our sparkling wit (and our humility), even the ability to enjoy the smell of flowers. And while we don't always see life as so wonderful all the time. We need to remember to keep a focus on what is good in our lives.

I reflect sadly on the recent suicide of a musician who was tremendously creative, financially successful, and sincerely loved by many. But he was also a man who hurt inside; so much so that he decided to end his life.

He didn't realize how important his life was, not only to himself, but to others around him. We may gloss over it, but what the writers and the directors and the actors were trying to say in the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" really is true. We matter because of our relationship to our family and the world around us. Our true worth isn't measured by the possessions we have but by how we enjoy and use the talents we were each given when we were born. That measurement is regardless of our flaws.

We can choose to understand that and make a positive impact or we can be self-centered and lose sight of why we're really here on this planet.

Lately, the media likes to get your attention by proclaiming (in very large type) that people don't have heroes anymore. You know, "we" have no one to believe in anymore. Well, the "heroes" that the media tries to feed us (the stars, the dreamers, the do-ers) tend to get only so much positive attention before the same media decides to destroy them, ala Nancy Kerrigan, Peter Ueberroth, and even the very unusual, but very charitable Michael Jackson (whom I consider innocent until proven otherwise, thank you, regardless of what the media hype says).

But when I look at my true heroes, I don't need to look too far. I see the volunteers at AYSO, Boy and Girl Scouts, and the Little League who are helping kids of today stay on the right path of life. I see Santa Ana teachers that are willing to pay for needed supplies that their meager school budget doesn't allow; willing to go that extra mile to help their students understand some concepts. I see the volunteers working with the schools and libraries and homeless shelters and neighborhoods and you name it. All because they understand that they do matter to the world at large.

These are my heroes.

Maybe, I think too simply sometimes (especially in this oh-so-complex world). But maybe we all need to step back and think simply again. We all need to see how we fit in this jigsaw puzzle of a world. We need to see how much our efforts matter to those who really need our help.

Want to be a hero? It doesn't take much. But you have to go outside of your little world to do it and help someone else. You have to spend some of your time and energy making at least a small part of this world a better place. Amazingly, you'll find it's not all that hard. And you'll find the time you spend is well invested -- not just for others but for yourself as well!

Maybe you won't be featured on the 6 o'clock news or on the front page of the newspapers as the "hero of the week." But maybe by doing some unrelated task (at least in your mind), someone a lot younger than you or a lot needier than you, will make the right and not the wrong turn down a path. Maybe someone hurt will suffer a little less because of your efforts.

To me that's the purpose in life -- to repay at least a few of the gifts we've been blessed with. And you don't need a headline to feel the repayment was "worthy." You'll know it in your heart!

## Eye on Santa Ana

Our Community Newsletter

*Eye on Santa Ana* is a quarterly production of the residents of the City of Santa Ana through the Neighborhood Communications Linkage Committee in cooperation with the City's Neighborhood Improvement Office. All contents are © 1994, *Eye on Santa Ana*.

The circulation of this issue is 10,000 copies, distributed to residents, neighborhoods, businesses, City employees, civic organizations, and other interested readers. We welcome and encourage your comments, articles, press releases, letters, and calendar listings.

For questions about advertising, contact Terri Eggers at 667-2246.

The deadline for the next issue (Summer) is June 18.

**Eye on Santa Ana**  
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## Discover the Downtown

by Jose Martinez, President  
Downtown Santa Ana Business Association

(editor's note: we've invited Mr. Martinez, the new head of the DSABA, to regularly update us on what is happening in Santa Ana's very-special Downtown area.)

The downtown business district of Santa Ana offers a great deal to the residents of the City and the Downtown Santa Ana Business Association (DSABA) wants you to know all about it. As a result, we're proud to announce the development of a new promotional campaign which will highlight the unique shops, merchants, and services available to us all here in Downtown Santa Ana.

During the course of 1994, we hope to spend time talking with each of you in the neighborhood organizations and associations about your perceptions and experiences in the Downtown, in order to learn how better to serve your needs and how best to attract you to enjoy your Downtown.

In addition, we intend to survey County and City employees (who use the downtown area extensively during the weekday) to get a better understanding of products and services they find attractive.

And lastly, and most importantly, we will attempt to get a better understanding of what our current customers enjoy about the downtown area.

We plan on continuing many of the promotional events we have had in prior years, such as the Mothers' Day Event, 4th of July and 16th of September celebrations, Christmas, and other seasonal holiday events.

Additionally, we are considering sponsoring historical walking tours of the Downtown, progressive dinners in cooperation with the Downtown restaurateurs, and co-operative promotions and events with some of the local cultural and art institutions.

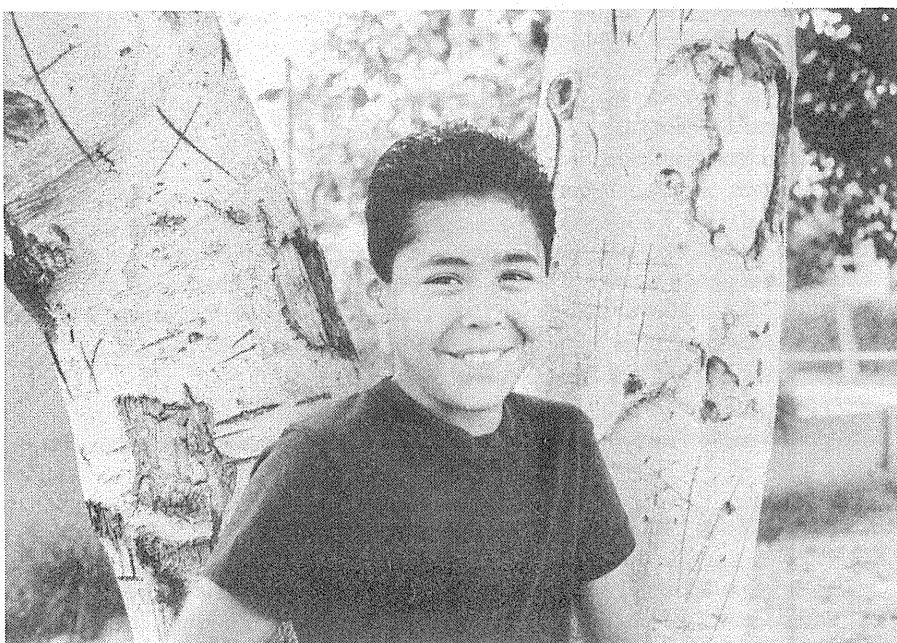
Today, we have a diverse mix of products and services in Downtown. They include such fine businesses as florists, custom jewelers, Hispanic bookstore and reading room, Italian eateries, herbalists, bridal wear, tax and financial services, legal services, medical services, architects, and many, many more interesting and exciting products and services.

We're also looking forward to the further development of the Artist's Village Live/Work project which will bring a new and exciting cultural element to the Second Street Mall District of Downtown.

One of the most immediate efforts will be in sharing with you, our fellow Santa Ana residents, the unique aspects of the downtown area by publishing a guide of products, services, businesses, and professionals available in our downtown neighborhood.

We'll make that available to you soon. In the meantime, we welcome you to join us in our neighborhood — the Downtown Neighborhood. Come discover (or re-discover) your Downtown.

Look for announcements of upcoming DSABA events in your local neighborhood newsletters as well as the upcoming issues of *Eye on Santa Ana*.



**Smiling Faces** -- The Salvation Army has put smiles on the faces of hundreds of Orange County children like eleven-year old Mauricio of Santa Ana through their annual summer camp program. The Salvation Army have made a special commitment to working with at-risk youth to ensure that troubled children are helped before it's too late.

## Summer Camp '94 - Building Futures

Of all the many programs The Salvation Army sponsors, they feel their youth outreach is one of their most important. Young people are the future and The Salvation Army wants to ensure that each child reaches their full potential as healthy, productive, and happy adults.

One of their oldest and most popular programs is their annual summer camp. Each year, the Army in Orange County sends 300 underprivileged boys and girls from Santa Ana and the surrounding communities to a resident camp in the lovely mountains above Malibu. For many of the children, this will be a chance to escape the poverty of their daily life and experience an atmosphere of kindness, understanding, and a host of exciting activities designed just for them: swimming, crafts, camp fires, hiking, sports, and plenty of good food and friendship!

"Camperships" (scholarships) provided by individuals, companies, corporations, service clubs, and churches make this life changing experience possible for some of Santa Ana's most deserving children.

To find out how you or your organization can sponsor a campership, please contact The Salvation Army at their Santa Ana community center, 546-7880.

## May 14th Food Drive

Once again this year, the National Association of Letter Carriers and the United States Postal Service will be conducting a food drive to help the needy. Last year, letter carriers across the country collected thousands of tons of canned goods for other Americans. Santa Ana carriers alone collected over 26 tons.

So on Saturday, May 14th, leave non-perishable food items by your mailbox before your normal mail delivery. (You can also take the items to your local post office.) If you have any questions, call David Jones, president of the local NALC Branch 737 at 836-4907.

Your Santa Ana carriers (and all the food recipients) thank you for caring and helping in this very worthwhile effort.

## On the Homefront Orange County

What was life in Orange County like during World War II. You can find out by visiting the *Homefront Orange County* exhibit now showing at the Old Courthouse Museum.

*Homefront Orange County* considers how life — at home, in the workplace, and at school — was irrevocably altered by disparate elements of the war effort. Various war programs, such as Civilian Defense, rationing, war work, and the development of important military bases, are examined using original materials on loan from a number of collections.

Meanwhile, we hope you didn't miss the recently exhibited *Produce for Victory: Posters on the American Homefront, 1941-45*, a traveling show from the Smithsonian Institution. The exhibit included 35 original posters designed to convince Americans that their productivity on the job and at home could help win the World War II.

The museum is located in the Old Orange County Courthouse, 211 W. Santa Ana Blvd (at Broadway) and is open from 9 am to 5 pm on weekdays.

For more details, call 834-3703.

## Wall of Fame Athlete

For being a four-year starter on Century High School's basketball team (and still maintaining a 3.45 GPA), senior Laura Zepeda earned a spot on Nike Town's Athlete Wall of Fame for the month of March.

She was selected with 11 other athletes from youngsters throughout Southern California to have her picture displayed for the month. The huge Costa Mesa Nike product store also displays sports memorabilia.

## Woman of the Year

Santa Ana Police Department Sergeant Irma Vasquez has been honored by State Assemblyman Tom Umberg as "1994 Woman of the Year" from Orange County's 69th Assembly District. Sgt. Vasquez was publicly honored at the State Capitol in Sacramento for her outstanding community achievements.

"Irma is truly one individual who has made, and continues to make, a difference through her contributions to our community," said Umberg. "She is an excellent role model both for her colleagues in the police department and the many individuals with whom she interacts within our community. She exemplifies the spirit of excellence and dedication to which we should all aspire."



## The West's Best

So where are the good old hardware stores? *Sunset Magazine*, one of our favorite journals, did a "Best of the West" featurette in their May issue on hardware stores that have anything and everything you may need. The solitary one mentioned in California was, of course, Santa Ana's *Clark Dye Hardware* at 210 S. Main St.

Local resident Nancy Mueller wrote *Sunset*, "If Clark Dye doesn't have it, it doesn't exist," and tens of thousands of "do-it-yourself" homeowners throughout Orange County can attest to that.

But having one of everything doesn't help if you don't have the service to help you find it. The very helpful and knowledgeable staff are down-right amazing in helping you find that special widget you need to complete a project — no matter how small, unique, or unusual.

Co-owners Don and Arlene McLaughlin and their son David are continuing the tradition started by Clark Dye (yes, there really was a Clark Dye) in 1946. A hardware tradition and a Santa Ana tradition.

## House of Design

Fifteen interior and three landscape designers have blended classical elements in the tradition of an Italian villa in the 1994 Philharmonic House of Design, a benefit for the Orange County Philharmonic Society and their nationally recognized musical outreach programs for young people.

This year's 17-room design house is located in the exclusive Peralta Hills area of Anaheim. Two Santa Ana based designers, Deanna Rousseau and John Garcia, helped transform the home into an elegant estate for the California lifestyle of the nineties.

The Society's musical outreach programs for youth reach more than 250,000 school children annually (Santa Ana included) with performances at the Performing Arts Center, various other theaters, and at the schools themselves.

The 1994 Philharmonic House of Design is open daily (except Mondays) until May 29. On Thursday, the designer house is open at night until 8 pm. Tickets are \$17 each. For more information, call 840-7542.

## Prototype Community Magazine Debuts in June

Santa Ana's image will receive a much-deserved boost in June with the launch of a brand new community magazine entitled *Good News Today: Focus Santa Ana*, a cooperative effort spearheaded by the Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce with major support by MainPlace/Santa Ana and the *Orange County Register*.

Chamber Board Member and MainPlace Marketing Director Judi Bijlani said that she was very excited about the magazine, which will feature positive news, stories, and information about Santa Ana and its community. "Santa Ana has a high profile in the media due to its status as the county seat. This coverage is not always positive," said Bijlani.

*Good News Today: Focus Santa Ana* will do much to promote the positive image of Santa Ana, allowing us to concentrate on the good news and success stories that can be found in every corner of our city," she continued.

The magazine is planned to be a quarterly publication delivered to 100,000 *Register* subscribers in the central Orange County region. An additional 2,000 copies will be distributed by community organizations and the Chamber. The publication date is June 23. If you'd like more information on the publication, contact Bob Spencer at 541-5353.

## CALPAW '94

One of the worthwhile ballot measures this June 7th will be CALPAW '94 (officially the Parks and Wildlife Initiative — Prop. 180), a general obligation bond act to provide nearly \$2 billion to purchase threatened parkland, coastal areas and wildlife habitat, restore and develop existing parkland, and provide funds for a number of other urban and rural park projects.

Locally, funds raised in the proposition will go towards developing the Santiago Creek Greenway, along Santa Ana's northern boundary, as a green belt/open space park that would extend all the way up to Irvine Lake (complete with a 12 mile long bicycle path that would never cross a street). Other local projects that would receive funding include Laguna Canyon, Coal Canyon, Irvine Regional Park, and Bolsa Chica Native Lands.

If you're interested in helping the campaign (even just a few hours worth) to support CALPAW '94, call Leslie at 252-1703.

## The White House Comes to Santa Ana

You're not going to want to miss the special exhibit soon to be at MainPlace/Santa Ana shopping center. From May 7 to June 4, MainPlace will show a large scale replica of the White House in Washington, D.C., featuring authentic furnishings as it appears today.

Measuring 60 feet long by 20 feet wide, it is a one-inch to one-foot replica and took over 600,000 hours of labor during the last 32 years.

Most amazing are telephones that actually ring, quarter inch televisions that work, miniature clocks that keep time, hundreds of tiny lights that illuminate delicate chandeliers, wall switches that turn on and off, chimneys puffing white smoke and the fragrant smell of the Rose Garden.

It was created by John and Jan Zweifel of Orlando, Florida, along with their family and volunteers, as a "Gift to the people, from the people."

MainPlace/Santa Ana is sponsoring the showing which is open to the public during regular mall hours.

## Night with the Angels

Students in Santa Ana and Orange County will be honored at the annual Orange County Student Night on Saturday, May 31. The event, sponsored by the Outdoor Science Foundation in cooperation with the California Angels, celebrates schools throughout the county while providing an opportunity for the community to become involved in supporting their local school.

A portion of the ticket proceeds for that night's Angels game against the Royals will go to the participating school. To buy tickets for the game (and support a very worthy project), call Dick Kempf (Lathrop Intermediate) at 558-5701 or Jo Rodriguez (Mt. View High) at 241-6470. Tickets may also be purchased by contacting the offices of Santa Ana High, Valley High, Edison, Hoover, or Santiago Elementary Schools. For more information, contact Patti Huber at 966-4339.

## Legalizing Love

Do you know someone who was married in 1901 in Santa Ana? If so, tell them about "Legalizing Love at the Old Courthouse." The event, hosted by the Old Courthouse Museum Society, will be a reunion of people who obtained their marriage licenses at the landmark Old Orange County Courthouse between the years 1901 and 1967. The event will be held at the Old Courthouse at 211 W. Santa Ana Blvd. from 2 to 5 pm on Saturday, June 26.

The event will acknowledge people who are married for the longest and the shortest periods of time as well as married the most times. For more information, contact Rita Semple at 879-1492.

## Library Needs You!

Young or not-as-young, the Santa Ana Public Library could use you as a volunteer.

Beginning June 20, teens aged 12 to 18 can become summer library volunteers for a few months, serving at any of the library sites. Many of the young volunteers will assist library staff with the Summer Reading Program. Volunteering can be fun and good job experience for a teen. Call Volunteer Services at 647-5270 or pick up an application at any of the libraries.

Celebrating their 22nd year of reaching Santa Ana residents, the library offers a unique free shut-in service to those who are temporarily or permanently confined at home, in convalescent hospitals, or living in residential care homes in Santa Ana.

Presently, almost sixty-five homebound individuals (and many more in care homes) are receiving library books and other materials thanks to a dedicated band of shut-in volunteers. These volunteers help carry the library to the doors of those who can't make it outside themselves.

If you'd like to volunteer a few hours per month of your time, call 647-5286. You can also call the same number to refer someone in your family or neighborhood to receive the shut-in service.

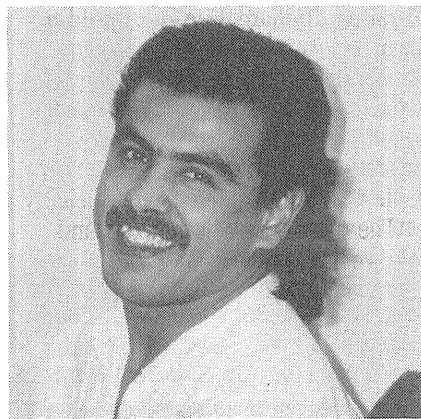
# Talk of the Town

## Summer Books and Storytimes

The Santa Ana Public Library offers a variety of programs and activities for all ages. Preschool storytimes are available on a weekly basis to introduce younger children to the joys of books and reading. Monthly afterschool programs are held for school-aged children featuring performers, crafts, storytelling, or films.

And don't miss the Library's annual Summer Reading Program beginning June 20th. For students in preschool grades up through high school, these programs are chockfull of fun and surprises all the while encouraging reading during the summer.

Contact the facility nearest you for the more details on any of their youth programs. Their phone numbers are: Central Library 647-5258, McFadden Branch 647-5790, Newhope Branch 647-5792, and Bookmobile Services 647-5285.



## Graduate of the Year

Martin Vidrio, who graduated from Goodwill Industries vocational training program to employment with the Developmental Disability Center of Orange, has been named "1994 Graduate of the Year. Vidrio has earned this distinction because of his tremendous progress and accomplishments in overcoming obstacles to reach his goal of independence and self-sufficiency through employment.

Since 1990, Vidrio has been employed as an office assistant with Developmental Disability Center. His responsibilities include typing, alphabetical and numerical filing, data entry and faxing. "I get a lot of satisfaction from my work. I am very happy here. I feel like an important part of this organization," he said.

Vidrio has proven that his disability is no barrier to success on the job, or in life. As Graduate of the Year, Vidrio exemplifies the hard work, determination, and goal orientation that Goodwill Industries of Orange County promotes. For more information, contact Goodwill Industries at 547-6301.

## Top Honors

*Tiger's Tale*, MacArthur Fundamental's student newspaper, was recently honored by the prestigious Columbia Scholastic Press Association with the medalist rating, the highest journalism evaluation given by Columbia University to intermediate schools in the U.S. They scored 949 out of 1,000 possible points.

## Santa Ana Chamber Business Awards

The three winners of the Santa Ana Chamber of Commerce 1993 Business Awards were announced recently from a total of 17 entries in three categories: "Small Business of the Year," "Businessman of the Year," and "Businesswoman of the Year." Nominees were judged by six Chamber members, a jury of peers who vote independently and confidentially on a point system in each of three criteria: business achievements, chamber activity, and community service.

Coneybeare, Inc., a temporary help services firm whose profitability in 1993 was due in large part to an innovative employee safety program that resulted in an innovative employee safety program that resulted in a 95% decrease in Workers' Compensation costs, was named "Small Business of the Year." This award was sponsored by Southern California Edison.

"Businessman of the Year," sponsored by First Interstate Bank, went to Jack Ross of AAmerica Signs, which won "Small Business of the Year" in 1992.

And Irma Sanchez of Plaza Home Mortgage Bank was the proud recipient of the "Athena Award" for "Businesswoman of the Year," sponsored by Crevier BMW.

Each recipient is honored with a commemorative certificate from the Chamber, and is placed in regional and national Chamber competitions in their respective categories. Winners of these receive significant financial prizes — so good going, and good luck to you all!

## Adventures at the Zoo

The Santa Ana Zoo offers a variety of natural science workshops on weekdays and Saturday mornings. All sessions are geared to a variety of different ages and provide an exciting opportunity to learn about animals and nature first hand.

"Mommy and Me" is a series of five sessions (one day per week) during which preschoolers learn about animal life through crafts projects, touching live animals and tours into the zoo. Offered on Thursdays or Tuesdays from 10 to 11:30 am beginning May 12. Fee is \$40 for a parent/child pair (ages 3 & 4).

"Breakfast with the Beasts" begins early Saturday with a light breakfast and then on to enjoy the early sights and sound of the zoo with a guided tour. Tour ends in the Children's Zoo helping the zookeeper feed the animals their breakfast. Offered May 14, 8:30 to 10 am. Fee is \$15 for a parent/child pair (age 4 & above). Additional persons are \$7.50.

"Storytelling" is a new program designed for preschoolers and young children who enjoy stories about animals. This 30-minute includes brief stories plus visits with animals. Offered May 14 and on the second Saturday of each other month at 11am. Free with zoo admission.

Reservations must be made in advance. Call 836-4000 for information.

## Books Wanted

Do you have some "almost-new" books you don't want anymore? You might consider giving them a new lease on life by donating them to the Santa Ana Public Library. With the Library's budget as tight as it is, they would just love to have the latest Ludlum thriller or that "how-to" on building a deck or the new text on using Word 6.

Since May 1993, people like you and I have donated over 3,466 used books saving the Library over \$27,000 in new book costs.

All you have to do to donate is to place the book (with a short note mentioning the donation) in any library drop-box or give it to any librarian in the central library or its branches.

You get a bit more space on your shelf and the library gets a helping hand with the newest books. Pretty good deal!

## Remembrances I

When Frank Solis died last year, the Wilshire Square Neighborhood mourned a man who was a good friend and supporter (as well as a wonderful husband and father). In a special ceremony presented by the City of Santa Ana, the residents of Wilshire Square, and the Solis family, a tree was dedicated to Frank on Arbor Day at Lathrop Intermediate School which is located in the neighborhood.

Frank was a life-long resident of the City, graduating from Lathrop in 1962. He lived in Wilshire Square for 21 years.

Represented by that young tree, we can hope that his spirit will be remembered by generations of children to come, just as it will be by many of us already.

## Computer Help

When Sierra's Ranger Computer Lab opens its doors at 7:30 am, students are already waiting outside ready to use the site as a computer center. In addition to doing homework, they are practicing computer skills, using educational software, and even sending electronic mail messages to business partner/mentors like the engineers at the Fluor Co.

The students use computers ranging from old IBM PCs to the new IBM T-325s. Many of the models are donated by businesses who have upgraded their computers and want to give Santa Ana students an extra boost in their education.

It's actually amazing what the Santa Ana Unified School District staff can create with "hand-me-downs" at Sierra and at many other school sites through-out the City. And students are thrilled to be able to use some of this "modern equipment" even if it's an older Apple II or an IBM XT.

If you have an IBM, Unix, or Apple/Macintosh based computer that you'd like to donate, call Jim McGee with the school district at 433-3461. He'll evaluate the equipment and see that it's used to its fullest abilities -- helping our kids.

## Mater Dei Hosts Special Olympics

Mater Dei High School hosted their Ninth Annual Special Olympics Track and Field Meet on April 30th. Three hundred developmentally disabled athletes from throughout Orange County competed in track and field events ranging from a bean bag toss to a 40 yard relay.

Mater Dei's event, supported by the Orange County Special Olympics, is the only meet of its kind because it is executed by over five hundred teen-aged volunteers, with a handful of adult supervisors.

The Mater Dei students look forward to Special Olympics every year because of the personal interaction with the special athletes. The volunteer opportunities are widespread including: "huggers" who greet athletes as they cross the finish line, "buddies" who pair up with the athletes for the day, and "the lunch bunch" who serve the athletes lunch donated by Carl's Jr.

The school's staff members and volunteers enjoy the meets as being a day where, "our hearts are as busy as our hands." Santa Ana's Mitchell School has consistently competed every year in Mater Dei's Special Olympics. Pat Waddell, one of Mitchell School's coaches, noted, "The competition is real keen. Some of the kids have been practicing for the events all year."

Community supporters donate goods and services ranging from team photos to bleachers to entertainment by clowns. And this year, Santa Ana High School's marching band led the opening parade.

## Remembrances II

Just recently, another special man passed away. Max Becker was a can-do person who was very quick to lend a helping hand, especially to two of his favorite organizations, the Lions Club and the Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society.

Retired, and a long-time resident, he worked hard (and successfully) to make things happen when they had to. He was always there when you needed him.

A tribute in the recent S.A.H.P.S. Garden Tour program catches the sentiment well. "In Loving Memory of our friend and long-time S.A.H.P.S. Board Member, Max Becker, who recently passed away and whose hard work and generosity will not be forgotten."

He'll be remembered by many who enjoyed his charitable nature, friendly smile, and positive attitude.

Our heart goes out to his wife, Connie, who was such a big and important part of his life, as he was hers.

## Santa Ana Beautiful

Santa Ana's chapter of Keep America Beautiful is looking for new members. Active for many years, they would like to venture out farther in the community by doing such times as: helping seniors and disabled persons with an extra special cleanup in their yard, landscaping and planting flowers where needed, and cleaning up some empty and commercial lots.

Adults as well as high school students are welcome to join. Other than for special projects, the group meets once a month (every 2nd Wednesday at 5:30 pm). If you'd more information, call Claudia at 667-2754 or Teresa at 571-4250.

*Catherine's City*

# I Feel Among Friends at File's

by Catherine C. Cate

I love things that have a history. I feel good when I am using things that others have enjoyed, and that will outlast me.

From the moment I walk through the door of the historic turn-of-the-century Builder's Exchange at 200 N. Main Street, where File's Auctioneering & Fine Art is located, I have a feeling not just of history, but of continuity — of entering a place filled with things that have some permanence and enduring importance. That's why they are here, to be presented for sale "from private and conservatorship estates, liquidation of retail galleries and antique establishments and private collections and individuals."

For me, File's puts the past and the present into perspective. All the contents of this 4,300 square foot wonderland once belonged to someone just like me. And one Sunday soon they will again, when Auctioneer Richard File brings down his gavel and says "Sold!" to the excited bidder who has found just the right piece at the right price.

It's comforting to be reminded that when it's time for me to part with family heirlooms and other items of value, this is one way I can pass them on to others who will feel about them as I do.

Financial considerations, convenience, and value aside for the moment, I think this sentimental point is important to remember about buying and selling through auctions like File's.

Auctioneer and owner Richard File and his wife Maureen say auctions are less well known in California than they are in other areas of the country.

It's probably because we have fewer large collections of family heirlooms. In the mid-west and on the east coast, where families may have lived in the same large house, or the same town, for several generations, consigning estates (or collections) to auction is a sensible, well accepted practice. And it's well known that buying at auction is often the way to get the best value in almost anything, including art, furniture, and collectibles of all kinds. Despite our relative lack of familiarity with them, auctions are actually a highly respected tradition.

And Richard File is continuing his family tradition in auctioneering that began in 1905. He is licensed and bonded, in good standing with the State of California Auctioneers Commission, a member of the National Auctioneers Association, Past President and still on the Board of the Downtown Santa Ana Business Association.

Richard and Maureen File agree: "Credentials and experience are important." So is the way the auction is run.

At File's auctions are usually held beginning at 11:30 am on the last Sunday of every month, and last about four hours. "It's well-organized, clean,



and straightforward," says Maureen. "And we have enough staff to answer questions and assist our customers in every way they may require."

If you've never been to an auction before, the Files will be happy to fill you in on what to expect. There are no mysteries; no reason to be nervous. And you really can't buy anything "by accident!"

Potential buyers are encouraged to examine items for sale on the Saturday before the next day's auction, and up to two hours before the auction begins. Known damage and repairs will be pointed out, and as much information as possible made available by File's friendly, knowledgeable staff. "We also encourage our customers to use our extensive reference library," says Maureen.

Items being offered probably will include an incredible variety of antique furniture, decorative arts such as porcelains, silver, glassware, china, and fine selections of oil paintings, watercolors, etchings, and early prints.

And they will range in value from \$100 (or less) to \$20,000 (or more).

For me, the hardest thing about visiting File's before an auction is knowing that I can't buy anything on the spot. Oh I can handle it, examine it, ask about it ("We try to learn as much as possible about each piece, and even about its previous owners," says Richard's wife, Maureen). I can even dream about it, but I can't actually buy it until it comes up for bid at Sunday's auction!

If you find something you might like but don't know its approximate value, just ask a staff member in what price range that item is expected to sell. For example, I was told that a pair of crystal candlesticks I liked probably would sell for about \$40.

And come to the auction knowing what you're willing to pay! Then stick to it, even if you have to sit on your hands.

Acting as an auctioneer at a private fund-raiser, Richard File once sold a bottle of wine for approximately \$10,000 in a "spirited bidding duel between two individuals who were determined to out-bid each other." The bidding became so intense that Richard came down from his auction desk to the floor, "which he never does," remembers Maureen. "It was for a good cause, but I don't think anyone planned to pay that price!"

And watch out, because "Once most people buy at auction, they're usually hooked," says both Richard and Maureen. "The atmosphere is relaxed and friendly; it's fun, it's exciting, and you know you're getting quality."

So try it; you'll probably like it! Just call File's at 547-1415 to confirm the date and time of the next preview and auction.

See you there!

## Restaurant Review

# Da Vinci Ristorante

by Nancy Lutz

Da Vinci Ristorante located at 2222 E. First Street at the Bluebird Inn, is a wonderful small restaurant with an amalgam of northern Italian cooking. The owners, Layla and Mike Boyajian, have recently imported two young Italian chefs, Roberto Borsani from Bergamo and Alberto Gianti from Milan.

We recently had occasion to enjoy dinner at Da Vinci and were delighted with not only a wonderful meal, but terrific atmosphere. The beautiful pink and gray marble flooring, hand-painted walls and fresh flowers from the Boyajian's gardens provided a relaxed setting for our meal. In addition, we were graced by a pianist who plays on Friday and Saturday evenings.

Layla and Mike also have an herb garden on the premises from which they make their remarkable insalada mista verde, a salad the chefs fashion from 17 different components.

From their rich lasagna which consists of nine layers of homemade noodles made with a ragu of veal and a thick Bechamel sauce, to their vegetable lasagna, which has minced carrot, zucchini and onion, their tortellini, which are stuffed with meat and cheese with a Piedmont-style sage butter sauce, the chefs have a wonderful ability to make the ordinary into something special. The chefs also do a wonderful job on seafoods with their specialty of Liguria (risotto with saffron and calamari with bowtie pasta, broccoli and clams), to scalloped filets of fresh sea bass, the halibut royally dressed in a tempting onion fondue and swordfish grilled with a thin crust of minced garden herbs.

Any of these dishes, served with the crackly focaccia bread that begins every meal, has been brushed with garlic and olive oil is a gift to the palate.

If you have room at the end of their wonderful selections, you may try the Panna cotta, baked cream from Piedmont, a sumptuously creamy version of custard served with a light blueberry sauce or the tiramisu, light ladyfingers smothered under a froth of whipped mascarpone cheese.

Da Vinci is moderate to expensive. Antipasti are \$3.50 - \$7.50, Primi \$9.50 - \$12.50, Secondi \$12.50 - \$17.50, and Desserts \$3.75 - \$5.75.

**"not only a wonderful meal, but terrific atmosphere"**

# Students are Counting on You

Students at Carr, Lathrop, and Sierra junior high schools in Santa Ana need you! You could be their next positive role model that guides them through the complexities of personal economics, the free enterprise system, entrepreneurship, and the importance of staying in school.

What's that you say? You're not qualified to teach these concepts? Sure you are. Do you have a job? Do you pay bills, write checks, pay taxes? These are important life skills and experiences that, with a little help from Junior Achievement, will make you into an A-1 business volunteer.

Junior Achievement is the oldest, largest, and fastest growing not-for-profit education organization in the world. They have been encouraging, educating, and empowering tomorrow's workforce since 1919.

Today you can become a part of 75 years of helping students understand how they fit into our free enterprise system. Every semester, Junior Achievement needs hundreds of volunteers to visit classrooms in grades kindergarten through 12th grade. The in-class time varies from 30 minutes to one hour a week depending on the grade level.

Junior Achievement trains all volunteers and provides all teaching materials free to both the volunteer and the school. We have immediate openings for the summer and fall semesters in classrooms throughout Santa Ana. We have programs in the elementary schools as well as the junior high schools. In junior high the emphasis is on staying in school and the benefits of making the right choices.

Call Junior Achievement today at 938-1132 to find out more.

## Sandpointe

Leaders of the Sandpointe Neighborhood Association have met with representatives of the National Sports Grille restaurant chain, which will be moving into the former Red Onion location at Main and MacArthur. At this meeting, issues were discussed regarding the restaurant's impact on the neighborhood. Leaders report they were impressed with the restaurant's plans and are pleased to welcome it into the neighborhood, with best wishes for much success.

Sandpointe is planning to hold an annual "Sandpointe Teen Tennis Tournament," with Carl Ross heading up the program.

## Saddleback View

Neighborhood clean-up and improvement continue to be focal points for residents, with a clean-up scheduled for April 30. Recent guests at association meetings have included Will Hays from Public Works and Regan Candelario from Neighborhood Improvement.

Their next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 17 at Remington School at 6:30 pm.

## Heninger Park

This association remains active and dedicated to neighborhood improvement, with planned activities that include a Spring Clean-Up and Picnic planned for May 14. In January, the Pena family was recognized for significant improvement on their property at 924 S. Garnsey.

Special thanks are extended to the Franklin Esteem Team for help with the February clean-up.

## Republic Homes

Topics under discussion at recent association meetings included the City's Community Preservation Department, the Segerstrom/Carriage street flooding problem, and the proposed garage sale ordinance.

The neighborhood organization, which meets quarterly at Coastal Communities Hospital, 2701 S. Bristol, also is exploring the possibility of joining the Thornton Park Neighborhood Association.

## West Floral Park

Residents of Floral Park, Morrison Park, and Jack Fisher Park all were invited to attend the Winter General Meeting of WFPNA held in March, which featured a presentation by Moss Development, owners of the office building at 2700 N. Main St., who discussed plans for a 5,500 seat concert hall proposed for the northeast corner of Broadway and Owens.

The City Planning Division also presented proposed revisions in the Land Use Concept and General Plan that covers West Floral Park.

The neighborhood will hold their first annual Old-Time Country Fair on May 14 from 10 am to 3 pm at Santiago School, 2212 N. Baker. It'll have a carnival, games, food, and fun for all. Residents from throughout the City are invited.

## Mid-City

The neighborhood has prioritized issues to concentrate on improving the commercial corners at Bristol and Edinger. Residents are volunteering to distribute flyers, telephone, translate, and talk to their neighbors in order to revitalize the area.

Meetings are held at 7 pm on the first Thursday of each month at Martin School, 939 W. Wilshire St. Recent issues discussed include survey results, the McFadden Street Market, and the Youth Boxing Center.



# Around the Neighborhoods

## Artesia Pilar

A program on "Free Homeowners and Renters Programs" was presented at the meeting in April and on May 17, the topic will be "How to Start a Neighborhood Watch on Your Block."

This neighborhood is focusing on increasing membership in the area north of Civic Center Drive. They have been selected by the City as a test group to experiment with the effect different communication methods have on meeting attendance.

General meetings are held at 6:30 pm on the fourth Tuesday of each month, and steering meetings on the first Tuesday of each month, both at Neighborhood Housing Services offices at 1617 W. 7th Street.

Meetings are in English, with Spanish translations available. Child care and refreshments are provided.

## Valley High

Translation headsets for Spanish-speaking residents are always available at this association's meeting, which is held at 7 pm on the third Tuesday of each month at Valley High School's library. Recent neighborhood successes include permit parking (approved by Council), and a number of stop signs installed to slow down traffic.

The neighborhood has been successful in getting a strong group of apartment renters to attend their meetings.

## Bristol Memory

While no regularly scheduled meetings are being held at this time, neighborhood problems are still receiving continuing attention from residents and the City. This includes the deteriorated apartments of 2828 N. Bristol, which have been evacuated, boarded up, and fenced off.

This was a source of many problems in the area, and the apartments' future is being decided in court.

## Indian Village

Five large dumpsters were filled during a successful neighborhood cleanup in March. This was the first time flyers were also translated into Vietnamese.

The association has recently revised its bylaws, and a new chairperson selected when the previous chair was sworn in as a City Planning Commissioner.

## West Grove Valley

Residents helped distribute flyers for the recent meeting on the Land Use Element of the City's General Plan for this area.

## Northwest 6 & 7

Several neighborhood eyesores have been improved, thanks to the diligence of this area's Beautification Committee, which is meeting regularly.

Programs such as Tool Borrowing, Rehabilitation Loans, and volunteer groups all have assisted in this effort. Packets of resources are being targeted to the specific residences that need assistance.

## Washington Square

Washington Square will be holding neighborhood clean-up on May 7th. Dumpsters will be available for residents to use to get rid of unwanted furniture, materials, and trash. The neighborhood has recently completed a successful membership campaign. The campaign raises membership dues which funds many of their events.

A neighborhood-wide garage sale was scheduled for April 30th and May 1st. Residents throughout the neighborhood held their own sales with the event promotion furnished by the association.

Washington Square's annual Easter Egg Hunt for the neighborhood children was held at Wilson School in April.

## Frontier Valley

Residents have been very active in rallying against Paddy Murphy's bar for the nude female dancing performances it features. For their support, neighborhood leaders would like to thank radio station KBRT, Calvary Chapel, St. Barbara's, Sts. Simon and Jude, Holy Spirit, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Sonlight, Christian Center Church, Episcopal Church of the Messiah, St. Andrew's Presbyterian, Templo Calvario, St. Columban, Tustin Manor Fellowship, Kings Way, Vinegard, On Fire Ministries, and also all the others who continue to show up. Organizers note that the protest will continue from 1 to 4 pm on Saturdays until victory.

The neighborhood association meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at Mitchell School. All neighborhood residents are invited.

## Central City

This season the focus is on clearing the neighborhood of numerous inoperable vehicles. Community Preservation and Police will be working closely with the neighborhood to accomplish this and a new complaint process will be used to keep track of reported grievances.

General meetings are held at 6:30 pm on the second Monday of each month at the Southwest Senior Center, 2201 W. McFadden.

## Riverview West

This neighborhood, which meets on the third Wednesday of each month at the Westend Police Substation, 724 S. Harbor at 5:30 pm, has reorganized to focus on improving the Adler Court Apartments.

The tool borrowing program has been marketed to a specific area of the neighborhood to encourage improvements, and a neighborhood cleanup was planned for April 30th.

The association also is experimenting with different forms of communication in order to attract more residents to their meetings.

## Laurelhurst

Although, this neighborhood association is taking a six-month break for re-evaluation and planning, signs were recently installed at neighborhood entrances.

## Fisher Park

Residents are proud of the progress of the renovations of Jack Fisher Park. New park lighting installed last summer by the City has gotten rave reviews with the view of the park at night being termed "quite lovely" by neighbors and the security enhanced.

This year the Fisher Park Neighborhood Association will press forward to continue the renovations including updated landscaping.

At their April general meeting, Councilwoman Lisa Mills updated residents on recent City projects and answered their questions.

The Association's next general meeting will be on June 21st at 7 pm in the Jack Fisher Park cabin.

All neighborhood residents are invited to attend.

## Floral Park

On April 23 and 24 Floral Park hosted its second annual home tour, featuring six homes north of Santa Clara, as well as many gardens, antique and classic cars, and a collectibles sale.

Each month's meeting agenda of the neighborhood focuses on a topic, speaker, or event of special interest.

In January, the Santa Ana Police Department provided an update on crime and safety issues related to their neighborhood. In addition, representatives from Moss Development discussed the enclosed amphitheater proposed at the corner of Main and Owens.

City Manager Dave Ream and Police Captain Jensen were featured guests at the February meeting, presenting an overview of the proposed jail and police facility.

The May meeting will be a social event at Trattoria Ciao Restaurant in Downtown Santa Ana.

## Morning Sunwood

The Greenville Street Landscape Improvement Project has been completed by Public Works and residents are again enjoying early morning walks in this area. With the block wall surrounding the neighborhood patched and painted last year, and the sprinklers modified to include the wall planter box at the south end of Greenville, residents are pleased to report that the neighborhood is looking much better.

## Thornton Park

"A big thanks!" to residents who patrol the area and pick up trash daily. Grateful neighbors note that it makes a big difference.

Several improvement projects have been spearheaded by the Thornton Park Neighborhood Association including a general cleanup, having curbs painted red, and the installation of a four-way stop sign at a problem intersection.

Their next general meeting will be held on May 4 at Jefferson Elementary School on Adams.

All neighborhood residents are invited.

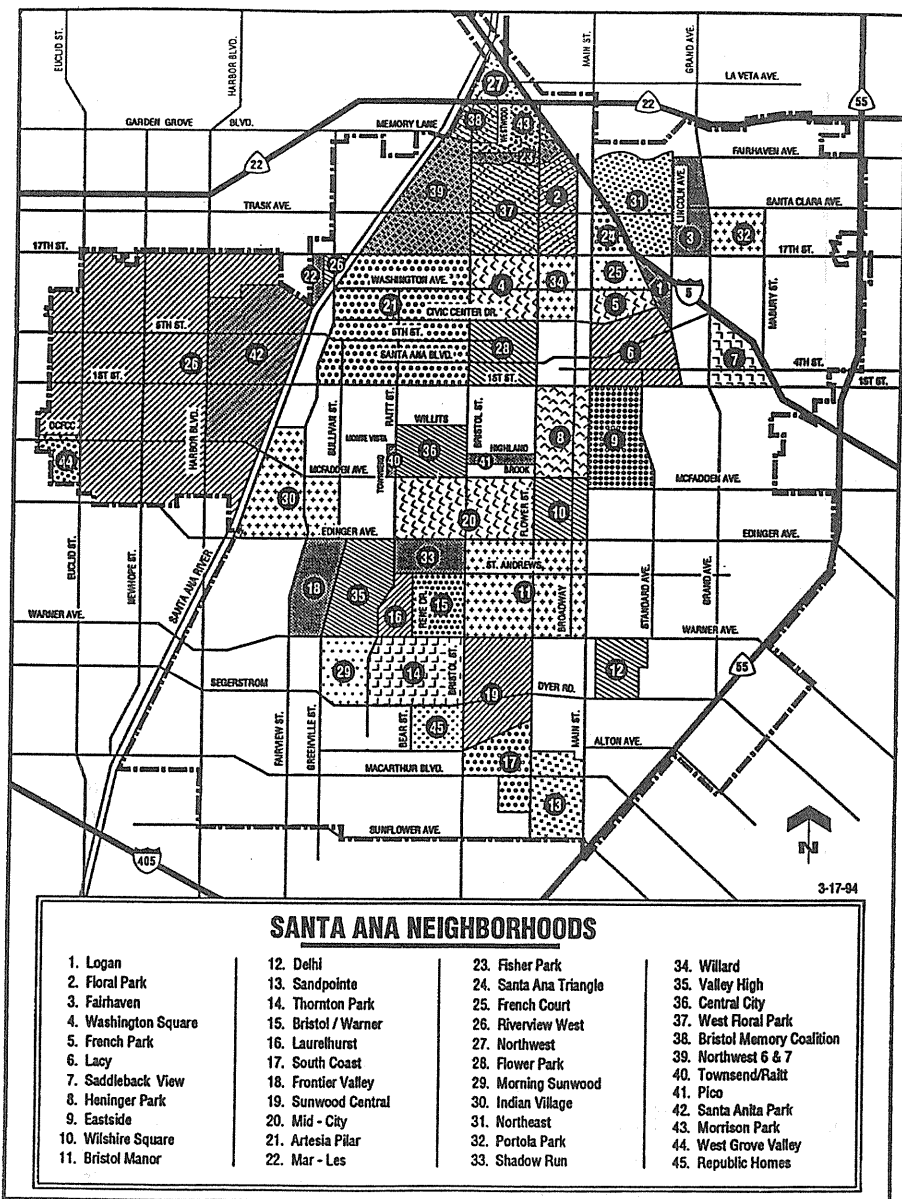
## Mar-Les

The neighborhood helped distribute flyers for the recent meeting of the Land Use Element of the City's General Plan.

No other regular neighborhood meetings have been scheduled.

## Shadow Run

While the neighborhood does not meet regularly, the chairperson continues to work with small groups to keep the county flood control channel graffiti free.



**French Court**

A new overnight parking ordinance was implemented in the neighborhood in January and is receiving a favorable response from residents and the police department. The parking ordinance enhances the appearance of the neighborhood as well as give police and emergency crews better visibility of residential and business properties. SAPD Lt. David Nick reported a decrease in crime in the area since the implementation.

A new board of directors for the French Court Neighborhood has been elected which includes Bryan Smith as president, Ed McKie as vice president, Kathryn Merrill as secretary, and Eleonore Johnson as treasurer.

In recent months, neighborhood leaders had been working on a formal set of by-laws for the association. At a recent meeting, they were approved by the general membership.

**Wilshire Square**

Neighborhood attention is focused on this year's 6th annual Wilshire Square Home and Garden Tour on Saturday, June 4th and Sunday, June 5th from 10 am to 4 pm. This year the tour will include 6 homes and 4 gardens. Entertainment will be provided by a jazz band and a local school band. Classic cars will also be on display. For more information, call 553-3744.

Residents from Wilshire Square have been working with Public Works for over a year on issues regarding the McFadden Avenue realignment plans.

Many residents were concerned over the increased traffic flow leading into and going through their neighborhood as well as safety issues for children trying to cross Main Street to get to Lathrop and Franklin Schools.

The realignment plans were modified and recently approved by the Planning Commission. The plan will straighten McFadden and remove the "jog" drivers must go through when crossing Main.

The annual Easter Brunch held March 26 was a big success with food for the adults and plenty of contests and games for the kids. The recent Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society's Garden Tour included two of the neighborhood's most bountiful gardens.

A neighborhood cleanup is scheduled for the end of May in order to have the neighborhood spotless for this year's Home Tour.

**French Park**

The first annual French Park Jazz Festival will be held on Saturday, May 14 from 10:30 am to 6 pm in French Park (corner of French and Vance). The event is sponsored by the Historic French Park Association and the Santa Ana Council of Arts and Culture and is free of charge.

The neighborhood was selected as the next to be improved under a City program targeting the improvement of deteriorated rental properties. City building inspectors will survey every apartment in the area to spot health and safety problems and require tenants and landlords to fix them.

**Neighborhood Communication Linkage Committee**

At their March meeting, neighborhood leaders heard from representatives of several art and culture organizations in the City in a "Santa Ana Arts & Culture Night." The leaders were also briefed on the planned Downtown Artists Community. The Linkage Committee also recently started to discuss proposed standards for the recognition of neighborhood associations.

In April, the group held a "Santa Ana Business Night" and various business leaders talked about the business community in the City.

The Linkage Committee meets on the fourth Thursday of each month from 7 to 9 pm at the Southwest Senior Center, 2201 W. McFadden Ave. Call Norm Canchola at 667-2262 for more information.

**Community Oriented Policing / Neighborhood Watch**

This past year, C.O.P. has been very active in the eradication of Santa Ana's graffiti problem. This coming year, they will be working on helping the police department with illegal shooting of firearms throughout the City, especially on the holidays.

Evangeline Gawronski, C.O.P. President, notes that they need "everyone's help. Remember, we can do anything we want to, we just have to do it - Together!"

C.O.P. held a city-wide meeting in April to discuss the latest information on random gunfire in the City and what is being done about it. Chief of Police Paul Walters and Captain Dan McCoy also spoke on the new "STOP" Street Terrorist Offenders Program.

For additional information on the COP program and how you can join or organize your neighbors into a Neighborhood Watch, call your local police substation or 541-8971.

**Santa Ana Historical Preservation Society**

The Society co-sponsored (with the Tustin Area Historical Society) a successful Garden Tour and Spring Boutique in early April. The tour included nine gardens (with four of those having homes that were also open for viewing). While an early morning rain put the day's fate into question, the sun came out and tour participants enjoyed some very beautiful and unique gardens. Kudos to the two societies and to S.A.H.P.S. Tour Chair Roberta Reed for a great job organizing the event.

The Society will be hosting an antique display event on Sunday, July 10 where you are invited to bring your favorite antique to talk about. The event will be held from 2 to 5 pm at the Dr. Howe-Waffle House, 120 W. Civic Center Dr. (at Sycamore) and is free. Even if you don't have something to bring, you're invited to come and listen to some interesting personal history. Call Diann Marsh at 541-2441 for more information.

Membership in the society (which includes their newsletter) is just \$10 a year for individuals (\$15 for family). To join, send your dues to S.A.H.P.S. Membership, 120 W. Civic Center Dr., Santa Ana, 92701

**Historical Resources Review Committee**

The Committee is made up of local volunteers who have been empowered by the City government to document the significant historical structures within Santa Ana.

Their work entails examining all homes, commercial structures, churches, and schools over 50 years old to determine if they have some special significance due to architecture, early owner or use, or any of the other criteria. The members of the committee research and often visit the buildings, taking photographs if need be. They work in conjunction with the Planning Department and their results will help influence future City policy.

The Committee has just completed finishing a review of over 3,000 older buildings in the Northwest quarter of the City and have already moved onto their next section, the Southwest quadrant including neighborhoods such as Heninger Park and Wilshire Square.

Anyone interested in helping and becoming a member of the team are invited to call Diann Marsh at 541-2441. Volunteers will be trained so prior experience is not required.

**Sertoma Club**

You may ask "What is Sertoma?" The name stands for "Service to Mankind." And that's exactly what they do. Sertoma is a service organization of both men and women who dedicate themselves and their projects to helping others.

The Orange Empire Sertoma Club began in 1950. Their fund raising projects enable the club to award \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors going to college and to help organizations like women's and children's centers, YWCA, Salvation Army, and others.

Sertoma members meet every Thursday at 12:15 pm at the Santa Ana Elks Club on Elk Lane. Those looking for good fellowship and an opportunity to aid those less fortunate are welcomed. They welcome both men and women - young and old. If you're interested, call Bill Elzey at 633-1873.

For neighborhood information, contact the City's Neighborhood Improvement Office at 667-2260.

**Organization Focus:**

**Womans Club of Santa Ana**

This year the Woman's Club of Santa Ana celebrates its 94th birthday providing many, many services to the community. The Club is federated with the California and General (International Federations of Women's Clubs, as well as affiliated with the Orange District (comprised of 33 other clubs).

The Arts and Crafts section of the Club spends the year making items, such as lap robes, slippers, and caps for needy American Indians and local homeless people; crib quilts for the Ronald McDonald House and Orange-wood Home for Children; and small stuffed balls and other toys for giving (at Christmas) to children at the above facilities as well as to Sheepfold, Children's Hospital, Episcopal Service Alliance, Salvation Army, Barlett Center, Martha House, and Goodwill.

In addition, the Club collects for and distributes to organizations such as Danny Davey's Thunderbird Foundation, the Blind Children's Learning Center, YWCA Hotel for Women, Santa Ana Meal on Wheels, Veterans Memorial Hospital, and "Pennies for Pines," a forestry restoration project.

Members of the Club work at raising funds for these projects by having luncheon card parties and selling various items. Besides community service work, they also have a lot of fun with their Canasta and Bridge sections as well as a Travel section. The latter group will soon make a trip to Sherman Gardens and is planning a "turnaround" trip to the Casinos at Laughlin in the near future.

Club members are very proud of their services to the community and invite others who would like to help to join with them. Women interested in membership are welcome to call the Clubhouse at 558-9712 or the membership chairman at 547-2617 to request an application.

**Santa Ana:**

# A City of Neighbors and Neighborhoods

Continued from Page 1 --

The developers of the planned Main Street Concourse, across from Main-Place/Santa Ana, began working with their "neighbors" in the Northeast neighborhood early on in the design process. This allowed the residents to have a large say in the project's on-site parking, traffic mitigation, and even type of residential housing to be built.

Most recently, the Santa Ana School District held a series of special meetings to hear and try to resolve the concerns of a number of associations about a proposed fundamental school behind the Bristol Marketplace Shopping Center.

The City Council also has been responsive to neighborhood associations requesting help on problems ranging from landscaping to permit parking to traffic control.

Washington Square started the movement to reduce commuter traffic in neighborhoods when it successfully petitioned Council for diverters at Washington and Bristol. When the I-5 freeway widening project closed north Main Street and pushed commuter traffic onto Broadway, Council approved a temporary traffic protection plan for Floral Park to control non-neighborhood traffic.

French Court was one of a number of neighborhoods last year to reduce the number of vehicles parked on the street after Council approved a parking permit program. And Council also helped the Morning Sunwood neighborhood get the wide parkway along Greenville Street cleaned up and landscaped.

However, having a formal neighborhood organization is not a requirement for getting City help. Several areas with no association have received the attention of Council and City staff to help residents deal with a variety of issues including drugs, gangs, and traffic safety. But working through an association is often a quicker, easier, and more accurate way to communicate needs to the City staff, and may achieve faster results.

"Our efforts are having far-reaching effects," believes Alberta Christy, chair of the Valley High Neighborhood Association. "It's through improving our neighborhoods that we are changing the image of Santa Ana," says Christy, who attributes Valley High's success to "finding our common ground and working together towards common goals. Everyone wants to keep our children, our homes, and our neighborhoods safe."

Christy, who has lived in what was formerly known as the Glenwood neighborhood for 24 years, watched her area undergo a dramatic and disturbing transformation over a 15 years period from a predominantly blue-collar neighborhood of stable, long-term residents, many of whom were retired Marines, to a neighborhood filled with high-transient renters.

"Our ethnic population increased in size and diversity, which results in increased isolation because of language, educational, and cultural barriers. Then our schools started cutting back on after-school programs, which resulted in an explosion of gangs and criminal activity, including graffiti and drug use. But when our first drive-by shooting occurred in 1992, I said 'That's it! We've got to get organized.'"

And so this neighborhood, now bounded by Edinger, Raitt, Warner, and Greenville, expanded its area and identity to become the Valley High Neighborhood, now well known for its success in mobilizing residents and especially non-English speaking residents, in a battle to improve their public safety.

Christy is particularly proud of the tactics her association has successfully used. For example, as a result of analyzing how to help police make the neighborhood safer, stop signs were installed at critical intersections throughout the neighborhood.

As Christy explains, when an individual is trying to evade law enforcement after a drug transaction or other illegal activity, unrestricted thoroughfares gave them great getaway opportunities, as well as endangering neighborhood children. Stop signs not only slow traffic, a vehicle trying to get out of the area quickly often runs a stop sign, which gives an officer "probable cause" to stop that vehicle.

"probable cause" to stop that vehicle. And this, of course, makes a sure get-away much more difficult.

"When the City's 'Weed and Seed' program pushed undesirables into our local John Adams Park, we were able to get rid of the gang members and drug dealers who were threatening the children. By acting as an association, we had the protection of individual anonymity when we dealt with the bad guys. As a result of our actions, our part is now clean, safe, and drug free."

"We've held all kinds of events to bring people together and give them information about the resources available through the City to help with all kinds of problems," she says. "In October, for example, we held our first Community Fair, council members police, fire, school district officials all attended to exchange information and to enjoy the entertainment, which included children's choirs, a gospel group and dancers."

But it wasn't just all fun and games: we got out information on anti-gang strategies, and we fingerprinted kids; we handed out information on home safety, including the dangers of common cleaning products like Pledge and Clorox."

But Christy knew they truly had bonded as friends, neighbors, and even as extended family in December, when the fathers of three families who lived on Center Street were killed while on a trip to Mexico on the Sunday before Christmas.

"They all left wives and young children," says Christy. "But both their neighborhood and their City promptly provided all kinds of resources to help them. The Police brought counselors to work with the families; the Fire Department brought toys and gifts for

Christmas, and a collection was taken up to provide other necessities, including money for tickets to Mexico for funeral and burial expenses. Over 200 people participated, and although two of the mothers have since moved out with their children because the memories were just too painful, the remaining family has been adopted by the association. We want to be sure that the family has everything it needs, and that the children are not claimed by gangs."

And this is the kind of heartening success story that, while they can help facilitate, no City or Federal program can possibly mandate.

## "Our efforts are having far-reaching effects"

residents can learn how the City operates ... who to call when a problem or question arises." And active neighborhood associations probably are equally important to keeping the City functioning smoothly.

"We need them to keep us informed about what's going on out there," noted Canchola. "We don't know there's a problem until someone tells us," Lt. Pete Nick, Santa Ana Police Department's Northeast Area Commander, echoes those sentiments: "We need neighbors to be our eyes and ears."

David Rudge also has a story that illustrates such success. "After we had an uncommon 28 burglaries in one month, the efforts of concerned neighbors using cellular phones with direct dial to police cars resulted in the arrest of 13 people. The next month, we had only three burglaries."

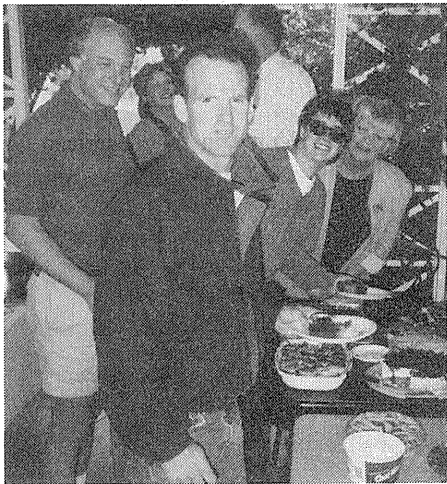
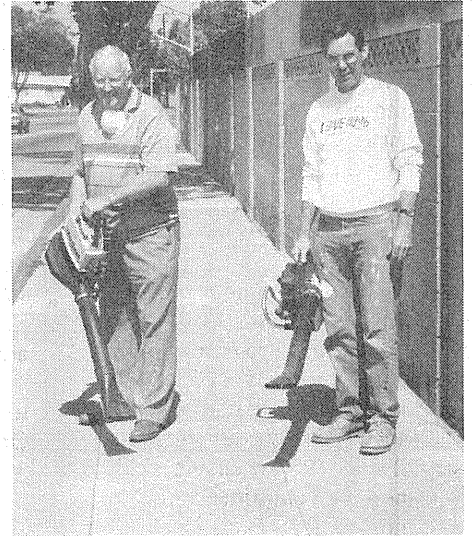
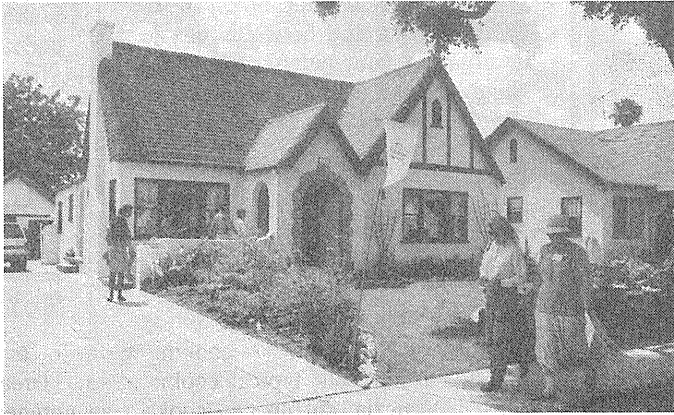
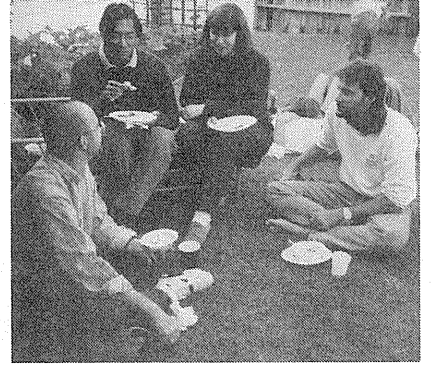
And Rudge has another thought for those concerned about our youth, and the future leaders: "It's good for our children to be part of a community, to see people working together and cooperating with each other."

Perhaps Neighborhood Improvement's own steering document best summarizes the potential of a strong neighborhood association:

"The key to the program's continued success is the ability to foster self-determination and responsibility by and between community members. Through this self-worth and responsibility the neighborhood and individual owners have an even greater incentive to maintain their property and neighborhood, so as to fashion a better quality of life and increase property values.

"No agency or program can create good neighborhoods. We can only create opportunities. The residents must take advantage of those opportunities and build upon them. Neighborhood Improvement is about empowerment, giving neighborhoods the opportunity and tools to make them viable, safe and quality areas to live."

And as Rudge said, "If our City Council keeps an open heart, an open ear, an open mind, and provides sufficient staff to respond to residents in a timely manner, neighborhoods and government can work effectively together to make Santa Ana a good place to live."





## New Coordinator Involves Parents in Schools

by Rosemary Gladden

A nine-year veteran of community involvement with Latinos has been hired as Santa Ana Unified School District's first parent/family community coordinator. Patricia Gomez has been hired as part of an ongoing effort to increase parental involvement in schools. She'll be responsible for coordinating and assisting with parent programs in the District's 43 schools.

One of her roles will be coordinating the District's Parent Leadership Institute. "This training helps parents with little or no experience in school activities to build a good foundation as effective parents in school groups or advisory committees," said Ms. Gomez. "Those parents who are already active in schools can use the program to sharpen their skills."

The five-week program includes levels ranging from basic district information to techniques for making an impact on district policy.

Sessions are presented in English, Spanish, and Asian-Pacific Islander languages and are offered to parents several times throughout the year. The leadership program is designed not as a parenting program, but as a skill building program. For example, parents receive information on their rights and responsibilities, their role in school districts, leadership skills, involvement in committees and communication tools.

Another of her projects is assisting in a citywide parent conference which includes informational workshops such as understanding the school system, accessing community services, developing parent/child relationships and combating gangs and drugs.

This year's parent conference called "Families and Schools: Involvement that Makes a Difference" will be on May 15 at Rancho Santiago College.

Ms. Gomez is also currently working on a video that will offer parents tips on maximizing the benefit of parent/teacher conferences. When complete, the video will be available for parent viewing at schools or for parent check-out.

Besides volunteering time on local boards for parent or children projects, she often speaks to parent groups on topics such as parenting in the 90s and helping youngsters with homework.

A former English and Spanish teacher, Ms. Gomez was a consultant to the District for five years before becoming a district employee a year ago. She previously designed and translated Spanish brochures marketing local hospitals and doctors to the Hispanic community in Orange County.

For more information about parent programs, call your local school or Ms. Gomez at 558-5720.



### A Cooking Show for the Deranged?

On our very own Comcast Cable Channel 3, you can enjoy a cooking show that has audiences laughing out loud. Taped before a live audience in the garage at the famous "Village Crean," home of multi-millionaire and philanthropist John Crean, the 30-minute cooking show *At Home on the Range*, is an unqualified hit.

The show's tag line "A cooking show for the deranged," proudly conveys that this is not your typical cooking show. Crean and his partner in crime, Barbara Venezia, cut up and cook in an unrehearsed format, creating some very contagious fun. The ongoing verbal exchange between the two is naturally funny, as the culinary-confident Crean loves to cook, while the vivacious Venezia is uncomfortable at the mere thought of being around kitchen utensils. But amidst all the fun, they do manage to create delicious entrees, and the recipe de jour is available by mail if you are laughing too hard during the show and miss hearing it. *At Home on the Range* is shown on Tuesday nights at 8:30 pm on channel 3 (for cable subscribers only).

## City Partners with Residents to Focus on the Future

This is a very important year for the future of the City of Santa Ana, and for its 45 organized neighborhoods, as the City revises several aspects of its General Plan, "A Vision of the Future," that will guide the physical development of the City for the next 20 years!

Santa Ana is a very different City than the one operating under its present General Plan formulated in 1984. Although certain parts have been amended numerous times to accommodate specific situations and changing circumstances in various areas, the overall Plan is still considered the City's guiding policy document on land use within its borders.

Associate Planner Larry Yenglin, who has been with the City since 1986, has seen how the growing strength and number of active neighborhood associations are affecting the way the City interacts with its neighborhoods.

"Instead of just holding one or two city-wide meetings to present the proposed amendments, because Santa Ana now has a strong, organized neighborhood network, we held a series of eight community meetings in January through March to present the proposed revision to the Land Use Element of our present General Plan, and to get community feedback.

"On average, approximately 35 people attended each meeting. These are people who are committed to and involved in their neighborhood associations, which also shows their commitment to making their community and their city better," says Yenglin.

The Neighborhood Improvement Program was established in 1983 as a division of the Housing Department, Community Development

Agency. It was created as a five-year program, but proved so successful that it became a permanent program that now has seven employees: Coordinator Norm Canchola; Neighborhood Improvement Specialists Andria Gagliano, Regan Candelario, and Patricia Johnson; three interns; and our secretary "who really pulls us all together," says Gagliano.

One of the most important responsibilities continues to be putting individuals and associations in contact with exactly the right person in the particular government agency that can help solve a problem.

At the same time, the City is also holding a series of focus groups and "vision sessions" to encourage community-based participation in drafting the application for an Enterprise Community Program and Empowerment Zone designation by the Federal Government.

The program is part of the new federal administration's community development priorities and is intended to encourage the development and implementation of a comprehensive neighborhood improvement strategy. The expectation is that it will establish better relationships between all levels of government, local businesses, non-profit organizations, and concerned individuals. The Enterprise Community designation will bring the potential for special block grant funding, incentives for business, and preferential consideration for federal funding.

For more information on this new program or if you'd like to organize your fellow residents into a City-recognized neighborhood organization, contact Norm Canchola at 667-2262. For more information on the City's General Plan, contact Larry Yenglin at 667-2724.

## Santa Ana AYSO Looks to World Cup, World Games

Every Santa Ana child wanting to play soccer is welcome in the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), which provides a positive team experience regardless of a player's ability level. Their motto: "Everyone plays in AYSO."

Last fall, 600 Santa Ana children and their families were involved in this all volunteer, non-profit organization proving that AYSO can be family fun, not just fun for the players. With soccer the number one youth sport in America (and around the world), youth all over the City will want to play on a soccer team this summer. In addition, the USA will host the premier tournament of the world, the World Cup of Soccer. The excitement will grow as the USA team practices in Mission Viejo and the semi-final and final games will be in the Pasadena Rose Bowl.

To play in Santa Ana AYSO's fall season, players must register this spring. Registration for boys and girls, ages 4 1/2 to 18 years of age will be held April 23 and 30, and May 14 at McFadden Intermediate School, 2701 S. Raitt St., from 9 am to 4 pm. Parents must bring proof of the child's birth date and basic medical information (shot record, doctor, medical insurance, and an emergency contact phone number). Players need to wear sneakers to take a simple abilities test.

The fees are on a sliding scale at \$50 for one player, \$45 for a second, and \$40 for any other players in a family (payment plans can be arranged). All players receive a colorful uniform, individual and team photos, year pin, yearbook, and a medal or trophy. For those interested in helping, coaches and referees (whether new or returning) need to fill out a volunteer form at registration and receive AYSO training before the first games of the fall season. Play continues until December when selected players and teams are eligible for post season play at the county and state level.

Sponsors are needed to help this all volunteer, non-profit organization. Call 556-AYSO (2976) for more information.

The 1993 fall season ended with All Star players and Region Champion teams entered into post season play-offs with other AYSO regions in Orange County. The twelve and thirteen year-old boys team, the Black Hawks, coached by Keith Harvey, won the county tournament and entered into the Southern California Coast Tournament. This was a very exciting season for all the players.

The World Games of AYSO are being held this July to build with the excitement of the World Cup. Santa Ana is fortunate to have 6 soccer teams entered into the Sunnyvale tournament. The 90 boys and girls, ages 10 to 16 from Santa Ana, need help with the cost of the week-long housing expenses and uniforming cost. May fun raising events are planned by the teams, but sponsors are needed too.

Please help these Santa Ana youth represent our Golden City by calling or sending a check to AYSO, P.O. Box 26758, Santa Ana 92799. All donations are tax deductible.

## Science on Wheels

A trip to the Discovery Science Center's Launch Pad in the Crystal Court shopping center is one way to experience the fun of learning science hands-on. Now there's another. Launch Pad's "Science Jamboree on Wheels" van hit the streets last month carrying outreach programs to local school students.

Donated by FHP Health Care, the van houses Stuffee (a larger-than-life size doll) and four health education programs developed by Discovery Science Center and FHP. "As a health maintenance organization, we try to give back to the community in the area of health education," explained Janice Atzen, Regional Public Affairs Manager for FHP. "These programs help educate children on basic anatomy and good health habits."

The program is working and getting rave reviews from teachers and students. "It was an excellent experience for my students. They had a great time and because the program was hands-on they truly understood what was being taught," said Josie Greer, a third grade teacher.

Pre- and post-program materials help the learning process continue. "Months later we still use the materials that were given us. They

correlate to our lessons in health and are a bit help," added Greer.

"Using stethoscopes to listen to the heartbeat of a chicken, snake and friend, and blowing up balloons to understand how the lungs work are a few of the activities students engage in during the Stuffee programs," explained program coordinator Donna Wirfs.

Stuffee itself is a self-contained educational package. The seven-foot doll unzips to exhibit internal organs. "Stuffee helps kids learn how the body works and removes the anxiety students experience when learning about the body," continued Wirfs.

Stuffee is the first of many educational outreach programs Launch Pad and the Discovery Science Center plan to bring to the community in the years to come.

If you're interested in having the Stuffee and the Science Jamboree on Wheels come to your school or organization's event, call Program Coordinator Donna Wirfs at 965-0818.

Because FHP has funded the capital costs of the van and Stuffee, the program cost is reduced to about \$3.50 per child (for an average class of 20 or more).



**Science Fun** -- Stuffee (a larger-than-life size doll) is the centerpiece for a mobile "Science Jamboree on Wheels" van put together by the Discovery Science Center to promote the fun of learning science. Donated by FHP, the van travels to schools and various events involving children in a unique learning experience.

--photo by Mary Jo Ciccio

## City Surveys Residents on Its Performance and Customer Service

The City's Neighborhood Improvement Program recently mailed 1,000 surveys at random to members of neighborhood associations and of the Communication Linkage Committee, a city-wide organization of neighborhoods. The goal was to determine the level of customer service being provided in each of the following five departments: Recreation and Community Services; Planning and Building Safety; Public Works; Neighborhood Improvement; and the Police.

One hundred and seventy of the surveys were returned (about 17% of the total). Over 70 percent of those responding felt the quality of service provided by the departments was "good or better," with the following specific comments and suggestions:

- **Recreation and Community Services:** Park maintenance and service provided by the Park Rangers are good, but more parks are needed in several neighborhoods. Some park equipment needs to be improved.
- **Planning and Building Safety:** A one-step permit process would be helpful; employees need to work at being more helpful with homeowners who are not as experienced in the process and the requirements as contractors. Code Enforcement needs more power with codes more rigorously enforced.
- **Public Works Agency:** This agency received the highest number of positive comments about its quality of service, including graffiti removal and the courtesy of its workers. Suggestions for improvement included more uniform paint colors and better notification about tree work. Improving the efficiency of street sweepers, repairing streets in poor condition, and better phone service at the Water Department were other concerns.
- **Neighborhood Improvement:** Respondents agreed that this staff is very helpful, and that neighborhood meetings and guest speakers are very informative. Some concerns were expressed about feelings of insecurity caused by redevelopment, and efforts to meet the needs of new immigrants caused long-time residents to be ignored.
- **Police Department:** While 72% of the respondents felt that the Police are providing a good or better quality level of service, some felt the response time could be improved with the addition of more officers. Also, although "intimidation" by the Police was another concern mentioned, many believed more patrols and stiffer penalties would reduce the number of criminals on the street.

Residents are encouraged to continue to help the City improve its quality of services both by calling the various agencies or by sending your comments, compliments, or suggestions for improvement to: Neighborhood Improvement Survey: 500 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Suite 400; Santa Ana, CA 92701

Responses to the initial surveys were received from four of the departments. We've printed them below:

**Neighborhood Improvement:** Seventy two percent (72%) of those responding felt that Neighborhood Improvement was providing good quality service and making an effort toward maintaining good communication among residents. We will continue to work with neighborhood groups to ensure a good flow of communication. Concern was expressed about the sense of insecurity sometimes caused by redevelopment issues such as building new schools. Every effort will be made to keep the public informed about the status of, and the need for, redevelopment.

**Police Department:** Many of the respondents talked about the need for faster response to incidents. This is an issue the Police Department has been address-

ing over the past year through taking the most recent computer aided dispatch data and matching that to the available officers. Out of this comprehensive study was developed a special 12-hour work day, which included redeployment of our officers to insure maximum coverage during peak times and to provide the most rapid response possible to crimes in progress.

This program was implemented February 1, 1994 and the results have been very impressive. Our response time to major incidents and crimes in progress have dropped tremendously and the feedback we've received from the community has been extremely positive.

**Planning and Building Safety:** One of our most exciting and innovative customer service activities includes one of our quality teams. The Outreach Team is producing "How to do it" video tapes of construction projects most often attempted by homeowners (i.e., water heater change-outs, re-roofing, etc.). These tapes will be loaned out so that the resident will have a better change to get it right the first time with minimal fuss on their part and ours.

In the area of legislation and administration, this Agency, along with the City Manager's Office, City Attorney's Office, and Fire Department, is spearheading an effort to amend a portion of the California Health and Safety Code. If we are successful, Santa Ana and other California cities will be able to legislate stricter occupancy standards as regards the number of persons permitted to inhabit a dwelling unit.

This will have a significant impact on the issue of overcrowding and the quality of life in Santa Ana's neighborhoods.

**Public Works:** The majority of the suggestions for our department related to issues on trees, neighborhood traffic mitigation, graffiti, and weed abatement. In most cases, the suggestions for improvement are already in progress.

*(editor's note: The department's remaining response was very detailed in all of those four areas. Due to space constraints for this edition, we have edited the reply to only one issue. We hope to print the rest of the response next time.)*

The biggest change for Public Works has been the establishment of a new Environmental and Transportation Advisory Committee (ETAC). The primary focus of this citizen's advisory committee has been in two areas: preserving and expanding Santa Ana's urban forest and protecting residential neighborhoods from commuter cut-through traffic and speeding.

Some of the results of ETAC's efforts on the urban forest are:

- a) We reprioritized our tree replacement program to put more emphasis on quickly filling tree vacancies, particularly on our arterials.
- b) When rehabilitating residential neighborhoods we are now starting the projects by planting trees in available vacancies before beginning any necessary tree removals and sidewalk repairs.
- c) We have improved neighborhood notification letters and give more advanced notice to both the affected Associations and individual residents.

A policy has also been adopted allowing each resident the option of keeping their existing parkway trees if they are not satisfied with the City's replanting program. Also, prior to removing a tree we are now posting the tree itself ten days prior to removal so there is less chance of the residents being uninformed or surprised if a tree is removed. It should also be noted we only remove trees if they are dead, dying, diseased, a species poorly suited for the parkway, or are causing significant, repeated infrastructure damage.

Since beginning our Tree Reforestation Program in 1987, the number of trees in the City parkways has grown from approximately 45,000 to 50,000. Our goal is to eliminate deferred maintenance and reach an optimum tree density of 53,000 trees by 2003.

# A "CRAZIES" EYE VIEW OF SANTA ANA

by Eric Halasz

What's new with the Orange County Crazies, you ask? Quite a lot, says Artistic Director Cherie Kerr, who is propelling the improvisational comedy troupe into its third year from its permanent theater residence at Bush Street and Santa Ana Boulevard (the restored Pacific Symphony Building).

By the time you read this, *Orangefeld*, the Crazies' satirical "tele-revue" of life in and around Orange County will be winding down from a successful nine-week run garnering critical acclaim from its numerous loyal patrons and from the local press.

And just when you thought it was safe to go back to the Gem, the Crazies' next revue, *Orangethelo*, will attempt to prove "All's well that ends well...as long as your checking account isn't overdrawn." *Orangethelo* will be featured between June 25 and August 27. To finish out this year's schedule, *Romancing the Orange* promises to "stone" everyone with laughter between October 15 and December 10.

All shows are on Saturday evening at 8 pm. Tickets are \$12 and may be purchased or reserved in advance.

On Saturday, April 23, Club Crazie will open for an evening of jazz and blues with acclaimed local vocalist Debbie Ebert. Kerr expects the club to be fully operational by mid-summer to support food and beverage (including beer and wine) service in anticipation of future comedy and musical showcase evenings, including some as yet un-confirmed "TGI/Orange" dates later in the year.

Also, a free comedy seminar for standup performers will be hosted by the Crazies on Tuesday and Thursday, May 10 and 12, at the theater. Jim Birge, who has produced more than 150 standup comedy show and worked with more than 700 performers, will conduct the program. Call 550-9900 for additional information and/or reservations.

Finally, look for the Crazies on TV! Kerr and company are presently producing a half-hour collection of brand-new production style comedy sketch segments, in the style of *SCTV* and *Kids in the Hall*. It will be set, of course, in and around Orange County. No other details on the show are available at this time; check your local access cable listings for time and dress code.

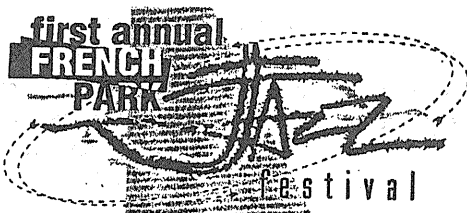
For additional information on any of the Orange County Crazies events or programs, call 550-9900.

## Hot Jazz in the Cool Park

You're not going to want to miss the first annual French Park Jazz Festival on Saturday, May 14, from 10:30 am to 6 pm. The free concert will feature Bones West with Ralph Bigelow, O.C.C. Big Band with Doc Rutherford, Inside Out with Matt Overholser, Armand Blade, and Juan Carlos Quinteros.

Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, suntan lotion, hats, and something to eat and drink.

The Santa Ana Council of Arts and Culture and the Historic French Park Association are sponsoring the event at French Park located at French, between 9th and 10th St. Free parking is available at 9th and Spurgeon. Call Don Cribb at 558-6150 or Gil Morrero at 851-1820 for more information.



# Cultural Calendar

## Bowers Museum of Cultural Art

2002 N. Main St. -- 567-3600

Opening on May 13th is "Ancient Nubia: Egypt's Rival in Africa," a selection of 200 pieces of art in metal, glass, and ceramic, offering a rare view of Africa's most powerful and colorful civilizations. This show was featured on the cover of *Smithsonian Magazine* and in a full page story in *Newsweek*.

The Bowers also features a variety of other continuing exhibitions of fine art from the indigenous peoples from the Americas, the Pacific Rim, and Africa.

## Way Off Broadway

1058 E. 1st St. (in the Advertising Arts Building) -- 547-8997

*Light Sensitive*, by Jim Geoghan, is a touching tale of an ex-cabbie blinded in an accident who is introduced to an unattractive, handicapped lady by his best friend. The two fall in love and the best friend must decide if his need to know is as important as his need to love. The play runs from May 28 to July 31.

Way Off Broadway also offers acting and comedy workshops for adults and children. Contact Tony Reverditto at 547-8997 for more information.

## Alternative Repertory Theatre (ART)

1636 S. Grand -- 836-7929

*The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*, by Jane Wagner, is a wild and wacky examination of society today suffused with laughter, insight, and a glimmer of hope. The play runs from May 6 through June 11.

## Orange County Crazies

115 E. Santa Ana Blvd. (Pacific Symphony Building) -- 550-9900

*Orangethelo*, a satirical revue of life in and around Orange County featuring skits and improvisational pieces will open on June 25 and continue to August 27 with performances on Saturday nights at 8 pm.

## Orange County Center for Contemporary Art

3621 W. MacArthur Blvd., Space 111 -- 549-4989

New works by artists Rachel Rosenberg (mixed media), Eileen Shahbazian (sculpture), and Virginia Halstead (paintings) will be exhibited until May 20th. Opening on May 25th is a new show featuring Ken Marapese (ink drawings), Dan Montano (paintings and mixed media), and Rick Araluce (paintings and mixed media).

## Randell's

Three Hutton Centre Dr. -- 556-7700

"California's Most Romantic Jazz Club" features some of the best jazz around with upcoming shows by Hollis Gentry, Sonya Jason, Dotsero, Thom Rotella, Phil Upchurch, Tony Guerrero, Billy Mitchell, and Zzah. Special event shows include Bill Cunliffe's Special Mother's Day Show on May 8th and Randell's Gala Two-Year Anniversary Party on May 13th. Call for additional information.

## Crazy Horse Steakhouse and Saloon

1580 Brookhollow (off Grand and Dyer) -- 549-1512

Offering the finest in country entertainment including upcoming shows by Pam Tillis, Shenandoah, Juice Newton, Billy Vera and the Beaters, and Hoyt Axton. The Crazy Horse also features complimentary country dance lessons on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday nights at 7 pm in their saloon.

## New Orleans Jazz Club of Southern California

Santa Ana Elks Lodge, 212 Elk Lane -- 664-1408

They hold a monthly jazz session with a headliner band on the first Sunday of every month. In May, the Gremoli Jazz Band will be featured. The public is always invited. Tickets are \$6 for non-members, \$3 for members.

## Yost Theater

307 Spurgeon St. -- 558-6869

Call for information on upcoming shows.

## Orange County Performing Arts Center

Costa Mesa -- 556-ARTS (2787), ext 240

The cherished crown jewel of Great Britain, *the Royal Ballet*, will perform a gala program of dance and music on May 3 to 8 in their only West Coast Engagement. *The Who's Tommy*, the Tony Award winning rock opera adaptation, comes to the Center May 10 to 15. The Rockettes along with Susan Anton headline *The Great Radio City Music Hall Spectacular*, June 14 to 19.

## Pacific Symphony Orchestra

Performances mainly at the Performing Arts Center, Costa Mesa -- 755-5788

Carl St.Clair conducts the PSO in The Resurrection Symphony including Mahler's Symphony No. 2 "Resurrection" on May 18 and 19.

With more than 100 recordings to his credit, including 17 gold albums, singer Roger Williams will join the PSO on May 20 and 21.

## Rancho Santiago College

17th St. at Bristol -- 564-5600

**Fine Arts Gallery** -- The annual Student Art Show will include their best in paintings, drawings, jewelry, stained glass, photography, ceramics, computer graphics, and other disciplines. Gallery hours are 10 am to 2 pm, Monday through Thursday, and 6:30 to 8:30 pm, Tuesday and Wednesday. Gallery number - 564-5615.

**Nealley Library** -- Mixed Media artist Mark Leysen features "Icons and Images" integrating images from various print media collaged with three-dimensional elements and painted backgrounds. Library gallery number - 564-6700.

**Phillips Hall Theatre** -- RSC Jazz Concert offering an exciting montage of big band, small group, and vocal jazz will be held on May 1 at 7 pm. Tickets are \$8 general, \$6 students, seniors, children, and RSC staff. Tickets and info - 564-5661.

**Phillips Hall Theatre** -- *The Mecha Mural Play*, a new comedy written and directed by Louie Olivos, Jr., tells the story of the conquest of Mexico, the 16th of September, Cesar Chavez, and the Zoot Suit Riots. The play celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Mecha Mural at the College Library and will be performed on May 5th at 12 and 6 pm and on May 7th at 2:30 and 5 pm. Tickets are \$5. Call 564-6718 for tickets and other information.

**Phillips Hall Theatre** -- *Something's Afoot*, an engaging, funny, and original musical, takes a satirical poke at Agatha Christie's murder mysteries. Performances run from May 6 to May 15. Tickets are \$10 general, \$8 students, seniors, children, and RSC staff. Tickets and info - 564-5661.

**Phillips Hall Theatre** -- Spring Choral Concert will transport you to the city of music - Vienna with choral masterworks by Mozart, Schubert, and Brahms. The concert will be held on May 15 at 7 pm. Tickets are \$8 general, \$6 students, seniors, children, and RSC staff. Tickets and info - 564-5661.

*Wish you were here...*

**Wilshire Square  
6th Annual  
Home & Garden  
Tour**

**Sat-Sun June 4th & 5th  
10am-4pm**

**Tickets: \$7 presale  
\$9.50 on days of tour**

**Call 553-3744 for details**

**Mail to:  
P.O. Box 2441  
Santa Ana, Ca. 92707**

Send your cultural event listings in by June 18th  
to be in the next issue of Eye on Santa Ana.

# Community Calendar

## May

**May 1 - 29** -- This year the **1994 Philharmonic House of Design** features 18 designers blending the classical elements of an elegant, Italian villa-style estate with the lifestyle of California in the nineties. Sponsored by the Orange County Philharmonic Society, the house is open daily except Mondays and is open evenings on Thursday. Tickets are \$17. Call 840-7542 for more info.

**May 5 (Thurs)** -- The **Annual National Day of Prayer** will include a special Orange County event at the Plaza of the Flags square in the Civic Center Plaza area in Downtown with prayer to begin at 7 am and continue until 5 pm. This year's theme is "Heal Our Land." Call 252-1035.

**May 5 & 7 (Thurs & Sat)** -- The **Mecha Mural Play**, a comedy written and directed by Louis Olivos, Jr., celebrates the 20th anniversary of the Mecha mural (at the Rancho Santiago College Library) while it deals with the conquest of Mexico, the 16th of September, and the Zoot Suit Riots. Performances are at 12 and 6 pm on Thursday, 2:30 and 5 pm on Saturday and will be held at the Phillips Hall at the college, 17th St. at Bristol. Tickets are \$5. Call 543-5598.

**May 7 - June 4** -- MainPlace/Santa Ana hosts a large scale replica of the **White House** featuring realistic miniature furnishings including telephones that ring and quarter inch televisions that work. Open for free public viewing.

**May 7 (Sat)** -- Southern California's premier **All-American Country Antiques Show** will be held from 9 am to 5 pm at South Coast Plaza Village. Over 40 first-quality country antique dealers will feature pre-1900 hand-crafted furniture and accessories, antique quilts and linens, and folk art. Admission is \$5 and includes a special guest speaker.

**May 7 (Sat)** -- The Discovery Museum will host a **Mother's Day Garden Tea Party** to be held around their Victorian gazebo. There will be two seatings ( 11 am and 1 pm) where tea breads, sandwiches, scones and jam, tempting pastries, and a selection of fragrant teas will be served. The Victorian-style tea costs \$15 for adults and \$12.50 for children under 12. The Museum is located at 3101 Harvard St.. Call 540-0404.

**May 8 (Sun)** -- Surprise Mom with a trip to the zoo this year as you pack her favorite picnic lunch and head to the Santa Ana Zoo for their **Mother's Day Safari Symphony** complete with animal antics and a symphony of sounds (courtesy of the Irvine Youth Symphony). The concert is free with zoo admission (\$3 adults, \$1 children). The Zoo, located at 1801 E. Chestnut, is open from 10 am to 4 pm and the music begins at 1 pm. Call 836-4000 for more information.

**May 9 (Mon)** --The public is invited to the Ebell Clubhouse for a 1:30 pm **Indian Dancers' program** with a tea following. The clubhouse is located at 625 French St. Call 547-6331.

**May 9 (Mon)** -- **Comedian Dennis Wolfberg** performs in a special benefit for The Wellness Community held at the Improv comedy club in Irvine. Tickets are \$75 each. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 474-1600, ext. 18.

**May 11 (Wed)** -- **The Tuvans are Coming!** The throat singers of the small central Asian country of Tuva will return to perform their exotic music, wherein one voice hits three tones simultane-

ously. You can experience them in the courtyard of the Bowers Museum, 2002 No. Main St. at 7 pm. Admission is \$15. Call 567-3600 for details.

**May 12 -14 (Thurs - Sat)** -- The Friends of the Santa Ana Public Library will be holding a **book sale** at the Central Library from 11 am to 5 pm on Thurs. and Fri. and from 10 am to 3:30 pm on Sat. Most books are 25 cents each. On Saturday afternoon, the price drops to \$1 a bag.

**May 12 (Thurs)** -- A **heart disease identification and prevention program**, Risko, will be held by Western Medical Center/Santa Ana from 4:30 to 8:30 pm at the hospital, located at 1001 N. Tustin Ave. The cost is only \$5 and includes various blood tests and risk assessments. Call 953-3445 to reserve your space.

**May 12 (Thurs)** -- The **Arden-Modjeska House and Garden** will be discussed at the General Meeting of the Orange County Historical Society at 7:30 pm in room 4 of the Education Center of Bowers Museum, 2002 No. Main St. Kathie Matsuyama, Orange County Historian, will talk about the history of the house and it's restoration in preparation for a special docent led tour on Saturday, May 14. The lecture is free. Call 871-2935.

**May 13 (Fri)** -- The **Government Leadership Prayer Breakfast** will be held by the Santa Ana Christian Business Men's Committee from 7 to 8:45 am at the Temple Calvario Church, 2617 W. Santa Ana Blvd. The event is \$12 per person. Contact Lorin Griset at 834-1200.

**May 13 (Fri)** --Area women are invited to a monthly luncheon hosted by the Santa Ana/Tustin Christian Women's Club at the Orange County Mining Co. restaurant, 10000 Crawford Canyon Rd., Santa Ana, from 11:45 am to 1:45 pm. The theme is "Home Sweet Home" and will feature interior designer Lavoanna Hopkins. The luncheon buffet is \$14 and includes free child care. Call 838-4077 by May 10 for reservations.

**May 14 (Sat)** -- **Food Drive** held by the U.S. Postal Service and its workers. See page 3.

**May 14 (Sat)** -- **Guest speaker Professor Gerald Padilla** will speak on "Learning about our Mexican Roots," at the monthly membership meeting of Mexican American Women's National Association held at Western Medical Center, 1001 N. Tustin Ave. beginning at 9:30 am. Cost for non-members is \$10. Call 563-MANA.

**May 14 (Sat)** -- The West Floral Park Neighborhood will hold a **Country Fair** featuring fun for all ages. The Fair will have carnival booths, games and prizes, as well as feature old-fashioned field games like sack and three-legged races. A dazzling collection of antique and classic cars will be displayed. Artisans and craftsmen will be on hand to display and sell their wares. The neighborhood's best bakers will give you a chance to buy their creations. All Santa Ana residents are invited to join in the fun from 10 am to 3 pm at Santiago School, 2212 N. Baker St.

**May 14 (Sat)** -- The Orange County Historical Society will host a docent-led tour of the historic **Helene Modjeska Home and Gardens** at 10 am. See May 12 for pre-tour lecture. Call 871-2935.

**May 14 (Sat)** -- **Find your stress reduction power** through gentle stretching as shown by cancer Victor Fila Barnett. The techniques and hints she reveals will help the cancer patient achieve more control in their life. Held without charge

from 10 am to 12 noon at the Wellness Community, 1924 E. Glenwood Place. Call 258-1210.

**May 14 (Sat)** -- The **First Annual French Park Jazz Festival** will be held from 10:30 am to 6 pm in French Park (corner of French and Vance). The event, sponsored by the Santa Ana Council of Arts and Culture and the Historic French Park Association, will feature musicians including Bones West, O.C.C. Big Band, Inside Out, Armand Blade, and Juan Carlos Quinteros. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, suntan lotion, and hats. The event is free. Call 558-6150 for details.

**May 14 & 15 (Sat & Sun)** -- Juggler, acrobat, mime, and comedian Rick Lewis balances learning and fun when he performs his "**Couch Potato Science**" at the Discovery Science Center's Launch Pad at 11 am, 1 pm, and 3 pm. Launch Pad is located in the Crystal Court shopping center at the corner of Bear and Sunflower.

**May 17 (Tues)** -- **Bowers Singles Group** for the Cultural Arts features guest speaker Dr. Patricia House, director of development for the Bowers, at their regular monthly meeting. She will give a program on "Sand Castles and Hobbit Houses," a lecture about the Dogon People of Mali. Admission is \$4 for members and \$8 for non-members. The event will be held at the Museum, 2002 No. Main St., at 7 pm. Call 857-8707 for details.

**May 21 (Sat)** -- Enjoy a musical brunch with **Rian McGonigal** who will relate his experience in using music during his fight for recovery from cancer. Held from 10 am to 12 noon at the Wellness Community, 1924 E. Glenwood Place. Call 258-1210 to RSVP for brunch.

**May 21 (Sat)** -- Students in Orange County will be honored at the annual **Orange County Student Night** at Anaheim Stadium sponsored by the Outdoor Science Foundation in cooperation with the California Angels. Tickets for the ball game benefit local school organizations. For additional information, call 966-4339.

**May 22 (Sun)** -- The **ACP Computer Swap Meet** returns with scores of vendors offering some of the greatest deals you've ever seen on new and used computer stuff. The event is free and located at Advanced Computer Products, 1310 E. Edinger from 8 am to 2 pm.

**May 22 (Sun)** -- From gowns to flowers to hair salons, if you're getting married soon, you'll want to see what Santa Ana businesses have to offer you at the **Bridal Expo** held along Fourth Street in Downtown Santa Ana from 10 am to 4 pm. Call 571-4251 for more information.

**May 22 (Sun)** --The **Fifth Annual Santa Ana Mariachi Festival and Fair** returns to Rancho Santiago College, 17th at Bristol, from 12 noon to 7 pm. Celebrating with some of the best of Mexican music, culture, dance, and traditions, the event will feature Mariachis and Folklorico dancing, carnival and children's activities, and lots of fun. Admission is free. Call 558-6869 for info.

**May 22 (Sun)** -- A **Dessert and Games Party** will be held at 1 pm at the Ebell Society Clubhouse, 625 French St. The public is invited. Call 547-6331 for reservations.

**May 28 (Sat)** -- Seniors can enjoy a **meal and a movie** for just \$1.99 courtesy of Western Medical Center, 1001 N. Tustin Ave. Meet at 11 am for lunch in their cafeteria and then see the movie **Father of the Bride** at noon. Call 835-3555.

## June

**June 2 (Thurs)** -- The **South Coast Plaza Summer Food and Wine Festival** comes to the Crystal Court (Bear and Sunflower St.) from 5:30 to 9 pm with samplings from 32 restaurants and 27 wineries amidst the music of a steel drum band. The \$25 admission charge benefits local charities.

**June 2 (Thurs)** -- It's Back to School for Seniors as Western Medical Center/Santa Ana hosts an **information seminar** about health and other subjects from 9 am to 1:30 pm. The event is \$5 and includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Call 953-3520 for information and reservations.

**June 3 & 4 (Fri & Sat)** -- The United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church will hold a **rummage sale** from 9 am to 4 pm in the downstairs dining hall of the St. Luke Center at the corner of Santa Ana Blvd. and French St.

Household items, clothing for all the family, collectibles, and baked goods will be available.

**June 9 (Thurs)** -- Enjoy a great day at Catalina Island as the Santa Ana Senior Center hosts a **boat trip to Catalina** with a bus tour of Avalon and a trip aboard the famous Glass Bottom Boat. Only \$40 per person. Call Carolyn Rios at 647-6540 for details and reservations.

**June 10 (Fri)** --Area women are invited to a **monthly luncheon** hosted by the Santa Ana/Tustin Christian Women's Club at the Orange County Mining Co. restaurant, 10000 Crawford Canyon Rd., Santa Ana, from 11:45 am to 1:45 pm. The theme is "The Crowning Touch" and will feature former N.Y. fashion model, Pat Swift. The luncheon buffet is \$14 and includes free child care. Call 838-4077 for reservations.

**June 11 (Sat)** -- **Guest speaker author Victor Vallasenor** will speak on "World Peace," at the monthly membership meeting of Mexican American Women's National Association held at

Western Medical Center, 1001 N. Tustin Ave. beginning at 9:30 am. Call 563-MANA for details.

**June 18 (Sat)** -- Seniors can enjoy a **meal and a movie** for just \$1.99 courtesy of Western Medical Center, 1001 N. Tustin Ave. Meet at 11 am for lunch in their cafeteria and then see the movie **Around the World in 80 Days** at noon.

**June 21 (Tues)** -- **Bowers Singles Group** for the Cultural Arts features guest speaker Carl De Maio at their regular monthly meeting. He will talk about old movies and antique movie posters. Admission is \$4 for members and \$8 for non-members. The event will be held at the Museum, 2002 No. Main St., at 7 pm. Call 857-8707.

**June 26 (Sun)** -- The **Old Courthouse Museum Society** will be hosting a reunion of people who obtained their marriage licenses at the Old County Courthouse between 1901 and 1967. The event will be held at the Old Courthouse, 211 W. Santa Ana Blvd from 2 to 5 pm. Contact Rita Semple at 879-1492 for further information.