

# Hoover Elementary School Notes from the Principal

Hoover Elementary School serves 483 students in grades K-5. Approximately 380 of our students are bused in from nearby neighborhoods. The class size and pupil/teacher ratio in kindergarten is 31 to 1, while in first through fifth grades the pupil/teacher ratio will be 30 to 1. All Hoover teachers have their CLAD (Cross-Cultural Language and Academic Development) certification and are certified as Highly Qualified teachers under "No Child Left Behind". Our teachers have an average of 22 years of experience. Hoover has sixteen regular education classrooms K-5 and three Special Education classrooms (K-SUCCESS, K-2 & 3-5). Our student demographic data offers a perspective of the students and families we serve.



Our student population is 96.38% Hispanic, 0.20% African American, 1.81% Caucasian and 1.41% Asian. Of this population, 8% of the students are receiving Special Education services, 72.4% qualify for English language learner support, and 92% of students are enrolled in the Free/Reduced Price Meal program. 77.5% of our students are classified as English Learners. Our English Learners have far exceeded the State's targets for attaining reasonable fluency in English as measured by California's Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives 1,2 and 3 at 70.9%, 31.7%, and 68.4% respectively.

In 2008, the school's Academic Performance Index (API) was 682 and since then our API has grown to 780. In 2008, the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) in English Language Arts was 24.0% of students at Proficient/Advanced and is now at 41.7% of students at Proficient/Advanced. In Mathematics (2008) 36.6% of students were at Proficient/Advanced and now 57.6% of students are at that level. We are proud of our renewed focus to continually improve student achievement.

Most recently, Hoover Elementary School gained 45 points on our API, and we did meet the AYP criteria in both English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics by reaching Safe Harbor. In ELA Hoover students went from 32% to 41.7% of students at Proficient/Advanced, and in Mathematics, students went from 47% to 57.2% at Proficient/Advanced. In Science, fifth grade students rose from 16% Proficient/Advanced to 41.5% at Proficient/Advanced.

The Hoover staff meets regularly to review achievement data to identify school wide and grade level instructional foci. Teacher teams use student data to plan instruction to meet our students' instructional needs. Assessments have led Hoover to focus on reading fluency and comprehension, with standards-based instruction and intervention programs. Besides our instructional focus in recent years, Hoover has a strong collaborative ethic. In our small school setting, we are able to regularly communicate with students, parents and District support staff. We know that students will maximize their fullest potential at Hoover Elementary School.

## SUPPORT PARK SANTIAGO NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Please help support PSNA with your 2012 Membership donations. Just fill out the coupon and mail it to the address listed below. Your donations help sponsor events, newsletters and projects. Thank you for your help.

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Mail to: PSNA • P.O. Box 11061 • Santa Ana, CA 92711

*Park Santiago Neighborhood Association (PSNA) is a Santa Ana neighborhood of 1,175 homes bordered by 17th Street, the Santa Ana Freeway, Main Street, Santiago Park and Lincoln Street. Our neighborhood's goals are to preserve and enhance the integrity and quality of the neighborhood and to foster effective communications. The work of PSNA is facilitated by an elected board of volunteers and various volunteer committees.*

# PARK SANTIAGO NEWS

JUNE 2012

A PUBLICATION OF THE PARK SANTIAGO NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

## STOP, THIEF!

From April 1st through May 30th four burglaries and/or attempted burglaries have occurred in the Park Santiago Neighborhood. According to Gabriella Alday of the Santa Ana Police Department, these incidents have occurred in the 2300 block of N. Santiago, 2300 and 2000 block of N. Valencia, and the 1000 block of E. 20th Street. The modus operandi of the burglars is to break and enter through a locked (or unlocked) door or window at the back of the house. During the daytime. When no one is home. Reportedly, small items such as jewelry and small electronics have been stolen. Car break-ins are also on the rise in the neighborhood according to Commander Gominsky of the SAPD. Police have been notified and are "on it" although none of the perpetrators have been apprehended to date according to Alday.

### What can you do to improve your chances of keeping your home safe from burglars?

#### Here are a few suggestions:

- ☞ Form a neighborhood watch group. This can be done in conjunction with the Santa Ana Police.
- ☞ Pay attention to who's in the neighborhood. Keep an eye out for what's happening in the street. OBSERVE, RECORD, and REPORT suspicious persons and activity. Remember, these burglars are watching and observing YOU and YOUR PATTERNS of coming and going!
- ☞ Trim bushes around your home so there are no hiding places.
- ☞ Add cliplocks for windows, deadbolt locks on doors.
- ☞ Install an alarm system.
- ☞ Set timers on indoor and outdoor lights. Outside motion lights are also helpful.
- ☞ Make sure wall trellises aren't strong enough to support a climbing intruder. Plant prickly bushes (ouch!) below windows.
- ☞ Make sure no exterior doors have their hinges outside as these can be easily removed.
- ☞ Signs warning of security systems or guard dogs may help.
- ☞ Petition the City of Santa Ana to ban door-to-door solicitors.

### Be on the lookout. Talk to your neighbors.

Report suspicious persons/activities to the police dispatch line (714)834-4211 or if you witness an immediate threat call 911.

## QUIET ZONE UPDATE

By ISABEL REED

On April 4, Bobbi Rooker, Jim Cordiel and I met with city officials Carlos Bustamante, Paul Walters, Raul Godinez, and Monica Suter to discuss the train horns we continue to hear in this area. Since only three crossings have been designated as quiet, we still hear the horns of trains crossing Santa Ana Blvd. and 4th Street. It was agreed that Santa Ana would apply for quiet zone stature of those two crossings. First Street is not a problem as that train crossing is an overpass.

According to an e-mail from Monica Suter on May 4, the city approved the crossings at Santa Ana Blvd. and 4th Street to be quieted, and OCTA is working on the Notice of Intent. At our meeting, the city official said that those two crossings' quiet zones should be implemented by August.

Monica also explained why we sometimes have to wait several minutes at our crossings before the train appears. It's because the installed equipment is not sophisticated enough to quickly pick up all the ramifications of pedestrians crossing, cars crossing, and trains stopping at the depot. Also, there is still some grumbling about the light at Santa Clara as it doesn't seem to be well coordinated. In some cases, it appears technology isn't too advanced.



## Park Santiago Neighborhood Association Board Roster 2012

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All executive board members for 2011

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#### PSNA E-news (email news bulletins between newsletters)

Casey DePersis ..... psna.casey@yahoo.com

#### PSNA website ..... www.park-santiago.com

#### Webmaster

Terry Gonzalez ..... terrygonzalez@me.com

#### PSNA on Facebook

Search Park Santiago Homeowners

# off-Leash Dogs and Dog Attacks

By Jonde

There has been an increasing problem with some residents allowing their dogs to run loose or escape to roam in the neighborhood. This is in violation of Santa Ana Animal Codes which state, "Owners must confine animals upon their own property except when on a leash." And "Dogs may only be out of their confined yard when on a leash and under the control of a responsible person. The leash must be capable of restraining the dog and be no longer than eight (8) feet."

Animal Control (City of Santa Ana Police Department) has asked the community to assist by calling their office as soon as ANY incident involving off-leash dogs occurs. If incidents are not documented, they don't exist as proof. The police usually have an officer in the field seven days a week from 5 a.m. to 11 p.m. If it is an emergency situation, they will dispatch immediately, and, if they are not on duty, then police officers will be sent. If you are witness to any off-leash dogs or dog attacks, please call 714-834-4211 (non-emergency dispatch), and let them know dogs are off-leash. If it is an emergency, call 911.

We have many small children walking about the neighborhood as well as many dog walkers. Dog attacks are NOT acceptable. Please report attacks as well as off-leash dogs roaming the neighborhood.



# Sadie's Story

BY SADIE, A THERAPY DOG

My name is Sadie, and I'm a dog. A Border Collie to be exact. And I like cats. Not to chase them. I have cats that are my best friends. But I wanted to tell the other dogs in the neighborhood what happened to me on a recent Saturday morning during a walk with my human mom to the park. I live on Valencia, but Mom sometimes goes into the park via Santiago Street. There are three feral cats (white with gray markings) that live about four houses south of the ball field, on the west side of Santiago. We were walking to the park (I could hardly wait), and we stopped to say "howdy do" to the feral cats as we usually do, when one of the teenage cats approached us and then sprang! Onto my face! He dug his claws into my head and tried to bite me. Then his brother attacked me and got on my back, claws digging in and biting. Before I knew it, the mother cat raced toward me and got on me, too. I cried. I yelped. I backed up, but they wouldn't get off. Then Mom started kicking them off. But they just attacked again, and again, jumping on me, jumping off, coming back to do it again, one after another. What was a dog to do? Mom got scratched on her calf and was bleeding. I know Mom carries pepper spray for dogs that may attack me, but she couldn't get it out fast enough. Things were happening too fast, and fur was flying! Finally, we got away from those cats, but the first attacker stalked us up the street. He'd slink along then race to me and jump on me! He did that three times. He followed us until we got to the park; then, he stopped. We went home. Mom was very upset. I was too. I didn't get my walk in the park or see any squirrels.

I heard someone telling Mom that maybe the mother cat was pregnant, that she was being protected by the others. Could be. We called Animal Control, and they set a trap and so far have caught two of the cats that attacked me. Those cats are going to jail. I may testify.



# CONCERT IN THE PARK

Park Santiago's Annual Concert in the Park 2012

SAVE THE DATE: August 25th from 4-10 p.m.

WHERE: Santiago Park's Baseball Diamond  
off Santiago St. @ Memory Lane

BAND: Cheap Date  
(local band featured in March's PSNA Newsletter)

CHARITY: Mariposa Women & Family Center  
on Town & Country in Orange

(We will be doing a Fundraiser – possibly school supplies – TBA)

Food, Fun, Vendors, Music, Raffle Prizes

Bring the Whole Family • Admission is FREE!!!



## Park Santiago's Easter Egg Hunt A Huge Success!!

A good time was had by all at this year's Easter Egg Brunch and Egg Hunt March 31st at the Lawn Bowling Clubhouse in lovely Park Santiago. The raffle prizes were extensive and included many varieties of gifts from an oil painting by G. Wayne Brazil, an accomplished neighborhood artist, to music lessons by Susan Brown, a resident piano and voice teacher who has recently moved into the neighborhood and is proud to call Park Santiago home. We also gave away many restaurant and store gift cards from Mother's Market and Roma D'Italia among others. The brunch potluck selections brought by the neighbors were sumptuous, and everyone left with happy hearts and tummies! Thank you to all who participated in contributing to so many children having a delightful morning gathering chocolate and playing with or meeting new friends and neighbors.

This year's donations were given to Mariposa Women and Family Center on Town & Country Street in Orange which is just around the corner from Santiago Park. The Easter Baskets created from our donations of chocolate and candies made many families who couldn't afford to provide the extra goodies very happy.

COMING SOON!

# ANNUAL 4TH OF JULY PARADE!

When: Wednesday, July 4<sup>th</sup>

Where: Lawn Bowling Center –  
corner of Valencia & Virginia

Time: 3:30 p.m. contestants check in  
4:00 p.m. parade starts

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## Slow Down, You're Going TOO Fast!

Many residents have expressed concern about the ongoing issue of speeding vehicles in Park Santiago. Traffic speed can be critical to safety. Fast speeds increase the likelihood of pedestrians and animals being hit causing many of our pedestrians to feel uncomfortable. According to the Department of Motor Vehicles, the speed limit in residential districts is 25 mph unless otherwise posted. So please SLOW DOWN while driving.