

PARK SANTIAGO NEWS

FALL 2014

A PUBLICATION OF THE PARK SANTIAGO NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Dear Park Santiago Neighborhood Resident:

Recently the City received communications from several neighborhood residents which expressed concerns about vehicles exceeding the 25 M.P.H. speed limit on several neighborhood streets. I would like to thank residents for bringing these concerns to our attention. In response to resident requests, City staff conducted speed surveys on Valencia Avenue, Santa Clara Avenue, and Virginia Avenue. Although those streets do not qualify for speed hump consideration based on observed prevailing speeds, the surveys did confirm that there are some drivers driving faster than the speed limit.

Due to the alignment of the streets within your community and the barriers created along the boundary of the neighborhood created by the Santa Ana Freeway and Santiago Creek, the neighborhood does not appear to experience a significant amount of through traffic. It appears that the majority of drivers using the streets are residents of the neighborhood. Because some drivers may have no intention or knowledge that they are exceeding the 25 M.P.H. speed limit, the intent of this letter is to raise your awareness of the need to obey the speed limit in residential areas.

Please consider the following: a driver's reaction time can be as high as 2.5 seconds before he or she applies the brakes and the brakes begin to take effect. That reaction time at 35 miles M.P.H. equates to 40 feet of additional travel distance as compared to a vehicle traveling at 25 miles per hour. The 40 feet could mean the difference between life and death, if a pedestrian should step out in front of you. In addition, studies indicate that pedestrians are about two and a half times as likely to survive a collision with a vehicle at 25 M.P.H. as compared to one travelling 35 M.P.H. Also, fines for speeding can exceed several hundred dollars and can result in higher car insurance premiums.

The City and the Park Santiago Neighborhood Association are asking area residents to take a little extra time on our City streets to help provide a safe, walkable, and tranquil community. Please share this information with all the drivers in your household. To help ensure safe driving, the Santa Ana Police Department will be in this area on a regular basis to enforce the speed limit.

The City of Santa Ana hopes this information will increase your awareness of the need to obey the speed limits in your neighborhood and throughout the city. Thank you and if I could ever be of assistance, please contact me at (714) 647-6900.

Sincerely,
Angelica Amezcua
Councilmember, Ward 3

Neighborhood Election

Our November PSNA meeting will feature our annual election as well as a discussion about what can be done about illegal fireworks.

Details about this meeting will be posted online when we approach the Nov. 5 date (7:00 p.m., Lawn Bowling Clubhouse). If you'd like to run for office, a description of board member duties and qualifications can be found on our website under Articles 5-9 of our bylaws: <http://park-santiago.com/bylaws/>. In summary, to run for office, you need to merely show up at the November meeting and declare your candidacy, and you must reside within the PSNA boundaries. The same qualifications hold true for voters, but only one vote is allowed per household. Additionally, to run for president, you need to have served a previous term as a board member or committee chair.

Holiday Event

Would you like to have a community holiday event in Park Santiago? Park Santiago is looking for volunteers to put together a holiday social event for the community. If you are interested in helping, please contact Casey DePersis at 714-749-2430 or Sarah Karlovic at sarahhaston1018@gmail.com by September 30th. You can volunteer your time, ideas, services, or simply contribute your signature dish. If we all join together, we can put together a really fun event for the community.

Park Santiago Neighborhood Association Board Roster 2014

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President Paul DePersis.....714-836-4666
psna.paul@yahoo.com

Vice President Mike O'Valle..949-378-2263
movalle2000@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Bill Bonnett.....Billbonnett@hotmail.com

Secretary Béa Tiritilli.....714-532-2714
beapsna@att.net

QUADRANT REPRESENTATIVES

Northwest

Teresa Steinmann.....310-351-0652

Kathy McSorley.....714-835-6201

Patty Sigmon-Maize.....714 558-6947

Northeast

Anastacio Maese.....562-477-6653

Southeast

Veronica Armendariz.....714-667-3931

Frank Scotti.....714-541-3718

Southwest

Bobbie Rooker.....714-542-7802

Lenny Wiersma.....714-701-1174

COMMITTEE CONTACTS

Traffic & Development

Speeding and traffic issues:

Peggy Waleri.....836-0327

Pavement problems and misc. T & D issues:

Don Cribb.....743-3215

Community Watch

Teresa Steinmann.....310-351-0652

Hoover Linkage

Bobbie Rooker.....714-542-7802

Hospitality

Casey DePersis.....714-836-4666

Elections & ByLaws

All executive board members

Newsletter

Copy editors:

Peggy Bye.....714-541-6044

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

Santiago Park

Gerald Tiritilli.....714-532-2714

Lewis Wood.....714-835-7156

Community Preservation

Peggy Waleri.....714-836-0327

Teresa Steinmann.....310-351-0652

Here are some ways to stay in touch between print newsletters:

COMMUNICATIONS/E-NEWS SIGNUPS

(electronic news bulletins between print newsletters, usually one or two monthly):

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

NEW WEBSITE

www.park-santiago.com

Web master:

Terry

Gonzalez.....terrygonzalez@me.com

Suspected Thief Arrested

As spring ended and summer began, Park Santiago and Floral Park residents fell victim to several home robberies. The robberies took place in homes where no one was home and a door or window was unlocked. The thief took just what he could carry, leaving the house in almost the same condition in which he found it. With the help of concerned residents, a surveillance photograph from a Floral Park homeowner and the tireless efforts of the Santa Ana Police Department, the suspect was arrested on July 3rd. Below is a list of helpful tips to deter potential thieves from targeting your home:

- **Never leave your home with a window or door unlocked.**
- **When you leave, try to leave a light and/or radio on.**
- **Do not answer door to door security system sales people. Some could be thieves looking to see which homes have security systems.**
- **Consider getting a security system for your home.**
- **Consider outdoor lighting improvements.**
- **Communicate to your trusted neighbors your schedule and planned vacations.**



Nextdoor

Nextdoor is a free private social network whereby neighbors can share useful community information, solicit referrals for service providers, and simply join together as a community. It is an excellent tool to stay updated in community events in between newsletters.

You may visit www.nextdoor.com or download the application on your smartphone or tablet. Neighbor awareness through Nextdoor played an integral role in spreading information about the alleged thief.

Save Water-Plant Natives

Back to Natives, a local non-profit organization, connects the community to habitat restoration through service learning and native plant education. Many of their classes in managing native plants take place at their nursery right here in Park Santiago. In addition, the Municipal Water District of Orange County is partnering with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and your local water provider to bring you the Turf Removal Program. Through this program, residential and small commercial customers of participating retail water providers may be eligible to receive an incentive of \$1.00/square foot of turf removed for qualifying projects. The goals of this program are to increase water use efficiency within Orange County, reduce run-off, and evaluate the effectiveness of water-saving practices.



For more information about native plant classes and education, the Turf Removal Program or to receive help in designing your own water saving landscape, contact Back to Natives at www.info@backtonatives.org.

West Nile Virus

There have been several reported incidences of West Nile Virus in Orange County, some local to Park Santiago. To view a map of reported cases, please visit www.ocvd.org. Below are tips to avoid contracting the virus this summer:

What You Can Do

The best way to prevent West Nile Virus infection is to avoid being bitten by mosquitoes.

Whenever You Are Outdoors

- Avoid spending time outdoors at dawn or dusk, when mosquitoes are most active.
- Wear loose fitting and light colored clothes to protect yourself from mosquito bites.
- Use DEET or Picaridin based mosquito repellent or Lemon Oil of Eucalyptus, according to label instructions.

Around The House

- Eliminate any source of standing water in your yard.
- For larger water sources that cannot be eliminated (i.e., fountains, ornamental ponds), the District provides mosquito larvae eating fish free of charge.
- Make sure window screens are in good repair and fit properly.
- Report any large breeding sites in your neighborhood to the District:
- Abandoned swimming pools.
- Accumulations of trash and containers capable of holding water.

In addition to eliminating mosquito-breeding sites around your home, you can help Vector Control in its battle against larger breeding areas by preventing excess water from running off your property.

- Make sure sprinklers are positioned properly and in good repair. Adjust sprinkler timers to prevent over watering. If water is running off your lawn onto the sidewalk or curb, your lawn is getting too much water. Over-irrigation is the primary source of water in our gutters.
- Check rain gutters for any leaves or debris that could be blocking the flow of water.
- Take your car to a carwash if possible. When washing your car at home, turn the hose off while you are soaping and washing, and divert the water to a vegetated area such as the lawn.
- Sweep your driveway instead of hosing it down. Collect leaves and landscape debris and put them in your green waste cart. Just a few leaves in the gutter can cause water to back up and form a breeding site for mosquitoes.
- If you notice standing water in the gutter between street sweeping days, please sweep it out to minimize mosquito-breeding areas.

Meet Ria Maddock

Ria Maddock has been working in the field of health fitness for 20 years. Her earliest experience in the fitness industry was with Nautilus Aerobic Plus. From there she decided to explore the world of dance. Competing in Polynesian dancing including Tahitian and Hula, as well as entering Salsa dancing competitions, has helped Ria understand the purpose of dance in a regular fitness routine. Ria discovered Zumba fitness in 2003. She trained in Miami, Florida with the Zumba fitness creator Beto Perez and became California's first Zumba instructor in 2003.

Today she is passionately teaching classes of all ages that exercise is fun. Incorporating her studies in Health Science from Cal State Fullerton, she advocates applying healthy life style choices to her students' fitness routines. She is currently supporting her students' health with programs in nutrition, fitness, and organic gardening.

Ria's fitness classes are taught in Park Santiago Tuesday and Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church (2555 Santiago St., Santa Ana, CA 92706). In addition, you can find her teaching Monday through Thursday 7:00 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. at the Jerome Center (726 South Center Dr., Santa Ana, CA 92704). Ria and her husband, Brian Maddock, are also currently managing the Santa Ana People's Garden which is a community garden located in the back parking lot of the First Congregational Church. You can contact Ria Maddock at riavigilgroupfit@yahoo.com for fitness and thegreenbeingproject@yahoo.com for gardening information.



Coyotes: They Don't Have to be a Problem

By *Béa Tomaselli Tiritilli*

Coyote sightings are on the uptick in Park Santiago neighborhood as well as many urban and suburban areas of California. Representatives from the California Department of Fish and Game visited the Santiago Park Nature Center July 18 to explain why.

Jim Wimmer and other education volunteers with CDFG discussed the problem. During droughts, they said, herbivores eaten by coyotes (such as rodents) die off due to lack of wild plants to eat. With fewer wild food options, coyotes are driven into neighborhoods, where they are attracted to garbage, water and pet food left out by humans-and to the pets themselves.

Coyotes have a natural fear of humans, and will typically run away when confronted by humans who shout or use noisemakers. If they're hungry enough, however, coyotes will keep coming back to visit. CDFG has a policy of not killing (except in extreme circumstances) or relocating coyotes for several reasons. Killing coyotes upsets the balance of the local ecosystem, for example, and regions without coyotes may become overrun by rodents or rabbits. And relocating coyotes merely makes them someone else's problem.

CDFG representatives gave several suggestions for keeping coyotes from becoming nuisance animals, including:

- **Don't leave pets or pet food outside unattended, especially at night (coyotes are primarily nocturnal).**
- **Install motion-sensitive lighting around your home's perimeter.**
- **Trim shrubs to minimize coyote hiding places.**
- **If garbage cans are stored outside, secure them to a wall with rope or elastic cord to so they can't be tipped over; and keep lids on securely.**
- **Pick up fallen fruit and keep compost covered.**
- **Remove water and bird feeders at night, which can attract rodents and other prey coyotes may follow.**
- **If coyotes-or their close cousins, dogs-have hopped your fence, consider adding a roller top, also known as a Roller Bar Fence or Coyote Roller. (Animals that attempt to climb such a fence will lose their grip and roll off.)**

For more information on controlling coyotes, contact CDFG:

- **Local coyote hotline (leave message; a volunteer will return your call): 562-596-3885**
- **Regional CDFG office (San Diego): 858-467-4201**



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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 Neighborhood Association is funded primarily by the generosity of its residents. If you would like to make a small contribution toward any of the community events (including the 4th of July parade food, the Holiday Party at the Lawn Bowling Center, future concerts in the park and the Easter event to name a few) please visit www.paypal.com and contribute to PSNA.Paul@yahoo.com.