

M A D I S O N H E I G H T S

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President's Report: Getting Ready for the Fourth

By Neil Kleinman



This is our neighborhood's most exciting time of the year as we get ready for our Eighth Annual Fourth of July parade and picnic. First, I want to express our gratitude for our neighborhood's enthusiastic initial response to our dues appeal. Your donations make it possible for the entertainment, rentals, refreshments, police security and insurance for this event. We also appreciate the volunteers who plan to help, but we'll still need help to man the traffic barricades during the parade.

Let's Celebrate

What started eight years ago as a parade and block party has developed into an event that is a major focus for our neighborhood. Children who rode in wagons and strollers during our first parade are now on bicycles (with appropriate bike helmets). Now entire families march and ride together in our parade.

We've abandoned the hot pavement of street intersections for the shade of Allendale Park. The park location minimizes the need for street closures and makes it safe for children to move from Mr. Valentine's Traveling Nature Class, to the Armory Center crafts projects, to playground equipment and of course delicious In-N-Out Burger meals. With ample seating in a central area it's easy to mix and make new friends.

One thing that has been constant in each parade has been the participation of the Blair JROTC members. The young people do more than just march. They also help with preparations and recycling of bottles. Over 65% of these JROTC participants go on to college. I hope you'll take an opportunity at the event to express your appreciation and pride to them for what they accomplish.

Invite Your Friends

Our event captures the nostalgic spirit of traditional small town Independence Day celebrations. Please share this wonderful neighborhood experience with your friends. Guests are more than welcome as their meal purchases help us fulfill our required minimum requirement with In-N-Out Burger. This year we face both slightly higher meal costs and the increase in the sales tax rate to 9.25%. We still are able to offer In-N-Out meals at a lower cost than other organizations.

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Report From Terry Tornek

As your newly elected City Councilperson, I am delighted to report to the MHNA.

General Plan Update

During the course of the recent campaign, most of you told me that the issues that concerned you the most were traffic & development. Now you can do something about both of them.

As many of you know, the City is embarking on an update to the land use & the mobility elements of the City's General Plan. These are the fundamental documents that will guide the City's growth over the next decade. All of the City's other ordinances regarding land use & circulation must conform to the principles adopted in the General Plan.

To introduce the topic to the neighborhood, we are having a District 7 Kickoff for the General Plan Update on June 16th, 7PM at Caltech's new Cahill Auditorium, 1216 E. California Blvd. There will be free parking behind the center.

Stephanie DeWolfe, Deputy Director of Planning & Development, will be there to describe the process, its implications & how you can

participate. So, if you do want to influence the shape of things to come, you really should attend.

Budget

The City Council has been grappling with the 2009/2010 Budget in the face of declining revenues & continued economic uncertainties. Budget adoption is due by July 1st, but additional cuts from Sacramento may require revisions in September. There will be some reductions in staff & in City services.

Water Issues

All of us will have to learn some new lessons about water use in the very near future. The City will be adopting new emergency regulations & higher water rates in the face of declining availability. The traditional model of unlimited supply at cheap prices will go the way of \$1.50/gallon gasoline prices.

While many of us are facing personal challenges that parallel those facing the City, we are fortunate to live in such a great neighborhood within a wonderful City! Maria & I hope that you will have a wonderful summer & we look forward to seeing you soon.

Neighborhood History: Oak Knoll Gardens

Thanks to Chuck Livingstone and Tim Gregory

Oak Knoll Gardens is a picturesque cluster of 23 cottages on a circular street off El Molino Avenue. These small houses were built in the space of a year (1922-23) as buyers were attracted to the "moderately priced and elaborately appointed" small Spanish revival style residences designed by architect B. G. Morriss and built by the B. O. Kendell Company. Some buyers purchased their new homes before construction was completed and were allowed to dictate certain personal "refinements" in the designs. The average price for each small residence was about \$5,000, slightly above average for similarly-sized homes elsewhere in Pasadena. Early buyers could secure a 50-foot lot for \$1,250 to \$1,500 on easy terms.

Although many such developments usually caught the eye of winter visitors, it appears that the majority of Gardens residents were year-round upper middle-class Pasadenans. Among the first owners were three dentists, a real estate executive, a stock broker, a civil engineer, a high school teacher, the manager of the Pasadena's Home Telephone and Telegraph Company, the female auditor of the Pacific Electric Company, and James H. Howard, the City Attorney.

It was reported that many rare trees and shrubs that pre-existed on the property, then known as the Cline estate, were saved during construction. Clarence P. Day, a well-known local landscape engineer, was in charge of the basic layout of the development that encompassed three and a half acres.

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Pride in Our Country

By Joyce Kelly

Event Chair

It's a great sight to see our children and their parents dressed in red, white, and blue, marching down the tree lined street with the flag flying high as the JROTC leads the way. This gives us an

exciting image of our neighborhood enjoying this very special day.

The parade will start at Euclid and Fillmore and be led by the Blair High School ROTC with the beautiful "stars and stripes." The wonderful tree shade of our Allendale Park is the perfect place to settle down after our parade along Euclid to Allendale. We've stayed with the same route that worked so well last year in terms

of pleasant shade and safety.

There will be plenty of bottles of water in the park in red barrels with ice. Please don't be wasteful with the water. This year we are working with the City to recycle so please put empty bottles in the special recycling bins. The ROTC members will take the empty bottles to the Recycling Center for us.

Once again we will have a wonderful craft table managed by the Armory Center of Art. There will be multiple art projects for our children to enjoy.

Mr. Valentine will bring his Traveling Nature

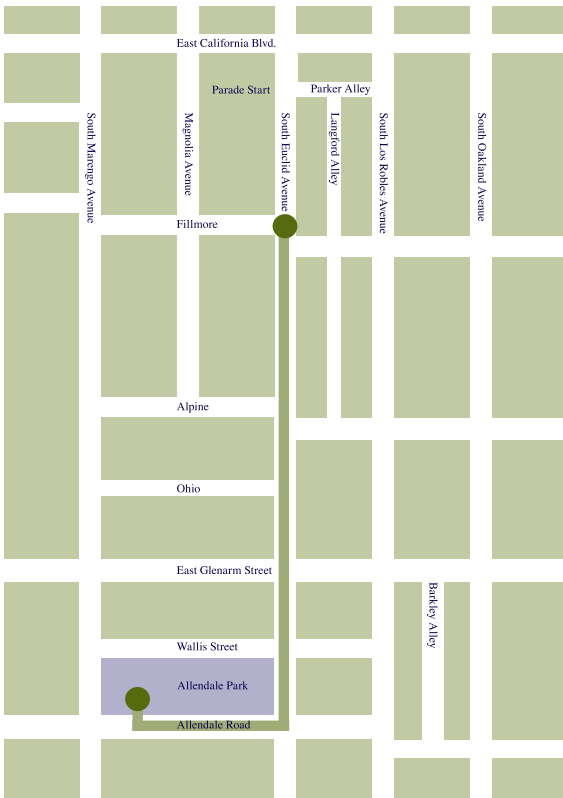
Class for an educational hands-on experience that's a perennial favorite with both children and adults. Everyone will enjoy seeing and holding a variety of animals both local and exotic including snakes, lizards, turtles, amphibians and insects. The nature class dispels rumors about these animals and teaches how to respect rather than fear them.

Returning this year will be LA Jazz. Their music is so popular and helps to mellow out the day. They played all the old 4th of July melodies that enhanced the spirit of the holiday.

In-N-Out Burger will be waiting and ready to serve up their special "burger lunches in a box" to satisfy our hunger. Please note the order sheet enclosed in this newsletter regarding the ordering process which includes order line phone number as well as meal selection and prices. As we have done in the past, there will be an order booth for you to pay for your orders and go directly to the In-N-Out serving trucks. All orders are made on the spot so please be patient as you wait in line.

As the afternoon heat rises we'll be prepared. Our Fire Department has promised to turn on the water hydrant to spray the young and even the old (just don't tell your age). There will also be Sno-Cones.

Our special day doesn't just happen. It takes a great deal of work, and we need the support of volunteers. There is a critical need for adults to spend a few minutes to man the barricades along the parade route. This is a community event, and we all benefit from this occasion. Please call Joyce Kelly at (626) 441-0223 or email woodkell@pacbell.net to volunteer.





M A D I S O N H E I G H T S

SIXTH ANNUAL FOURTH OF JULY PARADE AND BLOCK PARTY

FAMILY PARADE

TIME

GATHER AT 10:30 AM

LOCATION

SOUTH EUCLID AND FILLMORE

ROUTE

SOUTH EUCLID AND FILLMORE, SOUTH TO ALLENDALE, WEST ON ALLENDALE TO ALLENDALE PARK

NEIGHBORHOOD CELEBRATION

TIME

12 NOON

LOCATION

UNDER THE TREES AT ALLENDALE PARK

OUR 4TH OF JULY CELEBRATION WILL HAVE MANY OF THE SAME WONDERFUL ENTERTAINMENT AS LAST YEAR, WITH LIVE MUSIC, COLOR GUARD, CRAFTS, AND MR. VALENTINE'S TRAVELING NATURE CLASS.



INCLUDES CHIPS AND DRINK

HAMBURGER MEAL

\$ 6.50

CHEESEBURGER MEAL

\$ 7.50

DOUBLE-DOUBLE MEAL

\$ 8.50

GRILLED CHEESE MEAL

\$ 5.50

PLEASE PLACE YOUR ORDER IN ADVANCE ON OUR DEDICATED ORDER LINE,
626 568 4800

NO LATER THAN JULY 1!

COME TO OUR "WILL CALL" TABLE ON THE DAY OF THE EVENT TO PAY FOR YOUR MEAL. IT'S CRITICAL THAT YOU ORDER IN ADVANCE SO WE DON'T RUN OUT OF FOOD! "WILL CALL" TABLE OPEN AT 10:30
CHECKS MADE PAYABLE TO MHNA PREFERRED. EXACT CASH APPRECIATED.

Annual Meeting

This year's annual meeting featured a presentation on the planned restoration of the Rose Bowl and gave us an opportunity to honor retiring Councilman Sid Tyler. We presented Sid with a handlebar basket for his bike. We all look forward to seeing him ride around the neighborhood and City. Plans for the Rose Bowl excited the audience its historical character will be preserved. The press box area will be enlarged for more seating and the hedge between the lower seats and the field will be replanted. This will allow fans to walk on part of the field in order to exit through enlarged end zone tunnels. The restoration will be completed in time for the 100th Rose Bowl Game in January, 2014.

Neighborhood Developments

I regret to report that increased crime has become an issue in Pasadena. Our police force keeps us informed of incidences. In May there was a residential burglary on South El Molino during daytime hours. Unknown suspects climbed onto the roof and entered the residence through an open window on the second floor. Once inside the residence, they were able to take several expensive items, including a large television, money and other items. All residents should take precautions to make sure that homes are fully locked and secured when they are away.

City Planning

The City is in the process of a General Plan update. It is important for our neighborhood to monitor this process and make sure that seemingly logical plans aren't based on unrealistic assumptions about development and associated increases in traffic congestion. A presentation on the update will be provided at the District 7 meeting on June 16th. Let's make sure Madison Heights is well-represented at the meeting.

On a positive note, the City's draft of Design Guidelines for Neighborhood Commercial & Multi-Family Districts is sensitive to concerns previously voiced by MHNA regarding development set-backs and heights in areas adjacent to single-family zoned areas. The City

deserves praise for the way issues of fitting in with a neighborhood, scale and massing, landscaping and open space. The document applies to areas along Marengo, Magnolia Glenarm and California in our neighborhood.

capacities in Fair Oaks/California area to determine the actual capacity rather than the theoretical traffic assumptions currently in use. Several of the intersections are already projected to move into low level of service categories by 2010.

As we go to press there are many other changes on the horizon. PUSD has plans for a new middle school at Blair with possible closing of the west end of Allendale Road to create new park area. Community meetings are scheduled on the feasibility of a tunnel to complete Interstate 210. Plans are also being made for extensions to the Gold Line that could ultimately lead to a greater number of trains moving through our at-grade crossings.

In closing, I want to emphasize the important of our web site and email list to provide information on actions the Board plans to take to protect our neighborhood. Our list serve proved effective as a tool to provide resident questions for our Town Forum and comments that were included with the submission of our cell antenna position.

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While the houses in Oak Knoll Gardens are considered small by today's standards, the *Pasadena Star-News* (January 16, 1921) reported "that Pasadena would soon have a community home project of large proportions the will be the most elaborate and finest in the West." The development was seen as a unit home alternative to apartments.

Today, this unique cluster of homes with lovely intimate gardens contributes to the overall charm of our neighborhood. If you're not familiar with Oak Knoll Gardens it is well worth your time to take a short stroll through the development and imagine being in Madison Heights of the 1920s.

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M A D I S O N H E I G H T S

**4th of July
Parade
& Picnic**

Fun Starts
at 10:30 a.m.

Web Site, Email and Dues

Our new webmaster, Gordon Squires, is busy working to improve our web site and make it user friendly. As a first step, he's adding an archive of our newsletters so people new to our area can gain perspective on our neighborhood. Our goal is for the site to provide more current information in the past. We hope to make news available about speakers and key topics at our upcoming board meetings.

We have also done a thorough update of our email list to make sure we've updated addresses and added new addresses you've supplied. Our list now exceeds 500 addresses so we can get critical information out to most of our neighborhood. Please try to provide us with an address if you have one and haven't already done so. As stated in the past, the email list is confidential and is never provided to outside organizations. Lastly, just a friendly reminder about dues. Dues envelopes will be available at the 4th of July Event. Your support is critical to our activities and the betterment of our neighborhood. Thanks again to all those who already have given us their financial support.

MHNA Officers and Directors

Neil Kleinman <i>President</i>	Janine Abell
Chuck Livingstone <i>Vice President, Operations</i>	Joe Crowley
John Latta <i>Treasurer</i>	Jay Dupre
Judy Kleinman <i>Secretary</i>	Judy Jenkins
Lucian Carter <i>Vice President, Membership</i>	John Latta
Joyce Kelly <i>Events Coordinator</i>	Rey Rodriguez
Gordon Squires <i>Webmaster</i>	Gordon Squires
Suzie Boyer <i>Neighborhood Beautification</i>	