

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

**In this issue:**

President's Report	1
Tradition Continues	2
Event Details	3
Website, Email and Dues	4

**President's Report: A Celebration and a Challenge**

*By Neil Kleinman*



We have a new team of volunteers and plans have jelled for our Ninth Annual Fourth of July Parade and Block Party. After nine years, our event is definitely a tradition, and we can look forward to a larger parade and picnic than last year. A special feature this year will be an electric pace car. Details about the event are on pages 2 and 3.

We've formed a new volunteer team to direct the event. Chairing the event are Peter Perez assisted by Brian Quinn. Kathy Gibson will be our volunteer coordinator. Kathy James will work with merchants for donations and residents for sponsorships.

Each year we face increases in costs for this event. Sales of In-N-Out Burger meals barely cover our food costs. Please be mindful of this fact when you make your membership donation with the enclosed envelope. In addition, we need sponsorship donations to support the special activities, rentals and addition food for the event.

**A Major Challenge**

Our neighborhood and City continues to be threatened by massive development projects, and one in particular, the Playhouse Plaza project approved by the City Council for the corner of El Molino and Colorado could have a major impact on traffic on our residential streets. This is a massive project that, if built, would certainly have an impact in the form of increased traffic on El Molino.

The City Council's approval for this project is the subject of a law suit. The fact that a project of this nature could be approved in the face of strong resident objections and specific directions to the City as part of the General Plan Update process is an indication the MHNA has to be diligent in its efforts to oppose developments that pose a threat to our neighborhood.

From my perspective, our City is at a tipping point where excessive development could cause us to become like the grid-lock communities of LA's west side. Even without new commercial development, several of our already congested intersections are expected to have their rush hour levels of service decline in the next 12 to 24 months. As the massive residential development at

*continued on page 2*

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## Our Tradition Continues

It Seems that every year we have more and more children in our parade. It has become a tradition to dress in red, white, and blue for our march down shady Euclid to Allendale Park. For our march this year we've added an electric pace car to lead the parade followed by the JROTC with the American flag. The pace car should give

us capability to play appropriate patriotic music.

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.

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.

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 Kathy Gibson at (626) 826-9003 or email [kathy@kathygibson.com](mailto:kathy@kathygibson.com) to volunteer.

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Pasadena Avenue and Del Mar begins to be occupied we can expect to see the western traffic arteries of City become clogged. This raises the possibility of more drivers seeking alternative routes through Madison Heights.

In order for us to be an effective force to control the pace of development we have to make sure the City listens to our concerns and opinions. Fortunately, our email list serve can

serve as a potent weapon. When a notice about a commercial development or other issue is emailed, we can collect resident responses and forward them to the Planning Department, City Council and Mayor. Our email list serve has been modified so that responses to our emails will only go to MHNA and not be broadcast to everyone on the list. Let's be diligent and work together to keep our City special.

*continued from page 1*



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

## NINTH 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

\$ 7.00

#### CHEESEBURGER MEAL

\$ 8.00

#### DOUBLE-DOUBLE MEAL

\$ 9.00

#### GRILLED CHEESE MEAL

\$ 6.00

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.

**Madison Heights Neighborhood Association**  
686 South Arroyo Parkway  
Suite 199  
Pasadena, CA 91105

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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.

Current Resident or

## 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

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