

FLORAL PARK

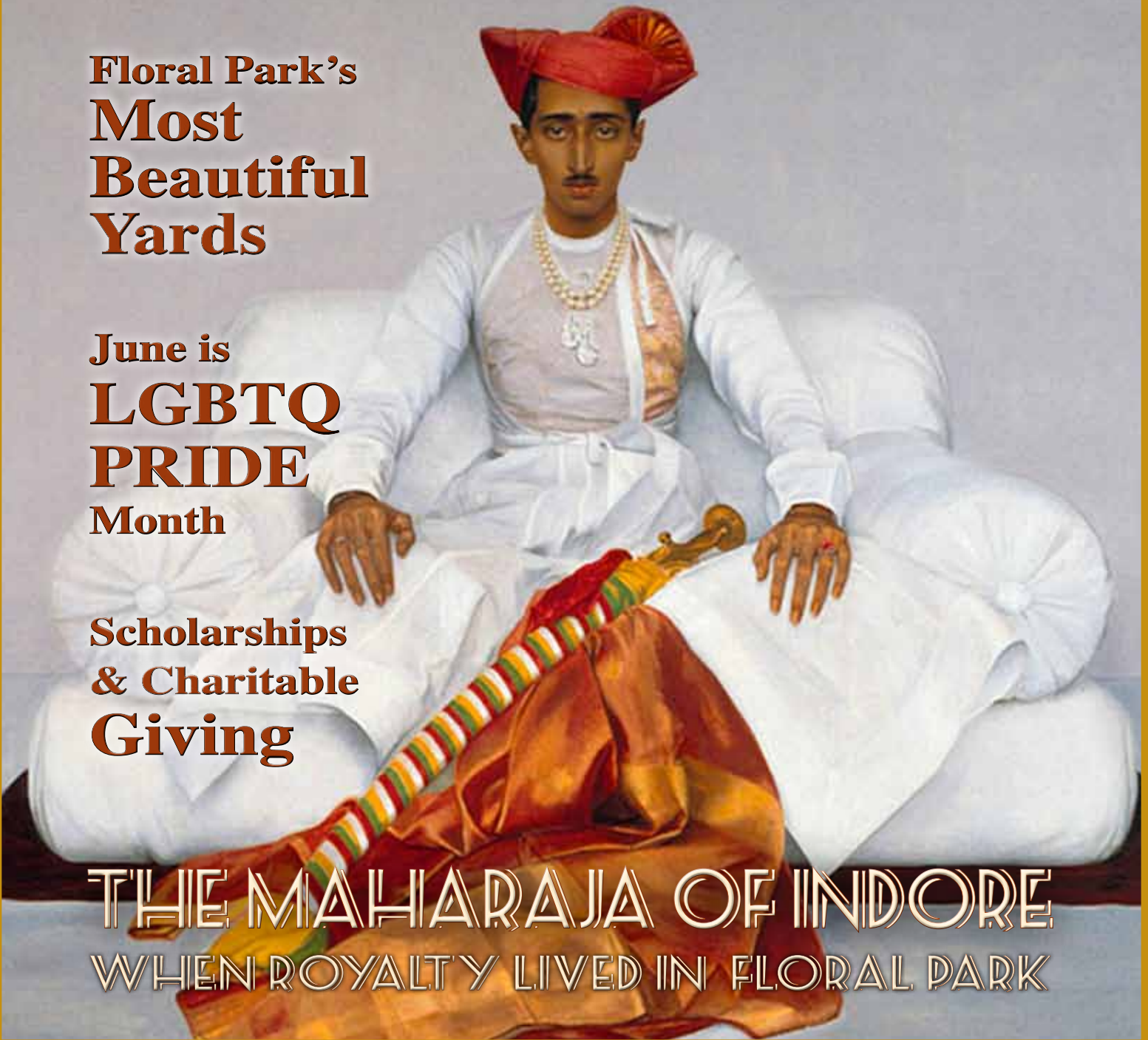
NEIGHBORHOOD GAZETTE

Floral Park's
**Most
Beautiful
Yards**

June is
**LGBTQ
PRIDE
Month**

Scholarships
& Charitable
Giving

THE MAHARAJA OF INDORE
WHEN ROYALTY LIVED IN FLORAL PARK





SUMMER 2020 ISSUE

FLORAL PARK GAZETTE

is the official publication of the
 Floral Park Neighborhood Association
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**SEND LETTERS TO THE EDITOR TO:
 NEWSLETTER@FLORALPARK.COM**

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Cover photo: 1934 portrait of Maharaja Yeshwant Rao Holkar II wearing the two 47-carat diamonds, the Pearls of Indore, around his neck. The portrait sold at Sotheby's in 2016 for more than \$2,600,000.

Letter From The President

by Ed Murashie



How interesting that COVID-19 brought out some of the best in folks with acts of kindness towards neighbors, the vulnerable and the caregivers. Residents supported their favorite shops and eateries by using curbside service. That kindness included our own neighborhood with the drive-by parade for one of our

residents, a former board member, who fought the battle and won over the coronavirus. It looks like there is light at the end of the tunnel with cities slowly opening up for business and, hopefully, a vaccine by the end of the year.

Still, with many individuals unemployed and staying home, there is a high level of stress and tension. It took the actions of a few bad cops against George Floyd in a highly-televised event to set off a wave of protests across the nation and down our own streets. Protesting is a right, looting is not. This wave has come to Santa Ana and only time will tell what the outcomes will be. As I write this, about 500 well-behaved young people are marching up Flower Street.

Congratulations to the newly elected board members and to those who chose to stay but take a new role. It is always great to see residents join the board for the first time and I wish them the best. For those who chose to leave the board, thank you very much for your service.

Next up is the drafting of the Santa Ana general plan and, later, the elections. Both are important to Floral Park residents. The general plan proposes the utilization throughout the city. 2525 Main Street development is an example where the city was trying to circumvent the current general plan by spot rezoning that lot from commercial to residential. The general plan will explain how crowded it will be once you step out of our neighborhood. November will be the first election by ward, which was approved in 2018 by 63% of the voters. Some think this gives our ward better representation and voice on the city council. *(Continued next page)*

2020 FPNA BOARD	
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Co-Parliamentarians	Erik Hernandez Ellen Koldewey Parliamentarian@FloralPark.com
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Upcoming Floral Park Events

SUMMER CONCERT
 August 22

YARD SALE WEEKEND
 Sept. 5 & 6

CHILI COOKOFF
 October 3

Construction Wraps Up on 19th Street

Street improvements on 19th Street are almost complete. Already finished are all of the intersections on Flower Street and much of the street, curb and sidewalk replacement on 19th Street from Flower towards Broadway.

The Floral Park Neighborhood Assoc. has arranged for the unique circular sidewalks, built by Oswald Bros. in 1930 as part of the initial phase of Floral Park development, to be preserved along with the historic concrete stamps and for all concrete to be replaced with the same material without asphalt patches.

(LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT continued)

Others think that the city council will be more divided because they will be looking out for their wards and their re-election instead of the city as a whole. We'll have to wait and see. Either way it is the city council that votes on everything from raising our water rates to how to spend our tax dollars. Please do your homework, listen to the debates and get out the vote in November for the best city council we can have.

"That's all folks." Keep your eyes on the city, stay safe and take care of each other. —Ed



From The Editor

We in Floral Park are blessed to live in a neighborhood that's proud of its inclusivity. Regardless of your race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, faith, age, disabilities or economic status, whether you live in a condo or house, rent or own, you are welcome, valued and respected. Floral Park stands for inclusion, love, acceptance and support. For if we do not love our neighbors, *all* of our neighbors, how do we love anyone?

Each of us, I'm sure, is outraged and heartbroken at the events occurring across our country. We need to stand together, help each other, love one another and, most importantly, take action to drive positive change.

We as a neighborhood must strive to be the best version of ourselves. We may never be perfect, but we try to do better every day. In the fight for equality, we have a responsibility to combat discrimination and unfair treatment of our fellow humans wherever and whenever we see it. You and I have the power and responsibility to create a neighborhood, a culture, a world in which hate and discrimination have no place.

In the words of the novelist and playwright, James Baldwin: "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."

Letters to the Editor may be addressed to Newsletter@FloralPark.com.

It's Mosquito Season

It's that time of year again. The Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District is reporting an elevated level of invasive Aedes mosquitoes and an increased risk of mosquito-borne disease in areas of Santa Ana due to a rainy Spring season and the increase of warm weather. *(Continued on page 9)*

Welcome New Floral Park Neighbors

Welcome new neighbors! Floral Park would like to welcome you to your new neighborhood, filled with friendly, neighborly people. Expect a visit from the Floral Park Welcome Wagon. We look forward to greeting you at the upcoming Summer concert.

NEW NEIGHBORS:

Andres & Lynda - N. Victoria

Richard & Kathryn - N. Park

David & Crystal - N. Ross

Ralph & Cheryl - N. Heliotrope

Nina Tran - Greenleaf

New Media Sponsors

We are happy to welcome another new media sponsor, Shawna Olsen with Douglaw Elliman Real Estate. Shawna is a third generation Floral Park resident and would be happy to help you with all your real estate needs. Nancy Collins of Simplified Spaces by Nancy has extended her sponsorship to one full year and can, likewise, help you with all of your organizational needs. For links to all of our media sponsors, go to FloralPark.com/sponsors. Please let them know we appreciate their support.



HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY - Old Glory flies proudly at 2201 N. Heliotrope Drive. Photo by Denise Ryan. See your daily Floral Park photo on Instagram @HistoricFloralParkNeighborhood.

We Can Do It!



- Social Distance 6-feet
- Wash Your Hands
- Avoid Close Contact
- Wear a Mask

(More at FloralPark.com/news)

THE MAHARAJA OF INDORE

THE WORLD'S RICHEST MAN BUILDS A PALACE IN FORMAL PARK

by Diann Marsh



The Maharajah of Indore was said to have been so wealthy when he built his palace at the corner of Heliotrope and Santa Clara that he could plunge his arm up to his elbow into several chests full of precious jewels. In 1937, these treasures had an estimated value of \$20 million.

Why did the Maharajah choose Santa Ana in which to build his eighteenth home? It was reported that he wanted a safe place for his daughter, five-year-old Princess Usha. He and his new bride, Marguerite Branyen, liked Santa Ana's beauty, its quiet, and the promise of restful seclusion. At the time, Allison Honer, who lived in the midst of a small orange grove across the street from the Maharajah property, was one of Orange County's most prominent building contractors. His firm constructed the house, which was designed by Donald Beach Kirby of Balboa Island.

The Santa Ana Register stated, "A man's home is his castle, and the castle being built for the world's richest man, the Maharajah of Indore, in Santa Ana is not only a castle; it is literally a fortress. It will guard that which is more dear to him than all of his income—it will guard the safety and continued well-being of his daughter, Princess Usha." The Register claimed it was the only castle in Western America to house a foreign ruler and his family.

Steel and concrete bars and heavy metal grates were used on all of the windows in the 12-room home. The basic cost of the house was \$50,000, a very large sum during the Depression.

The house was built of frame and stucco, with a high marching wall around the back yard, including

the driveway and attached garage. In 1938, it was still rare to have the garage attached to the house in the fashion seen in almost every new house today. The stairway leading from the front entry hall to the second floor was guarded by a wrought iron gate. Although the house was a fortress, it did not appear that the threat the Maharajah feared came from local citizens, but rather from some foreign danger, because Princess Usha attended Hoover Elementary School with all of the other neighborhood children.

Approximately \$150,000 was spent on the furnishings and works of art. Tiger-skin rugs and leopard-skin draperies added an exotic touch, while a polished green rubber floor was covered by custom woven white carpets. Huge contemporary divans, an 11-piece dining room set, and eight-and-a-half-foot copper pillar lamps were among the new furnishings. The living room is 28 by 34 feet and contained a fireplace clad in polished glass. The walls of the second floor hallway were covered with scarlet grass cloth. A servant slept in the hall, outside Princess Usha's door, every night. A beautifully-tiled swimming pool

was the centerpiece of the backyard and could be viewed from the 80-foot-long terrace at the rear of the second floor.

Marguerite Lawler Branyen met the Maharajah in 1937, at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles.

The prince managed to assemble one of the most important private collections of Modernist furniture and decorative arts from the 1920s and 1930s in the world.

Still in mourning for his first wife who had recently died, he had been traveling with his five-year-old daughter, Princess Usha, when he had a severe asthma attack. Marguerite, who was divorced from her first husband, John Branyen, a Minneapolis jeweler, had worked as a stewardess for the Union Pacific before settling in Los Angeles.

After the Maharajah recovered, he took her to Europe as a nurse for his daughter. They were married on September 19, 1938.

When the house was finished in 1938, the Prince, whose proper name was Sir Yeshwant Holkar, his new bride, Marguerite, Princess Usha, and several servants moved into the striking Moderne residence. While in Santa Ana, the Holkars did little formal entertaining but did have a small circle of friends that included the Honers and attorney Dave Howell and his wife. According to Donald Honer, Princess Usha fit in well with the children in the neighborhood and they treated her the same as they treated everyone else. The Princess and Helen Honer became life-long friends, and still correspond, even though the Princess lives in India and Helen lives in Italy.

The Holkars had been in Santa Ana for only a year when they announced that they would be "returning to India to be of service to his emperor and his country." Princess Usha stayed in the house on Heliotrope with her governess, who was named her legal guardian.

Life in India was beyond anything Marguerite had dreamed.





MAHARANEE HOLKAR, American wife of the Maharajah of Indore, India, and her seven-year-old daughter, Princess Usha, who arrived by flying-boat from the United States yesterday on their way home to India.



(Above, front row right) Princess Usha at a birthday party on Spurgeon Street in Santa Ana in 1940 and (right) in traditional dress.



She was mistress of the Maharajah's 17 mansions, presided over a \$3 million palace with 200 servants, and had the use of her husband's 15 cars. She had her pick of any of the jewelry in the family collection, said to have been worth at least \$20 million. The servants in the palace, which had its own electric plant and was air-conditioned, wore gold-embroidered uniforms.

The Holkar's daily schedule usually began at noon with baths. After reading the Bombay Chronicle, they would have lunch in bed. Rarely were they alone because people were always dropping in. The Maharajah had a passion for playing bridge (his friends called him the Indore Sport), which they would usually do until afternoon tea. After tea they would

swim, play tennis, go calling, or play golf with their friends. In the evening they would see a movie in their own movie theatre or go to Whow, the nearest town. Marguerite commented that they rarely got to bed before 2 a.m., because they usually had company. They spent a great deal of time in their home at Fontainebleau, outside of Paris. Sometimes they went on hunting trips, with Marguerite's record adding up to 30 tigers, 8 panthers, and one bear.

Marguerite yearned for a good old American hot dog and a trolley ride. She flew back to the United States in 1942 and moved into the Holkar's second home at Emerald Bay. A year later the Maharajah took up residence in Reno, where he filed for divorce. It was reported that he spent the required

six weeks riding on a donkey and carrying a fishing rod. Ten hours after he got his divorce from Marguerite, he married Mrs. Euphemia Watt Crane. She became the new Maharanee.

Marguerite was given the home on Heliotrope and the house at Emerald Bay. Surprisingly, she was also given Princess Usha, whom she legally adopted. A substantial amount of alimony and jewelry were also a part of the divorce settlement. Although Marguerite denied the rumors, it was hinted that the cause of domestic discord was not mental cruelty, but the failure to produce an heir.

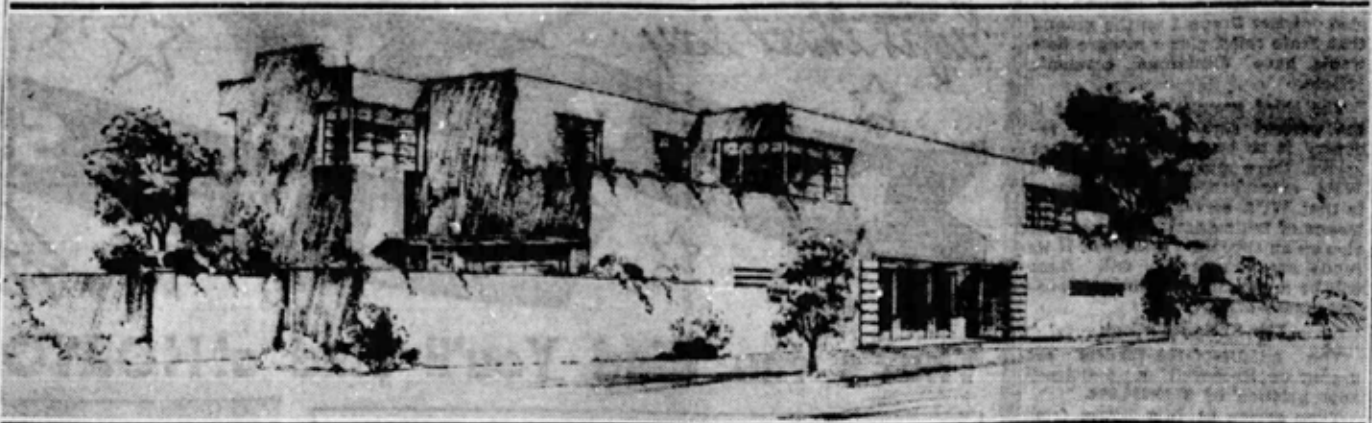
Marguerite, a truly remarkable woman who refused to be defeated by life, wanted to be a part of America again, so she joined the Waves. She is reported to have said, "I'm truly happy now." She was sent to the Hunter College training center in New York, where she lived the life of a typical trainee. Ten-year-old Princess Usha went back to India because Marguerite felt that she would be happier and less lonely if she lived with her father and his new family.

Marguerite met Charles W. Masters, a Santa Ana postman who was in the Coast Guard, and they fell in love immediately. In 1945, after they both



(Above) Interior Entry of the Maharaja's Heliotrope art moderne house. (Right) One of two 47-carat "Pearls of Indore" diamonds. They were sold to Harry Winston in 1946.

Maharaja's \$50,000 Palace To Be Built In Santa Ana



Pictured above is Architect Donald Beach Kirby's conception of how the \$50,000 home being built for "M. L. Holkar", the Maharaja of Indore, India, by Allison Honer at the southeast corner of Heliotrope Drive and Santa Clara avenue, will look. Of frame and stucco construction, the "palace" that will house the Maharaja's five-year-old daughter and her friends will be surrounded by a masonry wall, and is reported to be one of a number of establishments in various parts of the world, owned by the wealthy Hindu prince. The house will contain 12 rooms with a living room 25 by 32 feet, and bedrooms 18 by 25 feet. An 89 foot deck, enclosed with glass will be one of the unusual features of the house. Windows of the home will be of plate glass and will have cast iron grilles that will be ornamental as well as protective. Double floors will be installed in the house and these covered with sheet rubber. The house itself will cost \$40,000, with an additional \$10,000 being added in special features that will include a tile pool at the rear of the establishment.

received honorable discharges, they slipped away to Las Vegas, Nevada, and were married by a Justice of the Peace.

They returned to the house on Heliotrope in Santa Ana, where they lived for several years. In 1952, the house and most of the furnishings went on the auction block. Marguerite felt that the house was too large for her and her doctor recommended that she move to a drier climate. The high taxes and upkeep of the house had become a burden for her also.

What happened to all of the people whose lives were woven together in this stranger-than-fiction story? Marguerite

lived out her days in Corona del Mar (California), passing away in 1963. (*She is interred at Fairhaven Memorial Park in Santa Ana*). Tukoji Rao Holkar, Yeshwant's father, married Nancy Ann Miller of Seattle, Washington. They lived in India and had four children. Yeshwant Holkar and his wife had a son, Prince Richard, in 1944. He gave up the throne of the State of Indore to Princess Usha, rather than his son. He

went to work for the United Nations and died in 1959. Princess Usha still resides in the palace in India. (*She will be 87 years old in October*).

The house on Heliotrope still presents a private face to the world. It is beautifully-maintained and has changed little since Princess Usha ran through the rooms with her young friends. The neighborhood is lined with fine homes set amid manicured lawns — a fitting setting for a Princess. —Diann Marsh is the author of *Santa Ana (An Illustrated History)*. Printed with permission.



The Maharaja and his first wife, Maharani Sanyogita, on the set of "The Plainsman", with Gary Cooper and Cecil B. DeMille, 1936.

THE DOG DAYS OF SUMMER

During the State's stay at home order, many of us rediscovered the joys of walking Floral Park, something our four-legged friends have known all along. Strolling tree-lined sidewalks along rows of beautifully landscaped historic homes is an opportunity to count our blessings and to stop and smell the roses, while our dogs stop and... well, you know.

Thanks to Denise Ryan. For the full collection, go to FloralPark.com/Gallery.



Scholarship & Charity Giving Update

by Tracey Stein

It's with very optimistic hearts that Julie Humphreys and I look forward to this year's Scholarship & Charity Awards. And although we have had to make some adjustments to accommodate an unpredictable virus, we will still be able to give scholarship checks and donations to some very special people and organizations.

The Sponsorship Committee has extended its scholarship application deadline to May 31, so we are just now starting to read submissions and select award winners. We are also calling for recommendations for recipients of our charitable donations. If you have a Santa Ana-based charity to recommend, please send it to Giving@FloralPark.com.

This year, Floral Park Neighborhood Association will hand out sixteen \$1,000 scholarships to Santa Ana residents who attend a Santa Ana high school or college.

Each student selected has volunteered their time, skills, muscle, and heart to helping others in the community. We have been very fortunate to be able to fund these awards through money generated by last year's Home Tour ticket sales,

“We would have used this money to purchase Home Tour tickets. Please use it toward the scholarship fund.”

our very popular Wine and Beer Garden, our newly formed Opening Night event, and the generosity of private donors. Sadly, this year all these events have been cancelled and will not occur again until 2021. That will leave us with only our private donors to fund scholarships

next year. Since this year's fundraising activities are non-existent, we are asking for donations of any amount to help our scholarship campaign for 2021.

We have an awesome committee, and there are several ideas we're considering, to jumpstart our fundraising endeavors, so please look for more information in the weeks to follow.

A couple of weeks ago, committee-member Wayne Suraci received an envelope that was hand delivered and contained a check made out to FPNA with a note attached that read “We would have used this money to purchase Home Tour tickets. Please use it toward the scholarship fund.” Our donors were Rhonda and Herb, our neighbors on the corner of Flower and 19th. Wayne, and the rest of the committee, were truly humbled by this action, and our hearts swelled with pride.

If you, similarly, had it in mind to enjoy the 2020 Home Tour, please consider donating to help fund our 2021 scholarships. No amount is too small or too large. *(Continued on page 14)*



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Craig Kalthoff-Patti
Treasurer

Introducing Your 2020 Floral Park Board of Directors

Congratulations to the new 2020 FPNA board members who were elected unopposed at the special election meeting on May 12. We are proud to have such a dedicated group of talented and capable volunteers to serve the neighborhood. (First vice presidents Julie Humphreys and Tracey Stein along with treasurer Craig Kalthoff-Patti all serve 2-year terms and therefore were not included in this year's election.)

Here's your new board of directors, beginning July, 2020:

PRESIDENT

JEFF KATZ

Jeff and his wife, Suzee, have been residents of Floral Park since 2013. Jeff is a Santa Ana attorney and a volunteer case manager and board member for Second Chance Orange County, a non-profit that provides individualized supportive services to individuals experiencing homelessness. He has served on numerous Floral Park committees including membership, social and beautification. He has been the animated announcer of the annual watermelon eating contest six years in a row.

CO-1ST VICE PRESIDENT

TRACEY STEIN

Tracey works as a project manager for an event production company in Huntington Beach. In her six years in Floral Park, she has served on the FPNA board as secretary and communications director and has volunteered at social events and the home tour. She enjoys the neighborhood book club, dog walking expeditions and haunting antique shops and used bookstores.

CO-1ST VICE PRESIDENT

JULIE HUMPHREYS

Julie is an insurance coverage attorney and founding board member of FPNA. Over the years, she has served in many and various capacities including secretary, and has been 1st VP for the past 10 years.

CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT

DAVID BUSTER

David has served on the board as the membership director for four of the five years he has lived in Floral Park. His family owns a real estate sales and investment business on 17th Street, within the boundaries of Floral Park. Soon after he moved here, his parents followed suit, as did his sister, and now Floral Park runs in his DNA.

CO-2ND VICE PRESIDENT

CHRIS SWITZER

Chris is an 11-year Floral Park resident and an adjunct faculty member at Chapman University Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders. She has served five years on the beautification committee, two of those as cochair. She is also an avid gardener.

SECRETARY

ANGEL BARNES

Before retiring in 2018, Angel practiced law for 25 years and worked an additional ten years in public service as a state judge in Santa Ana. A Floral Park resident for 20 years, she has served on the board three times and was honored with the Neighborhood Hero Award in 2019.

TREASURER

CRAIG KALTHOFF-PATTI

Craig, a retired nurse practitioner, joined the board last year in the position of treasurer, which is a two-year post. He and his husband, Frank, have lived in Floral Park for six years.

MEMBERSHIP CO-DIRECTOR

TAMMY HEIDER

Tammy is a substitute teacher and nanny. She has served as social director for the previous four years and on numerous committees, as a home tour docent and in various neighborhood volunteer positions. Tammy's Yorkshire Terrier, Gracie, has been a registered Pet Partner therapy dog for over 12 years. Together they visit hospice and hospital patients, senior living homes, adult day care facilities and storytelling sessions at the Santa Ana Library.

MEMBERSHIP CO-DIRECTOR

KEVIN SCHULER

A Realtor with Keller Williams Realty/Neighbors Real Estate Partners, Kevin has lived in Floral Park for 15 years. He has seven years experience serving the neighborhood as president of the Families of Floral Park, WFP & JFP and has served on the FPNA Historic Registry Committee.

SOCIAL CO-DIRECTOR

SUZEE KATZ

Suzee is an executive assistant to the CFO at the Children's Hospital of Orange County and previously served as the Floral Park social director in 2015. She is perhaps best known for her wicked Halloween parties.



Tammy Heider
Membership Dir.



Kevin Shuler
Membership Dir.



Suzee Katz
Social Dir.



Alison DeMark
Social Dir.



Sandy DeAngelis
Home Tour Dir.



Beverly Schauwecker
Parliamentarian



Marc LaFont
Communications

SOCIAL CO-DIRECTOR **ALISON DEMARK**

Dr. DeMark is an elementary school principal whose previous volunteer board experience includes advisor Sigma Kappa Sorority, board member and past president for the California Association for the Gifted, and member of the board of internal review for the California Commission on Teaching and Credentialing.

HOME TOUR DIRECTOR **SANDY DEANGELIS**

Sandy is a Realtor with Seven Gables Realty and has lived in Floral Park since

1986. The Home Tour was conceived in her living room 29 years ago and she has served as home tour director ever since. Red is her signature color.

PARLIAMENTARIAN **BEVERLY SCHAUWECKER**

Beverly's family has lived in Floral Park for nearly 50 years. Retired from the LA County court system, she has been an active member of the home tour committee since its inception. Due to her extensive service on the board and in committees, she has been honored with Floral Park's Neighborhood Hero Award and Legacy Award.

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR **MARC LAFONT**

Marc is a desktop publisher and former public relations executive whose clients have included Cirque du Soleil, Festival of Britain and Hollywood Heritage. This will be his second term as communications director.

Any Floral Park resident is welcome to run for board office when yearly elections are held in May. In addition, you are encouraged to join a neighborhood committee such as sponsorship, historic, social or beautification. For information, go to FloralPark.com/contact.

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June is LGBTQ Pride Month in Floral Park

You may have noticed that Floral Park is a lot more colorful these days, with rainbow flags flying proudly throughout the neighborhood. What's with the flags, you ask? Well, the month of June is recognized around the world as Pride month, a time to celebrate the right for LGBTQ people (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer) to live as their true selves, while recognizing those who don't yet have that freedom, and commemorate the decades-long struggle of LGBTQ people to be recognized as full and equal citizens.

In the 1960s, LGBTQ people largely kept their identities a secret out of fear of arrest and retaliation. In February, 1967, Los Angeles police raided and beat patrons at The Black Cat, a gay bar in Silverlake. A mass demonstration followed which was met by squadrons of armed policemen and subsequent arrests. But for the first time, people were starting to stand up against discrimination and persecution.

On the morning of June 28, 1969, police once again raided Stonewall Inn, a long-standing New York gay bar. This time, however, it resulted in a riot that ultimately lasted three days.

The events in Los Angeles and New York became a catalyst for the LGBTQ rights movement, which in many ways resembled the Civil Rights Movement and the Women's Rights Movement. The following June (50 years ago), the nation's first Gay Pride marches were held, including one in Los Angeles.

In 1971, Santa Ana organized one of the nation's first LGBTQ Centers, which today provides services to 14,000 individuals annually. Floral Park was the location of their 2020 community open house until the pandemic intervened.

The rainbow flag you see flying throughout the neighborhood was commissioned by San Francisco supervisor Harvey Milk, the first openly gay elected official in California, and

has since become an international symbol of hope for LGBTQ people around the world.

There are two neighborhood LGBTQ groups: LGBT Neighbors and Friends of Floral Park, WFP & JFP which is a social group, and Gay Neighbors, Families and Friends of Santa Ana, a service group which, among other things, provides water at our annual Home & Garden Tours. Individuals in the neighborhood are active in supporting the OC Center, the Human Rights Campaign, OC AIDS Walk and the #BlazeItForward movement, in honor of Orange County School of the Arts graduate Blaze Bernstein who was brutally murdered in a 2018 hate crime.

From what was originally a "restricted community," Floral Park is now believed to have the highest percentage of LGBTQ residents anywhere in the county.

The beauty of Pride is that anyone can participate, whether or not you consider yourself part of the LGBTQ community. It's a time to celebrate your LGBTQ neighbors, family members, friends, or coworkers, show support for equality, donate to LGBTQ charities, or educate yourself about the diversity that makes our neighborhood and society beautiful. While Pride activities have dimmed because of the current pandemic, we still show our support of equality by flying the flag in what has now become one of the most inclusive neighborhoods in the county, something we can indeed all be proud of.

— Go to FloralPark.com/calendar for a **FREE Pride flag**, and for links and more information. #FloralParkPride

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(MOSQUITOES continued from page 3)
 Recently, Orange County mosquitoes have been found to carry West Nile virus and Encephalitis.

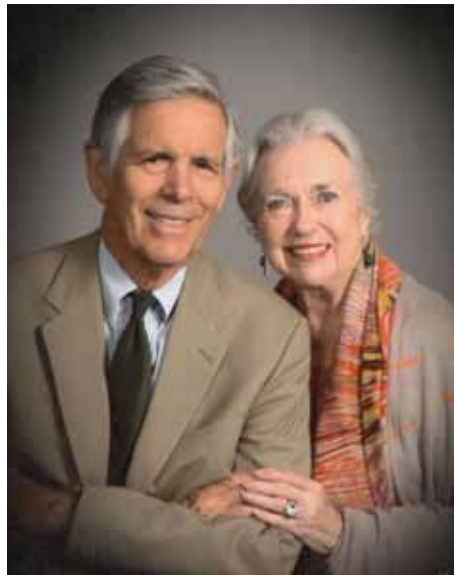
Mosquito control is a shared responsibility. Every resident must redouble their efforts to eliminate ALL standing water from their property. We must all take responsibility for our own yards. Eliminating these small water sources can reduce the number of mosquitoes in our neighborhood. Remember, mosquitoes can breed in as little as a bottle cap of water!

Eliminating water sources will not provide immediate results; adult mosquitoes die off in approximately 10 days, but eliminating water sources reduces the number of larvae and pupae that will eventually emerge into biting adults.

Different kinds of mosquitoes are active at certain times of day. For example the Culex mosquitoes that spread West Nile virus bite at dawn and dusk. The Aedes mosquitoes that may carry Zika virus in Orange County bite during the day.

When choosing a mosquito repellent, look for the following active ingredient on the label: DEET, Picaridin, IR3535, or Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (OLE). Not all products list the number of hours that they're effective. A high percentage of active ingredient will work longer. Choose a repellent that will protect you for the amount of time you plan to be outdoors.

Mosquitoes suck! So let's make sure we don't give them a biting chance. Learn more at OCVector.org.



A Letter of Gratitude

by Gene and Ann Andres

We live in the best neighborhood in all of Orange County. With Gene down with COVID-19 and Ann quarantined at home, so many neighbors brought by food, home cooked meals, take out orders, paper products, anything we needed. Even some neighbors we didn't personally know were there for us. Many offered to run errands for us and to help out in anyway we needed help.

We want to thank everyone in our wonderful neighborhood for being so kind and so generous. I doubt if there is another neighborhood in Orange County that would respond with such compassion and caring.

We have lived in Floral Park for 49 years—43 in our house on Riverside Drive. We originally chose our house on Greenleaf because it was close to Gene's

work at the O.C. Superior Court house and because most of the houses were pre-World War II. It wasn't long until we realized what a special place Floral Park is. (It was called Northwest Santa Ana then). Our neighbors were the president of Chapman College and his wife, a nursery school teacher. She was wonderful to our children. We quickly made friends with families near by and knew that we had found a permanent home in Santa Ana.

So, lucky us and lucky you to live in Floral Park. I hope we can somehow give back to all of you, our neighbors, who have provided us with so much support and aid.



Floral Park welcomed Gene back home with a drive-by parade on Saturday, May 16.





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Floral Park Social Scene

by Tammy Heider
Floral Park Social Director

Welcome to the Floral Park Social Scene... Actually, there wasn't much of a social scene during the time we've all been staying at home over the past few months. We did enjoy Margarita Day at the Mustafa home and the Valentine's Brunch at Perla's, but sadly, we had to cancel Cinco De Mayo and the neighborhood favorite, Freedom Fest, because the city is not issuing any permits until the end of July. Here's hoping we will be able to hold the Summer Concert, Havana Nights, on August 22!

The time has come for me to hand over the reins as social director to the fabulous Suzee Katz and co-director Alison DeMark when the new board of directors begins in July. It has been

an honor and pleasure serving Floral Park as social director for the past 4½ years. Planning neighborhood events has been a joy and the experience of working with a group of amazing committee members that never hesitate to volunteer is something I will treasure for the rest of my life. I am grateful for the opportunity to have met such amazing residents throughout my service, many of whom have become friends.

I'm not leaving the FPNA board entirely, though. My new opportunity to serve will be as co-director of membership in tandem with Kevin Shuler. I am looking forward to the opportunity to welcome new residents into the community and planning the neighborhood mixers. So keep an eye out for the first mixer of the year when we can finally socialize together again!

(SCHOLARSHIPS cont. from page 13)

Upon board approval of all nominations, the sponsorship committee will announce this year's scholarship and charity award recipients. We hope to bestow these awards at an FPNA general meeting, as we have for the last several years, but if we are not able to convene, the committee will send award certificates and checks via mail. Look for our article in the next newsletter introducing this year's winners!

We know that it's a really different way of life these days, but this neighborhood has remained strong and has shown such amazing acts of generosity by continuing to give to our scholarship fund and thinking of new ways to ease others' financial needs. Together we're making a difference in the lives of friends, neighbors and young people in Santa Ana.

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Neighborhood Calendar

Dates and times are subject to change in accordance with government guidelines. Look for up-to-date details in eblasts and at FloralPark.com/calendar.

JUNE 2020

FPNA Board Meeting6/16, 7 p.m.

JULY 2020

FPNA Board Meeting7/21, 7 p.m.

AUGUST 2020

FPNA Board Meeting8/18, 7 p.m.

Summer Concert 8/22, 5-6 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 2020

Yard Sale Weekend9/5 & 6

FPNA Board Meeting9/22, 7 p.m.

OCTOBER 2020

Chili Cook-Off10/3, 3-6 pm

FPNA Board Meeting10/20, 7pm

NOVEMBER 2020

FPNA Board Meeting 11/17, 7pm

General Meeting (*Budget Approval*).....

DECEMBER 2020

Holiday Party 12/5, 3-6 pm

Decorating Contest Judging.....

Walk of Lights.....



Announcing Floral Park's Most Beautiful Yards

With the city's Most Beautiful Yard competition on hold, Floral Park decided to have it's own, to reward and recognize the hard work neighbors put into their yards. Congratulations go to our 1st place winners, **Johnny Hicks & Nick Gillespie** at 2203 N. Flower St., 2nd place winners, **Tanya & Greg Eisenman** at 2453 Riverside Dr. and 3rd place winner, **Milli Low** at 2204 Greenleaf St. Their homes will be entered in the city's competition if it is rescheduled.





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