



Real Neighbors. Real Neighborhood. July 2022

Washington Square NEWS

EVERYDAY HEROES

If you have been out in your front yard or on a walk through the streets of Washington Square in the last couple of years, then you may know these two hometown heroes, Mike and Susie Maguire. Mike's the one with the blue Lowe's bucket in hand, picking up trash as he and Susie walk their dog around the neighborhood.

Mike and Susie bought their house on Lowell in 2017. Once they moved in, they wasted no time getting involved in everything Washington Square. They were behind-the-scenes as volunteers at many of the neighborhood events. This led them to eventually join the WSNA leadership team and serve on the Board of Directors for a time. They currently plan and organize the annual Washington Square Clean Up Day.

Initially neighborhood trash collecting began as a reason to escape the house and do good in the early days of the pandemic shutdown. Their efforts began with a blue Lowe's bucket and a simple stick with a nail and then moved to a cheap picker from a local hardware supply store. One day, while walking down Olive Street, a neighbor, Jesse, thanked them for their efforts and offered up a great mechanical picker which lasted for more than a year. Mike and Susie have many routes they follow in their trash collecting efforts, snaking through the neighborhood streets. Susie explained that "The school has the worst trash. They have a cool maintenance guy who we say hi to and he does the same thing around the school. Several five-gallon buckets of trash are collected and deposited each morning in the Washington Square neighborhood trash cans."

Nowadays, Mike has expanded his scope to a broader purpose: he is a surfer and knows that when trash is not collected, "it makes its way to the Santa Ana River, goes down the river, and comes out in river jetties down there. There's no catch or anything, so it's going straight into the ocean." Mike's attitude is a simple one: "It's a win-win-win situation: you're getting exercise, you're cleaning the neighborhood, and you're intercepting trash that would otherwise end up in the ocean."

In June 2022, Mike and Susie were honored by the City of Santa Ana as Neighborhood Heroes, a title they are quick to say that they don't deserve. "We're in love with this neighborhood. The people are so awesome ... so this is something we want to do for all of us." And we are all lucky to have two everyday heroes like Mike and Susie Maguire living among us, who see a need in their community, and figure out a way to solve it.



2022 WSNA EVENTS

Chili Cookoff	July 23
Movie Night	August 27
Oktoberfest	October 15
Holiday Party	December 11

GENERAL MEETINGS
July 14
October 13

GARAGE SALES
September 3-4
December 3-4

by Jeanna Heck McCann

18th Annual Wine Walk 2022!

Our 2022 event sold all seventy-five spaces in two and a half DAYS! This year we limited attendees to homeowners only, so the many new neighbors who had yet to participate because of Covid had a chance to attend. We wish we could have accommodated everyone who wanted join in. We had a beautiful evening.

The three homes on Towner Street were wonderful venues for the event. The Ben Wevers Jazz Trio entertained us and was a great backdrop for tasting a variety of wines and, most especially, the great array of food offerings. Thanks to all who contributed and to the great showing of volunteers who helped to set up and tear down. And, thank you to the Orange County Wine Society for offering their expertise and pouring of award-winning wines, for over fifteen years! We had numerous wine baskets donated, as well as contributions of gift cards from local businesses and special bottles of wine.

Remember- next year's event is anticipated to be the third weekend in May. Once the 2023 calendar is posted in the newsletter, mark your calendar!



by Nancy Lutz

**Things
will be
great
when
you're**

Downtown Downtown

Did you know that “Downtown Santa Ana’s architecture is a unique blend of Beaux Art, Classic and Spanish Revival, Victorian, Craftsman, Brutalism, California Contemporary, and a dash of Art Deco.”

Some upcoming events:

- The Santa Ana Pub Crawl on July 16
- The second annual Frida Fest on July 23
- A five-day dance academy at the Orange County Educational Arts Academy at 825 N. Broadway starting July 18.
- Eventbrite Santa Ana lists other upcoming events with a fee.
- Downtown Santa Ana (check out the website: downtown-santana.com) will be having a rock and roll odyssey of lights, lasers, and alien invasions.
- There is Thursday wine tasting at Alta Baja Market.

On the restaurant scene:

- Chicken Rice has moved from Fifth Street into 4th Street market.
- McFadden Public Market is still offering games, drinks, and foods, as well as regular poker nights.
- There are sixteen food and beverage vendors ready to satisfy any craving at 4th Street Market..



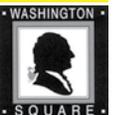
Please let me know of places in Santa Ana or close by that you have enjoyed. My email is sampuzzo@gmail.com

Washington Square Neighborhood Association **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Washington Square Neighborhood Association is an organization working to foster a sense of community by promoting public awareness, developing an appreciation of the historical significance of our homes, bridging the cultural, generational, and economic diversity of our residents and bringing about communication between the community, local businesses and city officials.

The Washington Square Neighborhood Newsletter is published quarterly by the Washington Square Neighborhood Association. WSNA is a non-profit mutual benefit community association established in 1985. Washington Square is an officially recognized neighborhood by the city of Santa Ana, California. The volunteer Newsletter Committee is looking for neighbors who want to contribute! If you have suggestions or story ideas, or know InDesign and want to help with layout, you can email us at newsletter@washington-square.org

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A Word from our *PRESIDENT!*

Pop Goes the Weasel!

At a concert I once heard a woman exclaim “That’s the sweetest sound I’ve ever heard!” I wondered for weeks to myself... “What is the sweetest sound I have ever heard?” It came to me today - the ice cream man.

My attention was hard to grasp when I was young. Actually, it’s hard to grasp now, but there was always one sound that cut through the noise of the world. Like a bat, the sound of this simple song allowed me to geolocate a singular moving vehicle in the great noise of the city... THE ICE CREAM MAN! The soft jingle of his bell, like the water of a babbling brook lulling out the tune of “Pop Goes the Weasel”, my heart begins to race as I think of it. My juvenile voice would ring out “ICE CREAM MAN!” as if warning the room of some impending doom (that doom being missing the ice cream man of course). This was a two-step process that I had mapped out in my mind. Step one: Get money. I ran to whichever parent was closest. “MOM! Can I have some money for the ice cream man?!” This always led to a mad dash for a purse or to change left on a dresser somewhere. I sprinted about like Carl Lewis on an illegal steroid. Step two: Stop the ice cream man. Now... I can tell you that the distance to the ice cream man can be reflected in the following equation. The answer is an expression of feet from your house where “d” is distance, “s” is the number of seconds it takes you to find your parents, and fifty is roughly how far away the ice cream man is when you first hear his bell:

$$d = 5s - 50$$

Thirty seconds after hearing his first jingle I am one hundred (100) feet from him. Run, idiot, run. So, I ran. I ran like the wind, all the while screaming, “ICE CREAM MAN!” I know he saw me there. But he never stopped right away. He always carried me with him for another fifty feet. Looking back, I am sure it was to incite other children. I didn’t understand that then. I just hated him.

I tell you that story to tell you this one. I did all that to gain a singular item from the ice cream man... the enigmatic GRAB BAG. This was a bag filled with a random assortment of candies and cheap games. I always purchased one of these. I loved not knowing what I would get. Once discovered, I held onto its remnants like gold from Tutankhamun's tomb. Tattoos that you licked and stuck on your arm were priceless to me. Hard taffy squares that helped dislodge my baby teeth were kept inside my pocket until softened by my own body heat. The joy of discovery.

Looking back, I realize now that it wasn’t the grab bag that I loved so much. It was the whole adventure. Hearing and running, chasing and stopping, laying claim and chance... it was bliss. My life is no different now. It’s filled with chasing. Sometimes I forget that it’s fun. When my modern day ice cream trucks come, they don’t play Pop Goes the Weasel anymore. Life has forgotten to let me know I am chasing, and that it’s fun. It’s more confusing, I suppose. I can see this much, it isn’t about the goal. It’s about the journey. What I am retelling you now is not about the grab bag. It’s worth mentioning, but the story is about the journey to the grab bag. Life is about the journey. The goal is just the thing that gets you going. Summer is here. There will be ice cream men to be sure. The obvious and the not so obvious. Either way... let’s have a journey or two.

I’d write more but I think I hear a jingle in the distance.

by Alton Hitchcock



Movie Night
is Saturday, August 27th
at dusk in the 16th St.
cul-de-sac. This year’s
film is the Academy
Award winning kid’s fa-
vorite “*Encanto*”. Look
for a flyer in August.



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Can't wait to hear from you again!

Dear Neighbors,

At the end of this month, our family will be moving to TN. *** One of the most difficult parts of moving is leaving this neighborhood behind. As a family, we wanted to say thank you. We have lived here, in our little yellow house, for 5 years. In that time, we have been so blessed by our neighbors and the community, friendship, and kindness that each one of you has offered. It is this little unicorn of community that no one believes exists in Orange County.



When our family walked through scary health stuff with our daughter, this neighborhood came alongside us to support us; better than much of the community we had at the time. You walked our dogs, dropped off food and little presents, took a little time to stop and let us pet your dogs, or just checked in on us. We will never be able to express the amount of gratitude that we have for all the love and support we received. It has profoundly changed us. Thank you.

When COVID turned the world upside down, it was unforgettable to see neighbors band together to help each other through. Neighbors came together to shop for more vulnerable populations, donate their time and resources making masks for each other, shared coveted stashes of toilet paper, celebrated together in their car horn processions or socially distanced birthday parades, donated food and resources to those who lost their jobs,

and had tables of little treasures to brighten someone's day. When the world told us to shut in and wait, this community found ways to show up for each other.

So, thank you, guys. Thank you for the magic of this community. Thank you for the beauty of Christmas here and all that goes into that (luminaries, choirs, trombone quartet). Thank you for the events that have allowed us to get to know our neighborhood. Thank you to the neighbors that have fought and continue to fight to keep our neighborhood protected, safe, and well-maintained. Thank you for the Jeeps in the community, you bring my son so much joy. Thank you for the beautiful gardens, walking by your houses brings new life on a rough day. Thank you, neighbors that have planted or are maintaining fruit trees, you have allowed me to teach my children about flowers turning into fruit and what guava, loquat, kumquat, dragon fruit, mangoes, figs, persimmons, lemons, papaya, passion fruit, and pomegranate look like growing and the fragrance they release into the neighborhood (guava houses, I'm looking at you). Thank you, neighbors that woke up early on Saturdays to pray with me. Thank you, dog-walking-neighbors that allow our kids to pet your dogs and linger a little too long saying "hi". We leave this community with the utmost gratitude and love. You will forever hold a place in our hearts.

Our house was bought by the Fry family, Rich and Shelly. We hope you will welcome them in with as much love as you have us.

Brianna Cooper

GOOD BYE!

***UPDATE *** The Coopers moved away mid-June and the Frys have moved into the Square.

Friends, If you have a personal essay you would like to share, we would like to read it! Please send it to maurentiritilli@hotmail.com. No sales, politics or religion please, because we are, after all, *friends*. Thanks!

Residents' *BUSINESSES*

Accounting/Tax Prep.	Alex Schneider	364-5173
Arbonne Consultant	Gloria Chavez	280-5723
Attorney, Business Specialist	Ashley Bolduc	949-852-1800
Audio-Video Production	David Jirik	543-9079
Avon Representative	Maria Guzman	904-1973
Baby Sitting	Leila Rodriguez	727-8313
Computer Specialist	Randy Simons	423-0810
Decorative Ironwork	Marco Coronado	852-1363
Editor	Maureen Tiritilli	309-2229
Farmers Insurance	Gonzalo Guzman	669-3930
Flooring, Floor Repairs	Tuzos Flooring	720-7793
Graphics & Signage	Kirsten Sketch	721-8795
Heating and Cooling	Adam Garcia	263-6443
Insurance Agent	Albert Durazo	657-667-0225
Landscape Maintenance	Rick Mora	721-3897
Mortgages/Loan officer	Victor Gallardo	697-7564
Natural Healing Center	Renee Ascencio	5994435
Notary/Loan Signing Agt.	Sasha Lopez	496-7969
Notary Public Comm#:2333888	Robert Bolton	702-498-9832
Origami Owl Ind. Design	Jennifer Begen	606-0830
Painter	Eric Torres	292-4038
Personal Injury Attorney	Moses Yneges	591-0661
Prayer – FREE!	Pastor Ben	949-295-4980
Prof. Photographer	Ricardo Barrera	715-1747
Realtor	Alton Hitchcock, Jr.	775-0779
Realtor	Sarah Covarrubias	928-1303
Realtor	Christina Moreno	425-2311
Rodan & Fields	Christina Moreno	425-2311
Trash Bin Cleaning	Noah	717-1079
Wedding Planner	Christin Wilson	337-2903
Window Coverings	Krystal Wallinger	632-7744
Wine Club/Skin Care	Yolanda Valdivia	317-4152

Unless otherwise noted, all area codes are 714

Members of WSNA

Where to Find Stuff

WSNA your non-profit neighborhood association is CELEBRATING 37 years strong!!

Are you missing some information usually included in this newsletter? Check out The Washington Square website at <http://www.washington-square.org>. for these and more:

City Contacts

Block Representatives

Photos from prior events



First Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana

Our Mission

Celebrating that which unifies us and that which makes us unique, we are intentionally building an intercultural, intergenerational community of faith in Jesus Christ that cares for, and serves, one another and our city.

600 N Main St.
Santa Ana, CA 92701
fpcsa.com

Volunteers???

Have you ever thought to yourself that this is such a great place to live with such great activities? Has that thought been followed by how it might be a good idea to pitch in to help with those great activities, but you had no idea where to start or who you should contact?? We are here to offer you contacts. Because, it takes a village.

The wine walk didn't just happen. It took a dedicated group to pull it all together. If you would like to volunteer on the wine walk committee, contact Nancy Lutz at nancy-lutz@sbcglobal.net

January Smith is in charge of volunteers for the neighborhood – you probably saw her requests for helpers to set up and tear down the wine walk. She would love to hook you up with opportunities to be part of the amazing group of volunteers who make things happen – and have fun in the process!! Do you like the progressive dinner? Call January. The Christmas Santa Claus event? Call January. What about movie night?

Call January at: 936.404.6408 or email her at: january-smith@hotmail.com.

Thank you, Villagers!

To join our Facebook group, search for "Washington Square Neighborhood Association" We have 785 members!



Sarah's Neighborhood NEWS

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SEVEN GABLES
REAL ESTATE

Hi, Neighbors, I've got mixed real estate news for you. As you have heard, interest rates have spiked this year. At the end of 2021, rates were around 3.00% for a 30-year loan, and now rates are 6.00%. To put that in perspective, a \$700,000 loan payment in December (at 3%) was \$2970 (not including taxes or insurance) vs. today, where the payment (at 6%) is \$4192. This is a 40% increase in monthly payment. Because of this, the real estate market has slowed down dramatically.

But here is the good news. Orange County, CA is still one of the best real estate markets in the entire country. There are still people who can afford to buy homes, and houses are selling!!! If you are thinking of selling your lovely Washington Square home, you will need to be more creative when preparing your property to sell. Presentation is essential - your home must stand out. Here are my recommendations: 1. freshen up your paint inside and out; 2. landscape must be colorful and manicured; 3. repairs must be complete; 4. if your roof is worn, be prepared to offer a roofing credit. Buyers are more discerning, and with good reason - there are more homes to choose from, the market has slowed down and payments are much higher than in the past.

For those looking to purchase, real estate is by far one of the best investments, especially with a volatile stock market. Rental prices are high and appear to be climbing. If you have the cash for a down payment, paying a mortgage may be cheaper than paying rent.

If you have ANY real estate questions, please feel free to contact me. I'd love to brainstorm with you about your next real estate move.

Homes for Sale/Lease	Beds	Baths	Sq. Ft.	List/Sold Price	DOM*	Sale Type	Sale Date
806 N. Lowell	2	1	1091	\$ 749,000	54	Flip	
1501 N. Lowell (land)	-	-	1.33 acres	\$ 6,850,000	123	Standard	
Homes in Escrow							
NONE							
Our New Neighbors							
1057 W. Civic Center Dr	2	2	1482	\$ 730,000	21	Standard	5/17/2022
1607 Freeman	2	1	1335	\$ 840,000	9	Standard	4/6/2022
1107 N. Towner	3	2	1538	\$ 955,000	7	Standard	5/2/2022
1103 N. Lowell	3	2	1499	\$ 1,015,000	6	Standard	4/13/2022

THE ABOVE SOLD STATISTICS ARE FOR THE TIME PERIOD APRIL 1, 2022 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022
COMPILED FROM INFORMATION FROM THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE AND
COUNTY RECORDER'S OFFICE.

*DAYS ON THE MARKET

Most Beautiful YARD!

Beth and Kelly Thomas are the winners of the 2022 Santa Ana Most Beautiful Yard Award for their picturesque 1928 home and yard at 925 N. Lowell. They fell in love with the three bedroom, two bath home on a corner, and purchased it in June of 2003. Beth and Kelly married a year later.

The house was white and plain, with only a few roses in front. They painted and completely relandscaped the front yard with a lush green lawn and various plants. At the entry to their front walkway stand two large whiskey barrels, topped with floral planters for color and texture. Carved into the barrels is their “brand,” designed by Beth, which includes their stylized initials to honor their relationship and commemorate their anniversary... each has a small identical tattoo. With pots of colorful succulents on the steps of the porch and a beautiful front door with a large glass panel adorned in iron work, their entry is very unique!

The re-landscaped parkway has xeriscape plants of many varieties and colors. Beth designed three outdoor rooms and Kelly, who is a pretty handy guy, installed lighting, irrigation and a bas-relief water fountain that spills into a small pool below.

Congratulations, Beth and Kelly! We are so glad you chose to live in Washington Square! Thanks for making your home and our neighborhood a beautiful place to live.

by Alton Hitchcock and Bobi Keenan



18th Annual Wine Walk 2022 PHOTOS!



The Square is Going to the *DOGS*

PET MICROCHIP EVENT

You may recall from our last newsletter that the board of directors bought a microchip scanner for the neighborhood, to identify (hopefully!) the strays that wander our hood.

On April 12, Washington Square had its first official pet microchip event!

More than twenty-six neighborhood dogs were microchipped on Danielle Heney's front lawn. Danielle, the official keeper of the WSNA microchip scanner, has begun a microchip database for Washington Square. Many neighbors came by to have their chips read to be included in our database.

The microchip service was offered at the amazing price of just \$30 per pet, thanks to the donation of services by Aurora Valent, veterinary technician. As a bonus, pet nail clipping was added as the day progressed, and all pets were provided with a personalized drawing, compliments of resident artist, Athalya Valent.

by Pat Lenahan



WSNA Board Game *NIGHT*

WSNA residents held the first Board Game Night at El Pico de Gallo Restaurant in May. Many thanks to Verenice Cuellar who generously made the restaurant's space available to us. Seventeen people attended this first evening, when we played Clue, Taboo and Scrabble. We had MANY other games to choose from, too, since everyone was asked to bring their favorite games - and they did. I brought Santa Ana Opolly and look forward to playing it some night.

This June, we had eleven people and played Trivial Pursuit - women vs. men. We all agreed that we weren't as good as we used to be, but we will get better.

We plan to meet on the third Wednesday of each month, but in July we will meet the **SECOND** Wednesday at 6 pm to order food and get organized for the games to begin! We'll see what games we decide to play. Please join us in July. The more the merrier!



by Pat Lenahan



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Frango Semifreddos *RECIPE*

By: Julie Seyler

Desserts for sweltering summer days should be 1) easy, 2) refreshing and, most importantly, 3) oven-free so, when I decided to whip up a quick dessert a few weeks ago, I recalled my mom's iconic recipe for a dessert called "Frozen Chocolate Frangos" based on Frango® mint truffles sold at Marshall Field department stores. Mom's "special occasion" velvety chocolate and mint semi-frozen treats were so decadently rich, wee, 5-year-old Julie couldn't finish one by herself. I dug out mom's handwritten recipe and zhuzhed it up just a bit for an adult palate. These semifreddos are the result.

For those who love the combination of refreshing mint and smooth chocolate, these rich, not-too-sweet, semi-frozen treats will delight your taste buds. These melt-in-your-mouth, cooling, flavor bombs are a perfect summer after-dinner dessert.

Frango Semifreddos

Servings: 8

Ingredients:

Crust and Topping

- 14 Chocolate wafer cookies (such as Nabisco® Famous Chocolate Wafers or Oreos)
- 1/3 cup toasted walnuts
- 1 Tablespoon unsalted butter, melted

Filling

- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, very soft
- 1 cup sifted confectioner's sugar
- Pinch salt
- 2 oz. unsweetened chocolate, melted and cooled
- 2 large eggs
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 teaspoon peppermint extract
- 1 cup whipping cream, slightly sweetened with confectioner's sugar and whipped
- Mint sprigs for garnish (optional)

Directions

1. In a food processor, blitz cookies and toasted walnuts until finely ground. Add melted butter and blitz until crumbs begin to stick together. Reserve 2 Tablespoons of crumbs. Evenly distribute remaining crumbs between 8 lined muffin tins and lightly press into bottom of each liner. I use the bottom of a 1/4 cup to help pack the crumbs into the liners.
2. Using an electric mixer, beat together butter, sifted confectioner's sugar, and salt until smooth and fluffy. Add melted chocolate and beat until combined. Add eggs, one at a time, beating well after each addition. Add vanilla and peppermint extracts. Beat for 5-7 minutes, scraping down the sides as needed, until filling is very light and fluffy.
3. Pipe (or spoon) filling into each muffin tin until full. Sprinkle reserved crumbs over top and freeze until firm, about one hour.
4. To serve, remove Frangos from freezer and let sit at room temperature for 10 minutes. Pipe with whipped cream and garnish with mint sprigs, if using.

NOTE: Semifreddos are made with uncooked eggs. If this is a concern for you, substitute pasteurized eggs.

About the Author: Julie is the author of the brutally honest, often irreverent food blog, TwoBitTart.com, and is currently writing her first baking cookbook.





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Representing Washington Square residents for over 20 years

I am passionate about my profession and the clients whose properties I am entrusted to represent. When you hire me to assist you in the sale or purchase of your home, you're not only benefiting from my local knowledge & experience, but from the support services provided by my expert team.

I cherish my neighbors who make up this wonderful community steeped in history, beautiful homes and gardens. As a proud resident, it would be my pleasure to work with you!



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Washington Square★



CHILI

Neighborhood Association

Fourth Annual

COOK-OFF

SATURDAY JULY 23RD

6:00 to 9:00PM

920 N. Louise



**Tickets
Only
\$20**

Bring your best recipe!

15 great Washington Square chili cooks needed. Sign up to compete now at www.washington-square.org by July 20th. The \$20 PayPal entry fee will be refunded when you bring your pre-cooked chili by 5:45PM to the cook-off in a crock pot. Check the website for rules and rewards.

Make 6 to 8 quarts for tasting. You and one other family member will get free admission and the chance to win a trophy and bragging rights to the best chili in the Square! Judging will be "people's choice". Call Dave Dethloff (714)721-8124 with questions.



One of the hottest events of the year! Whether you want to cook & compete or just want to eat, you're bound to have a whole lotta spicy Fun!

-  Chili samples plus cornbread and fixins plus Plenty of beer, soda and water
-  Prizes for cooks and attendees!
-  This is a 21 and over event.
-  Like our Wine Walk, we have to limit the number of guests to 75.
-  Get your tickets now on the WSNA website or bring a check to Dave Dethloff 1016 N. Westwood by July 22nd
-  Volunteers needed for setup and teardown, call or text January at (936) 404-6408 or check our Facebook group to join in.

Tickets available now at www.washington-square.org

TURN OVER FOR JULY GENERAL MEETING INFO

WSNA
Summer
General

Everyone is
WELCOME!



MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 14TH

7:00pm Heroes School Multipurpose Room

Speakers: **Janice Frechette-Artinger**, Executive Director Parentis Foundation speaking on their volunteer-based literacy tutoring program, which pairs children at-risk of illiteracy with highly-trained older adult volunteers. **Jose Santiago**, City of Santa Ana Code Enforcement Officer speaking on the City's stronger emphasis on code enforcement. **SAPD Officer**, Police spokesperson who will answer your questions about crime and safety in and around our neighborhood.

Please Join us to learn about upcoming WSNA events and to discuss neighborhood issues including homeless and drug problems at the north end of Louise Street and the SAC property at Bristol and 17th. There will be neighbor comraderie, pizza, water and a door prize.

TURN OVER FOR CHILI COOK-OFF INFO



Heroes Elementary 1111 W Civic Center Dr Walk down Baker St. or park in the lot on Civic Center