



# Whittier Historic Neighborhood Association

Newsletter

September 2006

Volume VII, Issue 3

## How-To Repair Double-Hung Wood Windows

Thursday, September 21, 2006  
7:00 P.M.

at  
the home of  
Araceli Ortiz  
6048 Greenleaf Avenue  
Whittier

Are your double-hung windows difficult to open? Do you use a wood block to hold them open? If so, be sure to attend and:

Watch and learn as neighbor Daniel Tabor demonstrates step-by-step how to replace broken sash cords.

Refreshments Served!  
All Neighborhood Residents  
Welcome!

## 2006 WHNA Home Tour

Saturday  
October 21  
10 A.M. - 4 P.M.

Tour  
Five Vintage  
Neighborhood Homes  
Built Between  
1905 & 1916

**\$15 Advance Tickets**  
may be purchased  
beginning September 16  
at the following Whittier  
locations:

**Pour Le Bain**  
6721 Greenleaf Avenue  
**Yellow Pie Antiques**  
13309 Philadelphia Avenue  
**Whittier Art Gallery**  
8035 Painter Avenue  
**Whittier Museum**  
6755 Newlin Avenue

**\$18 Tickets**  
may be purchased  
on the day of the tour at:  
6318 Washington Avenue

# Meet Your Neighbors

By Rosie Seelt

Ignacio and Sarah Chavez moved into their Bright Avenue home on Christmas Eve in 1994. They chose to live in the attractive 1912 Craftsman-style home because it reminds them of the 1908 home in Boyle Heights where they lived and raised their family for seventeen years.

The East Los Angeles natives met as children while growing up in the same neighborhood only a block apart. The couple, who celebrated their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary last year, married as teenagers when Sarah was only sixteen years old and Ignacio was eighteen. Ignacio says, "We beat the odds and after all these years continue to grow in our love of one another."

The many gatherings and celebrations held at the Chavez's home give evidence to the fact that family and church are the top priorities in their lives. The pair has four children: Desiree, Chito, Jason and Stephanie; a son-in-law: Carlos; and three grandchildren: Carlos, Aaron and Christopher.



Ignacio & Sarah Chavez

Ignacio, who retired as a U.S. Postal Service Clerk in 2004, is senior pastor of Pico Rivera Bible Church;

and Sarah is the Early Education Director for Whittier Christian Schools. The two enjoy camping and together have traveled by car to over half the states in the U.S. When time allows, Ignacio enjoys working in the beautiful garden he created from a once sadly neglected neighborhood yard. He also delights in eating Sarah's cooking. In fact, he says, "She is the best cook on the block!" Sarah, who didn't learn to speak English until she started school, enjoys reading and scuba diving on a yearly trip to Hawaii.

The couple's future plans include more traveling and remaining in their neighborhood home into retirement.

## A New Plan For Uptown

The WHNA board is excited and enthused about the new Uptown Specific Plan proposed by the urban design and planning firm of Moule & Polyzoides. We think it is a good plan that addresses the needs and desires of a large cross section of our community.

Representatives from our association participated in all of the meetings the Polyzoides firm conducted as they worked to develop the new plan. We found the process to be informative as well as open and friendly. Stakeholders from throughout the community were encouraged to ask questions and express their thoughts and recommendations on a myriad of topics ranging from parking and crime to sidewalks, trees, housing and retail needs.

Putting together a plan that will please the entire community is a tough challenge. WHNA believes the Polyzoides team met that challenge by developing an ambitious and well-designed plan that, when adopted and implemented, will guide the now languishing Uptown area on the path to a truly revitalized and thriving future that all stakeholders will be proud of.

It is not possible to do justice to the lengthy, proposed new plan in this small space. So we urge you to look at the city of Whittier's website at [www.whittierch.org](http://www.whittierch.org) and Moule and Polyzoides' website at [www.mparchitects.com](http://www.mparchitects.com) where you can view many of the plan's details.

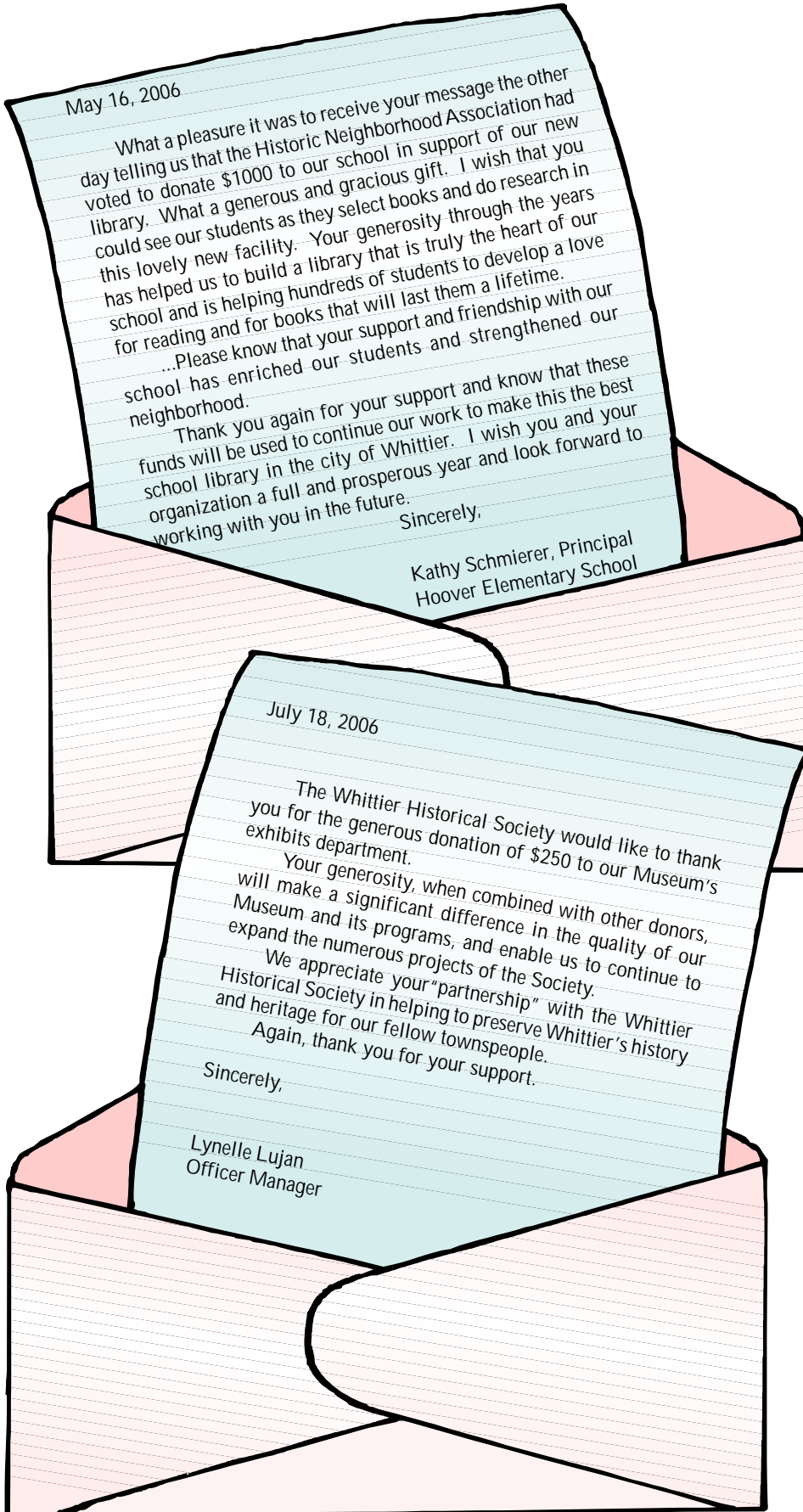
Along with preparing an Environmental Impact Report (EIR), there is still much work to be done on the plan before its final draft is submitted to the City. At the joint City Council/Planning Commission meeting held on August 1, Stefanos Polyzoides said he hopes to have it completed and ready for hearings sometime early next spring.

### Welcome

WHNA welcomes the following neighbors who recently became members:

Henry E. Arias  
Thomas & Lorena Duran  
Juilo & Reva Moreno  
Araceli Ortiz  
Robert & Diane Parra Wilcox

# WHNA Mailbox



May 16, 2006

What a pleasure it was to receive your message the other day telling us that the Historic Neighborhood Association had voted to donate \$1000 to our school in support of our new library. What a generous and gracious gift. I wish that you could see our students as they select books and do research in this lovely new facility. Your generosity through the years has helped us to build a library that is truly the heart of our school and is helping hundreds of students to develop a love for reading and for books that will last them a lifetime. ...Please know that your support and friendship with our school has enriched our students and strengthened our neighborhood.

Thank you again for your support and know that these funds will be used to continue our work to make this the best school library in the city of Whittier. I wish you and your organization a full and prosperous year and look forward to working with you in the future.

Sincerely,

Kathy Schmierer, Principal  
Hoover Elementary School

July 18, 2006

The Whittier Historical Society would like to thank you for the generous donation of \$250 to our Museum's exhibits department.

Your generosity, when combined with other donors, will make a significant difference in the quality of our Museum and its programs, and enable us to continue to expand the numerous projects of the Society.

We appreciate your "partnership" with the Whittier Historical Society in helping to preserve Whittier's history and heritage for our fellow townspeople. Again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Lynelle Lujan  
Officer Manager

## Calendar of Events

September 21 7:00 P.M.

WHNA General Meeting  
"How-To Repair Windows"  
6048 Greenleaf Avenue

October 19 7:00 P.M.

WHNA Board Meeting

October 21

WHNA Home Tour  
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.

Uptown Antique Street Fair  
Philadelphia Street

November 16 7:00 P.M.

WHNA Board Meeting

December 2

Uptown Christmas Parade  
Greenleaf Avenue

December 14

WHNA  
Holiday Decoration Contest

## Crime Alert

Residents are reminded that burglars use a variety of ways to enter homes or observe homes as potential targets. Door-to-door sales is one method used by criminals to look into your home for valuables or to distract you so an accomplice could enter your home and burglarize it.

Source: WhittierPD Crime Blog



P.O. Box 754,  
Whittier, CA 90608  
www.whittierhistoric.org

The Whittier Historic Neighborhood Association is a nonprofit membership organization.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Rosie Seelt, President	698-1457
Joseph Aguilar, V.P.	244-0902
Molly Mendoza, Secretary	261-5329
Karen Bennett, Treasurer	696-4458

**BLOCK REPRESENTATIVES**

Doris Arcadi, Karen Bennett,  
Debra Canham, Kathy Goldman,  
Shylo Gray, Janice Harbin,  
Myra Hilliard, Molly Mendoza,  
Sabron Newton, Monica Redfox,  
Jo Sarachman, Risha Schodlbauer,  
Rosie Seelt, Margo Smith,  
Bob & Karen Stoltz,  
Diane Parra Wilcox, Gwen Woirhaye

Boundaries  
North: Orange Drive  
West: Greenleaf Avenue  
East: Painter Avenue  
South: Central Park Historic District

Dues are \$10 per year (June 1-May 31)  
per household.

The WHNA Newsletter is published three  
times per year in January, May and September.

# It's A Wonderful Life!

The theme for this year's Neighborhood Holiday Decoration Contest is IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE. (Title of the popular and heartwarming 1946 movie starring James Stewart as a small-town businessman, who is helped by an angel on Christmas Eve.)

All WHNA residents are encouraged to participate in the contest which will take place on Thursday evening, December 14. There are no fees or entry forms to fill out. All you need to do is have your decorations on display and your lights turned on and contest judges will automatically look at your home as they drive through the neighborhood inspecting decorations. As in past years, awards will be given out in several different categories including best lawn display, best decorated block, most elegant, best front porch display, and more.

You surely will want to be a part of this fun annual neighborhood event! Now is a good time to get out your tools, dust off those paint cans, find your holiday lights, and get a head start on designing and building your decorations for this year's contest. Then come December, you can relax knowing your decorations will be ready to entertain and greet your neighbors, holiday guests and contest judges.

**Join Today!** Annual dues of just \$10 per year (June 1-May 31), per household, help WHNA pay for flyers, three yearly newsletters, cost for general meetings, the Annual Holiday Decorating Contest and miscellaneous administration costs for its ongoing operation.

\_\_\_ Renewal      \_\_\_ New Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: WHNA  
P.O. Box 754  
Whittier, CA 90608