

Neighborhoods USA
Award-Winning Newsletter
Three Years In A Row!

HISTORIC FLORAL PARK NEIGHBORHOOD AZETTE

Celebrating Neighborhood
Arts & Culture

Historic Landscaper
Florence Yoch

Helen Jones'
Sign of the Times

Pools of Historic Floral Park

SUMMER issue / 2023



Letter From The President

by Jeffrey Katz

Embrace the Heartbeat of Our Community

In the gentle embrace of our neighborhood, something extraordinary stirs. It is the whisper of legacy, the soulful cadence of shared stories, and the indivisible spirit that defines us as the Best Neighborhood in America.

My holy grail has been to inspire engagement of each of the 623 homes in Floral Park. If the penetration rate of our 2022 Membership Drive is any measurement – 33% – we have a way to go.

As I enter the last year of my final term as FPNA president, I implore everyone to join me on this amazing journey – a voyage into the depths of our collective existence, where the true power of neighborly kinship resides. As a lawyer by trade, I offer you this final argument as to why you should get involved in our amazing neighborhood:

We live in world divided and disconnected — It is within the microcosm of our neighborhood where the seeds of unity and compassion can truly take root.

Building bonds that transcend

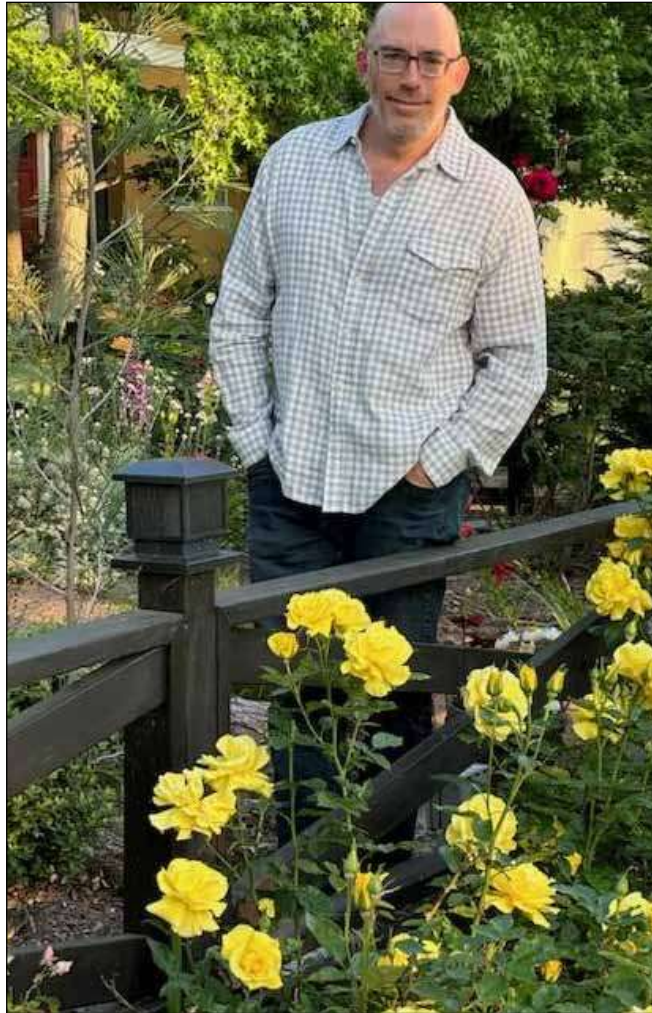
— In our fast-paced lives, it's easy to live side by side with your neighbors yet remain strangers. By getting involved in our neighborhood, we unlock the potential to build bonds. From volunteering / participating in neighborhood events to simply reaching out and extending a hand of friendship, we discover the beauty of human connection.

Tapestry of Tales — Over the last couple of years I've enjoyed bringing the "Floral Parks Got Talent" column in the Gazette. Within our neighborhood countless stories dwell, waiting to be shared. When we get involved, a treasure trove of human experiences - a mosaic of triumphs, challenges, and lessons learned - awaits.

Embracing the Unseen – Often it's the unseen heroes among

us who shape our neighborhood. The caregivers, the volunteers, the silent pillars of strength who sow seeds of compassion with every act of kindness. Let us be their allies, amplify their voices and their efforts and recognize their invaluable contributions. For the future of this historic neighborhood, we can create a safety net of support that uplifts those in need and strengthens the very foundation of Floral Park.

Nurturing Our Youth – For the past two years, Floral Park has experienced its own baby boom. Our future lies in the hands of our children who may one day inherit the neighborhood we call home. With events and activities tailored to the younger family and by our direct involvement in neighborhood activities, we set an example. We provide them with the tools and support needed to flourish and become compassionate leaders themselves.



Lighting Positive Change — Getting involved is a catalyst for change. The flame of transformation is ignited through collective action, shedding light on the issues that demand our attention. Whether it's advocating for safer streets (the Flower St. traffic calming initiative), championing sustainable practices, or supporting local businesses (Neighborhood Night Outs in DTSA), our collective voice can be a force for meaningful impact.

Our community is not merely a geographical location – it's a tapestry of souls, intertwined by the bonds of shared experiences, hopes and dreams. By embracing the spirit of neighborly kinship, we unlock the true potential of our community, breathing life into every street, every doorstep, and every heart.

This is my invitation to you; step out of your comfort zone...engage...contribute. In this pursuit, you will discover the power of community lies not in grand gestures, but in simple acts of kindness, connection and participation. The choice is yours. I for one, hope you choose to build a community where everyone is seen, heard and valued; one that is vibrant, inclusive and filled with joy.

And as the lawyer in me can't help but end: I rest my case!