

# Victoria Avenue News

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## It's Official! The Hal Snyder Garden

Approximately 60 Victoria Avenue Forever members, neighbors and local officials gathered on Saturday morning, November 6 to witness the dedication of the new Hal Snyder Garden at Victoria Avenue and Harrison Street. Mother Nature provided perfect fall weather—sunny and mild. Many of the drought tolerant plants were chosen for the garden by Hal and six months after their spring planting they have grown remarkably and continue blooming in a color palate of yellow and blue. Tucked at the edge of an older neighborhood, the garden is nearly surrounded by huge eucalyptus and pepper trees, native sycamores and orange groves.

The dedication ceremony was conducted by the newly elected VAF Board of Directors' President, Frank Heyming. Members of Boy Scout Troop 270 who participated in the April ground breaking, returned to present the opening and closing flag ceremonies.

Marsha Loveridge, on behalf of herself and Mayor Ron Loveridge, spoke of the importance of Victoria Avenue's history and beauty, and the dedication of Hal and the founding members of Victoria Avenue Forever. Riverside County Supervisor Bob Buster emphasized the crucial role played by Hal and a select group of residents who worked over the last 40 years to preserve the key green and open spaces of our city, including the Santa Ana River channel and bluffs, Riverside's distinctive stony hilltops, the Arlington Heights Historic Greenbelt, and of course, Victoria Avenue.



VAF President Frank Heyming presents Hal with his personal plaque

Ward 5 City Councilman Chris Mac Arthur offered the following statement: "The entire Mac Arthur family was privileged and honored to celebrate with fellow members of Victoria Avenue Forever, the long awaited Hal Snyder Garden. We are all indebted to the hard work of Hal Snyder and other Victoria Avenue pioneers who over 20 years ago recognized this wonderful Riverside treasure and the need to protect and enhance its beauty. The dedication and persistence of Hal Snyder and others has led to the revitalization of our signature street in Riverside. Hal has done a magnificent job of leading the hundreds of volunteers and members of Victoria Avenue Forever over the years. It is only appropriate that his legacy will now be remembered through a living garden that reflects his many contributions to our community. Through this living testament to his work, his efforts will never be forgotten."

VAF board members Pati Weir and Lori Yates gave a little historical background of VAF and added their thanks to Hal for his skill, commitment and service over the years.

After the new brass plaque was unveiled for Hal's viewing, he received a framed plaque in honor of the occasion, and guests were invited to join the honoree over coffee, orange juice and snacks.

Our thanks go to Alin Party Supply, which donated 4 large balloon bouquets and discounts on purchases, Starbucks Coffee on La Sierra Avenue for donated coffee and all the fixings, Ralph's Grocery on La Sierra and Albertson's at Lincoln and Van Buren for discounts on refreshments. We appreciate their support.



Plaque in the park.

## President's Report by Frank Heyming



It has been a busy year for Victoria Avenue Forever. In June we celebrated our 20th Anniversary and on November 6th we dedicated the Hal Snyder Garden at Harrison and Victoria, the 3rd garden that our organization has developed on the Avenue. The other two are the Lorraine Small Rose Garden at Victoria and Myrtle, and the Dr. Peter Lewis Garden at Victoria and Jane. Discussions are currently taking place with property owners that may allow us to add two more gardens.

Victoria Avenue has one of the most heavily used bike and walking trails in the city. I believe these trails could become the backbone of an interconnected citywide trail system. We can have trails to parks, shopping and schools with rest stops along the way—places to exercise, enjoy the views, meet friends and neighbors, or just enjoy. Riverside walking and biking trails could become a model for Southern California. Unlike new cities which can integrate trails into their infrastructure, existing cities, such as Riverside, have to retrofit their transportation systems to accommodate trails. Although it is more difficult, we can develop transportation systems that accommodate all modes of travel. Victoria Avenue can become part of a wonderful interconnected network of trails. If we start now, we can leave an even more livable city to future generations.

### CHANGES

Victoria Avenue Forever's Board of Directors gratefully salutes several long time board members who have retired. Ron Burk, Dave Roger and Pati Wier continue to lend a hand on specific projects. Ron Bridges and Susan McClintock resigned last winter to focus on Ron's battle against cancer. We wish them well.

### 2010 - 2011 Officers

Frank Heyming, President  
Frank Yost, Vice President  
Jim Dudek, Treasurer  
Darlene DeMason,  
Recording Secretary

#### Directors

Kurt Gunther  
Jim Montgomery  
Adam Timura  
Lori Yates  
Lynn Yost

### Special Projects

Publications:  
Kurt Gunther • Lori Yates  
Marsha Loveridge

The VAF board meets at 6:30 on the  
2nd Wednesday of each month  
(except August).  
email address:  
[info@victoriaavenue.org](mailto:info@victoriaavenue.org)  
website:  
[www.victoriaavenue.org](http://www.victoriaavenue.org)  
Mailing address:  
PO Box 4152, Riverside, CA 92514

Victoria Avenews  
is published 4 - 6 times a year  
by Victoria Avenue Forever

## The VAF Board Needs You!

WHAT DOES IT TAKE to join the Board of Directors of Victoria Avenue Forever? First, you must be a member in good standing. You should be available to attend the monthly board meetings which take place on the second Wednesday of each month except August, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

The meetings are usually held in a member's home. Members work together to take on special projects, ranging from planning garden projects, to recruiting.

If you would like to get more involved in the protection and restoration of historic Victoria Avenue, get in touch with us by email:

[info@victoriaavenue.org](mailto:info@victoriaavenue.org)  
or by phone: (951) 367-5344  
or by mail to: PO Box 4152,  
Riverside, CA 92514.

## Contributions to the Endowment Fund September - October 2010

Thank you to all who contribute to Victoria Avenue Forever in memory of, or in honor of, your loved ones. Your gift will be used to help protect and care for Riverside's living legacy, historic Victoria Avenue.

William Bailey	In memory of	Frances Cunnison
Tad Dunagan	In memory of	Dr. James Mullen
Tad Dunagan	In memory of	Homer Thomas
Sydney Fast	In memory of	Frances Cunnison
Sydney Fast	In memory of	Elizabeth Stalder
Sydney Fast	In memory of	Eugene Yeager
Margaret Fletcher	In memory of	Frances Cunnison
Jay Guzzetta	In memory of	Paul Guzzetta
Eleanor Hampson	In memory of	Elizabeth Stalder
Eleanor Hampson	In memory of	Frances Cunnison
Elizabeth Neblett	In memory of	Frances Cunnison
Elizabeth Neblett	In memory of	Elizabeth Stalder
Janet Nicks	In memory of	Frances Cunnison
Anne Palumbo	In memory of	Frances Cunnison
Anne Palumbo	In memory of	Elizabeth Stalder
Ronald Preston	In memory of	Frances Cunnison
Ronald Preston	In memory of	Elizabeth Stalder
Margaret Scott	In memory of	Frances Cunnison
Jeffrey Smith	In memory of	Dorothy Seidle
Gloria Thomas	In memory of	Dr. James Mullen
Berenice Wilson	In memory of	Homer Thomas

For all the good times we four shared.

THANKS TO ALL who took the time to fill out the questionnaire on the ballot contained in your last issue of Victoria Avenews. We received a lot of good suggestions for recruiting volunteers, increasing membership and possible new projects.



# The Hal Snyder Garden Dedication



Hal looks on as Fank Heyming, Marsha Loveridge, Chris Mac Arthur and Bob Buster prepare to unveil the plaque.



Boy Scouts of Troop 270 present colors



Even on his special day Hal can't resist pulling a few weeds.



Saturday, December 11, 2010 • 9:00 to 11:30

Dr. Lewis Garden at Jane and Victoria

Long sleeves and gloves recommended. Clippers, shovels, and rakes would be helpful.

Saturday, January 8, 2011 • 9:00 to 11:30

Bare root tree planting at Irving & Victoria • BYO shovel if you can.

Saturday, February 15, 2011 • 9:00 to 11:30 • Location to be announced



P. O. Box 4152  
Riverside, CA 92514  
(951) 367-5344

Non-Profit Org.  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Riverside, CA  
Permit # 193

Return Service Requested

*Work Days*

Saturday, December 11, 2010  
Dr. Lewis Garden • Jane & Victoria

Saturday, January 8, 2011  
Irving & Victoria

Saturday, February 15, 2011  
To be announced

Please see page 3 for details.

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JOIN VICTORIA AVENUE FOREVER

(Current members will be notified when their membership expires)

Victoria Avenue Forever (VAF) is a non-profit organization founded in 1990, dedicated to the preservation and beautification of Victoria Avenue. Through fund raisers and membership support, VAF has purchased plants and trees, organized tree planting parties, planted over 600 trees, organized tree care activities, and informed our members about the history and value of the plantings on the avenue. Present goal is to take cuttings and fill in missing 'Ragged Robin' roses which frame the trees and larger plants in the medians.

To find out more about the history of Victoria Avenue, to find out how you can become a member, and to volunteer for activities, please fill in the form below and mail today. We'd love to have you join us!

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

Make your tax-deductible checks payable to Victoria Avenue Forever  
and mail to PO Box 4152 • Riverside, CA 92514

\$10.00 Individual       \$20.00 Family  
 \$50.00 Sustaining       I would like to volunteer

\$\_\_\_\_\_ for VAF Endowment Fund in honor/memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to Victoria Avenue Forever • P O Box 4152 • Riverside, CA 92514