



# Communication Linkage Forum Presents Santa Ana's 2018

# NEIGHBORHOOD HERO

## awards

COM-LINK FORUM BOARD 2017-2018

The "Neighborhood Hero Award" was established by the Santa Ana Communication Linkage Forum Board to honor those individuals who have shown commitment and enthusiasm in bettering the quality of life in their neighborhoods. We have chosen 11 recipients for this award because each has shown the leadership, commitment, generosity, and the selflessness needed to enhance their neighborhood. We are proud to be honoring these individuals. It is their love for their community that makes them leaders. Please join us in honoring and congratulating these outstanding community leaders.

JUNE 28, 2018



**Lizzie Lyles -  
Central City  
Neighborhood  
Association**

Lizzie Lyles has been an advocate for her community throughout the years. Her voice and passion working with City staff on solutions for a safe, clean, and well-maintained neighborhood has helped to strengthen communication and education between City departments and residents on issues like maintenance of City parcels on Bristol Street, trees, streets and alleys, roundabouts, and more. We are grateful and honored to have a hero like Lizzie in the Central City neighborhood.



**Michael O'Valle -  
Park Santiago  
Neighborhood  
Association**

Michael O'Valle is keeping our neighborhood connected, engaged, and stronger than ever before. Most recently, on different occasions, Michael successfully brought together residents to discuss and share concerns with the City about a proposed residential development at the entrance of our neighborhood. Leading by example, Michael contributes his time and resources toward our park clean-up days by organizing City agency participation, volunteers, food, beverages, and event communications. For that and much more, Michael is Park Santiago's neighborhood hero.



**Diane Morter -  
Washington  
Square  
Neighborhood  
Association**

Diane Morter moved into the neighborhood in 2010 and immediately became involved with our association and offered her talent and skills for Washington Square's very first Progressive Dinner. Through her participation at Board meetings, Diane took the neighborhood to another level and initiated, planned and organized our most successful event to date, Ocktoberfest. Diane's enthusiasm and energy is unstoppable as she continues to engage new neighbors with our events and meetings. We are so grateful to Diane for contributing to the success of our neighborhood.



**Phil McIntosh -  
Heninger Park  
Neighborhood  
Association**

Phil McIntosh is a treasure in the Heninger Park neighborhood and known by many neighbors for leading predawn exercise workouts in the City. He takes pride in preserving, and sets an example maintaining, his 97 year old Craftsman Bungalow home. His enthusiasm and dedication extends to our neighborhood, most notably when we collectively worked on bringing back the Heninger Park's neighborhood street fair last summer. The fair drew many families and youth to participate and included fun activities, cultural performances and a resource faire component. Phil's thoughtfulness towards his neighborhood is why he is our neighborhood hero.



**Diana Espinoza -  
West Floral Park  
Neighborhood  
Association**

The West Floral Park neighborhood had a new business arrive, the Zaroo Car Wash. Soon it was discovered that the car wash noise was too loud and impacting the quality of life of neighbors. Diana contacted the West Floral Park Neighborhood Association and formed an ad hoc committee to address the issue. She initiated detailed research, took noise readings, engaged neighbors, met numerous times with the City, and diligently followed through on each promise. With her leadership and determination, the car wash noise has abated, although the fight is not quite over. Diana is an example of neighborhood activism and shows us that we can all make a difference, step by step. For these reasons and more, we are proud to call Diana, West Floral Park's neighborhood hero.





**Christina Dorsa-Smith - Morrison Park Neighborhood Association**

Christina (Chris) Dorsa-Smith was awarded the Neighborhood Hero Award in 2012 and she deserves it again this year because of her tireless efforts serving the residents of the neighborhood. Chris is always thinking of new innovative ways to enhance the cohesiveness within our Morrison Park neighborhood. Most recently, she has partnered with businesses such as Polly's Pies on fundraisers for the association. Rest assured, Morrison Park can always rely on Chris to cheerfully and generously support the neighborhood. She embodies what being neighborly is all about and we are proud to once again call her our neighborhood hero.



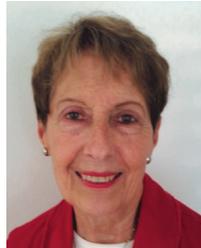
**Tori King - South Coast Neighborhood Association**

For many years, Tori King has been skillfully helping animals find families and families find animals to love. Her dedication and passion for connecting stray or lost animals in the South Coast neighborhood with loving homes is phenomenal. On any given day, you may find Tori using a humane trap so that a feral cat can be neutered, transporting an older dog across the county so it can spend its final years with a loving family, or working with the wildlife rescue to capture a terrified raccoon in a local alley. We consider Tori a tireless advocate for animals and the groups that assist and home them. The South Coast neighborhood and its extended animal family are fortunate and honored to have Tori as our neighborhood hero.



**Ellie Carrillo - Santa Anita Neighborhood Association**

The Santa Anita neighborhood has started bringing residents together by organizing many innovative and impactful community events for youth and families in the area. Our success has been made possible because of genuine people like Ellie Carrillo - our "go to" volunteer. You will find Ellie working behind the scenes to organize / supervise children, and assist with BBQ's, games, food, and gifts. Ellie also does an exceptional job serving as the secretary to our neighborhood board and we look forward to Ellie's continuing to work in our Santa Anita community for years to come.



**Mary Ann Manifold - Morning Sun Neighborhood Association**

Since the Morning Sun neighborhood's inception, our neighborhood has benefitted from Mary Ann's tireless and passionate advocacy on a purely voluntary basis. She advocated for and worked with the City to transform a weed-infested strip of land into the beautiful Greenville Bike Trail. Mary Ann's quiet, diplomatic, and determined demeanor has paved the way for the City's investment in many improvement projects for our neighborhood. Special thanks to our hero Mary Ann for her leadership and for bringing positive and long-lasting results to Morning Sun.



**Melissa Beltran and Daisy Gonzalez - Delhi Neighborhood Association**

Melissa Beltran and Daisy Gonzalez are wonderful, young leaders born and raised in the Delhi community. Melissa has been involved in the Community Building Initiative. She closely worked with the community engagement coordinator to increase participation from the neighborhood on their perception of safety in the community. Daisy has volunteered at the Delhi Center for over four years where she has emerged as a role model to many children and youth in the community. Through Daisy's community engagement, we have experienced an increase in participation from young volunteers in the neighborhood. We look forward to future successes from Melissa and Daisy, Delhi's neighborhood heroes.

## SANTA ANA COMMUNICATION LINKAGE FORUM

Communication Linkage Forum (Com-Link) was created in 1989 to provide opportunities for neighborhood leaders to come together and discuss issues that were relevant to Santa Ana neighborhoods. Since then, the neighborhood association movement has flourished and Com-Link has grown from an original group of five to sixty-four neighborhood associations.

Com-Link meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month. The meetings provide opportunities for information exchange and presentations on policy issues that are of general interest or concern to the city's neighborhoods. Agendas are determined by the Com-Link Board. This seven member Board is elected each year by representatives of each association. The general public is welcome and encouraged to attend Com-Link meetings. For more information, refer to <http://www.ci.santa-ana.ca.us/pba/neighborhood-initiatives/Com-Link.asp>