



WHITTIER  
COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION  
*Today, Tomorrow, Together.*

FALL 2018

# our town

www.whittiercf.org • 13230 Penn Street, Whittier, CA 90602 • (562) 567-9400

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## Boots, Beer & BBQ celebrates the Whittier Community Event planned to raise money for firefighter tribute



Howdy Folks! Come on down y'all for Boots, Beer & BBQ on Saturday, September 29 from 6:00 – 10:30 p.m. for a great ol' boot scootin', two steppin' time. This special event, hosted by the Whittier Community Foundation, will be held on top of the parking deck at The Quad at Whittier, 13502 Whittier Blvd. Tickets are \$35 per person which includes a BBQ dinner, 1 drink, dance lessons and great entertainment! Sponsorship opportunities are available for groups and businesses and can be purchased through the Foundation's website at [www.whittiercf.org](http://www.whittiercf.org).

"This event is a great way to bring the community together, celebrate Whittier and raise money for a great cause," stated WCF Executive Board member and event chair Chris Hardeman. Money raised from the event will help fund the Whittier Community Foundation's newest project, a statue tribute to our Los Angeles County firefighters which will be placed in front of Station 28 on Greenleaf Avenue. (see article below)

The B, B & B bonanza will feature delicious barbeque food catered by Orchard's BBQ & Grill, a variety of beverage selections in the beer garden, and foot stompin' live music performed by the

5-piece Just Dave Band. "We are expecting more than 200 people to come out and enjoy a fun and festive community party," continued Hardeman.

Don't know how to dance? No worries! Local DJ and dance instructor Rudy Hernandez will also be teaching line dancing, country western two step, waltz and swing beginning at 6:30 p.m. For those who want to practice their newfound dance skills, or just want to tap their toes to some great live music, the band will begin at 7:30 p.m. "This will be a night full of fun, great music, dancing, delicious food and a chance to get to know your neighbors," summed up Hernandez.

So, dust off your boots, find your cowboy hat, throw on some jeans, grab your friends and giddy up on down to the Boots, Beer & BBQ bonanza! See y'all there!

## Fire Fighter Tribute Sculpture

By Chris Hardeman,  
Firefighter Tribute Committee

The Whittier Community Foundation has focused on funding projects and services that make a difference in our community. Late last year, the Foundation began to discuss all of Whittier's brave first responders and how it could best support and honor them. Included in this discussion was the Los Angeles County Fire Department, who faithfully protects the Whittier community year-round.



serve our community. Two L.A. County firefighters have already posed for our artist, Alanna Roth, who is now hard at work sculpting her second Whittier-installed sculpture. We are grateful that, unlike the Police Memorial, our sculpture is constructed as an active tribute to our firefighters, and not the

The Whittier Community Foundation is happy to announce that it has begun fundraising to build a Fire Fighter Tribute Sculpture outside of Fire Station 28 on Greenleaf. Our campaign involves raising \$160,000 to ensure a display worthy of those who so selflessly

*continued on page 2*



## President's Message



In 2005, the Whittier Community Foundation was born with a mission "to support community services activities for the education and enjoyment of the greater Whittier community, and to develop funding for community services programs." Over the last thirteen years the Foundation has donated over \$715,000 to the City for programs and major capital items. The first capital project was the Police Memorial honoring Officers John Pierce, Mike Lane and most recently Keith Boyer. The Memorial has become a

place for the community to gather to not only remember our fallen officers, but to pay tribute to those serving today.

Recognizing the close community connection and respect for our local firefighters, the Foundation Board has chosen to honor firefighters who serve our community with an art piece that will celebrate their heroism, dedication and community spirit. Los Angeles County Fire Chief Osby has not only given his endorsement, but also his gratitude, for being one of the first cities to show its appreciation of their efforts in a groundbreaking manner. Sculptor Alanna Roth, who designed the Police Memorial, has agreed to again work with the Foundation and representatives of Los Angeles County Fire Department to design a fitting tribute to be placed in front of Station 28 on Greenleaf.

The title of the sculpture "Stronger Together", reflects core values of teamwork, cooperation and camaraderie. More information on the fund-raising efforts is further in this newsletter but I wanted to personally share our excitement about this project. We know it is going to take the whole community pulling together to make it happen. This project truly shows the Foundation and the community standing together with pride for our first responders.

I hope you join us in one of upcoming events to show your support.

*Fran Shields,*  
President



## Holiday Banner

The 2018 holiday season will be upon Whittier before we know it. The Whittier Community Foundation has pledged to spread holiday cheer throughout our wonderful city starting this year and growing over the next three years. Snowflakes will be falling all over Whittier during the last week of November through the beginning of January. This first year you will see colorful banners along Whittier Boulevard, Mar Vista Street, Beverly Boulevard and in front of City Hall. We are also actively meeting with the Whittier Uptown Association and the Uptown Whittier Improvement Association in a combined effort to expand a unified vision in an even grander way. Keep your eyes open for the snowflakes later this year. We hope you enjoy them!



## Fire Fighter Tribute Sculpture

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result of the greatest sacrifice. This is an unprecedented time in California's wildfire history- a time when first responders are uppermost in our hearts and minds. This monument is dedicated to honoring the Los Angeles County firefighters whose skill, bravery and dedication have saved the lives and homes of many.

Alanna explained "the title of the sculpture, "Stronger Together", reflects core values of teamwork, cooperation and camaraderie. These values provide the foundation upon which a strong force is built. Whether out on a call or in the firehouse, the need for mutual respect and support of each and every firefighter to one another regardless of gender, color, religious or personal views is critical to success of the team. If the morale of an individual is broken, it doesn't just affect the individual, it affects the entire team. The sculpture will stand as a reminder that we are all truly "Stronger Together."

The Whittier Community Foundation plans to unveil the Fire Fighter Tribute Sculpture in 2019. If you would like to take part in this worthy project, please check our website ([whittiercf.org](http://whittiercf.org)) or elsewhere in this newsletter for details. Thank you for your support.





## On Your Mark . . . Get Set . . . GO!



Get the spider webs out of your running shoes and lace them up to join us at the Whittier Spooktacular 5K Run/Walk on Saturday, October 27th! It's hard to believe that this is the 9th year of hosting the Spooktacular 5K which has become one of the most popular Halloween season races in the area. Over 3,000 people are expected in attendance, including 1,800 runners/walkers. In addition to the 5K Run/Walk, there will also be a Creepy Crawly ½ Mile Dash for children 12 years old & under (this event is cuter than Casper the Friendly Ghost!). This picturesque course through historical Uptown Whittier begins and ends at the Whittier Community Center. All participants will receive a one of a kind finishers medal, refreshments, goodie bag, free pancake breakfast (\$3.00 for non-participants) sponsored by Urteaga Chiropractic, and a Chillingly Snazzy Spooktacular well-fitting T-Shirt! Wait, that's not all . . . did I mention the Hawaii Give-A-Way donated by The Traveling Traveler, a Beer Garden sponsored by Tepeyac Restaurant

& Tequila Sports Bar (bring ID), Freaky Family Friendly Costume Contests with \$1,000 total awarded in various categories, DJ's along the course, computerized finish line results by Gemini Next, and 1st – 3rd place awards in each age category with a cash prize to the top overall male & female 5K finisher!

Runners/Walkers come from near and far including Whittier residents, East Whittier City School District students, Whittier City School District students, Boys & Girls Club members and staff, as well as City of Whittier staff . . . even runners from the East Coast!

The Whittier Community Foundation has teamed up with the Whittier Host Lions Club to form a unique partnership in order to provide a secure venue, make certain the events runs seamlessly, judge the cool costume contests, and give a sense of camaraderie throughout the community. The Whittier Community Foundation's proceeds from the event will go toward supporting the Fire Fighter Tribute Statue. Come join us by registering online at: [www.whittier5k.com](http://www.whittier5k.com) or pick up an official entry form at any City of Whittier facility. For more information, please call: 562-567-9400. We look forward to seeing everyone at this safe, sidesplitting, scary-fun, sensational Spooktacular 5K Run/Walk!



## 2018 Dancing With The Whittier Stars

By David Gonzalez



I was surprised to be asked to participate in the 2018 Dancing With The Whittier Stars! I'd seen the event and recall thinking "Yikes, those people know what they're doing! (well mostly)" and so I knew from the audience side of things how good an event DWTWS is. When I was asked, the initial response went from a hesitant "I don't know" to a "sure, let's do this" in the same conversation with Rudy and Maria.

The weekly (sometimes multiple) rehearsals were met with reassurance, motivation, sometimes confusion, because I would confuse the teachers with my "amazing" adaptations of the dance steps; but always there were laughs. From time to time, I would show up slightly early

for rehearsal and would catch the tail-end of another dancer's routine and thought "oh no, they know what they are doing?!" The truly friendly competition and support among the dancers for each other were good points in this entire experience too. I really liked learning more about my fellow dancers, some of whom I'd known already and many whom I'd only met in passing in the community.

Showtime was crazy good. A mix of nervousness, excitement, and that feeling you remember from the first grade Christmas program we all performed in helps to make backstage hum with good energy and smiles. Being backstage on the day of the event, we really got to see the enormous effort that the Whittier Community Foundation, the City, and volunteers put in to making this event happen. I knew that whatever I did, I needed to stay upright on my feet (which was my only goal), have fun, and not trip Maria or myself. When we were done, when both shows were over, what a feeling of accomplishment and fun! I am very happy to have been asked, and



would love to do something like this again for sure. The amazing thing in all this is in the end, everything everyone was doing was all in the name of doing something good for the community. Thank you to the Whittier Community Foundation, Rudy and Maria, Fran and the fellow dancers!





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## Give Where You Live

Join online at [www.whittiercf.org](http://www.whittiercf.org)

***I want to support the Whittier Community Foundation***

### Annual Membership Levels

- ☐ Corporate Sponsor ..... \$5,000  
(a corporate sponsor includes sponsorship and prominent signage for all our events)
- ☐ Family Sponsor ..... \$250
- ☐ Friend Sponsor ..... \$100

☐ Check    ☐ Cash

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