

The Woodlands



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December 2011

Crime Report Feedback

By Kathy Master

On behalf of the Woodlands Association Board, thank you to everyone that responded to last month's request for feedback on the Crime Report. As of November 10th, we had received 20 e-mail responses. The resounding theme was that the Report's is useful in providing information about neighborhood activity and reminding residents to remain both aware and proactive in preventing criminal activity. Respondents expressed appreciation for their neighbors who reported suspicious and illegal persons or activity and praised the local police for readily responding when summoned. Overall, fourteen of the 20 respondents recommended keeping the Crime Report in its current format.

Additionally, 4 of the 20 respondents suggested retaining the Crime Report while limiting the content to include "pertinent" police calls, identified as solicitors, vandalism, theft and burglary. Respondents recommended omitting "petty" information, such as that dealing with personal or family issues that did not affect other Woodlands residents.

Two responders suggested the Crime Report be eliminated in its entirety. One cited the intrusive nature of the report and its potential negative influence on our real estate values.

The Board values input from the Woodlands Community and invites further responses about the existence and format of the Crime Report. As stated in the November issue, the Crime Report is now known as Police Calls to better reflect the information in the column. We will also no longer include names and birthdates of those contacted/arrested. We inadvertently published the incorrect e-mail address in last month's request for feedback. Please continue to email your feedback about Police Calls in the Woodlands newsletter to woodlandsassn@yahoo.com.





Want to Write Something?



The Woodlands newsletter provides a community service by keeping neighborhood residents informed about issues and events of interest. We encourage Woodlands residents to submit articles for the newsletter and we regularly receive articles that are published in the newsletter.

If you would like to contribute an article, please contact us and we will be happy to work with you to help get it edited and published. Our publication guidelines are relatively simple – topics should be of interest to Woodlands residents, the newsletter can not be used as a forum to air issues between individuals, and articles may need to be edited to fit within available space (typical length is 200 words or less). To meet our publication schedule for a monthly newsletter, we have established a closing date of the 10th of each month. To the extent that space is available, articles received and ready for print by the 10th of the month will be published in the next version of the newsletter.

We appreciate your help in making the newsletter as informative, useful, and relevant to Woodlands residents. To submit an article, please write to woodlandsassn@yahoo.com.

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Advertising Rates 2012

Advertising Rates for 2012 will be the same for all advertisers in 2012. Earlier this year, advertising rates were increased for most ad sizes, but we extended the old rates for long time customers for the rest of 2011. Starting with the January 2012 issue (payments due 12/15), monthly advertising rates for all customers are as follows:

- Full Page - \$90
- Half Page - \$50
- Quarter Page (within newsletter) - \$30
- Quarter Page Back Page - \$50
- 1/8th Page - \$20
- Want Ads - \$13 non-residents, \$5 residents

The monthly Woodlands newsletter is 100% supported by advertisers. Please encourage local businesses and trades people to advertise in our newsletter. If you have any questions, please e-mail us at woodlandsassn@yahoo.com.

Established in 1965, the *Woodlands Newsletter* is a monthly publication that is published by the Woodlands Association. Archived issues are located at www.WoodlandsAssn.org

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Newsletter Delivery:
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Neighborhood Inquiries:
 e-mail a Board member @
<http://www.woodlandsassn.org/boardmembers.htm>

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 Walnut Creek, CA 94598

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Board email ID's can be found at www.WoodlandsAssn.org

Upcoming Board Meetings

Saturday, January 7th
 at 8:15 am
 and
Saturday, February 4th
 at 8:15 am
 in Carl's Jr.
 Conference Room

Woodlands residents are encouraged to attend board meetings

Tis the Season Concert

Strike A Chord, a women's singing ensemble, is presenting "Tis the Season," a concert featuring beautiful music of the holiday season, **Sunday, December 11, 3:00 pm**, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, 4000 Clayton Road, Concord 94520. Please join us as Suzie Peterson, professional choral director with a graduate degree in music from San Jose State University, leads music from Bach to a lively version of "Christmas...in About Three Minutes."

Ms Peterson has directed choral groups from elementary to high school, and her adult choirs have sung at Carnegie Hall in New York, and the Sydney Opera House in Australia. Strike A Chord was formed in January, 2011, but the women have been singing together for several years. Two of the members are Woodlands residents, Benedikte Pember, and Elsie Witt.

Accompanist, Joan Miller, a native of Russell, Kentucky, graduated from Eastern Kentucky University with a BME degree in Voice/Piano. A member of the Music Teachers' Association of California, Joan is President of Mount Diablo Music Education Foundation and Northgate Choral Music Boosters and has a Masters Degree in voice and piano and has more than 25 years experience. Joan is President of the Mt Diablo Music Education Foundation that promotes music in Mt. Diablo Unified School District.

If you wish to have Strike A Chord perform for an event, or would like to be part of our choral group, please e-mail us at Strikeacord@gmail.com or call 925-935-4313.

Lemons

By Sharon Duarte

On taking my daily walk in the Woodlands I have noticed that it is the season for Lemons. How wonderful, Mother Natures' way of keeping us healthy during the winter months. I have a few suggestions for using all those beautiful lemons.

GREEN SMOOTHIE

- 1) A hand full of spinach
- 2) One apple
- 3) Juice of one lemon

All whizzed up in a blender with cold water and ice to the desired consistency, pour into a glass and drink it down. DELICIOUS!

Other ideas.

- Adding the juice of half a lemon to each of the 8 glasses of water we are advised to drink a day, I find this difficult, so for me adding lemon makes drinking water more pleasurable.
- Lemon curd
- Lemon meringue pie
- Lemon pickle

For many more ideas have a look at this; <http://10interestingthings.com/lemons.html>

If you have a glut of lemons, please put them in a box on the sidewalk I am sure they will be collected by a happy neighbor, and to quote my wise mother "waste not want not"

Please enjoy the Woodlands lemons and stay healthy.

School News

Valle Verde Elementary PTA

NOTES FROM THE VALLE VERDE PTA

Halloween has come and gone, and our Carnival was a huge success! The PTA raised over \$26,000 for our school and our children. Thank you to everyone who contributed time and/or money to the Carnival. The weather cooperated this year, with clear skies and a warm day. Everyone I talked to remarked on the new and different games and events, and the kids were having a great time. Our 5th graders put on a fun and scary haunted house too!

As we head into the holidays, the Spring Fling team is hard at work finding donations from our community businesses and through our employers. If you have ideas for donations or are curious about whether your employer offers a matching program, please don't hesitate to contact DeeDee or Jennifer at springfling@valleverdepta.org. Spring Fling is on March 31st this year, but we need to have most of our donations and sponsorships in place by Dec 31st. It's also Geography Bee, Spelling Bee and Science Fair season coming up soon, so we have updates on all three of those events.

- Your Valle Verde PTA

SPRING FLING NEEDS YOU!

The PTA at Valle Verde is always working hard for you and your child. Our goal is to fund projects that directly impact the education of our kids. That is why I would like to let you know about a very important fundraiser that we have here at Valle Verde, Spring Fling.

The Spring Fling Social is Valle Verde's annual dinner/auction held for the parents. Yes, this is a fun night out for you and it benefits the school! Over the last several years this event has also become one of our biggest fundraisers. We have food, music and entertainment. If you have never been to Spring Fling go to our Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/vvpta>) and take a look at the pictures posted from past years! This year the event will be held at Boundary Oaks on Saturday, March 31st.

This fundraiser directly benefits the fund we have for teacher assistant salaries. Currently the PTA pays for 8 teacher assistant salaries. This works out to roughly 2/3rds of our working budget every year. There are many ways that you can help make this a successful event once again this year. We are always in need of talent to make this event come together, from planning to decoration to communications; this event takes a lot of helping hands.

We will be holding an informational meeting where you can find out how you can help put your talents to work to help make this years Spring Fling the most successful one yet! Monday, November 7th at Panera in Countrywood shopping center at 10 am and then later on Monday, November 7th at 7:30 pm at DeeDee Blankley's House, at 4338 Cloud Ct., Concord. Please RVSP to springfling@valleverdepta.org.

- DeeDee Blankley and Jennifer St. Louis, Spring Fling Co-Chairs

STUDENT COUNCIL FOOD DRIVE

For the month of November, Valle Verde's students are holding a food drive. This food will be generously donated to the District's Food Pantry and will help out lots of hungry families in our district. Hopefully, your family can share some food. Please place any and all donations in the quad area by the computer lab. Following is a list of suggested food donations:

Top 10 Items: Peanut Butter, Rice, Canned Fruit, Cereal, Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken, Whole Beans, Canned Chili, Pasta & Sauce, Canned Vegetables

Other Suggested Items: Soup (Cans or Instant), Crackers, Macaroni and Cheese, Jam/Jelly, Protein Power Bars, Granola Bars, Velveeta Cheese, Instant Powder Drinks, Canned Evaporated Milk, Juices-no refrigeration, Pickles, Mayo, Mustard, Catsup. Individual snacks such as: Cheese & Crackers or Peanut Butter & Crackers.

- Craig Yen

GEOGRAPHY BEE 2012



ATTENTION 4TH & 5TH GRADERS
It's time to pack your bags and get ready for
VALLE VERDE'S 8TH ANNUAL GEOGRAPHY BEE

Thursday, January 12th
1:00 - 2:40 pm for 4th graders
&

Friday, January 13th
8:30 am for 5th graders

FINALS will be on Friday, January 13th at 1:00 pm

Teachers will be giving a preliminary test to see who will be representing their classroom

TIPS FOR STUDYING:
VISIT THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC WEB SITE
www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee
CHECK OUT THE ATLAS & WORLD MAPS

The Terra Cotta Warriors were discovered in 1974.
 Try to find out when they were first created!! It's an amazing piece of history.

SPELLING BEE 2012

You are cordially invited to:
Valle Verde's Annual Spelling Bee
Tuesday, January 24, 2012
8:45 am in the MUR



Each of our 4th & 5th grade classes will send 6 representatives to participate in our annual spelling bee.

To prepare now for the honor of representing your classroom,
Visit the Scripps National Spelling Bee Web site @
www.spellingbee.com

Students can go on-line and view all 874 words at www.spellingbee.com. You'll want the Scripps National Spelling Bee web site. The user id is: mckimmie@mdusd.org and the password is vikings. The words are now divided into sections by language of origin. This division by language of origin will enable your student to learn and remember several important rules, tips and guidelines for successfully spelling words in English - the most challenging language of all for spellers! The winner will be representing Valle Verde at the 2012 Regional Spelling Bee at Tice Valley Community Gym in Walnut Creek in March.

Northgate High School PTA

NOTE TO SENIOR PARENTS

We invite you to leave a special note to your son, daughter, or sibling in his or her high school yearbook. To submit an ad log on to www.yearbookordercenter.com and enter 6921 as the order number. Click "Create and Ad" and follow the directions to create and purchase your senior message online. The deadline for ad submissions will be December 16th.

Jesika Essapour (was Farhadi), M.A., P.P.S., Student Services Coordinator
 Northgate High School, (925)938-0900 Ext. 3503



WOODLANDS POLICE CALLS

*Thank you to Kathy Master
for compiling this report from the WCPD website*



The following information is taken from the Police Daily Bulletin as posted for public viewing on the Walnut Creek Police Department's website. The entire Walnut Creek police daily bulletin can be viewed at: www.walnut-creek.org/citygov/depts/police/bulletin.asp. Some issues of the Woodlands Newsletter may include only a portion of the monthly police activity in our neighborhood, as available print-space varies from issue to issue.

11-33944 10/09/11 01:53:30 **Curfew Violation** Peachwillow Lane / Sitka Court. Pedestrian stop on two subjects. Dispo: Juveniles out past curfew; released to parents. Ofc. Vevera

11-34019 10/09/11 21:47:49 **Suspicious Circumstance** 2200 block Oak Grove Road. Rp states a group of juveniles are kicking balls straight at cars. Subjects are associated with a GMC Denali, a silver Honda, license 8D95090. A black Minicooper is being driven around in the parking lot. Dispo: Subjects left prior while caller on the line. No one assigned

11-34410 10/13/11 06:48:29 **Assault** 400 block Candleberry Road. RP states wife is hitting him in the face. Dispo: As reported. Ofc. Godinez

11-34501 10/13/11 21:19:26 **Miscellaneous Traffic** Bayberry Drive / Perada Drive. Vehicle reported as illegally parked on Bayberry near the trail. Unknown vehicle description or if occupied. Dispo: Vehicle left, though had been parked legally. Ofc. Barrientos

11-34622 10/14/11 15:46:54 **Panhandler** 2200 block Oak Grove Road. Hispanic female adult panhandling in front of ATMs. Described as wearing a beige shirt and black pants; has long hair in a pony tail. Dispo: Subject warned and trespassed from the premise. Ofc. Hahn

11-34635 10/14/11 16:50:44 **Suspicious Circumstance** Citrus Center parking lot, south side, vehicle license 6K78749. Dispo: Vehicle associated with panhandler who was trespassed from Bank of America. Ofc. Vevera

11-34840 10/15/11 18:50:09 **Vandalism** 3200 block Peachwillow Lane. Obscene objects hanging from rope in front of office, and writing on either side of office door. RP suspects neighbor of the school. Dispo: Subject wrote "Stop telling me to call cops" and "This was next to a child's bed cops! You broke all my phones" in chalk. Ofc. Vevera

11-34941 10/16/11 11:00:52 **Littering** 600 block Rock Oak Road. Gold Toyota Camry, license 3LHF097 egged while parked on the street. Occurred after 10/15 at 2000 hours. RP believes unknown juveniles that park at dead end of street and party in open space are responsible. Dispo: As reported. No suspect information. No apparent damage to vehicle. Ofc. Spoto

11-35020 10/17/11 08:06:31 **Burglary** 3200 block Peachwillow Lane. Burglary to storeroom in main office reported. Occurred sometime since Friday. Loss is safe with deposits. Dispo: Black safe with silver handle, approx. 2' by 2' taken. Ofc. Kan

11-35082 10/17/11 18:00:47 **Miscellaneous Traffic** Dogwood Drive / Citrus Avenue. RP states woman passed out in the driver's seat of a gold Nissan Altima, license 6NNX104. Driver woke up and sped away on Citrus toward Oak Grove. Described as 40 year old Hispanic female. Dispo: Gone on arrival. Ofc. Barrientos

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(Receipts available)



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MARC

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Full Page – 10 x 7.5 - \$90/month

1/2 Page – 5 x 7.5 - \$50/month

1/4 Page – 5 x 3.5 - \$30/month

1/4 Page on back cover - \$50/month

1/8 Page – 2.5 x 3.5 - \$20/month

Want Ads - line ad with 30 words or less:

\$5 Woodlands Residents, \$13 Non-Residents

Next Advertising Deadline

Please submit all ads and
payments for the next issue by
December 15, 2011

Submission Guidelines

- Please submit your ad in the actual size/dimensions listed above.
- Ad should be formatted with any artwork you want included at the time of submittal.
- If your ad needs layout/design or artwork, there is an additional \$10 design fee.
- We love DIGITAL FILES! If you can provide a digital file of your ad, please email it to Woodlandsassn@yahoo.com. We accept PDF, Microsoft Publisher, and MS Word documents.
- If you only have a paper copy of your ad, please mail it and the payment to:
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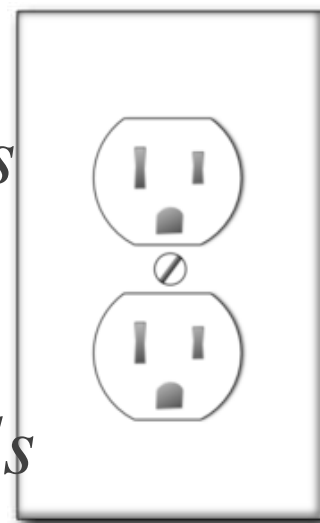


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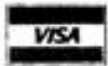
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 - Repair of Leaking Pipes
 - New Installations
- Repair Replacement of Washer, Faucets, Commodes, Wax Rings ▪ Water Heaters

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- Spot Painting After Repairs
- Wall & Ceiling texturing

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- Clean out Gutters ▪ Installation of gutter screens

CARPENTRY & DRYWALL

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- Repair Stucco - Drywall
 - Brickwork
- Odds and Ends

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