

## Woodlands Resident Elected To City Council

*By Arsen Kitch*

Three Walnut Creek City Council seats were up for grabs in the November 6th election. Five candidates were on the ballot and four were actively campaigning. Bob Simmons, incumbent and current mayor, placed first with 18,115 votes. Loella Haskew, a retired CPA, placed second with 15,952 votes. Placing third with 13,533 votes was Justin Wedel, a Woodlands resident and small business owner.

Justin is the current President of the Woodlands Association. He ran on a platform that emphasized fiscal responsibility, community driven development, and public safety. Justin was endorsed by the Walnut Creek Chamber of Commerce, Police Officer's Association, and the Contra Costa Times. The Association looks forward to working with Justin and the rest of the City Council on important neighborhood issues.

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## Holiday Lights in the Woodlands – Toys for Tots Drive

*By Deanna Constable*

It's that time of year again when our neighborhood will be decked out in festive holiday lights and decorations. With extensive lights, creativity, and enchanting decorations, two particular homes in the Woodlands have become yearly holiday favorites: 524 Candleberry Road and 3265 Primrose Lane. This is nothing new – these homes have been putting up their detailed holiday scenes for roughly 30 and 22 years, respectively.

When I met with the homeowners, both said that they started slowly and grew the scope of the decorations through the years. Carolyn Hiland shared that when her youngest daughter, now a teacher at Valley Verde Elementary, was a child they noticed how much she enjoyed looking at the lights. A friend of the family had given them a playhouse with teddy bears, which they promptly put holiday lights on, and it grew from there.

Inspired by the Hiland's Candleberry holiday lights, Matt said that his Primrose Lane household started their tradition from a love of the season and inspiration from the happy faces of children and Rossmoor residents who come to see the decorations. Both homeowners invest time and money to put the decorations up and then carefully take them down and store them for the next year. Matt shared that more and more, they are switching to LED lights. These use about 1/3 less energy and continue to work even if one or several lights are burned out.

The Hiland's 524 Candleberry Road home will continue their tradition of having a "Toys for Tots" donation area until a few days before Christmas. Bring new, unopened and unwrapped toys to donate. Pre-Teen and Teen age-appropriate gifts are especially sought.



## In This Issue...

Walnut Creek Election	1
Holiday Lights	1
Important Contacts	2
Want to Write Something	2
School News	3
Woodlands Police Calls	4
Strike at Nob Hills	5
Casserole Recipe	5
Measure Q	6
Chili Challenge	6

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<http://www.woodlandsassn.org/boardmembers.htm>

Woodlands Association  
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 Walnut Creek, CA 94598

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### Who to Contact?

The Woodlands Association receives some emails and questions about many issues that are best resolved by contacting the following agencies directly. The following is a reference guide:

<p><b>Walnut Creek Code Enforcement</b>, 925-256-3508 or 925-943-5863                  The Code Enforcement Division of the Community Development Department is responsible for enforcing provisions of the Walnut Creek Municipal Code involving quality of life and neighborhood quality issues.  <a href="http://www.walnut-creek.org/citygov/depts/cd/nuisance_abatement_n_code_enforcement.asp">http://www.walnut-creek.org/citygov/depts/cd/nuisance_abatement_n_code_enforcement.asp</a></p>
<p><b>Walnut Creek Police Department</b>, 925-943-5844  <a href="http://www.walnut-creek.org/citygov/depts/police/default.asp">http://www.walnut-creek.org/citygov/depts/police/default.asp</a></p>
<p><b>Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District</b> (Pests and Insect Issues), 925-771-6196  <a href="http://www.contracostamosquito.com/programs_services_index.htm">http://www.contracostamosquito.com/programs_services_index.htm</a></p>
<p><b>Contra Costa Water District</b>, 925-688-8000                  Water conservation, information, gardening resources, moneysaving tips.  <a href="http://www.ccwater.com">http://www.ccwater.com</a></p>
<p><b>Allied Waste Services of Contra Costa County</b> (925) 603-1144  <a href="http://www.pleasanthillbayshoredisposal.com">http://www.pleasanthillbayshoredisposal.com</a></p>

## 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 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. To the extent that space is available, articles received and ready for print by the 10<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:woodlandsassn@yahoo.com).

### Woodlands Association Board of Directors

Board email ID's can be found at [www.WoodlandsAssn.org](http://www.WoodlandsAssn.org)

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### Upcoming Board Meetings

**Saturday, December 1st**  
 at 8:15 am  
 and

**Saturday, January 5th**  
 at 8:15 am  
 in Carl's Jr.  
 Conference Room

Woodlands residents are encouraged to attend board meetings

# School News

Source: Foothill Gazette

## Applying for Private High School in 2013?

Attention all parents whose students are applying for private high school in the 2013-14 school year. Please turn in all forms to Mrs. Shepherd in the Office as soon as you receive them from the high school.

For all schools other than De La Salle and Carondelet, please supply the envelopes and stamps. For teacher's recommendations, please put the name of the teacher on the form. I will collect them and forward them in a timely manner.

Thank you, Mary Shepherd, Registrar Foothill MS

## Attention 8th Grade Parents!

The time has arrived! Don't miss your chance to help your child celebrate! Yearbook is now accepting ads for the 2013 yearbook.

Sizes and Prices:

1/16 page: \$25

1/8 page: \$40

1/4 page: \$75

1/2 page: \$125

Log on to [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com) and enter order number 6047.

When space runs out, or we reach our deadline, we can no longer accept ads, so get your ad in early! You must complete your ad by December 10th. Ads not completed by December 10th will be refunded. A flier with more details will be emailed home to all 8th grade parents the week of November 5.

## After School Homework Assistance

Starting Tuesday, October 23, the After School Assistance Program (ASAP) is available on Tuesdays and Thursdays. This is a drop-in program; students will sign in, work on their homework and then sign out.

For Math assistance - Mr. Narin, a retired teacher, is available in T-2 from 2:30 to 3:15 pm.

For all other subjects - Mrs. Frazier will work with students in the Library from 2:30 to 3:30 pm.

Science Assistance is on Monday after school. 8th Graders report to B-1 or B-2. 7th Graders report to B-3 or B-4. 6th Graders can report to Mr. Monroe during lunch in room B-7

## Lost Property

Not in the mood for bin diving but wondering where that P.E. uniform went, your teen's favorite jacket, or that new pair of tennis shoes?

Come on by the quad (or send your teen), Thursday 11/15 & Friday 11/16 as well as Thursday 12/13 & Friday 12/14 to claim your teen's belongings. All unclaimed lost property items will be donated after 12/14.

NOTE: There may be additional clothing in the Foothill Locker rooms so please have your teen check there as well for anything you are not finding.

## Photos for Yearbook

Did you play a sport this summer? Participate in a club? Go on an exciting vacation? Please share your pictures with Yearbook! Upload photos to [www.hjeshare.com](http://www.hjeshare.com) Code: 6047

Don't miss your chance to own a part of Foothill memories! Purchase a yearbook! If you missed your chance at registration, order online at [www.yearbookordercenter.com](http://www.yearbookordercenter.com) Code: 6047 Yearbooks are \$40. Please remember that there are limited quantities available!

Volunteers Needed for Parent Patrol Shifts in December and January

Parent Patrol calendar has a few open volunteer shifts in December and January. If you haven't yet volunteered please sign up if you are available. Specific days that still need volunteers are:

December: 5, 12, 17, 18, 19, 21

January: 7, 9, 11, 14, 15, 22, 24, 29, 30, 31

Remember, we ask that each family volunteer two days during the year so that we can ensure the students have a safe student environment at lunchtime. Ideally we have two volunteers per day. If you are available between 11:05 am-12:40 pm (M,T,Th,F) or 11:25 am - 12:50 p.m. on Wednesdays, we would greatly appreciate your help. Parent Patrol is one of the best opportunities to volunteer on campus and we need your help.

All available shifts for the remainder of the year are posted at <https://sites.google.com/site/foothillmiddleschoolpfa/parent-patrol>. Any date that doesn't have two names filled in is a date when we could use your help. Please take a look at your schedules and email the Parent Patrol coordinator at [mesunbury@yahoo.com](mailto:mesunbury@yahoo.com) with any dates you are available.

Thanks to all those parents who have already volunteered so far this year. If you are available to pick up an additional shift, it would be greatly appreciated.

Monterey/San Jose Science Trip, February 11, 2013

The November Trip is sold out. Registration is open for the trip in February.

The bi-annual Monterey/San Jose Day Science Trip is open for registration. The next trip is scheduled for Monday February 11, 2013. Details are available at <http://www.monroescienceed.com/field-trips/monterey> or see Mr. Monroe in B-7.



## 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](http://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.

12-33523 10/11/12 00:00:01 Welfare Check 3500 block Bayberry Drive. RP states he overheard neighbor to the left threatening to come beat him up. Dispo: Spoke with reporting party and neighbor. Advice given to both. No crime.

12-34072 10/15/12 00:00:01 Vehicle Towed and Impounded 2200 block Oak Grove Road. Dispo: Vehicle impounded for expired registration and false tabs. ABC Tow Co.

12-34135 10/16/12 00:00:00 Agency Assist 700 block Mandarin Lane. Dispo: Assisted Concord PD as planned.

12-34512 10/19/12 13:35:02 Service to Citizen Rock Oak Ct / Rock Oak Rd. Suspicious vehicle parked at the trail head. Vehicle is a blue Honda Accord, associated with a white male adult with a "buzzcut," wearing black t-shirt with white writing and jeans. Subject is accompanied by white female adult with blonde hair, wearing greenish sweats and red and white shoes. They appear to be living in the vehicle. Dispo: gone on arrival.

12-34639 10/20/12 12:00:09 Vehicle Vandalism 300 block Peppertree Road. RP states rear window of vehicle smashed with a squash. Dispo: As reported.

12-34657 10/20/12 15:40:00 Noise Complaint 400 block Peppertree Road. RP states loud music coming from this address. Dispo: Contacted resident who agreed to turn down the bass.

12-35045 10/23/12 23:13:25 Welfare Check 500 block Peppertree Road. Subject is texting the RP's daughter threatening to harm himself. Dispo: Advised Concord PD to conduct welfare check on the address provided by AT&T.

12-35300 10/25/12 21:54:49 Service to Citizen Sugarberry Lane / Candleberry Road. Suspicious black GMC pickup occupied by two white male adults in their 20's with shaved heads. Vehicle was parked for 10 minutes before leaving; last seen making a left turn onto Peachwillow. RP requesting an area check and a call back. Dispo: Area check negative. No answer upon call back; message left.

12-35358 10/26/12 11:54:46 RV Permit 3500 block Lime Tree Court. Citizen waiting in PD lobby. Dispo: Citizen gone upon arrival to lobby.

12-35400 10/26/12 17:50:37 Suspicious Circumstance 2200 block Oak Grove Road. Suspicious subject has been in the middle of the parking lot for 30 minutes, having an imaginary fight and running around his vehicle. Subject is described as a white male adult in his 30's, 5'7, 215 lbs and wearing a gray sweatsuit and headband. Subject is associated with a white Dodge Dakota pickup. Dispo: Gone on arrival, unable to locate.

12-35539 10/27/12 18:26:14 Suspicious Circumstance 500 block Banyan Circle. Approximately four male juveniles smoking marijuana at the dead end. Dispo: Gone on arrival.

12-35590 10/28/12 00:36:15 Unwanted Person 3600 block Citrus Avenue. Ex-girlfriend refusing to leave the house. Dispo: Ex-girlfriend and her friend were picked up by a male subject. RP requests nothing further.

# Strike at Nob Hills Foods – 9 Days of Picketing

By Adrienne Robillard

On the morning of November 13th picketers at our neighborhood Nob Hill Foods, at 2270 Oak Grove Road, were no longer outside with signs. After a 9-day strike, negotiators with Raley's Family of Fine Stores, which includes Nob Hill Foods, and the United Food and Commercial Workers reached an agreement, ending 15 months of negotiations between the two sides. This strike was the first in the company's 77-year-old history. The agreement will not be made public until being ratified by the Union members. Reasons for the strike included issues created by the increase of non-union retailers in the grocery business, the recession, and increases in health care costs.

According to a press release on Raleys.com: "This is very exciting because this contract provides us with the cost savings we need to fund our vision and the

initiatives to make us more competitive in the 21st Century," said Mike Teel, president of Raley's of Family Fine Stores.

Said Teel, "It is important to remember that everyone including our employees, our customers, our company and the communities we serve have suffered in this labor dispute. So, it gives me great pleasure to know that as of today our employees will be back to work serving our customers with the same attention and care as we have always served our customers at Raley's and Nob Hill."

## New Year's Day Brunch: Easy Baked French Toast Casserole

By Adrienne Robillard



### Ingredients:

- 1 loaf French bread
- 8 large eggs
- 2 cups half & half
- 1 cup milk
- 2 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- Dash salt
- Maple syrup

### Directions:

Slice French bread into 20 slices, 1-inch each. Arrange slices in a generously buttered 9 by 13-inch flat baking dish in 2 rows, overlapping the slices. In a large bowl, combine the eggs, half-and-half, milk, sugar, vanilla, cinnamon, nutmeg and salt and beat or whisk until blended but not too bubbly. Pour mixture over the bread slices, making sure all are covered evenly with the milk-egg mixture. Spoon some of the mixture in between the slices. You can allow the toast to soak, or put it directly into a preheated oven at 350 degrees for 40 minutes.

We've all got our favorite cookies, pies, stuffing and turkey recipes. But one recipe that has stood out in our family for the last 2 years is this fabulous French Toast Casserole, originally from Paula Deen. The original recipe calls for 9 hours of prep time, which we never have, and a praline topping, which we substitute with fresh fruit, so in less than an hour you have a delicious brunch casserole to share with friends and family. Serves up to 12 people.

Have a favorite recipe you'd like to share? Please send it to [woodlandsassn@yahoo.com](mailto:woodlandsassn@yahoo.com).

# Measure Q Failed, Up To 10 Fire Stations May Close

By Arsen Kitch

A measure to impose an additional \$75 parcel tax to maintain current levels of fire services in parts of Contra Costa County failed to reach the necessary 2/3 majority. 52.6% of the electorate supported the measure while 47.4% opposed. This was the second time the electorate has turned down tax increases to maintain fire services in Contra Costa County.

The Firefighters Union strongly supported the measure while critics maintained that this was a short-term fix to a long-term pension liability prob-

lem. Retirement costs make up 25% of the District's current budget. As a result of the measure failing, up to 10 of 28 fire stations may be closed. Stations in Concord, Martinez, Lafayette, and Pittsburg are likely on the list. The Association will monitor the situation and inform our residents on any service changes in our area.

# Chili Challenge Top Three Announced

By Joanne Wathen

The First Annual Hokanson Chili Challenge was held at the Woodlands Cabana Club on October 14th and was deemed a huge success by all who participated. Thirteen challengers brought their finest chili to be sampled by a panel of 9 worthy judges. The top three winners were: Ann Bonano for Best All Around Chili, Chris Gay for Spiciest Chili, and Joanna Sibley for Most Kid Friendly Chili.

Approximately 150 people turned out to sample the chili, swim and enjoy the entertainment so generously provided by Brian Kilcourse and the Guilty

Saints. Everyone agreed that they are looking forward to the Second Annual Hokanson Chili Challenge next October. The Cabana Club board would like to send out a huge thank-you to Linda Van-Brocklin for organizing such a wonderful event.

For pictures of this event, please visit our Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/TheWoodlandsCabanaClub>

# Advertising

## Advertiser Contents


A1 Photo Lab	16
AAA-Mike Jordan	9
AB Fencing	9
Belfast Plumbing	10
Bruce Lesser	19
California Custom Carpets	15
C2 Financial - Stephen Carlin	9
David Gallindo	11
Dayna Wilson	14
Diamond Terrace	12
Green's Lawn Care	16
Marc Graves	13, 17, 20
Master Electric	7
Minuteman Press	20
Paul's Handyman Services	7
Pronto Cleaning Solutions	10
T Callanta Construction	8
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- Want Ads - line ad with 30 words or less:
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Please submit all ads and  
payments for the next issue by  
**December 15, 2012**

### Submission Guidelines

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- 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](mailto:Woodlandsassn@yahoo.com). We accept PDF and Microsoft Word documents.
- If you only have a paper copy of your ad, please mail it and the payment to:  
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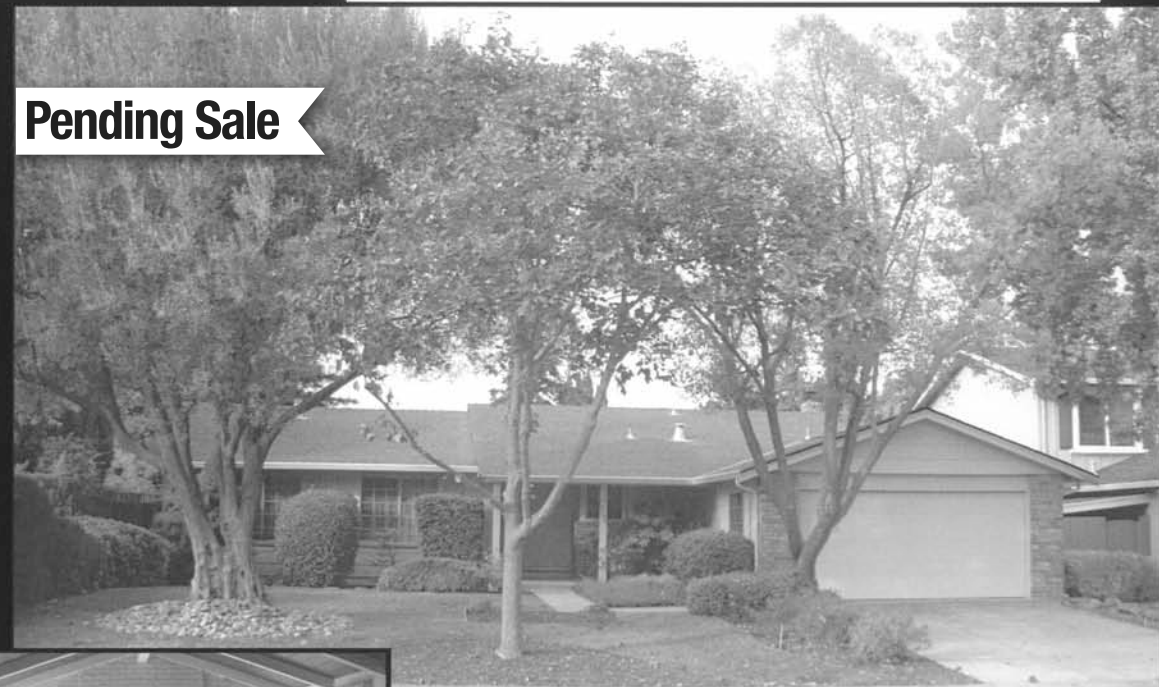





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*I am Thankful for the Gift of Living, Working and Playing in a Community that I treasure so much!*

*All the Best, Dayna*

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**Dayna Wilson - Real Estate Consultant**

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### TERMITE WORK

- All necessary work to obtain a clearance

### ELECTRICAL

- Bathroom and Kitchen Fans
  - Wiring
- Fixture Replacement

### PLUMBING

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

### PAINTING

- Exterior – Interior
- Spot Painting After Repairs
- Wall & Ceiling Texturing

### GUTTER WORK

- Clean out Gutters – Installation of gutter screens

### CARPENTRY & DRYWALL

- Installation of Doors, Locks
- Repair Stucco – Drywall
  - Brickwork
  - Odds and Ends

### TILE WORK

- New Tile Installation
- Seal and Grout Existing Tile

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