

# The Woodlands

Keeping You Informed For Over 40 Years

February 2007

## Parents Still Make The Difference

All of us likely know and agree with this title and there is significant research to fully back it up. The Northgate High School PFC publication, *Parent Weekly Messenger*, has been promoting another online newsletter called *Being a Parent*. This publication is presented by the Parent Institute at [www.parent-institute.com](http://www.parent-institute.com). You can sign up for the newsletter at no charge on their website.

The Northgate PFC *Parent Weekly Messenger* also encourages parents to participate in the district annual conference. The Mt Diablo Unified School District is sponsoring the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Parenting Conference and Work-

shop on Saturday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Concord High School, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. This conference is provides a rich selection of main tent and breakout sessions. The fee for the entire day is only \$20.00 per person. They even provide childcare for ages 2 to 12. It gives you a chance to spend quality time with other parents,

guardians and teachers from our school district all while hearing about current trends and research in parenting and learning. Check the details at [www.mdusd.k12.ca.us](http://www.mdusd.k12.ca.us) and click on *Parents Day Out*.

By J Tilley



## WANTED Newsletter Editor

**The Woodlands Newslter is in search of an Editor**

**Requirements:** a desire to be involved in the Woodlands neighborhood and a willingness to learn! The Editor will spend approximately 3-5 hours each month (from the comfort of your own home) placing articles and advertisements in the newsletter using Microsoft Publisher.

**You will receive training and a monthly \$ stipend. Note: You do not need a background in publications, just the desire to do the job!**

**To ask questions or obtain more information please contact Shawn 465-4464 or [shawn@rizzos.net](mailto:shawn@rizzos.net)**



## Reward: Priceless

*The rewards of serving on the Woodlands Board are priceless, but the monthly stipend is a bonus!*



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Woodlands Association  
P.O. Box 31085  
Walnut Creek, CA 94598

# Woodlands Pet Owners

## Take Advantage of... Pet First Aid & CPR Classes

**WHO:** Open to Contra Costa County Residents

**WHAT:**

- Administer Medications
- Recognize an Emergency
- Perform CPR and First Aid
- Treat common problems and emergencies requiring immediate attention
- Stock a Pet First Aid Kit

**COST:** \$52.00

**WHEN:**

- Wednesday Jan 24th / 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.
- Wednesday Feb 28th / 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.
- Wednesday Mar 21st / 6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Contra Costa County Animal Services  
4800 Imhoff Place, Martinez, CA 94553  
CALL FOR RESERVATIONS  
925-335-8340

**WHY:** Learn how to keep your pet(s) safe and act with confidence during an emergency. Emphasis of information is on dogs & cats. Subjects covered include proper emergency procedures, emergencies and problems requiring immediate attention, and how to keep your pet(s) healthy until you can take them to a Vet.  
All students receive "The Pet First Aid Book" and a "has completed" certificate.

## Woodlands Association Board of Directors

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

## Upcoming Board Meetings

February 3, 2007  
March 3, 2007

8:15am in Carl's Jr.  
Conference Room

Woodlands residents  
are encouraged to  
attend board meetings

## Vehicle Storage in the Woodlands

The Woodlands is a desirable neighborhood for many reasons; excellent schools, friendly neighbors and a great community spirit to name just a few. With its wide streets and large parcels, the Woodlands is even more desirable for families looking to buy a home with enough space to store a boat, camper or other type of recreational vehicle. Many people in the Woodlands take advantage of having large lots and store RVs, boats, and all other types of craft on their property. But did you know that the county board of supervisors have established county rules for the storage of your vehicle on residential properties? As a boat owner I was surprised to discover regulations for the storage of my boat. In July of 2005 the county supervisors passed an ordinance requiring that residents with trailers or boats stored on their property keep them at least 90% hidden from public view, regardless of the size of the vehicle. Each incorporated municipality in the county is adopting new regulations similar to this over time. I had needed to rebuild my gate anyway, so I went ahead and built an extra tall gate to keep my boat out of view. My neighbor told me it looked like the large wooden gates in the movie King



Kong! A good way to accomplish hiding a vehicle without rebuilding your fence or gate is to add a decorative lattice to the top. As it turns out, you still need an exception for lattice or fencing over six feet high from the City of Walnut Creek.

We on the board also regularly field complaints from concerned residents about boats, RVs and other large vehicles being stored on the street for extended periods of time. The city of Walnut Creek allows for parking of RVs, boats or other vehicles up to 24 hours. Again, as a boat owner I know that there are times when storing a vehicle on the street or in the driveway for a short time is unavoidable. But as a good neighbor, and to help ensure the safety and beauty of our neighborhood, we should try to keep these times as short and as infrequent as possible. And according to the city, if we do need to store a large vehicle on the street for a short time, we should try to park in a manner that does not block lines of site around bends in the roadway, at corners, and especially near schools such as Valle Verde.

*By J Gregory*

## Car Camera Mount May Help Deter Road Rage

(NewsUSA) - Whether you've been cut off in traffic or chastised by an insolent horn honk, almost everyone has felt the tension and frustration of road rage. Sixty-two percent of Americans cited incidents of road rage in 2005, according to a study by Synovate Motoresearch.

In focus groups organized by the Media and Injury Prevention Program at the University of Southern California, two-thirds of drivers said they react to frustrating situations aggressively.

Almost half admitted to deliberately braking suddenly, pulling close to another car or taking some other potentially dangerous measure.

Some drivers showed great creativity in devising hostile responses. One Los Angeles driver said he keeps the windshield-wiper fluid tank full. If someone tailgates, he turns on the wipers, sending fluid over his roof onto the car behind him.

"It works better than hitting the brakes," he said, "and you can act totally innocent."

Creative hostility aside, road rage can still lead to danger on the roadways. In 1996, a dispute over a lane change on Virginia's George Washington Parkway ended in tragedy when two speed-



dueling motorists lost control of their vehicles and crossed the center line, killing two innocent drivers.

But one piece of equipment has potential to help deter road rage. The CruiseCam InCar Camera Mount, created by CruiseCam International, can be used with any camcorder to record activities going on inside the car or on the road.

The mount attaches to the seat's headrests, allowing for hands-free recording. It weighs 1.5 pounds, works with all camcorders and can be installed in minutes without tools.

A camera in a car can be beneficial because it holds drivers accountable and thus improves driver performance, according to Scott Watkins, president and chief executive officer of CruiseCam International Inc.

In the event of an accident, the camera can help establish proof of fault, as well as potentially minimize insurance costs and claims.

The CruiseCam camera mount was originally designed to replace dashboard- or window-mounted systems for law enforcement personnel and race car drivers and was built into the seat to increase safety and provide a better viewing vantage point.

For more information, visit [www.cruisecam.com](http://www.cruisecam.com). CruiseCam International is a publicly traded company under symbol CCMJ on the Pink Sheets.

# Woodlands Crime Report...

Did you know that two cities in the bay area are among the top 10 cities in vehicle thefts nationwide? These outlaws make it a bit dangerous for Woodlands drivers. Last year one of our neighbors was getting ready to go to church, went in the house with the car running to get something. He came out a minute or two later and his car was gone.

The National Insurance Bureau suggests a couple of *layers* of protection... first layer, lock up and never leave the key with the car. Second, use a visible warning device such as a steering wheel lock or audible alarm with a window decal. Third, install an electronic immobilizing device such as a "kill switch" or "ignition disabler". Fourth, install a tracking device that sends a global positioning signal to police or monitoring station and they can find the car if you report it stolen.

*(Thanks again Elisa Tilley, Northgate Sophomore & Woodlands Resident for compiling this report from the WCPD website)*

**12/28/06** 04:25:06 YGNACIO VALLEY RD / OAK GROVE RD EO OAK GROVE.. EB DIRECTION. APPEARED TO BE SOLO VEHICLE. DODGE NEON, ON CENTER DIVIDE. RP NOT AWARE OF INJURY STATUS. ARRESTED: ALVAREZ, ASHERDEE 06291977 FOR DUI...ARRESTED: DOB 06291977 FOR DUI. Driving Under the Influence

**12/29/06** 11:04:21 3000 BL CITRUS CR CFD OUT W/ VEH EMPTYING FUEL/PUNCTURE FRM ACCIDENT...GRY NISSAN ALTIMA-REQ PD AND PUBLIC WORKS RESPONSE DUE TO EMPTYING INTO CITY DRAIN....ROADWAY CLEARED OF OBSTRUCTIONS. CFD AND PUBLIC WORKS CLEANED UP THE FLUID. Miscellaneous Traffic

**12/30/06** 11:33:33 600 BL ROCK OAK RD REPORTS VEH VAND GRY OLDSMOBILE ROYALE. SUSPECTS SLASHED TIRES BUT NO MARKS SEEN COMPLETELY FLAT. OCC: POSS YESTERDAY ETA. 15MIN. POSS SUSP NEIGHBORS, NOTHING SEEN.... TWO TIRES FLATTENED TO VEHICLE PARKED ON THE STREET. Vandalism

**12/30/06** 14:10:28 3600 BL CITRUS AV REPORTS HIS BROTHER IS BREAKING DOWN THE DOOR... DETERMINED NO DAMAGE TO THE DOOR, BROTHER FRUSTRATED THAT BROS. NOT OPENING DOOR. ALL PARTIES CONT., DISP.MEDIATED Civil Matter

**12/30/06** 17:09:14 2200 BL OAK GROVE RD REQUESTING CASE...HANDLED BY DET SLATER. Fraud

**12/30/06** 22:49:37 TREAT BL / OAK GROVE RD PER CPD RECKLESS RED CHEV BLAZER (Redacted 03) W/ SUBJS ON THE ROOF WB TREAT APPROACHING OAK GROVE...UTL Reckless Driving

**12/31/06** 09:13:53 3000 BL CITRUS CR RPTS ALARM (Redacted 01).

01/01/07 17:42:15 500 BL BANYAN CR REPORTS EX ROOMMATE REFUSING TO GET OUT OF CAR. WHI DODGE MINIVAN.(Redacted 01)...BOTH PARTIES AGREED TO GO BACK TO VACAVILLE. Service to

Citizen

**01/04/07** 09:17:54 CITRUS AV / CITRUS CR PER CFD. WEST INTERSECTON 11-82. NFI...INFO ALREADY EXCHANGED. Miscellaneous Traffic

**01/05/07** 13:11:40 OAK GROVE RD / YGNACIO VALLEY RD REPORTS RECKLESS DRIVER SEEN 5 AGO-BLK VEH LIC/(Redacted 03)OCCUPIED BY 2 WMJ'S WHO APPEARED TO BE SMOKING H&S AND DRINKING....GONE ON ARRIVAL. Miscellaneous Traffic

**01/06/07** 13:43:27 600 BL ROCK OAK RD REPORTS 415 REGARDING A VEHICLE BEING PARKED IFO HIS HOUSE. THE OWNER OF THE VEHICLE ACCUSED THE RP OF SLASHING HIS TIRES AND FEELS HE WAS THREATENED BUT CANNOT ADVISE HOW HE WAS THREATENED. RQTS IN PERSON CNT...DISAGREEMENT BETWEEN NEIGHBORS OVER ON STREET Civil Matter

**01/07/07** 04:42:32 500 BL BANYAN CR REPORTS LOUD PARTY. \*RP ANONYMOUS\*...CONTACTED BRANDON,QUEENAN (Redacted 01). ADVISED TO SHUT PARTY DOWN. Noise Complaint

**01/08/07** 07:45:52 YGNACIO VALLEY RD / OAK GROVE RD REPORTS A POSS DRUNK DRIVER. WB, IN AND OUT OF TRAFFIC GRAY HONDA LIC/5VNS659...EXTENSIVE AREA CHECK, GONE ON ARRIVAL/UTL Miscellaneous Traffic

**01/08/07** 12:34:47 3000 BL CITRUS CR AT KELLER WILLIAMS REALTY. RPTS THEFT OF NEXTELL PHONE AND CHARGER. OCCD APPROX A MONTH AGO...RP WASN'T AWARE-THEY JUST RECEIVED THEIR BILLING STATEMENT...OCCURRED BETWEEN 12-08-06 AND 12-16-06 Theft

**01/09/07** 13:49:03 2200 BL OAK GROVE RD REPORTS CIVIL ISSUE WITH LOCKSMITH...RESOLVED WHILE STILL ON 21 W/RP - SHE'LL CALL BACK IF HE WON'T PAY HER Civil Matter

# ...Keeping You Informed

**01/09/07** 14:11:35 YGNACIO VALLEY RD / OAK GROVE RD WB YGN E OF OGR NR THE BIKE PATH. REPORTS 2 INCH FIRE HOSE IN THE ROAD IN SLOW LANE...CORP YARD ADVISED Miscellaneous Traffic

**01/10/07** 12:33:04 2200 BL OAK GROVE RD B OF A REPORTS FRAUD IN PROGRESS ARRESTED: FOSTER, LENA 07261976 TO MDF... Forgery

**01/10/07** 13:56:42 2200 BL OAK GROVE RD REPORTS NON INJURY IN THE B OF A LOT....INFO EXCHANGED Miscellaneous Traffic

**1/12/07** 15:00:46 3600 BL PERADA DR REPORTS ONGOING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AT HANDS OF BOY-FRIEND (Redacted 01), REFERRED BY CONCORD POLICE. \*\*COUNTER\*\*...RP CONT, DV INCID.OCC.IN CONCORD. CPD TOOK DV CASE. RP FILED DVRO W/WCPD.DETERM/CONF.NO CRIME/VIOL.OF DVRO IN WC.ADV.GVN Service to Citizen

**01/12/07** 22:45:34 OAK GROVE RD / TREAT BL TRAFIC STOP LIC/5MAT598 BEHIND OIL CHANGERS S/E SIDE OF INTERSECTION. ARRESTED: LACK-

LAND, LEROY 01/07/89 FOR DUI...LEROY LACKLAND JR. 01/07/89, WAS ARRESTED FOR DUI. Driving Under the Influence

**01/13/07** 13:09:32 2200 BL OAK GROVE RD RPTS UNSATISFIED CUSTOMER IS CALLING AND HARASSING RP DUE TO BURRITO NOT BEING MADE TO HIS SATISFACTION. UNK HMA(Redacted 01)... DETERMINED CIVIL MATTER, NO HARRASMENT. RP WORKED MATTER OUT ON HIS OWN. NO ACTION NEEDED. Civil Matter

**01/13/07** 16:30:18 2200 BL OAK GROVE RD REPORTS 10851 OF DK BLU SATURN 4D LIC (Redacted 03). (Redacted 01)...RO REPORTS THEFT OF '92, DARK BLUE, SATURN 4 DOOR COUPE (3BIB176), BETWEEN 1330 AND 1530 HOURS THIS DATE. Auto Theft

**01/14/07** 08:26:44 3000 BL CITRUS CR REPORTS POSS WATER MAIN BREAK AT BUSINESS COMPLEX... DETERMINED TO BE FAULTY SPRINKLERS. MESSAGE LEFT ON PROPERTY MGMNT COMPANIES PHONE. Service to Citizen

## Bumping: A Trend in Home Burglary

(NewsUSA) - If your home is protected with an ordinary lock, it may not do you much good, says the National Crime Prevention Council.

Thieves have caught on to an increasingly popular technique called "bumping." It is easier than traditional lock picking, which requires manipulating the pins inside the lock with small tools.

All that is needed for bumping is a "bump key" that is specially manipulated to pick the lock without other tools.

The National Crime Prevention Council wants homeowners to be aware of the prevalence of bumping, especially because there are many "how-to" videos online demonstrating how easy bumping is.

This is a huge problem because usually there are no signs of a break-in when bumping is done. This means insurance companies may not cover it because "you probably left your door open."

Installing high-quality locks is a good defense against home burglaries, according to the National Crime Prevention Council.

"Not all locks can be bumped; consumers just need to know the differences," says Clyde Roberson, director of technical services at Medeco Security Locks. "Consumers should consider using quality high-security locks for their home or business in order to have adequate protection from bumping and other forms of lock attack."

The National Crime Prevention Council also recommends consulting a professional locksmith or security provider for advice on which locks protect against this and other forms of lock bypass.

For more information about how to secure your home or business or to request a copy of "Locking Your Home, What To Know Before Buying Locks For Your Home" and "A Safe Workplace is Everybody's Business," visit the National Crime Prevention Council Web site at [www.npc.org](http://www.npc.org). Additional information on lock bumping can be found on

Medeco Security Locks' Web site at [www.medeco.com](http://www.medeco.com).



# Covert Cams Bring Peace of Mind at Home

(NU) - According to the Vanished Children's Alliance, a child is missing or abducted every 40 seconds.

A car is stolen every 24 seconds in the United States, according to the Insurance Information Institute.

What can you do to prevent these crimes from happening to you and your family? Video surveillance is one option you may not have considered.

Video surveillance usually brings to mind retail stores and malls. But many people are finding video surveillance useful in their homes and their personal lives.

Today, people use cameras to watch their front doors, back doors, yard, children's room or car. Why? Many video cameras have saved children from household help, such as cleaning people and baby sitters, who exhibited irrational or harmful behavior. Cameras can also indicate if someone enters a home or room without invitation.

And, nothing can prove who stole a vehicle better than video evidence.

You can record environments with equipment designed in such a way that only the person using it is able to tell that it's a camera. CCS International (OTC BB: SITG) makes sophisticated video surveillance systems for home and personal use that monitor, record and broadcast real-life conditions to ensure peace of mind.

Here are a few examples:

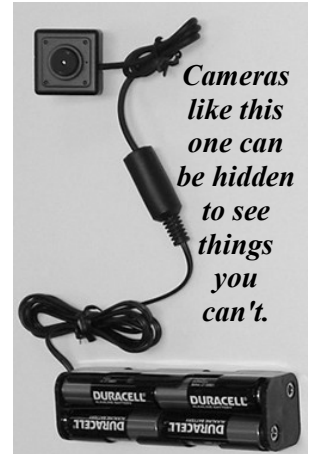
**\* Hand Held Clock Video Cam:** Housed in a palm-size clock, this device views live events through its hidden pinhole camera. It will transmit video imagery for up to 24 hours or use a DVR for long-term recording. A camera system concealed within a functioning alarm clock radio is also available.

**\* Briefcase Camera Portable Recording System:** It looks like an ordinary briefcase, but its pinhole lens pro-

vides high-resolution recordings with clear quality.

**\* Body Worn Spy Cam:** This video surveillance camera can be worn or alternatively placed in a concealed area. It is connected to a microtransmitter that sends a video signal to a video receiver. This included receiver can be connected to a VCR, DVR or video monitor.

Other available CCS systems are housed in a gym bag, a pair of sunglasses and even a man's tie. For more information, log on to [www.spyzone.com](http://www.spyzone.com).



*Cameras like this one can be hidden to see things you can't.*

## Trends in Home Décor: What's Hot in 2007

(NewsUSA) - Who ever thought that avocado green would be the "hot" hue of the 1960s, shag would carpet homes in the 1970s, or mauve and gray would be the hallmarks of home décor in the 1980s? What determines such trends, and what's popular for the home in 2007?

During Moen Inc.'s annual Inspire design seminar, color expert Leatrice Eiseman explained that trends in colors, finishes and home design stem from three areas: fashion, film and social trends.

When it comes to color, what's in your wardrobe this season will be on your walls next. Additionally, the jewelry industry dictates the popularity of metal finishes throughout the home - from faucets to lighting fixtures.

According to Eiseman, Renaissance colors and styles, such as deep reds and ornate designs, are increasingly

found in homes due to the popularity of movies such as "The Da Vinci Code" and "Marie Antoinette." Additionally, pure white has become a popular statement thanks to films like "The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe" and "The White Countess."

Trends also emerge as colors are used as symbols of organizations or causes.

For 2007, one color palette to note is what Eiseman refers to as "Classic Chic." Timeless, neutral colors will evolve from light cream and beige tones into deeper grays and cappuccino browns.

Also look for new takes on silver and gold tone finishes. For instance, Moen recently launched its new Pewter finish, which offers a soft, aged look with a gently distressed, dark gray metallic hue and rich light accents. And, as

gold gains momentum, finishes such as Moen's muted gold Brushed Bronze offer a stylish option.

Taking a cue from the Renaissance periods in film, look for eclectic blends of elaborate styles and textures with elegant purples, silvery blues and deep bronzed tones.

"With the popularity of Renaissance décor in the home, we've updated designs of our faucets to include this mix of old and new," said Judy Riley, Moen's vice president of design.

Finally, as social causes gain momentum, look for their associated colors to follow suit. Pink continues to gain popularity due to the strength of breast cancer awareness campaigns. And the green trend shows no signs of slowing down, making environmentally friendly appliances, earth tones and nature-inspired designs popular choices for homes.

# Want Ads

## Services

**PAINTER:** Experienced professional journey men. Don't be fooled by these low bids & inexperienced painters that are everywhere now. You will only end up unhappy. Have it done right the first time and be done with it. The old saying you get what you pay for is real. Lic. 740315 call 935-7593

**HANDYMAN:** Quality work. Electrical, Plumbing, Carpentry, Linoleum, Tile, Windows, Doors. Woodlands References. Paul 676-6607

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## Advertise With Us!

To Advertise in the *Woodlands Newsletter*,

Contact **Marc Graves 925-336-6272** or **madmacsdad@aol.com**

MARC

### Advertising Rates & Sizes

Please note: the actual sizes below allow for binding/bleed space. Size = height x width in inches

**Full Page – 10 x 7.5 - \$80/month**

**½ Page – 5 x 7.5 - \$45/month**

**¼ Page – 5 x 3.5 - \$25/month**

**¼ Page on back cover - \$45/month**

**1/8 Page – 2.5 x 3.5 - \$15/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  
**FEBRUARY 15, 2007**

### 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 [madmacsdad@aol.com](mailto:madmacsdad@aol.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: Woodlands Association, PO Box 31085, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
- Payment is due when you submit your ad. Please make checks payable to “Woodlands Association” and mail to: PO Box 31085, Walnut Creek, CA 94598