

The Woodlands



Keeping You Informed For Over 40 Years

November 2013

Community Service Day – What a Success!

By Adrienne Robillard

Community Service Day was a great success on Saturday, September 28th. With projects ranging from landscaping ‘beautification’ at area schools, including Valle Verde Elementary, Foothill Middle School, and Northgate High School, there were projects at area libraries and other facilities. For example, take a look at the lovely stone wall and landscaping outside the Ygnacio Valley Library entrance.

Participants were treated to a pancake breakfast at Heather Farm, followed by volunteering their time and supporting our community from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. The four hours of time donated by each participant really makes a remarkable difference in maintaining valuable services in Walnut Creek. Please join in this productive, social and important endeavor when Community Service Day 2014 comes around next fall.

Meet Our New Vice President

By the Woodlands Board

The recent appointment of Adrienne Robillard as President left an opening on the Woodland Association’s Board. Having been unanimously approved by the board to serve out the remainder of Adrienne’s term as Vice President, Bill Gilmyers will step into the VP role as of the November board meeting.

Bill and his family have been residents of the Woodlands for almost two years. He and his wife, Jody Gilmyers, have a beautiful daughter Gillian (2 years old) and a rambunctious lab mix Casey. Bill grew up in Southern New Hampshire about an hour north of Boston, and spent about 10 years

in Southern California before moving to Walnut Creek in 2012. He received his bachelor’s degree from Pomona College and an MBA from USC. Bill is the Director of Workforce Planning for Kaiser Permanente and works in Oakland.

After having moved around a lot Bill and Jody really feel like they’ve “come home” to The Woodlands. “We’ve made a lot of great friends in a short period of time, and just love the quality of life here”, says Bill. Bill is really thrilled to contribute to such a wonderful neighborhood. Please reach out to Bill if you have any comments or concerns at: woodlandsassn@yahoo.com.



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Woodlandsassn@yahoo.com

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

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

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 (925) 256-6444

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:

Walnut Creek Code Enforcement, 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.
http://www.walnut-creek.org/citygov/depts/cd/nuisance_abatement_n_code_enforcement.asp

Walnut Creek Police Department, 925-943-5844
<http://www.walnut-creek.org/citygov/depts/police/default.asp>
Oversized Vehicle Reporting, Sandy Mulligan: Parking Lead Services Officer, 925-943-5874

Contra Costa Mosquito and Vector Control District (Pests and Insect Issues), 925-771-6196
http://www.contracostamosquito.com/programs_services_index.htm

Contra Costa Water District, 925-688-8000
 Water conservation, information, gardening resources, moneysaving tips.
<http://www.ccwater.com>

Allied Waste Services of Contra Costa County, 925-603-1144
<http://www.pleasanthillbayshoredisposal.com>
Valley Waste Management (recycling and yard waste service): 925-935-8900

Canal Maintenance, 925-313-2235
 The canal is part of the Contra Costa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Maintained by the Public Works Department

Graffiti Reporting: City of Walnut Creek, 925-943-5854

DID YOU KNOW

Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano

The Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano has been serving the community for over 35 years. The Food Bank serves approximately 149,000 hungry people in need every month directly at community sites and through a network of 180 charitable agencies, and distributed nearly 16 million pounds last year! The Food Bank works to reduce food waste, feed hungry people, and raise public awareness of issues related to food and hunger. The work could not get done without the help of the hundreds of volunteers that donate their time to coordinate food drives, sort and pack the food, and help distribute it to their hungry neighbors. To learn more about the Food Bank and the work they do or to find out how you can help, please browse their website, call them at 855-309-FOOD (3663). - See more at: <http://www.foodbankccs.org/>

Woodlands Association Board of Directors

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

Adrienne Robillard ~ *President*
 William Gilmyers ~ *Vice President*
 Jan Gall ~ *Treasurer*
 Open ~ *Secretary*

Marc Graves ~ *Newsletter Advertising*
 Deanna Constable ~ *Newsletter Coordinator*
 James Goudy ~ *Webmaster*

Kay Ready ~ *Newsletter Distribution Manager*

Upcoming Board Meetings

8 - 9 a.m.
Sunday, November 3rd
Sunday, December 8th

in the Conference Room at the Ygnacio Valley Library (back door)

Woodlands residents are encouraged to attend board meetings.

Open Woodlands Board Position: Secretary

By Adrienne Robillard

Are you looking for an opportunity to become more involved in our community? Do you have ideas about how the Woodlands Board can grow and serve the neighborhood? The Woodlands Board of Directors is comprised of four elected and several appointed positions. With recent movement in the Board, the Secretary position is now open.

The Secretary maintains the corporate records, writes the meeting minutes, posts minutes online, and manages other projects as necessary, with a 2 to 3 hour/month commitment. In addition to these responsibilities, the Secretary brings new ideas to the board and has the opportunity to spearhead projects of interest. The position requires regular attendance at monthly Saturday morning board meetings.

All residents of the Woodlands over the age 18 are eligible to serve on the Board. Interested candidates are invited to submit brief statements of interest (up to 200 words) to the Woodlands Board for consideration. All submissions and any questions should be sent to

the Woodlands Board at woodlandsassn@yahoo or P.O. Box 31085, Walnut Creek, CA 94598. We look forward to meeting you.

New Police Chief for Walnut Creek

By Bill Gilmyers

Walnut Creek has a new Chief of Police, Tom Chaplin. Chief Chaplin, a 23 year law enforcement veteran, joined the Walnut Creek Police Department on July 8. He stresses a collaborative approach to his role, recognizing the importance of working closely with the City Council and the community at large. In addition, he places an emphasis on strategically addressing crime and quality of life issues in Walnut Creek and plans to develop a Crime Reduction Model to do so. This model leverages technology to incorporate the use of real-time crime statistics to identify patterns and trends.

Chief Chaplin served as a lieutenant and commander in the Citrus Heights Police department before joining the Walnut Creek force, and also spent 11 years with the Sacramento Police Department.

A Big Food Drive "Thank You"

By Sandy Denize and Patty McDowell

A big "Thank You" to the Woodlands residents who participated in the food drive on September 28th! The food drive was part of the Walnut Creek Community Service Day. Together, we collected an amazing 1093lbs of food for those in need! According to the Food Bank of Contra Costa, this equates to 874 meals. At a time when 1-in-4 people are struggling with hunger, it helps to have the support of wonderful people like those in the Woodlands. Thanks again!



SCHOOL NEWS

Foothill Middle School

San Francisco Science Excursion, Tuesday, November 26, 2013

Monroe Science Education Services is offering a science excursion to San Francisco for all grade levels. Students will spend the morning at the California Academy of Sciences exploring the exhibits and watching an I-Max movie about the Solar System. The afternoon has students visiting the newly-relocated Exploratorium. Payment can be made anytime through early November, but registration forms need to be turned in in order to reserve your child's seat. The trip needs 15 parent chaperones. Registration for parents is located below the student registration. Parent chaperones are free.

For more information or to register, please visit www.MonroeScienceEd.com. Questions? Please email Mr. Monroe at Randy@MonroeScienceEd.com. This program is not affiliated with Foothill Middle School or Mount Diablo Unified School District.

Parent Patrol - Please Volunteer

Parent Patrol is one of the best opportunities you will have to volunteer at Foothill Middle School and really see "what's up". Parent Patrol plays an important role in helping maintain safety during lunch. We ask that each family volunteer a minimum of two days per year. We prefer to have two volunteers per day. The Parent Patrol lunch supervision time is from 11:05am - 12:40pm (M,T,F), 11:25am - 12:50pm (Wed) & 11:30am - 12:50pm (Thurs).

Please go online to the Parent Patrol calendar on the PFA website to see what dates are available, or contact our Parent Patrol Coordinators: Denise Bird dbirds5@att.net or Marianne Howiempghowie howiempghowie@yahoo.com.

6th Grade Parent Alert

There have been four incidents of head lice in three different 6th grade classrooms. Please watch for symptoms which may occur up to 10 days after exposure. Head lice do not carry disease nor does their presence indicate that your child is dirty. If exposed, anyone can become infested. If your child should become infected please contact the school office immediately. For more information please go to <http://cchealth.org/lice/>.

Northgate High

PFC Board 2013-14:

The Northgate Parent Faculty Club (PFC) is looking to fill a few more Board Positions for the upcoming school year. Please consider yourself. Volunteering is a great way to get to know the school and to give back to the community. If you are interested in any of the open positions or need more information about them, please email Kristin Mortl, Nominating Chairperson at atmortl@astound.net

The following positions are still open:

Spring for Education Support

Northgate Youth Educator Program:

Northgate Youth Educator Program Sign Ups are open for Juniors and Seniors!

This program offers a great way for students to get community service hours, practice presentation skills and give back to their own community by visiting the 8th grade classrooms at Foothill delivering healthy choice lifestyle options for teens. All this while making new friends and having FUN! The Northgate Youth Educator Program is getting underway for the 2013-2014 year-- if you are an interested Junior or Senior, please be sure to get an application at the office and sign up for an interview.

If you have any questions please contact one of our facilitators: Linda Law (943-7607 volunteer. linda@yahoo.com), Audrey Slaughter (207-5884 audreyslaughter@att.net) or Aileen Walton (200-5374 abwalton@sbcglobal.net)



Neighborhood Pride – Revive or Rethink Your Front Lawn

By Adrienne Robillard

This summer was a hot one, and the heat took a toll on some lawns, including my own. If you find yourself with a troubled lawn, here are some tips from Roy Berendsohn and David Agrell at Popular Mechanics on how to revive your lawn:

“Late summer and early fall are the ideal times to rejuvenate a patchy or threadbare lawn. Soil temperatures are high, which leads to quick germination of grass seeds, especially tall fescue. The new grass then gets a jump on weeds the following spring, crowding them out before they have a chance to gain a foothold.

First, determine how severe the damage is. It's worth noting that a brown lawn isn't always a dead lawn. Some turfgrasses, such as Kentucky bluegrass, go dormant during a drought. If that's the case, and its root structure is sound, it will green up following a few spring showers. But until then, look among the brown, straw-like grass for any surviving green shoots that signal there's life in your old lawn yet. The most effective way to reseed is to use a slit seeder. These resemble push mowers and feature circular blades that slice the soil before depositing seed directly into it. Work over the lawn in two passes, making the second application diagonally at 45 degrees over the first.

If half or more of the lawn looks decent, chances are good you can whip it back into shape—but get

an early start. Use a rake to remove dead grass and roughen the soil, then apply new seed with a drop or rotary spreader. Be sure to press the seed into the dirt with either a lawn roller or gentle, evenly spaced footsteps. Also, try to keep the area moist, and fertilize it with a high-phosphorus seed-starting fertilizer.

Remember to fertilize responsibly. Sweep or blow excess fertilizer from paved surfaces back onto the lawn and thoroughly water it immediately after applying—but don't overwater and create runoff. Watering the fertilizer into the ground starts the feeding process, and it prevents loose fertilizer from washing into lakes and streams, where it promotes algal blooms that suffocate fish and other species.”

If your lawn is beyond rescue or you are looking for a lower-maintenance option to save time and money, CCWD's 'Lose a Lawn, Grow a Garden,' program offers homeowners information on how to remove your lawn and grow a low-water garden, with up to a \$500 rebate: <http://www.ccwater.com/conserves/Lawn.asp> or contact Bob Eagle, Water Conservation Landscape Specialist, at 925-688-8321.



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To Advertise in the Woodlands Newsletter,
Contact Marc Graves at Woodlandsassn@yahoo.com
or 925-336-6272

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 - \$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

NEW Advertising Deadline

Please submit all ads and
payments for the next issue by

November 10, 2013

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 and Microsoft 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

WOODLANDS POLICE CALLS

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.

Police Calls from 9/14/13 to 10/10/13

9/15/13 14:33:10 2200 Bl Oak Grove Rd Reports female subj inside harassing employees. Long hair in pig tails yelling at them about how she's supposed to be working there. RP no longer on scene. DISPO: contacted employees and determined no crime occurred. Service to Citizen.

9/17/13 3000 Bl Citrus Cr RP in lobby reporting forged business check - American education and travel services is business name. RP is owner. Dispo: victim mailed a business check to a merchant in Florida. The check was then forged and cashed in Florida. Assist Agency.

9/18/13 10:02:49 Rock Oak Rd/Perada Dr 11-82 rd Intl truck/Treys1 verses Ranger's whi City of Walnut Creek 250 vehicle. Dispo: as reported. Non Injury Accident.

9/19/13 02:56:06 3200 Bl Peachwillow Ln Suspicious male was sitting in a newer bge or sil veh parked across the street from RP. Male subj wearing all blk with hoody on, with something in his hand possibly a flashlight. Walking on Peachwillow towards Valle Verde School. Dispo: Unable to locate. Service to Citizen.

09/21/13 09:17:07 Peachwillow Ln/Banyan Cr Reports loose dog - whi shep mix with pink collar. States friendly but she can not catch it. Dispo: Animal control advised. Animal Complaint.

09/21/13 18:42:49 3300 Bl Nutmeg Ln. Reports hearing 2 popping noises, unk if they were fireworks, backfire or gunshots. Dispo: UTL / GOA. Susp. Circumstance

09/21/13 18:54:12 Rock Oak Ct/Perada Dr. Dispo: contacted for soliciting door to door. Contacted the organizer advised him to obtain permits. N/A

09/23/13 18:13:14 Oak Grove Rd/Peachwillow Ln Welfare check on elderly male laying in the middle of the street. Per RP veh stopped near subj. Unk if veh is blocking traffic or if 11-81. Dispo: Subject returned home and is ok. No further assistance needed. Spoke with family members. Service to Citizen.

09/27/13 03:09:58 3300 BL Citrus Av. Heard what sounded like a single shot 1min ago about a block away. DISPO: UTL. Noise Complaint.

09/30/13 01:18:09 Bayberry Dr / Perada Dr. DISPO: Driver cited for possession of marijuana. Narcotics.

10/03/13 09:49:24 Citrus Av/Oak Grove Rd. Male subj whi button up shirt and slacks on the ground not moving. Dispo: Determined subj is actually out at Treat and Citrus and it's being handled by CPD and CFD. Welfare Check.



Another Successful Woodlands Garage Sale!

By Adrienne Robillard

The Annual Woodlands Garage Sale was held October 7th with more than 75 homes participating. Shopping began before 9 a.m. and continued through noon. As usual, local realtors David Galindo and Jan Williams from J. Rockcliff Realtors organized the sale and printed hundreds of maps for customers. Without their help we couldn't have held such a successful garage sale annual event. We appreciate all their efforts on this annual tradition. Be sure to express your thanks when you see them!



Holiday Recipe: Turkey and Cranberry Ravioli

Prep Time: 45 min | Cook Time: 10 min | Makes: 2 servings | Difficulty: Intermediate

Ingredients:

Ravioli:

- 1/4 pound ground turkey, preferably dark meat
- 2 tablespoons cranberry sauce
- 2 tablespoons grated Romano
- 1 tablespoon bread crumbs
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley leaves
- 1 egg
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 20 store-bought wonton wrappers

Gravy:

- 3 tablespoons butter
- 1 shallot, chopped
- 1 tablespoon all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup chicken broth
- 2 tablespoons heavy cream
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley leaves
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Directions:

To make the ravioli: in a medium bowl, stir together the turkey, cranberry sauce, cheese, bread crumbs, parsley, egg, salt, and pepper. Place 10 wonton wrappers on a work surface. Brush lightly with water using a pastry brush. Place 1 tablespoon of the turkey mixture on each of the wonton wrappers. Top with another wonton wrapper. Push out any air bubbles and press the edges tightly to seal.

To make the gravy: in a medium, heavy skillet, heat the butter over medium heat. Add the shallots and cook until tender, about 5 minutes. Add the flour and stir until cooked, about 1 minute. Slowly add the chicken broth, stirring quickly to avoid lumps. Add the cream, parley, salt, and pepper and cook, without boiling, for 2 minutes, stirring often. Meanwhile, bring a large pot of salted water to a boil over high heat. Add the

ravioli and cook until tender but still firm to the bite and the turkey is cooked, stirring occasionally, about 3 minutes. Drain the ravioli into the gravy and stir to coat. Serve immediately in individual dishes, drizzled with the remaining gravy.



Source: <http://www.foodnetwork.com/recipes/giada-de-laurentiis/turkey-and-cranberry-ravioli-recipe/index.html>

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My website offers many tools, reports and real-time local data you can use now.

I invite you to take a look before you hire your next real estate professional.

Call me or visit my website at: www.Day-RealEstate.com

With GREAT delight, I am pleased to announce that I recently received the 2013 FIVE STAR PROFESSIONAL AWARD WINNER, for a 2nd year in a row and was featured in the October issue of Diablo Magazine, page 78! This is an honorable award that only 2% of Real Estate agents receive annually. Thank you to all who voted for me!



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(Formerly Brana Home Repairs)



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Lafayette, CA 94549-3815

Tel: 925-283-1107
Fax: 925-680-8405
Email: laure@yourlocalhomerepairs.com
www.yourlocalhomerepairs.com

CALL FOR LICENSED CONTRACTOR OR HANDYMAN

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

If you need a service not mentioned above, just call us. Prices will be quoted by the job.

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

To:

www.WoodlandsAssn.org