

The Woodlands

Keeping You Informed For 50 Years

December 2015

Bicycle – Pedestrian Bridge Proposed Over Ygnacio Valley Road

Committee Forming to Establish Safe Crossing at Busy Intersection

By Adrienne Robillard

As the walls for the 55,000 square foot Lifestyle Safeway go up in the new Orchards development, there is a revived interest in the proposal for a pedestrian and bicycle bridge over Ygnacio Valley Road (YVR) near Oak Grove Road to establish safe passage across this heavily trafficked regional roadway. This intersection is utilized by area bicyclists and pedestrians with destinations including Ygnacio Valley Library and Mt. Diablo as well as students going to and from area schools. If you are interested in joining engaged community members to explore the proposal for a bridge (or alternative) solution and make a difference in the future of our community, email yv oakgrovecrossing@gmail.com. City staff emphasized that it takes a team of dedicated individuals to affect change of this level.



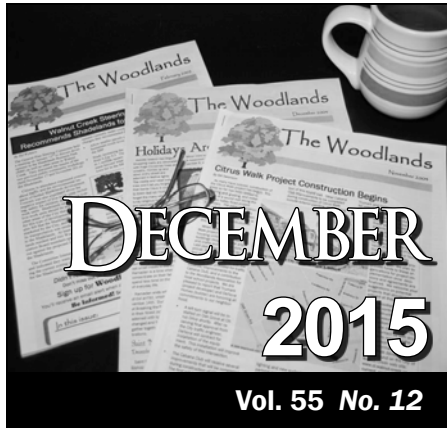
According to the traffic study conducted by a 3rd party for The Orchards development, 57,000 cars currently pass through the Ygnacio Valley Road at Oak Grove Road intersection daily, often at speeds of 50 mph+, and the traffic will soon increase with completed development of The Orchards shopping center (featuring a children's park, Lifestyle Safeway, gym, restaurants and senior living center) and the remodeling of Encina Grande Shopping Center, with Whole Foods as the new anchor tenant, a 24-Hour drive-thru Walgreens and a variety of restaurants and services.

This is not the first time a bridge has been proposed. Enhancements to the current crossing as well as a bridge have been suggested in the past. Some enhancements to the intersection, like a sharper right turn from Oak Grove to head west on Ygnacio (to slow drivers and allow for more passage time for non-motorists) are already part of The Orchards plan. After gathering feedback and input from Woodlands residents face-to-face, via NextDoor and Facebook, and meeting with Walnut Acres PFC President, Cherise Khaund, Valle Verde Elementary PTA President, Brandi Klintworth, the Woodlands Association set up a meeting with Rafat Raie, Traffic Engineer, and Ethan Bindernagel, Interim Economic Development Manager (who was the city's Senior Planner on The Orchards project) to discuss the bridge proposal on Thursday, November 12th. During the meeting, which included both Woodlands and Northgate residents, different scenarios were considered. Mr. Raie said a bridge over the intersection is more realistic than a tunnel under, and a roundabout will not work. Mr. Bindernagel suggested voicing support for this project at Contra Costa Transit Authority's (CCTA) public meetings as this agency prioritizes funding for future projects. The Woodlands Association raised the need for a safe crossing solution to the attention of the Contra County Transit Authority board during their monthly meeting on Wednesday, November 18th. CCTA Chair, Julie Pierce, recommended bringing this up with the City of Walnut Creek, as the area is also under the city's jurisdiction, which we have done. Both agencies are now aware of the public's interest in a safe crossing solution.

During the meeting at City Hall, both Bindernagel and Raie recommended not limiting the proposal to a bridge at this time. The City of Walnut Creek plans to measure how The Orchards and the revamped Encina Grande shopping center affect traffic when both shopping centers are open and to determine from that data how to allocate possible funds toward a project such as a bridge. Both centers are expected to open about 1 year from now, in the fall of 2016. As stated on its website, www.shadelands.org, The Shadelands Business park is also "...transitioning from a business park into a progressive, vibrant, multi-use destination – will be an innovative Walnut Creek community. The emerging development will also bring mixed-use commercial, retail, and restaurants to Shadelands for both tenants and visitors to enjoy." The transformation of The Shadelands will also impact area traffic.

In the meantime, the Woodlands Association published an online petition to determine community support and gather input for a pedestrian and bicycle bridge proposal at <https://www.change.org/p/city-council-of-walnut-creek-support-a-pedestrian-and-bicycle-bridge-over-ygnacio-valley-road>.

The proposal launched on change.org just before noon on Wednesday, 11/11/15, and in less than 48 hours it had over 350 signatures. At the time of printing, there are over 400 signatures. The Woodlands Association has connected with Bike Walnut Creek and Bike Concord and is reaching out to key stakeholders including the shopping center owners, business owners like Rocco Biale, The Shadelands Property and Business Improvement District (PBID), and Walnut Creek's City Council to discuss this vision further, gather input and work toward a safe-crossing solution that will serve the community into the future.



In This Issue...

Bicycle Proposal	1
Newsletter Editor	2
Holiday Spirit	3
Speeding Update	3
School News	4
Waterworld	5
Woodlands Police Calls	5
Holiday Lights	6
Recipe: Sausage, Kale & Veg Soup	6
Advertiser Contents	7

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

Newsletter Advertising:
woodlandswalnutcreek@gmail.com

Newsletter Delivery:
 Jennifer Zotti ~ jennsta2000@yahoo.com

Web Site Inquiries:
woodlandswalnutcreek@gmail.com

Neighborhood Inquiries:
woodlandswalnutcreek@gmail.com

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

Newsletter printed by
Minuteman Press
 (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>
 To report a suspicious circumstance, call 925-935-6400

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

Contra Costa County Animal Control, 925-335-8300

After business hours, contact the Walnut Creek Police through Dispatch Center at 925-935-6400. <http://www.co.contra-costa.ca.us/index.aspx?NID=59>

Street Maintenance: 925-943-5854

Newsletter Editor

The Woodlands monthly newsletter is made possible by members of this neighborhood donating their time and expertise to publishing and distributing it monthly.

At this time we need a Newsletter Editor. This is an opportunity to contribute your skills to the continuing publication of The Woodlands newsletter each month, started over 50 years ago by the original Woodlands residents. Plus, working on The Woodlands newsletter is a great way to enhance your resume and support the community, in the same amount of time it takes to see a movie. To find out more, email us at woodlandswalnutcreek@gmail.com or come by our monthly board meeting on Saturday, December 5th, at 8 a.m. at Denica's. Whether you're a high school student looking for experience on a print publication, a professional interested in the community, or a senior with experience to share, we look forward to meeting you!



Woodlands Association Board of Directors

Adrienne Robillard ~ *President*
 Bill Gilmyers ~ *Vice President*
 Jan Gall ~ *Treasurer*
 Erik Ehlers ~ *Secretary*
 OPEN ~ *Newsletter Editor*
 James Goudy ~ *Webmaster*

Jennifer Zotti ~ *Newsletter Distribution Manager*
 Interns: Danielle Arauzo & Talia Arauzo

Upcoming Board Meetings

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.
Saturday, December 5th
Saturday, January 2nd

at Denica's,
 2280 Oak Grove Road,
 Walnut Creek
 (in Citrus Marketplace)

Woodlands residents are encouraged to attend board meetings.

Holiday Spirit and Joy

By Julie Rattaro

It's that time of year where lights adorn our neighborhood and fill it with holiday spirit and joy. One of our neighborhood's most festive homes, the Hiland House on Candleberry Road, has downsized its holiday display. The Hiland's house will still be dressed with lights but the train has left the station and found a new home at 219 Rock Oak Rd. My husband and I are proud to continue our family's traditions and light up our home for all to enjoy. This year, the annual holiday lighting will take place on Saturday, November 28th at 7:00p.m. Please join us in this festive occasion. Santa Claus will make his appearance after the lights are lit. This evening will also kick off our toy drive. Please bring an unwrapped toy to donate to Toys for Tots. Happy Holidays!



City Responds to Speeding Concerns in the Woodlands

By Adrienne Robillard

As you may have seen, there has been an active presence from the Walnut Creek Police Department (WCPD) in the neighborhood to deter speeding, after numerous reports around the neighborhood were received. Officer Mike Adams relayed that the WCPD has written tickets, reminding drivers to keep to the limit and drive safely. WCPD placed a radar trailer on Citrus Avenue, on loan from the Sheriff's Department, as "a reminder for the drivers to watch their speed. The WCPD has purchased new radar trailers and is in the process of training several employees on how to move them and set them up. These new trailers should be available within the next few weeks." Officer Adams emphasized that most of the people WCPD has been stopping are area residents to the area.

The WCPD recently purchased a radar unit that captures and collects the speeds of vehicles. This unit was placed on Peachwillow and the information will be downloaded to give WCPD an idea of the actual speeds on the street in front of Valle Verde School for a duration of six days, starting with Saturday October 31st. WCPD has been moving the radar around the neighborhood to record speeds. This device is a tool the WCPD uses to help target enforcement efforts.

Rafat Raie, Traffic Engineer for the City of Walnut Creek, has also responded to our stop sign requests along Peachwillow: "I received the petition. I appreciate your interest and your efforts to educate neighbors and promote traffic safety. We will evaluate your request for a four-way stop at the intersection of Candleberry Road and Peachwillow Lane. We will also count and review the safety history of Peachwillow and Banyan Circle... We will share our findings with you as soon as we are done. We will try to collect the data before the Thanksgiving Holiday. Our goal is to get back to you by the second week of December."

City Traffic Engineer Simin Timuri will be meeting with us in the Woodlands to review the areas of concern and the possible traffic calming measures the week of Thanksgiving. The Woodlands Association will continue to keep residents up to date on this project via NextDoor, The Woodlands Facebook page and this newsletter.

Remember, it is up to us to enforce the speed limit of 25 mph with our own driving. Slow down and stay safe.

SCHOOL NEWS

Valle Verde Elementary School

BOX TOPS: Have any of these box tops lying around? We will gladly take them! Each Box Top we collect earns \$0.10 for our school! 500 Box Tops will earn a popcorn party for the entire class, so if you know any VV students, they will happily come collect them from you. This is a fun fundraiser that really brings out the competitive side in our kids.



BOOK FAIR: This is a favorite event for all the kids. Twice a year, we create a book store on campus. The kids love coming in and picking out their books. It gets them reading and raises money for the school. The book fair will run during the first week of teacher conferences, the week of December 7th in room C6. It's a great time to get those classroom gifts and stocking stuffers. It will be open after school 1:30pm – 3:30pm Monday - Thursday (and 6-8pm on Tuesday evening).

Macy's and PEAK (our Education Foundation): The new downtown Macy's is officially reopening on Saturday, November 21st and is partnering with PEAK Education Foundation to celebrate the occasion and support our schools. Charity Shopping Day Passes available for \$5 each. The Pass entitles you to 20% off both regular, sale and clearance purchases throughout the store plus \$10 off a single purchase of \$25 or more!* In addition there will be special events starring our students including a fashion show, musical performances, demonstrations, give-aways and more. PEAK receives 100% of the proceeds from Shopping Day Pass sales.

Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot: Join your friends and family at the 23rd Annual Turkey Trot. This family fun event, with 10K, 5K and Kid's Runs, is a great way to start your Thanksgiving holiday and show support for your community and your schools. Proceeds from the Turkey Trot, sponsored by Forma Gym, benefit the PEAK Education Foundation and the Walnut Creek Education Foundation as well as other charitable organizations dedicated to helping improve the health and well-being of children and families. Over the past 4 years, the Turkey Trot has raised over \$70,000 for Walnut Creek schools. You can be part of the fun even if you don't run. We need help handing out race materials beforehand, checking in participants, water stations, race guides etc. It takes over 200 volunteers so we need YOU!

To Register, go to <http://formaturkeytrot.com/index.php>

To Volunteer, go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0b4da9ad29a1fe3-turkey>

PTA Meeting, December 1st:

The Woodlands Association will share the proposal for a bridge over YVR near Oak Grove Road.

Foothill Middle School

School Dance (12/4):

3 p.m.- 6th grade dance in the MU

7 p.m.- 7th & 8th grade dance

Winter Band Concert:

December 10 at 7 p.m.

December 15 at 7 p.m.

December 17 at 7 p.m.

Winter Break: Week of December 21 and December 28

Northgate High School

Senior Parents: Financial Aid for College

Come to the Financial Aid Night on Wednesday 12/9 at 7:00 p.m. in the Little Theater. Learn about the financial aid options. Get your questions answered about the FAFSA and more!

Seniors: Common Application

If you are applying with the Common App, you need to have two (2) teacher and one (1) counselor write recommendations. Remember to add the teacher and counselor recommendation requests into Naviance. Give the teachers at least 2 weeks before your due date to complete the recommendation. Order a transcript when you are submitting a Common Application. Questions? Come to the College and Career Center.

Winter Break: Week of December 21 and December 28

Prepare for Waterworld

By Erik Ehlers

Life is a series of transitions. Every birthday, every season marks a new change. This fall is no different, as we shift from several years of drought to a wet, El Niño driven winter deluge.

With the expected oncoming onslaught of water pouring forth from the heavens, many of us are faced with a real challenge – how to transition our arid lawn remnants from patches of dirt and scattered dead grass to something other than a mud puddle when the spigot opens up from above. Looking at the patch of what was once grass in my backyard, I was moved to consider my options. What do you do when you know that the status quo will not work?

The first option for making your outdoor space winter ready is to make it more drought tolerant by taking out grass and using ground cover like mulch or rocks as a replacement. For those who would like to bring their lawns back to life, the resuscitation is achievable for even those without a doctorate in botany.

To begin, spreading new soil or some compost over the entire area will allow new grass to have a solid base from which to sprout. If you believe the best fix is a quick one, this is the stage where you want to lay down new sod. Alternatively, if you want a less expensive return to life for your yard, grass seed can be spread over the lawn. The challenge with seed is that too much water can be as deadly as no water during the first two weeks.

In addition, with many trees having died, it can be smart to remove dead wood before rain soaks it and causes it to fall. Numerous local tree services will make house calls – a licensed arborist can tell you which trees need to be pruned and which ones should be removed. My rule of thumb is that if I haven't seen a sign of life in months, the tree is coming out before it comes down in a winter storm. Now get out there and get ready for the rainy season before your yard becomes a bottomless mud pit, apt to swallow small creatures and shoes without remorse.

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. 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. The entire Walnut Creek police daily bulletin can be viewed at:

www.walnut-creek.org/departments-services/public-safety/police/online-crime-reporting/walnut-creek-online-reporting

Police Calls from 10/25/15 - 11/08/15

10/25/15 08:07:56 Sugarberry Ln. / Citrus Ave.
Concord received a phone call regarding offensive words on bride going over the canal trail. Unable to get reporting party info, phone was breaking in and out on CPD. Dispo: Eastbay parks police department advised of vandalism. Assist Agency.

10/25/15 11:42:57 2200 Bl Oak Grove Rd.
Damage to license plate and possibly loosened the fender. Suspicious vehicle dark gray ford F250. Driver was a white male adult, 50's. Backed into car in front of reporting party said no damage and then walked away. Reporting party didn't know there was damage so did not go after him. Victim vehicle gray lexus. Reporting party now at home for report. Dispo: no obvious damage to reporting party's vehicle. Reporting party will take it to a body shop and get his car inspected. Reporting party will call me back. Miscellaneous Traffic.

10/26/15 02:06:29 3600 Bl Perada Dr.
Male subject motor scooter was looking into vehicles. Last seen towards Bayberry. Dispo: subject riding moped was contacted in the area. Service to Citizen.

10/27/15 10:22:343200 Bl Peachwillow Ln.
Service. Dispo: advice given to principal. Re: 8 yr old boys. Service to Citizen.

10/30/15 11:55:32 Ygnacio Valley Rd. / Oak Grove Rd.
Mistraf - reporting party complaining about the cone patterns that are set up and construction, it took him 30 mins to get through. Request area check to make sure all is being done correctly. Dispo: no issues. Miscellaneous Traffic.

10/31/15 04:02:31 3200 Bl Sugarberry Ln.
Reports her dog is barking outside in the backyard, which is unusual. Dispo: determined dog was barking at raccoons. Service to Citizen.

11/01/15 00:00:00 Ygnacio Valley Rd. / Oak Grove Rd.
Dispo: unlicensed juvenile driver issued a citation. 2 juvenile passengers issued citations. Released to parents. Narcotics.

11/01/15 08:04:51 Citrus Ave. / Peachwillow Ln.
Citizen flag down, found wallet. Dispo: returned found wallet. Service to Citizen.

11/03/15 15:23:27 3600 Bl Citrus Ave.
Reports suspicious subject was pacing in front of houses from reporting party. Black male adult wearing dark brown clothing carrying a jacket appeared to be looking in his hand. Is 3-4 ago headed down Sugarberry. Dispo: subject contacted, no problem. Service to Citizen.

Local Holiday Events for the Whole Family

By Bill Gilmyers



With the holidays upon us a wide range of fun family activities are on the slate here in Walnut Creek. See below for a calendar of some of our favorite annual events!

Walnut Creek On Ice - Our local skating rink is open at Civic Park! Cost is \$15 per person with family skate nights most Tuesdays from 5-8, \$30 covers a family of four including skate rental. More info at www.ices-katewalnutcreek.com. 1375 Civic Drive, through Monday, January 18.

Christmas Tree Lighting

Right next to the ice rink, the tree lighting will be Saturday, November 28 at 5 PM.

Shadelands Ranch Holiday Faire - Dozens of vendors will be offering hand crafted items and gifts for sale at the Shadelands Ranch. In addition there will be three-course holiday teas (reservation required 925-935-7871) with daily seatings at 11:30 and 1:30, \$35 per person. 2660 Ygnacio Valley Road, November 28-December 13, open 10 AM to 4 PM daily.

Jingle Bell Rock at Walnut Creek First Wednesdays Street Fest - Food, entertainment and crafts and featuring live music from Del Sol. Visit with Santa, take a horse and carriage ride, enjoy the free hot chocolate and cider. On Cypress Street between Main and Locust, with free parking at the Locust Street and Broadway garages. Wednesday, December 2 starting at 5 PM.

Broadway Plaza Holiday of Lights - Start the evening with music and festivity before the Parade of Lights on Broadway Plaza Street, beginning at 7 PM. Rumor has it that Santa Claus himself will be there to light the Christmas tree and even make it snow! Broadway Plaza, Thursday, December 3 from 6 to 9 PM.

Teddy Bear Tea - Teddy bears and treats for children 3-9 at this annual tradition, now in its 20th year. Proceeds go to the education and garden programs at the Gardens at Heather farms. \$25 for adults and \$20 for children, reservations required (online or call 925-947-1678). The Gardens at Heather Farm, Saturday and Sunday December 5 and 6 with seatings at 11:30 and 2 PM.

Know of other fun holiday events, share them on our Facebook page or on NextDoor. Happy Holidays!

RECIPE: Sausage, Kale & Vegetable Soup

By Colleen O'Donnell

This soup is great to have on hand for those days when a hearty soup is the only way to fend off the chill in the air. This is a great mixture of hearty vegetables and is a great way to balance the holiday indulgences. Think about making an extra batch for the freezer to have on hand throughout the season. Kale, root vegetables and Italian sausage make a great match, but feel free to switch up the ingredients with your favorites!



2 Mild Italian Sausages, casings removed
2 Tablespoons Extra Virgin Olive Oil
1 large onion, diced
2 red bell peppers, diced
2 large carrots, peeled & diced
3 stalks celery, diced
2 small turnips, peeled and diced
1 ½ teaspoons kosher salt, more as needed
Freshly ground pepper, to taste
5 garlic cloves, minced
2 teaspoons paprika
1 28 oz can whole peeled tomatoes, pureed
1 bunch Tuscan kale- large ribs removed and chopped
2 fresh bay leaves
1 teaspoon minced rosemary
32 oz. Chicken Broth

Heat wide bottomed soup pot over medium heat. Cook the sausage (casings removed) in pot breaking up with spoon. Cook through, remove from pot and set aside- do not drain pot. Add 2 Tablespoons of olive oil and the onion, peppers, carrots, celery and turnips. Sprinkle with 1 teaspoon of salt and pepper and cook over medium heat until onion has softened and other vegetables begin to soften- about 20-25 minutes. Add the minced garlic and cook for 1 minute. Add paprika and stir.

I prefer to puree whole tomatoes, instead of buying tomato puree, but if you prefer chunks of tomato, just crush the tomatoes with your hands or the back of a spoon. Add the tomatoes to the pot and cook for 5 minutes. Stir in the chopped kale, rosemary and chicken stock. Stir to mix and cook for an additional 20 minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste.

ADVERTISING

Advertiser Contents

1-800 JUNKSTER	18
ALOHA TUTORING.....	8
BABYSITTER WANTED	10
BELFAST PLUMBING.....	15
BLADES OF GLORY.....	18
BRUCE LESSER - REALTOR.....	17
DAYNA WILSON - REALTOR.....	9
EXPERIENCED PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER	8
GOLDEN PALM LANDSCAPE.....	11
HAPPY NEST CHILDCARE.....	15
HOUSE DOCTOR - VICTOR LOPEZ.....	17
KYLE M. JOHNSTON - ESTATE ATTORNEY... ..	11
MACY MOVERS.....	13
MARC GRAVES - REALTOR.....	14,20
MASTER ELECTRIC	7
MELANIE AND RAY KOZAK - REALTORS ..	11
MINUTEMAN PRESS	20
PLAYPAL PET CARE	7
RE POWER	7
RENEE WAGNER - REALTOR.....	10,20
STEVE HANSEN - REALTOR.....	12
WOODLANDS NEWSLETTER AD RATES... ..	10
YOUR LOCAL HOME REPAIRS.....	16

Not just solar...

Smart Home Solar



Customer on Sugarberry - 2014

Go Solar and get a REPOWER Smart Home Automation System installed for FREE (\$899 value)
Manage your Home's power usage automatically

Solar Universe Diablo Valley - CSLB# 785075

- 5th largest Solar Contractor in the US
- Locally owned/operated since 2010
- 200+ customers in the Diablo Valley area
- Providing both lease and purchase options (PPA, PACE, Conventional)

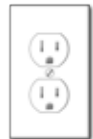


Call/Visit to schedule a Consultation

www.RepowerDiabloValley.com – 925.228.4SUN (4786)



Master Electric 934-5535



Expert at residential lighting, upgrades, troubleshooting, repairs, & remodels



- | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Recessed lights | Light fixtures |
| Ceiling fans | Service upgrades |
| Whole house fans | Panel replacement |
| Troubleshooting | Additional receptacles |
| Spa circuits | Solar installation |
| Bathroom remodels | Kitchen remodels |

Your Woodlands Resident Electrician

www.masterelectric.co

Dean Master
Lic # 787787

www.masterelectric.co
925-934-5535

PlayPal Formerly Professional Pet Care Services
PET CARE

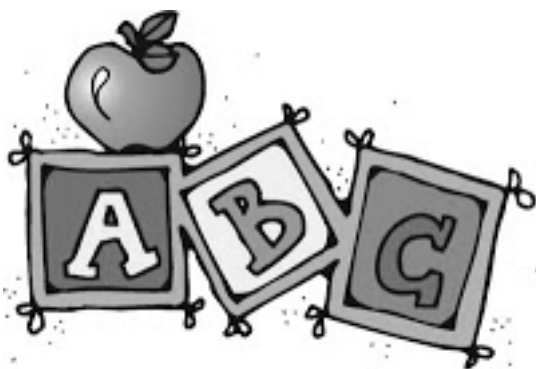


Lisa M. Colindres
1 (925) 421-1120
Playpalpetcare@gmail.com
References available

Pet sitting,
dog walking,
nail trimming,
doggy baths & more!

Local Woodlands resident!

PROFESSIONAL, RELIABLE, AFFORDABLE



EXPERIENCED PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER

Available to babysit
your children.
References available.
Mrs. Reiner
(925) 930-8974



1475 N. Broadway, Suite 280 Walnut Creek (925) 448 - 7167

Aloha Mind Math has come to Walnut Creek!

The abacus is a powerful math visualization tool that can help your child master their addition, subtraction, multiplication and division math facts while building speed and accuracy. Mind math employs your child's natural capacity for imagination to develop their ability to perform calculations in their mind.

This internationally recognized method makes math fun while enhancing concentration, focus and confidence. Your child can develop a passion for math through visual and kinesthetic learning.

After school and Saturday classes forming now.

Contact us to schedule your 1st free class and try out the abacus!



Advertise With Us!

To Advertise in the Woodlands Newsletter,
Contact woodlandswalnutcreek@gmail.com
or visit www.woodlandsassn.org/advertise

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
December 10, 2015

Submission Guidelines

- Please submit your ad in the actual size/dimensions listed.
- Please email a digital file of your ad to woodlandsassn@yahoo.com. We accept PDF and Microsoft Word documents ONLY.
- Payment is due when you submit your ad. Please pay via www.woodlandsassn.org/advertise/ or make checks payable to "Woodlands Association" and mail to: PO Box 31085, Walnut Creek, CA 94598.

“ With courage you will dare to take risks, have the strength to be compassionate, and the wisdom to be humble. Courage is the foundation of integrity.
- Mark Twain



Many Woodland Neighbors are part of the ‘sandwich generation,’ raising awesome children while caring for an aging parent. When you are faced with the challenge of assisting an elder homeowner with a late-life move, Dayna Wilson’s Real Estate Team is here to help, providing you with:

- One-stop solutions for all your real estate and move management needs
- Professional project management and relocation oversight
- Physical and emotional support from experienced and caring team members
- Extensive referral network of qualified local and national service providers
- Trained professional staff experienced in mature moves and senior living options

Call or email Dayna today to schedule a **no-obligation** personal consultation!



Dayna Wilson Real Estate - Seniors Real Estate Specialist®



Keller Williams Realty-East Bay

925-788-6582

Dayna@Day-RealEstate.com

www.Day-RealEstate.com



Five Star Real Estate Professional® 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015

Woodlands Newsletter Advertising Rates

Effective February 1, 2016



Due to increased expenses, The Woodlands Association Board will be slightly increasing our advertising rates for the first time in 5 years. The Woodlands has experienced an upswing in home sales, drawing more advertisers from outside our neighborhood. Consequently, distribution to advertisers and the use of PayPal as a payment option have both increased our expenses in addition to an increase in printing costs. The following monthly rates will take effect February 1, 2016:

- Full Page – 10 x 7.5 - **\$99**
- ½ Page – 5 x 7.5 - **\$55**
- ¼ Page – 5 x 3.5 - **\$33**
- ¼ Page on back cover - **\$55**
- 1/8 Page – 2.5 x 3.5 - **\$22**

**2015 Prepay Advertising Program
Saves Time & Money
Prepay Now to Lock in 2015 Rates**

- * Prepay for 12 months of advertising and get one month free!
- * Prepay for 6 months of advertising and get one month's ad at 50% off!

Save time and money while reaching the engaged audience of 900 homes in The Woodlands.

To take advantage of this offer, please visit our website at www.woodlandsassn.org or contact woodlandswalnutcreek@gmail.com. Thank you for your support!

VALLE VERDE CHILDREN'S CENTER
A Great Place to Be If You Are a Kid!

3275 Peachwillow Lane
Walnut Creek, CA

WE OFFER:

- ❖ Before & After School
- ❖ Full/Part-Time
- ❖ Wonderful TK/K Program
- ★ Cooking ★ Arts & Crafts
- ★ Sign Language ★ Sports
- ★ Engineering ★ HW Help
- ★ Science

ENROLL TODAY!

CONTACT US!

(925) 944-5255
vvchildrenscenter@gmail.com

Monday - Friday
7:00 AM - 6:00 PM

valleverdechildrenscenter.org

**REGULAR BABYSITTER NEEDED
IN THE WOODLANDS**

I am looking for regular babysitter for one wonderful 8-year-old boy.

Some AMs and some PMs- Schedule is flexible. Approximately 15 hours a week depending on your desires.

Taking to school in the am (start 6:30 or 7am- drop off at 8am), taking to sports and helping with homework and piano in the pm (pick-up as early as 2:30pm until 6pm, occasionally later). Occasional weekends if you are available.

Errands, grocery shopping, tidying the house, meal prep and laundry also.

Wage based on qualifications and experience. Please write KMManning@yahoo.com if you have questions or are interested.

Thank you,
Kate

**Do You Have Questions About
WILLS, TRUSTS & PROBATE?
ASK LOCAL ESTATE ATTORNEY
KYLE M. JOHNSTON**



**3021 CITRUS CIRCLE, SUITE 140
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94598
CALL US AT (925) 278 - 6180**

**PLANNING, TRUST ADMIN & PROBATE
WWW.KYLEMJOHNSTON.COM**



**GIVE US A CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE
(925) 777-0396**

WE ALSO OFFER THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:
Landscape Design • Concrete Work • New Lawns
Irrigation & Drainage Systems • Fences
Low Maintenance Gardens • Retainer Walls
Clean - Ups • Hauling

**RECEIVE 10 % OFF THE FIRST 3 MONTHS
OF MAINTENANCE SERVICE BY
MENTIONING THIS AD !**

Ulisses Banuelos
LIC # 798276

goldenpalm@sbcglobal.net



Melanie Kozak
BRE# 00766979
mkozak247@gmail.com
925-457-0073

Melanie and Ray Kozak

**Real Estate Professionals and
Northgate residents for over 20 years
www.thekozakteam.com**



Ray Kozak
BRE# 01410748
raykozak@gmail.com
925-330-0624

We are known for service and respected for results!



If you have been thinking of selling your home, market conditions are very favorable for you right now. Please call us for a professional market analysis so we can show you what your home might sell for and how our 28-point marketing plan will get you the best price in the shortest time. We also have a proven strategy to get you into a new home while selling your current home.



2015 has been a great year for Woodlands real estate with steady increases in sales prices and we finally broke through the Million-Dollar ceiling this year with 4 sales well over! I'm proud to have participated in 3 of them. 2016 should be a great year too.

**INTERVIEW THE RIGHT REALTOR
FOR THE RIGHT RESULTS**



Coming Soon in late November/Early December

A Home For The Holidays in The Woodlands

Beautiful single-level, 4 Bedroom, 2 Bath home on huge flat lot. Remodeled throughout, including new kitchen and baths, newly refinished hardwood floors throughout, and so much more. Not yet priced or photographed, as of this writing. Please visit

www.CandleberryRd.com for current information and status

Thinking about a move? Make sure to include the marketing professional in your interviewing process. All my Woodlands sellers are sure glad they did!

Bringing The Woodlands values up one seller at a time. I will expose your home in its most flattering light, so it will not be overlooked or undervalued.

- # 1 Realtor in The Woodlands in 2015, For a Reason
- Free Staging For Woodlands Home Sellers
- Over 20 Years of Experience and Hundreds of Homes Sold in All Types of Markets
- Track Record of Listings Sold Above the Highest Comps
- Affiliated with The Best, Quality Company, Highest Market Share in Walnut Creek
- Great References From ALL my Happy Clients

Call today for a FREE, no obligation consultation and an ACCURATE opinion of value, Including advice on pre-sale preparation and staging for maximum appeal.

Don't waste your time on Zillow! Visit www.SteveHansen.SmartHomePrice.com

CA BRE#01174754



**The Marketing Professional
STEVE HANSEN**



1700 N. Main St.
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

925.639.1979

www.SteveHansenHomes.com

MACY MOVERS

1915



2015

California

Celebrating 100 Years

Local • Long Distance • Office Relocation

FREE ESTIMATE • FREE BOXES
FREE FIRST MONTH OF STORAGE



AGENTS FOR ATLAS VAN LINES

CAL P.U.C #T99808 • Atlas Van Lines, Inc. U.S. DOT No. #125550 • ICC MC #79658 • FED Motor Carrier MC (87113)

510.444.0100 • www.macymovers.com

COURTYARD REALTY
FINE HOMES & ESTATES



Welcome

As the top selling agent in the Woodlands I have qualified buyers looking to join our neighborhood. If you are thinking of selling, my record shows I will get your home sold for the most money in the shortest time. Whether your home is turn key or needs TLC I have the experience and resources to get the job done. Call me today for a FREE MARKET ANALYSIS



111 Kelobra Ct. Walnut Creek

4 Bedrooms 2 Bathrooms

Offered at \$879,900

Presented By



COURTYARD REALTY
FINE HOMES & ESTATES

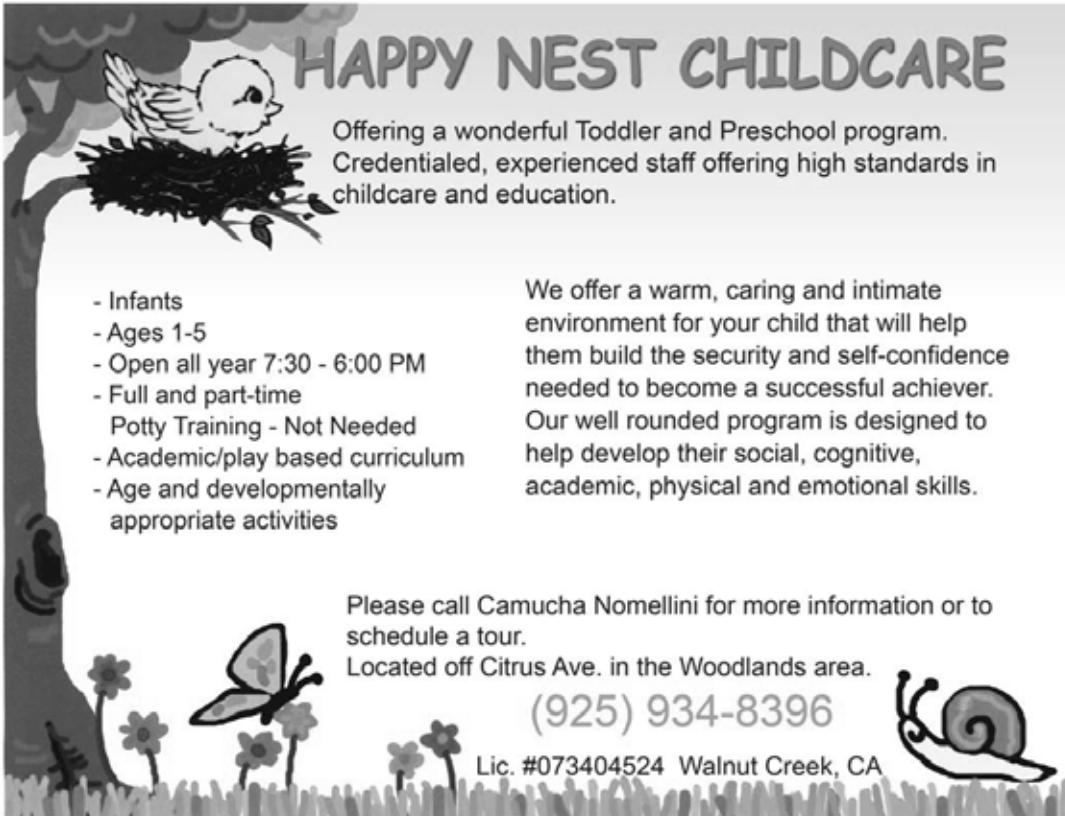
MARC GRAVES

925.336.MARC (6272)

www.CourtyardRealty.Biz | Marc@CourtyardRealty.Biz

Office - 478-8383

License # 01020265



HAPPY NEST CHILDCARE

Offering a wonderful Toddler and Preschool program. Credentialed, experienced staff offering high standards in childcare and education.

- Infants
- Ages 1-5
- Open all year 7:30 - 6:00 PM
- Full and part-time
- Potty Training - Not Needed
- Academic/play based curriculum
- Age and developmentally appropriate activities

We offer a warm, caring and intimate environment for your child that will help them build the security and self-confidence needed to become a successful achiever. Our well rounded program is designed to help develop their social, cognitive, academic, physical and emotional skills.

Please call Camucha Nomellini for more information or to schedule a tour.
 Located off Citrus Ave. in the Woodlands area.
(925) 934-8396
 Lic. #073404524 Walnut Creek, CA

Installations – Repairs

**Toilets ♦ Faucets ♦ Water heaters
 Garbage disposals ♦ Clogged drains**

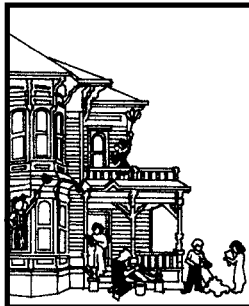
Belfast Plumbing



Credit Cards accepted: Visa, MasterCard, Discover

(925) 457-5423
www.belfastplumbing.com

License. 906211



YOUR LOCAL HOME REPAIRS

(Formerly Brana Home Repairs)

3527 Mt. Diablo Blvd. #246
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.



HANDYMAN

AT YOUR SERVICE

925-339-5017



SERVICING
 MARTINEZ, CONCORD, PLEASANTHILL
 WALNUT CREEK
 PITTSBURGH, ORINDA, MORAGA, LAFAYETTE

KITCHENS

CABINET INSTALLATION
 COUNTER TOPS
 SINK AND FAUCET
 GARBAGE DISPOSAL
 DISHWASHER
 NEW FLOORING
 PAINT
 LIGHTING

BATHROOMS

NEW TUB INSTALL
 TOILET
 VANITY
 MEDICINE CAB
 FLOORING
 HOLDERS
 PAINT
 EXHAUSTS
 LIGHTING

HOMES

WINDOWS
 WINDOWS RE-CAULK
 DOORS INSTALL
 GALVANIZED TO COPPER
 WATER REGULATOR
 HOSE BIBS
 FENCING WORK
 SHEET ROCK, TAPING
 NEW WALLS

NO JOB TOO SMALL
 OVER 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE
 HOUSE MAINTENANCE
 COMPETITIVE PRICES

CALL VICTOR
 FOR A FREE ESTIMATE



LIC. 724388

VICTORLOPEZYLOPEZ@YAHOO.COM

Bruce Lesser is not your "ordinary" Realtor...

- ✓ Family-home on Rock Oak Ct since 1964. Mom (Mary) still there!
- ✓ WCPD's longest serving **volunteer** Reserve Police Officer, since '79
- ✓ Past Alumni Board President at De La Salle (Class of '76)
- ✓ Nearly **three decades** of marketing Walnut Creek real estate
- ✓ "Your Realtor" for Real Estate **Probates, Living Trusts, Short Sales**
- ✓ **All Cash offer** for your "As Is" home in 24 hours and COE in 9 days
- ✓ **My Makeover-Team** can "pretty-up" your house no matter the job



Thinking of selling your Woodlands property? Then you owe it to yourself to interview one of Walnut Creek's top producing and most effective Realtors. Call or email **Bruce Lesser** for a personalized **MARKETING PLAN** that **WILL maximize your bottom line!**



Bruce Lesser 925-788-6020

RE/MAX Accord Real Estate / Realtor – CalBRE#00852237
 800 S. Broadway, Walnut Creek, CA. 94596
 BruceLesser@remax.net www.BruceLesser.com



1-800-JUNKSTER

Junk Removal. Save Time. Save Money.

Help us Give Back this Christmas!

Our Services Include:

- Full Service Junk Removal
- Junk-Bin Rental
- Garage Clean Out
- Electronic recycling
- Demolition
- Hot tub removal

Merry Christmas



Call for a FREE estimate
 1-800-586-5783
 925-934-3743
www.1800Junkster.com

5% OF EVERY PICK-UP THIS MONTH WILL GO TO HELPING THE VICTIMS OF FRANCE!

EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2015

Synthetic Lawn & Putting Green Specialist

Help with the drought while saving on your water bill.



SAVE
 UP TO **40%**
 On Your
 Water Bill

- Family owned & operated
- Low maintenance
- Water-wise
- No mowing, fertilizing, or pesticides
- Pet & child friendly
- 10-year warranty

BLADES OF GLORY



Call today for a FREE Estimate
925.478.3180

bladesofglory.co
tony@bladesofglory.co

THE GRASS IS ALWAYS GREENER

Lic. #992560 C61/D12/synthetics

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

“Helping Families Make the Right Move”

- ~ Well Known Leader in the Real Estate Industry*
- ~ Over 15 years of Superior Market Knowledge*
- ~ Your Well-being is our Number One Priority*

We have an understanding of your neighborhood that spans from growing up there to purchasing a personal residence and helping clients sell and buy their homes in the Woodlands community.

We have buyers who are looking in your area. Please feel free to give us a call.

Renee Wagner
925.250.5440

Website: yourhomeprofessional.net
Email: yourhomeprofessional@gmail.com

**Better
Homes**
and Gardens.
REAL ESTATE

MASON-McDUFFIE

CalBRE# 01292997



Renee Wagner – Realtor
Scott Wagner- Admin Coordinator



**5-STAR
PREMIER AGENT**
★★★★★

FLYER & LEAFLET

DECEMBER



Don't Wait; Order Now!

SPECIAL 20% OFF THE PRINTING OF YOUR FLYERS AND LEAFLE

*May not be used in combination with any other promotions. Does not include design time.



Call 925.256.6444 OR Visit www.minutemanpressph.com

COURTYARD REALTY

FINE HOMES & ESTATES

MARC GRAVES

CalBRE#01020265
SELLING CONTRA COSTA COUNTY
SINCE 1988

(6272)

Cell: 925-336-MARC

Marc@CourtyardRealty.Biz

SHERRI GRAVES

CalBRE#01218286
BUYER SPECIALIST/STAGER

Cell: 925-330-5212

Sherry@CourtyardRealty.Biz



NO MATTER THE MARKET my 30+ years of consistent experience prove my marketing and negotiation skills are surpassed by none. We are a locally owned Team of Experts, who value a personal experience. Whether your home is turn key or needs TLC, I have the expertise and resources to get the job done.



Giving Back Is Important To Us

We are privileged and blessed to work and serve in the community we live in. Choose Courtyard Realty and at COE we will Donate \$500.00 in your name to a school, charity, or non - profit of your choice.

CALL FOR A FREE MARKET ANALYSIS TODAY

Office (925) 478-8383
www.CourtyardRealty.biz

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

*Helping Families
Make the Right Move*

RENEE WAGNER

925.250.5440

yourhomeprofessional@gmail.com

*Meet the team who makes
your well-being their
number one priority*

**Better
Homes
and Gardens.**
REAL ESTATE

MASON-McDUFFIE
CalBRE# 01292997

Renee Wagner-Realtor
Scott Wagner-Admin Coordinator



The
Woodlands

P.O. Box 31085

Walnut Creek, CA 94598

To:

www.WoodlandsAssn.org