

The Woodlands

Keeping You Informed For Over 40 Years

February 2015

50 Years Ago - A Look Back

By Meg Honey

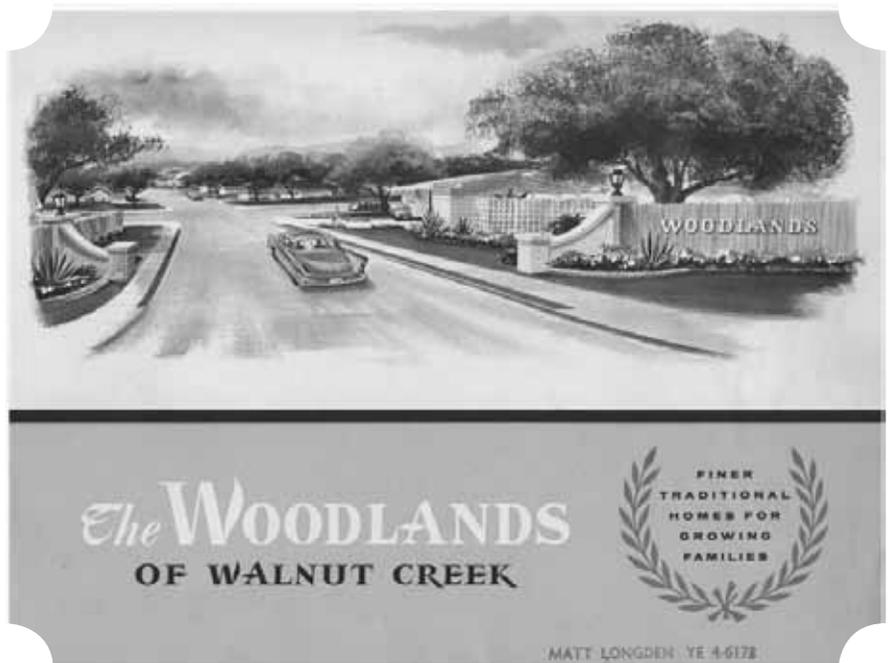
1965...Americans welcomed Lyndon Johnson to his second term as President; celebrated as *My Fair Lady* won eight Academy Awards; watched in horror as peaceful voting rights marchers were beaten by law officials in Selma, Alabama; and rocked out to Bob Dylan's influential album *Highway 61 Revisited*. Sandy Koufax pitched a perfect game against the Chicago Cubs and the Beatles played the first stadium concert at New York City's Shea Stadium...and, in Walnut Creek, exciting events took place and major changes were underway.

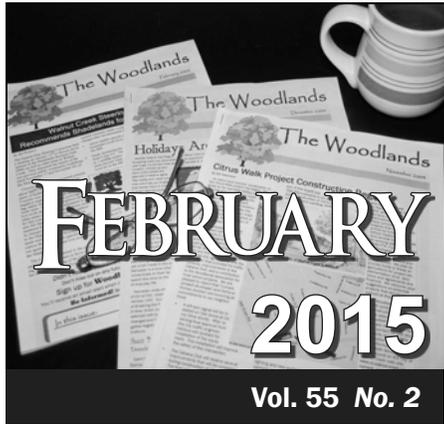
On September 19, 1965, legendary musician Duke Ellington performed in the city library to kick off the Art Forum series. Viewers paid \$2.50 to witness the historic performance, and, over the year, the series featured local jazz great Dave Brubeck and sculptor Benny Bufano (who would later create The Hand of Peace sculpture now displayed in Civic Park). On October 5, 1965, city voters approved two bond measures to fund the future Heather Farm and Rudgear parks, upgrade Larkey Park, and construct an 18-hole golf course that would become Boundary Oak.

After acquiring an abandoned Walnut Growers' Association

walnut warehouse, the city converted the building into the 449-seat Civic Arts Theatre and Gallery, opened on December 3, 1965. In reflecting on this time of expansion and improvement, former mayor Bob Schroder recalled, "There was an extremely strong spirit of community, where the residential, political, and business communities worked together to make Walnut Creek what it is today." (Brad Rovanner, *Walnut Creek: An Illustrated History*)

Woodlands resident Meg Honey teaches Advanced Placement United States History at Northgate High School.





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Woodlandsassn@yahoo.com

Neighborhood Inquiries:
Woodlandsassn@yahoo.com

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

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>

Check out the Woodlands online on our website and Facebook! Visit our website,

<http://www.woodlandsassn.org/>, to access years of back issues, neighborhood history, see neighborhood photo galleries, read the minutes from our board meetings, and learn about advertising opportunities. Visit our Facebook page, "Like" it, and join in the weekly conversations about our neighborhood park, exciting events, and the changes that are underway at the Encina Grande Shopping Center and The Orchards shopping center at www.facebook.com/WoodlandsAssn.



Woodlands Association Board of Directors

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Upcoming Board Meetings

8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Saturday, February 7th

Saturday, March 7th

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

Woodlands residents are encouraged to attend board meetings.

This Month at the Cabana Club

By Joanne Wathen

It's only January and it's cold out there-- but we have news from the Cabana Club! First of all, the Cabana Club is proud to announce that the Walnut Creek Aquanuts will be using our facility for practices until the end of March. The Aquanuts are a world-renowned synchronized swimming team that regularly produces Olympic athletes, so if you see a parking lot full of cars, feel free to drop in and watch a little bit of their practice. They are amazing!

Also, the Cabana Club is hosting a swim team registration BBQ on Sunday, March 8th from 3-5 pm. Swim team sign-ups will be held from 1-3 pm and the BBQ from 3-5 pm. This is a great opportunity to introduce any prospective members to the Cabana Club. Don't forget that if you refer a new member, you will receive \$100 off your yearly dues. So come on down and reconnect with your neighbors after a long winter. Membership forms will be available and the pool will be open, weather permitting.

Mark your calendars now for the 3rd annual Woodlands 5K Family Fun Run and pancake breakfast. It will be taking place on Sunday, March 22nd at 9 a.m. Registration forms will be available at the registration BBQ or use the one in this issue of The Woodlands Newsletter.

Once again, the Cabana Club will be open during spring break (April 6th-11th) weather permitting. Stay tuned for hours.

Cub Scouts Bring Holiday Cheer to Seniors

On Saturday, December 20th, Cub Scouts from Pack 464 joined residents at Sunrise Senior Living in Walnut Creek for an afternoon of caroling and visiting. Dressed in their formal uniforms, 20 Cub Scouts and their parents gathered in the main lounge to sing lots of holiday favorites. Many joined in as the boys sung songs including Jingle Bells and the Twelve Days of Christmas. The boys got adventurous (as they are known to be) and took requests which included White Christmas - it turned out quite nice! Everyone's favorite part of the day was the time spent meeting and talking with everyone and sharing stories about the holidays, Scouting, and other interests.



Cub Scouts is an organization focused on providing activities, fun, and learning for boys in the 1st through 5th grades. Boys from Valle Verde Elementary, Seven Hills School and Eagle Peak Montessori School make up Cub Scout Pack 464 in Walnut Creek. Pack 464 is always happy to welcome new members! Our next big event is the annual Pinewood Derby at the end of January and then the Blue & Gold Banquet in February. More information is available on the Pack website at <http://pack464walnutcreek.org/>.

Would you like to help shape the Woodlands neighborhood of the future?

The time has come to get off the couch and get involved. The Woodlands Association is looking for some people with an interest in making this area an even more wonderful place to live. Contact woodlandsassn@yahoo.com today!

All-Purpose Valentine's Day Advice

By Bill Gilmyers

For better or worse, the long winter continues, football season is done and Gin-and-Tonic-Season doesn't begin for another month and a half, which can only mean one thing - Valentine's Day is here. I'm not sure there's a single holiday that is simultaneously obsessed about, and hated, by so many people. Especially given that many of the obsessives and haters are, in fact, the same people. Let's face it, it's not easy for anyone to really enjoy this holiday, unless you are a low-quality chocolate manufacturer.

Still, the Woodlands Newsletter is here to help you make the best of it, with the top-notch advice you'd expect from a non-profit, volunteer-supported publication written on a Saturday afternoon while the kid bangs out an episode or two of Elmo, Game of Thrones, or whatever it is that 3-year-olds are watching these days. Whatever your romantic circumstances, we'll do what we can to get you out of your Valentine's jam:

Are you single? This is simultaneously the best and worst case situation on Valentine's Day. On the one hand, you have to observe all those happy couples making goo-goo eyes at each other and getting ready to go out on a romantic dinner together, all while wondering when *your* ship will come in. On the other hand, those couples probably aren't actually all that happy, that dinner is gonna be really expensive, and the food is definitely going to blow. So don't fret.

Recommendation: For the ladies, crack open a bottle of wine, cue up a nice tear-jerker on Netflix to match your mood and make sure you've got a full box of tissues. For the men, spoil yourself with a nice seven-course meal with a six-pack and a hot dog. You'll probably need a box of tissues as well.

Are you married? Why are you celebrating this holiday at all? You already have an anniversary, which unless you and your spouse were the least forward-thinking wedding day schedulers ever, is not on Valentine's Day. So do all your lovey-dovey stuff on that random Thursday in July and leave VD to the amateurs.

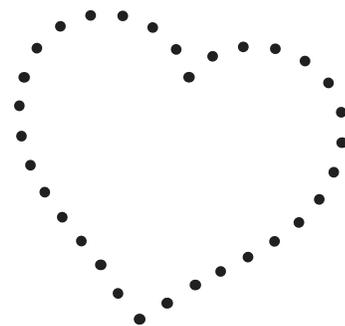
Are in you a serious relationship? Sadly, you're probably going to have to go through the motions today as you continue to evaluate you partner based on their ability and willingness to get caught up in the romance of this contrived holiday. If you are lucky this person will have married or dumped you by the time February 14, 2016 rolls around.

Are you a high-school student dating another high-school student? Today you will stare into the eyes of your soulmate and wonder at the cosmic improbability that the person of your dreams, your one true match, somehow ended up in your homeroom here in the MDUSD. The long-term implications of this relationship to the current and future you are simply mind-boggling, and today is the day you can prove how deep and abiding the connection between the two of you really is. Surely this is one of the biggest days of your life

It's not. In a year or two you'll be in college and won't even remember what Casanova looked like.

Are you a high-school student dating a college student? Yeah, you should probably just cut that out.

Are you a house pet? Assuming you have a responsible owner, your interest in all things romantic has probably been surgically removed, along with a few other parts. If not, feel free to have at it with the couch or the back of someone's leg. After all, Valentine's Day is for lovers.



Woodlands 5K Family Fun Run & Pancake Breakfast - Save the Date

The Cabana Club will be hosting a 5k Family Fun Run on March 22nd at 9:30 am. The run will begin and end at the Cabana Club and follow a route through the Woodlands. Registration fees are \$15 per individual and \$30 for a family prior to March 10th and \$20 per individual and \$40 per family after March 10th. Each paid registration includes a pancake breakfast.

Please fill out the registration slip and return it to the Cabana Club with a check payable to the Woodlands Cabana Club. For more information, please contact Joanne Wathen at coopcleo@gmail.com. All proceeds from this event will go toward providing shade structures and other club improvements. This event is open to non-members, so bring a friend and show them how cool the Cabana Club is.

The 5K begins at 9:30 am. All participants should arrive at the Cabana Club around 9:00 am. Pancakes will be served to all participants. The Woodlands Cabana Club: 111 Longleaf Dr. Walnut Creek, 94598

5k Family Fun Run Registration Form

Last Name: _____

Names of Participants: _____

Phone number: _____

Email address: _____

Advertise With Us!

To Advertise in the Woodlands Newsletter,
Contact Woodlandsassn@yahoo.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

March 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.

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 12/9/14 - 1/7/15

12/09/14 9:03:43 Ygnacio Valley Rd. / Oak Grove Rd.
Towards Concord. Car in the embankment silver Honda. Dispo: non-injury accident involving city property. Miscellaneous Traffic.

12/13/14 18:54:55 Ygnacio Valley Rd. / Oak Grove Rd.
Westbound Ygnacio - black Mercedes SUV, possible DUI - swerving all over, pulled into middle of intersection during red light. Dispo: unable to locate, gone on arrival. Reckless Driving.

12/14/14 1:52:08 Ygnacio Valley Rd. / Oak Grove Rd.
Amr requested police department, they are out with a subject passed out in his vehicle eastbound Ygnacio Valley Rd. Silver Ford Escape. Dispo: arrested for DUI. Released to mother. Driving Under the Influence.

12/16/14 13:33:25 2200 Bl Oak Grove Rd.
Reporting party reported being threatened by 2 black male adults after reporting party caught them trying to steal from the store. One subj dropped a screw driver and said he would use it on the reporting party. Dispo: attempted shoplift. No loss. 2 suspects. Black male adults: 6'01" 45-year-old wearing 49er hat and shirt and 25-year-old wearing white t-shirt & jeans. Susp. Circumstance.

12/22/14 23:32:22 3200 Bl Peachwillow Ln.
Approximately 8 teenagers hopped the kindergarten fence in the front of school approximately 5 mins ago. Both males and females. Dispo: unable to locate. Gone on arrival. Susp. Circumstance.

12/26/14 14:17:06 3300 Bl Citrus Av.
Reporting party's silver Volkswagen Pasaat has damage to the front grill. Occurred overnight. Dispo: possible 10852 to front grill. Front silver 'VW' symbol missing, no debris on road. Documentation only. Vandalism.

12/30/14 12:06:39 Peachwillow Ln. / Wintergreen Ln.
Reports phone line that has fallen and is hanging in the middle of the road. Dispo: Comcast cable line down due to tree limb. Comcast notified. Street clear. Assist agency.

12/30/14 16:44:33 3600 Bl. Perada Dr.
Reports her 26-year-old son is having an anger attack, damaging the room upstairs. Bipolar not prescribed, smokes h&s, doesn't drink. Dispo: determined civil matter. Advice given, son agreed to leave for the night. Service to citizen.

12/31/14 11:34:24 3200 Bl Peachwillow Ln.
A woman in her 30s wearing a grey jacket, camo pants, blue ski hat, was taking pictures of his neighbors' house. Last seen walking down Peachwillow towards Oak Grove. Dispo: contacted subject who was taking photos of trees and building because he is an artist. Service to citizen.

01/06/15 20:34:08 100 Bl Kelobra Ct.
Female reporting her son having an insulin reaction. Son is yelling in the background for mother to not call 911. Dispo: male subject agreed to receive medical aid. No 415 and no crime. Assist agency.

Random Thoughts About 2015

By Erik Ehlers

So after an exciting year, it appears that 2015 will be another year with some exciting changes ahead. While no one knows exactly what effects the new Safeway development will have on the Woodlands, and whether the umpteenth effort to consciously uncouple from the Mount Diablo School District will in fact be successful, it seems clear that we had all best prepare for change to come our way. In that spirit, here are a few suggestions for the year ahead.

Let's all think of some whimsical ways to cross both Oak Grove and Ygnacio Valley with the increased traffic likely to come when Safeway opens its doors. Since this isn't the Iron Horse Trail, it seems unlikely we'll get big money to build a mini-Brooklyn Bridge across YVR. So perhaps we can watch a few videos of Cirque du Soleil online, then we can shimmy across what appears to the untrained eye to be a PG&E power line stretching across the road. Wait, those are actually power lines? Perhaps then we need an alternative solution. Do we have any mechanically minded local folks who would be able to build us a totally safe, risk free personal catapult? Or perhaps we can get Elon Musk to build his hyperloop transporter across the two local roads. That thing is supposed to be so fast, we'll be at our destination months before we left. Spare me the theoretical physics, I understand that's not how it is supposed to work. But this way seems more fun. Of course, if you don't want to brave the onrushing lines of cars headed to Safeway and the new Whole Foods, perhaps you could take a stand and shop at the closest supermarket of them all, good old Charlie Brown, I mean Nob Hill. These folks actually support local neighborhood events and you have to wait at exactly zero traffic lights to get there from anywhere in the Woodlands.

Speaking of Whole Foods, has anyone actually been over to the other side of town and visited their wonderful existing Walnut Creek store? The store is great, the parking, not so much. That lot is like a demolition derby, with soccer moms racing from Botox treatments to pick up organic arugula and locally sourced escargot. We can all hope that as part of the renovation to Encina Grande, they decide to make the parking lot less of a Roman Colosseum experience. If you're curious, we won't be playing the part of the lions.

Back on our side of town, there has to be some way to walk to these new markets without completely endangering our lives. Perhaps a tunnel – anyone have a rusty spoon and a willingness to crawl through a few hundred feet of Andy Dufresne's favorite part of Tough Mudder? In all seriousness, there must be a safer way than just having crosswalks with all the increased traffic. If not, I'm sure someone will post to Next Door about all the evils associated with making the journey. That app is a great idea, but the level of discourse sometimes makes me hope it goes the way of MySpace. Looking at the intersections, perhaps instead of a Mickey D's, we'll have someone interested in putting something that we will want in place of the illustrious haunted bank building. Now that the Woodlands sign has fallen down, all that remains is the brickwork that reminds me daily of an abandoned steel mill. If you've ever seen Youngstown, you know what I mean. Maybe I need some suggestions on what should go there – I better post to Next Door.

SCHOOL NEWS

Mark your calendar:

Valle Verde Elementary PTA is excited to announce a family fun game night on Friday, February 20 from 6:30-8:30 in the MUR. It will be fun for the entire VV family with games like UNO, Twister, Pictionary and more...

Wear comfy clothes or PJ's while enjoying some treats and hot chocolate too!

For questions please email Jill Walson at jgwatson@yahoo.com.

Foothill Middle School

Youth Ambassador Exchange Program

Welcome back YAE youth ambassadors (Youth Ambassador Exchange) for Walnut Creek's two sister cities: Siofok, Hungary & Noceto, Italy. Thanks for representing our school, city, state, and country. Walnut Creek's Sister City Program's motto is to promote peace through mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation between communities. Students apply in 7th grade. In the fall of 8th grade, our youth ambassadors stay in one of these sister cities for 1½ weeks. In April, their host students from Italy and Hungary will be traveling to Walnut Creek. Sister Cities International was started in 1956 by President Eisenhower. If you have any questions, Ms. Elliott is the YAE liaison for Foothill. Next year's applications will be out soon.

Absences

Is your student not feeling well, or are you going out of town for a day, or two? Please don't forget to notify the Attendance Secretary by calling (925)682-8000 (our main District line) extension 5702. This must be done for each day your student is missing school. You have 72 hours to clear an absence or it will be recorded as truancy. We do try to notify you of any absence not cleared by sending out an evening telephone call and e-mail.

The U.C. Berkeley Business Academy

The U.C. Berkeley Business Academy provides a two-week introduction to the business world from the Haas School of Business. The exclusive program

offers 40 of the best and brightest middle school students and 50 high school students an exclusive opportunity to gain hands-on learning experience in Entrepreneurship, Case Study, Corporate Social Responsibility, Financial Accounting, Marketing, and other business fundamentals. This is done while exploring a business idea, learning how to implement a business idea, creating a business web site or business plan, or critically thinking through a case study that deals with social impact. Taught by graduate-level business students, faculty, and corporate guest speakers at the Haas School of Business.

At A Glance:

When: June 22 - July 2, 2015 from 9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Where: U.C. Berkeley Haas School of Business

Who: Middle School Age Students (rising 7th, 8th and 9th graders)

What: An invaluable introduction to the business world

Applications are available on www.haas.berkeley.edu/businessacademy. Students are required to fill out an application and write an essay stating what interests them about B-BAY and what they hope to accomplish during the program.

Northgate High School

Seniors: Scholarship List

Seniors: the Scholarship List is available on the College and Career website. Many local scholarships are open now for application! The list is updated weekly and includes many types: academic, ethnic/diversity, activities or interests, and many more!

Volunteer Opportunities

Like to work with animals or interested in working outdoors? Those are just 2 ways you can volunteer! See our Volunteer List on the College and Career website. The list is also posted outside our office and updated all year with new opportunities. Find your passion and help out our community today.

ADVERTISING

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Classified Advertising:

Age in Place

Next meeting of Walnut Creek Village planning committee to assist seniors to Age in Place at home.

February 18 from 2:00 - 3:30 pm.
Go to 109 Dogwood Dr.
RSVP: 939-9570



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New LISTING: Clayton Highlands needing TLC

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Asking Price \$399,000. Four bedroom, Two bathroom

Coming Soon: Concord Condo

1446 Unit D, Del Rio Circle, Concord
Asking Price: Call for details Two bedroom, 1 Bathroom

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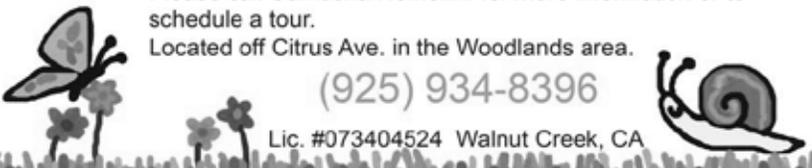
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- ✓ **All Cash offer** for your “As Is” home in 24 hours and COE in 9 days
- ✓ **My Makeover-Team** can “pretty-up” your house no matter the job



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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



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Effective advertising rates start at just \$20/month for 1/8 page to \$90/month for a full-page. Email woodlandsassn@yahoo.com, see p. 5 of this newsletter, or visit the website for more information.

www.woodlandsassn.org



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www.yourlocalhomerepairs.com

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- 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.



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