

# The Woodlands

April 2005

## Emergency Preparedness Meeting at Valle Verde

By the time you read this, many of you will have hopefully attended the city-sponsored preparedness session at Valle Verde, Wednesday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of March. Our own Woodlands was chosen to be the first Walnut Creek community to participate in this program. The meeting at Valle Verde was announced as the first phase of the city's "Disaster Wise Neighborhoods" program intended to give us the know-how to take care of ourselves and our neighbors in emergency situations. Phase two of the city program will contain more intensive training and phase three will be the *Emergency Preparedness Fair* scheduled for

September 11<sup>th</sup> at Civic Park. You will see more about the program later both in this newsletter and in the Contra Costa Times.

Among the issues discussed at the Valle Verde meeting was how to decide what supplies and tools you might need to access in emergencies. Attached just behind this newsletter is a short checklist containing recommended supplies and tools to fill out your own home emergency "**survival kit**". The list includes such items as first aid kits, home fire extinguishers, gas meter turnoff wrenches and the like. It is very likely that you have most of these check-

list items somewhere in your house or your garage. A quick inventory now should give you an idea of how you might want to supplement supplies. Also note that one of our locally owned stores is offering a discount coupon for any items on the checklist that they have in the store. The coupon is a tear-off on the checklist we prepared.

There is more information on the Walnut Creek emergency programs at: [www.walnut-creek.org/community](http://www.walnut-creek.org/community).

By J Tilley

## General Plan Update:

### Recommendations Have Moved to the Planning Commission; Commission to Consider 100 "Live-Work" Residential Units at the Shadelands

The General Plan Steering Committee has completed their work on a draft set of Goals, Policies and Actions and Land Use Change Areas for the update to the City of Walnut Creeks General Plan. These are core parts of what will become the new General Plan for Walnut Creek through 2025.

The next step in this process is for the Planning Commission to hold a series of public meetings to review the Steering Committee recommendations. This review will last until September 2005 at which

time they will make a recommendation to the City Council to consider in early 2006.

The Planning Commission will hold a public meeting on Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm to discuss proposed land use changes to the Shadelands Business Park (SBP). The General Plan Steering Committee recommended that up to 100 "live-work" residential units could be constructed in the SBP (see February Woodlands Association article at [www.woodlandsassn.org](http://www.woodlandsassn.org) for additional details). If you'd like to let the Planning Commission know your thoughts

on these proposed changes, you should plan on attending this meeting. If you are unable to attend, you can write a letter or send an e-mail to express your opinion. Victoria Walker can answer questions on this process at 943-5899 x 829.

For additional information please visit our website at [www.woodlandsassn.org/whatsnew.htm](http://www.woodlandsassn.org/whatsnew.htm) where you can view the March 4, 2005 letter from the City of Walnut Creek that provided additional details on the General Plan update including meetings currently scheduled through 2005

By Ed Wohlers

Visit us on online at: [www.WoodlandsAssn.org](http://www.WoodlandsAssn.org)

Your "official" Woodlands website — not to be confused with others!

#### Recent Updates Include:

- Woodlands CC&R's
- The original Mackay Home Builder brochure
- 1996 CC Times article featuring the Woodlands

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# Woodlands Youth

## NEW WALNUT CREEK WRESTLING CLUB

For most of the sports programs at Northgate High School, students arrive from the middle schools with the basic skills for those sports already under their belt. The wrestling program at Northgate has been an exception because students have had little or no exposure to wrestling in the middle schools or elsewhere.

The head high school coach, Carlos Sumalong, along with the wrestling program parents and boosters have gotten together to address this issue. They have found a way to develop key wrestling skills well before high school and then continue to enhance skills while in high school. They have created the *Walnut Creek Wrestling Club*.

The club has been in operation for several weeks now. Students are beginning to learn wrestling skills and are already practicing at the Northgate High School "Forum". The club welcomes *all* students from Kindergarten through high school. Enrollments will be open all the way through spring and summer. To enroll, just bring your student to practice and be prepared to sign a sports clearance form. You'll need wrestling shoes and kneepads for starters and these are available at

the local sports stores such as Copelands or Big-5.

The coach, Carlos Sumalong, brings excellent wrestling credentials to the club with NCAA championships as well as freestyle and Greco-roman All American status. As a coach

credentials. Carlos can be contacted on 639 7163 or [chsumi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:chsumi@sbcglobal.net).

This sport offers tremendous fun, discipline, team unity as well as self-esteem... Not to mention strength and conditioning. Boys and girls of all ages can participate. Students are matched up by age, ability and weight. Beginners are very welcome and no experience is necessary.



Woodlands resident, Tim Swanson (bottom) participates in a match during practice.

The practice sessions are at the Northgate HS Forum and are scheduled weekly as follows:

**K-5th** (Valle Verde Students):  
Tues & Thurs 4-5:15pm

**Middle School** (Foothill Students):  
Tues/Thurs/Fri 4-5:30pm

**High School Students:**  
Tues/Thurs/Fri 4-6pm

Of course any student outside the Woodlands schools is invited as well. To get your student started, just show up at any practice session at [Northgate](#) from now through this summer.

By J Tilley

Carlos has produced scores of league champions, NCS champions as well as top NCS placers. Carlos is also certified as a conditioner and is a certified coach and also has his BS in Kinesiology. The club couldn't ask for better

### School Budgets and P.A.C.E.

#### Parent Action Coalition for Education

In our March issue of this newsletter, we saw that school costs in our district that exceed revenues must be dealt with. The four million dollars to be cut from the next school year budget is hard on the heels of several years of cuts. We appear to be losing Valle Verde and Northgate librarians, Valle Verde fourth grade instrumental music program and several other programs that are thought of as quite critical.

One organization is beginning a head-on attack to hold the line. The *Parent Action Coalition for Education* (PACE) is a self-directed group of concerned parents from schools and grade levels across the district. PACE is in the process of mounting a parent-driven fundraising campaign to ensure critical program continuity for all dis

trict schools during the next school year.

PACE is shooting toward raising enough funding by June of this year to reach their goal of continuity for these already-dropped programs. This dedicated group has the enthusiastic support and endorsement of the Mount Diablo Education Association and the Diablo Managers Association. PACE will be contacting all parents in the district through the schools where you will be learning about their official campaign launch dates and goals. Our newsletter will also publish the dates and contact information. If you have questions now, direct them to Ellen Multari at: [pace\\_mdusd@hotmail.com](mailto:pace_mdusd@hotmail.com)

By J Tilley

### The Creek:

#### A Middle School Youth Center

Is Now Accepting Applications!

Please refer to the website for registration forms.

We will be opening in Sept. 2005!

[www.thecreekyouthcenter.org](http://www.thecreekyouthcenter.org)

Donna Perham and  
Tricia Carella, Directors

# Community News

## Fundraising for Northgate's Little Theatre Tops \$1 Million

*Northgate Community Pride Foundation  
moves one step closer  
to a summer start date for the  
Little Theatre project.*

**With \$500,000 left to raise in just 3  
months, the Little Theatre project  
needs YOUR support now!**

Northgate High School has a strong tradition in the performing arts with demonstrated excellence in drama, dance, choral and instrumental music. However, unless something is done right now, the 'home' of these present and future Northgate musicians will remain in terrible disrepair. Broken seats, torn carpet, terrible acoustics, limited wing and stage space, and inadequate lighting.

The Northgate Community Pride Foundation is working in partnership with the school district to fully renovate the Little Theatre. To date, we have raised \$1.2 million dollars toward our goal of \$1.7 million.

With YOUR help we can raise the remaining \$500,000 by June so we can start this project in the summer and have it ready for performances in early 2006. **PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING A GENEROUS CONTRIBUTION TO THIS RENOVATION PROJECT NOW!**

Please make your check payable to Northgate Community Pride Foundation and mail it to P.O. Box 31652, Walnut Creek, CA 94598. Visit our website at [www.NorthgatePride.org](http://www.NorthgatePride.org) or call for info 939-6273. Northgate Pride is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.)



**NORTHGATE Little Theatre Renovation  
PROPOSED BLACK BOX THEATER**

### Woodlands Board of Directors

James Tilley, President  
Bruce Katz, Vice President  
Bill Swanson, Vice President  
Betty Maire, Secretary/Treasurer  
Ed Wohlens, Special Projects  
Steve Elster, Special Projects  
Shawn Rizzo, Editor

**Next Board Meetings:**  
April 2, 2005 @ 9:15am  
May 7, 2005 @ 9:15am  
Carl's Junior Conference Room

Woodlands residents are  
encouraged to attend  
board meetings at all times!

## The Woodlands Association is Looking for a "Few Good Men & Women!"

We are in need of 2 volunteers to help  
with the distribution of the monthly newsletter.

If you can volunteer 25 minutes of  
your time per month, please contact  
Shawn Rizzo 925-465-4464  
[srizzo@woodlandsassn.org](mailto:srizzo@woodlandsassn.org)

**Students, Retirees, At Home  
Parents and all others  
are welcome!**

*Delivery needed for:*

- 1.) Heather Court—12 homes
- 2.) Tupelo—27 homes





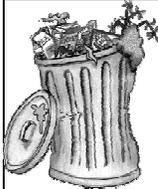
# Community Happenings



## April 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">                     V V = Valle Verde                      FH = Foothill                      NG = Northgate                 </div>		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;">                     Please submit any events you would like to see on May's calendar to <a href="mailto:srizzo@woodlandsassn.org">srizzo@woodlandsassn.org</a> or 465-4464 by April 15th                 </div>				Woodlands Board Meeting 9:15am Carl's Jr. Conf. Room
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	VV, FH, NG: Return to School from Spring Break!					NG: Junior Prom SBC Center/ San Ramon
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Woodlands Swim Team preseason practice starts	WC Concert Band Spring Concert 8pm Dean Leshner			NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!!!	
NG: Spring Play 7pm Little Theatre						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
						Aquanauts Salute to Mayor & City of WC 1:30pm Heather Farm  Sidewalk Fine Arts Festival — Downtown WC
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Cabana Club Spring Clean Up 9am-4pm  Sidewalk Fine Arts Festival — Downtown WC		NG: Academic Letter Night 7pm			NG: STAR Testing	Trail Day, 8am Borges Ranch 930-7731
NG: STAR Testing						

**We appreciate your feedback on the newsletter!**  
 Email your comments to [feedback@woodlandsassn.org](mailto:feedback@woodlandsassn.org) or call 465-4464



### Trash Talk

The new mixed recycling cans we received makes it easier on all of us to recycle, recycle, recycle!!

**Don't forget to be a good neighbor and keep your garbage containers out of sight in the side or back yard every day except for Friday pickup!**

### Woodlands Mailing List

If you'd like to be notified of website updates and other important Woodlands news, please send an email to: [mail@woodlands.org](mailto:mail@woodlands.org) and you will be placed on our mailing list.

*The Woodlands Association does not share/sell contact information to other entities. Your email and contact information will be kept for our use only.*



# Want Ads

## Services

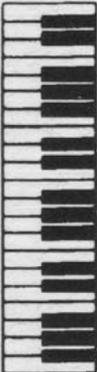
**3 GOOD PAINTERS:** FAST, CLEAN & NEAT. Interior & Exterior. Exceptional prep work. All your painting needs. Acoustic removal, wallpaper removal, drywall repair, texturing. CUSTOM WORK TO REPAINTS. Many References. **Free estimates. 925-935-7593**  
Lic. 740315

**Handyman:** Quality work. Versatile—almost any standard job or unusual problem. Electrical, plumbing, carpentry, linoleum, tile, windows, and doors. Honest and have references.  
**Paul 676-6607**

**Mortgage Consultant:** Woodlands resident eager to assist neighbors. Thinking about doing home improvements? Put your equity to work. My name is Eric Giacobazzi, home loan specialist, for more information call **toll free 24 hr free-recorded message 800-514-1196 X9021**

**All Bay Builders:** 25 yrs exp., Lic 644085, Workers Comp, BBB and references. Specializing in addition and remodeling.  
**www.all-bay-builders.com.** Email **AllBayBuilders@yahoo.com.**  
**John 925-784-4606**

**Painting Contractor:** \*Area Specialist\* LCG Painting/Removal of acoustical ceilings and retexturing. (Cal Lic #765438) For all your painting needs. Specializing in interiors, exteriors and decks. Quality workmanship. Affordable rates. Satisfaction guaranteed. Many area referrals. Bonded and insured. Call **Larry 933-3766**



**Piano Lessons: Ages 8 & up.**  
Your home or mine.  
References available from Woodlands.



**Mrs. Trudi O. Steinman, Music Instructor**  
B.A. in Piano, California State University, Hayward 1970

2520 Ryan Road, Apt. 9  
Concord, CA 94518 (925) 429-1805

## Wanted

**WANTED:** Place to store small tent camper that is 12' long by 7' wide. Please call **925-932-5324.**

**SUMMER BABYSITTER:** Looking for responsible individual to watch an 8 and 6 year old on Wed / Thurs / alternating Fridays (full days) from June 29 through the end of the summer. Car required. If you are interested or have questions call:

**Lisa Lamm 925-943-5266**

## Wanted For Woodlands Website

- ◆ Woodlands photos. Ie: Cabana Club parties, neighborhood parties, neighborhood garage sale, etc.
- ◆ Old newspaper articles featuring the Woodlands
- ◆ Old Woodlands newsletters
- ◆ Any information, stories related to the history of the Woodlands
- ◆ Home builders, Middlefield and Hoffman brochures

**If you have any of these items or others, please contact Shawn @ 465-4464 or srizzo@woodlandsassn.org. I'd be happy to scan them in and return the original to you!**

## Woodlands Advertising Rates

### Personal/Business Want Ads:

**Line Ad with a maximum of 30 words.**

\$8.00/Month—Woodlands Residents

\$13.00/Month—Non-Woodlands Residents

### Business Ads:

**Please submit only ONE copy of your ad.**

**Color paper is only offered for FULL Page Ads.**

Full Page, white paper.....\$80.00

Full Page, colored paper.....85.00

1/2 Page.....45.00

1/4 Page.....25.00

1/8 Page.....15.00 Woodlands Residents

1/8 Page.....18.00 Non-Woodlands Residents

*All advertising must be submitted by the 15th of each month*

**Call Shawn Rizzo @ 465-4464 or email srizzo@woodlandsassn.org to place your ad**