

The Woodlands



Keeping You Informed For Over 40 Years

July 2007



Join us for the Woodlands Annual 4th of July Parade & BBQ

Free Admission!

Gather Valle Verde @ 11AM, Parade @ 11AM, BBQ from 12 PM to 2 PM, Games will be from 2 PM to 5 PM. Decorate your scooters, bikes, go carts or floats. Roller skate, walk or ride in the annual



4th of July Parade. The parade starts at Valle Verde and ends up at the cabana club for an old fashioned family BBQ with swimming and games!



All Woodlands Residents, Family and Friends welcome.

\$5 Meal Includes: Hamburger/Hot Dog,
Chips, Drink & Cookie

“Free Admission” Volunteers Still Needed!

Contact Marc Graves 925-336-6272

See you there!!

Woodlands 4th of July Parade 1978” For more photos like this one go to WoodlandsAssn.org.





120 Years of Tunnels

A look back at the trip from Walnut Creek to Oakland

At the end of the Civil War in 1865 it took quite a few hours by stage coach to trek from Walnut Creek to Oakland. The coaches had to snake along several roads just to get to the East Bay hills. Originally the dusty road over the top of the Berkeley & Oakland hills was called Summit Road. Just before the Civil War, the first telegraph line was strung on poles from Oakland over the hills all the way out to Antioch. The line went right through Walnut Creek and then out Ygnacio Valley Road. The dusty Summit Road portion of the telegraph line route was renamed Telegraph Road. From the west, traffic over the Oakland and Berkeley hills traveled up what is now known as Claremont Canyon and east of the hills it was called Fish Ranch Road. The coach drivers got quite good at using their wooden brakes on both sides of the summit.



In the mid-1800s Walnut Creek had already become an important trade and business center. Both local residents and business people were discussing a tunnel through the Oakland or Berkeley hills to improve and expand access to and from Walnut Creek's thriving downtown. By the late 1870s, the Oakland & Contra Costa Tunnel Company was authorized to dig the first 300 foot tunnel as part of their Kennedy Toll Road project. This project allowed access to both stage and freight coaches and cut hours out of the trek to and from Oakland. The tunnel was dark, dank and spooky, much like an old railroad tunnel.

Due to ever increasing trade and traffic, during the 1890s the two county governments involved began a 1,100 foot tunnel that was finally opened in October 1903 at a cost of \$36,000. This tunnel was also timber-lined like a railroad tunnel and was still very dark and spooky. The tunnel was nearly 6 yards wide and better accommodated the mainly horse drawn traffic. However... it was still only one-way-at-a-time and coach, car and truck drivers had to signal their entry with kerosene lanterns or by burning newspapers. The tunnel entrance from the west side was well over 200 feet above the current Caldecott tunnel entrance and on the east side it was approached from the top of Ashby Avenue in Berkeley on a newly carved Tunnel Road. The tunnel was named Broadway Tunnel. Inside the tunnel it was dank and leaky most of the year.

By the 1920s this tunnel facility was proving completely inadequate. Model T Fords were abundant and automobile queues grew and grew at each entrance. It wasn't until 1929 that the first two Caldecott Tunnel bores got underway. It took a full eight years to 1937 before their completion. These tunnels became know as the Broadway "Low Level" Tunnels because they emptied right on to Broadway leading into Oakland. They were also about 200 feet "Lower" than the old tunnel portal. These tunnels were (and still are) both 3,600 feet long. The third tunnel bore was not completed and opened to traffic until 1964. This last bore is about 3,770 feet long.

So here we are over 120 years later still traveling through our East Bay hill tunnels by car and BART today. Perhaps we should now be asking, what can we do to make these treks greener? And how many of these trips are really necessary?

By J Tilley (Adapted from the original article by Catherine Accardi, Editor, Walnut Creek Historical Society)

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

Upcoming Board Meetings

**First Saturday
of July and August**

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

Woodlands residents
are encouraged to
attend board meetings

Valle Verde Elementary School

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

From June 18-27 the school office will be open from 6:30 am - 3pm . We will return on August 6th with the same hours. Be sure to let us know if you are moving so your student's records can follow them in a timely manner.

2007/8 REGISTRATION DAYS

Registration days for the 2007/8 school year are August 21 (students whose last name begins with M-Z) and August 22 (students whose last name begins with A-L) from 4:00 to 6:00 P.M.

For the first time, registration packets will be sent via e-mail to Valle Verde families. Just print, complete, and return the forms when you come to registration. Watch for packets in early August.

NOON SUPERVISORS NEEDED

Want to join the fun at lunchtime? We are in need of personnel to supervisor the students at lunch time. It's a great time to check in with your own student in addition to adding a very valuable service at Valle Verde. Hours from either from 11:30 - 1pm or 11:30 - 12:40 pm and the pay runs about \$11.50 an hour. If interested, please stop by the office and pick up an application or e-mail Michele at mckimmiem@mdusd.k12.ca.us with any questions

Valle Verde 2007-2008 SCHOOL CALENDER

8/20 - Kick-off Day for M-Z 4- 6PM	1/14 - Spelling Bee in MUR @ 8:30 AM
8/21 - Kick-off Day for A-L 4- 6 PM	1/21 - Martin Luther King Jr. Bday Holiday
8/27 - First Day of School and Back-to-School Night	1/22 - Art Show in MUR
9/3 - Labor Day Holiday	1/25 - Mid-progress Reports home if needed
9/17 - School Picture Day	1/28 - Geography Bee in MUR @ 8:30 AM
9/17 - Site Council Briefing 5-8 PM - Centre Concord	2/5 - 100th Day of School
10/12 - Mid-Progress Reports Home if needed	2/11 - Lincoln's Bday Holiday
10/18 - Vision Screening for K & 2nd 8:30 - 1PM	2/18 - President's Bday Holiday
10/24 - Picture Make-up Day	3/7 - End of 2nd Trimester
11/12 - Veteran's Day Holiday	3/12 - Report Cards Sent Home with Students
11/16 - End of First Trimester	3/21-28 - Spring Break
- Report Cards given at conferences in December	4/25 - Mid-Progress Reports Home if Needed
11/19-23 - Thanksgiving Break	5/26 - Memorial Day Holiday
12/3-14 - Parent Teacher Conferences - Dismissal at 1:30 PM	6/11 - Last Day of School - Report Cards Home
12/21-1/4 - Winter Break	

VALLE VERDE PTA NEWS

HONORARY SERVICE AWARDS

Each Year, the Valle Verde PTA selects several parents to be honored with Service Awards for their contributions to the welfare of the kids at the school. As usual, we could just throw a rock and hit any number of parents we would like to honor. We are so lucky that we have that kind of support at Valle Verde - it makes a wonderful environment for our children, and makes it a place where teachers want to teach.

This year, we are starting a new Valle Verde tradition: the Sherri Award. This award, named in honor of former Valle Verde parent *Sherri Tenant*, who passed away from cancer last fall, honors an individual at the school who makes a difference - be it a teacher, aide, staff member or parent.

The award this year goes to our amazing custodian, *Dan Cowell*. Without Dan, we couldn't be successful at any of the school and PTA-sponsored events. He works behind the scenes, but he's always there. Thank you, Dan!

Here are the 2006 - 07 Honorary Service Award recipients

Marco Bertolozzi

Karen Burcher

Leora Cope

Teresa Dildine

Suzanne Hearn

Shelly Henkhaus

Brenda Rubino

Leslie Wise

Teresa Dildine

The Valle Verde "Couple's Award" goes to *Colleen and Joe Casey*. And finally, the PTA Golden Oak Award, goes to *Pam Bond*. For more than 10 years Pam has worked to make Valle Verde a better place. Thank you Pam! We will honor all of the recipients at the first PTA meeting next year. Pam, Shelly, Teresa, Leslie and Suzanne -- all of whom are "graduating" from Valle Verde -- were honored during Thursday's promotion ceremony.

FINAL MESSAGE RE STREET SAFETY

The Safety Committee would like to wish everyone in the Valle Verde community a fun and safe summer. Additionally, we want to thank you all for your help this year in keeping our children safe by observing the traffic laws and the posted loading/parking rules at the school. Finally, we would like to issue a final **BIG THANK YOU to our Crossing Guards Peter Dudley, Anne Pierce, Susan Blumer, Alisa MacCormac, Mike Escobar and Melanie Moniz and substitutes Sian Davies and George Tsapouklis** for their efforts all year to keep our children safe. We are also extremely grateful to *Peter Dudley* for running the Crossing Guard program this year and ensuring that we had substitute guards whenever our faithful regulars were unavailable.

If you would like help out with crossing guard duty or street safety next year, please contact Sian Davies at sian@astound.net.

2007/8 PTA OPEN POSITIONS

The following PTA positions are still open for the 2007/8 school year. If you are interested in taking one of these jobs, please contact Polly Bradbury at 935-1438 or pollybradbury@astound.net.

- 5th Grade Activities
- A/R Tests
- Campbell's Soup Labels
- Carnival Sub-committee: Food
- Science Fair
- Scrip
- Spring Fling
- Valle Verde Spirit Wear

PEP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR 07/08

We are short on Parent Educators for next year and would love to get some more moms trained. Valle Verde currently provides PEP classes which encourage kids to stay healthy and safe to all 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade students. There will be training sessions in the fall both at night and during the day for any parent who is interested in participating. Anyone who would like more information can contact: Kris Cropper at cropperfamily@sbcglobal.net or at (925)934-0843.

WHAT ARE YOUR KIDS DOING THIS SUMMER?

Check out Arts, Adventures & Academics Summer Camp Grades 1-8, June 25-July 27th. 9:30-12:30 at Walnut Creek Intermediate School. All classes are hands-on & discovery-based, allowing students to learn by doing. Our small class sizes, high quality programming and caring teachers, artists and arts educators have made this program a favorite for 25 years! For more information go to www.art-ed.org/aaa.htm or call 943-5846.”

Arts, Adventures & Academics Scholarships Available All need based applicants will be considered, however any student who qualifies for the Free and Reduced Lunch Program automatically would qualify for this scholarship. For more information visit our website or call (925) 943-5846

FROM THE DISTRICT

“Mt. Diablo Unified School District welcomes the participation of all students, parents and community members in all District sponsored activities conducted on campuses or at off-site locations. The District will work diligently to see that these activities are not limited by physical access barriers, thereby ensuring the opportunity for participation by all in these activities.”

KAPOW Stands for Kids And the Power Of Work, will return to Mt. Diablo Unified School District’s elementary schools in 2007-08 for a ninth year

KAPOW, which is co-sponsored by the Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce, allows business volunteers to enter a second or third grade classroom each month during the school year for one hour to discuss what workers do every day, how Math and English are used, how workers engage in problem solving and teambuilding, and how important it is to succeed in school. KAPOW’s professionally designed curriculum allows a volunteer to easily enter the classroom to present information and conduct fun activities.

If you are interested, or know of a business or company who would like to participate, please contact the school district’s KAPOW Coordinator, Felicia Olivieri at: (925) 676-9695 or e-mail piba@aol.com.

WALNUT CREEK AREA INTEREST

FAMILY THEATRE FESTIVAL

Don’t miss the 1st Annual Family Theatre Festival at the Regional Arts Center on July 28. Tickets on sale now! For details visit www.lesherartscenter.org.

WHAT TO DO WITH THOSE USED BART TICKETS?

Donate them to EarthTeam! Donate your unused portion of your BART tickets “Tiny Tickets” to local nonprofit organization. The East Bay Community Foundation has registered more than 150 nonprofit organizations from around the Bay Area. A list of registered nonprofit organizations is available on this web site. BART riders can choose an organization that will receive their “tiny tickets.” In this way the East Bay Community Foundation helps achieve its goal of connecting local donors with the nonprofit organizations serving their communities. The East Bay Community Foundation is coordinating the program, including providing technical assistance to nonprofits who collect the tickets and dispersing funds back to those organizations once BART has determined the value of their tickets.

For more information, contact Aminika Reese at 510/208.0801 or email at areese@eastbaycf.org.

SF Rocks Summer Institute (July 23-August 17, 2007)



9th and 10th graders participate in earth science field trips around the Bay Area and conduct earth and environmental science research. At the end of the summer, students create posters of their study to present to a major scientific conference - an exciting opportunity for high school students to discuss their work with scientists from all over the world! Sponsored by San Francisco State University. For more information, visit <http://sf-rocks.sfsu.edu> or contact Jim Neiss, jneiss@sfsu.edu or 415-405-2101.

A Visual Art & Design Program for High School Age Students

In the 2007 – 08 school year, the City of Walnut Creek’s Art Education program will offer a once-a-week, eight-month visual art and design program for a selected group of 16 high school – age students from public, private, or home school programs.

MAKE YOUR MARK...

- o Portfolio Submission Dates: Monday – Friday, September 17 – 21
(Contact: Doug Rowe for Portfolio Requirements)
- o Acceptance Notification: Wednesday, September 26

When – Where – How

Program begins: Friday, October 5 – Friday, May 30
4:30 PM – 6:30 PM (some extended evenings & Saturday excursions)
Shadelands Art Center, Art Annex B
175 N. Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek, CA
Fee: \$550.00 (35 sessions) (a limited number of scholarships are available)
Contact: **Doug Rowe** at 925-943-5899 x 471 rowe@arts-ed.org



In the 2007 – 08 school year, the City of Walnut Creek’s Art Education program will offer a once-a-week, eight-month visual art and design program for a selected group of 16 high school – age students from public, private, or home school programs.

Student artists will be accepted into this program through a portfolio review process. Students who are beginning to create personal meaning in their art and who may be interested in attending an art school and/or pursuing a career in art or design will be our target group. Instruction will be with professional working artists and designers. Areas of focus will include:

- Drawing, painting, and Printmaking – Intermediate – Advanced
- Industrial Design: Cars, Toys, Package/product design and More
- Glass Art: Mosaic, Fused, and Recycled
- Digital Filmmaking
- Digital Drawing Board: Photoshop, and More!

Students will work with teaching staff in developing art portfolios, structured on the three-section AP Studio Art format, that focuses on a students fundamental competence and range of understanding in visual concerns and methods, through three competencies: Concentration, Breadth, and Quality.

More on our Open Space

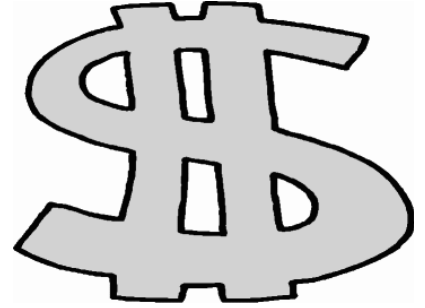


Week-ends are fantastic up in the Walnut Creek Open Space. Most of you know there are several hang gliding enthusiasts that fly around the hills on Saturday and Sunday. Most of them complete their weekend journey right near our Rock Oak Road entrance to the open space. Some of these brave folk launch from Mount Diablo and glide leisurely down to the level area near the Rock Oak Road entrance where they get picked up by a partner. Here is a photo captured just a few week-ends ago with one of these hang gliders on his way down. Many of you will recognize the background.

READ ABOUT YOURSELF IN MONEY MAGAZINE!

Some of you may remember Eric Schurenberg, a one-time Woodlands resident during the early 2000s on Cassena Drive. Eric is now the managing editor of Money Magazine, a well known publication on the use and preservation of your personal money. Their readership is in the millions. Eric is looking for a couple Woodlands families who'd like to be featured in an upcoming issue of Money.

As part of the story, a Money writer will come and visit each family to talk about their lives and their financial goals and strategies. Each family then sits down with one or more of the Bay Area's well known financial planners for an in-depth meeting. This is a great opportunity but you have to be frank about how you handle your finances — so this is not an opportunity for someone who gets embarrassed talking about money - especially their money. But the outcome is a revised plan that should make it far easier for your family to handle needs and reach goals you may have. Plus, you get to read about yourself in the magazine.



If you're interested in being part of this story... and getting personal advice from a local financial professional... send a note to Eric at managing_editor@money.com

By J Tilley



WOODLANDS CRIME REPORT

Thank you to Marilyn Todacheene

Woodlands Board Member for compiling this report from the WCPD website

6/2/2007	10:25:05	500 BL BANYAN CR	REPORTS GROUP OF MEN JUST ARRIVED AT THIS ADDRESS AND ARE OUT FRONT LOUD AND DRUNK....GOA/QOA/UTL
6/2/2007	16:36:10	500 BL BANYAN CR	REPORTS FRIEND HIT HIM WITH HIS FIST THEN TOOK HIS MONEY THIS MORNING. HAS A HEAD INJURY AND IS GOING TO MINOR INJ CLINIC AT KAISER IN WC. SUSP: DAN UNK LAST, RP CAN FIND OUT LATER. HE WAS A FRIEND FROM MASSES...VICT ACCUSED BY FRIENDS OF BURGLARY.FRIENDS B
6/2/2007	21:38:42	3000 BL CITRUS CR	911 HANG UP....RESIDENT ADVISED ACCIDENTAL. NO PROBLEM.
5/4/2007	8:35:21	CITRUS AV / OAK GROVE RD	REPORTS 11-82 NOT BLOCKING BETWEEN BLU BMW AND WHI INFI SUV, NOW PARKED IFO NOB HILL FOODS....DETERMINED INVOLVED PARTIES EXCHANGED INFORMATION. NO REPORTDESIRED.
5/5/2007	12:51:57	3200 BL PEACHWILLOW LN	2ND HAND TO RP, 3 MALE J'S ARE ON THE ROOF OF THE SCHOOL WITH UMBRELLAS....AREA CHECK NEG GOA
5/6/2007	1:59:49	3600 BL SUGARBERRY LN	MAIN CIRCUIT BREAKER ON EXTERIOR OF HOUSE WAS TURNED OFF. UNKNOWN CAUSE. AREA CHECK FOR CAR NEGATIVE.
5/6/2007	9:50:55	2900 BL YGNACIO VALLEY RD	REPORTS THEFT OF GOLF CLUBS FROM HIS VEH AROUND 1500 HRS YESTERDAY. RP BELIEVES SUBJ IN DRK BLU TOYT WGN MIGHT'VE BEEN RESPONSIBLE....AS REPORTED.
5/6/2007	16:12:11	OAK GROVE RD / YGNACIO VALLEY RD	REPORTS A NON INJURY ACCIDENT THE OTHER INVOLVED PARTY REFUSED TO GIVE THE RP ALL INFO FOR A NAME EXCHANGE. SIL JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE (Redacted 03) VS GLD FORD (Redacted 03). **MAKE CONTACT IN LOBBY**...
5/7/2007	2:02:12	2800 BL YGNACIO VALLEY RD	11-96 ON LIC/2YHA219/ENCINA GRANDE RED 2D HOND ACCORD TOWED FOR VC 22651(0)(2)....ABC TOW IMPOUNDED THE VEH FOR EXPIRED REG.
5/7/2007	2:20:19	2400 BL OAK GROVE RD	Z4 FLAGGED DOWN RE: POSS SOMEONE TRYING TO SET SOMETHING ON FIRE. SUSP IS WMA HIPPI TYPE W/ DOT SB OAK GROVE ARRESTED:JLH DOB/042419XX/FOR OUT WARRANT...SUSP HIT VICTIM W/ PIPE. VICTIM BLOCKED HIT WITH ARM AND SUFFERED SWELLING TO FOREARM.
5/7/2007	10:09:01	3600 BL PERADA DR	RP REQUESTS ADVICE OVER ROOMMATE (Redacted 01) AND DISTURBING LETTERS THAT SHE HAS WRITTEN. RP NOW AT THE LASEN BUILDING 2ND FLOOR....ADVICE GIVEN

Want Ads

SERVICES

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

JUNK REMOVAL SPECIALIST: We haul residential and commercial junk for the best prices in the east Bay! To schedule an appointment or if you have any questions please call us @ (925) 934-3743 or visit our website at: www.DUMploadsonus.com!

FOR SALE

Beautiful 70 Gallon Fresh Water Aquarium with 20+ healthy fish, wood stand, all filters, air pumps, heater, test kits, etc. Can see in Woodlands. \$400 Jeff (925) 808-8662 or plumerdath@yahoo.com

LOST AND FOUND

Found. Set of keys on Citrus Ave. Key set has an attached charm containing an angel with foreign words. Please call 932-5179 and identify with description of keys and charm.

Want to Sell Something?



Use us!



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Annual Woodlands Garage Sale 2007
Save your items! The date is set for Sunday,
October 7th. Look for details in our August and
September newsletters.

Professional teaching – Personal attention and caring
Extra Curriculum activities – Safe and Fun Environment
6 years of the local experience in the Northgate area

Licensed Small World Home Daycare
Teacher has A.A. Degree of Early Childhood Education
Newborn to 5 years old
925-934-8590 (Home & Fax)



Advertise With Us!

To Advertise in the *Woodlands Newsletter*,

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

Advertising Rates & Sizes

MARC

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

Full Page – 10 x 7.5 - \$80/month

½ Page – 5 x 7.5 - \$45/month

¼ Page – 5 x 3.5 - \$25/month

¼ Page on back cover - \$45/month

1/8 Page – 2.5 x 3.5 - \$15/month

Want Ads - line ad with 30 words or less:

\$5 Woodlands Residents, \$13 Non-Residents

Next Advertising Deadline

Please submit all ads and
payments for the next issue by
July 15, 2007

Submission Guidelines

- Please submit your ad in the actual size/dimensions listed above.
- Ad should be formatted with any artwork you want included at the time of submittal.
- If your ad needs layout/design or artwork, there is an additional \$10 design fee.
- We love DIGITAL FILES! If you can provide a digital file of your ad, please email it to madmacsdad@aol.com. We accept PDF, Microsoft Publisher, and MS Word documents.
- If you only have a paper copy of your ad, please mail it and the payment to:
Woodlands Association, PO Box 31085, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
- Payment is due when you submit your ad. Please make checks payable to “Woodlands Association” and mail to:
PO Box 31085, Walnut Creek, CA 94598