



The Woodlands

October 2005

CERT Training Hits at Crucial Time...

Woodlands Residents Open Hearts to Katrina Victims

By the time this reaches your doorstep, we will have completed two or perhaps three of our Woodlands six disaster training sessions. Fifty of our neighbors signed up to participate in this potentially *life changing* experience. During the first session on September 13th at the Shadelands we scrambled for more chairs for all of the extra neighbors who came to see and learn. Several teens asked to come with their family to get involved. Clearly, today this training has much more relevance to our own preparedness... hard on the heels of Katrina and gulf coast disasters.

The association has received many, many calls and emails commenting on **CERT**, our local Woodlands training and also to discuss whether there might be some way we as a neighborhood might get directly involved. Here are just a few of these items...

The first idea we heard was about offering shelter in the Woodlands... a safe place to stay. The idea came to us from a senior Woodlands couple right after the first images of the New Orleans flooding began surfacing in the news. This couple had estimated that there must be easily 500 or more empty guest rooms and "empty nest" bedrooms right here in the Woodlands. They went on to say, "why not open our homes to individuals or even small families as our guests until they can get on their feet and return home". Our three schools would surely welcome children as they arrived.

Just hours after this idea surfaced, we received a note from a neighbor asking us to view *craigslist.com* on the web. At the "craigslist" site folks were already actively compiling contact points for available guest rooms, whole empty homes, summer houses, hunting lodges and the like as temporary shelter. These offers of shelter were, and still are, being posted by a lot of people from coast to coast. Today this web

"Why not open our homes to Individuals or small families until they can get on their feet and return home."

~ Woodlands Resident

resource has a whole section dedicated to Katrina relief cataloging just about every need along with lists of relief organizations as well as individuals helping and offering to fill the need.

We began to see the lemonade stands being erected simultaneously throughout our neighborhoods. Dads and Moms were helping with the lemonade while children prepared their colorful signs all with the message: "for Katrina victims".

One of our Woodlands youngsters had watched the Katrina news in horror and was moved to email us a dynamite idea. It came from Joelle Stegner in the seventh grade at Foothill Middle School and it is something we could all actually make

happen in our own ways. The heart of Joelle's idea is that every neighbor selling treasures and white elephants at our big Woodlands October 2nd annual garage sale could volunteer the biggest slice of their sale proceeds that they might afford and then individually donate to aid organizations of their own choice. Joelle, you are a real Woodlands gem.

Just after Joelle's email, we received a call from Valle Verde. The parents and teachers decided to run a "Flea Market for Katrina Victims" at the school from 9:00 to 2:00 on October 2nd, to coincide with our Woodlands garage sale day.

Our association has been building up to our emergency and disaster training for over six months now. With the horrible and devastating events in the gulf, this training has become even more timely and relevant. Each of your neighbors that are CERT trained will be an asset to our neighborhood. We need to thank those who have given their time for the future well being of all of us.

By J Tilley

**See page 4 for one group of Valle Verde students and their lemonade stand.*

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Community News

Free Computer/Electronics Recycling: October 7-9



Got E-Waste Inc., a State certified E-Waste collector, is partnering with the Rotary Club of Clayton Valley/Concord Sunrise and the City of Concord to sponsor a hazardous recycling event on October 7th-9th at the Chronicle Pavilion in Concord. Electronic products including computers, computer monitors, televisions, telephone equipment, VCR's, MP3 players, etc. can be dropped off for free at the

Chronicle Pavilion for recycling. All e-waste collected will be taken to a state approved recycling center in Hayward, CA for recycling. Recycling e-waste prevents harmful toxic waste from being released in our landfills and environment. Details are as follows:

Where: Chronicle Pavilion, 2000 Kirker Pass Rd., Concord

When: Friday, October 7, 2005 1pm-6pm
Saturday & Sunday, Oct. 8 & 9, 8am-1pm

Cost: FREE to all California residents

Limitations: All electronic equipment will be accepted. Appliances are NOT accepted, only e-waste. There is no limit on how much e-waste any person or business can bring.

Your local landfill charges as much as \$35 to dispose of a single item. Don't miss this great opportunity to dispose of your old computers, TV's and other electronic equipment. For more information go to the E-Waste website at www.gotewaste.com or call 510-351-7511.
By Ed Wohlers

Have Computer/Electronics to Recycle, But no Time to Take Them?

Let "The Hurricanes" Girls Soccer Team Pick Up Your Items For You!

The Hurricanes (WCSC's Class 1 U12 Girls Team) will pick up your old equipment for you and drop off at an e-waste site for a donation (~\$5/per item).

Pickups will be on ***Friday, October 7.***
Please contact **Penny Cortez** at zetroc4@astound.net for additional information or to schedule your pick-up time. All donations benefit the soccer club and are tax deductible.

Measure "R" on November Ballot For New Downtown Library

Recognizing the critical need for a new downtown library, more than 1,300 members of the community have endorsed Measure R on the November 8 ballot. Measure R will raise needed local funds to replace the existing downtown library, which was built in 1961 when Walnut Creek had fewer than 10,000 residents.

Cramped quarters, deteriorating

facilities, and unsafe conditions prompted the city to place the \$21 million bond measure on the ballot. The existing library ran out of space 20 years ago, resulting in a book collection 26% smaller than the national average (adding a book means removing a book). The library can only support 12 computers, of which only eight have internet access.

Compared to neighboring communities, Walnut Creek's libraries – including the Ygnacio Valley branch – have less than one-third the space on a per-person basis.

As important, the downtown library is seismically unsound with significant fire safety, energy-efficiency, and other health and safety problems. The build-

ing is also not fully accessible to people with disabilities.

The new library will offer a variety of programs to meet the needs of our community. For young children and families, the library will offer daily reading programs and more books and learning activities. Students of all grade levels will have access to a computer and homework center with tutoring services, research training, and expanded resource materials.

Services for adults and seniors will include a technology center that provides training in the use of computers, electronic reference materials and the Internet.

Comprehensive planning for the new downtown library began 7 years ago, with the input of some 3,000 residents, community

groups, business owners and library experts. The State Office of Library Construction has rated the plan as excellent. The new library will actually add about 20,000 square feet of green space to Civic Park (by consolidating parking), and existing trees and greenery will be preserved.

The cost of Measure R will be \$9.05 per \$100,000 of assessed (not market) value – or about \$29 per year for the average Walnut Creek home. Measure R requires a two-thirds majority for approval.

To learn more about Measure R and endorse or volunteer, visit www.AboutMeasureR.org or call 946-9302.

*By Jan Fellerman,
Yes on Measure R Campaign*



Community News

Valle Verde Safety Rules

Community Cooperation is Requested



School is back in session and it's a perfect time to remember the Valle Verde Safety Rules. Even if you do not have a child at Valle Verde, this is important for you as well, since the elementary school is located directly in the Woodlands. The most important safety rule concerning Valle Verde is for all residents to *drive slow and safely* through the neighborhood. There are children walking and riding bikes to and from school each day that we must watch out for. Parents are responsible for teaching their children "street safety," but they *are* children and will sometimes forget. That's why it's a good idea for all of the adults to be extra careful.

There are also several extremely important safety rules concerning traffic at Valle Verde, as well as traffic traveling down Peachwillow and connecting streets.

- You must stop at the main **crosswalk** on Peachwillow in front of Valle Verde if the crossing guard signals you to. If you are not signaled to stop, PLEASE drive SLOW through this area. Like mentioned before, kids are kids and sometimes they are not paying attention so it's helpful for all drivers to pay careful attention in this area.
- Although not every **street corner** near Valle Verde has a crossing guard on it, all street corners are considered cross walks and you must stop if a child and/or their parent is waiting to cross.
- Do not park along the **white curbed area** in front of the school during school drop-off and pick-up times! The white curbed area is **ONLY** for dropping off or picking up your child. You *cannot* leave the car to walk your child to their class. You cannot leave your car parked there for *any reason* during drop-off and pick-up. Please park down a side street and walk your child to their class if need be. When you pull up to

the white curb in the afternoon and your child is not available right then, please leave the area, circle the block and return. While it is inconvenient, it is necessary for the best interest of all.



- Do not park in the **red curb zones**.
- Do not drive into the **staff parking lot** in front of Valle Verde for ANY reason during drop-off or pick-up times. This is very dangerous for the children who are walking from their classroom to parent pick-up, buses or home.

It is important that we all work together to ensure a safe 2005-2006 school year at Valle Verde and in the Woodlands. Thanks in advance for adhering to these safety rules! Please direct all questions to: **Alicia Mac Cormac, Valle Verde Safety, 934-1935 or amaccormac@astound.net**

By Shawn Rizzo

Woodlands

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Next Board Meetings:
October 1, 2005 @ 8:15am
November 5, 2005 @ 8:15am
It's A Grind Coffee Shop

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

Valle Verde Needs: Safety Patrol Volunteers

A few good men and women are needed to help patrol the safety of our Valle Verde children!

You don't need to be a Valle Verde parent to volunteer!

We are in need of:

CROSSING GUARDS: Wednesdays 7:50am—8:25am
& Mondays 2:15pm-2:50pm

STREET SUPERVISORS needed to ensure traffic moves smoothly, cars are not parked on white/red curbs, and pedestrians are safe.

Contact **Alisa Mac Cormac:** amaccormac@astound.net or 934-1935



Woodlands Youth

Valle Verde Kids Care !

On a lazy Labor Day Monday, ten Valle Verde kids got to work to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina. The beautiful day was the perfect backdrop for two lemonade stands strategically placed at the corner of Dogwood and Citrus Avenues. With the help of these children and all of the great families of the Woodlands and Northgate areas, they were able to raise \$750 for Feed the Children's Katrina Victims Effort. Feed The Children will continue to provide supplies and relief to the individuals, children and families affected by Hurricane Katrina for as long as necessary. Here's kudos to: (from left to right) Lochlainn and Ailish Casey, Alena Elze, Taisuke Fox, Olivia and Hannah Morrow, Amanda Wade, Sonja Elze, Hannah Carter and Stephanie Aiello (not pictured).



Awesome Job Kids!!



Valle Verde's Fall Carnival

Sunday, October 22nd at Valle Verde, 11am-5pm

Food * Games * Fun

Don't miss the ghoulishly fun carnival games, inflatables, silent auction basket items, 4th grade and pumpkin raffles, sweet tooth booth and delicious lunch.

signs by the school for more details on tickets) or on carnival day. A meal deal will include one slice of Papa Murphy's pizza, fruit, cookie and soda or water.

(October 21st) or during the carnival on Saturday (October 22nd).

Everyone's invited so round up your family and friends for a hauntingly good time!

Tickets will be available for purchase at a discount the week of October 17th (look for Prepare to be spooked by the 5th graders at their annual Spookhouse on Friday night

See you at the Carnival,
Karen Brajkovich & Karen Worthington

Northgate Community Pride Foundation

Working Together to Build a Better Northgate!

LOOK AT OUR SUCCESS WORKING TOGETHER!

- Complete gym renovation in 2000
- Little Theatre renovation starting this Fall
- Home Football games played at home this year

Northgate Pride has worked hard during the last year to launch and manage a Capital Campaign designed to upgrade the facilities at Northgate High School. Through partnerships with the District, foundations, local businesses and the community, **we have raised \$2.3 million dollars** towards the funds necessary to begin construction on the Little Theatre and to host the first-ever season of

ACTUAL HOME games for our Varsity football team---wonderful news for the community!

WHAT'S NEXT FOR 2005-2006?

GOAL OF \$1.6 MILLION

What will this fund?

- Purchase and installation of a FieldTurf playing field and an eight lane all-weather track in the Sports Complex
- Development of initial design documents for the Aquatic Center

If the community can help us reach the goal of \$1.6 million this year, we can fund yet another set of important steps towards completion of the Mas-

ter Plan drawn up by students, teachers, parents and community members for Northgate High School. The Northgate Community Pride Foundation invites you to be a part of this campaign to **BUILD A BETTER NORTHGATE.**

HOW CAN I GIVE?

Help us reach our goal. All donations are tax deductible and pledges can be paid over a three year period. Contributions can also be made using Visa or Mastercard. Please send your donations to: **NGPF, P.O. Box 31652, Walnut Creek, CA 94598**
For more information phone 925-939-6273 or visit our website at www.northgatepride.org

Community Happenings



October 2005



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
						1 Woodlands Board Meeting 8:15am It's A Grind	
V V = Valle Verde FH = Foothill NG = Northgate							
2 Woodlands Neighborhood GARAGE SALE Flea Market for Katrina @VV MUR	3	4 4th CERT Training	5	6	7 E-Waste Collection @ Chronicle Pavilion 1-6pm	8 E-Waste Collection @ Chronicle Pavilion 8am-1pm	
9 E-Waste Collection @ Chronicle Pavilion 8am-1pm	10	11 5th CERT Training	12	13	14	15 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE!!!	
16	17	18 Last CERT Training	19	20	21 NG: Homecoming Game 3:30pm VV: 5th Grade Spook House @ VV	22 NG: Homecoming Dance 8-11pm VV: Fall Carnival	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						Please submit any events you would like to see on the November calendar to srizzo@woodlandsassn.org or 465-4464 by October 15th

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

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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 OR
- 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

Visit us on the web at: www.WoodlandsAssn.org

Services

HAULING COMPANY: Woodlands resident eager to aid neighbors' waste problems! We haul and/or perform additional services such as demolition, garage/shed clean-out, tree trimming, and much more! CALL US TODAY! (925)934-3743 or visit our web-site www.dumploadsonus.com

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FOUND: 1 Box Turtle walking down Peachwillow Ln. Call 451-9711.



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 Sun: 5:30 am to 7:00 pm

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The classes are under the direction of John Choi-7th degree black belt and assisted by Shana Motobu- 4th degree black belt.

Adults and Youths (ages 12 and above only).

Visitors are welcome!

Contact: Tice Valley Gym

Shihan John Choi 925-979-1263 Monday 7:30-8:30pm

Renshi Chana Motobu 510-797-3449 Thursday 7:30-8:30pm

\$50/Month * Class 2x Week * Family Plan Available

www.doshinkan.com



Child Care When Your Child is Sick

If you work and need someone to care for your sick elementary age child, please call me.

Pediatric Registered Nurse

Laurie Paulsen, R.N. 925-465-4115

Caring for elementary school children
(Only 1 child per day)

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Contra Costa County



American Red Cross

Needs You!

Contra Costa

At the Woodlands first CERT training on September 13, 2005, Paul Witte with the Contra Costa American Red Cross spoke about their need for volunteers. Paul specifically mentioned that they are recruiting volunteers for our local **DAT Team (Disaster Action Team)**.

As a DAT Team Member, you will:

"Work on the front lines and help victims of disaster on the road to recovery. DAT members are the first to respond. Incidents include single family fires, floods etc. DAT members can provide relief to victims for disaster caused loss, including food, clothing & shelter. Training provided."

~ Quoted from the American Red Cross website.

To volunteer for our local DAT Team or any other areas of the American Red Cross, please contact:

Paul Witte

925-698-3403 or **pawstalk@gmail.com**

American Red Cross

Bay Area Chapter - Contra Costa County
 1300 Alberta Way, Concord, CA 94521

www.bayarea-redcross.org

