



The Greenbelt

Volume 169
September 2014

OAK HILLS GARAGE SALE - OCT 18TH

Suzanne Burr organizes the semi-annual Oak Hills garage sale in the Spring and Fall of each year. This year, the Fall garage sale is schedule for October 18th. She does all of the advertising for the garage sale as well as putting together maps and addresses of those home participating in the sale. Please call Suzanne Burr at 633-0514 to let her know that you will be participating in this year's event. If you leave a message, PLEASE leave your Name, Phone Number, Address and any "key" items that you will have for sale.

OAK HILLS COMMUNITY PICNIC

WHAT:	OAK HILLS COMMUNITY PICNIC
WHEN:	SEPTEMBER 13 TH
TIME:	11AM TO 2PM
WHERE:	COMMUNITY PLAYGROUND AND PICNIC AREA
PROVIDED:	AUTHENTIC TACOS AND A VARIETY OF BEVERAGES
WHY:	MEET OHHA BOARD MEMBERS AND SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS AND CONCERNS. CONNECT WITH NEIGHBORS AND MEET, GREET, AND HAVE SOMETHING GOOD TO EAT. LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!

NORTH COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION DISTRICT

There are lots of great activities offered nearby in Castroville throughout the year Check out the upcoming cooking classes in September and October! Would be artists are needed to help them transfer Artist Yermo Aranda's vision of local landscapes into a mural to be placed on the HWY 156 Pedestrian Overpass. Art workshops will be offered. Also, come out on Halloween Night, October 31st to go through the Haunted House, play carnival games, see magic, be in a costume contest, and best part of all, get candy. Doors open at 6pm. For more information on all activities, go to <http://www.ncrpd.org/501/7601.html>

SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS COMING

By Cynthia Suverkrop

The Oak Hills Homeowners Board has targeted several of our sidewalk corners for safety improvements. A Sidewalk Committee was formed in May. Its first task was to evaluate all of the corners and sidewalks in the neighborhood and identify those corner ramps that were in greatest need of repair due to possible trip-hazards caused by the cracking, settling or uplifting of concrete.

Several contractors have been interviewed who will be presenting bids. In addition, since the corner ramps interface with the public roadways and because of safety requirements associated with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Monterey County Department of Public Works needs to be involved for both planning and permit purposes. This is not a project that the association can “just hire someone to go out and fill the cracks with concrete.” The outlined work requires that the board proceed methodically through a prescribed process, and that will take some time. Stay tuned for further developments.

THE COMMUNITY NEEDS YOUR HELP

You may have noticed several homes in the community recently sold and several more are still on the market. The proximity to major highways, beautiful natural areas, and other amenities make our community a desirable option for prospective home buyers. Although these are features we as individual homeowners don't usually have control of, there are a few things each homeowner can do to help our community stay desirable.

Uncut weeds and grass - please maintain lots and landscaping. This includes mowing grass on a regular basis and removing weeds. Please remove garden debris in a timely manner and disposed of appropriately.

Dead trees - Dead or dying trees and plants should be removed and replaced...

Trash removal - Trash cans, building supplies, and other unsightly debris should not be stored in sight of the street or placed where it detracts from a neighbor's view. Do not discard wastes off any kind onto the greenbelt or other areas.

The overall appearance of properties in the community can have a significant impact on home values and homebuyer interest. We all have a big investment in our community, so please help maintain our property values.

This is a friendly reminder to all residents and homeowners to please help keep the Oak Hills community beautiful.

--- A message from the OHHA Board

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

- The Napa earthquake was certainly a very recent wake-up call! Learn lots of important safety information on a wide array of topics at the free CIG Insurance Community Safety Saturday event on Saturday, September 6th at 2300 Garden Road in Monterey. Great prizes, demos and much more. www.cigsafetysaturday.com.
- Save the date for “Everything Italian! Columbus Day Weekend Celebration” at Monterey’s Old Fisherman’s Wharf. A free family event with lots of fun activities. www.montereywharf.com
- The Thunderbirds are back! September 27th and 28th, the Salinas Airshow presents the USAF Thunderbirds, Tribute to Normandy 70th anniversary, Sean D. Tucker, B-25 Mitchell Bomber, Monster Tucks, Metal Mulisha and much more. Go to www.salinasairshow.com for complete schedule and tickets.

WHY WE HIRED AN ARBORIST

As Oak Hills residents, we already know and appreciate this beautiful environment we are fortunate to live within. Our surrounding “greenbelt” is an enhancement to the value of our personal property and a source of great comfort and escape to those who regularly walk through our surrounding forest and grasslands. John Muir once remarked of the woodland walk that it is “the clearest way into the universe” and promised that when we go to wild areas “Nature’s peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees.”

But now that many of our trees are at or nearing maturity, how do we best preserve and maintain our woodland while minimizing the potential liability of dangerous trees and ensure the safety of our residents and their property, especially during this serious drought and fire season. Realizing our responsibility and special location within the Monterey County Coastal District, the OHHA Board has taken pro-active steps to address these issues as recommended by our liability insurance company.

First a tree committee walked the greenbelt and listed the locations and variety of 101 potentially vulnerable trees. Then we sought proposals from several locally recognized arborists to assist us in the preparation of a tree risk management plan. After much deliberation the board selected Thompson Wildland Management, an environmental management and conservation service. By the end of August a certified arborist will have prepared a tree management plan for our greenbelt areas that will locate, number and assess each designated tree for potential risk, using a tree hazard evaluation form as needed and suggesting steps to mitigate identified problems. This may include trimming, pruning or sometimes removal of dangerous trees.

The assessment of tree-associated risk requires specific training and familiarity with the legal permit processes, various types of trees and their locations. While employed by OHHA, a professional forester will assemble the tree data collected into a useable environment management plan that can assist us in planning for maintenance, protection and prevention of future environmental risk. The OHHA board recognizes that taking care of our community property including the trees and wildlife that share our surroundings, is an investment for all of us.

SUPPORT AND ENJOY OUR CASTROVILLE LIBRARY

Monterey County Free Libraries operates seventeen branch libraries which includes our Castroville Library, two bookmobiles, a library by mail program, deposit collections in local schools, and a number of special programs, including a literacy program which operates a literacy outreach vehicle focused on family literacy and kindergarten readiness. Our Homework Centers, sponsored by the Foundation for the Monterey County Free Libraries, provide a FREE place for students of all ages to complete their schoolwork. Print and computer resources, including Internet access, Electronic Databases and word processing, are available for use. They have an open door policy, just drop-in and sign up with the Homework Center Coordinator. Read to a Dog? Grade school students can practice their reading with Walker, a therapy dog, and Linda, a retired teacher, every Saturday morning from 11am to 12pm. For more information, go to <http://www.co.monterey.ca.us/library/events.html>

OAK HILLS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 689
Castroville, CA 95012

Phone: 831-633-0103
Website: www.oakhillshoa.org
Email: office@oakhillshoa.org

We're on the Web!
www.oakhillshoa.org

Pool Hours of Operation

August 22 to September 30: **7am - 7pm**

October 1 to November 2: **7am - 6pm**

November 3 to November 30: **7am - 5pm**

December 1 to February 28: **Closed**

Hot Tub Hours of Operation

Daily: **6am - Midnight**

Board of Directors

President:

Tom Dominy
206-1637

Vice-President:

Cynthia Suverkrop
633-2506

Secretary:

Neal Murray
566-0396

Treasurer:

Peggy Scoggin
633-4620

Administrative Staff:

Steve Naslund
633-0103

Members at Large:

Bob Gowers
633-6255

Pete Lonero
633-4383

Rod Karg
633-5785

Barbara Gulley
633-2436

Cathy Garza
633-5102

Greenbelt Contributors

Wendy Brickman
Cynthia Suverkrop

Greenbelt Publisher

Steven Naslund

Greenbelt Sponsors

Since 2002, Providing High Quality Fast & Efficient Customer Service

CASTROVILLE TIRE & RIM

11500 Merritt Street
Castroville, CA 95012
(831) 633-6000

CB Handyman Service "I CAN FIX IT"

Chris Burris
Handyman/Owner

Painting, Drywall Installation/Repair, Carpentry, Tile, Pressure washing, Cabinets, Finish work, Landscaping and more....

831-224-2311

FREE ESTIMATES



Christian Haun

REALTOR®
www.ChristianHaun.com

Direct (831) 402-9451
Fax (831) 886-3625

Email: ChristianHaun@KW.com
DRE# 01494599


KELLER WILLIAMS
REALTY

26435 Carmel Rancho Blvd.
Carmel, CA 93923

Each Keller Williams Office Is Independently Owned and Operated

ProSource
Wholesale Floorcoverings

6 Rossi Circle Suite F
Salinas, California 93907
831 757-5700 Phone • 831 755-1949 Fax
800 310-4776 Toll Free
mdominy@cshow.net
www.prosource.com

"Your Source For Floors"

Ask For:

Marie Dominy
Account Manager

10% OFF FLOORING
with Greenbelt
Flyer