



LOS TRANCOS WOODS & VISTA VERDE Newsletter – April/May 2014

Save the Date! Wednesday, May 7th Evacuation Drill Exercise

On May 7, 2014 Woodside Fire Protection District, in coordination with San Mateo County and the Town of Portola Valley, will be conducting an Emergency Evacuation Drill in our community. Engine companies countywide will be driving along our roads (25-30 engines expected) training and demonstrating what could occur in the event of a real emergency event and evacuation. San Mateo County Sheriff and Cal Fire will be participating also.

This multi-faceted exercise will serve as both training and learning opportunities for first responders. The evacuation portion of the drill will be initiated by the Town of Portola Valley and will be an adjunct to the overall training drill. After the drill, the day's events will be evaluated by WFPD to provide valuable feedback as to what went well, and where improvements might be made.

The countywide drill will take place on **May 7th from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.** The timeline is approximate and is as follows:

9 a.m. - residents should receive a reverse 911 call (and/or SMC alert) with directions on where to evacuate; underscoring that this is only a drill.

10 a.m. – evacuation should begin and will end around 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Everyone is invited to participate: residents, caretakers, nannies and kids! With the increasing drought and rising threat of wildland fires, knowledge of emergency procedure including evacuation is vital to our LTW/VV community.

Submitted by Tracy Sherman & Vince Nannini/WFPD

Los Trancos Woods Community Association Board Report

NO DUES will be collected from *past Community Association Members* for the year 2014 when this year's edition of our Community Resource Guide/Directory is distributed. *New residents* will be asked to contribute \$10.00. Those wishing to donate additional funds may make their checks payable to LTWCA and send them to our Treasurer at 111 Carmel Way, Portola Valley, CA 94028.

Due to ongoing changes (the tank sale in July) at Pony Tracks Ranch the **2014 Community Picnic** will be held at an earlier date, **Saturday, June 21st**. Look for more information closer to the Picnic. In the meantime please contact any LTWCA Board Member to share your ideas. We are seeking both suggestions and volunteers!

Submitted for LTWCA by Julie Duncan, Treasurer

2014 Community Resource Guide

We are in the process of publishing the Resource Guide. Expect to receive the fabulous, ever informative, essential contact information, new and not dog-eared, 2014 Community Resource Guide sometime in April. I understand you are eagerly awaiting this event, and the preparers are eagerly seeing the light at the end of the tunnel.

Submitted by Deb Smith, Linda Drey-Nightingale, Steve Friedman and Cindy Rowe

Culvert Cleaning Update

We have all seen the drastic drop in water level in the Frog Pond near 27 Old Spanish Trail. On Saturday, December 8th, I noticed that the pipe that runs under the road and takes water from the upper culvert and outfalls to the Frog Pond was about 90% clogged with leaves and debris. I sent an e-mail to Joe LoCoco, our Deputy Director of Road Services, Department of Public Works for San Mateo County, asking him to clear the pipe. By the following Tuesday, Joe's crew had cleared out the pipe and expanded the channel flowing to the Frog Pond. The cleared pipe gives a chance for the Frog Pond to receive the rainwater it used to get and to help the aquatic plants and animals that make the Frog Pond a pleasant part of our neighborhood.



Pipe clogged



County cleaned-out pipe



Trench leading rainwater outflow to Frog Pond

Submitted by Ken Kormanak

Neighborhood Notes

- Just a **friendly reminder** to those of us that have dogs to be considerate of their neighbors who are at home during the day and look forward to enjoying the peace and quiet. A pat on the back to us dog owners who are doing an excellent job of picking up after our dogs poop. The neighborhood has become a much less odoriferous place for walkers.
- **Welcome to a new neighbor!** My first name, "Davy", is a nickname from my last name, "Davidson." I have had it ever since I was a teen (four and a half decades ago). I moved to Vista Verde last fall and love the neighborhood. The depth of quiet along with the beauty of the hills inspire me daily. I live by myself, save for the little critters that find their way in. Two nights ago a small skink lost its tail, as I escorted it outdoors. My profession is spiritual guidance. I support people who are asking questions about their values, purpose and meaning of life. I look forward to meeting some of you!

Submitted by Davy Davidson

- We could use a repeat of February, so everyone get out your rain dance gear and go for it. **Rainfall data** as reported by Gene Hunner: February -- 8.2", March 1 - March 22 -- 1.9", and season-to-date -- 13.1"

Community Associations' Web Sites

The web site addresses are:
<http://lostrancoswoods.org/>
<http://www.vistaverdepv.org>

The group e-mail list is:
VistaVerdeLTW@yahoogroups.com
VistaVerdeCommunityAssoc-subscribe@yahoogroups.com.

Thank you, Jerry Jensen & Rob Kalman for maintaining web sites