



LOS TRANCOS WOODS & VISTA VERDE **Newsletter – April/May 2017**

Community Advisory Council

Over \$1,000,000 of your property taxes will be spent by the Woodside Fire Protection District (WFPD) and the San Mateo County Department of Public Works (DPW) during the next 3 years to enhance fire protection and storm water drainage in Los Trancos Woods and Vista Verde. The Community Advisory Council (CAC), which is made up of members of the LTW & VV communities, was established to provide community input to the identification and prioritization of these projects. We would like to get your input to the proposed plans we have received from DPW and the WFPD. Please come to a **CAC Community Meeting on April 5th** to learn more about these plans and to provide your input as to how they can be improved. The meeting will start at **7:00 PM** and will be held at **40 Ciervos Road**.

Submitted by the CAC

Reflections on Democracy

Eva Diez, a citizen of Spain, moved here with her family about a year ago from Spain. She participated in one of the Women's Marches in January and had some reflections on what she experienced. She feels that listening to each other's ideas and learning to accept different points of view is the basis of a healthy society.

Eva writes: "Throughout history, humankind has needed great sacrifice and struggle to make so many remarkable achievements. Every step forward is the result of immense work from many people. And only by giving continuity to this challenge, shall we deeply understand where we come from and the meaning of our lives. I really hope the difficult times we are witnessing turn into more connection and sympathy."

The Art of Connecting

I think the title describes Douglas Fuchs' life in more ways than one. Douglas connected with nature through the art of found wood and sculptures. We all have enjoyed some fruits of his artistic eye when we visit the lower pond site. But Douglas also made an art of connecting with people. He always had time to stop in his truck and share a few, and sometimes more, words with neighbors who were out walking. His dedication to the neighborhood was evident in his many years that he served as the emergency contact for his Group T on Old Spanish Trail. Douglas, who died February 18th, will be missed by many, and we will no longer hear that familiar hum of his truck going by. Our thoughts and sympathy go out to Douglas's family.

Submitted by Linda Drey-Nightingale

Sudden Oak Death News

Now is the time to plan your spring attack against SOD!

Black, live and tan oak trees are susceptible to the Sudden Oak Death (SOD) pathogen. These species should be sprayed or injected with AgriFos, to reduce the possibility of infection/death. If you have been regularly treating your trees, continue; if not, then now is the time to start.

What is the hurry?

If you wait, it may be too late. The SOD pathogen thrives in moist, warm conditions, just like we are having now. So the time to act is **now**, before we get more rain.

Where can I find out more?

The Vista Verde website: www.vistaverdepv.org (go to Home & Garden – then SOD)

Got Clothes?

Got books, got furniture, got toys, got whatever that you are thinking of clearing out of your house, closets, and garages during your spring cleaning drive. There are opportunities galore to get your excess to someone else who will consider it a treasure. Remember the 4-Rs - Reduce, Reuse, Repair, and Recycle. Well, reuse comes before the recycle, so let us see if we can divert as much as possible from the recycle shed and landfills. Attached is a list of places that will accept your unwanted treasures. This list is clearly not comprehensive but hopefully will give all of us a kick in the rear to get moving on those closets/piles we have been ignoring.

The experts recommend the 3 pile method to get yourself going – will definitely use, will definitely not use, may or may not use or has some sentimental value. Marie Kondo has a very simple Japanese-style criteria – keep what is essential (towel, bed, cup), keep what gives you joy, get rid of all the rest.

1. You can always start with the neighborhood Yahoo Group.
2. Craig's List can come in handy for what you want to sell, and it is very easy to use.
3. For the more committed, there is always eBay which requires you to register.
4. If it is in decent shape, then you can donate it.
5. For recycling, call GreenWaste as they do take a surprising variety of items.
6. Last but not least, we can all think twice before we buy more "stuff"!

Submitted by Linda Drey-Nightingale, a committed reuser

Neighborhood Notes

- **Take photos, not flowers!** Remember that all those wildflowers are the purveyors of seeds for next year. Typically wildflowers do not survive the trip home to a vase and will wilt quickly and permanently. Better to soak up their beauty in their natural setting.
- Now is a perfect time to get out and **cut the ivy off your oaks** and other woodland trees. It is as simple as cutting out 1" of the vine at the base of the tree. The lack of nutrients will take care of killing the ivy, and you do not have to try and untangle the ivy from the tree trunk.
- Here are, for the soaking up, Gene Hunner's astounding **rainfall figures**: February – 17.1", March – 5.2", season-to-date (from 7/1/15) – 57.4" *Fun fact: 1994-95 had more rain at 66.4".*

2016 Community Resource Guide

If you have any changes to the 2016 listing please contact Linda, 851-1787.

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