



The Grapevine



JUL / AUG 2016

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Jim Foley
Vice-President	Michael Toback
Secretary	Laurel Smith
Treasurer	Gloria Felcyn
Director	Anna Scicinska
Director	Dave Katleman
Director	Jeffrey Klopotic

VINEYARDS WEBSITE

www.vineyardsofsaratoga.com

- Monthly newsletter
- HOA forms and documents
- Bylaws, CC&Rs, Rules and Regs
- HOA Board meeting minutes

Want to receive e-mail alerts? Please e-mail your name and unit number, indicating if you are an owner or tenant to register@vineyardsofsaratoga.com

HELPFUL CONTACTS

To report problems with outdoor lights or sprinklers and request repairs please call customer services at CMS

Community Management Services

cs@communitymanagement.com

Telephone 408-559-1977

Fax number 408-559-1970

Our Association Manager is Luis Heredia
lheredia@communitymanagement.com

To report a crime or suspicious behavior call the local Sheriff 408-299-2311



THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The next Board meeting is scheduled on Aug 11th at 7:00pm.

The agenda for all Board meetings is posted in advance at the entrance to the Clubhouse. Monthly meetings are open to all homeowners. The 15-20 minute Open Forum session at the start is an opportunity to have any issues heard by the Board, Association Manager, and others present, and to ask questions about ongoing projects or decisions made by the Board.

Following Open Forum, the meeting is limited to issues posted on the agenda. Homeowners are welcome and encouraged to stay and observe, but this part of the meeting is typically closed to owner participation. Minutes are posted on the website once approved after the next meeting.

JULY NEWS

Pool Party Luau on Saturday August 13th at 4pm. See over for more details. Volunteers are needed to help with BBQ & cleanup.

The next Vineyards wine tasting is scheduled for Friday July 22nd. Please see notices by the mailboxes for additional information.

On July 6th The City of Saratoga had the first reading of proposed smoking regulation changes. For more details please see the article on the Community Information page.

Please observe the speed limit and be careful to follow other rules of the road. Even though the Vineyards is a private road, California Vehicle Code applies and the Sheriff can stop and prosecute drivers. Please be careful on blind corners and at the entrance gate – recently, a car was seen exiting through the entrance lane. **Drive on the right !!!**

Drivers slow down and stay below 15 MPH. Since there is no sidewalk along most of the perimeter road, cars and pedestrians must share the roadway. We have parents pushing infants in strollers, children on scooters, cyclists, and dog walkers. In addition, our partially sighted, elderly and infirm residents who use walking aids, cannot leap out of the way of BMWs careening around blind corners!!!



The enclosure for Dumpster #3 will be enlarged to accommodate one more recycle dumpster. Moving and delivery boxes must be broken down and flattened. Failure to do so has resulted in fines which start at \$100.

Four Vineyards residents attended and completed CERT training recently. Community Emergency Response Team trains residents for emergency preparedness and basic disaster response (first aid, rescue, organizing resources). CERTs assist in a neighborhood when first responders are not immediately available. If anyone is interested, there are more opportunities to take the course later this year, in Los Altos (September) and Los Gatos (October/November).

POOL SEASON

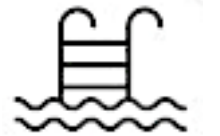
Please observe poolside courtesies, and Vineyards Rules and Regs.



- + Entry to the pool area is by residents' key fob
- + Do not open the gate or lend your key fob to others
- + Children must be supervised by an adult
- + Residents must accompany their guests (max 4 per unit) at all times
- + Loungers, tables and BBQ facilities cannot be reserved
- + Diapers including swim diapers are not permitted
- + Be considerate if you swim in during quiet hours & close the gate softly
- + No glassware or bottles should be brought into the pool area
- + There should be no diving, running, screaming, loud music or any behaviors that cause an annoyance to other pool users or neighbors
- + Non-resident owners are not allowed to use the pools or other common area amenities – this right passes to the renter for the period of tenancy



Since the Big Pool has no bathroom, families are encouraged to use the Clubhouse Pool with adjacent toilet, shower & changing facilities.



SUMMER POOL PARTY



Vineyards residents are invited to enjoy

Hawaiian & BBQ favorites

4 PM Saturday August 13th at the Big Pool

Potluck appetizers, desserts, drinks

Free Mai Tai* for Hawaiian dress



* Both alcoholic and non-alcoholic Mai Tais will be served on arrival to anyone wearing a Hawaiian shirt, lei, flip flops etc... At the start of August a sign-up sheet posted at the Big Pool for attendees, potluck dishes and drinks. Volunteers are needed to help with BBQ & cleanup. Please contact Anna at grapevine@vineyardsofsaratoga.com.

COMMUNITY INFORMATION

What is considered an emergency and who to call? The Board started discussions, to be continued at the August meeting, about how best to report and respond to minor incidents at weekends. Frank H used an official Vineyards phone line and was on-call 24/7 for such situations, but since he passed nobody has taken over this role.

Some situations, like the recent power outage, are obvious – please phone PG&E, because there is nothing much either CMS or the Board can do. Likewise for security issues – report a vandalized car directly to the Sheriff on the non-emergency number (see front page) and dial 911 for a crime in progress.

If you see a landscaping problem or an irrigation leak that looks like it needs prompt attention, you can report it to CMS Customer Services. You may want to check the website Nextdoor or talk to your neighbors first, to see if the problem has been noticed and reported by someone else. Last summer we had a water outage for a few hours and Nextdoor seemed to be a very effective way to share information and several updates very quickly with Vineyards residents. Non-urgent maintenance issues can be brought up in person during Open Forum at the monthly Board meetings. Please remember however, that CMS is not a concierge service, and help cannot be “summoned” for maintenance issues that are the responsibility of home Owners.

When a resident reports an issue to CMS during the week, Luis or another staff member contacts one of our Board members (usually the President), to walk over and assess the situation. CMS then schedules a repair call to fix the problem in a time frame suited to the urgency of the situation. Things are a little different at the weekends, when personnel unfamiliar with The Vineyards staff the phone line. **Our question for Board consideration and discussion is: should all out-of-hours reports to CMS for non-emergency issues result in an immediate call out?** We will never compromise safety, but neither do we want to pay three times as much for a weekend rate than a weekday rate for non-urgent issues. For example, if the area around a fallen tree limb can safely be coned off and left until Monday morning, the cost of its removal will be significantly lower. Discussions will resume at the August Board meeting.

On July 6th The City of Saratoga had the first reading of proposed smoking regulation changes. These changes include a paragraph that would automatically lead to a ban on all smoking in the Vineyards. It reads as follows: *“Prohibit smoking and use of electronic smoking devices in all indoor and outdoor common areas of multifamily developments, which includes developments of two or more units with one or more shared or abutting wall, floor, ceiling, or shared ventilation system (i.e. condominium, duplex, triplex, etc.)”*

Currently smoking is allowed beyond the centerline of Vineyard Lane. **There is a high likelihood that as a result of these regulations there will shortly be no smoking allowed in any location in The Vineyards.** The city sent a letter to all homeowners a few weeks ago. For more information see <http://www.saratoga.ca.us/whatsnew/smokingregs.asp>.

There will be a Burglary Prevention and Awareness Talk at Saratoga Library on Tuesday, Aug 16th at 7:00 PM. Deputy Chad Garton, School/Neighborhood Resource Officer will discuss crime prevention, safety tips and emergency preparedness. Here is the link to the event announcement on Nextdoor: <https://vineyardsofsaratoga.nextdoor.com/events/ca/saratoga/burglary-prevention-and-awareness-724533>

Recent fines: please note that fines increase with frequency, number and severity of incidents

- + A landlord owner in the 600s was fined \$475 when their tenant dumped two large empty wardrobe boxes and other delivery boxes outside the enclosures of dumpster #9 (twice) and dumpster #3
- + A landlord owner in the 600s was fined \$475 following multiple reports of their tenant smoking indoors
- + A landlord owner in the 200s was fined \$200 for several tenant issues including smoking and dogs
- + A landlord owner in the 200s was fined \$950 for inviting a large unauthorized group into both pool areas, and for non-resident use and control of a pool fob

Consideration of others is the guiding principle of The Vineyards HOA and is required of all residents and guests at the The Vineyards of Saratoga at all times.



AUG FAMILY ACTIVITIES

by Linglin Niu

Here are some local activities the whole family can enjoy. If you know of an upcoming event you think other Vineyards parents or grandparents would like to hear about, please e-mail the full details to grapevine@vineyardsofsaratoga.com.

101 DALMATIANS BY CHILDREN'S MUSICAL THEATER SAN JOSE

Dates: Aug. 11th – 14th

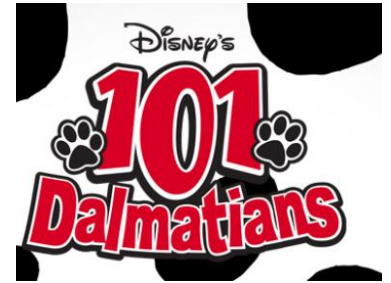
Activity: A CMTSJ favorite, 101 Dalmatians is a thrilling and heartwarming story, adapted from Disney's classic film. The tale of kidnapping villains and courageous puppies comes to life onstage, with a high-spirited score and lovable characters.

Distance: 10 miles, 14 min

Location: Childrens Musical Theater, 1401 Parkmoor Avenue, San Jose, 95126

Cost : \$14 kids; \$18 adults

Website: <http://www.cmtsj.org/content/101-dalmatians>



RUN WITH THE ANIMALS PUPPETSHOW AT SARATOGA LIBRARY

Date: Wed July 27th, 2:30 – 3:25 PM

Activity: An animal who lifts the most weight just by standing up! An animal who runs like a horse, but isn't a horse! These are but a few things you will see in "Run With the Animals" presented by Tony Borders Puppets. Intended for Grades K - 6

Regular Activities: Family Storytime Tuesdays 7:30 – 8:00 PM ,

Preschool Storytime Thursdays 10:30 – 11:00AM

Baby Storytime Thursdays 11:30 – 12:30 AM (bring a floor blanket)

Distance: 1 mile, 5 mins

Location: Community Room, Saratoga Library, 13650 Saratoga Avenue, 95070

Cost: Free

Website: <http://sccl.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails.aspx?EventId=70971&lib=999>

IMAGINATION PLAYGROUND BUILD-A-THON AT CHILDREN'S CREATIVITY MUSEUM

Dates: 10 am – 4 pm, Aug. 15th

Activity: Build BIG and win BIGGER! Join the Children's Creativity Museum in San Francisco for a Build-A-Thon with Imagination Playground. Share photos of your creations built with their Big Blue Blocks and submit your images before December 18, 2015 for a chance to win one of over 500 prizes, including a trip to NYC and a customized 105-piece Imagination Playground set!

Distance: 51 miles, 57 min

Location: Children's Creativity Museum, 221 4th Street, San Francisco, 94103

Cost : Included with \$12 museum admission / Free online participation

Websites: <http://creativity.org/buildathon/>

BUILD-A-THON



Submit your Build-A-Thon entry today for a chance to WIN!

THE NEWSLETTER AT A GLANCE

Next Board meeting – Thu August 11th @ 7pm

Pool Party Luau – Sat August 13th @ 4pm

Burglary Prevention and Awareness Talk at Saratoga Library – Tue August 16th @ 7pm

City of Saratoga proposes smoking regulation changes

Flatten delivery and removal boxes before placing in recycling

NEWSLETTER

We welcome all input into our Vineyards newsletter. If you are interested in joining the newsletter committee or contributing an article please contact Anna Scicinska by email at grapevine@vineyardsofsaratoga.com. Letters and articles submitted by residents will go into the next newsletter to go to print.

Anna Scicinska, Dave Katleman, Carole Lunny, Linglin Niu

