

COMMUNITY NEWS



Vineyards Holiday Party



**Saturday, December 2 @ 4:00 pm
Vineyards Clubhouse**

Bring your favorite appetizer, holiday goodie and/or drink to share

SECURITY UPDATE

Our security surveillance cameras seem to be doing a good job. So far three incidents have been documented and referred to the police for successful resolution. As well as deterrence of criminal activity, we have noticed fewer problems with frustrating issues like boxes not being flattened before recycling, and Vineyards garbage dumpsters being used by outsiders.

Holiday season usually sees an uptick in crimes of opportunity such as car break-ins. Deter theft from parked cars by locking any items that may tempt a thief (shopping, gifts, travel bags) out of view in the trunk. Thefts of delivery items left in the porch also typically increase at this time of year, as people start to their order holiday gifts online. If you are worried about this, and shipping to your workplace is not an option, then Amazon provides an alternative delivery via secure locker boxes – our closest, codenamed 'Deurot', is conveniently located at the Safeway on Sunnyvale-Saratoga Avenue.

While our mailboxes remain a target you may also want to consider the USPS service. This lets you preview scanned images of the exterior of letter-sized mail pieces. You can also track packages and leave alternative delivery instructions if you know that you won't be home. Sign up is free! <https://informedelivery.usps.com/box/pages/intro/start.action>

PLANNING SOME UPGRADES? YOU MAY NEED PERMISSION ... AND A PERMIT

Architectural permission application forms are available on the Vineyards website. Upgrades like new windows or front doors require HOA architectural permission. Your window, electrical, and plumbing projects will also require a permit from the City of Saratoga. If in doubt call CMS or attend a Board meeting and ask for advice before you start. Your project may be "red-tagged" (stopped pending permits and inspections) if you do not follow HOA or city guidelines.

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.



