



# The Grapevine



April 2019

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<b>President</b>	Jim Foley
<b>VP</b>	Michael Toback
<b>Secretary</b>	Laurel Smith
<b>Treasurer</b>	Gloria Felcyn
<b>Director</b>	Nora White
<b>Director</b>	Jeff Klopotic
<b>Director</b>	Tom Schmidt

## THE NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Board meeting will be held on Thursday May 9th 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 any projects or decisions addressed by the board.

Following Open Forum, the meeting is limited to those issues posted on the agenda. Homeowners are welcome and encouraged to stay and observe, but this part of the meeting is closed to owner participation. Minutes of all meetings are posted on the website after they have been approved at the next board meeting.



## VINEYARDS WEBSITE

[www.vineyardsofsaratoga.com](http://www.vineyardsofsaratoga.com)

Monthly newsletter, HOA forms and documents, Bylaws, CC&Rs, Rules and Regulations, HOA Board meeting minutes.

The Vineyards of Saratoga uses **Next Door** to post important notifications for residents. Residents are highly encouraged to join the group. <https://nextdoor.com/city/saratoga--ca/>

Welcome wagon for new residents

[welcome@vineyardsofsaratoga.com](mailto:welcome@vineyardsofsaratoga.com)

## HELPFUL CONTACTS Community Management Services

To report problems with outdoor lights or sprinklers and request repairs please call or email CMS customer service:

[cs@communitymanagement.com](mailto:cs@communitymanagement.com)

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) academy trains residents to prepare for and respond to disasters in their community. Some of the skills taught include personal preparedness, organizing resources, basic medical operations, basic search and rescue, how to use a fire extinguisher and basic damage assessment.

The Vineyards is designated as a CERT division within the City of Saratoga. In the case of a disaster, we may be dependent on ourselves for a time. We have a few members that have completed the training but we could use more. Saratoga will be hosting an academy in April/May. It's fun and very informative. Anyone can do this!

The Saratoga CERT Academy is 6 nightly sessions and a final skills exercise.

Saratoga CERT classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday nights, from 6:00pm-9:00pm, on the following dates - 4/30/2019, 5/2, 5/7, 5/9, 5/14, 5/16 and the final class and graduation on Sunday 8:30am-12:30pm

A \$35.00 Fee covers participant's safety equipment and training material.

To attend the classes, call or email (408) 808-7800 or [cert@sccfd.org](mailto:cert@sccfd.org).

If you cannot make the April/May class, there will be more classes offered in Cupertino, Los Altos and Los Gatos later in the year.



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## **WANDERING TURTLES**



It's that time of the year and our turtles (Red Eared Sliders) are out wandering again, trying to find a nice plot of dirt to lay their eggs. If you come upon one, and feel adventuresome, please pick her up (one hand on each side of her shell) and walk her back to the Koi pond. Please don't drop her – she may hiss but won't bite! If you place her on the grass at the edge of the pond, she will most likely make a beeline for the water. If you want a box to place her in to bring her back to the pond, there are boxes in the closet on the porch of unit 19537 – across from the Koi pond. If neither of these solutions are to your liking, please call 408-777-0705 (Chris Burns ) or 408-777-9917 and we'll try to get someone out to rescue the turtle.

**The spring dumpsters.** Twice a year the Vineyards provides larger dumpsters for convenient disposal of unwanted oversized items. It's time to gather your bulky give-away items. The dumpsters will be onsite May 9<sup>th</sup> and be removed on May 21<sup>st</sup>.

**In the meantime – no oversize trash in the dumpster enclosures!**

**NO SPEEDING** The speed limit in the Vineyards of Saratoga complex is 15 MPH. Violating the speed limit is a serious and flagrant violation and fines can exceed \$1000.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Moving In

Moving to a new place can be stressful, so the Welcoming Committee wants to do what we can to make adjusting to your new surroundings go as smoothly as possible. We offer **Free** to new or recently moved in tenants, a book about the Vineyards and the local areas, plus many other articles of interest.

If you have questions or concerns as you settle in, don't hesitate to contact Katherine who is part of the Welcome Committee at: [welcome@thevineyardsofsaratoga.com](mailto:welcome@thevineyardsofsaratoga.com)

### Spa Covering

Several users have been leaving the spa cover off after they finish using the hot tub – please always replace the cover to reduce energy wastage. We will be checking security video footage to identify the people concerned, but if you know anything about this please save us some time and contact CMS or a board member.

### Revitalizing a Neighborhood Watch program for the Vineyards

Neighborhood Watch is a great way to maintain a healthy and vibrant neighborhood, as well as aid local law enforcement in their efforts to stop crime. Neighbors build relationships with one another, learn about crime prevention, and work collaboratively to report suspicious activity and reduce crime. If you are interested in helping to keep the Vineyards safe, please contact us at [NW@vineyardsofsaratoga.com](mailto:NW@vineyardsofsaratoga.com).

### Check your statements!

Please make sure you check your statements. Occasionally an issue with a payment will occur and a late fee will be assessed. Unless you check your statement you will not know and get behind on your dues.

### E-Statements

Did you know you can sign up to get your statement via email? Signing for e-statements reduces your mailings by the Association? This can save the Association several hundreds of dollars each year in operating costs, which in turn helps keep Homeowner dues lower! Signing up for e-statements also greatly reduces the risk of notices being lost on their way to you. The form to sign up has been posted on the Vineyards website. [http://vineyardsofsaratoga.com/Forms/forms\\_Email\\_Consent\\_2014.pdf](http://vineyardsofsaratoga.com/Forms/forms_Email_Consent_2014.pdf)

Return completed forms to Community Management Services

**Speeding drivers risk startling or hitting pedestrians,**

**pets, and children.**

**PLEASE**

**Drive below 15 MPH !!!**



**To: Residents / Owners at The Vineyards of Saratoga**  
**Re: Neighborhood Watch Program**  
**When: Clubhouse on Saturday, May 4 at 10:00 AM.**

Do you have items in your home that are valuable to you? Like perhaps money, electronics, your grandmother's necklace, your Dad's wedding ring or other sentimental items. Family heirlooms or sentimental items cannot be replaced.

There has been a rise in package burglaries, mailbox break-ins, home and vehicle break-ins in Saratoga. Vehicle burglaries were at **14** for 2017 - in 2018 they rose to **34** in Saratoga. There were more residential burglaries in 2018 over 2017 as well. Highest times for residential burglaries are **Saturday 11-12 pm** & 9-10 pm, Friday 3-4 pm, Monday 5-6 pm, Wednesday 12-2pm and Thursday 11-12 pm & 12-2 pm.

Here at the Vineyards, we have experienced multiple mailbox break-ins and vehicle break-ins. Even if only minor items are stolen, dealing with the aftermath can be difficult and time consuming!

What can our community do to prevent becoming the next victim?

**How:** Attend a **Neighborhood Watch Kick-off meeting** with one of our wonderful County Sheriffs for about an hour and become part of Neighborhood Watch. **You will receive a Neighborhood Watch Window Decal that indicates your home is being watched.** The more decals, the bigger deterrent it will be.

**When:** Meeting in the **Clubhouse on Saturday, May 4 at 10:00 AM.** Mark your calendars now!



**IF YOU DO NOT ATTEND, YOU WILL NOT BE ISSUED A DECAL.**