



The Woodlands

GRAPEVINE

APRIL 2018

Niodrara Drive Historic District Guided Walk



Fernbrook Street near Nioradara circa 1920s

Twenty HOA members and guests got to learn about the history of the Verdugo Woodlands on Sunday, February 25, during a walk through the Niodrara Drive Historic District. The tour focused on the development history of the Woodlands from 1909, when the earliest streets were laid out, through the 1960s, when the last ranch-style house was built. Architectural highlights included the work of celebrated architects Alfred Priest, Robert Byrd, and Rudolph Schindler.

Walkers also got to enjoy up close the unique river rock landscaping inspired by the stream that once ran along both sides of Niodrara and that still characterizes this historically significant neighborhood. Finally, tour-goers learned about the importance of historic districts in preserving neighborhood character and quality against threats of over-development. We expect this tour will be offered again to interested HOA members.

GPD Representatives Meet with VWWHOA Board of Directors

For our March board meeting, four members of the Glendale Police Department joined our gathering to give us an update and answer questions. Although Community Policing has been scaled back a bit due to resources, it's alive and well in a new Unit called the Crime Impact Team, which operates city-wide. Outreach to the homeless, mental health assistance and school resource support are now part of their responsibilities.

Here's a quick rundown of other information they provided:

- The police want people to call, no matter how insignificant an observation may seem, "See Something, Say Something."
- Using the Dispatch phone number 818-548-4911 should save callers from going through recorded messages.
- Officers responding to calls may discover that the person in question has warrants or other reasons to be detained, so don't hesitate to report incidents as minor as foraging through recycling. Obviously if more serious matters are taking place elsewhere in the city, response may be delayed.
- The MyGlendale app can be downloaded to your phone for an instant connection to various City departments. If you notice a street light out, a broken sidewalk, graffiti, or a wide array of other issues, just take a quick picture and hit Send. It's immediately routed to the appropriate department and a work order is generated. (Very Cool!)
- Crimemapping.com is a website to view what's going on in our area. Incidents are posted 24 hours after a police report is written.
- Nextdoor.com is another great website to stay informed about what's going on in our neighborhood.
- Neighborhood Watch Groups create an environment where crime is less likely to occur.
- The Police Department needs volunteers. Tasks run the gamut from filing to working in the jail. Call Sherry Servillo 818-548-6452 if interested.

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**FOR MEMBERSHIP
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Editor's Message

Your Board of Directors has been busy advocating for our neighborhood. We express our thanks to those of you who joined three VWWHOA board members in attendance at the City Council meeting on January 30, as well as to those who wrote in. Residents speaking out and lending support on issues like these show that our collective voices can be powerful.

The City Council approved the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Ordinance four to one votes. Councilmember Devine specified that her "no" vote reflected her position that the entire property should be owner-occupied.

The ADU ordinance adopted is as follows:

- A 600 square foot maximum for ADUs
- No increase to Floor Area Ratio
- No ADUs in front yards
- Architecturally compatible ADUs
- ADUs out of the public view for historic districts and landmarks
- Strict owner occupancy to rent an ADU (if an owner does not live on the property both the primary residence and the ADU must be rented to the same tenant, with no subleasing allowed)
- Replacement parking for garage conversions

Please thank our Council Members for this ordinance when you see or communicate with them.

Now, you'll see me in our neighborhood with Charlie Brown, our Bichon Frise!

What a beautiful neighborhood is our Verdugo Woodlands! What makes it so beautiful? Why our namesake majestic trees! With the trees, come birds and squirrels and beautiful blossoms. I get a chance to enjoy our neighborhood on walks with Charlie Brown, and his friends, Jackie and Ruby. Along in our walks, we have met other four-legged pals and their owners, and this has given us a greater sense of community.

It's been an honor to share my message with you as your guest editor. Your Board of Directors will continue to bring you news of our community via this newsletter and our email communications. We want to hear from you what is important to you for our community. Please reach out to us via email at vwwhoa@gmail.com

Hope you enjoy this edition and continue to enjoy our Verdugo Woodlands and see you around!

Annet Arakelian

Board Member

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Representing Andenes: Domenico Ingenito and Victor Mazzone

Thanks for your support!



Our Mission Statement:

To preserve the low-profile, single-family characteristics and the aesthetics which are unique to the Verdugo Woodlands; and to provide a forum for discussion of civic issues which may directly affect the Verdugo Woodlands



Glendale Civic Auditorium Named Historic Site

Great news! The Glendale Civic Auditorium on Verdugo Boulevard was added to the California Registrar of Historical Sites in February, 2018. The property was nominated by The Glendale Historical Society, which wanted to ensure the preservation of this landmark for future generations.

Some interesting facts of this Spanish Revival / Art Deco building:

- Built in 1938 as part of the Verdugo Municipal Recreation Center.
- Serves as symbol of Glendale's growth during the Great Depression.
- Designed by local architect John A. Grundfor, who also did the Canterbury Apartments (1928), the El Rey Apartments (1928), and the Colonial Buick (now Honda) dealership (1930). These projects were funded by Works Progress Administration (WPA), a large Depression-era public works agency.
- Underwent major renovation in 1965 and officially reopened as the Glendale Civic Auditorium.
- Contains an upper level (11,000sq feet) and lower level with a full commercial kitchen.

Next time you drive or walk by the Glendale Civic Auditorium, give it a nod as you are going past a pride of Glendale history in our very own neighborhood.

Then...



And now...



(Continued from Page 1)

GPD Representatives...

The nicest comment we heard was that our Woodlands area is considered "boring" as far as police activity goes and that's a very good thing.

We appreciate Sgt. Patrick Magtoto for working with Associate Board Member Diane Ferris to arrange this meeting. Many thanks to Lt. Josh Wofford, Officers Steven Koszis and Gonzalo Zendejas, and Police Volunteer John Bales for attending and providing excellent and helpful information. After meeting these dedicated officers, it's clear that they are committed to engaging with the community to affect positive changes.

Let's do our part to engage with each other as good neighbors.



FYI

Dog Safety Tips from the Verdugo Woodlands

Do your neighbors' dogs run loose off their property? Are you concerned for your own dogs because of loose dogs from next door or down the street? Have you gotten to the point that you aren't comfortable walking your dogs on your own block? Many people walking their dogs have come across runaways.

Please consider the following for your favorite pooches.

1. Micro Chip: The person who finds your dog can take him / her to a vet or Humane Society so they can be scanned for a **microchip** and it will show who his / her family is and then be reunited quickly. The chip's only is as big as a grain of rice. It's usually implanted in the scruff of your dog's neck and doesn't cause any pain for your pet.
2. Walk your property and make sure there are not any escape routes.
3. Make sure all gates are secure and your dog can't dig under.
4. Check your pet's collar regularly and make sure you have all the tags on. It's vital that you put a collar and an ID on your pet, just in case he slips by you and gets lost. Check monthly to make sure the tags have not slipped off.
5. Sign up for **NEXTDOOR** through their website. There are many good Samaritans who will post lost dogs, breed and location here in the Woodlands.



Nextdoor is the best way to stay informed about what's going on in your neighborhood, whether it's finding a last-minute babysitter, planning a local event, or sharing safety tips. Consider joining to stay informed and connected. Visit [nextdoor.com](https://www.nextdoor.com) to learn more.

Mark Your Calendars



Upcoming events with details to follow:

- ✓ June 23, 2018 - Annual Wine Tasting Event open to Current and New HOA members
- ✓ August 7, 2018 - Annual National Night Out (NNO) event at Catalina Adobe.
- ✓ October 13, 2018 - Annual Meeting at the Catalina Adobe.

Volunteers Needed!

Verdugo Woodlands West Homeowners Association is looking for volunteers, especially a webmaster. Interested persons may contact the Board at [VWWHOA.org](https://www.vwwhoa.org).

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What's in a Name?

The rich heritage of the Woodlands gives us street names as varied and diverse as the land. Throughout the area, street names give us a hint of what the early settlers thought of this land. While street names such as Sunshine and Hillside are self evident, Spanish and Indian names may not be. Following are some of our street names, their origin and translations:

Indian Names

Camulos Juniper Tree (Originally "Kamulos")

Niodrara Running Water

Opechee Blue Bird

Wabasso Rabbit

Spanish Names

Andenes Bridle Path

Bonita Pretty

Cañada Ravine, or Dell

Colina Hill

Del Valle Of the Valley (also the surname of three generations active in the political and agricultural history of California)

Descanso Rest

El Rito The Ceremony

Glorietta Trellis

Hermosita Beautiful

Selvas Woods

Verdugo The family that once owned Glendale's land

