



PARKMEAD

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION
Newsletter

Summer Block Party and BBQ

Summer 2011

**Sunday, August 28, 2011
Noon to 3:30pm**

**Maple Lane (off Magnolia Way)
across the street
from the elementary school.**

The PCA provides barbecued hamburgers and hot dogs plus drinks & utensils/paper products.

*Join your neighbors!
Bring your family!*



If you have a favorite salad, dessert or dish you'd like to share, please bring it with you, but it's not required. More importantly we want you to come and have fun!

There will be steel drums once again.

Face painting and other activities for the kids.

Chairs and tables in the shade.

We ask you to leave your four-legged friends at home.

Walk or bike if you can.

Bring a neighbor who might not otherwise attend.

Thanks to the Pyramid Brewing Company for the keg it has donated to our party

Membership

Forgot to join the PCA this year? Never too late!! You can join for \$12 at the Block Party.

Or you can get information on how to join at www.parkmead.org or contact a board member (see list in this newsletter).

Not sure if you are a member? Contact us at membership@parkmead.org or call 934-7530.

Upcoming Events

Walk to School Week

October 3-7, 2011

Fall Meeting, Board Elections and Pizza Dinner

October, 2011

Neighborhood Caroling

December 17, 2011

Facebook

Parkmead Community Association is now in facebook. Check it out. Become a fan.

President's Message:

I hope you are all enjoying your summer with the family, traveling, camping or just sitting in your gardens! Whatever your summer consists of, I trust you are loving the slightly warmer days in August.

We had a great mid June Parkmead Garage sale – over 50 homes participated this year. Special thanks to Chris Sherwood for orchestrating the weekend date change due to all that rain we had in early June.

I have noticed that we have had a few house sales this summer and with that, new neighbors. Please reach out to them and share with them the joys of our Parkmead area. I plan on personally visiting some of the recently sold homes and saying “hello” later this week and inviting our new neighbors to our annual Parkmead Block Party on August 28th at the end of Maple Lane.

Thanks to the neighbors on Maple Lane for allowing this to be the site for the Block Party again this year.

We live in a great part of Walnut Creek; enjoy the rest of the summer and early fall.

Richard West, PCA Board President

Is the real estate market getting better?

California might see a light at the end of the tunnel before the rest of the country. New home sales have seen a slight increase. However, in Contra Costa County, we have seen a decrease of 0.4% in the number of homes that have been sold and closed. The median sales price has dropped 6.4% from June 2010 to June 2011.

As we all know, our economy shifted in a recession back in 2007. I live in the Parkmead area and have been in the real estate and lending industry for over 20 years. I have never seen such a drastic drop in home prices. We all have felt the repercussions and cannot wait until it is over!

Foreclosures and Short Sales: California has seen a slowdown in foreclosure activity across the board. Notice of Default filings fell for the third consecutive month with a slight (1.5 %) drop in June. Cancellations of foreclosure sales have decreased for the second time in as many months, with another 3% drop compared to May. Foreclosure sales on the courthouse steps were slower than the prior month.

Better times?: I'm seeing mid-range homeowners, \$300-400K, starting to ask for assistance and short sales information while still being current. To me, this indicates that people are being affected and have just been sitting silent on the sidelines. Upper price homes, \$600K to \$1M, meanwhile have had a decline in short sales and requests for loan modifications. This could be because these homeowners have more equity in their homes.

What has sold in the southwest area of Walnut Creek?: In the past 3 months we had 38 single family properties close in the neighborhood area. The average price was \$808k. Only four were Real Estate Owned and one was a short sale. The Walnut Creek area has seen only a slight drop of 0.08% in prices since last year, which is not bad compared to the rest of the cities in the county.

Barbara Martinez, PCA Board

Neighborhood Note

School will be back in session in late August. Drive carefully.

Lilac Drive and Newell Ave. residents — please keep the pathways clear of parked vehicles and remove trash and recycling cans in a timely manner.

PCA Board 2011

Name	Board Position	Officer / Committee
Richard West	District 4	President
Terri Almeida	District 1	Vice President / Secretary
Mary Andre	At Large	Treasurer / Web Master
Julia Cohen	At Large	Student Representative
Hannah Edgar	District 5 acting	Student Representative
Ann Hinshaw	District 7 acting	
Pete Johnson	District 6	City-County Liaison; Communications Chair
Barbara Martinez	At Large	Events Chair
Debra Minnigerode	District 3	
Chris Sherwood	District 2	Garage Sale Coordinator
Rob Weiner	At Large	