

# The Oak Leaf

May 2017

## Menlo Oaks' New

### Traditional Annual Picnic

June 4, 2017 4-7 PM  
Peninsula School

In keeping with our long tradition of gathering all Menlo Oaks neighbors to a spring picnic, we will gather to meet, greet, and eat. We will share potluck salads, side dishes and desserts (contest too). Once again Richard Collyer is cooking up his famous BBQ'd Burgers and Chicken for everyone. Beer, Wine, Water and Soft Drinks will also be provided. Main courses and drinks are on the house. Bring your own chairs, blankets and eating tables as needed.

This year we will be adding some new 'traditions'. Some are just for fun. Some have to do with the original mission of MODA: to help spark connections over mutual interests and concerns that affect the Menlo Oaks Community. .

Just for fun side: We're working on a neighborhood treasure hunt for all ages and have face painting for the younger children. We will organize a parent/ kid baseball game or some other kind of sport activity such as a relay race around the field.

Mutual interests and concerns side: We will have an interest/sign up table available. Sign up sheets will be provided for people with community based ideas. Wander by the table and see what might interest you. Join an interest group you find there or get inspired and start a new sign up sheet to connect with neighbors, who share your interest.

### Sign Up Examples

- An opportunity to sign up to join in fruit and vegetable sharing group for our bounteous summer harvests...
- A sign up sheet for information about community based disaster planning, to learn what is in place at this time

and what we should ideally have in place. We will need volunteers to get involved.

- A sign up sheet for information about traffic and parking challenges and the progress that has been made in addressing these issues.
- A sign up sheet for information about our tree canopy and how we can help each other save endangered trees.
- Someone looking for a bridge game, a book club, a toddler playdate/playgroup. Fill out an interest sign up sheet seeking others. Lots of possibilities.

## Traffic Advisory

Starting May 8, Caltrans will begin removing trees and shrubs within the U.S. Route 101/Willow Road Interchange. The removal is the first step in an upcoming reconstruction and reconfiguration project for the interchange. The work will be done during the day.

In addition, construction crews will be removing and replacing some of the old road striping within the interchange. This will require the closure of some of the lanes. That work will be done during non-commute hours.

This begins the 2 yr. - \$58 million project:

- Reconstruct and reconfigure the interchange, including replacing the over-crossing to provide eight lanes, sidewalks and dedicated bike lanes.
- Realign and widen the off and on ramps.
- Modify and realign frontage roads adjacent to the over-crossing to accommodate the realigned ramps and reconstruct portion of the existing sound-walls.

Real-time traffic Caltrans Quick Maps: <http://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/> Or follow on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/caltransd4> . Public Information Branch Chief Robert Haus, [robert.haus@dot.ca.gov](mailto:robert.haus@dot.ca.gov)

## Calendar

Jun 4	Annual Picnic
Jun 8	MAHS Grad
Jun 14	Peninsula Grad
Jun 19 - Jul 28	Summer School
Aug 16	MAHS Starts

NPZ 200-499

Menlo Oaks Drive residents from the 200 block thru 400 block have unanimously decided to request a no parking 7:30-9:30 am and 2:00-4:00 pm, like Coleman Avenue to provide for safer passage of pedestrians and cyclists during the peak school hours. Madison Way will also have restricted parking from 9 am-5 pm.

Over the coming months the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors will vote on whether to install the request no parking zone and if approved signs will be placed two months after the vote. Residents on the 500-600 block of Menlo Oaks Drive and on Arlington Way for various reasons declined the opportunity to restrict parking at this time.

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# Neighborhood News

## It Pays to Care for Your Trees

Large Heritage Oaks and other Significant Trees in Menlo Oaks provide many benefits for us all. For instance, here's how 100 large, mature trees impact our lives each year:

- They remove 8 tons of carbon dioxide.
- They remove 87 pounds of other air pollutants.
- The catch nearly 68,000 gallons of rainwater, preventing flooding and erosion.

Trees in general:

- Cool our homes, saving air conditioning costs (up to \$47 per well-placed tree each year).
- Increase the value of our homes (one large tree can add 10% to property value).
- Reduce stress, decrease need for medication, and speed recovery times for those of us who live with them.

### Trees Have Always Been Important to Menlo Oaks

We all moved to Menlo Oaks, whether 50 years ago or recently, because we like the green, natural, bucolic neighborhood and its peaceful ambiance. It's the rare forest in the midst of urban sprawl. However, over the last 10 years we've lost far too many Heritage Oaks and Significant Trees.

Droughts can't be blamed entirely for killing off the big trees, although the recent drought did stress many of them. Often it's humans who are the cause—developers who take out trees because they are in the way of new homes, pools or patios. More often, it's homeowners who may have neglected care of the trees or new homeowners who have not yet learned how to care for these old-growth trees.

### Let's Take Care of Our Trees

Have a certified arborist, not a tree-cutter, evaluate your trees and make recommendations for trimming and healthcare. See the list of recommended arborists on the

Menlo Oaks Tree Advocacy (MOTA) site: <http://menlooaks-mota.org/resources/arborists/>

Set up a plan to provide expert health care for your Oak trees each year.

- To level out the costs, trim only a few trees each year.
- Spray for those caterpillars each spring when they first appear.
- Consider a trunk application of a systemic fungicide to prevent Sudden Oak Death.
- Consider the sub-soil injection of fertilizer to supply nutrients to the Oak trees throughout the year.
- Consider microinjections for the systemic suppression of various pests.

Because oaks and other large trees need lots of breathable soil around their bases, here are a few things you should do for your Oaks:

- Create a wide space around the oak root collar to provide air for the roots.
- Remove decorative rocks, mulch, leaves, ivy and other growing things from the base of oaks.
- Don't plant flowers or bushes around the base of Oaks, particularly anything that requires watering. Make any plantings "summer dry". Oaks that have lived with Camellias or other plants for many years have probably worked things out, and those plants generally pose no harm to the Oaks.
- If there is another drought, make sure trees requiring water and your redwoods are watered regularly, particularly in the early evening to conserve water.

### Questions?

Visit the Menlo Oaks Tree Advocacy (MOTA) website at [www.menlooaks-mota.org](http://www.menlooaks-mota.org) to keep up with the group's work, to let us know about your tree concerns, and to learn more about tree care, how to find a reputable arborist or where to find bee removal assistance.

## JOIN CERT

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) is neighborhood-based and part of the Menlo Park Fire District that are neighborhood-based. The purpose is to facilitate organizing a neighborhood response to a disaster in Menlo Oaks District before a disaster happens in order to keep our neighborhood and residents safe before, during and after a disaster. For more information contact Remona Murray at [treasurer@menlo-oaks.org](mailto:treasurer@menlo-oaks.org)

Join TODAY your neighbors and become a CERT member.

<https://sites.google.com/a/menlofirecert.com/cert/training/basic>

- Neighborhood-based teams open to ages 18 and older.
- Earthquake preparedness, firefighting, first-aid and medical triage, search rescue and damage assessment, emergency communications, animal & pet preparedness, flood response, wildfire.
- All classes taught by professional responders and experienced volunteers - practical, hands-on learning activities.
- Sponsored by Menlo Park Fire Protection district, the State of California, and FEMA.
- You can watch videos to learn how CERT teams work together following a disaster.

# Neighborhood News

## CERT Training Dates

Whether you are joining Community Emergency Response Team for the first time, or re-taking the course as a refresher, you will find the combination of lectures, video and hands-on exercises will prepare you to take care of yourself, your family, and your neighbors in the event of a disaster. The CERT Basic Training course is your gateway for joining a CERT program.

The class is comprised of three sessions, spread about a month apart. DATES AND LOCATIONS BELOW. Attendance at all three sessions is required to complete the program, so be sure to mark each session.

Go to our website: [menlofirecert.com/training/basic](http://menlofirecert.com/training/basic) to review more course information, including official FEMA slides, recommended class preparation, and homework assignments following the first and second classes.

CERT Sessions 1, 2 and 3, 8AM TO 5PM SATURDAY, Jun 24, 2017

SATURDAY, July 15, 2017

SATURDAY, Aug 19, 2017

1467 CHILCO ST., MENLO PARK, CA

## Got Produce?

Do you sometimes have more fruit or vegetables in your garden than you can eat?

I have a persimmon tree in my yard although I won't know until fall how much extra fruit I will have. I love zucchini, for example, so let's share with each other! Send me an email and I will spread the word to other Menlo Oaks residents.

Janet Benson  
[jbenson@sonic.net](mailto:jbenson@sonic.net)  
650-430-1945

Other options :

1. St. Anthony's Padua Dining Room on Middlefield in Menlo Park (looks like it's in Redwood City), near Garfield School, opposite 9th Avenue. They accept food donations Monday-Saturday, 9am-4pm. Take the driveway at the left of the church and drive back. They also accept donations of gently used clothing. <http://paduadiningroom.com>
2. 2nd Harvest Food Bank in San Carlos. 650-610-0800. They accept donations Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm. <http://www.shfb.org/dropoffhours>
3. Village Harvest: call 888-378-4841 to have them "glean" your trees/bushes.
4. They will strip them at no charge and then donated to St. Anthony's and 2nd Harvest. [www.villageharvest.org](http://www.villageharvest.org)

## MODA DUES

Annual MODA dues are collected each year starting the first of October. Dues are \$20.00 per household and are used to publish newsletters and the neighborhood directory, for the annual picnic and annual meeting, as well as occasional incidental neighborhood related expenses and flyers.

Thanks to everyone who supported MODA with their dues last year. An addressed envelope is attached to this newsletter if you prefer to pay by mail, or bring your 2016-2017 dues of \$20.00 to the Annual Picnic, June 4th.

Make a check for \$20.00 payable to Menlo Oaks District Association

If you have any questions about dues, expenditures, etc., Contact Remona Murray, MODA Treasurer, at 327-2806 or [treasurer@menlo-oaks.org](mailto:treasurer@menlo-oaks.org).

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Menlo Oaks ([www.menlo-oaks.org](http://www.menlo-oaks.org)) District Association  
2016-2017

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# Menlo Oaks District Association (MODA) Newsletter Mailing List & Directory Additions/Deletions & Changes

In an effort to reduce cost, please let me know if you received more than one newsletter, do not wish to receive another, or have corrections.

**Please send additions/deletions and changes to  
 Remona Murray, 441 Arlington Way, treasurer@menlo-oaks.org**

Do you wish to receive your Newsletter or Directory electronically? **YES** **NO**

Do you wish to be included in the directory? (circle) **YES** **NO**  
 (Published in Feb each year)

**Adults' first and last names**

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**Address**

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MODA Request this information for Disaster Preparedness Purposes

*Check Box if you do not wish your child's info be published in the Directory*

**Children living at home**

Interests

Names (first and last)	Birth year	Babysitter?	Pets/plant/mail during vacations?	Odd Jobs?

**Telephone Number**

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**E-mail Address**

*Check Box if you do not wish your e-mail published in the Directory*

**Year residents since**

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## MODA 2017 INTEREST GROUP SIGN UP

TOPIC: \_\_\_\_\_

FACILITATOR'S NAME : \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

GROUP GOALS: \_\_\_\_\_

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### INTERESTED/SIGN UP BELOW

NAME

EMAIL

PHONE

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