



A Publication of
Orchard and Solano
Parks, UC Davis

THE PARK MESSENGER

August 2012

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Orchard Park Office Hours:

Tuesday and Thursday
8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

Solano Park Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

Special points of interest:

- Rent increases begin August 1st
 - Solano Park
1 Bedroom: \$751.00
 - Orchard/Solano Park
2 Bedroom: \$888.00
- Please make all rental payments to the Cashier's Office at Dutton Hall.

Meet the New Orchard Park RA

Submitted by **Celida Johnson**

My family and I moved to Orchard Park Apartments last summer so that my husband, Jason, and I could attend UC Davis. We were happy to start meeting our neighbors and have since made many wonderful friends, as have our two children, Evan and Autumn.

As a new RA, I am meeting even more interesting Orchard Park residents and I look forward to getting to know you all better. I have some fun ideas for events and hope that they will be interesting to many of you so that we can share fun times getting to know each other and

continue the strong sense of community that I cherish about Orchard Park. I am open to suggestions for future events from residents like the Legos Workshop that will be held on August 9 at 3:30pm or the Canning class that is in the works for early September (date to be announced in September newsletter).

Two of my favorite hobbies aside from spending time with friends and family are reading and gardening, so I hope you will stop by the monthly book club gatherings (Thursday, August 23 at 7pm) or venture out to the Orchard Park

Community Garden to say hello, have a tour or join the Orchard Park community gardeners in growing vegetables, herbs and flowers. The gardens have been undergoing a transformation and we love new ideas for successful organic gardening. Currently, a pumpkin patch is being prepared for an October event.

I hope everyone enjoys the last few weeks before fall session begins and please, feel free to let me know any ideas for events you would like to see on the monthly calendars.

WELCOME!

Ramadan - The Month of Fasting

Submitted by Shakeela Kuthubdeen

Ramadan is the month of fasting for Muslims all over the world. In this year it will be from July 20 to August 19.

Muslims refrain from eating, drinking, and sexual intercourse from dawn to dusk for the duration of Ramadan. Fasting the month of Ramadan is one of the five pillars of Islam. These are the foundations upon which the entire structure of Islam is built. These consist of the declaration of faith, prayer, fasting Ramadan, paying of Zakah [the annual charity payment], and performing the pilgrimage to Makkah, known as hajj.

Fasting is not simply a time during which people deprive themselves from physical pleasures, but is an occasion to exercise moral restraint and experience spiritual growth. Ramadan is a time of remembrance of God and renewal of commitment to the high and noble values he revealed to mankind. It is, like other religious practices in Islam, an occasion for pursuing moral excellence that can also be translated into excellence in social organization and interaction.

After the month of Ramadan is over, Muslims celebrate one of the two most important holidays in the Islamic year: EID-UL-FITR, or the Festival of the Fast Breaking (will

be on Sunday, August 8, 2012). It is a day to thank God for the blessing and training that He provides us with throughout the month of Ramadan. EID-UL-FITR is marked by praying in a huge congregation at a Masjid (Islamic Center) or in an open space, and by giving charity (zakat-al-fitr). It provides for the needs of the poor and the indigent and relieves them from having to ask others for charity on the day of Eid. Please join us for the Ifthar (break the fast) potluck on August 8 in Solano Park.

Shopping Cart Blues in the Parks

By Shawna Stevens - former Solano Park RA

Look around the Parks and on any given day you will see shopping carts from local markets/stores. For many residents the shopping carts are an eyesore and are quickly becoming a nuisance as the numbers increase. The problem is they don't belong in Solano or Orchard Park and the people who abandon them here are committing a crime.

Many residents who do not have cars may have found this an easier way to cart groceries home versus hauling all those grocery bags onto a bus. Once the carts arrive at The Parks many residents find them useful for transporting groceries and other items from their car to their apartment. What many people don't realize is that they are actually stealing when they

take one of these carts home- it is actually against California state law to remove them from store premises. And many grocery stores are eager to get their carts back, which may cost on average around \$150-\$200 each. The more carts that are missing, the more it costs store managers to replace them, and it can eventually lead to a rise in retail prices on the items the store sells in order for them to regain their loss. Who wants to pay even more for a gallon of milk than we already do?

Please help us insure that the Parks will not be the final resting place for an abandoned cart. Local stores have contracted out a company to pick up stolen carts and return them to their respective "homes". When we see the carts, Park personnel will call to have them picked up **and frustrated**

residents are encouraged to do the same. Let me also remind residents that each RA has a large cart which can be checked out for unloading groceries, moving, or just hauling other heavy items. Let's work together to keep our home safe and looking good. I'm sure many residents agree that we don't want the Parks to look like a store parking lot!

Contact number for shopping cart removal: (530) 908-3917. Please be specific about the location of the cart (building number and complex). The company does not remove carts from Rite Aid or Save-Mart.

Community Programs

Dessert Potluck

Let's kick off August with sweet summer treats! Bring a dessert to share. For questions, please contact Linnea at 530-219-9477.

When: Thursday, August 2 at 7pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Craft Hour

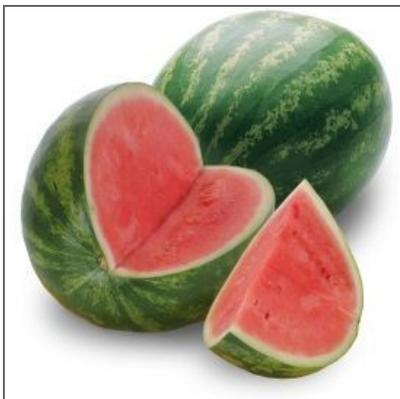
Come! Decorate treasure boxes to keep your treasure in. For questions, please call Shakeela at 530-297-7451.

When: Friday, August 3 at 4:30pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Watermelon Mania

August 3rd is National Watermelon Day, so we will have some good old fashioned summer fun by honoring the watermelon. Come out to enjoy some refreshing watermelon, play a variation of an old favorite like seed flinging, and join in a game watermelon bowling. For questions, please contact Celida at 707-540-4663.



When: Friday, August 3 at 5pm

Where: Orchard Park Community Center

Play Ball

Did you know Solano Park has balls to play with? I'll have these available on the north green field. For questions, please contact Linnea at 530-219-9477.

When: Tuesday, August 7 at 10am

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Toddler Play Group

It is art time for toddlers. I'll provide finger paint to create their masterpiece. Moms can have a chat. Wear something that you wouldn't mind getting messy. For questions, please call Shakeela at 530-297-7451.

When: Wednesday, August 8 at 10:30am

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Ifthar (Break Fasting)

Potluck

Diversity is the spice of life. Join the Muslim friends for Ifthar (break fasting) and experience the joy of Ramadan. Bring your favorite dish to share.

When: Wednesday, August 8 at 7:45pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Bubble Fun

Join us and enjoy a morning of bubble fun. For questions, please contact Linnea at 530-219-9477.

When: Thursday, August 9 at 10am

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Lego Workshop

Let's let our Lego imaginations go wild creating some fun. Come over to the Orchard Park Community Center for an afternoon of building and playing with friends. For questions, please contact Celida at 707-540-4663.

When: Thursday, August 9 at 3:30pm

Where: Orchard Park Community Center

New and Expectant's Moms Group

Bring your new baby or expectant self to share the experiences of your wonderful phase of life. We can discuss the different traditions and practices around the world during pregnancy, birth, and motherhood. Bring articles or books to share with others if you have them. Siblings welcome. For questions, please call Shakeela at 530-297-7451.

When: Friday, August 10 at 10:30am

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Catch a Falling Star

Perseid Showers are back! Let's meet at the Orchard Park Community Garden for some star gazing and maybe we can catch a falling star as we watch the Perseid Meteor Shower.

Community Programs

Bring a lawn chair or something cozy to sit on. For questions, please contact Celida at 707-540-4663.

When: Sunday, August 12 at 8:30pm

Where: Orchard Park Community Garden

Adult Painting

Adults are welcome to experience a relaxing night of painting. ALL skill levels welcome! No prior painting experience needed, just come ready to relax and have fun. For questions, please contact Linnea at 530-219-9477.

When: Tuesday, August 14 at 7pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Back to School Bash

Kids, it's time to head back to school soon, but we can have a final farewell to summer vacation with a Back to School Bash (party). Learn some school lunch ideas, decorate your backpacks, and share summer vacation stories with friends. Questions: contact Celida at 707-540-4663.

* Dinner will be provided*



When: Friday, August 17 at 5:30pm

Where: Orchard Park Community Center

Summer Potluck

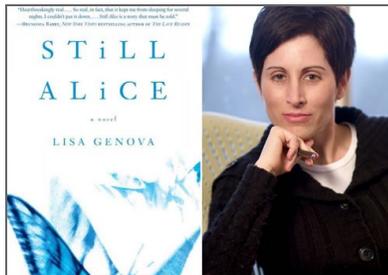
It's time to welcome new neighbors who've moved in. Everyone is invited to bring a dish to share! For questions, please contact Linnea at 530-219-9477.

When: Friday, August 17 at 6pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center

Book Club

It's time to pick up our next summer reading book. We'll be reading *Still Alice* by Lisa Genova courtesy of the Read Around Yolo program at the Yolo County Library. Drop by the Orchard Park Community Center Thursday, August 23 at 7pm to pick up a copy and visit with friends. There are a limited number of copies so arrive early!



For questions, please contact Celida at 707-540-4663.

When: Thursday, August 23 at 7pm

Where: Orchard Park Community Center

Frisbee

Who's up for a game of Frisbee? Join us to have fun. There is no age limit. For questions, please call Shakeela at 530-297-7451.



When: Friday, August 24 at 7pm

Where: Green Playground by Solano Park Community Center

Pizza Night

There is nothing like a day off from the kitchen in the summer heat. Come enjoy pizza for dinner while hanging out with your neighbors. For questions, please call Shakeela at 530-297-7451.

When: Friday, August 31 at 6pm

Where: Solano Park Community Center



Monthly Maintenance Tips

By Orchard and Solano Park Maintenance

Drains, Drains, Drains

➤ To help avoid nasty drain back-ups, please make sure that your kitchen sink strainer is in place when rinsing vegetables and cooking so that vegetable matter does not slip down the drain. Also, never put grease or oils of any kind down the

drain. Doing so could result in significant problems and unfortunately, charges.

➤ In the bathroom, please make sure that the hair strainer is in the bottom of the tub; occasionally remove the hair from it. Also, please remember not to flush feminine

hygiene products or paper towels down the toilet.

➤ By following these simple suggestion, we can all help to hold down maintenance costs and personal inconvenience in the Parks. Thank you for your cooperation. Have a wonderful summer.

Holidays and Anniversaries

August 5 - Ratha-yatra [Hindu]

For thousands of years devotees of Lord Krsna have journeyed to Jagannatha Puri in India to take part in the annual celebration called Ratha-yatra, The Festival of the Chariots. During this festival devotees glorify the pastimes of Krsna in a two-mile parade of three fifty-foot high chariots.

of the country on the grounds of shrines, temples, parks, squares, or in the streets, and people dressed in informal summer kimonos (yukata) dance to the songs sung by folk musicians. When O-bon is over, the spirits are sent on their way with fires at entrances of homes. Tokyo, unlike the rest of Japan, celebrates O-Bon in July.

Ramadan. It involves wearing finest clothing, saying prayers, and fostering understanding with other religions

August 13-15 - O-Bon Festival, Feast of the Dead [Buddhist Japan]

A Buddhist ceremony observed by lighting lanterns after the harvest for ancestor. This memorial service to the spirits of ancestors is held because the spirits of the dead are said to return at this time, and the festival welcomes them home. Traditionally, fires are lit at entrances to homes so the spirits do not lose their way, and Buddhist family altars are tidied up and food offerings set out. Festival folk dances (bon-odori) are held in various parts

August 17 - Hari Proklamasi Indonesia, Independence Day [Indonesia]

Indonesians celebrate the proclamation of independence from 350 years of Dutch colonial rule. Festivities abound in cities and villages alike, organized by the government, neighborhood community associations and other organizations.

August 23 - Rose of Lima Day [Peru]

Born in 1586 as Isabel to Spanish immigrants to the New World. A beautiful girl and devoted daughter, she was so devoted to her vow of chastity, she used pepper and lye to ruin her complexion so she would not be attractive. Lived and meditated in a garden, raising vegetables and making embroidered items to sell to support her family and help the other poor. Received invisible stigmata - Assorted physical and mental sufferings. Died on August 24, 1617 and canonized on April 2, 1671 by Pope Clement X. First saint born in America. Founder of social work in Peru.

August 19-21 - Eid ul Fitri ('Id Al-Fitr) [Muslim]

A 3-day Islamic feast marking the close of Ramadan. It is a festival of thanksgiving to Allah for enjoying the month of

Calendar of Events

August 2012

All residents are welcome to attend all programs, regardless of location. All events held in the Community Center unless otherwise noted.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 <u>Dessert Potluck</u> SPCC 7pm	3 <u>Craft Hour</u> SPCC 4:30pm <u>Watermelon Mania</u> OPCC 5pm	4
5	6	7 <u>Play Ball</u> SPCC 10am	8 <u>Toddler Play Group</u> SPCC 10:30am <u>Ifthar Potluck</u> SPCC 7:45pm	9 <u>Bubble Fun</u> SPCC 10am <u>Lego Workshop</u> OPCC 3:30pm	10 <u>New and Expectant Moms' Group</u> SPCC 10:30am	11
12 <u>Catch a Falling Star</u> OP Community Gardens 8:30pm	13	14 <u>Adult Painting</u> SPCC 7pm	15	16	17 <u>Back to School Bash</u> OPCC 5:30pm <u>Summer Potluck</u> SPCC 6pm	18
19	20	21	22	23 <u>Book Club</u> OPCC 7pm	24 <u>Frisbee</u> SPCC 7pm	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 <u>Pizza Night</u> SPCC 6pm	



The Parks at UC Davis

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A Publication of Orchard and Solano Parks, UC Davis

Your doorway to campus life & academic achievement

We're on the Web!

http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/housing/apartments_orchard_solano.asp

The **Park Messenger** is published by Student Housing, at the University of California, Davis. Our goal is to communicate with Park residents, campus departments and the community of Davis. We encourage reader suggestions, criticisms and articles. Let us hear from you.

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The Park Messenger online:

http://www.housing.ucdavis.edu/current/park_messenger.asp

Did you know?

- **Packages** ~ Please don't ask the Park Office to accept your incoming packages. We don't have space and security for them. Perhaps a neighbor could be designated to accept a package for you, or you might indicate your balcony for drop-offs.
- Smoking is not allowed within any apartment, or within 25 feet of any building, courtyard, or exterior walkway, patio, or balcony. Smoking is also not allowed near any playgrounds or outdoor seating areas that

other residents may typically use. Smoking will only be permitted along the outside perimeter of the Orchard and Solano Park property line. Please be aware that anyone violating this policy is subject to a lease violation.

- The tenant will neither keep a cat, dog, or other pet in or near the premises nor encourage its presence by feeding. This prohibition will apply not only to pets of the tenant, but also any visitor to the apartment regardless of the length of a visit. Violations may subject the

tenant to termination of his/her right of occupancy.

- Planning to vacate? Remember a 42-day notice is required.
- We want our complexes to remain safe places to live. Report any suspicious activity to Campus Police.
- If you plan to travel for two weeks or more, please leave a travel form with your Park Office.