# Tara & April's-

# **Chit Chat**

News for Home and Living

MARCH/APRIL 2013



## **Spring Festivals**

Different cultures celebrate the arrival of Spring in different ways. In Eastern Europe, they celebrate by gifting each other with martenitsas (protective bracelets made of twisted thread). In Spring, these amulets are tied to trees to encourage good growth.

In China they celebrate earlier, at the end of January. During their festival, family members gather together and have reunion dinners, as well as setting off fireworks and visiting friends.

In Poland the people attach wagon wheels to their rooftops or barns to welcome back the storks, when 25 percent of the world's storks fly back to Poland and land on the wagon wheels to begin building their nests.

In England they celebrate May Day wherein a Maypole is traditionally crafted from maple, hawthorn or birch and traditional intertwining of ribbons and related dances ensues.

In Germany they celebrate May Day which is Spring's victory over Winter. In smaller towns, a tall tree is placed in the town center with its lower branches and bark removed, then the villagers dance and socialize.

## Inside Chit Chat

122-yr-old Victorian Home for Sale!

**Real Estate Activity Report** 

The Pet Page (Backyard Crustaceans)

**Neighborhood News (First Sundays)** 

Flower Show and Garden Tour

#### **Daffodils**

I wandered lonely as a cloud That floats on high o'er vales and hills, When all at once I saw a crowd, A host, of golden daffodils; Beside the lake, beneath the trees, Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.

Continuous as the stars that shine And twinkle on the milky way, They stretched in never-ending line Along the margin of a bay: Ten thousand saw I at a glance, Tossing their heads in sprightly dance.

For oft, when on my couch I lie
In vacant or in pensive mood,
They flash upon that inward eye
Which is the bliss of solitude;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.



by William Wordsworth



#### **\$595,000** 5809 Brockton Avenue, Riverside 92506

Built in 1891, this Queen Anne Victorian residence is one of the few remaining homes of its kind in Riverside, and is deemed a Structure of Merit by the City of Riverside, and was once surrounded by a ten-acre orange grove. You are welcomed by a wraparound porch and the original owner's initials etched in the front door glass (Milton J. Daniels who was a Civil War captain, as well as a bank president and a Minnesota State senator).

The entrance hall is graced with a carved woodwork stairway and original stained glass window.

To the right, are front and back parlors with original pocket doors, as well as a formal dining room and a library with fireplace, separate entrance, and adjoining remodeled full bathroom.

The large eat-in kitchen has been updated with modern conveniences, including a pantry and laundry room.

In addition to the original features such as 5 main floor fireplaces and inlaid wood floors, there is also central air/heat, partial copper plumbing, and partial updated electrical, and a newer roof.

Upstairs, four of the bedrooms boast transom windows above each doorway; though offering utility in their implementation, their classic looks are a signature element of this home.

There are two more bathrooms on the 2nd floor, in addition to a 5th bedroom and another room that was once used by servants, with separate entrance and sun porch. There is a useable attic, inground pool/spa, circular driveway, and a monitored security system.

~ for color photos of this home and more information, go to www.WoodStreetHomes.com ~

#### REAL ESTATE ACTIVITY REPORT

# LISTED and/or SOLD by "The Sister Team"

SOLD	(Oct 2012-Feb2013)					
	Brockton	\$	250,000	3 bed, 1.5 bath	1800 sq ft	1-car garage & pool
	Cliffside	\$	375,000	3 bed, 3 bath	2816 sq ft	2-car garage & pool
	Donald	\$	210,000	4 bed, 2 bath	1066 sq ft	1-car garage
		\$	160,000	2 bed, 1.75 bath	1322 sq ft	1-car garage & pool
	Edgewood Elmwood	\$	130,000	2 bed, 1 bath	1078 sq ft	2-car garage
		\$	585,000	3 bed, 1.5 bath	3015 sq ft	2-car garage
	Houghton	\$	237,500	3 bed, 1.5 bath	1626 sq ft	2-car garage
	Isabella Kendall	\$	287,000	3 bed, 1.75 bath	1468 sq ft	2-car garage
		\$	218,000	3 bed, 1 bath	1232 sq ft	no garage
	Larchwood	\$	345,000	5 bed, 1.25 bath	2728 sq ft	no garage
	Lemon	\$	260,000	3 bed, 1.5 bath	1675 sq ft	2-car garage
	Merrill	\$	224,900	3 bed, 1.75 bath	1383 sq ft	1-car garage
	Norton	\$	199,900	3 bed, 1 bath	1140 sq ft	2-car garage
7129	Orchard	э \$	325,000	3 bed, 2 bath	1778 sq ft	2-car garage
	Ramona	\$ \$	225,000	3 bed, 2 bath	1111 sq ft	1-car garage
	Ramona	э \$	320,000	4 bed, 1.75 bath	1932 sq ft	
1541		\$	380,000	,	1932 sq ft	2-car garage & pool
	Rockledge	\$ \$	259,000	4 bed, 2 bath	1154 sq ft	2-car garage & poor 2-car garage
4411	Rosewood	Ф	239,000	3 bed, 1 bath	1134 Sq It	z-cai garage
IN ESCROW						
	Avenue Juan Diaz		Sold	2 bed, 1.75 bath	1362 sq ft	2-car carport
	Larchwood		prices	3 bed, 2 bath	1532 sq f	2-car garage
	Mission Inn		posted	4 bed, 2 bath	2600 sq ft	2-car garage
3668	Ramona		in	3 bed, 1 bath	1328 sq ft	2-car garage
4210	Ramona		next	2 bed, 2 bath	1034 sq ft	3-car garage
6360	Topeka	•	"Activity	3 bed, 2.5 bath	1671 sq ft	2-car garage
5755	Tower		Report"	3 bed, 2 bath	1728 sq ft	2-car garage & pool
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<u>AVAILABLE</u>						
5809	Brockton	\$	595,000	6 bed, 2.75 bath	4135 sq ft	no garage & pool
5065	Carlingford	\$	235,000	3 bed, 2 bath	1600 sq ft	2-car garage
3770	Elmwood Ct	\$	259,000	2 bed, 1 bath	1078 sq ft	2-car garage
5726	Magnolia	\$	249,900	3 bed, 2 bath	1600 sq ft	2-car garage
3603	Mckinley	\$	199,900	2 bed, 1 bath	900 sq ft	2-car garage
3760	Rosewood	\$	269,900	3 bed, 1 bath	1400 sq ft	2-car garage

NO ONE (for the past 16 years) comes close to listing and selling as many homes in the Wood Streets than "The Sister Team"!

HUNDREDS of homes sold!

No one beats our experience & 25 years of real estate knowledge!

## Welcome New Clients!

#### Friends Referring Friends:

A great referral is when you introduce someone you care about, to someone you trust...

**Patrick and Suzanne Breslin** 

**Keith Booth** 

The Curtiss Family

Michelle Gilleece (referred by Lindy Colaluca, a past and treasured client)

Nando and Priscilla Mendoza

**Eddy Palacios and Melissa Cushman** 

**Steve and Dreia Shelton** 

We love giving recognition to our new friends and our wonderful existing clients who are kind enough to refer their friends and relatives to us.

# Absolutely NO ONE sells more homes in The Wood Streets neighborhood than "The Sister Team"!!

we **LIVE** in the neighborhood, we **WORK** in the neighborhood, we **KNOW** the neighborhood, we **SELL** the neighborhood!!!

www.TheSisterTeam.com

# Mar/April Quiz Question

What is a 'sea wasp'?

Everyone (any age) responding by calling or e-mailing us with the correct answer will be entered into a drawing for:

a \$25 VISA gift card to use wherever you like, just like cash!



Drawing to be held on 4/15/2013

### Jan/Feb Quiz Answer

Question: What did Leonardo da Vinci, Winston Churchill, Albert Einstein, Thomas Edison & General George Patton all have in common?

**Answer:** They were all dyslexic.

#### Congratulations to Linda Rawls

Your name was selected at random from all of the correct quiz entries and you'll receive a \$25 VISA gift card!

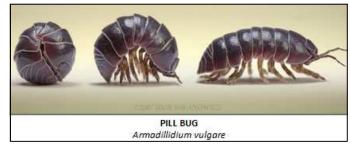
# The Pet Page

#### **Backyard Crustaceans**

Writing about roly polies is a bit of a departure from our typical subject pets like dogs, cats, bunnies, etc. However, if you spend any time outdoors, you've most likely encountered the little creatures pictured below that turn into a round ball if you touch them.

Roly polies, otherwise known as pill bugs or woodlice, are members of the order Isopoda, the only crustaceans that have adapted to living entirely on land. Despite their terrestrial lifestyles, pill bugs have

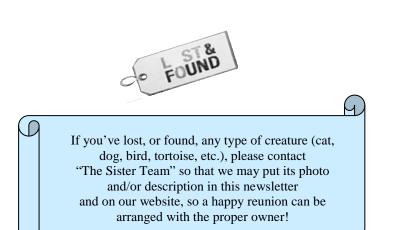
retained gill-like breathing structures (pleopod lungs and pseudotrachea) that allow them to thrive in high-moisture habitats (like inside your compost bin or underneath your potted plants). Bet you didn't know that these garden crustaceans are more closely related to crayfish, crabs and lobsters than to beetles and centipedes.



If you've ever seen a blue or purple pill bug, you'll now know that this is not a genetic variation, but rather a physical reaction to an iridovirus that creates dense accumulations of crystalline structures in infected tissues, which is essentially a disease. Unfortunately, these little colored guys are quickly on their way to becoming compost.

Roly polies can live up to 3 years depending on weather conditions. They feed on decaying organic matter and occasionally young plants and their roots. Adequate moisture is essential for their survival, and they group in masses to reduce water loss. They become inactive during the winter months except in heated buildings such as greenhouses.

One final interesting fact: like crabs and other crustaceans, pill bugs tote their eggs around with them. Overlapping thoracic plates form a special pouch, called a marsupium, on the pill bug's underside. Upon hatching, the tiny juvenile pill bugs remain in the pouch for several days before leaving to explore the world on their own.





# Neighborhood News

# Neighbors of the Wood Streets Association (NOWS)

NOWS belongs to YOU (the Wood Streets residents). It is a fantastic resource for neighborhood and citywide information and news. If you're unable to attend the meetings, which are held every

**3rd Thursday** at **6:30 p.m.** at the RCC Alumni House at 3564 Ramona Drive, then please sign up to be on the email monthly newsletter list at nowsnews1@gmail.com so you can be kept



informed of guest speakers and other upcoming agenda. Please bookmark the new website at www.NOWSriverside.com.

# YARD SALE SIGNS (free for your use)

For years, we've put up signs for local residents to help direct traffic to their yard sales.

Just a reminder that our signs are still available for your use, **year round**. Give us a day notice...





#### **FIRST SUNDAYS**

"First Sundays" is a seasonal series of FREE family programs featuring different activities for children and teens at six different locations in downtown Riverside on the 1st Sunday of every month

through May, from 1 pm to 4 pm. The participating locations are: Riverside Metropolitan Museum, Mission Inn Museum, Riverside Art Museum, Riverside Public Library, UCR ArtsBlock, and Riverside Fox Theater Foundation. Go to www.riversideca.gov/museum/firstsundays.asp for April's schedule. Have fun, kids!

Need local businesses that give outstanding customer service?

Request a FREE copy of our Service Directory or go to our website www.WoodStreetHomes.com

> CONTRACTORS, ROOFERS, HANDYMEN, GARDENERS, PIANO MOVER, YOGA TEACHERS,

> > and more!

#### **FREE Tax Preparation Service**

Your local AARP chapter office is offering FREE tax preparation assistance in conjunction with the IRS/VITA program. The program is provided mainly for **senior citizens** and also some low-income tax-payers. You do not need to be a member of AARP to benefit from this service.

Trained volunteers will be available Wednesday afternoons until April 10th, 2013. Call or visit for information or to schedule an appointment. The office is located at 3713 Tibbetts (just off Brockton, near Arlington). The phone number is (951) 682-1416.



# SAVE THE DATE

**66th Annual Riverside Community** 



# FLOWER SHOW & GARDEN TOUR

"Blooms Abound All Around"

Saturday, April 27

Gardens 10 am - 4 pm ● Show 1 - 6 pm (Maps & Tickets available at Elks Lodge at 9 am Sat. Flower Show opens at 1 pm)

Sunday, April 28

Gardens and Show 10 am - 4 pm

Flower Show at the Elks Lodge 6166 Brockton Ave. Riverside plus 6 Private Gardens

\$8 Pre-sale or \$10 Donation at the door

FOR MORE INFO GO TO: RiversideFlowerShow.info OR CALL 951-777-0746





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Chit Chat

# Happy 11th Birthday, Chit Chat!

This 8-page Chit Chat newsletter, that we have been personally writing and distributing door-to-door to over 2,100 homes every issue, is celebrating its 11th birthday!!

For those of you who have not been in the neighborhood as long as us, you'll be surprised to know that we were delivering real estate tips, sales stats, American flags, and lots of goodies (candy, note pads, calendars, etc.) for more than 5 years *before* the inception of the Chit Chat; that means we've been a **real estate presence** in this neighborhood for **16 years**!

No other Realtors come close to our success here. Absolutely no one lists *and* sells more homes in the Wood Streets than "The Sister Team". This is due to our full-time and long-term commitment to the real estate industry (25 years), our knowledge of the Southern California real estate market, and our personal involvement with every single transaction.

Not only do we live here and work here, but we ride our bikes and take walks throughout this amazing and wonderful neighborhood!

