

SoMar Neighborhood Association

This is the first newsletter of the recently formed South-Mar Vista Neighborhood Association. The boundaries of our neighborhood are Venice Blvd., Washington Place, Sawtelle Ave., and Beethoven Blvd., see map on back page. We are a part of Mar Vista and benefit from the work of the Mar Vista Community Council but our own Association can influence things happening within our own neighborhood. The Association will provide several important roles essential in creating and maintaining a safe and attractive neighborhood. Included in these are liaison with the Mar Vista Community Council (MVCC) making sure that we are included in city improvements, street resurfacing and other efforts by the MVCC. Also important is working with LAPD to keep the neighborhood safe and help start Neighborhood Watch Programs. The South-Mar Neighborhood Association is an important step to uniting our community. We are looking for stakeholders interested in volunteering a little time to help achieve the goals of the community. Some of the positions we need to fill are vice-president, secretary, board members and volunteers. Please contact Steve Wallace at steve@marvista.org if you are interested in getting involved.

Presidents Message

Thanks to everyone that has been involved with getting the South-Mar Neighborhood Association off the ground. From the regular meeting attendees, to the folks that helped put this first news letter together. A Neighborhood Association is about neighbors working together to make the place they live, work and raise their families, a better place to do so. Regular attendees to our monthly meetings are the local LAPD Senior Lead Officers, Heidi and Pete Llanes. They inform us that major crime is down in our neighborhood; however lots of neighbors make it very easy for opportunist thieves to take property from cars, garages or homes. Hence the reason petty crime still exists.

Neighborhood Watch groups are making it more difficult because they are organized and well informed by LAPD. If you do not have a Neighborhood Watch Group on your street or block, we can help you start one.

Mar Vista Community Council has allocated a lot of funds to the beautification of Venice Blvd.; this includes landscaping the median, tree trimming and decorative trash cans. Look for the development of the Blvd., please frequent the local business and spread the word. Also look for the Farmers Market coming soon on Sunday Mornings on Grand View Blvd. Safety and Security is a major concern if a major disaster strikes. We will probably be on our own for the first 3 days without help from any services. Are you prepared? Many Neighborhood Groups have there

own safety plans with generators, food, water and blankets in a storage facility at a rally point. We could organize a similar program for South-Mar; however we need your help. Membership Dues will help, your support at our monthly meetings will help and the support of neighbors to volunteer as Block Captains will help. Be the lead in your street, be a Block Captain! A successful Neighborhood Association is only as good as the neighbors involved and willing to support it. Please, support your Neighborhood Association! We meet the second Thursday of each month at Mar Vista Library 6pm – 7:55pm. See you there.

SoMar History

There is definitely interesting Mar Vista history in the area south of Venice Blvd. between Beethoven and Sawtelle, home of the South-Mar Neighborhood Association.

Venice Blvd. dates back to a rail line, which in 1902, connected central Los Angeles with the City of Ocean Park, incorporated in 1904. East Ocean Park Heights was one of the earliest housing tracts in what would become Mar Vista. This tract was between Centinela and Inglewood, south of Venice Blvd. to Washington Blvd. Originally the tract was divided into one acre lots which sold for \$1000 each in 1904. Lots one and two of this tract is where the Mar Vista Library is located today.

The site of the new fire station was the location of Brand's Restaurant in 1953. Marcasel was originally West Blvd. and renamed based on the nearby rail stop, Casa Del Mar. The change was requested by the Post Office because there was another West St. in Los Angeles.

In 1923, Washington Blvd. was widened to Lincoln. In this same year Culver City acquired a two mile strip along Washington, cutting Mar Vista in two. One reason cited was to include the Culver City Kennel Club in the city. This was the site of greyhound dog racing long before Costco.

Bruno Tesari leased a donut shop in 1956, which became the famous Bruno's Restaurant. The Tesari family did not want the building destroyed, so sold it to the Vineyard Fellowship for use as a church. Sam Johnson's Book Store at 12310 Venice Blvd. was the location of the Mar Vista Library in the 1950's. Prior to that the building was a bar.

The East-Marcasel one mile oval track has an interesting history that I have yet to fully uncover. I understand that 3966 Marcasel was a home owned by Fatty Arbuckle. Barnes City was directly south of Washington Blvd. Whether the Al Barnes Circus was set up inside the oval needs to be confirmed. Arbuckle's Plantation Club was nearby on Washington Blvd.

Information provided by Glen Howell, Mar Vista Historian, www.marvistahistoricalsociety.net.

To join the SoMar Neighborhood Association send this form and a check for \$10 to:

South-Mar Neighborhood Association
3820 Coolidge Ave.
Mar Vista, CA 90066

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

You will receive the newsletter and email information about important topics and meetings. Membership dues are used for improvement projects in the neighborhood.

Important Dates

August 10, 2006

SoMar Vista Neighborhood Association meeting at the Mar Vista Library at the corner of Venice Blvd. and Inglewood Ave.

September 14, 2006

SoMar Vista Neighborhood Association meeting at the Mar Vista Library at the corner of Venice Blvd. and Inglewood Ave.

October 12, 2006

SoMar Vista Neighborhood Association meeting at the Mar Vista Library at the corner of Venice Blvd. and Inglewood Ave.

November 9, 2006

SoMar Vista Neighborhood Association meeting at the Mar Vista Library at the corner of Venice Blvd. and Inglewood Ave.

Every Sunday 9am-1pm

Beginning in July visit the Mar Vista Farmers Market on Grand View Blvd. between Venice Blvd. and Washington Place.

2nd Tuesday of Every Month

Mar Vista Community Council meets at Mar Vista Park 7 - 9pm.

Go to www.marvistacc.org for other meeting dates and times.

SoMar Neighborhood Association Contacts:

President: Steve Wallace - stevew@marvista.org (Please contact Steve if you would like to add something to the agenda of the monthly meeting)

Treasurer: Christopher McKinnon

Block Captains: Elise Derby on Keeshen Drive,
Martha Santana on Mitchell Ave,
Cassandra Rhone at Grand View Town Homes,
Rosa Hernandez on Mitchell Ave.

Newsletter: Julia Jones - juliaj@mac.com

We need volunteers to fill the following positions:

Vice President

Secretary

Block Captains

Board Members

Volunteers

Websites

South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association:

www.neighborhoodlink.com/la/southmar/

Mar Vista Community Council

www.marvistacc.org

Mar Neighborhood Association

www.mvna.net

Mar Vista Arts Guild

www.marvistaartsguild.org

Culver West neighborhood Association

www.culverwest.org

Del Rey Homeowners & Neighbors

www.delreyhome.org/

Crime Report

www.pacificbeat.net

Community Emergency Response Information

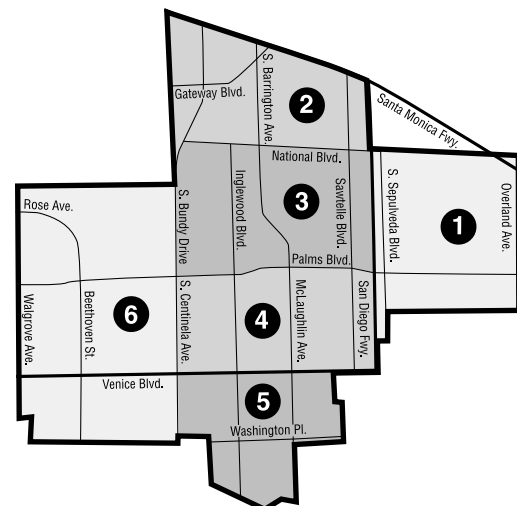
www.cert.la.com

Neighborhood Association Goals

- Developing and promoting community spirit and unity
- Improving and sustaining the community's quality of life
- Securing necessary and beneficial public improvements
- Promoting measures that protect health and safety
- Supporting efforts to protect and expand open spaces for recreation
- Providing information about public services and residents rights and responsibilities

These goals can be achieved if we are willing to get involved!

Mar Vista Community Council Zones with over 50,000 stakeholders.



South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association is number five on the map. The boundaries are Venice Blvd., Washington Place, Sawtelle Blvd., and Beethoven Blvd.

New Neighborhood Watch Formed

MVNOA, Mar Vista North Oval Association, residents of Marcasel, East, North Park and other surrounding streets gathered at the front yard of Alex & Aline Wurman on Saturday October 15th to start a local Neighborhood Watch Association. A previous meeting had also been attended by Senior Lead Officer Peter Llanes of LAPD responsible for this area. They also discussed erecting a gate to block the alleyway that runs between East and McLaughlin Blvd. If you want to get involved send an email to AAwurman@speakeasy.net.

**We need more neighborhood watch committees,
we can help you organize one on your street.
Contact steve@marvista.org**


Mar Vista Farmers Market

Every Sunday from 9am-1pm

**On Grandview Blvd. between
Venice Blvd. and Washington Place.**

Free Trees from DWP

Customers of DWP can get up to five free trees to plant on their property. All you do is attend a workshop on how and where to plant your trees. They give you a book of the over 40 different tree varieties available with pictures and detailed descriptions. Fill out the request form and a couple of weeks later the trees arrive along with stakes and fertilizer tablets. The workshop only takes about an hour and a half and is very informative. Contact: LADWP (800) 473-3652 or visit www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp000744.jsp.



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JANET MITSUI BROWN
Feng Shui

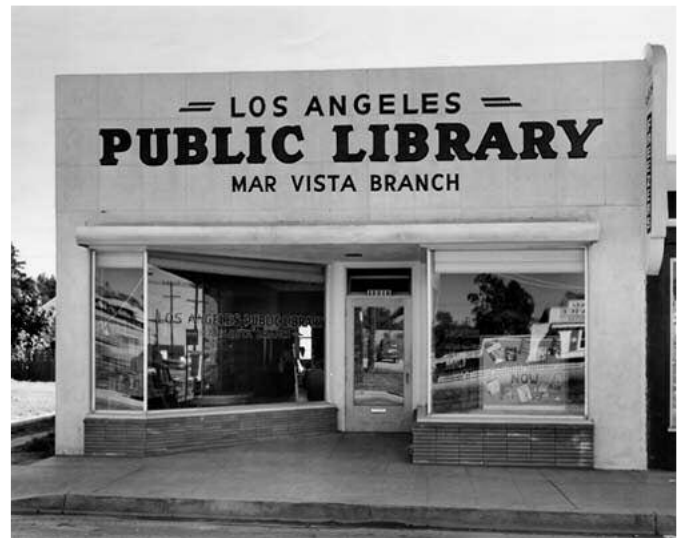
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Therapeutic Massage with Elise Derby

Oasis Healing Center
12114 Venice Blvd.
310-308-3188

1hr-\$45 1.5hour-\$70

Swedish, Deep Tissue, Aroma Therapy, Hot Stone



Photograph from The Mar Vista Historical Society; Collection: Security Pacific National Bank; Source: Los Angeles Public Library
Photographer: Dick Whittington; Description: Los Angeles Public Library Mar Vista Branch, 12310 Venice Boulevard

12310 Venice Blvd.


In 1950, Mar Vista Library was upgraded from a sub-branch to a full branch. During the 1950's the library was located in this leased building at 12310 Venice Blvd. Prior to being a library, the building was a bar. In 1962, the library moved to its permanent location at 12006 Venice Blvd. Today this temporary library building looks exactly as it did when it was a library, but now it is Sam Johnson's Bookshop. <http://www.marvistahistoricalsociety.net>




Sam Johnson's Bookshop

Get Involved with MVCC Sub-Committees

The Mar Vista Community Council committees are:
SMC Bundy Campus Ad Hoc Committee, Education, Culture, & Arts Committee, Election and Bylaws Committee, Outreach Committee, Safety and Security Committee, Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, Urban Planning/Land Use Committee
To get involved visit the website at www.marvistacc.org.





Westside Properties
155 Washington Blvd. • Marina del Rey, CA 90292
Susan Payne
CRS - Certified Residential Specialist
ABR - Accredited Buyer Representative
Specializing in the Westside of Los Angeles
License #01203767
Office: (310) 577-5300, Ext. 404
Fax: (310) 577-5301
<http://www.susanpayne.com>
E-Mail: Susan@susanpayne.com

One Call to City Hall

3-1-1 is a toll free citywide number for information and non-emergency services. Calls are answered 24 hours a day in English and Spanish. The operators take the information and pass it on to the proper department. The problem is usually fixed within a day or two. Call for the following kinds of problems: To remove trash on the streets or alleyways; To repair Street or traffic lights; To replace missing street signs; To have graffiti removed; To have potholes fixed. Spread the word about 3-1-1, the City Wide Service Directory.

Block Captains Needed

It is important to have active members on each street in the form of a Block Captain for safety, security and emergency preparedness. Block Captains also help disseminate information from the neighborhood association and the community council. Block Captains are still needed for most blocks in the neighborhood. For information on becoming a Block Captain contact Steve Wallace at steve@marvista.org.

Check out new business' in our neighborhood!

The Venice Grind on Venice Blvd.
Gourmet Candy Store on Venice Blvd.
Soaptopia on Venice Blvd.
Tiger Lilly on Venice Blvd.



For All Your Reunion Planning Needs

Linda Johnson Hoffman
Principal
lindah@reunionplanner.com

11661 San Vicente Blvd. Suite 306
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Relax With YOGA

Thursday Evenings
7:00 to 8:30

Beginners Welcome !!!

11700 National Blvd Suite H
Corner Barrington & National
310 398-2500

More info at
www.yogasalad.net



Mar Vista Public Library HOURS

Mon/Sat 10:00-5:30
Tue/Thurs 12:30-8:00
Wed/Fri 12:30-5:30

LOCATION

12006 Venice Blvd,
SW corner of Inglewood
Tel: (310) 390-3454
Free Public Wireless
Internet Access Available
Mystery Readers Club:
3rd Thursday of every
month at 6:30 pm
Grandparents and Books:
A grandparent is available
in the library to read to
children, Monday thru
Friday. Call for schedule.

Important Telephone Numbers

EMERGENCY ONLY 9-1-1
LAPD Non-Emer; Stolen property; Vandalism; Public intox; Trespass/Loiter "O"
Dispatch (877) 275-5273
LAPD Pacific: Non-Emergency Front Desk (310) 482-6334; 6335; 6336
LAPD Senior Lead Officer; Heidi Llanes;
. 26837@lapd.lacity.org; (310) 622-3971
LAPD Community Relations; Officer Tony Newsom
. 26986@lapd.lacity.org; (310) 202-4524
LAPD PACIFIC; Area Commanding Officer - Captain Bill Williams
. www.lapdonline.org
LASD - Persons in Jail www.lasd.org
LAUSD- School Police; McBride Elementary; 3960 Centinela Av
. (213) 625-6631
LA City Council; District 11; 7166 W. Manchester Av; Los Angeles; CA; 90045
. www.lacity.org/council/cd11
Bill Rosendahl www.councilmanrosendahl.com
Field Deputy-Len Nguyen (310) 575-8461;
Constituent Advocate-Nancy Aguilar (310) 568-8772
Mar Vista City Council; Zone 6 www.marvistacc.org
Abandoned Vehicles-after 72 hrs (323) 224-6596 or (800) 222-6366
Animal Regulation (888) 452-7381
Air Quality Mgt. District (AQMD)
Report polluting vehicle; License plate #; Time; Location . . . (800) 288-7664
Battered Women-SOJOURN (310) 264-6644
Building & Safety: Info (310) 575-8094 or (888) 524-2845
Child Abuse-DCFS (800) 540-4000
City Attorney Ofc; Neighborhood Prosecutor Gina Isagholian . . (310) 575-8743
DWP 24 hrs (800) 342-5397
Gas Co. 24 hrs (800) 427-2200
Graffiti-Charlene Parrish
. pacificgraffitisolutions@yahoo.com; 311 or (310) 204-2749
Health Dept.-Vector Control (Rats)
. Apts (310) 665-8484 or Residences (626) 430-5461
Housing Dept. (Apts.); Illegal garage use (866) 557-7368
Parking Enforcement; Complaint Ofc (310) 312-3500 24 hrs 213) 485-4184
Poison Control (800) 876-4766
Restraining Orders (213) 974-5587
Sanitation (M-F 7:30a-4:45p) (800) 773-2489
Sex Offender www.meganslaw.ca.gov or <http://gismap.co.la.ca.us/sols>
Street & Alley; "Clean-Up" Abandoned items M-F 7a-5p; "0" operator
. (800) 996-2489
Street Inspector Stephanie Hill; Illegal posted signs
. (310) 840-2103 or (213) 485-3711
Street Signs (Transportation Dept.) (213) 580-1177
Terrorist Activity 877-A-Threat or (877) 284-7328
Toxic Waste Disposal; Used motor oil & Computer equip. (800) 988-6942
Hyperion Ctr; 7660 W. Imperial Hwy; Gate B; Sat & Sun 9a-3p
. www.lacitysan.org
Verizon Telephone Co. (800) 483-4000
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213-978-0750 Fax
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Los Angeles, CA 90025
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310-575-8305 Fax
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