

Winter 2009 — Volume IV, Issue 1

SoMAR

South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association



Los Angeles Fire Station 62 Pancake Breakfast Holiday Toy Drive Fundraiser Organized by The South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association



South Mar Vista Neighborhood in conjunction with the LAPD Pacific Division and our very own Fire Station 62, decided to support the 2008 Holiday Toy Drive by organizing a fundraiser Pancake Breakfast at the Fire Station on Venice Blvd. Coffee and pancakes were served by our local fire fighters. The day was a huge success, over 100 people attended and we collected lots and lots of toys to be distributed to the less fortunate. Accompanied by Senior Lead Officers Drake Madison and Heidi Llanes, Santa was on hand

in the LAPD Sleigh to take photos with the kids, the pictures are on line at:
<http://www.picasaweb.google.com/ssboskin/pancake-breakfast622008>.

Our Councilmember Bill Rosendahl stopped by to drop off some toys and say a few words. Many thanks to our local Trader Joe's, Whole Foods and Vons for food donations. Thank you LAFD Captain Frank Semenza and to everyone who helped make this day a big success.

Join the South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association!

Your dues help improve our neighborhood.

Standard Membership — \$15.00 per year

Patron Circle Donation — \$50 per year

Sponsor Circle Donation — \$100 per year
(Patrons and Sponsors will be recognized in the newsletter)

South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 66756

Mar Vista, CA 90066

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

I am interested in being a Block Captain _____

Para juntarse con la Asociación del Barrio de Mar Vista del Sur

Se utilize la cuota en el barrio de Mar Vista para proyectos de mejoramiento.

Standard Membership — \$15.00 per year

Patron Circle Donation — \$50 per year

Sponsor Circle Donation — \$100 per year
(Patrons and Sponsors will be recognized in the newsletter)

South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 66756

Mar Vista, CA 90066

Nombre _____

Dirección _____

Teléfono _____

Email _____

Me gustaría ser un Block Captain _____

Safety and Security Websites

Los Angeles Police Department

www.lapdonline.org

Los Angeles Community Policing (501c3)

www.lacp.org

Pacific Beat, LAPD Pacific Area Web site

www.pacificbeat.net

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

www.cert-la.com

Los Angeles Fire Department

www.lafd.org

City of Los Angeles – Emergency Prep. Dept.

www.lacity.org/epd

Red Cross

www.redcross.org

www.redcrossla.org

NOW DUE! 2009 South Mar Vista Neighborhood Dues

Help keep neighborhood improvements and our newsletter rolling through 2009.

Check out the new Patron and Sponsor categories and send in your membership dues for 2009.

Angels in Mar Vista

The following letter was recently received from our local Mar Vista head librarian Carole Kealoha:

Hi guys! Last Monday as I was driving to work I got my car totaled. Since you are all very involved in the community, I wanted to let you know about the amazing assistance I received from Mar Vista residents. A Ford Econoline van turned left on a yellow light at Rose Avenue and Centinela Avenue. It was pouring rain, I couldn't stop for the yellow so we hit. My car was totaled.

Three separate Mar Vista residents who were on Rose waiting to turn onto Centinela came immediately to my rescue. I was in shock, in the middle of the intersection. My air bag had gone off and there was smoke. A woman and an unrelated man came to the car to check on me. The woman immediately began directing traffic. The man wanted to know if I was okay and told me to sit and not get up. That was good because I was in shock and probably would have hurt myself further.

There was a third woman in another car and she called 911. All three of them gave me their names and phone numbers as witnesses. Two of them stayed with me the ENTIRE time until my husband came. It was over one and a half hours. It was still raining and I'm sure they were both supposed to be at work. They stayed while the Fire Department came and the paramedics checked me. They stayed while the Police Officer came and took a report. They gave him information. They walked me to the woman's car where it was safer. They stood out in the rain the entire time! I think I was just as shocked at their kindness as I was the car accident! Once my husband got there, they filled him in on all the details, made sure I was okay and then left.

The Fire Department from our Fire Station #62 was also great! The Captain was a gentleman I had met when a library patron was ill. The engineer was also one of the firefighters that use the library. They were shocked to see me. They made sure that I got all the necessary information from the other driver. They got all of my things out of my car for me. (Library books to return!) I don't enjoy car accidents, but I just wanted to let you know how special this Mar Vista community is, and what amazing assistance I received. I was truly blessed.

—Carole M. Kealoha

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

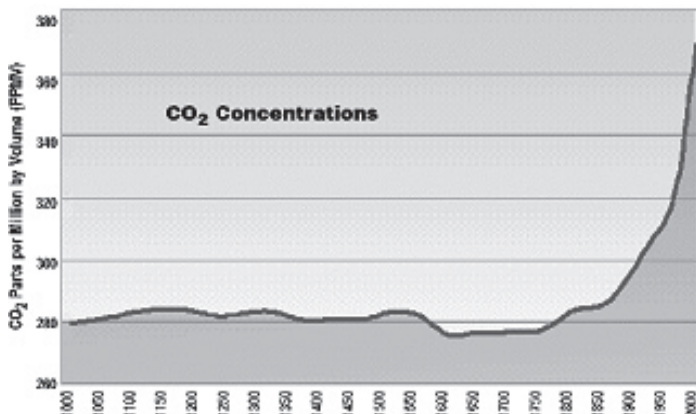
EMERGENCY ONLY	9-1-1
LAPD Non-Emer; Stolen property; Vandalism; Public intox; Trespass/Loiter: "O" Dispatch	(877) 275-5273
LAPD Pacific: Non-Emergency Front Desk	(310) 482-6334 / 6335 / 6336
LAPD Senior Lead Officer:	
SLO-Heidi Llanes; West of Centinela Av; Car Area A-45 26837@lapd.lacity.org	(310) 622-3971
SLO-Drake Madison; East of Centinela Av; Car Area A-49 33997@lapd.lacity.org	(310) 622-3972
LAPD Community Relations; Officer Tony Newsom 26986@lapd.lacity.org	(310) 202-4524
LAPD PACIFIC; Area Commanding Officer – Captain III, Joseph Hiltner	www.lapdonline.org
LAPD Crime Stats	www.pacificbeat.org or Police Resources
L ASD – Persons in Jail	www.lasd.org
LAUSD- School Police	(213) 625-6631
McBride Elementary - 3960 Centinela Av	Grand View Elementary - 3951 Grand View Bl
LA City Council; District 11; 1645 Corinth Ave; Rm 201; Los Angeles; CA; 90025	(310) 575-8461
Councilman Bill Rosendahl	www.lacity.org/council/cd11
Field Deputy-Len Nguyen: Report Major Community issues	len.nguyen@lacity.org
Constituent Advocate-Nancy Franco: Report Specific Individual issues	nancy.franco@lacity.org
Mar Vista Community Council; Zones 1 - 6	www.marvistacc.org
City Information	3-1-1
Abandoned Vehicles-after 72 hrs	(800) 222-6366
Animal Services www.laanimalservices.com	(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. www.ladbs.org	(888) 524-2845
Child Abuse-DCFS	(800) 540-4000
City Attorney Ofc; Neighborhood Prosecutor Claudia Martin claudia.martin@lacity.org	(310) 202-3861
DWP www.ladwp.com	24 hrs (800) 342-5397
Gas Co www.socalgas.com	24 hrs (800) 427-2200
Graffiti-Yvette Neil pacificgraffitisolutions@yahoo.com or	graffiti@wwwpgs.net (310) 204-2749
Health Dept.-Vector Control (Rats)	Apts (310) 665-8484 or Residences (626) 430-5200
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-Sat 7:30a-4:45p)	(800) 773-2489
Potholes; Street/Sidewalk Repair; Tree Trim	Press #1 Street Light Outage/Installation/Repair
Illegal Dump; Refuse Container; Recycling; Bulky Item; Deceased Animal; Curbside Collection	Press #3
Sewer Service Charge ... Press #4 Household Hazard Waste ... Press #5 Storm Drain Spills/Waste .. Press # 6	
Sex Offender	www.meganslaw.ca.gov or www.nsopr.gov
Street & Alley; Abandoned items-NO furniture or appliance pick up M-F 7a-5p; "O" opr..	(800) 996-2489
Street Svcs.; Investigator Donnet Wilson; Illegal posted signs; illegal vending; overgrown vegetation;	
obstruction of public right of way; M-F 7a-3:30p	(310) 840-2103
Street Signs (Transportation Dept.) M-F 7a-5p www.lacity.org	(310) 575-8138
Terrorist Activity	877-A-Threat or (877) 284-7328
Toxic Waste Disposal; Solvents/Automotive/Flammables/Electronics	(800) 988-6942
Hyperion Ctr; 7660 W. Imperial Hwy; Playa del Rey; Gate B; Sat & Sun 9a-3p	www.lacitysan.org
Verizon Telephone Co. www.verizon.com	(800) 483-4000

Transition Town LA

by Agnes Anderson

My husband and I were among 34 people from Southern California and beyond, who attended a two-day training in the “Transition Towns” concept in December. It is a community initiative, founded by Rob Hopkins in the UK, to confront the dual challenges of peak oil and climate change. Colleagues of his ran the training. We continue to use one-and-a-half earth’s worth of resources, conveniently forgetting that it’s not sustainable. But if we put our heads together, get our creative juices flowing, bring our buying dollars closer to home, source materials and food closer to home, together we are on our way to less pollution and more resilience. Bottom-up responses, lots of small groups working on one idea at a time, supporting each other—these are the ways we will adapt and evolve in the coming era of lower energy resources. Let’s envision a different future than the one we’re headed for. Life before oil wasn’t bad. Los Angeles is big, but neighborhood associations are popping up all over. Mar Vista has developed a heart. The deeper connections within the local community are already happening. More people are planting edible gardens. And they are happy to share seeds and advice. It’s spreading. There are many “power-down” techniques we can embrace right away: use simpler cleaning products, line dry your clothes, catch the shower water you waste when heating it up, buy less. When we support our local farmers market and local foods of our choice.

The early stages of transition include networking, awareness-raising, and reskilling. Initiating groups evolve into a core group and working groups. The projects that develop are specific to the interests of those involved. Organically, change is effected. And it only takes 14 to 20% of the community to be on board to start tipping the scales toward a new way of acting in the world. Learn more at www.transitiontowns.org and www.EnviroChangeMakers.org. ECM is holding a free public session “What is a Transition Town?” on January 22 from 7 to 9pm in the Community Hall of Holy Nativity Church at 6700 W. 83rd in Westchester 90045.



Want to be a Block Captain?

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 are still needed for most blocks in the neighborhood. For information on becoming a Block Captain contact Steve Wallace at steve@marvista.org.

Responsibilities of a Block Captain Include:

- Serving as a liaison between the block residents and the Police Department and neighborhood association as well as distributing newsletters, crime prevention and association news.
- Maintain a map and list of neighbors, including names, addresses, phone numbers and vehicle information.
- Alert neighbors in the event of crime or an emergency situation which could require an area evacuation.
- Greet new neighbors and educate them on the community watch and the neighborhood.
- Co-ordinate and host an initial block meeting and then at least one yearly block meeting.

If you are interested in becoming a Block Captain or starting a Neighborhood Watch Committee on your block contact our LAPD Lead Officers: Drake Madison at 33997@lapd.lacity.org or Heidi Llanes at 26837@lapd.lacity.org.

Library Coral Tree Infested

The classic large Coral tree in front of the library is infested with white aphids. They are all over the ground, bus bench, planter, and spreading to nearby bushes as well. It has been reported by the Library staff to LA City Street Services tree inspector. Reportedly the best way to get rid of these things is to spray them with water, soapy water, or insecticide, depending on the severity of the infestation.





Down Town Mar Vista Wi-Fi.

Down Town Mar Vista from Centinela to Inglewood on Venice Blvd. and about 500-1000 feet either side of Venice North and South will soon be accessible to free Wi-Fi with Open Mar Vista. Wi-Fi is accessible now in certain areas. Mar Vista Community Council has helped fund 3 antennas that will hook up to an existing network. Eventually we hope to see the whole of Mar Vista accessible to open Wi-Fi.

Find out more at www.openmarvista.net. We are looking for additional hosts for equipment, look into making your street or neighborhood Wi-Fi accessible.

Mar Vista Community Council Email Notification System

To receive emails about important things happening in Mar Vista visit the website, www.marvista.org and click on the email notification system link. You will periodically receive emails about meetings and happenings.

Mar Vista Rec Center

Classes and Events Program now available. Register by mail, online, or walk in.

11430 Woodbine Ave
Los Angeles, CA 90066
Phone: (310) 398-5982
E-mail:
MARVISTA.RECREATIONCENTER@LACITY.ORG

Mar Vista Seniors Club meets most Fridays, 10 AM-12 noon, at the Rec Center, 11430 Woodbine LA 90066. Lots of fun. 310-398-5982

Get Involved with MVCC Committees

The Mar Vista Community Council committees are:
Website Committee, Education, Culture, & Arts Committee, Election and Bylaws Committee, Outreach Committee, Safety and Security Committee, Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, PLUM (planning and land use mgmt), Green Committee, Santa Monica Airport Ad hoc Sub-committee, Community Concept Plan committee, ROSE-Recreation and Open Space Enhancement Committee. To get involved visit the website at www.marvista.org.

Mar Vista Park Roller Hockey League Has Started!

Mar Vista Park is now recruiting for our league. If you are interested in the exciting sport of roller hockey, come by the MV Park Office to register, or contact Coach Everest Mueller at everestmueller@hotmail.com.

Ages 5-12, all skill levels, everyone welcome. No previous experience necessary. Cost is \$60/10 week class including 4 hours of practice per week, plus Saturday morning games. Adult League also available. Email coach Mueller for additional information.



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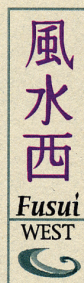


Ring 310-398-1498 Send 310-398-1483

11911 W. Washington Blvd. Suite B Los Angeles, CA 90066 www.theloungespa.com

Call for Big Sunday Projects

If you know of any areas of South Mar Vista that could use cleaning up or maybe some plantings, let us know. We are looking for projects to submit for Big Sunday which will take place May 2-3, 2009. Big Sunday is a citywide community service event. Send your ideas by email to chrism@marvista.org or write us at South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 66756, Mar Vista, CA 90066. For more information on Big Sunday see <http://www.bigsunday.org>.



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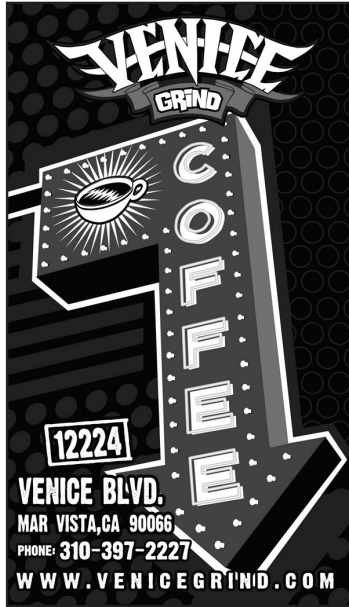
Res. 310-398-1049

Fax. 310-390-7446

We really appreciate our advertisers support! Mention you saw their ad in our newsletter.

Green Alley Project

Los Angeles City Council has approved a study aspects of alleys including the ways people use them and feel about them. The idea is to eventually create green corridors down the alleys for use by the residents. See the article in the LA times online "L.A. alley project moves forward", December 12, 2008.



Grand View Elementary

Grand View is our neighborhood elementary school here in SoMar, so I thought I'd let you all know more about it. We have classes from pre-K to 5th grade and we're on a traditional calendar year.

We're the only LAUSD school on the westside with a Dual Language Spanish Immersion 90/10 model program from pre-K through 5th, but that's only a part of the school; the rest of the school conducts classes in English. The Dual Language Program is kind of like a magnet within the school, but since it's not an actual magnet, there's no application process or lottery to go through. We have P.S. Arts, which is a wonderful non-profit offering art, music and dance classes to Title I schools like ours, and the students get the benefit of those programs once a week, as opposed to once a month, like some other area schools, including Culver City.

Grand View also offers free before-school and after-school programs through the LAUSD Beyond The Bell program for those working parents who need the coverage.

Both my sons are in the Dual Language program (one started in pre-K and now he's in Kinder and my eldest started in Kinder and now he's in 4th grade). We've loved the program and the school. I'm most impressed with the emphasis on writing. My sons' teachers have held the students to high standards and the amount of Spanish

they're learning is fantastic. (Full disclosure: we're not native Spanish speakers at home.)

I've been involved at the school for years, I'm currently the PTA president, and yes, I live in the neighborhood. Feel free to contact me with any questions about Grand View!

Another neighbor, Elise Derby, has this to say about Grand View:

"After a short wait on the waiting list, my daughter started at Grand View at the beginning of November. She is enrolled in the Pre-K Dual Language Spanish program, and I have to say I am very impressed. After just two months she has accumulated a large vocabulary in Spanish (numbers, colors, animals, please, thank you, and more). She has also become very interested in math, how numbers are added together to make other numbers. I'm enjoying volunteering in the class and getting to know all the kids and their parents. We had a really sweet holiday party, and an adorable holiday performance by all the kids. All in all it's been a great beginning to my daughters academic life."

The Dual Language Orientation will be coming up in March, and the Kinder Tea will be held sometime that month as well. Firm dates coming soon. Please contact me if you'd like to be notified personally when the dates are set and I'd be happy to do so.

You can also check out our PTA's website, which will have information about the orientation dates as well. <http://www.GrandViewPTA.com>.

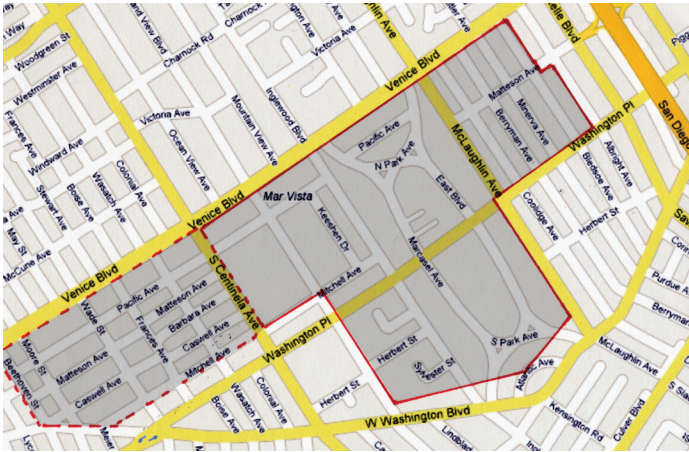
Sarah Auerswald
SAuerswald@ca.rr.com

South Mar Vista Restaurant Review:

THE CURIOUS PALATE 12034 Venice Boulevard

Lovers of truly scrumptious comfort food will appreciate the Curious Palatte's offerings: roast chicken, meatloaf, mashed potatoes, mac and cheese, fresh salads, and sandwiches. Check out their specials of the day and their product offerings, too. <http://www.thecuriouspalate.com/> My husband and I have eaten there on a number of occasions since it opened and this is truly a jewel in Mar Vista's crown. Wonderful food, great ambiance, the owners are very accommodating and have made this a great venue for Mar Vistans. This should be top of your must visit list.

Sharon Commings
Mar Vista resident



The approximate boundaries of The South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association are Venice Blvd., Washington Place/Blvd., Sawtelle Blvd., and Beethoven St.

Los límites aproximativos de la Asociación del barrio de Mar Vista del Sur son la Venice y la Sawtelle, la Washington Place y la Beethoven.

Neighborhood Association Contacts:

President - Steve Wallace - stevew@marvista.org

Vice President - Curt Steindler - curt@marvista.org

MVCC Zone 5 Director & Treasurer - Christopher McKinnon

Secretary - TBD

Block Captains - Elise Derby on Keeshen;

Martha Santana on Mitchell west of Centinela

Cassandra Rhone at Grand View Town Homes;

Rosa Hernandez on Mitchell East of Centinela

Newsletter - Julia Jones - juliaj@mac.com

SOMAR

South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 66756

Mar Vista, CA 90066

Neighborhood Websites

South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association

www.neighborhoodlink.com/la/southmar/

Mar Vista Community Council

www.marvista.org

Mar Vista 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 & LAPD Pacific Area Community Police

Advisory Board - www.pacificbeat.net

Community Emergency Response Information

www.cert.la.com

Mar Vista Farmers Market

<http://www.marvistafarmersmarket.org>

Important Dates

Quarterly on January 8, April 8, July 9, October 8, 6:30-8:00 pm

South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association meeting at the Mar Vista Library 12006 Venice Blvd. at Inglewood.

Trimestralmente, el 8 de enero, el 8 de abril, el 9 de julio, el 8 de octubre: 6:30-8:00 PM,

reunión de la Asociación del Barrio de Mar Vista del Sur (South Mar Vista Neighborhood Association), a la biblioteca de Mar Vista (Mar Vista Library), 12006 Venice, cerca de la Inglewood.

3rd Tuesday of Every Month 7:30 pm

Mar Vista Park Advisory Board meets at the Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium, 11430 Woodbine, near corner of Palms and McLaughlin.

2nd Tuesday of Every Month 7-9 pm

Mar Vista Community Council meets at the Mar Vista Recreation Center Auditorium, 11430 Woodbine, near corner of Palms and McLaughlin.

El segundo martes de cada mes, de las 7 a las 9 de la tarde,

se reúne el Consejo de la Comunidad de Mar Vista (Mar Vista Community Council) en la sala del Mar Vista Recreation Center, 11430 Woodbine, cerca de la Palms y la McLaughlin. Para más información sobre los reuniones de la comunidad, favor de visitar el website www.marvista.org.

3rd Wednesday of Every Month 7pm

Pacific Division Community Police Advisory Board at the CenterPointe Club at Playa Vista, 6200 Playa Vista Drive, 90094 off Jefferson.