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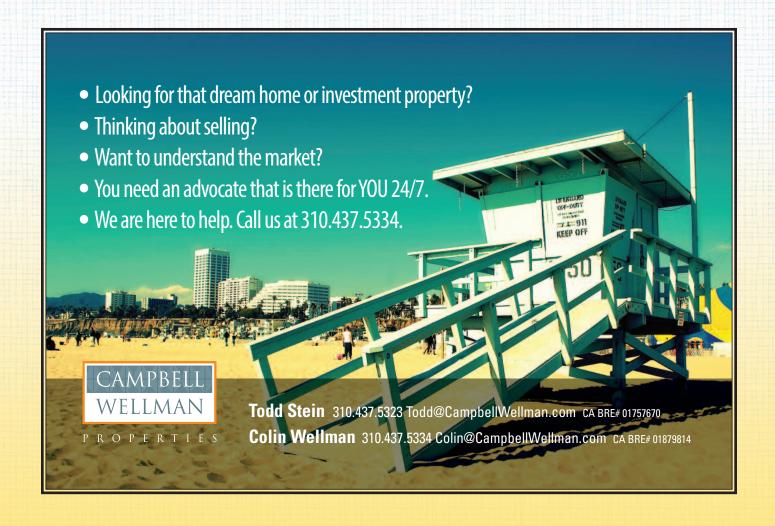
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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE
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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## WESTDALE - SUMMER IS HERE

• Jerry Hornof

As the days are warming up, school traffic has subsided and families are taking vacations. We know that summer has arrived. I still recall how much as a child I enjoyed the summer holiday. Growing up in Chicago my Summer days consisted of selling newspapers on the street corner in the early morning, playing baseball, and swimming at



the neighborhood pool. Our family would also have a car camping trip. Summer was also a time when you spent more time outdoors and seeing your neighbors. Although Los Angeles weather makes outdoor activities a year round happening, I encourage all Westdale families to emphasize meeting and talking with your neighbors this summer. Your neighbors provide friendships and support. Whenever we are out of town our neighbors watch the house, take in the mail/newspapers, and contact us if there are any issues. Neighbor connections are an important part of this year's theme that Westdale Cares.

Many folks are experiencing the recent changes made to Venice Boulevard. Venice Boulevard from Beethoven Street to Inglewood Boulevard has been designated as Mar Vista's Great Street. Community outreach indicated that Mar Vista neighbors wanted to see 1) more mid-block pedestrian crossings; 2) safer pedestrian crossings; 3) public gathering spaces such as sidewalk seating and plazas; 4) safer bikeways; 5) drought tolerant landscaping; and 6) community art. The vision is to design a "Venice Boulevard that is the heart of the neighborhood, instead of a high-speed roadway that divides it." The challenge is how to best realize that vision and minimize the impacts. The design that has been put in place does address pedestrian crossings, safer bikeways, and a more "neighborhood friendly" street atmosphere on Venice Boulevard. The negative impacts include traffic congestion (resulting in more neighborhood "cut through" traffic), street parking confusion (a bike lane inside parked cars), and more crossing lights. Please note that this is a one-year pilot project. Councilman Mike Bonin office is taking comments from the community. I encourage

On Sunday, May 21st Westdale Home Owners Association participated in the Mar Vista Community Council's (MVCC) Meet Up event at the Mar Vista Farmers' Market. It was an opportunity to mingle and chat with neighbors and make some new connections. For me it reinforced the important role the MVCC and the Farmer's Market play in making our community vibrant. If you have not made it to the Sunday's Farmer's Market (located on Grand View Blvd just south of Venice Blvd), it is highly recommended. Visit www.marvistafarmersmarket.org for more information.

This year's Mar Vista Community Council Fall Festival will be held on Saturday, October 21st at Mar Vista Park. Please mark your calendar.

In closing, please have a safe and wonderful summer. Your involvement and encouraging others to be involved is essential in keeping Westdale wonderful.



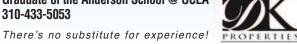


DK Properties, your neighborhood realty brokerage firm, is excited to welcome its newest member, Mary E. Jones. Mary brings a wealth of real estate experience and over 25 years of hands-on expertise. Mary can be reached at 310-398-0439.



If you are thinking of buying, selling or need property management, please give us a call. You'll receive prompt, professional and pesonal service from our experienced team. We've sold houses and income properties throughout the Westside, including Westwood, Brentwood, Marina del Rey, Venice and Beverly Hills.

Debbie Kaplan, MBA Graduate of the Anderson School @ UCLA 310-433-5053



### CRIME AND SAFETY REPORT

#### • Adrian Acosta/Pacific Police Division

Good day Westdale Residents. LAPD Senior Lead Officer Adrian Acosta here with some updates and information. In the first half of 2017 our area has seen a 35% reduction in violent crime versus last year! This makes me very happy, because it means that your neighborhood is a very safe place.



However, property crimes have increased nearly 25% versus last year. These crimes include burglary, grand theft auto, theft and theft from vehicles. Nearly 70% of our property crimes are due to an open point of entry - an unlocked door, unsecured home, unattended property or property left in vehicles in plain view.

We have also seen an increase in grand theft auto - most notably that of "higher end" or "higher value" newer vehicles. We have found in a few cases that the thieves have been able to replicate the FOB's and are gaining access to vehicles. We urge you to get with your vehicle dealers and inquire about regularly switching the FOB codes as well as garage door codes. This will hopefully curtail the rise in Auto Thefts.

All property crimes are crimes of opportunity. We all need to do a better job of eliminating these opportunities, especially in the upcoming summer months, by remembering to lock and secure your residences including windows. Use motion sensors to illuminate your home at night and consider security systems and cameras. And please remember that I am available for neighborhood security walks. These have proven to be very successful and insightful. Should you have any questions please contact me at my email listed below (37285@lapd.online).

Thanks and have a wonderful summer! Adrian

Adrian D. Acosta, #37285 Pacific Area Senior Lead Officer Los Angeles Police Department 310.622.3973 • www.facebook.com/14SLO25



## MAR VISTA SENIORS CLUB

### •Barbara Payne & Margie Templeton

Many of us have seen the crowds converging on Mar Vista Parks' auditorium on Friday mornings, but we weren't aware of what is really going on there! It is the Senior's Club! A senior is defined as anyone over 50, and people come from all directions on the map.

According to Barbara (the VP of the club), "This is not your ordinary club. We are a vibrant, active, intelligent, and fun loving club. We represent more than 26 countries and more professions than one can imagine."

This club is a major bargain at \$10 per year, equaling less than 19 cents per meeting. There is a minimal charge when there is entertainment to help defray costs. Members and guests may attend the meeting which run from 9:30 to noon every Friday (except Holidays).

group traveled to Palm Springs to see "Gone, But Not Forgotten". In April there was a two-day trip to Riverside Casino in Laughlin, and in June a day trip is planned to go to the Leonis Adobe Rancho in Calabasas. The trips are "the best deals in town". The group travels by bus and pays a bargain price that includes travel, admissions, and meals plus interesting stops such as Hadley's for a great Date Shake.

A speaker and/or entertainer is booked once or twice a month. Many entertainers ask to be invited back since they love the great energy of the seniors. In May, Susan Geffen, an Elder Law Attorney and author of "Take That Nursing Home and Shove It" spoke as well as Shelly Markham, composer/arranger/pianist, who spoke about his life in show business. In June, Tatjana, a "not to be missed" singer, will return to entertain the group on June 16th. Glen Howell of the Mar Vista Historical Society will present a program on the history of Mar Vista on June 23rd.

When there is no planned entertainment, there are bingo games, monthly drawings, birthday parties, or holiday parties with catered lunches. In April there was a Mardi Gras party with New Orleans food and a live New Orleans band. All of the 80 year old's were honored with a diploma and invited to "live each day as though it were a Mardi Gras". The picture above shows a group gathered in the park gym. When there Usually, there is one trip per month. In March, the is no entertainment, there is a Farmer's Market usual-

> ly followed by bingo. The picture to the left shows Andy Rawn who sang Irish songs on St Patrick's Day.

> If you are interested in learning more about the club, drop by the Mar Vista Park's auditorium any Friday morning at 9:30. You can also contact Byron Stalcup, the President, at 310-351-9876 or by email:pbstalcup1@gmail.com. Events are posted on patch.com at "patch.com/california/venice/ev-mar-vista-seniors-club"



WE HAVE SOME AMAZING NEIGHBORS NESTLED IN OUR QUIET WESTDALE NEIGHBORHOOD.
THE VILLAGER PERIODICALLY FEATURE STORIES TO ACQUAINT US WITH SOME OF THEM.
IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO SUGGEST NEIGHBORS TO BE FEATURED IN
FUTURE VILLAGER ARTICLES, PLEASE SEND AN EMAIL TO MPT@RWTIA.COM

# GETTING TO KNOW OUR NEIGHBORS - KATHY STOVALL

#### • Jan Burns

If you are up in the early morning hours out walking your dog or taking a run through Westdale, you may have seen Kathy Stovall pushing a shopping cart full of food from Whole Foods Market to her house a couple of blocks away. At 90 years old, Kathy is not doing her own personal shopping but rather collecting food donated by the market to be distributed each Friday morning at Mar Vista Park to local seniors in need. On the day that I interviewed Kathy, she had already made four trips back and forth between her house and the market filling her cart with an assortment of fresh, canned, and frozen foods. Her garage is a veritable distribution center that she has organized with an extra refrigerator and shelving to keep supplies fresh as long as possible before Friday deliveries to the senior center at the park. Fellow neighbor Randy Evans does the pick up from Kathy's house on Friday mornings and takes the donated food down to the park where Kathy once again organizes it for distribution. Following the Friday morning senior center meetings, that attract as many as 100 attendees, those who wish can stay on and play Bingo. After Bingo, seniors can take from the donated food available to supplement their weekly marketing needs.

Kathy has been organizing food donation and delivery to the senior center for over 20 years. She and her late husband, Ken, used to show up at Whole Foods Market at 4:30 AM on Friday mornings. In the dark just before dawn, they would load up their car with the weekly donations and later deliver them to the park prior to the senior center meetings. Since Kathy no longer drives, she continues this weekly ritual in the early morning light as she walks back and forth between home and the market with her shopping cart.

The walk may seem daunting for most 90-year-olds (or even youngsters), but Kathy loves to be outside and she loves the exercise. She is a former marathon runner who participated in the Los Angeles Marathon walking the full course as recently as 2010.

Kathy, a twin and one of 12 children, was born in the south and grew up in the Midwest. She moved to California and here to Westdale over 50 years ago with her husband Ken. She and Ken were married for 68 years and raised their three children here in Mar Vista.

When Kathy's not busy orchestrating food distribution for the senior center, she can be found in her front yard tending to her garden. I pass by her house often when I do my walk up to the bank and post office. I look forward to seeing if she is out front sweeping her driveway or watering the lawn. She always has a moment to chat and share some Westdale news. It's good spirited, altruistic people like Kathy who make our neighborhood in the middle of LA's urban sprawl feel more like a friendly small town.



### HISTORY OF WESTDALE

### •Ron Wynn

We've come a long way from the bean fields of 1940. Regarding the history of Westdale and the tract homes that were built here, much of the information lacks accuracy. Although I am not a historian, I am fortunate to have grown up in a real estate family of three generations. My father sold homes in Westdale, beginning in the 1950s, and taught me the business from the ground up.

The Westdale area is basically broken up into two

areas: North Westdale and South Westdale. The North Westdale area is the area North of National to Gateway/Ocean Park. This is not part of the WHOA. Most of the homes in this area are tract homes that were built by Don Ja Ron. They were typically 2 bed/1 bath houses and 3 bed/1 bath houses that extended from Sawtelle to the Santa Monica Airport/Bundy. South Westdale includes the prestigious area known originally Westdale/Trousdale which was developed by Paul J. Trousdale in 1947-1949. The tract began on the east side of Inglewood Blvd and pushed east to Sawtelle. It ran south from National to Kingsland, excluding the Paul J. Howard Flower Nursery which was developed later. This is labelled "1" on the map.

To be more specific, there are certain streets that were not part

of the Trousdale development. For example, Rose Avenue east of McLaughlin and part of Colbert Ave, some homes on Stoner facing the Mar Vista school-yard, and a few homes on Granville facing the school auditorium were developed by the Grand View Development Company. Grand View Development Company also built a different tract of homes between Inglewood and Grand View, north of Palms. This is the area often referred to as Mar Vista Hill. These are labeled "2" on the map. These homes were traditionally 3 bed/1 bath homes also of around 1,200 square feet. There were approximately four different

floor plans at the time. Another small tract of homes known as the Windsor Homes were built on Rose between Butler and Sawtelle and on the 3 cul-de-sac streets south of Rose and north of Mar Vista Park. These are "3" on the map. The large lots between Inglewood and Stoner, south of Navy (and a few on Stoner as well), consisting of approximately 50 homes are known as the "Golden State Homes" built by the Golden State Building Company. These are "4" on the map.

The Fisher Development Company built the homes built south of Palms on the 3500 blocks of Federal and McLaughlin. They are "5" on the map. Just further



west of the Fisher homes on Barry, Barrington, Charnock, Stoner, and Woodbine is a tract known as the Kaiser tract. This is "6" on the map. This tract was built by the Kaiser Burns Development Company in the early 1940s. These homes were built with plywood floors and plywood walls. No hardwood. Plywood floors and plywood walls were economically friendly at the time and earthquake resistant. Now most of these homes have been extensively remodeled and many have been torn down.

The tract that was built last was south of National and north of Navy on the 3000 block of Stoner,

Inglewood and Granville. This is "7" on the map. These homes were built after the land was purchased from the Paul J. Howard Nursery after the nursery closed. There were approximately 50 two story homes built on these three streets. There are several streets including Lawler, parts of Inglewood Blvd, and parts of Westminster and Stoner off Westminster, with custom homes.

In a nutshell, South Westdale extends from Sawtelle to Grand View and from National to Charnock. The Westdale Homeowner's Association takes in the area from Inglewood to Sawtelle and National to Palms (sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7). Some people will argue that Westdale stops at Palms. It is truly debatable and not defined by law. Most of South Westdale has benefited from being in the Mar Vista Elementary School district which extends from National to Charnock. Since there are varying explanations for the boundaries of Westdale, it is difficult to say what the home count is. The home count of the WHOA is 890.

For further information about the various tracts and amenities that these tracts offer, call Ron Wynn at 310-963-9944 or email, Ron@RonWynn.com.

## PARK REPORT . Jerry Hornof

The Mar Vista summer Camp program has activities for children ages 5-12. Each week will have uniquely designed themes that incorporate sports, crafts, cooking, indoor and outdoor activities and daily swimming. Each week will include a field trip with destinations like Six Flags, LA Zoo, and Knott's Berry Farm. Registration is on a weekly basis. Please visit http://www.laparks.org/reccenter/mar-vista for more information.

We have seen construction at the park over the last few weeks. The construction at the tennis courts is related to a turf reduction landscaping project. The construction at the corner of McLaughlin Avenue and Woodbine Avenue is the result of fixing the water pipe valve system. The work along Palms Blvd is associated with the opening of the pool.

Mar Vista Park is installing the noise reducing tiles in the gymnasium starting August 15th. The gym will be closed for approximately 2 weeks to allow for the tile installation and the varnishing and re-striping of the basketball floor. The funds available in the Los Angeles Park's Foundation Mar Vista account together with the Mar Vista Community Council Fall Festival donation are supporting the completion of this project.

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RON WYNN COLDWELL BANKER 310.963.9944 ron@ronwynn.com

While others are arguing over who is number one, I believe you are number one. Check the facts. Bragging rights won't put extra dollars in your pocket, but the hardest working agent in Mar Vista definitely will.

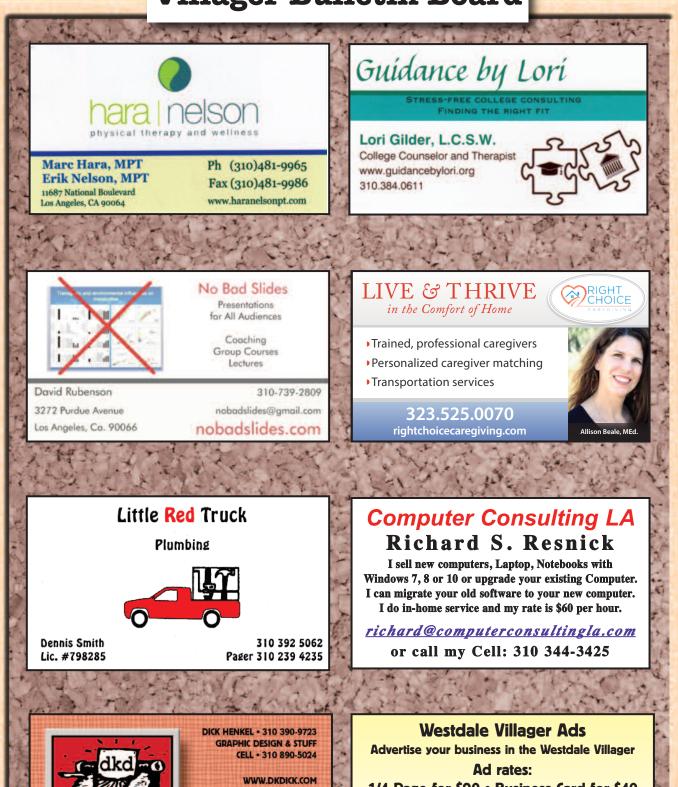
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