



# MAR VISTA COMMUNITY NEWS

A publication of the Mar Vista Community Council

FALL 2016

## Celebrate Mar Vista at Fall Festival & Silent Auction!

Our schools are back in session, the sun is setting earlier, and Halloween decorations abound. All of which tells us that it is time, once again, for the Mar Vista Community Fall Festival & Silent Auction. Please join us on Saturday, Oct. 22, from 10 am to 4 pm, as we celebrate all that makes our Mar Vista community a wonderful place to live.

Come enjoy live entertainment on our Festival Stage by local schools and community performing groups! At 1:00 P.M. you'll meet our 2016 Festival Honoree,

**Check out the Festival blog**  
[marvistafallfestival.blogspot.com](http://marvistafallfestival.blogspot.com)

### Meet Sherland Chensam—2016 Fall Festival Honoree

Sherland Chensam, better known to multitudes of Mar Vista residents as "Coach," has been a volunteer head coach of both girls and boys basketball teams at Mar Vista for over twenty years. Coaching pee wee, juniors, minors, and majors teams, she has had an indelible influence on thousands of our children over the years, instilling in them the values of hard work, believing in yourself, trusting your teammates, committing oneself to goals and finding the strength to achieve those goals, and teaching them life skills both on and off the basketball court.

The many Mar Vista All-star teams that she has taken to regional and City Championship tournaments highlight Coach Chen-



Sherland Chensam, along with Councilmember Mike Bonin, Congresswoman Karen Bass, and others.

#### **New this year at the Festival!**

- Westside Repair Cafe
- A host of booths devoted to our Mar Vista pets, including L.A. Animal Services, dog and cat adoption services, local pet stores and, of course, the reptile booth.

As usual, there are lots of fun kids activities. And enjoy a wide variety of delectable eats at the Food Court. Browse the best of our community's arts and crafts—they're all for sale. Pick up a bargain at the Silent Auction.

sam's success. Two of her most memorable moments were in 2014: she led the Mar Vista Co-ed Boys Juniors to win the Valley Region championship and also coached a team of Mar Vista girls to win the championship of the "Get Sparks" tournament sponsored by the LA Sparks at the Staples Center.

The Mar Vista community is truly blessed to have Coach Chensam as a leader and mentor of our children. Her achievements are remarkable, but her selection as Honoree also serves to highlight the many other coaches in our Mar Vista community who dedicate so much of their lives to training our kids in the many sports we pursue and, most importantly, training our kids in learning how to be strong and good people.



### Family Fun Zone

**Stop by the Family Fun Zone, with your kids, for amazing bouncers, slides, face-painters, and a glitter tattoo table.**

### The Silent Auction Needs You!

What's the best thing about the Mar Vista Fall Festival Silent Auction? Is it the amazing deals that you get on goods and services? Or perhaps you enjoy perusing the one-of-a-kind items? The best part might be that your contribution is part of what makes this event possible. Proceeds from the Silent Auction help pay Festival expenses and also fund improvement projects at our Mar Vista Recreation Center. We're using last year's Festival funds to upgrade the basketball facilities in the gymnasium and provide a safer environment for all the young children who take part in the Park basketball program.

**MORE FALL FESTIVAL INFO ON BACK PAGE!**

### Mar Vista Art Walk is having a birthday Dec. 1st!

This fun, FREE quarterly celebration of all the arts will kickoff the holiday season with a festive Celebration of Light. Look for visual, performing, music and dance arts re-joining in real, virtual and imagined light!

The Mar Vista Art Walk happens the first

Thursday of each March, June, September and December all along the 1-mile stretch of Venice Blvd—Mar Vista's "Great Street"—between Inglewood Blvd and Beethoven Street from 6-10 P.M.

[www.facebook.com/marvistaartwalk](http://www.facebook.com/marvistaartwalk)

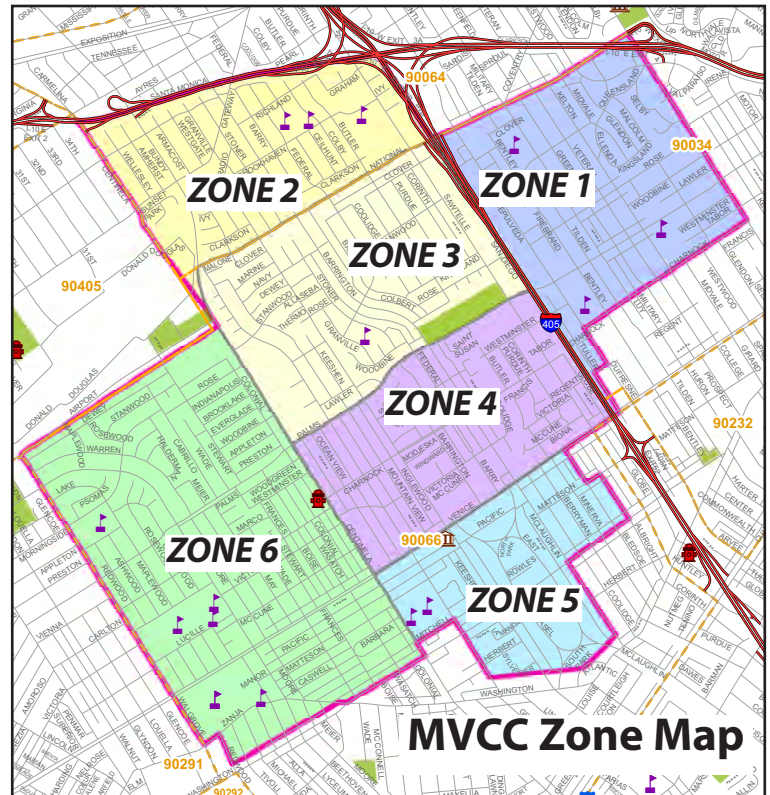
# What is MVCC?

MVCC—the Mar Vista Community Council—is a city-certified Neighborhood Council made up of people who live, work, own property or have some other ongoing connection to Mar Vista.

MVCC provides a forum for discussion of issues that affect the quality of life of MVCC Stakeholders, and also facilitates stakeholder communication and serves as the advocate for the MVCC area with officials of the City of Los Angeles and other governmental and non-governmental entities.

Neighborhood councils dif-

fer from Neighborhood Associations in some important ways. MVCC encompasses a much larger area—members of the WVHA, NWNA, Westdale HOA, NVNA, Hilltop Neighbors Association, SoMar and West Mar Vista Neighborhood Association are all MVCC Stakeholders. Like other governmental bodies, MVCC must hold open meetings and post agendas. And MVCC receives city funding to support operations, outreach and community priorities—\$37,000 for the 2016-17 fiscal year.



## Board of Directors: How can we help? Let us know!

**Rob Kadota**

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**Sarah Auerswald**

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**Robin Doyno**

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**Susan Klos**

At-Large Director  
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**More info online:**

[www.MarVista.org](http://www.MarVista.org)

## Board of Directors Meetings

Last June, the Mar Vista Community elected 13 MVCC Directors to two-year terms on the MVCC Board of Directors (the “BOD”). Directors are your volunteer public servants. They want and need your involvement!

Funding decisions, policy/position statements, and committee and liaison appointments all require BOD approval at an open meeting. The BOD normally meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at Mar Vista Recreation Center. The meeting begins at 7:00 P.M. and usually ends between 9:00 and 9:30. The next two meetings are rescheduled as follows due to conflicts with Yom Kippur and Election Day:

- o Thursday, October 13
- o Tuesday, November 3

BOD meetings are an opportunity for community members to make announcements, ask questions and express opinions. In addition to public comment periods near the beginning and end of each meeting, attendees are invited to speak to motions on the agenda.

Representatives for elected officials, as well as for various agencies and committees that impact Mar Vista, give reports near the beginning of each meeting. You can question them as well!

See <http://marvista.org> for more information. And be on the lookout for our brand new, improved website. It’s coming soon!

 **FOLLOW US ONLINE!**  
[www.facebook.com/MarVistaCC](http://www.facebook.com/MarVistaCC)

# What's your passion?

Want to get more involved in our community? Join an MVCC committee! Except for Executive and Finance, committee membership is open to all. Agendas are posted on our website at least 72 hours before a committee meeting—check out the calendar on our website. Don't see your passion? Talk to us about a new committee you'd like to form.

## Our current committees:

- Airport
- Historic Fire Station 62 Ad Hoc
- Aging in Place
- Homeless Solutions Ad Hoc
- Community Outreach
- Planning and Land Use Management
- Education, Arts & Culture
- Public Safety
- Elections and By-laws
- Recreation & Open Space Enhancement
- Executive and Finance
- Transportation & Infrastructure
- Great Streets Ad Hoc
- Website Ad-Hoc
- Green

[www.marvista.org](http://www.marvista.org)

### MVCC e-Newsletters

1. Go to [www.marvista.org](http://www.marvista.org)
2. Click "Subscribe"



3. Select the newsletters you want to receive

Subscribe to "General Updates" to receive the weekly Upcoming Mar Vista Events e-newsletter. Already subscribed? Check and be sure that your subscription is still active, and that you're subscribing to the committees of interest to you.



## Visit the Green Tent!

The Green Tent is the place to be if you want to let your green flag fly!

Every Sunday for over nine years, in the middle of the Mar Vista Farmers' Market, this little booth has been dispensing information about the many ways you can shrink your carbon footprint. Guest experts and our bulletin board help clarify cur-

rent issues facing our community's eco-health and provide timely tips on sustainable practices for daily living.

Every 4th Sunday of the month is Master Gardener Day. Get free seeds, seedlings and sage advice from these certified urban farmers about growing edibles plants in our neighborhood. Please stop by to chat and let us know what your concerns are.

[mvccgreentent.blogspot.com](http://mvccgreentent.blogspot.com)

## Public Safety Committee Path Forward

In August, the community and authorities discussed concerns regarding mail and package theft. The Committee plans to discuss illegal fireworks, expand the block captain program, and bring a renewed focus to emergency preparation efforts.

These things are just the tip of the iceberg, but we can't accomplish any of them without YOU. We need to hear your concerns and your ideas. We need your support, your energy and—most of all—your participation. The committee meets on the 4th Thursday of each month at the Coffee Connection (3838 S. Centinela Blvd). Please join and contribute in any way you can. Every member of our community has something to add!

## Aging in place... a personal story

My husband and I moved to Mar Vista 37 years ago to begin our married lives together and start a family. In the three houses we rented before buying our home, we always had neighbors who were seniors. They taught us how to keep our lawn, tend the roses,



and take care of various household things. And when our daughter was born and I would walk her in the stroller, or still

later when she could wander on her own to the right or the left of our house the seniors were the grandparents on location, and became her favorite place to go. We didn't fully understand what an important role Mar Vista as a community would play in our lives, but we were partially so able to take root here because of the rich soil of the community—the seniors being a major nutrient.

Anyone who goes to any Mar Vista event or council meeting sees the active role that seniors play. They—and now I have joined their ranks—are an essential ingredient of what makes Mar Vista such a vibrant, intelligent, family friendly community.

The Aging in Place Committee is designed to keep our senior population, current and future, with us. Disseminating vital information regarding health, housing, driving, and the various other issues that arise as we face this challenging time, and making sure that community decisions both local and city wide have the needs of seniors in mind, along with just creating a forum for connection and talk are on the top of our agenda. The AIP Committee is another example of why Mar Vista is a slice of paradise for us all.

*Marilyn Zweifach*

## Homeless Solutions Committee

The newly formed Homeless Solutions Committee has compiled a Resource Guide offering the homeless, law enforcement, and stakeholders important phonenumber of providers that may be of help.

The committee has several more projects in the works. Please join them at the Mar Vista Library on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 P.M. A digital copy of the Homeless Resource Guide is available from committee co-chair Susan Klos at [susan.klos@marvista.org](mailto:susan.klos@marvista.org).



### Mar Vista Is Music And Motion: Arts In Our Schools

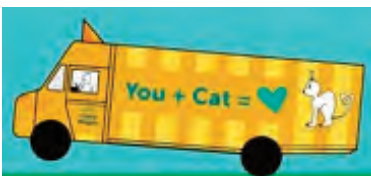
Mar Vista boasts 13 public schools alongside oodles of charters as well as private pre- and K-12 schools. Parents, staff and kids from many of these will gladly be sharing what makes their school special. Come meet them at the local schools information booth, run by MVCC's Education, Arts and Culture Committee. Look for it near the kids' crafts and inflatables

Many really talented kids are performing on the Main Festival Stage. The Festival is showcasing choral, band and jazz ensembles from our local schools, including Mar Vista Elementary School, Daniel Webster and Palms middle schools, and Windward and Venice high schools. And we're spotlighting local businesses where yoga and dance groups are available for you and your children to join. But the hottest ticket of the day may just well be Daniel Webster's 11 A.M. preview of their upcoming November performance with the LA Opera!

### Appearing on the Fall Festival Main Stage...

- 10:15 – Family Yoga with Laura Fuller of Life Moves Through & The Moving Joint**
- 11:00 – Daniel Webster Middle School Chorus**
- 11:30 – Daniel Webster Middle School Band**
- 12:00 – On The Edge Youth Dance Ensemble**
- 12:30 – Mar Vista Elementary School Chorus**
- 1:00 – Festival Welcome with Councilmember Mike Bonin, Congresswoman Karen Bass**
- 1:30 – Windward School Jazz Ensemble**
- 2:00 – Palms Middle School Vivoce Singers**
- 2:30 – Venice High School Choir: The Allegros**
- 3:00 – Venice High School Mighty Gondolier Marching Band**

### We're Going to the Dogs!!! (and Cats)



Thinking about getting a dog or a cat? Wondering if your pet's micro-chip really works? Do you need to correct registration information? Want information about spay, or neuter, or getting a dog license. Then be sure to stop by the NEW animal services and adoptions area at the Fall Festival.

You're going to love the big Catty Wagon from Adopt & Shop full of kittens to hold and adopt.

### Toss It Away? No Way!

What do you do when you've got something you like but it no longer works? Chances are you toss it out. Here's another option that supports sustainable living solutions: repair it.

The Westside Repair Café is coming to the Festival this year! A volunteer-run community service, the Westside Repair Café is dedicated to encouraging the repair and reuse of goods instead of relegating them to landfills. Bring those items that you still love, but that don't work properly, to the Main Gymnasium. Volunteer repair technicians will fix it FOR FREE (donations cheerfully accepted).



What can they fix? Stations that the Repair Cafe hopes to offer include: clothing repair; computers; electrical appliances; bicycles; sharpening; crafts & re-purposing.

To help the volunteers do the repairs as fast as possible—and ensure a technician is on hand to fix your item—please send an email to [ourtimebank@gmail.com](mailto:ourtimebank@gmail.com) a week or two in advance describing the items you need repaired and their condition. Please include brand and model numbers where appropriate. Note that the Repair Cafe does not supply specific parts for your item; please bring any parts needed for the repair as well as any manuals you have.

Check out the give-away and clothing swap tables—you might find the perfect thing you didn't know you needed. You can also drop off your items that are candidates for re-cycling or re-purposing, with the understanding that you remove your item before you leave if no one wants it. Repair Café does not accept donations of items to fixed and sell.

Want to help? Please email The Time Bank at [ourtimebank@gmail.com](mailto:ourtimebank@gmail.com) and tell them the ways you could help. Volunteers keep this program alive! They are always looking for apprentices. More information is available on their website [www.ourtimebank.com](http://www.ourtimebank.com) under the Repair Café page.