

# citynews



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**CITY DEPARTMENTS AND SERVICES**

Abandoned Vehicles	760-639-6141
Affordable Housing	760-639-6191
Avo Playhouse Tickets	760-724-2110
Brengle Terrace Rec. Center	760-639-6156
Building Permits	760-639-6105
Building Inspections	760-639-6106
Business License	760-639-6174
City Clerk	760-639-6125
City Council	760-639-6130
City Hall	760-726-1340
City Manager	760-639-6131
Code Enforcement	760-639-6141
Dead Animal Pickup	760-757-4357
Development Services	760-639-6108
Economic Development	760-639-6165
Engineering	760-639-6111
Finance	760-639-6170
Fire Department (Non-emergency)	760-643-2801
Graffiti Hotline	760-726-1340 x 1611
Housing	760-639-6191
Human Resources	760-639-6145
Job Hotline	760-639-6147
Library (County's Vista branch)	760-643-5100
Mayor	760-639-6130
Moonlight Amphitheatre Tickets	760-724-2110
Parking Tickets/Citations	760-639-6141
Planning	760-639-6100
Potholes	760-726-1340 x 1611
Public Works	760-639-6176
Rancho Buena Vista Adobe	760-639-6164
Recreation Classes & Programs	760-639-6151
Redevelopment	760-639-6191
Senior Center (Gloria E. McClellan)	760-639-6160
Sewer Billing	760-639-6170
Sheriff (Non-emergency)	760-940-4551
Stormwater Hotline	760-726-1340 x 1686
Street Lights	760-639-6176
Street Sweeping	760-726-1340 x 1606
Traffic Engineering	760-639-6116
Vistix Ticket Office	760-724-2110
Wave Waterpark	760-940-9283

**OTHER SERVICES**

Alta Vista Gardens	760-945-3954
Animal Control (Human Society)	760-757-4357
Boys & Girls Club	760-724-6606
Certificates (Birth, Death, Marriage)	760-940-6868
Chamber of Commerce	760-726-1122
Farmer's Market	760-945-7425
Household Hazardous Waste Disposal	800-714-1195
Lifeline Community Services	760-726-4900
North County Health Services	760-757-4566
Public Transportation (Sprinter, Breeze)	760-966-6500
Recycling Service	760-727-1600
Townsite Community Center	760-806-8980
Trash Service (EDCO)	760-727-1600
Vista Community Clinic	760-631-5000
Vista Unified School District	760-726-2170
Vista Village Business Association	760-414-9391
Vista Historical Society Museum	760-630-0444
Water Service (Vista Irrigation District)	760-597-3100

**DIAL 911 For Fire, Sheriff & Medical Emergencies**

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# citynews

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**Editor:** Andrea McCullough  
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This publication is available in an alternate format. Please contact the ADA Coordinator at 760-639-6145.

**Vista City Council:**

Judy Ritter, Mayor  
John J. Aguilera, Mayor Pro Tem  
Steve Gronke, Council Member  
Frank Lopez, Council Member  
Dave Cowles, Council Member

**City Council Meetings:**

Second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

Meetings are cablecast on the Friday after each meeting at 5 p.m. on Cox Communications Channel 19, Time Warner Cable Channel 24 and AT&T U-verse Channel 99. Archived webcasts are available online at cityofvista.com.

# Catch the Wave this Summer

## **Catch the wave at North County's coolest hot spot this summer:**

the Wave Waterpark, located in Vista Village. Owned and operated by the City of Vista, The Wave provides the perfect aquatic fun for the whole family during the sun-soaked days of summer.

Fun seekers will enjoy the four 35-foot water slides; the popular Flow Rider (surf on a continuous wave), and *El Rio Loco* or *The Crazy River*. Children (under 48 feet) can take advantage of the playground attraction - Rippity's Rainforest where young thrill-seekers can climb through a four story play structure and enjoy the water spray area.

The park also includes a competition swimming pool with a shallow and deep end - perfect for lap swimming or swim lessons. The Wave Waterpark will be open to the public daily beginning May 28 through Labor Day. Season passes are on sale now.

**Swim Lessons:** Lessons for ages 6 months to adults - April through October.

**Summer Camps:** Children ages 7-15 yrs old. The Wave combines exciting themes with important learning topics for a week of challenging fun.

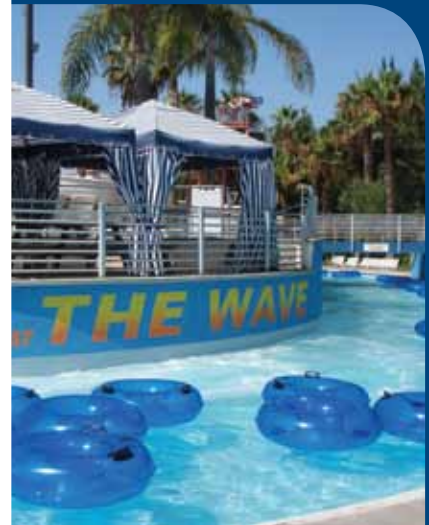
- Aqua Camps (7-15 yrs) – Boot Camp / Superheroes / Pirates
- Water Sports Camp (7-15 yrs)
- Jr. Lifeguards (10-15 yrs)
- Counselor-in-training (12-15 yrs)

## **CPR, First Aid & AED Certification:**

Learn what to do in the event of an emergency. Classes offered monthly.

**Birthday Parties:** Host a memorable birthday party! The Wave provides party packages with a variety of options to make your birthday party the best.

**Scout Badge Programs:** The Wave offers a fun and exciting opportunity for scouts or a troop to earn a badge in Water Safety, First Aid, Swimming or Water Fun. Earn your badge through an educational program and then enjoy the rest of the day in the waterpark.



 [thewavewaterpark.com](http://thewavewaterpark.com)

**The Wave Waterpark is open May 28, 2011 through Labor Day.**

Learn more about season passes, classes, operating hours and the fee schedule. 760.940.WAVE (9283)  
101 Wave Drive in Vista.



# New Mural Along SPRINTER Tracks

Los Angeles based artist Daniel Martinez's 68-foot mural will soon be displayed along a stretch of wall near the Mar Vista Drive crossing by South Santa Fe Avenue. Martinez was one of eight artists who submitted designs to paint the mural, which will cover a block of wall along the SPRINTER tracks that has had problems with graffiti.



The mural depicts iconic landmarks in Vista, such as the Wave Waterpark, Moonlight Amphitheatre, Krikorian Multiplex Movie Theater, Avo Playhouse, Boomers, and the Rancho Guajome Adobe. Martinez, who has roots in North County, spent the past three months working on the project. Colorful purples, blues, yellows and orange shades of acrylic paint were used in the mural, Martinez said, to reflect Vista as an active and energetic city. In the next two months, ten aluminum panels - each 10 feet by 4 feet and coated with anti-graffiti coating - will be mounted along the walls near the SPRINTER tracks.

The City of Vista received a \$10,000 grant from San Diego Gas & Electric Company to commission the artwork. The City's Public Arts Commission selected Martinez's design in October, 2010 because the mural incorporated Vista locations and created vibrant artwork that follows the height changes in the SPRINTER wall where it will be mounted.

An added anti-graffiti coating will allow the mural to be cleaned if it is painted with graffiti by vandals. The new art is the 25th in Vista's mural inventory and is part of the City's effort to eradicate graffiti across the city. ■



## **i** Report Potholes ... Graffiti

To report a pothole or graffiti, please call Public Works Department at 760.639.6176 (evenings & weekends: 760.726.1340 ext. 1611). Include your name, daytime phone number and location of the pothole or graffiti (either address or general description).



## Safety Tips

For your home

The kids will be getting out of school soon and the days will be getting longer. Before you pack up the family and head out of town – check to ensure your house will remain safe while you are away enjoying summertime excursions.

1. Keep quiet. Be cautious of who you tell about your departure. Tell a trusted neighbor, but not the whole neighborhood. This includes not posting your plans on social networking sites like Facebook.
2. Just in Time. Fake potential burglars into thinking you are home. Hook a timer up to lights, televisions and radios. This will throw off the fact that there isn't anyone home.
3. Lock it Up. Make sure everything is locked securely. Double check windows, garage doors, and any niches someone might get into. Windows left open for ventilation, especially during warmer weather, offer an invitation to would-be burglars. All windows should be closed completely and locked to ensure maximum security.
4. Ask a trusted neighbor to collect mail (including packages) and newspapers. If you will be gone for more than a few days, request that he/she put your trash and recycle bins out on collection day.
5. Safe Keeping. Keep valuables and important documents in a safe deposit box. Consider keeping a video diary of your belongings.
6. Vacation Check Request. Contact the Sheriff's Station Senior Volunteer Patrol for a vacation home check at 760.940.4434. ■



## Prescription Drug Drop-off

Vista Detention Center

Unwanted, unused or expired prescription drugs are a risk to our community by either falling into the wrong hands, or by damaging our environment through improper disposal. Residents can now drop off unwanted medications at any time at secure collection drop-off boxes set up by the San Diego County Sheriff's Department. The drop-boxes are located at several Sheriff's facilities.

Medications in standard containers may be dropped in the containers. Loose medication should be placed in plastic bags available at the collection box and then deposited. Liquid medication should be enclosed in a secure container before depositing. Once collected, the Sheriff's Department staff will ensure the medication is disposed of according to State and Federal laws. ■

### Vista Prescription Drop-Off Site

Vista Detention Facility  
325 S. Melrose Drive

 [sdsheriff.net](http://sdsheriff.net) or 760.940.4551




## Volunteers Needed

Sheriff's Senior Patrol

The Vista Sheriff's Senior Patrol program provides a valuable service in the Vista community that not only enhances the safety in Vista's neighborhoods, but also improves the quality of life for home-bound seniors. Vista residents can contact the Senior Patrol program for vacation home security checks or to schedule a drop in to check on elderly or disabled persons.

The program is currently recruiting volunteers who are 50 years or older. Responsibilities range from administrative work, to patrolling neighborhoods, writing parking citations, and marking abandoned vehicles. ■

 For more information on volunteering with the Sheriff's Department, or to learn about the available services provided to the community, please call 760. 940.4434.

## Document Shredding Event

Sat. May 28  
from 9 a.m. to Noon  
Bregle Terrace Park  
(parking lot)



The City of Vista, in partnership with EDCO Disposal, Vista's contracted waste hauler, is holding a document shredding event at Bregle Terrace Park. Residents and commercial businesses may bring a maximum of two banker's boxes of documents to the event for shredding.

 [cityofvista.com](http://cityofvista.com) 760.727.1600

## Fast Facts:

### Vista Street Lights

- The street light district generates \$1 million per year.
- Costs to operate the District exceed \$1.3 million per year.
- Increase in fee for residential property owners is estimated to be \$4 to \$20 per year.
- If property owners are unwilling to support a fee increase, two thirds of the street lights will be turned off beginning in June, 2011. Many street lights will be turned off on residential streets.
- Most street lights along the City's major roadways will remain on, i.e. Melrose Drive, Sycamore Avenue, Vista Village Drive, and Vista Way.



The City of Vista's lighting assessment district funds the operation and maintenance of Vista's street lights. Property owners pay an annual assessment fee on their property tax bill for this benefit. Vista is facing severe budget shortfalls due to the economic recession, as are many cities throughout the State. If property owners are unwilling to support a fee increase in the lighting district, two thirds of the street lights will be turned off beginning in June, 2011.

- The District's light fees have not increased in over 16 years due to Proposition 218, passed in 1996, which states that cities cannot raise assessment district fees without a vote of the district's property owners.

- Over the past 16 years, the cost of electricity, maintenance, and equipment for the lighting district has increased. The City has financed the additional expenses of operating the District out of the City's General Fund because the current District does not collect enough money to fund the current benefit levels. The Lighting District currently generates approximately \$1 million per year; however, costs to operate the district exceed \$1.3 million (The City subsidy is \$369,823).

- In order to balance the City budget, the City Council has approved turning off two thirds of the residential street lights throughout the city, if property owners are not willing to fund the increase in the lighting assessment fees. Many street lights will be turned off on residential streets, unless a new District is formed to fund the increased fees. Most street lights along the City's major roadways will remain on, i.e. Melrose Drive, Sycamore Avenue, Vista Village Drive, and Vista Way.

- The City Council is asking property owners if they are willing to support a mail ballot that would establish a new lighting district that would keep the street lights on and include an increased fee (estimated to be \$4 to \$20 per year for residential properties).

- Support will be gauged based on the results of returned postcards. Support for the increase from a majority of returned postcards is needed to move forward with the mail ballot election.


Property owners can provide their input by reading the information in a flyer being mailed to all property owners in early April and by returning the postcard to the City by May 20, 2011.


The results of this mailer will determine whether to proceed with a mail ballot election or to turn off the street lights. ■



### New Driver's Class Help Stop Teen Drinking & Driving

The Vista San Diego Sheriff's Department is holding Start Smart classes for new drivers and their parents. The Start Smart program provides participants the opportunity to understand their responsibilities when a teen begins driving. The two-hour class, taught by the Sheriff's Department staff creates awareness of possible consequences, both financial and physical, of distracted or impaired driving, and provides information about collision prevention.

 Vista Sheriff's Station  
760.940.4551 or  
sdsheriff.net

 760.639.6131 or info@cityofvista.com.



## Tips for the Summer

- Avoid over-watering. Use efficient irrigation methods such as drip systems, soaker hoses and micro-sprinklers. Adjust sprinklers so only the lawn is watered. Check sprinkler systems for leaks and adjust regularly.
- Water early morning or late evening when temperatures are cooler, to minimize evaporation. Water plants deeply and less frequently to encourage deep root growth and drought tolerance.
- Plant drought tolerant species. Many native California plants are drought tolerant. Native varieties of sage, deerweed, buckwheat, poppies, daisies, and lupines are all attractive plants that need less water than many non-native plants. Group plants with the same watering needs together. Consider replacing a portion of your lawn with a hardscape or drought tolerant landscaping. The California Native Plant Society has an online inventory of native plants at [cnps.org](http://cnps.org).
- Collect roof water to water the garden via a rain barrel. The County of San Diego has on line information at [co.san-diego.ca.us/dpw/watersheds/residential/rain\\_barrel](http://co.san-diego.ca.us/dpw/watersheds/residential/rain_barrel).
- Wash cars at the carwash where the water is recycled. At home, wash cars over the lawn using biodegradable soap. The lawn and soil will filter the water and irrigate the lawn. Use a bucket and a hose with a nozzle. Don't let water run down the street into the storm drain. Soap pollutes waterways.
- Don't hose down patios and driveways. Sweep instead.

### **Saving water is easy to do, and saves money too!**

 [cityofvista.com](http://cityofvista.com) and [vid-h2o.org](http://vid-h2o.org)



### **Cities of Vista and San Marcos**



Partner on road improvements

A joint road improvement project between the cities of Vista and San Marcos is scheduled to be completed in early summer. The project includes street improvements and the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of La Mirada Drive and Poinsettia Avenue where the Vista and San Marcos city borders connect. As part of the project, a cul-de-sac will be installed on La Mirada Drive approximately 500 feet east of Poinsettia Drive in San Marcos. At that time, La Mirada Drive will be closed permanently to through traffic at the site of the new cul-de-sac. ■

 For more information: contact Vista Engineering Department at 760.639.6111.



**Recycle** Want to know more about what to recycle at home? The recycling process?

  View educational videos at [edcodisposal.com](http://edcodisposal.com)

# Earthquake Preparedness

## Being Prepared

**Recent events around the world serve as a reminder** that everyone needs to be prepared when disaster strikes. Three key items to prepare for disaster are: obtain an emergency supply kit; devise a family emergency plan; and be informed about the different types of emergencies that can occur and the appropriate responses.

Everyone should have basic supplies on hand in order to survive for up to three days. It is important that you consider where you live and the unique needs of your family in order to create an emergency supply kit; below is a list to include in every emergency kit. Consider preparing at least two emergency kits: one full kit for home, and smaller portable kits, called "Go Bags" for the workplace, vehicle or other locations.

The County web site: [readysandiego.org](http://readysandiego.org) is a very good source of disaster preparedness information, including Family Emergency Plan templates, local resources, and details on how to prepare homes for disasters.

The County of San Diego manages a regional notification system that sends telephone notifications to residents/businesses within San Diego County impacted by, or in danger of being impacted by, an emergency or disaster. This system, called AlertSanDiego, is used by emergency response personnel to notify areas at risk with information on the event and/or actions (such as evacuation).

All land-line telephones, whether listed or unlisted, are in the system. However, cell phones or Voice over IP systems must sign up for use by the system.

To register, go to [readysandiego.org](http://readysandiego.org). ■



# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CHECKLIST

### Recommended Basic Items to Include in a Basic Emergency Supply Kit

#### Water

(one gallon of water per person per day for three days)

#### Food

(at least a three day supply)

#### Battery powered radio

(with extra batteries)

#### First Aid Kit

#### Dust Mask

#### Plastic sheeting

#### Duct tape

#### Moist towelettes & garbage bags

for personal sanitation

#### Can Opener

(for canned foods)

#### Extra prescription meds

#### Glasses

 [sdcounty.ca.gov/oes/ready](http://sdcounty.ca.gov/oes/ready) and Vista Fire Department  
760.643.2801