



# The Vistas **VIEW** April 2009



## Newsletter April 2009

### NEXT MEETING DATE

**April 23, 2009**

#### Annual & Board of Directors Meeting

July 23, 2009 and October 22, 2009.

**All Board of Directors Meetings are held at Bud Beasley Elementary School starting at 6:30 p.m.**

Agendas are posted in the agenda box attached to the Information Boards located at the top and bottom of Los Altos Parkway 15 days prior to the meeting.

### Important Notice

On April 23, 2009 the Annual Homeowners meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. and the Board of Directors meeting will immediately follow.

#### FYI

At the January 22, 2009 meeting, the Board of Directors motioned to approve the amended fine & construction penalty policy. This policy will go into effect 30 days from the date it is received by all homeowners. Please review this document carefully as it addresses continuing violations.

Our city councilmen, Mike Carrigan, answered many questions from homeowners and encouraged everyone to keep up with what is happening at the legislature. Mike assured everyone that things in the city will still get done and asked that we just be patient.

Other items discussed and approved at the meeting included rocking a small area on Canyon Parkway and a portion of Vista Terrace. Also approved was drainage work on Southview, Stoneview and Goodwin. The Board approved extending National Landscape's contract for an additional 2 years at the current rate with no increases.

### Attention Dog Owners:

We have received several complaints regarding dogs being off leash (or on retractable leashes.) This causes problems for those dogs appropriately leashed and their owners. The City of Sparks requires all dogs be leashed. PLEASE do not allow your dog to approach other dogs or wander on private property. When you are in the front yard or walking your dog, please maintain control of them at all times! Your dog may not be aggressive, but the dog they go up to may be. Also remember to pick up after your dogs, you live in a beautiful community, please do your part and respect the laws and the community in which you live. If you have a problem call animal services at:

**322-DOGS 322-3647**

### Architectural Control Committee

#### Meeting Dates for 2009.

Please submit your improvements for review by the Board before these dates:

Meetings are subject to change, please check with the association office 786-0500 to verify dates.

May 14, 2009	June 11, 2009
July 09, 2009	Aug. 13, 2009
Sept. 10, 2009	Oct. 08, 2009
Nov. 12, 2009	Dec. 10, 2009

ACC meetings are generally held the second Thursday of every month.

All additions, sheds, patio covers, fencing, paint samples for exterior of home and major front yard landscape changes must receive approval from the Architectural Control Committee.

### Signage Information for The Vistas Homeowners Association

"Other than during construction of a house, no sign, billboards or advertising structures of any kind may be displayed ... One sign, identifying or advertising a home for sale, is permitted, ..."

"The sign is to be on its own post and shall not be placed higher than 42 inches from prevailing ground plain ..." Unapproved signs will be picked up and held for 14 days in the association office to be claimed by owner, after 14 days the signs will be disposed of.

CC&R's Article III, Section H



#### Please Note:

*The Vistas Homeowners Association does not endorse any advertisements. Paid advertisements are used to help offset postage for mailing the newsletter.*

### Board of Directors

President: Dave Stefan  
 Secretary/Treasurer: Mary LeMay  
 Director: Larry Kleinworth  
 Director: Dave Sexton  
 Director: Jim Baldwin

#### Office Staff

Stacie Ciesynski, Office Mgr  
 info@vistashoa.com  
G' Richmond, CAM  
 gcamvistas@sbcglobal.net  
Chris Burton, Compliance  
 complaints@vistashoa.com

#### Web Site

www.vistashoa.com

#### Office Information:

1281 Terminal Way, # 124  
 Reno, NV 89502  
 Tel: (775) 786-0500  
 Fax: (775) 786-0504

All homeowner complaints must be submitted in writing and can be faxed to: 786-0504 or emailed to: complaints@vistashoa.com

### The Nevada Fire Safe Council

The Board of Directors for The Vistas Homeowners Association is currently working with The Nevada Fire Safe Council in applying for a grant through Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF) for fuel reduction in The Vistas. This grant is a cost share agreement between NDF and the association. It has been explained that the HOA's portion can be hard dollars or soft match. Soft match can be earned through time and energy spent by the HOA and individual homeowners in any aspect of fuel reduction (i.e. raking leaves, cleaning out rain gutters, attending education classes, weed abatement behind your home, etc.) This item will be placed on the agenda for April 23, 2009 Board of Directors meeting at Bud Beasley and Rodd Rummel with NVFSC will be there to explain the grant and answer any questions.

We need everyone's help in creating a "fire safe" community. One of the greatest human influence in saving a house from burning down in a wildfire is the homeowner.

Please attend, for more information.

## Security/Safety

### Tips to Discourage Burglars

The Association makes every effort to maintain a secure environment in our community, but there is only so much we're authorized to do. Unfortunately, illegal entries into homes in our area and others happen from time to time. Residents can do many things to protect themselves and their property. Here are a few common-sense suggestions for reducing your chances of being a target of burglary.

- ◆ Lock all doors and windows no matter how briefly you'll be out of the house.
- ◆ Install bars or lock pins on sliding doors/windows. These are available at local hardware or discount stores. Some mechanisms allow you to lock a sliding window/door in a partially-open position so you can enjoy fresh air securely while you're at home. However, if you go out, close the window and lock it.
- ◆ That old trick of hiding a key somewhere outside your home is a bad idea. Burglars or anyone who may have seen you hiding the key will know where to find it. Instead, give a key to a neighbor.
- ◆ "John, I've gone to pick up your sister. I'll be home at 3:30, Mom". This note also means, "Burglar, this house will be unoccupied for 45 minutes. Help yourself." Don't ever leave notes like this.
- ◆ If you're going to be out of the house for a short time, leave a television or radio on to create a sense of activity and presence.
- ◆ If you're going to be away for a longer period of time, such as a vacation, take a few simple precautions to keep your home from looking empty. Ask a neighbor to collect your mail and keep the door and porch clear of delivery notices, newspapers and fliers. Pick up several electric timers at the local discount store, and use them to turn lights, a television or radios on and off at various times during the day/evening. Let your neighbors know how to reach you in case of emergency.
- ◆ Marking your valuable personal property won't prevent it from being stolen, but it will help you get it back if it is. Engrave your driver's license number on items in a hidden area, be sure it's not the same as your Social Security #. Check with the local fire department, police station or library to borrow an engraver. They're also available at large discount stores and are worth the investment if you have many items to mark. Photographing the item (and the engraved marking, if possible) will make it easier to retrieve your items from the police if they are recovered, and will aid in making an insurance claim if they aren't. It doesn't take much to discourage a burglar. He succeeds on opportunity, and if your home doesn't offer a good opportunity, he'll move on to one that does.

## 2nd Annual Vistas Community

### Spring Garage Sale

April 25, 2009



**8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

All Homeowners participating in the garage sale will be responsible for disposing of un-sold items.

For more information, contact Barbara Gonzales at 626-0250.

### Special Thanks

In previous newsletters we asked for volunteers to help the association with some repairs and two very special people came forward to help.

A Very Special Thanks to Ron Mclanahan who has been restoring the Association's two information boards and Ray Robison who repaired the broken fence at the retention pond between Goodwin and Vista Mountain.

Thank You Very Much!



### Danger

Please inform your family of the dangers that exist in the common areas. Children have been allowed to play unsupervised in the common areas and are generally unaware of the potential dangers.



*Be an active community resident and attend the Annual and Board of Directors meeting. Come introduce yourself to the Board, the staff and your neighbors and find a wealth of information about your community.*

### Quotes

Being powerful is like being a lady. If you have to tell people you are, you aren't.

Margaret Thatcher

Sometimes leadership is planting trees under whose shade you'll never sit.

Gov. Jennifer M. Granholm of Michigan

### Note:

*Please inform The Vistas office of any changes to your mailing address so that we can keep our homeowner database current.*

**Members of the Community Association Board have a big responsibility and dedicate many hours to maintain, protect and preserve the community in which you live. Their work and dedication often goes unappreciated and unnoticed, yet they continue without complaint or compensation for their time and energy. Remember to thank your Board members for all they do!**

### Homeowners/Investors Obligation

If your property within The Vistas is rented or leased, please be sure your tenant has a current copy of the Rules & Regulations. The Rules & Regulations can be found on the association website at [www.vistashoa.com](http://www.vistashoa.com). It is your responsibility as an owner to make sure your property is maintained and the rules of the Association are followed.

Thank You