

VISTA Matters is the weekly community newsletter for garden members. Included are key dates and communications necessary for all members to know and be involved.



VISTA Gardens News - December 14, 2016

VISTA Matters is taking a vacation. The next newsletter will be sent the week of January 8th. Best wishes to you and yours for a happy holiday.



Request for the Next "Village Views" Magazine

As many of you know, I write a regular fitness column for the *Village Views* magazine in Carrollwood Village. For my next article I'd like to tell our readers how gardening is not only about veggies but about fitness!

I would appreciate it if each of you would send me a few (or more if you like) sentences on how your gardening experience has helped you to be more fit (both physically and mentally if that applies) and the kind of exercise you get at the garden.

The article will therefore feature not only gardening as a fitness activity, but also shine a spotlight on VISTA. Please send your replies to me at [Jennifer Grebenschikoff](#) (click on my name to send an email).

Thanks!

Quick Housekeeping Note: Please ensure the gate lock is placed with the lock dial facing S. Village. Members have reported it is very difficult to remove the lock if the dial is facing toward the garden. Thank you!

Member Spotlight:

Corinna Edwards

1. What is your/family member name(s), your garden bed address, the date you joined Vista Garden?

Edwards/D'Alessandro (aka Corinna & Ron); #2
Cantaloupe Court; joined Summer 2014

2. What interested you in starting your garden (ie. love of outdoors, organic gardening, great workout, etc.)

- a. Well, I do love outdoors, fresh air and sunshine. I was getting close to retirement and was looking for a way get involved in something healthy and meet some new friends. This activity has blossomed into something I dearly love. The people I have met have enriched my life. And the food I've grown has enriched my body.
- b. My husband begrudgingly supported my interest at the start. Then, once I brought home our first harvest he became an avid supporter. Even with composting: he hated keeping things that were dying and rotting but when we got a bucket and started putting all of our veggie waste in the freezer he also became our biggest composter, having tasted the fruits of my labor. We both have come to appreciate the value in organic foods and even why organic costs more. Still don't like to pay prices in the grocery store for organic, so each year I try more and more of our favorite veggies.

3. What do you like to grow? What are your "go to" plants?

My favorite is pole beans. Closely followed by bok choy, collards and kale, green onions.

4. What's your favorite activity/time of day at the garden?

Any time of day is my favorite time. I love it in the morning, I love it in the afternoon, I love it in the early evening. I love being there by myself for the solitude and peace it gives me. And I love it when there are lots of fellow gardeners. The energy is contagious.

5. What is one thing you'd like us to know about you?

I can fly a plane!



Merry Christmas
Happy Hanukkah
Happy Kwanzaa
to you all!

Ongoing Activities

Saturday Work Parties

Fulfill your community volunteer requirement by joining fellow gardeners on Saturday mornings to tackle the maintenance needs of the garden at large. It's a fun time and you get some exercise and the garden stays looking great. Keeping the garden regularly maintained prevents us from major intermittent workload. The party starts at 9 a.m. every weekend, weather permitting.

Compost Thursdays

Committee members meet at the garden Thursday's at 8 a.m. to turn the compost. Please join the team if you would like to learn more about composting.

Compost Materials Needed

General reminder: To produce high quality input the community needs to provide a steady supply of material. This includes vegetable waste (garden or kitchen). Please bring your waste to the garden, don't let it go to the landfill! **NOTE: We are at capacity for leaves, cardboard and shredded paper right now. Please do not bring any more for the foreseeable future.**

Keep in touch with VISTA

We are working hard to streamline communications to ensure you receive the right content in the right place when you need it.

1. Facebook: Like "VISTA Gardens" to receive updates on key activities throughout the week

If you do NOT use Facebook please reply to this email and you will be added to a separate email distribution list. The team will do its best to email any time sensitive updates requiring community attention to this list when a post is made to Facebook.

2. Tuesday email: Summarizes key activity and news for the upcoming week

3. Monthly newsletter: More detail into topics of interest and education (see link above!)

4. Web site: Our address is vistagardentampa.org (note: no 's' in garden). A repository of membership information, detailed education, links to articles on shared topics of interest. Plus much, much more.

VISTA Gardens | comms@vistagarden.org | vistagardentampa.org

STAY CONNECTED:

