

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.



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## VISTA Gardens News - January 13, 2017

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### Winter/Spring Event Lineup

Welcome to 2017! Pull out your calendars as there is a lot of fun activity happening at, for and around the garden.

### Community Education

#### NATURE'S NUTRIENTS

**January 21, 10 - 11 a.m. @ VISTA Gardens**

Join Barb Mahlmeister, RDN, IFMCP, for an

informative discussion about the beneficial nutrients present in our vegetables and how they help maintain good health.

#### BENEFICIAL BUGS

**February 18, 10 - 11 a.m. @ VISTA Gardens**

Our fearless leader, Bill White, will share his experience with identifying and cultivating beneficial bugs and the important role they play in our community.

### Fundraiser

#### ANTHONY'S PIZZA COMMUNITY DAY

**February 13, Open - Close @ Anthony's Pizza**

Anthony's Pizza is generously donating 20% of its sales to VISTA when guests dine in or carry out and mention the garden. **Please see the flyer below** for additional information on this fantastic, and delicious, opportunity.

**VISTA Community Meet up.** We will host a meet up at Anthony's that evening from **5 - 8 p.m.** Plan to stop by and share a bite with your fellow gardeners. It will be a fun evening.

### Social Opportunities

**PARENTAL ADVISORY TOUR - STEVEN LOLLI**

January 21, 8 p.m. @ Carrollwood Cultural Center

Enjoy an night out with your fellow Community members at this decidedly adults-only event. This show is described as, "A comedy show that might make some grown-ups blush. Enjoy an evening with a few comedians who prefer to burn the envelope rather than push it. A perfect show for George Carlin fans. With headliner Steven Lolli, featured comedian Aniria and emcee Michael Murillo with a special appearance by Devin Alexander." Tickets are selling quickly, please follow this link to order yours.

### **URBAN ROOTS GRAND RE-OPENING**

**February 18, 10 - 4 @ Urban Roots Garden Supply**

Urban Roots is on the move... across the Main Street Shopping Center (in the same building as All American Dance Factory). Check out their new, expanded location meeting vendors from the garden supply industry and local community.

### **SEEDLING SWAP**

**March 18, 10 - 11 a.m. @ VISTA Gardens**

As you begin starting your Spring seedlings plant a few extra to bring the seedling swap. This is a terrific way to add variety without purchasing seeds for every vegetable you'd like to grow.

### **EARTH DAY PIG ROAST**

**April 22, Time TBD @ VISTA Gardens**

Celebrate our planet at the garden's social event for Spring! This will be a pot luck so start thinking about what you'd like to bring. There will be a nominal contribution for the pork to offset costs. More details will be provided in the coming months.



## **Don't Get Hosed**

It has been noted that garden members are leaving open water hoses in their beds and exiting the garden for an extended period of time. Please do NOT do this as you not only risk over watering a limited area of your bed, but you also are restricting access to fellow community members and likely wasting a lot of water.

If you are interested in installing drip irrigation please contact the infrastructure committee and submit your plan for approval. The garden does not provide installation services as we are an all volunteer community. If you want to hire an expert installer please provide their name, business license and insurance information so we know they have appropriate accreditation's in place .

Contact the "Water Wise" program coordinator, Sheila Monahan, to see if micro irrigation kits are still available at no cost from the County. She can be reached by calling 813-744-5519 x54144.

## **Infrastructure Committee Update**

### **Shed Clean Out**

We will be cleaning the shed out during the **second week of February**. We will consider any unauthorized items left in the shed to be the property of VISTA Gardens.

### Bucket Rentals

The shed is intended to house the tools and equipment needed for common garden maintenance. If you have rented an orange bucket you have the ability to store supplies and small tools in your bucket. Items **must fit in the bucket with the lid on**. Anything on top, next to, draped, etc. will be removed as it impedes access. You are welcome to rent multiple buckets at \$25, space permitting.



### Looking for Owner of Books in the Shed

Please send a note to the infrastructure team if you are the owner, or know who owns, the books currently in the shed. They are not being used, are attracting insects and therefore need to be removed. If the owner is not identified by the clean out date we will donate the books.

**Tell your family, friends, neighbors, strangers in the check out line... Anthony's is giving 20% of its sales to VISTA Gardens ONE DAY ONLY. Diners must mention VISTA Gardens in order for their orders to benefit the garden!**



## Join Us...

On Monday, February 13<sup>th</sup> to help raise money for Vista Gardens!



20% of tracked dine-in and carry out sales will be donated.

*Tell your server you are dining to support Vista Gardens!*



NORTH TAMPA  
13020 N Dale Mabry Hwy | (813) 265-2625  
WWW.ACFP.COM

## 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](http://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.

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VISTA Gardens | [comms@vistagarden.org](mailto:comms@vistagarden.org) | [vistagardentampa.org](http://vistagardentampa.org)

STAY CONNECTED:

