

• every journey begins with you •

SPRING 2018

# vista vibe



*Vista del Monte's new landscape includes drought tolerant plants, crushed stone walking paths and comfortable seating areas.*

## It's Spring Bloom at Vista del Monte!

Spring has arrived in Santa Barbara and that means Vista del Monte Retirement Community is filled with color and beauty. Vista del Monte's new landscape is in full bloom with lush but drought-tolerant native landscape throughout the community.

"Our new park is stunning," said Executive Director Doug Tucker. "We welcome visitors to come and see our new look for themselves!"

Vista is well known for its wide variety of plants and trees. By eliminating large lawn areas and replacing them with new drought tolerant plants, the landscape is even more diverse. The new areas feature low-profile native plants that will blossom into mature

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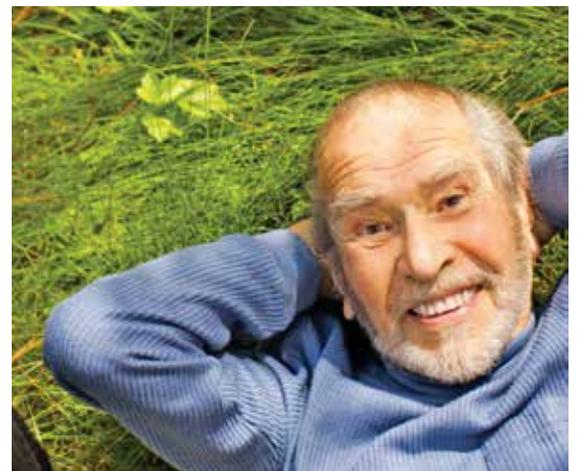
## Spring into Savings at Vista del Monte

*Receive 20 percent off select accommodations for one year!*

Love, laughter, friendship and a rich lifestyle are waiting for you at Vista del Monte. A vibrant, continuing care retirement community in Santa Barbara, Vista del Monte is a place where you can be yourself and live among friends who share your passion for living well.

Right now, *Vista Vibe* newsletter readers can receive our spring special ... **20 percent off** monthly accommodation fees for one year on select accommodations!

For details, contact **Jean Johnson** at 805-879-7639 or [jjohnson@frontporch.net](mailto:jjohnson@frontporch.net).



# Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Vista del Monte Assists Recent Evacuees from Casa Dorinda Retirement Community

## *Residents and staff are grateful for hospitality*

At Vista del Monte, the spirit of the individual and the strength of the community was never more evident than following the devastating floods that hit the local area this past winter and spring.

During two separate incidents, Vista del Monte was able to assist its Montecito neighbor Casa Dorinda by providing accommodations to residents displaced by the floods after the December Thomas Fire in Santa Barbara County. The first instance occurred in early January when 20 residents evacuated Casa Dorinda to Vista del Monte. After about 30 days, residents were able to return to their homes. However, a second Casa Dorinda evacuation took place on March 13 when an additional 25 residents were evacuated to Vista due to more rains and flooding.

“We were fortunate we still had these accommodations available since our skilled nursing care center is transitioning to a new Summer House memory care neighborhood,” said Vista del Monte Executive Director Doug Tucker. “We were happy to assist Casa Dorinda and our local community in this time of great need.”

While visiting Vista del Monte, Casa Dorinda residents experienced all of the care and rich life enrichment opportunities that Vista del Monte residents enjoy every day.

“We’re just happy to be here,” said a Casa Dorinda resident. “We’ve been here at Vista del Monte for about three weeks and we have been treated very well. My wife and I have been residents at Casa Dorinda for three years and we knew they would take care of us. Both our staff and the Vista staff have been very nice and have made us feel at home.”

Casa Dorinda staff supported the daily needs of their skilled nursing residents while they resided at Vista del Monte. Vista del Monte independent living residents volunteered to welcome the guest residents and provided moral support during their stay.

“It’s been a blessing,” said another Casa Dorinda resident. “I was pleasantly surprised at how well organized everyone



is. While I’m anxious to go home, the care here has been wonderful.”

Vista del Monte offers peace of mind. If you need a little help from your friends at Vista del Monte there’s Truly Yours personal care and assisted living delivering customized services to the privacy of your home at Vista del Monte. Currently, Vista del Monte is expanding its memory care to include Summer House, a specialized memory care neighborhood featuring the latest engagement technologies and highly personalized care.

As a continuing care retirement community, Vista del Monte gives you the freedom to enjoy your own brand of retirement with the care and support to live life your way!

For a tour or for more information about Vista del Monte, please call us today at **805-687-0793** or visit us online at **vistadelmonte.org**.

## *Resident Profile*

### Toni and Bill Straka Enjoy Intimacy of Vista del Monte

When Toni and Bill Straka were looking for a retirement community they wanted something intimate and comfortable. They looked no further than Vista del Monte. After all, Toni’s mom lived here 20 years ago.

“It was always going to be Vista,” Toni said. “My mom enjoyed it here. I remember spending a lot of time here and knew it would be our home in the future.”

“There’s almost too much to do here,” Toni said with a laugh. “And the people ... we meet interesting people here every day.”

– *Toni Straka*

Sure, Toni and Bill looked into other nearby retirement communities but they deemed them too large and impersonal. “I don’t want to have to ride in a golf cart to get from my apartment to the dining room,” Toni said. “Everywhere we looked, the communities were too large. Here, it’s all flat ground. Add to that, Vista’s month-to-month fee option and it’s perfect.”

Toni and Bill chose a two-bedroom apartment



*Toni Straka performs on the kettle drums with the Prime Time Band.*

overlooking the newly landscaped community “park.” Pine trees, jacaranda, flowering plants, walking paths and green turf provide the perfect view for both Toni, Bill and their cat Miss Riley, a short hair tabby who likes to bird watch from the window seat.

The retired couple moved to Vista del Monte from a large home a few miles way. They made the move mostly to abandon mundane household chores and cooking. “We also wanted to make our own decision about retirement living,” Toni said. “We didn’t want our kids to make it for us.”

Although Bill was resistant at first to move to communal living, he fell in love with Vista del Monte. “Just ask anyone who knows us and they will tell you about the smiles on our faces, especially Bill’s,” Toni said.

Toni serves as resident association president and the couple enjoys a variety of social opportunities including game nights. Toni plays percussion in a local band and performs at Vista annually.

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**SPRING** continued from front >

specimens. They surround wide, crushed stone walking paths and comfortable seating areas with new lighting to ensure resident convenience and comfort. Several of Vista's smaller courtyards have also been spruced up with new plants, seating areas and hardscape.

For several years, the City of Santa Barbara has had water saving measures in place. Vista del Monte continues to do its part to conserve water while creating a beautiful and

ecologically friendly landscape.

To complement the new landscape, future plans include a new outdoor dining patio area adjacent to the resident dining room. "It's our way of bringing the outdoors in and vice versa," Doug said. "Residents will soon have more dining choices than ever."

Come tour Vista del Monte by calling **(805) 687-0793** and reserve your new home today!

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