

# HILLTOP BEACON

HilltopNeighbors@aol.com



## Hello Mar Vista Hilltoppers and Neighbors,

Many thanks to our Hilltop Neighbors Association residents who responded to the two Opinion Polls; and here are the results:

Re-zoning part of our neighborhood from R1 to R2 was a **unanimous vote NO! Not a single person voted in favor of re-zoning!** On the other issue of the routing of the proposed subway from the Valley to LAX on either Centinela or Sepulveda there were only three votes for Centinela, and two were from the same family! We have forwarded a copy of every one of your e-mails to the appropriate LA City authorities. We did redact your individual e-mail addresses for your personal privacy on every one of the many messages.

You will read in this issue of the Beacon, about another very important issue that will affect our beloved neighborhood greatly if passed. Please take a moment to read and let your representative know how you feel regarding the SB50 Bill. If SB50 is passed this will have a huge impact on the neighborhood as we know it. Don't assume it will work out and let others write letters and call. Get involved.

There is also some great information this month regarding emergencies and how you can prepare for them.

Many thanks to Wayne Burkland for handling both of those for us and as always to Carolyn Honda for putting together this newsletter.

Thanks again,

Bill Koontz  
PRESIDENT

billk@marvista.org

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## The "Big One"

We have been told that the relative calm of the last 25 years or so may mean that the next one will be super BIG, and it also means that most of us are not as well prepared as we should be! Our local "First Responders" (CERT and HERO) have instructions to first take care of their own family members and home, so our neighborhood folks may be on their own the first day or so. The really big well qualified organizations (LAFD Paramedics, Red Cross, FEMA, National Guards from CA, NV and AZ) will eventually be here, but may take several days to get set up and functional! LAFD's first priority will justifiably be Hospitals, Nurseing homes, Hi-rise buildings, etc. What that all means is that every individual home must be well prepared for the worst. The article on page 2 gives information that you might want to print and post on your fridge. It is also very helpful for neighbors to help each other, so get to know them, especially the elderly, handicapped, and those who live alone. Most likely we may lose clean water, gas and electric power. Quite frequently fires break out and can jump from home to home and that is why every home should have an automatic seismic gas shut-off valve which can slow down the spread of fires from home to home. The best thing we can do is the old Boy Scout Motto- **BE PREPARED**

## save the date!

**June 1-2**

### **NVLL Championship Weekend**

North Venice Little League is excited to crown Major and Minor Division champions over "Championship Weekend" on June 1st. The turnout for baseball this season was the largest in over 7 seasons at North Venice Little League. **The league will end its season with its annual picnic on Sunday, June 2nd.**

NVLL is also honoring players from each division with "Best Sportsmanship Award," that celebrates players who are proud in victory or defeat. Championship Weekend kicks off Friday evening, with the "Kids Choice" game, where kids themselves pick the most-worthy players, in a friendly game to commemorate the end of the season.

**Ocean View Farms will be holding an**

**"Open House" on 6/1**, so aside from watching Little League baseball, you can stroll through their gardens with a docent-lead tour.

**June 2- 10am-4pm**

**Mar Vista Community Council Elections- Please vote at the Mar Vista Rec Center**

**September 7**

**Hilltop Picnic at NVLL with Ocean View Tours**

**October 19**

**Mar Vista Fall Festival**

**October 24 7pm**

**General Meeting - St. Bedes**

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**We need volunteers for all events! Participate and meet your neighbors. email or call:**

**310-995-9562**

**wburklund@aol.com**

# Disaster Survival Suggestions

## Hilltop's Emergency Response Organization (HERO)

**HERO** is an all-volunteer emergency response organization. We are a 501c3 Public Benefit non-Profit Corporation.

**HERO** is a separate organization from Hilltop Neighbors Association, but our work is possible only because of the great cache of emergency equipment and supplies acquired by HNA with your Annual Dues.

Over the last 6 years, HERO has trained 66 volunteers. However today, due to moves and aging, we have only 34 members left. While this is more per capita than other LA neighborhoods, it is still insufficient to meet the need predicted from eruptions of the San Andreas or Newport-Inglewood Fault 3 miles from us.

**HERO Services:** HERO no longer has enough retired medical professional and volunteer Emergency Medical Responders to care for seriously injured Hilltop residents until hospitals open, which may take up to three days. You should make reciprocal arrangements with two or more neighbors to assist, should you be seriously injured. HERO will attempt to provide supplies, equipment and instruction to your appointed friends and neighbors.

If your home is structurally sound, we will attempt to provide First Aid and caregiver instruction in your home. If your home is deemed unsafe, we may be able to move you to:

- a stable neighbor's home if you have made arrangements for this, or
- to our Command Center Treatment Area at the Ball Field if a family member or neighbor-caregiver comes with you, or to your front or back yard.

**Request for HERO Services and Hold Harmless Agreements.** HERO is discontinuing pre-authorization to Force Entry because we cannot keep up with property ownership changes. Instead, please swap house keys with trusted neighbors so HERO can get in if we come to check on you and you do not respond. Or let your neighbors know your special needs and desires on having HERO force entry to look for you if: Your home looks damaged, you do not respond when we knock, or a neighbor says they think you were home when disaster struck and you haven't been seen since.

**"We're OK" Sign or White Flag:** If all inhabitants are free of serious injuries (bumps, bruises, minor cuts and scrapes are not serious injuries), place a "We're OK" sign or tie a "White Flag" (white handkerchief or towel) on your front door.

**Gas Leak:** If you smell gas, do not touch any light switch or electrical appliance. Shut off electricity at the outside panel, small switches first then large red switch, then shut gas off at the valve before your gas meter. This requires a special "gas wrench" or an adjustable crescent wrench. Tape one to your gas shutoff valve now, and have a automatic seismic gas shutoff valve installed soon. If you do have a seismic gas shutoff valve and it does not trip, you may use it to shut off your gas with a dime or penny in its manual control.

**Fire at Your Home:** Every home should have two 2A 5-pound or 4A 10-pound ABC extinguishers, one K extinguisher for kitchen fires, and one FireAid for people on fire. Attempt to suppress fire with your extinguishers and/or garden hose(s).

**Fire Nextdoor:** Attempt to suppress with your garden hose or your extinguisher before it spreads to your home. If unsuccessful, close windows on the side of your home facing the fire, pull-down any window dressings and pull all flammables away from the fire-facing wall(s). Attempt to suppress any Firebrands landing on your roof with extinguisher and cool any eaves of your home facing the fire with garden hose.

**Cars:** Move your cars out of your garage after first strike. They may become your home. They have heat, light, a radio, a generator for recharging your devices, and at least two beds (reclining seats).

**Be Prepared:** If you missed HERO's Disaster Survival Seminar at St. Bede's on March 3, review the presentation on the Training page at [www.HilltopHERO.org](http://www.HilltopHERO.org). Also download and print the **Disaster Survival Guide** on the Documents page by clicking the document name, then click Print in your browser.

## PREPARE

This means that All HNA residents must be prepared as much as possible, prior to the Quake. Some of the important items are:

- Water: 15 gallons per person.  
Food: non-perishable, long shelf life, easy to make or ready to eat.
- Fire: storm proof matches, lighters, and a fire starter.
- A First Aid Book, basic first aid supplies, Tylenol, activated charcoal, digestive aids, prescriptions, hand sanitizer, camp soap, baby wipes.
- A pair of shoes, a flash light, whistle, flares and a large crow bar under your bed
- At least two ABC extinguishers at opposite ends of your home
- Always keep your car gas tanks at least half full
- A Seismic gas shut-off valve installed
- Heat: mostly from clothes and blankets, but also propane heaters and survival blankets.
- A working battery powered Radio available
- Designate a Family meeting place in case family members are away from home
- Be prepared for civil unrest (Pepper spray, Taser, Firearms, if you're qualified)
- Cash: small bills, as much as you can afford to stash.
- Documents: copy of deeds/ titles, insurance policies, birth certificates, maps, etc.
- Tools: axe, work gloves, wrench for your gas lines, zip ties, duct tape, sewing kit, etc.



# California Senate Bill SB 50 will abolish Single-Family Neighborhoods

San Francisco's Senator Scott Weiner has introduced another version of his Bill to make single-family neighborhoods a thing of the past. **(The previous version was SB-827 which was killed after massive protest by homeowners.)**

His new Bill, SB-50, would allow developers to "remodel" single-family homes anywhere in the State into four condos or apartments with only two off-street parking spaces for the 8 driving-age people who could subsequently live there.

SB-50 would also override City Zoning rules and allow 4-Story apartment and condo buildings within ½ mile of a Mass Transit Rail Station, and 5-Story apartment or condo buildings with ¼ mile of a Rail Station. If Metro puts the Valley-to-LAX subway currently being planned under Centinela, rather than under Sepulveda, developers could erect 4-story apartment or condo buildings next to single-family homes in our neighborhood. While it is true that LA needs more affordable housing, it is not for lack of zoning.

Current zoning would allow 2.8 Million more affordable housing units to be build along transit corridors if City Planning would do its job and required developers to produce units sized for the incomes available in the project's area, instead of allowing developers to build more high-priced-high-profit luxury condos.

**You can share your opinion on SB-50 by contacting our State Senator Holly Mitchell at 916-651-4030, and Assembly Member Sydney Kamlager-Dove at 916-319-2054, and with the Senate Governance and Finance Committee.**

**You can register you preference for Metro to put the Valley-to-LAX Subway under Sepulveda rather than Centinela at:**

**[metro.wufoo.com/forms/sepulveda-transit-corridor-project-comment-form/](http://metro.wufoo.com/forms/sepulveda-transit-corridor-project-comment-form/)**



I looked up my address at this website, and it showed me that Grand View Blvd. would allow buildings as high as 75 feet if SB50 goes through. (The grey round circles) Check out your address at: <https://www.livablecalifornia.org/sb-50-impact-map-check-your-neighborhood/>

**NOTE:** As of May 16, 2019, it was announced that SB50 is being tabled until 2020. THEN...a couple hours later, YIMBY and Abundant Housing is asking all their pro-development supporters to call Senate Pro Tem Toni Atkins to ask her to move it for a floor vote anyways. **PLEASE CALL SENATOR TONI ATKINS (916) 651-4039** to tell her that you do NOT want this to come to a floor vote now, that it should be killed in it's entirety or left as a two year bill so we can spend time to fully educate the people of this state about how this bill will change our neighborhoods. It's quick and easy. Thank you!



It's that time of year when we have our Annual Association Dues Drive. Please fill out the form as appropriate with \$20 dues checks payable to Hilltop Neighbors Assn or cash. Many of our neighbors make additional generous donations, for which we are very grateful. Mail in the enclosed pre-addressed envelope or deliver to:

**Hilltop Neighbors, 3276 Keeshen Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90066-1002**

Thank you very much for being HNA members!

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please check one:**

Renewal—my information hasn't changed

Renewal—updated info is included

New membership— my info is below

Cell(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Email : \_\_\_\_\_

# of adults/children in household \_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ Pets \_\_\_\_\_

Household members: elderly/needing special care in a disaster:

Names \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**How You Can Help**

I have an earthquake actuated main gas valve. Most newer homes have them, and they help to prevent fires from jumping from house to house!!!

Languages spoken other than English: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I have had CERT training in the past, and will do my best to help whenever the "BIG ONE" strikes.

I would like free CERT training.

Please let me know the upcoming class schedules.

During a disaster, I could help at the Command Center at the Little League Field.

I have a ham radio license, or would like to get one.

call sign \_\_\_\_\_

I have these special skills (e.g., medical training, building, electrical, law enforcement, first aid, counseling, fire suppression)

I can provide these tools/equipment (e.g., chain saw, crowbar, generator, ladders, bolt cutters, ax, truck/van, wrenches)

My out-of-state contact (to be used by HNA only in an Emergency):

Names \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency phone/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

The Board of Directors consists of six Directors plus the President, and up to eight Permanent Committee chairpersons. The Directors, President, and Permanent Committee Chairpersons all have voting privileges. The six Directors plus the President, constitute the EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE which has special powers to make decisions and vote on issues under specific conditions.

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