

Dave Anduri should've known better.

Sure, washing your car in the driveway is good. It saves you time, money, and it's most definitely therapeutic. It's also a great way to get to know your neighbors, especially if you do it every weekend at the same time. In 1992, 5 years after the Anduris moved into the neighborhood, a neighbor walked up to him while he was washing his car. This neighbor asked Dave if he wanted to serve on the Board. Not being able to come up with a convincing excuse not to right at that moment, Dave ended up saying yes. And since this was 1992, at the very beginning of the very first reconstruction efforts in the Vistas, the experience was less than pleasant. Fast forward 19 years. As Dave washed his car in the driveway, Dave Gwidt, a previous Board member, walked by and told Dave Anduri that he should serve on the Board. Once again, not being able to come up with a convincing excuse not to, Dave ended up agreeing. Dave has been working very hard as the Board Treasurer and Financial Committee member ever since - for the past 16 months, to be exact.

That Dave did not learn his lesson the first time around benefits all of us Vista homeowners. As Don McCrea explained in his interview last month, our community is in dire need of developing a long-term plan. That requires much financial planning, for reconstruction, landscaping, and termite control, among other things, all require financial infusion. The reserves must be restored to an acceptable level, and that, too, requires complex financial analyses. And there's the ongoing operating budget. Utilities need to get paid, and delinquencies must be dealt with. Since funds are not unlimited, work must be prioritized. All this must be weighed in developing a budget that everyone can live with. There is no better person than Dave Anduri, who oversees business banking as vice president at Citizens Business Bank, to handle this critical job.

Dave hails from Visalia, heart of San Joaquin Valley, and graduated from UCLA with a degree in Economics. Upon graduation he embarked on a professional career at Security Pacific Bank, and for 40 years, he has thrived in the industry. At home, he and his lovely wife, Patti, a retired University High math teacher, whom he met at UCLA, raised 2 children, first in the College Park neighborhood and later in the Vistas. When one thinks of a long-term banker, one imagines someone straight-laced and serious, but Dave shatters such stereotypes. He has a wicked sense of humor, and with Patti frequently bursting into appreciative guffaws as Dave deadpans, one realizes that it's quite obvious the Anduris have found the secret ingredient for a very long (40 years!), happy marriage.

When Dave is not crunching numbers and Patti is not showing tourists around as a volunteer docent at the Santa Ana Zoo, they enjoy visiting wineries and vineyards. They travel every

year to Sonoma for the annual Barrel Tasting with 100 other oenophiles. They are also avid golfers (Patti coached the golf team at University High and retired with a 50-0 [!] record) and once worked together as marshals at the PGA Championship. The Anduris also know how to vacation in style. Every year, they spend 4 weeks at various timeshare locations - Hanalei, Kauai; Kaanapali, Maui; and Palm Desert.

As exotic as their vacations get, however, Dave and Patti feel that they get the best of both worlds right at their home in the Vistas. Their unit, which has its back against Concordia, is like a safe haven for wildlife. As we spoke, squirrels fought against one another to get to the feeding dish on the patio. Their backyard seems to go on forever, with nary another human being in sight. As a matter of fact, this forested look and feel of the area was what attracted them to this area 24 years ago. It's still quite common to see bobcats and coyotes in the backyard, addition to rabbits, squirrels, owls, songbirds and hummingbirds. They once even witnessed a deer in the hills! It doesn't get a whole lot more relaxing than sitting on the couch, sipping good wine, and enjoying the built-in entertainment that is wildlife in the backyard, as 3 cats look on in amazement. And relaxation is good, for once the weekend is over, it's back to work for Dave, and in addition to all the business accounts he has to deal with at work, he has to watch the numbers closely and go through 50 or so e-mail messages on Board business. With the reconstruction work on Rustling Wind looming, work never ends for this Board Treasurer and Finance Committee member.

We homeowners need to thank our lucky stars that Dave Anduri didn't know any better. Let's hope that he never learns his lesson so that he can continue to guide our community through these extremely tough economic times.