

## If Only You Cared

I am Mark Wells, AKA M Richards, and the creator of [www.pontevista.blogspot.com](http://www.pontevista.blogspot.com). You used my name in your reply to a letter to the editor in the most recent edition of your publication. You may find my response as a recent post at [www.pontevista.blogspot.com](http://www.pontevista.blogspot.com). I truly wish you cared more about the Ponte Vista at San Pedro issue, than it seems you do. You have published a falsehood that I have tried to correct in my response.

Whether you like it or not, Ponte Vista is the largest development proposal since Channel Heights was constructed decades ago. Ponte Vista may bring in more revenue to downtown San Pedro than all other currently proposed developments, combined. There will be no larger residential development, probably ever in the Harbor Area, and you continue to either not be willing to study the facts as I believe a publisher should, or have some other agenda on your mind.

Ponte Vista supporters claim that they have over 20,000 supporters. Opponents of Bob's plans have at least 11,000 signatures on RI petitions. Does your periodical get read by over 31,000 folks living in OUR community? Whether it does or doesn't should suggest to you that the issues are important to us, no matter what you feel.

I wish that if you are going to invoke my name, you have the decency to learn about me and my blog. Your statement about the "Mark Wells faction" demonstrates that you know very little about the issues surround all sides of the Ponte Vista matter and that should make you defensive when folks claim you are on Bob's side.

Mark Wells AKA M Richards, San Pedro

Dear Mr. Wells AKA M Richards,

However you wish to call yourself is really of very little interest to me, but your continued insistence that your blog is somehow the voice of the mass of disgruntled San Pedrans is, of greater concern to me is the tenor of the civic debate on this issue and that some continue to see this as a game. As you claim the Ponte Vista project is very big and I and this newspaper have not taken any sides on the resolution of it except to the extent of saying that something will get built there and that a median number of housing units should be constructed. This means compromise both from the R-1 faction, which you adamantly protest being yours, as well as the Bisno Ponte Vista side. I do not believe that there have been earnest and sincere negotiations, other wise this would have been settled months ago. I don't blame you personally for this failure and blame doesn't solve problems.

My statements and position on this development are taken from my long experience with witnessing the penchant for public mud wrestling every time a piece of public land is acquired into private hands. The fact that one faction or the other uses certain political tactics to force the hand of the other is very amusing but unproductive, as we have seen. Both Ponte Vista and the R-lers could easily drag this debate out into the far distant future under the administration of the next political regime and all of San Pedro would be the lesser for it. In the end the finance mortgage collapse may settle this issue all by itself, but I still believe that there is time for an equitable —solution to this development if reason supercedes desperation.

And just for your edification this newspaper reaches some 62,000 Harbor Area residents every two weeks, and I gladly print both your letters or Bisno's or anyone else's whether you buy advertising or not, that is my commitment to keeping the civic debate both open, honest and fair, for everyone's name printed on these letters are real and not anonymous pseudonyms.

Please feel free to post my reply on your blog.

James Preston Allen, Publisher