

MONTA LOMA NEWS



Spring Fling 2018

Come meet and chat with your neighbors and friends.
Saturday, March 3, 10:00 a.m. to noon

Monta Loma School Multipurpose Room

Chat with old friends and meet new neighbors as you enjoy free Starbucks coffee, hot cider or chocolate, and baked goods. Buy books at the PTA's used-book sale. Visit the Monta Loma History display, the Neighborhood Watch/MVPD table, and the city's information table. Buy a Monta Loma tee shirt.

Many more attractions are listed at www.montaloma.org.

Some people think that Spring Fling is just for families, but it's for everyone in Monta Loma. We provide activities for the children so their parents can chat with neighbors.

If you can help with this popular event or would like to share an activity that you enjoy, please contact Joel Orr now. He can be reached at vp2@montaloma.org or 336-3937.



MLNA board election and annual meeting Wednesday, May 30

If you agree that we have a great thing going in our neighborhood, help us keep it that way by volunteering to serve on the MLNA Board. We need "at large" (no designated responsibility) members, and always welcome hearing from anyone interested in joining the board either now or in the future. The positions are described at montaloma.org under MLNA.

The annual general meeting and board election will take place on Wednesday evening, May 30, but we don't need to wait until then to appoint new members. If you want to contribute to our Monta Loma community, please contact any board member to learn more. (See list on page 2.)



PTA used-book sale; donate books now, shop during the Spring Fling

To help us ensure that all children will find an appropriate book, please donate your outgrown gently-loved children's books. We accept books of all types and any language, from kindergarten through junior high level, but especially need 3rd- to 5th-grade popular series, picture books, and books in Spanish (all levels). No textbooks, technical manuals, religious, or parenting books, please!

Drop books off in the bin in the school office on **Monday, February 26**. (The school is closed February 19-23.) Then stop by the school and browse on the multipurpose room's stage on Saturday, March 3, 10:00-noon. Questions? Contact Shanna Bengston at shannamaybe@gmail.com or 602-799-7828.

Alvin curve cleanup project

In the spirit of Martin Luther King Day, Carmen Enciso-Steinberg and Liat Baranoff invited others to join their families on January 15 in a service project to clean up the area of Alvin near the back entrance to Palo Alto Gardens. The Steinberg and Baranoff-Burns families were joined by Otak Jump, Allison Katsev, and the Ben-Horin family to clean up the litter and make that area more pleasant for walkers.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

- March 3 MLNA Spring Fling & PTA used-book sale (p. 1)
- May 30 MLNA General Meeting and Board Election (p. 1)
- August 26 MLNA Ice Cream Social, 3:00-5:00

Also see the list of Community Events on p. 4

MLNA Board Members

Phone messages: 691-5258

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Linda Harvey
president@montaloma.org

First Vice President

Ann Togasaki
vp1@montaloma.org

Second Vice President

Joel Orr
vp2@montaloma.org

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Vacant; please volunteer

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Board changes

Benjamin neighbor Joel Orr volunteered to join the board and was elected to fill the Second Vice President position. Joel and Dalia Orr came to Monta Loma in 2006. Joel describes himself as a recovering techie (computer-aided design), a repentant mathematician, author, and editor. "We love Monta Loma!" he says. "What a caring community! I am delighted to serve on the Board!"

We are looking for more board members, so please volunteer. We meet about every six weeks on a Monday evening for about 90 minutes. To learn more, contact any of the board members listed at left.

From MLNA President Linda Buckley

As I walked around our neighborhood over the holidays, I was awestruck by the amount of effort people put in to making the season warm and festive for all of us. The lights, decorations, and Ernie's trains were imaginative and delightful. I felt that this was a fitting description of our neighbors and how we care for each other. When I read the mln emails, I am touched to see how we help each other. My goal for 2018 is to meet more of you as I do my walks, and to see you at our annual events — Spring Fling, Ice Cream Social, Progressive Dinner, and more. Monta Loma was merry and bright over the holidays, which is how it feels all year round.

City boards and commissions

Want to help make Mountain View a better place to live? Consider serving on one of the city's boards, commissions, or committees. These groups provide advice in their areas of expertise to the City Council.

It's wise to attend a few meetings of the board that interests you before applying. Applicants who don't are rarely selected to serve. Go to mountainview.gov and click on Advisory Bodies under City Council.



Donate stuffed animals at the Spring Fling

By Jenise Dormann and Ellen Henson

The Animal Beacons of Light project gathers stuffed animals, freshens them and gifts them to children around the world who appreciate something to cuddle. We seek new or gently used soft-filled stuffed animals between 6 and 24 inches, made of fake fur, plush, or soft cloth, and that are cute, cuddly, and in excellent condition. More information is at localwiki.org/montaloma/Stuffed_Animals.

Bring your donations, labeled with your name, to the Spring Fling, or contact Jenise at animalbeaconsoflight@gmail.com or 954-8443. Please do not leave donations at Ellen's home.

New neighbors?

Look for the "New to Monta Loma?" link on the Home page at montaloma.org, then print a copy for your new neighbors. If you or a neighbor (whether an owner or renter) has lived here less than two years and would like a packet of local information, contact Marilyn at marilyn@gildea.com or 940-1606.

Repair Café March 31

Don't toss it, repair it. The next Repair Café in Mountain View is at the Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., on Saturday, March 31, 11:00 to 3:00. Visit repaircafemv.org for information.

Can you vote in the June 5 Primary Election?

Those who vote in June will determine who is on our November ballot. You can check your registration at www.sos.ca.gov or 1-866-430-8683. If you need to register, you can request a voter registration form or print one from the web.





Neighborhood Watch – Prevent vehicle thefts

By Tom Purcell, Monta Loma Neighborhood Watch Captain

Vehicles, as well as their contents, are being stolen. Older models are more vulnerable, as they lack the security features that make newer ones more difficult to steal. Consider adding antitheft measures such as a kill switch or steering-wheel lock. Avoid leaving valuables in your vehicle, and always lock it.

The police urge you to call whenever you see anything that seems suspicious. For emergencies and in-progress incidents, call 911. For non-emergencies, suspicious circumstances, or crimes that have already occurred, call 903-6395, which you should have in your cell phone.

A link to the MVPD's tip sheet on how to prevent burglaries in your home and vehicle is at tinyurl.com/mvptips and also at montaloma.org on the Neighborhood Watch page (under MLNA). Visit tinyurl.com/prvntthft for tips to prevent package thefts.

CERT comes to you on Saturday, March 3

Normally we encourage you to visit the Monta Loma's CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) Saturday Sessions on the second Saturday of the month. But in March you can also learn about CERT while sipping coffee at the Spring Fling.

The regular Second Saturday Sessions will be on March 10, April 7, and May 12, between 9 and 11 a.m. at the trailer next to Monta Loma School. Questions? Contact Tim Slattery at CERT@montaloma.org or 964-6389.

We encourage you to take the city's **free CERT course**, whether or not you join our neighborhood group. "First Aid teaches you what to do until the ambulance comes; CERT teaches you what to do when the ambulance isn't going to come."

CERT drill April 21; watch for flyer

In conjunction with the city-wide CERT drill on Saturday, April 21, teams of CERT members will deliver a flyer door-to-door. The flyer encourages emergency preparedness and provides information on a **CERT course that begins on May 31**. Visit montaloma.org/mlna/cert/ for a link to info.

Knitting group in Monta Loma

By Ann Togasaki, MLNA First Vice President



The Monta Loma Knitting list has grown to 23 people. Different neighbors are available to join us each month so we meet new people and always have a great time. In December, a few of us knit and donated four scarves and three hats to a homeless program. Whether you knit, crochet, or bring another craft, all are welcome to join. If you would like to be on our email list, contact me at ann.togasaki@gmail.com.

Enjoy folk music? Contact Joel Orr at joel.orr@gmail.com or 336-3937 to be notified of this new group's meetings.

Want more activities in Monta Loma?

The knitting and the folk-music groups are examples of "More opportunities for us to get to know neighbors beyond our immediate street" requested in last year's survey. Other suggestions included bike safety for kids, family outings, CPR training, sharing hobbies, gardening events, and ways to help each other. Would you like a few more people for your bridge or game nights?

If you wish to volunteer to help organize a group or project, look for sign-up sheets on the tee-shirt table at the Spring Fling or contact the MLNA Board at board@montaloma.org or 691-5258.

Neighborhood Resources

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Tim Slattery, 964-6389
CERT@montaloma.org

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Tom Purcell, 224-5110
MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com

Preschooler Network

Darcy Koch
preschooler@montaloma.org

MLN Neighborhood Email List

mln@yahoogroups.com
List owner: Peggy Manor
mlnlist@montaloma.org
To join this or alternate lists go to montaloma.org/mlna and click on MLNA Email Lists.

MLNA Websites

www.montaloma.org
Referrals:
localwiki.org/montaloma
Webmaster: Hien Do
webmaster@montaloma.org



Thanks to our volunteers!

Thanks to those who delivered the November newsletter: John Canata, Vannina Champenois, Donna Clarke, Jim & Alice Cochran, Harry Gordon, Birgit Grundler, Maria Harnoto, Pat & Linda Harvey, Chuck & Cookie Henderson, Isabella Hill, Jessie Holombo, Paul Kostka, Vickie Lee, Shelly Ostman, Herb & Victoria Perry, Linda Powers, Leanne Reelfs, Raymond White, and Pat Young.

We welcome more volunteers, even those who can help only occasionally. It's a good way to get to know your neighborhood and get an hour's exercise. Contact the editor to learn more.

Holiday Progressive Dinner a success

Thanks to organizers Karla Valente and Liz Wee, the tenth annual Holiday Potluck Progressive Dinner on December 2 was again a warm and festive success. The 19 attendees, in two groups, went to three homes for the various courses. Everyone had fun meeting new people, seeing old friends, and eating delicious food.

Thanks also to the generous hosts: Mary & John Partlan, Ann Togasaki, Cathy Blake, Linda Powers & Jim Fair, Liz Wee & Peter Glassey, and Patty & Jerry Pugh. Contributions to Second Harvest Food Bank totaled \$475, enough to provide hundreds of holiday meals.

Ernie's trains ran again

Ernie's son, John, and the rest of the Bianco family continued the tradition of running his model trains evenings between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The display drew more than a hundred people on some nights, particularly on Christmas Eve, when luminaria lined Adele Ave. and Kate Shih's trumpet and Kelly McCoy's voice provided carols for the crowd.

Off-leash dogs have recently frightened several people and their pets. MVPD urges calling 911 or 650-903-6395 immediately, and then Animal Control (408-764-0344). Visit tinyurl.com/leashless for the city's rules and advice.

Little Free Libraries update

Thanks go to Jim Cochran for refurbishing the Little Free Library on Lassen, which had become very weather-worn. New owner James Robinson contributed the paint and David Bergen donated vinyl material to cover its roof.

Sarah and Dox Doxiadis have a new LFL plus a bench on Adele at Palmer. Exchange your no-longer-wanted books for some new reads at these two or at the ones on Dell and on Alvin.

Karla Valente reports that kids from the nearby preschools make frequent use of her new weatherproof LFL and its adjacent tub on Fay at Jewell. Another LFL for children's books is also on Fay, plus one on Hamilton. Photos are at montaloma.org/little-free-libraries.



Keeping Monta Loma clean and green



Dogs: Monta Loma Park fields and school grounds are off limits to dogs during school hours. Pick up dog messes deposited at other times. Please don't deposit doggie bags in neighbors' trash cans after they've been emptied. Incontinent dogs should be walked in the gutter, not on sidewalks.

Walkable Sidewalks: Please trim your greenery back to the full width of the sidewalk and to a height of seven feet, as required by city code.

Hazardous waste: Visit hhw.org or call 408-299-7300 to make an appointment to drop off your household hazardous waste and e-waste. Go to paintcare.org/locator/ for stores accepting leftover paint. Invite neighbors to help fill your trunk.

Bulky trash: Go to goo.gl/Ka9Que for On Call Plus pickup info.

Street sweeping: Help the sweeper clean your gutter by moving your vehicles and trash bins off the street the evening before the second and fourth Thursdays of each month.

Trash and recycling bins should be out of sight except within 24 hours of pickup time.

Paper shredding March 17

The next shredding opportunity is on Saturday, March 17. You may want to arrange a carpool via the mln email list. See mvrecycle.org and click on Events, or call 903-6311.

If you shred at home, please put the shreds in paper bags, stapled shut, so they won't litter the street when the recycling cart is emptied.

Monta Loma's 40-year residents; Vivian Hatt

By Marilyn Gildea

In the last issue I listed our long-time residents and added, "If I've missed you, contact me." David Hatt did, to mention that his mother, Vivian, was omitted, but only because she had recently moved to a care facility. Vivian and Ken Hatt moved to Monta Loma in 1960 and raised six children, first on Benjamin, where Ken cut a door in the fence to provide a shortcut to Monta Loma School, and later on Victory. Vivian died in November but David is still here, on Thaddeus.

Community events

Arbor Day: Saturday, March 10, 11:00–1:00, Rengstorff Park. Go to tinyurl.com/TreeFreebie to request a free tree.

City of Mountain View Spring Family Parade: Saturday, April 21, 10:00–1:00. Register at mountainview.gov/parade or 903-6331 by Friday, April 6.



Citywide garage sale: Saturday, May 5, 8:00–2:00 at homes. Register free March 1–April 13. Visit mvrecycle.org or call 903-6311. (Ed. note: The more local dots on the map, the more customers we'll attract. Online registration is preferred because it supports the online mapping function.)

Community yard sale: No event due to Community Center construction.

Library used-book sale: May 5 & 6. Info at mvlibraryfriends.org.

Monta Loma School update

By Gloria Higgins, Monta Loma School Principal

At long last, the majority of work on our Multi Use Room is completed. We look forward to a break in construction work until summer, when the roofs on all buildings will be modernized and the staff room and office interiors will be remodeled. We are grateful, as ever, for your support through the bond and through your involvement as a crucial part of our community.

Our annual Open House is on Thursday, March 29, at 6pm. I hope you can come by and see the classrooms and new MUR.

VIP Reading Day scheduled for March 2

Monta Loma School's students really look forward to this annual tradition. A diverse group of interesting volunteers (VIPs) will read a book to a classroom, donate that book, and briefly describe their background and why they like reading. If you would like to be a VIP reader on Friday, March 2, contact Debbie Chin at montalomapta@gmail.com or 796-1773. Thank you!

Support Monta Loma School's Walk-a-Thon

The annual Walk-a-Thon on Friday afternoon, May 4, is the PTA's biggest fundraiser of the year. We need lots of energetic volunteers to count laps, serve snacks/water, help with the bake sale and auction, or keep the kids on course and excited. If you can volunteer or donate time/food/items for auction/activities (balloon animals, face painting, etc.), please contact montalomapta@gmail.com or drop a note in the PTA box in the office. Neighbors are encouraged to come between 3:00 and 6:00, when you can buy food for dinner.

Monta Loma School traffic reminder. Plan around these school traffic times: 8:10 – 8:35, 1:50 – 2:10, and 3:00 – 3:30. On Thursdays all students leave at 12:30.

The Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School on San Antonio will hold its Purim outdoor celebration on Thursday, March 1, from 9:00 to noon, weather permitting.

Ask Mountain View

Using Ask Mountain View on the city's website is a very effective way to get a response to any inquiry or request. Click on the words "Ask MV" on the bottom of the home page, mountainview.gov. If you can't find the appropriate topic, someone at City Hall will forward your message to the right person.

If you're not already signed up with Ask Mountain View, you will be asked to provide contact information for a response, or to click on Remain Anonymous. If you are registered, remember to log in first.

Google bikes

Google is trying to retrieve its lost bikes. If you see a multicolor Google bike where it probably shouldn't be, report its location and the time spotted to Google Security at lostgbike@google.com and they will pick it up. Google prefers that we use email rather than calling the number in the bike basket.

Monta Loma Safeway

We enjoy the convenience of having the store in the neighborhood, but to keep it we need to support it. If the checkout lines are long, and you don't have produce that needs to be weighed to be priced, you can ask the deli or service-desk staff to check you out. Note: If your cart doesn't pass through a checkstand, its wheels will lock when you leave, so hand-carry those purchases out.

Chang'an replaces Kumino

Chang'an Artisan Noodle in Monta Loma Plaza is open Tuesday–Sunday and is getting good reviews. You can read about it in Elena Kadvaný's blog at tinyurl.com/ChangElena.



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Senior Advisory Committee

By Elna Tymes

After the Loma Prieta earthquake, neighbors checked on each other to determine whether elderly or sick neighbors needed anything, and shared information and resources. Mountain View's Senior Advisory Committee encourages us to get to know each other, before an emergency occurs.

Even without the impetus of an emergency, it's helpful to check on your neighbors periodically, to be sure they are OK. Many older people don't want to bother others but really appreciate a ten-minute visit, a handful of flowers, or some spare oranges or lemons from a backyard tree.

Mountain View's Senior Friendly Cities committee is also looking for suggestions to make our city more friendly to seniors and those with disabilities. This is part of Santa Clara County's work toward making the county the first in the U.S. to become a Senior Friendly County, according to qualities named by the World Health Organization. One Marin County city held a birthday party with dancing, music, and ethnic food for all those 90 years and older. Another city added eye-level crosswalk markers around town, and another added more benches to streets where people walk. What should we do in Mountain View?

Block parties; better than ever

Last year a total of 11 parties were held between May and late September. (Look for a map of where at the Spring Fling.) Both newcomers and long-timers appreciated the chance to get together, and everyone's looking forward to a repeat this year. For how-to information, go to montaloma.org and click on Block Parties under Events.

Register for Fall Classes
Pacific Ballet Academy
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all ages and levels



(650) 969-4614
www.pacificballet.org
295 Polaris Ave. Mountain View, CA

CERT reports on October drill

By Tim Slattery, CERT Leader

Monta Loma's CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) was one of 10 CERT groups participating in the city-wide drill on October 21. One goal was to have each CERT command post visited by their local fire station crew. Our local FD crew was impressed by CERT's information gathering and our ability to make use of volunteers. They really liked our map of the neighborhood, but suggested that on the next version we note homes with pools. If a large earthquake shuts down water mains, the FD can fill their engines from pools.

We also tested procedures modified after the lessons of last year's big drill. The new registration procedure was a big improvement. As usual, we learned new things, and will continue to improve our readiness to respond to any emergency so we can help our neighborhood recover as quickly as possible.

Sewer problem? Call the City first

Each year someone learns the expensive way that the City needs to check your line to the street before you pay for a service to come. Call 903-6329 to report a backup or overflow. They respond at all hours, even on a Sunday, so **always** call the City first. See tinyurl.com/sewermv for info.



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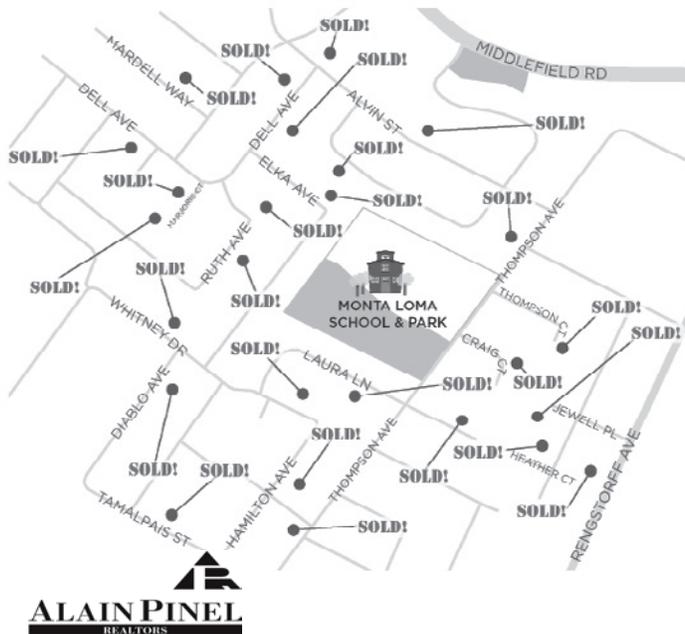
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