

MONTA LOMA NEWS



Eleventh Annual Monta Loma Neighborhood Holiday Potluck Progressive Dinner

Mingle with both long-time and new neighbors, enjoy wonderful food,
and contribute to a worthy cause!

Saturday evening, December 1

Hosts and guests bring a potluck dish and their preferred beverage to share. This event continues to be a fundraiser with a suggested donation of \$25 per participant benefiting Second Harvest Food Bank.

You must register in advance. Space is limited; please contact Karla Valente
at dinner@montaloma.org or 310-936-4639.

Note: The deadline for reservations and payment is Friday, November 16.

Can't participate? Why not organize a get-together for your block, friends, or neighbors? It could be a potluck supper, brunch, dessert, hot-cocoa party, or cookie exchange.



From MLNA President Linda Harvey

I'm always bragging about what a great neighborhood we have, with friendly people and a community of good vibes and feelings. How lucky we are to have and help each other.

A frequent theme in mln emails and Nextdoor.com is parking and traffic concerns. Earlier this year John Canata volunteered to be our Traffic/Parking Liaison. The Board appointed John to be our single point of contact (POC) with the City and with Google X. He has worked hard to build relationships with both entities and has made great progress on solving the problems. See his article on page 2.

There are many neighborhood associations in Mountain View, but I haven't heard of any with someone like John, who is ready to take on your questions and concerns. Many thanks to you, John!



Voting information

Need help deciding among the candidates running for local offices? Links to their websites and to videos of their public forums are in the "Candidates info, forums" article at montaloma.org.

Your vote-by-mail ballot will be counted if postmarked no later than November 6 or dropped off at any polling place in the county on election day.

Replacement sought for Spring Fling

As stated in the last newsletter, the Spring Fling for 2019 has been canceled, and we seek ideas for replacement activities. Please email Linda Harvey at president@montaloma.org or leave a message at 691-5258. Thank you.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

November 10: CERT Second Saturday (p. 3)

November 17 and 18: Library used-book sale (p. 3)

December 1: Holiday Progressive Dinner (p. 1)

MLNA Board Members

Phone messages: 691-5258

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Linda Harvey

president@montaloma.org

First Vice President

Tricia DelGaudio

vp1@montaloma.org

Second Vice President

Vacant; please volunteer

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Newsletter editor seeks replacement

By Marilyn Gildea

I've been producing the Monta Loma quarterly newsletter since 2004 and I'm ready to retire. I will help the new editor for as many issues as requested, and I presume that she/he will do it differently.

If you like gathering and sharing news of coming events and useful information with your neighbors, please contact me at marilyn@gildea.com or 940-1606 to discuss.



Traffic/Parking update

By John Canata, MLNA Traffic and Parking Liaison

The city's traffic engineers have completed the design for different striping, signs, and reflective markers to be installed in the Nita/Betlo and Mayfield/Whitney areas around Google X. Manufacture and installation will take some months, but the traffic engineer says that they are as anxious as we are to have these improvements implemented to help make our streets safer. Updates will be posted to the mln and NextDoor email lists and on the new Traffic/Parking page at montaloma.org.

I see all the messages posted to mln, but contact me at canata350@comcast.net or 269-5646 if you'd like to discuss a traffic or parking concern. Photos are helpful.



Ice Cream Social — another success

Thanks to everyone who helped make this year's ICS another huge success, especially to Tricia DelGaudio, the event's prime organizer, and to Antonio Cesareo, the manager of our Monta Loma Safeway, who donated extra ice cream so we wouldn't run short, and cones.

New this year was a second sign-in table, near the baseball diamond, to help the more than 300 attendees sign in and make a name tag so their neighbors could meet them. The knitting group had festooned the baseball fence and nearby trees with a yarn bomb. Tom Purcell's Monta Loma History/Neighborhood Watch display was popular once more, as was the CERT members' presentation of emergency equipment and information.

The bookmobile's 110 visitors checked out 87 items. Families climbed aboard a fire engine. Mountain View Trees members again answered questions about tree problems.

Attractions for the children included Gizmo Gary's balloon creations; a children's area offering face painting, toys, games, sidewalk chalk, and crafts, organized by Isabella Hill; and Gloria Jackson's cotton-candy machine. Wouter Suverkropp offered rides in a carriage pulled by walking-robot horses.

A number of invited guests attended and appreciated the opportunity to meet Monta Loma residents. It took many hands to make this event such a success; thanks to everyone who helped.

A link to photos is in the ICS article at montaloma.org.

If you left your sunglasses, contact the editor.

Block parties were popular again

The thirteen block parties held this year began with a Fourth-of-July breakfast on Mardell. Other parties in July and August were held by the residents of Benjamin; Thaddeus, Richard Ct., and the 500 block of Emmons; Hamilton; and Anna and Elka.

September parties included the 2400 block of Alvin, the 2400 and 2500 blocks of Dell (plus Aldean, Nita, Devri, Marcelyn, and Marjorie), the 2300 block of Laura, Thompson Square, Thompson and Craig courts, and Jane Lane. The season concluded in October with the 2500 block of Alvin's traditional Blocktoberfest and the Lida/Palmer/Adele party.

The organizers reported that both newcomers and long-timers appreciated the chance to get together, and everyone is looking forward to a repeat in 2019.



Neighborhood Watch — Prevent holiday thefts

By Tom Purcell, Monta Loma Neighborhood Watch Captain

With the holidays approaching, we can expect a spike in package thefts. Visit tinyurl.com/prvntthft for tips to prevent package thefts. A link to the MVPD's tip sheet on how to prevent burglaries in your home and vehicle is at tinyurl.com/mvpdtips and also at montaloma.org on the Neighborhood Watch page (under MLNA).

Take care to avoid leaving obvious signs that you're not home, such as empty trash bins at the curb. If you leave before your bins are emptied, ask a neighbor to roll them off the street. If you have home security cameras, include in the coverage area any area where you expect packages to be left. Cameras may not act as a deterrent, but they may confirm that your package was stolen, and may provide police with clues to the thief's identity.

Thefts from vehicles continue, so avoid leaving valuables in yours, 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.

Are you ready for an emergency?

Having some emergency training is part of being a responsible citizen. You can check out Monta Loma's CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) at any of their Saturday sessions on the second Saturday of the month, between 9 and 11 a.m. at the trailer next to Monta Loma School. The next sessions are on November 10, December 8, January 12, and February 9. Questions? Contact Tim Slattery at CERT@montaloma.org or 964-6389.

CERT members encourage you to take the city's free CERT course, whether or not you join the neighborhood group. The 2019 class schedule should be available in December. A link to info is on the CERT page at montaloma.org, under MLNA.

Knitting group in Monta Loma

By Ann Togasaki



The Monta Loma Knitting list has grown to 27 people. Different people are able to join us each month, so we meet new people and always have a great time. Whether you knit, crochet, or bring another craft, all are welcome. If you would like to be on our email list, contact me at ann.togasaki@gmail.com.

Friends of the Library book sale November 17 and 18

The quarterly used-book sale usually has over 5,000 books, DVDs, CDs, videos and games to choose from, most of which are \$1 or less. During Sunday's Bag Sale you can purchase an entire paper grocery bag full of books for only \$5. Saturday 10:00 to 4:00; Sunday 11:00 to 4:00. Details are at mvlibraryfriends.org.

Fall leaf cleanup, street sweeping

The City asks us to help prevent storm-drain clogs and street flooding by putting leaves in our compost (yard trimmings) carts or composting them; don't leave them in the street.

We can also help by moving our cars and trash bins off the street the evening before the street sweeper comes so the driver can make a clean sweep. For us, that's the second and fourth Thursday of the month, except the fourth Thursdays of November and December. Details are at tinyurl.com/swpng.

Holiday trash pickup dates

Because of the Christmas and New Year's holidays, our trash pickup will be on Thursday those two weeks. Holiday trees will be picked up through the third week of January. Info is at mountainview.gov/holidays.



Neighborhood Resources

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Tim Slattery, 964-6389
CERT@montaloma.org

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Tom Purcell, 224-5110
MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com

Traffic/Parking Liaison

John Canata, 269-5646
traffici liaison@montaloma.org

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



MONTA LOMA
NEIGHBORHOOD

Thanks to our volunteers!

Thanks to those who delivered the August newsletter: John Canata, Vannina Champenois, Donna Clarke, Jim and Alice Cochran, Harry Gordon, Grant and Birgit Grundler, Maria Harnoto, Chuck and Cookie Henderson and Griffen, Susan Jee, Paul Kostka, Vickie Lee, Joan MacDonald, Diane McCleary, Shelly Ostman, Herb and Victoria Perry, Linda Powers, Maureen Sheehan, Wouter Suverkropp and Ann McMillan, 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.

Annual Financial Report

By Andre Valente, MLNA Treasurer

We've had a very successful year, supporting our signature events (the Spring Fling in March, the Ice Cream Social in August), and numerous neighborhood block parties. I have met many neighbors at these activities, which help making this neighborhood such a wonderful place to live.

This is a condensed statement — feel free to contact me if you need more detail. Please patronize our newsletter advertisers; they provide significant financial support to the association.

MLNA	Withdrawals	Deposits
Beginning balance 7/1/2017	\$7,674.03	
Ice Cream Social August 2017	445.84	
Block Parties (11) 2017	723.61	
Progressive Dinner Dec. 2017	27.58	
Spring Fling March 2018	716.76	
General Meeting May 2018	0.00	
CERT Expenses	40.00	
Newsletter expenses/ad revenue	2,024.80	3,421.93
Tee shirts	326.07	656.00
Miscellaneous expenses/revenue	595.60	195.00
Total Withdrawals/Deposits	4,900.26	4,272.93
Ending balance 6/30/2018	\$7,046.70	

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.

Explore our website

In July Wouter Suverkropp posted a message on the neighborhood email list encouraging residents to explore our website, which had grown since he'd last visited. It's grown even more since then, so take a look at www.montaloma.org, and see what's waiting under each column heading.

What else would you like to see there? Use the Contact page to let us know.

Restaurant review — Dumpling Garden

by Marilyn Gildea

I asked on the email list for a review of Dumpling Garden, the restaurant that replaced the Bamboo Garden in what was the Walgreen's plaza. Paul Kostka sent this: "Our family of six rated it 5.5 out of 6 thumbs up. (It was 'not Americanized enough' for one of us.) We had no leftovers. I'd recommend it."



Repair Café

Don't toss it, repair it. The next Repair Café is at the Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave., on Saturday, November 10, 11:00 to 3:00. Visit repaircafemv.org for information.

Ernie's trains will run again

John Bianco, Ernie's son, will continue the tradition of running his model trains from Thanksgiving through Christmas Day. Weather permitting, five tracks will run trains every evening except Mondays at 2387 Adele from 6:30 to about 9:00.

The engines and cars change daily. As many as 100 visitors a night — up to 300 on Christmas eve — come, including children brought by parents who themselves watched the trains when they were young.

Ernie also began the Christmas Eve tradition of curbside luminaria (candles in paper bags). Over the years, neighbors have added their own, so a row of the softly glowing lights now lines Adele and stretches around the corner onto Palmer, making the block a must-see on Christmas Eve.



Wyandotte Street park

One of the names suggested for the new park on Wyandotte Street was Leon Robart Park. That name was submitted by Monta Loma neighbor John Kostka, the 16-year-old son of Paul and Lorraine. John proposed the name after noticing that Leon Robart is the only name on the World War One plaque at the Veterans Memorial in Eagle Park. A local-history buff, John researched Robart's history this past summer in the History Center at the Mountain View Library and prepared a detailed report for the Parks Commission. Private First Class Leon Robart was killed in action in September 1918 and was buried in France.

Tree care for winter

Tree trimming is best done in fall/early winter. Water deeply after trimming. Some gardeners suggest that any aggressive pruning/trimming be done in early January. That allows the leaves to continue to absorb as much sun as possible now and gives the tree/bush time to recover before its heaviest growing season begins. Dotty Calabrese reminds us that trimming between September and early January is best for nesting birds.

Trees within ten feet of the curb are regulated by the City. See tinyurl.com/SttreesQs or call 903-6273 for care instructions.

Street trees — how to get one and how to care for it

If you would like a street tree planted on your property by the City this winter, call 903-6273 or email parks@mountainview.gov. The City will plant and stake the tree, and trim it periodically over its lifetime at no charge. Property owners are responsible for watering new trees, which require 10 gallons a week to get established. Help keep the Monta Loma neighborhood looking its best.



Monta Loma School update

By Gloria Higgins, Monta Loma School Principal

I'm proud to announce that we met our math and language arts goals on statewide tests last spring. Over the last four years, our students have increased their language-arts scores by 14 percentage points and their math scores by 6 percentage points. In addition to excellent academic instruction, we offer a wide variety of after-school enrichments and opportunities. Thanks to the support of our wonderful parents and community members, our modernized facilities are a great setting for basketball, robotics, coding, creative writing, art, music, and the many other activities that we offer students.

Kinder registration information night will be in late November or early December.

How to help Monta Loma School

- To donate financially, go to montaloma.mvwsd.org and click on Fundraising Opportunities; it's under Your Involvement. Vendors such as Amazon and eScrip send a portion of your shopping dollars to the school. Box tops can be dropped off in the school office.
- To help in a classroom or the school gardens, or at events, contact montalomapta@gmail.com.
- To keep kids safe from pets and their droppings, please refrain from bringing dogs onto campus and the park during school hours. These areas are closed during school hours. After hours, please clean up after your pet.

Monta Loma School PTA News

Our annual Winter Food Drive will take place from November 26 to December 14. Healthy, non-perishable items and gently used or new winter coats may be dropped off in the school office.

Read Across America Week is the first week in March. If you can be a VIP reader and share a book with a classroom on March 1, please contact Katie Purcell at montalomapta@gmail.com.

We will also hold our annual used-book sale that week, and collect book donations for the two weeks prior to the sale. The book sale will culminate on Saturday, March 1.

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. School is closed November 21–23 and December 24 through January 7.

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. A neighbor requests a reminder about picking up droppings from yards.

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, recycling, etc.: Visit mvrecycle.org for links to information.

Keep mulch in bounds

When re-landscaping, you can help prevent bark mulch from spilling on the sidewalk if you dig down at least four inches next to the sidewalk and slope back 18 inches. After you've added soil amendments and bark mulch, the bark won't be higher than the sidewalk and much less likely to spill onto it. Use the extra soil to make a natural-looking mound away from the edges.

The Midwife and the Baker



This almost-neighborhood bakery at 846 Independence has earned rave reviews on the email list. According to www.themidwifeandthebaker.com, it's open to the public Wednesday–Saturday 7:00 a.m to 12:30 p.m.



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Mobile Library schedule

The Mobile Library stops at Monta Loma School every Friday from 4:15 to 5:00 with the exception of November 23 (Thanksgiving weekend), and December 28 and January 4 (Winter Break). It also stops on Jane at Fay on December 21, January 18, and February 15 from 9:45 to 10:15. No morning stop on Jane in November. For information or special requests, email Mobile.Library@mountainview.gov or call 526-7029.



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.

Community Shuttle contract renewed

Google will continue to pay for the city's free community shuttle through 2019. It's a convenient way to visit many destinations around town, and offers free Wi-Fi, comfortable seating, and a system for tracking the shuttles' whereabouts. All stops, including those on Rengstorff at Montecito/Jewel, are marked with signs. Schedules and maps for both the clockwise Gray and the counterclockwise Red routes are at mvcommunityshuttle.com.

Google bikes

If you see a multicolor Google bike where it probably shouldn't be, please email its location and the time spotted to Lost Gbike at lostgbike@google.com so it can be retrieved. Google prefers email but you can also call 214-9003. *Editors note: I updated my speed dial to the new number and used it during my next walk.*

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.

Prevent mail theft

For safety, deposit your outgoing mail a collection box. Pickup is actually later than — but never before — the times posted on the boxes: 11:00 a.m. for Alvin at Victory, and noon for Thompson at Laura.

Tee shirts are still available

Thirty-three Monta Loma tee shirts were bought at the Ice Cream Social, but some red shirts and gray shirts remain in all the styles listed at montaloma.org/monta-loma-tee-shirts-still-available. If you are interested in buying one, contact Marilyn at marilyn@gildea.com or 940-1606.




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BBQ tips (Michael is a Pitmaster for a cook-off team)

WANT TO BE IN THE KNOW?

Join your neighbors in receiving
our weekly email list that provides
you with the weeks worth of
real estate activity!

Go to: YourMontaLomaTeam.com
and click on 'join email list'



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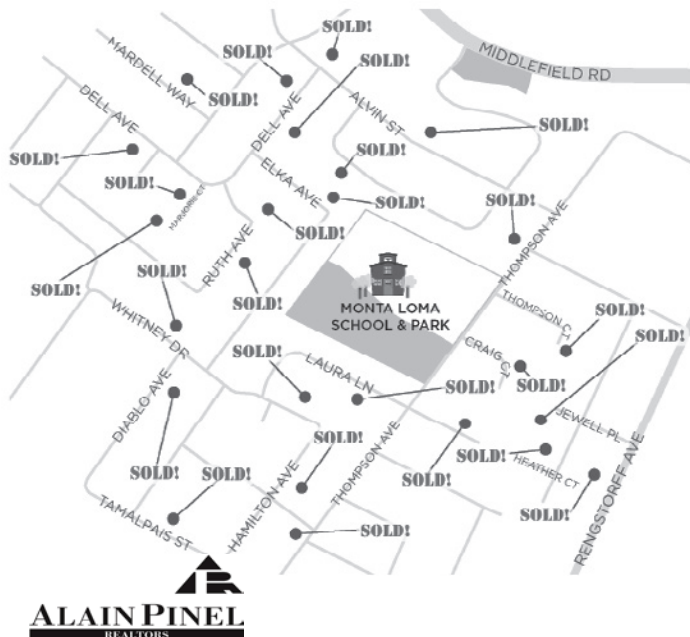
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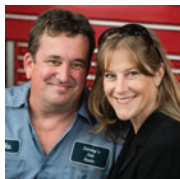
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