

2020 MONTA LOMA SUMMER Ice cream trucks, fruit and veggie swaps, and working together to help others keep us going strong.

The summer of 2020 is not what most of us had planned, but here in Monta Loma we've seen neighbors organizing ways to help others get through this unexpectedly challenging time. In this issue you will find stories of our residents' efforts to give back to communities in need. We applaud the time and energy it takes to lead this work, and we value the neighbors who contribute in their own ways, large or small.

A Builder's Legacy–Homeownership Open to All

By Heather Schoell, Editor

When deciding on which neighborhood to live in, we consider the house size and features, the schools, the prices, and maybe even the architectural style, but do we also consider the social history? Recently, Dwell Magazine published an article that is worthy of reflection as it relates to one of the builders of the Monta Loma Neighborhood, Joseph Eichler. They reported a different angle of his story; beyond the story of making modern single-family homes affordable for middle-class Americans, we learn how he believed if buyers qualified, they should be sold a home, no matter their race, ethnicity, or religion.

After Eichler sold his first home to a black man, Franklin Williams, a civil rights activist, NAACP lawyer, and state assistant attorney general, Eichler became involved in advocating for fair housing practices. In 1960, Eichler testified before the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights to demonstrate that integrated housing practices are good business practices. He also helped write California's fair



housing laws, and consulted with the federal Housing and Home Finance agency and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Here in Monta Loma, it is clear by the signs for social justice placed in front yards that residents believe in fair treatment for all. Eichler's important legacy of open acceptance and willingness to take social risks, placing the dream of others to own a home before his concern for his own business, ultimately benefited all parties involved. May all Monta Lomans remember this as we live in or drive down the streets of homes built by Mr. Eichler. To read the referenced article, visit tinyurl.com/eichler-dwell

If you're interested in more history of Monta Loma, check out the History tab of our website. There you can learn more about the Ohlone lands that Monta Loma sits upon as well as read about how neighbors came together to build Thaddeus Park despite the reluctance of the City.

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An Eichler homeowner shows their support for social justice.

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Illustrations/Photos If interested in contributing, please e-mail the editor for content ideas. Submissions for relevant cartoons also welcome.

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MEET YOUR MONTA LOMA BOARD MEMBERS



Tricia DelGaudio, President, has lived in Monta Loma for 3 years. She, her husband, and elder son moved from New York City, seeking a forever home to enjoy 265 days of sunshine and pursue careers. You will find her swapping fruit with her neighbors and chalking up the sidewalks with her kids in front of her home.

Chris Williams, First Vice President, moved to Monta Loma 4 years ago. She and her husband chose the neighborhood because of the strong community feeling that was apparent even during the open house. She now has a 2-year-old daughter who enjoys exploring the neighborhood to find every interesting decoration possible.





Nirvana Nwikidu, Second Vice President, moved to Monta Loma in 2002, and lives here with her husband and 3 kids. One of the attractions was the architecture of the homes, but she also felt a sense of community in how the neighbors were helpful and friendly to her then-young family. She knew this was a place where she wanted to be an involved resident, and soon joined CERT, and later the MLNA Board. She

enjoys conversations with her neighbors and others in the community. She also loves gardening, and enjoys helping and sharing gardening tips, and organizing events for her street. She cherishes the friendships and connections formed here over these past years.

Andre Valente, Treasurer, has lived in Monta Loma for nine years and has been the MLNA Treasurer for six. He also helps run the MLNA online services (site, lists, emails). He's more introverted, but you might have met his wife, Karla, who has been active in many neighborhood activities including the Progressive Dinner, the Garden Club, and setting up the Little Free Library on the corner of Fay and Jewell. Andre feels very lucky to have found Monta Loma.





Baidra Murphy, Secretary, is a life-long resident of the Bay Area and has been in Monta Loma for 14 years. She truly believes it is a special neighborhood. She has one child at Los Altos High School, and she works in Los Altos as a real estate broker. She earned her BFA in photography, loves to knit with our knitting group, and is an avid genealogist. She thanks you for making Monta Loma a special place to call home.

Heather Schoell, Newsletter Editor, has lived in Monta Loma for 10 years, having first discovered the neighborhood with her husband due to their interest in modern design and construction. You will meet her and her 2 girls and dog, Zinnia, walking around the neighborhood checking every little free library for new books.





Marilyn Gildea, Member-at-Large, moved from a second-floor condo in Tahoe to an Eichler so she wouldn't have to move again until she is wheeled out. Two years after her arrival, she became the newsletter editor in from 2004 until 2019. She also helps organize many MLNA events. As the longestserving member, she is the Board's institutional memory.

Neighbors Give Back with Food Drives and Donations

In early June, Jenny Schroder proposed holding a neighborhood food drive to benefit the food bank at the Community Services Agency (CSA). The neighborhood response was enthusiastic, and on the designated morning, at least ten neighbors (including teens and youngsters) helped collect the bags and boxes set out on driveways.

The 2,316 pounds of canned/dry food plus 30 pounds of fresh fruit collected completely filled the two vehicles that delivered it to CSA.

Many neighbors expressed their appreciation to Jenny for her initiative. Upon printing of this newsletter, she will have also have completed a second food drive.

Mardell resident Caroline Chan has been coordinating regular produce deliveries to the Los Altos School District where she works. She donates excess produce and other staples that neighbors drop off at her door to the ongoing effort that helps under served families struggling with food insecurity. The families are given the extra food when they come to pick up the free lunches at their school.



The CSA will accept monetary or food donations any time, as well as urgently needing volunteers during this coronavirus crisis. Read more at csacares.org.



Clockwise from top: Caroline Chan and a produce collection, full car load bound for CSA, Jenny Schroder's June collection for CSA.

Gear up for Sun in MLN!

Enjoy summer in Monta Loma by putting on your hat and heading out for a walk. Stock up on Monta Loma gear including mugs, hats, frisbees, and pens. See them at montaloma. org/mln-logo-items and contact Tricia at president@montaloma.org to buy. If a t-shirt is on your wish list, check out the offerings at montaloma.org/monta-loma-tee-shirts-stillavailable, and contact Marilyn at marilyn@gildea.com or 650-940-1606 to buy.



Neighborhood Resources

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Tim Slattery, (650) 964-6389 CERT@montaloma.org

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Tom Purcell, (650) 224-5110 MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com

Traffic/Parking Liaison

John Canata, (650) 269-5646 trafficliaison@montaloma.org

MLN Neighborhood E-mail List

List owner: Peggy Manor To join: mamm@pobox.com

To join the Announcements-Only list, go to montaloma.org/mlna and click on MLNA E-mail Lists.

MLNA Websites

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



Thanks to those who delivered the last newsletter: Linda Powers, Apollinaris Schoell, Vickie Lee, Cheryl Smith, Heather Cowper, Andy Coe, Ivy Lu, Silke Gurlich, Maria Harnoto, Diane McCleary, Jim & Alice Cochran, Paul Kostka, Julie Baher, Shelly Ostman, Chuck & Cookie Henderson, Herb & Victoria Perry, Martha Elderon, Grant & Birgit Grundler, Isabella Hill, Leane Reelfs.

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.

New Bike? Old Bike? Just Register it!

It seems like cycling is more popular than ever these days so Tom Purcell is making a push to secure the neighborhood velocipedes. He's making an effort to distribute as many stickers to Monta Loma residents for DIY registration.

A bike of any value should be registered. Police departments direct people to bikeindex.org, a non-profit online

bike registry. The bikeindex site offers easy, step-by-step instructions for registration and provides a QR sticker to place on the bike. If the bike is found, anyone with a smart phone can quickly determine whether it has been reported as stolen, and reunite the bike with its owner.

Here is the step by step process:

- 1. Record the bike's Make, Model, Color, Serial Number.
- 2. Create an account at bikeindex.org and register.
- Contact Tom at MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com to get a sticker. If you send your address and how many stickers you need he will drop it off in your mail slot.
- 4. Log onto your bikeindex account on your smartphone and then scan the QR code.
- 5. At the url encoded by the sticker, you can click a link to register the sticker to a specific bike.

The MLNA has generously purchased a supply of



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the QR stickers.

so they can be

offered free to

place one on their

If you would like

some help, or to

ioin our Monta

Loma bikeindex

account, contact

Tom at MontaLo-

maNBC@gmail. com and he will

help you through

the process.

any residents who would like to

bike(s).

Neighborhoods Committee Awards Grant to MLNA

By Marilyn Gildea

The city's Neighborhood Grant Program provides annual grants "to help resident-based groups carry out programs and activities designed to improve participation and neighborhood conditions." The Council Neighborhoods Committee members again awarded the MLNA the full grant amount, \$2,000.

In the past the grant has help pay for block parties and the Ice Cream Social. Although social activities are restricted this year, the CNC urges neighborhood associations to spend the grant money. Residents with ideas for safe, socially distant, neighborhood activities or other ways to keep us all connected and show neighborhood pride, please reach out to the Board. We receive the funds after MLNA Treasurer Andre Valente submits original receipts.



Neighbors enjoyed greeting each other from a safe distance during our summer evening "Neighborhood Waves." Photos: Carmen Enciso-Steinberg and Tricia DelGaudio



November 3 Election; Can You Vote?

You can check your registration at tinyurl.com/ckvtreg or 1-866-430-8683 toll free. If you need to update your registration, you can do it online at registertovote.ca.gov. The registration deadline is Monday, October 19. All registered voters will receive a mail-in ballot.

Voting is more important than ever this year, but COVID-19 restrictions will make voting in person more

difficult. We are all strongly encouraged to vote by mail.

Be an Informed Voter

To help you decide among the candidates running for local offices, their websites and (probably virtual) public forums will be posted at montaloma.org after the filing deadline in mid-August. The web page will be kept updated and notices sent to the MLN e-mail list and NextDoor.



Photo: Pearl Kruss

Neighborhood Clubs & Activities

Knitting Group

The Monta Loma Knitting group continues to meet monthly, and this past month they met by Zoom. Whether you knit, crochet, or enjoy another handcraft, all are welcome to join. Contact Ann Togasaki at ann.togasaki@gmail.com to join the group's e-mail list.



Garden Club

Currently not meeting due to S.I.P requirements, but actively exchanging information. If you are interested in joining, write to Karla Valente at klvalente@yahoo.com.

CERT is Staying Ready for Action and is Open to New Members

By Tim Slattery, CERT Leader

Like everyone else in the neighborhood, CERT members are trying to follow the guidelines of sheltering in place, social distancing, and taking appropriate precautions when out in public. There has been little we can do that is within our CERT training. Many of our members are helping in other ways outside the CERT organization, and we all are trying to maintain our readiness for any of the kind of emergencies CERT is trained for.

At this time the City has suspended all CERT classes, for the year. Some of the refresher courses scheduled after September are still on the books in hopes that we will be able find a safe way to hold those classes.

Monta Loma CERT is always looking to welcome new members. It is not necessary to take the training before joining. At this time it we can only add new members to our mailing list, and give them access to our training documents, but every bit of preparation will help if we do have an event that requires CERT. If you would like to join us contact Tim Slattery at: CERT@montaloma.org



Residents look forward to regular visits by the Mr. Softee ice cream truck on most Thursdays at Monta Loma School. Photo: Shannon Baidee



Photos: Cathy Blake



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Keeping Monta Loma Clean and Green

Walkable Sidewalks:

- Please trim shrubs back to the full width of the sidewalk and to a height of seven feet, as req'd by city code.
- Keep sidewalks clear of fallen leaves, especially after rain for the safety of pedestrians.
- Please keep weeds under control, especially those nasty foxtails that get into our pets' toes, ears, and noses. Sweep sidewalks after mowing weeds.

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. This is especially important in fall with dropping tree debris.
- Cars should be moved by 6:00 a.m.
- Upcoming street sweeping dates: 8/27, 9/10, 9/24, 10/8, 10/22, 11/12.
- If you have tenants who park on the street, please keep them informed of dates as well.

Dogs:

- Always pick up dog messes deposited at the Monta Loma Park fields. Dogs will not be allowed on fields when school is back in session.
- Pick up droppings from yards.
- 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.

What goes in which bin: Visit mvrecycle.org

Repair Cafe:

• The Repair Café has successfully gone virtual. To learn about upcoming events, join its mailing list e-mail at RepairCafeMV@gmail.com.

Moving out? Go to HHW.org or call (408) 299-7300 for a list of household hazardous waste collection options. Note: Hazardous waste drop-off is currently closed.

Moving in? If you found unwanted household chemicals in your new house, visit or call HHW to find nearby household hazardous waste drop-off locations.

For Your New Neighbors

Look for the "New to Monta Loma?" link under MLNA at montaloma.org, or share a copy of this newsletter with your new neighbors.

Waldorf School Garden Welcomes Neighbors

If you have walked through the corner of Palmer and Lida, you have probably stumbled across a verdant oasis behind the Waldorf School of the Peninsula. This garden is home to Stanley and Pepper, two chickens, as well as a variety of garden plants.

Ayzin Uluag is the Gardening and Visual Arts teacher at the school, and she has welcomed a few neighbors to also help care for the space while the school is closed and operating remotely. She mentioned that the chickens are currently molting, so please do not be alarmed if you see many feathers on the ground in the area. She also asks that visitors please do not pick the fruits and veggies, as these are shared with the hardworking staff and volunteers.

If anyone would like to help out either with the chickens or in the garden, please contact Ayzin for more information at ayzin.uludag@waldorfpeninsula.org.



Photo: Tricia DelGaudio

Meet the People who Run Your City in October

Every other year, three city council members plus the heads of most city departments (including Police and Streets/Parking/Traffic) update us on their plans and respond to our questions. This year's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 29, 7 p.m., and will probably be held virtually. Mark your calendar now and bring your concerns to the people who run our city.

Traffic & Parking Resources

By John Canata, MLNA Traffic and Parking Liaison

- A few contacts for your reference:
- Abandoned vehicle (more than 3 days): call (650) 903-6358.
- Police enforcement at a specific intersection: call (650) 903-6146.
- Other traffic related concerns: e-mail trafficliaison@montaloma.org

HELPFUL, HEALTHY TIPS FROM YOUR NEIGHBORS

Healthy Car Tips

By Leane Reelfs, The Car Gal at Helming's Automotive



With the shelter-in-place, we are all doing a lot more sitting than we normally do, and that creates all kind of aches and pains. Well, our cars have been sitting a lot and that creates problems, too.

At the shop, we have been getting

calls from customers that their car won't start, the battery died. So they get it jump-started or towed in and we put it on the charger and then perform a load test to see how the battery measures up. 80% of the time we are seeing that the batteries are okay, the car just needs to be

driven more frequently. Here are some tips:

- Take your car out for a half hour drive once a week to allow the alternator to recharge the battery
- Driving also get those tires rolling, so they don't get a flat side from sitting
- Roll down and up all the windows so that the rubber trim doesn't stick to the window
- Use a broom to remove some of the cobwebs. Spiders like to make webs in the window drains and in other cracks and crevices that can cause blockages
- Lift the hood to make sure rodents haven't made a nest in there. If you have rodent droppings, give us a call

You want your car to work when you need it to, so follow these tips and you should be in good shape. If you have any questions, shoot me an e-mail at helmingsauto@comcast.net.



To give neighbors some fun, exercise, and fresh air, ballet school owner and ballerina, Rima Chaeff led her neighbors on Alvin Street in an introductory ballet class on the street. The class had to pause occasionally as a car drove through, but the neighbors had fun, young and old alike, and even learned some fancy footwork from the Nutcracker.

Photo: ZinZin Lee

A thoughtful neighbor installed foot pedals on our neighborhood mailboxes to allow neighbors to open the mailbox without having to touch the handle during this coronavirus crisis.



Photo: Carolyn Siegel

Keep Moving when Working from Home

By Dr. Ian Johnson D.C., Walking Doc Chiropractic

Since we are into our 5th month of lock down here in Monta Loma, and many of you have adapted to working from home; as a practicing chiropractor, I would like to give everyone a PSA about your health. I've had several new patients present with persistent lower leg pain after working from home for the past couple of months and three of them came back positive for DVT's. If you've been working from home and sitting for longer than usual and you've also been having persistent lower leg pain you may want to consider going to a doctor and getting it checked out. All three patients survived, but this is more than I saw in all of 2018 and 2019 combined.

DVT's or deep vein thrombosis, is a blood clot that forms in the deep venous system, most commonly in the calves of people who are sedentary. It feels like an intense cramp, as though you had completed a very rigorous hike the day prior but in the absence of any such physical activity. To reduce your risk of a DVT make sure you take regular breaks while working from home to walk around. While you are sitting periodically flex your calves and push yourself up onto the balls of your feet, lifting your heels off the ground. Doing these two simple things helps to push pooling blood in the lower extremities back to the heart, and reduces the chances of a DVT forming. If you think you may have a DVT take a piece of theraband, bandana, or scarf and tie it firmly around your thigh and walk around for a couple of minutes. If the pain in your calf increases sharply then make your way to the ER or your doctor's office and inform them that you suspect you have a DVT and they will take the appropriate steps from there.

NEIGHBORHOOD GOODIES & GALLERY



Alan's Mom's Fruit Crisp

(Original Recipe)

Put cut fruit in square glass pan or pie pan. (Leave peels on and cut small if you like)

Topping

2/3 cup brown sugar, or less depending on sweetness of fruit
1/2 cup flour
3/4 teaspoon cinnamon
3/4 teaspoon nutmeg
1/3 cup soft butter
Mix in 1/2 cup rolled oats
Sprinkle mixture on top of fruit
Bake at 375° for 30-35 minutes



Quarantine wildlife spotting on Alvin Street by Jo Chun Wood—a turkey and a rabbit.



By Leila, Age 10



Bowl by Violet, age 8



Pac Man Ghost Hunt by Henry, age 8

DISCOVER YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WITH BINGO!



Purple flower found by Geri on Thompson



Redwood tree found by Lauren Wunderlich



Vintage Car found by Tanya Ngo



Pink Flamingos found by Lily Rosenman

Play Neighborhood Bingo. Share some Photos. Win Some Swag.

- Use the bingo card as you walk around the neighborhood.
- Take photos of the things you find.
- Get BINGO (5 in a row).
- E-mail five of the best photos* with a pic of your completed card to newsletter@montaloma.org.
- Get a Monta Loma frisbee for some socially distant park fun.**

*By sharing your photos with us, you are allowing us to post on social media, the MLN website and in the newsletter. **While quantities last.

Delivery truck	Deer in a yard	Fairy garden	House with an orange door	Pinwheel
Bee	Tree with fruit on It	Chicken (real or sculpture)	Rose in bloom	Painted rocks
Yard art	2 bikers	FREE	Cat on a walk	SCHOOL BUS
Sign supporting social justice	House with a green door	Pig	lce cream truck	Tomato plant
Yellow flower	Bench	RV or camping tailer	Poem	Wild animal

We will get through this together!

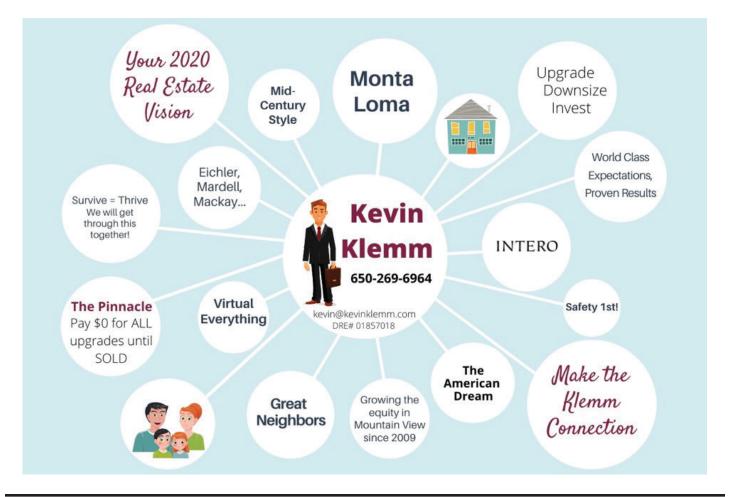
The Troyer Group has adapted to the 'new normal' so that we can safely help *everyone* achieve their real estate dreams.

Your home is where our heart is.

INTERO

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Please remember we are always here for all of your real estate needs...

We have a variety of tried & true tradespeople, for example: electrician, hardwood floor refinishing, painting, and many more!

Curious as to the current value of your home?

Refinance/Lender Referrals

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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