

MONTA LOMA NEWS



Monta Loma Neighborhood Ice Cream Social

¡Vengan todos a conocer y platicar con sus vecinos y amigos!
Come and meet your neighbors while enjoying free ice cream.

Sunday, August 27, 3 to 5 p.m.

Monta Loma Park

Help is needed! See request for volunteers below.

Some of the many things to see and do at the Ice Cream Social (ICS)

- Visit the MLNA welcome table first and sign in. (Our insurance requires it.)
- Write your name and street on a nametag so your neighbors can meet you.
- Visit the ice cream toppings table for add-ons to enhance your ice cream.
- Buy a Monta Loma tee shirt.
- Stop by the PTA table to learn what is new at our school.
- Donate stuffed animals to the Animals Beacons of Light (p. 2)
- Visit our Community Emergency Response Team's (CERT) display. Sign up.
- Ask Gary the Balloon Man to make you a very cool hat.
- Meet members of our police department.
- Contribute some local lore or artifacts at the Monta Loma History table.
- Look for the MVFD (if they're not on a call) and the bookmobile.

Please Volunteer for the Ice Cream Social

It takes many people to make the ICS a success, so please volunteer. Contact Ann Togasaki at eventcoordinator@montaloma.org or 691-5258.

These are just some of the ways to help:

- Volunteer your folding tables.
- Pick up and return folding tables.
- Help set up and take down tables.
- Bring trash barrels and/or chairs.
- Take a shift scooping ice cream.
- Take a shift at the MLNA Welcome table.
- Take a shift at another table.
- Organize a simple craft project for kids — we have supplies.



Tee Shirt Order — **Deadline is Monday**

The once-a-year tee shirt order goes in on Tuesday morning. See the choices at www.montaloma.org/shirts.

To get the size, color, and style you want, order online or contact Marilyn (marilyn@gildea.com or 940-1606)

by 5 p.m. on Monday, August 14.


MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

August 14: School begins; traffic times on page 3

October 27: Fall Festival at the school (p. 3)

December 2: Holiday Progressive Dinner (p. 5)

The Monta Loma neighborhood is bordered by San Antonio, West Middlefield, Rengstorff and Central Expressway

<p align="center">MLNA Board Members</p> <p> <i>Phone messages: 691-5258</i></p>
<p>President Jill Rakestraw president@montaloma.org</p>
<p>First Vice President Ann Togasaki vp1@montaloma.org</p>
<p>Second Vice President Mary Partlan vp2@montaloma.org</p>
<p>Treasurer Andre Valente treasurer@montaloma.org</p>
<p>Secretary Linda Harvey secretary@montaloma.org</p>
<p>Newsletter Editor Marilyn Gildea newsletter@montaloma.org</p>
<p>Member-at-Large Baidra Murphy member-at-large@montaloma.org</p>

Area code is 650 unless otherwise specified.

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The MLNA is **40** Years Old *by Marilyn Gildea*

Records indicate that the Monta Loma Neighborhood Association was organized in 1977, so we are looking for ways to observe its fortieth anniversary. One suggestion is to add a special sticker to the name tags of attendees at Ice Cream Social who were living in Monta Loma then. If you are a 40-year resident, mention it to the staff at the welcome table.

Another suggestion is to list the names of our 40-year residents in the next newsletter (with their permission, of course). If you are, or know, one of these, or have other ideas about how we can celebrate this anniversary, please contact me at marilyn@gildea.com or 940-1606.

Jim and Alice Cochran on Thaddeus have a copy of the “Interested in meeting further” sign-up list dated June 1977. More than 90 residents signed its five pages at what we think was the first MLNA meeting. Tom Purcell will have a copy of the list at the history table at the Ice Cream Social, but if you’d like to see it before then, contact the Cochrans at jimcoch@comcast.net or 968-9049.

Do you have items to contribute to our collection of Monta Loma history? If so, you can bring them to the Monta Loma History table at the Ice Cream Social or contact Tom Purcell at dollarbin@gmail.com or 224 -5110.

More Ice Cream Social!

Donate Stuffed Animals at the Ice Cream Social *by Jenise Dormann*

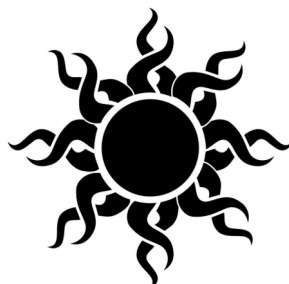
The Animal Beacons of Light project gathers stuffed animals, freshens them, and gifts them to children around the world who appreciate something to cuddle. Bring your donations, labeled with your name, to the Ice Cream Social.

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/Donations. Questions? Contact Jenise at animalbeaconsoflight@gmail.com or 954-8443.

Mobile Library to Visit the Ice Cream Social

Cody and Diana, the bookmobile’s crew, had such an enthusiastic welcome at the Spring Fling that they plan to bring the bookmobile to the Ice Cream Social.

They will continue to stop at Monta Loma School every Friday from 4:15 to 5:00 pm, and also on Jane at Fay on these Fridays: Sept. 1 and 29 and Oct. 27 from 9:45 to 10:15 am. For more information or special requests, email Mobile.Library@mountainview.gov or call 526-7029.



Solar Eclipse — Watch It Here

Weather permitting, Dotty Calabrese will set up a telescope with a solar-safe filter on the sidewalk at Thaddeus Park for the partial solar eclipse on **August 21**. All are welcome to view beginning at 9 a.m., but children must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Maximum obscuration, about 75%, is at 10:15 am.

◆ ◆ ◆ School News ◆ ◆ ◆

Monta Loma School Traffic Alert

Classes begin on Monday, August 14, so 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.

Expect heavy traffic on the 1st day as most parents come early and stay for part of the morning. It will be a minimum day, with all students released at 12:30.

Monta Loma School Update

by Gloria Higgins, Monta Loma School Principal

Monta Loma School is proud to be part of such a wonderful neighborhood. We appreciate all you do to support our students and the community. We are especially grateful for your patience as we undergo modernization.

We have many opportunities for those of you interested in getting involved or learning more about Monta Loma School. I will host several Principal's Coffees throughout the year, and I encourage all parents, including future parents, to join us. You can find the times at montaloma.mvwsd.org.

We are grateful for all our volunteers, parents or neighbors alike, who support our after-school programs, tend our gardens, or keep us safe through CERT activities. I hope you'll introduce yourself at the Ice Cream Social. I'd love to thank you in person.

Monta Loma School Fall Festival Friday, Oct. 27

Bring your children and grandchildren to Monta Loma Park on Friday, October 27, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. to play games, eat yummy treats, and raise money for our school at this annual fundraising event.

New Knitting Group in Monta Loma *by Ann Togasaki, 1st Vice President*

In June I started a knitting group and have met some wonderful neighbors. It's a very casual gathering and a nice way to meet talented and interesting neighbors in a relaxed setting. Six people attended our first session, and quite a few more expressed interest. Some have embraced an opportunity to knit items for the homeless.

We plan to meet monthly with whoever can make it on that evening, currently a Thursday. Anyone is welcome to join the group at any time. You don't have to knit; several members will crochet or weave. Our next meeting is on August 24. If you would like to be on our email list, contact me at ann.togasaki@gmail.com.

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.

To help in a classroom or the school gardens, or at events, contact montalomapta@gmail.com or 903-6915.

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/Park Boundaries

The blue signs reading "Public use of school grounds is not allowed during school hours M-F 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM" were requested by school parents due to ongoing problems with dogs on campus during the school day. The entire playing field and baseball area are school property, with the paved path the boundary. The playground on the south side of the park (nearest to Laura) is open to the public, as well as the space outside the paved path.

Neighborhood Resources

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Tim Slattery, 964-6389
CERT@montaloma.org

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Contact: Tom Purcell, 224-5110
MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com

Preschooler Network

Darcy Koch
preschooler@montaloma.org

MLN Neighborhood Email List

mln@yahoo.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 May newsletter: John Canata, Vannina Champenois, Jim & Alice Cochran, Martha Elderon, Harry Gordon, Birgit Grundler, Maria Harnoto, Marianna Harvey, Chuck & Cookie Henderson, Paul Kostka, Vickie Lee, Shelly Ostman, Herb & Victoria Perry, Leane Reelfs, Tom & Sarah Tidwell, Pat Young, Jen Wakefield, and Raymond White.

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 Meeting and Board Election Report

Approximately 35 residents attended the meeting on May 31 in the community room at 250 Mayfield. MLNA President Jill Rakestraw introduced the board candidates, and paid tribute to Alice Hazelgrove. Alice explained the Little Free Library program and her story hours, urging that someone continue the story hours.

Jill showed a slide of the past year's activities and their numbers: welcome packets handed out (27), block parties (13), Ice Cream Social attendees (300), Spring Fling attendees (200), and progressive dinner participants (36). She also gave an update on her conversations with Dan Della Maggiora, her contact at Google. (See separate article at right.)

Cynthia Palacio, the city's Solid Waste & Recycling Senior Analyst, explained the city's food-scrap recycling program that would begin in July. (See separate article.)

John Canata and Alice Hazelgrove served as the nominating committee for the board election, and John and Natalie Canata comprised the election committee and collected the ballots. The new board members are listed on page 2.

Monta Loma Survey Results

by Ann Togasaki, MLNA 1st Vice President

As promised at the annual meeting, in early June the MLNA Board sent a survey to our neighborhood via the mln email list. We solicited opinions about our neighborhood association and asked for suggestions for possible changes. The board members were pleased to read the many comments and suggestions among the 79 responses. We will share our learnings and actions through the newsletter and updates on the email groups.

Responses to "How long in Monta Loma?" varied from 8 months to 51 years. The average of 20 years indicates that we live in a neighborhood in which residents want to stay. We hope to keep it that way, and your feedback (below) will help achieve that. Thanks for your patience as we work through and address the feedback and responses.

1. Short-term rental units: Many residents have concerns that short-term rental units have a negative impact in the neighborhood. At the June meeting of the city's Neighborhoods Committee attended by several MLNA board members, a city council member listed this as one of the city's top priorities.

2. Newsletter: The newsletter was voted the most popular means of communication, with the mln email list next, and Nextdoor.com third. Several people requested that the newsletter be posted online. The Board is working on posting the newsletter on the montaloma.org website, but we first need to remove phone numbers and other private content. Someone suggested having the ability to opt out of the paper newsletter. Because the newsletter is delivered by volunteers, this could be difficult, but contact the editor to request it.

3. Other feedback included email list management, traffic issues, and Google-relationship updates.

Google Report *by Jill Rakestraw, MLNA President*

This is an expansion of my report at the annual meeting. To clarify, the site on Mayfield Avenue is known as Rails and is its own entity as part of Google's parent company Alphabet's X division. Most of what happens there is confidential and not known to other Google employees and even other X employees.

The company owns and controls not only the connect-or road, but all of Nita out to San Antonio and all of Mayfield until the turn at Whitney. None of that is city property.

Employment has reached full capacity and parking at the site is becoming impacted. Employees are reminded that they can't park in the neighborhood. Non-employee vehicles parked on the site (i.e., while owners take the train) are being tracked and towed.

The buildings run 24/7 because of world-wide projects that require various work shifts. Interior lights have been reprogrammed to reduce light leakage, but blackout blinds will not be installed. Parking lot lighting is dimmed.

Sound abatement is ongoing. Changes are being made to the exhaust fans and a roof is being added. All deliveries are now being made to the loading dock only during business hours. A security guard is instructing drivers not to deliver to the back area before 8:00 a.m. Signs will be installed prohibiting deliveries between 8:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. and offering alternative locations during off hours.

Neighbors will not be able to use the electric-vehicle chargers, but the parking lots are available during off hours for overflow parking by residents by request. Make requests through me for now.

They are working on a plan to open the basketball courts and sand-volleyball pits to residents on weekends.

City-Wide CERT Drill Reveals Inadequacies

by Tim Slattery, Monta Loma's CERT Leader

Having other CERT teams join ours during the city-wide drill in April showed us some things that were inadequate for the larger response. As a result, we have redesigned our registration and tracking procedures to be better prepared if an incident becomes large.

We encourage you to take the city's free CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) course, whether or not you join our neighborhood group. **The next series begins September 7** but don't wait to register; the June class filled early. A link to info is at montaloma.org/mlna/cert/.

You can meet our CERT members at the Ice Cream Social and at any of our 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 September 9 and October 14. Questions? Contact me at tim_slattery@usa.net or 964-6389.

Progressive Dinner Planned for December 2

Our annual Holiday Progressive Potluck Dinner is a great way to meet neighbors while enjoying wonderful food and contributing to Second Harvest Food Bank. Note that this year's event is on Saturday evening, December 2. Details in November newsletter.

Food-Scraps Recycling Has Begun The food-scraps program for residents with curbside service began in July with the delivery of a kitchen pail with information brochures and a starter supply of compostable bags. Food scraps (including food-soiled paper) now go in the yard trimmings cart (now called the compost cart), which will be picked up weekly.

Most grocery stores have compostable bags. We are advised to buy only what we need short-term, lest they begin to decompose before use. From montaloma.org/resources go to more details at mountainview.gov/foodscraps.

Janine from the recycling program will answer questions and offer information handouts at the Ice Cream Social. Unwanted, unused pails may be dropped off before then at 2418 Thaddeus for return to the City.

Monta Loma Safeway Opens to Rave Reviews

A request to the mln email list for opinions on the new store in Monta Loma Plaza garnered many quick responses. A summary: The variety is HUGE. I even got flowers and an anniversary card for my inlaws. I love having a store so close. ♦ The clerks are bending over backwards to welcome people. ♦ They did a nice job of fixing up the space; everything is clean and modern. The deli case and meat case are really nice. ♦ The staff is super friendly and lines always go FAST! ♦ The employees have all been very helpful, and checkout has been very easy. ♦ I will shop at this Safeway before any others. ♦ We ran out of enchilada sauce while cooking so I rode over on my bike and came back with a can in less than 10 minutes. It's also been fun meeting more neighbors as we walk to the store — great for community building. ♦ If we want to keep this Safeway store open and staffed the way it is now, we all need to support it.

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Block Parties: Is Yours Scheduled?

At press time five parties had been held or scheduled. If you haven't yet planned your party, the after-summer-vacation season is a good time to hold it. A block party is great way to meet your neighbors, build the friendships that help keep our neighborhood safe, and compile a list of contact information to share. To promote these goals, the MLNA will help pay for your party.

For how-to information, go to montaloma.org and click on Block Parties under Events. Find "printable version" at the bottom of the page. Note that to block off a street you must obtain a permit. Allow 30 days for it to be processed.

To borrow and return orange safety cones and Road Closed signs, contact John Thomas at johnt589@comcast.net.

Our Neighborhood Watch Captain, Tom Purcell on Alvin, would be happy to attend your party. Contact Tom at MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com or 224-5110. To invite a police officer to stop by, request it on your permit application.

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MONTA LOMA RESIDENT SINCE 2004

Even in this strong sellers' market which we are currently enjoying, one of the most important decisions you can make is which realtor you choose to represent you. As real estate agents, we don't just sell your house, we sell the neighborhood, so it's important as a home seller to choose an agent with local market knowledge and expertise. An open house is a great opportunity for your agent to answer specific questions and concerns from potential buyers, to talk up your home and our wonderful Monta Loma area – from our neighborhood email list and website, to the activities at the school, and the short commute to trains, shops and restaurants. Generating lots of interest at this time can result in more offers for the seller and a higher sales price.

If you're thinking of selling, now is the time to get planning. Please contact me for a free market analysis or home preparation advice.



JOAN SWEETMAN

650-917-5807

jsweetman@cbnorcal.com

CalBre 01323814



Neighborhoods Committee Awards City Grant to MLNA

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."

At the June 15 Neighborhoods Committee meeting, MLNA board members Linda Harvey, Marilyn Gildea, Jill Rakestraw, and Ann Togasaki were gratified to learn that the MLNA was again awarded \$1,700. We receive the funds when MLNA Treasurer Andre Valente submits original receipts for our block parties, Spring Fling, and Ice Cream Social.

In her report to the neighborhood-association representatives, Committee Chair and Council Member



Lisa Matichak listed the city's priorities.

One of the top items is short-term rentals such as Airbnb.

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How can I help you?



Nancy Adele Stuhr



BRE #00963170

Mountain View Neighborhood Specialist

650.575.8300

email: nancy@nancystuhr.com web: nancystuhr.com



Repair Café August 27

The next Repair Café is at the Adobe Building, 157 Moffett Blvd., on Sunday, August 27, 11:00 to 3:00. You'll have time to get your broken mixer repaired and still make the Ice Cream Social. Visit repaircafemv.org for information.

Google Bikes

Google bikes are intended for Google employees to travel around campus or from one campus to another. 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.

Peninsula Youth Theatre (PYT)

will hold auditions for ages 8 to 18 for *A Christmas Story: The Musical* on August 26 & 27. All who audition are cast. Go to pyt.net/auditions for info.

mln and Nextdoor.com Email Lists

A recent discussion concluded that both lists have their uses and many residents opt to receive the digest version of both. The mln list doesn't have ads and is moderated (by list owner Peggy Manor). You can learn about the mln list at montaloma.org/mlna/mln-email-lists. Nextdoor.com is a private social network that enables members to post messages to nearby neighborhoods, too, if they choose. Use "Email settings" to choose the types of messages you receive, such as urgent alerts and the Daily Digest.

Little Free Libraries Update

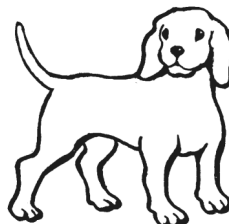
Alice Hazelgrove had planned to take her Little Free Library with her when she moved to Oregon to live near her 2-year-old granddaughter. But James Robinson and Megan Elmore, the new owners of Alice's house on Lassen, asked her to leave it and she did.

Exchange your no-longer-wanted books for some new reads there or at the LFLs on Dell and on Alvin. LFLs for children's books are on Fay and Hamilton.

Keeping Monta Loma Clean and Green

Walkable Sidewalks: If your greenery is hampering passersby pushing double-wide strollers, please trim it back, and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

Incontinent dogs should be walked in the gutter, not on sidewalks.



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

Hazardous waste: Visit hhw.org or call 408-299-7300 to make an appointment to drop off your household hazardous waste and e-waste. Drop off outdated medications at 2501 Embarcadero Way, Palo Alto. Go to paintcare.org/locator/ for stores accepting leftover paint. You might invite neighbors to help fill your trunk.

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We are trying new ideas in this and upcoming issues. Send your kudos, complaints and suggestions to the Layout Editor at vp2@montaloma.org



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