

MONTA LOMA NEWS



Tenth 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 2

Hosts and guests bring a potluck dish and their preferred beverage to share.

As before, this is a fundraising event for the Second Harvest Food Bank.

You must register in advance with your donation of \$25 per person. Space is limited,
so contact Karla Valente now at <dinner@montaloma.org> or 310-936-4639.

Note: The deadline for reservations and payment is Friday, November 17.

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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.

MLNA's *fortieth anniversary*

By Marilyn Gildea, newsletter editor

A fellow board member realized that 2017 is the fortieth anniversary of the Monta Loma Neighborhood Association when I brought a copy of a "Interested in meeting further" sign-up list dated June 1977 to a board meeting. I had found the list in the file that Rich Hendrickson's daughter, Jen Mills, had given me ten years ago. Rich was MLNA vice president in the late 1970s and the newsletter editor in the mid-1980s.

Newspaper clippings from December 1979 mention that the association's accomplishments included new traffic signals at Rengstorff and Central — after the death of MLNA co-founder Kathy Jensen when her car was hit by a train — and the city's approval of a pedestrian overpass linking Mayfield Mall (now Mayfield Avenue) with the Old Mill Shopping Center (now Showers Drive by the Caltrain station). A current concern was the scheduled closing of Monta Loma School in June 1980.

According to Alice Cochran, one of the MLNA's co-founders, ours was the first association of individual home owners and renters that wasn't a condo homeowners association (HOA).

To celebrate our 40th anniversary, former MLNA President Bill Cranston created 440 "Celebrating forty years" name-tag labels for the Ice Cream Social. We also offered gold-star stickers for the 40-year residents' name tags. There were enough of both left over to use at two block parties and for the progressive dinner.

We also collected names of those who have lived here for at least forty years; see page 5.

Monta Loma history articles on website

Several articles have been added to the History page. Look for History under Monta Loma at montaloma.org. Sandy Hastings is choosing items from Barbara Lugn's scrapbook of the MLNA's early history to be scanned and added to the History page. If you have some history to add, contact Marilyn at marilyn@gildea.com.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

November 11: CERT Second Saturday (p. 3)
December 2: Holiday Progressive Dinner (p. 1)
March 3: MLNA's Spring Fling (p. 2)

MLNA Board Members

Phone messages: 691-5258

President

Linda Harvey
president@montaloma.org

First Vice President

Ann Togasaki
vp1@montaloma.org

Second Vice President

Vacant

Treasurer

Andre Valente
treasurer@montaloma.org

Secretary

Baidra Murphy
secretary@montaloma.org

Newsletter Editor

Marilyn Gildea, 940-1606
newsletter@montaloma.org

Member-at-Large

Vacant

Area code is 650 unless
 otherwise specified.

MLNA Newsletter**Editor**

Marilyn Gildea, 940-1606
newsletter@montaloma.org

Advertising Manager

Sumanth Rajagopal, 967-9967
ads@montaloma.org

Layout

Deborah Mills
millsdesign@earthlink.net

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Board changes

MLNA President Jill Rakestraw has reluctantly resigned because of other commitments. Board Secretary Linda Harvey volunteered to take the president's role, which was approved by her fellow board members. Member-at-Large Baidra Murphy will fill the secretary position.

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 plan the MLNA's social events.

A few words from Linda Harvey

With great enthusiasm, I have taken on the role of MLNA board president after serving as secretary. I look forward to being more involved with all that our great Monta Loma neighborhood has to offer. I hope you will share with me the many joys of living here, including our social events: the Spring Fling, Ice Cream Social, block parties, and progressive dinner.

Thanks to the many neighbors who contribute their different interests and talents, we are very fortunate to have dedicated CERT members; a very active neighborhood email list; an informative website, reference wiki, and quarterly newsletter; and six little free libraries. I am excited to support them all!

Want more activities in Monta Loma?

One of the responses to the board's survey sent to the mln email list in June was this: "More opportunities for us to get to know neighbors beyond our immediate street. I would like to see event offerings that include bike safety for kids, volunteering and family-outing outreach tables, CPR training, a share-your-hobby event, a gardening-advice event, a young-families group, and matching those who need help with helpers."

If you wish to volunteer to help organize any of these projects, look for sign-up sheets on the tee-shirt table at the Spring Fling or contact Linda Harvey at president@montaloma.org or 691-5258.

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.

Spring Fling seeks exhibitors, entertainment for March 3

Mark your calendar now for Saturday morning, March 3. Spring Fling is our other big MLN social event. The purpose is to bring neighbors together to meet and chat, so plan to come, and also browse the PTA's used-book sale.

We're looking for entertainment and non-commercial exhibits such as displays of hobbies. Please contact any board member (see list on left) with offers or suggestions.

Repair Café December 3

Don't toss it, repair it. The next Repair Café is at the Adobe Building, 157 Moffett Boulevard, on Sunday, December 3, 11:00 to 3:00. Visit repaircafemv.org for information.

Knitting group in Monta Loma

By Ann Togasaki, MLNA First Vice President

The Monta Loma Knitting list has grown to 20 people. Different people are able to join us each month, so we meet new people and always have a great time. In August Dotty Calabrese hosted and gave us an extremely interesting tour of her weaving looms. Whether you knit, crochet, or bring another craft, all are welcome. We may skip November and December due to the holidays, but if you would like to be on our email list, contact me at ann.togasaki@gmail.com.



Flood danger here?

By Tim Slattery, Monta Loma CERT leader

Shortly after Hurricane Harvey, I was asked about flood danger in Monta Loma. Not being near a creek, our area does not have significant flood danger, but our CERT does practice severe-storm responses. Twice in the last three years the City asked all Mountain View CERTs to activate for major storms. (We did, but neither turned out to be serious threats.) If conditions look as though they could produce flood problems, we would work with the city Emergency Operations Center to help our neighborhood plan a response to specific conditions. Things we do now:

- The local ham emergency communications organization works with the City to provide watchers at the choke points of the major creeks.
- CERT has frequently had volunteers patrol the neighborhood during major storms watching for problems, primarily backed-up storm drains. We also activate our radio communications net to listen for problems within our neighborhood and in the rest of the City.

CERT is always looking for more volunteers to get involved. Contact me at tim_slattery@usa.net or 964-6389, or drop in on our Second Saturdays (November 11, December 9, January 13, and February 10) between 9 and 11 a.m. at our trailer on the north side of the school.

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 Thursday of November and December. Details are at tinyurl.com/swpng.

Low-hanging branches

By Marilyn Gildea

I often need to duck under low-hanging tree branches as I walk around the neighborhood. But whenever I ask a yard-maintenance man to trim the low branches of the street tree in front of the house he's working at, he refuses, saying, "I'm not allowed to; only the City can trim the trees."

That's a misunderstanding. Yes, only the City can **prune** your street tree, but city code requires that "sidewalks be clear of overhanging bushes, trees, and any garden materials, across the full width of the sidewalk to a height of at least seven feet." Please see that your sidewalk stays clear, and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

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/StrtreesQs 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.

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 August newsletter: John Canata, Vannina Champenois, Donna Clarke, Jim & Alice Cochran, Harry Gordon, Birgit Grundler, Maria Harnoto, Pat & Linda Harvey, Paul Kostka, Diane McCleary, Herb & Victoria Perry, John Partlan, Linda Powers, Kathy Slattery, Cheryl Smith, John Thomas, Tom & Sarah Tidwell, Jen Wakefield, 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.

Block parties were popular again

The eleven parties held this year included a first-in-years party for Thaddeus, Richard Court, and the 500 block of Emmons, held in Richard Court. Other parties were held for Lassen, Jane, Mardell, Benjamin, Anna, the 2300 block of Laura, Thompson Square, both blocks of Alvin, and Dell, Devri, Marcelyn, and Marjorie.

The organizers reported that both newcomers and long-timers appreciated the chance to get together, and everyone is looking forward to a repeat in 2018. The parties were again made safer by the orange traffic cones and Road Closed signs loaned out by CERT's John Thomas.



Ice Cream Social — another success

Thanks to everyone, the many volunteers as well as the 300+ attendees, who helped make this year's ICS another huge success. The manager of our new Monta Loma Safeway gave us a \$200 gift card for the ice cream and other supplies, and Bill Cranston donated special name-tag labels.

The bookmobile came early and stayed the entire time. The MVFD brought a fire engine for the second hour, and let kids practice using the smaller hose. Just before the engine crew left at 5:00, they shot off a huge jet of water that created a spectacular rainbow. Wouter Suverkropp and Grant Grundler offered rides in the walking robots' chariot and carriage. A link to photos is in the ICS article at montaloma.org.

Mountain View Trees members again answered questions about tree problems, and attendees could also learn about the new food-scrap recycling program, the Mountain View Educational Foundation, and the PTA. The Monta Loma History and Neighborhood Watch displays were popular once more, as was the CERT members' presentation of their emergency equipment. Animal Beacons of Light received many donations of stuffed animals, and 30 Monta Loma tee shirts were bought. Attractions for the children included Gizmo Gary's balloon creations, Gloria Jackson's cotton-candy machine, an obstacle course, face painting, and a crafts table.

MVPD Chief Max Bosel, City Council Member Lisa Matichak, and MVWSD Trustee Ellen Wheeler 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.



Eclipse viewing at Thaddeus Park

More than 70 neighbors responded to Doty Calabrese's invitation to view the Great American Eclipse in Thaddeus Park. Doty set up her telescope with a sun filter on August 21 so we could look directly at the sun. Tim Slattery and Ken Wallace also brought telescopes that projected the image. Doty's generous purchase of eclipse glasses proved to be not quite enough for all, but everyone was willing to share during what turned out to be a very festive neighborhood event. Visit montaloma.org/eclipse-viewing-in-thaddeus-park to see photos.

Annual Financial Report

By Andre Valente, MLNA Treasurer

We've had a very successful year. The city grant enabled us to hold 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 contribute to making this neighborhood such a wonderful place to live.

This is a very condensed statement, so contact me if you'd like more detail. Please patronize our advertisers; they make the newsletter possible.

MLNA	Withdrawals	Deposits
Beginning balance 7/1/2016		\$7,783.63
City of Mountain View Grant		1,700.00
Ice Cream Social August 2016	682.97	
Block Parties (13) 2016	1,334.98	
Progressive Dinner Dec. 2016	27.73	
Spring Fling March 2016	759.78	
General Meeting May 2016	164.68	
Newsletter expenses/ad revenue	2,738.25	4,720.00
Miscellaneous expenses/revenue	994.05	474.49
CERT Expenses	10.00	
Tee Shirts	335.33	275.00
Little Free Libraries (2)	300.00	
Miscellaneous expenses/revenue	451.85	0.97
Total Withdrawals/Deposits	6,805.57	6,695.97
Ending balance 6/30/2017		\$7,674.03



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.

Monta Loma School construction update

By Gloria Higgins, Monta Loma School Principal

The Multi-Use Room (MUR) expansion will continue through December. Neighbors may notice trucks delivering materials to the construction site, which is fenced off from students.

During the past summer, classrooms were modernized with technology upgrades, new teaching walls, and fire-alarm replacements. Some restrooms were upgraded to improve accessibility. The parking lots and student drop-off zone also were improved, including an expanded bus loop.

During Summer 2018, roofing and renovation of the staff and office areas will be completed.

We appreciate your support and understanding as we take one step closer to improving each of our schools for our students, staff, and community.

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 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 PTA News

Our annual Winter Food Drive will take place November 27 to December 8. Healthy, non-perishable items may be dropped off in the school office and will go to CSA for distribution.

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 2, please contact Debbie Chin at montalomapta@gmail.com or 796-1773.

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 3, at the MLNA's Spring Fling.

Monta Loma's 40-year residents

By Marilyn Gildea

One of the ways of observing the founding of the MLNA in 1977 is to honor those who were living here then. We provided gold stars for the "Celebrating 40 years" name-tag labels at the Ice Cream Social, and asked 40-year residents to identify themselves. Among those whose names we know are Susan Barkan, Tony Bell, David Bergen, Mark Bettencourt, Laverne Bornschlegel, John Burke, John & Natalie Canata, Henry Chace, Jim & Alice Cochran, Jack Conway, Robert Engelmann, Roland & Mary Etzold, Harry Gordon and daughter Jill, Andy & Welda Graybeal and son Todd, Silke and Xaver Gurlich, Sandy Hastings, Bob Jahnke & Monica Haupt, Linda Jahnke, Elyse Krupnick, Monica & Carl Makela, Kevin & Nadine O'Leary, Larry & Martha Rippere, Eva Schinn, Brent Shroe, Subramanian, Jim Tan, Ray Tolles, Ken Victor, Harry & Nancy Wilson, Delia Ybarra, and Pat Young.

Some current residents, such as Jen Hendrickson Mills, grew up here, moved away, then moved back.

The residents with the longest tenure: Godfrey "Ben" Baumgartner 1956; Don & Theresa Maxwell 1957; Pete & Irene Adamson 1958; Mary Lou Eastwood, Maria Karpinski, Peggy Manor 1959; Helen Hayes, Joan MacDonald 1960; Anne Glynn 1961; Beatrice Bakalish and son Mark 1963.

If I've missed you and you'd like to be mentioned in the next issue, contact me at marilyn@gildea.com or 940-1606.

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, you can ask the deli or service-desk staff to check you out.



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THE DESSERT STUDIO Holiday Pies

This is the last Holiday Season that THE DESSERT STUDIO will be providing holiday pies and baked goods. If you are interested in ordering a pumpkin or apple pie, now is the time. The pumpkin pie comes fully cooked and frozen, just defrost. The apple pie comes frozen and is a U-BAKE apple pie complete with baking instructions. To place your order please contact me at debbie@thedessertstudio.net or 650-733-4311.

Email is best. Debbie Cunningham, owner/baker
THE DESSERT STUDIO. Pies: \$20 each.

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 farolitos (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.

Holiday trash pickup dates

Because Christmas and New Year's Day fall on Mondays, our trash pickup will be on Thursday those two weeks, and the street sweeper will not come. Holiday trees will be picked up through the third week of January. Info is at mountainview.gov/holidays.

Register for Fall Classes

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www.pacificballet.org

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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 10 (Veterans Day) and the Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's holiday weekends, Nov. 24 and Dec. 22 and 29. No morning stop on Jane at Fay in November and December due to holidays. For information or special requests, email Mobile.Library@mountainview.gov or call 526-7029.

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 Mountain View" on the bottom of the home page, mountainview.gov. 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.

Food-scrap recycling; still confused?

If you're still confused about the food-scrap program that began in July, go to mountainview.gov/foodscraps and print a copy of the "What goes where" brochure to tape inside the cabinet door. The compostable bags are available at our local Safeway. We are advised to buy only what we need short-term, lest they begin to decompose before we can use them.

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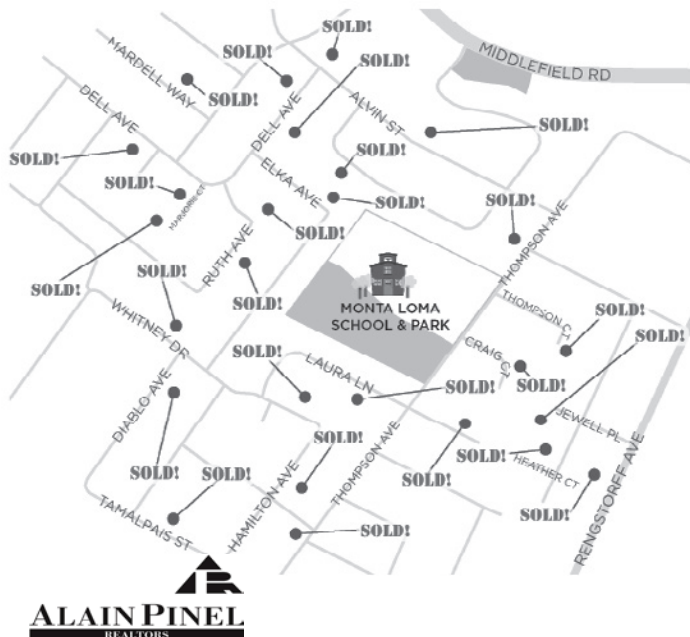
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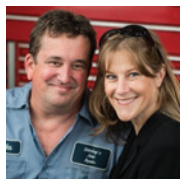
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