

Neighborhood ~ Newsletter

OF THE
MONTA LOMA NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 382
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CALIFORNIA 94042

JUNE, 1987

HOME IMPROVEMENT FAIRE SCHEDULED

The June 10 MLNA meeting will feature a **Home Improvement Faire**. Contractors, businesses and service providers will display products and ideas to make home and yard more pleasant. A **Plant Exchange** will be included. Exhibitors will talk with anyone who stops at their table. The following subjects will be presented:

- ✓ **Security, Fire alarms, Fire extinguishers** (Mountain View Lock) *Bruce*
- ✓ **Improving and Marketing your Home** (Freda Carman of Cox Realty)
- ✓ **Contractor-Remodeling of MLNA Homes** (Kasa Kraft Co.) *Richard Aro*
- ✓ **Do-it-yourself Remodeling** (Chuck Rumwell)
- ✓ **Gardening and Lawn Care** (Dennis Norris)
- stet* ✓ **Pool Service/Solar Heating** (~~Acc Pool Service~~ & SHS Solar Service) *Modeline MacDowd & Tom Flannigan*
- ✓ **Built-Up Roof Replacement and Repair** (Cardinal Roofing) *Ray*
- ✓ **Foam Roofing** (Dura Spray Foam) *Randy Ferretti*
- ✓ **Tree Service & Pest Management** (Foothill Tree Surgery Inc.) *David Kalin*
- ✓ **Kitchen Remodeling** (Kitchens by Meyer)
- ✓ **Skylights and Bay Window Installations** (Bruce Bauer Lumber) *David*
- ✓ **Radiant Heating Maintenance and Repair** (~~Lipp Hydronics~~)

Handouts on insulation, bathroom remodeling, home security, home improvement loans, bicycle safety, and much more will be available. A plant exchange with gardening tips will be featured: bring some of your cuttings. Come and meet your neighbors and get inspired to improve your home or yard!

MONTA LOMA MEETING DATE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 7:15 P.M.

The general meeting of the Monta Loma Neighborhood Association (MLNA) will be held in the Multipurpose Room of Monta Loma School on Thompson Avenue: 7:15-set up/socialize; 7:45-business meeting; 8:00-program; 9:00-refreshments. All residents of the area bounded by San Antonio, W. Middlefield, Rengstorff, and Central Expressway are automatically members of the Association and are invited.

AGENDA
MLNA Meeting
Wednesday, April 8, 1987
7:15 - 9:30 pm

**7:15-7:45 Socialize/
Set Up**

7:45-8:00 Business Mtg:

- a. Secretary's Report
- b. Treasurer's Report
- c. President's Report
- d. Committee Reports
 - Traffic/ HP Impact
 - Property Improv'mt
 - Schools
 - Neighborhood Watch
- e. Election of Officers

8:00-9:00 Program:

**Home Improv'mt Faire/
Refreshments**

**MONTA LOMA NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**

Officers:

President	Jim Cochran	968-9049
1st V P.....	George Marquis	964-2628
2nd V P.....	Rich Hendrickson	961-1282
Rec. Sec.....	Carolyn Norris	965-9461
Corres. Sec...	Steve Melachrinis	968-3961
Treas.....	David McCleary	968-5293
Past Pres.....	Barbara Lugn	964-3176

Committee Chairpersons:

Newsletter.....	Rich Hendrickson	961-1282
Neighborhood Watch..	Barbara Lugn	964-3176
Property Improvement..	Alan O'Neill	969-3854
Social.... ?		
Traffic...?		
HP Impact.....	Steve Peckler	967-2825
Schools.....	Carolyn Norris	965-9461
Historian.....	Barbara Lugn	964-3176
City Council Observer.....	Dick Lugn	964-3176

**ELECTION OF MLNA
OFFICERS**

The annual election of MLNA officers will occur at the June 10 meeting. As announced in the April newsletter (except for the withdrawal of the presidential nominee), the following have been nominated by the nomination committee:

- President- ? (floor nomination)
- 1st VP- Wesley Chow
- 2nd VP- Rich Hendrickson
- Corr Sec-Steve Melachrinis
- Rec. Sec.- Edith Carter
- Treas.- Tresea Bronk

The past-president position will be filled by Jim Cochran, president this year. Additional nominations may be made from the floor before voting takes place at the June 10 meeting, as long as the nominee has agreed to serve, if elected. The term of office for MLNA leaders is one year, June to June.

**CONTRACTORS REFERENCE
GUIDE**

Property Improvement Committee Chairman Alan O'Neill will have the committee's *Contractors Reference Guide* available at the June 10 meeting. The guide contains names and phone numbers of various contractors and home service people who have been used successfully by residents.

**THANKS TO APRIL
NEWSLETTER DELIVERERS:**

Freda Carman, Edith Carter, Mary Etzold, Jenny and Joey Hendrickson, Joseph Karpinski, Ieko and Don Lamons, Carolyn Len, Ellyn Maulhardt, Ken Morley, Margaret Pastorino, Jeannete Patterson, Herb Perry, Elsie Ping, John and Ann Turner, Judy Walden, and Dick Weir.

Volunteers should call Alice

REPORT ON APRIL MEETING

In addition to the regular business meeting, Sergeant Dave Kelso of the Mtn. View Police Department spoke on emergency preparedness. He indicated that in a major earthquake, expect fire; there will be no utilities; overpasses will be down with major traffic jams; emergency vehicles will be going every which way, and there will be a general lack of information -- at least temporarily.

Therefore, you SHOULD:

1. Have food and water supplies available for up to three weeks.

2. Have basic first aid supplies on hand.

3. Have a pre-agreed upon place your family members will call to find out the location and condition of each other if you are at different places when the quake hits. (All agree to call Aunt Joan in San Diego, and she can be your go between). This contact with someone outside the area may only be possible through a ham radio operator. Closest fire station is likely to have ham operator contact. 24 hours after a disaster, the Red Cross operates a locator service.

Schools will keep children, if they are there when a quake hits, so you need not endanger yourself in an effort to get to them.

4. Know where water and gas main shutoffs are, and when, and how to turn them off. If you shut off water supply into house, what you already have in tanks won't get contaminated. (Secure your hot water heater now, before a quake, so it won't tip over. It contains enough water for several days).

AWARD WINNING NEIGHBORS

Carolyn Norris, MLNA Secretary and Chairperson of the Schools Committee, was recently selected by Whisman District Administrators as School Volunteer of the Year. Subsequently she was selected as Volunteer of the Year for Region 8 of the California School Administrators Association.

Monica Velasco of Aldean Avenue has been named Crittenden's Student of the Year and was honored at a breakfast sponsored by area school administrators in May. Monica is the daughter of Alan and Edith Velasco.

Sixth grader, **Jeremy Stanger**, son of John and Charlotte Stanger of Mardell, was Crittenden's History Day first place winner.

Erin Norris, son of Dennis and Carolyn Norris of Ruth Avenue, won first place in Crittenden's school-wide spelling bee and took 6th place at the county.

Harry Lee, a Los Altos High School Senior who lives in the MLNA on Middlefield Road, was selected as Student of the Month in March by the LAHS math department.

Roberta Varney was given Crittenden Middle School's Service Award for outstanding service to the school over a long period of time. The award, given for the first time this year, will be given annually by the Crittenden Teacher Parent Association (CTPA).

Mavis Rogers, who lives on Benjamin Drive, won the World of Poetry "Silver Poet" award for 1986. This year she won their "Golden Poet" award. Unfortunately, due to a lack of space, an example of her poetry couldn't be included in this issue.

WHAT DID THE MLNA ACCOMPLISH THIS PAST YEAR?

The **Monta Loma** Neighborhood Association has accomplished much this past year. Following are some highlights:

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

1. Obtained stop signs on Thompson avenue.

2. Eliminated travel of large delivery trucks through neighborhood.

3. Obtained three way stop at Nita curve; obtained Nita/Nita street identification signs.

4. A three way stop will be installed at the intersection of Mayfield, Whitney and the back of HP.

5. Requested that the City look into the possibility of adding a right turn lane for Southbound Rengstorff at Central.

HP IMPACT COMMITTEE

1. Had representatives from HP speak at a MLNA meeting.

2. Obtained traffic counts on streets near HP before moving in, so we could have before and after (moving in) counts. "After" counts will be done soon.

3. Requested HP to encourage their employees NOT to use our neighborhood streets for traveling to and from work. (So far, we have seen no traffic problem generated by HP.)

4. MLNA President keeps in touch with HP personnel on regular basis exchanging information and discussing concerns. Some examples:

a. Newly planted eucalyptus trees were removed on neighbor request.

b. HP will screen their third story windows from view of homes adjoining the building.

c. Regular reminders are

given to HP about hazzardous materials. Thus far, they don't use them, and don't have any plans to do so. The facility is currently being used for training.

5. We're continuing to work on improving car and pedestrian safety on Mayfield Avenue.

SCHOOLS COMMITTEE

1. Encouraged parents to -volunteer at the three schools which serve this neighborhood. Many, but not enough, parents are doing so.

2. Lobbied the state for more financing for public schools.

3. Sends observers to all Whisman School Board meetings; monitors High School Board.

4. Provides information on school issues, concerns, programs.

5. Worked with City and School District on student transportation and safety issues.

6. Participated in the superintendent selection process.

NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

1. Made efforts to get the adjoining shopping centers cleaned up. There have been improvements: Reynolds recycling truck is gone, Alpha Beta lot is cleaner, Can Bank is maintained more regularly, parking lot at Alpha Beta center has been repaired. Keeping these shopping centers looking good is an on going concern.

2. A reference guide to home improvement services has been compiled and continues to be expanded. Information is being shared among neighbors.

3. Informed MLNA residents about city ordinances affecting the neighborhood and encouraged the City Code Enforcement Officers to work on this in our neighborhood.

4. MLNA is working to encourage the City to strengthen some of the ordinances which affect neighborhood appearance.

There are **OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS** that are noteworthy:

1. Increase in number of Neighborhood Watch signs displayed.

2. The MLNA was featured in an article in the Mtn. View *Weekly Almanac* and on Hearst Cablevision's "Before The Council".

3. Five general membership meetings with an average attendance of 50 were held.

4. This is the sixth *Neighborhood Newsletter* to be published in the last year. About 20 neighbors help deliver each issue; about 6-8 people contribute to the news articles; over a dozen different advertisers have placed ads in our newsletter and thus have supported our efforts. Thanks to all.

OTHER IMPROVEMENTS that the city & school district has supported in our neighborhood:

1. Monta Loma Park has been expanded and improved.

2. Central Expressway is being landscaped by the City.

3. A pedestrian crossing of Central at Mayfield is "in process."

4. Drop off area and parking at Monta Loma School expanded.

5. Play equipment at Thaddeus Park has been improved.

Many **MLNA members** have remodeled, added to homes and/or are doing so now. Also, many more are fixing up, painting up, and improving landscaping. We are to be proud of all these accomplishments.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Jim Cochran

MLNA Officers have worked hard to obtain some interesting guests for the June meeting. Our objective for this program, Home Improvement Faire, is to put you in touch with providers of services you may need.

Various contractors and service people will be available from 8 to 9. You can ask them questions, look at the materials and products they have brought, and talk with neighbors about home upkeep and improvement matters. Please plan to attend.

I have enjoyed being President of the MLNA this past year and helping to get it reactivated. The year's neighborhood improvements are impressive. The improvements you are seeing are brought about by many people working together. We have a City Council willing to invest in improving the appearance of our city; we have City Staff that is interested in hearing ideas and willing to work on solving neighborhood problems; we have our neighbors who, along with us, are working to make our homes neat and attractive. When you have the chance, give all these members of our "team" a smile and 'thank you!' for making our neighborhood a better place to live.

There is plenty more to do during this next year in the Monta Loma neighborhood. If everyone does a little, then no one has to do a lot. Volunteer forms will be available at the June meeting. Please consider signing up to help on a committee for the coming year. If you can't make the meeting, but are willing to volunteer, call me at 968-9049.

SCHOOLS COMMITTEE REPORT

by Carolyn Norris and Alan Tway

Parent and teacher groups of both Monta Loma School and Crittenden wrote letters to the Governor and legislators asking that some of the State's surplus money be allocated to schools. In all, about 100 letters were generated from Whisman District people due to urgings of members of the Monta Loma Neighborhood Schools Committee.

The Schools Committee encourages Neighborhood parents to volunteer to help in the schools. Natalie Canata is spearheading efforts for Monta Loma; Carolyn Norris, Priscilla McCleary and Charlotte Stanger for Crittenden.

Schools Committee members have recommended that the September MLNA meeting focus on area schools, featuring presentations by Monta Loma Principal June Banta, and the new Whisman Superintendent, Tony Cuneo, who was hired last month.

HOUSING REHABILITATION PROGRAM AVAILABLE

A City-wide housing rehabilitation program has been established to preserve older housing at a cost Mountain View residents can afford.

The program enables eligible homeowners to secure low (3% & 6%) interest loans to finance necessary home repairs. Eligibility starts with income below \$47,000 (four-member family example).

Pamphlets containing more details will be available at the June MLNA meeting, or more information can be obtained by calling the City Housing Rehabilitation Program at 966-6396.

PROPERTY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

by Alan O'Neill

Results of the April newsletter survey regarding ordinances are as follows:

- 1) Regarding an ordinance that would restrict the storage of boxes, tools, debris, wood, etc. in yards, driveways, or carports which are visible from the street: 27 favor; 9 oppose.
- 2) Regarding an ordinance that would prohibit the storage of boats, trailers, and camper tops in front yards, driveways or on the street (ie, visible from street): 33 favor; 10 oppose.
- 3) Regarding an ordinance that would regulate the percentage of front yard which may be paved and/or used for vehicle storage: 26 favor, 19 oppose.

Since the results for 1) and 2) clearly indicated that those caring enough to respond favor pursuing such ordinances, the committee has written a letter to Mayor Schatz urging the Council to consider such ordinances.

The Property Improvement Committee also sent copies of our letter to other City neighborhood groups urging them to give their views to the Council on such ordinances.

Articles on insulation and bathroom remodeling have been prepared by property improvement committee members, Teresa Bronk and Alan O'Neill. Copies are available from Alan O'Neil and will be at the June meeting.

CLASSIFIED AD -

CHILD CARE AVAILABLE: Full time, infants only. Licenced. Experienced. Monta Loma area. 961-4703.

PERSONALITIES

Roberta Varney of Lida Drive has been elected to serve as President of the Community Advisory Council at Los Altos High for the coming school year. The CAC is composed of interested parents, community, and staff members who advise the principal on matters relating to the school curriculum.

Abby Althoff of Dell and **Paula Hendry** of Mardell have been elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Los Altos High School Parents Club next school year.

Laura Cochran of Thaddeus Drive, a Junior at Los Altos High School, was recently elected to serve on the High School's Site Council for the coming year. The School Site Council is composed of five students, five parents, and ten staff members each of whom are elected by their peers. The Council formulates and carries out a school improvement plan each year and has a budget of about \$15,000 per year in funds from the State to be used for that purpose.

FALL MLNA MEETING DATE IS WED., SEPT. 29

Summer schedule for committee meetings is not available. Chairpersons will notify members as needed.

DOGS MUST BE ON LEASH

City ordinance requires that dogs be on leash when being walked, even when it's just in front of your house.

Also, **be a good neighbor and clean up after your pet.**

There has been a problem with dog droppings left on the lawn and play areas at Monta Loma Park. That creates a very unpleasant and unsanitary condition for all.

BICYCLE ACCIDENTS - A BIG PROBLEM

A Report from the MLNA Schools and Traffic Committees

Police Chief Smith reports that there has been a sharp increase in bicycle/car accidents in the city in recent months.

In most cases, the mishap was the fault of the bicyclist--usually riding on the wrong side of the street and/or riding in a pedestrian walk way rather than on the street with traffic.

Parents: instruct your children about correct bicycle riding: travel with auto traffic; stop at all stop signs and lights; to cross on foot with a bike, walk it in a crosswalk, obeying all pedestrian rules.

Motorists: be alert to bicyclists and children in particular. School is out in a few weeks, and more of them will be on the sidewalks and streets.

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