

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 28, 3 to 5 p.m.
Monta Loma Park

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

- Visit the MLNA welcome table first and sign in. 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.
- Meet your school board and city council members and candidates. They're invited so you can chat with them. Volunteer to help the candidates who impress you.
- Buy a Monta Loma tee shirt.
- Stop by the PTA table to learn what is new at our school.
- Chat with members of the MLN Preschooler Network.
- Donate stuffed animals to the Animals Beacons of Light (p. 4.)
- 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 Gloria's cotton candy after 4:00.



Please volunteer for the Ice Cream Social

It takes many people to make the ICS a success, so please volunteer. Contact Ann Togasaki at vp2@montaloma.org. 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.
- 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

See the shirt 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 15.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

August 15: School begins; traffic times on page 2
August 27: Paper shredding at Sunnyvale SMaRT Station (p. 5)
September 22: City's neighborhood meeting (p. 2)
October 28: Fall Festival at the school (p. 5)
December 3: Holiday Progressive Dinner (p. 4)
March 4: MLNA's Spring Fling & PTA's used-book sale

MLNA Board Members

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Bill Cranston, 949-1838
president@montaloma.org

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vp1@montaloma.org

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vp2@montaloma.org

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treasurer@montaloma.org

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Monta Loma School traffic alert

Classes begin on Monday, August 15, 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 first 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.

Annual Meeting and Board Election report

Approximately 35 residents attended the meeting on June 2 in the community room at Google's Mayfield site. After a welcome by MLNA Secretary Alice Hazelgrove, two MVRD officers updated us on crime prevention. They emphasized that block parties build the relationships that are vital to keep a neighborhood safe.

MLNA President Bill Cranston reported on the progress he's made with the concerns of neighbors living near Google. He also reviewed the MLNA's activities for the past year, and introduced the board candidates.

Jill Rakestraw introduced Gloria Higgins, Monta Loma School's new principal. Mary Ann Duggan, MVWSD's Director of Capital Projects, showed slides explaining the construction work at Monta Loma Elementary School, now scheduled to begin in June 2017. A link to the slides is at montaloma.org/monta-loma/features.

Because the board election was uncontested, the vote was by acclamation. The new board members are listed at left.

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. Being part of one gives you an ongoing first-hand look at matters that usually come before the City Council, but at the point where (sometimes substantial) changes can be made.

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.

Meet the people who run your city on September 22

Every other year three city council members plus staff members from most of the city departments (including police and planning) come to update us on their plans and respond to your questions. This year's meeting is on Thursday, September 22. It begins at 7 p.m. at Crittenden Middle School, 1701 Rock Street, which is within easy walking or biking distance. Please mark your calendar now and plan to attend.

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 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 August 13, September 10, and October 8. Questions? Contact Tim Slattery at tim_slattery@usa.net or 964-6389.

We encourage you to take the city's free CERT course, whether or not you join our neighborhood group. **The next series begins September 22** but don't wait to register; the June class filled early. A link to info is on the CERT page at montaloma.org, under MLNA.

Meet our mayor

Mayor Pat Showalter invites residents to meet with her informally at Le Boulanger Cafe, 650 Castro Street. Chats with Pat are normally on the second Tuesday of the month 11:00 a.m. to noon, and on the last Saturday of the month 3:00-4:00 p.m. The next meetings are on Sunday, August 28 (instead of Saturday; conflicts with the Ice Cream Social); Tuesday, September 13; and Saturday, September 24.

Be an informed voter

Mail-in ballots will begin arriving in early October, so delivery of the next issue of the newsletter is planned for the weekend of October 9 & 10. It will contain statements of purpose from school board candidates and paid ads from city council candidates.

To help you be an informed voter, the candidates' websites and candidate forums will be posted at montaloma.org and on the mln email list as soon as available. At press time two city council candidates forums had been scheduled: Tuesday, August 30, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, and Wednesday, September 21, sponsored by Google and League of Women Voters.

Your ballot will be counted if postmarked no later than November 8 or dropped off at any polling place on election day.

Meet your candidates — early

You can meet the city council and school board candidates at our Ice Cream Social and at public forums. Volunteer to help those candidates you favor. One way is to host a neighborhood coffee. Evening meetings in September, starting around 7:30 p.m., work well. The host provides snacks and invites about 20 neighbors, realizing that not all will come.

November 8 election; can you vote?

You can check your registration at tinyurl.com/ckvtreg or 1-866-430-8683 toll free. If you need to register or change your registration, you can do it online at registertovote.ca.gov. The registration deadline is Monday, October 24. If you request a mail-in ballot, you can drop it off on election day at any polling place in the county.

Polling places confusion

Voting in the June Primary was difficult for some neighbors because the east half of Monta Loma is assigned to precinct 2403, which votes on San Ramon Ave. Those who had a mail-in ballot could drop it off at the Canata home on Mardell Way.

Several people posted messages to the mln email list similar to Baidra's: "Thank you, John and Natalie, for hosting a polling place for so many years. I get a deep sense of pride in voting, knowing that not everyone in this world has the option. Plus, I enjoy a nice visit with neighbors. What a treat!"

Neighborhood Watch – Guard against burglars

By Tom Purcell, Monta Loma Neighborhood Watch Captain

We've seen a recent spate of mid-day burglaries of unoccupied homes. 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.

Remember to keep all gates and doors locked, and windows secured. Use window locks or dowels to prevent windows from being opened more than four inches.

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. For more information see the Neighborhood Watch page (under MLNA) at montaloma.org, and chat with me at the MLN History table at the Ice Cream Social.

Leadership Mountain View

"Helping good people become great leaders," Leadership Mountain View welcomes applicants for its 2016–2017 class. Get an intimate look at our city through classes covering local government, public safety, diversity, education, and more. Develop your leadership skills, help your community, and make lasting friendships. Classes meet one Friday a month from September through May. The **registration deadline is Monday, August 15**. Visit lmv.education for information.

Neighborhood Resources

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Tim Slattery, 964-6389
CERT@montaloma.org

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Tom Purcell, 224-5110
MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com

Activities Committee

Alice Hazelgrove, 204-5105
secretary@montaloma.org

Preschooler Network

Sarah Harriman, 450-0846
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 June newsletter: John Canata, Donna Clarke, Jim & Alice Cochran, Mike Ehlers, Martha Elderon, Harry Gordon, Birgit Grundler, Maria Harnoto, Alice Hazelgrove, Chuck & Cookie Henderson, Cheryl Jasper, Paul Kostka, Vickie Lee, Joan MacDonald, Victoria Perry, Leane Reelfs, John Thomas, Sarah & Tom Tidwell, 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.

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.

Block parties — is yours scheduled?

At press time eleven parties had been held or scheduled; a new record. 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 camaraderie that helps 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. To invite city council members, email them all at citycouncil@mountainview.gov or individually under Council Roster at mountainview.gov.

Monta Loma Plaza to gain a Safeway

Many neighbors were pleased to learn that the grocery store space in Monta Loma Plaza, vacant since Fresh & Easy closed last year, will be filled again. Safeway will move into that space, plus the adjoining long-vacant space.

A grand opening is slated for late this year. Read about what the store will offer at tinyurl.com/MLPSafeway.

Mountain View Trees workshop a success

The workshop conducted by Mountain View Trees on June 11 was deemed a great success by the presenters and the attendees. Neighbors had submitted their questions in advance, enabling Susan Hamilton and Ray Morneau of Mountain View Trees to research the answers. This neighborhood-specific workshop was a first for MV Trees, and Susan is eager to hold more. It was held under the trees shading the picnic tables behind Monta Loma School, which proved to be a good location.

Middlefield crosswalk project completed

The new flashing lights on yellow signs and in the roadway will make crossing Middlefield to Thaddeus safer for pedestrians and bikers if they use the pushbuttons (labeled "Cross with caution") that activate them. Drivers entering the intersection from Independence still can't see vehicles approaching from Rengstorff, so many choose an alternate route.

Story time on Lassen

Story teller Alice Hazelgrove will be away during August, but story time returns on Friday, September 30, at 6:00 p.m. at the Little Free Library on Lassen Avenue. Also mark your calendar for a super-special Halloween event at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 30.

Don't forget to check out the new red phone booth Little Free Library on Jewell Place and the kids-only LFL on Hamilton.

Progressive dinner planned for December 3

Our annual Holiday Progressive Potluck Dinner is a great way to meet neighbors while enjoying wonderful food and contributing to Second Harvest Food Bank. This year's event is scheduled for Saturday evening, December 3, so note the date. Details will be in the October newsletter.

Preschooler Network

Monta Loma Preschooler Network members recently enjoyed a watermelon party in the park, and are planning a costume parade close to Halloween. If you have children under 6 and want to meet other neighborhood families, contact Sarah Harriman at preschooler@montaloma.org or 450-0846.

Neighbors' Links web page; help keep it current

By Marilyn Gildea

The Neighbors' Links page is at montaloma.org under MLNA. If you are a Monta Loma resident who owns a business and would like to be listed, send your name, business name/description, and the link to your site to me at newsletter@montaloma.org. If your link is no longer valid or has changed, please let me know so I can update the page. If you know that someone listed no longer lives in the neighborhood, please contact me.

Neighborhoods Committee awards city grant

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 16 Neighborhoods Committee meeting, MLNA board members Marilyn Gildea and Mary Partlan were gratified to learn that the MLNA was 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.

Announcements-Only email list

If you haven't subscribed to the MLN Yahoo email list because you don't want to read about lost pets and free sofas, but you would like to learn of events affecting Monta Loma, join the email list that sends you only very infrequent messages from the MLNA Board. See the Email Lists page at www.montaloma.org under MLNA.

Offering something on the mln email list?

Rather than attach your photo or flyer, please post it on a file-sharing site and include the link in your message.

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 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 while I'm scooping ice cream. I'd love to thank you in person.

Monta Loma School Fall Festival is Friday, Oct. 28

Bring your children and grandchildren on Friday, October 28, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. to play games, eat yummy treats, and raise money for our school at this annual fundraising event.

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.

.....
: Peninsula Youth Theatre (PYT) will hold auditions for ages 8 to 18 for *The Wizard of Oz* on August 27 & 28. All who :
: audition are cast. Go to pytnet.org for info. :
:.....



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.

Young trees need water so give them a deep watering (10 gallons) near the trunk at least every two weeks during their first five years.

Hazardous waste: Visit hhw.org or call 408-299-7300 to make an appointment to drop off your household hazardous waste and e-waste. Go to paintcare.org/locator/ for stores accepting leftover paint. Invite neighbors to help fill your trunk.

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

Trash and recycling bins should be out of sight except within 24 hours of pickup time.

Paper shredding August 27

The next shredding opportunity is on Saturday, August 27, 8:00 to noon, at the SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Rd. in Sunnyvale. You may want to arrange a carpool via the mln email list. See mvrecycle.org and click on Events, or call 903-6311.

If you shred at home, please put the shreds in paper bags, stapled shut, so they won't litter the street when the recycling cart is emptied.

Walkable Sidewalks

A complaint about branches being torn off a low-hanging tree reminds us that city codes require that sidewalks be clear of overhanging bushes, trees, and any garden materials, across the width of the sidewalk to a height of at least seven feet.

If your greenery is too robust, please trim it back, and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

Oh Brother, now *EVERYONE* wants to sell bananas!

As most of you know, the Milk Pail is a Postage Stamp sized business. We've been lucky, we have survived, some say prospered, in a very tough industry that has seen a growing number of new "players".

Some of the new competitors give a new meaning to "BIG"!

A guy in Arkansas decides to stack 'em deep and stack 'em high and now we have Sam's Walmart as the number one grocery company in the United States! Not to be outdone, Target is re-inventing itself into a partial supermarket. Over in England, Tesco is the third largest retailer in the World, and they decide to try a new concept in California called Fresh & Easy Markets. Trader Joe's is owned by a German family that recently was acknowledged as the 7th wealthiest family in the WORLD.

Another new company to the Bay Area is funded by a Hedge Fund that has \$ 82,000,000,000 of investor monies. (That's Billion !)

Next time you need Bananas, remember that the little Monkeys that run your Local Neighborhood Markets are good folk, hard working, and maybe even your neighbors. The Gorillas probably don't live in your neighborhood, they might not even live in your state, or even your country!

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NEW NEIGHBORS?

Scroll down the home page at montaloma.org to the "welcome letter" link, then print a copy for your new neighbors. Click on "New Neighbor?" under MLNA for information about our neighborhood. 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 Alice Hazelgrove at 204-5105 or secretary@montaloma.org.

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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.

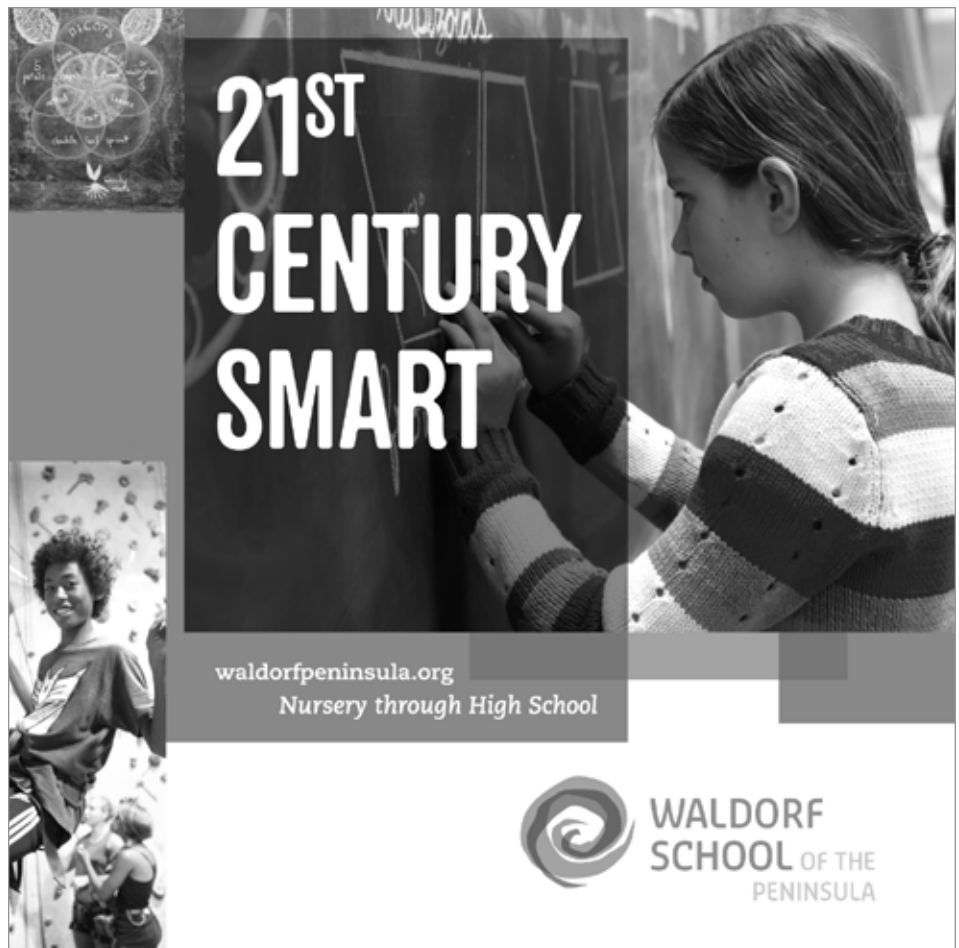
If you're not already signed up with Ask Mountain View, you will be asked to provide contact information for a response, or to click on Remain Anonymous. If you are registered, remember to log in first.

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 (253-5353) and they will pick it up. Some bikes have that phone number in the basket, but it's easy to remember.

Bike Helmets

Most bike riders, adults and kids, wear helmets, but often the helmets aren't tightly buckled on. When the rider goes flying, the helmet does, too.



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NEXTDOOR NEIGHBORHOODS WEBSITE

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. At press time, montaloma.nextdoor.com had 498 members.

More Sales, Stable Prices It Is Still a Seller's Market!

Monta Loma year over year sales (MLS, Single Family)
Jan. 1 through June 30, 2016 vs 2015:

	2016	2015
# of Sales	13	9
Avg. List Price	\$1,446,761	\$1,311,899
Avg. Sale Price	\$1,526,317	\$1,542,333
Avg. Sq. Ft.	1,454	1,307
Avg \$/Sq. Ft.	\$1095	\$1202

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