

MONTA LOMA NEWS



Monta Loma Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting and Board Election

Thursday, June 4, 7:00 p.m., at 250 Mayfield Ave.
(It's the smaller Google building, on the east side of Mayfield.)

- Chat with and vote on the MLNA Board candidates.
- Hear Mountain View Mayor John McAlister on current topics affecting our city.

7:00 p.m.	Doors open for setup, sign-in, and refreshments. Chat with the board candidates, both new and continuing.
7:15 p.m.	President's update
7:30 p.m.	Presentation of candidates and voting
7:45 p.m.	Program



The program was not complete at press time, so watch the mln email list, website, or notice board for updates on it and the candidates.

MLNA Board Election

Please participate in the election on June 4 to vote on your board members. If you like what we're doing, come and vote for us. If not, replace any or all of us. Except for our treasurer, who is retiring, the current board members (listed on page 2) have agreed to continue to serve if reelected. As always, all positions are open, so do feel free to volunteer to run. The officers' positions are described at www.montaloma.org under MLNA.

We also welcome hearing from anyone interested in joining the Board as an at-large member. If you appreciate and enjoy living in our neighborhood, this is a good way to give back.

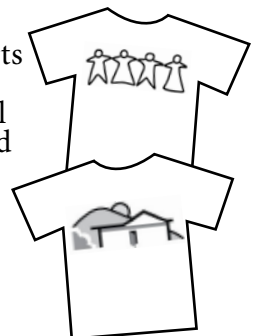
Nominations may be made from the floor at the election (with the consent of the nominee), but to place your name on the printed ballot, contact Alice at alice.hazeltgrove@gmail.com or 204-5105 **by 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27.**

If you need an absentee ballot, contact Alice **by 6 p.m. on Friday, May 29.**

Monta Loma tee shirts

Show your pride in our neighborhood by wearing a Monta Loma tee shirt. You can order shirts with the house-and-hill logo at the annual meeting or until late July. The once-a-year order will be submitted in early August so we'll have them in time for the Ice Cream Social. We will order some shirts for sale at the ICS, but the only way to ensure having a shirt in your size and preferred style and color is to order it in advance. Ordering instructions are on montaloma.org, or contact Marilyn at marilyn@gildea.com or 940-1606.

The few remaining shirts with the dancing-people logo, now a collector's item, will be for sale at clearance prices at the annual meeting on June 4.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW

June 4: MLNA General Meeting and Election (p. 1)
June 13: CERT Second Saturday (p. 2)
August 30: MLNA Ice Cream Social (p. 2)

MLNA Board Members

President

Bill Cranston, 949-1838
president@montaloma.org

First Vice President

Jennifer Coogan, 963-9811
coogan@gmail.com

Second Vice President

Vacant

Treasurer

Carolyn Schmittzehl, 962-1528
c_schmittzehl@yahoo.com

Secretary

Alice Hazelgrove, 204-5105
albee1956@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor

Marilyn Gildea, 940-1606
marilyn@gildea.com

Member-at-Large

Danielle Parish, 969-3695
danielleparish@me.com



MLNA Newsletter

Editor

Marilyn Gildea
940-1606
marilyn@gildea.com

Advertising Manager

Sumanth Rajagopal
967-9967
sumanth_r@yahoo.com

Layout

Heidi Faith
386-6746
heidi@phoenix-designs.com
www.phoenix-designs.com

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Are you ready for an emergency?

The recently updated Bay Area earthquake forecast followed by the Nepal quake remind us that having some emergency training is part of being a responsible citizen. You can check out Monta Loma's CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) 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 June 13, July 11, and August 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 June class filled early, so don't wait to register for the October series. A link to info is on the CERT page at montaloma.org, under MLNA.

Plan a block party

Last year's block parties were all greatly enjoyed. Now it's time to set the date for your street's 2015 party. It's a great way to meet your neighbors, build the camaraderie that helps keep our neighborhood safe, and compile a list of each other's 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. Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "printable version."

Our Neighborhood Watch Captain, Tom Purcell on Alvin, would be happy to attend your party to meet your neighbors and discuss security. Contact Tom at MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com or 224-5110. To invite a MVRD officer, contact Sgt. Saul Jaeger at saul.jaeger@mountainview.gov or 903-6345. To invite city council members, email them all at citycouncil@mountainview.gov or individually under Council Roster at www.mountainview.gov.

Ice Cream Social; volunteer now

The MLNA Ice Cream Social, our biggest event of the year, is scheduled for Sunday, August 30, 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. It will feature the usual free ice cream and toppings, plus entertainment for the kids and displays of neighborhood information. It's all designed to entice you to Monta Loma Park to meet your neighbors, which is its real purpose. The school boards, city council, police, and fire department will be invited, too.

We always get great neighborhood response for help for the day of the event, but we need help in advance. We also welcome volunteers for activities. Do you juggle? Perform magic tricks? Please sign up at the June 4 MLNA election meeting or email eventcoordinator@montaloma.org.

Mayfield/Google update

MLNA President Bill Cranston, our liaison with Google, sent this message to the mln email lists prior to Google's move-in on May 2.

- The landlord agreed to install privacy filters on the windows that overlook homes. This is in addition to the plantings along the boundary wall, which will further enhance the privacy as they mature.
- Employee shuttles coming to the site will enter the site only from Central Expressway and from San Antonio. Google is aware of the concerns about shuttles driving near homes. The exact plans are being finalized.
- The Nita entrance to the Nita-Mayfield connector has been made safer with striping and reflectors.
- Google is working with the MLNA Board to plan an open house for Monta Loma neighbors.

Community Shuttle — take a ride

By Marilyn Gildea

I tried the new free bus recently with some friends, just to see where it goes. We were very impressed with the route, designed to get people to where they're likely to want to go. We got off downtown, had lunch, then rode the rest of the route back to our starting point.

Give it a try, if only for a "joy ride" like ours. Several of the passengers were moms with young children, and they may have been exploring, too. Info is at mvcommunityshuttle.com. Printed schedules are available on the buses and at City Hall, the library, the senior and teen centers, and the bookmobile. Each bus stop is marked with a sign.

The MVGo bus, also free to the public, links major tech companies with the downtown train station. Info is at mvgo.org.

Street trees and their care

Did you know that the city's Forestry Division is responsible for pruning your street trees? And that property owners are not permitted to prune street trees without written permission from the City? Street trees are all those within ten feet of the curb. Answers to questions about street trees can be found by emailing parks@mountainview.gov or at goo.gl/R7c1LO or calling 903-6273.

Landscape conversion rebates

Rebates are currently \$2 per square foot for converting high water-using landscape to qualifying low water-using landscape. Restrictions apply, and appointments to begin the application process are filling quickly.

Visit valleywater.org/programs/waterconservation.aspx or call the Water Conservation Hotline at 408-630-2554.

Middlefield/Independence/Thaddeus crosswalk project

Senior Traffic Engineer Lorenzo Lopez reports, "The project plans will be presented to the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee (B/PAC), tentatively scheduled for their June meeting. After B/PAC, the project will be ready to construct unless B/PAC has comments on the design. We then plan to go out to bid in July/August and construct by the end of the year."

Neighborhood Watch – phones and home security

By Tom Purcell, Monta Loma Neighborhood Watch Captain

When local residents were awakened by sounds of an intruder in their living room, precious moments were spent trying to locate a cell phone to call 911. In an emergency, it's important to be able to quickly locate your phone when you're half asleep. If you don't have a wired phone, keep your cell phone near your bed.

Three advantages of a land-line phone are that you always know where it is, it gives the 911 operator your exact location automatically, and it may operate when other phone systems don't. So it's wise to have at least two phone types in the home to ensure that you can reach 911 when you really need to.

Help keep Monta Loma safe: "Call it in"

The police asked that we change the wording on our *Keeping Monta Loma Safe* tip sheet from "If what you hear, see, or smell makes you uncomfortable, it's okay to call it in" to this stronger wording: "If what you hear, see, or smell makes you uncomfortable, CALL IT IN. Your safety comes first, so observe and call, rather than confront, or not report it."

To print a copy of *Keeping Monta Loma Safe* for your refrigerator or other handy spot, see the first paragraph at montaloma.org/mlna/neighborhood-watch/.

Neighborhood Resources

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Tim Slattery, 964-6389
tim_slattery@usa.net

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Tom Purcell, 224-5110
MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com

Activities Committee

Alice Hazelgrove, 204-5105
albee1956@gmail.com

Preschooler Network

Maren Whitson, 450-6354
maren.whitson@gmail.com

MLN Neighborhood Email List

mln@yahoogroups.com
List owner: Peggy Manor
mamm@pobox.com
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 March newsletter: Vannina Champenois, Donna Clarke, Jim & Alice Cochran, Anne Glynn, Harry Gordon, Birgit Grundler, Maria Harnoto, Alice Hazelgrove, Paul Kostka, Vickie Lee, Dave & Dianne McCleary (2 bundles), Vania Mendonca, Shelly Ostman, Tom Purcell, Leane Reelfs, John Thomas, 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.

Leadership Mountain View taking applications

“Leadership Mountain View is where good people become great leaders,” agree the graduates of this course on how the city works. If you contemplate becoming more involved in the community, consider taking the course this year. It begins in September but spaces fill months earlier. The registration deadline is July 31. Visit chambermv.org/leadership or contact Alicia Crank at 968-8378 or email alicia@chambermv.org.

Editor's note: Some elected officials say that participation in the League of Women Voters provides an even more valuable experience. (Yes, the LWV welcomes men, too.)

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.

Monta Loma gains second Little Free Library

The Peifer-Brownfield family recently built a mid-century-modern Little Free Library for children on Hamilton. It was their four-year-old son's request for his birthday. Like Alice Hazelgrove's on Lassen, it's been very popular.

If you'd like one at your home, see littlefreelibrary.org for information. The city's Neighborhoods Committee has authorized the MLNA to partially pay for them from our city grant fund, so contact an MLNA board member if you are interested.

Story hour on Lassen

Alice Hazelgrove's first children's story hour in her front yard on Lassen was a great success, so she's thinking of making it a regular event on the last Friday of the month. Watch the mln list and the notice board for announcements.

School for brain-injured children

By Tanya Sheckley (on Elka)

I am working to open a school for children with brain injuries. It will focus on education, treatment, research, and recovery, to enable every child to maximize their potential. We are currently searching for a location, corporate and technology partners and sponsors, and prospective families. As the parent of a brain-injured child, I know how difficult it is to coordinate care. For information contact me at tanyasheckley@gmail.com or 796-3848.

Monta Loma Park/School boundaries

Some confusion arose when blue signs reading “Public use of school grounds is not allowed during school hours M-F 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM” went up at the entrances to Monta Loma Park. Principal Angela Lyon explained, “The signs 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.”

School district citizens' committees

The MVWSD Boundary Advisory Task Force and the District Facilities Committee continue to discuss school boundaries and elementary-school construction priorities for Measure G bond funds. Both groups include members from Monta Loma; one is Jennifer Coogan (coogan@gmail.com or 963-9811). The committees are expected to present recommendations to the MVWSD Board in late May. Information is at goo.gl/jR57xE.

Principal's message

by Angela Lyon, Monta Loma School Principal

As this school year comes to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Monta Loma community for the tremendous support of your neighborhood school. Thanks to you and our amazing teachers, we've built a school culture of safety and compassion, we've increased our volunteer hours, and we've been honored as a CA Distinguished School. I've worked with community members to improve traffic flow, increase physical fitness by walking and biking to school, and promote neighborhood attendance by showcasing the variety of learning experiences here at Monta Loma. YOU are the reason we are here. We are here to serve you and your children. Thank you for time, energy, and fiscal support to make Monta Loma an excellent choice in schools. Enjoy your summer!

Spring Fling a success

A large crowd of neighbors enjoyed our Spring Fling on March 7. The adults chatted with long-time and new neighbors, and also with representatives of our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), the police, Neighborhood Watch, and the MV Mediation Program. New attractions were drumming with Jennifer Nori Ahlgrim and displays by Mountain View Trees, the Veterans Memorial project, and Community Outreach. See photos under Events at montaloma.org.

So that parents could chat, children were entertained with balloon creations, cotton candy, and a crafts table. The event was held in conjunction with Monta Loma School's PTA's very successful used-book sale, and many attendees said how much they enjoyed and appreciated both events. Thanks to everyone who contributed and attended.

Mobile Library and summer reading info

The Mobile Library stops at Monta Loma School every Friday from 4:15 to 5:00. It will also continue its monthly stops on Jane at Fay on June 12, July 10, and August 7, from 9:45 to 10:15. For information or special requests, email Mobile.Library@mountainview.gov or call 526-7029. Go to mountainview.gov/summerreading for information on the summer reading program.

What's happening? Check the notice board!

In addition to the neighborhood email lists, another way to learn of upcoming neighborhood and community events is to check the notice board on the restrooms building in Monta Loma Park.

KEEPING MONTA LOMA CLEAN AND GREEN

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.

Water-saving tips are at goo.gl/UErkFn and saveourh2o.org.

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

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.

Paper shredding May 30

The next shredding opportunity is on Saturday, May 30, 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.

Conserve water outdoors

Though young trees need a deep watering (10 gallons) near the trunk at least every two weeks during their first five years, our lawns need much less water — and less often — than some are getting. Deep watering once a week or every ten days is probably sufficient. Setting your sprinkler timer for the predawn hours greatly reduces evaporation from sun and wind, so more water soaks in. Visit valleywater.org for information.

Get connected

Among the advantages of living in Monta Loma are the neighborhood email list, website, and referral wiki. The mln email list is for residents only and is monitored by its owner, Peggy Manor, as a community service. You'll find news affecting our neighborhood, recommendations and warnings, and items for sale or free. It is not a discussion or chat list.

Join the mln email list under MLNA at montaloma.org. To get only announcements from the Board, scroll to the bottom of the MLN Email Lists page.

The website also has a welcome letter, information about neighborhood events, groups such as CERT, the MLN Referral Wiki, links to the city, and more.

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 Jenny Coogan at 963-9811 or coogan@gmail.com.

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Ask Mountain View

Use the city's website, www.mountainview.gov, to get a response to any inquiry or request. Click on "Ask MV" on the bottom of the home page. If you are already registered, remember to log in.

Promote Your Business

Monta Loma residents can list their business or personal websites on the Neighbors' Links page at www.montaloma.org and on the MLN Referral Wiki, mlna.wikispot.org. Email Jeff at webmaster@montaloma.org.

Our email list owner, Peggy Manor, adds, "Any resident may make one announcement per year about his/her business, or post invitations to an open house, open studio, or show for your home-based businesses. Contact me via email at mamm@pobox.com."

There's also a website to advertise local businesses at www.shopmountainview.com.

Need a notary? A plumber? Where to take visitors?

You can find information on dozens of topics on the MLN Referral Wiki, at localwiki.org/montaloma/ or at montaloma.org/resources. Please add your own recommendations to the wiki, and notify webmaster@montaloma.org if you notice outdated information. Also at montaloma.org/resources is a link to Businesses Owned by Neighbors.



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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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Keep cool this summer

By Wouter Suverkropp

To keep your home cooler: Keep the sun off windows and sliding doors by hanging outdoor blinds or old bed sheets from the eaves. Leave windows open at night if you can safely do so. Open windows and doors very early in the morning to let the cool air in. Use a fan or run your bathroom fan (or kitchen fan if it leads to outside) to pull in cool air. Close the house before it's warmer outside than in; this may be only an hour after sunrise. Turn off non-essential lights and electronics.

To keep yourself cooler: Run your ceiling fan on slow; moving air can make you feel 10 degrees cooler. Visit air-conditioned libraries and stores in the afternoon.

To lower your energy bill: Set the temperature of your air conditioner a few degrees higher and keep filters clean. Limit the use of AC between noon and 7 p.m. Replace your older appliances with Energy Star models. Plant deciduous trees, which will keep your home cool in summer but let in the sun's warmth in winter. Insulate your roof, and/or have it painted white. Insulate the walls and floor. Install double-paned windows. Check PG&E.com for rebates.

Bike Helmets

It's not unusual to see a parent bike riding with a youngster, but often the parent is not wearing a helmet. The message being taught is that "Helmets are kid stuff." Also often seen are helmets that aren't tightly buckled on. When the rider goes flying, the helmet does, too.

Prevent mail theft

For safety, deposit your outgoing mail in one of these collection boxes: Alvin at Victory, 11:00 a.m. and Thompson at Laura; noon (both Monday/Saturday) or at Independence at Leghorn, 4:00 Monday/Friday.

Peninsula Storage offers U.S. mail services

Remember that Peninsula Storage offers all USPS services except rental boxes. The office is at 2409 Leghorn Street; turn left (west) off Independence. Mon.-Fri. 9:00-5:00, Sat. 9:00-2:00. Mail collection is at 4:30; www.peninsulastorage.com; 968-7700.

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Pat Jordan

CalBRE# 00898319

650.793.4274

patjordan989@gmail.com



Shelly Potvin

CalBRE# 01236885

650.303.7501

spotvin@cbnorcal.com



Michael Sutton

CalBRE# 01916467

650.799.2253

michael.sutton@cbnorcal.com

Inventory Remains Very Low It Is Still a Seller's Market!

Monta Loma sales Jan. 1, 2014 through Sept. 15, 2014

- ♦ 9 sales (Multiple Listing Service only)
- ♦ 15 MLS sales in 2013 during the same period!!
- ♦ High Sales Price \$1,400,000
- ♦ Low Sales Price \$1,098,088
- ♦ Ave. List Price: \$1,069,011
- ♦ Avg. Sales Price: \$1,230,011
- ♦ Average Sq. Ft.: 1354
- ♦ Average \$/Sq. Ft.: \$926

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Twitter
[@MountainViewPD](https://twitter.com/MountainViewPD)

MVPD collision report:
ecrash.lexisnexis.com

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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. You can select which types of messages to receive, such as police alerts. At press time, montaloma.nextdoor.com had 266 members.