



MONTA LOMA NEWS

Spring Fling 2013

Come meet and chat with your neighbors and friends.
iVengan todos a conocer y platicar con sus vecinos y amigos!

Saturday, March 23, 10:00 a.m. – Noon

Monta Loma School Multipurpose Room

Setup begins by 9:15.



Chat with old friends and meet new neighbors as you enjoy free Starbucks coffee, hot cider or chocolate, and baked goods. Pick up information about neighborhood activities, especially the revamped Neighborhood Watch program. Buy books at the PTA's used-book sale. Donate stuffed animals. Learn about local birds from the Audubon Society. Engage in a craft project. Buy a Monta Loma tee shirt.

If you can help with this popular event or have a community activity you would like to share, please contact Alice Carter now at albee1956@gmail.com or 625-1813 as soon as possible.

MLNA board election and annual meeting June 17

Several MLNA board members may be unable to continue, so we are seeking replacements. We especially will need a secretary, whose job is to compile the minutes of our board meetings.

The annual general meeting and board election will take place on Tuesday evening, June 17, at the school. All positions are always open for the election; see list on page 2. For descriptions of the positions see the Governance page at www.montaloma.org or contact any board officer.

We welcome hearing from anyone interested in joining the board. For more information or to place your name on the ballot, contact Pat Jordan (967-1467 or californiajordan@yahoo.com) or Debbie Cunningham (964-5677 or debbie.cunningham@gmail.com).

Annual meeting topic? We are also seeking a topic or speaker for that meeting. Possibilities include an update on the MVWSD's plans for spending the Measure G funds and/or on nearby developments, including the San Antonio Center. If you have a preference or a suggestion, please contact a board member ASAP. Our next board meeting is Monday, April 22.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR:

March 9 CERT Saturday Session, 9:00–11:00 (p. 2)

March 22 & 23 PTA used-book sale (p. 1)

March 23 MLNA Spring Fling (p. 1)

June 17 MLNA General Meeting and Election (p. 1)

August 25 MLNA Ice Cream Social, 3:00–5:00

Also see the list of Community Events on p. 4

PTA used-book sale coincides with Spring Fling

To help us ensure that all children will find an appropriate book, please donate your outgrown gently-loved children's books. We accept books of all types and any language, from kindergarten through junior high level, but especially need 3rd- to 5th-grade readers, picture books, and books in Spanish (all levels). No textbooks, software/technical manuals, or parenting books, please!

Drop books off in the bin in the school office no later than Friday, March 15. Then stop by the school and browse on the multipurpose room's stage on Friday afternoon, March 22, 3:00–4:30, or Saturday 10:00–noon. Questions? Contact Lorraine Kostka at lorrainekostka@earthlink.net or 964-1928.



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Estuardo Montufar, 766-1583
president@montaloma.org

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coogan@gmail.com

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CERT Saturday Session this Saturday, March 9

Monta Loma's CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) needs interested neighbors to join us to be better prepared for disaster. No special skills are required, but if you are a retired doctor, nurse, and other medical professional, or have industrial ERT or ham radio training, you are particularly needed.

You can check out CERT 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. This month's session is this **Saturday, March 9**. The next ones are on April 13, May 11, and June 8. Questions? Contact Tim Slattery at 964-6389 or tim_slattery@usa.net.

We encourage you to take the city's free CERT course, whether or not you join our neighborhood group. "First Aid teaches you what to do until the ambulance comes; CERT teaches you what to do when the ambulance **isn't** going to come." The next series begins on May 14. A link to info is on the CERT page at www.montaloma.org.

Neighborhood Watch liaison: Tom Purcell volunteers

The Mountain View Police Department is revamping the Neighborhood Watch program, making use of modern technology so that one Neighborhood Watch Block Captain can serve as liaison between the MVPD and the entire neighborhood. Tom Purcell on Alvin has volunteered for this position, and has set up a special email address, MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com, for questions. Meet Tom at the Neighborhood Watch display at Spring Fling on March 23.

Burglars use bathroom windows

By Marilyn Gildea

Many burglars enter through a bathroom window. An opening only wide enough for a head is enough to allow entry. I asked Jennifer Crist at the MVPD if the half-inch-diameter PVC tubing that prevents my sliding door and all my windows from being opened more than 5 inches is a good preventative.

Jennifer replied, "You can use PVC tubing, but I prefer a wooden dowel. Orchard Supply will cut either to the size you need. Even better is an adjustable window lock, also at OSH, that attaches to the railing where the window slides and keeps the window from being opened all the way."

Donate stuffed animals; meet our new director at the Spring Fling

By Ellen Henson and 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 Spring Fling, and meet Jenise Dormann, our new director.

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 http://mlna.wikispot.org/Stuffed_Animals. Questions? Contact Jenise (animalbeaconsoflight@gmail.com or 954-8443) or Ellen (animalbeacons@yahoo.com).

Welcome packet for newcomers

If you or a neighbor has lived here less than two years and would like a packet of local information, contact Jenny Coogan at coogan@gmail.com or 963-9811. Jenny is including interesting facts about Monta Loma, so contact her if you can contribute any.

Monta Loma Tee Shirts

Show your pride in Monta Loma at the Spring Fling—and elsewhere—by wearing a Monta Loma tee shirt. The shirts have our "dancing people" logo and the words *Monta Loma Neighborhood* and sell for \$12 (adult sizes) and \$7 (youth sizes). They'll be for sale at the event, but if you contact Marilyn now at marilyn@gildea.com or 940-1606, you'll have your shirt in time wear it to the Spring Fling.



Bill Cranston joins MLNA Board, Bill Lambert resigns

To avoid any possible conflict of interest, Bill Lambert resigned from the MLNA Board when he was elected to the Mountain View Whisman School District Board of Directors. New Monta Loma resident Bill Cranston had expressed interest in working on local projects such as the San Antonio Center redevelopment with nearby neighborhood associations. He attended the January 7 board meeting to meet the other members and hear Greenmeadow's Penny Ellson's presentation on San Antonio. Afterward Bill was appointed to the Board as a member at large.

Bill was born in Pennsylvania and lived in the Midwest and Northeast before moving to California 15 years ago. He has been a neighbor to Monta Loma for 14 years, living just across Central Expressway in The Crossings, where he has been a part of three of the different home-owner association boards for most of that time, most recently as president of two and treasurer of the third. Monta Loma was his first choice for his next home and he spent a good part of last year turning an under-loved rental on Mardell into his new home. Bill's priority is to ensure that what he has come to love about Monta Loma and the surrounding areas is protected for current and future residents.

San Antonio Center Phase 2

Helen Wolter and new MLNA board member Bill Cranston have been working with the representatives of several neighborhood associations who have joined together to discuss the Precise Plan for the San Antonio Planning Area and the impacts of Phase 2 of the San Antonio Center. (That's the area along California Avenue adjacent to San Antonio Road, including Barron Park Supply and the Milk Pail.)

Bill then represented Monta Loma at the January 22 city council meeting that discussed the San Antonio Planning Area Precise Plan and developer Merlone Geier's plans for Phase 2. Bill presented the MLNA's concern about the projected increase in traffic, as well as the need for access and safety for pedestrians and bicyclists, and parks and open space, schools, and child care for the residents of the hundreds of new housing units.

The City Council will hold a meeting in March to decide what to request of developers. The options could include traffic mitigation, park space, height limits, and/or a pedestrian tunnel under Central Expressway. Monta Loma residents are strongly encouraged to become informed about this large project and make their desires known. The dates of relevant meetings will be posted on the mln email list.

A request from Monta Loma School Principal Angela Lyon

The teachers have asked me to request that neighbors refrain from bringing dogs onto campus and the park fields during school hours. These areas are closed during school hours so that kids can be safe from pets and we don't step in dog feces.

Walking dogs along the path is fine; however, some people are walking their dogs onto campus during recess or playing with the dogs on the fields. With dogs comes dog poo, and we are washing it off lots of shoes.

How to help Monta Loma School

For ways to **donate financially**, go to montaloma.mvwsd.org and click on Fundraising; it's directly under the leopard's head.

To **help with the May 3 Walk-a-Thon fundraiser**, contact Tonya Brilon at tonya@victorland.com or the school.

To **contribute** time or ideas to the gifted and talented program, contact Joan Starreveld at joan@searanch.com.

To **help in a classroom** at any time, contact Volunteer Coordinator Michelle Badger at mmbadger@gmail.com or 924-2468.

To **help with the school gardens**, or to **donate yarn, knitting needles, or crochet hooks** to the new knitting club, contact Lorraine Kostka at lorrainekostka@earthlink.net or 691-0491.

Neighborhood Resources

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Tim Slattery, 964-6389
tim_slattery@usa.net

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Tom Purcell
MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com

Activities Committee

Jennifer Coogan, 963-9811
coogan@gmail.com

Parents' Network and Babysitting Co-op

Verity Chase, 969-6735

MLN Neighborhood Email List

mln@yahoogroups.com
List owner: Peggy Manor
mamm@pobox.com
To get only official announcements, subscribe at www.montaloma.org.

MLNA Websites

www.montaloma.org
Referrals:
mlna.wikispot.org
Webmaster: Jeff Leonard
webmaster@montaloma.org

Thanks to Our Volunteers!

Thanks to those who delivered the November newsletter: Vannina Champenois, Henry Chace, Martha Elderon, Grant & Birgit Grundler, Maria Harnoto, Marianna Harvey, Chuck and Cookie Henderson, Jesslyn Holombo, Paul Kostka, Sisca Lawi with children Emma and Alexander van Geuns, Vicki Lee, Allison McGill, Jen Mills, Shelly Ostman, Herb and Victoria Perry, Melba Reiling, 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.

Fresh & Easy under review

A news story in December that British supermarket chain Tesco may close its Fresh & Easy stores in the U.S. caused concern among the fans of the store in Monta Loma Plaza. Jocelyn, the manager of our store, says that a decision won't be made until April. Unlike some of the stores in NorCal, our store is meeting its performance expectations, and usually exceeds them. Jocelyn urges us to "Keep shopping!"

An email message came from Fresh & Easy in late January: "Our parent company Tesco is conducting a strategic review of Fresh & Easy; they're looking at all options to find the best outcome for the neighborhood market that you have come to love. While we don't know what that outcome will be, or if Tesco will continue to own the company, we're confident that Fresh & Easy can continue to be your favorite market..."

Monta Loma School benefits from Fresh & Easy receipts

Through December 31, the PTA encouraged us to save our Fresh and Easy receipts that totaled at least \$20 and bring them to the school. Each \$20+ receipt was worth \$1. The 642 receipts received earned a total of \$995. A \$50 bonus for collecting over \$500 worth of receipts raised the total to \$1,045. Thanks, everyone!

Community events

Paper shredding: Saturday, April 27, 8:00 to noon at the SMaRT Station, 301 Carl Road, Sunnyvale (408-752-8530). Call 903-6311 for more information.

- Bring confidential paper documents only (no binders, binder clips, VHS tapes, CDs, or computer disks/drives).
- Limit of 5 banker's boxes OR 5 paper grocery bags per household.
- Proof of residency is required (utility bill, drivers license).
- Volunteers will be available to assist in off-loading boxes.

City of Mountain View Spring Family Parade: Saturday, April 27, noon. To register by the April 5 deadline visit <http://tinyurl.com/SpringParade2013> or call 903-6448.

Citywide garage sale: Saturday, May 4, 8:00–2:00 at homes. Register free by April 19. Visit www.mvrecycle.org or call 903-6331. (Ed. note: The more local dots on the map, the more customers we'll attract.)

Community yard sale: Saturday, May 11, 8:00–2:00 at Rengstorff Park. Registration (small charge) began March 1 and spaces fill quickly. Call 903-6331.

Library used-book sale: May 18 & 19. Details at www.mvlibraryfriends.org.

Holiday Progressive Dinner a success

By Pat Jordan

December's Holiday Potluck Progressive Dinner was a big success. The 33 attendees, in two groups, went to three homes each for the various courses. Everyone had fun meeting new people, seeing old friends, and eating delicious food.

Hosts were Ann Togasaki, Linda and Patrick Harvey, Cathy Blake, Debbie and Scott Cunningham, Adrienne and Vesa Heiskanen, Charlotte Scheithauer, and Alice Borda.

Donations totaled \$825, which was doubled by Second Harvest Food Bank for a total of \$1,650, enough to provide 3,300 holiday meals.

Last summer's progressive party was a success, too, so plan to attend this year's. Volunteer hosts should contact me at californiajordan@yahoo.com or 967-1467.

Weather permitting, the Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School on San Antonio will hold an outdoor event with music on Tuesday, April 16, from 2:15 to 3:30.

Mountain View Educational Foundation seeks support

By Adrienne Heiskanen, MVEF treasurer and Monta Loma resident

The MVEF was established in 1983 to support essential programs such as art and music in the Mountain View Whisman School District. This year, the foundation hopes to fund nearly \$550,000 of educational programs in the district, including art, music, science kits, and recess programs in the elementary schools, and art, music, extended-day electives, after-school sports, and science labs in the middle schools. The foundation has also committed to provide technology grants to each school to facilitate programs such as ST Math and Khan Academy. To donate, go to www.mvef.org.

Turnout low for MVWSD meetings on use of Measure G funds

The MLNA Board used the mln email list, A-frame signs, and notice board in the park to publicize the public meetings held in February by the Mountain View Whisman School District. The MVWSD sought input from the community on its desires, priorities, and concerns regarding the spending of the Measure G bond issue funds to modernize Crittenden and Graham middle schools. Despite our efforts, turnout for the meetings was very low.

Audubon Society's Birdathon Fundraiser

by Dotty Calabrese

On April 13 I will again participate in the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society's Annual Birdathon, a fundraiser for environmental education in Title I (low-income area) Santa Clara County public schools. Last year, our team identified 116 bird species in one very long day. I personally raised over \$6,500, including over \$1,450 from generous Monta Loma neighbors. Please consider sponsoring me this year. Your tax-deductible donation can be as little as \$5 or as much as you can afford. For more information, visit www.scvas.org. You can donate online by clicking on "Sponsor" under "Spring Birdathon" on the left, then selecting me in the "Select the person" box. Or mail a check payable to SCVAS to Dotty Calabrese, 2465 Richard Ct., 94043. (Or drop it in my mail slot; it's the Eichler across Thaddeus from Thaddeus Park by May 10.) Thank you for your generosity!



Mobile Library adds weekly stop at Monta Loma School

Thanks to a generous grant from Google, the Mobile Library now 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 March 22, April 19, May 17, and June 14 from 9:45 to 10:15.

Need a library card? Adults can register online at <https://library.mountainview.gov/selfreg>. Children need an adult's signature to obtain a card, so print an application form at <http://tinyurl.com/librarycardformenglish> or <http://tinyurl.com/librarycardformspanish>.

For more information or special requests, email Mobile.Library@mountainview.gov or call 526-7029. You can check whether the items you want are available at <http://libris.ci.mtnview.ca.us/>

Monta Loma School's Walk-a-Thon needs volunteers

By Tonya Brilon

The annual Walk-a-Thon is May 3 and it's the PTA's biggest fundraiser of the year. Last year we raised \$15,000! We need lots of energetic volunteers to help count laps, serve snacks/water, help with the bake sale and auction, keep the kids on course and excited, etc. If you can help by volunteering or by donating time/food/items for auction/activities (balloon animals, face painting, etc.), please contact me at tonya@victorland.com or drop a note in the PTA box in the office.

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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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Keeping Monta Loma Clean and Green

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

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.

Street sweeping: Help the sweeper clean your gutter by moving your cars and trash bins off the street the evening before the second and fourth Thursdays of each month.

- **Swim at Greenmeadow's pool**
- Memberships are available for the Greenmeadow Community Association pool, located within easy walking/biking distance via the Nita/San Antonio crosswalk. This community swim club offers lap swimming, swim team, swim lessons, water exercise, and family events in the adjacent park. Email for details at info@greenmeadow.org.

Peninsula Storage offers U.S. mail services
As tax time approaches, remember that Peninsula Storage offers all USPS services except rental boxes. The office is at 2409 Leghorn Street; turn left (west) off Independence. Mon.–Sat. 9am–5pm. Mail collection is at 4:30; 968-7700; www.peninsulastorage.com.

Traffic update: Jane Lane at Rengstorff
Among the requests made at last September's city/neighborhood meeting were better lighting and visibility on Jane at Rengstorff. Unlike most intersections, there is no streetlight at this corner.
It's around the corner by the bus stop, so the best that the City could do was to increase the wattage to the street light on Rengstorff that's directly across from Jane, and angle that light to better illuminate the intersection. The curbs at the corner were also painted red to prevent parking on the corners.

VOLUNTEER FOR ROAD RUNNERS
Both John Canata and Elna Tymes encourage you to volunteer as a driver with Road Runners, an auxiliary of El Camino Hospital that provides door-to-door transportation for people who cannot drive themselves. "It's a lot of fun and a way to meet some new but very appreciative folks," says John. Contact Bonnie at 940-7016.

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 right side of the home page, www.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.

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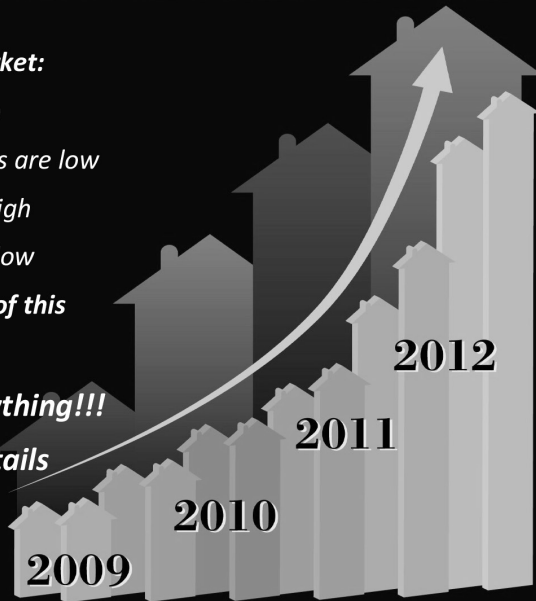
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