



MONTA LOMA NEWS

Published and Distributed by the Monta Loma Neighborhood Association

Will a Neighbor Need Help?

By Jim Cochran

When the next big earthquake or other emergency comes, your neighbors who have difficulty walking may need help getting out of their homes. With a little advance planning, you can provide support. Please consider asking them if they would welcome help. If so, get their phone number and arrange for emergency access, such as a spare key.

The Monta Loma CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) will maintain a record of people who may need help, if they register with us. CERT is trained to conduct a neighborhood assessment following a major earthquake and is willing to try to contact those on our list. CERT cannot be completely responsible for anyone, but will make an effort to assist. To register, contact Sheri Morrison at morrison.sheri@gmail.com or 968-0678

Be ready to help your neighbor by making arrangements in advance.

Monta Loma Neighborhood's

City Council Candidates' Forum

Saturday, October 28,

9:30 am to noon

Monta Loma School Multipurpose Room

*Doors open at 9:00 for setup,
hot drinks, and baked goods.*

*Plan to come early and stay after 11:00 to
talk with the candidates face-to-face.*

Monta Loma Neighborhood Association General Meeting

Thursday, November 9, 7:15 pm

Monta Loma School Multipurpose Room

*Learn about the Home Depot store proposed for the Sears
site and Toll Brothers' latest plans from representatives of
both companies.*

*Doors open at 6:30 for setup and refreshments;
program begins at 7:15.*

*What would you like the candidates
to discuss at our forum? Submit
your questions to Marilyn Gildea
(marilyn@gildea.org or 940-1606) or
any board member by Oct. 25.*

Can You Vote on Nov. 7?

Yes, if you are a U.S. citizen and if
you're registered by the October 23
deadline.

You need to reregister if you've changed
your name or address. Mail-in forms are
usually available at post offices, city hall,
libraries, and the DMV. You can also call
the Registrar's office at 408/299-8683 or
visit www.SmartVoter.org.

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wsuverkropp@yahoo.com

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IN MOUNTAIN VIEW :: www.girlsms.org

Thanks to Our Volunteers

Thanks to those who delivered the August newsletter: John Canata, Jim Castelli, Jim and Alice Cochran, Martha Elderon, Marilyn Gildea, Silke Gurlich, Maria Harnoto, Chuck and Cookie Henderson, Janet Kenney (2), Monique Kenney, Simone Kenney, Paul Kostka, Joan and Wally MacDonald, Shelly Ostman, Herb and Victoria Perry, Melba Reiling, Joan Ryan, Carolyn Siegel, Cheryl Smith.

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.

Reading Volunteers Sought

Liz Mabey on Thompson Court is recruiting volunteers for the Y.E.S. one-on-one reading tutoring program at Castro Elementary School. Contact Liz at lmabey@yahoo.com or 967-1935.

Call for Articles

Early January is the deadline for submitting material for the March issue. A reminder will go out to the neighborhood email lists, but if you're not on a list, you won't see it.

Join the mln list via mln-subscribe@yahoogroups.com or the announcements-only list at www.montaloma.org/subscribe.shtml

We welcome all ideas but reserve the right to edit submissions. To submit an item, contact Marilyn Gildea at marilyn@gildea.com or 940-1606.

Monta Loma on the Net

Neighborhood Email List
mln@yahoogroups.com
Chris Hoover
chris1162@yahoo.com

MLNA Websites
www.montaloma.org

Referrals: www.montaloma.org/wiki

Cheryl Jasper
webmaster@montaloma.org

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 new email list that sends you only announcements from the board. Messages sent to this list will be strictly limited. Join at www.montaloma.org/subscribe.shtml

Vision Leadership Experience



The Monta Loma neighborhood is one of Mountain View's treasures. I have worked with many of you on community initiatives and advocated to preserve and enhance Monta Loma's quality of life.

I would be honored to represent you on the City Council where I will work to promote balanced growth, a strong local economy and comprehensive human services for our entire community. I will use my experiences as an Environmental Planning Commissioner, former Elected Trustee on the Santa Clara County Board of Education representing Mountain View, a former aide to Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, former small business owner, governing boardmember of community based organizations, a mother of school aged children and a care provider of elderly parents, to make Mountain View a great place to live, work, play, do business and learn. I would be honored to have your vote on November 7th.

 **MARGARET**
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www.margaretforcouncil.com

Paid for by Margaret for Council FPPC ID #1266286

Neighborhood Resources

*Community Emergency Response Team
(CERT)*
Jim Cochran, 207-5518
jimcoch@comcast.net

Neighborhood Watch
Chuck Henderson, 969-9947
henderson86@comcast.net

Activities Committee
Wouter Suverkropp, 968-3056
wsuverkropp@yahoo.com

MLNA Babysitting Co-op
Barbara Ho, 965-7293
barbara_ho@yahoo.com



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Santa Clara County Supervisor Liz Kniss
Congresswoman Anna Eshoo
Former Mayor Jim Cochran
Silicon Valley Association of Realtors



KEY PRIORITIES:

- **More Parks, Open Space and Athletic Fields in Underserved Areas**
- **Neighborhood Preservation**
- **Strong Economic Development**
- **Accountability to Mountain View Residents**

"In my more than thirty years in this community, I have been a renter, a homeowner, a landlord, a senior manager in a number of aerospace companies, and a small business owner. I want to protect and improve the quality of life for all residents in Mountain View."

Ice Cream Social a Huge Success

By John (Yoni) Novat, Coordinator

The tenth annual Ice Cream Social was a huge success, with several hundred neighbors meeting and greeting each other while consuming 150 cartons of ice cream. The setup went smoothly; Wouter Suverkropp collected the loaned tables, chairs, coolers, and trash cans in his pickup truck and many volunteers helped arrange them.

Susan Slater coordinated the baked-goods, water, and tee shirt sales and the information table. Face painting by Adriana Flores, Rupal Gupta, Dinnie McLaughlin and Hilla Novat proved popular. The bike parade, led by Mary Arnone, also drew many kids, as did Gary Heyman's balloons and Gloria Jackson's and John Ari Stepp's cotton candy stand.

Emergency and safety information was available from the Mountain View Police, Neighborhood Watch coordinators Chuck and Cookie Henderson, and the CERT trailer.

Six of the eight city council candidates attended to enable us to meet them and take their literature. Google representatives explained their free WiFi. Ellen Henson and Pat Jordan displayed their Animal Beacons of Light project, and Sumanth Rajagopal offered information about the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and the Sankara Eye Foundation.

My committee members were Adriana Flores, Marilyn Gildea, Dhananjay Ragade, and Susan Slater.

End-of-Winter Warmup Needs Volunteers

John (Yoni) Novat did a great job of organizing the Ice Cream Social, but his duties with the school's CEL program prevent his participation in our other annual event, the End-of-Winter Warmup. It's scheduled for Saturday, March 17, to coincide with the school's book sale. The Activities Committee needs more members and an event chair to make this annual event happen. Planning begins two months before, so please contact Wouter Suverkropp at wsuverkropp@yahoo.com or 968-3056 and volunteer now.

Enough Park Space? Where?

By Andy Rose

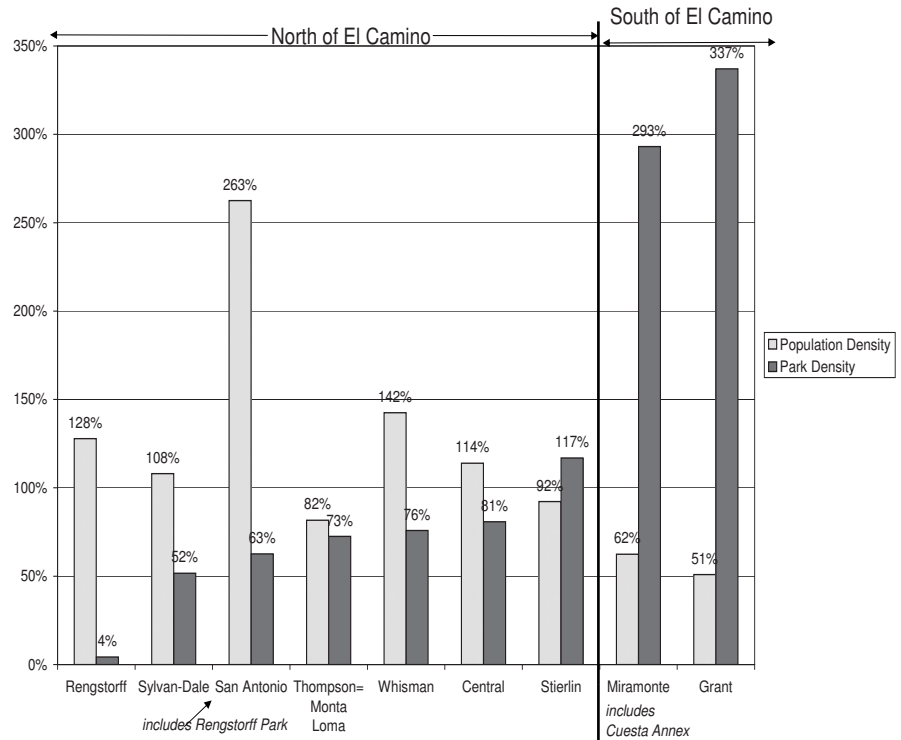
As Elna's article on the Mayfield site points out, there's a shortage of playing fields in the city. But is there a park shortage? Not according to the city's website. Looking at the city as a whole, there are three acres of parkland for every 1,000 residents; right on target for the city's park-space goal. I see it quite differently.

The city has divided Mountain View into ten Planning Areas for parks availability. (See chart.) Monta Loma is in a planning area that is greatly underserved by parks, while the Cuesta Annex is in an extremely well-served area. (This is the official conclusion of the city in the *Parks and Open Space Plan*, which you can find on the city's website.)

The area south of El Camino has approximately 20% of the city's residents, yet has more than three times the amount of park space the population "needs." (Note: South-of-El-Camino is also less densely populated than North-of-El-Camino, at only 58% of the average population-per-acre for the city overall.) Eleven percent of the population is "properly" served by parks and is at the goal. That leaves two-thirds of the city's population significantly below the goal.

The issue of the Cuesta Park Annex usage goes beyond its immediate neighborhood. The park-space issue is a city-wide problem. The double standard held by the city council on park space needs to be aired and addressed; the council cannot continue to claim that Mountain View as a whole provides three acres per thousand residents when two-thirds of the residents live in areas that are well below this goal.

Mountain View Population Density and Park Density



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MOUNTAIN VIEW CITY COUNCIL



Baby Sitting Co-op

By Paul Kostka

The Monta Loma Baby Sitting Co-op invites new members to join. For more than 30 years, parents have found this a good way to meet other parents, and many long-term friendships have resulted. Contact Barbara Ho (barbara_ho@yahoo.com or 965-7293) or information.



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ENGINEER, PARKS AND RECREATION
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VOLUNTEER**



I will:

- Maintain high quality public safety and basic city services.
- Judiciously manage recovering city budget and reserves.
- Protect and increase parks and open space.
- Enhance Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) in preparation for major disasters.
- Balance housing development with existing neighborhoods and supporting infrastructure.

WWW.ELECTINKS.COM

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Calendar Added to our Website

By Cheryl Jasper

What's happening in Monta Loma? Check our new events calendar on the MLN website (www.montaloma.org) by clicking the Calendar link on the left side of the page, or go directly to:
www.montaloma.org/calendar.

To see more information about an event, hover the mouse over it.

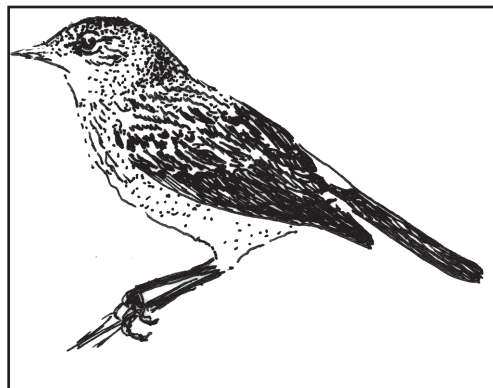
The calendar is available to the public for viewing only. The board sends me the information to be posted, and I post it. If you know of a neighborhood event that the board might not know about, such as a neighborhood watch meeting, send the event name, sponsor, date, time, and details to Marilyn Gildea (marilyn@gildea.com). Please email me, Cheryl Jasper, if you have any questions about using the calendar (webmaster@montaloma.org).

Birding in the Monta Loma Neighborhood

By Dotty Calabrese; Illustration by Bonnie Bedford-White

The Yellow-Rumped Warbler

The beautiful Yellow-rumped Warbler winters farther north than any other warbler species. It is one of the few birds that can digest the wax that coats many berries growing in more northern climates, and is found in our neighborhood in fall, winter, and early spring. You might see two or three of these birds fluttering and feeding in trees and bushes or foraging on the ground for the insects and berries that make up its diet.



Although it's one of the larger warblers (5 to 6 in. long), the Yellow-rumped is still one of our smaller neighborhood birds. Gray with black mottling (females may look more brownish), the winter Yellow-rumped Warbler has some white striping on its wings, a bright yellow rump (hence its nickname Butter-Butt), pale yellow or buff throat patch, and yellow side streaks. With binoculars, you may notice a thin broken white eye-ring.

Until 1973, the Yellow-rumped Warbler was considered two separate but closely related species, the Audubon's Warbler (mostly western) and the Myrtle Warbler (mostly eastern).

Email your bird questions to me at dottycala@aol.com.

Good Neighbor Dogs

By Marilyn Davis

A dog is a good friend and a loving contribution to any family. Some dog owners believe that its barking also deters intruders, but this is not true anymore. An intruder can easily render any dog quiet and useless with a cheap electronic device that emits an ultrasonic screech that will send the dog whimpering in pain. So a dog that barks too often may be only an unpleasant neighborhood disturbance.

The good news is that there are reasonably priced electronic painless devices that train an excessively barking dog not to bark. These produce an audible sound that annoys the dog when he barks, but does not hurt him. It takes a little longer to train a dog with a painless device, but he will become a quiet dog and a good neighbor. To see the kindest devices, search the internet for "no bark" "painless" and "audible."

There are also ultrasonic devices for stopping a neighbor's dog from barking. These are, of course, painful to your own dog, so it is better to avoid this desperate measure.

Editor's note: Nola Mae suggested including this poem that Nita resident Gerald Kipp read at city meetings. He has lived in Mountain View since 1970 and wrote this in the '80s.

Mountain View was a wonderful place;
It was beautiful, clean, a joy to the human race.
The mountains were clear, could be seen for miles;
On each of us were great big smiles.
Years passed, population grew,
The smog settled in, and pollution, too.
Trees were uprooted, farms torn down,
In the name of progress we built our town.
Wherever we could find an empty space
A building and parking lot did replace.
Skies turned to haze; with a tear in my eye
I looked at the mountains and started to cry.
"Bring them back," I cried, but no one listened;
I wanted to move to a place that glistened.
Remember, my friends, unless something is done,
Chemicals will trap you as they've trapped the sun.
When the earth is polluted and there's no place to hide,
There will no longer be a place to reside.

Ronit Bryant

for Mountain View City Council

It's time to build a roadmap for Mountain View

Mountain View is changing, and I want to make sure that we, the residents, actively guide this change. I want to create a roadmap for Mountain View to:

- ✓ **Make Mountain View a more livable city** by adding a park in every neighborhood, establishing safe bike and pedestrian routes and a cross-town shuttle to link us all, building affordable housing that fits into our neighborhoods
- ✓ **Build Mountain View's community** by encouraging strong neighborhoods with active CERT groups, giving a voice to all residents, and adding more activities for students
- ✓ **Nurture Mountain View's economic standing** by welcoming emerging businesses, promoting existing ones, and filling storefronts with a variety of the businesses we need

In twenty years of leadership, I have brought about positive and visible changes to the daily life of all our residents:

- ✓ *Narrowed Dana Street near Landels School and made it safer for students*
- ✓ *Rewrote the Parks & Open Space Plan to provide a roadmap for acquiring open space and developing parks*
- ✓ *Pushed City Council to direct the Parks and Recreation Commission to develop a Recreation Plan based on an analysis of neighborhood and City needs*

**As your Councilmember, I can do so much more.
Please vote for me on November 7.**

Meet me at www.RonitBryantforCityCouncil.com

FPPC # 1286234

Paid for by Ronit Bryant for Mountain View City Council



Highlights of Community Service

- ✓ Parks & Recreation Commission (8 yrs)
- ✓ OMVNA Chair (2 yrs), Newsletter Editor (7 yrs), Webmistress (4 yrs), CERT coordinator (3 yrs)
- ✓ Mountain View Trees Co-chair
- ✓ Landels, Slater, Graham PTA Board
- ✓ Landels and Graham PTA Newsletter Editor
- ✓ MVHS Music Parents Board and Newsletter Editor
- ✓ MVHS Site Council
- ✓ Leadership Mountain View Graduate

Mayfield Update

By Elna Tymes, MLNA President

In June, the city council voted 7-0 to approve the Mayfield Precise Plan and zoning changes, virtually as submitted and without most of the mitigation provisions requested by Monta Loma and approved by the Environmental Planning Commission. Though discouraged, most of us in the Mayfield Coalition are willing to stay involved and work toward reasonable mitigations as the project proceeds through the next planning stages.

Next, the project needs to obtain a Planned Community (PC) permit. This requires a Master Development Plan, which will include site design, circulation, open space network, public parks, building locations, architectural design, and phasing of streets, parks, units, and other improvements.

The approved Precise Plan, complete with a description of these phases, maps showing development areas and improvements, and examples of various designs, will shortly be available electronically on the Mayfield

Coalition site:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Mayfield_Coalition

The approved mitigation measures are already available as a downloadable file on the site. The Precise Plan sets out the rules by which the developer can proceed, and the mitigation measures list specific things the developer must do to address problems related to the development. We will continue to monitor developments and stay in touch with both city staff and Toll Brothers' representatives for the project.

I continue to be awed by both the amount and the quality of the volunteer work that Monta Loma residents have contributed to this project. Who knew that we had several professional city planners in our midst? Who knew that some of the engineers who help coach kids' soccer and baseball teams were qualified and willing to research and write up studies on traffic, sound, geology and soils, and park area? Who knew that we'd have neighbors willing to stand in the rain for hours to do traffic counts? Who knew that the lawyers next door would be willing to help analyze CEQA regulations and either challenge them or advise us how to respond

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to them? And who knew that we'd get the expert volunteer guidance of community leaders just across San Antonio Road to guide us through the response process? We are truly grateful for all this volunteer effort by you, our neighbors.

The Mayfield process has highlighted a set of city-wide issues:

1. Almost all new residential development is taking place on the north side (our side) of El Camino.
2. The city's goal for park space is 3 acres per 1000 residents. The area on the south side of El Camino has approximately 9 acres per 1000 residents. The area on the north side has much less than 3 acres per 1000 residents; in some areas, none at all. Monta Loma has less than 2 acres per 1000 residents if you factor in our neighbors in the area north of us to 101, east of us to Permanente Creek (think Farley), and south to Central. They have no parks and are being told to use the parks in Monta Loma.
3. The city's playing fields—including the one at Monta Loma School—are very heavily used. At a recent Parks & Rec Commission hearing a coach of a new team said he'd recently applied for a permit to use a field and was told that not only are there no fields

available, but that he'll have to wait till December to apply to use a field in 2007. We've all seen how games are scheduled back to back on weekends at Monta Loma field; apparently that's typical throughout the city.

4. New housing developments already scheduled for Mountain View and Palo Alto will add substantially to the heavy traffic on Central Expressway and San Antonio, with no plans to expand either road or to otherwise accommodate the increased traffic.

The good news is that the coming election for three city council members will allow us to choose candidates who have become informed about these issues and will work toward their resolution. Please attend the Candidates' Forum on October 28 and listen to what the candidates have to say.

Q&A with Council Members

City council members Galiotto, Perry, and Means plus 20 staff members representing seven city departments answered the questions of the 50 audience members at the city-sponsored neighborhood meeting on September 21.

Vote for Tian Harter



Action oriented environmentalist!

Endorsed by: Bruce Karney (Treasurer), Bob Alavi, Mark Alexander, P. John Anderson, Carol Brouillet, Kimberly Brown, Larry Cafiero, John D. Carpenter, Fred & Lois Duperrault, Charles Dupre, Mike Fischetti, Barbara Goodwin, Susan Grill, John & Evelyn Harter, Bob Kirby, Alan Keith, Helen Landsman, Jan Laskowski, Mike & Bonnie Laster, Matthew Nahan, Anne & Phil Pflager, Stephanie Schaaf, Cameron Spitzer, Dan Starrit, Tonia Vaughn, Marilyn Winkelby, and others...

I'm running for City Council because Mountain View is a great place to live and I want it to stay that way.

In walking precincts in Monta Loma, I've been told over and over "we need more parks!" I hear you. My main reasons for running are that we need:

Better transit services

Solar power in city buildings

More affordable housing, especially near transit

Pedestrian and bicycle safety

To work together on environmental issues

For more information please visit TianHarter.org

Paid for by: Tian Harter for City Council, P.O. Box 391854,
Mountain View CA 94039-1854. FPCC ID#1289659

Book Discussion

November 9, 5–7 pm

As part of the Mountain View Reads Together program (see www.mvreads.org), our local Starbucks at Middlefield at Rengstorff will provide coffee and pastries during a discussion of Malcolm Gladwell's *Blink* starting at 5 pm. See what *Blink* is about at

<http://www.gladwell.com/blink/index.html>.

Contact: Dhananjay Ragade
dragade@gmail.com

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Advocate for better landlord/tenant relations

Public Safety/Crime Prevention:

Create with the Police Department a safety/training program for residents
Make traffic concerns/issues a priority

City Services community friendly / community based:

More programs for working adults after work/weekends

Smart spending in the City budget:

Examine the need to increase or bring back services/programs

Support local economy / businesses:

Recognize/identify local business with special or unique services as well as those that support the community

Endorsed by Mountain View community members and organizations, including:

- Mountain View Police Officers Association
- Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter
- South Bay AFL-CIO Labor Council
- The Honorable Sally Lieber, Assemblywoman, Speaker pro Tempore, California State Assembly
- Nancy Noe, Former Mountain View City Councilmember
- Darion Lawson, Mountain View Human Relations Commissioner
- Ervin Upton, Mountain View Downtown Committee Member



Neighborhood Watch Program: Keeping Monta Loma Safe

The best way to keep our neighborhood safe is to know your neighbors, keep your home secure, and report (but don't get involved in) any suspicious circumstances or crimes you witness.

For information about the Neighborhood Watch Program, contact Chuck Henderson at 969-9947 or at henderson86@comcast.net

To report incidents:

- 911 – for emergencies and in-progress incidents, when using a “land” line or a Verizon or Metro PCS cell phone.
- 903-6395 – for emergency calls from other cell phones. The MVPD recommends programming this into your cell phone; if you're on the highway, a call to 911 may go to the CHP in Vallejo.
- www.mvdpd.gov – for non-emergencies. Click on “On-Line Reporting” at left.

Remember: If what you hear, see, or smell makes you uncomfortable then it's okay to call it in. Your safety comes first. Better to observe and call than to confront.

Annual Financial Report

MLNA treasurer Kathy Fitzpatrick reports that the association had another successful year. Grants from the city again enabled us to hold two successful events, the End-of-Winter Warmup in March and the Ice Cream Social in August. This is a very condensed statement; contact Kathy for more detail. Please patronize our advertisers; they make the newsletter possible.

MLNA	Withdrawals	Deposits
Beginning balance 7/1/05		3981.07
Grant from City		1500.00
Ice Cream Social 8/05	552.50	459.25
End-of-Winter Warmup 3/06	383.48	15.00
General Meetingsa		16.00
Newsletter & Flyers/Ad Revenue	2187.95	2770.00
Website	225.79	
Neighborhood Watch	183.87	
Miscellaneous Expenses	238.00	
Total Withdrawals/Deposits	3771.59	4760.25
Ending balance 6/30/06		4969.73

CERT		
Beginning balance 7/1/05		938.90
Miscellaneous Supplies – pillows, blankets, books, etc.	846.91	
Ending balance 6/30/06		91.99

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