



Meet Your City Council and School Board Candidates

Saturday morning, October 23, 9:45 – noon

Monta Loma School Multipurpose Room

9:45–10:15 School Board candidates' position statements; questions from the neighborhood

10:15–noon City Council candidates' position statements; preselected questions from the neighborhood; open question time

Come early to meet the candidates in person. Enjoy free baked goods and Starbucks coffee.

Candidates Forum

by Marilyn Gildea

Thanks to the MLNA Social Committee for arranging this event. They've had a good response from the candidates for the Mountain View City Council and the Mountain View-Whisman School District Board, who say that they look forward to the opportunity.

The organizers hope for an equally good response from Monta Loma residents. All the candidates have pledged to "listen to the voters," so this is your chance to be seen and heard, and show them what an active neighborhood we are.

The forum is scheduled for a Saturday morning because of the large turnout of both candidates and Monta Loma residents for the October 2002 forum.

That time, many candidates came early to talk with us person-to-person, so you may want to come early, too. The room is reserved from 9 until 1, to allow time for setup and cleanup. If you come at 9 you can help set up (and get first chance at the goodies).

Voter Registration

The registration deadline is Monday, October 18. Mail-in registration forms are available at post offices, libraries, and city halls.

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Annual Financial Report

MLNA treasurer Kathy Fitzpatrick reports that the association had another successful year. In July 2004 the city reimbursed us \$2,343, which allowed us to put on three wonderful events: the End-of-Winter Warmup, and the Neighborhood Heroes and Safety Faire, and the Ice Cream Social. Please patronize our advertisers because they make the newsletter possible.

This is a very condensed statement; contact Kathy for more detail.

MLNA	Withdrawals	Deposits
Beginning balance 7/1/03		2,490.44
Ice Cream Social 8/03	912.23	284.75
End-of-Winter Warmup 3/04	262.20	130.00
Newsletter & HP Survey/ads revenue	1,499.04	1455.00
Miscellaneous expenses	435.15	
Total Withdrawals/Deposits	3,108.62	1,869.75
Ending balance 6/30/04		1,251.57

CERT		
Beginning balance 7/1/03		1,231.89
First Aid Kit; miscellaneous	1,929.47	
Neighborhood Heroes Event	620.80	
Grant from City		2,677.50
Total Withdrawals/Deposits	2,550.27	2,677.50
Ending balance 6/30/04		1,359.12

Ice Cream Social a Big Success

by Susan Slater

Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who helped make the Ice Cream Social such a success. We really appreciate all those who helped with setting up, cleaning up, scooping ice cream, face painting, baking delicious goodies, balloon sculpting, and providing important and interesting information about Monta Loma, as well as those assisting with all the other things that help an event like this run smoothly.

Cheers also to everyone who attended. Free ice cream is a real incentive, but events like this don't work unless people are willing to come and to socialize with neighbors both new and old. The great attendance shows how much people care about this neighborhood and enjoy interacting with their neighbors.

On behalf of the MLNA Activities Committee (Diana Anderson, Jill Bertrand, Adriana Flores, Dave Jensen, Ginney Juarez, Andi McCallum, Dhananjay Ragade, Leane Reelfs, and Susan Slater).

Ed. note: Thanks, too, to Adriana for inviting the city council and school board candidates, and to Nola Mae McBain for asking Kelly Snider of Toll Brothers to exhibit the plans for the HP-site redevelopment and answer questions.

Thanks to MLNA president Alan Whitaker for the orange lawn signs announcing events. Alan places both these new signs and the older sandwich boards around Monta Loma. As one neighbor remarked, "I may not be able to read the message from my car, but the signs tell me that something important is happening, so when a flyer comes, I pay attention."

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School Board Candidates

Candidates for the Mountain View-Whisman School Board were invited to submit brief statements, which appear in the order in which they were received. Meet the candidates in person at the Oct. 23 Monta Loma forum.

Fiona Walter

The Mountain View-Whisman School District currently faces many challenges, including choosing a superintendent and possible school closure. I am active in our district at many levels (classroom volunteer, Co-President of the Huff PTA, executive board member for both parcel taxes, and a dedicated school board meeting attendee) as well as being a Stanford graduate and parent. I will objectively evaluate issues affecting our children while focusing on making our district one of excellence. Thank you for your vote.
www.fionaforschoolboard.com

Gloria Higgins

It is my privilege to serve on the school board in our wonderful community. Thanks to your support, our district has made significant progress with our strategic plan and newly passed parcel tax. Now we face new challenges and opportunities. I have the experience and commitment necessary to fulfill our mission of success for all. I am eager to work with you to meet that goal. I would be honored to have your vote. Thank you. www.gloriahiggins.com

RoseMary Sias Roquero

*College preparatory education for all learners

*Open Communication

Native Mountain View Resident

Educated and taught within our school system.

Teaching Credentials: Regular & Special Ed

Certificates: CLAD & Multicultural/Special Ed/ESL

Teacher: Reading Revolution

Daughters attended local schools

School Leadership spans 30 years commencing in 1974 as a Room Parent to 2002 Co-President of LAHS PTSA, Site Council, MVLA Budget Committee, 2004 MVWSD School Closure Task Force and High School Mentor.

Thank you for your support.

www.rosemaryforschoolboard.com

From the Editor

by Marilyn Gildea

I have assumed the position of newsletter editor, as Peggy has found that she now has less free time to devote to volunteer projects. The issues that she produced over the past 18 months have been much complimented and appreciated.

Early January is the deadline for submitting material for the Winter issue. A Call for Articles will go out to the neighborhood e-mail list, but if you're not on the list, you won't see it. (Join the list via mln-subscribe@yahoo.com.)

I welcome all ideas but reserve the right to edit submissions. If you'd like to submit an item, please contact me.

Our Volunteers

Thanks to those who distributed the August issue: Diana Anderson, Mary Arnone, Julie Baher, John Canata, Jim and Alice Cochran, Amanda Giles, Michelle Hutton, Paul Kostka, Sherry Listgarten, Joan Miller, Linda Powers, Melba Reiling, Joan Ryan, Carolyn Siegel, Susan Slater, Anna Stickel, Elizabeth Wee, Mary Ellen Wolfers, and Wouter Suverkropp.

Thanks also to the volunteers who distribute meeting-announcement flyers.

Neighborhood History

by Cheryl Smith

Part II: Mayfield Mall

As the Mayfield/Hewlett-Packard site prepares to morph once again, it is interesting to look back at its history. This parcel is no exception to the rapid change to which we, as residents of Silicon Valley, are accustomed. The site was a truck farm called Italian Vegetable Gardens when Monta Loma's homes were built in the 1950s, and early residents recall going there for their produce. Farmers also brought in corn, tomatoes, strawberries, eggs, and even rabbits to sell from the backs of their trucks.

When the farm was sold to build the Mayfield Mall, the residents of Mardell Manor (the precursor to the Monta Loma neighborhood) called upon the city council to forbid the development. Although the council eventually approved it, it did require several adaptations, including traffic lights.

The mall was named after the township of Mayfield, which was located between Palo Alto and Mountain View but annexed by Palo Alto in 1925. By the time the mall was constructed the only residents being displaced were the four-legged kind. Joseph Hanselman on Anna recalls being "inundated with mice" due to the construction.

Shopping malls were a new concept in 1966, and the \$15-million-dollar project opened with great fanfare. A balloonist attempted to achieve a world-record ascension. A brochure touted "more than an acre of tastefully designed acrylic carpet to cushion your feet and control the noise." Newspaper articles chronicled the glamorous events

that took place inside the mall, including the Mall Ball, art and science exhibits (including one that displayed electric cars in 1969), and chamber-music performances. There was even talk of a monorail between the Mayfield and the San Antonio malls. It was proudly advertised in a 1972 Chamber of Commerce guide as "Northern California's first fully enclosed, air-conditioned, carpeted shopping mall [with] many stores and parking for several thousand cars." J.C. Penney, Joseph Magnin, and Wells Fargo Bank were among the tenants.

Anne Glynn, who lives on Dell, remembers buying a car battery at Penney's automotive department. The guarantee was good as long as she owned the car. "It cost about five dollars and I've replaced it five or six times."

Eliana Frank, on Lida, visited the mall often as a teenager. One trip was for a birthday gift for her mother: the trendy new fashion of ear piercing. She laughs now, "At first she thought piercing her ears was a barbaric idea!"

After about 10 years of operation, the mall owners realized that more and more business was going to the larger and newer Stanford and Valley Fair malls, and the decision was made to sell the property. The All About Pets store, which many Monta Lomans remember as their favorite place to buy hamsters or snakes, or simply to admire the puppies, was the last store occupied. Due to a lease disagreement, the pet store employees were still reporting to work even after the heat had been turned off and the sounds of demolition were all around them. January 30, 1985, was their last day. Hewlett-Packard would spend the next two years readying the 27-acre site.

Neighborhood Resources

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Jim Cochran, 964-1632
jimcoch@comcast.net

MLNA Babysitting Co-op

Wanda Furman, 969-9548
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Activities Committee

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MLNA Newsletter

Deadline for the winter issue is early January

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Webmaster

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Neighborhood History

by Cheryl Smith

Part III: Hewlett-Packard

Hewlett-Packard bought the Mayfield site in 1984 for \$38 million and spent another \$40 million to renovate it to seismic standards and add windows and landscaping. Herb Perry remembers the concern the neighborhood had at that transition also. "At first we were worried they were going to do manufacturing there and possibly pollute the ground water." When it was made clear that HP planned a customer service and training facility, the neighborhood was much relieved. The Monta Loma Association worked closely with the company and the city to ensure that the neighborhood was not adversely impacted. Although petitions to oppose the rezoning were organized, the final plan was supported. HP agreed to concessions such as having a road through the campus, and increasing the landscaping percentage from 7% to 20%.

In 1987, Celia Seavey was one of first HP employees to move in, to a second-floor office facing Nita. She remembers the first time they saw their new surroundings and realized that the renovation had retained much of the existing mall architecture. "It was weird at first, because it had these long, empty corridors."

Part of the former J.C. Penney became HP's state-of-the-art lunchroom. Celia remembers that it featured a salad bar and custom-made sandwiches, which were "very gourmet and elite at the time." She often brought lunch to her mother who lived in the house that Celia now occupies on Thompson Square. She also recalls

when the trees were newly planted and "there wasn't any shade if you didn't get there early." The trees soon became a memorable feature of the location and remain her favorite aspect. "Trees are the flavor of a neighborhood." The trees also contributed to a first-place Water Conservation Award from the City of Mountain View.

The site continued to be a pleasant workplace for about 1,000 HP employees for nearly 14 years. But in March 2003, the last workers moved out as HP consolidated with Compaq and reduced duplication of work forces.

Today the site is once again being analyzed for its best use for the neighborhood and community at large, and Monta Loma's history will soon write another chapter.

Part I of Cheryl's series appeared in the Summer issue.

Wildlife Rescue

submitted by Lauren Hasenhuttl

Wildlife Rescue, Inc. (WRI), located in Palo Alto, has provided wildlife intake and rehabilitation services in Palo Alto, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, and Mountain View since 1974 and is celebrating its 30th anniversary. WRI accepts injured and orphaned wildlife and has a large staff of volunteers who care for injured wildlife at the center and in their homes.

WRI's mission is to provide for the welfare of local wildlife and its coexistence with the community through rehabilitation, education, and example. Schools and community groups can request a speaker to explain how to protect local wildlife, and when and how to safely intervene.

WRI receives approximately 2,300 injured or orphaned wild birds, mammals, reptiles, and amphibians every year from concerned citizens and Palo Alto Animal Services, with birds comprising the largest percentage. Trained volunteers successfully rehabilitate and release more than 50% of these animals.

The shelter is located at 4000 Middlefield Road (Building V) in the Cubberley Community Center, just south of Charleston at the northernmost entrance to Cubberley. It is open to receive animals 7 days a week from 9am to 5pm. An Urban Wildlife hotline, 494-SAVE, is staffed by volunteers to provide public assistance from 10am to 8pm every day.

WRI is a non-profit tax-exempt organization, funded through membership dues, individual and corporate donations, and grants. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, please call 494-7926. More information is at www.wildliferescue.ws/

Did You Know:

- * It costs approximately \$83 to care for each animal.
- * It takes an average of 22 rolls of paper towels to raise a baby bird.
- * WRI uses over 1.5 million mealworms a year as food for birds and opossums.

Barn Owls in Our Neighborhood

by Dotty Calabrese

For several years, at least one pair of barn owls has resided in our neighborhood. Why be interested? A pair of barn owls will consume as many as twenty-seven rodents, usually mice and rats, *each* night. Roof rats beware!



Barn owls are large birds, beige above and white below, measuring 14" head to tail, with a 44" wingspan. A nocturnal bird with a heart-shaped facial disk, the barn owl can be seen most easily at dawn and dusk. One or both members of our resident pair has been making a regular sweep from the area of Victory and Alvin to Richard Court most evenings between 30 and 50 minutes after sunset. I have also seen one near the corner of Anna and Elka at dusk. Although barn owls are usually silent hunters, these owls screech fairly often, and sometimes make "bill-clacking" clicking sounds while flying.

During the day, they prefer to spend their time sleeping hidden in palm trees. After eating, owls regurgitate an "owl pellet" that consists of the bones and fur of their prey. To find an owl during the day, look for owl pellets beneath trees, especially palm trees. If a pellet looks moist, look up to see if the owl is in the tree.

If you manage to see our resident barn owls, do protect them and thank them for helping control our roof rat population.

Visit www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/Infocenter/i3650id.html for more information and photos, and to listen to its call.

E-mail your bird questions to me at dottycala@aol.com.

Illustration by Bonnie Bedford-White.

Sunday, November 14, 4:00–5:30 p.m. p.m.
Dotty Calabrese will lead a Monta Loma
Neighborhood Bird Walk

Meet at Monta Loma Park, at the picnic tables closest to Thompson Ave. Bring binoculars if you have them. Children who can pay attention quietly for two or three minutes when we see a bird are welcome to attend. Expect to see 10 to 15 common neighborhood species.
RAIN CANCELS.

CERT Update: Check Your Gas Valve!

by Aaron Grossman

(Reprinted with permission from the May/June issue of the Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association Newsletter.)

Your Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) strongly recommends that you make sure your gas valve is able to turn and not frozen in place. Use a sturdy and close-fitting wrench to test it.

Don't turn the valve too far, as it will shut off with only a quarter turn. Remember, the gas is on when the valve lines up with the pipe, and off is at right angle to the pipe, usually located just below the gas meter. For more information, go to www.pge.com/safety/home_safe_home/turn_gas_off/.

Many people erroneously think they should shut off their gas after an earthquake. PG&E says don't shut off the gas unless there's a strong odor of gas or major damage to the building. Once the gas is turned off, only a PG&E service person or other qualified professional should turn it back on, especially if pilot lights need to be relit. Pilot lights automatically shut off their gas when they go out. Visit www.omvna.org for more emergency preparedness links.

Ed. note: When I couldn't move my valve, PG&E gave me a short length of pipe to put over the end of my wrench. It gives me the extra leverage I need.

To learn about Monta Loma's own CERT, call 964-1632.