file copy

Mountain View, California *August 2011*

MONTA LOMA NEWS

Annual 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

Help is needed! See below.



Just a few of the things to see and do at the Ice Cream Social (ICS)

- Visit the MLNA welcome table first. Sign in, then put your name and street on a nametag so your neighbors can meet you. Check out the free information and volunteer opportunities.
- Visit the ice cream toppings table for add-ons to enhance your ice cream.
- Buy a Monta Loma tee shirt.
- Meet your school board and city council members and their staffs. They're invited so you can chat with them.
- Ask Gary the Balloon Man to make you a very cool hat.
- Donate stuffed animals to the Animals Beacons of Light (p. 2)
- Learn about CERT, our Community Emergency Response Team. Sign up.
- And, of course, eat ice cream!



Please Volunteer for the Ice Cream Social!

It takes many people to make the ICS a success, so please help. The tasks are listed at http://tinyurl.com/MLNAICS2011. Please take a look and sign up, or email eventcoordinator@montaloma.org. These are just some of the jobs:

- Volunteer your folding tables and shade tents.
- Pick up and return folding tables and shade tents.
- Help set up and take down tables and tents.
- Take a half-hour shift at the MLNA Welcome table.
- Organize a simple craft project for kids. We have supplies.
- Take a half-hour shift scooping ice cream.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR:
- December 3: Potluck Progressive Dinner (p. 1)

Happening this weekend:
Saturday, 9–11 a.m.: CERT Second Saturday Session (p. 2)
Saturday & Sunday: Mountain View Library used-book sale; info at www.mvlibraryfriends.org

Holiday progressive dinner planned again

Pat Jordan is organizing our fourth annual Holiday Progressive Potluck Dinner, benefiting the Second Harvest Food Bank. It's scheduled for Saturday evening, December 3. If you can help with the planning, please contact Pat soon at 967-1467 or californiajordan@yahoo.com.

Those of us who attended any of the previous dinners can tell you it's a great way to meet neighbors you didn't know while enjoying wonderful food. The final course, dessert, is served at the home of Debbie and Scott Cunningham, and Debbie's desserts are famous.

Traffic survey results on page 3.

MLNA Board Members

President
Wouter Suverkropp, 396-7561
wsuverkropp@yahoo.com

First Vice President
Helen Wolter, 691-1291
helenwolter@yahoo.com

Second Vice President
Bill Lambert, 988-0342
lambert_william@att.net

Treasurer
Carolyn Schmittzeh, 962-1528
c_schmittzeh@yahoo.com

Secretary
Alice Carter, 625-1813
albee1956@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor
Marilyn Gildea, 940-1606
marilyn@gildea.com

Member-at-Large
Adam Rakestraw, 776-1085
adam.rakestraw@intel.com

Member-at-Large
Pat Jordan, 967-1467
californiajordan@yahoo.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

Copyright 2011 by the Monta Loma Neighborhood Association. All rights, including electronic posting and distribution, reserved. Individual article rights revert to the authors, and permission must be obtained from them to re-use their articles in any way.

CERT Saturday Session this Saturday, August 13

By Jim Cochran

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, August 13.** The next ones are on September 10 and October 8. No cost or obligation! You may contact me at jimcoch@comcast.net or 207-5518.

We encourage you to take the city's free CERT course, whether or not you join our neighborhood group. A link to info and registration is on the CERT page at www.montaloma.org.

Stuffed-animals table at ICS

By Ellen Henson

The Animal Beacons of Light project gathers stuffed animals, freshens them, and gifts them to children around the world who need something to cuddle. We will be at the Ice Cream Social again this year, with arms open wide for stuffed animal donations. Bring yours to our table, or just stop by to chat.

We're seeking new or gently used soft-filled stuffed animals between 6 and 20 inches, made of fake fur, plush, or soft cloth, and that are cute, cuddly, and in good condition. Please find other homes for dolls, toys, or stuffies with batteries, moving parts, or commercial advertising.

More information is at http://mlna.wikispot.org/Stuffed_Animals. Questions? Contact Ellen at animalbeacons@yahoo.com or 961-8777, or Pat Jordan at californiajordan@yahoo.com or 967-1467.

Monta Loma Tee Shirts



Show your pride in our neighborhood at the Ice Cream Social (and everywhere) by wearing a Monta Loma tee shirt. The new shirts have the words Mountain View, California under Monta Loma Neighborhood. They sell at cost for $10 though the ladies' tapered style costs us $1 more.

If you'd like yours before the ICS, contact Marilyn at marilyn@gildea.com or 940-1606.

Mayfield development; it's approved but it's not over yet

By Wouter Suverkropp

On June 21, after approximately eight years, the City Council approved the Mayfield project. Summit Land Partners and William Lyon Homes have signed a memorandum of understanding with HP to close escrow on the property on or before October 21, pending approval of all permits for 260 housing units.

Assuming all approvals go through, the planned schedule is

- Demolition inside the buildings (asbestos, etc.) 2 months, Nov.–Dec.
- Demolition outside 4–6 months, Dec.–April/June 2012
  - They will keep the building walls up as long as possible, and work towards Monta Loma.
  - The concrete crusher will be close to Central, and as far away from Monta Loma as possible.

Construction traffic and construction-labor traffic will be directed onto Central and San Antonio.

Is it over? No! There are a number of committee meetings and hearings to come. The public hearings will permit input on trees, housing design, and other aspects. It behooves us to remain active in this process until we are satisfied that the project is both reasonable for the developer and does not unduly burden any of the project's neighbors.

Many of you have been very involved with this project at one time or another, and new neighbors continue to get involved to share their particular expertise. Example:

Mayfield development *cont'd*

A neighbor called a Stanford professor friend about the tree-planting list. Now the list is being reviewed, and we may see a less water-hungry canopy at the project.

I look forward to your involvement as the project continues. Together we have made a significant difference in what this project looks like, and in doing so we've secured more park space, more parking, less overpowering buildings next to our houses, and many other small but important concessions that will make both the new project, and our neighborhood, that much nicer to live in. Thank you for all your efforts!

Traffic survey results

The traffic survey in the June newsletter garnered 156 responses (68 hard copies, 88 online), for an overall return rate of 15% of Monta Loma's 1,008 households. That's well above the 10% return rate considered a statistically significant sample size. The results showed that 57% of the respondents are concerned about traffic volume, and 70% are concerned about speeding and want something done.

The survey confirmed what the MLNA Board had been hearing about the worst traffic problems. It also pointed out problems of which we hadn't been aware. 115 people made comments. One person wrote of hearing a man at a party advising nine others how he avoids the traffic backup on San Antonio by cutting through "some quiet neighborhood in Mountain View" via Nita, Dell, and Victory on his commute from Los Altos to Livermore.

Here are the number of people who commented on a specific area, and some of the problems they mentioned:

35 Victory/Alvin (dangerous intersection)
15 Victory (speeding, cut-through traffic)
13 Whitney/Laura curve (speeding, cutting corner, school-crosswalk safety)
11 School (school traffic backup on Thompson and nearby courts)
11 Victory/Dell (cutting corner, speeding)
8 Thaddeus/Middlefield (dangerous intersection)
7 Jane (school traffic, speeding)
7 Thompson/Central (dangerous intersection)
6 Alvin (speeding, cut-through traffic)
6 Thaddeus (speeding, cut-through traffic, cutting corner at both curves)
4 Alvin/Dell (cutting corner, speeding)
4 Lida/Palmer (school traffic, cutting corner, speeding)
4 Dell/Nita (dangerous intersection, speeding)
4 Thompson Ave. (school traffic, speeding, sport-teams traffic)
3 Fay/Jewell (speeding, cut-through traffic)
3 Junction (speeding, cutting corner at curve)
3 Nita/Betlo (dangerous intersection, speeding on both streets)
2 Alvin/Middlefield (cut-through traffic, speeding)
2 Dell (speeding, cutting corner at curve)
2 Parker/Hamilton (dangerous intersection)
1 Anna (speeding, Anna/Elka school-crosswalk safety)
1 Diablo (speeding)

If you would like to see the complete report, contact Helen Wolter at 691-1291 or helenwolter@yahoo.com.

The MLNA Board thanks everyone who responded, especially those who wrote comments. Special thanks go to Helen for the enormous amount of time and effort she spent designing the survey and then compiling the results. Helen will work with city staff to mitigate the problems and make our neighborhood even safer and more pleasant.

Spring Fling opinion poll

The board election ballot contained a question asking whether we should we change the time of Spring Fling. Some people can't come on Saturday morning in mid-March, and had suggested changing it to Sunday or Saturday afternoon. The few votes for change were split among the various options, but the majority said they prefer Saturday morning, so it will stay there. We haven't yet consulted with the PTA to coordinate it again with their used-book sale, but history indicates that it's likely to be on March 17.

Neighborhood Resources

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

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator
Open, please volunteer!

Activities Committee
Wouter Suverkropp, 396-7561
president@montaloma.org

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: Cheryl Jasper
webmaster@montaloma.org

Thanks to Our Volunteers

Thanks to those who delivered the June newsletter: Julie Baher, John Canata, Henry Chase, Jim and Alice Cochran, Martha Elderon, Harry Gordon, Grant and Birgit Grundler, Maria Harnoto, Marianna Harvey, Isabella Hill, Paul Kostka, Vicki Lee, Allison McGill, Joan Miller, Shelly Ostman, Herb and Victoria Perry, Leane Reelfs, 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.

Waldorf School open houses

If you're curious about the new tenant of the school building on the St. Athanasius Church property, you are welcome to attend one of the Waldorf School of the Peninsula's open houses for prospective high school students and parents, but please call 948-8433 to let the school know how many to expect. The dates are Saturday, October 1, November 5, and December 17, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For information, call 948-8433 or visit www.waldorfpeninsula.org.

The school's first annual concert in March raised $1,500, which was given to the food pantry at St. Athanasius Church.

New neighbors?

Offer them a welcome letter
Scroll down the home page at www.montaloma.org to the "welcome letter" link, then print a copy for your new neighbors. The revised version tells how to print a map of the neighborhood.

Like to walk?

Antoinette "Toni" Sousa moved to Whitney Avenue in April and is looking for walking companions. Contact her at antoinettesousa@comcast.net or 386-5100.

Need a map through our maze?

You can print one from the About the MLNA page at www.montaloma.org. Choose the Detailed Parcel Map, either version.

Monta Loma notice board

Don't forget to check our community notice board on the restrooms building in Monta Loma Park. The board is for both city and community announcements and information. We welcome your suggestions for what we should post. Send your ideas and announcements you'd like posted to Marilyn Gildea at noticeboard@montaloma.org.

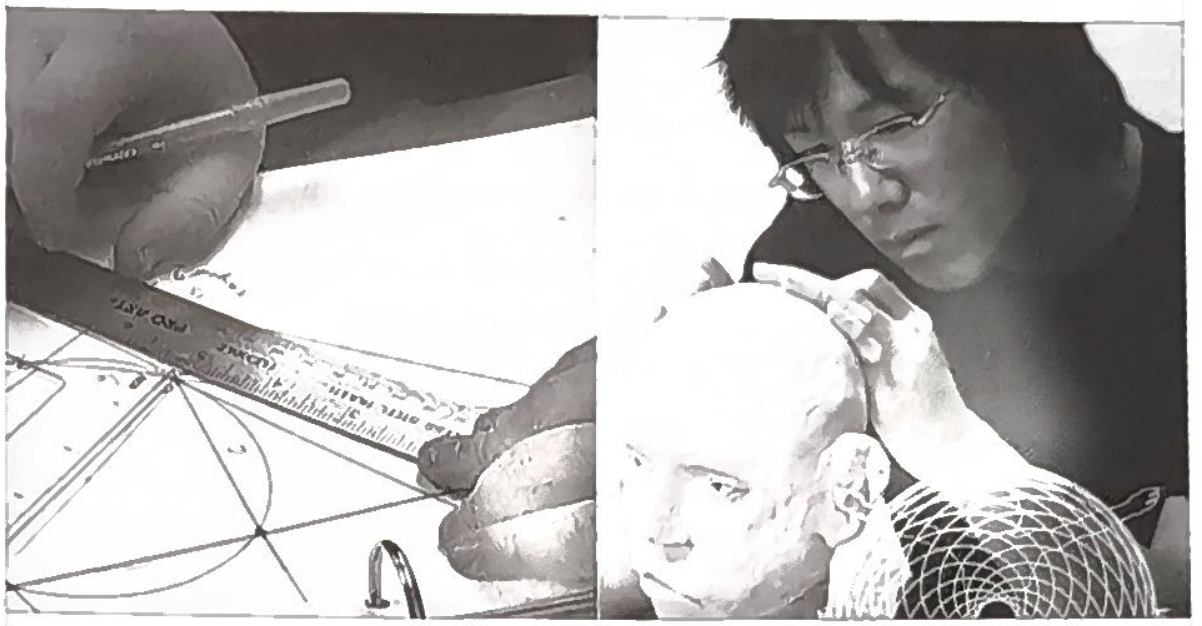
Homeopathy
- a natural alternative for acute and chronic illnesses

Lisette Narragon CCH, BRCP
Classical Homeopath

2443 Ash Street, Suite B
PAlo Alto, CA 94306
650.494.3199
www.bayareahomeopathy.com
lisette@bayareahomeopathy.com

We're Coming to the Neighborhood!

Our Middle and High Schools are moving to the campus at St. Athanasius Church.



Discover Waldorf: A compass for life's journey.

650 948 8433
waldorfpeninsula.org
Waldorf School OF THE PENINSULA

We're Here for You!

Meriwest Credit Union continues to serve – with a financial center **open** in the heart of the Monta Loma neighborhood.

Visit us anytime and see how we can meet all of your personal and business financial needs.

We are located in the Monta Loma Shopping Center:
W. Middlefield Road & N. Rengstorff Avenue

For 50 years, Meriwest has embraced the spirit of people helping people.

As your financial partner, we help you plan for a successful financial future and provide a place where you're always welcome.

Open to the community.

NCUA
MERIWEST CREDIT UNION
877-MERIWEST (877-637-4937) | meriwest.com

MLNA Board Election and General Meeting

By Wouter Suverkropp, MLNA President

The slate of candidates for the board election on June 9 was uncontested and was elected unanimously. Pat Jordan volunteered to be a member at large (an appointed position), and was later appointed by the Board, joining Adam Rakestraw as a member at large. Thanks for organizing the voting go to Sumanth Rajagopal, Alicia Crank, Cookie Henderson, and Marilyn Gildea.

We welcome volunteers to assist with neighborhood activities. Even an hour can be very helpful. If you would like join the board as a member at large or volunteer in any way, contact me or any board member (listed on page 2) for more information.

At the general meeting following the election, four representatives from AT&T showed slides of a sample of the 16 cell phone transmitters that the company plans to place on utility poles in Mountain View. The locations have yet to be determined, but we were told that they will not be in back yards. After a break, Helen Wolter presented slides explaining the results of the traffic survey; see article on page 3.

Neighborhoods Committee awards city grant to MLNA

By Marilyn Gildea

The city's annual Neighborhoods Committee meeting on June 16 was preceded by an informal dinner, which allows board members to chat with members of the other neighborhood associations and learn what they are doing. It's always gratifying to hear how much they admire the MLNA.

Mayor Jac Siegel began the meeting that followed with "Strong neighborhoods make strong cities," and mentioned Monta Loma as an example. He reiterated that 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."

New neighborhood associations continue to be formed, so again there were more applicants for the grant funds than the city had at first budgeted. But rather than reduce the amount given to each group, the City Council increased the fund's total amount, so each group could still receive up to $1,500. We were gratified to learn that the MLNA was once again awarded $1,500, the maximum allowable. We receive the funds when we submit receipts for our block parties, Spring Fling, and Ice Cream Social.

Mobile library

The library's mobile unit stops at Hobbledehoy (at Jane and Fay) on these Fridays: Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Nov. 4, and Dec. 2 from 9:45 to 10:15. It stops at Redwood Villa (on Montecito) from 3:00 to 3:30 on alternate Thursdays: August 25, Sept. 8 and 22; Oct. 6 and 20; Nov. 3 and 17; Dec. 1 and 15. For information or special requests, email Mobile.Library@mountainview.gov or call 526-7029.

For Your Wellness

dr. jay's health & nature wellness center

AYURVEDA
Ayurvedic Consultations
Diet & Lifestyle Consultation
Panchakarma, Aturvedic Therapies
Herbal supplements



Dr Jay Apte BAM&S, MS

YOGA
Astanga, Iyengar, Yin, Hatha, Vinyasa, Flow, Energy & Wellness, Meditation, Pranayama

MASSAGE
Ayurvedic Abhyanaga, Deep tissue, Swedish, Hot Stone, Sports, Pregnancy, Shiatsu, Myofacial, Craniosacral, Thai, Neuromuscular

100% Natural, vegetarian, Delicious, easy for busy, five different varieties of balanced foods

(650) 584 - 3123
Call for Special Discounts
info@ hnwellness.com | www.hnwellness.com

2495 Old Middlefield Way
Mountain View, CA 94043

TOREN PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

- Neuropsychological Testing
- Psychoeducational Testing
- Early Intervention
- Autism and ADHD specialities
- Behavioral Management in School and Home
- Advocacy-represent at IEPS

PHONE: 650-833-8834
EMAIL: rosalietoren@yahoo.com
WEBSITE:
www.torenpsychologicalservices.com

Conditions served:

- Non-Verbal Learning Disorder
- Behavior Difficulties
- Autism Spectrum Disorder
- Attention Deficit (Hyperactivity) Disorder

Services:

- Behavior Managemet
- Assessments
- Advocate-Special Education

Birding in the Monta Loma Neighborhood: Birding at the Bay - part 2

By Dotty Calabrese



In the March issue I wrote, "We live very close to a beginning birdwatcher's dream, a place where 25–50 species of birds can be seen in less than two hours at any time of year, with most birds staying still long enough to get a good view through your binoculars. Even better, many of these birds are large. Just drive to the end of San Antonio Road, park on Terminal Blvd., and enter the baylands. You're at the Palo Alto Baylands/Mountain View Shoreline border."

Beginning with this issue, I'll tell you more about the birds you may see along the Bay. Two large white egrets with long black legs are commonly seen along the Bay, the Great Egret and the Snowy Egret. Both show no difference between male and female, live in marshes, streams, lakes, etc., and eat fish, lizards, snakes, frogs, and other small animals. The larger Great Egret (39 in. long) has a thick yellow bill and black feet, while the smaller Snowy Egret (24 in.) has a thinner black bill and yellow feet ("golden slippers"). The next time you are at the Bay and see a large white bird with long legs, see if you can identify it as Great Egret or Snowy Egret.

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

Plan a block party

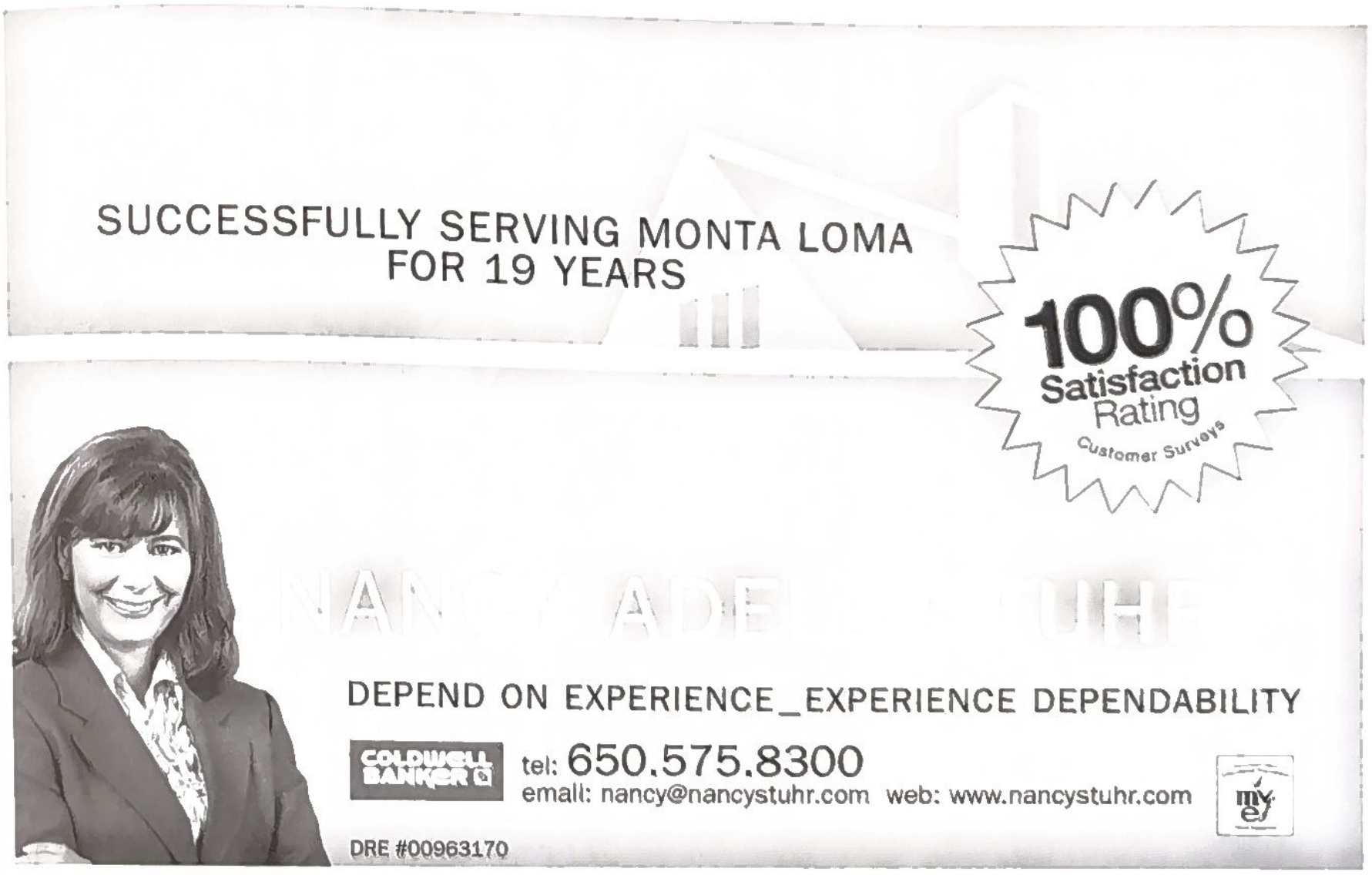
Very successful block parties were held on Aldean and on Benjamin in July. Anna's party is in early September. It's not too late to plan one for your street. A block party is a great way to welcome new neighbors, build camaraderie, and recruit a Neighborhood Watch (NW) Block Captain, if you don't already have one. To encourage Neighborhood Watch, MLNA will help pay for your party. For how-to information, pick up a flyer at the Ice Cream Social or visit www.montaloma.org and click on Neighborhood Watch and on Block Parties. Scroll to the bottom of the Block Parties page and click on "printable version."

Neighbors' Links page needs updating

by Cheryl Jasper, MLN webmaster

Have you made changes to your business listed on the Neighbors' Links page on the MLN web site (www.montaoma.org) and forgotten to tell me? If your link is listed on the Neighbors' Links page but is no longer valid or has changed, please send me the updates so I can update that page.

If you own a business and would like me to add your link to that page, please send me your name, business name/description, and the link to your web site. And, last but not least, if you know of someone whose link is listed on that page but who no longer lives in the neighborhood, please contact me at webmaster@montaloma.org.



Keeping Monta Loma Safe...and Clean...and Green

PREVENT BURGLARIES

Residential burglaries usually occur during working hours, so remember to keep all doors and windows locked when you are not home. Don't leave any valuables in your vehicle, especially not in sight. Report **any** suspicious activity in the neighborhood by calling 911 or the non-emergency number, 903-6395, depending on the circumstances. If 903-6395 isn't in your cell phone, add it now.

Look for free safety handouts at the Monta Loma Info table at the Ice Cream Social.

WALKABLE SIDEWALKS

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

RECYCLE YOUR BOOKS

You can donate unwanted books (and other media) to the Friends of the Mountain View Library. Information is at www.mvlibraryfriends.org. The next sales are Aug. 13 & 14 and Nov. 12 & 13.

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

by Sheri Morrison

10 Books A Home, a literacy organization in East Palo Alto where I volunteer, needs more volunteers to do in-home tutoring with pre-school and kindergarten-age children. Contact Paul at 271-0738. For more info, visit www.10booksahome.org.

WATER DISTRICT REBATE

Sally Clark had a pleasant surprise when she bought a low-flow toilet and was told she could get a $125 rebate from the Santa Clara Valley Water District. To be eligible, you must replace a 3.5 gpf or greater toilet. Call 877-874-8479 for information.

DEEP WATER YOUR YOUNG TREES!

By Dianne Dryer

This is the critical time for watering young trees deeply around the base at least every two weeks. Trees less than five years old won't survive with only occasional lawn or garden sprinkling. They need regular deep watering for 30 minutes near the base of the trunk. With numerous trees being removed due to age, good care of our trees is very important for the long-term beauty and shade they provide, as well as supporting property values.

STREET SWEEPING — NEW SCHEDULE

The new street-sweeping schedule is the second and fourth Thursdays of the month, timed to be the day after trash day. We can help the truck driver give us a clean sweep by moving our cars, trash bins, and any other impediments off the street the night before.

RACCOONS AND ROUNDWORMS

Jennifer Manson on Jane was advised to carefully dispose of the raccoon droppings in her yard because they are likely to be infected with roundworms, a danger to young children especially. Look on the Web for info.



When you decide to make a move, call a professional with:

- 30 years of local experience
- dozens of Monta Loma sales
- ranking within her company in the top 100 on the peninsula in 2009

LYNNE MERCER
Alain Pinel Realtors
650-543-1000
Lmercer@Lmercer.com
www.Lmercer.com

ALAIN PINEL REALTORS



Good news for sellers: 2009 ended with an increase in activity that has continued into January. Call for details.

HELMING'S
AUTO REPAIR

Complete Car Care and Maintenance

Serving the community since 1976!

- Owned by a Monta Loma Family
- All Makes and Models
- Convenient 24-Hour Drop Off
- Certified Bay Area Green Business
- Superior Service You Can Trust
- A Certified Smog Check Facility
- Expert Diagnosis Using State-of-the-Art Equipment



Become a fan of us on Facebook to find out about upcoming car care seminars!

Mike and Loane Roelfs, Owners

PG&E Climate Smart

Helming's Auto Repair
2520-G Wyandotte Street
Mountain View, CA 94043

650/988-0460

www.helmings.com

Approved Auto Repair

Montessori

Hobbledehoy

Pre-school and Child Development Center

Full- and part-time

Owner operated since 1990

2321 Jane Lane
Mountain View, CA

650-968-1155

www.hobbledehoy.org

Anna Salas Monta Loma Specialist

Experience
Integrity
Performance



Anna Salas
Realtor
GRI

Anna Salas
(650) 714-1141
E-mail:Anna@AnnaSalas.com

Years of experience and professionalism in Monta Loma ready to be put to work for you.

www.AnnaSalas.com

INTERO REAL ESTATE SERVICES