



MONTA LOMA NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

ANNUAL MEETING

Join the Monta Loma Neighborhood Association for our annual meeting on Wednesday, May 28, 2025.

Chat with neighbors, welcome our newer residents, elect your board members, and listen to guest speaker Kimbra McCarthy, Mountain View City Manager.

LOCATION:

GoogleX / Rails meeting room
250 Mayfield Ave.
(Southwest corner of Monta Loma Neighborhood)

Please arrive early to allow time to socialize with neighbors, board candidates, and guests. Refreshments will be provided by the Monta Loma Neighborhood Association.

See related articles on pages 2 and 3.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

6:45 pm Doors open for socializing
7:00 pm Meeting begins with President's update
7:20 pm Speaker: City Manager Kimbra McCarthy
8:15 pm Meeting concludes

Plan a block party

Six block parties have already been planned for this summer and fall, and we look forward to more. A block party is 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.



It's wise to set the date for your street's party now. Note that to block off a street

you must obtain a permit and allow at least 30 days for it to be processed. For how-to information, including how to borrow orange safety cones and Road Closed signs, go to montaloma.org and click 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 visit your party to meet your neighbors and discuss security. Contact Tom at MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com.

Ice Cream Social; volunteer now

The MLNA Ice Cream Social will be held on Sunday, August 24. It's a great opportunity to meet new neighbors and chat with old friends. We always get a great neighborhood response for help for the day of the event, but we need volunteers in advance. Please sign up at the MLNA Annual Meeting on May 28, or email eventcoordinator@montaloma.org.



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President

Olga Bright
president@montaloma.org

First Vice President

Vacant

Second Vice President

Vacant

Treasurer

Andre Valente
treasurer@montaloma.org

Secretary

Cheryl Smith
secretary@montaloma.org

Members-at-Large

Marilyn Gildea (communications)
 Jennifer Dell-Ernstrom
 Tricia DelGaudio

**MLNA Newsletter****Editor & Member-at-Large**

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newsletter@montaloma.org

Layout & Member-at-Large

Tricia DelGaudio
newsletter@montaloma.org

Advertising Manager

Tricia DelGaudio
ads@montaloma.org

Illustrations/Photos

If interested in contributing, please email the editor with content ideas. Submissions of relevant cartoons also welcome.

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2025 ANNUAL MEETING INFO

Meet your board candidates

We're excited to share some updates regarding our Board of Officers and extend a warm welcome to new candidates!



Andre Valente



Cheryl Smith



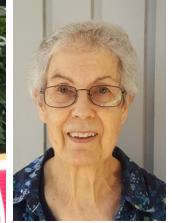
Tricia DelGaudio



Natalia Chuprakova



Silke Gürlich



Marilyn Gildea

Candidates continuing in their roles:

- **Andre Valente:** candidate for Treasurer
- **Cheryl Smith:** candidate for Secretary
- **Tricia DelGaudio:** candidate for Member-at-Large and the Newsletter Designer & Advertisement Manager
- **Marilyn Gildea:** candidate for Member-at-Large and our Communications Coordinator

We're thrilled to introduce two new enthusiastic candidates for Member-at-Large:

- **Natalia Chuprakova**
- **Silke Gürlich**

Farewell & Thank You:

We extend our deepest gratitude to two invaluable members who will be stepping down from the board:

- **Jennifer Dell-Ernstrom:** Our beloved Newsletter Editor is embarking on an exciting graduate program abroad. We will truly miss her dedication and talent!
- **Olga Bright:** Will be stepping down as Board President is also pursuing studies in horticulture and landscape design. Her leadership and contributions have been immense.

We wish Jennifer and Olga all the best in their future endeavors and thank them wholeheartedly for their service! They will be greatly missed by the entire team.

We Still Need You!

We still have open officer positions on the Board: President, First Vice President, and Second Vice President. This is a fantastic opportunity to get more involved and help shape the future of our neighborhood. If you're interested in learning more about these roles, please don't hesitate to send an email to president@montaloma.org.

2025 ANNUAL MEETING INFO

Mountain View City Manager Kimbra McCarthy – Guest speaker at 2025 Monta Loma Annual Meeting

We are delighted to have Mountain View City Manager Kimbra McCarthy speak at the annual meeting and tell us about these projects that will affect our neighborhood:

- Parks and open space updates
- New development projects along San Antonio corridor, including information about plans underway by the City of Palo Alto
- Rengstorff grade separation project
- Safety updates, including newly installed Automatic License Plate Reader cameras (“Flock” cameras)



Kimbra McCarthy

Meet Your New Neighbors at the Annual Meeting

The annual meeting on May 28 is an ideal opportunity to meet and chat with your neighbors and board members/candidates, both before and after the formal part of the meeting. New neighbors are especially welcome, and are invited to add a gold-star sticker to their name-tag label when arriving, so that long-time residents can meet and welcome them.

What defines a newcomer? Anyone who feels like one.

We need YOU on the MLNA Board!

The Monta Loma Neighborhood Association was organized in the 1970s. Fifty years later, it is one of the most respected neighborhood associations in the City, thanks to hundreds of volunteers over those years.

Though our main events are the Ice Cream Social and the Annual Meeting, we also facilitate special events. Two recent events were the Police Department update meeting in March, and the Beautify Monta Loma event in April.

Board members meet every six weeks for one hour, normally over Zoom. Occasionally we meet in person so we have a chance to socialize and get to know each other a bit more. Any resident or property owner is eligible to run.

If you are ready to take your turn on the MLNA Board, send an email to president@montaloma.org by Saturday, May 24.

The election is expected to be uncontested, so we plan to vote by acclamation (voice vote), rather than by ballot.

Please join your neighbors for the annual meeting to formally elect this group of dedicated individuals.

Neighborhood Resources

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Tim Slattery, 650-964-6389
CERT@montaloma.org

Neighborhood Watch Coordinator

Tom Purcell, 650-224-5110
MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com

Traffic/Parking Liaison

Alan Whitaker, 650-279-3375
traffici liaison@montaloma.org

Stay Connected with MLN

Subscribe to the email list at
montaloma-post.org

Find Monta Loma on
NextDoor.com

MLNA Websites

montaloma.org
Webmaster: Việt Hoà Dinh
webmaster@montaloma.org

Thank you to the March newsletter delivery volunteers and a special thank you to Bill Cranston!

Silke Gürlich, Leslie Zeisler, Tracey Ostebo, Cheryl Smith, Ivy Lu, Linda Powers, Olga Bright, Dave Erskine, John Canata, Maria Harnoto, Diane McCleary, Marian Grocholski, Paul Kostka, Maria Nelson, Dave McCleary, Chuck & Cookie Henderson & Griffen Ackland, Herb & Victoria Perry, Martha Elderon, Grant/Birgit Grundler, Andre Valente, Nirvana Nwokidu & Leane Reelfs

Do you have an hour to spare? We welcome new volunteers, even if you can help only occasionally. It's a great way to get to know your neighborhood and get an hour's exercise.

Contact Linda Powers at
lindapowers.007@gmail.com

NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

Welcome Team update

By John Canata



The Welcome Team members, Nirvana, Andrea, and myself, continue to meet to coordinate the welcoming of new residents to our community with gift bags. Our next Meet and Greet

date will be announced through the Share email list, and we may have a special guest join us, so please stay tuned! We are appreciative of the new residents who have joined us at previous Meet and Greet at Starbucks, allowing us to share with you, and to know you and your families a little more.

The team is always excited to share information about our wonderful neighborhood and any upcoming events. If you are able to get out and walk, please explore this wonderful neighborhood and get to know the people who are a part of it. The Team wishes you all a Happy Spring! Please feel free to contact the welcome team at canata350@comcast.net or call John at 650-269-5646 if you have questions.

How to join the "Share" neighborhood email distribution list

By Jennifer Dell-Ernstrom



The Monta Loma Neighborhood email list is a great way to connect to neighbors. Neighbors use it to sell and give away items, ask home improvement questions, post lost-and-found requests, and much more. It reminds me of the *New York Times Metropolitan Diary* column in that

it's a celebration of neighbors helping neighbors. Information is at montaloma-post.org.

Summer Crossword Puzzle

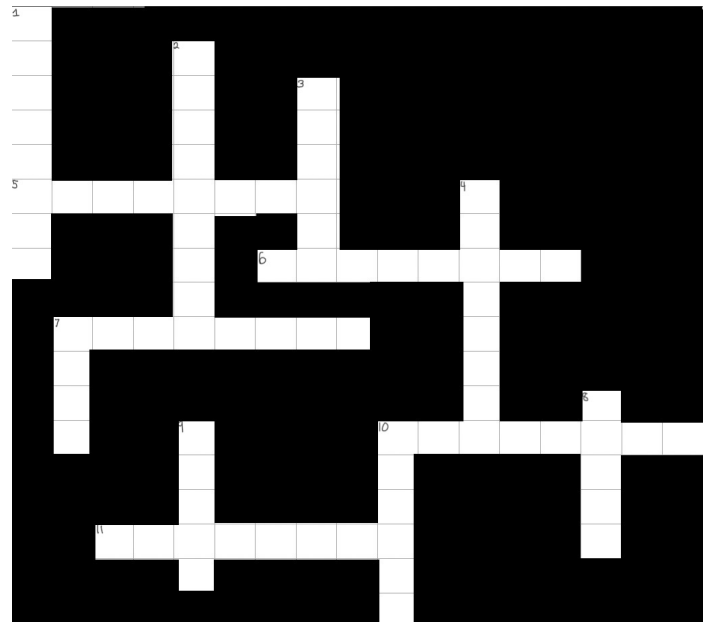
By Liliana, age 12

Down

1. A summer feast cooked on a grill, often enjoyed outdoors.
2. Open-toed footwear that makes a slapping sound as you walk.
3. A light, refreshing wind that cools you down on a hot day.
4. A long car journey, often taken during summer vacations.
7. A way to move through water using strokes, perfect for cooling off in summer.
8. A vast body of salt water where you can surf, swim, or sail.
9. A sandy or rocky shore by the ocean, great for sunbathing.
10. A meal enjoyed outdoors, often on a blanket in the park.

Across

5. The heart of a summer camping trip, perfect for roasting marshmallows.
6. A period of extremely high temperatures that makes air conditioning necessary
7. The bright, warm light that makes summer days so enjoyable.
10. A frozen, fruity treat on a stick that melts fast in the heat.
11. A trip taken to relax and escape the daily routine.



GARDENING CORNER

Beautify Monta Loma spreads beauty and good cheer

The Beautify Monta Loma and Garden Tour on April 27, a cool and cloudy Sunday morning, was a resounding success. The seedling giveaway was held on Jennifer's patio, and attendees had their choice of vegetables (tomatoes, squash, cucumber), herbs (parsley, cilantro or basil), or flowers, which were also very popular. In addition to the seedlings raised by the committee (Olga, Jennifer, Karla, and Cheryl), many neighbors, including Jim, brought some to donate.

At 11 am, many neighbors joined the garden tour, which had been designed by Karla, who is a master gardener and currently leads our Garden Club.

We began at Maria's garden, which was a delight with its emphasis on colorful drought-tolerant plants offering year-round beauty and easy maintenance featuring fuschias, monkey flowers, and herbs.

A few steps away was Natalia's vibrant garden which highlighted California native plants well suited to our Mediterranean climate. Natalia is a landscape architect and principal founder of studiogreensquare.com. She has selected colorful Mediterranean plants of different heights and textures, including Sea Lavender and Coastal Rosemary.

Next we walked to Jackie's garden, which focused on edible plants that are also decorative. She uses an artichoke both for eating and to allow the plant to go to flower, with its attractive purple flowers.

Then we visited Scott's garden, which was recently featured in the 2025 Growing Natives Garden Tour. He does not have an irrigation system because his garden of cactus and native plants uses such little water.

The tour finished near Monta Loma Park at Leslie's garden, which has many inviting nooks. Her recirculating waterfall is surrounded by plants, making it a perfect place to enjoy a book or a moment of contemplation.



Enjoy hiking or biking and nature?

By Olga Bright

If you enjoy hiking, biking, or horseback riding, come and explore Midpeninsula Regional Open Space Preserves!

Midpen, for short, has approximately 70,000 acres in San Mateo and Santa Clara counties and some 250 miles of trails. There are 27 Open Space Preserves and currently 25 are open to the public for free, from dawn to dusk daily. The goal of Midpen is to preserve natural habitats for people to enjoy without harming the animals and plants that live there. There are many scenic landscapes to choose from, including coastal grasslands, redwood forests, chaparral, and wetlands. Some of the most popular preserves are Rancho San Antonio, Russian Ridge, Skyline, La Honda, and Purisima Creek.

You can choose a trail to hike, bike, or equestrian ride with your friends. The website openspace.org lists trails and which are designated for each activity. Check out the **Event Calendar** to join an activity led by a docent. As you will see, there are numerous opportunities to go on a short or long hike with a docent. Each hike has a different theme depending on the docent and the time of year. There is a lot of choice!

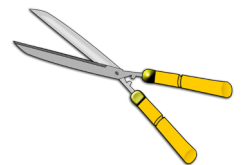
For children and the young at heart, the Daniels Nature Center is located next to Alpine Pond in Skyline Ridge Preserve. It has stuffed birds of prey and local animals for children to touch, a gopher snake, and examples of tarantulas and a number of insects. Leaflets about the Midpen preserves are also available.

There are also opportunities to volunteer either by restoring habitat, weeding out non-native plants, or, if you are interested in learning more about the native habitats and ecology, you can apply to train to become a docent!



Walkable Sidewalks

If your greenery is too robust, please trim it back across the full width of the sidewalk and to a height of at least seven feet, and encourage your neighbors to do the same.



Police Chief briefs neighborhood on crime prevention and department initiatives

By Jennifer Dell-Ernstrom

Mountain View Police Chief Mike Canfield and his team met with neighborhood residents on March 26. More than 50 neighbors came to hear their presentation at Monta Loma Elementary School. Many thanks to Steve Schmidt, from whose notes this was compiled.

Report every crime. If in doubt, report it. If a crime is not reported, the police aren't aware of it and can't do anything to prevent additional occurrences. Call the Non-Emergency dispatch, [650-903-6344](tel:650-903-6344), and let MVPD decide. File online if you don't want to make a phone call. They stressed that you never know when someone acting strangely or committing a minor offense may be connected to something that happened elsewhere.

Home burglaries happen mainly at homes clearly not occupied. Use lights on timers and/or leave radio or TV on when away so your house doesn't appear to be vacant. If possible, install cameras and motion-activated lights. Add anti-shatter/security window film to sliding glass doors, which are often smashed for access. Although it doesn't prevent access, the film will hold the glass together, and slow thieves, possibly causing enough hassle that they leave. Lock your gates to slow down would-be thieves.

Catalytic converter thefts continue. The main target is Prius, which are more accessible and contain more precious metal. There's no pattern to the thefts, so it's difficult to catch the thieves. There are no good solutions, other than the guards that can be welded on, but they may only slow the thieves.

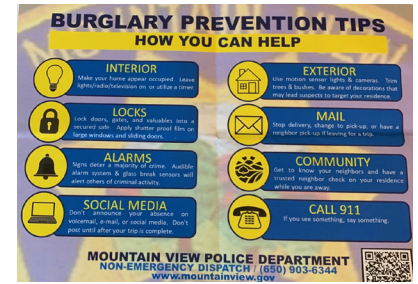
Bike thefts are mainly from open garages and/or unlocked bikes. Recording the serial number, having photos to prove ownership, and installing AirTag or other brands of GPS tags all helps get your bike back to you if recovered.

Free Bike Registration Program

By Tom Purcell, Monta Loma Neighborhood Watch Captain



To encourage you to register your bike, I have created a Monta Loma group account to register bikes with bikeindex.org and place a QR sticker on your bike(s). If the bike is found, anyone with a smartphone can quickly determine whether it has been reported as stolen, and reunite the bike with its owner. Go to tinyurl.com/MLNbikereg or contact me at MontaLomaNBC@gmail.com.



Print out the above Burglary Prevention Flyer, tinyurl.com/mlntips

CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) can lead to reduced crime. There was interest to have future sessions (possibly at block parties) to learn what we can implement in Monta Loma, especially for our types of houses. Contact Jason.Poirier@mountainview.gov with questions or for a free consultation.

ALPRs (Automated License Plate Readers) are cameras that scan license plates for stolen vehicles and persons of interest, but do not capture picture of driver or other information. Cameras are networked so they can track travel path.

MVPD's Transparency Dashboard shows crime data by type of incident. City data is divided into four beats, with Monta Loma in Beat 3. Dashboard data is interactive and can be filtered in various ways.

Volunteer opportunities at Filoli

By Jennifer Dell-Ernstrom

Filoli is a historic estate located in Woodside and features 16 acres of amazingly beautiful gardens open to the public. Volunteer opportunities are offered several times a year and children are welcome. The popular events get booked quickly and typical activities involve weeding, mulching, and removing invasive plants. To see what's available, go to the website filoli.org and under the **What's On** section, go to **Service Learning**. Volunteer events run from 9 am to 12 pm, and afterwards you get free admission so you can spend the rest of the day enjoying the gardens. The next event, Orchard Care, is scheduled for July.



BIRDING IN MONTA LOMA

Nests and baby birds

By Dotty Calabrese

Our temperate climate encourages many of our neighborhood birds to raise their families on our homes and in our yards. Now is the time of year to watch for birds carrying twigs, string, leaves, etc. in their bills and see where they land. This will often be a nest site. Quietly watch the trees, bushes, and your house for birds returning to the same spot over and over. This often indicates a nest. Repeated twittering coming from the same spot all day long usually indicates hungry baby birds.

Once you locate a nest, watch it from afar to keep from disrupting the parents' brooding and feeding patterns. Watching baby birds sleeping, squawking for food, and being fed offers hours of enjoyment for your entire family. If you are lucky, you may even witness a baby bird's first attempt to fly. Once baby birds have left their nests, you still may see and hear them squawking in your trees, demanding food from their devoted parents, who often continue to feed them for a time after fledging (leaving the nest.)

Many birds have nested in our yard. **Anna's hummingbirds** have created their small, cup-shaped nests of plant down, feathers, and spiderwebs at eye level on branches of our cedar and plum trees. **House finches** repeatedly build their cup-shaped nests of twigs, grass, leaves, and miscellaneous junk in the 3" clearance atop our outdoor lights below the eaves of our Eichler, or in the cups of our rain chains. A determined **Mourning Dove** raised clutch after clutch of babies in a hanging planter outside our kitchen window one year, undeterred by a feral cat who occasionally made dinner of her offspring. She simply landed in the planter, settled down, and laid more eggs each time, without bothering to build a nest! The **Dark-eyed Junco** who have since built their nest in the same hanging planters have given much more time to camouflaging the location of their sturdy nests.



Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)
with nestlings



American Robin adult with young

Over the forty-six years I've lived on Richard Court, I have purchased and hung a variety of nest boxes (birdhouses) in our yard, nailed to our tree trunks, hanging from branches, and nailed to our house. Not all species of birds will use nest boxes or cavities in trees. The ones who do are called Cavity Nesters. Over the years, **Chestnut-backed Chickadee**, **Bewick's Wren**, **Oak Titmouse**, and **White-breasted Nuthatch** have nested in our bird boxes. Both **Tree Swallow** and **Western Bluebird** have inspected our bird boxes, but neither has yet nested there. At other times of the year, Nuttall's Woodpecker as well as White-breasted Nuthatch have slept overnight in one or another of our bird boxes. If you decide to install a bird box, choose or build one without a perch, and with an opening 1"-1.5" diameter. Otherwise, predators will have easy access to eggs and baby birds!

Please remember, now is NOT the time to trim your trees and hedges. Active nesting takes place January through August. Except for emergency tree work to correct a hazard, the best time to trim or remove trees and hedges is September through December.

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

Photos by Tom Grey - reproduced with permission

Sign up for the Leadership Mountain View Course

Participants in the Leadership Mountain View course learn what makes our city special and how it operates. Graduates build valuable connections and often become active community leaders. Registration is now open for the Class of 2026, and spaces fill early. The one-Friday-a-month class runs from September through May. For information, visit lmv.education.



LEADERSHIP MOUNTAIN VIEW

Sign up for Mountain View Newsletters



To keep up with what's happening in Mountain View, visit mountainview.gov/whats-happening/city-newsroom/newsletters to read (and subscribe to) the newsletters of your choice.

By Tim Slattery

Come check us out at one of our meetings held on the second Saturday of every month at our trailer at the Monta Loma Elementary School (460 Thompson Ave). Peek inside our trailer to see the cool emergency gear we've got to support our community—including first-aid kits and radios. No commitment needed; just swing by, meet the team, and see how you can help. Contact me, Tim, at Cert@montaloma.org with questions. Let's make Monta Loma stronger together!



By Heather Schöll

ANSWERS: Summer Crossword Puzzle

from page 4

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South Bay Ceramics - Pottery Studios near Monta Loma

By Jess Dang

My kids (ages 6, 7, and 9) and I have been watching the British reality competition show *The Great Pottery Throwdown* since the start of the year, which inspired me to look for a local pottery studio. To my surprise, a quick search showed that there are two pottery studios right near our neighborhood. South Bay Ceramics opened its first studio at 1954 Old Middlefield Way (right before the South 101 exit) in 2022, and then opened a second studio location at 2485 Old Middlefield Way last year because of the demand. The new location is right next to our neighborhood, behind the Artisan Wine Depot.

Both studios offer a variety of wheel-throwing and hand-building classes. Although there are one-time classes, most classes are 6-week workshops, organized by skill levels from beginner to advanced. I completed the beginner session at their original location, and am now repeating that same beginner session with a different instructor at the location closer to Monta Loma, which is just a convenient 5-minute walk from my house.

The workshops come with access to Open Studio hours, which vary by day. I go to Open Studio hours an additional two or three times a week to practice the skills I've been taught in class. Throwing pottery is definitely much harder than it looks on television, and I've been humbled by the experience. It's been such a treat to spend time on a tactile craft, learn a new skill, and see improvement with practice.

If you've ever been curious about ceramics or if it's a skill you want to pick back up, check out their website at southbayceramics.com, or simply take a walk and stop by the studio.



Upcoming Community Events

- **May 20:** Bookmobile at Monta Loma School
3:00 pm–3:45 pm
- **May 21:** State of the City Event 5:30 pm–7:00 pm at the Community Center and live-streamed.
mountainview.gov/our-city/departments/city-manager-s-office/state-of-the-city
- **July 3, 17, & 31:** Bookmobile at Monta Loma School Field
10:00 am
- **July 12:** Paper shredding 8:00 am–3:00 pm
mountainview.gov/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/2298/18?curm=7&cury=2025
- **Aug. 9 & 10:** Friends of the Library Book Sale
mvlibraryfriends.org
- **Sept. 13&14:** Citywide Garage Sale
mountainview.gov/our-city/departments/public-works/recycling-zero-waste/events/citywide-garage-sale
- **Sept 25:** CERT training course
mountainview.gov/our-city/departments/fire/emergency-preparedness/cert

JUST SOLD IN MONTA LOMA!

Before

After

Kitchen

Living Room

4 WEEKS OF HOME PREP WORK
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BAIDRA@DAVIDTROYER.COM
LIC#01216142

Thank you for supporting the MLE PTA

By Tanya Ngo, PTA President

The Monta Loma Elementary PTA extends our deepest gratitude to our incredible community as the school year comes to a close. Your support makes our school a truly special place. Thanks to the community's incredible generosity and enthusiasm, we exceeded our \$18,000 fundraising goal! These funds will directly benefit our students, providing them with classroom supplies, enriching field trips, equipment, and so much more.



Looking ahead to the new school year, we are excited to host our annual MLE families playdate, aka our Juice Box Social, in early August. This is a wonderful opportunity for new and returning families to connect before the school year begins. The date is yet to be determined, so please stay informed by joining

our communication platform, Konstella. Simply scan the QR code below to receive updates – you don't need to be a PTA member to join!

Thank you for your commitment to supporting not only local Monta Loma families but also the military families who attend our school. Your collective effort makes a real difference in the lives of our students.



Want to know more about the PTA? Check our website: montalomapta.org.

Monta Loma Elementary - A joyful farewell to the school year

By Meghan Jinguji, Monta Loma Elementary Principal

Summer is upon us—a season for reflection, renewal, and well-earned rest. As the school year comes to a close, we take pride in all that our students and staff have accomplished together and the countless ways that our community has come together to show our Leopard pride. The warmth and brightness of summer mirror the energy that has filled our school throughout the year, and we are grateful for the continued growth of our community as our enrollment continues to rise.

These final weeks are filled with activity as we wrap up the year and turn our attention to what lies ahead. Our team is already planning and preparing for a strong start to the next school year, ensuring that every student feels welcomed, supported, and ready to learn when they return in August.

We are especially proud of our 5th grade students as they prepare to transition to Crittenden Middle School. We send them off with confidence and well wishes for continued success. For our returning students, the journey continues as they move up to their next grade level, ready to embrace new challenges and opportunities.

Thank you to our families and neighbors for your support and partnership throughout the year. We wish you a restful and joyful summer and look forward to welcoming both new and returning families in the fall.

Monta Loma Elementary School Fence Update

The Monta Loma School Fencing Project is almost complete. From the MVWSD office:

"This fencing designates outdoor space for students during the school day while preserving open space for public use. The design reflects valuable input from our community, and we deeply appreciate everyone who contributed to the process."



*"Gates help to provide added security for students during the school day. **Starting May 28, the gates will be locked during the school day, and unlocked after school hours and on weekends.** We ask your patience as we program the gates. There will be signs posted at the gates with a phone number for neighbors to call in case the gates are malfunctioning."*



YOUR LOCAL BIKE SHOP

RECNER LUGARDO MENDOZA

RECSBIKES@GMAIL.COM

740 SIERRA VISTA AVE. SUITE C
MOUNTAIN VIEW CA 94043

(650) 695 5101

Gardening Corner: Green Hints

By Karla Valente

Drought tip (May–August): Skip the fertilizer

Fertilizing your lawn and landscape typically promotes lush new growth—but during a drought, that's not what you want. New growth demands more water, which can put additional stress on your plants when water is scarce. In fact, applying fertilizer to already drought-stressed plants can do more harm than good by pushing growth the plant can't sustain.



In some cases, plants naturally slow or pause their growth during drought conditions to conserve energy. Fertilizer won't be helpful in these situations, as the plants simply won't use it. During drought months, it's best to let your garden rest and focus on water-wise care instead.

Got a pond? Get free mosquitofish!

If you have a pond or any standing water on your property, the City of Santa Clara offers free mosquitofish (*Gambusia affinis*) to help control mosquitoes naturally. These small freshwater fish are used by mosquito and vector control districts to eat mosquito larvae and pupae, making them an effective and eco-friendly method of mosquito prevention. Mosquitofish are easy to care for and typically don't require extra feeding in established ponds. They are available at no cost from February through October. To check availability or request delivery, visit: vector.santaclaracounty.gov/services/request-free-mosquitofish



Karla Valente is a Master Gardener and a resident of Monta Loma. She leads the Monta Loma Garden Club, which meets on the third Saturday of each month at the Waldorf School garden, located at the end of Fay Way. If you're interested in joining, contact Karla at klvalente@yahoo.com.

Successfully serving
Monta Loma for
more than 20 years

How can I help you?



Nancy Adele Stuhr

Mountain View Neighborhood Specialist

650.575.8300

nstuhr@sereno.com
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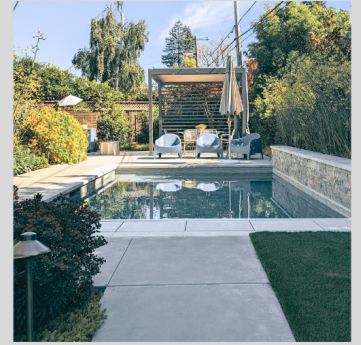
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