

# Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Volume 3, Number 1 • Saturday, March 24, 1991

The Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association consists of residents interested in preserving the quality of life in our neighborhood. Together we can make a difference—join us.

## Council to Vote Soon on Neighborhood Plan

### Neighborhood Preservation & Improvement Plan

It's been two years since the City Council first voted to develop a Neighborhood Preservation and Improvement Plan for Old Mountain View, and it's been one year since the last of the five public workshops was held. The plan has been written; the City staff has studied it and suggested modifications. Now it is time for the final approval.

On February 27th, the Environmental Planning Commission voted 4-0 in favor of recommending that the City Council accept the plan. Several of the commissioners mentioned that they were especially pleased at the degree of community participation in developing the plan.

At its March 21st meeting, the Downtown Revitalization Committee unanimously passed a resolution that the plan has positive aspects "as it relates to the downtown." This vote, although not strictly necessary for Council approval, demonstrates the acceptance of the plan within the downtown business community.

The City Council is scheduled to take up the Old Mountain View Neighborhood Preservation and Improvement Plan during April. Because of the scope of the plan, the Council has scheduled a study session for April 2nd; they'll then choose a date later in the month for the actual vote.

*If you'd like to be kept informed of the exact dates of the Council meetings, call Chuck Darrah, Tom Hunter, or Eric Schweitzer (see the end of this newsletter for phone numbers).*

### What Does the Plan Look Like?

The draft *Old Mountain View Neighborhood Preservation & Improvement Plan* is a 60-page booklet, and includes a number of maps, diagrams, and illustrative photographs of streets and buildings in our neighborhood. Its six chapters include: an introduction; a description of Old Mountain View and the forces of change affecting it; recommendations for traffic control, neighborhood improvement, and residential design, and a chapter on implementation. Its three appendices include: recommendations from the outside consultant for the west side of Castro Street; an evaluation of the traffic recommendations by an outside traffic consul-

tant; and a list of historically or architecturally significant buildings.

Most of the material in the plan will be familiar to people who attended the workshops, although there have been some changes and additions suggested by the City staff. *The Planning Department and the Mountain View Library have copies of the plan available for you to read.*

### Evelyn Avenue Corridor Study

The first phase of the Evelyn Avenue Corridor Study has been completed. The Environmental Planning Commission held a public hearing on the Phase I Concept Plan. On February 27th, the Commission voted to recommend to the City Council that the Plan, with an attached list of concerns arising from the hearing, become the basis for a detailed Phase II study including environmental evaluation, preparation of zoning or precise plans, capital improvement programs, and so forth. Copies of the draft Concept Plan are available at the Planning Department and the Mountain View Library.

### Mountain View's Other Neighborhood Associations

In February, members of three Mountain View neighborhood associations met at the Red Rock Cafe on Castro Street. In addition to our own Old Mountain View, Monta Loma (north of the former Mayfield Mall) and Blackfield (south of El Camino and west of El Monte) were represented.

The character of each of the associations has been shaped by the nature of its neighborhood and surroundings. For example, when Mayfield Mall was converted to a Hewlett-Packard facility, the Monta Loma association worked to minimize traffic in the neighborhood from commuting HP employees. More recently, members of the association participated in the development of the RV and front-yard storage ordinances. The Blackfield association was reactivated about 18 months ago when residents became concerned about problems stemming from absentee landlords.

Each of the associations has developed ideas that could be of use to the others. The Monta Loma association comes up with excellent themes for its general meetings, such as home-improvement fairs. The



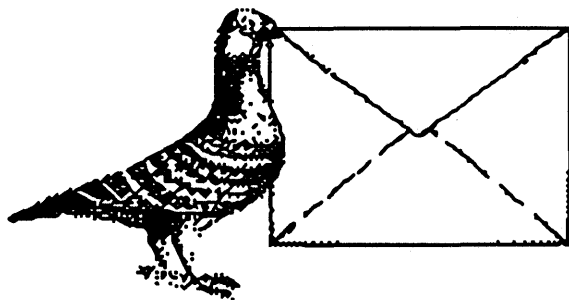
Blackfield association has held some popular special functions, such as a neighborhood-wide block party and a Garage Sale Day with advertising and maps. And of course our association has promoted city-resident cooperation toward the common goal of neighborhood preservation and improvement.

### School News

Governor Wilson's proposal to cut \$2 billion next year in state funding from K-12 education has drastic implications for schools all over California.

Locally, the Mountain View School District's Preliminary Budget for next year shows a \$1.4 million deficit; this is more than 10% of the district's total budget. Already operating on a very tight budget, the district must now figure out how to make further cuts. Some of the cuts being considered are the elimination of 9 teacher positions, the K-5 Library program, regular home-to-school transportation, the Gifted And Talented Education program, the Vocal Music program for the primary grades, After-School Sports at Graham Middle School, and reduction and reorganization of the English Language Development program for students who speak little or no English.

If you feel strongly that education should be a top priority in state funding, please write to Governor Wilson and your state legislators. Landels P.T.A. has begun a letter-writing campaign and has sample letters available for you to use. You may contact Kim Farmer or Ann Lewis (see the end of this newsletter for phone numbers).

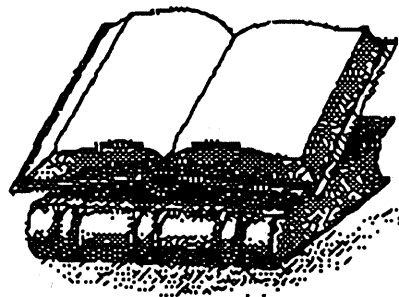


Many of you wonderful neighbors have been helping out the school in other ways as well. Some have been saving Safeway receipts and sending them to Landels or other local schools. At Landels, by the April 1 deadline, we expect to have enough receipts to purchase a computer printer for the school. Thanks for your thought and efforts.

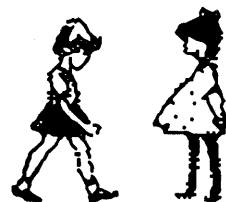
Thanks also to some very wonderful people who volunteer their time at the district office or local school,

even though they do not have school-age children. You provide an invaluable service.

There are many opportunities for volunteering in the school or district office, library or classroom. Maybe you have some Apple computer experience and would like to work with a small group of children in the classroom. Or perhaps you'd enjoy spending part of your lunch hour with a group of children doing aerobics, organizing a soccer game, teaching a folk dance, or even reading a book.



Whatever the budget situation for schools next year, volunteers will certainly be appreciated. If you'd like to become a volunteer, you can call Dr. Krumbein, Landels School Principal, at 965-4675, or Joy Peterson, District Volunteer Coordinator at the Mountain View School District Office, 968-8801.



### A New Neighbor at Dana & View

Residents along Dana Avenue and View Street are getting a new neighbor. The building where Sam's Grocery used to be has been empty for some time. But very soon the Western Ballet will be moving there. Ken Delmar, the ballet's Artistic Director, expects the city to approve the move soon and hopes to restart classes there by this summer. Although moving is a lot of work, the new site doubles the school's floor space and lets it stay in the neighborhood.

Ken is aware of the neighborhood's concerns about traffic in this area and of the proposed partial diverter at Dana and View in the Neighborhood Plan. He agrees with the concerns and will make efforts to have employees park in the city lot across the street or on the commercial sections of Dana or View.



Write to OMOVNA at P.O. Box 391328, Mountain View, CA 94039.

The steering committee meets at 7pm of the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month; to attend, call one of us:

Jeff & Kim Farmer 964-6759 • Chuck Darrah & Janice Konevich 967-2591

Linda Heineke-Lum 967-4098 • Tom & Judy Hunter 968-6164 • Stephen & Ann Lewis 968-4341

Paul & Raquel McJones 964-1068 • Eric Schweitzer & Marian Concus 969-9308

