

## HIGHLIGHTS

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October 2022  
Volume 34, Number 4

[www.omvna.org](http://www.omvna.org)



OMVNA  
Quarterly  
Newsletter

# LAMPPOST

Published and distributed by the Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association

## Restaurant Scene

by Max Hauser

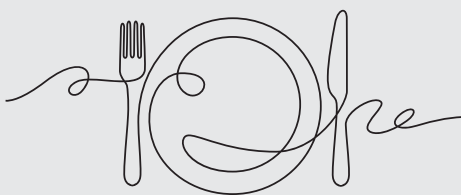
**Open:** **Ume Tea** at 220 Castro, a bubble-tea chain site replacing the departed Ph Hoa.

**Closed:** In September, **Maru Ichi** Japanese noodle house (368 Castro). Earlier, Rumble Fish Sushi at 357 Castro.

**Upgrading** (or so says its papered-up front window): **Biryaniz**, 246 Castro's Biryani specialty place (sporting a recent "green" Health Department certificate). Construction underway within.

**Fresh** raw thick noodles to cook at home are available at **Udon Mugizo** (180 Castro), with optional garnishes (dipping sauce, tempura). Watch noodles being made in the restaurant's front window. The "Order Pickup" button at <https://www.mugizo-us.com/mountain-view> shows "Fresh" options, or contact the restaurant directly to order.

**Unchanged** at press time (new restaurants under construction): **Café 86**, 738 Villa; **Limón Rotisserie**, 800 California at Castro; **The Terrace** (975 W. Dana). •



## OMVNA Annual Meeting

Join us for the Annual General Meeting and Elections

Monday, December 12, 2023  
7:30-9:00 PM

This will be a Zoom meeting. To register go to:  
<https://tinyurl.com/3ud3dp2v>  
Check **omvna.org** for details

## Happy Faces of Summer's End

by Joan Thunderbuilt

The annual Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association's Ice Cream Social was held Sunday, August 21st in Mercy-Bush Park.

It was a wonderful day seeing neighbor faces covered in smiles, ice cream or face paint (or in some cases all 3!). Over 350 in attendance ate 456 scoops of Baskin-Robbins chocolate, vanilla, mint chocolate chip, Oreo cookie and cream and strawberry ice cream. (something tells us, seconds were had by many :-)

We were pleased to host live music again, presented by the Corner Laughers. They were delightful and just the breath of fresh air we needed (cornerlaughers.com). Send us a note if you want more events with live music.

Yet the day did not proceed without hiccups. The lines ran long for scoops and painting that crossed through in front of the music. And the demand for Chocolate and Vanilla was overwhelming (they ran out :-). Never fear, the Old MTV Eventors made scrupulous notes with ways to make this event even better next year. (Sneak-peek: There will be more chocolate, face painters and signage to help neighbors make speedier decisions before reaching the front of the scoops line.)

Meanwhile, it could not have happened without the assistance of the many volunteers: The Old MTV Eventors (aka the OMVNA social subcommittee), members of the Steering Committee, our teen and tween face painters, Boy Scout Troop 8, MVFD Engine 51, and numerous informational tables.



Continued on page 11

## Safety Tips

# Keeping MV Safe

## During Halloween

by Robert Maitland

Halloween is a fun and spooky time of year for kids. Make trick-or-treating safe for your little monsters with a few easy safety tips.

- When choosing a costume, stay away from long trailing fabric. If your child is wearing a mask, make sure the eyeholes are large enough so they can see out.
- Provide children with flashlights to carry for lighting or glow sticks as part of their costumes.
- Dried flowers, cornstalks and crepe paper catch fire easily. Keep all decorations away from open flames and other heat sources like light bulbs and heaters.
- Use a battery-operated candle or glow stick in jack-o-lanterns. Make sure children are watched at all times when candles are lit.
- If your children are going to Halloween parties at others' homes, have them look for ways out of the house and plan how they would get out in an emergency.
- Remember to keep exits clear of decorations with nothing blocking escape routes.
- Make sure all smoke alarms in the home are working. •



## Market Profile

# SAV MOR Food Store: New Ownership 689 Calderon Ave Mountain View

by Carol Lewis and Susan Bickford

The convenience store in the small shopping area on the corner of Church Street and Calderon has been in existence for over 70 years. For the last 40 years, the Kim family owned and ran Sav Mor. Like many aspects of our neighborhood, SAV MOR is now going through a transition.

The new owner of SAV MOR, Mr. Sonam, warmly greeted us as we entered his new, three-week-old mini mart. Everything in the convenience store is new—from the flooring to the shelving to the many kinds of supplies that are still arriving.

The assortment of party necessities is already more than adequate, for those with an urgent need for such items. There are so many different kinds of beers, a large variety of liquors, and the necessary accessories—plastic cups, plastic serving sets, napkins, etc., and SAV MOR has a large stock of party snacks including nuts, pretzels, candy, olives, etc.

They also have the basic household supplies you might need in a pinch, from salt to sunscreen, drain cleaner and laundry detergent, paper towels for those after-party problems. Tee shirts and hats and all-occasion cards are also available. The store has a cheerful ambience with posters of various beer and wine companies and their logos.

Shortly, more refrigeration will be installed for dairy items, although right now there is already an ice cream freezer filled with Mexican style fruit popsicles and other types of ice cream.

And if you want to try your luck at winning an early retirement, lottery tickets can be purchased. All in all, SAV MOR will serve our Community well with those needed items we don't always have on hand.

Sad as it is to see the 40 year ownership of the Kim's end as they leave the area, we welcome SAV MOR and its personable new owner and his helpful staff. •



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neighbor is a verb.

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to find out more!



## Art in Mountain View

# Coffee Houses as Art

by Don McPhail

Music is a fabulous art, and two Old Mountain View coffee houses have notable histories of musicians and performers: Dana Street and Red Rock.

They're not coffee shops, patisseries or bakeries, but longtime hangouts where coffee, atmosphere and music have found their way into Old Mountain View heritage. Still recovering from lengthy Covid challenges, Dana Street is taking a music hiatus, while still serving up coffee, whole beans, and cool ambiance to loyal customers. Red Rock continues its Open Mic sessions and eclectic style. But this is about their musical pasts.

To me, coffee houses became popular places for music and art in the late Fifties, as places where poetry, jazz and folk music were welcomed and appreciated.

In 1958, a seventeen year old girl from Palo Alto sang at Club 47, a coffee house located at Harvard Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts. So did a fortyish Pete Seeger, and ageless blues men like Mississippi John Hurt, and unknown,

uncategorized Bob Dylan. Now a legend in the very best sense,

Joan Baez was the anonymous "Girl With Guitar" back then, on her path to captivate and transform the music scene for the next sixty-plus years. To me, it's a reasonable stretch to link

read that Dana Street owner Nick Chaput never closed his doors — and friendly staff, like articulate coffee guy, Shadow, make you feel like part of the family.

Red Rock is a busy and energetic place, with space to read, socialize

or perform. On Monday nights you can sit upstairs with overflow audiences for Open Mic Nights, offering artists of all kinds. Like the old Club 47, Red Rock creates a popular stage and comfortable venue for performers of all

levels and skills. According to Open Mic manager Ashley Marcowicz, upstairs at Red Rock is a happening place where musicians and poets are encouraged and appreciated.

Old Mountain View coffee houses are throwbacks, and as a neighbor I'm attracted to both spots. As different as they are from one another, Red Rock and Dana Street are authentic. They are real places, where even the best coffee house aficionados and local artists will feel comfortable. Who knows when another "Girl With Guitar" might emerge? •



those fifties coffee house performers to our two authentic coffee houses, Dana Street and Red Rock.

Dana Street has its own charm and special vibe, attracting loyal customers to sidewalk tables and beans roasted on site.

Though live performances aren't currently on the Dana Street schedule, the elevated stage and rich musical history remain. For now, it feels like a great place to sit quietly and write your memoirs or to leaf through your sketchbook in spartan surroundings.

Despite the Covid restrictions, I



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## Upcoming Events

### Mercy-Bush Park

**OCT 16** Sunday  
afternoon

### Rangoli Chalk Party

**NOV 13** Sunday  
afternoon

### Friendsgiving Potluck

**DEC 4** Sunday  
afternoon

### Hot Chalk-A-Lot

**DEC 10** Saturday  
evening

### The Caroling Crawl

[social@omvna.org](mailto:social@omvna.org)

[fb.com/omvna](https://www.facebook.com/omvna)

[@omvna](https://twitter.com/omvna)

[details@omvna.org](mailto:details@omvna.org)

Community events of the  
Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association (OMVNA)

A cowboy asked me to help him  
round up 17 head of cattle. So, I  
said "Sure: 20 head of cattle."

### Neighborhood News Sources

- Join the neighborhood email list:  
[OMVNAtalk2@groups.io](mailto:OMVNAtalk2@groups.io)  
send email to:  
[omvnatalk2+owner@groups.io](mailto:omvnatalk2+owner@groups.io)
- Online [www.omvna.org](http://www.omvna.org)
- Facebook [www.fb.com/omvna](https://www.facebook.com/omvna)
- Twitter [@OMVNA](https://twitter.com/OMVNA)

Opinions expressed herein are  
not official positions of the OMVNA  
Steering Committee or its members  
unless otherwise stated.

Contact the newsletter team at:  
[editor@omvna.org](mailto:editor@omvna.org)

Submissions for our Feb 2023

### Mountain View History

## Mountain View Voters Reject \$5 Salary for City Council Members!

by Susanne Martinez

That headline relates to a 1910 ballot measure to pay Mountain View Trustees \$5 a month for their service. The measure was defeated by a tie vote of 101 to 101, a reminder that every vote counts.



Sacramento Daily Union, November 16, 1911

Voting in Mountain View in the early years was a bit different from today. First, everyone voted in person. Second, only men could vote. In 1910, Mountain View had two polling places, one located at the newly built city hall and the other in a building on Castro Street between Villa and Dana Streets. In 1911, however, California became one of a handful of states that extended the right to vote to women, nearly a decade before the rest of the country. After 1911, election officials across the state scrambled to increase the number of polling places to "accommodate women who wished to vote." There was also a state-wide move to locate polling places in schools, churches and libraries, rather than "dingy polls located in livery stables, cigar stores and barber shops." By 1916, the number of polling places in Mountain View increased to three, one located in the city hall and the other two in Castro Street buildings.

For the next 100 years, voting procedures remained pretty much the same until the early 2000s. As more and more residents began to cast their ballots by mail, the county registrar began closing local polling places. In 2008, a large segment of Old Mountain View, running from El Camino Real and Calderon to Dana Street to Bush Street, lost its physical polling place and became a mail-only precinct, leaving 33 remaining polling places throughout the city for residents of those precincts. Today, local precinct sites have been eliminated and replaced by voter centers where any voter registered in any part of Mountain View can still vote in person or just hand in a paper ballot. Their locations will appear on the paper ballots that will be mailed to every registered voter shortly before the next election. Many people will simply drop their ballots into a mail box or a voter box like the ones in front of city hall or the library or use a drive-by ballot collection location. Regardless of how you do it, just remember how important it is to vote! •

### What's Up

## Update on New Development in Old Mountain View

by Robert Cox

One of the most exciting neighborhood news items in the last year has been the announcement of a new mini park coming at the southeast corner of Calderon and Church Streets. This will be the first new park in our neighborhood since Mercy-Bush Park was dedicated in March 2001.

I first heard of the possibility of a park at this location in May 2013, at the OMVNA Mixer at Stein's. The property owner was brainstorming potential uses for the property including sale to the city for a new park. About four years ago, she approached the city. There was air of secrecy around the project discussions, which were punctuated by council meetings held in closed session.

Continued on page 11

**Public Library****Fall Events at Mountain View Public Library**

by Kyle Hval, library.mountainview.gov

**Cat Q&A with Jackson Galaxy**

Want to decode the mysterious behaviors of your furry, feline friend? Join us Tuesday, October 18 for an exclusive Q&A session with "The Cat Daddy," Jackson Galaxy! Popularly known as "The Cat Daddy," Jackson Galaxy is the host and executive producer of Animal Planet's long running hit show "My Cat From Hell." Jackson, an animal advocate and cat behavior and wellness expert, is also a two-time New York Times best-selling author with more than 25 years of experience working with cats and their guardians.

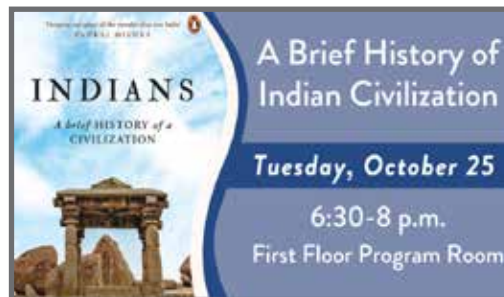
**Celebrate Indian Culture and History**

This month, the Library is offering two in-person events to celebrate the rich culture and history of India.

On Saturday, October 22, PAMPA Dance Academy will perform a set of Bharatha Natyam and Kathak dances in Pioneer Park in celebra-

tion of Diwali, the Indian festival of lights.

Then on Tuesday, October 25, Indian author and historian Namit Arora will present a lecture on India's fascinating history, based on his best-selling book, *Indians: A Brief History of a Civilization*. This lecture will take the audience on a journey through 5,000 years of India's past by introducing six major sites of Indian history.

**An Update****Covid Update: September 2022**

David Lewis,

SCC Neighborhood Covid Ambassador

At this point, the COVID-19 case numbers in our area and Santa Clara County have been declining slowly for some time. Death rates from COVID-19 have also been declining, but lag the case rates, and we're still seeing almost one death per day from COVID-19 in the County. The wastewater numbers for the Palo Alto plant that handles our sewage, a leading indicator for COVID-19 rates, have also been declining for some time, with the exception of some upticks possibly from the reopening of schools with basically no COVID-19 control measures. The expectation is that we will continue to see a slow decline in COVID-19 cases, at least until we hit the winter holiday season, when more problems could arise with folks traveling and celebrating indoors, in crowded situations, without masks or other control measures.

There are two complicating matters here; the first is whether the COVID-19 virus comes up with a new more infectious variant in the near future—a matter of random virus mutations over which we have no control, and the environment of the virus—just natural selection. The second is how many decide to get the latest bivalent booster shot, that works against the old virus (Alpha-Delta) and the latest subvariants (Omicron). This could make a big difference in how many of us get sick, seriously ill, and die from COVID-19.

Countries with more residents with booster shots have done far better than the US, where booster shots have been unpopular; the US, (about 1/3 of its population boosted), has 80% more deaths from Omicron than Canada, (about 3/4 boosted). Another effect of being boosted, just noted in the New York Times, is a great reduction in Long COVID cases. The suggestion here is to get the new bivalent booster shot.

While you're at it, get a flu shot as

Continued on page 11

**2022 OMVNA Steering Committee**

Chair:	David Lewis	Subcommittee Chairs	
Vice-Chair:	Robert Cox	CERT:	Sherril Brennan
Treasurer:	Larry Rush	Historical Preservation:	Jerry Steach
Secretary:	Maureen Bando	Residential Parking:	Robert Cox
At-Large:	Max Hauser	Jamil Shaikh & Roberto Miller	
At-Large:	Lorraine Wormald	Old MTV Eventors:	Kristin Bailey
Newsletter:	Susan Bickford	Advertising:	advertising@omvna.org
Community Liaison:	Jamil Shaikh	<b>Next Meeting:</b>	<b>January 30, 2023</b>

Special

## Mountain View Election Issue Pullout

# 2022



City Council  
Alison Hicks



City Council  
Ellen Kamei

We asked each candidate for Mountain View City Council (CC) to tell us in 150 words or less:

***"What would you like to tell residents of Old Mountain View about why you are running for office?"***

We also have a summary of our school board candidates. For expanded statements visit our website version at [omvna.org](http://omvna.org)

I love living in Old Mountain View and want to make sure that we maintain the things that make our city a wonderful place to live.

I have a Master of City planning and experience creating walkable streets, vibrant downtowns, green schoolyards, and affordable housing.

I am running for re-election because these are the things we need to nurture as we grow.

The four years I've served on Council have been difficult, but I'm proud of our accomplishments. We turned our downtown into a car-free public square. We created safe parking lots for vehicle residents and affordable housing for essential workers. And we are accelerating our carbon neutrality goals.

But there is more work to do. We need to create more parks. We need to make biking safer. And we need to make housing more abundant. I ask for your vote on November 8, so I can finish the job.

I sought elective office to serve the community because of my passion for public service and to make the City of Mountain View a great place to live, work, and play.

As a current Councilmember and former Mayor, third generation Mountain View resident, and new full-time working mom, I have experienced the City's changes and growth firsthand.

I am running for re-election to continue to bring my collaborative, balanced, and pragmatic approach to tackling the City's most difficult public policy challenges like our housing crisis, addressing transit and infrastructure needs, and mental health services.

Mountain View is a Community for All and I have prioritized equity based budgeting, creating more parks and open space, and preserving our socioeconomic and ethnic diversity.

It would be an honor to continue serving as your Councilmember. Please connect with me at: [www.ellenkamei.com](http://www.ellenkamei.com) I am #5 on your ballot.

COUNCILMEMBER  
MOTHER  
PUBLIC SERVANT



**ELLEN KAMEI**  
Mountain View City Council

**VOTE BY NOV 8**

[www.ellenkamei.com](http://www.ellenkamei.com)

 **VOTE ELLEN KAMEI**  
FOR MOUNTAIN VIEW CITY COUNCIL  
#5 ON THE BALLOT

   @mtnviewellen

**Elect Thida Cornes**  
for MVLA School Board



**VOTE NOVEMBER 8th**

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Endorsed by our leadership

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Josh Becker, State Senator  
Marc Bernman, State Assemblymember  
Sally Lieber, Mountain View City Council,  
Rep., Assemblywoman

[www.ThidaForMVLA.com](http://www.ThidaForMVLA.com)

Special

## Mountain View Election Issue Pullout



City Council  
Lucas Ramirez

My great grandparents and my grandparents moved to Mountain View in the 1940s, and our family has lived here ever since. As a life-long resident, I have benefited from the incredible opportunities available here. However, the housing crisis threatens our community's socio-economic diversity and harms our quality of life. I am running to address the housing crisis, grow responsibly, and maintain the high quality of life that we enjoy.

As a Councilmember, I voted to approve affordable and market-rate housing projects to increase opportunities for families to remain in our community. I have supported affordable housing requirements, increased impact fees, tenant relocation assistance, and the East Whisman Precise Plan, which streamlines the review of housing development and requires job growth to be balanced with housing development.

While the Council has made progress, much more work remains. Please visit my website at: [ramirezforcouncil.com](http://ramirezforcouncil.com)



City Council  
Li Zhang

I'm running primarily because I want to represent residents' voices for balanced growth of our beloved city.

As a resident who has lived here with my family for over 20 years, I want to ensure that as the city grows, we have a good quality of life for all residents.

When we plan for new housing development, they should be compatible with existing neighborhoods, the amount of park land and schools should keep up with population growth, and the residents should have easy access to goods and services.

As we come out of the pandemic, we must focus on business recovery, anti-displacement of longtime Mountain View residents, and maintain the city's outstanding financial position.

Finally, I want to accelerate the city's efforts to combat climate change and bring my values of equity and inclusion to the City Council to preserve Mountain View as a vibrant and sustainable city for all.

<https://www.liformountainview.org>



MV Whisman  
Bill Lambert

As you are aware, in an uncontested election, I will be assuming the seat left open by Ellen Wheeler after her 20 years of service to the Mountain View Whisman School District.

I served as Trustee from 2012-2016 and after an 8-year hiatus decided to return to serve again as Trustee. With the urbanization of Mountain View I have become much more aware of land use issues and the challenge of providing the public services that will ensure our city continues to be a great place to live.

However, everyone in Mountain View needs to work together to make this happen. Ensuring that our schools are well-funded, that teachers are excited to work and live in our district, and that we have adequate facilities to support the residential growth are paramount.

I would like to have our elementary and middle schools and campuses be centers for our neighborhoods and local communities.



ON NOVEMBER 8<sup>th</sup>, VOTE #3 ON THE BALLOT, LI ZHANG FOR MOUNTAIN VIEW CITY COUNCIL.  
<https://www.liformountainview.org/>

**The Voice for Neighborhoods: Ensure Sustainable City Growth and Quality of Life for Mountain View Residents.**

#### Endorsements

Mountain View Professional Firefighters  
Livable Mountain View  
Sierra Club  
Silicon Valley Association of REALTORS®  
Silicon Valley Asian Pacific American Democratic Club  
Hala AlShahwany, Robert Chang, Robert Cox, Sanjay Dave, Shari Emiling, Hon. Jose Gutierrez, Albert Jeans, William R. Lambert, Lisa L. Moore, Rita (Boland) Nutile, Jac Siegel

# Special

## Mountain View Election Issue Pullout



MVLA  
Jacquie Tanner

Let's put a mother on the Board!

I'm a 50-year resident of Mountain View, mother of a Los Altos High freshman, home-owner and recently retired. I now devote my energies to my daughter and hopefully, the MVLA School Board. I learned parental involvement from my mother, a school bus driver. She was involved in the school district, the drivers' union and school volunteer. For 10 years I held a highly demanding Production Materials Planning position with Tesla Motors and volunteered at school. I am excited to repay our city and schools by serving on the MVLA Board.

- Prepare for expected enrollment growth. Communication and collaboration with all stake holders.
- Show fiscal responsibility and transparency. The district must effectively manage our resources to benefit all our students.
- Students must be academically, mentally, emotionally and physically prepared to be successful adults. Educators need the resources to lead our students to that goal.

Web: [JacquieTanner4MVLA.org](http://JacquieTanner4MVLA.org)



MVLA  
Esmeralda  
Ortiz

I am running for the MVLA High School Board because as a first-generation, Latina, college graduate who attended California's K-12 public schools,

I know how critical they are in determining student success. All students deserve a quality education and access to diverse postsecondary pathways. I've spent the last 12 years working on closing the opportunity gap so that all students can leverage the resources available to them in their schools and community to achieve their postsecondary goals.

My experience working with high school and college students informs the opportunities I see possible for MVLA. I've dedicated my career to student success and believe education is the key to generational success.

I know my professional and personal experiences will provide a unique perspective that can enrich MVLA's collaborative efforts to serve all students and our community.



MVLA  
Thida Cornes

I'm running because I'm committed to ensuring that all our students feel connected, embrace challenges, and thrive.

My experience as a disabled, mixed-race immigrant and mother of two children drives my years of public service: my daughter's a top-achieving student, and my son's a Special Education student who's succeeded with parental support. I served on PTA, Site Council, and MVWSD Committees (Boundaries, Facilities, Parcel Tax) and observed every MVLA Board meeting since April.

This first-hand knowledge of how the educational experience must adapt to students' social, emotional, and academic needs motivates me to help every student succeed.

During my 20 years living in Mountain View, I've dedicated countless hours to serving my community. I advocated for children on the Parks and Rec Commission, where we created the first tree canopy goal, and as Vice-Chair of the Mountain View Environmental Sustainability Task Force, where we created climate change ordinances.

I'd be honored to have your vote.  
[www.thidaformvla.com](http://www.thidaformvla.com)

## Voter Registration 2022

California offers online voter registration. You can register by mail to vote in California by printing a voter registration form, filling it out, and mailing it to your local election office. You can also register to vote in person if you prefer.

If you are registering or re-registering less than 15 days before an election you will need to complete the Same-Day Voter Registration process and request your ballot in person at your county elections office or polling location. For more information on voter registration and voting locations, contact Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters:

<https://sccvote.sccgov.org/>





We would love to have you,  
please let us know.



# Early Interest Poll

Take the poll online. Send  
questions to [social@omvna.org](mailto:social@omvna.org)

**Online poll @ [omvna.org](http://omvna.org)**

Community event of the  
Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association (OMVNA)



festival of lights

draw a rangoli

# RANGOLI CHALK PARTY

Mercy-Bush Park

Sunday **OCT 16** 3pm -5pm

Free for all ages. Activities, chalk & patterns provided.

**DETAILS @ [www.omvna.org](http://www.omvna.org)**

A community event of the Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association (OMUNA)

## Profile

### Deer Hollow Farm

by Nancy Adele Stuhr

Deer Hollow Farm is one of Mountain View's treasures, a very special place run by the City's recreation Department as an Educational Farm.

It is a unique blend of agencies and volunteers. It is located inside the Mid Peninsula Open Space's Rancho San Antonio Park.

The City of Mountain View leases the farm property from Mid Peninsula Open Space, and pays the salaries of the few employees. All other funds to operate and maintain the farm, and for the feed and care of the many animals come from fundraising events, grants, and donations from the public through the Friends of Deer Hollow Farm nonprofit organization.

Deer Hollow Farm serves school children through school trips in the fall and winter, and is a most popular Summer Camp destination. It also serves many people of all ages who visit the farm on a regular basis.

The Farm is home to Jersey Cows, goats, sheep, pigs, rabbits, chickens, ducks, geese, and a few barn cats. While you are not allowed to go inside the animal's pens, you can take a self-guided tour throughout the farm and meet the many animals there. Many will come up to the fence to say 'hello' to you.

Deer Hollow creates a connection to the community through volunteers, docents, and Friends of the Farm board members. Volunteers help to care for the animals, and clean and maintain the facilities, while docents educate the children on their tours through the park and the farm. It is good to see the children interact with the animals- some of these children have never seen farm animals before.

You can visit the farm nearly everyday from 8 AM to 4 PM, see website below for operational hours. You can also get involved by becoming a docent, or donating to the feeding, care and operation of the farm. For more information see [Deerhollowfarmfriends.org](http://Deerhollowfarmfriends.org).

## Page Ten

### Back Together:

### CHAC Therapists Assist MV Students

by Don McPhail

The common refrain from student participants after day one of the MVWSD program: "Why only four weeks? This is working! Don't stop!"

A recently-completed art program has brought smiles and self-esteem to Mountain View students. Twelve hundred second and fourth graders across Mountain View Whisman School District's nine campuses learned how the process of making art and creative choices helps bring more ease and joy to their transition back to school, inspire curiosity, and deepen connections to classmates.

The arts-based BackTogether! program is an engaging mental health prevention program first delivered to local students in 2021 by Mountain View-based mental health leader and non-profit CHAC.

On the front lines with crayons, paints and an irresistible weekly invitation to engage imaginations and explore feelings through color and marks, local CHAC therapists supported student mental wellbeing and helped with a healthy school kickoff.

The program was created to address pandemic-related student anxiety, social connection challenges, and respond to the U.S. Surgeon General's call for increased access to youth mental health prevention. The recent BackTogether! program at MVWSD ran August 22 – September 16th.

Carol Mellberg, LMFT, ATR, and longtime front line youth mental health advocate, created and directed the BackTogether! program, and leads the broader CHAC|arts mental health prevention program. Mellberg has two priorities to support CHAC|arts' evolution: 1) create deeper alignment of CHAC|arts' impact with school districts' social emotional learning goals through development of evidence-based metrics; and 2) expand a successful Spring 2022 CHAC|arts pilot program for high schoolers into the broader MVLA high school system.

**Community Health Awareness Council (CHAC) is an active part of Old Mountain View, located at 590 W. El Camino Real. For assistance, information or to donate to CHAC call (650) 965-2020 or email [info@chacmv.org](mailto:info@chacmv.org).**



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## Happy Faces

Continued from page 1

Our non-profit information tables included Hopes Corner, the CSA, Mountain View Mediation Program, Mountain View Historical Association, and Front Porch.

New to this year were limited spots for two neighborhood small businesses. Kimberly's Succulents and Upma Photography. Both neighbors were able to showcase their products and offered a game or drawing for a sample of their products.

For links to the participating non profit groups, please see the Ice Cream Social post on omvna.org. To see the Neighbors' Business Directory check out [www.omvna.org/neighbors-websites](http://www.omvna.org/neighbors-websites).

If you would like to be involved in planning and managing events like the Ice Cream Social, contact the Old MTV Eventors at [social@omvna.org](mailto:social@omvna.org).

Check out the upcoming fall events at [omvna.org](http://omvna.org) •

## Downtown Update

Continued from page 4

Although they are standard practice when the city is negotiating to buy or sell property, the closed sessions did add an air of mystery and tension to the process. But this did not deter neighborhood activists who wanted to support the formation of the new park.

Loreto Street resident Melanie Kaye wrote to the council advocating not only for a park on this location, but for the preservation of the century-old historic arts and crafts home gracing the location.

A neighborhood group started a website [www.calderonminipark.org](http://www.calderonminipark.org) offering lawn signs which showed an aerial view of the property and displayed the message "Support the Creation of a New Old Mountain View Mini Park".

Representatives of Livable Mountain View also regularly queried council members and reminded them that they supported creating the new park. Meanwhile, park advocates worried when a large sign offering a "Potential Subdivision" appeared in front of the property.

The public got a hint of the outcome when the city's Design Review Committee reviewed an application from the owner to move the historic home to the edge of the property, leaving the balance of the parcel open to another use. In April 2022, the remaining land was appraised at \$5.4 million, and the land purchase was approved the council on June 28.

Construction of the park is expected to be in the next 5-year capital improvement program cycle which will be adopted by the council in June 2023. •

## Covid Update

Continued from page 5

well. In a typical year, many Americans get flu and a lot die from flu in a typical year—the CDC estimates between 12,000 and 52,000 deaths per year from flu and complications. The flu (and COVID-19), for some individuals, is not a trivial matter like a common cold; dying from the flu (or COVID-19) is a preventable occurrence; flu shots are free with most healthcare systems and have minimal side effects, as have the COVID-19 vaccines.

A last note—we can look forward to annual COVID-19 boosters, just as we now have with the flu. Get used to it—COVID-19 will become an endemic disease, always with us with vaccines to minimize its effects. •

## Get Involved Learn More

[livablemv.org](http://livablemv.org)

### Large Building Projects in Old Mountain View

Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association Steering Committee does not advocate for or against building developments in Mountain View.

**To be involved or learn more** about some building issues, please join "Livable Mountain View" [www.livablemv.org](http://www.livablemv.org)

The time to effect change is way before the project is presented to City Council for final vote. •



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