

HIGHLIGHTS

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LAMPPOST

www.omvna.org

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Restaurant Scene

by Max Hauser

New owners remodeled MV's venerable **Casa Lupe** (459 Castro) with a lighter, modernized décor and a fountain. Happy Hour specials featured 2PM-5PM weekdays. (Tip credit: Manny Ramirez.)

Los Portales, a longtime local favorite at 430 Moffett, reinvented itself in March as new Italian restaurant Il Portale. *MV Voice* article: <https://tinyurl.com/38yp3x3h>

475 Castro's **Yakiniku Ginza** opened for business in May with Japanese barbecue, cooked on grills built into the tables.

Now sharing the premises of Four Seasons Tea House Hot Pot, 134 Castro, is **Makkee Dessert**, offering light and fresh Chinese-style desserts, often to *long lines of customers*.

Bloom and Vine, open since June 12 at 110 Castro, may be the most talked-about new downtown eatery with its eclectic Chinese menu, available on Google Maps (Peking/Beijing Duck prominently included). The former Johnny and Sanny's space is now lighter, brighter, and more dining-focused, not however omitting a modern bar with Asian botanical cocktails and mocktails and a draft beer range from North Bay breweries. Manager Rozanne Chen, a MV resident, has industry experience, knows Castro St. restaurants well, and is brimming with good ideas.

Redevelopment of 171-175 Castro (in the historic Ames Building) to the planned **Kitchen Story**—a project on a "back burner" for years—has apparently heated up, with the entire frontage now colorfully painted over. Stay tuned. •

Ice Cream Social: Saturday, August 22nd

by Joan Thunderbuilt

Step right up, play a game and welcome to the annual neighborhood Ice Cream Social in Mercy-Bush Park.

Where neighbors come together to play, chat and enjoy a cool afternoon treat. This year's music is from Old Mountain View neighbors — The Splitz — playing rock music from every decade from the 60's to today.

Come enjoy an ice cream cone from Baskin Robbins.

Suggested donation: \$1 per ice cream cone.

Questions or want to help? email social@omvna.org with questions or check the website. Have an idea for a neighborhood event or want to help make one happen? We'd love to have you join the Eventors! Contact us at social@omvna.org

Building community engagement, one event at a time. •

Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association presents:

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

SAT Aug 22rd • 1PM-3PM

- Featuring Live Music (bring a chair & enjoy the music!)
- Baskin Robbins Ice Cream Cart
- Community Information Tables
- Facepainting, children's games & activities

Suggested donation: \$1 per ice cream cone

DETAILS: www.omvna.org

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




Join the OMVNA Steering Committee

OMVNA is a community association focused on sharing neighborhood information and sponsoring events in Old Mountain View. Read more about what OMVNA is about here: <https://www.omvna.org>

You can be a part of the Steering Committee for 2027. We welcome you to attend a Steering Committee meeting or two in 2026. Most are via Zoom.

If you would like to join the Steering Committee email elections@omvna.org •

CERT News

The Shake Out Fair

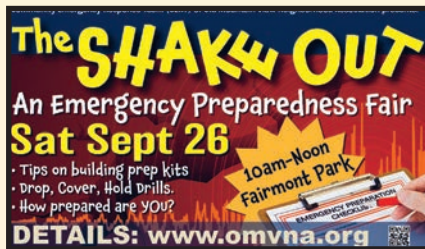
by Ray Osborne

September 26 is the **Emergency Preparedness Fair** at Fairmont Park, corner of Fairmont Avenue and Bush Street, from **10 to noon**. Even if you've been to one of these before, it's worth stopping by. There will be activities for kids and an icy treat.

They'll have demonstration tables showing useful gear to keep on hand. You'll see examples of a Go Bag and Stay Box — what to pack if you have to leave fast versus what to have ready if you need to shelter in place. There's also solid info on water and food storage, including how much you need and how long it lasts. You can join in and practice the classic "drop, cover, hold" earthquake drill too.

Stay for the raffle. One practical prize is a portable toilet. After a big earthquake, toilets stop working. Having a simple backup is something most people never think about until they need it.

If you can't make it to the fair, you can still run your own emergency drill at home. Check out www.shakeout.org/dropcoverholdon. The fair is a good reminder that preparedness doesn't have to be complicated. A few basic systems and a little practice go further than most people expect. •



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Safety Tips

Pool Safety

by Robert Maitland (MVFD) and Monica Leon (MVPD)



The sun is out, and pools are open! While you enjoy the water this summer, keep safety at the top of your checklist. Never leave children unattended, keep gates securely locked, and always walk instead of running on wet pool decks. A safe summer is a happy summer! •



Part 2 — the conclusion

Goodbye and Thank You Mountain View

by Mary Heeney, <http://www.malindi.com/>

Mary wrote this in September 2003, as her family was heading off for a sailing trip that lasted 2.5 years, ending up back in here in the spring of 2006

A year later, we bought a condo on Villa Street. We had a wonderful urban life and enjoyed the downtown life. Then we had Emily and Martin (both at El Camino Hospital—Mountain View natives!). Urban life was a little more challenging. But, Emily and Martin learned to walk on the downtown streets of Mountain View. In future years, the smell of Chinese, Indian, Italian or Mexican cooking will flood them with memories of Castro Street. It was only the challenges of having two little ones and living in a bit of fishbowl that we moved to a lovely home on Shoreline Boulevard with a prolific persimmon tree that made us farmers in the middle of the city. The convenience of our home to downtown Mountain View, the library and the performing art center was wonderful.

So Goodbye-to the guys at Fiesta del Mar Too. I used to joke it was my kitchen—we would go there so often and meet friends there too. Roberto and crew are awesome and the food can not be beat. I know I'll be trying to make Shrimp Alex all the way down the coast of Mexico.

Goodbye to Fred at Best Bite. You always welcome us with your smile and your delicious food.

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What's Up

Update on New Development in Old MV

by Robert Cox

Lot 12 Affordable Housing Project Starts Construction

On May 27, Mountain View celebrated the ground-breaking of its newest affordable housing project. Named Corso, it is located on the former parking lot #12 at 444 Bryant Street. The five-story complex will provide 120 units of housing affordable to households earning between 30% and 60% of the area median income. Rents will range between \$1055 and \$3133 per month. There will be 18 studios, 41 one-bedroom, and 31 two-bedroom, and 30 three-bedroom units. Twenty units will be set aside for people transitioning from homelessness. Another 15 are for residents with intellectual or developmental disabilities and 10 are designated as permanent supportive housing. Project construction is expected to take about two years. This project is one of eleven affordable housing projects in the approval and construction process in Mountain View. This project serves a critical need for those low-income residents struggling to get by in a city whose median household income is close to \$190,000 per year.

333 Franklin Street Project Approved

On June 23, the Mountain View City Council approved a new three-story, 11-unit apartment building with two accessory dwelling units (ADUs) at 333 Franklin Street. The location was formerly the site of an 8-unit apartment building that was demolished after being red-tagged by the city for habitability issues in April 2024. The project was filed as a state-density bonus project. Eight of its units will be rented out at below-market rates. Since the project is within a half-mile of the downtown transit station, it is not required to provide any parking spaces. The project will have two parking spaces under the ADU units: one for disabled people and one for electric vehicle charging.

Parking and Growing Pains

Before the construction of Corso, parking Lot #12 provided 96 parking spaces. Some of those parking spaces will eventually be replaced with the construction of a new parking garage on Lot #5 on Hope Street, across the street from the post office. In the meantime, finding street parking around Franklin and Bryant Streets will be challenging. •

Real Estate Challenges

Buying Luxury Homes

by Alireza Jonaidi

Purchasing a luxury home is a significant investment, and buyers should look beyond appearances. Performing proper due diligence can help prevent unexpected expenses, avoid costly surprises, and provide peace of mind.

Start with a comprehensive home inspection. Luxury homes often include features such as pools, wine cellars, elevators, home automation systems, outdoor kitchens, guest houses, in-law suites, accessory dwelling units (ADUs), and advanced security systems. These features should be inspected by qualified professionals to ensure they are in good working order.

If you're purchasing a new construction home, don't assume everything has been completed simply because the property is brand new. Ask your real estate agent to verify that all required building permits have received final approval from the local city or county building department. Also confirm there are no open or expired permits and that all required occupancy approvals have been issued.

Buyers should carefully review seller disclosures, inspection reports, and recent comparable sales. It's also

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Events Corner Recap

Get A Clue —May

Our annual scavenger hunt sent participants on a neighborhood adventure, combining phone-based puzzles and clues with a discovery walk through local streets. More than 150 people gathered at Mercy-Bush Park that Sunday afternoon to join the fun, and everyone walked away with a prize.

Wheels Party — June

Our annual Wheels Party brought neighbors of all ages together for an afternoon of colorful fun. Bikes, scooters, wagons, and strollers were transformed with streamers, pinwheels and more, before riders set off on a guided neighborhood tour—or a few festive laps around the park for our youngest participants.

A special thank you to our local firefighters, who brought their own impressive wheels and waved flags to send everyone off in style. Afterward, everyone cooled off with icy pops and enjoyed another wonderful afternoon of community and connection.

Scribble Saturdays — Summer

On three sunny Saturdays this summer, Mercy-Bush Park became an open-air art studio. Neighbors of all ages explored different kinds of chalk—from classic sidewalk chalk to chalk paint and soft pastel-style chalk—and left behind a rainbow of creativity. •



Groups forming.

Find your people.

Details on
OMVNA.ORG •

Neighborhood News Sources

- Join the neighborhood email list: OMVNAtalk2@groups.io send email to: omvnatal2+owner@groups.io
- Online www.omvna.org
- Facebook www.fb.com/omvna
- BlueSky [@oldmv.bsky.social](https://oldmv.bsky.social)

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

Submissions for our October 2026 issue are due by September 23, 2026.

Community

100 Years of Kiwanis in Mountain View

by Mark Lindberg

On August 8, the Kiwanis Club of Mountain View will celebrate its 100th anniversary with a Gala at the Don Giovanni Restaurant in Mountain View. This will be an opportunity to remember a century of community involvement and to honor the many current and past members whose dedication has made a lasting difference in the lives of others.

The club was founded just a few years after the first Kiwanis International Club was established in Detroit, Michigan, in 1919. From those early beginnings, Kiwanis has grown into a worldwide service organization with clubs throughout the United States and many other countries.

As Mountain View evolved from a small agricultural town into a center of innovation and technology, the Kiwanis Club remained committed to its mission of service. Through the efforts and generosity of its members, the club has supported local charities, community programs, and countless volunteer projects including scholarships for graduating high school students.

Today, as it begins its second century, the Kiwanis Club of Mountain View continues its tradition of serving the community, improving the lives of children and families, and carrying forward the spirit of service that has defined Kiwanis for generations. •



Poetry Corner

Author, Christine Moore

by Susan Bickford



We are thrilled to introduce Old MV resident Christine Moore as a local poet with a new book. Follow the QR code to purchase a copy.

If you joined Poetry in the Park at Pioneer Park on July 12th, sponsored by the Mountain View Library, you know that poetry has a wonderful way of bringing people together. Christine hopes to build on that experience by creating more opportunities for neighbors to gather, share poems, and discover the conversations that poetry can spark.

Christine's newest collection of poems is currently available for presale now between now and September. Early orders are especially helpful because some publishers determine royalty rates based on presale sales. More importantly, every reader who chooses poetry helps support an art form that invites us to slow down, listen closely, and find the threads that connect us.

Christine also works with schools and community organizations, leading engaging poetry workshops and conversations for students and adults. If your school, church, book club, or community group would like to host a visit, learn more at christinemoorepoet.com •

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Public Library

What's New at Mountain View Public Library

by Katie Hom, library.mountainview.gov

Extended Sunday Hours

Enjoy two extra hours at the Library every Sunday! The Library is now open from 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays in response to increasingly high overall library use on weekends.

Community Preservation Lab

Do you have a collection of old photographs or printed documents you'd like to digitize? Bring your items to the Community Preservation Lab in the History Center to use our scanner and ensure your important photos and documents are safe and accessible in the digital space.

Schedule an appointment with a library staff member to learn how to use the scanning service during the History Center's open hours on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Register for a time slot at Mountain-View.gov/EventsCalendar.

More Old News

Mountain View Public Library's digital collection of historical local newspapers has long been one of the best resources for learning about Mountain View history. Recently, this resource has become even better as the Library has expanded its digital offerings both backward and forward in time.

The expanded resources include issues of the Mountain View Weekly Register dating back to its first issue in 1888 and continuing for parts of 1889, 1891, and 1892. These newspapers were generously donated by a private collector in 2024 and are likely unique to the Library's collection. Their digitization brings them within reach of a larger community than ever before and unlocks new insights into 19th-century Mountain View.

Included in the expansion are issues of The View, a monthly city-published newsletter, for 1977 through 1984. These papers illuminate Mountain View's reckoning with the challenges of urban life, including downtown revitalization, the fostering of community, and broadening economic opportunity.



Remodeling Corner

Remodeling? How AI Helps and Hinders

by Keith Rodgers

Whether you're buying a washing machine or building an addition, it pays to do your research. How much time can AI save you?

I'm building a house in Old Mountain View, and as a Construction Doula, I help other homeowners with remodels and new builds. I use AI tools to research everything from fire protection to induction cooktops. In my experience:

- The quality of AI responses depends on how carefully you craft your questions.
- It's best to be skeptical; drill into the cons as much as the pros.
- What customers think matters more than what salespeople think.
- Check the source material that AI is drawing from, especially for big decisions. AI has told me things about Mountain View code that I know are incomplete, so you have to validate key information yourself.

Above all, AI complements other research—it doesn't replace it. I continue to buy from local retailers for items like windows, appliances, cabinetry and lighting—because many of them still provide expert opinions that don't always make it into online summaries. •

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COMPASS



Events Corner

A Parent's View

by Carol Scott

Most "Community Egg Hunts" are more like "Egg Sprints" — on the count of one, two, THREE, a joyful explosion of kids gripping colorful baskets descends on a patch of grass that minutes later has been picked clean of eggs.

While this is an adrenaline-pumping way to celebrate the advance of Spring, I'm the mom of a 2-year-old who only somewhat recently learned how to run and jump, much less hold his own when with savvy egg-ploers. The typical "Every Egg For Themself" approach would result in tears, skinned knees and lack of eggs-citement for my family.

That's why I am so grateful and appreciative of the creative, inclusive and truly all-ages Old Mountain View Egg Crawl this year. So much thought and work went into this loving event that puts the focus on building community connections and joyfully discovering eggs. Egg hunters go from yard to yard, asked to select only one egg. Routes are assigned randomly with special requests allowed for little legs. That leaves lots of eggs for all egg-hunters, and means the event is a joyful jaunt along different streets, saying hello to friendly neighbors and steadily building a small supply of eggs.

As we were on the later end of the crawl time, we also appreciated the generous and hospitable egg-hiders who were hanging out in their yards and giving clues as to the whereabouts of the remaining

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OMVNA Eco Opinions

We Must Take The Climate Crisis Seriously

by Bruce Karney

This article is being written in mid-July. Thousands of Europeans died this month from unprecedented heat waves. In London, a conference on Extreme Heat was cancelled because of extreme heat. In the Texas hill country, floods of Biblical proportions have forced tens of thousands to flee to higher ground.

It's time to take the next big step to combat the climate emergency by speeding up the replacement of fossil-fueled appliances with electric ones. It's time to tell the Bay Area Air District's Directors to approve a rule (Rule 9-6) that will require **most** new water heaters manufactured after Jan. 1, 2028 that are sold in the Bay Area to emit no nitrogen oxides (NOx). Solar water heaters, electric resistance water heaters and heat pump water heaters all meet the Zero-NOx requirement. Water heaters that burn propane or natural gas do not. Existing gas water heaters don't have to be replaced until they fail and are not repairable.

I emphasize the word **most** because the BAAD staff has proposed two categories of exceptions. The first exempts low-income families. The second is based on technical feasibility. Heat pump water heaters need to adequate space from which to draw heat (and expel cold air) and not every dwelling can accommodate them.

The proposed rule is absolutely necessary for the Bay Area to meet its GHG reduction goals, but its opponents (some Realtors Associations and conservative groups) are well organized. Mountain View residents are fortunate that hefty rebates—up to \$5000—are currently available from the City and from SVCE.

A close vote is expected when the BAAD Board meets in November. I urge you to email the Board's likely swing voters:

- San Leandro Mayor Juan Gonzalez (jgonzalez@sanleandro.org)
- Contra Costa Co. Supervisor Ken Carlson (SupervisorCarlson@bos.cccounty.us)
- Alameda Co. Supervisor David Haubert (bosdist1@acgov.org)
- Benicia Mayor Steve Young (syoun@ci.benicia.ca.us) •

Eco Evolution

Time to Update Your Solar System?

by Susanne Martinez

In 2007, one of our Old Mountain View neighbors, Bruce Karney, arranged for a neighborhood "group buying" of rooftop solar with a significant discount once enough neighbors had signed up. These "solar pioneers" were enrolled in PGE's NEM1 solar rate plan which compensated them for any electricity they exported to the grid at full retail rates. They were also promised that rate would continue for at least twenty years, which ends next year.

Today, most new solar systems in California are installed with batteries to maximize potential savings and reduce drawing from the grid during peak rate periods. Last fall, with our NEM1 rate plan soon ending, we decided it was a good time to add a battery to our almost twenty-year-old solar system.

Our new battery is now doing the job we wanted. Our solar panels charge up the battery during the day and it is programmed to start discharging at 4 p.m. every day during the peak PGE rates so we don't pull any power from the PGE's grid during the costliest hours.

In addition to being able to store our solar power and shift its usage, a battery can provide power during grid outages. We recently had a brief PGE outage in our neighborhood, and the new battery seamlessly took over to provide all the power our house needed. It even told me how many days we could continue running off the battery at our current rate of electric consumption.

Finally, a "solar plus battery" system means that during a grid outage you will be able to continue to use both solar power and battery power. A "solar only" grid-tied system is designed, for safety reasons, to shut off completely when the electric grid

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Tori Ann
Atwell



Egg Crawl

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eggs, for my son who was new to the concept.

A heartfelt thank you goes out to organizers and the egg-hiders for this exuberant Spring activity. They really cracked the code on creating a joyful and fun experience for the hundreds of children who spill onto the sidewalks, baskets in hand. My family can't wait for next year... No yolk! •

Luxury Homes

Continued from page 3

important to research the neighborhood, future development plans, school districts, traffic patterns, and local market trends to better understand the property's long-term value.

Review any available warranties for the roof, appliances, HVAC systems, solar equipment, and smart-home technology. Also determine whether major systems, such as solar panels, battery storage systems, or security equipment, are owned or leased. If they are leased, understand whether those agreements will transfer to you after closing and whether they include any ongoing payment obligations.

Finally, consider the ongoing costs of ownership. Property taxes, homeowners insurance, landscaping, pool maintenance, utilities, HOA dues, and routine maintenance can add significantly to your annual expenses. If you're financing the purchase, be sure these costs fit comfortably within your budget—not just the monthly mortgage payment.

A luxury home is more than a place to live—it's a long-term investment. Working with an experienced real estate agent, lender, home inspector, and other trusted professionals can help you make an informed decision and purchase with confidence. •

Good Bye and Thank You Mountain View

Continued from page 2

Goodbye to Heria at Cosmos and Candles. We got to know Heria when we would have to wait for a table at Fiesta del Mar Too. She would welcome us, even though the kids were small and her shop was full of fragile items. Her belief in us and her belief in the goodness of the children made for a cosmic experience. Thank you for the eye candy you have provided us these many years.

Goodbye to Nancy and JoAnn and the sweet, hardworking women at Moniques. My one (okay maybe one of my) splurges is a pedicure. I have enjoyed many thought provoking conversations with these women.

Goodbye to La Costena where Martin would just walk in the door and Flor would make him a burrito that can't be beat.

Goodbye to Rose Filicetti and all of the wonderful community builders that are making Mountain View an even better place to live. Under Rose's encouragement, I was so fortunate to participate in Leadership Mountain View. It was a wonderful way to learn about my new community.

Goodbye to Western Ballet—Mark and Graciella. What a gem we have in our community. Emily and Martin both danced in the Nutcracker several years with Western Ballet. I can't imagine what the holiday season will be like without this ritual. We'll probably have our own version on the deck of the sailboat.

Goodbye to Castro School. I feel so fortunate that my family had the opportunity to be in the Dual Language Immersion program at Castro School. It is a wonderful community. And don't believe just what you see when you see the numbers on Castro. The Castro students are winners! You couldn't find a more dedicated and competent staff. We strongly considered other public and private schools, when we were making the decision for schooling for our children. We knew that Castro school would provide something that we couldn't provide—a second language for our children. Emily and Martin are bi-lingual now. I'm looking forward to their ability to make friends across cultures—and not just in Spanish. They've started the work of language acquisition and aren't shy about trying other languages.

As you can tell, I could go on and on about our wonderful experience in Mountain View. Thank you Mountain View. Please take care of and nurture what you have! •

Solar Updates

Continued from page 6

goes down. A "solar plus battery" system can go into complete self-powered mode. Our battery also has a "storm watch" setting that tells the system to prioritize charging the battery to its full potential when a storm is coming. Our investment in solar paid off many years ago and adding a battery allows us to have more control now. •

MV Library

Continued from page 5

Finally, the expanded digital collection also includes the first several years of the Mountain View Voice from its beginning in 1992 through mid-1995. These papers track Mountain View's development into a hub for culture and entertainment and paint a rich picture of the City on the cusp of the internet age. •

2026 OMVNA Steering Committee

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