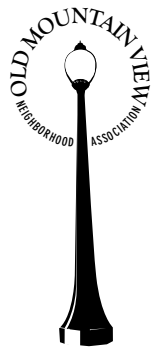


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LAMPPOST

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Restaurant Scene

by Max Hauser

Encouraging news after the pandemic's many challenges is a surge of new-restaurant openings around Mountain view. Those below are in our downtown business district.

Hummus Mediterranean Kitchen, which has locations in SF and San Mateo, soft-opened July 21 at 185 Castro, a location of past popular restaurants, recently **Ephesus**.

Occupying the 859 Villa space vacated two years ago by Ramen House Ryowa is **Katsu**, a new high-end omakase sushi restaurant seating just 8, not quite open at press time. sushi-katsu-mv.com

"Coming soon" to 220 Castro (formerly Pho Hoa) is a new location of **Ume Tea**, a bubble-tea chain.

Pending at 738 Villa, **Café 86** is a chain coffee-tea-dessert shop "From LA to the Bay," emphasizing Ube (purple yam). Info: cafe-86.com

Limón Rotisserie, the popular Peruvian restaurant chain, is due to open its Santa Clara County location at 800 California at Castro, where Flights closed in the pandemic's wake. A licensing ownership-change notice appeared in May; remodeling is underway.

At this writing, the old Yakko Sushi overhead sign remains (see May Newsletter), but 975 W. Dana is gutted inside for conversion to a new restaurant, **The Terrace**.

147 Castro's **Hong Kong Bistro** is merging into parent restaurant **Fu Lam Mum**, nearby. **Amarin Thai Cuisine** (174 Castro) will expand to use the former HK Bistro spot, reportedly mainly for take-out. •

Come have fun and meet with neighbors at OMVNA's

Ice Cream Social

SUNDAY August 21, 2022

At Mercy-Bush Park

1:00^{PM}-3:00^{PM}

Baskin Robbins Ice Cream

Featuring Live Music (bring a chair & enjoy the music!)

Face painting, children's games, chalk & informational tables

Suggested donation: \$1.00 per ice cream cone



Meet the OMVNA Block Party Grant

by Joan Thunderbuilt

Did you know there is a grant you can get to help fund a block party on your street, and you can apply for one every year? And guess what — it just got BETTER!

As far back as 2008, Old MV residents could apply for a grant from OMVNA to help host a block party. Until recently, the grant was \$50. That is until the new social committee self dubbed the *Old MTV Eventors* got involved and petitioned for a block party grant increase!

As of this summer, the grant has been increased from \$50 flat to \$50 for parties with 10-19 people, \$100 for parties with 20-39 people, and \$150 for parties with 40 or more people. This policy was established in fulfillment of the purposes of the Association, namely, the promotion of cultural, civic, social, educational and recreational activities for the benefit of the residents of the Old Mountain View neighborhood.

You will need to apply for the grant in advance and supply receipts and a sign in sheet to verify your headcount to receive the grant after your event.

There is a downloadable Block Party Packet and a helpful block party kit to borrow that has road closed signs, cones and name tags.

Go to the events tab on omvna.org for the packet and email blockparty@omvna.org to reserve the kit. •

Survey Results and More

Survey Results

by Susan Bickford

Thank you to everyone who participated in our OMVNA Newsletter survey. We received feedback from 47 people.

97.8% of you receive this delivered to your house, and 22.2% read it online. 10.9% hate the Lamppost new name and 15.2% do not want to see it in color!

How do you feel about: Online only?
42 responses



54.8% of you do not want to go to an online-only newsletter.

Not surprisingly, restaurant and food news is the most popular type of article (97.7%) but all types polled over 50% and we received some input on other topics.

To see the full report, go to the omvna.org website.

New Park for OMV

In case you missed the announcement, Old Mountain View will soon have a new park at the corner of Calderon and Church Street.

Discussions have been on-going with the City about this property for over four years. This will be our first new park for OMV in decades.

For more details, go to:

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Market Profile

nijiya.com

Nijiya Market

143 E. El Camino, Mountain View

by Carol Lewis and Susan Bickford

Nijiya, our local location of a Japanese-themed chain, is a small grocery/take out store that excels in both regards. As a grocery store, it has a large selection of veggies, noodles, sauces/pastes (Katsu, Kani Miso, Miso, Shuto), tofu, condiments, meat/pork /seafood/fish—all beautifully cut, snacks, bakery goods with Japanese breads, and a large frozen section with potstickers and other meals.

It also has dried and canned meats, mushrooms, vegetables. For drinks there is a huge selection of sake, beer, fruit wines, even Pulpy, a Japanese tangerine sake, and an aloe drink.

There is a high quality vegetable section, good selections of Japanese cooking spices, teas, organic short grain brown and white rice, and Koshihikari (sushi rice).

The aisles are organized, clean, and user-friendly with English translations for most products. The staff is knowledgeable and helpful. They also have online pictures and explanations of their top selections.

The store has a take-out menu with an indoor dining area. However, the best part of the store is the refrigerated selection filled with meals to cook at home: Donburi (5 types), Tonkatsu Curry, different types of sashimi, sushi selections, and seasoned capelin roe, plus seaweed salad, and fresh Japanese herbs to compliment meals.



Don't forget desserts: dango (sweet Japanese dumpling), green tea ice cream, sweet bean cakes, rice cakes, hard candies, mochi, fruit glacés, frozen macarons. Prices here are reasonable.

In conclusion, Nijiya is a little treasure at our doorsteps. You can also visit its larger sister store in San Jose if you're in the vicinity.

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Come join us and discover why
neighbor is a verb.

Sundays at 6:00 PM
96 Paul Avenue

Go to FrontPorchMV.org
to find out more!



Mountain View Art

Mountain View Public Library

The Berlin Wall at the Mountain View Library*By Don McPhail*

Situated in front of the Mountain View Public Library, the rough concrete and iron pieces of the Berlin Wall take on special meaning during these weeks and months of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

In 1945, when the Western Allies split Germany into four zones of occupation, the eastern part went to the Soviet Union.

In 1989 in Dresden, a KGB officer named Putin was humiliated when his Soviet leaders refused to quell the incursion of East and West Berliners—as more than a million people poured through the checkpoints and celebrated the destruction of the Berlin Wall.

In 1991, Putin's leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, cooperated with world leaders as they dismantled the USSR and entered a period of Glasnost, providing unparalleled hope and promise for world peace.

Almost thirty years later, on February 24, 2022, Russia's President Vladimir Putin began a military invasion of Ukraine, attempting to defeat its elected government and to reestablish Russian control.

As described in a 2015 article in the Mountain View Voice: Two large concrete slabs of the Berlin Wall found their way to Mountain View and in 2013, were put on display outside the library after being donated to the city. To their surprise, Mountain View officials recently learned some of the history behind these pieces.

Berlin resident Robin Pohle emailed the library after one of his friends spotted one of the wall chunks while taking a virtual tour of Mountain View on Google. The wall segment is spray-painted with heart with the words, "Wir lieben dich," which translates to "We love you."

Pohle explained that he had painted it on a still-standing part of the wall with his friends in 1990 to bid farewell to their friend Polly, who was moving to Munich. In fact, the trio even snapped a photo next to the fresh graffiti.

Recognizing a piece of the wall is something akin to finding a needle in a haystack. Generations of graffiti covered the concrete segment of the wall, which measured about 12 feet high and 66 miles long, and pieces of the wall were scattered worldwide when it was torn down.

Library Director Rosanne Macek said she was astonished to learn the wall's back story. A private collector, Frank Golzen, had donated the pieces to the city just two years earlier, she said.

"Out of the blue we get this email from this man," she said. "Given the distance and the time, I think it's amazing we were able to connect with each other."

For the full article <https://www.mv-voice.com/news/2015/07/02/secret-history-of-mvs-berlin-wall-slab> •



Berlin Wall Fragment



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Keeping Mountain View Safe

RV Fires

by Robert Maitland



Each year, from 2018 to 2020, an average of 4,200 recreational vehicle (RV) fires were reported to fire departments within the United States. Annually, these fires resulted in an estimated average of 15 civilian deaths, 125 civilian injuries, and \$60,300,000 in losses.

The average number of fatalities per 1,000 RV fires reported to the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS) from 2018 to 2020 was 3.9. During the same time, the number of injuries per 1,000 fires was 16.3. Additionally, the amount of dollar loss per RV fire was \$15,350.

RV fires often started in the engine, running gear, and wheel areas, followed by other miscellaneous vehicle areas and operator/passenger areas. Fires also started in cooking areas, vehicle exterior areas, other areas of fire origin, and cargo/trunk areas.

If you find yourself experiencing an RV fire, get yourself and all others out of and away from the vehicle. Call 9-1-1 after you are a safe distance from the vehicle. Remain away from the vehicle and do not attempt to enter a burning vehicle to retrieve personal property. Do not open the hood or trunk if you suspect a fire under it. Air could rush in and enlarge the fire leading to injury. •

Neighborhood News Sources

- Join the neighborhood email list: OMVNAtalk2@groups.io send email to: omvnataalk2+owner@groups.io
- online www.omvna.org
- Facebook www.fb.com/omvna
- Twitter @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

Submissions for our Oct 2022 issue are due by Sept 20, 2022

Mountain View History

1906 Sidewalks and Trees in Old Mountain View

by Susanne Martinez

Our Old Mountain View neighborhood is covered with a tree canopy and a network of sidewalks winding through its narrow streets. It wasn't always like that. Early maps of the area show fields with a few businesses and residences scattered in what is today the City's downtown area.

Around the time Mountain View was incorporated as a city, things began to change. In 1906, a group of local residents petitioned the City Council (then called the Board of Trustees) to create a Park and Tree Commission to help develop a plan for sidewalks and tree planting. In 1907, the Commission released its plan, calling for fourteen feet wide cement sidewalks in the downtown area, with the planting of trees as follows: Dana Street: English Elms; California Street: European Linden; Mercy Street: Oregon Maple; Church Street: European or Oriental Plane; Bush Street: Washington Palm; View Street: Acacia; Hope Street: Washington Palm; Bryant Street: Pepper; and Franklin Street: Carolina Poplar. The plan also called for residents to get permission from the Park and Tree Commission to plant or remove any trees along the sidewalks. Doesn't that sound familiar!

Of course, one group of residents, who had already put "non-conforming" sidewalks in front of their homes, protested the plan. Another group, who had pushed for cement sidewalks, were praised for their "progressive move." In the

Continued on page 7



Downtown Update

Old Buildings, New Businesses

by Jerry Steach

What's old is new again. Or is it, What's new is old again? Whatever. Old Mountain View is seeing new businesses pop up in old buildings along the historic, vibrant center of downtown. Space in this newsletter prevents a comprehensive rundown of them all, so for this issue we'll concentrate a few newcomers to the downtown business community, then visit others in future issues.

On the ground floor at 301 Castro St., in what locals still like to call "the Books, Inc. building," is Bloomsgiving, which opened late last year. Operated by the husband-and-wife team of Jessica and Daniel, who reside near downtown, Bloomsgiving is a combination florist, plant store and coffee shop. Jessica cited the 1940s building as a central reason for opening the shop at that location: "The building has always been one of my favorites – it's just beautiful." She adds that opening a business at that location "feels like a dream come true!" She and Daniel hope to expand their menu and make Bloomsgiving more of a downtown destination. Hours: Sun.-Thurs., 10:00am-7:00pm; Fri.-Sat., 10:00am-9pm.

Continued on page 7

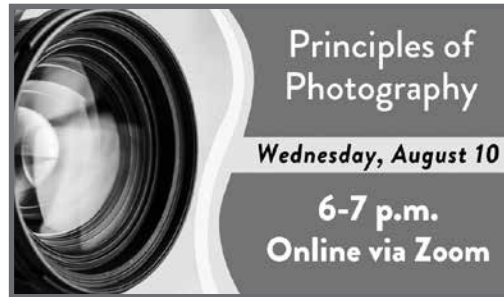
Public Library

library.mountainview.gov

August Events at Mountain View Public Library

by Kyle Hval

On Wednesday, August 10, wildlife photographer Joan Sparks covers ways to use your eyes and camera to create an image that is even better than what you see. The images will cover a broad range of wildlife, sports, landscapes and macro photography. Key principles such as composition, rule of thirds, natural frames, light, color, timing and storytelling will be covered. Many of these principles can be applied while using a cell phone in the camera mode. No registration required. Walk-ins are welcome. (event link: <https://tinyurl.com/y4me9e2f>)



On Thursday, August 18, Dr. Matthew Raider will present the latest clinical research on how meditation can improve our physical, mental and spiritual health in a virtual webinar. Learn simple techniques that can reduce stress, enhance relaxation and promote inner growth. Matthew Raider, MD is a clinical physician and coordinating director

of the Geriatric Teaching Program in Family Medicine at Middlesex Hospital in Connecticut. He has been practicing meditation for over 35 years. Registration is required. (event link: <https://tinyurl.com/yvufyyf>)

And on Thursday, August 25, the Library will host a bilingual English-Mandarin health workshop about everything you should know about carbohydrates. This program will be delivered in Mandarin from 6:30 – 7:15 p.m., and in English from 7:15 - 8 p.m. There will be time for questions from the audience during each language session. What exactly are carbohydrates? Are carbohydrates and sugar the same thing? Is dietary fiber also a form of carbohydrate? What kind of carbohydrates can raise blood sugar quickly? Our dietitian will help you answer your questions about carbohydrates. Registration is required. (event link: <https://tinyurl.com/u8w95y2c>) •



Find us on twitter @omvna

An Update

Never-Ending Covid

David Lewis,

SCC Neighborhood Covid Ambassador

For those waiting for the official end of the Covid pandemic—not good news. In our area (Santa Clara County) the second Omicron Covid wave, associated with subvariant BA.2.12.1, may have peaked in early June. Unfortunately, Covid is always working on new, improved, more contagious versions. We had BA.4 and BA.5 appear in early summer; BA.5 now accounts for 2/3 of all U.S. Covid cases.

As a result, rather than a peak and gradual reduction in Covid cases, we have had a plateau as BA.5 supplanted BA.2.12.1.

BA.5 is capable of infecting and causing serious illness in the unvaccinated, and also capable of infecting the fully vaccinated and those who have had previous versions of Covid. BA.5 is also highly contagious—as much as measles—if you're in a crowded indoor situation, unmasked, with someone with BA.5, you're almost certain to contract it.

The ready availability of free home Covid test kits, which facilitate home diagnosis and treatment of Covid, also means that the number of cases being reported is a very large underestimate. The CDC showed about 130k reported cases per day in the US in mid-July; the U. of Washington IHME estimated about seven times as many. There are a lot of sick people at home or out in public, so caution is advised.

The good local news is that we have had a plateau in cases, not an increase, and it appears that we may be seeing a slow decline as of mid-July. Related good news is a decline in the wastewater Covid numbers, a leading indicator of Covid cases. We may be seeing the start of a real local decline in the cases from Omicron BA.5. Also, for the fully vaccinated and boosted, Omicron BA.5 does not seem to pose a significant risk of serious illness. Most infected are able to recover safely at home, plus we now have effective antivirals such as

Continued on page 7

2022 OMVNA Steering Committee

Chair:	David Lewis	Subcommittee Chairs	
Vice-Chair:	Robert Cox	CERT:	Sherril Brennan
Treasurer:	Larry Rush	Historical Preservation:	Jerry Steach
Secretary:	Annette Nielsen	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:	Seema Quon
Community Liaison:	Jamil Shaikh	Next Meeting: September 19, 2022	

Events

Summer Update

By Joan Thunderbuilt

Chalk it up to Summer

To celebrate the beginning of summer, OMVNA social committee hosted a chalk party in Mercy-Bush park on Sunday June 12th.

Lots of chalk and plenty of colorful hands filled the sidewalks with



joyful chalk creations. Neighbors of all ages brought their imaginations, we supplied the chalk.

Look for our next Chalk it Up sometime in the Fall.

Potluck Picnic Dinner

The lemonade was flowing for a crowd of over 50 neighbors, who brought their favorite dishes to share in the first Potluck Picnic in several years.

Plenty of goodness and variety. No one left hungry for lack of food or conversation and a few new connections.

Meanwhile, the event promoted being green by bringing your own reusable cups, plates and flatware and the results were superb. There was very little refuse in the end.

Did you miss the event? Don't



worry, the general consensus is to have more neighborhood meetups like the Potluck Picnic. The Old MTV Eventors will look to hold another one sometime in the Fall. •

**Stay tuned for more events.
Check omvna.org often.**

Page Six

Make Change in the Neighborhood

by Kristin Bailey

The coin shortage is real. You can see the signs of the shortage – literally signs asking you to use exact change. It's a real issue for shops and food trucks that deal in cash and depend on small transactions to stay in business.

Coins make a mighty hard mattress and only Scrooge McDuck can swim in gold coins. So, if you've been saving your coins in a jar, consider bringing its contents the next time you visit your corner store or local food truck. Offer to pay in coins – they may even offer you bills for whatever change you have on you.

Of course, you could take the coins to a bank or a machine. But your local shop will appreciate it more, especially with banks limiting their own distribution of coins.

Make change in the neighborhood. For goods. For tacos. For good. •



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Mountain View History

Continued from page 4

end, the Board of Trustees decided in favor of the sidewalks. "Mountain View Board to Force Improvements. Says Town Must have Sidewalks and



Will Act Accordingly," San Jose Mercury-News, July 6, 1907.

In 2015, Mountain View adopted a comprehensive Community Tree Master Plan for managing and growing our tree canopy over the next 10 to 15 years. A copy of the plan is available on the City's website. https://www.mountainview.gov/depts/cs/parks/community_tree_master_plan.asp. But it all started with local residents in 1906. •

Downtown Update

Continued from page 4

Further down the street, Beyond Threads opened in June at 275 Castro, in the historic Swall Building. The store is managed by Kate and features new, handmade, and lightly used clothing and accessories. Erected in 1904, the Swall Building at various times over the years was home to Mountain View's Town Hall, a dental office, a milliner's shop, plumbing and electric businesses, and the kindergarten class of Miss Edith Landels, the namesake of Landels Elementary School. Kate cited the downtown's vibrancy and enjoyable atmosphere as a reason she opened her shop there, and said she hopes to expand to other locations. Hours: various – opening at either 11:00am or noon -- but closed on Tuesdays.

At the Ames Building, 169 and 175 Castro St., built in the early-1900s and recently sold by Jehning family that had operated the Jehning Lock Museum there, word is that retail businesses are planning to open in the adjacent ground-floor spaces. That's all word-of-mouth for now, so check back at www.omvna.org for updates. •

Covid Update

Continued from page 5

Paxlovid to prevent serious disease.

As far as the future, the expectation is that we will have another surge of cases in the fall, as people spend more time indoors—not as much of a problem here with our weather.

Vaccine manufacturers are working on Omicron-specific boosters for September / October, which should be available in time to prevent another major wave of Covid from whatever version we have at that time. The suggestion would be to get one of the new boosters as soon as you can. You can expect an annual Covid shot from now on, much as we have annual flu vaccines, and Covid will become an endemic disease-always with us. •

Get Involved Learn More

livablemv.org

Large Building Projects in Old Mountain View

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

To be involved or learn more about some building issues, please join "Livable Mountain View" www.livablemv.org

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



Jokes

Knock Knock
Who's there?
A little lasagna.
A little lasagna who?
A little lasagna and I will see your birthday suit!

Submit your joke to editor@omvna.org

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