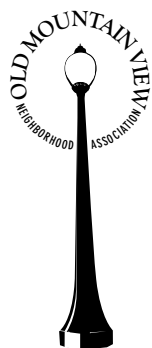


HIGHLIGHTS

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May 2022
Volume 34, Number 2

www.omvna.org



LAMPPOST

Published and distributed by the Old Mountain View Neighborhood Association

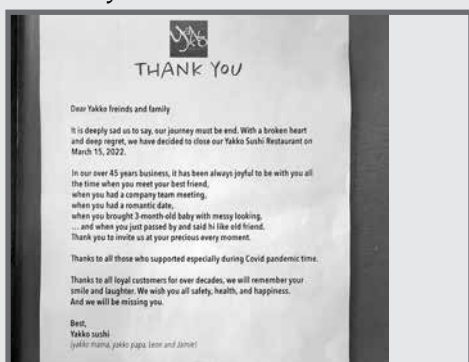
Restaurant Scene Remembering Yakko Sushi

by Max Hauser

Yakko Sushi on W. Dana, 45-year-plus member of the downtown-area restaurant cluster that has made Castro Street a dining "destination" in recent decades, closed in March. A posted notice expressed regrets, and memories of good customer experiences. It was hard news for some longtime customers.

Alice, a neighbor, writes that she asked the proprietor, "No more Yakko's?" He shook his head and I could tell he was holding back tears at best."

Alice told the Newsletter that he (known fondly as "Papa Yakko") would arrive "well before opening hours and was very dedicated to his restaurant.



Full size view can be found on omvna.org

His son was the sushi chef for some time and always engaged the entire restaurant with banter and laughter. The sound of the little bells on the door opening and closing will be missed on W. Dana." Mama Yakko too "was also present very often and so kind. She loves her grand kids dearly!"

Continued on page 7

Egg-Citing Events Happening in Old MV

by Joan Thunderbuilt

The OMVNA Steering Committee is developing community-building events and this spring they launched two inaugural events. The *Chalk It Up to Spring* chalk party in Mercy-Bush Park and the *Neighborhood Egg Crawl*.

Both events were fun and had a nice number of attendees given the short notices. There will definitely be another chalk party over the summer. And the feedback for another Egg Crawl is a resounding yes!



Events were advertised through numerous avenues including sidewalk signs, the website, and Facebook. The omvna.org website is the best way to stay up-to-date on the latest offerings

Email social@omvna.org if you would like to help develop, plan or manage future community building events. •

New Season: Time to Blossom

by Susan Bickford

Although we still have to deal with covid and cautions, we are opening up more. In the last few weeks, OMVNA promoted two fun events and is creating a Social Committee to figure out how to hold regular social events.

Meanwhile, many of our neighbors and members of the Steering Committee continue to represent our interests at the City level to make sure our voices are heard as we head into the future.

We're also testing some concepts to add some flair to the newsletter. Please look at our survey on page 5. You can fill this out and drop it off or email answers to editor@omvna.org. It will also be on the omvna.org website. •

Events

Egg Crawl Results

by Joan Thunderbuilt

Colorful outfits and countless bunny ears filled the Saturday morning streets of our Neighborhood. Over 1680 treat filled plastic eggs were hidden across 35 Old Mountain View locations on April 23 for the very first *Neighborhood Egg Crawl*.



Participants signed up in advance online to be Hunters or Hiders. 136 Hunters used a color coded egg map to scooter, skip and scour the neighborhood for the hidden treasures.

Over half of the hunters were under 5 years old, and one third being between 6-10 years old.

A giant THANK YOU is extended to all the Hiders who supplied treats and their front yards and/or parking strips for this special event.

Plans to re-use the plastic eggs next year are in the works! •

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

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Market Profile

roseinternationalmarket.com

The Rose International Market

Mountain View Treasure That Survived Redevelopment

by Carol Lewis and Susan Bickford

Years ago, in 1988, Saied Mehranfar established a tiny store, Rose International Market, that prospered and then moved to a larger location in a little shopping center on the southwest corner of El Camino Real and Castro Street, and became a marvelous little grocery store/restaurant.

You could get a good idea of what was cooking inside as you drove up and parked, courtesy of the exhaust from the kitchen. Inside, you could shop for your Persian and Middle Eastern groceries, including fresh Halal meat, order a snack or a meal from the deli/kitchen to take home, or eat outside or in your car.

When this site was redeveloped as a condo complex with ground floor retail, the Rose Market and the other small businesses at the site could easily have been lost, but due to residents' pleas and protests, the developers agreed to conditions that permitted some of the local businesses to survive the transition and make a go of it in the new places provided in the development. The Rose Market is one of these, with a new location, now facing El Camino Real.

The take-out is still superb (look at their online menu), and the store is now a modern, squeaky-clean establishment. Rose Market has everything from fabulous fresh and dried spices, to divine ice creams and desserts, even chickpea cookies.

There is a butcher section with Halal lamb, chicken and beef, marinated chicken, sausages, ground beef, a selection of Basmati (and other) rice, a candy section including barberry-flavored candies, a pastry section with baklava and other tempting pastries, fresh vegetables, dairy products with yogurts, a variety of feta cheeses and other cheeses like Lebni Kefir, and a condiment section with pickles, olives, oils and vinegars.

If you want unusual jams and teas, you'll find them. If you like smoked fish, there is a section for that, too. There is too much to mention, so we'll end with some items to give you some idea of the variety: coconut flour, eggplant pulp, musk willow water, Bulgarian and Greek feta, smoothies, fava beans, unhusked green almonds, honeycomb and much more. Go to Rose International Market, still the same Mountain View family-run business, for a treat to your senses. •



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Sacred Act of Neighboring.**

**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!**



Artist in Residence

macqueenfineart.com/sculpture-gallery

Elizabeth MacQueen: Born to Be an Artist

By Don McPhail

Artist Elizabeth MacQueen was destined to bring her unique artistry and innovation into the world of sculpture. This is reflected in the joy and freedom expressed in *Ibis*, a dynamic work that graces the front lobby of our Center for the Performing Arts.

According to her biography, "Hidden in Elizabeth MacQueen's DNA was innovation and primordial molten metal waiting to be discovered." Her great-grandfather was a steel magnate and her mother was "Involved in the arts of dance, set design, piano, choreography as well as being a champion athlete."

Born in 1948 in Mountain Brook, Alabama, MacQueen came to California in her teens. She attended Los Angeles City College, then UCLA, where she graduated with a degree from Dickson Art Center in Sculpture, Painting and Design. MacQueen studied in Europe at the international sculpting community of Pietrasanta, Italy, where she worked with Isamu Noguchi and other prominent artists.

As a dancer in her youth, MacQueen learned human anatomy and kinetic form, and the uniqueness of human movement continues to fascinate and inspire her. MacQueen's works are shown overseas, in Belgium, France, Italy and Germany; and throughout the United States. Her best known works may include the 17-foot bronze Eastman Statue in the rotunda of the Women's Basketball Hall of Fame in Knoxville, Tennessee. Elizabeth MacQueen is proud to be listed in Women in California History from San Luis Obispo County. •



Ibis by Elizabeth MacQueen, Lobby Sculpture
The Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts

Gender Kindness

In Community, Sam Blewis
Front Porch Mountain View

It's been a difficult time to be a queer person with trans kids to protect. Recently people set their focus on trans swimmer Lia Thomas' success. It was hard to see people who know my family post things that promote limiting what we can and can't participate in because of our various identities. It's not the stuff that makes up the Sacred Act of Neighboring.

People post stupid things on the internet. And most of it is just that—stupid. But when people decide they should be allowed to dictate how someone else lives out their identity, it goes beyond stupid and into the realm of dangerous. We are talking about a real, human person with real, human emotions, trying to live her life. Not to mention that, rather than celebrate her accomplishments that should be open for public comment, people have chosen to focus on things that should not be open for public comment.

The insensitive things that people post on the internet are entirely out of my control, which is maybe the most challenging part. I've yet to change someone's mind through an internet post. Although I do think it matters that we let people know when they've said something

Continued on page 7



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Keeping Mountain View Safe

Cooking Fires in Residential Buildings

by Robert Maitland



From 2017 to 2019, cooking was the leading cause of all residential building fires and accounted for 51 percent of all residential building fires responded to by fire departments across the county. Additionally, cooking was the leading cause of residential building fire injuries.



Cooking fires can be prevented by never leaving cooking equipment unattended while in use. •

Mountain View History

Early Old Mountain View Landowners

by Susanne Martinez



Figure 1. Image of Thomas Stealey from San Francisco Examiner, November 4, 1892, p. 5

Thomas Stealey had an interesting history. He arrived in California in the fall of 1849 and made a fortune in gold mining. He settled in San Francisco where he was engaged in real estate and construction, but was also prominently involved in the "Vigilantes Committee," a controversial group of men who sought to bring 'law and order' to San Francisco during a period of lawlessness. Indeed, his 1899 obituary highlighted his role as one of these vigilantes. In 1870, he moved his family to Mountain View where he was actively engaged in local politics, serving as a Mountain View school trustee, and narrowly lost an

The 1876 map of Mountain View shows a plot of land in our Old Mountain View neighborhood running from Castro to Calderon bordered by El Camino and Church Street owned by a man named T. Stealey.

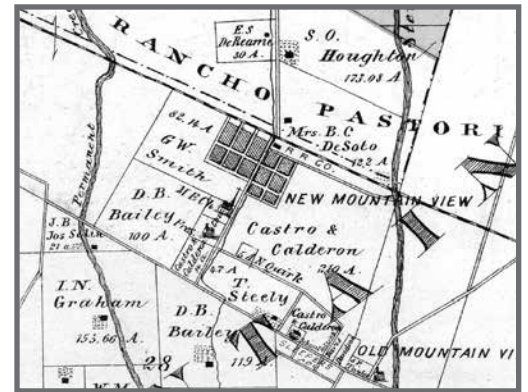


Figure 2. 1876 Thomas and West Map of Mountain View

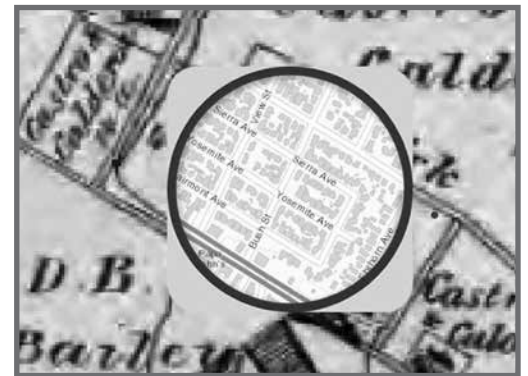


Figure 3. 1876 Map with current streets

Continued on page 7

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](https://www.facebook.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 August 2022 issue are due by July 20, 2022

SAVE THE DATE
ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Sunday, Aug 21 - TBD

Downtown Update

Downtown Buildings Deemed Worthy of Historic Preservation

by Jerry Steach

Taking significant steps toward preserving much of our vibrant downtown's unique character, the Mountain View City Council voted to put in motion plans to have several buildings gain official historic designation. The council voted unanimously at its April 12 meeting in favor of allocating resources to qualify eight downtown buildings, some dating back to the 19th Century, on the California state historic register. If California's State Historical Resources Commission (SHRC) agrees, the eight properties located along the 100 to 300 blocks of Castro Street could qualify as historically significant and thus protected from removal, or even major changes to their structures or facades.

Those buildings (and their ground-floor business occupants) are: the Weilheimer Store (Oren's Hummus), Ames Building (currently vacant); Mockbee Building (Eureka), Jurian Building (Agave), Farmers & Merchants Bank Building (Red Rock Coffee), Swall Building (currently vacant), 292 Castro (Icicles), and Levin building (Bloomspring).

Continued on page 7

Public Library

library.mountainview.gov

Mark Your Calendars: Summer Highlights

by Kyle Hval

Would you like to learn some fun songs on the ukulele?

Beginners and ukulele enthusiasts are welcome to join us on Wednesday, May 25 to sing and play together. Ukulele instructor Chuck Monahan will teach participants how to play basic chords on the ukulele and lead the group in an informal performance of popular songs from the last 50 years. Bring your own uke, or use one of ours.

Sing and Play Along Ukulele Jam Wednesday, May 25 — 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM 1st Floor Program Room

California State Parks passes are available to checkout at Mountain View Public Library and all public libraries in California. With these passes, library cardholders can access over 200 parks, lakes, beaches and monuments in the State Parks system for free. The goal of these passes is to remove barriers for people to access state parks and to enjoy the benefits of the great outdoors. The passes are not valid for any national parks.

This program will run from April 4, 2022 until June 30, 2024 and is made possible through a partnership with California State Parks and the California State Library. For more information, visit the Library website. •



Find us on twitter @omvna

An Update

Covid and You

David Lewis,

SCC Neighborhood Covid Ambassador

As I write this, we are almost 3 weeks out from the relaxation of the indoor mask mandates in businesses, and about 1 week out from that for schools. Covid cases in the area are increasing slowly, but not dramatically—hopefully it will stay that way—despite more infectious Omicron variants now circulating. Plus a ruling by a federal judge that the CDC could not order a mask mandate on public transportation, could lead to mass outbreaks of Covid at times of heavy travel.

Right now, the best thing, besides still being careful in crowded situations (wearing good masks—KN95, KF94 or N95), is to be fully vaccinated and boosted, especially for seniors or those with other problems. These greatly reduce your risk of infection, hospitalization, serious illness, or worse, if you do get sick.

We also now have readily available testing, and much better therapeutic measures, such as antibody treatments and antiviral drugs, that can greatly reduce the Covid infection

Continued on page 7

Newsletter Feedback

Do you receive the paper version of the OMVNA Newsletter at home?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know

How do you read the newsletter?

☐ Paper ☐ Online ☐ Don't Read

How do you feel about...

Renaming newsletter The Lamppost?

☐ Love it ☐ Hate it ☐ No Opinion

Printing in color?

☐ Love it ☐ Hate it ☐ No Opinion

More photos and graphics?

☐ Love it ☐ Hate it ☐ No Opinion

Online only?

☐ Love it ☐ Hate it ☐ No Opinion

Electronic fill-in form online at omvna.org

What kind of articles do you read (check all that apply)?

- ☐ Restaurant / Food News
- ☐ Artist Profiles
- ☐ MV Fire Dept / Police Dept Advice
- ☐ Library Events
- ☐ City Council-related news
- ☐ Building / Construction Updates
- ☐ COVID Status
- ☐ Neighborhood Events
- ☐ Neighbor (personal) Profiles
- ☐ OMV / MV Organization Profiles
- ☐ OMV / MV History
- ☐ Ads
- ☐ Other: _____

Are there other topics you would like to see covered? _____

Any other comments or suggestions? _____

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What's Up?

An Update on New Development in Old Mountain View

By Robert Cox

Local tech companies, like Google and Apple, are calling their workers back to their traditional tech campuses. Meanwhile, the Sobrato company is planning for a new 4 story mixed-use retail and office complex at 590 Castro Street. This is on the site of the former Wells Fargo building and parking lot and is adjacent to Pioneer Park.

Sobrato recently redeveloped the property across Castro Street. This four-story office building is now Sobrato's headquarters and the new home of Wells Fargo Bank. But for many in Old Mountain View, this building is a testament to broken promises.

The site design that was submitted to the city showed a series of small ground floor retail uses along the project frontage. The community group, Livable Mountain View, was excited about the potential for a vibrant public presence on this side of Castro Street. Now giant planting pots block public visibility into the ground floor bank offices. While the new project across the street also claims to be a site for future ground floor retail use, community activists watch skeptically for what uses are eventually permitted there.

At the February 23 Administrative Zoning hearing, members of the public also raised concerns about parking reductions and the loss of heritage trees on the site. The site is close to Pioneer Park and the library, and visitors of often find it challenging to park nearby.

Despite this, City staff supported a reduction of 57 parking spaces in the complex. The project will also block the visibility of much of Pioneer Park from Castro Street, although a landscaped pedestrian corridor from the street to the park will remain. The city council will debate the project's approval later this year. •

Thankful

by Shivika Nayyar

Thankful for my home on this land,
Hugged by Stevens Creek on one hand.

Thankful for Landels, Thankful for Bubbles,
Nurturing little minds, making them chuckle.

Thankful for shops on Calderon,
Helpful in a pinch, when I am on a stroll

Thankful for trees, finches on them sending the tweets.
Bountiful geraniums and lilacs, blooming in our streets.

Thankful for aeoniums, green and black.
Raising their necks and smiling back.

Thankful for sidewalks that lead me to downtown,
Thankful for Caltrain honking in the background.

Thankful for Mercy-Bush Playground,
Families gathering, cheerful sounds

Thankful for soil, sun, water, and hands
Thankful for farms meeting our demands.
Thankful for animals and sacrifice,
Thankful for the farmers market we patronize.

Thankful for Easy Foods, Books Inc. and Ava's
Thankful for all the restaurants, serving various flavors.

Thankful for Castro in walking distance,
All the stores, I am thankful for your existence.

Thankful for this Newsletter, bringing our community together.
Thank you, organizers and volunteers helping others. •



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. •

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 | Ice Cream Social: Samantha Blewis |
| Newsletter: | Susan Bickford | Advertising: Seema Quon |
| Community Liaison: | Jamil Shaikh | Next Meeting: July 25, 2022 |

Restaurant Scene

Continued from page 1

Resident Holger Isenberg recalled becoming a regular there. "Yakko was my favorite sushi place since I arrived from Germany in Mountain View in 2016 and it will be difficult to find a replacement for the constant good quality. Also not to forget legendary Sushi master Leon, at the helm of the Sushi bar until mid 2019 when he moved away with his family. I was a frequent guest there and enjoyed this combination of a small family-owned place for meeting the locals, and being at the same time a place to go to for international visitors to the large local software companies. A nice example of older Mountain View history and new businesses joined well together. After years of continuous work, the owner couple, who also worked daily in the location, retired from business." •

Gender Kindness

Continued from page 3

hurtful, whether on the internet or in-person.

So if I can't alter people's behavior, what can I do?

Reach out to my trans friends and ask what they need from me. Let them know that I see them and affirm them.

1. Continue to work in the public and private sectors to advocate for trans rights.
2. Promote inclusion in every space I am in.
3. Learn. I have so much to learn. So much to read. So many people to listen to. And this matters.

It's not a solution. But it is a start. Will you start with me? •

Downtown Update

Continued from page 4

The council voted to support a recommendation by Livable Mountain View, a volunteer community group, that the city prioritize and accelerate the application for each of the eight properties, which must be written and submitted separately. This approach is an alternative to city staff's recommendation to instead prioritize the broader, citywide survey of historic buildings and update Mountain View's Historic Preservation Ordinance—identified as a major goal by a previous City Council.

Historically significant properties in Mountain View are no stranger to the SHRC. The commission, which would formerly review and vote on the applications for each of the eight buildings, in 2019 concurred with Livable Mountain View's arguments that the Weilheimer House (presently Chez TJ) and Airbase Laundry building (formerly the Tied House), on Villa St., both are historically significant, thus qualifying them for the California Register of Historical Resources. That vote by the SHRC automatically rendered the two buildings eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.

There are no guarantees, but the eight buildings the City Council agreed to fast-track for historical designation will at some point receive the same review and vote in Sacramento. Stay tuned. •

Mountain View History

Continued from page 4

election to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors.

Around 1885, he returned to San Francisco where he again ran for public office, but lost. Thomas Stealey and his wife Mary Louise had ten children, many of them born during their years in Mountain View. Many Old Mountain View houses are located on land once owned by Mr. Stealey. •

Covid Update

Continued from page 5

severity. Early treatment, with drugs like Molnupiravir and Paxlovid, is crucial. Be sure to get tested if you suspect you have Covid.

The pandemic is not over. At this date, the U.S. is still seeing 500 deaths per day from Covid and a large part of the world is only scarcely vaccinated. The virus could persist and evolve for years to come, with regular outbreaks from international travel, social events and holidays. The virus may evolve to a less virulent form—we may not get as sick—but there are no hard and fast rules for viruses. Covid could just as easily evolve to a more virulent and more infectious form.

I think we can look forward to annual vaccinations for the latest version of the Covid virus, for many years. Fortunately, recent advances in virus detection, such as wastewater analyses, can give early warning of outbreaks. Viral RNA can be sequenced rapidly, and tailored vaccines can be mass-produced in short order, unlike the old days, when vaccine were produced by cultures in vast numbers of eggs. New vaccines took years to produce in quantity. We also now have effective therapeutics. Hopefully we'll do better with the remainder of this pandemic and the next ones that are sure to follow. •

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