



OMVNA Newsletter

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www.omvna.org

Ready to Vote? ☒

by Greg Fowler

Voting is a right for American citizens over the age of 18. Are you ready to make the most of this precious privilege in 2016? To register you must be:

- ✓At least 18 years old by Election Day.
- ✓A US Citizen.
- ✓A California resident.
- ✓Not currently imprisoned or on parole for a felony.
- ✓Not found mentally incompetent by court action.

An easy way to register is by using the Secretary of State site at <http://registertovote.ca.gov/>

Paper registration cards can be found at the U.S. Post Offices, and near the front entrance of the Mountain View Public Library. Registration cards must be returned by mail.

The deadline for registering to vote in the June primary is May 23. Anyone who turns 18 years of age by the date of an election may register to vote in that election.

If you are already registered, the next step is being sure that you're registered at your current address.

The Santa Clara County Registrar of Voters provides an online form to check the status of your registration, <https://eservices.sccgov.org/rov/?tab=vr>

If any of the following changes apply, you will have to re-register to vote (see below for how):

- ✓You have moved to Santa Clara County from a different county.
- ✓You have changed your name.
- ✓You want to change your political party preference.

You can also update your existing registration online, to do any of the following, using the Voter's Action Request Form at <https://www.sccgov.org/sites/rov/Registrar/Documents/VARF%20E.pdf>

- ✓Change your address (within Santa Clara County).

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Springtime Pet Safety

  by Arianna Berken

All pets—even if they stay indoors—need regular care. If your cat or dog goes outside regularly, spring can pose a number of unique problems.

Foxtails

Foxtail is a grass that has bushy spikes that resembles the tail of a fox. These "spikelets" are adapted for animal dispersal by clinging to the fur of an animal.

After a foxtail starts to make its way into your pet it can cause infection, move to vital organs, and cause lots of irritation to your pet. The area where the foxtail entered greatly affects the amount of damage it can cause.

Toxic Chemicals and Poisons

Spring cleaning may be toxic for your pet. Many cleaning products and lawn and garden treatments are easy for a pet to get to and can be fatal. For example, bone meal is often used as a fertilizer when planting bulbs and many bulbs can be toxic. Remember: eating an animal that has been poisoned can also be dangerous to your pet.

Year 'Round Attention

Both indoor and outdoor cats and dogs should get their appropriate vaccinations and regular booster shots.

For Cat Lovers

Indoor-only cats to tend to live longer, but they also need full vaccinations and boosters. Plus all pets should be microchipped and equipped with a collar, even cats, in case they escape.

Most vets will not declaw your cat as this procedure deforms the paws of the cat. If you have a cat that claws the furniture, you might consider using Soft Paws, or a similar brand, that is equivalent to fake nails. These can be glued on and will eventually fall off as the claws grow.

The most common reasons for veterinary cat visits aside from

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Restaurant Scene

by Max Hauser

Jay Essadki, one of the brothers who opened **Morocco's**, and in 2014, **The Liquid Menu** juice bar (650 Castro), has converted the juice bar to a vegetarian café, **The Phoenix**, featuring buffets at lunch and Saturday brunch. www.phoenix-juice.com



Verde Tea Kitchen, a full-service restaurant related to Verde Tea Café nearby, opened at 210 Hope (at the Villa corner).



Izzo Asian-Fusion Tapas at 246 Castro (former Cijjo space) opened as an expansion site of San José's Izzo Taiwanese restaurant, but with more emphasis on "Asian street food."



The owners of **Mervyn's** (236 Castro) revived their front restaurant space by adding a location of their chain **Teaspoon**. It offers milk teas, shaved snow, and some of the "J-Love" Japanese burgers formerly featured at the restaurant.



Eureka! opened at 191 Castro, latest site of a popular state-wide gastropub chain (creative burgers, small plates, large draft-beer selection). Its planners told me they regretted retiring the beloved old mirrored bar, which wouldn't fit with the much larger new one. **Eureka!** competes with the likes of Steins, BierHaus, and Tied House.



Buffalo Beers Burgers Baos (292 Castro) closed, to remodel for a planned reopening in a couple of

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Community Profile: Peninsula Youth Theater

by Susan Bickford with Mike Cobb



Susan: Tell us how you became involved with the Peninsula Youth Theater.

Mike: I've lived in Mountain View most of my adult life. We first learned about PYT when we took my oldest daughter to see performances in Pioneer Park. We got her into the "Story Stretcher" class when she was 3. "Beauty and the Beast" was her first show.

We were all hooked! I had as much fun working the show as Amanda had performing! My volunteer involvement grew and I eventually joined their Board.

Susan: For those who might be new to Mountain View, how did PYT get started?

Mike: PYT was founded in 1992 by a group of dedicated parents looking to provide an immersive theater experience that closely mirrored professional acting experience. They rehearsed in borrowed facilities and operated on a shoestring budget for years.

Susan: I see there are several types of programs. How are those

activities structured?

Mike: *Mainstage Musicals* is our highest profile program. We put on large-scale, professional quality productions of well-known musicals. The kids rehearse several times a week for two months.

Stories on Stage have small casts of more experienced performers who put on adaptations of well-known children's books. Many of these scripts are adapted for PYT.

Teen Intensive was launched by our Executive Director for PYT's most dedicated teen performers. They run virtually every aspect of the show, with directing, stage management, publicity, etc.

School of Performing Arts is our on-site theatre classes.

We also run a large summer camp program and our "school play in a box" program, which provides on-campus theatrical learning to schools throughout the area.

Susan: What venues do you use for your performances? I know you are often at the MVCPA.

Mike: We are proud to be a Home Company of the MVCPA. We will put on four full-scale musicals on the MVCPA Center Stage this year—in-

cluding *Seussical* in May.

PYT is the most prolific user of the 'Second Stage' at MVCPA. This is a really great Black Box theater that seats about 150 and where we run our *Stories on Stage* program.

Our summer camps all have performances at the end of the session. We are at the Park Stage next to the MVCPA most Friday nights during the summer, along with some other locations.

Susan: Tell us about PYT awards. I hear a number of former students have gone on to work in theater as professionals.

Mike: Many PYT alums are working in theatre and the arts, and many that I know are studying now at excellent performing arts programs all over the country.

Our most well-known alum is Nic Rouleau, who plays the lead role of Elder Price in 'Book of Mormon' on Broadway.

PYT received the Mayor's Award in 2006 and was honored as Outstanding Organization by the Mountain View Chamber of Commerce in 2012.

Susan: Are there opportunities parents should know about?

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Keeping Mountain View Safe: Updates and Advice from the Mountain View Fire and Police Departments

by Lynn Brown

sional.

by Jodie Pierce



Fire Safety for Pets

Pets give us comfort, friendship, and unconditional love. Our connection to them can be among the strongest relationships in our lives. We need to be careful with pets in the home.

SAFETY TIPS

- Pets are curious. They may bump into, turn on, or knock over cooking equipment.
- Keep pets away from stoves, countertops, candles, lamps, and space heaters.
- Always use a metal or heat-tempered glass screen on a fireplace and keep it in place.
- Keep pets away from a chimney's outside vents. Have a "pet-free zone" of at least 3 feet (1 meter) away from the fireplace. Glass doors and screens can stay dangerously hot for several hours after the fire goes out.
- Consider battery-operated, flameless candles. They can look and smell like real candles.
- Some pets are chewers. Watch pets to make sure they don't chew through electrical cords. Have any problems checked by a profes-

Keep in Touch with Mountain View's Finest

Want to get the latest on the Mountain View Police Department?

Read about it on Twitter @MountainViewPD, our blog at <http://mountainviewpoliceblog.com/>, or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/mountainviewpolicedepartment

Just want critical alerts and advisories? Sign-up for Nixle via your smartphone by texting your Mountain View zip code to 888777.

SMOKE ALARMS

- If the smoke alarm sounds, get out and stay out.
- Never go back inside for pets in a fire. Tell firefighters if your pet is trapped.
- Make sure pets are included in your family's wildfire evacuation plan. Build an evacuation kit for each pet in your household. Ensure each kit is a size and weight that can be quickly and easily loaded into a vehicle when packing to evacuate.

FACT

Pets and wild animals have a part in starting about 700 home fires per year. Roughly three-quarters of these fires were started by cooking equipment, fireplaces or chimneys, lighting, or candles.

MVPD is Cyber-Ready

The Mountain View Police Department's Cyber Crime Unit was formed in February as part of Chief Max Bosel's vision to continue to expand services to residents in a growing digital age. The unit consists of three detectives and one sergeant, and all tackle a variety of cyber cases ranging from email scams to cyberbullying to fraud.

According to Sgt. Tim Dahl, cases investigated 10 years ago are radically different from today's cases because of the probability that nearly everyone is "connected" digitally, meaning they use a smartphone, have a tablet or utilize the Internet in ways that were relatively new or unheard of a decade ago.

Even cases like thefts, narcotic sales and homicides can have a technological component, and the



Cyber Crime Unit has been extensively trained to assist in investigating those incidents. The unit also works to help residents learn how they can prevent becoming victims of cybercrime.

To learn more about the unit, and to hear from one of its detectives, Det. Britton Moore, head over to the police department's blog at www.mountainviewpoliceblog.com.

Stay Safe in the Summer

As the weather gets warmer, we often leave our doors and windows to our homes and vehicles open. Although this helps our comfort level with the increased temperatures, it can also create an open invitation for theft. If you plan on leaving a window in a home slightly open, be sure to have a lock or wooden dowel in the window track to prevent the window from being opened further. For a vehicle, whether you leave the window slightly open or not, be sure the doors are locked and DO NOT leave anything in plain view that might entice a would-be criminal to want to break into your car, despite the value of the items.

If you plan to be out of town,
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Help Keep Old Mountain View Clean and Green

DOGS

The City allows dogs to be off-leash in designated areas of selected local parks at specified hours. The City of Mountain View asks that you be respectful of other park users and that you comply with all rules and ordinances:

- 🐕 Keep your dog on-leash unless in the designated off-leash area.
- 🐕 Respect other park users. Stop bothersome behavior immediately.
- 🐕 Keep your dog under voice control.
- 🐕 Use the plastic bags to clean up after your dog.
- 🐕 Report dog bites/incidents immediately to the Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority (408) 764-0344

There are no dog runs in Mountain View's City parks. Dog owners may train a dog without a leash in designated areas of Cuesta, Rengstorff and Whisman Parks if they have obtained a permit. The permit is valid only for dog training and does not apply to dog exercising or off-leash play.

The dog training areas at Cuesta, Rengstorff and Whisman Parks should not be confused with dog runs or dog parks where dogs may run and play off leash. There is a Dog Park specifically designed for dogs where they may run free and play in a controlled area and socialize with other dogs and their owners. It is located at the corner of Shoreline Boulevard and North Road.

HAZARDOUS WASTE

Visit hhw.org or call (408) 299-7300 to make an appointment to drop off your household hazardous waste. Go to paintcare.org/locator for stores accepting leftover paint.

BULKY TRASH

On Call Plus is a free curbside collection cleanup service for residents, scheduled by appointment, to set out extra trash, recycling, or yard trimmings or bulky goods, such as appliances or furniture.

Residents may schedule up to three (3) cleanups per calendar year. Each one allows for the collection of bagged or boxed household items from the curbside area no larger than 4 foot high by 4 foot

wide by 8 foot long, PLUS up to three bulky goods, such as appliances and furniture.

For more detailed information about what is accepted and how to set out for On Call Plus, call Recology at (650) 967-3034 or go to: Goo.gl/Ka9Que for more information

STREET SWEEPING

The Mountain View Public Works Department provides your neighborhood with street-cleaning services twice a month. You can help ensure a thorough street cleaning by:

- Using your yard waste cart as much as possible to dispose of leaves.
- Moving your vehicle off the street before 6:00 a.m. on your sweep day.
- Piling leaves away from the curb, and limiting leaf piles to less than 3' wide by 6" high.
- Removing objects such as tree limbs, rocks and debris bins from the street.

Most of Old Mountain View has street cleaning on Wednesdays or Thursdays. Call (650) 903-6329 for assistance in determining your area.

WALKABLE SIDEWALKS

One of the advantages of living in Old Mountain View is being able to walk and use our sidewalks to get to so many events, stores, restaurants, and services. Now that spring is here, plants are growing. Make sure your greenery doesn't obstruct sidewalk users.



Mark Your Calendar for the Ice Cream Social

Every year OMVNA sponsors a fun event in Mercy Bush park featuring games, prizes, music and... ICE CREAM!

Mark your calendars now for Sunday, August 7, 2016 from 1-3 p.m. and look for more information in our next issue!

We always need volunteers. To help, contact: Lorraine Wormald, Chairperson, worlor@sbcglobal.net

Open Studios Open Season

by Zwia Lipkin



For the first three weekends in May, local artists in the Bay Area will open their studios to the public.

This year Old Mountain View neighbors will be able to visit one such studio right here in their backyard! 542 Church Street, Mountain View (Site 137) will be open to display the work of several artists on the weekends of May 7-8, May 14-15, and May 21-22.

Each weekend will feature different artists, although some will exhibit on more than one weekend. Artworks will include paintings, drawings, photographs, sculpture, digital art, jewelry, glass work, and utilitarian fabric art.

For the list of artists, their websites, and the dates they will show their work, check <http://www.svos.org/search.php> (select Site 137 at the very bottom).

You can also look at their collective Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/oldmtviewsvos/>

This might be a great way to get last-minute Mothers' Day gifts for a special mom in your life, or just to enjoy a nice spring weekend.



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Historical Preservation:	Marina Marinovich
Residential Parking:	Robert Cox, Julie Lovins
Advertising:	Kristin Bailey
Next Meeting:	July 25, 2016

Politics Start at the Local Level

by Robert Cox

Ever pick up a copy of our local newspaper, read an article, and say, "Wish I could do something about that?" or "I'd really like to tell our city leaders what I think about that!" The good news is, "You can!"

Your local neighborhood association (OMVNA) holds quarterly regular meetings. The meetings are low key, and generally attended by about 20 people. If you'd like to discuss something there, reply to the "Call to Agenda" item that goes out on OMVNAtalk and Nextdoor.

Or just come to the meeting to get to know some more of your neighbors. We typically discuss the neighborhood's new development projects, subjects like historic preservation and parking, the next issue of our newsletter, and plan for upcoming events like our annual Ice Cream Social.

If you become a regular attendee, you may want to volunteer for a position on the OMVNA leadership team. We always need people to deliver the newsletter, work on the Ice Cream Social, and participate in our Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

You can contact me (robert.cox@intel.com) for more info on any of these opportunities.

If you want to speak directly to the mayor and our city council, the city council meets most Tuesdays. The agenda for each meeting is published on the Thursday before on the council web site (http://www.mountainview.gov/council/agendas/current_council_agendas.asp).

Members of the public are invited to speak at the meeting on each agenda item. Each meeting also has a time when any member of the public can speak to the mayor and council on any topic. Speakers are generally limited to 2-3 minutes.

The best benefit of being involved is meeting so many wonderful people living here in our city.

As our former mayor's bumper sticker says "Politics is not a spectator sport!" Get involved and make a difference!



Get Ready for Leadership

by Susan Bickford

If you are inspired to:

1. Make Mountain View a better place to live and work.

2. Create connections with people who care about the community.

3. Dedicate 9 full days to developing your leadership skills.

4. Strengthen your connection to the community.

Then you should consider submitting an application to the Leadership Mountain View program. Many of our local leaders—both elected and volunteer—have been through LMV.

Applications are accepted May through July, and the yearly course runs from late September through May, with one Friday per month.

Tuition for the 9-month Leadership Mountain View Program (LMV) is \$1,850. Members of Chamber of Commerce Mountain View receive a 10% discount. Many companies support employees' participation in LMV through their Education Reimbursement programs. Monthly credit card payment plans are also available upon request as well as limited scholarships.

Go to: www.lmv.education for more information and to apply.

Google Bike Sightings

Google bikes are intended for Google employees to travel around campus or from one campus to another. If you see a multicolor Google bike where it shouldn't be, Call (650) 253-5353. The telephone number is printed on every basket.

To sign up for neighborhood alerts by OMVNAtalk email:

- Send a blank message (no subject or content needed) from your preferred email address to omvnataalk-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
- You will get back an automated message from yahoogroups
- Select option 2 ("Reply, Send") to confirm your request.

For more information about the OMVNAtalk list, please see <http://www.omvna.org/omvnataalk.html>

For newsletter delivery problems or to volunteer to help send email to delivery@omvna.org

A Youth View on Soccer

by Alyse Graham-Martinez

Alyse is in the 4th grade at Gabriela Mistral Elementary School.

Any kid who plays soccer (or parent of a player) knows that finding a good field to play on is difficult. I have been playing on the fields in and around Old Mountain View since I was in kindergarten. I have played on the fields at Castro, Landels, Bubbs and Huff. My sisters' team practiced on the field at Eagle Park.

The problem with these fields is that they are all natural grass. Even though natural grass is nice to play on, it requires a lot of water. Because of the drought, the grass often doesn't get a sufficient amount of water. So our teams often end up playing on dirt or mud. Occasionally, the fields are even closed completely and practice gets cancelled. None of these fields have lights, so when the sun goes down practice must end and is often cut short in winter.

In mid-November, the City of Mountain View opened new fields at Shoreline. This is very exciting news for soccer players (and to a lesser extent baseball and softball players). The fields are artificial turf and lighted. This lets us play all year round and into the evening. It does take more time to get there from Old Mountain View, but it is good to have more fields and more choices. My sisters and I love playing soccer, and we are glad more children will get to play with this new soccer field available.

Ed: Does your child have opinions to share? Let us know.



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

Contact the newsletter team at: editorOMVNA@yahoo.com

Submissions for our August issue are due by July 12, 2016.

Police

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have a neighbor get your mail and newspapers so they don't pile up, which advertises to criminals that there is likely no one home. Whether on vacation or just at work for the day, if you are expecting a delivery, have a neighbor get it for you so it doesn't sit at your front door. Package thefts increase during the summer months and holidays, but these thefts can be averted if the packages are quickly removed from the doorstep once delivered.

With the longer daylight hours, after-work strolls are always relaxing. Be sure to walk in well-lit areas or carry a flashlight in the event you are out after the sun goes down. It's never a bad idea to walk with others as well, for everyone's safety.

For the safety of our four-legged friends who enjoy spending time with their families and take road trips, DO NOT leave your pet in the vehicle for any length of time. Even though the temperature may be tolerable to you, the temperature inside the vehicle can easily be 15-20 degrees warmer. Remember to always have water for your pet (and it's a good thing for us humans too), especially in the heat, and leave a window or two partially rolled down to allow air into the vehicle.



Electric cars (EVs) are now serious transportation options for some neighborhood residents, increasingly considered when a new car is on the docket. They may be leased very economically, as well as purchased, with the possibility of rebates and tax credits.

As the industry evolves and matures, a used-electric-car market is developing, even though the new models can be expected to show continuous improvement.

As I've consulted a few OMV residents who drive electric cars, what has struck me most is the fuel economy factor. This can be pretty amazing if you have photovoltaics on your roof, but even without homegrown electricity, expect about 4 miles per kilowatt-hour.

During off-peak hours, 11 p.m. to 7 a.m., you can pay PG&E as little as 12 cents per kWh for plugging in your EV at home, using ordinary household current. That works out to about 3 cents a mile, notably less than gas for even a fuel-efficient ICE (Internal Combustion Engine) vehicle.

While Nissan LEAFs are very popular, many car makers are now offering EVs. Our neighborhood fleet includes Fiat and smart car EVs

Electrifying Cars

by Julie Lovins

and I have heard there are Teslas.

The neighbors I've talked to use their EVs mostly for short trips—errands, short commutes. "Range anxiety" in this situation is unlikely—and the range keeps going up, in any event.

It is also becoming easier to find charging stations away from home, though "not enough of them" is a common complaint, plus you can't just use a credit card—you must have a "charger card" specific to the company that owns the public charging station you're using.

There are several such companies, operating at supermarkets, companies, hotels, etc. (The City of Mountain View has also been installing charging stations in City buildings, but I don't know which "network" they belong to.) This sounds like paying fares on our "Balkanized" Bay Area transportation system, especially before ClipperCard became reasonably smart.

The infrastructure will catch up someday. With luck it will include better payment options and indicators for "done charging", which might help with timing problems—when to pull the plug, or not, on someone else's car, not to mention yours.

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PYT

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Mike: Our *Theatre in the Park* hands-on camp starts up as soon as school gets out. Kids put together a short show over two weeks—they learn lines, paint sets, make props and costumes.

Susan: How are you funded?

Mike: PYT is not funded by the City of Mountain View. PYT is a not-for-profit organization that receives the bulk of its revenue from tuition, participation fees and ticket sales.

We do also rely on donations from the community—it's challenging to put on theatre at the level we do—and our donors are integral to our continued operation.

Susan: As a parent, what have you seen as the biggest benefits for you and your family?

Mike: My kids learned teamwork, cooperation, and how to be a part of something bigger than one's self.

I truly believe that PYT is one of Mountain View's greatest assets. We are very fortunate to live in a community where the Arts are considered such a high priority.

I'm glad that my kids grew up in a town that is home to a high level youth theatre organization with such a diverse set of programs.



Restaurants

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months as another outpost of the family's very successful **Srsa Kitchen** (Srsa, "sross," meaning fresh) on Middlefield, offering a build-a-meal format like Asian Box, with a Cambodian flair and premium ingredients.



I'd like to mention new menu items at **Ramen Izakaya Yu-Gen**, 152 Castro, after some excellent lunches there. At lunch, this young restaurant (same owners as Shabuway and Kobe Curry) is a Japanese noodle house, and now offers classy "tan-tan ramen" and dipping noodles, and surely the best gyoza dumplings in the neighborhood.



Agave's mixed signals: Sister restaurant **Fiesta del Mar (FdM)** on Shoreline closed last year, and owners put out word it had relocated "inside" **Agave** on Castro. But in person I was told that this just meant some of its menu was folded into **Agave's**, and that the FdM poster on one of **Agave's** doors (198 Castro) is commemorative, not an indication of a second restaurant inside.

Voting

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- ✓Change your language preference (English, Chinese, Spanish, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Hindi, Japanese, Khmer, or Korean).
- ✓Change your Permanent Vote by Mail status.
- ✓Correct misspellings or other errors.
- ✓Cancel your voter registration.
- ✓Cancel the voter registration of a deceased member of your family or household.

Mail: Registrar of Voters, Voter Registration Division, PO Box 611300, San Jose, CA 95161-1300.

Fax: (408) 998-7314

Email: registrar@rov.sccgov.org

Pet Protection

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basic wellness checks are dental problems and renal (kidney) disease. Just as for humans, dental disease can spread infections and cause problems such as heart disease.

Cats need their teeth brushed and often require special diets for good dental and kidney health.

Helpful Tip: Cats love to be up high. You might try putting double-sided tape along your counter tops to discourage felines from roaming in the kitchen.

For Dog Lovers

If you take your dog to dog parks or on hikes in wilder areas, be sure to get additional vaccinations for Lyme Disease and Lepto.

A year round cause for vet visits is anxiety. Dogs need exercise and attention. By the way, size is not an indication of how much activity a dog might require. Small dogs are often very active and high energy. The key is to know your breed.

Keep in mind that arthritis is another of the top problems vets see in dogs. The larger the dog, the more prone they are to have arthritis.

Our pets deserve safe and healthy lives in return for all the love they give us!

Arianna is a Registered Veterinary Technician at Alpine Animal Hospital.



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