

MVNA Newsletter

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Drought Update

by Susan Bickford

Thanks to improved water supply conditions (and good work by our neighbors) customers are encouraged to follow the updated voluntary irrigation schedules:

- · Odd addresses: Monday, Thursday, and Saturday
- · Even addresses: Tuesday, Friday, and Sunday
- · And don't forget to water any new street trees 10 gallons a week

track of new water Keep use rules related to leaks, runoff, pavement washing, vehicle washing, and more at www.conservewater. mountainview.gov

Election Season Dates to Remember

by Greg Fowler Mail-in ballots will arrive in early October. Our next issue of the newsletter is planned for October 5 and will contain statements and paid ads from city council candidates. Key dates:

- October 11: vote-by-mail ballot mailing starts
- · October 24: last day to register to vote on Nov 8
- November 1: last day to request vote-by-mail ballot by mail
- November 8: Election Day
- Candidate forums listed inside

What's Up with Food Scraps?

by Lori Topley

The City Council recently evaluated the results of a food scraps pilot conducted at homes in a portion of Old Mountain View. All residents in the pilot were asked to place food scraps (food and food-soiled paper) in their yard trimmings cart for new, weekly collection.

Residents in half the area continued to receive weekly garbage collection, while the other half had their garbage collected *every other* week.

This was accomplished without adding trucks by swapping the collection schedules of yard trimmings and garbage. Also, since 35-45% of garbage is food scraps, the garbage cart would be less full and could be collected less frequently.

Results? Compared to pre-pilot levels, households on weekly garbage collection only reduced their garbage by 24% versus a 55% reduction for households on every other week collection.

Due to these results and customer surveys, the Council interested in implementing a weekly food scraps program citywide, with every other week continued on page 7

Farmers' Market: Some **Profiles**

by Max Hauser

Our weekly Farmers' Market (Sundays 9-1 at the transit center), California's third-largest, is a ritual stop for many residents. I depend on some reliable longtime vendors including her majesty the 'Cot Queen and her court (Apricot King Orchards: dried fruit, especially apricots, and nuts), Oakdale's cheeses, and Far West Fungi.

Here's more about some of the Market's unique or recent vendors (with their typical locations along the Market's two main aisles; note that these locations can shift as the vendor population fluctuates).

New bakers: When Acme Bread spun off from Berkeley restaurant Chez Panisse in 1983 it sparked a US artisanal baking renaissance still underway, such that Acme itself, a mainstay at our Market, faces growing competition. Organic 2nd Story Bakeshop (south aisle, center-west) offers specialty breads, sweet products, and wicked-good dark-bake baguettes. Newcomer The Midwife & The Baker (south aisle, center-east) includes a line of intense traditional old-world loaves, and phenomenal croissants. Note: These bakers sell continued on page 7

I scream, you scream, we all scream... for Ice Cream!

Come have fun and meet your neighbors at

OMVNA's Ice Cream Social

At Mercy - Bush Park



OLD MOURTAIN MISTA MEIBERDRHORE ASSOCIATIONS Ice Cream Social 2016

- Yummy Ice Cream by Baskin Robbins
- Music by our "Own local Elvis"
- Balloon Twisting by Twinkie DeeStar Suggested donations:
 - \$2.50 per person; \$2 extra cones

Children's games, giant bubbles, face painting

> Made possible with the aid of Key Club, Kiwanis

Raffle prizes donated by our generous local businesses!

Cognition Cyclery, Don Giovanni Restaurant, Gelato Classico, The Milk Pail, Morocco's Restaurant, MV Farmer's Market, Peet's Coffee and more!

Raffle tickets: I for \$3, 2 for \$5, 5 for \$10



Remembering "Old" Old Mountain View

by Susan Bickford with Rose Bess Lesslie

Change is not a recent trend in Old Mountain View. Our city and our neighborhood have always been dynamic, adapting locations, both for better and—sometimes—for worse.

Many OMV residents may be familiar by sight with Rose Lesslie, walking her small white dog, Abigail, along Church Street and other local streets. A resident of Mountain View since 1929, Mrs. Lesslie has seen many changes come and go.

Rose Bess was born in Oakland in March of 1926 to immigrant parents from Croatia. Arriving with minimal education, her mother had six children with her husband from an arranged marriage before she was widowed and married Rose's father.

In 1929, they moved to Mountain View to join the vibrant Croatian community. At that time, the area was dominated by big houses and barns, with orchards galore producing apricots and other "stone fruit." The Croatians were known as talented and diligent agricultural workers. Rose and her siblings



1942

worked harvesting "cots" and her father eventually landed a plum job at Stanford as a gardener.

The Bess family loved Mountain View. Despite the hardship of the Depression, there was a

strong sense of community and everyone pitched in and helped their neighbors.

The Besses rented a house in a neighborhood that sat where 237 now terminates at El Camino Real and Grant Road. Rose attended Highway Elementary School, a beautiful, classic structure on the corner of Calderon and El Camino Real, which eventually became the first location of Foothill College.

Mrs. Lesslie is still angry over the loss of Mountain View High School, stretching from Castro to Shoreline, where she saw many classmates leave for service in World War II, some never to return.

Thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Lesslie and others, the plaque honoring Mountain View veterans was moved to the flag staff area in front of the Eagle Park pool. If you have never noticed the plaques and all the names listed there, you should pay a visit! It's a wonderful site.

Tired of "working in fruit," when Mrs. Lesslie was not quite 16, she lied about her age to get a job at Moffett Field in the Ships Service Store at the start of WWII. It was there that she fell in love at first sight with a New Jersey Marine named Kermath Lesslie. She told him she would be faithful and wrote him over 1,200 letters, suffering terrible fears that he had died.

Someone ratted and Mrs. Leslie was fired for being under age, but she soon found employment at a school training women to work on aircraft at the Peninsula Defense Training Center on Middlefield Road in Palo Alto. About half the students dropped out, but she hung in there and was pleasantly shocked when her high school principal told her she had earned enough credits to graduate early. She went on to earn 83 cents an hour, working in Hangar One at Moffett Field despite the lack of heat or cooling systems.

continued on page 7

Where to start when selling your home? Start with Dave!

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Keeping Mountain View Safe:

Updates and Advice from the Mountain View Fire and Police Departments



Grilling Safety

There's nothing like outdoor grilling. It's one of the most popular ways to cook food. However, a grill placed too close to anything that can burn is a fire hazard. They can also be very hot, causing burn injuries.

These are the peak months for grill fires. About half of the injuries involving grills are thermal burns. Follow these simple tips and you will be on the way to safe grilling.

- · Propane and charcoal BBQ grills should only be used outdoors.
- The grill should be placed well away from the home, deck railings and out from under eaves, and overhanging branches.
- · Keep children and pets at least three feet away from the grill area.
- Keep your grill clean by removing grease or fat buildup from the grills and in trays below the grill.
- Never leave your grill unattended and always make sure your gas grill lid is open before lighting it.

CHARCOAL GRILLS

There are several ways to get the charcoal ready to use.

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.

by Lynn Brown • Charcoal chimney starters allow you to start the charcoal using newspaper as a fuel.

- If you use a starter fluid, use only charcoal starter fluid. Never add charcoal fluid or any other flammable liquids to the fire.
- · Keep charcoal fluid out of the reach of children and away from heat sources.
- There are also electric charcoal starters, which do not use fire. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.

Remember: When you are finished grilling, let the coals completely cool before disposing of them in a metal container.

Bike Theft Prevention

During the summer months, it's always great to get outdoors to enjoy bicycle rides. Whether you have just purchased a new bicycle or have had one for some time. here are a few tips in order to prevent bicycle thefts.

Preventing Bicycle Theft in Garages

Garages and multi-unit apartment buildings with common garage are one of the most vulnerable places for bicycles.

- Secure your bike in the garage the same way you would on the
- Secure to an immovable object or an anchor system.
- Never lock your bike near a window or door.
- Always watch your garage door and make sure it closes completely so unwanted visitors do not enter.

Locking Your Bike

There are many different types

by Jodie Pierce

of locks for bicycles and many incorrect ways of using them. No locking method is 100% effective.

- For best security use a hardened steel U-lock, chain and locking skewers.
- · Chain: hardened alloy steel at least 3/8" thick; heaviest is best and a very good deterrent.
- Use the smallest U-lock that works for your bike to minimize the amount of space available for a thief to insert a jack or levers.
- · Use a hardened steel U-Lock to secure back wheel inside the rear triangle of the bicycle frame.
- Check to make sure U-lock is secured to an immovable metal object.
- Secure front wheel with cable or second U-lock. Loop cable around the down tube of the bicycle or secure second U-lock to front wheel and down tube.
- · Replace quick release skewers and nutted wheels with keyed locking skewers and nuts to ensure wheels and saddles are locked to the bike frame at all times.
- Check with local bike shop for proper installation of locking skewers and advice.
- · A cable is recommended for seccontinued on page 6

Susie Mader

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Wild About Waterfowl: A Success Story

by Sharon Beltracchi

If you have ever been to the golf course or sailing lake at Shore-line at Mountain View, chances are you have seen Canada Geese grazing in the grass or snoozing in the shade. Sometimes they seem to be everywhere!

But did you know that the species Branta canadensis was once thought to be extinct?

In the late 19th and early 20th century, these geese were hunted extensively and suffered from habitat loss, and were extremely rare by the 1950s. Luckily, a small flock was discovered living in Minnesota in 1962, and over the next decade, they were bred and re-introduced to their historic range, and flew off the endangered species list in 2001.

The Canada Goose is not the only formerly endangered species at Shoreline. The Brown Pelican can also be seen floating, fishing, and flying in the sloughs, and was protected under the US Endangered Species Act from 1970 to 2009. Their recovery was largely assisted by the decrease in use of certain agricultural pesticides, which may run off and contaminate watersheds.

The success of both birds is an encouragement to conservationists at Shoreline. There are currently two endangered species living at Shoreline: the Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse and the California Clapper Rail, as well as the Burrowing Owl, a Species of Special Concern.

One of the best ways to protect the current endangered species is to make sure their habitat remains safe and undisturbed. If you are interested in learning more about local history, including Rengstorff House—one of Mountain View's oldest homes—and ecology and much more, visit us at: www.mountainview.gov/shorelinevolunteers.



Summer Protection for Your Pets

by Susan Bickford

Summer can be a tough time for pets due to allergies and diseases. Here are a few things to keep in mind.

Allergies

Cats and dogs are prone to allergies, just like their human owners. Common signs of animal allergies are:

- Scratching and biting at the skin
- Excessive face rubbing
- Excessive grooming
- Hair loss
- · Recurrent ear infections

Treatments may be as simple as avoiding the offending allergens, or may require steroids, antihistamines, or special foods.

Diseases Carried by Ticks and Mosquitos

Your dog may be at risk for Lyme disease, anaplasmosis, or ehrlichiosis, very serious infections spread by ticks. Heartworm disease is spread by mosquitos and is also a serious threat. Many of the symptoms can be mild at first.

If the problem is caught and treated early, the prognosis for a full recovery is usually very good.

Be sure to check your dog for ticks daily and keep an eye out for symptoms such as lameness, lack of energy, a fever, or weight loss.

These diseases cannot be spread from your dog to you or your family but the ticks that carry them could put you at risk too.



Shoreline Volunteer Opportunities

Interested in getting outdoors and giving back to the community? Love talking to people or wish to learn more about local history and wildlife? Shoreline at Mountain View is looking to add volunteers this fall in several positions, including Rengstorff House Docent, Trail Ambassador. Environmental Docent. and Gatehouse Attendant. additional information and our online application, visit www.mountainview. gov/shorelinevolunteers, or email shoreline.volunteer@mountainview. gov, or call Sharon Beltracchi at 650-903-6183.

Long Live the Weather Underground



by Susan Bickford

Are you looking for a very personalized, Mountain View-centric view of the weather? Check out www.wunderground.com/us/ca/mountain-view.

Weather Underground's worldwide personal weather station network consists of weather enthusiasts who report live weather data from weather stations located on their houses or in their backyards.

You can even join the community of Personal Weather Station owners as a wonderful personal or family project:

- View weather conditions straight from your house through wunderground.com and their mobile apps
- Front Door Forecasts! Receive custom 14-day forecasts for your precise location that you can share with your local community
- Sign up for custom weather alerts from your station via text or email
- Access archive of your station's historical data which includes graphs and charts to view climate trends

You can help make the highest quality weather information available to every person on this planet. To get started, go to: https://www.wunderground.com/weatherstation/overview.asp



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Preservation: Marina Marinovich **Residential Parking:** Robert Cox,

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Advertising: Kristin Bailey Next Meeting: September 19, 2016

Farewell to No Mercy on Mercy Street

by Dan Pitchford

Editor: Mountain View continues to change and not all of it is for the better. We say goodbye to Dan Pitchford and Christine Luke who have produced the popular Halloween Cemetery on Mercy Street every year.

We've lived in Old Mountain View for over eighteen years. Approximately twelve years ago we visited the DC Cemetery (another MV tradition!) and realized that our corner lot at Mercy and Oak streets was the perfect location to do our own Halloween yard display. Thus began the No Mercy Cemetery, much more low-key but with lots of homemade tombstones to read and enjoy!

As time moves on and we all get older, our landlord decided he was tired of being a landlord and wanted to retire so on Dec 23, 2015, I received a phone call informing me that he was going to be selling our duplex... thank you and Merry Christmas!

Our duplex went on the market and after 22 bids (5 of them over 2 million!) our home was sold. At this point we had a feeling that our time in Mountain View was coming to an end as our previous landlord was not concerned with making loads of money but was happy to have renters who didn't ask for much and stayed for years.

Unfortunately, the new owners did not feel that way and their management company sent us a letter informing us that they'd be doubling our rent from \$2550 to \$5000 a month, otherwise we had to be out by July 15th.

We have loved our time in Mountain View and hope that we've inspired others in our old neighborhood to continue the Halloween tradition.

We owe many years of thanks to all our neighbors who visited and donated and put up with the hundreds of kids (and adults!) who came every Halloween.

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 October Election issue are due by September 14, 2016.

It's unfortunate that it had to end this way. We wish we could have stayed much longer, but Mountain View has become so expensive for renters and with us not working in the hi-tech industry, we just don't make the money that is needed to live in this area anymore.

We're hoping to continue the No Mercy Cemetery tradition once things settle down and we figure out what we're doing. As soon as we have more information about where we'll be, we'll make sure to post something in the Mountain View Voice and here in the OMVNA newsletter, hopefully you'll be able to stop by and visit us again!

Thank you for 18+ wonderful years and we wish the MV community all the best in the future!

By the way, in a strange twist of fate... the Nine Lives Foundation, the cat rescue that all our Halloween donations went to help, has also lost their lease and the shelter must close until they can find a new building.

Save the date:
Old Mountain
View Neighborhood Association
Candidate Forum

October 17, 2016 6:30-8:30 MV Public Library Community Room

To sign up for neighborhood alerts by OMVNAtalk email:

- Send a blank message (no subject or content needed) from your preferred email address to omvnatalksubscribe@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/omvnatalk.html

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

Bike for the Better

by Lillian Husky
Do you know about the drought?
Do you know what is causing it?
Some people think it's because of the greenhouse gases that our cars create.

Well then, why drive your car?

By using your bike you will use your own energy. That means that it does not produce greenhouse gases and it's also good exercise for you.

Bikes can go places that cars can't like pedestrian crossings and sidewalks. Sometimes using bikes can get you places faster than going by car.

I usually ride my bike to school and some other places around town.

Also you don't have to find parking for your bike, you can leave it parked on a bike rack, tree or pole.

I really hope you can help the world and yourself by riding bikes more often.

Lillian is 9 years old and entering 4th Grade at Mistral.



Do you know a young person who has opinions? Let us know.

Support the Friends of Stevens Creek Trail!



Trailblazer Race Walk, Run, Volunteer Sept 25

10K & 5K Race, 3 mile Trail Walk, & Volunteers get race t-shirt.

Free kids races, games, face painting! Race day reg 7:30am. Events start 8:30.

1065 La Avenida, MV Microsoft Campus Free bicycle parking corral

Online Reg & mail-in forms at www.stevenscreektrail.org

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Guidance for Expectant Parents

Those who are pregnant for the first time might be surprised at the local richness of resources for pregnancy and new parenthood in and around Mountain View.

Standard shops like Day One offer educational resources. There are others that focus on classes and education, such as Blossom Birth Services in Palo Alto, which offers daily yoga classes, and Harmony Birth & Family in Campbell.

Bay Area Birth Information is a virtual entity (bayareabirthinfo.org) that sponsors birth fairs annually and maintains extensive referral listings for a wide variety of relevant services.

To look beyond the list of OBs in your preferred provider directory, you might consider the San Francisco Birth Center, midwives at El Camino Los Gatos, or homebirth midwives. Kaiser patients have the option of planning on giving birth at the Redwood City Kaiser, which is primarily staffed with midwives.

ICAN, the International Cesarean Awareness Network, is focused on supporting women who want to avoid a repeat cesarean birth.

Birth doulas are privately hired

by Ronnie Falcao to support you during labor and birth. They assist with comfort measures, continuity of care, a calming presence and advocating for your birth plan.

Postpartum doulas come to your home in the weeks after the birth to provide basic breastfeeding assistance and some recovery tips, as well as light housekeeping assistance or help with meals, errands, or other tasks.

Some midwives are available as monitrices, who provide overlap with doula services but can also assess mother and baby's clinical well-being while the woman is at home in early labor. Midwives may also provide in-home lactation support as well as comprehensive clinical care for mother's recovery and well-baby checks in the first few days.

Your local hospital or birth resource centers are good places to ask about support groups for pregnancy and postpartum mood issues. For women with an acute emotional crisis, contact the Maternal Outreach Mood Services at El Camino Hospital.

To find out more about these resources and many more go to www.gentlebirth.org/local/resources.html

Police

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ondary locking device.

Your Bicycle Gets Stolen-Now What?

- File a police report through MVPD.gov or visit the police station (report to the local agency where the bicycle was stolen).
- Provide pictures and serial numbers for bicycle and any identifying marks with the police report.
- If you don't have a serial number or pictures, track down your serial number from the point of purchase and/or use stock photos and send them to the investigator immediately.

More Candidate Forums

A few more events for your calendar:

- August 28: The Monta Loma Neighborhood Association forum for city council and school boards candidates, 3:00 to 5:00 in Monta Loma Park.
- August 30: The MV Chamber of Commerce and the League of Women Voters forum for city council candidates. 5 PM to 6 PM networking, 6 PM to 8 PM forum, Microsoft Building 1, 1065 La Avenida St.
- September 21: Google and League of Women Voters Forum for city council candidates. 4:00 to 5:15. Charlie's Café, Googleplex, Amphitheatre Pkwy. Register with Eventbrite or register at the door.

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Old Old Mountain View

continued from page 2

Kermath Lesslie sent his last letter to Rose from Guam, but almost died in a typhoon coming back to California. People dropped flowers from the Golden Gate Bridge as the ship passed underneath before docking at Treasure Island, where Kermath and Rose had a tearful reunion.

Kermath went home to New Jersey, where he promptly sent Rose a ring in the mail. She joined him there and they married and returned to Mountain View. They bought their house (now with many features lovingly added by Kermath) in 1947 with a GI loan.

Kermath worked in the building trades and many structures in OMV benefited from his talents—for example the first shopping strip on the corner of Calderon and Church.

But there was never enough money, particularly with a son and daughter to support. Mrs. Lesslie worked at Hiller Helicopters in Palo Alto, Ampex, and RayChem (later Tycho).

Some of the other memories Mrs. Lesslie recalls are that there were car dealerships on Castro Street and that many of the houses around Church and Calderon were built by teachers.

She recalls that in her younger days, there were some tensions between the older Mountain View families who were mostly Protestants, and the Croatians, who were the newcomers and were Catholics, a precursor to our city today with so many ethnicities. Despite that, both groups had fun trading cuss words in high school.

Mrs. Rose Bess Lesslie has many more wonderful tales to tell. The next time you see her, say, "Kako si, Gospoda Lesslie?" (How are you, Mrs. Lesslie?) and maybe she will share some with you.

Do you remember a bygone fixture of Old Mountain View? Let us know.

Farmers' Market

continued from page 1 out popular items early, sometimes before 10AM.

Garden Variety Cheese (south aisle, east end) keeps 100 milking ewes in Watsonville (each named for a different garden flower: Hollyhock, Daffodil, etc.), whose names label the cheeses from each sheep's milk. The firm also sells yogurt and (seasonally) meat products. Italian recipes needing sheep cheese first led me there. The cheeses vary greatly in aging time and flavor. They run a bit pricey, but these aren't industrial commodities; also I've found that a little can go far.

Watsonville's **Billy Bob Orchards** (south aisle, center-west) is the market's original organic apple vendor (though there are others now). Named for brothers Bill and Bob Peixoto, its stall is staffed by family members, who've taught me most of what I know about apple varieties. Billy Bob's is a strictly seasonal business, August to February.

Half Moon Bay's legume specialist lacopi Farms ("YAK-opy," mid-north-aisle) had its origins in the 1930s when Mike lacopi's grandfather planted heirloom varieties brought from Italy, for family use. Mike's father went commercial in the 1960s and "is still doing it." Fresh beans, peas, etc. appear in their seasons, with dried versions year-round.

I grew up with home-sprouted beans and alfalfa, but Debbie Johnston, founder of **The Sprout Lady** (mid-north-aisle), proved there's a far larger and tastier world of sprouted seeds. The firm produces more types than can fit at the market, so some are offered as blends. Varieties include eye-opening "spicy" sprouts (from seeds such as mustard, various radishes, arugula, and cumin).





Pet Play Today

Your trusted source for dog walking and cat sitting!

At **Pet Play Today** our goal is to make your pet feel as **cared for and safe** as if you were at home. References can be found at **www.petplaytoday.com**

Call or text (650) 830-0205 or email anne@petplaytoday.com

Food Scraps

continued from page 1 garbage collection.

This is the least expensive way to offer a food scraps program to Mountain View residents, with the highest diversion from landfill.

However, not all the pilot residents were happy with the every other week garbage collection schedule. Those who provided comments indicated that diapers, pet waste and the inconvenience of missing a collection (and having to wait another two weeks for the next one) were of special concern.

Staff is evaluating possible solutions for these situations before returning to City Council for final action in the fall. For more information and an opportunity to provide input to Council, look for the summer issue of the *Mountain View Recycling Resource* in your mailbox this August.









