

Find the City of Mountain View's
Recycling Resource, and the
Recreation Guide inside this issue of

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THE VIEW

WINTER 2013-14 • VOL. 21, NO. 2



The newsletter for the City of Mountain View



COMMUNITY HIGHLIGHTS

Don't miss these annual community events this Winter:

- Community Holiday Tree Lighting – Monday, December 9, 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m., 500 Castro Street
- Rengstorff Holiday Open House – Tuesday, December 10, 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., Rengstorff House, 3070 N. Shoreline Boulevard
- Cops That Care Toy Distribution Event – Saturday December 21, 9:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., 1000 Villa Street
- Arbor Day Celebration 2014 – Saturday, March 8, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., Pioneer Park

PRECISE PLAN UPDATES

NORTH BAYSHORE PRECISE PLAN

The City is in the process of developing Precise Plan strategies for the North Bayshore area. The new Plan will guide future development in the area and include land-use and open space guidelines developed with the help of the Environmental Planning Commission (EPC), as well as transportation guidelines developed with input from the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee. The City Council and EPC considered land use and transportation strategies this Fall and the Council is expected to adopt a new North Bayshore Precise Plan, along with a related Environmental Impact Report in late 2014.



For more information, including a discussion board for community input, visit the North Bayshore Precise Plan website at www.northbayshorepreciseplan.org or contact Martin Alkire, Community Development Department at (650) 903-6306.

EL CAMINO PRECISE PLAN

A public workshop will be held in January to gather input from the community regarding the creation of a new precise plan for the El Camino Real area of Mountain View. The updated El Camino Real Precise Plan will be a blueprint for future land-use and urban design options for the area. Information from the public workshop will be used to develop plan alternatives to be presented to the City Council in early 2014. The Council will select a preferred alternative at that time and is expected to adopt a final version, along with a related Environmental Impact Report, in late 2014.



For more information, including a discussion board for community input, visit the El Camino Real Precise Plan website at www.elcaminorealpreciseplan.com or contact Eric Anderson, Community Development Department at (650) 903-6306.

SAN ANTONIO PRECISE PLAN

This January, the City will host a public workshop to solicit comments and ideas for the development of an updated San Antonio Precise Plan. The new plan will guide land-use, transportation, and urban design options for future development of the area. Information from the public workshop will be used to refine plan alternatives and be presented to the City Council in early 2014. The Council will select a preferred alternative at that time and is expected to adopt a final precise plan along with a related Environmental Impact Report, in late 2014.



For more information, including a discussion board for community input, visit the San Antonio Precise Plan website at www.sanantoniopreciseplan.com or contact Rebecca Shapiro, Community Development Department at (650) 903-6306.

SHORELINE BOULEVARD CORRIDOR STUDY

The City is beginning work on the Shoreline Boulevard Corridor Study, a project to determine the feasibility of, and develop a conceptual design for an integrated transit, bicycle, and pedestrian facility in the Shoreline Boulevard Corridor from Downtown Mountain View and the Downtown Transit Center to the City's North Bayshore Area.



The Corridor Study will build on the recommended transportation improvements and strategies identified in the Shoreline Regional Park Community Transportation Study presented to the City Council in March. The transportation improvements and strategies were developed to address the anticipated impacts of the planned long-term growth in the North Bayshore Area as envisioned in the 2030 General Plan.

The Corridor Study will develop and evaluate alternatives for improving transit and active transportation connections between Mountain View's downtown and the North Bayshore Area, including:

- Shoreline Boulevard and Other Streets—Roadway efficiency improvements, strategies for upgrading transit service and facilities over time, cycle track and/or other high-quality bicycle facilities to serve an increasing number of bicycle commuters, and improvements to pedestrian facilities and crossings.
- Bridge Crossing(s) Over U.S. Highway 101—An integrated (or two parallel) bridge crossing(s) of U.S. Highway 101 west of Shoreline Boulevard for bicycle, pedestrian, and transit use.
- Downtown Transit Center—Improvement strategies to address transit and shuttle service access and capacity to accommodate anticipated higher peak commute volumes, pedestrian and bicycle access from the Transit Center across Central Expressway, and space and circulation for new station services.

The Corridor Study will include a number of community outreach and meeting opportunities. To be notified regarding these events, contact the Public Works Department at public.works@mountainview.gov and request to be placed on the notification list.

COMMUNITY TREE LIGHTING CELEBRATION

Monday, December 9, 2013
5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Civic Center Plaza,
500 Castro Street

Celebrate the holidays with friends and family at the Mountain View Tree Lighting Celebration. Enjoy live holiday music, refreshments, lights and the arrival of Santa Claus (at approximately 5:45 p.m.). Guests can take pictures of their children with Santa using their own camera at this free event. In the spirit of the season, guests are encouraged to bring a can of food to help benefit the Community Services Agency.

For more information, call the Community Services Department at (650) 903-6331.



Redesign of the City Website

The City is redesigning the Mountain View City Website to be more user-friendly for residents, businesses and visitors. Currently, the web redesign team is focusing on improving highly valued features identified by community and business focus groups. These include easier-to-use Contact Us functions and Community Resources Directories, improved Residents, Businesses, and Visitors content, and more "How Do I" menus.

The new site is slated to go live in early 2014, with continued opportunities for community feedback. For more information, contact the City Manager's Office at (650) 903-6301, or E-mail kimberly.thomas@mountainview.gov.

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To learn more about upcoming events in Mountain View, check the Events Calendar on Page 7 of this issue of *The View*, go online to the City's website at www.mountainview.gov, or tune to cable television KMVT (cable TV CH26).

HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

HOLIDAY SAFETY REMINDERS

As you prepare for the holidays, keep the following safety tips in mind.

PERSONAL SAFETY

- Be mindful of your surroundings. If you see anything (person, place or thing) that is unusual, report it. See something, say something.
- Do not feel compelled to open your door if a solicitor comes to your door. If you do not want to answer your door, you are NOT obligated to do so. Make some noise by turning on the television, or say "I'm not interested."
- Burglars are opportunists looking for easy wins. Do not leave valuables in plain sight, such as in the front seat of your vehicle or in a stroller in the driveway.



RESIDENCES

- Close blinds and curtains. Even if you are going out for a short trip to the store, do not tempt burglars by allowing them to see inside your home. This also includes any structures such as sheds and garages.
- Lock everything before you leave your home. Invest in good locks, whether they are padlocks on a side gate or good deadbolts for your home. Ensure you take extra time to secure your windows and doors.
- Make noise. Leave the radio or TV on when you are away to deter burglars. If you are home and do not want to answer the door, call out, "I'm not interested" to indicate you are home.
- Landscape to your advantage. Cut back your bushes and shrubs to eliminate hiding places for burglars.
- Use surveillance cameras, inside and out. They are extremely helpful, fairly inexpensive and easy to install.



VEHICLES

- Lock your doors. Leaving one open is an easy in for burglars.
- Do not leave valuables in plain sight. Burglars are tempted by what they see.

Immediately report any suspicious activity to the police by calling 9-1-1 or the Mountain View emergency number (650) 903-6395. Talk to your neighbors about safety and stay informed. Sign-up for important alerts from the Mountain View Police Department by texting your zip code to 888777, or go to <http://nixle.com/mountain-view-police-department/>.



HOME HEATING TIPS

You can stay safe and save money with the following tips regarding heating your home.

- Select heating equipment that is rated by the manufacturer for the space size you intend to heat.
- Keep your heating equipment and anything that can burn at least 3 feet apart.
- Have your heating equipment inspected and cleaned every fall just before heating season.
- Never use or store flammable or combustible liquids near or in rooms with heaters.
- Install carbon monoxide alarms in your home.
- Cooking appliances should not be used to heat a home.

For more tips on how to heat your home safely, visit www.nfpa.org.

GREEN SAVINGS, EVENTS AND TIPS

FREE HOME ENERGY ASSESSMENTS

Join more than 1,500 of your neighbors already saving an average of \$170 per year on their energy bills by signing up for Energy Upgrade Mountain View (EUMV).

EUMV is a free, City-sponsored program that helps homeowners and renters identify easy, no- and low-cost ways to save energy and money around the home. Participants receive a personalized analysis of their home energy use, as well as customized recommendations and alerts to help them reduce their energy use and carbon emissions. EUMV also offers hands-on workshops where residents learn even more energy-saving tips.



For more information or to sign up for EUMV or a workshop, visit www.EnergyUpgradeMV.org.

REBATES FOR HOME ENERGY AND WATER UPGRADES

Energy Upgrade California (EUC) is a State program to help property owners make home improvements to reduce energy and water use. Rebates are available for upgrades such as replacing existing furnace or air conditioning systems, or installing new insulation, windows or a solar photovoltaic (PV) system. The program connects homeowners with participating contractors who can plan and complete the upgrade project, while offering rebates and incentives (up to \$4,500) to help pay for the upgrades.

Participating contractors are specifically trained for EUC and meet required qualifications to be part of the program. For more information, visit www.EnergyUpgradeCA.org.

REBATES FOR MULTI-FAMILY ENERGY UPGRADES

Multi-family property owners can receive cash rebates and free energy consulting from Energy Upgrade California's Bay Area Multi-Family Building Program. The program assists in planning energy saving improvements designed to save at least 10 percent of a building's energy usage, as well as providing \$750 per unit in rebates to help pay for the upgrade. The program is available for multi-family buildings with five or more attached dwelling units in the nine-county Bay Area.

For more information, visit <https://MultiFamily.EnergyUpgradeCA.org>, send an E-mail to multifamily@bayren.org or call (510) 891-6558.

FINANCING FOR COMMERCIAL GREEN UPGRADES

Mountain View business owners may be eligible for low-cost financing for clean energy and water conservation upgrades through the City's participation in the CaliforniaFIRST Program.

CaliforniaFIRST offers low-cost, long-term financing for commercial energy efficiency, renewable energy and water conservation upgrades that are permanently affixed to commercial, multi-family (5 or more units), industrial and agricultural properties.

For more information or to apply for financing, visit www.CaliforniaFIRST.org.

FIREPLACE SAFETY TIPS

To ensure cleaner air, experts recommend minimizing fireplace use. If you do light a fire, follow these guidelines provided by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District:

- Burn a mix of softwoods, hardwoods and pressed logs.
- Burn only seasoned firewood. Firewood should dry 6 to 12 months minimum after splitting.
- Do not burn garbage, plastics, rubber, waste solvents, paint, oil, painted or treated wood, particleboard, plywood, saltwater driftwood, coal, charcoal briquettes, glossy or colored paper.
- Build a small hot fire and let it burn out completely before bedtime. Burning overnight is a major fire hazard and pollutes all night.
- Allow ashes to cool completely before disposing of them in a metal container.

For more information, visit www.arb.ca.gov/research/indoor/wood_burning_handbook.pdf.

COVERED CALIFORNIA™ THE AFFORDABLE HEALTHCARE ACT

Millions of Californians are now able to choose affordable, quality health insurance coverage offered through Covered California™ — made possible by the Federal Affordable Healthcare Act, which will take effect January 2014. Covered California™ is a new, easy-to-use marketplace where you and your family may get financial assistance to make coverage more affordable and where you will be able to compare and choose health coverage that best fits your needs and budget. By law, your coverage cannot be dropped or denied even if you have a pre-existing medical condition.

For more information, visit www.coveredca.com.

Fall is here and Winter is on the way.



Residents should take note of their street sweeping dates. To learn more go to: www.mountainview.gov/city_hall/public_works/street_sweeping.

WINTER WATERING REMINDER

Winter rains provide enough water for your garden without turning on a hose or sprinklers. Save on your water bill by turning your landscape watering system off for the winter.



FREE WATER-WISE HOUSE CALLS

Want to reduce your water bill but don't know where to start? A free Water-Wise House Call can help. During a house call, a trained technician will assess and improve your home's water use efficiency. The technician will:

- Check for leaks
- Measure faucet and showerhead flow rates and provide water-saving devices
- Evaluate the efficiency of your irrigation system and provide a personalized irrigation schedule
- Provide information on conservation programs for which your home is eligible

All Mountain View residents are invited to participate. House calls are available Monday through Saturday. Call (800) 548-1882 to schedule an appointment.

The View is published three times a year (March, September, and December) by the City of Mountain View. *The View* is delivered by bulk mail to every residential address and many businesses in Mountain View.

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City Website
www.mountainview.gov
The View is available on the City's website.

Extra Copies
A limited supply of extra copies of *The View* is available at City Hall, 500 Castro Street, the Mountain View Public Library, 585 Franklin Street, and the Community Center, 201 South Rengstorff Avenue.

The View is printed on 40 percent recycled paper. ♻️

City Mission Statement
The City of Mountain View provides quality services and facilities that meet the needs of a caring and diverse community in a financially responsible manner.





BAY AREA BIKE SHARE BEGINS

In August, seven new Bike Share stations were opened in Mountain View, enabling users to check out a bike from a network of automated bicycle stations, ride to their destination and return the bike to a different station. Mountain View is one of five Bay Area cities participating in the Bay Area Bike Share Pilot Program. Bike Share provides a convenient and affordable transportation alternative or supplement to cars and mass transit.

In total, the pilot program has deployed 700 bicycles at 70 bicycle stations in five peninsula cities including Mountain View, San Jose, Palo Alto, Redwood City, and San Francisco. Mountain View's seven bicycle stations are located near the following transit, employment and service/retail destinations:

- Mountain View Transit Center
- City Hall
- Castro Street/El Camino Real (to be installed this Winter)
- Evelyn Avenue Light Rail Park-N-Ride
- San Antonio Shopping Center (to be installed this Winter)
- San Antonio Caltrain Station
- Rengstorff Avenue/California Street

The \$11.2 million pilot program is funded through a combination of local, regional and Federal grants. The pilot program is expected to run for a period of one to two years with the goal of transitioning into a full-scale, self-sustaining, permanent program for Bay Area communities.

To join Bay Area Bike Share, you can purchase an annual membership online for \$88 (\$99 if paid in monthly installments), or buy a 1-Day (\$9) or 3-Day (\$22) pass at any bike share station kiosk using your credit or debit card. The first 30 minutes of every trip is free with membership. Additional fees will be charged for trips longer than 30 minutes. Bike Share system users must be 18 years or older. Helmets are not provided as part of the Bike Share program. Users are encouraged to bring and wear their own helmet.



For more information, visit the Bike Share website at www.bayareabikeshare.com.



PERMANENTE CREEK TRAIL EXTENSION

Plans are underway to extend the Permanente Creek Trail from Old Middlefield Way to Rock Street. Currently, the Trail runs from Shoreline to south of Highway 101. The new extension will be a 12-foot wide pathway located along the existing creek bank. It will include a high visibility crosswalk at Rock Street to facilitate access to Crittenden Middle School. The trail is scheduled to be completed by January 2014.

SNAPSHOT OF RESIDENT SATISFACTION

Results are in from a survey of registered voters in Mountain View commissioned by the City Council to gauge resident satisfaction with City services and determine voter priorities for future capital improvements. The survey was conducted by Godbe Research.

Survey results show 94% satisfaction for all residents in regard to the City's overall job performance. The survey also highlights the community's views regarding capital improvements. Registered voters prefer the City focus on projects such as the creation of a grade separation at the Rengstorff Caltrain tracks, or improving/replacing police and fire facilities. The results of the survey will be used as a guide for future capital improvements.

For more information about the survey, contact the City Manager's Office at (650) 903-6301, or E-mail kimberly.thomas@mountainview.gov.

PREVAILING WAGE

The City Council voted to pay construction workers hired to build City-funded affordable housing projects a prevailing wage, defined as the hourly pay and benefits a majority of comparable workers in the area receive. This expands a policy the City currently applies to public works projects and developments funded by the Federal government or through housing impact fees.

Monthly Planning Division Updates Available

The Planning Division prepares a monthly update of private development projects and long range planning studies. Projects are organized by Change Area and Neighborhood Planning Area. Download a PDF version of the report at www.mountainview.gov/planning.



BERLIN WALL DEDICATION

On November 14, two sections of the former Berlin Wall were dedicated in a public ceremony at the Mountain View Public Library attended by the City Council, the Consul General of Germany in San Francisco, officials from the German International School of Silicon Valley, representatives of the Visual Arts Committee and members of the Golzen family of Mountain View.

The two pieces of the Wall were donated by the Golzen family for permanent display at the Library after the passing of Frank and Kunigunda Golzen, who owned the sections of the Wall and previously displayed them at their business on Marine Way in Mountain View. One section of the Wall shows an Elvis caricature and the other has the words 'We Love You' inscribed in German.

For more information contact the Library at (650) 903-6337.

DONATE TO HELP CARE FOR ANIMALS

The City of Mountain View asks you to help provide for the needs of lost and abandoned animals by donating to The Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority (SVACA). SVACA helps thousands of animals every year by providing animal care and control services to the City through a joint powers agreement with the cities of Campbell, Monte Sereno and Santa Clara.



One way to help is by donating to the Animal Assistance Fund, which provides additional care for the community's homeless animals. Donations are used to rehabilitate animals that require specialized veterinary care and to provide additional comfort for animals in SVACA's cageless Animal Care Center. Tax deductible donations can be processed at www.svaca.com or sent by mail to SVACA's Animal Assistance Fund, 3370 Thomas Road, Santa Clara, CA, 95054.

Funds are also needed for the SVACA's Animal Care Center Sponsorship Program, which provides an opportunity for families, community groups and companies to support and help care for animals in need. SVACA is also in need of donated items such as cat play structures and rabbit food. Adoption services and volunteer opportunities are open to all in the Bay Area.

For more information, visit www.svaca.com or call (408) 764-0344.

PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE



2600 Marine Way – Intuit is proposing an expansion of its existing campus on two sites located at 2600 Marine Way. The proposal includes the construction of two 4-story office buildings totaling 364,000 square feet and

new parking structures. The new buildings are designed for LEED Platinum certification. Two public Study Sessions have occurred and final City Council action is expected in early 2014.

405 San Antonio Road – Merlone Geier Partners is proposing a mixed-use retail, restaurant, cinema, hotel and office project on 9.9 acres along San Antonio Road and California Street. The project would include ground level retail, restaurant and small office space, as well as an 8-screen cinema and a 167-room hotel with conference facilities. Also included are 400,000 sq. ft. of Class-A office

space in two buildings, a central plaza and parking structure. Three public Study Sessions have occurred and final City Council action is expected by Summer 2014.

801 El Camino Real West – Greystar is proposing a new mixed-use development on the southwest corner of El Camino Real and Castro Street. The project includes up to 175 apartment units in three- and four-story buildings with underground parking garages, approximately 10,400 square feet of commercial retail space and a public plaza on the corner of El Camino Real and Castro Street. A second City Council Study Session is anticipated in early 2014.

You can register for Recreation classes on-line by visiting <http://online.activenetwork.com/mvrecreation>.

COMMUNITY

SHOP DOWNTOWN MOUNTAIN VIEW FOR THE HOLIDAYS

In the Downtown, there are a multitude of retail options for all your holiday needs with more than 20 unique retailers, ranging from book stores to clothing stores and specialty goods stores. In addition, public parking hours will be extended by one hour in all public parking lots and structures and on Castro Street between Evelyn Avenue and California Street from November 28, 2013 through January 12, 2014. For a full list of Downtown retailers and restaurants, visit <http://mountainviewdowntown.com>.

Do not forget to shop Mountain View for the holiday season.



HOLIDAY EVENTS AT THE CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

Holiday magic is in the air at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts with a dazzling line up of theatre, dance and music performances. For tickets and information, call (650) 903-6000 or visit mvcpa.com.

- **23rd Annual Nutcracker**
November 29 –December 1
Pacific Ballet Academy
- **Merry Christmas, Strega Nona**
December 6 & 7
Peninsula Youth Theatre Stories on Stage
- **Western Ballet's The Nutcracker**
December 6 & 7
Western Ballet
- **Holidays Are For Singing!**
December 8
Schola Cantorum with Oxford Street Brass
- **XXMAS**
December 11 through December 15
Smuin Ballet presents
- **Dance Out Loud 2013**
December 14
Purdance
- **Messiah Sing 2013**
Good Tidings of Great Joy
December 16
Schola Cantorums
- **Gospel Holiday Concert**
December 20
Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir
- **A Winter Fairy Tale**
December 21 & 22
Bayer Ballet Academy

RENGSTORFF HOUSE HOLIDAY EVENTS

The Rengstorff House, Mountain View's oldest home, celebrates the holiday season and coming new year with a series of events and exhibitions. The house is located at 3070 N. Shoreline Boulevard, Mountain View, within Shoreline at Mountain View Regional Park.



- **Pictures with Father Christmas** – December 8 and December 14. Come to the Rengstorff House for holiday pictures of your child with Father Christmas from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

- **Holiday Open House** – December 10. Celebrate at the annual Holiday Open House at the historic Rengstorff House, featuring the sights, sounds and magic of the season. Enjoy treats and a special visit from Father Christmas from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

- **Images in Time** – January 22 thru March 23. A Friends of "R" House exhibit presents the wonders of Victorian photography, from daguerreotypes to stereoviews. Opening reception on Wednesday, January 22 from 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

For additional information about Friends of "R" House events, visit www.r-house.org.

Rengstorff House is also available for weddings and social events. For more information, call (650) 903-6088.



TOYS NEEDED FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Police Department will be collecting new, unopened toys for Mountain View children in need of all ages this holiday season through the "Cops That Care" program. The toys will be distributed to children at a free, special event on Saturday, December 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Police Department Auditorium at 1000 Villa Street. The program is open to all Mountain View residents and children who attend school in Mountain View. Children must be under 18 and attend the holiday event with a parent or guardian to receive a gift.

Beginning December 1, people wishing to donate gifts can bring new, unwrapped toys to the Police Department at 1000 Villa Street. Cash donations and gift certificates, as well as toys for older children, are especially needed.

For more information, contact the Police Department at (650) 903-6357.



Check out the Recreation Guide inside this issue of *the View* to register for Winter classes and activities.



CITY HELPS YOUTH STAY ACTIVE

As a co-sponsor of afterschool programs in Mountain View, the City provided support for two important outdoor events for local elementary students this past October. More than 200 students from Castro, Landels, Monta Loma and Theuerkauf schools took part in the 'World Cup Soccer' event in which students in grades 1-5 practiced soccer skills and drills over two days of activities on October 10 and 11. The event included health and wellness activities as well as students learning about various countries active in soccer.

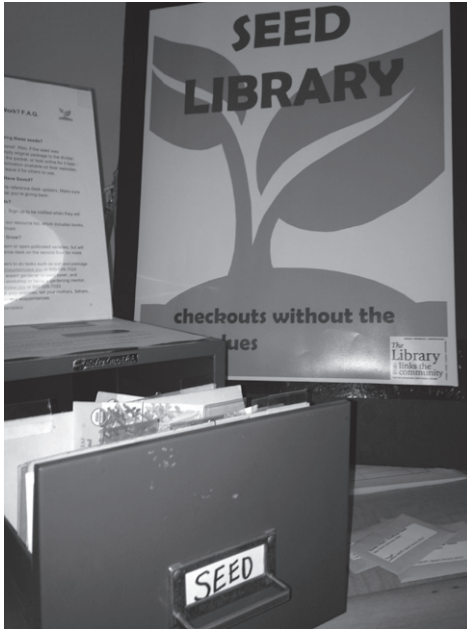
On October 15, sixty students from Crittenden and Graham Middle Schools competed in a youth triathlon at Rengstorff Park. Made possible by a grant from the Kiwanis Club of Mountain View, the event included swimming, running and an obstacle course.



TEEN FRIENDLY BUSINESS PROGRAM

For the second year, Mountain View's Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) has recognized twelve local businesses for their respectful attitude toward young people as part of the Teen Friendly Business Program. Each of the businesses was nominated by local teens for treating teens in a respectful way and providing good customer service, job opportunities and an overall welcoming environment. This year's winners include Starbucks Coffee (El Monte), Chipotle (El Monte), GameStop, Baskin Robbins, Le Boulanger, Red Rock Coffee, House of Bagels, Peet's Coffee and Tea, Jamba Juice, In-N-Out Burger (El Camino Real), Starbucks Coffee (Castro) and West Valley Music.

Mountain View's Youth Advisory Committee is made up of middle school and high school students who advise the City Council on youth related issues. Applications to become a Youth Advisory Committee member will be available at the end of January 2014. For more information about the Teen Friendly Business Program or about becoming a YAC member, E-mail YAC@mountainview.gov.



SEEDS AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY

The Mountain View Public Library is hosting a seed-sharing program that encourages gardeners with left over seeds from harvests or commercial packages to pass them on to other gardeners. The new Seed Library is located in the lobby of the Library, 585 Franklin Street in downtown Mountain View. The purpose of the new seed program is to encourage gardeners to save seeds and to experiment with different plants.

In addition to accepting seed donations, the Library provides periodic workshops on how to save seeds, as well as classes on growing and gardening. Volunteers support the process by organizing and packaging donated and shared seeds. For more information on donating or volunteering, visit the Seed Library blog at <http://mvplibrary.org/seedlibrary>.

SILICON VALLEY READS 2014

Silicon Valley Reads, a community-wide book club that promotes reading and literacy by selecting books that are relevant to Silicon Valley, has announced this year's titles and related programming. The Mountain View Public Library will once again host several events.

This year's theme is 'Books & Technology: Friends or Foes?' The selected books are *The Shallows: What the Internet Is Doing To Our Brains* by Nicholas Carr and *Mr. Penumbra's 24 Hour Bookstore* by Robin Sloan. Both authors will be present for the kick-off event on January 22 at the Heritage Theater in Campbell. The authors will be interviewed by *Mercury News* columnist Mike Cassidy. In addition, Robin Sloan will give a book talk at the Mountain View Library on February 20, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.



Companion books for children have also been selected. They are:

- *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore*, written by William Joyce and illustrated by William Joyce and Joe Bluhm
- *Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library* by Chris Grabenstein
- *Reading Makes You Feel Good* by Todd Parr

Mountain View Library will be hosting Todd Parr on March 8 at 10:15 a.m. and William Joyce and Joe Bluhm on March 22 at 10:15 a.m.

For more information about all Silicon Valley Reads programs in Mountain View, visit the Library's website at http://www.ci.mtnview.ca.us/city_hall/library/default.asp.

LOCAL AUTHORS FEATURED AT THE LIBRARY

The Mountain View Public Library is celebrating local talent with a new bookshelf dedicated to local authors from Mountain View and the Bay Area who have generously donated their books to be included in the collection. The new collection and display area are located on the 2nd floor of the Library at 585 Franklin Street.

If you are a local author of a published print book with a registered ISBN and would like to donate a copy to be considered for the Library's catalog, stop by the 2nd floor reference desk or E-mail paul.sims@mountainview.gov for more details.



FIREFIGHTER'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST A SUCCESS

The 2013 Mountain View Fire Department Pancake Breakfast raised more than \$17,000 for the Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation this year. Nearly 1,800 people enjoyed eating pancakes, bidding on silent auction items, learning about fire safety and watching firefighter demonstrations. Thank you to everyone who came out and made the event so successful!

CONNECTING WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEER SERVICES –
KEEPING CITIZENS CONNECTED
KEEPS COMMUNITIES STRONG!

VOLUNTEER SERVICES PROGRAM

The City of Mountain View's Volunteer Services Program gives you the opportunity to turn your special talents and abilities into positive action. For more information, call Bill Mykytka, Coordinator of Volunteer Services, at (650) 903-6607 or go to the City website at www.mountainview.gov to download a volunteer application.



“Even though I have been volunteering at the Senior Center reception desk for a year, I am still amazed at how many services we provide. In addition to the many workshops, classes and events, seniors come in with various problems which, if we can't solve, we try to guide them to others who can. The staff are kind and helpful, and a joy to work with.”

~Pat DuNah

“I've been one of the volunteers at the Mountain View Senior Center's busy reception desk since April. It's a fun place to be. I love meeting all the people, in person and on the phone, answering their questions, and telling them about the Center's many activities, workshops, classes and services. The staff and other volunteers are quite congenial and great to work with.”

~Judy Ward



CERT TRAINING

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training is a program designed to prepare Mountain View residents to help themselves, their families and neighbors in the event of a disaster. The training covers basic skills that are important to know in a disaster when emergency services are not available. These free CERT training classes are conducted throughout the year and are taught in English and other languages. For a schedule of classes or to register, visit our website: http://www.mountainview.gov/city_hall/fire/programs_n_services/cert.asp.

WINTER STORM SAFETY TIPS & FLOOD PREVENTION TIPS

FLOOD PROTECTION INFORMATION



Twelve percent of the City of Mountain View is located within special flood hazard areas.

Flooding in these areas is caused by tidal flooding from the Bay and flooding from Permanente Creek. Below are suggestions for things you can do to protect yourself and your property in the event of flooding.

FLOOD SAFETY

- Do not walk through flowing waters.
- Do not drive through a flooded area.
- Do not drive around road barriers; the road or bridge may be washed out.
- Stay away from power lines and electrical wires.
- Have your electricity turned off by PG&E. Do not use appliances or motors that have become wet unless they have been taken apart, cleaned and dried.
- Look before you step. Floors and stairs that have been covered with mud can be very slippery.
- Be alert for gas leaks. Use a flashlight to inspect for damage. Do not smoke or use candles, lanterns or open flames, unless you know the gas has been turned off and the area has been ventilated.
- Tune to radio stations KCBS (740AM) or KSJO (92.3FM) for emergency information, traffic updates and instructions.

FLOOD INSURANCE

Standard homeowner's insurance policies do not cover losses due to floods. However, the City is a participant in the National Flood Insurance Program, which makes it possible for property owners to obtain Federally-backed flood insurance. This insurance is available to any owner of insurable property (a building or its contents). Tenants may also insure their personal property against flood loss.

By participating in the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System, the City earns a 10 percent discount on insurance rates for the community by exceeding minimum standards for flood risk reduction. This discount applies to National Flood Insurance policies issued or renewed. The actual cost of insurance will vary, depending upon the amount of coverage and degree of flood hazard. In certain instances, such as the purchase of a new home with a Federally-backed mortgage, National Flood Insurance is required. Even if flood insurance is not required or you live in a moderate-to-low risk area, the risk of flooding is still very real. FEMA recommends residents purchase flood insurance. Preferred rate policies start at \$119 per year.

FLOOD MAP INFORMATION

Upon request, the City will provide the public, lending institutions, real estate agents and insurance agents with certain flood map information. Call (650) 903-6311 during normal business hours, visit the Public Works Department at City Hall or access the City's website at www.mountainview.gov and click on *Ask Mountain View* for the following information:

- Classification of whether a property is in or out of the Special Flood Hazard Area
 - Additional flood insurance data for a site, such as the Flood Insurance Rate Map zone, base flood elevation or depth
 - A handout on flood insurance purchase requirements
- You can find out your flood risk online at Floodsmart.gov. This site provides relative risks, links to flood risk maps and other flood insurance community resources.

FLOOD PROTECTION TIPS

There are various actions that can be taken to flood proof structures. Electrical panel boxes, furnaces, water heaters and washer/dryers should be elevated or relocated to a location less likely to be flooded. Basement floor drains and interior and exterior backwater valves can be installed and interior floodwalls can be placed around utilities. If flooding is likely and time permits, move essential items and furniture to the upper floors of your home. Keep materials like sandbags, plywood, plastic sheeting and lumber handy for emergency waterproofing. This action will help minimize the amount of damage caused by floodwaters.

PREPARING FOR THE WINTER STORM SEASON

Winter storms cause power outages, flooding and traffic hazards. The City encourages residents to plan ahead for the possibility of storms this winter by taking the following precautions early:

REMOVE FALLEN LEAVES

- Help prevent street flooding and sewer clogs by removing leaves.
- Place leaves in your yard trimmings toter for pick-up. If one toter is not sufficient, a second toter can be ordered by calling Recology® at (650) 967-3034.
- Compost leaves and other plant debris. You can obtain information about composting and composting workshops by contacting the City's Solid Waste Program at (650) 903-6311.
- Layer leaves in the roadway for pick-up by the street sweeper on scheduled sweeping days. Layers must be less than 3 inches deep and 3 feet wide. Leaves left in piles in the roadway will not be picked-up.

- Keep a list of emergency telephone numbers by each of your telephones.
 - For Police or Fire emergencies, call 911.
 - To report power outages or downed power lines, call PG&E at (800) 743-5000.

OBTAIN SANDBAGS WHEN NECESSARY

Sand and sandbags are available at no charge to Mountain View residents at the City's Municipal Operations Center, 231 North Whisman Road. Bring a shovel to fill the sandbags.

REPORT FLOODING OR STANDING WATER

Call the Public Services Division at (650) 903-6329 to report flooding or standing water during normal business hours. After hours or on weekends, call the City's Emergency Communications Center at (650) 903-6395.

REPORT DOWNED TREES AND LIMBS

Report downed trees and limbs during normal business hours by calling the Forestry and Roadway Landscape Division at (650) 903-6273. After hours or on weekends, call the City's Emergency Communications Center at (650) 903-6395.

DO NOT TOUCH DOWNED POWER LINES

Assume all downed power lines are dangerous and call both 911 and PG&E at (800) 743-5000 immediately. Stay tuned to your local radio station for power outage updates.

PREPARE AT HOME

Keep an emergency kit on hand with a battery-powered radio, flashlights, fresh batteries and a first-aid kit. Check to see that your first-aid kit is well stocked and medications have not expired.

Stock a supply of easy to open, prepared food, a can opener, bottled water and pet food in case of a power outage. Keep extra blankets and warm clothes in a safe, dry place in case your heat goes off.

If you use an electric generator, be sure it is installed properly, and then call PG&E to let them know you have one. Improperly installed generators put property and the lives of utility workers in the area at risk.

For more information about how to prepare for the winter storm season, call the Public Services Division at (650) 903-6329.

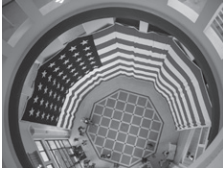
KEEP A LIST OF EMERGENCY TELEPHONE NUMBERS
For Police or Fire emergencies, call 911.
To report power outages or downed power lines, call PG&E at (800) 743-5000.

For Calendar updates on all meetings and events, visit the City's website at www.mountainview.gov/events or tune into KMVT (cable TV CH26)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CALENDAR OF REGULAR COUNCIL, BOARD, COMMITTEE AND COMMISSION MEETINGS*

Meetings are sometimes added or adjusted—all dates and locations are subject to change. Check out the website, KMVT, or contact the City Clerk's Office at (650) 903-6304 to confirm dates, times, and locations. For the latest information visit the calendar on the City's homepage at www.mountainview.gov.



City Council – meets the second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 500 Castro Street

Library Board – meets the third Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m., Library Conference Room, Library, 585 Franklin Street

Environmental Planning Commission – meets the first and third Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., Council Chambers, City Hall, 500 Castro Street

Human Relations Commission – meets the first Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Plaza Conference Room, City Hall, 500 Castro Street

Parks and Recreation Commission – meets the second Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m., Senior Center, 266 Escuela Avenue

Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee – meets bi-monthly the last Wednesday of the month, 6:30 p.m., Plaza Conference Room, City Hall, 500 Castro Street

Downtown Committee – meets as needed

Performing Arts Committee – meets third Wednesday of the month, 6:00 p.m. Atrium Conference Room, City Hall, 500 Castro Street

Visual Arts Committee – meets the second Wednesday of the month, 6:00 p.m., Atrium Conference Room, City Hall, 500 Castro Street

Youth Advisory Committee – meets the first Monday of the month at 4:30 p.m., Community Center, 201 S. Rengstorff Avenue

Senior Advisory Committee – meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2:00 p.m., Senior Center, 266 Escuela Avenue

*All dates and locations are subject to change.

Mountain View City Hall is on Facebook and Twitter:

City Hall now has more than 2,100 'likes' on Facebook and over 700 on Twitter. You can stay in touch with what is happening in City government and provide your input by linking to City Hall today at:

- City Hall on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/mtnviewcityhall>
- City Hall on Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/City-of-Mountain-View-City-Hall/116873408490248?ref=stream



The View newsletter is part of the City's community outreach and information program. Should you have any questions about the latest issue of The View, please call (650) 903-6210 or send an E-mail to: kimberly.thomas@mountainview.gov



HOLIDAY SCHEDULE ADVISORY

Most City offices (non-emergency response facilities) will be closed or have modified hours between Tuesday, December 24, 2013 and Wednesday, January 1, 2014. Regular business hours will resume on Thursday, January 2, 2014.

For recorded information, call (650) 903-6300 or visit online at www.mountainview.gov.

Emergency services will be available throughout the holiday period by calling 911.

CELEBRATE ARBOR DAY ON MARCH 8, 2014

Mountain View celebrates Arbor Day on Saturday, March 8, 2014 with a variety of events in Pioneer Park, located behind City Hall, 500 Castro Street. Activities include a tree planting in the park. The City also will offer approximately 125 new trees for individual residents to plant on their property. The planting event is part of the City's forestry restoration efforts and the celebration of the State of California's Arbor Day.



SIGN-UP FOR A FREE TREE!

Residents who wish to participate must fill out and submit the request form included in this issue of *The View* by 5:00 p.m. on January 31, 2014, and agree to plant and maintain the tree on their property. If the number of requests for trees exceeds the number of trees available, names will be drawn at random. The City will deliver the tree of choice to eligible residents during the week of March 3. Residents may choose from six varieties of trees.

- The Loquat is a small evergreen that grows from 16 to 33 feet high, with a rounded crown and short trunk. The leaves are dark green, tough and leathery in texture. The fruit ripens in early Spring.
- The Fringe is a deciduous tree and grows to 30 feet in height. It requires full sun and moderate amounts of water. The tree has white lacey flowers and purple blue fruit that attract birds and wildlife.
- The Arbutus "Marina" grows 30 – 50 feet tall. The upright branches are covered with a smooth mahogany colored bark, green leathery leaves, urn-shaped white blushed pink flowers and decorative fruit.
- The Chitalpa "Pink Dawn" grows 20-30 feet tall and is dry-spell tolerant. Its narrow leaves are 4 to 5 inches long and the tree has trumpet-shaped flowers.
- The Flowering Cherry "Snow Fountains" grows to a height of 10 to 12 feet and has a cascading cloak of white flowers in the Spring.
- The Catalina Ironwood is a California native evergreen tree that can reach 50-60 feet high. It sheds old gray bark to reveal deep cinnamon red new bark.

For more information about Arbor Day activities, call the Forestry and Roadway Landscape Division at (650) 903-6273.

APPLICATION FOR ARBOR DAY 2014 TREES

Name: _____

Address: _____

Daytime Phone: (____) _____

Tree Planting Address: _____

Type of Tree Requested (refer to list): _____

Planting Location of Arbor Day Tree (examples: southwest corner of backyard, center of front lawn, backyard garden): _____

The undersigned agrees to: (1) accept the tree as requested above, (2) plant the tree as indicated on the application (3) maintain the tree at own expense (tree planting/care information will be supplied).

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Please complete and return this application by mail before 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 31, 2014.

Send to:

City of Mountain View, Forestry Division
P.O. Box 7540
Mountain View, CA 94039-7540

(Office Use Only) Date Received: _____