



Monrovia Area Partnership's *Award Winning* Neighborhood News



January 2018

Neighborhood News

Celebrating Monrovia; Our Treasures, Our Differences, Each Other

We are all different, which is great because we are all unique. Without diversity, life would be very boring.

—Catherine Pulsifer

We are so excited for this year's MAP Neighborhood Conference! New location, new theme, new keynote speaker, new workshops, all to further our mission for a stronger Monrovia.



In the last edition of this newsletter, we wrote about the importance of celebrating each other during these tumultuous times. This year's conference will have a whole new look and feel; starting with a new location: we will be at Monrovia High School! The high school has been a great partner, and they are excited to help us with our goal of reaching the most people we can to hear these important conversations.

Our workshops will be ALL NEW this year and we CAN. NOT. WAIT for you to see them and the amazing information! We can only give you a little sneak peek until we finalize everything but, you can look forward to the following:

- ◇ Changemakers panel
- ◇ An in-depth look at some of our Neighborhood Treasures
- ◇ Upcoming development in Monrovia
- ◇ A day in the life of a Police Officer

And....you'll just have to wait for the big reveal! For more information, be on the look out for our EventBrite.

In this Issue

- Community Leaders - Page 2
- Leader Updates - Page 3
- Quarterly Updates - Page 4
- Care For Your Neighbor - Page 5
- Upcoming Events - Page 6
(our community calendar)
- Eyes on the Street—page 7



City of Monrovia
Neighborhood Services
415 S Ivy Ave
Monrovia, CA 91016



[Sheila Spicer-Batice](#)
(626) 932-5586



[Ariel Tolefree](#)
(626) 932-5563



[Aleks Akopyan](#)
(626) 932-5525



[Kerri Zessau](#)
(626) 932-5564

Contact us!

map@ci.monrovia.ca.us



Connect with Monrovia
Volunteers & Leaders -
"Like" MAP on
Facebook.



Watch our blog for
news on events and
opportunities through
MAP.

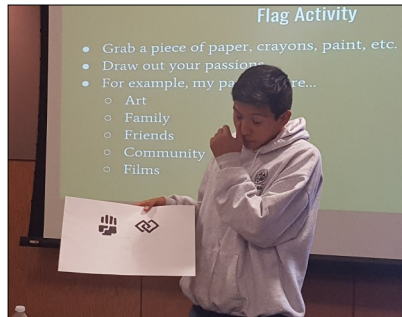
TheNeighborhoodFix.blogspot.com

Community Leaders in Training

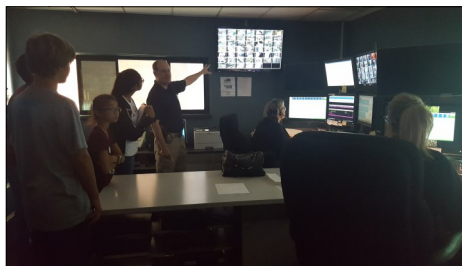
Leadership Academy



They did it! Please let us introduce to you our TENTH graduating class of the Adult MAP Leadership Academy! This fun group had a great 7 weeks learning all about the City, Leadership and being empowered. We can't wait to see how they will take this knowledge and run with it.



Youth Leadership Academy



Our 2017/2018 MAP Youth Leadership Academy students are at the halfway point. They are learning so much and having so much fun learning more about our City, each other, and how leadership can mean different things.



Coming up, the budding young leaders are working on conflict resolution, City volunteer programs, getting involved at Monrovia High School, and even getting to visit with the Humane Society and their youth programs!

A lesson for the youth, but important to everyone: find something you are passionate about and get involved!



The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.
— Mahatma Gandhi

MAP Leader Updates

Did you happen to drive through the Bradoaks neighborhood last month? MAP Leaders Susan Pilcher, Larry Rickabaugh, and their Bradbury Neighbor Nancy McGrain were instrumental in providing supplies, tables and snacks for two large scale sled painting events. This event, created by MAP Leader, Susan Pilcher, to have all of her neighbors get to know each other better, has resulted in over 150 sleds made. While the event was first created for the neighbors in the Bradoaks neighborhood, now in its' third year, the event has friends coming for the event from all over SoCal and even out of state. Missed them this year? You can catch them next year starting right after Thanksgiving!



MAP Youth Leader, TAB Member, and now... Monrovia PD Explorer!

We are so happy to introduce to you all Ms. Vanessa Mills! From a very community minded family (her mom is MAP Leader and Community Services Commissioner Genia Mills), it is no surprise that Vanessa also wants to get involved to serve the community in as many ways as possible! Vanessa is also a MAP Leader and a Teen Advisory Board (TAB) Member.

Vanessa just graduated from the Explorer Program on December 9, 2017 as the *Most Improved Explorer* after wanting to become a police explorer for the last few years. As soon as her 14th birthday arrived this year, she started to attend Post meetings with the Monrovia Police Department and signed up for the academy. Her aspirations includes having a career in law enforcement. Beginning in late August, Vanessa attended the academy on Saturdays from 7:00 a.m. - 3:00p.m. The program is super rich in both academic and physical conditioning that allows teenagers and young adults, like Vanessa, to learn more about becoming a police officer.

As an explorer with the Monrovia Police Department, Vanessa will serve the community by volunteering at many special events. Congratulations Vanessa!

For more information on the Explorer program, call 626-256-8000



Quarterly Updates

January 2018

Page 4

Julian Fisher Park OPEN!

Have you seen Julian Fisher Park? On Saturday, December 2, the park was officially dedicated and re-opened, what a beautiful event. You can now go and enjoy all of the wonderful amenities and check out the Portland Loo (public restroom in the park)!



MAP-Ed Quarterly Update: October 14, 2017



Various abandoned property picked up by MPD

At our quarterly meeting on October 14, we had quite a few great guests! Sergeant Daniel Verna, from Community Policing, gave us a great update on abandoned personal property. This aspect of homelessness is one that many people find problematic due to trash, drug paraphernalia and other personal property being found in public spaces. While some call for the Police to just take people's items, homeless people, like anyone else, have rights. The Police Department went over different laws they are mindful of and how they can properly remove someone's property- after 72 hours. Read more about how this works and how Monrovia PD is working with the homeless population from the link at the bottom of the page.

Next, we had Kristi Lopez from Senator Portantino's office to update us about laws coming this month. New laws include; an increase of funding for education for both K-12 and higher education; workplace protections; laws to benefit women and children; public safety; monies for parks and open space throughout the state; and an increase of taxes for deferred maintenance on highways and local streets. In addition, quite a few laws have been passed to address various issues with the housing supply and affordability. Due to time constraints, Kristi was unable to go into detail on everything, but don't worry, we have more information for you at the link below!

Lastly, City Manager Oliver Chi discussed the City's water supply issues and what that means for residents and business owners. There are over 9,500 water users (homes/businesses/apartment complexes etc) in the City of Monrovia and while, over the past few years, we, as a whole, have used less (28% less!) water ...Southern California is still in a serious drought. Specifically, the Los Angeles County water basins are in dire need to refill the aquifers where our groundwater lies. Due to this and the damage that our ever dwindling aquifer could incur, the Watermaster is establishing new rates for cities to be able to purchase water. To see all of the details of how this works, please see the link below for the rest of the PowerPoint and please visit MonroviaConserves.org for more!

For more information on everything above, please visit CityofMonrovia.org/MAP for the PowerPoint!



Community Development Block Grant

January 2018

Page 5

As you know by now, MAP has amazing programs that are all about YOU. How can we, as City staff, best help our residents be successful and get the most out of their community? One of our many ways includes the Community Development Block Grant.

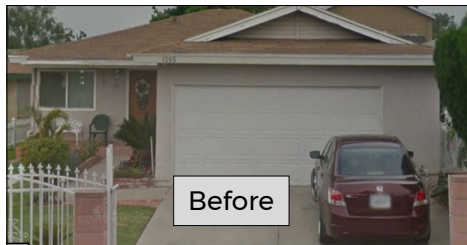
The intent of the City of Monrovia Residential Rehabilitation Home Improvement Grant is to provide grants to eligible homeowners / occupants of single family detached homes for the preservation of decent, safe and sanitary housing; to correct hazardous conditions; to make improvements to eliminate blight and improve handicapped access; and to correct building and health code violations through the awarding of Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). All properties to be repaired must be a single family residential located in the a low- moderate income census tract and be within the City limits of Monrovia. For more information, please visit our website:

<http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/your-government/community-development/monrovia-area-partnership/housing/community-development-block-grant>

We are so proud of the work we were able to do and of the families we were able to help with our grant monies. Check out this great before and after photo set below!

Up next? Repairs on 3 more houses will be finished this month. Stay tuned for updates on new roofs, great railing and fixing pesky doors. In the mean time, check out last year's work!

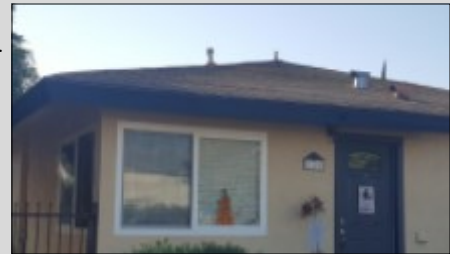
Do you know someone who can benefit from this grant? Have them contact Ariel at atolefree@ci.monrovia.ca.us!



This home was in desperate need on a new roof and replacement of much of the fascia boards. Look how great those fascia boards look!

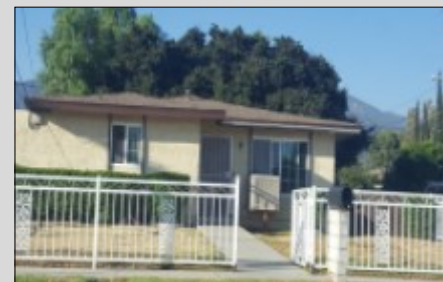
In Fiscal Year 2016-2017, our Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Residential Rehabilitation Program assisted three homeowners in successfully rehabilitating their homes by eliminating blight, improving handicapped access and correcting building and health code violations. Each year, the City gets approximately \$45,000 to use towards our CDBG Residential Rehabilitation grants, which provide various repairs for qualified homeowners. We use those funds to pay for 1) construction costs, 2) the use of a consultant and 3) staff time.

(1321) This homeowner was a widow in need of assistance to keep up with general maintenance with her home. We were able to assist this grandmother in getting new upgraded electrical outlets in the kitchen and bathrooms, new smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors, and new paint on the house and trim to replace the peeling and faded paint. Her bright and sunny home is now brightening up her corner of the neighborhood!



(1309) When we met this homeowner, she was initially seeking a handrail to help her up and down her stairs on her entryway. After talking, she told us how her home desperately needed to be painted as well. In addition to painting and the handrail, we added upgraded electrical outlets in the kitchen and smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors throughout the home.

(535) This grandmother takes care of her three grandchildren, while working part time and needed a little bit of help. Even though met during the spring, she mentioned to us she was in need of two new furnaces and had a leak in the roof. Because of health and safety issues, we jumped right into action to replace those items as well as including new upgraded electrical outlets in the kitchen and bathrooms, as well as smoke and Carbon Monoxide detectors.



Upcoming Events



MAP-Ed Quarterly Meeting

Topic: Join us for another can't miss quarterly meeting. On Saturday, January 20, we will start the meeting with an update from Monrovia PD and we will also be introducing new faces in Community Policing!

In addition to that, we will go over all of the exciting things that MAP will be bringing to you for 2018! Get ready for tons of information on: our upcoming block parties, the MAP Neighborhood Conference, Neighborhood Treasures (and an art reveal!!), and MAP's 2018 theme and mission. We are so excited to share with you all that we have been planning are ready to jump head first with you into our best year yet! Don't forget to bring a friend to hear this great information.

BLOCK PARTY

When: Saturday, March 10

Where: Second Baptist Church Parking lot
925 S Shamrock Ave

Time: 11 am to 2 pm

We will be having a great time filled with fun, music, games, prizes and a special unveiling of our first Neighborhood Treasure! Block parties are created to foster relationships among residents, strengthen the community and enhance city services. Activities include food, music, games, raffles and giveaways. City staff will be on hand to update participants on current programs and listen to concerns and suggestions.

SAVE THE DATE and join us for the fun!



Code Enforcement Tip

Yard sales are very popular here in Monrovia. Here are a few reminders so that your yard sale will be a happy and hopefully, profitable experience. A \$5.00 yard sale permit must be obtained prior to the date of the sale. These can be purchased at Monrovia City Hall at which time your sale date(s) and location will be updated on our Neighborhood Fix Blog. One yard sale may be held every 6 months (no more than 2 consecutive days). Lastly, signs advertising your yard sale are not permitted on public property (for example; light and electrical poles, sidewalks or the like). Property owners of signs confiscated from public property could be subject to a citation. To avoid this just pay us a visit at Monrovia City Hall and we will take care of you!



KEN TRUE
WEST
(626) 932-5535

KRYSTINA LIVRAGA
COMMERCIAL
(626) 932-5533

RICK MACIAS
EAST
(626) 932-5545

Eyes on the Street

January 2018

Page 7

Let's all work together to keep Monrovia's neighborhoods clean. There are certain housekeeping items that we can all pitch in to help maintain our community. If you see it, **REPORT IT!**

ABANDONED SHOPPING CARTS IN PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

California Shopping Cart Retrieval Service Company is Contracted to pick up Abandoned Shopping Carts in Monrovia. They pick up on a daily basis respond to pick up. Report carts in the following ways:

- Call their hotline number at 1-800-252-4613
- Online at www.cartretrieval.net
- Call Code Enforcement at 626-932-5582

However if the carts contain personal items report it:

- Call Code Enforcement at 626-932-5582
- Call Monrovia Police Department at 626-256-8000



ABANDONED BULKY ITEMS IN PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY

Athens Service residential customers get two (2) free bulky item trash pick-ups per calendar year. Residents can schedule pick ups the following ways:

- Call Athens Services at 1-855-557-1007
- Call Public Works Division at 626-932-5575
- Online at www.athensservices.com/request-services

If you see abandoned bulky items out in the public right of way, report it:

- Call Code Enforcement at 626-932-5582
- Call Public Works at 626-932-5875
- Email at Bulkyitems@ci.monrovia.ca.us



GRAFFITI

If you see graffiti on public property, report it:

- Call Athens Services directly at 1-855-557-1007
- Call the Public Works Division at 626-932-5575
- Email at CleanMonrovia@Athensservices.com

If you see graffiti on private property, report it:

- Email at Ccush@ci.monrovia.ca.us

If you see a act of vandalism, immediately call

626-357-CELL to report the activity. If Monrovia Police Department locates and arrests the suspect, the caller receives a \$100 bill.



SIGNS POSTED ON UTILITY POLES

Signs posted on utility poles advertising everything from yard sales to cars and homes for sale are unsightly and are **NOT PERMITTED**. If you see one take it down or report it.

- Call Code Enforcement at 626-932-5582 for follow up.



City of Monrovia Home Security Rebate Program

APPLY TODAY!

The City of Monrovia is pleased to offer the Home Security Rebate Program to all Monrovia residents. Through this pilot program, the City will offer rebates, of up to \$250 per residence, for the purchase of the home security product of their choice.

PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY

All applicants must live in the City and be a new subscriber of a security service or have purchased a new security product.

HOW IT WORKS

1. Complete an application at visiting www.cityofmonrovia.org/residentresources.
2. Submit a copy of the receipt or invoice.
3. Await City review of your application.
4. Once your application is approved, you will receive your rebate.

Applications must be received within 60 days of the purchase date.

Limit 1 rebate per residence.

The program will be offered on a first-come, first-serve basis, so we encourage you to apply as soon as possible!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE HOME SECURITY REBATE PROGRAM CONTACT:

Rebecca Bojorquez, Management Assistant

securityrebate@ci.monrovia.ca.us

(626) 932- 5550

City of Monrovia Neighborhood Services
415 S Ivy Ave
Monrovia, CA 91016

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ARCADIA, CA
PERMIT NO. 18

Neighborhood News

January 2018

Join us for a celebration of a *Neighborhood Treasure*, Colonel Allen Allensworth!

Saturday, March 10, 2018

925 S. Shamrock

11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Reminder!

A new component to MAP's Block parties is the unveiling of the Neighborhood Treasures Program. Neighborhood Treasures is an innovative approach to showcase Monrovia's unsung heroes through art and education. Local artists will create art work that honors the chosen "treasures" and the adjacent interpretative signage will share the outstanding accomplishments of these fine Monrovians.

Our first treasure to be celebrated is Colonel Allen Allensworth! For a sneak peek at his life and why he is so special, see below!



Colonel Allen Allensworth April 1842—September 1914

Colonel Allensworth was born into slavery in Kentucky and was only able to escape during the Civil War, when he became a Union soldier. During his career in the army, he became a Chaplain and became the first Black man to reach the rank of lieutenant Colonel. After retirement, he and his family moved to Los Angeles, where he started his work in ministry. In 1902, he was the first preacher at Second Baptist Church here in Monrovia and by 1908, started the township of Allensworth, CA. Allensworth is the only town in the state of California to be founded, financed and governed by African Americans, which was turned into a state park in 1976... *Find out more at his celebration!!*

For additional details, contact us at
map@ci.monrovia.ca.us or at 626-932-5563!