



Monrovia Area Partnership's

Neighborhood News



December 2015

Neighborhood News

25th Annual Make a Difference Day!

On Saturday, October 24, TEAM MAP participated in the **25th Annual Make a Difference Day!** This year we worked on a very special project, Former Mayor Bob Bartlett's yard. We worked closely with *The Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley* and *Public Works* to accomplish this project. We cleaned up shrubbery, removed trees, cleaned and mulched flower beds and spend time with Bob's brother, Darrell, talking about great memories of Bob and his contributions to the community.



Former Mayor Bartlett's Backyard Before



Former Mayor Bartlett's Backyard After



Former Mayor Bartlett's Front yard Before



Former Mayor Bartlett's Front yard After



Ming Alexandrovich working hard!



MAP Leaders with Darrell Carr



Former Mayor Bartlett's Front Yard After



Ariel & Aleks

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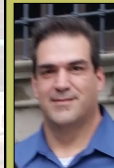
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Volunteers & Leaders -
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Watch our blog for
news on events and
opportunities through
MAP.

TheNeighborhoodFix.blogspot.com

Preparing for El Niño

Climatologists are predicting a strong storm front for this fall/ winter season, which can bring the possibility of severe flooding across much of the state. To help you plan ahead, we have some helpful tips you can do now to prepare yourself, your home and your family for any consequences that may be a result of El Niño.

Prepare your basic disaster supply kit, using a clear 5 gallon tub, fill with the following items:

A battery powered hand crank radio to listen for evacuation routes | A flashlight | Batteries | A first aid kit | A whistle | Water | Canned foods and can opener | Eye glasses | A cell phone with external chargers or solar powered chargers | Prescription medications | Formula and diapers for babies | Pet food and water for animals.

Care For Your Neighbor

In addition to assisting with beautifying Mayor Bartlett’s property on Make A Difference Day, MAP kicked off one of our **Neighborhood Outreach Initiatives– Care for Your Neighbor Project!** For our kick-off project, we assisted fellow MAP Leader and Bob’s neighbor, Ms. Betty Thomas! In Phase 1 of the project, we removed some tricky ivy that had been in Ms. Betty’s front yard since the 1960s! Check out the before and after photos below! For Phase 2 of this project, we will remove the lawn and create a wonderful xeriscape landscape.

Ms. Betty Thomas’ Front yard Before



Ms. Betty Thomas’ Front yard After



Care for Your Neighbor Volunteers



Remembering Former Mayor Bob Bartlett

City Council 1974-1976
Appointed Mayor 1976-1978
First Elected African American Mayor 1988-2001

Robert “Bob” Bartlett was a true Monrovia. He attended grade school through high school here in Monrovia . After high school, he attended Pasadena City College, where he was a successful student athlete, and then moved on to California State University– Los Angeles. After becoming the Heavyweight Golden Gloves Champion for the State of California, Bob worked his way up within the trucking industry to becoming the first African American in the national executive level.

After much success in the private sector, Bob turned his attention on politics and ran for City Council for Monrovia in 1974. After his successful City Council term, he was appointed Mayor from 1976-1978. In 1988, Bob became the first African American Mayor elected by the City and served as Mayor from 1988–2001.

Bob led the City to successfully revitalize the downtown, leading to an economic turnaround. Highlights of Bob’s political career include; Huntington Oaks Shopping Center, the building of a new Community Center, the Krikorian Theater, the High Tech corridor on Huntington Drive, and Monrovia receiving national recognition as an “All– American City”.

The City is so thankful for all that Bob accomplished in laying the groundwork so the City can continue to be the great City he envisioned!

Robert “Bob” Bartlett
November 5, 1939— October 11, 2015

Youth Leadership Academy

Starting this Fall, Neighborhood Services began our 4th Annual MAP Youth Leadership Academy. The class, hosting 24 young Leaders, will be visiting 7 different organizations within the City to see the various opportunities for youth. MAP hosts workshops & events to train and guide community members who are ready to be community leaders. The MAP Youth Leadership Program is designed specifically to help youth learn, develop and grow so they, in turn can take active roles in the health of their community.

So far, our Academy; learned all about the MAP Program, has taken a Walking Tour of the City of Monrovia, and learned about the Teen Advisory Board & Youth Commission. Coming up, the Academy will be learning about the Santa Anita Family YMCA, Monrovia High School ASB, the Boys and Girls Club of the Foothills, and will have a Career Technical Workshop and Job Resource Fair to finish the Academy.



MAP Adult Leadership Academy

This fall, Neighborhood Services hosted our 8th Annual MAP Adult Leadership Academy and welcomed 14 more members to the MAP Family. Our MAP Leaders now have a better understanding of how Monrovia's local government works, are more inclined to participate in community events, and have met great neighbors they might not have met otherwise! Check out our new leaders as they graduated in front of City Council Tuesday, November 3!

The MAP Leadership Academy provides a foundation of knowledge to jump-start and sustain the residents' service in the community. After the Academy, graduates become part of an ever-growing network of community leaders. We call these graduates our MAP Neighborhood Leaders. All Neighborhood Leaders are invited to MAP quarterly trainings, are eligible for assistance with neighborhood meetings and events, and are notified of leadership and volunteer opportunities that become available in the community. They partner with us to serve and continue to build this great community!



O2 Breathe PHun Walk!

On Saturday November 7, our very own, MAP Leader, Mrs. Joannie Yuille co-led the Pulmonary Hypertension Association O2 Breathe Walk & Health Fair! This walk brought together the Pulmonary Hypertension community and concerned friends. Hundreds of people gathered to raise crucial funds to seek ways to prevent and cure Pulmonary Hypertension, and provide hope through support, education, advocacy and awareness.

We had a fun-filled day including face painting, balloon creations and live music by the Licata Brothers. Then groups walked a mile loop around downtown Monrovia. All in all it was a great day, with lots of money raised for Pulmonary Hypertension!

The Pulmonary Hypertension Association's Mission

To find ways to prevent and cure pulmonary hypertension through research, and to provide hope for the pulmonary hypertension community through support, education, advocacy and awareness.



Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association Scholarship Gala



The Monrovia Duarte Black Alumni Association (MDBAA) organization has been in existence since 1992. The MDBAA is a non-profit organization whose focus is on the education of youth in the Monrovia and Duarte Communities. MDBAA members are committed to reinvesting in the youth of their alma maters - Monrovia and Duarte High Schools. The MDBAA awards annual monetary scholarships to graduating seniors attending Monrovia and Duarte High Schools that are going on to college. Six (\$1,000) scholarships were awarded to

deserving recipients at their award presentations held in June 2015. One of the things that makes this organization so special is that at least 7 of your fellow MAP Neighborhood Leaders serve on their Board! Eloise Hart (President), Larry Spicer (your Mayor Pro-tem), Joannie Yuille, Betty Thomas, Alice Harris, Beverly Haynes and Jennifer Boone.

The MDBAA hosts various events throughout the year that provide educational opportunities, foster community and raise funds for scholarships. The Association's Annual Scholarship Gala Dinner Dance is one of their more successful fundraising events. This year's 23rd Annual Scholarship Fundraising Gala was held on Saturday, November 7, 2015 at the Doubletree Hotel. The theme of the event this year was, "Honoring All Who Served." The evening was dedicated to honoring local Veterans and included the traditional playing of Taps as well as resounding renditions of the Star Spangled Banner and Lift Every Voice and Sing.

The MDBAA awarded each military veteran in attendance with certificates and gifts as a thank you for their service to this country. Additionally, the MDBAA President's Hope Award was presented to three special recipients for their exceptional service in the military. Those awardees were; Albert Jones, 84, Julius Parker, 91, and Charlie Dixon, 97 years of age. City Officials from both Monrovia and Duarte presented the Hope Award recipients with certificates as well. Upon the conclusion of the program the attendees enjoyed some great "old school" music and some even "cut a rug". It was a great night in honor of Veterans Day as well as a successful fundraiser for our youth. Great job MAP Leaders!

The Little Red Sleds

Last holiday season, MAP Leader Susan Pilcher was looking for a craft project to do with her neighbors. She found 4 sleds, a perfect number to make one for each of the neighbors on her small block of Wild Rose Avenue. With great care, she painted the sleds and one by one went door to door to deliver them. That year each family hung their handmade sleds during the winter season.

This past summer, Susan, and fellow MAP Leader, Gina Ammon began talking about a project that would join their streets in holiday cheer! The two continued to talk to neighbors and highlighted the sleds at a backyard party during the summer at fellow MAP Leader Sergio Jimenez' home. After creating a flyer and going door to door, there have been 100 sleds painted! These lovely sleds will be on display starting December 1st on homes from East Wild Rose Avenue down Bradbury Road winding around to Orange Avenue. Several neighbors on Park Rose, Rose Lane, Oak Leaf and Winding Oak will also be displaying sleds. This project has been received with excitement and enthusiasm by all, neighbors who didn't know one another now do as a result of the paint party. One commented that it has made her feel more a part of the neighborhood. This project has spurred creativity and a sense of childlike fun in everyone involved.

We hope other members of the community will walk, drive, stop by to see their sleds during the holidays!



The Change Makers

The desire to fully document the stories of Monrovia residents who sought to eliminate bigotry in Monrovia sparked Betty Sandford to gather a group together in April 2015. The small, but concerned, group includes several members who lived through the days of segregation in Monrovia and saw firsthand the collaborative efforts of citizens to combat it. The ChangeMakers group is multi-ethnic and multi-cultural, and is focused on all forms of bigotry.

The project's goals are:

- ◇ To document the stories of those who affected change in the past (who led others or acted as individuals).
- ◇ To inspire and inform today's and tomorrow's citizens --- because the work is not yet done.

The project outcomes are still taking shape, but this group expects to produce a collection of oral histories and biographies of these influential individuals and what is learned from them. The goal is to share these products in different ways, including through Monrovia's Public Library.

The founding committee is now led by Lois Gaston. Current Members include: Betty Sandford, Francie Cash, Larry Spicer, Joannie Yuille, Ralph Walker, Ulises Gutierrez, Betty Fisher Thomas, Mark Still, Charlotte Schamadan, Steve Baker, and Sandy Burud. We are proud to see five of our MAP Academy Graduates be a part of this great project! Opportunities for connecting to this exciting effort will come in the near future as the group creates ways to involve all those committed to making Monrovia a place where all people are treated as individuals.

Upcoming Events

Youth Leadership Academy

Monthly trainings are held throughout the school year and are hosted by local youth agencies. This program is open to grades 6-12 or equivalent in age.

Meetings are held on the 1st Wednesday of every month from 3:00pm-5:00pm (Locations Vary)

MAP-Ed

Save the date for our quarterly education meeting where staff, officials, and City partners discuss a variety of community topics.

December 5: Healthy Living + Eating

Location: Library Community Room

Time: 10am to 1pm

February 6: Topic TBD

Holiday Home Decorating Contest

Residents are encouraged to decorate their homes as we get ready for the Holiday Season! Applications for the Holiday Home Decorating Contest can be obtained at the Monrovia Community Center (119 West Palm Avenue) or on the City's website at www.cityofmonrovia.org. **The contest judging will take place on Monday, December 14, 2015, and award winners will be recognized during the City Council meeting on Tuesday, December 15, 2015 at City Hall in Council Chambers.**

Code Enforcement Tip:

It's holiday season and you know what that means...decorations galore! Getting into the holiday spirit is a great thing, but just remember electrical lighting decorations can cause dangerous mishaps if not taken down within the certain time period permitted by the City (90 days). Be aware that temporary electrical lighting décor is allowed to be displayed after Thanksgiving and to be taken down before the New Year. As a community we've got to remember to look out for the safety of everyone as we celebrate the upcoming holidays.

Please email Code Enforcement for more information!

Residents East of Myrtle Ave: RMacias@ci.monrovia.ca.us

Residents West of Myrtle Ave: KTrue@ci.monrovia.ca.us



Join us for our 7th Annual Neighborhood Conference 2016!

The conference is a free, all day event open to the public.

The MAP Conference hosts workshops to educate participants on topics ranging from Monrovia Resources to Disaster Preparedness.

Participants enjoy food, entertainment, workshops and small group discussions. This event deeply impacts event participants' view the community and they learn to participate in continuing its' growth.

Saturday, April 23, 2016 at Monrovia Community Center

119 W Palm Ave | 8:00 am– 2:00 pm

Emergency Preparedness Tip:

Step outside your door and start interacting with your neighbors! By creating a close-knit neighborhood, you can learn about your fellow neighbors on a more personal level, which can come in handy in an emergency by creating a more prepared atmosphere. For instance, gaining knowledge of the careers acquired by your neighbors could make an emergency less complicated and more organized. If you have a doctor in your neighborhood, you know where to seek medical care. If you have an experienced sitter, you know where the children would be cared for. Combining minds together can accomplish many great things if an emergency arises!



Over the Counter News

Part of what makes this City great is how well it is designed and how the City can keep up with the needs of its' citizens. Our Planning Division works hard to do what is best for Monrovia! Part of that, is continually working with the public, Hollywood, the Historic Preservation Commission and the Planning Commission. Read below about what is happening....over the counter!



Vintage Flip!

In September, we learned that a property right here in Monrovia is going to be featured on HGTV's brand-new show "Vintage Flip!" Not only that, but two of the Community Development Department's staff is going to be featured on the show. Our planners are definitely multi-talented!

"Vintage Flip" follows a couple who enjoy buying, restoring, and reselling vintage homes. As some of you may know, Monrovia's historic housing stock is pretty special and historic preservation has been an important component in the planning of this community for over a quarter century. This community's passion for vintage homes was one of the driving factors behind our current and ongoing Neighborhood Compatibility Study.

To walk the vintage flippers through the process, Planning Division staff helped the show crew look at the history of the home and the development in the community. Then, to offer design advice on site, City Planners went "on location" to consult on the project. By working collaboratively with staff, the vintage flippers were able to devise a restoration plan that will return this home back to it's former glory!

So, keep your eyes open for "Vintage Flip", Monrovia!

Monrovia's Historic Preservation

Commission Turns 20!

On the evening of September 26, 1995 in the City Manager's Conference Room at City Hall, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) convened it's first meeting. The agenda included a discussion of meeting procedures, the upcoming work program, and the always exciting, Brown Act!

That night, the Commission's first order of business was to select a chair and vice-chair for the Commission. Scott Thomas, and Steve Baker, respectively were unanimously elected. For 20 years, the Historic Preservation Commission has made very important contributions to the preservation of Monrovia's built environment. To each of our current and former Historic Preservation Commissioners...all 21 of you, thank you!



Historic Landmark No. 1 — 231 North Primrose Avenue

Want more information on anything you've read here? Read more on the Planning Division's blog ([CLICK HERE](#))