



Monrovia Area Partnership's *Award Winning* Neighborhood News



September 2016

Neighborhood News

A Look Down Memory Lane...

The Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP) is 10 years old and we are feeling nostalgic.



Block Parties



Adult Leadership Academy



Youth Leadership Academy



Movie Nights



Neighborhood Conference



Make a Difference Day

MAP was initiated in 2006 in an effort to decrease crime, blight and resident apathy by encouraging civic engagement. MAP threw block parties, affectionately known as "Hot Dogs, Hot Links and Hot Topics", in various neighborhoods to allow residents to safely and comfortably meet with City Staff and their neighbors. Feedback from those block parties helped to form the MAP program into the citywide program and philosophy that we have today of *Partnering Together for a Better Monrovia*.

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(our community calendar)
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City of Monrovia
Neighborhood Services
415 S Ivy
Monrovia, CA 91016

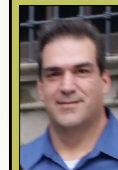
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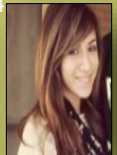
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Connect with Monrovia
Volunteers & Leaders -
"Like" MAP on
Facebook.



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

TheNeighborhoodFix.blogspot.com

10 Years of Partnering for a Better Community

MAP Turns 10!

We want to thank every single one of you for 10 years of support for MAP!

On Saturday, July 9, we had a fantastic time at MAP's 10th Birthday Party & Movie Night! Over **400** people joined us to enjoy a night filled with Hot Dogs, Hot Links, and Hot Topics! We had great community partners join us and help out including: Various City departments, The Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley, Monrovia High School Robotics, and CERT!

The MAP Team would like to thank all of our sponsors for the event, including: Krikorian Movie Theaters, Monrovia Convalescent Hospital, Diane Balsamo of Prime Lending, the Radford Family, the Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley, Monrovia Reads, Dollmakers' Kattywompus, and the Foothill Unity Center.

While we worked hard to put our anniversary party together, it is important to remember, the Monrovia Area Partnership **could not happen without your support!** Thank you for joining us at the Block Parties, Movie Nights, Neighborhood Conferences, (Youth & Adult) Leadership Academies, Neighborhood Projects, and Quarterly Meetings! Thank you all for continuing to be involved in the community, joining commissions, City Council, other volunteer organizations, and for continuing to have your voices heard as residents of Monrovia.



Budding Community Leaders

September 2016

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MAP Adult Leadership Academy

The MAP Leadership Academy provides a foundation of knowledge to jump-start and sustain residents' services in the community. After the Academy, graduates become part of an ever-growing network of community leaders.

Tell your friends and family to join us for the 2016 Monrovia Area Partnership Adult Leadership Academy:

Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 pm this fall!
Monrovia Community Center
September 8—October 20, 2016
Ages 18+

Topics Include:

- ◇ MAP, Monrovia & You
- ◇ Connecting in the Community
- ◇ Local Government
- ◇ Public Health & Safety
- ◇ Tools and Resources
- ◇ Public Speaking & Facilitation Training
- ◇ Putting Theory into Practice



MAP Youth Leadership Academy

*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.*

Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday
3:00 to 5:00 pm this school year!
September 2016—April 2017
Grades 6th- 12th

Topics Include:

- ◇ Integrity & Conflict Resolution
- ◇ A Look into Local Government
- ◇ Volunteering in Your Community
- ◇ Meeting Local Youth Organizations
- ◇ Public Speaking
- ◇ Resume Building & Interview Skills



If you are ready to take the first steps to becoming a connected member of the Monrovia community and a positive presence in your neighborhood and the City, please fill out the MAP Leadership Academy application (found on <http://www.cityofmonrovia.org/communitydevelopment/page/map-leadership-academy>) or pick up a copy and return it to Neighborhood Services.
We look forward to serving with you!

Monrovia Neighborhood Services
415 S. Ivy Ave
Monrovia, CA 91016

MAP in the Community

Summer Movie Nights



MAP Leader Gina Ammon



Kiwanis Club of Monrovia



Mt Sierra College

Thank you all so much for coming out and bringing your families to our Summer Movie Series! This summer, we played four movies around the City (Ant Man, Hotel Transylvania 2, Star Wars: The Force Awakens and Good Dinosaur), reaching out to various neighborhoods. We had so much fun with the snacks, raffles and family time!

Thank you to our sponsors for donating delicious treats for us all to enjoy during the movies!

- ◇ **MAP Leader Gina Ammon:** Root Beer Floats
- ◇ **Kiwanis Club of Monrovia:** Hot Dogs
- ◇ **Mt Sierra College:** Fresh Popped Popcorn

Thank You OSH!

Someone once said that *“The reward for work well done is the opportunity to do more”*. On August 10, our friends at OSH were gracious enough to give our wonderful program an opportunity to do just that with this generous donation! OSH, who believes whole-heartedly in *neighbors helping neighbors* became our newest sponsor! They believe in the hard work that we are all doing together and wanted to be a part of it. We are so excited to put this money to good use here in the community, specifically with our Care for Your Neighbor program, which helps ALL OF US! We are so excited to be able to help out more of our neighbors with the help of OSH and you, MAP Leaders!



Chatting with Monrovia PD

On August 13, Police Chief Jim Hunt joined us at our MAP-Ed Quarterly meeting to discuss important issues happening, not only in our community, but beyond. Chief Hunt gave us a good background on the reduction of not only violent crimes (90%), but also property crimes (50%), that has occurred in the last twenty years. This is due to the Police Department, MAP and residents working together and having open communication about maintaining a safe Monrovia.

In addition, we got a lot of great information on how upcoming measures on the ballot affects how the Police Department will be able to do their jobs. *Some History:* In 2011, **Assembly Bill (AB) 109** was passed and led to a rise in crime due to many people being released due to overcrowding in County jails. Next, **Prop 47** (2014), reduced various charges from felonies to misdemeanors (ex: drug possession, petty theft). On the ballot this fall is **Prop 57**.

The measure (Prop 57) would increase parole chances for felons convicted of non-violent crimes by providing them more opportunities to earn credits for good behavior. It would also allow judges, not prosecutors, to decide whether to try certain juveniles as adults in court. Chief Hunt brought this specific proposition to our attention due to various definitions not drafted clearly. For more information on the proposition, and to view pros and cons, please visit BallotPedia.org.

Lastly, we discussed **Project Achieving Community Trust (ACT)**, which is an initiative our officers have been working on for the past two years to achieve community trust. This project started by having community meetings and attempting to have frank discussions with those who were the most distrustful of the Police Department. The Police Department was recently awarded a grant which allows them to work on training officers on dealing with many types of people in various situations. The Police Department is currently filming hundreds of scenarios to have the officers well versed in how to de-escalate situations in the field. In addition to that, there will be trainings on working with residents who may have mental health issues.

Neighborhood Meetings

On Monday, August 1, MAP Leaders Joannie & James Yuille held a Neighborhood Gathering on Fig Ave. After all the neighbors had the opportunity to meet each other and meet staff, Joannie discussed why it was important to meet and get to know each other. Many topics discussed included; neighborhood block parties, participating in Make a Difference Day, and disaster preparedness. This gathering was a great opportunity for the folks on Fig to get to know each other a little more as well as meet with Sheila Spicer Batice (Neighborhood & Business Services Manager), Rick Macias (Code Enforcement Officer) and Ariel Tolefree-Williams (Neighborhood Services Program Coordinator) to discuss concerns they have noticed on their block. They have already scheduled their next meeting to follow up on their progress to start discussing the rich history of their neighborhood! **Do you want to have a meeting on your block ?** Let us know!



Make a Difference Day!

This October 22nd, millions of volunteers across the nation will unite with a common mission – to improve the lives of others. Make A Difference Day is the largest single-day of volunteering in the country and this year we are working with the **Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley** on projects all over the City of Monrovia making improvements.

To volunteer, sign up and join us! Contact the Volunteer Center at (626) 256-8187 and tell them you want to be on TEAM MAP!

MAP Care for Your Neighbor Program

The Care for Your Neighbor Program pairs caring MAP Neighborhood Leaders and volunteers with homeowners to build community by enhancing properties and beautifying neighborhoods throughout the city. The program is developed to help low-income, elderly or disabled homeowners bring their properties into compliance. City Code Enforcement Officials and MAP Neighborhood Leaders help identify program participants, coordinate the proper assistance, and work directly with volunteer groups and neighbors to address code concerns and beautify properties.



Want to get involved on our next project? Email us at map@ci.monrovia.ca.us to sign up!

YES Intern Graduation



Over the past few months, the Community Development Department has had the pleasure of working with our Youth Employment Service (YES) Intern, Courtney. This program is a 9-week internship, which included on-the-job training and mentoring. It serves to accomplish three main goals: assure Monrovia's continued success as a regional employment hub; provide on-the-job training and real life skills to Monrovia youth; and establish a path toward job/college/ life readiness.

Courtney had the opportunity to work with all three divisions in Community Development and learned a lot of information on what it is we do, and why the services provided by the Building, Planning, and Neighborhood/Business Services Divisions are important for the City. On Thursday August 11, Courtney shared with employees and fellow interns all that she had learned. We are all so proud of Courtney and her accomplishments thus far!



Upcoming Events

MAP-Ed Quarterly Meeting

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

November 19 : Vector Control

Location: *Monrovia Library Community Room*
321 S. Myrtle Ave, Monrovia, CA 91016

Time: 11am to 1pm



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.

1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month

at 3:00 pm-5:00 pm

September 7, 2016– April 19, 2017

Adult Leadership Academy

The MAP Leadership Academy demonstrates initiative and innovation by educating our residents on how to actively participate in our community. This program partners with residents and local resources to facilitate open lines of communication, build trust and find creative solutions to enhance our City.

Thursdays at 7-9pm

Monrovia Community Center

September 8– October 20

Code Enforcement TIP

Meet Krystina! Our new Commercial Code Enforcement Officer, who previously had been serving the City of Monrovia for 13 years as the Business License and Code Enforcement Assistant for the Neighborhood and Business Services Division. She is excited to continue serving and partnering with our residents and business owners to better our community. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact her and she will be more than happy to assist you.

Krystina's Code Enforcement Tip: Abandoned Shopping Carts. Not only are they an eyesore to the community, but they are also an attractive nuisance creating a safety hazard to our public. The City of Monrovia is contracted with California Shopping Cart Retrieval Corporation to assist with the removal of abandoned shopping carts. To report abandoned shopping carts you can either contact her at **(626) 932-5533**, log onto CA Shopping Cart Retrieval's website at <http://www.cartretrieval.net/>, or download the **CartSnap App** at http://www.cartretrieval.net/support/iphone_app.asp.



Please contact Code Enforcement for more info

Residents West of Myrtle Ave, Contact Ken True:

626-932-5535 | KTrue@ci.monrovia.ca.us

Residents East of Myrtle Ave, Contact Rick Macias:

626-932-5545 | RMacias@ci.monrovia.ca.us

Commercial Businesses, Contact Krystina Contreras:

626-932-5533 | KContreras@ci.monrovia.ca.us

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, and the Historic Preservation and the Planning Commissions. Read below about what is happening....*over the counter!*

Lights, Camera.... ACTION!



Living in Greater L.A., we admit that sometimes we can be a bit jaded about "The Industry". At least that's the image we portray, but deep down, the magic of Hollywood...well we still get a little star struck, (but that's our secret).

If you've been in Monrovia for a length of time, you've probably seen a filming production or two around town. Monrovia is a favorite of location scouts. It has that *Anytown, USA* look and feel. Did you know that's one of the reasons there are no palm trees in Old Town? In fact, Monrovia has a long history with the film industry stretching back 100 years to a time when filmmaking—or photoplays, as they were known—was in its infancy.

Then, as now, the film industry was full of glamour, unending promotion and drama, both on and off screen. In 1915, the **Monrovia Feature Film Company** brought a year of excitement to our town and made local headlines *daily*, often pushing news of the World War raging in Europe off of the front page.

Despite local support for the film operations, the lifetime of the Monrovia Feature Film Company was brief—in reality, it operated for less than a year and produced two full length silent films—only one of which has survived. Though Monrovia never overtook Hollywood as a film capital, it did continue to be a filming destination and welcomed a second studio, **Victor Adamson Productions**, in the late 1920's. It too lasted only briefly before lawsuits and financial scandal caused its collapse. Though it produced a large number of short movies, only a few have survived.

So you're probably thinking, "There they go again!" But stick with us. There's method behind the madness, beside some cool Monrovia trivia. You may have heard, that the City recently commissioned an art installation to commemorate Monrovia's place in film making.

The piece, named "Action!" was created by sculptor (and actor) **Daniel Stern**. The sculpture, or more appropriately sculptures, plural, will have a prominent location in the 400 Block of South Myrtle Avenue in Old Town Monrovia (directly adjacent to the Krikorian). It's scheduled to be installed Wednesday afternoon (August 17) and the dedication ceremony will be one of the events happening on Monrovia Zip Day (9.10.16).

To help celebrate our new artwork *and* Monrovia's long connection to the motion picture industry, we'll be running a serial over the next few weeks that chronicles the manipulations and machinations of origins of Monrovia's fledgling film industry. Guest blogger Penny has done meticulous research stitching this largely unknown story together. Our loyal readers know that we love movies and we love history, so this double feature is making us giddy.

Stay tuned Monrovia, and get ready for your close up!



Want more information on anything you've read here? Read more on the Planning Division's blog: <http://cdoverthecounter.blogspot.com/>

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415 S Ivy Ave
Monrovia, CA 91016

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Applications at City Hall
& on CityOfMonrovia.org

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