



Monrovia Area Partnership's *Award Winning*

# Neighborhood News



December 2016

Neighborhood News

## Congratulations Graduates!

*“Accept the challenge, give growth your best effort, and dive in. You’ll never regret it because there’s no better way to increase your positive impact on the world...than to increase your leadership ability” – John C. Maxwell*



This fall, Neighborhood Services hosted our 9th 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 our City Council Tuesday, November 1!

The MAP Leadership Academy provides a foundation of knowledge to jump-start and sustain 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!



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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](http://TheNeighborhoodFix.blogspot.com)

# Young Community Leaders

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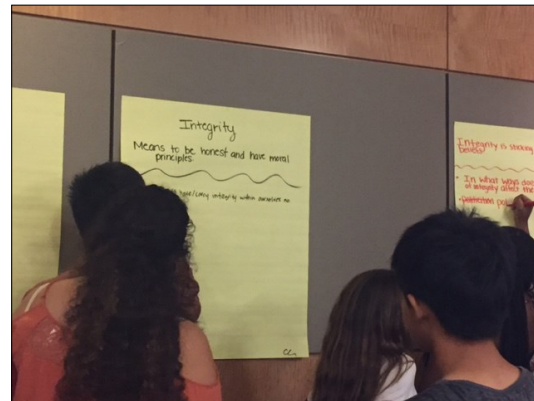
## Youth Leadership Academy

Our Youth Leadership Academy started up again in September, and we are welcoming 38 new leaders to our MAP family! Over the last two months, our youth leaders have had multiple sessions to jump right in to becoming great leaders!

So far, we have discussed how to make small changes in our community and be our best selves; how to always act with integrity and how integrity can affect our whole lives. In addition to that, we toured downtown Monrovia including City Hall, the Monrovia Library, and the Community Center. Most recently, we learned about job and college skills– including how to write a resume to highlight our skills and how to make our best impressions during an interview.

These young community leaders have quite a few more sessions to come, including:

- ◇ Learning about the Teen Advisory Board (TAB) and Youth Commission
- ◇ Volunteering with the Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley
- ◇ Conflict Resolution and a Project ACT update with Monrovia PD
- ◇ YMCA opportunities
- ◇ Public Speaking
- ◇ Activities that make a difference locally



# MAP in the Community

December 2016

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## Make a Difference Day!

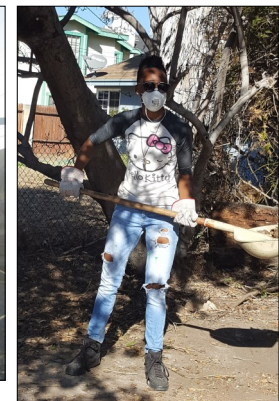
Make a Difference Day is a National Day of Service where people all over the country gather together to do more for their fellow neighbors. Every year, the City of Monrovia, MAP, and other local organizations and churches work together with the Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley to help out our neighbors and clean up public spaces within the City of Monrovia.

This year, Team MAP went back to a Care for Your Neighbor Project to give it a little more TLC. As you may recall, earlier this year, MAP worked on a project at 345 E Genoa to remove debris and do extensive pruning. Turns out, while our volunteers did an amazing job, there was more work to do! This time, we partnered with Orchard Supply Hardware and went out in full force to clean out more debris. Check out all of our hard work!



## Holidays on Wild Rose

Three years ago, MAP Leader Susan Pilcher was looking for a holiday craft to do with her neighbors on Wild Rose Ave. 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. Three years later, at the end of every November, there is a sled painting party, which creates an opportunity for neighbors to get to know each other. The word has spread from Wild Rose Ave and there are now 130 sleds in Monrovia, Bradbury, Newberry Park, Newport Beach and in Arizona and Colorado.



## MAP Care for Your Neighbor Program



The Care for Your Neighbor Program pairs caring MAP Neighborhood Leaders and volunteers with homeowners to build community and beautify neighborhoods throughout the city. The program was developed to help low-income, elderly or disabled homeowners. 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.

**Do you know of a neighbor in need?  
Want to get involved on our next project?  
Email us at [map@ci.monrovia.ca.us](mailto:map@ci.monrovia.ca.us) to sign up!**

## MDBAA Scholarship Gala 2016

Founded May 22, 1992, **Monrovia Duarte black Alumni Association** (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. Eight (\$1,000) scholarships were awarded in June 2016. The scholarships are funded by donations and fundraising events such as the Annual Scholarship Gala.

The 24th Annual MDBAA Scholarship Gala 2016 was held on Saturday, November 19, 2016 at the Doubletree Hotel in Honor of Cancer Survivors. The room of approximately 200 were privileged to witness the evening's Cancer Survivor Honorees receive recognition of their victory over this disease. The recipients were honored by the MDBAA organization as well as by Government Officials (Congresswoman Grace Napolitano, Congresswoman Judy Chu, Monrovia City Manager Oliver Chi and Duarte City Councilperson, Tzeitel Paras-Caracci). Also, honored that night with an MWALIMU (African for respected Teacher) Award was a well deserving MAP Neighborhood Leader Betty Thomas for her many years of service to this community.

It was a very special evening with our own MAP Neighborhood Leader Joannie Yuille serving as Mistress of Ceremony. The evening was filled with great food, presentations, dancing, and just a good old time had by all. A highlight of the evening was a rousing rendition of the Star Spangled Banner sung by Justice Yuille (Joannie's grandson)!

The MDBAA organization and this event is an example of one of MAP's goals of building community. Thank you to our MAP Neighborhood Leaders who are also MDBAA members who work tirelessly toward this goal - Eloise Hart, Larry Spicer, Joannie Yuille, James Yuille, Beverly Haynes, Betty Thomas and Alice Harris

*Community - a feeling of fellowship with others, as a result of sharing common attitudes, interests, and goals.*



## 2nd Annual 02 Breathe PHun Walk



Long time Monrovia, **Joannie Gholar Yuille**, MAP leader and Community Services Commissioner was diagnosed in May 2009 with Pulmonary Arterial Hypertension, a currently incurable rare disease that in high blood pressure in the Arterial Arteries. After her diagnosis she became a support group co-leader of the Greater Los Angeles Pulmonary Hypertension Support group that currently meets regularly at St. Luke's Episcopal Church of Monrovia. Two years ago, the support group brought the national wide awareness fundraising Pulmonary Hypertension 02 Breathe Walk campaign to Monrovia.

This year, over 50 volunteers from the San Gabriel Valley Volunteer Center, MAP leaders and members of the Monrovia Youth

Commission assisted Joannie in preparing for the 2nd Annual 02 Breathe – Monrovia PHun Walk and Health Faire. Fifteen health care vendors, coordinated by MAP leader, Jeremy Mo, were also in attendance. Joannie welcomed all walkers and the VIP guests, **Mayor Tom Adams**, **Councilmembers Becky Shevlin** and **Gloria Crudginton**. Also in attendance, **Mary Ann Lutz** provided the support group with a proclamation from **Congresswoman Grace Napolitano**. Over 100 participants walked around Library Park starting at the band shell and through old town Monrovia as MHS cheerleaders and non-walking PH patients cheered them with noise makers and encouraging signs. Entertainment was provided during the walk and after by The Licata Brothers of Arcadia, Foothill Preschool of Monrovia, and Drumming by Rhythms of the Village in Altadena. There was a free photo booth, face painting, balloon hats and many free gifts and services from the health fair providers.



## MAP-Ed Quarterly Meeting November 19

On Saturday November 19, Jason Farned from the San Gabriel Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District came out to discuss mosquitos: how they breed, where they breed, and how to prevent bites and various diseases. This was a great conversation to keep people aware of mosquitos, specifically, here in Southern California where winters are more like springtime. Jason also had a great display to show us all the little crevices mosquitos can breed and how to help prevent their breeding.

After that great discussion, Monrovia PD came to discuss more information on the Achieving Community Trust (ACT) Program. In 2014, in response to the growing mistrust in law enforcement, the Monrovia Police Department, in collaboration with community leaders created the **Achieving Community Trust (ACT) Program**. The ACT Program was developed to accomplish three main objectives in efforts to build trust and working relationships with Monrovia residents:

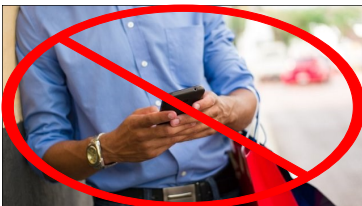
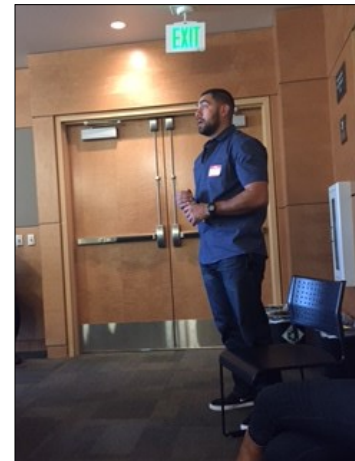
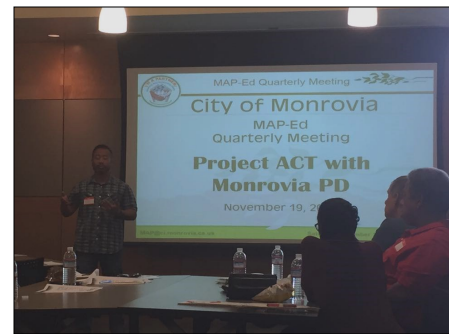
- ◇ The need to have meetings with community members who did not trust the police.
- ◇ The need to educate our youth on how to safely interact with the police.
- ◇ The overriding need to educate officers on building skills to deescalate volatile situations.

Those in attendance learned that MPD is working hard on various trainings to make sure officers are prepared to interact with residents in all situations. These trainings include:

- ◇ Simulations on deescalating residents (not using force)
- ◇ Working with a mental health professional for residents in need
- ◇ Monthly trainings (state– mandated)

After learning about the ACT Program, all attendees were introduced to four MPD officers who told us about their backgrounds, who they are, and why they are a part of the Police force. It was an eye opening experience to see that these officers joined the force to make a difference in their communities and had a vested interest in keeping Monrovia residents safe.

The ACT program will prove to be a valuable tool towards building relationships of trust and understanding with our residents, through education, and showing them how to better understand the roles of police officers, and their responsibilities to keep our communities safe.



## Community Policing Tip

With the holiday season in full effect, it can be easy to get distracted when out and about. In order to ensure your safety, *here are a few tips to follow during the holidays:*

- ◇ Always be aware of your surroundings.
- ◇ Limit the amount of cash and credit cards you carry.
- ◇ Park in well-lit areas, lock your vehicle, and don't leave valuables in your vehicle.
- ◇ Don't be so consumed with your cell phone that you're not aware of what is around you.

# 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.

**January 21 : Homelessness Update**

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

**Time:** 11am to 1pm



## Join us for the 8th Annual



**Building Better... | April 22, 2017 | 9:30 am to 3:00 pm**

Join us for our 8th Annual Neighborhood Conference 2017! 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 of the community and they learn to participate in continuing its' growth. Mark your calendars! We will see you there!

## Code Enforcement TIP

Converting a garage to a habitable living space without a permit is illegal. Safety is paramount, which is the number one reason that unpermitted converted garages are illegal. Installed smoke detectors, adequate egress, and proper construction are critical for safety. This is a very serious matter. Please contact staff in our Planning and Building Divisions to discuss any proposed home modifications. They will advise you of your options and, if applicable, the permit process.



Please contact Code Enforcement for more info

**Residents West of Myrtle Ave, Contact Ken True:**

626-932-5535 | [KTrue@ci.monrovia.ca.us](mailto:KTrue@ci.monrovia.ca.us)

**Residents East of Myrtle Ave, Contact Rick Macias:**

626-932-5545 | [RMacias@ci.monrovia.ca.us](mailto:RMacias@ci.monrovia.ca.us)

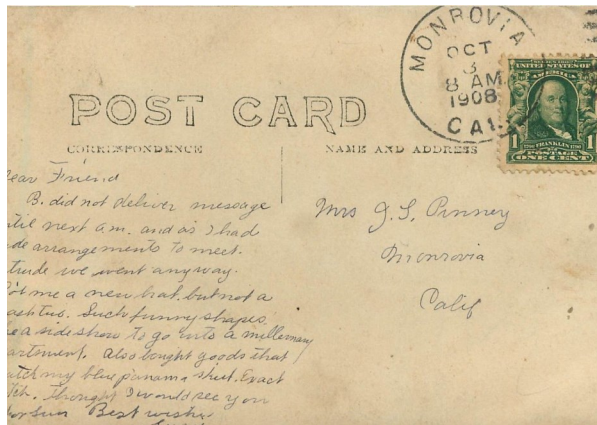
**Commercial Businesses, Contact Krystina Contreras:**

626-932-5533 | [KContreras@ci.monrovia.ca.us](mailto: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 Monrovians! 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!

### Zip-a-Dee-Do-Dah!



ZIP Day is a once in a lifetime celebration of our zip code—9.10.16. Since zip codes didn't exist until 1963, there was no ZIP day in 1916—and with the rapid changes occurring in the way we communicate, there is no promise that zip codes will still exist in 2116.

So let's start with the basics...how did zip codes come into use? Many people have seen antique letters or postcards simply addressed to Joe Smith, Monrovia, Calif.

In 1944, with World War II increasing the number of letters sent while the work force to sort the mail was diminished, a postal inspector named Robert Moon thought up a new system which would speed up sorting. He promoted a numerical system in which the first three digits identified the geographic area and the

Sectional Center Facility (SCF) that would receive all the mail for a specific geographic area and then the last two digits would specify a particular city in that geographic region. The post office named this system the **Zone Improvement Plan (ZIP)**. It took almost twenty years for the US Postal Service to roll out zip codes—zip codes were officially introduced on 7/1/1963 and at the same time the post office encouraged standardized two letter abbreviations for states.

The post office used many different ways to make people aware of zip code use. They introduced a cartoon character named Mr. Zip who was featured in commercials, cartoons, on merchandise such as stickers and lunch boxes, and on stamp cancellations. The post office believed that if they could get children interested in Mr. Zip, they, in turn, would encourage their parents to use zip codes. In 1966, the week of October 10, was officially declared "Zip Code Week" with some communities holding parades to celebrate. Celebrities such as Ethel Merman appeared on commercials singing "Zip-a-dee-do-dah". In reaction to Cold War paranoia, some citizens protested the use of zip codes as dehumanizing, but the popularity of Mr. Zip outweighed these worries. By 1970, zip codes were used on 86% of the mail, and by 1979, they were on 97% of all mail.



In 1983, the US Post Office promoted a new Zip+4 program, though they have never made it mandatory. Zip Codes are made up of three components: geographic region, Sectional Center Facility (SCF), and the town, city or community. Numbers were distributed from East to West. Zip Codes beginning with zero are generally in New England and New Jersey. The lowest zip code is 00501 for the IRS in Holtsville, NY. The highest zip code is 99950 for Ketchikan, Alaska.

So here's what those numbers in Monrovia's zip code stand for:  
9- California (also HI, AK, OR, WA and Pacific territories)  
(9)10—Santa Clarita is Monrovia's SCF (Sectional Center Facility)  
(910)16 – Monrovia  
(910)17- Monrovia's PO boxes

So, here's one last piece of Monrovia zip code trivia: *did you know that our zip code is an ambigram?* That is, it's the same number if you turn it upside down! Not many zip codes can make that claim to fame.

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

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

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# Neighborhood News

September 2016

**Join us for the 8th Annual**



Partnering People for a Stronger Monrovia

**Building Better...** | April 22, 2017 | 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

**Free Workshops | Breakfast & Lunch | Vendors**