

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

A community based newsletter brought to you by the Monrovia Area Partnership team YOUR MAP TEAM



Introduction

Welcome to the latest edition of the MAP Neighborhood News Newsletter, proudly brought to you by the Monrovia Area Partnership! Our gratitude extends to the various departments, divisions, community partners, and our readers who make this newsletter possible.

As we navigate recent departures from the MAP team, we eagerly anticipate the arrival of new individuals who will bring new ideas into our program. The dynamism if our community lies in our collective ability to adapt and improve continually, and your insights play a pivitol role in this journey.

Communication is key, and we are dedicated to refining our methods to ensure that valuable resources reach every corner of our community. We invite your suggestions for content you'd like to see in future newsletters.

In this edition, explore updates from MAP, insights from the City Manager's Office, tips from our Community Activist Policing Team, and more. Thank you for being an integral part of our community, and we look forward to keeping you informed and engaged!

A Sneak Peak at this November 2023 Issue:

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STAY IN TOUCH!

- O <u>@MONROVIAMAP</u>
- MAP@CI.MONROVIA.CA.US
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- MONROVIAAREAPARTNERSHIP.EVENTBRITE.COM
- ⊕ <u>www.monroviaareaparntership.com</u>

TIP FOR FULL DIGITAL NEWSLETTER POTENTIAL: ANYTHING THAT IS BLUE & <u>UNDERLINED</u> IS A CLICKABLE LINK THAT IS CAPABLE OF TAKING YOU TO THE RELATED EXTERNAL PAGE WITH FURTHER INFORMATION & RESOURCES TO EXPLORE.

QUARTERLY MAP-EDU MEETING | AUGUST 10 & NOVEMBER 4, 2023

We are thrilled to update you on the recent MAP-Edu meetings, where community members come together to delve into pressing topics and current trends shaping our City.

Our quarterly MAP-Edu meetings are designed to be informative and engaging, offering a platform for collaboration and knowledge sharing. In August, we focused on the critical subject of vector control. Welcoming the SGV Vector and Control District, the community learned essential strategies for safeguarding families during mosquito season. November brought another insightful meeting, this time addressing the issue of vacant properties with a focus on Code Enforcement.

As we reflect on these recent meetings, we are reminded of the power of community collaboration. Together, we can address issues, share solutions, and build a stronger community. Stay tuned for updates on upcoming MAP-Edu meetings!





MAP YOUTH LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

We are delighted to announce the successful completion of our 7-week Youth Leadership Academy, marking a record-breaking participation of 32 youth leaders! Every Wednesday, these young minds immersed themselves in valuable life skills, covering areas from the economics of cooking at home to financial literacy, public speaking, police etiquette, and beyond.

Their commitment attending each week speaks volumes about their dedication

to personal growth and community impact. The skills acquired during these sessions will not only enrich their daily lives, but will also empower them to make positive contributions in their communities and at school.

We are proud of each participant for taking that first step toward leadership. We know they will use their newfound skills to create positive change.



MAP ADULT LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

We are excited to acknowledge the successful completion of our 7-week MAP Adult Leadership Academy, welcoming 16 new adult leaders into our community. Over 7 Thursday evenings, these dedicated individuals delved into essential skills, ranging from Community Organizing and Resident Engagement to Marketing to Your Block, and uncovering and leveraging their community assets. Our hope is that each class left them inspired to drive positive change in their

neighborhoods. The knowledge gained is not just a toolset but a catalyst for becoming influential leaders within the community.

Their commitment to personal and community development is commendable, and we are excited to witness the positive impact they will bring to our neighborhoods. This is just the beginning of a new chapter in community leadership!



VCSGV MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY

On Saturday, October 28, our new MAP youth and adult leaders united at the Volunteer Center of San Gabriel Valley's annual Make a Difference Day. Collaborating with VCSGV and Code Enforcement, our community leaders joined forces to address landscaping challenges faced by residents who may be limited by mobility or age-related issues.

Our main focus is on assisting veterans, seniors, and low-income residents with landscaping concerns. Our dedicated leaders, wearing their green shirts, actively participated in pulling weeds and trimming trees to enhance the property in need. This collaborative effort exemplifies the true meaning of leadership - coming together to make a positive impact of our community. We are proud of our MAP leaders for embodying the spirit of service and community betterment. Kudos to our MAP leaders for making a difference that truly counts!



WELCOME NEW MAP LEADERS (GRADUATION)

A warm welcome to the 32 new youth leaders and 16 new adult leaders who have joined our vibrant community of MAP leaders! With this valuable addition of 48 leaders, our community now boasts over 500 dedicated individuals committed to making a positive impact.

We took a moment to recognize these new leaders in front of city council, and the festivities continued with a welldeserved celebration. In addition to welcoming new leaders, we extended a

heartfelt appreciation to our existing #MAPconnect bronze and silver leaders. Their continued service, logging 30-100 hours, were acknowledged with gratitude. As the Leadership Academies conclude, our encouragement for leaders to stay involved remains through our #MAPconnect initiative. We urge all leaders to log their hours on Track It Forward, ensuring that we consistently recognize the accomplishments of our community leaders. Congratulations Class of 2023!



MAP 2024 Events Calendar

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Newsletters Quarterly (4)

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MAP-edu -Quarterly (4)



Anniversary Block Party

Neighborhood

Conference

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MAP 2024 EVENTS CALENDAR

Department & Division Highlights

HIGHLIGHTING DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS AND DIVISIONS GIVES US THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE WHAT THEY HAVE BEEN WORKING ON AND HOW THEY ARE PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE. CATCH UP WITH THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE AND SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING!

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE



Monrovia is going 100% Green Power in 2024! In December 2022, the City partnered with Clean Power Alliance (CPA) as a way for Monrovia's electricity customers to begin receiving clean, renewable energy.

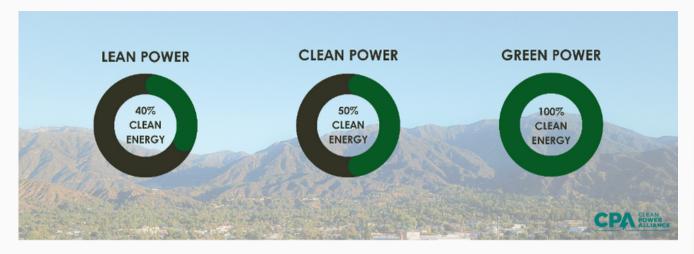
In 2002, the passing of Assembly Bill 117 permitted the creation of Community Choice Aggregators (CCA) to allow public agencies, including cities like Monrovia, to procure clean energy for electricity customers within their jurisdiction. To date, CPA is the largest CCA in California and serves approximately one million customer accounts, representing over 30 cities and unincorporated areas of Los Angeles and Ventura counties.

Under this new partnership, Monrovia's residential and business customers have the option to select clean, renewable energy to power their homes and businesses. CPA will purchase the energy, and Southern California Edison (SCE) will continue to manage the transmission and distribution of the power through existing electrical infrastructure. Additionally, SCE will continue to provide customer billing and will remain responsible for maintaining power lines and responding to power outages.

To meet the needs of all Monrovians, CPA offers three renewable rate options: Lean Power, Clean Power, and Green Power.

Department & Division Highlights

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE (CONT.)



- Lean Power provides approximately 40% clean energy and yields approximately \$2 savings per \$100 of electricity;
- Clean Power provides approximately 50% clean energy and yields approximately \$1 savings per \$100 of electricity; and
- Green Power provides 100% clean energy, with community members paying a small premium of \$3 more per \$100 of electricity.

What changes should you expect to see?

Before commencing renewable energy services, the City had to select a default renewable energy rate for all electricity customers in Monrovia, and on August 1, 2023, the Monrovia City Council selected 100% Green Power as the City's default renewable energy rate. Beginning in March 2024, electricity customers in Monrovia will automatically be enrolled in 100% Green Power, which means they pay approximately \$3 more for every \$100 in electricity charges.

What if you don't want to receive 100% Green Power?

With CPA, electricity customers can choose among the different renewable energy rates or opt-out altogether and retain electricity services through SCE.

Department & Division Highlights

CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE (CONT.)

Suppose you decide that 100% Green Power is not for you but still want to contribute towards creating a sustainable environment. In that case, you can switch to either "Clean Power" or "Lean Power" at any time, with the change reflected in your next billing cycle.

If you opt-out within 60 days of service initiation and retain all services through SCE, you may return to CPA at any time, but if you decide to opt-out and return to SCE after 60 days of service initiation, you must remain with SCE for a minimum of 12 months before being eligible to return to CPA. During this time, you will be subject to SCE's fluctuating Transitional Bundled Rates (current electricity market rates).

From now until March 2024, City staff will continue to collaborate with CPA to ensure residents are aware of the coming change. For more information about the City's partnership with CPA, please visit <u>www.cityofmonrovia.org/CPA</u>. You may also contact Angela Cho at <u>ACho@ci.monrovia.ca.us</u> or at (626) 932-5528.

Community Activist Policing Tip

TIS THE SEASON

Christmas shopping season is quickly approaching which means an increase in package thefts. Every year, we have to make contact with a victim with a disappointed look on their face. We love meeting new people, but not under these terms. Here are a few tips to help you avoid being a victim of package theft this holiday season:

- Schedule deliveries when someone is home.
- Ask a neighbor or a family member to retrieve your package once its delivered.
- Ship package to your workplace or retired family member's house.
- Provide delivery instructions to hide package behind a bush or pillar.
- Install high quality cameras.

We would like to wish everyone a happy holiday!



QUESTIONS? Contact the MPD Non-Emergency Line at 626-256-8000

NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION

Code Enforcement Tip

THE GOAL OF THE CODE ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM IS TO WORK WITH RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, AND PROPERTY OWNERS TO ACHIEVE COMPLIANCE AND ENHANCE OUR COMMUNITY!

HAPPY HOLIDAYS MONROVIA!

As we begin the holiday season, here are some friendly reminders! Our code enforcement team loves the holidays just as much as you but we also care about your safety. Here are some holiday tips and reminders:

• As you prepare to have family and friends over for delicious food, it is a great reminder to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms.





- As you prepare all of the amazing food especially that deep fried turkey, it would be best to have small fire extinguisher by your side just in case.
- Christmas lights or holiday decorative lighting shall not be left on your home for more than 90 days. So once the New Year has set in, it should be a reminder to take down all holiday decorative lighting.





 Christmas Tree Collection will begin on December 26, 2023 and end on January 13, 2024. Tree must be free of all stands, lights, ornaments, tree skirts, and tinsel. Artificial trees, flocked trees and trees coated with fire retardant are NOT recyclable. Place your tree curbside during your regular trash collection day.

If you have any questions, please contact the Code Enforcement Team at 626-932-5582.

#CleanMonrovia

NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION

CLEAN MONROVIA IS A MULTI-DEPARTMENT STRATEGY FOCUSED ON ENHANCING THE WELL-BEING OF OUR COMMUNITY AND LONGEVITY OF OUR PLANET. WHETHER IT'S ILLEGAL DUMPING OR WASTE REDUCTION, WE'RE DEDICATED TO PROVIDING A SOLUTION TO POLLUTION.



YELLOW TAGS

In an effort to reduce illegal dumping and encourage proper disposal of bulky items, the City of Monrovia launched the #CleanMonrovia campaign. This is a multidepartment strategy to provide educational resources to residents and to curb illegal dumping.

Code Enforcement Officers will be placing a yellow tag on dumped items and at the front door of the property if they are unable to make contact with the resident. These "yellow tags" have a step-by-step process to schedule a bulky item pickup with Athens Services so it does not become illegal dumping.

If you receive a yellow tag and did NOT schedule with Athens, please remove the item from public view and schedule a pickup with Athens. It will typically be the same day as your trash service. If you DID schedule a pickup you can disregard the yellow tag.



For more information, visit www.cityofmonrovia.org/cleanmonrovia

Hidden Gems in Monrovia

IF YOU HAVE ANY NOMINATIONS FOR A HIDDEN GEM IN MONROVIA, PLEASE EMAIL US AT <u>MAP@CI.MONROVIA.CA.US</u>

FIRST MCDONALD'S

In 1937, Patrick McDonald opened "The Airdrome", an octagonal food stand, on Huntington Drive (Route 66) near the Monrovia Airport in Monrovia, California. Hamburgers were ten cents, and all-youcan-drink orange juice was five cents. That octagonal building was later moved to 1398 North E Street in San Bernardino, California in 1940.





It was originally a barbecue drive-in, but the brothers discovered that most of their profits came from hamburgers. In 1948, they closed their restaurant for three months, reopening it in December as a walk-up hamburger stand that sold hamburgers, potato chips, and orange juice; the following year, french fries and Coca-Cola were added to the menu.

The site of the first McDonald's that was open in 1940 has since been purchased by the owner of local chicken restaurant Juan Pollo and converted into a museum. The museum can be visited at 1398 N E St, San Bernardino, CA. Although being situated in San Bernardino, McDonald's origin traces back to Monrovia. The initial McDonald's in Monrovia remains true to its roots, explore its historic significance at 480 W. Huntington Dr., Monrovia.

Local Small Business Spotlight

IF YOU HAVE ANY NOMINATIONS FOR A LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT IN MONROVIA, PLEASE EMAIL US AT <u>MAP@CI.MONROVIA.CA.US</u>

PETNMIND MONROVIA



petNmind is an all-natural holistic health food and supply store for dogs and cats. We also offer self-serve pet washing stations. Our store is focused on healthy pet nutrition for more active pets and lifespan longevity. We believe in high protein diets that include raw pet food, freeze dried and air-dried food that provide the necessary nutrients and protein pets need. We also carry a variety of toppers like bone broth, bison broth, goat milk, and yogurt, all to enhance flavor while adding additional nutritional benefits. Our bakery section is filled with dog cakes and treats stuffed with peanut butter, molasses, honey, and other

natural ingredients dogs go crazy for.

10/20/23 – upcoming pet event sponsored by Paragon at Old Town Monrovia. petNmind and Fetch! Pet Care have partnered up to educate and promote our services to Paragon residents. petNmind will provide numerous free treats to residents and educate them on the benefits of a natural raw, high protein diet and Fetch! will discuss our newest collaboration where they pick up resident's pets for dog walking and provide an additional dog washing service at our petNmind store.

10/20/23 – Pet Adoption Event hosted by petNmind in collaboration with VIDA (volunteers in defense of animals)

11/3/23 - Pet Adoption Event hosted by petNmind in collaboration with VIDA (volunteers in defense of animals)

11/11/23 – Pet Adoption Event hosted by petNmind in collaboration with Best Friends Rescue LA.

Local Small Business Spotlight

IF YOU HAVE ANY NOMINATIONS FOR A LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT IN MONROVIA, PLEASE EMAIL US AT <u>MAP@CI.MONROVIA.CA.US</u>

PETNMIND MONROVIA

petNmind's target customers are everyone. We want everyone to know about the benefits of a raw, high protein diet. The more pet parents become aware of the benefits of feeding raw, the healthier pets are.

petNmind Naturals and Self Wash is unique in the sense that it takes the guessing game out of what to feed your pets. We do this by carrying brands that are natural and healthy for pets. We never carry junk pet food or treats.



Most consumers who venture into "big box" pet retailers are confused by the numerous options of pet food offered. Quantity of products in a store does not equate to quality. petNmind does not carry "junk" pet food. Other pet retailers carry a variety of nutritional products and poor nutritional products. If a pet store carries good and bad pet food, how is the consumer to know which products are best for their pets? Big Box pet stores also tend to lack knowledge on what's nutritional and what isn't. petNmind staff are here to walk customers through the process of finding the right natural diet for their pets because we do care.

petNmind Naturals and Self Wash is the first franchise in California. The goal is to open several stores throughout the San Gabriel Valley and LA County areas. Currently, there will be 4 stores opening in GA and FL by the end of 2023. The next store location for the California franchise will be in Arcadia, CA. Spring 2024.

petNmind Naturals & Self Wash Monrovia

218 S Myrtle Ave Monrovia, CA 91016 626-775-4422



MAP Leader Highlight

AN HONORABLE MENTION FOR OUR MAP LEADERS WHO CONTINUE TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY AFTER GRADUATING THE ACADEMIES



ANDREW COOPER | 2022 ADULT LEADER

I'm an eternal optimist who sees humor in everything. Also a very fortunate husband and father. I'm married to my beautiful wife Analia and we have a wonderful son, Landon age 12.

The MAP program was on my radar for a long time. When my son became old enough to participate, Analia and I thought it was the perfect time for he and I to participate in this program together. It was a wonderful experience. Our favorite memory of the

program was the adult and youth programs coming together to help an elderly citizen of Monrovia clear out the overgrown brush in his front and backyards. This was for the Monrovia Make a Difference Day. I have to say that the internal team working for the city of Monrovia made the MAP program so enjoyable and fun. A huge thank you to Jessie Woo who is heading up this program in 2023!

I moved to Monrovia in 2002 I think and have loved it since then. In fact, Monrovia is a huge reason why I'm married to my wife. While we were dating I brought her to old town many times including the Friday night fair and she fell in love with Monrovia. So much so that she moved here from Redondo Beach when we got married.



MAP Leader Highlight

AN HONORABLE MENTION FOR OUR MAP LEADERS WHO CONTINUE TO MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY AFTER GRADUATING THE ACADEMIES

For work, I head up the Arcadia Association of Realtors®. We're a membership organization, not a sales organization. I liken us to the AAA Club but for local real estate agents. We provide behind-the-scenes services to help them with their business. One of the things I love about my work is that we get to give back to the local communities by making donations to local charities and sponsoring events in the SGV including Monrovia. Recent Monrovia sponsorships include the Monrovia Assoc. of Fine Arts (MAFA), the annual Halloween event at Library Park, Spring Egg Hunt at Recreation Park, Accessory Dwelling Unit event at the Community Center and Monrovia Reads.

I'm considering running for City Council sometime down the road. If you ever see any "Cooper for Council" signs around town that would be me and I'd appreciate your vote!

My final thought is to thank all the wonderful city staff and outstanding community volunteers who make this town as special as it is! You make a difference and you are appreciated.



LANDON COOPER | 2022 YOUTH LEADER

My name is Landon Cooper and I'm in 7th grade at Clifton Middle School. I decided to become a MAP Youth Leader because I thought that it would be a great opportunity for me to be able to help around my local community of Monrovia. My dad also took this opportunity to participate in the adult version of the MAP program at the same time as me. It was fun participating together and receiving our completion certificate at a City Council meeting.

For my schooling, I attended Monroe elementary school in the Dual Immersion Spanish Language Program from TK through 5th grade.

MAP Leader Highlight

I enjoyed and appreciated Monroe because it offered so many great activities. While there, I was a part of Renaissance as an after school Spanish language tutor for younger students, a junior coach to guide younger students throughout their recess, and I still help there with their motivational boards. I am very grateful for all the opportunities that Monroe offers the students including the awesome Spanish program. I am currently attending Clifton middle school also in the Dual Immersion program. It's fun being able to speak fluent Spanish. I sometimes get free deserts when I speak in Spanish at some restaurants!

One of my favorite places in Monrovia is Look Dine-In Cinemas. They show fun movies and they have amazing food there. I like watching the movies with my friends. I also enjoy the street fair every Friday, going out with my family, and browsing through all of the stands that are there.

I am 13 years old and I have been playing soccer for the past 10 years and enjoy the sport. I am in 7th grade and enjoy hanging out with friends, relaxing at home during the day, and I love sleeping. I go out with all of my family every so often and am really excited to see all of my cousins and grandparents who usually go. It never is a family get together without the whole family.

I currently help out with a dog and cat adoption place called Gurrs and Purrs in PetSmart and have helped out with a few of MAP's events that they have hosted. I am also in Clifton Renaissance, which helps out a lot around campus and at other school campuses in Monrovia. With Renaissance I have helped with their weekly Snowcone sales and their campus beautification process.

My proudest accomplishment is when I helped tutor Spanish language students with their homework and language skills. They all seemed very happy and they thanked me so much. It was really gratifying being able to help them. That was my proudest accomplishment.

Thank you to everyone who organizes the MAP program - it's a great program and I encourage all Monrovia students to participate.

Get Involved in the Community

BUSINESS EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (BERT)

PHONE # 626-256-8144

VOLUNTEER WITH BERT!

BERT is an ongoing business preparedness program designed to give you the knowledge and tools to prepare your business to weather a disaster. This six seminar series uses lecture, small group, and hands-on activities to develop the skills necessary to design your business operations and continuity plans as well as promote preparedness among your employees. All seminars are stand-alone and can be completed in any order.

After completing all six seminars, developing and exercising your plan, and developing an employee preparedness policy, businesses can apply for the Monrovia Prepares Business designation. Businesses attaining this distinction will be recognized at a City Council meeting in September which is National Preparedness Month. BERT course are FREE and offered every other month, beginning in January.





For more information, contact: Suzanne Dobson CERT Volunteer Coordinator (626) 256-8144 Email: sdobson@ci.monrovia.ca.us

MAPconnect

ABOUT

MAPconnect is an initiative to retain, grow, and connect MAP Leaders. MAPconnect begins upon graduating from the MAP Leadership Academy. It is a multifaceted approach to incentivize volunteerism, provide resources, and encourage leaders to build networks.



POINT OPPORTUNITIES

Events		Volunteering	Bonus
Volunteer/Attend MAP Conference (6 pts)		City Volunteer (CERT/PD/Fire/Code) (1pt/1hr)	Become a Zone Coordinator (10 pts)
Make a Difference Day (4 pts)		Volunteer Center (1 pt/1 hr)	Refer Someone to the Academy (10 pts)
Volunteer/Attend MAP Block Party (3 pts)		Foothill Unity (1 pt/1 hr)	Become a Zone Asst. Coordinator (5 pts)
Attend a MAP-Edu (2 pts)		Volunteer at MAP Block Party/Neighborhood Mtg. (1 pt/1 hr)	Host a Neighborhood/Park Clean Up (5 pts)
Attend Neighborhood Treasure (2 pts)		YMCA (1 pt/1 hr)	Host a Block Party (5 pts)
Speak at a Leadership Academy (2 pts)		Library Story Time (1 pt/1 hr)	Provide Gift to New Neighbor or Baby (5 pts)
Help with Holiday Parade (1 pt/1 hr)		Boys & Girls Club (1 pt/1 hr)	Participate in City's Holiday Decorating Contest (5 pts)
Attend Neighborhood Watch Meeting (1 pt/1 hr)		KGEM Volunteer (1 pt/1 hr)	Bring a Neighbor to a MAP Event (1 pt)
MAPconnect		Community Services (1 pt/1 hr)	Wear Your MAP Shirt to an Event (1 pt)
		Community Garden (1 pt/1 hr)	Write a Newsletter Highlight (1 pt)
		Participate in Regional Activities (1 pt/1 hr)	Follow MAP on Social Media (1 pt)
			Like a Social Media Post (1 pt)
			Re-post a Social Media Post (1 pt)
			Confirm Your Status as Active (1 pt)

MAPconnect

THE STEPS Graduate the MAP Leadership Academy Become a MAP Leader Begin Volunteering, Attending Events, and Engaging on Social Media Climb the Tiers - Bronze, Silver, & Gold MAP Leaders Become a Zone Coordinator or Assistant Coordinator (optional)

LOG YOUR HOURS

Track it Forward is the program we use to track volunteer efforts. Volunteers can log hours via the web or mobile app, as well as sign up for events and track their progress for requirements.

Step 1: Go to

www.monroviaareapartnership.com/leg= hours and scroll down until you see the Track It Forward widget.

Step 2: Create an account by clicking on 'Click Here to Register'. Fill out the information.

Step 3: Log your hours by filling in the number of hours volunteered, date volunteered, activity, and bonus points (if any), and click 'Submit Time'.

GOALS

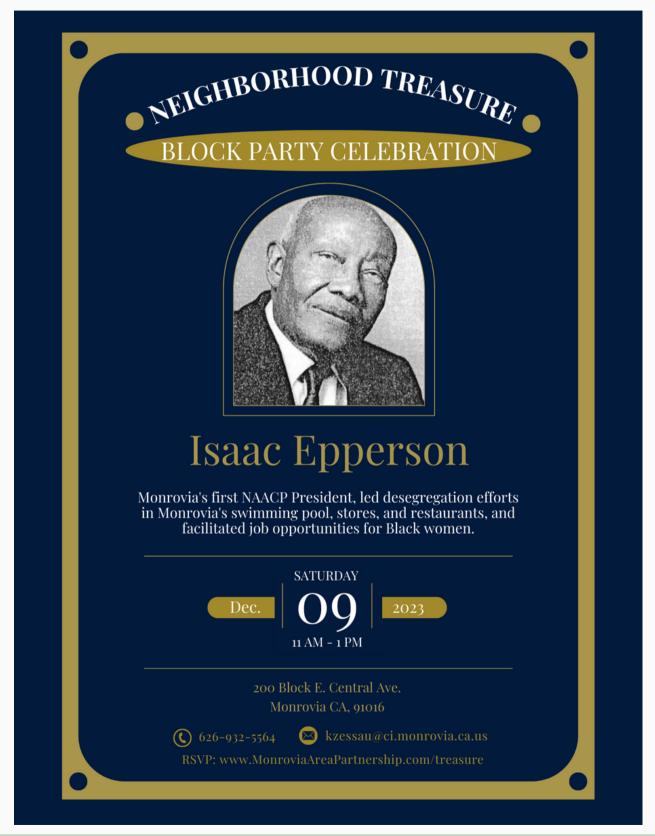
- Increase participation of MAP Leaders at events, social media, and in their neighborhoods.
- Provide toolkits to encourage networking amongst neighbors in the different zones.
- Honor those MAP Leaders who climb the tiers and dedicate their time to the community.
- Encourage MAP Leaders to recruit their neighbors and get involved.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

- In addition to earning points to climb the tiers, MAP Leaders will earn hours for the time they spend volunteering at activities.
- MAP will then award the Leader with the United States Presidential Volunteer Service Award (National Award)
- Bronze (100 hrs), Silver (250 hrs), and Gold (500+ hours)
- Receive a pin, certificate, and letter from the President of the United States.

HONORING LEADERS

Once a year, MAP will make a presentation to City Council honoring all the MAP Leaders who moved up a tier or were awarded a Presidential Volunteer Service Award. MAP Leaders will receive pins for each tier and can proudly display them on their lanyards or clothing. Upcoming Events click on the flyer below to rsvp



UPCOMING EVENTS