

# NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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

#### YOUR MAP TEAM







JUSTIN EDSON



JESSIE WOO

# Introduction

The Monrovia Area Partnership team is ready to tackle the new year with our community's favorite events, including our Annual Neighborhood Conference in April, our Anniversary Block Party in June, our quarterly MAP-Edu meetings, and our Adult & Youth Leadership Academies in September and October.

In addition to our annual events, we are excited to bring on new ideas to make our program and our events events bigger and better than the last year! We strive to continue to make Monrovia a thriving community and want to educate our residents on the steps to take to become a community leader. Our program is nothing without our residents, so we will do anything it takes to lead them in the proper direction because when our residents are happy, so are we! We are always welcoming new and innovative ideas, so if you have any suggestions, please reach out to the MAP team anytime. We look forward to serving you in 2023! Please continue reading for more information on our upcoming events and more.

# A Sneak Peak at this February 2023 Issue:

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### STAY IN TOUCH!

- @MONROVIAMAP
- MAP@CI.MONROVIA.CA.US
- f FACEBOOK.COM/MONROVIAAREAPARTNERSHIP
- MONROVIAAREAPARTNERSHIP.EVENTBRITE.COM
- ₩ww.monroviaareaparntership.com

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.

# **MAP**connect

### **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.

# **MAP Leader Levels**



**Bronze:** 35 points



Silver: 100 points



Gold: 200 points

### **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)	
	Community Services (1 pt/1 hr)	Wear Your MAP Shirt to an Event (1 pt)	
MAPconnect	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)	
* FAAA		Like a Social Media Post (1 pt)	
Bridging Neighborhoods Together		Re-post a Social Media Post (1 pt)	
		Confirm Your Status as Active (1 pt)	

# **MAP**connect

#### THE STEPS



### 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

<u>www.monroviaareapartnership.com/leg=hours</u> 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.

# Check out what MAP has been up to!

### **IN-PERSON MAP-EDU MEETINGS ARE BACK!**

Back by popular demand, our first MAPedu Community Meeting of 2023 was inperson and will remain in-person into the foreseeable future.

The meeting took place at the Monrovia Public Library - Community Room on Thursday, January 12, 2023, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. with an attendance of 25 residents! The MAP-Edu meeting started with a presentation on Neighbor

-hood Treasures, an introduction to our new MPD officers, City Manager updates, and Community Services announcements. In the next portion of the meeting, Pasadena Humane joined us in discussing miscellaneous dog concerns and dog waste clean-up, wildlife encounters with Cayotes, and veterinary resources. For more community updates and trending topics, keep an eye out for our next MAPedu meeting in June!









#### ZONE COORDINATORS PROGRAM KICK-OFF MEETING

Zone Coordinators and Assistant
Coordinators are chosen by MAP staff
through a list of interested MAP Leaders.
Coordinators are chosen based on
interest, as well as capability, availability,
and accessibility.

All MAP Leaders that have gone through the MAP Leadership Academies are qualified to serve as Zone Coordinators and/or Assistant Coordinators, but those who show a greater interest in the positions have been contacted to serve our four (4) different zones of the City: North West, South West, North East, and South East.

Once Zone Coordinators and Assistant
Coordinators are selected, they undergo a
brief training to learn their goals and
expectations for the term. The overall goal
of the Zone Coordinators and Assistant
Coordinators is to communicate

the zone's specific needs to their respective blocks in order to better facilitate resources, meetings, and events. Not only will this benefit the Zones, but it will also help City staff reach a larger audience that may not have access to devices and/or have the capability to visit City facilities to retrieve information, resources, and invitations to free events.

The expectations of Zone Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators is to host a minimum of four (4) events for their zone, whether it's an informal neighborhood meeting or a block party, and to keep their Zone engaged via social media (Facebook groups) and email groups.

If you are interested in becoming a Zone Coordinator or Assistant Coordinator in 2024, please submit your interest by <u>filling</u> out the form on our website here.





# MAP Upcoming Events

THE MONROVIA AREA PARTNERSHIP TEAM IS ALWAYS BUSY LOOKING FOR NEW WAYS TO MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT ON THE COMMUNITY. TAKE A SNEAK PEAK AT WHAT EXCITING EVENTS WE HAVE COMING UP DOWN BELOW!

# 13TH ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD CONFERENCE

Don't miss out on our biggest event of the year - the 13th Annual Neighborhood Conference! This event brings out 300+ individuals each year. Are you looking for the perfect opportunity to network with City officials, learn about trending topics at our workshops, receive free health screenings, get information on local businesses and local government, and/or indulge in free breakfast and lunch? This event is for you! Workshop capacity is limited and first come, first serve, so be sure to register as soon as possible. Full workshop details can be found on our



website here.



### 17TH ANNIVERSARY BLOCK PARTY

Save the date for our 17th Anniversary Block Party - taking place on Saturday, June 24, 2023 from 5:00pm-8:00pm at Julian Fisher Park. This family-friendly event will include free BBQ, Carnival games, prizes, live music, food trucks, informational booths, and more! Stop by with your family, friends, pets, coworkers, and neighbors for some summer fun in the sun! This event is free and open to the entire community and is a great opportunity to network with City staff and community members. Registration will open in April.

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 NBS DIVISION AND SEE WHAT IS HAPPENING!

#### NEIGHBORHOOD & BUSINESS SERVICES DIVISION

We are a division within the Community Development Department. Our dedicated and well trained staff are responsible for the daily operations of Business Licensing, Code Enforcement, Housing, and the Monrovia Area Partnership (MAP) Program. Our mission is to enhance our community by partnering with residents and businesses alike. Our Division is comprised of 8 full-time employees.

We work in partnership with our residents and business owners to maintain our thriving community and to ensure the quality of life in our neighborhoods and business areas. It is proven that well-maintained properties lead to increased property values, improved neighborhood relations and increased safety. We accomplish this through education, the utilization of various resources, code enforcement and abatement. We are here to serve you!

Business Licensing – <u>license@ci.monrovia.ca.us</u> (626) 932-5582

Neighborhood Services – <u>map@ci.monrovia.ca.us</u> (626) 932-5525

Code Enforcement (7 days a week) – <u>ce@ci.monrovia.ca.us</u> (626) 932-5582

### **BUSINESS LICENSING**

Business Licensing is responsible for issuing new business licenses and renewals. We are here to help new businesses, existing businesses, sidewalk vendors, food trucks, or a home occupations. Business licenses for in-town businesses are valid for 12 months from the month of issuance. We offer business licenses to out-of-town businesses on a 1-month, 3-month, and 1-year basis. Renewal notices are mailed out about 4-6 weeks prior to the expiration date.

### **BUSINESS LICENSING (CONT.)**

Once you have in mind a proposed location and the type of business that you would like to operate, contact the Planning Division -

planning@ci.monrovia.ca.us to inquire about the zoning regulations for your business. The Planning Division will review the proposed use and location to verify zoning compatibility. In certain cases additional review may be required. Any new business signs or temporary signs need to also be approved by the Planning Division. Additionally, if you are planning alterations, modifications or additions to the building (interior or exterior) and/or changing the occupancy type, you may need Building, Fire and Planning Division review/approvals and to obtain applicable permits prior to occupying the building.



### **NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES & MAP**

The **Monrovia Area Partnership** is an award winning community-based program that united residents and City Officials to take positive actions in order to improve the community. The program started in 2006 and has grown to include an Annual Conference, Adult Leadership Academy, Youth Leadership Academy, MAP-edu quarterly meetings, quarterly newsletter, block party, and the Care for Your Neighbor Program. MAP's mission is to increase civic engagement, strengthen relationships and build community.

### **NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES & MAP (CONT.)**

This is accomplished through resident assistance, neighborhood cultivation and community education. MAP is a partnership of staff, residents, businesses and service organizations all working together with the common goal of building a premier community.





### **NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES & MAP (CONT.)**

While the low-income **housing program** is administered by the Baldwin Park Housing Authority, the Neighborhood Services Team does manage CDBG funds and programs for Monrovia residents. We do offer a Residential Rehabilitation grant for those who qualify.



### **Building Better Neighborhoods**

The intent of the City of Monrovia's <u>CDBG Residential Rehabilitation Program</u> is to provide grants to eligible low-mod income 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 single-family residential property and located within the City limits of the City of Monrovia.





### **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

The City of Monrovia has a comprehensive Code Enforcement program, which helps to protect property owner investment, promote the general health and welfare, and enhance the quality of neighborhoods. It is an integral part of the City's commitment to neighborhood improvement. When homes and businesses are properly maintained, it has a positive effect on the overall appearance of our City.

The goal of the Code Enforcement program is to bring to the attention of property owners any existing code violations that could have a negative impact on the property, neighborhood, and the City as a whole. Through voluntary compliance, cooperation, and a spirit of personal responsibility for the wellbeing of our community, the program will succeed in making Monrovia an even better place in which to live, work, and shop.

Code Enforcement has 7-day coverage 7am-6pm for complaints and available at City Hall Monday-Friday from 8am to 5pm (appointments encouraged).

Check out our Code Enforcement Flyer: 2021 - <u>Code Enforcement Flyer</u> (cityofmonrovia.org)

The City of Monrovia became the first government agency in the State of California to be nationally accredited for Code Enforcement by the American Association of Code Enforcement (AACE) and only eighth in the nation. To be accredited requires an extensive and comprehensive review of the City's Code Enforcement operations, policies, procedures, personnel, equipment and software, and overall service to the community.



### **CODE ENFORCEMENT (CONT.)**

### **Common Residential Code Enforcement Concerns**

- Junk/trash/debris in public view
- Abandoned or dismantled vehicles in public view
- Green pools
- Overgrown vegetation
- Unpermitted construction
- Substandard living conditions (i.e. lack of heat, visible mold, lack of utilities)
- Trash containers in public view after day of collection



# Common Commercial Code Enforcement Concerns



- Graffiti
- Business License
- Zoning Violations
- Unpermitted tenant improvements
- Property maintenance
- TOBO Permits
- Trash collection

### **Proactive Activities**

- Reporting illegal dumping (yellow tags)
- Reporting shopping carts
- Reporting graffiti
- Yard sale permits
- Signs on public right of way
- Sidewalk vendor compliance

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT (CONT.)**

### Yellow Tags - Illegal Dumping

As a part of the #CleanMonrovia campaign, the "yellow tags" are informational doors tags that Code Enforcement Officers place on items left curbside. They also attempted to leave one on the front door to advise residents of the proper way to dispose of bulky items. If you would like to get rid of a bulky item (i.e. mattress, dresser, sofa, etc.) please contact Athens Services to schedule a bulky item pickup. Then place the item curbside the night before collection. A special truck will pickup the items on the day of your normal trash service IF you scheduled a pickup for your item(s).





Code Enforcement proactively patrols the City and places these yellow tags on bulky items in public view. If you already scheduled the pickup through Athens and it is scheduled to be removed in 24 hours, please disregard. If you have not scheduled a pickup, please remove the item until you have scheduled the pickup.

### **Sidewalk Vending**

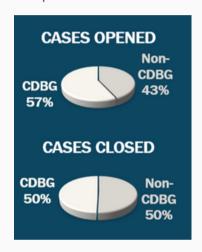
In 2018, Senate Bill 946 decriminalized sidewalk vending and took away local enforcement abilities of cities. Cities were required to allow sidewalk vending with certain requirements. All sidewalk vendors must have a City of Monrovia business license and vendors selling food must have a Los Angeles County Health Permit. Code Enforcement coordinates with County Health to do random sweeps of the City to verify licenses and permits. Food must be prepackaged and not exposed to the elements (i.e. meat or fruit cut in the open air). Stationary vendors are not permitted in residential zones.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT (CONT.)**

### **Code Enforcement Highlights**

Over the last 12 months, Code Enforcement has been focused on closing old code cases and has closed 26% more cases then opened. Additionally, more cases are being opened and closed in the low to moderate income CDBG census tracts. Due to the success of educating residents and working together to resolve code violations, less than 0.5% of cases end up in court.

October 1, 2021	to	October 1, 2022
Total Cases Opened		643 (366 CDBG)
Total Cases Closed		868 (430 CDBG)
Total Inspections		1,728
Bulky Items Reported		7,963
Shopping Carts Reported		1,341
Yard Sale Permits Issued		285
TOBO Permits		20 open / 38 closed
Revenue From Commercial Code Enf.		\$30,505



#### Resources

#### Contacts

Yard Sale & Real Estate Signs	Code Enforcement   626-932-5568	
Loitering, Traffic, & Safety	Police Department   616-256-8000	
Shopping Carts	Cartrac   888-992-4778 or https://www.retailsolutionshq.com/report-carts	
	"Please Type in "City of Monrovia" as the retail name and add the number "1" in the store number section. In the message section, please type all the information regarding the reported cart."	
Bulk Item Pick-up, Trash Service, & Street Sweeping	Athens Services   855-557-1007	
Property Maintenance Concerns	Code Enforcement   626-932-5582	
Overgrown Tree's in Power Lines	SoCal Edison   800-611-1911 or sce.com/safety/power-lines	
Fire Hazards	Monrovia Fire Department   626-256-8181	
Housing	Housing Rights Center   800-477-5977	
Craffiti	Graffiti Hotline   626-932-5575	
Street, Lights, & Sidewalks	Public Works   626-932-5575	
E-Waste & Household Hazardous Waste	Clean LA   888-CleanLA	
Temporary Shelter, Food Distribution, Health Ser, & Volunteering	Foothill Unity Center   626-358-5581	
Unpermitted Construction	Building & Safety Department   626-932-5581	
Animal Control	imal Control Pasadena Humane Society   626-792-7151	

# #CleanMonrovia

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 multi-department 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 <a href="https://www.cityofmonrovia.org/cleanmonrovia">www.cityofmonrovia.org/cleanmonrovia</a>

# Community Activist Policing Tip

#### CATALYTIC CONVERTER THEFTS

There has been increase in Catalytic converter thefts in the recent months. Catalytic converters are increasingly a target for thieves due to:

- The current market value of a catalytic converter's precious metals
- The ease of removing a catalytic converter for an experienced theif
- The inability to track catalytic converters

In the current market, catalytic converters can be resold to recyclers for as little as \$50 or to precious metal dealers for as much as thousands of dollars per ounce.

Newer models vehicles have even more precious metals than older models, thieves have an increasingly attractive opportunity to make quick cash. Experienced thieves can remove a catalytic converter in minutes, especially with modern power tools. Plus, there are no tracking systems on a catalytic converter.

Consider these tips to help protect your car from catalytic converter theft:

- 1. Know if your car is a likely target: hybrids, SUVs and trucks have valuable or easily removable catalytic converters. Etch your license plate number or VIN onto your catalytic converter this may help alert a scrap dealer that it was stolen and make it easier to identify the owner.
- 2. Park in well-lit areas close to public entrances, regularly move your car's spot or use a closed garage.
- 3. Install an anti-theft device
- 4. Install motion-sensitive lights and cameras in your parking area
- 5. Paint your catalytic converter to deter buyers

Understanding when your car might be a target for catalytic converter theft is the first key to preventing it. By following these protective measures, you may help deter thieves from targeting your car.

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

# 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!

### PICNIC WITH THE KIDS, NOT THE BEARS...

Springtime is nearly upon us and our furry friends are coming out of hibernation looking for a quick meal. Our local wildlife is beautiful to watch in their natural habitat whether you are out mountain biking, hiking, camping or picnicking, there's a chance you'll encounter wild animals, such as; deer, bobcats, mountain lions, bears, raccoons, snakes, etc... While attacks are extremely rare, it's best to be prepared.

Did you know that feeding wildlife can bring unwanted wildlife and stray animals into residential communities? Feeding wildlife is **illegal in the State of California**. Here are a few other reasons of why one should not feed the wildlife:

- Human food is not healthy for wild animals.
- Food that is being offered to wildlife could result in them no longer needing to forage, hunt or sustain themselves naturally.
- Wildlife tends to be skittish and fearful of humans. They occasionally venture into cities and suburbs in search of food, new territory, or because they have been displaced (construction, fires, flooding, etc.).
- When wildlife identifies a reliable food source in a residential neighborhood, they become less fearful of people and will return frequently. They have even been known to enter into people's garages/homes or been known to kill domestic animals.

This is a safety concern not only for our residents but also our local wildlife. National, State and local municipalities prohibit the feeding of wildlife. The municipal code for the City of Monrovia is defined by MMC 6.30.010 FEEDING OF WILDLIFE PROHIBITED.

Here are a few resources that helped prepare this article that also include precautions: USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (<a href="aphis.usda.gov">aphis.usda.gov</a>), and California Department of Fish and Game (<a href="wildlife.ca.gov">wildlife.ca.gov</a>), or Pasadena Public Health Website (<a href="cityofpasadena.net/public-health/">cityofpasadena.net/public-health/</a>). Enjoy our beautiful city and outdoors safely.

# Hidden Gems in Monrovia

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

#### MONROVIA IS A FILM-FRIENDLY CITY!

Over the past 25 years, Monrovia has played host and backdrop to some of the most recognizable films, commercials, music videos and photos shoots.

With so many locations to choose from, Monrovia is a great place to find that All-American look the camera loves.

Some popular movies filmed in Monrovia that you may recognize include: Never Been Kissed (1999), Not Another Teen Movie (1999), Legally Blonde (2001), Bird Box (2018), and so many more!





Popular filming locations in Monrovia include Monrovia High School, due to its stunning architecture, as well as Old Town, due to its smalltown atmosphere.

A film permit is required for filming motion pictures, television shows, commercials, video tapes and for shooting commercial photography. Charitable and student films must obtain a permit and reimburse the City for the cost of personnel and equipment, but are exempt from permit fees.

The City of Monrovia processes film permits internally. You can find the requirements for filming in Monrovia listed below and summarized in the downloadable guide.

- The process guide and a full list of filming requirements can be downloaded here.
- Download the Film Permit Application

# Local Small Business Spotlight

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



### KAREN LYNN PHOTOGRAPHY

Hi! I am Karen Drylie, primary photographer at KarenLynnePhotography. I have lived in Monrovia for 14 years, and have had a camera in my hand since I was 12 years old.

I love all aspects of photography. My college education was based on 35mm film photography, and darkroom development. I love to learn, and strive to stay current with ongoing education in my field.

My main goal during portrait sessions is for all to have a good time, and for my clients to walk away thinking "That was fun!". I'm definitely a "people person" and love kiddos, nothing better than capturing those natural smiles.



# Local Small Business Spotlight

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

My specialty is family portraiture, however I can also help you with headshots, senior portraits, events, pets, and special requests.

Something that makes me stand out is that I was invited by the City of Monrovia to help document the Canyon Park regrowth after the Bobcat fire, which was very exciting. I strive to have competitive pricing, and will occasionally offer lower priced specials to be more inclusive, along with donating my services to the various non profit organizations in Monrovia.

I am located in Monrovia, and have multiple favorite shooting locations for you to choose from. There are so many beautiful spots in our lovely small town! I am currently running Valentines mini sessions that will be available until February 14.

I'd love to meet you and hear about how you'd like to preserve your family memories, or any other project you have in mind. I hope to see you soon!



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626-483-0522
Karenlynnephotography on FB and IG









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



### DARRELL BROOKE | 2022 ADULT GRADUATE

I was inspired to become a MAP leader through my participation in the Monrovia Planning Commission. As a Commissioner, I wanted to know all facets of the City where I live and work. In addition, our law firm, The Brooke Law Group, PC, sponsored last year's MAP Annual Neighborhood Conference. We were able to see the impact that MAP has on keeping

Monrovia strong and informed. Now that I am Chair of the Monrovia Planning Commission, I have a much better perspective when dealing with the issues surrounding the continued development of our City.

I encourage all citizens of Monrovia to become MAP leaders!

In 1997, I was living in Sierra Madre, and served that city as a member and Vice-Chair of the Sierra Madre Planning Commission and as an active member of the Sierra Madre Kiwanis Club. At the same time, I was in a relationship with a woman who encouraged me to move from Sierra Madre, given its' reputation as having too much of a small town atmosphere. During our search for a suitable location, I came across my "dream house" right here in Monrovia. Although the relationship soon evaporated, I was determined to move forward with the purchase of my dream house. The purchase was completed in late 1997, and I am still happy to be living in my dream house. The good news is that I get to share it now with my beautiful wife, Arline. We added 2 backyard Tiki bars prior to the pandemic, for the purpose of providing an outdoor social gathering spot. Little did we know that we would be spending much of our time in the backyard Tikis because of the pandemic shutdown in 2020.

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

I was an attorney with a thriving law office in Pasadena in 1997. I never considered setting up my law practice in Monrovia until the opportunity presented itself to purchase the law practice of a well-known Monrovia community leader, right here in the middle of Old Town Monrovia. That opportunity became a reality in 2011. A few years later, in 2015, I consolidated my law practices in Pasadena and Monrovia into one office in Monrovia, and I haven't looked back.

Without question, our backyard Tikis is our favorite place to hangout! We have hosted several Rotary Club functions, City Council campaign kickoff receptions, birthday parties and other events for our community there. In addition, we anticipate hosting a MAP block party or two in the backyard Tikis, and hope to open Wildrose Avenue, immediately adjacent to our property, for MAP related events, as well. Our favorite hangout NOT in our backyard is the VFW. I'm a US Army veteran, and I enjoy the atmosphere, food and support shared there with my fellow veterans.





I am the owner and lead attorney of The Brooke Law Group, PC, an estate planning, probate, family law and litigation law firm in Old Town Monrovia. I have been an attorney since 1985, and I am very proud of the contributions that I have made to my profession.

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

My hobbies include golf, tennis, concerts, plays, travel and entertaining in the backyard Tikis. We're also Dodger season ticket holders (where I'm the "unofficial" Mayor of the Dugout Club), and Rose Bowl season ticket holders. We love our sports!

My family consists of my beautiful wife, Arline, my son and daughter in law, my grandson (who will turn 2 years old in March!!) and my 3 stepchildren. It's extended and it's very happy.

I have recently been appointed as the MAP Zone Coordinator for the Northeast quarter. In addition, I am presently serving as Chair of the Monrovia Planning Commission. I have 2 years left on my term, and I anticipate that I will be renewing my involvement in that prestigious organization. We have too much at stake here in Monrovia. The Planning Commission is celebrating its 100th year this May 2023.

Also, I am Past President and current member of the Monrovia Rotary Club. The Monrovia Rotary Club is celebrating its 100th year. As Centennial Celebration Chair of this Club, I have been bringing the Club's presence to all City-wide functions with the Community Development Department of the City. During my term as President, the Monrovia Rotary Club was the second leading Club in fundraising for Rotary District 5300, a district that goes from Las Vegas to Pasadena.

I serve as pro bono counsel for the Monrovia Historic Preservation Group, providing advice and guidance to this treasured non-profit organization.

The fact that my "dream house" is also an old house gives me reason to be a part of this group.

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

Finally, I am a member of the Advisory Board of the Rose Bowl Legacy Foundation. The Rose Bowl is celebrating its 100th year. Through our efforts, we have raised over \$40 million for the continued improvement and enhancement of "America's Stadium", the proverbial Granddaddy of Them All.

So, if it's turning 100, you'll see me there!

I'm looking forward to bringing this same passion and commitment as the newly appointed MAP Zone Coordinator. Watch out, Northeast Zone!!

I have 2 accomplishments of which I am most equally proud:

 I have been a Certified Specialist in Estate Planning, Trust and Probate Law by the State Bar of California Board of Legal Specialization since 1997. For over 25 years. Going on 30 years.

No other active attorney in Monrovia or the San Gabriel Valley has reached that distinction. I'm proud that I can represent Monrovia in that milestone.

In 2020, right before the beginning of the pandemic, I won the Iris Award
as Monrovia's Citizen of the Year. This was based on the body of my
community work over the past 26 years, which also includes my
leadership of the Levitt Pavilions Los Angeles – Pasadena and the first
ever Rose Bowl Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony, and as the Treasurer of
the Pasadena Playhouse.

Since there was a pause in the Iris Award in 2021, I'd like to think that I was the Iris Award winner for 2 years!

#### FEBRUARY 2023 EDITION

# Get Involved in the Community

### MONROVIA COMMUNITY GARDEN

### **GIANGELO LEOS PHONE** # (626) 476-4367

#### **VOLUNTEER WITH THE COMMUNITY GARDEN!**

Monrovia Community Garden exists to provide a space of community building and education through gardening. We strive to grow, not only flowers, fruits, and vegetables, but in learning about sustainability and what will help us lead our healthiest lives together as neighbors.

We our currently taking applications for two types of volunteers:

- 1. Our core team which dedicate 5-10 hours a month.18 years+ and not enrolled in high school.
- 2. Our seasonal volunteers available for special projects on an as-needed basis. Youth welcome to inquire.

### WHICH ROLE ARE YOU INTERESTED IN?

**Garden Leadership Team.** In this role, you will serve as a core member of the 6-8 person community garden team. This team is dedicated to making sure the public garden is maintained, weeded, and planted. You help coordinate planting schedules and programs. You also may help out our plotholders with troubleshooting garden issues and keeping an eye out for pests. When safe to do so, this team also staffs community events where we interact with the community representing Monrovia Community Garden. This includes Monrovia celebrations and the street fair (street fair is once a month; shared among members). We ask for a two-year commitment volunteering 5-10 hours a month. This role requires an interview.

**Seasonal Volunteer**. This role is not as defined as a Garden Leadership Team member. Occasionally there are work days, small tasks, and events like moving compost and soil that we need more hands for the work. In this role, we will notify you of a project on an as-needed basis. Projects could include but are not limited to: Planting and weeding workdays, moving compost from the community compost bin, distributing soil into raised beds, and other gardening tasks.

<u>If you are interested in volunteering seasonally or applying for the leadership team, click here.</u>

## Lead Free Homes

PHONE # 626-744-6027

EMAIL: LEADFREEHOMES@CITYOFPASADENA.NET

APPLY: WWW.LEADFREEHOMESLA.COM

### **LEAD FREE HOMES**

Starting January 2023 through March 2023, the Pasadena Public Health Department is partnering with the Los Angeles County Development Authority to offer the Lead Free Homes program to the City of and unincorporated Monrovia area. The goal of the program is to eliminate lead paint hazards in homes with families.

There is no safe level for lead exposure for anyone but lead poisoning is most dangerous for pregnant people and children under 6 years of age. All services are FREE, and there is no cost to tenants, landlords, or homeowners. Immigration or citizenship status is not a factor for eligibility. All personal information is kept confidential.

A team of licensed and bonded professionals will conduct lead paint testing and remediation procedures. Removal and repairs of lead paint hazards from inside and outside of your home are usually completed within 2 to 10 days. A final inspection is

conducted after repairs are completed.

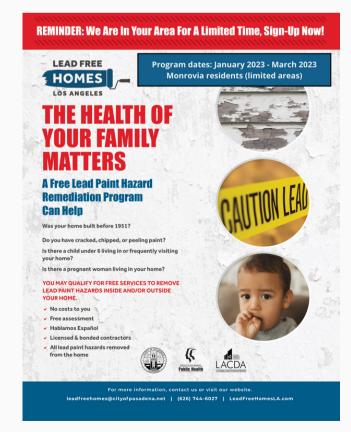
If you answer yes to these questions, you may qualify for the Lead Free Homes program:

- Was your home built before 1951 and has 4 units or fewer?
- Is there a child under 6 living in or frequently visiting your home, OR is there a pregnant person living in your home?

For more information, call (626) 744-6027 or email

<u>leadfreehomes@cityofpasadena.net</u>

To apply, visit our website: LeadFreeHomesLA.com



# Upcoming Events

**RSVP BY CLICKING ON THE FLYER BELOW:** 



# Upcoming Events

**REGISTRATION OPENS ON FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2023** 

Monrovia Area Partnership Presents

17th Anniversary

# Block Party

FREE FOR THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY





June 24, 2023 5pm-8pm

Julian Fisher Park, Monrovia CA



GAMES - FREE BBQ - RAFFLE PRIZES - INFORMATIONAL BOOTHS - AND MORE!

**RSVP for FREE:** 

www.MonroviaAreaPartnership.com/BlockParty