

MH Incorporation Seeks Voter Approval March 5

By Bryan Harrison

Mountain House, CA – Community Services District General Manager, Steven Pinkerton, held a well-attended community workshop at the Town Hall board room here November 14, 2023 on the pending incorporation of the community to become a city. A good number of folks attended via the zoom live stream, as well.

Providing an overview of the history leading up to this monumental step for the master-planned community, Mr. Pinkerton laid a strong foundation of understanding on how the now eight year process of investigating and evaluating the possibility of incorporating has played out, before delving more directly into what being a city will mean to residents.

The San Joaquin Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) voted unanimously in September to approve the application for the unincorporated community of Mountain House to become a city. That vote was followed in October by the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors approving the placement of the issue on the local March 5, 2024 election ballot for registered voters here.

The MHCSD Board gave Mr. Pinkerton direction to hold monthly workshops leading up to the election to help provide adequate and thorough specifications for a more informed electorate. At their November 8, 2023 meeting, board members collectively reiterated the importance of holding numerous sessions leading up to election day. The March ballot will include several related measures.

In addition to the question of incorporation, there will be a simultaneous election of a new city council. As approved by LAFCo, The City of Mountain House will be overseen by four city council members and an elected mayor, replacing the current CSD board structure.

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Diwali Mela Lights-Up Central Park



Hispanic Heritage Fest



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8th Annual Witches' Ride



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SMAP 5k Race



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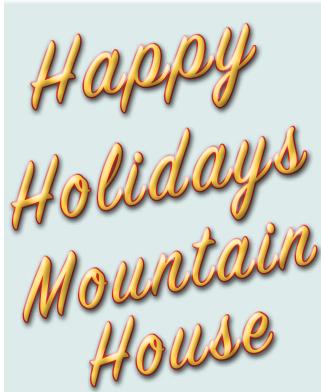


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Celebrating Hispanic Culture in Mountain House

By Ishaan Machiraju

Mountain House's first-ever Hispanic Culture event occurred two weeks ago and drew around fifty attendees to commemorate Latin food, music, dance, and tradition. The festival featured live Hispanic guitarists and vibrant food stalls in the middle of Central Park. This allowed people to listen to traditional Mariachi music while they browsed vendor booths. Several local food stalls brought traditional tastes of tacos, tamales, and fruit ice cream to the event. Later, dance troupes performed traditional Mexican folk dances in colorful dresses and suits in the evening. On the other hand, the children enjoyed the bouncy house and played with Sparkles, the clown!

When I asked Harry Dhillon what this event meant for the MH community, he claimed it resembled a "step forward for diversity". He also strongly emphasized the "outreach" the Hispanic community would gain from this event. "After the Diwali Mela event," Dhillon claimed, "we noticed a lack of Hispanic events and wanted to change that."

Additionally, my close friend Ananya Juturu described the event as "wonderful" and said it "has to happen yearly". Her enthusiasm highlights Mountain House's appreciation and inclusiveness of the Hispanic community.

Organizers Monica Mariotti and Tania Perez-Rivera were super appreciative of everyone coming out to support the event, and confirmed they will plan to do it again next year.



















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CSD Board Honors Diversity at November meeting

Declarations presented for Hispanic Heritage, Sikhs of MH and Filipino group

Mountain House, CA – The Community Services District Board of Directors here demonstrated the vast diversity of this bustling community at their November 8, 2023 meeting. The Board honored three important groups with designations and certificates. Sept 15 - Oct 15 was designated Hispanic Heritage Month, with a proclamation certificate presented to the organizers of the Hispanic Heritage event, Monica Mariotti and Tania Perez-Rivera.

October was named Filipino-American Heritage Month, with a proclamation presented to the MH Fil-Am Community.

Sikhs of Mountain House were similarly recognized, as well. The month of November was declared Sikh Awareness Month.

Congratulations to all!



The MHCSD Board declared the month of October 2023 as Filipino History Month



The MHCSD Board declared Hispanic Heritage Month September 15 - October 15, 2023



The MHCSD Board declared the month of November 2023 to be Sikh Awareness Month

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MH Incorporation

continued from page 1

If approved by a simple majority of voters, Mountain House will then become a city as of July 1, 2024, to start the new fiscal year. At that time, the elected city council and mayor will be installed. In the event the incorporation measure fails to achieve a majority of votes, the city council vote would become moot, and Mountain House would continue as a "Special District" entity within San Joaquin County.

Why incorporate?

Understanding that, from the very early stages, the table was set for Mountain House to one day become its own viable city. County officials made clear from the start that they would only support the creation of this new master-planned community if it was designed to be self-sustaining. In order to assure that outcome, the Special Tax funds property owners here pay into have effectively provided a viable means for the community to operate independent from much county support. Those Special Taxes will continue as part of the new city structure, Pinkerton explained.

The next Community Incorporation Workshop is scheduled to be held Wednesday, December 6, 2023 at 7pm at Town Hall. The Zoom link is: 389 220 3067





Mountain House Matters

Produced by your neighbors right here in Mountain House, CA

Established in late 2012, Mountain House Matters has grown into the go-to community news source. MHMatters is delivered by the USPS Every Door Direct Mail (EDDM) program, sent to every mailbox in town, as well as the area within the sphere of influence for the Lammersville Unified School District in W. Tracy.

Mountain House Matters was recognized in December 2019 with the notable **CSBA Golden Quill Award for Excellence In Journalism**.

Now more than 10 years old, MHMatters' mission is to provide news and information for and about the community of Mountain House, California. Circulation numbers have nearly tripled since inception, including the expansion in September 2021 to include additional copies to the carrier route for our neighbors in the von Sosten area of Lammersville Schoolas part of our local school district (LUSD). As of the October 2023 issue #115, total mailed circulation for each issue now stands at 8,612 copies, reaching approximately 30,000 people.

We look forward to continuing to grow as Mountain House continues to move toward build-out.

Publisher/Managing Editor Bryan Harrison

Design Layout/Advertising Bryan Harrison

Distribution/Advertising Terry Donaldson - 209-835-8383

Community Contributors

Tom Kelly, Salah Salah, Mike Samawi, Sadia Khan, Suchaye Mylavarapu Send article submissions and information for consideration to the Editor: **bryan@mhmatters.net** Article submissions may also be done from our website.

Deadline Schedule for The next issue - #118 - January 2024

Space Reservations: **December 8, 2023**All final copy/content: **December 13, 2023**

2023-'24 MHMatters Publication Deadlines

lssue#	Edition	Space Reservn	Final Dline	Est Delivery
118	Jan '24	Dec 8	Dec 13	Dec 21
119	Feb '24	Jan 12	Jan 18	Jan 25
120	Mar'24	Feb 9	Feb 15	Feb 22
121	Apr'24	Mar 8	Mar 14	Mar 21
122	May'24	Apr 2	Apr 8	Apr 25
123	June'24	May 10	May 15	May 30
124	July '24	June 12	June 18	June 26
125	Aug'24	July 12	July 17	July 31

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"Final Deadline" is for all advertising and final article content. "Estimated Delivery is the anticipated date of the USPS Every Door Direct Mail process.

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New MH Utility Manager, Karen Morgan, on water, life and living

By Sadia Khan, Community Contributor

I had a chance to meet new Mountain House Community Services District Utility Manager, Karen Morgan. Passionate about all things water-related, Karen was hired-on to the CSD a earlier this year and is already making a huge impact in her chosen field. Karen lives in Escalon, with their two stepchildren and three children. "We enjoy everything we can do outside and love to camp, ski, snowboard, kayak, hike, swim, and play sports," says Karen.

Sadia: What is your job title at MHCSD and time at this position?

Karen: I am a Utility Manager since the last 6 months

Sadia: tell me about your past experience in this field.

Karen: I have 20 years of experience in utilities. My career began in drinking water operations where over the course of ten years I operated over 110 drinking water wells, 8 surface water tanks, and several small treatment systems that removed contaminants such as nitrate, arsenic, uranium, and 1,2,3-Trichloropropane and more across nine different drinking water systems. I was promoted to another city and began my experience in wastewater and storm-water. I took over operations of three water systems, a wastewater system, and storm-water system. I promoted to another agency and gained significantly more knowledge in project management, regulatory oversight, and governance.

Over the years I have earned a State Water Resources Control Board Water (SWRCB) Distribution V, Water Treatment IV, Wastewater Operator III, CWEA Wastewater Collections II, CWEA Cross Connection Specialist, an AS in Supervisory Management from Modesto Jr. College, and a BS from Oregon State University in Natural Resources with an emphasis in Water Resource Management. I am currently working towards a Master of Natural Resources at Oregon State University, again with an emphasis in Water Resource Management.

Sadia: What do you think are the most important skills for a utility manager?

Karen: Time management, determination, networking, communication, mechanics, technical writing, science, and math.

Sadia: What are your strengths and weaknesses when it comes to utility management?

Karen: My strengths are in drinking water operations and the associated regulations. That was my primary focus in the early part of my water career. When I moved to another city, a wonderful mentor, Jim

Capps, insisted I become certified in wastewater, and I finally gave in. My weakness in utility management is becoming too passionate about long term projects because they take a considerable amount of time and effort.

Sadia: Tell me about a time when you had to deal with a difficult situation at work?

Karen: There are difficulties in my line of work every day. There are always challenges to overcome, deadlines, new regulations and, even though we plan for failures, they happen unexpectedly. That is what



makes this position exciting.

Sadia: Tell me about a time when you had to go above and beyond your job duties to get the job done?

Karen: SWRCB certification tests (State Water Resources Control Board) are challenging. I have always enjoyed helping people succeed in their careers and meet the high level of certification required for their jobs. This can put significant pressures and stress on an employee. Over the last fifteen years I have taught classes and met one on one after hours to tutor those who are struggling. I have helped a few pass their exams after failing time and time again and facing termination. My favorite was helping a coworker, a father of five, pass three exams and promote up from an Operator I to an Operator III. I feel great satisfaction when I hear that they passed their exams and kept their jobs.

Sadia: Tell me about a time when you had to use your problem-solving skills to solve a difficult issue?

Karen: As with any difficult situation, my job is to problem solve and meet deadlines imposed by fed-

eral or state regulations as well as internal superiors.

Sadia: What do you think are the most important qualities for a successful utility worker?

Karen: Ability to redirect attention to the most critical issue in an environment that is constantly changing. I am an operator at heart, and you must be able to keep calm and focus on what the true critical issue is, or knowing when it is time to wait.

Sadia: What do you think are the biggest challenges that utility workers face?

Karen: Today the biggest challenge is staff shortages. Every home has several utilities including gas, electric, water, sewer, solid waste, and storm-water. Each of these utilities takes highly trained staff with educational backgrounds in administration, engineering, biology, GIS, and chemistry to staff with years of experience trained in heavy equipment operation, water and wastewater operations with SWRCB certification.

Sadia: What motivates you to do your best work?

Karen: I am lucky to be in a field for 20 years and know that I have barely scratched the surface of this vast industry. I enjoy learning new things. I also want my children and family to be proud of me because I do have such a unique job and serve people with the most valuable resource, water.

Sadia: What is your message for the Mountain House youth looking into this field?

Karen: This is an amazing, secure (everyone needs water and wastewater), diverse, and exciting field to be in. Today, California has to be on the front line of changing how we view water, how it is used and distributed, and appreciated. Water is the key to our future, and we need champions to see that through.

Sadia: What is your message for their parents?

Karen: Utilities is not just a job, it is a technical and demanding career that comes with great pay, health insurance, and retirement. It is great for those who like to work outside and be physically challenged. There are positions in laboratories sampling water, wastewater, and soils. Administration is another avenue using management skills. Engineers create our plans and design our projects. There are too many opportunities to count.

Sadia: A quote you live by?

Karen: this quote by Theodore Roosevelt,

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better."

We enjoyed chatting with Karen and look forward to seeing her prosper in this role.

Diwali Mela Lights-Up Central Park

The Mountain House Diwali Mela grand event was held on the big field at Central Community Park Saturday, October 28, 2023. Produced by MH Cultural Events and Royal Kings, the day long event began at 10am and ran well into the evening, officially ending at 9pm. Non-stop entertainment on a professional stage, including a hi-tech video screen backdrop, provided an impressive setting for attendees to enjoy a seemingly endless stream of cultural dance troops, live music and presentations. Vendor booths aplenty lined the outer edges of the park with rows of more set-up on the interior space, offering food, crafts, goods and services.

Harry Dhillon even had a plane flying over town early-on with a tail banner wishes Mountain House a Happy Diwali.

Local and regional dignitaries and community leaders turned out, along with thousands of folks, all for a grand celebration.



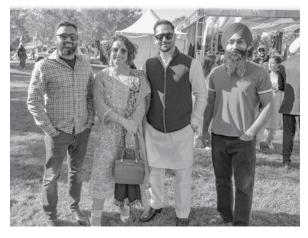


















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Mountain House Matters!

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Know the Key Benefits of Roth IRA

Submitted by Tom Kelly, Edward Jones

As you save for retirement, you'll want to take full advantage of the investment vehicles available to you — and one of the best is a Roth IRA.

But what sets it apart from other accounts?

Three key factors distinguish the Roth IRA:

- Tax-free earnings When you invest in a Roth IRA, your earnings can grow tax free, provided you don't begin taking withdrawals until you're 59½ and you've had your account at least five years. If you don't meet these criteria, withdrawals of earnings will be subject to taxes and a possible 10% penalty.
- No penalties on withdrawals of contributions
- You fund a Roth IRA with after-tax dollars, which means you can withdraw your contributions not the earnings at any time for any reason, without facing taxes or penalties. So, you could use some of your Roth IRA money for non-retirement purposes, such as helping pay for a child's college education.
- No required withdrawals at age 73 With a traditional IRA or a 401(k), you must start taking withdrawals called required minimum distributions, or RMDs once you reach 73. But this rule doesn't apply to a Roth IRA you can keep it intact as long as you like. You may need to tap into it for some of your retirement income, but if you don't use it all, the remainder could benefit your beneficiaries.

A Roth IRA does share one similarity to a traditional IRA: It can be funded with virtually any type of investment, including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit (CDs) and so on. However, unlike a traditional IRA, a Roth IRA does have income limits.

For the 2023 tax year, if your modified adjusted gross income was less than \$138,000 (for a

single filer) or \$218,000 (married filing jointly), you can put in the full amount of \$6,500 and an additional \$1,000 catch-up contribution if you're 50 or older. The amounts you can contribute will gradually decline at higher income levels and are phased out entirely at \$153,000 for single filers and \$228,000 if you're married and file jointly. These income ranges will likely change for the 2024 tax year, so you'll want to consult with your tax advisor for details.

Still, even if you've contributed to a traditional IRA or a 401(k) for many years, you may have a chance to eventually "convert" some, or all, of these funds to a Roth IRA and gain its benefits. It's not hard to do this conversion — it involves minimal paperwork from your traditional IRA or 401(k) provider — but it does come with tax issues. Any money that's converted from a traditional IRA or 401(k) to a Roth IRA will be treated as ordinary taxable income. This can trigger a large tax bill, so, unless you have the money available from other accounts to pay the taxes, the conversion may or may not make sense for you. But you don't have to convert all the funds at once. By spreading the conversion over several years, you could reduce the effect of a large tax hit in any single year. You may want to consult with your tax advisor before converting any funds to a Roth IRA.

If you can find a way to contribute to a Roth IRA, either directly or through a conversion, consider it carefully — you'll find a lot of upsides to this investment account.

This article was prepared by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor, Mr. Tom Kelly. Edward Jones, Member SIPC.

With 30 years experience in the industry, and a Mountain House resident since 2018, Tom Kelly provides personalized investment services for the community at large. He may be reached at: 925-518-9382, or Tom.Kelly@edwardjones.com. More on the web at: www.edwardjones.com/TomKelly

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LUSD Working toward By-Trustee Redistricting

By Bryan Harrison

Growing from a small-town school district as Mountain House began to develop, the Lammersville School District unified more than a decade ago, enabling its growth to be more fully realized within the master-plan vision here.

The District has grown exponentially, always working to keep up with burgeoning demands to accommodate the needs of an ever-increasing and diverse population.

Since the start, the elected board of governing trustees has served all together in an "At-Large" capacity. As governing operations, generally, and school districts in particular, have been moving increasingly to what by many is considered to be a more equitable representative system, in compliance with the California Voting Rights Act, LUSD, too, has been working toward shifting their representation to what is known as a "By-Trustee" model.

At the October 24, 2023 Board of Trustees meeting, the five member board adopted a resolution to begin the process of transitioning from an At-Large model of election to a By-Trustee format.

Their plan is to change over to the new model as soon as with the 2024 Board Election.

With the current At-Large system, LUSD Governing Board trustees may reside anywhere in the District, and are all elected by voters for the entire District.

A new By-Trustee election system will require that each Board member must reside within a designated trustee boundary area, whereby they will each be elected only by the voters in their own respective trustee area.

In order to properly facilitate this substantial change, the board hired the law firm of Lozano Smith, described as "California's Premier Education and Public Agency Law Firm", as well as Cooperative Strategies, a demographer firm whose mission is to help define not only the process, but also to study

District-wide population and demographics in an effort to define representative district boundaries and implement the new model.

Demographics are required to be drawn from the latest Census information, which must subsequently be updated every ten years. The latest Census information, from 2020, however, is now stale, given the growth seen here in the three years since those data were gathered, particularly in the College Park Village/South of Grant Line Rd. This factor poses an added challenge to the process.

The Governing Board has held several Special Board Meetings on a weekly basis through the month of November, each of which has included a public hearing. Further meetings are planned in December. The goal of these gatherings is to not just educate the public on the plan, but also to learn more themselves about how this will work, in real time. Videos of each of these sessions are now linked on the District's site for public review. The videos consist of pretty concise reporting worthy of the minimal viewing time required to help the community more fully understand the change.

The team at Cooperative Strategies has so far developed two potential districting map options, with detailed demographic and population analysis that have now been presented to the Board. Both versions are CVRA compliant and, while they must use the numbers and information from the Census, they have clearly made an effort to take into account the continuing and ongoing growth here.

The Governing Board is planning to hold more meetings on this before acting. They have posted an FAQ on the District site for more detail. The public is invited to upcoming hearings, in person or by live stream, and they stated that there will be opportunities to express thoughts or concerns. Questions may be submitted to a special email set up for this purpose: cvra@lammersvilleusd.net.





Mountain House Matters

People on the Move

MH Residents: Have a new business? New Job? Promotion? Community advancement? Something significant the community should know about?

Mountain House Matters invites you to submit your press release-style announcement for consideration for a People On The Move column inclusion. People On the Move is a community service. No charge for locally-based announcements. Restrictions and editorial considerations apply. Go to People On The Move on our site to complete a simple questionnaire: **MHMatters.net**, or scan the QR code. To submit your own press release, email: **info@mhmatters.net**.



People On the Move

Mountain House Muslim Association Elects Sadia Khan Newest Board Member

The Mountain House Muslim Association is pleased to announce the addition of Ms. Sadia Khan to their Board of Directors. MHMA is a local non-profit focused on serving the Muslim community in Mountain House and surrounding areas

"We believe in Promoting intra and interfaith harmony through regular activities that bring folks together," Sadia stated. "Providing a healthy environment for our youth through sports, education and other entertaining activities, building strong bonds and giving them a strong sense of belonging is all part of our mission," she added.

"Sadia Khan has been a prominent figure in the Mountain House Muslim community and has led many social initiatives in Mountain House," stated MHMA President, Umar Sear.

"Sadia has recently been elected as a member of the MHMA (Mountain House Muslim Association) board, bringing a unique and fresh perspective to the team," he added. As a new member of the MHMA Board of Director, Ms. Khan is excited for this next step.



Sadia Khan, with husband Abbas Zafar and their kids

"I went to school in Canada and worked in Human Resources for 10 years. My interest in helping people made it easy for me to get involved in community service here in Mountain House," she explained.

"I launched a food program via Facebook where we share home cooked meals all over Mountain House when available." Sadia also works with the Tracy-based McHenry House family shelter, providing bi-weekly groceries for residents. "I have made and distributed over 50 boxes of sunshines for the service employees and over 260 gift bags for Muslims kids during a religious celebration in 2020," she said.

"I represent the Muslims of Mountain House, however I'd be honored if I can help the wider community some day!" she stated. "I want people to know I'm here if someone needs a listening ear or a helping hand," she added.

Additionally, Ms. Khan has become a consistent community profile author for Mountain House

Matters, shedding light on positive actions by a wide array of residents in action.

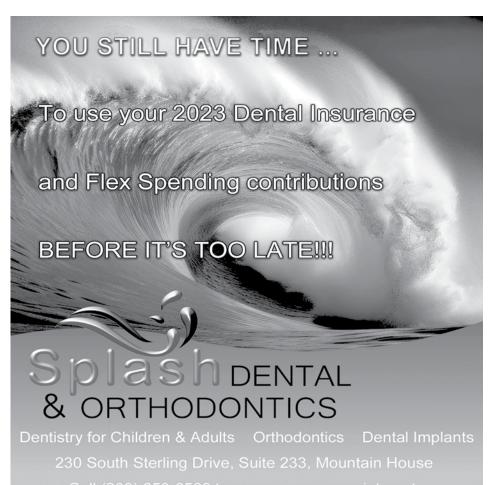
"The fulfilling feeling of giving back and contributing to society is unparalleled. Giving back is also a great way to get to know your community and its residents," she explained. "Being more involved in your community is also a way of making new friends," she added with her infectious smile.

Sadia is also a part time student at the South campus of Delta College here in Mountain House.

"I do a few community projects here and there, and enjoy writing on my blog during my free time."

A resident of Questa Village since 2016, Sadia shares a look at her personal life. "We are a family of five. Hubby is an engineer and I am a go getter mommy of 3 kids. I am also known as MommyofZkids. We have a cat (Riya) who is 2 years old and a beta fish (Lilly) who is also 2 years old.

Newly elected board member of the Mountain House Muslim Association, Sadia Khan, may be reached at; 408-6181416, or Sadiakhan101@hotmail.com.







Community Comes Together for Backpack Drive to Help Kids in Need of Education Supplies

By Raghavendra Giraddi

Mountain House, CA – In a heartwarming show of community spirit, local children and adults came together over two consecutive weekends in August to support an effort to ensure students in need in San Joaquin county have the necessary tools to kick-start

their academic year on a positive note, specifically with backpacks and essential school supplies.

On the first weekend, children from around the town set up a delightful lemonade stand. Donning handmade signs and brimming with enthusiasm, these young entrepreneurs pitched in their efforts to sell freshly

squeezed lemonade to locals and visitors alike.

The spirit continued into the next day with the Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh organized walkathon, which saw community members of all ages join. Elderly residents, parents with strollers, and kids took to the designated path. Their shared goal? Walking together to close the educational gap, one step at a time.

The following weekend witnessed another wave of community support of SJKS (San Joaquin Kannada Sanga). A 5K run was organized, attracting participants of all ages. We also had sponsors and chief guests Harry Dhillon and Matt Disko from the MHCSD Board who supported this event. Avid runners joined in with families and individuals keen on walking the distance, all to meet the shared purpose. SJKS president Nagesh Shivabasappa and Secretary Bistesh Jois, who worked tirelessly for weeks leading up to the event, were there to see the 5K Run was successful.

Thanks to these combined efforts, over 125 backpacks filled with essential school supplies like notebooks, pens, pencils, rulers, and erasers were distributed

among beneficiaries, with each student receiving a comprehensive set of beneficial tools for their education.

Raghu Nandan, a father of one of the lemonade stand participants, shared, "Kids came up with own design

> flyers. They approached adults and explained the purpose. It really is incredible to see the kids take such an initiative. They understand the importance of education for others and wanted to do their part to help. We're so proud."

> Funds raised from these events were channeled into purchasing top-quality

backpacks from reputable retailers. More than just backpacks, they were packed with dreams, aspirations, and the promise of a better academic year. Special thanks to Nagesh Patange for ordering these

backpacks and taking care of logistics.

On the day of the backpack distribution, the joy was palpable. Grateful parents and hopeful students lined up, their faces lighting up as they received the school supplies. For many, this gesture eased the financial strain of back-to-school shopping. Santosh Pilkhane, from the organizers' committee of HSS, made arrangements with the following or-



ganizations for donations from the drive: San Joaquin County Department of Child Support Services – 40 backpacks; Manteca Unified School District – 30 backpacks; and GECAC (Give Every Child A Chance), Manteca – 55 backpacks.

Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh, organizers of the events, extended their heartfelt gratitude to the community. "Without everyone's participation, from the children selling lemonade to the runners and sponsors of the 5K, we wouldn't have seen such a successful

outcome," commented Mahadesha Swamy, one of the primary organizers of the drive.

The combined initiatives of the lemonade, the walkathon, and the 5K run stand as evidence to what a community can achieve when united by a noble cause. As students across San Joaquin County head back to school with their new backpacks full of supplies, they carry not only the tools for learning but also a message of love and support from their community.

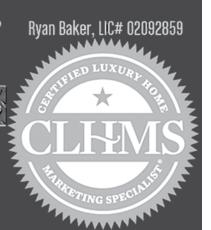






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All-In-One photo

Central Valley Marathi Mandal Lights Up the Night with a Grand Diwali Celebration

A Resplendent Return to Tradition and Togetherness

Submitted by Balu Ilag, CVMM Volunteer

Mountain House, CA – The Central Valley Marathi Mandal (CVMM) brought the vibrant spirit of Diwali to life in the heart of California on November 18, 2023. This grand celebration marked the return of the community's much-anticipated Diwali event, the first since the onset of the Covid 19 pandemic.

Diwali: A Festival of Lights and Unity

Diwali, or Deepavali, is more than just a festival; it's a sentiment that resonates with millions across India and the world. Rooted in Hindu mythology, this festival of lights symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness and knowledge over ignorance.

In Maharashtra, India, the cultural heartland of the Marathi-speaking community, Diwali is celebrated with unique rituals that blend devotion, celebration, and a strong sense of community.

in a house decoration contest, showcasing their interpretation of 'Marathi Asmita' (Marathi pride) through vibrant Diwali decorations and Rangoli art. This competition not only added a colorful flair to the event but also fostered a sense of communal participation and artistic expression.

A Spectacle of Performances

The event was punctuated with an array of performances that captivated the audience. It commenced with the Marathi Shala Prarthana, a pledge by the children of the Marathi School (Shala), emphasizing respect and unity. The performances ranged from enchanting acts

> by the River Islands and Mountain House kids and ladies to engaging skits (Natak), culminating in a grand finale by the CVMM volunteers.

A Moment of Unity Before the dinner, a special



The CVMM Diwali event of 2023 was not just a celebration of a festival; it was a celebration of resilience, culture, and community spirit. As the lights of Diwali shone bright, they illuminated the faces of hundreds, reflecting the joy and pride of a community that, despite challenges, came together to keep their traditions alive and vibrant.

For more details and glimpses of this spectacular event, visit the CVMM Blog site:

https://centralvalleymarathimandal. blogspot.com/2023/10/about-centralvalley-marathi-mandal-cvmm.html.







Attention Mountain House

In 2024, we will elect a new State Senator. Join our outgoing senator, Susan Eggman, in support of Rhodesia Ransom for State Senate District 5.

As a mom, a wife, and an experienced public servant, I know the challenges working families face and I know what it takes to get things done. It has been a pleasure to know and work with so many of you. My work as a council member, planning commissioner, business leader, and District Director for Congressman Josh Harder has prepared me to represent you well. I'm running for Senate to fight for YOU by reducing costs, creating opportunities, and 🏡 strengthening our water infrastructure.

RHODESIA RANSOM FOR STATE SENATE





CONGRESSMAN

Jerry McNerney (Ret.)







ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, MAR. 5 A Paid for by Ransom for Senate 2024 FPPC 80#1458787



A Celebration to Remember The CVMM Diwali event, held at Bethany Elementary School at 4:30 pm on November 18th, was a testament to the resilience and unity of the Marathi community Mountain House. Welcoming guests from diverse locales, from Mountain House, Tracy, San Jose, River Islands, Manteca, and Brentwood, the event was a display of culture, joy, and togetherness.

Fostering Creativity and Community Spirit

In a creative twist, families were invited to participate

moment was carved out for an 'all-in-one' photo, capturing the essence of the community in a single frame. This gesture was more than just a photo opportunity; it was a symbol of unity, a reminder of the strength and spirit of the Marathi community in the Central Valley.







MOUNTAIN HOUSE CSD

MONDAY - FRIDAY: 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. (CLOSED 12:00 P.M. - 1:00 P.M. FOR LUNCH)



MHCSD Meetings December 2023

Farmers' Market
Date: Every Sunday
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall Parking Lot

MARK YOUR CALENDARI

Youth Action Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, December 12, 2023 Time: 7:00 p.m. Location: Town Hall Boardroom

MHCSD Board of Directors Meeting Date: Wednesday, December 13, 2023 Time: 7:00 p.m. Location: Town Hall Boardroom

Parks and Recreation Commission
Date: Wednesday, December 20, 2023
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Location: Town Hall Boardroom

Office Closures:

Internal Staff Meeting
Date: Wednesday December 13, 2023
Time: 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM

Monday, December 25, 2023 (Christmas Day) Monday, January 1, 2024 (New Year's Day)

Tentative Community Meeting

Date: Wednesday, December 6, 2023
We will confirm or update the date on our
website and on social media as more
information becomes available. We invite the
community to attend in person or via Zoom to
learn about Incorporation.



Light Up Main Street

Friday, December 1
Main Street
(between Providence St. & round-a-bout)
5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

With a little magic, you can help Santa Light Up Main Street this holiday season! Visit our retail vendors for that perfect gift; grab a bite to eat at one of the food vendors; enjoy holiday music and entertainment on our Main Street Stage; take your family's holiday photo in front of our Candy Cane Tree in the Town Hall lobby; listen and sing-a-long with carolers.

Holiday Lighting Provided by: Salah Salah (DRE# 0200642) Refined Real Estate www.RefinedRE.com

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 2 MHCSD Town Hall Center Lobby 8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.

Are you on Santa's naughty or nice list? Be a part of an exclusive breakfast with Santa himself. Take your picture with Santa and let him know you've been good alllll year.

Menu:
Pancakes, Sausage, Eggs
Fresh Juice & Coffee, Tea, Hot Cocoa

Seating 1: 8:30 a.m. Tickets \$12 per person
Seating 2: 9:45 a.m. Reserve a table
for 6, \$60

Space is limited. Register today! Deadline to register: November 30th



<u>Light Up Main Street Schedule of Events</u>

Hollday
Entertainment
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.
Music, dance,
entertainment
Line up TBA!

Santa Lights Up
Main Street
6:30 p.m.
With a little magic (and a whole lot of cheer), you can help Santa Light Up Main Street this holiday season!

Tree Lighting
6:45 p.m.

Join in a sing-a-long of
your favorite carols
and watch as Santa and
his elves light up
Mountain House with
the brightest tree in
town.

Vendor Fair & Food Frenzy 5:00 – 8:00 p.m. Partake in a little early holiday shopping along Main Street. Come hungry! Enjoy delicious entrees from a variety of food vendors.



Where Villages Create A Community! 🌈





MoHoHO Hometown Greetings!

December 1 - December 31

Wish your family, friends, and community a Happy Holiday Season! Mountain House Residents can submit their holiday cards to post on our Town Hall's display monitors in the main lobby, central lobby and library breezeway, through the holiday season.

Eligibility: Open to all Mountain House residents, organizations and businesses.

Registration: November 15- December 15

Fee: \$5 per photo

Format: Please supply in landscape, 300dpi, and in JPEG format.

The Mountain House CSD Parks and
Recreation Department reserves the right to
reject any entry deemed not suitable for
consideration (Photos must be family friendly,
appropriate with no vulgarity, dangerous,
destruction of property, illegal activity, drug
use, inappropriate gestures, etc.)
Submission: Send photos to
mhcsdrecreation@sjgov.org
Limited to the first 50.





Letters to Santa

December 1 - 20

Mail your letter to Santa from Mountain House's very own "North Pole Mailbox."

Santa's elves will hand deliver your letter to the Big Man himself just in time for Christmas.

FARMER'S MARKET

Please note:

As the Holiday Season approaches, the Mountain House Farmer's Market will be closed on the following dates:

- Sunday, November 26, 2023
- Sunday, December 24, 2023
- Sunday, December 31, 2023



Holiday BINGO & Cookie Exchange

The Mountain House CSD and Vintage Seniors welcome seniors 55+ the second Monday of the month for "Senior Monday".

Join us Monday, December 11, 10:30am-12:30pm at the Firehouse Community Room for food, fun, and friendship. Bring your lucky charms for BINGO and a dozen of your favorite cookies (and recipe).

FREE; Save your space by <u>registering online</u>. Space is Limited!





Tamil Community Hosts Rousing Deepavali Celebration

Submitted by Raji Nambi

The WindMill Families, a Tamil community, organized a Deepavali event at Cordes Elementary on November 11. This celebration was called Saravedi Deepavali. Deepavali is the Indian festival of light that symbolizes many things. It represents the triumph of light over darkness, good over evil, and knowledge over ignorance.

As a result of the hard work and dedication put in by multiple volunteers, this event was engaging and successful. With more than 150 participants and various performances, this annual Tamil occasion drew a spectacularly large crowd! The Function covered all aspects of a celebration, with numerous booths and a buffet containing assorted food varieties.

With multiple booths, this event supported and promoted local businesses. The diverse range of stalls presented various products and services, making Deepavali shopping quicker and more fun. There were also a lot of sponsors for this Function. All of them were very generous and offered ample prizes for the audience.

The event overall was very entertaining, containing multiple performances. Alongside fashion, dance, and music shows, many games were conducted for audiences of all age groups. Mr. Harry Dhillon was also present and received an honorable mention. Furthermore, the variety of food and snacks offered pleased the audience.

Presented as a social gathering, opportunities to connect with new people and celebrate this Indian festival as a family.





















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1/8/2023 - Kireeti P.

Sold a Single Family home in 2023 in Mountain House, CA

★★★★ Local knowledge ★★★★ Responsiveness ★★★★ Process expertise ★★★★ Negotiation skills

We had a great experience working with Mike and Janine.

Both were very responsive to all our requests and questions. Mike's real estate knowledge and Janine's staging experience were extremely impressive.

The drone photography and video tour were amazing. The whole process from listing to selling our house was seamless and stress-free. Mike knew far more than we ever hoped about the process of selling a home. We won't think twice to choose them again. We highly recommend Mike Samawi and team for your real estate needs. **I

Highly likely to recommend | 5.0 ★

4/10/2020 - Armi C.

Sold a Single Family home in 2020 in Mountain House, CA

★★★★ Local knowledge ★★★★ Responsiveness Negotiation skills

Mike Samawi was referred to us by one of our friends, and after the first meeting, we knew he was the one!

His professionalism and expertise of the housing market weren't the only things that won us over. It was his honesty and compassion that eased our nervousness about being first-time sellers.

His team of stagers and photographers did an amazing job marketing our house. After one weekend of Open House, we received multiple above listing offers and accepted an offer that we couldn't believe. Mike was always right there to answer all our questions during the process and our house closed without a hitch. We highly recommend Mike Samawi for anyone looking for an agent they can trust and rely on. If we ever come back to the area, we will definitely be working with Mike again.



9/6/2022 - Prasad W.

Sold a Single Family home in 2022 in Mountain House, CA

★★★★ Local knowledge ★★★★ Responsiveness ★★★★ Process expertise ★★★★ Negotiation skills

l was researching Realtors in Mountain House back in April when I

decided to sell my investment properties. I had already heard about him through word of mouth as his reputation preceded him. It didn't take long to realize Mike was by far the most experienced. I asked around and read some of his reviews and, I have to say, he really lives up to the hype. From the moment we made contact, man, he was ON IT! Now, the home wasn't sell-ready at the time. It needed cleaning, paint, carpet & landscape. Plus, the tenant had damaged the home quite a bit. Within days of having signed the listing agreement, the painter was already in there masking it off. Within a few short weeks, the house was absolutely turn-key and ready to go.

His stager, Janine, came in and made it look like a model home and his photography crew took beautiful photos & prepared a lovely virtual tour.

Because it took a while to get the home vacated, the market had already turned but Mike knew how to price it, how to market it and how to sell it!

Even after dealing with flaky buyers and some dishonest buyers' agents, it didn't taint his spirit. He remained as enthusiastic as day 1.

I've bought and sold numerous properties over the years and Mike was by the far the best I've worked with. If you're in the market to sell or buy a home in Mountain House, do yourself a favor and call Mike. He and his team will handle EVERYTHING! All I had do was hand him the key & collect my money at closing! Thank you again Mike to you and your team.

www.TeamSamawi.com

Mountain House Real Estate Atters

MH Market Update from October 24 - November 29, 2023

Active Homes Total as of 10/24/23: 12 1 Condo & 11 Single Family Homes -(All Re-Sale)

Pending Homes 9/29/23 - 10/24/23: (All Re-Sale)

9 Closed Homes 9/29/23 - 10/24/23: (All Re-Sale)

Sold Over \$1 Million 9/29/23 - 10/24/23: 3 (Re-sale) The highest sold home in Mountain House

To Date \$2,000,000. The Average price per Sqft sold in this time frame

is \$433.85

The Highest price per Sqft sold in this time frame is

The average number of days on the market before a home receives an offer in this time frame is 14 days.

Total number of Million Dollar homes sold to date:

Current months of Inventory supply available: 1.33 - Just over 1 Month (Sellers' Market)

About The Author



Salah Salah is an award-winning Full-Service Neighborhood Realtor and an invested member of the Mountain House Community.

366

Salah prides himself on his knowledge of local real estate trends, and strives to provide the best service for his clientele.



510-378-6533 Cell/Text salah@refinedre.com

LIC#02022642 www.RefinedRE.com

Current Interest rates improving, Lowest rates we've seen in two months

Happy Holidays, Mountain House Family. I am pleased to bring you the October/ November market update.

As we are nearing the end of the year, we can look back and say it's been a very interesting year in the Real Estate market. Interest rates have hit historic highs while housing inventory has maintained historic lows, confusing sellers and buyers alike.

I do have good news: mortgage interest rates have been improving recently. We are currently witnessing some of the lowest rates in the past two months. It's "speculation" at the moment, but many industry experts are optimistic that the rates will continue to improve going into quarters 1 and 2 of

We are still in a "seller's market". Inventory has decreased from the last update. We currently have 8 homes for sale in Mountain House compared to 12 in the previous market update. We have exactly 1 month of standing inventory compared to 1.33 last month. Since the previous update, we just closed on 5 homes at Refined Real Estate. All of our listings have gone pending in the first week, over the asking price and some well over the asking price. Many buyers are still out there searching for homes, but we have noticed a slight dip in buyer activity. Some homes entering the market with unrealistic expectations are just sitting with little to no movement. As I have said in past articles, that's a seller and realtor issue, NOT a market issue. This market can confuse many buyers, sellers, and agents. Not all homes are flying off the market well over the asking price. Homes still need to show well, be tastefully presented to the market, and be priced realistically to get the attention of serious buyers.



JUST SOLD By Salah Salah: 1477 S. Wilshire Ave, Hansen Village, 4 Bed, 3.5 Bath, 2,809 Sqft, 7,949 Sqft Lot, Sale Price \$1,310,000. SOLD For \$85,600 OVER ASKING! Pending In 5 Days

If you have any questions about this article or our Real Estate market, feel free to contact me anytime. Remember, choosing a Realtor with vast experience listing & selling homes in your local market will put you in the best possible position to navigate these ever-changing Market conditions..

Why Does Inventory Continue To Stay Low?

We are experiencing a rippling effect from the historic low-interest rates during the past few years. Homeowners who purchased or refinanced during that time are less motivated to sell their current or primary home because of the low-interest rates they have. Many of the homes we see hit the market are secondary homes (rentals) or "life events" that are occurring i.e., an unfortunate death, separation/divorce, or work relocation. The interesting part is that when you run the numbers, selling, and buying currently does make sense in many situations. Even though the interest rates are higher than the historic lows.

Home Values

Our Mountain House home values are continuing to fluctuate. The best and most accurate way to get your current home value is to talk with a local agent. Most homeowners are in utter shock at their current home values! In our ever-evolving digital age, most homeowners utilize websites that have algorithms in place to obtain their current home value. Those sites cannot even remotely keep up with this current market and are highly inaccurate in most to all cases. Reaching out to a local and experienced Realtor is going to be the best approach for an accurate home value.



JUST SOLD By Salah Salah: 320 E. Terra Mia Ave -Cordes Village, 5 Bed, 3.5 Bath, 2,436 Sqft 4,477 Sqft Lot, Sale Price \$1,085,000. SOLD OVER ASKING, Pending In 6 Days

What Is a Buyer's Market?

A buyer's market refers to a situation in which changes to the underlying economic conditions that shape "supply and demand." It means that purchasers have an advantage over sellers in price negotiations. A buyers market occurs when there is six (6) or more months of Inventory supply available.

What is a Neutral Market?

A Neutral market is when we have three to six (3-6) months of inventory supply.

What Is a Seller's Market?

A seller's market is a market condition characterized by a shortage of goods available for sale, resulting in pricing power for the seller. A Seller's Market is a term commonly applied to the property market when low supply meets high demand. A sellers market equals less than three (3) months of inventory supply.

What Does Months Of Inventory

Months of inventory takes into account the number of homes for sale on the market with recently sold homes and reflects the number of months it would take to sell all homes currently on the market. You can calculate months of inventory by dividing the total number of homes for sale over the number of homes sold in one month. When months of inventory are low, it's a fast-paced market dominated by buyers and few sellers. When months of inventory are high, there are generally more homes on the market (dominated by sellers) with fewer buyers or sales.



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Selling during the holidays!

I get asked this a lot. Can I sell during the holidays? Every holiday season is of course different. We've seen some Novembers & Decembers that have been nearly just as active and busy as the summer months, but that's not every year. Overall, the winter months are a little slower. Kids are back in school and families are settling in for the holidays but, no matter how settled down things get, there will always be some buyers out there.

Usually, buying tends to pick up after February and if you want the best chances, spring or summer is probably the way to go. But, that doesn't mean you can't or won't sell and get a great price!

Pending Listing 561 Paul St., MH. Currently Pending over asking with multiple offers. Listed By Mike Samawi - Compass

Survey & Permitting

You have to remember what the main advantage of listing during the holidays is, and that is lack of competition! Once we get into the second week of November, most sellers will often wait for the holidays to pass, so you'd be one of the very few homes on the market. Let's discuss the difference...

Let's say, you list in March and there are 10-15 homes on the market, your end result could be the same as listing in November or December with 5 homes on the market.

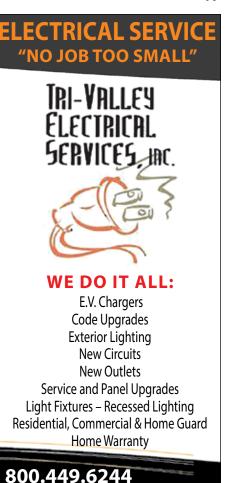
Absence of inventory and the scare that more competing buyers will be out after the holidays is a great motivator for holiday buyers to give you what you want now! Every

> sellers situation is different. Some don't have the luxury of waiting for the holidays to pass and that's ok! I have a few pending listings at the moment and the one that went pending closest to Thanksgiving is in contract for 35k more than the comparable sales pointed to, and we received multiple offers. Like in any market. take the necessary steps to make sure the home is turn key and show ready, price it

and market it right and it very likely to sell!

Now, If I were to be asked what the most ideal time to put your home on the market is, I would still say spring. That's when we have the most active buyers out shopping and most of those buyers also know they will have competition and are prepared to go the extra mile to make sure their offer is accepted. Once we get into mid November, I often advise sellers to wait until after the holidays pass to put your home on the market but for those who can't, fear not! An experienced Realtor can navigate any market! My overall advice is to interview and few local Realtors, get their perspectives and strategies, then run with the plan that works best for you!

About The Author Mike N Samawi is a local Realtor and Mountain House Expert Since 2009 12 Time CVAR Masters Club Award Recipient & Outstanding Life Member. Team Samawi | Compass 209.814.6370 Cell/Text Mike@TeamSamawi.com DRE 01872701 www.compass.com/concierge



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email: mhcampus@deltacollege.edu

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Open Enrollment begins October 30, 2023

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https://www.deltacollege.edu/admissions/admissions-records-registration/registration/schedule-classes

				IN-PERSON AND HYBRID COURSES			
DEPT	CLASS#	DAYS	TIME	COURSE	UNITS	INSTRUCTOR	ROOM
AJ 21 BIOL 1	30536	TTH	8:30am-10:00am	Criminal Justice in Society	3.0	Paul Pedersen	MH 201
BIOL 1	30510 AND		Online on Canvas 3 hrs/wk Online	Molecular and Genomic Biology	4.0	Amir Assadi-Rad	
	AND	W	8:30am-11:20am				MH 405
BIOL 11	30941 AND	3 hrs/wk Online	Online on Canvas	Humans in the Biological World 4.0	Katherine Schick		
	AND	M	6:30pm-9:20pm MH 304				
BIOL 22	30515 AND	3 hrs/wk Online	Online on Canvas	Introduction to Medical Microbiology	4.0	Bethany Acquistapace	
	AND	TTh	8:00am-9:50am				MH 404
BIOL 22	30516 AND	3 hrs/wk Online	Online on Canvas	Introduction to Medical Microbiology	4.0	Bethany Acquistapace	
	AND	TTh	10:00am-11:50pm				MH 404
BIOL 31	30950 AND	3 hrs/wk Online	Online on Canvas	Human Anatomy	4.0	Bethany Acquistapace	
	AND	MW	8:00am-9:50am				MH 304
BIOL 31	30951 AND	3 hrs/wk Online	Online on Canvas	Human Anatomy	4.0	Bethany Acquistapace	
	AND	MW	10:00am-11:50pm				MH 304
BIOL 32	30967 AND	3 hrs/wk Online	Online on Canvas	Human Physiology	5.0	Sherrie Gallipeau	
	AND	TTH	1:30pm-4:20pm				MH 305
BIOL 32	30986 AND	3 hrs/wk Online	Online on Canvas	Human Physiology	5.0	Sherrie Gallipeau	
C	AND	TTH	4:40pm-7:20pm				MH 305
CHEM 1A	30992 AND	MW MW	8:30am-11:20am 11:30am -12:50pm	General Chemistry	5.0	Anthony Chuma	MH 303 MH 101
CHEM 1A	30993	MW	11:30am-12:50pm	Introduction to Chemistry	5.0	Anthony Chuma	MH 303
CHEM 3A	AND 32583	MW	1:30pm-4:20pm	Introduction to Chemistry	4.0	Saphon Hok	MH 101
	AND	TTH	6:00pm-9:50pm	·		•	MH 303
CHEM 3A	31869 AND		Online on Canvas 2 hrs/wk Online	Introduction to Chemistry	4.0	David Roberts	
C	AND	MW	6:00pm-9:50pm				MH 303
CHEM 3A	30995	TTH	8:00am-11:50am	Introduction to Chemistry	4.0	Anthony Chuma	MH 303
CNT 30A	31516	MWF	7pm-9pm	CISCO NETWORKING ACADEMY Introduction to Computer Networks	4.0	Sergio Calderon	MH 401
	AND	MWF	6pm-7pm & 9pm-9:50pm	······································		Sergio Calderon	MH 401
CNT 30B	tion meets 1/12/2024- 31520	-3/10/2024. Refund date 1 MWF	/16/2024 7pm-9pm	Routing and Switching Essentials Computer Networks	4.0	Sergio Calderon	MH 401
	AND	MWF	6pm-7pm & 9pm-9:50pm	······g -······g···[· ·		Sergio Calderon	MH 401
CNT 30C	tion meets 3/18/2024- 31518	5/17/2024. Refund date 3 MWF	5/23/2024 5pm-7pm	Enterprise Networking, Security and Automation	4.0	Sergio Calderon	MH 401
	AND	MWF	7pm-8:50pm	5,		Sergio Calderon	MH 401
CNT 30D	tion meets 1/12/2024- 31522	3/10/2024. Refund date 1 MWF	/16/2024 5pm-6pm	Enterprise Networking	4.0	Sergio Calderon	MH 401
	AND	MWF	6pm-8:50pm			Sergio Calderon	MH 401
CNT 32A	tion meets 3/18/2024- 31729	-5/17/2024. Refund date 3 TTH	4:30pm-6:30pm	Enterprise Networking ENCOR	4.0	Sergio Calderon	MH 401
	AND	TTH	6:30pm-8:20pm			9	
CNT 34	tion meets 1/12/2024- 31555	-5/172024. Refund date 1/ TTH	5:30pm-7:00pm	CCNP Security	4.0	Sergio Calderon	MH 401
			7:00pm-8:20pm	cent security		Sergio caracion	
The above sect	tion meets 1/12/2024- 30077	5/17/2024. Refund date 1	/26/2024 Online on Canvas	Public Speaking	3.0	Nicole Sandoval	
	AND		1.5 hrs/wk online	g			
COM ST 1A	AND 31858	W	10:00am-11:20am Online on Canvas	Public Speaking	3.0	Nicole Sandoval	MH 102
	AND		1.5 hrs/wk online	·y			
COUN 19	AND 31341	W TH	8:30am-9:50am 4:00pm-5:50pm	Introduction to College and Educational Planning	1.0	Vicky Franco	MH 102 MH 102
CS 11	31872	M	6:30pm-9:20pm	Fundamentals of Computer Science	3.0	Michael Caskey	MH 102
ENG 1A	30885 AND		Online on Canvas 1.5 hrs/wk online	Reading and Composition	3.0	Eric MacDonald	
E115 4 4	AND	M	8:30am-9:50am	B 11 15 111	3.0		MH 407
ENG 1A	30903 AND		Online on Canvas 1.5 hrs/wk online	Reading and Composition		Kerry Moquett	MH 201
ENG 40	AND	T	6:30pm-7:50pm		3.0	5 6	
ENG 1B	31933 AND		Online on Canvas 1.5 hrs/wk online	College Composition/Literature	3.0	Eric MacDonald	
	AND	M	10:00am-11:20am				MH 407
ENG 38	31856 AND		Online on Canvas 1.5 hrs/wk online	Mythology	3.0	Danny Dunne	
	AND	Ţ	6:30pm-7:50pm	and the first of			MH 102
H ED HIST 17A	31815 30538 T	T	6:00pm-8:50pm Online on Canvas	Health Education History of the United States	3.0 3.0	Jill Toepfer Kailopi Pappas	MH 101 MH 102
	AND		1.5 hrs/wk online	,			
MATH 1	AND 31875		10:00am-11:20am Online on Canvas	Caculus I	5.0	Van Ma	
•		-	2.5 hrs/wk online				
MATH 2	31876	T T	12:30pm-2:50pm 8:00am-11:50am	Caculus II	4.0	Van Ma	MH 101 MH 101
MATH 37	31878	MW	10:00am-11:20am	College Algegra	3.0	Savita Bhagi	MH 201
PHYSC 10	31880 AND		Online on Canvas 3 hrs/wk online	Introduction to Physics	4.0	Susan Mokhtari	
	AND	T	8:00am-10:50am	Florestee Constitut		Leave I	MH 305
	30179	MW MW	10:00am-12:20pm 6:00pm-8:20pm	Elementary Spanish I Elementary Spanish II	5.0 5.0	Jesus Lopez Jesus Lopez	MH 203 MH 407
SPAN 1 SPAN 2	31860						
SPAN 2 STATS 12	31860 31882	TTH	10:00am-11:50am	Introduction to Probability/Statistics	4.0	Savita Bhagi	MH 201
SPAN 2				Introduction to Probability/Statistics Introduction to Probability/Statistics with Support		Savita Bhagi Savita Bhagi	MH 201

Classes begin January 12, 2024

Open Enrollment begins October 30, 2023





Apply at: deltacollege.edu For application assistance, contact us at (209) 833-7900

MH Community Events

December

LUSD Board Meeting

Check for dates as Board considers change in election method



LUSD Board Chambers 111 S De Anza Blvd.

LammersvilleSchoolDistrict.net

WED December 6

MH Community Incorporation Workshop

The MH Farmers' Market is year round



MH Town Hall Board Chambers 251 E. Main St.

7:00 p.m. MountainHouseCSD.org

THURS December 7 - First Day of Hanukkah

SAT December 9

Jingle All the Way 5k 10k

Register now at: www.raceroster.com/events/2023/78427/jingle-all-the-way-5k-and-10k

Central Community Park

8:00 a.m.

25 E. Main St.

SAT December 9

MH Bar & Grill Toy Drive - Cars & Coffee

Bring new unwrapped toys to donate - live music, Santa, Sparkles The Elf & more



Mountain House Bar & Grill 251 E. Main St.

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Mountain House Bar & Grill on FB

SUN December 10

Mountain House Farmers' Market

The MH Farmers' Market is year round



MH Town Hall Parking Lot 201 E. Main St.

9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. **Facebook: Mountain House Farmers Market**

MON December 11

Rotary Club of MH club meeting

Make someone's Thanksgiving a little brighter. You can help by



MH Library 201 E. Main St.

7:00 p.m. RotaryMH.org

TUES **DECEMBER 12**

Youth Action Committee meeting

MH Town Hall Board Chambers

7:00 p.m.

WED DECEMBER 13

Board of Directors meeting

MH Town Hall Board Chambers

7:00 p.m.

FRI DECEMBER 15

Annual return of Mr and Mrs Claus - FREE

Up close & personal for your kids with the big man in red while taking your own pictures Courtesy of Shelley Puentes, Mortgage Seth, with logistical support from Matt Disko

MH Library-TH-1 room 201 E. Main St.

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

SUN December 17

Mountain House Farmers' Market



MH Town Hall Parking Lot 201 E. Main St.

9 a.m. - 1 p.m. **Facebook: Mountain House Farmers Market**

WED December 20

The MH Farmers' Market is year round

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting

MH Town Hall Board Chambers

7:00 p.m.

SUN December 24

Mountain House Farmers' Market MH Town Hall/Library Parking Lot The MH Farmers' Market is year round

201 E. Main St.

MH Town Hall Parking Lot 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Facebook: Mountain House Farmers Market

MON December 25 - Merry Christmas!

text or email your community event information for consideration: 209-597-8157 • info@mhmatters.net



From your friends at Mountain House Matters!







MATTERS-Services Directory

Find What You Need in and around town right here!

For information on being included in this directory and/or other advertising opportunities, call or text Bryan Harrison, at: 209-597-8157 or visit www.MHMatters.net/rates.html

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Deadline for submissions for the next issue is **December 13, 2023**

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Let us know: text 209-597-8157 or email: bryan@mhmatters.net

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MH resident - **DRE** #00986382

camillerealtor@yahoo.com

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www.MHMatters.net

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New to Mountain House? Maybe been here awhile and are ready to get more involved in the community? Here are some contacts, resources and groups that will hopefully help you plug in and turn on!

LOCAL GOVERNMENT & CIVIC RESOURCES

Lammersville Unified School District: 111 S De Anza Blvd. - (209) 836-7400

MH Community Services District: 251 E. Main Street www.mountainhousecsd.org - 209-831-2300

MH Sheriff Services: Emergency - 911 • Non-Emergency - (209) 468-4400

MH Fire Services: Emergency - 911 • Non-Emergency - (209) 407-2990

MH Master Restrictions Enforcement - (209) 831-5606, or chathorn@sjgov.org or report online: www.mountainhousecsd.org/resident-services/report-a-concern MH Library: www.ssjcpl.org/locations/county/mhouse.html - 250 E Main Street

Mountain House Matters: www.MHMatters.net - 209-597-8157

MH Facebook Groups: facebook.com/groups/MountainHouse

facebook.com/groups/MountainHouseResidents

San Joaquin County Animal Services: (209) 953-6070

COMMUNITY GROUPS & CLUBS

To have your local group added to this list, please email your information to info@mhmatters.net, or call/text 209-597-8157

Kiwanis of Mountain House: search Kiwanis of Mountain House on Facebook

MH Autism Awareness: search Mountain House Autism Awareness on Facebook

MH BNI Power Partners: search BNI Mountain House on Facebook

Mountain House Cricket Club and Youth Club: mhcricketclub@googlegroups.com

MH Coding Academy: https://mhcodingacademy.netlify.app

MH Filipino-American Society: www.facebook.com/groups/MHFILAMS/

MH Flag Football, Inc.: www.mhflagfootball.com (including: MH Tennis, Youth Cheer, Golf Club, & Kite Run)

MH Game Club: Search Mountain House Game Club on Facebook

MH Gardeners Facebook Group: Search Mountain House Gardeners on FB

MH Kindness Club: contact Hari Kattana: hkattana@yahoo.com

MH LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual & Transgender) Group: www.facebook.com/groups/mhlgbt/

MH Little League: www.mountainhouselittleleague.org

MH Matters Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/MountainHouseMatters

MH Mothers Club: www.MHmothersclub.com

MH Motorcycle Riders Club: www.facebook.com/groups/432747620431509

MH Musicians' Network: search: "Mountain House Musicians Network" on Facebook

MH Running Club: www.MHrunners.com

MH Scouting: https://mhscouting.com

MH Soccer/West Coast Soccer Club: http://westcoastsoccerclub.com

MH Sports & Recreation Club: https://www.facebook.com/groups/855075765382333

MH Stallions Tackle Football: www.mhstallions.com

MH Tracy Cricket Club: https://boardmtca.wixsite.com/mtca

MH Muslim Association: https://mhma.info

MH Vintage Seniors' Club: search: "Mountain House Vintage Seniors" on Facebook

MH Virtual Garage Sale:www.facebook.com/groups/MHvirtualgaragesale/

MH Unity Center: https://mhunitycenter.com

Neighborhood Watch: search MH Neighborhood Watch on Facebook

Poorba of Mountain House: https://poorba.org/ Rotary Club of Mountain House: www.RotaryMH.org

Royal Kings Basketball: www.Royalkings.org

San Join Audubon: https://www.sanjoaquinaudubon.org/

Zinnia Way Volleyball Club:

Mountain House FLL Robotics Team Achieves First Place at Qualifiers and Advances to Regionals

Submitted by: Kalyani Rajappa

On Sunday November 12, 2023, community robotics team #48793 Mountain House competed in the Northern California, FLL Challenge, Robotics Qualifying Tournament. The event was hosted by FRC Robotics Team#2073 EagleForce at Pleasant Grove High School in Elk Grove, California.

Team members are students from Elementary Schools here in Mountain House. Under the guidance of coaches Alexander Arrington and Raghavendra Bilamkar, the students built and programmed robots to autonomously complete missions on a 4 foot by 8 foot field.

The theme put forth to them this year was called "Masterpiece" (Integrating Art & Engineering). For their Innovation Solution, the team designed and programmed an application called "Hey Hobby". The application is envisaged to bring together people sharing and pursuing hobbies.

The team spent the last few months preparing for the tournament season! The students went on a tour to the Amazon Fulfillment Facility and got to see the Robots at work there. The team got together and organized games at the Trunk or Treat event at Peter Hansen Elementary School, MH.

On the day of Halloween, they spent a good amount of time interacting with community partner Mr. Matt Disko (Director, MHCSD) at his Halloween Block Party. They got to learn about sound, equipment, engineering and planning behind entertainment. A few more outreach programs are also planned.

At the FLL Challenge, the Tournament Head Judges

Name	Grade	School
Aditi Giraddi	5 th	Cordes
Anay Sahu	6 th	Hansen
Atreya Kulkarni	8 th	Cordes
Chetana Lakshmana Reddy	8 th	Cordes
Eshwar Bhaverisetti	8 th	Bethany
Rutvik Deshpande	6 th	Hansen
Sai Bhavik Bilamkar	4 th	Hansen
Shrujana Lakshmana Reddy	5 th	Cordes
Smriti Shriram	8 th	Hansen
Varun Kumar	7 th	Hansen

shared praise for the team's performance during the entire event, which includes oral presentations of their Robot Engineering and Innovation Solution. Attendees and various team coaches visited the team pit display and took great interest in the team's exciting engineering, taking pictures and notes to help their own teams in the future.

After eight hours of competition, team Mountain

House received the **1st Place Champions** Award and will advance to compete at the **NorCal Regional Championship Tournament** expected in **January**, **2024**. The team is currently hard at work getting ready for Regionals.

About First Lego League: www.norcalfilc.org & www.firstinspires.org
About MH Robotics - www.facebook.com/groups/mhrobotics.
Sponsorship info for the Regionals - Contact krezerj@krezerj.com





Witches Ride Again





The witches of Mountain House came out again for the 8th annual Mountain House Witches' Ride October 28, 2023. Starting at Town Hall, the coven of bicycle-riding spell-makers rode past schools, cackling and throwing candy, through Questa, Altamont, Bethany, Hansen, Cordes, and Wicklund village, to the delight of kiddos and furry babies out for treats! The ride culminated with a photo-shoot in front of the gazebo at Wicklund Park.



Spooktacular Fun at Farmers' Market





Spooktacular fun was had by all at the October 28, 2023 MH Farmers' Market, including bubbles balloons and a touch of magic with Sparkles the clown



The Buds brought their brand of "Day of the Dead" tuneage to the October 28, 2023 MH Farmers' Market's 3rd annual Spooktacular

SMAP Youth Club Hosts 5k Community Race

By Bryan Harrison

Mountain House, CA – The MHHS SMAP Youth Club ran what was billed as their second ever 5K race in Mountain House Saturday, November 4, 2023. SMAP stands for: "Strategic, Mindful, Athletic, & Passionate". Folks from all over Mountain House, Tracy, and areas beyond descended on the Las Brisas Park along the Mountain House Creek at Great Valley Parkway for a 10 a.m. start.

The SMAP goal of helping people "become their best selves by hosting events to build these skills" was on display throughout the event, from organizers to participants, families and friends.

Coming in first place overall in a field of 327 participants was 50+ runner Eugene Buczynski. "I have run much longer races, but I tend to like a 5k best," Eugene said immediately after crossing the balloon lined makeshift finish line.

From the 9 & under category, in first place was Samarth B. 10-18 first place Boys was Sehei and Girls was Malina R. All three top winners will be treated to a 45 minute prop. plane ride over Mountain House, Tracy, Byron and the surrounding area, courtesy of Mr. Harry Dhillon.

Over 18 first place winners were Ravi Chandra for the men and Linh Ky. 50+ level was the aforementioned Eugene B., and the Pet category winner was Teddy.

The event was open for all to participate, regardless of age or physical ability. There were runners from youth to senior levels. Others walked the 3-plus miles on a course that covered the perimeter of Bethany Village here. At least one dog participated, as well.

The SMAP volunteers provided free gifts for participants, with participation of the local Kiwanis club. 1st place winners in the youth categories were not only presented with a medal, but assured a flight in a small aircraft over and around Mountain House and the surrounding area with Mr. Harry Dhillon, who reportedly largely underwrote expenses for the day's race event.

Age group categories included: all kids 0-9; Girls 10-18; Women 18+; Boys 10-18; Men 18+; and all 50+. Approximately 40 volunteers helped make the event happen, led by SMAP President, Arpit Uppal, shown near right.

photo gallery at: www.mhmatters.net











January 15, 2024 • 2-6pm

Mountain House Unity Center

www.MountainHouseUnited.org





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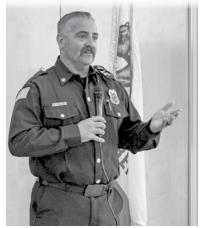


209-607-5553

Third Annual Veteran's Day Town Hall Luncheon Honors Those Who Serve

The third annual Mountain House Veterans' Day Honorary Luncheon was held at Town Hall Saturday, November 11, 2023. Hosted by Mr. Harry Dhillon, the guests of honor included active military and veterans, all of whom have given of themselves to serve this country. Harry introduced each speaker following a generous spread of a multitude of local food options. Each spoke very briefly. More discussion ensued individually and in small groups. County Supervisor, Robert Rickman was in attendance, and Assembly member, Carlos Villapudua had a rep, Jessica McCann, present on his behalf. Teen Sehar Grewal gave an inspiring speech, as well. This event is growing into a more and more inspiring tribute to our Veterans each year.





















PROTECT, PROTECT

Protect Yourself. Protect your loved ones. Protect your friends and your neighbors.

Submitted by Clara C Voss -Tracy Seniors Association



As the autumn breeze sweeps through Tracy and Mountain House, it's time for senior citizens to take charge of their health and protect themselves from common respiratory infections.

With flu season in full swing and the looming threat of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), it is critically important for seniors to be proactive and fortify their immune defenses with annual vaccinations. In addition, ensuring that you've received your latest COVID vaccine dose promises comprehensive protection against the ongoing threat. Yes, Covid 19 is still here.

Safeguarding your health has never been easier now that it is so convenient to get protected. Vaccines are readily available at most pharmacies with or without an appointment. Influenza, RSV and Covid 19 are all contagious and can be especially harmful for seniors and those with compromised immune systems. The annual flu shot continues to be one of the most

effective ways for seniors to prevent influenza

and its potential complications. Influenza can be Just stop in at your neighborhood pharmacy to get also contribute to the overall community health, concerns you may have. minimizing the spread of the virus to more vulnerable individuals.

Equally important is the RSV vaccine, which specifically targets the Respiratory Syncytial Virus. Highly contagious, RSV can cause severe respiratory infections, especially in older adults. By getting to RSV and its potential health complications.

Lastly, completing your COVID vaccine regimen is crucial. California has made significant progress in vaccinating the population against COVID-19, thus it is imperative that all seniors receive their final dose. This will ensure maximum protection against the virus and safeguard against any potential variants that may arise.

particularly dangerous for seniors, as it can lead the protection you need. It is always wise to conto severe illness and hospitalization. By receiving sult with your healthcare provider before getting your flu shot, you not only protect yourself but you any vaccine to address any specific questions or

By taking the proactive step of getting your annual flu shot, RSV vaccine, and completing your COVID vaccine series, you are not only protecting yourself but also contributing to the wider fight against infectious diseases. Safeguard your health, enjoy the season, and have peace of mind knowing that you've vaccinated, you can reduce the risk of falling victim taken the necessary steps to get and stay protected. Stay healthy, keep informed, and get vaccinated! Encourage your family and friends to take these precautions.

> Learn more about the Tracy Seniors Association at: www.TracySeniorsAssn.com

image by brgfx on freepix



MHHS Girls Varsity Tennis Fall in Finals

The #3 seed MH High School Lady Mustangs varsity tennis team traveled to Stockton November 10 to play in the CIF Sac Joaquin Section Division 2 championship match against #1 seed Woodcreek, at the University of Pacific Tennis Center. While the Lady Mustangs tennis team won the Division 4 title 2 years ago, this is the furthest any girls' team in Mountain House has ever been in Division 2 (girls tennis lost in Division 2 semifinals last year). In a hard fought match, the Lady Mustangs were defeated this time, 8-1.

"Losing is always disappointing," said Coach Andy Su. "I am extremely proud of this team for what we have accomplished. We worked hard all season but we also had a lot of fun. This team bonded more than any of my previous teams and the future looks bright for Mountain House girls tennis with 17 returning players next year."

Next year, Mountain House will leave division 4 Western Athletic Conference, where they have been for the last 6 years, and move up to division 3 Valley Oak League where they will face some new opponents in Manteca, Sierra, East Union, Oakdale, Central Catholic and Patterson.









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21st MH Halloween Parade Funtimes

The 21st Mountain House Halloween Parade featured some fun and creative costumes in all age brackets. As usual, this was a very fun event for all.























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We have known Drew for 11 years, he helped us buy and sell our home. He is prompt and knowledgeable with the Mountain House's market. His professionalism exceeded our expectations. Our recent transaction was painless and enjoyable. If you're looking for the best real estate guy in Mountain House, Drew is your man. Thank you Drew for all your help.

Drew has gone far and beyond on preparing the sell of our home. Every concern I had he walked me through the process and helped me every step of the way. No doubt Drew is the Realtor to go to when selling your home. Smooth transactions from start to finish. Thanks Drew!

Drew Jacobsen, Broker Go2Realty Pros Inc.

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