



# m

*January 2022*



**Paula Leary** · 408.425.3345  
p.leary@ggsir.com · Lic. #01469235

**Terry Leary** · 408.921.4343  
terry.leary@ggsir.com · Lic. #01854782

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WE WISH  
YOU & YOURS  
A WONDERFUL & ABUNDANT  
NEW YEAR!

It has been our pleasure to represent  
Los Gatos Mountain home seller's & new Mountain residents throughout 2021!

#### LISTED



22960 Old Logging Road, Los Gatos  
\$1,575,000 4bd/3ba 2700sf+ 10 ac+

25266 Terrace Grove, Los Gatos  
Inquire 3bd/2full 2 ha ba. 3558+ 1.04ac+

#### PENDING



25971 Mar Vista Court, Los Gatos  
\$3,150,000 6bd/4.5ba 4780sf+ 3.95ac+

23441 Skyview Terrace, Los Gatos  
\$1,845,000 4bd/3ba 3441sf+ .43ac+

#### SOLD IN 2021

24964 Skyland Ridge Road (Rep. seller & buyer) | 23489 Timmus Lane  
24180 Summit Woods Drive | 22577 Riva Ridge Road | 16400 Soda Springs Road  
22443 Tim Tam Court | 760 Mountain View Road (Rep. buyer)  
23441 Skyview Terrace | 4066 Holly Drive | Casa De Fernandez (Land)

#### COMING SOON IN 2022!

280 Oak Ridge Road, Los Gatos Inquire for price 3bd/2ba 1782sf+ 18.9ac+  
Los Gatos Address to be announced! Inquire for price 4bd/3ba 2832sf+ 4.415ac+

663 Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos  
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# Wishing our neighbors a Happy New Year!

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Email to [mnnnews@comcast.net](mailto:mnnnews@comcast.net)  
Telephone 408-353-1901

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Neil Wiley

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**Art director**  
Kathy McKinney

**Editorial staff**  
Deana Arnold, Ellen Bond, Gina Foster (editor emeritus), Karole Ishida, Jana McBurney-Lin, Kathy McKinney, Suzanne Overstreet, and Neil Wiley

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Third-page, column (10" high by 2 1/2" wide)	412
Third-page, horizontal (3 1/4" high by 7 1/2" wide)	412
Half-page (4 1/2" high by 7 1/2" wide)	495
Two-thirds page (2 columns, 10" high by 5" wide)	616
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Four-color page or 2/3 page	add \$500
Four-color half, third- or quarter-page ad	add \$250
Four-color business card	add \$100
Frequency discounts available.	
Classified and business directory	\$9 per formatted line

**Circulation**  
More than 4000 homes and businesses  
in the Santa Cruz Mountains



## COVER Powerless

PG&E may have  
prevented wildfires, but over 70  
outages on local circuits  
made us powerless.

PG&E has stopped using fast trip  
sensitivity for now, but predicted  
extremes in weather and demand will  
overwhelm the system.

We need a system that  
rarely breaks, but when it does,  
the specific cause is identified  
and fixed without walking or flying  
around a complete circuit.

We need a more resilient  
system with better  
technology, maintenance,  
remote control, problem detection,  
response, and communication.

Decentralizing power sources  
and living off-grid  
may be an answer  
with more efficient solar and  
battery technology.

But using thousands of  
gas and propane generators  
is inefficient, polluting, and expensive.

We need more clean power  
available all the time.

Let's not remain powerless.

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Wishing you and your families a Very

*Happy Holidays!*

Lisa Sgarlato

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408.396.7231

[lisa.sgarlato@compass.com](mailto:lisa.sgarlato@compass.com) | [LisaSgarlato.com](http://LisaSgarlato.com)

DRE 01342694

## 17760 Navajo Trail Los Gatos Mountains

\$1,599,000 | [17760NavajoTrail.com](http://17760NavajoTrail.com)

3 Bed | 2 Bath + Studio | 1650 Sq Ft

Stunning Chemeketa Park home, plus studio, on a .5 acre sunny lot! Beautifully appointed with oversized windows, garden views, vaulted ceilings, hardwood floors, open chef's kitchen, and fantastic primary suite. Separate studio with half-bath for home office and potential ADU. 2-car garage, sheds, chicken coop, gorgeous gardens with fruit trees, lovely sunny yard. Friendly community with playground, close to town and best Los Gatos schools.



## 20795 Locust Drive Los Gatos Mountains

\$1,199,000 | [20795LocustDrive.com](http://20795LocustDrive.com)

3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1656 Sq Ft

Charming Aldercroft Heights home with lovely canyon and mountain views, tiered gardens, and spacious deck. Living room with vaulted ceilings and large picture windows and wood stove. Charming country kitchen with garden window. Laundry room, wired in generator, Comcast internet, garden areas and plenty of parking. Great location near Lexington Reservoir and best Los Gatos schools.

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# RESOURCES

## **Why It Is Failing Mountain Power Darren Eastman**

I'm a community organizer and longtime resident. In October, I met with Senator Dave Cortese and a colleague who volunteers for the Redwood Estates Services Association. We discussed the frequent PG&E power shutoffs.

Through August and September, much of the Santa Cruz Mountains was without power, and Comcast internet remained down after power was restored. In September, mountain residents staged a protest demonstration in front of PG&E's building in San Jose, which was reported in the *Mountain Network News*. A petition started on Change.org quickly gathered over 1000 signatures.

Like PG&E, many elected officials have ignored mountain residents' requests for assistance. Senator Dave Cortese and his staff, however, have been a pleasant exception. Senator Cortese is deeply concerned about mountain residents and the huge economic, medical, and practical impact of PG&E's recent outages.

The senator asked PG&E to investigate why we disproportionately experienced extended outages in the mountains, but not in downtown Los Gatos, or beyond Scotts Valley.

In late July, PG&E introduced a program called Fast Trip to the antiquated mountain power infrastructure supplying 14 neighborhoods. It is designed to quickly and automatically turn off power if an object strikes a line or there is an issue with

the equipment. The shutoff affects an entire circuit, resulting in several hundred or more customers losing power for hours.

Many poles are old GTE telephone poles that should have been replaced decades ago. In addition to failing to maintain an already limited infrastructure serving mountain residents, PG&E installed a single power-interruption device (recloser) along 98 miles of wiring. A trivial issue affecting even one pole stopped power to the entire region.

Senator Cortese has lived in rural areas, and understands the challenges of being ignored by local officials who are more focused on urban areas. Describing the economic, medical, and safety concerns for mountain constituents, he asked PG&E to end Fast Trip immediately, and report on plans to improve and maintain the power infrastructure in the Santa Cruz Mountains. He also expressed his concerns about the economic damage to our region, and how impossible it is to work remotely without power or internet. Forcing residents to run generators every day raises environmental and safety issues and isn't the answer. The impact on emergency services is devastating.

PG&E says they can't bury lines underground in the mountains because of cost. It is true that many roads serve low-density populations and cover challenging terrains. It may be too expensive, but what about adding more reclosers, local line-breakage devices, and composite poles? How about a system that offers more comprehensive inspection and reports dangers at specific locations?

PG&E charges double the national average for power. Why were investments not made or planned? Why were we ignored by PG&E? Why was there little or no assistance from other elected officials representing the Santa Cruz Mountains?

Some mountain residents also expressed concern about PG&E flying helicopters to attempt to find problems during extended outages. One flew so dangerously low in Redwood Estates in September that some residents wrongly speculated on social media that a human rescue was being attempted via rope.



Fortunately, PG&E has dedicated staff working with Senator Cortese to eliminate the frequent power outages affecting mountain residents. The Fast Trip program appears to be stopped for the moment, but we look forward to learning how PG&E will provide a more reliable and safe power supply moving forward.

When we can't plug in, we need to speak up. Let every level of government know that we must have dependable electric power.



Since PG&E turned up the sensitivity on its lines in late July, there have been 69 outages attributed to this action across Santa Cruz County, which includes Los Gatos customers in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The circuits were Camp Evers-2105, Camp Evers-2106, Big Basin-1102, Ben Lomond-0401, Rob Royal-2104, Green Valley-2101, and Paul Sweet-2106.

According to PG&E, the Camp Evers-2105 circuit that delivers electricity to Los Gatos customers at the Summit accounted for 19 outages. In the same period, the other circuit that covers Los Gatos (Los Gatos-1106) had nine outages.

**Extracted from the Press Banner  
November 12, 2021.**





## 600 Nicasio Way Soquel, CA

**3 Bedrooms | 2 Baths  
2,700 SqFt | 5.24 Acre Lot**

This gorgeous estate is situated on 5 private acres with stunning and expansive views. Excellent indoor-outdoor living with multiple decks throughout the property including a large off the living room perfect for entertaining large parties. Soaring cathedral ceilings and generously sized picture windows take advantage of the gorgeous views. A cozy solarium is a quiet retreat that looks onto a waterfall and pond- Enjoy the outdoors year round and cozy up with a cup of tea while watching the marine layer roll in. Well laid out floor plan with great separation of space, the kitchen opens onto a large dining area that looks over a large living room. A second living room is the perfect library or study or even a ground floor bedroom. A detached two-car garage offers room for cars or extra storage space. Close to downtown Soquel, the picturesque beaches of Santa Cruz, and an easy commute to Silicon Valley via old San Jose Soquel Rd!

**\$ 1,595,000**

**600NicasioWaySoquel.com**



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# resources

## **Fire Safe County Roads PG&E Project Completed, More Funding Approved** Larry Lopp

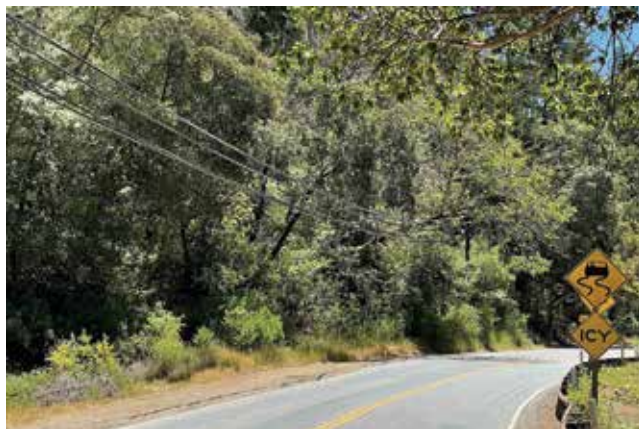
The fuel-reduction program reported on in the July 2021 issue of the *Mountain Network News* has been completed. This work was funded by a \$50,000 grant from PG&E. Crews worked for about a week creating a shaded-fuel break and removing hazardous trees on the north side of Summit Road, between the Summit Store and the Soquel-San Jose Road junction. Thank you to the property owners who signed permission slips that allowed the work to be done.

In late November, we received more good news: a \$585,000 grant was officially approved by Cal Fire. This grant will fund additional shaded-fuel-break/hazardous-tree-removal work along the Summit Road-Highland Way corridor. The project will be managed by the Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District. This work should begin in summer 2022, subject to the California Environmental Quality Act and contract approval. Members of the

Fire Safe County Roads team will contact property owners in early 2022 to obtain permission.

The Summit Road-Highland Way corridor is one of two critical escape routes in a fire or other natural disaster. (The other is Soquel-San Jose Road). This corridor is essential to allow firefighters and other emergency crews access to our neighborhoods.

The Fire Safe County Roads program is a multi-year cooperative project. These community organizations contributed to the project: Santa Cruz Mountain Alliance, Skyland Community Church Outreach, Santa Cruz County agencies, Santa Cruz Resource Conservation District, FireSafe Councils, Cal Fire, Supervisor Manu Koenig, and Senator John Laird with his district office director Angela Chesnut.



**The north side of Summit Road between Summit Store and Soquel-San Jose Road, before (top) and after (bottom) the shaded-fuel-break project.**







# SANCTUARY

REAL ESTATE

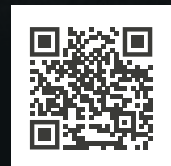
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## RESOURCES



### Teaching Defensible Space Robert Seals

I am a semi-retired wildland-fire specialist, with fifty years of experience.

I run a crew called the Fire Breakers in the Santa Cruz Mountains. We specialize in removing ladder fuels that are inaccessible to be cleared with machinery. Through the many jobs we have done, I have realized how little the average property owner knows about the process of removing ladder fuels, such as what to cut, what to leave, and removing oaks and madrone without causing erosion. (The stumps will sprout as bushes instead of sixty feet of ladder fuel.)

Our redwood forests are mostly second growth that has returned in clusters from the old-growth giants. After the logging was

done, the forests were opened up to invasive chaparrals, oaks, and madrone. Now the second-growth redwoods, as the dominant trees, are taking back their forest, using the water and soil nutrients, and blocking the light to other species. Consequently, the less-dominant trees and brush are dying off, increasing the fuel load. This is the main source of fuel that needs to be removed.

Cal Fire has charts and pamphlets that show how far ladder fuels should be from structures, but there is little information about the process of removal. This lack of information and training suggests the need for a series of defensible-space clearing classes.

I'm offering entry-level classes that will cover what material needs to be removed and why, and how fuel moisture, humidity, wind, and terrain affect basic fire behavior. We will learn how to construct burn piles and mineral lines, and how to safely operate and maintain a chainsaw. We'll also cover how to build your own sprinkler systems.

This training class will be hands-on, in the forest. All class tools will be supplied. We will need at least eight people for a class.

The classes will be on weekends and scheduled as needed when a minimum is met. The cost is \$75 per person. You'll need a hard hat, good boots, and leather gloves. Perhaps you can organize a group in your neighborhood.

I can help you learn more about the

impact of fuel buildup on fire spread, and how to deal with it. If you are interested, call me at 530-521-3486.

### Santa Clara County Redistricting

Los Gatos, San Jose's Almaden Valley, and Lexington Hills areas that were in district one with South County communities such as Gilroy, will become part of district five. San Jose's Evergreen neighborhood will move from district three to district one.

Changes were necessary to better represent approximately the same number of residents in each district.

Districts in the new map deviate in population an average of 4.1 percent, compared to about 2 percent in other maps that the supervisors considered.

Supervisor Wasserman attempted to coax his colleagues into choosing a map they had rejected in previous meetings. He was concerned that it would start the new decade with a larger population deviation rate among districts.

Advocates of the new map were happy that the majority of supervisors adopted it.

# THE REDWOOD ESTATES STORE

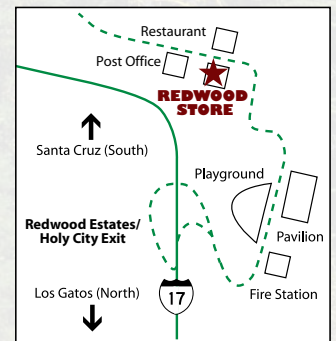
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wonderful winter  
holiday!

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# *Have a Prosperous and Happy New Year!*

## HOMES SOLD IN 2021



670 MOUNTAIN VIEW ROAD  
SANTA CRUZ



24705 SPANISH OAKS ROAD  
LOS GATOS MOUNTAINS



0 CASA DE FERNANDEZ COURT  
SAN JOSE



25260 TERRACE GROVE ROAD  
LOS GATOS MOUNTAINS



21975 STAGE COACH ROAD  
LOS GATOS MOUNTAINS



23584 SUMMIT ROAD  
LOS GATOS MOUNTAINS



MARISA THOMPSON

408.761.0609 • [marisa.thompson@ggsir.com](mailto:marisa.thompson@ggsir.com) • Lic. #01476541

More about me at [MarisaThompson.com](http://MarisaThompson.com)

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## Surfnet

### Working Together to Improve Local Broadband Mark Morgenthaler

Surfnet, *Mountain Network News*, and Silver Mountain Winery are providing a vital new fiber connection for the Santa Cruz Mountains. This means higher internet speeds for Surfnet customers as we upgrade our existing wireless network. Users will learn more as the new system becomes available in each neighborhood.

Surfnet has already developed a network of over 35 access points for wireless internet to communities throughout the Santa Cruz Mountains. Our APs are strategically located to provide the best coverage for these areas, and are interconnected to major data centers. Internet services are better and ten times more affordable in San Jose, so Surfnet collects traffic from our APs and provides wireless transmission to Tier one data centers in San Jose. As customer demand has increased, we've added capacity using multiple dishes located along Highway 35 and on both sides of the Lexington Basin. We've wanted this local fiber option

for years, but access was unavailable or unaffordable.

Three years ago, we worked with the Toeniskoetter family to build a fourth link from one of their fiber-ready buildings in Scotts Valley to the Silver Mountain Winery owned by Gerald O'Brien. This is one of our main wireless AP sites. That link provides the entire network with additional capacity and a redundant AT&T option. The Toeniskoetter's site has been very helpful, but we were reaching maximum capacity.

About two years ago, due to continued pressure from Surfnet and U.C., Santa Cruz, a critical fiber running along Highway 17 was upgraded as part of a regional project that began in 2012. About one year ago, after that fiber was commissioned, we talked to Neil Wiley about the new fiber that went by the *Mountain Network News* offices, and offered a short line-of-site to Gerald's Silver Mountain Winery for an 80 gigahertz line. Three months ago, Surfnet began engineering the new AP site. Our Christmas present was an 80 GHz link between *Mountain Network News* and Silver Mountain Winery that allows us to distribute additional capacity to our existing customers.

Our efforts to attract government assistance to support broadband projects have been frustrated by legal challenges from major carriers and regulatory delays. Collaborating with small businesses and community-minded landowners has made a difference. For 15 years, our local AP owners have helped us improve broadband in the Santa Cruz Mountains. It's been a privilege working with them. We thank them all.

We wish everyone in the mountain community a Happy New Year.

## UCSC Arboretum

### Connecting People with Plants Jennifer Straw

The U.C., Santa Cruz, Arboretum and Botanic Garden is the 135-acre home of the largest collection of Mediterranean plants in North America. By following a self-guided walking map, visitors can experience the color, texture, and smell of plants native to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Chile, and California. Bring your lunch and enjoy a picnic overlooking Monterey Bay. I recommend allowing at least two hours for your visit.

Many of the arboretum plants thrive in our Santa Cruz Mountains climate, and

provide critical food and habitat for native bees, butterflies, and other pollinators. Plants are available to purchase from Norrie's Gift & Garden Shop, either in person or online.

Arboretum events include First Tuesday Community Day (free admission), the Annual Gift and Wreath Sale, and Early Bird Saturdays (for members and volunteers). The gardens are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. Norrie's Gift & Garden Shop is open Wednesday through Sunday (check hours before you visit).

The website, [arboretum.ucsc.edu](http://arboretum.ucsc.edu), is a great resource for maps, plant lists, events, and information about research and conservation at the U.C., Santa Cruz Arboretum. You can also call 831-502-2998 for more information. The Arboretum is located at 1156 High Street in Santa Cruz.



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**First District Supervisor, Santa Cruz County  
Additional Fire-Safe Funding  
Secured  
Manu Koenig**

The Santa Cruz County Office of Response, Recovery and Resilience recently received a \$175,000 fire-safe grant to increase community preparedness in the face of increased wildfire threats. The grant will fund a new position to coordinate and plan neighborhood-level and landscape-scale fire-protection activities throughout the county. This grant will allow us to improve and expand local wildfire resilience, including hazardous fuel reduction. It will share wildfire preparedness information and services with all groups, including underserved communities. The county's award was one of a handful across the state of California. The Resource Conservation District and the Santa Cruz County FireSafe Council collaborated to make it possible. Funding is provided by Cal Fire.

The grants prioritize counties with a high percentage of very high fire-hazard-severity zones, a history of damaging fires, and a higher proportion of low-income residents. Santa Cruz County is home to ten fire-protection agencies and four FireSafe Councils, along with the Resource Conservation District, that helps manage fire-prevention activities in the county.

Additionally, Santa Cruz County is now home to 23 FireWise USA® communities. Congratulations to the Pineridge (Bonny Doon), Happy Valley (Branciforte), and Old Ranch Road (Santa Cruz Mountains) communities who recently achieved FireWise USA® recognition,

**Redistricting 2021 – New Boundary Lines Take Shape.** In late 2021, the board of supervisors voted to adopt new supervisorial boundaries to reflect the latest census count. The first district gained some residents and lost some residents when we finalized the maps for supervisorial redistricting. In Live Oak, 613 residents in the lower East Harbor area switched from the third to the first district. In Scotts Valley, 2,322 East Scotts Valley residents left the first district to join the fifth district, uniting the city of Scotts Valley. I supported reunifying Scotts Valley because my Scotts Valley constituents wanted the change. Putting cities into a single district when practicable is required under California's Fair Maps Act.

While the first district will now have the least number of voters in total population,



we still have the most unincorporated residents. In fact, 34 percent of the county's unincorporated residents live in the first district. I will work to get more resources for the first district, and provide the quality, full-service government you deserve.

**Housing – Tiny Homes Project Moves Forward.** The county's tiny home project took another step forward in December in three community meetings. Planner Daisy Allen presented an informative presentation of the policy decisions that lie ahead as the county looks to incorporate tiny homes, including tiny homes on wheels, as legal dwelling units. Policy decisions ahead will include placement on a parcel, development and design standards, utility hook-ups, ownership, permitting, and more. Community feedback was largely positive. For more information, visit the planning department's tiny home website at <https://www.sccoplaning.com/PlanningHome/SustainabilityPlanning/tinyhomes.aspx>. There, you can watch recordings of the community meetings and take a tiny home survey.

Housing is a top priority for our office. We believe tiny homes have the potential to provide attainable, affordable housing for our community. To get involved in the conversation, email Daisy Allen at [daisy.allen@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:daisy.allen@santacruzcounty.us). The planning commission will hold a study session in early 2022.

**Veteran's Village.** Homelessness is one of the biggest challenges our county faces. Our veteran population is especially vulnerable.

I've spent much of my first year in office looking for opportunities to establish a community-living environment to get people off the

streets, give them a sense of belonging, and help them find meaningful work. Community living has demonstrated success. The Community First! Village in Austin, Texas, is a great example.

Now that vision is one step closer to becoming a reality, thanks to the hard work of the Veterans Memorial Building board of trustees and Keith Collins, former program manager for HomeFirst and senior policy analyst for the Santa Clara County Housing Authority. The team's offer to purchase Jaye's Timberlane Resort, 8705 Highway 9, was accepted on November 10. We thank the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County and Santa Cruz County Bank for putting together the financing. I'm helping the group navigate issues and opportunities with the planning department.

The project has the potential to end veterans' homelessness in our county. It would open with 16 beds and could expand to as many as 40. There is ample space for community gathering, a garden, a workshop, and job training. Most important, this location in the redwoods offers veterans the peace they deserve. Once established, the Veteran's Village will largely be self-sustaining, thanks to federal housing vouchers. Please join me in giving thanks to our veterans and strengthening this glimmer of hope. You can learn more about the project here: <https://www.veteranshall.org/programs/>. If you would like to contribute, you can donate to the project here: [https://cfsc.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create?funit\\_id=3442](https://cfsc.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create?funit_id=3442).

**Get in touch.** Beginning in 2022, we will host monthly in-person meetings at rotating locations throughout the first district. See our website at <http://www.co.santa-cruz.ca.us> (click on district 1 on the map), for upcoming meeting details. Call us any time at 831-454-2200, or email [first.district@santacruzcounty.us](mailto:first.district@santacruzcounty.us).



**Vet's Village**





**Theatre in the Mountains  
A Return to Live Theater  
Kiyoko Whiteside**

Community theater is making a return to the mountain. We left the ghost light on for almost two years as we waited for the opportunity to offer a safe theater experience for actors and audiences. In partnership with the Loma Prieta school district, Theatre in the Mountains plans to offer in-person rehearsals and performances that will comply with all local and school-safety protocols, while providing a robust learning and performance environment for our participants.

Our show for this return season will be open to performers in fourth- through eighth-grades. Auditions will be in late February or early March, and performances will be in early to mid-May. The musical selected is fun and uplifting for audiences of all ages, and allows the artistic team to highlight many performers. Stay tuned to the TIM website and Facebook page where we will reveal the selected show as soon as everything is finalized.

After a two-year pause, it will take a mountain to get our spring production onto the stage. We welcome as many hands as we can get to raise this production up to pre-pandemic levels. If you would like to be involved, stay up-to-date on audition information, or have any questions, email us at [theatreinthemountains@gmail.com](mailto:theatreinthemountains@gmail.com), or visit the website at [www.theatreinthemountains.org](http://www.theatreinthemountains.org).





# calendar

## ON-GOING CLASSES AND MEETINGS

### Mondays

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings at Skyland Church, 8 p.m.

### Tuesdays

Qi-gong classes, 8:45 to 10 a.m. at Skyland Church. Call 831-247-5617.

Pilates mat class, 7 to 8 p.m., via Zoom. Email [altesta@gmail.com](mailto:altesta@gmail.com) or text 650-465-8513.

### Wednesdays

Tai chi for beginners is held from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Los Gatos Recreation Center.



### Thursdays

Loma Prieta Amateur Radio Club meets the first Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Burrell CDF station on Highland Way.

Yoga at the Redwood Estates Pavilion, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. We meet on Zoom and (weather permitting) on the Pavilion lawn. Visit [pamsyogafitness.com](http://pamsyogafitness.com) for details.

Pilates mat class, 7 to 8 p.m., via Zoom. Email [altesta@gmail.com](mailto:altesta@gmail.com) or text 650-465-8513.

Yoga at Skyland Church, 7 p.m.  
\$10 per class

Integral yoga at Lakeside School (held online currently), 6:30 to 8 p.m. Visit [www.lgsrecreation.org](http://www.lgsrecreation.org).

Alcoholics Anonymous, Redwood Estates Pavilion, 7:30 p.m.



Live local bluegrass at the Summit House Beer Garden and Grill, 6 to 8:30 p.m.

### Fridays

Karaoke at the Summit House Beer Garden and Grill on the second and fourth Fridays of the month, starting at 6 p.m.

### Saturdays

Summit Toastmasters 95033, meets on Zoom, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. For more information, visit <https://summittoastmasters95033.toastmastersclubs.org>, or call Laur d'Armien, 408-634-3493.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Thursday, January 13

The Bookmobile visits the mountains:

**Lakeside School**

9:45 to 11:45 a.m.

**Building Blocks Preschool**

12:15 to 12:45 p.m. and 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.

**Redwood Estates Pavillion**

4:15 to 5:15 p.m.

### Thursday, January 27

The Bookmobile visits the mountains:

**Lakeside School**

9:45 to 11:45 a.m.

**Building Blocks Preschool**

12:15 to 12:45 p.m. and 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.

**Redwood Estates Pavillion**

4:15 to 5:15 p.m.



### Saturday, January 30

Los Gatos-Saratoga Observation Nursery School hosts an open house at the Little Red Schoolhouse, 19621 Black Road, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Find out more at [www.lgsons.org](http://www.lgsons.org) or email [info@lgsons.org](mailto:info@lgsons.org).



### Monday, January 31

Dine-out fundraiser for the Lakeside School Community Foundation at Asian Box Street Food, 1875 Bascom Avenue in Campbell, from 3 to 9 p.m. See flyer on page 28.



## Karla's Cleaning Services

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## Obituary

### Dawson Stafford Schultz

Lydia Flasher

Dawson Stafford Schultz passed away on November 12 after an extended illness. He was the longtime partner, spouse, and best friend to Lydia, the love of his life. They enjoyed a deep love and partnership for 39 years. They lived in the Santa Cruz Mountains for the last 21 years.

Dawson was known to many mountain residents as the man in the white Toyota 4Runner who loyally followed his wife, who ran up and down the mountain through Redwood Estates almost every day. Dawson's accompaniment of Lydia was emblematic of his caring, love, and desire to spend every moment he could with her. He loved to accompany her wherever she went. He was an unusually gentle, compassionate, patient, and devoted partner who took care of their humble home in Redwood Estates for many years. He was a nurturer who supported his wife and family at every step, and had a long history of taking care of others.

He was born in the small town of Grapeland, Texas, in 1940, but he was not a typical Texas boy. He was raised steeped in classical music, and accompanied his grandfather physician on house calls. He admired both the strong women in his family (some of whom traveled in horse and buggy to attend college), and the men in his family who were physicians and university football players.

After earning his bachelor's degree at a Texas university, he set out for the larger world and moved to Seattle. There, he received his master's degree at the University of Washington, then moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where he and his wife Lydia met in graduate school. Both received their doctorates at Vanderbilt University. Dawson's Ph.D. was in religion and philosophy, with a specialty in continental philosophy and hermeneutics.

It was in Nashville that he began his work at the Vanderbilt Medical Center as a medical ethicist. From there, the couple moved to Montreal, where Dawson became the first full-time, paid bioethicist at a hospital in Canada, the Montreal Children's Hospital. At this McGill University teaching hospital, he also held a faculty position at the McGill Center for Medicine, Ethics, and Law. His longtime friend and colleague, Dr. Franco Carnevale, described him as a



trailblazer. At Montreal Children's Hospital, he developed an ethics-consultation service, and provided ethics consultations to doctors, nurses, and families. He worked closely with Dr. Balfour Mount, one of the early developers of palliative care in North America, to develop a pediatric palliative-care service at Montreal Children's Hospital. In 1988, he developed and assembled a medical ethics conference with the most well-known bioethicists in Canada and the United States. He also was published in highly regarded journals on a variety of bioethical topics, including neonatal care, dental ethics, medical narrative, and engaged caregiving, the hallmark concept of his academic career. He was committed to the importance of the doctor-patient relationship and the need to understand the patient's unique medical narrative as crucial to ethical medical decision-making and care. He had enormous respect and compassion for each patient and family he saw.

Dawson and Lydia moved back to the United States in the 1990s and eventually ended up in the Bay Area, which became

their permanent home.

Dawson had a long career as a medical ethicist and a university professor teaching philosophy and medical ethics. He taught at various universities, including Colorado State University, Gonzaga University, California State University at Long Beach, University of the Pacific Dental School, and for approximately 15 years at the University of California, Santa Cruz. In recent years, he also served on the medical-ethics committees at Good Samaritan Hospital and the Santa Clara County Medical Association Bioethics Committee. According to his longtime friend and ethics committee chairman, Dr. Stephen Jackson, he will be honored in an upcoming ethics committee meeting.

In addition to his professional pursuits, he loved spending time with friends and family, cuddling with and spoiling his cats Tigger and Yallie, cooking, going to plays and art museums, hiking, and exploring cities, mountains, and coastal areas. Some of his favorite places were Mt. Rainier, Vermont, Maui, and the Monterey/Carmel area. In addition to classical music, he was a huge fan of the French composer Eric Satie and a Native American flutist, Carlos Nakai. He also was fond of classic movies, especially early science-fiction films.

His kindness, patience, and unconditional love was infinite. He touched his family, friends, students, patients, and their families with his compassion and wisdom. He will be missed as a wonderful and loyal friend and family member, a compassionate medical ethicist, and a deeply devoted husband, whose caring and nurturing spirit was extraordinary and boundless.

Dawson is survived by his wife Lydia, his cousins and extended family in Texas (the Liles and the Kennedys), and Lydia's family, including Diana, Nejat, Maxine, Avery, Beth, Judson, and Delia, and many more dear friends.

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### Community Service Award

**Julie Bourque**

**Carolyn Dufort**

The Los Gatos Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution honored Julie Bourque with the Community Service Award at a luncheon held at La Rinconada Country Club on October 13. This prestigious award is presented in recognition of an individual's outstanding contribution to the community.

Carolyn Dufort, retired Loma Prieta Elementary School teacher and member of the Los Gatos Chapter, nominated Julie for the award and participated in the presentation of her certificate and pin.

Julie Bourque is the administrative assistant at C.T. English Middle School. Since 2007, Julie has organized and chaperoned the annual eighth-grade Spring Break trip to Washington, D.C. She is not compensated by the district for the trip. If needed, she uses her vacation days to cover her absence. Julie considers this trip as her special mission to help eighth-graders see the historic places and documents they have studied. The students find it comforting and fun to travel with Julie. She knows them and their families well. They also appreciate her sense of humor.

The 2020 trip was cancelled due to the pandemic. Then the Spring Break 2021

trip was postponed to June 2021. Julie completed her fourteenth trip on her personal time.

In her letter of recommendation, the retired superintendent of the Loma Prieta school district, Corey Kidwell, said this about Julie:

"I know of few individuals who would organize a cross-country trip for a large group of teenagers without

any compensation for her time, energy, and patience. Julie works with students beginning in sixth grade to encourage them to think about the trip. She helps them make Christmas wreaths to sell to raise funds for their travel. She finds scholarship funds for every student who needs financial support. Julie Bourque is trusted by generations of parents, and respected by thousands of young people."



## ◆ Land for Sale! ◆



Over 1/2 acre lot in beloved Las Cumbres – Community Center, seasonal swimming pool, playground, playing field, & bocce court; tennis & basketball courts; community orchard & garden, miles of hiking trails, 1000 acres of common land; parks & picnic areas, and its own fire station! Several reports and letters available. **\$240,000**



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24210 Summit Woods Rd, Los Gatos  
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24123 Mountain Charlie Rd, Los Gatos  
Sold for \$1,650,000



24620 Miller Hill, Los Gatos  
Sold for \$1,500,000



20143 Beatty Ridge Rd, Los Gatos  
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14315 Footpath Trail, Los Gatos  
Sold for \$1,410,000



21860 Bear Creek Way, Los Gatos  
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20974 Pawnee Trl, Los Gatos  
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389 Glenwood Cutoff, Los Gatos  
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163 Redding Road, Campbell  
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310 McAmant Dr, Santa Cruz  
Sold for \$1,625,000



18800 Favre Ridge Rd, Los Gatos  
Sold for \$1,532,500



19075 Skyline Blvd, Los Gatos  
Sold for \$1,516,000



437 Anchorage Ave, Santa Cruz  
Sold for \$1,300,000



24150 Loma Prieta Ave, Los Gatos  
Sold for \$1,200,000



21437 Lee Dr, Los Gatos  
Sold for \$1,100,000



149 Central Ave, Campbell  
Sold for \$1,100,000



294 Burrell Ct, Los Gatos  
Sold for \$899,000



25237 Terrace Grove, Los Gatos  
Sold for \$800,000



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*Venus light at Pfeiffer Beach (top) and a harbor seal in Monterey.  
Photos by Mercury Freedom*



## **A New Sanctuary** **Bruce Sudweeks**

A new National Marine Sanctuary is being proposed. If approved, it will encompass the entire area between the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary and the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. It would be named the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary. It would span 156 miles along the California coast, and cover 7000 square miles. The area is known for sandy beaches, kelp forests, and wetland nurseries that are home to many commercial fish species. Many endangered and threatened species live in the area, including leatherback turtles, southern sea otters, black abalone, and blue whales.

Many nationally recognized shipwrecks are in the area as well. The public can comment on the proposed sanctuary on January 6, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., at a virtual meeting. To register, put this link in your browser: [attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2954174857204428046](https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2954174857204428046).

The photo reflects what the proposed sanctuary can save.



## **BRUSH CLEARING AND GRINDING**

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*Moon photos by Bruce Fournier*



*Carmel Sunset by Jenifer Seal-Cramer*



*The golden hour by Bruce Fournier*



# exploring

**Now Open**

## Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park Neil Wiley

While Big Basin State Park is still closed, Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park is a good alternative. It is a shorter, easier drive less than a mile south of Felton. You can be there in thirty minutes.

Once there, you can choose from a wide range of activities, from a short casual walk to longer, more strenuous explorations. This park has something for everyone.

Bicyclists can ride the paved roads and fire roads. Equestrians can ride their horses on most trails and fire roads. Dog walkers can enjoy Meadow Trail, Graham Hill Trail, and the 3.3-mile Pipeline Road that is closed to vehicles.

Let's start easy. The park's most popular attraction is a loop through 40 acres of giant ancient redwoods up to 300 feet tall, and 1500 years old. The Redwood Grove Loop Trail is accessible to wheelchairs and strollers. Only 8/10 of a mile, the trail is flat, shaded, and wide, with a well-groomed dirt surface. Benches are available along the trail. Restrooms are near the trail entrance and at the halfway point.

Displaying some of the park's oldest and tallest trees, it is the perfect trail to take out-of-state guests, bring your family, or give a reluctant walker a nature experience.

This is a special walk. Although only about five percent of these old-growth trees

have survived, a few of the world's tallest trees still stand proudly. This is a pathway through a zoo-like park of an endangered species. See them while you can.

A large meadow and wooded sites along the San Lorenzo River serve picnickers and large groups. Short trails connect these areas with the parking lot and gift store. You can also walk across the parking area to the Roaring Camp Railroad station where you can board a train for a trip through the redwoods or to Santa Cruz.

I brought my youngest daughter and her fiancé to Henry Cowell in November. They enjoyed seeing the big trees and their first albino redwood, climbing inside the Fremont Tree, visiting the old railroad

station, walking to the bridge over the San Lorenzo River, and buying gifts at the park's nature store.

Stay longer to see more. Thirty miles of trails take you through 4,650 acres of redwoods, grasslands, river/riparian environments, and sandhills.

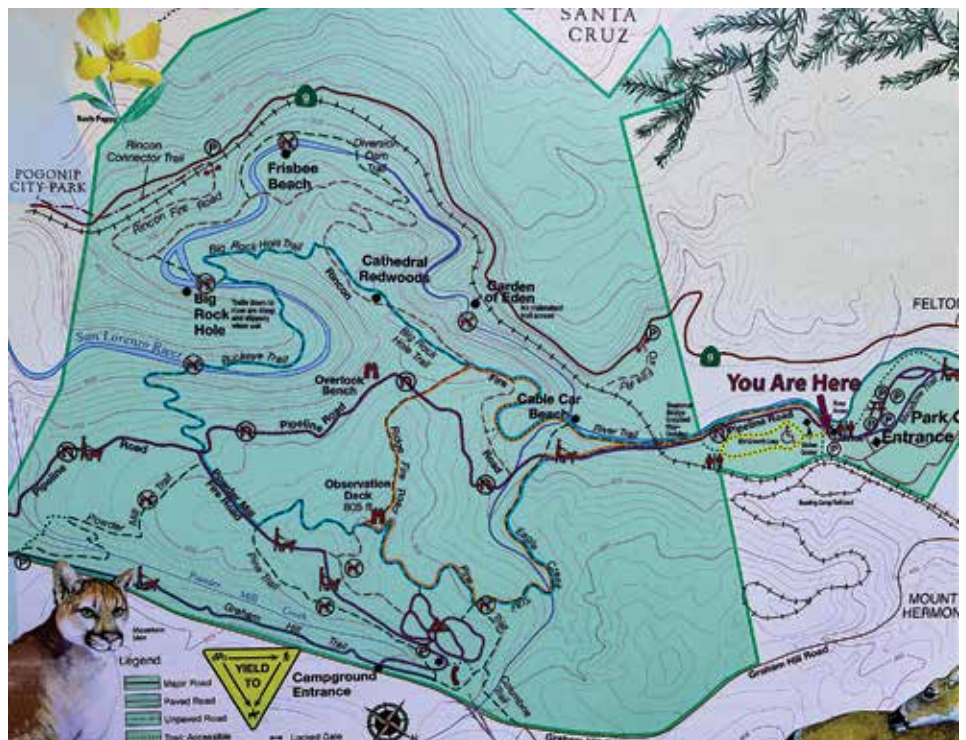
One of my favorite walks is on the shady River Trail along the San Lorenzo River. To the right of the main parking lot, a connector trail takes you to the River Trail. A turn right goes to the sunny Meadow



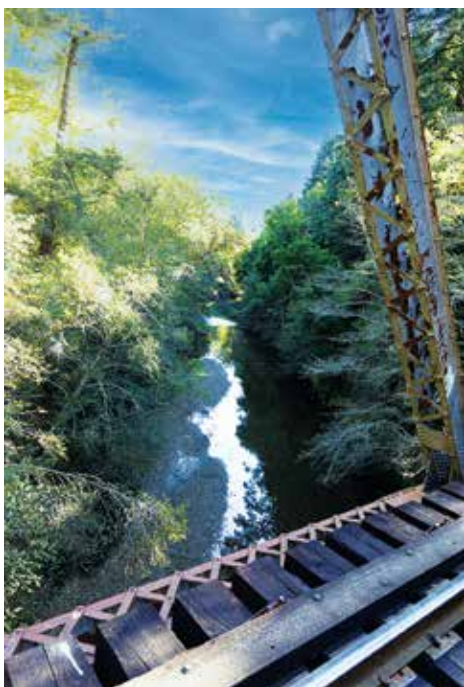
*A rare albino redwood*



*The Fremont Tree*







Trail. A turn to the left brings you under the railroad bridge, along the Rincon Fire Road, and to a climb to the Cathedral Redwoods.

For a longer hike from Cathedral Redwoods, take the Big Rock Hole Trail to the Ridge Fire Road and an observation deck. If you look behind the observation deck, you'll find Pine Trail. A downhill stroll brings you to a campground area and Eagle Creek Trail. Turn left to go down to Pipeline Road. After a short distance on Pipeline Road, watch for a small red hydrant and a trail that links with the Redwood Grove Loop Trail and the parking area. This hike takes about four hours or so, with lots of stops for refreshment, rest, and picture-taking.

**The following trails are closed due to fire damage:** Lost Empire, Pine Flat, Sunlit, Tan Oak, Big Ben, Ridge, S-Cape, and North Fall Creek (between Cape Horn Trail and Big Ben Trail).

Whether you stop for a short visit on

the way to Santa Cruz or stay for a longer hike or ride, Henry Cowell is a park for everyone. Bring \$10 for all-day parking (\$9 for seniors). For more information, visit [parks.ca.gov](http://parks.ca.gov), or call 831-335-4598.

I recommend getting a park map. You can get a map at the entrance gate or at the park store. You won't need a map to find the park. Simply go south on Highway 17, and turn right on Mt. Hermon Road to Highway 9. Make a left on Highway 9 to go south about one mile. Watch for a large park sign on the left.

If you want to stay longer, there are 107 campsites in shady pine and oak forest in the park campground, located at 2591 Graham Hill Road in Scotts Valley. To make reservations, visit [www.reservcalifornia.com](http://www.reservcalifornia.com).

For more information about train rides to Bear Mountain and Santa Cruz, visit [www.roaringcamp.com](http://www.roaringcamp.com), or call 831-335-4484 to check schedules and make reservations.



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# history

From Marlene's Mountain History Archive

## Hazelhurst

Marlene Wiley

"Hazelhurst" was the name Mr. and Mrs. Arthur L. Sears gave the home they built on San Jose-Soquel Road across from Miller Hill Road. The name derives from "...the dense growth of hazel on the land." It is a Queen Anne Victorian cottage built of redwood milled at Laurel. The house had six spacious rooms with 12-foot-high ceilings. The walls were flat painted plaster and the floors were redwood. In 1930, a seventh room was added. It was a pool room built for Arthur, who suffered from stomach cancer. He needed a distraction at night when he couldn't sleep.

Arthur L. Sears was the son of the Reverend Arthur E. Sears. His wife was Laura Josephine Berry, who came to the mountains to be the teacher at Burrell School. She roomed with Reverend and Mrs. Sears.

At the time Laura moved to the mountains, Arthur was a cowpuncher living in Missouri. He ultimately worked his way west and met the schoolteacher. They married in 1888. She continued to teach for another ten years. Their daughter Pearl was born October 30, 1905.

Arthur and Laura purchased adjacent properties on Soquel Road. Arthur purchased his land as early as 1884 from



Laura Sears

the Hihn Company. Eventually, the land became a ranch where Arthur planted orchards of prunes, plums, and cherries. The first structures on the ranch were a barn and water tank. Laura was quite a carpenter. According to her daughter Pearl, she helped Arthur build their home. Pearl once said, "She knew more of what she was doing than he did." Laura's father was a carpenter and she learned everything she knew from him.

The house took several years to build. Finally finished, the family occupied the house on April 17, 1906. The next morning, about 5 a.m., the family felt the shocks of the 1906 San Francisco Earthquake.

Arthur Sears extinguished a lantern. Laura Sears tried to get into a closet. Fortunately, she couldn't open the door because the fireplace bricks had fallen into the closet. Though no one was hurt, the house was

knocked off its foundation. They used horses and pulleys to put it back together.

Hazelhurst has the distinction of surviving the 1906 and 1989 earthquakes, but falling off the foundation each time. Reconstruction was much slower after the 1989 quake, which destroyed the water tower, and so severely damaged the barn that repair was impossible.

Pearl Sears Lake lived downtown for many years. When her parents died in the early 1940s, she moved to the ranch, but lived in a trailer on the property. She commuted daily to her job at Moffett Field. Her son Dick attended Burrell School, where his grandmother had been a teacher. Pearl continued working the ranch with the assistance of hired help. She was a member of the Loma Prieta Club and Skyland Church.





**Watercolor of Hazelhurst by the late local artist Kimm Fudge**

Many of Laura Sears' poems and essays were published in the *Santa Cruz Sentinel* and *The Mountain Realty*.

Her book, *Nuts from Hazelhurst*, was published by her grandson. The book records a way of life long gone. Her writings share animal stories, offer homespun advice, and describe mountain controversies. She was ninety when she died on March 6, 1996. Her son later sold the ranch. It was

purchased by a family who remodeled the house and updated the landscaping. The old Victorian still retains its beauty.



**Pearl Sears**

***Laughing***  
***Our Little Pearl***  
A Poem by  
Laura J. Sears

I am my mama's darling  
And I'm papa's pet.  
You could not help but love me  
I'm the sweetest baby yet.

At least that's what they tell me  
And I guess it must be true.  
I go to bed laughing  
And get up laughing too.

My heart's a spring of laughter  
Of that there is no doubt;  
For when my lips fly open  
The laugh comes bubbling out.

I'm going to grow up laughing,  
And laugh my whole life through—  
When there's anything to laugh at,  
I think that's best, don't you?


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# schoools

## Lexington School Deanna Wilk

Lexington's first Read-a-Thon brought fun and focus to reading at home. Staff members promoted the event by dressing as a mystery-book character of the week and led cozy virtual-book readings and discussions on Wednesday evenings from their homes. *Someone New*, by Jill Twiss, showed us why it's important to be nice to someone new. *Goodnight Captain Mama* and *Captain Mama's Surprise* by Graciela Tiscareno-Sato, who served in the military with fourth-grade teacher Mrs. Hampshire, explained a mom's military uniform and why she serves, and then took children onto a KC-135 refueling tank. *Bubba the Cowboy Prince* was a Cinderella story told Texas-style. Finishing off the Wednesday story time was Principal Jason Deppong. He read *Jungle Dreams* by Graeme Base, in front of a warm fire, and shared his love of travel and drums.

Many new books and series were discovered as students met their grade-level reading goals, from twenty to sixty minutes per night, over five weeks. Students read on their own, had someone else read to them, listened to audiobooks, attended



Wednesday story-time, and read in other languages. Their names were added to a popcorn kernel once they read 500, 1000, and 1500 minutes, creating an ever-expanding popcorn banner on campus. Weekly raffle prizes were awarded and classes that met their reading goal were treated to a popcorn party. Thank you to Lex parent Tin Tin Wisniewski for heading up our first Read-a-Thon and cultivating a love of reading, supported by teachers and parents. As she quotes from Walt Disney, "There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate's loot on Treasure Island." Lex students found plenty of treasures.

The Thanksgiving season was filled with acts of caring for each other, starting off with parents making lunches for staff during parent-teacher conference week in early November. Staff members appreciated delicious fancy sandwiches and homemade chicken flautas during a busy week.

Second-graders saw a need to support families without adequate resources to buy food, and set up a grocery-gift fundraiser for them. While studying *'How the food we eat is determined by environmental, cultural,*



*and economic factors,'* they heard former Lex parent and mountain resident Amy Goldsbury speak about the challenges to put food on the table for some families in the Campbell High School district. Our second-graders immediately saw a connection. Thank you to our second-graders and to those who donated.

At our November assembly, third-graders presented a humorous skit to show why and what recess game rules are needed to play respectfully. This action arose from their understanding of how *'Societal agreements impact the rights, rules, and responsibilities of its citizens.'* Fourth-graders nurtured everyone's appreciation for our veterans by sharing stories that honored their contributions on Veteran's Day.

Our lunchtime has been enriched with activities led by both parents and students. Fifth-grader Nathan set up a Spanish Club activity to engage students to build the tallest Lego tower they could, all in Spanish. Our lunchtime supervisor and Lex parent, Ms. Arantxa, has been setting up games in the courtyard after successfully getting a district grant to purchase a selection of games.

Students found so much to be thankful for. They added those sentiments to our annual Lexington *Thankfulness* tree. We celebrated Thanksgiving with fifth-graders sharing a Native American story of thanks, and students sharing how they say "thank you" and what they are thankful for in their second language. The festivity ended with a slice of pumpkin pie. Happy new year to you from Lexington.

Photos by  
Tin Tin Wisniewski and Jason Deppong





**Building Blocks**  
**2021: That's a Wrap**  
 Alexandra Hughmanick

Building Blocks closed out the year with a host of wonderful activities in and out of the classroom to support our children and community. We hosted a parent holiday meeting for each class in December, where parents enjoyed breakfast together and had the opportunity to socialize outside of drop-off and pick-up. Parents can now come into the school yard at the end of the day to foster the interaction we missed over the past year. Teacher Cheryl also organized a Mountain Kids Clothing Exchange for the broader community. It was a great success.

When Building Blocks reopened last spring after a long closure due to COVID-19, all activities were outdoors. After a recent survey of families, the teachers and steering committee offered some indoor activities. Everyone is enjoying safely mixing in indoor play, but you'll still find students outside for most of the school day.

Inside the classroom, teacher Sally's class of four- and five-year-olds began star projects, a fun way to entice children to engage in activities they wouldn't normally do, such as writing, drawing,



counting, and cutting. Teacher Nicole's class of two- and three-year-olds began working on letter recognition, starting with the children's first initial. They also continue to work on pandemic speech and socialization delays with consultation from the speech pathologist at Loma Prieta Elementary School. Luckily, one of the best interventions for speech development is to immerse a child in a language-rich environment, such as Building Blocks Preschool.

We want to recognize and thank our 2022 community business sponsors who support early childhood education on the mountain: ANML, Cole & Riese Real Estate Group, Hills Construction, Inc., Infantino Dental, Louise Kobin Physical Therapy, Health and Fitness, Shred Dog, and Valley Sports Camp. Their generous contributions help fund operational costs, supplies, and scholarships for families in need.

Enjoy a happy and healthy New Year.





## Wreath-Making Workshop

Amanda Demers

Los Gatos-Saratoga Observation Nursery School (Mountain School) and the Lakeside School Community Foundation hosted the third-annual wreath-making workshop in December. A lively gathering of families, teachers, and neighbors came together at the Lakeside Community Center for two full days of seasonal fun. Everyone was excited to jump in and get creative. It was a true family affair, with children as young as three years helping clip sprigs of fir, passing out materials, and collecting pinecones and ribbons to decorate the finished wreaths.

The community missed this event in 2020 and welcomed its return this year.

Over two days, we collectively made 98 wreaths. Participants chose which school they wanted to direct their contribution, and with corporate matches, this event brought in \$2340 for LSCF and \$5304 for Mountain School, before expenses.

We thank the Fishback Family for the wreath materials from the Raccoon Gulch Christmas Tree Farm, and for their expert wreath-making instructions. This event would not have been such a success without the volunteer parents from Mountain School and Lakeside School Community Foundation; thank you!

*Photos by Juliet Morita*



## Lakeside School Community Foundation

### Lakeside School News

Holly Stewart

We have reached about forty percent of our fundraising goal of \$136,100 for the year. This is the required amount of funds needed for our programs. We still need your support. Please consider making your critical donation or an end-of-year donation to ensure we can continue supporting P.E., art, science, counseling, software programs, our garden program, and more.

If you would like to donate stocks with unrealized capital gains, LSCF is now able to receive gifts of stock. If you are 70.5 years or older and looking for a tax-free way to use the required minimum distribution from your retirement account, LSCF is a qualified charitable tax-free entity. Ask your financial advisor for more information on the tax benefits of donating in these ways. Email [foundation@lakesidelosgatos.org](mailto:foundation@lakesidelosgatos.org) to voice your interest.

Our January dine-out event will be at Asian Box, in the Pruneyard Shopping Center in Campbell, on **Monday, January 31**. Present our flyer to your server and twenty percent of all food and beverage will be donated to LSCF to support our programs. Download the flyer at [www.LakesideSCF.org/dine-out-flyers](http://www.LakesideSCF.org/dine-out-flyers).

Lakeside families and neighbors helped to

pack the pantries of two local food banks: West Valley Community Services and the Skyland Church Little Free Pantry. Two huge barrels and many boxes were donated. Thank you to everyone who participated. A special thank you to Shannon Edwards and Kohinoor Chakravarty for helping to organize this successful drive.

LSCF needs volunteers from our community. Do you know how to quilt? Our fifth-grade class needs help carrying on the school tradition of making and raffling off a quilt at our annual auction. Other positions for volunteers are open throughout the year, including auction committees to prepare for our auction in April 2022.

If you are a party planner, an IT whiz, data-entry extraordinaire, have the gift of talking to people, or just want to help out, please bring us your expertise. Sign up at <https://www.LakesideSCF.org/volunteer>.

Check out our new website at [www.LakesideSCF.org](http://www.LakesideSCF.org). You can learn more about the LSCF mission, purchase Lakeside gear, explore volunteer opportunities, view our calendar of events, click to donate, and get help with company matching.

We cannot do this without your financial support and volunteer hours. Helping our students takes our entire community.

LSCF wishes you a happy new year.

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## Los Gatos-Saratoga Observation Nursery School

Amanda Demers

A fresh start, a new beginning, square one, a clean slate... however you think about it, the new year presents a unique opportunity. For many, the beginning of a new year is a time to set goals, make course corrections, and start new projects. Others may look back, reflect, and take stock of previous years.

Los Gatos-Saratoga Observation Nursery School enters its 66th year this spring. Founded on the values of play, nature, healthy foods, observation, and education for the parents, Betty Peck envisioned a nature-based education for young children “where children come to play, and parents come to learn.”

The school met for the first few years at Easterbrook Farm on Bainter Avenue in Saratoga. Though the farm was subdivided long ago, the school met at Saratoga Springs for many years in the fall and spring. In 1973, classes began to meet at the Little Red Schoolhouse at Lakeside School on Black Road during the winter months. Our Saturday classes were added in 1977 so that working parents could have an opportunity to participate in the school. Today, our program operates under the auspices of the Los Gatos-Saratoga Recreation Department. The needs of young children to choose their activities, explore the natural world, and learn through first-hand experience and play are as real today as when Betty Peck began her program.

During the fall and spring, when classes use a variety of outdoor classrooms throughout the South Bay, children gain confidence, learn a deep appreciation for nature, and become stewards of our land. Over the years, Mountain School has had the privilege of exploring many different locations, including Camp Swig, Saratoga Springs, Savannah Channele, Sanborn Park, and the Cooley Picnic Area. All have had their unique features and charms. Yet, our situation has been tenuous, and we are vulnerable to changes beyond our control. In recent years, access to these outdoor classrooms has become increasingly challenging, especially for our Saturday classes. For the first time in 65 years, commercialization, population expansion, and new restrictions from the county and local agencies forced our classes to use the little red schoolhouse on Black Road this year exclusively.



This shift in the structure of our program is unlike anything we have experienced. For example, our unique program that offered children an entirely forest-based classroom for twelve weeks each school year now has limited access to creek play and forest playgrounds.

As we enter this new year, Mountain School looks forward to continuing our relationships with Lakeside School and our adjoining neighbors. The enchanted schoolhouse grounds and beautiful canyon trail keep the magic alive for our program. We are grateful to the community members who open their backyards, babbling creeks, and beautiful forest playgrounds to our classes for field trips. We bring creativity, ingenuity, and resourcefulness with us as we move into 2022 with hope for our beloved

school's outdoor classrooms.

Despite the ever-changing landscape of our world, we will continue the school's original vision, dream of the extension programs in forest school, perform teacher training, and promote outdoor education to the larger community.

We want you—our mountain community—to be aware of our aspirations and dreams. We invite your input to continue enriching the lives of young children and their families.

To contact Los Gatos-Saratoga Observation Nursery School, visit us online at [www.lgsons.org](http://www.lgsons.org) or email [info@lgsons.org](mailto:info@lgsons.org).

**Join us for our Open House on Sunday,  
January 30, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**



# schools

## Loma Prieta School District

### It's Enrollment Time at Loma Prieta Superintendent Kevin Grier

Now is the time to register your child for kindergarten for the 2022-2023 school year. These children will be the future graduating class of 2035. We also welcome the enrollment of all new students to our schools.

To help us prepare for your child's arrival in August 2022, we ask that you complete the online registration process now.

Our registration process is on our website at [www.loma.k12.ca.us](http://www.loma.k12.ca.us). From the home page, select the "For Parents" tab across the top banner and then select "Student Registration." Simply follow the prompts. At the end of the online registration process, print and complete a few forms by hand and submit some additional hard-copy documentation to Julie Bourque, secretary at C.T. English Middle School.

As you may be aware, new legislation may make transitional kindergarten available to students at the age of four. Your information will allow us to anticipate TK program needs.

If you want to talk more about our plans, email me at [k.grier@loma.k12.ca.us](mailto:k.grier@loma.k12.ca.us).





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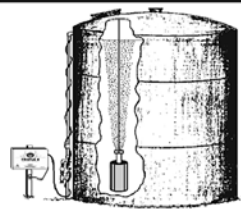
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## Loma Public Education Fund Crisy Werdebaugh

Thanks to the Summit Veterinary Hospital and Kennels for hosting our first-annual tree-lighting ceremony, and to the more than 200 community members who attended this inaugural event. It was a fantastic way to kick off the holiday season.



We hope everyone was able to find that perfect tree at Summit Tree Farm during our school fundraising event. Thanks to Summit Tree Farm for their support of Loma Elementary and C.T. English schools.

As we welcome the new year, we reflect on the community's support during 2021. Thanks to the many families and neighbors who supported our schools in the last year. Your generosity has allowed us to maintain a curriculum for LPJUSD students that

enables them to grow, thrive, and respond to future opportunities.

This year, we will set a fundraising goal for the 2022-2023 school year to bridge the gap between what LPJUSD will receive in government funding and the cost to educate each student. We know that we can come together again as a community to reach our goal.

We wish you a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.



*LPEF Board Members (left to right):  
Lauren Gallagher, Stephanie Wells,  
Eleanna Kim, and Crisy Werdebaugh*

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# **schools**

**Loma Prieta Elementary  
and C.T. English Middle School  
FAB41**

**Jenifer Seal Cramer and the  
FAB41 Developmental Asset Team**

How do we help our kids thrive? As a school community, we believe it is by helping youth develop positive values, healthy relationships, experiences, and skills. These are called developmental assets. At Loma and CTE, we call them FAB41. We play a vital role as parents, teachers, staff, community members, and fellow students in building this support.

Relationships are at the heart of asset building. Developmental assets are concrete, positive, common-sense experiences and qualities that give young people what they need to succeed and be healthy.

Research shows that the more of these external and internal developmental assets a child has, the higher the probability that the child will achieve academic success, solid friendships, and self-confidence. They are less likely to be involved in risky behaviors such as violence, substance abuse, or teen pregnancy.

At Loma and CTE, we are building our schools' FAB41 developmental assets program to give students, families, and staff the tools they need to create this thriving culture. We invite you to be a part of this effort to build an environment where children grow up feeling valued and respected.

FAB41 is an overarching program intended to provide the building blocks necessary for young people to grow and develop into healthy, caring, and responsible citizens. Building relationships with and between students is the



foundation for fostering developmental assets. Creating supportive environments provides an experience that is productive and positive. Connecting programs and practices to support the acquisition of developmental assets enables us to support

existing goals and priorities.

Project Cornerstone is a program at Loma Prieta led by parent volunteers that helps students build these 41 assets. According to Dave DePiazza, Loma Project Cornerstone parent volunteer, "Being a part of Loma's

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Project Cornerstone program has been a blessing. Every month I get to witness our students navigate their personal strengths and weaknesses, as they relate to others and shape opportunities for respect and camaraderie. It is awesome to see the tools they collectively draw on: equal parts valley

smart, ocean thoughtful, and of course mountain strong. Only at Loma could you ever expect to see these qualities so instinctive in our children. It's a wonderful reminder how lucky we are to call this home."



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