

mr

mountain network news

May 2020







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INTERNATIONAL REALTY



## 16400 Soda Springs, Los Gatos

**Offered at \$1,725,000 · 3BR/2BA Home ±2,386 sf · 2BR/1BA Guest House ±1,000 sf · Detached Cottage ±800 sf · Lot ±5.65 acres**

Your very own refuge. Magnificent views and space to roam, fenced land to grow your own food, perhaps raise chickens for fresh eggs, or, have your own getaway retreat! Magnificent views north of the entire South Bay and beyond. Gaze upon a panoramic vista of Monterey Bay to the south.

Wood flooring in living & dining rooms, hall and family room. Stone tiles in the kitchen. 1+ acre of deer fencing surrounds the main house. The property also features fruit trees and veggie gardens. The property has working broadband which serves both the main and the guest houses. Award winning Los Gatos Schools Lexington Elementary, Fisher or CT English Middle Schools, and Los Gatos High School. This estate view property has so much to offer!

**16400SodaSpringsRoad.com**

## COMING SOON

### **Bear Creek Way**

5BR/4BA · Lot ±2.38 acres  
Home ±5,400 sf

### **Loma Prieta Avenue**

4BR/4BA/2HalfBA · Lot ±9.3 acres  
Home ±4,350 sf · 4-Car Garage  
±1,400 sf

### **Skyland Ridge**

4BR/2BA · Lot ±4.09 acres  
Home ±2,539 sf · 3-Car Garage  
Views of Monterey Bay



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Santa Cruz



**831 Smith Grade**  
\$3,350,000  
1 Bed | 1 Bath

**Mark Oliverez**  
408.891.4663  
[mark.oliverez@compass.com](mailto:mark.oliverez@compass.com)  
DRE 00966533

Los Gatos Mountains



**17800 Old Summit Road**  
\$2,380,000  
4 Bed | 3 Bath

**Nevis & Ardizzone Team**  
408.827.3100  
[nevisandardizzone@compass.com](mailto:nevisandardizzone@compass.com)  
DRE 01139401 | 00979963

Los Gatos Mountains



**20780 Brush Road**  
\$1,947,000  
4 Bed | 2.5 Bath

**Lisa Sgarlato**  
408.396.7231  
[lisa.sgarlato@compass.com](mailto:lisa.sgarlato@compass.com)  
DRE 01342694

Aptos



**117 Mar Sereno Court**  
\$1,899,900  
4 Bed | 5 Bath

**Mark Oliverez**  
408.891.4663  
[mark.oliverez@compass.com](mailto:mark.oliverez@compass.com)  
DRE 00966533

Los Gatos Mountains



**20700 Hillside Drive**  
\$1,700,000  
4 Bed | 2.5 Bath

**Lisa Sgarlato**  
408.396.7231  
[lisa.sgarlato@compass.com](mailto:lisa.sgarlato@compass.com)  
DRE 01342694

Felton



**339 Fall Creek Drive**  
\$650,000  
3 Bed | 2 Bath

**George Montanari**  
408.497.2213  
DRE 00780027

**Lisa Sgarlato**  
408.396.7231  
DRE 01342694

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**COMPASS**

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Closing date: 10th of the preceding month. We assume no responsibility for advertisers' submissions. Mail your check to **Mountain Network News**, 23625 Skyview Terrace, Los Gatos, CA 95033.

**2020 Ad Rates**

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Quarter-page, horizontal (2 1/4" high by 7 1/2" wide)	\$275
Third-page, column (10" high by 2 1/2" wide)	\$375
Third-page, horizontal (3 1/4" high by 7 1/2" wide)	\$375
Half-page (4 1/2" high by 7 1/2" wide)	\$450
Two-thirds page (2 columns, 10" high by 5" wide)	\$560
Page	\$850
Special position	add 20%
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	\$8 per formatted line

**Circulation**

More than 4000 homes and businesses  
 in the Santa Cruz Mountains

**COVER**

### An Upside-down Hummingbird

Photography by Mercury Freedom

Our world is upside down.

We shouldn't be with friends.

We can't touch people we love.

Leaders tell us the economy is  
 more important than our health.

We can't run away.  
 No place on earth is safe.

Yet the world's air is less polluted  
 than anytime in this decade.

Some people are sacrificing  
 their health, perhaps their lives.

Others are buying guns.

The world is upside down.

Can we make it right side up?

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DRE 01342694

## 20780 Brush Road, Los Gatos

\$1,947,000 | [20780BrushRoad.com](http://20780BrushRoad.com) | 4 Bed | 3 Bath | 3400 Sq Ft | 3 Acre Lot



Experience the best of Los Gatos in this custom home! Elegant, stately, comfortable, and charming all at once. Farmhouse style chef's kitchen, family room has home theater, lovely dining room, formal living room with vaulted ceiling to 2nd floor library. 2-car garage. Decking, patio dining, and mountain views. Lot has separate area with building pad. Minutes to Los Gatos. Los Gatos schools.

## 20700 Hillside Drive, Los Gatos Mountains

\$1,700,000 | [20700hillside.com](http://20700hillside.com) | 4 Bed | 2.5 Bath | 3183 Sq Ft | 2.5 Acre Lot

Great location blends with impressive executive home for the best of mountain living! Gorgeous and updated home features great floor plan, vaulted ceilings, gourmet kitchen and beautiful master suite. Minutes from town Lexington Elem (IB Programme), Fisher Middle, and Los Gatos High.



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# services



## Summit Store Personal-Shopping Program Sanjay Khandelwal

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, local volunteers and community members created a volunteer-run program to provide grocery shopping and delivery services to those who are confined to their homes. We are here to serve the elderly, the immunocompromised, and others in high-risk demographics.

It all started with a phone call. As the shelter-in-place orders started, a community member contacted Ben Abeln at the Summit Store to offer help. A small group met at the store to work out details, with adequate social distancing. The original idea was for customers to call in or order online, using an online payment system (such as Venmo, PayPal, or Zelle). Summit Store employees would fill the order and have it ready for pick-up.

It quickly became clear that a different solution was needed. Summit Store employees would not be able to be personal shoppers. The store was seeing a huge demand for products—every day is like the day before Thanksgiving. Employees also have to do extra work sanitizing and cleaning daily.

Someone proposed having a separate volunteer group run the whole program, without impacting the Summit Store employees. It would be a partnership.

It took just a few days for Sanjay Khandelwal, Kevin Arnold, and Kayleigh Khandelwal to put the basic framework, processes, and tools in place. Along with Ben, the group posted messages on social media, as well as on the 95033Talk forum, announcing the service and asking for volunteers. People quickly signed up. The first order was taken on March 19, and deliveries started on March 20. In its first three weeks, the program had sixty



volunteers who delivered over 300 orders to 195 customers.

Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. Customers love and appreciate how fast this program was up and running. As one shopper said, "Thank you for what you have done for our community. You are amazing to be capable of organizing this extraordinary program. What a huge contribution at a time when this is so desperately needed." Another wrote, "Ten thousand thanks for bringing me groceries while I am isolating myself for the safety of the community. It is very much appreciated. You and your volunteers are amazing."

New York Governor Andrew Cuomo

recently said, "A crisis shows you a person's soul. It shows you what they're made of. The weaknesses explode and the strengths are emboldened." Our volunteers have shown us what they are made of. This program would not be possible without the dozens of volunteers who have come out to help people who can't help themselves safely during this pandemic. What a great example of our community coming together. We have true heroes in our midst.

The process is simple. People who need to use the service should go to [www.95033.org](http://www.95033.org) or to the Summit Store website, [www.summitgrocerystore.com](http://www.summitgrocerystore.com). You will need to register with the program and then you can place your order.

There is no same-day ordering. Orders placed by 3 p.m. are completed the next day. They can be picked up in the parking lot or delivered to your home (in the local area).

The program is also looking for volunteers, especially to do the shopping. There is a volunteer sign-up form at [www.95033.org](http://www.95033.org).

Got questions? Email [info@95033.org](mailto:info@95033.org), or call 408-384-8769.





**LOS GATOS**  
Birdwatcher

*The Store for Nature Lovers*

**King's Court Shopping Center**  
792 Blossom Hill Road  
Los Gatos, CA 95032

[losgatosbirdwatcher.com](http://losgatosbirdwatcher.com)

**As an essential business we are here to help you keep your wild bird feeders full. Curbside service is available. Please call ahead to 408-358-9453.**



Chickadee © Tony Woo



## Surfnet

### Helping You Work From Home

Dave Bookholt

With everyone working from home because of the COVID-19 pandemic, Surfnet's internet backhaul is being severely tested. Our peak usage has grown rapidly and has nearly exceeded our total capacity. Peak usage no longer happens at night, but continues throughout most of the day.

The Surfnet team maintained the network in foul weather earlier this year,



and we continue to do so in this crisis.

We recognize that we are an essential community service, and have continued to operate 24/7 in a responsible manner.

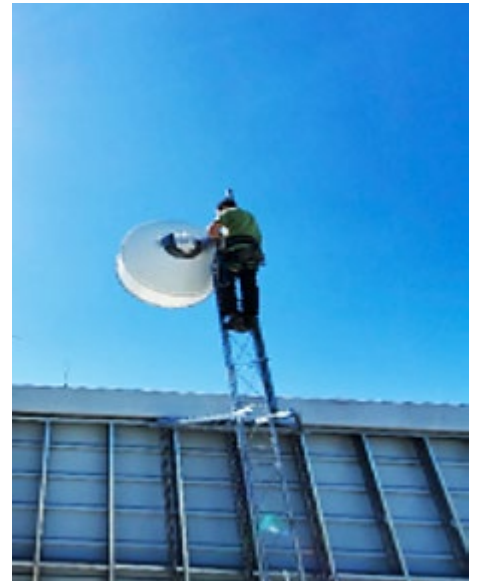
To increase capacity, Surfnet has continuously improved our local broadband infrastructure. We are accelerating one of those plans to meet the current emergency. Instead of waiting for the CASF Regional Fiber Project promised back in 2011, we closed the gap with an additional, expensive, state-of-the-art, 11 Ghz wireless link.

Over the last few weeks, we licensed, ordered, and installed a pair of four-foot dishes between our new data center and commercial tower. With this additional link, we can double our broadband capacity in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Our users will quickly use that two-X improvement in a few months, but Surfnet has more improvements on the way.

We encouraged Crown Castle to provide that long-ago-promised fiber to Sunnyvale for the CASF Regional Fiber Project. It is nearly complete.

When it is finished, Surfnet will have a fiber backbone running down Highway 17, through the center of the mountains, from which we'll provide laterals of 50 and 100 Mbps services to mountain residents. It's almost here.



Surfnet has provided the Santa Cruz Mountains with broadband since 2004. We specialize in serving areas that major carriers consider too costly. Each year we've increased our speed, capacity, and reliability, while keeping our prices about the same.

You'll soon be enjoying the changes ahead in the fiber and 5G wireless worlds. Surfnet will be the local carrier of choice with the latest fiber and fiber-like services at reasonable prices for all mountain residents. To reach us, call 831-439-7873, or email [info@SurfnetC.com](mailto:info@SurfnetC.com).



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- ☒ Surfnet stays up during PGE outages

(831) 439-7873

[info@SurfnetC.com](mailto:info@SurfnetC.com)

# services

## Yoga at the Virtual Pavilion

Pam Portugal Walatka

Practice yoga in the comfort of your own home. The class will be held online, and transition back to in-person when the stay-at-home order is lifted.

The class is basic yoga with an emphasis on breath, and is appropriate for all levels. The practice includes Pilates-based abdominal work and mindfulness meditation.

You can sample your first class free. Classes are \$20 for drop-in. A flex pass of 5 drop-in classes is available from the instructor for \$60, or you can register through the Los Gatos-Saratoga Recreation Department (seven sessions for \$72.)

Wear comfortable, loose, or stretchy clothing. All you need to bring is a yoga mat.

The instructor is Pam Portugal Walatka. As the first yoga teacher at Esalen Institute in 1968, Pam was one of the pioneer yoga teachers in the United States. Her style is simple, deep, and mildly amusing. Find out more at <http://pamsyogafitness.com/>.

If you have questions, email [mcheng@lgsrecreation.org](mailto:mcheng@lgsrecreation.org).



## Summit Whole Body Fitness

### Exercising in Place

Jenny Yamate

Summit Whole Body Fitness Club is a small business snuggled in our mountains. We serve about 45 clients. Some clients were in a rehabilitation program that has ended. Others find the gym a second family. They miss their social time.

My assistant trainer Kaela Mancuso and I are using a group-chat app to help our clients continue their programs. They can join us for exercises and social connection. It's been a great solution.

We may maintain these online meetings for those sick at home or on a business trip. If you are interested in joining Jenny and Kaela for some great stay-at-home exercise ideas, look on YouTube and search for SWBF, or call 408-309-0949. We can design a program to help you move and feel better.

## Pilates at Home

Ashley Testa

Join us for Zoom Pilates on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, at 7 p.m. Work out in this Pilates Mat class in the safety of your home, via Zoom video conferencing. For more information, call 650-465-8513, or email [altesta@gmail.com](mailto:altesta@gmail.com).



# THE REDWOOD ESTATES STORE

...in beautiful downtown Redwood Estates!

## EBT CARDS NOW ACCEPTED

We would like to thank all our neighbors in Redwood Estates for supporting our local business during these difficult times.

*Please note that our hours will change until the situation resolves... we will be open every day from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. We are doing our best to stay well-stocked for all of your needs!*

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## Downtown Redwood Estates Open and Serving the Mountains

Amy Sirota

Calling it “downtown” is a bit of a stretch, but we’ve got three important services covered.

**Nonno’s Pizza and Pasta** is our “village well.” Nonno’s is open for take-out only. Owner Ralph DiTullio (Nonno) requests that you call ahead to order meals.

He puts daily specials on Nonno’s Facebook page, the 95033Neighbors page, and NextDoor. All regular menus are also on the Nonno’s Facebook page. Beer and wine are for sale, including beer growlers (bring your own or purchase one). The coveted *Pliny the Elder* beer is available.

Nonno’s hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday and Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Sunday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. They are closed on Mondays. To order, call 408-353-5633.

Having a **Redwood Estates Post Office** makes us officially a town. Michele and Cindy work to keep the mail coming during rain, sleet, or pandemic. They ask that only one customer at a time be inside the front office. Markers out front keep folks six feet apart. If you’re concerned about mail security, P.O. boxes are available for rent, starting from \$46 for six months. The post office is open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., but the office is closed for lunch between 12:15 and 12:45 p.m. On Saturday, the post office is open from 9 to 10:45 a.m. for package pick-up only. The post office is closed on Sunday. If you have questions, call 408-353-1667.



We are so lucky to have the **Redwood Estates Store**. Day Chi and a few hardy employees keep our little store up and running, with grocery items including veggies, fruit, beer, wine, liquor, ice cream, some medical supplies, and even lottery tickets. Hours are 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. every day. They are doing their best to stay well-stocked during the course of the pandemic. They ask that you keep at least six feet apart from others while you are in the store. To see if the items you need are in stock, or to place special orders, call 408-353-1212.



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# Services

## **Cruz Properties** **COVID-19 and Real Estate** **Mike Scherer**

While it's not business as usual in the midst of a global pandemic, real-estate brokerages have been quick to respond to the changing times. In our area, where shelter-in-place orders have been instituted, real-estate, title, and mortgage companies have been deemed "essential," but real-estate professionals must still follow social-distancing guidelines set forth by the state.

Interest rates are at historic lows. Many homeowners are refinancing and saving hundreds of dollars each month. Even though there may be fewer home buyers, due to layoffs and furloughs, buyers are still actively looking in 95033.

Some sellers are reluctant to put their home on the market because a home must be uninhabited for an agent to legally show potential buyers. If the seller needs to continue living in the home, agents are doing virtual tours and virtual open houses (walk-through videos, Facebook live, etc.). You can still make and accept offers, and hire licensed professionals to conduct appraisals and inspections. A buyer can

potentially even purchase a home without setting foot inside.

Until restrictions are lifted, we are in a seller's market, but this can change quickly. Watch for updates almost daily. By the time you read this article, the market may be completely different.

Check with your local real-estate professional for guidance and advice.



## **Los Gatos-Saratoga Recreation Department** **Sports at Home**

Our friends at the National Academy of Athletics have organized online trainings to keep children busy while sheltering-in-place. These five-day online camps are an extension of their traditional sports day camp. These online camps are presented by coaches certified by the National Academy of Athletics.

There are camps for basketball, football, volleyball, soccer, and martial arts. In these five-day programs, students will practice skills and drills in their own homes using equipment and everyday items. Register to receive a link to all videos in the series. You will have access to the videos for up to thirty days. Find out more at [losgatosrec.org/vrc](http://losgatosrec.org/vrc).



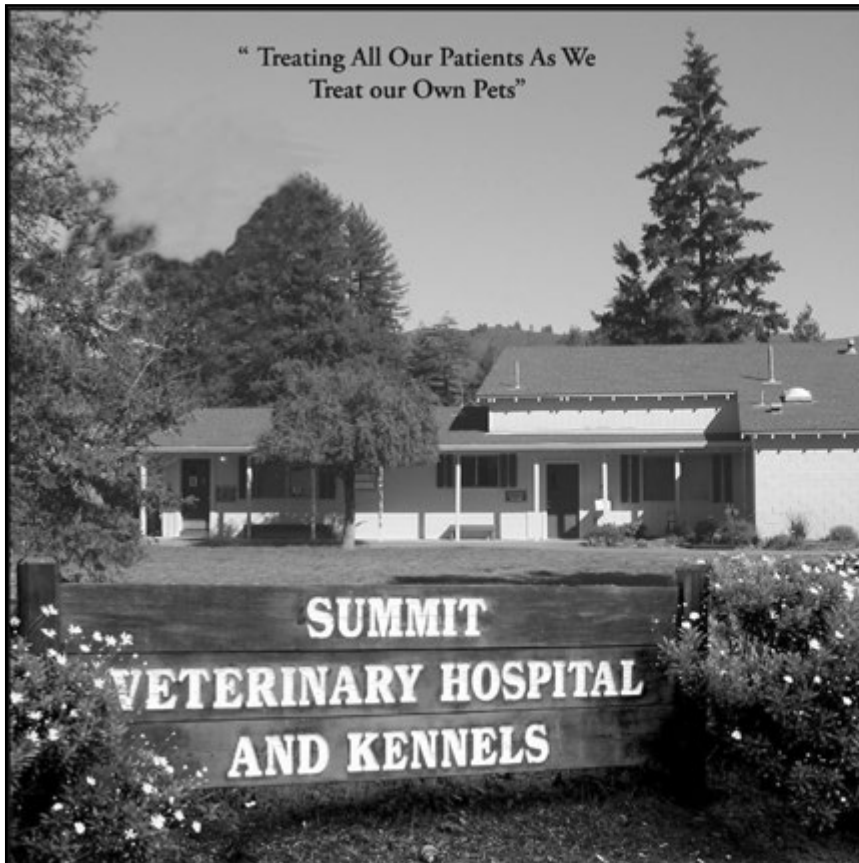
## **Summit Veterinary Hospital** **We Are Open** **Marietta Madden**

We at Summit Veterinary Hospital are doing our part to protect and serve our community during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are open as an essential business, therefore our veterinarians and staff members can still take care of you and your furry family members.

We have implemented some new temporary changes. We are no longer allowing clients into the building. Instead, one of our staff members will meet you in the parking lot to help you. A technician will bring your pet in for their exam or vaccinations when you call and check in with the front desk. Our number is 408-353-1113.

Our new temporary business hours are Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. We are currently closed on Saturdays.

Stay safe and stay healthy.



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### Mobile Notary Public Ann Scherer

I am a mobile notary public. I can drive to your location. My services are considered "essential" during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I have an authorization form I carry with me to every appointment to show law enforcement, if needed. I am also a notary signing agent, which means I can notarize documents for refinances, reverse mortgages, loans, purchases made by either seller or buyer, and home-equity lines of credit.

Tell your lender that I am now classified as a "preferred notary" with most title companies. In addition, I do regular notary signings. Since the new low-interest rates were announced, I average three notary signings for refinanced loans per day.

I practice social distancing and do **every** signing outside. We can meet on front/back decks, well-ventilated garages with open doors, parks, or on our office deck. I wear protective gloves and a mask while maintaining a physical distance.

If you need notary public services, call me at 408-483-2156, or email [ann@mountainmike.com](mailto:ann@mountainmike.com).

### A Tool Shed We are Open Robert Pedersen

A Tool Shed is open Monday through Friday, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. We are closed on Sunday.

As a provider of products, equipment, and services needed to operate and maintain essential infrastructure, we recognize the importance of having our services available to you. We have taken proactive steps to serve you.

We encourage our employees and customers to keep a six-foot social distance, including while standing in line.

We continually clean and sanitize our counters, doors, and other high-traffic surface areas. We provide hand sanitizer at our counters for team members and customers.

We run ozone generators in our facilities nightly to kill potentially contagious viruses.

We implemented a no-contact online document signature agreement with an online payment module.

Our current plan is to resume normal branch operations beginning May 4. We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 situation and listen to guidance from local authorities, as the safety of our employees

and customers remains our top priority.

We appreciate your business and understanding. To find out more, visit [www.atoolshed.com](http://www.atoolshed.com).



### Funding Food

The Los Gatos Chamber of Commerce and Alex Hult from Flights restaurant have set up a fund to help feed vulnerable Los Gatos seniors and hospital workers. They prepare and deliver meals to those in need. Every \$10 donation pays for one meal.

This also allows participating Los Gatos restaurants to keep limited staff employed and support their businesses during this time. For more information, visit <https://www.gofundme.com/f/feed-the-elderly-affected-by-covid19>.



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# community

## A Mountain Parade

Toni Sheppard

Mountain families, many in costumes, were out in force in a parade of more than twenty cars in early April. They drove through the Villa Del Monte neighborhood in the rain and brought smiles in a difficult time. Spectators, many also in costumes, came out to wave and share signs of love, hope, and cheer.







***Firesafe County Roads***  
**Shaded Fuel-Break-Demonstration Project**  
 Deana Arnold

In February, the Loma Prieta school board approved a plan to create a shaded fuel break on district property bordering Summit Road. The purpose of the shaded fuel break is to protect the safety of the children, the school staff, and school property. The plan was the result of a cooperative effort by the Santa Clara County Firesafe Council, Santa Cruz County Fire, CalFire, and community volunteers, including members of the Skyland Church firesafe-roads-action team.

The project removes underbrush and small trees (eight inches or less) and limbs trees up ten feet, as recommended to keep a grass fire on the ground. This shaded fuel break is an example of how to create a safe evacuation route, and to prevent tragedies that have happened in areas where massive wildfires have occurred. The first phase of the project, funded by a grant from the Santa Clara County Firesafe Council (\$22,000), and contributions from Santa Cruz County Fire (\$6600) and the school district (\$2000), includes the area south of Summit Road in front of the school. The second phase is planned for school property north of Summit Road, including the green belt behind the redwood amphitheater. It will be funded by ongoing grant applications.

This project will help create a safe escape route in the event of an emergency, and serves as a model that can be used throughout the county-road system in our community. A multi-year plan is being developed to extend the fuel removal along Summit and Highland to Mt. Bache Road, and down Soquel-San Jose Road to the end of the canyon. Soon a letter will be sent to local homeowners along the Highland-Summit Road corridor to ask permission to do the work on their property along the right-of-way, and to gain support for the grant application. When the grant monies are awarded, a new community-counties partnership will be formed. The project will be funded and managed by Santa Cruz and Santa Clara counties. When completed, these projects will ensure that residents are able to evacuate, if needed, and provide fire breaks to slow the spread of any wildfire that may arise.

# PRIME

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## Who Maintains Your Private Road?

Rosalia Burgueño Tapia, Esq.  
Pratt & Associates, APC

Who is responsible for maintaining a road that is not maintained by the city or county? When a private road, also known as a right-of-way or easement, is owned by more than one person or connected to several parcels of land under different ownership, the cost of maintenance is shared by each owner that uses the road. If you are fortunate, the cost of maintaining the road is dictated pursuant to the terms of an agreement entered into by the parties for that purpose. I say "fortunate" to the extent that you have the terms in writing—which presumably makes it easy to allocate repair costs. Even with a written agreement, terms are sometimes ambiguous, leading to different interpretations.

What happens when there is no written agreement? In the absence of an agreement, the maintenance costs must be shared in proportion to the use of the road made by each owner, pursuant to California Civil Code §845. What does "in proportion to the use of the road" mean?

Unless the affected owners agree on how to allocate the cost, the easiest way is for the owners to share equally. This can result in unfair distributions when the owner at the



end of the road uses the road more than the owner at the top of the road. There is also the situation of an occupied lot versus an unimproved lot. Is it fair for the owner of an unimproved lot to pay the same percentage when they use it less compared to the other owners? These issues often lead to disputes.

Under California Civil Code §845, if any owner refuses to perform under a written agreement, or fails after demand in writing to pay the owner's proportion of the cost, a lawsuit to recover that owner's share of the cost may be brought by the other owners, either jointly or individually. (Meaning one owner can bring the lawsuit, or several can join together to sue the non-paying party.)

The action may be brought before, during, or after maintenance work is performed. The owners can also attempt to resolve the dispute through mediation, assuming that

all owners agree to such a method. If the matter goes to court, the judge is allowed to fashion any reasonable apportionment scheme, which will often be crafted based on the evidence presented by the owners.

The action may be brought in small claims court if the amount claimed to be due is \$10,000 or less for an individual. It is important to note that a judgment will not affect apportionment of any future costs that are not requested in the lawsuit, whether it is filed in Superior Court or small claims court.

The best-case scenario is to have all owners enter into a written agreement that clearly specifies maintenance responsibilities, based on the use of the road by the respective owners, that has been recorded with the county to make it enforceable to subsequent owners. As circumstances can change over time, the agreement should be drafted to allow changes to the agreement with at least a majority of owners, in order to avoid court intervention.

**Pratt & Associates law firm, located in Los Gatos, specializes in real property law, boundaries, easements, fences, road issues, and more.**

## Santa Cruz Department of Public Works Bear Creek Road

### Emergency Repair Project, PM 1.71

Santa Cruz County is constructing a soldier pile wall to repair damage on Bear Creek Road, PM 1.71 (between Hopkins Gulch and Ralston Ridge). Work is expected to last through the beginning of July.

Traffic will be controlled with temporary signals 24 hours per day. Delays up to twenty minutes will be necessary to move equipment and deliver materials.

Information about county-maintained roads in Santa Cruz County is available online at <http://www.sccroadclosure.org/>.



## Pratt & Associates

### Sharon Glenn Pratt

Managing Attorney

Pratt & Associates, APC

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*Pigs were seen at the intersection of Summit and Woolaroc above Redwood Estates. They were not observing social distance of six feet, but they had four feet and were wearing masks.*





## When Will We Reopen The Economy? CNN



### Santa Cruz County Supervisor John Leopold Telephone Town-Hall Constituent Meetings

To update constituents on Santa Cruz County's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, First District supervisor John Leopold holds weekly constituent meetings in a telephone town-hall format, every **Wednesday**, from 6 to 7 p.m. To participate, whether you want to ask a question or just listen, call 831-454-2222 and use collaboration ID number: 855976.

Another resource for Santa Cruz County residents is the county's COVID-19 page. Visit [www.santacruzhealth.org](http://www.santacruzhealth.org), and click on "COVID-19 response" to find information about the current count of COVID-19 cases in the county, shelter-in-place restrictions and guidelines, and additional county-specific information.

Governor Gavin Newsom has outlined a framework for reopening the economy in California. It is predicated on the state's ability to do six things: expand testing to identify and isolate the infected, maintain vigilance to protect seniors and high risk individuals, be able to meet future surges in hospitals with enough protective gear, collaborate with academia on therapies and treatments, redraw regulations to ensure continued physical distancing at businesses and schools, and develop new enforcement mechanisms to allow the state to pull back and reinstate stay-at-home orders.

### Loma Prieta Club Picnic Cancelled Susan Zerweck

Loma Prieta Club members apologize that this year's annual picnic, scheduled for May 13, has been cancelled. No one knows how long the shelter-in-place will last, and there were too many preparations to be made to take a chance.

Put it on the calendar for next year: **Wednesday, May 19, 2021**, with the same theme: *Take Me Out to the Ballpark*.

### CTE Home and School Club Goodwill Drive Rescheduled Karen Hackett

Due to the current shelter-in-place guidelines, the Goodwill/E-Waste drive scheduled for April has been rescheduled to **Saturday and Sunday, August 29 and 30**, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Building Blocks Preschool parking lot (23845 Summit Road).

On behalf of the C.T. English Home and School Club, please stay safe and we hope to see you in August. If you have any questions, email [ctehsc@gmail.com](mailto:ctehsc@gmail.com). If conditions improve sooner, we will try for an earlier date.

### Park Updates Neil Wiley

For updates on park and open-space closures, visit [Ridgetrail.org](http://Ridgetrail.org), and then click on Regional list of Park Closures. The site also has listings of nature-based virtual and nearby activities. Before you visit a park, look at COVID-19 Trail Guidelines and FAQs. They can help stay safe and legal.

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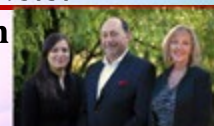
**Active- \$1,599,000**  
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Los Gatos, CA 95030



**PENDING**  
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**Collin Cook**  
New  
Team Member



\* information deemed reliable but not guaranteed



**Santa Clara County FireSafe Council**  
**Free Community Chipping**

The Santa Clara County FireSafe Council offers free chipping to mountain residents in both Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties this spring and summer. The chipping program dates have NOT changed, as fire prevention is considered "essential."

To find out more about how to stage your brush for chipping, and to download an application, visit [www.SCCFireSafe.org/chipping](http://www.SCCFireSafe.org/chipping). If you need a paper application, call 408-975-9591, or email [dschip@scCFireSafe.org](mailto:dschip@scCFireSafe.org).

Piles must be ready for inspection and applications must be submitted by the due dates listed.



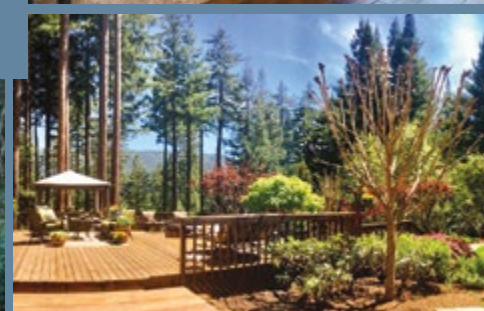
<b>Santa Clara County FireSafe Council</b> <b>2020 Community Chipping Program Schedule</b>		
<b>Lexington Hills Area</b>	<b>Application Due Dates</b>	<b>Project Type</b>
Chemeketa Park	May 10	At home and community pile
Redwood Estates	June 6	Drive-up
Aldercroft Heights/Lupin Lodge/Soda Springs	May 11	At home
Los Gatos below Lexington dam	May 11	At home
Bear Creek Road/Bear Creek Stables	May 17	At home
Loma Prieta School/Roads between LDS and Catholic churches/Villa Del Monte	May 17	At home
Oakmont/Wright Drive/OSCH between Holy City and Hwy 17	June 7	At home and community pile
Gillette/Call of the Wild/Idylwild/OSCH between Summit and Holy City	June 7	At home
Saratoga/Cupertino/Los Gatos Foothills	May 24	At home







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**22111 OAK FLAT RD, LOS GATOS MOUNTAINS**  
 3 beds, 3 bths, 3,283 +/- SF,  
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**24075 MORRILL CUTOFF, LOS GATOS MOUNTAINS**  
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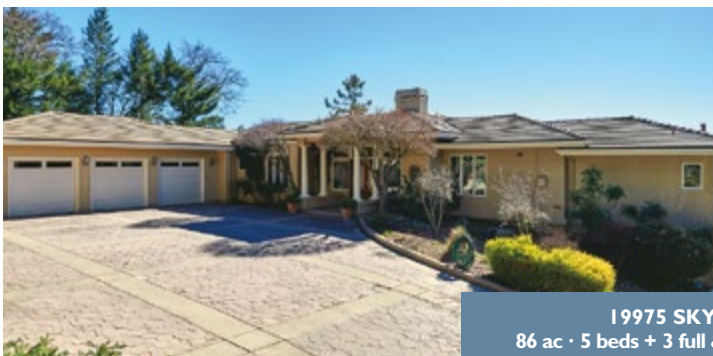


*Stay Healthy  
 and Safe*

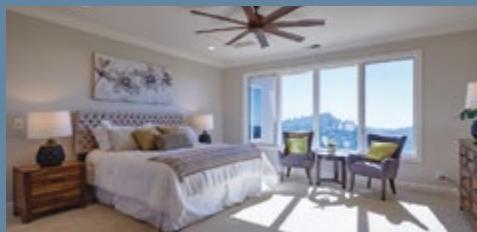
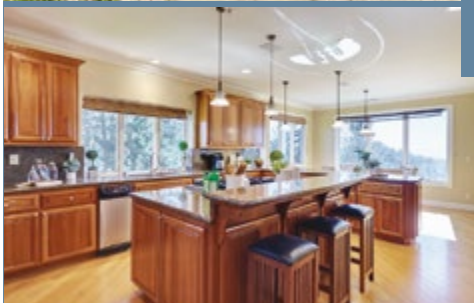
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**LOMA PRIETA WINERY**  
26985 LOMA PRIETA WAY  
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**25470 ADAMS ROAD**  
2933 sqft • 1.9 acres • 3 beds • 2.5 baths  
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**25510 ADAMS ROAD**  
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This information was supplied by reliable sources. Sales Associates believe this information to be correct but has not verified this information and assumes no legal responsibility for its accuracy. Buyers should investigate these issues to their own satisfaction.



# calendar

## ON-GOING CLASSES AND MEETINGS

*Class and meeting schedules are valid if shelter-in-place restrictions are lifted. Call or email to confirm dates and times.*

### Sundays

Dog agility, 24900 Highland Way, 9 to 11 a.m. Call 408-506-8670, or email in8runner@aol.com to confirm dates.

### 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 in the mountains, 8:30 to 9:45 a.m. at Loma Prieta Elementary School. Call 408-354-8700.

Mid-life fitness (adults), Redwood Estates Pavilion, 9 to 10 a.m. LGS Recreation. Call 408-354-8700.

### Wednesdays

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

### Thursdays

Yoga at the Redwood Estates Pavilion, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m., or online. Call 408-354-8700.

Pilates in the mountains, 8:30 a.m., at Loma Prieta Elementary School. Call 408-354-8700.

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

Yoga at Lakeside School, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Call 408-354-8700.

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

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



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

### Santa Clara County Bookmobile May 14 and 28

Lakeside School: 10 a.m. to noon  
Building Blocks: 11:30 a.m. to 12:50 p.m.  
Loma Prieta Playfield: 2:15 to 3:30 p.m.  
Redwood Estates Pavilion: 4 to 5:15 p.m.

### Fridays

Mid-life fitness (adults), Redwood Estates Pavilion, 9 to 10 a.m. LGS Recreation. Call 408-354-8700.

Centering and Silence (meditation) at 8:30 a.m., in the Loma Prieta community room room next to Building Blocks Preschool.

### Saturdays

Summit Toastmasters 95033, "Where everyone finds their voice," 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., at Mountain Bible Church, 23946 Summit Road. Call 408-634-3493 for more information.



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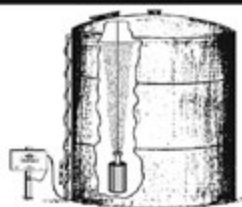
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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SULFUR    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ACID pH*   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ODORS |
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## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Editor's note:

Scheduled events are subject to change due to COVID-19 precautions. Check websites to confirm.

### Friday, May 1

Friday Foto Fanatics Photo Club in Campbell is holding virtual meetings. It's a supportive group for people who enjoy photography. For more information, visit <http://www.fridayfotofanatics.com>. To join, email [fridayfotofanatics@icloud.com](mailto:fridayfotofanatics@icloud.com).



### Rescheduled to August 21

Loma Prieta Education Fund holds its annual Fore the Kids golf tournament, followed by a silent auction, catered dinner, and entertainment, at Seascape Golf Club in Aptos. Shotgun start at noon. Find out more, register, and buy tickets at [www.lpef.org](http://www.lpef.org).

Friday Foto Fanatics Photo Club in Campbell is planning a field trip to the Alviso section of the Don Edwards Reserve. If the reserve is closed, the group may host a virtual field trip. For more information, email [fridayfotofanatics@icloud.com](mailto:fridayfotofanatics@icloud.com).

### Sunday, June 28

Christ Child Church will host a Summit Fest celebration, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Enjoy live music by a local band, a barbecue lunch, and wine tasting. Stay tuned for more details in the **MNN**.

### Saturday and Sunday, August 29 and 30

The C.T. English Home and School club will hold a Goodwill/E-Waste drive, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Building Blocks Preschool parking lot (23845 Summit Road). If you have any questions, email [ctehsc@gmail.com](mailto:ctehsc@gmail.com). If conditions improve sooner, we will try for an earlier date.



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**125267 Quail Ridge Road**  
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LOS GATOS MTNS



**24615 Skyland Road**  
2 Bed | 2 Bath | 6 Acres  
Offered at \$895,000

LOS GATOS MTNS



**78 Ocean View Road**  
2.57 Acre Lot  
Offered at \$525,000

SAN JOSE



**14830 Corralitos Lane**  
>1 Acre Lot  
Offered at \$1,200,000

LOS GATOS MTNS



**17515 Laurel Road**  
9.51 Acre Lot  
Offered at \$685,000

SAN JOSE



**165 N 10th Street**  
Multi Unit with basement  
Offered at \$995,00

SAN JOSE



**19599 Almaden Road**  
2.12 Acre Lot  
Offered at \$1,675,000

LOS GATOS MTNS



**13677 Long Ridge Road**  
3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1.2 Acres  
Offered at \$795,000



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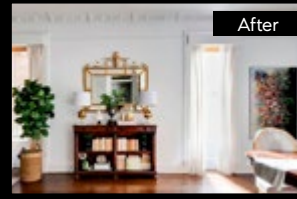
## About Keith Kanady

Keith Kanady combines his 33 years of Marketing, Master Negotiator Qualifications, Management, and Sales experience with the excellent reputation of one of the area's premier real estate companies: Compass Realty, a team that is hard to beat.

In his 33 years of selling Real Estate, Keith has received numerous Top Producer awards at Grubb & Ellis, Better Homes and Gardens, and RE/MAX. He also acted as Broker/Principal at Los Gatos Properties. Keith prides himself in staying current on ever changing laws, rules, regulations and marketing techniques in order to offer his clients top quality representation. When buying a property, he spends time discussing the type of property and setting you desire; a home that will suit your personal, financial and family needs. Your valuable time is spent reviewing properties suited only to your specifications. When selling your property, his powerful marketing programs create the most interest and reach the largest possible market. Keith uses his education and extensive knowledge of investing when he represents clients interested in acquiring income producing properties such as multiple unit buildings and land which help his clients reach their financial goals by establishing cash flow and building equity.

Having raised a family in this area, he resides in Los Gatos with his wife, dogs, cat and chickens. Experience for yourself the results and satisfaction created by this Top Producing Team.

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## Staying Local Walking in Place Neil Wiley

Although we must avoid physical contact with other humans, it's good to get outside. Unfortunately, parks and beaches are often crowded or closed, so it's better to stay near home. (Before visiting a park or beach, check online to see if it is open.)

We are lucky. Living in our mountains, we can get out in nature without getting in our cars. It may not be Yosemite, but we have more trees, flowers, hills, and wildlife than the valley. So, let's enjoy walking local.

### Summit area

If you live in the Summit area, you can choose from several easily accessible trails. You can follow the **Summit Trail** from Old Summit Road at the Loma Prieta Volunteer Fire and Rescue station all the way to Summit Store. If this six-mile trip is too much, you can cut it short by going from Old Summit or Summit Store to Villa del Monte and back, a three-mile loop.

If you want more nature and fewer cars, walk **Morrill Road** on the Santa Clara County side down through some shady forest. You are walking on a road, but it's relatively flat, and there is very little traffic. This is an especially good cool walk on a warm day. If you don't like a two-mile out-and-back walk on the same road, you can



Morrill Road

complete the loop on the Summit Trail.

If you want a much shorter nature walk, go behind and to the right of the amphitheater, in the Loma Playfield across Summit Road from the main-school campus. A large "**Loma Prieta Nature Trail**" sign welcomes you, but only if the gate is open. Once inside the gate, just follow the loop marked by fallen tree branches. Embedded steps help on the steeper sections.

If you want a public walkway with a view, follow **Loma Prieta Avenue** to the dirt-road section. There is minimal traffic, and there are scenic views to the south as you walk toward the intersection of Mt. Bache Road and Loma Prieta Way.

Although many casual strollers, runners, and dog-walkers use the **Summit Christmas Tree Farm** near the schools, it is private property. Treat it with respect. If you bring your dog, be sure to clean up any messes.

Trail bikers love Highland Way's **Soquel Demonstration Forest**, but the long trails and limited scenic views aren't the best for walkers. (It may be closed due to COVID-19, overuse, bicycle accidents, and logging.)

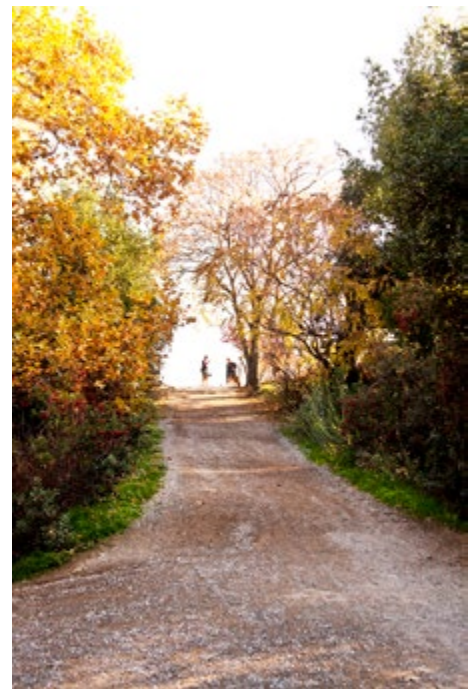
### Lexington/Lakeside area

The two big MidPeninsula Open Space preserves, **Bear Creek** and **Sierra Azul**, are popular, which leads to crowds and closures, especially of Mt. Umunhum. Most Sierra Azul trails are long, especially those above Lexington Reservoir. Bear Creek does have a short trail around a small lake, but the longer trail is up a steep hill.

A better choice for a short walk may be a loop that combines the **Flume**, **Los Gatos**, and **Jones** trails. The Los Gatos Creek Trail from the Los Gatos History Museum at



Summit Christmas Tree Farm



The Flume Trail





West Glenwood Preserve

Forbes Mill to Lexington Dam offers a flat, easy trail, perfect for casual walking, biking, running, dog walking, and stroller pushing.

The Flume Trail takes you up a relatively easy uphill single-track trail from the Los Gatos Creek Trail to the Jones Trail. The Jones Trail provides a wide old road that runs above and parallel to the Los Gatos Creek Trail. Depending on your wants, each of these trails can give you some healthy exercise, but combining all three promises more variety and a richer experience.

About halfway between the Flume/Jones intersection and Lexington Reservoir on Jones Trail, you can see more by turning on the **Novitiate Trail** to the 1250-foot summit of St. Joseph's Hill. It's a bit of a climb up 1.5 miles of rocky trail, but on a clear day you'll enjoy the views of Santa Clara Valley, Lexington Reservoir, and the Sierra Azul mountain range.

The **Lake Ranch Trail** off Black Road in Santa Clara County's Sanborn Park is a nice, relatively flat trail that wanders along a 2000-foot ridge southwest of Lyndon Canyon. The round trip is about three-and-a-half miles. A newer section of trail (the John Nicholas Trail) takes you all the way up to Skyline.

#### A short drive

The new trails of the **West Glenwood Preserve** are well worth the short drive to Scotts Valley. Take Highway 17 south to the Granite Creek overpass to Scotts Valley. Turn right on Scotts Valley Drive, and then a quick left on Glenwood Drive. Watch for a parking lot on the right. From there, walk up Glenwood Drive, past the entrance to Scotts Valley High School, and a short walk to K Street on the left for the entrance to

the West Glenwood Preserve.

Almost every neighborhood has some secret trails. They may not be public or official, but your neighbors may take you there. If possible, ask the property owner for permission.

#### Walking roads

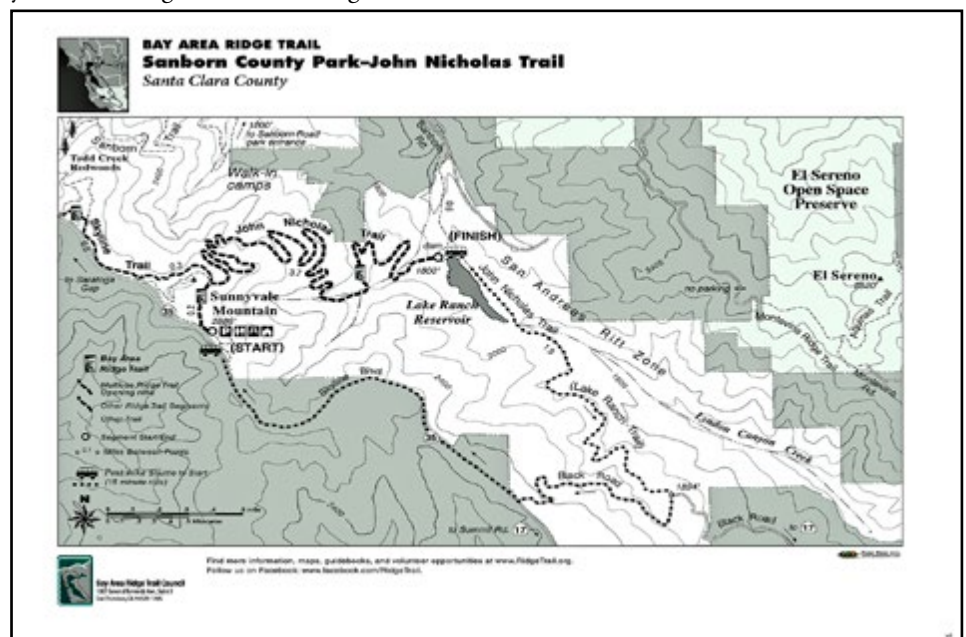
Although mountain roads are not particularly walker-friendly, they are a good alternative if you are careful. Remember that vehicle traffic has the right of way. Be sure to control your dogs and children. In most cases, it is safer to walk against the flow of traffic. Be especially watchful on blind curves or narrow passages. Always be ready to move or jump off the road.

And be sure to be friendly and wave to everyone you see. Even in the mountains, you are walking in someone's neighborhood.

#### Santa Clara County Public Health Department Reflect. Relax. Reset.

Dr. Laurie Cammon

Our local parks are a wonderful way to get out and spend time in nature, as long as you maintain social distancing, and avoid park benches, picnic tables, and play structures. As always, practice good hand-washing with soap and water. You can walk, run, hike, or just enjoy being outside and breathing some fresh air. And, even if you can't get out to the park, going outside in your own yard or opening a window and listening to the wind in the leaves of the trees for just thirty minutes each day will help you feel better and be healthier.



Lake Ranch and John Nicholas Trail map



From Marlene Wiley's Mountain-History Archives

## Communication Supports Community Marlene Wiley

### Redwood News

During a casual conversation, Win Parker of Redwood Estates told my husband about a newsletter published in the 1960s. She had four issues—May 1969, June-July 1969, September 1969, and January 1970. The January issue was volume 10, suggesting *Redwood News* began in 1961. It was fun reminiscing as I read the issues because we moved to the mountains in 1965.

One of the best highway improvements in the mountains began in the fall of 1969—construction of the Summit overpass. First-time commuters and other motorists benefited from safe access to Summit Road from Highway 17.

There are other nostalgic reports from mountain 4-H clubs. This wonderful national organization seems to no longer have the wide appeal it once did. We no longer read the news of Patchen, Highland Del, Summit, Burrell, Highland Hill and Laurel 4-H clubs. Of these clubs, Summit 4-H Club continued until the late 1990s, probably due to the dedication of the Cardoza family.

The January 1970 issue reported the death of Father Riker. The founder of Holy City, Father Riker organized his converts under the umbrella of "Perfect Christian Divine Science." Holy City was a colorful and often welcome stop on the old Santa Cruz Highway until Highway 17 bypassed the town.

An organization active in the 1960s and 1970s was the Lexington Hills Association. Organizations that remained strong: Summit Riders Horsemen's Association, Loma Prieta Volunteer Fire and Rescue, and Redwood Mutual Water Company.

Financing *Redwood News* was a continuing struggle for its dedicated staff. A plea for help appeared in the annual report published in September 1969. "Our income came from two sources—contributions and advertising sales. Advertising brought in \$1,600.50 while contributors sent \$1,085.02. In planning our operations, we had hoped that advertising revenue would cover the cost of printing, while

contributions could cover mailing expenses. This is approximately what happened. That it worked comes as something of a surprise."

The staff included Judith and Alan Ellis, Jean Dempsey, Bobbie Norman, Alice Nutt, Margaret Kisner, Jack Barrett, Christine Frank, Peggy Reed, Donna Supernaw, and Jill McKeon.

If you have issues of *Redwood News*, I would welcome the opportunity to photocopy your issues to add to the Mountain History Study Group archive. Call MNN at 408-353-1901.

### Redwood Estates News

*Redwood Estates News* began in 1990 after the Loma Prieta earthquake. It was produced by the Redwood Estates Women's Club. The last issue I have is dated July/August 1995. Distribution was to residents of Redwood Estates. The masthead read "Just a Little Bit Above Los Gatos." June Sythe was the organizer and first editor. She was succeeded by Alice Hoglan in March 1994.

For these years, reporters included Margaret L. McGuan, Durl Gehrke, Larry Moitozo, Alice Ann Hoglan, Lois Munson, Regina Devlin, Charlene McIntyre, Mark Yoslow, Elaine Daniels, and Lou Calvert. By January 1993, Amy Sirota was the graphic designer. Distribution was handled by Ken Cichowski, Regina Devlin, Lois Munson, and Gretchen Ryan.

The publication carried local news, regular reports from the Redwood Mutual Water Company, and a classified section. Publishing costs were supported by advertising and the Redwood Estates Women's Club.

Articles of interest to the community were regular reports of the water pipeline financed by FEMA to provide water to mountain citizens. Redwood Estates' colorful Halloween parties were reported. A history of the Redwood Estates Women's Club was supported by information gathered from a 1949 scrapbook.

Redwood Estates community leaders were profiled. Marion Trumbull, postmistress



of Redwood Estates, retired in 1991, after serving the community for 21 years. In May 1993, *Redwood Estates News* joyfully announced the opening of the Redwood Estates swimming pool on May 29. FEMA funded construction of the new clubhouse and pool.

Bruce Franks wrote a history of mountain firefighting teams and stations. He was a member of CDF and Redwood Estates Volunteer Fire from 1948 to 1970. Other historical events reported were plans for rebuilding the Redwood Estates Pavilion, and the construction of the Lexington Overpass, dedicated as the Gillian Cichowski Memorial Overcrossing.

One of the last issues reported on the big storm of March 1995.

Do you have 1990 issues numbers 1 and 2? I would like to photocopy them for the archives. Please call MNN at 408-353-1901.

**Partial sets of Redwood News and Redwood Estates News are maintained in Marlene Wiley's mountain-history archives.**

### June Sythe A Community Leader

**June Sythe** was the first editor and a cofounder of the *Redwood Estates News*. She was also president of the Los Gatos Community Concerts Association. A former R. J. Fisher Middle School teacher, she received an honorable mention award from Los Gatos and Monte Sereno community-service organizations for setting up the first computer lab in Santa Clara County schools at Fisher. Retired from teaching when the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake occurred, she led Red Cross activities in Redwood Estates and helped victims by providing three meals a day. She was active in Operation Reindeer, an organization that collected and distributed food and presents during the holidays.



**Part 2 of The Poet of Holy City series  
The Love Balm Scandal of 1928**

Shelley Adina Bates

On New Year's Eve of 1927, a scandal rocked Holy City. There had been numerous court cases and lawsuits since its founding in 1918, but nothing like this—a spectacular half-million-dollar breach-of-promise suit against William E. Riker.

**Woman Sues Cult 'King' for \$500,000.**

Called a “love balm” suit, the astronomical sum was to salve the wounded heart of Mrs. Evelyn Rosencrantz, who had been living with Riker for a few months in Southern California, ostensibly as his secretary. The cozy brown cottage at 3679 Motor Avenue, Culver City, was the headquarters of Riker Productions. Mrs. Rosencrantz was not only to star in the production company's first movie, entitled *The Perfect Woman*, but was also to fly Riker's airplane, *The Spirit of Holy City Love*, from Holy City to Rome, in a publicity stunt to rival the Atlantic flight of Charles Lindbergh. He had, she said, promised her marriage—until two days before Christmas, when he backed out and returned to Holy City.

**Cult King's Wife Raps Birdwoman.** On New Year's Day 1928, Riker and his wife, Lucille, drove to San Francisco to hold a press conference in the offices of their attorney, James J. Bulger. Lucille had already spoken to reporters over the phone. “I feel sorry for the woman, if she ever thought she was going to marry my husband, because I've been Mrs. Riker for twelve or fourteen years,” she told the *San Francisco Examiner*. “It looks to me like just another plot to throw scandal on Holy City. And anyone who tries that had better be pretty careful!”

Brave words from a woman who would have to stand by her man in the face of a wave of scandal and publicity, calm and well-dressed as always, knowing all the while that not only was her rival a six-foot redhead who could actually fly a plane, but also that Mrs. Rosencrantz's allegations



**The “love nest” in Culver City, with a police investigator out front. Los Angeles Public Library photo collection, 1928.**

may 2020



**Evelyn Rosencrantz photographed with an airplane in San Diego. From Oakland Tribune, December 27, 1927, p. 40.**

were likely true. If they lost the suit, Holy City would have to be sold, and everything Lucille had built there, the security she counted on as a middle-aged woman, would be taken away. Riker denied everything, going so far as to admit that while he had called Mrs. Rosencrantz “dear,” she had clearly misunderstood him. “We believe that all people should live in brotherly love and mutual regard,” the *Examiner* quoted him. “We have a wonderful spirit down at Holy City and I call everyone ‘Dear.’”

From his correspondence, this at least seems to be true. Mother Lucille went on to say, “This whole thing is caused by an unscrupulous woman after money. You know, some people think that Holy City is a ‘love colony’ and that we practice free love there. Nothing could be farther from the truth. This woman is trying to capitalize [on] that popular belief.”

Luckily for Riker, by March 1928, Mrs. Rosencrantz had been arrested for passing bad checks, and was eventually sent to San Quentin as a habitual offender. The love-balm suit was transferred to Santa Clara Superior Court in January 1930. By then, Mrs. Rosencrantz had filed a number of

**Celebrating life in the Santa Cruz Mountains**



**Sky King, flown by stunt pilot Eddie DeLarm, was the only airplane ever to land at the Holy City airfield. Based south of San Francisco, DeLarm's flight school was where Riker and Evelyn Rosencrantz met in October 1927. I.B. Fisher collection, collection of the author.**

other lawsuits against Riker, keeping the newspapers busy for months.

**Everybody's Girl.** Lucille maintained her position as a loyal, supportive wife throughout that stormy year. But in the privacy of her own writing, it's possible she allowed her true feelings to show. In the archives at the Beinecke Library at Yale is a collection of Lucille's poetry that she sent to a music company in 1941. With the passing of a decade or more, perhaps she felt she could finally express herself, such as in this unpublished song lyric entitled *Everybody's Girl*. Aside from the allusions to the “girl” being sexually promiscuous, could “on the wing” be a veiled reference to a certain red-headed aviatrix?

**She's everybody's girl  
She's to every man a pearl,  
Sweetheart to all beneath the sun,  
She's in love with every man  
In this great big perfect plan,  
For to her all men are one.**

**And while she flits and flutters,  
From palaces to gutters,  
She smiles for what smiles will bring,  
In no one place she'll tarry,  
Least [sic] she'll be asked to marry,  
She's safe to smile when on the wing.**

A person can only wonder why Lucille stayed with Riker when he put her through so much public mortification. Perhaps it was a trade-off. She looked the other way during his affairs and stood by him in court. In return, the disciples looked up to her as “Mother Lucille.” She had a comfortable home, and most important, she was free to exercise her excellent business sense to make Holy City a much greater success than it would ever have been without her.

**A resident of Redwood Estates, Shelley Bates is the author of 42 novels. She is currently working on her Ph.D. in Creative Writing at Lancaster University in the U.K.**

page 27



## Hummingbirds Photographed by Mercury Freedom



*Hummingbirds are the smallest of birds, with most species measuring 7.5–13 cm (3–5 in) in length. They are known as hummingbirds because of the humming sound created by their beating wings, which flap at high frequencies audible to humans.*

*They hover in mid-air at rapid wing-flapping rates, which vary from around 12 beats per second in the largest species, to in excess of 80 in some of the smallest. Their top speeds exceed 34 MPH, and some species can dive at speeds over 49 MPH.*

*Hummingbirds have a very high metabolic rate. To conserve energy when food is scarce, and nightly when not foraging, they can go into torpor, a state similar to hibernation, slowing their metabolic rate to 1/15th of its normal rate.*





## It looks like COVID-19

Bruce Sudweeks

I recently read an account from the Smithsonian Library dated February 2, 1905. Written by Frank MacFarland, it detailed the collection of sea slugs along the Monterey coastline. MacFarland was a Stanford University malacologist, a scientist who studies mollusks such as sea slugs, snails, clams, octopus, and squid.

He described a number of new species of nudibranchs (sea slugs) and assigned a scientific name placing the creature of interest into the appropriate kingdom, phylum, class, order, family, genus, and species. (The shorthand scientific name of an organism is just the genus and species.) One of the nudibranchs that MacFarland described in 1905 was *Limacia cockerelli* (Cockerell's Dorid).

In MacFarland's 1905 account, he says that sea slugs were exceptionally plentiful in pools. This is no longer the case. It is now more challenging to find the Cockerell's Dorid. I resorted to SCUBA diving to find these sea slugs.

The Monterey Bay is home to a few hundred nudibranchs. Most are garishly colored. All are carnivorous, hermaphrodites, and shed their shells very early in life. Some make sounds that resemble a steel wire being plucked. Many are toxic and all have external gills. The name nudibranch means naked gills in Latin.

I spotlighted *Limacia cockerelli* because it has stunning coloration. Also, one of my dive buddies (a *MNN* reader) said it resembled the COVID-19 microscope photos you see in the news.



## Approaching Storm

Photographed by  
Bruce Fournier

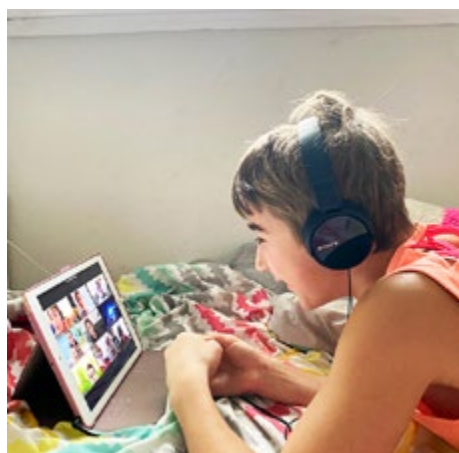
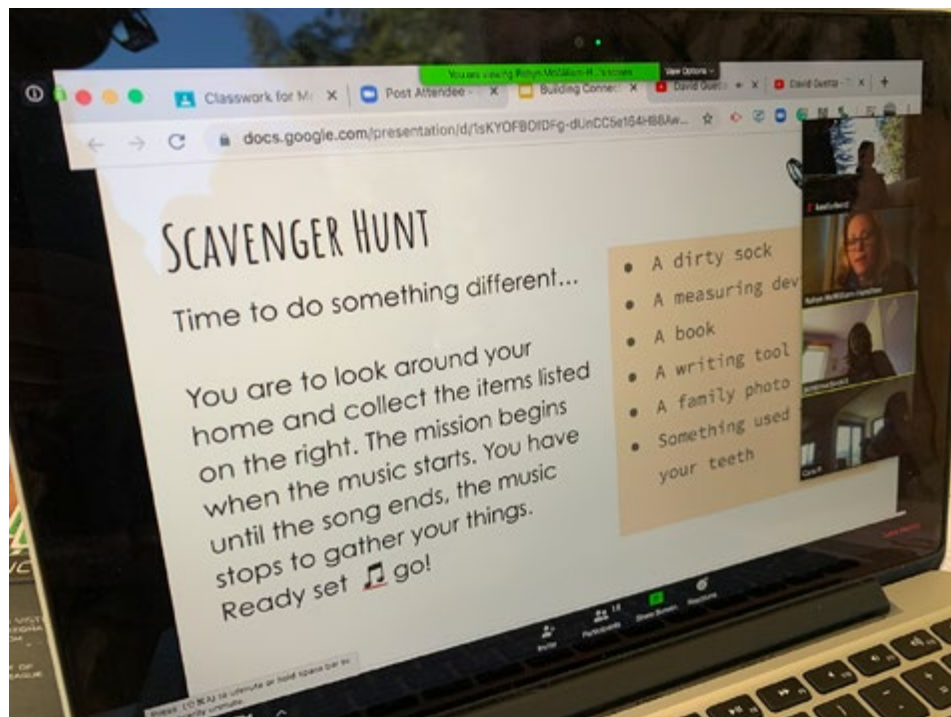




## Lexington School Deanna Wilk

On March 16, Lexington School, along with many schools across the country, embarked on a new journey of moving to remote online learning to combat the spread of COVID-19. If Lexington teachers and LGUSD administrators were challenged, it didn't affect their resolve to create and deliver the best remote online-learning experience they could in record speed, evolving it week by week.

When Lexington closed, the primary concern was to support the social and emotional needs of students and their families. The creation of the district-wide online Remote Learning Resources developed the instruction for week one, giving families and teachers a chance to get their bearings. Videos by school counselors, staff reading fun books, and cartoon drawing were featured as prominently as grade-specific math, writing, and science topics. Parents could pick and choose what



*A student engaged in a Zoom meeting with her class*

worked for their families, while teachers used this time to train on new technology that would deliver curriculum online for the weeks ahead.

By week two, Lexington students engaged in daily Zoom meetings with their teachers and fellow classmates, using Google Classroom for the upper grades to access assignments, and Seesaw for the lower grades to complete work. Teachers supported students and parents on how to download and use new apps, held Zoom office meetings daily, and provided encouragement.

"Once the students do a few activities with you, they are able to maneuver through the assignments easily. They are more technologically intuitive than many of us are," said first-grade teacher Julia Lombardi. Students adapted quickly, and could work a bit more independently.

At the end of week three, class routines



*A student collects items for a scavenger hunt.*

were solidified. The district-wide online Remote Learning Resources site also had videos of P.E. lessons, yoga classes, mindfulness, and even baking a cake. The videos provided breaks from online learning. Students could be led on a

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virtual trip, and even read books from the Lexington library using Sora. Seeing the friendly faces of teachers in their home via Zoom and videos helped to make the connection and atmosphere of caring alive. Thank you to everyone: our teachers, new parent-teachers, staff, and students for their commitment during uncertain times. We thank our school for giving families the clear message that families should do what works for them. Remote learning is different for every family, and that's OK.

Parents shared how their students made slime while on a video call with a friend, how their artist did watercolor on the shores of Lexington reservoir, how a dad fit in daily reading time between work calls, how children helped around the house, how they made French bread from scratch, emptied the dishwasher, and worked in the garden. Every day may not have these moments, but when they do happen, it is satisfying on a whole new level.



*Making slime on a video call with a friend*



*David Hubbard and the Math Olympiads*

When school was still open at Lexington, our Math Olympiads were recognized for their enthusiasm and growth in math knowledge. Many thanks to parent volunteer David Hubbard for leading our Olympiads weekly over five months. The children really loved learning from Mr. Hubbard. He was showered with appreciation and lovely notes.

Even though our students aren't at Lexington, our weeds are, and they are growing. Thank you to Lisa Keller, Adrienne Cox, and the parents who have been coming, separately, to weed and take care of our Life Lab. It will still be beautiful when we return.

The Lexington Gala and online auction have been postponed until further notice. In the meantime, if you can give, consider donating to Feed Our Heroes, an organization providing after-work meals to our local frontline health care heroes from area restaurants. To donate, visit [feedourheroes.org](http://feedourheroes.org).



*Photos by Betsy King, Cari Forbord, Sara Towler, and Lisa Keller.*

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## **Lakeside School**

Sean Joyce

Life at Lakeside School is being reinvented in the COVID-19 pandemic. We returned from spring break (a very different and unique spring break for our students, staff, and parents), and the Lakeside campus was closed, but learning continues.

Our staff delivered a second set of flexible-learning packets in the parking lot, in a drive-up setting, to our families on Monday, April 13. These flexible-learning packets provided specifically designed social, emotional, physical, and academic programs, including the arts and sciences. Our after-school programs (coding and makers project) were included in the flexible-learning packets.

Our staff continues to deliver digital distance-learning opportunities through Google Classroom, Google Slides, Seesaw, FLOOP, video links, and video conferencing such as Zoom. With schools closed through the end of this school year, teachers at Lakeside have expanded the opportunities for digital distance learning.

To ensure all students have access, Lakeside made laptops and iPads available for families to borrow during the shelter-in-place order.

Working together, Lakeside teachers and paraprofessionals are creating more time for personal interactions between students and instructional staff. Our paraprofessionals are leading small-group sessions, to enhance and expand normal classroom lesson activities. Daily morning meetings, and the development of virtual-classroom routines, allow students to have personal connections with teachers.

Lakeside staff is providing individualized resources based on student and family needs. Recognizing the level of stress the current COVID-19 pandemic has had on families and communities, our focus is connection before content. We are providing enrichment activities while continuing to support academic progress. We are moving quickly to solve the problems of learning in a COVID-19 world without compromising the essential needs of every student.

Now, it is not about being in a classroom, but about learning and making connections. It is a challenge to do this in a



digital environment, but we started the first day of the shelter-in-place to design and deliver effective standards-based instruction to meet individual needs.

May Day is a long-standing Lakeside tradition, when we gather to welcome spring with dances and songs, and watch the fifth-grade students perform the traditional May Pole dance. Since we couldn't celebrate together this year, we did

a virtual May Day singalong.

Students practiced and recorded three songs at home. First- and second-grade teacher Kajsa Byrne edited the voices together and created a May Day video for our families to enjoy at home.

It was a very different way to celebrate May Day for Lakeside families, but it brought us together virtually and reminded us that we will all be together again.

Digital distance-learning and flexible-learning packets can't replace the traditional school setting. We applaud how our families keep students connected to their learning, teachers, and peers.

Our little school on the mountain, like the Lakeside community, is tiny, but mighty. We are working together to ensure that our children receive a quality education, stay connected, and care for each other.

We are mountain strong, mountain proud.





## Building Blocks

Alexandra Hughmanick

Under the guidelines of health officials and our partners in education, Building Blocks is closed for the remainder of the school year due to COVID-19. Thankfully, our children have continued to connect with their teachers and schoolmates through virtual story times and shared projects each week. For many of our families, this has been a way to keep our children connected to the safety and joy



that they experience at Building Blocks.

We would love to make our content available, without obligation, to all mountain families who are interested. Email Nicole at [teacher\\_nicole@lpcf.org](mailto:teacher_nicole@lpcf.org), or Sally at [teacher\\_sally@lpcf.org](mailto:teacher_sally@lpcf.org) to be added to our email list. You will be sent a few story-time videos and project ideas each

week, all created for our mountain children by our wonderful Building Blocks teachers.

We are grateful for our incredible mountain community, and for the heroic frontline professionals working to keep us safe and well. There is no better place to shelter in place than here in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

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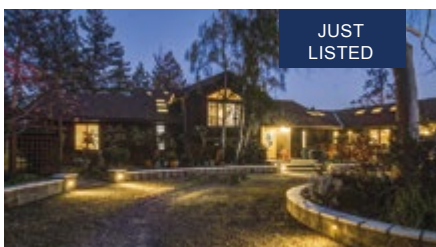


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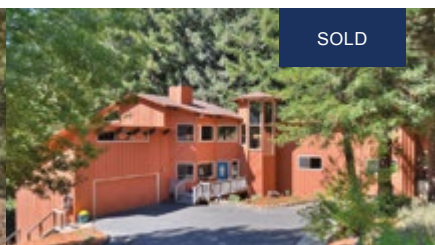
3 BD | 2 FULL BA | +/- 1,958 SQFT | 5.02 AC  
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