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mountain network news

June 2020



Dear Readers,

Thank you for being the resilient mountain community we know and love in these unprecedented times.

We have shown our true colors from 8pm howls, to trading fresh eggs for bread, veggie starters from a Nursery Farm stand, to our volunteer grocery delivery force. We've always known how to share what we have and brighten the lives of others.

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RESOURCES

Personal Shopper Program Phone Ordering and Updates 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 immune-compromised, and others in high-risk demographics.

In the last *MNN*, we introduced you to the personal shopper program. You can read about it at www.mountainnetworknews.com or at www.95033.org.

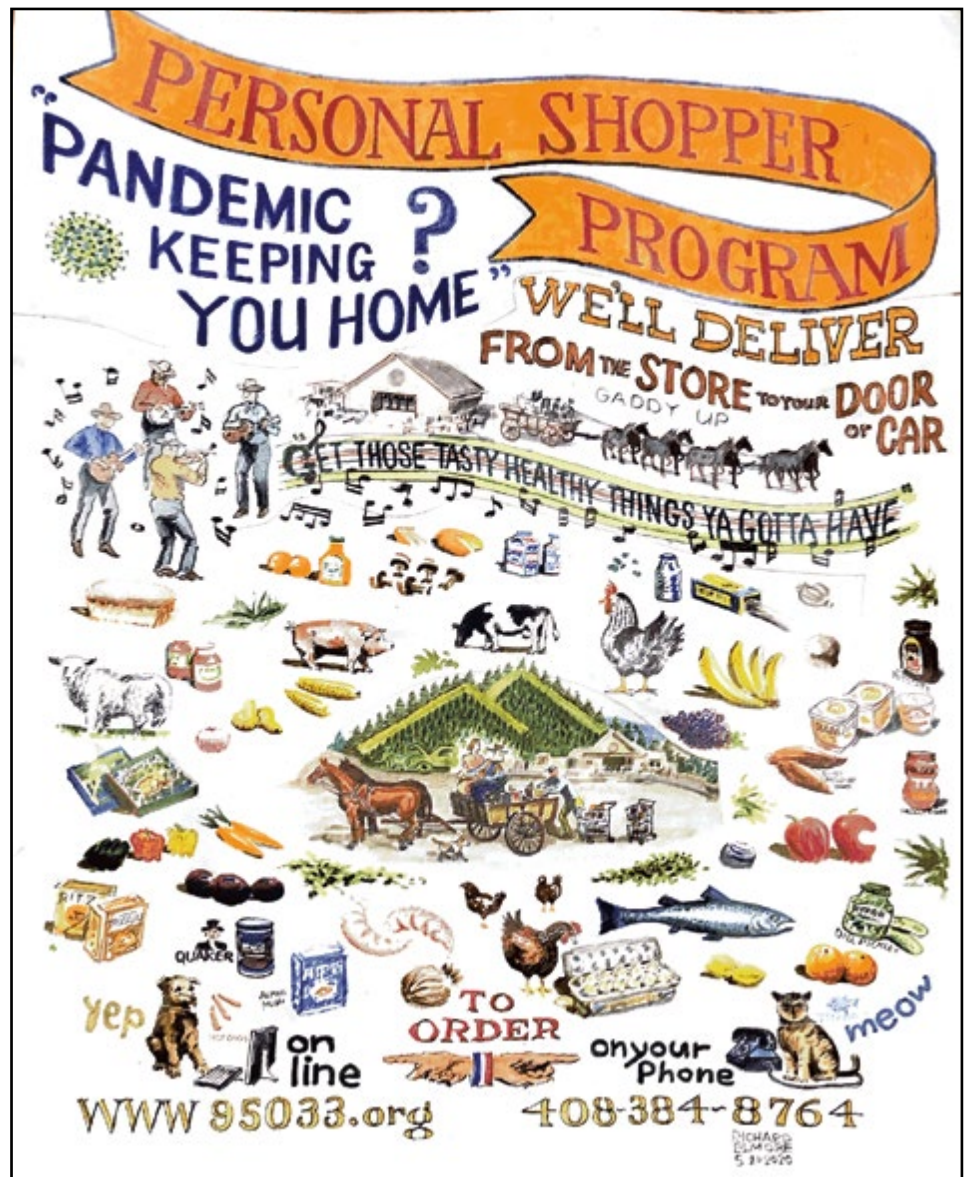
We put the program together in the early days of the pandemic, at a time when most of us did not really know what to expect. Since then, it has become clear that demand for our program will continue for the foreseeable future.

One of our users recently wrote, "Because of our extremely vulnerable situation, we will be on lock down for many more months, most likely until we can get a vaccine, so we will need help for a long time. We are not having any caregivers in now, for fear of contagion. I am doing it all and I am in my 60s and on a cane. We have two high-risk individuals in the house, so we take no chances at all. You are the only service that will deliver groceries to where we live. I was buying produce on Amazon, \$20 dollars for one melon! I didn't want to just hire a stranger and hand them a grocery list and my credit card. Too many things can go wrong and we have enough problems. You have been a life line for us in this very difficult time. Thank you."

Another said, "I'm worried that when others can return to a more normal life, I won't have the help but will remain isolated."

We realize that many people in need, especially seniors, may struggle with technology and online ordering. We are now ramping up our ability to take phone orders. Leave a message at 408-384-8769, and a volunteer will call you back.

As I learned from an essay written by a bioethicist, we will all need to practice, for ourselves and our family, the "principle of proportionality," which means the severity of restrictions should be consonant with the likelihood and gravity of the risks we are facing. The situation will ebb and flow,



Original artwork by Richard Elmore, a client of the personal shopping program.

and restrictions will change as the risk goes up and down. We realize that the need for our program will ebb and flow. We are prepared.

Our goal remains clear—we are here to serve. Simply put, we are a group of local organizers and public servants, here to help

people who can't help themselves safely during this pandemic. We plan to be here until our service is no longer needed.

Thanks for the support. For more information, visit www.95033.org, or call 408-384-8769.



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Chestnut-backed Chickadee © Tony Woo

Are Masks Effective?

Neil Wiley

In her book *Mama's Memoirs: Growing Up in the Santa Cruz Mountains*, Margaret Louis Rapp Tarquinio provides a picture of mountain children Elizabeth and Emma Mae Rapp wearing flu masks during the 1918 influenza epidemic. She said that most of the children who wore masks got the flu anyway.

The year of 1918 brought peace, but the war had led to more than 112,000 deaths. More than half of the deaths were caused by disease, primarily from influenza. The flu killed more Americans than those who died in all our wars in the 20th century. The average American lifespan in 1917 was 55 years. In 1918, it dropped to 39 years.

One hundred years later, we are still wearing masks. Some are colorful; others are funny. Some have fancy valves and tighter fits, which we save for medical personnel. The now-famous N95 offers the strongest protection, but even nurses don't have enough of them because they must be changed often. They filter out 95 percent of the particles 0.3 microns and larger, but these masks are hard to fit, expensive, and difficult to find, especially during the pandemic.

Surgical masks aren't as good. They don't seal against the face, and about 30 percent

of the particulate matter travels around the sides.

We are left with homemade masks of rolled cotton or other fabric. Experts agree



that they are the least effective. It may be better than no mask, but not if it gives you a false sense of security. Wear a mask to protect others. Washing your hands often, and maintaining a distance of six feet from other people, is essential. If you are vulnerable, isolation is safer, even if less fun.

Although homemade masks may not be perfect, here is one way you can make your own. All you need to make a T-shirt mask is a clean cotton shirt, a pair of scissors, and two long elastic bands. Just cut an eight-inch strip around the bottom of the shirt. Cut the loop in the middle to create one long strip. Cut elongated semi-circles at each end. Fold the cloth so that you have at least two layers of fabric. Be sure the mask covers your nose and mouth. Secure with two bands, one lower and one higher. A tight fit is critical.

To improve mask effectiveness, the CDC suggests adding a coffee filter. You can also use a HEPA or air-conditioning filter, but be sure that the filter does not contain fiberglass.

Try not to touch the mask. Of course, be sure to wash your hands after removing the mask.

Homemade masks may not be perfect, but that didn't stop me from accepting two gift masks from Dawn Hooper. We all need to be as safe as we can.

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Preparing for Fire Season

Now is the time to reduce wildfire risk. At home with additional time, you can create defensible space around your home, organize your Firewise community, and harden protection for your home. Although many wildfire-preparation activities can be done safely under shelter-in-place orders, you should strictly adhere to county and

Get outdoors and get trimming. Spring rain makes everything sprout. Newly sprouted grasses and weeds turn into lightweight flash fuels as they dry. They burn easily if embers land on them. Pull them out from under decks, clean them out of gutters, and mow and manicure areas that have vegetation.

What is the five- to thirty-foot lean-and-green zone? The next ring around your structure should be well-tended plants. Space plants both horizontally and vertically so if one were on fire, it wouldn't set neighboring plants ablaze and spread the fire. Tree limbs should not touch your house or grow over your chimney. Flame height is typically three to five times the height of a plant. Does your three-foot beautiful flowering shrub have 9 to 15 feet above

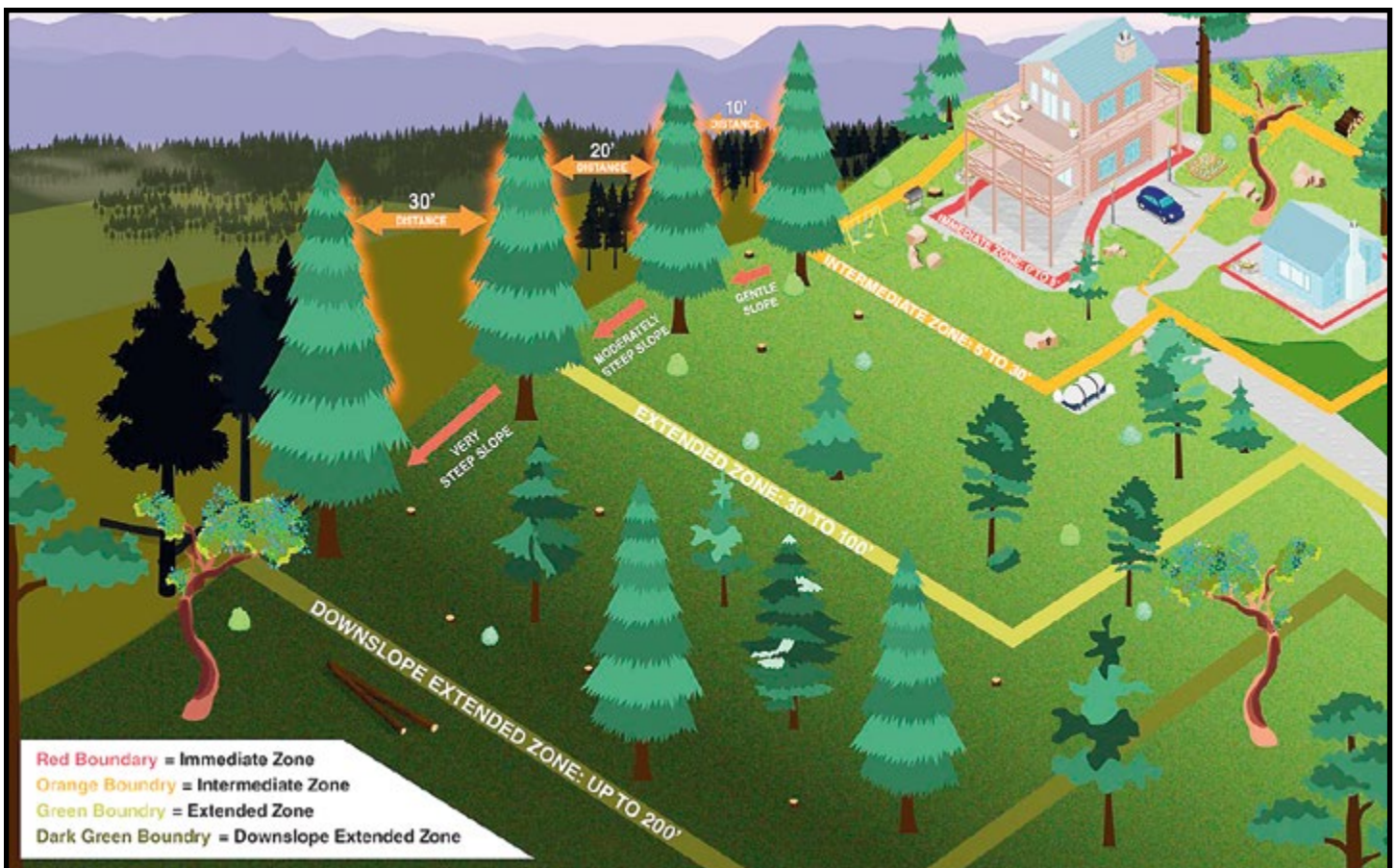
What is needed in the thirty- to one-hundred-foot zone? Mow grasses, remove broom, space bushes, and trim ladder fuels. Many resources on our website can guide your yard maintenance for defensible space.

How is the slope one-hundred to two-hundred feet below your home or structures? Fire typically moves uphill, so thinning and using the same techniques to reduce vegetation below your home will help reduce risk.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to see our weekly tips and tasks. For more information, visit sccfiresafe.org.

Becky Steinbruner

Fire season is rapidly approaching. Now is the time to make sure emergency responders can reach your home safely and



quickly. Use this time of sheltering in place to work around your home and driveway.

Make sure firefighters can find your home. If you live in a rural area, make sure your primary-access road is identified with a non-flammable sign, with at least a four-inch high reflective green background with white reflective letters, visible from both directions of travel. Install signs showing street numbers with directional signs at all driveway splits. Find out more at www.santacruzcountyfire.com/fire_marshall/standards/fpo_016_addressing_standard.pdf.

Make it easier to access your home. County fire codes specify that all roadways be twenty feet wide, but driveways serving up to two homes may be 12 feet wide. Vertical clearances of 15 feet must be maintained to provide safe access for fire engines responding to your home.

To review grade and vertical clearances, see http://www.santacruzcountyfire.com/fire_marshall/standards/fpo_012_max_grade_vert_clearance.pdf.

Access roads and driveways that are 12 feet wide need turnouts that are 12 feet wide and 35 feet long, every five hundred feet. This prevents a fire engine from being blocked when responding to your home, perhaps when you and your neighbors may be evacuating.

The fire agency turnout standard is at www.santacruzcountyfire.com/fire_marshall/standards/fpo_013_turnouts.pdf.

Clear all flammable vegetation ten feet horizontally along access roads



and driveways to prevent a fire from starting at the road, and escaping into the wildland. This will also reduce fire hazards for responding fire engines.

To find out about the Santa Cruz County Firesafe Council free-chipping program, see <https://www.firesafesantacruz.org/no-cost-chipping>.

Does your driveway include a private bridge? Fire engines require bridges to be twenty feet wide and certified by a licensed and qualified engineer. This makes it safer for heavy vehicles and equipment to respond and protect you and your home.

Bridge-load-limit signs are required. The bridge must be re-certified every ten years. See www.santacruzcountyfire.com/fire_marshall/standards/fpo_008_bridge_load_limit_signs.pdf.

Can a fire engine safely turn around in your driveway? All driveways leading to structures 150 feet from the main roadway must provide turnaround spaces, either T-style with a 16-foot entry, or a circular space with minimum forty feet of center-line radius. For turnaround standards required by fire agencies, see www.santacruzcountyfire.com/fire_marshall/standards/fpo_015_turnarounds_2.pdf.

Is your driveway secured by a gate? For fire engine access, the gate can be no farther than thirty feet from the public roadway and must be two feet wider than the driveway. If the gate is locked, you must provide a key or code access for firefighters to open the gate and access your home. You'll find the Santa Cruz County Fire gate standard at www.santacruzcountyfire.com/fire_marshall/standards/county_gate_standard.pdf.

Is there a water source available for fire responders to protect your home? Provide clearly visible reflective signage to help firefighters find your water sources. You can obtain free blue-reflective street dots from the Santa Cruz County Fire Marshal's office at 831-335-6748.

Does your community have a secondary access route? A new law covers secondary

access for communities in high-fire-risk areas where there is no secondary access. Public Resources Code 4290.5 became effective January 1, 2020. It states:


"On or before July 1, 2021, and every five years thereafter, the State Forestry and Fire Protection Board, in consultation with the State Fire Marshal, shall survey local governments, including counties, cities, and fire districts, to identify existing subdivisions (communities of thirty or more residences) located in a state-responsibility area or a very high-fire-hazard-severity zone, without a secondary egress route that are at significant fire risk.

The board, in consultation with the State Fire Marshal and the local government that identified the subdivision, shall develop recommendations to improve the subdivision's fire safety. The recommendations may include, but are not limited to, creating secondary access to the subdivision, improving the existing access road, or other additional fire-safety measures.

The board must maintain a list of these at-risk subdivisions and reports on the status of the work being done to reduce the risks. Contact your local fire agency today if you live in a neighborhood with no secondary access for fire evacuations."

You can find good information about defensible space at www.firesafesantacruz.org/defensible-space.

While you are sheltering in your yard, now is a good time to improve fire-engine access to your property, and reduce fire risk.



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Dental Health Now Brent Lay, DDS

What can you do about taking care of your dental health in these times?

As most of you know, in mid-March I decided to temporarily close my practice due to COVID-19. It was not a decision I made lightly. For the first time in over 25 years, I closed my practice because I thought it was the best thing I could do for our patients and team.

My top priority is the health and well-being of our patients, staff, families, and

community. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Where do we go from here? We are changing our practice and facility to treat people safely in what may be an extended period of extra vigilance.

We have developed procedures to provide pre-appointment screening, safe distance in the office, new check-in and check-out procedures, a more open schedule with staggered appointments, upgraded PPE, and disposable barrier coverage.

We are changing our facility from an open plan to enclosed rooms with directional airflow and surgical-grade HEPA/UV/ titanium-catalyst air-filtration and treatment systems.

By the time you read this, we will have completed these changes. We can see patients on a limited basis. Please be patient. With the increased spacing and appointment times, our capacity will be reduced, but we will get to everyone. We will soon phase in hygiene visits.

In the meantime, we are in the office refining procedures and checking messages. If you have an urgent need, the office recording will refer you to my cell number. I thank the mountain community for your understanding in this time, and for your support over the years.

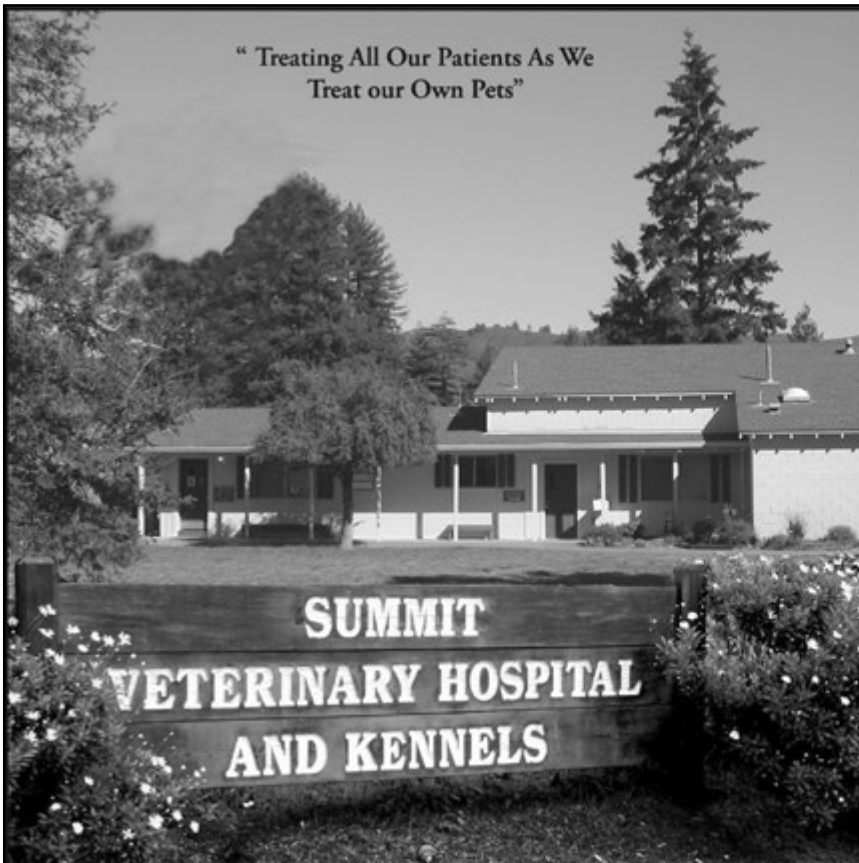


How Much Water? Rick Booth

Checking the water level in our five water tanks used to be a ritual required all year long. Through rain, shine, storms, and heat, I made a circuit to all five tanks, trekking through trees, tall grass, dirt, or mud. After arriving at one of my water tanks, I would tap tirelessly to assess the invisible contents inside. Once I heard the tell-tale change in tone to the tap from my finger, I knew I found the general area of the water line within the tank. I repeated the process, making rough measures for four more tanks.

There is a better way. At piAutomation, we create sustainable, environmentally friendly solutions for your water-storage and delivery systems. Our product, HydriQ, displays your tank's water level on your computer or mobile device. It can display water use and other properties, too.

Those of us who rely on groundwater wells, springs, or a water-delivery service are sensitive to water consumption. When the

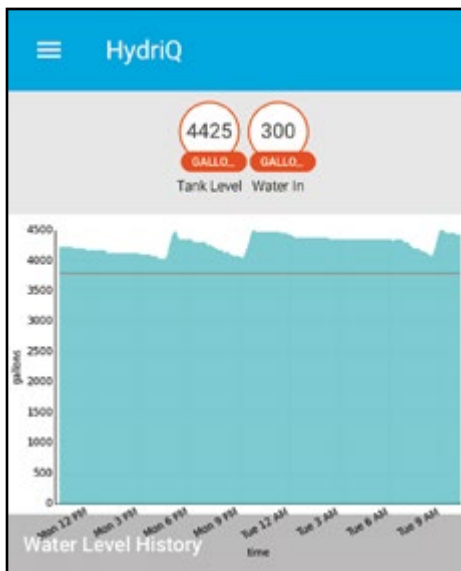


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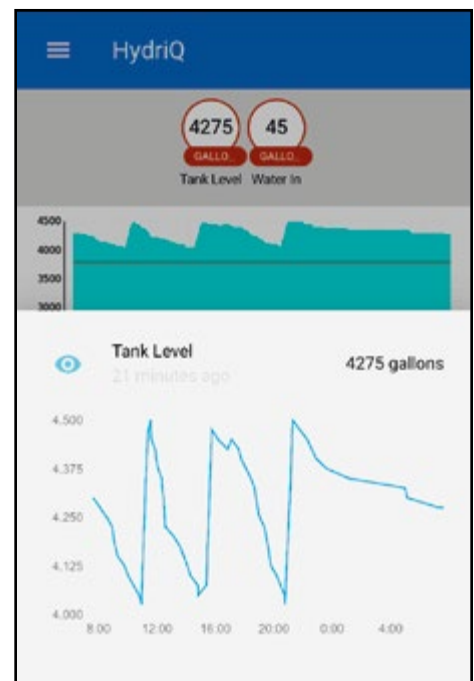
unexpected happens and water is lost, it can have serious impacts.

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Many of us don't know how much water we use each day. HydriQ can display water use. Knowing water usage helps you understand how you are using this resource.

According to the Quarterly Climate Impacts and Outlook report released in March 2020, California has had a warmer-than-average winter, with the driest February on record. Higher-than-average temperatures are expected through June. To make things worse, the reported snow-water equivalent of the Sierra-Nevada snow pack is at 45 percent of average. California may be in for a drought. Another concern is having the required amount of water in reserve for fire control.

Water tanks come in many shapes and sizes. With the tank lid located at the top of the water tank, the typical way to access the lid is by climbing a ladder. There are safety concerns due to the possibility of uneven or unstable ground, and slipping hazards from the smooth tank surface. If you have a tall water tank, you know how far the distant ground seems from this height. While balancing yourself and trying not to look down, you struggle to remove the water tank lid. Removing the water tank lid increases the risk of introducing harmful bacteria from particles on the outer surface of the lid and debris (dust, leaves, insects) surrounding the opening.



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RESOURCES

Another Proud Firewise Community Marty Road Nancy Cole

Marty and Jensen Springs roads, located on the west side of Highway 17, have earned the Firewise designation. The process helped our road get organized and plan for wildfire-safety improvements. Initially we obtained a grant from the FireSafe Council that allowed us to consult with fire experts on the best projects to do with the combination of a grant and our matching funds. This boost gave us the opportunity to do a thorough cleanup and remove hazardous debris.

We started the process with a wildfire-evacuation workshop at a Marty Road resident's home. A FireSafe Council member updated us on fire preparedness. Then a representative from the FireSafe Council inspected Marty Road, and provided us with a detailed risk-assessment report.

Using the grant money and our matching contribution, we hired a tree service to clear the road 15 feet on each side by removing brush, branches, and fire hazards. In addition, many property owners removed large, dead trees along the road. In fall 2019, our road residents showed up for a



maintenance workday. It included clearing away debris, cleaning culverts, and removing leaves from the road. Finally, we formed a committee to plan and initiate ongoing Firewise projects.

In spring 2020, we signed up for the FireSafe Council's free chipping program. Several neighbors contributed to a pile of plant debris. The FireSafe Council arranged the chipping and removal of the pile.

We are developing an ongoing project plan and implementing it in phases. We work as a

team on our road. This allows us to reduce the risk of damage from fire. The projects encourage us to work together for fire safety. We all enjoy the benefits of a well-maintained road.

We encourage other communities to organize their own Firewise group. It takes some organizing and planning, but the benefits can include the possibility of grant money for wildfire-safety or fuel-reduction projects. We also hope that these improvements lead to insurance discounts.

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Marty Road, before (left) and after (above) road clearing.

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Recreational Use Immunity For Common Interest Developments

Pat Wendleton, Esq. and Sharon Glenn Pratt, Esq.

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Have you ever wondered if you should stop people from using your property for recreational purposes for fear of being held liable if they are injured while on your property?

Actually, California encourages property owners to allow the public to access their land for recreational purposes. Specifically, California has enacted statutes that give the property owners immunity from liability for injuries sustained on their property while the person or persons are engaged in recreational activities.

The statutory law provides that landowners are not required to and/or have no duty "to keep the premises safe for entry or use by others for any recreational purpose." Neither are landowners required to give any warning of hazardous conditions, uses of structures, or activities to those entering for recreation purposes.

As a general rule, a landowner owes a duty of reasonable care to persons coming upon his/her land. But, there is an important **exception** to this rule when the people are using the land for recreational purposes. The exception applies even when the landowner has been negligent in the maintenance of its property. The exception allows and encourages owners or persons with an interest in property to permit people to use their property for recreational use **without fear of reprisal** in the form of lawsuits.

Although the law provides that the owner owes no duty to keep the property safe for persons or to give warnings of dangerous conditions, it is key that the

property is being used for **recreational purposes**. The law provides an example list of activities that qualify as recreational. The list includes hiking, climbing, rock collecting, sightseeing, picnicking, nature study, camping, water sports, horseback riding, viewing and enjoying nature, and the use of vehicles, such as snowmobiles and motorcycles, for recreational purposes. The courts have applied a very loose standard as to what qualifies as a recreational activity, finding that even children playing on farm equipment is a "recreational activity."

With the possible exception of property that is an active construction site, immunity extends whether or not the land is suitable for recreational uses.

There are only three instances in which a property owner is not shielded from liability. First, when an individual is "expressly invited, rather than merely permitted" to come on the property. The invitation need not specifically be for recreational purposes in order for a landowner to be liable. Second, when there is consideration (a fee of some sort) charged in exchange for permission to enter the property. Typically, the consideration is in the form of an entrance fee. And third, when there is "willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, use, structure or activity."

So, if you charge outsiders a fee to use your property for recreational use, the law no longer protects you by giving you immunity for the recreational use of your property. And if you expressly invite people to an event or to otherwise use your property, such as guests who are invited to swim in your pool or hunt on your property, you will similarly give up your immunity.

The third exception, for "willful or malicious failure to guard or warn against a dangerous condition, use, structure or activity" must be more than negligence. Liability can be established only when

the injured person proves that the owner had actual or constructive (should have known) knowledge of the danger; actual or constructive knowledge that **injury is probable**, not just possible, as a result of the danger; and that the owner intentionally failed to do something about the danger.

Not only does the law shield a landowner from liability, but it eliminates the threat that owners of real property will lose rights in their property if they allow or continue to allow members of the public to use, enjoy, or pass over their property for recreational purposes.

California enacted a law to specifically prevent the creation of an easement over a landowner's property when the property is being used for recreational purposes. As a result, allowing the public to use property for **recreational purposes** does not create an easement, whereby the public can continue the use even after the owner wishes the public to discontinue using the property.

Beware, however, if a "governmental entity" expends public funds to make visible improvements to private land, including cleaning and maintenance related to public use. After five years, a vested right will be conferred on the public entity to continue such use. This does not mean that the landowner gives up the recreational use immunity and becomes liable for injuries occurring on the property, but it does mean that an easement may develop. Also, an easement can be created when the public uses private land to access an ocean shoreline or beach. Public easements to access the beach through private property are often upheld by California courts.

It goes without saying (but we'll say it anyway) that your land should always be kept properly insured against liability risks as well as property damage. It is often up to your attorney to raise this defense of recreational-use immunity if you are sued. Some personal injury attorneys are

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Managing Attorney

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not aware of the immunity and will bring a lawsuit for injuries occurring from the recreational use of land.

You can sleep easier knowing that you do not need to prevent the public from using your property for recreational purposes in order to avoid liability. You are shielded from liability and from the loss of your property rights, when allowing the public access to your property for **recreational purposes**.

Sharon Glenn Pratt is founder of the law firm Pratt & Associates, located in Los Gatos.

She specializes in civil litigation, with extensive experience in community association law, including creation, amendment, and enforcement of governing documents.

Pat Wendleton also specializes in civil litigation, with substantial experience in community association, construction defects, and transactional law.

Redwood Estates Post Office Limited Mailbox Access

Until further notice, access to the front-lobby mailboxes of the Redwood Estates Post Office will be available only from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, and closed on Sunday.

Nightly Howl **Kevin McKinney**

On a recent balmy spring evening, we had wandered through the woods to a nearby meadow to find a bouquet of daisies and forget-me-nots to brighten the house up a bit. It was 7:59 Friday night to be precise. Folks in the Summit Road area, attentively listening for the first 8 p.m. howl, may have instead heard a screamed chorus of, "NO, BOUNCE, COME! NOOOOoooo!"

What you didn't hear seconds before that were the words "Is that a skunk?" The ensuing five minutes of howling reverberating from patios of neighbors near and far, were highly appropriate as we beat a hasty retreat, accompanied by mournful wails, echoes of coyotes, and Bounce the puppy reeking of undesirable fragrance.

No doubt you've heard it, if you've stepped outside at 8 p.m.: a cacophony of howls as

neighbors throughout the 95033 area howl in unison every night. I am told the trend started with a Facebook page created in late March ("go outside and howl at 8 p.m."). It has caught on nationwide.

Coyotes howl to find and stay connected to other coyotes. The nightly howl is a way for neighbors to feel connected and less lonely, to express their appreciation for essential workers, or just as a cathartic release of emotions after another day in isolation.

Give it a try and howl with your neighbors at 8 p.m. every night. Just keep your dog on a leash.



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Collin Cook
New
Team Member



* information deemed reliable but not guaranteed



Fox Equine Rescue Has a New Home Jordan Fox

Fox Equine Rescue & Youth Horsemanship Center is a 501(c)3, non-profit charity dedicated to rescuing unwanted horses and educating the community on horsemanship, leadership, values, and trust. We rehabilitate each horse back to optimal health, and then offer them for our sponsorship program, adoption to a forever home, or to serve in our lessons and youth horsemanship programs.

In youth horsemanship, children learn more than riding skills. They learn about animal care and how to form relationships. We are now open at our new location on Skyland Road for lessons, leasing, and volunteers.

The death of our kind benefactor left us with the urgent need to vacate his ranch. The Kanadys offered us space on their property for the horses. We are leasing a neighboring eight-acre pasture, and are rebuilding the barn, proper horse shelters, and an exercise arena.

It took us over a month to move our tack, feed, hay, equipment, and horses to the new property on Skyland Road. Our horsemanship and lesson programs give



rescued horses a purposeful life, and provide financial support for our rescue mission.

We need your support. Would you be willing to help us rescue horses, and give community youth opportunities to learn with these amazing animals? For more information, visit <https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/team/covid-19-creates-crisis-for-rescue-horses>.



Mountain Jam Song Around The Mountain Louis Niemann

The team that brings the Mountain Jam music festival to the mountains each summer is putting together a project called *Song Around The Mountain*, featuring local musicians and artists. The song is *Peace Train* by Cat Stevens.

The team asked mountain neighbors to videotape themselves singing along to the song. Participants could also dance, clap, wave, and hold up signs—anything that showed the positive spirit of our mountain community.

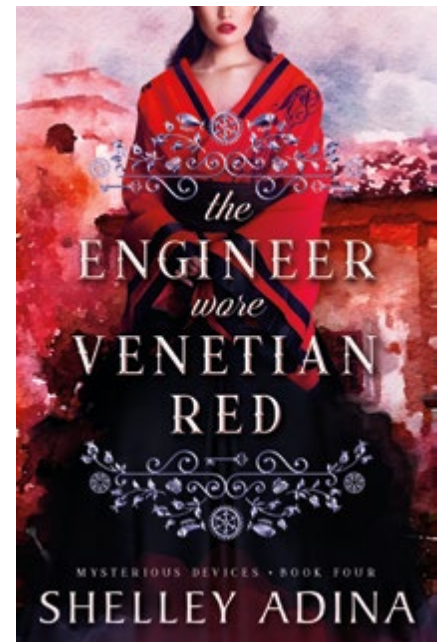
The video is available for viewing at <https://santacruzmountainjam.org/peace>.

Last year, the Santa Cruz Mountains Jam raised more than \$8K for music programs at our local school, and to help people in need in our area.

The Santa Cruz County Department of Public Works Highland Way Lane Closures

Highland Way at post miles 3.19, 3.24, 3.73, 3.91, and 5.45 will be subject to traffic delays with lane closures through Friday, October 30, 2020. These lane closures and delays are necessary for construction of retaining walls and roadway improvements.

Temporary stop signs and traffic signals will be in place for the duration of the project. The Department of Public Works would like the motoring public to avoid these areas, if possible, and to expect delays. Up-to-date information on county-maintained roads in Santa Cruz County is available online at <http://www.sccroadclosure.org/>.



Shelley Adina Bates, a resident of Redwood Estates, is happy to announce the release of *The Engineer Wore Venetian Red*, book 4 in her steampunk mystery series. The book features a sleuth who is a watercolorist.

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A Horse Finds a Home

Nevada

Nancy Cole

Nevada is an especially beautiful large black mustang. He lived on the Virginia Range in Nevada as a stallion for four years. He was taken into captivity when he wandered into city neighborhoods and onto roads.

He was rescued by Anna Orchard, a woman who works with the wild horses on the Virginia Range. Anna took Nevada to a Reno prison facility, where the inmates work with wild horses. There he was gelded, and received the required paperwork from the state of Nevada allowing him to be adopted. Anna then found him a foster home. Nevada was easy to place, because he is a handsome equine. Nevada eventually found his way to Melany Moore, a mustang quieter, in the Summit Road community.

Melany and I are devoted to advocating for the needs of American wild horses. Melany has trained and quieted several mustangs from the Nevada Bureau of Land Management.

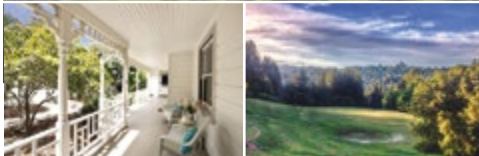
Nevada, our most current project, is now living at the Bear Creek Stables and has a new owner, Michael Riese.

Before coming to Bear Creek Stables, Nevada lived with Melany and her other mustangs for two years. She patiently worked with Nevada to quiet him and get him comfortable with human touch. Eight months ago, Michael Riese joined Melany to further Nevada's training. Michael was a diligent student. Eventually, Melany felt confident that her student had "earned" Nevada.

In April, Nevada was moved to Bear Creek Stables. Moving to a new home with a new owner can be an adjustment for a horse, and for Nevada it meant giving up security and familiarity. To help Nevada adjust to his new home, his favorite mustang mare, Haven, accompanied him for a few days. Nevada settled in very well and works out daily with Michael, who uses natural horsemanship methods to prepare Nevada for riding.

It takes patience and time to gain trust. With the extra attention from Michael and his family, Nevada is feeling secure. We hope this may be an informal beginning for a mustang-rescue program at Bear Creek Stables. It's a plan for the future.





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*I am here to answer all of your Real Estate questions regarding
selling or buying a home during the Covid- 19 Shelter in Place.*



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Listed for \$1,275,000



6850 SUNDANCE DR, MORGAN HILL
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22707 SUMMIT RD, LOS GATOS
Listed for \$1,049,000



24615 SKYLAND RD, LOS GATOS
Listed for \$895,000

**During the Coronavirus pandemic our team continues to work diligently with buyers and sellers
while exercising caution and complying with State and County 'Shelter in Place' orders.
Real Estate is deemed an 'essential service'.**

- Staging services as usual (FREE)
- Now offering interactive floor plans, video tours, and virtual walk through to facilitate virtual showings
- Social media and online marketing
- No Open Houses or Broker Tour
- No flyers or hard copies of marketing materials
- Showing vacant & occupied homes
- In person viewings by appointment only
- Social distancing, masks, gloves, booties
- Only 2 buyers (from same household) + 1 agent
- Pre-approved buyers only
- List of 'Off Market' & 'Coming Soon' listings available

Low inventory and pent up demand, home values are stable. Mortgage rates still at all time lows!

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86 ac · 5 beds + 3 full & 2 half baths · 4740 sqft
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23880 WRIGHTS STATION ROAD
3280 sqft · 3.59 acres · 5 beds · 3.5 baths
beautiful 1987 built home, formal gardens, lawn,
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EXCLUSIVE



23020 OLD SANTA CRUZ HWY
29 acres · Main house 7454 sq ft · 5 beds · 5.5 baths · 3 bed guest house
36x60' barn/garage · pastures · orchard · sports court · observatory
outdoor kitchen/living area & fireplace
Listed for \$5,678,000



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26985 LOMA PRIETA WAY
6276 sqft · 5ac · 6 beds · 4.5 baths
3956 sqft winery · vineyard · ocean views
Listed for \$3,950,000



25470 ADAMS ROAD
2933 sqft · 1.9 acres · 3 beds · 2.5 baths
+ den · usable land
Nice sunny land with various fruit trees,
fenced garden, decks & outdoor seating areas.
Listed for \$1,495,000



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324 ALTA VISTA LANE
2833 sqft · 6.5 ac · 4 beds · 2 baths
Spectacular ocean/bay views! Pool,
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Listed for \$1,450,000



25505 SOQUEL SAN JOSE
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Sunny usable acreage · fruit trees
Christmas trees · room for horses
Listed for \$1,699,000

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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.

Santa Clara County Bookmobile
See SCCID.org for library services on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

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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SPECIAL EVENTS

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

Rescheduled to Friday, 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.

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. If conditions improve sooner, we will try for an earlier date.

Santa Clara County FireSafe Council		
2020 Community Chipping Program Schedule		
Lexington Hills Area	Application Due Dates	Project Type
Redwood Estates	June 6	Drive-up
Oakmont/Wright Drive/Old Santa Cruz Highway between Holy City and Highway 17	June 7	At home and community pile
Gillette/Gail of the Wild/Wild/Old Santa Cruz Highway between Summit and Holy City	June 7	At home

The Santa Clara County FireSafe Council offers free chipping to mountain residents in both Santa Clara and Santa Cruz counties this summer. To find out more about how to stage your brush for chipping, and to download an application, visit www.SCCFireSafe.org/chipping. If you need a paper application, call 408-975-9591, or email dschip@sccfiresafe.org. Piles must be ready for inspection and applications must be submitted by the due dates listed.



Kanady Team Properties Presents

For more information on these homes and lots, and to arrange a tour, please call us at 408.316.1666.

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LOS GATOS MTNS



24615 Skyland Road 2

Bed | 2 Bath | 6 Acres
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1890's Farm House

LOS GATOS MTNS



78 Ocean View Road 2.57

Acre Lot
Offered at \$525,000
Ready to build your dream home!

SAN JOSE



14830 Corralitos Lane

>1 Acre Lot
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Package of 3 lots view lots

LOS GATOS MTNS



17515 Laurel Road

9.51 Acre Lot
Offered at \$685,000
Site of the Old Laurel Mansion!

SAN JOSE



165 N 10th Street

Multi Unit with basement
Sold for \$1,050,000
5% over asking price

SAN JOSE



19599 Almaden Road

2.12 Acre Lot
Offered at \$1,675,000
Plans/permits for a 5,000 SF home

LOS GATOS MTNS



13677 Long Ridge Road

3 Bed | 2 Bath | 1.2 Acres
Offered at \$795,000
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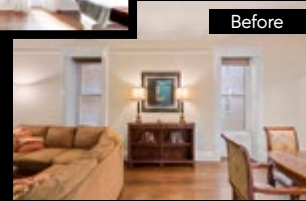
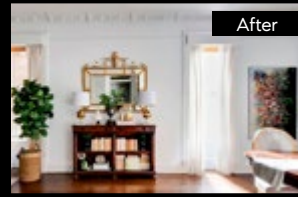
About Keith Kanady

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, 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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Where flowers bloom, there is hope.

Maison du Lac

Neil Wiley

Sheltering in place isn't that bad. After all, home, even lived in alone, is home. Yet after weeks of isolation, solitude became confinement.

I love to hike and share the experience in words and pictures, but I've written about most of the local trails, parks, and beaches. I wanted to share something beautiful and new while respecting the rule of staying home, or at least near home.

I found such a nearby place. It was beautiful, quiet, and natural. It was *Maison du Lac*.

This is more than a lovely estate. It is the lifetime creation of Patti Hughes, with many acres of small lakes, forests, meadows, gardens, and thousands of flowers.

Patti took me for a tour that looped around the entire estate. Each area provided a different experience: a walk with a lakeside view, through shaded paths, by colorful trees, under giant redwoods, and across large, green meadows. It wasn't a formal garden. It was a work of art that simply displayed nature at its best.

These pictures were taken in one afternoon in a world of beauty. Thank you, Patti.



Lilac



Rhododendron



English Hawthorn



Pride of Madeira



Purple Iris



Poppy field



Orange Rose



Bowl of Beauty Peony



Flowering Plum



Laceleaf Japanese Maple



Salvia Tequila



Berberis



The Bell Garden

history

Hiking Through History

Almaden Quicksilver County Park Neil Wiley

Once, 1800 mercury miners and their families lived here. Now, it is home to a few historical relics—mine shafts, reduction equipment, a powder house, a railroad trestle, and a few old buildings battered by time. It was this history that brought me back to Almaden Quicksilver County Park. I wanted to share some pictures of this unusual place before these relics disappear.

On a previous hike, I entered the park from the Wood Road entrance across from a trailhead for Sierra Azul Open Space. This time, I followed the park's historic trail from the main Hacienda entrance at the south end of New Almaden. This trail provides numerical markings and interpretive signs. A park brochure, complete with a trail map and descriptions of each numbered site, provides a self-guided tour. All you need is a good pair of legs to hike the 5.1 miles around the trail loop.

The brochure is usually available at the trailhead, but it's safer to get a copy online at <http://www.sccgov.org/sites/parks/parkfinder/Pages/AlmadenPark.aspx>. Click on Almaden Quicksilver Historic Trail Guide.

After you park your car at the Hacienda entrance, walk across the road to see a registered landmark commemorating the first quicksilver mining in California, and a plaque honoring Patrick Tillman, a New Almaden native who was killed in Afghanistan in 2004. Back in the parking lot, you'll find another plaque dedicated to the attempted takeover of the New Almaden Mine by Abraham Lincoln.

Your first interpretive sign (**post 1**) provides an overview. Discovered by a Mexican cavalry captain in 1845, the New Almaden Mine was the first and richest mercury mine in North America. Named after Spain's famous Almaden Mine, the New Almaden Mine had produced almost 84 million pounds of mercury by 1976.



page 26



Entering the park, you find **post 2**, located in front of the reduction works in a large, almost perfectly flat meadow. You can see an old wooden Cornish pump used to drain mine shafts, a cylindrical piece of machinery called a rotary furnace that extracted mercury from cinnabar ore, ore cars, and other strange machines. Walk through the field, and then turn sharply to the right to enter Deep Gulch Trail. This narrow, single-track trail becomes wider as it takes you uphill for about a mile.

Post 3 identifies the Harry Shaft, visible through large piles of rock tailings. There are more than 100 mine entrances in the park, but most are hidden.



We continue up Deep Gulch Trail, and then take English Trail up to English Camp (**post 4**). As many as 1000 men, women, and children lived here. There was a school, a church, mining offices, and many cabins. In 1886, 253 students attended the school.

In 1933, English Town became the Mount Madonna camp for the Civilian Conservation Corps. The CCC built roads, fire-service buildings, lookout towers, telephone lines, and ranger stations. A plaque, walkway, and flagpole commemorate their service.



Mountain Network News

To the left of the flagpole, take the Castillero Trail for a short walk, then a left on the Yellow Kid Trail. **Post 5** indicates the site of Spanish Town, where as many as 1500 Mexicans and Chileans were housed.

The trail leads to **post 6**, where a giant rotary furnace was used to process mercury from ore. The large pipe rotated while heating cinnabar, breaking it down to mercury sulfide and turning mercury into a gas. The massive condensers on the left would liquefy the mercury into flasks for shipment.

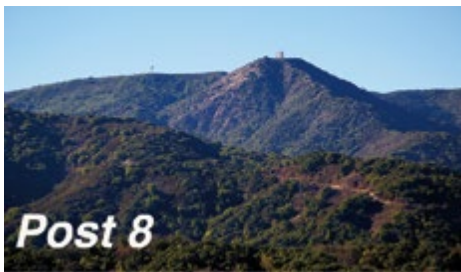


A few steps down the trail is **post 7**, and the notorious hanging tree. Justice was quick, but the condemned had a pleasant last view of Loma Prieta and Mt. Umunhum. For a better scenic view, walk back a few steps and up to Castillero Trail. A turn left on this trail takes you up a small hill to the **post 8** viewpoint.



Although Loma Prieta is the tallest mountain in the Santa Cruz Mountains (3786 feet elevation), it appears only as a high point on the ridge. Mt. Umunhum looks more like a mountain, with steep slopes up to the iconic five-story tower.

Post 9 (Bull Run), brings you to the most westward point of the loop and an intersection with Mine Hill Road. Two



picnic tables in shade and a nice view suggest lunch, snacks, or at least, a rest stop.

As you walk down a relatively steep but smooth Mine Hill Road, watch out for bicyclists, especially those coming downhill. This appears to be one of their more popular routes, and some riders are in “dive” mode.

When you come to your first right, take a short 1/10 of a mile trail to the San Cristobal mine tunnel (**post 10**). You can inspect a large block of granite used in competitions to compare drilling speed and depth, and walk a short way into the tunnel.

Double back to Mine Hill, and turn right (east). As you walk along Mine Hill, you'll see views of San Jose and the Santa Clara Valley (**post 11**).



Take a sharp left when you reach April Trail. On your walk down April Trail, you soon reach the Powder House (**post 12**), a small, reconstructed brick building used to store explosives. (When I mentioned the Powder House to another hiker, she said she didn't need to go to the bathroom.) Although the building is not a powder room, it does use manure insulation between two layers of brick to keep explosives cool and to channel any blasts.

Continue on the April Trail to walk around the April Tunnel Trestle (**post 13**). This imposing structure was used to dump ore into a wagon or truck.

You could walk back up the trail, but continuing along April Trail is easier. The trail loops back to Mine Hill Road, saving steps and a steep climb. It was along this quiet trail that I had one of my more interesting sightings—a giant buck. I took several pictures before he casually walked off the trail.

At **post 14**, look up to the ridge to see an immense chimney used to release dangerous sulfuric gases that the wind would carry away, maybe. Unfortunately, these gases were blamed for acid rain in the South Bay.

Post 15 indicates the location of the tramway, which was removed in the 1940s after several youths were killed attempting the ride. An interpretative sign offers more information about the tramway.

There are no more posts, but if you are into history, your last, or first, stop, should be the Almaden Quicksilver Museum located in the largest building in New Almaden—the Casa Grande. To learn about docent- and ranger-led hikes, call 408-268-3883.

You don't have to walk. You can ride 23 miles of equestrian trails, with spacious horse-trailer parking at the Hacienda and Wood Road entrances. Biking is popular on ten miles of trail. Dogs on leash are welcome. The park is open every day. The



museum is only open on weekends. The schedule for other days changes with the seasons. For museum information, call 408-323-1107.

Admission, tours, and parking are free. You can arrange your own group tour at 408-323-1107. No matter how you travel, be sure to bring a map and water. Although signage is good, the park is 4152 acres big. See you on the trail.



Caspian terns spend most of their spring and summer days cruising and fishing Lexington Reservoir, but every bird needs a break now and then.

Photo by Mercury Freedom

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A Wild Success **Bruce Sudweeks**

Before COVID-19 monopolized the news, there was discussion about changes to the Endangered Species Act.

Critics of the act said that the law was being used to control the land and not rehabilitate species. Some said that the law went too far in limiting logging, drilling, mining, road building, and cattle grazing.

The scientific community reported that for a species to recover, it needs a habitat in order to hunt, find mates, and migrate. Habitat loss is driving global mass extinction. It is the top threat to endangered species.

The act was signed into law in 1973. It has been 99 percent successful in preventing the extinction of the species on the list. Today, over 1600 plant and animal species are being protected by the Endangered Species Act.

One of the local species that was listed as an endangered species, and has subsequently recovered, is the Stellar sea lion. In 1990, the Stellar sea lion was listed as an endangered species, because its numbers had declined 82 percent since 1960. In 2012, these sea lions were removed from the endangered-species list because they had rebounded.

Some of the California rookeries, however, have been slow to recover (such as San Miguel Island). Nevertheless, it looks like the Endangered Species Act is working. Just ask a sea lion.

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Lakeside School News

Kathy McKinney

As we closed out this unprecedented school year, distance learning continued for our students. In addition to completing schoolwork handed out in flexible learning packets, our students met weekly on Zoom and in Google Classroom for virtual class meetings to receive one-on-one, small-group, and whole-class instruction from their teachers. Lakeside students received learning opportunities from teachers, paraprofessionals, and other support staff. Through these digital/virtual experiences, our students remained connected with their classmates and trusted adults.

Teachers worked long hours to deliver meaningful learning opportunities for our students.

On Zoom, our kindergartners listened as their teacher, Heather Wingfield read stories. Students shared their pets and the things they were learning at home, such as cooking and gardening. One day, they did a directed drawing of a sheep while studying the “sh” digraph. On other days, they went on a scavenger hunt and celebrated birthdays.

The first- and second-graders had a class talent show. Some students played musical instruments. Others showed off elaborate Lego creations and art projects. One talented athlete demonstrated his dribbling and basketball skills. Their teacher, Kajsa Byrne, shared this: “One ongoing theme in our virtual class meetings is finding out who

has recently lost teeth. Every week, at least three students have shown off the new gaps in their smile.”

Our third- and fourth-grade students had a “magic day.” On Zoom, they shared magic tricks and inventions, or dressed as a magical character. They completed some directed-drawing projects and shared their pets. Marcia Williams also led her students on a virtual field trip of the San Diego Wild Animal Park.



photographs, artwork, cartoons, and memes created by the students during the shelter in place. Teacher Steven Bourque encouraged the students to create an online recipe book of homemade food they made at home.

“After I put a few students in charge of the project, the recipe book just took off.” The book has more than fifty recipes (thirty of which fall under the “dessert” category).

Shortly after their return from spring break, Lakeside students were greeted by a video created by Kajsa Byrne and Heather Wingfield, featuring the Lakeside staff singing and dancing to *Hakuna Matada*. Busy as she was, in honor of May Day, Kajsa also put together a student-

showcased musical production in lieu of the traditional annual Lakeside celebration. You can watch both the *Hakuna Matada* and May Day productions at our district website: www.lakesidelosgatos.org.

Lakeside Joint School District has expanded its middle-school options for the coming school year. The district negotiated with Saratoga Union School District and Union School District to offer additional middle-school options for Lakeside School families. In May, our district signed memorandums of understanding with Saratoga (Redwood Middle School), Union (Dartmouth Middle School), and Loma Prieta (C.T. English Middle School) school districts.

The new middle-school options and many other things are happening at the district level as we close out the 2019-2020 school year. The district is planning for summer projects and the reopening of school in the fall. We will share those plans as they become more definite in the coming months.



Our fifth-grade class wrote about their favorite memories from their time at Lakeside. One wrote, “My favorite memory of Lakeside is my first day in TK. I came in the middle of the school year, and I was looking around at lunch time. Two other girls my age came running over, yelling “The new kid, the new kid!” They offered

to be friends with me. It gave me a great impression of Lakeside.” Another wrote, “My favorite Lakeside memory is Age of Sail. The best part was when my group got to wake everybody up. We also served food. I liked it when we hoisted Mrs. Byrne into the air. It was really fun.”

The fifth-graders also did a class slide show, compiling



Lexington School

Deanna Wilk

Lexington's wonderful administrative assistant, Jill Mayo, was recognized as a distinguished employee of the Los Gatos Union School District in May. In a district-wide Zoom meeting, distinguished employees, the teacher of the year, and retirees were honored.

Of Jill they said: "She compassionately accepts the many responsibilities that come her way, strengthening staff, community relationships, and supporting students." At Lexington, she is the glue that holds everything together. A relationship builder, Jill's warmth, caring, and sense of humor make students, parents, and colleagues feel welcome and heard. Her objective professionalism makes her very effective at her job.

Jill was touched by the honor and the congratulations that came her way. "I am grateful to have been nominated and selected as a distinguished employee for the district. I have been at Lexington for over 13 years and love the children, parents, community, and the Lex team. I miss being able to see my co-workers and the children daily during shelter-in-place. I can't wait to get back to our beautiful campus." Thank you, Jill. We are very grateful for you, too.

May 4 was teacher-appreciation day. Parents appreciate teachers as never before, as they juggle work while teaching at home. Our teachers are continuing to make remote learning as good as it can be. Thank you



Jill Mayo

to our teachers for their continued dedication.

Remote learning has been an adjustment for our students, with good parts, not so good parts, and just plain strange parts. And don't forget the frustrating parts. A few students tell us what they think about remote learning:

William (fourth grade) says, "What I like right now is that there is more time to do the assignments. What I don't like is that the technology can be frustrating, like I have to turn things in several times. What's weird is when I have to meet up with my whole class on Zoom and we have to clap or sing together. It just doesn't work. Happy birthday sounds really weird. I also hate not being able to see my friends and being stuck at home. I like my sister, but she is the only kid around, and I want to be with other people."

Maddie (first grade) says, "What I kind of like and don't like is I get to do some harder stuff. My parents are making me do hard work since I'm not doing as much as when we were in school. The best part is that I get to go to school in my pajamas and when we go on walks we don't pass as many cars. I miss going to school and seeing my friends."

Ariana (first grade) says, "Remote learning is frustrating for me to do online."

Alessia (first grade) says, "I like doing homework with my mommy and daddy. I have learned so much over the last two months, but it has been weird only



seeing my class on my computer and not face to face. I miss seeing my friends and playing outside."

Many students are frustrated by only working and communicating with friends through technology. The elementary years are a time of hands-on learning and playing with friends. On the other hand, they are learning and connecting with family as never before. They know what they miss while recognizing and appreciating the new good parts of school. Thank you to teachers and parent teachers, for contributing to the good part of their day, and kudos to our students for their hard work.



schools

Loma Prieta Joint Union School District Hats Off to our Distinguished Employees Lisa Fraser

Our staff has established core commitments that guide our daily work. One commitment is to acknowledge the contributions of our colleagues and take time to celebrate individual and shared accomplishments. In keeping with this spirit, we began hosting a new end-of-year employee-recognition event last year.

This gathering provided an opportunity to celebrate our certificated and classified employees-of-the-year, to bid a fond farewell to those who may be retiring, and to recognize staff members who have reached double-digit milestones of service to our district.

We had planned a repeat event in May, but due to the impacts of COVID-19 and the corresponding restrictions on gatherings, we had to cancel our employee-recognition event this year. We wanted to give our employees their day on stage, so please join me in recognizing our 2020 Loma Prieta honorees. We appreciate and admire their contributions, especially during these challenging times. Congratulations!

Teacher of the Year Carolyn Dufort

Second-grade teacher, Loma Prieta

Carolyn has been described as a teacher who goes above and beyond for her students, parents, and colleagues. She is kind and compassionate, leads by example, and unselfishly supports other staff with advice, ideas, encouragement, and comfort. She has a positive attitude and a genuine love for teaching. If you have attended a

Loma assembly, you witnessed her love for music. She is the maestro of our school songs each week. She shared this passion with her students. She is an asset who will be missed.

Classified Employee of the Year Julie Bourque

School secretary, C.T. English

Julie has been described by her colleagues as the go-to person for students, teachers, and parents. She is the "air-traffic controller" of the C.T. English Middle School office, greeting and guiding all who enter. She has an innate ability to multi-task during a multitude of disruptions. She is a friend to many and a confidant to others in times of need. She solves problems quickly, efficiently, and with a keen sense of humor. She boosts morale with her participation in spirit days. She has orchestrated the annual World Strides eighth-grade trip to Washington, D.C., to the delight of our students and families. Julie is a "Jill-of-all-trades" and central to the spirit of our school community.

The following employees are celebrating ten- and twenty-year service benchmarks in 2020:

Twenty years of service Kat Ray

Kindergarten teacher, Loma Prieta

Ten years of service Randy Cohen

Resource specialist, C.T. English

Carolyn Dufort

Second-grade teacher, Loma Prieta

Cari Templeton

Kindergarten teacher, Loma Prieta

Tony Trawick

School bus driver/groundskeeper.
Loma Prieta Joint Union School District

Happy trails to the following employees who are retiring this year from the Loma Prieta Joint Union School District. We appreciate their dedicated service and are deeply saddened that their sunset must be overshadowed by this health crisis. We plan to celebrate properly at a future time. Congratulations to:

Kris Denues

English/technology/yearbook teacher,
C.T. English

Carolyn Dufort

Second-grade teacher, Loma Prieta

Debbie Shoemate

Fifth-grade teacher, Loma Prieta

Ann Harrington

Instructional assistant, C.T. English



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**Loma Public Education Fund
Investing in our Children
and Their Future**

Ruth Gantly

While the COVID-19 pandemic has had a dramatic impact on our families, communities, and way of life, we are heartened by the moments of triumph in everyday acts of courage and love. Although these times challenge us, we remain optimistic that our world will thrive again.

LPEF is focused on supporting the health and safety of our community. Our mission is to KEEP our schools strong. We continue to work as an advocate for all of our children, and remain committed to KEEP fundraising, our education programs, and creating opportunities that our children had prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We have adapted to a new norm. For our children, this involves social distancing at a time when their peers are their tribe. School time was their connection to others. School programs promoted growth and development. Sports programs supported team building and developed skills. The library was a door to other worlds. Art and music allowed them to express themselves. They took pride in concerts, plays, and sports competitions. For some, our school is a place of safety, a regular meal, and a place they look forward to each day.

The skills that our children develop in school help them cope daily. Their successes are based in critical thinking, creative talent, emotional intelligence, and responsibility. Their enjoyment comes from physical activity, artistic expression, music appreciation, and DIY-ing it.

During this pandemic, musicians and artists share their work through online concerts and virtual galleries. Writers and actors engage us through books and movies. Scientists and medical workers help the sick while searching for cures. Technology is making connection possible with apps and platforms that bring our families, friends, teachers, and colleagues together. In a time of anxiety, technology is helping to reduce anxiety and stress. As we shelter in place, we appreciate all of these people.

Our children will be the musicians, artists, writers, scientists, creative thinkers, and leaders of tomorrow. We want them to have the knowledge and skills to manage the opportunities and challenges that come their way. This is why LPEF continues to raise funds during this pandemic.

Our KEEP! Goal this year is to raise \$225K by June 30. Donations to our KEEP! campaign funds over two-thirds of the LPEF annual budget. We rely on your continued generosity to fund these essential programs in our schools:

- Music and band
- STEAM enrichment
- Library services
- Student counseling and support services
- Education-technology specialists
- Science (K-5)
- Developmental P.E. (K-5)
- Middle-school electives (6-8)
- Art in Action (K-5)



Here's what we need from you:

Join our online KEEP! monthly-giving program. Visit www.lpef.org/donate and choose a monthly donation amount that works for you.

\$70/month over 12 months adds up to \$800 (suggested single-child donation).

\$100/month over 12 months adds up to \$1200 (suggested multiple-child donation).

Make a one-time donation online. Visit www.lpef.org/donate.

Contact your employer about matching grants. Corporate matching grants raised \$47,329.00 in 2018-2019. If your employer offers matching, contact your human-resources department.

Connect with others. Encourage families and friends to get involved and donate to our schools.

Attend our events. Sip 4 Schools, LPEF golf tournament, LPEF Gala, and more. Check our website at www.lpef.org for upcoming events.

Use AmazonSmile. Assign LPEF as your non-profit of choice on AmazonSmile. Amazon gives 0.5 percent back on eligible AmazonSmile purchases.

We all want our children to receive a good education. We can't predict the world that they will live in, but we can help them become better people. Investing in our children is investing in their future.



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Offered at \$1,495,000



COMING
SOON

OLD SANTA CRUZ HIGHWAY
2 BD | 2 BA | +/- 2,177 SQFT. | 3.3 AC
A classic mountain home on one of the finest lots in the area with expansive views, mostly usable land & uncompromised privacy & serenity despite close-in location.
Offered at \$1,300,000

BUYERS ARE HEADING FOR THE HILLS...
**AND WE SELL MORE HOMES
IN 95033 ACROSS ALL PRICE POINTS
THAN ANY COMPETING BROKERAGE!***



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***BASED UPON 2019 TOTAL SALES VOLUME EXCEEDING
\$84 MILLION AND YEAR TO DATE SALES.**

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