

mm

April  
2024



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# Current Market Report | 95033



MLS Data: Santa Clara County & Santa Cruz County - Los Gatos Mtns.

**Feb-24**

Pending	11	Avg. Days on Market	74 Days
Closed	6	Median Sales Price	\$ 1,587,500
New Listings	7	Median List Price	\$ 1,749,000

**Mar-24 \*Data as of 3/8 (due to ad submission deadline)**

Pending	3		
Closed	2		
New Listings	6	Already, as of March 1st	
Total Listings	17	Plus, 10 more listings <i>Coming Soon</i>	

SINGLE FAMILY HOMES · 95033 · SOURCE: MLSLISTINGS

Golden Gate Sotheby's has interactive market statistics by county & city. Check it out!



Don't miss out on your buyer!

Reach out to learn how the Leary Group can help you get on the market in a timely manner & get the best price for your home or property.

Want to talk about the market in general? You can lean on us as your trusted real advisors. Call us, anytime!

Back on the Market! Just off Skyline Blvd. is an Entertainer's Dream Home & Property



950 Oak Ridge Rd., Los Gatos | \$2,525,000 | 4bd/3.5ba, 3583\* (inc. ADU) 21.6\*ac | Solar + Backup | Updated Baths | PrivacyAndViews.com



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# IS

## Delightful Updated Aldercroft Heights Home!



Embrace the tranquil setting and breathtaking canyon and mountain vistas from the spacious deck. This charming residence boasts new paint, beautiful new wide plank flooring, updated bathroom, beautiful vaulted ceilings, wood beams, and a wood-burning stove. Sunny kitchen, primary suite and bonus office/playroom area or 4th bedroom. Spacious decks, raised bed gardens, fenced yard. Near Lexington Reservoir and close to downtown Los Gatos yet worlds away. And Los Gatos schools: Lexington Elementary, Fisher Middle, and Los Gatos High.

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\$1,299,000 | 3 Beds | 2 Baths | 1656 Sq Ft | 9107 Sq Ft Lot



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**COMPASS**

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We invite individuals and organizations to submit letters and articles. Email [kathy@paralleldesign.com](mailto:kathy@paralleldesign.com). For information, call 408-529-1431. We reserve the right to edit submissions. We assume no responsibility for errors, omissions, or authors' opinions. Deadline: 10th of the preceding month.

**Advertising**

Closing date: 10th of the preceding month. We assume no responsibility for advertisers' submissions. Mail your checks to **MNN**, 23409 Deerfield Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033.

**2024 Ad Rates**

Business card, vertical (3 3/4" high by 2 1/2" wide)	\$165
Business card, horiz. (2 1/4" high by 3 3/4" wide)	165
Jumbo business card (2 1/4" high by 5" wide)	236
Quarter-page, vertical (4 1/2" high by 3 3/4" wide)	302
Quarter-page, horizontal (2 1/4" high by 7 1/2" wide)	302
Third-page, column (10" high by 2 1/2" wide)	412
Third-page, horizontal (3 1/4" high by 7 1/2" wide)	412
Half-page (4 1/2" high by 7 1/2" wide)	495
Two-thirds page (2 columns, 10" high by 5" wide)	616
Two-thirds page (6 1/4" high by 7 1/2" wide)	616
Page (10" high by 7 1/2" wide)	935
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	\$9 per formatted line

**Circulation**

More than 4000 homes and businesses  
 in the Santa Cruz Mountains



**Cover Photo**

By Mercury Freedom

A majestic bald eagle  
 soars along the shores  
 of Lexington Reservoir, its wings  
 outstretched against the sky.

Nestled among the branches of a  
 towering eucalyptus tree lies the  
 sanctuary of its sturdy nest.

With its keen eyesight  
 and majestic wingspan,  
 the eagle symbolizes freedom.

Thanks to Mercury Freedom  
 for capturing this stunning photo  
 for our April cover.

See more of Mercury's photos  
 on pages 10 and 11.

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**Subscriptions**

\$36 a year

Call Kathy McKinney at 408-529-1431  
 or email [kathy@paralleldesign.com](mailto:kathy@paralleldesign.com).

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# Storm Clean Up

With the non-stop winter rains, wind and snow fall, the forest is now loaded with fallen debris, thus adding a tremendous fuel load for the upcoming fire season.

We are staffed and equipped for major clean up, chipping and debris removal. Our crew can work on hillsides and winch up fallen debris and trees as well as process firewood for you or haul trees away.

Call for an onsite evaluation and estimate.

- Mudslide cleanup
- Standing & fallen tree removal & cleanup
- Culvert & ditch cleaning
- Dumpster service – debris cleanup & hauling
- Defensible space clearing
- Tractor work – loader/ excavator & scraper for road grading & repair
- Community road & neighborhood brush chipping

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# events

## Loma Prieta Museum Native Plants of the Santa Cruz Mountains Roger Mason

Don't miss this interesting and educational presentation at the Loma Prieta School Forum, on **Thursday, April 18**, at 7 p.m. Mark Vande Pol has done extensive research on native plants of the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Mark is a fourth-generation Californian and grew up in the Bay Area. His parents were Sierra Club members and took him car camping at parks during his early childhood. He is an engineering graduate of Harvey Mudd College.

Mark and his wife built their home in the Santa Cruz Mountains with the desire to save a piece of California. His goal for the property is to function as a laboratory to teach and develop the restoration process.

Mark has written books about how we might use and benefit from the native-plant management.

In the spring, we will have the opportunity to tour Mark's native-plant garden in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The tour date will be available at the time of his presentation.

Check our website at [www.LomaPrietaMuseum.org](http://www.LomaPrietaMuseum.org) to learn more about the Loma Prieta Museum and upcoming local history events. Send us your local history event request to [LomaPrietaMuseum@gmail.com](mailto:LomaPrietaMuseum@gmail.com) so we can provide future events that are of interest to you.

If you want us to continue with free community events, let us know by donating. We need volunteers and funds to continue these free events. You can make a tax-deductible donation to "LPCF" with a footnote "For LPM." Mail your check to Loma Prieta Museum, 22951 Summit Road, Los Gatos, CA 95033.

## Sudden Oak Death 2024 SOD Blitz Jane Manning

The annual South Skyline SOD blitz aims to inform and educate communities about Sudden Oak Death. This deadly fungus-like disease can kill oak trees in a matter of weeks. It has greatly impacted the Santa Cruz Mountains. SOD blitz is a citizen-science study in its 17th year that is coordinated by the U.C. Berkeley Forest Pathology Lab. During the SOD blitz, local residents help detect and document the disease in their neighborhood. Scientists then create disease-distribution maps to identify areas where the infestation may be broad enough to justify proactive management.

Participating in the SOD blitz is easy, free, and helps our mountain forests. Just complete the mandatory 30-minute online training course at [www.sodblitz.org](http://www.sodblitz.org). Then, pick up your sampling packets between **Saturday, April 27** and **Monday, April 29**, at the Saratoga Summit CalFire Station, 12900 Skyline Boulevard.



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**Los Gatos Community Concert Association**  
**Teresa Orozco and Anna Maria Mendieta**  
 Kathryn Morgan

Two of the loveliest sounding instruments, the harp and the flute, will combine their gentle music in the last concert of this season's Los Gatos Community Concert series. The instrumental duo are Teresa Orozco and Anna Maria Mendieta. Orozco is a spirited and first-rate flutist. Mendieta is a concert soloist and touring artist who specializes in playing the dramatic Argentine tango on the harp.

Join us on **Sunday, April 14**, at the beautiful Los Gatos High School Theatre, 20 High School Court, in downtown Los Gatos. Doors open at 2 p.m. The concert begins at 2:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served at intermission.

Tickets are available online at [www.lgcca.org](http://www.lgcca.org) or at the door. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$25 for seniors, and \$5 for students.

The goal of the Los Gatos Community Concert Association is to offer world-class music locally at reasonable prices.



**Community Emergency Response Team**  
**Loma Prieta CERT**  
 Ann Scherer

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program educates and trains volunteers in disaster preparedness and response skills for the hazards that may occur where they live. In January 2020, there were over 25 community members signed up for the Loma Prieta CERT basic-training class. Due to COVID-19, all classes were canceled. Lila Jones and Ann Scherer are bringing it back. They invite you to join them for an upcoming basic CERT training certification class.

In times of crisis, a strong and resilient community is built upon a foundation of preparedness and unity. The Loma Prieta CERT is a grassroots effort that embraces the values of training, support, and adaptability. This strengthens our collective ability to face challenges head-on. Together, let's continue to build a safer and more resilient community.

**Sign up now.** We are currently registering interested volunteers. This five-session class will be held on four Thursdays, from 6 p.m. to 9:30 p.m., **April 18 through May 9**. The fifth session will be a hands-on testing day on **Saturday, May 18**, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. To register, email [lpcert.teamlead@gmail.com](mailto:lpcert.teamlead@gmail.com) or [ascherer@lomaprietafire.org](mailto:ascherer@lomaprietafire.org).



**Community Resilience Leadership Program**

Leslie Meehan

You're invited to a free online 2024 Community Resilience Leadership program. The program is co-hosted by the Silicon Valley Interreligious Council, and partners such as Climate Resilient Communities. It connects diverse leaders to build awareness about community resilience, share available resources and programs, and strengthen grassroots community engagement across the South Bay. We welcome leaders from places of worship, neighborhood groups, schools, community organizations, and businesses.

The remaining Zoom sessions will be from 6 to 8 p.m. on **Wednesday, April 3** and **Wednesday, April 17**. We'll focus on emergency readiness and recovery, community mutual support including food, housing, and health, and climate-friendly sustainable solutions.

We hope some mountain residents will participate in this program, and then organize a mountain-focused training in the fall. Find out more at [siliconvalleycan.org](http://siliconvalleycan.org).

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## Heartworm Disease in Dogs

Fahimeh Zibae, D.V.M.

Canine heartworms, *dirofilaria immitis*, are parasitic worms that pose a serious threat to dogs. These long, slender worms live in the pulmonary arteries, and occasionally within the heart, and can measure up to a foot in length. They can cause substantial damage to the lungs and heart. Adult heartworms cause inflammation of the blood vessels in the lungs, resulting in respiratory issues and pulmonary hypertension. In some cases this leads to weight loss, weakness, right-sided congestive heart failure, reduced quality of life, and even death.

The risk of exposure to heartworm increases with the presence of foxes and coyotes in our area. The prevention of heartworms and early detection are crucial in managing heartworm disease.

Mosquitoes are vectors of heartworm disease. A vector is a carrier and transmitter of disease from an infected individual to a non-infected individual. Certain species of mosquito can ingest young heartworms, called microfilariae, when they feed on an infected animal. Inside the mosquito, the microfilariae develop into third-stage larvae over a few weeks. The larvae pass through

the puncture wound the mosquito makes when it bites another animal. At a certain point, the larvae enter the bloodstream and float into the pulmonary arteries. Here, they mature into adults. It takes about six to seven months for the larvae to reach adulthood.

### Heartworm Prevention

Preventing heartworms is much easier than having to treat an active heartworm infection—especially for your dog.

Heartworm-preventive medications are prescribed by your veterinarian and come in oral, topical, and injectable forms. In areas





where mosquitoes are endemic (native or regularly present), your dog can be infected if just one preventative dose is missed.

Blood tests for heartworm infections are recommended yearly for dogs over seven months. If your dog has tested positive for heartworms, your veterinarian will discuss the treatment options available.

**Summit Deck Doctor  
Fire-Resistant Decking  
Rupert Hart**

If you're thinking about a new deck, consider the fire resistance of decking materials. It could protect your home in a wildfire and may even impact your homeowner's insurance rates.

Decking materials have fire ratings, depending on how fire-resistant they are. Class A1 is the best fire rating that can be achieved.

The state of California requires the use of materials with at least a Class C fire rating. Redwood is considered Class C. Composite boards like Trex or TimberTech are considered Class B. Bamboo boards, shown in the photo, are sold in six-foot-long boards made of compressed bamboo (such as Dasso brand). They are considered Class A. Ipe and similar hardwoods are class A1.

A new Class A alternative is aerated

concrete on a steel or wood frame in the form of tiles, pavers, or long boards. Aluminum decking is another alternative. While the fire-class rating only covers surface boards, you might want to use fire-retardant-treated lumber for the structure.

You should also consider exterior walls to keep out underdeck embers. Find more information at [www.fire.ca.gov/home-hardening](http://www.fire.ca.gov/home-hardening). Click on "additional resources" to get to CalFire's building materials listing page.



**Stanford Blood Center  
Blood Drive  
Julie Bourque**

Thank you to everyone who donated at the Stanford Blood Drive in February. We welcomed 32 people through the door, including seven first-time donors to Stanford Blood Center. We hope they become regular donors.

Each whole blood donation is separated into three blood components. As a result, these donations impacted the lives of 82 people.

Consider donating blood at one of our upcoming events. We have four more blood drives on the mountain scheduled for 2024. Mark your calendars for **May 4**, **June 29**, **August 31**, and **November 4**. The drives will be held at the Loma Prieta Community Center room on the north campus from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

To register to donate blood at an upcoming drive, visit [stanfordbloodcenter.org](http://stanfordbloodcenter.org), or call 888-723-7831.

# Angelé Price

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Discover serenity in the heart of the Santa Cruz Mountains - your private sanctuary awaits! This enchanting home boasts unparalleled privacy and stunning natural beauty. Set on a sprawling 5-acre flat land, adorned with your own mini pear orchard and bordered by a picturesque vineyard, it offers a tranquil retreat like no other. Stylish recent remodel complete with a Tesla powerwall! 4 bedrooms plus an office, 2450+ sq. ft. Call for price!

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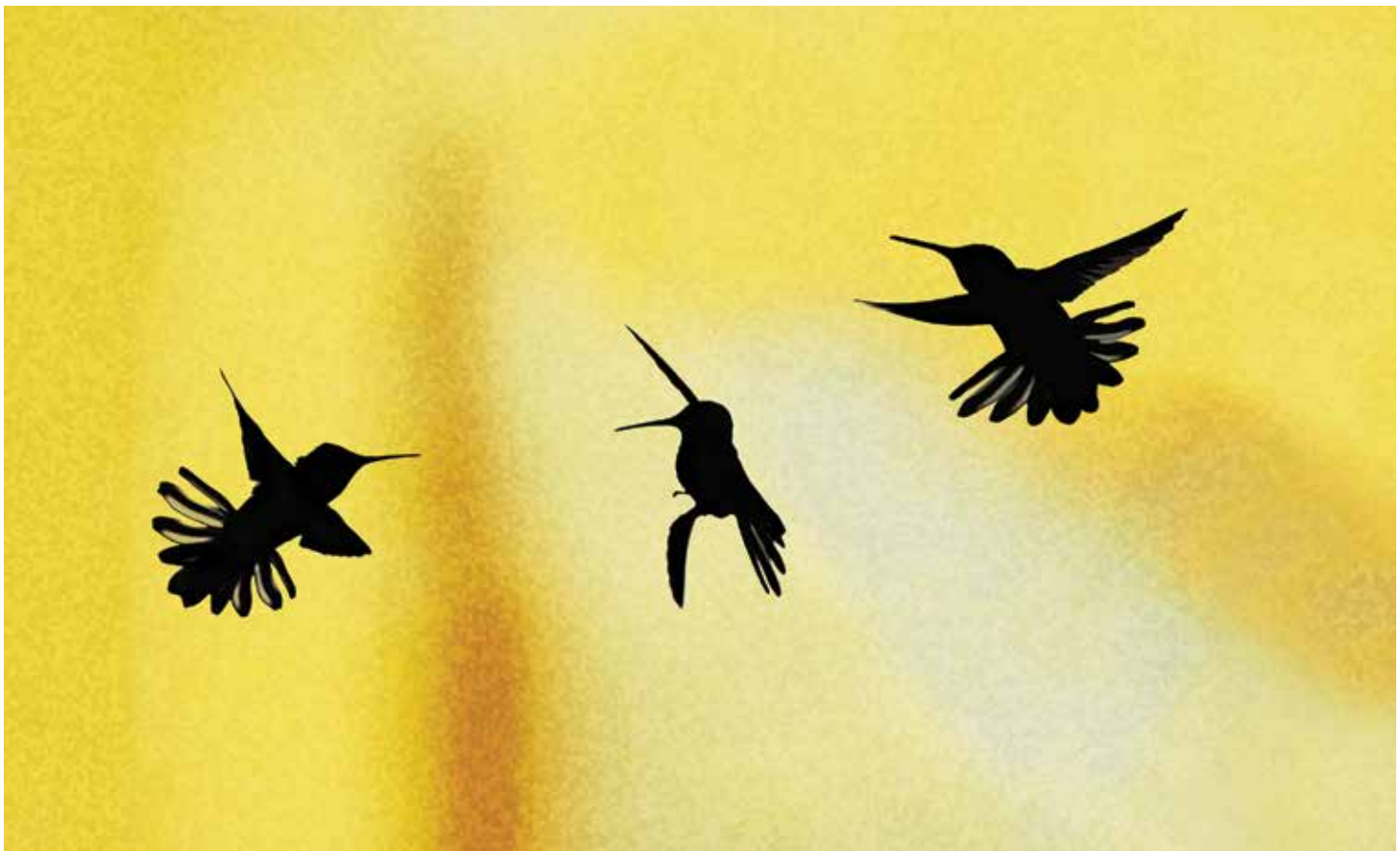
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# nature

Photos by Bruce Fournier

*From top:  
A snowy egret,  
hummingbirds,  
and a cloudy panorama.*







### Nudibranch and Skeleton Shrimp

Bruce Sudweeks

There is a lot of underwater life in Monterey Bay. Many times, my intended photographic subject gets photo-bombed by another subject, or spooked by another ocean-dweller. Sometimes I get sidetracked by an alternate subject. In these two photos, my initial subject was a white dendronotus nudibranch, which is about 1.5 inches in length. Then I found a few skeleton shrimp, which are about 1/32 to 1/16 of an inch long. The skeleton shrimp photo shows the “massive” nudibranch in the background.



### Surfers

Photos by Bruce Fournier



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# calendar

## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Saturday, March 30

C.T. English Home and School Club Goodwill donation drive is in the C.T. English Middle School parking lot from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

95033 swap meet is from 9 a.m. to noon at the Loma Prieta gymnasium, 23800 Summit Road.

Building Blocks' second annual Wine and Dine will be from noon to 5 p.m. at Wrights Station Winery, 24250 Loma Prieta Avenue. Mozzarella Pizza will serve wood-fired pizza. Children are welcome.

LPEF hosts a Jail 'n' Bail fundraiser from 4 to 9 p.m. at the Redwood Estates Pavilion. Bring a dish to share for the potluck. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$15 for children. More details on page 27.

### Thursday, April 11

The Bookmobile visits the mountains:  
**Lakeside School**, 9:45 to 11:45 a.m.  
**Building Blocks Preschool**, 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. and 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.  
**Redwood Estates Pavilion**, 4:15 to 5:15 p.m.

### Sunday, April 14

Los Gatos Community Concert Association presents Teresa Orozco and Anna Maria Mendieta at the Los Gatos High School Theatre, 20 High School Court. Doors open at 2 p.m., the concert begins at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$25 for seniors, and \$5 for students, available at [www.lgcca.org](http://www.lgcca.org) or at the door.

New volunteer-orientation day at Summit Horse Rescue. Call Ashley at 831-239-7127 for more details.

### Thursday, April 18

In-person CERT basic training at Loma Prieta Elementary School from 6 to 9:30 p.m. To sign up, visit [www.signupgenius.com/go/LPApr2024#](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/LPApr2024#). Email [lpcert.teamlead@gmail.com](mailto:lpcert.teamlead@gmail.com) or text 408-313-5988.

Presentation about native plants of the Santa Cruz Mountains begins at 7 p.m. at the Loma Prieta Elementary School Forum.

### Thursday, April 25

In-person CERT basic training at Loma Prieta Elementary School from 6 to 9:30 p.m. To sign up, visit [www.signupgenius.com/go/LPApr2024#](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/LPApr2024#). Email [lpcert.teamlead@gmail.com](mailto:lpcert.teamlead@gmail.com) or text 408-313-5988.

The Bookmobile visits the mountains:  
**Lakeside School**, 9:45 to 11:45 a.m.  
**Building Blocks Preschool**, 12:15 to 12:45 p.m. and 2:30 to 3:45 p.m.  
**Redwood Estates Pavilion**, 4:15 to 5:15 p.m.

### Saturday, April 27

The Lakeside School Community Foundation annual auction, "Night in Monte Carlo," begins at 5:30 p.m. at the Lakeside Community Center, 19621 Black Road. Purchase tickets and get more information at [www.lakesidescf.org](http://www.lakesidescf.org).

### Saturday, April 27 through Monday, April 29

South Skyline SOD blitz sampling packets will be available at the Saratoga Summit CalFire Station, 12900 Skyline Boulevard. For more information, see article on page 6.

### Thursday, May 2

In-person CERT basic training at Loma Prieta Elementary School from 6 to 9:30 p.m. To sign up, visit [www.signupgenius.com/go/LPApr2024#](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/LPApr2024#). Email [lpcert.teamlead@gmail.com](mailto:lpcert.teamlead@gmail.com) or text 408-313-5988.

### Saturday, May 4

Stanford blood drive is at the Loma Prieta Community Center room on the north campus, 23845 Summit Road, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. To register to donate blood, visit [stanfordbloodcenter.org](http://stanfordbloodcenter.org), or call 888-723-7831.

### Thursday, May 9

In-person CERT basic training at Loma Prieta Elementary School from 6 to 9:30 p.m. To sign up, visit [www.signupgenius.com/go/LPApr2024#](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/LPApr2024#). Email [lpcert.teamlead@gmail.com](mailto:lpcert.teamlead@gmail.com) or text 408-313-5988.

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**ON-GOING CLASSES AND MEETINGS**

**Mondays**

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

**Tuesdays**

Business networking meeting from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Email [angiewuerz@mac.com](mailto:angiewuerz@mac.com) or call 408-771-5219 for information and location.

Vinyasa Flow yoga class, 9 to 10 a.m. Book at [www.cupsofyoga.com](http://www.cupsofyoga.com) or call Jaime at 831-200-8802.

Qigong class on Zoom from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Email [Amandaring@gmail.com](mailto:Amandaring@gmail.com) for information and zoom URL.

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

Town walking group meets at 9:30 a.m. at the Adult Recreation Center, 208 Main Street in Los Gatos.

**Wednesdays**

Vinyasa Flow yoga class, 9 to 10 a.m. Book at [www.cupsofyoga.com](http://www.cupsofyoga.com) or call Jaime at 831-200-8802.

**Thursdays**

Lunchtime webinars for stress relief from noon to 12:45 p.m. on Zoom. Email [angiewuerz@mac.com](mailto:angiewuerz@mac.com) or call 408-771-5219 for the link.

Yoga at the Redwood Estates Pavilion, 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. In person (outside when possible) and via Zoom. Visit [anoukyoga.com](http://anoukyoga.com) or email [anouk@anoukyoga.com](mailto:anouk@anoukyoga.com)

Gentle Flow yoga class, 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Book at [www.cupsofyoga.com](http://www.cupsofyoga.com) or call Jaime at 831-200-8802.

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

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

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

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

**Fridays**

Power Vinyasa yoga class, noon to 1 p.m. Book at [www.cupsofyoga.com](http://www.cupsofyoga.com) or call Jaime at 831-200-8802.

**Saturdays**

Summit Speakers is a casual, friendly group that works together to improve our speaking skills. We meet on zoom from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. For more information, call 408-497-5102 or email [smbeauchamp885@gmail.com](mailto:smbeauchamp885@gmail.com).

Summit Ultimate Frisbee is from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Loma Prieta Elementary School field, 23800 Summit Road. Visit [summitfrisbee.org](http://summitfrisbee.org) to sign up for their email list.

**Sundays**

Summit Ultimate Frisbee is from 9 to 11 a.m. at the Loma Prieta Elementary School field, 23800 Summit Road. Visit [summitfrisbee.org](http://summitfrisbee.org) to sign up for their email list.

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# exploring

Local Fun for All Ages

## Vasona and Oak Meadow Parks

Neil Wiley

These two parks share an invisible boundary, connecting trails, and a great way to experience the outdoors. The main vehicle entrances are side by side on Blossom Hill Drive between Los Gatos Boulevard and University Avenue. (You may be charged for parking but in mid-March, Oak Meadow parking was free.)

You can also walk in via Garden Hill Drive, University Avenue, or on the Los Gatos Creek Trail at many locations along 9.5 miles. You can take the trail from the Lexington Reservoir, through the town of Los Gatos, the parks, and on to Campbell and San Jose.

### Fun for children, nature-lovers, and exercisers.

Oak Meadow is the place to play. Children can enjoy climbing, jumping, and sliding in a well-equipped playground, fly a jet plane with a little imagination, picnic, or ride on the Billy Jones Railroad from the Oak Meadow station through Vasona Lake County Park. Scheduled trains began running in March.

You can walk, run, bike, skate, push a stroller, or wander anywhere along Los Gatos Creek Trail. Just be careful. The trail is popular. Take your dog anywhere in the park but use an eight-foot (or shorter) leash.

If you are walking, be sure you and your companions pay attention to traffic in front and behind. If you are biking, ringing a bell can prevent a dangerous collision. For safety, bike riders under 18 must wear a helmet.



For more solitude, choose the many side trails throughout the park, such as the Anderson Native Plant Trail located behind the Youth Science Institute.

Vasona is a great place to see and photograph birds: geese, ducks, other waterfowl, and flocks of smaller birds. One of my favorite locations along the Los Gatos Creek Trail is Willow Point. Birds flock to the point to share food, rest, or have their pictures taken.

Get out on the water at LGS Recreation Boat Center on the University Avenue side of the lake. Beginning April 6, you can rent







a canoe, kayak, pedal boat, or sailboat by the hour. (One hint: a pedal boat is the safest, most stable platform for your camera or cell phone.) Sailing classes are available for adults and children.

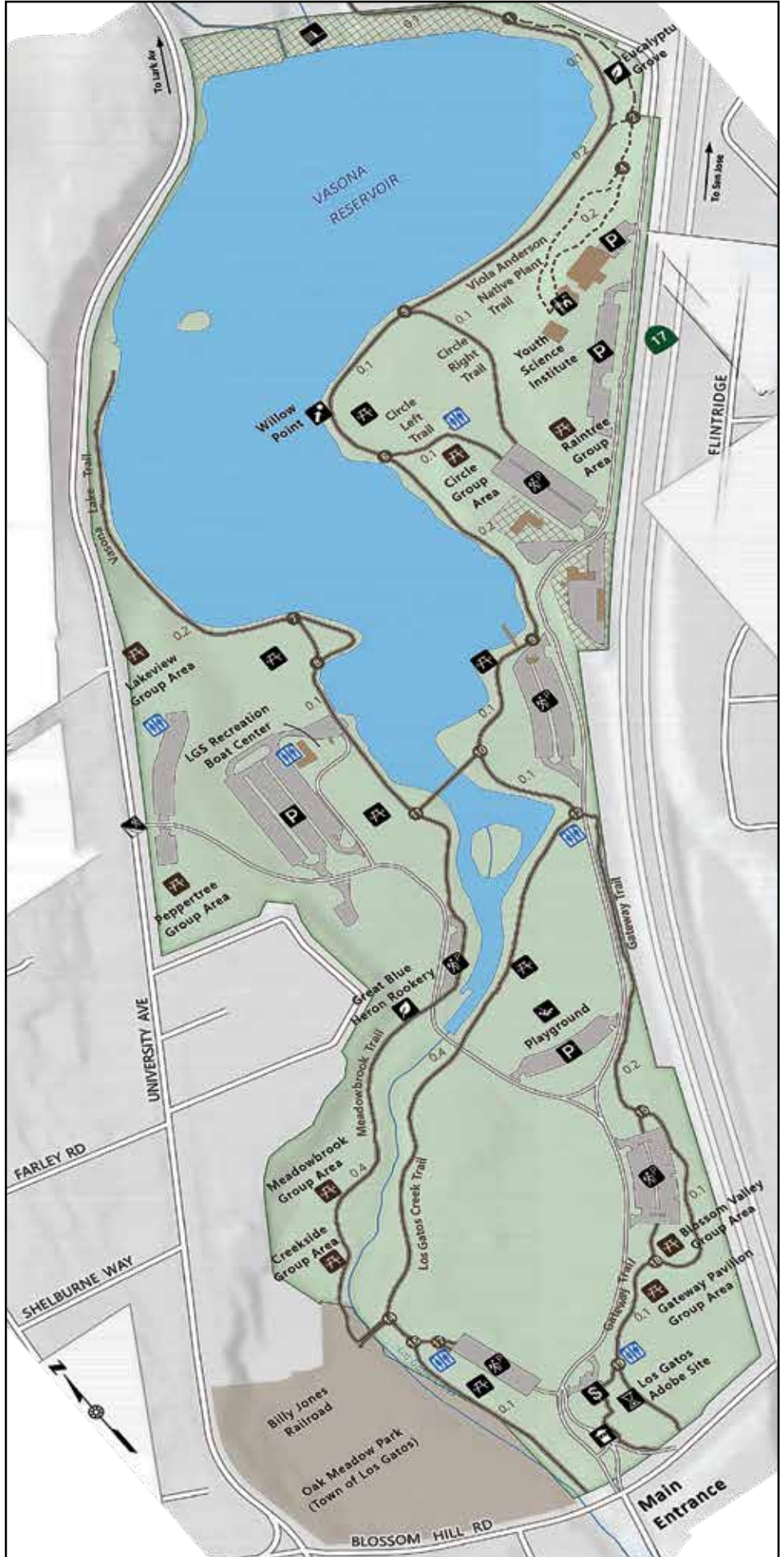
For more information, call 408-399-5260 during operating hours. Children under seven must wear life jackets. (Sorry, no swimming in lakes, creeks, or reservoirs.)

Rather ride a bike and you don't have one? You can rent a bike at the park when available.

You have lots of room to play. Use 45 acres of lawn for Frisbee tossing, softball, or soccer. Picnic at eight reservable group areas or enjoy a packed lunch at any available table in the park. Vasona is open from 8 a.m. to sunset.

How about fishing? The northernmost of six percolation ponds is stocked with rainbow trout. Other fish at this pond include bass, catfish, bluegill, crappie, and (ugh!) carp.

Pick your pleasure at Vasona and Oak Meadow parks. You deserve it!



## Early Chinese Immigration 1850-1920

Debra Staab

The San Lorenzo Valley Museum in Felton previously hosted an exhibit on the Chinese immigrants of the San Lorenzo Valley from 1850-1920. Photographs, documents, artifacts, and interpretive text revealed the significant challenges that the Chinese people encountered.

A few Chinese had migrated to California during the era of Spanish and Mexican rule, but the vast majority arrived during the Gold Rush. They came primarily from the southern Chinese province of Kuangtung to escape war, famine, droughts, and floods. They saw California as their golden ticket to prosperity.

Race and immigration have long been contentious topics. In 1850, the United States government recognized only two races, white and black. Only white people could become citizens. Asian immigrants, who were neither black nor white, were recognized as aliens, and not permitted to obtain citizenship.

Competition in the gold fields was so fierce that California legislators enacted a law in 1852 that forbid Chinese people from owning a gold claim. This gave more opportunity to white miners and forced the Chinese men to work in other fields such as agriculture, construction, domestic service, and laundries. During this time, only Chinese men immigrated—women and children were excluded.

Many Chinese men worked in gangs and accepted dangerous and difficult work such as building the railroad through the Santa Cruz Mountains. In spite of significant discrimination, they were applauded for being industrious and having great fidelity.

Because the Chinese men were so productive and had such a strong work ethic, white workers continued to feel threatened. Over the next half century, state and federal governments would enact further restrictions on the Chinese community to benefit white laborers.

In 1862, California passed the Chinese Police Tax Act. This placed a \$2.50 monthly levy on most Chinese residents. The title of the act clearly described its purpose: “An Act to Protect Free White Labor against Competition” with Chinese labor, and to discourage Chinese immigration into

California.

In 1875, the federal government passed the Page Act. This law restricted Asian contract laborers, including women, from immigrating to the United States. California went even further in 1879, when the state altered its constitution to prohibit companies and towns from hiring Chinese

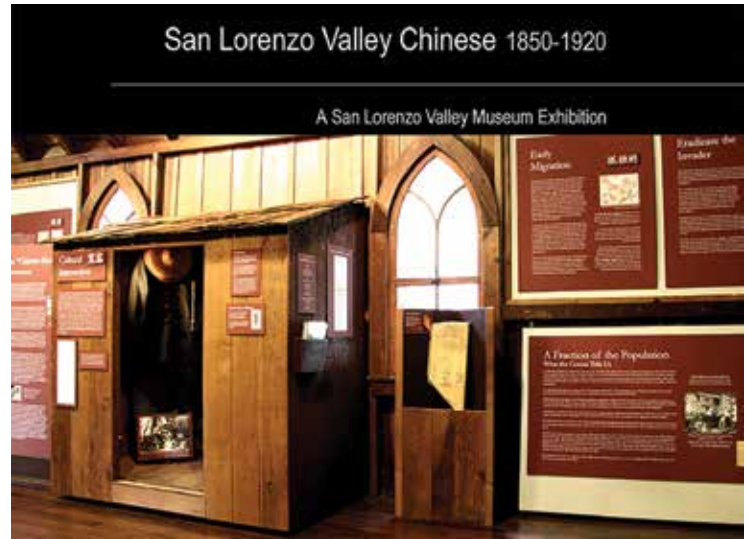
workers. An attempt to force the removal of all Chinese residents was deemed unconstitutional.

By 1882, the federal government implemented the strongest action yet against the Asian community with the Chinese Exclusion Act. Nearly all Chinese people were barred from immigrating to the United States for 10 years. In 1892, the law was extended for another 10 years under the Geary Act, and it was made permanent in 1902. It wasn't until 1943, when China became an ally against Japan, that the act was repealed and Chinese residents were finally permitted to seek citizenship.

Anti-Chinese sentiment was evident in the San Lorenzo Valley as early as 1864, when 10 Chinese men arrived to work at the Powder Works. Almost immediately, the company owners received a letter from the community imploring them to replace the Chinese with white workers.

Not long after, a group of anti-Chinese activists captured the 10 men in an attempt to run them out of town. The sheriff was able to locate the men about a mile away and returned them to the Powder Works.

The editor of the *Santa Cruz Sentinel*, Duncan McPherson, was fiercely opposed to



the influx of Chinese immigrants. In 1879, he made this statement: “*The Sentinel has been against the Chinamen first, last, and all the time, as its columns emphatically prove.*”

The height of the “Chinese Must Go” movement in the San Lorenzo Valley took place in 1885. The 82 members of an anti-Chinese club launched a forceful campaign to remove all Chinese men from local employment. When that effort succeeded, they went after other nearby companies using Chinese workers. Toward the end of the year, only six Chinese men remained employed in the San Lorenzo Valley. The club members were not satisfied until they had forced out all Chinese laborers.

Reviewing the significant anti-Chinese legislation and public opinion, one might think there was a substantial population of Asian immigrants in Santa Cruz County. A look at census records tells us that was not the case. In 1850, there were no Chinese living in Santa Cruz County. In the 1860s, 0.2 percent of the population was Chinese (just seven people). In 1870 it was just under two percent (155 people), and by 1880 it was just over four percent (524 people). After the Chinese Exclusion Act, there were no Chinese left. By 1900, Chinese immigrants

Census Data	Population of California	Chinese in California	%	Population of Santa Cruz County	Chinese in Santa Cruz County	%	Chinese in the San Lorenzo Valley
1850	93171	519	0.56%	643	0	0.00%	0
1860	379528	34463	9.08%	4944	7	0.14%	0
1870	559135	49087	8.78%	8770	155	1.77%	abt. 21
1880	862959	75033	8.69%	12805	524	4.09%	85
1890	No Data						
1900	1,574,053	42060	2.67%	21668	598	2.76%	27
1910	2,388,250	28571	1.20%	26170	166	0.63%	15
1920	3,439,858	20405	0.59%	26292	171	0.65%	2



had returned and made up 2.76 percent of the population (598 people). In 1910 they made up .63 percent (166 people), and in 1920 about .65 percent (171 people). From the 1900s through the 1920s, the only occupations available to Chinese men were as cooks, dishwashers, laundrymen, and gardeners.

The pioneering Americans living in the San Lorenzo Valley had little interest in the beliefs, customs, or culture of the Chinese living amongst them. The one exception was the celebration of Chinese New Year, which brought fireworks and revelry to the entire community.

The railroads in the Santa Cruz Mountains struggled with earthquakes, storms, and other forces of nature. By the early 1940s, the trains had been replaced by the automobile and Highway 17.

However, remnants of the railroad and the legacy of Chinese workers can still be found at The Forest of Nisene Marks, Castle Rock State Park, Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park, Soquel Demonstration State Forest, San Vicente Redwoods, and Pescadero Creek Park.

You can visit the San Lorenzo Valley Museum at 6299 Gushee Street in Felton. It is open Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, from 1 to 4 p.m. Their website is [www.slvmuseum.org](http://www.slvmuseum.org).

### **How the Chinese Built the Santa Cruz Mountain Railroad** Debra Staab

Santa Cruz Mountain settlers owed a tremendous debt to their Chinese immigrant counterparts. In the mid-1870s, when the South Pacific Coast and Santa Cruz Railroads sprang to life, gangs of Chinese workers were employed to perform most of the manual labor necessary to build the railroad.

Their primary task was to excavate the six tunnels required for a train to pass from Los Gatos to Santa Cruz. It seemed like a nearly impossible goal to cut through 12,000 feet of solid rock. Armed with little more than picks, shovels, and a few sticks of dynamite, workers would start digging at both ends of the proposed tunnel line. Even using professional surveys, the excavation had to be extremely precise in order for the men to meet in the middle.

Despite putting in very long days, the crews were only able to clear about 10 feet per day. The cost was \$110,000 per mile, or almost \$21 per foot. The workers were

paid pennies per day.

The extremely dangerous working conditions resulted in an even higher cost—the loss of life. After accidentally hitting pockets of natural gas and oil in the mountains, explosions blasted through the tunnels killing dozens of workers. After the fourth incident, the Chinese workers quit en masse.

Cornish workers from the Almaden Quicksilver Mines were brought in to finish the tunneling work. Once completed, the train system was an immediate success as freight and people traveled back and forth over the mountains. New towns sprung up, and tourists and businesses alike thrived for the next several decades.

The railroad through the mountains closed



in 1940, after a massive storm resulted in significant damage to the line. By that time, the automobile was king, and Highway 17 became the dominant route of travel over the mountains. But for nearly 60 years, a whole generation, the hard labor of the Chinese benefited the mountain community in many ways.



*Photo courtesy of the California Historical Society*



# adventures

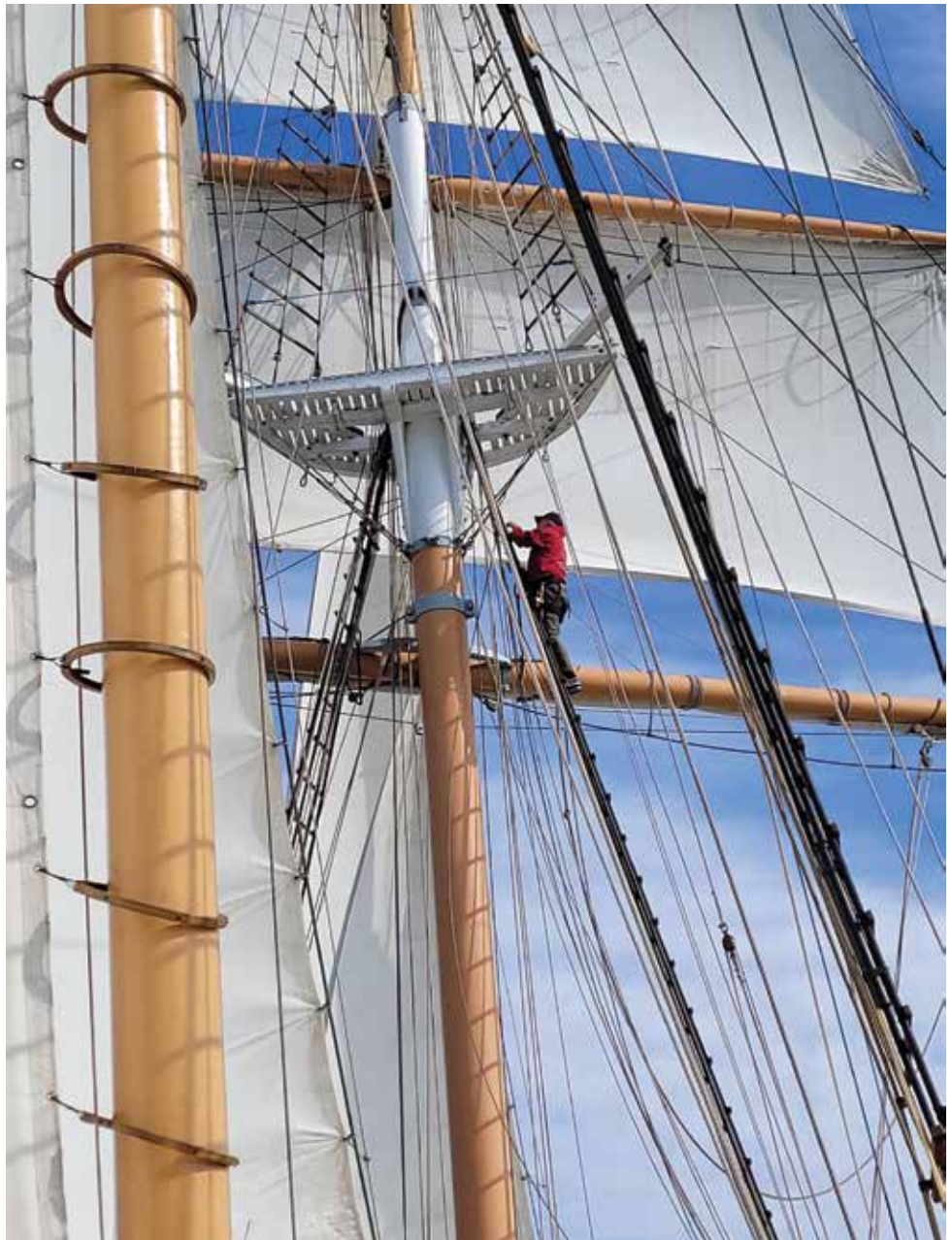
**Tall Ship Sailing**  
**Matthew Turner**  
Kathy McKinney

Tall ships are majestic wooden vessels with towering masts and billowing sails. Whether you're a sailor, an historian, or just someone who wants to get out on the water for an epic adventure, the Matthew Turner doesn't disappoint.

The Matthew Turner is a 135-foot brigantine that first slipped into the chilly waters of San Francisco Bay in spring 2017. Built by Call of the Sea, a non-profit organization based in Sausalito, it is the first large wooden ship built in the Bay Area in almost 100 years. Hundreds of volunteers, including local resident Randall Landaiche, spent more than 200,000 hours constructing the ship. It was financed entirely by private donations. Landaiche noted, "In some sense, this ship would not exist if not for the volunteer effort behind it. The Matthew Turner is a significant source of pride for many of the volunteers who continue to contribute to this magnificent project."

The Matthew Turner was built almost entirely of sustainably grown wood, and is the only tall ship in the world whose auxiliary power comes from electric motors. It boasts 11 sails with a total sail area of 7,200 square feet.

The Matthew Turner is designed after the Galilee, a ship built by Matthew Turner. Turner was a gold seeker, sea captain, trading merchant, and shipbuilder, who came to California in 1849 in search of gold. He did well enough that he purchased a ship and began delivering lumber milled in Northern California to the rapidly growing Bay Area. Unhappy with the





performance of the ships of the day, Turner designed a new type of ship that proved to be stable and fast. In the mid-1870s, Turner switched from sailing ships to building them. His shipyard produced 228 ships, more than any other American shipbuilder of the 19th century.

In 1891, on her maiden voyage, the Galilee made a record-breaking run from San Francisco to Tahiti: 19 days out and 22 days back. That record was never broken by another wooden sailing ship.

Educational Tall Ship Incorporated began construction on a replica of the Galilee about 10 years ago. In 2015, Call of the Sea merged with ETS. The Matthew Turner now serves as a floating classroom for students and the community.

We sailed aboard the Matthew Turner in 2021, and it was a truly unforgettable experience. Sailing trips are offered on



most weekends, and some weekdays, from April through October. The trips range from sunset sails, day sails, science-oriented sails, and more. Adult tickets start at \$99. Youth tickets are typically about half that price, and children under age two are free. Visit their website at [callofthesea.org](http://callofthesea.org) for more information and to view the calendar. Call them at 415-331-3214, or email [info@callofthesea.org](mailto:info@callofthesea.org).

The Matthew Turner is located at the Bay Model Visitors Center Pier, 60 Liberty Ship Way, in Sausalito.

**Join fellow mountain residents on the Matthew Turner on Saturday, April 20. It's Earth Day, and also Call of the Sea's annual Tall Ship Celebration. A large group of mountain residents will sail on the bay from 2 to 5 p.m. If you don't want to sail, you can still climb aboard and tour the ship, tie knots, make rope, and learn about the art and science of sailing. The Tall Ship Celebration is free and open to all. Bay sail tickets are limited and cost \$125 per person. Book your spot today at [events.humanitix.com/san-francisco-bay-eco-sail-on-brigantine-matthew-turner](http://events.humanitix.com/san-francisco-bay-eco-sail-on-brigantine-matthew-turner).**





# schools

## Lexington School News Jason Deppong

International Mother Tongue Day took place in late February. Lexington celebrated with an assembly focused on multilingualism. We dedicated an entire week to the importance of learning and appreciating different languages.

As an International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program school, offering an additional language is required. Lexington provides Spanish instruction to students in transitional kindergarten through fifth grades. Instruction in the early years is mostly based on movement and song, while the older students have longer sessions to practice the language in more depth. All teachers encourage students to share their home languages and



practice additional languages in class.

Parents visited school to read stories in different languages, teach a few words, and help students write Valentine's Day cards in various languages. Students also had the opportunity to write a whole-school story in different languages. At the assembly, the origins of International Mother Tongue Day were explained. Several students read the story of *Little Red Riding Hood* by breaking it into parts and translating them from English into languages such as Ukrainian, Mandarin, Spanish, French, Polish, Cantonese, and Hebrew.

First-graders, instructed by Ms. Julia, invited their parents to visit one morning to learn about different countries they researched during their "who we are" IB unit. The central idea of the unit was to explore how diverse cultures around the world can provide new perspectives. Students chose which country to research, and completed most of the work independently. Families were very impressed with the presentations. After visiting each display, parents received a stamp on a passport. The fifth-grade students, who are currently working on their end-of-year IB-exhibition projects, also visited to give feedback and gain ideas for their own presentations.







on for the past few months. Depending on the grade level, students might read to their parents and talk about their growth. They explain math concepts through short games, share unit projects, reflect on writing together, teach a few words in Spanish, and show their parents the library, Lifelab garden, and Spanish room. Second-graders were particularly excited to show their parents “tippy-taps” that they built in the garden to help wash their hands after digging in the dirt with Ms. Leah.

During the conferences, the Home and School Club organized the annual book fair. This year, Hicklebees Children’s Books in San Jose provided the books. We thank the parent volunteers who helped raise funds for the school and classroom libraries. It was another success!

*Photos by Jason Deppong and Barbara Lougee*

has been a Discovery Channel host in the past and knew how to engage families. It was a fun evening for everyone.

TK-5 student-led conferences are a unique event at Lexington school. Every spring, the school day is shortened and students show their parents what they have been working





# Schools

## Loma Public Education Fund Lydia Harville

The Loma Public Education Fund extends warm spring greetings to the mountain community. Our mission is to empower every student in our community to thrive, grow, and embrace the opportunities that lie ahead. Through our dedicated efforts, we raise funds that are distributed as grants to Loma Prieta Elementary and C.T. English Middle schools.

Our annual KEEP campaign launches in May. KEEP is our annual direct-giving campaign. Contributions help bridge the funding gap for the upcoming school year. Your generous support helps us ensure that every student at Loma Prieta Elementary and C.T. English Middle schools has access to a comprehensive curriculum. More information is at [www.lpef.org/keep](http://www.lpef.org/keep).

We invite you to our annual spring event, Sip-4-Schools. It will be held at the stunning Wrights Station Vineyard and Winery in May. Join us to celebrate our mountain community, indulge in some exquisite Santa Cruz Mountains wines, and contribute to a worthy cause. A portion of all proceeds will be donated to LPEF. Look for more



information in the May issue of *MNN*.

**Gold Sponsor Recognition.** Each month, we recognize a gold-level LPEF sponsor, and this month it's me. It is a pleasure to support our school and community.





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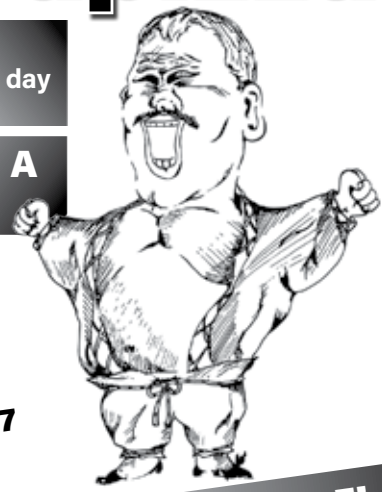
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**Lakeside School  
Science Camp**  
Kathy McKinney

In March, Lakeside's fifth-grade class enjoyed an adventurous week at science camp. Led by their teacher Kaelyn Hsu, and in spite of the rain, the students hiked from the Lake Ranch Trailhead on Black Road all the way to Walden West Outdoor School, on Sanborn Road in Saratoga. (Lakeside is the only school that annually hikes to science camp, rain or shine.)

The students had a great week hiking, exploring, and being immersed in nature while participating in hands-on learning. They learned about biology, ecology, astronomy, environmental science, and built environmental stewardship skills.

Students danced, sang songs, made s'mores, built shelters out of branches, made paint from rocks, painted their faces, held animals, hiked at night, and made new friends. They created lifelong memories from their experience at Walden West and left camp with more confidence, personal responsibility, a greater sense of independence, and a deeper connection to the natural world around them.

Photos by Kaelyn Hsu



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# schools

## Lakeside School Learning about Water Elizabeth Greer

Lakeside students have been studying water in their science classes. The younger grades had a visit from the Valley Water Education team, who taught the kindergarten and first-grade students about water conservation at home. The second-graders learned about the life cycle of the steelhead trout and played a memory card game to learn more about this important local species.

The next week, the San Jose Water Company welcomed the third, fourth and fifth graders, who walked across Black Road to Howell Reservoir to conduct some field research

outdoors. Students tested water from different parts of the reservoir and searched for small organisms among the tule reeds and mud along the edges of the lake. It was a very exciting visit. We look forward to learning more water science with the SJWC team next year.



Photos by Elizabeth Greer and Nadara Hendry



## Lakeside School Community Foundation Dara Goodheart

We thank the friends, families, and community members who helped organize our Read-A-Thon in March. It was an enjoyable and successful event. The students raised pledges and logged as many minutes of reading as they could in just one week. They enjoyed reading the books they purchased at our Scholastic book fair in February.

Don't miss out on the Lakeside School Community Foundation's biggest fundraiser of the year, our annual gala and auction. This year's theme is *A Night in Monte Carlo*, and will feature a rally race. Join us on **Saturday, April 27**, beginning at 5:30 p.m., at the Lakeside Community Center, 19621 Black Road. It promises to be a memorable evening. Purchase tickets and get more information on our website at [www.lakesidescf.org](http://www.lakesidescf.org).

If you would like to volunteer or become a voting member of the Lakeside School Community Foundation, we would welcome you. Email us at [foundation@lakesidelosgatos.org](mailto:foundation@lakesidelosgatos.org).

Thriving schools are an integral part of thriving communities. Help Lakeside School students continue to thrive.

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# A Night in MONTE CARLO

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**MASTERSON ELECTRIC.** Commercial & residential electrical contractor. Contact Tom Everett 408-580-7026 or [tmastersonelectric@gmail.com](mailto:tmastersonelectric@gmail.com). Lic# 1110981.

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**C. STILLE EXCAVATION.** [Ifyoucandreamitwecandigit.com](http://Ifyoucandreamitwecandigit.com). 408-781-2731. Lic #620755

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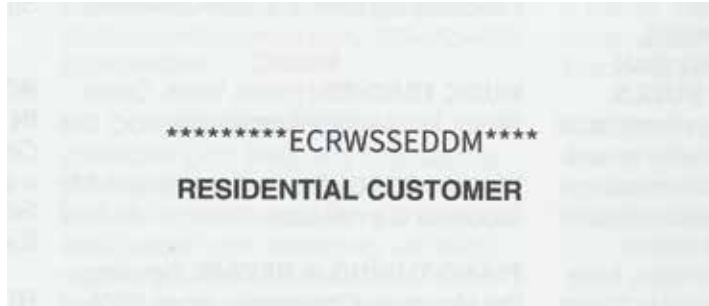
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