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resident's
elaborate
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provides
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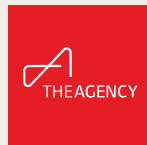


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TABLE of CONTENTS



5 **MODEL CITIZEN**
Mountain View resident's elaborate garden railway provides comfort

12 **MULTIMEDIA MAGIC**
Los Altos artist specializes in watercolor and textures

16 **VINYL MOMENTS**
Record collecting forges deeper connections

24 **LOW-WASTE LIVING**
Practicing the 8 R's helps reduce household waste

30 **FIRST FRUIT**
Nonprofit's bounty goes to a good cause

36 **FALL FUN**
Activities abound in and around Los Altos

Los Altos Town Crier

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ON THE COVER:
Rob Ronconi, a Mountain View resident, has built a model railroad and town in his backyard.
PHOTO COURTESY OF MATTHEW RONCONI



MODEL CITIZEN

Mountain View resident's elaborate garden railway provides comfort

BY KATE ARMANINI
TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Rob Ronconi's garden railway traces the story of his life. The trains, nestled in his Mountain View backyard, race past a scale model of his childhood home. They snake through the FMC Corp. plant in San Jose, where he worked for 25 years. And they pass by the Lutheran church he attended growing up.

"I'll just sit on my patio with a glass of wine and just watch the trains go around," said Ronconi, 68, as he ambled around the track on a recent Sunday afternoon. "It's very therapeutic."

The elaborate display was recently featured at the 38th National Garden Railway Convention, where hundreds of train enthusiasts filed into Ronconi's yard. Participants were bused to dozens of volunteer open houses across the Bay Area as part of the event.

"What really got me was the people coming in, and how excited they got and how much they appreciated what I'd done," the retired engineer said. "That was really nice to feel."

For most of his life, Ronconi has loved trains, drawn in by a fascination and sense of nostalgia he can't quite place. Approximately 40 years ago, he began modeling G Scale trains, mostly steam engines from the 1950s.

"I can't explain it, and most people can't," he said. "There is some kind of romance with this age of trains. It's a testament to human ingenuity."

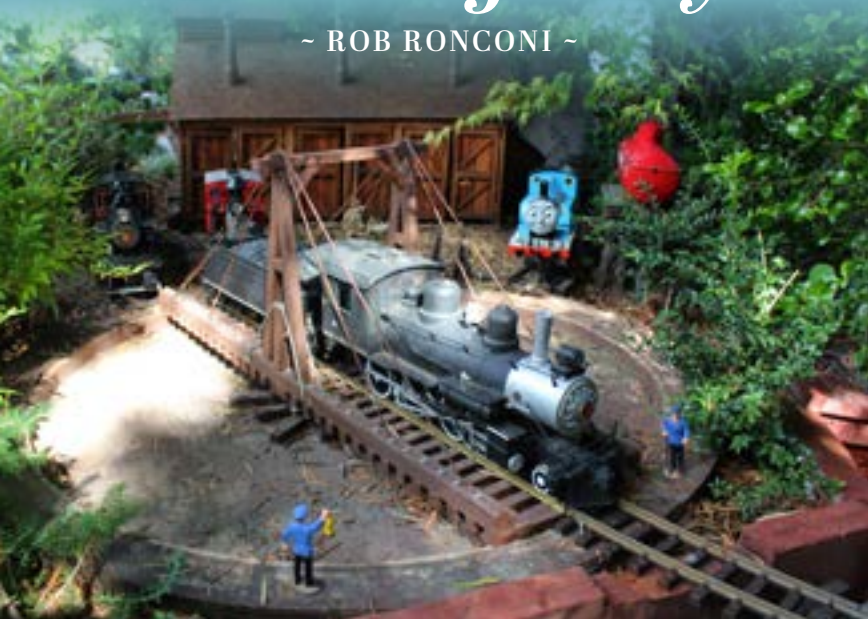
Before he retired in 2017, the most extensive railroad Ronconi had assembled was an indoor Christmas display. Then he joined the Bay Area Garden Railway Society. The organization, which boasts more than 300 members, offers open house tours, demonstrations and interest groups, according to its website.

"In my mind, it's better than going to Disney," he said.

At one open house, Ronconi came across a particularly striking design: a garden railway on an elevated platform. For years, he could never figure out how to lay track evenly in his backyard. But suddenly, the display he'd always dreamed of seemed feasible. ➤

*I can't explain it, and most people can't.
There is some kind of romance
with this age of trains.
It's a testament to
human ingenuity.*

~ ROB RONCONI ~



"It was like a light bulb went off," said his wife, Nancy Ronconi. "He's been collecting garden railway magazines since the '80s. To see that he finally got to put it together was really special. It brings him such happiness."

INSPIRATION

In 2019, he began to build. Now, four years later, about a third of the backyard is a maze of train tracks, seated 4 feet off the ground on a wooden platform. Two steam engines chug by each other, weaving through bushes and trees.

It's named J, J, C & J Railroad – the initials of Ronconi's grandchildren. He only takes down the display in the winter.

"One of the biggest benefits I get out of it is when (my grandchildren) come," Ronconi said. "They love it. They just think it's the greatest thing possible." ➤

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Each detail along the railroad is carefully curated. At the model of his childhood home in San Bruno – where he also proposed to his wife 46 years ago – there’s a tiny red wagon in the driveway. His father, he fondly recalled, would constantly remind him to move it out of the way.

Farther up the tracks, there’s the dude ranch from “Heartland,” one of the Ronconis’ favorite TV series, complete with cattle and a welcome sign.

Ronconi’s pride and joy, however, is the miniature Main Street. Tucked below two apricot trees, dozens of quaint buildings with personal touches line the tracks. There’s his son’s dentist office, and his other son’s guitar shop. There’s the movie theater he went to growing up, and the Bank of America where his father worked. And there’s Kramer’s, a familiar diner of his childhood.

“My mom passed away when I was young, and my dad was not a cook. So, we probably went there a couple



times a week,” Ronconi said, gesturing toward the tiny red building. “It was a very comforting place.”

The railway has become a family affair. His son-in-law found antique railroad crossing lights at a garage sale, which now are mounted on the fence. Many of the buildings and train cars are also gifts from relatives.

“It has sure made Christmas, Father’s Day and birthday presents easy,” Nancy said with a laugh.

Garden railways aren’t inexpensive. The tracks, which are made of brass, can cost up to \$10 per foot – Ronconi said he’s accumulated more than 400 feet over the years. ➤



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Rob Ronconi has been supported by his friends and family in the creation of his model railroad.
PHOTO BY ZOE PARKER | TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

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Rob Ronconi tends to and surveys the model railroad he's built.
PHOTO COURTESY OF SARAH FISCHBACK

The steam engines can also be pricey. One of Ronconi's is worth approximately \$1,800, he added.

But for Ronconi, sharing the finished product has made it all worth it.

"Rob worked so hard and put so much time and energy into this," Nancy said. "He loves it."

What's next? Ronconi doesn't envision expanding the railway much more. It still requires about two to three hours of maintenance a week, he noted. Not that he minds.

"It brings me peace," he said. "It's just a very pleasing attraction. And that's all I ever wanted it to be." ❁



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MULTIMEDIA MAGIC

LOS ALTOS ARTIST SPECIALIZES IN WATERCOLOR AND TEXTURES

BY SAIRA AHMED
TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Los Altos resident Caroline McClintic is a multimedia artist, using watercolor and textures to produce colorful pieces of urban and landscape settings.

Much of her work has been on display at Viewpoints Gallery in downtown Los Altos. Most recently, the gallery showcased her “Textured Landscapes” series – a collection of Northern California scenes made with texture media, collage and acrylic paint on a wood panel.

“I love being part of Viewpoints Gallery,” McClintic said. “I’ve always loved the downtown, and I enjoy feeling part of the downtown community.”

McClintic said she typically works in series, creating multiple paintings at a time of a similar theme. With “Texture Landscapes,” she wanted some pieces to be more abstract, but it was difficult to take risks with a deadline.

“Now that I’ve hung the show, I feel like I have more freedom to play, and it doesn’t matter if they turn out,” she added.

In addition to displaying her artwork, McClintic volunteered as an art docent in the Los Altos School District for a couple of years.

McClintic has always created art, but she did not initially pursue it as a career. She worked as an architect, ➤



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but when her kids started school, she began taking formal art classes through the Pacific Art League and the Santa Clara Valley Watercolor Society.

“A lot of principles (between architecture and art) are similar – balance, proportion, perspective unity, variety and even pattern and color,” she said.

McClintic uses her photography as references for her artwork – many of her photos were taken in San Francisco.

Generally, she said she enjoys painting what appeals to her and the beauty around her.

“Creative people are always going to find an outlet,” McClintic noted. “There are so many different forms of art, and I’m into painting now.”

McClintic said she enjoys merging different artistic images, ideas and materials to create her pieces. Watercolors are transparent, so merging and fading certain elements creates interesting layers. She used this idea in a downtown Los Altos street scene, merging the old and new buildings.

“In my early work, I strived to be really realistic and tight, and now I’m looser,” she said. “That’s just my nature. I get tired of painting one way, and I want to keep growing as an artist. Every year I paint, I grow a little bit more, so I’m going to continue and see where it goes.” 🌸

For more information on McClintic and to view her artwork, visit carolinesteiermcclintic.com.



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are similar –
balance, proportion,
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~ CAROLINE McCLINTIC ~

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VINYL MOMENTS

Record collecting
forges deeper
connections

BY CHRISTINA CASILLAS
STAFF WRITER | CHRISTINAC@LATC.COM

Most of my childhood memories replay in my mind with background music. It was everywhere I went, an integral aspect of my upbringing. I used to spend afternoons and summers at my family's business, sitting at a desk adjacent to my grandpa's as many of his favorite songs by artists like The Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Roger Miller and Marty Robbins softly danced from his computer speakers.

The walls of my grandma's office just down the hall were lined with Elvis Presley memorabilia, and taped to the two top corners of her desktop was a small photo of Elvis and, on the other side, my grandpa.

On rides home, I'd either hear someone introducing a lineup of old music from a SiriusXM radio station or listen to the whiplash-inducing variety of songs my mom would play from her blue, second-generation iPod Nano.

My musical taste – which for reasons unknown includes a handful of singers who died in plane crashes – was shaped by the people around me, and much of my vinyl collection is the same.

I started collecting vinyl records after my parents gave me a record player as a birthday gift in April 2020, and my appreciation for music, and the old music I grew up with, deepened during the pandemic. I couldn't go anywhere because many nonessential stores were closed, but I felt comforted during a tumultuous time by a new way to explore something that brought me a sense of joy.

My 78 records currently sit in a wicker basket I got at Goodwill, and my 45s, all of which were given to me by my grandpa, sit in a cloth basket to its side.

Music lovers looking to deepen their musical passion can do it by collecting records. While my record player has a Bluetooth connection and I've listened to many Spotify playlists on it, it's not the same as putting a record on. ➤



Smaller 45 records sit beside a collection of 78s.
PHOTO BY CHRISTINA CASILLAS | TOWN CRIER

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From indie rock group Wet Leg’s debut 2022 studio album, “Wet Leg,” to a first pressing of Fleetwood Mac’s (best) studio album “Rumours,” Joni Mitchell’s “Clouds,” Carole King’s “Tapestry” and some compilations of the Beach Boys, Glen Campbell and Jim Croce, my collection is vast.

RECORD-PLAYING RITUAL

The first record I got to play on my record player was side A of the first disc of Creedence Clearwater Revival’s Greatest Hits. The second album I got was Orville Peck’s “Pony,” and from there I don’t remember the order in which I got records, or even how many records I have in my collection. ➤

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I knew nothing of vinyl before getting my record player, and much of the information I learned was from my mom. She taught me the difference between 78s and 45s and showed me how to lower the needle into the record's grooves correctly.

The entire ritual of playing a record is sacred to me, the record I choose to play hinging completely on how I'm feeling and what sort of music fits my mood.

From browsing my collection to choosing the record, gently removing it from its sleeve, placing it on the turntable and waiting for the music to start as some slight crackling surface sounds are heard, it's all intentional.

Even looking for albums – whether it's The Beatles' "Yesterday and Today" album released in 1966 with the notorious butcher cover or what I'm currently looking for, Dolly Parton's 1974 album "Love Is Like a Butterfly" – is an intentional endeavor. Sometimes a record shop visit can be a hunt, and though it's hard to find



Carole King's "Tapestry" album cover is laid out across a table. The record player, pictured below, was gifted to Christina Casillas by her sister Mallory Barrera-Casillas during Christmas 2021. PHOTO BY CHRISTINA CASILLAS | TOWN CRIER

certain albums, the feeling of finding what you've been looking for for such a long time is unforgettable.

Although there aren't any record stores in Los Altos or Mountain View, checking out Goodwill, antique and thrift stores can result in some great finds. While the Friends of the Library of Los Altos doesn't currently accept vinyl (most of the records the group was getting included classical music and full operas that weren't selling, a



Friends spokesperson told me), some people have mentioned online that they found records at Friends of the Library of Palo Alto events.

I found "The Best of Bread" at a now-shuttered consignment shop in San Jose, and Joni Mitchell's "Clouds" ➤

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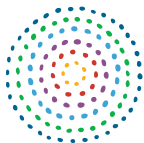


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at an antique store near Cannery Row in Monterey. I’ve expanded my collection during serotonin-inducing vinyl hauls at San Jose shops including Needle to the Groove, 424 E. Santa Clara St., and Streetlight Records, 980 S. Bascom Ave., as well as Campbell’s Rasputin Music, 1820 S. Bascom Ave.

The locations are all within a drive of my family’s business. I don’t go there that often anymore, but when I do, the music continues to play from my grandpa’s speakers and the Elvis pictures are still hanging on the walls. And when I get home, I know I can always pop open my turntable, drop the needle and listen to the music. ✨

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A close-up photograph of a man with dark skin, glasses, and a beard, wearing a black shirt. He is leaning over a young girl with dark, curly hair, wearing a yellow top. They are both looking at an open book. The man is pointing at the book with his right hand, and the girl is smiling and gesturing with her left hand. The background is blurred, showing a bookshelf.

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LOW-WASTE LIVING



PRACTICING
THE 8 R'S
HELPS REDUCE
HOUSEHOLD
WASTE



Emily Ting, founder of Right On! Refillery, stands in front of her downtown store. Ting is a major advocate for eliminating single-use plastics and reducing, reusing and recycling. PHOTO COURTESY OF EMILY TING

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Image by Zara Tahir

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BY EMILY TING
SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

We all have goals. Diet- or nutrition-related goals, time management goals, exercise goals, career goals – it can be exhausting. Most of us would count reducing our household waste as an important goal. But how? It can be overwhelming when faced with the amount of single-use plastics involved in every facet of our lives.

I have some advice that may help when taken one step at a time. One product swap to a plastic-free alternative or one adjustment that allows you to reuse something you had been throwing away will make a difference and help reduce your overall household waste. Included below is some information and ideas aimed at helping you on your journey to achieving a low-waste lifestyle.

To get started, let's dig in to the 8 R's behind low waste living. ➤



RIGHT ON!
RIGHT ON!
RIGHT ON!
RIGHT ON!
RIGHT ON!

RIGHT ON!
RIGHT ON!
RIGHT ON!
RIGHT ON!
RIGHT ON!

RIGHT ON!
RIGHT ON!
RIGHT ON!
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RETHINK

No one is perfect, but we can each take time to think about small (or big) ways we can adjust our lifestyles to be more sustainable. When considering purchasing choices, try using the following guide.

- **Necessity.** Is this item an essential, or is it just nice to have? If it's nice to have, is there a more sustainable alternative?
- **Shop your values.** Consider the brand you're purchasing and what you know about its production process, labor practices and environmental standards.
- **Location.** Buy local! There are so many reasons to support local businesses, and sustainability is top of the list. Purchasing things that do not require shipping is always a preferred alternative.
- **Packaging.** Select items with the least amount of packaging possible. Even recyclable packaging adds to our overall household waste, and remember that less than 5% of plastic labeled as recyclable is actually recycled.



REFUSE

Just say no! Consider sustainability when making daily decisions. Maybe decline the plastic straw, say no to the extra plastic bag or, when shopping, select items with the least amount of plastic packaging possible.

REDUCE

Buy less, especially less plastic. Look for alternatives to high-waste items that are currently part of your household routine. Try making things yourself, such as homemade snacks and breads, instead of purchasing packaged options. ➤



Ask me for a digital link to my 2023 Seller's Guide with everything I do for my sellers.

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REUSE AND REFILL

Get in the habit of carrying your stainless-steel water bottle, travel coffee mug and reusable produce bags when you go out. Visit your local refill or low-waste living store to stock up on items in bulk instead of buying individually packaged items, and bring your own refillable containers and bags. Remember, plastic is not “single use” if you use it more than once. The same concept applies to glass bottles – your empty pasta sauce jar is perfect for a refill of dish soap or laundry detergent from your local refill shop.

Some local bulk refill shops on the Peninsula and in the South Bay: Right On! Refillery in Los Altos; Rainbow Grocery in Palo Alto; Byrds Filling Station in San Mateo; Ethos in Los Gatos; Source Zero in San Jose; and FillerUp in Morgan Hill.

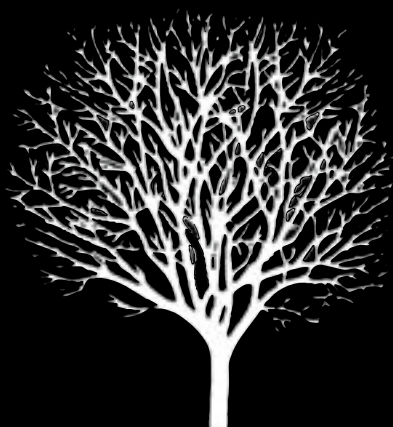
REPAIR

Before discarding, consider repairing. Some items can be fixed quickly with online tutorials, and you’ll feel proud when you finish that do-it-yourself project. If you’re not interested in repairing an item yourself, you can always post it on Nextdoor.com or the Buy Nothing website for your city. Someone is sure to want to take it off your hands.



REPURPOSE

So many household items that are typically thrown away can be upcycled and used in other ways. Old clothing can be used for rags, different plastic containers can be used for paint or art supply sorting, toilet paper tubes can be used to start seeds for planting later outdoors. Before you throw it away, think about whether you can give the item a second life with another creative use. Just google it – for sure someone has come up with a fun project using exactly the thing you were going to toss out.



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RECYCLE

If you cannot find another use for an item and it is recyclable, follow your local city regulations to recycle it. Just remember, many items that are listed as recyclable typically do not actually get recycled into anything because of associated costs or lack of demand for products made from that material. For hard-to-recycle items, consider using a service like TerraCycle or Ridwell.

ROT

Composting is cool! And we are so lucky to live in a place where, for the most part, our public services provide us with a food waste pickup service. For that to be effective, be sure you are sorting your waste correctly among trash, food waste and recycle, and teaching your kids the basics as well. If everyone in the U.S. composted all of their food waste, the impact would be the equivalent of removing 7.8 million cars from the road. If you have a garden, you can also invest in your own outdoor composter or worm bin. And if that is too ambitious, you can always just save your eggshells and put the crushed-up pieces directly into your vegetable garden soil.

Remember, every sustainable choice makes a difference. A goal is something we work toward, and the learning and growing part of the process is as valuable as the final result. ✱

*Emily Ting is the owner and founder of Right On! Refillery, 300 State St., Los Altos.
For more information, visit rightonrefillery.com.*



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First Fruits

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S

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COMPASS

Nonprofit's BOUNTY GOES TO a GOOD cause

BY JANAVI RAMDE
TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

To prevent good fruit from going to waste, nonprofit Village Harvest comes to people's homes to help pick their fruit and then donates it to food agencies such as Community Services Agency of Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills. Many of those who share their bounty – and volunteer to harvest the fruit – live locally.

It all began in 2001, when the Foundation for Global Community hosted a volunteer project in Palo Alto that brought friends together to pick fruit

to produce jam. After realizing their positive impact, the group formed Village Harvest, according to those working for the nonprofit. The volunteer-based organization quickly established itself throughout Silicon Valley, relying on donations and new technology to collect fruit more efficiently.

"For me, hearing people get fruit is outstanding," Village Harvest executive director Craig Diserens said. "The homeless are just a fraction of the people who need fruit, so our little help is much appreciated." ➤

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Village Harvest executive director Craig Diserens explains where fruit will be going to volunteers during an August picking event. PHOTO BY JANAVI RAMDE | SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

According to Diserens, roughly one in five Silicon Valley residents in need receives food from the system, and more than 3 million pounds of fresh fruit has been donated to the cause.

Running year-round, Diserens said Village Harvest aims to have 10-20 harvests per month. In 2021, with the pandemic waning, the organization saw a spike in volunteers looking for positive ways to pass their time. ➤

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The (organization) really opened the world to fruit around us to the people who need it.

~ TULIKA TYAGI ~

Last month, volunteers from throughout the Bay Area picked oranges in Los Altos Hills and Mountain View. The group included couples, families and senior citizens.

“It all started because of COVID,” said Alan Chye, a volunteer from Redwood City. “I never did this before the pandemic, and once you do something you like, you go all in.”

While Village Harvest offers its volunteers the opportunity to get outside and make a difference, the organization also prioritizes educating them and the homeowners who donate the fruit. Tulika Tyagi, a retired nurse from San Mateo, not only enjoyed participating in last month’s local event, but also appreciated what Village Harvest taught her.

“Learning about the fruit and where to give it was very cool,” Tyagi said. “The (organization) really opened the world to fruit around us to the people who need it.”

For local homeowner and fruit donor Eric Lemons, Village Harvest has been great to work with.

“I rely on them because they are picking 100 pounds in 10 minutes,” he said.

MAKING CONNECTIONS

Earlier in the summer, 240 volunteers and five farm family

members came together for Village Harvest’s 2023 Giant Orange Orchard Harvest. They picked from nine fields, donating 44,282 pounds of oranges to Second Harvest of Silicon Valley and aiding more than 44,000 local residents. Despite the pandemic’s setbacks and ongoing weather changes, Village Harvest collected more than 255,000 pounds, completed 123 harvests and visited 240 homes and orchards in 2022 alone.

“Our volunteer base is diverse in many ways,” said Tracy Mitchell, Village Harvest’s office administrator. “Local parent-teen organizations (have us) listed as one of their philanthropies, but we really like a mix of regular, family and teenager volunteers. It’s nice because it represents the connection of the Bay Area.”

Because Village Harvest relies on volunteers, Mitchell said the organization works closely with CSA. Mountain View-based CSA helps support Village Harvest by providing additional volunteers and vans to transport fruit. Some of the fruit is donated to CSA; its Food and Nutrition Center distributes the food to low-income families and individuals. CSA CEO Tom Myers appreciates Village Harvest’s work and is dedicated to their longtime partnership.

“We have had a great relationship

with the organization for the past 20-25 years,” the longtime Los Altos resident said. “I would be walking in town and (notice) CSA vans throughout Los Altos transporting goods. It’s cool to see.”

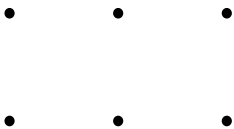
Today, Village Harvest prioritizes harvesting fruit at the homes of seniors, some of whom require more assistance because they can’t pick fruit from their own trees. As a result, most physically able owners will have to harvest and donate their own fruit, according to Mitchell. Multiple fruit pickup and drop stations are located throughout the Bay Area.

“We want to make sure that other people can get in and have a chance to harvest with us,” Mitchell said. “So, we are conscious of giving everyone an equal opportunity to harvest.”

Thanks to the organization’s online database, workers can identify which homes would have the ripest fruit during certain times of the year. Tree owners can apply on Village Harvest’s website, notifying the nonprofit that they need assistance picking fruit. Once in contact, they gather volunteers and send them to the owner’s home. 🌻

To join Village Harvest or apply for assistance, visit villageharvest.org.

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EVENTS

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ACTIVITIES ABOUND IN AND AROUND LOS ALTOS

COMPILED BY PRISHA MOHAPATRA | TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Fall is filled with local events – plays, musicals, a wine stroll and an outdoor market. Details on a variety of the events follow.

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Through
OCT.
1



‘Significant Other’

Bus Barn Theater, Los Altos | Through Oct. 1

Los Altos Stage Company performs “Significant Other” at Bus Barn, 97 Hillview Ave. Written by Joshua Harmon, the drama follows Jordan and explores the paradox of the loneliness that sometimes comes with growing up. Shows are scheduled 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are \$20-\$45.

For tickets and more information, visit losaltosstage.org.

OCT.
4
through
29



‘Mrs. Christie’

Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts | Oct. 4-29

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley launches its 53rd season with the West Coast premiere of Heidi Armbruster’s “Mrs. Christie,” a madcap mystery investigating the unsolved 1926 disappearance of the queen of mystery novels, Agatha Christie. Performances are slated 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Wednesdays, 8 p.m. Thursdays and Fridays, 2 and 8 p.m. Saturdays, and 2 and 7 p.m. Sundays at MVCPA, 500 Castro St. Tickets start at \$30.

For tickets and more information, visit theatreworks.org.

OCT.
13



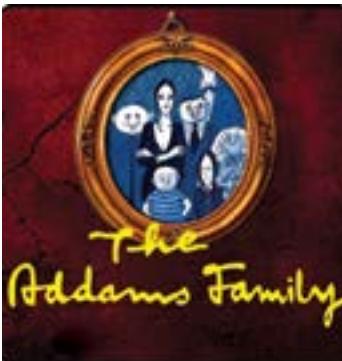
Downtown Wine Stroll

Downtown Los Altos | Oct. 13 6-9 p.m.

Participants can taste wines from several Bay Area wineries, which will be poured at stores throughout the downtown area. Sponsored by the Los Altos Village Association. Tickets are \$40-\$50.

For tickets and more information, visit downtownlosaltos.org.

OCT.
26
through
NOV.
5



‘The Addams Family’

Bus Barn Theater, Los Altos | Oct. 26 through Nov. 5

Just in time for Halloween, Los Altos Stage Company stages “The Addams Family” at Bus Barn, 97 Hillview Ave. The musical is a comical and quirky tale centered on Wednesday Addams, who has now grown up and fallen in love with a seemingly normal young man from a respectable family. Tensions rise as her father, Gomez Addams, tries to keep the secret from her mother, Morticia, leading to a fateful dinner that promises to shake the foundations of their unconventional household. Shows are scheduled 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$20-\$45.

For tickets and more information, visit losaltosstage.org.

OCT.
29



Head West

Downtown Los Altos | Oct. 29 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The downtown area hosts the Head West pop-up craft show for the second time this year. The outdoor market includes live music and wine. Co-sponsored by the Los Altos Village Association and State Street Market.

For more information, visit headwestmarketplace.com.

NOV.
3
through
19



‘The Wizard of Oz’

Lucie Stern Theatre, Palo Alto | Nov. 3-19

Palo Alto Players produces “The Wizard of Oz,” the classic tale written by L. Frank Baum, which was made into a hit movie. Follow the Scarecrow, the Tin Man, the Cowardly Lion and Dorothy as they journey through the magical land of Oz to meet the Wizard and find their true hearts’ desires. The production – staged at Lucie Stern, 1305 Middlefield Road – contains Oscar-winning songs from the movie, including “Somewhere Over the Rainbow” and “We’re Off to See the Wizard.” Performances are set for 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$30-\$54.

For tickets and more information, visit paplayers.org.

NOV.
11
through
19



‘Elf The Musical’

Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts | Nov. 11-19

Peninsula Youth Theatre kicks off the holiday season with a production of “Elf The Musical” at MVCPA, 500 Castro St. Based on the popular 2003 movie, the comedic musical follows Buddy, a human raised as an elf, who discovers his true identity as he embarks on a quest to reconnect with his biological father in New York City. Through his infectious charm, Buddy manages to ignite the Christmas spirit in those around him, while also finding love and rekindling family bonds. Shows are scheduled 2 and 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and 1 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$25.

For tickets and more information, visit pytnet.org.



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Home Instead Senior Care 14

Immanuel Lutheran Church 31
Irene Yang | Compass 35
Ladera Garden and Gifts 28
Los Altos Hills County Fire District 17
Los Altos History Museum 10
Los Altos School District 33
Lynn North | The Agency 10
Miramonte Veterinary Hospital 32
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Downtown Wine Stroll
October 13th 6-9pm

Head West Marketplace
October 29th 11am-5pm

A BOO-tiful Downtown Halloween
October 31st 12-4pm

20th Annual Holiday Stroll
November 10th 5-9pm

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