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IN THIS ISSUE:

*Blooming  
and  
Blossoming*

Blossom Buddies  
provide floral happiness



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## TABLE of CONTENTS



**5 FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS**  
Blossom Buddies provide floral happiness

**8 HILL HOUSE**  
Hill family home vibrant in Los Altos

**14 TRAVELING**  
Local dentist doesn't travel without his Town Crier

**18 THE MAGIC OF VINYL**  
A (personal) journey into my vinyl collection

**24 BRIGHT SIDE**  
Romanticizing life can make it more enjoyable

**27 EVENTS**  
Fall fun for families is on the horizon

# Los Altos Town Crier

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**ON THE COVER:** Members of Blossom Buddies put together floral arrangements for multiple local health facilities. PHOTO BY SHELLY BOWERS | SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

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*Blooming  
and  
Blossoming*

*Blossom Buddies provide floral arrangements, happiness to local hospital patients*

BY CHRISTINA CASILLAS  
STAFF WRITER | CHRISTINAC@LATC.COM

On almost any Monday, Los Altos Hills resident Karen Smith can be found surrounded by roses, daisies, baby's breath and a variety of other flowers. She's often accompanied by a handful of other women, most with flowers in hand; she and her colleagues are part of local group Blossom Buddies.

The Blossom Buddies create floral arrangements and deliver them to multiple local health facilities in an effort to bring patients joy and encourage positivity during their journeys.

Smith learned about Blossom Buddies on Nextdoor, when the group was part of a national nonprofit

known as Random Acts of Flowers.

"I have, for many years, done the centerpieces at the (Kiwanis) tree lot. So I had some things that I knew I wasn't going to use at the tree lot, and I saw on Nextdoor that (Random Acts of Flowers) was looking for donations," she said. "So they came and picked it up and I said, 'I want to join'."

She filled out an application, but after months of waiting, they never got back to her. She figured they didn't need her help, but she later learned it was because Random Acts of Flowers Silicon Valley, the local affiliate group of the main Random Acts of Flowers site, which was established in 2008 in Tennessee, had closed. >







But many women who had been part of Random Acts of Flowers were set on continuing the work the nonprofit provided the community, and soon Blossom Buddies was formed.

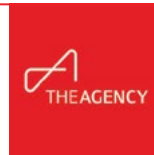
Smith said that she somehow found the new group – she couldn't recall where she learned about Blossom Buddies – and requested to join.

Blossom Buddies has operated in the Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View area since it was founded in spring 2018. During a hiatus in 2020, as the Coronavirus pandemic forced health facilities to enact strict restrictions to prevent the spread of illness, Blossom Buddies volunteers instead penned

greeting cards to patients in an effort to boost their spirits.

It wasn't until December 2021 that the group resumed bouquet designing and their weekly floral arrangement deliveries; since then, the group has continued to spread happiness through floral arrangements.

Every Monday, Smith and other volunteers put together intricate, masterfully designed bouquets from the driveway of one of the members using recycled flowers and vases, given to the group by local grocers, like Ava's Market in downtown Mountain View and the Trader Joe's locations in Mountain View and Los Altos, and even private donors.



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Blossom Buddies pose for a photo while putting together floral arrangements to send to local health facilities on a warm August Monday morning.  
 PHOTO BY SHELLY BOWERS | SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER



She mentioned that earlier in August, a newly married couple had dropped off the leftover flowers from their wedding.

“This couple that came on Monday, it was so cute. The groom said, ‘Well, I just went online and to see where I could donate flowers, and Blossom Buddies showed up,’” she said. “And I like that.”

Many of the women then take the floral arrangements the group put

together and deliver them to different health facilities in the surrounding area, including the Los Altos Sub-Acute Rehabilitation Center, Palo Alto VA Hospital, Mountain View Healthcare Center, Palo Alto Commons and Grant Cuesta Sub-Acute and Rehabilitation Center.

Many of the women are Filoli-trained, Smith said, and the group can put together more than 100 floral arrangements in around two hours,

she said. In 2023 alone, the Blossom Buddies delivered more than 2,500 bouquets.

Smith said the best part of Blossom Buddies is the process of putting the arrangements together.

When asked what her favorite part of volunteering with the group was, she responded, “Creating and working with great folks. They’re the best.”

Blossom Buddies is not looking for more volunteers – the group is at its limit – but they’re always open for flower and vase donations. 🌸

*To learn more about Blossom Buddies, visit [blossombuddies.org](https://blossombuddies.org). There, possible flower and vase donors can learn more.*







# Love at first sight

## Hills bring color, variety to Los Altos home

BY CAROLYN SNYDER  
SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

The word “exuberant” describes the riot of color alongside the brick walkway leading to the Los Altos home of Judy and George Hill and is a metaphor for the home itself.

It’s lively, livable, luxurious and surrounded by lush landscaping. However, it had a somewhat humble beginning.

It replaced a one-bedroom, two-bath house formerly owned by the late Sam Kahn, who founded Kahn’s Corner Pharmacy when Main Street still had hitching posts. The only feature that remains is the living room fireplace, which the Hills love. It has been joined by two more in what’s now a three-bedroom, three-bath, 2,483-square-foot home.

In the late 1970s, the Hill family was living in Cupertino and looking to relocate in Los Altos to be closer to friends. George, a San Francisco fireman and part-time realtor, also would benefit from a lesser commute.

“George discovered our dream house on one of his real estate open house tours and it just happened to be right around the block from my college roommate’s home,” Judy said. “It was a spec house built by an imaginative builder.”

It was love at first sight – much like their meeting as a bachelor and a widow with a young son – and it became their home in 1980.

The façade of what appears to be a “cottage” of either English Tudor or French Country origin is deceiving. Step over the threshold into the living room and you’re surprised by an expansive view through the house to the garden. >

The Hill house in Los Altos may seem like any other house on its block from the exterior (top), but once inside, the collections of George and Judy Hill mark their home as exclusively theirs.

PHOTOS BY SHELLY BOWERS | SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER



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All the ceilings are different – exposed beam, coffered, tray and sloped. So, too, are the light sources – a wall of divided light windows in the family room, stained-glass front door panels, stained-glass bathroom skylight and clerestory windows.

And it’s not monotone. Dining room walls are the color of a rich burgundy leather sofa, the perfect foil for Salvador Dali artwork. The primary suite is sage green to echo the foliage outdoors. There’s a plethora of blue and yellow, especially in the kitchen, where Quimper pottery is abundant.

“I’m Norwegian and love blue and yellow,” said Judy, a native of Minnesota, who treasures the heirlooms from her family home that are on display. Favorites are her mother’s stemware and a set of dishes belonging to her grandmother.

“I believe you should surround yourself with what you love,” she said with a smile as she looked around. “But maybe I have too much.”



George Hill, once part of the San Francisco Fire Department, stands with some of his firefighter memorabilia stored in the butler’s pantry.  
PHOTO BY SHELLY BOWERS | SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Their home is the antithesis of what Judy calls the “minimalist and pristine homes” in vogue. “All those white walls are boring.”

Everywhere one looks, there’s something that catches the eye, such as fanciful hand towels draped over the rungs of a blue ladder propped in a corner of the family room. Next to it, colorful napkins from Provence, ready for use, are knotted on a curtain rod bisecting a window. On the hearth in the family room is a wooden Coors beer case salvaged from George’s bachelor pad. >



*Kozy Brothers*

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George, a broker with Intero, is retired after 30 years with the San Francisco Fire Department. His collection of memorabilia in the butler's pantry continues to remind him of the camaraderie of his fellow firefighters. In fact, the garden deck was built by one them four decades ago.

Entering the two-tier garden is like being in a cocoon. "People describe our back patio as an oasis, a lush, shady glen and a Carmel-like setting," Judy said.

It's surrounded by towering trees and bordered by multi-hued foliage, roses, camellias, coleus, New Guinea impatiens and more. There are two dining venues and a pathway that winds around the side of the house.

The best view of the garden is from the family room where a "valance" of twisted grape vines above the windows frames the scene.

Books are prominent in George's office as both like to read. Among them are two novels and a children's book written by Judy, an author and former English teacher.

Judy's "office" is an armoire painted by her sister that's in a well-lighted corner of the guest room.

The primary bedroom has a fireplace, a cozy area for reading, open beamed ceiling, garden views and a quirky surprise in the bathroom. The builder tucked away the commode behind a saloon-like swinging louvered door – just one of the many features that make this spec home special and unique. 🌸



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# Local dentist doesn't travel without his *Town Crier*

BY RUBY DOWLING

TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Los Altos resident Dr. Kingstone Shih has ridden camels in Jordan, run with the bulls in Spain and gone glacier trekking in Argentina – all activities that undoubtedly require careful planning and forethought.

“I’m pretty organized in planning,” the endodontist said.

Such organizational skills are required to remember to bring an unusual item few people probably



Kingstone Shih, a local dentist, poses with his issue of the Los Altos Town Crier while on vacation in Italy in 2017 (above) and at the 2014 FIFA World Cup (top).  
PHOTO PHOTO COURTESY OF KINGSTONE SHIH

have on their packing list: The latest edition of the Los Altos Town Crier.

Shih, who specializes in root canals for the Peninsula Endodontic Group in Mountain View, estimated he has submitted 20 photos of himself on vacation with a copy of the paper to the Town Crier since 2014, bringing the latest Los Altos news to more than 12 countries and several U.S. states.

Shih said he first brought a copy of the Town Crier on a vacation to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He snapped a photo holding the paper in front of a monument to send to the Town Crier’s Editor-in-Chief, Bruce Barton, who he considers a friend.

“The reason I bring the Town Crier with me on my vacations is because I’m proud to be a Los Altos resident and I’ve known (Barton) for a long time,” Shih said.

Shih said he often plans out where he wants to take his photo with the Town Crier before heading off on his trips, which he said helps him remember to pack the paper.

“I have forgotten on different trips (to bring the Town Crier), but I always bring it if I have something in mind,” he said.

Shih’s wife, Laura Meneses Arce, takes the photos of him with the Town Crier on their trips together. She said it can sometimes be difficult to frame the shot to match up with Shih’s vision.

“I try to do my best,” she said. “I think now (I’ve) learned how to take better photos.”

Originally from the Greater Boston area, Shih said his family moved to the Bay Area in 1979 when he was in the sixth grade. He stayed local through receiving his bachelor’s degree from UC Berkeley and his dental degree from the UC San Francisco School of Dentistry.

After completing his residency in Pennsylvania, Shih said he moved back to the Bay Area and settled in Los Altos in 2002. He has practiced dentistry in Mountain View for 28 years.

Since 2014, Shih has posed with the Town Crier in front of several famous monuments and locations, including the Tower of Pisa, the 2024 World Cup in Brazil and the 2024 Super Bowl in Las Vegas.

“The most important thing for me is that I’m a big sports nut,” Shih said. >



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Whether at a soccer game in Rio de Janeiro, an away 49ers game, or even the Super Bowl, Shih is well-traveled, and so are many issues of the Town Crier. PHOTOS COURTESY OF KINGSTONE SHIH



Shih added that he often travels to see soccer matches for his favorite team for each country – FC Barcelona in Spain, Paris Saint-Germain FC in France, Borussia Dortmund in Germany and Arsenal FC in England, among others.

“I played soccer growing up as a kid,” Shih said. “When I started traveling, once I started getting my career going, I went to one soccer game (and) I got hooked.”

In addition to watching international sports, Shih said he enjoys learning about the culture of the countries he visits. He speaks five languages: English, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, Italian and Portuguese.



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“I found that it helps to speak the language of the local people when you travel,” Shih said. “It helps a lot. You get better service in restaurants.”

Shih said he also enjoys following local sports teams. Shih said he is a season-ticket holder for the San Jose Sharks and the San Francisco 49ers, and said he enjoys following the high school soccer season through the Town Crier.

“I’m a big fan of St. Francis, Mountain View High School and Los Altos High School,” he said.

Most recently, Shih sent the Town Crier a photo of him in front of the White House in Washington D.C. to remind readers of the importance of voting ahead of the upcoming presidential election.

“I wanted to remind all my fellow Los Altos residents that this is an important election,” Shih said. “Whether you’re pro Trump or Harris doesn’t matter. I think it’s important for every person to not only exercise your right and almost privilege (to vote), but like I said in the message, it’s also your civic duty.”

Shih said he plans to continue taking the paper with him as he pursues his international travels.

“He always tells me, ‘I’m going to take a picture with this newspaper,’ and it’s like, ‘Why?’” Meneses Arce said. “And then he explained (to) me, ‘It’s because if I take a picture, they can post my vacation.’” 🌟

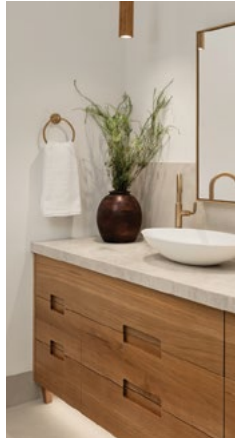


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# THE MAGIC OF VINYL

## *A personal journey into my vinyl collection*

BY MICHEL YEHUDI ECHEVERRIA | SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

**M**y first memory of vinyl is from home. I was a kid the first time I heard Nat King Cole's smooth voice singing in Spanish on my dad's vintage console record player. The album: *Cole Español*. I was too young to fully appreciate the magic of vinyl, but something about that moment stayed with me. The warmth of Cole's voice, the subtle crackle sounds of the needle moving across the grooves, and the feeling of nostalgia it evoked created in me a sense of home, comfort and connection. That's how listening to music on vinyl became a unique, immersive listening experience for me. It was this longing for home, my passion for music and the appreciation for the album cover art that started my journey into my vinyl record collection.

### AN IMMERSIVE LISTENING EXPERIENCE

My first record was a gift: Fleetwood Mac's *Rumors*. I was already a fan of the band, and owned their greatest hits album on CD, but listening to *Rumors* on vinyl was a different, compelling experience. When I first heard the crackle of the needle touching the record, it immediately reminded me of my dad's vintage console. Although now I take great care to clean my records, that nostalgic sound still evokes a sense of home. Listening to *Rumors* in its entirety showed me a different side of the band I knew from their greatest hits album. Unlike digital formats, with vinyl you can't skip tracks. Vinyl records require you to listen to the entire album from start to finish. This immersive experience allows you to listen fully to the artist's intended narrative. This is what makes vinyl so special. It allows you to appreciate the album as a cohesive piece. Behind a great album there is a compelling story, and vinyl provides the perfect media to experience that story in its entirety.

### BUILDING A COLLECTION

As a collector, I try to own the complete discographies of my favorite artist. After listening to Fleetwood Mac's *Rumors* on vinyl for the first time, I decided to collect all the Fleetwood Mac records I could find. To this day, I have most of their discography on vinyl. Over time, my collection has grown significantly, and now includes around 2,000 records, thanks in part to the generous gifts from friends and my own dedicated searching. For instance, my dear friend, Mr. Barry Anderson, generously gave me his small collection once he knew I was into vinyl. It included about 40 records, mostly The Beatles and Bob Dylan, and most of them were first editions. That's how collecting has led me to end up with the complete, or nearly complete, discographies of The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, Queen, Madonna, Janis Joplin, Sufjan Stevens, Pearl Jam and many others. ➤





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“...the subtle crackle sounds of the needle moving across the grooves, and the feeling of nostalgia it evoked created in me a sense of home, comfort and connection...”



About 20 years ago, when vinyl was out of fashion, I used to go to thrift stores and pick up records for a dollar. I could find great records in great condition for cheap. A contrasting experience from today, where vinyl has made a strong comeback and prices have surged. I also frequented record sale events, where I met fellow vinyl enthusiasts. We'd talk about our hobby, exchange records and share recommendations. Record sales events were a treasure hunt. I remember finding gems like a sealed copy of Janet Jackson's *Rhythm Nation*, a Russian version of Elton John's *Your Song*, and a Chinese version of Janis Joplin's *I Got Dem Ol' Kozmic Blues Again Mama!*. But it wasn't just about the records—it was about the friendships formed along the way. One friend I met at these events recommended Tim Buckley to me, an artist I'd never heard of before. She gave me her own copy of *Goodbye and Hello*, which I still have and cherish to this day. >



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"We cannot speak highly enough about Elizabeth and her team. She forged relationships and guided us tremendously in purchasing our new home in Los Altos. Her strong connections were the only way we would have been able to make this all happen seamlessly."

**NEIL & NIRALI, SELLERS & BUYERS**

"All of Elizabeth's hard work, dedication, and experience made the whole process as painless as possible. Elizabeth is also great at communicating and has a wicked sense of humor... which is a testament to how good a realtor Elizabeth is."

**BRIAN, SELLER**

"Elizabeth is consistent, extremely knowledgeable in the local market, very responsive, and truly a pleasure to work with. She made sure no detail was overlooked and the final product was always immaculate."

**GUNNAR & LEIFER, SELLERS**

"She's full of irrepressible enthusiasm for her work and great ideas for what a house needs to make a good impression. She's made the otherwise daunting prospect of selling my house exciting and fun."

**DAN, SELLER**



---

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## A PASSION FOR ART AND MUSIC

As a graphic designer, I'm drawn to the artistry of record covers and packaging. There's something captivating about a well-designed album cover, like the magical cover of The Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band*, the surreal illustration on the gatefold cover of King Crimson's *In the Court of the Crimson King*, or The Clash's *London Calling* that evokes Elvis Presley's first album cover. These covers aren't just packaging; they're an integral part of the listening experience. Receiving the physical format of a vinyl record enhances my



appreciation for the artwork, from cover to the insert with the lyric to the back cover. The whole package deepens the immersive vinyl experience. I especially love when the artists go the extra mile with their packaging. For instance, Led Zeppelin's *III* was released in a die-cut gatefold featuring a rotating wheel in the front; the Rolling Stone's *Licky Finger* cover comes with a real zipper; and the 2018 special edition of John Fogerty's *Centerfield* gatefold cover features a pop-up of a baseball stadium.

As my vinyl collection got bigger and evolved, so did my taste in music. I expanded from rock and pop to jazz with artists like Miles Davis, Kamasi Washington and Samara Joy. I dove into the funky grooves of George Clinton and Funkadelic, the rebellious energy of punk with The Ramones and Green Day, the poetic rhythms of hip-hop with Lauryn Hill and Nas, the sensuality of R&B with Sade and Al Green, the vibrant sounds of Latin music with Celia Cruz and Hector Lavoe, and the international melodies of Ofra Haza, Andy Lau and the Gypsy Kings. My vinyl collection became a reflection of my eclectic tastes and musical journey.

Over time, I've been fortunate enough to acquire some rare and hard-to-find editions. Among my prized possessions are the first edition of Bob Dylan's *Blonde on Blonde* with the picture of Claudia Cardinale before it was removed, and The Rolling Stones' *Some Girls* first edition with the photos of Marilyn Monroe, Lucille Ball, Raquel Welch, and others who didn't give permission, leading to a cover change. I also have some rarities, like an out-of-print box set of Jimi Hendrix records that includes 13 of his studio albums, an album by the dark European group Someone's Band and a promotional, white label/test pressing copy of Bob Dylan's *Blood on the Tracks*.

## THE JOY OF VINYL COLLECTING

Vinyl collecting can be incredibly rewarding if you're into music and art. Each record is a piece of history, a work of art, and a reminder of why I fell in love with music in the first place. As my collection continues to grow, I'm always looking ahead to what's next. Even though I've become more selective in my purchases, there's still so much to explore. Looking back, my vinyl journey has been incredibly rewarding, and I can't wait to see where it takes me next. Whether I'm adding a rare find to my collection or simply enjoying an old favorite, vinyl continues to bring joy to my life in ways that still amaze me, just like the very first time. ●

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DO LIKE DOLLY SAYS:

# Look on the bright side

Romanticizing your life can help make life more enjoyable

BY CHRISTINA CASILLAS  
STAFF WRITER | CHRISTINAC@LATC.COM

“Life’s tough, and then you die.”

For a while, that saying my mom would respond with when I’d complain because life was particularly hard or frustrating as a child, would echo in my mind. Of course, she didn’t say it when I was actually sad or had complaints worthy of a thoughtful response – she’d say it when I talked about seemingly endless piles of homework or silly friendship quarrels – but it stuck with me regardless.

But as an adult with depression, those words were prevalent in my day-to-day life. While my mental illness is under control, regulating ruminance – when I focused on and obsessed over negative thoughts – was hard. I accepted that life was simply “tough” and I’d just have to stick it out until it got better (or I kicked the bucket), but I learned that way of thinking was dangerous.



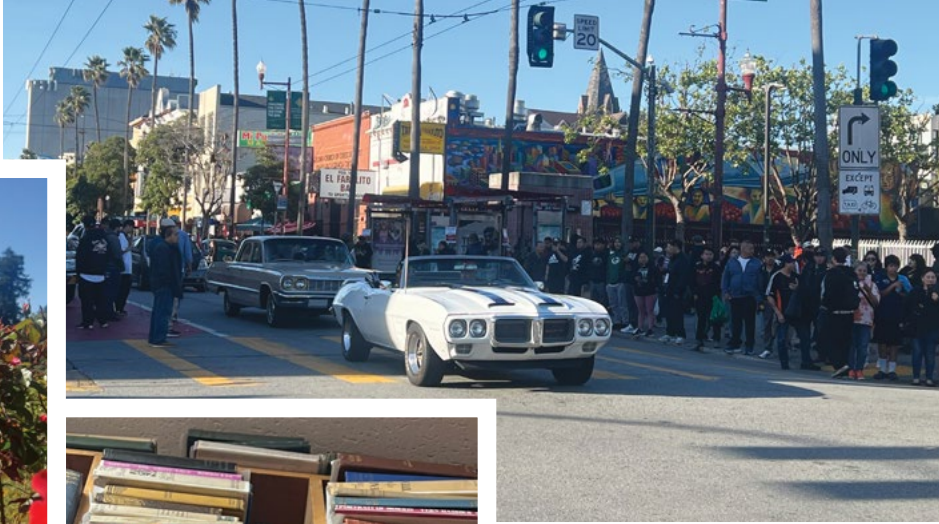
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Admiring small moments –from catching beauty in nature, admiring old cars, the smell of bookstores or even a cute dog in a raincoat– can make even the most mundane life feel special.  
PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA CASILLAS | TOWN CRIER



I found my often internally pessimistic view of my circumstances and place in the world was, understandably, worsening my mental health. In March I decided I wanted to do everything I could to change the way I approached life. One of the major changes that worked the best for me was changing how I viewed the world, and life itself.

Instead of believing that life was constantly hard and focusing on the negative aspects of life, I decided to switch my point of view and focus on the good; instead of fixating on how, for a lack of better words, life sucked, I chose to see the beauty in life.

I began romanticizing my existence, seeing the good and the beauty and the joy that was around me. All it took was a little searching.

Though romanticization, the act of recalling or seeing something in a positive or romantic light, may often have negative connotations related to illusionment and aloofness, romanticizing life is about finding joy in the in-between. It's seen in the act of admiring and appreciating the small moments, the smiles, conversations, meals, connections and slice-of-life interactions that bring joy.

Romanticizing life is about acknowledging that life can be hard, but it can also be rewarding. Life is a gift, and happiness can be found everywhere.

I learned about romanticization from slow-living YouTubers – often women who've been burnt out and had their mental health deteriorate



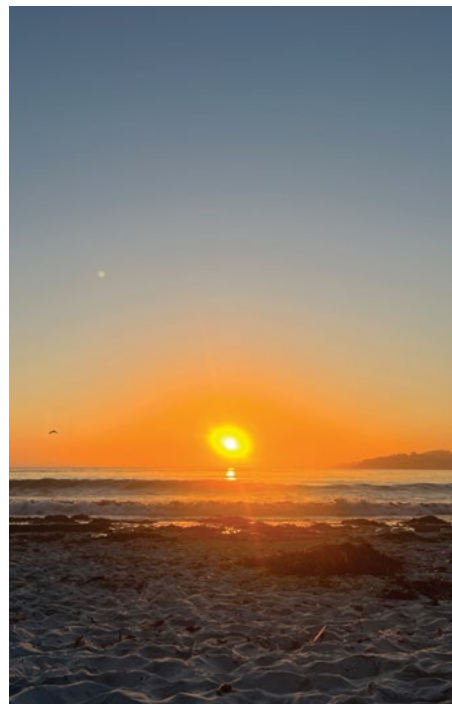
from the fast and stressful lives they led – and determined I wanted to live slowly, too.

I was intrigued by the slow-living lifestyle, which encourages intentional and meaningful existences by slowing down and living in the moment, and soon I realized romanticization goes hand-in-hand with slow living. To live slow, it's important to romanticize what may seem abysmal to someone else.

In my eyes, appreciation at its core is the basis of romanticization. The heart of romanticization comes from acknowledging the positive that comes from the mundane.

I started off small; I took a look at my day-to-day life and found what made me happy. My friends, from those I've known since high school to those I work with at the Town Crier, were some of the first parts of my life I took the time to appreciate. I get to be silly with them, complain to them and learn from them; those connections are so special and make life much more fun.

Even small interactions – like walking down State Street and receiving (and reciprocating) a warm smile from someone brushing past me – can bring joy. There's something >





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Going outside, sitting on my back porch as the sun sets and watching the leaves of my walnut tree dance with the breeze after a hard day at work help me remember that there is more to this life than what we see. Someone who's long-gone admired small aspects of nature in the same way I did. Nature's a constant that's been here before I came to this world, and it'll continue long after I'm gone, but it connects us all.

The passage of time has always been something I had a hard time grappling with. I've often felt that I'm moving slower than I want to, and as someone who tends to be impatient, it's also been hard waiting for milestones and change. But instead of focusing on how I feel like I'm missing out to some degree, I focus on the now. I focus on how the idea of time is an illusion, and if I'm going to feel any emotion related to it, it's going to be joy.

With autumn closing in, I grow giddy thinking of the leaves I'll get to crunch along Main Street. I'm looking forward to cool weather and the smell of rain filling my senses, reminding me the season will be over almost as quickly as it began.

Romanticizing life has made me happier than I've been in my adult life. It's amazing how appreciating the small things can make such a large impact. 🍂

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# Fall fun for families is on the horizon

The arrival of fall brings an array of family-friendly events to the Los Altos area – including plays, lectures and even a parade. A list of these events follows.

SEPT.  
28



## “The Golden Goose”

**11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. at Mountain View Center for Performing Arts, Second Stage, 500 Castro St.**

*Peninsula Youth Theatre presents “The Golden Goose,” a story about a struggling family and a wonderful gift from an elderly woman that leads to great adventure. The performance runs 50 minutes with no intermission and is suitable for children. Tickets start at \$20.*

*For more information, visit [tickets.mvcpa.com](https://tickets.mvcpa.com).*

OCT.  
1



## “Turning the Tide: Community Action Against Plastic Pollution”

**7 p.m. at the Los Altos Library**

*The Los Altos Library invites community members to learn more about initiatives to redirect plastic from landfills and toward the production of decking materials. At the free community event, a speaker from the Los Altos Rotary Climate Action Committee is scheduled to discuss how the minimal efforts of households, individuals and stores can positively contribute to the environment.*

*For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/2y2vfmbp](https://tinyurl.com/2y2vfmbp).*

OCT.  
4



## Los Altos First Friday

**6-9 p.m. in downtown Los Altos**

*Los Altos First Friday invites residents from Los Altos and neighboring communities to shop, dine and explore the downtown. Many downtown merchants plan to provide in-store activities, extend hours and offer complimentary refreshments. The free community event is scheduled to have live music from 10-15 bands.*

*For more information, visit [losaltosfirstfriday.fun](https://losaltosfirstfriday.fun).*





OCT.  
10



## Los Altos Farmers' Market

**4-8 p.m. on State Street in downtown Los Altos**

The weekly Los Altos Farmers' Market, offering seasonal produce, specialty food items, baked goods, flowers and more, wraps up for the year.

For more information, visit [pcfma.org/losaltos](http://pcfma.org/losaltos).

OCT.  
25  
through  
NOV.  
3



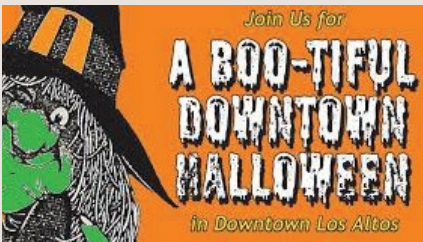
## "Heathers The Musical: Teen Edition"

**7 p.m. Fridays, and 2 and 7 p.m. Saturdays and 2 p.m. Sundays at Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave.**

The Los Altos Youth Theatre presents "Heathers The Musical: Teen Edition," a dark comedy about a misfit high school student, a powerful clique and a dangerous new kid. Tickets start at \$18.

For more information, visit [losaltosstage.org/heathers](http://losaltosstage.org/heathers).

OCT.  
31



## A BOO-tiful Downtown Halloween

**Noon and 2-4 p.m. in downtown Los Altos**

The BOO-tiful Downtown Halloween allows children to participate in a quest to find stores displaying an orange pumpkin sign in the front window. The trick-or-treating starts at noon, and the Halloween activities run 2-4 p.m. at Veterans Community Plaza.

For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/whkxkvkf](http://tinyurl.com/whkxkvkf).

NOV.  
8



## 21st Annual Holiday Stroll

**5-9 p.m. in downtown Los Altos**

The Los Altos Village Association invites community members to the 21st Annual Holiday Stroll. It is slated to feature strolling carolers, sparkling lights and shopping specials at downtown restaurants and shops.

For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/4u5e9363](http://tinyurl.com/4u5e9363).

NOV.  
18



## Happier Aging

**11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Los Altos Library**

The Los Altos Library hosts the Happier Aging workshop to discuss healthier living at home with Nurse Next Door. The free event aims to share local resources, including senior transportation and safety-at-home tips. Light refreshments will be provided, and while registration is available, walk-ins are welcome.

For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/y53x8h8p](http://tinyurl.com/y53x8h8p).

NOV. 29 through DEC. 22



## “A Christmas Story – The Musical”

8 p.m. at Bus Barn Theater

The Los Altos Stage Company stages “A Christmas Story, The Musical,” adapted from the 1983 classic film about Ralphie Parker and his desire for the holiday gift of his dreams - an official Red Ryder toy BB gun. Tickets start at \$13.

For more information, visit [losaltosstage.org/a-christmas-story](http://losaltosstage.org/a-christmas-story).

NOV. 30



## Small Business Saturday

All day

Organized by the Los Altos Village Association, Small Business Saturday is a free community event designed to show support for local small businesses. It encourages residents to explore the more than 140 restaurants, salons and boutiques in downtown Los Altos to help the community thrive.

For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/yybr6yef](http://tinyurl.com/yybr6yef).



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DEC.  
1



## Festival of Lights Parade

6-8 p.m. in downtown Los Altos

Starting on First and State streets, the Festival of Lights Parade is an annual tradition in Los Altos. It features marching bands, a visit from Santa Claus and illuminated floats. The parade is appropriate for all ages.

For more information, visit [losaltosparade.org](http://losaltosparade.org).

DEC.  
5  
through  
8



## Smuin's "The Christmas Ballet"

Mountain View Center for Performing Arts, Main Stage  
7:30 p.m. Dec. 5 and 6, 2 and 7:30 p.m. Dec. 7 and  
2 p.m. Dec. 8

The Smuin Contemporary Ballet stages its annual run of "The Christmas Ballet," featuring choreography by Michael Smuin. The two-hour-long performance has one intermission and is appropriate for children. Tickets start at \$31.

For more information, visit [tinyurl.com/3btvd7tw](http://tinyurl.com/3btvd7tw).

- Compiled by Gensen DeLeon/Town Crier Editorial Intern



Los Altos Town Crier



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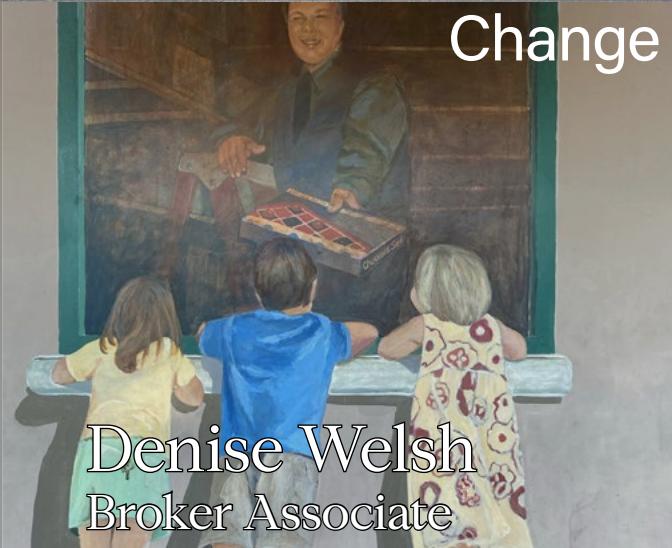
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