

Art Show Invitation



**Town Hall Reception**  
 Sunday,  
 March 16, 2008  
 2 - 4 pm  
 Refreshments

There's a warm tropical breeze coming to Town this March when Florida based artist Katherine K. Allen's works will be exhibited. Her sumptuous works are stitched monotypes on silks and cottons. Not your orthodox renderings but innovative works of art on cloth, stitched by hand in a truly unique style.

The art in the coming collection draws its inspiration from natural elements such as grasses, trees and plants giving the exhibit an environmental theme that aligns nicely with the Town Hall exhibit space. When creating her works, Katherine builds a richly nuanced surface using a unique combination of paint and thread. Lively texture is added to each piece using stitched lines and marks. The result is an artwork of soothing elegance and lively playfulness. These color-rich works visually whisper and sway with the graceful gestures of nature, bringing the outside in. They will be on display March through September of 2008.

Pakistan is Historical Society's March 2 topic

Local internist Dr. Munir Javed, a native Pakistani who maintains close contacts with other Pakistani, both here and there, has recently returned from a visit to his homeland. He will share his knowledge of Pakistan with attendees at the March 2 Historical Society meeting, 3-5 pm in Town Hall. A discussion and refreshment period follows the formal part of the meeting.



For information about the Historical Society, please call (650) 961-8859.

Call for Volunteer Committee Openings

Openings exist for volunteers on the following Town Committees. Please contact Karen Jost, City Clerk at (650) 941-7222 to apply. Interviews with the city council are required for all applicants.

- Community Relations - 1
- Education-2
- Emergency Communications - 4 (special requirements)
- Environmental Design and Protection - 1
- Historical - 2
- Westwind Community Barn - 1



Westwind & Wineries III

Can you guess how many wine makers there are in Los Altos Hills? You are invited to meet some of them and taste the excellent boutique wines unavailable anywhere else. This event will showcase more than 20 local wine makers who grow grapes and/or make their own wine right here in Los Altos Hills. You'll have a chance to meet them and talk to them about their passion, as well as taste the results. It is also an opportunity to visit the soon to be restored historic Westwind Barn, and learn about the community programs that take place in this scenic location.



Registration is required, as attendance will be limited to 200 attendees. The event is for adults only since tasters must be over 21 years old. Please pre-register using the Town's website: [www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/recreation](http://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov/recreation)

**Date: Sunday, March 30, 2008 (Rain date April 6th)**      **Time: 1:30 PM Check-in**  
**Location: Westwind Community Barn, Altamont Road, LAH**      **Ages: Adult Program**      **Fee: No Charge.**

Organizing Committee: Hills 2000-Friends of the Hills, LAH Parks & Recreation Committee, Supporters of Westwind Community Barn, Friends of Westwind, The Town Crier, Los Altos Community Foundation

11th ANNUAL LOS ALTOS HILLS TOWN PICNIC JUNE 1st

Mark your calendar now for the 11th Annual Town Picnic, which will start at 1 PM on Sunday afternoon, June 1, 2008, at the Little League fields on Purissima Road at the intersection with Viscaino Road. The Picnic features lots of entertainment, games and other attractions, as well as a free lunch for all Los Altos Hills residents. Delicious chicken, all-beef hot dogs and vegetarian meals will be cooked by our terrific firefighters from Santa Clara County Firefighters Local # 1165, and served with Firefighters Chili, tossed salad, and garlic bread. Soft drinks, beer, wine and ice cream sundaes will be available.



Pictured above are Jeanne & Roy Evisizer with their grandson, Billy enjoying the picnic festivities.

To provide variety, this year's picnic will feature some new attractions, including a surprise band for your musical enjoyment and a fabulous new entertainer and magician. Some favorites from past picnics will return, including a classic car show, several large inflatable attractions, Lionel model trains, volleyball, children's contests, pony rides and crafts. The Community Relations Committee organizes the Town Picnic, with help from many volunteers in Town.

Our Town hosts the Picnic as the major annual community event for all of our Town residents. Since there is no charge for attending, the picnic is limited to Los Altos Hills residents and Town staff — so do encourage your Los Altos Hills neighbors to attend with you, but please do not invite friends or family members from other cities (they will be turned away at the gate). Also, by city ordinance, dogs are not allowed on the fields.

Watch for the picnic flier with a registration coupon that will be mailed to all Town residents in late April. Advance registration by Monday, May 19th is required. Canopies will be provided, so rain or hot weather will not cancel the picnic.

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 26379 Fremont Road  
 Los Altos Hills, California 94022

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Mark Your Calendar!

LAH FUN RUN



6th Annual Los Altos Hills  
 Pathways FUN RUN  
 Saturday, May 10th  
 Westwind Community Barn  
 9:00 AM 5/10K starts,  
 10:30 AM 1 Mile Fun Run.

Information <http://www.lahpathways.org>  
 or  
 Scott Vanderlip at (650) 948-6455



TOWN NEWSLETTER

CALENDAR

**March 2, Sunday, 2-4 PM; Meet Our Elected Officials**; sponsored by the League of Women Voters; Mountain View City Hall Rotunda, 500 Castro Street; Light Refreshments.

**March 29, Saturday, 7:30 PM - Midnight; Bullis Charter School; "Bullis Goes Bollywood"**; Auction/Dinner/Dance/Fundraiser; Crowne Plaza Hotel, Palo Alto; Tickets: \$135; Cocktails & Silent Auction from 6 PM to 7:30 PM; Contact: [donna@donnayoung.ws](mailto:donna@donnayoung.ws); Info: [www.bullischarterschool.com](http://www.bullischarterschool.com)

**April 20, Sunday, 1-4 PM; Earth Day Celebration at Westwind Barn**; Featuring: Leopards, Etc. Live Cats; Wine Tasting; Demonstrations. Info: (650) 941-4808

**June 1, Sunday, 1 PM, Town Picnic**; Little League Fields; watch for the registration flyer in May.

**July 27, 2008; Foothill College Gala featuring the Musical "Pajama Game"**

City Council Approves CERPP for Residents Neighborhood Disaster Teams are BACK!

During the first hours and days after a major disaster in Los Altos Hills, emergency services could be overwhelmed, leaving families and neighborhoods on their own without government assistance. The Los Altos Hills City Council voted unanimously to approve the **Community Emergency Response Preparedness Program (CERPP)**. The goal of the CERPP program is to prepare residents to be self-sustaining immediately following a disaster.

A major component of CERPP is the Los Altos Hills Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The program's goal is to build active CERT teams in as many neighborhood divisions as possible and train 1% of the Town's population over time. Los Altos Hills Unincorporated Area is also included in the program.

Santa Clara County Fire Department personnel will train and empower residents in safe, effective neighborhood CERT teams. Instructors teach residents to take life-saving action to help their families and neighbors get through the first hours or days when emergency services are overwhelmed.

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District purchased a trailer equipped with first aid and rescue supplies for CERT. The trailer will also serve as the CERT Coordination Point during an actual emergency or disaster where radio equipment and supplies will be issued to CERT teams. The CERT Coordination Point will be the communications link between the Town's Emergency Operations Center and CERT volunteers.

The CERT team is volunteer-based, overseen by the Town's public safety officer, Steven Garcia. "We are looking for 5 individuals who would take a leadership role in the CERT team" Garcia said. "They would assist in neighborhood organization, training exercises and recruitment efforts". CERT managers will receive emergency management training at the California Specialized Training Institute (CSTI) in San Luis Obispo. The Town will cover the costs for the one-week course.

CERT training is 20 classroom hours spread over 5 classes. Students pay the \$90 fee at the beginning of the class. Fire personnel teach Fire Safety, Light Search and Rescue, and CERT first aid. Other classes include Terrorism, Disaster Psychology, and CERT Organization. Students will also receive a CERT backpack equipped with first aid and rescue supplies. Graduation day is followed by a BBQ at the Town's Recreation Center. Upon successful completion of the course, Los Altos Hills County Fire District will reimburse students the \$90 fee.

CERT training is not required to participate in neighborhood teams. Contact Steve Garcia at (650) 947-2508 for more information.

The first CERT class is scheduled for Wednesday, April 9th at 6:30-9:30 pm. All classes will be held each following Wednesday at the Los Altos Hills Recreation Center, 26379 Fremont Road, next to Town Hall. Graduation day is Saturday, May 10th. If you would like to sign up for CERT, please call Steve Garcia at (650) 947-2508 or Mike Sanders, (650) 922-1055.

If you are interested in the CERT manager position, please call Steve Garcia at (650) 947-2508.



From left to right: Bob Anderson, Dru Anderson, Ed Jones, Ray Egan, Bob Hall, Jerry Tomasek and Maynard Stevenson

**CITY MANAGER'S REPORT**

**Los Altos Hills to Evaluate Bids for New Garbage Contract**

The Los Altos Garbage Company (LAGCo), a subsidiary of Norcal Waste Systems, has been the Town's trash hauling service provider for about the past 30 years. A 2007 customer service survey conducted by LAGCo indicates that most residents are satisfied with the Company's service.



City Manager Carl Cahill

However, the multi-year contract between the Town and LAGCo expires in September of this year and LAGCo has notified the Town that they would be willing to extend the contract subject to a percentage fee increase in excess of the consumer price index. The Town surveyed local garbage rates and determined that its residents were already paying significantly higher fees than the neighboring towns of Portola Valley and Woodside. These communities are similar to Los Altos Hills in terms of topography, land use characteristics and customer service expectations. Based on its fiduciary responsibility to the residents of Los Altos Hills, the City Council decided at its May 10, 2007 meeting to solicit bids to provide solid waste and recycling services under a new franchise agreement.

The Town is also taking this opportunity to look at broadening the service options, for example increasing the range of items that can be recycled, or increasing the frequency of recycling and trash pickup. In the process of selecting a provider for the new franchise agreement, the Town will weigh its decision most heavily on cost and technical issues such as quality of service, equipment and the extent of recycling services provided.

The Town has received and is in the process of evaluating two proposals, one from LAGCo and the other from Green Waste Recovery Services, the company serving Woodside and Portola Valley. Town staff anticipates forwarding a recommendation regarding the two proposals to the City Council by mid March.

— Carl Cahill, City Manager

**Los Altos Mediation Program**

Have a problem or dispute?

- Neighbor to neighbor
- Consumer
- Parent - Teen

Solve it through free mediation with the Los Altos Mediation Program.

Info: (650) 948-5267 or  
Email: mediation4LAMP@sbcglobal.net



**Los Altos Hills Welcomes New City Engineer**

In early January 2008, Richard Chiu, Jr., was appointed City Engineer - Public Works Director.



Following a history of increasingly impressive accomplishments, Richard joins the town senior staff just in time to direct many major public works projects. The list includes redevelopment of the Little League Fields, the Foothill path projects, Old Altos Pathway, Fremont Road development, a new sewer line project and the long sought after pilot project for undergrounding of utilities along Purissima Road Little League Fields and Altamont Road along Byrne Preserve.

Richard is well prepared to assume the leadership on the scope of these projects based on his over 16 years in working as a civil engineer. Following graduation from UC Berkeley in 1992, one of his first jobs was with the General Services Administration as a Construction and Project Engineer developing construction specifications for building border stations on the Mexican border to implement the recently passed NAFTA laws for traffic/security/safety of our Mexican borders. The last eight years was spent as the Senior Civil Engineer for the Town of Woodside, where he provided construction supervision of the major public works projects including the development of Woodside's first public park.

Richard's short-term goals are to become oriented on the background & history of Los Altos Hills unique public works needs and requirements. Long-term goals include being able to work with the community to deliver our public works projects at the highest level.

In his spare time, Richard enjoys an active family life with his wife Susanna, who is a civil engineer for the City of San Mateo and two young boys - Jason, 5 years old and Kevin, 2 years old.

Welcome aboard Richard!

**Town Newsletter - Statement of Purpose**

This is the official Town Newsletter to communicate current issues, services, and activities in Los Altos Hills to the residents of the Town and to facilitate, encourage and improve interaction between the residents and Town government. The 2008 Newsletter will be published quarterly in the months of March, June, September, and December. Deadline for the next issue is April 30, 2008.

Internet Address: [www.losaltoshills.ca.gov](http://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov)

**About Our Publication**  
The Town Newsletter is published with assistance from our Town Volunteer Committee.  
Editor: Dorothy Duffy Price  
Associate Editors: Barbara Waldeck, Linda Seidel, Patty Wooley  
Photographer: Jitze Couperus

**Los Altos Hills City Council**

Craig Jones, Mayor • Jean Mordo, Vice Mayor  
Breene Kerr • Mike O'Malley • Dean Warshawsky



**PLANNING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Town of Los Altos Hills has some of the most intact and valuable riparian habitat in the San Francisco Bay region. There are five major creeks that flow through the Town: Adobe Creek, Barron Creek, Deer Creek, Hale Creek, and Matadero Creek. In addition, many miles of unnamed watercourses and tributaries make up the Town's stream system, providing significant ecological, aesthetic, and recreational values to the community.



Debbie Pedro, Planning Director

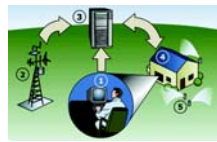
The streamside vegetation in the area immediately adjacent to a creek is known as the riparian habitat. The high-moisture environment in the riparian area provides food and shelter for a variety of wildlife and plants. In addition to this biological function, riparian areas are essential in maintaining creek stability and water quality. The gravel streambed absorbs water and filters pollutants, providing a conduit for groundwater recharge. The stream also conveys water runoff from developed land surfaces that ultimately discharges into the Bay.

To maintain creek stability, protect water quality and riparian habitat, structures are subject to a minimum setback of twenty-five feet from the top of creek banks. Greater setbacks may be required along major creeks in the Town; however, lesser setbacks may be allowed where approved by the Planning Commission. (LAHMC Section 10-2.702.e) In addition, creeks and banks should be maintained in their natural state as much as possible. Channelization increases water velocity and will result in the erosion and down cutting of your neighbor's stream bank. Therefore, piping and channelization of creeks should be avoided when flood control can be achieved through other measures that preserve the natural environment and habitat of the creek.

If you are planning to modify the stream bank or develop any structures around a watercourse on your property, please call the Planning Department to schedule a pre-application consultation. A development permit must be obtained before any construction or other development begins. Depending on the activity you are proposing, you may need to obtain a permit from other governmental agencies such as the California Department of Fish and Game, the Regional Water Quality Control Board and the US Army Corps of Engineers. To find out more about requirements for land use near creeks and streams, please contact the Planning Department at (650) 941-7222.

**Resident's Report INTELLIGENT IRRIGATION**

More water is consumed in irrigation than any other factor at the typical home. There are many approaches the homeowner can adopt to minimize water usage, including reducing the amount of irrigated acreage on the property and planting low-consumption foliage. One gap in a water conservation strategy has always stood out for us: the length and duration of automated watering seemed rather reactive; i.e., set a schedule and see how the plants and lawn respond, then adjust accordingly. Studies show that this approach tends to lead to over watering. So we set out to see if there was a better way - we believe we have found it, as our water consumption has dropped around 50% since adopting an intelligent watering system.



Our system, which was fairly inexpensive to acquire and install, consists of an electronic controller to manage the watering stations by allowing the property owner or manager to set schedules based on scientific inputs. Using a web-based application, we enter (and change when our plantings change) data including the type of plants at a station, soil type, shade or full sun, slope, and type of irrigation (e.g., drip or sprinkler). In addition, the controller is connected (using a phone line or wirelessly in our case) to the Internet to gather weather forecast data in our area. The data includes temperature, humidity, rain forecast and more.

As a result, watering frequency and duration at each station changes daily as weather conditions change. We now have healthier landscaping and are accomplishing this with half the amount of water we used before. A little technology applied to a water conservation strategy yields big benefits and is quite cost effective - we calculate that we recovered the cost of the intelligent system through lower water bills in the first six months. And the garden looks better than ever.

For further information on Intelligent Irrigation and rebates, contact A. Shields at Purissima Water (AShields@purissimawater.org).

— Ron Lang, Resident Los Altos Hills



For Council Agenda and Minutes, See our Website: [www.losaltoshills.ca.gov](http://www.losaltoshills.ca.gov)

**In Memoriam**

Ethel Blank, our long-standing volunteer Art Curator who was highly respected and loved for her enormous contributions to the beautification of the Town Hall, passed away on January 5, 2008. Since 1995, she worked diligently to enhance the "old" Town Hall with lovely and interesting art. She retired in 2001 and then returned four years later to continue her efforts to bring art and culture to the New Town Hall. Ethel was well known to the local art community and loved sharing local artist's work with residents of the community. She was delighted when the recent exhibit, "Facets of Perception" - which explored artistic interpretations of the pomegranate, drew the attention and attendance of the legendary artist and Stanford professor, Nathan Olivera.



At the opening of the exhibitions, Ethel always hosted a special reception for the artists and attendees. Her husband Julius was her right hand and friend Pat Ley provided the beautiful floral arrangement. In addition to her husband, two sons, Jeffrey of Cupertino and David of Sacramento and two grandchildren survive Ethel.

Nancy Landau Kelem, devoted wife, mother and community activist who served on the Town's Public Education Committee, passed away on December 1, 2007 after a two-year battle with colon cancer. Nancy was an amazing woman who excelled in music, languages and engineering. She earned a Master's Degree from UCLA and was employed as a computer systems analyst at System Development Corporation, working on formal computer security. Nancy was passionate about many causes and activities and always used her engineering skills to produce carefully researched topics that were accurate and unassailable.



She and her husband Steve were part of the founders of the Bullis Charter School, which their three children attended. Nancy's true passion was raising her family of three children: Jeremy, Charlie, and Jasmine. Nancy's legacy of dedication for a cause will live on in the memories of all who were fortunate enough to have known her.



**Going Native — Garden Tour 2008 Sunday, April 20, 2008, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

The LAH Open Space Committee wants to remind you that this April you have another opportunity to visit the many spectacular local gardens featuring California native plants. About 45 gardens, most at private homes, will be open for viewing as part of the annual Going Native garden tour. Native plants are becoming increasingly popular because of their beauty, variety, drought tolerance, and low maintenance.



Gardens are open 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM on tour day in a do-it-yourself, open house format.

Gardens range from small homeowner-installed backyard plots to large-scale landscapes that are professionally designed and maintained. Review the map and garden descriptions and select the ones you want to visit.

The goals of the tour are to demonstrate reduced water use, reduced chemical and pesticide use, improved habitat, and the unique aesthetic appeal of gardens designed with California native plants. Sponsors include Bay Area Water Supply and Conservation Agency, Mediterranean Garden Society, Native Habitats, Santa Clara Valley Water District, and Watershed Watch.

Free registration at the website: [www.goingnativegardentour.org](http://www.goingnativegardentour.org)



**Beautification of Edith Park**



Pictured above are the folks responsible for planting the daffodil bulbs donated by Karen Draker: Bob, Nina, & Sofie Kanamangar; Ray Collins & Tom; Barbara Mordo; Andrea & Jamie Lucia; Bob Stutz, Eric Christensen, Maxine Tsang, Sierra Pollock; Scott, Ellie, & Mandy Vanderlip.