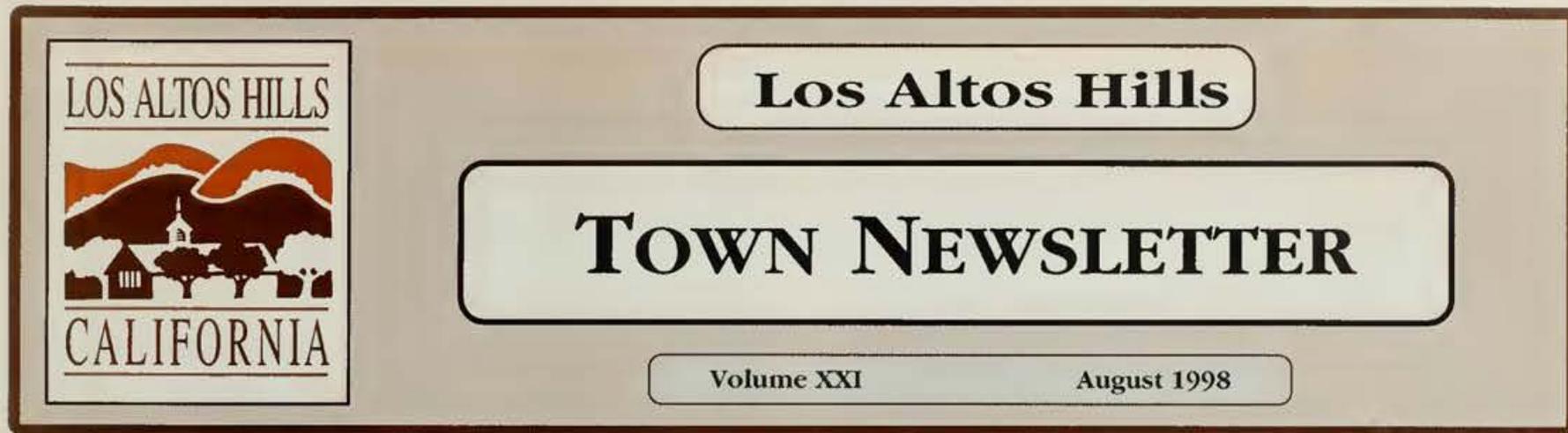


Los Altos Hills Town Newsletter - August 1998

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

September 6, Sunday
Artists' Reception. Ann Rinehart, Jan Beyer and Misun Ko. Los Altos Hills Council Chambers, 26379 Fremont Road, 2 P.M. - 4P.M.
 Information: 948-5840

September 12, 13
Saturday & Sunday
Friends of the Library
Booksale, Hillview Community Center, Sat. 10 A.M.- 3 P.M., Sun. Noon-3 P.M., Information: 948-8821

September 26,
October 3 & 10
Saturdays on the Farm
for Kids, Hidden Villa, 10 A.M. - Noon, Ages 6-10. Visit and groom the farm animals. Information: 949-8653

October 10, Saturday,
10 A.M. - Noon
Pathways Day Walk!
 Meet at Westwind Barn (27210 Altamont Road). Refreshments.
 Information: 949-4837

November 3, Tuesday
General Municipal
Election, Town of Los
Altos Hills; elect two Council members and vote on ordinance defining term limits; polls open 7 A.M. to 8 P.M. Campaign begins with filings starting July 17.

SPRING FAMILY PICNIC - A GREAT SUCCESS!

Over 300 Town residents turned out for a fun-filled picnic on a glorious sunny day. "We were very lucky since the weather was so dreary during much of May," stated Roy Woolsey, Chairman of the Community Relations Committee. The Los Altos Hills Spring Family Picnic was held on May 31st at the Little League Field on Purissima Road. In an era when residents are increasingly isolated from one another, community gatherings such as the family picnic can help to reduce the sense of isolation. Over 40 residents participated in the Pathway Walk that was held in conjunction with the picnic.

Many volunteers from the Town organized games for the children. The AstroJump was a star attraction for the younger participants. Ribbons and balloons were provided for the children. Some at the picnic played softball. The String of Pearls Band provided music. The Los Altos Hills County Fire Department provided a fire engine with a tall ladder to demonstrate its capabilities. The Santa Clara County Sheriff's Department was on hand to provide safety information. Participants in the picnic consumed 26 gallons of ice cream and hundreds of cans of soft drinks necessitating volunteers to make two trips to the Village to purchase more refreshments. The traditional offering of fresh strawberries and cream were consumed with glee by kids and adults alike.

The Community Relations Committee organized the annual event. However, the many additional volunteers who helped by serving refreshments, organizing games, and providing

SAFE AND SCENIC TOWN ROADS: CIRCULATION PLAN UPDATED

NOTICE: PUBLIC MEETING TO BE HELD

On Thursday, September 17, 1998, at 7:00 P.M., the Town's General Plan Committee will conduct an informational meeting to review the Draft Circulation Element of the General Plan. The Circulation Element outlines the Town's policies regarding roadway and right-of-way requirements, and must be consistent with Town policies regarding pathways and bike routes as well. The element has not been updated since 1975. The revision will also incorporate the existing Scenic Roadways Element of the General Plan.

Key issues which are addressed by the updated Circulation Element include: *maintenance and dedication of private roadways; right-of-way widths; the aesthetic design of roadways; road capacities and traffic levels; regional traffic problems; roadway safety measures; emergency access routes; standards for drainage; reducing impacts of regional traffic; bicycles and other alternate transportation modes; and coordination with the Town's Pathways Element and the pathway network.*

A committee of representatives from the City Council, Planning Commission, and Town committees was formed to advise staff and the Town's planning consultant regarding issues and policies for review, as input to the Draft Circulation Element. Subsequent to the informational meeting, public hearings will be scheduled before the Planning Commission (tentative date: October 14th) and City Council (tentative date: November 18th) to consider the updated element, with additional public notice to

1998.
Information: 941-7222

**November 17, Thursday,
7:00 P.M., Public
Meeting: Circulation Plan
Informational Meeting,**
Town Hall Chambers,
26379 Fremont Road, Los
Altos Hills. Information:
941-7222

decorations assured the picnic success. Thank you all. The Town can look forward to another family picnic next year. Plans are already underway for next year's picnic, which may include a BBQ with the assistance of the fire department.

We look forward to seeing you all there!

the updated element, with additional public notice to residents as the process moves along. In addition, the Draft Circulation Element will be available for review on the Town's web page (www.losaltosonline.com/lah) after September 1st, and updated hearing dates will be posted there as well.

If you have any questions regarding the update of the Circulation Element, please contact Curtis Williams, the Town's Planning Director, at 941-7222.

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THE TOWN NEWSLETTER

City Manager's Report

Editors Note: The City Manager provides monthly updates to the Council. In an effort to keep residents informed on the current issues in the Town, we shall present excerpts from his report. Please let us know if you find this information helpful. Thank you.

Landslide Projects - Edgerton Road, La Cresta Drive and Natoma Road

The City Council approved design contracts with the Town geologist's office for each of the three landslide repairs. I met with FEMA representatives in mid May to discuss the grant process. Staff is proceeding with the design process for each slide.

Quarry Hills Subdivision



Construction is underway and progressing despite the late spring rains. We anticipate the work will be completed by fall.

Meeting with the Environmental Design Committee Regarding Spraying

When the Environmental Design Committee recommended that the Town cease the use of herbicides for control of vegetation along roadsides and pathways, Staff requested a special meeting with the committee to discuss the issues. The contractor who currently performs spraying for the Town attended the meeting as well as a representative from the chemical company that supplies the spray. Staff presented the approach used for the Town's spray program and the various reasons that vegetation control is necessary along roadways and paths. The cost implications of eliminating the program were also discussed. The spray contractor and supplier discussed the spray methods used and the details of the environmental aspects of the spray. As a result of the meeting, the committee rescinded their recommendation to cease the spray program.

Moon Lane Road Improvements

Phase 1 of the Moon Lane road improvements has been completed. This involved the widening of the street by four feet, the installation of a pullout and the construction of a ramp at Page Mill Road to improve sight distance. Phase 2 work will involve repairing the failed pavement areas, installation of a berm and the placement of an asphalt overlay over the roadway and is scheduled to occur this fall.

La Paloma Drainage Basin Storm Drain Improvements

Competitive bids are being sought for drainage improvements to address the drainage problems in the La Paloma drainage basin. A contract award is scheduled for August 3 and work is expected to be complete by October.

Project Reviews

The following major project applications are pending to be scheduled for Planning Commission and/or City Council review in the coming months: a) New residences - 15 applications pending at: 26157 Altadena, 12012 Elsie Way, 25461 Fremont, 25518 Hidden Springs, 24055 Jabil Lane, 13870 La Paloma, 11030 Magdalena, 28500 Matadero Creek Lane, 27371 Moody Road, 24004 Oak Knoll Circle, 25625 O'Keefe, 25665 O'Keefe, 24700 Olive Tree Court, 26990 Taaffe, and 12246 Via Arline. b) A subdivision at 26062 Scarff Way (3 lots on 10.4 acres) has been withdrawn.

Streets

Our major maintenance activity during May was clearing brush and weeds along the public streets. Sweeping the curbed public streets should be completed in June.

Paths

We continued with our Spring pathway inspection and maintenance repair program. During the remainder of the summer, we plan to rebuild the temporary pathway fence leading up from Lupine Road. We plan to fix the depressed grating on Edith at Adobe Creek. This will require raising the top of the existing catch basin. Rehabilitation of the Byrd Lane to Middle Fork pathway is also planned.

Fire and Emergency Access Roads

Requests for proposals have been sent out for upgrading the first 3 of 12 fire roads that need improvement. We hope to start work in June and be ready for the other roads by the end of June.

--- Jeff Peterson, City Manager

**For Council Agenda and Minutes,
See our Website:**

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Volume XXI

August 1998

TOWN ACCOMPLISHMENTS - FY 97-98

As FY 97-98 is about to end, Town Hall Staff has assembled a list of accomplishments from the past year which includes the following:

- Updated the parcel database system with annual County records.
- Adopted updated Housing Element in March of 1998. Forwarded to State Department of Housing and Community Development for review and certification.
- Initiated preparation of the updated Circulation Element with the hiring of a planning consultant, formation of a General Plan Committee, and several meetings of the Committee and staff with the consultant.
- Adopted policies and ordinances regarding outdoor lighting and pavement in setbacks; clarified other policies regarding base-ments and fire turnarounds.
- Processed an increase of approximately 33% in planning and building permit activity, with no increase in staff levels, minimal increase in contract costs, and little delay to applicants.
- Finalized subdivision improvement plans and final map for the

TOP 10 GOALS - 1998-99

- Finalize the assessment of the water systems within the Town regarding their ability to adequately provide fire flows.
- Update the Town's investment policy and procedures in light of the new fund and reserve structure.
- Continue the development of the parcel data base system, with increased accessibility for the public.
- Expedite the process of updating the General Plan through the use of consultants. Finalize the Circulation Element and initiate preparation of remaining elements. Implement programs required by the Housing Element.
- Continue to amend Zoning and Site Development ordinances and develop *policies*.
- Continue review of the Master Pathway Plan to determine the desired locations of future pathways.
- Produce a graphical computer map of the pathway system to be used for a pathways maintenance program, capital projects and master planning.
- Develop a long range maintenance and replacement program for the Town's sewer system.
- Develop conceptual plans for the remodel or reconstruction of Town Hall.
- Expand the modules and functions of finance system to more fully utilize its capabilities.

Quarry Hills subdivision (Lands of Vidovich).

- Negotiated a new five-year Franchise Agreement with the Los Altos Garbage Company which added curbside yard waste collection services and the collection of additional recyclable materials, at no increase in rates. As part of the contract, the yard waste facility at Purissima Road was closed down and returned to use by the Public Works Department.
- Completed approximately \$975,000 dollars of capital improvement projects, which included street and storm drain improvements, retaining wall construction and landslide repairs.
- Finalized a new Personnel Policies Manual, incorporating changes in personnel law and policy since 1977. The Council approved the manual in April.
- Engaged the Employee Relations Service (ERS) to provide salary and benefit data from local "comparable" municipalities, and compare job duties, employment organization and qualifications for each of the Town's positions. Staff analyzed the survey data in light of internal personnel and position requirements to develop an appropriate wage range for each position. These were compiled into a recommended Compensation Plan for 1998-99, which was approved by the Council.
- Implemented the General Ledger and Budget, Accounts Payable, Cash Receipts and Accounts Receivable modules of the Town's new financial system, customized the Accounts Receivable module and established a capital Improvement Projects Fund to allow for better tracking of projects.



REMEMBER TO VOTE ~ NOVEMBER 3, 1998

A General Municipal Election will be held in the Town of Los Altos Hills on Tuesday, November 3, 1998 to elect two (2) Council members. In addition, the following measure shall also be voted on at the General Municipal Election:

Do the qualified voters of the Town of Los Altos Hills approve the following ordinance? *"No person shall be allowed to serve more that two (2) consecutive terms on the Los Altos Hills City Council. Notwithstanding the above, at any municipal election after the expiration of two years following the two (2) consecutive terms, such person may again seek election or appointment to the City Council."*

The polls will be open between the hours of 7:00 A.M. and 8:00 P.M. If you have any questions concerning the upcoming election, please contact Pat Dowd, City Clerk at 941-7222.

Statement of Purpose

To communicate Los Altos Hills current issues, services, and activities to the residents of the Town. To facilitate, encourage and improve interaction between the residents and Town government.

The 1999 Newsletter will be published quarterly in the months of March, June, September, and December.

Deadline for the next issue is September 30, 1998.

Internet Address: www.losaltosonline.com/lah

About Our Publication

The Town Newsletter is published with assistance from our Town Volunteer Committees.

Editor: Dorothy Duffy Price

Associate Editors: Barbara Lamparter, Linda Seidel

Los Altos Hills City Council

• Bob Johnson, Mayor • Elayne Dauber, Mayor Pro Tem
• Tom Casey • Bill Siegel • Sid Hubbard



Recycled Paper

THE TOWN NEWSLETTER

NEW EDITOR'S MESSAGE

As the new editor of the Town Newsletter, I look forward to working with the City Council, volunteer committees and staff in providing timely and meaningful information. As you know the newsletter is a product of the Community Relations Committee and a subcommittee of the City Council which oversees its content and format. However, it depends on contributions from all of the volunteer committees and many community organizations.

For your information, after five years of service, Roger Burnell recently resigned as editor due to increased business demands. Roger's contributions to the success of the publication were considerable and he will be missed.

As I assume my new responsibilities as editor, I want to encourage your active involvement in the newsletter. We solicit your contributions and feedback. You will note that the format and frequency of the newsletter has changed. It is our goal to provide an interesting colorful format on a quarterly basis. Deadlines for articles will be published in each newsletter. In the near future, we anticipate having the entire newsletter on our web site.

Thank you for your support.

— Duffy Price

PAVEMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM OUT TO BID

Competitive bids are being advertised for this year's pavement management and storm drain projects. The following is a list of some of the proposed work:

- Esperanza Drive is proposed to be reconstructed. The road has deteriorated due to the upheaval of the roots of several pine trees that line the road.
- Adonna Court, Aric Lane, Dawn Lane and Leander Drive have been selected to be completely removed and replaced.
- Slurry seals will be done on Alicante Lane, Estacada Way, La Lanne Court, Melody Lane, Miranda Court, Miranda Way, Rancho Manuella, Saltamontes Way, Springhill Drive, Torello Lane and Wild Plum Lane.
- The following roads will be crack-sealed: DeBell Road, Estacada Drive, Manuella Road and Miranda Road.
- The following roads will be spot-repaired: Altadena Drive, Chapin Road, Anacapa Drive, Ascension Drive, Concepcion Road, the portion of El Monte between Moody Road and the college entrance, and Green Hills Court.



Bid openings are scheduled for July 30th and award of contract on August 3.

INVITATION TO RESIDENTS TO SERVE AS GREETERS AT CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

You are invited to participate in a new voluntary Community Relations Committee (CRC) activity. During 1998, the CRC initiated a program to have CRC members serve as Greeters at City Council Meetings. The goal of the program is to facilitate, enhance, and improve residents' communication and participation with Town government. In addition to providing attendees with a copy of the agenda and assisting the City Clerk in recording names of attendees who wish to speak, Greeters maintain a friendly encouraging manner. Greeters provide positive reinforcement for the residents' participation and encourage residents to let their voices be heard as they participate in the democratic process. For more information, please call City Clerk Pat Dowd at 941-7222.

PARAMEDICS ON DUTY ROUND THE CLOCK

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District has announced that all three local fire stations now have on duty, 24 hours a day every day, a fully trained firefighter/paramedic. The fire engines now carry all the same medical supplies and equipment that an ambulance carries. By far the most calls received by the fire department are "emergency medical" calls.



"TRASHY" FACTOID

Between 1990 and 1996 Town residents diverted 48% of their trash from the landfill to recycling. State goal is 50% by 2000. With new white paper and yard waste recycling we will easily meet that goal.



LOS ALTOS HILLS



ART EXHIBITS AT TOWN HALL CHAMBERS

The Art Program continues to draw rave reviews and enthusiastic community support. Three local artists from Los Altos Hills will share exhibit space at Town Hall September 6th - October 30th. **Jan Beyer** and **Misun Ko** are displaying carved celadon porcelain containers. **Ann Rinehart** is showing mixed media paintings. Town Hall

Chamber Hours: Monday Friday 1 P.M.- 5 P.M. The opening reception will be held at Town Hall on September 6, 1998; 2-4 P.M. All residents are invited.

Profiles:

Jan Beyer has been a ceramic artist for 25 years. She lived in Kyoto, Japan for a year studying the fine Kiyomizu-Yaki tradition which specializes in ceramics for Kaiseki Ryori, the metal of special little tidbits that accompanies the Chya No Yu or tea ceremony. The quiet lines and glazes of Asian ceramics evoke a warm, peaceful feeling that Jan hopes people can perceive in her art.

Misun Ko, was born in South Korea and received her BFA degree at the Art Institute of Chicago. Her carved ceramic work is influenced by her native heritage and culture and incorporates the use of light blue celadon glazes.

Ann Rinehart's paintings reflect what she sees in nature and discovers inside her imagination. Since nature's subject matter is illusive, always changing and in flux her medium is mixed media. This process allows for surprises while she paints. Ann attempts to find balance in the unpredictable.

Future Schedule:

Jean Struthers & Faith Duhring
November 8 – December 31, 1998

Town Hall Reception: November 8, 1998; 2 – 4 P.M.

TOWN BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

- Property tax revenue exceeds \$1 million for the first time. Reflects current real estate activity.
- Budget follows basic policy that expenditures should not exceed 80% of revenues for operations - leaving at least 20% for reserves and capital projects. In fact 24.6% remains unbudgeted. Capital budget will be adopted in October.
- Interest in Town investments is expected to earn 5.65%. Funds are invested by the State in a pooled fund.
- Legislature is considering a tax cut using Vehicle License Fee money. Town receives \$335,000 from this tax. If replacement revenue is short or unreliable, Town will feel the loss.
- All Town costs for regulating land development and building are paid for by developers. Slight falloff in building activity is projected.
- Biggest single expenditure is for Sheriff's services, \$615,000, which includes 911 costs.
- For the 3rd straight year there will be no increase in sewer or garbage charges. Garbage charges will not increase this year but residential yard waste and white paper recycling will start on July 1, 1998.
- Town contracts with Palo Alto for animal control services. We are in 2nd year of a 3-year contract with stable fixed costs. \$35,358.

NEWCOMERS CLUB WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

Are you new to Los Altos Hills and interested in making new friends? Well, the Newcomers Club invites you to join. The Los Altos/Los Altos Hills Newcomers Club is an organization that assists newcomers to the two communities to become better acquainted with their neighbors. Activities include coffees, luncheons, tennis, golf, bridge, day trips, a very popular monthly TGIF with your partners, and more. For membership information, contact **Caroline Lavelle** at 650-938-5676.



NEW LIBRARIAN APPOINTED FOR LOS ALTOS LIBRARY

The Town of Los Altos Hills welcomes Catharine Fouts as the new Los Altos Community Library Supervisor. Catharine came to Los Altos on June 8, replacing Carol Tefft, who had managed the library for 35 years. Catharine is a dynamic leader and had been the Morgan Hill Community Librarian since 1984, Catharine is no stranger to Los Altos. She worked here in the spring of 1989 while Carol Tefft was on special assignment with the Public Services Agency. Of her experience at Los Altos, Catharine says, "I found it very gratifying to work in a community that is so supportive of public libraries and look forward to renewing friendships with staff and library patrons alike."

Please stop by the Library and meet Catharine and welcome her to Los Altos.

PATHWAYS DAY – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Join members of the Town Pathways Committee on Saturday, October 10th, for a hike along the town paths. This is a chance to see our beautiful community from a new perspective.

The walk will begin at Westwind Barn (27210 Altamont Road). A choice of walks will be available. One will include more hills than the other. Regardless of your age or ability, you will enjoy this opportunity to exercise, to learn and to meet new neighbors.

The outing will begin at 10 A.M., returning to the starting point before Noon with refreshments provided by the Community Relations Committee.



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THE TOWN NEWSLETTER

Residents' Reply Card

We'd love to hear from you. Please let us know what you think and how we might better meet your needs.

5. Do you have any questions or helpful comments?

1. Volunteer Committees and Appointments: (Note: If there are no current openings, we will gladly notify you when one becomes available.) I'm interested in:

- Community Relations Environmental Design Exhibit Curator
- Finance Joint Volunteer Awards Pathways Planning Commission
- Safety & Protection Senior Coordinating Council
- Technology Improvement Town Historian Youth Commissioner

2. Annual Family Picnic: I would like to help with planning, food, and/or entertainment. _____

3. I have special skills/talents, i.e., accounting, flower arranging, computer skills, and would be pleased to help the Town. _____

4. What topics would you like to see in future Town Newsletters? _____

We thank you very much!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

(Please cut form along the dotted line, and return to Town Hall: 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills CA 94022)



Scenes from

**Town of Los Altos Hills
26379 Fremont Road
Los Altos Hills, California 94022**

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**1998 Spring
Family Picnic!**

**See Article On
Page 1.**

**See our Website:
www.losaltosonline.com/lah**

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LOS ALTOS HILLS