

# SHORT PAWS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FURRY FRIENDS P.A.T.S



## Los Altos Town Crier

Community news for Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View since 1947

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### Pets on parade



Same as it ever was: With pandemic restrictions completely lifted, it was 2019 all over again for the 76th Los Altos Kiwanis Pet Parade, held Saturday in downtown Los Altos. The weather was just right for hundreds of pets and their owners to promenade down Main and State streets to cheers from the crowd. For more photos from the event, see page 11.

PHOTOS BY S.M. LIEU/  
SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER



### County allocates funds for more affordable housing in Mtn. View

Town Crier Report

An 85-unit affordable housing complex is set for construction in Mountain View after the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors allocated \$31.1 million toward three housing projects May 16.

The county also plans to help fund an additional 108 rental units and four for-sale homes in Santa Clara and San Jose, respectively.

Up to \$18 million will be dedicated to the prospective Mountain View project, located at 1265 Montecito Ave.

Units will range in size from studios to three-bedrooms. The development, set for construction in early 2024, will feature 42 units for families with special needs and those actively experiencing homelessness, 42 units for households with incomes totaling 50% of the

area median and one manager's unit.

The units, according to a county press release, will be built with environmental sustainability in mind, with features including solar panels, all-electric amenities and electric vehicle charging stations. The building will also feature courtyards, an amenities space, a ground-level parking garage and an 85-rack bike storage room. The developer is Charities Housing Development Corp., a county partner in addressing housing needs.

The Mountain View City Council committed \$16 million in funding for the project, waived impact fee waivers and approved land-use entitlement for the Montecito location in December 2022. The city also entered into a memorandum

See HOUSING, Page 6

Some of our Furry Friends members participated in the 76th Los Altos Kiwanis Pet Parade. We were even featured on the front page of the Los Altos Town Crier the very next week. A good time was had by all!



# letter from our president

**Hello, Furry Friends!**

We are continuing to work on starting up sites where we visited prior to the COVID lockdown. We have resumed quite a few; others haven't responded to our requests about whether they want to resume. Still others have changed their requirements in such a way that it's no longer feasible for us to visit.

Special Visits are still going strong though. Duane Hinders, our Special Visit Coordinator, deserves a huge THANK YOU for coordinating all of those! And they are a huge hit, every single time. We went to West Valley College after there was a report of someone with a rifle being spotted on campus; students and staff were understandably very shaken up. (Thankfully, it did turn out to be a false alarm.) One student in particular was visiting with Loree McQueen and her Great Dane Bailee. She said prior to the puppy cuddles, she didn't think she could go to class. But after spending time with Bailee, she was calm enough to go back on campus and resume her classes. And THIS is why we do what we do!

Please see information elsewhere in this newsletter about sites still needing captains, sites in need of volunteers, and a couple of very unique opportunities we have to lick loneliness in our community!

**Anne**



# critter corner

JULIE BOND, M.S. ANIMAL BEHAVIORIST



**Q:** I recently attended my first visit with Furry Friends. It was a special visit to a school for stress relief. I had talked to you about my interest in these types of visits at the new volunteer orientation class and you encouraged me to jump in and do one before the school year was over! Anyway, during the visit, I saw one of the volunteers let her dog off the leash in the area where we were holding the visit. I remembered you saying in class that all special visits are leashed visits, so I was really surprised by this. Nothing bad happened, but I'm wondering if some dogs are allowed to be off leash for special visits? If that's the case, how do we know which visits do allow for this? Thanks for your help! T in San Jose

**A:** Thank you for letting me know your observations on your first Furry Friends visit and allowing me to bring those observations to our membership as a whole. At no time should any dog be off leash during a special visit. All special visits are leashed visits and all pets attending those visits need to be on a 4-6 foot long purple leash, either the one given out in class, or a comparable leash; no retractable leashes or leashes longer than 6 feet in length are allowed on any visit. I realize that volunteers may be tempted to let their dogs off leash during special visits since we are visiting with young people who might like to throw a ball or frisbee for the dogs, however, we simply cannot allow that. Dogs off leash increase the energy level in the people and other dogs around them. In addition, off leash dogs often bark, jump up, and mouth people. None of this behavior is acceptable on our special visits; we are there for stress relief, so we are there to bring calmness and a sense of joy, without overstimulating the young people we are serving. My hope is that the team captain for your visit stepped in and got that dog back on leash!



**Q:** I've been a bit disappointed on my most recent special visits with Furry Friends. I like to have my dog in an area with some space around us to allow for kids to interact with him effectively. On these last two visits, however, we were told by our team captain to assemble and situate our pets in a designated area that was too small, in my mind, for the number of pets on the visit. While it was nice on one of the visits for the site to provide a canopy for us, that canopied space was small and we were squished in together which was uncomfortable for me and for my dog. During class, you said that we can always let other volunteers know if we don't let our dogs interact with other dogs on leash and/or if we would like space around us when visiting. How can I get the space I need on my special visits too? M in Willow Glen

**A:** Thank you for the opportunity to address this issue for all of our members. While you can certainly let other volunteers know on any visit that you like to restrict your dog from socializing with other dogs while he is working, being able to create a situation where you have additional space available to you may not always be feasible, particularly on special visits. For some of our special visits, we are asked to keep all of our volunteers and their pets in a very specific, well-defined area. This area could be where there is shade, where there is grass versus standing on hot cement or blacktop, or under a canopy or awning provided by the school for our comfort. If you like to sit apart or at a distance from other dogs for these visits, you will need to confirm that it is doable with your team captain in advance. We have certainly had other volunteers ask to set up just outside of the canopies, or on the periphery of the visit area so as to give their dogs personal space and comfort with the other dogs on those visits. Your team captain will let you know if this is possible. If it isn't, it's your choice whether you can comfortably do the visit in the space assigned to us or if you'd prefer to pass on that visit and have another volunteer fill your position. We always need to be mindful of what the schools ask us to do in terms of setup and available space to use for our visits and not overstep those boundaries they've set for us.



**Q:** I live in Santa Cruz and have been volunteering with Furry Friends for about 8 years now. Before COVID, we had a couple of visits here in my area, but post-COVID I've had to branch out and start doing visits over the hill. This isn't always super convenient, but I'm doing it as I love volunteering and so does my dog. Any idea when we might get some visits started up in the Santa Cruz area again? I've suggested joining Furry Friends to a couple of my friends who have amazing dogs, but they don't want to travel that far to volunteer. D. in Santa Cruz

**A:** You are certainly not alone! I had a recent new volunteer at class who lives in Santa Cruz and was disappointed that we don't have more visits down in your area. She is hoping to join the reading buddies team there once she's completed 6 months worth of regular visits and is eligible for the Reading Buddies class and evaluation for her dog. In the meantime, her plan is to attend a couple of special visits and join a team in Los Gatos which isn't too bad of a drive for her. As of right now, we've put a moratorium on adding any new regular monthly site visits until we can get enough volunteers filling the teams for the visits we already have going. Once we've added more volunteers and have filled our existing visits, we can revisit adding new sites to our roster, including sites in your area. There have been a few sites in your area that have expressed interest in having our volunteers visit, and we will keep them in our pending applications folder. In the meantime, I truly hope you can continue to find visits that work for your schedule as we value you and your dog as volunteers!



**Q:** I attended a recent visit with my senior dog who is almost 12. He's been a Furry Friend his whole life as we joined when he was just under 2 years of age. He loves his nursing home and assisted living visits, as do I. I think he brings such joy to the people we interact with. On my last visit, one of the staff members at the facility (she's actually new to the facility as this was the first time we'd met her) said she thought it might be time to retire my dog! I was actually a bit miffed by this comment, but I laughed it off at the time saying there was nothing better than watching senior dogs engage with senior people and that was that. The more I thought about it, however, the madder I've gotten. I now feel like she was judging me as an owner/handler on the way I was working with my senior dog. I guess I'd just like to hear your thoughts on this and what I should say if we encounter this person again on our next visit.

**A** in Palo Alto

**A:** I'm sorry that you felt judged by this person's comments regarding your senior dog. I'm sure they were well-meaning, but I can see where this could be very upsetting. We all take such good care of our Furry Friends, especially our senior Furry Friends. While you may feel that your dog is still enjoying the visits, perhaps there was something this person observed that made them feel differently? It could have been something as simple as your dog being a bit slower to get up from a sit or a down during the visit? Or maybe they seemed stiff while walking? Slipped on a slick surface or had trouble standing? They could have even just fallen asleep during the visit which might be misconstrued as meaning the dog wasn't having an enjoyable time. Try to look at your dog objectively, as an outsider (like this staff member), might. Is your dog having difficulty getting up or having mobility issues in general? If so, you might consider paw balm or paw wax for his feet to give him better traction. If he's limping or uncomfortable walking around on those slick surfaces, however, it truly might be time to retire him even if he still enjoys seeing people. I myself had to retire my senior dog last year. He still loved his visits, but his mobility was becoming more and more impaired and I didn't want him to appear frail or unhealthy, even though he really was fine, just a big dog getting older. Nonetheless, I retired him well before anyone might be tempted to say something about how slow he walks, how careful he is on slick surfaces, and how readily he falls asleep now. Try not to take this person's comment too personally. Instead, see it as someone caring about your pet and wanting him to be comfortable. You are the only person who really knows your dog and can say when it will be time to retire him, though your captain (and your veterinarian, of course) are also welcome to give input on this matter. In the interest of safety, touch base with your captain and have this conversation. They may have felt similarly to this staff member but have been unsure how to approach you without making you feel bad. Or conversely, they may feel as you do that your senior dog is still very much an active participant in these visits and as such should continue doing them. And if you'd feel better having me attend one of your visits to address this issue with that new staff member, just let me know. I am always happy to support our volunteers and their pets.





# Furry Friends extends a big WELCOME to our new volunteers.

We're starting this new column with a list of people who have joined in 2023. Going forward, we'll list the members who have joined since this newsletter.

## **January 2023:**

Connor Bunch  
Fan Si  
Glory Bratton  
Josh Gitomer  
Kristina Petit  
Lucia Quaife  
Mackenzie Ferrell  
Susan Woolf

## **February 2023**

Charlotte Leroy  
Susan Jang

## **March 2023**

Alison Kumpf  
Elinor Kumpf  
Heather Dean  
Lisa Maria  
Sandy McMaster  
Sue Nicholls

## **April 2023**

Cathy Nguyen  
Cindi Zelanis  
Eddie Castaneda  
Gaby Greenlee  
Georgia Crowder  
James Buellesbach  
Janine Buellesbach  
Marie Schmitt  
Noriko Hill

## **May 2023**

Abha Nulkar  
Carolyn Heller  
Jill Steinberg  
Jinni Easterday  
Julie Kong  
Mariamne Sulayma  
Michelle Donatelli  
Tanvi Nulkar  
Timothy Zhang  
Yvette Frojelin

# 2023 Etiquette Training

July 23rd at 10:30 a.m.

August 27th at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

September 24th at 10:30 a.m.

October 22nd at 10:30 a.m.

November 12th at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

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## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

THESE SITES ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

### **ATRIA WILLOW GLEN**

1660 GATON DRIVE SAN JOSE, CA 95050  
4TH SATURDAY 1:30 PM

### **HOPE SERVICES**

30 LAS COLINAS LANE SAN JOSE, CA 95119  
2ND TUESDAY 9:45 AM

### **SAN JOSE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

455 SILICON VALLEY BLVD. SAN JOSE, CA 95020  
2ND & 4TH SUNDAY 1:00 PM

### **MENLO PARK VA MEDICAL CENTER**

795 WILLOW ROAD BUILDING 360 MENLO PARK, CA  
2ND & 4TH TUESDAY 3:00 PM

### **MERRILL GARDENS - WILLOW GLEN**

1420 CURCI AVE SAN JOSE, CA 95126  
3RD MONDAY 1:00 PM

### **SAN TOMAS CONVALESCENT HOSPITAL**

3580 PAYNE AVENUE SAN JOSE, CA 95117  
3RD TUESDAY 4:00 PM

### **SANTA CLARA POST ACUTE CARE/VALLEY HOUSE**

991 CLYDE AVENUE SANTA CLARA, CA 95054  
3RD TUESDAY 10:00 AM

### **SKYLINE HEALTH CARE CENTER**

2063 FOREST AVENUE, SAN JOSE, CA 95126  
1ST MONDAY 11:00 AM

# CALL FOR SITE CAPTAINS

We STILL have a number of sites awaiting visits - each first requires a Team Captain! As a Team Captain, you will serve as a point of contact between the Furry Friends Team and the site.

Check [furryfriends.org](http://furryfriends.org) for our next Captain Training dates.

## **REGULAR SITES NEEDING CAPTAINS**

### **CUPERTINO HEALTH & WELLNESS**

22590 VOSS ROAD CUPERTINO,  
CA 95014  
WEEKDAY VISITS REQUESTED

### **OAK GROVE HIGH SCHOOL**

285 BLOSSOM HILL RD SAN  
JOSE, CA 95123  
WEEKDAY VISITS REQUESTED

### **SARATOGA ADULT CARE**

19655 ALLENDALE AVE  
SARATOGA, CA 95070  
MONDAY OR TUESDAYS

### **PACIFIC HILLS MANOR**

370 NOBLE COURT  
MORGAN HILL, CA 95037  
WEEKDAY VISITS REQUESTED

### **SANTA CLARA POST ACUTE CARE/VALLEY HOUSE**

991 CLYDE AVENUE SANTA  
CLARA, CA 95054  
3RD TUESDAY 10:00 AM

## **READING BUDDIES TEAMS NEEDING CAPTAINS**

### **ALUM ROCK LIBRARY**

3090 ALUM ROCK AVE SAN JOSE,  
CA 95127  
2ND MON 4:00 PM

### **EDENVALE LIBRARY**

101 BRANHAM LANE EAST SAN  
JOSE, CA 95111  
1ST WED 4:00 PM

### **MORGAN HILL LIBRARY**

660 W. MAIN STREET MORGAN  
HILL, CA 95037  
2ND WED 3:00 PM

### **SANTA TERESA LIBRARY**

290 INTERNATIONAL CIR SAN  
JOSE, CA 95119  
MON, TUES, OR FRI AFTERNOONS

### **SOQUEL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

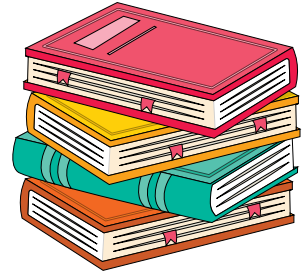
2700 PORTER STREET SOQUEL,  
CA 95073  
2ND WED 10:20 AM

### **FOOTHILL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

13919 LYNDE AVE SARATOGA, CA  
95070  
4TH THURS 1:00 PM



# CALL FOR READING BUDDIES



## FURRY LISTENING EARS NEEDED

### **MILPITAS LIBRARY**

160 N. MAIN STREET MILPITAS, CA 95035

4TH SATURDAY 2:00 PM

### **ALMADEN LIBRARY**

6445 CAMDEN AVENUE SAN JOSE, CA 95120

2ND WEDNESDAY 4:30 PM

### **SCOTTS VALLEY LIBRARY**

251 KINGS VILLAGE ROAD SCOTTS VALLEY, CA 95066

2ND & 4TH TUESDAY 4:00 PM

### **HILLVIEW LIBRARY**

1600 HOPKINS DRIVE SAN JOSE, CA 95122

1ST SATURDAY 1:00 PM

### **LOS GATOS LIBRARY**

100 VILLA AVENUE LOS GATOS, CA 95030

4TH THURSDAY 4:00 PM

### **APOSTLE'S LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

5828 SANTA TERESA BLVD. SAN JOSE, CA 95123

2ND THURSDAY 1:00 PM

### **CAMBRIAN LIBRARY**

1780 HILLSDALE AVENUE SAN JOSE, CA 95124

1ST WEDNESDAY 4:00 PM

# "SPECIAL" SITES

## Main Jail and Elmwood Correctional Facility

Earlier this year, the Board of Directors decided to put a moratorium on accepting new site applications, since we are still struggling to get existing sites going again.

We were contacted by the Santa Clara County sheriff's office, asking about starting up visits at both the Main Jail in downtown San Jose, and at Elmwood Correctional Facility in Milpitas. After getting approval from the Board to consider an exception to our temporary policy, we had an initial meeting with the Inmate Rehabilitation Manager and one of the Lieutenants in the sheriff's department, and toured the facilities. And after further discussion at the last Board meeting, starting up these new visits was unanimously approved.

Visits at the Main Jail will be on the 2nd Saturday of the month, at 9am, beginning July 8. Elmwood visits will be on the 3rd Thursday of the month, at 9:30am, beginning August 17. Security clearances and fingerprinting are required.

We have captains for both sites, and enough people for the Elmwood visits (at least for now). We could use another 1-2 people on the Main Jail team, however. If you are interested, please reach out to [info@furryfriends.org](mailto:info@furryfriends.org) for more information.

## Therapy Dogs for Trial Victims

Furry Friends was contacted by a victim's advocate with the Department of Justice, asking if we would be able to bring dogs to the federal courthouse to assist in providing support through therapy dogs for victims in an upcoming trial.

As of now, the trial is scheduled for July 18 - July 28, with no trial days on Thursdays.

There will be a separate waiting room for the victims and the dogs with their handlers to utilize before and after the victims take the stand. We will be in the waiting room(s) only, and will not be entering the courtroom.

An email went out in early June with information about this unique opportunity. The response has been outstanding! THANK YOU to everyone who has signed up so far. There are only a handful of open slots left. If you haven't signed up yet and would like to do so, please check the Sign Up Genius link and see if any of the open slots work for you. Or if you HAVE signed up and have the bandwidth to do more, that's great too.

Here is a link to the Sign Up Genius page for this <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a5a729a6fac07-therapy#/>

If you have any questions, reach out to [info@furryfriends.org](mailto:info@furryfriends.org).



## board of directors

### **PRESIDENT**

Anne Tiry

### **VICE PRESIDENT**

Sal Guardino

### **SECRETARY**

Sharon Andrews

### **TREASURER**

Randee McQueen

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Duane Hinders

Bob Armstrong

Diane H. Steinberg

Paul Fulton

Bronte Reed

### **ADMINISTRATOR**

Tara Johnson

admin@furryfriends.org

### **ANIMAL BEHAVIORIST**

Julie Bond

## Summer Snackin'

### Peanut Butter Banana Dog Ice Cream

**Prep:** 20 mins

**Freeze:** 2 hrs

**Total:** 2 hrs 20 mins

**Yield:** 2.5 cups ice cream (about 18 medium scoops)

#### **Ingredients**

- 3 medium sliced bananas, frozen
- ½ cup natural creamy peanut butter (check to ensure it does NOT contain xylitol/birch sugar)
- ½ cup plain low-fat yogurt
- ¼ cup crisp-cooked and cooled bacon, crumbled (optional)\*\*

#### **Directions**

##### **Step One**

In a food processor, combine frozen bananas, peanut butter, and yogurt. Cover and process until completely smooth, stopping to scrape down the sides as needed. If desired, add bacon and pulse just a few times to mix. Bacon crumbles can also be reserved for sprinkling on top of the ice cream before serving.

##### **Step Two**

For small bites, portion ice cream into ice cube trays. For larger scoops, use an ice cream scoop to portion the ice cream onto a parchment-lined pan or tray. Freeze at least 2 hours or until firm. Cubes or scoops can be stored in an airtight container in the freezer up to 1 month. For the best texture, let ice cream thaw slightly before serving it to your dog.



<https://www.dailypaws.com/dogs-puppies/dog-nutrition/homemade-dog-food/peanut-butter-banana-dog-ice-cream>





## friends beyond the rainbow bridge

Pet: Scotch Owner: Ann Zis

Pet: Sagee Owner: Randee McQueen

Pet: Martin Owner: Bexaida Medina

Pet: Maxwell Owners: Debee & Bob Armstrong

"Over the Rainbow Bridge you went.  
I always knew you were Heaven sent.

I cherish our time spent together.

"Til we meet again,  
I will love you forever".



### anniversaries

#### 1 Year

Judy Higerson

Melissa Moe

Elisa Zulich

Jade Zulich

JoAnn Bergoffen

Jeanne Lang

Ajooni Singh

Aman Dhaliwal

Jenny Brokaw

Annie Brokaw

Leah Rich

Sophie Hughes

Tami Primeau

Carolyn Lockhart

Carlene Iverson

#### 3 Year

Christopher Feezor

Samuel Feezor

Christine Magnin

#### 4 Year

Nancy Ditzler

Jonelyn Weed

Bonnie Emerson

Michael Emerson

Geoff Cook

Patricia Williams

Joanna Stacey

Sal Guardino

#### 5 Year

Lynn Klein

Paula Cue

Mitch Mariani

Michelle Cook

Diane Rudy

Miriam Malone

Tory Bers

#### 10 Year

Joyce DeRussy