

FRIENDS



OF LOS GATOS LIBRARY

Art for Your Sanity Author to Speak at Annual Meeting on May 7



Save the date—Wednesday, May 7, 5 p.m.—for a talk by author Susan Hensley about her new book, *Art for Your Sanity: How Art Journaling Can Help You Manage Chaos and Unleash Joy*.

Hensley, whose professional background includes change leadership and journalism, describes discovering art journaling at a time she was contemplating retirement from a demanding HR job, made even more demanding by the COVID-19 pandemic. After attending an introductory workshop on the technique, she realized that it could be a powerful tool for her as she navigated a stressful life transition.

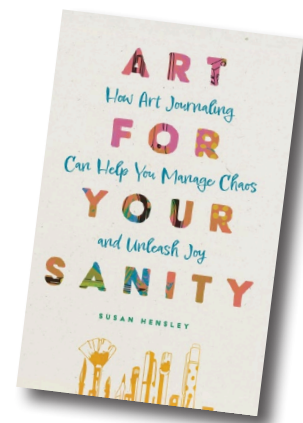
In her talk, Hensley will describe the tools needed to get started in art journaling—notebook, paints, glue, pencils, pens, crayons and collage materials—and how it can create a safe space to explore one's feelings, gain insights and open up to playfulness.

Art for Your Sanity is full of colorful pictures from Hensley's own journals plus stories about how this technique, which requires no artistic skill,

has changed her life. As she writes in her introduction, "When I started art journaling, I had no idea it would be such a huge source of self-discovery. Art journaling gives my inner 'knowing' a voice that can speak

directly to me. Each new page gives form to that place of wisdom and stillness, allowing my spirit to come through and guide me—a truly profound impact."

Hensley, who grew up in Monte Sereno and now resides in Austin, Texas, is a business coach, consultant and speaker. She's been a guest on more than 50 podcasts and radio shows; has spoken at TEDx and bLU talks, and has inspired audiences at many corporate retreats and at Canyon Ranch. 🌿



WHO: Author Susan Hensley

WHEN: Wednesday, May 7, 5 p.m.

WHERE: Los Gatos Library
Technology Room (upstairs)
100 Villa Ave., Los Gatos

Bookstore Promotions

May is National Mental Health Month, and self-help, psychology and philosophy books in the store will be 50 percent off all month.

The bookstore has a large children's section of gently used books, and this summer is a wonderful time to visit because all young adult and children's books will be 50 percent off in June, July and August. Books on Los Gatos High School's summer reading list will also be 50 percent off.

The sales area just inside the library's front door features a round table with displays of seasonal books. After Easter, the display will highlight coffee-table books on America until the end of May, and then the display will switch to books about different states. 🌿



President's Letter

by Celia Bakke

Greetings, Friends,

For the past two years, as president of the Friends, I have had the privilege of working with a wonderful, dedicated cadre of volunteers and the amazing staff of the Los Gatos Library. I have deep respect and gratitude for their commitment and contributions to the Friends, the library and the local community.

Both of these groups provide the support that enables the Friends to raise funds that underwrite the many hundreds of programs offered throughout the year. These programs range from storytimes, to book clubs, to tech classes, to maker sessions. Some of these programs can be enjoyed from home, such as the Online Author Talks.

The Friends Bookstore is our primary means of generating funds. The displays and materials in the store change frequently so there will always be something new to discover no matter how frequently you visit. Also, the store has T-shirts in several styles and a range of sizes as well as tote bags. We welcome volunteers who would enjoy working in the bookstore, interacting with the public and making new friends. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Sue Tuttle subtle@comcast.net or fill out a form which is available in the bookstore.

For the past few years, we have partnered with several local business for one-day events that generate funds for the Friends. We greatly appreciate their generosity and commitment to supporting nonprofit organizations. We are particularly excited this year to be partnering with additional business. All these business are featured in an article in this newsletter.

My best wishes for the upcoming summer holidays! Please contact me at celia.bakke@sjsu.edu if you have questions or would like to be involved. 🍁

Friends Of Los Gatos Library Board Of Directors

**Slate of Officers and Directors
for Fiscal Year July 1 2025 - June 30 2026**

Co-Presidents Alicia Barela & Vickie Wendell
Vice President open
Treasurer Maria Cook
Recording Secretary Louise Roon
Past President Celia Bakke
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Georgina Van Horn

Especially Generous Donors

The Friends are grateful to the following people who have donated \$500 or more since the publication of our last newsletter. Their names will be listed on the scrolling screen near the Children's Room. (Please note that this screen is updated several times a year, so names of donors may not appear for a few months.)

- In memory of Shirley Burke
- Elaine Cardinale
- Kathryn Edwards
- Manuel & Joanna Fernandez
- Jim Finkle, in honor of Phyllis Finkle
- Mary Hoover
- Kismet Boutique
- Jean Libante
- Tim & Jennifer Meighen
- Brian Outland



Friends Nominate Toni Blackstock as a Senior of Distinction

Toni Blackstock has been nominated as a Senior of Distinction by the Friends of the Library. This prestigious award, sponsored by The Terraces of Los Gatos, recognizes a senior member of a service organization in Los Gatos or Monte Sereno who has made outstanding contributions to their community through volunteerism.



Toni joined the Friends of the Library in 2007, and in the years since has served on the board of directors as secretary, president and corresponding secretary. She also worked in the Friends Bookstore for about eight years..

In addition to her volunteering with the Friends, Toni has served as vice president of the Los Gatos High School Alumni Association from its inception until 2010; volunteered at the Los Gatos Parent Nursery School from 1966-1972, serving as president; served on the Town Community Service Commission for over 20 years, including as chairperson; and been a member of the History Club since 2018.

Toni, has lived in Los Gatos since 1947, attending the University Avenue School, which was located where Old Town is now, and Los Gatos High School.

Toni was a property manager during her working life, but since retiring has enjoyed her hobbies of reading and traveling. In 2024, she and her husband, Carroll, cruised to Alaska with their blended family of seven children, 16 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. There are presently 48 members in the immediate family! 🌿

Stay in Touch!

If you are reading a hard copy of this newsletter and would like to receive future issues via email, please call (408) 399-5700 and leave a message, including your email address.

Want to Volunteer?

The Friends of the Library Bookstore is an all-volunteer effort. If you are interested in staffing the store, please complete an application form which you can pick up in the bookstore. Retail experience is a plus, but not a prerequisite. Questions? Email Sue Tuttle, volunteer coordinator, at 2subtle@comcast.net

Support Local Businesses and Help the Friends!

May and June are filled with opportunities to support the Friends of the Library by shopping at some generous local businesses that have offered to donate part of a particular day's profits to the Friends. Any time you patronize these places, please be sure to mention how much you appreciate their generosity! Some, like Willow Street Pizza and J.McLaughlin, have supported the Friends before, as has the Los Gatos boutique Kismet.

Please note that the stores with a star (*) require participants to show a flyer, which you can pick up at Los Gatos Library or the Friends Bookstore; print from our website or a reminder email; or save on your phone.

May 9: **Automobuild**, 100 N. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos

* May 12: **Mendocino Farms, The Pruneyard**, 1875 S. Bascom Ave., Campbell (2-9 p.m.)

* June 9: **Willow Street Pizza**, 20 S. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos

* June 11: **Zona Rosa**, 81 W, Main St., Los Gatos

June 21: **J.McLaughlin**, 17 ½ N. Santa Cruz Ave., Los Gatos

Friends of Los Gatos Library Bookstore

110 E. Main St., Los Gatos

All money made in the bookstore, which is an all-volunteer effort, goes to support the library's many programs for community members of all ages. The bookstore is located near the fountain on the plaza up the stairs to the right of the library.

Tuesday	1-5 p.m.
Wednesday	1-5 p.m.
Thursday	1-5 p.m.
Friday	1-5 p.m.
Saturday	10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday	10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Donations

Donate up to 100 lightly used books and DVDs at one time, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 1-3 p.m. (We do not take magazines or encyclopedias.) Bring them to the side door at the left of the library (*not* to the bookstore), 100 Villa Avenue, Los Gatos.

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OF LOS GATOS LIBRARY

100 Villa Ave.
Los Gatos, CA 95030

SAVE THE DATE!

May 7, 5 p.m.—Talk by author Susan Hensley
May 9—Fundraiser at Automobuild, LG
May 12—Fundraiser at Mendocino Farms
June 9—Fundraiser at Willow St. Pizza, LG
June 11—Fundraiser at Zona Rosa, LG
June 21—Fundraiser at J.McLaughlin, LG



Funds from Friends of the Library pay for the Kids Knitting program and the play table in the Children's Room.



Donate to Friends of Los Gatos Library

Off the Shelf is published by Friends of Los Gatos Library, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization established to encourage use of the library for the pursuit of knowledge, information and pleasure; to increase public awareness of library resources; and to raise funds for library enhancements.

To make a tax-deductible gift and become a Friend of Los Gatos Library, please complete the form below and mail to: Friends of Los Gatos Library, 100 Villa Ave., Los Gatos, CA 95030. You can also donate on the Friends website: <https://friendsoflibrary.org>

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☐ \$15 ☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ Other \$ _____