

Creating a Legacy of Service

By Walker Pearce-Percy, Photo by Hyunah Jang



If you asked Los Gatos resident and Town Council candidate, Rob Stephenson to pick one word most important to the identity of our town, you may be surprised to hear his answer: “Town”. That one word encompasses our much-valued small-town feel, community values where many residents know most of their neighbors by name and where community service organizations still hold well attended events and fundraisers throughout the year, to include those recently organized to help local businesses during the pandemic. In Rob’s opinion, small town character does not just happen on its own. It takes members of our community coming together and being proactive on issues that affect us all. Whether that means checking in on or shopping for a neighbor or friend that may be more high risk for COVID-19, joining a service organization, serving on a local board or commission, coaching a youth league or advocating for equality, there are numerous ways to serve and create the town in which we want to live.

After joining the Marine Corps in the nineties, Rob became the fourth consecutive generation of his family to have served in the U.S. Armed Forces with service dating back to WWII, Korea, Vietnam and the War on Terror. Those nearly six years of military service had an impact on who he is today and laid a foundation for decades of service.

While serving in Southern Africa during 2001, Rob met his wife,

a San Jose native who was volunteering at an HIV/AIDS hospice in rural Africa prior to attending medical school. Together, they organized food and clothing drives for the children of the patients, most of whom would become orphaned due to the AIDS pandemic that swept much of the region during that time. They also wrote grants to solicit donations from pharmaceutical companies to obtain much needed supplies and medications to donate to underfunded rural clinics. Nearly twenty years later, Rob and now Dr. Stephenson are raising their three daughters in Los Gatos and are active and contributing members to the town.

Rob knows that the challenges that face our town are numerous, but not so daunting that we cannot work together to find solutions. The most demanding issues, which town residents are well aware of, have been discussed, studied and discussed again, often times without a clear path forward. With a background in information security, Rob is a firm believer in finding the problem, identifying viable solutions after seeking input from stakeholders and moving forward with a decision.

Rob is honored to serve on the board of directors for both the Veterans Memorial and Support Foundation of Los Gatos as well as the Los Gatos Lions Club and is Vice-Chair of the Town’s Parks Commission. You can find him walking his bulldog, Meatball, downtown or enjoying one of the town’s many parks with his family on weekends.

VOTE ROB STEPHENSON 4 TOWN COUNCIL in 2022
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