

Milpitas Muse

July 2026

The Milpitas Historical Society Newsletter

Volume XLVII, No. 3

> SATURDAY, JULY 18th <

12:00 PM – 3:00 PM

ANNUAL BBQ AND MEETING

JOSE HIGUERA ADOBE PARK

LOCATION Wessex Place, Milpitas

(See attached announcement and map)

OUR 3rd MEETING

The second sheet in this mailing has full details of the annual BBQ. Please call Joseph Ehardt at 408-384-1366 by Thursday, July 16th to confirm that you will come and discuss the potluck dish that you will contribute.

The Presentation

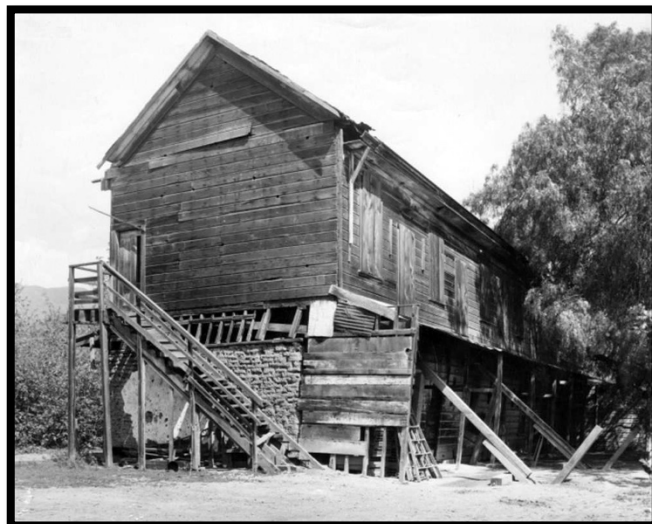
MARION LUCY CURTNER: HER LIFE STORY AND THE JOSE HIGUERA ADOBE PROJECT

The José Higuera Adobe is Milpitas' earliest structure, built in either 1828 or 1831 depending on the historical source, making it nearly 200 years old. For context, the José Maria Alviso Adobe was built in 1837.

The Higuera Adobe originally was a simple, single-story residence and is the only surviving adobe of five that were built on Rancho Los Tularcitos. As ownership changed over the years, so did the Adobe in size, but age seriously degraded its soundness as neglect took its toll.

That the Adobe exists and part of a city public park is due to the extensive efforts of Marion Curtner, the granddaughter of both Henry Curtner as well as Joseph Rush Weller, both of whom were important pioneers in Milpitas history.

Please join us for our annual potluck BBQ on Saturday, July 18th, at noon. The Adobe will be open to browse and, after our picnic, to see a presentation on the remarkable life of Marion Lucy Curtner, daughter of William Morrison Curtner and Mary Lucinda "Lucy" Weller.



Fifteen to twenty years before the Higuera Adobe was restored.



After the Higuera Adobe was restored.

Our Presenter: JOSEPH EHARDT



He is a member of the Milpitas Historical Society for 15 years and has served in several capacities on its Board of Directors. He is one of two docents at the José Alviso Adobe and investigator of Milpitas history.

**Long-time member George Hunt Loughborough
(19 August 1937 to 12 May 2026)**



The Milpitas Historical Society has lost a cherished and generous supporter of our broader community.

George started life in Douglas (population of 8,623 in 1940 according to Census records), Cochise County, in Arizona, which is near the border with Mexico, and if my research is correct, his parents were Nathan Loughborough, an Arizona rancher raising cattle, and Olive Kathleen Ford, who were married in 1930. His father died in 1945 and his mother passed away in 1952, so George had lost both parents before he was about 15 years old.

He joined the United States Air Force in January 1955 after ending his education at Tucson High School, and his enlistment records identify his next of kin as Mrs. Mary Moore residing in Douglas, whom I have not identified but might be an aunt or foster parent. On 11 August 1955, before he was 18, George was early discharged from the USAF, a week before he turned 18 years old, after they discovered he was under age.

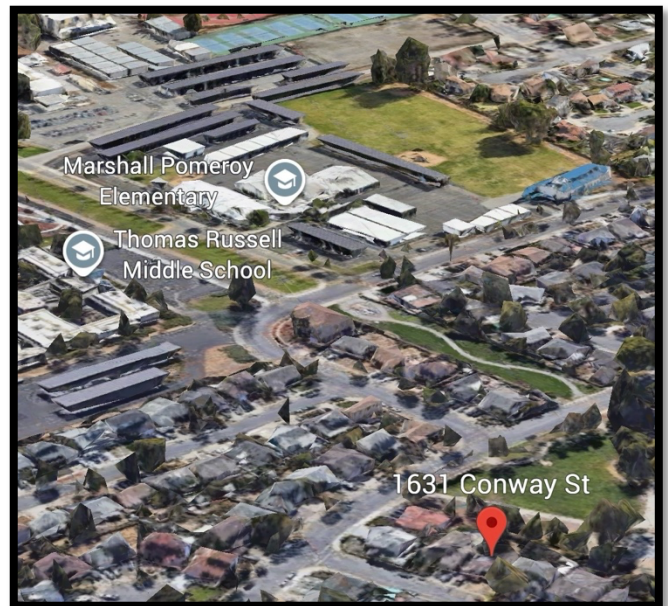
In 1959 he worked as a helper at Catalina Printers in Tucson, which I suppose was his first employer in the printing industry that would become his life-long passion. During a trip to Montana in 1961, he met his future wife, Linda Jean Post. They married in 1963 and started their new life in Oakland, California.

The Loughboroughs Arrive in Milpitas

The next year George and Linda moved to Milpitas, and he worked in several print shops in the area, but not for long. George (Hunt) and his brother William (Ford) started a printing business of their own in 1969 in the garage of George's house on Conway Street, whose backyard borders Sunnyhills Albert Augustine Jr. Memorial Park. Huntford Printing and Graphics soon moved out of the garage and into a building on Winsor Street near the Library. In the 1970s it moved to its current site on Dempsey Road.

George and Linda raised a family of five children, all of whom worked in the family business at one time or another. Their son Charles died at the age of 44, and

to commemorate him there is a bench in Sunnyhills Augustine Park near some children's play equipment.



The kids went to Joseph Weller Elementary School, Thomas Russell Middle School, and Milpitas High School, all of which were within walking distance of their home on Conway.

George's Many Community Activities

George has been very involved in community life. The Police Athletic League, the Milpitas Executive Lions Club, the Milpitas Toastmasters Club, the Milpitas Chamber of Commerce, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, and the Milpitas Historical Society all have benefitted from his involvement, support and generosity.

George will be sorely missed as an exemplary citizen.

Our Society's Contact Information

You can contact the Milpitas Historical Society:
- by mail at 160 N. Main St., Milpitas CA 95035
- by email to: tmhs@milpitashistoricalsociety.org
- our website: <http://milpitashistoricalsociety.org>
- or leave a voice message at: 1-408-262-1776

ANNUAL POTLUCK BBQ EVENT and QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING

*Saturday, July 18th,
NOON~3PM*

*José Loreto Higuera Adobe Park,
Wessex Place
off North Park Victoria Blvd*



EVENT:

The Board of Directors has scheduled our members summer picnic and social event for Saturday, July 18, 12 noon to 3PM.

MAP:

On other side of this sheet.

LOCATION:

We will meet at José Loreto Higuera Adobe Park on Wessex Place, north of Jacklin off North Park Victoria Blvd OR south of Scott Creek Road off North Park Victoria Blvd.

DIRECTIONS:

There is a parking lot at the end of Wessex Place inside the Park as well as ample street parking on Wessex Place leading to the Adobe

ADOBE OPEN:

I have arranged for the Adobe to be open for our inspection and for seating to listen to our presentation on the woman responsible for restoring the building and then donating it and the land for a public park.

FOOD:

The Society is providing the main entrees of catered BBQ ribs and chicken as well as iced bottled water and soft drinks.

We ask that members provide additional potluck food, such as your favorite side dishes (for example: potato salad, macaroni salad, green salad, taco casserole, baked beans, macaroni & cheese, jello salad, whatever) as well as desserts.

CONTACT US: To guide our overall planning for food ordering, please send Joseph Ehardt an e-mail to joseph.ehardt@comcast.net no later than Thursday, July 16th AND so that we know what potluck dish you would like to provide.

LET'S PARTY!

