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Meet the Townzen Family!



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Meet the Townzen Family!

BY ALYSSA SHACKELFORD | PHOTOS BY WISHING YOU HAPPINESS AND THE TOWNZENS

The Townzen family was living in their house on the Seal Beach boardwalk in 2020 when the pandemic changed the world. Suddenly, their cozy home became very tight quarters with Patrick (Pat) working from the master bedroom, Jaime painting and working on her master's degree program from the garage, and their two daughters, Danielle (Dani) and Karalyn (Kara), both doing their classes online. When their friends started the process of selling their Rossmoor home around that time, Patrick and Jaime jumped at the opportunity, making an offer before it was even listed. The family officially moved to Rossmoor in March of 2022, grateful to have more space and to be living much closer to the high school.

Pat and Jaime first met in 1999 when they both attended the University of Redlands and bonded over their mutual love of punk and ska music. Pat graduated with a bachelor's degree in Economics and now works for a financial services firm in Downtown L.A. Jaime graduated with a bachelor's in English Writing and went on to earn her master's degree in Literature and Writing in 2022.

At the beginning of this year, Jaime, a writer and artist, published her debut novel, *Absorbed*; it's a women's fiction coming-of-age story set in Southern California in 1996. You can learn more about it at [goodreads.com/book/show/221663487](https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/221663487).





Dani, 17, found a passion for film and television during her sophomore year at Los Alamitos High School (LAHS); she was instrumental in several significant film projects, one of which was shared on KTLA to win a new adapted bike for a fellow student. Another film project she worked on called "Every 15 Minutes" was made as an effort to prevent drunk driving; this film received a Congressional Award. Dani is planning to attend college in New York to study Fashion Marketing.

Kara, 16, is a straight A student in all honors and AP classes, and plays post on the JV girls basketball team at LAHS. She is a founder and co-president of the For the Youth club, and active in several other clubs at LAHS. Kara's plan is to attend UCSD for college, but, for now, she just hopes to make the most of her high school experience.

The Townzen family wouldn't be complete without their five furry family members, two dogs and three cats. Blondie is a mini golden mix-breed rescued in 2012 from the high desert; she's approximately 13 years old and takes her role of

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protecting the house from passing cars, dogs, crows, squirrels and mailmen very seriously, despite being only about 12 inches tall. Theo, a blue merle mini Aussie, was adopted in January 2020 and was the restless puppy adding even more chaos to the family's tight pandemic quarters. Solomon is a

rescued 8-year-old blue point Siberian Siamese who is from a long line of winning show cats. He carries himself like the king of the castle. Storm was adopted from the Seal Beach Animal Rescue Center in 2018. He was born feral, and still his favorite spot to hang out is the "catio" where he can watch the sunrise and the squirrels running along the fence-line. Last, but certainly not least, despite being the smallest, is Tiny. Tiny is Dani's cat, and was also born to a feral mother; she was brought home at five weeks old covered in ringworm. She is the princess of the house, stealing the other cats' treats and strolling across computer keyboards.

The Townzens make a point of giving back to their community wherever they can. In addition to Jaime serving on the LAHS Girls Basketball Booster Club board and Pat serving on the LAHS Film Booster board, both are very involved in supporting 826LA, a nonprofit organization "dedicated to unlocking and cultivating the creative power of writing for students ages 6 to 18." They also support CASA, LAEF, The Youth Center, and several other charity organizations throughout California. Over the years, Jaime has

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held multiple volunteer positions through Project Seek, McGaugh PTA, and the Aquarium of the Pacific. Most recently, she and Kara organized book drives that collected over 1,000 books from the community to be distributed to those affected by the Eaton Fire in Altadena.

It's a yearly tradition for the whole family to participate in The Taste of Los Al fundraiser in support of the LAHS's Girls Basketball program. Dani and Kara often help with set-up of tables early in the day and Jaime helps wrap baskets and donated several personalized pet portraits. Jaime and Pat also make a point of purchasing tickets for themselves and friends to enjoy a fun, community-centered date night out.

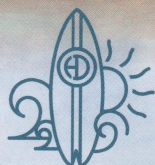
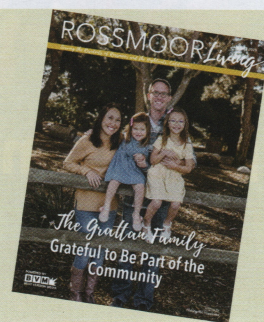
The Townzens love their quiet street and their neighbors, noting how patient they have been as Dani and Kara learn to drive on Rossmoor's streets. "Many of the families involved in the same programs our kids participate in at Los Al live in Rossmoor, so we are surrounded by friends in our community who we see regularly at school and sporting events. It makes the whole experience a richer one for our family," says Jaime. Jaime also gives a lot of credit to the Rossmoor Homeowners Association for all their efforts to make Rossmoor "a warm, safe and inclusive community filled with wholesome, connecting activities."



Get to Know Your Neighbors and Community One Resident at a Time

We enjoy featuring residents from all walks of life. Make the *Rossmoor Living* magazine your own by submitting nominations of families or individuals you want to see highlighted. Help us honor those people who make this community a great place to live, work and raise a family. Or use this feature as a way to share your own story with your neighbors!

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