

SONOMA

Your Local Community Magazine

# THE SOCIAL.

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MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

## Kimberly Quan Hubenette

Photo by Steven Kraus Photography

## Meet Your Neighbors • Kimberly Quan Hubenette

**F**or 16 years, Kimberly Quan Hubenette has been living a fulfilling life in Sonoma County. The Southern California native, who went to USC for her undergraduate and dental degrees, moved to the area in 2006.

Before landing in Sonoma, Kimberly owned and operated a dental practice in Pacific Beach that she opened in 1998. Kimberly's late husband, Mark, was from Kenwood; the pair met and married in Southern California. Mark had cystic fibrosis and had undergone a double lung transplant, which created an ongoing situation where the pair drove regularly to Stanford for his medical care. This circumstance eventually led to a move. "We ended up moving back to Sonoma County six years after we were married," Kimberly explains. "I sold my dental practice and moved up and never regretted it. I love Sonoma." After 13 years together in Sonoma, Mark passed away. Since then, Kimberly's neighborhood has been more than just a place to live—she's also had an immeasurable amount of support from her neighbors. She adds that the neighborhood "doggy" family helped her get through the pandemic lockdowns.

Kimberly is now in her third decade of practicing dentistry. Upon moving



to Sonoma, Kimberly opened another dental practice called Synergy Dental Group. Much like the people in her neighborhood, Kimberly's dental staff has been an integral part of her healing process. She encourages her staff to be lifelong learners—thanks to this outlook, her team is growing and keeps adding talented people to its ranks. Reach out for more info on joining Kimberly's team.

Kimberly is also an author, inspirational coach, and community service advocate. When she's not busy with work, Kimberly can be found doing a variety of outdoor activities. She enjoys fishing, hiking, camping, trap shooting, and outdoor sports. Kimberly will often

spend weekends at Wing & Barrel Ranch, where she's learned the ropes of fly fishing, trap shooting, and archery. Gardening is another of Kimberly's interests; it's a hobby that gives her access to fresh fruits and veggies and also allows her to help others. "I grow my own veggies in my garden, especially Chinese vegetables like bok choy, snow peas, and bitter melon," she says. "I love to grow avocado pits and give the plants away to my friends." One of Kimberly's goals is to have a better impact on nature and the environment, which is one reason she's recently begun learning how to compost.

Helping Kimberly navigate her life is her constant companion: her pup Dakota.



Dakota is a mixed-breed canine who boasts 30% Staffordshire Terrier, 60% Pit Bull Terrier, and 10% Border Collie in her genes. Kimberly is an advocate for rescuing animals rather than buying—she says that all three of the dogs she’s owned have been rescues, and each has been a tremendous addition to her life. “Dakota is a gentle soul, and she is definitely loyal to me, which is a Pit Bull trait,” she explains. “She also loves kids. She licks all the kids, especially the girls. When we are at the dog park, she follows all the girls while holding her favorite blue recycled Chuckit! ball.” She and Dakota go everywhere they can together, frequenting pet-friendly businesses like Home Depot, Sonoma Pet Center, and Petsmart. “Anywhere dogs are allowed, we go!” Kimberly says. The pair will also often walk around Sonoma Marketplace Shopping Center, admiring the redwood trees along the path. Kimberly says Dakota loves running around there while occasionally giving chase after wildlife. Much like her owner, Dakota also enjoys getting out into the great outdoors. “Dakota loves exploring,” Kimberly says. “She loves swimming, and we like going to Liz Perrone Dog Park or hiking at regional and state parks like



Taylor, Hood, or Sonoma Valley Regional. Dakota also likes swimming in oceans, lakes, and rivers.” At the end of a long week, Kimberly and Dakota like watching movies together on Saturday nights.

In the years that Kimberly has

been in the Sonoma community, she’s become increasingly entwined with her adopted hometown. She says community volunteering has always been a vital part of her life, largely influenced by her parents, who taught her the importance of giving back from a young age. She follows in her dad’s footsteps (a Kiwanis past president in El Centro, California) by serving in her own fashion, as a rotarian with the Sonoma Valley Lunch Club. In 2013, Kimberly helped create Freedom Week Sonoma, which gives free services and food to first responders, active military, and veterans. In honor of her late husband, she’s also an advocate for organ transplant awareness and does an annual cystic fibrosis walk-a-thon.

Kimberly looks forward to her life’s journey in Sonoma. With Dakota by her side, she’ll keep connecting with those in the community and enjoying each day as it comes.

