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Local startup BeeLine Reader makes online reading easier

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Los Altos Town Crier

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WEDNESDAY • October 20, 2021

Community news for Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View since 1947

'Tower' lowered into position



PHOTOS BY S.M. LIEU/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

The new Los Altos Community Center received a new sculpture Thursday – one so large it had to be dropped in by crane, left. Hilary King of the city's Public Arts Commission called the sculpture "dramatic." The new piece – "Tower" by San Francisco artist Charles Gadenken – was installed in front of the 24,500-square-foot center, which opened to the public Oct. 2. The community center is located at 97 Hillview Ave. Pictured at right are, from left, fabricator Heather Henderson, arts commission vice chairperson Monica Waldman, incoming member Terri Couture and Gadenken.

LAH officials name new city manager

By Megan V. Winslow
Staff Writer/meganw@latc.com

Los Altos Hills residents who didn't have a chance to meet Peter Pirnejad at the town's recent Vines & Wines festival will have the opportunity to do so at this week's city council meeting; tucked into Thursday's agenda among commendations for outgoing city manager Carl Cahill is consideration of an employment agreement with Pirnejad, Cahill's intended replacement.

If the council votes to approve the five-year employment agreement, Pirnejad will earn an annual salary of \$236,000 plus benefits, according to the document.

Mayor Kavita Tankha announced the council's

decision in a press release published Friday.

"Mr. Pirnejad was selected following an extensive recruitment and interview process that included input from our community members and staff," she wrote in the statement.

Pirnejad, a 51-year-old Mountain View resident, is married and has three sons. He was born in Iran but moved to the U.S. when he was 3 years old. He's lived most of his life in California.

Aside from a two-year stint in the private sector,

See **MANAGER**, Page 5



Pirnejad

Los Altan traces origins of WWI grenade found in father's nightstand

By Megan V. Winslow
Staff Writer/meganw@latc.com

There was blood on the carpet after Alfred Lindahn fell out of bed. As the 96-year-old Los Altos resident received treatment at a hospital, his son began rearranging the furniture in the room so he could clean it. Inside the nightstand drawer, Rick Lindahn's hand grasped a black, egg-shaped object.

"There was some goo kind of oozing out of the top of it," he said. "It would have made a really nice Christmas ornament for the tree with the little loop on the top you could hang on the tree."

Rick gently placed the object on his father's floral bedspread, snapped a photo and called the Los Altos Police Department.

Between approximately 10:15 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Oct. 11, officers, Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office Bomb Squad members and county fire department personnel carried out preparations for detonation of Rick's discovery, likely a Model 17 Eierhandgranate hand grenade the German army used during World War I.

Loudspeakers helped evacuate homes adjacent to the Lindahns' Christina Drive residence, and officials blocked off the street from traffic. Through Nixle, the city's designated emergency notification system, police issued a cryptic warning:

See **GRENAD**E, Page 5



PHOTOS COURTESY OF RICK LINDAHN

Rick Lindahn discovered a Model 17 Eierhandgranate hand grenade, above, last made in 1915, in the Los Altos bedroom of his father, 96-year-old World War II veteran Alfred Lindahn, pictured at top during his WWII days.

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Halloween Happenings

Spooky tales haunt again

We've extended the deadline for entries in the Town Crier's 2021 Spooky Stories contest – writers young and old have until Thursday to submit a Halloween-themed story, no more than 400 words.

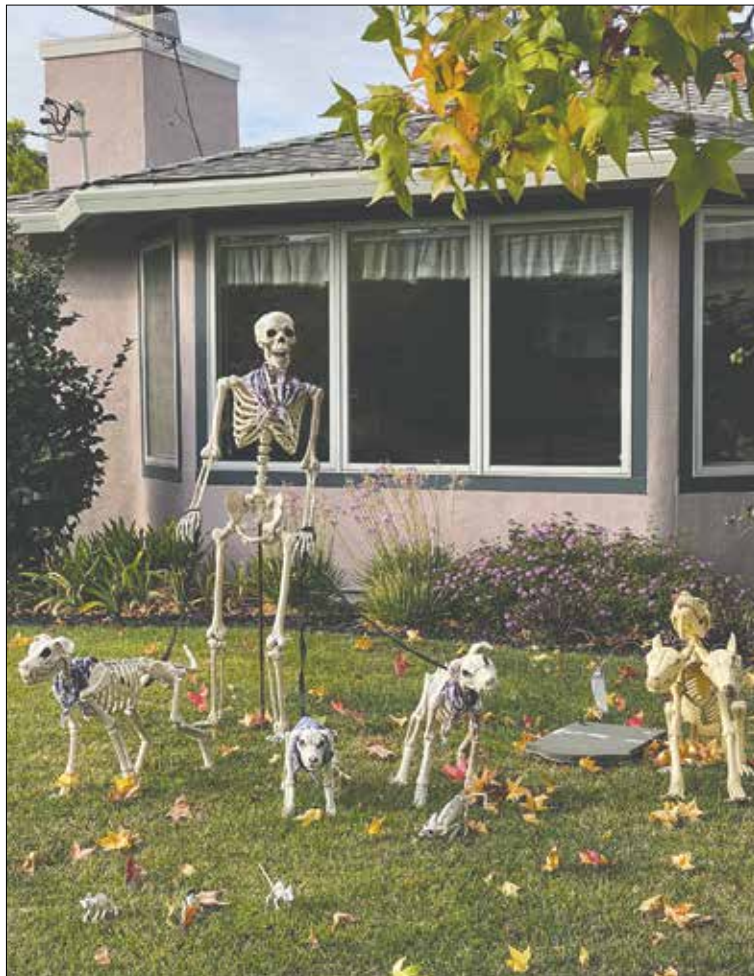
We are awarding first-, second- and third-place honors to the authors. First-place authors will receive a prize.

Subject matter is wide open. The story doesn't have to be scary – and please calibrate your level of gore to a newspaper audience of all ages.

Send stories to editor Bruce Barton at bruceb@latc.com.

Artwork with the story is welcome but optional. We will run as many stories as we can in our Oct. 27 Halloween edition.

We're also collecting pictures of local yards done up in ghoulish style. Found something neat in your neighborhood? Email elizar@latc.com with pictures you've caught on local walks or stories of what new twist on spooky yard art you put together this year.



S.M. LIEU/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Have you seen these beasts on the prowl in Los Altos? We're collecting pictures of Halloween for next week's Your Home issue.

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News

Police Blotter

Battery

Oct. 16, 1:19 p.m.: 0-100 block of Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View

Oct. 17, 12:51 a.m.: 200 block of Bryant Street, Mountain View

Commercial burglary

Oct. 16, 11:15 p.m.: 100 block of East El Camino Real, Mountain View

Residential burglary

Oct. 16, 2:34 a.m.: 400 block of San Antonio Road, Mountain View

Oct. 17, 6:10 p.m.: 200 block of South Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View

Theft

Oct. 16, 10:45 a.m.: 2600 block of West El Camino Real, Mountain View

Oct. 16, 12:56 p.m.: 600 block of Franklin Street, Mountain View

Oct. 16, 3:42 p.m.: 100 block of Second Street, Los Altos

Oct. 16, 8:56 p.m.: 100 block of East El Camino Real, Mountain View

Oct. 17, 7:59 a.m.: 600 block of Paco Drive, Los Altos

Oct. 17, 1:48 p.m.: 1000 block of Grant Road, Mountain View

Oct. 17, 9:18 p.m.: 300 block of Easy Street, Mountain View

Vandalism

Oct. 16, 3:57 p.m.: 2500 block of West El Camino Real, Mountain View

Oct. 16, 6:10 p.m.: 400 block of Thompson Avenue, Mountain View

Oct. 16, 9:43 p.m.: 200 block of Polaris Avenue, Mountain View

Oct. 17, 12:33 p.m.: Near the intersection of Cypress Drive and Warec Way, Los Altos

— Megan V. Winslow

Watch for breaking news at losaltosonline.com and [facebook.com/LosAltosTownCrier](https://www.facebook.com/LosAltosTownCrier).

Parks & Rec: Don't continue Hillview off-leash program

By Bruce Barton
Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

If the recommendations of the Los Altos Parks and Recreation Commission are followed, the days of off-leash hours for dogs at Hillview Baseball Field are numbered.

Commissioners voted 4-2 last week to recommend to the city council ending the pilot program at the field, instead suggesting further exploration of other off-leash locations. Council members are scheduled for further discussion of the program and the commission's recommendations at their meeting next Tuesday. The council last month opted to extend the off-leash program to Nov. 15, when all city fields are closed for

winter maintenance.

Accompanying the Oct. 13 commission meeting was strong public feedback that included numerous complaints as well as vocal support for keeping the off-leash program. Included for commissioners' review was a list of 304 dog owners, some of whom touted the social benefits of a gathering place for making friends.

But commissioners Teresa Morris and John Corrigan, who headed a subcommittee on the pilot program, concluded there were enough negative impacts to warrant discontinuing the off-leash hours at Hillview. Concerns ranged from neighbors' complaints over noise to field damage and unruly dogs.

Commissioner Jeanine Valadez, a long-

time dog owner, pointed to problems that included a lack of secure fencing and damage to a field that is used by Little Leaguers to play baseball. She noted that dogs dig and owners fail to pick up their dogs' feces.

"Sports parks and dog parks do not mix," she said.

According to Donna Legge, the city's recreation and community services director, the location has resulted in "negative incidents."

"It is clear the need for a dog park in Los Altos is great, however, placement is essential," she wrote in a staff report. "A vocal minority of dog owners may sway public opinion over those residents that live by,

See OFF-LEASH, Page 7

Teens 'activate' to boost disaster prep

By Megan V. Winslow
Staff Writer/meganw@latc.com

Anyone scanning the Los Altos Hills Wild-fire Preparedness Fair booths Saturday for signs of Santa Clara County Teen CERT members may discover them spraying water at a television.

No electronics, however, will be harmed in the process, Victoria Bebee assured; it's all part of a demonstration of proper fire extinguisher use.

"It's a TV that has flames, and you shoot the water at the TV, and it puts out the fire as you shoot," she explained.

Bebee, the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program general analyst for the Los Altos Hills County Fire District, is also the co-founder of the program's teen version. Alongside Los Altos High School sophomore Mihir Mishra, 16, she launched the latter in January. Mishra, board chair, has since taken the reins and is developing various chapters, including one for Los Altos-Los Altos Hills. He's recruited 21 Teen CERT members but is actively working to recruit more youths interested in becoming trained disaster workers.

"There's a lot of opportunities to get experience raising awareness about emergency preparedness and getting hands-on practice for the program," he said. "I would also say it's another great way to get involved with the community."

Like their adult counterparts,



COURTESY OF MEERA MISHRA

Local teens participating in a CERT skills day in June learn how to rescue someone trapped under a fallen object.

Teen CERT members are trained in emergency preparedness and response so that they may help themselves and others in the event of a disaster such as a fire or an earthquake. The main differences between the two programs is Teen CERT members must obtain a legal guardian's permission to participate, and a guardian must accompany them if they are "activated."

"That is both a drawback and a benefit because it's not just the teen learning, but it's also the whole family kind of getting involved in emergency preparedness, and it's another way to kind of spread the information about how to be ready for emergencies," Mishra said.

Through the fire district's Teen CERT Academy, participants independently complete online coursework related to medical response; damage assessment; search and rescue;

fire safety; terrorism; disaster psychology; and the operation of incident command systems. Later, they convene for a "skills day" and demonstrate what they learned at various stations. The training culminates in a graduation ceremony, typically with VIPs and representatives of the Santa Clara County Fire Department and the Sheriff's Office in attendance.

While the Teen CERT members have yet to experience a real emergency, some were recently exposed to a fake one.

On Oct. 1, an anonymous caller forced the evacuation of Los Altos High as part of a bomb hoax. Mishra was home sick from school that day, but he spoke to his fellow Teen CERT members after the incident. They agreed their training made them feel more prepared for a

See TEENS, Page 7

LAH mulls climate action goals

By Megan V. Winslow
Staff Writer/meganw@latc.com

The Los Altos Hills City Council is expected Thursday to entertain a climate action plan meant to reduce the town's greenhouse gas emissions by up to 52% within nine years.

Environmental Initiatives Committee members are scheduled to deliver a presentation recommending the council adopt either a "moderate" approach and strive for a 49% emission reduction or an "aggressive" one that aims for a 52% emission reduction. Menlo Park, by comparison, has set a reduction goal of 90% by 2030. Mountain View's reduction goal is 44% by the same year.

The committee selected 2005, the year the town generated 101,598 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, as a base year for comparison.

The climate action plan is based on a greenhouse gas inventory the council approved in September. That report indicates most of the greenhouse gases the town generates originate from natural gas use and air travel.

Converting town hall's natural gas loads to electric and switching town staff and Los Altos Hills County Fire District vehicles to ones that use renewable diesel are among the

See CLIMATE, Page 6

News

GRENADE

From Page 1

“In the next several minutes, you may hear a loud explosion. There is no danger to public safety.”

Rick watched as bomb squad members carried sandbags into his backyard and arranged them into a teepee. He said they tucked the grenade and some C-4 inside and ran a wire from the teepee to the street. Firefighters rigged hoses in case of a fire.

Rick considered propping up his phone to capture a video, but officials urged against it. Instead, he donned noise-muffling headgear and took shelter behind a bomb squad vehicle.

“And once everything was done, they gave me the little box, and I got to push the button and blow the whole thing up,” he said.

The force of the explosion tossed sandbags 30 feet, he guessed, and Mountain View residents living as far away as Morgan Street, near Highway 101, heard the resulting boom.

A treasure trove

Rick is one of six children born to Patricia and Alfred “Scott” Lindahn Jr., who were married for 71 years until she died in 2017. The family moved to Los Altos in 1955, on the day of Rick’s third birthday.

Rick said his father taught his children everything a guy would want to know: scuba diving, taking apart and rebuilding cars, shooting guns.

“Great, excellent man,” he said. “I wouldn’t have picked anyone else for a father.”

A year after the family settled onto Christina Drive, Alfred scaled a power pole to survey Stevens Creek behind the house. A flood had occurred and tangled two trees in the water, so Alfred wrangled up some dynamite.

He blew the trees free and clear of the creek but also knocked some shingles off the neighbor’s



COURTESY OF RICK LINDAHN

When a bomb squad detonated an old grenade in Los Altos last week, the force of the explosion scattered sandbags 30 feet.

roof, Rick said.

“So, he’s been into the explosives before, and yet I’m curious what else I’m going to find as I go through this house of 66 years and my father,” Rick said.

Alfred did serve overseas in France, during World War II, but his son traces the Eierhandgranate to Uncle Clarence.

Patricia Lindahn’s uncle collected swords, knives, guns and Native American artifacts. His treasures included an elephant’s foot rendered into a piggy bank, a chunk of wood reportedly salvaged from President Abraham Lincoln’s desk and a blunderbuss, a vintage rifle with a flared muzzle reminiscent of a phonograph’s horn.

When Uncle Clarence died, he bequeathed his assortment of weaponry to Alfred.

“It’s been in his drawer, like 3 feet away from where his pillow’s been, for 40 years,” Rick said.

MANAGER

From Page 1

Pirnejad has worked for local government in some capacity since 1998. Most recently, he served as city manager for Foster City; the Foster City Council hired him in January but voted 3-2 Aug. 25 to fire him.

Per his employment agreement, the council was not required to provide a reason for his termination and chose not to. The agreement also guaranteed Pirnejad severance pay equivalent to nine months of his \$235,000 base salary because his termination took place within the first 24 months of employment.

Finding the right fit

During an interview with the Town Crier Friday, Pirnejad said he harbors no ill will or regrets about his last post.

“I’m really proud of the work that we did, but ultimately, city management is about the fit between the council and the manager, and oftentimes if it doesn’t work out, then you kind of move

on,” he explained.

Under his watch, Pirnejad said, Foster City kept its \$90 million levee improvement project on track and successfully lobbied State Assemblymember Kevin Mullin of South San Francisco to introduce Assembly Bill 1029, which provides local governments state funds to preserve affordable housing; Gov. Gavin Newsom signed the bill into law Sept. 28.

Prior to his tenure with Foster City, Pirnejad spent two years and three months at Oracle Corp., first as director of community development strategy and then as senior director, global public sector, and nine months as assistant city manager for the city of Napa. He also worked as Palo Alto’s director of development services between November 2012 and February 2018.

Pirnejad’s education includes a master’s degree in policy, planning and development studies from USC in 2002. In 2017, he earned his doctorate in local government administration and policy, planning and development

through USC.

Cahill announced his intended retirement in April. Although largely supported by Tankha and fellow council members George Tyson and Lisa Schmidt, Cahill has faced increasing criticism from the council since Linda Swan and Stanley Q. Mok joined the virtual dais in December. Chief among their grievances against Cahill is his handling of an unpopular garbage collection contract resulting in resident rate hikes.

Cahill’s last day as city manager is Friday, but he will remain a town employee until Oct. 29 to assist with the transition.

“As City Manager, Carl served the Town with dedication, providing leadership, guidance, and oversight to all Town staff,” Tankha said in a press release. “Carl also helped the Town maintain a stable budget and navigate the unprecedented challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic. In my role as Mayor, and on behalf of the City Council, we wish Carl the very best in his retirement.”



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Los Altos council finds itself in political quagmire over censure policy

It passes narrowly amid debate

By Bruce Barton
Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

In a move that proponents saw as procedural and opponents personal, the Los Altos City Council last week on a 3-2 vote approved an “accountability policy” that would censure members who violate city rules or laws.

After three such violations, the member could face such punishments as a vote of “no confidence” or removal from a committee.

According to a city staff report for the Oct. 12 council meeting, the offender would be given “admonitions,” or warnings, for violations prior to a censure, or

formal reprimand, after a third violation. These would be willful violations, backers emphasized, not unintentional miscues. As part of the approval, investigations into violations must be conducted at the urging of council members, and such censures must be issued at regularly scheduled council meetings.

The proposal clearly divided speakers at the meeting. Mayor Neysa Fligor and councilmembers Jonathan Weinberg and Sally Meadows backed the policy as closing a loophole in the council’s norms and procedures. Such policies, they noted, are already in place for committee members and members of the public. Weinberg and Fligor said the idea for the policy came about during recent discussion of

Opinion: Putting the policy in proper perspective
— Page 8

updating council norms and procedures.

“What this policy ultimately does is say that we, the members of the city council, are holding ourselves accountable. We are responsible for our behavior,” Weinberg said. “There’s a hole in our norms and procedures, and this policy will help fill that hole.”

Opponents weigh in

But opponents referred to the proposal as “punitive” and “draconian,” claiming it could be used to call out members over political

disagreements.

“You should be setting an example of positive, not punitive, leadership,” said resident Katherine Wurzburg. “This is not what the residents of Los Altos elected you to do.”

“I’m concerned the proposed censure policy is going to perpetuate further division and controversy in our city,” said resident Janet Corrigan, who cited “a significant number” of residents who don’t support it.

Teresa Morris, a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission but speaking as a resident, called the proposal “extremely mean-spirited” and “a way to pull women and minorities down.”

“This is to ensure that council members follow the rules,” countered resident Joe Beninato. “Any talk of silencing people or going after women and minorities is just nonsense.”

Councilmember Lynette Lee Eng voted against the policy. She suggested that council undergo empathy training before considering it. She feared the policy would have unintended consequences and stoke divisiveness.

“This is not a good policy – it’s fundamentally flawed,” said Lee Eng, whose reaction recalled her response in May to a proposed council resolution stating the “facts” of a texting controversy between her and a young Black activist.

The incident from last November triggered a months-long debate involving accusations of racism and calls for Lee Eng to apologize. In that case, Lee Eng felt victimized and disrespected by council members. With last

week’s proposal, she insinuated that, again, ethnicity was a factor behind the policy.

“Sadly, we fail to acknowledge we live in a diverse community and have many different styles, ethnic backgrounds and beliefs that are expressed in different ways that may not be understood or appreciated by all council members,” she said.

“This has nothing to do with penalizing anybody’s style, belief or culture,” Fligor said.

Councilmember Anita Ender also opposed the policy, questioning its effectiveness.

“I am truly concerned we haven’t ... thought through whether this provides any sort of real accountability – I don’t know that it’s really going to change behavior,” she said.

But proponents framed the approved action as “an insurance policy” used only for clear violations of law – not for differing opinions.

Jeanine Valadez, who serves on the Parks and Recreation Commission but was speaking as a resident, saw the proposal as good government. She sought to correct what she thought was a large amount of misinformation that was being traded on social media and elsewhere.

“Censure is not censorship,” she stated. “Censure is an expression of disapproval of one’s conduct. It has nothing to do with squashing of freedom of speech. ... It is not unusual (to have such policies in local government) – it is the norm. The lack of an accountability policy exposes the city to liability. This is supported by an extensive body of legal precedent.”

CLIMATE

From Page 4

measures proposed to reduce emissions produced by government operations. Residents, the plan indicates, could reduce their carbon footprint by taking advantage of town-funded electrification consulting or incentives for eliminating natural gas use.

For now, the committee will attempt to reach whatever goal the council sets by an incentive approach, but mandates are possible if little progress is made, said committee chairperson Vrinda Bhandarkar.


“The strategy is to set the ball

rolling and reassess in maybe four or five years from now, and bring in the mandates when it looks more feasible to have mandates,” she said.

A 49% emission reduction would cost the town approximately \$800,000, and a 52% reduction would cost approximately \$1.2 million, the committee estimates.

During last Thursday’s committee meeting, Councilmember Stanley Q. Mok, the committee’s council liaison, said he is in favor of the more aggressive target and that he believes his four colleagues will be as well.

Sign a petition supporting the plan at bit.ly/3FUK5wh.



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
October 26, 2021 - 7:00 P.M.
Virtual

Members of the Public may join and participate in the Council meeting at
<https://webinar.ringcentral.com/j/1494032709>

TO PARTICIPATE VIA THE LINK ABOVE - Members of the public will need to have a working microphone on their device and must have the latest version of Ringcentral available at this link: <http://www.ringcentral.com/download.html>. To request to speak please use the “Raise hand” feature located at the bottom of the screen.

TO PARTICIPATE VIA TELEPHONE - Members of the public may also participate via telephone by calling 1-650-242-4929 (Meeting ID: 149 403 2709). Press * 9 on your telephone to indicate a desire to speak on an item.

Public testimony will be taken at the direction of the Mayor and members of the public may only comment during times allotted for public comments.

TO SUBMIT WRITTEN COMMENTS, prior to the meeting, on matters listed on the agenda email PublicComment@losaltosca.gov with the subject line in the following format:
PUBLIC COMMENT AGENDA ITEM ## - MEETING DATE.

Emails sent to the above email address are sent to/received immediately by the City Council. Correspondence submitted in hard copy/paper must be received by 2:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting to ensure it can be distributed prior to the meeting. Correspondence received prior to the meeting will be included in the public record. Please follow this link for more information on submitting written comments:
<https://www.losaltosca.gov/cityclerk/page/public-comments>

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. City Council Minutes: Approve the Minutes of the October 12, 2021, Regular Meeting (A. Chelemengos)
2. Resolution No. 2021-52 Notice of Completion – Los Altos Community Center: Adopt Resolution No. 2021-52 accepting completion of the Los Altos Community Center Project, CF-01002; and authorize the Engineering Services Director to record a Notice of Completion as required by law. (A. Trese)

PUBLIC HEARING

3. D20-0008 - Packard Foundation - 374 Second Street: Adopt Resolution No. 2021-53 approving Design Review Application D20-0008 subject to the recommended findings and conditions. The project proposes to merge and reconfigure the existing parking lot areas. The project proposes to create two-way drive aisles accessible from Second Street and eliminate the existing ingress/egress to the public alley. A carport structure with photovoltaic panels is proposed to cover a portion of the parking stalls. (S. Golden)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Ordinance Nos. 2021-482 and 2021-483 California Senate Bill 1383: 1.) Introduce, as read by title only, and hold first reading of Ordinance No. 2021- 482 amending Chapter 6.12 - Solid Waste Collection, Removal, Disposal, Processing and Recycling; Introduce, as read by title only, and hold first reading of Ordinance No. 2021- 483 adding Chapter 6.13 Edible Food Recovery Ordinance and direct staff to place the Ordinances on the consent calendar for adoption at the November 9, 2021, meeting. (E. Ancheta)
5. Off-Leash Pilot Program Review and Recommendations: Receive Report on Hillview Off Leash Pilot Program and provide direction to staff. (D. Legge)
6. Fiscal Year 2021/22 City Fee Schedule: Adopt Resolution No. 2021-54 setting the FY 2021/22 Fee Schedule for the City of Los Altos. (J. Maginot)
7. Lehigh Subcommittee Update: Receive and discuss update from City Council Lehigh Subcommittee. (Council Members Lee Eng and Meadows)
8. Quarterly Review of Council Tentative Calendar: Review, discuss and provide direction to staff relative to the Council Tentative Calendar. (A. Chelemengos)

Agendas, Reports and associated documents for City Council items may be viewed at losaltosca.gov/citycouncil/meetings

News

TEENS From Page 4

credible threat.

“They felt like they had a little bit more security, and it wasn’t something, like, ‘Oh, well, a bomb came, and we’re taking off because we don’t know what to do. We’re in panic mode,’” he said. “They kind of had a sense of what they would do in the event that actually was a reality.”

For more information on the Teen CERT program – and CERT in general – visit lahcfd.org and select the “emergency preparedness” tab. Follow Teen CERT on Instagram at [@teencertla](https://www.instagram.com/teencertla) and [@sccteencert](https://www.instagram.com/sccteencert).

The Los Altos Hills Wildfire Preparedness Fair is scheduled 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at town hall, 26379 W. Fremont Road. In addition to Teen CERT members, presenters will include representatives from the fire district, PG&E and the Santa Clara County Fire Department.

OFF-LEASH From Page 4

walk through, or use the park for other purposes. Animal Control is concerned that when the Los Altos Community Center is open, reports of negative incidents will increase.”

The Hillview pilot program was all that remained among several options considered by the commission over the last few years. Residents in neighborhoods near each targeted park rose up in opposition.

“We shifted from it being an ideal location where nobody had a problem with it to a less-than-ideal location,” Morris said of the Hillview site.

In search of a solution

Commission chairman Pete Dailey and Commissioner Yong Yeh were in favor of continuing the program at the field. Yeh reminded the commissioners that it took years and numerous meetings just to settle on Hillview for the six-month trial period. Based on neighborhood opposition at every location dis-



MIA CARLSSON/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER
Dogs play at Hillview Baseball Field during off-leash hours.

cussed, Yeh believed that mixing Hillview would mean the end of a dog park and off-leash options in Los Altos.

Added Dailey: “If we shut this program down, there is no guarantee there will be any solution for dog owners anytime in the future.”

But Valadez and Morris emphasized that other solutions were possible and could be acted on in a timely manner.

Valadez favored fenced-in dog areas, even ones where mobile fencing could be used. She said she could name at least four appropriate locations in Los Altos but did not elaborate where

those would be.

Morris cited one possible location near the back of the new Los Altos Community Center. Another possibility mentioned is partnering with Mountain View for use of that city’s off-leash spaces.

One fact on which commissioners agreed concerned the increasing popularity of dog ownership in Los Altos. Valadez pointed to the COVID-19 shutdown prompting a run on “pandemic puppies.”

But even prior to the pandemic, dogs were popular in Los Altos. Statistics aired at a February 2020 commission meeting revealed 35-40% of Los Altos’ 10,700 households owned dogs.

“I’ve lived here for 32 years – I have never seen as many dogs in the city with their owners walking downtown as I ever have in the past,” Valadez said. “It seems we’re hitting this major tipping point, that the city needs to take a very proactive view that the city needs to service those dog owners in terms of providing facilities for their dogs to play. But those facilities must be safe, they must be

maintainable and they must be prevalent. I think fencing is a very critical issue.”

“Unfortunately, we’re left with two competing factors,” Dailey said. “One, that I think we owe our dog-owning residents something. We’ve been trying to do something for them for a long time. And then the other one is that we just don’t have an embarrassment of riches in terms of properties (parks) to look at.”

Los Altos has the least park space per capita of any city in Santa Clara County – 45 total acres, working out to 1.6 acres per 1,000 people.

Still, some commissioners felt a dog park solution is out there.

“I think the time is past where neighbors can say I don’t like noise, so I’m not going to vote in favor of a dog park,” Valadez said. “I think there’s a lot of support for dog parks in this city.”

“(An off-leash solution) will not die,” Morris added. “I’ve been working on this for a long time, and I’m very tenacious about getting something done with this.”



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Comment

Los Altos Community Center: The model works

By Maria Lonergan and Gary Hedden

Los Altos are getting their first look at our world-class community center – and their \$37.3 million investment. Yet just as important as our new center is the process that produced it.

After several attempts to develop the former Hillview Community Center, our town landed on the right model. As we look to rebuilding additional facilities, including our police station, Grant Park Community Center and Halsey House, we encourage our residents and city leaders to leverage four key processes:

1. Start with a realistic budget. If funding can't be secured through bonds,

Other Voices

grants, private donations, use fees or other sources, scale the design to a realistic budget, that is, the city's cash on hand and projected revenues.

2. Integrate residents' input. Our new community center reflects our priorities because hundreds of local citizens contributed their ideas and concerns to the process over several years. Those recommendations included the creation of a citizens' task force – members of which chose the architect and guided the final design right alongside Los Altos city staff.

3. Insist on a transparent process. Residents need to be informed about the often-tough choices required to move projects forward. Without transparency, citizens may have less trust in the eventual results, causing unnecessary friction, inefficiencies and delays.

4. Pay attention to the data. If needed, poll residents to understand, for example, if funding through a bond measure would be acceptable. Use polling results, environmental reporting, space-use data and land-use limitations to define opportunities and limits.

Listen to, communicate and act on those findings.

It takes time, and sometimes several cycles, to educate residents on the

complexities of funding and designing public spaces. As a community, our attempts to develop Hillview were at times expensive and painful. Yet those efforts were key to developing a successful process that produced our new center – and hopefully several of our public spaces in the future.

Maria Lonergan and Gary Hedden were founding members of the Community Center Alliance, which operated from 2016 to 2018 and provided leadership and support to the Los Altos City Council and residents to move forward on a right-sized, fiscally responsible community center that represented the priorities of residents.

Letter to the Editor

Absolute power corrupts absolutely

Not all men are savages.

Just the ones who let power go to their heads – or some other part of their anatomy.

Let's face it, it can happen to women, too. It's a blanket statement that can apply to anyone, everyone.

Power corrupts. Absolute power corrupts absolutely.

The problem is when you couple power with privilege, money and a sense of entitlement, you start to believe the world really is your oyster, and that includes everyone in it.

When power corrupts, it can

turn hockey players, movie stars, politicians, governors, even presidents into predators who treat women like ripe fruit, there for the plucking.

But how do you explain it when it happens to an ordinary man living out of his fiancée's van? There is a view that certain men have of any woman, every woman: as sex object.

That word "object": a possession to be used and used up, then dealt with when it becomes troublesome or no longer of service.

And then, what is the ultimate right, the ultimate power behind property ownership?

Disposal.

**Ruth Darlene
WomenSV
Los Altos**

Accountability policy good for council and residents

By Jeanine Valadez

The Los Altos City Council's decision to adopt an accountability policy demonstrates the council's commitment to transparency and determination to self-regulate. Let me explain.

• **Censure is not censorship.** Both the Brown Act and judicial precedent protect First Amendment rights. This policy explicitly agrees: disagreement, personal opinion and criticism are all protected. Censure does not neuter debate.

• **It's legal to hold elected officials accountable.** Courts have held that even if an elected or appointed official is not an employee, he or she must adhere to the standards of workplace conduct expected of wage-earning employees. Our State Legislature has codified this into local governance policy guidance.

Under the Fair Employment and Housing Act, elected public officials are considered "Supervisors" because they hire and fire, and "Agents" because they do the business on the city's behalf. Both classifications confirm that workplace conduct rules are legal and enforceable.

• **Accountability policy is not unusual; it's the norm.** Cities that agree span the large and small, the progressive and conservative, all along the socioeconomic spectrum of our state: East Palo Alto, Huntington Beach, Laguna Beach, Los Gatos, Oakland, Palos Verdes, San Jose, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Stockton, etc.

Other Voices

The California Institute for Local Government published a list of "Six Key Attributes of Exceptional City Councils"; the fifth attribute is that councils "hold themselves and the city accountable."

In Santa Cruz, things got bad on the city council, resulting in recalls (Grand Jury Report, June 25, 2020). The Grand Jury "examined the City Leadership and aspects of the City's government" to discern how things had devolved. It found it was the lack of governing and accountability policies that enabled disagreement, irritation, disrespect and bad interactions among city council members, and between them and city staff, on social media, in council meetings, in debates and in writing. Of the Grand Jury's findings, this one stands out: "The City Council's conduct policy is insufficient to guide behavior and lacks enforcement provisions."


• **The lack of accountability policy puts the city at risk.** Bad conduct by a council member toward a city employee, a member of the public, another council member or in violation of law or policy exposes the city, as co-defendant, to liability. It gets worse when it can be shown that council members knew about misconduct and did nothing about it. These are facts supported by extensive legal precedent.

• **Accountability is not dis-**

cipline. An elected city council member cannot be disciplined in the official sense of being fined, suspended or fired by fellow officials. But this is precisely why the California League of Cities recommends that when an official breaks council rules, "the safest approach" is to "conduct an investigation," and then take "the option to censure the offending councilmember."

• **People want accountability in governance.** Some say that this policy silences the public, particularly minorities or "othered" voices, and is an affront to social/racial equity. On the contrary, accountability policies validate our voices. The Rule of Law is embodied not only in the standards to which the public must adhere, but in the rules of conduct for law enforcement, city employees and public officials. These standards must be fair and visible. These standards mean nothing if they lack accountability and enforcement. We indeed have elections, impeachments and recalls to hold elected officials accountable. But I maintain that these are expensive, lengthy, massively divisive instruments. Instead, I support the local self-regulation benefits that accountability policies afford; let the council work among themselves to correct rule breakers and regain the public trust. We will all learn something about the true meaning of civics as a result.

Jeanine Valadez is a retired tech executive and 32-year resident of Los Altos.



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Community

Rotary Club's bear campaign raises nearly \$150K for charities

Town Crier Staff Report

The Los Altos Bears campaign, organized by the Rotary Club of Los Altos, proved a roaring success.

Some 54 fiberglass bears, sponsored and decorated by local artists, raised nearly \$150,000 for the club's charitable endeavors.

According to figures from the club, an Oct. 9 auction of the bears grossed \$147,900. Bear sponsorships earlier in the year garnered \$32,300. The final total subtracts artists' compensation (\$29,000) and auction costs.

"Of course, the real story is the positive response that our community provided by embracing the Los Altos Bears," said Rotary Club president Harry Price. "Parents and grandparents taking photos of their children and grandchildren in front of the bears was my very favorite aspect of the Los Altos Bears project. And now, more members of the

public will know of the good work being undertaken by Rotarians – all while having some fun at the same time."

The campaign was the brainchild of Rotarian Carol Dabb, a professional art consultant. She organized an effort that involved sponsors purchasing bear models in various sizes, artists decorating the bears and then displaying them around Main and State streets in downtown Los Altos. The club attached the theme "Coming Out of Hibernation" to coincide with the June 15 end of restrictive public health tiers due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dabb provided the details: Of the 54 bears ordered, three were 8-foot-long walking grizzly-sized bears, 16 were 5-foot-tall standing "black" bears, 23 were 36-inch-tall dancing bears and 12 were 20-inch sitting bears.

She described "a very successful and really lively auction" that



LEFT PHOTO BY CHUCK LINDAUER; RIGHT BY AARON ALVAREZ MENDOZA/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Rotary Club of Los Altos president Harry Price, left, and president-elect Stan Scardino flank Carol Dabb, coordinator of the bears project fundraiser. "Crazy Rich Bears," right, sold for \$9,888.

drew approximately 150 bidders and 43 winners. The auctioneer was the "very entertaining" Damon Casatico, Dabb added, who conducted the remote event from his home in Georgia.

Among the most popular were "Poppies Galore," a 36-inch-high bear that sold for \$12,300 – the highest price – to a Los Altos resident; the 8-foot "Can You See Yourself in California?" bear, displayed at Veterans Community Plaza, that sold for \$10,000 to a

Los Altos Hills resident; "Smokey the Bear," a 5-footer decorated by a Los Altos High School student that sold for \$10,000; and "Crazy Rich Bears," an 8-foot-tall specimen sponsored by Chef Chu's restaurant that sold for \$9,888 to Los Altos resident Beverly Dale. Dale is gifting the bear back to Chef Chu's for display outside the Los Altos restaurant.

"Many thanks to the residents of Los Altos who supported and enjoyed this project," Dabb said.

"I received many emails telling me how much they enjoyed the bears. Most of the winning bids are from our own residents."

Coupled with the estimated \$95,000 the club generated at its July Fine Art in the Park event, Rotarians raised more than \$240,000 this year for their community giving, which includes scholarships and donations to nonprofit groups.

For more information, visit losaltosrotary.org.

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Community

Warning signs: Get out before you're in too deep

By Ruthven Darlene

This is the fourth in a six-part series on emotionally abusive relationships.

Is he texting you a dozen times a day to “check in,” wanting to know how you are, where you are, telling you he’s missing you, thinking about you?

In the beginning, it can look a lot like love – over time, it can start to look like stalking.

Are you starting to have to account for your time when you’re not with him?

Are you still keeping up with the friends and interests you had before getting involved with him?

It’s common when we first fall in love to forget about the rest of the world for a while – but over time, we should remember our past life and it should still be OK to see friends and pursue outside interests and activities, hobbies and passions that are separate from his.

It’s not just OK, it’s vital to have some part of your life apart from your partner – it makes you more interesting when you do come back together,

Confronting Domestic Violence

as you’ll have fresh things to talk about and share. But keeping your outside world alive also keeps you alive – your separate identity alive. And with a covert abuser, you will find that becomes more and more difficult to do.

How is he at respecting your boundaries? If you are dating and he starts calling you late at night and you ask him to call before 10 p.m., does he honor that? Or does he give you a hard time and make you feel guilty or selfish? Or ignore the request? Or call you just a little after 10 – testing, testing, 123.

Covert abusers tend to set pretty rigid boundaries for themselves, but when it comes to respecting those of others, not so much. In fact, that’s one of their hallmarks, this tendency toward double standards.

So, while he may spend time chatting up an attractive woman at a party, what happens when

See **SIGNS**, Page 11



Assess Your Flood Risk and Flood Insurance Availability

In the City of Los Altos, stormwater runoff is conveyed naturally or through the City’s stormwater system to the Adobe, Permanente, Stevens or Hale Creek. While the occurrence of flooding is infrequent, knowing your flood risk, being prepared, and protecting your property well ahead of large storm events can reduce your exposure to flood damage.

About 550 properties in Los Altos are located within a Federal Emergency Management Agency designated Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Areas within the SFHA are likely to flood during a 100-year storm event or have a 1% annual chance of flooding. Even if not within a SFHA, your property could still flood. You can review flood maps available at the Planning Division counter at City Hall, the Reference Desk of the Los Altos Main Public Library or on the internet at <https://msc.fema.gov/portal>.

In order to obtain federally secured financing to buy, build, or improve structures within a SFHA, you are required to have flood insurance as required by federal law. Flood insurance may be purchased through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The City of Los Altos also participates in the Community Rating System to receive further discounted policy rates. Flood insurance is available to all property owners, businesses, and renters regardless of whether the property is within a SFHA and whether the property is backed by a federally secured loan.

Information about flood insurance can be obtained from private insurance agents, or by contacting the National Flood Insurance Program customer service line at 1-800-427-4661 or www.floodsmart.gov.

Be aware that development within a SFHA requires compliance with certain building performance standards of the NFIP. Specific standards are included in Chapter 12.60 Floodplain Management of the Municipal Code and relevant building codes. Additional guidance in the implementation of the standards is provided by the City’s Planning and Building Divisions as well as obtaining copies of Elevation Certificates of recently constructed buildings in the SFHA. Otherwise, properties owners can work with a Licensed Land Surveyor or Civil Engineer to obtain an Elevation Certificate.

General information about flood preparedness and protection resources, signing up for emergency alerts and specific storm events can be done through the Valley Water website at <https://www.valleywater.org/floodready>.

Other storm and flood information is available from the City of Los Altos offices:

- Flood zone information, Planning Division 650-947-2750
- Storm drain maintenance & flooding, Street Maintenance 650-947-2785 or 650-947-2770 (after hours)
- Flood emergencies, Police and Fire Departments, during emergencies, dial 911

Community

Museum encourages making time for art

Town Crier Report

Local artists Denise Howard and Doreen Cohen are scheduled to discuss how to fit art into daily life in “Making Time for Art,” a program held both at the Los Altos History Museum and via Zoom 10-11:30 a.m. Saturday.

The two artists bring different perspectives on the subject. Howard, who holds a full-time job, has found ways to fit art into her daily life by regarding it as her second career rather than a hobby. Cohen, who had found outlets for artistic expression during her working years, turned her focus to art when she retired. Both are members of the Colored Pencil Society of America.

“Many people view a work of art and recollect how they drew when they were younger, but life got in the way. You hear the frustration and wistfulness in their voice,” Howard said. “Or they’re recently retired, or are empty-nesters and have the time to pursue art but don’t know where to begin. Or they think they have no creative abilities so don’t even try. In this presentation, Doreen and I will give ideas and resources to help people jump-start their art journey.”

Howard earned a bachelor’s degree in art and a bachelor’s in math and computer science from Truman State University and master’s in computer science



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

“Cricket Time” is one of artist Denise Howard’s creations.

from Ohio State, focused on computer graphics. She is one of the developers of iPhoto at Apple, and earned movie credits on “Antz” and “Shrek” at PDI/Dreamworks.

With little time or energy to pursue her art, Howard said it took more than 25 years before she recommitted to her passion. She is a member of the UK Colored Pencil Society and has Master Pencil Artist Status with the Pencil Art Society. Her book “101 Textures in Colored Pencil” (Quarto Publishing, 2017) is available for purchase in the museum’s store.

Cohen is a retired project manager and former librarian. While she said she has enjoyed artistic expression all her life, for many years she focused primarily on her family and work. Upon retirement, she devoted more

time to artwork, especially fabric art and colored-pencil drawing. She is a member of several art organizations, including the Pacific Art League, the Los Altos Art Club and ArtVenturers.

“Art is therapeutic on so many levels, from general life satisfaction to good mental health,” Howard said. “It’s important to get creativity back in your life again.”

Howard and Cohen’s presentation dovetails with the message of the Annie Knapp Fitz exhibition on display in the museum’s Main Gallery through Feb. 6. Fitz was an avid sketcher who taught herself to paint late in life.

To register for the free program, visit losaltoshistory.org/MakeTimeForArt.

To order Howard’s book, shop online at losaltoshistory.org/shop.

SIGNS

From Page 10

you have an innocent conversation with a man there? Does he stand across the room and stare at you? Are you having to explain or justify yourself and somehow reassure him that it was just a friendly chat and nothing more?

Is he suggesting what to order when you go out? What to wear?

Is he starting to comment on your cooking, the way you keep house, your appearance – your makeup, your weight, for example – and in a way that makes you feel like you are not quite measuring up to his standards?

Is he making more and more decisions about what you do when you spend time together? Are you having less and less of a say, less and less of a voice?

Does he dominate the con-

versation? Does he have to win every debate?

Can you disagree with him and not pay a price for it after?

Does he ever give you the silent treatment? Does he justify it as having to “process” what you’ve said to him? Does it last for hours? Days? Weeks?

If he does or says something that hurts your feelings and you point it out to him, does he apologize, or does he get defensive or angry or turn it back on you, blame you? Do you ever end up apologizing for something he has said or done?

Do you come away from any of your conversations with your head spinning, confused about what just happened? Are you starting to doubt your memory or your perception of how the conversation went?

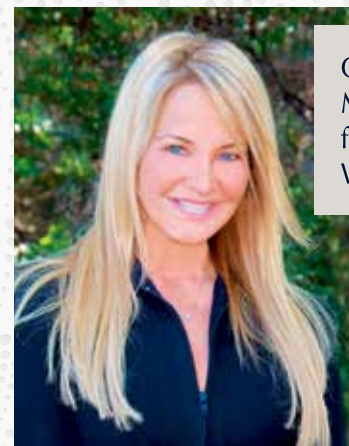
Did you really misinterpret? Did you really rush to judgment? Were you really overre-

acting? Did you really mishear, misunderstand or overanalyze what was said? Has this happened more than once?

That’s when you may want to go back to your secret journal – and right after one of these conversations, jot it down. It’s not any one thing he does that will erode your happiness, your freedom, your self-esteem, your identity. It’s slow. It’s insidious. It’s incremental. It’s death by a thousand cuts.

Part 5 in the series will suggest additional questions to ask to determine whether you are in a controlling relationship.

Ruthven Darlene, M.A., is founder and executive director of WomenSV, a local nonprofit that in the past 10 years has served more than 1,000 survivors of coercive control and covert abuse. For more information, call (833) 966-3678 or visit womensv.org.



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Community

Forum speaker hails Tubman as war hero

By Nancy Ginsburg Gill
Special to the Town Crier

Author Elizabeth Cobbs made a return appearance at the Morning Forum of Los Altos Oct. 5, delivering the presentation “Defender of the Nation: Harriet Tubman and the Civil War” via Zoom,

Cobbs, a prize-winning historian, novelist and documentary filmmaker, is the author of eight books. Her most recent, “The Tubman Command,” is a novel based on the rarely recognized Civil War military service of Tubman. Cobbs has served on the U.S. State Department’s Historical Advisory Committee and on the jury for the Pulitzer Prize.

Cobbs said she was motivated to learn more about Harriet Tubman when Tubman was selected to replace Andrew Jackson on the \$20 bill. She wondered

whether Tubman was worthier of the honor than other notable women, such as Rosa Parks and Susan B. Anthony. Her research inspired her to write a fictionalized account of Tubman, as she learned that Tubman’s contributions to the nation went far beyond what she is most known for: her instrumental role in freeing slaves through the Underground Railroad.

Although ignored by historians as, Cobbs noted, “women’s contributions often are,” Tubman also played a significant role in the Union’s defeat of the Confederacy. In 1862 and 1863, the Union’s prospects looked grim. To weaken the South, Cobbs explained, Lincoln set up the Anaconda Plan, designed to strangle the South by setting up blockades to prevent it from getting supplies and exporting its own goods.

However, once the North established a presence in the South, it needed to find a way to get supplies to its own ships and troops. The rivers of the South were full of alligators and heavily torpedoed. Gen. David Hunter needed help getting intelligence about the location of the torpedoes and enlisted the freed slaves to help the Union cause.

Gov. John Andrews of Massachusetts, aware of Tubman’s abilities as an infiltrator and her stature as a hero to the enslaved, sent her to help. According to Gen. Rufus Saxton, “Tubman was a spy who made many a



Cobbs

See TUBMAN, Page 13



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TUBMAN

From Page 12

raid inside the enemy's lines, displaying remarkable courage, zeal, and fidelity."

Major contributions

Cobbs said evidence shows Tubman was instrumental in the successful assault on Port Royal Island off the South Carolina coast. She used enslaved informants behind enemy lines to obtain maps showing the placement of torpedoes, information that allowed Union boats to safely navigate the southern rivers, destroying rice plantations along the way and freeing hundreds of slaves.

According to Cobbs, Tubman's ability to gain the trust of freed slaves from the rice plantations on the banks of the Combahee River added to the strength of the Union forces and gave former slaves the chance "to feel like men with the dignity to defend their own rights."

Cobb noted that Tubman's remarkable ability to work behind the lines – whether she was leading the enslaved to free-

dom or gathering information that would help Union generals navigate southern rivers safely – was due to her "craftiness." Just 5 feet tall, Tubman concocted great disguises and knew how to evade arrest, Cobbs added, despite widely circulated posters offering large rewards for her capture.

Cobbs said she chose to write about Tubman's contributions to the war effort through fiction, because "fiction allows us to speculate on how the implausible might have occurred and allows our brains to connect to characters and events in ways nonfiction rarely can."

Included in Tubman's application for a war pension were numerous testimonies from Union generals and Secretary of State William Seward on her significant contributions to the war effort. Yet it took more than 30 years for the pension to be granted.

Morning Forum is a members-only lecture series that meets twice a month. For more information on membership, visit morningforum.org/membership.

State drought manager sees arid future

Special to the Town Crier

A California drought expert painted a bleak picture of the state's water future in a presentation to the Los Altos-Mountain View branch of the American Association of University Women via Zoom Oct. 3.

Jeanine Jones, drought manager for California's Department of Water Resources, illustrated the state's growing water deficit with a series of charts showing the gradual warming of the climate, coupled with increased uncertainty about annual rainfall and snowfall patterns.

The history of California's water problems dates back to Gold Rush days, according to Jones, when projects first began to move water resources from where they were abundant to where they were needed.

Historically, regulation lagged behind development. For example, she said, 60% of the state's water needs have been supplied by groundwater aquifers, but not until 2014 were the first statewide regulations imposed on use of the

resources. The ecological impact of shifting water resources was likewise largely ignored until the current century.

The state currently benefits from up-to-date experience in management of water resources and cooperation among water agencies.

"Drought is a slow-moving emergency, and the impacts are local, not statewide," Jones said.

However, she added, the advantages are more than countered by the increase in agricultural and residential demand for water, especially where earlier poor planning has led to land subsidence and increased problems with groundwater supplies to small communities. Generations of unmanaged systems have led to the current situation, Jones said.

Warmer temperatures in the 21st century have amplified the effects of drought, Jones noted. Dry conditions lead to less usable runoff from existing snowmelt. It is probably too late to rescue migratory fish such as salmon,

which depend on cold water from snowmelt to make their way upriver, she said. Catastrophic wildfires also impact usable runoff by damaging existing waterways and infrastructure.

"We would need to have 140% of average precipitation in 2022 to bring usable runoff up to normal level," Jones said.

Because that is unlikely, the state must take action to mitigate anticipated water shortages as soon as possible. People will need to be resilient, Jones advised, and adapt to a world where drought is a normal condition, not a temporary "drought emergency."

In the audience for Jones' talk were several alumnae of AAUW's Tech Trek science camp, held via Zoom over the summer. In a question-and-answer session following her talk, Jones outlined opportunities for youth in STEM areas related to her field, including geology, civil engineering and biology/ecology.

For more information on the local branch of AAUW, visit lamv-ca.aauw.net.

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Special Hearing on

Long COVID

Tune in to hear expert testimony on long COVID (that is, when symptoms continue for more than 12 weeks after a COVID-19 infection) and how you and our County can prepare to address this health concern.

Tuesday, October 26, 2021 from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Watch live or view post-event recording:
district5.sccgov.org/district5events



Community

Community Briefs

E-waste collection set for Saturday

The Cupertino Middle School Parent-Teacher Organization has scheduled a free e-waste collection event 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at Cupertino Middle School, 1650 Bernardo Ave., Sunnyvale.

Accepted recyclables include electronics, wires, cables,

TVs, laptops, desktops, servers, clocks, stereos, power tools, printers, copy and fax machines, monitors, keyboards, vehicle batteries, video cameras, toasters, blenders, rice cookers, coffee makers, and more.

Items not accepted include household batteries, light bulbs, microwaves, tires, large appliances, propane tanks, paint and hazardous waste.

A portion of the proceeds will support the PTO.

Those who want to drop off a TV or monitor must fill out a form.

For the form and more information, email HemaLakhani@intero.com.

Fire district sponsors Hills wildfire fair

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District, in collaboration with the town of Los Altos Hills, is scheduled to host its first wildfire preparedness fair 10 a.m. to

3 p.m. Saturday at town hall, 26379 W. Fremont Road.

The event will include information on evacuating safely, selecting the best disaster insurance coverage, hardening homes and property for wildfire and preparing for power outages.

Presenters will include Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian and representatives from PG&E, the Santa Clara County FireSafe Council, the California Department of Insurance, the

Santa Clara County Fire Department and the Los Altos Hills County Fire District. Members of the fire district's new Teen CERT program are scheduled to demonstrate how to properly use a fire extinguisher.

Participants who visit information booths will earn raffle tickets to win various emergency preparedness items, and those wearing Halloween costumes are eligible for prizes recognizing the best adult, child and family ensembles.

For more information, visit lahcfcd.org.

Hills residents share history of their town

Learn about the many ways Los Altos Hills' southern sector has evolved as members of the town's History Committee deliver their fall presentation virtually Sunday.

"The Tales of Magdalena Road and Ravensbury Avenue" will begin at 2 p.m. and is expected to feature commentary from Donald D. McCauley, Rye and Suzy Smith, Larry Williams, Harry and Karen Emerzian and Jim and Marge Shively. Topics will include the preservation of open space, Hale Creek and the Dawson subdivision.

The presentation's Zoom link is bit.ly/3EUFf1. Use webinar ID 864 3188 9929 and passcode 94022.

Video recordings of past History Committee presentations, including ones about Moody Road and Page Mill Road, are available on the committee's web page at losaltoshills.ca.gov/161/History.

LWV co-hosts talk about divisive issues

The Los Altos-Mountain View League of Women Voters is partnering with the Stanford University Center for Deliberative Democracy to discuss lessons from the America in One Room conference that brought together a diverse group of 523 Americans to address in a civil manner some of the most divisive issues in the U.S. The Zoom event is scheduled 7 p.m. Oct. 28.

James Fishkin and Alice Sui from Stanford will talk about the deliberative democracy process and what they have learned about discussing polarizing issues in a structured, civil manner. Event participants will share how the deliberative methods might be used to address divisive topics in the

See BRIEFS, Page 15



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Middle School (6th-8th) - 6:30pm
Kindergarten - 7:00pm
Elementary (1st-5th) - 7:30pm

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2021 National Blue Ribbon School



Community

BRIEFS From Page 14

local community.

“Over the last few years, we have seen polarization around local issues just as we have at the national level,” said Lisa McLain, local LWV vice president. “People need to be able to talk to one another to solve problems, and we are hoping this event will spark ideas about how we can work through contentious issues in a more collaborative, positive way.”

To register and for more information, visit lwvlamv.org/league-news/lessons-from-america-in-one-room.

Garden Club hosts horticulturist Reyes

The Garden Club of Los Altos is scheduled to host a presentation by horticulturist Rizanino “Riz” Reyes 1 p.m. Tuesday at its monthly Zoom meeting.

An early curiosity about fruits and flowers turned Reyes, originally from the Philippines, into an award-winning garden designer and avid plantsman in the Pacific Northwest.

His interest led him to start a small specialty nursery, get involved with various horticultural organizations around the country and earn a bachelor’s degree in environmental horticulture from the University of

Washington, where he worked at the Botanic Garden’s Center for Urban Horticulture.

On the side, Reyes supports and collaborates with local cut-flower growers for his unique floral designs for special occasions and seasonal events. He is

also a regular speaker and writer for various local and national organizations and publications.

“Horticulture is a collaboration of science and art,” Reyes said. “I’ve always liked art, and the science kicked in because of my curiosity about how plants

grow and function. To have the two come together is incredible.”

For details on club membership, email GCLAmembership@gmail.com.

For more information on club programs and activities, visit thegardencluboflosaltos.org.

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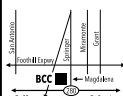
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Stepping Out

CSMA presents free concert by pianist Schmitt

Town Crier Report

The Community School of Music and Arts welcomes a live audience Saturday as faculty member Axel Schmitt completes his quest to play the complete piano sonatas of Beethoven.

The free concert, slated 7:30 p.m. in Tateuchi Hall, consists of Beethoven's final three sonatas, his farewell to the genre.

"They are among his most

personal and enigmatic works," Schmitt said.

Beethoven wrote his 32 piano sonatas between 1795 and 1822. As a set, they are known to comprise one of the most important collections of works in the history of music.

"While many pianists have dreamed of performing all 32 Beethoven sonatas, few have had the opportunity or drive to make that dream a reality," said Carrie Campbell, direc-

tor of Finn Center programs at CSMA. "It is an almost unimaginable task, even for Dr. Schmitt's musical colleagues at CSMA."

Schmitt has performed as a concerto soloist, recitalist and chamber musician throughout the U.S., Europe and Russia.

The concert also will be livestreamed at youtu.be/eSzV_PJxQ28.

For more information on the concert, visit arts4all.org.

Picnic honoring TheatreWorks' Kelley set for Sunday

Town Crier Report

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley invites the community to "Sunday in the Park with Kelley," an outdoor public picnic celebrating TheatreWorks founding artistic director Robert Kelley. The event is set for 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday at the Montalvo Arts Center, 15400 Montalvo Road, Saratoga.

Kelley retired from the helm of TheatreWorks in June 2020, ending one of the longest tenures of an artistic director in American theater. Under his guidance, TheatreWorks has been singled out for many local and national awards, includ-

ing the 2019 Regional Theatre Tony Award.

Picnic attendees will have the opportunity to meet or reconnect with fellow actors, co-workers and audience members; sample cuisine from food trucks; explore a "Kelley Museum" of memorabilia; play games; and experience performances honoring Kelley.

Tickets range from \$50 (general admission) to \$500. Proceeds support TheatreWorks productions, including a staging of the musical "Ragtime" that Kelley will guest direct in June.

For tickets and more information, call 463-7112 or visit theatreworks.org/special-events.

LAYT's 'Descendants' musical opens Friday night at Bus Barn

Town Crier Report

Los Altos Youth Theatre's fall production, "Disney's Descendants: The Musical," is scheduled to open Friday and run through Oct. 31 at Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave.

Based on the popular Disney Channel series "Descendants," the show is a new musical comedy featuring beloved characters and hit songs from the films.

The story begins in the present-day kingdom of Auradon, where all of Disney's well-known heroes and royalty are living happily ever after – safe from the terrifying villains and troublesome sidekicks they have banished to the magic-free Isle of the Lost. That is, until Ben, the benevolent teenage son of Belle and King Adam (The Beast), offers a chance at redemption for the troublemaking offspring of the evilest villains – Mal, Evie, Jay and Carlos.

These children of Maleficent, the Evil Queen, Cruella De Vil and Jafar are welcomed to Auradon Prep to attend school with the children of their parents' sworn enemies. Now entering a completely foreign world and way of life, the four villain kids have a difficult choice to make: Should they follow in their parents' wicked footsteps or learn to be good?

Gary Ferguson, Los Altos Stage Company's education director, directs the musical, which features two casts (Evil and Wicked) of actors ages 12-18.

Shows are set for 7 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. The Evil cast performs Friday through Oct. 29; the Wicked cast takes the stage Oct. 30 and 31. The 7 p.m. performances Oct. 29 and 30 will be livestreamed.

Tickets are \$15 (students and seniors) and \$20 (adults) for in-person performances, and \$20 per device for the livestreams.

For tickets and more information, call 941-0551 or visit tinyurl.com/xxf2fwce.

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Puzzles Page

Town Crier Crossword

By Myles Mellor

Across

- 1. Snakes
- 5. Nutty Los Altos school**
- 11. Sports figures
- 13. Massaged
- 14. Musical sound related
- 15. Guts
- 16. Farmer's garb
- 18. Ocean's _____, Clooney film
- 19. Two pipped card
- 24. All together
- 26. New Main St. Taqueria**
- 31. Sense of taste
- 32. Juice offering
- 34. "A house _____ a home"
- 35. Metamorphic rock
- 40. Contestant, non-placers
- 42. "Ta-ta!"
- 47. Pierced body part, sometimes
- 48. Hero sandwich
- 49. Drive
- 50. Give new title to
- 51. Drops the ball

Down

- 1. Apropos of
- 2. Kitchen appliance
- 3. Discussion members
- 4. Goggle
- 5. Landers and others
- 6. _____ Paul, popular guitarist
- 7. Printemps month
- 8. Occasional
- 9. Formerly named
- 10. Dentist qualification
- 12. Croat, e.g.
- 13. Clay cookers
- 17. Lead line
- 19. Modern courtroom evidence
- 20. Aquarium denizen
- 21. "Pulp Fiction" star, Thurman
- 22. Mouse catcher
- 23. Compass heading
- 25. Some tournaments
- 26. Evidence collectors
- 27. Gilbert and Sullivan's "_____ Pinafore"
- 28. Particle physicist's particle

- 29. Murmur
- 30. Hall-of-Famer Mel
- 33. Aleut abode
- 36. Very long periods of time
- 37. All worked up
- 38. Coupon clipper
- 39. Contemptuous look
- 40. Governmental appointee
- 41. Some cameras, for short
- 42. Municipal facility: Abbr.
- 43. Shed item
- 44. Coastal bird
- 45. Antipollution org.
- 46. "The One I Love" band

– Los Altos clues **bolded.**

Answers
to puzzles
on Page 36

1	2	3	4				5	6	7	8	9	10
11				12		13						
14						15						
16						17						
	18							19	20	21	22	23
						24		25				
26	27	28	29	30			31					
32							33					
34							35		36	37	38	39
							40					41
42	43	44	45	46				47				
48								49				
50									51			

Sudoku

By Myles Mellor and Susan Flanagan

Each Sudoku puzzle consists of a 9X9 grid that has been subdivided into nine smaller grids of 3X3 squares. To solve the puzzle each row, column and box must contain each of the numbers 1 to 9. Puzzles come in three grades: easy, medium and difficult. Level: Medium

		6		8	5			
7		9	4		3			
	4	8	6			7		
					2			5
								6
4	7	3				1		
		4	3					
	5						6	
3				5	4		9	

Find A Word

Z	S	W	R	Y	R	Q	E	Q	P	N	O	T	V	F
Z	E	A	C	B	P	G	H	G	X	M	J	L	B	B
S	V	L	O	C	V	O	C	E	S	W	E	L	L	T
N	A	R	Y	B	U	J	L	M	T	F	A	M	W	I
A	W	U	T	O	Z	A	N	D	G	R	S	Y	W	D
E	V	S	U	V	H	M	O	A	O	H	K	E	V	E
C	O	O	Q	W	W	H	J	C	A	L	P	F	A	S
O	Q	H	P	C	D	Y	E	R	Q	R	P	H	N	S
Q	I	X	H	R	U	F	K	T	J	P	X	H	H	G
O	I	H	S	H	O	R	E	L	I	N	E	W	I	L
L	S	H	R	V	R	N	R	S	V	C	S	J	C	N
M	K	L	P	B	T	Q	G	E	L	V	R	T	C	L
R	S	E	A	A	N	E	M	O	N	E	D	E	D	C
P	R	T	K	E	V	J	A	U	P	T	D	R	S	K
Q	R	G	J	J	S	D	F	D	D	Q	S	F	Q	T

Fifteen words related to the sea and sea creatures are listed by this puzzle. They may go across, up and down or diagonally in the puzzle. Circle each one when you find it.

- Coral
- Seals
- Waves
- Whale
- Crest
- Seas
- Shark
- Shoreline
- Dolphin
- Swell
- Tides
- Walrus
- Currents
- Sea anemone

Sports

Sports on the Side

Montoya trains with U-20 national team

Mountain View High senior **Allie Montoya** has been invited to train with the U.S. under-20 women's national soccer team this week in Southern California. The Los Altos resident was among 28 players selected for the eight-day camp at the Elite Athlete Training Center in Chula Vista, where the team is preparing for next year's FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup in Costa Rica.

Cycle of Hope event set for Sunday in PA

Virtual last year, Habitat for Humanity East Bay/Silicon Valley's Cycle of Hope – the nonprofit's annual cycling fundraiser – returns as an in-person event Sunday at the former Hewlett-Packard campus, 3000 Hanover St., Palo Alto. Riders of all levels are welcome; heats range from those for century riders (starting at 7 a.m.) to kids (1:30 p.m.). Music, refreshments, games and exhibitor booths will await the cyclists on their return to the finish line. Those who are not comfortable riding with a large group may participate on their own virtually and even run, walk or hike, if they prefer. Registration starts at \$25. To register and for more information, visit tinyurl.com/4bypcvkd.

LAHS sports boosters open pumpkin patch

The Los Altos High School Athletic Boosters Pumpkin Patch is now open. Hours of operation are 2-6 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends through Oct. 29. It is located in the far corner of the student parking lot. Proceeds benefit Los Altos High athletics.

Los Altos High seeks coaches

Los Altos High needs coaches for wrestling, diving and badminton. To apply, email athletic director **Michelle Noeth** at michelle.noeth@mvla.net.

LA avenges league loss to rival MV

By **Pete Borello**
Staff Writer/peteb@latc.com

The Los Altos High girls volleyball team last week snapped Mountain View's 12-matching winning streak, which began with back-to-back victories against the rival Eagles a month ago.

Swept in those previous two meetings, Los Altos returned the favor Oct. 12. The host Eagles prevailed 25-16, 25-21, 25-19.

"We came out pretty motivated and focused," Los Altos coach Peter Kim said. "I'm very proud of how we played."

Carolyn Dormady and Leigh Doyas notched nine kills each for the Eagles, with Doyas doing so on just 10 attempts. Fellow senior Emma Symon added eight kills in the SCVAL De Anza Division match.

Along with her 17 assists, junior Megan Wong contributed five aces; Los Altos scored 14 points with her serving.

"They served really well, got us out of system a lot, causing our hitters to take some poor swings," Mountain View coach Dave Winn said of the Eagles, who totaled 12 aces.

Tessa Hunter led the Spartans with eight kills, while Andisheh



R. ALAN HWANG/TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Los Altos High senior Leigh Doyas, reaching to strike the ball in a match last month, recorded nine kills in 10 attempts against rival Mountain View last week. The Eagles won in straight sets.

Turner compiled seven kills, two blocks and eight assists.

The loss, coupled with Thursday's four-set setback versus Palo Alto, dropped Mountain View to 7-3 in the De Anza (second place) and 20-4 overall. Los Altos, which didn't play Thursday, improved to 6-3 in the division (third place) and went to 21-12 overall after going 3-2 in Saturday's Spikefest II tournament at Independence.

"Hopefully, we're clicking at

the right time," said Kim, whose squad has won 11 of its last 14 matches. "We're more of a cohesive team right now. We have a better understanding, including the coaches, of the makeup of this team. They've put in the work, and it's paying off."

While the Eagles – who visit Monta Vista at 7 p.m. today – seem to be finding their footing, the Spartans are trying not to slip further in the league standings. **See VOLLEYBALL, Page 22**

Eagles trending upward in tennis; LA golfers still unbeaten

By **Pete Borello**
Staff Writer/peteb@latc.com

For the Los Altos High girls tennis team, that 0-2 league start must seem like eons ago. The Eagles have since won six straight SCVAL De Anza Division matches and find themselves second in the league standings.

"Second place is a great feat," coach Hung Nguyen said. "We're kind of hitting our stride."

While Los Altos isn't likely to catch league-leading Cupertino – the Pioneers' 8-0 record includes a win over the Eagles – the team seems well on its way to a berth in the Central Coast Section playoffs. Los Altos entered this second-to-last week of the regular season with a 12-6 overall record.

"(We're) gearing up for a possible spot in CCS now," Nguyen said after Thursday's 5-2 win over Saratoga.

The Eagles bolstered their postseason chances with a solid showing at the Battle of the Bay tournament, held Oct. 9 and 10. They



MAL TAAM/TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Los Altos High junior Madison Chin, facing Mountain View in September, won her rematch against the Spartans at No. 4 singles earlier this month.

went 3-1 at the tourney, which pitted teams from the CCS against those from the North Coast Section.

"It was brutal," Nguyen said of the competition. "I'm proud of the girls; they battled really hard."

Los Altos first beat Foothill and then lost

Los Altos wins shortened game against Saratoga

By **Pete Borello**
Staff Writer/peteb@latc.com

The Los Altos High football team Thursday won its second shortened game of what's shaping up to be a strange season for the Eagles, who have also had to reshuffle their schedule several times because of COVID-related postponements.

Football Roundup

Thursday's game at Saratoga ended with 1:42 left in the first half – with the Eagles up 28-0 – after a defensive player on the Falcons suffered a leg injury severe enough to require an ambulance.

"It was the right call," Los Altos coach Dave DeGeronimo said of Saratoga's decision to stop play.

Already undermanned, the Falcons proved no match for Los Altos from the start. The Eagles scored on their first four drives and never allowed a first down.

"The execution was there," DeGeronimo said. "Things were clicking (Thursday) night."

Los Altos' first drive began at the Falcons' 41 – thanks to a shanked punt that netted 5 yards – and the Eagles needed only three plays to score. Mingsang Park ran for 18 yards on first down, Greg **See FOOTBALL, Page 23**

Prep Sports Summary

to Amador Valley before picking up wins versus Redwood and Monte Vista of Danville.

Nguyen said standouts for the Eagles included "the doubles, as usual," along with singles players Miu Kikuchi and Madison Chin, who play the third and fourth singles spots, respectively.

Chin also played a crucial role in Los Altos' win over rival Mountain View two days before the event.

"She was the key," Nguyen said of the Eagles' 5-2 victory against a Spartans squad that edged the Eagles 4-3 last month. "She won a close match against Hannah Rutherford, who hadn't lost all year."

Chin also won her match Thursday against visiting Saratoga. Los Altos' other wins came from No. 1 singles player Samantha Wallace, No. 2 player Melody Ghaffari, along with the **See SUMMARY, Page 22**

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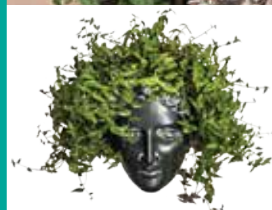
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Sports

SUMMARY

From Page 21

No. 2 doubles team of Isabelle Baker and Rose Liu and the No. 3 duo of sisters Emma and Cate Boschken.

The Eagles host Homestead 4 p.m. Thursday.

Girls golf

Los Altos capped an undefeated regular season with convincing wins over Santa Clara and Cupertino last week. The Eagles claimed the SCVAL El Camino Division title with a 10-0 mark and improved to 13-0 overall.

Los Altos subdued Santa Clara 240-296 Oct. 12 and crushed Cupertino 214-274 Thursday.

Senior Sophie Thai earned medalist honors both days at Bay View Country Club, shooting a 2-over-par 38 against Santa Clara, despite what coach Abe Roof called "strong, cold wind" and an even-par 36 versus Cupertino.

Cross-country

Four days after setting a school record in a league meet at Crystal Springs, the Los Altos girls entered the record book again. Competing at the Clovis Invitational Oct. 9, the Eagles ran the Woodward Park course in school-record time.

The team's time of 96 minutes, 55 seconds broke the previous school mark – set eight years ago – by 3:26.

Selected to compete in the meet's elite Championship Division, the Eagles placed 15th out of 21 teams.

"It was a tough challenge, but the girls stepped up and all ran personal bests for 5K," said Los Altos coach Steph MacKenzie, who added that the division featured some of the nation's best teams.

Riley Capuano paced the Eagles with a 37th-place time of 18:31. Three other Eagles also finished in the top 100: Fiona Bodkin (81st, 19:19), Jasleen Sidhu (95th, 19:38) and Maddy Randall (97th, 19:38).



R. ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Mountain View High's Andisheh Turner goes for the kill against Palo Alto Thursday.

VOLLEYBALL

From Page 21

Winn said the home loss to Paly – a squad Mountain View beat in four sets last month – was "a good wake-up call that we need to take care of the serve/pass game better in future matches if we're going to be more competitive against the teams we'll face in the playoffs."

The Spartans have a bye Thursday and wrap up league play by hosting first-place Los Gatos (8-0, 20-6) 6:45 p.m. Tuesday.

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Sports

FOOTBALL

From Page 21

Schumann picked up 3 on second and then Zach Fagin beat one-on-one coverage to catch a 20-yard pass from Jimmy Flynn in the back of the end zone.

Schumann scored Los Altos' next touchdown on an 11-yard run set up by Park, who dodged defenders on his 20-yard scamper.

Saratoga fumbled away its next possession, with Los Altos taking over at the 22. A play later, Park raced down the left sideline – untouched – for the rushing TD.

Still in the first quarter, Cole Rafferty ended the Falcons' next drive with a diving interception at their 25. Park tore off a 20-yard run on first down, Schumann went for 3 on second and then Park punched the ball across the goal line from 2 yards out on the first play of the second quarter.

The win boosted Los Altos' record to 3-0 in the SCVAL El Camino Division and 4-2 overall.

The Eagles, whose opener at Independence ended in the first quarter due to poor air quality, rescheduled games against Fremont and San Lorenzo Valley last month because those teams had positive COVID tests. Los Altos faced Fremont Monday (after the Town Crier's deadline) and hosts SLV at 1:30 p.m. Saturday.

Spartans falter late

Mountain View's defense got gashed for the second time in three weeks, allowing a late touchdown Friday that enabled host Homestead to prevail 49-45.

"You rarely score 45 and lose," Spartans coach Shelley Smith said. "It was one of those nights."

The Mustangs' winning score came with just more than a minute to play on Charlie Castaneda's screen pass to Evan Blandini, who took it 40 yards to the end zone.

Mountain View, missing two starting linebackers, also struggled to stop Homestead's run game. The Mustangs piled up 380 yards rushing. Two weeks earlier, the Spartans gave up 444 yards rushing to Wilcox in a 42-27 loss.

"We've got to regroup," said Smith, whose team sank to 2-2 in the SCVAL De Anza Division and 5-3 overall. "We're running on fumes, not having a bye yet, but we'll be all right."

Mountain View's offense was more than all right Friday, amassing 454 yards. Leo Navarro rushed for 191 yards and three scores; Jackson Steffen threw for 172 yards, completing TD passes to Joe Brown, Drake Wilkening and Chris Barmore.

The Spartans host Palo Alto (1-2, 3-4) at 7 p.m. Friday.

SF crushes Crusaders

Host St. Francis routed Rior-dan 33-0 Friday to stay unbeaten in the West Catholic Athletic League (4-0) and overall (6-0).

Viliani Teu rushed for 123 yards and a touchdown, and Ernesto Sanchez and Andrew Adkison each caught a TD pass. Andrew Carrasquillo returned an interception 38 yards for a score.

St. Francis faces rival Bellarmine (2-2, 5-2) 7 p.m. Friday at San Jose City College.

Prep sports schedule for Oct. 20-26

Football

Friday
Palo Alto at Mountain View, 7 p.m.
St. Francis vs. Bellarmine at San Jose City College, 7 p.m.
Saturday
Pinewood at Crystal Springs Uplands, 1 p.m.
San Lorenzo Valley at Los Altos, 1:30 p.m.

Girls volleyball

Today
Eastside Prep at Pinewood, 4 p.m.
Los Altos at Monta Vista, 6:45 p.m.
Thursday
Pinewood at Crystal Springs Upland, 4 p.m.
St. Francis at Mitty, 6 p.m.

Friday
Los Altos at Los Gatos, 6:45 p.m.
Tuesday
Pinewood at Castilleja, 4 p.m.
Presentation at St. Francis, 6 p.m.
Los Gatos at Mountain View (senior night), 6:45 p.m.

Girls tennis

Today
Palo Alto vs. Mountain View at Los Altos, 4 p.m.
Pinewood at Cupertino, 4 p.m.
Thursday
Presentation vs. St. Francis at Cuesta

Park, 2:45 p.m.
Homestead at Los Altos, 4 p.m.
Tuesday
Valley Christian vs. St. Francis at Cuesta Park, 2:45 p.m.
Los Altos at Palo Alto, 4 p.m.
Pinewood at Mercy-Burlingame, 4 p.m.
Mountain View at Cupertino, 4 p.m.

Boys water polo

Today
St. Francis at Bellarmine, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday
Los Altos at Harker, 6:45 p.m.
Mountain View at Gunn, 6:45 p.m.

Girls water polo

Today
Presentation at St. Francis, 6:30 p.m.
Thursday
Los Altos at Harker, 3:30 p.m.
Mountain View at Gunn, 3:30 p.m.

Field hockey

Thursday
Los Altos at St. Francis, 4 p.m.
Tuesday
St. Francis vs. St. Ignatius at Fairmont Field (Pacifica), 4 p.m.

Cross-country

Today
St. Francis in WCAL Meet No. 2 at Baylands Park (Sunnyvale), 2 p.m.

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Colorful Creations program uses art to teach students mindfulness

By Anika Nambisan

The Taarika Foundation, a local nonprofit that focuses on mental health in children and adolescents, recently gathered students for a back-to-school tie-dyeing event, an activity aimed at melding art and mindfulness.

The Taarika Foundation's main objective of "Supporting the Whole Child" was accomplished in this event. The foundation conducted a number of Mindfulness Workshops and seminars to teach stress management tools, including Mindfulness for Teens and Parents, over the past three years.

To teach the skill of mindfulness to young children, the Taarika Foundation launched the program Colorful Creations, using art as a medium to teach mindfulness. The program included a Bake-Along Workshop last Christmas, where the kids made Christmas ornament cupcakes, followed by a Mindful Dancing Workshop, a Painting Workshop and the Back-to-School Tie-Dye Masks and Book Bag event, which took place in August at Portal Park in Cupertino.

While becoming more widespread across the western hemisphere, the practice of mindfulness

See ART, Page 26

Student Voices



PHOTOS COURTESY OF TAARIKA FOUNDATION

A family, top, works on the Taarika Foundation's tie-dyeing project, decorating face masks, above.

'Ask a PT' helps facilitate communication

By Kim Gladfelter

At PhysioFit, I'm always looking for opportunities to better serve our community. That's why I'm excited to announce that my team and I are launching a free communitywide event, "Ask a PT – Q&A Friday," Nov. 5.

I want as many people as possible who are interested in this educational opportunity to join in – and I want to make sure you get the most out of any opportunity you have to learn from a health-care provider.

"Ask a PT" is a live monthly Zoom session hosted by PhysioFit Physical Therapy & Wellness. Our goal is to provide a convenient opportunity for people to speak with and learn from a board-certified physical therapist about various health-related topics – from the comfort of their own homes. When you join our Q&A Friday

Staying Active

sessions, you can expect practical info provided in a private and welcoming environment.

These virtual sessions will be held on the first Friday of every month. Sessions are free, but pre-registration is required and space is limited. Each month, we'll feature a different discussion topic, but participants are welcome to ask any PT-related questions on their minds.

For our first session in November, we'll be discussing pelvic floor dysfunction and urinary incontinence. The session is ideal for anyone who is:

- Frustrated with urinary incontinence.
- Confused about what can be done to stop this embarrassing problem.

- Tired of missing out on the activities they love because they're afraid of having an "accident."

- Convinced that there's nothing they can do about urinary incontinence and will just have to learn to live with it.

- Ready to heal their pelvic floor and learn how to end pelvic floor dysfunction for good.

Conversing with providers

Our upcoming Q&A sessions offer opportunities to ask questions. Have you ever gone to a health-care provider's visit and then completely blanked when your doctor asked if you had any questions? Have you ever left a consultation, check-up or appointment feeling like you missed an opportunity to voice a concern? Believe me: I have, too.

See ASK, Page 27

Pink Ribbon Girls provide free resources, support to breast cancer patients

By Angela Tam
Staff Writer/angelat@latc.com

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and the nonprofit Pink Ribbon Girls continues to support breast cancer patients, even amid the chaotic COVID-19 pandemic.

Pink Ribbon Girls is a national organization dedicated to serving patients and families as they undergo treatment for breast or gynecological cancers, including cervical, ovarian, uterine, vaginal and vulvar. The local chapter – Pink Ribbon Girls Bay Area – covers the area from San Francisco to San Jose, providing free nutritious meals, rides to treatment, housecleaning services, cancer education and peer support.

According to Los Altos Hills resident Julie Arnheim, director of strategy and development for Pink Ribbon Girls, the group serves patients at all local hospitals, including El Camino Health, Valley Medical Center, Stanford and Kaiser Permanente.

Pink Ribbon Girls offers two programs aimed at different stages of breast or gynecological cancers: Simply Fight serves early-stage patients, and No

Age, No Stage supports those in treatment for late-stage cancers.

The pandemic, predictably, has thrown a wrench in Pink Ribbon Girls' event planning and presented additional challenges for the team, which launched locally two years ago.

"We had started around July of 2019, and I was brought on in January 2020," Arnheim said. "By March, we were shut down, so it really was challenging to figure out how to make sure we expand our reach, because lots of cancer patients are immunocompromised and highly vulnerable to COVID, so we wanted to make sure we reached as many people as possible."

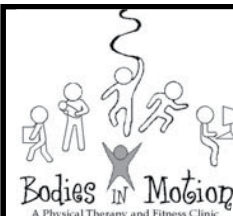
In 2020, Pink Ribbon Girls Bay Area served approximately 10,559 meals and provided an estimated 1,300 rides to cancer appointments, Arnheim said. As of Aug. 28, she added, the local organization had already surpassed its 2020 numbers, delivering more than 15,000 meals and 1,400 rides, highlighting the great need for services and support for cancer patients.

A client's story

Kerstin Belnap is one of many cancer patients Pink Ribbon

See CANCER, Page 27

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Your Health

How to find plan 'perks' during Open Enrollment

By Rebecca Madsen
Special to the Town Crier

When it comes to health benefits, many people often think about the financial protection provided in the event of a serious medical issue, illness or accident. While that is a valuable aspect of having major medical coverage, some health plans also may offer a slew of other resources that can contribute to well-being and financial fitness.

That's why it is important for people to research their health plan options during this fall's Open Enrollment season, the time when individuals can select or switch their health benefits for 2022. While 82% of people responding to a recent UnitedHealthcare survey said they are prepared for Open Enrollment, more than one-quarter (28%) spend less than one hour researching their health benefit options.

Depending on the plans available, people may be able to access health plan "perks" that are potentially overlooked during the enrollment process. Here are several benefits, programs or discounts to look for when considering health plans for next year.

- **Digital fitness apps.** The COVID-19 pandemic has prompted some people to avoid public gyms due to potential

exposure risks to the coronavirus, contributing to a surge in the popularity of at-home fitness routines. In fact, 30% of Americans surveyed said they had used a digital fitness app as part of their fitness regimen since COVID emerged. To help more people access live and on-demand workouts virtually, some health plans now include subsidized subscriptions to digital fitness apps, in some cases giving yearlong access at no additional cost.

- **Wearable devices.** Many U.S. employers offer well-being programs, some of which include financial incentives for healthy activities such as completing walking goals, going to the gym or meeting certain health benchmarks – for example, cholesterol levels, body mass index or non-nicotine use. To help encourage participation, some health plans provide members with a wearable device – such as a smartwatch or an activity tracker – at no additional cost. By using the device and meeting specific daily activity goals, such as for walking, biking, swimming or strength training, people may earn more than \$1,000 per year in financial incentives to help cover out-of-pocket medical expenses.

- **Physical therapy and chiropractic care.** Approximately 80% of people experience low-

back problems at least once, with pain ranging from a minor nuisance to a major disability. As a first course of treatment, the American College of Physicians recommends exercise-based therapies followed by non-surgical options such as physical therapy and chiropractic care. With that in mind, some health plans waive usual deductibles or co-pays for some of these non-surgical options for new onset low-back pain, to help improve access to this type of care while potentially avoiding often unnecessary – and expensive – treatments, such as imaging or surgery.

Health-care Open Enrollment usually occurs during a two-week period in the fall; for people enrolled in Medicare, enrollment runs from Oct. 15 to Dec. 7, and for most individual state exchanges, Open Enrollment is from Nov. 1 to Jan. 15.

By looking for and using these potentially overlooked benefits and resources, people can help maximize the value of their health plan, support well-being and save money.

To determine access to these programs, people can check with their company's HR department or directly with their health plan.

Rebecca Madsen is chief consumer officer for UnitedHealthcare.

ART

From Page 25

has always been prominent in activities that people tend to overlook, such as art. Mindfulness-based art incorporates the practice of mindfulness while doing art. While the painters, or in this case the tie-dyers, are immersing themselves in the art, the creative activity eases the artist into a space of absorption, concentration and flow.

Getting into this mind space simulates the same experience as meditation; therefore, art can be naturally mindful. Even if you have no formal experience with meditation, and you find it difficult to calm your mind, art would be a great medium not only to express yourself, but to enhance your capacity for concentration, tranquility and inner peace.

What are the long-term effects of practicing this

mindfulness-based art? Over time, practicing mindful art can decrease anxiety levels, reduce stress, improve your mood and raise your self-esteem. Incorporating mindfulness into art can even lead to more fulfilling personal relationships and help you develop compassion in yourself as well as for others. During therapy, mindfulness is even used to treat patients recovering from eating disorders, substance abuse (used as a relapse prevention), depressive disorders, stress-related issues and anger-related issues.

In addition, participating in art at a younger age has proven to affect the development of the brain in positive ways.

Taarika's tie-dye event was geared toward younger children, and practicing this method of mindfulness through art will make a larger impact the more they do it. An increasing

amount of research supports the idea that mindfully practicing art can improve the brain's function. Art can have a positive effect on the brain's wave patterns, the nervous system and the emotions.

Making art also can boost your serotonin levels. The fine movements often used while making strokes with a paintbrush or coloring in detail can greatly ameliorate the artist's motor skills.

Practicing mindfulness through art is beneficial for all. The Taarika Foundation continues to hold events where mindfulness can be practiced through art, and I encourage everyone to participate.

Anika Nambisan, a student at Pinewood School in Los Altos Hills, is a member of the Taarika Foundation's youth team. For more information, visit taarika.foundation.

Your Health

CANCER From Page 25

Girls Bay Area has assisted. Diagnosed with breast cancer in March 2020, she underwent a mastectomy, chemotherapy and radiation, and is now undergoing hormone treatment. After her initial diagnosis, she was off work for 11 months.

"It's a devastating diagnosis," Belnap said. "It's an awful disease; it's almost like it's evil and it knows how to destroy everything that you care about, and then it kills you."

Without a car, and an inability to afford Uber or Lyft, it would have been extremely difficult for Belnap to get to her medical appointments. However, with Pink Ribbon Girls' help and transportation, she was able to get the treatments she needed.

"They also send you meals every week, which was just marvelous, because I don't live near a grocery store and I can't carry much, so I was pretty much doing all my shopping at 7-11, which isn't very healthy," Belnap said. "But the weekly delivery is really healthy, really delicious meals, and really helped me out a lot."

While there is a lot of compassion and help for cancer patients, as seen in Pink Ribbon Girls, Belnap noted that patients typically have to reach out and speak up. In fact, she said some

of her friends backed away from her after she was diagnosed with breast cancer.

"I think that people don't want to be very involved with somebody who might die, but that's a very difficult thing," Belnap said. "You just have to bear in mind that that might happen, but there are support groups that you can access through your health care."

The American Cancer Society is another valuable support option for cancer patients. Although Belnap said the American Cancer Society does an excellent job serving cancer patients, Pink Ribbon Girls offers help at a more intimate level and proved more accessible in comparison.

How to help

Pink Ribbon Girls Bay Area is involved in several fundraising endeavors, including its Aug. 28 kick-off gala.

- The San Francisco Chapter of the Ladies Professional Golf Association Amateurs is scheduled to host a golf outing 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday at The Presidio Golf Course, a benefit for Pink Ribbon Girls Bay Area.

- The Sharks Foundation's Hockey Fights Cancer Month,



COURTESY OF JULIE ARNHEIM

Supporters gather for Pink Ribbon Girls' inaugural cancer fundraising gala Aug. 28.

sponsored by Kaiser Permanente, selected Pink Ribbon Girls as the recipient of its 50/50 Raffle Nov. 6, presented by Cache Creek Casino Resort. The Sharks will take on the New Jersey Devils 7:30 p.m. that evening at the SAP Center.

- Organizations can host a Giving Tree for Pink Ribbon Girls, allowing individuals within an organization to donate directly toward meals, rides, housecleaning, peer support and education. People also may sponsor a Simply Fight or No Age, No Stage client.

To donate to the cause, visit pinkribbongirls.org/donate.

For more information on Pink Ribbon Girls, email jarnheim@pinkribbongirls.org or visit pinkribbongirls.org.

ASK From Page 25

The more prepared we are for discussions with our health-care providers, the better prepared we are to advocate for our needs and the more in control we feel over our health.

I like these ideas on getting the most out of your doctor's visit from the National Institute on Aging. Apply these tips to any interaction you have with any provider, including your physical therapist.

1. Think ahead about the most important questions you want to ask. Write them down – and be sure to write down your doctor's answers, too.

2. Stay focused on why you are there. Unfortunately, time is usually limited for patient-provider interactions, so remember the main reason you're seeking professional guidance and stay on topic. At PhysioFit, our patients get 55 minutes of

one-on-one time with their PT during each visit.

3. Be honest with your doctor. Good providers are there to help, not judge. But your provider can't optimally help you if you're not honest about your concerns. It's truly in your best interest to say what's on your mind and not just what you think your doctor wants to hear.

4. Share your point of view about the visit. Give your provider feedback about how your care is going. It helps you advocate for yourself and helps your doctor learn what he or she can do to provide better-quality care.

5. Remember, the doctor may not be able to answer all your questions. But he or she can help direct you to other spe-

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Kim Gladfelter is owner of PhysioFit Physical Therapy & Wellness, 1000 Fremont Ave., Suite 108, Los Altos.



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Treating teen acne takes diligence, trigger troubleshooting

By Marjan Kashi

Teen acne is one of the most common skin conditions, and generally more common in girls than boys.

Two of the most frequently asked questions from clients at our practice: “Why is my teen’s acne treatment not working?” and “Why is my teen’s skin constantly clogged, as she treats it, it clears up and three weeks later her skin is a mess again?”

We’ve got clinical answers. The root cause of teens’ acne lies in their genes – acne is genetic. There are two inherited genetic flaws for those with acneic skin.

The first is retention hyperkeratosis (also known as cell buildup), in which skin cells do not shed as they are supposed to, but rather stick to the skin. The epidermis, or the outer layer of the skin, lines the hair follicles, and wherever there is cell buildup, there is thickening of the stratum corneum and thickening of the follicle wall. By using any type of scrub or exfoliating agent, you

Pure Serenity

are only removing the debris on the surface of the skin and not exfoliating inside the hair follicles, where the problem lies for acne-prone skin.

The second genetic factor is the oiliness of the skin you inherit. The size, shape, productivity and consistency of the oil glands are influenced by hormones. There is no permanent fix for this condition, but it can be controlled with proper treatment and appropriate use of skincare products.

Acne bacteria are anaerobic bacteria that thrive in an oxygen-free environment and are part of the normal flora that lives on the skin. In normal conditions, follicles are irrigated with oxygen and the bacteria don’t have a chance to overgrow. However, hormone fluctuation causes a surge of oil secretion in the follicles. The mixture of dead skin and sebum is very sticky, thus preventing the oxygen from

irrigating the follicles – creating the perfect environment for bacteria to grow and feed off of the mixture and leading to clogged pores.

The bacteria will then produce waste products rich in fatty acids, prompting an inflammatory response causing the follicle wall to rupture. Then, the immune system is activated and white blood cells via the blood stream reach and engulf the follicle. This will give rise to a red bump. White blood cells get in and fight off the bacteria, which leads to pus formation. Stress and hormonal imbalances are the leading cause of this chain reaction.

If after two to three months of treatment the acne shows no signs of clearing, then we highly recommend the client see a dermatologist for further assessment and prescription medication, as it could be a sign of other hormonal disorders.

Acne triggers

What effects does food have on acne? Food can be a major trigger but not a cause. We rec-

ommend a reduction in carbohydrates and dairy products, as they affect the hormones and, as noted above, the overproduction of sebum occurs when hormones are out of balance.

Do makeup and skincare make acne worse? Spreading agents in makeup or skincare can be comedogenic and clog the pores. One popular product people are using these days is coconut oil, which is highly comedogenic. Another is vitamin E in makeup. Vitamin E orally is great because it makes the sebum soft, but avoid using it topically, as it clogs the pores.

Treatments

There are a number of clinical treatments used for acne-prone skin, including HydraFacials and DermaSweep, as well as a variety of peels that will control sebum secretion and skin cell buildup.

The COVID pandemic and covering of the lower face with a mask has created more skin problems than ever before, and

has given rise to acne among teens and student-athletes. Acne mechanica is the leading cause of the breakouts related to masks, with constant friction of the fabric or synthetic material prompting breakouts. The best ways to reduce the inflammation are to use natural cotton fabric masks that are more breathable for the skin, and to wash masks daily with hot water and antibacterial soap.

The more we learn about the nature of acne, the better we can control it, leaving teens with one less thing to worry about.

Los Altos resident Marjan Kashi is a licensed medical esthetician, electrologist and the founder of Pure Serenity Skincare, located at Rancho Shopping

Center. For more information, call 999-7873 or visit pureserenityskincare.com.



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Schools

LAHS student raises money for hygiene products for women in need

By Angela Tam

Staff Writer/angelat@latc.com

Los Altos High School junior Ella Yuen organized a GoFundMe campaign with the goal to distribute feminine hygiene products to women living in shelters. The fundraiser, which kicked off July 18 with a \$1,000 target, recently totaled \$2,022.

The ongoing pandemic has presented problems for homeless women, Yuen said, who often have trouble accessing menstrual supplies and improvise by re-using, buying cheaply made and even creating makeshift sanitary products.

“This can expose them to lots of bacteria, infections and is just overall really detrimental to their health,” Yuen said. “I believe that all women deserve access to these sanitary products so they can feel more comfortable and hygienic in their day-to-day life.”

Dropping the products off at shelters was the most enjoyable and fulfilling aspect of her project, Yuen said, as she was able to

see how happy she made people.

She delivered the first batch of 2,688 feminine products July 28 to three local homeless shelters – HomeFirst Services of Santa Clara County, LifeMoves’ Maple Street Shelter and LifeMoves’ Redwood Family House. She dropped off an additional 1,579 feminine products at LifeMoves’ First Step for Families and LifeMoves’ Haven Family House Aug. 5, and 1,128 at LifeMoves’ Villa Aug. 10.

Despite Yuen’s fundraising success, the campaign was not without its difficulties, as the pandemic presented logistical problems. For instance, many of the shelters she visited didn’t update that their policies or hours had changed, so Yuen had to conduct extra research in the beginning to determine which shelters were open and accepting donations.

Yuen said her family supported her fundraising drive, helping her launch the GoFundMe page and spreading the news via email and word of mouth. Her

See DONATIONS, Page 30



COURTESY OF PATRICK YUEN

Ella Yuen, a junior at Los Altos High School, delivers sanitary products to women in need. Purchase of the supplies was made possible by those who donated to her GoFundMe campaign.

LAHS hosts Fall Music Festival Friday night at Eagle Theatre

Town Crier Report

Los Altos High School’s Instrumental Music Boosters is scheduled to host its annual Fall Music Festival 6-8:30 p.m. Friday at Eagle Theatre on campus, 201 Almond Ave.

The event, which will feature performances by Los Altos High’s bands, orchestras and wind ensemble, is free and open to all.

Middle school students interested in music are encouraged to attend and stop by the “Future Student” table at the event, where they can ask questions, meet current students and pick up a free gift bag.

The performance schedule for the evening:

- 6:30 p.m.: Symphonic Band (Eagle Theatre)
- 6:50 p.m.: String Orchestra (Eagle Theatre)
- 7:20 p.m.: Marching Band and Color Guard (Football Field)
- 8:00 p.m.: Chamber Orchestra (Eagle Theatre)
- 8:20 p.m.: Wind Ensemble (Eagle Theatre)

The festival, a fundraiser for the Instrumental Music Boosters, includes a bake sale and silent auction. Masks will be required to attend indoor performances at the Eagle Theatre. Capacity is limited to 50%.



COURTESY OF RAASHINA HUMAYUN

Los Altos High School musicians will perform Friday night.

MVLA board hears updates on construction, COVID-19 mask requirements at meeting

By Angela Tam

Staff Writer/angelat@latc.com

Phase II of construction to build new Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District facilities is underway.

The district’s board of trustees Oct. 12 received a progress report on the project, paid for with the \$295 million Measure E bond passed by voters in 2018.

According to Superintendent Nellie Meyer, projects in Phase II include:

- New Student services buildings at Mountain View and Los Altos high schools, with estimated completion in March 2023.
- New auxiliary gymnasiums at Mountain View and Los Altos highs, with estimated completion this month for Los Altos High and next September for Mountain View High
- New classrooms and labs for Freestyle Academy of Communications Arts & Technology,

with construction expected to wrap up in October 2022.

- Installation of new synthetic, drought-resistant turf fields, with the projects completed at Los Altos High in November and Mountain View High in December.

Meyer said Phase III projects are scheduled to begin next fall, which include modernizing, upgrading and improving capacity in various spaces.

Phase I – which resulted in new classroom buildings, STEM labs at each campus and repairs to existing buildings – was completed over the summer.

County’s COVID-19 recommendations

Meyer updated the board on Santa Clara County’s recently released criteria for ending indoor mask requirements.

Meyer said the county issued three requirements that must be met before lifting the mandate. The county must:

- Remain at least three weeks

in the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s moderate COVID-19 transmission tier.

- Maintain low and stable COVID hospitalization rates.
- Have 80% of the jurisdiction’s total population be fully vaccinated.

To reach 80% vaccination as recommended, children under age 12 would have to be vaccinated as well, Meyer noted.

“Until the vaccination for them comes out, we’re probably still going to be waiting on the ability to end some of the mask requirements,” she said. “Right now, we are anxiously awaiting the ability to see young people between the ages of 5 and 11 vaccinated, and we’re hoping that will help adjust some of the things that we have to work with.”

Update on district’s College Now! program

Trustees last week also discussed College Now!, an early college program for high school

See MVLA, Page 30

Schools

Students from several local schools named semifinalists in annual National Merit Scholarship Program

Town Crier Report

Students from local high schools recently earned semifinalist honors in the 67th annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

A total of 16,000 semifinalists were named nationally, and all have the opportunity to compete in the spring for 7,500 scholarships worth nearly \$30 million.

To be considered for a Merit Scholarship, semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the finalist level of the competition. Approximately 95% of semifinalists are expected to attain finalist standing,

and an estimated half of the finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title.

High school juniors entered the 2022 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2020 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test, which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of semifinalists, representing less than 1% of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

Local semifinalists:

• **Los Altos High:** Lillian R. Aronovitz, Isabelle K. Baker, Helen V. Branson, Gavin Cart-

ier, Cedric Wayne S. Chan, Justin T. Chou, Esha Gupta, Henry Huang, Arhan Jain, Jade J. Lu, Derek F. Meng, Tara S. Pande, Akilan Rammohan, Yvo S. Sandjideh, Richard Shi, Alexander Y. Shkolnikov, Natasha S. Tanabe, Dylan M. Tran, Ada D. Tur, Jeannette Wang, Joshua Yin and Jerry H. Ying

• **Mountain View High:**

Sonav Agarwal, Aiden Cheng, Wyatt Y. Cowley, Jessica Gao, Landon H. Gaviria, Katherine Healer, Allison C. Huang, Emma K. Lee, Angelina J. Ma, Eliana M. Montgomery, Natalie M. Perrochon, Anthony Pertsel, Marika A. Ragnartz, Ian H. Shiu, Saahil S. Sundaresan,

Clara I. Umminger and Catrina S. Yang

• **Gunn High:** Sarah C. Bao, Hana A. Chang, Tenzin Chang, Evelyn G. Gaskin, Alexander Gu, Alan T. Guo, Mishaal Hussain, Yehchan M. Kim, Brian Y. Li, Katherine Lu, Aadi Mehndiratta, Yuvan Sharma, Jessica Z. Wang, Michael Wang and Isabella H. Yang

• **Homestead High:** Jena A. Alsup, Nicholas C. Bilsborrow, Jacquelyn Cao, Ellen M. Cheng, Dainie Choi, Raymond M. Feng, Allison B. Ferguson, Michael P. Ferolito, Kyle Fu, Kaylee E. Gallagher, Julia Gu, Stephanie Hsing, Emiline J. Labbe, Jennifer Y. Lee, Kristen Lee, Marissa

Lee, Siwon E. Lee, Samuel E. Leistikko, Helen Li, Andre Mao, Jay S. Paek, Colin C. Stillman, Adithi Sumitran, Kyra Sunil, Yelin E. Tahk, Martin Wu, Jacob L. Zhang and David Zhao

• **St. Francis High:** Emily Y. Chan, Neil Chulani, Vikram A. Kashyap, William F. Muliawan, Amelia E. Salamacha, Sovie Prasad Shekhar, Eliana M. Shin and Theo M. Sprouse

• **Pinewood School:** Prithi A. Srinivasan and Owen K. Terry

• **Mountain View Khan Lab School:** Shira L. Sheppard

• **Waldorf School of the Peninsula:** Lysander V. Schmidt



Pinewood School

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MVLA

From Page 29

students. The program is a collaboration among MVLA, the Palo Alto Unified School District and Foothill College.

Gary McHenry, College Now! adviser, described it as likely the least expensive program in the district. The maximum enrollment is 40 students, and all classes in the program are taught by Foothill College instructors.

“One of the requirements for a College Now! student is that you have to be academically talented,” McHenry said. “You have to persevere, be self-confident and have good study habits. You can’t be intimidated by adults, because when you’re on campus and have a problem with an instructor, you have to advocate for yourself.”

DONATIONS

From Page 29

father, Patrick Yuen, is the stated beneficiary on the GoFundMe page, as the online site’s policies do not allow her to withdraw money as a minor.

The GoFundMe not only benefited homeless women – Yuen learned lessons along the way.

“This experience taught me how fortunate I am that I don’t have to constantly worry about if I can afford these products, and it just taught me that I should

The program has served 95 students since its start in fall 2018, with an additional 36 currently enrolled. According to McHenry, Los Altos High has the highest enrollment. Approximately 50 inquiries and applications are received annually, he added.

Board acknowledges administrators

The board recognized last week as the “Week of the Administrator.”

“There’s a reason why we have such respect and honor for our principals,” Meyer said. “It has to be one of the hardest jobs in the organization, so thank you to our principals for what they do – all day, every day, on the weekends. All of those who make this work behind the scenes are humble and talented.”

have a better appreciation for things that I take for granted,” she said.

With plans to attend college, Yuen is considering the long-term fate of her fundraiser. While she hopes to continue running it herself, college may prove too time-consuming. She has been looking into starting a club at Los Altos High so that others with a similar passion can take over the campaign.

To donate and for more information, visit gofund.me/a4d7bb0f.

Have an idea for a school-related story? Email Angela Tam at angelat@latc.com.

Schools

Student 2 Student provides free tutoring for remote learners

By Karuna Chandran
Town Crier Editorial Intern

When students have no choice but to use a remote-learning model, it can be difficult to stay on track and capture some of the spirit of being in a classroom. Pinewood School seniors Arina Oberoi and Nora Hoose aimed to solve the problem by providing free and easy-access tutoring through their organization Student 2 Student.

“I have a younger sister and she was really struggling (during quarantine) because it feels like you’re just learning through an iPad,” Oberoi said. “I think Nora and I both understand how important it is to have a peer-to-peer interaction, so we thought that it would be a great idea for high

schoolers and for younger kids to get some more face-to-face learning time.”

Since its founding last December, Student 2 Student has rapidly expanded from teaching specifically Los Altos students – from elementary to high school – to working with international students. More than 50 families have booked tutoring sessions with the organization, according to the founders.

“Our main goal was just to have some kids that we work with and we have a personal relationship with and really connect with in the Los Altos community,” Oberoi said, “but ... I think we’ve really kind of expanded past that.”

Through outreach efforts that started on Nextdoor and branched out to contacting schools them-

selves, Student 2 Student has gained an international following from Costa Rica to India. After working with a student and realizing the need to help others improve their English, Hoose and Oberoi expanded their efforts even further.

One of the biggest challenges the founders faced when starting their organization was connecting with students and building close relationships with them, according to Hoose.

“I am more on the shy side, so I have kind of struggled a little bit with the kids that are also shy, because you really have to put yourself out there and really give them a lot of energy,” she said. “It’s a little bit hard, because you have to get these kids to listen to what to learn or to want to grow.”

Helping hand

It takes volunteers to make it happen, and that’s where Deeya Nagi comes in. Nagi, the volunteer coordinator, said she joined the cause to help alleviate some of the obstacles with remote learning. Her job is to recruit volunteers ages 15-18 who are a good fit for the program.

“(Potential volunteers) need to be very hardworking, obviously dedicated to the program and its cause,” Nagi said. “After they check out those two marks, I just ask them what subjects they are comfortable tutoring in so I can match them with the student.”

As the program has grown, Oberoi and Hoose have added elements such as office hours to help students access support if scheduling a meeting proves

to be challenging.

Overall, the organization hopes to continue to expand its reach and is now targeting Colombia, Oberoi said. However, the founders still plan to carry on the original mission of building connections with students.

“(In the) beginning, it was actually really hard for us, because it’s an idea – and we haven’t gotten off the ground yet – and those first students are always the hardest,” Oberoi said. “So it took us a really long time to get our first 10 students, but we got better at it and once we overcame those first 10, we kind of just took off.”

To sign up for Student 2 Student and for more information, visit s2stcommunications.wixsite.com/learning.

Check out the Town Crier’s recently revamped website at losaltosonline.com.

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Bullis Charter School welcomes all children and families. Our diverse student body is one of our strengths, and we know that creating a community of students from different backgrounds helps all our learners thrive, becoming better scholars, as well as better citizens. BCS families speak dozens of different languages at home, and know the value of being part of a strong, supportive, and diverse school community.

We are expanding our efforts to ensure that all students can access the excellent learning experience that BCS offers, and that our enrollment reflects the demographics of our community. We have been working with the Santa Clara County Office of Education to develop ways to better reach underserved families, and to ensure that everyone knows BCS is a free public charter school open to all K-8 students who would like to attend.

On October 6, the Santa Clara County Board of Education unanimously approved our request to change the enrollment preferences used in the public lottery at the end of our Open Enrollment period. As many Los Altos families know, a lottery is required because BCS receives more registrants for our lottery that we can serve. Thanks to the County’s vote, we’ll have new preferences for children who qualify for free and reduced price meals beginning in our Open Enrollment period for the 2022-23 school year, which starts November 2. The new preferences are set significantly higher than the share of students eligible for free and reduced price meals in the geographic area served by LASD (the applicable standard) and much higher than the proportion of these students served by the District (even including out-of-district students attending LASD).

BCS appreciates the support and advice from County leaders and staff, and from families and educators here in our community, who have helped shape these changes. The new preferences and our outreach campaign will help BCS continue to serve a more diverse student body than LASD, and demonstrate how excellent public charter schools should be an option for all families.

Bullis Charter School • 102 W. Portola Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022
communications@bullischarterschool.com • (650) 947-4100

Business & Real Estate

Award-winning startup aims to boost accessibility for readers at all levels

By Jenny Huang

The pandemic, in a big way, has accelerated the pace of longform content consumption for workers, professionals and students alike, due to remote-working arrangements and online distance learning.

However, reading longform content can cause fatigue that could affect a person's academic or work performance. And imagine how longform content could impact those with a learning disability or visual impairment.

Until recently, there wasn't a tool designed to improve the cognitive efficiency of reading on screen – or to make the process easier, faster and more enjoyable for readers at all levels.

BeeLine Reader, a young startup based in Menlo Park, is out to change that.

Founder and CEO Nick Lum is a former Mountain View resident who worked as a corporate lawyer before embarking on his entrepreneurial journey as the creator of BeeLine.

Due to his own experience with reading fatigue – he routinely read legal and business documents on screen for many hours each day – Lum said he saw an opportunity to develop a solution that would



Business Matters

make reading easier.

His solution? Display text using eye-guiding color gradients. He teamed with his cousin Andrew Cantino, a software developer, and launched a web browser plugin that applies BeeLine's reading technology to website text. The technology also benefits users reading downloaded PDFs or on mobile devices.

Lum said primary functions of BeeLine include helping maintain focus while reading, decreasing visual fatigue



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NICK LUM

Former Mountain View resident Nick Lum, left, is the founder of BeeLine Reader, a web browser plugin that, among other things, aims to reduce eye fatigue for those reading longform content on their electronic devices, like the girl above.

and improving the accessibility of text for people with learning differences or visual impairment.

"BeeLine Reader takes the visual tracking aspect of your eye movement while reading and automates it, so your brain spends less effort in keeping track of where your eyes should be," he said. "Instead, it allows you to allocate more cognitive resources to other reading-related sub-tasks, such as comprehending and analyzing what you're reading."

He added that readers can customize the way BeeLine operates, from choosing the color gradient they like best to decid-

ing which websites it should run on.

"For many people, BeeLine Reader fundamentally changes their ability to read," Lum said. "After they've experienced this new, easier way of reading, they don't want to go back to reading plain black text again."

In addition to functioning as a browser plugin and an app, BeeLine licenses its patented technology to companies. Lum said licensees have found that their users taking advantage of the BeeLine app read more on their platforms than those who don't use it.

See **BEELINE**, Page 34



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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Are stocks overvalued right now?

By Artie Green

It's probably the second-most common question I am asked by clients these days: "Are stocks overvalued right now?"

In recent years, the Dow reached a new high more than 100 times. It's understandable that investors seek some indicator to tell them in advance whether or not stocks are too expensive to buy. Or more viscerally, whether or not to sell what they have before prices plunge.

CAPE ratio

One popular measure is the Cyclically Adjusted Price/Earnings (CAPE) ratio, developed by Robert Schiller, professor of economics at Yale University. It is the average P/E ratio of the companies that make up the Standard & Poor's 500 index over the past 10 years, adjusted for inflation. The 10-year period was chosen to represent an entire business cycle.

This measure indicates the

Nest Egg Briefs

price per share investors are willing to pay for each dollar of earnings the company has produced. Historically, the CAPE ratio has varied from as low as 5 to as high as 44, with a mean (average) of approximately 16 over the past 100 years. As of this writing, the ratio stands at 38, more than double its 100-year mean and not far below its all-time peak of 44 in 2000 (after which the S&P 500 tanked for three years straight). The way to interpret this is that if investor sentiment were to shift back to what it had been on average over the past century, stock prices could easily drop by more than half.

However, is 100 years the right time frame to use as the mean? If we consider only the past 50 years, the mean CAPE ratio over that period is slightly above 20 – quite a bit higher than

See **STOCKS**, Page 34

Business & Real Estate

Transactions

Los Altos

780 Dixon Way, Lee Trust to A. & G. Sud for \$7,000,000
1455 McKenzie Avenue, Lancaster Family Trust to J. & W. Wu for \$6,162,000
1360 Ranchita Drive, Oki Trust to M. & P. Gangodker for \$4,100,000
821 Riverside Drive, Marshall Family Trust to A. & M. Ayati for \$4,200,000
1087 Yorkshire Drive, Y. Jang to J. & J. Chao for \$3,750,000

Los Altos Hills

23715 Camino Hermoso Drive, Schuman-Membreno Family Trust to S. & W. Bergman for \$4,541,000
12200 S. El Monte Road, B. & H. Horn to J. & K. Littau for \$3,750,000
11556 Hillpark Lane, Thompson Family Trust to A. & R. Assudani for \$4,000,000
23923 Jabil Lane, Jarvis Family Trust to Monsoon Hills LLC for \$11,500,000
22580 Ravensbury Avenue, Olsen Trust to Chen Trust for \$3,685,000
26455 Saint Francis Road, 26455 St.

Francis LLC to Hwang Family Trust for \$5,000,000

Mountain View

158 Alley Way, L. & X. Lin to D. & D. Sengupta for \$1,515,000
269 Calderon Avenue, Summerhill Calderon Avenue LLC to H. Kim for \$1,778,000
194 Central Avenue, Foster Family Trust to Y. Zhang for \$1,150,000
505 Cypress Point Drive No. 28, C. O'Sullivan to J. Nortman for \$1,635,000
2374 Laura Lane, C. & M. Mann to Redwood Holdings LLC for \$1,775,000
1655 Lee Drive, Irene Trust to Y. & L. Wei for \$2,575,000
2040 W. Middlefield Road No. 24, N. Ramatchandirane to P. & S. Kulkarni for \$4,050,000
256 O'Keefe Way, Leiva Trust to S. & S. Shahzad for \$1,670,000
148 Promethean Way, M. Akerblom to Lynnhaven Trust for \$2,280,000
22526 Redcliff Court, S. Sinclair to P. & D. Shah for \$4,303,000
3424 Ridgmont Drive, Chandler Trust to Miller Family Trust for \$4,336,000
255 S. Rengstorff Avenue No. 18, Korner Trust to J. Vernon for \$765,000

179 Sherland Avenue, J. Perkins to L. & A. Gutierrez for \$1,300,000

49 Showers Drive Unit X256, K.

Ghosh to Cheang Family Trust for \$1,050,000

3378 Tryna Drive, Rek Family Trust to Q. & N. Ma for \$3,560,000

Cupertino

10083 Amador Oak Court, Nayak Family Trust to L. & K. Venkatesan for \$1,641,000
22422 Balustrol Court, Nelson Family Trust to J. & X. Quan for \$2,950,000
19837 Beekman Place, Gopineedi Family Trust to Harini Trust for \$1,680,000
23017 Cricket Hill Road, S. Deb to M. & S. Kalyam for \$1,950,000
10325 Dempster Avenue, M. & P. Chang to S. & V. Chandrasekaran for \$3,300,000
7814 Lilac Court, S. & R. Pervela to K. & S. Joshi for \$2,450,000
20631 McClellan Road, Erhard Trust to R. & S. Bhattacharjee for \$2,200,000
10887 Northridge Square, G. Vaccaro to L. Chen for \$1,350,000
1138 Stafford Drive, Lam Family Trust to H. & X. Ding for \$2,950,000

20500 Town Center Lane No. 261, Poon Trust to S. Chai for \$1,285,000
22438 Walnut Circle, J. & P. Arakaki to S. & A. Goyal for \$2,610,000

Overall

Los Altos
 Total sales: 5
 Lowest sale: \$3,750,000
 Highest sale: \$7,000,000
 Average sale: \$5,042,400

Los Altos Hills
 Total sales: 6
 Lowest sale: \$3,685,000
 Highest sale: \$11,500,000
 Average sale: \$5,412,700

Mountain View
 Total sales: 15
 Lowest sale: \$765,000
 Highest sale: \$4,336,000
 Average sale: \$2,257,600

Cupertino
 Total sales: 11
 Lowest sale: \$1,285,000
 Highest sale: \$3,300,000
 Average sale: \$2,215,100

– Cal Resource

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Recent upgrades include 75-gallon water heater, sewer line, new fences and gates, brace and bolt custom seismic upgrade, closet organizers, dual pane Anderson windows, 2-zone furnaces, upgraded electrical panel, custom paint inside and out and beautiful new & mature landscaping! This home is located close to top Los Altos schools & all easy commutes! Perfect for a couple downsizing or a growing family!

Nationally ranked schools: Santa Rita, Egan Middle & Los Altos High!



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BEELINE

From Page 32

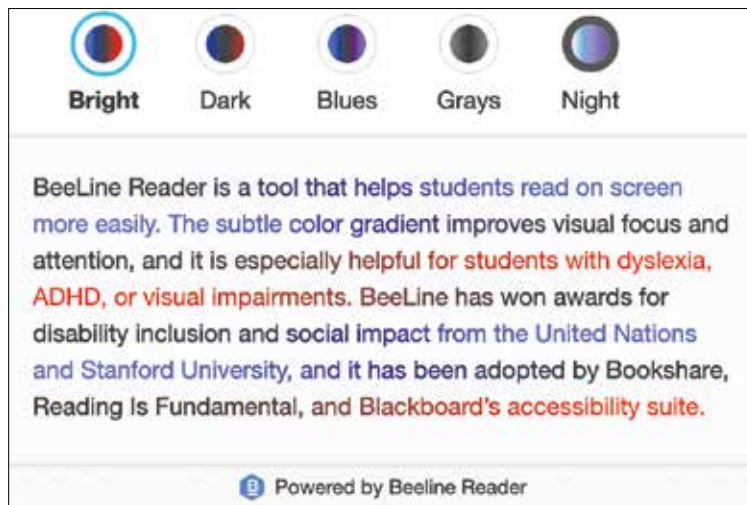
Creating social and human impact

BeeLine's technology goes beyond the accessibility benefits for readers who get fatigued due to heavy-reading loads. The company has received feedback from users with learning disabilities such as dyslexia and ADHD. Lum said these users have found BeeLine extremely helpful in making reading easier and more enjoyable.

Along with social impact, the technology can indirectly help those who might feel they haven't been able to reach their potential when it comes to being an efficient reader. This type of encouragement may boost a person's self-esteem and help him or her achieve better work or academic performance.

Lum said an example of BeeLine Reader's impact is echoed through its successful pilot program with Blackboard Ally, which strives to provide a more inclusive learning for all types of learners.

"The feedback from the pilot was so successful that Black-



COURTESY OF NICK LUM.

BeeLine Reader displays text using eye-guiding color gradients.

board Ally ended the pilot early in order to expedite a full release of BeeLine's feature to all users," he said. "Feedback like this is what keeps me energized – nothing is more satisfying than getting an email from a BeeLine user whose life has been changed by our simple tool."

BeeLine has won several awards for social impact, including a recent honor from the MIT Solve Global Competition. The company's technology was among a handful selected – from hundreds of applicants worldwide – for the Digital Inclusion

Global Challenge.

Previously, BeeLine won awards from the UN Solutions Summit and The Tech Museum of Innovation (now The Tech Interactive) in San Jose.

For more information on the company and its product, visit beelinereader.com.

Jenny Huang is founder and CEO of Jenny Huang Marketing LLC, a Silicon Valley strategic marketing and business consulting firm. For more information, email jenny@jennyhuangmarketing.com.

STOCKS

From Page 32

its 100-year average. The mean over the past 30 years is above 25. And over the past 20 years, it's above 27.

Using the latter value makes the current stock market valuation look a lot less ominous. A reversion to the 20-year mean CAPE ratio would result in the S&P 500 declining by approximately 30%. Still painful, but a lot less painful than 50%.

Even if you could figure out the right mean value to use, the CAPE ratio won't tell you what will happen to stock prices in the short term. Supply-and-demand economics ensures that when there are more sellers than buyers, prices decline, and vice versa when buyers outnumber sellers. Despite the historically high valuations, there are still buyers who want to buy and sellers who want to sell, and they manage to agree on a price every day. Logically, those equilibrium prices – aggregated across the entire stock market – are by definition its current fair-market value.

It's valid to say that the stock market is highly valued right

now. It would be wrong to say it is overvalued. If that were true, buyers would refuse to pay the current prices for stocks, forcing prices down to a level where they felt comfortable making trades again. That would simply create a new fair-market value for the S&P 500.

In the end, it doesn't really matter how highly valued (or not) the stock market is. If you choose to invest, you have to accept that prices will fall periodically as corporate profits and investor sentiment change. With so many factors influencing these two primary drivers of stock market performance, the current valuations alone won't tell you much. As long as businesses and the economy grow over time, these short-term stock price gyrations should have little effect over the long term.

Los Altos resident Artie Green is a Certified Financial Planner and founder of Cognizant Wealth Advisors.



For more information, visit cognizantwealth.com.



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(*buyer to verify attendance)

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Kathy Bridgman's

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Crossword Answers

1	A	2	S	3	P	4	S					5	A	6	L	7	M	8	O	9	N	10	D
11	S	T	A	T	12	S				13	K	N	E	A	D	E	E	D					
14	T	O	N	A	L					15	I	N	S	I	D	E	S						
16	O	V	E	R	A	L	L	S															
		18	E	L	E	V	E	N				19	D	E	U	C	E						
								24	A	S	25	O	N	E	M	A	N						
26	C	H	I	C	O	S				31	P	A	L	A	T	E							
32	S	M	O	O	T	H				33	I	E											
34	I	S	N	O	T					35	G	N	E	I	S	S							
								40	A	L	S	O	R	A	N	S							
42	C	H	44	E	45	E	R	I	O			47	N	A	V	E	L						
48	T	O	R	P	E	D	O					49	S	T	E	E	R						
50	R	E	N	A	M	E											51	E	R	R	S		

Sudoku Answers

1	3	6	7	8	5	2	4	9
7	2	9	4	1	3	6	5	8
5	4	8	6	2	9	7	1	3
6	9	1	8	3	2	4	7	5
2	8	5	1	4	7	9	3	6
4	7	3	5	9	6	1	8	2
9	1	4	3	6	8	5	2	7
8	5	2	9	7	1	3	6	4
3	6	7	2	5	4	8	9	1

Find A Word Answers

Z	S	W	R	Y	R	Q	E	Q	P	N	O	T	V	F
Z	E	A	C	B	P	G	H	G	X	M	J	L	B	B
S	V	L	O	C	V	O	C	E	S	W	E	L	L	T
N	A	R	Y	B	U	J	L	M	T	F	A	M	W	I
A	W	U	T	O	Z	A	N	D	G	R	S	Y	W	D
E	V	S	U	V	H	M	O	A	O	H	K	E	V	E
C	O	O	Q	W	W	H	J	C	A	L	P	F	A	S
O	Q	H	P	C	D	Y	E	R	Q	R	P	H	N	S
Q	I	X	H	R	U	F	K	T	J	P	X	H	H	G
O	I	H	S	H	O	R	E	L	I	N	E	W	I	L
L	S	H	R	V	R	N	R	S	V	C	S	J	C	N
M	K	L	P	B	T	Q	G	E	L	V	R	T	C	L
R	S	E	A	A	N	E	M	O	N	E	D	E	D	C
P	R	T	K	E	V	J	A	U	P	T	D	R	S	K
Q	R	G	J	J	S	D	F	D	D	Q	S	F	Q	T

Public Notices

CITY OF LOS ALTOS ORDINANCE SUMMARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, at its regular meeting of October 12, 2021, the Los Altos City Council took action to adopt the following Ordinance:

Ordinance No. 2021-481 - An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Los Altos amending the Los Altos Municipal Code by adding a new Chapter 7.29 entitled "Safe Storage of Firearms" in the City of Los Altos and making findings pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act that this ordinance is categorically exempt from environmental review

The above and foregoing Ordinance No. 2021-481 was passed and adopted by the following vote at a regular meeting of the Los Altos City Council held on October 12, 2021:

AYES: Council Members
Lee Eng, Meadows, Weinberg,
Vice Mayor Enander and Mayor
Fligor
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

Copies of the ordinance are available in the Office of the City Clerk at City Hall and on the City's website: <https://www.losaltosca.gov/ordinances>

Andrea Chelemengos, City Clerk

PUBLICATION: Town Crier
October 20, 2021
(10-20-21)

ness before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company, Augusta Academy LLC, 425 N. Whisman Road #800, Mountain View, CA 94043. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/16/2021. (10-20,27,11-3,10-21)

Trading Post Brewing Co FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678948

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: Trading Post Brewing Co, 1627 S 7th St, San Jose, CA, 95112 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation, Hermitage Brewing Corporation, 1627 S 7th St, San Jose, CA 95112. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (10-06,13,20,27-21)

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: CHARLES J. COOK (AKA CHARLES JACOB COOK) CASE NO. 21PR191007

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of CHARLES J. COOK (AKA CHARLES JACOB COOK). A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by NANCY JEAN COOK AND SARA E. OLIVER in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that NANCY JEAN COOK AND SARA E. OLIVER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 12/09/2021 at 9:01AM in Dept. 13 located at 191 NORTH FIRST ST., SAN JOSE, CA 95113 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner PAUL I. MYERS III
300 Third Street, Suite 5
Los Altos, CA 94022
(10-06,13,20-21)

167-T

164-T

Fashion Cuts and Barber Shop FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN679028

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: Fashion Cuts and Barber Shop, 844 West Dana St, Mountain View, CA, 94041 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Irma Padilla Zarate, 3980 El Camino Real #8, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/05/2021. (10-06,13,20,27-21)

LV & Y BUSINESS SERVICES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN679029

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: LV & Y BUSINESS SERVICES, 381 Hawthorne Ave, Los Altos, CA, 94022 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Yatali Martinez, 381 Hawthorne Ave,

Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/01/2019. (10-06,13,20,27-21)

Butterfly Blossoms FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678994

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: Butterfly Blossoms, 4482 Calle de Arroyo, San Jose, CA, 95118 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Wendy Chelonis, 4482 Calle de Arroyo, San Jose, CA 95118. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (09-29,10-06,13,20-21)

Birth with Liv FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678629

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: Birth with Liv, 1248 Henderson Ave #4, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Olivia Mia Vega, 1248 Henderson Ave #4, Sunnyvale, CA 94086. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (09-29,10-06,13,20-21)

BAOBEQUE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678896

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: BAOBEQUE, 424 Carlyn Ave, Campbell, CA, 95008 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a general partnership, John McNelly, 424 Carlyn Ave, Campbell, CA 95008, Caitlin Hogan, 424 Carlyn Ave, Campbell, CA 95008. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/01/2021. (09-29,10-06,13,20-21)

162-T

160-T

159-T

157-T

Datebook

Datebook items are run on a space-available basis for entertainment, events, classes and groups run by nonprofits in our circulation area (primarily Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View). The deadline is noon Tuesday for the next week's paper. Submit notices via email to peteb@latc.com and include a contact name, phone number and fee to participate (if applicable). Note that some items may be postponed or canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic.

EVENTS

Caregivers Walk. A one-hour leisurely walk to encourage caregivers to connect with other caregivers. Led by Breathing Spaces, a support network for caregivers. 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the Redwood Grove Nature Preserve, 482 University Ave., Los Altos. Free; registration required. 387-6708; breathingspacesfc.com.

PRESENTATIONS

"The Tales of Magdalena Road and Ravensbury Avenue." Los Altos Hills History Committee's fall Zoom presentation. Donald D. McCauley, Rye and Suzy Smith, Larry Williams, Harry and Karen Emerzian, and Jim and Marge Shively discuss the town's many changes over the years. 2 p.m. Sunday. Free. bit.ly/TalesOfMagdalenaRavensbury (webinar ID: 864 3188 9929; passcode: 94022).

Halloween-themed poetry reading. Hear spooky poems by local poets via Zoom. 7 p.m. Monday. Email losaltosliteraryassociation@gmail.com for link. Free. tinyurl.com/4dnbacau.

"Iraq Before and After 9/11." Webinar led by Lisa Blaydes, professor of political science at Stanford University. Hosted by the Peninsula Chapter of World Affairs. 7-9 p.m. Nov. 3. Free. RSVP at worldaffairs.org/events.

EXHIBITS

"The Art of Living History." Fine art exhibit by local artist Robert Schick that records the transformation Santa Clara Valley went through in front of his eyes. Art walk and talks 3:30-4:30 p.m. Nov. 12 and Feb. 4 Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road. Free. 941-7222; robertschick.com.

New works by Kaaren Marquez. Los Altos artist exhibits her favorite large format work in oil, watercolor and acrylic. Through Oct. 30. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. 941-8073.

Moffett Field Historical Society Museum. Memorabilia, artifacts, photos and aircraft models connected with the former Naval Airbase. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. Building 126, Moffett Federal Airfield,

Mountain View. \$3-\$8; free children under 12 and active military. 964-4024; moffettfieldmuseum.org.

AUDITIONS

Symphony Silicon Valley Chorale. Sing varied repertoire with the symphony. Most rehearsals Tuesdays. Auditions for all sections ongoing by appointment. chorale@symphonysiliconvalley.org.

Foothill Symphonic Winds. Seeks percussionists for its performance season. conductor@fswinds.org.

Schola Cantorum. Choral group invites talented adult singers of all musical and cultural backgrounds to audition. Previous college choral experience preferred. Rehearsals 7:15-10 p.m. Mondays. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave. 254-1700; info@scholacantorum.org.

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Jazzercise Dance Mixx and Body Sculpting. Live on Zoom seven days a week. Free trial class. First 10 consecutive classes \$39. Members get free access to Jazzercise Live on-demand. (408) 505-2048; Nisaleone@sbcglobal.net.

Adult Ballet Class. Led by Leslie Friedman over Zoom. 4 p.m. Tuesdays. \$48 for four classes; \$15 drop-in. livelyfoundation@sbcglobal.net.

Garden Club of Los Altos. Garden or floral expert speaks at each meeting. 1:20 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month (except July, November and December). Virtual meeting on Zoom. Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte. Guests \$5. 391-4654; thegardencluboflosaltos.org.

Fitness Boot Camp. Sixty sessions of exercise. 6-7 a.m. weekdays or just Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Shower facilities available. Foothill College, 12345 S. El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Less than \$4 per class. Registration: foothill.augusoft.net.

CLUBS/GROUPS

Meditation group. Meditations drawn from Buddhist teachers, including Thich Nhat Hanh and Jack Kornfield. Susan Murphy at somurphy@earthlink.net for Zoom login. Free.

Sons in Retirement (SIR) Los Altos Branch 35. Active mature men who meet for lunch to socialize, enjoy food and listen to speakers. Third Wednesday of each month. Palo Alto Elks Lodge, 4249 El Camino Real. (408) 313-6852; pschutz3@comcast.net.

Los Altos & Los Altos Hills Newcomers Club. Helps new residents get better acquainted with their neighbors and community. 948-3421; losaltosnewcomers.com.

MiNdsset Therapy FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN679426

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: MiNdsset Therapy, 1794 Park Ave, San Jose, CA, 95126 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Alexa Hammer, 1794 Park Ave, San Jose, CA 95126. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (10-20,27,11-3,10-21)

168-T

Noah's Ark Children's Learning Center FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN679509

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: Noah's Ark Children's Learning Center, 560 Harrison Ave, Campbell, CA, 95008 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Yatali Martinez, 381 Hawthorne Ave,

OBITUARY NOTICE

CATHERINE SO-YOUNG CHOW



“An Angel on Earth”

We are heartbroken to announce the untimely passing of Catherine So-Young Chow. Catherine was a respected dietitian and a beloved fitness instructor and although she always gave her all in everything she did, she truly poured her heart, body, and soul into the enduring love for her husband and the tender, nurturing bond she created with her daughters.

Catherine, the eldest of four sisters, was born in St. Louis, MO on 6/20/1972 to Woo Sik and Youn Woo Chung and raised in Missouri, Louisiana, South Korea and Virginia. Catherine initially attended the College of William and Mary but transferred to Framingham State University in Massachusetts where she worked on the Framingham heart study, graduating in 1995 with a degree in human nutrition.

That fall, Catherine moved to Burlington, VT for a dietetics internship at the University of Vermont. It was here that she met a young medical intern while working in the hospital, and their casual encounter quickly blossomed into romance and the beginning of a fairy tale love story. In the summer of 1996, Catherine packed all her possessions into two suitcases and left behind everything and everybody she knew to pursue her dreams with her love on the opposite side of the country, in California, where he was to pursue his medical training. Overcoming the expensive cost of living, small quarters, and limited funds, Catherine commuted long distances each day to begin her career as a Registered Dietitian, while providing constant love and support to Larry, who was working long hours as a radiology resident at Stanford. The two were inseparable and although free time was scant, they spent every possible moment together.

On May 29, 1999, Catherine married her sweetheart, best friend, and lifelong companion Larry in a lovely but modest ceremony, surrounded by family and friends. Their enduring love produced her ‘dream baby’, Marilyn, in 2002 and her ‘miracle baby’, Anneli in 2004. Sadly, Anneli’s twin sister perished

in utero and Anneli was born at 27 1/2 weeks, weighing a scant two pounds. She spent the first ten weeks of her tenuous life in the ICU but miraculously thrived without complications, in no small part thanks to the tireless efforts of Catherine in providing her with nourishing breast milk as well as limitless love.

By this time, Larry had been appointed to the Medical School faculty at Stanford, but despite loving his work and colleagues, the couple decided to relocate to Portland, OR in 2005, seeking more affordable housing and new adventures. It was there that Catherine was finally able to explore and develop her long-standing love of movement. She began by attending a Yoga class and rapidly progressed to a certified Yoga instructor. She also experimented with other forms of group fitness and realized her childhood dreams of dancing by becoming a beloved Group X fitness instructor – leading Zumba and Barre fitness classes – and through learning Tahitian dance. Catherine always saw the strength, beauty, and goodness in others; her positivity, energy, humor, and encouragement were infectious, touching the lives of her numerous class participants, many of whom have expressed their heartfelt gratitude to her for their newfound fitness, well-being, and self-confidence.

Catherine went through life with a child-like sense of wonder and joy which never waned. Together with Larry, she was able to travel and see the sights and sample the flavors of foreign lands. Of their travels, her favorite place of all was Hawaii, where she discovered a culture, climate, and cuisine that she fully immersed herself in.

Catherine and Larry expected to spend the remainder of their days living in Portland where the children were having a wonderful childhood, growing up with their sweet Golden Retriever, Bella. After twelve wonderful years in the Pacific Northwest, Larry was offered a position to return to Stanford. He initially declined, knowing that it would disrupt their perfect Portland life, but Catherine was unwavering in her support, knowing how much Larry had missed his work and colleagues in California. So, in August 2017, the family returned to the Bay Area, settling in Los Altos.

The children adjusted quickly, and life was again perfect, but now with better weather! Sadly, the bliss was short lived as Catherine was diagnosed with metastatic colon cancer just one year later in August 2018. For the last three years of her life, Catherine fought valiantly with a courage and strength that belied her small stature. She handled each procedure, every needle stick, all the suffering and every setback with grace and dignity, never once

complaining or asking, “why me?”. Her only concern was the welfare of her adoring family and the grief which she knew they would have to endure. She took every treatment possible and early on even continued to teach fitness classes while wearing a portable chemotherapy infusion pump, much to the inspiration of her students.

Unfortunately, this was a battle that was never to be won, despite her unyielding desire for life and the battle she waged with all her might alongside her greatest champion, Larry. All the chemotherapy, surgeries, radiation, and clinical trials were no match for the disease which ultimately claimed her life. Beside her, as he had been for the last 26 inseparable years of their lives, was the love of her life, Larry. And during her final days, she was surrounded by the people she loved most – her daughters, sisters, parents, in-laws, and friends – until she drew her last breath in the arms of her husband and daughter in the wee hours of the morning on October 12, 2021, a moment of fathomless sorrow but sublime beauty.

From the age of eight, Catherine’s biggest dream was to be a mother. To raise her children to be good and decent human beings; to be self-confident yet humble young women; to be smart, successful contributors to society. To give her children a wonderful childhood full of fun, learning, adventure, and most of all, love. To nurture her family day-in and day-out with food that was always meticulously and lovingly prepared by her. She dreamed of loving deeply and of being loved. She touched the lives of everyone she met in a positive way—it was her life’s calling to do so. We take comfort in knowing that she succeeded in fulfilling her dreams, that she lived her life with purity and goodness, and that she had no regrets. Catherine’s untimely passing has left an unfillable void in the hearts of her family, but the memory of this loveliest of human beings will continue to bring love and joy to their hearts forever.



DONALD CARLYLE OSTRUS



Donald Carlyle Ostrus passed away at age 100 on September 26, 2021. He was a man of strong faith who lived it everyday. He was patient, loving, generous, and kind.

Don grew up in Wiota, Iowa as the fifth child of farmer. His life included many adventures. His dream of going to the University of Iowa was contingent on being able to find a job. So he and a friend hitchhiked their way to Iowa City and started going to local businesses asking if they had any job openings. They found a candy store that could only hire one of them. The owner decided by coin toss to determine who would get the job. Don won and was able to go to college. He ultimately would become a dentist in Palo Alto, California.

Don Ostrus left college early so he could serve in the Navy during World War II. He was on the commissioning crew of the USS Boxer CV-21 as a Navy Corpsman, in the invasion of Japan. Luckily, the invasion never happened and he was in Tokyo Bay for the Japanese surrender. He and his future wife would host two Japanese exchange students in the 1970s and 80s.

Don returned home to Iowa after the war and met the love of his life at a bus stop on his way home. He and Velma (Putt) were married in 1946. She worked as a school teacher while he completed his undergraduate degree in 1948. Don graduated from the University of Iowa College of Dentistry in 1950. Today there is the Ostrus Prosthodontics Clinic named there in his honor. The photo on the plaque includes Putt, as she was the one who worked while he went to school.

Don and Putt moved to Palo Alto and then Los Altos, California in the early 1950s. They adopted two daughters, Jane in 1954 and Mary in 1957.

Don loved sports. He was an avid golfer and had season tickets to Stanford football and basketball for over 50 years. He loved the San Francisco Giants, having gone to games since the Giants moved to San Francisco. In 1996, he was the oldest man at the time to attend Giants Fantasy Camp. In 2005, Don made a barehanded catch of a foul

ball launched into the upper deck along the third base line at age 85. The “play” was shown as a replay to thunderous cheers.

Don loved Lake Tahoe. He and a dental partner bought a family cabin in Incline Village in 1967. There were many trips there over 50 years.

Don was an amazing woodworker, starting in his childhood when he made his own toys. He ultimately made complex vases with inlaid designs. All of his woodwork for the past 30 years were branded with the initials “DOC.”

Don lived his life in service to others. He became a dentist because he was inspired by his older sister Ruth, who was a nurse. He was active in Grace Lutheran Church in Palo Alto since the 1950s. Don was highly involved in what would become Abilities United, an organization for children and adults with developmental disabilities who live in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties. He mentored a prisoner and hired lawyers to fight the Three Strikes law that put a person in prison for life for robbing a vending machine. He gave back to his community and went out of his way to make a difference.

Don passed away at home with his daughter and son-in-law by his side. He spent ten days in the hospital in August with a breakthrough case of Covid-19. He made it home for September. All of his grandsons were able to visit before he passed.

He is predeceased by his wife Putt, daughter Jane, wives Grace Latimer and Betty Freedman. He is survived by his daughter Mary, her husband Richard, and their son Connor; Jane’s three sons Josh, Gabe and his S.O. Etta, and Jordan and his wife Brook; and three great-grandchildren Ian, Flynn, and Jasmine; three step-children Paul, his wife Natalie, Carrie, her husband Bob, and Tim; step-grandchildren Lara, Christopher, Annie, Emily, Molly, Haley, Andrew, Max, and great-grand daughter Lizzie.

Don Ostrus’s memorial will be on October 17 at 200pm PDT. In person attendance is limited to family due to Covid-19 safety measures. All are welcome to watch the livestream available on the Grace Lutheran website at <http://gracepa.org/> and click the “Livestream Worship” link.

In lieu of flowers, Don asked that people find ways to be involved in their community. Please make a donation, or invest with your time, in any worthy community organization.



OBITUARY NOTICE



ROSEMARY CATTON



A memorial service for Rosemary Catton will be held on October 30, 2021

Please e-mail Dave Catton at davecatton@hotmail.com for details.

Santa Clara County Health Department rules will be followed

GISELA RUDOLPH ZEBROSKI



February 22, 1934 – September 30, 2021

From Riches to Rags to Riches

Gisela Rudolph Zebroski, one of the last Baltic Germans, passed away on September 30, 2021. Her heritage began with the Teutonic Knights who headed east in the early Middle Ages as colonizers, building fortresses and exerting considerable power over the local populations. They soon became known as Baltic Germans.

Gisela was born in Yelgava, Latvia, February 22, 1934. When World War II began, Baltic Germans had to leave their homeland, Latvia, to escape the Soviets. At age 6 Gisela was resettled with her family in German-occupied Poland, but soon adapted to a world unknown to her. By age 10 she had taken on enormous responsibility for her four siblings, begging for food and helping her mother to protect them during Allied bombardments - the youngest of the family was born in a bomb shelter. At age 14 she quit school and shortly thereafter took on a full-time office job, where her boss, an American woman, became a pivotal role model. Gisela soon decided America was the place for her.

In 1954 she settled in California. In 1968 she enrolled at San Jose State University, where she graduated with a BA in Russian and Psychology. Gisela continued her education throughout her life, taking courses in creative writing, attending conferences

and publishing three books: "The Baroness", "Mephisto Waltz" and her memoir, "Selfie Sideways".

Although she had no children of her own, there were several young relatives whom Gisela assisted on their paths to successful careers. Exercise and staying fit and healthy were also very important to her. For years she took aerobics classes five days a week at the YMCA, impressing women 30 years her junior with her energy and enthusiasm – she never missed a step.

Gisela enjoyed classical music, opera, symphony, ballet and theater. She was a member of the Foothill College Commission, the Los Altos History Museum, Toastmasters, the South Bay Writers and the Lovely Ladies Luncheon Club.

Gisela loved travel, and traveled to nearly every continent. She was admired for her positive and pragmatic attitude, no matter the circumstances.

She was preceded in death by her husband Edwin Zebroski. She is survived by her brother Dieter Rudolph and sister Heidi Ross.

Memorial Service will be held on November 13, 2021 at the Palo Alto Unitarian Church.



NELLA GRACE MICHELETTI LERA

January 26, 1918 – October 7, 2021



Nella and Pete Lera celebrating their 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Nella Grace Micheletti Lera, born January 26, 1918 in Colma, CA, entered into rest October 7, 2021 at Villa Siena in Mountain View, CA. Nella lived a full and exceptional life as a wife, mother, grandmother, aunt, businesswoman and volunteer. Raised in Colma, she worked alongside her parents, Angelina Lucchessi Micheletti and Angelo Micheletti, immigrants from Lammari, Tuscany, Italy, and her six siblings on their family farm. As a young adult, she worked for a candy company in San Francisco. She spoke often of how adventurous she and her sister, Ada, felt riding the streetcar to and from San Francisco each day.

Nella married her love, Peter Thomas Lera, on September 29, 1938. They started their family in Colma. They raised three sons--Ronald, Gerald and Leland. The family moved to Los Altos in 1955 when Peter moved the family's ranch from Daly City to the land in Mountain View that is now Shoreline Park. The family moved to Saratoga in 1968, San Jose in 1973 and back to Los Altos in 1997.

Nella worked right by her husband's side in all of their business ventures, including their farm, West

Valley Supply in Los Gatos and their dry cleaning business. She was an active participant and volunteer in her sons' schooling and scouting activities, and continued a life of service through her parish, the Italian Catholic Federation (ICF), Young Ladies Institute (YLI), and the Piedmontese Club. She took pride in sharing her unparalleled cooking skills at fundraising events. After Pete passed in 1998, Nella continued her active lifestyle by joining the Los Altos Senior Center where she was a regular in exercise class, volunteering at the reception desk and joining the Monkey Toy Ladies Club, making toys for patients at Stanford Children's Hospital. This gave her great pleasure and new friends she cherished. Nella was so proud when she was awarded the National Community Service Award for her volunteer efforts by President Barack Obama.

For the last eight years of her life, Nella flourished at Villa Siena Care Facility in Mountain View. She continued to make new friends and participate in community and family events. We truly believe the loving care provided her at Villa Siena enriched and extended her life. She

loved the staff as family. There are not sufficient words to express how grateful our family is to the staff for the care they provided our mom.

Nella is predeceased by her husband, Peter, her parents and siblings. She is survived by her sons Ronald (Linda), Gerald (Suzanne) and Leland (Kathleen), seven grandchildren, nine great-grandchildren, many other loving family members and treasured friends who also consider her their "Grandma Nella."

Our dear mom will always be remembered for the loving kindness she extended to everyone she met. Her long life was made extraordinary by her devotion to family, her willingness to help where needed and her strong Catholic faith. We will never forget her delectable Italian meals where, after filling the table with masterfully crafted dishes, she would announce, "That's all you're going to get, and I don't want any leftovers!" Nella will be sorely missed, but the bountiful gifts she gave--her heart, faith, joy, wisdom, and love--will live on in all of us.

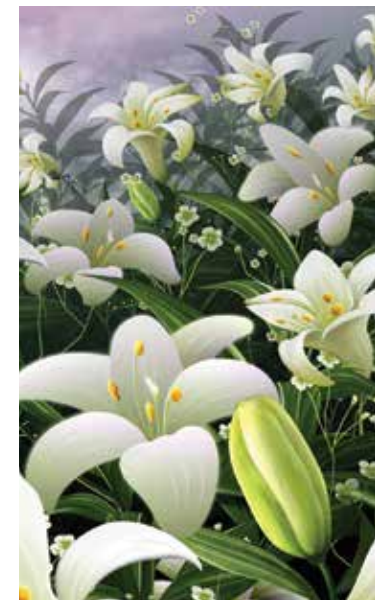
Visitation from 5-9pm, with Vigil Service at 7pm, Monday, 10/25/2021 at Cusimano Family Colonial Mortuary, 96 W El Camino Real, Mtn.View. To view and join the Vigil Service via YouTube, please click on <https://youtu.be/K5s1Tlq9sEc> at 7 pm on Mon. Oct. 25th.

A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, 10/26/2021 at 10am at St. Nicholas Church, 473 Lincoln Avenue, Los Altos, followed by the Rite of Committal at Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 22555 Cristo Rey Drive, Los Altos. To view and join in the Funeral Mass via YouTube, please click on <https://youtu.be/nbceNvpjFLA> 10:00 A.M., Tuesday, October 26th. Please find details at www.cusimanocolonial.com

In lieu of flowers, donations in remembrance of Nella may be made to the Villa Siena Foundation, 1855 Miramonte Ave, Mtn. View, CA 94040.



Nella with her father, who had just been crowned the "Potato King of Colma", on their family farm.



LOS ALTOS HILLS 94024 HOMES SOLD 1ST & 2ND QUARTER

STREET ADDRESS	BEDS	BATHS	BLDG SQFT	LOT SIZE	AGE	YEAR BUILT	LIST PRICE	SALE PRICE	LISTING DATE	SALE DATE	CLOSE DATE	DOM	DELTA	PRICE/SQFT	PCT
11681 Dawson Drive	4	4.5	5,390	49,132	33	1988	\$5,999,000	\$6,650,000	4/17/21	4/21/21	4/28/21	4	\$651,000	\$1,234	111%
12500 Barley Hill Road	4	4.5	4,507	42,202	16	2005	\$5,195,000	\$6,250,000	5/26/21	6/2/21	6/11/21	7	\$1,055,000	\$1,387	120%
11491 Old Ranch Road	6	6.5	6,636	43,764	66	1955	\$5,998,000	\$6,150,000	3/26/21	3/31/21	4/30/21	5	\$152,000	\$927	103%
10650 Magdalena Road	5	5.5	6,729	46,599	16	2005	\$6,488,000	\$6,018,800	3/12/21	4/8/21	5/13/21	27	(\$469,200)	\$894	93%
11011 Magdalena Road	4	5.5	5,917	43,560	27	1994	\$5,498,000	\$5,420,000	4/7/21	4/27/21	5/28/21	20	(\$78,000)	\$916	99%
11555 Arroyo Oaks Drive	4	5.5	4,513	43,560	30	1991	\$4,995,000	\$5,000,000	6/2/21	6/13/21	6/24/21	11	\$5,000	\$1,108	100%
11261 Magdalena Road	4	3.5	3,650	51,240	31	1990	\$4,498,000	\$5,000,000	4/15/21	4/21/21	5/17/21	6	\$502,000	\$1,370	111%
24632 Olive Tree Lane	5	3.5	4,116	51,435	58	1963	\$4,775,000	\$4,875,000	1/7/21	1/14/21	1/28/21	7	\$100,000	\$1,184	102%
11559 Hillpark Lane	4	3.5	4,187	54,581	57	1964	\$4,295,000	\$4,300,000	3/23/21	3/24/21	5/17/21	1	\$5,000	\$1,027	100%
22520 Ravensbury Ave	6	6.5	4,647	62,280	87	1934	\$4,448,000	\$4,125,000	2/20/21	5/19/21	6/22/21	60	(\$323,000)	\$888	93%
25600 Frampton Court	4	3	2,443	45,685	23	1998	\$3,288,000	\$4,100,000	5/30/21	6/8/21	7/2/21	9	\$812,000	\$1,678	125%
10737 Magdalena Road	5	4.5	4,242	48,742	52	1969	\$3,495,000	\$3,875,000	5/12/21	6/23/21	7/22/21	42	\$380,000	\$913	111%
25558 Fernhill Drive	5	3	2,179	44,329	72	1949	\$3,999,999	\$3,850,000	6/3/21	6/16/21	7/22/21	13	(\$149,999)	\$1,767	96%

Average Price Per Square Foot

\$1,176

Average Percentage of Sale Price vs. List Price

105%



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