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Los Altos, Mtn. View
residents win Midpen
photo contest
Page 9



Sports
Los Altos girls volleyball
wins league title, now
moving on to CCS playoffs
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Fall back
Remember to set your
clocks Sunday for the end
of daylight saving time &
get an extra hour of sleep

Los Altos Town Crier

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

Vol. 78 No. 44 • 50 cents losaltosonline.com WEDNESDAY • October 29, 2025

Do you see what I see? Fall foliage



HOWARD BISCHOFF/TOWN CRIER

As November nears, the days are growing crisp. Walks along downtown Los Altos streets are also becoming much more colorful, as the above photos demonstrate.

Federal shutdown brings local problems

By Curtis Driscoll
Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

Local non-profit Community Services Agency is preparing for a potentially large increase in food demand due to the federal government shutdown, having recently purchased an additional \$30,000 in food items.

CSA Development Director Simone Berkowitz said the organization bought the food to be prepared for an increase in demand due to SNAP benefits potentially not being distributed on Nov. 1. Governor Gavin Newsom announced last week that the federal shutdown would likely delay food benefits for millions of Californians if President Trump and Congress did not reopen the government by Oct. 23, according to the governor's office. The federal government shut down Oct. 1. CSA

bought items like rice, beans, pasta, pasta sauce, peanut butter, chicken, tuna, milk, and macaroni and cheese for the coming month.

"Staff will evaluate purchases to make sure they meet the nutritional and cultural needs of clients," Berkowitz said in an email. "We are gearing up for a potentially large surge of demand and will keep a close eye on inventory to make sure food is sufficient."

CSA already faces reduced funding for food and senior programs through federal government funding cuts expected to affect many county programs, with donors helping to fill the gap. CSA, which provides food and social services to thousands of residents in Mountain View, Los Altos and Los Altos Hills, has also seen a 70% increase in homeless people using its services

Online Poll of the Week



Halloween, a day when the ghosts and goblins come out to play, is upon us. According to Gallup Polls, 39% of people surveyed in the U.S. believe in ghosts. Do you believe in ghosts?

- Yes, ghosts are real.
- No, ghosts are not real.
- I'm not sure – I can't say if they're real or not real.

Vote online at losaltosonline.com.

ALSO INSIDE – OCTOBER 29, 2025

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Around Town

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MARIA CROWDER/TOWN CRIER

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News

Police Blotter

Assault with a deadly weapon

Oct. 25, 7:04 p.m.: 2600 block of Charleston Road, Mountain View

Battery

Oct. 22, 2:44 p.m.: 0-100 block of Amphitheatre Parkway, Mountain View

Oct. 25, 1:41 a.m.: 200 block of Castro Street, Mountain View

Oct. 25, 9:44 a.m.: 200 block of Castro Street, Mountain View

Battery of spouse/cohabitant

Oct. 24, 8:20 a.m.: 200 block of Ortega Avenue, Mountain View

Oct. 25, 2:15 p.m.: 400 block of San Antonio Road, Mountain View

Commercial burglary

Oct. 23, 12:00 p.m.: 0-100 block of West El Camino Real, Mountain View

Oct. 25, 2:00 p.m.: 1700 block of West El Camino Real, Mountain View

Oct. 26, 1:31 a.m.: 100 block of East El Camino Real, Mountain View

Elder abuse

Oct. 22, 8:12 a.m.: 300 block of Lunada Court, Los Altos

Oct. 22, 12:02 p.m.: 500 block of Tyndall Street, Los Altos

Identity theft

Oct. 23, 4:43 p.m.: 600 block of North Whisman Road, Mountain View

Oct. 24, 12:52 p.m.: 2600 block of Fayette Drive, Mountain View

Residential burglary

Oct. 22, 2:11 a.m.: 300 block of Ortega Avenue, Mountain View

— Christina Casillas

El Camino Health's free mammogram program brings screenings to women older than 40

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

October may be Breast Cancer Awareness month, but El Camino Health is encouraging and helping women to get mammograms regardless of insurance status year-round.

The free mammogram program provides breast screenings at the El Camino Health Mountain View and Los Gatos campuses to uninsured and under-insured women older than 40 years of age. It's sponsored by donations to the El Camino Health Foundation and is provided by the Lurie Women's Imaging Center at El Camino Health.

The program started approximately six years ago, according to El Camino Health's Dr. Kaye Lu, who specializes in breast surgical oncology.

"It was really created out of the recognition that there is a need for mammogram screenings in the community," she said in a phone call. "You know, not everyone is able to afford health insurance or able to afford all the costs associated with certain health insurance programs,



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

A free breast screening program is offered to qualifying women older than 40 at the El Camino Health Mountain View and Los Gatos campuses.

and so that's where the vision was born."

The program offers screening mammograms, which are different than diagnostic mammograms, she said. Screenings are done to check breast tissue for any lumps or abnormal masses, while diagnostic mammograms are done because someone felt a

lump or something else concerning.

"In the diagnostic (mammogram), if there's an area of concern, they're going to take more pictures under higher magnification and a little bit more pressure to get better views of that area," Dr. Lu said. "But (with) a screening, they don't necessarily do ad-

ditional views."

The screenings are also limited to women older than 40 because of national guidelines. She said there isn't utility in providing mammograms to patients younger than 40 (except for those with palpable lumps or other

See MAMMOGRAM, Page 5

Mountain View secures international extradition of sexual assault suspect

Town Crier Report

A Mountain View barber accused of numerous sexual assault crimes has been extradited back to the United States, the Mountain View Police Department announced Friday.

Franklin Enrique Sarceno Orla, a former Mountain View resident, faces 46 counts with potentially over 60 victims stemming from a 2024 sexual assault investigation launched by the Mountain View police.

An investigation started after two men reported being sexually assaulted by Orla.

After Orla was charged by the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, he fled the U.S. and was later located in Guatemala. Orla's extradition was authorized after several months of efforts. Orla's capture and extradition occurred due to international coordination between the U.S. Marshals Service, the Santa Clara County District Attorney's Office, the U.S. Department of State's Diplomatic Security Service, the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala, Guatemalan authorities and the Justice Department's Office of International Affairs.

Local cities affirm immigrant support as ICE fears reignited by deployment

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Local cities are reaffirming their dedication to local immigrant communities after media reports of Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents being deployed at the US Coast Guard Base in Alameda.

Currently, Mountain View is taking the situation day by day. In addition to paying close attention to national media leaders, city officials are also keeping in contact with their partners.

"The City is also in contact with our regional partners, including the counties of Santa Clara and San Mateo, and we are actively monitoring the situation," Lenka Wright, Mountain View chief communications officer, stated

in an email. She added that the Mountain View Police Department serves all who visit, work and live in Mountain View and does not ask about, or arrest, based on immigration status.

Los Altos City Manager Gabe Engeland said the city's police department has a similar policy.

"Los Altos is an inclusive city, and we provide service to all community members. Under the California Values Act the Police Department cannot use resources for immigration enforcement, to share personal information with ICE, or ask about a person's immigration status," he stated. "The Los Altos Police Department is dedicated to service, justice, and the protection of all. This is true regardless of immigration status."

What to know before you vote



Mail-in ballots

- Must be postmarked and mailed on or before election day
- Can also be dropped off at mail-in voting boxes on or before election day
- Can be mailed in or dropped off at various mail-in voting boxes on or before election day

In-person voting

- Same-day registration is available at the polls and the county elections office
- Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Those in line after 8 p.m. are still able to vote
- Voters can only vote at polling places in the county they're registered to vote in

Important dates

- Nov. 4, mail-in ballots must be postmarked or dropped off; Polls open 7 a.m.
- Nov. 12, Mail-in ballots must be received by voter office

Local polling places

- Los Altos Hills Council Chambers
- Church of Scientology, Silicon Valley chapel

Ballot drop off

- Los Altos Library
- Woodland Library
- Los Altos City Hall
- Los Altos Hills Town Hall
- Foothill College, lot 8
- Mountain View Public Library
- Mountain View City Hall
- Mountain View Public Works (Sand bag entrance)
- Computer History Museum

CHRISTINA CASILLAS/TOWN CRIER

Hey, this is your reminder to go out and vote

Town Crier Report

Santa Clara County residents will have the chance to have their voices heard this upcoming week. The special election is set for Tuesday, Nov. 4, and voters will be casting votes for local and statewide decisions alike.

Locally, voters will be choosing the new Santa Clara County Assessor (candidates include

Brian Do, Neysa Fligor, Rishi Kumar or Yan Zhao) and whether to move forward Measure A, which will create a .625% sales tax to offset civic infrastructure damages from federal cuts.

On the statewide level, voters will also be deciding to either push forward or dump proposed redistricting in 2026.

For more on Town Crier endorsements, turn to page 8.

MAMMOGRAM

From Page 4

concerning symptoms) because of breast density. Breast density is the density of breast tissue, Dr. Lu said, and it decreases as women age.

Since then, approximately 200 women utilize the services per year; One to two of those women are diagnosed with cancer, Dr. Lu said. If a screening given through the program has suspicious results, El Camino Health will provide additional screenings and resources.

"I think it's important to

note that you know this free program is not just for screening mammograms, because what if we find something abnormal and the patient still doesn't have health insurance?" She said. "So we actually cover everything that's through diagnosis."

That includes targeted breast ultrasounds, whole breast ultrasounds and breast biopsies. While the free program is limited to women older than 40, Dr. Lu said that El Camino Health can refer men and women younger than 40 and to other clinics that offer

free screenings.

"We also offer partnerships with Planned Parenthood, Mayview Health and Cardinal Health, which is a Stanford clinic," she said. "These are free clinics in the area, and so if a patient goes to see them with a probable lump and they're less than 40, then they could still get referred to this free screening program."

Registration for the program is required. Call (650)940-7050 to register.

For more on the program, visit tinyurl.com/ECHmam-mogramprogram

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MIKE HAGERTY/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER
From a group of blood-thirsty monsters to kids dressed in adorable costumes, Mountain View's Monster Bash was a hit. The event had spooky games, a treat trail and more Halloween fun.

Mtn. View Council appoints new commissioners

By Giuseppe Ricapito
Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

The Mountain View City council plans to reappoint incumbent Tina Pham and new member Shwetha Subramanian to the Environmental Review Commission at a council meeting on Dec. 9.

The appointments were decided after two rounds of voting during a more than hour-long interview meeting on Oct. 21 which covered land use, environmental review and new housing development.

The city clerk's office received five applications for two open positions, which begin in January 2026 and last until Dec. 23, 2029.

Commissioner Joyce Yin will have served two terms by Dec. 31 and therefore is not eligible to apply for reappointment.

Pham, a senior engineer with the city of Palo Alto, was

appointed to the commission in February after Chris Clark was elected to City council and vacated his seat on the commission.

"I understand how planning decisions can develop into real world projects," Pham said.

Subramanian is a real estate development consultant. She said she was an Indian immigrant with experience in architectural and mass mixed-use development.

"I'm passionate about housing," she said. "I bring that development perspective to the table."

The Environmental Planning Commission is an advisory body to the City council which recommends plans related to environmental development and the General Plan. It consists of seven members.

"I'm trying as much as possible to take as holistic of an approach and kind of a 30,000 foot view as possible," Mayor Ellen Kamei said during the meeting.

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An emergency Mtn. View rally in support of all immigrants



More than 200 people came out to the corner of El Camino Real and Castro Street in Mountain View Friday to protest the presence of federal agents in the Bay Area.



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Comment

Editorial

Support the future of local journalism

Since our first issue on Sept. 9, 1947, subscriptions to the Los Altos Town Crier have been voluntary. This approach allowed us to give advertisers broad exposure across Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View, while ensuring that every reader could access the local news, sports and stories that make our communities special.

But the traditional model of advertising revenue covering operating costs has changed. Social media and shifting ad trends have reduced local advertising income and it no longer sustains our work. Like many community newspapers, the Town Crier is at a crossroads — the future of local journalism depends on reader support.

We need your help. By becoming a paid subscriber, you'll ensure that:

- Local leaders are held accountable through independent reporting.
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If you're unsure whether you're receiving a courtesy copy or are already a paid supporter, please contact howardb@latc.com for clarification. Use the QR code on the next page to subscribe and support the Town Crier's future.

Together, we can keep local journalism alive and thriving.

Letters to the Editor

The Town Crier welcomes letters to the editor on current events pertinent to Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View. Email letters to howardb@latc.com. Letters should be no more than 200 words. Include a phone number for verification purposes. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

Hidden Villa holds their first Harvest Festival in 1987. Diny van der Velden and Jan Spiro welcome guests to the festival and help them find a perfect t-shirt. Fall produce from the farm is on display next to their booth. Hidden Villa is located on Moody Road in Los Altos Hills.

Letter to the Editor

More on Measure A

There is so much misunderstanding regarding Measure A, that I feel like I need to clarify the situation. Measure A is a response to the "Big, Beautiful Bill", which is big but not beautiful.

This will cut \$1 billion from the county of Santa Clara alone in Medicaid funding. We are not taxing to pay more to support our hospitals, but mitigate the damage by maybe 30%. Approximately 25% of the county's residents are on

Medi-Cal/Medicaid. That is 500,000 people. Obamacare is funded by Medicaid and it covers the indigent, children, young people and those who have jobs without insurance. Many organizations and hospitals do not take Medi-Cal as it does not pay enough to cover overhead. Furthermore, over 80,000 Medicare recipients in Santa Clara County use the county healthcare system. We are talking about almost 1/3 of the population of 2 million in the 4th richest county in the U.S. depend on this health-

care system. Furthermore, the county burn unit, and trauma center is based at Valley Medical Center. These patients have long and medically complex recoveries, not available at other institutions. This tax is a sales tax, regressive in this rich county, but in order to pass an income tax, one would have to involve the state and that might take years. The hospitals may have closed by then. I am voting for Measure A, it is the right thing to do.

Jane Lombard

Physician, community member

Town Crier Voting Guide

Vote **Yes** on Measure A

Choose **Neysa Fligor** for County Assessor



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Community

Two locals among winners of Midpen photo contest

By **Andres Baisch**
Town Crier Editorial Intern

The winners of this year's Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District's photography contest include residents of Los Altos and Mountain View.

The contest, in its 15th year, invites the public to submit up to three photos taken at a Midpen preserve. Photos can be submitted in one of six categories: wildlife, landscapes, plant life, people in nature, trail less travelled and aspiring photographers.

Los Altos resident Robert Slate won the plant life category with his photo of a white-crowned sparrow nestled in a budding coyote brush plant. Mountain View resident Kyle Quan, a student at Graham Middle School, won the aspiring photographers category with a photo of a red-tailed hawk in flight. Both photos were taken at Rancho San Antonio Preserve, located in Cupertino near the Los Altos border.

Slate said that his focus was primarily on the abundance of flowers on the plant, which start

to show buds and blossom around mid-October. Slate took his winning photo in early November 2024.

"I figured instead of concentrating on taking pictures of wildlife, I was going to take a couple shots of this plant," Slate said. "I noticed there was a white-crowned sparrow camouflaged – when taking a picture of something beautiful in nature, you may get an unexpected bonus."

Slate, who said he hikes 5-6 miles at Rancho San Antonio daily, picked up photography as a hobby in 2022. Most days, Slate said he carries his hefty camera equipment with him.

"I don't go out with the intention of capturing any particular wildlife," Slate said. "Sometimes I get lucky and see bobcats, or there will be nice flowers to take photos of."

Slate previously submitted photos to Midpen for the 2023 contest. Although he did not win, his photo of a wood duck was featured in one of Midpen's quarterly newsletters.

Quan, a 13-year-old eighth



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROBERT SLATE

A white-crowned sparrow on a coyote brush plant at the Rancho San Antonio Preserve. The sparrow was well-camouflaged among the flowers after arriving for wintering.

grader, took top honors in the category open to students in grades K-12, which this year included entries from throughout the Peninsula.

"Every time I go to Rancho San Antonio, I see a pair of juvenile red-tailed hawks hunting – they would dive into the surrounding grass, too, often to

come away with nothing and return to their perch," Quan said. "This was a perfect opportunity for practicing my bird in flight

See MIDPEN, Page 11

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SAINT SIMON SCHOOL PRESCHOOL TO 8TH GRADE



Los Altos Kiwanis gets new president

Town Crier Report

Local service club Los Altos Kiwanis is known for its continuity in putting on the Pet Parade for more than 75 years and it doesn't often make big changes.

But this October, the Los Altos Kiwanis Club is under the leadership of Decai Sun, a resident of South Los Altos for more than 30 years and to a new meeting room in the Los Altos Community Center, the organization announced Oct. 18.

"I recently retired as CEO of an international company. So it just didn't feel right to play pickleball all the time! I wanted to do something useful, but still very fun," Sun said in a press release. "Several of my neighbors are Kiwanians and I saw how much they enjoyed it," he continued.

Sun ran Luminus Devices and has a Ph.D. from the University of Virginia. He began his studies at Tianjin University in China. As a research scientist, he has been part of the green tech revolution, focusing on low-power consumption LEDs for lighting applications.

Sun was sworn in as president of the Los Altos Kiwanis Club on Oct. 10. Los Altos Kiwanis has been a mainstay of community service in Los

Altos since its founding, as Los Altos' first service club, in 1947. Kiwanis International is a worldwide organization with 550,000 members and was established in 1915 to serve children worldwide.

Sun plans to bring his passion for good management, environmental care and active lifestyles to the Los Altos Kiwanis Club. One of his first executive decisions was to move the Kiwanis Club's regular Tuesday lunch meetings from the Neutra House to the Los Altos Community Center.

"Neutra House had been scheduled for repairs, so we were looking for options of where to meet, and when the idea of the community center was brought up by one of our members, I liked the idea. Our club is open and welcoming, natural and relaxed and so is the community center," Sun said.

Club meetings are open to the public and often feature guest speakers from local community organizations and government. Club members can expect healthy lunches, initiatives for local kids and families based on eating fresh foods and exercise and fun activities like a bocce ball tournament in the months ahead.

For more information, visit losaltoskiwanis.org.



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MIDPEN From Page 9

photography.”

Overall, this year’s photo contest received more than 175 submissions, according to Midpen public affairs administrative assistant Gabi Navarrete. Finalists were narrowed down in each category by Midpen judges, but the public chose winners through Midpen’s social media accounts.

Navarrete was in charge of running this year’s contest; she said her duties included creating flyers and doing outreach on social media. Navarrete partnered with a few local colleges and photography clubs to increase interest in the contest.

Navarrete said the 10 internal judges weighed each submission based on specific criteria. Those included relevance to theme, visual composition, creativity and originality and technical execution. They selected the finalists that the public voted on.

“There’s so much creativity behind every submission that comes in; it’s great to see our preserves from such unique perspectives,” said Navarrete, who added that the wildlife and landscapes categories received the most submissions.

To see photos from all of this year’s winners, visit Midpen’s Instagram account @midpenopenspace.



PHOTO COURTESY OF KYLE QUAN

A red-tailed hawk at the Rancho San Antonio Preserve flying and looking for food during a hunt. Kyle Quan took the photo and was one of the winners of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District photo contest.

A colorful poster for the Arts Los Altos Live Painting Art Battle. It features a hand holding several paintbrushes, with paint splatters around them. The text reads: "ARTS LOS ALTOS Live Painting Art Battle", "SAT, NOV 1st 4-7PM", "STATE STREET MARKET, 170 STATE ST", "LIVE AUCTION 7PM FUNDRAISER", "6 artists painting live | Vote for your favorite painting", "Prizes for top two artists | Join the fun, cheer on the artists, eat, drink, vote and SUPPORT ARTS LOS ALTOS", "artslosaltos.org", and "Arts LOS ALTOS STATE STREET MARKET LOS ALTOS".

A close-up of the American flag, with the stars and stripes clearly visible. Overlaid on the flag is a white rectangular box containing the text: "You can't predict the future, so plan for it."



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First dog parade set for The Village at San Antonio Center



OTSPHOTO/ADOBE STOCK

The Village at San Antonio Center in Mountain View is hosting its first Dog Parade and Costume Contest Nov. 1 for the community.

Town Crier Report

The Village at San Antonio Center is hosting its first Dog Parade and Costume Contest 3-5 p.m. Nov. 1 for the community's four-legged friends.

Organizers said families are invited to an afternoon of activities with local dog-friendly vendors and promise a mix of laughter, creativity and tail-wagging fun.

The Village at San Antonio Center is located at 645 San Antonio Road, Mountain View.

The parade and contest will take place on the path surrounding the lawn area. Prizes will be awarded for the most creative costume, spookiest costume, best owner-pet lookalikes and best in show. Participants must be present to win, and admission is free. Owners must keep dogs on a leash at all times and must clean up after their pets. Participants must arrive and be signed up by 3 p.m. for the start at 3:30 p.m.

For more information and to sign up, visit bit.ly/43o3rH9.



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The increasing problem of obesity in dogs

By Kenton Taylor, D.V.M.

Obesity is an important problem, with 60% of dogs in the U.S. being overweight.

With so many dogs being overweight, pet owners frequently have difficulty identifying what is a normal weight. With a dog of normal weight, you can easily feel the ribs when running your hands down the sides of the chest. There can be a thin layer of fat over the ribs. When looking down from above, there should be a visible waist and looking from the side a tuck or upward slope at the abdomen. There should be minimal fat and no “love handles” at the sides of the lower back.

A number of health problems can occur or be made worse with obesity. Obesity can compromise a dog’s ability to breathe. The fat forms a constricting band around the chest, making it harder to breathe and take deep breaths. Fat within the abdomen pushes the diaphragm forward, again restricting lung capacity. The restriction of breathing also restricts the dissipation of heat from the

body and the added insulation further promotes overheating.

Being overweight can make arthritis and back problems worse by placing additional stress on the joints and creating more pain. This can be a downward spiral by leading to decreased mobility and in turn, greater obesity. Both problems, be it a chronic cough from a respiratory disease or pain from chronic arthritis, can sometimes be managed well with weight loss alone.

Pet Pause

Treatment for obesity involves modifying feeding practices, increasing exercise and decreasing caloric intake. There are diseases that can lead to an increased risk for obesity. Your veterinarian should examine and test for these as appropriate before recommending dietary changes. Generally one can start with feeding 75% of the current caloric intake. Dogs can safely lose 1% to 2% of body weight per week. Pre-



MARY SWIFT/ADOBE STOCK

Obesity in dogs is a growing problem in the United States, with 60% of dogs overweight. Numerous health problems can occur or be made worse with obesity.

scription weight loss diets are much lower in caloric concentration than “lite” or “less active” diets which are meant to prevent weight gain and not cause weight loss. Increasing exercise can help but dietary

changes are more important in promoting weight loss. Restricting feeding to meals rather than leaving food out or frequently offering food encourages snacking, which interferes with weight loss.

Treats need to be stopped or, if you must, pieces of apple, raw carrot or green beans can be offered. For many dogs, “treats” can be their usual food given in a small

See PET PAUSE, Page 14

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Los Altos Library Highlights - October 2025

Passport Services at the Library



Did you know Passport Services are offered at Los Altos Library? To learn more about the services provided and to book an appointment, visit <https://scclld.org/passport/> or scan the QR code above. Services and appointments are also available at Saratoga, Cupertino, Milpitas, and Gilroy Libraries.

Community

Have a comment or idea? Reach out

If you have an idea for Community or would like to comment on its content, email section editor Christina Casillas at christinac@latc.com.



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Things
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Los Altos Town Crier

Event

Step back in time to California's Rancho era with hands-on activities, storytelling, displays, and roping, spinning, and weaving demonstrations at **Rancho Day**, Sat, Nov 1, 10am-4pm. \$10/person, free for members and children 12 and under. Pay at the gate.



Exhibit

Explore *Building El Sueño: Isabel Merriman, Sarah Winchester, and the California Dream* to learn more about local legend Isabel Merriman—an eccentric, energetic, whirlwind of a woman and Sarah Winchester's lesser-known sister. On display through Nov 30, 2025.



Event

Catch the Spirit of the season with festive music from choral group Schola Cantorum and Egan Junior High School choir, boutique shopping, hot cider and treats. Tour the historic J. Gilbert Smith House, decorated for a 1930s Christmas. Wed, Nov 19, noon-4pm. Free admission!



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PET PAUSE

From Page 13

amount by hand since this action reinforces them being an important family member which in itself is the real “treat.”

In helping your dog lose weight it is important to determine what their ideal weight should be. A general objective determination can be done based on your dog's body condition score (BCS). Your veterinarian can determine where your dog is on a 9-point scale and can use this to determine how much weight is to be lost. A BCS of 4 to 5 is normal and every point above this means they need to lose 10-15% of current body weight. If your dog has a BCS of 6, they need to lose 10-15% of their body weight and if they have a BCS of 9, they need to lose 40-60% of their body weight.

Once an ideal weight is achieved, your veterinarian can help you determine how much to feed to maintain that weight. For dogs that really like to eat, it can be helpful to remain on the prescription weight loss diet so they are satiated with the amount fed. Certainly, lifestyle changes to increase your dog's daily activity may be easier now to maintain an ideal body weight.

Making simple dietary and lifestyle changes can be difficult but a healthy weight increases not only length but also the quality of your dog's life.

Dr. Kenton Taylor is a veterinarian with Miramonte Veterinary Hospital, located at 1766 Miramonte Ave., Mountain View. Miramonte Veterinary Hospital is accredited by the American Animal Hospital Association since 1996. For more information, call (650) 962-8338 or visit miramontevet.com.

LATC coloring contest winners



MATTHEW LEE-ASIONG/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Congratulations to the LATC coloring contest winners! There were three age divisions competing to draw the best witch. Winners, from left, Zara Shah, Savannah Winston, Dylan Grunthaler, Chinnay Holte, Zoe Valleys and Andrew Lane.



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Pilates Athletic Center goes all out for Halloween

By **Andres Baisch**
Town Crier editorial intern

This time of year, Pilates Athletic Center in Los Altos is a scary place – intentionally.

Longtime owners Daphne Camp Allen and Joseph Camp go all out for Halloween. The studio on San Antonio Road boasts two full-size animatronics of Frankenstein and his bride.

Many of the seasonal decorations in the studio, though, are handmade by Camp.

“He’s just a Halloween nut,” Allen said of her husband.

Allen added that the couple has put up a Halloween display annually since opening 24 years ago, changing themes each year to keep it fresh. Some of the past themes have included haunted houses, vampires and pirates.

This allows Camp, a fan of old Halloween movies, to combine his love for Halloween with his passion for handcrafted art. Next to the studio’s mirror is a plastic high voltage panel display that Camp created by hand. Allen explained how she was driving past an old Weber grill, identical to one the couple has at home, when she told her husband to take advantage of the “free” sign on a nearby sidewalk.

“He took the panels and brought them home,” said Allen, who serves as operations manager of the studio while Camp teaches Pilates. “He repainted those, had the signs and found the dials from other equipment



COURTESY OF JOSEPH CAMP

Halloween is in the air at Pilates Athletic Center in Los Altos thanks to owners Daphne Camp Allen and Joseph Camp.

he has.”

Camp set up the replica panels so that upon hitting the switch, Frankenstein and Frankenstein’s Bride animatronics light up with movement. Camp said it took just four hours to set up the display, which has been up since early October.

“You’re not afraid of high voltage, are you?” Camp jokingly asked upon entering.

The Halloween magic doesn’t stop at Pilates Athletic Center. Camp and Allen decorate similarly at home, doing a big pirate skeleton display at their residence. As self-proclaimed Halloween people, Allen said, clients look forward to the display every year.

While Camp’s occupation is in healthcare and personal training, his passion for art and his hobby are on full display every Halloween.

“(Camp) is actually an art ma-

jor, so he’s still always had that love for art and creating things,” Allen said.

Allen said that of all the Halloween decorations they’ve done at the studio over their 24 years of ownership, this year’s Frankenstein theme may be her favorite.

“I like how the display is an homage to the old classical monster movies that never go out of style,” Allen said.

In years past, Pilates Athletic has showcased animatronics of vampires for a haunted house. Allen said their intention is always to decorate with classic Halloween spookiness, rather than gore and severed limbs one might see at a haunted house.

Pilates Athletic Center, located at 428 S. San Antonio Road, plans to have the display up for the rest of the month.

For more information, call the studio at (650) 949-3031.



Stories From the Brink

My Festive Near-Death Adventures

Award-winning performer and storyteller Iris Bahr (*Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Hacks*, *Friends*) brings her razor-sharp wit and unflinching honesty to the stage.

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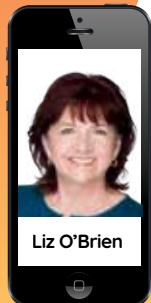
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Stepping Out

LAYT's 'Freaky Friday' runs through Sunday at Bus Barn



PHOTO COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS STAGE COMPANY

The Los Altos Stage Company is showing its first production of "Freaky Friday" through this Sunday. This version of the story is a new musical based on the original novel and film. The play will be performed by actors ages 11-16.

Town Crier Staff Report

This is the last weekend to catch Los Altos Youth Theatre's production of "Freaky Friday: A New Musical" at the Bus Barn Theater.

Directed by Cindy Weisberg, the production features local performers who range in age from 11 to 16. Kristin Walter provides vocal direction and Skylar Rose Adams serves as choreographer.

Based on Mary Rodgers' 1972 novel and subsequent film adaptations, "Freaky Friday" tells the story of a mother and daughter who

literarily find themselves walking in each other's shoes after they magically swap bodies. This allows teen Ellie Blake and mom Katherine Blake to discover the challenges and joys that come with being a mother and a daughter.

The comedic musical – with book by Bridget Carpenter, music by Tom Kitt and lyrics by Brian Yorkey – premiered in 2016.

The play takes place in a 24-hour period, enough time for the mother and daughter to experience the hardships and sacrifices they both have to endure. Many of the original songs, such as

the opening "Just One Day" explains the issues Ellie has with her mom – such as the expectations she is never going to be the daughter she wants her to be. This song is important for the audience to get a sense of how their relationship is struggling and how much work they need to do to repair their wounds.

The LAYT production, which opened last weekend, runs through Sunday. Performances are scheduled for 7 p.m. Friday, 2 and 7 p.m. Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday at the Bus Barn Theater, 97 Hillview Ave., Los Altos. Tickets are \$18-\$28.

**To pitch a story for Stepping Out or to provide a comment,
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Schools

Trustees hit the brakes on replacing Los Altos High tennis courts

By Giuseppe Ricapito
Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

Plans to convert some of the tennis courts at Los Altos High School into a parking lot have been postponed.

At an Oct. 13 meeting, the Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District Board of Trustees declined to make a motion to vote for a \$15,000 study on the traffic impacts of a new lot, bringing the plan to convert courts into parking to a standstill.

Instead, trustees asked district staff to return with more information on the need for parking at the Los Altos campus and to collaborate with the city on other potential solutions.

"I'm not ready to commit to parking until I actually understand what is the need and how we define that need and what is the need at Los Altos," said Trustee Vadim Katz.

The district had requested approval of an agreement

with Quattrocchi Kwok Architects for a new parking lot traffic study of two options for a new parking lot. Option one would create 78 parking spaces with existing driveway access to Jardin Drive, and option two would create 76 parking spaces with a new driveway access to Jardin Drive. Both would result in the permanent elimination of four of the 12 tennis courts currently at the school.

The study was set to determine which of the options would be the most appropriate related to vehicular traffic, pedestrian safety and bicyclist safety.

Trustee Alex Levich estimated that the school likely only needed up to 30 new spaces to meet the need.

"Maybe the plans of converting multiple tennis courts are too grand for our actual needs," she said.

Trustee Thida Cornes urged the district to seek a formal relationship with the city to inform parking and transportation planning



MAX ASMAR/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

The Mountain View Los Altos School District board members decided at their Oct. 13 meeting to postpone the conversion of Los Altos High School tennis courts into a parking lot.

outside the plan for a new parking lot.

"A more comprehensive approach is needed," she said. "This is an opportunity

See PARKING, Page 19

Student who drew swastika did not have history of hateful behavior, says MVLA superintendent

By Giuseppe Ricapito
Staff Writer/giusepper@latc.com

Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District Superintendent Eric Volta said the student who drew a chalk swastika at the Los Altos High School campus Oct. 20 was 14 years old and did not have a history of discriminatory behavior.

"This student did not have a history of any kind of hate-based activity. There was also nothing in their possession to lead me to believe this was part of who this person is," he said in a phone interview Wednesday.

Administrators at the high school reported Monday that a student drew a swastika with chalk at 1 p.m. on a ledge on the school campus.

Volta said school administrators determined consequences following the inci-

dent. He said he could not release other identifying information about the student.

"I can say with all confidence it was properly handled," he said. "I am hoping this person learns from their mistake."

Principal Tracey Runeare said in an Oct. 20 email to parents that the vandalism was immediately removed and followed by a swift investigation from staff.

"We will not tolerate acts of hate or antisemitism on our campus and are most appreciative to those who report concerning matters to us," Runeare said in the message.

"We encourage everyone to continue working to ensure our campus is a safe space for everyone. LAHS is to be a protected space where the focus is on learning and community."

Volta commended the Los



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Eric Volta, Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District superintendent, said a student drew a swastika on campus, which led to an investigation on the student's past behaviors.

Altos High School administrators for their response.

"I think the issue was han-

dled swiftly," he said. "I truly commend Principal Runeare.

As soon as it was reported

they documented it, and they

See GRAFFITI, Page 19

PARKING

From Page 18

to create the collaborative approach that will serve us best going forward.”

Principal Tracey Runeare said in a phone interview that there were 384 spaces currently available on campus. The parking includes 166 spaces for staff, 148 spaces for students, 31 electric vehicle charging spaces, 23 spaces for visitors, 10 ADA-accessible spaces and six for school transportation vans.

There are eight spaces currently occupied by construction equipment and unavailable, she said.

Runeare said she felt parking was adequate for the school’s needs at this time.

“We have as a school been very responsive to the need for parking in that we’ve adjusted and added spaces at every opportunity,” she said.

The school grants permits to students who apply for parking and prioritizes those who live approxi-

mately one mile from the school. She said out of 247 applicants, 186 were granted permits. About 93% of those who were granted permits live outside the boundary, she said.

Superintendent Eric Volta said parking availability for students was strained when Los Altos city officials established two-hour parking limits from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on the north side of the school. He said the Los Altos campus was still 75 spaces short of the amount of parking in Mountain View after creating a temporary lot with 47 spaces.

“We are not committed to continuing with the parking lot. It is not a final deal,” Volta said at the meeting. “That is way down the road.”

For the past six years, four of the 12 tennis courts at LAHS have been used as a material storage area for the recent Measure E school bond. At an Aug. 18 special meeting, district officials noted Measure E school bond construction projects

were nearing their conclusion, potentially opening up the four courts for use again.

Multiple members of the public came out in opposition to the parking lot at the Oct. 13 meeting.

Terry Barton, chair of the Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee in Mountain View, said the district needed more information to understand the breadth of demand for parking and vehicles at the school.

“This is a path to an unskilled decision,” he said. “This is not a parking problem, it’s a problem of too many staff and students choosing to drive in single-occupancy vehicles.”

Steve Apfelberg, the head tennis coach for the girls junior varsity team, previously told the Town Crier that there are no other nearby courts or parks in North Los Altos that people can walk to and play tennis. There are 42 female players this year, Apfelberg said; 21 girls on varsity and 21 girls on junior varsity.

GRAFFITI

From Page 18

got it taken off.”

Maya Bujanover, co-president of the Jewish Student Union, said she was alarmed and appalled by acts of anti-semitism that appeared to be more pervasive.

“As a Jewish student and leader of JSU, it’s my mission to make Jewish students feel more welcomed on campus, and I am disappointed at our community for allowing this kind of hate to persist without real accountability,” she said in an email.

In February, an anti-Semitic post on Instagram targeted the MVLA district. The post was published by an Instagram account called “@los.altos.nazi.party” whose profile picture overlaid the Los Altos High School logo with a swastika. The post included a Nazi party propaganda poster that included the phrase “Society, Culture and Politics.”

The post location was set in Los Altos High School, and the caption read “We meet

on Tuesday next week in the quad.”

The post was removed and an investigation was quickly launched, but there have been no arrests or developments in the case, said Saskia Lagergren, Los Altos Police Chief.

Other recent incidents include swastikas graffitied on Mountain View High School’s campus in September 2024; swastikas drawn on lockers in the boys locker room at Blach Intermediate School in the Los Altos School District in December 2023; and weeks before that, two female Jewish students at Egan Junior High School said that an anti-semitic remark and gesture was made to them.

Runeare said in the phone interview that the events – though “enraging” – were “isolated incidents.” She urged education as a means of dispelling the incidents.

“Schools are reflections of what’s happening in the community,” she said. “I think it happens with lots of different types of behavior, good and bad.”



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Puzzles Page

Town Crier Crossword

By Myles Mellor

Across

1. Ref's decision
4. Sun Devils' sch., abbr.
7. Pantywaist
12. "H's"
14. Franklin's bill, slangily, 2 words
15. Los Altos Heritage

16. Looking like the original, 2 words
17. Recede like a tide
18. Gallop
19. 'In your dreams!'- 2 words
22. Stray cat's locale
24. Firms, abbr.
25. Cars featured in Los Altos event
29. Mongrel
30. "What ____!" (how funny) , 2 words
31. French for water
32. Impermanent
34. Feminine suffix
35. Handle, 2 words
36. Fido's treats
37. 56 in Roman letters
38. "In excelsis ____"

40. Frock wearer
42. Multi-plug connector
46. Top
47. Troubles
48. "That is to say...", 2 words
49. Reply to a captain
50. Vintage computer monitor, for short

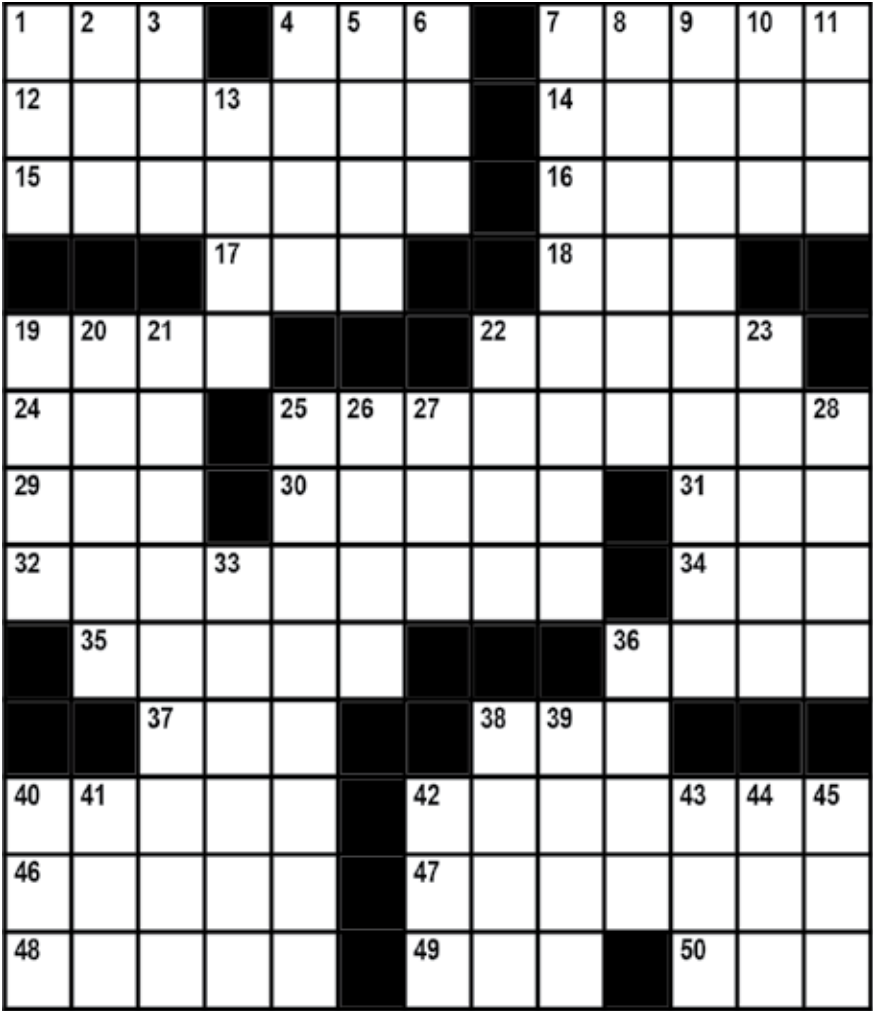
Down

1. Philosophy of human conduct
2. Dry wine drink
3. Stock page hdg., abbr.
4. Pequod skipper
5. Djokovic's nationality
6. Currency exchange board abbr.
7. "Black Dahlia" star, Johansson
8. Dig
9. Composer
10. Jeanne d'Arc, e.g. , abbr.
11. Bow making wood
13. White hat wearer
19. Depositor's holding, abbr.

20. Whiskey drinks
21. Descendant of Jacob
22. English river
23. Bakery supply
25. Frying pan material, 2 words
26. Buckeye's home
27. Beluga yield
28. Figure (out)
33. Silver State
36. Surprise at blunder
38. World War II important event
39. Effortlessness
40. Data Act, abbr.
41. Most talked about drink in "Pirates..."
42. That's it!
43. Gentle care often needed by horses, abbr.
44. Ever, poetically
45. Alphabet segment

- Los Altos clues bolded

Answers
on Page 35

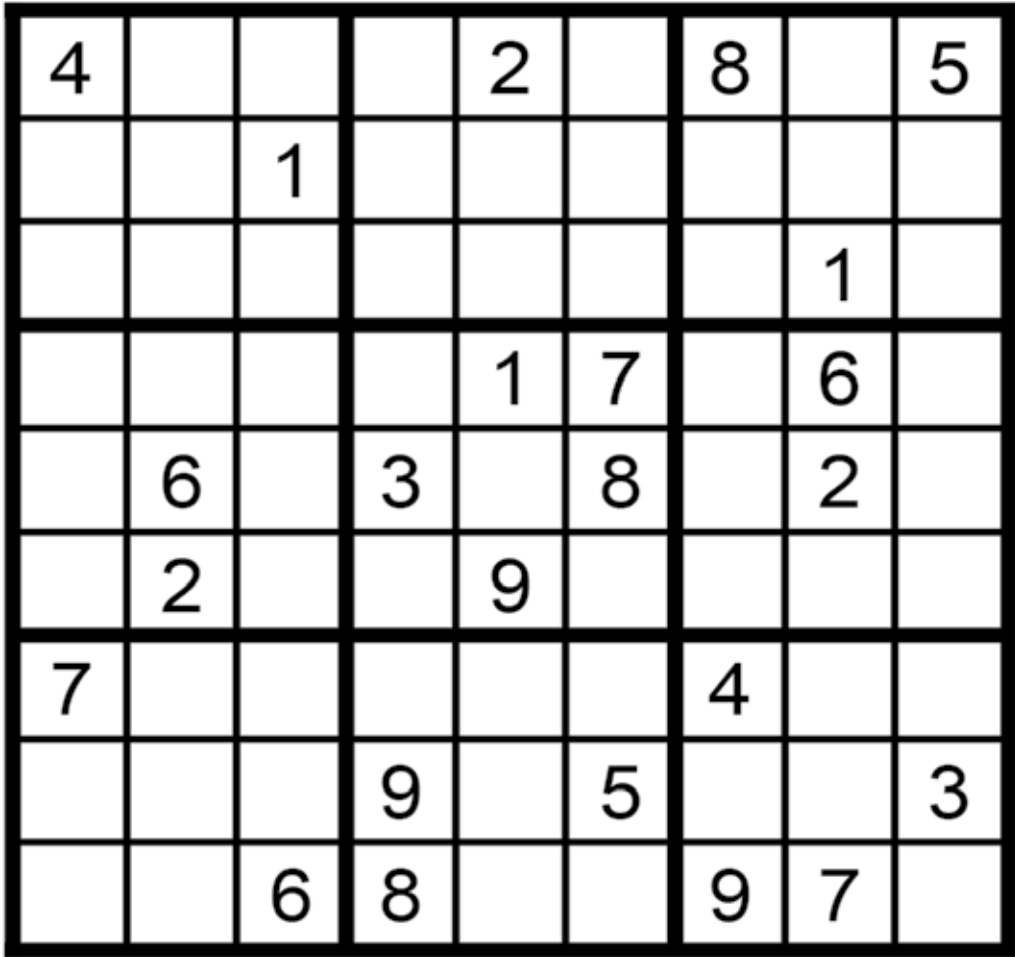


Sudoku

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



Find A Word



15 fruits are listed below. They may go across, up and down or diagonally in the puzzle. Circle each one as you find it.

- | | | |
|------------|------------|-------------|
| Apples | Dates | Peach |
| Apricot | Grapefruit | Pears |
| Banana | Mango | Plums |
| Blackberry | Melon | Pomegranate |
| Cantaloupe | Orange | Raspberry |

Sports

Los Altos girls win volleyball title

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

After two years of rebuilding, Los Altos is back on top as SCVAL De Anza Division champions after beating Los Gatos 3-1 Thursday evening.

A surprising Milpitas sweep of second-place Palo Alto Thursday has ensured Los Altos (21-5) a title for the first time since 2022. After back-to-back sixth-place finishes in 2023 and 2024, this year's team of experienced seniors and younger players has won the title with a game to go and a 10-1 record in league play. Los Altos outside hitter Aviya Russo was a freshman on the 2022 team and was proud of the team for achieving one of its goals this season.

"It's definitely a full circle moment," Russo said.

"It's fun to see the freshmen on our team now and how I felt when I won as a freshman. It's cool."

Los Altos coach Peter Kim knew the team had a chance at the beginning of the season, but didn't expect the Eagles to start as well as it did, winning its first seven league games by a combined set score of 21-4. Libero Ana Heath, middle blocker Ella McFarlane and Russo are senior captains who have set the tone, while right-sided hitter Kat Minkevich, setter Angela Deng and defensive specialist Katlyn King have emerged with key roles as freshmen.

"We've had a young team the last two years, and they're finally getting older," Kim said. "We got a good group of freshmen coming in and they've



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Los Altos' Katlyn King goes for a dig during the game against Los Gatos Thursday. Los Altos won the SCVAL De Anza Division Thursday after Palo Alto also lost.

helped us tremendously because we needed that talent to come in."

Los Altos had to rally early against fourth-place

Los Gatos (12-12), who did not make it easy to clinch. Los Gatos jumped out to an early lead in the first set and were up 24-21 before

Los Altos got five points in a row, including three straight aces by Russo to

See VOLLEYBALL, Page 22

Last-second win propels Los Altos water polo to co-champions

By Curtis Driscoll

Staff Writer/curtisd@latc.com

It was a week to remember for the Los Altos girls water polo team, starting with a last-second win against title rivals Palo Alto Tuesday and clinching a share of the regular season title against Los Gatos Thursday.

Los Altos (18-5) finishes the regular season co-champions with Palo Alto with a 13-1 record in the SCVAL De Anza Division after a thrilling 8-7 win and a last-second goal with two seconds left from Kylie Parman after back-and-forth exchanges.

"Scoring that last-second (goal) is something I will never forget, and I don't think the girls will," Los Altos coach Katie Tasman said.

Palo Alto has been Los Altos' main rival for years, often due to the high stakes when they met in the league. Los Altos and Palo Alto were regular-season co-champions last year, with Los Altos losing in the SCVAL playoff league tournament to Palo Alto. Los Altos' Sophia Boschken said the Eagles have gotten stronger and more confident as the season progressed, with several players poised and assertive in taking shots

and scoring in the comeback against Palo Alto. Los Altos outscored Palo Alto 4-0 in the fourth quarter.

"We lost to them early in the season, so beating them in the end was really nice," Boschken said. "It was really stressful at the last second. It felt like we were going to go into overtime because it was 7-7, and in the last two seconds, we scored."

Los Altos followed the Palo Alto win with an 11-6 win over Los Gatos (10-12) two days later. The Wildcats came ready to play in the first half and were down just 5-3 at halftime before the Eagles pulled away in the second half.

"Los Gatos is never a team to sleep on," Tasman said. "Don (Appleton) is a phenomenal coach; they have so much talent at that school. They historically are probably one of the best teams in our league."

Tasman credited Los Altos' speed, water polo IQ and a willingness to sacrifice and play selflessly in the water for its success this season, describing the team as one of the most talented in her time coaching Los Altos. The team had a turning point after beating Marin County power-



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Los Altos goalkeeper Alison Han goes up to block a shot during the Los Gatos game Thursday night.

house Archie Williams 10-9 in early October, providing Los Altos with a shot of confidence towards the end of the year.

"I think that when they communicate and they play just to have fun, we are a very strong team," Tasman said.

A 9-5 win over Valley Christian

(12-11) Saturday has Los Altos on a 10-game winning streak as it enters the postseason SCVAL league tournament. Palo Alto is the No. 1 seed because of a better goal differential, while Los Altos is the No. 2 seed.

"We will hopefully be able to get those two wins and meet them in the championship," Tasman said.

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Sports

VOLLEYBALL

From Page 21

take the set. The slow start has been consistent recently, something Kim and the coaching staff are working with the players to fix before the playoffs.

"We've been trying to stop that, because if we're going to play somebody in the playoffs who is equally good as us if not better, it's going to be tough to beat people," Kim said. "We've got to be ready from the start."

The Eagles won the second set 25-18, but the Wildcats responded by taking the third 25-21, prompting the Eagles to jump out to a 7-1 lead in the fourth set en route to a 25-17 win.

While there is one more league game remaining at Milpitas Tuesday (after the

Town Crier print deadline), attention will soon turn to the CCS playoffs. Los Altos will likely be in the CCS Open Division, which will feature several teams from the West Catholic Athletic League, like Archbishop Mitty, and the best from the Peninsula Athletic League Bay Division and the West Bay Athletic League. While Open Division seeding will not be decided until after the regular season, last year's SCVAL De Anza Division champions, Palo Alto, were the No. 3 seed.

"I definitely think we can compete," Kim said of the CCS Open Division. "If we are playing well and focused and taking our time getting into the match, I think we can compete with anybody. We just have to be confident and do whatever it takes to win."



ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Los Altos outside hitter Aviya Russo goes up for a spike during the Los Gatos game Thursday.

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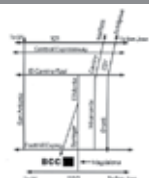
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Los Altos Town Crier

St. Francis football gets convincing win over SI

By Andres Baisch
Town Crier Editorial Intern

The St. Francis football team (3-5, 3-2) won its most convincing game yet in an up-and-down season, a 28-7 over St. Ignatius (2-6, 1-4). A week after a 41-28 loss on the road to Junipero Serra, St. Francis started strong and never looked back Friday, scoring all 28 points in the first half and only allowing one score in the third quarter. Receiver Dom Oteiza got the momentum going for St. Francis, returning the first punt from St. Ignatius 88 yards to put the Lancers up early. It was all St. Francis from there, adding two short rushing touchdowns from Motu Keenaina, as well as a 51-yard touchdown pass to Aaron Bonini from quarterback Drew Cumby. St. Francis stopped St. Ignatius multiple times on fourth down and stopped an early red zone drive by an interception by defensive back Sefanaia Alatini. Assistant coach Matt Scharrenberg said the Lancer defense can build on this win for next week's road game at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

"We've been working on our communication," Scharrenberg said. "Eliminating (penalties) and trusting what they're seeing out there." Scharrenberg cited penalties as a major weakness in last week's loss to Serra. With just under two minutes left in the game, offensive lineman David Vea went down with an injury that required significant medical attention. Vea was conscious and had minimal movement in his hands. Both teams, along with the officials, agreed to end the game at 28-7. After the game was called, both teams came together in prayer at midfield. Head coach Greg Calcagno appreciated St. Ignatius letting the game end and joining in prayer. "As much as you work hard to defeat an opponent, we appreciate their prayers," Calcagno said. Calcagno said the team was keeping Vea in their prayers and would worry about football later. Saturday morning, Vea was released from Stanford hospital after all tests came back negative. St. Francis will travel to San Francisco to face Sacred Heart Cathedral Friday.

To pitch an idea for the Sports section or to comment on its content, email section editor Curtis Driscoll at curtisd@latc.com.

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Honor the dead with an ofrenda for Dia de Muertos

By Christina Casillas

Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

As a Mexican-American, I've always appreciated my culture's relationship with death. Rather than an ending, it's a transition from one side of existence to the other. It's a simple fact of life, and what I love is that we have a whole season dedicated to remembering those we've lost. We honor our dead when the veil between our plane of existence and the other side is thinner: Dia de Muertos.

Dia de Muertos, usually celebrated Nov. 1 and Nov. 2, is a time for us to honor our ancestors who have gone before us. In some traditions, including mine, the souls return in waves in the days leading up to Dia de Muertos: On Oct. 27, the souls of pets; Oct. 28, the souls of those who died violent, traumatic or accidental deaths; Oct. 29, the souls of those who drowned; Oct. 30, the souls of those who have been forgotten or are in limbo; Oct. 31, the souls of unbaptized children; Nov. 1, the souls of baptized children;



CHRISTINA CASILLAS/TOWN CRIER

Creating an altar, like the one above, for Dia de Muertos is a tradition that honors the dead.

and Nov. 2, the souls of adults.

Dia de Muertos isn't a solemn occasion – it's a celebration. Music, bright colors, candles and flowers are core parts of honoring those we've lost.

The usual Dia de Muertos setup includes an ofrenda, an altar of offerings to the dead. They're usually adorned in bright colors, candles, cempasuchil (marigolds) and of-

ferings of the favorite food and drink of the dead we remember. Pan de muertos, a sweet "bread of the dead" is also customary. Personal belongings and photos of those who've passed are placed

there. Some people even line the way to the ofrenda with candles and cempasuchil, as they guide the souls back home.

When putting together an ofrenda, some good questions to keep in mind about who you're honoring include:

- What did the person like to eat or drink?
- What were their hobbies?
- What music did they like?
- What would they miss most after death?

Dia de Muertos is especially pertinent to me this year. I lost my grandma, Florence May Grainger, on Aug. 15. She would have turned 84 on Aug. 16. Her absence has taken a toll on my family and me, especially as the holiday season progresses, but I've found solace in knowing that I will be able to honor her, and she will be coming back even if I can't see her. While in some traditions one should wait a year after someone's death to put their photo

See ALTAR, Page 26

How to store, manage and organize a beloved bag collection

By Lyn Rogers

There are many types of bags, each with its own unique style and purpose. Common types include tote bags, shoulder bags, crossbody bags, clutches, satchels, bucket bags, backpacks and duffel bags. Other categories include messenger bags, wristlets, doctor bags and evening bags.

Each category has specific ways of organizing them, depending on the value and the number owned. Tote bags don't require special handling, whereas a designer purse may need to be stored in a more careful manner. For example, tote bags are generally used for shopping and can be stored in your trunk. I keep mine in an insulated bag, which not only is convenient for cold and frozen items, but keeps the number of totes I own to a reasonable number: if it doesn't fit in the insulated bag, I need to change how many I own. I only keep those that are clean and in great shape.

Backpacks should be stored upright and free of anything that might leave an unpleasant scent, such as unwashed socks or old food. Duffel bags should also be kept odor-

Conquering Clutter

free, but can lie flat when not in use. I prefer keeping empty duffels all together inside one larger one, to save space. Messenger and laptop bags can be stored upright, as if they were books on a bookshelf.

For less valuable purses, the storage solutions are very similar to those used for designer bags, with some exceptions. For multiple bags, shelf dividers allow for bags to stand upright and for you to see them clearly. Empty them completely and stuff with acid-free paper so they will retain their shape. Use a dust bag or neutral-colored pillowcase to not only keep it dust-free, but also allow it to breathe. Breathing prevents mold, especially in leather products.

Acrylic drawers and cubbies can be used to store less expensive purses. You can also use lidded baskets or unused suitcases. No matter the value of your purse or any other



СЕМЕН САЛИВАНЧУК/ADOBE STOCK

See PURSES, Page 26

Organizational methods vary when dealing with handbags.

Your Home

If you have an idea for Your Home or would like to comment on its content, email section editor Christina Casillas at christinac@latc.com.



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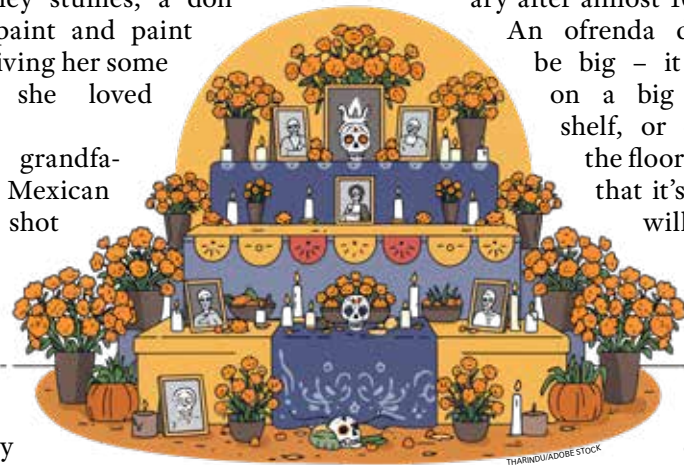
ALTAR

From Page 25

family members.

I'll be adorning my ofrenda with photos of my grandmother. She loved Elvis Presley, Disney, dolls and arts and crafts. I plan to place an Elvis 45 record I have on the ofrenda, along with Disney stuffies, a doll or two, and some paint and paint brushes. I'll also be giving her some buttered toast – she loved buttered toast.

For my paternal grandfather, I plan to leave Mexican sweet bread and a shot of tequila, as he enjoyed drinking. The same goes for my uncle Brian, who will be journeying with his mother (my



grandma) this year – he will get a shot of liquor too.

We also place photos of my great-grandmothers, a few great uncles and other family members who we remember, even if I never got the chance to meet them. I'll also be adding carrots, a toy and treats for my bunny Steffie, who I had to put down in January after almost 10 years with her.

An ofrenda doesn't have to be big – it can be set up on a big table, a small shelf, or even placed on the floor. What matters is that it's there and souls will return knowing they're being remembered, and you can associate the afterlife with light, color and celebration.

PURSES

From Page 25

type of bag (except totes and duffels), refrain from hanging from their straps. This will put stress on them and eventually ruin them. For more valuable items, always follow the manufacturer's recommendations, as different materials have special care requirements.

Doctors' bags have very strict legal requirements, so it's imperative that you follow the laws in your city/state/country to be compliant.

As for how many of any type of bag you should own, there is no set number, but ask yourself a few questions:

- Is the number I own realistic for the task it's designed for?

• Do I have enough room to store them without causing resentment from family members when I store them in several rooms in the house?

• Are any of my bags and purses in disrepair or filthy?

• Am I collecting them or hoarding them just to look at, but never use?

• Can I realistically afford to keep buying more? Do I understand that it's OK to use my special accessories, because I am special?

"You don't have to carry a designer bag that costs more than a car to look cool." –Keshia

Los Altos Hills resident Lyn Rogers, a professional organizer, is owner and CEO of Lyn At Your Service. For more information, visit LynAtYourService.com.



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Business & Real Estate

Longtime piano store closing, but owner isn't done just yet

By Olivia Levesque Ouellette
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Selling pianos for more than 60 years, Mountain View resident Greg Wurm said he will semi-retire later this year when his store closes its doors.

After 35 years in business, Peninsula Piano Brokers plans to shutter in December due to a change in property management, Wurm added. The store is located at 4333 El Camino Real in Palo Alto, which is near the Los Altos border.

Although the physical location will shut down, Wurm said he will continue to sell the remaining inventory by appointment only. By December, he plans to store approximately 40 pianos at a warehouse.

Starting in the business at 18 years old in 1965, Wurm said his passion for pianos inspired him to start his own business at 40 years old.

"I had two previous bosses who I worked for and neither of them could play a note," Wurm said. "They could have been selling whatever, they were sales people. But I love the piano. I would sometimes not want to sell brands that they were trying to sell, because I thought they were lousy. So I thought, well, if I do this myself, I can choose how I want to sell."



MIA SCOTT/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Peninsula Piano Brokers owner Greg Wurm, above, is shuttering his long-time piano store, right.

Lena Wurm, Greg's wife, said his semi-retirement will allow them to relax and use their time for hobbies and interests.

"His life is going to be a bit emptier until he figures out what to do," Lena said. "He's going to have a whole lot of free time that he's going to have to figure out how to spend. His friends have been trying to steer him toward maybe performing with a small local band or something like that or playing the piano in some venues."

Kathie Chang, who has worked at Peninsula Piano Brokers for more than 15 years, said Wurm created a welcoming and comfortable working environment.

"He's a very generous and hon-



est businessman in the piano business," Chang said. "He always cares about all the customers' situations and assists them to purchase the right piano that fits their needs. He always carefully chooses his inventory and does his best to sell the pianos at the best price for the customer."

Discussing modern-day piano stores, Wurm said it's devastating to see so many piano stores like his close.

"I never thought I'd see this day where people are just giving their pianos away," Wurm said.

"Everybody in the world is downsizing. I get phone calls asking, please get it out, and I'm getting some sensationally nice pianos for next to nothing or even nothing."

Lena said the store's closure will be a bittersweet moment for them.

"It's been his life to be around pianos," Lena said. "He's been to factories, where they make pianos, he knows the history of pianos, he has always, always loved them and he loves to play."

Reflecting on his work, Wurm said his favorite aspect of selling

pianos is demonstrating the different kinds of pianos for customers.

"I've always played the piano," Wurm said. "It's always been my best friend and that's why I dearly like selling the pianos that are older and made with such great material – they just seem to have more soul to me. When I show (customers) the piano, they really do record it – it's because I could play."

For more information on Peninsula Piano Brokers, visit peninsulapiano-brokers.com.

How bad can bad market timing be? It's not as gloomy as you think

By Artie Green

The S&P 500 is up over 14% so far this year. But job growth is slowing and Trump tariffs are starting to drive up prices in numerous sectors. Is the economy heading for a fall? Are we nearing a market peak? Is this a good time to sell stocks?

Investors ask themselves these kinds of questions all the time. Especially when stock prices are at or near all-time highs. But rather than worrying about whether this is a good or bad time to do anything, let's consider the consequence of making the wrong market timing decision.

The three worst days to have invested in the stock market over the past 25 years were March 24, 2000, Oct. 9, 2007 and Feb. 19, 2020. The first

was the peak of the dot-com bubble, after which the S&P 500 declined by more than 49% before starting its recovery. The Global Financial Crisis (or Great Recession, however you choose to call it) began on the second date, resulting in a 57% market drop and lasting for more than five years before the S&P 500 was able to set a new high again. And I'm sure everyone remembers the Covid pandemic crash of 2020. Stock prices dropped 34% in a matter of days.

Let's suppose that you are the worst market timer on the planet. You invested \$100K in an S&P 500 mutual fund on March 24, 2000, watched the market chop your money in half and became so discouraged that you stopped investing. That is, until 2007 came

Nest Egg Briefs

along, when you decided to take the plunge again. You added another \$100K to your fund on Oct. 9, only to watch the market collapse again. This time it took you almost 13 years before you could gather up the courage to invest again. Unfortunately your timing remained impeccably bad. You chose the peak before the Covid crash to put your last \$100K into that faithful mutual fund. The subsequent market slump convinced you that you might as well give up investing. You consequently refused to look at any of your monthly statements or listen to any financial media, instead focusing all your interest and passion on your hobby

of carving miniature automobiles out of soap bars.

Did your investment experience really turn out to be a disaster? If you had looked at your balance as of the end of September of this year, you might have been surprised to learn that you were now worth over \$1 million.

How is this possible? It's simply because market gains far exceed market losses over time. The longer you remain invested, the greater the return your portfolio will experience regardless of whatever happened when you started.

Would you have gained more by missing the worst days? Of course! But how can you identify them in advance? And even if you could, since stock prices tend to drop rapidly when downturns begin,

how can you possibly manage to beat all the other investors to the exit door? And do it every time there's a downturn?

This is not to suggest that buy and hold is necessarily the right strategy for investing. Things do change over time: the economy, interest rates, even your own goals, just to name a few. A successful investment strategy includes rebalancing and reallocating your investment portfolio periodically, not to mention tax-loss harvesting to optimize the amount of wealth you get to keep.

It isn't about trying to time the market.

Los Altos resident Artie Green is founder of Cognizant Wealth Advisors. For more information, visit cognizant-wealth.com.



Last market of the season

The last installment of the Downtown Los Altos Farmer's Market was held Oct. 9. Members of the community took the opportunity to get their last fix of farm-fresh produce.

MATTHEW LEE-ASIONG/TOWN CRIER EDITORIAL INTERN

Beware of Halloween costume scams

Better Business Bureau

If you see an ad for extremely discounted Halloween costumes, beware! BBB Scam Tracker has received a few reports of phony websites offering deals that are too good to be true or fake coupons sent via email. Here's how to spot these impostor sites and avoid being tricked

How the scam works

You see an ad online or receive an email for Halloween costumes with shockingly low prices – claims like “overstock clearance,” “90% off,” or “reduced prices.” It looks like a great deal, especially with Halloween right around the corner.

But before you click “buy,” take a closer look. BBB Scam Tracker has received reports of fake websites tricking consumers into purchasing costumes that don't actually exist. One consumer shared, “fake website – attempted to buy a Halloween costume – took my payment and all my contact information including my mailing address. The payment part of the site just spun. I knew they just took all my info and then a day later I had two

charges on my credit card that were fraud.” Other consumers reported clicking on social media ads promising great deals on costumes and decorations only to find out that they've shared their credit card information on phony websites and purchased items that they will never receive. If you're tempted by these “too good to be true” deals here are a few tips:

- Research before you buy. Search online for terms like “scam” or “complaint,” and the company name.
- Check for contact information. Legitimate retailers generally provide a physical address and customer service phone number. Be cautious if a website only has an email form.
- Avoid deals that seem too good to be true. Extreme discounts on trending costumes can be a red flag. Check prices from reputable retailers to confirm.
- Use secure payment methods. Credit cards and other secure payment methods offer fraud protection; or don't direct transfer.
- If your bank flags a purchase, contact them immediately to review your options.

Transactions

Los Altos

147 Fremont Avenue, L. Huang to Y. & S. Bylokhov for \$1,975,000
 861 Riverside Drive, Kazovsky Living Trust to L. & Q. Zhu for \$4,300,000
 743 Santa Rita Avenue, Kinell Family Trust to S. & C. Zhao for \$4,900,000
 201 Yerba Buena Avenue, Rathaur Family Trust to Nasrabadi Living Trust for \$5,500,000
 589 Cherry Avenue, Creston Dr LLC to R. & D. Pham for \$7,350,000
 1355 Arbor Avenue, Suri Family Trust to Adam Living Trust for \$8,200,000

Los Altos Hills

25620 Deerfield Drive, Rimer Living Trust to A. & A. Hansen for \$5,000,000
 26792 Robleda Court, Edward J Yarolin Family Lp to Johri Family Trust for \$5,401,000
 12698 La Cresta Drive, L. & S. Harris to Tzl Holding LLC for \$7,501,000
 12791 Normandy Lane, Freiman Family Trust to Drew Family Trust for \$8,000,000

Mountain View

50 East Middlefield Road #40, X. Huynh to J. & K. Haas for \$520,000
 2255 Showers Drive #421, Patwardhan Family Trust to

Zhang & Chen Family Trust for \$655,000
 505 Cypress Point Drive #176, K. Herz to J. Herington for \$668,000
 2211 Rock Street, C. Cong to S. & E. Bengtson for \$1,414,000
 1905 Stella Street, Y. Deng to J. & Y. Qi for \$1,780,000
 2381 Adele Avenue, Pugh Trust to E. & M. Kim for \$2,000,000
 526 Victory Avenue, H. Casaretto to C. & A. Vanstone for \$2,137,500
 586 Burgoyne Street, Cardona Family Trust to L. & F. You for \$3,230,000
 1152 Morton Court, M. Wong to A. & R. Puli for

\$3,975,000
 1033 Marilyn Drive, Sf23L LLC to J. & R. Almanza for \$5,450,000
 596 Franklin Street, Eisenbud Trust to M. & J. Li for \$5,738,000

Cupertino

939 South Tantau Avenue, Skinner Trust to M. & H. Hu for \$2,412,000
 10451 Finch Avenue, Simplify Wealth LLC to Zhang & Wu Family Trust for \$2,630,000

Total Sales

Los Altos

Total sales: 6
 Lowest sale: \$1,975,000

Highest sale: \$8,200,000
 Average sale: \$5,370,800

Los Altos Hills

Total sales: 4
 Lowest sale: \$5,000,000
 Highest sale: \$8,000,000
 Average sale: \$6,475,500

Mountain View

Total sales:11
 Lowest sale: \$520,000
 Highest sale: \$5,738,000
 Average sale: \$2,506,100

Cupertino

Total sales: 2
 Lowest sale: \$2,412,000
 Highest sale: \$2,630,000
 Average sale: \$2,521,000

– CalREsource



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OF THE WEEK



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BROKER ASSOCIATE

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2721 Fairbrook Drive, Mountain View

- Two levels with 4 bedrooms and 3 baths
- Approximately 2,307 square feet (not verified by Compass)
- Approximately 7,950 square-foot lot (not verified by Compass)
- New updates include: hardwood floors, paint inside and out, kitchen, primary suite bath, and refreshed landscaping
- Spacious formal living room with fireplace plus formal dining room
- Newly remodeled all-white kitchen opens to a large casual dining room and family room with fireplace, each with sliding glass door to the rear yard
- Full bath on main level
- Upstairs primary bedroom with newly remodeled en suite bath
- Three additional bedrooms served by an updated full bath
- Private rear yard with synthetic lawn, large arbor-covered patio, signature redwood tree, and separately fenced side yard
- Sought-after Waverly Park neighborhood minutes from shops, restaurants, El Camino Hospital, and Silicon Valley tech centers
- Excellent Mountain View schools (buyer to confirm)

Price upon request | [2721Fairbrook.com](https://www.2721Fairbrook.com)



Kathy Bridgman: \$189,415,000

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706NSanAntonio.com
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Listed by Michael Repka of the DeLeon Team

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.488.7325 | michael@deleonrealty.com | Equal Housing Opportunity
Francis Lopez, DRE #02119541 | 650.397.8988 | Francis@deleonrealty.com | DELEONREALTY.COM | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS

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579 GLENBROOK DRIVE
PALO ALTO

\$5,750,000 | 6 Bd | 4 Bth
579Glenbrook.com



27500 LA VIDA REAL
LOS ALTOS HILLS

\$39,988,000 | 5 Bd | 12 Bth
27500LaVida.com



12008 EMERALD HILL LANE
LOS ALTOS HILLS

\$7,488,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
12008EmeraldHillLn.com



11722 PUTTER WAY
LOS ALTOS

\$3,200,000 | 3 Bd | 2.5 Bth
11722Putter.com



706 N SAN ANTONIO RD
LOS ALTOS

\$4,988,000 | 4 Bd | 5.5 Bth
706NSanAntonio.com



28500 MATADERO CREEK LN
LOS ALTOS HILLS

\$9,398,000 | 6 Bd | 9 Bth
28500MataderoCreek.com



40 TAGUS COURT
PORTOLA VALLEY

\$6,988,000 | 4 Bd | 3 Bth
40Tagus.com



160 PHILLIP ROAD
WOODSIDE

\$12,988,000 | 5 Bd | 5.5 Bth
160Phillip.com

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Ken DeLeon (DRE #01342140) **650.543.8501**

Michael Repka (DRE #01854880) **650.488.7325**

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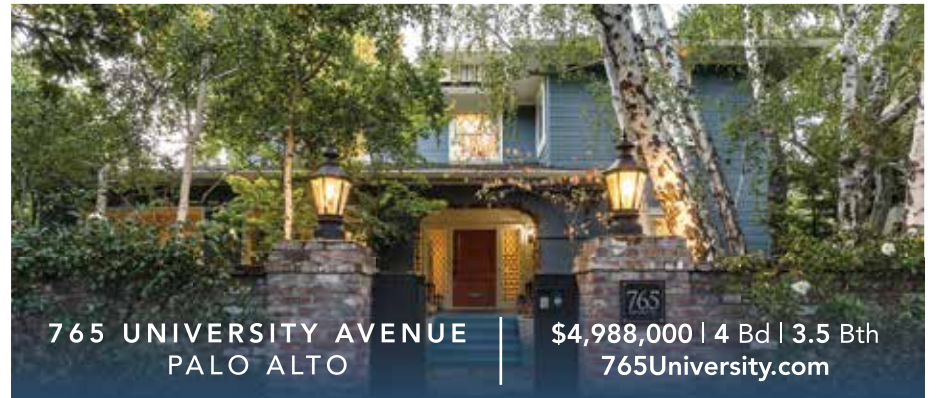


DeLeonRealty_USA



1837 BREWSTER AVENUE
REDWOOD CITY

\$3,488,000 | 5 Bd | 3 Bth
1837Brewster.com



765 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
PALO ALTO

\$4,988,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
765University.com



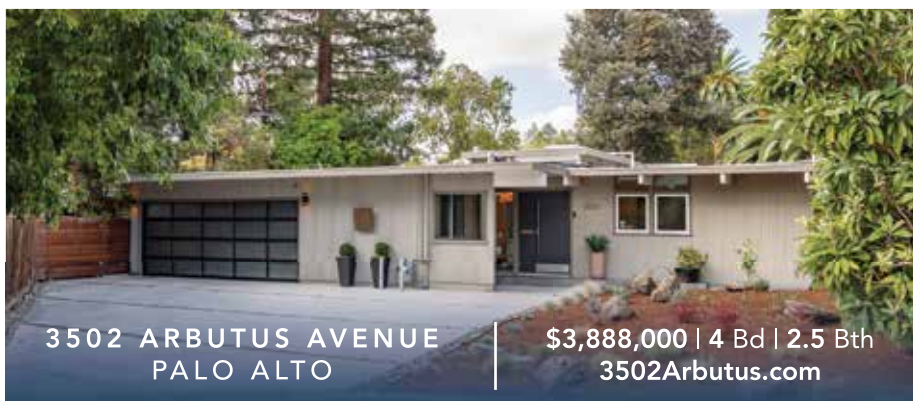
3428 ALMA VILLAGE CIR
PALO ALTO

\$2,788,000 | 4 Bd | 3.5 Bth
3428AlmaVillage.com



653 WILDWOOD LANE
PALO ALTO

\$4,880,000 | 6 Bd | 4 Bth
653Wildwood.com



3502 ARBUTUS AVENUE
PALO ALTO

\$3,888,000 | 4 Bd | 2.5 Bth
3502Arbutus.com



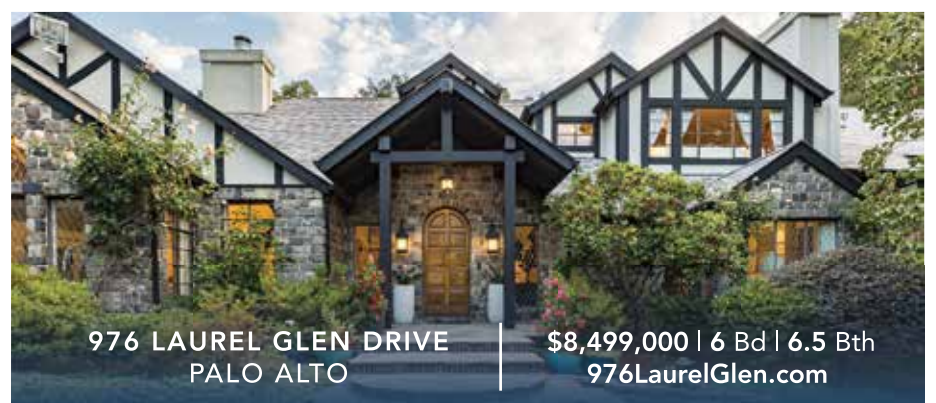
1932 EMERSON STREET
PALO ALTO

\$9,988,000 | 6 Bd | 6 Bth
1932EmersonStreet.com



671 KINGSLEY AVENUE
PALO ALTO

\$1,988,000 | 2 Bd | 1 Bth
671Kingsley.com



976 LAUREL GLEN DRIVE
PALO ALTO

\$8,499,000 | 6 Bd | 6.5 Bth
976LaurelGlen.com



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22100 Mt. Eden Rd, Saratoga
Sold at \$14,100,000



12252 Menalto Dr, Los Altos
Sold at \$10,550,000



10560 Blandor Way, Los Altos Hills
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- JEFF M.



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Jerry Haslam has been a top producer in the Los Altos Coldwell Banker office for 31 years, during which time he has helped sell over \$700 million in real estate. Prior to his career in real estate, Jerry taught philosophy and comparative religion, and hand built two of his own homes. His experience is wide reaching, from large estates to starter homes, from equestrian properties to raw land. Jerry is known for his straightforward honesty, professionalism, and being energetic beyond the call of duty in the service of his clients.

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Buyers & Sellers



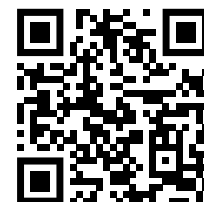
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Audrey Sun

精通中英雙語和粵語
DRE #01933274
650.785.5822
audrey@deleonrealty.com

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27885 Fawn Creek Court
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Multiple Offers Received
Sold for \$1.1M+ Over Asking
Seller paid \$0 commission to buyer's agent



26270 Purissima Road
Los Altos Hills

Sold for \$1M+ Over Asking
Seller paid \$0 commission to buyer's agent



13643 Wildcrest Drive
Los Altos Hills

Received An All-Cash Offer
Sold for \$5.2M
Seller paid \$0 commission to buyer's agent



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CARMEL HIGHLANDS
72 Fern Canyon Road | \$16,800,000



SCENIC ROAD, CARMEL
26177 Scenic Road | \$15,000,000



SANTA LUCIA PRESERVE
13 Rancho San Carlos Road | \$10,850,000



CARMEL
53 Riley Ranch Road | \$8,500,000



MONTEREY
8220 Manjares Road | \$6,895,000



PEBBLE BEACH
1488 Bonifacio Road | \$5,500,000



CARMEL-BY-THE-SEA
Dolores 3NE of 10th | \$3,250,000



PACIFIC GROVE
917 Fountain Avenue | \$1,950,000



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Public Notices

THE FRONT DOOR EDIT FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720639

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) THE FRONT DOOR EDIT, (2) FRONT DOOR EDIT, (3) THE SIDELINE EDITS, (4) SIDELINE EDITS, 6759 Velvet Meadow Ct, San Jose, CA, 95120, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a general partnership. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Maryann Cristofi, 6759 Velvet Meadow Ct, San Jose, CA 95120, Maryam J Youri, 1090 Fox-hurst Way, San Jose, CA 95120. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 10/13/2025. /S/ Maryann Cristofi / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/21/2025. (10-29-25,11-05,12,19-25)

259-T

SOCIAL THINKING CENTER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN720167

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SOCIAL THINKING CENTER, 1901 S Bascom Ave Ste 340, Campbell, CA, 95008, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SOCIAL THINKING COMMUNICOL-OGY, INC., 1901 S Bascom Ave Ste 340, Campbell, CA 95008. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/27/2010. /S/ Michelle Winner / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/01/2025. (10-29-25,11-05,12,19-25)

258-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF ROBIN LYNN STEIN ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 25CV477288

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner: Robin Lynn Stein filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name:

a. Robin Lynn Stein

Proposed Name:

a. Robyn Lynn Stein

2. THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

NOTICE OF HEARING 01/13/2026 at 8:45 a.m. Room: Probate (b) The address of the court is: 191 North First

Street, San Jose, CA 95113.

3. A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Los Altos Town Crier Date: 10/14/2025 /s/ LE Jacqueline Duong Judge of the Superior Court (10-29-25,11-05,12,19-25)

257-T

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

SANITARY SEWER VIDEO INSPECTION PROJECT WW-01011

CITY OF LOS ALTOS
SANTA CLARA COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA

1. Description of Work: The City of Los Altos, Santa Clara County, California, invites sealed bids for furnishing labor, material and equipment required to complete the project in the particular locations, of the forms, sizes and dimensions and of the materials and to the lines and grades and at the elevations as shown and delineated upon the plans and specifications made therefor. The following information is presented to indicate the size of the project and no warranty is made or intended to final quantities:

The project includes, but is not limited to, performing cleaning and television inspection of various sanitary sewer lines located throughout the southeastern part of Los Altos. The base bid for the project includes approximately 108,242 linear feet of sewer lines and the add alternative bid includes approximately 8,722 linear feet of sewer lines. The various sanitary sewer lines range in size from 6 inches to 24 inches in diameter.

2. Location of Work: All of said work is to be done at the places indicated in the specifications for the project as shown in Exhibits A and B included herewith.

3. Contract Documents: Bids must be submitted on the City's bid forms. A copy of the plans (half-size) and specifications shall be obtained from the office of the City Engineer, City Hall, 1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California, 94022 for a non-refundable fee of \$60or visit the City's bids and vendor management portal hosted by PlanetBids to download the PDF file(s) (<https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/71685/portal-home>). Copies may also be inspected at the office of the City Engineer. To the extent required by Public Contract Code section 20103.7, the City will also make the Contract Documents available for review at one or more plan rooms.

4. Labor Compliance. Pursuant to paragraph 7-1.01A, Labor Code Requirements, of the General Provisions in these specifications, Contractor is required to comply with California Labor Code Section 1770, et seq. This Code requires the Contractor to pay their workers based on prevailing wage rates established and issued by the Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Labor and Statistics and Research.

Pursuant to Labor Code sections 1725.5 and 1771.1, all contractors

or subcontractors bidding on public works projects must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR). No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)].

No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public work on a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the contractor registration requirements mandated by Labor Code Sections 1725.5 and 1771.1 shall not apply to work performed on a public works project that is exempt pursuant to the small project exemption specified in Labor Code Sections 1725.5 and 1771.1. This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

5. Pre-bid Site Review: A pre-bid conference is not scheduled for this project. Prospective bidders are directed to Section 2-1.03 of the Standard Specifications regarding examination of the site of work.

6. Contractor's License: The Contractor is required to have a Class A General Engineering, Class C-34 Pipeline, Class C-36 Plumbing, or Class C-42 Sanitation Systems license for this work. All bidders shall be licensed under the provisions of Chapter 9, Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California to do the type of work contemplated in the project.

7. Bid Bond: A bid bond that can be verified as authentic pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 995.311 is required.

a. Amount of Bid Bond. The bid bond shall be ten percent (10%) of the submitted Total Bid Price.

b. Delivery date. The Bid bond shall be submitted to the City before the latest date and time for Bid submittal.

c. Form of Bid Bond. Bid Bonds shall be submitted to the City in cash, a certified or cashier's check, an ORIGINAL paper bid bond, or an Electronic Bid Bond (e-Bond) executed and verified by an admitted surety in favor of the City.

d. E-bond platforms requirements. In the event the Bidder elects to submit an Electronic Bid Bond (e-Bond), a bid will be considered complete only if the applicant:

i. Obtains an E-Bonds issued by Surety2000 <http://www.surety2000.com> or Tinubu <https://www.tinubu.com/ebonding-platforms>; and,

ii. Uploads the E-Bond in pdf form to the PlanetBids portal as a General Attachment. E-Bonds from other e-Bond platforms will not be accepted. Bidders are solely responsible for completing Surety2000 or Tinubu registration, and payment of associated fees and charges. The City is not responsible to Bidders for (i) Surety2000 or Tinubu acts or omissions; (ii) the completeness or timely verification of the authenticity of the issued e-Bond; or (iii) any other errors by third parties in the issuance of the e-Bond.

e. Purpose of Bid Bond. In the event that the successful Bidder fails or refuses to enter into the Contract

awarded to it, the bid bond shall be retained by the City and applied to any damages sustained by the City.

8. Location of Bid Submittal and Date and Time of Opening: The City accepts electronic submittal of bids only. Bids shall be submitted electronically to the City's bids and vendor management portal hosted by PlanetBids at <https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/71685/portal-home> on or before

Thursday, November 13, 2025 at 2PM

The PlanetBids contract ID for this project is WW01011. The Bidder's PlanetBids vendor identification number may also be necessary for the Bidder's Security. Each Bid received before the Bid submittal due date will be automatically opened and unsealed by PlanetBids at the time of the Bid deadline. Bids received after the Bid submittal due date will be rejected. Bids shall be valid for sixty (60) calendar days after the Bid opening date. Bid results (not verified) will be published.

9. Payment & Performance Bonds: The successful Bidder will be required to furnish the City with a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, each equal to 100% of the successful Bid, prior to execution of the Contract.

All bonds are to be secured from a surety that meets all of the State of California bonding requirements, as defined in Code of Civil Procedure Section 995.120, and is admitted by the State of California. The cost of said bonds shall be included in the Bid amount.

10. Award of Contract: Said bids will be presented to and considered by the City Council at a regularly scheduled meeting. The City shall award the Contract for the Project to the lowest responsive, responsible Bidder on the basis of the Total Bid. In the event of any discrepancy between extended and unit prices as set forth in the bidder's bid schedule (i.e., the bidder's extended price does not equal the unit price multiplied by the applicable quantity), the City shall use the unit price to recompute the extended price and bid totals accordingly, and the recomputed amounts shall be used as the basis of determining the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. In the event of a significant discrepancy between unit and extended prices, the City reserves the right in its sole and absolute discretion to reject the bid as nonresponsive.

11. Time of Completion of Work: The work shall be completed and ready for full use within **one hundred and twenty (120) calendar days**, the first day of which shall be the date specified in the City Engineer's "Notice to Proceed".

12. Substitution of Securities: Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22300, the successful Bidder may substitute certain securities for funds withheld by City to ensure performance under the Contract.

13. Rights of the City: The City reserves the right to cancel the project, and to reject any or all bids if not satisfied as to the price for the work or the responsibility of the bidder. The City also reserves the right to waive any informalities according to law.

14. Project Administration: All questions relative to this project prior to the opening of bids shall be in writing submitted through the PlanetBids portal no later than five (5) business days from the bid due date and time.

Special direction is directed to Section 2 of the General Provisions for full directions as to bidding.

Dated: October 16, 2025

/s/ Harun Musaefendic, P.E.
Senior Civil Engineer
(10-29-25,11-05-25)

256-T

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS

WOODLAND BRANCH LIBRARY PATIO EXPANSION CD-10003

CITY OF LOS ALTOS
SANTA CLARA COUNTY,
CALIFORNIA

1. Description of Work: The City of Los Altos, Santa Clara County, California, invites sealed bids for furnishing labor, material and equipment required to complete the project in the particular locations, of the forms, sizes and dimensions and of the materials and to the lines and grades and at the elevations as shown and delineated upon the plans and specifications made therefor. The following information is presented to indicate the size of the project and no warranty is made or intended to final quantities:

The project includes expanding the existing patio with decomposed granite paving, unit pavers, decorative concrete, plantings, and irrigation.

2. Location of Work: 1975 Grant Road, Los Altos, CA.

3. Contract Documents: Bids must be submitted on the City's bid forms. A copy of the plans (half-size) and specifications shall be obtained from the office of the City Engineer, City Hall, 1 North San Antonio Road, Los Altos, California, 94022 for a non-refundable fee of \$100 or visit the City's bids and vendor management portal hosted by PlanetBids to download the PDF file(s) (<https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/71685/portal-home>). Copies may also be inspected at the office of the City Engineer. To the extent required by Public Contract Code section 20103.7, the City will also make the Contract Documents available for review at one or more plan rooms.

4. Labor Compliance. Pursuant to paragraph 7-1.01A, Labor Code Requirements, of the General Provisions in these specifications, Contractor is required to comply with California Labor Code Section 1770, et seq. Pursuant to Labor Code sections 1725.5 and 1771.1, all contractors or subcontractors bidding on public works projects must be registered with the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR). No contractor or subcontractor may be listed on a bid proposal for a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations [with limited exceptions from this requirement for bid purposes only under Labor Code section 1771.1(a)].

No contractor or subcontractor may be awarded a contract for public

work on a public works project unless registered with the Department of Industrial Relations. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the contractor registration requirements mandated by Labor Code Sections 1725.5 and 1771.1 shall not apply to work performed on a public works project that is exempt pursuant to the small project exemption specified in Labor Code Sections 1725.5 and 1771.1. This project is subject to compliance monitoring and enforcement by the Department of Industrial Relations.

5. Pre-bid Site Review: A NON-MANDATORY Pre-Bid Conference and Site Walk will be held at 1975 Grant Road, Los Altos, CA on the following date and time: **November 03, 2025; 11:00am**. Each and every Bidder should attend the Pre-Bid Conference and Site Walk. Prospective Bidders may also visit the Project Site without making arrangements through the Project Manager. Bids will be accepted from Bidders who did not attend the Pre-Bid Conference and Site Walk.

6. Contractor's License: The Contractor is required to have a **Class A General Engineering** license for this work. All bidders shall be licensed under the provisions of Chapter 9, Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code of the State of California to do the type of work contemplated in the project.

7. Bid Bond: A bid bond that can be verified as authentic pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 995.311 is required.

a. Amount of Bid Bond. The bid bond shall be ten percent (10%) of the submitted Total Bid Price. [MH1] [VW2]

b. Delivery date. The Bid bond shall be submitted to the City before the latest date and time for Bid submittal.

c. Form of Bid Bond. Bid Bonds shall be submitted to the City in cash, a certified or cashier's check, an ORIGINAL paper bid bond, or an Electronic Bid Bond (e-Bond) executed and verified by an admitted surety in favor of the City.

d. E-bond platforms requirements. In the event the Bidder elects to submit an Electronic Bid Bond (e-Bond), a bid will be considered complete only if the applicant:

i. Obtains an E-Bonds issued by Surety2000 <http://www.surety2000.com> or Tinubu <https://www.tinubu.com/ebonding-platforms>; and,

ii. Uploads the E-Bond in pdf form to the PlanetBids portal as a General Attachment. E-Bonds from other e-Bond platforms will not be accepted. Bidders are solely responsible for completing Surety2000 or Tinubu registration, and payment of associated fees and charges. The City is not responsible to Bidders for (i) Surety2000 or Tinubu acts or omissions; (ii) the completeness or timely verification of the authenticity of the issued e-Bond; or (iii) any other errors by third parties in the issuance of the e-Bond.

e. Purpose of Bid Bond. In the event that the successful Bidder fails or refuses to enter into the Contract awarded to it, the bid bond shall be retained by the City and applied to any damages sustained by the City.

8. Location of Bid Submittal and Date and Time of Opening: The City accepts electronic submittal of bids only. Bids shall

be submitted electronically to the City's bids and vendor management portal hosted by PlanetBids at <https://vendors.planetbids.com/portal/71685/portal-home> on or before

November 19, 2025; 2:00pm

The PlanetBids contract ID for this project is (CD-10003). The Bidder's PlanetBids vendor identification number may also be necessary for the Bidder's Security. Each Bid received before the Bid submittal due date will be automatically opened and unsealed by PlanetBids at the time of the Bid deadline. Bids received after the Bid submittal due date will be rejected. Bids shall be valid for sixty (60) calendar days after the Bid opening date. Bid results (not verified) will be published.

9. Payment & Performance Bonds: The successful Bidder will be required to furnish the City with a Performance Bond and a Payment Bond, each equal to 100% of the successful Bid, prior to execution of the Contract.

All bonds are to be secured from a surety that meets all of the State of California bonding requirements, as defined in Code of Civil Procedure Section 995.120, and is admitted by the State of California. The cost of said bonds shall be included in the Bid amount.

10. Award of Contract: Said bids will be presented to and considered by the City Council at a regularly scheduled meeting. The City shall award the Contract for the Project to the lowest responsive, responsible Bidder on the basis of the Base Bid only. In the event of any discrepancy between extended and unit prices as set forth in the bidder's bid schedule (i.e., the bidder's extended price does not equal the unit price multiplied by the applicable quantity), the City shall use the unit price to recompute the extended price and bid totals accordingly, and the recomputed amounts shall be used as the basis of determining the lowest responsive, responsible bidder. In the event of a significant discrepancy between unit and extended prices, the City reserves the right in its sole and absolute discretion to reject the bid as nonresponsive.

11. Time of Completion of Work: The work shall be completed and ready for full use within **120 calendar days**, the first day of which shall be the date specified in the City Engineer's "Notice to Proceed".

12. Substitution of Securities: Pursuant to Public Contract Code section 22300, the successful Bidder may substitute certain securities for funds withheld by City to ensure performance under the Contract.

13. Rights of the City: The City reserves the right to cancel the project, and to reject any or all bids if not satisfied as to the price for the work or the responsibility of the bidder. The City also reserves the right to waive any informalities according to law.

14. Project Administration: All questions relative to this project prior to the opening of bids shall be in writing, submitted through the PlanetBids portal no later than seven (7) business days from the bid due date and time.

Special direction is directed to Section 2 of the General Provisions

Public Notices

for full directions as to bidding.

Dated: October 22, 2025

/s/ Anthony Carnesecca
Assistant to the City Manager
(10-22,29-25)

255-T

**KARBREEZE INC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN719677**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: KARBREEZE INC, 830 Steward Dr Ste 276, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): KARBREEZE INC, 725 North Quince St, Escondido, CA 92025. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/04/2025. /S/ Hailu Hailu / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/11/2025. (10-22,29-25,11-05,12-25)

254-T

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
WUN SEN LIN, aka WALLY LIN,
WUNSEN LIN, WUN S. LIN,
WUN LIN
CASE NO. 25PR200975**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of WUN SEN LIN, aka WALLY LIN, WUNSEN LIN, WUN S. LIN, WUN LIN. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by MIAO CHUAN LIN in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that MIAO CHUAN LIN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. 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: 11/19/2025 at 9:01AM in Dept. 1 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 QUYNH T. TRAN, ESQ. & MARY H. LIN, ESQ. Bay Wealth Legal Group, LLP 909 Laurel Street San Carlos, CA 94070 (650) 779-5525; (650) 779-5524 (10-22,29-25,11-05-25)

tion 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 QUYNH T. TRAN, ESQ. & MARY H. LIN, ESQ. Bay Wealth Legal Group, LLP 909 Laurel Street San Carlos, CA 94070 (650) 779-5525; (650) 779-5524 (10-22,29-25,11-05-25)

253-T

**POLARIS ASSOCIATES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN720332**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: POLARIS ASSOCIATES, 836 Nash Road, Los Altos, CA, 94024, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: married couple. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Charlotte Xiaoshuang Fu, 836 Nash Road, Los Altos, CA 94024, Suwen Wang, 836 Nash Road, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 10/23/2015. /S/ Charlotte Xiaoshuang Fu / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/07/2025. (10-15,22,29-25,11-05-25)

252-T

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO
ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
JOHN ADDISON MESCHKE
CASE NO. 25PR200685**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of JOHN ADDISON MESCHKE, aka JOHN A. MESCHKE. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by CONNIE J. MESCHKE in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that CONNIE J. MESCHKE, aka CONNIE JORDAN MESCHKE 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: 11/12/2025 at 9:00AM in Dept. 1 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 RUSSELL L. BOHNE 2479 East Bayshore Road, Suite 180 Palo Alto, CA 94303-3228 (650) 321-3777 (10-15,22,29-25)

dent 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: 11/12/2025 at 9:00AM in Dept. 1 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 RUSSELL L. BOHNE 2479 East Bayshore Road, Suite 180 Palo Alto, CA 94303-3228 (650) 321-3777 (10-15,22,29-25)

248-T

**PELICANROV
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN720084**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PELICANROV, 298 Adeline Pl, Unit 5, San Jose, CA, 95136, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): William Ruizhi Wang, 298 Adeline Pl, Unit 5, San Jose, CA 95136. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/24/2025. /S/ William Ruizhi Wang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/08/2025. (10-08,15,22,29-25)

245-T

**CALLIGRAPHY WINES
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN720062**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: CALLIGRAPHY WINES, 264 State Street, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): GORTHY-CHALLA VINEYARDS, LLC, 3005 Blucher Valley Rd, Sebastopol, CA 95472. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/24/2025. /S/ Srivatsava Gorthy / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/26/2025. (10-08,15,22,29-25)

ley Rd, Sebastopol, CA 95472. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/24/2025. /S/ Srivatsava Gorthy / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/26/2025. (10-08,15,22,29-25)

244-T

**JOHAN'S PIZZA LLC
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN720000**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: JOHAN'S PIZZA LLC, 30 Pickford Ave, San Jose, CA, 95127, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): JOHAN'S PIZZA LLC, 30 Pickford Ave, San Jose, CA 95112. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/22/2025. /S/ Johan David Diaz Martinez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/24/2025. (10-08,15,22,29-25)

243-T

**GOLDENLEAF
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS
NAME STATEMENT
FILE NO. FBN720043**

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: GOLDENLEAF, 780 Teatree Ct, San Jose, CA, 95128, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): QUICKBAR LLC, 738 Cutting Way, Sacramento, CA 95831. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 09/24/2025. /S/ Ricky Ho / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 09/25/2025. (10-08,15,22,29-25)

241-T

\$40

is usually all it costs to publish your Fictitious Business Name in the Los Altos Town Crier

Email
legals@latc.com
by 2pm on
Thursday



Crossword Answers

1	T	2	K	3	O		4	A	5	S	6	U		7	S	8	I	9	S	10	S	11	Y
12	A	I	T	13	C	H	E	S		14	C	N	O	T	E								
15	O	R	C	H	A	R	D			16	A	S	N	E	W								
				17	E	B	B			18	R	U	N										
19	A	20	S	21	I	F				22	A	L	L	E	23	Y							
24	C	O	S		25	C	O	R	V	E	T	T	E	28	S								
29	C	U	R		30	A	H	O	O	T			31	E	A	U							
32	T	R	A	33	N	S	I	E	N	T			34	E	S	S							
		35	S	E	E	T	O					36	O	R	T	S							
			37	L	V	I				38	39	D	E	O									
40	F	41	R	I	A	R			42	A	D	A	P	43	T	44	E	45	R				
46	O	U	T	D	O			47	H	A	S	S	L	E	S								
48	I	M	E	A	N			49	A	Y	E			50	C	R	T						

Sudoku Answers

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

Find A Word Answers

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

Datebook

CLUBS/GROUPS

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 christina@latc.com and include a contact name, phone number and fee to participate (if applicable).

EVENTS

Los Altos Main Library. All events held in the main library, 13 S. San Antonio Road, unless otherwise indicated. **Monday Meditation & Mindfulness,** 10:30 a.m. Mondays, Los Altos Main Library, 7 p.m., Woodland Library, 1975 Grant Road. **Poetry Community Hour Open Mic,** 7 p.m., first Monday of every month. **Spooky Kanzashi Night,** 6:30 p.m. Oct. 29. A special hands-on workshop in the traditional Japanese art of Kanzashi fabric flowers. Guided by sustainable artists Leila Ghasempour and Gigi Farmer. For adults and teens. Materials will be provided. Visit scld.org/events to register. Program is free. **Discover Ilocano Traditional Weaving,** 1 p.m. Nov. 5. Introduces the socio-cultural and historical significance of Ilocano traditional weaving within the Filipino American community. Participants explore iconic design patterns, their symbolism and try weaving on small looms. Seating limited to 25 attendees. **Native American Song and Dance Celebration,** 7 p.m. Nov. 18. Part of the Santa Clara County Library District's celebration of Native American Heritage Month, featuring Future Generations, a collaboration of Native American singers, dancers and artists from the greater San Francisco Bay Area. **Ten Years, Billions of Galaxies, One Sky: The Rubin Observatory Story,** 7 p.m. Nov. 20. Stanford University's Bernadita Ried Guachalla will explore how Rubin's images will help us tackle some of the biggest questions in cosmology: What is dark matter made of? What is driving the accelerated expansion of the Universe? And how did cosmic structures evolve over billions of years? **Mountain View Dia de Muertos Celebration,** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Nov. 1; Enjoy the festivities and altars, ofrendas, decorated with Cempasúchil flowers, or marigolds, papel picado, sugar skulls and a myriad of colors created and inspired by community members. Information: tinyurl.com/MVdiadem-uertos.

CLUBS/GROUPS

Los Altos History Museum. Love history and working with kids? Become a Los Altos History Museum

school tour program education docent. Share local history with 3rd and 4th graders on weekday mornings this spring. Training begins in November. Must be 18 years old to apply. Information: losaltoshistory.org/education/student-tours.

American Association of University Women - Silicon Valley Branch. Open to women (and men) with a college degree who are interested in equity for women and girls. Information: (650) 464-2830, siliconvalley-ca.aauw.net.

Los Altos Hills Club. Historic social club promoting friendship and social contacts among women with a Los Altos Hills mailing address. Activities include luncheons, book groups, bridge and card games. Information: (650) 948-5382, jensensylvia@hotmail.com.

Los Altos-Los Altos Hills Newcomers Club. Nonprofit organization, builds vibrant friendships in Los Altos and Los Altos Hills through special interest and social activities. Information: losaltosnewcomers.org.

Assistance League of Los Altos. Charitable organization benefiting youth of Santa Clara County. Open 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday through Saturday. Located at Third and State streets. Information: (650) 941-2610, assistanceleague.org/losaltos.

Kiwanis Club of Los Altos. An international Service organization. Meets at noon every Tuesday at the Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave. Information: (650) 735-1552, losaltoskiwanis.org.

Peninsula Harmony Chorus. A cappella chorus centered in Los Altos. Performs some "doo-wop" numbers from the 50s and 60s, plus show tunes, ballads, pop, folk, world music and holiday music at year end. Rehearsals Monday evenings at 7:15 p.m. at Los Altos Lutheran Church. Information: peninsulaharmony.org.

GreenTown Los Altos. Nonpartisan group of citizens helping the communities of Los Altos and Los Altos Hills become more sustainable. Information: greentownlosaltos.org.

Foothills Amateur Radio Society. Amateur radio club serving Los Altos and local area. Meets 7 p.m. the fourth Friday of the month. Covington School, 205 Covington Road, Los Altos. fars.k6ya.org.

HP Retired Employees Club. Open to HP/Agilent retirees. Members can participate in activities.

American Association of University Women, Los Altos-Mountain View branch. Open to women (and men) with a college degree who are interested in equity for women and girls. Information: (650) 207-6625, lamv.ca.aauw.net.

Los Altos Las Madres Playgroups. Playgroups for moms and their babies five and under. Play dates in and around Los Altos. Expectant moms, new dads and other caregivers welcome. Information: (650) 917-9914, lasmadres.org.

Quota International of Mountain View/Los Altos. Supports scholarships for hearing-impaired students. Noon, first and third Thursdays of each month. Michael's at Shoreline, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd. Mountain View. Information: (650) 967-5404; quotamvla.org.

Rotary Club of Los Altos. Service group. 12:15 p.m. Thursdays. Garden House at Shoup Park, 400 University Ave. Information: losaltosrotary.org.

South Bay Storytellers. 7 p.m. third Sunday of the month. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave. Information: (650) 494-1383, southbaystorytellers.com.

Sons in Retirement, Branch 5. Small group of men who keep socially and mentally active, have lunch and hear speakers on a variety of subjects. 11 a.m. fourth Wednesday of each month. Michael's restaurant at Shoreline Golf Course, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. Information: (408) 391-1078.

Morning Forum of Los Altos. Nov. 4, Pulitzer Prize-winner Timothy Egan will speak on his years documenting the stories of Indigenous groups. Nov. 18, author, speaker and wilderness guide Jim Wilkens will talk about his adventures. Dec. 2, author Alka Joshi will talk about her new murder mystery novel. Jan. 20, Bertrand Patenaude, Stanford University History and International Relations lecturer, will discuss the history and status of the Baltic States.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Midpeninsula Widows and Widowers Association. Nonprofit volunteer group organizes activities for those who have experienced the loss of a spouse. Meets 1:30-3 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month and 7:30-9 p.m. the remaining Tuesdays at the Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte Road, Los Altos. Information: mpwwal.org.

OBITUARY NOTICE

PETER E. GISE



January 29, 1941 –
October 17, 2025

Peter E. Gise, aged 84, peacefully passed away, surrounded by his loving family, on October 17, 2025, in Los Altos, CA. Born on January 29, 1941, Peter lived a life marked by a profound passion for science and engineering, which informed both his career and personal pursuits.

Educated at Friends Academy of Locust Valley, NY, Peter furthered his studies at Lafayette College, Northwestern University, Stanford University, and Santa Clara University. His career was as diverse as it was impactful, including teaching postgraduate students at the University of Santa Clara, instructing naval officers at Lockheed Martin, working on semiconductor chips at Fairchild Corporation, and contributing to the field of consumer electronics through his work at Artificial Muscle. Peter authored numerous technical papers on semiconductor metrology and two textbooks on modern semiconductor fabrication.

Outside of his professional life, Peter coached youth soccer and baseball, and his hobbies included photography, constructing and racing model boats, and racing RC cars. He was an avid bicyclist and dirt bike rider. He loved racing cars and participated in Autocross and RoadRally. He studied various religions, was an ordained minister at the Universal Life Church, and found joy in officiating weddings.

Peter is survived by his wife, Susan Gise; daughter, Kimberly Gise; son, Christopher Gise; and grandson, Colton Gise. He was preceded in death by his parents, Howard O. Gise and Mary E. Gise.

A celebration of life will be held, with details to follow. The family suggests that in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Conquer Cancer Foundation in Peter's memory.



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