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Music Together promotes
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Home & Garden Magazine
Easy entertaining:
Create an outdoor
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Los Altos Town Crier

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

Vol. 76 No. 17 • 50 cents losaltosonline.com WEDNESDAY • April 26, 2023

A native habitat restored

Numerous groups involved in Redwood Grove rebirth



Town Crier Staff Report

Members of Grassroots Ecology, the Santa Clara Valley Water District and the city of Los Altos gathered Thursday to mark the culmination of work along the Manresa Trail at Redwood Grove Nature Preserve in Los Altos.

The Palo Alto-based nonprofit Grassroots Ecology led efforts to remove invasive plants and revegetate with native species along the trail, which runs parallel to Adobe Creek. Valley Water contributed a five-year, \$150,753 grant with funds from its voter-approved Safe, Clean Water, and Natural Flood Protection Program.

Junko Bryant, co-executive director of Grassroots Ecology, noted how the longer-term project contributed to its success.

"You'll see the plants are real-



PHOTOS BY SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

A volunteer, top, conducts a tour of the restored native plant vegetation along the Manresa Trail Thursday at Redwood Grove Nature Preserve in Los Altos. Above, Los Altos City Council-member Lynette Lee Eng, right, makes a few remarks as Rebecca Eisenberg, left, Valley Water board director, and Alex Von Felt, center, co-executive director of Grassroots Ecology, look on.

ly establishing – that extra time and care that we've been able to provide has been really great," she said.

Grassroots Ecology, which has managed restoration at Redwood Grove since 2009, led staff and

volunteers in ridding the area of detrimental vegetation like Algerian ivy. Used as groundcover in residential areas, the ivy thrives in woodlands, crowding out

See RESTORE, Page 4

Residents' complaints mount over projected sewer rate increases

By Bruce Barton
Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

Los Altos resident Feraydoon Jamzadeh expressed shock when he received an April 18 letter from the city about sewer rate increases. City officials project 15% increases annually through fiscal year 2027-2028.

"It is proposed to increase it by 15% every year for the next five years," Jamzadeh wrote to the Town Crier. "The inflation rate in 2022 was 8%. It was a record high since the early 1980s. The 15% rate increase that the city is proposing for the next five years does not make any sense. It is unreasonably high."

"The sewer rates basically double over a five-year period," added Los Altos resident Mary-Sonja Beasley. "If my payments for sewer service are going to increase twofold in 5 years, I would like to understand why."

The city of Los Altos letter sent to residents notes: "The city charges these rates to fund its costs to provide sewer service collection, including operating costs and contracted treatment costs at the city of Palo Alto's Wastewater Treatment Plant. Increases to sewer rates will enable the city to continue delivering safe and reliable sewer service."

Aida Fairman, director of the city's environmental services and the utilities department, explained where funds generated by the rate hike will be directed.

"The sewer service charges will pay for the operations and maintenance, and minor and major capital improvement plans, including any current debt obligations to the Palo Alto Regional Water Quality Control Plant," she said. "Also, the sewer service charges will pay for the

See SEWER, Page 6

Online Poll of the Week



What do you think of the proposed Los Altos sewer rate hikes?

- They're high, but what can you do? It's the cost of living in Los Altos.
- Residents shouldn't have to pay the full cost for such increases. Surely there are alternatives.
- This is outrageous. Every homeowner should be protesting these charges.

Log your vote at losaltosonline.com. Results will be published in a future issue.

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Around Town

Mtn. View celebrates Earth Day

The city of Mountain View hosted an Earth Day event Saturday at the city's community center. This year's theme, "Building Our Brighter Future," showcased how the city is taking action to help the environment and encourage participation. Activities included electric vehicle rides, a plant-based food tasting, informational talks and children's arts and crafts. At right, family members check out a booth at the event.

ZOE PARKER/TOWN CRIER INTERN



Correction, Clarification

• Last week's Sudoku puzzle included incorrect numbers. The puzzle is being repeated this week with the correct numbers.

• The April 19 article "Riparian habitat or ripe for new housing? Debate continues over Los

Altos site at 2100 Woods Lane" needs a clarification.

The story names the dusky-footed woodrat as an endangered species. The phrase is usually associated with the federal designation, and the woodrat is not on the federal list.

"While there is a subspecies of the dusky-footed woodrat that is endangered, the riparian subspecies, it is not now, nor has it ever been, native to our area," a reader pointed out.

"Both its current and historic range is in the Central Valley. The woodrats that occupy our area are a species of 'least concern,' meaning they are common."

However, Shani Kleinhaus of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society noted the woodrat population at Woods Lane is a "California Species of Special Concern."

For more information, visit tinyurl.com/woodrat23.



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News

City, police agree to new contract

The city of Los Altos and the Los Altos Police Officers Association agreed to a new five-year contract that includes a total 10% base salary increase. The agreement, reached last week, was on the consent calendar for approval at Tuesday's city council meeting.

According to a staff report, the agreement "is expected to correct or improve areas where the city has historically underperformed." Those areas include attraction, recruitment and retention of public safety personnel, and mandatory anti-bias and community policing training.

"The new POA contract will hopefully assist with our employee retention efforts and attract outside candidates to come work at Los Altos," said Police Chief Angela Averiett.

— Town Crier Staff Report

Police Blotter

Assault with a deadly weapon

April 19, 1:01 p.m.: 200 block of Almond Avenue, Los Altos

April 23, 7:05 a.m.: 2500 block of Grant Road, Mountain View

Elder abuse

April 19, 9:44 a.m.: 1000 block of Volti Lane, Los Altos

April 20, 8:57 a.m.: 1700 block of West El Camino Real, Mountain View

April 20, 9:37 a.m.: 2000 block of West El Camino Real, Mountain View

Financial crime

April 19, 4:57 p.m.: 100 block of Main Street, Los Altos

April 21, 12:32 p.m.: 4000 block of El Camino Real, Los Altos

April 21, 5:13 p.m.: 500 block of San Antonio Road, Mountain View

April 21, 5:14 p.m.: 2600 block of California Street, Mountain View

April 21, 8:36 p.m.: 2500 block of Grant Road, Mountain View

— Christina Casillas

Court ruling puts Los Altos natural gas restrictions in doubt

By Bruce Barton

Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

A federal appeals court ruling has thrown Los Altos' recently approved natural gas restrictions into question.

A Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals decision April 17 rejected the city of Berkeley's bid to ban installation of natural gas piping in new construction because federal law regulates gas use through the Energy Policy and Conservation Act and "preempts" Berkeley's ordinance.

"The Act expressly preempts state and local regulations concerning the energy

use of many natural gas appliances, including those used in household and restaurant kitchens," according to the three-judge panel's decision in favor of plaintiffs, the California Restaurant Association. "The (appeals court) panel held that, by its plain text and structure, the Act's preemption provision encompasses building codes that regulate natural gas use by covered products. By preventing such appliances from using natural gas, the Berkeley building code did exactly that. The panel reversed and remanded for further proceedings."

The ruling could neutralize Los Altos' restrictions on natural gas appliances and infrastructure in new construction and

major remodels, outlined in its updated reach codes. The city council approved the first reading of an ordinance April 11 in homes whose renovation projects surpass \$250,000 in valuation or exceed 50% of the housing structure. The ordinance was due for a second reading and adoption at Tuesday's council meeting, held after the Town Crier's print deadline.

The local advocacy group Los Altos Residents sees the court's ruling as good news. Members have been generally opposed to reach codes banning gas, citing government overreach and the burdensome expense on residents.

See GAS, Page 5



RESTORE

From Page 1

native plants and threatening the ecosystem. In its place grew a variety of natives, such as California goldenrod and achillea millefolium.

Last week's event included a trail tour and descriptions of the work involved. Participants included Los Altos City Councilmember Lynette Lee Eng, Valley Water District 7 director Rebecca Eisenberg and Manny Hernandez, the city's parks and recreation director. Both Lee Eng and Eisenberg praised Grassroots Ecology and its work.

The work to extract invasive species and grow 1,500 native plants along Adobe Creek involved an estimated 700 volunteers across numerous groups, including the De Anza College Women's March Club; Dream Volunteers; Google employees; Grassroots Ecology summer interns and youth stewards; Grove Guardians; Gunn High School students; HandsOn Tomorrow;



PHOTOS BY SHELLY BOWERS/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Participants at the Redwood Grove event included, top, from left, Emily Sharp of Grassroots Ecology; Junko Bryant, co-executive director of Grassroots Ecology; Rebecca Eisenberg of Valley Water; and Gary Hedden of GreenTown Los Altos. Above, newly planted species are marked by signs identifying them.

INSEAD alumni; the Rotary Club of Los Altos; Menlo School faculty; the Mountain View Los Altos High School District's Advancement Via Individual Determination program; the National Charity League; Net-App; the San Jose Conservation Corps; Service League of Boys; St. Andrew's School students;

St. Simon School students; and Young Men's Service League.

Redwood Grove is located at 482 University Ave.

For more information on Redwood Grove, visit tinyurl.com/35ysfw35.

For more information on Grassroots Ecology, visit grassrootsecology.org.

Snowpack expected to cause water dangers

Town Crier Report

State authorities are urging residents to wait until summer to begin enjoying, with caution, rivers, streams, lakes and reservoirs in the Sierra, in light of cold-water dangers posed by the season's melting snowpack.

The snowpack, at 227% of average as of March 27, can cause fast flows and cold water temperatures when the snow begins to melt, according to a recent news release from CAL FIRE, California State Parks and the Department of Water Resources. Conditions are expected to be safer in the summer.

"California has one of the largest snowpacks on record," said Department of Water Resources director Karla Nemeth. "As this snowpack melts in the coming months, the waterways will be especially cold, fast and running higher than normal. Be aware of fluctuating water levels. We want everyone to always make safety a top priority when recreating."

"This year is very different from the last several years, in that the excessive snowpack and rain will continue to create challenges for us in the weeks and months ahead," said CAL FIRE Chief Joe Tyler in the release. "Rising water levels in rivers and streams will be very cold, very fast and can easily overwhelm those that aren't prepared or don't heed warnings."

News

Mtn. View approves changes to downtown plan for outdoor dining

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

The Mountain View Environmental Planning Commission last week approved amendments to the Downtown Precise Plan that authorized outdoor dining and merchandise displays, and repealed the Sidewalk Cafe Program and replaced it with the Outdoor Patio Program.

In addition, commissioners presented research and recommendations at the April 19 meeting to city staff on proposed wider walkways for pedestrians and emphasized the need for greater community outreach, especially for businesses on the corners of Castro Street at Evelyn Avenue and California, West Dana and Villa streets.

The Downtown Precise Plan spans sections of Castro from Evelyn to California. City codes and ordinances related to the Sidewalk Cafe Program, set to end in January, will be carried over to the Outdoor Patio Program.

Among the proposed changes to reduce sidewalk congestion is modifying patios to allow 8 feet of sidewalk space instead of the current 4 feet.

Commissioner William Cranston voiced concern about the sidewalk change, questioning why the sidewalk pedestrian space doubled from 4 to 8 feet, instead of 6 feet. He said he viewed the change “as a

“Nothing permanent is getting installed. ... Everything has to be movable – we want to be able to just move things around, learn from it; it will help us get ready for the permanent mall.”

– Dawn Cameron,
Mtn. View public works director

one-way trip.”

“Let’s make sure we take the trip that we want; if we decide that later it should have been 6, we’ll never get it back,” he said. “I’m not questioning what staff has done, I’m cautious of one element of the plan.”

According to Lindsay Hagan, assistant community development director, the city plans to institute a grant program to enable businesses to purchase furnishings that meet the rule.

Call for more data

Commissioners, excluding the absent Preeti Hehmeyer, agreed that more research related to the sidewalk space was needed and formally recommended it to city staff.

“We’re perhaps recommending to staff to add data or reassurance that outreach has been done, how much outreach, and ensure that side-street businesses also are talked to and have feedback that is incorporated,” said commission chairperson

Joyce Yin, before the 6-0 vote endorsing the changes. “As others have mentioned, it’s really just the reassurance that it has been done, that it is iterative.”

Commissioner Alex Núñez inquired about the feasibility of including how many businesses were contacted, how many responded and how many were on the Castro cross streets; city staff said it was doable.

Commission vice chairperson Hank Dempsey questioned why tents were explicitly banned, especially considering rainy winter conditions. According to city staff, fixtures such as tents were initially allowed because their implementation was the only way for some businesses to earn money during the pandemic. With indoor dining now allowed, tents aren’t as needed.

Many of the furnishings will also be easily movable when needed, as city staff hope to have the sidewalk dining areas along Castro power-washed biannually.

“Nothing permanent is getting installed,” said Dawn Cameron, public works director. “Everything has to be movable – we want to be able to just move things around, learn from it; it will help us get ready for the permanent mall, allow us to stay flexible in working with the businesses and support them to the greatest extent possible.”

City staff plan to bring the final report and changes before the council May 9.

adopted pursuant to police powers – not pursuant to the state’s building codes. At this time, the ruling is new, interpretations are evolving, and it is too soon to make any conclusions about how this decision will and will not impact traditional building reach codes concerning the regulation of natural gas.”

As the situation evolves, next steps are under consideration.

“This lawsuit has been ongoing for several years, and this was the first time the courts ruled against Berkeley on the case’s central question of pre-emption,” said Michaela Pippin of Silicon Valley Clean Energy, a nonprofit clean energy supplier to 13 local communities.

“SVCE will continue to pull together information to under-

stand the impacts of this ruling on local reach codes, learn what Berkeley’s next steps are likely to be, and help our member agencies assess their options,” Pippin said.

Approximately 100 cities across the state, including Los Altos, have enacted bans on natural gas in new construction, some through reach codes – regulations that “reach” beyond state energy guidelines. The codes are intended to fight climate change and improve public safety. Methane from natural gas is considered a major pollutant, and its presence indoors is linked to adverse health impacts. Opponents of the codes point to problems with all-electric households, including the lack of energy options during power outages.

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GAS

From Page 4

“It looks like Los Altos and other cities in California are going to suffer a setback in their attempts to ban gas appliances and gas hookups,” Los Altos Residents member Freddie Wheeler said.

Assessing the impact

Other observers think it’s too early to tell.

“This ruling may result in appeals, stays and other legal actions,” Los Altos City Attorney Jolie Houston said in a statement. “Unlike most cities within Silicon Valley Clean Energy Authority’s jurisdiction (including Los Altos), the city of Berkeley had a municipal regulatory ordinance that was

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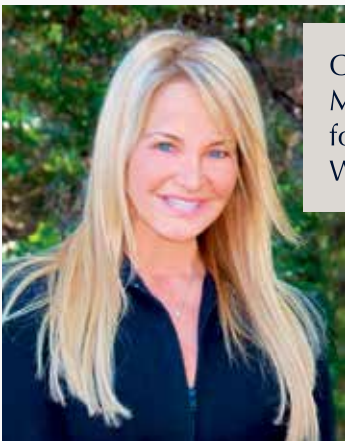
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News

SEWER

From Page 1

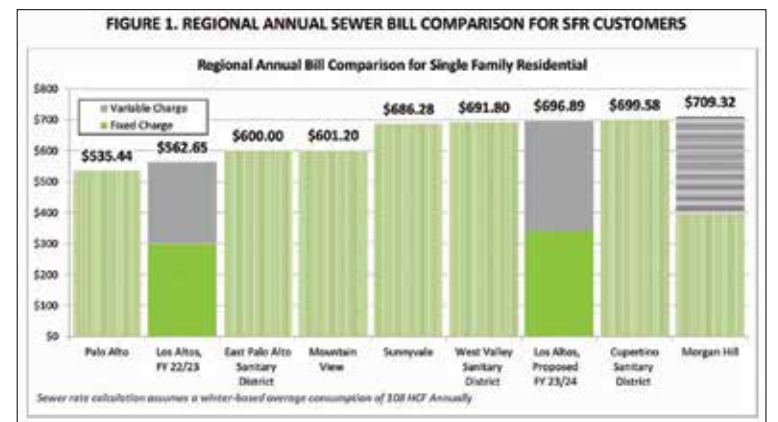
operation and maintenance and capital improvement plans for the city of Los Altos.”

Los Altos levies a fixed service charge and a “volumetric” rate based on use. Current rates are \$301.29 annually for the fixed rate and \$2.42 per hundred cubic feet (HCF, equaling 748 gallons of water). Rates for fiscal year 2023-2024 are projected at \$340.49 fixed and \$3.30 per HCF. According to Jamzadeh, that’s a 13% increase for the fixed rate and a 36% increase for the HCF.

A recent sewer rate study shows Los Altos with the second-lowest cumulative rate (\$562.65 for single-family residences) in a comparison of nine Santa Clara County cities and sanitary districts (see graphic on this page). Neighboring Mountain View’s is currently \$601.20.

Letters of protest

Residents can protest the rate changes, but state regulations under Proposition 218 (requiring that residents vote on a utility tax hike) require 50% plus one needed to vote them down. Residents must provide written protests before the closing of a June 13 public hearing by the Los Altos City Council. Only one written protest is allowed per parcel, and it must be signed by the property owner and mailed or dropped off at the city clerk’s



GRAPHIC FROM LOS ALTOS DRAFT SEWER RATE STUDY

office. No emailed protests are accepted.

Barring a 50%-plus-one outcome, the new rates would take effect July 1.

According to a city staff report presented to council members in February: “If the sewer rates are not increased, the city of Los Altos won’t meet its contractual obligations to the cities of Palo Alto and Mountain View, in which case the city ... can get sued and/or will not be able to discharge its sewage into the Palo Alto Treatment Plant. Or if the city ... cannot pay for needed upgrades, Palo Alto and Mountain View may abandon those upgrades. The system would eventually fail, which would have consequences to the environment and public health, and state and federal agencies would issue fines and other sanctions.”

One resident called for balance.

“I understand that maintaining and improving our sewer

er system is crucial, but it should not be done at the expense of the residents who are already struggling to make ends meet,” said Steve Macias in a letter to the editor. “Many families in our community are already facing financial hardships, and this sudden increase will only add to their burden.”

Residents can use protest forms accompanying the sewer increase letters or can submit their own separate, signed letters. The results of the vote will be announced at the conclusion of the June 13 public hearing. Council members have the option to amend the rate plan.

The city’s website offers information on the sewer fees and Proposition 218. Fairman said the city is answering the public’s questions and including the questions and answers on its website.

For more information, visit losaltosca.gov/publicworks/page/sewer-service-charge-calculation.

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ENDOWMENT

CSA strikes deal with school district to lease building

By Jennah Pendleton

Staff Writer/jennahp@latc.com

Mountain View-based Community Services Agency has expanded its services over the past several decades, but its facilities have remained the same. CSA's headquarters in Mountain View was built 31 years ago and, according to employees, is in definite need of a face-lift.

As a nonprofit that provides essential services to vulnerable populations, including food distribution and homeless case management, CSA's resources have always gone toward providing as many services as possible for clients, leaving little money to revive its aging facilities. However, CSA leaders realized that in recent years, cramped quarters and infrastructure problems are preventing them from expanding.

"We need more space and, as we all know, commercial real estate in this area is just hard to come by," executive director Tom Myers said. "We have decided that it's time to refurbish this building and bring it up to snuff, if you will. This building needs to be more state-of-the-art for the types of services that we're going to be providing."

In addition to an elevator that sometimes stops between floors, a failing

HVAC system, an aging roof and other needed fixes, the existing space could be better used by allocating more space to meet with clients and employees.

Thanks to a sweet deal with the Los Altos School District, CSA will soon relocate temporarily to the building at 435 San Antonio Road as the organization gears up to renovate its space at 204 Stierlin Road. The move will take place gradually, likely beginning in the fall, with renovation plans materializing from there.

CSA is leasing the new space, formerly the home of Joann Fabrics and most recently a community vaccination site, from LASD at the bargain rate of just one dollar per year for two years. The entire block on San Antonio is set to become the district's 10th campus as well as a Mountain View city park by 2027.

Myers urged LASD officials to lease the space to CSA based on a "strong relationship" with the district, while knowing they would be seeking short-term tenants for the buildings before demolition, projected to begin in early 2025.

"They're a great organization – beyond giving food and gift cards, they connect the most underserved in our community with services," said Jessica Speiser, president of the LASD Board of Trustees, at

a meeting approving the lease earlier this month. "We have been unofficially working with them for the past year and half to help get food for our underserved LASD families. ... And with this lease, we could actually start doing the distribution from there to our community."

CSA will move the majority of its services, including food distribution, homeless prevention services and outreach and engagement services, to the new space as early as the fall. Senior case management is currently handled at a remote site on Linda Vista Avenue and will remain there during the move.

Expanding plans

Myers sees the location shift as an opportunity to adjust and expand the agency's services to meet the needs of the community.

"The renovation of this building is going to be assisting our staff, the services that we provide and ultimately leading to the delivery of services to our clients who need it the most," he said.

The transition could include exploring more outreach opportunities and programs, including mobile food distribution and mobile case management. Given that staff will be operating at an increased geographical distance because of the move, it

might also mean finding better methods of collaboration among the staff.

"Our friends at another service agency have created a mobile truck, and this may be the way we need to go in the future – a mobile truck that can actually take food and a case manager or case management team off-site and distribute food and case management from a single truck," Myers said. "That may be one thing that's in our future."

The specific date of the move is yet to be determined, but Myers noted there will be plenty of outreach and communication to clients so they can still access the services they need.

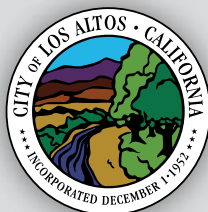
In the meantime, he said the organization is always looking for new volunteers as well as donations. CSA is currently looking for volunteers who can perform administrative tasks, especially bilingual people who can speak either Spanish or Mandarin.

Director of programs Brandi Jothmani extended an open invitation to local residents who may be curious about CSA, its offerings or volunteer opportunities.

"Come meet us, come see what we're doing," she said. "We would love that."

For more information, visit csacares.org.

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Comment

Letters to the Editor

Prioritize funding for animal control

I was walking down Miramonte Avenue one night recently with my wife and one of my kids when a car slammed into a large raccoon crossing the street, fatally wounding it. The driver paused to ask what he had hit, then drove on.

While I stood in the road waving cars to a stop with a flashlight so they wouldn't swerve into oncoming traffic, my wife called animal control, only to learn they close their office before dark. We tried the police and were told that removing animals was not in their purview. Eventually, my wife ran home and got a shovel and I moved the creature to the side of the road.

According to the Los Altos fiscal year 2022-2023 budget, "Public Safety" (the police department) has a budget of \$22,918,053, or 47% of the entire General Fund. When people talk about defunding the police, what they often mean is reallocating overly generous budgets to more useful social services. I don't know how much is spent on animal control, but I'm guessing that adding an overnight shift at the expense of the police budget would not result in a single additional crime.

If a car accident resulted from a wounded animal in the middle of the road, three police cars,

an ambulance and a fire truck would respond and we'd all be grateful to our first responders. But spending a pittance to prevent that accident from happening is evidently a waste of civic funds.

The budget states that "The City of Los Altos will continue to implement plans, strategies, and educational opportunities to ensure public safety, traffic safety, and emergency preparedness services are done in a responsive, equitable, professional, socially responsible, and trustworthy manner."

Evidently, "responsive" is the key word, rather than "preventative." I don't believe we should abolish the police, but I do believe we should take a hard look at how much we spend on them at the expense of services that would do far more to improve our daily quality of life.

Doug Edwards
Los Altos

Sewer rate increase deemed 'outrageous'

Each of us received a Notice of Proposed Sewer Rate Increase recently via snail mail.

I get the fact that to most of us, anything that costs less than a grand barely merits our attention. But please forgive me for intruding upon your inner peace with this, as I found the Notice:

(1) Outrageous, and

Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

Stonebrook Court (also known as Morgan Manor) in Los Altos Hills was the home of Ford Country Day School, founded in 1935, from the early 1950s until it closed in 1988. Students pose at the back of the house in 1959.

(2) Bemusing

I don't know about you, but when I get conflicting emotions on a subject, I get really interested in it. Such is the boring life some of us retirees live.

Outrageous: Sewer charges have a fixed and variable component to them. The details are spelled out in the Notice.

So, let's normalize the rates and consider year-over-year percentage increases. Oh, the advanced math that I do for you, my cherished neighbors.

The fixed charge goes up 13% next year, then 15% per year thereafter.

The variable rate goes up 36% next year, then 15% per year thereafter.

I get the fact that the hyperinflation of the past 18 months was shocking, so year 1 rates going up a lot merits consideration as reasonable (well, maybe 36% is a tad high). But what really galled me was the temerity to ask for 15% year-over-year thereafter. I mean, you know, maybe if we were Argentina this would be OK, LOL.

Pity that no justification was provided.

Bemusing: Let's say that you are really peeved by the pro-

posed rate increases. Whatcha gonna do about it?

The Notice says two things which a wag like me thinks is hilarious:

(1) To protest, one must snail-mail a signed, written document to the city. Now you see how sewage increases the carbon footprint and contributes to global warming – to wit, the reduced gas mileage all those postal vehicles will suffer from.

(2) Even better, the city cannot approve the increase if 50% plus 1 of the Los Altos property owners protest. Yeah, right, like that will ever happen.

Steve Smith
Los Altos

Library parking: Don't forget the lease

It was disappointing to read about the prospects of parking spaces being further reduced at the Los Altos main library ("Library users petition to protect lot, stop dog park," April 12).

Before another step is taken, the Los Altos City Council should review the lease renewed between the city and the Santa Clara County Library District in 2013. Good through April 17, 2033, the lease calls for "a park-

ing lot with approximately ninety-five (95) parking places" for the library. Summarily reduced by 14 spaces with the construction of the meandering walkway between the library and the History Museum that arrived with the new community center, that count is now well below the lease stipulation, to about 81 spaces.

Offhand comments about the BookDash Home Delivery and the book drop box lessening the need for on-site parking do not match reality of parking remaining an issue and getting worse as we come out of the pandemic. Stop by sometime to see for yourself, especially when one of the library's many programs is underway.

The 14 removed spaces need to be replaced to comply with the lease terms, and more are needed above that quantity to meet community existing and future needs.

Duncan MacMillan
Los Altos Hills

Editor's note: The lease terms noted in the above letter are being "misapplied" and "are incorrect," according to Los Altos City Manager Gabriel Engeland.

Los Altos Town Crier

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SUBSCRIPTIONS: howardb@latc.com

Administration

Chief Executive Officer, Co-Publisher:
Dennis Young (311), dennisy@latc.com

Chief Operating Officer, Co-Publisher:
Howard Bischoff (Ext. 306), howardb@latc.com

Chief Marketing Officer, Co-Publisher:
Kathy Lera, (307), kathyl@latc.com

Editor-in-Chief:
Bruce Barton (301), bruceb@latc.com

Managing Editor/Sports:
Pete Borello (315), peteb@latc.com

Reporters:
Jennah Pendleton (316) jennahp@latc.com
Christina Casillas (313) christinac@latc.com
Adrienne Mitchel (317) adriennem@latc.com

Copy Editors:
Colleen Schick, Mary Larsen

Consultant/Freelancer:
Eliza Ridgeway elizar@latc.com

Magazines Designer:
Michel Echeverria (323), mikee@latc.com
Alina Kalashnikova (322), alinak@latc.com

Contributing Photographers:
Shelly Bowers, S.M. Lieu, Ted Simon

Interns: Saira Ahmed, Karuna Chandran,
Annabelle Eaton, Kaitlyn Huang, Niyatee Jain,
Prisha Mohapatra, Kaavya Mehrotra, Rebekah Park,
Zoe Parker, Sophia Yao, Kathleen Xie

Print/Media Ad Sales

Real Estate Advertising:
Alo Mano (320), alom@latc.com

Ad Sales:
Kathy Lera (307), kathyl@latc.com
Janice Fabella (302), janicef@latc.com

Ad Services:

Production Manager:
Melissa Rodriguez (309), melissar@latc.com

Graphic Designer:
Michel Echeverria (323), mikee@latc.com

Jr. Graphic Designer:
Alina Kalashnikova (322), alinak@latc.com

Classified: classifieds@latc.com

Paid Obituaries: obits@latc.com

Legals/Public Notices: legals@latc.com

Los Altos Online:
Jennah Pendleton (316), jennahp@latc.com

Publishers Emeriti: Paul and Liz Nyberg

Office Hours:
Mon./Wed.-Fri: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tues: 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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The Los Altos Town Crier, ISSN 87504585, is published weekly every Wednesday by LATC Media Inc., 138 Main St., Los Altos 94022. Periodicals Postage Paid at Los Altos, CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Los Altos Town Crier, 138 Main St., Los Altos, CA 94022. The Los Altos Town Crier is an adjudicated newspaper of general circulation for Santa Clara County: Decree No. 328150. Yearly subscription rates in advance: within county, \$60; seniors, \$50; out of county, \$70.

Community

Los Altos Police Department hosts open house Saturday

Town Crier Report

The Los Altos Police Department has scheduled a Public Safety Open House 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Los Altos Civic Center, in the parking lot between the police station and city hall, 97 Hillview Ave.

The event provides residents the opportunity to meet members of the police department.

The festivities will include tours of the police station; a display of emergency vehicles, both current and vintage; a showcase of specific department units; refreshments; a bike rodeo, a “kids’ zone” with activities; a Santa Clara County mobile book library; face painting; crafts; and doughnut decorating.

The inaugural event is the brainchild of new Los Altos Police Chief Angela Averiett.

“Many people have never had



TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Los Altos police are holding an open house Saturday to build relationships with local residents. The event will feature children’s activities and tours of the police station.

any sort of interaction with their local law enforcement and only know about police based on TV

shows or media coverage,” Averiett said. “An open house gives people a chance to meet and mingle with their local police to get a better understanding of what we do. But it is also a great way to actively engage with the community we serve, because law enforcement is the community.”

Police will be joined by members of the Santa Clara County Fire Department, Palo Alto Animal Control and Pets In Need, as well as community emergency preparedness groups.

Admission is free and open to all, including attendees with dogs.

No registration is required.

Limited parking is available at the community center.

For more information, visit losaltosca.gov/police/page/public-safety-open-house.

RLA showcases power outage solutions during open house

Town Crier Report

Resilient Los Altos plans to highlight power outage mitigation at the Los Altos Police Department’s Public Safety Open House 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, in a booth located between the police station and the Los Altos Youth Center, 97 Hillview Ave.

RLA focuses on community resilience, specifically the ability of groups of people to respond to and recover from natural disasters, acts of violence, economic hardship and other challenges.

Residents may hesitate to spend tens of thousands of dol-

lars on solar panels, battery storage, a whole-house standby generator or other power outage mitigation. One resident’s more moderately priced solutions – in the \$50 to \$2,000 range – that reduce the adverse impact of an outage will be showcased at the booth.

The organization also will provide information on emergency preparedness, amateur radio and Block Action Teams, as well as offer related activities for kids, including games and walkie-talkie use.

For more information on Resilient Los Altos, visit resilientlosaltos.org.



Attention, wordsmiths!
The Town Crier
Crossword Puzzle is on
page 15.

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Community

Community Briefs

Drawn2Art features wildlife presentations

Drawn2Art has scheduled a nature-themed student art show and wildlife presentations Saturday at its Los Altos studio, 941 Fremont Ave.

The event will showcase how the Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley is helping injured animals in the area and explain how attendees can help support the organization.

Ages 4-7 are welcome from 1-2:30 p.m., and ages 8 and up from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Families with students in both age groups can pick either time frame to attend.

Wildlife presentations are set for 1:45 p.m. and 3:30 p.m.

The festivities will include refreshments and activities, while supplies last.

Drawn2Art teaches a fine-art drawing and painting program that offers beginning, intermediate and advanced levels, focusing on individualized instruction suited to students' needs and interests.

Subject matter including still life, landscapes, the figure, cartooning and animals are taught in a realistic way and with a classical approach to painting and drawing. Drawn2Art teaches students to work with graphite, pastels, colored pencils, pen and ink, charcoal, watercolors, acrylics, oil, gauche and more.

To schedule a free introductory class and for more information on the event, call (650)

LAH Pathways Run set for May 13

The 22nd annual Los Altos Hills Pathways Run/Walk is scheduled May 13 at Westwind Community Barn, 27210 Altamont Road.

Participants have the option of 5K and 10K races, beginning at 9 a.m., or 1-mile "fun runs," beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Entry fees are \$45 for the 5K and 10K runs, \$30 for the 1-mile runs.

For more information, visit lahpathwaysrun.org.

Commission issues call for art

The Los Altos Public Arts Commission has issued a call for art from artists who live, work or attend school in the city.

The two-dimensional art created for "Moments in Time" should reflect and connect to a moment in time that is meaningful to the artist.

Selected artworks will be on display in the Los Altos Community Center Art Gallery through November.

The deadline for submissions is Sunday.

For submission details and more information on the show, visit losaltosca.gov/publicartscollection/webform/moments-time.

Mtn. View chamber honors CSA staff

The Mountain View Chamber of Commerce is set to honor

two Community Services Agency staff members at the 28th annual Celebration of Leaders and ATHENA Awards 5:30 p.m. May 4 at the Computer History Museum, 1401 Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View.

Brandi Jothimani will receive the Young ATHENA Award and LaDrea Clark the Unsung Hero Award.

The Young ATHENA Award recognizes a leader who actively supports women in improving leadership skills and professional development.

As director of client programs at CSA, Jothimani manages a team of mostly women leaders who deliver safety-net services.

Unsung Hero honoree Clark, who has worked at CSA for nearly 20 years, serves as Food and Nutrition Center director, aiming to ensure residents in need have access to nutritious food.

To register for the awards ceremony and for more information, visit chambermv.org/celebration-of-leaders-awards.

History Museum highlights 'Camelot'

The Los Altos History Museum's latest exhibition, "One Brief Shining Moment: JFK's Camelot in Early Los Altos," is on display in the J. Gilbert Smith House gallery through June 11.

Jacqueline Kennedy first coined the term "Camelot" to refer to Kennedy and his administration's courage and wisdom.

"Many people viewed the JFK administration as the ideal government, indicative of King Arthur and his Knights of the Round Table," said exhibition curator Jordan Grealish. "Hopes for a government where people of many different talents came together to serve the public with honor and high ideals was also reflected in the early days of Los Altos."

Visitors can view Kennedy memorabilia – including a signed letter from the president and a hat from his campaign – and government documents and photos of glamorous social engagements from Los Altos in the 1960s.

The Los Altos History Museum is located at 51 S. San Antonio Road. Hours are noon to 4 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays. Admission is free.

For more information, visit losaltoshistory.org.

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Community

AAUW funds local student leaders' trip

Town Crier Report

The Los Altos-Mountain View and Palo Alto branches of the American Association of University Women funded fellowships that enable two Foothill College students to attend the AAUW-sponsored National Conference for College Women Student Leaders at the University of Maryland in College Park May 31 to June 3.

The conference brings together hundreds of college women from around the country each year for three days of leadership training, inspiration and networking.

Awardees Skye Bridges, president of Associated Students of Foothill College, and Molara-Ade Mabogunje, a senator in ASFC, believe their work with student government

has given them a better understanding of how cooperation and communication among stakeholders, including students, faculty and administration, is vital to every attempt at change.

Bridges, a resident of East Palo Alto and a graduate of Menlo-Atherton High School, is a chemistry major with a minor in sculpture who hopes to go from Foothill to a four-year college, where she can pursue interdisciplinary studies.

She is particularly interested in workshops offered by the conference that focus on women in nontraditional STEM fields.

Mabogunje is a Mountain View native and a graduate of Los Altos High School. Her parents are originally from Nigeria, and her long-range plans are to return to Nigeria and

open a school there. With majors in political science and economics, she is interested in the conference workshops about building leadership skills and support for developing leadership.

For both Bridges and Mabogunje, attendance at the conference will mark their first visit to the East Coast.

They hope to be able to spend a few extra days touring Washington, D.C., before or after the conference.

The AAUW fellowships include room and board as well as attendance at all conference meetings. The Foothill-De Anza Community College District is providing airfare for the two awardees.

For more information, call Allyson Johnson at (650) 833 8594 or visit lamv-ca.aauw.net.

Judge speaks at LAH Club luncheon

Town Crier Report

Local Judge Socrates Peter Manoukian is scheduled to speak at the Los Altos Hills Club's luncheon noon May 9 at Fremont Hills Country Club, 12889 Viscaino Place, Los Altos Hills.

Manoukian has been a judge of the Superior Court in Santa

Clara County for over a decade, presiding over civil and criminal trials from juvenile delinquency to the appellate division.

The longtime Los Altos Hills resident will offer his perspective on several current legal issues, including women and the law, and sentencing guidelines. In addition, he will share practical advice about law and

dealing with lawyers.

Guests are welcome. The buffet lunch is \$40. To register, send a check made out to the Los Altos Hills Club to LAH Club, P.O. Box 1965, Los Altos 94023-1965.

The deadline to register is May 5.

For more information, visit lahclub.com.

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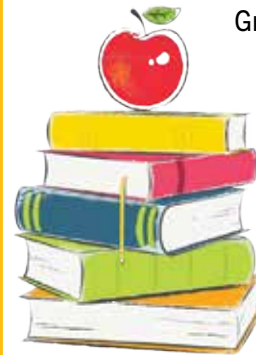


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Spiritual Life

Foothills Congregational Church welcomes new senior minister

Special to the Town Crier

Foothills Congregational Church in Los Altos is celebrating the arrival of new senior minister David Green.

Green previously led church communities in Texas, Missouri and, most recently, Bucks County, Pa.

"I am very much looking forward to joining the Foothills Church congregation – it's progressive, inclusive, universal – a place where all are welcome," Green said. "We were all forced,

during the pandemic, to undergo a massive social experiment, and one thing we were shown is how much people crave community."

His father and grandfather were ministers, and Green described his formative years as "idyllic," as he grew up in many parsonages and played in many churches while his father was writing sermons.

"You could say I always had a second family – the church members wherever we lived," Green said.

Green graduated from the

University of Texas in Austin and the Austin Presbyterian Seminary. He held a variety of jobs before starting seminary at age 29.

"I worked in my maternal grandfather's gas station in high school and in a department store in college and then managed and remodeled theaters," he recalled.

He also wrote screenplays and was interested in the arts, especially filmmaking.

Once in seminary and in other training programs, he focused on pastoral care, hospice

support, health-care ethics, clergy misconduct issues and community-building.

Green and his wife, Ellen, have a blended family of four adult children. They will be welcomed at Foothills with a lunch after the 10 a.m. church service May 7. The festivities are open to all.

Foothills Congregational Church is located at 461 Orange Ave. For more information, email info@foothills-church.org or visit foothills-church.org.



Green

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M-F: 8 am, 12:10 pm

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Stepping Out

The end of 'Society'

TheatreWorks play closes Sunday in Mtn. View

Town Crier Report

TheatreWorks Silicon Valley's production of the drama "A Distinct Society" is scheduled to close Sunday on the MainStage at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.

Giovanna Sardelli directs Kareem Fahmy's world premiere, which is presented in association with Pioneer Theatre Company.

By chance and geographic anomaly, a quiet library in northern Vermont straddles the U.S.-Canada border. Most years it's just a curiosity, but during the "Muslim ban," it

becomes an unlikely meeting place for an Iranian family who find themselves on opposite sides of an invisible divide. When the Québécoise librarian, a U.S. Border Patrol officer and a local teenager become involved, all must choose between breaking the law and saving themselves.

The cast includes Carrie Paff (as head librarian Manon Desjardins), James Rana (Iranian cardiac surgeon Peyman Gilani, who hopes to visit his daughter in the library) and Vaneh Assadourian (Shirin Gilani, a medical student whose father is in Canada).

Fahmy is a Canadian-born playwright and director who



KEVIN BERNE/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Bruce (Kenny Scott) watches Manon (Carrie Paff) rehearse an aria for an upcoming performance in "A Distinct Society," a TheatreWorks Silicon Valley world premiere closing Sunday.

earned a master's in directing from Columbia University.

Shows are slated 7:30 p.m. today, 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, 2 and 8 p.m. Saturday, and

2 and 7 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are \$25-\$95.

For tickets and more information, call (650) 903-6000 or visit mvpca.com.

LA Stage Co.'s 'Harold & Maude' runs at Bus Barn through May 7

Town Crier Staff Report

Los Altos Stage Company's production of "Harold and Maude" is slated to run through May 7 at Bus Barn Theater.

Colin Higgins wrote the romantic dark comedy, which is based on his 1971 screenplay of the same name.

The play follows an unusual pair. Harold is a morbid young man obsessed with death and dying. Octogenarian Maude is a bright and shining soul filled with a zest for life. When the pair strike up a friendship, Maude teaches Harold how to make the most of his time on Earth.

LASC executive artistic director Gary Landis directs the production.

Shows are set for 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays at Bus Barn, 97 Hillview Ave.

Tickets are \$20-\$40.

For tickets and more information, call (650) 941-0551 or visit losaltosstage.org.

PA Players' 'SpongeBob Musical' opens Friday at Lucie Stern

Town Crier Report

Palo Alto Players' production of "The SpongeBob Musical" is set to open Friday and run through May 14 at the Lucie Stern Theatre, 1305 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto.

Based on the animated series by Stephen Hillenburg, the two-and-a-half-hour show centers on the citizens of Bikini Bottom as they discover a volcano is ready to erupt and destroy their home. SpongeBob

and his friends must come together to save the fate of their undersea world.

The cast includes Joe Galang as SpongeBob SquarePants, Rocky James Concepcion as Patrick Star, Andrew Cope as Squidward Q. Tentacles, Solona Husband as Sandy Cheeks, Zachary Vaughn as Eugene Krabs and Nico Jaochico as Sheldon Plankton.

Palo Alto Players artistic director Patrick Klein directs, supported by Asa Stern (vocal director), Richard Hall (music direc-

tor) and Stacey Reed (choreographer).

Palo Alto Players offers a pick-your-price preview night and post-show cast talkbacks with the purchase of any ticket.

On opening night, patrons can enjoy a free post-show Champagne and sparkling cider toast in the outdoor courtyard.

Tickets are \$30-\$60; discounts are offered to seniors, educators, patrons under 30 and active military.

For tickets and more information, visit tinyurl.com/ywm2b8wm.

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Puzzles Page

Town Crier Crossword

By Myles Mellor

Across

1. Lettuce variety
5. Horse/donkey hybrid
9. Soul is its original definition
14. "Desperate Housewives" character
15. "Why should _ you?"
16. Load of laughs
17. Turn over
18. Biol. subject
19. Takes a chance
20. Be true to yourself, millennial style
23. Corinne Bailey ____ Grammy nominee
24. Prehistoric
25. Aphorism
29. Aachen article
31. Mid-seventh-century date
34. Endorse publicly
36. Government security agency, abbr.
37. City east of Santa Barbara
38. Positive millennial comment about "Pirates of the Caribbean" star perhaps
41. Coastal raptor
42. Pittance
43. Breadwinner
44. Gas station abbr.

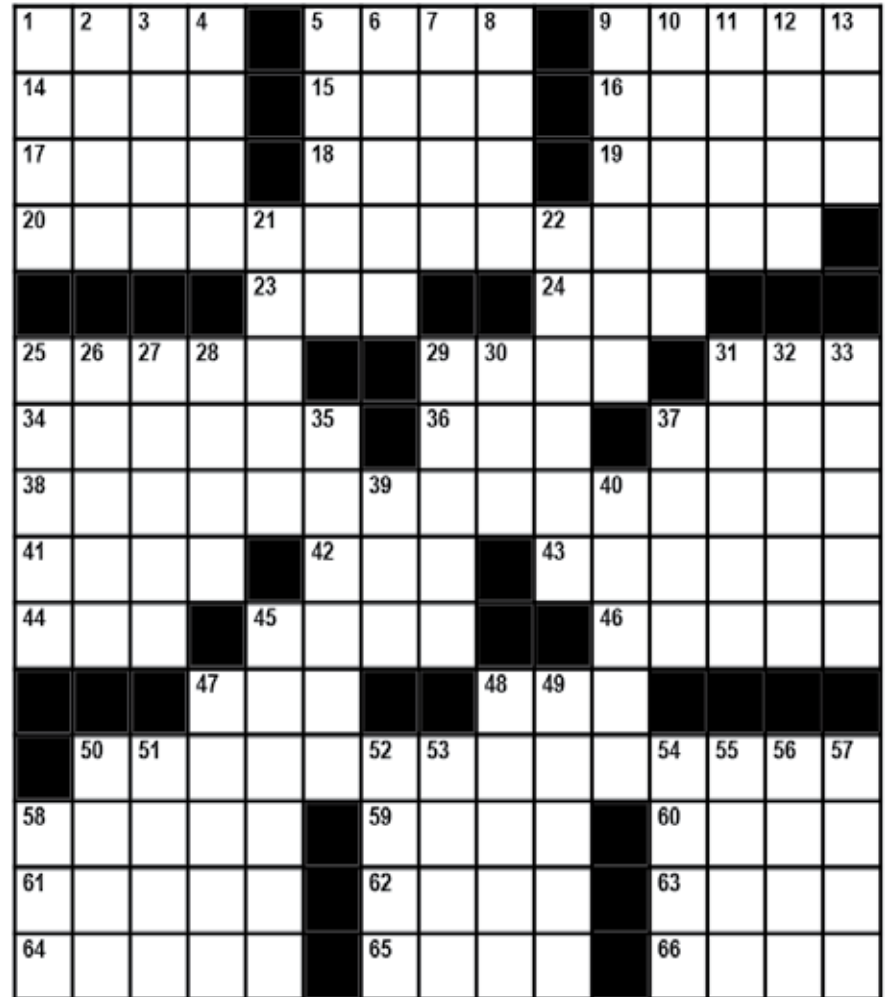
45. Lodge letters
46. Sells
47. Harper or Spike
48. ____ - fi
50. Really the straight-up truth, to a millennial
58. Jacobs and Anthony
59. Rabbit ____
60. Norse saint
61. Disney amusement park
62. Guinness of "The Quiller Memorandum"
63. French priest
64. Distributes at a card game
65. Start from scratch
66. Spawning fish

Down

1. Great guitarist Jeff ____
2. ____ fixe
3. Tarry
4. Pager sound
5. Mazda model
6. Forearm bones
7. Rachel's sister, in the Bible
8. Dying words to Brutus
9. Row
10. Pottery fragment
11. Times past
12. Male/female attendee
13. Elevs.

21. Blue and black bird from Asia
22. Generic
25. Wedding proposer
26. Caterpillar rival
27. Breezing through
28. Reason for an R rating
29. Endow, as with a quality
30. "There ____ Mountain" (1967 Donovan hit)
31. Islamic spirit
32. Like some chairs
33. Falsifiers
35. Banish
37. Mike Myers' character
39. Lake Superior locks
40. Sea explorer, for short
45. Wild things
47. Maj.'s superior
48. Bit
49. Router maker
50. Cassette contents
51. Whale type
52. Shakespearean king
53. Princeton rival
54. Comedian, Bob
55. "Twittering Machine" artist

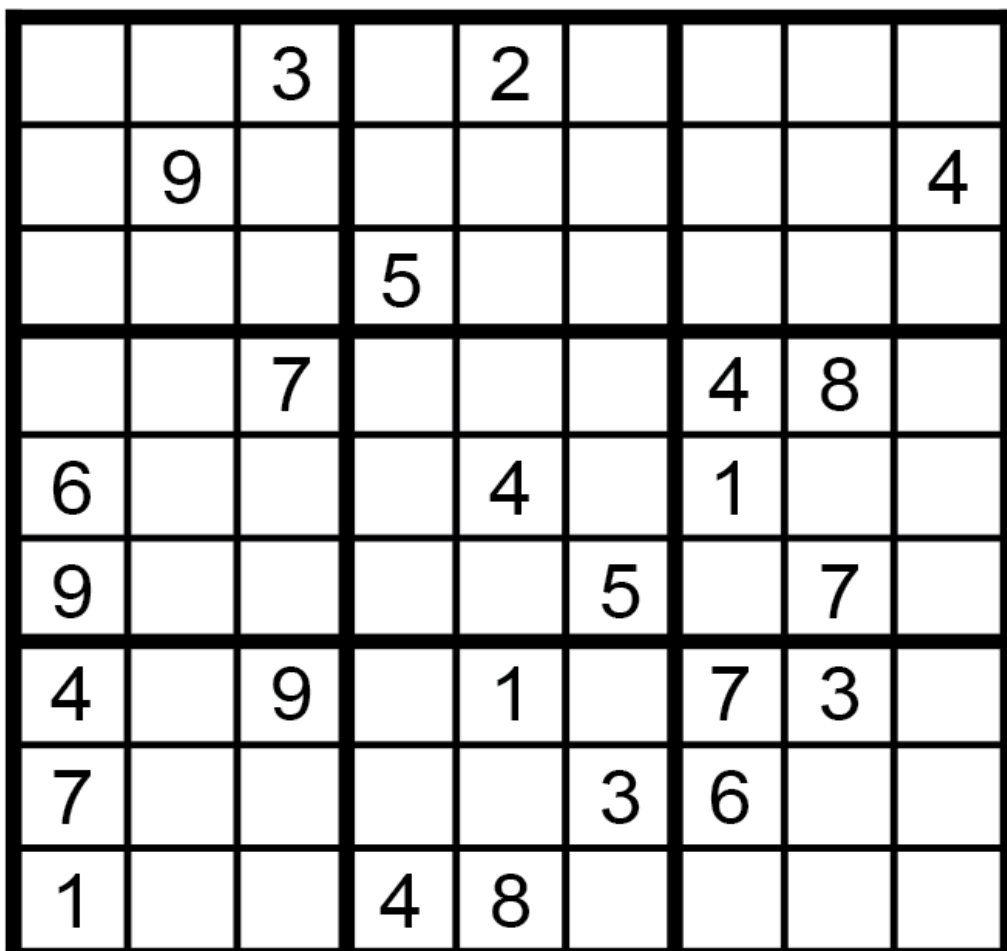
Answers
on Page 39



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



Fifteen world rivers are listed by this puzzle. They may go across, up and down or diagonally in the puzzle. Circle each one when you find it.

Amazon
Colorado
Congo
Danube
Ganges

Mekong
Mississippi
Missouri
Nile
Rhine

St Lawrence
Thames
Volga
Yangtze
Yellow

Sports

Sports on the Side

SF QB Dougherty commits to Linfield

St. Francis High quarterback **Matt Dougherty** recently announced on social media that he has committed to play football at Linfield College in McMinnville, Ore., starting next season. The senior last fall completed 76 of 135 passes for 1,309 yards and had 15 touchdowns for the Lancers.

MV PAL hosts run next month

The Mountain View PAL 5K Fun Run and Youth Extravaganza, hosted by the Mountain View Police Activities League, is set for 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. May 6 at Crittenden Middle School, 1701 Rock St. There is also a 1-mile option. Registration is \$40 for the 5K and \$25 for the mile. The Youth Extravaganza begins at 1 p.m. The free event, aimed at kids in the community, includes lunch, carnival-style activities, face painting, music, a bounce house and booths. To register and for more information, visit tinyurl.com/rzjsvfw.

Local high schools seek coaches

Los Altos High needs varsity and junior varsity coaches for badminton, along with varsity coaches for girls basketball and girls soccer. If interested, email athletic director **Michelle Noeth** at michelle.noeth@mvla.net. Mountain View High needs a varsity assistant coach for girls volleyball. If interested, email athletic director **Tim Lugo** at tim.lugo@mvla.net. St. Francis High seeks a varsity boys basketball coach. To apply, visit tinyurl.com/bdepb94d.

Free pickup hoops slated Sundays in MV

Silicon Valley Basketball hosts free pickup games 9:30 a.m. to noon Sundays on the outdoor courts at Graham Middle School, 1175 Castro St., Mountain View. All skill levels, ages and genders are welcome. For more information, visit tinyurl.com/52bhe58v.

Eagles sweep Spartans

Los Altos puts up 22 runs over two games

By Pete Borello

Staff Writer/peteb@latc.com

The Los Altos High baseball team dominated rival Mountain View in last week's league series, outscoring the Spartans 22-2 over two games.

By doing so, the Eagles maintained their second-place standing in the SCVAL De Anza Division (now 6-2 in league), with a big series against third-place Palo Alto (5-3) set to begin today on the road. Mountain View, meanwhile, dropped to 2-6 in the De Anza, putting the team ahead of only a Gunn squad (1-7) it hosts today.

Los Altos won the series opener 13-2 at Mountain View April 19 "by playing solid defense, being patient at the plate and being opportunistic," Eagles coach Gabe Stewart said.

Trailing 2-1 in the third, Los Altos scored twice – with the first run coming on an errant throw that allowed Stuart Cash to make it home from third – to take the lead for good.

The Eagles pulled away in the fourth by exploding for seven runs, helped by two walks and two errors by the Spartans. Jack



PHOTOS BY T. MALLIE BRATHWAITE/
SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Los Altos High's Stuart Cash, above, races home in last week's series opener against Mountain View. At right, Spartan Kevin Conway slides under Eagle second baseman Rowan Sims.

Burcell and Rowan Sims each drove in two runs in the frame, with a single and double, respectively.

Eric Colgrove earned the win, pitching a complete-game three-hitter that included 11 strikeouts.

Los Altos cruised to a 9-0 victory in Friday's home game, scoring eight of those runs by the second inning.

Cash and Burcell drove in the Eagles' two first-inning runs with singles.

Mountain View threatened in the top of the second – Clay White singled and stole second – but Sly Cash struck out the next three batters.



In the bottom of the inning, "the Eagles asserted themselves," Stewart said.

Gavin Moore led off with a double and scored on Adam Kamin's single. After back-to-back walks loaded the bases, Burcell hit a hard-to-handle chopper to second that enabled Kamin and Stuart Cash to score. Aaron Baum sprinted to third on the play and then crossed the plate on a throwing error. After the Spartans hit a batter, Dewrell Wesley singled in two runs to extend the lead to 8-0.

Los Altos added a run in the fifth when Stuart Cash drove in

Kamin, who singled and stole second and third. Kamin finished the day with four hits.

Sly Cash got the win with six innings of work. He allowed just three hits (all infield singles) and struck out eight.

The Eagles, who lost Saturday's non-league game at Half Moon Bay 4-2, enter today's 4 p.m. game at Paly at 10-8 overall. Los Altos hosts the Vikings at the same time Friday.

Mountain View, which has dropped four straight and is 8-11-1 overall, entertains Gunn at 4 p.m. today and visits the Titans at the same time Friday.

LA boys 4x100 relay team sets school record at CCS Top 8 meet

By Pete Borello

Staff Writer/peteb@latc.com

With a time of 41.89 seconds at Friday's CCS Top 8 track and field meet, the Los Altos High boys 4x100 meter relay team broke a school record set the year gas averaged 39 cents a gallon, "The Exorcist" was the top movie in theaters and the MRI was invented.

"The previous record, we believe, is from 1973 (42.19), so it's been 50 years since last broken," Eagles co-head coach Dave Barth said. "The team was flying around the track and the handoffs were clean."

That allowed the team of Ata Sen, Zach Fagin, Leo Goebel and Nathaniel Guillory to finish just ahead of Sacred Heart Prep (42.06) for first place Friday at Los Gatos High. The Eagles now rank first in the Central Coast Section and 12th in the state.

"All four of these team members have worked so hard – not just this season, but the prior seasons as well," said Barth, who added that they've been eyeing the record since the season began. "It was great to see the record fall; we definitely enjoyed this race and now it's time to refocus to see if we can improve upon the record again and prepare for the



COURTESY OF STEPH MACKENZIE

The Los Altos High boys 4x100 relay team – Zach Fagin, from left, Ata Sen, Leo Goebel and Nathaniel Guillory – set a school record at Friday's CCS Top 8 meet.

upcoming championship meets."

While it wasn't a school record, the Los Altos girls 4x100 team set a new season standard at the meet. The team of Gwendolyn Mello, Daniela Hughes, Ananya Vaswani and Paige Kasso placed third with a 49.37.

Individually, Lydia Anderson had the highest finish among the Eagles competing at the Top 8. The freshman placed second in the girls 3,200 run with a personal-best 11:05.13 that co-head coach Steph MacKenzie described as "incredible." It was only the second time Anderson had run the 3,200.

Fellow freshman Lily Symon took third in the girls 800 with a personal record 2:17:02.

Prep Sports Summary

Jasleen Sidhu finished fifth in the girls 1,600 by clocking a 4:54.94, and Kasso was fifth in the 100 with a personal-record 12.54.

Back to the boys, Guillory was third in the 200 (personal-best 21.80) and Fagin came in fourth in the 100 (10.68).

Mountain View sophomore Hannah Rutherford "came out of the blocks with a vengeance" in the girls 100 dash, according to Spartans sprint coach Mark Rutner, winning in a school-record time of 24.55.

Rutherford also anchored Mountain View's 4x400 relay team, which finished fourth with a 4:05.69. The Spartans were in seventh when she took the baton.

On the boys side, Spartan senior Evan Markelz set a personal record in the 1,600 with a second-place time of 4:16.45 that is less than a second shy of the school record.

Gymnastics

Paced by all-around champion Misty Mukherjee, Mountain View won last week's Gilroy Invitational 2. The Spartans' See SUMMARY, Page 17

Sports

SUMMARY

From Page 16

team score of 148.300 bested St. Francis (146.200), Los Altos (106.200) and Christopher (40.750) at the April 18 meet.

Competing in her first high school meet of the season, Mukherjee posted an all-around score of 37.600. The junior tied for first on the vault (9.200), placed second on the uneven bars (9.750) and tied for second on the floor exercise (9.500).

Teammate Alyssa Ong, also making her season debut, took second all-around with a 36.950. The junior won bars (9.800) and floor (9.650).

“Misty and Alyssa both had great meets, with beam being their weakest events, but I know that they will hit their beam routines at the future meets,” said Sarah Wallace, the coach of Los Altos and Mountain View.

St. Francis’ Abby Tsao (36.550) and Lauren Imelli (36.500) finished third and fourth, respectively, all-around. Fifth-place finisher Anna Kolkpova (36.250) of Mountain View “had another really strong meet,” Wallace said.

Sarah Mosalem led Los Altos with an all-around score of 35.900 that put her in a tie for seventh with Mountain View’s Alice Chegwiddden. Wallace said Mosalem “had an awesome meet, one of the best she has had.” The senior tied Mukherjee for first on vault with a 9.200.

“Her routines may not be the most difficult,” Wallace said of Mosalem, “but she always is very clean and does not give many deductions for the judges to take, which results in receiving really good scores.”

Boys lacrosse

Los Altos climbed to second place in the Peninsula Athletic League Bay Division by winning both games last week. The Eagles beat Palo Alto 11-8 and Carmont 13-5, improving to 4-2 in league and 7-3 overall.

Jack Wald scored seven goals over the two games and Owen Lee had five.

Los Altos led at halftime in both games, thanks not only to balanced scoring, but the defense led by goalie Raiden Mori and the play of midfielder Tyler Crissman, who won more than 60% of his face-offs.

Local high school sports schedule for April 26-May 2

Baseball

Today

Pinewood at Fremont, 3:30 p.m.

Los Altos at Palo Alto, 4 p.m.

Gunn at Mountain View, 4 p.m.

Friday

Palo Alto at Los Altos, 4 p.m.

Mountain View at Gunn, 4 p.m.

St. Francis at Riordan, 4 p.m.

Pinewood vs. North Valley Baptist at Washington Park, 4 p.m.

Saturday

Sequoia at Los Altos, noon

Tuesday

St. Francis at Sacred Heart Cathedral, 4 p.m.

Softball

Today

Sacred Heart Cathedral at St. Francis, 4 p.m.

Thursday

Homestead at Los Altos, 4 p.m.

Mountain View at Wilcox, 4 p.m.

Friday

St. Francis at St. Ignatius, 4 p.m.

Saturday

Mountain View at Menlo-Atherton, noon

Tuesday

Notre Dame-Belmont at Los Altos, 4 p.m.

Cupertino at Mountain View, 4 p.m.

Track & field

Thursday

Los Altos at SCVAL De Anza Division finals at Gunn, TBA

Friday

Mountain View at SCVAL El Cami-

no finals at Wilcox, TBA

Saturday

West Catholic Athletic League trials at St. Francis, 9 a.m.

Boys lacrosse

Today

Sacred Heart Prep at St. Francis, 3:30 p.m.

Thursday

Los Altos at Menlo-Atherton, 7 p.m.

Saturday

Mountain View at Hillsdale, noon

Tuesday

Sequoia at Los Altos, 7 p.m.

Aragon at Mountain View, 7 p.m.

Girls lacrosse

Today

Los Altos at Wilcox, 7 p.m.

Saturday

Mitty at Mountain View, 1 p.m.

Friday

Sacred Heart Prep at St. Francis, 7 p.m.

Monday

Saratoga at Los Altos, 4 p.m.

Boys volleyball

Today

Fremont at Los Altos, 6:45 p.m.

Mountain View at Homestead, 6:45 p.m.

Thursday

Mitty at St. Francis, 6 p.m.

Friday

Los Altos at Los Gatos, 6:45 p.m.

Mountain View at Lynbrook, 6:45 p.m.

Boys tennis

Thursday

St. Francis at WCAL individual tournament at Cuesta Park, TBA

Friday

SCVAL finals, TBA

Swimming & diving

Today

Los Altos at SCVAL De Anza Division boys swimming and diving finals, TBA

Mountain View at SCVAL El Camino Division girls swimming finals at Cupertino, TBA

St. Francis at WCAL diving finals at Presentation, 3 p.m.

Thursday

Los Altos at De Anza Division girls swimming and diving finals, TBA

Mountain View at El Camino Division boys swimming finals at Cupertino, TBA

St. Francis in WCAL boys swimming trials at Bellarmine, TBA

Friday

Los Altos at De Anza Division combined swimming and diving finals at Saratoga, TBA

Mountain View at El Camino Division combined finals at Cupertino, TBA

St. Francis in WCAL girls swimming trials at Bellarmine, TBA

Saturday

St. Francis in WCAL individual swimming finals at Bellarmine, TBA

TBA: To be announced

Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian

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Schools

LASD Junior Olympians break decades-old records

Town Crier Staff Report

Students from all seven Los Altos School District elementary schools competed in the 61st annual Junior Olympics Saturday at Los Altos High School, celebrating one another's athleticism and even breaking some decades-old records along the way.

According to organizers, the event symbolizes more than just the athletic achievements of fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade LASD students, however – it takes members of the entire local schools community to pull off the competition and encompasses the passion of students, parents and staff members from past to present, including the Los Altos Educational Foundation, which has raised \$2.5 million for district programs this year.

"All seven schools worked together to make it happen, and I think the collective effort for our broader community really makes this event feel special," parent volunteer Kerry Bonar said.

Future participants cheered their schoolmates on from the stands, parents teared up watching their children compete in their last Junior Olympics and past participants who are now in high school returned to volunteer for the day.

"I think everyone I talked to circled back to the same feeling of appreciation and gratitude for the amazing community we live in and events like this that bring out the best in everyone," Bonar said. "Good sportsmanship was encouraged at all pre-event pep rallies, and I think that was reflected in the support everyone felt for



PHOTOS BY FAUSTO IBARRA/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Athletes from the Los Altos School District's seven elementary schools competed in the annual Junior Olympics Saturday. The schools community, including the Los Altos Educational Foundation, came together to show their support for the student-athletes.

each other during the day."

Students set three records Saturday, the first of which was broken by only 0.2 seconds in the
See OLYMPICS, Page 19



Exploring philosophy in the STEM-centric Silicon Valley

By Janus Tsen

Timeless philosophical ideas, from when philosophy was thought to be the original science, have seeded the majority of Western academia. Philosophers with rational clarity and insight in existential topics were hailed for their wisdom. However, with time, the guiding role of philosophy – and reverence for it – had faded into merely a relic of a romanticized ancient world.

Philosoteen

Yet the deprioritization of philosophy in everyday life, partially through its absence in the educational curriculum, has correlated with increasing political polarity and social strife. It is increasingly necessary to step out of the miasma of misinformation that surrounds us to question: Why?

Philosophy is not an obsolete, defunct field of study; it is the framework of rational thought and the catalyst for self-improvement. I believe schools must adopt a formal philosophy curriculum into their

core classes so that students, during their formative years, can benefit from the skills philosophy helps one develop.

The STEM-dominated nature of Silicon Valley need not come at the cost of a humanities education, specifically one in philosophy. In a political context, philosophy offers valuable insight into social issues. Moral theories, such as the happiness-first maxim of utilitarianism or the virtue-based principles of Aristotelian ethics, may assist in determining feasible solutions to the social problems we face.

Philosophy dictates what leaders (and other citizens) must prioritize when creating new policies; it creates a strict moral ideal to work toward. If schools are meant to train the next

See PHILOSOPHY, Page 19



Tsen

Preschoolers race homemade derby cars

The Children's House of Los Altos held a preschool version of the Pinewood Derby April 5. Students built design cars and studied different types of math and creative writing throughout the three-month unit.

The derby is in its 12th year. Parents, staff and students regard the annual event as a special opportunity to gather and learn.

For more information on The Children's House, visit emeducation.com.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF COURTNEY MAYON



Schools

PHILOSOPHY From Page 18

generation of leaders, would it not benefit society for these leaders to have a background in critical thinking and ethics? This would certainly prompt a better outcome than that of selfish modern politics.

In the personal context, philosophy improves the human intellect. Quite simply, studying philosophy makes us smarter. The intellect is the mind – the source of logical argumentation and the reason human beings dominate the

natural world. Our intellect allows us to recognize and solve problems, innovate, imagine and theorize. These creative aspects of our minds are what schools should foster, not the commonly criticized follower and factory worker mentality. Philosophy as an integral part of the school curriculum would serve as both an enrichment to the logic- and analysis-based STEM classes, as well as a repository of existential information.

The capabilities of our minds complement and fulfill the requisites of philosophy.

They build upon one another. To strengthen the body, one exercises; to work the mind, one philosophizes. The act of philosophizing dictates how one might utilize his or her mind to its fullest capacity when making decisions: through evaluation of risk versus reward, conflicting interests and various solutions. This guarantees a rational decision and a more sensible outcome, one free of emotional intervention and knee-jerk reactions.

Again, I ask, if schools are meant to train freethinkers, would it not benefit society for these individuals to cultivate a logical thought process?

Philosophy may not provide answers to physical phenomena, but it does assist in the formation of virtuous character and an analytic mind. The value of philosophy does not lie in tangible results, unlike many of its academic offspring, but instead in the intangible im-

provements to human nature and society. For the sake of posterity and working toward an improved world, philosophy is a necessity in modern education.

Janus Tsen is a sophomore at Gunn High School. His passion lies in comparative world philosophy, and how it might be applied to everyday life. He is accepting ethical and philosophical questions to address in future columns at editorial@latc.com.

OLYMPICS From Page 18

sixth-grade boys 1,320 run. Liam Tassa of Springer School finished the race in 3:56.8, breaking the previous record from 2017.

In jump rope, Minkyu Jang of Covington School broke the sixth-grade boys record with 127 jumps within 30 seconds, besting the previous record of 125 jumps shared by students in 1984 and 2013.

In the long jump, Caroline Mortimore of Covington School set a new record for the sixth-grade girls by jumping 95 inches, topping the 89.5 inches from 1989.

In addition to breaking records, students overcame hardships. Gardner Bullis School's fifth-grade boys blue relay team anchor Ziggy Mullens lost his shoe during the hand-off but managed to sprint to the end with just one shoe, securing



COURTESY OF KERRY BONAR

Gardner Bullis fifth-grader Ziggy Mullens lost his shoe during his relay run.

fourth place for his team. Ziggy's friend retrieved the shoe for him and ran it to the finish line.

For full event results, visit lasdjo.com/2023-results.

For more photos, visit losaltosonline.com.





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If you have information to share please contact:
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
EL CAMINO HEALTHCARE DISTRICT

REGARDING BOARD MEMBER COMPENSATION

Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Section 32103, the Board of Directors of El Camino Healthcare District will hold a Public Hearing to receive public comment and consider adoption of a resolution increasing Board member compensation from One Hundred Five Dollars (\$105) per day to One Hundred Ten Dollars (\$110) per day for attendance at a meeting of the Board.

The Public Hearing will be held on May 16, 2023 at 5:30 PM PST at El Camino Health, Sobrato Boardroom 1, 2500 Grant Road, Mountain View, CA 94040 or by teleconference at +16699009128,,92955087287#.

The public is invited to attend and provide oral and/or written comments. Written comments must be received at or prior to the meeting time and date. A copy of the proposed resolution is available for review in the public bulletin posting area located at El Camino Health, 2500 Grant Road, Mountain View, CA 94040 or by accessing the District's website at <https://www.elcaminohealthcaredistrict.org/>.

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Beyond the Classroom

Beyond the Classroom is published annually. For advertising information, email sales@latc.com.

Anyone can be a music maker

Advice on how to make a joyful noise as a family

By Eliza Ridgeway

Special to the Town Crier

Children develop their earliest musical abilities by watching and listening to the musical world of the grown-ups around them – not through formal taught instruction.

That's why local early-childhood music educator Rizzie Vacketta includes parents in her music classes – and has even taught evening guitar classes as a bonus to encourage the eager beavers among her adult family participants. She teaches for Music Together, which gathers children and their caregivers from infancy onward at local venues such as Los Altos Lutheran Church and the Sunnyvale Community Center.

Vacketta's a singer in the Bay Area band The Inciters and a multi-instrumentalist, playing saxophone, guitar, ukulele, piano and – as a teacher – a djembe drum, with which she leads a cohort of her “older” young people (ages 4-8) in curriculum that begins to introduce the rudiments of harmony and music theory amid collaborative musical games.

Practicing for hours at home alone was Vacketta's idea of fun as a young

person, but she wasn't just born with that musical streak – she also has vivid childhood memories of listening to her dad play albums in his office while singing along and making up his own words to lyrics he didn't know.

In a Q&A with the Town Crier, she discussed what she's learned about the power of parents who can lean into musical play – even if they're untrained (or untuneful) beginners. Our interview was edited for brevity and clarity.

Q: Why did listening to your dad's Bob Marley backing vocals matter to you, in hindsight? It was the first thing you thought of when I asked about how families can spark music in a child's life.

A: I didn't think much of it when I was a kid, I used to just be playing with toys in the corner of the office while my dad was doing that. But now as an adult and as a music teacher, I know it was really meaningful – that authentic enjoyment of music from somebody who doesn't have any music background. He didn't have much music education in his life, but I think that authentic, kind of unfiltered enjoyment is an important thing to pass along to kids, because that's the first seed.



ELIZA RIDGEWAY/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Rizzie Vacketta, with largest drum, leads families in a Rhythm Kids version of the Music Together class, which introduces patterns on the djembe drum.

There's this cultural divide we have, of people who consider themselves “music makers” – that's a small percentage – and then there's everyone else, who says, “Oh, well, I'm not a musician, I barely know how to play the radio.”

Culturally we have this idea of what it is to be a musician, and it seems so far away for people, but it's actually not that far – the difference between the mom who lives next door and Lady Gaga is

just a lot of practice. If you have (innate) potential for music making and you never nurture it, never practice, somebody else who has no aptitude for music can easily surpass you by putting in a little bit of time – or a lot of time.

Q: Many parents remember how hard it can be to enjoy making time for regular instrumental practice from

See MUSIC, Page 24

Hills native shares expertise through Engage STEM nonprofit

By Kaitlyn Huang

Town Crier Editorial Intern

It all started when Los Altos Hills native Russell Yang began helping his grandparents with technology.

Years later, in 2018, the Harker School student and a group of high school volunteers began answering seniors' technology questions under the organization Engage STEM at the Los Altos Hills Parks and Recreation building.

The next year, Engage STEM became a student-run nonprofit that, at its peak, had 43 chapters nationally and abroad.

“Engage STEM really arose from me looking at my community's needs and the people around me, and the ways in which I might be able to help them,” said Yang, now a sophomore at Yale University.

This year, however, Engage

STEM is slated to dissolve. According to Yang, he no longer has enough time to run the group.

From its founding to its dissolution, Engage STEM offered free programs such as Tech Literacy for Seniors workshops and STEM outreach programs for middle and high school students. Over the years, with support from the Hershey Foundation's Heartwarming Project Action Grants and MIT AgeLab, the programs impacted thousands of youth and older adults.

Yang led the first senior tech workshop in the Los Altos Hills chapter, which provided free technology help for seniors.

“Being able to use FaceTime or just being able to call or text really were instrumental in helping a lot of our participants be able to connect with their loved ones and connect

with their communities,” he said.

Los Altos resident Nancy Franich, who attended Yang's workshop, said the one-on-one system – with one high school volunteer paired with one older adult – “seal(ed) the deal” for her, because unlike group classes offered by companies such as Apple, the tech help was more personal.

“That was what was really nice – to have someone young, who knew what all these things were,” said Franich, who teaches aerobics.

She added that Engage STEM made a lasting impact on her technology use. For instance, during the height of the pandemic, when Franich moved all of her aerobics classes online, Yang made an instructional video for Franich's students on using Zoom video calling.

“Not all of us are really ad-



COURTESY OF RUSSELL YANG

The Engage STEM team hosts a workshop in Los Altos Hills.

apt at using a computer, and he made it step by step, as if he were sitting next to you,” she said. “Three years from the time we started, we're all used to using Zoom.”

Strengthening bonds

The workshops also had a lasting impact on the chapter presidents leading them.

“It has been a transformative experience, where these high school students are able to get really hands-on in terms of leading an organization (and) serving their community, but also being responsible for a lot of the administrative and logistical things that they

See STEM, Page 24



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Beyond the Classroom

Assessing 'college ready' versus 'college capable' in student success

By Jordana Bischoff

What does it mean to be both "college ready" and "college capable"? These are two terms we often discuss with students as they prepare for the next step after high school.

Road to College

College readiness is often something students have heard of, and usually when people discuss this term casually, they are referring to both academic preparation and the factors that define college capability.

However, college readiness is more closely tied to academic readiness and preparation. Did the courses students took in high school prepare them for the academic course load and rigor of the university classroom? Did students take on the challenge of AP, International Baccalaureate, Honors or dual enrollment to demonstrate their academic readiness for the college class-



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room? Have they taken courses for multiple years across the five core academic disciplines – English, math, science, social studies and foreign language? Have they taken elective courses preparing them for their intended major, such as introduction to engineering design for students who plan on majoring in engineering?

Of course, it is important to note all of this is evaluated by colleges within the context of what is offered at students' high schools. So, for example,

students cannot be penalized for not taking dual enrollment courses if their school does not offer dual enrollment options. This also applies to AP courses – students cannot be expected to take 12 AP courses if their school only offers eight AP courses.

College capability, on the other hand, refers to how students are prepared to survive and thrive beyond the college classroom in a new environment. Are they ready to be the sole manager of their time, schedule and routine? This includes considering living styles with new roommates, learning to do their own laundry, budgeting their own money and all of the other things related to living as adults. It even includes being capable of feeding themselves healthy and balanced meals on a regular schedule.

More than 36% of first-year college students end up dropping out or transferring. Surprisingly, the No. 1 reason is not college readiness (academic issues), but lack of being college capable. Lack of capability often results in lower grades because the student is unable to balance their newfound freedom with the responsibility of managing their own lives.

Understanding what it means to be college capable is understanding how students manage their responsibilities – whether that load is just school and extracurricular activities, or whether their load includes school, extracurricular activities and possibly working a job. What we typically find is this is the place where most students, even those with straight A's

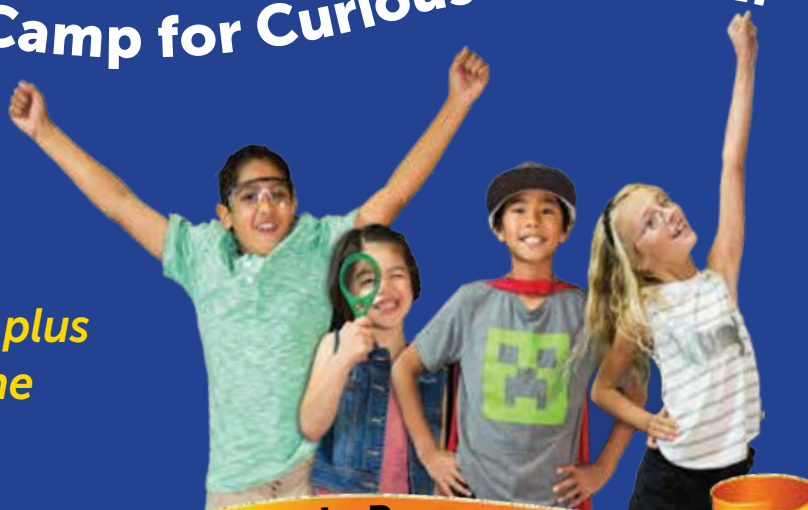
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Beyond the Classroom

MVHS student's viral video wins first place in contest promoting healthy relationships

By **Adrienne Mitchel**

Staff Writer/adriennem@latc.com

A \$1,500 first-place prize was the incentive for any teen living or attending high school in Santa Clara County to submit a 30- to 90-second video. But only 53 students did.

The catch? The video had to address sexually transmitted infections.

Ironically, the contest aimed at reducing STI stigma was seemingly hindered by STI stigma.

"It did feel a little weird talking about sex and STIs, but ... I knew that (the) Santa Clara County (Public Health Department) was doing good things by spreading the word about STI awareness, so I wanted to be a part of it," said Landon Qizilbash, a freshman at Mountain View High School and the first-place winner of the Santa Clara County Public Health Department's 2023 Viral Video Contest.

Qizilbash heard about the competition through his commercial art teacher, Tom Chang. The commercial art class is an elective that teaches real-world skills, and Chang thought allowing his students to submit videos into the competition would not only be an engaging way to teach them about video editing, but also would help them learn about healthy relationships.

"I think there's a lot to be gained from these outside opportunities to present your work ... because students take that a lot more seriously than they take class assignments sometimes because of the motivation of the prize money and because a lot more people ... will be seeing their work,"

Chang said.

Despite the cash-prize incentive, only about half of his students who made a video ultimately submitted it into the competition, according to Chang. But regardless if students opted to submit their work, it still encouraged peers to talk to one another about STIs.

"I learned a ton," Qizilbash said. "Before this competition, I thought STIs were just a rare thing, but after researching it and talking about it, I realized it's a much more common thing and we should probably be thinking about it more than we are already."

Rising infection rates

The Public Health Department's STI and HIV Annual Report shows that the rates of all sexually transmitted infections in the county continue to be quite high, with some of the highest rates in the past decade. Females ages 15-19 had the third-highest chlamydia rate in 2021 among other age groups, and gonorrhea case rates increased 44% for people ages 15-19 between 2012 and 2021.

"Our rates that we're seeing in Santa Clara County do mirror rates across the country, where we're seeing increases in sexually transmitted infections," said Akanksha Vaidya, assistant public health officer and STI/HIV controller for the county's Public Health Department. "And while there could be a variety of reasons for this increase, I think one main reason that Public Health is trying to tackle it is that some people might not have access to the right information or resources to get that



COURTESY OF LANDON QIZILBASH

Mountain View High freshman Landon Qizilbash took home the top prize for a video he made in his commercial art class. information that they need to prevent these infections."

The Viral Video Contest is part of Public Health's Getting to Zero Programs, which aims for zero new HIV infections, zero HIV-related deaths and zero HIV-related stigma and discrimination in the county. The program also created a Youth and Young Adult Advisory Board, which allows students ages 14-24 to gain professional experience and knowledge in topics related to STI and HIV prevention and education.

For free or low-cost testing and treatment options through Public Health, visit [GetTestedSCC.org](https://www.gettestedsc.org).

COLLEGE

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and extensive academic readiness, really begin to fall down, as there hasn't been enough time spent making sure that they are college capable.

This is a great place for parents to participate in helping students prepare for college. It's a conversation and plan for parents to have with their students now so they can begin building routines while their home support system is still in place. Introducing responsibilities to high school students that will allow them to manage their own time effectively will ease the transition to college as it relates to being college capable, and ultimately will positively contribute to all-around student success in the college environment.

Jordana Bischoff is a college admissions adviser for College Unlocked. For more information, email jordana@collegeunlocked.com or visit [collegeunlocked.com](https://www.collegeunlocked.com).

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STEM

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might not otherwise have had a chance to explore just by volunteering with an organization," Yang said.

Ultimately, Yang noted that the program's most important accomplishment was the "intangible" aspect of creating intergenerational friendships between older adults and high school students. He recalled that after sessions, some high schoolers would often stay back and chat with the seniors, or go through photos together.

"It was really cute seeing those kinds of bonds being formed," he said.

Yang added that fostering intergenerational bonds is important, because while youth can provide certain knowledge that can "contribute toward the livelihoods and quality of life of older people," he believes that "young people also have a lot to gain" from older individuals.

In addition to senior technology help, Engage STEM also offered chapters specializing in STEM outreach.

MUSIC

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their own childhoods. How do families keep it from being a stressor, or feeling like a chore?

A: If you're in a lesson one day a week, what do you do

Promoting equity

Chapter president and director Hilary Le founded her San Jose/Morgan Hill chapter in 2020 after she noticed something strange while researching public school funding for an English essay.

"Ninth-grade me was shocked to read about the disparities and inequalities in the education system," Le said. "So, when I had the chance to do something, I decided to focus my chapter on finding ways to support students without all the resources."

As a result, Le and her chapter offered free, online, one-on-one tutoring for math, as well as classes in coding, biology and physics tailored toward youth from kindergarten through eighth grade.

"I loved seeing all the students asking questions about the lessons, and developing interests in different subjects and topics in a way that is different than a traditional school environment," said Le, who is now a freshman in college.

Le said the most rewarding aspect of leading the chapter came from witnessing parents

sign their children up for classes again.

"I just think it's heartwarming that parents continue to come back and support our organization as we support their children in education," she said.

For the duration of the chapter's operation, more than 1,000 youth attended the programs.

Le emphasized the importance of accessible education in "giv(ing) kids a chance to learn."

"Giving kids the resources like different classes or programs is super important for them to find their interests in whatever it might be," she added – without the monetar factor.

As the Engage STEM era ends, Yang advises high schoolers seeking to make an impact in their communities to "reach into their communities and try to understand: What are the needs? – and what they might have to offer in order to meet those needs."

For more information, visit engagestem.org.

with those other six days? There are tons of tiny actions that can add up to make a big difference in someone's music skills over a lifetime. How can you sneakily be practicing music, even if that doesn't look like "music practice" on the outside?

The easiest step is listening

to your music – both to your favorite artist, and to not your favorite artist, because expanding our horizons is really important. There are no shortcuts; you have to listen.

Practicing doesn't have to only be a thing I'm going to carve out X number of minutes and be in a certain room to do. When I'm walking around, sometimes I'm thinking about music that fits to whatever pace I'm walking. If I'm bored somewhere, I'm doing these (finger) exercises, practicing isolating fingers – can I lift them on the beat? What if every time you walk by the piano, you just do two quick chord changes? I always like to tell people to leave their instruments out. Then it's something you can walk past and grab, real quick. It's like your piggy bank – if you just put your pennies in every time you walk past your instrument, it adds up to be a lot.

Q: Why is it important for children to see the adults in their lives loving music? You've said that listening to recordings or watching videos doesn't have the same powerful effect without that

See MUSIC, Page 25



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Beyond the Classroom

MUSIC

From Page 24

participatory play, and that's part of why Music Together requires caregivers to join in at each class.

A: The grown-ups who are closest to us are the ones who make that essential impact, under age 5 or 6. Maybe they can't make perfect music, but perfect music doesn't exist. Your authentic enjoyment of music – whatever that looks like for you – you're the only one who can give that to your kid. A lot of kids entering preschool or elementary schools haven't reached the milestones of being able to keep a steady beat, and being able to sing something on pitch. Decades ago music was something that had to be made rather than passively consumed. People had more instruments in their house.

A lot of parents might assume, "If I'm playing (recorded) music all the time at home, that is a substitute for me making music with my kid or me just singing to my kid. For example, a lot of parents will play a lullaby CD for their kid when they go to sleep. How much more meaningful is it for you to sing that imperfect lullaby? Some kids are not a forgiving audience, and that's OK, that's normal.

So many parents will come into class and say, "I'm not allowed to sing anymore because my 3-year-old keeps telling me 'no no no' every time I sing," and some people take that personally because it's a really vulnerable thing to sing in front of other people. That 3-year-old might be exercising their independence (and use of the word "no") or trying to focus on a certain

element of the recording you were singing along with. Be proud of that and keep singing as much as you can!

Q: You described participating in a musical masterclass led by Ghanaian musician and scholar Kofi Gbolonyo where he explored cultural difference and the experience of music. He showed a recording set up in a large room, with participants including women wearing babies on their backs and toddlers hanging out during the recording.

A: You would never see that here – nobody would bring a baby into a recording studio. The babies were relaxing peacefully there, surrounded by music. It immediately made me think of what a different upbringing that is – to be immersed so fully in music to the point that you are "trusted" (by our cultural standards) to be within range of a mic during a recording session.

The environment itself cultivates musical fluency and understanding from birth. Kofi was talking about how it was a pretty big culture shock when he went to see the Vancouver Symphony and the attendant at the door was hesitant about allowing his daughter, who was 3 or 4 years old at



ELIZA RIDGEWAY/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Music education can be the stuff of games – practicing singing while passing a stuffed animal around the circle to a beat becomes a form of Duck, Duck, Goose in Rizzie Vacketta's class.

that time, inside. They were worried that she would make noise or be distracting to the audience. He reassured them that she would be fine, and sure enough, she did not make a peep for the entire concert. It was such a foreign thing to him, because in so many other parts of the world, kids are part of the music experience and they grow up with it.

Vacketta's suggestions for making music at home

- Sing often at home, both with recorded music and without. (Especially without.)

Consider if there are any other times in your daily routine where you can add a song. For example, while cooking, during bathtime or while picking clothes are all great times to make up new lyrics about what you are doing at that moment.

Consider using music to transition from one activity to another by singing about what you will do next.

- For preschool-aged children, instruments should be kept exploratory rather than structured.

When you play together, you can role-model keeping a steady beat on your instrument, but don't worry if your child does it with you. We don't expect young kids to be able to play rhythmic patterns yet – only the steady beat.

If you have a bin of child-appropriate rattles, sticks and other instruments, encourage your child to freely choose instruments from her bin whenever she wants to play.

You can encourage instrument awareness and excitement by identifying instruments that you hear on song recordings or music videos. Listen for it in songs and point it out. You can ask, "Did you hear the shaker?" etc.

- It can be a great role-modeling experience for your child to see you learning to play an instrument. Is there an instrument you always wanted to know how to play? Why not try to learn the basics? In my experience, parents who show enthusiasm and enjoyment while learning an instrument for themselves, even casually, will tend to have children who are more successful at their instruments later on.



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Business & Real Estate

Clean swap

New car wash set to open in Mtn. View at old Lozano location on El Camino Real

By Christina Casillas

Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Although there's no opening date set, the site Lozano Brushless Car Wash formerly occupied in Mountain View will continue operating as a car wash under new ownership.

According to city of Mountain View spokesperson Lenka Wright, the Lozano location at 2690 W. El Camino Real closed permanently during the pandemic, and Kaady Car Washes took over as the new tenant last year.

Charles Kaady, Kaady Car Washes owner, reported in an email that Manny Lozano, Loz-

ano owner, sold him the Mountain View location, which had served customers since 1962.

"Now in his 90s, Mr. Lozano decided to sell me the car wash so it can continue operating at this location," Kaady said.

Founded in Portland and Vancouver in 1976, Kaady Car Washes has 19 locations in the Pacific Northwest spanning three states.

Wright said the city approved a provisional use permit April 12 for Kaady Car Washes to operate at the site and modify and repair some of the facility's equipment and infrastructure, but more permits must be submitted before renovations



CHRISTINA CASILLAS/TOWN CRIER

The former home of Lozano Brushless Car Wash on El Camino Real in Mountain View is being transformed into a Kaady Car Washes location, a chain based in the Pacific Northwest.

begin.

"The permit approval also included some repairs/upgrades to the car wash facility and mi-

nor site improvements, such as driveway modifications, a new trash enclosure and landscaping," Wright said. "The next step

is for Kaady's to submit building permits to the City to construct the improvements."

See CAR WASH, Page 28

Email Business & Real Estate story ideas to Christina Casillas at christinac@latc.com.

What motivated me to write 'Goodbye, Oakland' book

By Andy Dolich

I was lucky enough to be hired by the Oakland A's in 1980 as vice president of business operations and spent 14 years working to help Oakland grow as a sports city.

It's a city that has celebrated championships in baseball, football and basketball, and has been home to several hall-of-famers. All of this success occurred amid confusing political maneuvering by elected officials and changing team ownerships that left tens of millions of loyal fans trying to figure out what happened.

The NFL's Oakland Raiders have left twice, most recently for Las Vegas, while the NBA's Golden State Warriors moved across the bay into their San Francisco Hoops Taj Mahal. The A's are navigating a Bermuda Triangle cruise through their "parallel path" on the good ship "Groundhog Day" between Oakland's Howard Terminal project and a yet-to-be-determined location for a domed baseball stadium in Las Vegas.

I asked several Bay Area sports media mavens if anyone had written the decades-long story of how all this played out since the 1960s, when professional sports franchises made Oakland their home at the Oakland Coliseum/Arena sports complex. The answer: No.

That led me to call the No. 1 source of Oakland pro sports history, Dave Ne- whouse. The award-winning sports columnist spent decades with the Oakland

Sports Business Playbook

Tribune and is a prolific author of sports books. He quickly agreed to a writing partnership to tell the untold story of the Oakland pro sports conundrum.

"Goodbye Oakland: Winning, Wanderlust, and a Sports Town's Fight for Survival" debuted April 11 (Triumph Books). As national sports media icon Chris Berman said, "The book takes us through all of it, from when the sky was the limit to when the bottom fell out."

In addition to the Raiders and Warriors, Oakland has been home to a host of pro teams that have either left or are closing shop: the Oaks, Larks, Invaders, Panthers, Golden Seals, Clippers, Stompers, Aces, Breakers and Skates.

Dave and I dedicated our book to the millions of Oakland sports fans who remained loyal to their city when some owners didn't.

To order the book and for more information, visit tinyurl.com/wyyhvv7x.

Andy Dolich operates Dolich & Associates, a sports consultancy, in Los Altos. A local resident, he has more than 30 years of experience as an executive for professional baseball, basketball, football, hockey and soccer teams.



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Business & Real Estate

Deepfake or real endorsement? AI makes phony celebrity videos difficult to spot

Better Business Bureau

To trick you, scammers need to earn your trust first. What better way than by posing as a popular celebrity?

BBB Scam Tracker has recently received numerous reports involving products supposedly endorsed by well-known and trusted celebrities. With the rise in deepfake scams and ever-improving artificial intelligence technology, these phony endorsements are more convincing than ever.

How the scam works

You see a post on social media of a celebrity endorsing a weight-loss product, health supplement or another product. In the post, photos show the celebrity using the product, or a video features their voice talking about the amazing results they've seen. It sounds too good to be true, but the photos and video look so real. Also, the social media account appears to belong to the celebrity.

Before you make a purchase, take a minute to re-examine the post and social media account. The photos and videos are most likely fake. If you make a purchase, you'll lose money – often more

BBB Scam Alert

than you expected – on a product that is substandard or doesn't exist.

How to prevent the scam

The following tips will help you avoid getting scammed.

- **Get familiar with deepfake technology.** Scammers use deepfake technology to trick people. They take real video clips and photos of a person and use them to create new videos and audio clips. Deepfake images and videos can be surprisingly realistic.

- **Understand how AI-generated images work.** With AI image generators, you can type in a few words describing the image you want to be created, and the AI generates an image based on your text. It's valuable technology, but scammers can abuse it to create images to back up their stories, products or outright lies. The point? Don't assume a photo is proof that something is trustworthy.

- **Know that scammers often impersonate celebrities.** Don't assume celebrity posts, images or videos are legitimate until you verify they came from an

See SCAM, Page 29

Transactions

Los Altos

201 Fremont Avenue, 201 Fremont Ave. Property LLC to Gupta Trust for \$4,480,000

Los Altos Hills

25285 La Loma Drive, Grinstead Trust to J. Mayer for \$4,400,000
27866 Via Corita Way, D. Leff to Tessel-Sneh Family Trust for \$7,700,000

Mountain View

1033 Crestview Drive No. 312, Ndeira

Trust to E. & S. Orr for \$630,000
1642 Morgan Street, M. & A. Pasagui to R. Zhu for \$1,520,000
5 Morning Sun Court, T. & L. Stoltz to A. Ferreira for \$935,000
570 Mountain View Avenue, Warren Family Trust to X. & S. Timofeev for \$2,720,000
2255 Showers Drive No. 223, Wood Trust to M. Briones for \$725,000

Cupertino

21190 Canyon Oak Way, Morgan Trust to L. & M. Qayyum for \$4,700,000

See SALES, Page 29



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As a Los Altos native, mother, and hyperlocal realtor in our tight knit community, I realize how fortunate my family and I are. But many in our community need assistance for food, clothing, hygiene products, and so much more.

During the month of April, I will be collecting these items for The Day Worker Center to help provide healthy meals to our local community:

- 6 quart plastic containers with lids
- 14.5 inch pans
- cooking oil and olive oil

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Business & Real Estate



The Kaady Car Wash sign has been installed, but the remodel of the old Lozano Brushless Car Wash has yet to begin. Plans are in the works.

CHRISTINA
CASILLAS/
TOWN CRIER

CAR WASH

From Page 26

Los Altos resident Maureen Griffin was a regular Lozano customer and initially thought the car wash closed for remodeling.

"When the Lozano Car Wash closed, I was hoping it was a remodel and they would re-open within 6 months," she said in an email. "The only way I knew it was sold was when the Kaady Car Wash sign on El Camino was installed."

Even though the new sign has generated public interest in the fate of the site, Griffin said she would appreciate an opening date, as it would build customer confidence.

Griffin added that she doesn't have expectations that any features of Lozano will carry over to the new business, but she's going to give it a try when it opens.

"When Kaady Car Wash reopens, I do plan on trying it out, and I hope their services are similarly priced to their competitors on El Camino in Palo Alto and Sunnyvale," she said.

Kaady said the location's hours will be 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Mondays through Sundays.

"Kaady Car Washes is very excited about the opportunity to serve this community," he added.

For more information on Kaady Car Washes, visit Kaady.com.

Meet Anson Ip



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Business & Real Estate

SALES

From Page 27

20722 Celeste Circle, Bridwell Trust to P. & P. Arumugam for \$1,050,000

21611 Columbus Avenue, Wu Family Trust to Q. & F. Xu for \$2,960,000

10285 Farallone Drive, Sepulveda Trust to S. & Y. Jo for \$2,760,000

22330 Homestead Road No. 120, Y. & E. Kang to Tang Family Trust for \$1,028,000

10660 Minette Drive, Conrad Trust to A. Mulay for \$1,910,000

10531 N. Portal Avenue, Amazing Ventures LLC to Y. & D. Park for \$3,200,000

10038 Peninsula Avenue, E. Razo to 10038 Peninsula Corp. for \$1,600,000

19964 Portal Plaza, J. Tu to Vu-Bui Trust for \$1,180,000

22325 Rancho Deep Cliff Drive, Harrison Trust to Z. & X. Wang for \$1,750,000

10460 Serra Street, Stevens Trust to S. & X. Yang for \$5,000,000

10407 Somerset Court, T. Wei to Y. &

W. Chen for \$3,300,000

20488 Stevens Creek Boulevard No. 1409, L. & R. Kennedy to G. Barreto for \$710,000

Overall

Los Altos

Total sales: 1

Average sale: \$4,480,000

Los Altos Hills

Total sales: 2

Lowest sale: \$4,400,000

Highest sale: \$7,700,000

Average sale: \$6,050,000

Mountain View

Total sales: 5

Lowest sale: \$630,000

Highest sale: \$2,720,000

Average sale: \$1,306,000

Cupertino

Total sales: 13

Lowest sale: \$710,000

Highest sale: \$5,000,000

Average sale: \$2,396,000

– Cal REsource

SCAM

From Page 27

official source. Just because something is shared widely on social media does not mean it's real. Always do your due

diligence before you purchase or reshare something you saw on social media.

If you've been the victim of a scam, report it to BBB Scam Tracker at tinyurl.com/w3pbcur8.



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7 CYPRESS COURT LOS ALTOS



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1078 Eastwood Court

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5 BEDS | 3 BATHS | 2,915 SQ. FT. | 10,615 SQ. FT. LOT



Classic and timeless in sought-after South Los Altos...

...this spacious five-bedroom, three-bath home is freshly updated with all new paint and gleaming refinished hardwood floors in every room. The floor plan is traditionally arranged over two levels with four bedrooms upstairs, including a primary suite with large dressing room, plus a convenient main-level bedroom that is ideal for an office. The kitchen and family room are certain to be the home's central gathering place opening to the sun-swept rear yard with sparkling pool and arbor-covered lounge with outside counter seating beneath the kitchen window. Set on almost one-quarter acre, this lovely home is ready to move in or further update in the future. Adding to the appeal is access to excellent Los Altos schools and nearby parks. Welcome home!



Vicki Ferrando

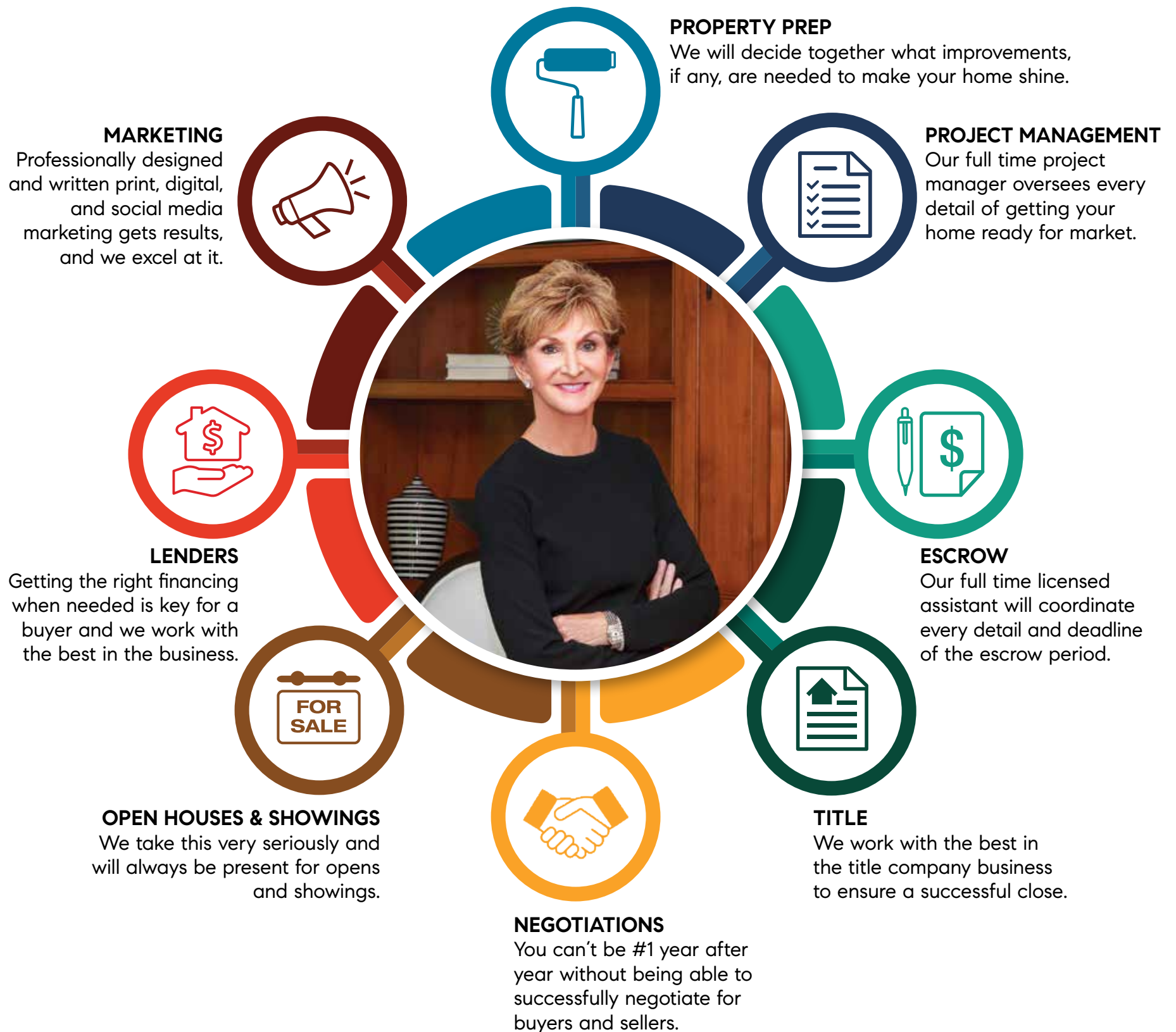
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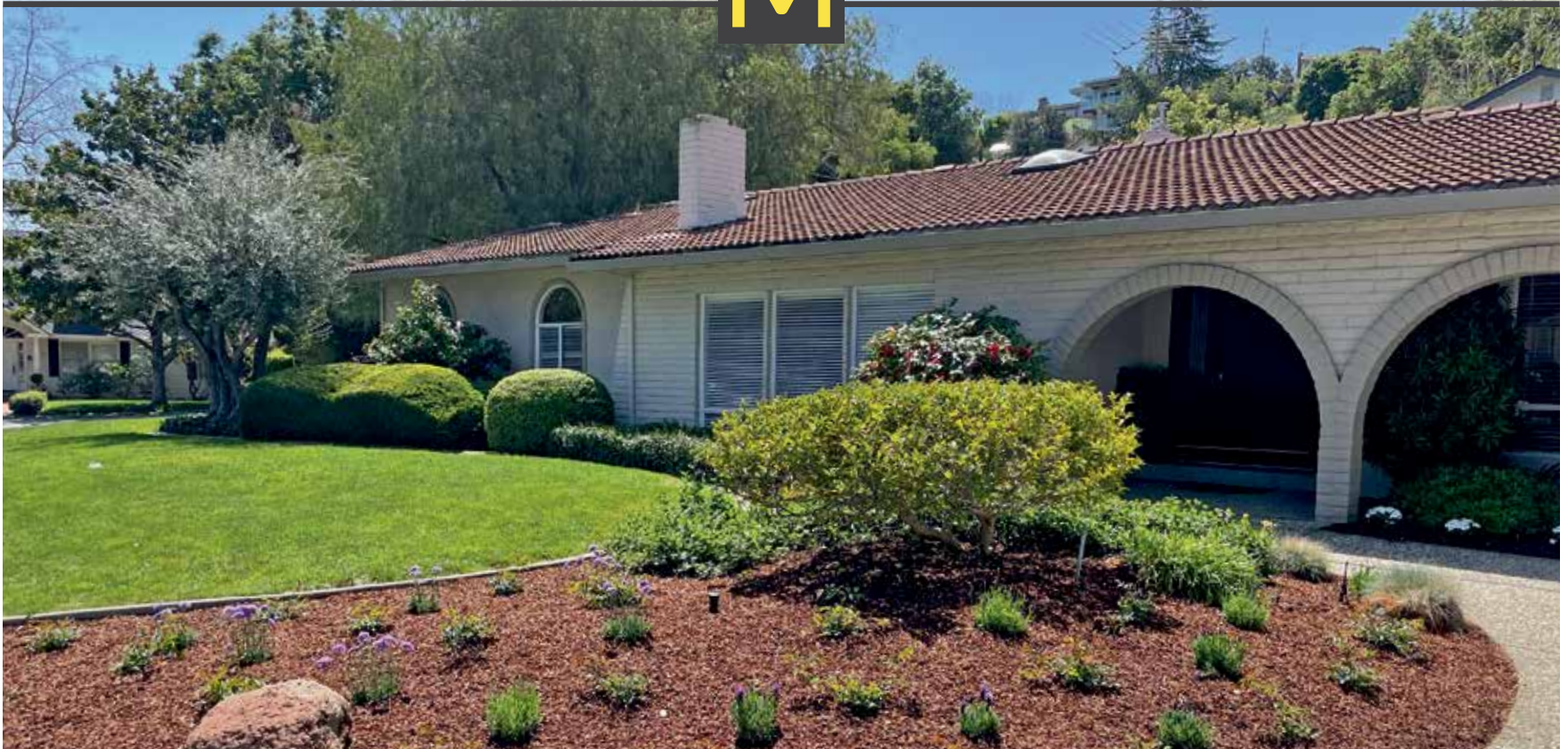
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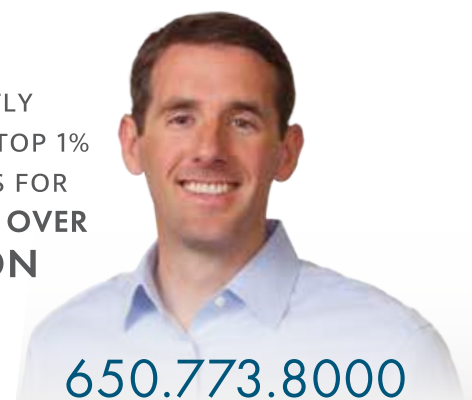
MAIN HOUSE: 4 BEDS ■ 2.5 BATHS ■ 3,643 SQ FT ■ LOT SIZE .94 ACRES
GUEST HOUSE: 2 BEDS ■ 1 BATH ■ 735 SQ FT

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- Sellers pay a lot of commission when they sell their home—they deserve more services from their listing agents. DeLeon pays for all the above-mentioned services, and more, out of our commission when someone lists with us. Meet with Michael Repka to learn more.

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Public Notices

NOTICE OF ADOPTION ORDINANCE 609

ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS AMENDING TITLE 2, CHAPTER 4 OF THE LOS ALTOS HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE FOR PURCHASING SYSTEM

WHEREAS, staff is recommending that the City Council consider increasing the City Manager's purchasing authority from \$25,000 to \$60,000 and to, in accordance with the thresholds provided in the Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act, increase the formal bidding threshold for public projects to \$200,000; and

WHEREAS, these amendments to the purchasing system would align the Town's practice with the purchasing thresholds set by the California Uniform Public Construction Cost Accounting Act ("Act"), allow staff to streamline the purchasing process and deliver projects in a timely and responsible manner, reorganize certain provisions for clarity, and add relevant language from the Public Contract Code; and

WHEREAS, following review of the code, it was determined that the amendments contained in this Ordinance were appropriate.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of the Town of Los Altos Hills does hereby **ORDAIN** as follows:

1. Chapter 4 of Title 2 of the Los Altos Hills Municipal Code is hereby amended to read as follows:

2-4.01 Purchases on Behalf of Town—General Rules.

(a) City Manager as Purchasing Agent. The City Manager shall have full authority to purchase or provide for the purchase of all materials, supplies, services, and equipment for the use of all departments, commissions, and boards comprising the Town government, in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, except articles required by the state codes to be purchased otherwise. No purchase of an article, service or thing shall be made by any department head independently of the City Manager except in cases of immediate emergency that occur when the office of the City Manager is not open for the conduct of the City's business. In such instances, the department head may make the necessary emergency purchase and shall report the same in writing to the City Manager within twenty-four (24) hours, accompanied by a definite statement of the occasion and reasons for such emergency purchase.

(b) Prohibition on Splitting Procurement. Under no circumstances may any procurement or purchase contemplated in this chapter be split or separated into smaller components to avoid procurement or purchasing procedures and/or determine the awarding authority.

2-4.03 Open Market Orders for Purchases and Procurements of \$60,000 or Less.

All purchases or procurements of professional and facility services, public projects, supplies, materials, equipment, or other personal property, the cost of which is sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) or less, may be made in the open market without newspaper advertisement.

When deemed appropriate by the City Manager, open market purchases shall be based on at least three (3) competitive bids or quotes and shall be awarded on the basis of the bid most advantageous to the Town. The City Manager may solicit bids directly from prospective vendors by mail, email, or by telephone. The City Manager shall keep a record of all open market orders and bids submitted thereon which shall be open to public inspection. Public projects of \$60,000 or less may be performed by the employees of the Town by force account or may be performed by negotiated contract. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, procurement of public projects as defined in the California Public Contracts Code shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Public Contracts Code.

2-4.04 Formal and Informal Procedures for the Purchase and Procurement of Goods, Services, and Public Projects in Excess of \$60,000.

All purchases or procurements of goods, services (including professional, special, and personal), and public projects, the cost of which is in excess of \$60,000 shall be made through either informal or formal procedures as provided for in this Section. All purchases or procurements of goods, services, and public projects, the cost of which is more than two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00), shall be based upon specifications or a scope of work approved by the City Council.

(a) Purchases of Goods. (1) Informal Bid Procedures for Purchase of Goods. For the purchase of goods two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) or less and more than sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000), the City Manager shall solicit at least three (3) competitive bids and the contract shall be awarded on the basis of the bid most advantageous to the Town.

(2) Formal Bid Procedures for Purchase of Goods. Purchases of goods more than two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) shall be submitted for formal bidding. The notice inviting bids to purchase shall be advertised upon authority of the City Council, and such advertisement shall be published two times in a newspaper of general circulation published nearest to the Town, and in addition, invitations to bid may be mailed to prospective vendors at the discretion of the City Manager. The bids submitted shall be received by the City Clerk, to be opened by the City Manager at the time designated.

(b) Procurement of Public Projects. (1) Informal Bid Procedures for Procurement of Public Projects. In accordance with Public Contract Code sections 22032 and 22034, for the procurement of public projects two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) or less, the Town shall engage in the following procedures:

(i) Contractors List. A list of contractors shall be developed and maintained in accordance with the provisions of Section 22034 of the Public Contracts Code and criteria promulgated from time to time by the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Commission.

(ii) Notice Inviting Informal Bids. Where a public project is to be performed which is subject to the provisions of this section, a notice

inviting informal bids shall be mailed, faxed, or emailed to all contractors for the category of work to be bid, as shown on the contractor list, and to all construction trade journals as specified by the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Commission in accordance with Section 22036 of the Public Contracts Code. The notice inviting informal bids shall describe the project in general terms and how to obtain more detailed information about the project, and state the time and place for the submission of bids. All mailing of notices to contractors pursuant to this subdivision shall be completed not less than 10 calendar days before bids are due. Additional contractors and/or construction trade journals may be notified at the discretion of the department soliciting bids; provided, however:

a. If there is not a list of qualified contractors maintained by the Town for the particular category of work to be performed, the notice inviting bids shall be sent only to the construction trade journals specified by the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Commission.

b. If the product or service is proprietary in nature such that it can be obtained only from a certain contractor or contractors, the notice inviting informal bids may be sent exclusively to such contractor or contractors.

(iii) Informal Bids in Excess of Threshold. If all bids received are in excess of two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), the City Council may, by adoption of a resolution by a four-fifths vote, award the contract, at two hundred twelve thousand five hundred dollars (\$212,500) or less, to the lowest responsible bidder, if it determines the cost estimate of the Town was reasonable.

(2) Formal Bid Procedures for Procurement of Public Projects. Procurement of public projects valued at more than two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) shall be submitted for formal bidding. The notice inviting bids shall be advertised upon authority of the City Council, and such advertisement shall be published two times in a newspaper of general circulation published nearest to the Town, and in addition, invitations to bid may be mailed to prospective vendors at the discretion of the City Manager. Notice inviting formal bids shall state the time and place for the receiving and opening of sealed bids and distinctly describe the project. The notice shall be published at least 14 calendar days before the date of opening the bids. The notice inviting formal bids shall also be sent electronically, if available, by either facsimile or electronic mail and mailed to all construction trade journals specified in Public Contract Code section 22036. The notice shall be sent at least 15 calendar days before the date of opening the bids. The bids submitted shall be received by the City Clerk, to be opened by the City Manager at the time designated.

(b) Procurement of Public Projects. (1) Informal Bid Procedures for Procurement of Public Projects. In accordance with Public Contract Code sections 22032 and 22034, for the procurement of public projects two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000.00) or less, the Town shall engage in the following procedures:

(i) Contractors List. A list of contractors shall be developed and maintained in accordance with the provisions of Section 22034 of the Public Contracts Code and criteria promulgated from time to time by the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Commission.

(ii) Notice Inviting Informal Bids. Where a public project is to be performed which is subject to the provisions of this section, a notice inviting informal bids shall be mailed, faxed, or emailed to all contractors for the category of work to be bid, as shown on the contractor list, and to all construction trade journals as specified by the California Uniform Construction Cost Accounting Commission in accordance with Section 22036 of the Public Contracts Code. The notice inviting informal bids shall describe the project in general terms and how to obtain more detailed information about the project, and state the time and place for the submission of bids. All mailing of notices to contractors pursuant to this subdivision shall be completed not less than 10 calendar days before bids are due. Additional contractors and/or construction trade journals may be notified at the discretion of the department soliciting bids; provided, however:

hearing at which the Town intends to reject the bid. If after the first invitation of bids all bids are rejected, after reevaluating its cost estimates of the project, the Town shall have the option of either of the following: (1) Abandoning the project or re-advertising for bids in the manner described by the Public Contract Code, or (2) By passage of a resolution by a four-fifths vote of the City Council declaring that the project can be performed more economically by the employees of the Town, may have the project done by force account without further complying with Division 2, Part 3, Chapter 2, Article 3 of the Public Contract Code. If a contract is awarded, it shall be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. If two or more bids are the same and the lowest, the Town may accept the one it chooses. If no bids are received through the formal or informal procedure, the project may be performed by the employees of the Town by force account, or negotiated contract without further complying with Division 2, Part 3, Chapter 2, Article 3 of the Public Contract Code

(c) Purchases of Services. When entering into services contract, the skill, ability, and expertise of the entity or person performing the services is a key component of the selection criteria. The services selection should therefore be on the basis of demonstrated competence, overall value to the Town, and on the professional qualifications necessary for the satisfactory performance of the services required. Cost is only one factor in determining the selection. When deemed appropriate by the City Manager, the purchase of services may be made by soliciting requests for proposals or requests for quotations to prospective vendors either by mail, by telephone, by e-mail, or by public notice posted on a public bulletin board in the City Hall, or posted on the Town's website.

(d) Award of Contracts. The City Manager is authorized to award informal contracts pursuant to this section, valued at sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) or less. Contracts exceeding the City Manager's authority shall be awarded by minute order of the City Council.

(e) Authority to Reject Bids and Proposals. The City Council reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals. If, in the opinion of the City Council, none of the bids or proposals are satisfactory, then the City Council may reject all of the bids or proposals and direct the City Manager to proceed to purchase the goods or services desired in the open market. Procurement of public projects in the open market after rejection of all bids must comply with the provisions of the Public Contract Code as outlined in Section 2-4.04(b)(3) above.

2. SEVERABILITY. If any provision of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of this Ordinance, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, provisions of this Ordinance are severable. The City Council of the Town of Los Altos Hills hereby declares that it would have passed each section, subsection, subdivision, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase hereof irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, sub-

divisions, paragraphs, sentences, clauses, or phrases be held unconstitutional, invalid, or unenforceable.

3. EFFECTIVE DATE AND PUBLICATION. This ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days from the date of its passage. Within 15 days after its passage, this ordinance shall be published once, with the names of those City Councilmembers voting for or against it, in the Los Altos Town Crier, a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Los Altos Hills, as required by law.

INTRODUCED: March 16, 2023
PASSED: April 20, 2023
AYES: Mayor Swan, Vice Mayor Mok, Councilmembers Schmidt and Tyson
N O E S : N o n e
A B S T E N T I O N S : N o n e
ABSENT: Councilmember Tankha

ATTEST:
/s/ Deborah Padovan, City Clerk

TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS
/s/ Mayor Linda G. Swan

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
/s/ Steve Mattas, City Attorney
Publish Date: April 26, 2023
(04-26-23)

094-T

LUIGI PERSONAL PIZZAIOLO FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694871

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: LUIGI PERSONAL PIZZAIOLO, 550 California St. Apt 2, Mountain View, CA, 94041, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): LULA LLC, 550 California St. Apt 2, Mountain View, CA, 94041. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Luigi Proto / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/20/2023. (04-26-23,05-03,10,17-23)

093-T

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RONALD K. NICHOLAS, also known as RONALD KENNETH NICHOLAS CASE NO. 23PR194545

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of RONALD K. NICHOLAS, also known as RONALD KENNETH NICHOLAS. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by THOMAS J. ROBINS in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that THOMAS J. ROBINS 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: 06/08/2023 at 9:01AM in Dept. 2 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 RICHARD A. GORINI, Esq. 1666 The Alameda San Jose, CA 95126-2204 (408) 286-6314 (04-26-23,05-03,10-23)

092-T

M. DESIGNS ARCHITECTS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694749

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: M. DESIGNS ARCHITECTS, 26727 Taaffe Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): MOGUL STONES INC, 26727 Taaffe Rd, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 02/06/2013. /S/ Junaid Qurashi / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/14/2023. (04-26-23,05-03,10,17-23)

091-T

Sharetea FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694746

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Sharetea, 2855 Stevens Creek Blvd, San Jose, CA, 95128, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation.

The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Polynomial Inc., 38121 Cambridge Ct, Fremont, CA, 94536. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/01/2022. /S/ Rahul Ranjan / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/14/2023. (04-26-23,05-03,10,17-23)

090-T

LOUIE PET CARE, LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694761

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: LOUIE PET CARE, LLC, 116 Ellicott Loop, San Jose, CA, 95123, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): LOUIE PET CARE, LLC, 116 Ellicott Loop, San Jose, CA, 95123. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/17/2023. /S/ Luis Lozada / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/17/2023. (04-26-23,05-03,10,17-23)

089-T

SOLAR SCRUB CLUB FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN693630

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SOLAR SCRUB CLUB, 1286 Pompano St, San Jose, CA, 95122, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Jorge Valdez, 1286 Pompano St, San Jose, CA, 95122. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/15/2022. /S/ Jorge Valdez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/14/2023. (04-26-23,05-03,10,17-23)

088-T

TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED proposals will be received at the office of the City Clerk, Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road, Los Altos Hills, California 94022, until 2:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, May 17, 2023**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Conference Room of said building, for construction in accordance with the project plans and specifications to which special reference is made, as follows:

Title: 2023 PAVEMENT REHABILITATION AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Project Description: The work consists of 2" AC overlay, 6" ditches, Type II microsurfacing, cracks seal, seal coat, construct

Public Notices

AC dike, construct concrete valley gutter, pavement markings replacement, utility adjustments, and all associated work.

The work is to be completed within **THIRTY (30)** working days. At the time this contract is awarded, the Contractor shall possess a Class A license.

A bid submitted by any Contractor who is not licensed to engage in business or act in the capacity of a contractor shall be considered non-responsive and shall be rejected, except for those exceptions governed by Section 7028.15 of the Business and Professions Code.

The Town of Los Altos Hills hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, place of birth, sex, sexual orientation, age, or disability in consideration for an award.

Each bid must be accompanied by certified or cashier's check, or bidder's bond duly executed by a responsible corporate surety authorized to issue such bonds in the State of California, made payable to the Town of Los Altos Hills for an amount equal to at least ten (10) percent of the amount bid.

The successful bidder shall furnish a Labor and Materials Bond and a Faithful Performance Bond.

Pursuant to Section 1770 of the Labor Code, the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations has ascertained the general prevailing rate of per diem wages applicable to the work to be performed, which rates are filed in the office of the City Engineer, and copies of which are available to any interested parties on request.

The Contractor may elect to receive 100 percent of payments due under the contract from time to time, without retention of any portion of the payment by the Town, by depositing securities of equivalent value with the Town in accordance with the provisions of Sections 22300 of the Public Contract Code. All expenses of such substitute deposit shall be borne by the Contractor. Securities eligible for investment under the section shall include those listed in Section 16430 of the California Government Code or certificates of deposit of a bank or savings and loan association. The Contractor shall be the beneficial owner of any securities substituted for monies withheld and shall receive any interest thereon. Such securities, if deposited by the Contractor, shall be valued by the City's Administrative Director, whose decision on valuation of the securities shall be final.

Alternatively, upon the Contractor's request, the Town will make payment of retentions earned directly to the escrow agent. The Contractor may direct the investment of the payments into securities, and the Contractor shall receive the interest earned on the investments upon the same terms provided for securities deposited by the Contractor. Upon satisfactory completion of the contract, the Contractor shall receive from the escrow agent all securities, interest and payments received by

the escrow agent from the Town, pursuant to the terms in Section 22300 of the public Contract code.

Bidders may purchase the project specifications with reduced plans and proposal forms by visiting or writing to:

City Engineer's Office Attention: John Chau

Town Hall of Los Altos Hills
26379 Fremont Road
Los Altos Hills, California 94022
(650) 941-7222

For a non-refundable fee of \$30 per set if picked up; or \$40 per set if mailed by regular mail with the U.S. Postal Service. Any other form of delivery will be at a cost to include the cost per set plus the delivery carrier's cost. They may also be reviewed at the various Builders Exchanges and construction service offices throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Full size plans are available for **\$5.00** per sheet.

/s/ Deborah Padovan, City Clerk
April 26, 2023
May 3, 2023
(04-26-23,05-03-23)

087-T

INTO CARING IN HOME CARE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694150

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: INTO CARING IN HOME CARE, 607 Coyote Rd., San Jose, CA, 95111, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Esther Parchaso, 607 Coyote Rd., San Jose, CA, 95111. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/10/2018. /S/ Esther Parchaso / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/28/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

086-T

SPEEDY TIRE INC. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694600

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: SPEEDY TIRE INC., 545 Meridian Ave., Suite D-59151, San Jose, CA, 95126, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): SPEEDY TIRE INC., 545 Meridian Ave. Suite D-59151, San Jose, CA, 95126. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 05/06/2022. /S/ Erika Yoanglee Espinel Oviedo / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/11/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

085-T

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME

The following person(s)/registrants(s) has/have abandoned the use of the fictitious business name(s). The information given below is as

it appeared on the fictitious business name statement that was filed at the County Clerk's office. SOUL ECOFRIENDLY PROF CLEANERS, 2060 California St #5, Mountain View, CA 94040 Filed in Santa Clara County on: 06/24/2022 Under File No. FBN686395 Full Name of Registrant(s): Sugey Jeronimo Maldonado, 2060 California St #5, Mountain View, CA 94040 This business was conducted by: An individual This statement was filed with the County Clerk of Santa Clara County on Apr. 11, 2023. Regina Alcomendras County Clerk-Recorder Santa Clara County File No. FBN694562 (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

084-T

ARTURO'S MOVING FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694563

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: ARTURO'S MOVING, 1212 W Washington Ave #4, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Arturo Millan, 1212 W Washington Ave #4, Sunnyvale, CA, 94086. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/16/2023. /S/ Arturo Millan / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/11/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

083-T

YEDRA CI, LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694566

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: YEDRA CI, LLC, 1590 Ontario Dr #2, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): YEDRA CI, LLC, 1590 Ontario Dr #2, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/22/2023. /S/ Laura Olimpia Yedra Ibarra / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/11/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

082-T

HERRERA'S LANDSCAPE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694565

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: HERRERA'S LANDSCAPE, 814 San Petronio Ave, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Fernando Vasquez Herrera, 814 San Petronio Ave, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2023. /S/ Fernando Vasquez Herrera /

This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/11/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

081-T

VAG Construction FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694564

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: VAG Construction, 780 San Pablo, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Victor Manuel Arias, 780 San Pablo, Sunnyvale, CA, 94085. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2023. /S/ Victor Manuel Arias / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/11/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

080-T

5T's Mobile Collection Lab FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694514

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 5T's Mobile Collection Lab, 1936 Camden Ave Ste 6C, San Jose, CA, 95124, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Thu Truc Nguyen, 5686 Allen Ave Apt 1, San Jose, CA, 95123. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 08/15/2022. /S/ Thu Truc Nguyen / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/07/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

078-T

RONICA V ENTERPRISES FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694469

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: RONICA V ENTERPRISES, 3037 Remington Way, San Jose, CA, 95148, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Veronica S Cabang, 3037 Remington Way, San Jose, CA, 95148. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Veronica S Cabang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 04/06/2023. (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

077-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF ANNA PERNILLA QUARFORDT & SHUMIN ZHAI AMENDED ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 23CV413456

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner: Anna Pernilla Quarfordt & Shumin Zhai filed a petition with this court for a

decree changing names as follows: Present Name: a. Lina Elisabet Zhai b. Isa Linnea Zhai

Proposed Name:

a. Lina Elisabet Qvarfordt-Zhai
b. Isa Linnea Qvarfordt-Zhai

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 08/08/2023 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: 04/05/2023 /s/ Jacqueline M. Arroyo Judge of the Superior Court (04-19,26-23,05-03,10-23)

076-T

PHAMILY PEONY GARDEN FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694054

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PHAMILY PEONY GARDEN, 28199 Christopher Lane, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Jacqueline Ai-Nguyet Nguyen-Pham, 28199 Christopher Lane, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/01/2023. /S/ Jacqueline Nguyen-Pham / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/27/2023. (04-12,19,26-23,05-03-23)

075-T

7 RAYS HOLISTIC CENTER FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN693567

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: 7 RAYS HOLISTIC CENTER, 190 Osage Ave, Los Altos, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Hemla Makan-Dullabh, 190 Osage Ave, Los Altos, CA, 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/20/2015. /S/ Hemla Makan-Dullabh / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa

Clara County on 03/13/2023. (04-05,12,19,26-23)

074-T

PRO PRECAST DESIGNS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694073

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: PRO PRECAST DESIGNS, 4726 Seneca Park Ave, Fremont, CA, 94538, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Ivan S Ayala, 4726 Seneca Park Ave, Fremont, CA, 94538. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/27/2023. /S/ Ivan Ayala / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/27/2023. (04-05,12,19,26-23)

072-T

Westmont Development Company FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN693985

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Westmont Development Company, 1411 Lewiston Dr., Sunnyvale, CA, 94087, Santa Clara County.

070-T

The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Christopher A. Hopkins, 1411 Lewiston Dr., Sunnyvale, CA, 94087. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/1982. /S/ Christopher A. Hopkins / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/24/2023. (04-05,12,19,26-23)

071-T

Red Hot Wok FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN694048

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Red Hot Wok, 3345 El Camino Real, Palo Alto, CA, 94306, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Chelsea & Gus Inc., 1575 Tanaka Place. Apt C4, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 03/07/2023. /S/ HuiFang Huang / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 03/27/2023. (04-05,12,19,26-23)

Do you need to have a Legal or Public Notice published?

Then look no further than the Los Altos Town Crier.

The Town Crier's unmatched service can take care of your Fictitious Business Name Statement, Notice of Probate, Name Change and much more.

For more information,
contact Melissa at
650-397-5208, or email:
legals@latc.com



Crossword Answers

1	B	I	B	B		5	M	U	L	E		9	P	S	Y	C	H		
14	E	D	I	E		15	I	L	E	T		16	A	H	O	O	T		
17	C	E	D	E		18	A	N	A	T		19	D	A	R	E	S		
20	K	E	E	P	21	I	T	A	H	U	22	N	D	R	E	D			
					23	R	A	E			24	O	L	D					
25	A	D	A	G	E				29	E	I	N	E		31	D	C	33	L
34	S	E	C	O	N	D			36	N	S	A		37	O	J	A	I	
38	K	E	I	R	A	I	39	S	D	A	M	40	N	G	I	N	A		
41	E	R	N	E		42	S	O	U		43	E	A	R	N	E	R		
44	R	E	G		45	B	P	O	E			46	V	E	N	D	S		
				47	L	E	E			48	S	C	I						
	50	T	O	T	A	L	L	Y	H	I	G	54	H	K	E	Y			
58	M	A	R	C	S		59	E	A	R	S		60	O	L	A	V		
61	E	P	C	O	T		62	A	L	E	C		63	P	E	R	E		
64	D	E	A	L	S		65	R	E	D	O		66	E	E	L	S		

Sudoku Answers

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

Find A Word Answers

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

OBITUARY NOTICE

MARCIA KATZMAN ALLEN



January 10, 1935 –
April 14, 2023



Marcia Katzman Allen passed away peacefully of natural causes on the morning of April 14, 2023 at the Vi at Palo Alto Assisted Living.

Marcia led a very full life. She was born Marcia Harriet Katzman on January 10, 1935 to Arthur J. Katzman and Beatrice Jacobs Katzman. Marcia's parents were Jewish refugees from Eastern Europe who lived an American rags to riches story.

Her parents valued a good education and that was embodied in their daughter. Marcia graduated with honors from Forest Hills High School in Forest Hills, New York in 1952, going on to Bryn Mawr College, graduating again with honors in 1956 with an A.B. in Biology. Breaking the model for women in the 1950s, Marcia went on to graduate school at Stanford University in Palo Alto, CA. At

Stanford, Marcia met Matthew Allen, a young graduate student from Edinburgh, Scotland. They married in September 1957. Marcia earned a PhD in Molecular Biology from Stanford University in 1961.

The following year, while in a post graduate fellowship at MIT in Boston, Massachusetts, her first son, Bruce, was born. Her second child, Peter, was born in 1965. The family then moved back to California for Matthew to take a job at Stanford Linear Accelerator Center (SLAC). That is where their third son, David, was born.

Over Marcia's long career, she worked at Syntex and Nellcor. Her longest position was as a lecturer in Biology at Stanford University where she ran the undergraduate labs. Working as a lecturer at Stanford gave Marcia the flexibility she desired to spend summers with her children and to engage in countless civic and social activities that she and Matthew participated and led in the Mid-Peninsula area.

Marcia was highly active in the League of Women Voters and the American Association of University Women (AAUW), where she led many committees. She served as the program chair and president of the Morning Forum of Los Altos. Marcia and Matthew were also long time patrons of the Oregon Shakespeare Festive in Ashland, OR. Marcia organized many social activities. She loved to travel and organized trips with friends far and wide. Her final trip was to Mexico with her family just before the pandemic. Marcia and Matthew loved to entertain and hosted many events in their Mountain View home of 40 years.

In 2005 they moved into Vi at Palo Alto, then called Classic Residence by Hyatt. Among the original residents at this active retirement community, they worked tirelessly at forming its different committees and social organizations so that the Palo Alto campus became the envy of all the Vi campuses.

They spent their first 16 years in the "independent living" side of the Vi, with the last year on the "care center" side. The family would like to thank the Vi's caring staff for making Marcia's last year as comfortable as possible and the Hospice staff for its help in the last month. The family especially extends a warm thank you to Marcia's personal caregivers, Isabelita and Vida, for their continual care and compassion.

As one of Marcia's nephews summed it up, Marcia was "One of the brightest and most interesting people I've ever known". She will be dearly missed.

There are no services planned. A memorial of life at the Vi will be announced later. For information contact her son Peter at peterjallen@hotmail.com

Marcia is survived by her husband of over 65 years, Matthew Allen, her sons Bruce (Rina), Peter (Marlon) and David (Jane); grandsons Ryan and William, many dear cousins and countless friends whose lives she enriched beyond measure.

In lieu of flowers, donations be made to one of Marcia's organizations in her name. The family suggests: Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST) at www.openspacetrust.org/donate/

Bryn Mawr College at www.engage.brynmawr.edu/Make-a-gift





CUSTOM BUILT LUXURY IN NORTH LOS ALTOS

1145 Laureles Drive, Los Altos

5 Bed 4.5 Bath 4,320 Sq Ft \$6,750,000

Classic and timeless, with inspiration from the Hamptons, this custom-built home offers impressive curb appeal and picture-perfect designer interiors. The kitchen and family room combination is the home’s central gathering place with a wonderful connection to the resort-like rear grounds including a pool, spa, heated and covered terrace, and outdoor kitchen. The home’s 5 bedrooms and 4.5 baths are ideally arranged over all three levels for utmost flexibility. All of this, plus close proximity to the San Antonio Center and the Village and with access to excellent Los Altos schools – welcome home!

- Custom built in 2016 by Portola Valley Builders and Chapman Designs
- 3 levels with 5 bedrooms, 4.5 baths and bonus room
- Approximately 4,320 SF of living space
- Lot size of approximately 11,590 SF
- Chef’s kitchen with custom cabinetry, Wolf range, Sub-Zero refrigerator
- High ceilings throughout home
- Primary suite with fireplace, balcony, and spa like bath with steam shower
- Lower-level 5th bedroom plus additional rec/media room
- Resort like rear yard with sparkling pool and spa
- Stately covered stone patio with outdoor kitchen
- Mature landscaping and prolific gardens



RYAN GOWDY
408.309.8660
ryan.gowdy@theagencyre.com
DRE 01322889



CINDY LUNK
650.305.9490
cindy.lunk@compass.com
DRE 02037820

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