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Community Health Awareness Council and CSA's Food & Nutrition Center share updates
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Put cheer in the season with festive tips for hosting a holiday cocktail party
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Stepping Out
Review: Smuin's 'Christmas Ballet' introduces fresh angle to holiday dance
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Los Altos Town Crier

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

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WEDNESDAY • December 14, 2022

Making a gingerbread house into a gingerbread home



The holiday season is steeped in tradition, with people spreading goodwill to others. Los Altos residents Kelly Wood and her husband Omid have carried on the giving tradition in a visual way, offering an eye-catching gingerbread house display at their home on St. Charles Court. In under two days, Omid built a handcrafted gingerbread house facade into the exterior of their chimney. "The facade now completes our homemade gingerbread man and woman as well as our sweet lollipops," said Kelly, a Los Altos native. "The red and green lights add that magical touch to illuminate the hard but rewarding work of art. Sounds simple. But the tradition of building and making something with our hands and being able to share this joy with others has been a family tradition since I was a little girl. My husband decided to carry on this tradition to our own children. ... It's the season of giving, and if we can give others light and joy in the form of a smile or awe, then we have made the world a little bit brighter, a little bit better." Kelly estimated they receive six to eight "drive-by" lookers every evening as word of the display has spread.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF KELLY WOOD



Christmas trees pose hazard, fire dept. warns

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

homes is significant, the report stated.

While hanging sparkling ornaments and illuminating a Douglas fir's branches with colorful blinking lights may be a holiday tradition for some, many wouldn't expect something so beautiful to become tinder for a blaze.

Justin Stockman, Santa Clara County Fire Department public information officer, cautioned that while Christmas tree-related fires are rare, it doesn't mean they aren't destructive.

"Rare is not the same as inconsequential," he said.

Stockman, who has spent 10-plus years on a fire engine, warned that Christmas trees pose a hazard.

"We worry about Christmas tree fires because of how easily ignitable dry trees are and how quickly the tree is consumed and spreads fire in a home," he said.

In 2020, there were 180 home Christmas tree fires in the U.S., according to the draft 2022 Christmas Tree National Fire Protection Association Report. From 2016 to 2020, U.S. fire departments responded to an average 160 home structure fires annually that were reported to have started with the ignition of a Christmas tree.

Although the number of fires related to the holiday tradition only make up less than 0.1% of reported home fires, their frequency related to the short time of year they are present in

Christmas tree fires also can be deadly; from 2016 to 2020, on average they caused 11 injuries, two deaths and \$12 million in property damage, the national report said.

But the trees don't spontaneously combust; a spark or excessive heat is needed for fires to start. Of the reported Christmas tree fires, 44% were sparked by electrical distribution and lighting equipment, which led to 47% of reported injuries.

That's why Stockman emphasized the importance of keeping trees watered and cared for during the holiday season.

Progress has been made in improving fire safety in homes, workplaces and schools over the past 50 years, including smoke alarms and fire-resistant construction, he said. But when a dry tree is present in the home, it sets back a home's fire safety.

"A dry tree puts many of the gains associated with these improvements at risk, introducing an opportunity for a fire to go from a tiny spark to an engulfed room in less time than it takes to sing 'White Christmas,'" Stockman said.

Stockman added that flame-lighted candles shouldn't be left unattended, carbon monoxide and smoke alarms should be installed and tested monthly, and two exits should be identified for every room in a house.

For more information, visit usfa.fema.gov/prevention/outreach/holiday.html.

ALSO INSIDE - DECEMBER 14, 2022

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Los Altos Town Crier Holiday Fund 2022



Grants from the Town Crier Holiday Fund support agencies in Silicon Valley that touch the real needs of people.

"At this time of year, we are inundated with requests for donations. Giving to the Town Crier Holiday Fund assures us that 100% of our money goes directly to groups that are doing the most good for the most people without any added overhead costs.

This is among my favorite charities." ~ Dick Henning, Founder, *Celebrity Forum*

WHERE THE MONEY WILL GO:

Bay Area Furniture Bank. Recycles gently used furniture for individuals and families transitioning out of homelessness to stable housing.

CHAC (Community Health Awareness Council). Funds designated particularly to support counseling and services to families with addictions.

Child Advocates of Silicon Valley. Matching neglected children with adult advocates.

Community Services Agency's Food & Nutrition Program. Provides fruits and vegetables to augment CSA food distribution.

Community School of Music & Arts Artistic Intelligence Program. Brings music, art and dance to special needs students through partnerships.

Day Worker Center of Mountain View. Connects day workers with jobs offered by homeowners and businesses.

Help One Child. Performs foster parent recruitment, support, training.

Hidden Villa. Provides summer camperships for underprivileged families.

Hope's Corner. Local nonprofit provides meals and shower facilities for the underserved and unhoused.

Los Altos Youth Theatre Los Altos Stage Company. Making theater a safe and great place for children to be.

Mentor Tutor Connection. Matches at-risk youths with adult mentors, tutors in local schools.

MERIT Program (Making Education Relevant and

Interactive through Technology). Provides teachers with tech tools at the Krause Center for Innovation at Foothill College.

Music for Minors. Provides music education to schools through docent training.

MVLA Scholars. Serves low-income first-generation college students from Mountain View and Los Altos.

Sky's The Limit Fund. Supports families of youth in crisis through wilderness therapy programs.

Veterans Resource Center at Foothill College. Helps veterans transition to schooling and employment.

WomenSV. Offering support to women trapped in a relationship with a powerful, sophisticated abuser.

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<i>In Memory of Ray Piontek</i>	
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Liz Nyberg..... *	
<i>In Memory of Paul Nyberg</i>	
Cathie Perga..... *	
<i>In Memory of Andy Perga</i>	

IN HONOR OF:

Bonnie Burdett Walker.....	\$250.00
<i>In Honor of C-6</i>	
Total Donors.....	165
Total \$\$ to date.....	\$159,237.76



Los Altos Town Crier Holiday Fund 2022

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- ONLINE:** Donate online at www.losaltoscf.org/lafc-holiday-fund
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All donors and their gift amounts will be published in the Los Altos Town Crier unless the boxes below are checked.

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Los Altos, CA 94022

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The Town Crier Holiday Fund is a donor advised fund of the LAMV Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. A contribution to this fund allows your donation to be tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Around Town



COURTESY OF KARINE TOKATLIAN

The plover mud stomp planned for Stevens Creek Shoreline Nature Study Area didn't occur as planned over the weekend, as epic rains flooded the intended area to be stomped. But Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District staff headed to the basin Friday to work on what little land hadn't already flooded. The more extensive plover habitat contouring has been postponed until drier times.

Light a light on Sunday

Los Altos Chabad's annual menorah lighting marks the first night of Hanukkah Sunday, with latkes, doughnuts, activities for kids and a ritual lighting of the first candle on the 12-foot silver menorah. The free event is scheduled 4:30-6:30 p.m. at Veterans Community Plaza in downtown Los Altos.



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One First Street, Los Altos | +/- 1,448 to 3,090 SF; Various suites available with private offices, open area, kitchenettes, and natural light; dedicated HVAC to each suite.

1150 El Camino Real, Mountain View | +/- 1,000 SF; Amazing professional office suite with lots of light; includes a private office, open office area, kitchen, restroom, and signage on El Camino Real; Walk to downtown MV.

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News

Police Blotter

Auto burglary

Dec. 6, 7:05 a.m.: 1800 block of California Street, Mountain View

Dec. 6, 3:37 p.m.: 3100 block of North Shoreline Boulevard, Mountain View

Dec. 7, 7:18 a.m.: 700 block of Continental Circle, Mountain View

Dec. 7, 7:19 a.m.: 1100 block of Phyllis Avenue, Mountain View

Dec. 8, 6:51 a.m.: 1000 block of Castro Street, Mountain View

Dec. 8, 6:53 a.m.: 600 block of Ellis Street, Mountain View

Dec. 8, 5:50 p.m.: 800 block of Leong Drive, Mountain View

Dec. 9, 9:13 a.m.: 100 block of Sierra Vista Avenue, Mountain View

Commercial burglary

Dec. 6, 4:52 p.m.: 300 block of Fairchild Drive, Mountain View

Dec. 9, 8:01 a.m.: 100 block of East Middlefield Road, Mountain View

Dec. 9, 9:05 a.m.: 200 block of State Street, Los Altos

Dec. 9, 6:35 p.m.: 1300 block of Park Drive, Mountain View

Dec. 11, 11:53 a.m.: 900 block of North Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View

Drunk driver

Dec. 6, 6:11 p.m.: Intersection of Hope and Villa streets, Mountain View

Dec. 6, 6:55 p.m.: Intersection of El Camino Real and Grant Road, Mountain View

Dec. 7, 5:40 p.m.: 600 block of West Evelyn Avenue, Mountain View

Dec. 10, 1:18 a.m.: 1700 block of Miramonte Avenue, Mountain View

Dec. 10, 1:54 a.m.: Intersection of Villa and Hope streets, Mountain View

Dec. 10, 2:27 a.m.: Intersection of North Shoreline Boulevard and West Middlefield Road, Mountain View

Indecent exposure

Dec. 11, 2:26 p.m.: Intersection of Castro and Villa streets, Mountain View

— Christina Casillas

Walter Singer bust nearly ready to come back into public view after 7 years out of sight

Town Crier Report

The nearly 30-year-old bronze bust of an iconic Los Altos business leader may at last be coming out of hibernation as soon as early next year.

City officials confirmed last week that the bust of the late Walter Singer, exiled into storage in 2015, may finally see the public light of day by February. Commissioned by the late local artist Ingrid Jackson-MacDonald, the bust had been a feature of Veterans Community Plaza since 1993.

Led by the Public Arts Commission, the city had pegged the statue for display in front of Los Altos Chamber of Commerce offices on University Avenue. Finding a suitable location, shifting city priorities and the pandemic created relocation delays. The last hurdle was the purchase and installation of a \$10,000 pedestal on which the bust would stand.

“We have a low bidder,” Public Works director Jim Sandoval said last week. “They’re a small company who is shut down the rest of the month for the holidays. So, we won’t be able to execute the contract with them until January, and I estimate the work will occur in February, assuming we have a window of dry weather for the concrete work and curing.”



ROBIN CHAPMAN/TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

The bronze bust of businessman Walter Singer sat in Veterans Community Plaza prior to its removal in 2015. It has been in storage at the Los Altos History Museum the past seven years.

Singer was a popular business leader in Los Altos, renowned for his volunteerism and good nature. In addition to contributing his time and talents to local organizations such as the Ro-

tary Club, the Chamber of Commerce and the Los Altos Village Association, he spearheaded major community events such as the Festival of Lights Parade.

The businessman also be-

came known for combating the stigma around HIV, after contracting the disease in 1989 as the result of a blood transfusion. Singer helped found the Rotary Club’s Los Altos Rotary AIDS Project, which raised awareness and promoted public education about the disease. He died in 1992.

Singer’s bust occupied Veterans Community Plaza at State and Main streets for more than 20 years before the city council opted to have it moved into storage at the Los Altos History Museum. Council members said they wished to move the sculpture to create additional open space at the plaza. Some opposed to the plan, however, wanted the bust moved to a spot along Second and Main streets, where Singer’s old business, Los Altos Stationers, once operated. City staff rejected that idea at the time, arguing that the statue was too large and would obstruct foot traffic.

Others noted that putting the Singer bust in storage posed the risk of never relocating it.

“Out of sight, out of mind,” one observer said.

The city has yet to offer the Chamber of Commerce a heads-up as to when officials will be ready to place the sculpture.

“I have not heard anything at all since pre-pandemic times,” said chamber president Kim Mosley.

New Los Altos mayor outlines priorities for 2023

Town Crier Staff Report

Sally Meadows was set to be appointed Tuesday as the new mayor of Los Altos for 2023. Council members take one-year turns serving in the largely ceremonial role. Mayors do run the council meetings, however, and help set the meeting agendas.

Meadows served in 2022 as vice mayor, putting her next in line for the mayoral role. She was first elected to the council in 2020, receiving the most votes of any candidate running in that campaign cycle. Jonathan Weinberg, also elected to the council that year, is on tap to serve as vice mayor for 2023.

Following is a question-and-answer interview the Town Crier conducted recently with Meadows.

Q: Tell us a little about yourself: How many years lived in Los Altos, what brought you to town, what made you decide to volunteer for the city and ultimately run for council?

A: I moved to Los Altos in 1996, and before that lived in Mountain View very close to the border with Los Altos (near the intersection of El Monte and Springer). My regular walking route at that time was around Los Altos, and I came to know the neighborhoods off of El Monte well. I loved the open spaces and peaceful feel throughout town, so it was natural that



Meadows

the next move would be to Los Altos.

I became more involved in our community in 2010 when I left my job in new product marketing strategy in the pharmaceutical/biotech industry. I got involved in various community organizations, and that led in 2012 to an opportunity to join the brand-new (at that time) Design Review Commission; then after that I served on the Planning Commission. Through the commissions, I observed the council in action, and over time people suggested I run for council. I made the decision to do so when I realized that my eight years of experience on the two land-use-related commissions, plus my connections in the community, would enable me to add value in dealing with the issues our city and the council face.

See MEADOWS, Page 6

News

Town Crier, readers select Gary Hedden for 2022 Los Altos of the Year honor

Town Crier Staff Report

The readers have spoken, and the Town Crier agrees: Los Altos resident Gary Hedden is deserving of, and will receive, the paper's 2022 Los Altos of the Year honor.

The Town Crier's annual honor recognizes local residents for prolific, sustained volunteerism that contributes greatly to the quality of the local community as well as inspires others through their actions. The Town Crier has bestowed the honor for nearly 30 years; Chef Chu's owner Lawrence Chu Sr. earned the first award in 1994.

For the first time this year, the Town Crier accepted nominations from its readership for Los Altos of the Year.

For more than 10 years now, Hedden, a retired chemist, has been an energetic, ubiquitous volunteer, doing his part to preserve and improve the environment. He is a longtime volunteer and leader of the environmental nonprofit group GreenTown Los Altos.

His equally intense interest in history also has made Hedden a fixture at the Los Altos History Museum. An avid cyclist, he has combined his passions for history and the environment by leading annual cycling tours of the city's historical points of interest. He is also championing an ambitious tree-planting campaign with the goal of 500 new trees planted throughout the city – he's at 319 and counting.

Hedden has spent much of his time working with young people, including members of the Los Altos High School Green Team. Team members have collaborated with Hedden on the 500 Trees campaign. He also oversees GreenTown's internship program.

"As someone who has dedicated his volunteer hours to both the past, through his work with the Los Altos History Museum, and the future, through his work with GreenTown, Gary Hedden serves as a shining example of the importance of recognizing, celebrating and preserving our past as well as planning for the future," said Emma Tweddell, one of the many residents who nominated Hedden for Los Altos of the Year.

Hedden's efforts drew recognition previously: GreenTown named him Environmental Hero in 2021, and he received a Los Altos-Los Altos Hills Joint Community Volunteer Service Award in 2016.

"His energy and enthusiasm for all things sus-



COURTESY OF GARY HEDDEN

Ubiquitous volunteer Gary Hedden is this year's choice for Town Crier Los Altos of the Year. The annual honor – selected this year for the first time with input from readers – recognizes volunteers for contributing to the community.

tainable are both boundless and infectious," said Margaret Suozzo, a GreenTown member who praised Hedden in the wake of his 2021 honor. "Gary loves to bike and knows that it's good for the planet. He does it for that reason, for sure, but he also does it because it's fun. And let's face it – Gary knows fun. He wants to introduce everyone to the fun and ease of biking around town and beyond. In the process, he's helping to inspire a love of the planet and building community."

Tweddell added: "Gary Hedden represents everything that is best about community work, inspiring the next generation and making our community a better place to be."

A full feature story on Hedden's efforts is scheduled for the Town Crier's Jan. 4 issue. A special event recognizing this year's honoree is in the planning stages and is set to be held early next year.

Red Cross seeks blood and platelets; donation site offered today in Los Altos

Town Crier Report

The American Red Cross urges donors to give blood or platelets during the holiday season and is offering an opportunity to donate today in Los Altos.


Blood and platelet donations tend to drop more than 20% during holiday weeks, according to Red Cross officials. Seasonal illness and the threat of winter weather can add more concern during a time of year that is traditionally hard on the

nation's blood supply.


The Red Cross has scheduled a blood donation center 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. today at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1300 Grant Road.

All donors will receive a \$10 Amazon gift card by email.

To make an appointment and for more information, visit RedCrossBlood.org.



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MEADOWS

From Page 4

Q: What do you see as the current state of the city – what's the good and not-so-good news?

A: Of course, every city has its challenges these days given the issues we're all still working through associated with the pandemic, as well as national and global economic uncertainties, but I believe we're well-positioned to address our challenges constructively.

Under the leadership of our city manager, Gabriel Engeland, who joined our city mid-2021, we're improving our ability to

manage and track our finances, attract and retain strong staff, and improve our processes to more efficiently and effectively run the city and provide services for residents and other stakeholders.

We certainly have infrastructure that needs attention, but we've made a great start both with our award-winning community center, now in its second year of operation, and our multi-year commitment to investing in improvements to our roads throughout Los Altos.

We also have had a strong recovery for many of our local businesses, and this is because Los Altos is becoming more of

a destination due to the downtown's charm and our burgeoning restaurant scene. We also have an informed and involved group of residents that don't hesitate to roll up their sleeves and get to work to help make our community an even better place.

Q: What do you see as the city's top priorities this year?

A: 1. We must complete our 2023-2031 housing element and gain Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) approval, and thanks to the hard work of the many people involved, we're well-positioned to do that with our final draft to be

submitted at the end of January. But submitting the housing element is not the end of the process, it's just the beginning of the work we need to do to implement the plan and the programs outlined in it. This will be a multi-year effort and will ensure we do our part to address the shortage of all types of housing in our area.

2. We need to continue to implement our Total Compensation Philosophy, adopted in March 2022, to attract, motivate and retain strong staff.

3. We still have more work to do to clarify our financial tools and processes, and this is an extremely important effort underpinning everything we do.

4. We will improve how the council, city staff and commissions function together to ensure alignment between council priorities, budget and staff resources, and the work of the commissions.

Q: How do you see your role as mayor?

A: The mayor is a facilitator. The most visible job is to manage council meetings to achieve effective decision making. This includes helping the council understand: (1) the policy questions in front of us, (2) the information we have relevant to a decision and also what information is not relevant, and (3) the pros and cons associated with various actions.

The mayor also plays an important role in setting a respectful tone so we can have effective discussions even when topics are difficult and we don't agree.

Q: Is there room for improvement in the way council meetings are run?

A: YES! The community, city staff and the council all want better meetings. I believe that if we stick to the framework I mentioned above about facilitating meetings, we can achieve more focused meetings.

Q: Do you have any suggestions for how the city can better communicate to the public? For instance, we hear criticisms about the lack of outreach over the housing element.

A: I believe we regularly do a good job communicating with the public on most matters, and I don't agree that there has been a lack of outreach over the housing element. In addition to the Town Crier, the city shares information via Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube, plus physically with mailers, flyers and sign post-

ings when appropriate.

The issue isn't that we don't communicate, the problem is that we're all overwhelmed with so much information from so many different sources that it's hard to recognize what's important until an issue has become relevant to each of us personally.

Regarding the housing element specifically, I know that our planning services director, Nick Zornes, has had many meetings with community groups and individuals, and we don't see the outreach he's done, but it is happening and it will be documented in the final draft we submit to HCD.

Q: What qualities do you have that will make you a good mayor?

A: I've been surprised at the number of people since I've been on the council who have thanked me for having a common-sense approach in meetings, so bringing that, plus an ability to clarify complex information, will be helpful to frame issues that face our community.

I also have experience, both professionally and in my time on commissions, leading meetings.

Additionally, I have lived in several countries, traveled to many more and worked for an international company with globally based teams, so I enjoy meeting and value working with people from many cultures, which will be helpful in serving our diverse community.

Q: What is one thing people would be surprised to know about Sally Meadows?

A: I am the commander (i.e., board chair) of an organization called Civilian ex-POWs, which is a chapter of AXPOW (American ex-POWs, a congressionally chartered Veterans Service organization). The group was originally founded by former civilian internees who were held in internment camps in the Philippines during World War II by the occupying Imperial Japanese Army. These civilians (Americans, British, Australians and other Allied nationals) included my grandparents and my father, who was aged 11-14 during their 37 months of grueling internment. The camps were liberated by American forces in February 1945. The organization now consists of former internees who were children in the camps, as well as descendants, veterans and researchers interested in WWII in the Philippines.

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\$250K grant gives 'Hope' to enhancing mental health services

Town Crier Report

Clients at Hope Services in Mountain View received an early Christmas gift last week – a \$250,000 Santa Clara County grant aimed at improving the 70-year-old organization's transportation and mental health services.

Spearheaded by County Supervisor Joe Simitian and approved by the county's Board of Supervisors in June, the grant, celebrated at an event Dec. 8, funded four Ford Explorer vehicles as well as 60 laptop computers to enable clients to access behavioral and psychiatric services remotely.

"The vast majority of us have rebounded from the pandemic, but that journey has been much longer for those in the disabled community who were disproportionately impacted by the isolation," said Chip Huggins, president and CEO of the nonprofit Hope Services. "Funding for transportation and telehealth access is crucial to helping this vulnerable population rejoin the larger community."

"It is fun riding in the vehicles to visit De Anza College," client Scott McMillen said. "The staff treats the vehicles very well so that we are comfortable while



COURTESY OF MARILYN NGUYEN

Joe Simitian, from left, and Hope Services clients Scott McMillen and Tony Salazar attend the Dec. 8 event celebrating Santa Clara County's \$250,000 grant to the nonprofit Hope Services. The donation funded enhanced transportation services and the purchase of 60 laptops to enable clients to access behavioral and psychiatric services remotely.

out in the community."

Hope Services currently has more than 300 clients taking part in its day programs. The new vehicles are large enough to enable better physical distancing and meet internal protocols for client safety in transporting a staff member and up to four clients.

"Like anyone else, our clients want to be out in the commu-

nity," said Hope Services North District director Suanne Rinta. "Taking classes, going to jobs, exercising, shopping – these are all outings our clients depend on."

Along with the new laptops will come appropriate training so that Hope Services clients can better access mental health services, officials said.

"Accessing mental health

services for those with special needs can be a challenge, said Anna Fernandez, Hope Services director of mental health. "The laptops and training funded by this county grant will enable our clients to more easily access the psychiatric counseling they need. Over time, that means the quality of service improves, along with better care and better outcomes."

According to Simitian, Hope Services does critical work in the community.

"And with help from the county, they can do even more to improve the quality of life for local folks with intellectual and developmental disabilities," he said. "It's a smart partnership. If something as simple and basic as a van or a laptop can connect the program participants at Hope Services with the larger community, that's a winner."

Founded in 1952, Hope Services has aimed to develop society's acceptance of people with disabilities and mental health needs by promoting the common understanding that the world is a better place when people with disabilities and mental health needs are fully integrated and accepted in all aspects of the culture and community.

Hope Services receives some funding from the state. To help close the funding gap, the organization relies on grants, donations and revenue from its businesses like HopeTHRIFT stores.

Hope Services is located at 460 E. Middlefield Road.

For more information, visit hopeservices.org.

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Comment

Letters to the Editor

Flags represent nationalism, colonialism

After reading the article about which flags to fly at Veterans Community Plaza, I vote for none (“Debated Los Altos flag policy moves forward,” Dec. 7).

Flags are symbols of nationalism and colonialism. They are not necessary. After 20 months of participating in the mayhem and insanity of Vietnam, I came to the conclusion that flags, like religious zealots, lead to nothing but pain and misery.

How about a Peace Flag?

Mark Vasser
Los Altos

Power outage reveals problem with mandates

On Saturday, Nov. 12, an electric power pole on Twelve Acre Drive fell over and the electrical power was interrupted to a number of houses in the area. This left them without heating, unless you had a gas fireplace that could be lit with a normal lighter or a match. Of course, a wood-burning fireplace could also be used to get at least part

of the house heated.

Power was restored the next day in the morning. It was very cold in the houses during the outage.

This incident shows the shortcomings of the existing or contemplated mandates to eliminate conventional heating, e.g., wood-burning or gas fireplaces from houses in Los Altos – be they new or old.

A thought: Should all-electric houses be required to have generators to supply a minimum of electricity? But would it be enough for heating?

Generators run on gasoline or natural gas. Where do you get the gasoline during an electrical outage lasting several days when fuel cannot be pumped at the gas station? Generators are very noisy. What would be the noise pattern in a neighborhood when many houses use the generators? We are entering a devil’s circle.

P.S. The power pole had a transformer at the top which spilled “oil.” Was the oil PCB?

Richard Leute
Los Altos

Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

Mountain View High’s 1931 senior class poses with principal Captain Brunton on the steps of the school’s main entrance on Castro Street in downtown Mountain View. The high school served students from Mountain View as well as from unincorporated areas that later became Los Altos and Los Altos Hills.

Artist takes global climate action

By Tom Berry

At any time, but especially at the end of the year, whenever we see ordinary people doing extraordinary things, it does our hearts good. As one example, for some in this community the name Rebecca Truman might ring a bell. If it does, it is likely because they are acquainted with Truman’s artwork – most notably our revered veterans memorial sculpture, “The Cradle of Liberty,” which has stood in Shoup Park since July 4, 1998.

Years after the dedication ceremony, Truman recalled conducting research in advance of the project and being profoundly moved by the courage and determination of the men and women throughout our history who took a stand for America’s highest principles in extremely challenging times. Particularly inspiring for her was the fact that these were just “ordinary people” who joined together in common cause to defend our nation and its core values against the threat of powerful and deadly foes.

Over the following decade, Truman and her partner, entrepreneur and physicist Brian Von Herzen, became increasingly concerned about the global threat posed by climate change.

Other Voices

Between 2001 and 2006, Truman and Von Herzen flew their Cessna 337 multiple times to and from Europe, crossing over the Greenland ice cap. It was Greenland where they saw dramatic increases in the number and sizes of melted areas – from small and rare “melt ponds” in 2001 to numerous and vast ice-melt lakes by 2006.

As they made these observations, they also began to realize ramifications of a rapidly warming climate. Of particular concern were the calamitous impact it would have on food security for millions around the world and the destruction of ecosystems and their inhabitants. In 2007, these realizations prompted Truman and Von Herzen to found the Climate Foundation, a nonprofit organization devoted to finding sustainable solutions for carbon balance through methods based on processes that occur in nature.

From its first headquarters in Los Altos and later in Woods Hole, Mass., the Climate Foundation developed successful projects on land and sea – from biochar reactor operations in

India and Africa to a deepwater system for stopping and reversing coral bleaching off American Samoa.

These and other projects led to the development and scaling up of the Marine Permaculture method that has become the primary focus for the organization.

As the temperatures of upper layers of the world’s oceans have been rising due to climate change, the natural upwelling of colder, nutrient-rich water from the depths has become curtailed, leading to the deterioration of conditions for sustaining fish and plant life. The Climate Foundation’s patented method of Marine Permaculture uses renewable energy irrigation to restore deepwater upwelling to lower the temperature in upper ocean layers and regenerate kelp forests.

The climate crisis is the ultimate challenge of our era and is a clarion call to action. It is because of the enormity of this challenge that Truman, Von Herzen and the rest of their dedicated team urge other “ordinary people” everywhere to join them in their efforts to solve this global emergency.

Tom Berry is a volunteer with the Climate Foundation. For more information, visit climatefoundation.org.

Letters to the Editor and ‘Other Voices’

The Town Crier welcomes letters to the editor and “Other Voices” columns on current events pertinent to Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View. Email submissions to bruceb@latc.com. Please limit letters to no more than 200 words and columns to 500 words.



Los Altos Town Crier

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2022 Town Crier Holiday Fund

Community Health Awareness Council: Prioritizing mental health

- **Mission:** The Community Health Awareness Council (CHAC) aims to improve lives and strengthen communities through access to comprehensive and culturally responsible mental health services in Santa Clara County.

The nonprofit provides quality mental health services to everyone in the community, regardless of ability to pay. For nearly 50 years, CHAC has been driven by an unswerving belief in mental wellness as the foundation for a healthy, fulfilled life.

CHAC officials believe that early intervention, prevention and providing a continuum of care build a healthy, resilient and supportive community.

- **2022 update:** CHAC organizers have declared a mental health crisis, especially among families and young people.

The many losses due to the pandemic brought on long-term challenges to mental health.

Many youth lost critical social-skills development when playdates and sleepovers didn't happen, and teenagers, who grow and develop as they bond with peers, spent agonizing time alone.

Everyone lost a sense of community and being connected with one another.

Throughout these difficult times,

Community Health Awareness Council

Location: 590 W. El Camino Real, Mountain View

Founded: 1973

Annual budget: \$5.639 million

Staff: 33 full-time employees

Information: chacmv.org, facebook.com/chacmv

CHAC has been on the frontlines of mental health, providing critical, life-changing and, too often, life-saving services to students, families and adults struggling with life's challenges as the community emerges from the pandemic. CHAC helps people process their loss so it doesn't come out as anger, frustration or deeper pain, equipping them to find the joy in relationships with their children and families.

- **Why the Holiday Fund is needed:**

Thanks to generous community support over the past 49 years, CHAC has helped hundreds of thousands of people from all walks of life learn effective communication and coping strategies to lead healthier lives.

Last year alone, CHAC touched the lives of nearly 15,000 people of all ages.



COURTESY OF CHAC

Staff at the Community Health Awareness Council confer. CHAC provides quality mental health services to all in the community, regardless of ability to pay. For nearly 50 years, CHAC has been driven by an unswerving belief in mental wellness as the foundation for a healthy, fulfilled life.

Over the years, CHAC has also trained hundreds of mental health practitioners through its clinical training program.

Funds from the Town Crier Holiday Fund will be leveraged with other support to provide myriad community-benefit services, including counseling

support to individuals through CHAC's In-House Counseling Program and Multicultural Programs (the latter offered in more than 11 languages), Family Resource Centers, Assessment Clinic and special programs for LGBTQ youth.

CSA Food & Nutrition Center: Filling food needs among the underserved

- **Mission:** Community Services Agency of Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View is the community's safety net, providing critical support services that preserve and promote stability, self-reliance and dignity.

CSA provides basic services to anyone living in poverty in the local community: rental assistance to prevent families from losing their housing; homeless case management to move people into a shelter or housing; senior services to keep seniors safely housed in their own homes; nutritious groceries; and outreach to connect people with assistance and other resources. Services are provided in multiple languages and at multiple sites.

According to Food & Nutrition Center director LaDrea Clark, the need in the community for food is increasing.

"Budgets are tight because of inflation and high gas prices, and people are turning to us to make ends meet," she said.

As the pandemic wanes, economic difficulties still remain for many living in poverty, exacerbated by inflation and

CSA Food & Nutrition Center

Locations: Main office for services and food pantry at 204 Stierlin Road, Mountain View; Senior Nutrition Lunch Program weekdays at Mountain View Senior Center, 266 Escuela Ave.; mobile pantry distributions at local schools and parks

Founded: 1957

Annual budget: \$6 million

Staff: 38 full- and part-time staff, more than 500 volunteers

Information: csacares.org

increased rents. During the pandemic, CSA distributed more than \$5 million in rental and other direct financial assistance, in addition to its regular programs.

- **2022 update:** CSA has seen a dramatic increase in clients served over the past year. Unhoused clients are up 47% to nearly 1,000, including more than 200 children. The Food & Nutrition



COURTESY OF CSA FOOD & NUTRITION CENTER

Henry Chace volunteers with Community Services Agency's Food & Nutrition Center. According to staff, the need for food among the underserved is rising.

Center is serving 3,600 individuals in need, an increase of 34% over last year.

- **Why the Holiday Fund is Needed:** CSA has restarted mobile pantries after a pause during the pandemic,

servicing more people and increasing the need for food. The Holiday Fund allows for the purchase of nutritious groceries, including the high-protein items clients frequently request.

Community

AAUW holiday luncheon speaker offers help for the homeless

Special to the Town Crier

Julie Mahowald, chief financial officer of Housing Trust Silicon Valley, spoke on the theme “Unhoused for the Holidays” at the annual holiday social hosted by the Los Altos-Mountain View branch of the American Association of University Women Dec. 4.

The social was a hybrid meeting, with in-person attendees at Neutra House treated to hot spiced cider and home-baked cookies provided by Snack Dragon, while Zoomers provided their own refreshments.

Mahowald explained how Housing Trust uses capital investment from local tech companies to start up or preserve affordable housing in Silicon Valley. Recently, Facebook, Google and Apple together pledged \$4.5 billion in support of housing development. Additional funds have come from LinkedIn, Cisco Systems, Sobrato, the Grove Foundation and the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, among others.

Barriers to affordable housing include local zoning regulations and neighbor-



COURTESY OF ALLYSON JOHNSON

AAUW director Allyson Johnson, from left, CSA program development director Simone Berkowitz and Julie Mahowald, Housing Trust Silicon Valley CFO, gather at the nonprofit group’s recent holiday luncheon.

hood opposition. For example, Housing Trust recently celebrated the opening of Leigh Avenue Senior Housing in San Jose, which offers 65 units occupied by formerly homeless seniors and people with physical or mental disabilities. The project took 11 years to complete, from

submitting the application for development to occupation.

More recently, Vista Luna apartments on El Camino Real in Mountain View took four years to finish – still too long, in Mahowald’s view.

Both projects are located close to

transportation and community services and include support services to aid residents in transition from homelessness to housing, employment counseling and health counseling. These are not transition projects like the mini-homes that have been featured in the news, but permanent homes. Approximately 90% of residents stay in place.

In a Q&A session following her talk, Mahowald challenged some myths that have grown around the homeless people she works with. They are not migrants invading in order to take advantage of California’s liberal welfare policies: 60% of the homeless in California have been in the state at least 10 years, 90% for at least one year, and very few were homeless when they arrived. In nearly all cases, they lost their housing and once unhoused, found it impossible to get back under a roof.

Mahowald urged attendees to learn what new housing laws actually say, rather than trusting scary newspaper

See AAUW, Page 11

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Opening Day: Friday, November 25th
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Saturday - Sunday: 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Monday - Friday: 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM



Community

Pet of the Week



Mocha is a 2-year-old female dog available for adoption through Pets In Need. According to a PIN rep, she is “super sweet and bouncy” and loves her toys and playing fetch. She will drop her ball nonstop at your feet, often tossing it to you and just staring at you until you give in and throw it for her. “If you have a lot of love to give and you’re looking for a fun adventure buddy, the wonderful, affectionate and playful Mocha could be the one for you,” the shelter rep said. Mocha is currently in a foster home. To set up a meet-and-greet and for more information, visit petsinneed.org/application.

AAUW From Page 10

headlines, and to be a voice for the pro-housing group YIMBY (Yes In My Back Yard) at local planning meetings.

Simone Berkowitz, program development director at Community Services Agency, also spoke briefly on CSA’s outreach and support programs for un-housed families. Many attendees at the social contributed gift cards and checks as donations to CSA.

The program supported the efforts of the local branch of the AAUW to promote the welfare of women and girls, who are often the most impacted by lack of affordable housing.

Vicki Reeder, director of the local AAUW branch, intro-

duced two alumnae of AAUW’s Tech Trek science camps. Both girls attended virtual camps via Zoom during the summer before eighth grade. Carolyn Kao shared how happy she was to find other girls her age who were interested in technology, noting that in her computer science class at Mountain View High School, she is one of only four girls. Eine Youn told attendees how she “fell in love with science” after participating in a presentation by a young woman research biologist. Both girls are now working to organize a group of Tech Trek alumnae to prolong the connections formed at camp and to provide mentoring to younger girls interested in science and technology.

For more information, visit lamv-ca.aauw.net.

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Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Community

Covert abuse victims: Now is the time to apply what you've learned from CSI episodes

By Ruthven Darlene

This is the fourth in a six-part series on coercive control and the holidays.

This is where secret journaling can help – if you can store it in a safe place. Can you, even in bullet-point form, start recording these episodes to look for patterns? Now is the time to apply what you've learned from watching all those “CSI” episodes.

What is his style? What is his M.O.? What red herrings does he toss your way? What is his alibi when confronted? It's a new way to think, diametrically opposed to the open sharing of information and feelings you'd find in a typical healthy, loving, safe interpersonal relationship based on equality, respect and compromise.

If you have discovered you are living

Confronting Domestic Violence

with a covert abuser, then one of the most dangerous things you can do is confront him, call him out on his abusive behavior. One of our survivors called her partner, based on the way he ran the household, “the ultimate arbiter of all reality.” If you threaten that power, that authority, that idea of himself, you risk having his wrath rain down on you. This kind of covert abuser does not do well with the truth. If it's a choice between winning and truth, winning will win every time.

If you believe in a higher power like God, you can draw on your faith to

help shore up and replenish your inner reserves. You can lean on Him, call on Him to give you clarity of mind, courage, stamina, perseverance and protection as you prepare to walk through this dark valley. That way you won't have to make this journey alone, and you will have an infinite well of strength and courage to draw on in the days ahead.

If you don't believe in a higher power, you can still shore up your inner reserves. You may consider taking up some form of meditation to help lower your stress response and make it easier to take a beat before responding.

If you have never tried therapy, this may be the time to explore it with a therapist who understands coercive control – not because there is anything wrong with you, but because of what has happened to you and as a way of keeping your sanity going forward.

Nutrition, sleep, exercise, self-care are more important now than ever before – despite your partner's attempts to make you feel guilty for any time spent not serving his needs.

Part 5 will lay out the first step toward freedom, and where it takes place.

Ruth Darlene, M.A., is founder and executive director of WomenSV, a local nonprofit and Town Crier Holiday Fund recipient that serves women trapped in a relationship with a powerful, sophisticated abuser. In the past 11 years, WomenSV has served more than 1,200 survivors of covert abuse. To donate and for more information, visit womensv.org.



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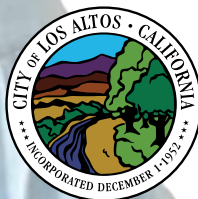
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Community Briefs

Irish tenor performs in Los Altos Sunday

Emmet Cahill, internationally known Irish tenor and star of the Irish music group Celtic Thunder, is scheduled to bring his “Christmas in Ireland” concert to St. William Catholic Church in Los Altos 2 p.m. Sunday.

Cahill has performed with Celtic Thunder for 11 years in more than 400 shows in North America, Australia and Canada, including many specials on PBS.

Also performing with Cahill will be the Greene Academy of Irish Dance Ensemble from San Jose. The dance company comprises boys and girls performing traditional Irish step dance. Many of the dancers are from Los Altos.

Tickets are \$35 general admission, \$45 for the pre-show meet-and-greet at 1 p.m., where Cahill

will answer questions, pose for photos and sign autographs. The meet-and-greet ticket includes admission to the concert.

St. William Church is located at 611 S. El Monte Ave.

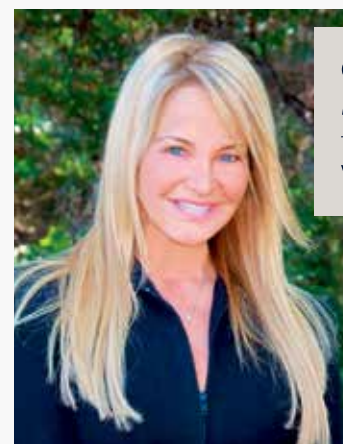
For tickets and more information, visit Emmet.Cahill.com or stnicholasandstwilliam.org (click the “Emmet Cahill's Christmas in Ireland” link). Tickets are also available at the St. Nicholas Church office at 473 Lincoln Ave., Los Altos.

LALE seeks new board members

The Los Altos Library Endowment is recruiting new members to join its board of directors.

LALE supports the Los Altos main and Woodland Branch libraries with grants and funds.

For more information, email losaltoslibraryendowment@gmail.com.



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People

Weddings

Tracy Berry and Jon Phillips

Tracy Berry and Jon Phillips were married June 24 in La Mairie, Quincerot, France.

The bride is daughter of Hazen and Mary Berry (both deceased) of Kinderhook, N.Y. She attended Floyd Central High School in Floyds Knobs, Ind. She earned a bachelor's degree in public administration from Indiana University and did post-graduate work in security studies at Georgetown University. She is employed as Fresh Works director of competitive intelligence and communication.

The groom is the son of Howard (deceased) and Barbara Phillips of Los Altos. He



Tracy Berry and Jon Phillips

attended Los Altos High School and Foothill College. He earned a bachelor's degree in business administration with a marketing concentration from Cal State Hayward. He works as founder-owner and winemaker of Inspi-

ration Vineyards in Santa Rosa. For their honeymoon, the newlyweds chartered their own boat to sail down the Canal du Midi in the South of France. They live in Santa Rosa and Quincerot, France.

Allyn Nielson and Andrew Lind

Allyn Lorraine Nielson and Andrew Steadman Lind were married Sept. 10 at Dos Pueblos Orchid Farm in Santa Barbara.

The couple met as freshmen at Boston University.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. Paul Estey and Brigitte Estey of Los Altos and Dan and Annie Nielson of Mountain View. She graduated from Boston University and is currently employed at Google in Irvine as a lead program manager.

The groom is the son of Soren and Liddy Lind of San Juan Capistrano. He graduated from Pitzer College and is employed at Medequip in Aliso Viejo as director of business development.

The couple live in Costa Mesa.



Allyn Nielson and Andrew Lind

Megann Mucks and David Wobber

Megann Mucks and David Wobber were married Sept. 13 in San Francisco.

The bride is the daughter of Kristyn Koppman and Greg Mucks of Lower Lake. She graduated from Lower Lake High School and earned a bachelor's in nursing from San Diego State University. She is currently a bone marrow transplant nurse coordinator at UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital.

The groom is the son of Nannette and Michael Wobber of Los Altos. He graduated from Los Altos High School in 2009



Megann Mucks and David Wobber

and earned a bachelor's in economics from Loyola Marymount University in 2013. He

is currently director of sales at Landsberg Orara. The couple live in Montara.

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LOS ALTOS HILLS COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS VACANCIES

The Los Altos Hills County Fire District (LAHCFD) announces two (2) upcoming vacancies on the LAHCFD Board of Commissioners beginning January 1, 2023 and invites residents to apply in accordance with the requirements below.

QUALIFICATIONS

One (1) vacancy requires applicants to be a resident of the Town of Los Altos Hills

One (1) vacancy requires applicants to be a resident of the unincorporated area of Santa Clara County and to reside within the boundaries served and protected by the LAHCFD

The appointment is for a four-year term

Applicants are encouraged to apply by December 31, 2022

Applicants are required to complete the Santa Clara County online application at:

<https://santaclaracounty.primegov.com/Portal/NewForm/1?committeId=7>

Applicants are requested to submit a letter of interest to District 5 Santa Clara County Supervisor Joe Simitian at: Supervisor.simitian@bos.sccgov.org

The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors makes the final appointment

Applicants are invited to attend LAHCFD Commission meetings. Meeting details are located on the District website at:

<https://www.lahcfd.org/governance/commission-meetings/>

The LAHCFD Board of Commissioners meets every third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

To find out more about the LAHCFD, visit the District website at www.lahcfd.org. If there are any questions, please email clerk@lahcfd.org or leave a message at (650) 949-1044.

Community

'Simply Sinatra' performance supports Lighthouse for the Blind

Town Crier Report

Local actors/singers Steve Gill and Alex Perez are scheduled to perform "Simply Sinatra: The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Singer," a one-hour bio-concert showcasing the life and music of Frank Sinatra, 7:30 Jan. 7 in Menlo School's Martin Family Hall.

Proceeds from the concert will support Lighthouse for the Blind's Enchanted Hills Camp.

Gill, a longtime Los Altos resident, has performed professionally with American Musical Theatre, TheatreWorks, San Jose Stage Company and West Bay Opera.

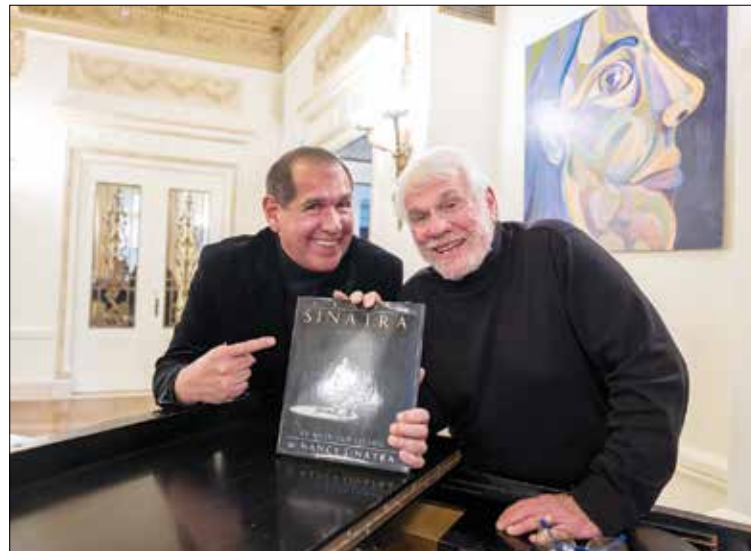
Perez, a Palo Alto resident, worked professionally as an actor, director and choreographer throughout the Bay Area, including for TheatreWorks, San Jose Stage and Broadway by the Bay, as well as for The Old Globe Theater in San Diego.

Both Gill and Perez directed theater productions at Menlo School.

Menlo School is located at 50 Valparaiso Ave., Atherton.

Requested donation is \$20. Seating is on a first-come, first-seated basis.

Those planning to attend can call Nancy Gill at (650) 948-4648 or email gillnancyg@gmail.com and provide number attending and contact information.



COURTESY OF NANCY GILL

Alex Perez, left, and Steve Gill are scheduled to perform the benefit concert "Simply Sinatra: The Loneliness of the Long-Distance Singer" Jan. 7 at Menlo School.

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DEC 28 *..... Your Home
JAN 04*..... On The Road, Food & Wine
JAN 11 Your Health, Off to Camp magazine
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Sports

Sports on the Side

Giants sign MV native to three-year deal

The San Francisco Giants last week agreed to a three-year contract with free-agent outfielder **Mitch Haniger**, a Mountain View native. The 31-year-old is a graduate of Mitty High. He spent the past five seasons with the Seattle Mariners.

Owls win bowl game in decisive fashion

The Foothill College football team capped its season by trouncing West Hills 48-20 in the Dec. 3 Silicon Valley Bowl. The host Owls posted an 8-3 record this year.

MVHS tree lot benefits athletics

The Spartans Tree Lot is open at the Mountain View High football stadium. There are Noble, Nordman and Douglas firs available, along with wreaths, tree stands decorative reindeer and snowmen, and a Spartans ornament. Trees are also being sold via delivery (within 5 miles of the school). Proceeds benefit Mountain View High athletics. Operating hours are 4:30-7:30 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekends. To order online and for more information, visit SpartansTreeLot.com.

Local high schools seek coaches

Los Altos High seeks varsity and junior varsity coaches for badminton. If interested, email athletic director **Michelle Noeth** at michelle.noeth@mvla.net. Mountain View High needs a varsity coach for girls lacrosse and JV coach for boys lacrosse. If interested, email athletic director **Tim Lugo** at tim.lugo@mvla.net.

NFHS puts out call for sports officials

Due to a shortage of high school officials, the National Federation of State High School Associations seeks

See **SIDE**, Page 20

Panthers depleted but not defeated

Shorthanded Pinewood girls basketball team rallies late to beat taller Los Gatos squad

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

Short on size and depth, the Pinewood School girls basketball team came up big when it needed to Saturday against Los Gatos. The Panthers rallied from a 10-point deficit in the third quarter to beat the Wildcats 55-48, avoiding their first 0-2 start in 15 years.

"It's nice to pull out a win with who we have playing," said coach Doc Schepler, who had only seven players available due to illnesses, injuries and transfer rules. "I don't know how we did it."

Pinewood trailed 27-21 at halftime, struggling to make 3-pointers (5-of-22) or stop the significantly taller Wildcats from getting to the basket (12 points in the paint). That trend spilled into the third quarter, with Los Gatos building a 36-26 advantage at the 4:28 mark.

Then the Panthers made their push. Pinewood capped the quarter on a 7-1 run featuring back-to-back buckets from

sophomore Jolyn Ding (floater and right-side drive with a ball fake that incited the Panthers' bench) and a deep top-of-the-key 3 from junior Alex Facelo.

The Wildcats (2-2) scored the first four points of the fourth to extend their lead to 41-34, but that wasn't nearly enough to deter a Pinewood team that was starting to click. The Panthers produced the next six points, four of them from freshman Lita Fakapelea. After Los Gatos' Ashley Childers split free throws, Fakapelea drained a 3 with 5:55 remaining to put Pinewood ahead for the first time at 43-42.

The Panthers never relinquished the lead, despite losing Ding (fouled out) midway through the quarter.

Facelo delivered the dagger with just under two minutes left when she got by her defender with a crossover dribble and buried a straight-away 3 to make it 53-46.

"Like Doc always says, 'If you don't think about anything See **PANTHERS**, Page 19



R. ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Pinewood's Alex Facelo lays in the ball before Los Gatos' Nicole Steiner can contest the shot. Facelo scored 23 points in the win.

Mtn. View High coach optimistic about his boys soccer team

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

Mountain View High boys soccer coach Jim McGuirk has good reason to be excited about his team's prospects for this season.

"We have a lot of guys back from last year, so we hope to do real well," the Spartans' 36th-year coach said.

Returning seven starters from a squad that placed second in the SCVAL De Anza Division, "we hope to improve on that," said McGuirk, whose team advanced to the Central Coast Section Division II semifinals and finished 12-5-4 overall last year.

"Our league will be tough as usual with a lot of good teams, so it won't be easy," he added, "but I think we have a great chance this year."

Mountain View is especially stout on the



McGuirk

Prep Sports Summary

backline, where the coach said three seniors – returning defenders Bryan Kim, Eduardo Caballero and Jamieson DeAngelis – lead the team.

The three starting forwards are back as well: seniors Julian Hsien and Taaran Chohan, along with junior Luc Bortolato.

McGuirk said the Spartans' midfield "is also pretty strong," led by returnee Sola Nishimura, a junior, and newcomer Jonathan Palominos, a senior.

Ten minutes into Friday night's 5-1 home rout of Pioneer, Nishimura, Bortolato and Chohan had each already scored a goal. Ali Edris added a goal just before halftime, making it 4-1, and fellow junior forward Liam Barrett completed the Spartans' scoring with a goal in the second half.

"Julian Hsien also had a fantastic game, setting up most of the goals," McGuirk said.

Mountain View – which shut out visiting Cupertino 5-0 two days earlier in another

non-league game – improved to 3-0-1 overall.

The Spartans are scheduled to host Milpitas 7 p.m. Friday in their second-to-last game before league starts. Their De Anza Division opener is set for 6 p.m. Jan. 4 against visiting Homestead.

In other local boys soccer action last week, Los Altos toppled Aptos 3-1 Dec. 7 behind a goal and assist from Idan Garten. Zaid Issa and Nikhil Morales also scored for the visiting Eagles (2-0-1).

St. Francis last week tied its first two games of the season: 2-2 against Gunn Thursday and 3-3 versus Santa Clara Saturday. Both matches were part of the Homestead Christmas Cup tournament.

Girls soccer

Karena Shah recorded a goal and an assist as Mountain View blanked Sacred Heart Prep 3-0 Saturday in the Firebird Classic at Fremont. Laila Edris and Juno Winegar accounted for the Spartans' other goals.

Shah also scored in Mountain View's previous game, a 2-1 tourney loss to St. Ignatius

See **SUMMARY**, Page 20

Sports

PANTHERS

From Page 18

when you shoot it, it's going to go in, and if you overthink, you're not going to make it," said Facelo, who added two free throws in the final minute to finish with a team-high 23 points. "I honestly felt like I just had nothing to lose."

Facelo and Fakapelea combined for all 21 of the Panthers' points in the fourth.

"We had some kids hit some big shots," Scheppler said. "They were big-time."

Fakapelea, Pinewood's tallest player at 5-foot-11, scored 11 of her 17 points in the final stanza. Ding totaled nine points and a team-best six rebounds.

Facelo, who moved to point guard Saturday with senior Jade Ramirez out ill, dished out two assists and made three steals.

"I'm so proud of our team," she said. "I honestly think the most important thing was that we just kept playing. We figured out our mistakes early, we started rebounding more, and I think that's what made us successful."

Two days earlier, the Panthers tipped off their season with a 63-50 home loss to San Ramon Valley.

"We lost by 13, but I consider that a win because they are very good and we played without Jade," Scheppler said. "When we get everybody back, I think it'll be fine."

The coach hoped to have first team all-leaguer Ramirez back for Saturday's 4:30 p.m. game against University at Moreau Catholic in Hayward. Seniors Skylar Chui and Chlea Facelo are out the season with knee injuries, but transfers Vallory Kuelker (from Gunn High) and Ava Uhrich (Burlingame) will be eligible to play in January when league play begins.



R. ALAN HWANG/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Pinewood's Lita Fakapelea shoots over Los Gatos' Casey Brennan. Fakapelea totaled 17 points.

Local high school & community college sports schedule for Dec. 14-20

HIGH SCHOOL

Boys basketball

Thursday
Los Altos vs. Homestead at Fremont Tournament, 6:30 p.m.

Scotts Valley at Mountain View, 7 p.m.

Friday
Nueva School at Pinewood, 5:30 p.m.
St. Francis vs. Sacred Heart Prep at DJ Frandsen Memorial Tournament at Bellarmine, 7:30 p.m.

Los Altos at Fremont Tournament, TBA

Saturday
Pinewood at Westmont, 3 p.m.

Los Altos at Fremont Tournament, TBA

Girls basketball

Today
Mountain View at Carlmont, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday
Saratoga at Los Altos, 7 p.m.

Friday
Mountain View at Sequoia, 7 p.m.

Saturday
Los Altos at Gunn, 3 p.m.
Pinewood vs. University at Moreau Catholic, 4:30 p.m.
St. Francis at Presentation Tournament, TBA

Boys soccer

Today
Salinas at Los Altos, 6 p.m.

Friday
Milpitas at Mountain View, 7 p.m.

Saturday
Los Altos at Fremont Tournament, TBA

Girls soccer

Friday
Palo Alto at Los Altos, 7 p.m.

Wrestling

Saturday
Mountain View at Nick Buzolich Tournament at Lincoln, all day

COLLEGE

Men's basketball

Thursday
Foothill vs. Yuba at Kris Kringle Tournament at Santa Rosa, 4 p.m.

TBA: To be announced



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Sports

SUMMARY

From Page 18

Dec. 6. Winegar notched the assist for the Spartans (2-2).

Los Altos last week split its first two games of the season, following a 3-0 home win over Aptos Thursday with a 1-0 setback to Woodside Saturday in the Firebird Classic.

St. Francis kicked off its campaign with a 2-1 victory over Pioneer Saturday in the Firebird Classic.

Girls basketball

Visiting Los Altos outscored Ann Sobrato 22-0 in the second quarter en route to a 47-34 win Saturday.

Maggie Byrne finished with 13 points to lead the Eagles (3-3), and Natalie Holm grabbed 14 rebounds.

Four days before, host Los Altos took down Piedmont Hills 39-27 behind 15 points from Holm and 10 from Mira Sundar.

Mountain View slipped to 1-2 on the season with Friday's 53-36 loss at Hillsdale.

Four days earlier, the Spartans lost at Leland 42-40, despite 15 points from Alana Sukhi.

St. Francis bounced back from a first-round loss to Sacred Heart Prep by winning its next two games at the King's Academy Tournament. The Lancers pummeled Pioneer 68-33 Friday and topped Gunn 57-45 Saturday.

St. Francis, outscored 18-11 in the fourth quarter of Thursday's 50-45 setback to Sacred Heart, entered this week with a 4-3 record.

Boys basketball

Los Altos fell 49-41 to undefeated Gunn Saturday in the championship game of the Lynbrook Tournament. The Eagles (3-5 overall) beat Homestead 44-37 in Friday's semifinals and trounced Silver Creek 46-24 in the opening round.



MAL TAAM/TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Mountain View High's Juno Winegar, heading the ball in a game against St. Francis last season, made a goal and an assist last week.

Dominating the second half, host Mountain View overwhelmed Overfelt 69-30 Saturday in non-league play. The Spartans outscored the Royals 41-13 after halftime, including 23-3 in the third quarter.

Mountain View, which has won four games in a row, improved to 4-2.

St. Francis lost a close one to Cardinal Newman in the championship game of the Rose City Tournament Saturday in Santa Rosa. The Cardinals prevailed 49-47, sending the Lancers to their first loss of the year.

St. Francis (4-1) beat Petaluma 58-46 in Friday's second-round game and drubbed Maria Carrillo 73-32 in Thursday's opening round.

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SIDE

From Page 18

referees and umpires. These are paid positions, hours are flexible and training is provided. To apply and for more information, visit highschoolofficials.com.

City of Mountain View offers open gym

The Mountain View Recreation Division's Teen Open Gym, free and open to the city's middle and high school students, is scheduled 6:30-9:30 p.m. Saturdays at the Whisman Sports Center, 1500 Middlefield Road. The weekly events offer youth a place to play basketball, volleyball and indoor soccer. Participants must show their student IDs at the door. For more information, call (650) 903-6331.

Free online courses serve parents, coaches

The National Federation for State High School Associations offers several free online courses for parents and coaches. To access the courses, visit nfhslearn.com/courses.

Schools

CUSD students fare well in the face of pandemic learning loss overall

But the achievement gap among ethnic groups continues to be wide

By Jennah Pendleton
Staff Writer/jennahp@latc.com

Like many local school districts, the Cupertino Union School District fared well in the face of learning loss as a result of the pandemic.

Smarter Balanced test scores indicate that the performance of CUSD students, including those at Montclair Elementary School in Los Altos, saw negligible effects on overall comprehension in English language arts and mathematics.

CUSD overall experienced a slight setback in scores compared to pre-pandemic scores – with a drop of 0.43 and 1.61 percentage points for students meeting state standards for ELA and math, respectively, which by statewide statistics could be considered a success

considering how the rest of the state performed.

Statewide results indicate that California in general suffered significant learning loss among K-8 students throughout the first couple of years of the pandemic, with a drop of 4 percentage points in ELA standards and 6.5 in math.

CUSD director of communication Erin Lindsey said the district owes its success primarily to teachers, staff and the administration's ongoing assessment of student needs.

"Academic excellence, personalized learning and a strong sense of belonging are priorities of CUSD," she said. "Before, during and after the pandemic, the district uses instructional tools and methods to assess student progress and areas for growth, both academically and social-emotionally."



ZOE MORGAN/TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO

Montclair Elementary School students, as well as those in the Cupertino Union School District as a whole, saw negligible learning loss overall. But the district still suffers from an achievement gap between Hispanic and non-Hispanic students.

Administrators used the data to create personalized learning programs and determine goals, as well as to assess which students to prioritize when first returning to in-person instruction.

Montclair, which serves families primarily in the southern end of Los Altos, outperformed the district average and saw an overall increase in

students who met or exceeded state standards.

Closing the achievement gap

CUSD schools, like those of other districts in the South Bay, have long performed better than the rest of the state on assessment tests, with at least 34% more students in ELA and

See CUSD, Page 23

St. Simon Parish School opens new classroom dedicated to STEM, robotics, makerspace

Town Crier Report

St. Simon Parish School in Los Altos hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony Nov. 13 for the opening of its new 1,000-square-foot classroom dedicated to the school's science programs.

"This beautiful space will offer an abundance of opportunities – a science classroom, a home for robotics, a makerspace and a place for a host of activities we have yet to envision," said St. Simon principal Ann Kozlovsky. "This new STEM classroom is an investment in our world's next great thinkers and will stretch our students' imaginations."

Built to serve students in grades K-5, the classroom features an open-ceiling design enabling students to see how the classroom's mechanical systems – plumbing, electrical, fire suppression and ventilation – work, as well as to understand how the roof structure is constructed. The room includes

an engineered steel strut grid for suspending experiments and a greenhouse window for growing seedlings. The classroom also incorporates storage for the school's award-winning robotics teams and will serve as the home base for after-school robotics activities.

"It's fantastic to have a place where younger students can explore scientific concepts and conduct experiments," said St. Simon science teacher Maria Carroll. "The built-in sinks allow students to clean up after messy activities, and the capability to completely darken the room will allow teachers to carry out demonstrations with light and color."

The parish and school, located at 1840 Grant Road, raised approximately \$2 million to build and furnish the classroom. Construction began in May and wrapped up in early November.

For more information on St. Simon, visit stsimon.school.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THERESA CLARK

The St. Simon Parish School community unveiled the school's new classroom in a ceremony Nov. 13, right. The 1,000-square-foot classroom, above, will serve as a hub for the school's science program, which includes robotics and plant cultivation.



LAHS campus supervisor faces multiple counts of sexual assault

By Jennah Pendleton
Staff Writer/jennahp@latc.com

Police arrested Los Altos High School campus supervisor Silvio Yoc-Aguilar last month for allegedly assaulting a girl at his former workplace in San Jose.



Yoc-Aguilar

The San Jose Police Department's Internet Crimes Against Children/Child Exploitation Detail booked Yoc-Aguilar on multiple counts of sexual assault Nov. 29, a day after the girl reported that he touched her inappropriately in a classroom at Hubbard Middle School.

Yoc-Aguilar has worked at Los Altos High for the past four months. According to the student newspaper The Talon, principal Wynne Satterwhite confirmed that Yoc-Aguilar would not be returning to campus and that there had been no reports of similar incidents during his time at the school as of Dec. 5. The Town Crier reached out to Satterwhite for comment but did not receive a response.

A Los Altos High employee said Yoc-Aguilar was on a short-term temporary contract as a campus supervisor. Beyond the general duties of campus supervisor, his position involved performing after-school monitoring, running detention and working one-on-one and in small groups with at-risk students.

At the time of the alleged assaults, Yoc-Aguilar was assigned to Hubbard, working as a youth counselor for New Hope for Youth, an organization that provides resources for youth and families impacted by gangs.

Detectives believe there could be additional victims due to the suspect's position as a person of trust at the middle school.

Anyone with information is urged to call the SJPD's ICAC/CED Unit at (408) 537-1381 or email 3657@sanjoseca.gov or 4290@sanjoseca.gov.

Schools

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COURTESY OF TEAGAN GOLDEN

New Troop 31 Eagle Scouts include, from left, Mingkuan Yan, Cedric Chan, Parker Pirelli, Aaron Golden and Alex Green.

Troop 31 honors new Eagle Scouts

Los Altos Scout Troop 31 recently recognized six new Eagle Scouts. Some of them earned the rank during the pandemic, which required additional resourcefulness.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest achievement in the Scouts BSA program. Since its inception in 1911, only 4% of Scouts have earned the rank af-

ter a lengthy review process.

The new Eagle Scouts and their projects:

- **Jeremy Bullis** built a wheelchair-accessible gardening bed for residents at a local nursing home. He had seen on previous visits that the nursing home's courtyard didn't have much decoration. With help from fellow Scouts, he finished the project during the pandemic. Bullis is a freshman at Case

Western Reserve University studying data science.

- **Cedric Chan** developed and hosted an elementary and middle school student hackathon via Zoom. At the two-day event, more than 100 students were taught to build a project in Scratch, JavaScript or Python. Chan is a freshman at the University of Pennsylvania studying computer science and linguistics.

Scouting News

- **Aaron Golden** built a retaining wall to protect a church pathway from erosion, enabling students who attend the church's school to walk safely along a below-surface-level path. The wall also protected a hillside from collapsing, potentially damaging a fence and telephone pole above the path. A senior at Mountain View High, Golden plans to major in a field relating to environmental science next year.

- **Alex Green** built a library book drop for Oak Avenue School to allow students to return books whenever they need. A former student at the school, he used the library often and wanted to fulfill the librarian's request for a new book drop. Green is a student at the University of British Columbia in the Faculty of Arts.

- **Parker Perilli** renovated a garden at Los Altos Lutheran Church. Motivated by his love of plants and agriculture, he organized and worked with fellow Scouts to sand and repaint the planting boxes, planted new plants and laid a paving stone walkway. The garden is used by students and staff to learn about plant growth. Perilli attends the Culinary Institute of America.

- **Mingkuan Yan** donated more than 7,000 face masks to Ronald McDonald House and Joey's Wings Foundation during the pandemic. He organized a team of volunteers to sew cloth face masks for the two nonprofits. He also created a GoFundMe page and raised more than \$3,500 to support the project. Yan is a freshman at Georgia Tech studying computer science.

Troop 31 meets at Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte Ave.

For more information on the troop, visit troopwebhost.org/Troop31LosAltos.

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Schools

CUSD

From Page 21

40% more in math consistently passing than the statewide average.

Despite the solid performance, CUSD still suffers from a significant learning gap among racial groups, with Black and Hispanic students meeting standards at a considerably lower rate than the rest of the student population. The demographic that suffered the most learning loss, according to assessment test results, was Hispanic students, whose overall passing scores dropped 4.6 and 7 percentage points in ELA and math, respectively, since 2019.

Another concerning statistic is the much wider gap among ethnic groups when compared to the state average. Where there was an 11 and 12 percentage-point difference between the performance of a Hispanic student versus the average Californian student in ELA and math, respectively, there was a 45 percentage-point disparity in both subjects in CUSD.

African American students passed at a higher rate than ever before but still perform well below their white and Asian counterparts.

Lindsey said the district is taking measures to close the achievement gap.

“This year, CUSD hired additional intervention teachers, offered additional learning time for students outside of school and increased social-emotional and mental health resources,” she said in an email. “CUSD schools also focus on increasing enrichment activities, such as clubs, student leadership opportunities, and recess/play programs.”

The district is set to receive additional funding to address the issue, a result of the record-high education budget passed by Gov. Gavin Newsom earlier this year. Funds from the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant can be used to increase instructional time and provide other academic services aimed at addressing barriers to learning and boosting academic proficiency in an effort to close the achievement gap.

Pitch an idea for a ‘Student Voices’ column to Schools editor Jennah Pendleton at jennahp@latc.com.

Schools Briefs

LAHS filmmaker wins YoungArts award

Los Altos High student Lemo Sekiguchi recently received a YoungArts Honorable Mention award in the film category.

Sekiguchi, who received the organization’s second highest honor, was recognized for the caliber of her artistic achievement as one of 702 of the most accomplished young visual, literary and performing artists from throughout the county.

Winners ages 15-18, or in grades 10-12, are selected by discipline-specific panels of art-

ists through a rigorous blind adjudication process.

As a YoungArts award winner, Sekiguchi joins a group of artists that includes actors Timothée Chalamet, Viola Davis and Hunter Schafer.

All winners are offered professional development support throughout their careers.

For the complete list of the

winners, visit youngarts.org/winners.

TC invites readers to submit story ideas

If you have an idea for a schools story or would like to comment on the section, email **Jennah Pendleton** at jennahp@latc.com.



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9:00pm Candlelight Eucharist with Choir

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Christ Episcopal Church
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Saint Simon Catholic Parish

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Presented by Cal Arte Chamber Orchestra

Christmas Mass Times
Saturday, December 24
3pm, 5pm, 11:30pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass
All LiveStreamed

Sunday, December 25
7:30am, 9am (In Person & LiveStreamed), and 11:15am

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St. Nicholas & St. William Catholic Parish

Parish Reconciliation Service
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Christmas Eve
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9pm (French)
St. William: 4pm & 6pm
Livestreamed at 4pm
www.snswwparish.org

Christmas Day
St. Nicholas: 8am & 10am
St. William: 9am & 11am

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St. William Church 611 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos, CA 94022
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Food & Wine

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Cocktail party confidence: Defeat dreaded 'host hostility' with canapes, custom drinks and cookies

By Christine Moore

Cocktail parties are ideal events for novice entertainers and well-practiced party throwers alike. There's no pressure to serve dinner, and guests can enjoy the opportunity to talk with everyone at the party rather than just those seated to their left and right.

With every detail considered and unexpected luxuries scattered throughout, a cocktail party made for mingling is sure to make spirits bright this holiday season. What's more, with a little preparation, hosts will enjoy the party as much as their guests and avoid the all-too-common, and dreaded, host hostility.

My family defines "host hostility" as the panic and frantic feeling I can exhibit on the day of a party I'm throwing. I've found that the best way to avoid this is to remind myself that the party I'm throwing is a gift to my guests, and that everyone who is coming wants to be there. This, along with working to keep things simple, tends to take the pressure off. Additionally, I aim to have all my prep done at least 30 minutes before the start time. Then I turn up the music and chill out while I get dressed.

Best guest approach

While it's likely been a minute since you reconnected with big groups of your network, consider keeping your party to no larger than 15 guests. This intimate but merry-sized guest list ensures everyone will feel spoiled. Once you've determined who you'll ask, take the time to personally invite each person or couple on your list. While formal invitations aren't necessary, reaching out to each invitee individually sets a tone of pampering from the start. Next, set the atmosphere.

Holiday entertaining makes sense because our homes are generally spruced up and ideal for hosting this time of



Silicon Sips

year. Hold the party in the area of your home that is most decorated. Doing so should limit the pre-party prep.

From the moment your company arrives, you can begin to thrill them. A simple and festive door swag and a playlist of favorite seasonal songs make for the most inviting welcome. I prefer a swag of greenery on our door as opposed to a wreath. I find them easier to assemble and more suited to our casual and cozy style. I was delighted when I found a set of Scandinavian-esque bells back in November. I squirreled the find away knowing it would add just the right jingle and splash of color to our door.

Your party might include guests who don't know one another, or it might be a reunion of sorts for folks who haven't been together in a while. Either way, a meaningful introduction of each guest is an excellent way to build the joy of the party. When the doorbell rings, we make sure to give a warm welcome with lots of "come-in, come-in" vibes. Then, I try to take a moment to announce the latest additions to the party: "Everyone, Graham and Sean are here. Don't forget to ask them about the celebrities they

did and didn't meet this year."

I also have a conversation-starter on hand. This can help kick things off in those first moments when the party is finding its groove. Questions of the festive variety include: "What is the best holiday gift you've ever received?" Or "Name one holiday tradition you just can't get enough of."

A well-stocked bar will be the center of your party. Witty conversation and laughter seem to go hand-in-hand with shaking up a cocktail. I like to include two signature drinks to serve beside beer, champagne and some nonalcoholic options. Before the party, I will mix up the liquor for three to four cocktails and leave it in a Japanese-style mixing glass. That way, revelers can get a drink fast simply by adding ice and a portion of the mix to a shaker.

Ginger Sidesleigh

The sidecar is one of my all-time favorite cocktails. Warming brandy and fresh lemon make it a great winter drink. Using ginger liquor makes this especially fitting for the season and earns this sidecar spinoff a holiday-themed name.

- 1 jigger of brandy
- 1 pony of lemon
- 1 pony of ginger liquor
- Dash of simple syrup
- Dash of orange bitters

Add ice to shaker, then ingredients and shake it like a Polaroid picture. Pour into cocktail glass and garnish with edible blossom.

You can make ginger liquor easily at home. Here's what I do: Add 1 cup sugar, 1 1/2 cups water, 1 cup brandy, 1 vanilla bean (cut open lengthwise), 7 thin slices of peeled fresh ginger and zest of 1 orange to saucepan. Bring to boil and allow to simmer roughly 20 minutes. Remove pot from



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHRISTINE MOORE

A coffee table prepped with savory bites, top, and a few pre-prepared cocktails, above, allow a host to plan ahead and enjoy her own party.

heat, remove vanilla bean and add strips of orange peel. Then allow mixture to infuse 48 hours. Remove aromatics

(ginger, orange peel), pour liquid through coffee filter and store in bottle with other
See COCKTAIL, Page 26

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Food & Wine

COCKTAIL

From Page 25

liquors. This ginger liquor should be good for a year.

Bent Pipe

The story goes that in my husband's childhood home, they didn't have a traditional chimney. They woke one Christmas morning to find that Santa had gently bent a pipe to get his gifts under their tree. It's that memory that I pay homage to when calling this drink "Bent Pipe." The name has really nothing to do with the bourbon and amaro cocktail, but it is a great way to get conversation about holidays past started. Feel free to rename the drink with a memory from your family.

- 1 jigger of bourbon
- 1 jigger of amaro
- Lemon strip
- 1 Toshi Amarena cherry (or similar)
- 1 large ice cube

Add single, large ice cube to double old-fashioned glass. Add bourbon, amaro, cherry and lemon strip. Stir gently and enjoy.

For glassware, I like a mix-and-match approach. Crystal glasses of various shapes and sizes all sparkle the same around the fairy lights on your Christmas tree or hung through your home.

Glasses I picked up early in my marriage from estate sales, or items we registered for, all come out this time of year. I don't use them often and love being reminded how they delight me.

Coffee table canapes

I pile canapes on our coffee table using different heights of platters and plates. I use the dining table as a place for cookies. I aim for mostly single-bite canapes that are appropriately indulgent for holiday eating. My menu for this year's cocktail party menu is:

- Smoked salmon and butter, served on European-style brown bread and topped with a sprig of dill
- Mini turkey meatballs served beside lingonberry sauce
- Loaded Tater Tots (recipe follows)
- Winter salad bite – a cube of feta, topped with a mint leaf and piece of cooked beet; finish with a drizzle of balsamic reduction
- Blue cheese, dried fig, pecan and honey endive spears

Loaded Tater Tots

These bite-sized potato cups are super simple because they use frozen tater tots. I top mine with bacon, crème fraîche and chives, but can imagine the tots being a foil for all manner of toppings – top with applesauce instead of bacon and the tots mimic Hanukkah latkes.

- 48 frozen tater tots (thawed)
- 4 bacon slices, cooked and crumbled (turkey bacon works)
- 2 tablespoons crème fraîche
- 2 tablespoons chives, chopped

Defrost tater tots. Prepare mini-muffin pan with cooking spray. Place 2 tots in each muffin spot and press with fingers to create cup shape. Cook tots according to package directions. Remove from oven and quickly, but carefully, as pan is hot, reinforce cup shape using spoon. Top with crumbled bacon, crème fraîche and chives.

Ted Lasso-Inspired Shortbread

Channel your inner Ted Lasso by preparing shortbread cookies inspired by the TV series. I did a bit of internet research and it seems the secret to creating cookies most like the fictitious character's evening bake is the inclusion of almond flour. Along with the shortbread, I'll put out a variety of store-bought cookies and call dessert done!

- 1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup almond flour
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 stick unsalted butter, slightly softened
- 1 stick salted butter, slightly softened
- 1/4 teaspoon sea salt
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 350 F and butter 8-inch-by-8-inch pan (glass if you have it). Add flours, sugar and salt to food processor and pulse several times to combine. Cut butter into cubes and add along with vanilla to food processor. Pulse mixture until it resembles coarse sand. Place dough into prepared pan and use pastry scraper or your hands to press into smooth, even shape.

Bake 30-32 minutes or until lightly browned. Allow shortbread to cool completely before cutting into rectangles.

Christine Moore is a Mountain View resident. Visit witeyum.com to read her blog.

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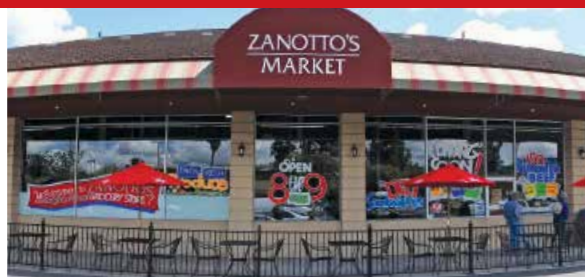
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Stepping Out

Smuin's 'Christmas Ballet' is a fresh take on traditional holiday dance performances

By Jennah Pendleton
Staff Writer/jennahp@latc.com

Ballet Review

The holiday season is beloved in part because of the many traditions – both cultural and personal – people take part in each year.

For some families, attending a local performance of “The Nutcracker” is an essential annual custom during the Christmas season, and the only time many will see live dance. The holiday classic boasts a family-friendly storyline, a whimsical – and very familiar – score by Petyr Ilyich Tchaikovsky and lush costumes and sets.

The thing about traditions, however, is that they are not perpetual, and nor should they be. Traditions are about the people who create and sustain them, and one of the most wonderful things about the holiday season is adapting our traditions in a way that preserves the spirit of the activity.

Smuin Contemporary Ballet introduces a fresh angle to holi-

day dance annually through “The Christmas Ballet,” which recently played at the Mountain View Center for Performing Arts to eager audiences. While novel compared to the dozens of variations of “The Nutcracker” performed locally, “The Christmas Ballet” has established itself as a holiday season Bay Area staple – this is Smuin’s 28th year staging it.

The majority of the colorful and spirited “Christmas Ballet” program is original choreography created by Michael Smuin, the late founder and namesake of the company. What is particularly charming about this annual performance is that it changes each year, bringing a sense of excitement and temporality to holiday dance that is routinely lacking in other programs.

Act I, dubbed “The Classical Christmas,” features a corps of dancers in angelic costumes dancing to classical music from

composers and choirs around the world. Although the act features primarily classical movement, the “Contemporary” in the company name shines through in the structure of the show, which follows a neoclassical philosophy of being plotless, but not storyless.

A great addition to the repertoire this year is former Smuin dancer Nicole Haskins’ “Peaceful Prayer,” a pas de deux set to the patriotic Ukrainian hymn “Prayer for Ukraine,” which brought emotional weight to an otherwise light program.

What always stands out in a Smuin performance is the responsibility placed on every company dancer. In this part of the program, no player goes unutilized, as the choreography shifts from exuberant corps work to pas de deux, small-group work and solos that showcase the best of what each company member has to offer.

By the time the curtains are drawn for intermission, it feels as though the audience has gotten to



CHRIS HARDY/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Smuin artist Alison Ramoran spreads holiday cheer in “The Christmas Ballet,” touring the Bay Area through Dec. 24.

know every dancer on stage.

Act II, or “The Cool Christmas,” delivers a larger variety of dance styles, including three tap routines that received the most applause of the night, and a Broadway-cabaret-style scene set to “Santa Baby,” another crowd favorite, featuring a campy yet sultry performance by a female soloist and a corps of male admirers.

Smuin is never short on great classical technique or performance quality, and “The Christ-

mas Ballet” is no exception. Although the show has left Mountain View, it is definitely worth a trip to San Francisco to experience. Let this be the first year of making “The Christmas Ballet” a Christmas tradition.

Performances are scheduled today through Dec. 24 at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 700 Howard St., San Francisco.

For tickets (\$25-\$99) and more information, visit smuinballet.org/events/the-christmas-ballet-2022.

Bayer Ballet performs 'Snow Queen' this weekend in downtown Mtn. View

Town Crier Report

Bayer Ballet Company’s “Snow Queen” is set to run Friday through Sunday at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts, 500 Castro St.

Inspired by one of Hans Christian Andersen’s most beloved fairy tales, “Snow Queen” celebrates friendship, love and courage.

When the Snow Queen’s spell captures Kai, his sister Gerda sets out on a quest to save him. Gerda’s heart leads her through the deep waters of a magical river, an enchanted flower garden, a spectacular palace, a forest filled with robbers and the gleaming world of snow and ice that surrounds the Snow Queen’s ice

castle.

The two-act ballet features handpainted sets, original costumes and a cast of dancers from Bayer Ballet Company and guest artists.

Appropriate for all ages, the performance runs two hours (not including a 15-minute intermission).

Performances are scheduled 7 p.m. Friday, 6:30 p.m. Saturday and 3 p.m. Sunday on MVCPA’s MainStage.

Tickets to Friday’s show are free, available on a first-come, first-served basis one hour prior to the show. Tickets are \$38-\$78 Saturday and Sunday.

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

Stanford hosts 'Chanticleer Christmas' Thursday

Town Crier Report

San Francisco men’s chorus Chanticleer is set to present its annual “Chanticleer Christmas” 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Stanford University’s Memorial Church, 450 Jane Stanford Way.

The performance will feature classical, jazz and popular holiday carols.

Tickets start at \$75; discounts are available for children.

For tickets and more information, visit tinyurl.com/25sxpwa.

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Business & Real Estate

Experts share tips for hiring as a small business

By Christina Casillas
Staff Writer/christinac@latc.com

Owning and starting a small business in Los Altos and other cities can be difficult, and expanding a business by bringing on new employees is no different.

Elmy Bermejo, Region IX administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration, said major aspects of hiring that differ for big-box stores and large retailers are resources and funds.

“Bigger companies can hire HR consultants, and they can have all those folks handle all their hiring for them,” she said. “In a small business, you don’t always have the luxury of having all these consultants who can help you and advise you.”

Christine Chang, owner of the stationery store Paperwhirl at 151 Main St. in downtown Los Altos, said she hasn’t hired a new employee since around

2012. Many of the people she has hired are part time and already had knowledge related to the store’s inventory.

According to Chang, the nature of the retail business includes much part-time employment. She also said hiring in retail can be difficult because not many people want to work in retail environments and prefer higher-paying jobs.

Bermejo said it’s important to decide on expectations and make them clear to job candidates when hiring new employees.

“Are they hiring just for the holidays? What are the expectations, or what do they need?” she said. “Is it a special project? I think those are the kinds of questions that are important to know, from a small-business perspective.”

Background checks

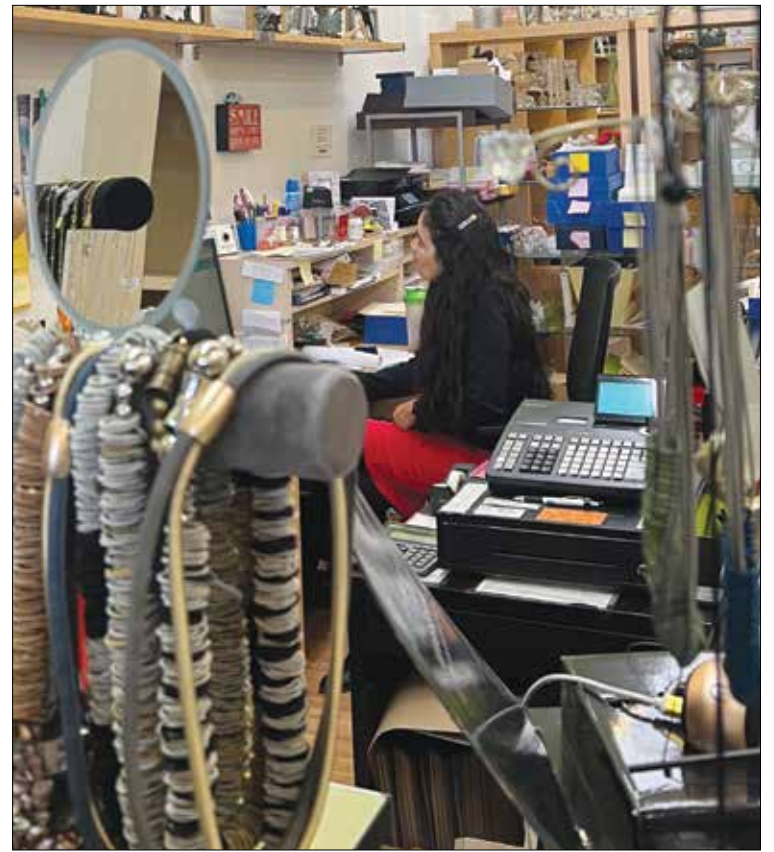
Michael Cohen, director of the Silicon Valley Small Busi-

ness Development Center, advised small businesses to run criminal background checks on employees, as one would when renting out an apartment – but asking questions can be tricky.

Cohen said one of the key aspects of screening potential candidates is treating them all the same, so when follow-up questions arise, there’s a fine line between asking for more information and keeping the process consistent.

“On the one hand, you want to ask enough questions, that you’re sure you know that you’re hiring the right person,” he said. “But on the other hand, you have to be careful that you’re not asking questions that you really don’t have a right to ask.”

Legal issues can also arise if a person is ruled out for a position because of past criminal charges that occurred decades prior to applying for the job and



CHRISTINA CASILLAS/TOWN CRIER

An employee of Paperwhirl, who asked not to be identified, works at the store in downtown Los Altos last week.

See **HIRING**, Page 29

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DRE 01490039



Proposition 19 and how it impacts property taxes for heirs, trustees

By Owen Halliday

Proposition 19 took effect in the middle of 2021, and we are just beginning to see the reality of some of its provisions.

The stated goal of the proposition was to allow for the transfer of the assessed value from the sale of your home to the new replacement home you purchase, for the calculation of property taxes. The idea was that some homeowners – especially seniors – were not moving because they would face substantially higher property-tax bills in the new house. The thought was that this would free up some housing, allowing new families to move in.

One of the provisions of Proposition 19 involves how the property taxes are calculated when the property is sold/transferred after the death of the owners.

Here, I will just discuss one situation: when the owner of the property passes and the family/trustees will be selling the property. It used to be that, assuming the house was sold fairly quickly (usually within about six months), the existing property tax would jump up for the new owners and be assessed at the purchase price, but the seller’s property tax would essentially remain unchanged.

Now, with the death of the owner –

On the Market

and assuming that the house is being sold or transferred to someone outside the family – the county Assessor’s Office will reassess the property to current market value as of the date of death, and property taxes will begin accruing at that new rate. The impact of this can be substantial.

Here is an example: Mr. and Mrs. Homeowner buy a house in Los Altos in 1975 for \$150,000. Their property tax today would probably be based on a value of approximately \$500,000 (resulting in a \$6,000 annual property-tax bill).

Let’s say Mr. and Mrs. Homeowner die in spring and their heirs spend part of the year cleaning up the home before selling it the following spring for \$4 million. The heirs should expect a bill from the county tax collector for an additional \$40,000. What the tax collector assumes is that the value of the property went up to \$4 million on the date of death, and therefore the tax collected will be based on that value rather than the old Proposition 13 value of \$500,000.

See **MARKET**, Page 30

Business & Real Estate

Transactions

Los Altos

10629 Baxter Avenue, Hall Trust to D. & J. Kong for \$2,595,000
148 Doud Drive, Poltrack Family Trust to Sainath Family Trust for \$6,350,000
2109 Fallen Leaf Lane, Choo Family Trust to JTV Inc. for \$2,500,000
2036 Louise Lane, G. Ikeda to Yamano Trust for \$3,100,000
1810 Newcastle Drive, I. & G. Piekarcz to X. Cao for \$5,050,000
1553 Queensbury Avenue, Schynert Trust to Y. & J. Lu for \$3,280,000

241 Sunkist Lane, WMS Survivors Trust to Mehta Trust for \$4,100,000
73 Third Street No. 17, Moy Trust to J. Lucia for \$974,000

Los Altos Hills

11876 Murietta Lane, Finney Trust to K. & K. Wood for \$3,150,000

Mountain View

1721 California Street No. 8, T. Tang to W. & M. Lohr for \$595,000
737 Cottage Court, T. Lee to E. & P. Lin for \$3,864,000
1031 Crestview Drive No. 104, Q. Zhou to D. & V. Garg for \$780,000
635 Ehrhorn Avenue, Landry Trust to

K. & B. Gass for \$3,888,000
20 Moonbeam Drive, Levin Family Trust to A. & H. Chang for \$1,265,000
1857 Peacock Avenue, K. Bhattacharyya to Y. & R. Meng for \$2,685,000
540 Pettis Avenue, Felt-Murphy Trust to K. Yang for \$2,250,000
1350 Phyllis Avenue, A. Ow to C. & C. Choi for \$2,145,000
3400 Pyramid Way, M. Mao to L. & H. Kharbanda for \$2,200,000
421 Saint Emilion Court, Mirosław Survivors Trust to S. Nag for \$1,607,000
536 View Street, Weill Trust to A. & F. Perez for \$3,600,000
662 Willowgate Street, T. Fleisher to B. & T. Cadigan for \$1,900,000

Cupertino

20721 Celeste Circle, Redwood Holdings LLC to L. Vu for \$937,000
7545 Dumas Drive, Stein Trust to J. Lin for \$2,580,000
931 Miller Avenue, R. & R. Rao to K. & S. Eng for \$2,445,000
20602 Murano Circle, Bhan Family Trust to W. & C. Wang for \$2,120,000
21847 Shattuck Drive, Baron Trust to L. & X. Liu for \$2,900,000
20488 Stevens Creek Boulevard No. 1310, K. Akeley to F. & H. Lien for \$780,000

See TRANSACTIONS, Page 30



CHRISTINA CASILLAS/TOWN CRIER

A woman shops at Paperwhirl last week. The store hasn't hired a new employee for about a decade, according to owner Christine Chang.

HIRING

From Page 28

unrelated to the work being done.

Cohen added that it's important to conduct background checks – regardless of how rigorous or in-depth they are.

Effective Jan. 1, State Senate Bill 731 will expand automatic and petition-based criminal record relief to felony charges two years after the person convicted of a felony completes his or her sentence, excluding those with serious or violent felonies and those who've been required to register as sex offenders.

The Los Altos location of Waggin Tails, a pet supply store, terminated a manager in early December after learning he falsified information on his application, a Waggin Tails representative said. Although he completed his probation in 2020, he was a registered sex offender convicted of molesting two girls.

The Waggin Tails representative, who did not want to be named, said the busi-

ness will be more vigilant in the hiring process in the future and mitigate any issues as they arise.

"We're more aware," the representative said. "We'll take the necessary steps to correct it all."

Doing due diligence

Chang said when she would bring on new employees in the past, she wouldn't do background checks. Many of her employees came with references, which Cohen said are important to check in addition to running rudimentary background checks.

Information including references and degrees should always be verified, he said.

"You want references," Cohen said. "You should always verify the references. Of course, the resume depends on the kind of job, but if there's some kind of a degree requirement, you should definitely follow up and make sure that the degree is valid."

LAVA's Holiday Market set for Thursday on State

Town Crier Report

The Los Altos Village Association is set to host its second and final Holiday Market of the season 4-8 p.m. Thursday at State Street Market, 170 State St.

The holiday-themed shopping event

will feature live music and seasonal decor. Food and drinks – including baked goods, chocolate and kombucha – will be provided by local farmers' market vendors.

Admission is free.

For more information, visit downtownlosaltos.org.

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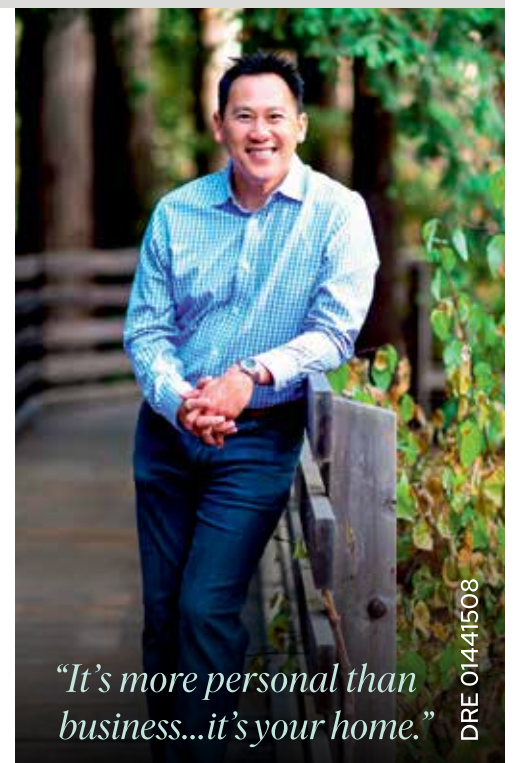
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Business & Real Estate

TRANSACTIONS

From Page 29

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Los Altos

Total sales: 8
Lowest sale: \$974,000
Highest sale: \$6,350,000
Average sale: \$3,493,600

Los Altos Hills

Total sales: 1
Average sale: \$3,150,000

Mountain View

Total sales: 12
Lowest sale: \$595,000
Highest sale: \$3,888,000
Average sale: \$2,231,600

Cupertino

Total sales: 6
Lowest sale: \$780,000
Highest sale: \$2,900,000
Average sale: \$1,960,300

*Transaction information is obtained
from public county records and pro-
vided by Cal REsource.*

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

MARKET

From Page 28

These bills can come quickly or arrive months later. The timing is driven by when the county learns of the death of the owner. Sometimes an affidavit of death is filed right away, and sometimes the county learns of the death when the house is sold.

The takeaway from all of this is that the heirs/trustees should remember that this supplemental tax bill may arrive long after the house is sold, so funds should be withheld to cover the bill when it does arrive. Normally, the title company is responsible for collecting property taxes, but if the county doesn't know of the death, it can't create a supplemental bill.

If you are handling a trust, be sure to check with both your tax adviser and your title company to ensure that you understand how your situation will be impacted. And just a reminder: Proposition 19 has nothing to do with capital gains taxes.

Owen Halliday is a longtime Los Altos resident and realtor who manages the Christie's-Sereno office in downtown Los Altos. Call him at (650) 492-0062 or email Owen@Sereno.com.



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RED-TAILED PARTNERS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN690759

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: RED-TAILED PARTNERS, 12580 La Cresta Dr, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94022, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a general partnership. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Andrew Drexler, 12580 La Cresta Dr, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94022, John Sykes, 770 Ivy Dr, Menlo Park, CA, 94025, Christopher Lewis, 942 Grant Cove PI SE, Atlanta, GA, 30515. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 07/22/2022. /S/ Andrew Drexler / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 12/08/2022. (12-14,21,28-22,01-04-23)

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T.S. No. 092129-CA APN: 170-29-026 NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST, DATED 3/5/2014. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDING AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER On 1/4/2023 at 10:00 AM, CLEAR RECON CORP, as duly appointed trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust recorded 3/13/2014 as Instrument No. 22542599 of Official Records in the office of the County Recorder of Santa Clara County, State of CALIFORNIA executed by: TIMOTHY Y HAHN AND JEAN HAHN, HUSBAND AND WIFE AS COMMUNITY PROPERTY WITH RIGHT OF SURVIVORSHIP WILL SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH, CASHIER'S CHECK DRAWN ON A STATE OR NATIONAL BANK, A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL CREDIT UNION, OR A CHECK DRAWN BY A STATE OR FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN ASSOCIATION, SAVINGS ASSOCIATION, OR SAVINGS BANK SPECIFIED IN SECTION 5102 OF THE FINANCIAL CODE AND AUTHORIZED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE; AT THE GATED NORTH MARKET STREET ENTRANCE, SUPERIOR COURTHOUSE, 191 N. 1st Street, San Jose, CA 95113 all right, title and interest conveyed to and now held by it under said Deed of Trust in the property situated in said County and State described as: MORE FULLY DESCRIBED ON SAID DEED OF TRUST The street address and other common designation, if any, of the real property described above is purported to be: 144 SUNKIST LANE, LOS ALTOS, CA 94022 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. Said sale will be held, but without covenant or warranty, express or implied, regarding title, possession, condition, or encumbrances, including fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee and of the trusts created by said Deed of Trust, to pay the remaining principal sums of the note(s) secured by said Deed of Trust. The

total amount of the unpaid balance of the obligation secured by the property to be sold and reasonable estimated costs, expenses and advances at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale is: \$2,129,959.73 If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. The beneficiary under said Deed of Trust heretofore executed and delivered to the undersigned a written Declaration of Default and Demand for Sale, and a written Notice of Default and Election to Sell. The undersigned or its predecessor caused said Notice of Default and Election to Sell to be recorded in the county where the real property is located. NOTICE TO POTENTIAL BIDDERS: If you are considering bidding on this property lien, you should understand that there are risks involved in bidding at a trustee auction. You will be bidding on a lien, not on the property itself. Placing the highest bid at a trustee auction does not automatically entitle you to free and clear ownership of the property. You should also be aware that the lien being auctioned off may be a junior lien. If you are the highest bidder at the auction, you are or may be responsible for paying off all liens senior to the lien being auctioned off, before you can receive clear title to the property. You are encouraged to investigate the existence, priority, and size of outstanding liens that may exist on this property by contacting the county recorder's office or a title insurance company, either of which may charge you a fee for this information. If you consult either of these resources, you should be aware that the same lender may hold more than one mortgage or deed of trust on the property. NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNER: The sale date shown on this notice of sale may be postponed one or more times by the mortgagee, beneficiary, trustee, or a court, pursuant to Section 2924g of the California Civil Code. The law requires that information about trustee sale postponements be made available to you and to the public, as a courtesy to those not present at the sale. If you wish to learn whether your sale date has been postponed, and, if applicable, the rescheduled time and date for the sale of this property, you may call (844) 477-7869 or visit this Internet Web site WWW.STOXPOSTING.COM, using the file number assigned to this case 092129-CA. Information about postponements that are very short in duration or that occur close in time to the scheduled sale may not immediately be reflected in the telephone information or on the Internet Web site. The best way to verify postponement information is to attend the scheduled sale. NOTICE TO TENANT: Effective January 1, 2021, you may have a right to purchase this property after the trustee auction pursuant to Section 2924m of the California Civil Code. If you are an "eligible tenant buyer," you can purchase the property if you match the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. If you are an "eligible bidder," you may be able to purchase the property if you exceed the last and highest bid placed at the trustee auction. There are three steps to exercising this right of purchase. First, 48 hours after the date of the trustee sale, you can call (855) 313-3319, or visit this internet website www.clear-

reconcorp.com, using the file number assigned to this case 092129-CA to find the date on which the trustee's sale was held, the amount of the last and highest bid, and the address of the trustee. Second, you must send a written notice of intent to place a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 15 days after the trustee's sale. Third, you must submit a bid so that the trustee receives it no more than 45 days after the trustee's sale. If you think you may qualify as an "eligible tenant buyer" or "eligible bidder," you should consider contacting an attorney or appropriate real estate professional immediately for advice regarding this potential right to purchase. FOR SALES INFORMATION: (844) 477-7869 CLEAR RECON CORP 4375 Jutland Drive San Diego, California 92117 (12-14,21,28-22)

251-T

SUMMONS ON FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT (CITACION JUDICIAL)

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO): SUBWAY REAL ESTATE CORPORATION, a Delaware corporation, dba SUBWAY; HAK YOO; DOES 1 THROUGH 20, INCLUSIVE

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO EST DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): REGENCY CENTERS, L.P., a Delaware limited partnership

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below. You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court. There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The courts lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case. AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea

251-T

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA PETITION OF LOLA GRACE MOORHEAD ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME 22CV405835

TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: 1. Petitioner: Lola Grace Moorhead

la información a continuación. Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entreguen esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procese su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y más información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede más cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida al secretario de la corte que le dé un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin más advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov) o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos por imponer un gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 ó más de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desechar el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y dirección de la corte es): THE SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA 191 NORTH FIRST STREET, SAN JOSE, CA 95113 CASE NUMBER: (Número del Caso): 20CV369303

The name, address, and telephone number of plaintiffs attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de teléfono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): ERNIE ZACHARY PARK State Bar #82616 (562) 698-9771 (562) 309-8063 Fax B E W L E Y L A S S L E - B E N & M I L L E R, LLP 13215 E. Penn St., Ste. 510 Whittier, CA 90602 DATE: 3/8/2022 9:58 AM (Fecha) Desiree Alfaro, Clerk of the Court, Deputy (Secretario) (Adjunto) (12-07,14,21,28-22)

249-T

filed a petition with this court for a decree changing names as follows: Present Name: Lola Grace Moorhead

Proposed Name: Lola Grace

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 03/07/2023 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: 11/02/2022 /s/ Jacqueline M. Arroyo Judge of the Superior Court (12-07,14,21,28-22)

248-T

KN CONTRALTO FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN690306

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: KN CONTRALTO, 211 Hope Street, Mountain View, CA, 94039, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): AESCULUS ARBORICULTURAL CONSULTING, 166 Oberg Court, Mountain View, CA, 94043. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2022. /S/ Katherine Naegele / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 11/16/2022. (12-07,14,21,28-22)

242-T

Lyn At Your Service FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN690120

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Lyn At Your Service, 4546 El Camino Real B10 #201, 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): Lyn Rogers, 12853 Normandy Ln, Los Altos Hills, CA, 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 11/04/2022. /S/ Lyn Rogers / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa

Clara County on 11/08/2022. (12-07,14,21,28-22)

240-T

PAULSKI FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN690418

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: (1) PAULSKI, (2) PAULSKI ACADEMY, (3) PAOLO SPORTS, 1365 Frontenac Ave, 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): PAOLO SPORTS TRAVEL LLC, 1365 Frontenac Ave, Sunnyvale, CA, 94087. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 11/22/2022. /S/ Paul Yeh / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 11/22/2022. (11-30-22,12-07,14,21-22)

245-T

ELECTRONIC INNOVATIONS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN690326

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: ELECTRONIC INNOVATIONS, 1885 S Springer Rd Unit B, Mountain View, CA, 94040, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): Peter Colne Salmon, 1885 S Springer Rd Unit B, Mountain View, CA, 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. /S/ Peter C Salmon / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 11/16/2022. (11-23,30-22,12-07,14-22)

242-T

White Peony Acupuncture FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN690184

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: White Peony Acupuncture, 885 N. San Antonio Rd. Suite M, 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): Loren Romley, 5372 Meridian Ave, San Jose, CA, 95118. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/01/2022. /S/ Loren Romley / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 11/10/2022. (11-23,30-22,12-07,14-22)

241-T

Valdez Yard Maintenance FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN689873

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: Valdez Yard Maintenance, 579 Continental Dr, 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): Marcos Omar Valdez, 579 Continental Dr, San Jose, CA, 95111. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 10/27/2022. /S/ Marcos Valdez / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 10/28/2022. (11-23,30-22,12-07,14-22)

239-T

BUCK'S ROOFING INC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN690171

The following person (persons) is (are) doing business as: BUCK'S ROOFING INC, 6853 W. Riverside Way, San Jose, CA, 95129, Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation. The name and residence address of the registrant(s) is (are): BUCK'S ROOFING INC, 311 Bean Creek Rd, Scotts Valley, CA, 95066. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 04/01/2019. /S/ Jim Larsh / This statement was filed with the County Clerk Recorder of Santa Clara County on 11/10/2022. (11-23,30-22,12-07,14-22)

236-T

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**Fictitious
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Los Altos
Town Crier**

Email

legals@latc.com

by 2pm on

Thursday



Datebook

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

PRESENTATIONS

"Purr-fect Cats with Joan Sparks."

The wildlife photographer discusses photographing the top 10 big cats in the world. 7 p.m. Tuesday. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. (650) 948-7683.

EXHIBITS

Solo exhibition of new works by Matthew Harris. Features impressionistic-style landscapes and abstract works. Through December. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. (650) 948-7683; scld.org.

EXHIBITIONS

Moffett Field Historical Society Museum. Memorabilia, artifacts, photos and aircraft models connected with the former Naval airbase. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays. Building 126, Moffett Federal Airfield, Mountain View. \$3-\$8; free children under 12 and active military. Photo ID required for adults. (650) 964-4024; moffettfieldmuseum.org.

AUDITIONS

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

Foothill Symphonic Winds. Seeks percussionists players and other musicians. Rehearsals Wednesday nights at Mountain View High School. conductor@fswinds.org.

Schola Cantorum. Choral group invites talented adult singers of all musical and cultural backgrounds to audition. Previous college choral experience preferred. Rehearsals 7:15-10 p.m. Mondays. Los Altos United Methodist Church, 655 Magdalena Ave. (650) 254-1700; info@scholacantorum.org.

CLASSES/WORKSHOPS

Jazzercise Dance Mixx and Body Sculpting. Live on Zoom seven days a week. Free trial class. First 10 consecutive classes \$39. Full-time members also have free access

to Jazzercise Live on-demand. (408) 505-2048; Nisaleone@sbcglobal.net.

Adult Ballet Class. Led by Leslie Friedman over Zoom. 9:30 a.m. Fridays. \$48 for four classes; \$15 drop-in. livelyfoundation@sbcglobal.net.

Square Dance. Led by Bows & Beaus Square Dance Club. Open to adult singles and couples. 7-9 p.m. Mondays. Loyola School, 770 Berry Ave. (408) 219-4239; bowsandbeaus.org.

Gym Ventures. Parent-child classes. Offerings include youth sports, swim lessons and more. El Camino YMCA, 2400 Grant Road, Mountain View. 969-9622.

Fitness Boot Camp. Sixty sessions of exercise. 6-7 a.m. weekdays or just Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Shower facilities available. Foothill College, 12345 S. El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills. Less than \$5 per class. Registration: foothill.augusoft.net.

Morning Flow Yoga. Led by Duanni Hurd. 7-8 a.m. Saturdays. Yoga of Los Altos, 377 First St. \$13.50-\$18; Proceeds benefit the Alzheimer's Association. (650) 600-8108.

Retreats. Weekend of reflection, prayer and discernment. The Jesuit Retreat Center, 300 Manresa Way, Los Altos. \$280/weekend. jrclosaltos.org.

Parent-Child Gym, Swimming, Drama, Sports, Art, etc. YMCA of the Mid-Peninsula El Camino Branch, 2400 Grant Road, Mountain View. (650) 969-9622.

CLUBS/GROUPS

Sons in Retirement, Branch 5. Small group of men who keep socially and mentally active, have lunch and hear speakers on a variety of subjects. Activities include golf and bocce ball. 11 a.m. fourth Wednesday of each month. Michael's restaurant at Shoreline Golf Course, 2960 N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View. (408) 391-1078; sirinc2.org/branch5.

Chess. New group. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tuesdays. Los Altos Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave. Free. (650) 400-0353; bengk@att.net.

Glass and Decorative Arts Club. Speakers at every meeting. Brown bag lunch with coffee/tea provided. 11 a.m., fourth Monday of the month, September through May. Foothills Congregational Church Parish Hall, 461 Orange Ave., Los Altos. Free for newcomers. gbcrystal@sbcglobal.net.

Peninsula Harmony Chorus. Los Altos based nonprofit mixed chorus

of local citizens who enjoy singing a cappella. Rehearsals 7:15-9:30 p.m. Mondays. Luther Hall, Los Altos Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte Ave. peninsulaharmony.org.

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), Los Altos Chapter.

Nonpolitical women's service organization preserving the memory and spirit of those who contributed to securing American independence through work on local historic preservation projects, genealogy research, service to veterans, environmental conservation and other community projects. Founded in 1950, the chapter typically meets the third Friday of the month. LosAltosDAR@gmail.com; losaltos.californiadar.org.

Garden Club of Los Altos. Garden or floral expert speaks at each meeting. 1:20 p.m. the fourth Tuesday of each month (except July, November and December). Lutheran Church, 460 S. El Monte. Guests \$5. (650) 391-4654; thegardencluboflosaltos.org.

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

Sons in Retirement (SIR) Los Altos Branch 35. Active mature men who meet for lunch to socialize, enjoy food and listen to speakers. Third Wednesday of each month. Palo Alto Elks Lodge, 4249 El Camino Real. (408) 313-6852; pschutz3@comcast.net; sirinc2.org/branch35.

Los Altos & Los Altos Hills Newcomers Club. Helps new residents become better acquainted with their neighbors and new community. Activities include programs, luncheons, hiking, bridge and book clubs. (650) 948-3421; losaltosnewcomers.com.

InSpirit Praise & Prayer Healing Room. Healing service for those battling an illness or injury, or feeling discouraged. Worship 6:30 p.m. and service at 7 p.m. Wednesdays. Union Church campus, 858 University Ave., Los Altos. Drive to the back of the campus. Interdenominational ministry, member of the International Association of Healing Rooms. InSpiritPrayer@yahoo.com.

Duplicate Bridge Club. All levels of play. Classes and lectures available; lunch included. Bring a partner or be placed with one. 11:30 a.m. Monday, Tuesday and Thursday; 10:30 a.m. Wednesday and Friday; noon Saturday. 432 Stierlin Road, Mountain View. First time free; \$15 afterward. (650) 940-1824; paloaltobridge.org.

OBITUARY NOTICE

CAROL STANLEY



January 24, 1947 –
August 23, 2022

Carol was born in Detroit, Michigan. Her parents, Elisa and Chester Stanley, moved her and her three sisters to Santa Clara, California, in 1959.

She began her Catholic education at Saint Peter's and Paul in Detroit. In California, she attended Notre Dame High School in San Jose and Notre Dame De Namur University in Belmont.

Throughout her school years, she was known for her witty humor and natural leadership.

Carol began her career at Hewlett Packard in 1967 as a copy clerk. Without a formal college education, through determination, creativity, and strategic thinking, she rose to the ranks of District Sales Manager. She retired in 2002 after 35 years of service.

Carol was known for her love of music and dancing. She knew all the words to her favorite songs from the Beatles, the Eagles, the Jersey Boys soundtrack, and many more. Music was a tremendous solace to Carol throughout her illness, often singing, dancing, and tapping her hands and feet with caregivers and family. Carol loved travel and Italian food and had an astute eye for art and design. She was a brilliant chef and natural entertainer.

Carol is remembered for the sparkle of her soul and spirit. She brought introspection to the doorsteps of friends and family with gentle kindness, helping us see fresh perspectives when we needed them most. She is remembered as the guiding light of a beauty that shined from the inside out. For her humor, compassion, and resilience. Even during life's challenges, she modeled generosity and courage.

Carol was a loving daughter and sister, a devoted stepmother, and an adoring aunt to her nieces and nephews.

Carol surrendered to her extensive struggle with Alzheimer's on August 23rd. She passed peacefully without pain or heavy medication.

Carol was preceded in death by her parents and her sister, Patty

Stanley. She is survived by her sisters Kathy Hughes and Diane Crews; her stepdaughters, Ilene Page and Jennifer Tolman; her nieces Laurie Hughes and Heather Sorelli; and nephews, John "Bubba" Hughes, IV and Justen Crews; and her step-grandchildren, Samantha and Savannah Alvarez.

According to her wishes, Carol's celebration of a well-lived life will be held at the time of her birthday, January 2023.



WARREN JAMES BEHLER



January 11, 1939 –
December 20, 2021

Warren James Behler, 82, passed away peacefully on December 20, 2021. Warren was born on January 11, 1939 and grew up in San Mateo, CA. He was the only child of Laurence and Marie Behler. Warren graduated from San Mateo High School. Throughout his career, he worked as a machinist. He married Mary Frances Donahoe on October 1, 1975, and they were married for 33 years until her death in 2008. Warren was proud of his 43 years of sobriety and was a friend to many, offering support to others in difficult times. Warren was a train enthusiast, both model trains and steam locomotives. He also enjoyed riding his motorcycles, and in particular, his Trihawks. Warren lived in Los Altos for the last 45 years. Warren is preceded in death by his wife, Mary Frances Behler, and his parents, Laurence and Marie Behler. He is survived by several cousins and friends. A memorial service will be held at Alta Mesa Cemetery, 695 Arastradero Rd, Palo Alto, CA 94306 on December 16, 2022 at 11:30 am.



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