



Community
Rotary Club dedicates mural at Veterans Community Plaza

Page 9



Your Health
PhysioFit owner touts the health and fitness benefits of prenatal yoga

Page 21



Arts & Wine Festival Magazine
Find out all you need to know about the event's big return this weekend

Insert



Los Altos Town Crier

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WEDNESDAY • September 22, 2021

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

Cleanup time at Stevens Creek



Volunteers descended into the dry bed of Stevens Creek in Mountain View Saturday to participate in Coastal Cleanup Day 2021, an international event. Mountain View's Fire and Environmental Protection Division collaborated with the Creek Connections Action Group of Santa Clara County to organize the local effort. Collected trash included lottery tickets, bike tires, beer bottles, a mousetrap and even a shopping cart.



PHOTOS BY SHERRY TESLER/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Los Altos resident remains on guard after suspicious Ring security footage blip

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

The man at Emily Morgan's door wore a T-shirt and shorts. He didn't carry a clipboard, a phone or the type of equipment Morgan typically associated with salesmen and utility repairmen. And she didn't see any vehicles on the street that might have transported him to her yard. He seemed nervous.

"It was extremely odd," the Los Altos resident said. "He just said, 'I want to know how you like your Ring doorbell.'"

The man approached at least three other homes in Morgan's Grant Road neighborhood that day, Sept. 7. All three featured Ring doorbells. While his intentions may have been innocent, the man's conversation with Morgan combined with video footage missing from his visit to

her home is a peculiar anomaly worthy of scrutiny, the Los Altos Police Department, a local cybersecurity expert and a representative from Ring, an Amazon company, agreed.

Morgan told the man she liked her Ring doorbell, but she grew uneasy when he proceeded to inquire about other security systems in her home.

"I said, 'We're not interested,' and he went and left," she said.

Later, when Morgan reviewed her Ring surveillance footage, she discovered the doorbell camera had filmed her husband prior to the man's arrival and again as her husband exited the home to search for the man. It did not, however, record any part of the man's visit.

"I couldn't see his face," Morgan said. "There was nothing there. It was black."

See BLIP, Page 5

Controversial SB 9 becomes law, modifying single-family zoning

By Eliza Ridgeway
Staff Writer/elizar@latc.com

By allowing duplexes on parcels in suburban neighborhoods, a bill signed into law this week has eliminated "single-family zoning" in California, but the real-world impacts are projected to be modest.

Gov. Gavin Newsom signed two new housing reforms last week, Senate Bills 9 and 10, to make it easier to build more, denser housing in California. SB 9, which has the biggest projected impact on cities like Los Altos, permits lot splitting in

single-family neighborhoods and duplex construction, including on each parcel on a split lot. SB 10 streamlines the approval process for multifamily housing of up to 10 units in urban areas near transit.

Supporters hope the bills will fuel new construction in a stymied housing market and that denser, smaller homes will help broaden access to neighborhoods with high home prices, particularly those formerly restricted by stringent development standards subject to local control.

The impact of the bills will include a potential for more single-family-home neigh-

borhoods to see smaller houses on smaller lots with significantly smaller yards. How often those prospective new units will be built by current homeowners able to meet the substantial financial requirements of an eligible project remains an open question. An owner occupancy requirement written into the bill – aimed to prevent developers from buying parcels to split and redevelop – drew skepticism from critics like Los Altos Hills resident Barry Smith. He noted that only "intent to occupy" is required, a relatively toothless measure that will be difficult or impossible to enforce.

A landslide of new development is not anticipated by those studying the bills' likely impacts. UC Berkeley's Terner Center for Housing Innovation estimated that across the state, approximately 700,000 potential new housing units might become "market feasible" under the rules change. The study found that for the majority of eligible parcels, "the most financially viable outcome is not to pursue any development whatsoever," with the most notable anticipated impact being allowance for more units in a prospective

See SB 9, Page 6

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Latest Happenings



Members of Santa Clara Corvettes were back in downtown Los Altos Sunday for their annual Corvette Spectacular car show after a year off due to the pandemic. Highlights included an awards presentation and a raffle for a two-day event at Ron Fellows Performance Driving School.

S.M. LIEU/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Does your family have a special holiday decoration – something that's been passed down through the generations, or is likely to be? The Town Crier is soliciting local family stories and photos of special objects and traditions for our upcoming Home for the Holidays magazine.

What quirky Christmas stocking or Nativity scene or Hanukkah menorah stands out in your home? Email us the story at holidays@latc.com.

TOWN CRIER FILE PHOTO



Correction: Last week's article on safety improvements for cyclists along Foothill Expressway incorrectly reported that cyclists Jonathan Blum, Jim Fenton, Tom Shoup and Chris Hoeber, in their Aug. 16 presentation to Los Altos and Santa Clara County officials, preferred a Class IV buffered bike lane along Foothill. While the cyclists mentioned in their presentation that the Class IV lane is "still the preferred solution by many in the local cycling community," they did not say whether they themselves preferred it.

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News

Police Blotter

Battery

Sept. 17, 4:58 p.m.: 600 block of Showers Drive, Mountain View

Residential burglary

Sept. 17, 4:50 p.m.: 500 block of Arboleda Drive, Los Altos

Sept. 17, 6 p.m.: 11100 block of Mora Drive, Los Altos

Sex crime

Sept. 19, 11:42 a.m.: 1100 block of Grant Road, Mountain View

Theft

Sept. 17, 11:32 a.m.: 600 block of South El Monte Avenue, Los Altos

Sept. 18, 3:39 p.m.: 300 block of Main Street, Los Altos

Sept. 19, 1:16 p.m.: 100 block of Castro Street, Mountain View

Sept. 19, 4:07 p.m.: 300 block of Second Street, Los Altos

Sept. 19, 4:18 p.m.: 600 block of San Antonio Road, Mountain View

Sept. 19, 5:09 p.m.: 1000 block of North Rengstorff Avenue, Mountain View

Sept. 19, 7:17 p.m.: 800 block of Central Avenue, Mountain View

Sept. 19, 8:32 p.m.: 2000 block of California Street, Mountain View

Trespassing

Sept. 17, 1:19 p.m.: 1000 block of Lammy Place, Los Altos

Sept. 18, 12:17 p.m.: 800 block of California Street, Mountain View

Sept. 18, 1:53 p.m.: 500 block of North Shoreline Boulevard, Mountain View

Sept. 19, 1:21 a.m.: 2500 block of Grant Road, Mountain View

Sept. 19, 9:47 a.m.: 800 block of East El Camino Real, Mountain View

Vandalism

Sept. 17, 12:47 p.m.: 900 block of Manor Way, Los Altos

Sept. 17, 9:01 p.m.: 2600 block of Miller Avenue, Mountain View

— Megan V. Winslow

Los Altos council OKs firearm safe-storage ordinance

By Bruce Barton

Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

Jennifer Burton called the new Los Altos firearm safe-storage ordinance an “important first step.”

She and other correspondents in advance of the Sept. 14 Los Altos City Council meeting cited an Everytown for Gun Safety study that found households that locked firearms and ammunition experienced a 78% lower risk of self-inflicted firearm injuries and an 85% lower risk of unintentional injuries among children and teens.

To their minds, Los Altos became a little safer after the council voted unanimously

in favor of the ordinance, joining Los Altos Hills, Sunnyvale and Palo Alto among those with similar laws.

The decision allows for amending the city’s municipal code to require owners to place weapons in locked containers, disable the firearm with a trigger lock or “have the firearm in their close possession and control.”

According to a city staff report on the ordinance, “Firearm fatalities and injuries are of epidemic proportions in Santa Clara County and across the country, and unsecured weapons in the home pose a threat to public health and safety. When firearms

are left unsecured in homes, children are at risk of injury or death. ... Studies have found that the risk for suicide increases when firearms are kept loaded and/or unlocked.”

The council action comes at the urging of Councilmember Jonathan Weinberg, who pushed for an ordinance in April. The ordinance is designed to fill a gap in legislation – the state does not have a law requiring gun owners to store their weapons safely.

The ordinance has the backing of the Los Altos Police Department. Capt. Katie

See FIREARM, Page 7

LA, LAH to work on Redwood Grove path after council gives go-ahead

By Bruce Barton

Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

For the past 50 years, residents of both Los Altos and Los Altos Hills have walked through steep brush between Redwood Grove and the end of Fremont Road, creating makeshift paths. Now comes the opportunity to formalize a path over the popular route.

After some discussion about the impact on city staff time, the Los Altos City Council last week approved staff participation in the “exploration” of a proper pedestrian trail that would be designed with improved access and safety in mind.

The council on a 4-1 vote, Vice Mayor Anita Enander dissenting, passed a resolution expressing support for pursuing the formal trail connection, directing City Manager Gabriel Engeland to work with town staff and city commissions and return to the council with project recommendations.

According to Los Altos Hills Mayor Kavita Tankha, the town has been interested in building “an easy connection” since 2009. She noted the path would benefit residents in both communities, with Los Altos residents having access to the Hills’ nearly 90 miles of town pathways. She added the Los Altos council in 2017 informally agreed to the connection if the town would pay for it. Town officials have offered to pay for the staffing and construction costs associated with the project.



COURTESY OF TOWN OF LOS ALTOS HILLS

A map of Redwood Grove shows the location of the proposed trail, highlighted in red.

Still, two Los Altos council members worried about city staff commitments.

Councilmember Lynette Lee Eng flagged the proposal with concerns about staff time being diverted from higher-priority projects to work with Los Altos Hills staff on the feasibility of the path improvements.

“I think we have a lot of things on our plate right now that require a lot of staff attention,” said Lee Eng, who cited construction of the new Emergency Operations Center and restoration of the historical Halsey House at Redwood Grove as examples.

“If council would like to consider this (project) this year, we would have to reprioritize the capital projects already

in place,” Engeland said, noting that the city’s engineering department, which normally would be tasked with the work, is down two positions.

Prioritizing the path

But Mayor Neysa Fligor, citing improved trail safety, felt the project was worth prioritizing.

“This is just the first step to explore and work with the Los Altos Hills staff,” Fligor said. “I think this is a wonderful opportunity for this council – let’s figure out how to do it and move forward.”

Ginger Summit, who has lived near the proposed path for more than 50 years, expressed support.

“We have been waiting for

See PATH, Page 7

Off-leash dog hours may extend

By Bruce Barton

Staff Writer/bruceb@latc.com

The Los Altos City Council was scheduled at Tuesday’s meeting – after the Town Crier’s Monday print deadline – to consider extending off-leash hours for dogs at Hillview Baseball Field as a pilot program is set to expire next week.

Councilmember Jonathan Weinberg proposed at the Sept. 14 council meeting agenda item discussion of the extension. Although acknowledging he received a complaint about dogs and owners congregating at the site, he noted the program “appears to be a rousing success. There is a whole community that has been built. ... This is a resource that is about to expire.”

The pilot program, which began April 1 and expires Tuesday, allows off-leash hours 7-9 a.m. and 7-9 p.m. weekdays, and 7-9 a.m. and 5-9 p.m. weekends. The program launched after years of discussion over dog parks and off-leash hours at several city parks that ultimately went nowhere because neighbors didn’t want them.

The city’s Parks and Recreation Commission is scheduled to discuss findings of the pilot program at its Oct. 13 meeting before making a recommendation to the council on a possible permanent program. The council would discuss that recommendation at its Nov. 30 meeting. The extension would allow continued off-leash hours until a council decision.

News

MV dognapping, park shooting connected

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

In a strange convergence of events, a man whose family reported the abduction of their puppy last week has been arrested by Mountain View Police Department officers in connection with a shooting that injured two people in a city park days later.



Reynaldo Medina

Suspect Reynaldo Medina, 19, is currently facing charges of assault with a deadly weapon and assault with a firearm, according to an MVPD release. Rambo, a 3-month-old Siberian husky puppy belonging to Medina's 9-year-old brother, has been located, is safe and is now back with his family.

On Sept. 13, Rambo took advantage of an ajar

door to venture outside his apartment, located on the 300 block of Escuela Avenue. While searching for Rambo, Medina's brother and his cousin encountered a stranger holding the dog.

"My little brother and my little cousin ran up to the car, and they tried to talk to the guy, and he just put up the window and drove off," Medina told the Town Crier during an interview the following day.

Medina's aunt described the man as likely in his 30s, he said. The man had curly hair and facial acne but no facial hair. He wore a blue shirt and may have driven a blue/gray Nissan sedan.

The shooting

At approximately 1 p.m. Sept. 15, officers responded to reports of gunshots near the Rengstorff Park basketball courts, the MVPD release stated. Two people suffered minor injuries during the

See SHOOTING, Page 7

BLIP

From Page 1

Morgan eventually acquired Ring footage of the man from a neighbor who had not answered his door, and her husband supplied the video clip to the Los Altos Police Department.

The Town Crier asked the police department about the incident.

"We are not aware of any kind of crime related to this odd behavior, but we certainly encourage residents to call us if suspicious incidents like this occur," Capt. Katie Krauss wrote in an email.

Potential theories

Timothy Ryan is a computer science instructor who teaches a Foothill College class titled Cybersecurity Fundamentals. He said it's possible the man at Morgan's door was attempting to gather information for a future break-in or that he carried some type of device capable of disabling her security system.

"He could have developed this technique himself by buying a Ring camera and evaluating flaws in the technology or he could have purchased a tool from a more sophisticated hacker," Ryan wrote in an email to the Town Crier. "It did not just randomly happen in Los Altos, it is one of the wealthiest zip codes in the US, all the criminals are very much aware of that and plan their activities accordingly."

Ryan referenced password-cracking software capable of rapidly testing usernames and passwords until landing on a match. Weakly constructed

passwords are particularly vulnerable.

In a bizarre case that gained national media attention in December 2019, a man accessed a Ring camera within an 8-year-old Mississippi girl's bedroom and taunted her. The girl's mother later told reporters she had not set up two-factor authentication, or 2FA, for her Ring account, and a statement issued by Ring emphasized the importance of that security feature.

"While we are still investigating this issue and are taking appropriate steps to protect our devices based on our investigation, we are able to confirm this incident is in no way related to a breach or compromise of Ring's security," according to the statement, which was provided to a Memphis, Tenn., NBC News television station.

2FA is an additional security step beyond providing a username and password; it typically involves a service provider sending a one-time code to the email address or cellphone number associated with an account.

In January 2020, after recognizing consumers' tendency to reuse usernames and passwords, Ring began requiring 2FA, said Yassi Shahmiri, the company's director of communications.

"We realized making that security check optional was not enough," she said.

A situation similar to what Morgan experienced in Los Altos previously unfolded 3,000 miles away. In February 2019, an intruder broke into a Chester County, Penn., family's home, but neither their Ring doorbell nor their ADT security system, which operated on different Wi-Fi networks, recorded the man

going inside, according to an article by WPVI, a Philadelphia-based ABC news station. The Ring doorbell recorded only his exit.

A security expert the family hired told WPVI the burglar may have disabled their Wi-Fi by guessing passwords or by blasting out crippling radio waves to jam the networks.

Documented software vulnerabilities

If the Morgans' Ring doorbell was tampered with, the person responsible most likely gained access through their Wi-Fi network — not via their Ring account, Shahmiri said.

Ryan agreed that could be a plausible explanation. But he also pointed to documentation by the National Vulnerability Database, a repository of cyber vulnerabilities maintained by the federal government, that revealed flaws in versions of Ring's software prior to the company's 3.4.7 release. A 2019 database entry stated the software "mishandles encryption, which allows attackers to obtain audio and video data, or insert spoofed video that does not correspond to the actual person at the door."

Ring subsequently released a statement indicating the problem had been fixed and encouraging customers to update their software.

Morgan said Shahmiri reached out to her last week and expressed her concern. She agreed Morgan's encounter with the man seemed suspicious, and she encouraged her to change any vulnerable passwords, which the family has already done.

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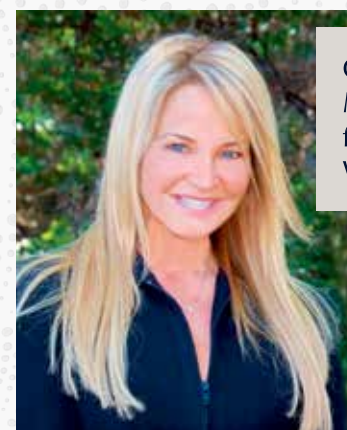
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Divided Los Altos Hills council deems additional deputy unnecessary

By Megan V. Winslow

Staff Writer/meganw@latc.com

Response times to calls for service clocked by the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office do not justify a need for expanding the agency's

staffing in town, Los Altos Hills council members decided Thursday night at their monthly meeting.

Mayor Kavita Tankha and council members Stanley Q. Mok and Linda Swan cast the major-

ity votes denying a proposed addendum to the town's law enforcement contract that would have designated approximately \$450,000 annually toward a second swing-shift deputy's salary, benefits and equipment. The

council had previously discussed applying a portion of the town's \$1 million in American Rescue Plan Act funds to pay for the additional man-hours.

Tankha instructed Sheriff's Capt. Rich Urena to return to the council before July 1, the start of the next fiscal year, with data proving a single deputy working during the 2-10 p.m. shift is insufficient to meet contracted response times. She said she also wants to wait until it's clear how much of the agency's time is consumed by reviewing photographs taken by automatic license plate readers once 40 cameras are installed in town.

A series of eight burglaries in January – all attributed to one suspect – prompted council members and many residents to question the level of law enforcement services in town. In June, when the council adopted the town's proposed 2021-2022 operating budget, the document included a potential "service enhancement" of \$450,000 toward supplemental patrol hours. By their August meeting, however, council members decided to delay approving the funds until Urena supplied a compelling argument for them.

Going back through 2019, swing-shift deputies have fielded more residents' calls than those working during the morning (6:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.) and evening (10 p.m. to 6:30 a.m.) hours, according to data Urena presented Thursday. Between January and August this year, residents called for assistance 315 times during the swing shift, 266 times during the morning shift and 117 times during the evening shift.

Sheriff's Office protocol requires two units to respond to high-priority calls due to safety

concerns, Urena said. Without a second deputy assigned to Los Altos Hills, the agency has to summon backup from neighboring jurisdictions, which translates into added costs to the town and potentially prolonged response times.

During July and August, the Sheriff's Office employed a second swing-shift deputy as a test. Average response times did improve slightly those months compared to some other months this year, but the agency still managed to meet, by monthly average, all agreed-upon response times throughout the year.

Nevertheless, both Vice Mayor George Tyson and Councilmember Lisa Schmidt voted in favor of the contract addendum.

"I think the Sheriff's Office came up with a suggestion: They suggested another deputy," Schmidt said. "If we say 'no' to that deputy, and a rash of burglaries come up again, I think people are going to be very disappointed."

Tyson compared the debate to "analysis versus paralysis," which Swan objected to.

"I don't think we have analysis-paralysis," she said. "I think we have data and analysis that are pointing one way, and we have gut feel, and do we want to analyze the data and find what's the best way or do we just want to say, 'Heck with the data. Let's just take our gut feeling and make a decision?'"

Urena appeared to take Thursday's decision in stride.

"I do want the council to know that while we're not going to add the swing-shift deputy, we are committed to making sure we provide the town with the best service possible out there," he said.

SB 9

From Page 1

redevelopment. Subdividing an existing house might prove more economically practical than larger scope splits and new builds.

Los Altos resident Sue Russell, a housing advocate who has been following the progress of the bill, said the League of Women Voters, which endorsed SB 9, was likely to schedule an information session in partnership with Los Altos city staff to help residents make sense of how the rule change will work in practice when it goes into effect next year.

Supporters of SB 9 frame the move to state oversight as a long overdue mitigation of local policies that were used over the last century to advance anti-development policies with racist and classist impact on local residents.

Critics of the housing bills, who feel they removed valuable local ability to self-determine what gets built in a neighborhood, are mustering support for an upcoming ballot measure, "Californians for Community Planning," which would amend the state constitution to return local control to land-use decisions such as zoning.

S&T Los Altos Library science & Technology Week

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Marily Nika

Product Lead in AI technologies at Google, Marily holds a Ph.D in Machine Learning from Imperial College London and is also a Teaching Fellow at Harvard Business School.

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News

FIREARM

From Page 4

Krauss, in answering a question about enforcement, noted that officers would not be targeting residences for adherence to the law, but would cite violators in the course of entering a home for another reason. Fines are \$500 for the first infraction, \$1,000 for the second.

Vice Mayor Anita Enander believed the ordinance would have “little or no effect.”

“In my experience, responsible gun owners already secure their weapons in a way that is anticipated by this ordinance,” she said.

However, Enander joined her colleagues voting in favor.

“This ordinance is a matter of public health,” Weinberg said. “I believe the proposed ordinance is a positive step forward and an opportunity for Los Altos police. The safe-storage ordinance does not take away anyone’s right to own a gun or to self-protection. In short, safe-storage laws work – they do not prevent all suicides, they do not

prevent all unauthorized use of a firearm. But they demonstrably reduce both.”

Local residents agreed, registering their support.

“Safe-storage (laws) reduce deaths, suicides, unintentional shootings, school shootings, domestic violence and gun thefts,” said Los Altos physician Susie Maclean. “I am grateful and proud to live in a city ... which takes public safety so seriously.”

“I believe that requiring firearms to be stored in a locked container or be disabled with a trigger lock are common sense options to ensure the safety of both children and adults,” wrote resident Mike Hacker. “These are simple and non-onerous requirements. With the increased number of firearm purchases in Santa Clara County over the past two-plus years, it’s only logical to take steps to minimize the possibility of accidental deaths due to the mishandling of firearms.”

“I understand that we will not solve the gun violence epidemic with one agenda item,” Burton wrote to the council, “but this ordinance will get us a step closer.”

SHOOTING

From Page 5

incident, and the shooter fled.

“A preliminary investigation suggests Medina was at the park at the time of the shooting potentially looking for Rambo,” according to the release. “We are continuing to investigate a motive as to why he opened fire.”

Later that day, an employee of a Redwood City restaurant encountered Rambo in the restaurant and recognized the dog from news reports about his disappearance, the release stated.



COURTESY OF THE MEDINA FAMILY

Rambo was reunited with his family last week.

The employee contacted the Redwood City Police Department, and that agency contacted

MVPD officers, who collected the pup.

Rambo’s theft is still under investigation, MVPD spokesperson Katie Nelson said.

The Town Crier spoke with Juana Medina, mother of Reynaldo and his 9-year-old brother, through a family friend, Susana Santi, Friday. Santi provided English-Spanish translation.

The women did not mention Reynaldo Medina’s arrest, but they said Rambo was visibly excited when reunited with his family Thursday.

“He went on top of them and everyone was very happy,” Santi said.

PATH

From Page 4

this pathway to come in all this time,” she said. “It would be very discouraging for this to be put on hold again.”

Tankha pointed out the need for the path with the resurgence of walking and hiking amid the pandemic.

“What’s more important than health and happiness?” she asked.

Enander suggested addressing the proposal in December, when the city is scheduled to review and prioritize its capital improvement projects.

“I would like to support this, but we should not fool ourselves. This is going to cost us in time and staff that right now we don’t have,” she said. “We also have a responsibility not to overcommit to our staff.”

Engeland said the council go-ahead means the project exploration

would become a priority, but there would still be “lag time” getting to it.

Dave Brees, in charge of the city’s special projects, noted exploration would involve “defining the scope” of the project with a conceptual design. Such factors as determining the stability of the hillside and satisfying Americans with Disabilities Act requirements would be part of that exploration, he said.

The New Los Altos Community Center Celebration!



VIEW the Ceremony via Livestream

Saturday, October 2, 2pm

youtube.com/cityoflosaltosca

Recording of the ceremony will also be posted on the City website.

PARTICIPATE in an In-Person 45-minute Guided Tour of the new Community Center

Tours begin the week of October 3

TO REGISTER for a Community Center Guided Tour:

losaltosca.gov/communitycenter or (650) 947-2790

Note: All tickets for the In-Person Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony have been claimed. Ceremony capacity was limited to ensure attendee safety due to COVID-19.



The New Los Altos Community Center
97 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos



Comment

Letters to the Editor

Why no interview for LAH resident?

Thanks for the Town Crier's recent article highlighting that Robert Sandor was not even interviewed by the Los Altos Hills City Council for the position of city manager ("Hills resident vied for city manager position," Sept. 8). Apparently, the search firm did not feel he was qualified.

One of the key reasons TTAGS (Townpeople for Transparency, Accountability, no more Garbage contract fiascos, Safety and service improvements) was formed was to take a critical look at our current city council-city manager form of governance and see how it could be improved for the 21st century. The original model typically had a city manager who was also a resident of the city he/she would be managing. As a resident, the manager understood the needs of the town much better than a nonresident. Hiring a nonresident makes the model much more challenging.

Why Mr. Sandor was not even interviewed even though he is a resident of Los Altos Hills, understands the importance of volunteer committees, is passionate about our town and was successful in the private sector defies logic.

John Swan
Los Altos Hills

Affordable housing needs can be met

Los Altos can and should meet its Regional Housing Needs Allocation target of 789 low- and very-low-income housing units:

1. Accessory dwelling units and the 15% inclusionary zoning rules could contribute 25% of the goal.

2. Four additional apartment buildings, similar to the 330 Distel Circle project, would bridge the rest.

But affordable housing developers need evidence that the city means it this time, which means: implementing an audacious housing element (due Dec. 31); actively engaging with developers and landowners; and providing land capacity and bridge funding.

On funding, there is public money available at the federal, state and county level, in addition to several not-for-profit organizations. Unfortunately, Los Altos lacks the programs that have proven successful in the Bay Area, such as new construction impact fees, city land commitment and strategic upzoning.

The 2023-2031 housing element is the city's opportunity to lead and do our part in offering housing options to all who make our city better, every day.

Patrick Dupuis
Los Altos Affordable Housing Alliance

Peek into the Past



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

Local residents celebrate opening day of the Covington Community Pool May 20, 1955. Generations of Los Altos children learned to swim at the pool, located on property that is now Covington School. The pool closed permanently in 2001 and was later demolished.

Risk

By Allyson Johnson

My friend called me, her voice tinged with panic: "Do you think we should do this, with the delta variant and all?"

We were planning to fly together to a women's fitness camp on the western slope of the Rockies that we both had attended several times in past years.

I reassured my friend, "We are all responsible adults. The people are all women we've known for years now. We'll be outside most of the time." "OK, I just needed to hear that," she said.

We continued with our plan that she would drive to my house the night before our trip, meeting me and my sister, and the three of us would be driven to the airport early the next morning by my Personal Travel Consultant, aka husband.

It happened that my son came down for an overnight visit the evening before the other women arrived, and he stayed working from our upstairs "office" for the day until joining us for happy hour and dinner the eve of our departure.

"You're going to be sharing eating space with a bunch of people you don't know?" he asked. "And just taking their word that they've been vaccinated?"

A Piece of My Mind

My son was so upset that he jumped to his feet and walked up and down the street outside for several minutes to settle down. He and his family had been to a party a couple of weeks earlier where "everyone was supposed to have been vaccinated, but the hostess called us the next day to let us know that a guy who left just 10 or 15 minutes after we arrived had just reported testing positive for COVID-19. So, we were all exposed." His faith in folks' "word of honor" is badly shaken.

But I need to go. I need to look at something different out the window, preferably something more than 30 feet away. I need to hear some different voices. I need to vary my diet from the familiar favorite offerings of my Personal Chef (aka husband). I need to stop reading about chaos in Afghanistan, earthquakes in Haiti, flooding in Tennessee, overwhelmed hospitals in Florida, hurricanes in Louisiana, wildfires in the Sierra and attempts to overthrow the governments in Washington, D.C., and California.

When he returned to our back patio, I tried to reassure my son in the same way I had reassured my friend. He listened, and then smiled with resignation.

"Mom, I have just one thing to say to you," he said. "Make wise choices."

Seven days after my return, I had a COVID-19 test, for my own peace of mind and that of my family. It came back negative. I got away with it.

Allyson Johnson is a longtime Los Altos resident. To read her blog, visit allysonjohnson.com.

Letters to the Editor and 'Other Voices'

The Town Crier welcomes letters to the editor on current events pertinent to Los Altos, Los Altos Hills and Mountain View. Please limit letters to no more than 200 words. Anonymous letters will not be published. "Other Voices" columns may be longer at 500 words. Email them to Bruce Barton at bruceb@latc.com.



Los Altos Town Crier

Serving the greater Los Altos community since 1947

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Community

Rotary Club dedicates new mural at Veterans Community Plaza

By Angela Tam

Staff Writer/angelat@latc.com

The Rotary Club of Los Altos unveiled a new mural, “Together We Can Grow,” at Veterans Community Plaza Sept. 14, the work of artists Jordan Fong and Oscar Lopez.

In premiering their creation, located on the wall outside the Citibank building at the intersection of Main and State streets, Fong and Lopez shared the message they hoped to convey through their mural, a project that took them months to complete.

According to Fong, a Los Altos resident and art instructor at Foothill College, the theme of the mural is human nature and how people come together as a community and a group to identify with one another.

“It’s really been a journey for all of us,” said muralist Lopez. “This place is rich in culture, which inspired the iconography for the mural.”



Rotarian Ron Labetich, left, from left, joins Los Altos Mayor Neysa Fligor and mural artists Jordan Fong and Oscar Lopez during the Sept. 14 mural dedication. Mural supporters, right, celebrate the dedication with a ceremonial ribbon-cutting.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHUCK LINDAUER/ROTARY CLUB OF LOS ALTOS

Iconography in the mural includes the California native oak and patterns reflective of the native Ohlones, the first known residents of Los Altos.

Lopez also pointed out the hands of the figures depicted in the mural, as they symbolize how the community passes along many things, such as the

value of the land.

“At the same time, it can also pass along the values of people,” he said. “It can pass along many other things just through giving: giving to the community and giving to others. With that, we can grow together.”

The Rotary Club’s Veterans Committee funded the mural as

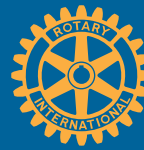
part of its commitment to improve the plaza, with Rotarian Ron Labetich taking the lead on the project. At the unveiling, Labetich thanked the Los Altos Village Association, Foothill College and the Kiwanis Club, as well as local residents Susan and Tom Harrington, Kathy and Lee Lera, Carol and Jerry Moi-

son, and Marilyn Labetich, for their financial support.

Labetich also recognized property owner Joe Jisser, Citibank manager Giovanni Cedillos and city of Los Altos special projects manager Dave Brees for helping secure the mural’s placement at Veteran’s Community Plaza.



Rotary
Club of Los Altos



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2016 Measure B Citizens' Oversight Committee Annual Reports

In November 2016, Santa Clara County voters approved Measure B, a 30-year, half-cent countywide sales tax devoted to enhancing transit, highways, expressways, and active transportation (bicycles, pedestrian, and complete streets) within Santa Clara County. In 2019, the 2016 Measure B Program began the process to deliver the projects and programs contained in the ballot, having been delayed by an unsuccessful court challenge to the measure.

The ballot entrusted the 2016 Measure B Citizens' Oversight Committee (MBCOC), comprised of fellow community members, with oversight to ensure that Measure B funds are being spent consistent with the ballot and for informing voters on Program compliance.

The MBCOC has conducted its annual hearing to gather input from the public, evaluated the results of the independent audits for the subject periods, and completed review of the revenues and expenditures for the periods of Fiscal Years (FY) 2017-2019 and FY 2020. After thorough and careful consideration:

FINDING

It is the conclusion of the 2016 Measure B Citizens' Oversight Committee, for the periods of Fiscal Years (A) 2017-2019 and (B) 2020, 2016 Measure B tax dollars were spent in accordance with the intent of the measure.

This finding plus additional information on the 2016 Measure B Program is contained in the MBCOC Annual Reports for FYs (A) 2017-2019 and (B) 2020 available at: <http://vta.org/projects/funding/2016-measure-b>. Additional information on the 2016 Measure B Program and projects is also available at the same site. Further information on the MBCOC is available at: <http://santaclaravta.iqm2.com/Citizens/default.aspx>.

Printed copies of select 2016 Measure B documents are available at libraries and other public buildings throughout the county, and at the VTA offices at 3331 North First Street, San Jose, CA, in the Building B Lobby.

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Community

Heritage Orchard inspires exhibition and celebration at History Museum

Special to the Town Crier

The Los Altos History Museum has scheduled an event combining art and green technology noon to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 2 on the museum's grounds, 51 S. San Antonio Road.

Designed to encourage local residents to consider the importance and preservation of the Los Altos Heritage Orchard, an exhibition of apricot-themed artwork, "Community Orchard Art," will be on display in the J. Gilbert Smith House, with an artist meet-and-greet.

The exhibition showcases the art of Los Altos ArtVenturers, a group of artists sponsored by the city's Adult 50+ program. The art ranges from fabric collages to textural paintings featuring multiple techniques that reflect the importance of community and the rich heritage of Santa Clara Valley.

The exhibition will be on display in the gallery of the Smith House Sept. 30 through Feb. 20.

In addition to the exhibition, the event will feature a ceremony celebrating a water conservation grant to improve irrigation in the adjacent Los Altos Civic Center Heritage Orchard. The ceremony will mark the installation of water conservation technology, the result of the museum's \$4,997 grant from Valley Water.

By switching from spray irrigation to drip irrigation, the grant will help save thousands of gallons of water and demonstrate how residents can adapt similar technology on their own properties to conserve water.

"Our Heritage Orchard is truly the heart of this community and the civic center," said Elisabeth Ward, the museum's executive director. "The art exhibit in the Smith House celebrates its beauty, while the move from a spray to drip irrigation system will help make caring for the orchard, planted by J. Gilbert Smith in 1901, sustainable."

Panel discussion

In a related program, a panel of experts is set to discuss "Water Conservation: Smart Irrigation"

Garden club speaker spotlights meadow weeds

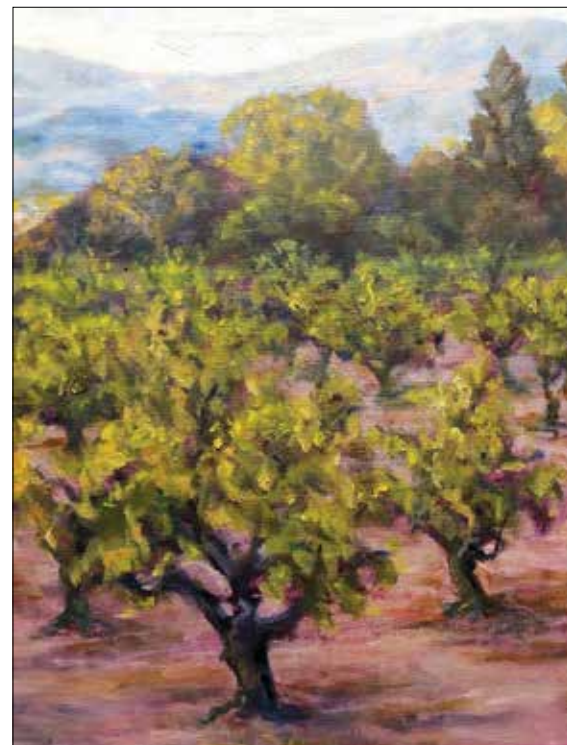
Town Crier Report

Tama Matsuoka Wong, owner of Meadows and More, is scheduled to speak at the Garden Club of Los Altos' Zoom meeting 1-3 p.m. Tuesday.

Wong's Meadows and More, located on 28 acres in New Jersey, sells "weeds" from the meadow – wild chervil, cattail shoots, sumac and chickweed – to restaurants in New York City. Her meadow boasts more than 255 plant species, none of them hand sown.

According to Wong, there are two categories of plants in a meadow: ancestral (native) and nonancestral (non-native). The nonancestral are the primary plants sold to markets and restaurants. Some native plants are robust enough to be harvested, and some are harvested very selectively.

Wong is a Harvard University-educated attorney who practiced law in Hong Kong for more than two decades before moving to the United States and settling in New Jersey. She began Meadows and More in 2009. She is the co-author with Eddy Leroux of "Foraged Flavor," a cookbook that



COURTESY OF LOS ALTOS HISTORY MUSEUM

"The Heart of the Valley," painted by Cathy Zander, is among the works on display in the Community Orchard Art Exhibition in the J. Gilbert Smith House Sept. 30 through Feb. 20.

4:30-5:30 p.m. Oct. 12 via Zoom.

Panelists will include Manny Hernandez, municipal services director for the city of Los Altos; Frank Niccoli, program director for the Department of Environmental Horticulture and Design at Foothill College; and Phil Doetsch, orchardist, contractor and owner of A Farmer's Son Tractor Service.

To register for the free panel discussion, visit losaltoshistory.org/SmartIrrigation.

For more information on the History Museum, visit losaltoshistory.org.



COURTESY OF GARDEN CLUB OF LOS ALTOS

Tama Matsuoka Wong, right, owner of Meadows and More, is scheduled to speak at the Garden Club of Los Altos' virtual meeting Tuesday.

encourages finding ingredients in the backyard or at farmers' markets.

The meeting is open to members only. For information on membership, email GCLAmembership@gmail.com.

For more information on the club, visit the gardencluboflosaltos.org.

Community

Winners named in Arts Los Altos Instagram contest

Town Crier Report

Local residents and musicians Mary Gospe and Corrie Dunn submitted the winning entry in Arts Los Altos' Instagram Photo Contest with a picture of the duo posing in front of "200 Main St. [an inventory of time & place]," a mural presented by Arts Los Altos at the corner of Main and Third streets in downtown Los Altos.

The nonprofit Arts Los Altos brings public art to private spaces.

Gospe and Dunn, known as The Sound Gardeners, recently released their debut album, "People Passing Through," and found that the mural was the perfect backdrop for their album's cover art.

The runner-up, Elya Okhlopva, showcased two kids and a dog planning a wonder-filled adventure from the mural's doorway into the wide-open hills of Los Altos. Other notable entries included a playful family photo of Portland, Ore., residents Eliza



COURTESY OF ARTS LOS ALTOS

Local musicians Mary Gospe and Corrie Dunn won Arts Los Altos' Instagram Photo Contest with a picture of the duo posing in front of the mural "200 Main St. [an inventory of time & place]."

Coblentz, Mike Kendrick and their daughter Rennie Kendrick, who is starting graduate studies at Stanford University this fall, who snapped the shot during a visit with their Los Altos friends Laura Roberts and Bob Jones.

The mural's artist, Martha Sakellariou, designed the life-size work to encourage viewer

interaction and posting on social media to share unique ideas of "making yourself at home" in Los Altos.

Arts Los Altos encourages residents to share photos on Instagram. Tag @artslosaltos and use the hashtag #artslosaltos.

For more information, visit artslosaltos.org.

LAH Vines & Wines 2021 aims to lift people's spirits

Town Crier Report

Vines & Wines 2021, a wine tasting that celebrates the terroir and talents of Los Altos Hills winemakers, is scheduled 2-5 p.m. Oct. 10 at Los Altos Hills Town Hall, outside under the courtyard oak, 26379 W. Fremont Road.

Held approximately every other year, Vines & Wines is sponsored by Hills2000 – Friends of the Hills and the town of Los Altos Hills.

Los Altos Hills boasts more than 115 vineyards, none bonded to sell wine directly to the public. Most vineyards are smaller than 3 acres.

"Our son was married in August, and we served our Merlot at the welcome reception," said Diane Ciesinski of Chizani Vineyards. "Carrie Beyer, daughter of Los Altos Hills winemaker Roman Beyer, made custom labels for the bottles, using the happy couple's engagement photo. The

wine was quite a hit."

The vineyards may be small and the wines highly individual, but that doesn't mean Los Altos Hills wines are not distinguished. This year Scott Bryan of Bryan Family Vineyards earned two double golds and three silver medals at the Orange County Fair, a major showcase for amateur winemakers. Bryan's 2019 Merlot and 2019 Tempranillo earned the double golds, and three red blends – Dad's Blend, Goofy Gopher and Quirky Quail – garnered silver.

Approximately 20 vintners are confirmed for this year's event, enabling Vines & Wines attendees to taste an array of whites, a rosé and red varietals from Cabernet to Zinfandel.

Tickets are \$25 per person. The event typically sells out, so organizers recommend advance purchase.

For tickets and more information, visit hills2000.org.

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9 am - 11 am

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In support of our community neighbors in need, food donations will go to CSA. Visit unionpc.org/fooddrive accepted food items.

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OUR GUIDELINES

Community Briefs

Muralist shares story in museum program

Los Altos mural artist Morgan Bricca is scheduled to

discuss “Adventures in Mural Painting” 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday at the Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road.

Many of Bricca’s colorful murals can be found on the walls of local schools, including her “Los Altos Orchard Mural”

at Santa Rita School and her “Peace in Our World” butterfly mural at Oak Avenue School.

“Adventures in Mural Painting” is the first in a series of free programs supporting the museum’s current exhibition, “Annie Knapp Fitz Paints: A Legacy in

Art,” on display through Feb. 6.

To register for the program and for more information on the exhibition, visit losaltoshistory.org/MuralPainting.

CSA hosts day of activities for homeless

In keeping with its mission to preserve and promote the dignity of its clients, Community Services Agency has scheduled its second “Treat Yourself” event Saturday, a daylong event designed to provide a sense of well-being and belonging for its homeless clients.

Inspired by the TV comedy series “Parks and Recreation,”

“Treat Yourself” will include games, art activities and distribution of clothes and personal-care items.

CSA seeks donations of new underwear, sports bras, socks and general clothes for men, women and children (ages 5-13), as well as travel sizes of shampoo, conditioner and body wash for hygiene kits to distribute at the event. Donors also may contribute gift cards to Target and Walmart.

Local residents interested in supporting the event through an online gift may call Kate Lincoln at 988-5073, ext. 150, or email klincoln@csacares.org.

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Rev. John L. Poncini, Pastor

St. Nicholas Church
473 Lincoln Ave., Los Altos

Mass Schedule

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Sun: 8 am, 10 am, 12 pm, 5 pm (French)
M-F: 8 am, 12:10 pm



St. William Church
611 S. El Monte Ave., Los Altos

Mass Schedule

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Sun: 9 am, 11 am*, 5 pm
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www.stsimon.org

Mass Schedule

Weekday: 6:30 am & 8:30 am
Saturday: 8:30 am & 5:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 11:15, 5:00 pm

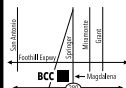
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Los Altos Town Crier

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

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UPCOMING SPECIAL SECTION PUBLICATIONS

- SEPT 22Your Health, Celebrate Fall Pages
Los Altos Arts & Wine Festival Magazine
- SEPT 29Your Home
- OCT 6On the Road, Chamber of Commerce Pages, Halloween Coloring Contest
- OCT 13Food & Wine, Halloween Coloring Contest
- OCT 20Private School Profiles, Your Health, Halloween Box Pages
- OCT 27Your Home, Real Estate Profile Pages

We deadline every **Thursday @ 2pm** for the following Wednesday's issue.

Contact us for details

650-948-9000 | sales@latc.com

Our website is continuously updated with breaking news.

www.losaltosonline.com



Stepping Out

'Tiny' continues run at Bus Barn

Town Crier Report

Los Altos Stage Company's production of "Tiny Beautiful Things," its first series of live performances at Bus Barn Theater in more than a year, is slated to run through Oct. 3.

Based on the book by Cheryl Strayed (author of the best-selling "Wild") and adapted for the stage by Nia Vardalos, the play kicks off LASC's 2021-2022 "Back in the Barn" season.

Directed by Jeffrey Lo, "Tiny" is a play about reaching when you're stuck, healing when you're broken and finding the courage to take on the questions that have no answers. The story follows Sugar, an online advice columnist who uses her

personal experiences to help the real-life readers who pour their hearts out to her.

The cast includes Judith Miller, Zaya Kolia, Rosanna Wyant and Francisco Rodriguez.

Showtimes are 8 p.m. Wednesdays through Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays. Bus Barn Theater is located at 97 Hillview Ave.

Five-ticket Stage Passes are \$150 and single tickets are \$20-\$40. A Stage Pass works like a season subscription, with additional flexibility. It includes five vouchers that can be exchanged for tickets to a patron's production(s) of choice.

For tickets and more information, call 941-0551 or visit LosAltosStage.org.

Smuin's new virtual series is 'Limitless'

Town Crier Report

Smuin Contemporary Ballet has launched its 28th season with a throwback to audience favorites by its late founder in "Limitless Michael Smuin: A Virtual Series."

Slated to run through Oct. 4, the series features four archived ballets presented online with interactive watch parties and panel discussions with special guests.

"Limitless" showcases some of Smuin's most celebrated works, including "Stabat Mater," honoring the 20th anniversary of 9/11, plus three of his story ballets: "Cyrano," "Pinocchio" and "Zorro!"

A different ballet is presented each week, with on-demand viewing available for those offered in previous weeks. The series began with "Stabat Mater" (Sept. 9-13), followed by "Cyrano" (Sept. 16-20). "Pinocchio" is scheduled Thursday through Sunday and "Zorro!" Sept. 30 through Oct. 4.

Tickets are \$12 (individual) and \$39 (series).

For tickets and more information, call (415) 912-1899 or visit smuinballet.org.



TOM HAUCK/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Smuin artist Rodolphe Cassand stars as Zorro.

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Schools

CUSD meeting Thursday to discuss school closures

By Angela Tam
Staff Writer/angelat@latc.com

The Cupertino Union School District Board of Education Thursday night plans to propose a list of elementary and middle schools to consolidate and/or close permanently. One of the district's schools, Montclair Elementary School, serves Los Altos students.

The meeting is scheduled 6:30 p.m. at Collins Elementary School, 10300 N. Blaney Ave. in Cupertino, as well as via Zoom.

CUSD faces declining financial and enrollment trends. After voters rejected a parcel tax in May, district officials put all options on the table.

According to an online slide-show released by CUSD, the district's smaller schools are more likely to be considered for closure. Factors CUSD is considering for its definition of "school size" include content and grade-level collaboration, the number of extracurricular activities such as sports and clubs, and core academic course options.

The selection of schools on the chopping block also will undergo a ranking process set by CUSD.

With input from the board, the Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) and public comment, the district developed and ranked by level of importance 10 criteria to determine which schools to close.

The No. 1 criterion board members will consider is whether neighboring schools have the capacity to accommodate a shuttered school's student population. The least important criterion is whether there is traffic congestion near a school and if an increase in enrollment will perpetuate the problem.

The CAC recommended six scenarios to the board, each one with consolidation and/or closure plans for applicable schools. When considering scenarios, the CAC also devised a criteria-ranking system in which it took into account 11 factors; fairness, equity and impact on the community is ranked the highest, while high school feeder patterns is ranked the lowest.

Once a school has been selected for closure, two scenarios the CAC recommended to the board include reclassifying an open school as a new magnet school.

See CLOSURES, Page 16



COURTESY OF FOOTHILL COLLEGE

Foothill College representatives meet with prospective students Aug. 28 to answer questions about the new Family and Nanny Studies Program.

New Foothill College courses target nannies, future teachers

By Angela Tam
Staff Writer/angelat@latc.com

Foothill College rings in its fall quarter this week with a new offering – the Family and Nanny Studies Program.

Nicole Kerbey, child development instructor and department chair, said the Family and Nanny Studies Program, created in collaboration with The Institute for Families and Nannies, is

unique in that it allows professional nannies to advocate for themselves by pursuing a formal education.

"We know of no other courses offered by an accredited college," she said. "Families in our area frequently employ nannies, and we believe that they will value specific education for their employees."

Kerbey said the college has

for years offered courses, certificates and degrees in child development and early childhood education, and while they didn't exclude nannies, the new courses – Communication and Self-Reflection Practices for Nannies, Curriculum in the Home, and Safety and Nutrition of Young Children in the Home – are specifically tailored

See FOOTHILL, Page 15

MVLA honors Gay Krause; board talks homework load and AP course limit

By Angela Tam
Staff Writer/angelat@latc.com

The Mountain View Los Altos Union High School District honored longtime educator Gay Krause, executive director of the Krause Center for Innovation at Foothill College, with its Spotlight Award at the Sept. 13 board of trustees meeting.

According to MVLA Superintendent Nellie Meyer, the award publicly acknowledges advocates who have gone "above and beyond" in their efforts to support education and MVLA students and staff.

"(Krause) is a dedicated educator and innovator," Meyer said. "As a former schoolteacher and principal within the LASD, she has been a strong supporter of professional development, tech innovation and

our students."

Krause supports teacher and administrator teams who attend KCI, which features state-of-the-art classrooms, a Makerspace and a curriculum aimed at empowering educators to bring innovative practices back to their schools. KCI also serves students in Foothill Middle College, a program for MVLA juniors and seniors.

"I appreciate working with the partnership in this community and working with our students that we all share," Krause said. "I love working with the Middle College students at our center every day."

Other board action

In other action, the MVLA board:

- Recognized September as Suicide Prevention Month.

See MVLA, Page 15

Enrollment disparities at Bullis Charter School may prompt new 10% carve-out in lottery

By Angela Tam
Staff Writer/angelat@latc.com

A proposed solution is on the table in the ongoing dispute between Bullis Charter School and the Santa Clara County Board of Education over the charter school's failure to enroll a sufficient number of underrepresented students.

The county board, which oversees the school's charter, sent BCS a letter of concern last May, alleging enrollment disparities – specifically low-income, Hispanic, English-learner and disabled students – that could result in the revocation of its charter next school year. Data has shown that BCS underenrolls the four groups of students, compared to the Los Altos School District.

According to county board member Grace Mah, a charter school must meet specific legal

requirements to qualify for renewal of its charter. Among the requirements, she said, is the "ability to be successful implementing its programs."

"This issue falls under that criteria," Mah said. "This issue is the first of its kind; if we deny the charter based on failure to meet this criteria (of addressing the imbalance), the school could get shut down. The board could deny renewal, but it would have to be a pretty compelling case."

The letter of concern the county board sent BCS May 21 said the board recommended that the charter school transition to a lottery-based enrollment system and prioritize students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches. According to the letter, BCS originally declined the suggestion.

BCS Superintendent Mau-

reen Israel, hired at the start of the 2020-2021 school year, countered that claim, noting the charter school had not rejected the suggestion but rather was already working on adjusting lottery preferences for enrolling students.

"Prior to my arrival earlier last year, we were already working with the county in ways to make sure we serve all students, and since I've been on board, definitely for the past year, we've been talking about establishing an interim preference for students who are eligible for free or reduced-price meals," Israel said. "That's been a conversation for quite some time."

Mah said that though the topic of lottery preferences had been broached, BCS never embraced or implemented the lottery

See BCS, Page 16

From Page 14

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Schools

Bullis Charter School enrollment



ANGELA TAM/TOWN CRIER

A classroom building at Bullis Charter School. After several years of enrollment disparities, the charter school has a potential solution through the adaptation of a new 10% carve-out from their lottery system.

BCS From Page 14

adjustment, so it was implied the charter school had declined the suggestion to do so.

A pending solution

In an email announcement sent to the BCS community Sept. 16, Francis La Poll, chair of the BCS Board of Directors, said the charter school believes that diversity can be a strength, and the school has been continuously expanding its efforts to accommodate a diverse student population.

In the email, La Poll said the BCS board proposed that the county board of education approve an adjustment to the enrollment preferences used in the lottery, establishing a preference for 10% of open seats dedicated to children who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches.

"This change will help BCS serve a broader, more representative cross-section of our community, and reinforce how excellent public charter schools should be an option for all families," he wrote.

La Poll's email stated that the county board must approve the

proposal, possibly at the county board's Oct. 6 meeting.

Mah was optimistic about the proposed solution, praising it as a great step for BCS to take.

"The greater expansion of their program to underserved families and the community is wonderful," she said. "From the Bullis community standpoint, their families and parents appreciate this additional change in preference for free and reduced-price lunch students for the greater good of the Bullis standing in the community."



ANGELA TAM/TOWN CRIER

Montclair Elementary School could become a magnet school under scenarios being discussed Tuesday.

CUSD From Page 14

Some students from closing schools could shift to the magnet school. Montclair is being considered as one of those prospective magnet schools.

Families with children attending schools split among multiple sites may choose which campus to join as long as free choice does not unduly affect enrollment balance. Lotteries may be required to

preserve enrollment balance.

Displaced families also will have the option of preferential placement for open enrollment to any school in the district, including all alternative schools. Alternative schools are exempt from school closure consideration.

The options, however, will apply only to families enrolled in the affected schools for the 2021-2022 school year or before. First-time families will be subject to standard enrollment practices.

Sports

Sports on the Side

SFHS grad Bramlett earns first tour win

Pro golfer and St. Francis High graduate **Joseph Bramlett** shot a 7-under-par 65 in the final round to win the Korn Ferry Tour Championship and secure his PGA Tour card earlier this month. It was the first tour win for the Stanford University grad. Bramlett finished 20-under par for the tournament, held Sept. 2-5 at the Victoria National Golf Club in Newburgh, Ind., prevailing by four strokes. He birdied five consecutive holes on the back nine of his last round. The victory guarantees Bramlett full exempt status for the 2021-22 PGA Tour season.

Local high schools seek coaches

Los Altos High needs head coaches for junior varsity girls basketball, JV girls soccer and JV swimming, along with a coach for diving. To apply and for more information, contact athletic director **Michelle Noeth** at 960-8857 or michelle.noeth@mvla.net. Mountain View High seeks head coaches for varsity track and field and girls water polo, along with a frosh-soph coach for boys water polo. To apply and for more information, contact athletic director **Shelley Smith** at 940-4600, ext. 1421, or shelley.smith@mvla.net. St. Francis High seeks assistant coaches for several sports. To apply, visit tinyurl.com/8hwxav5b.

CIF offers newsletter for parents, guardians

The California Interscholastic Federation, the governing body for the state's high school sports, issues a free monthly newsletter via email for parents/guardians of student-athletes in California. The newsletter intends to keep parents informed of issues like health and safety, eligibility and upcoming state championship events, according to the CIF. To subscribe and for more information, visit cifstate.org.

See **SIDE**, Page 18

Eagles adjusting to life in De Anza

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

The Los Altos High girls tennis team faced little resistance on the way to placing first in the SCVAL El Camino Division last season, winning all 12 matches by scores of 5-2 or better. The Eagles also surprised two teams from the league's upper division to finish 14-0.

While that was only six months ago – the season was shortened and pushed from fall to spring due to the pandemic – Los Altos finds itself in a much different place as the 2021 season gets underway. The Eagles are no longer in the friendly confines of the El Camino, promoted to the De Anza Division after coach Hung Nguyen said they lobbied for the move.

As expected, life in the top tier hasn't been easy for Los Altos; the team last week dropped its first two league matches. The Eagles fell 4-3 at Cupertino Sept. 14 and lost to rival Mountain View by the same score Thursday at home.



PHOTOS BY MAL TAAM/
SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Los Altos High's Samantha Wallace, above, plays No. 1 singles Thursday. Melody Ghaffari, right, plays No. 2 singles for the Eagles.

"We're in transition this year," Los Altos doubles player Rose Liu said, "and we realized with the move up, we'd have to fight harder."

Especially on the singles side, as the De Anza features some of the best players in the Central Coast Section – and beyond.

"Cupertino's No. 1 player is one of the best in the nation," Nguyen said of nationally ranked sophomore Gayathri Krishnan. "She's really good."

The Eagles' top singles player last season, Hannah Ghaffari, graduated in the spring, leaving their singles ladder in flux. Transfer Samantha Wallace and Melody Ghaffari (Hannah's sister) continue to battle for No. 1,



while Miu Kikuchi and Madison Chin now hold down the third and fourth spots, respectively.

Wallace, who came from Notre Dame-Belmont, has so far fended off Ghaffari, the team's No. 2 player last season, for the top position on the ladder.

"Samantha has adapted to the team really well," Nguyen said. "She has pretty big ground strokes and a big serve – same as Melody. She has a little more power than Melody, but Melody moves a little better."

As for Kikuchi and Chin, the coach said, "They've really stepped up." Nguyen credited that to their hard work over the summer and being more mature.

Although the Eagles have yet

to win a singles match in the De Anza Division this season, Nguyen expects that to change soon.

"They're getting better," he said, "and I'm blessed that my top four are all juniors."

Doubles dominate

While singles may be a work in progress, Los Altos' doubles teams remain as dominant as last season. They won all their matches last week – starting with the Eagles' 7-0 non-league rout of Valley Christian to open the season Sept. 13 – and haven't lost since 2019.

"In doubles, we are so strong that if you don't sweep us in

See **TENNIS**, Page 18

Spartans top Eagles in volleyball tourney; MV edges SHP in football

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

It wasn't in the title match, but the co-hosts of the MVLA Tournament did meet on the volleyball court Saturday.

The Mountain View High girls faced rival Los Altos in the third-place match, which the Spartans won in two sets.

"Both teams played some high-quality volleyball offensively," Mountain View coach Dave Winn said. "Ultimately, we made just a few less errors than LAHS each set to win 25-23 in the second set."

The Spartans' hitting percentage of .491 was a season high, while Los Altos hit .310, "which is also quite high," Winn added.

Millie Kopp, Tessa Hunter, Lyric Manson and Fiona Huang all notched at least five kills for Mountain View.

Earlier, the Spartans (9-2 overall) beat Westmont and American, then lost to eventual champ Castilleja in the semifinals.

Los Altos went 2-2 at the tourney. The Ea-



JUSTIN YANG/TOWN CRIER

Mountain View High's Dillon Daniels rushed for a TD and 116 yards Friday.

gles (9-7 overall) toppled Milpitas and Carmel in straight sets before falling to Salinas and Mountain View.

Prep Sports Summary

Earlier in the week, Mountain View swept Homestead and Monta Vista to up its record to 2-1 in the SCVAL De Anza Division. Andisheh Turner recorded 10 kills and 19 assists in the Sept. 14 home win over Homestead.

Los Altos split its two De Anza Division matches last week – following a five-set loss at Palo Alto with a five-set win over visiting Gunn – to even its league record at 1-1. Carolyn Dormady racked up a season-high 25 kills against Gunn.

Football

Mountain View held on for a 24-21 non-league win over Sacred Heart Prep Friday.

The host Spartans, up 14-7 at halftime, entered the fourth quarter with a 21-14 lead.

Led by Dillon Daniels, Mountain View (3-1) rushed for 311 yards and three scores.

See **SUMMARY**, Page 18

Sports

SIDE

From Page 17

Free online courses help parents, coaches

The National Federation for State High School Associations offers free online courses for parents and coaches. Positive Sport Parenting provides information on the importance of proper behavior by parents in school sports and the role

they should play to ensure their children have a positive experience. NCAA Eligibility is designed to educate high school coaches, administrators and parents about the NCAA's initial-eligibility requirements. Social Media aims to assist parents and coaches in setting boundaries and guidelines for their students' social media use. To access the courses, visit nfhslearn.com/courses.

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TENNIS

From Page 17

singles, you're probably going to lose," said Nguyen, in his 12th year as coach. "I'm proud of the doubles teams – they do everything they can to win the point and they don't beat themselves."

Junior Sophia Shao and senior Sofia Mujica are the No. 1 team – just like last season. That familiarity gives them an advantage, according to Shao.

"We've been playing together since the end of my ninth-grade year and her sophomore year," she said. "We know each other's playing styles. I'm lucky to have played with her for such a long time."

The No. 2 team of Liu and Isabelle Baker, both seniors, has also benefited from sharing the same side of the court before.

"We've been partners since last season, and we work together really well," Liu said. "Our personalities match well. We always encourage and support each other."

The No. 3 team is a new pairing – Sania Rashid, a junior, and Tyra Bogan, the team's lone freshman.

"Tyra is pretty raw, she's a soccer player, but she's a great athlete who's getting more into tennis," Nguyen said.

The coach noted that Los Altos has two other formidable teams behind them: seniors Nicole Hofmann and Jenna Keifling, along with sisters Emma and Cate Boschken, a senior and sophomore, respectively. While only three teams can play in a



MAL TAAM/SPECIAL TO THE TOWN CRIER

Mountain View High's Penelope Wong plays No. 1 singles Thursday against Los Altos. She won her match in straight sets.

team match, Nguyen is finding ways to get his other doubles players in on the action.

"We have a semi-rotation system, so the others will play," he said, adding that if one player is unavailable, he replaces the entire doubles team with another.

Practice limitations

Nguyen's bigger challenge may be getting his players enough practice time. Construction at Mountain View High has rendered the courts there unusable for now, so the Eagles are having to share their courts with the Spartans. Los Altos is now limited to one day of practice per week, according to Nguyen.

Shao said the Eagles are still adjusting to the new arrangement.

"It's definitely interesting," she said. "I personally enjoy practice – it keeps me warmed up and ready. Matches are draining, especially when we have

three in a week, and with fewer practices, we're more in game-play mode. We're less carefree."

However, Los Altos seems determined to overcome that – all while playing in a tougher division – to make a run at the playoffs.

"Everyone's working toward that goal," Liu said.

The Eagles, who have a bye Thursday, visit Monta Vista 4 p.m. Tuesday.

Spartans stay unbeaten

Mountain View improved to 2-0 overall and 1-0 in the De Anza with Thursday's victory over Los Altos, avenging last season's loss by the same score.

The Spartans, under new coach Justin Stenger, won all four singles matches in straight sets. Top player Penelope Wong, a sophomore, prevailed 6-3, 6-3.

Mountain View entertains Saratoga 4 p.m. today at Los Altos.

SUMMARY

From Page 17

Sophomore Daniels gained 116 yards on the ground and scored a touchdown. Quarterback Jackson Steffens rushed for 62 yards. Andre Guimaraes Jr. ran for 15 yards on three carries, two of which resulted in TDs.

Mountain View opens its De Anza Division schedule 7 p.m. Friday versus visiting Milpitas (1-3).

Los Altos had its chances but couldn't pull off a win in Friday's non-league game at Santa Clara.

"I felt we should have won the game, to be honest," Eagles coach Dave DeGeronimo said of the 17-7 loss. "We left a lot of scoring out there – we didn't finish our drives."

Los Altos (1-2) came away empty on three drives that reached the red zone.

The Eagles' lone touchdown came in the third quarter on a 96-yard pass play from Jimmy Flynn to Zach Fagin.

"Zach ran a corner rout, broke a tackle and he was gone," DeGeronimo said of the third-and-20 play, which enabled Los Altos to tie the game at 7. "That's when it felt like we were starting to

take the game over."

The score remained tied until late in the fourth quarter when the Bruins (3-0-1) kicked a short field goal soon after Los Altos failed to convert on fourth-and-inches.

Santa Clara soon put the game away with a 50-yard interception return for a touchdown.

That means the Eagles' defense surrendered just one touchdown in the game.

"Defensively we played really well," DeGeronimo said.

Los Altos kicks off its SCVAL El Camino Division slate 7 p.m. Friday at home against Fremont (2-2).

Cross-country

Paced by Fiona Bodkin, the Los Altos girls placed third out of 24 teams Saturday in the De La Salle Invitational, a 3-mile race held at Newhall Park in Concord.

Bodkin, a junior, finished 15th (18 minutes, 52.2 seconds) and senior teammate Riley Capuano came in 18th (19:00.7).

On the boys' side, the Eagles took 19th out of 33 teams. Senior Amir Benhagouga posted Los Altos' fastest time (17:09), good enough for 76th place.

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Sports

MVLA sending 17 players to college ranks



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The Mountain View Los Altos Soccer Club recently celebrated 17 players in the Class of 2021 who have committed to play in college. These student-athletes will represent 11 NCAA Division I schools, one NCAA Division II school, four NCAA Division III schools and one NAIA college. Players, coaches and parents attended the event. Front row, from left: Stephanie Jung (Columbia University), Summer Steadman (New York University), Lauren Zontos (Santa Clara University), Bella Panaccione (Santa Clara), Rebecca Womer (University of Georgia) and MVLA coach Albertin Montoya. Middle: Nithya Yeluri (Harvey Mudd College), Gaelen Clayton (Washington University in St. Louis), Abby Moos (Yale University), Leila Chaudhry (Hawaii Pacific University), Amanda Khu (Pomona College) and Sistine Noel (Santa Clara). Back: MVLA coaches Seth Alberico and Margueritte Aozasa, Lexi Quinn (Brown University), Aaliyah Schinaman (UC Berkeley), Karlie Lema (UC Berkeley), Alice Barbieri (University of Oregon), Summer Laskey (Cal State Long Beach) and MVLA coach Erin Montoya. Not pictured: Tyler Kriese (Rocky Mountain College).

Local high school & community college sports schedule for Sept. 22-28

HIGH SCHOOL

Football

Friday

Fremont at Los Altos, 7 p.m.
Milpitas at Mountain View, 7 p.m.
St. Ignatius at St. Francis, 7 p.m.

Saturday

Stuart Hall at Pinewood, 11 a.m.

Girls volleyball

Thursday

Valley Christian at St. Francis, 6 p.m.
Los Gatos at Los Altos, 6:45 p.m.
Mountain View at Palo Alto, 6:45 p.m.

Saturday

Mountain View at Watsonville Tournament, 8 a.m.

Monday

Pinewood at Eastside Prep, 4:15 p.m.

Tuesday

Crystal Springs Uplands at Pinewood, 4:15 p.m.
Los Altos at Homestead, 6:45 p.m.
Gunn at Mountain View, 6:45 p.m.

Boys water polo

Today

St. Ignatius at St. Francis, 6:30 p.m.

Thursday

Mountain View at Los Altos, 6:45 p.m.

Friday & Saturday

Spartan Tournament at Mountain View, TBA

Tuesday

Los Altos at Gunn, 3:30 p.m.

Girls water polo

Today

St. Francis vs. St. Ignatius at City College of San Francisco, 4:30 p.m.

Thursday

Mountain View at Los Altos, 3:30 p.m.

Friday

Los Altos at Valley Christian, 3:30 p.m.

Arroyo Grande at St. Francis, 7 p.m.

Saturday

Palo Alto at St. Francis, 10 a.m.

Tuesday

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

Castilleja at Mountain View, 3:30 p.m.

Girls tennis

Today

Saratoga vs. Mountain View at Los Altos, 4 p.m.
Castilleja at Pinewood, 4 p.m.

Thursday

Los Altos at Saratoga, 4 p.m.

Tuesday

St. Francis vs. Sacred Heart Cathedral at San Francisco State, 3:30 p.m.
Monta Vista at Los Altos, 4 p.m.
Pinewood at Notre Dame-San Jose, 4 p.m.

Field hockey

Thursday

Cupertino at Los Altos, 4 p.m.
Lynbrook at St. Francis, 4 p.m.

Tuesday

Los Altos at Mitty, 4 p.m.
St. Francis at Presentation, 4 p.m.

Girls golf

Thursday

St. Ignatius vs. St. Francis at Sunnyvale Muni, 2:30 p.m.

Monday

Wilcox vs. Mountain View at Shoreline Golf Links, 4 p.m.

COLLEGE

Football

Saturday

Foothill at San Jose City College, 7 p.m.

Men's soccer

Today

Foothill at Clovis, 4 p.m.

Tuesday

Foothill at City College of San Francisco, 4 p.m.

Women's soccer

Friday

Sierra at Foothill, 1:30 p.m.

TBA: To be announced

Information provided by the schools' athletic directors and/or coaches. To include your local varsity team, email the schedule to peteb@latc.com.

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Jointvolunteerawards.com

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Enjoy cooking in the bright kitchen with skylight, solid stone countertops, abundant cabinetry and new stainless appliances with casual dining area. Ideal for entertaining & perfect for growing families or couples downsizing!

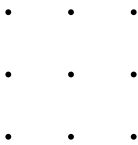


Designer upgrades include large separate newer workshop with plumbing and electrical that can be an ADU, large formal entry, custom baths, craftsman finishes, AC, skylights, solar, extra storage and a finished 2-car garage with epoxy flooring! You will love the warm and welcoming sense of community in this coveted neighborhood with frequent block parties and holiday celebrations! **Close to top Los Altos schools: Santa Rita, Egan and Los Altos High!**

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Your Health

Your Health is published monthly. For advertising information, email sales@latc.com.

Newsom taps Los Altos doctor for seat on CA Medical Board

By Jonathan Lo
Town Crier Editorial Intern

Gov. Gavin Newsom recently appointed long-time local physician Dr. James M. Healzer to the Medical Board of California.

Healzer has lived in Los Altos for more than two decades and has been practicing medicine for longer than that, specializing in anesthesia and internal medicine. He is chair of the chiefs of quality at The Permanente Medical Group as well as a staff anesthesiologist at the Kaiser Permanente Santa Clara Medical Center.

Healzer graduated from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, then completed his residency in internal medicine at UC San Francisco, followed by a residency in anesthesiology at Stanford University.

Healzer was appointed in June as one of the eight physician seats the governor names. The seat, which requires State Senate confirmation, is a volunteer position. If confirmed, Healzer will be serving in the



Healzer

position on top of his day job.

The Medical Board of California is a state government agency comprising 15 people: eight physicians and five public members appointed by the governor, one public member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and one public member appointed by the State Senate Rules Committee.

The Medical Board of California licenses physicians, maintains a public record about said licensed physicians and investigates complaints against

See HEALZER, Page 23

5 reasons to give prenatal yoga a try

By Kim Gladfelter

If you're pregnant, maintaining a consistent exercise routine is one of the best things you can do for your health – and your baby's health, too.

Exercise is so beneficial that the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) encourages all women with uncomplicated pregnancies to do at least 150 minutes of moderately intense aerobic exercise per week, in addition to twice-weekly strength training sessions.

Here's something else experts recommend: prenatal yoga.

Whether you've been exercising for years or are starting a new habit now that you're expecting, prenatal yoga is the perfect addition to your weekly routine, thanks to its impressive list of well-documented benefits.

Benefits of prenatal yoga

Prenatal yoga is a restorative style of yoga that focuses on stretching, breathing, postures



COURTESY OF PHYSIOFIT

With an emphasis on breathing, stamina, pelvic floor work, restorative poses and core strength, prenatal yoga can help moms-to-be become more resilient during and after pregnancy.

and movements specifically designed with the pregnant body in mind. Movements are modified to accommodate for common physiological changes that occur during pregnancy.

Prenatal yoga is considered safe and beneficial for pregnant women and their babies, according to organizations such as ACOG, the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Mayo Clinic, to name a few. Following are five reasons to add prenatal yoga to your #momlife.

1. Prenatal yoga eases common aches and pains associated with pregnancy.

Staying Active

Lower-back pain, nausea and headaches are common problems faced by pregnant and postpartum women. Fortunately, prenatal yoga is a drug-free and noninvasive way to ease all of these issues and more.

2. Prenatal yoga relaxes the mind and improves mental health. Studies have shown that prenatal yoga reduces maternal anxiety and depression and

See YOGA, Page 23

Esthetician Marjan Kashi performs a NeurotriS Microcurrent anti-aging skincare treatment on a client. Microcurrent facials, which tighten and smooth the muscles and connective tissues, are often used in combination with retinols and serum lighteners to treat hyperpigmentation.

COURTESY OF HPDPR



Seeing the light: Treating hyperpigmentation

By Marjan Kashi

Hyperpigmentation is discoloration of the skin caused by unregulated overproduction of melanin in the epidermal or dermal layer of the skin. Hyperpigmentation commonly presents as sunspots, birthmarks or melasma – those blue-gray or brown patches or freckle-like spots.

Several factors play a role in the formation and distribution of melanin, including hormonal imbalance, UV radiation, medications, physical trauma, cellular dysfunction, inflammation and/or genetics.

Following is a rundown of the three major types of hyperpigmentation and their respective treatments.

• **Post-inflammatory hyperpigmentation (PIH)** is an

Pure Serenity

inflammation caused by trauma or injury to the skin. This type of pigmentation has a better recovery than the other two types on its own, with time.

Mechanical trauma such as burns, picking at acne and other skin disorders like eczema can leave marks on the skin. Certain medications, like antibiotics, can lead to PIH because there are existing receptor sites on the melanin for specific chemicals. That's why doctors recommend limiting exposure to the sun while on such medications. For some aesthetic procedures, including deep chemical peels and light procedures, professionals highly advise clients to prep their

skin a few weeks in advance of treatment, depending on their skin color, to prevent PIH and to enhance the outcome.

• **Excessive ultraviolet rays** can wreak havoc on the skin, leading to darkening of freckles, those yellowish-brown spots that appear on the nose and cheeks by genetic predisposition. UVA, with a longer wavelength, reaches the dermis and breaks down the collagen, causing aging and wrinkles; UVB has a shorter wavelength, reaches the epidermis and makes the skin red or tan. Excessive UV exposure can lead to mutation in the DNA and ultimately cause cell death (apoptosis). Sunspots, liver spots or solar lentigines are usually seen on the face or hands

See LIGHT, Page 22



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Your Health

Glaucoma Research Foundation receives \$1.5M from Kirsches to fund innovative vision restoration

Town Crier Report

The Glaucoma Research Foundation, the nation's oldest and largest nonprofit organization dedicated to funding research to find a cure for glaucoma, last month received a \$1.5 million matching gift from Steve and Michele Kirsch of Los Altos Hills.

The gift will help fund the foundation's collaborative research program, the Catalyst for a Cure Vision Restoration Initiative, which brings together a team of four investigators from different institutions to work together to discover novel ways to restore vision lost due to glaucoma. Launched in 2019, the consortium is exploring avenues of research that include optic nerve regeneration, stem cell replacement and

gene-based therapies.

To provide additional funding needed for the next phase of the consortium, according to foundation officials, the gift from the Kirsches will be used as a matching opportunity to inspire other donors to support the research.

"We are extremely grateful to Steve and Michele," said Thomas M. Brunner, the foundation's president and CEO. "Steve believes medical research should be collaborative rather than competitive, and he inspired us to establish our Catalyst for a Cure consortium nearly 20 years ago, to join forces with other research institutions to find a cure for glaucoma."

Steve Kirsch is a serial entrepreneur in Silicon Valley, and Michele is a community leader and volunteer.

"The first Catalyst for a Cure team redefined glaucoma as a neurological disease," Steve Kirsch said. "Now the third collaborative research team is focused on vision restoration, which is incredibly rewarding. Michele and I are pleased to provide our gift as a matching opportunity to inspire others to invest in this important project."

Their most recent gift brings the Kirsches' total giving to the Glaucoma Research Foundation to \$2.7 million since 2002.

In recognition of the gift, the research consortium will be named the Steven and Michele Kirsch Catalyst for a Cure Vision Restoration Initiative.

For more information on the foundation, visit glaucoma.org.

LIGHT From Page 21

of elderly adults with fair skin, a result of overexposure to the sun's harmful rays.

The treatment that works best on such dark spots is intense pulsed light therapy every four weeks in a series of three to six, depending on how the skin responds.

• **Melasma**, also known as pregnancy mask or chloasma, is a deeper pigmentation induced by hormones. Not all women are prone to melasma; we don't know why some suffer from it but others don't. Pregnancy, oral contraceptives and hormone therapy can trigger melasma, which appears in a symmetric pattern on the forehead, cheeks and upper lip.

Clinical treatments such as a trichloroacetic acid and Jessner peels, as well as resurfacing lasers, are safe treatments for melasma. People with melasma should be careful not to get sunburned, as the pigmentation can remain permanent. Melasma with proper treatment can become lighter, but it never really vanishes, and once exposed

to UV rays or a melanocyte-stimulating hormone, it can unfortunately return.

Skin solutions

Treating the above pigmentation problems requires a diligent at-home care regimen. The three main products recommended to speed up and prevent further damage to the skin are sunblocks, lighteners and retinols.

• **Sunblock** is the most important product to use on a daily basis, in accordance with all treatment protocols and a maintenance program. Any sunblock you choose should contain titanium dioxide and zinc oxide. They work as a protective mirror on the skin and prevent heat absorption. I recommend not using chemical sunscreens, as they tend to absorb partial UVB.

• **Lighteners** are most effective when used twice daily, because they interfere with the melanogenesis cycle in multiple steps. They slow down the production of melanin, yet protect the DNA. The one I highly recommend is 100% L-Ascorbic Acid in dry powder form

— it never expires and remains inactive until it is mixed with another product.

• **Retinols** in conjunction with serum lighteners work their magic, as one regulates the amount of melanin being produced and the other hydrates the skin and increases cell turnover.

When treating hyperpigmentation, the best chance for a successful outcome will include a combination of the methods and products noted above, as well as additional clinical treatments such as collagen induction therapy, NeurotriS Microcurrent and Omnilux phototherapy, followed by proper, diligent home care. Proper diagnosis by a skin professional is important prior to any treatment. Early detection of the underlying cause by a professional and a thoughtful plan with set goals and realistic expectations are the first steps to healthier and more youthful-looking skin.

Los Altos resident Marjan Kashi is a licensed medical esthetician, electrologist and the founder of Pure Serenity Skincare. For more information, call 999-7873 or visit pureserenityskincare.com.

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Have an idea for a story about health care and wellness in Los Altos?
Email editor Bruce Barton at bruceb@latc.com.

Your Health

YOGA

From Page 21

eases stress. It can even enhance sleep, which has a huge impact on mood and brain function.

3. Prenatal yoga prepares your body for childbirth (and beyond). The movements and postures used in prenatal yoga increase strength, stamina and flexibility. This helps moms handle the physical demands of labor and delivery, and can make it easier to recover during the postpartum period. In addition, prenatal yoga teaches specific poses and breathing techniques that can be used to assist with labor itself.

One systematic review of six randomized controlled trials found that prenatal yoga may even reduce labor duration. And a 2018 randomized controlled trial published in the Journal of Alternative and Complementary

Medicine found that women participating in prenatal yoga were less likely to have a cesarean section and reported greater pain tolerance compared with the nonyoga control group.

4. The health benefits of prenatal yoga can extend to your baby. I am always excited by research that shows how taking care of yourself helps you take care of others, too. In this case, participating regularly in prenatal yoga has been shown to reduce the risk of preterm birth and improve infant birth weight.

5. You can get an all-natural pregnancy glow. You always hear about that elusive pregnancy glow that many mothers attribute to the glistening sweat that comes with all of that morning sickness. But what if your pregnancy glow instead came from all of the energy and peace you had during pregnancy? Prenatal yoga provides

the unique opportunity to bring together your mind, body and spirit in one beautiful experience. It allows you to safely get to know your body and explore the limits of your mind.

And when you fall in love with the experience of pregnancy in your mind, body and spirit, you will undoubtedly glow.

Prenatal yoga sessions

PhysioFit offers prenatal yoga, taught by Alexis. A mom herself, Alexis has experienced firsthand the benefits of prenatal yoga. She brings her in-depth training on prenatal yoga along with years of Pilates, Gyrotonic and Gyrokinesis teaching experience to help pregnant and postpartum women feel healthier, physically and mentally.

"With prenatal yoga, you can focus on things you can do that are beneficial, rather than avoid things you cannot do,"

Alexis said.

Talk about empowering. Moms-to-be can call PhysioFit Physical Therapy & Wellness to learn more about our prenatal yoga sessions. Taking care of your prenatal and postpartum needs will help you and your baby feel your best.

Kim Gladfelter is owner of PhysioFit Physical Therapy & Wellness in Los Altos. PhysioFit offers both in-person/virtual physical therapy and virtual therapeutic fitness. For more information, call 887-6046 or visit physiofitpt.com.

HEALZER

From Page 21

physicians, according to its website. The board also exercises "vigorous, objective enforcement of the Medical Practice Act." In layman's terms, the board is supposed to strictly follow laws that govern the practice of medicine and is tasked with enforcing them.

Healzer said he is excited to have the opportunity to help maintain a high level of medical care for Los Altos residents and the people

of California.

"My experience as a practicing anesthesiologist and with physician peer review will inform my work as a board member," he said, "and will help me support the board's mission to protect consumers and promote safe, high-quality medical care."

Healzer's confirmation hearing has yet to be scheduled. When the date is finalized, it will be posted on the California State Senate Calendar at senate.ca.gov/calendar. The hearing is open to the public; people also may submit comments.

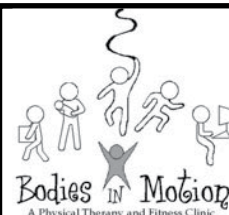


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Business & Real Estate

Italian reopens, Greek closes, ice cream carries on

By Eliza Ridgeway
Staff Writer/elizar@latc.com

The restaurant formerly known as Aldo Los Altos reopened following a renovation as BariBar Bistro in August, with a new menu and cocktail list and both indoor and outdoor dining.

Los Altos Hills resident Ryan Morris, who co-owns the enterprise with his wife, Mila Zelkha, worked at Aldo in its prior form. The new restaurant, which serves dinner 5-9 p.m. Tuesdays through Sundays, offers “Adriatic-inspired American” cuisine.

New owner Manmeet Chhabra took over the Baskin-Robbins on State Street in Los Altos last month after looking in the South Bay for the right fit. He said he loves ice cream – pistachio is a favorite flavor – and the community feel of the downtown neighborhood. In good news for longtime Town Crier coloring contest fans, he said the shop’s enthusiastic display of the art (and associated delicious prizes) can continue.

Closed, for now

Skip’s Pizza on First Street is temporarily closed, with a sign

Comings & Goings

in the window reporting that the restaurant is carrying out accessibility upgrades. A slew of downtown businesses have recently been hit with Americans with Disabilities Act lawsuits (visit this story at losaltosonline.com for links to our ongoing coverage of that story).

Departing

The Bell Tower Cafe in Rancho Shopping Center closed earlier this month, but its Saratoga location remains open. Owner Danny Shafazand said the restaurant was not able to maintain its previous success through the long chill of COVID and unsuccessfully sought a rent renegotiation. He thanks “the Los Altos community for the years of support.” A new restaurant is inbound to fill the location later this fall, according to the shopping center’s spokesperson.

The Greek restaurant Opa! on Main Street went dark this summer, and the local chain closed its San Jose location as well but remains open nearby in Santa Clara



and Campbell.

A few doors down the street, Chris Kendall is closing the Yum Yum Tree boutique later this month. After hoping someone from the community who enjoyed the store’s ethos might want to take over, she decided that the shop would retire when she did, after half a century in the business of fashion.

“It’s going to be hard. I really
See CHANGES, Page 27



PHOTOS BY ELIZA RIDGEWAY/TOWN CRIER

Skip’s Pizza, left, is temporarily closed.

Manmeet Chhabra, above, is the new owner of Baskin-Robbins. Chris Kendall, right, is closing her Yum Yum Tree boutique this month.



Be careful treating a hobby as a business

By Artie Green

Nest Egg Briefs

Do you have a hobby that actually makes you some money? Perhaps you craft and sell jewelry or pottery, blog about travel or help friends breed dogs.

Did you know that hobby income is taxable?

Before 2018, any expenses associated with a hobby were deductible – subject to certain limitations. Unfortunately, the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act eliminated the hobby expense deduction but retained the income reporting requirement.

Not fair, you say? Go complain to Donald Trump.

But there is a way to start getting those deductions again. Simply report your hobby as a business. That would allow you not only to reduce taxes on the hobby income, but also possibly

even deduct hobby losses from your overall taxes.

Sound enticing?

Be careful.

The key difference between a business and a hobby is that the business is expected to make a profit. The IRS does not appreciate taxpayers pretending their hobbies are businesses just to be able to write off the expenses. So, before taking such a step, be aware of nine factors the IRS will consider in determining whether or not you are operating a truly qualified business.

1. Do you operate the business in a businesslike manner and maintain complete and accurate books and records?

See HOBBY, Page 25



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1945 Fallen Leaf Lane, Dragon Family Trust to SF21G LLC for \$3,100,000
1572 Landell Court, Jordan Trust to Angana Family Trust for \$4,050,000
2060 Longden Circle, Fields Trust to McNaught Family Trust for \$3,500,000
1081 Los Altos Avenue, Bower Family Trust to Dhawan Family Trust for \$3,915,000
616 Los Ninos Way, Fujioka Family Trust to S. & J. Menon for \$5,525,000
691 Milverton Road, Beck Trust to Loh Family Trust for \$5,200,000
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1365 Ranchita Drive, Pedersen Trust to SF21G LLC for \$2,700,000
527 Tyndall Street, Rushton Trust to J. Teng for \$1,400,000
516 University Avenue, JSLT Properties LLC to J. & W. Kim for \$4,630,000
209 Valley Street, Corkern Trust to K. & J. Bai for \$3,836,000

Los Altos Hills

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26660 Snell Lane, Siminoff Trust to K. Chen for \$6,000,000

Mountain View

650 Alamo Court No. 9, C. Hogan to X. Fang for \$600,000
1751 Begon Avenue, Smith Trust to Y. & J. Li for \$2,250,000
240 Chiquita Avenue, A. Snyder to X. & H. Chen for \$2,295,000
388 Circuit Way, J. & M. Sujarit to T. & H. Le for \$1,650,000
730 Cuesta Drive, J. Gemmel to J. & A. Kumar for \$2,275,000
505 Cypress Point Drive No. 11, T. & E. Chavez to T. Montalban for \$580,000
505 Cypress Point Drive No. 170, M. Stephan to A. & J. Milligan for \$710,000
1950 Hackett Avenue, Vommi Family Trust to H. & C. Bui for \$1,910,000
552 Leona Lane, Shah Family Trust to A. & K. Hsieh for \$2,820,000
2472 Porterfield Court, Means Family Trust to T. & S. Nanda for \$3,400,000
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See TRANSACTIONS, Page 27

HOBBY

From Page 24

2. Can you demonstrate domain expertise in being able to profitably operate such a business?
 3. Do you spend a significant amount of personal time and effort in the business?
 4. Is there an expectation that assets used in the business may appreciate in value?
 5. Have you profitably engaged in similar businesses in the past?
 6. If there are losses, are they occurring for a shorter period of time than what is customarily needed to bring such a business to profitability?
 7. Are profits becoming substantially greater than losses over time?
 8. Are you financially dependent on generating profits from the business?
 9. Are you doing it more for income than for any personal pleasure or recreation?
- The more "yes" answers, the better. To its credit, the IRS does not require you to be able to answer every one of these questions satisfactorily to prove your business is legitimate. And it understands that losses are common during the early

years of a new business startup. But the bureau's patience wears thin if losses drag on for too many years. It is especially unfriendly to taxpayers who, after incurring multiple years of losses without having achieved any profit at all, choose to exit the business. That's a formula for getting hit with back taxes and possibly even fraud penalties.

If you can figure out a way to turn your hobby into a profitable business, by all means report it as such so that you can take advantage of all the tax deductions you're legally entitled to. You can use the above questions as a guide to determine if the IRS will buy into what you're doing. But just in case you do get audited, make sure to have a good supply of Tylenol available. (Whether or not you deduct the cost of the pills as a business expense is up to you.)

Los Altos resident Artie Green is a Certified Financial Planner and founder of Cognizant Wealth Advisors. For more information, visit cognizantwealth.com.



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Business & Real Estate

BBB study reveals a surge in job scams amid pandemic

Special to the Town Crier

Employment scams are on the rise in the turbulent job market created by the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a new Better Business Bureau study.

In a press release issued Sept. 9, the BBB warns job seekers to verify employment offers to avoid illegal jobs, identity theft and fake checks to which millions are exposed annually.

The study details the many forms employment fraud takes and the scams that often result. Job scams have been a problem for years. In 2020, the BBB estimated 14 million victims with \$2 billion in direct losses related to job scams. Last year, the 2020 BBB Employment Scams Report by the BBB Institute for Marketplace Trust found job scams to be the riskiest of all the scams it tracked in 2018 and 2019.

The BBB's study revealed that the problem worsened in 2020. Losses reported to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center about employment scams were up 27% between 2018 and 2020.

The BBB Institute's 2020 report on job scams found that the fraud most commonly victimized people ages 25-34, with women filing 67% of complaints. The median financial loss reported by the victims was

BBB Scam Alert

\$1,000; in addition, they often reported loss of their time, as 32% were never paid for the work they did for an "employer" that turned out to be fraudulent.

Scams on the rise

Identity theft is a common outcome of job scams, as scammers often steal job seekers' personal information to open bank accounts to further their fraud. The BBB found 34% of victims provided their driver's license number and 25% provided their Social Security or Social Insurance number.

Fake checks also frequently accompany job scams, and they continue to grow. The new BBB study showed that 36% of job scam complaints to the bureau involved a fake check, with fake check complaints to the Federal Trade Commission increasing by 65% between 2015 and 2020. In the two years since the BBB issued an investigative study on fake-check fraud, losses absorbed by banks due to fake checks rose 40% to reach \$1.3 billion.

Common fraudulent job offers involving fake checks include mystery shop-

ping or secret shopper jobs, car wrap jobs, nanny or caregiver jobs and small business jobs such as photography or painting houses.

The BBB cited an example of someone scammed. A St. Louis woman who lost her job during the pandemic was recruited through a job-search website for a job as a remote assistant for a large company. The "employer" deposited a check for \$2,400 into her bank account to purchase equipment from a third-party vendor, then asked her to buy \$2,400 in Home Depot gift cards and text them the numbers on the back. She heard nothing further from the "employer," but her bank informed her that the check deposited to her account was fraudulent. She not only lost the funds she spent on the gift cards, but also had another \$2,400 stolen from her bank account.

Employment scam victims frequently become unwitting accomplices in other fraud, used as money mules, to mail fake checks or to participate in reshipping scams, which represent 65% of the scam job offers reported to the BBB Scam Tracker.

Scammers "hire" victims from job boards, Facebook or Craigslist, offering to pay them as much as \$2,500 to receive and then send on packages. These fraud-

sters often use stolen credit card numbers to order laptops, cellphones and high-end goods and have them sent to reshipping victims, instructing them to repackage the goods and providing shopping labels to send the packages to a new address, often in Russia.

The accomplices who were hired for this fraudulent type of work are never paid – and their identities may be used to open bank accounts.

The Federal Trade Commission has taken action against job scammers, including a fake job placement company the agency sued in 2019.

Associated scams such as reshipping schemes and money-mule schemes have been a focus for state and federal law enforcement; in December 2020, the Department of Justice announced the results of a worldwide effort to deal with money mules, resulting in action taken against 2,300 people.

Tips to avoid job scams

Here are ways to avoid being scammed:

- Research the job offer. Call or go directly to the actual company's website for contact information to verify the job posting.

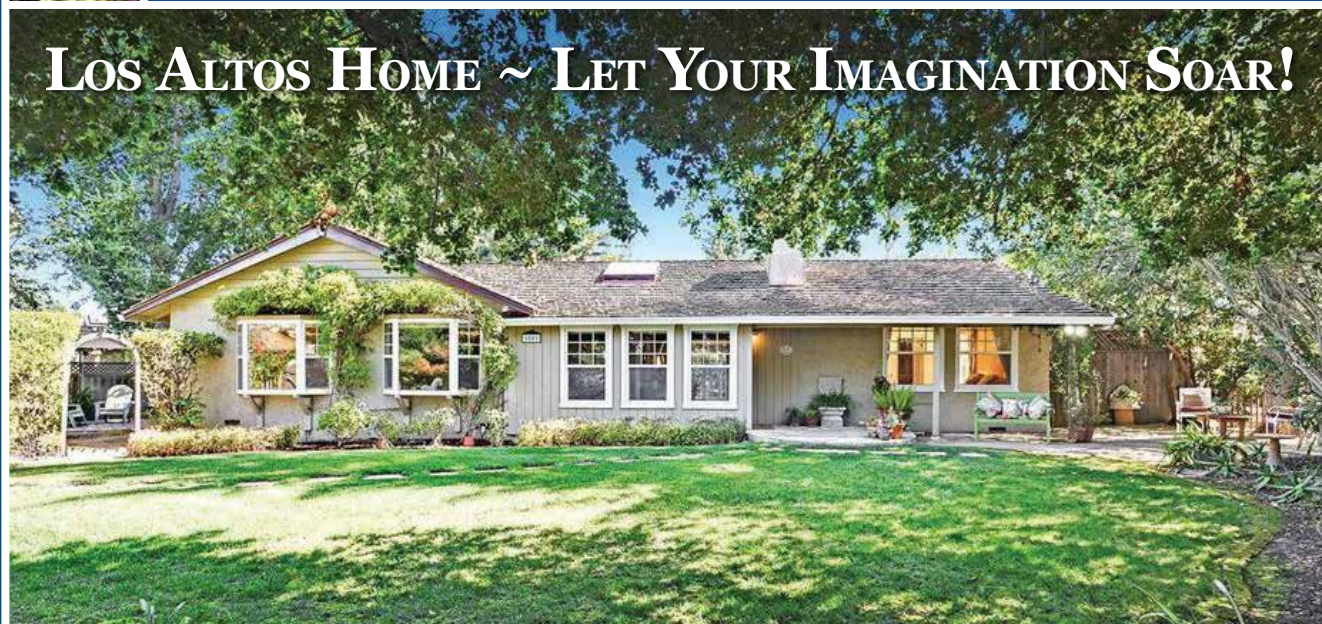
See SCAMS, Page 27



1001 Ray Avenue, Los Altos

**OFFERED AT
\$2,999,000**

LOS ALTOS HOME ~ LET YOUR IMAGINATION SOAR!



Designed with California Flair

The beautiful single-level home offers an abundance of natural light in a serene setting. With 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, adjoining livingdining rooms and a delightful sunroom, the home welcomes indoor-outdoor living and entertaining. Abundant windows oversee the private gardens, while skylights and wood floors add to the home's warmth. Great schools serve the property.

Garden Retreats

Several picturesque garden rooms with mature growth, wood fences, arches and gates enhance the charm and offer outdoor sanctuaries.

Leave the Car at Home

Restaurants and shops including Whole Foods, Safeway and Trader Joe's are located a few blocks away.

Development Potential

Approximately 10,524 SQ FT in a residential area, the lot offers plenty of room to let your imagination soar. Detached 2 car garage has potential as Auxiliary Dwelling Unit (ADU) or studio.



Ellen Barton
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Video Tour:
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Business & Real Estate

SCAMS

From Page 26

- Check on businesses at BBB.org if they claim to be offering jobs.
- Do an internet search with the name of the employer and the word “scam” to see if there are reports involving job scams.
- Examine the email address of those offering jobs to see if it matches the protocols used by an actual company. Be alert to Gmail business email addresses.
- Consider creating a separate email address when posting a resume on job boards or applying for jobs. This can help detect “offers” from scam employers you did not contact.
- Consider setting up a second bank account simply to handle pay for jobs where you have never met the employer in person.
- If you’re paying for the promise of a job, it’s most likely a scam.
- Be wary of mystery shopping or secret shopper positions.
- Work-from-home jobs that involve receiving and reshipping packages are likely scams.

CHANGES

From Page 24

will miss the people and the wonderful process of finding great things for them,” said Kendall, who moved the shop to downtown from a previous

location in Sunnyvale. “Los Altos was such a wonderful move for us. I feel so, so lucky it’s been such a positive place.”

Kendall said the pandemic caused her – like everyone else – to rethink the balance in her life, but she also noted

that her property manager and landlord had been tremendously supportive, and clear communicators.

“Not everyone is as lucky to have that combination, but I feel lucky to have landed here 13 years ago,” Kendall said.

- Beware of jobs that involve receiving and forwarding money.
 - Don’t fall for a fake-check scam. The BBB is not aware of any legitimate job offers that send checks to applicants and ask them to send money to a third party.
 - Be cautious in providing personal information such as your full address, birthdate and financial information in your resume or to unverified recruiters and online applications.
 - Be wary of vague job descriptions.
 - Even if you do the work, it may be a scam.
 - Do not respond to calls, text messages or emails from unknown numbers or suspicious addresses.
 - Do not click any links in a text message from a number you do not recognize. If a friend sends you a text with a suspicious link that seems out of character, call them to make sure they weren’t hacked.
- Those who fall victim to job scams are urged to report them to the BBB (bbb.org/scamtracker), the Federal Trade Commission (reportfraud.ftc.gov) and the Internet Crime Complaint Center (ic3.gov/complaint).*

TRANSACTIONS

From Page 25

264 N. Whisman Road No. 2, E.
Jan to S. Ambati for \$822,000

Cupertino

21520 Addington Court, Flyhomes Investments Ca LLC to H. & J. Xie for \$3,420,000

10166 Bonny Drive, Lewis Trust to H. Yan for \$3,320,000

10042 Byrne Avenue, Wan Trust to D. & H. Lee for \$1,880,000

20691 Celeste Circle, Tadina Trust to Chen Trust for \$755,000

20704 Celeste Circle, V. Laxminarayananpura to Y. Zhu for \$935,000

929 Cottonwood Drive, Reak Family Trust to T. & Y. Tien for \$2,650,000

10570 Deodara Drive, Incerpi Trust to P. & A. Ganapathy for \$2,560,000

11092 Firethorne Drive, Q. Dinh to Y. Lu for \$1,310,000

10108 Imperial Avenue, Reshmi Family Trust to S. & J. Ramamoorthy for \$1,585,000

10395 Judy Avenue, E. & W. Bridge to W. Cui for \$2,150,000

22066 Linda Vista Place, H. & Y. Zhou to M. & Q. Zhu for \$3,300,000

19141 Meiggs Lane, Z. & D. Payne to L. & H. Xu for \$2,150,000

15120 Montebello Road, Levitan Trust to M. & S. Chang for

\$2,650,000

8051 Park Villa Circle, Garbe Trust to S. & S. Sen for \$1,580,000

21061 Red Fir Court, N. & S. Singh to D. & P. Sarda for \$835,000

10732 Stevens Canyon Road, Zhang Trust to G. & E. Guan for \$1,910,000

Overall

Los Altos

Total sales: 15

Lowest sale: \$1,400,000

Highest sale: \$6,010,000

Average sale: \$4,005,100

Los Altos Hills

Total sales: 3

Lowest sale: \$3,800,000

Highest sale: \$6,000,000

Average sale: \$5,136,700

Mountain View

Total sales: 13

Lowest sale: \$580,000

Highest sale: \$3,400,000

Average sale: \$1,758,600

Cupertino

Total sales: 16

Lowest sale: \$755,000

Highest sale: \$3,420,000

Average sale: \$2,061,900

Transaction information is obtained from public county records and provided by Cal REsource.



NEW LISTING!



857 Hierra Court, Los Altos

2 Bed 1.5 Bath 1,250 Sq Ft \$2,295,000

Opportunity knocks! Rebuild or remodel on this 7,111sq.ft. +/- lot (per county records). This property is located on a quiet cul-de-sac in the country club area of Los Altos and is waiting for someone's vision to take over!

Top-rated Los Altos schools.

www.857hierra.com

512 Cape Blanco Court, Sunnyvale

3 Bed 2.5 Bath 1,572 Sq Ft \$1,349,000

Beautifully updated Townhome - ready to move in with Cupertino schools. Living room is light & bright and has beam ceilings & a gas fireplace. Separate dining area has a coffered ceiling. Updated kitchen features granite counters, tile backsplash & stainless-steel appliances. Spacious master suite has custom molding. Other features include: updated baths, dual pane windows, recessed lighting, new doors, indoor laundry room, private yard, and a 2-car detached garage. Low HOA dues.

www.512capeblanco.com



Barb Conkin-Orrrock, GRI

650.996.4106

barb.conkin-orrock@compass.com

DRE# 00943512

PENDING WITH MULTIPLE OFFERS!



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IMPRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE & IDEAL FLOOR PLAN

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SOARING CEILINGS 3 FIREPLACES HARDWOOD FLOORS PALATIAL PRIMARY SUITE PRIVATE BACKYARD
VAST DECK & EXPANSIVE LAWN MINUTES TO DOWNTOWN AMENITIES AWARD-WINNING LOS ALTOS SCHOOLS

617ARBOLEDA.COM CALL FOR PRICE



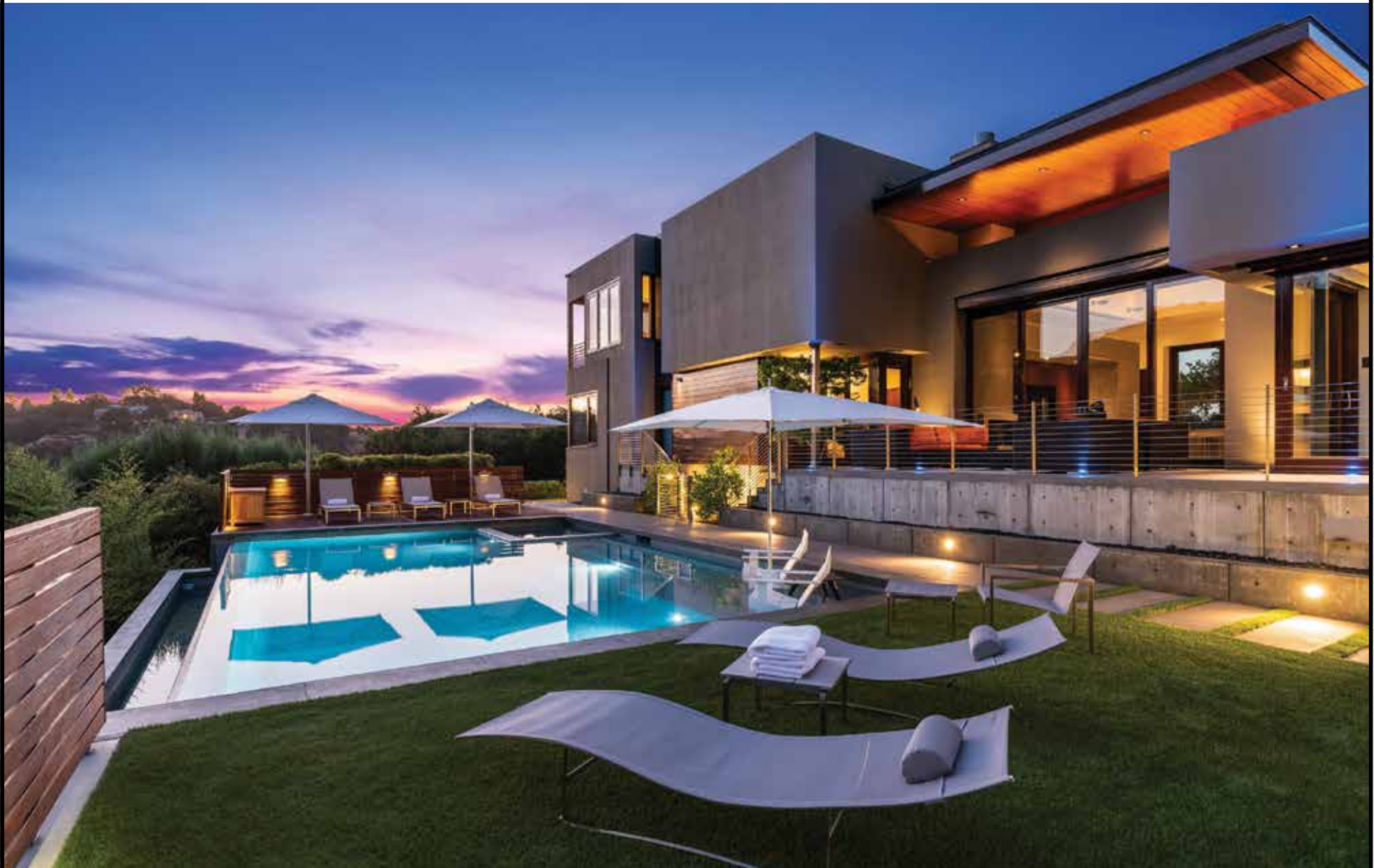
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INTERO
A Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate

Casa Di Dettagli

6 Beds | 6 Baths | 2.5 Half Baths | 9,435 Sq Ft | 3+ Acres | Guest House | Price Upon Request



This 9,435-square-foot estate by celebrated Robert Swatt of Swatt|Meirs, with befitting interiors by icons of the design world, boasts 6 bedrooms, 6 full baths, 2 half baths, a guest house, a three-car garage, and many high-end amenities. On a 3-acre lot, framed by the majesty of the western foothills, one can revel in the privacy afforded by this estate's coveted Los Altos Hills location. Indulge in dramatic sunset views on more than 4000 square feet of decks and harbors, masterfully arranged to maximize relaxation and recreation. Add a home fitness center, state-of-the-art theatre, first-class audio system, flawless security, massive wine cellar, home office, spa-like bathroom... and life is good.

- • • •
- • • •
- • • •



www.24301Elise.com



Michael Chalhoub
650.465.9036
michael.chalhoub@compass.com
DRE #01721189

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11665 DAWSON DRIVE
LOS ALTOS HILLS



STUNNING RETREAT ON OVER 1.6 ACRES

Over 1.6 acres of verdant land envelops this contemporary masterpiece that exemplifies the rustic elegance synonymous with Los Altos Hills. Evoking the feel of a five-star mountainside retreat, this home offers over 3,600 square feet of luxurious interiors, a modern floorplan, and ample privacy. Beautiful hardwood floors extend throughout expansive gathering areas made for entertaining, and spectacular walls of windows stretch to the tops of soaring ceilings to fill the home with natural light. Both the living room and family room include a fireplace with a slate tile surround, the chef's kitchen features top-of-the-line appliances, and the media room offers great space for enjoying movie nights. Four spacious bedrooms provide the accommodations, including the primary suite with a spa-inspired bathroom, and one bedroom that easily converts into office space to work from home in style. Outside, a gorgeous deck encircles the home and offers outstanding space for indoor/outdoor living while taking in the all-encompassing natural beauty of the home's magnificent setting. Plus, the grounds of the home include a hot tub, as well as a pathway leading to the Rancho San Antonio nature trails. And though this home enjoys an incredibly private feel, you will still be just moments to downtown Los Altos, a short drive to Interstate 280, and have access to top-ranked Los Altos schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

www.11665Dawson.com

Offered at \$4,488,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer's Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer's Agent

Michael Repka, DRE #01854880 | 650.900.7000 | michael@deleonrealty.com

中文諮詢請聯繫 Audrey Sun, DRE #01933274 電話: 650.785.5822 | www.deleonrealty.com | DeLeon Realty, Inc. | DRE #01903224



25680 ELENA ROAD
LOS ALTOS HILLS



LUXURY AND PRIVACY ON OVER AN ACRE

The all-encompassing privacy that only Los Altos Hills affords offers the ideal backdrop for this stylish home nestled on over an acre of gated grounds. High, detailed ceilings create an airy ambiance throughout over 4,800 square feet of living space filled with luxurious appointments including hardwood floors, fine millwork, new carpet, and marble finishes. The expansive floorplan is highlighted by the living room anchored by a fireplace, the vast kitchen with appliances from Wolf and Sub-Zero, and the family room with a fireplace and wet bar. The home's 4 bedrooms and 3.5 bathrooms include the sizable primary suite with a spa-like bathroom, as well as a convenient guest suite, while a 2-room office suite offers great space to work from home in style and may also serve as a 5th bedroom. Outside, the backyard provides sweeping terraces adorned with tall trees and colorful plantings, while the attached 3-car garage and extended driveway ensure ample parking. This spectacular retreat-like property will have you feeling far removed from the fast pace of Silicon Valley, yet you will still be a short drive to the Los Altos Village, the Los Altos Golf & Country Club, and have easy access to Interstate 280. Plus, children may attend top-ranked Los Altos schools (buyer to verify eligibility).

OPEN HOUSE: SATURDAY & SUNDAY 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

www.25680Elena.com

Offered at \$ 4,988,000

Listed by the DeLeon Team • 2.5% Commission Paid to Buyer's Agent • Waived if DeLeon Buyer's Agent

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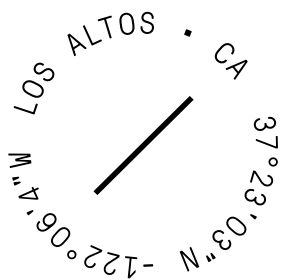
EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY TO RENOVATE OR BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME



11000 Magdalena Road, Los Altos

4 Bed 3 Bath 41,000+ Sq Ft Lot \$3,698,000

JUST LISTED. 4-bedroom, 3 bath home offers approximately 2,700 square feet with oversized 3-car garage on a 41,000+ square foot lot. Excellent location adjacent to high-end homes and just 1 minute to Highway 280.



Ryan Gowdy
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ryan.gowdy@compass.com
DRE 01322889
Los Altos Native and Real Estate Specialist



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Public Notices

CITY OF LOS ALTOS ORDINANCE SUMMARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, at its regular meeting of September 14, 2021, the Los Altos City Council took action to adopt the following (2) Ordinances:

Ordinance No 2021-478 – Zoning Text Amendment – Objective Standards - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Los Altos amending Title 14 (Zoning) by creating Objective Zoning Standards for residential development. The proposed Ordinance relates to organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15061(b)(3).

The above and foregoing Ordinance No. 2021-478 was passed and adopted by the following vote at a regular meeting of the Los Altos City Council held on September 14, 2021:

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

Ordinance No. 2021-480 Floodplain Management - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City Of Los Altos amending the City of Los Altos Municipal Code to repeal Chapter 12.60 Flood Hazard Area Regulations and to replace it with a new Chapter 12.60 entitled Floodplain Management; to adopt Flood Hazard Maps; and making findings that this ordinance is exempt under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15307 and 15308.

The above and foregoing Ordinance No. 2021-480 was passed and adopted by the following vote at a regular meeting of the Los Altos City Council held on September 14, 2021:

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

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

Andrea Chelemengos, City Clerk

PUBLICATION:Town Crier
September 22, 2021
(09-22-21)

155-T

Los Altos NOTICE OF PROPOSED RATE CHANGE BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (CPUC)

Beginning October 1, 2021, the water bills of California Water Service (Cal Water) customers in the Los Altos District will reflect a pass-through of higher wholesale water charges and higher groundwater replenishment charges by the Santa Clara Valley Water District. The California Public Utilities Commis-

sion (CPUC) has determined that expenses for wholesale water are not under the company's control, and that a pass-through of those costs to customers is just and reasonable if properly calculated. In Advice Letter 2422 filed on or around September 22, 2021, Cal Water is requesting authority to increase its annual revenue by \$1,799,885 or 4.2%. Pending the CPUC's review of Cal Water's calculations, the increase will be effective on October 1, 2021. With the increase, a typical monthly bill for a Los Altos residential customer with a 5/8" x 3/4" meter who uses 13 CCF (which is 1,300 cubic feet or 9,725 gallons) of water per month will increase by \$3.68, or 4.2%. A copy of Advice Letter 2422 is available on the internet at <https://www.calwater.com/rates-advice-letters/> (please select the Los Altos District from the drop-down menu), and may also be obtained from the company's local offices by calling (650) 917-0152. You may also contact the company's headquarters at 1720 North First Street, San Jose, California 95112-4598, or by calling (408) 367-8200. Cal Water offers many programs to help you manage your water bill including a Customer Assistance Program (CAP), (formerly, low-income ratepayer assistance program (LIRA)), water conserving appliance rebates, and other conservation programs. Please visit our website at www.calwater.com to take advantage of these opportunities. Protests and Responses. Anyone may respond to or protest this filing. A response supports the filing and may contain information that proves useful to the Commission in its evaluation. A protest objects to the filing in whole or in part and must set forth the specific grounds on which it is based, and shall provide citations or proof where available to allow Commission staff to properly consider the protest. The grounds for protests are:

1. The utility did not properly serve or give notice of the filing.
 2. The relief requested in the filing would violate statute or Commission order, or is not authorized by statute or Commission order on which the utility relies.
 3. The analysis, calculations, or data in the filing contains material error or omissions.
 4. The relief requested in the filing is pending before the Commission in a formal proceeding, or
 5. The relief requested in the filing requires consideration in a formal hearing, or is otherwise inappropriate for the filing process, or
 6. The relief requested in the filing is unjust, unreasonable, or discriminatory (provided that such a protest may not be made where it would require relitigating a prior order of the Commission).
- A response or protest must be made in writing and received by the Commission's Water Division by October 12, 2021, the end of the comment period. The response or protest should be sent to water_division@cpuc.ca.gov or to the Tariff Unit, Water Division, 3rd Floor, CPUC, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102. CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY
9/22/21
CNS-3512118#
LOS ALTOS TOWN CRIER
(09-22-21)

154-T

TIME TOO LLC FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678568

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: (1) TIME TOO LLC, (2) EDIBLE SILICON VALLEY, (3) EDIBLE SOUTH BAY, 171 Main St, #286, Los Altos, CA, 94022 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company, TIME TOO LLC, 94 Hillview Ave, Los Altos, CA 94022. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2009. (09-22,29,10-06,13-21)

153-T

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ELAINE DAISY FIFER CASE NO. 21PR190872

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ELAINE DAISY FIFER. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by BRADLEY DAVID FIFER in the Superior Court of California, County of SANTA CLARA. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that BRADLEY DAVID FIFER be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent. THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court. THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act . (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held in this court as follows: 11/15/2021 at 9:01AM in Dept. 5 located at 191 NORTH FIRST ST., SAN JOSE, CA 95112 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2)

60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner
PAUL I. MYERS III
300 Third Street, Suite 5
Los Altos, CA 94022
(09-22,29,10-06-21)

149-T

Wellness Design Build FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678326

152-T

India Tradesman Brewing Co. FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678416

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: India Tradesman Brewing Co., 1627 S 7th St, San Jose, CA, 95112 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation, Hermitage Brewing Corporation, 1627 S 7th St, San Jose, CA 95112. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (09-15,22,29,10-06-21)

151-T

NONPROFITMANAGER.ORG FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678107

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: (1) NONPROFITMANAGER.ORG, (2) ASSOCIATION EXECUTIVES LLP, 7723 Fennel Pl, Gilroy, CA, 95020 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, April Becerra, 7723 Fennel Pl, Gilroy, CA 95020. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 08/15/2021. (09-15,22,29,10-06-21)

150-T

Canyon Club Brewery FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678191

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: Canyon Club Brewery, 1627 S 7th St, San Jose, CA, 95112 Santa Clara

County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a corporation, Hermitage Brewing Corporation, 1627 S 7th St, San Jose, CA 95112. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (09-08,15,22,29-21)

147-T

Wellness Design Build FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678326

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: Wellness Design Build, 21701 Stevens Creek Blvd #2326, Cupertino, CA, 95015 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company, Triple Eight Holdings LLC, 21701 Stevens Creek Blvd. #2326, Cupertino, CA 95015. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (09-08,15,22,29-21)

148-T

BAY AREA COMMERCIAL DOOR & GATE SERVICE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678274

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: BAY AREA COMMERCIAL DOOR & GATE SERVICE, 667 N 10th St, San Jose, CA, 95112 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Anthony Ray Resendez, 667 N 10th St, San Jose, CA 95112. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (09-08,15,22,29-21)

147-T

Element FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678311

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: Element, 5607 Blossom Gardens Circle, San Jose, CA, 95123 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement

for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Brandon Devante Travail Magee Smith, 5607 Blossom Gardens Circle, San Jose, CA 95123. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (09-08,15,22,29-21)

145-T

BUBBLEPAINTS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678104

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: BUBBLEPAINTS, 1862 Montecito Ave, Mountain View, CA, 94041 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Yuliya Svist, 151 Calderon Ave. Apt 217, Mountain View, CA 94041. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (09-08,15,22,29-21)

144-T

THE UPS STORE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678200

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: THE UPS STORE, 5255 Stevens Creek Blvd, Santa Clara, CA, 95051 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a limited liability company, KONSILEX LLC, 681 Benvenue Ave, Los Altos, CA 94024. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (09-01,08,15,22-21)

143-T

MommyMates FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN677997

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: MommyMates, 2771 Doverton Square, Mountain View, CA, 94040 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because

the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Julie Ann Parravano Grabscheid, 2771 Doverton Square, Mountain View, CA 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 06/01/2021. (09-01,08,15,22-21)

142-T

Z&R GENERAL CONSTRUCTION FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN677589

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: Z&R GENERAL CONSTRUCTION, 1840 S. 7th St Space #3, San Jose, CA, 95112 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: a general partnership, Michael Eugene Rusconi, 1741 Grace Ave, San Jose, CA, 95125; Hugo Simon Zuniga Reyes, 1840 S 7th St Space #3, San Jose, CA 95112. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 08/02/2021. (09-01,08,15,22-21)

140-T

MUZI CAKE FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN678030

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: MUZI CAKE, 1624 Yale Dr, Mountain View, CA, 94040 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an individual, Hongna Li, 1624 Yale Dr, Mountain View, CA, 94040. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: N/A. (09-01,08,15,22-21)

139-T

MUSIC WITH ERICA FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. FBN677848

The following person(persons) is(are) doing business as: MUSIC WITH ERICA, 2333 Park Blvd, PO Box 60602, Palo Alto, CA, 94306 Santa Clara County. If the principal place of business identified above is not in Santa Clara County, a current fictitious business name statement for the fictitious business name(s) being filed at this time must be on file in the above-identified County that is the principal place of business before the statement can be filed. Does not apply because the principal place of business is in Santa Clara County. The business is owned by: an

Public Notices

individual, Erica Waxer Steinberger, 2333 Park Blvd, PO Box 60602, Palo Alto, CA, 94306. Registrant began transacting business under the fictitious business name(s) listed above on: 01/01/2014. (09-01,08,15,22-21)

124-T

\$40

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

Email legals at **legals@latc.com** by 2 pm



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CLASSIFIEDS

EMPLOYMENT

Culdesac, Inc. seeks Business Operations in Los Altos Hills, CA. Domestic travel required 5-10% of the time for business meetings. Please mail resumes to Attn: Jen Ho, 1962 E. Apache Blvd. #8179 Tempe, AZ 85281 quoting job #B0202.

ENGINEERING. Matrix Precise, Inc. is accepting resumes for Flutter Developer in Los Altos, CA. Responsible for creating multi-platform applications for both iOS and Android using Google's Flutter development framework. Mail resume to Matrix Precise, Inc., Attn: HR, 445 S San Antonio Rd, Suite 201, Los Altos, CA 94022. Must reference Ref. FD-TDV.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

HOUSECLEANING - by Diana. Prof. exp, low rates, family bus, reliable/depend. Great L.A. refs. Lic.# 447435. (408) 806-1415 or (408) 578-5489 Cristina

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Wood Duck Collectors beautiful 15" duck carved by Randy Tull. He has a flock of 7 friends. Contact Bob (650)948-8439

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Solid Tek Potting Bench. 4 ft long, 34 in high, and 26 in deep. Drawers, shelving, and washing sink. Like new \$175. Call (650) 967-8779

1-TOW BAR \$50. 500# 2" ball adjustable. Reese 54" long. Call (650) 948-4895

Apple PowerMac G5 & Apple Cinema Display - 4GB RAM, dual 2.0GHz G5 proc, VG cond, \$20 OBO. (408) 219-460

Vintage 1930s Maxfield Parrish print (Daybreak) 20"x12" \$300 or best offer. Call (408) 658-5418

BOSE radio III with remote. FREE. Contact BOB (650)948-8439

ELECTRICIAN SUPPLIES: Misc. boxes, connectors, couplings, and elbows for residential installation \$45. Call Robert (650)245-7517

MERCHANDISE WANTED

OLD WRISTWATCHES - Los Altos horologist likes to collect, trade and restore. Will buy watches, bands, parts, boxes, etc. Tom (408) 712-3430

OLD FISHING TACKLE - Los Altos senior citizen likes to restore. Will buy old rods, reels, lures, creels, literature. Greg, (650) 961-3581

OLD TUBE EQUIPMENT - radios, hi-fi tuners/amps, speakers, ham gear, tubes, parts, literature. (650) 279-9931

APARTMENT/ HOUSE FOR SALE

CITY OF LOS ALTOS BELOW-MARKET-RATE (BMR) PURCHASE PROGRAM

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For more information regarding eligibility or if you would like to be e-mailed an application packet, please contact rvalencia@altahousing.org with subject line Los Altos BMR. Our phone number is 650.321.9709

You can also download an application at: altahousing.org/resources/los-altos/purchase-program/

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

October 6, 2021 4:00 PM,

APPLICATIONS DUE AT:

Alta Housing, Sobrato Center for Non-profits, 3460 West Bayshore Road, Suite 104, Palo Alto, CA 94303



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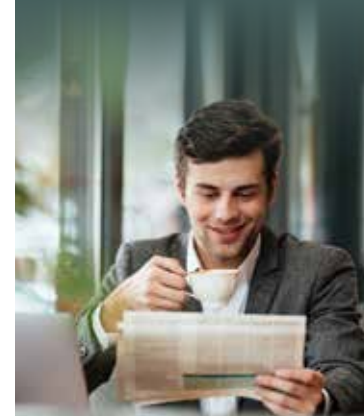
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OBITUARY NOTICE

NINA RUTH STONE



Nina Ruth Stone, a resident of Los Altos for 53 years, passed away peacefully on September 9, 2021 at the age of 87. She was the beloved mother of Linda Joy, Sharon Beth, and Lori Rachel and grandmother of Simon Benjamin Puckett. She also had many nieces and nephews that she loved dearly.

Nina was born in Pittsburgh, PA to Sidney and Dorothy Hale. She attended University of Colorado at Boulder and graduated from San Jose State University. Working as a media specialist at multiple schools in the Bay Area, she then went on to work at the Stanford University Latin American Studies Department.

Nina was an excellent and frequent card player, enjoyed crossword puzzles, reading, live performances, education, tennis and world travel. In addition, she was an active member of the Peninsula Volunteers and never missed a social event! As a social butterfly, Nina was a hostess extraordinaire, preparing delicious meals for family and friends.

Mrs. Stone was blessed to have a 57 year marriage to her beloved husband, Herbert Stone, and they enjoyed many happy years together with family and friends. She will be missed by many!

The family would like to acknowledge the wonderful staff at The Hamilton, where she lived for the last 5 years, and the excellent care from Mission Hospice and Home Care of San Mateo. Donations may be made to the American Cancer Society or the charity of choice.

DR. BARTH HOLT BLACK



Dr. Barth Holt Black, 89, of Cedar Park, Texas, passed away on September 12, 2021. He was born on August 26, 1932, in Fillmore, Utah, to Golden Holt Black and Loa Baker Black.

Barth spent his youth in Delta, Utah, and graduated as class President, Class of 1950 from Delta High School. He attended the University of Utah from 1950 to 1953 and was proud to be a Ute. In 1957, he graduated from the University of Pacific School of Dentistry. Barth proudly served his country as a Captain in the United States Army Dental Corps from 1957-1959.

After serving in the Army, he opened his own dental practice in Mountain View, California and Los Altos, California, from 1960-1993. In 1994, he retired and moved to Portland, Oregon where he lived until 2004. At which time he moved to Cedar Park, Texas, where he lived until his passing.

Barth was extremely active in his church and was an ordnance worker in the LDS Temple in both Portland, Oregon and San Antonio, Texas for over sixteen years.

He enjoyed reading, collecting information on various subjects, making and flying model airplanes, and playing tennis. Barth loved music, listening to his records for hours at a time.

Barth will be greatly missed by his family. He leaves behind his wife, LaVerne Black; children, Kevin Black, Mike Black and wife Alanna, Scott Black, and Renée Black; grandchildren, Jason Kitchens, Casie Dekker and husband Josh, Michael Black and spouse Brittany Chiodo; great grandchildren, Kaylee Snow, Brigam Dekker, Jaren Dekker, Caitlynne Dekker, and Brynlee Dekker and Payton Black; sisters, Loabelle Black Mangelson-Clawson and Golda Black-Fournier and husband Richard; as well as, numerous nieces, nephews, and other extended family. Barth was preceded in death by his parents, Golden and Loa Black, son Bryan Black and grandson Kevin Jade Black.

Visitation will be from 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm with the funeral service at 2:00 pm Wednesday, September 22, 2021, at Beck Funeral Home, Cedar Park, Texas. Graveside services will be at 9:45 am Thursday, September 23, 2021, at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, San Antonio, Texas.

Arrangements under the direction of Beck Funeral Home, 1700 E. Whitestone, Cedar Park, Texas 78613 (512) 259-1610. On-line guest registry at www.beckchapels.com.

Datebook

EVENTS

“Cool Season Vegetables.” Master Gardeners talk. 1-2 p.m. today. Los Altos Library, Orchard Room, 13 S. San Antonio Road. Limited to 30 guests; free tickets available starting an hour prior to the event at the adult reference desk. Masks required. tinyurl.com/4adafyaa.

Los Altos Open Mic for Writers. Share your stories, poems and works-in-progress. 7-8 p.m. today via Zoom. Free; all ages welcome. For Zoom link, email losaltosliteraryassociation@gmail.com.

Fall Plant Exchange. Bring healthy plants, seedlings, cuttings, bulbs, small trees or shrubs and take home something new in exchange. Plants must be labeled; no privets or invasive plants. Sponsored by the Garden Club of Los Altos and the Los Altos Recreation Department with support from the Los Altos History Museum. 10 a.m. to noon Saturday. Outside the Los Altos History Museum, 51 S. San Antonio Road. Masks required. betlee59@gmail.com.

Annual MVUHS Eagle Alumni Day Picnic. All alumni of Mountain View, Los Altos and Awalt high schools are welcome, as are teachers. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Oct. 2. Cuesta Park, 615 Cuesta Drive, Mountain View. No barbecue this year due to the pandemic. Masks welcome. 968-1053.

“Is it Xi or is it China?” Peninsula Chapter of World Affairs webinar featuring John Pomfret in conversation with Mary Kay Magistad. Pomfret, an author and former Washington Post reporter, is an Hoover Institute scholar currently in Beijing on a Fulbright Senior Scholar’s grant. Magistad is a former foreign correspondent on East Asia who authored the award-winning series “Young China.” Noon to 1 p.m. Oct. 6. Free. RSVP: worldaffairs.org/events/event/2175.

Vines & Wines 2021. Wine tasting celebrates the terroir of Los Altos Hills. Taste whites, reds or rose from 24 local vintners. 2-5 p.m. Oct. 10. Under the oak tree at Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road. \$25 in advance, \$50 at the door (if tickets are still available). Hills2000.org.

EXHIBITS

“Distant Lands.” Photography exhibit by Jim Colton, Artist reception with live music, refreshments and wine, 2-5 p.m. Sept. 19. Los Altos Hills Town Hall, 26379 Fremont Road. Free. 941-7222; jimcoltonphotography.com.

“Every Leaf Speaks To Me.” Fall art exhibit by members of the Santa Clara Valley Watercolor Society. Through Sept. 30. Los Altos Library, 13 S. San Antonio Road. 941-8073.

CLUBS/GROUPS

InSpirit Praise & Prayer Healing Room. Healing service for those battling an illness or injury, or feeling discouraged. Mantra: With God, there is hope. 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays. Union Church campus, 858 University Ave., Los Altos. Interdenominational ministry, member of the International Association of Healing Rooms. InSpiritPrayer@yahoo.com.

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. 948-3421; losaltosnewcomers.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. 940-1824; paloaltobridge.org.



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